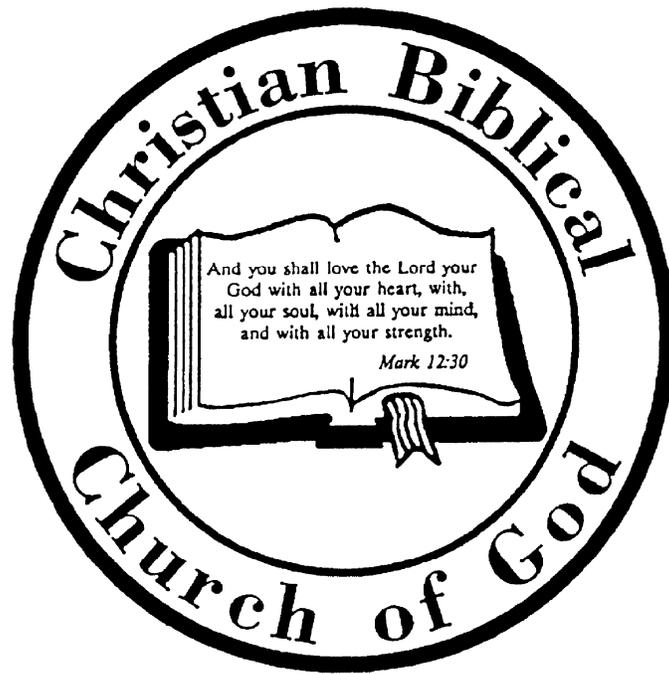


# Overview of Prophecy Daniel & Revelation



**Transcript Book**

By Fred R. Coulter

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Fred R. Coulter  
Christian Biblical Church of God  
P. O. Box 1442  
Hollister, California 95024-1442

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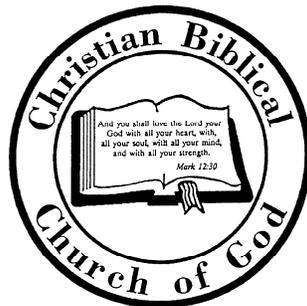
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## Overview of Prophecy—Daniel/Revelation

Series of 5 sermons by Fred R. Coulter



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# Overview of Prophecy I

## Daniel/Revelation

Fred R. Coulter—February 6, 2016

In the series we've been doing on the *Fourteen Things To Happen in Prophecy*, I got a question yesterday concerning Rev. 11. This will help start things for today. It has to do with how do we understand prophecy.

Talking about the two witnesses, Revelation 11:7: "And when they have completed their testimony, **the beast who ascends out of the abyss** will make war against them, and will overcome them, and will kill them." The question was:

- Is this *another* beast?
- How do we know which beast this is?

What we're going to do is do an overview of understanding prophecy, and then we will be able to determine *the beast* "...who ascends out of the abyss..."

We know that in Matt. 22 Jesus said about loving God with all your heart, mind, soul and being; love your neighbor as yourself; on these two hang all the Law and the Prophets. In addition to that we can say: also hangs on the Gospels, Acts, the Epistles, and Revelation. They all hang on that. Prophecy within that hangs on the Sabbath and Holy Days, which are part of the commandments of God.

The deep things of God are understood by the Spirit of God, but also by timing. I always feel sorry for Daniel because everything that he went through, and he was one of the three most righteous men that God refers to: Moses, Daniel and Job.

After he had gotten done with all of these prophecies, he wanted to know: What is it going to be? God gave him the answer: 'I want you to understand it's going to be pretty close to 3,000 years.' **NO! He didn't tell him anything!**

Daniel 12:8: "And I heard, but I did not understand. Then I said, 'O my lord, what shall be the end of these things?'.... [He was talking to the angel Michael] ...And he said, 'Go your way, Daniel, for **the words are closed up and sealed until the time of the end**'" (vs 8-9). There is a timing to a lot of these prophecies.

Verse 10: "Many shall be purified, and made white and refined. But the wicked shall do wickedly; and none of the wicked shall understand, but the wise shall understand." We'll see why that is. There is a time when it would come.

Psalms 119:18, which says, "[Lord] Open my eyes so that I may behold wondrous things out of Your Law.' That applies to all the Word of God.

We also know in Luke 24 that Jesus opened the minds of the disciples to understand the prophecies concerning Him. So not only is there a timing, but there also has to be an opening of the mind.

Let's tie this in with, John 6:45: "...And they shall all be taught by God...." If you read the Word of God and understand the Word of God, and with God's Spirit, who is teaching you? Did you understand that yourself? **or** Was there a reason why you understood? *There is a reason!*

1. the Spirit of God
2. the timing when it comes to prophecy

Personal behavior can be understood at any time. All you have to do is start reading the book of Psalms and the book of Proverbs. That will help you:

1. in your relationship with God
2. how to understand good and evil in your life
3. what to do and what not to do in very simple terms

Let's see what else God has done. You've heard of the mystery of God and the mystery of God includes His whole plan. Just think about it:

- how many people have lived and died
- how few have been called
- how long man has been on the earth

and that will kind of give you a hint as to what it's going to be like at the second resurrection.

Proverbs 25:2: "The glory of God *is* to conceal a thing... [Isn't that what He told Daniel; it's concealed to the time of the end?] ...but the honor of kings *is* to search out a matter." We need to search out what God wants us to know.

The reason all of this becomes important is because God has to reveal it. Just like He opened the eyes of the disciples after His resurrection. Can you imagine the apostles? Here they are, studying with Jesus, learning from Him and traveling all over Galilee and Judea. He was telling them things about the Kingdom of God. I think a lot of them thought, 'We're going to be on the ground floor of the Kingdom of God.' They were trudging along with everything. They were expecting Him, I'm sure, to set up an army and get rid of the Romans.

All the scribes and Pharisees, reading some of the prophecies in the Old Testament, were looking for the Messiah to come to them, and align themselves politically and religiously with the Messiah, because He would embrace them. So, they

were looking for the Messiah to come and say, 'I'm the Messiah; you all come and join Me.'

Because God did not do that through Christ, they killed Him. Little did they understand that that goes all the way back to Gen. 3:15 that the Messiah had to die; then all of the other prophecies. 'A little here, a little there' is how we're to study the Bible and 'rightly divide' it.

But here is something else. John 16:12, Jesus said: "I have yet many things to tell you, but you are not able to bear them now." Why not?

First of all, He didn't want to tell them that when He ascended into heaven, they wanted to know that very last day that Jesus was on the earth before He ascended into heaven, after being with them forty days and forty nights, 'Are You going to restore the Kingdom to Israel now?' He said, 'It's not for you to know the times or the seasons.' He gave them the Daniel script, not for you to know. 'But you go and preach.'

But here's what He told them the night before, v 13: "However, when that one has come, *even* the Spirit of the Truth..." Here is a real key in understanding the Bible:

- the Word of God is true
- His laws are true
- His commandments are true
- His statutes are true
- His precepts are true
- Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life
- God is a God of Truth
- God cannot lie

With all of that, then we have to understand that from what He is telling them here, that it's going to agree with the truth of everything that He has said.

Notice what the Spirit will do: "...it will lead you into all Truth..." (v 13). In the Greek it is *the* Truth. That is, *the* Truth necessary for understanding salvation, and *the* Truth necessary to understand prophecy, when it is time.

In this age, we can understand a lot of things that they never understood before. You know what was claimed that the *mark of the beast* was before modern technology? *Sunday-keeping!* That was a sign of the false Christian system, but that wasn't *the mark of the beast*. If Sunday were *the mark of the beast*, it couldn't be, because *the mark of the beast* says you can't buy or sell.

So, they said, 'Everything is going to close down.' There are still some Seventh-Day Adventists preaching 'universal blue laws are coming from the Catholic Church.' However, if Sunday were *the mark of the beast*, and you cannot buy unless you

had *the mark of the beast*, how come it is you buy on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. If you don't keep Sunday, buy on Saturday.

Never would they in their wildest imaginations imagine—Jonathan's got the *Faithful Version Bible* right on his smart phone—the things that we understand today.

Right here, while we're sitting here, we are being bombarded with all kinds of frequencies and waves: telephone, light, radio, television, microwave, all of those things; but you don't know it. There are many things He had to tell them, but they weren't able to bear them now, because

1. they couldn't understand because God didn't give the understanding
2. it wasn't time

Verse 13: "However, when that one has come, *even* the Spirit of the Truth, **it will lead you...**" Tie that in with, 'As many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are the sons of God' (Rom. 8).

"...into all Truth because it shall not speak from itself..." (v 13). Who is going to do the speaking? This is why it was hard for some people to understand that the Holy Spirit is not a person.

Today we can understand it. Because I can say, 'in this envelope I've got a chip in here and it contains the whole sermon. As a matter of fact, we have two chips: one audio, one video, same size chip. If you put them side-by-side you couldn't tell which one was what. If you put the wrong chip in, it wouldn't work.

Likewise with the Holy Spirit! It's not speaking of itself, because it is not a person. It is speaking, just like one of these chips when it's in the right machine. ***The right machine is our mind with the Spirit of God!*** The Holy Spirit of God, coming to us, which continues to come to us, ***will lead us into all the Truth we need to know for the time in which we are living!*** So we can add that in.

Two other things we need to do. 2-Tim. 2 we're told 'diligently study to show yourself approved unto God.'

1. we have to study
2. we have to study a little here, a little there, put it all together, then we get the picture

The way we are going to understand this is not get down into the details, but to get an overview of prophecy.

The time of Babylon, as I mentioned before, is what is known in historical terms as an 'axial period.' An 'axial period' is when it is virtually a worldwide occurrence. When there was Babylon, that was an 'axial period,' because out of Babylon

came Hinduism, Buddhism, revision of Egyptian religion, Judaism, and that also led to the religions of the Medes and the Persians and the philosophies of the Greeks. Also, an ‘axial period’ is a time in history that we can go back to for accurate dates. We can get accurate dates back to that time. Going before that, it’s hard to get the dates.

There was another ‘axial period’ way before, which was the period where they built pyramids. They found there were pyramids everywhere that spread around the world.

In Daniel we have now a known period in history that is verifiable. We have something that God has told us, which is true. What we’re going to do, we’re going to see a pattern develop. Let’s examine this:

Daniel 2:36: “This *is* the dream. And we will tell the interpretation before the king. You, O king, *are* a king of kings, for the God of heaven has given you a kingdom, power, and strength, and glory” (vs 36-37). God raises up all the nations, takes them down; He judges the nations (Jer. 18).

Verse 38: And wherever the children of men dwell, the beasts of the field, and the birds of the heaven, He has given *them* into your hand, and has made you ruler over them all. You are this head of gold.”

That gives us something that is definitive, directly from God, simple to understand—a starting point. The starting point is the head of gold. Then it goes all the way down.

Verse 39: “And after you shall arise another kingdom... [we have another principle here. the king and the kingdom are synonymous] ... inferior to you, and another third kingdom of brass, which shall rule over all the earth. And the fourth kingdom shall be *as* strong as iron, forasmuch as iron breaks in pieces and beats down all things, and as the iron that crushes all these, shall it break in pieces and crush” (vs 39-40).

This tells us quite a bit. We’re going to see in Dan. 7 a little more explanation of this. This is why you can’t just look in one place and come to a definitive conclusion concerning prophecies that cover a long period of time.

Verse 41: “And whereas you saw the feet and toes, part of potters’ clay and part of iron, *the* kingdom shall be divided. But there shall be in it the strength of the iron, because you saw the iron mixed with miry clay. And *as* the toes... [now it separates out the toes from the feet] ...of the feet *were* part of iron and part of clay, *so* the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly broken” (vs 41-42). Doesn’t tell us what kingdom, where, how far off, but it gives us a description.

Verse 43: “And whereas you saw iron mixed with miry clay, they shall mix themselves with the seed of men. But they shall not cling to one another, even as iron does not combine with clay. And in the days of these kings...” (vs 43-44). It says the ten toes are ten kings, but that’s way off in the future. Today we still haven’t arrived at that point.

“...the God of heaven shall set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed. And the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever. Because you saw that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands...” (vs 44-45). Later on what does it talk about? *The Stone of Stumbling, the Rock of Offence is Christ!* How do you depict Christ coming? This is a prophecy of it.

But to just read this, and at the time that it was given by Daniel, you wouldn’t know that that’s of Jesus. You wouldn’t know that that ties in with Gen. 3:15. You wouldn’t know anything about the details of it, because He hadn’t come. None of this had taken place, but it does tell you there is coming an end to all of man’s rule. God is going to do it.

Verse 45: “Because you saw that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold, the great God has made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter. And the dream *is* certain, and its interpretation is sure.”

How much time does that prophecy cover? *It still hasn’t finished!* So, we search out a little more. The way you follow along is: How many kingdoms were there? You had the gold, the silver, the brass, the iron, iron and clay, which is right at the end. So you have **four** kingdoms. When we come to Dan.7, we have **four** great beasts. Daniel saw this vision:

Daniel 7:2: “Daniel spoke and said, ‘In my vision by night I was looking, and behold, the four winds of the heavens were stirring up the **Great Sea.**’”

We’re going to find that becomes important. This is important when you’re studying through. You get various elements and you note them, because later you may have a Biblical interpretation of what it is. This will help us then, connect the different prophecies that are speaking about the same thing, so that it will make a clear picture.

Verse 3: “And four great beasts came up from the sea, different from one another. The first was like a lion and had eagle’s wings...” (vs 3-4). That’s a strange mixture. That’s where we get the symbol of cherubim.

“...I watched until its wings were plucked, and it was lifted up from the earth and made to stand

on its feet like a man. And a man's heart was given to it" (v 4). That goes back to Dan. 4 when Nebuchadnezzar was struck with madness for seven years. Then he was restored and given his kingdom back. He praised God, and wrote Dan. 4 to all the kings of the earth.

Verse 5: "And behold another beast, a second, like a bear. And it raised itself up on one side, and it had three ribs in its mouth between its teeth. And this was said to it: 'Arise, eat up much flesh.'" That ties in with the image of silver.

That's why in the back of *The Holy Bible in Its Original Order* we have Appendix Y: Chart of the Reign of the Gentile Kingdoms. It shows the time of all of these kingdoms.

Verse 6: "After this I saw, and lo, another *beast*, like a leopard, which *had four* wings of a bird on its back...." That's a strange looking thing. What did that symbolize? We'll get part of the answer when we come to Dan. 8. So then we mark another beast, which is a kingdom, *four* wings, so we look at the number four.

"...The beast also *had four* heads and dominion was given to it" (v 6).

Then the fourth beast; this beast had iron. That connects with Dan. 2. So, here we have a little more understanding. Then we find something else happens:

Verse 7: "...And it *was* different from all the beasts before it; and it had ten horns. As I was considering the horns, behold, there came up among them another horn, a little one, before whom three of the first horns were plucked up by the roots. And behold, in this horn *were* eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things. I watched until thrones were set in place, and the Ancient of Days sat... [the Kingdom of God] ...Whose raiment *was* white as snow, and the hair of His head like pure wool. His throne *was* like flames of fire, and its wheels *like* burning fire" (vs 7-9). That ties in with the book of Ezekiel and the cherubim.

Verse 10: "A stream of fire issued and came out from before Him. A thousand thousands ministered unto Him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before Him...." Where do we find this repeated? very similar? *Rev. 5*, which gives us understanding that this was a scene in heaven.

"...The court sat and the books were opened" (v 10). That's the judgment! That has to be looking at the first resurrection, but also extending out to the second resurrection.

How would anybody at that time—or even in the New Testament times, or down through the Dark Ages and everything—know what any of these

things would mean? *They couldn't, because the time had not come, and it was hidden!*

So then, he was looking and he saw, v 11: "Then I was looking because of the voice of the boastful words, which the horn spoke. I watched until the beast was slain, and his body was destroyed and given to the burning flame. And as for the rest of the beasts, their dominion was taken away. Yet, their lives were prolonged for a season and time" (vs 11-12). Babylon is gone!

- Do we still have Persia? *Yes, we do! Iran!*
- Do we still have Greece? *Yes, we do!*
- Do we still have Rome? *Yes, we do!*

And all the succeeding things come from there.

Have you ever looked at some of the symbols in Congress, right up where the Speaker of the House sits? You look at it: on one side you have all the sheaves tied together with an axe; that's a Roman symbol. In fact, that was one of the very symbols that Mussolini used for his socialism.

What do we have on nearly every government building? We have drawings, etchings, carvings and statues exactly like they had in Greece. What do we have in London, Washington, D.C., and in Rome? *Obelisk from Egypt!* So, this shows all of this comes together. Let's see that all of these end at the same time.

Here's the interpretation, v 17: "These great beasts, which are four, *are* four kings that shall arise out of the earth."

Like we're going to learn when we examine more closely Dan. 11, that there are different kings and queens with lengths of reigns that take place that are not part of the prophecy. The prophecy talks about the one who did what was described; likewise here.

Verse 18: "But the saints of the Most High shall receive the kingdom and possess the kingdom forever, even forever and ever."

We can read that and we can understand that. Who are the saints? *The saints are those today!* Now we can look back and understand it because of what knowledge that we have in the New Testament that God has opened up for us. Those who have the Spirit of God are the saints of God. They are going to be resurrected. They are going to rule and reign with Christ. You don't have any of that here. So, this was a great mystery to them. 'How could this be the saints? Who are the saints? *The ten tribes of Israel and the tribe of Judah and the Levites!* They're going to rule the world.' *Not quite so!*

Verse 19: "Then I desired to know the truth concerning the fourth beast, which *was* different from all the others, exceedingly dreadful, whose

teeth *were of* iron and his nails of brass; *who* devoured, broke in pieces, and stamped the rest with his feet; and of the ten horns that were on his head..." (vs 19-20). *Ten horns!*

Where do we see this repeated? *Book of Revelation!* We need to note those things, because this is a clue for us to understand. They didn't have the book of Revelation to understand it; we do.

"...and *of* the other horn which came up, and before whom three fell; even *of* that horn that had eyes, and a mouth speaking very boastful things, whose appearance *was* greater than his fellows. I watched, and that same horn made war with the saints and overcame them" (vs 20-21).

Back in Daniel's time was there war made against the people of God living in Judea and living in Galilee? *Yes, indeed!* But not knowing the timeframe they would not know that this had to do with those who would be the followers of Christ.

Verse 22: "...And the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom." When is that? *First resurrection.* How do we understand when that is? What is the framework? *Sabbath and Holy Days!* This tells us the framework of the structure of the governments and countries of the world up to a certain point. We need Daniel so that when we read Revelation we can connect the clues and put it together and see how the framework turns out.

Verse 23: "Thus he said, 'The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth...'" It's all of Rome. I don't care where you go. Even if you go to China today. What is China like? *It's like the West!* Where did the West come from? *From Rome!*

"...which shall be different from all the *other* kingdoms and shall devour the whole earth, and shall trample it and break it in pieces" (v 23). How is that going to be without the book of Revelation to understand it? We'll see that ties in with Rev. 13.

Verse 24: "And the ten horns out of this kingdom *are ten kings* that shall arise...." So, that's the sequence of ten kings. These are ten particular kings, of which there are other kings within the system that are not counted, but are of the ten. That's why you need the chart in the back of the Bible to look at.

"...and shall devour the whole earth..." (v 23). What does it mean the whole earth? *In the book of Revelation we'll see, there are things that tell us about the whole world, all nations, peoples, languages, tongues,* etc.; the whole earth!

But during Daniel's day, how much of the whole earth did they really, really know? *They may have known more than we have understood,* but we don't know much more than the fact that during Solomon's time they had ships which went around

the world three years. Then all of that knowledge was lost. However, someone somewhere had a map which went way, way back, and they found out that they even had an Antarctica coastline already mapped out.

"...and shall devour the whole earth, and shall trample it and break it in pieces. And the ten horns out of this kingdom *are* ten kings that shall arise. And another shall arise after them. And he shall be different from the first, and he shall subdue three kings. And he shall speak words against the Most High..." (vs 23-25).

There have been a lot of people speak against God. One of them was Antiochus Epiphanes. But is that the one? This verse could not be understood until the book of Revelation and 2-Thes. 2.

"...and shall wear out the saints of the Most High, and think to change the set times and the laws..." (v 25). Now we have a description to look to. We have something to look at.

- What organization changed the laws of God? What organization said that they had the power to do it?
- *It started with Constantine!*
  - ✓ he was the first pope
  - ✓ that's how Sunday came about

"...And they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and one-half time" (v 25). That's generally known as three and a half years. We're going to see something else that will help us understand that. That being the case, that has to be talking about the very end-time. Is there a persecution and martyrdom coming upon all the saints of God? *It hasn't quite arrived, yet! Yes, there is.*

Verse 26: "But the judgment shall sit..." When would that be? How do we know that will be? We can't understand that until we get to the Book of Revelation. But nevertheless, this gives us some clues to work with.

"...and his dominion shall be taken away to be consumed and to be destroyed unto the end" (v 26). In other words, everything is going to be wiped out.

Verse 27: "And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the Most High..." They couldn't understand that until the book of Revelation, to show it's going to be those who are the true Christians. When was the book of Revelation written? *About 98-100 A.D.!* So, look at all of that time from there until now.

And because of the time between the actions of different kings, when people just read it, without having the Spirit of Truth, the Spirit of God, and the

Word of Truth, and at the right time when it is revealed to be understood, they can't understand it. Even for us, it's not necessarily an easy thing to understand, is it? *No, so we put it together!* That's why I'm doing this overview here.

"...Whose kingdom *is* an everlasting kingdom. And all kingdoms shall serve and obey Him" (v 27). That doesn't come until the beginning of the Millennium.

Some of these prophecies, when you just sit down and read it like you read a book, it's going to be nothing but 'mumble-jumble' and hidden. Who would ever want to believe a book like that? They would do well with a comic book.

- Dan. 2 ended up with the establishment of the Kingdom of God
- Dan. 7 ended up with the establishment of the Kingdom of God
- Dan. 8 ends up with the establishment of the Kingdom of God

It talks about two beasts, one with two horns—Media and Persia—and a rough goat that travels quickly, which is identified as the king of Greece.

Daniel is given a very short future, contemporary understanding. Daniel 8:19: "And he said, 'Behold, I will make you know what shall happen in the latter time of the indignation...'" It's going to go all the way down to the return of Christ, but He's going to give him some understanding that will apply very quickly.

"...because it belongs to **the appointed time** of the end" (v 19). That's why we say that the Holy Days and Feasts of God are the framework on which to hang prophecy, because *they are appointed times*. What did it say of Christ? *At the appointed time He died for sinners!*

When was He born? *At the fulfillment of the time He was born!* You also have to tie in the Calculated Hebrew Calendar, which gives us the Sabbath and the Holy Days. Amazing, isn't it?

We can look at this and we can say, 'Look at that, look at the other thing,' but just try and think of it as if you had no knowledge of the New Testament, no knowledge of the book of Revelation. And that you just pick up the Bible and start to read it.

Or think of it when the exiles got back from Babylon after being in captivity 70 years, and the book of Daniel came with the priests when they came back and they were reading this. They could understand a little. The Jews came back under the suzerainty of the Persian Empire. By the way, they couldn't have a king, only a governor, *no king!* So,

they could understand a little bit, but the time of the end, notice as we go on.

Verse 21: "And the shaggy goat *is* the king of Greece. And the great horn between his eyes is the first king." We know historically that is Alexander the Great.

Verse 22: "Now that being broken..." Isn't it interesting? You go back and read of that era. The Greeks devised weapons of warfare and were so skilled in what they were doing, that they completely overwhelmed the massive armies of the Greeks and the Persians. They couldn't handle it! Alexander conquered all of what we know as Asia Minor, into Babylon, India and Egypt. Then he came back to Babylon and died. He got some kind of fever, some kind of disease, and he died.

"...then **four** stood up in its place..." (v 22). The whole empire of Greece was divided into *four* sections, under the *four* generals. Two of those generals became King of the North, the Seleucids; King of the South, which was in Egypt.

"...four kingdoms shall stand up out of the nation, but not with its power. And in the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors have come to the full, a king, fierce of countenance and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up. And his power shall be mighty, but not by his own power..." (vs 22-24). We know from Revelation that this is talking about the one who is called *the beast*.

"...And he shall destroy marvelously, and shall prosper and *do his own will*, and destroy the mighty and the Holy people. And also through his cunning he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand. And he shall magnify himself in his heart, and in time of security shall destroy many. He also shall stand up against the Prince of princes. But he shall be broken without a human hand" (vs 24-25).

What does it say back in Dan. 2 about the kingdom shall be broken without human hand by the stone cut out of the mountain? *Here it is!* Now we have a person. We have two:

1. Prince of princes
2. this great king at the last

Then the vision of the morning and evenings, that's another whole prophecy to get into.

Dan. 9 is another timeframe on which prophecy hangs: the 70-weeks prophecy. There are some details calendar-wise and also according to the ritual of the temple, that this was at the time of the offering of the incense. What also was the time of the announcement of John the Baptist? *At the time of the offering of incense!* So, God does a lot of things that are on time.

Daniel 9:22: “And he *made* me to understand, and talked with me, and said, ‘O Daniel, I have now come forth to give you insight and understanding. At the beginning of your supplications the word went forth, and I have come to declare it, for you are greatly beloved; therefore, consider the word, and understand the vision: Seventy weeks are decreed upon your people and upon your Holy city...’” (vs 22-24). This covers a lot of ground, on the city of Jerusalem. Then we have fulfillment of that, *New Jerusalem* (Rev. 21).

“...to finish the transgression and to make an end of sin...” (v 24). When is sin ended? Christ—when He died—gave the *means* to end it, *but He didn’t end it*. When is there the end of sin? *Has to be the incorrigible cast into the Lake of Fire and Satan removed completely!* None of that is told us here.

“...and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the Most Holy.... [that covers a lot of ground] ...Know, therefore, and understand *that* from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem, to Messiah the Prince, shall be seven weeks, and sixty-two weeks....” (vs 24-25)—*two separate time periods!*

“...It shall be built again with streets and the wall, even in troublous times” (v 25). Read Ezra and Nehemiah, and you’ve got the history of it. It did take 49 years to finish. Here’s another thing. The way that these weeks are counted are not the 7 days equals 7 years, but the week equals 49 years.

Verse 26: “And after sixty-two weeks...” Not when it ends, but *after*. *The Appointed Times of Jesus the Messiah* book will point out all of the counting of this and how that comes about.

“...Messiah shall be cut off but not for Himself. And the people of the prince... [or the prince of the people] ...who shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary....” (v 26). That happened with Titus in 70<sub>A.D.</sub> That’s why there has to be another temple built.

“...But his end *shall be* with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined. And he... [the prince, not Jesus] ...shall confirm a covenant with many for one week....” (vs 26-27).

What we have here is the 7 weeks and the 62 weeks separated with a short time period. Coming down to after 62 weeks—which is really 69—Christ is cut off. Then the 70<sup>th</sup> week goes clear out to the book of Revelation when *the beast-power* is given power over the whole earth. This is why it’s difficult to understand some of these Scriptures unless you have the Holy Days, unless you have the timeframe.

“...And in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the offering to cease, and upon the wing of abominations shall come one who

makes desolate even until the consummation. And the fully determined end which is decreed shall be poured out upon the desolator” (v 27).

What happens to *the beast* finally? *Cast into the Lake of Fire (Rev. 19)!* What I want us to understand is that the framework of all of these prophecies are all true. The timing has to be determined by the events and by other prophecies.

It’s just like when you build a skyscraper. What is the first thing that they put up? *They put up all the steel framework and then everything else is built upon it!* When you put it all together, it becomes a very complicated thing, when you think about all the electricity, water, plumbing and sewage; when you think about the elevators, the delivery below ground and all of all of the aspects that goes into building a great skyscraper.

They just built one: The World Trade Center. Built a brand-new one. It stands up there. It is the biggest building in New York City, and the most glorious thing that they have ever built. I wonder how many Muslims have their sights set on that one, as well?

#### Scriptural References:

- 1) Revelation 11:7
- 2) Daniel 12:8-10
- 3) Psalm 119:18
- 4) John 6:45
- 5) Proverbs 25:2
- 6) John 16:12-13
- 7) Daniel 2:36-45
- 8) Daniel 7:2-12, 17-24, 23-27
- 9) Daniel 8: 19, 21-25
- 10) Daniel 9:22-27

#### Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Matthew 22
- Luke 24
- Genesis 3:15
- Romans 8
- 2-Timothy 2
- Jeremiah 18
- Daniel 4; 11
- Revelation 5, 13
- 2-Thessalonians 2
- Revelation 21, 19

#### Also referenced:

- Sermon Series: *Fourteen Things to Happen in Prophecy*
- Appendix Y—Chart of Reign of Gentile Kingdoms (from *The Holy Bible in Its Original Order, A Faithful Version*)
- Book: *The Appointed Times of Jesus the Messiah* by Fred R. Coulter

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## Overview of Prophecy II Daniel and Revelation

Fred R. Coulter—February 13, 2016

Let's stop and think about things for minute. Everything gets down sooner or later to the individual, *everything!* When God started out, what did He do? *Created Adam, first man; then Eve!* Things got so bad that He had to destroy everything with a flood. He started out again with one man and his family; his wife and his three sons and their wives. Then things got so bad again that God started out with one man, *Abraham*. Everything else that is in the rest of the Bible is because of Abraham.

So, numbers to God do not count. It is what is *your relationship with God that counts*, and how you love Him and obey Him. Then we come on down to through the children of Israel, and again it narrows down to a man David. Then that narrows down to the prophesied Messiah. From that comes the Church, and from that then comes all of the rulers for the Kingdom of God; the first resurrection.

In this we have a pattern in the Bible that we will see: *the Bible tells us a summary first, then gives us the details; after the summary!* The details might not necessarily come in sequence right after the other, because we know the Bible is put together 'here little and there a little,' etc.

As I mentioned in part one, the plan of God is pictured by His Holy Days and Sabbath. And two key important things on that, two simple things are:

1. the Sabbath
2. the Passover

Now then, that is based on another thing, which is more complicated but accurate, and that is on the Calculated Hebrew Calendar.

What God does is He gives the outline and then He puts the details in different places. This is why we have to go through 'a little here, a little there' and 'rightly divide' the Word of God and put it together.

Daniel 9:1: "In the first year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus, of the seed of the Medes, who was made king over the realm of the Chaldeans."

This is just before the 70-year captivity of Judah ended in Babylon. I want you to notice one thing very important: *there are patterns in the Bible that follow all the way through.* You take what is called 'the Lord's prayer.' It starts out, 'Our Father in heaven, Holy is your name; Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.'

That's saying a lot right there. Think of all

the details that come from that: for the things pertaining to God's plan in the world, and for the things in each life of everyone who is praying to God. Then 'give us our daily bread, forgive us our trespasses.' What we have here is the pattern.

Look at this pattern, v 4: "And I prayed to the LORD my God and made my confession, and said, 'O LORD, the great and awesome God, keeping the covenant and mercy to those who love Him, and to those who keep His commandments... [follows right along with outline] ...we have sinned and have committed iniquity, and have done wickedly, and have rebelled, and have turned aside from Your commandments and from Your ordinances'" (vs 4-5).

Confession of sin, forgive us our sins, and that's what He says, *forgive*. Let's see how it ends, and then we will see God's answer to this prayer.

- it has to do with Israel
- it has to do with the whole plan of God
- it has to do with the coming of the Messiah
- it has to do with the end of the age
- it has to do with the new heavens and the new earth

Verse 19: "O LORD, hear; O LORD, forgive; O LORD, hearken and do. Do not delay, for Your own sake, O my God; for Your city and Your people are called by Your name." Then while Daniel was speaking we have Gabriel who came.

Verse 24: "Seventy weeks..." These are not 70 weeks of 7-day weeks, but these are 70 weeks of 7-year weeks, like counting to the Jubilee; that is called a heptad. Though it is given in sequence, it is not an unbroken sequence.

Verse 24: "Seventy weeks are decreed upon your people and upon your Holy city <sup>[#1]</sup>to finish the transgression..."

- What is *the transgression?*
- How far back does that reach? *Reaches back to Satan, then Adam!*
- Do we all sin because of Adam? *Yes, indeed!*
- Do we all die because of Adam? *Yes, indeed!*

"...<sup>[#2]</sup>and to make an end of sin..." (v 24). When does the end of sin finally take place? There two steps for that:

1. the binding of Satan forever
2. the Lake of Fire for the incorrigible wicked

When you read these things and, of course, none of what we're talking about now was remotely understood even down during Christ's time. And we have not been able to understand it until we see the things as they're laid out in the pattern of the Holy Days and so forth.

"...<sup>[#3]</sup>**and to make reconciliation for iniquity**... [that took place with the death of Christ] ...<sup>[#4]</sup>**and to bring in everlasting righteousness**... [that's New Jerusalem—new heaven and new earth] ...<sup>[#5]</sup>**and to seal up the vision and prophecy**,<sup>[#6]</sup>**and to anoint the Most Holy**. Know, therefore, and understand *that* from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem, to Messiah the Prince..." (vs 24-25). It gives a starting point, and this was with Cyrus.

"...shall be seven weeks... [49 years] ...and sixty-two weeks. It shall be built again with streets and the wall, even in troublous times" (vs 25). You read the whole history of that in Ezra and Nehemiah and you can read that in *Josephus*, as well.

So, what were doing and looking at the Scriptures the prophecies, in many cases, are general outlines, then all the details come later. We will see that that's a pattern throughout the whole Bible.

Note the book: *The Appointed Times of Jesus the Messiah*. Get that because this fully explains the detailed history, which is quite complicated because—we will see in Dan. 10 and you look at the chart in Appendix Y—were looking at about 500 years just to the first coming of Christ. Then over 2000 years to His second coming.

When you have a statement like were told in Isa. 28 'a little here and a little there; line upon line; precept upon precept' and then we 'rightly divide' the Word of God and put it together.

Verse 26: "And after sixty-two weeks Messiah shall be cut off but not for Himself...." What does that mean? *It means the crucifixion*, and that was not to happen until *after* 62 weeks. So, that 7 years times 62; just a little quick math you see what you come up with.

It didn't say long after the 62 weeks "...but not for Himself..." because that's for the sins of the whole world. But it doesn't tell us that here. Here is a mistake that people make when they read this:

"...And the people of the prince who shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary...." (v 26). When Jesus came, did He destroy the city and the sanctuary? *No! He did not!* This is not referring to Jesus Christ, but this is referring to the one that

we know today will be *the beast power* that has yet to arise.

"...But his end *shall be* with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined. And he shall confirm a covenant with many for one week" (vs 26-27).

When people first read that and they find out the Jesus was crucified in the middle of the week they apply this to Jesus. *But it doesn't!* It applies to the prince who is going to make an agreement be a seven-year time period. This is where we get in prophecy the last seven years, and there quite a few things that fit into that last seven years.

So, we had the building of the temple and after that is completed we come down to the time of Malachi and a prophecy of John the Baptist, and then down to Christ. Christ is not baptized until after the 62<sup>nd</sup> week has ended, and that ended on the on the last day of the 6<sup>th</sup> month, and the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the 7<sup>th</sup> month began the 63<sup>rd</sup> year.

In that year Jesus was baptized and His temptation started on the Day of Atonement, which was also a Jubilee. Now, that's profound because think of all the details that have been added to this Scripture through the Calculated Hebrew Calendar and through other Scriptures.

Furthermore, it says that Jesus came at the appointed time, and He died at the appointed time. All that brings in the Calculated Hebrew Calendar.

So, this *beast power* will come in, make a covenant for seven years and then in the middle of it that's when the Tribulation begins. From this we can understand that at the beginning of that seven-year period there will be a time—as 1-Thess. 5 tells us—*of peace and security*. Think about that!

In just America, in our entire history we've only had 12 years without war. That's something— isn't it? And consider the rest of the world.

Now then, we come into Dan. 10, and I want to point out some things here, as well. We won't get into Dan. 11 because I want to wait until we have all the research done from Carl Franklin. But I can tell you that when we go through it you're going to find that only a minority of the kings of the north and the south are the ones who carry out the event. There are many kings of the north and south that are not listed here that do not carry out the event.

*The event then tells us which king!* When you look at it from Daniel's time going forward you have no idea how long that is going to be, and down to Christ it is right at 500 years.

We will save Dan. 11, but we want to do a little reading in Daniel 10:12; apparently Gabriel

was sent to him again: “Then he said to me, ‘Do not fear, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard....’”

Even though you pray and you don’t get an answer right away that doesn’t mean God hasn’t heard. I know there have been things I’ve prayed about, some of them just a thought and then, lo and behold, God answers it. In several cases this happened years later! Then I looked back and I thought: God answered that prayer! I don’t know if you’ve had anything like that happen to you but you will.

“...And I have come because of your words.... [God responds to our prayers—doesn’t He?] ... But the prince of the kingdom of Persia...” (vs 12-13). This also reveals to us, just like it says in Heb. 2, that this world is under angels—including Satan the devil and the demons and the angels of God—so the prince of Persia here was the angel or demon, probably in this case the demon over Persia.

Sidebar: Does that help explain what’s happening in Iran today? *Who knows!* He’s certainly not righteous is he?

“...Then lo, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me; for I had been there alone with the kings of Persia. Now, I have come to make you understand what shall happen to your people in the latter days... [and this does not end until Dan. 12] ...for the vision is yet for *many* days.’ And when he had spoken such words to me, I bowed my face toward the ground, and I became dumb. And behold, one looking like the sons of men touched my lips. Then I opened my mouth and spoke and said to him who stood before me, ‘O lord, my sorrows have overwhelmed me because of the vision, and I have retained no strength’” (vs 13-16).

Now then, he [the angel Gabriel] gives Daniel strength and he stands up on his feet.

Daniel 11:1: “And I, in the first year of Darius the Mede, I stood up to confirm and strengthen him. And now **I will declare to you**... [this is the angel speaking] ...**the Truth**” (vs 1-2). Very interesting!

We have to go back to Daniel 10:21, a profound and important verse: “But I will show you that which is written in the **Scripture of Truth**....” Think on that one for a minute.

What is written in heaven at God’s throne concerning the plan of God is called **“...the Scripture of Truth....”**

- God is true
- His Word is true

- His commandments are true
- all His precepts are true
- Jesus is ‘the Way the Truth and the Life’

“...(And there is none who holds strongly with me against them, except Michael your prince” (v 21).

Daniel 11:1: “And I, in the first year of Darius the Mede, I stood up to confirm and strengthen him.... [the words of the angel] ...And now I will declare to you the Truth” (vs 1-2). *Coming from the Scripture of Truth!* Let’s expand our thinking. What did Jesus declare Himself to be? *The First and the Last, the Beginning and the Ending!* He said that twice (Rev. 1). He says it later in Rev. 21-22. He says it in Isa. 45.

“...Behold, there shall yet stand up three more kings in Persia. And the fourth shall be far richer than all of them. And when he grows strong, through his riches, he shall stir up all against the kingdom of Greece” (v 2). That’s over 300 years later.

When you read some of these things, and it looks like it comes one after the other, it really doesn’t. That’s why the Bible is hard to understand. Isn’t it amazing?

I’ve been doing some series on Church at Home ([churchathome.org](http://churchathome.org)) how that the world is awash in Bibles. Yet, no one understands it, and the Bible tells them what is going to happen. Yet, if they read it they don’t know it. All of this gets down to, like I said in the segments on Church at Home, it gets down to three words: **Obey My voice!**

You have people who say the Bible is out of date. If your mind is closed you’re blinded automatically!

Then it talks all about the king of Greece, and then it goes King of the North/King of the South; King of the North/King of the South right up to the end-time. So, what are we dealing with? *We are dealing with about 3,000 years of history in Dan. 11!* You take that back to Nebuchadnezzar.

We covered that in Dan. 2; that image begins with Nebuchadnezzar and ends with the return of Christ. Examine all of the book of Daniel and it starts with either Nebuchadnezzar or the kings of Persia and comes to the return of Christ. None of this tells us *when* or *where* or *how*. It just tells us the events.

I have some questions that were raised from the book of Revelation, also covering the two witnesses. Remember the man who said, ‘I’m one of the two witnesses, but I can’t reveal who the other witness is.’ Finally, he revealed who it was, and then

he was thrown into jail because he was absconding money to Switzerland from the tithes and offerings of the brethren. I suppose that within a year he's going to get out. You know, there are people who are still following him. That's an amazing thing it's an amazing thing what people will do if they really don't check it all by the Bible.

If you want to help study the book of Revelation get the version of the reading of Revelation with all of the special effects put in there by Randy Vild. He did a wonderful job of putting in the music and all that.

People check it out but they still believe the lie, and that's because they want what they believe rather than what God wants us to believe. That's a different thing and that's a mistake that people make right off.

I made it right off when I was first learning about the Bible. I started reading it to find out if I could find in there something that I believed, which was totally wrong! I couldn't find it! Why? *Because it wasn't there!* So, think of this way: every time you listen to the book of Revelation I've listened to it over and over again; not out of that I want to hear myself speak, but I did read the Word of God and the music is so inspiring that it brings it really to life.

Were going to read a little bit of Rev. 1 then we'll skip over and get to some other things.

Revelation 1:1: *"The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave to Him, to show to His servants the things that are ordained to come to pass shortly..."* Shortly in our minds is different than in God's mind. Why? *Because with God a day is a thousand years and a thousand years as a day!* Why? *Because God inhabits eternity;* a whole different level of living.

The reason that we go through what we go through is because God wants us to live on that level with Him as His family. *That's a fantastic thing! That is absolutely incredible!* So, *shortly* in our lifetime and many other lifetimes is quite a while.

This was given about 95-98<sub>A.D.</sub> Here we are in 2016. In my book that's a delayed appointment, but in God's book it is going to be *shortly*, and where does all of this come from? What do we read in Dan. 10:21? *From the Scripture of Truth!* Another book in heaven! What do you know about that? You think of this: 'all Scripture is God-breathed' and it is Truth. What is the source of that Truth? *God and the 'Scripture of Truth' of heaven!* That's an amazing thing!

"...and He made it known, having sent it by His angel to His servant John who gave witness to

the Word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ, and all the things he saw. Blessed..." (vs 1-3). This is the blessing to claim every time you read it or hear it, because you will find that the Bible is made in such a way that you need to *read it and study it and read it and study it* over and over again. You will learn more and more things from the same things that you have read in the past, because as you read other parts of the Bible then when you come back to say the book of Revelation again you have more understanding in your mind with which to make connection with the Scriptures. *It's a lifetime study!*

Verse 3: "Blessed is the one who reads, and those who hear the words of this prophecy and who keep the things *that are* written therein; for the time *is* at hand."

The time is at hand whatever you're coming close to the end of your life. Isn't that true? Yes! What can you find in here that you need to keep? Have you ever done that study? It talks about:

- the love of God talks
- the commandments of God
- the Holy Days of God
- the testimony of Jesus Christ
- the spirit of prophecy

All of those things are there. Look at all the instruction that we have in the seven churches (Rev. 2-3). That tells us a lot! "...for the time *is* at hand."

Verse 4: "John to the seven churches that *are* in Asia: Grace and peace *be* to you from Him Who is, and Who was, and Who *is* to come; and from the seven spirits that are before His throne."

We have a sermon explaining the seven spirits—*Spirit of God, Spirit of Man, Seven Spirits of God*—what are the seven spirits? What do they do? They're basically the eyes of God telling God what's going on, on the earth. That answers the questions:

- How does God know when a sparrow falls?
- How does God know how many hairs are on our head?
- What are our thoughts?

We're dealing with a fantastic and great God Who is so marvelous and great that we are still not much bigger than the speck of dust we were when we were conceived, if we can put it that way.

Verse 4: "John to the seven churches that *are* in Asia: Grace and peace *be* to you from Him Who is, and Who was, and Who *is* to come; and from the seven spirits that are before His throne; and from Jesus Christ, the faithful Witness, the Firstborn from the dead, and the Ruler of the kings of the

earth” (vs 4-5).

You tie v 5 together with Matt. 1:18 when Jesus was born he was the firstborn of Mary; He’s the Firstborn from among the dead, so Jesus was born again. This tells us you’re not born again until the resurrection.

“...To Him Who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood” (v 5). That’s the whole Gospel; here you have the four Gospels. Everything that’s contained in there is summarized in this verse.

Verse 6: “And has made us kings and priests to God and His Father...” Not yet, but designated to be. If God says something it’s as good as done.

“...to Him *be* the glory and the sovereignty into the ages of eternity. Amen. Behold, He is coming with the clouds, **and every eye shall see Him**, and those who pierced Him; and all the tribes of the earth shall wail because of Him. Even so, Amen” (vs 6-7). Let’s analyze v 7 for just a minute:

How is “...every eye...” going to see Him? *We’ll see that in a minute!* You can apply this different ways. *At His return* “...every eye shall see Him...” That means everyone who’s alive. But how is every eye going to see Him, and yet, they have previously died? *They have to be brought back to life!*

“...those who pierced Him...” There was the soldier who pierced Him with the sword and the ones who nailed in the nails in His hands and His feet. When will they see Him? *At the second resurrection!* I wonder what they’re going to do? I wonder what their thoughts will be? *They shall see Him at that time!* Here is a very good example of Isa. 28, again. That’s the way the Bible is put together.

“...all the tribes of the earth shall wail because of Him. Even so, Amen.”

How will *every eye* see Him of those who are living when Jesus returns?

(go to the next track)

- How is every eye going to see Him?
- That is those who are living when Jesus returns?
- What does this do for the ‘secret rapture’?

The ‘secret rapture’ is that we’re all going to be taken out before the Tribulation begins, and ‘all you dumb doe-dos who are not with us will go through the Tribulation, and we are so glad to escape.’ *No! It won’t work!*

Let’s take the last week from Dan. 9—seven years—and he makes an agreement and in the

middle of the seven-year period and the Tribulation begins. What starts the Tribulation that we’ve already covered? *The abomination that makes desolate stands in the Holy place!* That’s when the Tribulation begins.

We have the seals that are opened; there was a white horse and this was *not* Christ; this was the *false christ*.

Revelation 6:2: “And I looked, and behold, *there was* a white horse; and the one who was sitting on it had a bow, and a crown was given to him; and he went out conquering, and to conquer.” This has to be the *false prophet* bringing all the religions of the world together.

It’s possible—speculation—that that seal has been opened with all the events that are taking place. How long that runs we don’t know. This has to be before that 70<sup>th</sup> week.

Verse 3: “And when He opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature say, ‘Come and see.’ And another horse went out *that was* red; and *power* was given to the one sitting on it to take peace from the earth...” (vs 3-4). That has to be the beginning the Great Tribulation, which then has to be in the middle of the 7-year period when the Great Tribulation begins. That has to be right there.

Let’s come to the sixth seal, and we will discover some other prophecies that help us understand and put it together in the timeframe within that last three and half-year period. That why the sermon series: Daniel/Revelation. It’s a big, thick series with 40 sermons<sup>[transcriber’s correction]</sup>. This will include what is there, but we may have an improvement on what I had given at that time. Here’s an event that takes place that we will see that is described also in Matt. 24:

Verse 12: “And when He opened the sixth seal, I looked, and behold, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as *the hair of* sackcloth, and the moon became as blood; and the stars of heaven fell to the earth, as a fig tree casts its untimely figs when it is shaken by a mighty wind. Then *the* heaven departed like a scroll that is being rolled up, and every mountain and island was moved out of its place. And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the powerful men, and every bondman, and every free *man* hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains; and they said to the mountains and to the rocks, ‘Fall on us, and hide us from *the* face of Him Who sits on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb, because the great day of His wrath has come, and who has the power to stand?’” (vs 12-17).

Let's take this sequence backward: How long is a day in prophecy in fulfillment? *One year!* This is the last year that comes. That means that if you have three and a half years, and there's one year left, how many years have passed before v 12? *Two!*

What takes place in Rev. 7 right after the heavens roll back as a scroll? *The sealing of the 144,000 and the great innumerable multitude!* The sealing of the 144,000 are from the children of Israel, the physical children of Israel!

- How do we know the events that take place?
- What is going to happen to Israel when the Tribulation begins?
  - ✓ *They are going to be under the domination of the beast power!*
  - ✓ *They are going to be in captivity; wherever they are!*

The book of Hosea was written concerning the ten northern tribes and Ephraim. They are called *the house of Israel*. Zech. 12 talks about the Jews and those in Jerusalem. They are included in Rev. 7.

Hosea 5:13: "When Ephraim saw his sickness, and Judah saw his wound... [it's going to get very bad for Britain and the Israelis in Jerusalem] ...then Ephraim went to the Assyrian and sent to King Contentious.... [the beast power] ...Yet, he could not heal you nor cure you of your wound... [they're taken into captivity instead] ...for I *will be* to Ephraim as a lion, and as a strong lion to the house of Judah...." (vs 13-14).

Both are included in the 144,000, although Ephraim is not named directly, but comes under the name of Joseph.

"...I, *even* I, will tear and go away. I will take away, and none shall rescue him. I will go; I will return to My place until they confess their guilt and seek My face; in their affliction they will seek Me earnestly" (vs 14-15). There they are in captivity.

- What do they do in captivity?
- What does Israel always do when they get in trouble?
- *They call out to the Lord!*

What you have to do is read the history of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel, Judges, Joshua and 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Kings, and so forth. Whenever they got in trouble they cried to the Lord, and the Lord saved them! What happened when 9/11 happened here in America. We all got 'religious' for three weeks!

They will repent, and this—Rev. 6—where the 144,000 are sealed and converted in the last year

of the three and a half year Tribulation.

Hosea 6:1:1: "Come and let us return to the LORD, for He has torn, and He will heal us; **He has smitten, and He will bind us up.** After two days..." (vs 1-2). A day is as a year in prophecy. We have two days, which is two years.

"...He will revive us..." (v 2). Would you not say that the sealing of the 144,000 is reviving them? *Yes, indeed!* So, the Tribulation against them is two years, and we will see that in Matt. 24.

"...in the third day... [the beginning of the third year] ...He will raise us up, and we shall live in His sight" (v 2). That's exactly where Rev. 7 starts; right there, right when this happens!

That's why I've said that after two years the Tribulation against Israel is released. There is still a year and a half left for the rest of the world! We will answer both questions there in Matt. 24:

- How will every eye see Him?
- The ending of the Tribulation after two years?
- How it will take place?

Matt. 24:15—the beginning of the Tribulation. Verse 21 confirms that. Then we have those saying there are the Christ, false christs and everything right there; don't believe it.

Again, we have the pattern of the Bible, which follows all the way through the Bible: What is going to happen is described first; the details come afterward. That's the way God does everything. What did God say to Israel? *If you obey My voice, then you'll be a nation of priests to Me.* They said, 'Yeah, we'll do it.' Look at all the details that came after they said they would.

Likewise it describes what is going to happen first, and then the details concerning it come afterward.

Matthew 24:27: "For as the light of day, which comes forth from *the* east and shines as far as *the* west, so also shall the coming of the Son of man be."

You've heard me say about a second sun. If there is a second sun, will every eye see that? *Yes!* For how long? We'll answer that question in a little bit.

Verse 28: "For wherever the carcass may be, there will the eagles be gathered together." Is that describing the resurrection? *I don't know!* That verse has been an enigma to me all my life.

Verse 29: "But immediately after the tribulation of those days..." Against whom? *The*

*children of Israel (Hos. 5-6 and Rev. 7). That's just against Israel.*

"...the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken." That's what happened.

We read in Rev. 6 that the heavens roll back as a scroll. BAM! Right there at the end of the two-year period and the beginning of the third-year period. What did it say? *The stars will fall, the heavens will darken and so forth!*

Verse 30: "And then shall appear **the sign** of the Son of man in heaven..." What is that sign? *Verse 27 tells us what it is; the light of day!* That's the sign of the Son of man that shall appear in heaven.

"...and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn..." (v 30). That's when they begin fighting God and Christ!

"...and they shall see the Son of man coming upon the clouds of heaven with power and great glory" (v 30)—so every eye shall see Him!

Then it comes down to the resurrection, v 31: "And He shall send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet; and they shall gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other."

That is like looking down at the earth from heaven. There are going to be saints from everywhere in the whole world, and the angels are going to bring them.

When does that take place? Here's where we bring in the Calculated Hebrew Calendar. We'll answer some other questions and see the pattern: God gives us the summary first, then the details later. Or it is a prophecy from another part of the Bible that you put together with prophecies in another part of the Bible.

Imagine what the earth is going to be like when the heavens roll back as a scroll and the whole earth is shaken; earthquakes everywhere!

- When did God make Israel *His* people? *When He gave the Law at Mt. Sinai and that was on Pentecost!*
- When did the Church officially begin? *On Pentecost!*

*based on the Pentecost thing:*

- When is the resurrection?

Since we're the firstfruits of God, remember this: ***The Hebrew calendar is calculated beginning with the seventh month!*** When you count the Holy Days, Pentecost "the

last day.'

What did Jesus say? *I will raise you up the last day (John 6)!* Pentecost is **the last day** of the 50-day count. Pentecost is the last Holy Day beginning with Trumpets:

1. Trumpets
2. Atonement
3. Tabernacles
4. Last Great Day
5. First day of Unleavened Bread
6. Last day of Unleavened Bread
7. Pentecost

You add the Passover in and that's eight, but it is the *last Holy Day!* Since—

- we have the pattern at Sinai
- we have the pattern of Acts 2
- then when you have the sealing of the 144,000

—doesn't it make sense that this would occur on Pentecost?

Let's take this one step further. Rev. 2 & 3, how many churches do we have? *Seven!* How many weeks to the harvest? *Seven!* But there's the 50<sup>th</sup> day!

Rev. 7 represents the 50<sup>th</sup> day harvest by God at this point. So, this takes place on Pentecost. One year later we have the resurrection of the rest of the saints. Does that make sense? *Yes, indeed, because we are firstfruits unto God!* We are the *Church of the Firstborn!* All of those tie together. When you begin to understand things in the Bible you have to include everything. That's why keeping the Holy Days, beginning with the Sabbath, and you keep the Passover so that you're in right standing with God, and then keep the Holy Days, this will add understanding as God gives us understanding.

Right after the heavens roll back as a scroll here is this new sun every day for a year, every day for a year every eye will see it. What happens when people get used to something? *They just take it for granted!* 'Oh well, the heavens were shaken up and this is just a new body that's in orbit around the earth now.'

Here's what happens: there's great peace and calm after all those earthquakes. Before we get to Rev. 8, what is the rest of the world doing while God is dealing with the 144,000? What do people do after every earthquake? *They clean things up!* It's going to be so messed up they are going to need the time between Pentecost and Trumpets to get things cleaned up. That is three and a half months; from Pentecost to Trumpets! What happens in Rev. 8? *Trumpet plagues!* Would those not begin on the Feast of Trumpets? *Yes, indeed!*

Let's talk about the 144,000 and the great innumerable multitude. They held back the winds so they didn't blow and then God sealed them by an angel. There was nobody there to baptize them, nobody there to preach to them. How are they going to receive the Holy Spirit and be sealed? God is going to send it and an angel is going to administer it.

- Can God do that? *Yes, indeed!*
- Will there be those baptizing people at that time, too? *Could very well be, we don't know!*

Revelation 7:4 "And I heard the number of those who were sealed: one hundred forty-four thousand, **sealed out of every tribe of the children of Israel.**" The first one is Judah, and God says in Zech. 12 that He 'will save the tents of Judah first.' There it is right there.

Did God save the tents of Judah first with the Church when it began? *Yes! They were all Jews!* 'To the Jew first, then to the Greek, or Gentile.' So, the patterns of God fit all the way through.

There's Judah, Reuben, Gad, Asher, Naphtali, Manasseh, Simeon, Levi, Issachar, Zebulon, Joseph, Benjamin, and then the great innumerable multitude.

Here we need to answer a question, because it looks like that these people immediately go to the throne of God, but they don't! Why? *All those who are Christ's are resurrected at His coming!* This is part of His coming, but this is the start of it. He has to come right close to the earth for the resurrection to occur. That has not happened, yet, because that sun is still out there and the earth is turning on its axis.

Verse 9: "After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude... [v 10]: ...and they were calling out with a loud voice to Him Who sits on the throne and to the Lamb, saying, 'The salvation of our God *has come.*' Then all the angels stood around the throne, and the elders and the four living creatures, and fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying, 'Amen. Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honor, and power and strength *be* to our God into the ages of eternity. Amen'" (vs 9-12).

Verse 9 says that they were "...standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes and *holding* palms in their hands." That's the statement that tells what's going to happen. It describes it, but it doesn't happen until the resurrection.

We'll see why in just a minute. There are two verses in Rev. 8 and 9 that tell us that the saints

are praying. If you have the Holy Spirit of God you are a saint. So, they don't immediately go to heaven, though it appears that they do with this description, which tells where they will be at the resurrection.

Verse 13: "And one of the elders answered *and* said to me, 'These who are clothed with white robes, who are they, and where did they come from?' Then I said to him, 'Sir, you know.' And he said to me, 'They are the ones who have come out of the Great Tribulation; and they have washed their robes, and have made their robes white in the blood of the Lamb. For this reason, they are before the throne of God and serve Him day and night in His temple; and the One Who sits on the throne shall dwell among them. They shall not hunger any more, nor shall they thirst any more; neither shall the sun nor the heat fall upon them, because the Lamb Who *is* in the midst of the throne will shepherd them, and will lead them to fountains of living waters; and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes'" (vs 13-17).

Notice that the latter part has to do with the new heaven and new earth.

1-Corinthians 15:20: "But now Christ has been raised from *the* dead; He has become the Firstfruit of those who have fallen asleep. For since by man *came* death, by Man also *came the* resurrection of *the* dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ *the* Firstfruit; then those who are Christ's at His coming" (vs 20-23).

What else has to happen? This also tells us why those in Rev. 7 do not go immediately to the throne of God. What has to happen to make that take place?

Verse 51: "Behold, I show you a mystery: we shall not all fall asleep, but we shall all be changed, in an instant, in *the* twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for *the* trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed" (vs 51-52).

No one is going to the throne of God until the last trumpet, and the 144,000 and the great innumerable multitude are sealed before the first trumpet. They are alive when the last trumpet blows!

Revelation 8:1: "Now, when He opened the seventh seal, *there* was silence in heaven *for* about a half hour. Then I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and seven trumpets were given to them" (vs 1-2). They blow in sequence: 1, 2, 3, 4; then 5 & 6; then 7.

No one is going to be raised to come before God before the seventh trumpet. So, when you read Rev. 7 you need to get the timeframe understood

with other Scriptures, because it looks like—if you just read and end it there—that they immediately go before the throne of God, but they don't!

Verse 3: “And another angel, who had a golden censer, came and stood at the altar; and much incense was given to him, so that he might offer *it* with the prayers of all the saints on the golden altar that *was* before the throne.”

If they had gone to heaven immediately, they wouldn't be on the earth praying, and they wouldn't be just called the saints, they would be the sons of God at that point.

This shows that the 144,000 and the great innumerable multitude are not in heaven, but on the earth and are praying.

Now, there's one other group that is still left that is in a place of safety. They will be praying, as well.

- *The Appointed Times of Jesus the Messiah* by Fred R. Coulter  
Sermon: *Spirit of God, Spirit of Man, Seven Spirits of God*

FRC:bo  
Transcribed: 3/16-16

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- 7) Revelation 6:2-17
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## Overview of Prophecy III Daniel/Revelation

Fred R. Coulter—February 20, 2016

Greetings, everyone! Welcome to Sabbath services. Just a couple of thoughts before we get going here.

Let's come back to Dan. 10, because I want to just review this again and focus in on it. I want to look at this last verse again. I just want to review a little of what we covered last time and then add a little more to it.

Daniel 10:21: "But I will show you that which is written in the **Scripture of Truth**... [that has to be in heaven above, at the throne of God] ... (And there is none who holds strongly with me against them, except Michael your prince.)"

Let's look at Psa. 40. Let's see this Psalm and what it says about Jesus. I don't think that we have ever really set our minds to understand how much God has things written down. This is a prophecy of Jesus.

Psalm 40:7: "Then I said, 'Lo, I come; in the **Scroll of the Book** it is written of Me.'" That's got to be part of the *Scriptures of Truth*. So, that's quite interesting.

Let's come to the book of Hebrews, clear to the other end of the Bible. This is important because it is from one end to the other: Heb. 10 where it quotes Psa. 40.

This is going to be more like a Bible study today. We're going to look at a lot of Scriptures and any comments you have, or whatever, we'll put all of those in here.

Hebrews 10:7: "Then said I, 'Lo, I come (as it is written of Me in **the Scroll of the Book**) to do Your will, O God'" Everything Jesus did was the will of the Father. What He saw the Father do, He did. What the Father told Him to speak, He spoke.

Verse 8: "In the saying above, *He said*, 'Sacrifice and offering and burnt offerings and *sacrifices* for sin (which are offered according to the *priestly law*) You did not desire nor delight in.'"

Why? *Because they never changed the heart!* The ultimate thing God is interested in is conversion of what our hearts and minds are. All of the other are exterior trappings. Especially, as I mentioned last time, going through and writing the book, *From a Speck of Dust to a Son of God: Why Were You Born?* The best way we can keep ourselves from getting lifted up in vanity is the pen-point test, how small we were when we started and what God's plan is from there. That's an amazing

thing! Look at us now after how many trillions of cells replaced every seven years. From a speck of dust. He doesn't delight in those outward things, He delights in the *inward* things.

Verse 9: "Then He said, 'Lo, I come to do Your will, O God.'..." A second time! To do the will of God is not an outward show. It is an inward total conversion.

Then Paul says, "...He takes away the first *covenant* in order that He may establish the second *covenant*" (v 9).

What we have down here in v 16 is the key; this is what God wants: "**This is the covenant that I will establish with them** after those days,' says *the Lord*, '**I will give My laws into their hearts, and I will inscribe them in their minds.**' ... [that's the whole process of conversion] ... And **their sins and lawlessness I will not remember ever again**" (vs 16-17).

It doesn't say *you* will completely forget them. Why? *Because those things that we remember going back in the past help us to repent even more!* That's what God wants.

Let's go a little further with this. John 16 is after the Passover, and He had many things to tell them, and the very first thing Jesus did after He was resurrected and came and stood in the middle of them, what did He do? *To convince them that it was He*, *He said*, 'Do you have anything to eat?' They gave him some fish and honey.

Have you ever had fish and honey? That stuck in my mind one day, so I had a can of sardines, and I decided to try it with some honey. It's delicious. For whatever it's worth.

Then what did He do? **Then He opened their minds to the Scriptures** (Luke 24), which then are the *Scriptures of Truth*. Remember, man is to live by every Word of God. So, all of these things become very important when we look at the whole process of conversion. It is a spiritual thing.

It doesn't take a mighty, rushing wind, like we read in Acts 2, to convert you or to lead you in the Truth. With the Spirit of God in us, that will give us, if we apply ourselves, the hungering and thirsting after the Truth of God.

John 16:12: "I have yet many things to tell you, but **you are not able** to bear them now." *Able* comes from 'dunamis,' which is the same word for

*power*. In other words, they didn't have the power of the Holy Spirit to understand it.

Verse 13: "However, when that one has come, *even* the Spirit of the Truth..."—which brings the Word of God *from the Scriptures of Truth*, which are in heaven, to help us grow and overcome.

"...it will lead you into all Truth... [necessary for salvation, not all truth in the world] ...because it... [the Holy Spirit, and it's neuter] ...shall not speak from itself..." (v 13). That's why they had a hard time understanding that it was not another person, because they could not conceive of a power carrying words and thoughts.

Today we know. We can hop in our car and we can turn it on and we can hear the radio going. God's Spirit will work the same way *to lead us*. That's what's important.

The Spirit of the Truth, it will lead you into all Truth because it shall not speak from itself, but whatever it shall hear, it shall speak...." (v 13). Just like this recording we're making right now, or this video we're making right now. When you play it, it will speak what has been spoken into it. Nothing more. Which also tells you that it wouldn't speak of itself. *It is a vehicle that God uses to communicate with us and lead us!* God's Spirit is to lead us.

Have you ever gone along and all of a sudden a thought comes in your mind? You think, 'Yeah, I better do that.' Then it turns out, that's what God wanted you to do. How did that happen? *By the Spirit of God!*

"...And it shall disclose to you the things to come. That one shall glorify Me because it shall disclose to you *the things that* it receives from Me. Everything that the Father has is Mine; for this reason, I said **that it shall receive from Me and shall disclose these things to you**" (vs 13-15).

That's how we got the New Testament. That's how the Old Testament was written, as well.

Just this past week we had a rather interesting thing take place in politics. The pope had a Mass just across the border in Mexico, and he said, 'Anyone who builds walls is not a Christian,' referring to Donald Trump. Because the unspoken truth is the Catholics want all, as many as they can get here, to destroy Protestantism and take over this country.

And in bringing in the refugees: Who gets the money to resettle them? *and* Where do they place them? *Catholic charities and other Catholic organizations!* They place them with Catholic families. Not many people know that; that's how they come and just disappear. No paperwork, no nothing.

The pope said, 'The one who builds bridges, because I just met with the patriarch of the Russian Orthodox Church, and I'm building bridges to the orthodox, to the eastern Catholics, to the Muslims, to the Hindus, to the Buddhists, to the Protestants, and I am a man of peace.' He didn't say all those words, but that's what he meant.

Donald Trump doesn't take it from anybody, not even the pope. First time Trump ever read what he said—I'll just sort of paraphrase it—'who is anyone to judge whether I'm a Christian or not. It's disgraceful for the pope to say that if you build a fence, you're not a Christian.' *Hooray for him!*

Remember this, what do we find in the New Testament concerning those who follow Jesus? There were those who were against Him. 'The one who is not for Me, is against Me.' Then there were the other group, **'those who are for Me are on our part.'** Remember, *it didn't say they were converted.* That's a key!

So there are a lot of people for Jesus, they do a lot of good, they follow a lot of the things that are in the Bible and the Word of God, but what is the separating definition of who a true Christian is? You can have a 'Christian values' person, who is *for* Jesus, but doesn't know much about the Bible. That would be considered like a Gentile who does the things that are contained in the Law.

But Catholicism is anti-Christ, because the pope sits in the seat of God as the *vicar* of Christ, meaning the replacement. He also said that if ISIS comes against the Vatican, he should be happy if Donald Trump were President, because he would keep the pope from being beheaded. Then it showed the picture of the Vatican with high walls. Very interesting!

What is the definition of a true Christian? What is the separating point? You can look at a lot of people, they are very good people, they do a lot of good things. They sacrifice, they give, they do those things. You find a lot of loving people, but:

- Are they true Christian?
  - Are they near?
- if they are near
- How close are they?
  - What is the separating point?

Romans 8:7: "Because the carnal mind *is* enmity against God, for it is not subject to the Law of God; neither indeed can it *be.*" That's why they don't keep the Sabbath, and many of the other things of the laws of God.

They are *for* Jesus, therefore, doing 'good.' Donald Trump doesn't smoke, he doesn't drink, he doesn't take drugs. That's fine. Does God require

that of us? *Yes, indeed!* But what else does He require of us? ***Repentance and a humble heart!***

Verse 8: “But those who are in *the* flesh cannot please God.” Who are those who are in the flesh, since we are all fleshly?

Verse 9: “However, you are not in *the* flesh, but in *the* Spirit, **if**... [1700 *ifs* in the Bible] ...*the* Spirit of God is indeed... [in Truth] ...dwelling within you....”

Also, there are a number of people out there that have one of the seven spirits *with* them, but *not in* them. So, they’ve got to respond to God to repent, because you don’t get the Spirit of God unless you repent and are baptized and have hands laid on you for the receipt of the Holy Spirit.

- *unless* you were at the temple in 30<sub>A.D.</sub> and received the Spirit there
- *unless* you were the Gentiles who received it before baptism, because God made it that way that one time to show Peter that He was calling the Gentiles.

It was just all to the Jews. The Jews thought, ‘Oh, boy, this is all ours.’ God said, ‘No! No! No!’ So, He sent Peter.

Then we also have the receiving of the Holy Spirit after a second baptism and laying on of hands in Acts 19, and they spoke in tongues. Then we have the 144,000 who are sealed by an angel to receive the Holy Spirit of God. Every other one has to come by:

- repentance
- baptism
- laying on of hands

So what happened with the exception in Acts 19? *They were baptized after the fact, so that it would include baptism!* Likewise with the 144,000! I think that whatever that is, the 144,000, I think we can make a parallel between that and the children of Israel in Egypt.

Remember all the plagues that came up to a certain point, and then God separated out the children of Israel, didn’t come upon them. That’s where we have two years of the Tribulation. In the third day, He will raise us up (Hos. 6). That’s beginning of the third year of the last three and a half years.

So, He separates out the 144,000, and probably a good number of other children of Israel, who are in captivity, wherever they may be.

Verse 9: “...**if** *the* Spirit of God is indeed dwelling within you...” Remember what Jesus said on Passover night to the disciples? *‘I will send the Holy Spirit. It has been with you and it shall be*

*within you’* (John 14). This is the begetting from the Father.

Here is the clear statement: “...But if anyone does not have *the* Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him” (v 9). That’s God’s definition of who a true Christian is.

You can apply that to nearly everybody, because we are the small flock, *the few*. It’s been broken down into smaller and smaller groups. Why? *To know if we really love God!* Do we really, really love God? That’s what it’s all about.

Verse 10: “But if Christ *be* within you, the body *is* indeed dead because of sin; however, the Spirit *is* life because of righteousness. Now, if the Spirit of Him Who raised Jesus from *the* dead is dwelling within you, He Who raised Christ from *the* dead will also quicken your mortal bodies because of His Spirit that dwells within you” (vs 10-11).

What do we have here? *The Spirit of Christ, the Spirit of the Father—both!* That ties in where Jesus said, ‘If you love Me, the Father will love you and **We** will come and make **Our** abode with you’ (John 14)—both!

Verse 12: “So then, brethren, we are not debtors to the flesh, to live according to *the* flesh; because if you are living according to *the* flesh, you shall die; but if by *the* Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you shall live. For as many as **are led by the** Spirit of God, these are *the* sons of God” (vs 12-14).

The word *led* here is the same word in the Greek, where *the Spirit will lead you into all Truth* (John 16). How does that happen? *With God’s Spirit, coupled with God’s Word!* Why? *Because the Word of God is ‘God-spirited!’* Jesus said, ‘The words that I speak to you, they are Spirit and they are Life and they are Truth.’ This then, defines clearly who is a true Christian.

Donald Trump may be a very upright man, probably is. He has a little humility in him, not much, but a little, because when he was asked by Anderson Cooper, ‘What is it that you regret most in your life?’ Right at the end of a town-hall interview.

Trump said, ‘I’m a workaholic. I love to work. I work all the time. I really think that if I hadn’t worked so hard, I wouldn’t have had two marriages fail.’ I think, for him, that’s about as humble as you’re going to get.

But living in New York and fighting all of those lying crooks all the time, let’s see what happens. Will he be President? I’m not making any predictions. Remember Scalia! Don’t make any predictions. You never know what’s going to happen.

Let's come to the book of Revelation and we'll do a little more surveying here and see if we can just cover the remaining things we need to. I'm going to bring out more on this as we come to the Passover.

Rev. 2—We know this is the message to the seven existing churches in Asia. He didn't include Jerusalem, didn't include Rome. I wonder why he didn't include Rome? Isn't that an interesting question? He started with Ephesus. These seven churches represent three things:

1. the physical churches then
2. the successive prophecy progression of the Church down through time
3. how the Church is at the end-time, as God views it from heaven

God is not restricted to any single human corporation. A corporation is required, because you have to have a legal identity. A corporation does not bind God. The corporation gives the congregations the legal ability to carry on their work, so that they can preach the Gospel, receive money, do the things they need to do. *The corporation should have absolutely nothing to do with the spiritual functioning of the Church.*

For someone to say, 'You have to belong to this corporate church, or you're not in the Church of God.' How do you know? What is the definition? *You must have the Spirit of God!*

Are there degrees of Spirit of God? *Yes, indeed!* Because Paul told Timothy, 'Stir up the Spirit that is in you.' There are times when God stirs up the Spirit, like He did there in Haggai 1 and 2, to stir up the spirit of Zerubbabel, Joshua, and the people to build the temple.

The first church is Ephesus. They had directly from the apostles. The Apostle Paul was there. He commends them for a lot of things, especially testing the false apostles. They had a lot of work.

Revelation 2:2: "I know your works, and your labor, and your endurance, and that you cannot bear those who are evil; and *that* you did test those who proclaim *themselves* to be apostles, but are not, and did find them liars."

I need to give a sermon: How do you test for an apostle? You send him an extended drivers' license test (humor). There is no civil service exam to tell you who is an apostle.

Verse 3: "And *that* you have borne *much* and have endured, and for My name's sake have labored and have not grown weary; nevertheless, I have *this* against you, that you have left your first love" (vs 3-4).

I'm going to focus in on that as we come up to the Passover. What did Jesus say the greatest commandment is? *Love God with all your heart, mind, soul and being!* This is interesting because the word *first* comes from the word 'protos,' *primary* or *first* love, loving God.

How do people get to a point that they're not loving God the way that they should? *Because they shift all of that to doing human works!* Yes, we need to take care of the poor. Yes, we need to help those who are down and out. We need all of those things, but you cannot lose your first love. The first love can only be maintained with *personal prayer* and *personal Bible study*, and *the elders and ministers teaching the love of God as the primary thing!* Then loving each other. Just wanted to cover that. Won't go through all the rest with the churches.

I want to review Rev. 6 and, as we covered in Matt. 24, we're going to review that. Here is a really basic principle that God operates on. In describing things in the Bible, you will have a summary of it given first; then the details of it second.

Just like this: 'If you love Me, keep the commandments; namely, My commandments.' That's an overall summary. Where do you find the commandments? They don't necessarily follow right after. Sometimes you have to go someplace else to find it and put it together; 'rightly divide the Word of God.'

As we covered last time concerning the three and a half year Tribulation. That's the 70<sup>th</sup> week of Dan. 9. In the middle of the week that covenant that is made is going to be broken.

- What do you suppose that covenant would be?
- (speculation) *We don't know for sure.*
- What would that covenant be to start the seven years?

*The first three and a half be peace and security.*

- How would that fit in to what the Jews want to do?
- How would that fit in with what the Bible prophesied?
- And what it tells us?

*Because it says that Jerusalem will be encircled with armies:*

- Do they come there first for peaceful enforcement of the agreement?
- What would the beast-power guarantee the Jews that they could build the temple?

If you go to The Temple Institute, you'll find they've got almost everything ready to go. It's not going to be where the Mosque of Omar is, because all the Muslims would come in and kill every Jew if

they tried to do it. It's going to be separate from that. They build it, and they start having sacrifices because the sacrifices have to be cut off.

Then what happens? Does Satan enter into the beast-power? *He breaks the covenant, walks into the temple and says he's God!* That's the 'abomination that makes desolate.' ***That's the trigger for the Tribulation!***

We come down here through Rev. 6. We find seal #2 is the seal that starts the Great Tribulation. How seal #1 works out, that's getting all the religions together. That is coming! *That is coming! That is coming!* Then on the other side of it, concerning *the mark of the beast*: That is coming! *That is coming! That is coming!* All of those things are working together and filling a big pattern.

Then you have the seals opened quite quickly: The war, invasion, starvation, death, then martyrdom. We have here in Rev. 6:12, and this becomes a very interesting one when we put it together with Matt. 24.

Revelation 6:12: "And when He opened the sixth seal, I looked, and behold, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as *the hair of sackcloth*, and the moon became as blood." The moon becoming red as blood is not an eclipse. It is the full moon looking bright red. That's where all of these blood moon things get off base. You look at the things that were written about that. I even gave several sermons concerning it. Have any of those things taken place that they said, yet? *No!*

Notice what else happens. This is a spectacular thing. In the book, *The Appointed Times of Jesus the Messiah*, I lay this all out, step-by-step, showing that there are two phases to the return of Christ. That's how every eye is going to see.

This is the beginning of the first phase, right here; after the stars fall from heaven, v 14: "Then *the heaven departed like a scroll that is being rolled up...*"

Have you ever had a window shade and you brought it down, then you let go of it and it didn't stick? Roll right up? That's what I picture this as the heavens doing, just rolling back like a scroll. This is an astonishing event.

So much so: "...and every mountain and island was moved out of its place" (v 14). So much for a place of safety, or a cave, or an island in the South Pacific.

Verse 15: "And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the powerful men, and every bondman, and every free *man* hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains; and they said to the

mountains and to the rocks, 'Fall on us, and hide us from *the* face of Him Who sits on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb, because the great day of His wrath has come, and who has the power to stand?'" (vs 15-17).

This is two years into the three and a half. Do they know what it is? *Yes!* They know what it is, but they're blinded by Satan the devil! He then convinces them that this has got to be aliens. That's actually true, because God the Father and Jesus Christ, and the angels are aliens to people on the earth.

When that happens, then there's a great calm (Rev. 7), so much so the wind doesn't blow. Let's tie this in with Matt.24. We will see how this is described. Of course, Jesus Himself would know it, because He's going to make it happen.

Matthew 24:21: "For then shall there be great tribulation... [that's when *the abomination of desolation* stands in the Holy Place] ...such as has not been from *the beginning of the world* until this time, nor ever shall be *again*. And if those days were not limited..." (vs 21-22). That's the best translation there. How are they limited? What is the limit? *Three and a half years; not cut short!*

How many sermons have you heard a preacher get up there, some event takes place, and they say, 'We're getting close to the return of Christ and God's going to cut the time short.' Never happened! Time is still going on, because God has limited it to three and a half years.

(go to the next track)

After He said, 'Don't go out there, because there are false christs, false prophets. He's not going to be in the desert, He's not going to be in the secret chamber.' Why? *Because He's coming from heaven!*

I bet if you've read these things, you have questioned this yourself. I did for years until I finally understood it.

Malachi 4:1: "'For behold, the day is coming, burning like a consuming oven; and all the proud, and every doer of wickedness, shall be stubble. And the day that comes shall burn them up,' says the LORD of hosts, 'and will leave them neither root nor branch. But unto you who fear **My name, the Sun of Righteousness shall arise**, and healing will be in His wings....'" (vs 1-2).

- Why did God, Who is against sun-worship, say that Christ was the Sun of Righteousness? *Notice, it says shall arise!*
- Will healing be in His wings? *Yes, when He comes to the earth! He's going to heal the whole earth.*

We will see why He is called "...the Sun of Righteousness..." That has to do with His second coming.

Matthew 24:27: "For as the light of day, which comes forth from *the east* and shines as far as *the west*..." That is the *sun*. So, when the heavens roll back as a scroll, there's going to appear the second sun. That's how every eye is going to see Him. How long will that be there? We'll answer that in just a little bit.

Verse 29 explains it: "But immediately after the tribulation of those days... [ties in with Rev. 6:12] ...the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken." Why? *Because the heavens roll back as a scroll!*

Verse 30: "And then shall appear **the sign** of the Son of man in heaven..." "...the light of day..." (v 27). It gives you a summary first, then the details come later.

"...and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming upon the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And He shall send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet; and they shall gather together His elect from the four winds... [looking down from heaven] ...from one end of heaven to *the other*" (vs 30-31). *That's the resurrection!*

This time span covers from the heavens rolling back as a scroll until the resurrection, which is three and a half years, for the whole time, minus two, because that's the tribulation against Israel. *After the tribulation of those days against Israel* is what it means. That's what we covered last time in Hosea 5 and 6. That means there is a year and a half left until Christ and the saints come on the earth.

Let's come back here to Rev. 7. People still have a hard time understanding about Pentecost being the day of the resurrection.

- On what day did God give the Law to Israel? *Pentecost!*
- On what day did God send the Holy Spirit? *Pentecost!*

Pentecost is the harvest of the firstfruits. You read Matt. 13, and *the work of God is like a grain harvest*.

How many weeks for the harvest? *Seven weeks*, every seven days, until you come to forty-nine; then the next day is day 50, Pentecost. Let's look at the Churches in Rev. 2 and 3. How many Churches do we have? *Seven!* These depict the seven-week harvest of the Church.

Rev. 7—Would you say that these people are going to receive eternal life, the 144,000 and the great innumerable multitude? *Yes, indeed!* If two years have ended, getting into the beginning of the third year, Rev. 7 has to take place on Pentecost. The saving of the 144,000 and great innumerable multitude.

When is the resurrection? *A year later!* Pentecost to Pentecost. When you read that they are going to be before the throne of God, that is projecting forward when the resurrection takes place, because *no one goes to heaven!* The resurrection, Paul wrote, 'Christ the firstfruit, then those who are Christ's at His coming.'

Therefore, they do not immediately go to the throne of God. They have one year before the resurrection. However long it takes place for Rev. 7 to occur, then we come to Rev. 8.

Let's think about this for a minute. If Rev. 7 occurs on Pentecost, how long is it until Trumpets? *Three and a half months!* With everything that's gone on the earth, and all the destruction that's taken place, in order for the events in Rev. 8 and 9 to take place, men on the earth are going to use that three and a half months to clean up the mess, fix the roads.

In the meantime, what is shining *every day?* *The two suns!* '**Every eye shall see Him.**' What happens with human nature? If it's out there and they see it every day? *They say, 'Something happened in the universe and we've got an extra sun out there. It hasn't come to the earth, so we're safe.'* But they're not!

Things change suddenly. After the tribulation against Israel, which then is men against men, Rev. 8 begins the last year. You have Pentecost to Pentecost, under that three and a half months difference, you have Trumpets to Trumpets.

- One line: Pentecost to Pentecost. Next to the last Pentecost, 144,000 and great innumerable multitude are saved.
- Next line: Next Pentecost, the resurrection comes.
- Three and half months to Trumpet. From Trumpets to Trumpets is the last year. A year is a day in prophecy.

Revelation 6:17: "Because the great day of His wrath has come, and who has the power to stand?" *That is from next to the last Trumpets to the final Trumpets*, the great day of His wrath. His wrath begins, and it comes directly from the throne of God. Everything else up to this time is men against men. Now God intervenes.

Revelation 8:1: "Now, when He opened the seventh seal, *there* was silence in heaven *for* about a

half hour. Then I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and seven trumpets were given to them. And another angel, who had a golden censer, came and stood at the altar; and much incense was given to him, so that he might offer *it* with the prayers of all the saints on the golden altar that *was* before the throne” (vs 1-3).

Who are the saints? *Human beings who have the Spirit of God!* So, this is proof that the 144,000 and the great innumerable multitude did not immediately go to heaven. They have to wait for the last trump like everybody else.

Verse 4: “And the smoke of the incense went up before God from *the* hand of the angel, ascending with the prayers of the saints. And the angel took the censer, and filled it with fire from the altar, and cast *it* into the earth; and there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings, and an earthquake. Then the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound *their* trumpets” (vs 4-6).

The first four come very quickly. Just like with the seven last plagues, the first four come very quickly.

Verse 7: “And the first angel sounded *his* trumpet; and there was hail and fire mingled with blood, and it was cast upon the earth; and a third of the trees were burnt up, and all green grass was burnt up.” Burnt up a third of the trees, everything like that.

Revelation 9:4: “And it was said to them that they should not damage the grass of the earth, or any green thing, or any tree...”

Is this seventh seal the Day of the Lord? *Yes, it is!* Everything is coming from God, so it's the Day of the Lord. It's interesting, “...should not damage the grass of the earth, or any green thing...”

But yet, it said in Revelation 8:7: “...and all green grass was burnt up.’ What are we looking at? We're looking at a space of time that took place after the grass was burned.

What happens if you get any moisture? The grass grows back, just like here. We've had four years of drought. The land is very dry, everything is all brown and miserable looking. We get three or four weeks of rain, and the grass is growing everywhere. Grass has no knowledge as to what's going on. God created it; when there's dirt and there's water, it grows.

This shows a space of time. However long it was for the first four angels, for their plagues to be given, that's the length of time that we're dealing with. However that works out. I won't try and figure

out what kind of space of time we're dealing with here, but long enough for the grass to grow.

Revelation 8:13: “And I looked; and I heard an angel flying in the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, ‘Woe, woe, woe to those who are dwelling on the earth, because of the voices of the remaining trumpets of the three angels who *are* about to sound *their* trumpets.’”

Now we're dealing with more demons are let out of the prison, multiple. We know there's a prison, a place of restraint; they are let out.

Revelation 9:1: “And the fifth angel sounded *his* trumpet; and I saw a star *that* had fallen from heaven to the earth, and there was given to him the key to the bottomless abyss.... [I don't know where the abyss is] ...And he opened the bottomless abyss; and there went up smoke from the pit, like *the* smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by the smoke from the pit. Then locusts came onto the earth from the smoke... [all types of demons] ... and power was given to them, as the scorpions of the earth have power. And it was said to them that they should not damage the grass of the earth, or any green thing, or any tree, but only the men who did not have the seal of God in their foreheads” (vs 1-4).

Again, verifying that the 144,000 and the great innumerable multitude are not before the throne of God at this time.

Verse 5: And it was given to them that they should not kill them...” They have torment, and so forth.

Verse 11: “And they have over them a king, the angel of the abyss; his name in Hebrew *is* Abaddon, but *the* name he has in Greek *is* Apollyon.” That's either Satan the devil or one of the leading demons, probably not Satan himself, but one of the leading demons. Zeus was above Apollyon, so this probably is not Satan.

Verse 12: “The first woe is past. Behold, after these things two more woes are still to come. And the sixth angel sounded *his* trumpet; and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar that *is* before God” (vs 12-13). Starts right at the altar of God. The wrath of God, the Day of the Lord.

Verse 14: “*And* it said to the sixth angel, who had the trumpet, ‘Loose the four angels who are bound in the great River Euphrates.’” Where are they bound? *I don't have the slightest idea, but God put them there!* How's that for punishment? For one purpose.

Verse 15: “Then the four angels, who had been prepared for the hour and day and month and year... [amazing; it's going to be right on time

according to God's schedule] ...were loosed, so that they might kill a third of men; and the number of *the* armies of the horsemen *was* two hundred thousand thousand..." (vs 15-16)—200-million!

I want you to think about how many people that is. Think about armies that big. It's plural, because you can't get 200-million people in one place. They have to be strung from the river Euphrates all the way back to the Far East, and these are men. It tells what they do. It's going to be awful carnage. We'll cover a little more of this when we get to Trumpets.

Verse 20: "But the rest of the men who were not killed by these plagues still did not repent of the works of their hands ..." So, these are men with fantastic futuristic weapons. I don't think too many of them are futuristic any longer. We just don't know of them, yet.

"...still did not repent of the works of their hands..." (v 20). God is offering repentance. Everything that God does is on hopes that the person would repent. *They didn't repent!*

"...that they might not worship demons, and idols of gold and silver and brass and stone and wood, which do not have the power to see, nor to hear, nor to walk. And they did not repent of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornications, nor of their thievery" (vs 20-21).

At this time the earth is in terrible shape. Notice, it's all in the Middle East. Wonder why we're having all the trouble in the Middle East today? This is all going to build up.

Rev 10, just two things I want to point out here: No one knows what the seven thunders are *because God told John, 'Don't write it.'* you can tell a false prophet, if he comes along and says, 'I know what the seven thunders are,' no one knows.

The other thing I want to point out is Revelation 10:7: "But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he is about to sound *the* trumpet, the mystery of God shall also be completed, according to the Gospel *that* He declared to His servants the prophets."

Verse 6: "And swore by Him Who lives into the ages of eternity, Who created the heaven and the things in it, and the earth and the things in it, and the sea and the things in it, 'There shall be no more delay.'"

What does this tell us? *This tells us there have been delays.* Why does God delay things, for what reason? *Whenever there's repentance!* That's what happened with Ahab. We talked about that earlier. That's what happened with Josiah. When there is repentance, look at what God did with

Manasseh. He brought him back, and put him on the throne again. All the way through here it talks about repentance and the lack thereof.

Everyone wants to know about the two witnesses. Who is in charge of the two witnesses? One minister, who claims he is 'the apostle to restore the church in the end-time,' that he is going to have authority over the two witnesses. You might as well forget him, because that's not what the Bible says.

Here we have to go back in time and then come forward; Revelation 11:1: "Then *the* angel gave me a measuring rod like a staff, saying, 'Arise and measure the temple of God, and the altar, and those who worship in it. But leave out the court that *is* within the temple *area*, and do not measure it because it has been given *up* to the Gentiles; and they shall trample upon the Holy City *for* **forty-two months**'" (vs 1-2).

Why does it say forty-two months? That is used again, over here, in Rev. 13, referring to the beast that had the deadly wound and recovered.

Revelation 13:5: "And a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies was given to him; and authority was given to him to continue *for* forty-two months." Months is reckoned as times of evil.

Forty-two months is not exactly identical with 1260 days. It's approximately the same. Why? *Because the months have 30 days, 29 days, 30 days, 29 days.* In the case of a leap year, then you have an extra thirteenth month. You don't have a change in the number of days.

Revelation 11:3: "And I will give *power* to My two witnesses..." Who do they belong to? *God!* Who is in charge of the two witnesses? *God!* Very powerful; never happened this way in the past!

"...and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred *and* sixty days, clothed in sackcloth" (v 3).

When does their ministry end, after they've been in the streets three and a half days? *The resurrection!* Since the resurrection is on Pentecost, like I did on the chart that you get with the series on *Daniel and Revelation*, I counted back from Pentecost, and guess when they started? Somewhere around the beginning of November, then 1260 days.

That gave them from November until Passover for witnessing. What do you think *the* *beast* and *false prophet* are going to be doing when they start their witnessing? You think they're going to be happy about it? *No!* Would that not tell us why *the* *beast* is provoked to go into the Holy of Holies and say he is God? *To prove a point to the two witnesses!* We need to think about what kind of battle this is going to be.

Twelve hundred and sixty days. The only way you're going to know when they begin, is you understand how long their ministry is—1260 days—and when it ends. BANG! Pentecost.

Verse 4: “These are the two olive trees, and *the* two lampstands that stand before the God of the earth.”

There was a famous doctor in the WCG, an evangelist who said these are two churches: one is Philadelphia and one is Laodicea. No, they are not. When you read Rev. 1, Jesus stands in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks, so the Churches are in a circle, not in a line.

Let's see why they are called “...*the* two lampstands that stand before the God of the earth,” directly to God. *No minister!* It doesn't say, ‘Who are authorized by the final apostle of God.’ No, “...stand before the God of the earth.”

Come back to Zech. 3. Some people actually believe that the two witnesses will be:

- one will be resurrected Moses
- the other will be resurrected Elijah

Has God ever resurrected a man to be a prophet outside of Christ? *No!* If they were resurrected, would they know anything about what's going on? *No!*

When they came back out of Babylon, they were building the second temple. Joshua was the high priest, but he's a type of one of the two witnesses. Notice, he is called from a condition of being close to Satan the devil. Think of that!

Zechariah 3:1: “And He showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to resist him. And the LORD said to Satan, ‘May the LORD rebuke you, Satan! May even the LORD Who has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you! *Is* this not a brand plucked out of the fire?’” (vs 1-2). In other words, his conduct was so bad, where was he headed? So, he repented!

Verse 3: “Now, Joshua was clothed with filthy garments, and stood before the angel. And He answered and spoke to those who stood before him, saying, ‘Take the filthy garments from off him.’ And to him He said, ‘Behold, I have caused your iniquity to pass from you, and I will clothe you with ceremonial robes.’” (vs 3-4)—high priest. We'll see that's one of the two witnesses, because God says He would yet deal with Jerusalem and Judah.

Notice what He heralds in, v 5: “And I said, ‘Let them set a clean miter on his head.’ And they set a clean miter on his head and clothed him with

garments. And the angel of the LORD stood by. And the angel of the LORD charged Joshua, saying, ‘Thus says the LORD of hosts, “If you will walk in My ways, and if you will keep My charge, then you shall also judge My house, and shall also keep My courts, and I will give you places to walk among these who stand by. Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, you and your fellows who sit before you; for they *are* men wondered at, for behold, I will bring forth My Servant the Branch!”’” (vs 5-8)

That is Christ. That did not happen to the Joshua who came out of Babylon to be high priest at the temple for the second temple when they completed it.

Verse 9: “‘For behold, the stone that I have set before Joshua: On one stone *are* seven eyes. Behold, I will engrave its engraving *upon it*,” says the LORD of hosts, “and I will remove the iniquity of that land in one day. In that day,” says the LORD of hosts, “you shall call, each man to his neighbor, to sit under the vine and under the fig tree”’” (vs 9-10).

That blends right into the Millennium. So here again you see a space of time in the different descriptions of the prophecy.

This brings in Zerubbabel, the governor, Zechariah 4:1: “And the angel that talked with me came again and awakened me, as a man that is awakened out of his sleep. And he said to me, ‘What do you see?’ And I said, ‘I see, and behold, a lampstand, all of it gold, and a bowl on its top, and its seven lamps upon it... [that is beneath it] ... and seven pipes to the seven lamps on its top”’ (vs 1-2). So it comes down. So here's this big bowl full of olive oil, and this oil is to come down to these lamps to burn at the seven lamps.

Verse 3: “‘And two olive trees beside it... [What did it say? ‘These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands.’] ...one on the right side of the bowl, and the other on the left side of it.’ And I answered and spoke to the angel who talked with me, saying, ‘What *are* these, my lord?’ Then the angel who talked with me answered and said to me, ‘Do you know what these *are*?’ And I said, ‘No, my lord.’ Then he answered and spoke to me, saying, ‘This *is* the Word of the LORD to Zerubbabel, saying, “Not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit,” says the LORD of hosts’” (vs 3-6).

This is going to be the lesson the Jews are going to learn. They can't get their way out of any trouble by their own army and by their own works, by their own war, by anything that they do. This will be the thing that will lead many of the Jews to repent at the end.

Verse 7: “‘Who *are* you, O great mountain?... [the beast power] ...Before

Zerubbabel *you shall become a plain...*” They can’t get rid of the two witnesses. Everything they try to do to kill them. When they open up their mouth, fire comes out of their mouths. Can you imagine what the television news is going to be like at that time?

“...and he shall bring forth the head stone... [Christ] ...with shoutings, “Grace! Grace unto it!” And the Word of the LORD came to me, saying, ‘The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the foundation of this house. His hands shall also finish it.’.... [the second temple] ...And you shall know that the LORD of hosts has sent me to you. ‘For who has despised the day of small things? For they shall rejoice, and shall see the plummet in the hand of Zerubbabel. These seven are the eyes of the LORD, which run to and fro through the whole earth’” (vs 7-10). {tie in Rev. 4, Rev. 5, 2-Chr. 16.}

Verse 11: “And I answered and said to him, ‘What *are* these two olive trees on the right side of the lampstand and on its left side?’ And I answered again and said to him, ‘What *are* the two olive branches beside the two golden pipes, emptying the golden *oil* out of themselves?’ And he answered me and said, ‘Do you not know what these *are*?’ And I said, ‘No, my lord.’ And he said, ‘**These are the two anointed ones who stand by the LORD of the whole earth**’” (vs 11-14).

That can be nothing but the two witnesses, close to God, right there, right against *the beast* and the *false prophet*.

Therefore, it can’t be Moses and Elijah. They look and say, ‘Did not Christ raise up Lazarus?’ *Lazarus was not one of the two witnesses!* He was a brother of Martha and Mary, and Jesus loved Him. Why did He bring him back to life? Several reasons:

- a sign and a witness to all of the Jews who saw it, who knew that it occurred
- to provoke the Sanhedrin to really in earnest come after Him to crucify Him
- personally, for Lazarus, the reason was he died before he had an opportunity for salvation, because the Holy Spirit was not yet given

So, he was raised from the dead. I bet he was one of the 120 (Acts 1), so he could be in the first resurrection. Also, this gives us confirmation of what we call the second resurrection.

Finally they kill the two witnesses. Their bodies are in the streets of Jerusalem three and a half days.

Revelation 11:11: “Then after the three and a half days, *the* spirit of life from God entered into them and they stood on their feet; and great fear fell

upon those who were watching them. And they heard a great voice from heaven, say, ‘Come up here!’.... [be resurrected] ... And they ascended into heaven in a cloud; and their enemies saw them *rise*” (vs 11-12).

A fantastic fulfillment, ‘the last shall be first.’ The two witnesses are going to be prophesying many things and witnessing to *the beast* and the *false prophet* personally.

As I read last week, Elijah to come before the great and terrible Day of the Lord, there has to be a third Elijah come, who will probably be baptizing the Jews that repent. When all this occurs, don’t you think there will be a lot of Jews repenting? That is going to be quite a thing! Here, after all of these years, and the misery and suffering, and holocaust, pogroms, killing, and everything like this that they have experienced, now God has intervened. So, they are resurrected first.

When are they changed from flesh to spirit? *We don’t know*, but that has to wait for the seventh trump. When will the seventh trump blow? *Almost immediately!*

Verse 13: “And in that hour there was a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city fell; and seven thousand men were killed in the earthquake. And the rest were filled with fear, and gave glory to the God of heaven. The second woe is past. Behold, the third woe is coming immediately” (vs 13-14).

The second woe was *the sixth trumpet!* So, the third woe is the seventh trumpet coming immediately.

Verse 15: “Then the seventh angel sounded *his* trumpet; and *there* were great voices in heaven, saying...” Trumpet is blown, everyone who is a saint of God, alive or dead, are going to be resurrected or changed. The dead in Christ will rise first.

“...‘The kingdoms of this world have become *the kingdoms* of our Lord and His Christ, and He shall reign into the ages of eternity.’ And the twenty-four elders, who sit before God on their thrones, fell on their faces and worshiped God, saying, ‘We give You thanks, O Lord God Almighty, Who is, and Who was, and Who *is* to come; for You have taken *to Yourself* Your great power, and have reigned’” (vs 15-17). The beginning of the reign of Christ.

Verse 18: “‘For the nations were angry, and Your wrath has come, and the time for the dead to be judged, and to give reward to Your servants the prophets, and to the saints, and to *all* those who fear Your name, the small and the great; and to destroy those who destroy the earth.’” That has to be the resurrection.

There are some other things that we can cover, so I don't know if I will give one more on this or not. We'll have to see what transpires and how it works out. Suffice to say, there is plenty enough in prophecy to cover.

Just think of this and why God holds us so responsible. He has given understanding, and the understanding comes through:

- His Spirit
- His Word
- His Holy Days
- His Sabbaths

That's why the Sabbath Day is so important. Where would we be if we weren't keeping the Sabbath? We would just be absorbed into the world. We're still in the flesh,

- we need the Sabbath every single week
- we need to learn from the Word of God
- we need to learn to overcome

We have the whole Bible, all the Word of God, given to us. It's really a fantastic thing.

Think about the Apostle John. He wrote all of this down and he didn't understand it. When they were canonizing the New Testament, he had to put in there about the 'abomination of desolation standing in the Holy Place,' he inserted the parenthetical phrase, 'The one who reads let him understand.' Jesus didn't say that. John didn't understand. God has given all of this. That's why we need to:

- yield to God
- grow in grace and knowledge
- overcome
- not be all lifted up in vanity
- not be fighting and arguing and things like that

We need to love each other and if there are difficulties, work it out. If can't work it out, keep praying for the individual.

We're going to see a lot of us, we're all getting more mature, that day is going to be coming. That has also been a lot on my mind here recently.

- How's it going to be with the Church of God?
- How are we going to reach out to the world?
- What is going to happen?
- How much time do we have?

We don't know, because these events, though they look like they come immediately, one after another, sometimes there's a great space of time in between.

#### Scriptural References:

- 1) Daniel 10:21
- 2) Psalm 40:7
- 3) Hebrews 10:7-9, 16-17
- 4) John 16:12-15
- 5) Romans 8:7-14
- 6) Revelation 2:2-4
- 7) Revelation 6:12, 14-17
- 8) Matthew 24:21-22
- 9) Malachi 4:1-2
- 10) Matthew 24:27, 29-30, 27, 30-31
- 11) Revelation 6:17
- 12) Revelation 8:1-7
- 13) Revelation 9:4
- 14) Revelation 8:7, 13
- 15) Revelation 9:1-5, 11-16, 20-21
- 16) Revelation 10: 7, 6
- 17) Revelation 11:1-2
- 18) Revelation 13:5
- 19) Revelation 11:3-4
- 20) Zechariah 3:1-10
- 21) Zechariah 4:1-14
- 22) Revelation 11:11-18

#### Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Luke 24
- Acts 2, 19
- Hosea 6
- John 14
- Haggai 1; 2
- Daniel 9
- Revelation 7
- Hosea 5
- Matthew 13
- Revelation 2; 3; 1; 4; 5
- 2-Chronicles 16
- Acts 1

#### Also referenced:

##### Books:

- *From a Speck of Dust to a Son of God: Why Were You Born?* (coming soon)
- *The Appointed Times of Jesus the Messiah* by Fred R. Coulter

#### Sermon Series: *Daniel and Revelation* with chart

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## Overview of Prophecy IV Daniel/Revelation

Fred R. Coulter—February 27, 2016

Greetings, everyone! Welcome to Sabbath services. Sabbath is a great day for all of us every week. When we get together, and we're all here with God's Spirit, wanting to learn of His Word, He is here. He has given the promise that 'wherever two or three are gathered in My name, there I will be in the midst of them.'

Why did He say that? Because He knew there would be times when there would be very small groups. That's why! I believe that's why God inspired that we have Church at Home.

The way that happened, that was about eleven years ago now, flying back to Cincinnati for the Elders' Conference. I was reading the book, *Christianity Without God*, by Lloyd Geering. Can you imagine that? *Christianity without God?*

He was explaining, and I've given some sermons on it and I have it on [churchathome.org](http://churchathome.org), so you can go on [churchathome.org](http://churchathome.org) and listen to it.

Sitting on the plane for four and a half hours, because at that time it was direct non-stop from San Francisco direct to Cincinnati. It was how they were planning on changing all of the churches to be more secular. Has that happened? *Yes, indeed, that's happened!*

When I was reading the conclusion, and he was bragging 'how well this is working and how we're going to accomplish it through political means,' I said to myself, 'But you can't take it out of our homes.' You may be able to control groups, but you can't control our homes. So, that's when the idea came of Church at Home.

How do we reach new people? They're so turned off, the idea of going to church becomes a labor for them. So, Church at Home. Another advantage of that is you get people who are sincere. They are looking; they are wanting. Rather than having numbers of people come just because you want people to come. That's how it started.

Every week we send out the DVD of what we record here. Hello out there in DVD land, whether you're two or ten or twenty or whatever, we all love you. Take care. We now send out about 245 DVDs every week. That is if Jonathan gets them done for us. He's been faithful in it, so we get it done.

It's also very interesting, the things that we're going through right now, *Overview of Prophecy*. As I explained in part 3, and this happens over and over and over again throughout the Bible.

You think about it. It starts right in Genesis with Adam and Eve. God said, 'You may freely eat of every tree of the garden, except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for in the day that you eat thereof, you shall surely die.' Had the information. God told them, face-to-face, person-to-person.

Eve also knew because she told Satan the devil, 'God said don't even touch it.' That shows there was additional instruction. Some people like to come along and say, 'Eve added to it.' I don't think so. I think God told them, 'Don't touch it.' He warned them.

- What happened when they sinned? *The judgment came!*
- What did it start with? *It started with the promise of the Savior, Who would come nearly 4,000 years later.*
- Why wait that long? *Because God has a great plan!*

He also has the Bible this way. You can't understand it unless you *obey*.

I've been doing some on how to study the Bible. It's reduced to three words: *Obey My voice*. It's also reduced to the Sabbath, the Holy Days, the appointed times. Sabbath and the appointed times keep us in communication with God. His Word then, as it unfolds to us, especially living in the last days, really takes on a whole lot of added meaning.

Think on this: When it came time for Noah, what did God say? 'Noah, I want you to build an ark, because all flesh is going to die.' So, he built the ark, only eight came through the Flood. Like I've said: one man means a lot, so they had a new start. He said that they were to be fruitful and multiply and replenish the earth, start all over again.

Then we come down to one man. Let's see the summary with no details whatsoever in this promise. Everything that we've talked about of understanding the Word of God also has to do with receiving the promises of God. We will see quite a few elements right here.

This is why when you study the Bible, you study through it, and then you come back and you keep doing that your whole life. Every time you do, you learn more. Never can we at any time say that 'we've come to a point in the Bible that we know everything that is there.

Why? What did Jesus say? *'The flesh profits nothing, the Spirit gives life. The words that*

***I speak to you, they are Spirit and life!*** Not only has God given us the Bible, the most widely distributed book in the world, but very few understand it because they are not willing to do what God has said. It starts out very simple.

Look at how simple this is. Genesis 12:1: "And the LORD said to Abram, 'Get out of your country, and from your kindred, and from your father's house into a land that I will show you.... [sounds good enough] ...And I will make *of* you a great nation. And I will bless you and make your name great. And you shall be a blessing. And I will bless those that bless you and curse the one who curses you. And in you shall all families of the earth be blessed'" (vs 1-3).

That is an overall summary. That's a promise, but an overall summary of the rest of the Bible, and it reaches back to Gen. 3:15 about the promise of a Messiah. Remember, Abraham had nothing like we have with the Bible. But he had a personal relationship with God.

- God walked with him
- God talked with him
- God gave him visions
- God tested him

You know the whole story of the life of Abraham, which is that he had no children. At 85-years-old God promised that he would have a son, so that's ten years later. Then Abraham had to wait another fifteen years in order for his wife, who was 90-years-old at that time and he was 100, to have Isaac. How's that for a great nation? *One son!*

Yes, he had Ishmael and he had sons from Keturah, but the promise was through Isaac. Look at all the details from there, we can look back and go through it. However, when you get the chronologies squared around, you can see that Abraham lived long enough to see Jacob born. I think Jacob was two-years-old when Abraham died.

Bingo! He dies! When he's resurrected and the angels take him up to the Sea of Glass, and Jesus Christ welcomes him with great love and open arms and says, 'Abraham, when I promised you way back there when you first left where you were living, to go into a land you knew nothing about, way before Isaac was born, and way before<sup>[transcriber's correction]</sup> Jacob was born, this is what you have produced. Now there are three aspects of it I need to inform you of:

1. the physical children, the physical people who are known as the house of Israel and the house of Judah
2. then all the other nations
3. 'I promised Ishmael that he would be great'

Look down there. There's all the descendants of Ishmael.'

And Isaac will be there and then God will show Isaac what happened with the promised seed and what happened with Esau. So, what I'm bringing out is when there is a general statement or promise, then the details come later.

There's something else in understanding the Word of God. What I want you to do is take this principle that I brought out to you, and I want you to study the Bible with that in mind. Look for the preview and then look for the fulfillment. The preview is already given.

What did Jesus say when He came into Galilee preaching the Gospel? '*Repent for the Kingdom of God is at hand; the time has been fulfilled!*' You take that in isolation, without the ministry of Christ, and without the twelve apostles, look at what came of that.

Furthermore, He also told the disciples that the minds of people who flatter God, or use His name, or who want the blessings of God, without obedience, automatically are blinded.

- Why does God cause them to be blinded?
- Wouldn't you think that God would want to have just the opposite? *Yes!*

*The reason is He starts small and builds up!*

- Why did He do that?
- If God is a God of love, why would He blind them?
  - ✓ if they're not willing to obey, He wants them blinded so they won't commit the unpardonable sin
  - ✓ because He loves them so much there's a second resurrection

*How about that!*

But you really don't understand that. Imagine this now. In the 600<sub>S.B.C.</sub> Ezekiel was given the prophecy of the physical resurrection of Israel (Ezek. 37).

It's not until the book of Rev., chapter 20, only two chapters left, that we find out what's going to happen to them. There are some other Scriptures to put in there and put together (Matt. 12; Luke 13).

For us, we have the whole Bible. What a fantastic blessing that is. The most important book in the world, because this tells us:

- Who God is
- What He is doing
- Where He is going
- How we fit into it

At the end of the age, we are given the blessing of being able to understand it, because of the promise of God to Daniel that 'in the time of the end the wise shall understand, but none of the wicked shall understand.' That's an amazing thing!

Never has there been a book in the world that has been written that depends upon your obedience, your belief, and understanding about God. He'll reveal it. He will lead you.

God will send one of the seven spirits to be with you when you start, so you begin to understand. As you begin to understand and start to obey and start to do the things that you see that are there, then He will begin to draw you. God is going to do it, personally in your life.

You might say, 'Look at Abraham. He had God right there standing with him.' *True!* But what does God promise us who repent and are baptized? *He'll send His Spirit to dwell in us!* Think on that! After He was resurrected from the dead, we'll see what He did with the disciples.

Psalm 119:18: "Open my eyes so that I may behold wondrous things out of Your Law." Here is the key: *only God, with His Spirit leading you, or within you, because all the words of God are Spirit and are Life!* Also, it says about the Word of God, 'it's sharper than any two-edged sword.'

"Open my eyes so that I may behold wondrous things out of Your Law."

- What does this tell us?
- Who ends the blindness? *God!*
- How is it ended? *You pray to Him!*

You might have to start, 'God, I don't know Who You are or where You are, but here I am and I need some help.' Maybe that's how you start.

Even after all the time that Jesus was with them, and the Spirit of God was with them, because Jesus said it was with them. He suddenly appeared in the room. That would be astonishing! He walked through the wall, came down through the ceiling, walked through the door, whatever. Didn't make a sound, and all of a sudden there He is, right in the middle. It scared the disciples to death. They didn't know what to do. They thought, 'This is demonism.' Then He said, 'Look at My hands, look at My feet.'

Luke 24:41: "But while they were still disbelieving and wondering for joy, He said to them, 'Do you have anything here to eat?' Then they gave Him part of a broiled fish and a *piece* of honeycomb. And He took these *and* ate in their presence" (vs 41-43). Very interesting!

Sidebar: I think it was about a couple months ago and I was hungry I had some sardines packed in water; I like sardines packed in water. So this Scripture came to mind. I thought, honey and fish, that doesn't sound like a very good combination to me, but Jesus ate it so I'll try it. I put some honey on the sardines and it was really, really good.

Verse 44: "And He said to them, 'These *are* the words that I spoke to you when I was yet with you, that all *the* things which were written concerning Me in the Law of Moses and *in the* Prophets and *in the* Psalms must be fulfilled.'"

In other words, you need to understand this. Every word of God is true. There is no lie and if He says it, it will be! However, maybe not in the timing that we may expect. Have you ever gone along and then all of a sudden you realize that God answered a prayer? It also says that He will hear us, and will answer more than we can pray or think. Have you ever had a fleeting thought in your mind, and then later on down the road, 'Hey, God remembered that.' I have and all of you are shaking your head, yes.

{This ties in with Psa. 119:18}: v 45: "Then **He opened their minds to understand** the Scriptures." Doesn't depend on what your IQ is. It has to be somewhere above idiot level in order to understand. But we are very simple-minded people.

I was thinking the other day, here are all these scientists, so excited about some of the things they are discovering in the universe, and everything like that. There is everything that God has made and they are studying it and analyzing it, and putting it together, and they don't believe in God, and think that they have accomplished a great thing in discovering it.

I think a lot of them at the resurrection are going to be like Thomas, because he wasn't here at this one. He came eight days later. What did Jesus say to Thomas when he was there? He said, 'Thomas, come here. Here's My hand and here's My side.' So, 'doubting Thomas' became convinced.

Isn't it something that the universe and the earth came from nothing by a big bang? If big bangs just automatically occur at any time, don't you think we're all in danger? Think about that. Then they brag about all the things that they make, and all of these spacecraft going out exploring the universe and sending back pictures.

They have one that flew way out to Pluto and took pictures of the moon of Pluto. Stop and think, that's done by microwave. What are all the things that we have today in technology? What are they run on? *Microwave!* Doesn't take hardly anything. All the way out there, billions of miles away and here is this big huge rock that's a moon of Pluto. They've argued back and forth, 'Is this a planet, or what is it?' Some of the scientists said, 'We're not going to call it a planet.' Then after they got the craft out there and everything, they said, 'We will call it a planet.' However, when you look at the universe, never forget this: God says He created it, laid it out with a span. He has them all numbered.

Are we all numbered with DNA? *Yes, everyone of us.* We're all individual in particular to God. God made us that way. He did with all the stars.

I want to be around the time of the second resurrection, and I want to be there at the time God says, 'All right now, time to resurrect all the scientists.' *Hello, guys; how are you doing?* That would be something.

Verse 45: "Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and said to them, 'According as it is written, it was **necessary**... [from the Greek which means obligatory] ... for the Christ to suffer, and to rise from *the* dead the third day. And in His name, repentance and remission of sins should be preached to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. For you are witnesses of these things. And behold, I send the promise of My Father upon you; but remain in the city of Jerusalem until you have been clothed with power from on high'" (vs 45-49).

So, He was with them forty days and forty nights. What an education they had during those forty days and forty nights. But they were just starting. He said at the end of Matt. 28, He says, 'Go into all the world, preach to all nations, baptizing them, making disciples, and behold, I am with you to the completion of the age.'

Summary of everything that was to happen after His resurrection to His return in that one paragraph. Look at all the details, down through history, down through Scripture, down through time. An amazing thing! The Bible is an amazing, amazing Book, to steal a few words from Donald Trump.

1-Cor. 2 is how we understand the Bible. We're going to look at some things in the book of Revelation on this *Overview of Prophecy*.

1-Corinthians 2:4: "And my message and my preaching *was* not in persuasive words of human wisdom..." Remember the account when he was on Mars Hill with all the philosophers. Those are the great brains and writings for western civilization today. They respected people of great vocabulary, great thinking, logical, all this sort of thing.

Sidebar on logic: **All Truth is logical, but all human logic is not truth.** Persuasive words of wisdom, and wisdom in the Greek is 'sophia,' for which you get 'philosophia,' which *means lover of knowledge*.

"...rather, *it was* in demonstration of the Spirit and of power; so that your faith might not be in *the* wisdom of men, but in *the* power of God. Now we speak wisdom among the *spiritually* mature; however, *it is not the* wisdom of this world, nor of the rulers of this world, who are coming to nothing. Rather, we speak *the* wisdom of God in a mystery...

[because God has to open the understanding] ...*even* the hidden *wisdom* that God foreordained before the ages unto our glory" (vs 4-7).

Think about this: Here we sit today and we wonder how long it is to the second return of Christ. Think how much God has given us to know and to understand. God is the One Who foreordained it before the ages. Think about that!

That's why I say all the time, since I finished the book, *From a Speck of Dust to a Son of God: Why Were You Born?*, when you get all excited about how good you are, about how much you have done, about what you have accomplished, in a quiet hour, just put down the little dot and look at that. That's how big you were when you started. So, don't get all carried away.

Imagine what a fantastic thing that is. The people of God have more understanding than the wisest people in the world, as far as Truth and knowledge, and what God is doing.

Verse 8: "Which not one of the rulers of this world has known (for if they had known, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory); but according as it is written, **'The eye has not seen, nor the ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him.'**" (vs 8-9).

Add another key to understanding. In addition to obeying God, you have the Sabbath, you have the Holy Days, you have the Word of God, you have the love of God.

Is He going to reveal this to those who reject Him? *No!* Why should He? Those who love Him. What is the first commandment? Another thing I want you to understand about the Word of God. It comes full circle back. The first and greatest commandment is:

1. love God with all your heart, mind, soul and being
2. love your neighbor as yourself
3. love each other as Christ has loved us
4. love your enemies.

All tied in with the love of God.

Verse 10: "But God has revealed... [How?] ...*them* to us by His Spirit, for the Spirit..." It's not just the Bible alone that we have, it is the Spirit of God. That's what's important, because the words are Spirit and Life.

What other book in the world is like the Word of God? *It's a sharp two-edged sword!* It can be a blessing to you on the one hand. It can be corrective to you on the other hand. Because it is 'a discerner of the thoughts and the intents of the heart.' What other book is there, unless it's quoting

the Scripture and you read a Scripture, where it says you shall not do this, and you read it and say, 'I shouldn't do that'? You find out that you have been doing that. No other book like it.

Verse 10: "But God has revealed *them* to us by His Spirit, for the Spirit searches all things—even the deep things of God."

When we get to the book of Revelation, we're talking about some of the very deep things of God. Why? *Because there are seven divisions to the Bible!* Revelation is the seventh division, the one book. The reason that is the seventh division is because everything else in the Bible projects forward to the book of Revelation.

You can find everything. Remember where we read last time, 'Blessed are those who hear the words of this prophecy, and who keep the words written therein.' You study it for:

- all the commandments of God
- the faith of God
- the love of God

You also can find in there the things concerning:

- Satan the devil
- the demons
- the way of human nature

It's interesting. The Catholic Bible does not have the book of Revelation in it. A lot of people say, 'You'll never understand the book of Revelation.' That's true, without the Spirit of God and knowledge of the rest of the Bible. Everything else in the rest of the Bible is pointing toward Revelation.

Verse 11: "For who among men understands the things of man except *by* the spirit of man, which *is* in him? In the same way also, the things of God no one understands except *by* the Spirit of God.... [that's how it is] ...Now we have not received the spirit of the world... [Where does the spirit of the world come from? *Satan the devil!*] ... but the Spirit that *is* of God, **so that we might know the things graciously given to us by God**" (vs 11-12). He wants us to know.

Think about it at this time. Let this Scripture, and what we're covering today in the first part of this message, let it remind you the next time you think you don't have time to study. The next time you think, 'I'll do it tomorrow.' What happens tomorrow? *Oh, I'll do it tomorrow. I have so many things stacked up here, I can't handle it today!* I bet if you took some time, you could handle it all—couldn't you? *Yes, you can!*

I preach to myself that way, too. We all talk to ourselves. Our minds are always talking to us. So I follow the Scripture that says: If you are a teacher, do you not teach yourself? *I better!* Because if I

stand up and say, 'Look at all I know. Look at what I've done,' remember Nebuchadnezzar? *Yes, indeed!*

Verse 13: "Which things we also speak, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in *words* taught by *the* Holy Spirit... [Which are what? *The words of God*] ... *in order to* communicate spiritual things by spiritual *means*. But *the* natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God; for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand *them* because they are spiritually discerned.... [especially Revelation.] ...However, the one who is spiritual discerns all things, but he himself is discerned by no one. For who has known *the* mind of *the* Lord?...." (vs 13-15).

What are we to receive? '*Let this mind be in you, which was in Christ Jesus*' (Phil. 2:5)! No one has known the mind of the Lord, but He will give us the understanding like He has in His mind bit-by-bit and then at the resurrection, can you imagine the change that is going to be?

"...Who shall instruct Him? But we have *the* mind of Christ" (v 16). There it is right there.

We'll look into the book of Revelation, and let's see how that is put together with the rest of the Word of God. It is a fantastic thing.

(go to the next track)

We finished with the two witnesses (Rev. 11). God says, 'These are My two witnesses.' Never forget that. No man is going to appoint himself. No man is going to rule over them. God does.

Then we came to the seventh trump. Understand that when it talks about the last trumpet (1-Thes. 4), the only place in the Bible where you have a sequence of first to last in trumpet blowing is Revelation; the only place.

Revelation 11:15: "Then the seventh angel sounded *his* trumpet..." That's the resurrection. That's the beginning of the end of the rule of man on earth without God.

Here's something very interesting, because when you look at it, you have almost a sequence: Rev. 1-11 run pretty much in sequence. But there's so much information that has to come in connection with these first eleven, that you have to have some summaries.

Rev. 12 is very unusual. As a matter of fact, it contains a chronology before the renewing of the earth in Gen. 1. So let's look at it. What we're looking at is a symbol of God's overall plan.

Revelation 12:1: "Then there appeared a great wonder in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, and *having* the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars." That is depicted by God's plan and the woman; we have first of all the

plan, then we have Mary, then we have the Church. That's how it follows here.

Why would Mary become part, so there's more than one fulfillment of the woman and the events taking place here in Rev. 12. So, it's very compacted in its summary. Twelve stars are the twelve tribes of Israel.

Verse 2: "And being with child..." Stop and think here for just a minute.

Revelation 13:8: "And all who dwell on the earth will worship him... [the beast] ... whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from *the* foundation of *the* world."

So, God's plan was before the foundation of the world. What did God ask Job? Remember what He asked Job? First of all Job said, 'Oh, I would that God would talk with me.' So, God answered his prayer, came in a whirlwind. He said, 'Job! Where were you when I laid the foundation of the world?' Christ's coming was planned *before* the creation of man.

This also tells us when Satan rebelled. He rebelled when he found out about the plan of God that all the human beings through the plan of God becoming the sons and daughters of God, would be over him.

Because being in the God Family is greater than being an angel. If you are a son or daughter of God, you are greater than an angel. Jesus said, 'We are like the angels, inasmuch as at that time we won't marry or be given in marriage.' But we are actually greater than angels.

So the plan was there. What was the first prophecy in Gen. 3? The coming Savior! There's an awful lot connected with Rev. 12. This is talking about the impregnation and birth of Christ.

I have a big question mark in my mind that none of us will be able to answer until the resurrection, which is this: Mary received the impregnation from God the Father and she bore Christ. What will be her position in the Kingdom? *I do not know!* There isn't one Scripture that tells us. But here it's being talked about it.

Revelation 12:2: "And being with child, she cried in travail, and was in pain to deliver." This is a summary of the coming of Christ.

Here's something we need to always understand concerning prophecy. It's called the future-perfect, *a future completion, as good as already done by the verb* that is used. That's what we have here in essence with v 2 and Christ.

When you read the word *and*, it looks like that it follows in sequence. Not necessarily, because we're told that the Bible is put together 'here a little,

there a little, line upon line, precept upon precept,' and so forth. This is not in a continuous flow, but it will come together in a few verses later. Verses 1 and 2 is the preview; v 3 tells us why it happened this way:

Verse 3: "And another sign was seen in heaven: and behold, a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns on his heads." We know that's Satan the devil. This is a beast. Is a dragon a beast? *Yes!* Keep that in mind.

When did Satan rebel? *Not right when God first laid the foundation of the world*, because it says that the sons of God and the stars of heaven sang for joy. So, he rebelled when he found out about the plan of God.

- how long that took, we don't know
- How long did it take to subvert one-third of the angels?
- What was it he told them?

We know one thing he told them: 'I'm just as good as God; I'm going to be like Him. Why don't you join me, we're going to overthrow His throne and we're going to take over.' But he was cast down.

Here is the tale of what happened, the story, v 4: "And his tail swept away a third of the stars of heaven... [that's a third of the angels; they became demons and Satan became Satan the devil] ...and cast them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman..." Look how far forward this goes from one sentence to the next from before the creation of the world, clear to the time of delivering of Christ. How long that was, we don't know.

"...who was ready to deliver, so that he might devour her child when she gave birth" (v 4).

What do we find in Matt. 2? *Satan's attempt to kill Christ!* Satan was after Jesus all the time, but protected by the angels as a youth. He was taught by God the Father every morning (Isa. 50).

Verse 5: "And she gave birth to a man Child, Who was to shepherd all the nations with a rod of iron..." That is a complete description of Christ. You can tie in there, 'Unto us a Son is born, a Child is given. He's the mighty Counselor, the mighty God. He's going to sit on the throne of David. Of the increase of His kingdom it will go on forever and ever.' (Isa. 9). All of those are the verses you could plug into this one verse here. I want you to understand how compact that Revelation is.

"...and her child was caught up to God and His throne" (v 5). Right here is a complete summary of the birth, life, death and resurrection of Christ. Right there, that one verse! With that then you can plug in how many things? All the Gospels, all the prophecies.

Now then it shifts. The woman becomes the Church. Isn't that interesting? Because the result of bringing forth the man-Child is the Church, and the Church is to become the Bride of Christ.

That's why if anyone was to read the book of Revelation, and not know anything about the Bible, this would really be a mystery. Even those of us who have been in the Church a long time, a lot of these things we haven't understood until we have studied and studied and studied, and gone through how many Sabbaths and Holy Days, and how many years, and how many Feast of Tabernacles, and all of these things. God gives the promise that in the end-time we would understand. So, it's all of God anyway.

Now here's the Church. Let me just say this. If you don't have the DVD of *Israel of the Alps* (produced by the Seventh Day Adventist Church), get it. There is a perfect example of that if you're a Seventh Day Adventist you have a certain amount of knowledge, because you keep the Sabbath.

But then if you don't keep the Passover and Holy Days, you limit yourself on other knowledge that you need to know, or you misunderstand passages in the Bible. We'll talk a little bit about that when we get to Rev. 13.

But they have it exactly right from 325<sub>A.D.</sub>, when Constantine took over and brought in Roman Catholicism, the Church had to flee beyond the confines of the Roman Empire. They do a very good job in showing that.

Verse 6: "And the woman escaped into the wilderness, where she had a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there *for* a thousand two hundred *and* sixty days"—a day being a year. Sometimes a day is just a day, other times it is a year.

Verse 7: "And there was war in heaven..." Now we come to something that's very interesting. We have a duality in prophecy. Look at what the woman represents.

1. God's plan
2. Literally Mary, to give birth to Christ
3. The Church, the result of Christ being born and His ministry

There was war in heaven. Was there a war in heaven when Satan rebelled? *Yes, indeed!* Was that the only time he rebelled? *No!* He's going to rebel again. This is called *duality* of prophecy. There's also a *trilogy* of prophecy, meaning three fulfillments. We saw that with the woman, that's a trilogy, there are three. There's a duality here with the war in heaven.

"...Michael and his angels warred against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels warred" (v 7). This interprets the third of the stars that the tail of the dragon took were angels. The dragon and his angels warred.

Verse 8: "But they did not prevail, neither was their place found any more in heaven. And the great dragon was cast out, the ancient serpent who is called the Devil and Satan, who is deceiving the whole world; he was cast down to the earth, and his angels were cast down with him" (vs 8-9). And they've been here ever since. They're going to try and go back up and war again. That's what all this space technology is all about, and be cast down again.

Verse 10: "And I heard a great voice in heaven say, 'Now has come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of His Christ...'" That tells us an awful lot. This shows us there's a plan of salvation for mankind. It's going to be by the power of God, and it's going to bring in the Kingdom of God on the earth under the authority of Christ.

"...because the accuser of our brethren has been cast down... [there is another casting down of Satan] ...who accuses them day and night before our God..." (v 10).

They do have some access to God, but they have no place in heaven. They have no place to live, to stay, to be with God. They can come before God (Job 1), but they have *no place* in heaven. They are on the earth. The angels have places in heaven, the true angels of God.

"...And his angels... [the demons] ...were cast down with him" (v 9).

Just like human beings, if they don't believe God, they don't obey God, their minds are blinded. The demons and Satan were corrupted in evil power. Look at the curse that came upon them because of their rebellion.

Sidebar: All demons do not come to you in the form of saying, 'I'm a demon; I'm from Satan the devil and I want to destroy you.' No, there are a lot of demons that come as an angel from God and they bring benefits.

If you rob a bank, do you have a benefit? *Yes, you have all that money!* Do you also have a curse? *Yes, indeed!* The law enforcement is after you, looking for you. There is one gold heist they have never, never solved: the robbery of the Brinks gold armored car heist. They've never solved it. They've come just so far. They have so many facts of it, but the only thing they can figure out is that they took the gold bars and melted them down with silver. Mix in silver and gold and then you take this

to another refiner and he separates them out. Nobody knows where all that gold went.

However, God knows! Why? *Because God says, 'All gold and silver is Mine!' We just have the use of it, that's all! Same way with earth, same way with life, we have it because God has given it.*

They were cast down. Now there's coming a time when Satan is going to sweep this world again and when is that going to be? Remember what we studied in Dan. 9, the 70-weeks prophecy. The seventieth week, in the middle of it, that's when the Tribulation begins.

Could it be that Satan and the demons rise up again to try and attack God and they're cast down again? Then Satan comes against the Church? We'll see it right here in the rest of Rev. 12, which has a lot of things in it that you need to get from the rest of the Bible to put the whole story together. Otherwise you just read it and it doesn't make any sense. What is it talking about?

Verse 10: "And I heard a great voice in heaven say, 'Now has come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of His Christ because the accuser of our brethren has been cast down, who accuses them day and night before our God. But they overcame him through the blood of the Lamb, and through the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto death'" (vs 10-11). Summation of what it is to be a Christian, right there, when Satan is after you.

Verse 12: "Therefore, rejoice you heavens and those who dwell in them. Woe to those who inhabit the earth and the sea! For the Devil has come down to you... [His final casting down] ... having great wrath *because* he knows that he has *only* a short time."

This gives us a clue that it's probably right at that point where that 70<sup>th</sup> week of the book of Daniel, that covenant is broken. Then possessed by Satan the devil, *the beast power* goes into the Holy of Holies, proclaiming that he is God.

Verse 13: "And when the dragon saw that he was cast down to the earth, he persecuted the woman who had brought forth the man-Child."

Sidebar: We see how Satan works. How many of you have watched what Hitler did in Germany? How did he come after the Jews? *First of all he besmirched them and befouled them and everything that they did!* Then he started persecuting them. How did he do that? *Remember what is called 'the crystal night,' the breaking of the glass of the Jewish stores and everything. Persecution!* Then the war against them came how? *Round them up for the death camps!*

The war against the saints will be the fifth seal (Rev. 6). There's an awful lot here in Rev. 12. This is really quite a chapter.

Verse 13: "...the woman who had brought forth the man-Child.... [the Church] ...And two wings of a great eagle were given to the woman, so that she might fly to her place in the wilderness..." (vs 13-14). This is where the 'rapture people' get it all wrong. *Never, never* at any time in the Bible is heaven called a wilderness. So, this is a place on the earth where some are spared.

- Why does God keep some alive and let others be martyred?
  - Why not let them all be martyred?
  - Why not have equal-opportunity martyrdom for everybody?
  - Why does He save some of the physical Christians from the tribulation?
- this is before the resurrection—
- Can you think of a promise why? *'The gates of the grave will never prevail against the Church.'*

All of those who are Christian, who are left behind, it's going to be easy to distinguish them. Yes, they won't have *the mark of the beast*. Be easy. They can almost do a *computer census where everybody has a mark of the beast*. Who knows how much time is left, and who knows what the technology will be when we get right down to this time in prophecy, and how absolutely all-encompassing it will be.

Verse 14: "And two wings of a great eagle were given to the woman, so that she might fly to her place in the wilderness..." Specific place! Everyone wants to know where is it?

- If you know where it is, but you don't get there, what good did the knowledge do you? *None!*
- If you don't know where it is, and all of a sudden one day in all the trouble, here come a couple of angels and say, 'Come on with me.' *Where are we going?* 'You'll see when you get there.' When you arrive, you will know where the Place of Safety is, if you are there.

So, don't worry about it! In years past when they were told, 'Church is going to flee in 1972 and it's going to be in Petra, over there in the Middle East.' May very well be, we don't know, could be.

Some people actually packed up a box of some physical things that they wanted to take with them when they go to Petra, because it says, when the time comes, like it was there in Judea, 'don't go back in the house, don't get anything. If you're at the end of the field, just flee.' Those in Judea they better

do that. They figured that they better have their box with them. You know what some of them did? *They kept the box in the trunk of their car when they went to church on the Sabbath!* They forgot the Scripture which said, ‘Don’t let your flight be on the Sabbath or in the winter.’ But that’s how people get carried with things.

“...where she is nourished *for* a time, and times, and half a time... [three and a half years] ...from *the* face of the serpent. And the serpent cast water out of his mouth as a river, so that he might cause her *to be* carried away by the flood” (vs 14-15). Wanted to destroy.

This shows it’s going to be quite an escape. Talk about exciting times. You better be ready for tough times. Wherever you go, I guarantee, you’re not going to have a motel to lay your head down at night. Don’t know where it will be. If it’s a cave, you’ll have a nice comfortable slab of rock to lie on. If you have back problems, that will straighten it out right fast. Don’t know about that, I don’t know if my back could handle that or not.

Verse 16: “But the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened its mouth, and swallowed up the river that the dragon had cast out of his mouth. Then the dragon was furious with the woman and went to make war with the rest of her seed...” (vs 16-17). That’s when the fifth seal takes place, the war. Maybe not exactly at the minute, but that is what the fifth seal is about.

“...who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ” (v 17). That’s something! That identifies the people of God. Keep the commandments of God.

I’m going to read to you, maybe next week or the week after, what Franklin Graham wrote about the fate of this nation—[charismanews.com/154170-franklin](http://charismanews.com/154170-franklin) or [charismapodcastnetwork.com](http://charismapodcastnetwork.com)—or go online and look up Franklin Graham and *the fate of America*. I’m going to have an answer for that. He says the nation is lost—period! It’s over and done, but he assumes no responsibility for the condition it is in. So, I’ll have my answer for Franklin Graham and his father, Billy. Just think if they would have preached the Truth of God, the commandments of God, the way that it is in the Bible.

I can remember going back into the late 50s that Billy Graham was going around the nation, great revivals and rallies. There were a lot of people coming to those and accepting Christ. But they’re just fixated on having sin forgiven. They figure if you get your sins forgiven, Christ has done everything else for you; you need nothing else. ***They are the ones who are responsible for the condition of this nation, because they never taught keeping***

***the commandments of God!*** Look where we are today.

I don’t want to get into Rev. 13 today, because chapter 12 took quite a bit of time.

#### Scriptural References:

- 1) Genesis 12:1-3
- 2) Psalm 119:18
- 3) Luke 24:41-49
- 4) 1-Corinthians 2:4-16
- 5) Revelation 11:15
- 6) Revelation 12:1-2
- 7) Revelation 13:8
- 8) Revelation 12:2-10. 9. 10-17

#### Scriptures references, not quoted:

- Genesis 3:15
- Ezekiel 37
- Matthew 12
- Luke 13
- Matthew 28
- Philippians 2:5
- 1-Thessalonians 4
- Genesis 1; 3
- Matthew 2
- Isaiah 50; 9
- Job 1
- Daniel 9
- Revelation 6

#### Also referenced:

##### Books:

- *Christianity Without God* by Lloyd Geering
- *From a Speck of Dust to a Son of God: Why Were You Born?* (coming soon)

DVD: *Israel of the Alps* (produced by the Seventh Day Adventist Church)

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## Overview of Prophecy IV-B Daniel/Revelation

Fred R. Coulter—March 5, 2016

I got two papers last week on ‘there is a secret rapture.’ So, we’ll talk a little bit about that.

I think that the DVD, *Israel of the Alps* (produced by the Seventh-Day Adventists), is a good explanation for the 1260 days. What they did, they took it from 325<sub>A.D.</sub> when Constantine officially set up the Roman Catholic Church. He was the first pope, by the way. He was Pontifex Maximus. He was never converted, either. They place it 325<sub>A.D.</sub> and go forward 1260 years and they come to the late 1500s. That’s when the last persecution against the Waldensians took place. I think they are correct in that.

Then it jumps ahead to a whole other aspect. Lots of times we go along and:

- sometimes the verses are sequence and in order
- sometimes there is a jump ahead
- sometimes there is a recall from the past

So, it doesn’t all follow in sequential order. Some parts of the book of Revelation are just like that. They come in sequential order and then they come a flash forward and a flash back.

Revelation 12:7: “And there was war in heaven... [we’ve understood this to be a future war that’s going to take place] ...Michael and his angels warred against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels warred. But they did not prevail, neither was their place found any more in heaven. And the great dragon was cast out, the ancient serpent who is called the Devil and Satan, who is deceiving the whole world; he was cast down to the earth, and his angels were cast down with him” (vs 7-9).

This gives us a setting toward the end of the age. How far into that seventieth week of the book of Daniel, we don’t know. Is this just before the beginning of the Great Tribulation? *Very possible!*

Verse 10 let’s us know that it has come to the time of salvation: “And I heard a great voice in heaven say, ‘Now has come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of His Christ because the accuser of our brethren has been cast down, who accuses them day and night before our God.’” This is a summary going back—the last statement—because Satan is always there to accuse all the time.

Verse 11: “But they overcame him through the blood of the Lamb, and through the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto death.”

That’s a summary of all those who have been martyred from the time of Christ until the end, because Satan was behind all of it.

Was Satan behind the crucifixion of Christ? *Yes, indeed!* Planned by God, carried out by Satan, because Christ had to overcome him in the flesh and through death and the resurrection.

Verse 12: “Therefore, rejoice you heavens and those who dwell in Them.... [God the Father and Jesus Christ and all the righteous angels] ...Woe to those who inhabit the earth and the sea! For the Devil has come down to you, having great wrath *because* he knows that he has *only* a short time.’ And when the dragon saw that he was cast down to the earth, he persecuted the woman who had brought forth the man-*Child*. And **two wings of a great eagle** were given to the woman, so that she might fly to her place **in the wilderness, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent**” (vs 12-14).

“...two wings of a great eagle...”—type of God’s protection. There will be those who will be spared the Tribulation, who will be taken to a place of safety. Note, first of all, that this place is “...in the wilderness...”

There is no Scripture in the Bible that depicts the throne of God as a wilderness, so this is on the earth “...where she is nourished *for* a time, and times, and half a time, from *the* face of the serpent.”

So, we can conclude from this verse that this war takes place just before, or right at the beginning of, the last half of the 70<sup>th</sup> week of the book of Daniel. All of events come together all at once.

They are taken to a place in the wilderness. People read this and they say ‘this is a rapture.’ Well, the rapture is that you are taken to heaven. This is taken to another place on the earth; this is not a rapture, this is a carrying away from one place to another, that is true.

Verse 15: And the serpent cast water out of his mouth as a river, so that he might cause her *to be* carried away by the flood. **But the earth...** [proves that the wilderness is on the earth] ...helped the woman, and the earth opened its mouth, and swallowed up the river that the dragon had cast out of his mouth. Then the dragon was furious with the woman and went to make war with the rest of her seed, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ” (vs 15-17).

Do the Protestants keep the commandments of God? *No!* So, the Protestants are not going to go to a place of safety, and they're not going to raptured away up to heaven. No one is removed from the earth in a spiritual condition until the 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet and the first resurrection. *No one!*

As we saw, the difference between Rev. 7 and 14 is interesting. Rev. 14 is not a sequential thing. It's a statement of events that are coming.

Verse 17 has to be the 5<sup>th</sup> seal of Rev. 6, the martyrdom of the saints. The reason that there are physical people left alive—a small group—is because Jesus said, 'I will build My Church and the gates of the grave will not prevail against it.' They're there, and I'm sure they're part of the prayers of the saints that we find listed in Rev. 8, where the incense went up with the prayers of the saints.

I'm sure that if you're in a place of safety that you're going to be praying almost day and night! Like I've said, you'll have a nice comfortable bed, a nice slab of red limestone will be just perfect, you won't need anymore chiropractic adjustments!

We won't go over Rev. 13 concerning the mark of the beast; we've covered that again and again! Rev. 14 is a preview. In the Bible it gives you a preview first, then the details come later.

Revelation 14:1: "And I looked, and I beheld *the* Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred *and* forty-four thousand, having His Father's name written on their foreheads."

We'll do a little comparing here. First of all, we know no one is going to stand before the throne of God until after the resurrection. No one is going to be ahead of the first resurrection. The only one was Christ, the first of the firstfruit.

We find that all of these, 144,000 of Rev. 7, and the great innumerable multitude. Revelation 7:9: "After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude, which no one was able to number, out of every nation and tribe and people and language, was standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes and *holding* palms in their hands."

You get the impression that this happens immediately, right after that they are sealed. Not so, because the seventh trump has not sounded. But what this is, this is a projection forward to where they are going to be.

That's why it says over here, Revelation 8:4: "...with the prayers of the saints." The 144,000 and the great innumerable multitude are saints, because they have been sealed with the Spirit of God. This shows they are still on the earth. Also, the prayers of

the saints come from those who go to a place of safety (Rev. 12).

Revelation 9:4: "And it was said to them that they should not damage the grass of the earth, or any green thing, or any tree, but only the men who did not have the seal of God in their foreheads."

Think of that for a minute. Where is this battle taking place? *On the earth!* If they were in heaven the plague couldn't reach them. The plague is not going to go to heaven if they were there.

"...only upon the men who do not have the seal of God in their foreheads." So, the only ones that are sealed are the 144,000 and the great innumerable multitude, and they are spared from this plague.

Just like when the plagues were coming against the Egyptians and pharaoh in the book of Exodus. There came a time when God says it's going to be all on the Egyptians, and not on the children of Israel. So, they were spared. This shows that *no human being is going to come to the throne of God as a Spirit being until the resurrection*, and that takes place at the seventh trump; likewise for anyone.

Revelation 14:2: "Then I heard a voice from heaven, like *the* sound of many waters, and like *the* sound of great thunder; and I heard *the* sound of lyre players playing their lyres. And they were singing a new song before the throne, and before the four living creatures and the elders. And no one was able to learn the song except the hundred *and* forty-four thousand, who were redeemed from the earth" (vs 2-3).

The 144,000 here "...were redeemed from the earth." In Rev. 7 where were they redeemed from? *The twelve tribes of Israel!* This is a second 144,000 redeemed from the earth.

Verse 4: "These are the ones who **were not defiled** with women ..." Who are the women? *The great harlot and her daughters*, meaning they never got involved after they were converted in any of the religions of the world, be they counterfeit Christian or be they any other. All of these religions are the daughters of the harlot.

They remain faithful. "...for they are virgins..." (v 4). Is Christ going to marry a virgin? *Yes!* We will see who they are in just a minute.

"...they are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes... [regardless of what happened in their lives, they always followed Him] ...They were purchased from among men..." (v 4). Not the twelve tribes of Israel; a different group.

"...redeemed from the earth" sounds like the resurrection. This is talking about that they will be in

the resurrection. This is talking about what's going to happen to them at the time of the resurrection. But no one is going to be resurrected till the seventh trump. First all of those who are dead, and then, those who are alive, after that.

"...They were purchased from among men *as* firstfruits to God and to the Lamb... [not *the* firstfruits, but *as* first fruits] ...and no guile was found in their mouths; for they are blameless before the throne of God" (vs 4-5).

We have to add in a couple of other things here. What does it say? 'Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb' (Rev. 19). It doesn't say: Blessed are those who are called to the marriage *of the* Lamb, but the marriage supper.

Then we have the parable of the man who made a great feast. He said, 'Come, everything is ready.' They didn't come. It was a wedding feast. That was a parable of what's going to happen.

Will everyone who is resurrected from the dead and inherit eternal life be part of the bride? There's an indication that it includes all the Church, as Paul wrote (Eph. 5). But does this give us another perspective, in addition to it? *We don't know!* So we'll have to leave that as a question mark.

This dawned on me when I did a wedding and married the couple. Then they had a wedding feast. We were all sitting there enjoying. We had a supper. We had a dance. I don't know if we're going to dance when that takes place up on the Sea of Glass, or whatever, but it's going to be a joyful time. You can rest assured of that. I thought, bingo! Here's everybody that's been invited to the wedding and the feast. We're all participating in it, but we're not the bride and the groom. So, when I read these Scriptures, I thought, maybe this is telling us something.

What we're finding here is, we're finding something that we can't answer correctly, dogmatically, but we can talk about it and think about it.

Does this refer to the woman taken to a place of safety in the wilderness? *I would not think so*, because that's just the end-time. Were there true Christians who were always true, who never deviated? *Yes!* So, this would have to go back to the beginning.

To help answer that question, let's come to Rev. 2 and 3. Let's put it this way: What if someone is converted and then falls back and commits sin, kind of a very bad sin? Maybe gets involved with false Christianity for a while. Are they virgins? *No!*

Let's look at some things in Rev. 2. Let's just take the first church: **Ephesus**. They left their first love. Is that a sin? *Yes, it is!*

Revelation 2:5: "Therefore, remember from where you have fallen, and repent, and do the first works; for if *you do* not, I will come to you quickly; and I will remove your lampstand out of its place unless you repent."

Now that they have repented, will they be able to be in the Kingdom of God? *Yes!* We have the story of the prodigal son who comes back home. We have here repentance.

The next church: **Smyrna**; there is not one thing of any correction, but they are martyred. They are faithful unto death. So, you could say they would fit in the category of being a virgin.

Then you come to the **Church of Pergamos**. Look at how difficult this became. They were eating things sacrificed to idols, which was probably the institution of the Sacrifice of the Mass. They had the doctrine of the Nicolaitans.

Look what it says to them, v 16: "Repent! For if *you do not repent*, I will come to you quickly, and will make war against them with the sword of My mouth."

Christ fighting His own church. We've seen that today. They had to repent. They'll still be in the Kingdom of God.

How about **Thyatira**? They followed the teachings of Jezebel the prophetess, committed fornication, eating things sacrificed to idols. God tells them to repent. The one who overcomes, they'll still be in the Kingdom of God.

Likewise with the **Church at Sardis**: They have a name that they live, and are about dead. Jesus says, 'You just keep the basic minimum things, and I won't blot your name out of the Book of Life.' This tells us those who don't repent and keep the bare minimum things won't be in the Kingdom of God.

Notice the next one: the **Church of Philadelphia**. They are commended for *not* going back against the Word of God. No correction to them. They have to overcome, but there is no correction given to them because of sin.

So, we have out of the seven churches, when we look at the **Laodiceans**, who are lukewarm, so bad that God has to spew them out of His mouth. We can say that two of the churches picture prophetically those who were always faithful, and never got caught up in going back into the world, or going into the false Christian religious systems. *They would be virgins!*

That 144,000 would be taken out down through time over history. We can't say for sure, so it is speculation. But it's interesting that the 144,000 of Rev. 14 are different and not the same as the 144,000 and great innumerable multitude of Rev. 7.

Rev. 14 is cut into various sections, and this begins another section; Revelation 14:6: "And I saw another angel flying in *the* midst of heaven, having *the* everlasting Gospel to proclaim *to* those who dwell on the earth, and *to* every nation and tribe and language and people; saying with a loud voice, 'Fear God, and give glory to Him, because the hour of His judgment has come...'" (vs 6-7)

This is right at the end. When will that take place? We have to go back and look at Rev. 12. Those who are going to be spared the Tribulation and taken to a place of safety will be somewhere. They won't be able to be preaching the Gospel. Martyrdom comes along and there will be hardly any individuals preaching the Gospel. God wants to give a warning to the whole world before the Tribulation is cut loose in its full fury.

What does He do? *He sends an angel to proclaim it, going around the world preaching!* I guess out of the clouds, or whatever, that God is going to warn everyone. ***They're going to have a chance to repent!*** They're going to have a chance to turn to God.

"...because the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him Who made the heaven, and the earth, and *the* sea, and *the* fountains of waters" (v 7)—rather than Satan the devil. The whole world worships Satan (Rev. 13).

Verse 8: "Then another angel followed, saying..." This is a preview, doesn't happen right at this point. It happens in Rev. 17 and 18, but this is a preview of what is coming. When God begins fighting against this world the whole system is done, but it's not destroyed instantly all at once; it takes place over a period of time. So before that starts to happen:

Verse 8: "Then another angel followed, saying, 'The great city Babylon is fallen, is fallen, because of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, *which* she has given all nations to drink.'" That's described in Rev. 17 and 18. So this is a preview of it.

Verse 9: "And a third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, 'If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives *the* mark in his forehead or in his hand, he shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is mixed undiluted in the cup of His wrath...'" (vs 9-10).

This is right at the end. This brings up a question: How many people will repent of being

deceived into receiving the mark of the beast, and somehow get rid of it? *I don't know!* Does this indicate this is possible? *I don't know!* But it brings up some interesting possibilities, because God always honors repentance—doesn't He? *Yes, He does!*

Then it talks about those who won't repent of it, v 10: "He shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is mixed undiluted in the cup of His wrath; and he shall be tormented in fire and brimstone in the sight of the Holy angels, and of the Lamb." Is that the second death? *I do not know!* Sounds like it.

Verse 11: "And the smoke of their torment ascends into the ages of eternity..." Their torment doesn't, it's the smoke. Because once anything gets out of the atmosphere of the earth, it goes on and on.

"...and those who worship the beast and his image, and all who receive the mark of his name, have no rest day and night" (v 11).

Sidebar: They have it that people want to be hooked up to their computers all the time. They're finding out they really don't have any rest. They really don't get the sleep that they need. *Interesting!*

This thing of the mark of the beast is pretty powerful, because it talks about it throughout the book of Revelation in many, many places, so it's got to be a big deal.

Here's another break. We have vs 6-11. Here is a forewarning of things to come, given by the three angels.

You could not have it come just before the resurrection. What good would that do? What good would it do to tell people 'don't receive the mark of the beast,' unless the warning came right at the time they were enforcing the mark of the beast? This has to be right just before the Tribulation.

Verse 12: "Here is *the* patience of the saints; here *are* the ones who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus." A whole sermon can be given on that.

***You must have faith to keep the commandments of God!*** It takes no faith to be disobedient.

- you just are not going to obey
- you don't believe
- 'I'm not going to do it.'

***It takes faith to keep the commandments of God!***

- Did Jesus keep the commandments of God? *Yes, indeed!*
- Did Jesus have the faith of God? *Yes, He did!*

- Are we to have the faith of Jesus? *Yes, we are!*

Tie that in with v 13: “And I heard a voice from heaven say to me, ‘Write: Blessed *are* the dead who die in *the* Lord from this time forward....’” That has to be at the beginning of the Tribulation<sub>[transcriber’s correction]</sub> when the martyrdom occurs.

“... Yes, says the Spirit, so that they may rest from their labors; and their works follow them” (v 13). That section, vs 12-13 is one separate section, too. This is a preview as well as a promise.

Verse 14 becomes very interesting, the way that this is given. We will see that there is a preview followed by the action, and referring to Rev. 15 for the first harvest. The second harvest is a preview, but does not follow immediately, but shortly after. That is a preview of Rev. 16.

Verse 14: “And I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and *one* like *the* Son of man sitting on the cloud, having a golden crown on His head; and in His hand *was* a sharp sickle. And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to Him Who was sitting on the cloud, ‘Thrust in your sickle and reap, because the time has come for You to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe.’” (vs 14-15).

This is a grain harvest. The Church is likened to grain. What is the Feast that pictures coming to eternal life? *The seven weeks, the seven churches, the seven weeks of harvest!* Then the 50<sup>th</sup> day being the resurrection.

Verse 16: “And He Who was sitting on the cloud thrust forth His sickle upon the earth, and the earth was reaped.”

That’s the harvest of all of those in the first resurrection. So there is this preview of it, actually a follow-up, and that goes back into Rev. 11 when the seventh trump sounds. This also carries over to Matt.24 where the angels take those who are resurrected to the throne of God.

Verse 17: “Then another angel, who also had a sharp sickle, came out of the temple that *is* in heaven. And out from the altar came another angel, who had authority over fire; and he called with a loud cry to the one who had the sharp sickle, saying, ‘Thrust in your sharp sickle, and gather the clusters of the earth, because her grapes are fully ripe’” (vs 17-18).

We even have it in the margin a reference back to Joel 3:11. This is *the harvest of the wicked* and a *preview of the seven last plagues* (Rev. 16). The first one concerning the first harvest is the Church, and is a preview of Rev. 15 where all the saints will be on the Sea of Glass.

This is why when you read the book of Revelation, I’ve learned this over the years. You have study, study, study, read, read, read, re-study, go over it, re-read, re-think, put it together, because there is so much to the Word of God that we learn every time we study.

Pretty soon we’re coming to Passover time. I’m already getting letters from people, saying, ‘I’m reading *The Christian Passover* book again, and this is the third or fourth time I’ve read it, and I’m learning new things out of it all the time.’

I go back and read it and I say to myself when I read it, ‘Did you write this?’ Yeah, I did write it, every word in it. But, you see, every word in the book is not sticking in my mind. So likewise when we read and study the Bible. We’ve got to study and read, to study and read, and put it together. You’ll be amazed how much you learn when you do that. I’m still learning. We’re all still learning.

Verse 19: “And the angel thrust his sickle into the earth, and gathered the vine of the earth, and cast *its fruit* into the great winepress of the wrath of God. And the winepress was trodden outside the city, and blood spewed out from the winepress as high as the horses’ bridles, to the distance of a thousand six hundred furlongs” (vs 19-20). That is going to be a slaughter. That is something!

I think about this when I read things like this. The area of the so-called the Holy Land, that part of the world undoubtedly has had *more wars and more death and more bloodshed and more evil than any place on the earth!* It’s certainly going to be that right at the end. What a terrible thing this is going to be.

Remember the preview, Rev. 14:14-15, the harvest is ripe. Now here is the fulfillment of it:

Revelation 15:1: “Then I saw another sign in heaven, great and awesome: seven angels having the seven last plagues, for in them the wrath of God is filled up.”

This is the vengeance of God. Remember what God says, ‘Vengeance is Mine, says the Lord.’ He will take His vengeance on those. There’s going to be absolutely no escaping that.

Verse 2: “And I saw a sea of glass mingled with fire, and those who had gotten the victory **over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name**, standing on the Sea of Glass, having *the* lyres of God.”

Let’s stop and analyze this verse here for just a minute. When you first read this you think that it applies just to the end-times, because it talks about *the beast* and *the mark*, and so forth.

- Was the serpent in the Garden of Eden a beast? *Yes!*
- Did he cause people to make idols, to worship him? *Yes, indeed!*

You look at all the artifacts in archeology and you find that they worshiped gods of stone. What was one of the ones after the Flood that was one of the most notorious? *The one commemorating Nimrod and sun-worship!*

“...over his image and over his mark...” Now we’re getting down to the mark of the beast, the special application at the end-time.

“...and over the number of his name...” So what it tells us is this: This includes everyone from Abel to the very last one to be converted, to be raised to the first resurrection and the harvest of the firstfruits. Every one!

“...standing on the Sea of Glass...” I’ll cover this when we get toward Pentecost. When Moses, Aaron, Nadab and Abihu went up to see God with the 70 of the elders of Israel, they went up Mt. Sinai so far, and then they stopped. They could look up and there was like a glasswork like sapphire that they saw God walking on.

They didn’t see Him in His glory, because if God would have been in His glory, none of them would have lived. As God told Moses, when he said show me Your glory. God said, ‘No man can look at My face, and live.’ It is so powerful. Flesh would just be gone!

He was standing on a sea of glass. A lot of people read that and say, ‘It only says it once in the Bible.’ How many times does it have to say it? *Once!* How many first resurrections are there going to be? *One!* Sometimes if we go through and we ask some simple questions, we get the answer, and we don’t get carried away.

Verse 3: “And they were singing the song of Moses... [which applies to those who come through the Old Testament] ...the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb...” We don’t know what that will be. We don’t know what that song will be, but it gives some words of it here:

“...saying, ‘Great and awesome *are* Your works, Lord God Almighty; righteous and true *are* Your ways, King of the saints. Who shall not fear You, O Lord, and glorify Your name? For *You* only *are* Holy; and all the nations shall come and worship before You, for Your judgments have been revealed’ (vs 2-4).

This goes on into the Millennium, all nations come to worship. You think they’re coming to worship before God with the Tribulation going on, the seven last plagues being poured out? *No!*

A lot of these things have many aspects in the verse, which go beyond just the event that is taking place, or goes back to something prior before the event takes place.

All the saints will see the seven last plagues and vengeance of God upon

- Satan
- the beast
- the false prophet
- all their armies

It is going to be one fantastic thing that takes place. That is going to be awesome indeed.

Remember, *between Pentecost and Trumpets is about three and a half months, and that’s when these seven last plagues come!*

#### Scriptural References:

- 1) Revelation 12:7-17
- 2) Revelation 14:1
- 3) Revelation 7:9
- 4) Revelation 8:4
- 5) Revelation 9:4
- 6) Revelation 14:2-5
- 7) Revelation 2:5, 16
- 8) Revelation 14:6-20
- 9) Revelation 15:1-4

#### Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Jeremiah 18
- Revelation 19
- Ephesians 5
- Revelation 13, 17, 18, 16, 11
- Matthew 24
- Joel 3:11

#### Also referenced:

- DVD: *Israel of the Alps* (produced by the Seventh Day Adventist Church)
- Book: *The Christian Passover* by Fred R. Coulter

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***Canada***

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Sydney 2001  
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