ESCHATOLOGY

A STUDY OF FUTURE EVENTS

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ESCHATOLOGY

Introduction: As I am sure most of you know that eschatology is a study of "Things to Come" on God's time clock. It is a study of things which God has told us will happen but have not happened at this time. However, we know they will happen in the future.

When a person teaches on prophetic events, it should never be done to be sensational, as some men have done to glorify themselves. Also, teaching eschatology is not "foretelling" future events, but it is teaching things God has already foretold. Certainly no one should be setting "dates" for any future events to happen. However, there are a number of things that God does not want us to be ignorant of and therefore we will begin our study of eschatology on one of those things.

LESSON #1
THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH
I Thessalonians 4:13-18

*"**But I would not have you to be ignorant**, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. 15 **For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord**, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. 16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: **and the dead in Christ shall rise first:** 17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. 18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words."*

Some people believe the the next great event on God's time clock is the coming end of the world. Hollywood even makes movies to draw people to theaters to see that event. Others teach that the anti-christ coming to earth is the next prophetic event. However, Titus 2:13 calls the next great event as a "blessed hope." That verse says, *"Looking for that **blessed hope**, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;"*

First: The Next Great Event on God's Time Clock will be the rapture of the church. A blessed hope cannot be war, nor the nuclear destruction of the world. The next great event will be something that is a GREAT blessing to Christians**.** The verses above, in I Thessalonians 4:13-18 were written in response to a question that the members of the church at Thessalonica had asked Paul concerning what would happen to believers who died before the return of Christ. These people believed in the Resurrection of Christ, but were not sure what would happen to their loved ones who had already died. Paul, before answering their question, assured them in Verse 15, that what he was about to tell them came ***"…by the word of the Lord,"*** and was not just his opinion.

Paul continue by telling them that **First,** the Lord himself would descend from heaven with a shout. Then they would hear the voice of an archangel, and hear the trumpet of the Lord sound immediately after those sounds, and they would see the dead in Christ rise from the dead. Then Paul said, ***"we** which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. 18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words."*

Notice, Paul said, "we which remain." Paul felt the Lord was coming for the church in his lifetime. Therefore, he was LOOKING for Christ to come, but that did not happen. Today, in 2025, it still has not happened, but the Word of God admonishes us in Luke 21:27-28 to, *"And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. 28 And when these things begin to come to pass, then **look up**, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh.*

John 14:1-3 teaches this same truth about the Lord returning for the church. *"Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. 2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, **I will come again, and receive you unto myself**; that where I am, there ye may be also."*

The disciples clearly understood this, as Jesus was using a picture of an Eastern Wedding. We may not see that since an Eastern Wedding was totally different from weddings today. In those days, a young man might travel to another city with his family to visit a friend. While on that trip, the young man might meet a young lady. Later, the young man might return to the same city. He would go to the young lady's house and meet her father. He would explain how he had met his daughter, how he had fallen in love with her, and he would ask her father if he could have his daughter for his wife. If the father agreed, he would give the young man "a bride's price." The young man would agree to pay the "bride price" and at that point they "became espoused," which was a legal, binding contract, but the wedding was yet in the future.

Then the young man would return to his hometown and to his father's house. In those days, they did not have houses for sale or apartments to rent. The man would work for the next few months, maybe a year, and would build something like an apartment on the side of his father's house. At the same time, the young lady would begin making things that she felt would be needed in their home. She had what today is called, "A Bride's Hope Chest." She made and filled her Hope Chest with things she felt would be needed when her husband to be, the man she was engaged to, finished the place where they were going to live, and returned to get her as his wife. All the time her "husband to be" was gone, she was excited and LOOKING forward to him coming and taking her to their new home! Amen!

This is the picture Jesus gave the disciples in John 14:1-3, only He referred to the place they would live as a mansion! The disciples understood that Jesus was going to go and prepare a place for them to live with Him, and that Jesus promised He WOULD RETURN and take them to where He was, a mansion in His fathers house. This is a picture of The Rapture of the Church!

The "rapture of the church," is also revealed as a "mystery," with the dead being raised from the grave and us, referring to those who will still be living at the time of the rapture, being changed. That is recorded in I Corinthians 15:51-54, *"Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, 52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. 54 So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory."*

A mystery in the Bible is not like a mystery people see on a television program. A "mystery" in the Bible is something God has known since before the foundation of the world, but He has not revealed it until a

certain time in the Bible. As for the "rapture" of the church, God has known that was going to happen before the foundation of the earth, but He has not revealed it until He wants it to be known. No one in the Old Testament ever heard of the "rapture" of the church. No one in the New Testament had heard of the rapture of the church until someone in the church asked Paul the question in I Thessalonians 4:13-18 concerning what would happen to their loved ones who had died.

What is the mystery? The mystery is that "not all believers will die before Christ comes the second time." Many will still be alive, but many will have died through the years, and been buried. However, the day is coming when Jesus Christ will ascend from heaven, the trumpet will sound, and those who have died and been buried will be raised from the dead and come out of the grave. As quickly as they are raised up from the grave, those who are still living when Christ comes will be (1) changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, and (2) our corruptible bodies will put on incorruption, we will be swallowed up in victory, we will meet the Lord Jesus in the air, and will be forever with Him in eternity. In John 14:3 Jesus said, *"that where I am, there ye may be also."*

When will the rapture of the church take place? There are three different positions which are held by different religions concerning this question. I will explain the three positions and present proof concerning which position is correct according to the Bible:

First: There is the Post-Tribulation Rapture which teaches that the church will go through the seven years of tribulation. This is a theory that is not according to the Bible and cannot be proven nor close to proven by using the Word of God. The church WILL NOT go through the Tribulation Period.

Second: There is a Mid-Tribulation Rapture which teaches that the church will go through the first 3 1/2 years of the Tribulation Period. This also is nothing but a theory which is not according to the Bible and cannot be proved by using the Word of God.

Third: There is a Pre-Tribulation Rapture which teaches that the church will be taken to Heaven, BEFORE the beginning of the Tribulation Period. This is the Bible position on the rapture and can be clearly proven.

When will the rapture of the church take place? Revelation 4:1-3 tells of the rapture and that it will take place JUST BEFORE the Tribulation Period begins. As we read that verse, please notice all of the same pattern which we read in all three of the scriptures where the rapture is taught, *"After this I looked, and, behold, a door was opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, Come up hither, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter. 2 And immediately I was in the spirit: and, behold, a throne was set in heaven, and one sat on the throne. 3 And he that sat was to look upon like a jasper and a sardine stone: and there was a rainbow round about the throne, in sight like unto an emerald."*

Chapters 2 and 3 of Revelation cover the "church age" which will end with the Laodicean church, which closes in Revelation 3:21. From Revelation 4:1 through Revelation 21:9, which is the Tribulation Period, THERE IS NO MENTION OF THE WORD CHURCH. The Bride of Christ, which is the church, is mentioned in Revelation 21:9, but that verse is in Eternity. The Tribulation Period has passed! There is no reference nor implication of any manner referring to the church anywhere in the other parts of

Revelation. All signs that point to the future are not pointing to the rapture, but they are pointing to the 2nd coming of Christ.

LESSON #2
DANIEL'S SEVENTY WEEKS
Daniel 9:1-2 & 20-27

First: To Whom Does Daniel's Seventy Weeks Apply? This is important - VERY important! The prophecy found in Daniel Chapter 9 about **seventy weeks** applies to Israel and ONLY to Israel. I know we are living in the church age and therefore we most often THINK of the church when we study. However, Israel IS NOT found in the church age, and nothing in Daniel Chapter 9 is about the church. If you do not understand this truth, you will be confused as you study. There is NOTHING in the seventy weeks of Daniel which applies to the church. You will learn that EVERYTHING on God's timeclock centers around and is based on Israel and Jerusalem.

Second: What is the true meaning of "Seventy Weeks?" The word "weeks" in the Old Testament means: "A Unit of Measure." It does not necessarily mean a week as we think of a week. Today when we think of a week we think of seven days. In this passage the word "week" is translated from the Hebrew word "**shib`iym.**" In the Old Testament days, this word WEEK meant a period of seven years. We find this word "week" used in Genesis 29:15-28, which I am including in order that you clearly see that the word WEEK in the Old Testament meant a period of SEVEN YEARS. In Genesis 29:15-28 Jacob is seeking a wife from Laban who was his brother,*"And Laban said unto Jacob, Because thou art my brother, shouldest thou therefore serve me for nought? tell me, what shall thy wages be? 16 And Laban had two daughters: the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. 17 Leah was tender eyed; but Rachel was beautiful and well favoured. 18 And Jacob loved Rachel; and said, I will serve thee **seven years** for Rachel thy younger daughter. 19 And Laban said, It is better that I give her to thee, than that I should give her to another man: abide with me. 20 And Jacob served **seven years** for Rachel; and they seemed unto him but a few days, for the love he had to her. And Jacob said unto Laban, Give me my wife, for my days are fulfilled, that I may go in unto her. 22 And Laban gathered together all the men of the place, and made a feast. 23 And it came to pass in the evening, that he took Leah his daughter, and brought her to him; and he went in unto her. 24 And Laban gave unto his daughter Leah Zilpah his maid for an handmaid. 25 And it came to pass, that in the morning, behold, it was Leah: and he said to Laban, What is this thou hast done unto me? did not I serve with thee for Rachel? wherefore then hast thou beguiled me? 26 And Laban said, It must not be so done in our country, to give the younger before the firstborn. 27 **Fulfil her week**, and we will give thee this also for the service which thou shalt serve with me yet **seven other years.** 28 And Jacob did so, and fulfilled **her week**: and he gave him Rachel his daughter to wife also"*

Going back to Daniel Chapter 9 where we are studying "Daniel's Seventy Weeks," we are talking about one WEEK being 7 years. In Daniel Chapter 9 Daniel is talking about 70 weeks. With a week being a period of seven years, the 70 weeks would be a total of 490 years. Now we will divide the 70 weeks and account for 490 years.

DANIEL'S 490 YEARS ARE DIVIDED INTO THREE DIVISIONS.

The first two divisions are both found in Daniel 9:25 but we will divide them to stay clear and then tie them together.

*"Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, **and** threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times."* NOW, let's divide this verse.

THE FIRST DIVISION OF DANIEL'S SEVENTY WEEKS

The first division of the 490 years is found in the first half of Verse 25, *"Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince **shall be seven weeks,"***

1. The first division is a total of 7 weeks x 7 years each = 49 years.

THE SECOND DIVISION OF DANIEL'S SEVENTY WEEKS

The second division of the 490 years is found in the last half of Verse 25, *"and **threescore and two weeks**: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times."*

Also, we are told in Verse 25 that these first two divisions of the 490 years **began** "…. *from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks."* This commandment was to "rebuild the entire city of Jerusalem, not just the temple." That commandment was given by King Artaxerxes in Nehemiah 2:1-11. Then in Nehemiah 6:15 we read, *"So the wall was finished in the twenty and fifth day of the month Elul, in fifty and two days."* That period of 49 years ran from 445 B.C. to 397- 398 B.C..

Daniel 9:26 tells us that this second division, which follows immediately after the first division, **will continue until Messiah will be cut off.** ***"And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off,*** *but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined.* The second of 434 years **began** about 397-398 B.C. **and continued** until the close of the Old Testament and the beginning of the New Testament at the time of Christ.

2. The second division is a total 62 weeks x 7 years each = 434 years.

These two divisions together are 7 x 7 = 49 years
62 x 7 = 434 years
Total 483 years

This leaves 1 week of 7 years to complete the 490 years. We will study that in the third division of Daniel's 70 weeks later. These first two divisions were fulfilled in the past and are not future events!

Let me pause for a minute and give you some information many people do not know. The initials B.C. means "Before Christ." Then there are the initials A.D. which many people think means "After Death." However, that is not correct. The "A" stands for "Anno" which means "year." The "D" stands for

"Domini" which means "Lord." A.D. together stands for "The year of our Lord." This means that B.C. and A.D. both fall on the exact same day of the year, the day of the birth of Christ.

As for the exact day when the Jewish Messiah would be cut off, Dr. Sir Robert Anderson spent years studying the "timeline" and is considered the world leader on that subject. He used the Jewish calendar of 30 days to each month and 360 days in a year. Again, the commandment began in 445 B.C. The first division was 7 weeks, which is 7 x 7 which equals 49 years. The second division lasted for 62 weeks, which is 7 x 62 weeks, which equals 434 years. The two divisions together total 69 weeks of 7 years each, 7 x 69 equals 483 years. According to Doctor Robert Anderson, the 483 years fell on the exact day on which Christ, the Messiah, was CUT OFF! Amazing! That was the year of A.D. 33. That is recorded in John 19:14-19.

THE THIRD DIVISION OF DANIEL'S SEVENTY WEEKS
DANIEL'S SEVENTH WEEK HAS NOT YET TAKEN PLACE.
DANIEL'S SEVENTH WEEK IS STILL A FUTURE EVENT.

We have already studied the first two divisions of Daniel's Seventy weeks, which totaled 483 years. The third division of Daniel's Seventy weeks is found in Daniel 9:27 which says, *"And he shall confirm the covenant with many **for one week**: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate."* This "one week of seven years," at this time in 2025, is still future! However, as you can see there is a GAP between the 69th week and the 70th week.

The first division was	7 x 7 =	49 years
The second division was	62 x 7 =	434 years
The third division was	1 x 7 =	7 years (This division is yet future.)

The three divisions: Total 490 years

THE GAP BETWEEN DANIEL'S 69th WEEK AND HIS 70th WEEK

Why is there a "GAP" between the 69th week and the 70th week? There is nothing recorded in the book of Daniel, nor in any other Old Testament book, concerning why there is a gap between the 69th week and 70th week. That is because the prophets of the Old Testament did not see the reason for the gap. However, today we are living in the New Testament age, and we can clearly see the reason for the gap.

The "GAP" between Daniel's 69th and 70th week began in Acts 2:47 where the church was founded. Today in 2025, we are living in the "church age" which is the "GAP PERIOD" between the 69th and 70th week. Today, God is no longer dealing with Israel and the Jewish people. Because of their disobedience and rebellion and their rejection of their Messiah when He came, God has set them aside. Today, God is dealing with the "church." The "church age" began in A.D. 33 and will continue until the rapture of the church takes place, which will be in Revelation 4:1-3. At that time, in Revelation Chapter 4, "Daniel's 70th week" will begin and will continue for a period of 7 years until Christ returns in Revelation Chapter 19. **During that seven-year period God will again deal with His people, Israel, the**

Jewish nation. That is verified in Revelation Chapters 4 and 7. Those seven years are called "The Tribulation Period." At the beginning of the seven-year period, Daniel's seventh week will be added to the 483 years of division one, two, and three, which will make a total of 490 years. In that "seven-year period" Daniel 9:27 declares that God will **confirm the covenant He had made with Israel,**

"And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.

Again, this is an event which is yet in the future and we do not know when it will take place. There are NO prophecies or signs given in the Bible which point to the rapture of the church. ALL SIGNS in the New Testament refer to and point to the "2nd coming of Christ" in Revelation 19:11, and NOT THE RAPTURE. The only thing we know is that when the "rapture of the church takes place, Daniel's seventh week will begin and will last for seven years before Christ, the Jewish Messiah, comes the 2nd time and sets up His Kingdom on earth!"

EVEN SO LORD, COME QUICKLY!
Revelation 22:20

LESSON #3
THE EIGHT JUDGMENTS OF GOD

Six of the judgments are future events, but two are not. The divisions of the eight judgments are listed below this paragraph. Many people today, even Christians in good churches, think that there will be ONE great general judgment after which the end of the world will happen. THIS IS NOT TRUE! There are "eight major judgements." Those judgements are divided into three groups. We will deal with each of them individually in separate lessons, but for now we will look briefly at these eight judgements.

1. There is ONE Complete Judgement which has already taken place.
2. There is ONE Continuing Judgement which continues until today.
3. There are SIX Future Judgements which are coming in the future.

First: There is the Judgement of Sin. That judgement is found in several verses. That judgment took place when Jesus Christ was "made to be sin for us." That is recorded in II Corinthians 5:21 which says, *"For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him."* Romans 5:8-9 expands on that judgement, *"But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. 9 Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him."*

This judgement was "once for all" and will NEVER be done again. Hebrews 10:4-12 gives us a detailed account of that statement, *"For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins. 5 Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me: 6 In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin thou hast had no pleasure. 7 Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God. 8 Above when he said, Sacrifice and offering and burnt offerings and offering for sin thou wouldest not, neither hadst pleasure therein; which are offered by the law; 9 Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh*

away the first, that he may establish the second. 10 ***By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.*** *11 And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins: 12* ***But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God****;"* This judgement is COMPLETE and will never be done again for all eternity!

Second: There is the Judgement of Self. This judgement is recorded in I Corinthians 11:28-31, *"But let a man examine himself, and* ***so let him eat*** *of that bread, and drink of that cup. 29 For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. 30 For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep. 31 For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged."*

This judgement is a continuing judgement for believers. I Corinthians 11:26 tells us it is to continue, *"****For as often as ye eat this bread****, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come."* It will continue on us until we die, or the rapture takes place. This judgement takes place in the church during what we call "The Lord's Supper."

This judgement is A COMMANDMENT! First, God said "LET A MAN EXAMINE HIMSELF." I know a lot of Christians who go to church, they have the Lord's Supper, and they choose not to participate. That is generally because they have some sort of known sin in them which they do not want to confess and give up! Again, it is not your option to NOT EAT. God said, "*But let a man examine himself* … and second He said, "*SO LET HIM EAT of that bread*." TO EAT is a commandment of God. This judgement is in two steps:

Step #1 We are to examine ourselves. That means we are to examine ourselves and see if we have ANY known sin in our life. If so, you are to confess that sin and ask God's forgiveness.

Step #2. We are to EAT of the Lord's Supper and have victory over that sin. If we find sin in our life, we are not given the option to "NOT EAT" and not partake of the Lord's Supper. The entire purpose of the Lord's Supper is for us to "examine ourselves, confess our sin and have forgiveness, and leave our church walking with Jesus Christ! That is the ONLY purpose of the Lord's Supper. You will find NO OTHER REASON to have the Lord's Supper in the church.

Third: There is the Judgement of Christians. It is called "The Judgement Seat of Christ." II Corinthians 5:10 tells us the brief details of this judgement, *"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad."*

This judgement takes place in heaven, after the rapture of the church. As you read in II Corinthians 5:10, this is where Christians will receive rewards or lose rewards, depending on their service and works for Christ since the day we were saved, until the day God calls us home.

This judgement is explained clearly in I Corinthians 3:12 – 15, *"For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. 12 Now if any man build upon this foundation* ***gold, silver, precious stones****, wood, hay, stubble; 13 Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.*

14 If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. 15 If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire."

We will not elaborate at this point, as we will do a complete lesson on the Judgement Seat of Christ following this lesson. The Judgement Seat of Christ is VERY different from these eight judgments we are studying.

Fourth: There will be the Judgement of Israel. The judgment of Israel is found in Ezekiel 20:34-38, *"And I will bring you out from the people, and will gather you out of the countries wherein ye are scattered, with a mighty hand, and with a stretched out arm, and with fury poured out. 35 And I will bring you into the wilderness of the people, and there will I plead with you face to face. 36 Like as I pleaded with your fathers in the wilderness of the land of Egypt, so will I plead with you, saith the Lord GOD. 37 And I will cause you to pass under the rod, and I will bring you into the bond of the covenant: 38 And I will purge out from among you the rebels, and them that transgress against me: I will bring them forth out of the country where they sojourn, and they shall not enter into the land of Israel: and ye shall know that I am the LORD."*

The judgment of Israel takes place on the earth at the end of the Tribulation Period. The Tribulation Period is divided into two sections. There will be 3 1/2 years of tribulation where the anti-christ will make peace with Israel. At the end of the first half of the tribulation period, he will break covenant with Israel and break his peace agreement with Israel at the end of the tribulation period. Those last three and a half years of the tribulation are called GREAT TRIBULATION. The anti-christ will greatly persecute Israel for those 3 1/2 years.

Durin the tribulation period, Romans 11:26-27 says, *"And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: "27 For this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins.*

As you read, the verse says, *"so all Israel shall be saved.*" No one is absolutely sure what is meant by "all Israel." Albert Barnes, says this about the verse:

"He does not mean to say that every Jew of every age would be saved; for he had proved that a large portion of them would be, in his time, rejected and lost. But the time would come when, as a people, they would be recovered; when the nation would turn to God; and when it could be said of them, that, as a nation, they were restored to the Divine favor. It is not clear that he means that even then every individual of them would be saved, but the body of them; the great mass of the nation would be."

The exact time is not declared. However, Matthew Chapters 24 and 25 clearly tells us all that Israel will go through great tribulation, and it is sure that this judgment will take place very close to the end of the tribulation period. I am repeating, Ezekiel 20:37-40 tells us it will take place on earth, and before we enter eternity. Zechariah 14:4 tells us about the same thing, *"And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south.*

Fifth and Sixth: There will be Judgment of the Gentile Nations and the Judgement of the Beast and the False Prophet. The judgement of the Gentile nations and the judgment of the Beast and the False Prophet are combined in Revelation 19:17-20. These Judgments take place at the second coming of Christ, which is called "The Day of the Lord." Christ has returned to earth to set up the Kingdom of God on earth, and the Gentile nations according to Verse 19, have banned together to make war against Christ and to destroy him. Verse 17-18 tells of the coming judgment of God on the Gentile nations.

(1) The judgement of the Gentile Nations. 17 *"And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; 18 That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the* ***flesh of all men****, both free and bond, both small and great."* From these two verses, we see that God is going to TOTALLY destroy the Gentile nations and feed their bodies to the fowls of the air. God, in Verse 17 calls this "the Supper of the Great God." Verse 18 makes it 100% clear that the "kings, captains, mighty men, their horses, and the flesh of **ALL** men, free and bond, small and great, will be eaten on that day!"

(2) The Judgement of the Beast and the False Prophet, *19 And I saw* ***the beast****, and the kings* ***of the earth****, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse,* (Christ - See Verse 16) *and against his army. 20 And* ***the beast was taken****, and with him* ***the false prophet*** *that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image.* ***These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone."***

As you read, both judgments take place on the earth. They both take place after the gathering and the judgment of Israel, and both precede the Millennium (See Matthew 24:31-46). The people who are judged here are those who come through the Tribulation Period. The "dead" have not been raised at this time. (See Revelation 20:11-12). The basis for the judgement of the Gentile nations is because of the way the Gentile nations have treated Israel, God's chosen people. Let me point out that most of us today are seeing how the Gentile nations are treating Israel. To the best of my knowledge, the United States as of today in 2025, is the only major Gentile nation that has stood by Israel. If you want to go back and study how it is prophesied about how the Gentile nations have treated Israel, you can read and study Matthew Chapter 25, especially Verses 40-46. The judgement of those Gentile nations is found in Revelation 19:17 and 18.

In Verse 20 we see the judgement of the beast, who is the anti-christ, and of the false prophet, who is the counterfeit Holy Spirit. They are both cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone. This completes the "judgement of the Gentile nations, the beast, and the false prophet." The beast and the false prophet will burn in the lake of fire and brimstone FOR ALL ETERNITY!

Seventh: There will be the Judgment of Satan. Revelation 20:10 tells us of the Judgment of Satan, *"And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever."*

The judgment of Satan takes place AFTER the 1000-year Millennium reign of Jesus on the earth. Revelation 20:1-3 tells us that Satan will be bound for 1000 years, while the Kingdom of God is on earth. After the 1000 years are fulfilled, Satan, the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, will be loosed for a little season. See the verses below:

"And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand 2 And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years 3 And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: ***and after that he must be loosed a little season.****"*

No one knows how long Satan will be loosed. The Bible says for "a little season." However, Satan's final judgement is recorded in Revelation 20:10, *"And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever."* Some have asked about the fallen angels. No one is sure, but most likely they will be judged and cast into the lake of fire and brimstone at the same time as the Devil. The Devil and the fallen angels have worked together through the centuries and will most likely be judged with the same judgement at the same time.

Eight: The Judgment of the Great White Throne. This judgment is recorded in Revelation 20:11-15:

*"And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. 12 A****nd I saw the dead****, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. 13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. 14 And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. 15 And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire."*

This judgment is for every person, alive or dead, when the 1000-year Millennium comes to a close. Every lost person who rejected Christ as their Savoir since the beginning of mankind will stand at the Great White Throne and be judged. I will conclude this section and this lesson for now, but later in our study of Eschatology we will teach a complete lesson on The Great White Throne of Judgment.

LESSON #4
THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST
II Corinthians 5:6-11

"Therefore we are always confident, knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord: 7 (For we walk by faith, not by sight:) 8 We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord. 9 Wherefore we labour, that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him. 10 ***For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ****; that every one may receive the* things done in his body, *according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad. 11 Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are made manifest unto God; and I trust also are made manifest in your consciences.*

There is much misunderstanding about this title, The Judgment Seat of Christ. There are two different Greek words from which the word "judgement seat" is translated, and the two words have entirely

different meanings. One of the words is "Kriterion" which means "A Judicial judgment for a sin or crime committed." The other Greek word is "Bema" which means "A Raised Platform" where rewards are given. The word "Bema" is the word found in II Corinthians 5:6-11 above, where it speaks of the Judgment Seat of Christ. It is a place where Christians will either "be rewarded" for their faithful service, or "lose their rewards" because they did not faithfully serve and honor their Savior, Jesus Christ.

Example: In the early days of the New Testament, they played what they call "Gladiator Games." Those are similar to what we call Olympic Games today. In the early days at the Gladiator Games, they had a "Beam Seat" where those who after the games were over had played well, were called up to that BEMA SEAT and given the trophies as a reward for playing well. The Judgment Seat in these verses is referring to the "Beam Seat" in those days. The scripture says WE MUST ALL APPEAR BEFORE THE JUDGMENT SEAT… As we study, it is very necessary that you are not thinking this is a place of 'Judicial" judgement where our sin will be judged. It is not! It is a place where Christians will be rewarded for how well they lived, served, and worked for Christ.

When will the Judgment (The Bema) Seat of Christ take place? Luke 14:14 says, "*And thou shalt be blessed; for they cannot recompense thee: for thou shalt be recompensed at the resurrection of the just."* The "resurrection of the just" takes place after the church has been raptured. It is called "The Day of Christ." This is different from "The Day of the Lord." The Day of the Lord speaks of the 2nd coming of Christ.

Where will the Judgment (the Beam) Seat take place? The Judgment Seat of Christ will take place in Heaven. No one knows exactly when it will take place or how long it will last. It will be during the time the earth is going through the Tribulation Period.

Who will be Judged at the Judgment Seat of Christ? II Corinthians 5:10 clearly tells us who the Judge will be, "*For we must all appear before **the judgment seat of Christ**; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad."* God will not be the judge. Jesus Christ, God's Son, will be the judge. John 5:22-23 makes that clear beyond doubt who will be the judge, *"For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son: That all men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father. He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father which hath sent him.*

Who will be judged at the Judgment Seat of Christ? Again, II Corinthians 5:10 tells us who will be judged at this judgment, "*For **we must all** appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad."*

The ONLY people who will be judged at the Judgment Seat of Christ will be Christians. THERE WILL BE NO LOST PEOPLE AT THIS JUDGMENT. To be sure everyone understands this, let's go back and look at II Corinthians 5:1-7. I will point out five Bible principles to establish this truth.

"For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. 2 For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven: 3 If so be that being clothed we shall not be found naked. 4 For we that are in this tabernacle do groan, being burdened: not for that we would be unclothed, but clothed upon, that mortality might be swallowed up of life. 5 Now he that hath wrought

us for the selfsame thing is God, who also hath given unto us the earnest of the Spirit. 6 Therefore we are always confident, knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord: 7 (For we walk by faith, not by sight:)

First: What Will Christians be Judged for at this Judgment? First, let me make it clear beyond any question, that we WILL NOT be judged for our sins. Years ago I heard a preacher using this subject and he told the people in the church that at the Judgment Seat of Christ, all their sins for all of their life will be put on a screen and everyone there would see them in complete detail. He said NOTHING would be hidden! THAT IS NOT TRUE! NONE OF OUR SINS WILL BE JUDGED. He was only trying to get people to come to the altar to make him look good! That was his carnal - UNGODLY flesh.

The sins of Christians are GONE! Let me share several scriptures to be sure you understand this. I do not want ANYONE to think they will face or be judged for their sins at the Judgment Seat of Christ. Christ was judged in OUR PLACE!

Psalms 103:12 tells us what happened to our sins, *"For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear him. 12 As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us."* **The east and the west never meet!**

Hebrews 10:17 says, *"And **their sins and iniquities will I remember no more**."*

Romans 8:1 says, *"There is therefore **now no condemnation** to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit."*

God made these statements concerning our sins. If God brought up our sins at the judgment Seat of Christ, that would make God a liar. The Bible says in Titus 1:2, God cannot lie! *"In hope of eternal life, which **God, that cannot lie,** promised before the world began;"* I do not want anyone reading this study to think that they will have to answer for their sins at the Judgment Seat of Christ. God judged your sins when Christ died on the cross. He died for OUR SINS - NOT HIS, as He had no sins.

To better understand the "Judgment Seat of Christ," lets again look are II Corinthians 5:10, *"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, **whether it be good or bad***. The Judgment Seat of Christ is where Christ will judge Christians for our performance and work as a Christian. It says, *"…whether it be good or bad*." The word "bad" is translated from the Greek word "kakos" which DOES NOT mean anything sinful or evil. The word basically means "worthless or good for nothing." A Christian can live two different lifestyles, one good or one worthless and good for nothing. It is always our choice! I Corinthians 3:11-15 tells us of those two lifestyles and the results of each of them:

"*For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. 12 Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; 13 **Every man's work shall be made manifest:** for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. 14 **If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward.** 15 **If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.**"*

The "wood, hay stubble" does not mean to chastise a child for his failure, but rather it means his life is disapproved of by his father. Paul, a greatly dedicated Christian, said it this way in I Corinthians 9:27, *"But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway*. It is possible that you, as a Christian, can waste your life.

Let me point out one very important matter in I Corinthians 3:11-15 which is quoted above and says, *"…the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is,"* please note that Verse 13 says, concerning a man's works, *"of what sort it is!"* It DOES NOT say, "of HOW MUCH it is." Christ is always more interested in "quality rather than quantity." God has a reason for that. God knows that "quality will always produce quantity, but quantity will never produce quality." The local church of today needs to learn and practice that principle.

For those who have served faithfully and been zealous of Good Works, II Timothy 4:8 tells us of the reward they will receive. *"Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing."*

LESSON #5
THE MARRIAGE OF THE LAMB
Revelation 19:1-10

"And after these things I heard a great voice of much people in heaven, saying, Alleluia; Salvation, and glory, and honour, and power, unto the Lord our God: 2 For true and righteous are his judgments: for he hath judged the great whore, which did corrupt the earth with her fornication, and hath avenged the blood of his servants at her hand. 3 And again they said, Alleluia. And her smoke rose up for ever and ever. 4 And the four and twenty elders and the four beasts fell down and worshipped God that sat on the throne, saying, Amen; Alleluia. 5 And a voice came out of the throne, saying, Praise our God, all ye his servants, and ye that fear him, both small and great. 6 And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. 7 Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: ***for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.*** *8 And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. 9 And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God. 10 And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See thou do it not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."*

The Bridegroom has been looking forward to His marriage to the bride. If you are saved and reading this book, let me ask you a question. Are YOU looking forward to the day that Jesus Christ, the Bridegroom, will come for you according to John 14:1-4, and you will be married to the Son of God? If you are not, you should be! Let me point out before moving on, that the "Marriage of the Lamb is COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FROM THE marriage supper of the Lamb. We will cover that later in a separate lesson.

Who is the "Bride of Christ?" The bride of Christ is the church who Jesus Christ is looking forward to marrying. This includes every person who has trusted Jesus Christ as their Savior since the

church began in Acts Chapter 2 and extends to the rapture of the church in Revelation 4:1. The nation of Israel is not included in the bride, nor any other person from the Old Testament. No doubt there will be a few Jews from the nation of Israel who trusted Christ toward the end of the four Gospels, were saved, and became a part of the church. There will be many who are saved during the tribulation period, but they ARE NOT part of the church. The "Bride of Christ" is THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH, AND ONLY THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH!

The day a person trusts Christ, they become "espoused to Jesus." In those days, being "espoused" was a legal and binding contract that could not be broken by the bride or the bridegroom. We, as the Bride of Christ, are waiting for Jesus to return and take us where He is and marry Him (John 14:1-5). When that day comes, it will not be like any marriage ceremony today. Today when the marriage begins, all eyes are on the "bride" as she walks down the aisle. In the marriage of the Lamb ALL EYES WILL BE ON THE BRIDEGROOM as He comes to take His bride home with Him.

How does the "Bride" make herself ready? Revelation 19:7 tells us that the bride has "made herself ready". The "bride" (you and me) should be busy EVERY day making ourselves ready for our marriage to Christ. In Luke 19:13 before He ascended back to heaven, Jesus said, *"And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them,* ***Occupy till I come.****"* That means that while Christ is gone every member of the church, the bride of Christ, should be occupied in serving Christ, honoring Christ, and Glorifying Christ. Let me give you a picture you are familiar with to help you understand things we should do as we wait for Jesus to come and take us home as his wife. I am sure most of you know what is called a "Hope Chest." Even today when a young lady gets engaged, she will begin putting things in her "Hope Chest," looking forward to the day she will be married. On the day of their marriage, she will share the things in her Hope Chest with her new husband and show him she had been busy every day while she was waiting for the day she would become his wife.

Today, while you and I are waiting for Christ to come for us, we should be busy "making ourselves ready for the wedding" by putting things in our Hope Chest and expecting Him to come for us every day. You may be asking, “What things are we to be putting in our Hope Chest while we wait here on earth for Jesus to come for us and the marriage to take place?” Let me give you a list of at least ten things that every Christian should have in their Hope Chest while we wait for Christ, our bridegroom, to come and take us where He is for the marriage.

Every Christian should have these twelve things in their Hope Chest:

1. Our birth certificate of being born again.
2. Our church membership in a good Bible believing church.
3. Our baptism certificate as our public testimony.
4. Our death certificate according to Romans 12:1-2.
5. Our tithing record at our church.
6. Our special offerings, above our tithe, that we have given. (Malachi 3:8)
7. The birth certificates of others we have witnessed to and led to Christ.
8. The prayer journal we use to pray daily.
9. The prayer cards of missionaries we know and support.
10. A stack of worn-out Bibles that we have studied through the years.
11. A bowl of tears we have shed over important things in our life and the lives of others.
12. A testimony that we have died to self BUT are living for Christ. (Galatians 2:20)

Today most Christians "pray without tears, give without sacrifice, and preach and teach without compassion." Is it any wonder 55% of the people in the world have never heard about a Savior. Jesus set a pattern for us to follow in John 11:35, *Jesus wept.* He no doubt wept over Jerusalem and the people of the world. In Acts 20:19 and 31 *Paul wept*. If Jesus and Pul wept tears as they served and prayed, every Christian should do the same. One last thing, Isaiah prayed and said, *"Here am I Lord, send me!"* EVERY Christian should be willing to "go," some to the highways and hedges in our city and country, and some to take the Gospel message to foreign fields of the world where people have not heard the Gospel. As the Bride of Christ, let's make ourselves ready for the day Jesus will come for us! Jesus is coming soon.

Where and When will the Marriage take Place? The marriage of the lamb takes place in heaven, just following the "bride" standing before the Judgment of Christ, receiving her rewards and *"arrayed in fine linen, clean and white, for the fine linen is the righteousness of the saints."* The marriage to the lamb comes just prior to the 2nd coming of Christ to this earth to set up the Kingdom of God on earth. That is recorded in Revelation 19:11. Revelation 19:14 tells us that we, as the army WHICH ARE IN HEAVEN, will follow him to earth to set up His Kingdom on earth, clothed in fine, white linen. These verses teach us that without doubt, the wedding will take place in heaven at the close of the Tribulation Period on earth and the 2nd coming of Christ to the earth.

LESSON #6
THE RESURRECTIONS OF THE DEAD
Revelation 20:4-6

"And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. 5 But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. 6 Blessed and holy is he that hath part in ***the first resurrection:*** *on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years."*

There is a great lack of teaching on this subject, which generates a great deal of confusion, misunderstanding, and assumptions. To the best of my knowledge there are at least seven resurrections which are mentioned in the Scriptures. Those seven resurrections are divided into two categories. There is a "**first** resurrection" and there is a "**second** resurrection."

Concerning the phrase "second resurrection," it is not stated in the scriptures in those words but it is clearly implied in Revelation 20:6 when it says, *"Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years."* This truth is also strongly implied in the following verses:

Daniel 12:2, says, *"And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt."*

Again, in John 5:28-29, it says, *"Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, 29 And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation."*

There are two types of resurrections, "some to everlasting life" and some to "shame and everlasting contempt." Those who are resurrected to shame and everlasting contempt, are not included in the "first resurrection" which includes six different resurrections. The term "First Resurrection" is an inclusive term. It does not apply to "just one resurrection for all the saved." It applies to and includes six different resurrections which are clearly taught in scripture. These six resurrections **include ALL those who have been saved** since the time of Adam and Eve. We will study these next.

The "second resurrection" includes all the lost since the time of Adam and Eve. These will ALL be raised in one resurrection which we will call "the second resurrection" and we will study that following the "first resurrection."

THE FIRST RESURRECTION
(As stated, there are six stages that make up the first resurrection. As nearly as possible I will cover them in chronological order.)

First: The Resurrection of Jesus Christ. I Corinthians 15:20-23 declares that Jesus Christ is the "first fruit" of the six resurrections, *"But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept 21 For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead, 22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. 23 But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept.*

If you want further assurance of this, please read the following verses: Matthew 28:1-7, Mark 16:1-11, Luke 24:1-2, and John 20:1-18. Then in the verse quoted in I Corinthians 15:23 above, it says, *"…..**afterward t**hey that are Christ's at his coming."*

Second: The Resurrection of "Many Bodies" of Old Testament Saints Arose. Matthew 27:50-53 gives us that resurrection, *"Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost. 51 And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent; 52 And the graves were opened; **and many bodies of the saints which slept arose**, 53 And came out of the graves **after his resurrection**, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many*

This verse makes it clear beyond any doubt that the graves were opened, and the Old Testament saints arose. After they were resurrected they "…*and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many."* The holy city is Jerusalem. It was in Jerusalem that they were seen of many, many people. If you continue to read in Verse 54 it says, *"Now when the centurion, and they that were with him, watching Jesus, saw the earthquake, and those things that were done, they feared greatly, saying, Truly this was the Son of God."* The centurion and those that were with him **saw the graves open**, and **saw people resurrected,** to the point that they feared greatly. They had never seen or known of anyone being resurrected. There is no more said here, or at any other place in the Bible about this resurrection.

Bible scholars are divided on what happened to the ones who have been resurrected, but none of their opinions can be proven by scripture. Some believe what Hebrews 12:23 teaches, that those people had glorified bodies, but that cannot be proved. That verse says, *"To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect*. Other men believe that Ephesians 4:8-10 is referring to those raised on that day, *"Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men. 9 (Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth? 10 He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things."* Again, there is absolutely NO PROOF of any of those positions and again, the scriptures are silent where these people went. Therefore, since God did not give us any further information, I would be very much out of place to give my opinion. All of the above are possible, but none of them can be proven.

Third: The Resurrection of the "Dead in Christ" at the Rapture. This resurrection is commonly known. It is clearly explained in I Thessalonians 4:13-18,

"But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. 15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. 16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: 17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. 18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words"

This resurrection includes ALL saved people from the cross where Jesus was crucified, to the rapture. The rapture will take place before the tribulation period begins in Revelation 4:1. The "all saved people" refers to "the church."

Fourth: The Resurrection of the "Two Witnesses." This resurrection takes place in Revelation 11:3-12. It is a long scripture, but well worth reading.

*"And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth. 4 These are the two olive trees, and the two candlesticks standing before the God of the earth. 5 And if any man will hurt them, fire proceedeth out of their mouth, and devoureth their enemies: and if any man will hurt them, he must in this manner be killed. 6 These have power to shut heaven, that it rain not in the days of their prophecy: and have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to smite the earth with all plagues, as often as they will. 7 And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, **and kill them.** 8 And their dead bodies shall lie in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified. 9 And they of the people and kindreds and tongues and nations shall see their dead bodies three days and an half, and shall not suffer their dead bodies to be put in graves. 10 And they that dwell upon the earth shall rejoice over them, and make merry, and shall send gifts one to another; because these two prophets tormented them that dwelt on the earth. 11 **And after three days and an half the Spirit of life from God entered into them, and they stood upon their feet;** and great fear fell upon them which saw them. 12 And they heard a great*

voice from heaven saying unto them, Come up hither. And they ascended up to heaven in a cloud; and their enemies beheld them.

All indications are that these two witnesses showed up and began their ministry at the beginning of the tribulation period and ministered for the first three-and one-half years until the beginning of the Great Tribulation period, which will begin in the middle of the tribulation period. I base that on Revelation 13:5-18, which is where the "beast" who is the anti-christ, came on the scene. Also, Revelation 11:2 tells us that the time of the Gentiles ended at the rapture, and at the beginning of the first three and one-half years of the tribulation period.

These two witnesses preached with great power for 1260 days, which equals 42 months or three and one-half years This covers the time of the first half of the tribulation period. These two men whom God raised up, preached and condemned the sins of the nations. Most likely we cannot even imagine the power of their preaching! They preached so long, hard and powerful, that the people of the world hated them. Verse 10 tells us how happy the world was when the two witnesses were killed and their bodies laid in the streets for three days, *"And they that dwell upon the earth shall rejoice over them, and make merry, and shall send gifts one to another;* ***because these two prophets tormented them that dwelt on the earth."***

Three days later Revelation 11:11-12 tells us that God resurrected them, and the world (no doubt by television) watched the two witnesses resurrected and saw God calling them up to heaven as they were taken up to heaven. Those two verses say, *"And after three days and an half the Spirit of life from God entered into them, and they stood upon their feet; and great fear fell upon them which saw them. 12 And they heard a great voice from heaven saying unto them, Come up hither. And they ascended up to heaven in a cloud; and their enemies beheld them."*

Fifth: The Old Testament Saints will be Resurrected at the end of the Tribulation Period. There are at least three passages which testify to this.

Daniel 12:1-2. *"And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book. 2* ***And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake****, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt."* These verses are referring to the last half of the tribulation period when they say, "*there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time."* Then it goes on to say, *"at that time thy people shall be delivered."* Verse 2 is speaking of the resurrection of the Old Testament saints, both good and bad.

Isaiah 26:19, *"Thy dead men shall live, together with my dead body shall they arise*. ***Awake and sing, ye that dwell in dust:*** *for thy dew is as the dew of herbs, and the earth shall cast out the dead."* This takes place as Israel is preparing to go into the Millennium. They will be singing. The previous verses refer to a "restored Israel." This takes place at the end of the tribulation period.

Ezekiel 37:1-14, I will only include two of those verses here, but you can go back and study the entire content for better understanding. Verses 12 and 14 say, *"Therefore prophesy and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, O my people, I will open your graves, and cause you to come up out*

of your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel. And ye shall know that I am the LORD, when I have opened your graves, O my people, and brought you up out of your graves, 14 And shall put my spirit in you, and ye shall live, and I shall place you in your own land: then shall ye know that I the LORD have spoken it, and performed it, saith the LORD.

Verses 1-11 speak of the background of Israel as "dry bones being revived and coming back to life." Now, we move forward to Verses 12-14 where God tells Israel, ***"I will open your graves, and cause you to come up out of your graves"***. This clearly speaks of a resurrection. In Verse 14 God promised Israel, His people, that they would live and that He was going to gather them from the four corners of the earth, would put His Spirit in them, and would place them in THEIR land which is the land of Israel.

Sixth: The Tribulation Martyrs will be Resurrected. That resurrection is recorded in Revelation 20:4-6, *"And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. 5 But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection."*

As you just read, Verse 5 declares that this sixth resurrection is part of "the first resurrection." That is followed in Revelation 20:6 where God shared that being part of the first resurrection is a blessing, ***"Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years."***

THE SECOND RESURRECTION
Revelation 20:11-15

"And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. 12 And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. 13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works 14 And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. 15 And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire."

This "second resurrection" is in only one stage. This resurrection includes all those who have died since the days of Adam and Eve whose names are not found in the "Book of Life." When these people are resurrected and brought out of the graves, they will immediately be judged at The Great White Throne of Judgment." We will teach an entire lesson on the Great White Throne later in the book.

LESSON #7
THE ANTI-CHRIST, THE COMING ONE WORLD DICTATOR
Revelation 13:1-7

"And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy. 2 And the beast

which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority. 3 And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast. 4 And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him? 5 And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months. 6 And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven. 7 And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations."

Revelation Chapter 12 reveals the anti-christ during the first three and one-half years of the tribulation period. The anti-christ will rule on the earth for a total of seven years. But during the first three and one-half years, the anti-christ will be a GREAT deceiver. His first three and one-half years will begin almost immediately after the rapture of the church. The world will be in shock and will not understand the rapture because thousands of Christians will disappear off the earth and there will be no explanation. The world will be in mass confusion. It is hard for us to imagine, but the rapture will totally disrupt the medical world, the transportation world, the financial world, the stock market, as well as the governments of the world. The anti-christ will appear as a man who has all the answers. He will be clean cut, well mannered, well dressed, and have a great reputation. He will have great intellect and great wisdom and show great concern for the world. Outwardly, that will show as his only concern. He will immediately gain the confidence of the people and of the governments of the world. Dainel 7:20 describes him as a great deceiver, *"And of the ten horns that were in his head, and of the other which came up, and before whom three fell; even of that horn that had eyes, and a mouth that spake very great things, whose look was more stout than his fellows."*

Two major things the anti-christ will do in the first half of the tribulation period.

First: The anti-christ will bring peace to the earth. There must be peace on the earth before peace can be taken away from the earth. Revelation 6:2 says, *"And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer."* PLEASE notice, the rider on the white horse had "a bow," **but no arrow**." That pictures the anti-christ as a man of peace. A bow is a weapon, but it being with no arrow pictures him as having no intention of attacking anyone on the earth.

Second: The anti-christ will make a covenant with Israel. Daniel 9:27 tells us of that covenant, *"And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and* ***in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate."*** In that covenant the anti-christ will provide peace and protection for Israel from the nations of the world. He will help them to build their Temple in Israel. He will allow them to again practice the "sacrificing of animals" as part of their worship, which had not been done for over 2000 years. This will continue for three and one-half years. He will be admired as the man who brought peace to the entire world.

Three major things the anti-christ will do in the last half of the great tribulation (Matthew 24:21).

Revelation Chapter 13 portrays **the true character of the anti-christ** in the last three and a half years of the tribulation period. In that chapter he will show "his true colors." He will turn into a vicious, proud man, and will be 100% committed to controlling the entire world.

First: The anti-christ will break the covenant he made with Israel. This is also seen in Daniel 9:27 which is printed above, "*in the midst of the week he shall* ***cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate."***

Matthew 24:15-21 tells us the details of him breaking the covenant with Israel, *"When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:) 16 Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains: 17 Let him which is on the housetop not come down to take any thing out of his house: 18 Neither let him which is in the field return back to take his clothes. 19 And woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck in those days! 20 But pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the sabbath day: 21* ***For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be."***

In the verse above, you can see how serious the matter will be of the anti-christ breaking his covenant and turning on Israel, God's people. God warned them of five things, saying (1) Flee to the mountains. (2) Don't return to your house to take anything. (3) Don't return to your house even for clothing. (4) Pray that no woman will be with child. (5) Pray your flight will not be in winter or the Sabbath day! As you can see, the anti-christ turned from being Israel's best friend to Israel's worst enemy in the entire world. It will be so horrible that God told His people not to even leave their field and return to their houses for clothes!

Second: The anti-christ will turn against and become the enemy of all the Saints of God. Revelation 13:7 explains his actions, *"And it was given unto him to make war* ***with the saints,*** *and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations."* Yes, there will be saints on earth during the tribulation period. These "saints" are not part of the saints which make up the church or the bride of Christ. They will be the same as the Old Testament saints. The anti-christ will do all he can possibly do to destroy any and ALL reference to God in the last three and a half years of the tribulation period.

Third: The anti-christ will enter the Holy Place, which is the Temple in Jerusalem. He will sit on the throne and declare himself to be God! II Thessalonians 2:3-4 prophesies that will happen, *"Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; 4 Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God,* ***shewing himself that he is God."***

Revelation 13:13-15 tells us he will require the world to make an image of him, and that anyone who will not fall down and worship the image will be killed, *"And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, 14 And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword,*

and did live. 15 And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed.

THE IDENTITY OF THE ANTI-CHRIST
Revelation 13:18

"Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is ***Six hundred threescore and six."*** The number of the anti-christ is 666! That is as close as anyone can come to identifying the anti-christ.

People through the years have tried to identify who the anti-christ will be. Some have thought it will be Nero, the Emperor of Rome. John Wesley believed he would be one of the Popes. Some have thought it would be Henry Kessinger, who is a Jew. One man claimed Hitler will be the anti-christ. He developed a "number system" to prove his claim, which is not proof in any way!! He said: A=100, B=101, C=102 and he continued through Z. The following was his claim for proof that the anti-christ would be Hitler.

H - 107
I - 108
T - 119
L - 111
E - 104
R - 117
Total 666 = Anti-Christ!

THAT IS NO PROOF AT ALL THAT HITLER IS THE ANTI-CHRIST!!!

If it could be proven, Judas would be the most likely suspect. Judas and the anti-christ are the only two men in the Bible who are referred to as "the son of perdition." That is said of Judas in John 17:12. It is said of the Anti-christ in II Thessalonians 2:3. Also, Judas is the only man that Christ ever called "a Devil." That is found in John 6:70. Also, Judas is the only man in the Bible that it is said of, “was entered into by the devil himself.” That is recorded in Luke 22:3 . This is possible, but none of these are proof of the identity of the anti-christ.

LESSON #8
THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST
Revelation 19:11-16

"And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. 12 His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself 13 And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. 14 And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. 15 And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of

iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. 16 And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS."

As verse 11 says, our Lord Jesus Christ is coming from heaven for the second time. There are two major turning points in the Book of Revelation. First, in Revelation 4:1 **the heavens will open**, and the church will ascend to heaven to be with the Lord. Second, Revelation 19:11-16 tells us that **the heavens will open again,** and all those who ascended to heaven, will descend with Christ when He returns to the earth the second time.

Jesus Christ is identified as the "Faithful and True." He was identified as "faithful and true" while he was here on earth in Revelation 3:14. He is also identified as "the Word of God." That is stated in John 1:1, 1:11, and 1:14. Acts 1:11 tells us that He will return to earth in "Like manner" as he was seen going up. Acts 1:9 says, "He ascended in a cloud" and Matthew 24:30 says "He will return descending in a cloud."

The armies which will follow Christ and will return with Him at His second coming are His bride dressed in white linen. Enoch prophesied this and it is recorded in Jude 14-15, *"And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, 15 To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him."*

The armies who return with Christ WILL NOT fight any part of this war. Christ is returning as KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS. He will smite the nations with the "Sharp Sword" that comes out of His mouth as stated in Revelation 19:21, *"And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh."* This was also prophesied in Isaiah 11:4, *"But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked."* The Word of God is referred to as a "sword" in Hebrews 4:12, *"**For the wor**d of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."* The power of His Word is demonstrated in John 18:6 which says, *"As soon then as he had said unto them, I am he, they went backward, and fell to the ground."*

LESSON #9
THE JUDGMENT OF THE GENTILE NATIONS
Revelation 19:17-19

"And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; 18 That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great. 19 And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army."

First: The Battle of Armageddon Follows the 2nd Coming of Christ. God calls all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven to gather together to eat the flesh of the kings, the flesh of captains, the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of the horses that those men sit on. This was foretold in Matthew 24:28, which is the Olivet Discourse. This gives us an indication of how horrible and how bloody the slaughter will be. Revelation 14:20 tells us the blood will be up to the bridles on a horse, *"And the winepress was trodden without the city, and blood came out of the winepress, even unto the horse bridles, by the space of a thousand and six hundred furlongs."* This will be more horrible than anything the world has ever seen. The Gentile nations, because they have totally rejected God and hated His People, Israel, will be totally destroyed, other than the individual people who will be saved during the tribulation period. These kings, captains, and mighty men, according to Daniel 7:24, are most like the "revived Roman empire" which will have 10 federated nations. These nations. according to Revelation 19:21, will be destroyed by our Lord Jesus Christ, and Him ALONE!

Second: The Beast and the False Prophet will be Doomed. Revelation 19:20 tells us they will be doomed and will be cast ALIVE into a lake of fire and brimstone, *"And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.*" The beast is the anti-christ, and the false prophet is the counterfeit holy spirit. Revelation 20:10 tells us that after 1000 years, they will still be alive and tormented in the fire and brimstone, *"And the **devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone**, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.*" The Bible says, "You reap what you sow!"

Third: Satan himself will be Bound for 1000 years. Satan will be cast into the bottomless pit. Revelation 20:1-3 tells of that event, *"And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. 2 And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, 3 And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that **he must be loosed a little season**."*

Fourth: The Tribulation Saints will be Resurrected. That is recorded in Revelation 20:4 which says, *"And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.*

Fifth: Satan will be loosed after the 1000 years for "a little season!" Go to Revelation 20:7-9 and read about what will take place at that time.

*"And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, 8 And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea. 9 And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the **beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them**.*

When Satan is loosed for a little season, he will gather the kings and their armies from the four corners of the earth. He will lead them to the "beloved city," The "beloved city" is the city of Jerusalem, where Jesus Christ will be sitting on the throne of David ruling the world with a rod of iron for 1000 years. Christ has ruled in righteousness and holiness. Living on earth for those thousand years will be like living in Heaven.

This tells us a lot about the nature of man's flesh. Man's flesh is totally, **100% depraved**! Living on earth for those 1000 years, which will be like living in heaven, yet man will rebel and try to kill Christ. In Matthew 6: 9-10 where the disciples asked Jesus to teach them to pray, He said, *"pray after this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. 10* ***Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.*** This was speaking of the 2nd coming of Christ to earth. Even after living in a place like heaven, those nations will join Satan in an effort to destroy Jesus Christ, BECAUSE He would not allow them TO SIN! Therefore, they hated the Lord Jesus and were willing to do anything and everything to destroy Him - so they could go back to their sinful life. Paul said, "*IN MY FLESH DWELLETH NO GOOD THING*!" Their actions after 1000 years of living in a beautiful and wonderful world tell us Paul's statement is TRUE!

Sixth: Satan's Final Doom comes after he has been loosed. This is recorded in Revelation 20:10, *And th****e devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone,*** *where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever."*

LESSON #10
ISRAEL WILL BE GIVEN THE PROMISED LAND

There has been much discussion concerning this subject. God first gave Israel "The Promised Land" in Genesis 15:18 where it says, *"In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates:"*

Some details are added in Deuteronomy 34:1-4, where it says, *"And Moses went up from the plains of Moab unto the mountain of Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, that is over against Jericho. And the LORD shewed him all the land of Gilead, unto Dan 2 And all Naphtali, and the land of Ephraim, and Manasseh, and all the land of Judah, unto the utmost sea, 3 And the south, and the plain of the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees, unto Zoar. 4 And the LORD said unto him, This is the land which I sware unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, saying, I will give it unto thy seed: I have caused thee to see it with thine eyes, but thou shalt not go over thither."*

As you can imagine, it is almost impossible for anyone to determine the exact boundaries of the land today, as so much has changed. We are sure of this, as far as the Bible tells us Israel has never occupied ALL the land God promised them. It seems impossible that Israel will get their land restored to them during the church age. There is no indication of that in the Bible. It is recorded that the anti-christ will show favor to Israel during the first half of the tribulation. He will help Israel build their temple and allow them to make animal sacrifices as part of their worship. However, there is no mention of him giving them the land God promised them.

Ezekiel 37:11-14 strongly indicates it will be done following the tribulation period, *"Then he said unto me, Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel: behold, they say, Our bones are dried,*

*and our hope is lost: we are cut off for our parts. 12 Therefore prophesy and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, O my people, **I will open your graves, and cause you to come up out of your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel**. 13 And ye shall know that I am the LORD, when I have opened your graves, O my people, and brought you up out of your graves, 14 And shall put my spirit in you, and ye shall live, and I shall place you in your own land: then shall ye know that I the LORD have spoken it, and performed it, saith the LORD."* I do not see any possibility of this happening until Christ returns to the earth. We know that Israel will be in their land during the Millennium.

LESSON # 11
THE 1000 YEAR MILLENNIUM REIGN OF CHRIST ON EARTH
Revelation 20:1-4

"And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. 2 And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, 3 And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season. 4 And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years."

The word "millennium" comes from two Latin words. Those words are "Mille" which means thousand, and "Annium" which means years. The two phrases we have used in former lessons, "Millennium and 1000-year reign," are the same period of time.

First: When does the Millennium begin? In Revelation Chapter 19 in Verses 1, 3, 4, and 6 there are "four alleluias." In Verse 7, the four "alleluias" are followed by the Marriage of the Lamb. After the marriage of the Lamb, Jesus Christ returns to earth which is referred to at the 2nd coming of Christ. The activities which follow the return of Christ are the judgement of the Gentile nations, the judgement of Israel, the raising of the Old Testament saints, and the raising of the tribulation saints. Immediately following those events, the Millennium begins.

Second: There are three major first time events during the Millennium. (1) Satan will not be present on the earth during the 1000-year period. We have already referred to those verses in Revelation 20:1-4. Therefore, I will not repeat those verses here. (2) Two curses will be lifted. The curse God put on the earth in Genesis according to Romans 8:21-23, will be lifted, *"Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. 22 For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now. 23 And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body." (3)* The curse God put on animals will be lifted. That is recorded in Isaiah 11:6-8, *"The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. 7 And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. 8 And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den"*

Third: There will be perfect peace on the earth for 1000 years. Wars began in Genesis 4:8 and have continued until today in 2025. Today there are several wars going on. The United Nations has spent billions of dollars to try to bring peace on the earth but have failed. There has been NO peace on earth since Genesis and there will be no peace on earth again until Jesus comes to rule with a rod of iron. Revelation 2:27 says, *"And he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of my Father."*

Fourth: Who will be on the earth during the Millennium? The church, the "bride of Christ," will return with Christ and will rule and reign with Him during the 1000 years of the Millennium (Revelation 19:14). They are identified by the "fine white linen." The Old Testament Saints and Israel will be resurrected at the end of the tribulation period and be on earth during the Millennium (Daniel 12:1-2). The Tribulation Martyrs will be resurrected during the tribulation period (Revelation 20:4). The people who trusted Christ as Savior and endured the tribulation period will be on earth during the Tribulation Period (Matthew 24:13). Children who are born to those who came through the tribulation period will be on the earth through the tribulation period. Let me point out one very important matter that you need to remember. The children of those who came through the tribulation and were born to them will be born with an original sin nature! Those will make up the armies who rebel against God at the end of the Millennium.

Fifth: Who will rule during the Millennium Period?

1. Jesus Christ will sit on the Throne in Jerusalem and rule with a rod of iron.
2. The church/Bride of Christ will rule with Him. (Revelation 20:4 and Luke 19:17)
3. The Tribulation Martyrs will rule with Him. (Revelation 20:4 and 5:10)

Sixth: There will be very limited Temptation during the Millennium. The only temptations will be the depravity of man's flesh to think sinful thoughts.

1. There will be no Devil to tempt people.
2. There will be no worldly bars, social clubs or temptation.
3. There will be no Hollywood movies.
4. There will be no television programs portraying sins of any type.
5. There will be no internet sites presenting sins of any type.
6. There will be no Playboy magazines.
7. There will be no billboards presenting sins of any type.
8. There will be no strong drinks, such as beer or whiskey.
9. There will be no drugs.
10. There will be no temptation of ANY type that will be tolerated by the King of Kings!!
11. There will be no "pride celebrations" honoring Sodomites!
12. There will be no wild, ungodly music of any nature.

Seventh: Why did God Plan the Millennium Reign on Earth for 1000 Years? God planned the Millennium to show us that we cannot blame our sins on the environment in which we live. We cannot blame our sins on our parents for not raising us correctly. We cannot blame our sins on some type of mental illness. God planned the Millennium to show us that any and all sin is due to us being totally depraved and having a SIN NATURE! The 1000-year Millennium will be a perfect environment. There

will be no excuse for anyone to sin, other than their own sinful nature. Despite the Supreme Court making laws which make certain sins legal, like a man calling himself a girl and using the "girls' bathroom." There will be NO EXCUSE nor justification to commit sin.

The Millenium will prove that "MAN DEPARTING FROM THE WORD OF GOD for over 6000 years has been wrong, TOTALLY, 100% WRONG, even when the courts have legalized sin. It will prove that on every occasion GOD HAS BEEN 100% RIGHT." The Millennium will show that man is totally depraved for over 6000 years, since Adam and Eve," and that "God has been totally righteous over those 6000 years. ONE OTHER THING! It will justify God's actions toward wicked and sinful man and will show that wicked and sinful men are to blame for their actions.

It will be a time when the scriptures will be fulfilled and a time when we will see Philippians 2:9-11 take place, ***"Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: 10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; 11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."***

LESSON #12
THE GREAT WHITE THRONE OF JUDGMENT
Revelation 20:11-15

"And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. 12 And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and ***the dead*** *were judged out of those things which were written in the books,* ***according to their works****. 13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and* ***they were judged every man according to their works****. 14 And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. 15 And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire."*

First: When will the Great White Throne of Judgement take Place? According to Revelation 20:4-5, it will take place at the end of the Millennial reign of Christ, *"And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. 5 But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection"*

Second: Where will the Great White Throne of Judgment Take Place? The Bible does not answer this question in a manner you and I can understand. Revelation 20:11 tells us it will be somewhere between the heaven and the earth, *"And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.*

Third: Who will be Judged at the Great White Throne of Judgement? Revelation 20:11-15 tells us that "*THE DEAD, small and great*"… "*and the sea gave up the dead which were in it, and death and hell delivered us the dead which were in them*." This clearly tells us that it is the wicked dead, and ONLY

the wicked dead that will be judged at the Great White Throne of Judgement. At this point, ALL others have been resurrected. This judgement will be all of those, from Cain until today in 2025, who never repented of their sin and received Jesus Christ as their Savior. These are what we call "The Lost." ONLY THE DEAD are mentioned in these verses.

Fourth: What will the Dead be Judged For? As you read in the verse quoted above, there is no mention of being judged for their sins. That judgement took place when they rejected Christ, did not repent of their sins and accept Jesus as their Savior, and their names were not written in the book of life. If you go back and read Revelation 20:11-15, you will see that they, the lost of the world, will be judged **for their works.** Yes, they will all be cast into the lake of fire, burn and be tormented forever. Many people may not realize this, but the Bible teaches there are different degrees of punishment and suffering in the lake of fire. Luke 10:10-14 tells us this truth,

"But into whatsoever city ye enter, and they receive you not, go your ways out into the streets of the same, and say, 11 Even the very dust of your city, which cleaveth on us, we do wipe off against you: notwithstanding be ye sure of this, that the kingdom of God is come nigh unto you. 12 But I say unto you, that it shall be more tolerable in that day for Sodom, than for that city. 13 Woe unto thee, Chorazin! woe unto thee, Bethsaida! for if the mighty works had been done in Tyre and Sidon, which have been done in you, they had a great while ago repented, sitting in sackcloth and ashes. 14 But it shall be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon at the judgment, than for you."

You may have heard the old saying, "Hell will be hotter for some than for others." God is fair and just in all He does. Some people will be there because God said, "I offered you a free gift of salvation, and you understood that, BUT YOU CURSED and said, "I don't want the free gift. I want to continue enjoying my sins." They will suffer more than those who never heard the Gospel! God is fair and just in everything He does!