

Is There a Future for National Israel?



Distinctions Between Israel and the Church

- **Discontinuity (47e, 47g)**
- **Continuity (47f)**
- **Problem Passages (47h)**



Israel & the Church: Discontinuity

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	Israel	Church
<i>Identity</i>	Physical seed of Abraham (Gal. 6:12-16)	Spiritual seed of Abraham (Gal. 3:7, 29)
<i>Land Covenant</i>	Still outstanding (Deut. 30:1-10) but partly fulfilled since 1948 (Ezek. 37:1-7)	No land promise (Palestinian Covenant) can be claimed by present believers
<i>Law</i>	Required to obey the law (Exod. 19-20)	Freedom from the law (Rom. 7; Gal. 3)
<i>Duration</i>	Abraham (Gen. 12:1-3) to eternity (Jer. 31:35-37)	Pentecost (Acts 2) to Rapture (1 Thess. 4:13-18) or even later (?)
<i>Wrath</i>	Experienced in Tribulation (Jer. 30:7)	Free from wrath (1 Thess. 5:9; Rev. 3:10)

Israel & the Church: Discontinuity

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	Israel	Church
Faith	Shown in offering sacrifices	Shown in trusting Christ's sacrifice
Priesthood	Has one: a special class by heredity	Is one: all are priests (1 Pet. 2:5)
Activity	Set aside between 69th & 70th "Weeks" (Dan. 9:24-27)-a part of the "times of the Gentiles" (Luke 21:24)	Between 69th & 70th "Weeks" the church is a mystery unforeseen in the OT (Eph. 3:1-9; Col. 1:26)
Qualification	Ethnic-descendants of Abraham or Gentile proselytes who became Jews via circumcision as blessing is via Israel (1 Kings 8:41-43; Isa. 2:2-3; 19:19-25; 49:6; 51:4; 56:6-8; Zech. 14:16-19)	Nonethnic-"Neither Jew nor Gentile" (Gal. 3:28) means a combination of Jews and Gentiles without need to become Jewish proselytes (Acts 15; Eph. 3:3, 6)

	Israel	Church
Abrahamic Covenant	Origin in Abraham as the father of the nation (Gen. 12:1-3)	Believers today are grafted into this same covenant (Rom. 11:17-21; cf. Gal. 3:29)
Davidic Covenant	Promise of a literal temple (2 Sam. 7:13) fulfilled by Solomon (1 Kings)	Functions now as a spiritual temple (Eph. 2:19-22; 1 Pet. 2:4-10)
New Covenant	Forgiveness of sins, indwelling Spirit, new heart, reunification of Israel and Judah, & knowledge of God everywhere (Jer. 31:31-34)	The first 3 aspects (forgiveness of sins, indwelling Spirit, new heart) true today in a progressive covenant fulfillment (Luke 22:20)
Law	Required to obey the Mosaic law (Exod. 19-20)	Required to obey the "law of Christ" (Gal 6:2) or "law that gives freedom" (Jas 1:25; 2:12)

	Israel	Church
Salvation by	God's grace through faith (Gen. 15:6)	God's grace through faith (Rom. 4:3)
Basis of Salvation	Sacrificial lamb	Sacrificial Lamb
Spirit	Filling on leaders	Indwelling of all believers (Rom. 8:9)
Prophets	Provided revelation of God's word	Foundation of the church (Eph. 2:20)

	Israel	Church
Election	Based on grace (Mal. 1:2)	Based on grace (Eph. 1:4-6, 11)
Disobedience	Led to God's discipline	Leads to God's discipline (1 Cor. 11:30)
Leadership	Elders (Exod. 3:16, 18; 4:29, 31; 12:21; Num. 11:16-17; Josh. 24:31; 1 Sam. 15:30; 2 Sam. 17:4, 15; 1 Kings 21:8, 11 and many other texts)	Elders (Acts 11:30; 14:23-24; 15:1-6; 16:4; 20:17-38; 21:17-26; 1 Thess. 5:12-13; Phil. 1:1; 1 Tim. 3:1-7; 4:14; 5:17-25; Tit. 1:5-9; Jas. 5:14; 1 Pet. 5:1-5; Heb. 13:17)
Witness	"light for the Gentiles" (Is. 49:3-6) "kingdom of priests" (Exod. 19:6) "holy nation" (Exod. 19:6)	"light of the world" (Matt. 5:14-16) "royal priesthood" (1 Pet 2:5, 9) "holy nation" (1 Pet. 5:9)

Why was the Law given?



**The Law governed
Israel**

Is there a future for ethnic believing Israel?

**Dispensational
Premillennialism**

**Amillennialism &
Postmillennialism**

**Church
& Israel
distinct**

**Israel
has a
future**

**Church
is new
Israel**

**Israel
has no
future**

**Covenant
Premillennialism**



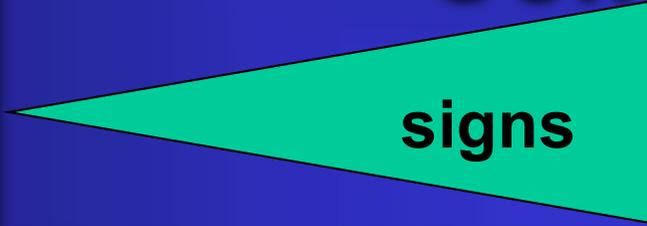
Premillennialism

Church Age (no signs)

Rapture

Second Coming

=
Second Advent



Tribulation

Millennium



7 years

Judgment

1000 years

Satan Bound
Saints Reign

Judgment

Eternal Kingdom

Revelation 6–18

19

20

21–22

Amillennialism



Postmillennialism

**Second
Coming**

Eternal Kingdom

Church Age

**Golden Age
of the Gospel**

Tribulations

Satan Bound

Judgment

Revelation 6–18

20

19

21–22



**Wolves
now love**

...to kill

Isaiah 11:6-9



⁶ And the wolf will dwell with the lamb, and the leopard will lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together.

Isaiah 11:6-9

A young boy with brown hair, wearing a white tunic and a brown robe, stands in a savanna-like landscape. He is holding a wooden staff and looking towards the camera. To his left is a small white lamb, and to his right is a large lion with a thick brown mane. The background shows a dry, hilly landscape with sparse green and brown vegetation.

⁶ And the wolf will dwell with the lamb, and the leopard will lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; **and a little boy will lead them.**

Isaiah 11:6-9



⁷ Also the cow and the bear will graze, their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox.

Isaiah 11:6-9

⁸ The nursing child will play by the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child will put his hand on the viper's den.

⁹ They will not hurt or destroy in all My holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.



Romans 8:19-21

"The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed. . . . The creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God."



Why Am I Premillennial?

- The best hermeneutic is a normal, literal, historical, and grammatical reading of a text
- Rev. 19 (Christ's return) is *before* Rev. 20 (Christ's rule)
- Natural way to see the 1000 years (20:1-6)
- OT prophets saw a future period which is neither the present age nor heaven
 - Animal kingdom tamed (Isa. 11:6-9)
 - **Long life but still death (Isa. 65:20)**

Ages of people when they died



Adam  930 Years



Methuselah  969 Years



Noah  950 Years



Shem  600 Years



Abraham  175 Years

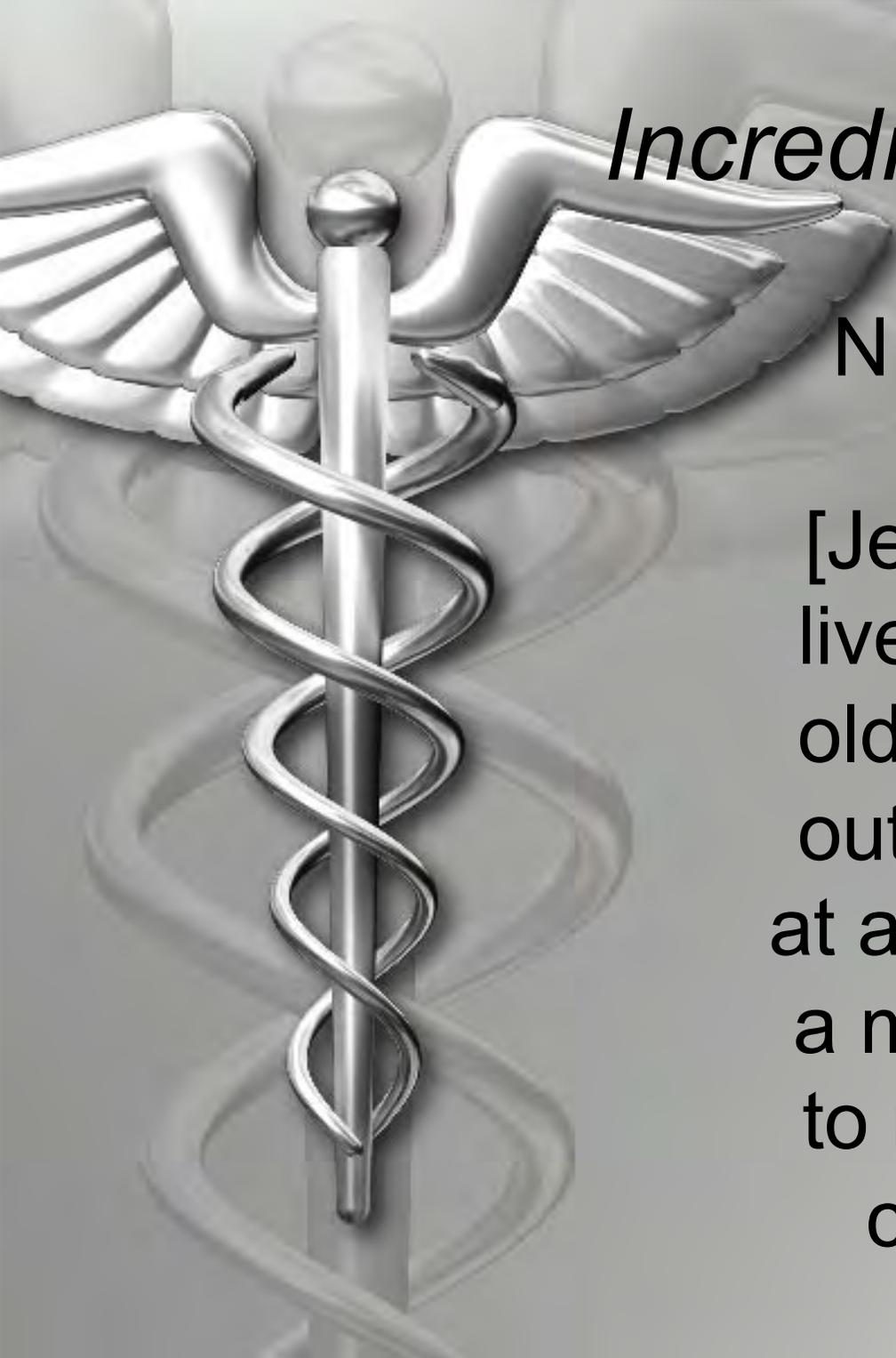


Moses  120 Years



David  70 Years

**The Flood
explains why
life spans
shortened**



Incredibly Long Life (NIV)!

NIV Isaiah 65:20 "Never again will there be in [Jerusalem] an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not live out his years; he who dies at a hundred will be thought a mere youth; he who fails to reach a hundred will be considered accursed."



**But those born before
the Millennium will get
perfect bodies!**

Why Am I Premillennial?

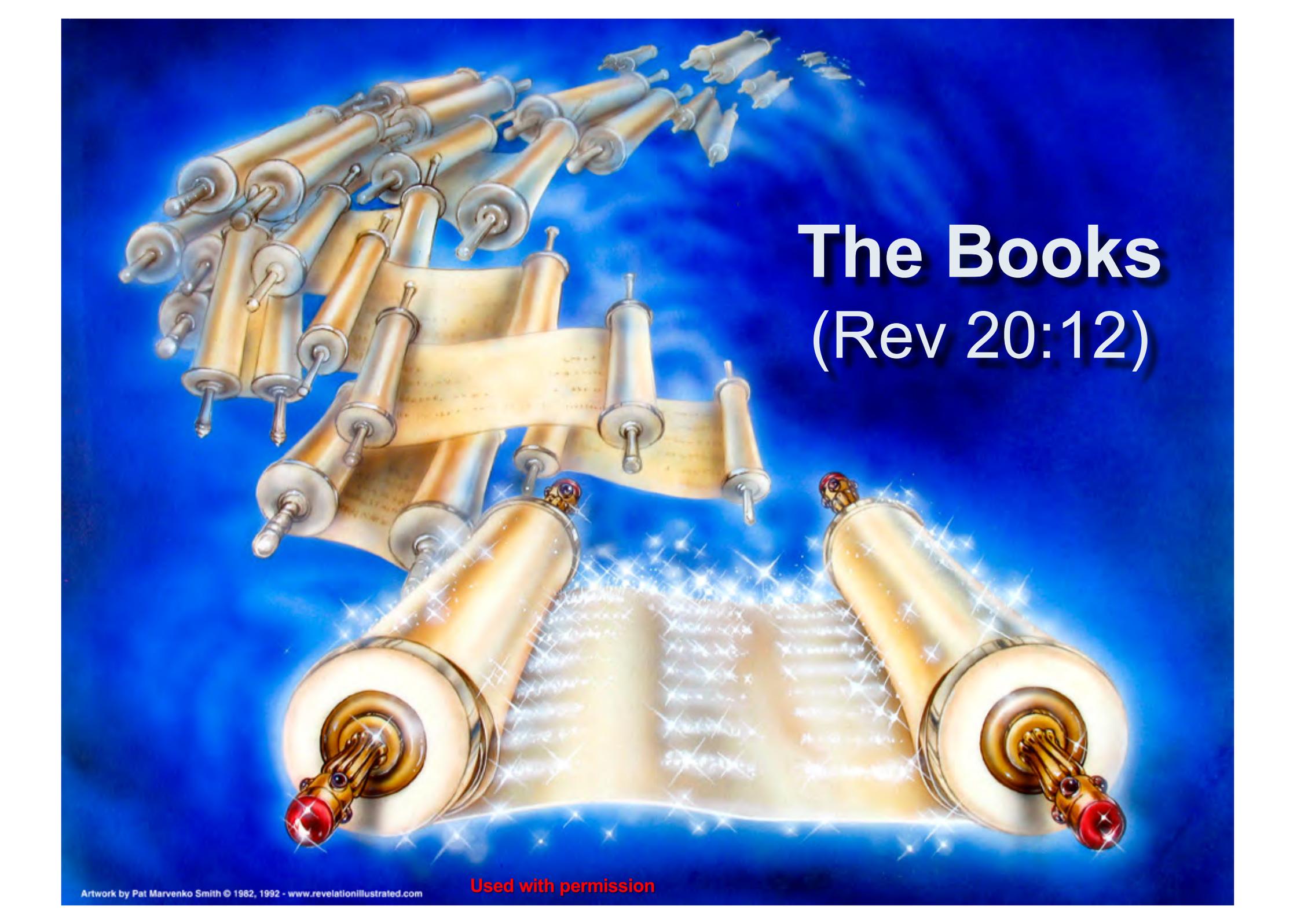
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 - Long life but still death (Isa. 65:20)
 - Yearly observances after Messiah's return (Zech. 14:15-17)

**Christ
will win
this Last
Battle**





**"Then I saw a
great white
throne..."
(Rev 20:11)**



The Books (Rev 20:12)



The Final Judgment

Is there one general judgment as depicted by Michelangelo?

Sistine Chapel, 1541

**Yet Scripture prophecies seven
more future judgments...**

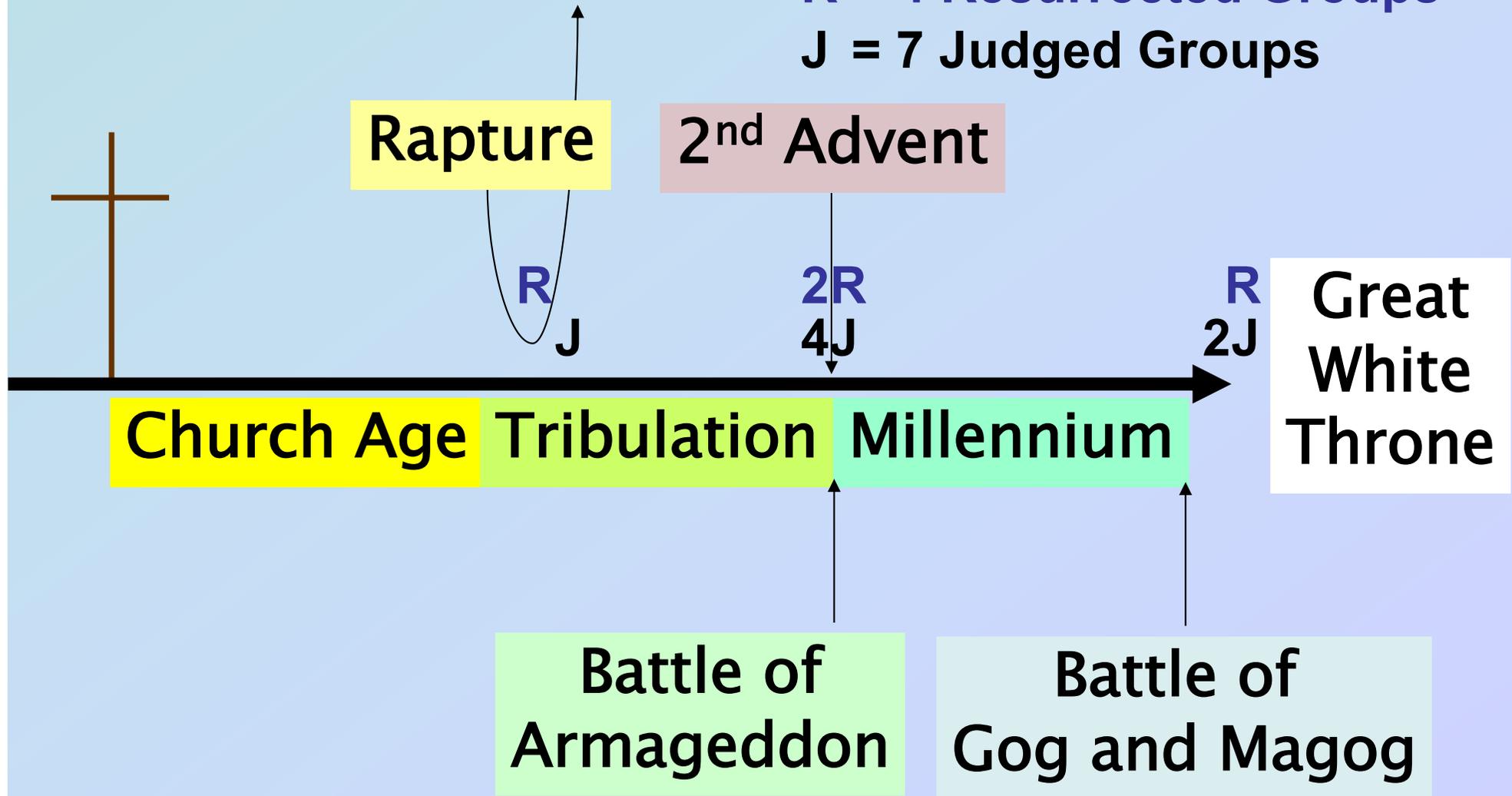
A hand holding a gavel. The hand is drawn in a sketchy, yellowish-green style. The gavel has a dark green handle and a wooden head with several horizontal ridges. The background is white with faint, sketchy lines.

Sound strange?

Resurrections & Judgments

R = 4 Resurrected Groups

J = 7 Judged Groups



Judgment Seat of Christ

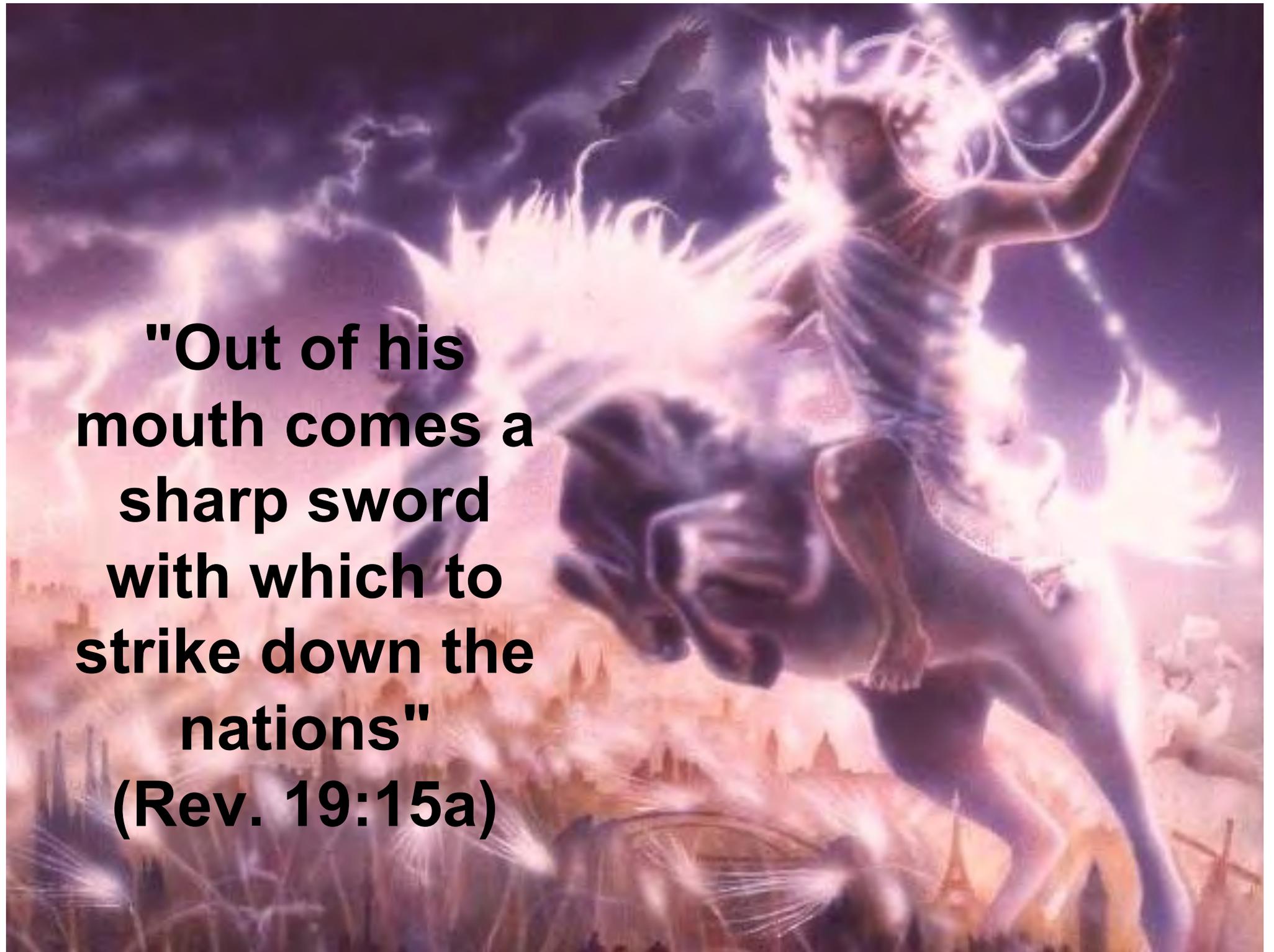


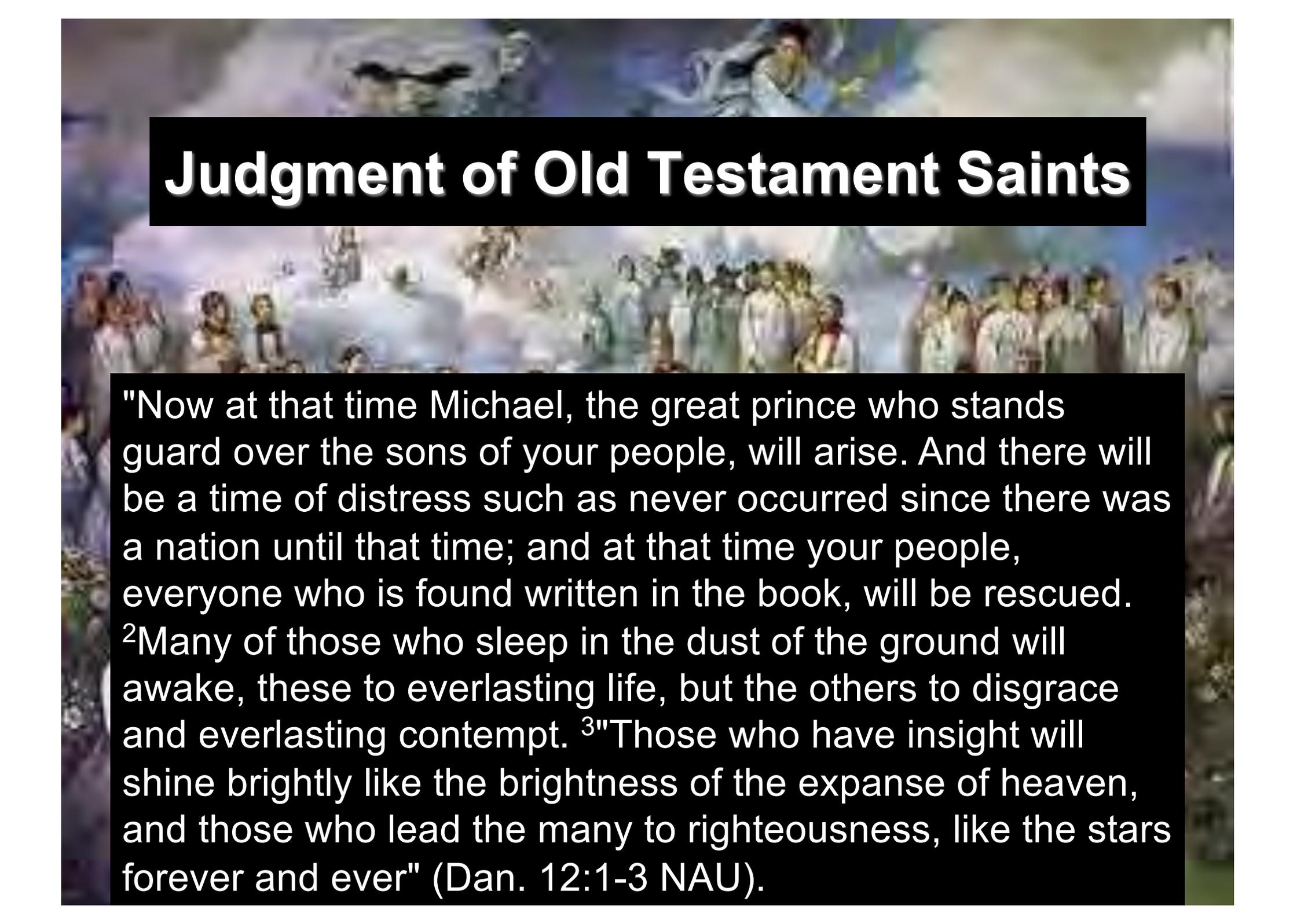
- Believers Rewarded by Christ (2 Cor. 5:10)
- At the Rapture (1 Thess. 4:17)
- Reward or loss of rewards (not salvation)



Christ's Second Coming

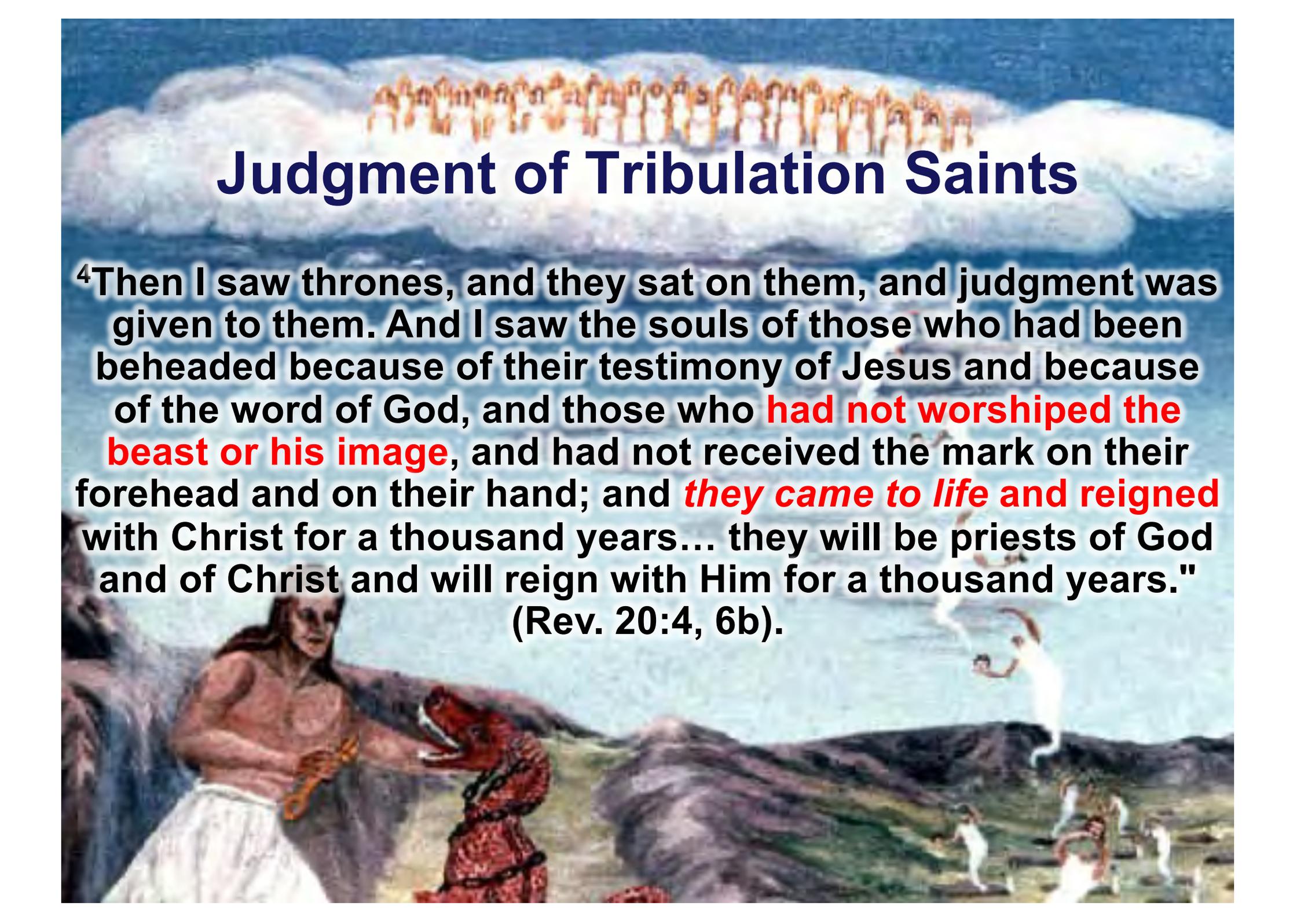
**"Out of his
mouth comes a
sharp sword
with which to
strike down the
nations"
(Rev. 19:15a)**





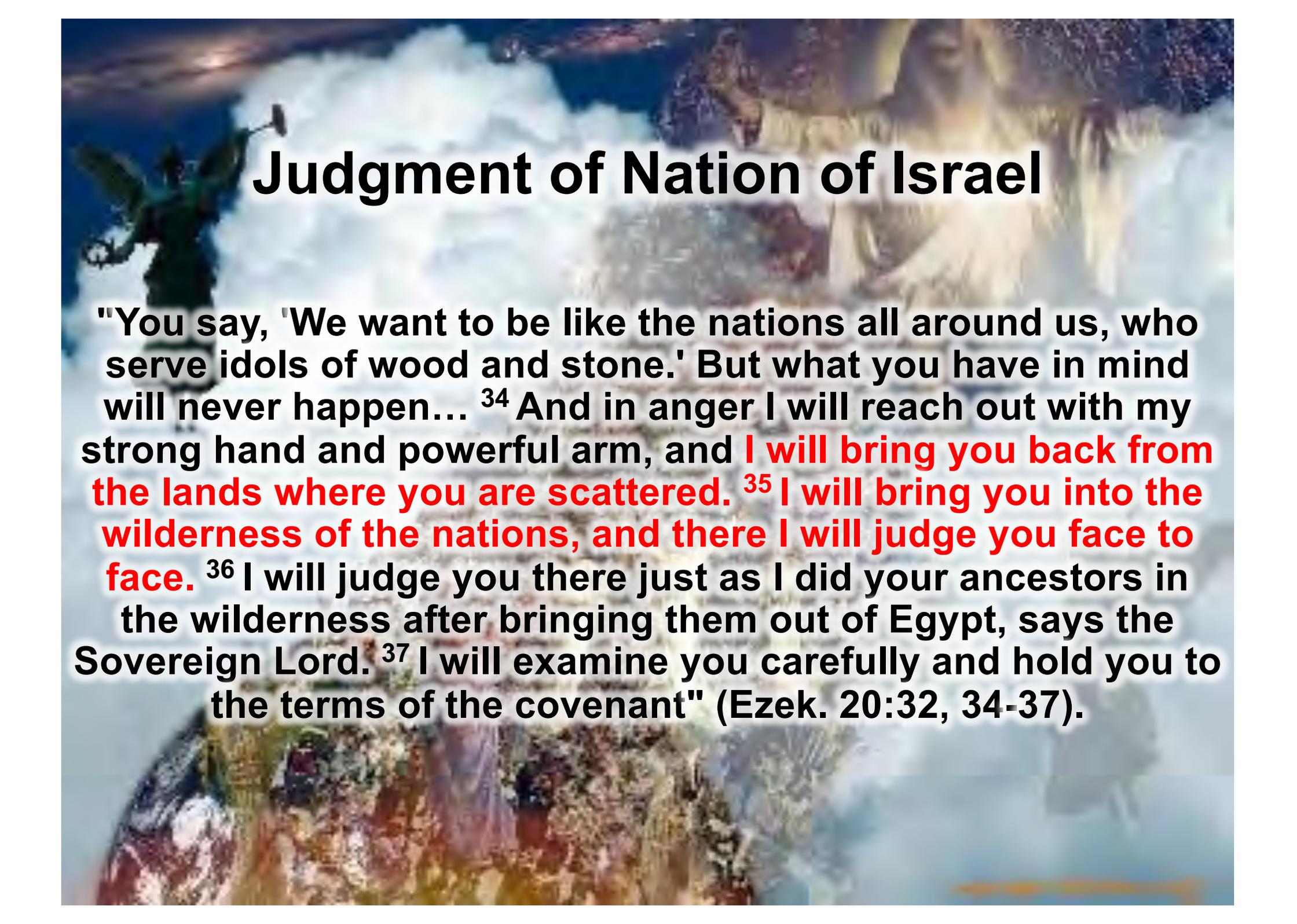
Judgment of Old Testament Saints

"Now at that time Michael, the great prince who stands guard over the sons of your people, will arise. And there will be a time of distress such as never occurred since there was a nation until that time; and at that time your people, everyone who is found written in the book, will be rescued. ²Many of those who sleep in the dust of the ground will awake, these to everlasting life, but the others to disgrace and everlasting contempt. ³"Those who have insight will shine brightly like the brightness of the expanse of heaven, and those who lead the many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever" (Dan. 12:1-3 NAU).



Judgment of Tribulation Saints

⁴Then I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was given to them. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony of Jesus and because of the word of God, and those who **had not worshiped the beast or his image**, and had not received the mark on their forehead and on their hand; and ***they came to life and reigned*** with Christ for a thousand years... they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years."
(Rev. 20:4, 6b).



Judgment of Nation of Israel

"You say, 'We want to be like the nations all around us, who serve idols of wood and stone.' But what you have in mind will never happen... ³⁴ And in anger I will reach out with my strong hand and powerful arm, and **I will bring you back from the lands where you are scattered.** ³⁵ **I will bring you into the wilderness of the nations, and there I will judge you face to face.** ³⁶ I will judge you there just as I did your ancestors in the wilderness after bringing them out of Egypt, says the Sovereign Lord. ³⁷ I will examine you carefully and hold you to the terms of the covenant" (Ezek. 20:32, 34-37).

Judgment of Living Gentiles



31 "But when the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit upon his glorious throne.

32 All the nations will be gathered in his presence, and he will separate the people as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. 33 He will place the sheep at his right hand and the goats at his left.

34 "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the creation of the world'" (Matt. 25:31-34 NLT).

Judgment of Living Gentiles



41 "Then the King will turn to those on the left and say, 'Away with you, you cursed ones, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his demons.'

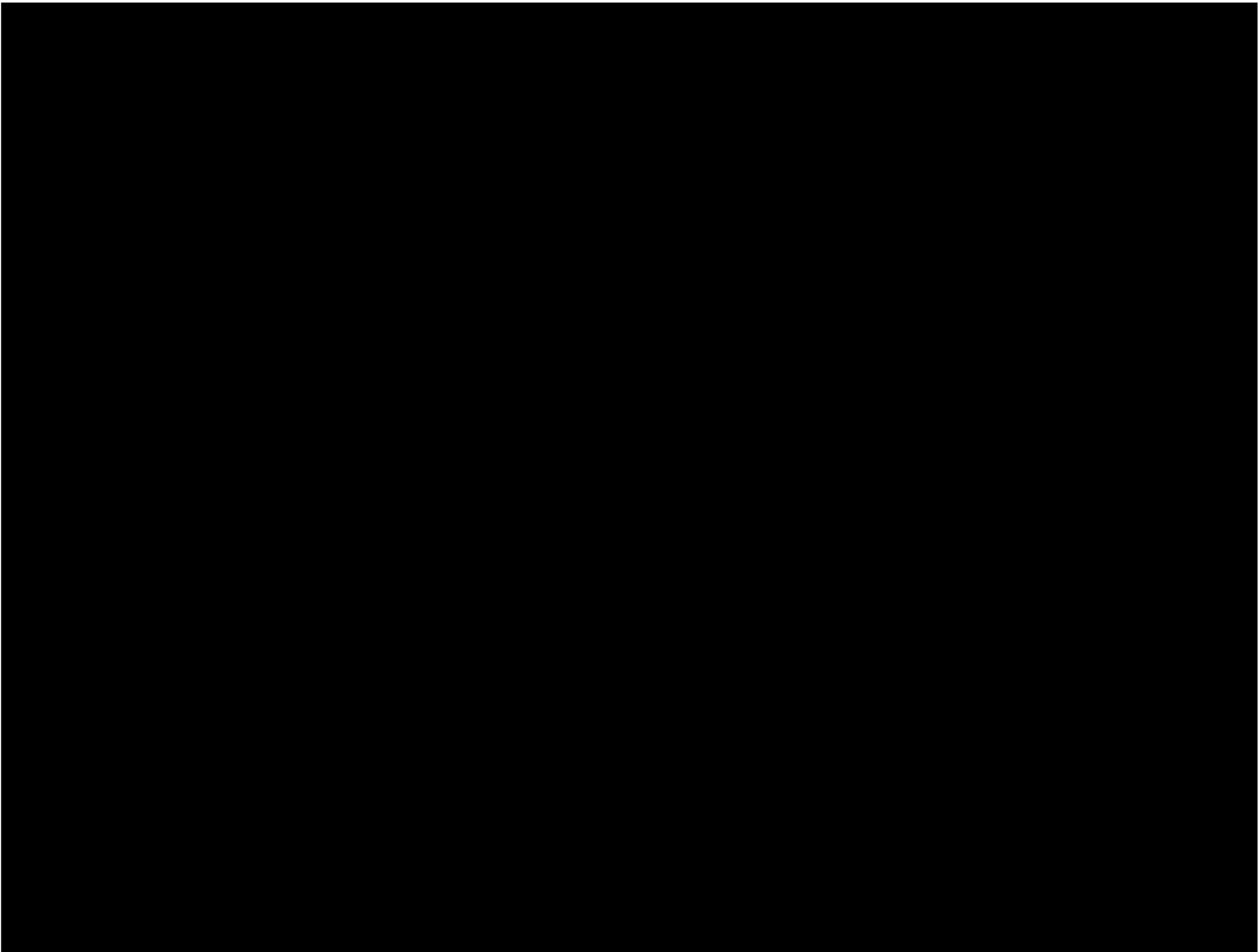
42 For I was hungry, and you didn't feed me. I was thirsty, and you didn't give me a drink.

43 I was a stranger, and you didn't invite me into your home. I was naked, and you didn't give me clothing. I was sick and in prison, and you didn't visit me.'

44 "Then they will reply, 'Lord, when did we ever see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and not help you?'

45 "And he will answer, 'I tell you the truth, when you refused to help the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were refusing to help me.'

46 "And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous will go into eternal life" (Matt. 25:41-46 NLT).



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