

Future Benefits (Rev. 19–22)



**Return
(Rev. 19)**



**Millennium
(Rev. 20)**



**Heaven
(Rev. 21–22)**

We have victory when we see that
Jesus rules over...

DEATH
(1)

CHURCHES
(2–3)

**OUR
FUTURE**
(4–22)

Outline of Revelation

Thy Kingdom Come



Revelation 20

The Epilogue



The Bible's Epilogue



How does it relate to you?

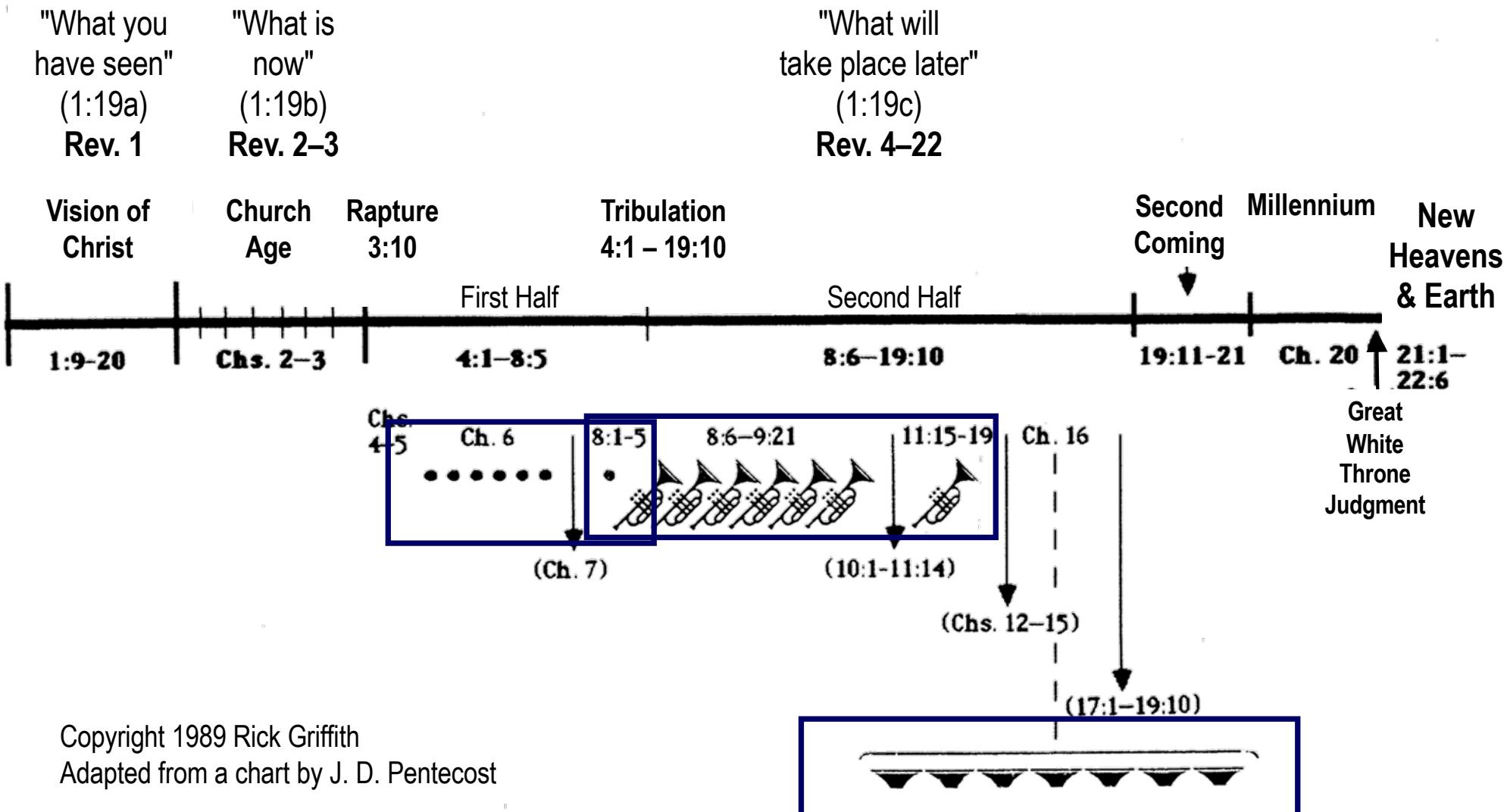
mopping-up operation.

n. a clean-up operation; the final stages in a project where the loose ends are taken care of.

It's all over except a small *mopping-up operation*.

—dictionary.com

Chronology of Revelation



*Series on
Revelation*

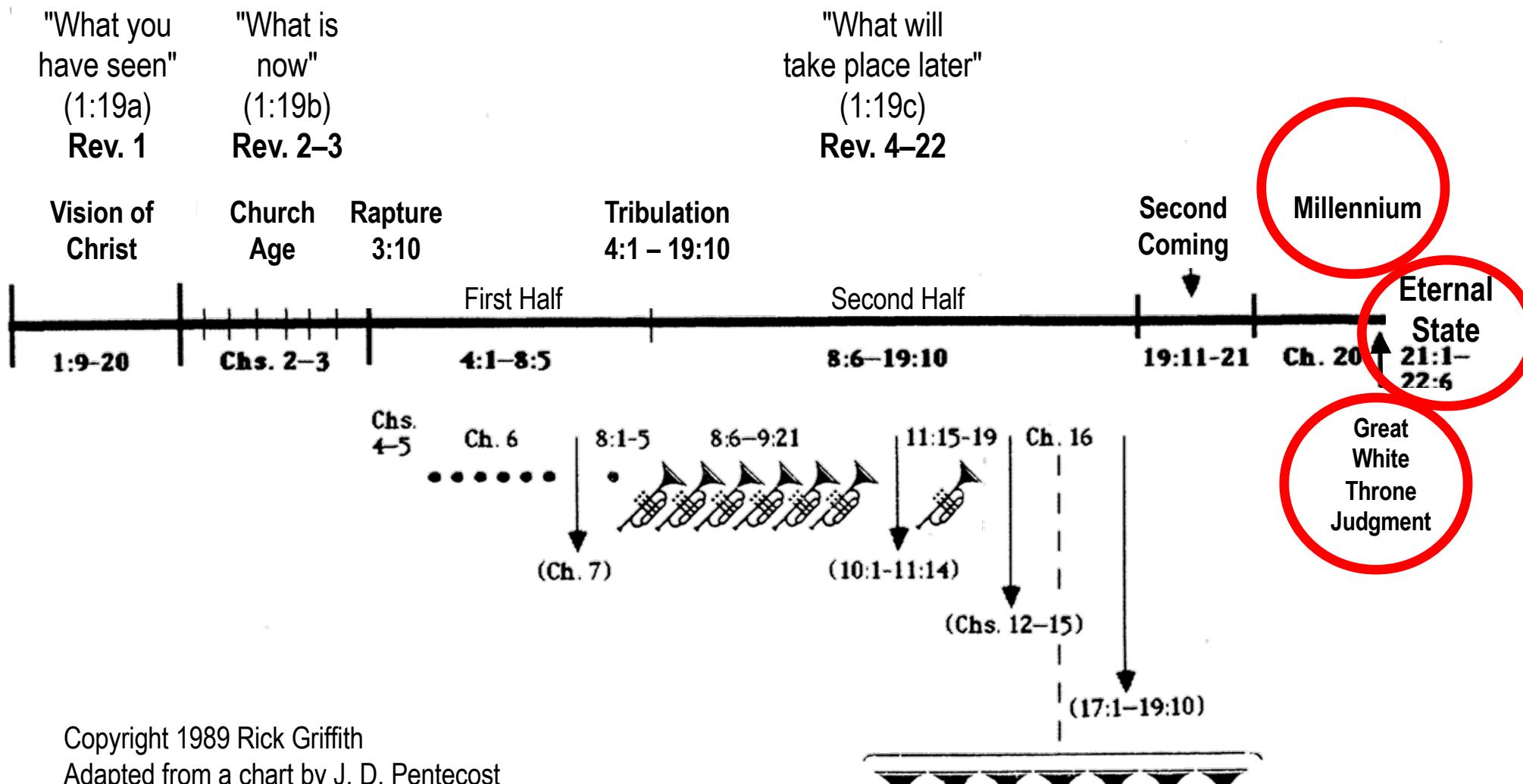


Jesus Wins!

How will Christ **mop** up the world after his return?



Chronology of Revelation

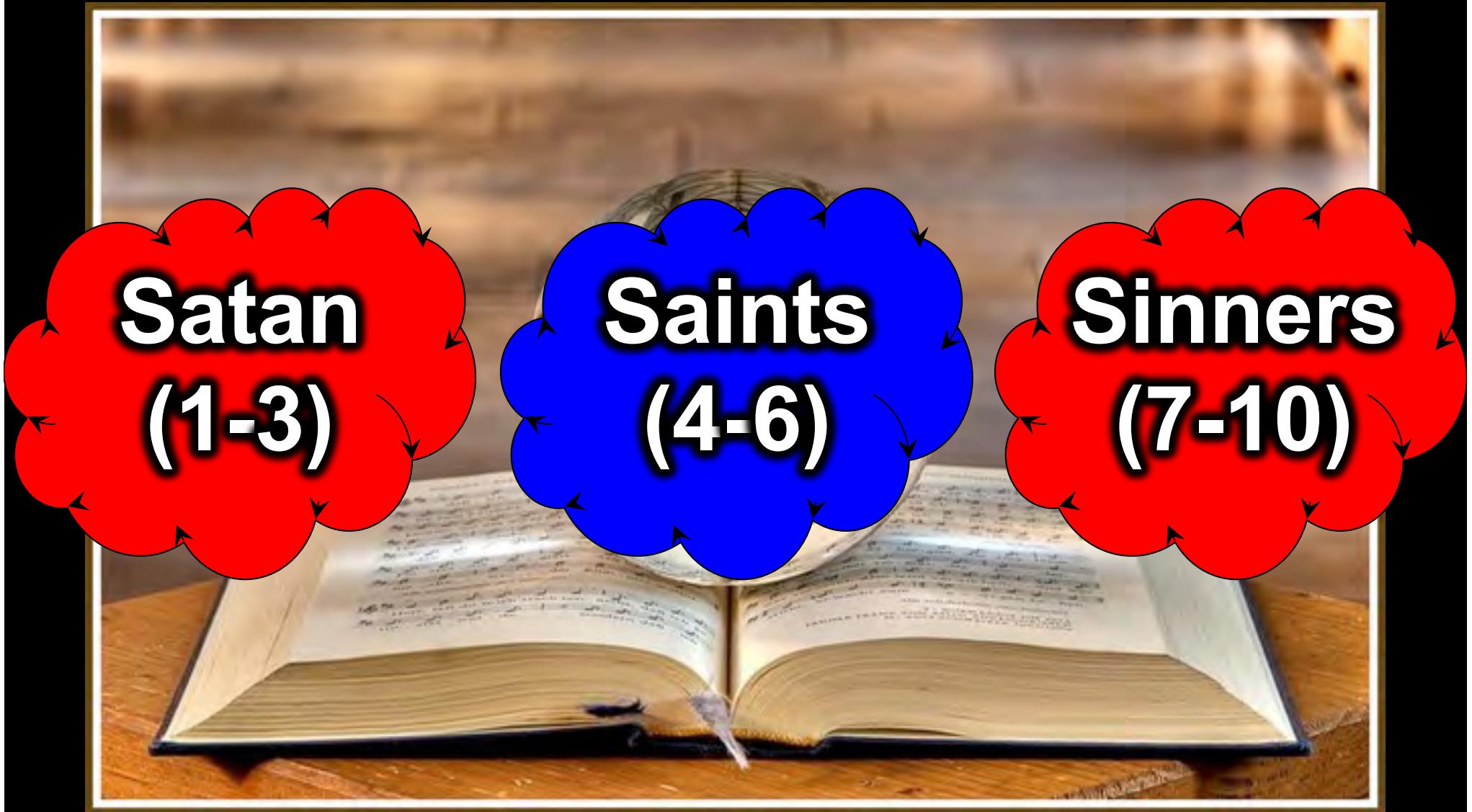


Revelation 20



I. You will **rule** the earth with Christ for 1000 years until Satan's last stand (20:1-10).

The Millennium (20:1-10)



The Millennium (20:1-10)



**Satan won't deceive people for
1000 years (20:1-3).**



Revelation 20:1-3 (NAU)

1Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding the key of the abyss and a great chain in his hand. **2**And he laid hold of the dragon, the serpent of old, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; **3**and he threw him into the abyss, and shut it and sealed it over him, **so that he would not deceive the nations any longer**, until the thousand years were completed; after these things he must be released for a short time.



The Angel with the Great Chain (20:1)

**Amillennialists say
Satan is bound now
from preventing the
extension of the
church.**

Is Satan bound now?

True, but this text is
not talking about
preventing the
spread of the gospel.
It says **he will not**
deceive nations.



Does Satan deceive nations now?

422

Some say "No"

For who is powerful enough to enter the house of a strong man like Satan and plunder his goods?

Only someone even stronger—someone who could tie him up and then plunder his house

(Matt. 12:29)

The time for judging this world has come, when Satan, the ruler of this world, will be cast out

(John 12:31).

¹⁸[Jesus told the seventy-two disciples], "I saw Satan fall from heaven like lightning! ¹⁹Look, I have given you authority over all the power of the enemy, and you can walk among snakes and scorpions and crush them. Nothing will injure you" (Luke 10:17-18)

In this way, [Christ] disarmed the spiritual rulers and authorities. He shamed them publicly by his victory over them on the cross (Col. 2:15).

Future Benefits (Rev. 19–22)



**Return
(Rev. 19)**



**Millennium
(Rev. 20)**



**Heaven
(Rev. 21–22)**

Why Be Watchful?

Satan is on the loose (1 Pet. 5:8)



8 Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour.

Others are succeeding over Satan (1 Pet. 5:9)



9 Stand firm against him, and be strong in your faith. Remember that your Christian brothers and sisters all over the world are going through the same kind of suffering you are.

Satan
still
deceives
today



Media Deceivers of Satan



What does it mean for Satan to be bound?



Does Satan deceive nations now?

"Yes" seems the obvious answer...

Satan, who **is the god of this world**, has blinded the minds of those who don't believe. They are unable to see the Goodness of God, understand the glory of His exact likeness of God (2 Cor. 4:4).

¹³These people are false apostles.

They are deceitful workers who

use as apostles of Satan, not surprised! Satan himself as an (Cor. 11:13-14).

By the way, name a country now that Satan is NOT deceiving right now...

Satan still deceives people now:

"This great dragon—the ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, **the one deceiving the whole world**—was thrown down to the earth with all his angels" (Rev. 12:9).

³All of us used to live that way... (Eph. 2:2-3a).

(2 Tim. 2:20).

Binding of Satan (20:2-3a NLT)

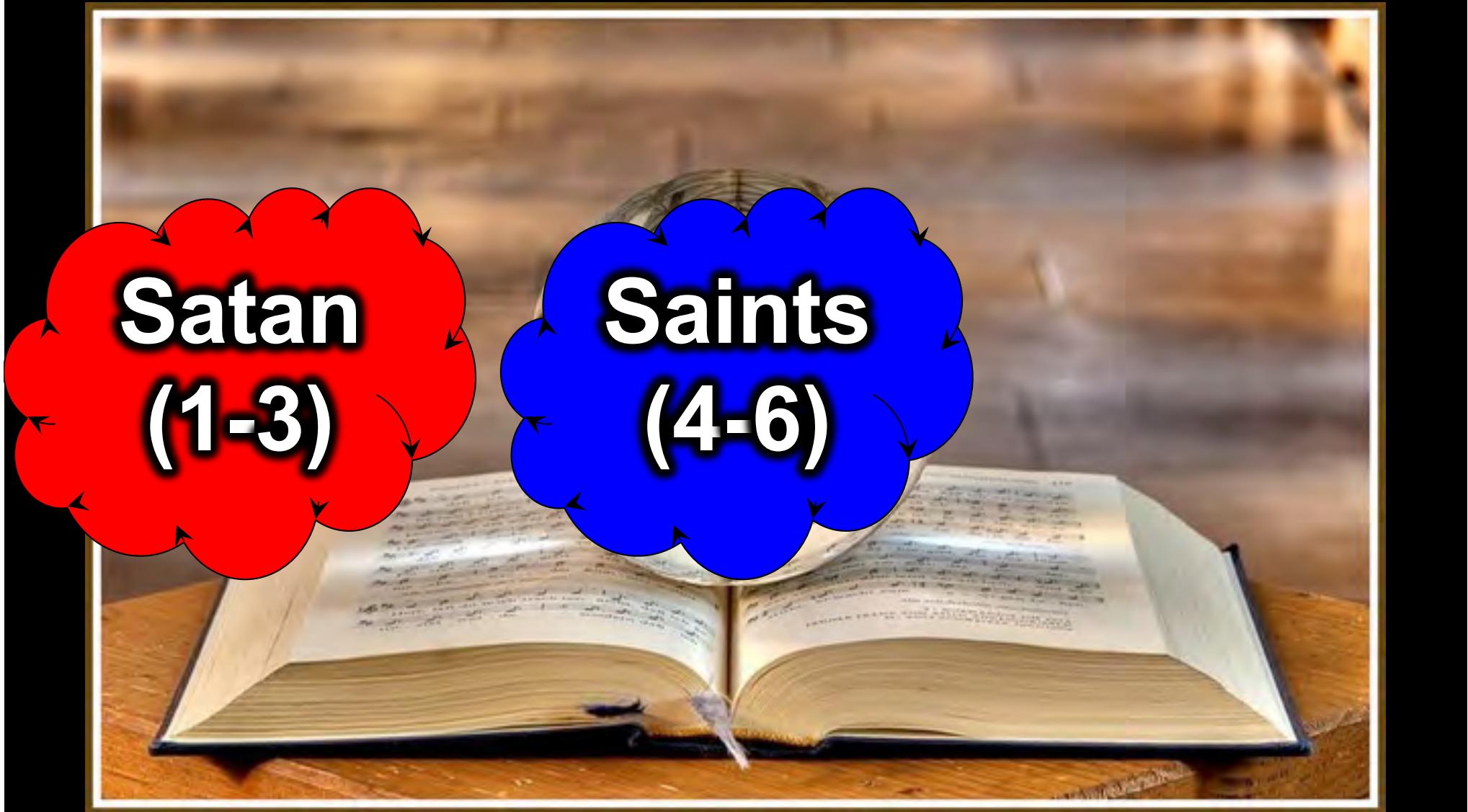
"He seized the dragon... and bound him for 1000 years. He threw him into the Abyss, and locked and sealed it over him to keep him from deceiving the nations anymore until the 1000 years were ended..."



Binding of Satan (20:2-3a NLT)



The Millennium (20:1-10)





**Saints will rule this earth for
1000 years (20:4-6).**

Revelation 20:1-3 (NAU)

1Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding the key of the abyss and a great chain in his hand. **2**And he laid hold of the dragon, the serpent of old, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; **3**and he threw him into the abyss, and shut it and sealed it over him, **so that he would not deceive the nations any longer**, until the thousand years were completed; after these things he must be released for a short time.

Revelation 20:4 (NAU)

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.

Revelation 20:5-6 (NAU)

5The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were completed. This is the first resurrection. **6**Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years.

Jesus will rule



We will rule too!



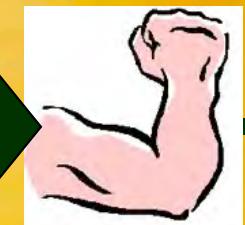
Revelation 20:4-6 Diagrammed

^{4b}and they
came to life
and reigned
with Christ for
a thousand
years.



^{4a}Then 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...

1000 years



^{5b}This is the **first resurrection**. ^{6a}Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power...

^{6b}but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years.

^{5a}The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were completed.

Alford's Law

"If, in a passage where *two resurrections* are mentioned... the first resurrection may be understood to mean *spiritual rising* with Christ, while the second means *literal rising* from the grave;— then there is an end of all significance in language, and Scripture is wiped out as a definite testimony to anything."

—Henry Alford, *The Greek Testament* (1861), 4:732

The First Resurrection Reunion!



Revelation 20:5-6 (NAU)

5The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were completed. This is the first resurrection. **6**Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years.

Matthew 6:9-10 (NKJV)

9 In this manner, therefore, pray:

**Our Father in heaven,
Hallowed be Your name.**

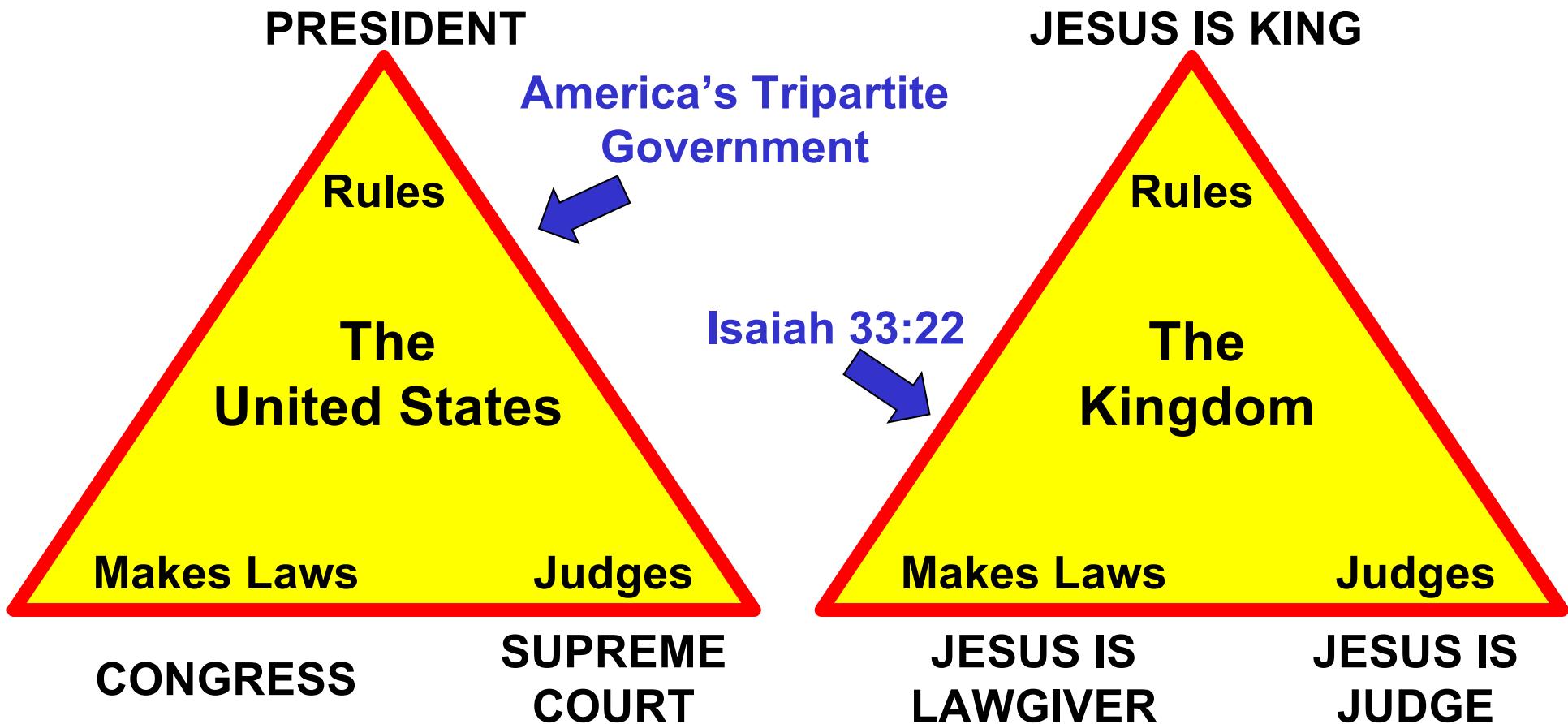
10 Your kingdom come.

**Your will be done
On earth as it is in heaven.**

"Thy Kingdom Come"



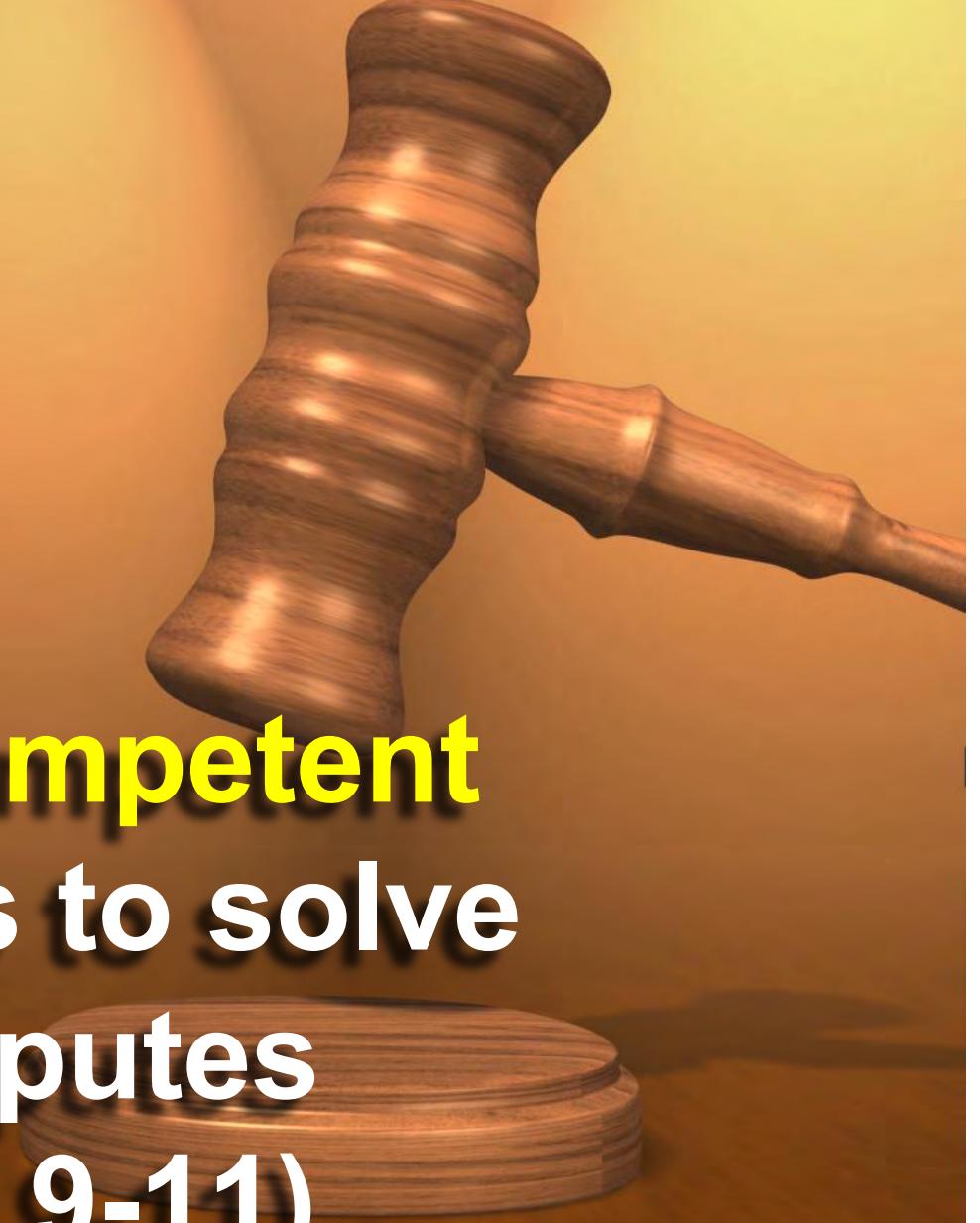
From Republic to Monarchy



Purposes of the Millennium

① Judge angels





We are more **competent**
than unbelievers to solve
Christian disputes
(1 Cor. 6:2-6, 9-11)



"Don't you realize that someday we believers will judge the world? And since you are going to judge the world, can't you decide even these little things among yourselves?

3Don't you realize that we will judge angels? So you should surely be able to resolve ordinary disputes in this life"

(1 Cor. 6:2-3 NLT)

Purposes of the Millennium

- ① Judge angels
- ② Rule the earth



**Believers will rule the earth
(5:10 NLT).**



"And you have caused them to become a Kingdom of priests for our God. And they will reign on the earth."

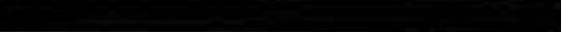
Purposes of the Millennium

- ① Judge angels
- ② Rule the earth
- ③ Restore world to pre-Flood era
(long life of Isa. 65:20)



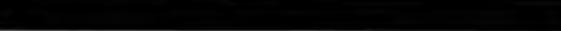
Ages of people when they died



Adam  930 Years

Methuselah  969 Years



Noah  950 Years

Shem  600 Years



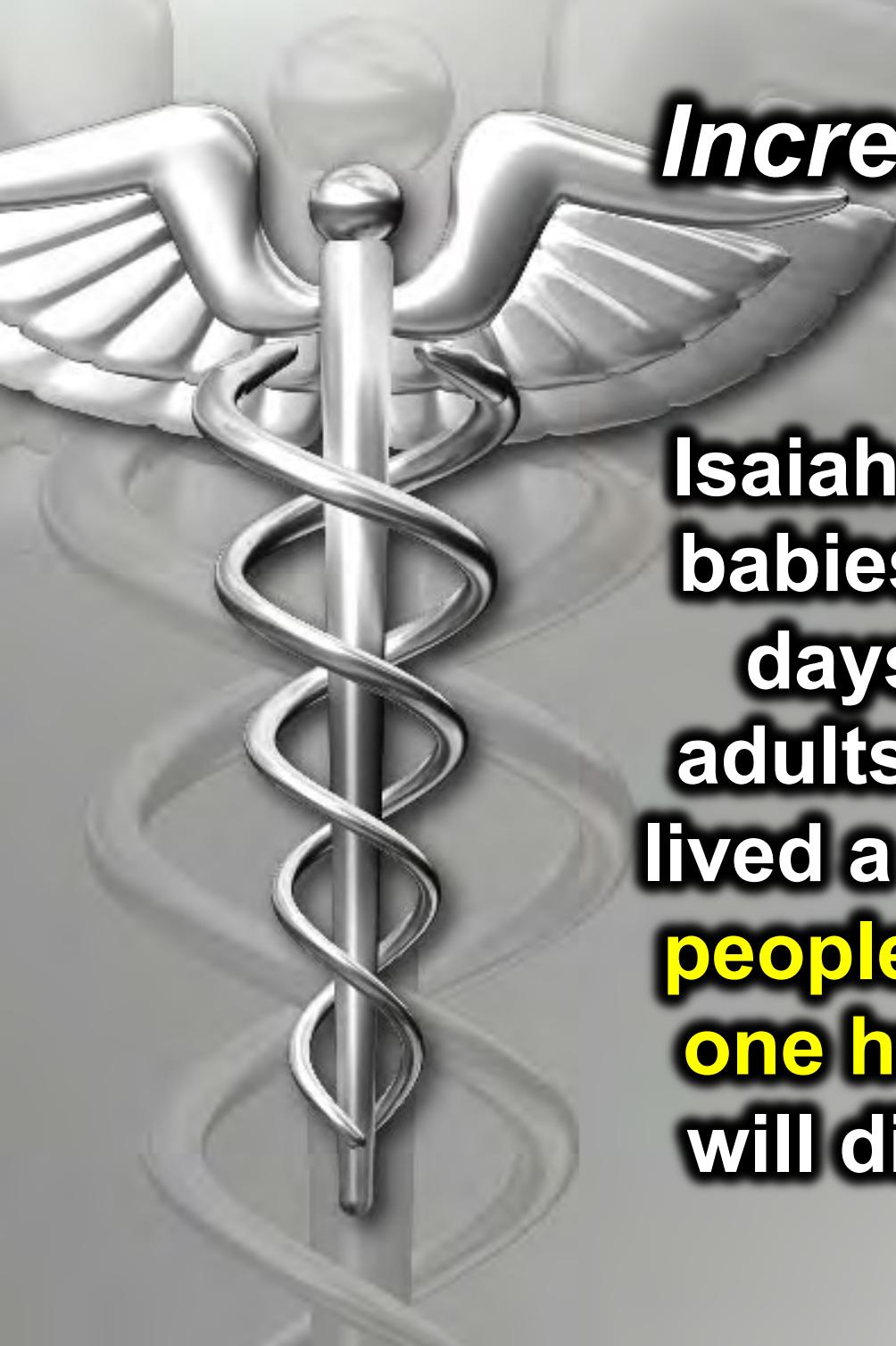
Abraham  175 Years

Moses  120 Years



David  70 Years

The Flood
explains why
life spans
shortened



Incredibly Long Life!

Isaiah 65:20 "No longer will babies die when only a few days old. No longer will adults die before they have lived a full life. No longer will people be considered old at one hundred! Only sinners will die that young!" (NLT).

Purposes of the Millennium



- ① Judge angels
- ② Rule the earth
- ③ Restore world to pre-Flood era
(long life of Isa. 65:20)
- ④ Show the human heart corrupt
- ⑤ Fulfill Abrahamic Covenant

Kingdom & Covenants Timeline



22 &
337

Kingdom Teaching...

Adam rules with God (Gen. 1:26, 28; 2:19)	Satan begins rule as god of this world (Gen. 3:15; 2 Cor. 4:4)	God covenants with Abraham to reestablish man's rule via Israel as a "kingdom of priests" (Gen. 12:1-3; Exod. 19:6)	Israel's failure to witness to nations as a kingdom of priests is judged via exile under foreign rule	Israel rejects Messiah's offer of kingdom (Matt. 12:41-42; 23:37-39)	Jesus extends His kingdom in mystery form to the Church (Matt. 13)	Christ subdues Israel's enemies and nation believes (Rom. 11:26-27)	Christ rules over everything with saints (Eph. 1:9-10; Rev. 20:1-6; 22:5b)
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Fall of Man (Gen. 3)

Noahic Covenant

Genesis 6:18; 9:8-17

Abrahamic Covenant

Genesis 12:1-3

land

Land Covenant

Genesis 15:18 (cf. Deut. 30:1-10) promises:
 • Land from Wadi of Egypt to Euphrates River (Isa. 27:12)
 • Eternal possession of land (Gen. 17:8) after exile/restoration
 • Whole world blessed via the land (Isa. 14:1-2)



Davidic Covenant

2 Samuel 7:12-16 promises:
 • Sons ("house" never wiped out)
 • Kingdom (political dynasty)
 • Throne (right to rule by descendants)
 • Temple (son to build it)

blessing

New Covenant

Jeremiah 31:31-34 promises:
 • Forgiveness
 • Indwelling Spirit
 • New heart, nature, mind
 • Reunification of Israel and Judah
 • No need for evangelism

ISRAEL
(National Focus)

CHURCH
The "New Man" (Eph. 2:15)

Israel judged for rejecting Messiah by dispersion away from land for 19 centuries (AD 70–AD 1948) but now partially restored (Ezek. 37:1-7)

MESSIANIC
Millennial

Full restoration (Ezek. 37:8-28)
Jerusalem world capital (Isa. 2:1-5)

KINGDOM
Eternal

New Jerusalem (Rev. 21–22)

Christ reigns over the world (Isa. 11) with saints (Rev. 5:10; 20:4-6)

Christ hands kingdom over to Father (1 Cor. 15:24)

All 5 elements fulfilled in national restoration (Zech. 8)

All things made new! (Rev. 21:5)

Mosaic Covenant

Temporary (Gal. 3:19) and conditional (Deut. 28) to reveal sin (Rom. 7:7) and regulate Israel (Gal. 3:23-25)

Law abolished, fulfilled, and replaced at the cross (Rom. 7:1-6; 1 Cor. 9:19-21; Heb. 8:13)

Eighth Edition
29 Aug 2016

Scripture has a dual kingdom-covenant theme. Israel's role from Abraham to Christ expands to include the Church (continuity) yet the Church never replaces the nation as the "new Israel" (discontinuity). Israel will again enjoy world prominence after trusting Christ at His second coming.



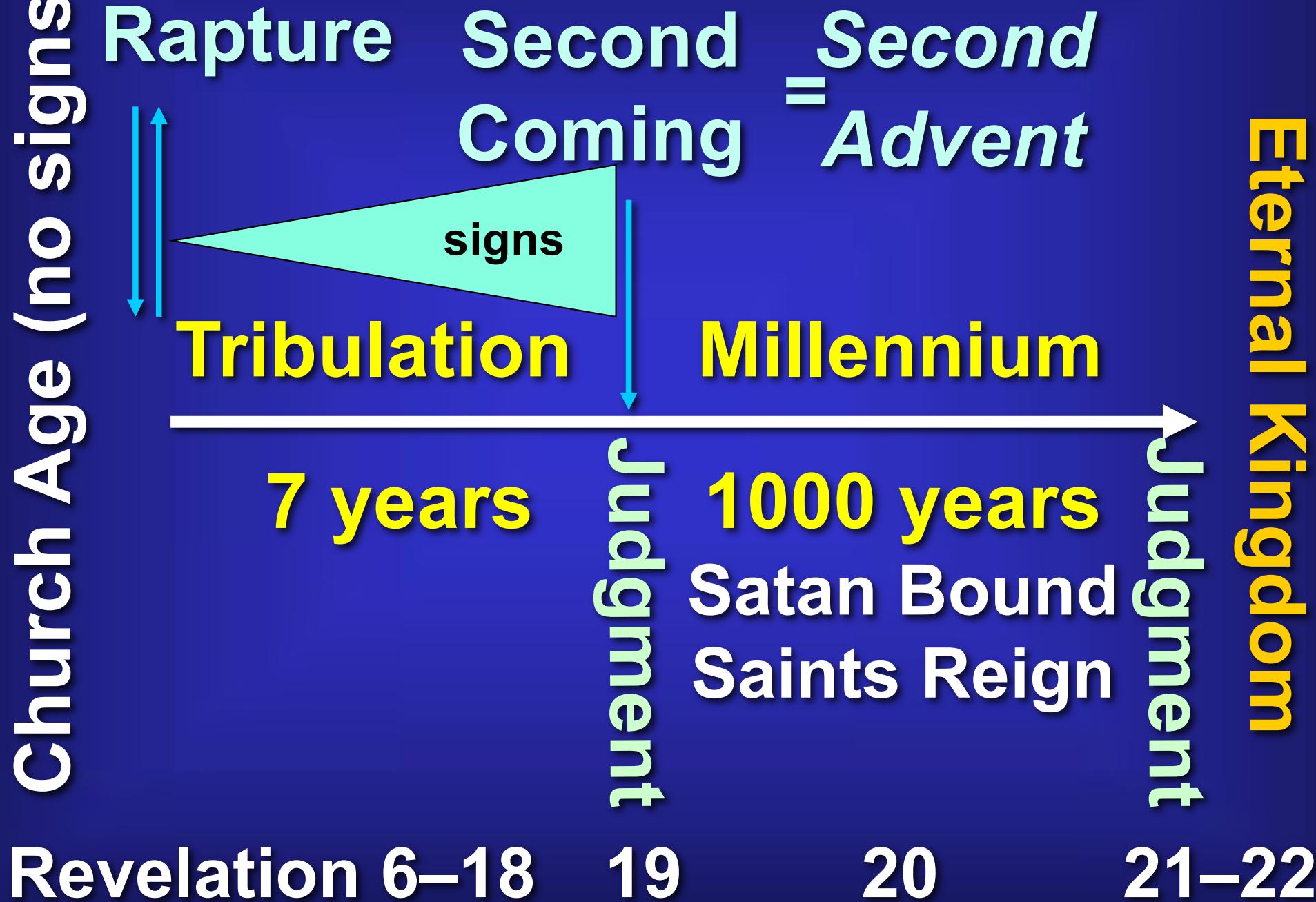
**When will Jesus
return in relation to
the millennium?**

Before?

Millennium

After?

Premillennialism



Amillennialism

Millennium is Church Age:
Spiritual reign
of Christ

Tribulations
Satan Bound

Revelation 6–18

Revelation 20

Second
Coming

Judgment

Eternal Kingdom

19

21–22

How should we understand this 1000-year period—spiritually or literally (20:1-7)?



Does 1000 years mean 1000 years?

Beale

Response

There is consistent figurative use of numbers elsewhere in Revelation (995).

"The twelve apostles and the twelve tribes of Israel are literally twelve (21:12-14). The seven churches are in seven literal cities. Yet confirmation of a single number in Revelation as symbolic is impossible."

Robert L. Thomas, *Revelation 8-22, An Exegetical Commentary*
(Chicago: Moody, 1995), 408-9

literal

v. 2-3)

7:1)

bers (9:16)

(16:21)

Does 1000 years mean 1000 years?

Beale

The context has figures such as a chain, Abyss, dragon, serpent, locked, sealed, & beast.

Response

The Abyss is a literal place (Luke 8:1) where demons are chained (2 Pet. 2:4) but can be unlocked (Rev. 9:1-2), so why can't they be *actually restrained* there?

Also, the designations at the left are literal *titles* for Satan and Antichrist.

Does 1000 years mean 1000 years?

Beale

The entire book has a predominantly figurative tone as in multiples of a thousand in the book (5:11; 7:4-9; 9:16; 14:1; 21:16; p. 973).

Response

Each example cited is literal: "Thousands upon thousands" (5:11), 144,000 (7:4-9; 14:1), 200 million troops (9:16), and 12,000 stadia borders of the new Jerusalem (21:16). None are figurative! Rounding numbers does not mean they are figurative.

Does 1000 years mean 1000 years?

Beale

The OT contains figurative use of "1000" (p. 995).

Response

"With the LORD, a day is as a thousand years" (Ps. 90:4) has a symbolic use of the word "day" but makes no sense unless "thousand" is understood literally.

Does 1000 years mean 1000 years?

Beale

Jews and early Christians used "1000" years as a figure for the eternal blessings of the redeemed (pp. 1018-21).

Response

In actuality, the 6000-year idea of rabbis and early Christians assumed a *literal* 1000 years as a "Sabbath." It was the *amillennial* Augustine who taught that the "eighth" day signified eternity (*Sermons on the Liturgical Seasons* 259.2; *City of God* 20.7)

Does 1000 years mean 1000 years?

Beale

The first "came to life" is a "spiritual resurrection" (20:4) but the second is a physical one (20:5).

Response

- Why see the same verb *differently* in same text?
- "Came to life" *never* denotes a "spiritual resurrection" in the Bible.
- "Resurrection" always denotes *physical* bodies.
- Believers are spiritually alive *now*, so no need!

Does 1000 years mean 1000 years?

Beale

The number "1000" is for the "fullness of time" and thus symbolizes an indefinite era as in Psalm 50:10 and 2 Peter 3:8.

Response

Psalm 50:10 ("For all the animals of the forest are mine, and I own the cattle on a thousand hills") has nothing to do with time!

2 Peter 3:8 ("A day is like a thousand years to the Lord, and a thousand years is like a day") shows Beale reads it as a literal 1000 years!

Does 1000 years mean 1000 years?

All scholars before AD 300 were premillennial

Clement of Rome

Ignatius

Papias

The Didache

The Epistle of Barnabas

The Shepherd of Hermas

Justin Martyr

Melito of Sardis

Theophilus of Antioch

Apollinaris of Hierapolis

Irenaeus

Hippolytus

Clement of Alexandria

Tertullian

Julius Africanus

Cyprian

Nepos

Coracion

Commodian

Victorinus of Pettau

Methodius

Lactantius

After AD 300, the 1000 years began to be spiritualized by Augustine, Jerome, Theodoret and others

Small Group Work on Rev 20:1-6

1. What shows the time of this 1000 years?
2. What shows the place of this 1000 years?
3. What shows the nature of this 1000 years?

Who will rule with Christ for 1000 years? Three groups (20:4):

1. **The Church:** "Then I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was given to them."
2. **Beheaded Martyrs:** "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..."
3. **Tribulation Believers:** "those who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received the mark on their forehead and on their hand..."

Views on Revelation 20:1-6

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Amil</u>	<u>Premil</u>
Who	Hoekema	Mounce
Outline	Progressive	Futuristic
Rev 19-20	Non-chron	Chronological
1000 yrs	Indefinite	Literal

Views on Revelation 20:1-6

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Amil</u>	<u>Premil</u>
Binder	Christ	Angel
Binding	Present	Millennium
Rule	Present	Future (5:10)
Place	Heaven	Earth (5:10)

Views on Revelation 20:1-6

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Amil</u>	<u>Premil</u>
"Came to life" (4a)	Transition at death	Resurrection (5b-6a)
"Came to life" (5)	Resurrection	Resurrection
Critique	Inconsistent	Consistent

Views on Revelation 20:1-6

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Amil</u>	<u>Premil</u>
Resurrect whom?	Believer (4-5)	Unbeliever (12-13)
Resurrect when?	One general resurrection	Several resurrections
Persons judged	All people	Unbelievers only

Where do the saints rule (20:4)?⁴²⁸

Amils often say *in heaven*

But *Revelation* says *it is on earth*

- "And you have caused them to become a Kingdom of priests for our God. And they will reign **on the earth**" (5:10).
- No change of location is noted from verse 3 (on earth) to verse 4, so we should assume verses 4-6 also to be on earth.

When do the saints rule (20:4)? ⁴²⁸

Amils claim it is now

But Revelation says it is future

- "And you have caused them to become a Kingdom of priests for our God. And they **will** reign on the earth" (5:10).
- "...they **will** be priests of God and of Christ and **will** reign with Him for a thousand years" (20:6).

The First Resurrection (20:4)

Beale (amil) will not equate the two resurrections with "came to life" ($\epsilon\zeta\eta\sigma\alpha\nu$) at the "first resurrection"

Beale says "came to life" (from $\zeta\acute{\alpha}\omega$ "to live") can mean:

- **Physical resurrection** (1:18; 2:8)

NLT Revelation 1:18 I am the **living one**. I died, but look—I am alive forever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and the grave.

NLT Revelation 2:8 "Write this letter to the angel of the church in Smyrna. This is the message from the one who is the First and the Last, who was dead but is now **alive**"

The First Resurrection (20:4)

Beale (amil) will not equate the two resurrections with
"came to life" ($\epsilon\zeta\eta\sigma\alpha\nu$) at the "first resurrection"

"came to life" (from $\zeta\acute{\alpha}\omega$, "to live") can mean:

- **Physical resurrection** (1:18; 2:8)
- **Physical existence** (16:3; 19:20)

NAU **Revelation 16:3** The second angel poured out his bowl into the sea... and every **living** thing in the sea died.

NLT **Revelation 19:20b** ... Both the beast and his false prophet were thrown **alive** into the fiery lake of burning sulfur.

The First Resurrection (20:4)

Beale (amil) will not equate the two resurrections with
"came to life" ($\epsilon\zeta\eta\sigma\alpha\nu$) at the "first resurrection"

"came to life" (from $\zeta\acute{\alpha}\omega$ "to live") can mean:

- **Physical resurrection** (1:18; 2:8)
- **Physical existence** (16:3; 19:20)
- **Spiritual existence** (3:1; 7:17; 13:14)

NLT **Revelation 3:1** "Write this letter to the angel of the church in Sardis..." "I know... that you have a reputation for being **alive**—but you are dead.

NAU **Revelation 7:17** for the Lamb in the center of the throne will... guide them to springs of the water of **life**..."

Beale, 1004

The First Resurrection (20:4)

Beale (amil) will not equate the two resurrections with
"came to life" ($\epsilon\zeta\eta\sigma\alpha\nu$) at the "first resurrection"

"came to life" (from $\zeta\acute{\alpha}\omega$ "to live") can mean:

- **Physical resurrection** (1:18; 2:8)
- **Physical existence** (16:3; 19:20)
- **Spiritual existence** (3:1; 7:17; 13:14)

So which of these three
nuances is best in 20:4?

How can one tell?

The First Resurrection (20:4)

John equated two events, for he saw that people "came to life" ($\epsilon\zeta\eta\sigma\alpha\nu$) at the "first resurrection"

"resurrection" ($\alpha\nu\alpha\sigma\tau\alpha\sigma\iota\varsigma$) in the NT only means...

- Physical resurrection
- Physical existence
- Spiritual existence

The First Resurrection (20:4)

John equated two events, for he saw that people "came to life" ($\epsilon\zeta\eta\sigma\alpha\nu$) at the "first resurrection"

"resurrection" ($\alpha\nu\alpha\sigma\tau\alpha\sigma\iota\varsigma$) in the NT only means...

- **Physical resurrection**

NLT John 11:25 Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even after dying.

NIV 1 Cor. 15:12 But if it is preached that Christ has been raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no **resurrection** of the dead?

The same physical resurrection nuance is in 1 Cor. 15:13, 21, 42

The First Resurrection (20:4)

John equated two events, for he saw that people "came to life" ($\epsilon\zeta\eta\sigma\alpha\nu$) at the "first resurrection"

"resurrection" ($\alpha\nu\alpha\sigma\tau\alpha\sigma\iota\varsigma$) in the NT only means...

- **Physical resurrection** is also the clear meaning of the same word "resurrection" ($\alpha\nu\alpha\sigma\tau\alpha\sigma\iota\varsigma$) in verse 5.
- Would it not make sense to interpret the same word the same way in consecutive verses, especially since "resurrection" by definition refers to physical life?

The First Resurrection (20:4)

John equated two events, for he saw that people "came to life" (*ἐγένετο*) at the "first resurrection"

Beale and other amillennialists see...

- "resurrection" (*ἀνάστασις*) in verse 4 as "spiritual"
- "resurrection" (*ἀνάστασις*) in verse 5 as "physical"

Seeing both as physical advocates two resurrections, but this contradicts the amillennial system that teaches only **one general resurrection** after the millennium (viewed as the present age).

Therefore, most amil scholars attach a different meaning to these same terms in consecutive verses.

Resurrection Reunions!



The First Resurrection (20:4)

Beale, 1004-5 seeks to defend this inconsistent rendering of "resurrection" (*ἀνάστασις*) in verses 4-5:

"Elsewhere in the NT *ἀνάστασις* and *ζῶω* (or the noun *ζωή*, 'life') and synonyms are used interchangeably of **both spiritual and physical resurrection within the same immediate contexts.**"

- NIV Romans 6:4 We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was **raised from the dead** through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new **life**.

1. Is this "both spiritual and physical resurrection"?

No. Resurrection is still physical!

2. Are "resurrection" and "life" synonyms here?

No. But Christ's **physical resurrection** gives **spiritual life**.

The First Resurrection (20:4)

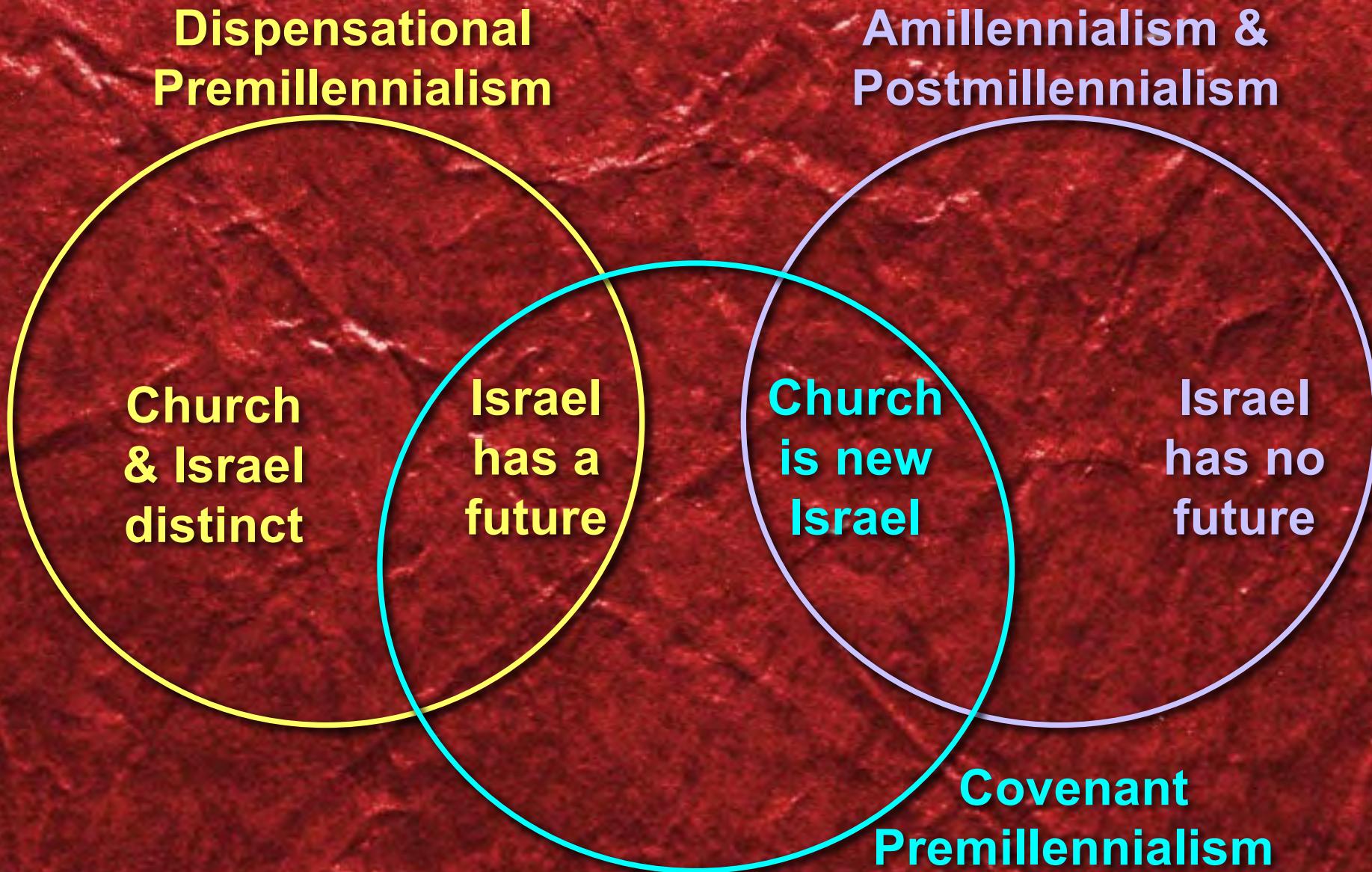
Beale, 1005 again seeks to defend this inconsistent rendering of "resurrection" (*ἀνάστασις*) in verses 4-5:

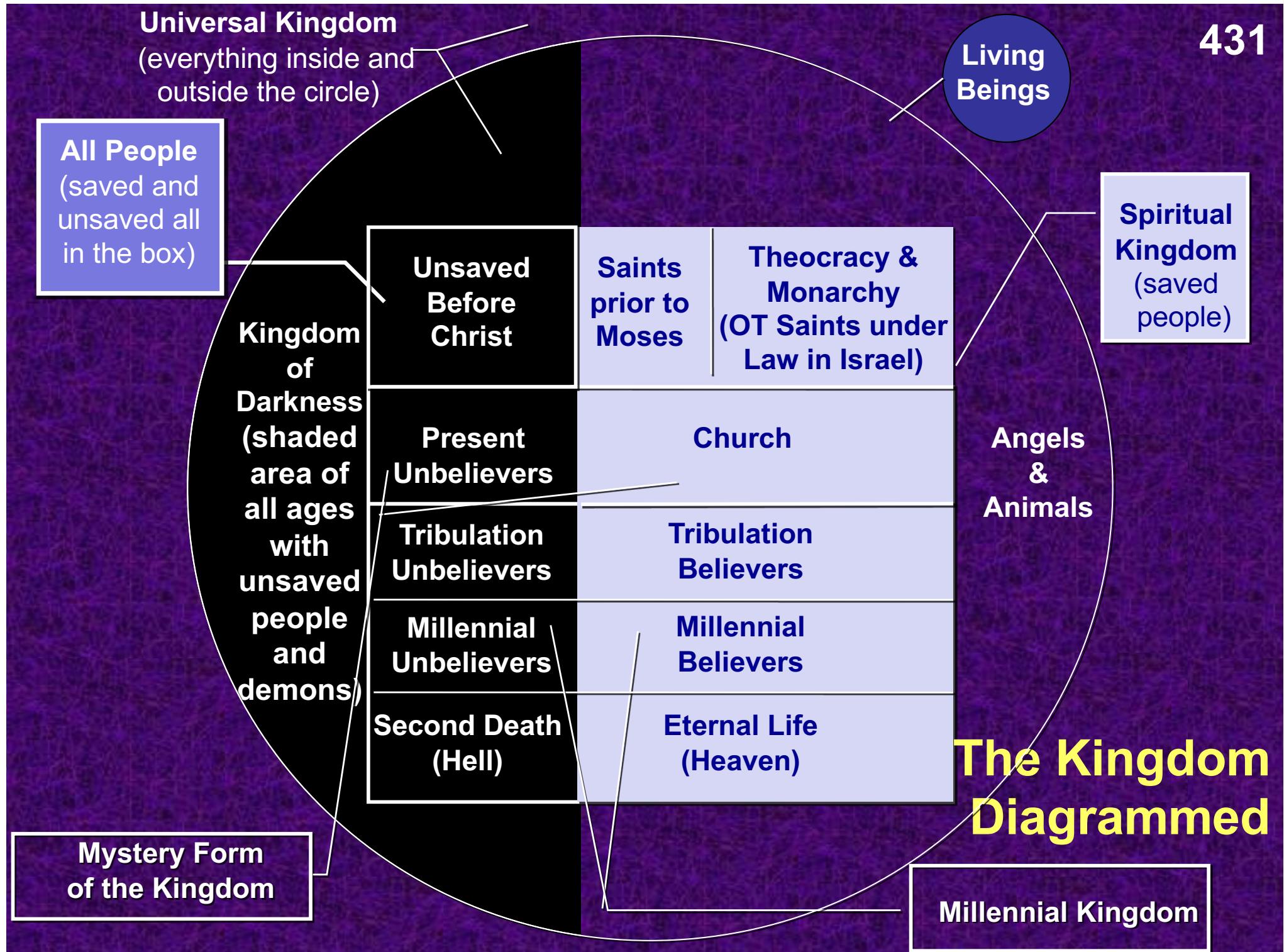
The "first death of believers... is physical and different in nature from the second death of unbelievers, which is spiritual."

- NIV Rev. 20:4b They **came to life** and reigned with Christ a thousand years.

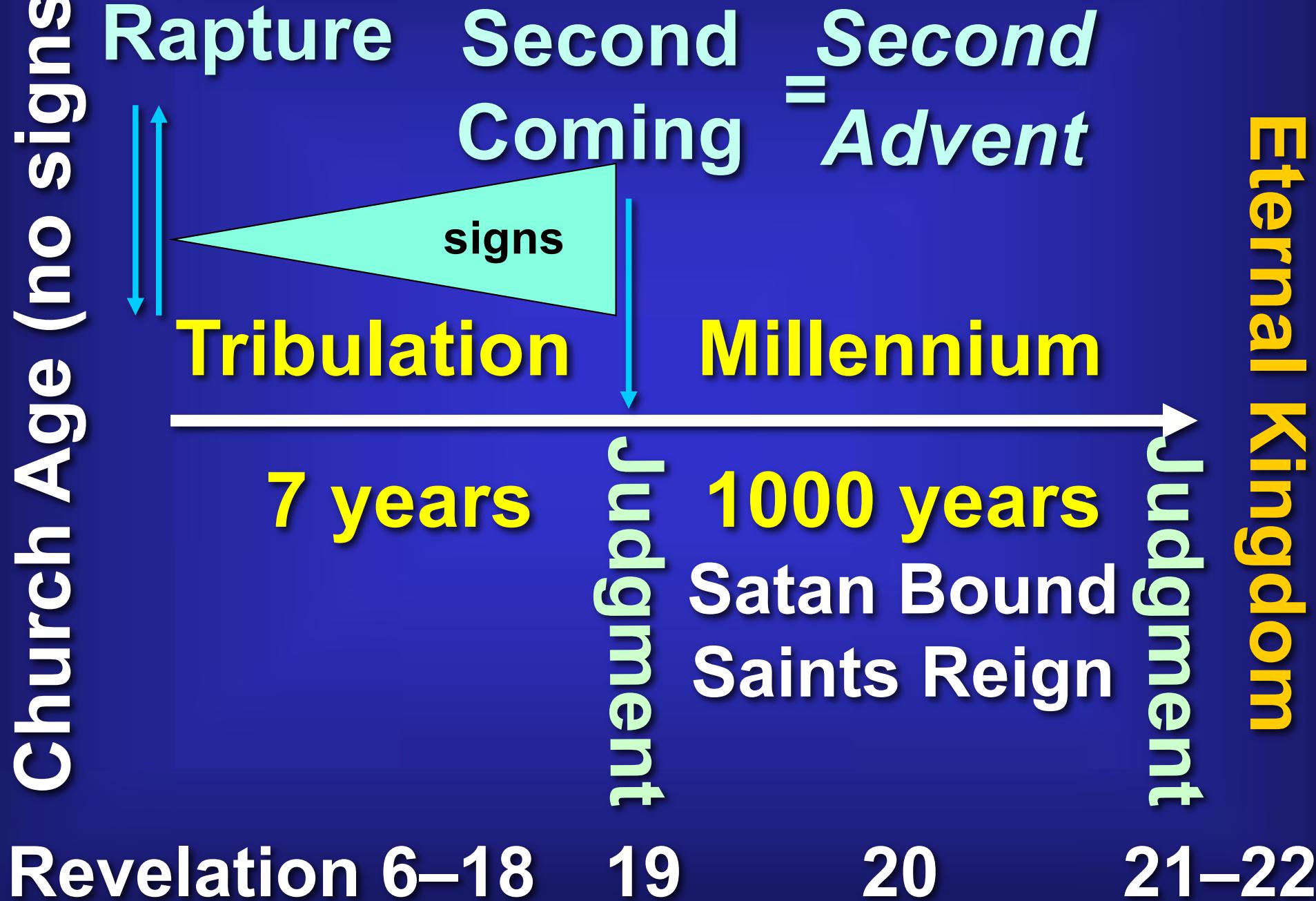
1. Is "came to life" = "the first death of believers"?
No. Coming to life does not refer to dying!
2. Are "first death" and "second death" in time (20:14)?
Of course, as 1000 years separates them!
3. Are these "two deaths" therefore "different in nature"?
No. There *is* no "first death"—only a "first resurrection"!

Is there a future for ethnic believing Israel?





Premillennialism



Amillennialism

Millennium is Church Age:
Spiritual reign
of Christ

Tribulations
Satan Bound

Revelation 6–18

Revelation 20

Second
Coming

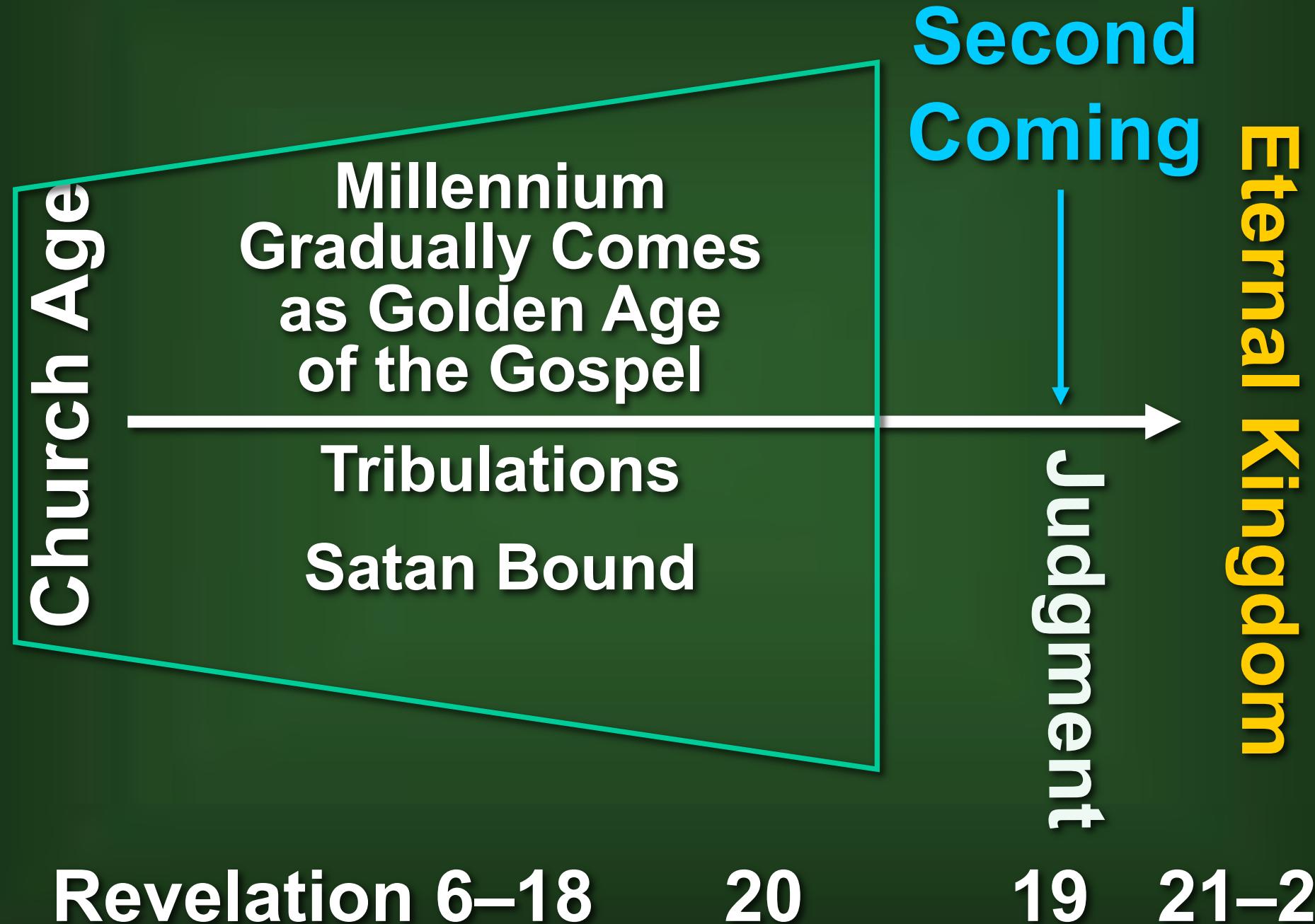
Judgment

Eternal Kingdom

19

21–22

Postmillennialism



Kingdom Aspects



Revelation 20:1-6 Chronology

- Satan bound 1000 years (1-3)
- Saints come to life
= first resurrection (4b, 5b)
- Saints reign 1000 years (4c, 6b)
- Second resurrection (5, 13)

all ye Gentiles; and laud him, all ye people.

12 And again, Paul saith, There shall be a root of Jesse, and he shall be to them to reign over the Gentiles.

13 Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost.

14 And I myself also am persuaded of you all, that ye are full of goodness, and have been taught of God to know good; but also to admonish one another.

15 Nevertheless, brethren, I have written you this epistle, not to put you in mind of that which ye have learned, but that ye may remember the commandments which are given to me of God,

16 That I should be the minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, ministering the gospel of God, that the offering up of the Gentiles might be acceptable unto sanctification.

17 For ye know that we follow not carnal lusts, as do the Gentiles, which are in carnal things; but we follow them in carnal things.

18 For I will not dare to speak of any of those things which Christ hath not wrought by me to make manifest before you all by word of mouth.

19 And I will not speak of the wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God; so that from Jeru-

21 But as it is written, whom he was not spoken of, shall see; and they that heard shall understand.

22 But now having no place in these parts, and having great desire these many years to come unto you;

24 Whosoever I take my way, whether by land or by water, I go to my way thitherward by you; first I be somewhat filled.

25 Now we have pleased them of Macedonia and Achæa to make a certain contribution for the poor saints which are at Jerusalem.

27 It hath pleased them very well to do this; and their labour they are.

28 When therefore I have per-

formed this, and have sealed to

them this fruit, I will come by

you into Spain.

And I will tarry also in Spain

for a season.

30 Now I beseech you, bre-

thren, for the Lord Jesus Christ

and that my service which I have for Jerusalem may be acco-

rded of the saints;

That I may come unto you

by the will of God, and

with you all.

CHAPTER 16

COMMEND unto you Phœbē

your sister, which is a servant of

the church which is at Cenchre'a:

23 But now having no place in these parts, and having great desire these many years to come unto you;

24 Whosoever I take my way, whether by land or by water, I go to my way thitherward by you; first I be somewhat filled.

25 Now we have pleased them of Macedonia and Achæa to make a certain contribution for the poor saints which are at Jerusalem.

27 It hath pleased them very well to do this; and their labour they are.

28 When therefore I have per-

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thren, for the Lord Jesus Christ

and that my service which I have for Jerusalem may be acco-

rded of the saints;

That I may come unto you

by the will of God, and

with you all.

in the Lord.

12 Salute Tryphena and Tryphosa, who labour in the Lord. Salute the beloved Persis, which laboured much for us in the Lord.

13 Salute Rufus, chosen in the Lord, and his family, and mine.

14 Salute Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermas, Pat'robas, Hermas, and the brethren which are with them.

15 Salute Philol'ogus, and Julia, Nereis, and his sister, and Olympias, and all the saints which are with them.

16 Salute one another with an holy kiss. The churches of Christ salute you.

17 And I beseech you, brethren, to hold that which cause divisions and schisms in the church, contrary to the doctrine which we have learned; and avoid them.

18 For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the simple, whose labour is in vain, and whose end is destruction; therefore on your behalf: but ye I would have you wise unto that which is good, and simple concerning evil.

20 And the God of peace shall bring into you under your feet shortly the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ, together with you. Amen.

21 Timon, my workfellow, and Lucius, and Jason, and Sosipater, my kinamen, salute you.

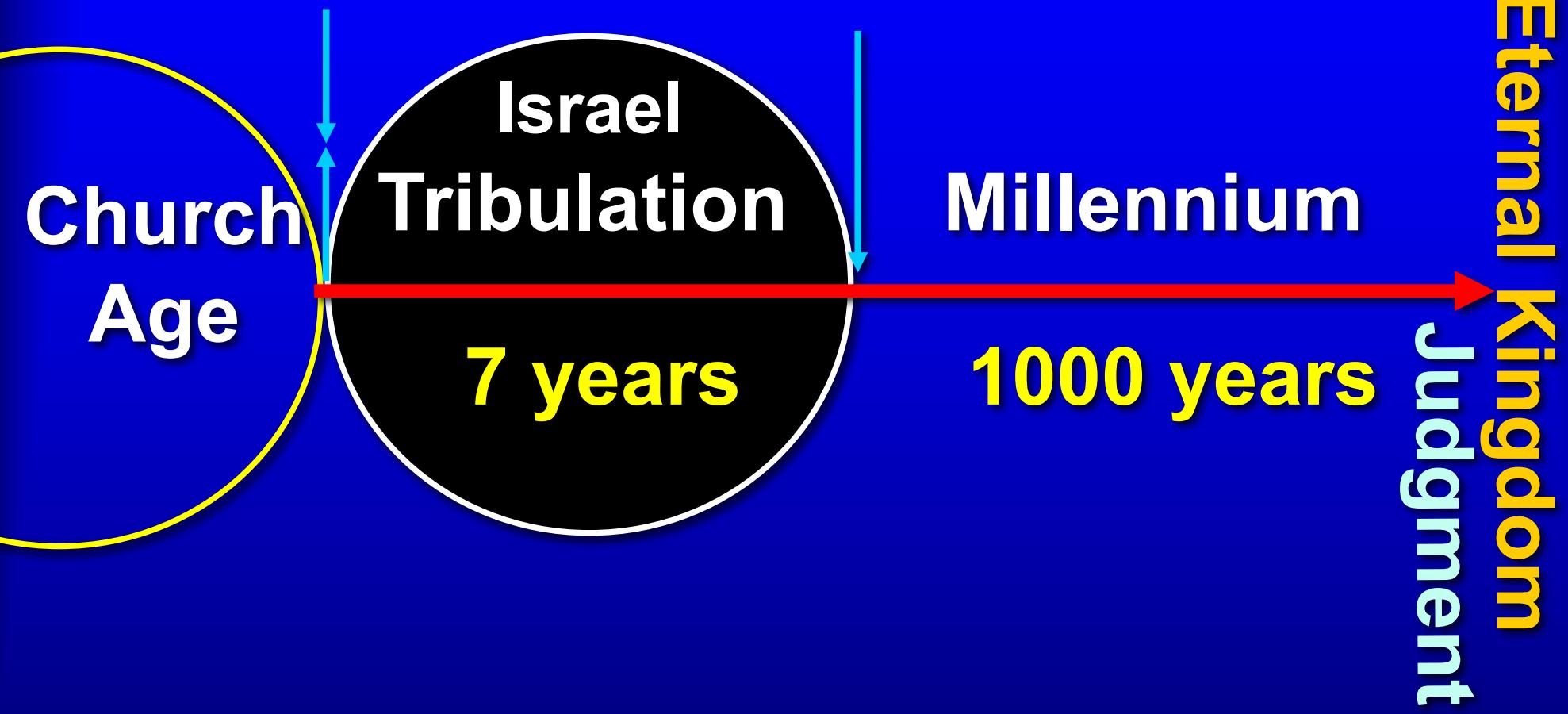
Why Am I Premillennial?

- The best hermeneutic is a normal, literal, historical, and grammatical reading of a text
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- Natural way to see the 1000 years (20:1-6)

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Dispensationalism

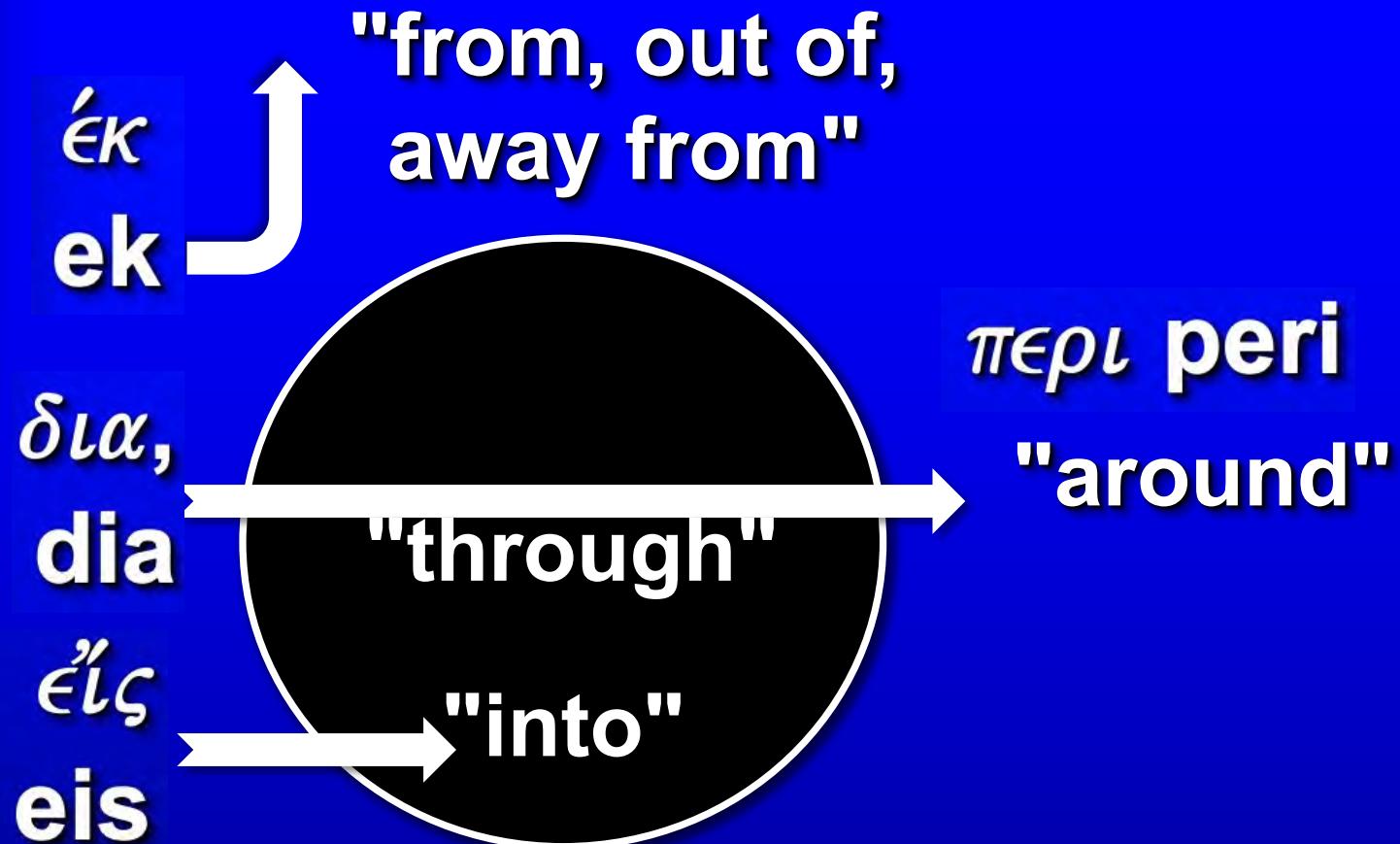
Second
Coming

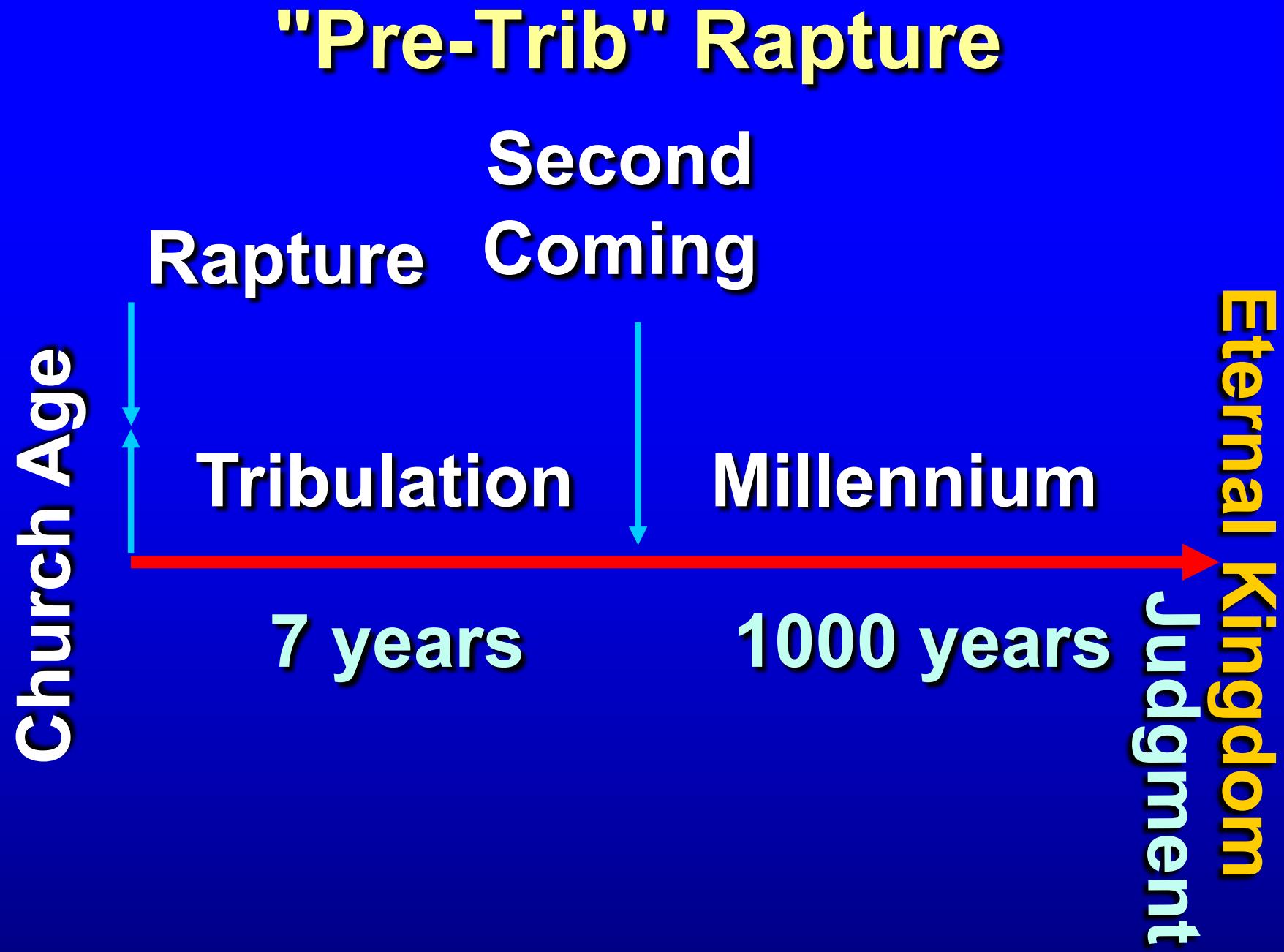


When will the Rapture occur?



Greek Prepositions

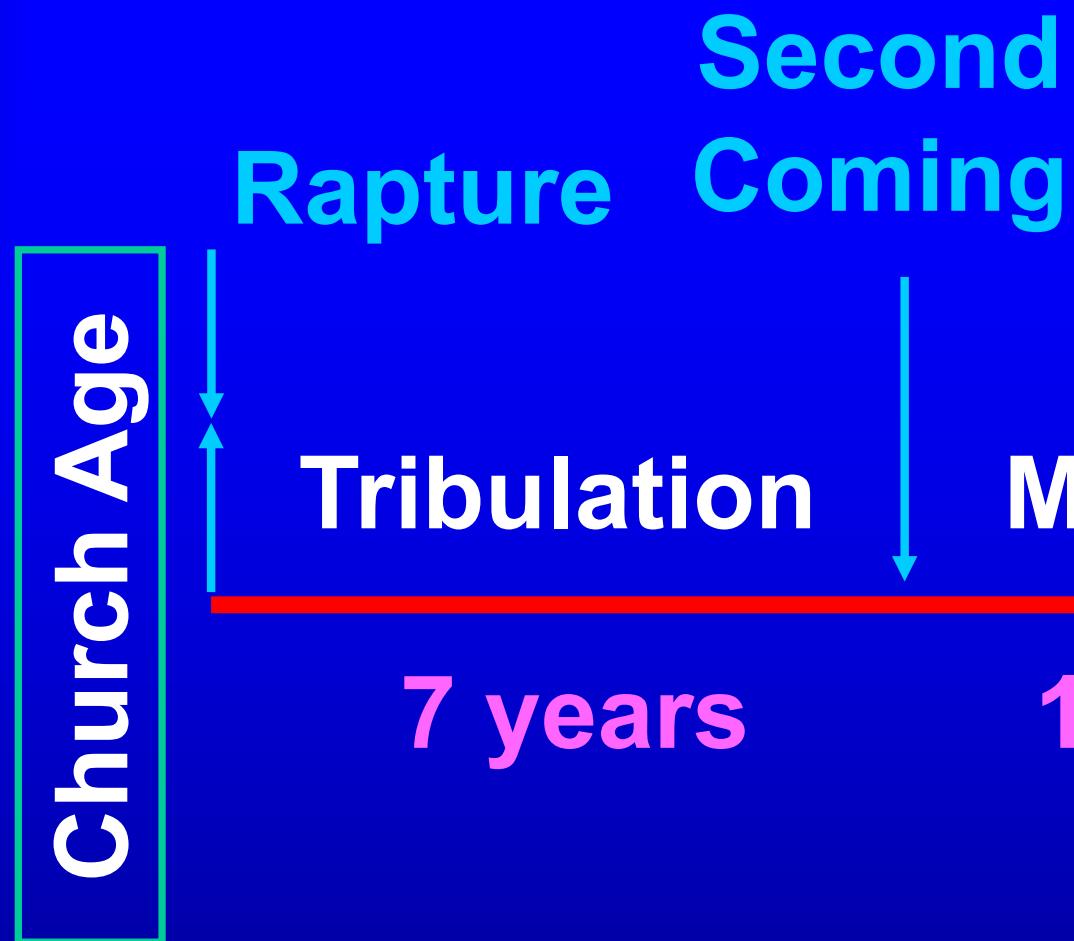




Why Am I Pretrib?

1. Believers will be kept from ($\epsilon\kappa$) this "hour," or time period (Rev. 3:10)

"Pre-Trib" Rapture



1. "I will keep you from (ἐκ) the hour of testing that will come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell upon the earth"

(Rev. 3:10)



"Pre-Trib" Rapture



1. "I will keep you from (ἐκ) the hour of testing that will come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell upon the earth"

(Rev. 3:10)

The Only Other NT Occurrence of "Keep From" ($\tauηρέω \acute{e}κ$) 209

The idea of being taken out of the world relates to being removed from the world

sphere of
"the evil
one"

$\acute{e}κ$
ek

"from, out of,
away from"

1. "I do not ask you to take them out of ($\acute{e}κ$) the world, but to **keep them from** ($\acute{e}κ$) the evil one"
(John 17:15)

Not kept in Satan's sphere
parallels
not kept in Tribulation Period

"Pre-Trib" Rapture



Each time this "phrase occurs... **the enemies** of the church are always in mind"

—Mounce, 120

2. "I will keep you from (ἐκ) the hour of testing that will come upon the whole world, **to test those who dwell upon the earth**"

(Rev. 3:10)

Why Am I Pretrib?

1. Believers will be kept from ($\epsilon\kappa$) this "hour," or time period (Rev. 3:10)
2. The Tribulation tests unbelievers (3:10) under God's wrath (6:16-17)
3. The Holy Spirit's work of restraining evil will be absent (2 Thess. 2:6-7).

$\tauὸ\ \kappaτέχον$

"what restrains" = neuter, 2:6 = gospel preaching)

$\delta\ \kappaτέχων$

("he who restrains" = masculine, 2:7 = a

person)

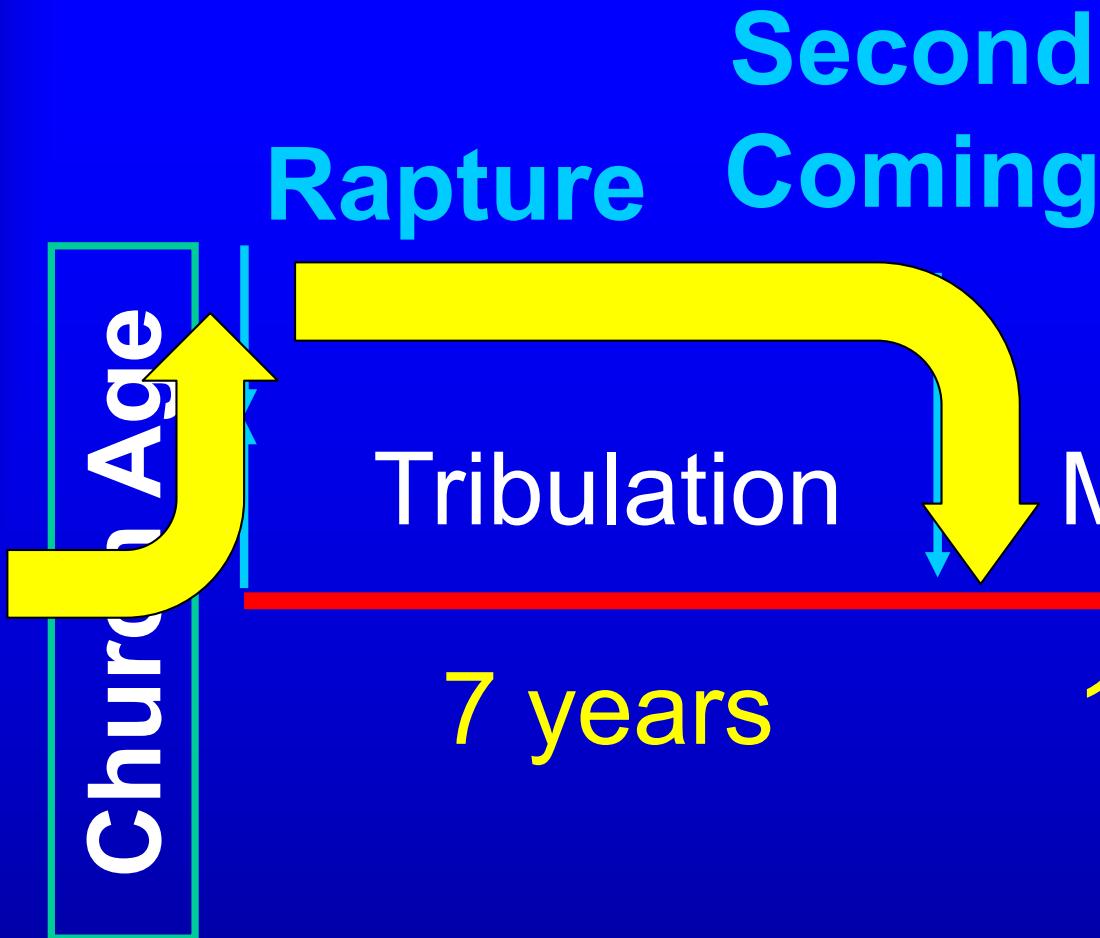
$\piνυ\epsilon\mu\alpha$

("Spirit" = neuter noun but used of a person)

Why Am I Pretrib?

4. The church is never mentioned in the Tribulation chapters (Rev. 4-19) except as the "tabernacle of God" in heaven (13:6; cf. Eph. 2:21-22)
5. The Church will never come under God's wrath (John 5:24, Rom. 5:9; 8:1; 1 Thess. 1:10; 5:9). Persecution and wrath are completely different!

"Pre-Trib" Rapture



5. The Church will never come under God's wrath:

- John 5:24
- Rom. 5:9; 8:1
- 1 Thess. 1:10; 5:9
- Rev. 6:15-17
- Rev. 11:18
- Rev. 14:10, 19

Why Am I Pretrib?

6. The Rapture is imminent ("can happen at any time"), so it must also be pretribulational:
 - a. "...the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night" (1 Thess. 5:2)
 - b. "I will come back and take you to be with me" (John 14:3) = "I am coming" in immediate future without signs
 - c. James 5:8-9; Tit. 2:13; Heb. 9:28; 1 Pet. 1:6-7; 1 John 2:28; 3:2-3; Rev. 22:10, 12

Stages of the Second Coming

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The Rapture	The Revelation
1 <u>Pretribulational</u> (Rev. 3:10)	<u>Posttribulational</u> (Rev. 19:11-21)
2 Christ will <u>come in the air</u> (1 Thess. 4:16)	Christ will <u>come to the earth</u> , His feet touching the Mt. of Olives (Zech 14:4)
3 A coming <u>for</u> the saints (John 14:1-2; 1 Thess. 4:15-17)	A coming <u>with</u> the saints (Matt. 25:31; 1 Thess. 3:13; Rev. 19:14)
4 <u>Saints</u> (dead and alive) will be <u>caught up</u> ("raptured") from the earth to meet the Lord in the air and taken to heaven (1 Thess. 4:16-17)	<u>Saints</u> already on earth will <u>remain on the earth</u> (no Rapture) to be ushered into the Millennium (Acts 15:16; Rev. 5:10; cf. Matt. 6:10; chap. 24)
5 Produces <u>comfort and hope</u> (1 Thess. 4:18)	Produces <u>fear and judgment</u> (Matt. 24:27-31; Luke 21:20-28; Rev. 6:15-17)

Stages of the Second Coming

210

The Rapture	The Revelation
6 <u>Mystery</u> truth revealed only in the New Testament age (1 Cor. 15:51)	<u>Central</u> in OT prophecy but clarified in the NT (Jer. 30:7; Zech 14:1-3; Matt. 24:30; Col. 3:4)
7 Bodies of church saints glorified (1 Cor. 15:51-58; Phil. 3:20-21) and brought to heaven for seven years (1 Thess. 4:17)	Bodies of tribulation saints left in <u>mortal</u> state to continue to live on the earth in the millennium (Matt. 25:31-34)
8 <u>Imminent</u> , no signs needed (1 Thess. 4:16)	<u>Not imminent</u> but preceded by spectacular signs in the heavens and on the earth (Matt. 24:29-31; Luke 21:25-28; Acts 2:19-21; Rev. 1:7; chs. 6-19)
9 Primary purpose is <u>deliverance</u> of the saints from this world (1 Thess. 1:10)	Primary purpose is <u>judgment</u> of unbelieving (Matt. 25:31-46)

Stages of the Second Coming

210

The Rapture	The Revelation
1 <u>Invisible</u> and private as only 0 believers see Christ and since God sends a powerful delusion through the Antichrist (2 Thess. 2:11)	<u>Visible</u> and public since "every eye shall see Him" (Rev. 1:7)
11 Fulfills a promise to the <u>Church</u> where Jew-Gentile distinctions do not exist (1 Thess. 4:15; cf. John 14:1-3; Eph. 2:11-16)	Fulfills promises to <u>Israel</u> of covenants made in the Old Testament (Gen. 12:1-3; Ps. 89; Isa. 11:11-14; cf. Rom. 11:26-27)
1 Evil begins to <u>increase</u> (2 Thess. 2:1-12)	Evil is <u>suppressed</u> (2 Thess. 1:7; Ps. 37:9-10)
1 <u>Church</u> removed (1 Thess. 4:13- 3 18)	<u>Satan</u> removed (Rev. 20:1-3)

Stages of the Second Coming

210

The Rapture	The Revelation
1 Christ shown as <u>Head</u> of the 4 Church and all things (Eph. 1:10, 22; 4:15; Col. 1:18; 2:10)	Christ vindicated as <u>Messiah</u> to Israel (Zech. 14:3-4; cf. Acts 1:6 with v. 11)
1 Judgment seat of Christ for 5 <u>believers</u> (2 Cor. 5:10; 1 Cor. 3:13)	Judgment of <u>Israel and Gentiles</u> (Ezek. 20:34-38; Matt. 25; Zech. 14:4; cf. p. 160)
1 The <u>Lord</u> is at hand (Phil. 4:5) 6	The <u>kingdom</u> is at hand (Matt. 24:14)
1 Nature subsequently <u>ruined</u> 7 (Rev. 6-16)	Nature subsequently <u>restored</u> (Rom. 8:19-22; Isa. 11:6-9; 35:9; 65:25)

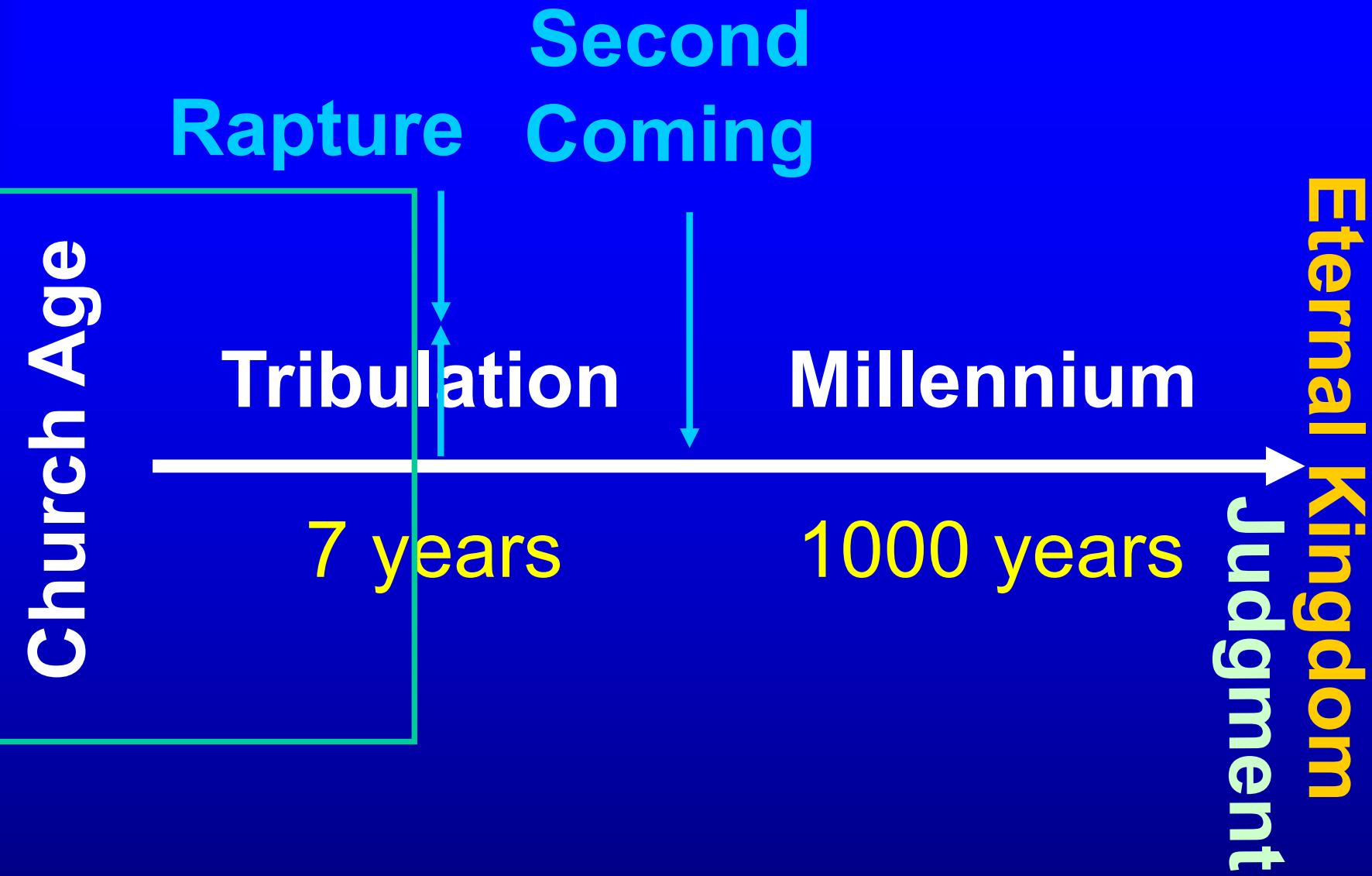
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Premillennialism

Second Coming = Second Advent

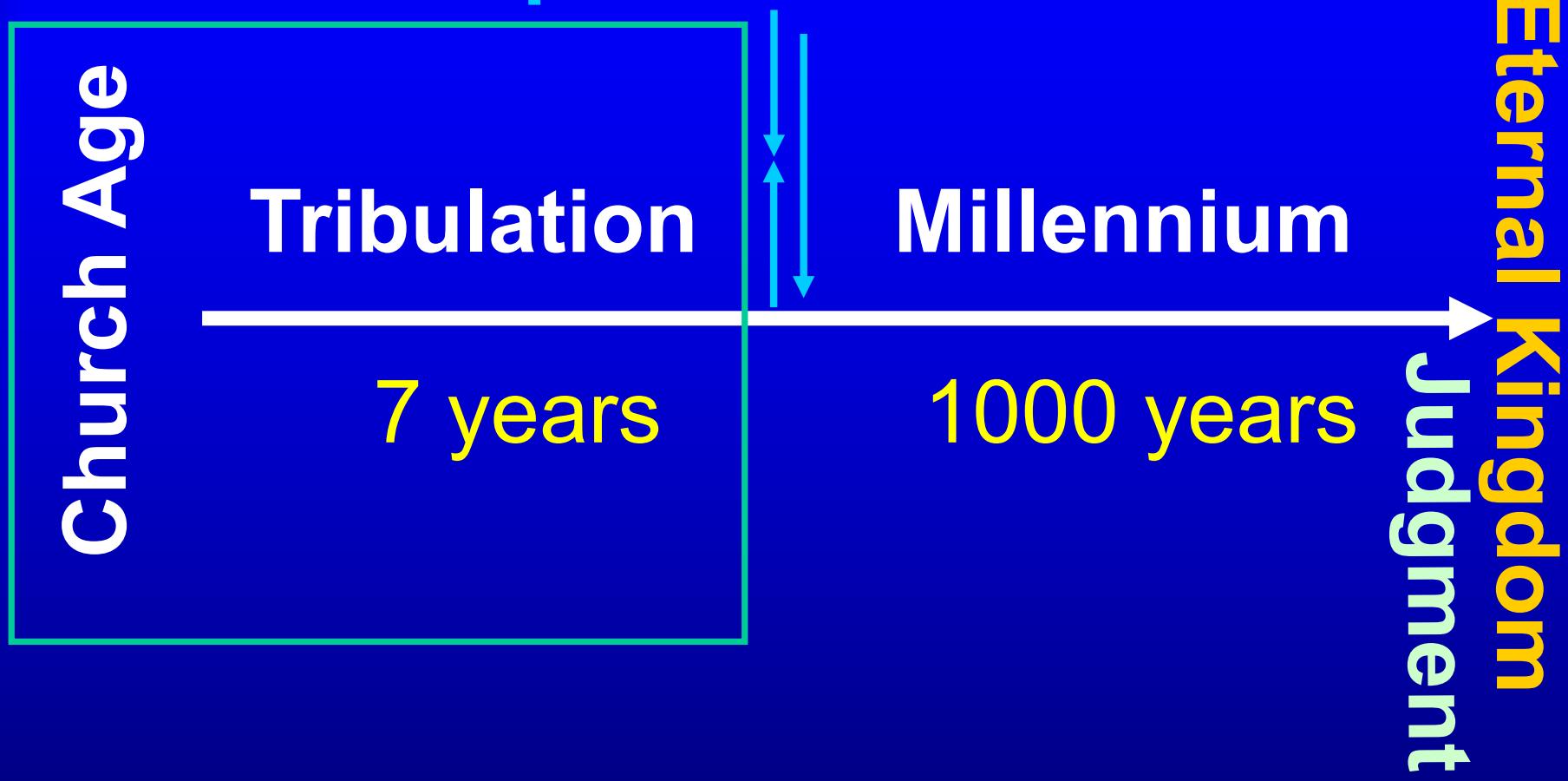


"Mid-Trib" Rapture



"Post-Trib" Rapture

Second Rapture Coming

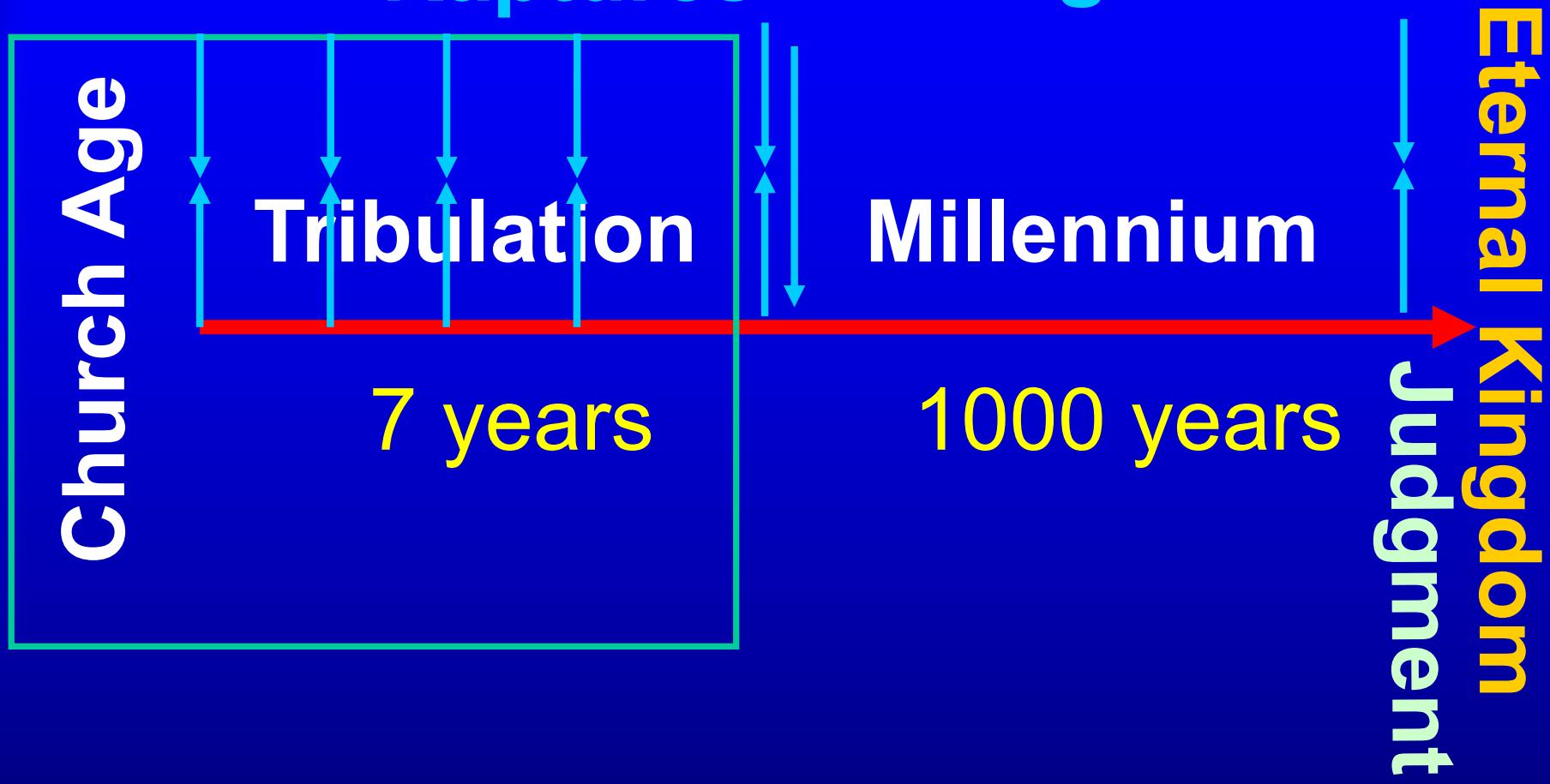


Why Am I Not Posttrib?

8. If posttrib, then sheep would already be separated from goats (Matt. 25:31-46).
9. Some people in the millennium will die (Isa. 65:20), but a posttrib rapture gives a glorified body to *all* believers; therefore, some people must trust Christ in the Tribulation and enter the Millennium in their mortal bodies.

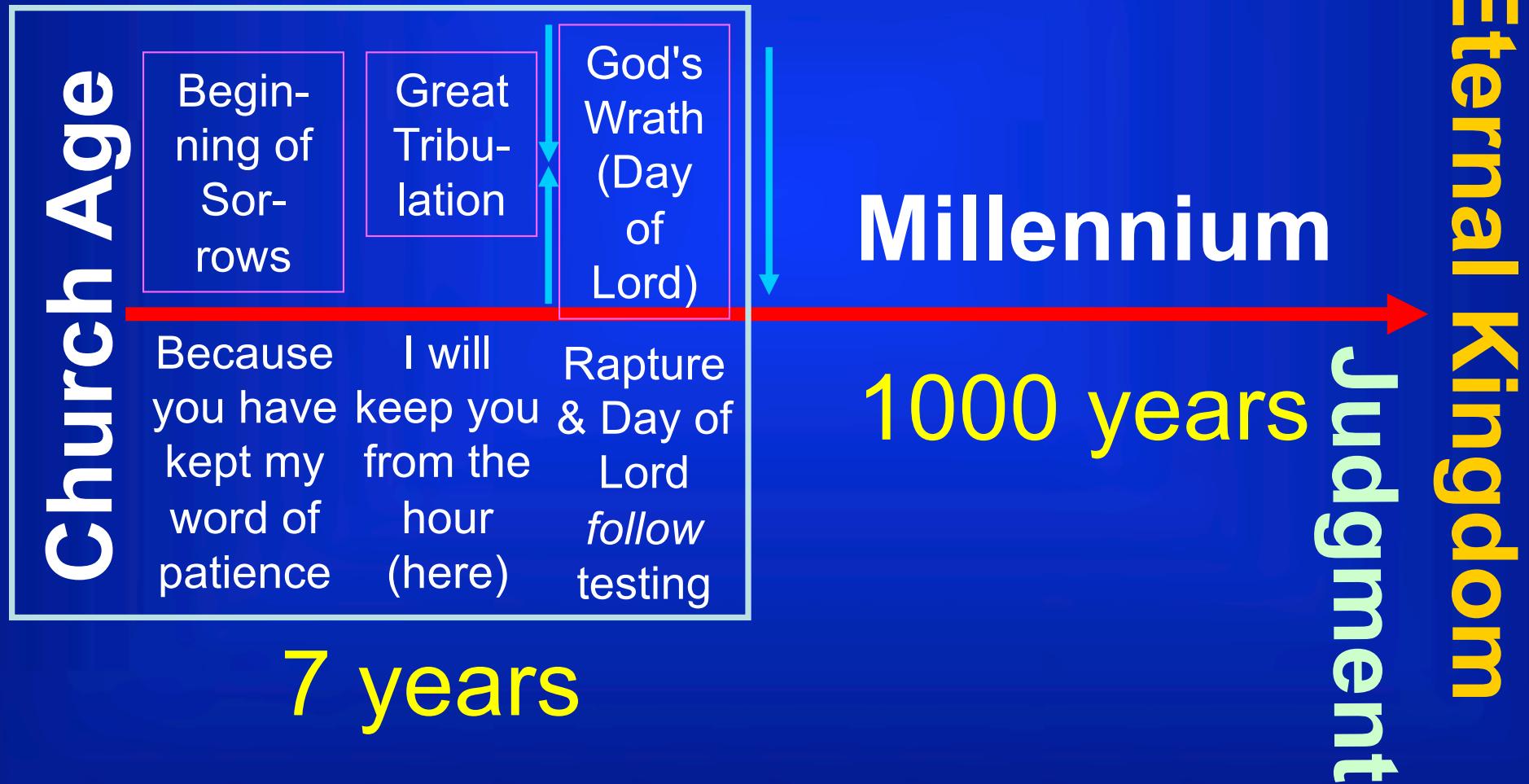
"Partial" Rapture

Second Raptures Coming



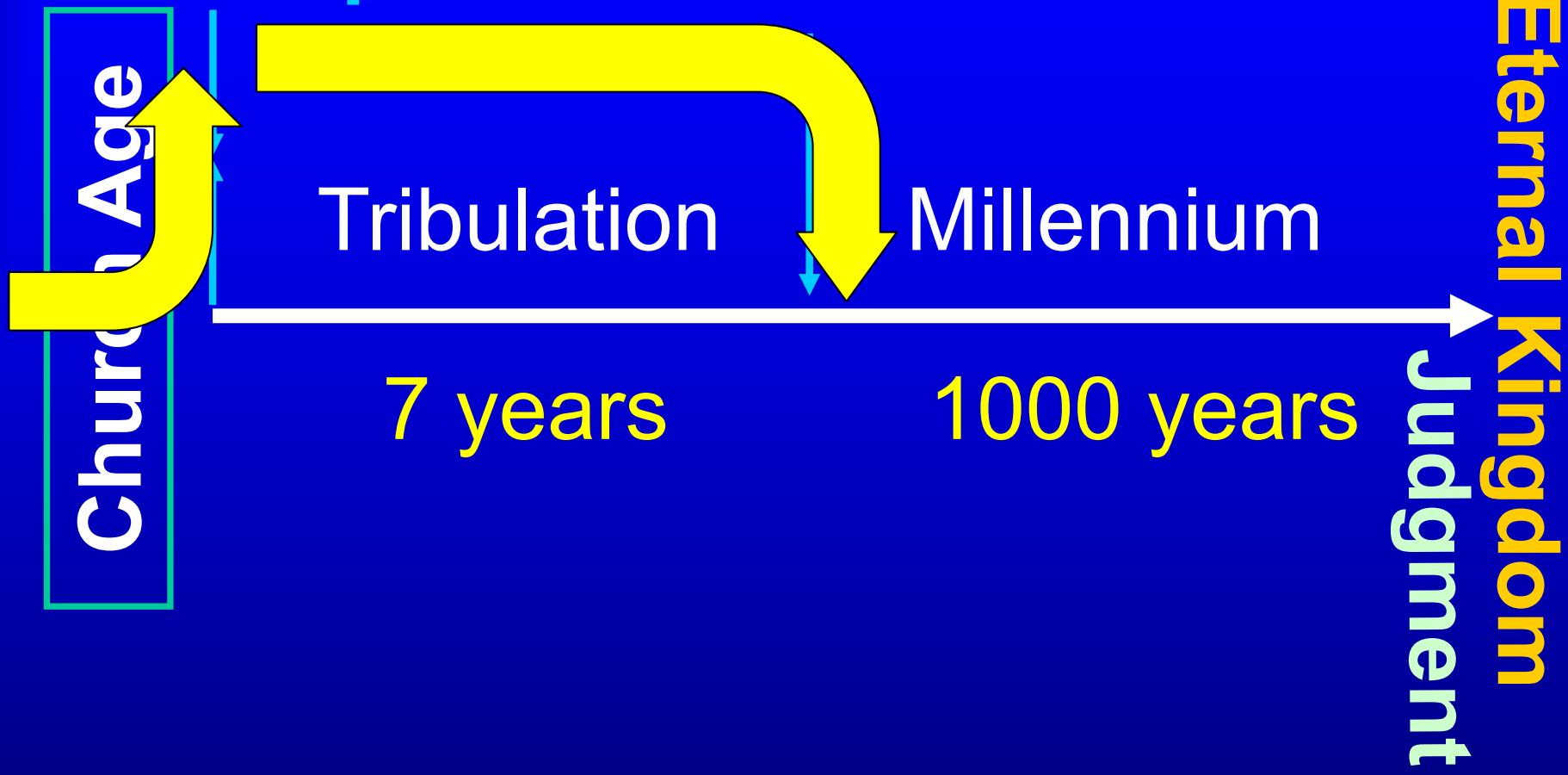
"Prewrath" Rapture

Pre-Wrath Second Rapture Coming



"Pre-Trib" Rapture

Second
Rapture Coming



Is the
millennium
anywhere
else in the
Bible?

The
**VICTORIOUS
KING**



"For the Lord declares, 'I have placed my chosen king on the throne in Jerusalem, on my holy mountain'" (Psalm 2:6 NLT).



The Image of Daniel 2



Christ's Kingdom will attack the world's kingdoms





**Note that ALL of the
kingdoms will fall at
the same time!**



Should we pray...

"Thy Kingdom Come" ?

"Many passages speak of the second coming of Christ being followed by a reign of righteousness on earth (Pss. 2; 24; 72; 96; Isa. 2; 9:6-7; 11-12; 63:1-6; 9-14; Jer. 23:5-6; 30:8-11; Dan. 9:1-14; Hosea 3:4-5; Am. 9:11-12; Zeph. 3:14-18; Zech. 14:1-8; 14:1-9; Matt. 16:27; 17:22-23; 24:31; 25:31-40; Acts 15:16-18; 27:27; Jude 14-15; Rev. 2:25-28; 19:11-20:6)." Not a new idea!

—John Walvoord, “Revelation,” in *The Bible Knowledge Commentary*, 2:978



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



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.



Rebuilding brings...



...a totally renewed earth!



"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."

Romans 8:19-21

434

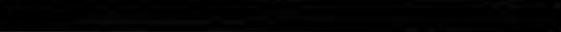


Why Am I Premillennial?

- The best hermeneutic is a normal, literal, historical, and grammatical view 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

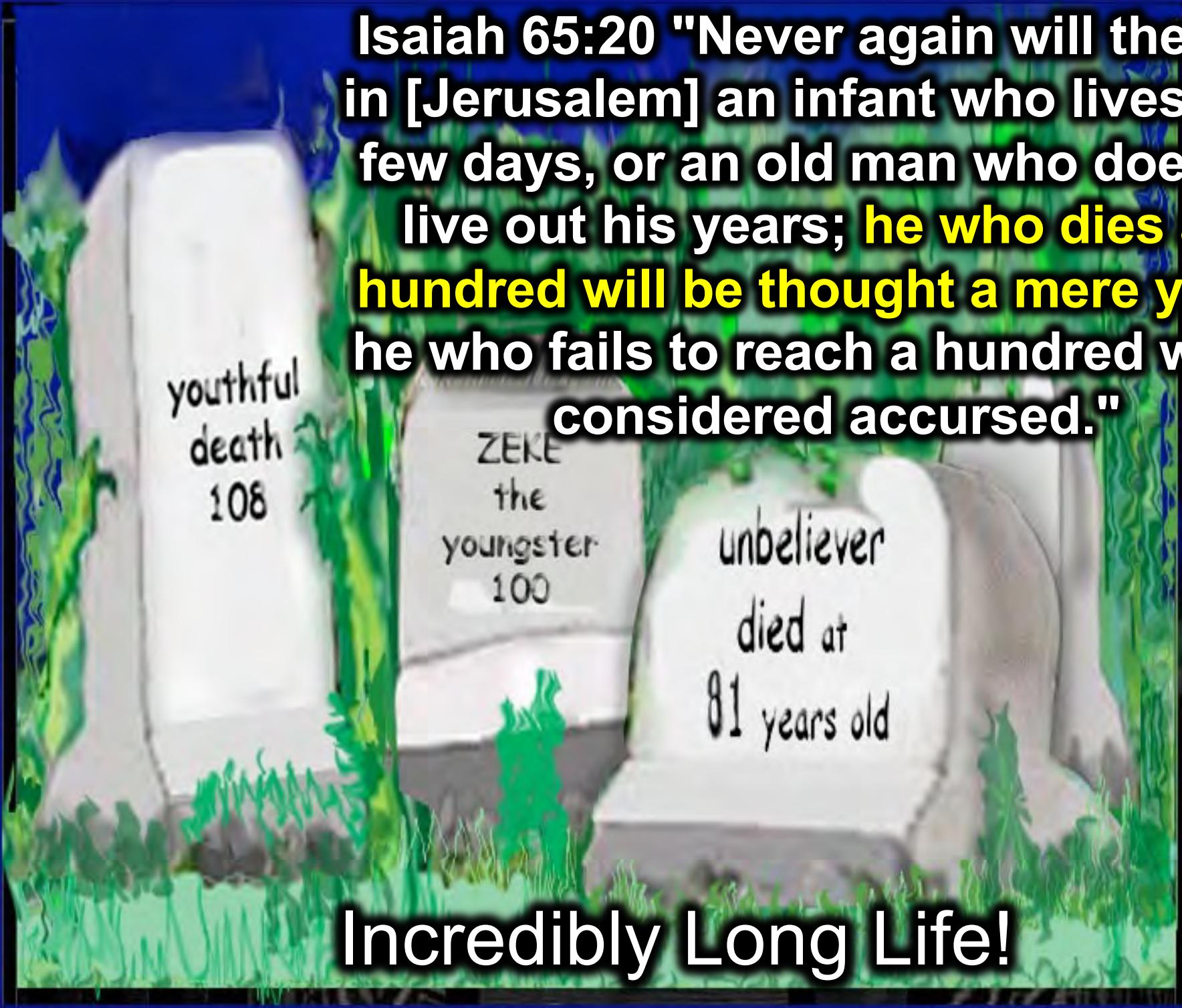
Moses  120 Years



David  70 Years

The Flood
explains why
life spans
shortened

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.**"



youthful
death
108

ZEKE
the
youngster
100

unbeliever
died at
81 years old

Incredibly Long Life!



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

Why Am I Premillennial?

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 - Animal kingdom tamed (Isa. 11:6-9)
 - Long life but still death (Isa. 65:20)
 - **Yearly observances after Messiah's return (Zech. 14:15-17)**

Millennial Jerusalem



**"The law will go out from Zion,
the word of the LORD from Jerusalem"**
—Isaiah 2:3

Not everyone will be resurrected at the end of the Tribulation

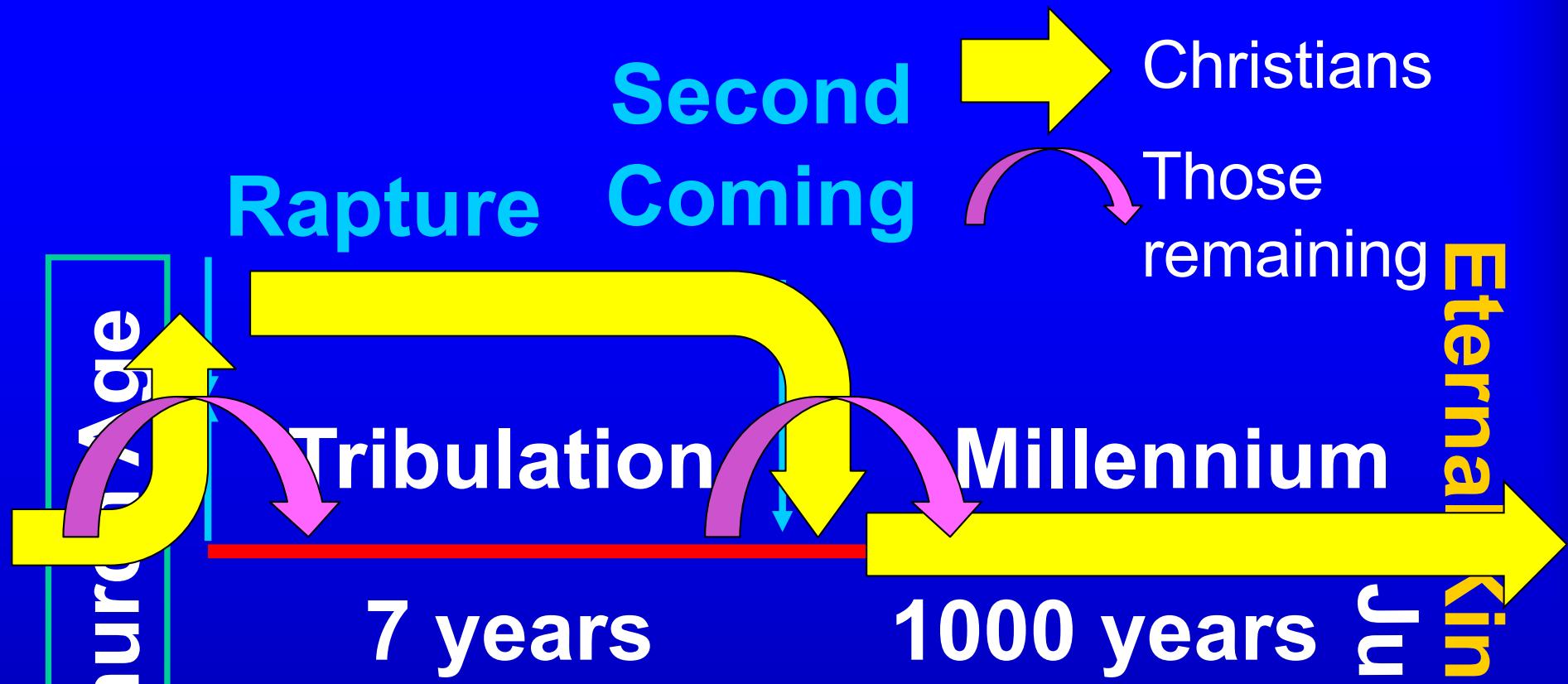
If all believers go up



and all unbelievers go down

A "Pre-Trib" Rapture explains how the Millennium will have both babies & death

435

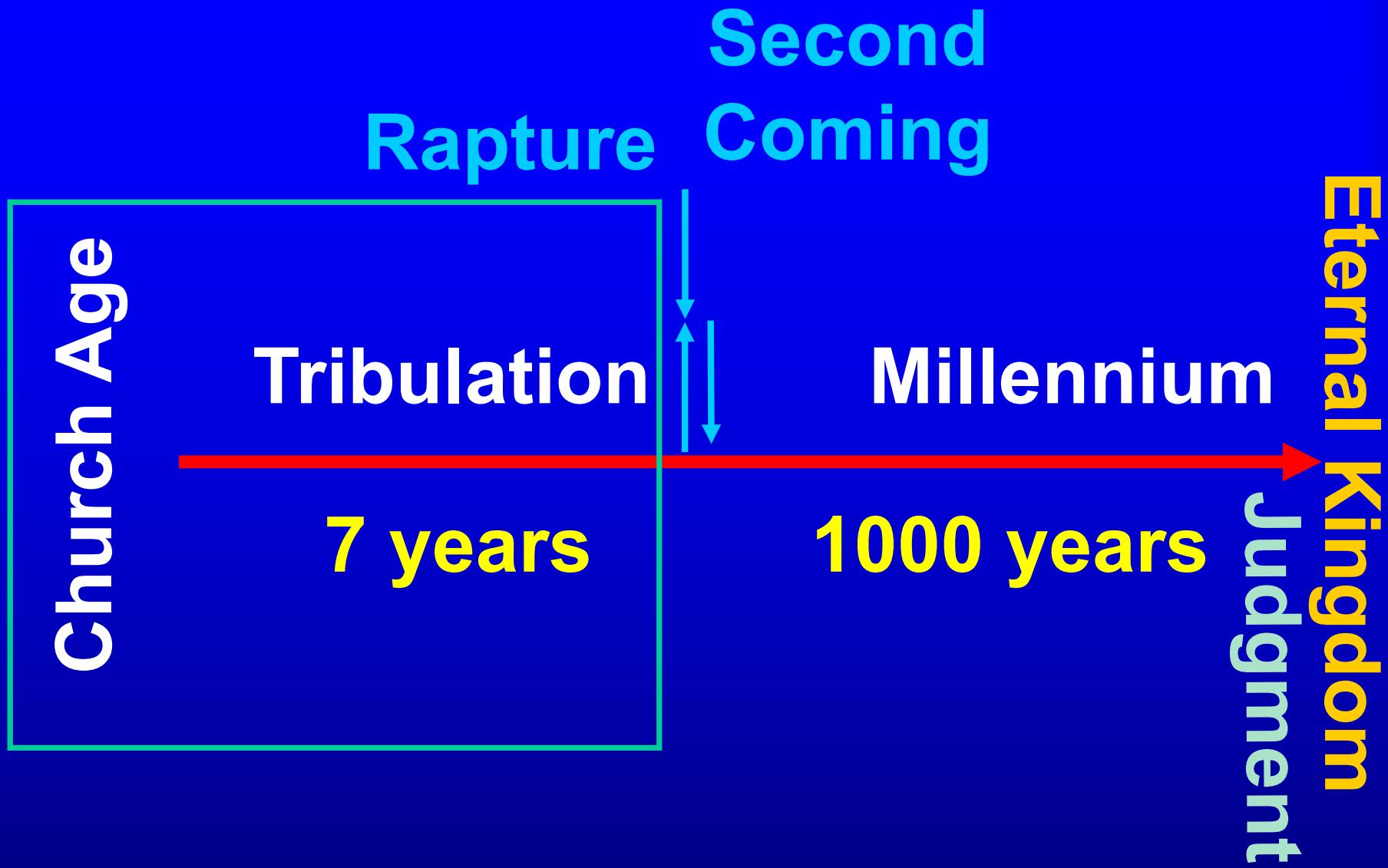


At the Rapture, believers will go to heaven and unbelievers remain on earth—the Tribulation will start 0% Christian.

After the Tribulation, believers on earth will enter the Millennium in their mortal bodies—the Millennium will start 100% Christian.

A "Post-Trib" Rapture cannot explain how to have mortals in the Millennium

435



Could mortals and those in glorified bodies really live together?



A composite image. The left side shows a woman in a patterned dress standing on a wooden dock, pointing her right index finger upwards towards a large, pale hand that appears to be reaching down from the sky. The background is a clear blue sky with a few power lines and a distant building. The right side of the image is a solid black rectangle containing white text.

Could mortals and those in glorified
bodies really live together?

Some make fun
of this idea

Could mortals and those in glorified bodies really live together?

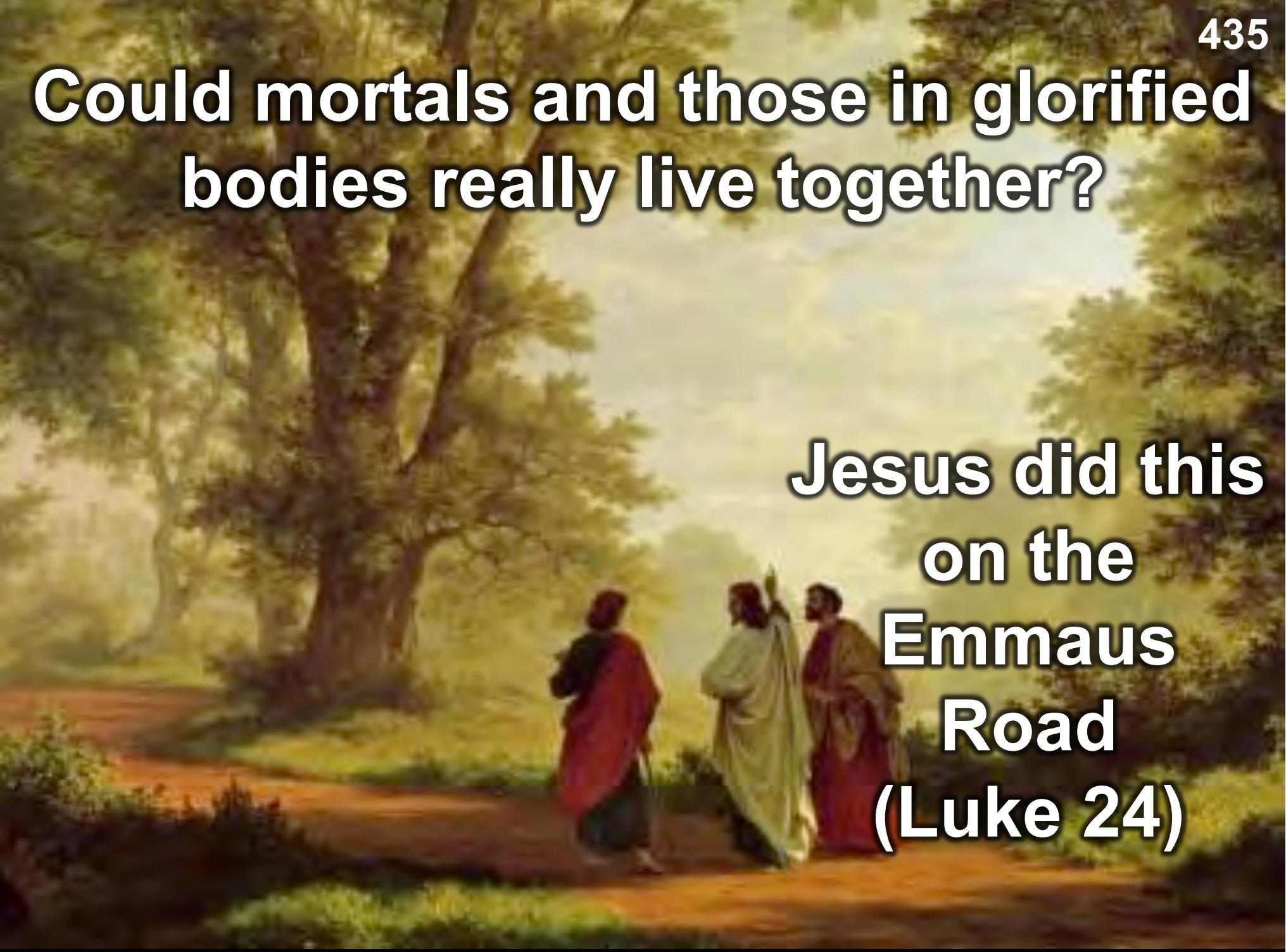


Arwen and Aragorn:
A mortal man and an
immortal Elvish princess



But it has
already been
done!

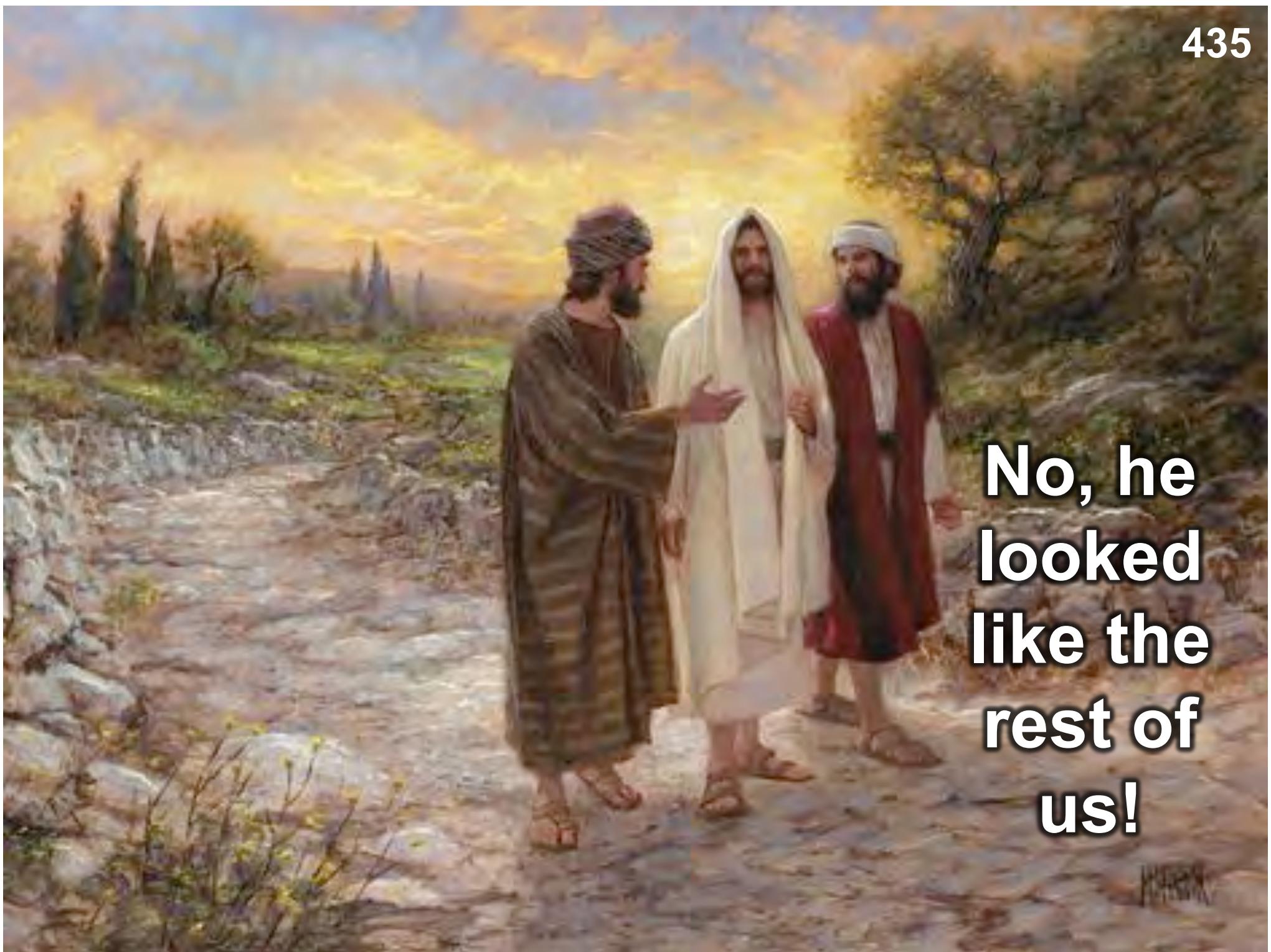
**Could mortals and those in glorified
bodies really live together?**



**Jesus did this
on the
Emmaus
Road
(Luke 24)**



Remember when Jesus
GLOWED?



**No, he
looked
like the
rest of
us!**



Only at dinner did they
recognize Jesus

**Will everyone
submit to
Christ in the
Millennium?**



**Mortals will
still have their
sinful nature in
the Millennium**





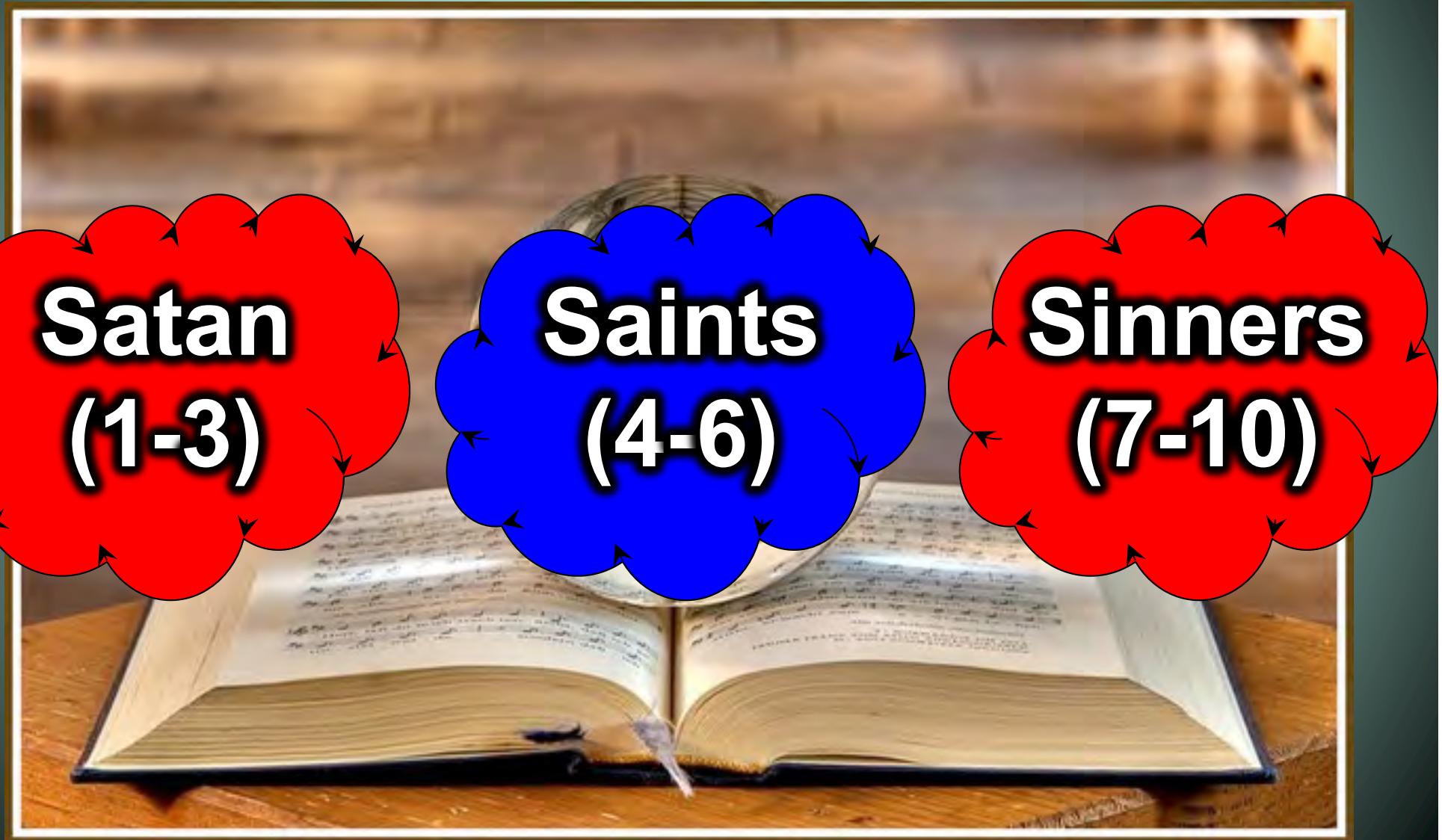
Our sin nature
remains from
birth



1000 years!



The Millennium (20:1-10)



Armies Gathered



"Then I saw the beast and the kings of the world and their armies gathered together to fight against the one sitting on the horse and his army" (19:19 NLT).

1000 years
later...



**Sinners will challenge Christ's
rule unsuccessfully (20:7-10).**

"When the thousand years come to an end, Satan will be let out of his prison. ⁸He will go out to deceive the nations—called Gog and Magog—in every corner of the earth. He will gather them together for battle—a mighty army, as numberless as sand along the seashore. ⁹And I saw them as they went up on the broad plain of the earth and surrounded God's people and the beloved city."

**Satan's Last Stand
(20:7-9a NLT)**



**Satan will still
be alive**

Satan is a master deceiver



L U C I f e r



Who is Gog?

- Many suggestions have been made.
- Land areas of Meshech and Tubal – cover areas in Turkey, Russia and Iran
- Is Gog and Magog in Ezek 38–39 the same as the Gog and Magog in Rev 20:8?

Differing Views:

1. Passage entirely symbolic
2. Before Tribulation
3. Middle of Tribulation
4. End of Tribulation
5. Between end of Tribulation & Millennium
6. After Millennium
7. Combination of 4th and 6th views

When Will Gog's Invasion Occur?

Reasons Ezekiel's Gog & Magog is different from John's Gog & Magog in Revelation 20:7-10

Ezekiel 38:2

Gog = Prince

Magog = Land

Ezekiel 38:16

Gog against Israel

Ezekiel 39:17-20

Great feast of corpses

Ezekiel 38-39; Rev. 9:16;

16:16; 19:19

Events fit before restored
millennial temple (Ezek. 40)

Revelation 20:8

Gog & Magog = nations

Revelation 20:8

Gog & Magog v. Messiah

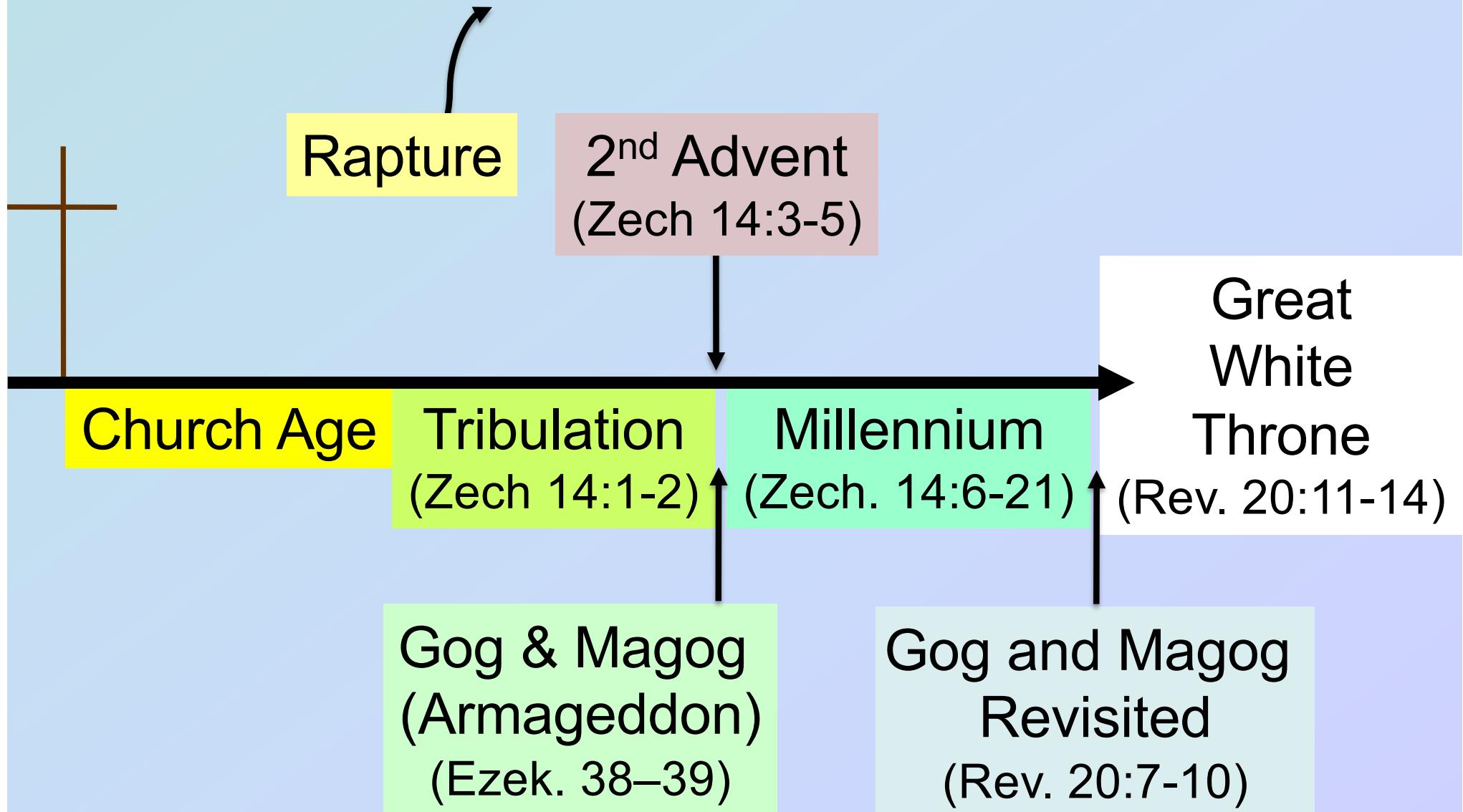
Revelation 20:10

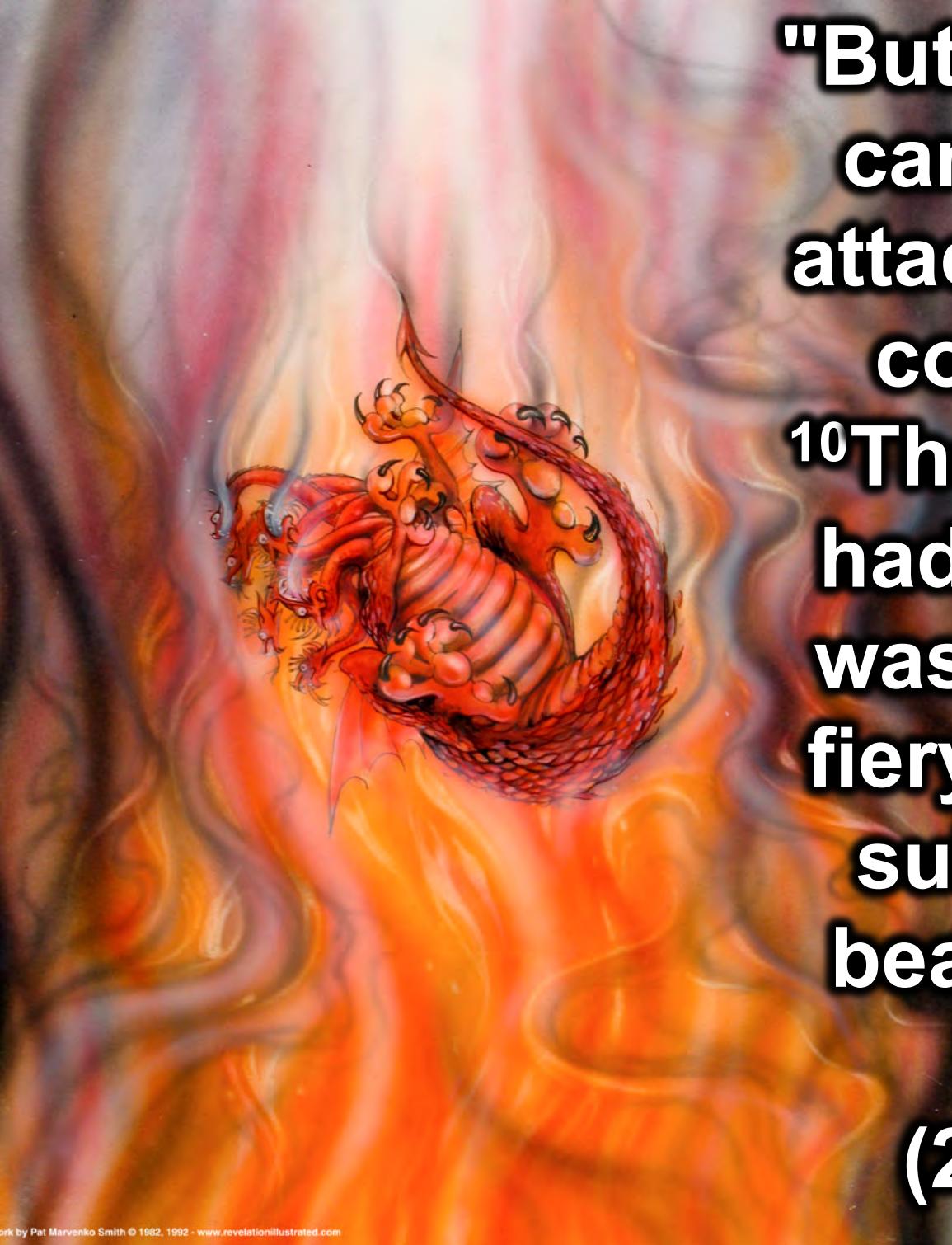
Satan cast into lake of fire

Revelation 20:7-10

Events fit after millennium in
20:1-6

A Dispensational Timeline





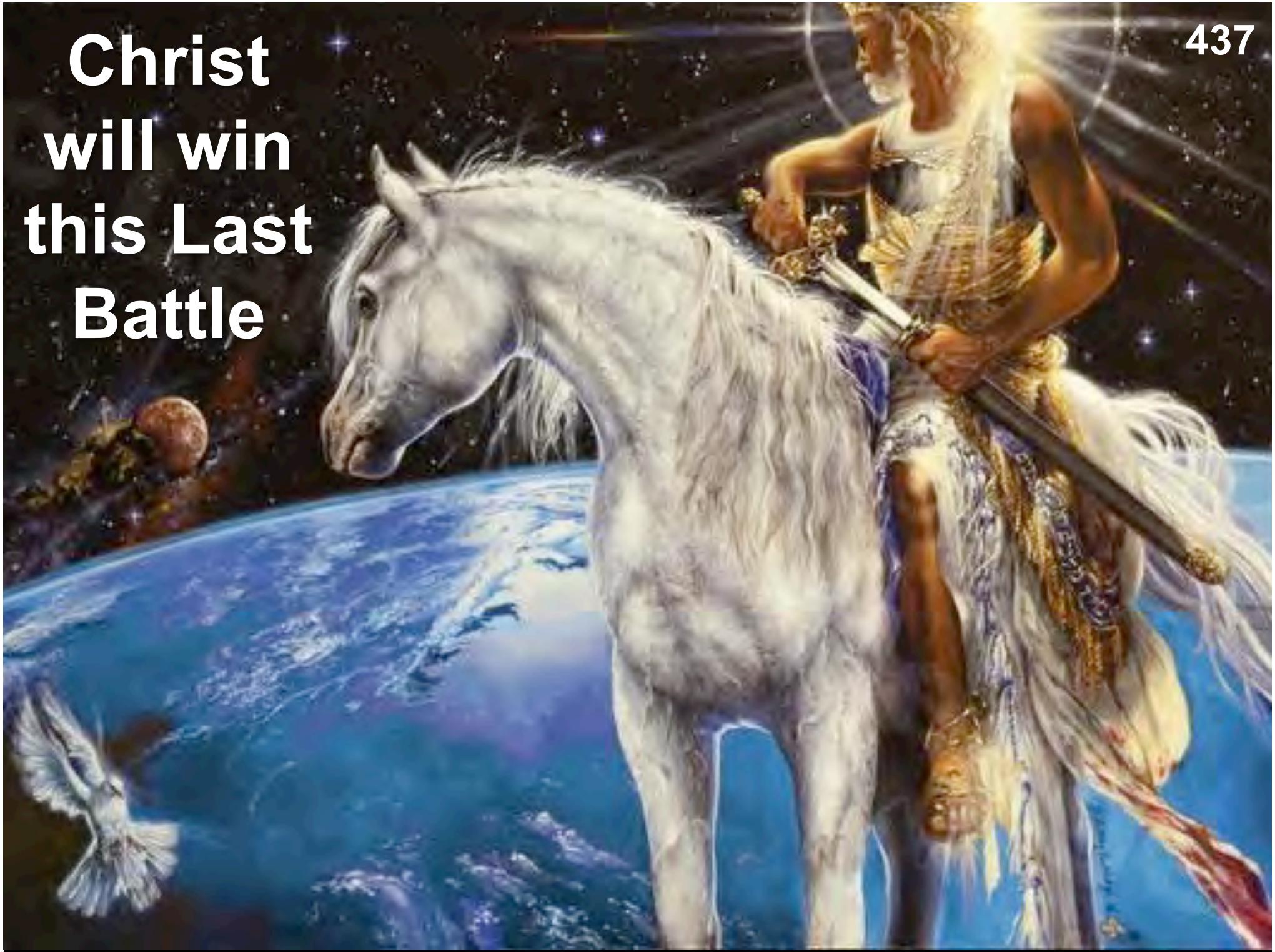
**"But fire from heaven
came down on the
attacking armies and
consumed them.
10 Then the devil, who
had deceived them,
was thrown into the
fiery lake of burning
sulfur, joining the
beast and the false
prophet."**
(20:9b-10a NLT)

**"There they
will be
tormented day
and night
forever and
ever"
(20:10b NLT)**



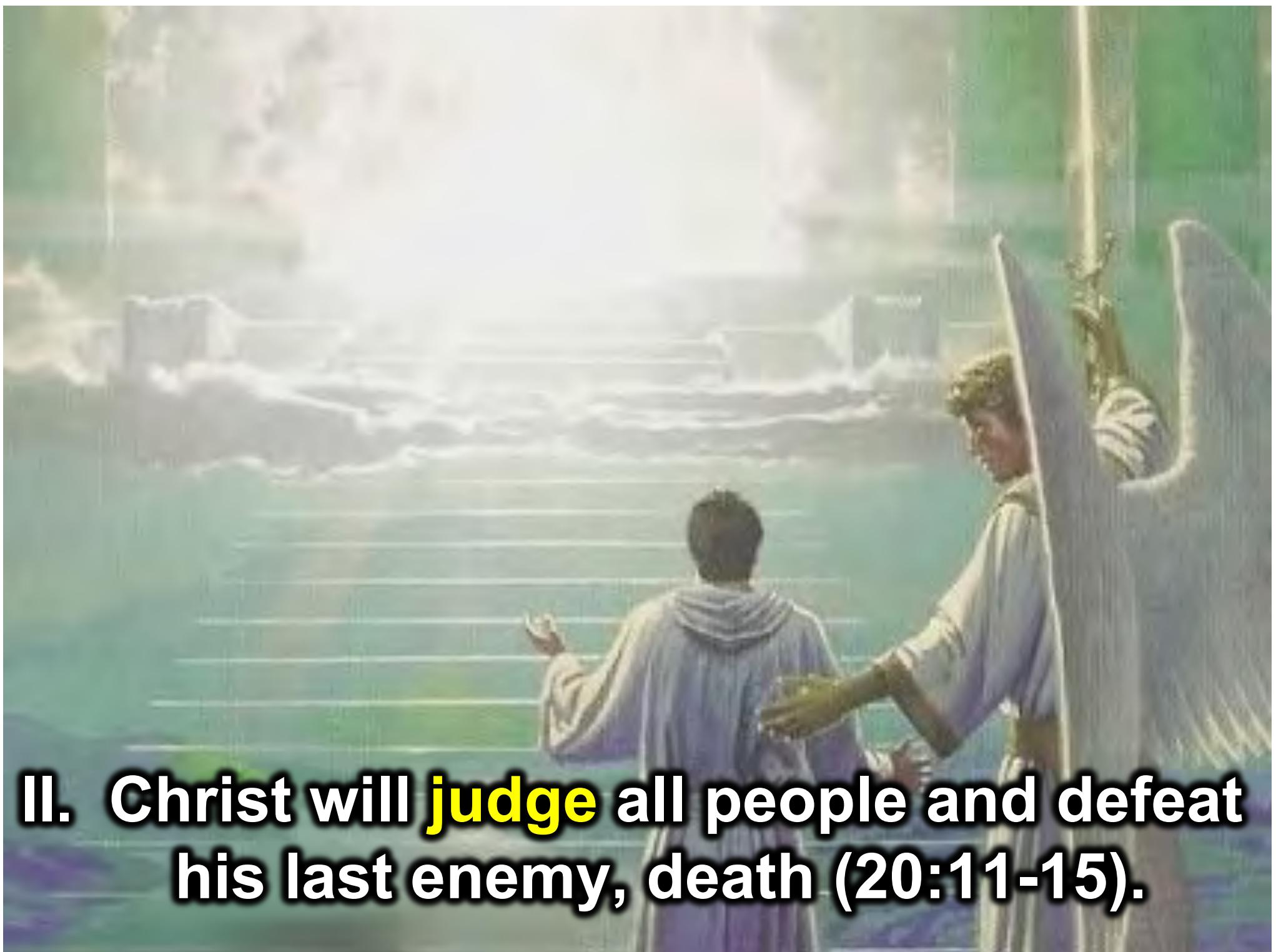
Christ
will win
this Last
Battle

437





I. You will **rule** the earth with Christ for 1000 years until Satan's last stand (20:1-10).



II. Christ will **judge all people and defeat his last enemy, death (20:11-15).**

**"And I saw a great white throne and the one sitting on it. The earth and sky fled from his presence, but they found no place to hide"
(20:11 NLT).**



**"I saw the dead, both great and small,
standing before God's throne"**
(20:12a NLT).



Will only *unbelievers* appear at the great white throne (20:14-15)?



- **Millennial mortals
need judgment**
- **It would seem
strange that no one
is written in the
book of life**



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

The Books (20:12)



Used with permission



The Final Judgment

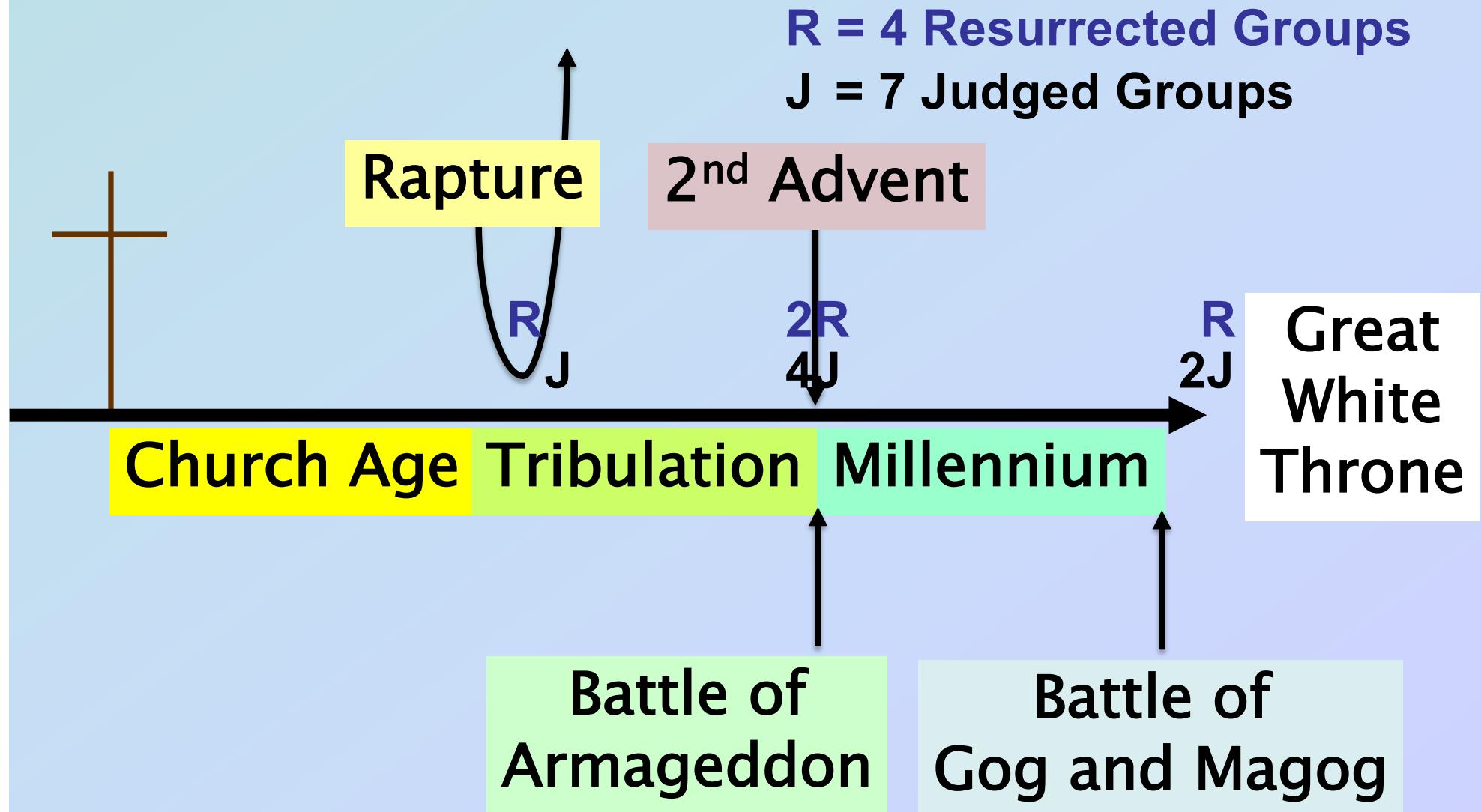
Is there one general judgment as depicted by Michelangelo?

Sistine Chapel, 1541

Yet Scripture prophesies seven
more future judgments...

Sound strange?

Resurrections & Judgments



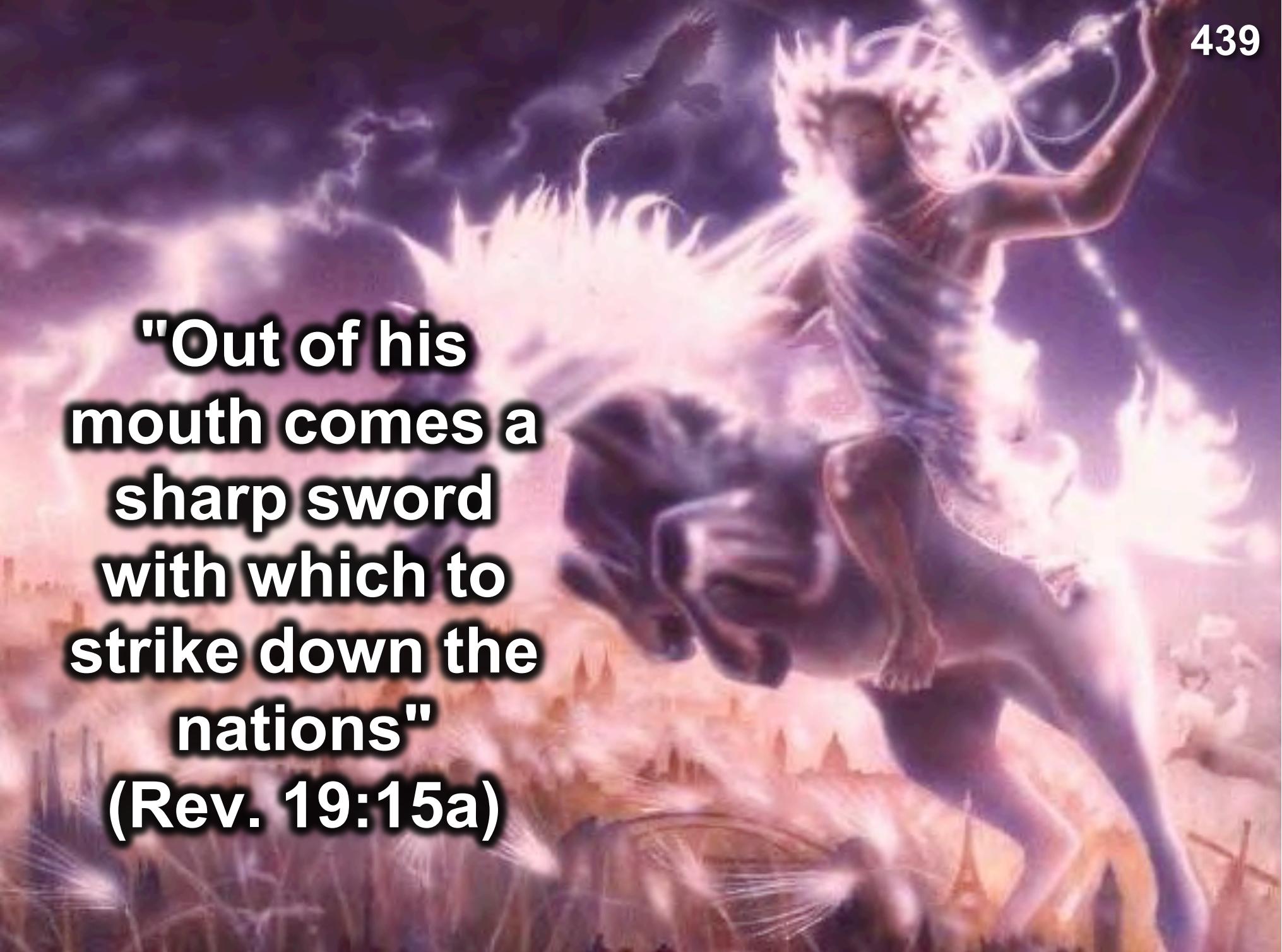
The Judgment Seat of Christ

- 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. ³Those 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

439



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

439



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.'

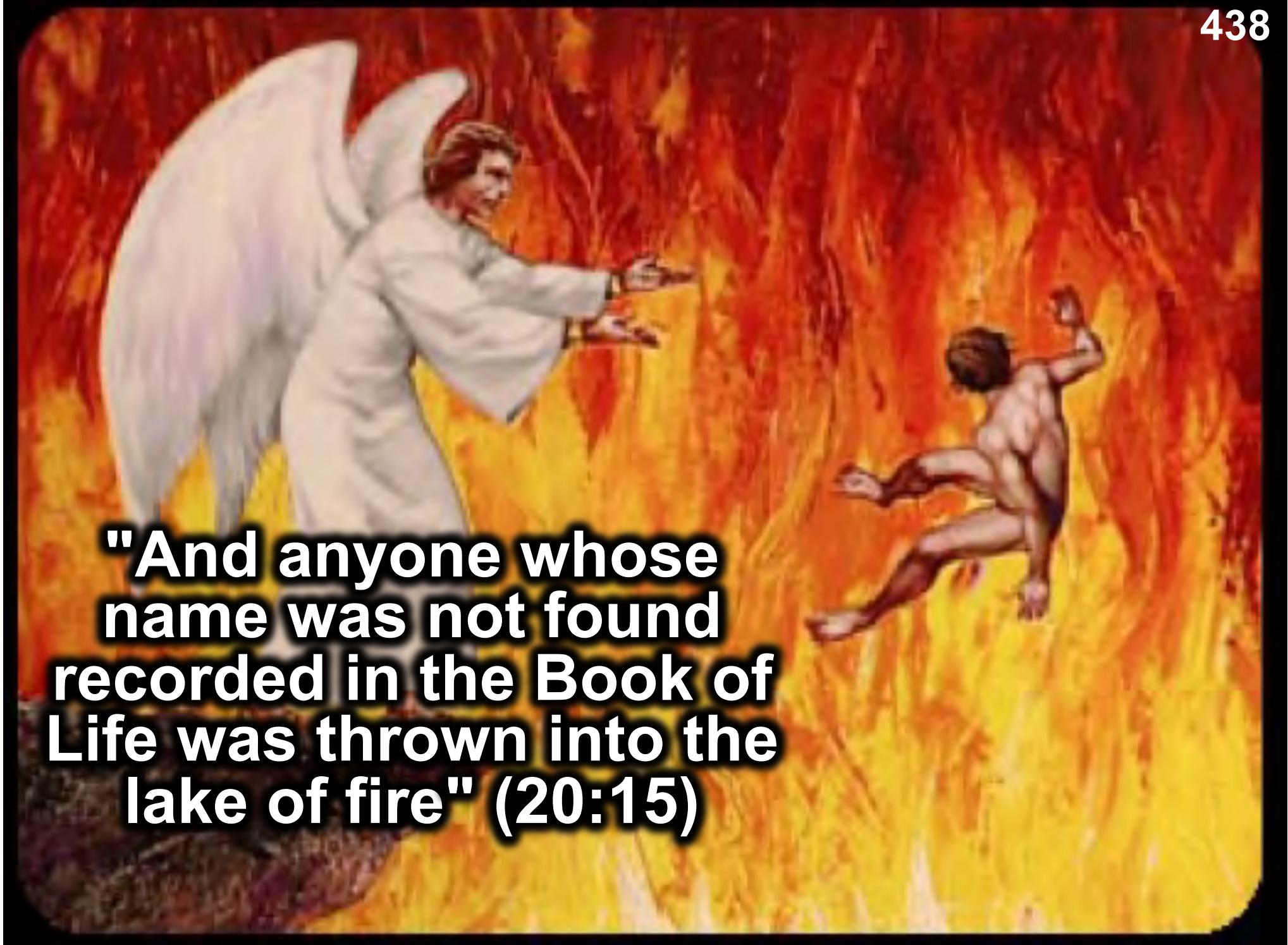
44 "Then they will reply, 'Lord, when did we ever see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and not help you?'

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).

"Then death and the grave were thrown into the lake of fire. This lake of fire is the second death" (20:14 NLT).





"And anyone whose name was not found recorded in the Book of Life was thrown into the lake of fire" (20:15)

The Transfer of Paradise

Eph. 4:8-10

"...today you will be with me in paradise."

Luke 23:43 2 Cor. 12:2, 4

"I was caught up to the third heaven...I was caught up to paradise"

S
H
E
O
L

Paradise

HADES

Luke 16:26

"That is why the Scriptures say, 'When he ascended to the heights, he led a crowd of captives and gave gifts to his people.'
9Notice that it says 'he ascended.' This clearly means that Christ also descended to our lowly world. 10And the same one who descended is the one who ascended higher than all the heavens, so that he might fill the entire universe with himself."



1 Pet.
3:18-20

"Christ suffered for our sins once for all time. He never sinned, but he died for sinners to bring you safely home to God. He suffered physical death, but he was raised to life in the Spirit.

19So he went and preached to the spirits in prison— 20those who disobeyed God long ago when God waited patiently while Noah was building his boat. Only eight people were saved from drowning in that terrible flood."

"...there is a great chasm separating us. No one can cross over to you from here, and no one can cross over to us from there."

"Then death and [Hades] were thrown into the lake of fire... 15And anyone whose name was not found recorded in the Book of Life was thrown into the lake of fire."

Will only unbelievers appear at the great white throne (20:14-15)?



- **Millennial mortals need judgment**
- **It would seem strange that no one is written in the book of life**

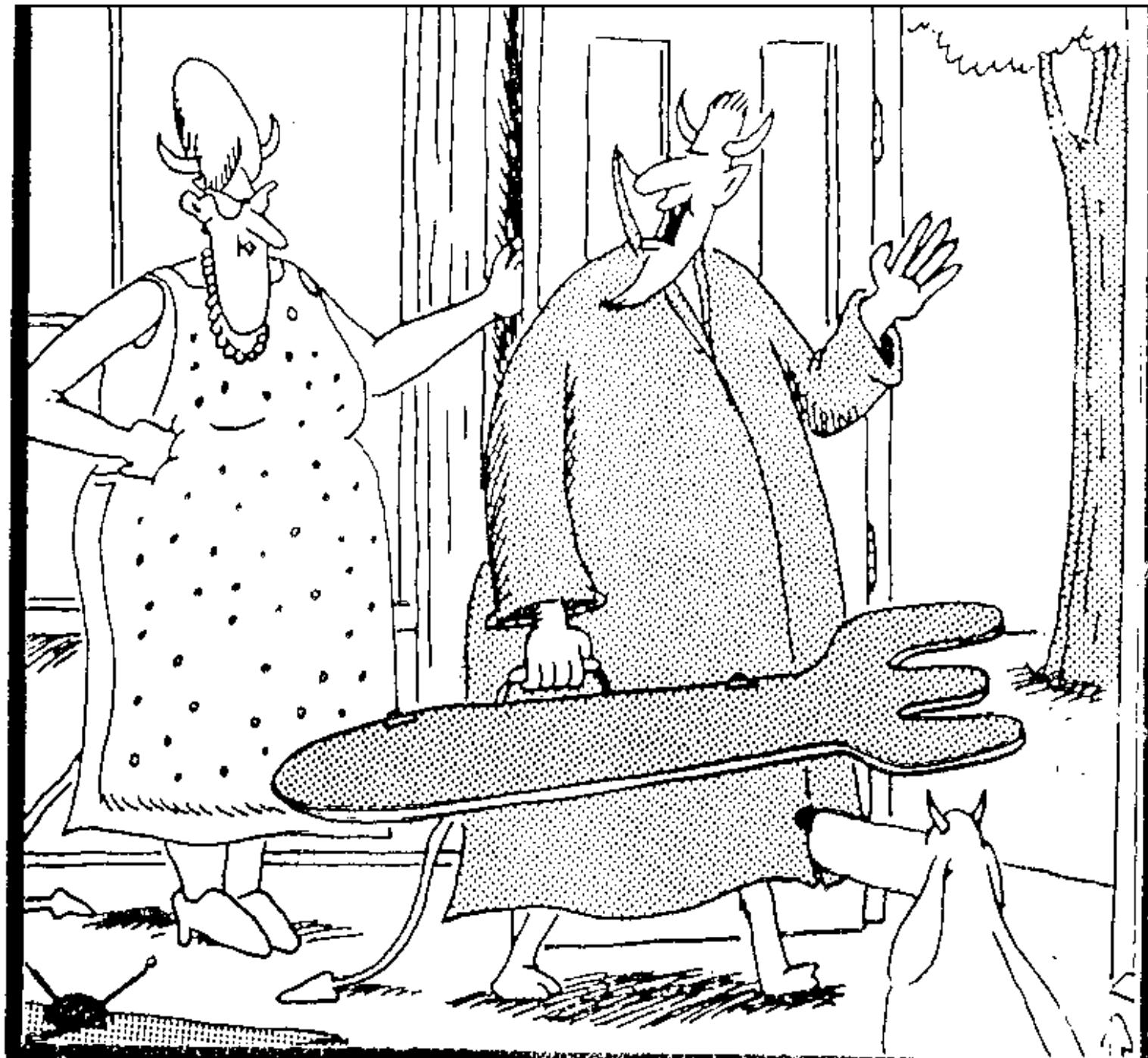
Which Will We Believe?

Tradition

Man dwells with the
devil

Bible





"Well, down I go."

Which Will We Believe?

Tradition

Man dwells with the devil—the boss

"At least my friends will be there"

Bodies suffer mild discomfort

Bible

Man is alone (Luke 13:28)

Yes, but you won't see them (Luke 13:28)

Bodies suffer from burning sulfur and consumption by worms (Mark 9:47-48; Rev. 21:8)

Which Will We Believe?

Tradition

Satan is tormenter
over all in Hell

A place of solid earth

People alone suffer

Satan rules with
pitchfork

Bible

Satan in torment with
those tormented (Rev. 20:10)

A lake (Rev. 20:10)

Demons too (2 Pet. 2:4)

Satan thrown into Hell
with no emblems of
dominion (Rev. 20:10)

How will Christ **mop** up the world after his return?



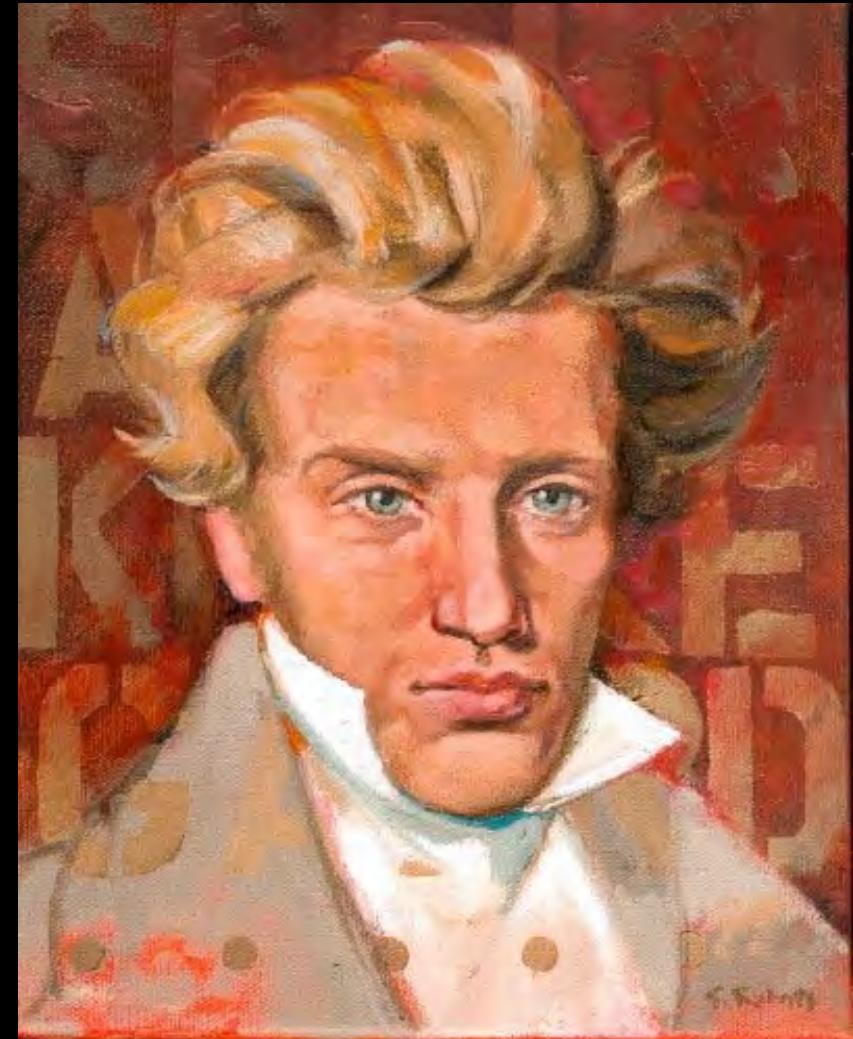
Jesus will rule and judge all creation



Main Idea

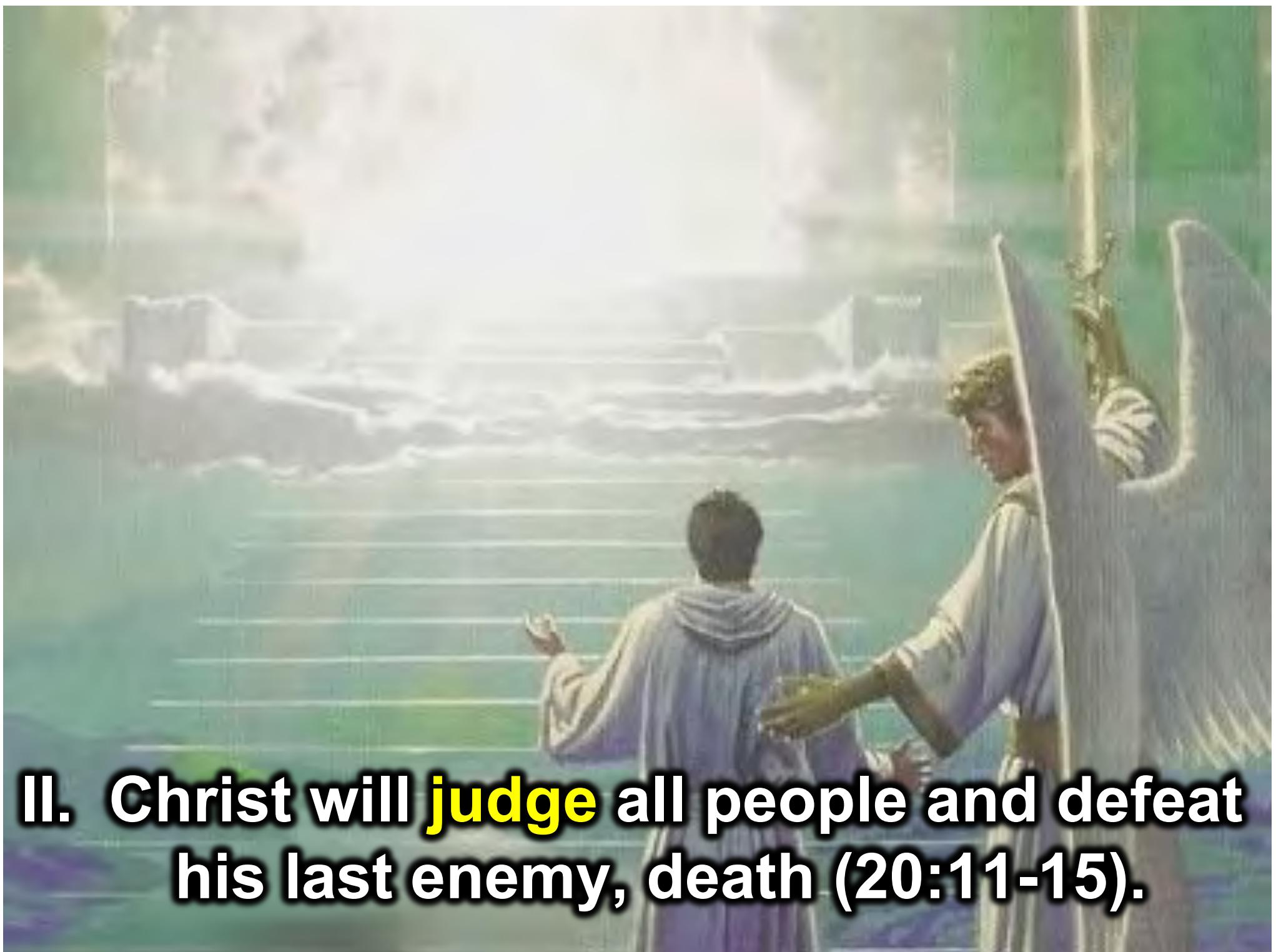
"There are two ways to be fooled. One is to believe what isn't true; the other is to refuse to accept what is true."

—Søren Kierkegaard





I. You will **rule** the earth with Christ for 1000 years until Satan's last stand (20:1-10).



II. Christ will **judge all people and defeat his last enemy, death (20:11-15).**

Do you trust Christ?

**"Before we can pray, Lord, Thy Kingdom come,
we must be willing to pray, My kingdom go."**

—Alan Redpath



Will you stand?





Or sink?



"I trust in your death for me."



Jesus will reign.

Ready to reign with him?



**"There is a land of pure delight,
Where saints immortal reign;
Infinite day excludes the night,
And pleasures banish pain."**

—Isaac Watts

How can you be ready to reign?



Be faithful NOW



Revelation 21



The New Heaven & New Earth

The New Jerusalem (Rev. 21-22)

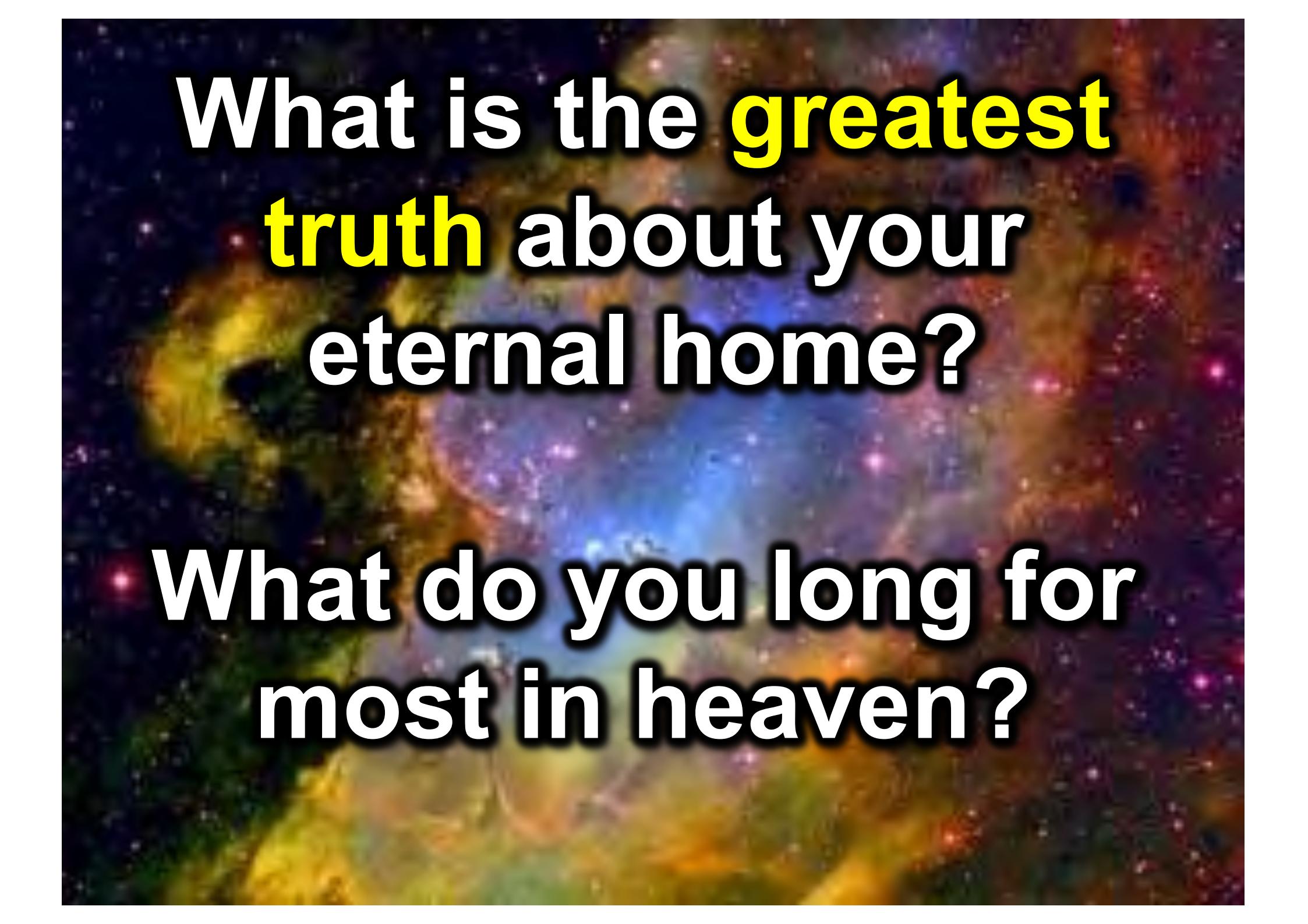


Dr. Rick Griffith, Crossroads International Church Singapore
cicfamily.com & BibleStudyDownloads.org

THERE IS NO
PLACE LIKE
Home

why?





What is the **greatest**
truth about your
eternal home?

What do you long for
most in heaven?



Home = Relationships!



Heaven = Relationships!



Future Benefits (Rev. 19–22)



The Bible's Chiasm

Repeated Patterns in Reverse Order

Christ's
Redemption

Man's
Rule
Lost at
Fall

Creation

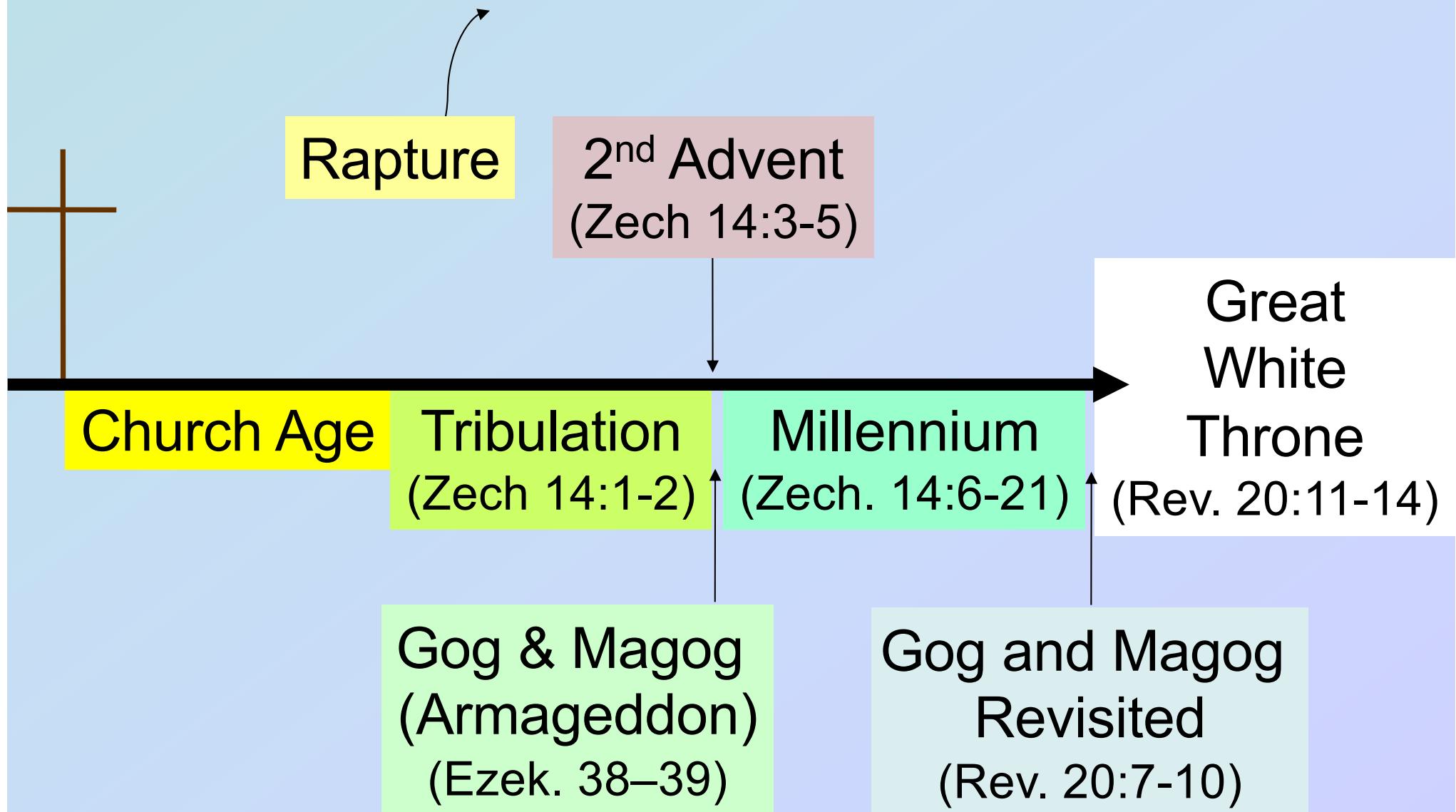
Christ's
Rule

Man's
Rule
Restored at
Millennium

New
Creation



A Dispensational Timeline



Binding of Satan (20:2-3a NLT)

"He seized the dragon... and bound him for 1000 years. He threw him into the Abyss, and locked and sealed it over him to keep him from deceiving the nations anymore until the 1000 years were ended..."



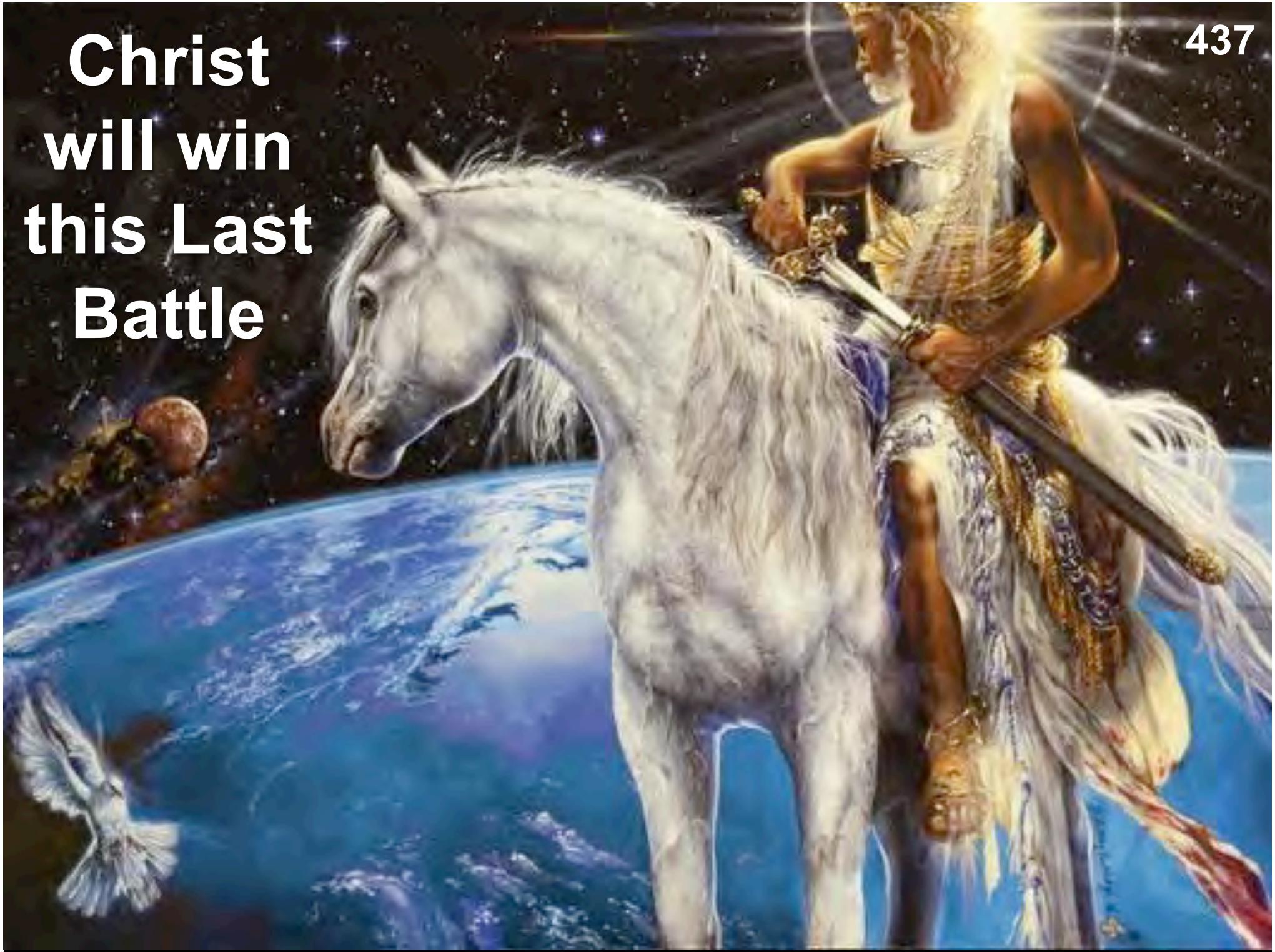
Purposes of the Millennium



- ① Judge angels
- ② Rule the earth
- ③ Restore world to pre-Flood era
(long life of Isa. 65:20)
- ④ Fulfill Abrahamic Covenant

Christ
will win
this Last
Battle

437





Dragon cast
into lake of
burning
sulfur
(20:10)



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

BASED ON
THE INCREDIBLE TRUE STORY

Heaven is for Real

IN THEATERS
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16



A young boy with light blonde hair is lying in a hospital bed, looking up. A woman with long blonde hair is on the left, and a man with dark hair is on the right, both holding the boy. The boy is wearing a blue and white striped pajama top. The background shows a hospital room with a white bedsheet and a blue wall with a light switch.

Heaven
is for
Real



Heaven is for Real

NEW FILM TELLS THE STORY OF COLTON
BURPO'S NEAR DEATH EXPERIENCE

the
KELLY
file



What
(Description)

How
(Prescription)

Today's Text (Rev. 21-22)



I. God will once again **live** with man (21:1-22:6).



**"Then I saw
a new
heaven and a
new earth,
for the old
heaven and
the old earth
had
disappeared"
(21:1a NLT).**



A Literal
New
Heaven &
New
Earth?

He will return!





Come the water!



BE A BRIDE
OF
CHRIST



"I was caught up to the third heaven"
(2 Cor 12:2 NLT)

Terminology for "Heaven(s)"

175

- **Atmosphere (Gen. 1:6-8)**
- **Outer Space (Gen. 1:1, 14)**
- **Abode of God & Saints (2 Cor. 12:2)**
- **Millennium (Isa. 65:17; 66:22)**

Genesis 1–3

"In the beginning God created the **heavens and the earth**" (1:1)



Revelation 20–22

"Then I saw a **new heaven and a new earth**" (21:1)



The Last Beginning

Revelation 21:
**A new heaven and earth this time
unspoiled by sin, death, pain, or sorrow.**

“The New Jerusalem (described in 21:9–22:5) is shaped like a gigantic cube, fifteen hundred miles in length, width, and height. (The most holy place in the Old Testament tabernacle and temple was also a perfect cube.) Its multicolored stones will reflect the glory of God, and it will continually be filled with light. The greatest thing of all is that believers will be in the presence of God, and ‘they will see his face’ (22:4).

“The Apocalypse [Revelation] has been given an appropriate place as the last book in the canon of Scripture because it ties the themes of the Bible together. In a very real sense, chapters 21–22 are the new Genesis but without the Fall. In broadest terms, the Bible conveys the metanarrative of God’s work in creation, redemption, and re-creation, and this story centers on the incarnation of the God-man.”

—Dr. Kenneth (ThM, 1972) and Karen Boa in *A Light for My Path*

Days of Creation

Formless → **Forming**

3

Day 1: Light

Day 2: Water &
air separated

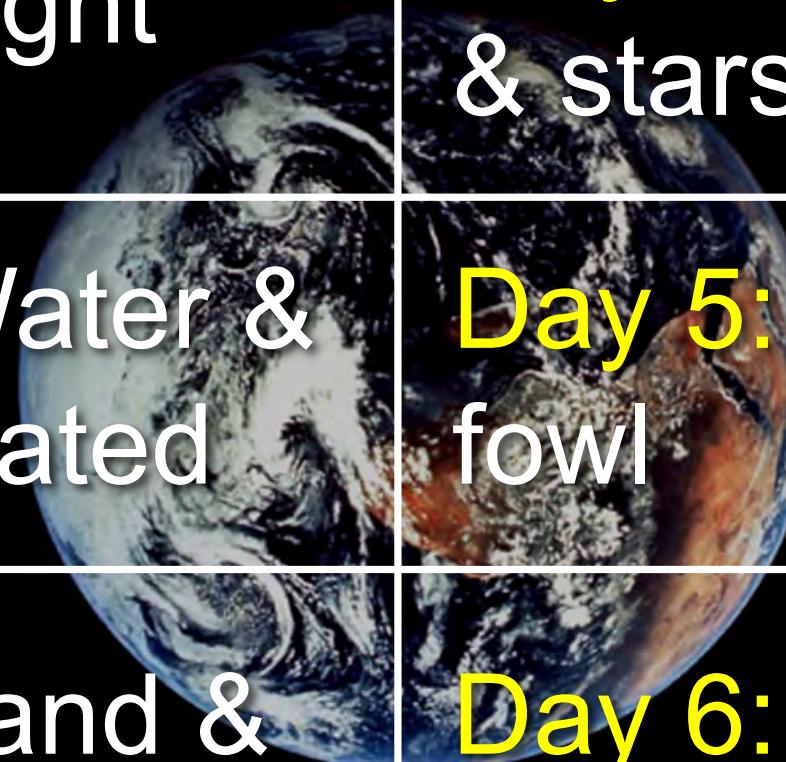
Day 3: Land &
sea separated

Day 4: Sun, moon
& stars arranged

Day 5: Fish &
fowl

Day 6: Animals
& man

Void → **Filling**



Genesis 1:3-31

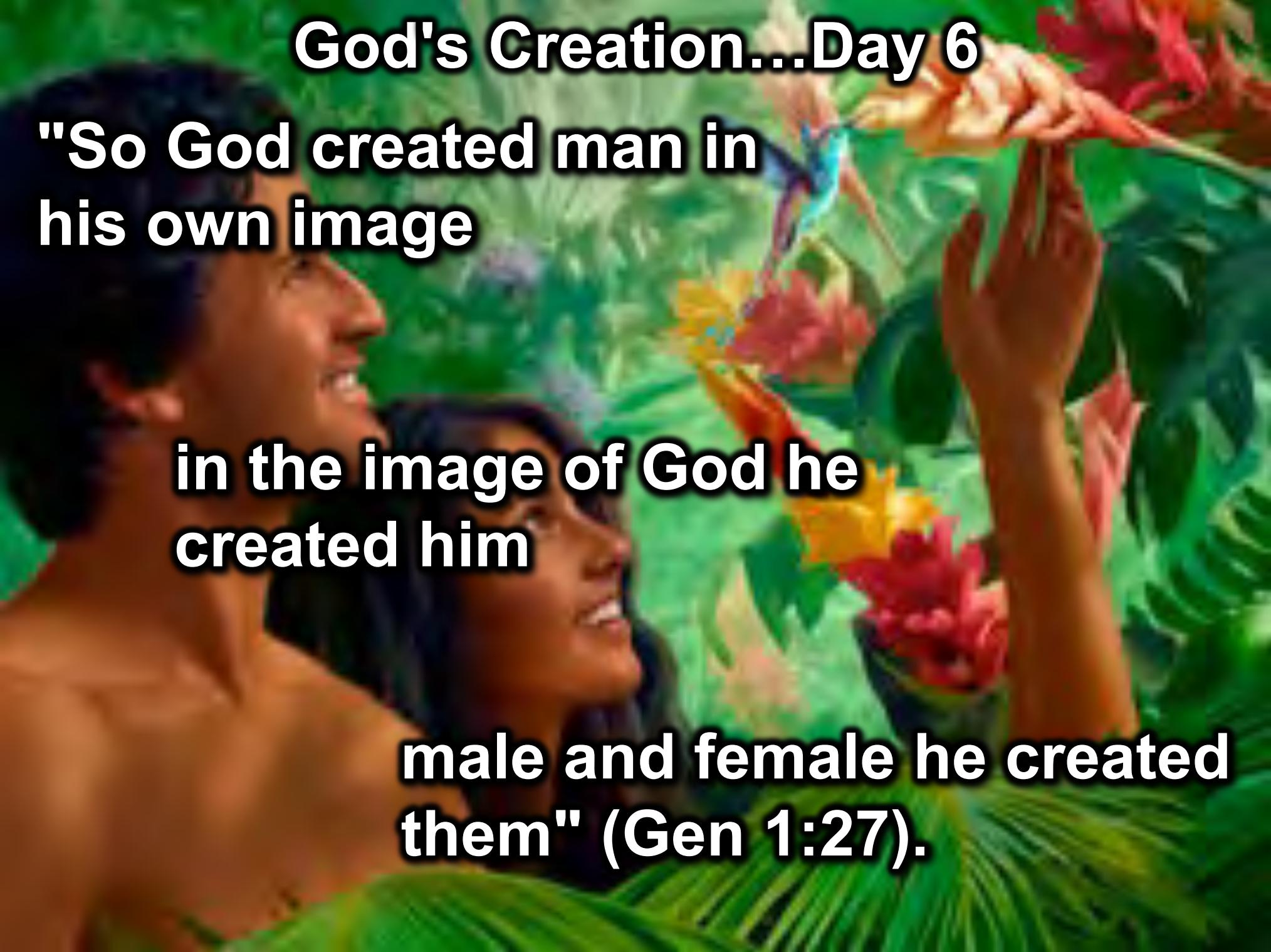


"Then God said, 'Let the earth bring forth living creatures after their kind: cattle and creeping things and beasts of the earth after their kind'; and it was so. God made the beasts of the earth after their kind, and the cattle after their kind, and everything that creeps on the ground after its kind; and God saw that it was good" (Gen. 1:24-25).

God's Creation...Day 6

448

"Then God said, 'Let Us make man **in Our image, according to Our likeness; and **let them rule** over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth'" (Gen 1:26).**



God's Creation...Day 6

**"So God created man in
his own image**

**in the image of God he
created him**

**male and female he created
them" (Gen 1:27).**

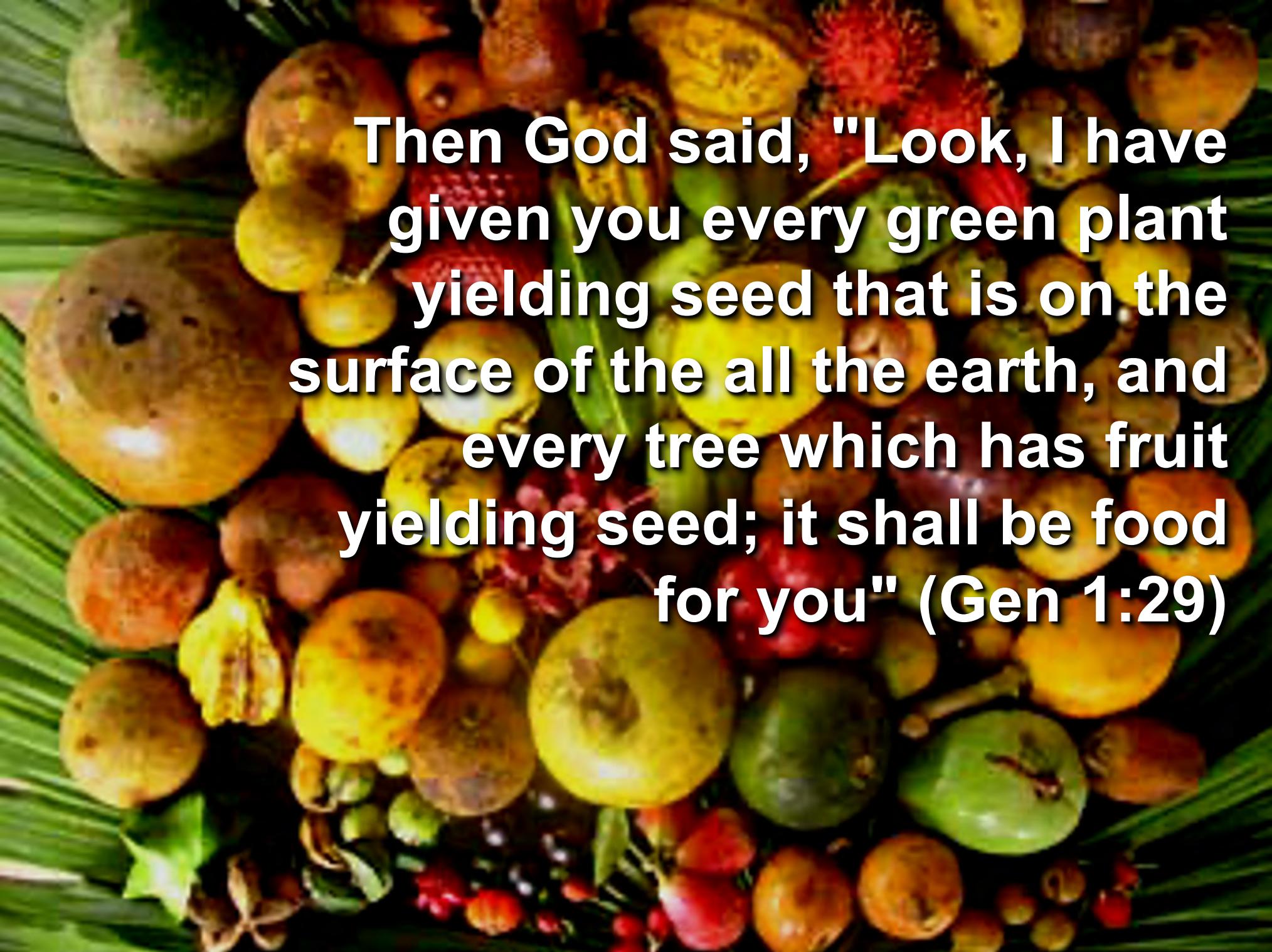
and over the **birds**
of the air

and have dominion over
the **fish** of the sea

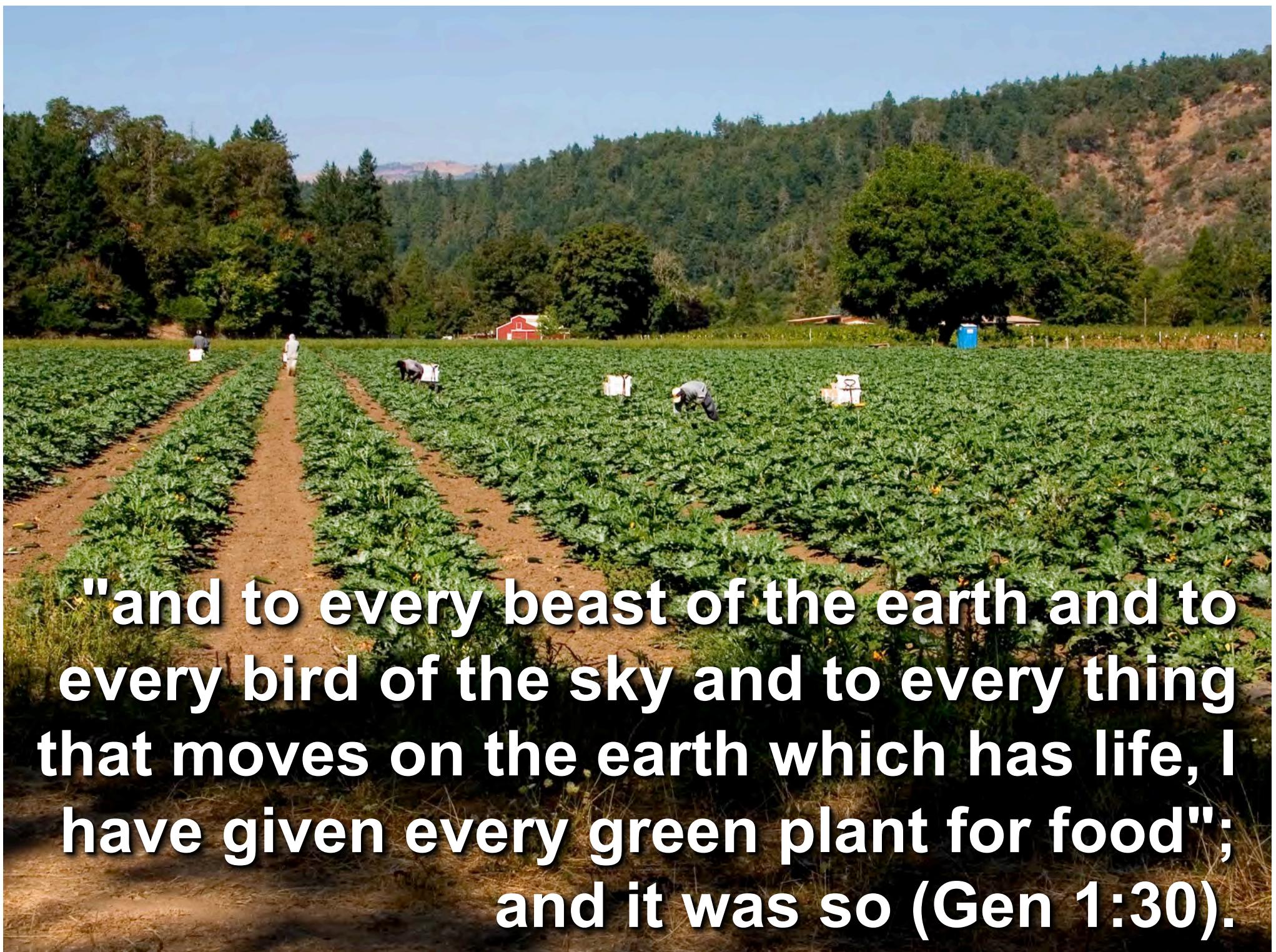
and over every living thing that
moves upon the earth" (Gen 1:28 NLT).

"And God
blessed them,
and God said
to them, 'Be
fruitful and
multiply, and
fill the earth
and subdue it;



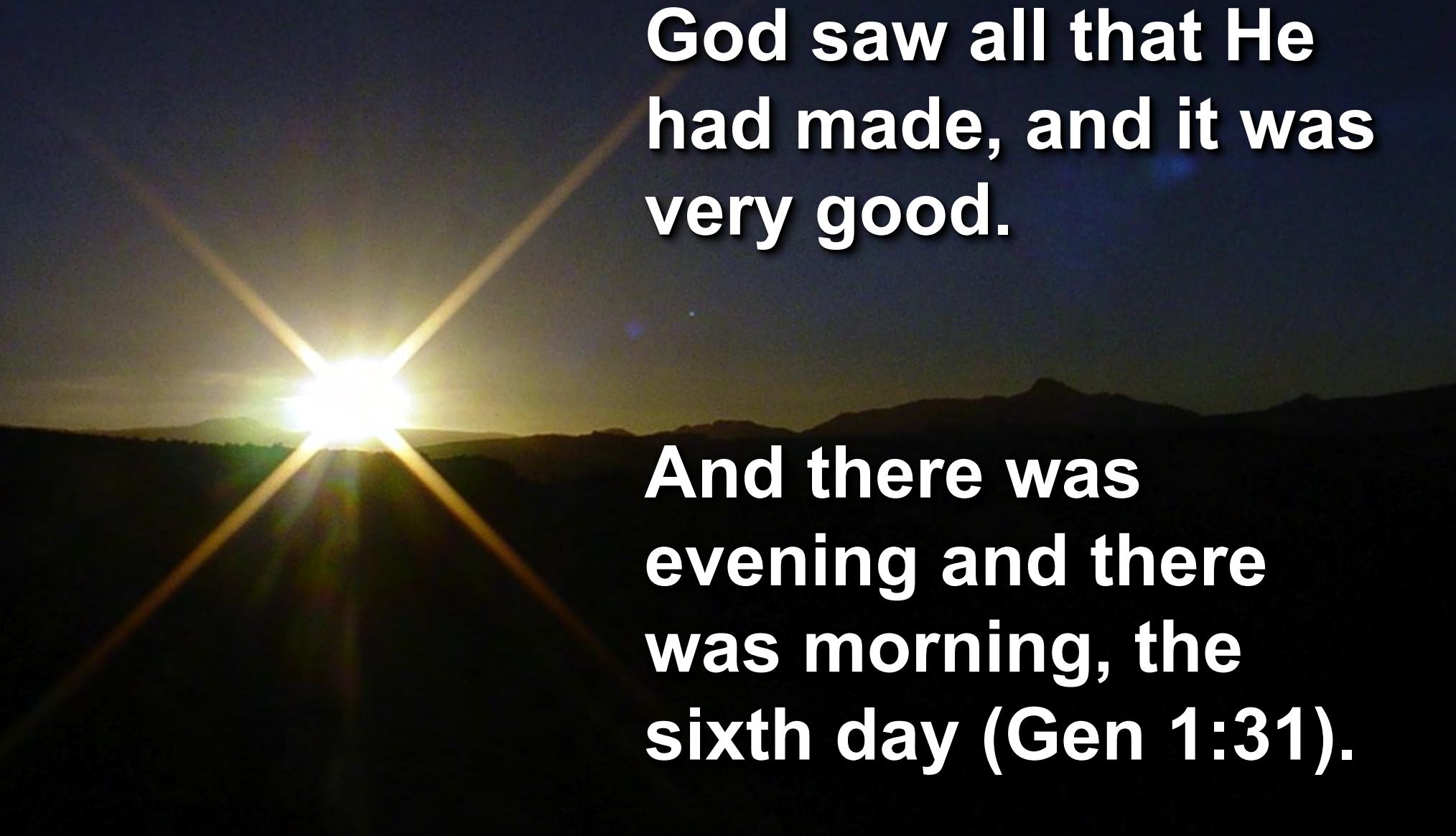


Then God said, "Look, I have given you every green plant yielding seed that is on the surface of the all the earth, and every tree which has fruit yielding seed; it shall be food for you" (Gen 1:29)



"and to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the sky and to every thing that moves on the earth which has life, I have given every green plant for food"; and it was so (Gen 1:30).

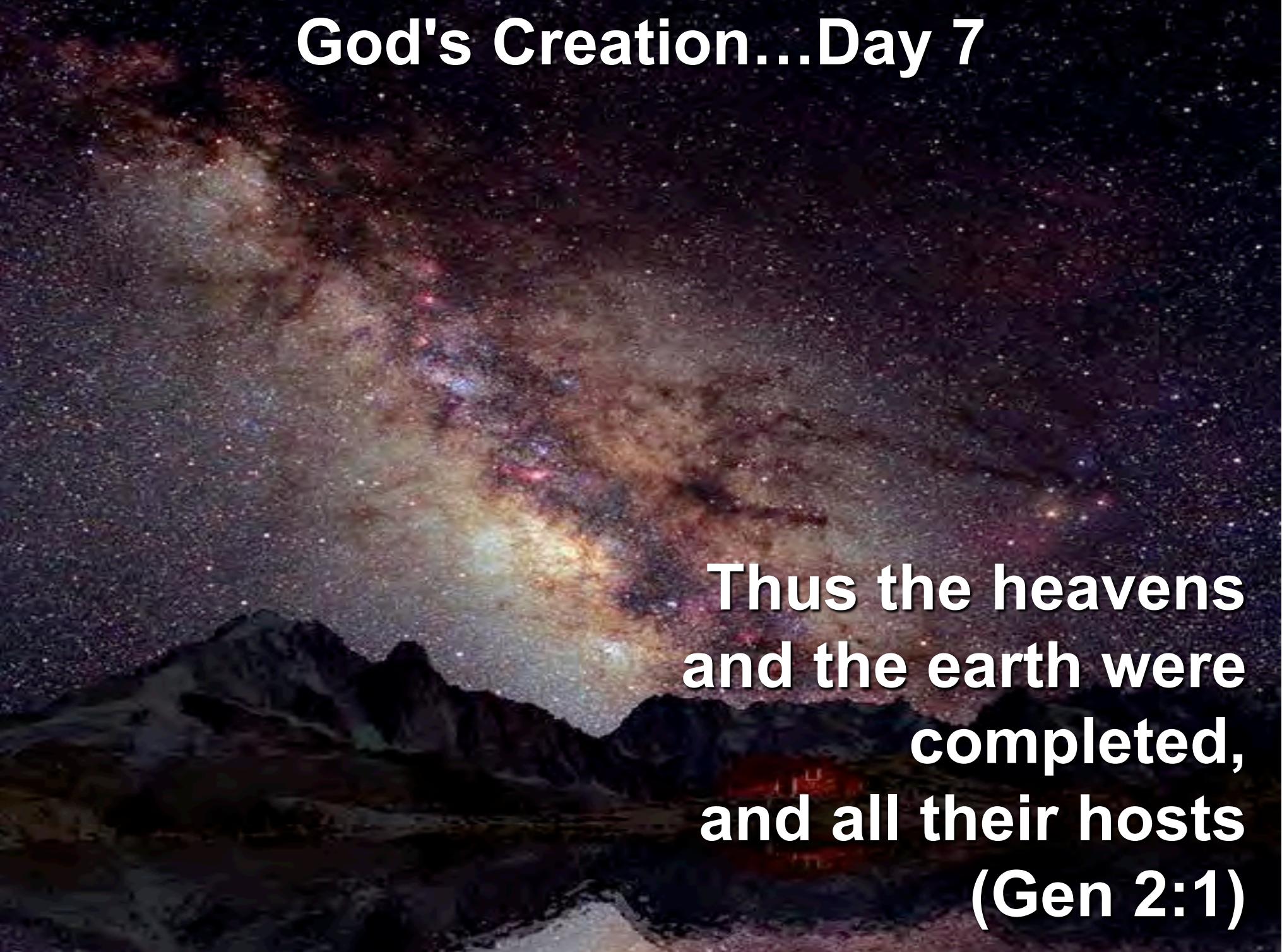
God's Creation...Day 6

A photograph of a bright sun rising over a dark, hilly landscape. The sun is positioned in the lower-left quadrant, with its light creating a dramatic lens flare that radiates across the frame. The sky is a deep, dark blue, and the horizon shows the silhouette of distant mountains.

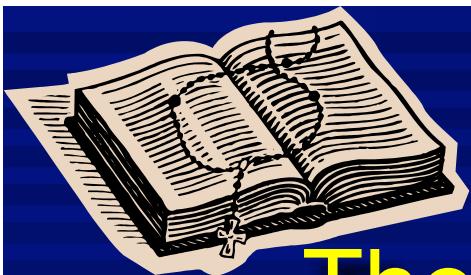
**God saw all that He
had made, and it was
very good.**

**And there was
evening and there
was morning, the
sixth day (Gen 1:31).**

God's Creation...Day 7



Thus the heavens
and the earth were
completed,
and all their hosts
(Gen 2:1)



The Kingdom of God: The Bible's All-Encompassing Theme

Genesis 1:26-28

"Then God said, 'Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish ... birds ... livestock ... all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground...' God blessed them and said to them, 'Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground.'"

Revelation 22:5

"There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign for ever and ever."

The Bible's Theme: God extends His rule to man

Command || Covenants || Fulfillment

The Kingdom of God: The Bible's All-Encompassing Theme

Genesis 1:26-28

“Then God said, 'Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish ... birds ... livestock ... all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground...' God blessed them and said to them, 'Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground.'”

Revelation 5:9-10 NIV

“And they sang a new song: 'You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation. You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth.'”

The Bible's Theme: God extends His rule to man

Command || Covenants

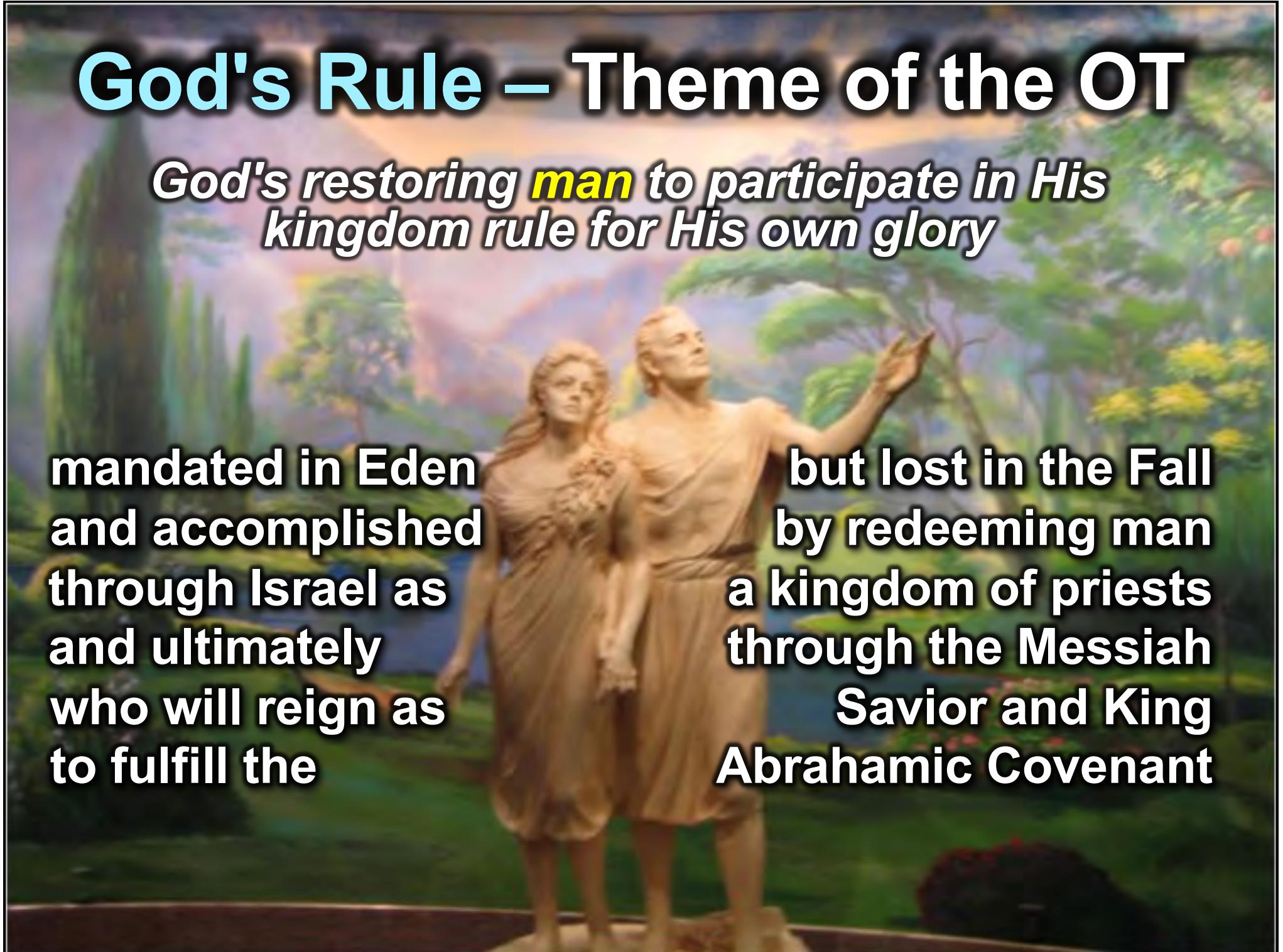
Fulfillment

God's Rule – Theme of the OT

*God's restoring **man** to participate in His kingdom rule for His own glory*

mandated in Eden
and accomplished
through Israel as
and ultimately
who will reign as
to fulfill the

but lost in the Fall
by redeeming man
a kingdom of priests
through the Messiah
Savior and King
Abrahamic Covenant



The Kingdom in Genesis 1

- Uncreated God (1:1)
- Creation by Word alone (1:4)
- Creation with ease
- Sun and moon [gods] created (1:16)
- Shared rule with man (1:26)

Kingdom & Covenants Timeline



9g

Kingdom Teaching...

Adam rules with God (Gen. 1:26, 28; 2:19)	Satan begins rule as god of this world (Gen. 3:15; 2 Cor. 4:4)	God covenants with Abraham to reestablish man's rule via Israel as a "kingdom of priests" (Gen. 12:1-3; Exod. 19:6)	Israel's failure to witness to nations as a kingdom of priests is judged via exile under foreign rule	Israel rejects Messiah's offer of kingdom (Matt. 12:41-42; 23:37-39)	Jesus extends His kingdom in mystery form to the Church (Matt. 13)	Christ subdues Israel's enemies and nation believes (Rom. 11:26-27)	Christ rules over everything with saints (Eph. 1:9-10; Rev. 20:1-6; 22:5b)
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Fall of Man (Gen. 3)

Noahic Covenant

Genesis 6:18; 9:8-17

Abrahamic Covenant

Genesis 12:1-3

land

Land Covenant

Genesis 15:18 (cf. Deut. 30:1-10) promises:
 • Land from Wadi of Egypt to Euphrates River (Isa. 27:12)
 • Eternal possession of land (Gen. 17:8) after exile/restoration
 • Whole world blessed via the land (Isa. 14:1-2)



Davidic Covenant

2 Samuel 7:12-16 promises:
 • Sons ("house" never wiped out)
 • Kingdom (political dynasty)
 • Throne (right to rule by descendants)
 • Temple (son to build it)

New Covenant

Jeremiah 31:31-34 promises:
 • Forgiveness
 • Indwelling Spirit
 • New heart, nature, mind
 • Reunification of Israel and Judah
 • No need for evangelism

Mosaic Covenant

Temporary (Gal. 3:19) and conditional (Deut. 28) to reveal sin (Rom. 7:7) and regulate Israel (Gal. 3:23-25)

ISRAEL
(National Focus)

CHURCH
The "New Man" (Eph. 2:15)

Israel judged for rejecting Messiah by dispersion away from land for 19 centuries (AD 70–AD 1948) but now partially restored (Ezek. 37:1-7)

MESSIANIC
Millennial

Full restoration (Ezek. 37:8-28)
Jerusalem world capital (Isa. 2:1-5)

KINGDOM
Eternal

New Jerusalem (Rev. 21-22)

seed

blessing

Christ is Head over His Church, which is a spiritual temple (Eph. 2:19-22; 2 Cor. 6:16)

Christ reigns over the world (Isa. 11) with saints (Rev. 5:10; 20:4-6)

Christ hands kingdom over to Father (1 Cor. 15:24)

All 5 elements fulfilled in national restoration (Zech. 8)

All things made new! (Rev. 21:5)

Mosaic Law replaced with first three elements of the New Covenant (Luke 22:20; 2 Cor. 3:6)

Law abolished, fulfilled, and replaced at the cross (Rom. 7:1-6; 1 Cor. 9:19-21; Heb. 8:13)

Eighth Edition
29 Aug 2016

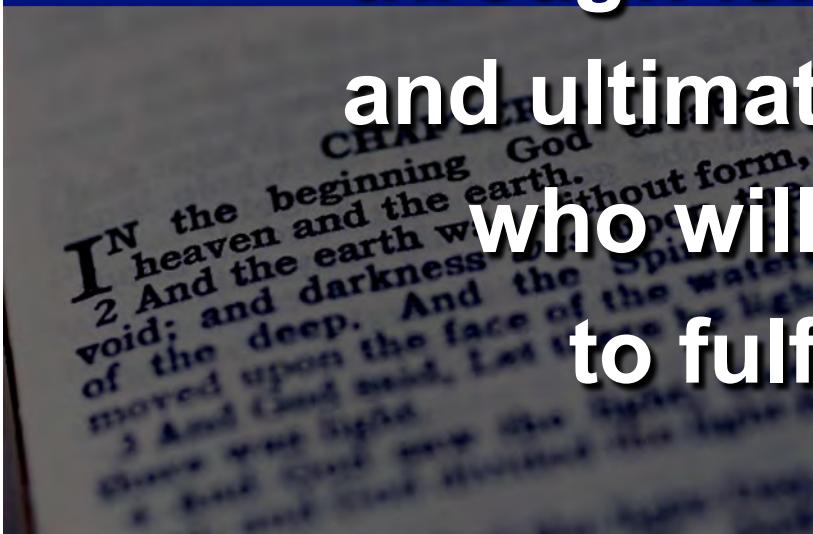
Scripture has a dual kingdom-covenant theme. Israel's role from Abraham to Christ expands to include the Church (continuity) yet the Church never replaces the nation as the "new Israel" (discontinuity). Israel will again enjoy world prominence after trusting Christ at His second coming.

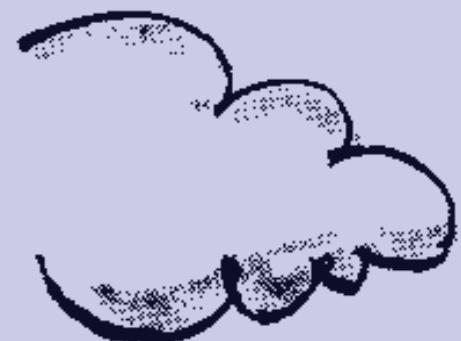
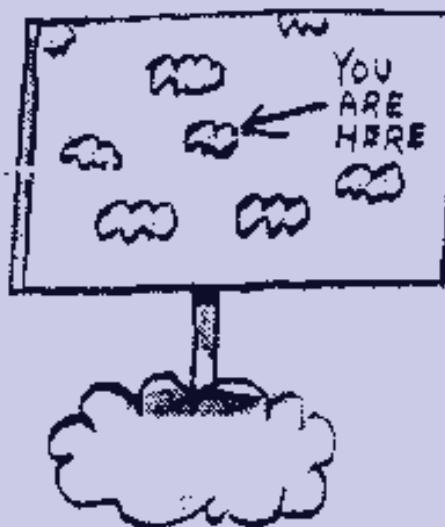
My View of the Bible's Theme

The Bible narrates

God's restoring man to participate in His kingdom rule for His own glory

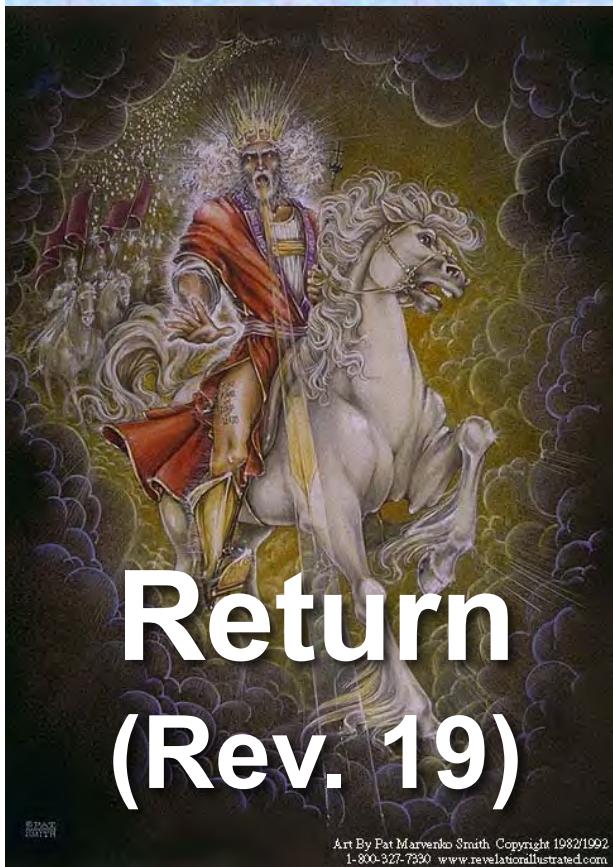
mandated in Eden but lost in the Fall
and accomplished by redeeming man
through Israel as a kingdom of priests
and ultimately through the Messiah,
who will reign as Saviour and King
to fulfill the Abrahamic Covenant





PORTOK

Future Benefits (Rev. 19-20)



**Return
(Rev. 19)**



**Millennium
(Rev. 20)**



**Heaven
(Rev. 21-22)**

Differences Between the Millennium and Heaven

Millennium
(Rev. 20)
vs.
Heaven
(Rev. 21-22)

	Millennium	Heaven	191
Duration	1000 years (Rev. 20:1-6)	Eternal (Rev. 22:5)	
Death	Possible (Isa. 65:20)	Impossible (Rev. 21:4)	
Longevity of Life	"Never again will there be an infant who lives a few days. He who dies at a hundred will be thought a mere youth" (Isa. 65:20)	No aging (Rev. 21:4 implied)	
Sin Nature	Active (Rev. 20:7- 9)	Abolished (Rev. 21:27)	
Inhabitants	Initially Christian, but later includes unbelievers—no living with angels? (Matt. 25:34; Rev. 20:7-9)	Saints and angels alone (Rev. 21:27)	

Differences Between the Millennium and Heaven

Millennium
(Rev. 20)
vs.
Heaven
(Rev. 21-22)

	Millennium	Heaven	191
Bodies	Mortal and immortal living together (Isa. 65:20; 1 Cor. 15:42-44)	Only immortal (glorified) (1 Cor. 15:42-44)	
Satan	Bound, but then released after 1000 years (Rev. 20:3, 7)	In lake of burning sulfur, never to be released again (Rev. 20:10)	
Political & Religious Centre	Jerusalem (Isa. 2:2-3; Micah 4:1-2, 7)	New Jerusalem (Rev. 21)	
Place	Earth (Rev. 5:10)	New heavens and new earth (Rev. 21:1)	
Key Passages	Psalm 72; Isaiah 2; 11; 65-66; Revelation 20:1-6	Revelation 21-22	



**We already saw one glimpse of the
throne of God (Rev. 4–5)**

The Last Beginning

Revelation 21:
**A new heaven and earth this time
unspoiled by sin, death, pain, or sorrow.**

“The New Jerusalem (described in 21:9–22:5) is shaped like a gigantic cube, fifteen hundred miles in length, width, and height. (The most holy place in the Old Testament tabernacle and temple was also a perfect cube.) Its multicolored stones will reflect the glory of God, and it will continually be filled with light. The greatest thing of all is that believers will be in the presence of God, and ‘they will see his face’ (22:4).

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—Dr. Kenneth (ThM, 1972) and Karen Boa in *A Light for My Path*



New Heaven & New Earth

The Consummation of All Things

How are these "New"?

☒ ***Annihilation***

☒ ***Renewal***



Explore!



"Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the old heaven and the old earth had disappeared"
(Rev 21:1a NLT).

Isaiah v. John on the New Heaven(s) and New Earth

Isaiah's New Heavens and New Earth (Isa. 65:17; 66:22)	John's New Heaven and New Earth (Rev. 21:1)
--	---

English Term Plural: "new heavens" Singular: "new heaven"

<i>Time Period</i>	Millennium	Eternal State
<i>Life span of Inhabitants</i>	Extended yet not infinite life (65:20)	Eternal Life
<i>Death</i>	Possible, though dying at 100 years old is "young" (65:20; cf. 66:24)!	No death (Rev. 21:4) as death is abolished at the Great White Throne Judgment (Rev. 20:14)

Isaiah v. John on the New Heaven(s) and New Earth

	Isaiah's New Heavens and New Earth (Isa. 65:17; 66:22)	John's New Heaven and New Earth (Rev. 21:1)
<i>Marriage & Childbirth</i>	Possible (65:23)	Impossible (Matt. 22:30)
<i>Activity</i>	Building of houses and planting of vineyards (65:21)	Christ claimed that he would prepare a place for us (John 14:1f.).
<i>Animal Activity</i>	Peaceful cohabitation of wild animals (65:25a)	No animals are noted by John or in any other text on heaven
<i>Associated City</i>	Protection of God in Jerusalem (65:25b)	Focus is the new Jerusalem (Rev. 20–21)

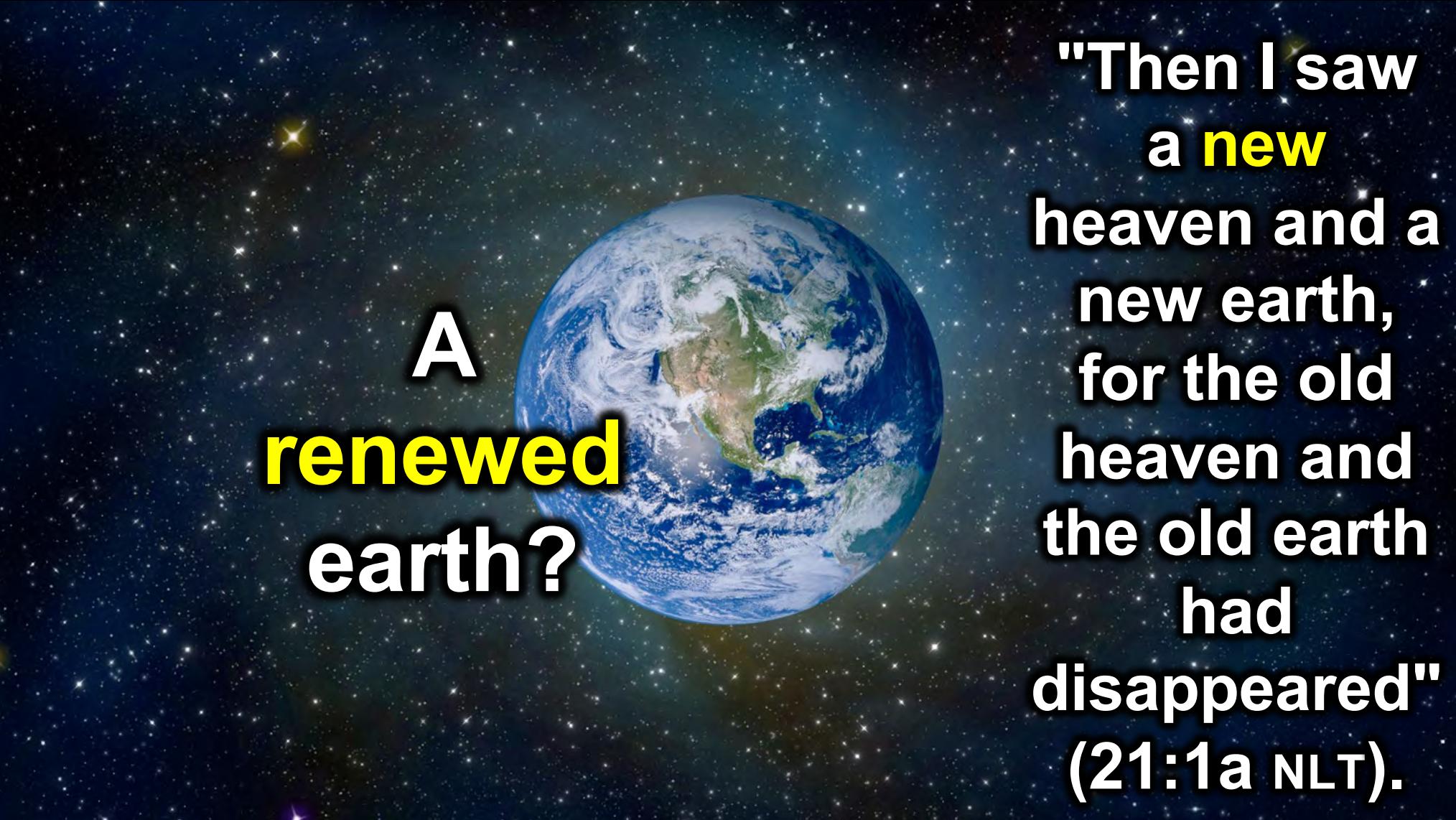
Isaiah v. John on the New Heaven(s) and New Earth

	Isaiah's New Heavens and New Earth (Isa. 65:17; 66:22)	John's New Heaven and New Earth (Rev. 21:1)
<i>Gathering of Nations</i>	Brought to Jerusalem to see God's glory (66:18-20; cf. Zech. 14:16-19)	God's glory provides light for the nations (21:23-24)
<i>Priesthood & Temple</i>	Has a temple, priests, and Levites (66:20-21; cf. Ezek. 40—43)	Has no temple (21:22), so by implication no priests are needed
<i>Celebrations</i>	New Moon and the Sabbath (56:6-7a; 66:23)	No need for these since there will be no need for rest in eternity

Isaiah v. John on the New Heaven(s) and New Earth

Isaiah's New Heavens and New Earth (Isa. 65:17; 66:22)	John's New Heaven and New Earth (Rev. 21:1)
--	---

<i>Time</i>	Still existent	Abolished with night (Rev. 22:5), so rest every seven "days" is absurd.
<i>Place of Worship</i>	Jerusalem (65:23)	Throne of God (22:3-4)



A
renewed
earth?

"Then I saw
a **new**
heaven and a
new earth,
for the old
heaven and
the old earth
had
disappeared"
(21:1a NLT).

And the sea was also gone (21:1b NLT).



John sees the New Jerusalem



The Bible's Chiasm

Repeated Patterns in Reverse Order

Christ's
Redemption

Man's
Rule
Lost at
Fall

Creation

Christ's
Rule

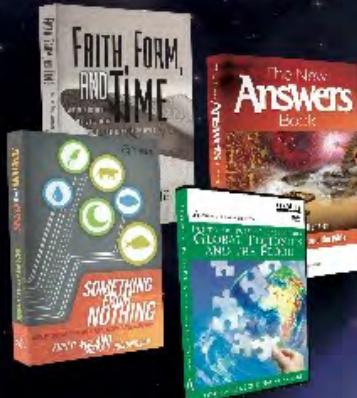
Man's
Rule
Restored at
Millennium

New
Creation



And the sea was also gone (21:1b NLT).

HELPFUL RESOURCES



Faith, Form, and Time Kurt P. Wise

Beginning with God and His Word as the standard, Dr. Wise demonstrates that the biblical witness teaches that the age of the universe is not as old as Darwinian theory contends \$14.99

The New Answers Book Ken Ham, general editor

The NEW Answers Book is packed with biblical answers to 27 of the most important questions on creation/evolution and the Bible. Perfect for anyone looking to understand our world and the Christian faith \$14.99

Something from Nothing Kurt P. Wise & Sheila A. Anderson

Proves that the universe is not old, and all issues concerning creation and origins can be answered not only by the Bible but also by solid scientific data and research \$14.99

Putting the Puzzle Pieces Together: Global Tectonics and the Flood Dr. John Baumgardner

This NEW DVD examines how catastrophic plate tectonics could have been a major mechanism in the Genesis Flood model \$12.99

The study of catastrophic plate tectonics (CPT) provides clear insight into how the earth's seven continents may have taken shape out of the supercontinent God created on Day 3 of Creation Week. This developing field of science takes an in-depth look at the earth's plates from a biblical perspective. For a look at the possible history behind the earth's modern formation, see the chart on the reverse side and the products above.

SCIENTIFIC FACT:

The movement of the continental plates to their present positions did not take millions of years of slow plate shifting.

To order reprints of this 11x17 chart, a 24x18 laminated version, or to order items pictured above, phone 1-800-350-3232, or visit

www.AnswersBookstore.com

Rodinia—The World That Perished

The transformation of Adam's world into today's world

In Genesis 6-8 we read of a catastrophe that impacted the earth in a way unlike any other disaster since that time. Such a catastrophe would impact not only the earth's atmosphere and inhabitants but also its very foundations. The earth's landmass during Adam's day was extremely different from the seven continents of our modern world. But what caused it to change so drastically? Catastrophic plate tectonics (CPT) is one possible contributing factor.



And the sea was also gone (21:1b NLT).

THE WORLD THAT PERISHED

The Transformation of Adam's World into Today's World



Rodinia

Most secular and biblical geologists believe that all the land has been together more than once. One of these supercontinents is called "Rodinia" (from the Russian word for "motherland"). Although scientists continue to debate its exact shape, when God spoke the dry land into existence on Day 3 of Creation Week (Genesis 1:9–10), He may have created a landmass similar to Rodinia.



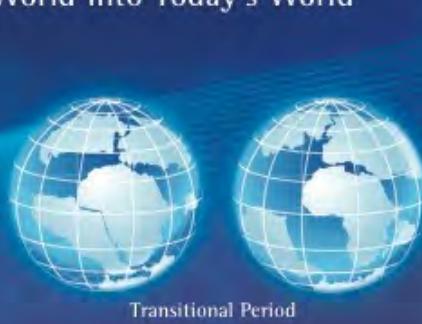
Break-Up

The Flood began with a breakup of the "fountains of the great deep" and an opening of the "windows of heaven" (Genesis 7:11; see below). This may have been the result of the breakup of the original supercontinent into huge plates of the earth's crust. These plates split, moved, and collided throughout the duration of the Flood.



Pangaea

There is evidence that suggests that, after the breakup, the land again smashed together, forming another supercontinent called Pangaea. This temporary supercontinent formed and broke up entirely during the Flood.



Transitional Period

Still during the flood, Pangaea broke apart, first into Laurasia and Gondwana and finally into the continents we have today. At the end of this period the Indian subcontinent slammed into the Eurasian plate, forming the Himalayan mountains.



Today's World

Today, we are left with evidence that the continents moved apart in the past. For example, the coastlines of South America and Africa fit together, like pieces of a puzzle.

Catastrophic plate movement also explains the fascinating magnetic pattern found in ocean floor rocks. These rocks record a "zebra stripe" pattern of magnetic pole reversals, switching back and forth between north and south (see below).

"Fountains" and "Windows"

When Noah, his family, and their cargo of animals were safely aboard the Ark, the Flood began.

Thousands of miles of the earth's crust (surface rock plates) split apart along lines traversing the globe. The mantle (hot rock beneath) rose to fill the voids between the splitting plates. When this 2,000°F (1,093°C) rock contacted the cool sea-

water above it, the seawater flashed into steam. This formed a line of steam jets along the boundaries of the plates (possibly the "fountains of the great deep").

The immense and incredibly powerful steam jets shot tens of thousands of feet into earth's atmosphere. Significant amounts of seawater were also lifted into the atmosphere. For several weeks, this

fell to the earth as intense global rain (possibly the "windows of heaven").

The rising of the mantle through earth's crust also resulted in a temporary rise in the global sea level, causing the oceans to flood the continents.

These simultaneous activities resulted in the dramatic shifting of the earth's crust to produce today's seven continents.

Magnetic Reversals

Within the catastrophic plate tectonics model, heat was rapidly lost from earth's outer core. This cooling resulted in the earth's magnetic field quickly reversing during the Flood. These magnetic reversals were expressed at the earth's

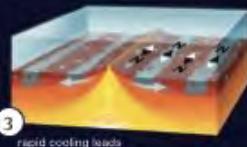
surface as short periods of normal magnetization alternating with short periods of reversed magnetization. Illustrations 1–3 show how the reversals were expressed as a "zebra stripe" pattern on either side of the mid-ocean ridge.



1 magma flows up



2 magma spreads and cools rapidly



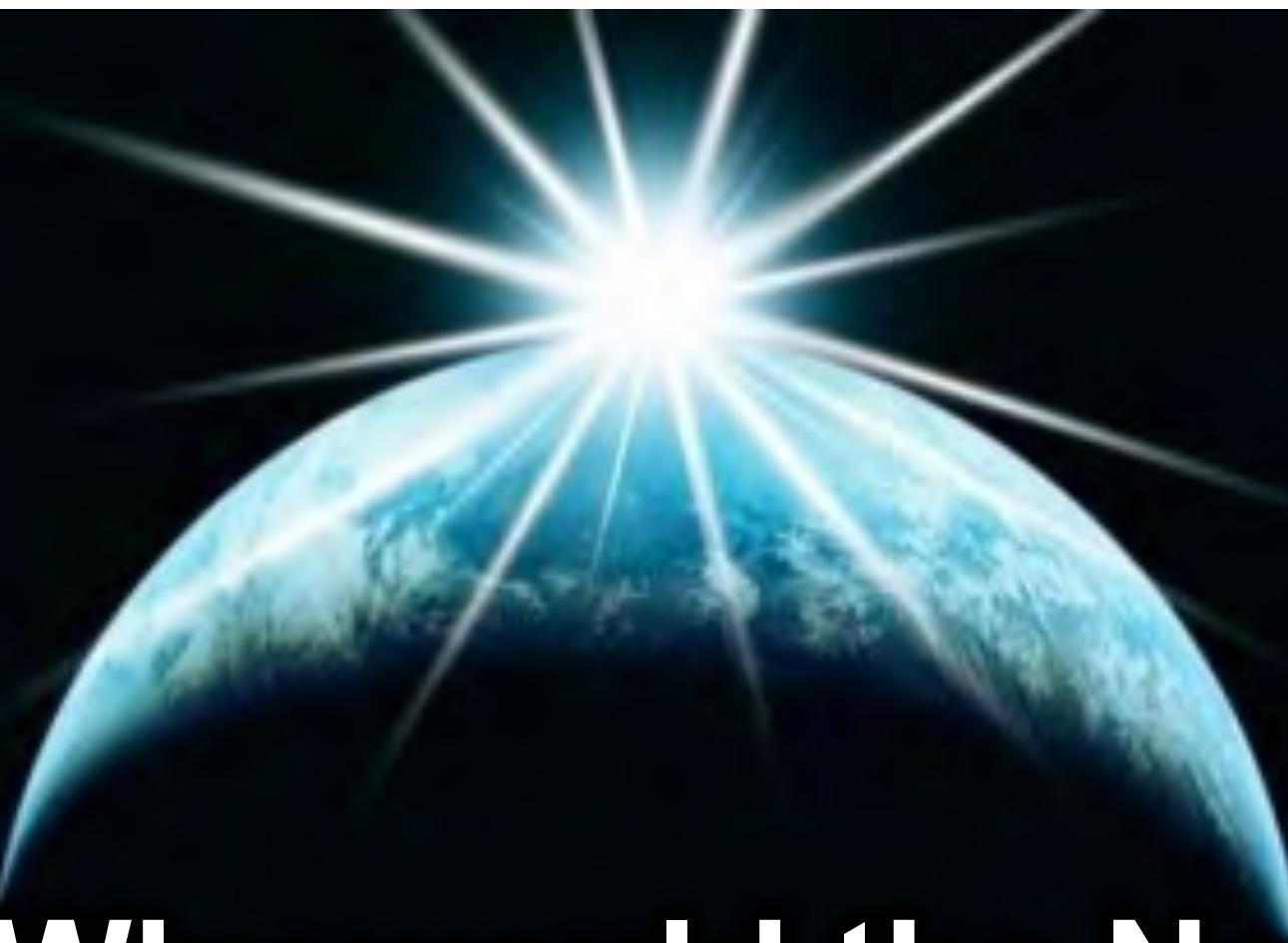
3 rapid cooling leads to magnetic field reversals

The New Jerusalem



**"And I saw the
holy city, the
new Jerusalem,
coming down
from God out of
heaven like a
bride beautifully
dressed for her
husband"
(21:2 NLT).**

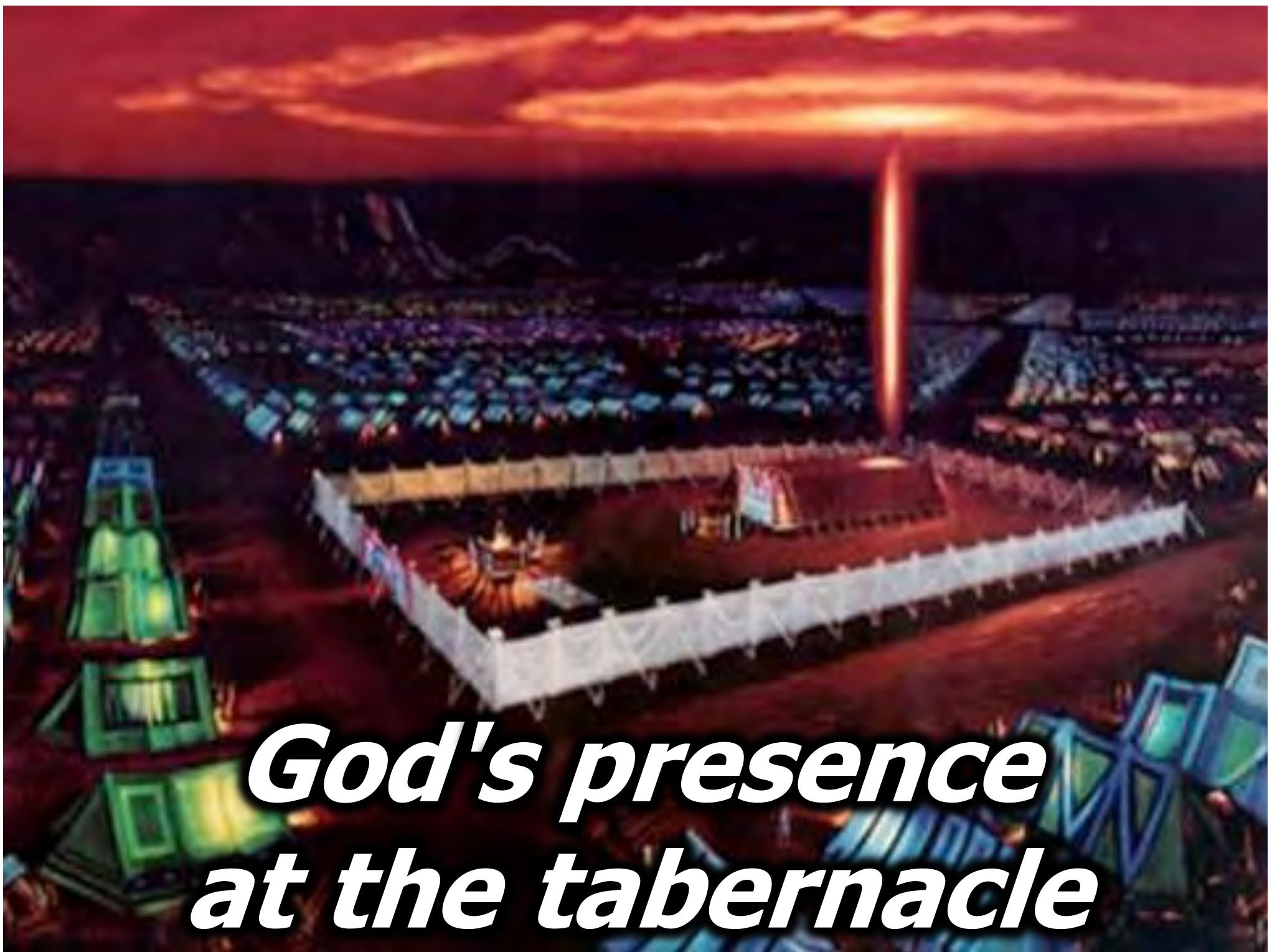




Why would the New
Jerusalem come out of
heaven (21:2)?



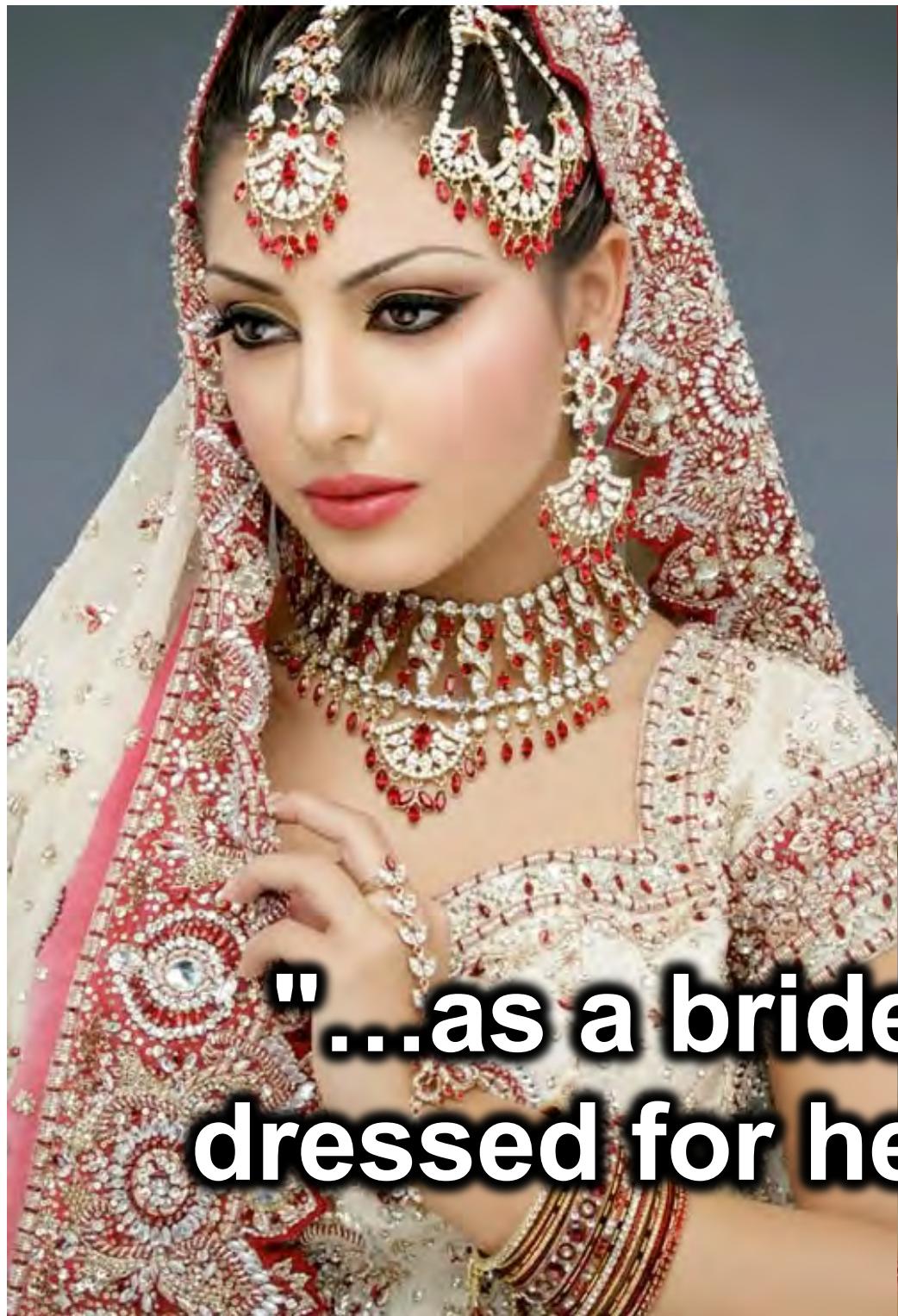
*God's presence
in Eden*



*God's presence
at the tabernacle*

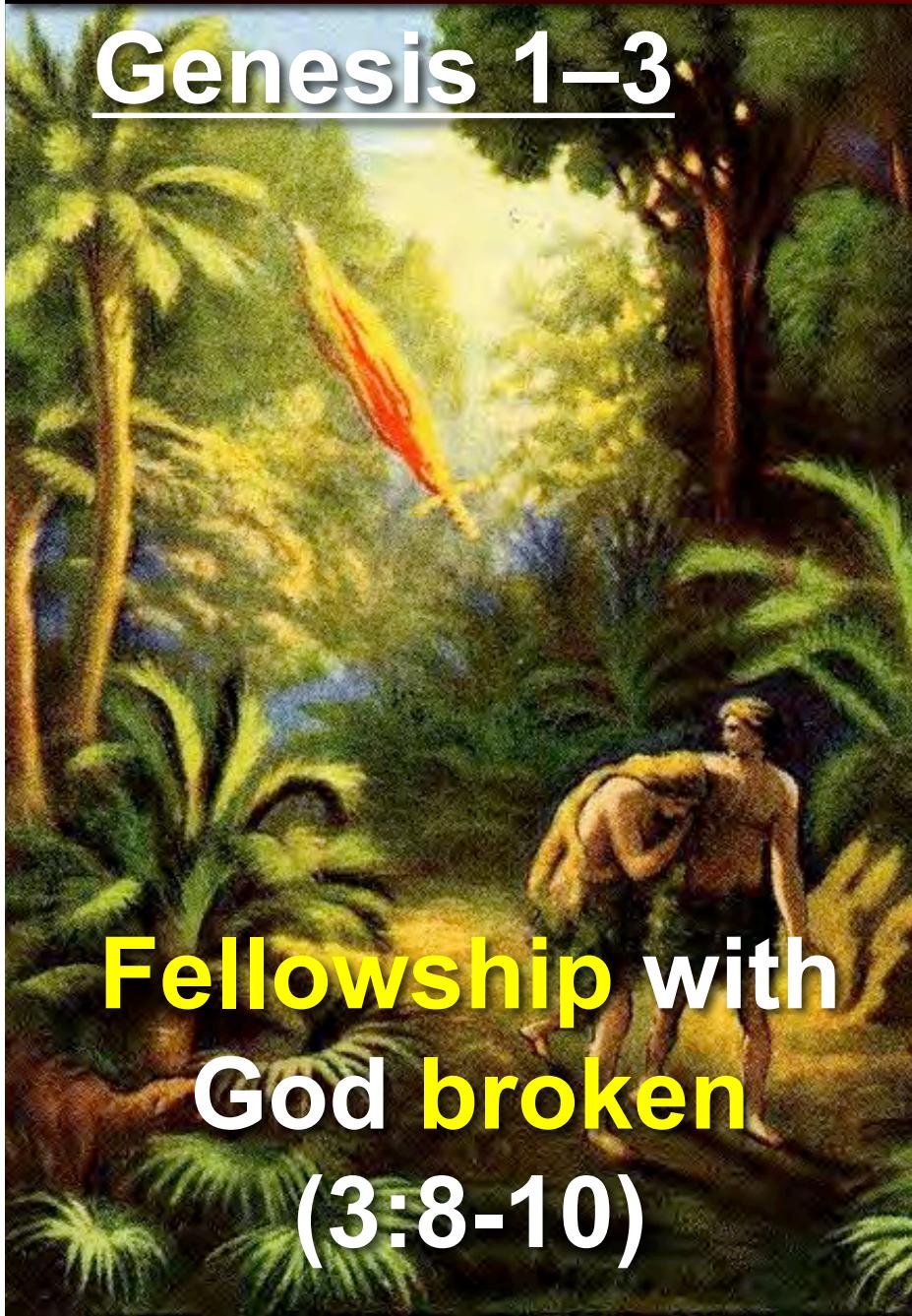


*God's presence
at the Temple*



**"...as a bride, beautifully
dressed for her husband..."**

Genesis 1–3



**Fellowship with
God broken
(3:8-10)**

Revelation 20–22



**Fellowship with
God resumed
(21:3)**



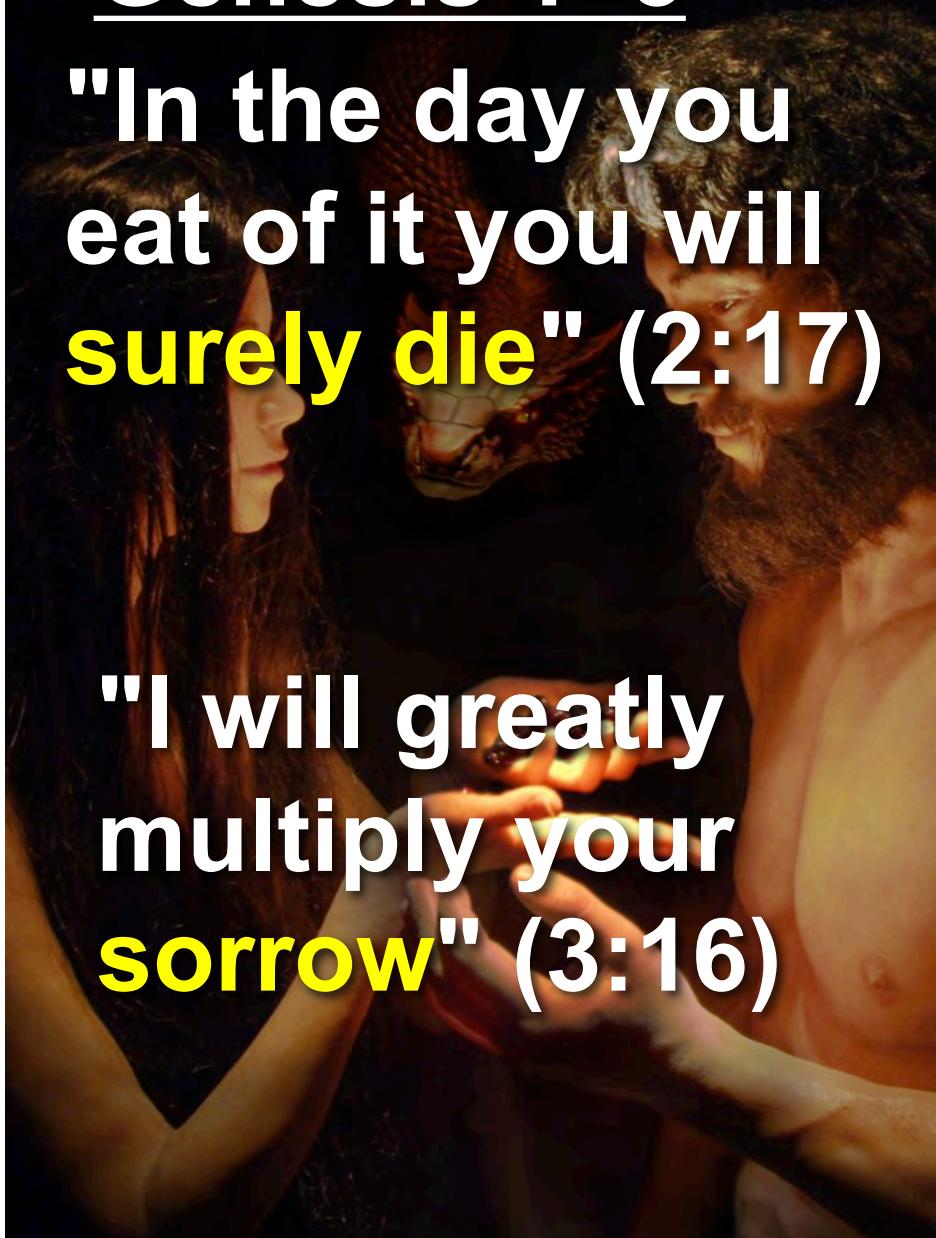
**"I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying,
'Look, God's home is now among his people!
He will live with them, and they will be his
people. God himself will be with them'"
(21:3 NLT).**



**Not Earth to Heaven,
but Heaven to Earth**

Genesis 1–3

"In the day you eat of it you will surely die" (2:17)



"I will greatly multiply your sorrow" (3:16)

Revelation 20–22

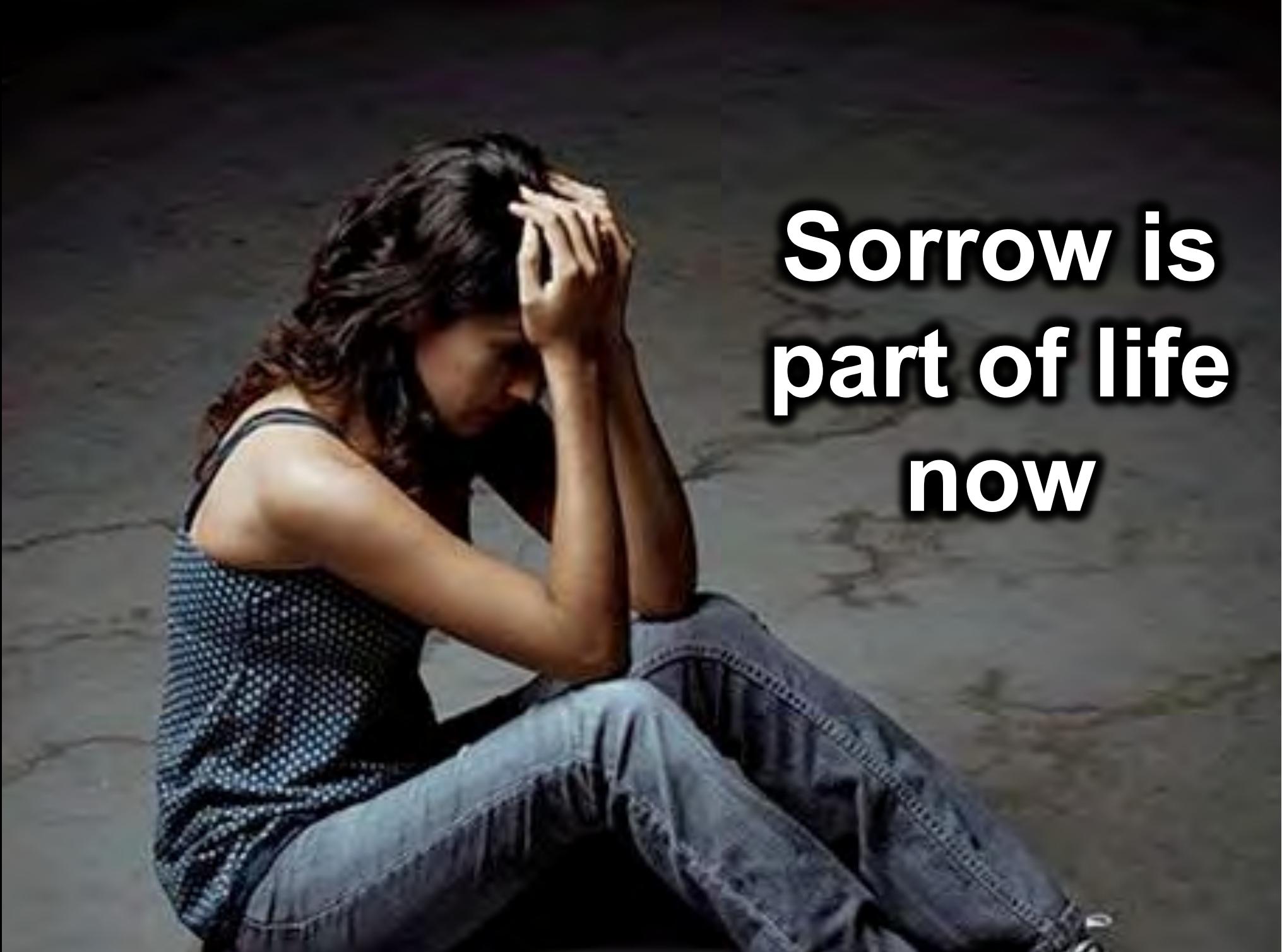
"There will be no more death" (21:4)



"There will be no more... sorrow or crying or pain" (21:4)

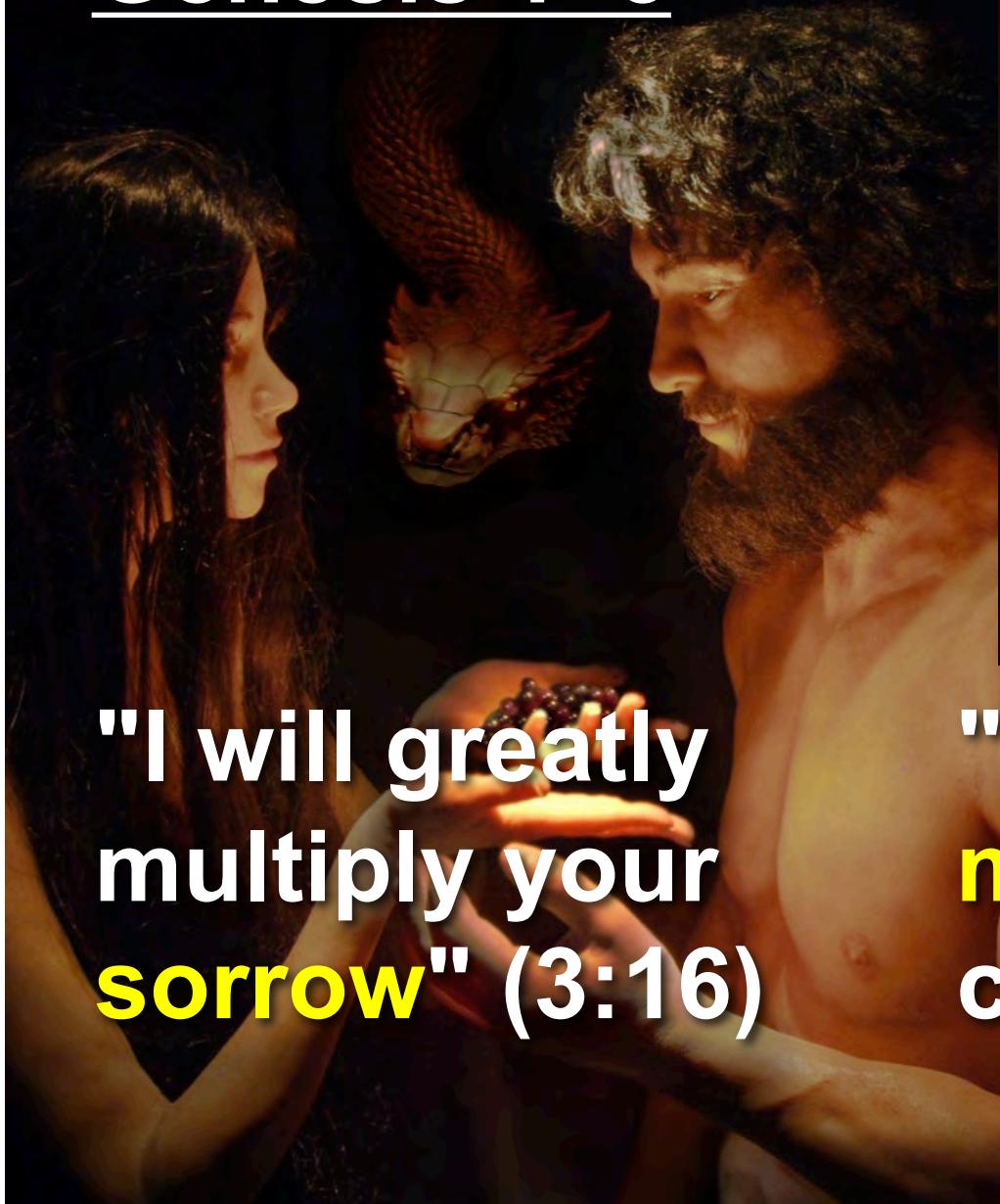
A person is lying down, possibly deceased, with their eyes closed. The background is a soft-focus landscape of green and yellow, suggesting a natural setting like a field or a park. The overall mood is somber and contemplative.

**We all experience
death now**

A woman with long, dark, wavy hair is sitting on a bench, looking very sad. She is wearing a dark, patterned top and blue jeans. Her head is resting on her hands, which are clasped together. The background is a blurred outdoor setting.

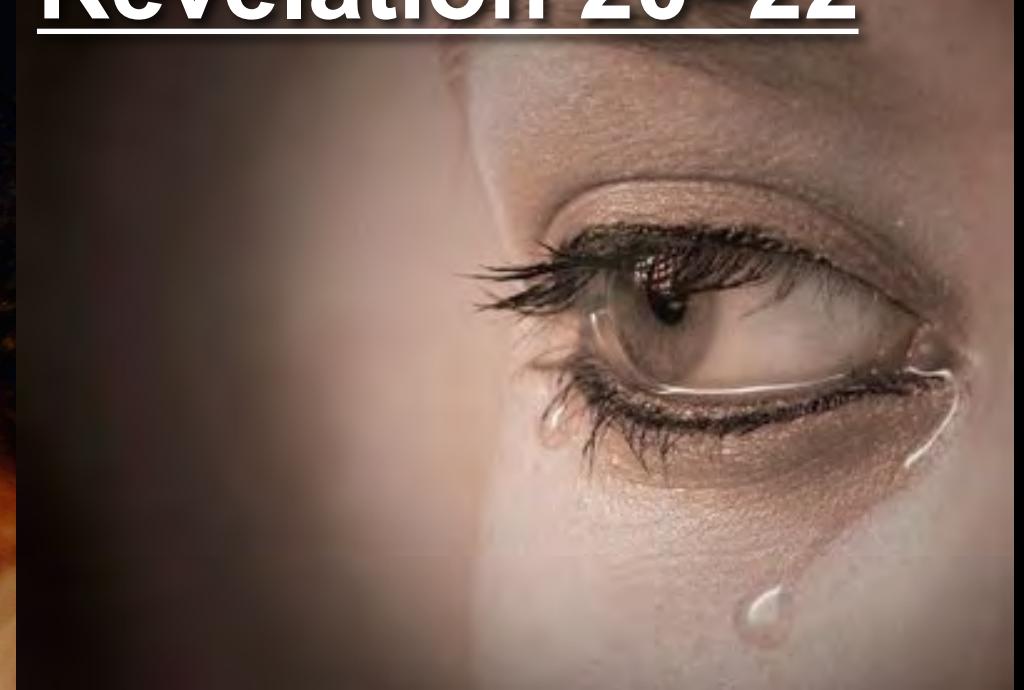
**Sorrow is
part of life
now**

Genesis 1–3



"I will greatly multiply your sorrow" (3:16)

Revelation 20–22

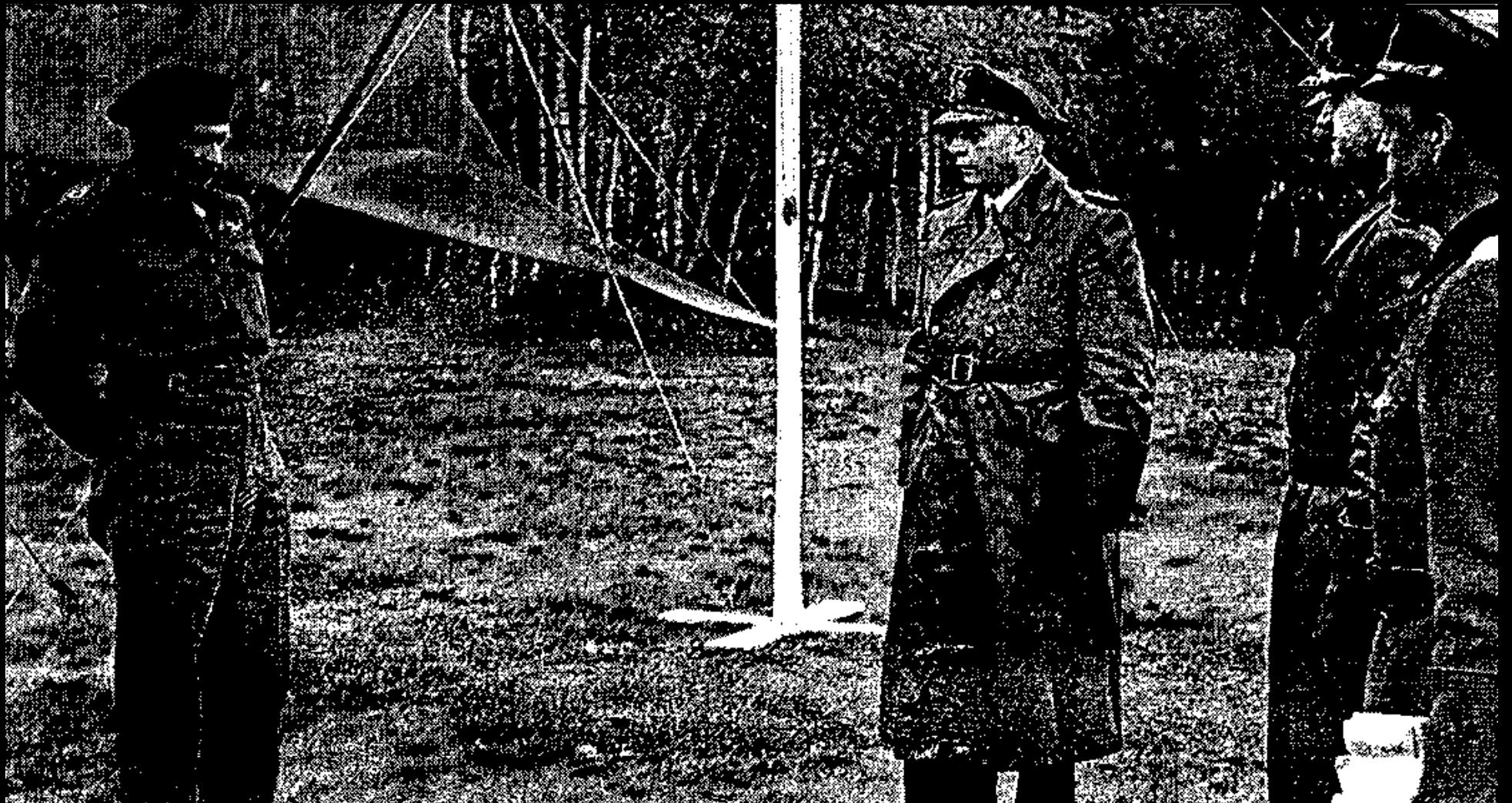


"There will be no more... sorrow or crying or pain" (21:4)

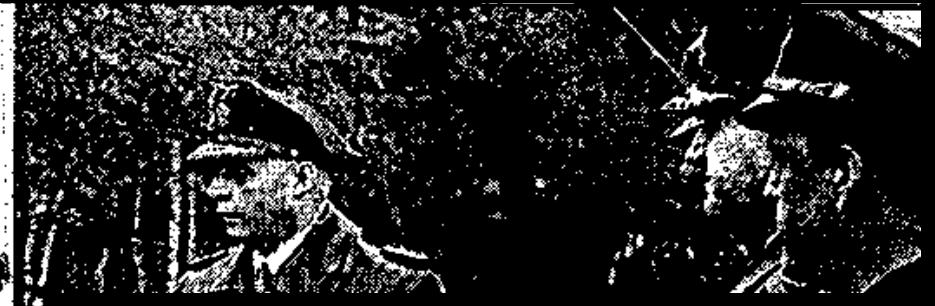
"He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever"
(21:4 NLT).



FOE FATHERS (1945)



FOE FATHERS



Enmity between their dads forgotten in a handshake

THE handshake that never was has finally taken place.

Fifty years ago, British Field Marshal Montgomery (above picture, left) refused to shake hands with General Admiral Hans Georg von Friedeburg who had gone to Luneburg Heath in Lower Saxony to deliver the German surrender.

Last Thursday in a no-

Monty made him and his party wait.

For several nervous minutes, the Germans had to stand beneath a Union Flag outside the field marshal's caravan.

When Marshal Monty finally emerged to see them, his hands remained clasped tightly behind his back. He did not offer even a salute let

... AND SONS (1995)



Heaven Will Have Sins Forgiven!

We will
have
glorified
bodies!





*So what will
our glorified
bodies be like?*

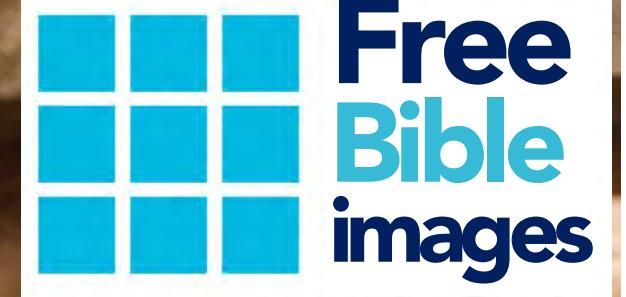


Romans believed that Mercury could fly

1 See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. 2 Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. 3 All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

1 John 3:1-3 NIV

John 20:24-29



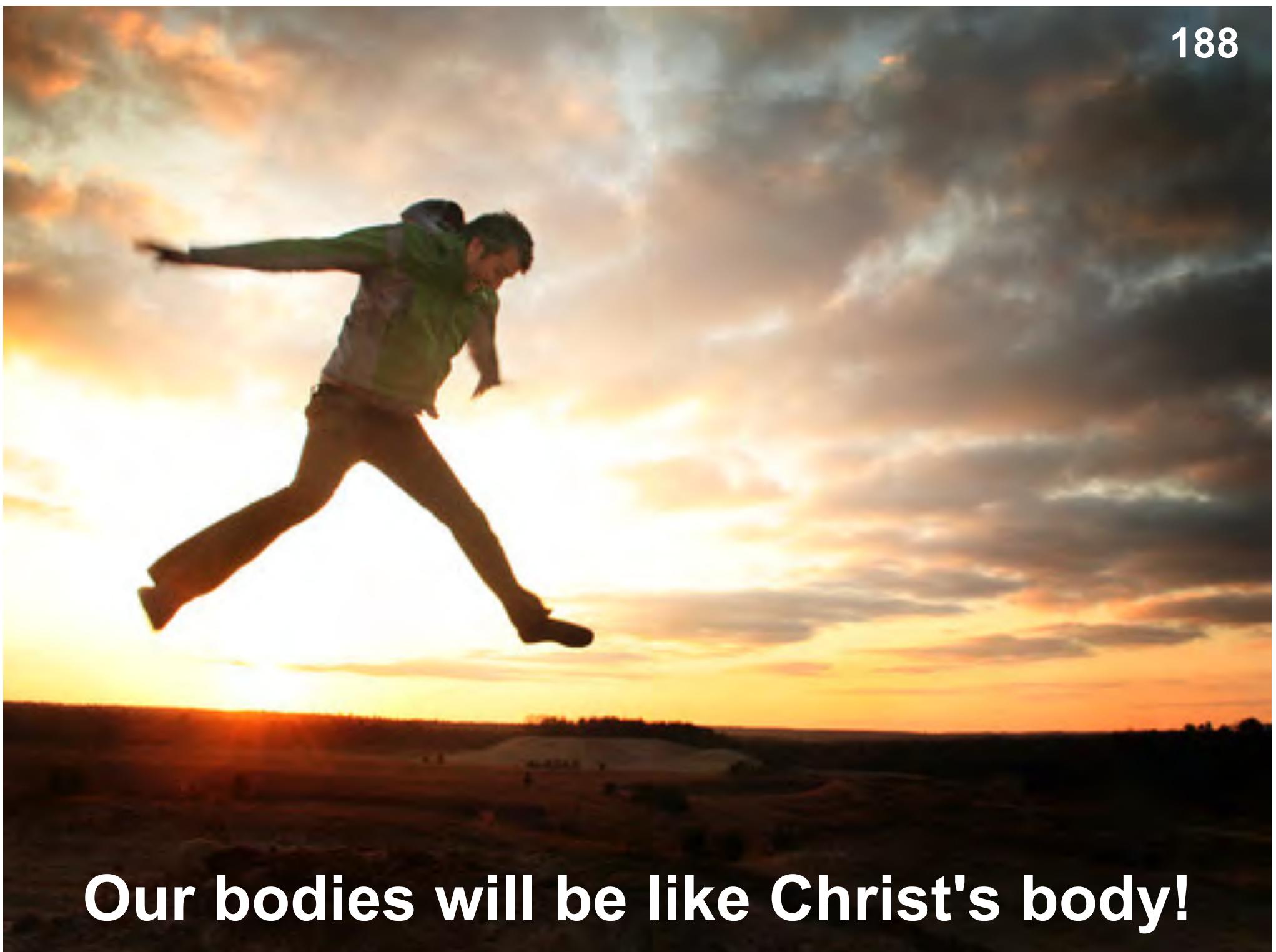
THE EASTER STORY

**JESUS APPEARS
TO THOMAS**

www.freebibleimages.org



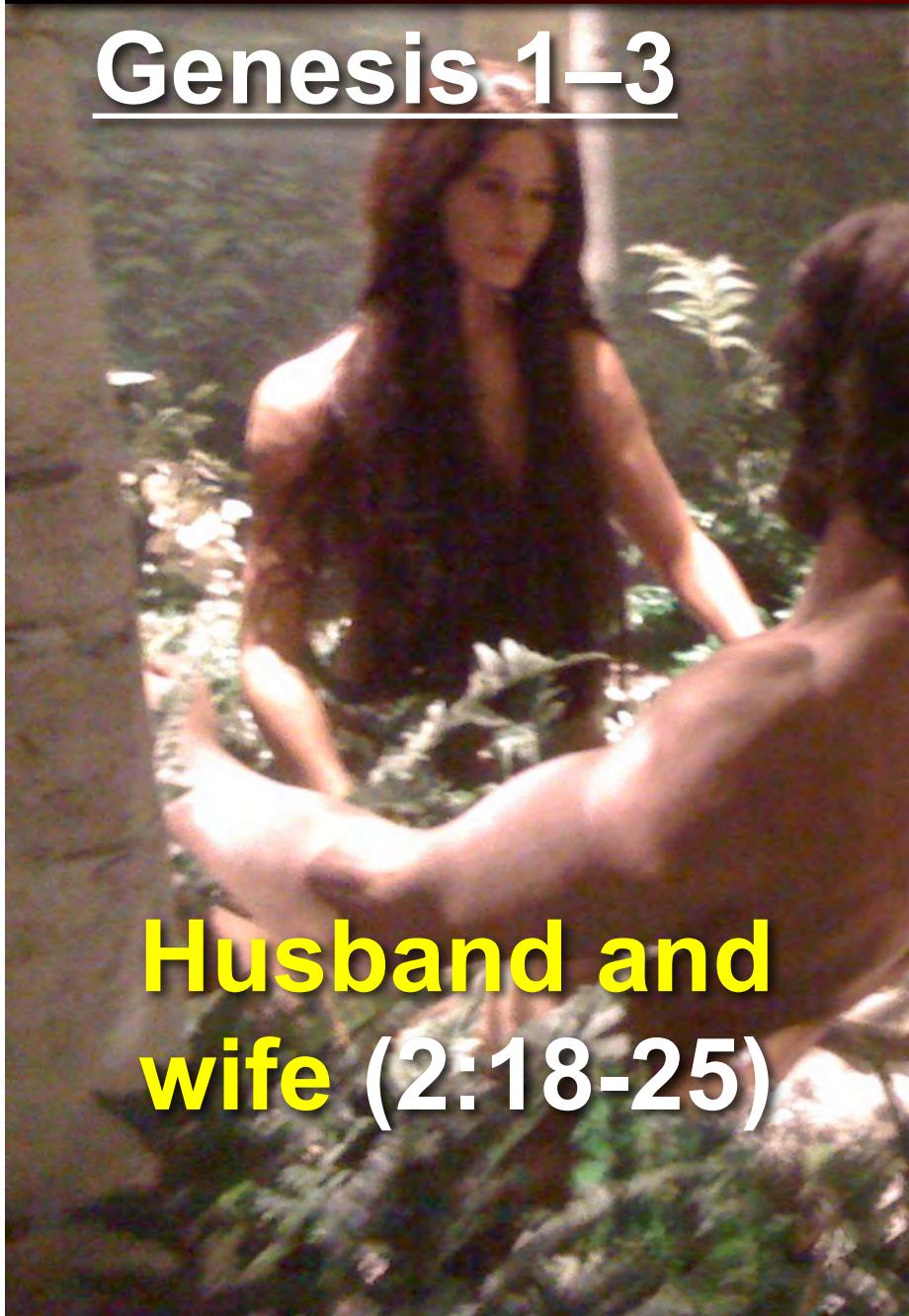




Our bodies will be like Christ's body!

The Consummation of All Things 175

Genesis 1–3



**Husband and
wife (2:18-25)**

Revelation 20–22

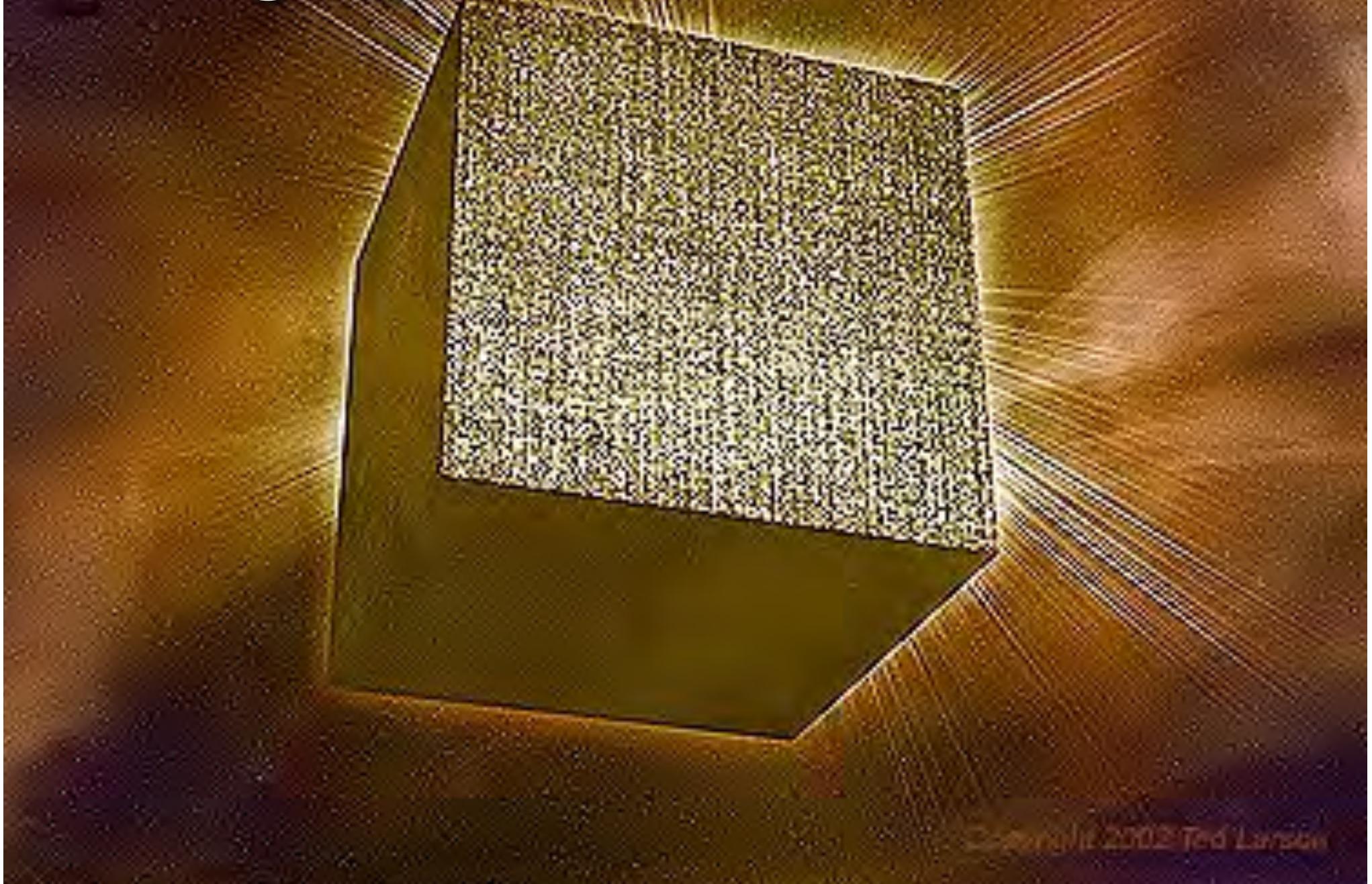


**Lamb and bride
(19:6-9; 21:9-10)**

**The New
Jerusalem will
have protection
(wall), access for
Israel (gates),
and access for
the church in its
foundation
(21:12-14)**



Figurative or Literal?



Is the New Jerusalem the Church?



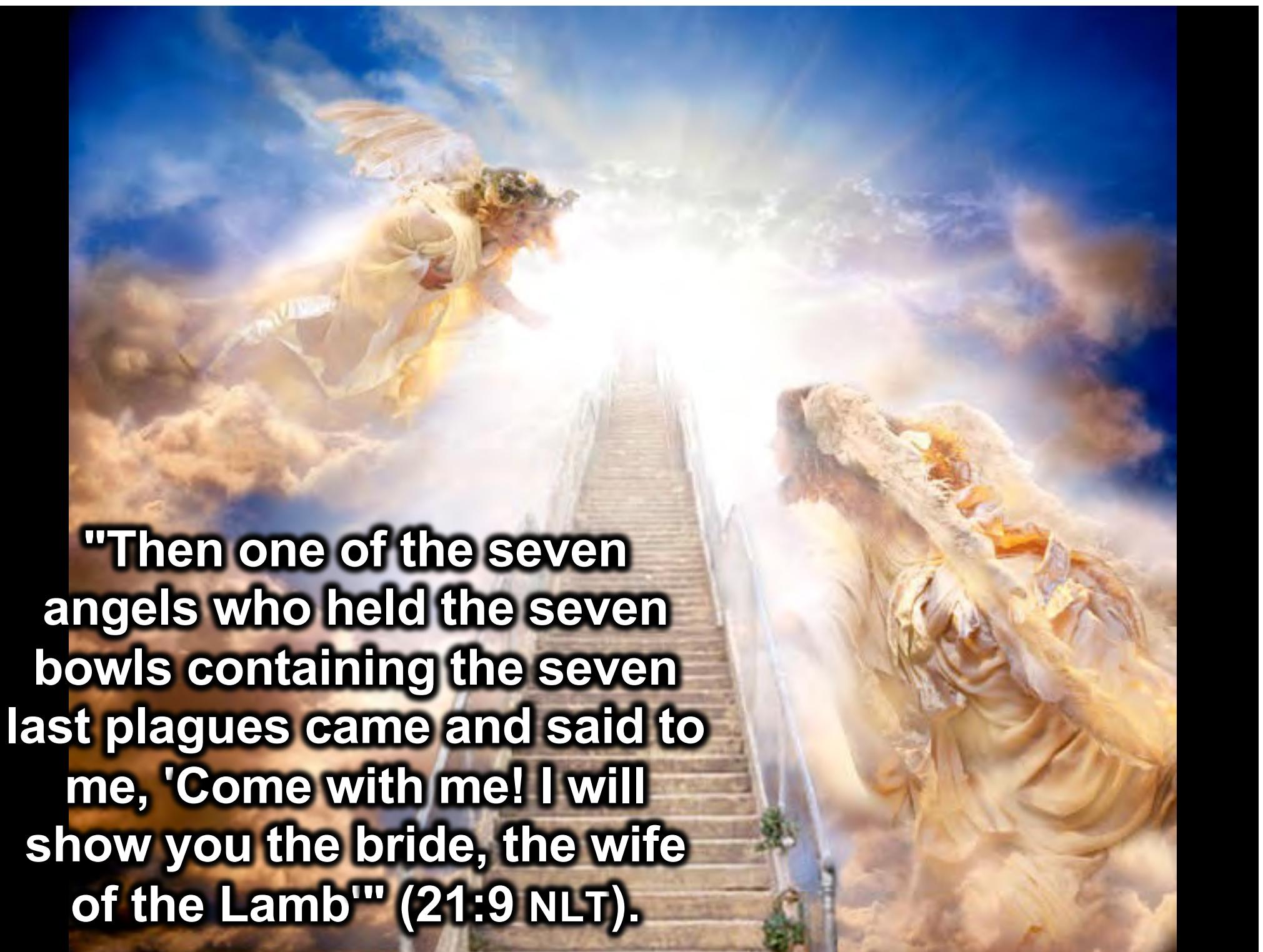
New Jerusalem = The Church?

The city is described as a "bride beautifully dressed for her husband" (21:2; see also vv. 9-10). Since the term "bride" often refers to the church (Isa. 54:5; Eph. 5:32; etc.), it would seem so here too (Hendriksen, 199). "Even in the Old Testament the Church is represented under the symbolism of a city (Isa. 26:1; Ps. 48; etc.)" (Hendriksen, 199).

1. The church is never called the bride of Christ in the NT.

2. Verses 9-10 denote the "bride" or "wife" as the new Jerusalem itself—not the church

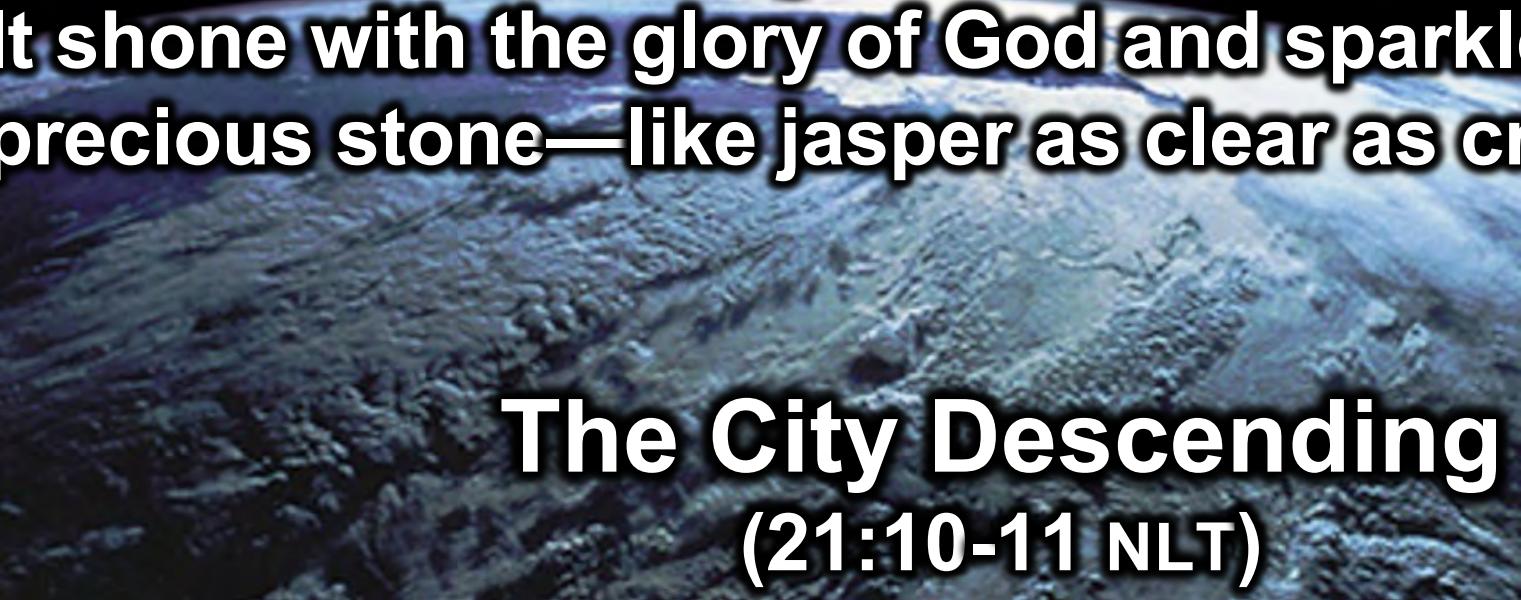
The New Jerusalem



"Then one of the seven angels who held the seven bowls containing the seven last plagues came and said to me, 'Come with me! I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb'" (21:9 NLT).



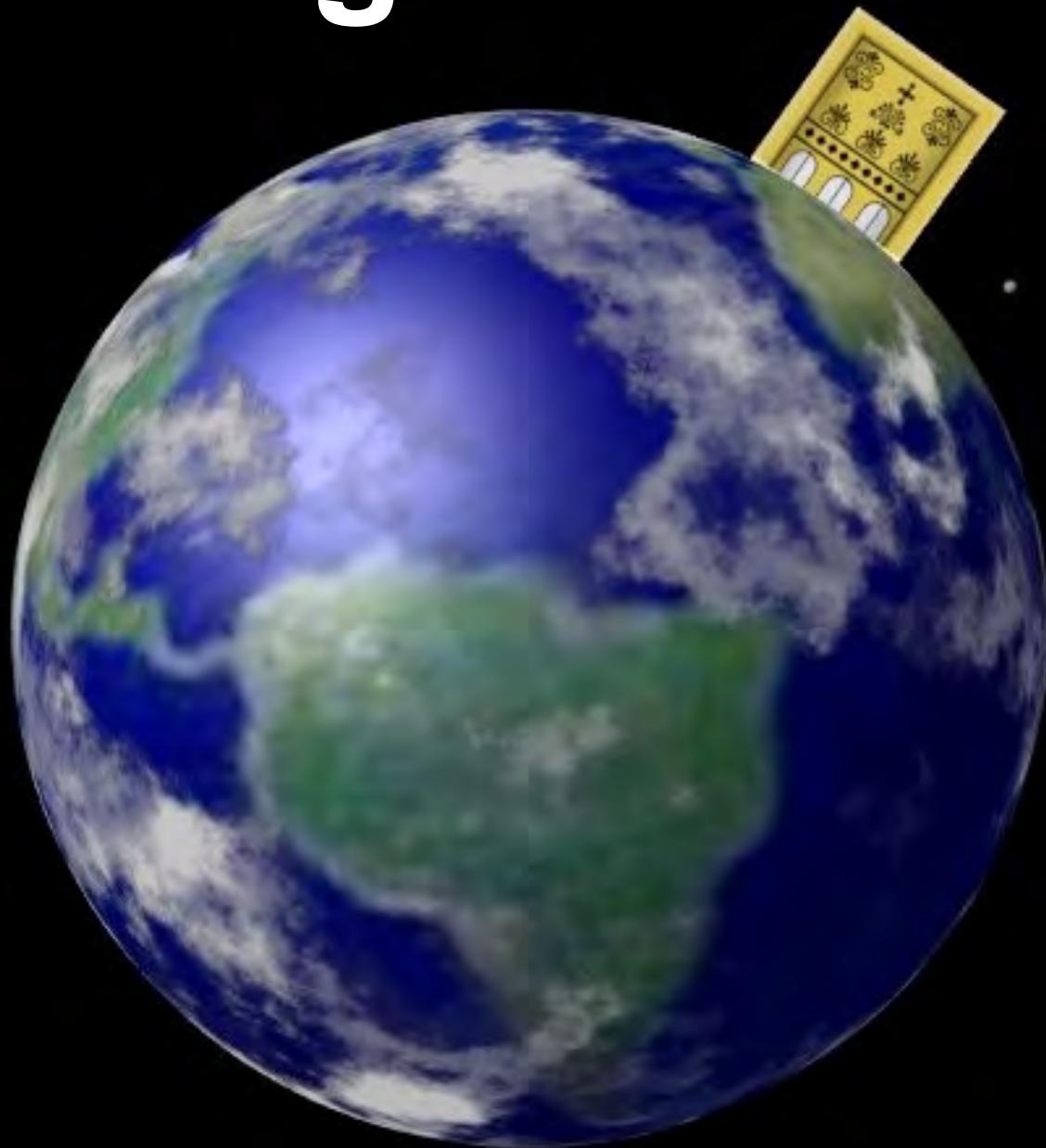
"So he took me in the Spirit to a great, high mountain, and he showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God. 11It shone with the glory of God and sparkled like a precious stone—like jasper as clear as crystal."



**The City Descending
(21:10-11 NLT)**

Sitting on the Earth?

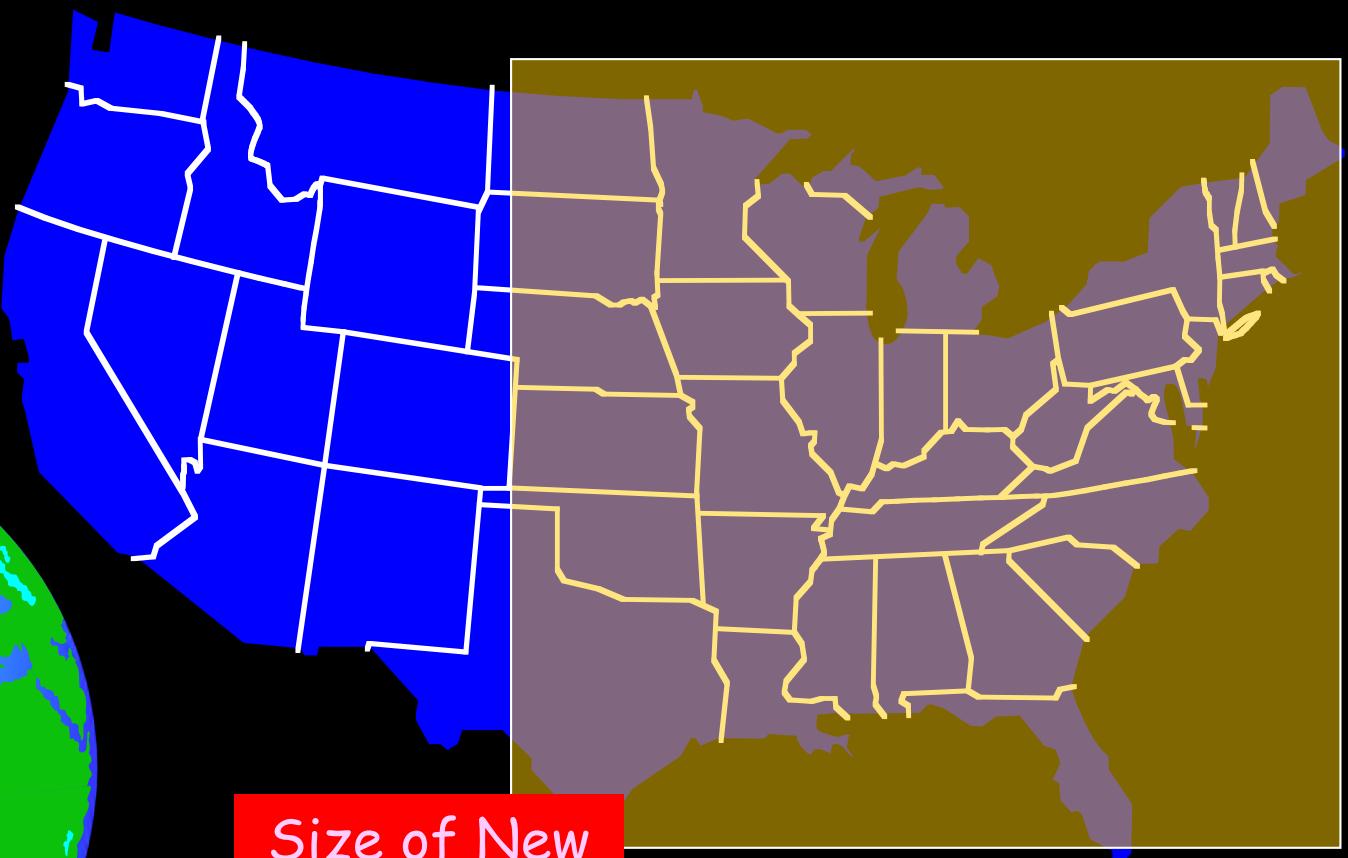
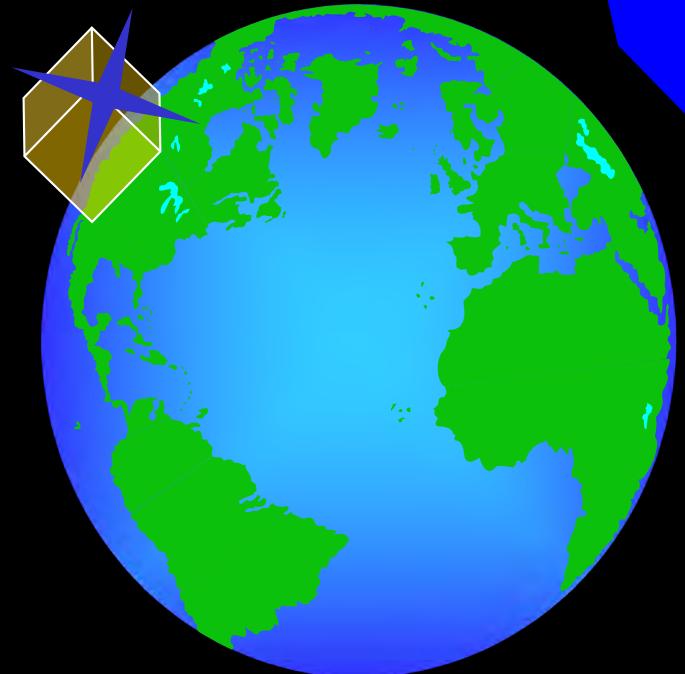
184



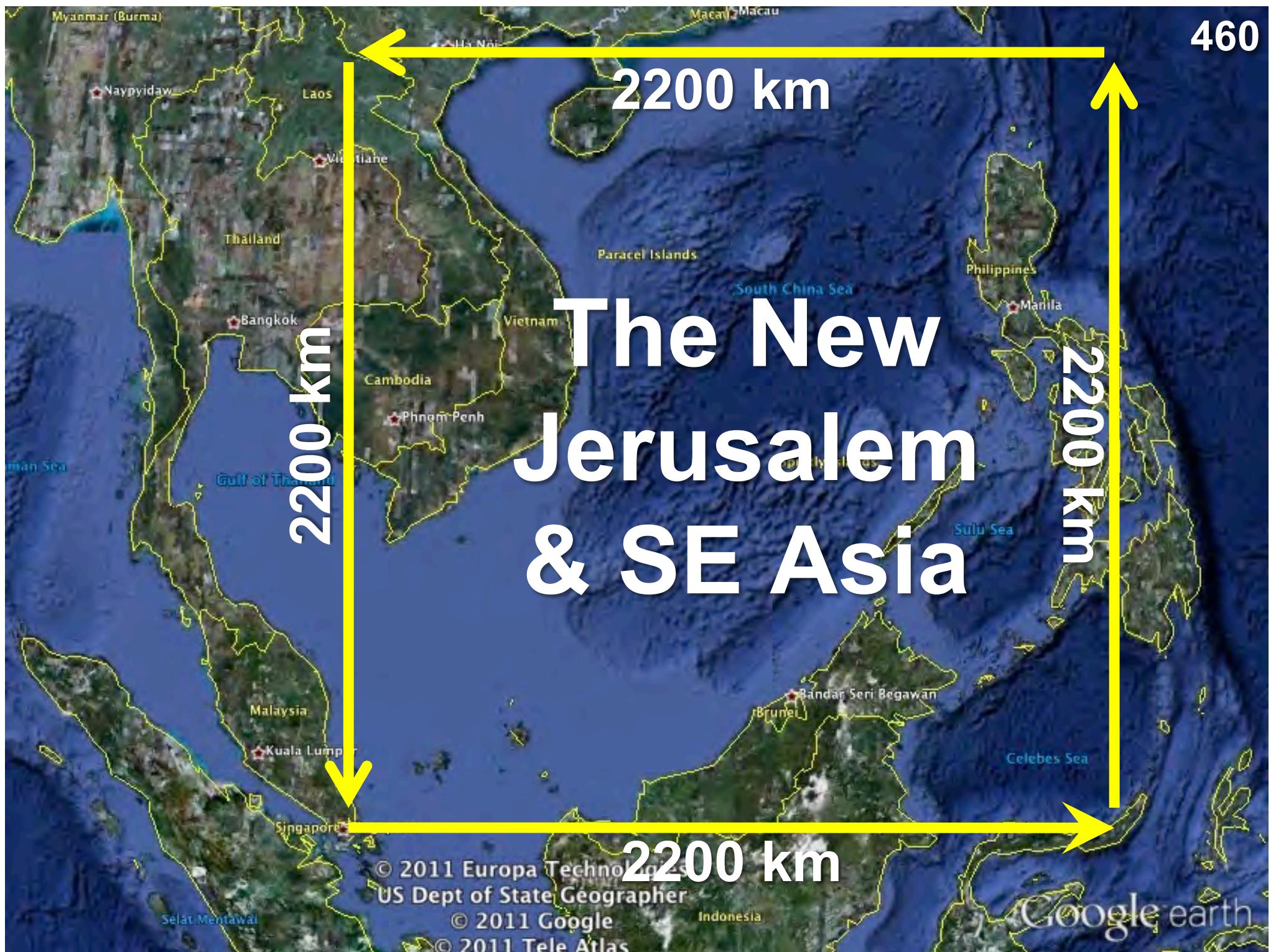


The Cubed City

The New Jerusalem



Size of New
Jerusalem
2,250,000
sq. miles





The New Jerusalem over present Jerusalem

Hebrews 12:22-23 (NAU)

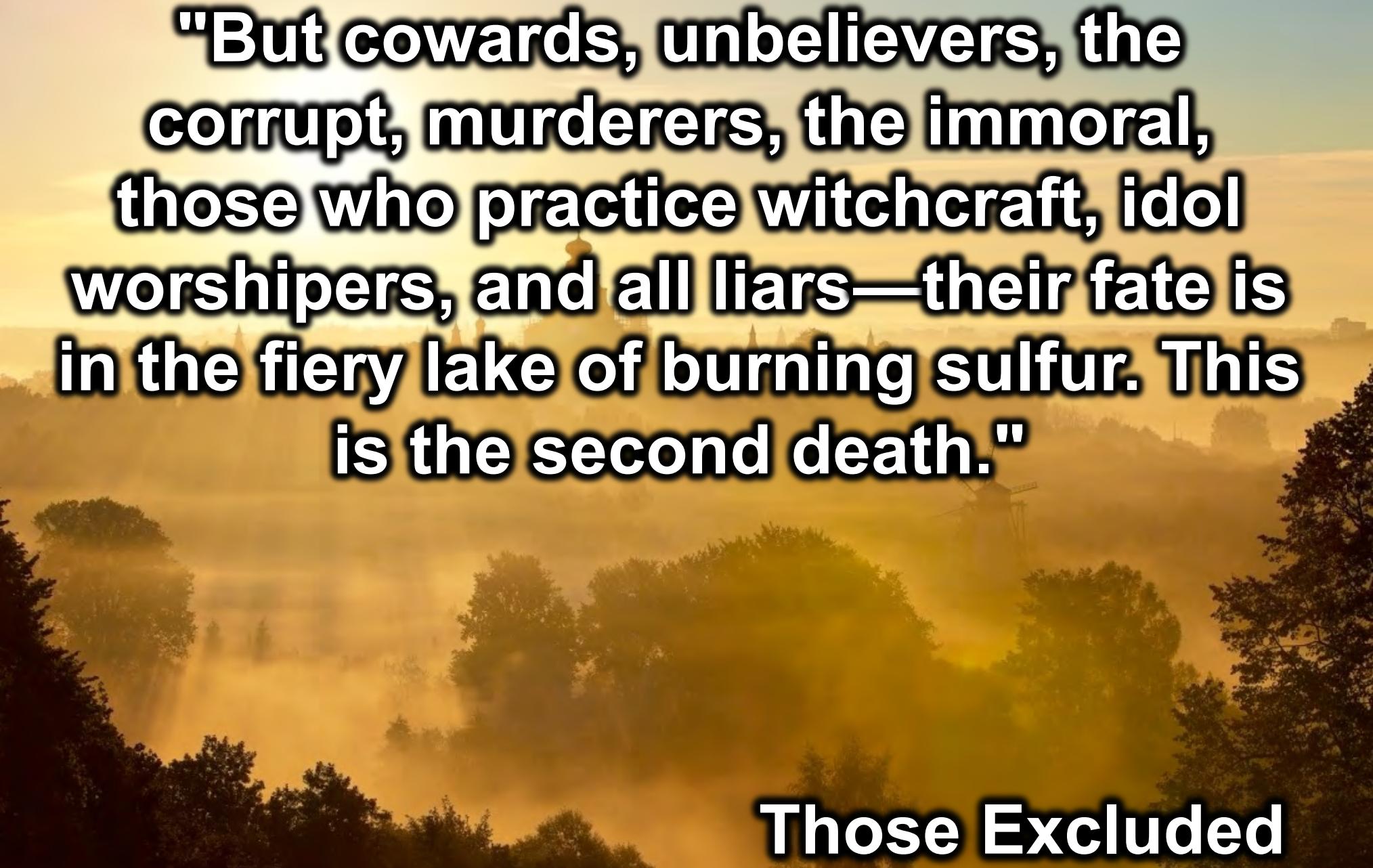
"But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to

- myriads of **angels**,
- to the general **assembly**
- and **church** of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven,
- and to **God**, the Judge of all,
- and to the **spirits of the righteous** made perfect"

New Jerusalem Citizens

"And the one sitting on the throne said, 'Look, I am making everything new!' And then he said to me, 'Write this down, for what I tell you is trustworthy and true.' ⁶And he also said, 'It is finished! I am the Alpha and the Omega—the Beginning and the End. To all who are thirsty I will give freely from the springs of the water of life. ⁷All who are victorious will inherit all these blessings, and I will be their God, and they will be my children."

**Everything New!
(21:5-7 NLT)**



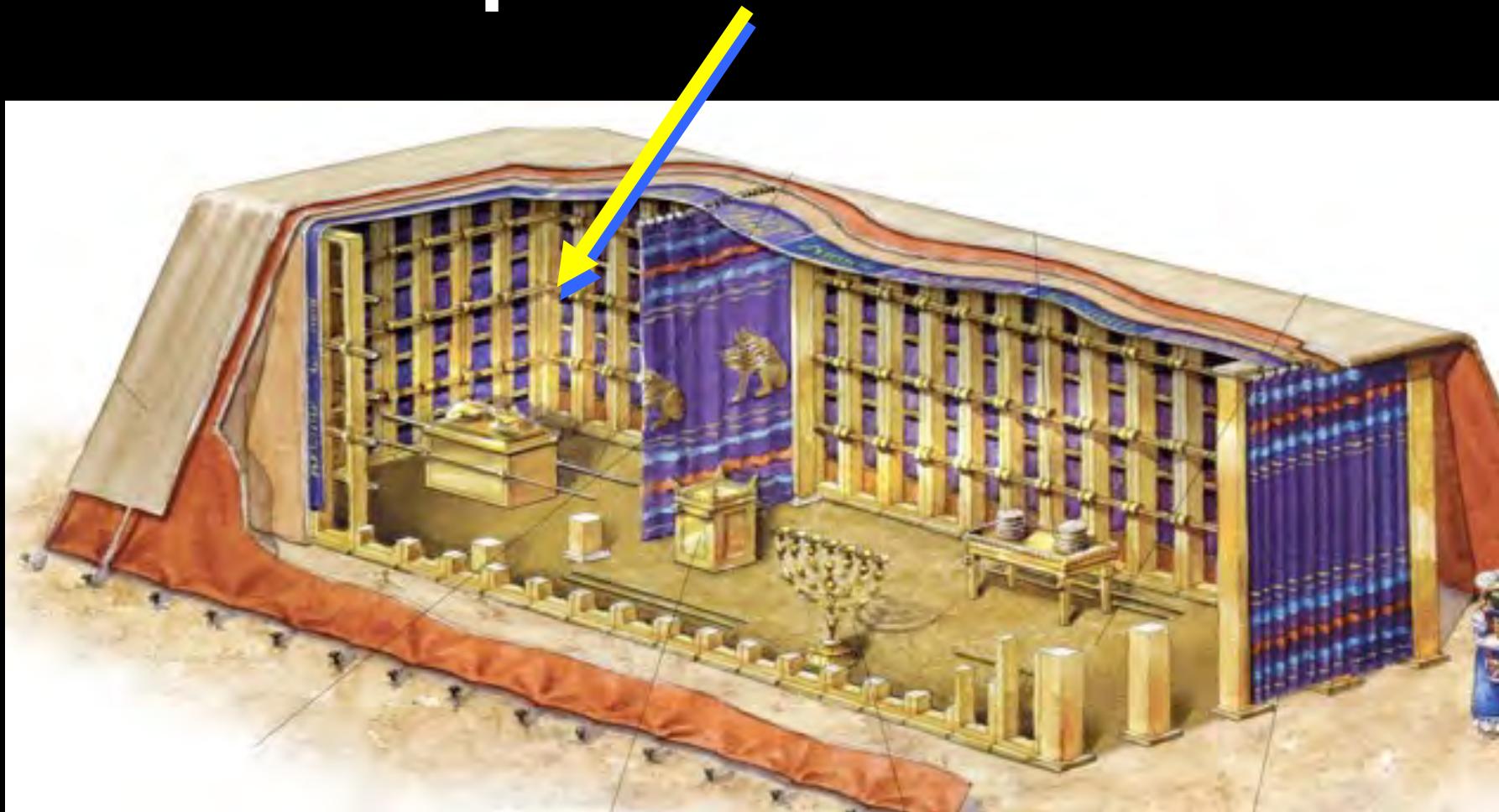
"But cowards, unbelievers, the corrupt, murderers, the immoral, those who practice witchcraft, idol worshipers, and all liars—their fate is in the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death."

**Those Excluded
(21:8 NLT)**

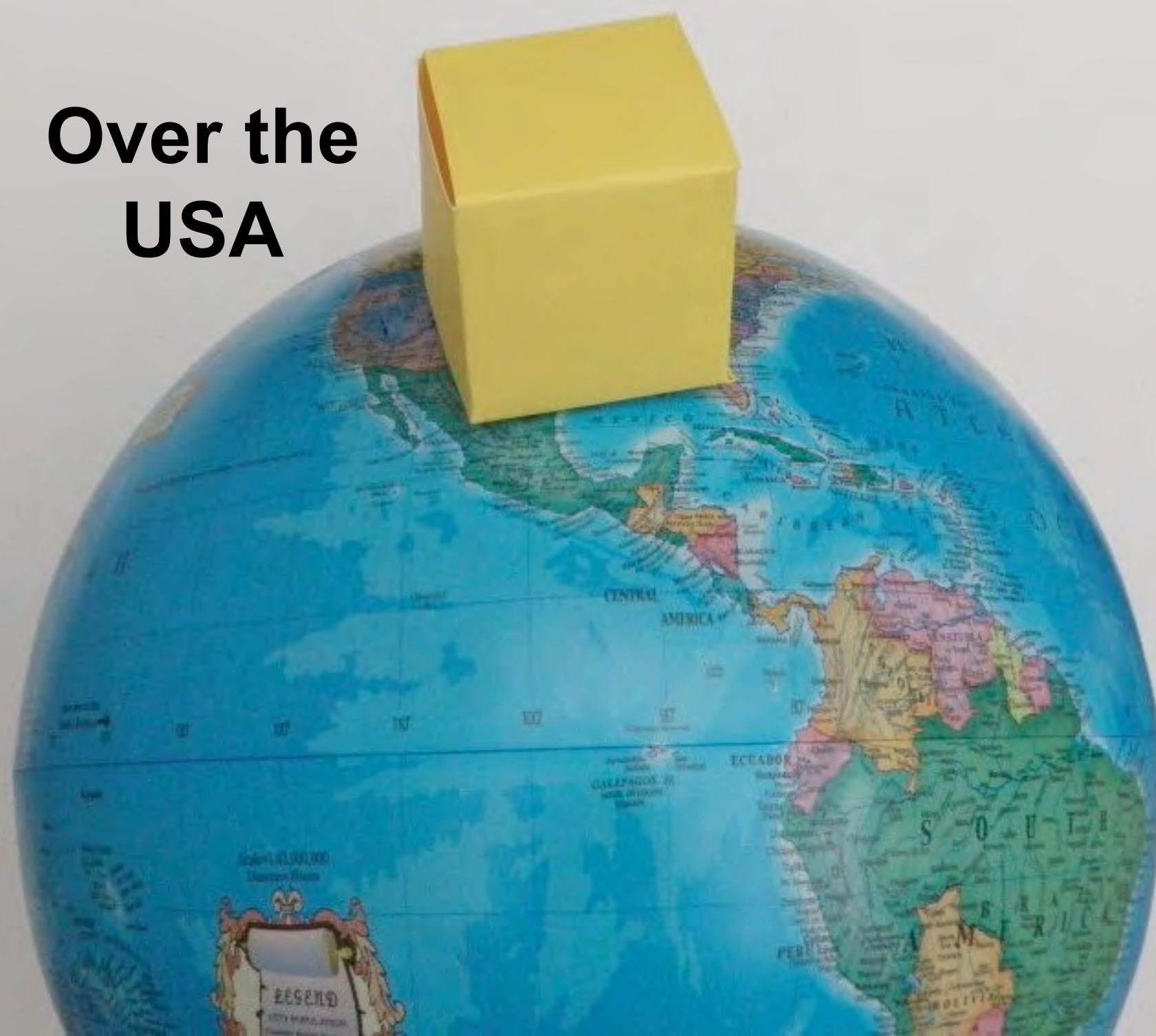


**The 2200-kilometer cube will
recall God's presence in the
Holy of Holies (21:15-16).**

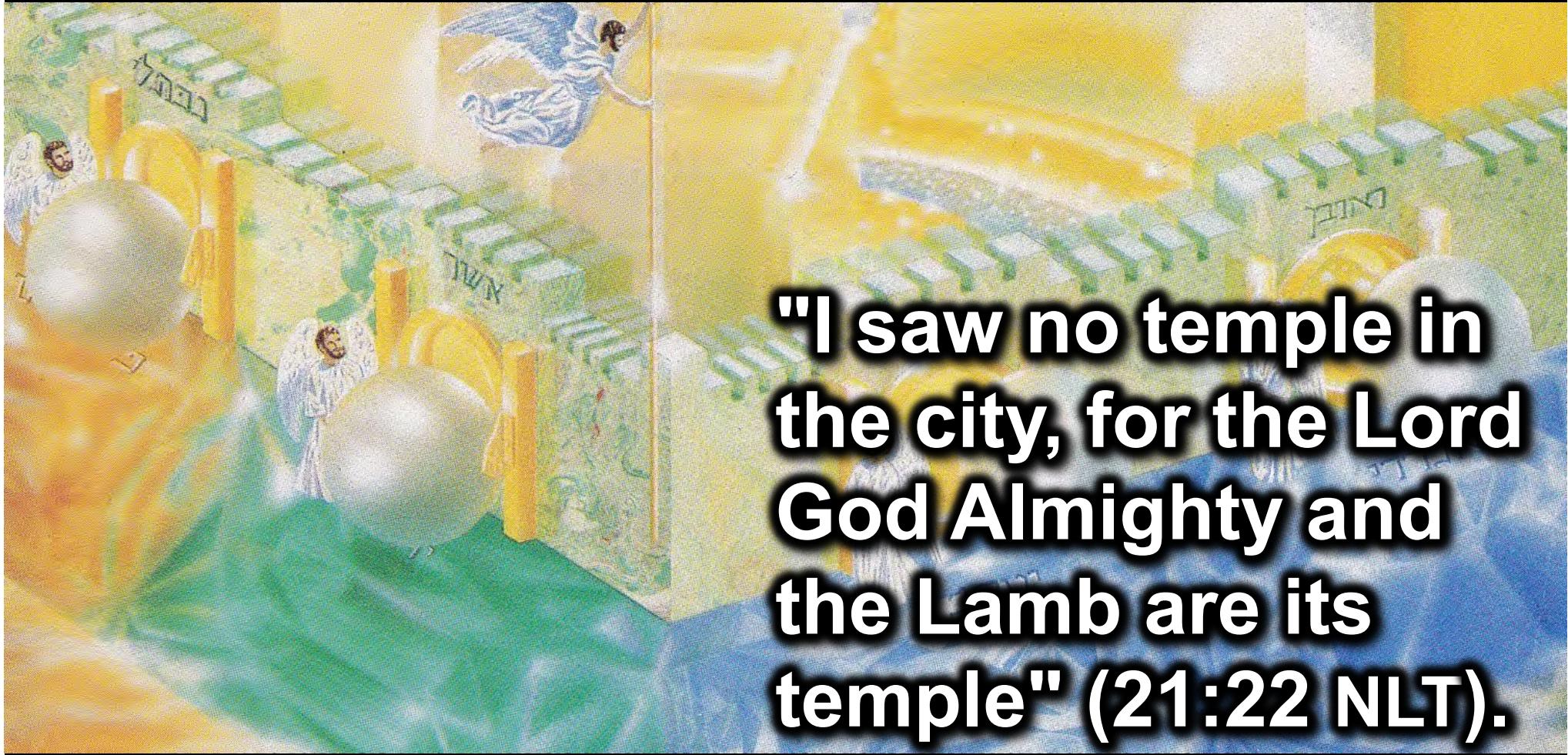
The Holy of Holies in the tabernacle and temple was a perfect cube



Over the USA



It will be lit by the glory of God (21:22-27)!



"I saw no temple in the city, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple" (21:22 NLT).

Genesis 1–3

"God made **two great lights" (sun and moon; 1:16)**



Revelation 20–22

"The city does **not need the sun or the moon" (21:23)**



**And the city has
no need of sun
or moon, for the
glory of God
illuminates the
city, and the
Lamb is its light
(21:23 NLT).**



Genesis 1–3

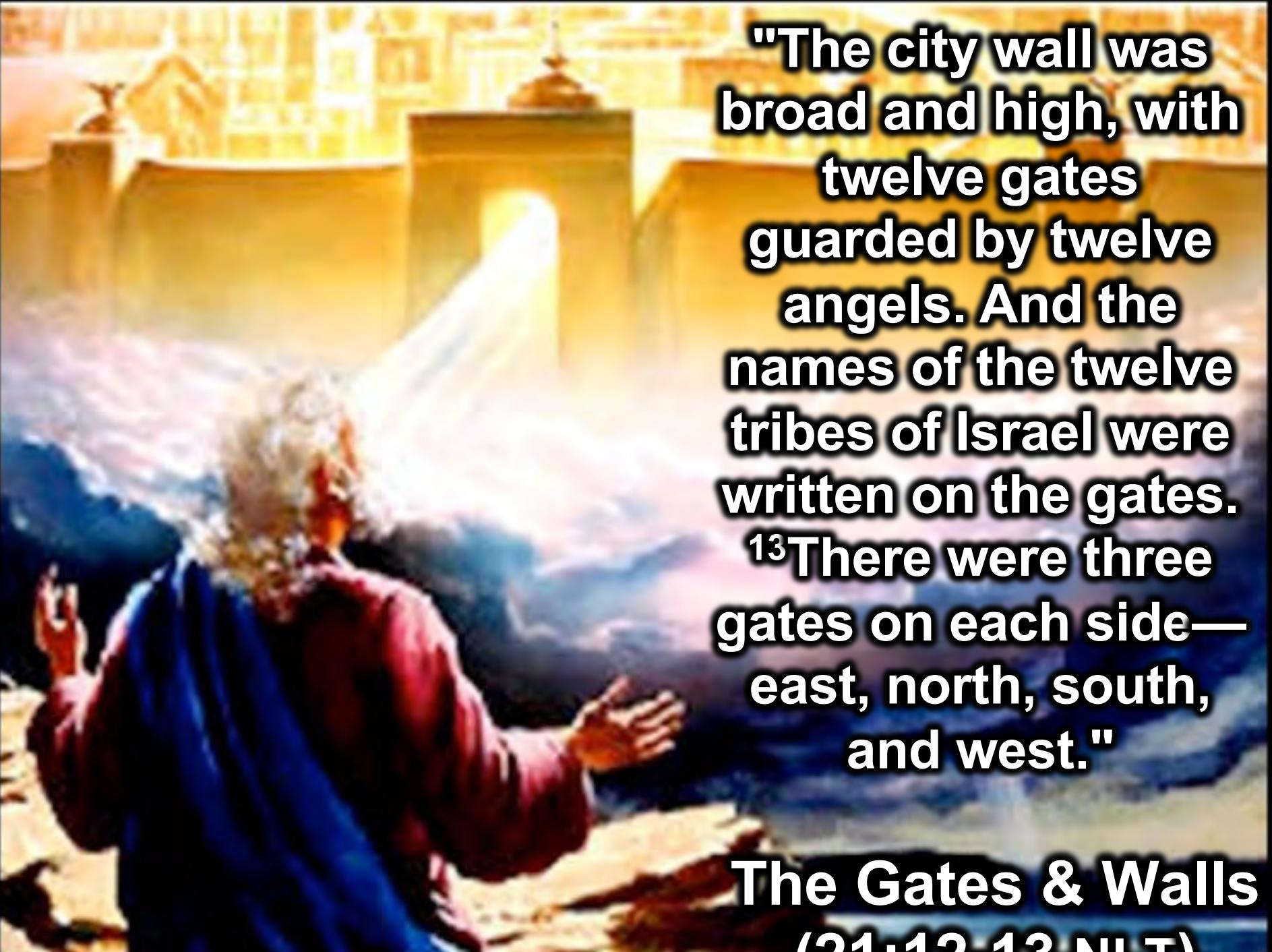
"The darkness
He called
night" (1:5)



Revelation 20–22

**"There will be
no night there"**
(21:25; 22:5)





"The city wall was broad and high, with twelve gates guarded by twelve angels. And the names of the twelve tribes of Israel were written on the gates.

13 There were three gates on each side—east, north, south, and west."

**The Gates & Walls
(21:12-13 NLT)**

Foundations of the City (21:12-21)



Foundation Stones (21:19-20)

185



Emerald



Beryl



Amethyst



Agate



Chrysolite



Jacinth



Sapphire



Carnelian



Chrysoprase



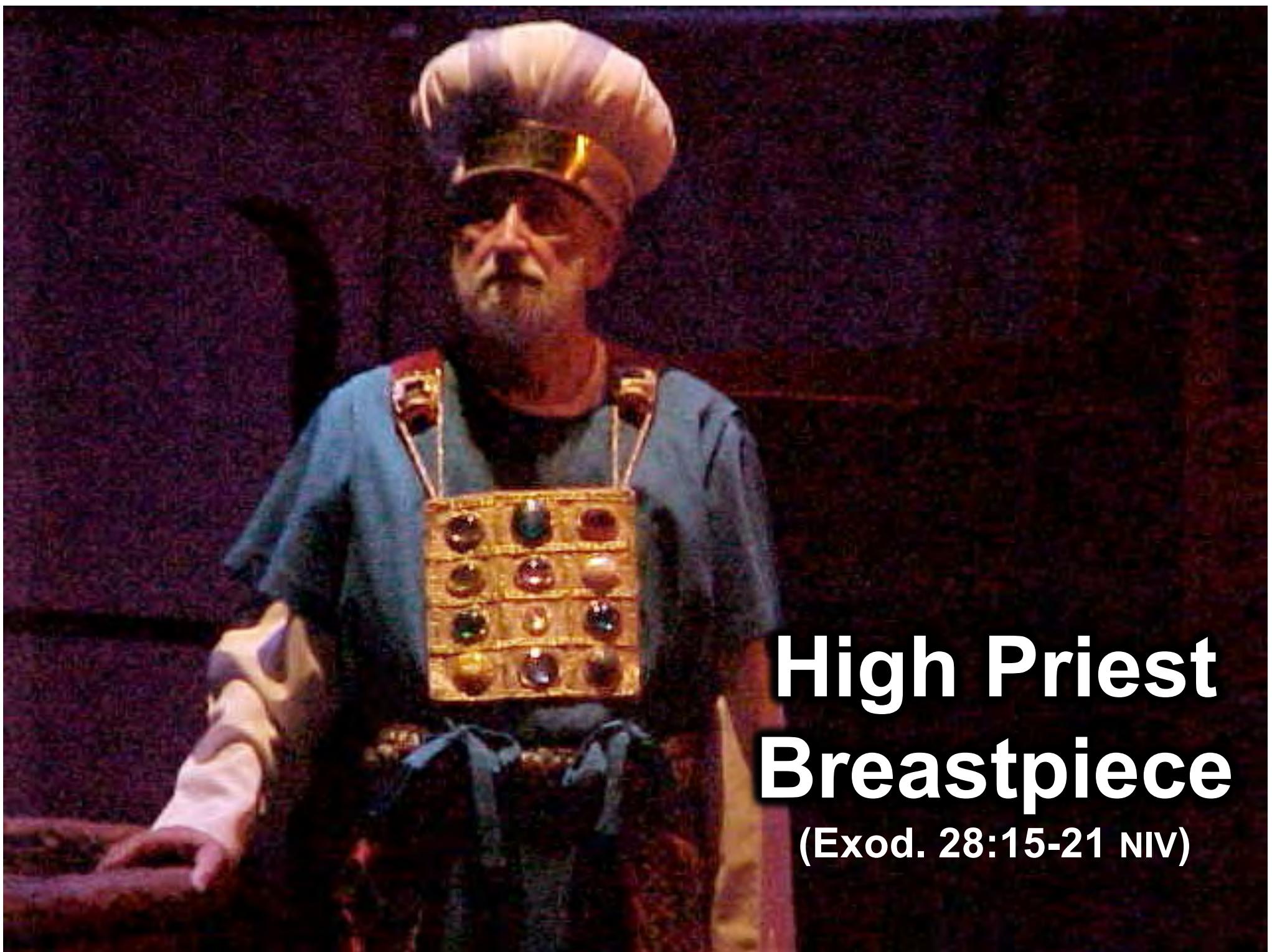
Jasper



Onyx



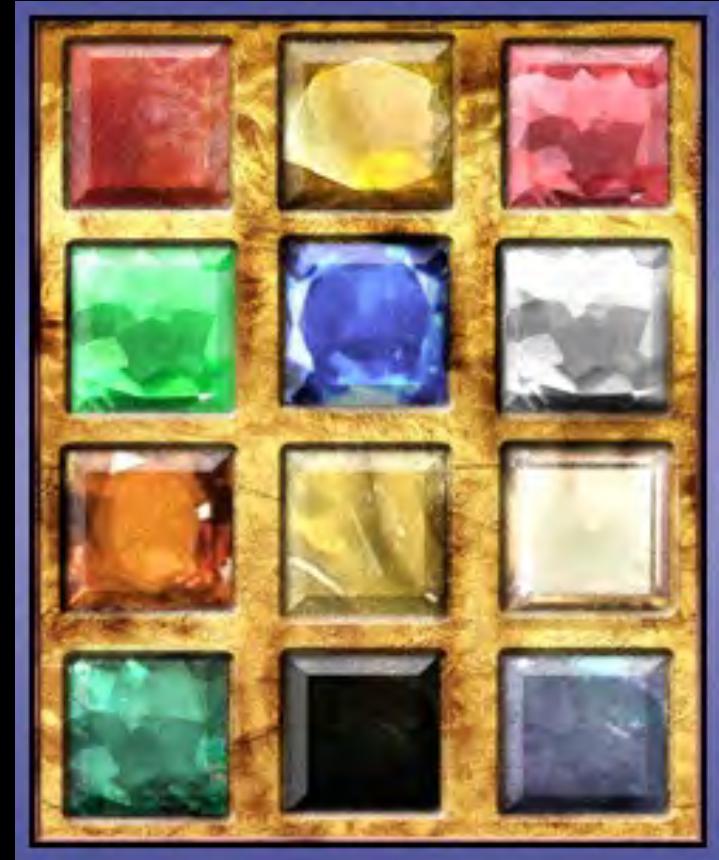
Topaz



High Priest Breastpiece

(Exod. 28:15-21 NIV)

15"Fashion a breastpiece for making decisions...¹⁷Then mount four rows of precious stones on it. The first row shall be carnelian, chrysolite and beryl; ¹⁸the second row shall be turquoise, lapis lazuli and emerald; ¹⁹the third row shall be jacinth, agate and amethyst; ²⁰the fourth row shall be topaz, onyx and jasper. Mount them in gold filigree settings. ²¹There are to be twelve stones, one for each of the names of the sons of Israel, each engraved like a seal with the name of one of the twelve tribes.



High Priest Breastpiece

(Exod. 28:15-21 NIV)

"God's People: Close to His Heart - Forever

In the strange world of the Bible, God's people are likened to jewels.

In the Old Testament, the High Priest would wear a breastpiece on which was mounted 12 jewels. He would carry these precious stones with him into the Holy of Holies in the Tabernacle / Temple close to his heart.

In the New Jerusalem, the walls are made of the very same jewels found on the High Priest's breastpiece. They now surround the dwelling place of God, gathered from the four corners of the globe and they will stay there, in the new creation, in the presence of God."

Amethyst

Jacinth

Chrysoprase

Topaz

Beryl

Chrysolite

Carnelian

Onyx

Emerald

Agate

Sapphire

Jasper

Amethyst

Jacinth

Chrysoprase

Topaz

Beryl

Chrysolite

Sardius

Sardonyx

Emerald

Chalcedony

Sapphire

Jasper

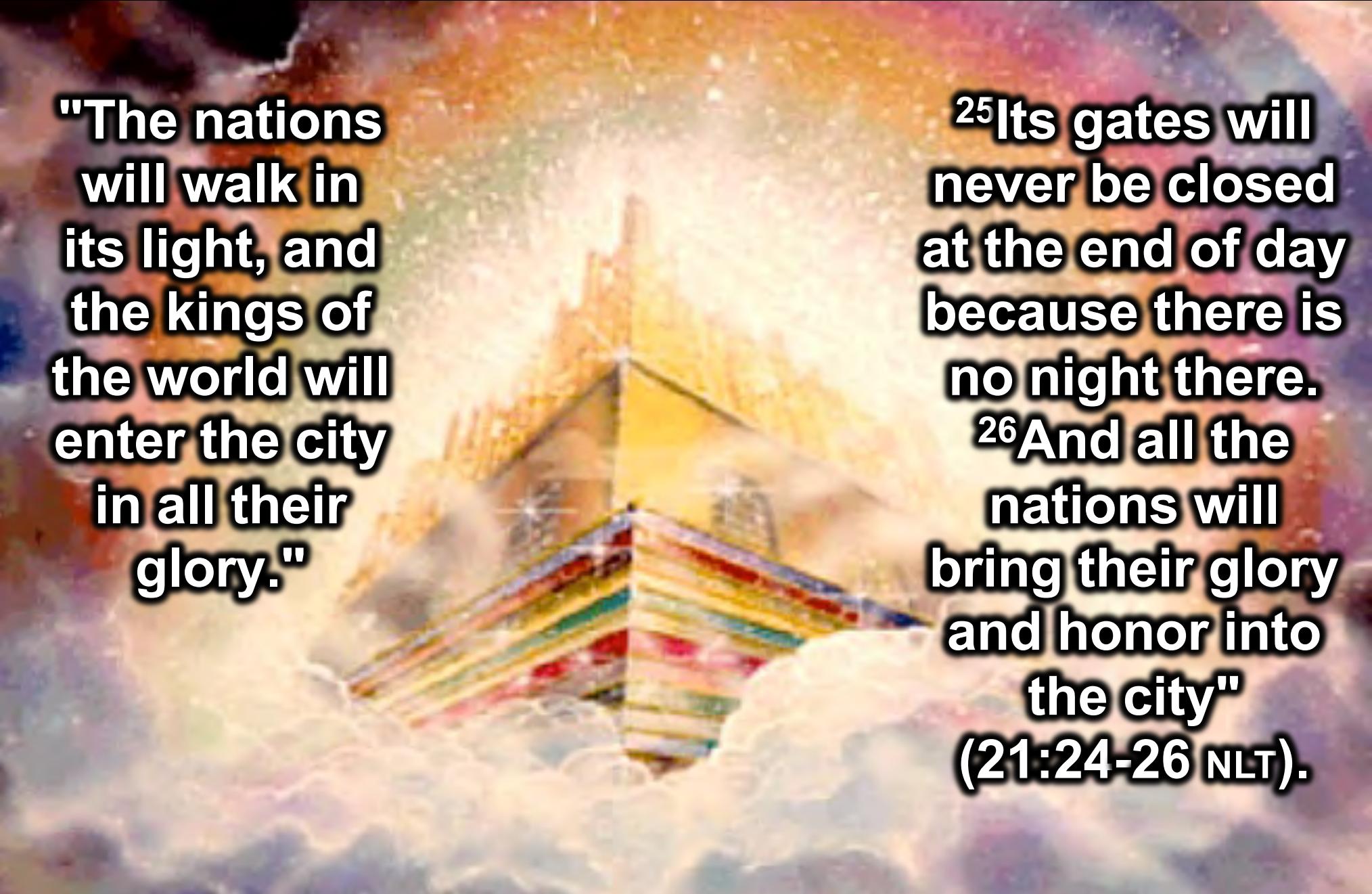
Through the Gate (21:21)



Used with permission



Gates from a Single Pearl (21:21)!



**"The nations
will walk in
its light, and
the kings of
the world will
enter the city
in all their
glory."**

25Its gates will
never be closed
at the end of day
because there is
no night there.
26And all the
nations will
bring their glory
and honor into
the city"
(21:24-26 NLT).

Genesis 1–3



Revelation 20–22



**First paradise
closed (3:23)**

**New paradise
opened (21:25)**

Genesis 1–3

**Satan appears
as deceiver of
mankind (3:1)**

**Initial triumph
of the serpent
(3:13)**

**Defilement enters
the garden (3:6-7)**

Revelation 20–22

**Satan disappears
forever (20:10)**

**Ultimate triumph
of the Lamb
(20:10; 22:3)**

**Defilement never
enters the city
(21:27)**



**No More
Sin and
Death!**

**"You sure you're supposed to
be doing' that, Mitch?"**

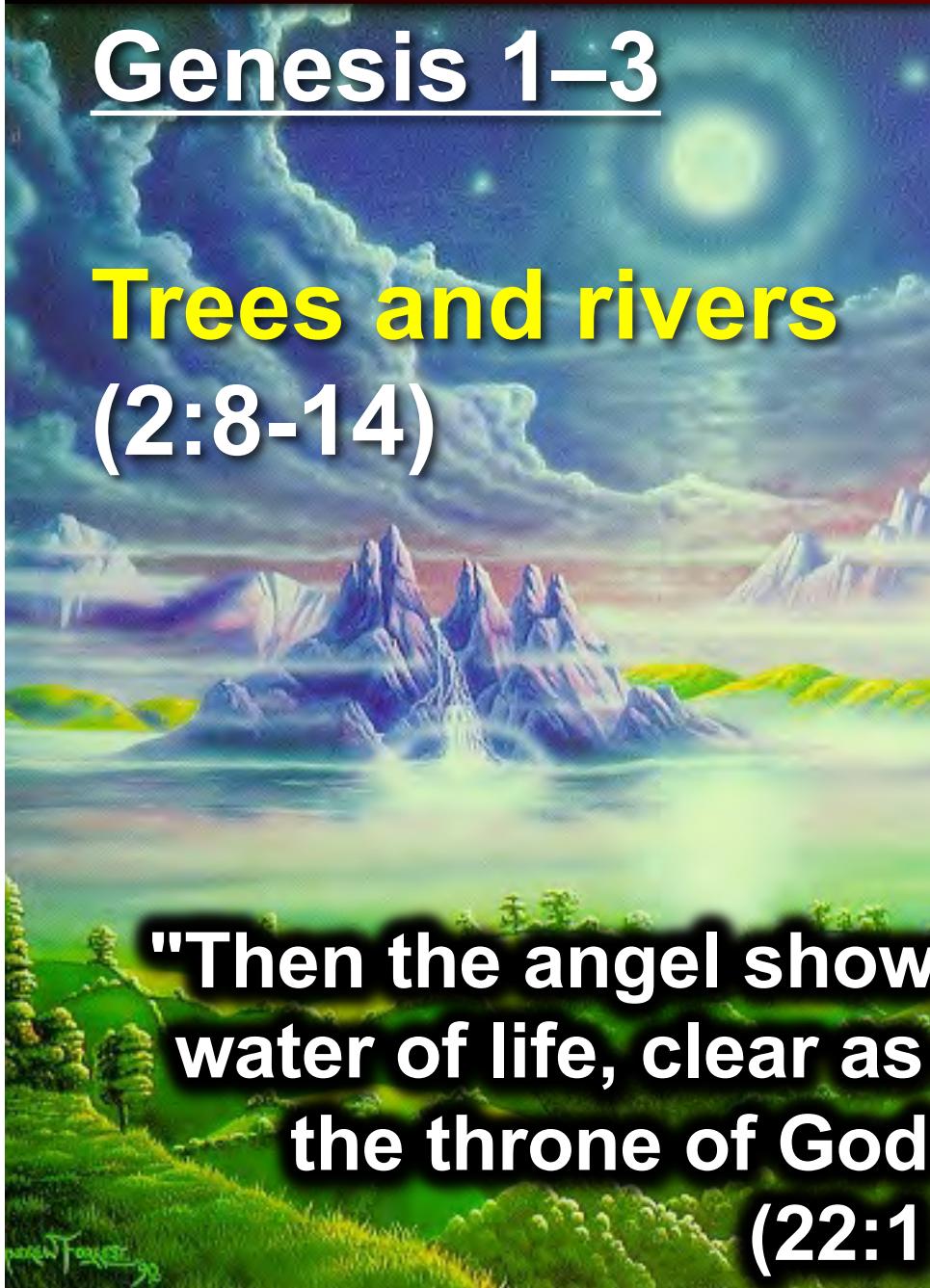
"Nothing evil will be allowed to enter, nor anyone who practices shameful idolatry and dishonesty—but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life" (21:27 NLT).



Revelation 22

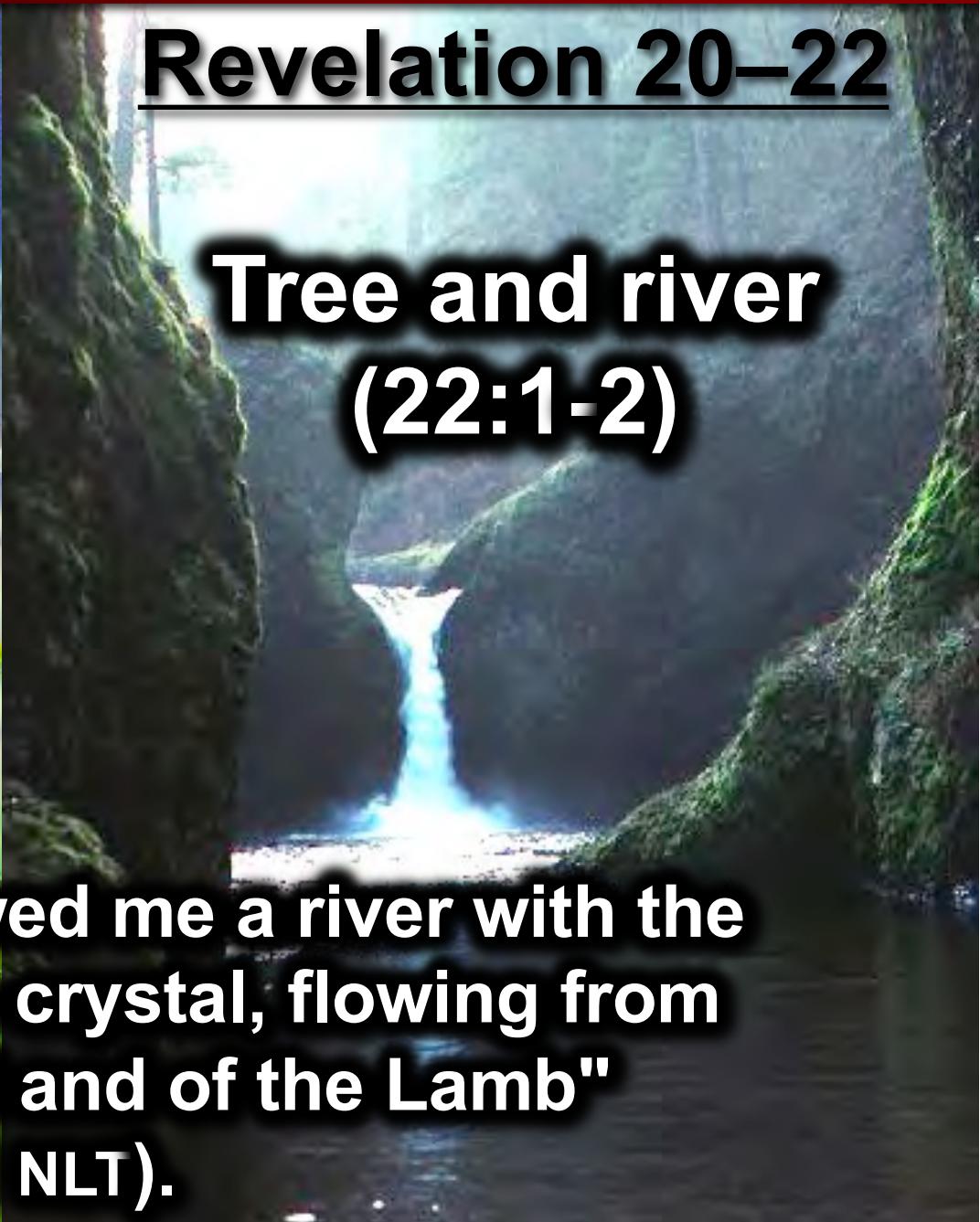
Genesis 1–3

Trees and rivers
(2:8-14)



Revelation 20–22

Tree and river
(22:1-2)



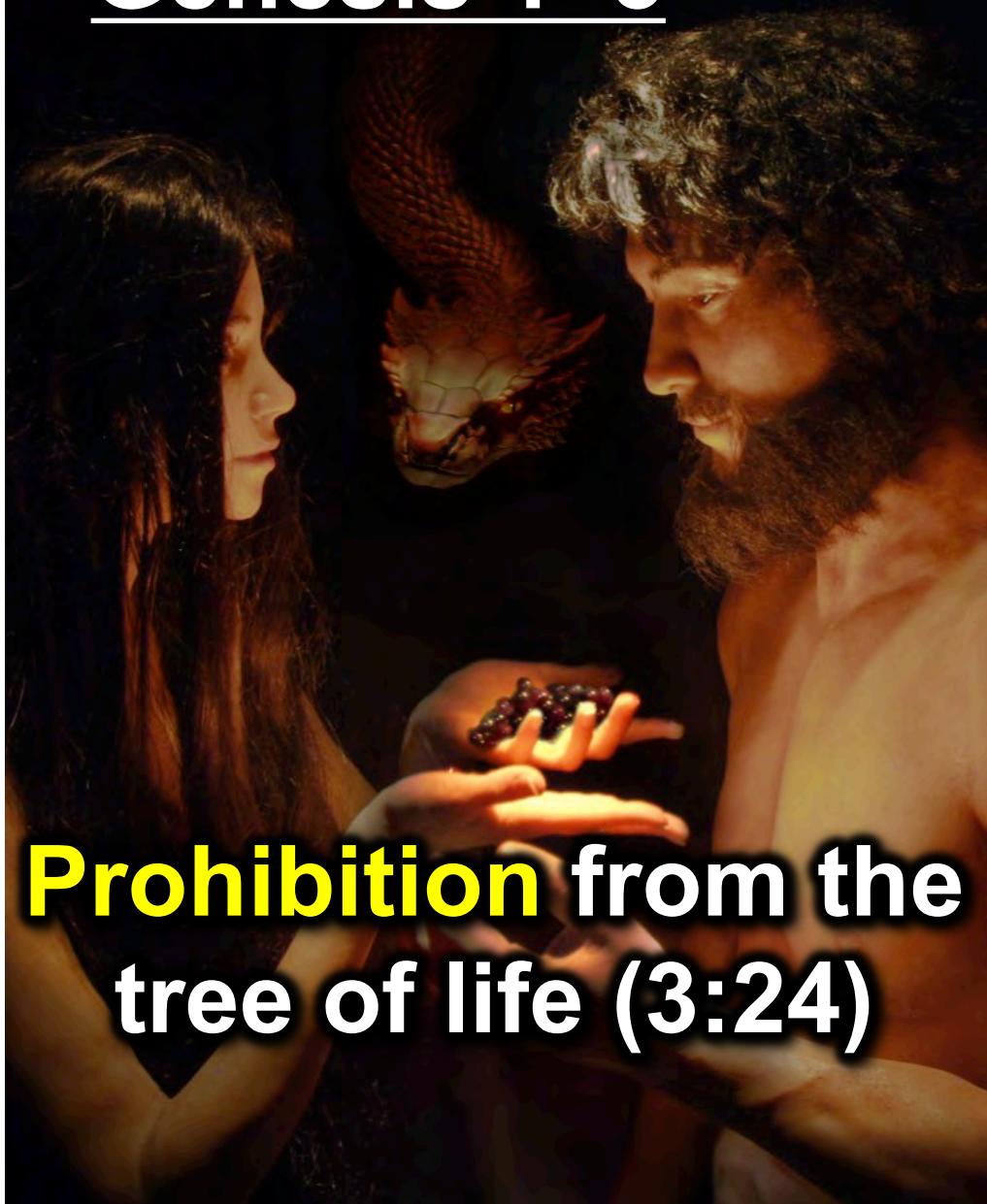
"Then the angel showed me a river with the water of life, clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb"
(22:1 NLT).

The River of Life

"It flowed down the center of the main street. On each side of the river grew a tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, with a fresh crop each month.

The leaves were used for medicine to heal the nations" (22:2 NLT).

Genesis 1–3



**Prohibition from the
tree of life (3:24)**

Revelation 20–22



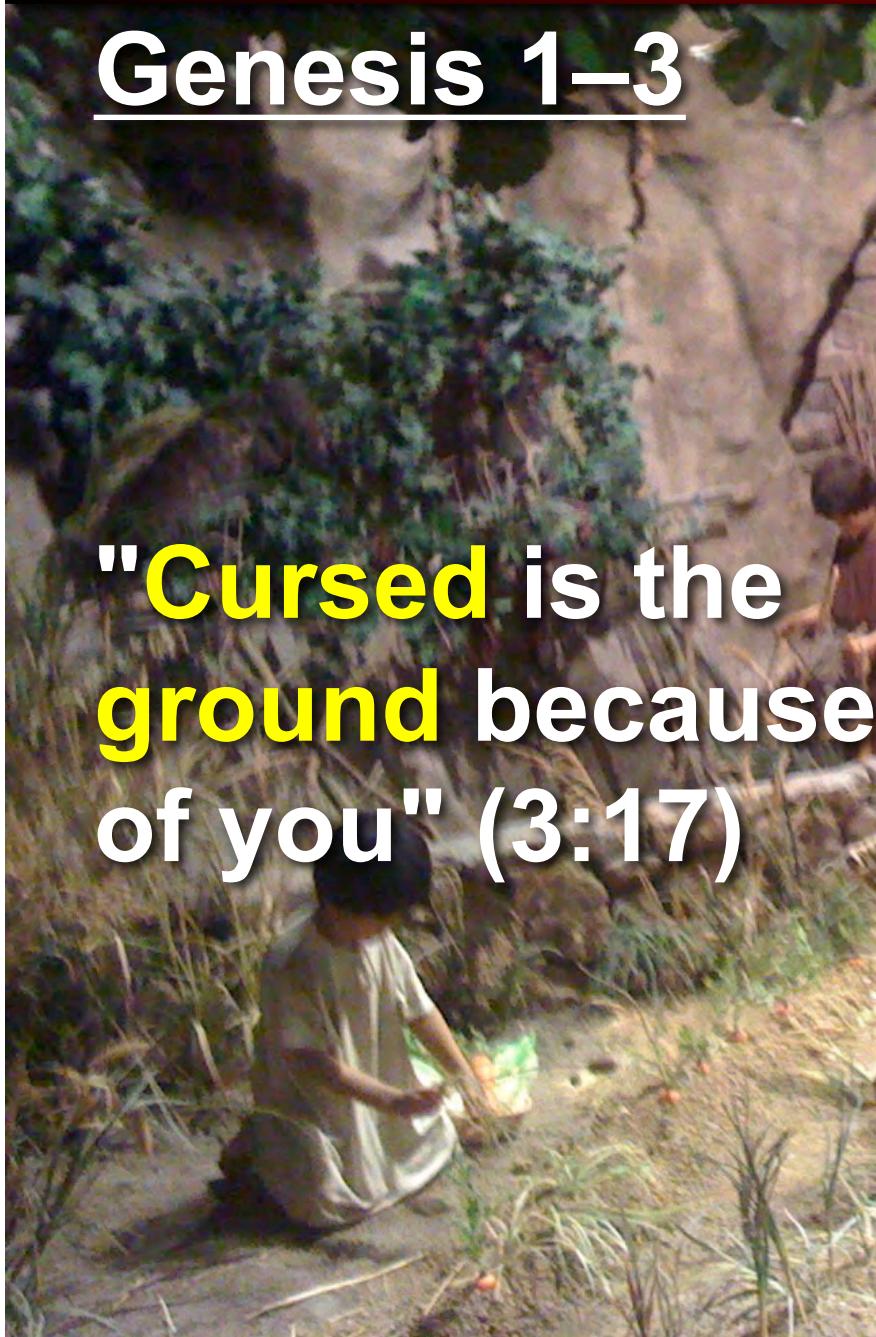
**Access to the
tree of life (22:14)**

The Tree of Life (22:2, 14)



The Consummation of All Things 175

Genesis 1–3



"Cursed is the ground because of you" (3:17)

Revelation 20–22



"No longer will there be any curse" (22:3)

Genesis 1–3



**Man driven from
God's presence
(3:24)**

Revelation 20–22

**"They will see His
face" (22:4)**



Genesis 1–3



**Man's dominion
broken in the fall
of the first man,
Adam (3:19)**

Revelation 20–22



**Man's dominion
restored in the rule
of the new man,
Christ (22:5)**

Genesis 1–3



Revelation 20–22



**First paradise
closed (3:23)**

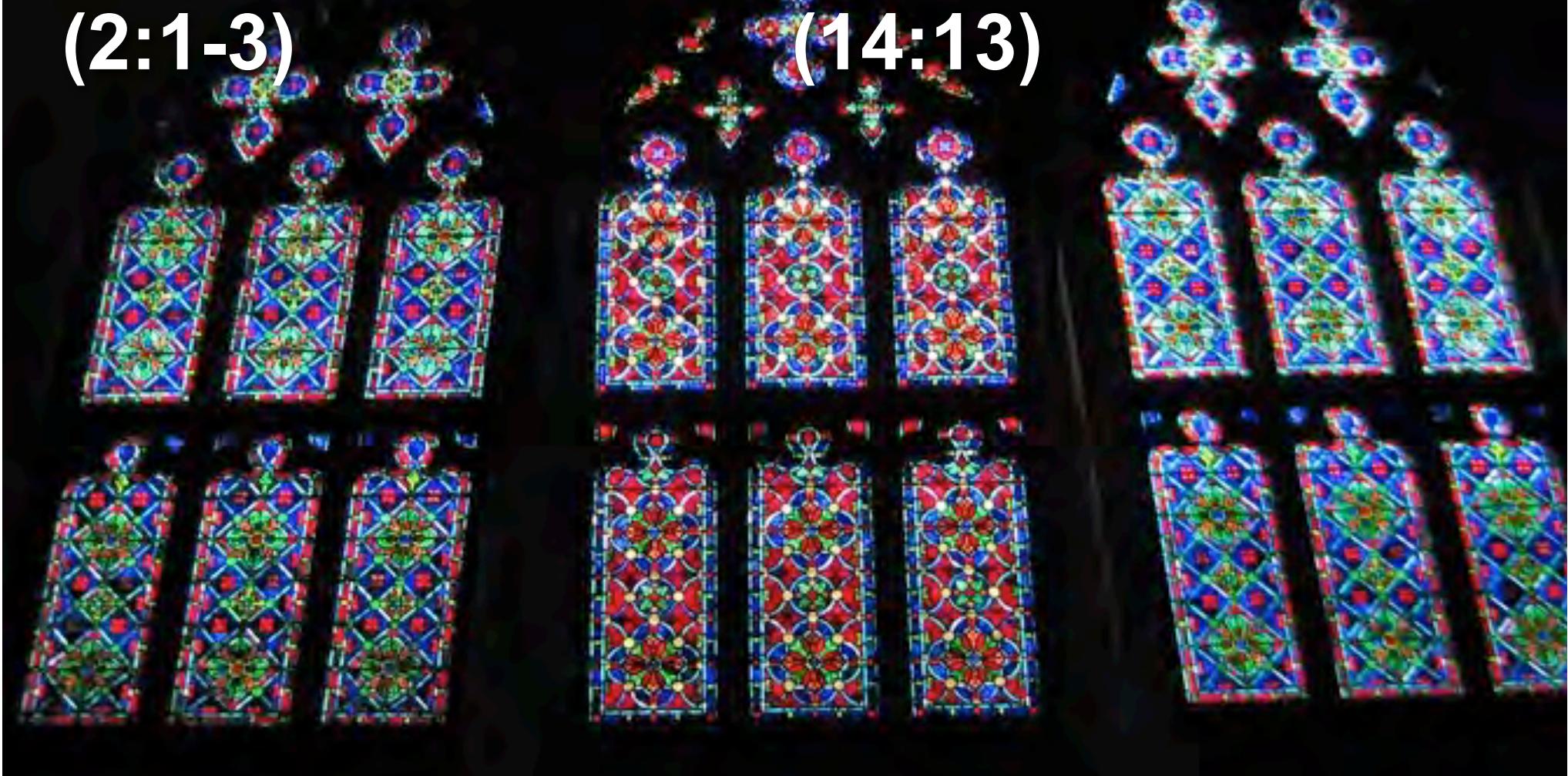
**New paradise
opened (21:25)**

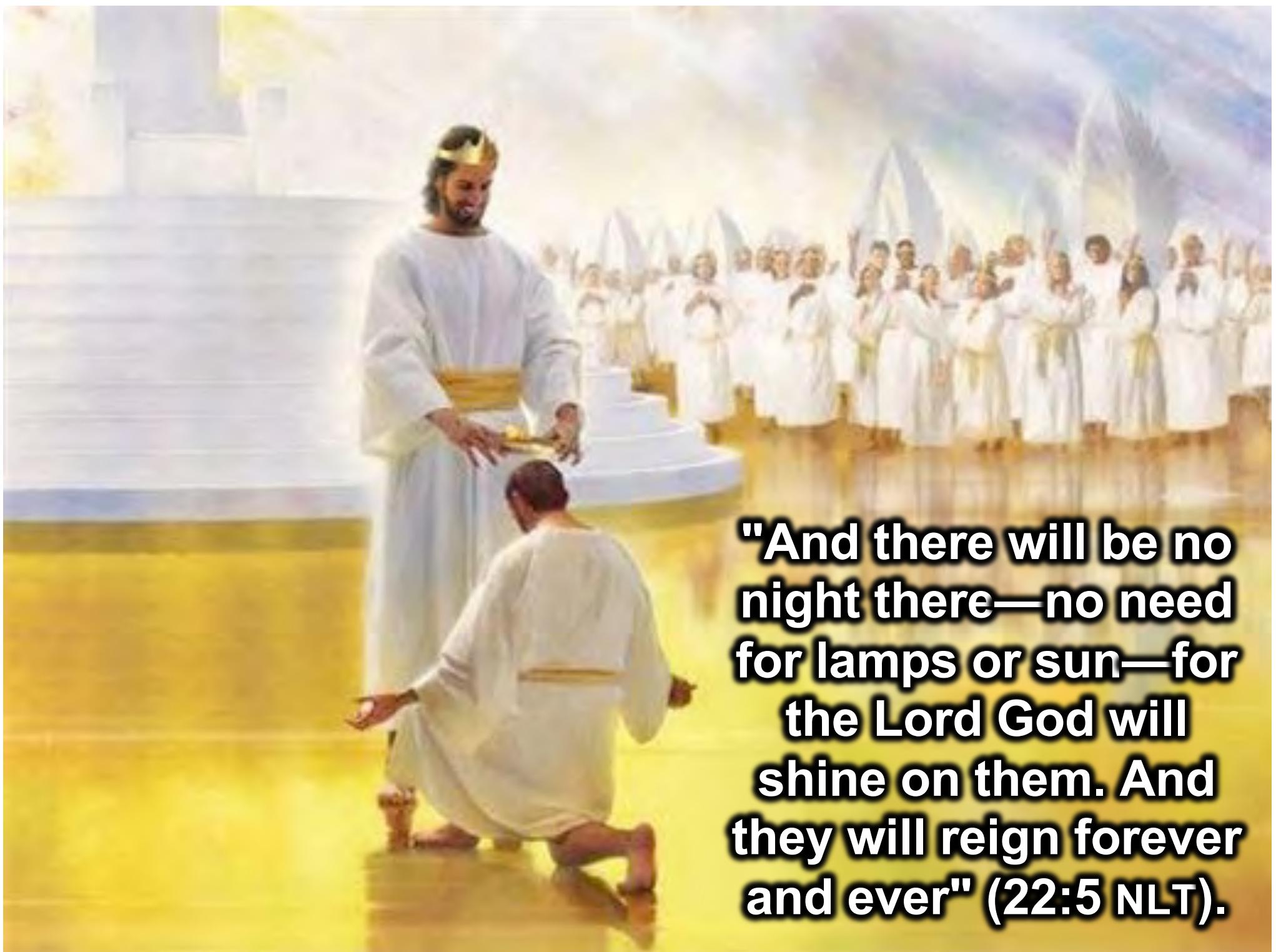
Genesis 1–3

First rest for God
(2:1-3)

Revelation 20–22

Final rest for man
(14:13)





"And there will be no night there—no need for lamps or sun—for the Lord God will shine on them. And they will reign forever and ever" (22:5 NLT).

The Consummation of All Things 175

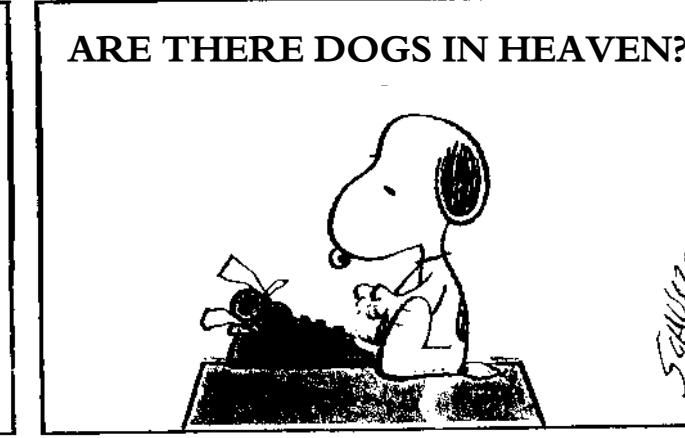
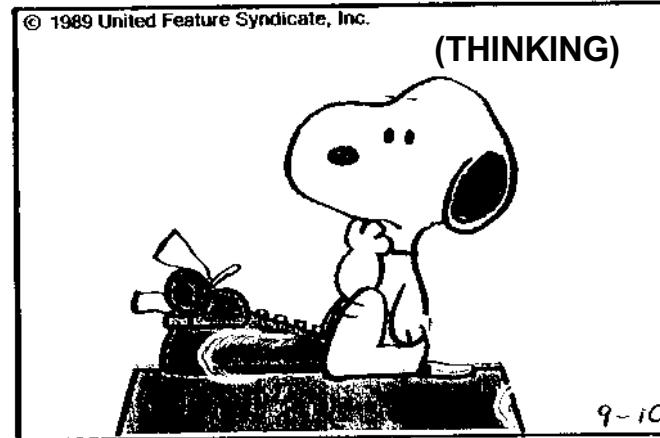
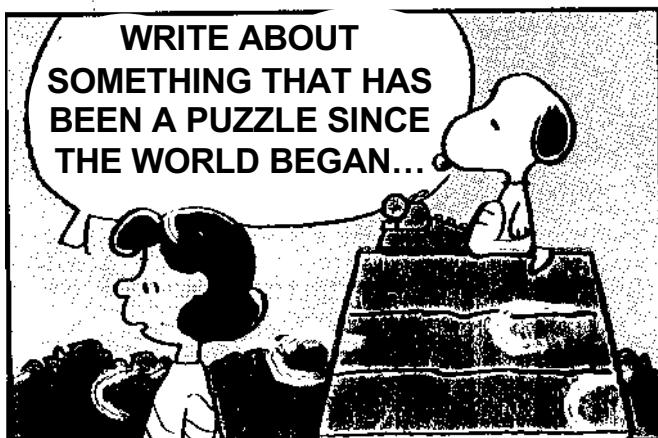
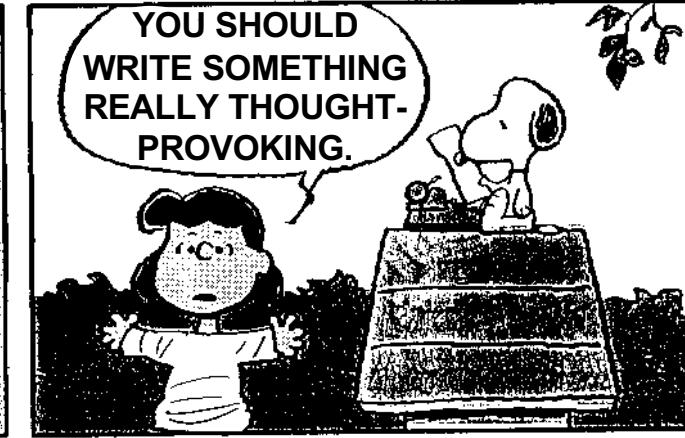
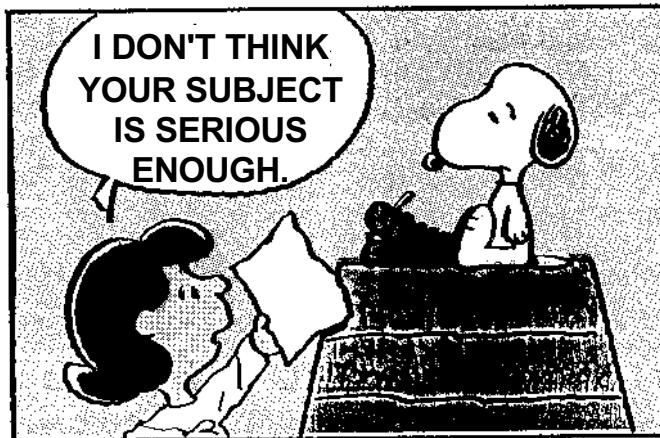
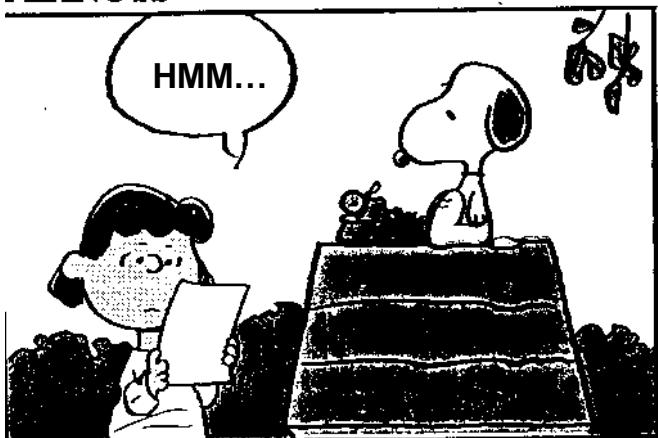


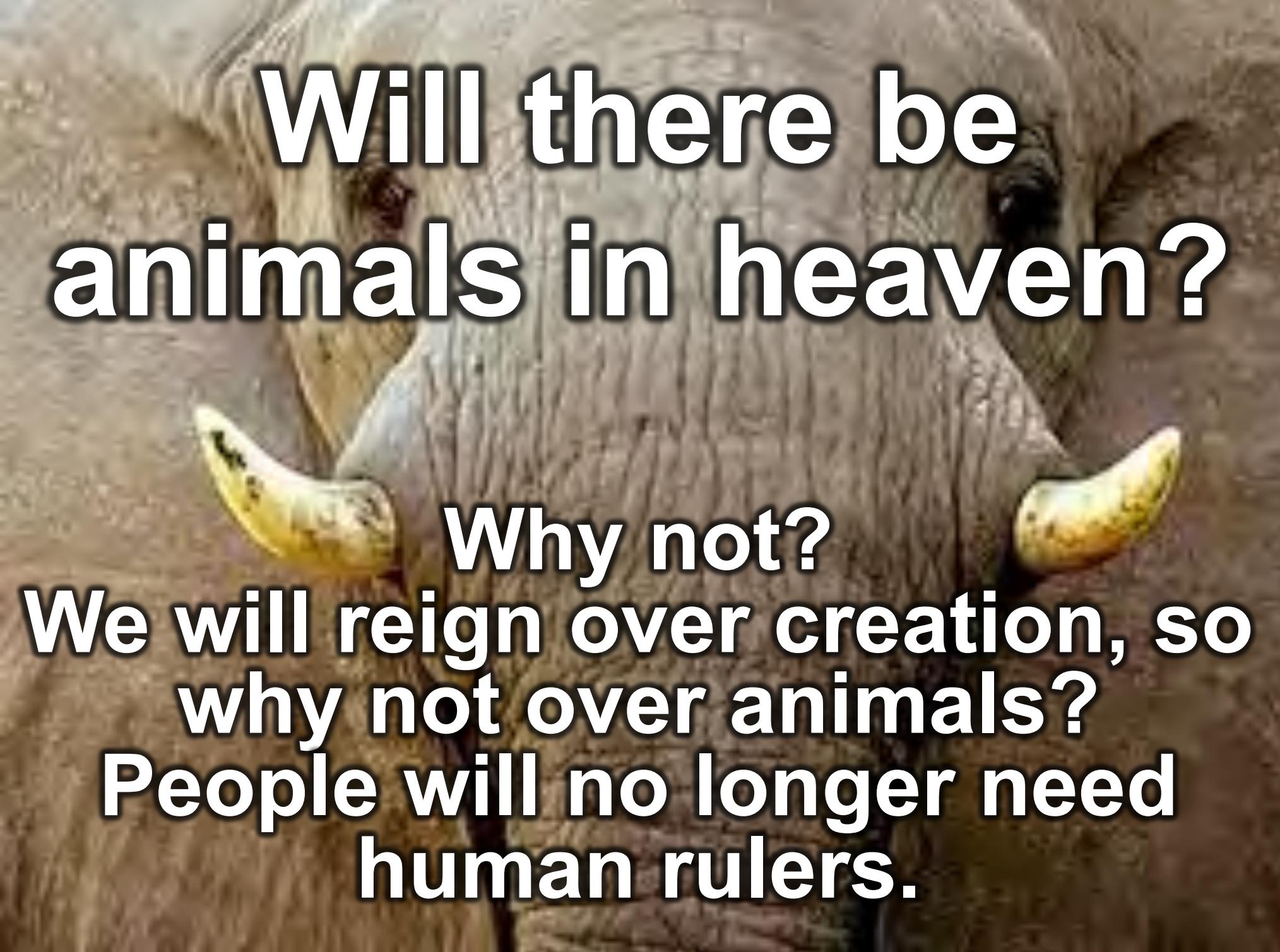
Other Questions....

Lucy and Snoopy

PEANUTS

By Charles Schulz





Will there be animals in heaven?

Why not?

We will reign over creation, so
why not over animals?

People will no longer need
human rulers.

A composite image featuring a lion and a lamb. The lion, with a large, golden-brown mane, is positioned on the left, looking towards the right. In front of the lion, a white lamb is looking directly at the viewer. They are set against a background of dark, billowing clouds with bright, glowing edges, suggesting a divine or heavenly atmosphere.

Are
there
animals
in
heaven?



**Christ and his forces will
return on horses (Rev. 19:11)**

Heaven is Eternal!



"I think he's missing the whole point!"

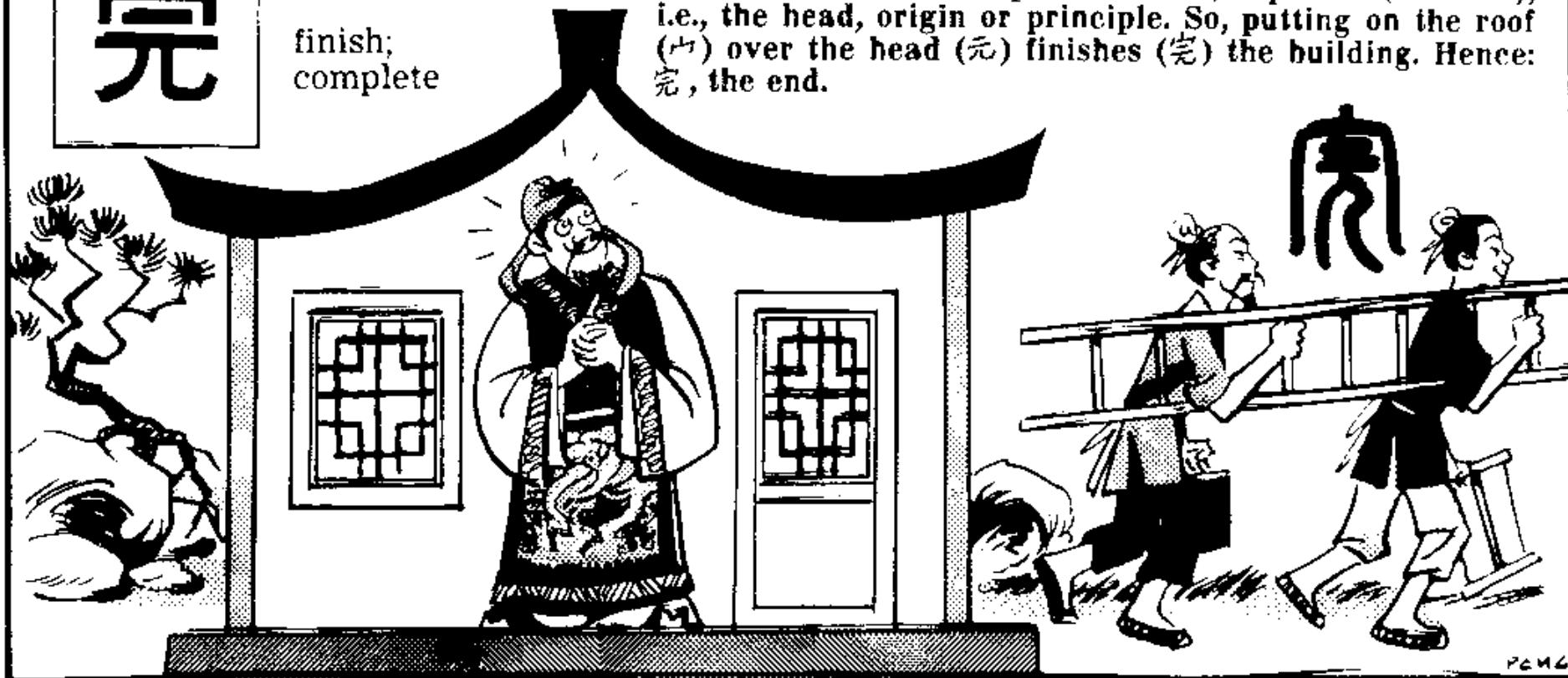
Heaven Never Ends!

完

WÁN

finish;
complete

THIS ideograph places roof (宀) over head (元). 元 means that which is upon (上 or 二) a person (人 or 兮), i.e., the head, origin or principle. So, putting on the roof (宀) over the head (元) finishes (完) the building. Hence: 完, the end.



Christ encourages us to live as if he can come any moment (22:7-17).

- "I am coming soon!" (22:7)**Blessing!**

"Look, I am coming soon! Blessed are those who obey the words of prophecy written in this book" (NLT).

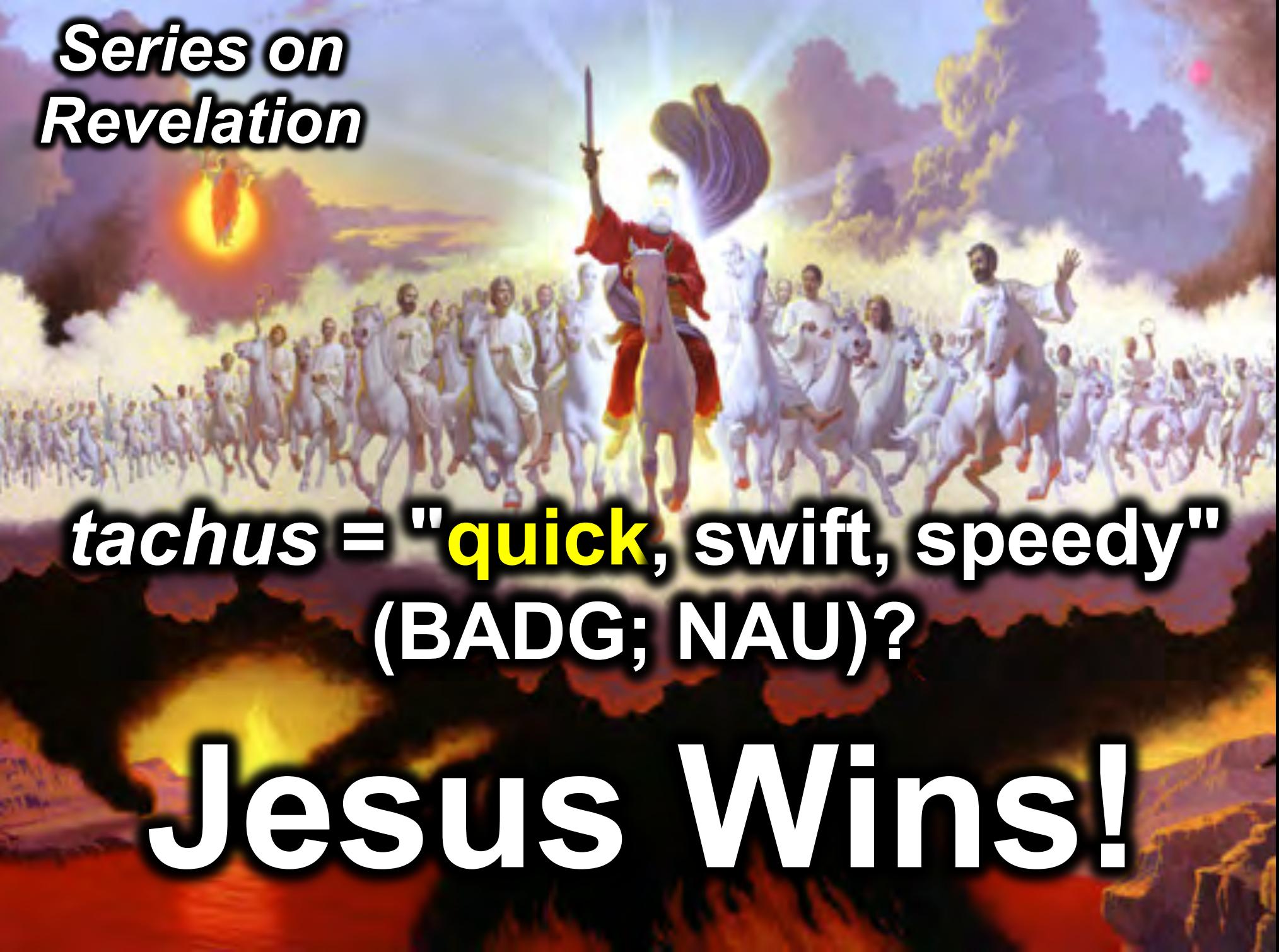


"We will rise to meet Him"
(1 Thess. 4:17)

tachus = "soon" (NLT)?

Imminency = "at any moment"

*Series on
Revelation*



tachus = "quick, swift, speedy"
(BADG; NAU)?

Jesus Wins!

Christ encourages us to live as if he can come any moment (22:7-17).

- "I am coming soon!" (22:7)
- "I am coming soon!" (22:12)

Blessing!
Reward!





**I'm
Coming
Soon!**
(22:12-13 NLT)

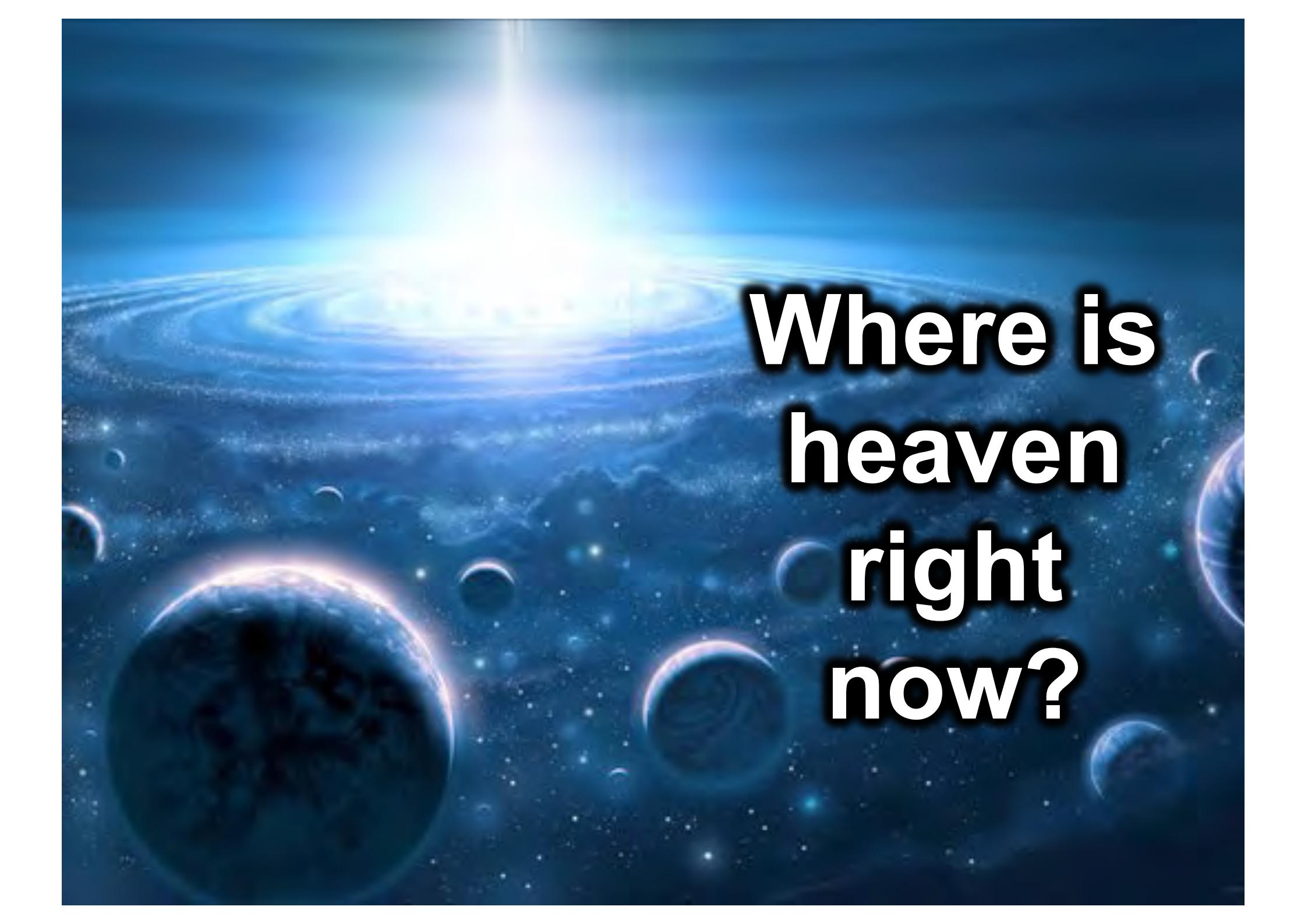
**"Look, I am coming soon,
bringing my reward with me to
repay all people according to
their deeds. ¹³I am the Alpha and
the Omega, the First and the Last,
the Beginning and the End."**

A HEAVENLY ADVERTISEMENT
FREE BEAUTIFUL HOMES
TO BE
GIVEN AWAY
IN A
PERFECT CITY
WITH--
100% PURE FREE WATER
NO LIGHT BULBS
PERPETUAL LIGHTING
PERMANENT GOLD PAVEMENT
NOTHING UNDESIRABLE
EVERYTHING NEW
PERFECT HEALTH
IMMUNITY FROM ACCIDENTS
THE BEST OF SOCIETY
BEAUTIFUL MUSIC
FREE TRANSPORTATION
SECURE A CONTRACT TODAY--
FOR THE NEW JERUSALEM

How would
you advertise
for Heaven?



Where is Heaven?



Where is
heaven
right
now?

A vibrant, abstract landscape featuring a winding path that leads from the foreground into a dark, star-filled sky. In the upper right, a large, glowing celestial body with a prominent ring, resembling Saturn, is visible. To its left, a smaller, bright blue star-like object is positioned above a green, glowing sphere. The path is flanked by a dark, silhouetted forest on the left and a field of colorful, glowing particles on the right, creating a sense of depth and wonder.

Where is
heaven
right
now?

A vibrant, colorful landscape featuring a rainbow arching over a body of water with distant mountains.

**Where is
heaven
right
now?**



**Heaven is
closer than
you think!**



Traditional versus Biblical Views of Heaven

What's True About Heaven?

Tradition

Bible

Judgment

Blessing

We go to heaven

Heaven comes to us

We live with God

God dwells with us

"Heaven"

New heaven & earth

Country living

HDB living

Rest

Service

The Transfiguration



WELCOME TO
HEAVEN. HAVE
C.V. READY.



There **IS** a difference.

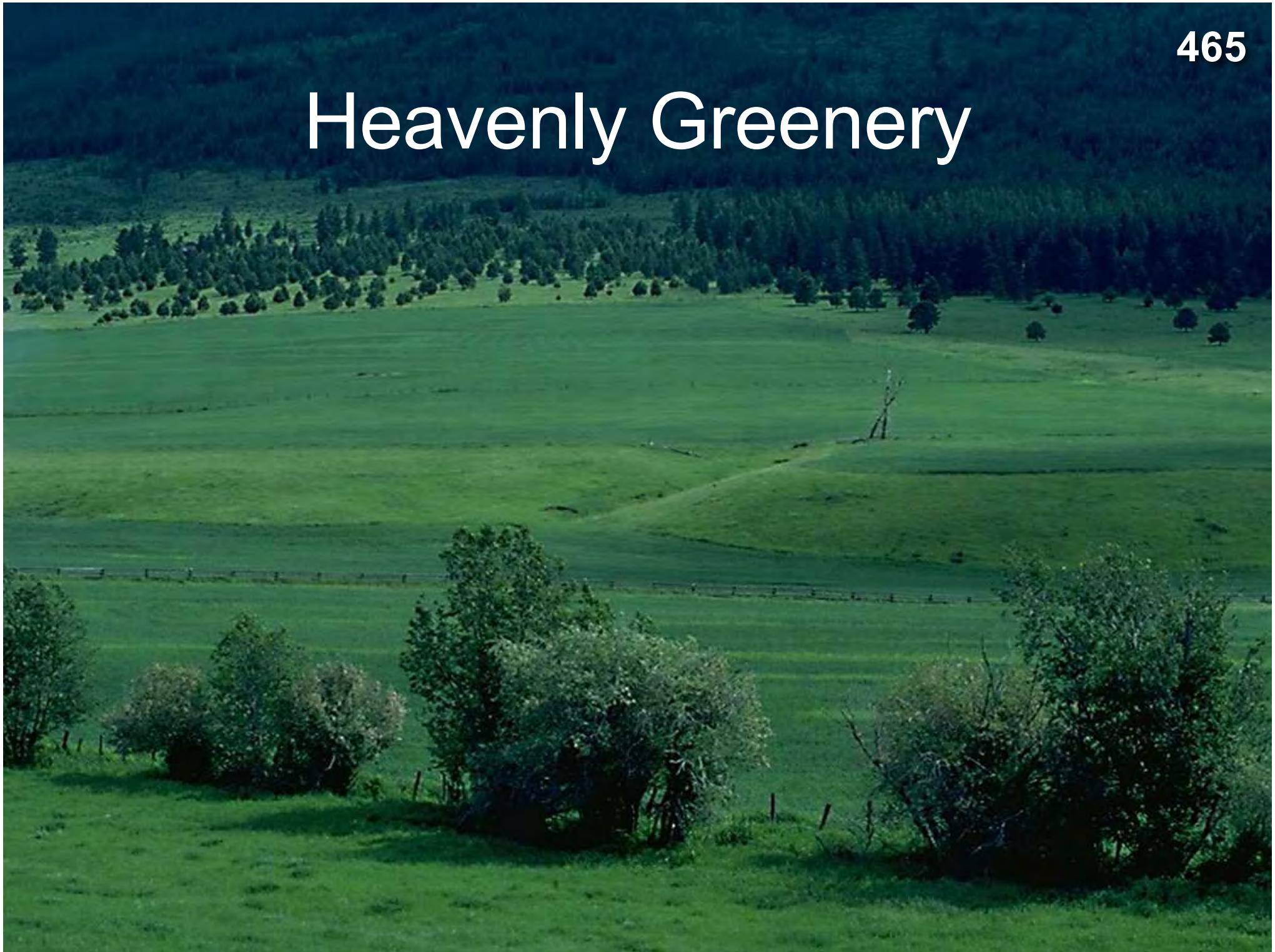
Who
goes to
heaven?

"CV"
means "Christ
Victorious"

A photograph of a sunset over a body of water. The sky is filled with warm, orange and yellow clouds. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a bright glow. In the foreground, the dark silhouettes of tall grasses or reeds frame the view. The water is calm, reflecting the colors of the sky.

Will There Be Degrees of
Reward in Heaven?

Heavenly Greenery





Heavenly Landscape?



City Life for Eternity?

A City of Gold





**""Yes! I am coming soon!
Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!
The grace of the Lord Jesus
be with God's people. Amen"
(22:20-21 NIV).**

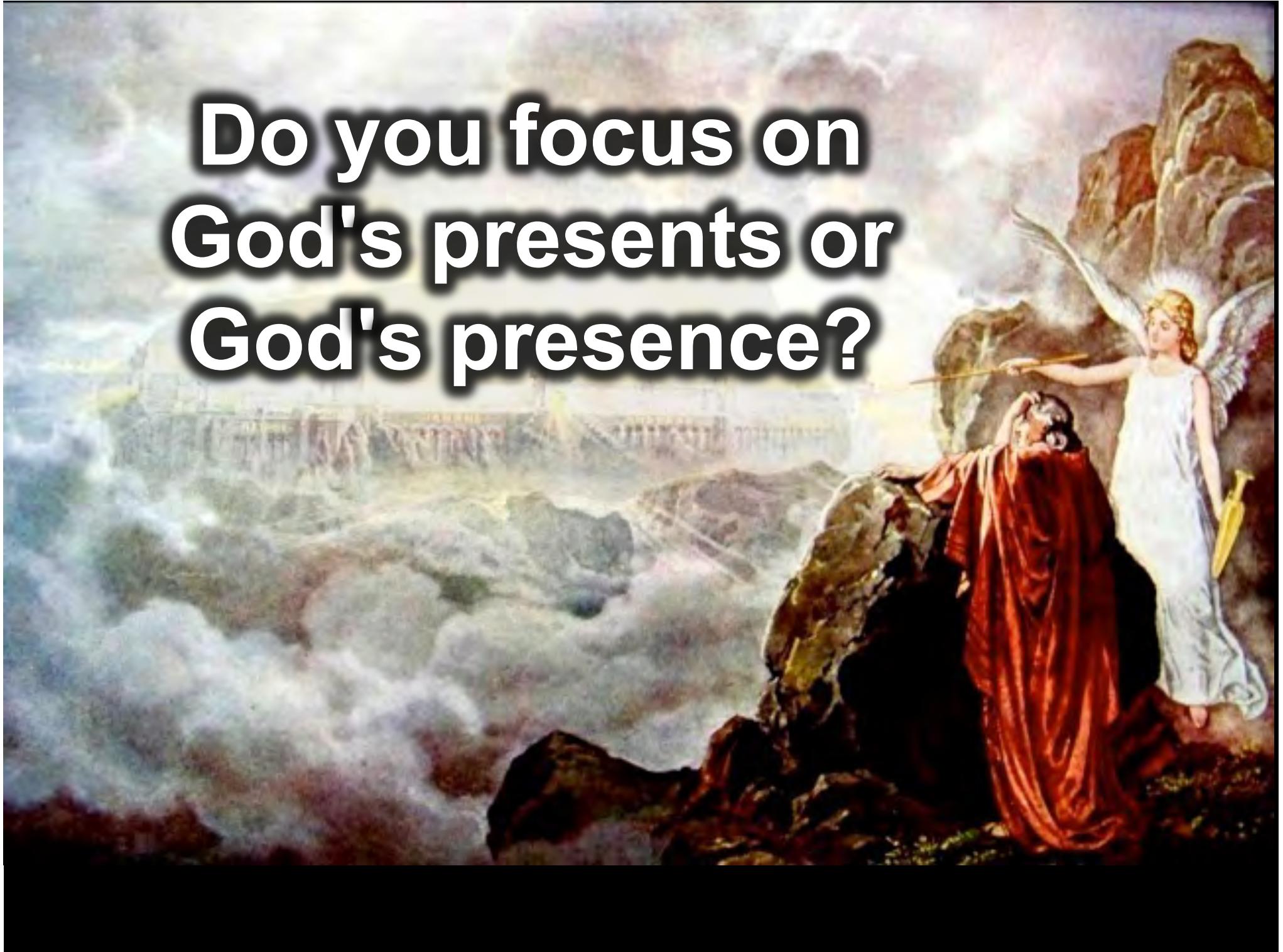


**How can we sum up the
New Heaven,
New Earth &
New Jerusalem?**

Main Idea of Rev 21–22

**Christ living with us
encourages us to live for Christ**

**Do you focus on
God's presents or
God's presence?**





I. God will once again **live** with man (21:1-22:6).

II. Live in light of the end (22:7-21).



Christ's Two Comings

420



FIRST COMING

Laid in a manger

Came as a lamb

Lowly and poor

Died *for* His enemies

Tempted by Satan

Lived in a world of unrighteousness

Died for sins and rose again

(CHURCH AGE)



SECOND COMING

Lands on a mountain

Comes as the Lord

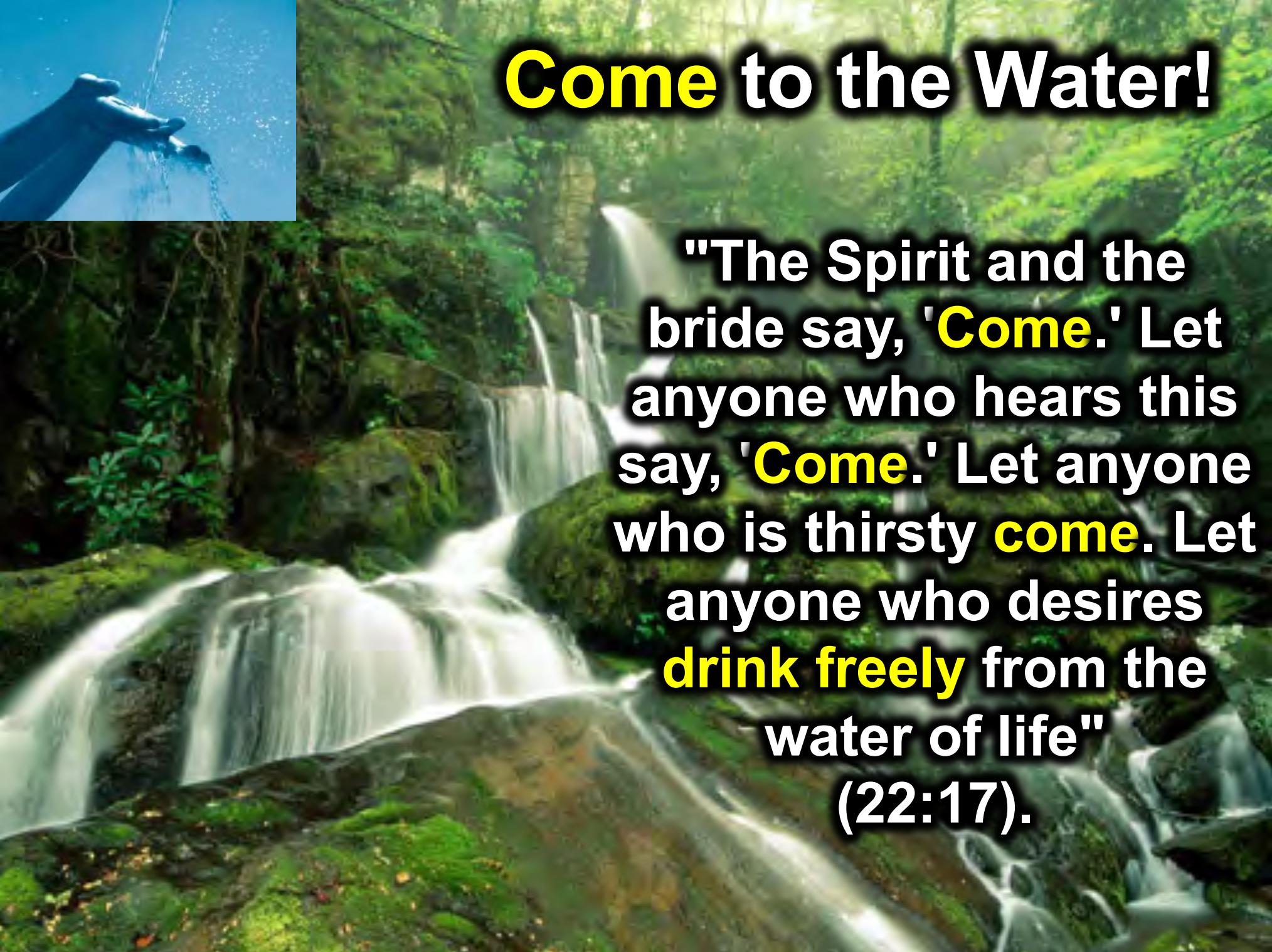
Lavish and powerful

Death *to* His enemies

Traps Satan in bottomless pit

Leads the world in righteousness

Directs and reigns



Come to the Water!

"The Spirit and the bride say, '**Come**.' Let anyone who hears this say, '**Come**.' Let anyone who is thirsty **come**. Let anyone who desires **drink freely** from the water of life"
(22:17).



**Do you long
for Christ's
return?**

**Why or why
not?**

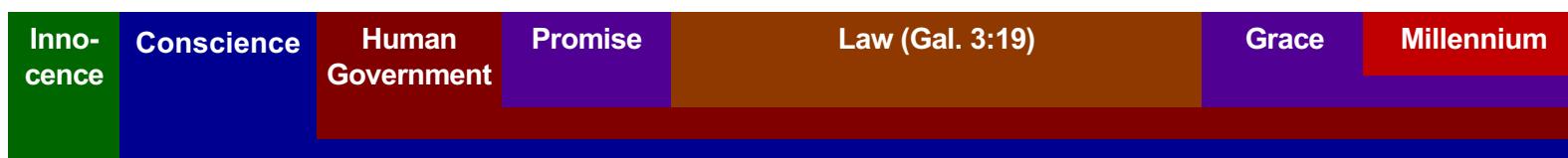
The Kingdom of God

34
460

The Eternal Kingdom

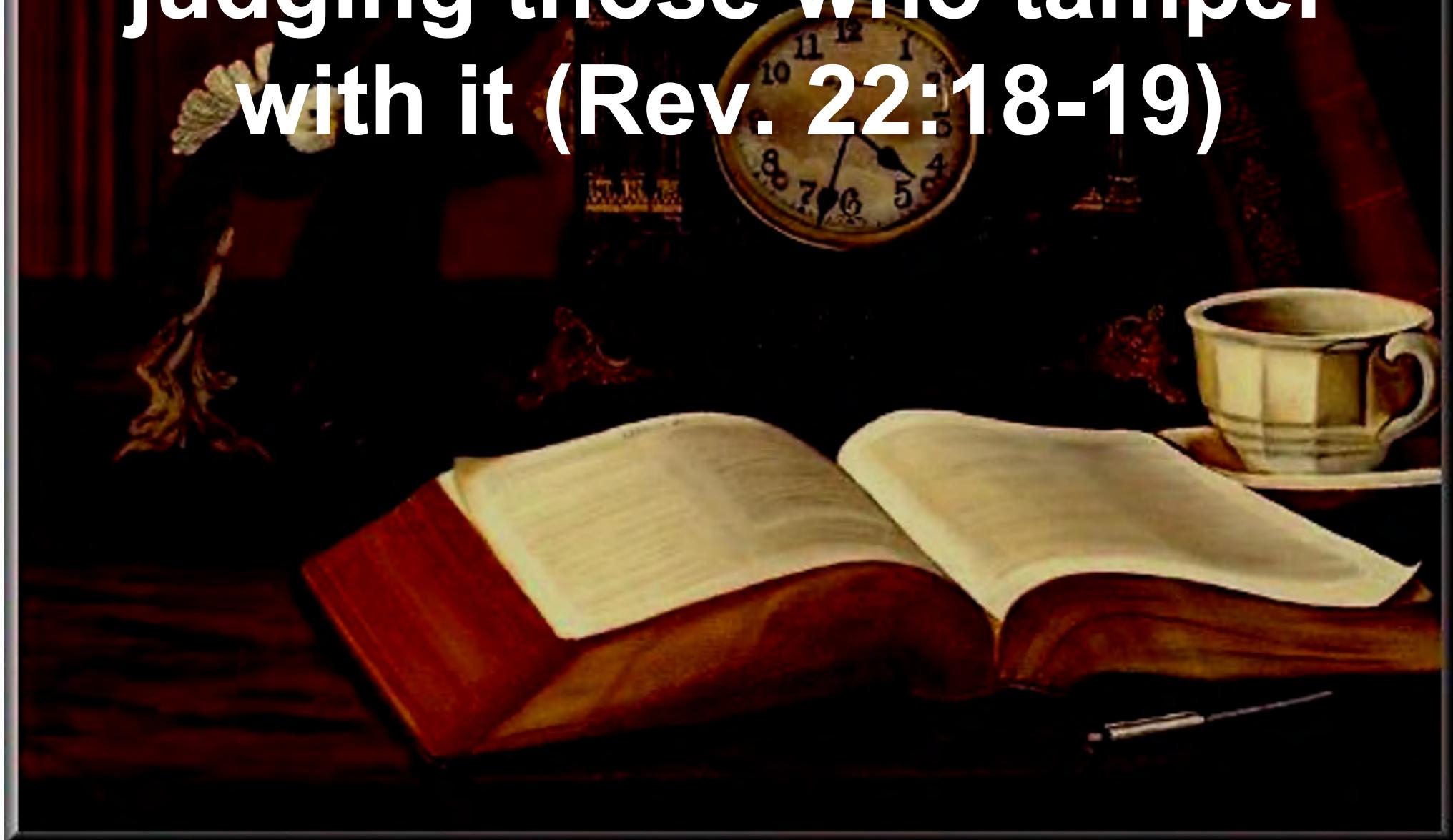


Dispensations (Tests of Obedience)



Adapted from J. Dwight Pentecost, *Thy Kingdom Come*, 323

**God guards His Word by
judging those who tamper
with it (Rev. 22:18-19)**





A Stern Warning (22:18-19)

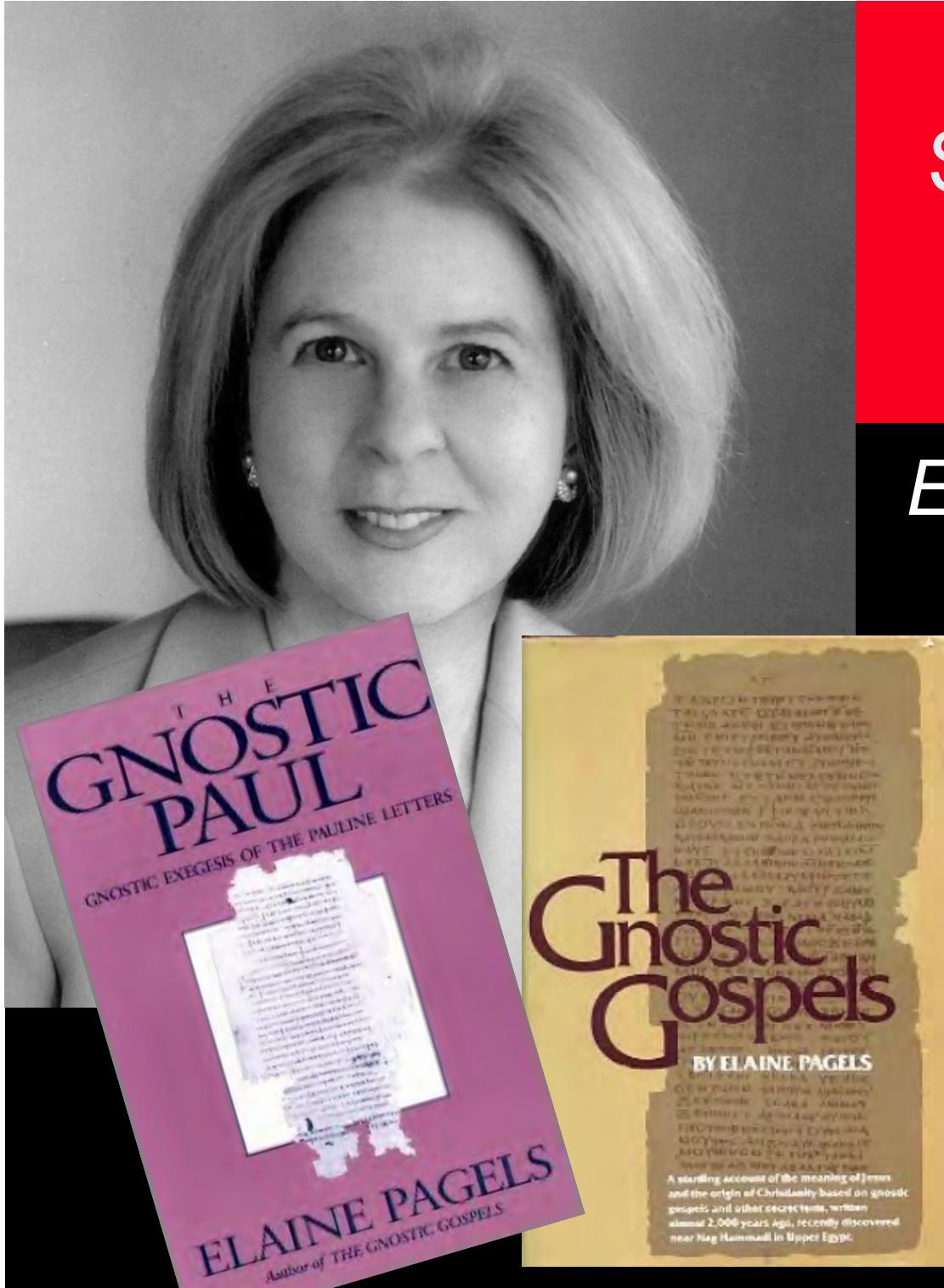
THE WORD OF GOD

"I warn everyone who hears the prophecy of this book:

- **If anyone adds anything to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book.**
- **If anyone takes words away from this book of prophecy, God will take away from him his share in the tree of life and the holy city, which are described in this book"**

Some Liberals Add Books

Elaine Pagels teaches at Princeton that first century Christianity was also Gnostic!

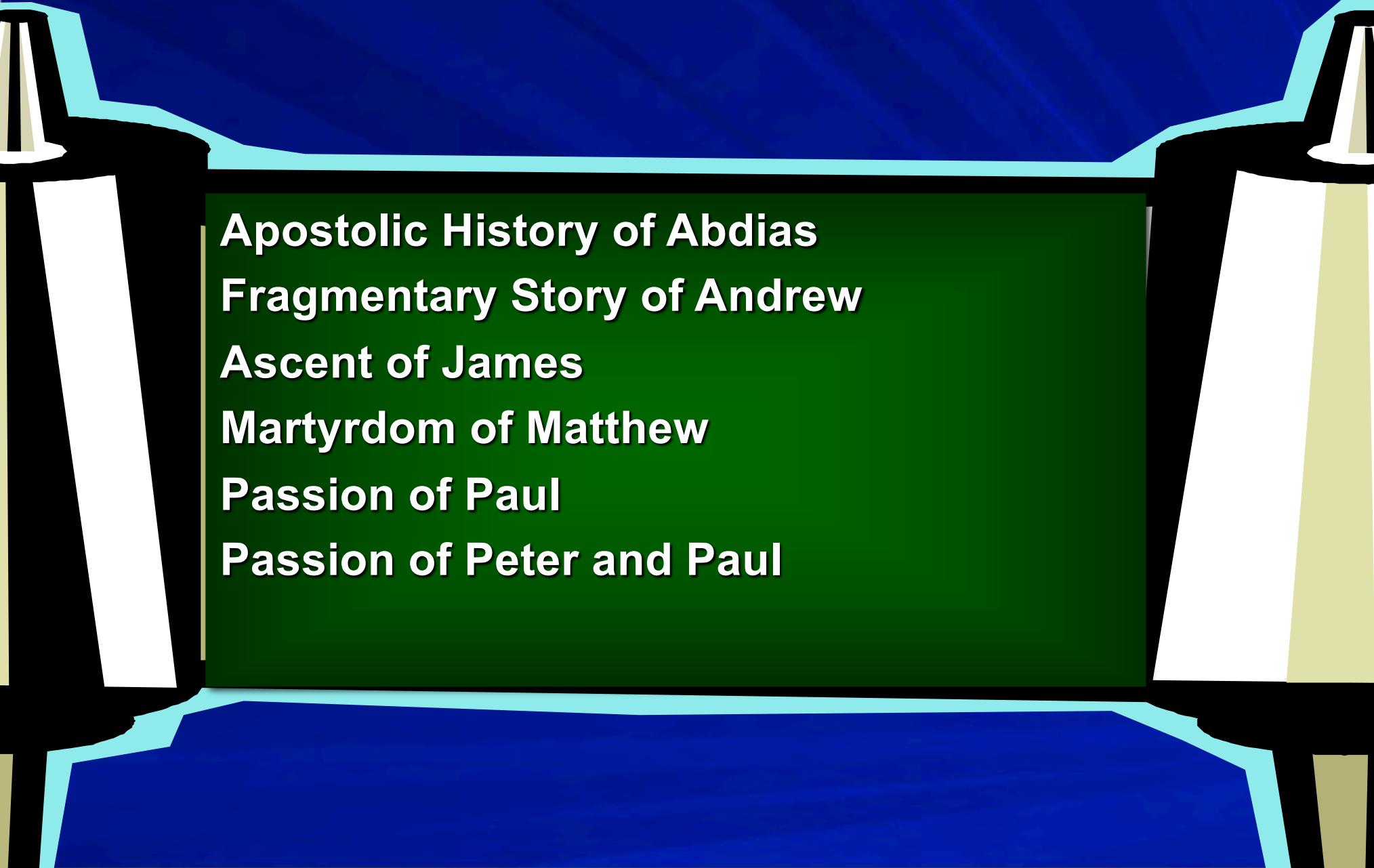


NT Apocrypha: 18 "Gospels"

The Gospel of:

- Bartholomew
- Basilides
- Cerinthus
- the Ebionites
- Mary Magdalene
- Marcion
- the Birth of Mary
- Pseudo-Matthew
- the Hebrews
- Philip
- Thomas
- Infancy Gospel of Thomas

NT Apocrypha: 21 "Acts"



Apostolic History of Abdias
Fragmentary Story of Andrew
Ascent of James
Martyrdom of Matthew
Passion of Paul
Passion of Peter and Paul

NT Apocrypha: 21 "Acts"

The Acts of:

- Andrew
- Andrew and Matthias
- Andrew and Paul
- Barnabas
- James the Great
- John
- John by Prochorus
- Paul
- Peter
- Peter and Andrew
- Peter and Paul
- Philip
- Pilate
- Thaddeus
- Thomas

NT Apocrypha: Others

APOCALYPSES

James Stephen
Paul Thomas
Peter the Virgin

EPISTLES

Epistles of Christ and Abgarus
Epistle of the Apostles
Third Epistle to the Corinthians
Epistle to the Laodiceans
Epistle of Lentulus
Epistles of Paul and Seneca
Apocryphal Epistle of Titus

Brown's Key Sources are Gnostic

Two Types Addressed in 1 John

Docetic Gnosticism

From *dokeo*, "to seem"
(Christ only *seemed* to
be a man)

Matter is Evil

Depreciated Materialism

Denied Christ's Humanity

Touched Jesus (1:1)

Led to Asceticism

Immorality exalted

Cerinthian Gnosticism

From Cerinthus, founder in Asia
(Christ only *seemed* to be
God)

Spirit is Good

Exalted Knowledge (*gnosis*)

Denied Christ's Deity

Water & Blood (5:6)

Led to Pride

Education exalted

The Gospel of Judas

- Jesus said, "... Truly [I] say to you, Judas... you will exceed all of them. For you will sacrifice the man that clothes me" (sections 55-56).

A close-up, high-contrast photograph of a man's face. He has his hands pressed against his eyes and cheeks, obscuring most of his features. His eyes are partially visible, looking upwards with a pained or distressed expression. The lighting is dramatic, with strong highlights on his hands and the bridge of his nose, while the rest of his face and the background are in deep shadow. The overall mood is one of despair, agony, or intense emotional suffering.

Judgments for Subtractions

Subtractors

Marcion (AD 170)

Thomas Jefferson (1813)

Jehovah's Witnesses (1961)

Mormons Add & Subtract



The supposed
"golden plates"

Dan Brown's "Winner" Idea



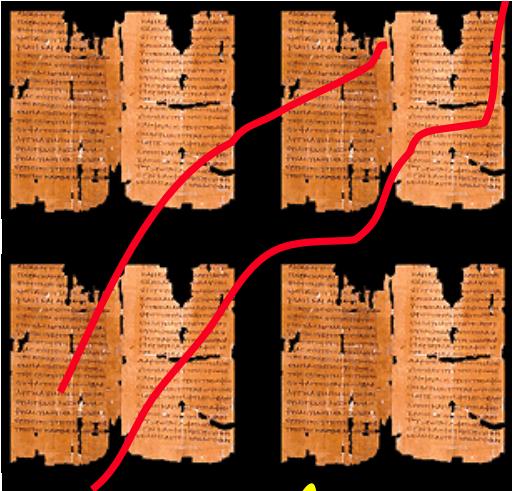
"History is always written by the winners. When two cultures clash, the loser is obliterated, and the winner writes the history books—books which glorify their own cause"
(Da Vinci Code, 215)

Is this true?



Who were the "Winners"?

- Romans "beat" Christians but the NT books still survived
- Competing views of history often coexist
- History is still revised by losers (e.g., Japanese)



Smeearing History

472

**Brown
"Gospel"**

Supposed
80
Gospels!

Matthew
Mark
Luke
John

Selected
for their
"Male
Bias"

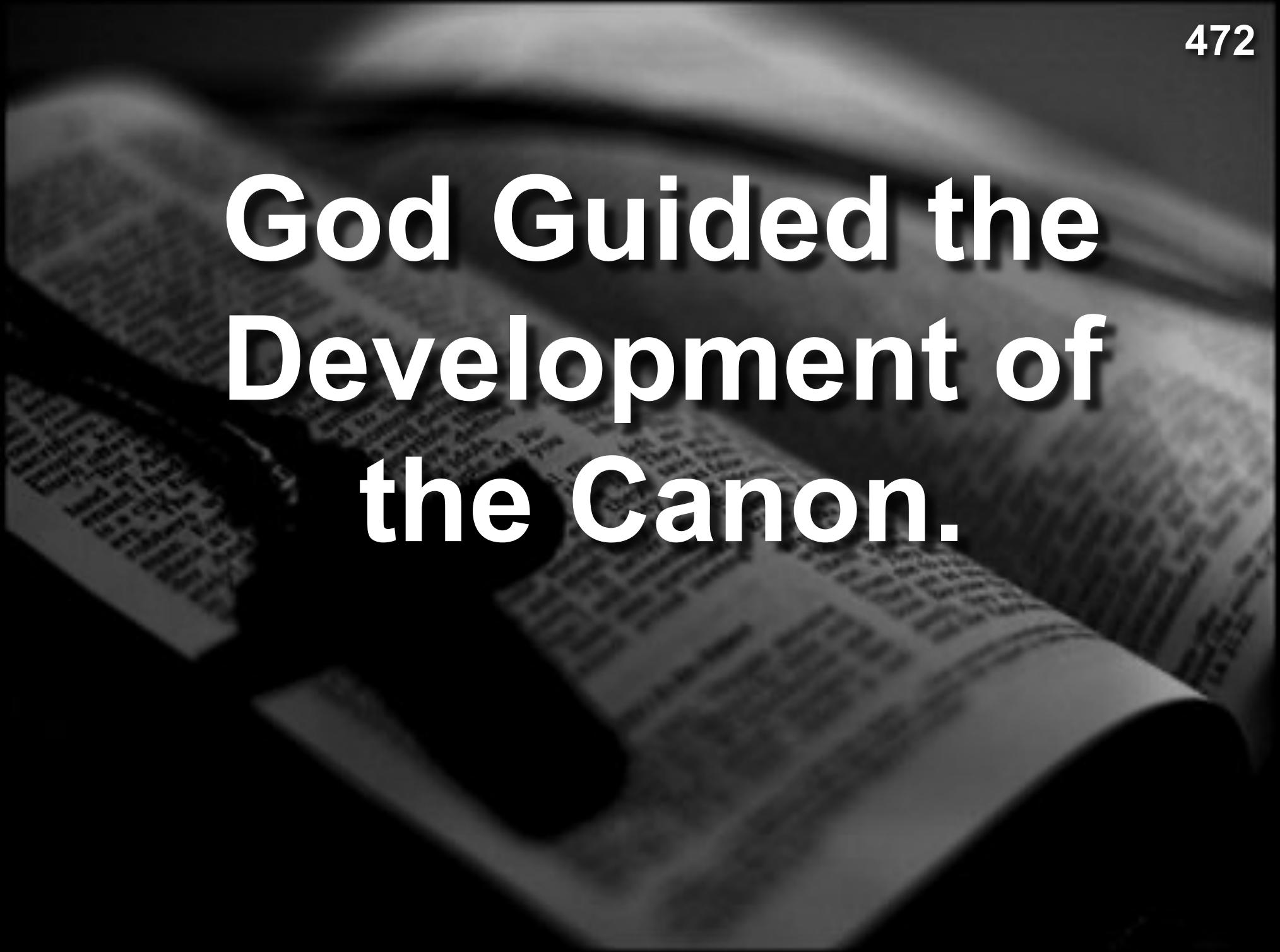
**Gospel
Truth**

Matthew
Mark
Luke
John

18 Heretical
Gospels
Written

1st Cent.

AD 325
Council of Nicaea



God Guided the
Development of
the Canon.

Acceptance of the Four Gospels Before Nicaea

Clearing History

472

X= Citation
or allusion

O= Named
as authentic

Pseudo-Barnabas (70-130)
Clement of Rome (95-97)
Polycarp (110-150)
Hermas (115-140)
Didache (120-150)
Papias (130-140)
Irenaeus (130-202)

Matthew	X	X	X	X	X	O
Mark	X		X	X		O
Luke	X	X		X		O
John		X		X		O
1st Cent.	Gospel of Thomas AD 50-140		Gospel of Judas AD 170?			

AD 325
Council of Nicaea



"They declare that Judas the traitor was thoroughly acquainted with these things, and that he alone, knowing the truth as no others did, accomplished the mystery of the betrayal; by him all things, both earthly and heavenly, were thus thrown into confusion. They produce a fictitious history of this kind, which they style the *Gospel of Judas.*"

Against Heresies 1.31.1

Irenaeus (AD 180)



"It is not possible that the Gospels can be either more or fewer in number than they are. For, since there are four **zones** of the world... and four principal **winds**... it is fitting that [the Church] should have four **pillars**...." (then he lists Matthew, Mark, Luke & John)

Irenaeus (AD 180)



Against Heresies 3.1

"Matthew also issued a written Gospel among the Hebrews in their own dialect, while Peter and Paul were preaching at Rome, and laying the foundations of the Church. After their departure, Mark, the disciple and interpreter of Peter, did also hand down to us in writing what had been preached by Peter. Luke also, the companion of Paul, recorded in a book the Gospel preached by him. Afterwards, John, the disciple of the Lord, who also had leaned upon His breast, did himself publish a Gospel during his residence at Ephesus in Asia."

Acceptance of the Four Gospels Before Nicaea

X= Citation
or allusion

O= Named
as authentic

Clearing History

472

	Individuals	Canons	Translations
Pseudo-Barnabas (70-130)			
Clement of Rome (95-97)			
Polycarp (110-150)			
Hermas (115-140)			
Didache (120-150)			
Papias (130-140)			
Irenaeus (130-150)			
Justin Martyr (150-202)			
Origen (185-254)			
Cyril of Jerusalem (315-386)			
Marcion (140)			
Muratonian (170)			
Barococcio (206)			
Apostolic (300)			
Tatian Diatesseron (170)			
Old Latin (150-170)			
Old Syriac (200)			

Matthew	X	X	X	X	X	O	X	X	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
Mark	X		X	X		O	X	X	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
Luke	X	X		X		O	X	X	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
John		X		X		O	O	X	O	O	O	O	O	O	O

Gospel of
Thomas
AD 50-140

Gospel of
Judas
AD 170?

1st
Cent.

Geisler & Nix, *Introduction to the Bible* (Chicago: Moody, 1968)

AD 325

Council of Nicaea

The NT Canon in the First Four Centuries

H. Wayne House, *Chronological & Background Charts to the NT*

	BOOK	INDIVIDUALS												CANONS				TRANSLATIONS				COUNCILS									
		PSEUDO-BARRABAS	CLEMENT OF ROME (c. 70-130)	IGNATIUS (c. 95-97)	POLYCARP (c. 110)	HERMAS (c. 110-50)	DIDACHE (c. 115-40)	PAPIAS (c. 120-50)	IRENAEUS (c. 130-40)	DIOCLETIUS (c. 130-202)	JUSTIN MARTYR (c. 150)	CLEMENT OF ALEXANDRIA (c. 150-220)	TERTULLIAN OF ALEXANDRIA (c. 150-220)	CRIGEN (c. 185-254)	CYRIL OF JERUSALEM (c. 185-220)	EUSEBIUS (c. 325-40)	JEROME (c. 340-420)	AUGUSTINE (c. 340-420)	MARCION (c. 140)	MURATORIAN (c. 140)	BAROCOCIO (c. 170)	CHETENHAM (c. 206)	ATHANASIUS (c. 360)	TATIAN DIATESSARON (c. 150-170)	OLD LATIN (c. 150-170)	OLD SYRIAC (c. 200)	NICAEA (c. 325-40)	HIPPO (c. 325-40)	CARTHAGE (393)	CARTHAGE (397)	CARTHAGE (419)
Matt.	X	X	X	X	X	X	O	X	X	X	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O						
Mark	X		X	X		O		X	X	X	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O							
Luke	X		X	X	X	O		X	X	X	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O							
John		X	X		X	O		O	X	X	X	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O							
Acts			X	X		O		X	X	X	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O							
Rom.	X	X	X	X	O			X	O	X	X	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O							
1 Cor.	O		X	X	X	O		X	O	X	X	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O							
2 Cor.			X	X				O	X	X	O	X	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O							
Gal.			X					O	X	X	O	X	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O							
Eph.	X	X	X	X				O	X	X	X	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O							
Phil.		X	X	X		O			O	X	X	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O							
Col.		X	X					O	X	X	O	X	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O							
1 Thess.		X	X	X	X	O			X	X	X	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O							
2 Thess.		X	X			O			X	X	X	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O							
1 Tim.	X		X	X	X	X			O	X	X	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O							
2 Tim.	X			X	X				X	X	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O							
Titus	X	X			X	X		O	X	X	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O							
Philemon		X							O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O						
Heb.	X	X		X	X	X		O	X	?	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O							
James	X		X						O	?	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	?	O	O	O	O							
1 Peter	X		X	X	O			X	O	X	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O							
2 Peter	X	X							?	O	?	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	?	O	O	O	O							
1 John			X	X	O			O	X	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O							
2 John		X		X					?	O	?	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	?	O	O	O	O							
3 John									?	O	?	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	?	O	O	O	O							
Jude						X		O	X	O	?	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	?	O	O	O							
Rev.			X	X	O	O		X	O	X	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O							

X = Citation or allusion
 O = Named as authentic
 ? = Named as disputed

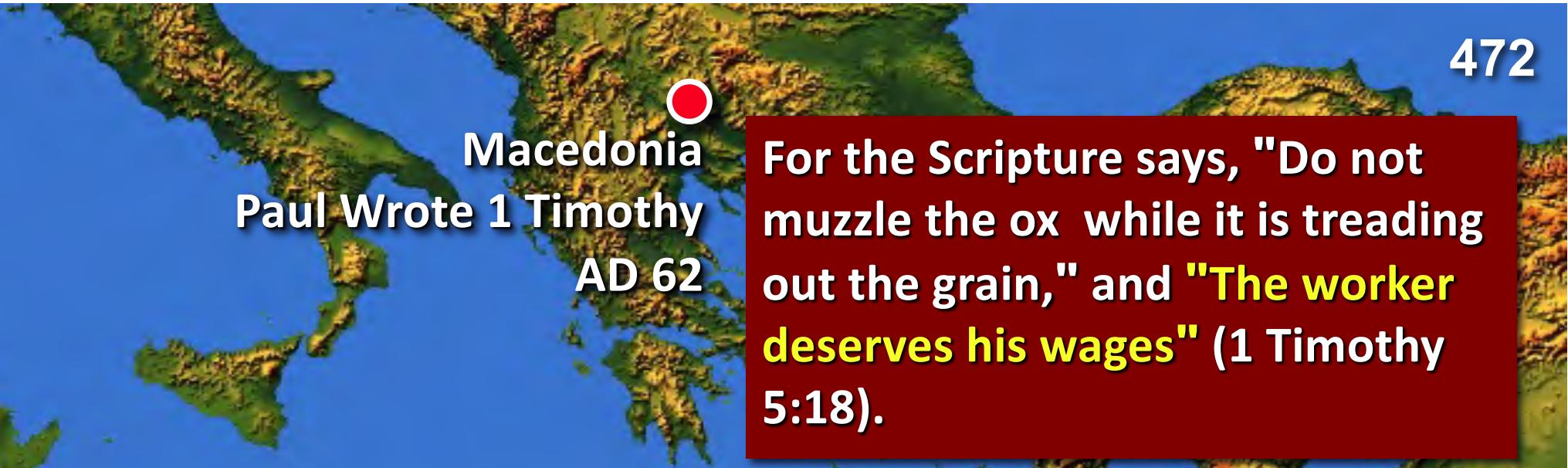


NT Canonicity Requirements

What did it take for early documents to be considered Scripture?

- Written by Apostle (or under an Apostle)
- Widely Accepted (used by churches)
- Theologically Sound (no false doctrine)

None of these applied to the books Dan Brown says were the "real Scripture," such as the *Gospel of Philip & Gospel of Thomas*

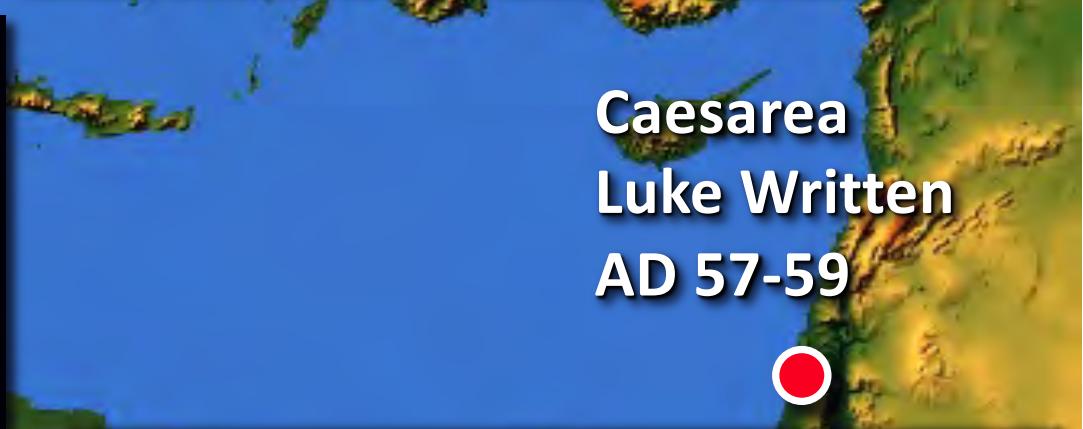


Macedonia

Paul Wrote 1 Timothy
AD 62

For the Scripture says, "Do not muzzle the ox while it is treading out the grain," and **"The worker deserves his wages"** (1 Timothy 5:18).

Paul Called Luke's
Gospel
"Scripture"
within 5 years!



Caesarea
Luke Written
AD 57-59

Stay in that house, eating and
drinking whatever
they give you, for
the worker deserves his wages...
(Luke 10:7)



Rome

Peter Wrote 2 Peter
AD 64

Paul's Letters Written
AD 49-62

"...Our dear brother **Paul** also wrote to **you** with the wisdom God gave him. He writes the same way in all his letters, speaking in them of these matters. His letters contain some things that are hard to understand, which ignorant and unstable people distort, **as they do the other Scriptures**, to their own destruction" (2 Peter 3:15-16)

**Peter Also
Called Paul's
Letters
"Scripture"!**

Is the Bible reliable?

Brown accuses via the
mouth of "historian"
Leigh Teabing...

"The Bible is a product of man, my dear. Not of God... [It] has evolved through countless translations, additions, and revisions. History has never had a definitive version of the book."

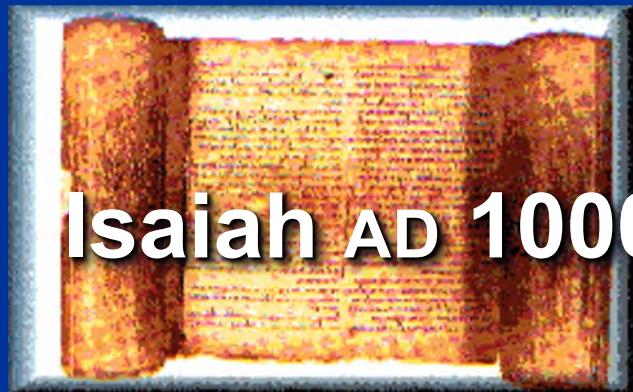


Extant Copies of Pagan vs. NT Writings

Author	When Written	Earliest Copy	Time Span	Number of Copies
Plato	347 BC	AD 900	1200 yrs	7
Catullus	54 BC	AD 1550	1600 yrs	3
Pliny	AD 113	AD 850	750 yrs	7

OT Transmission was accurate

- **Masoretic Isaiah Scroll**



Isaiah AD 1000

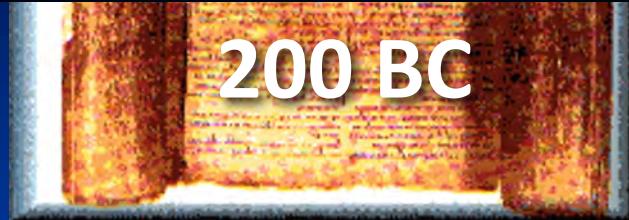


■ **Dead Sea Isaiah Scroll**

1200 years
earlier!

This Isaiah scroll matches the A.D. 1000 Masoretic Text upon which all modern translations are based 99% of the time.

ISAIAH: QUMRAN v. THE MASORETES



200 BC



AD 1000

Of the 166 Hebrew words in Isaiah 53, only seventeen letters in Dead Sea Scroll 1QIsb differ from the Masoretic Text:

10 letters = spelling differences

4 letters = stylistic changes

3 letters = added word for "light" (vs. 11)

17 letters = no affect on biblical teachings

Why are these books doubted?

- Not written by apostles
- Never recognized as authoritative
- False theology
- No claim of inspiration
- Lack of dynamic character

How Do We Respond to Attacks Against Scripture Today?



Hold the Scripture in High Regard!

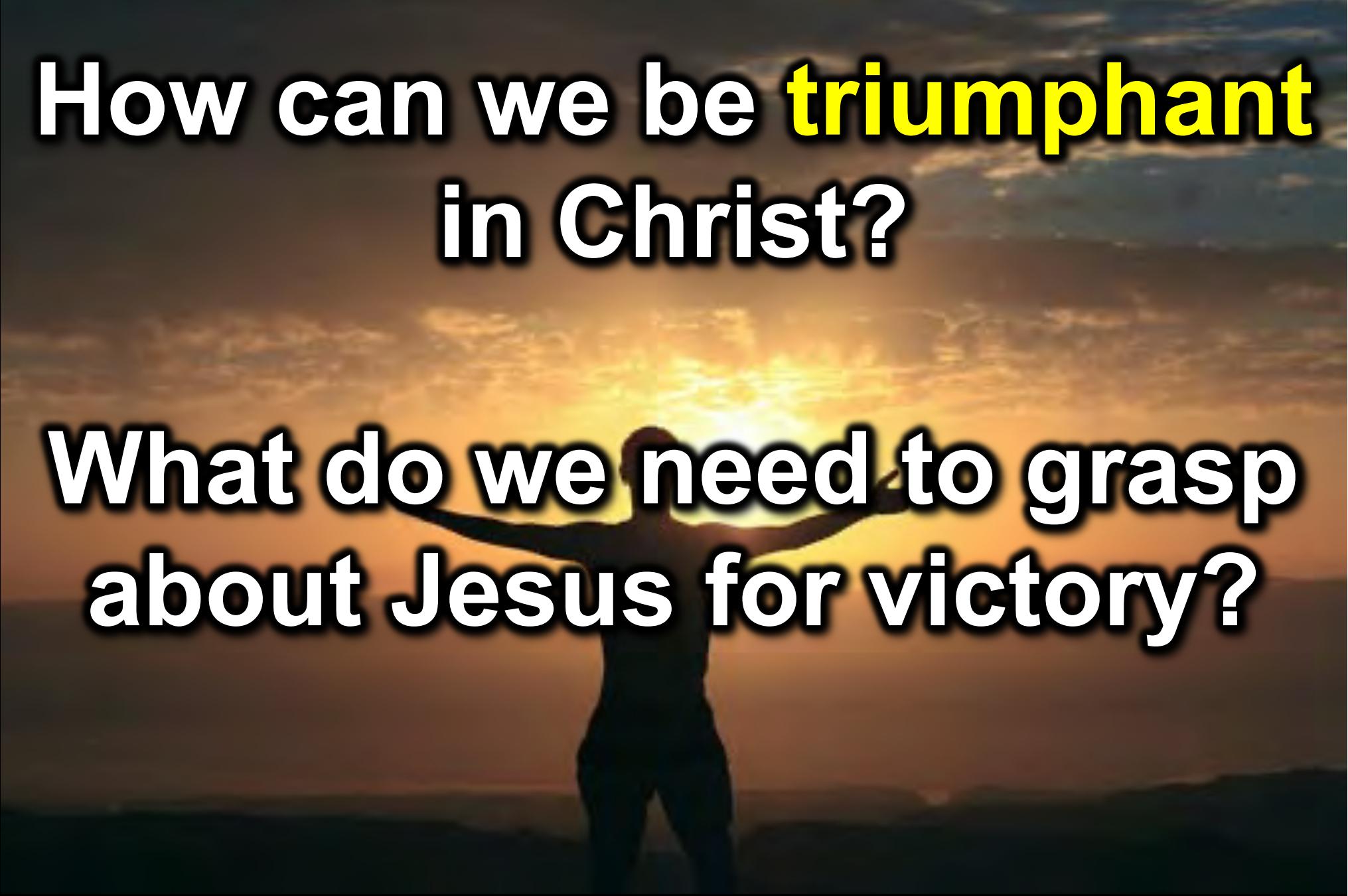
- 1 Learn the order
- 2 Read it through
- 3 Read it every day

Our Key Idea

**God guided and guarded
His Word—so we should
hold it up high!**

A Challenge:

- 1 Learn the order
- 2 Read it through
- 3 Read it every day



How can we be **triumphant**
in Christ?

What do we need to grasp
about Jesus for victory?

Revelation

We have victory when we see that
Jesus rules over...

DEATH
(1)

CHURCHES
(2–3)

**OUR
FUTURE**
(4–22)

Outline of Revelation

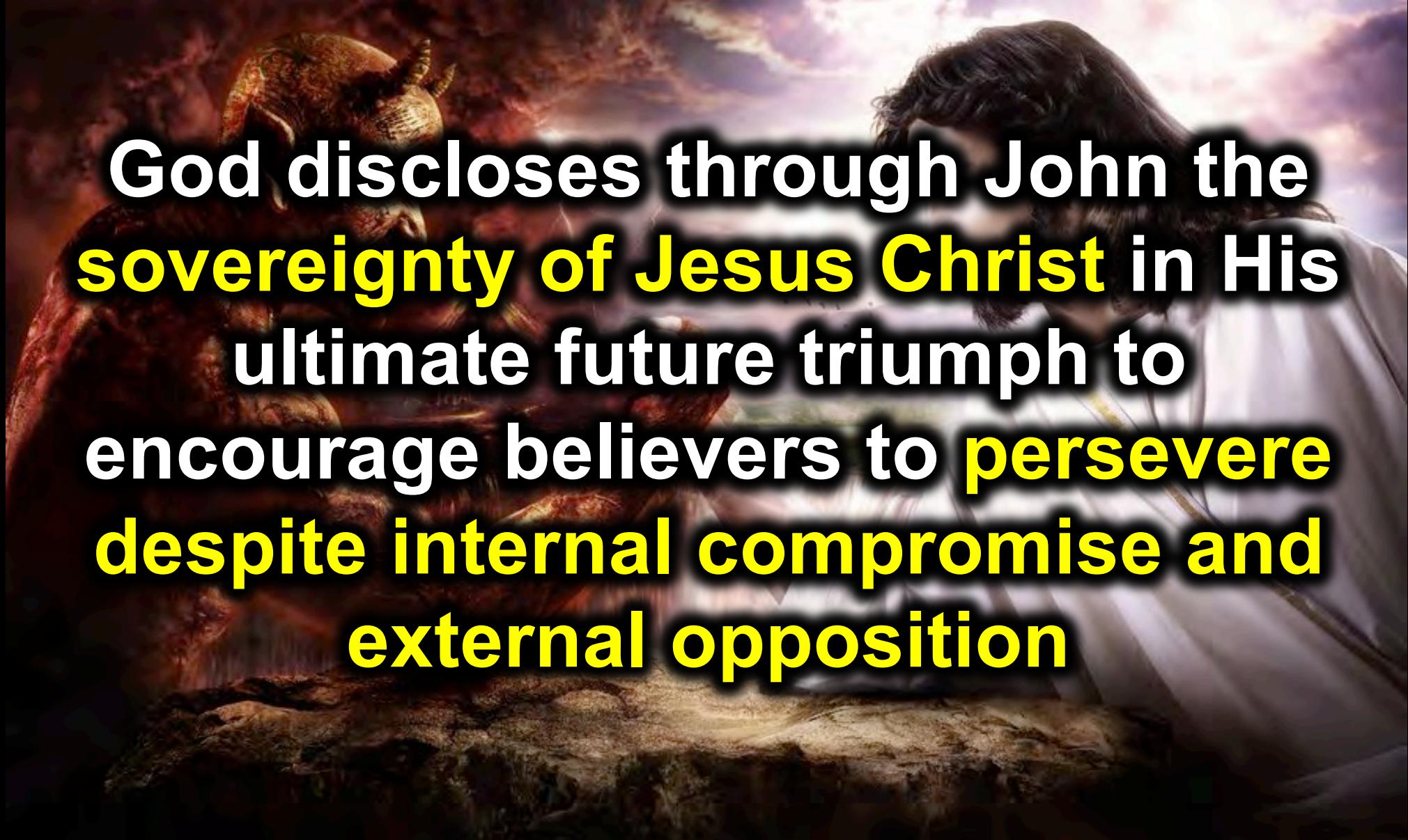
Rome

2. External Persecution
from Rome (1:9;
2:9-10; 3:10)

1. Internal Struggles
inside churches
(2:4, 14-15, 21-24;
3:1, 15-17)

Revealing the sovereignty of Jesus Christ
helped convince the seven churches in Asia
that Christ could conquer their internal
compromise and external opposition

Summing Up the Whole Book



God discloses through John the **sovereignty of Jesus Christ** in His ultimate future triumph to encourage believers to **persevere** despite **internal compromise** and **external opposition**

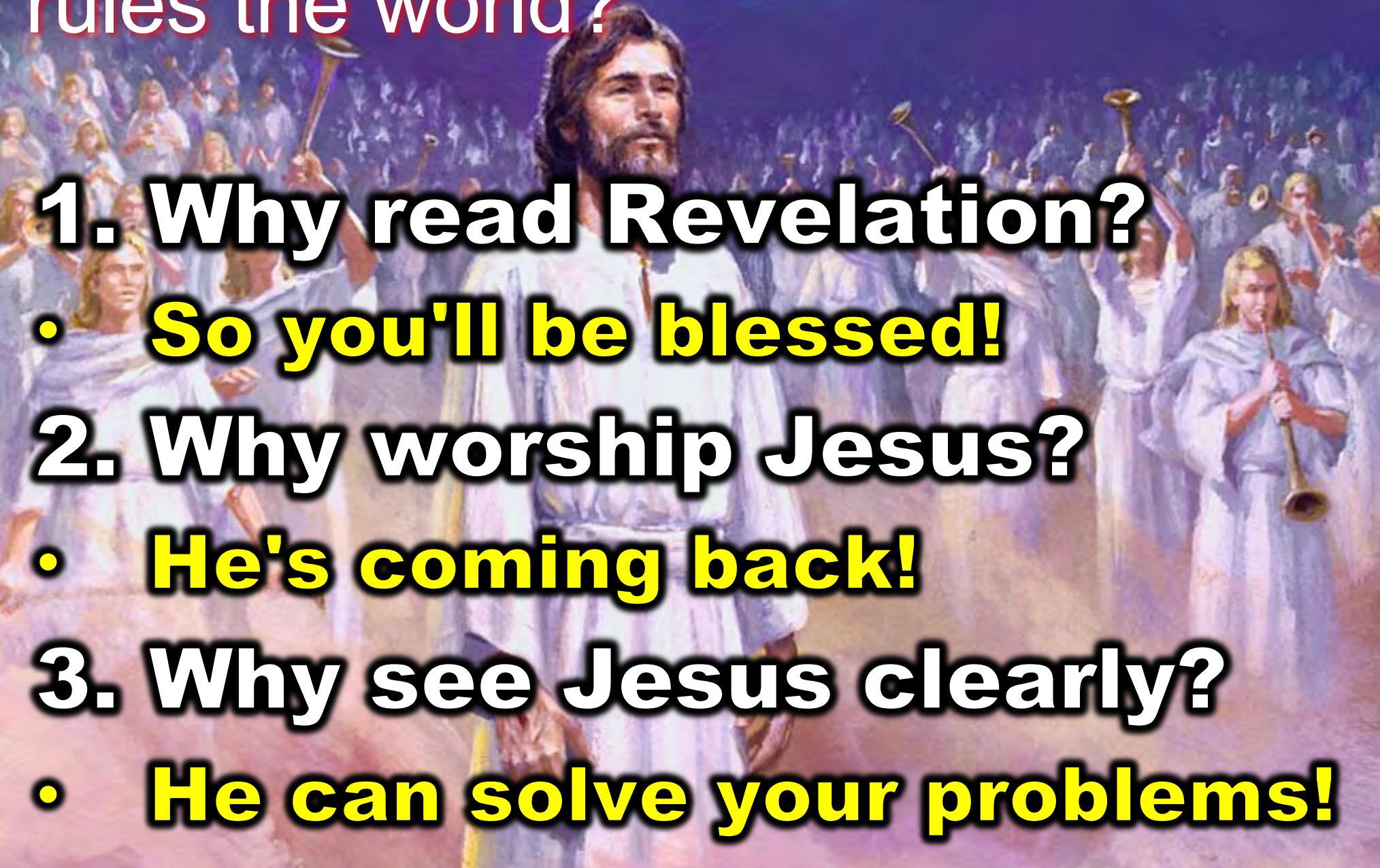


Jesus **rules** the world!
So he can handle your
puny problem.

Revelation's **Big** Idea

Why should we know that Jesus
rules the world?

318



1. Why read Revelation?

- **So you'll be blessed!**

2. Why worship Jesus?

- **He's coming back!**

3. Why see Jesus clearly?

- **He can solve your problems!**

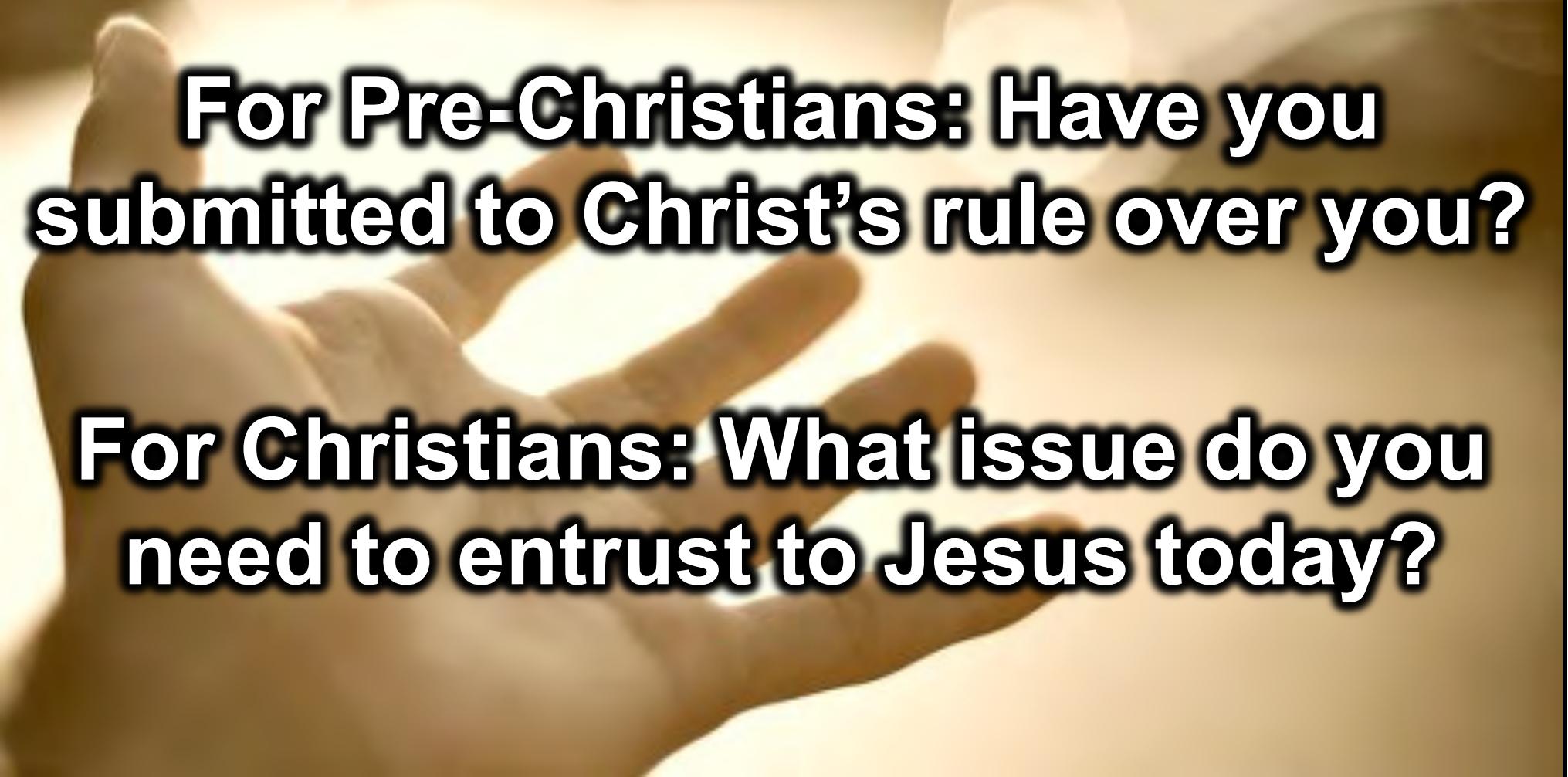
What's *your* view of Jesus?



*The point of
Revelation*

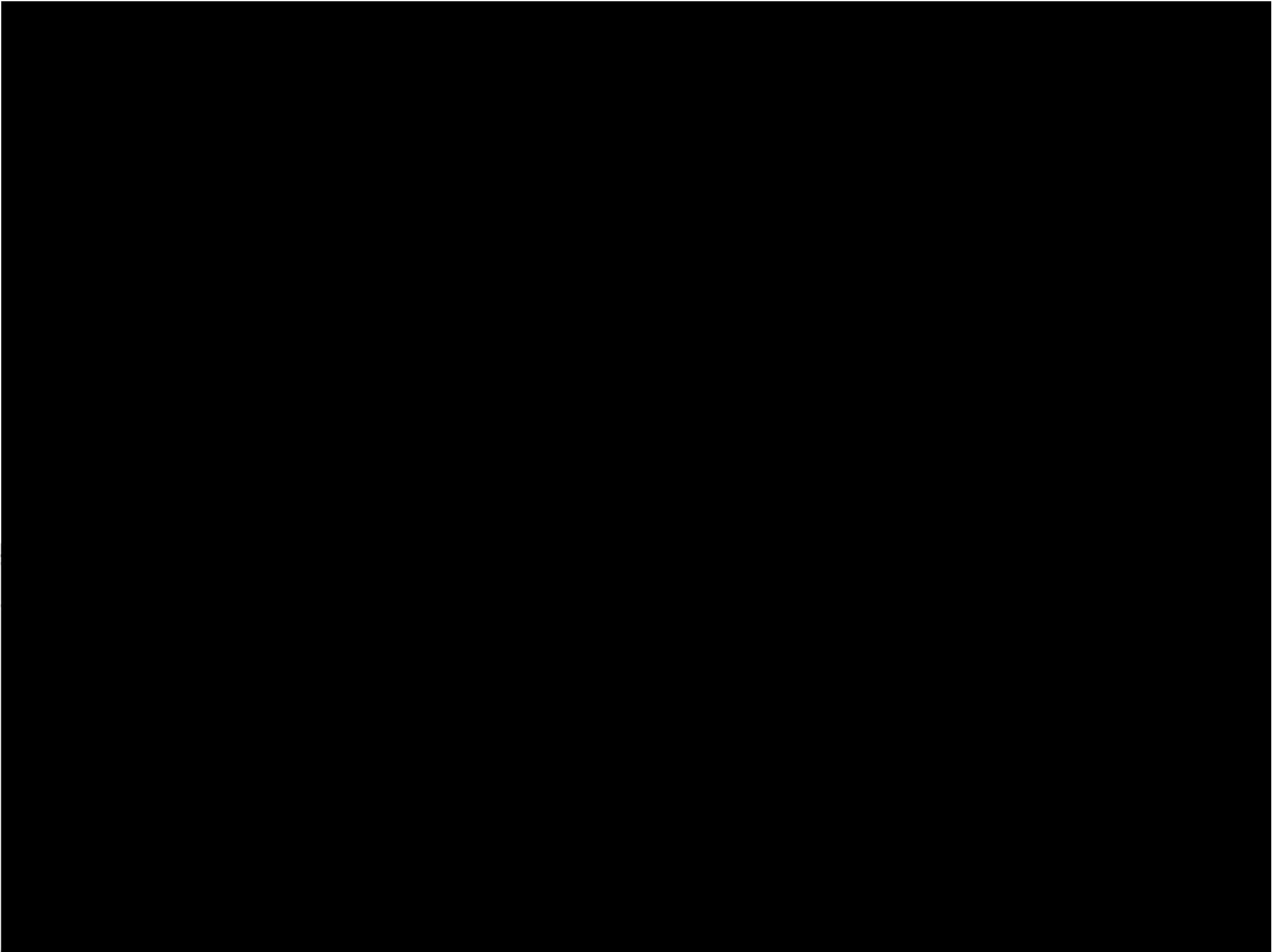


Jesus Wins!



**For Pre-Christians: Have you
submitted to Christ's rule over you?**

**For Christians: What issue do you
need to entrust to Jesus today?**



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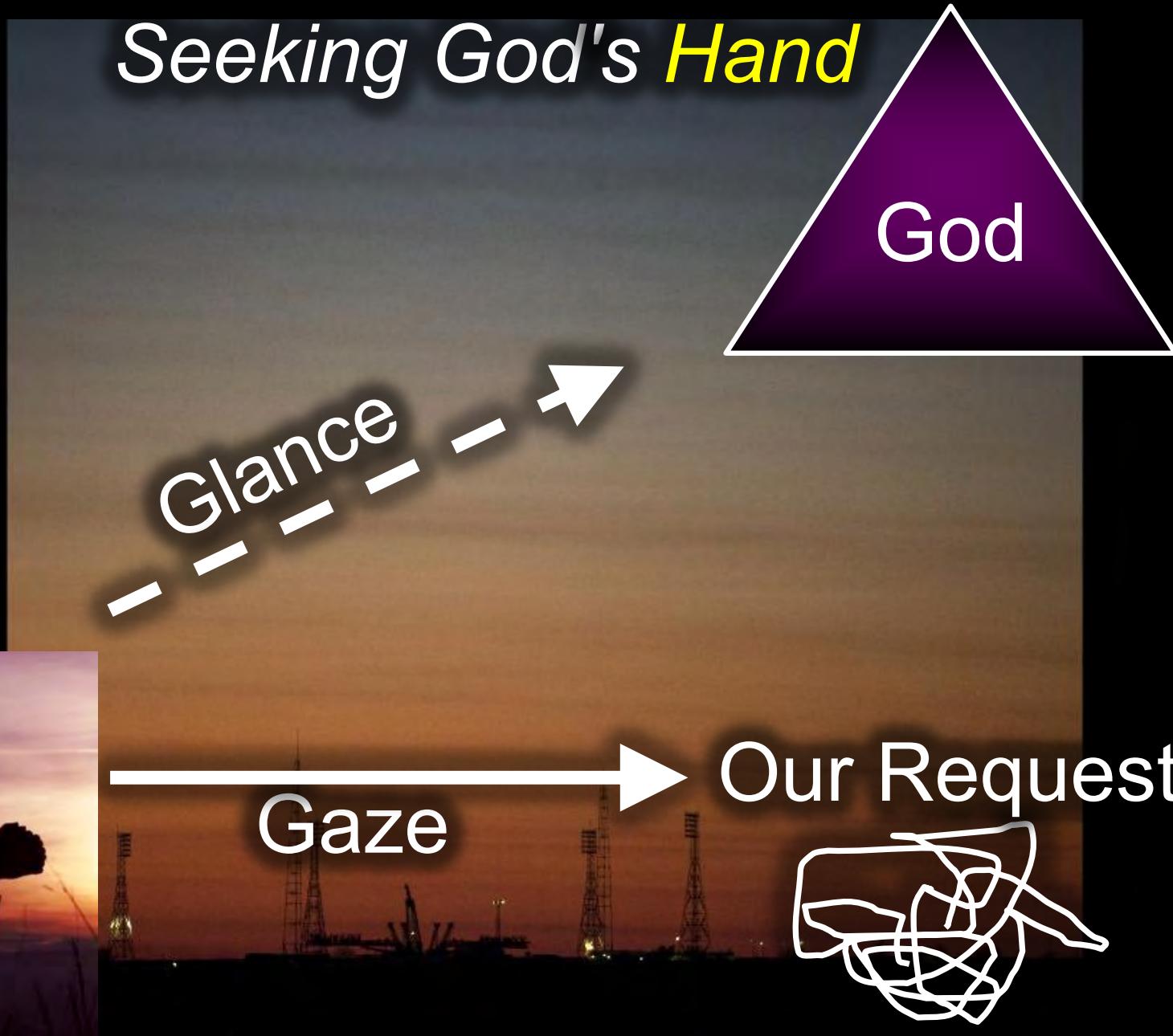


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NT Preaching link at BibleStudyDownloads.org

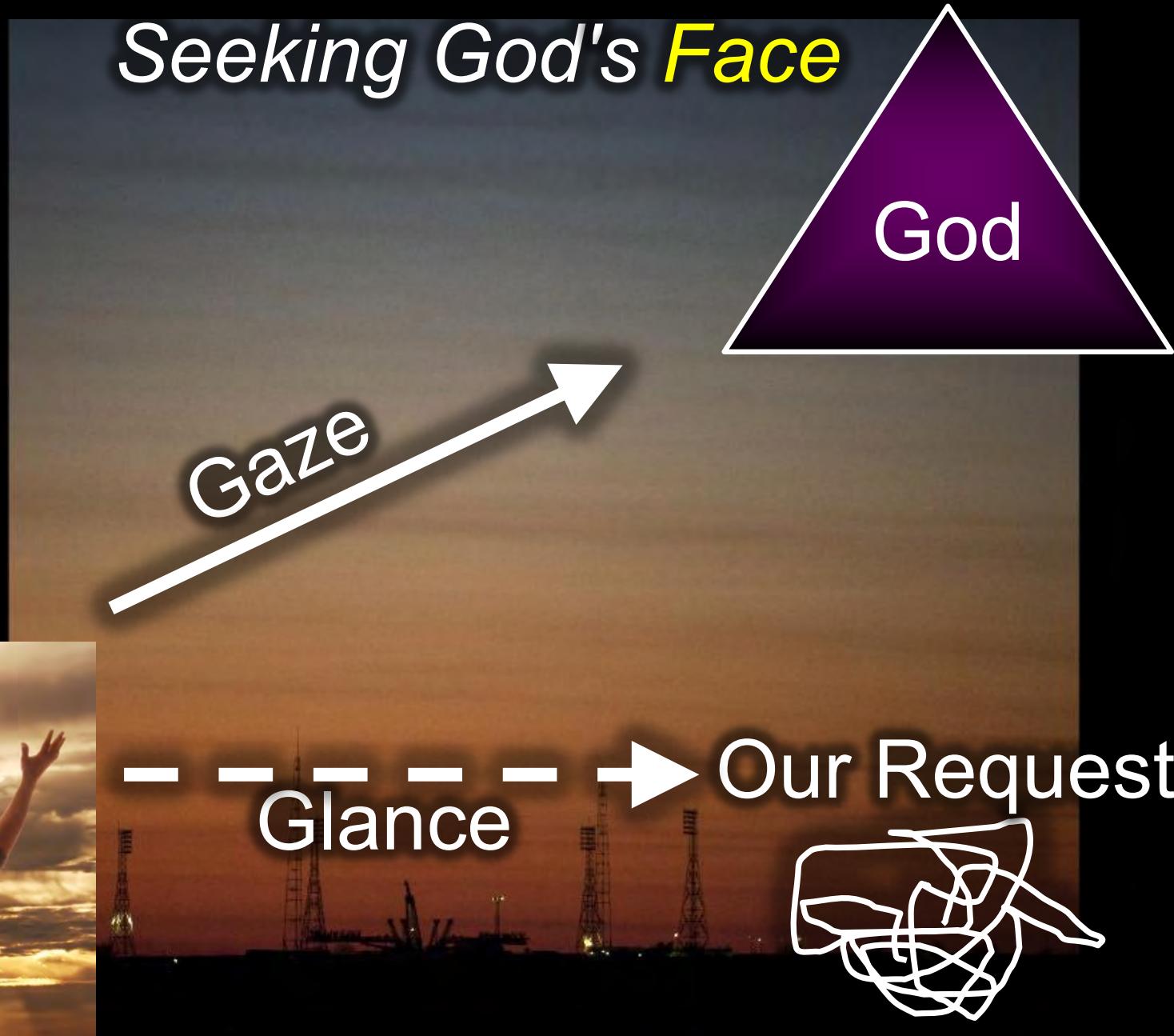
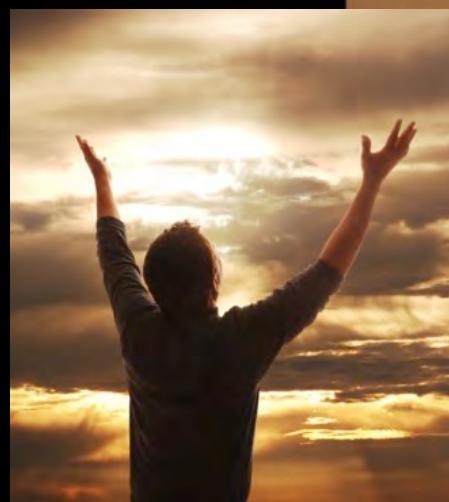
Appendix A: The Gaze-Glance Principle

Source: Elton & Shirley Gillam, *The Restoration of Biblical Prayer* (Greely, CO: Chambers College Press, 2009), 33



Appendix A: The Gaze-Glance Principle

Source: Elton & Shirley Gillam, *The Restoration of Biblical Prayer* (Greely, CO: Chambers College Press, 2009), 33



PRETERISM





I. Introduction

A.D. 70

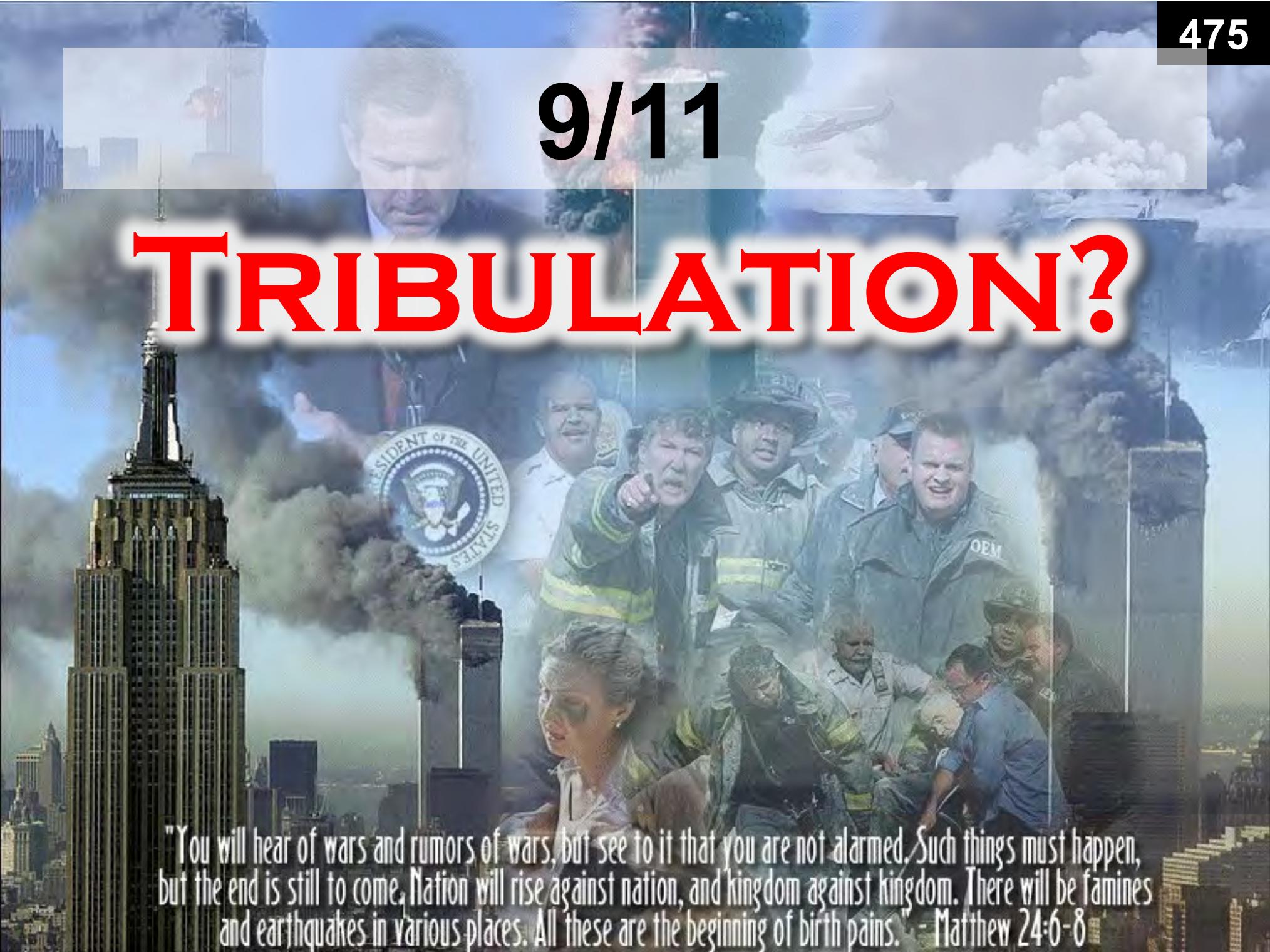
TRIBULATION?



Unable to find a parking space

TRIBULATION?





9/11

TRIBULATION?

"You will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of birth pains." - Matthew 24:6-8

Tsunami TRIBULATION?



The Bowl Judgments

TRIBULATION?



FOUR MAJOR ESCHATOLOGICAL VIEWS

Preterism

Past

Historicism

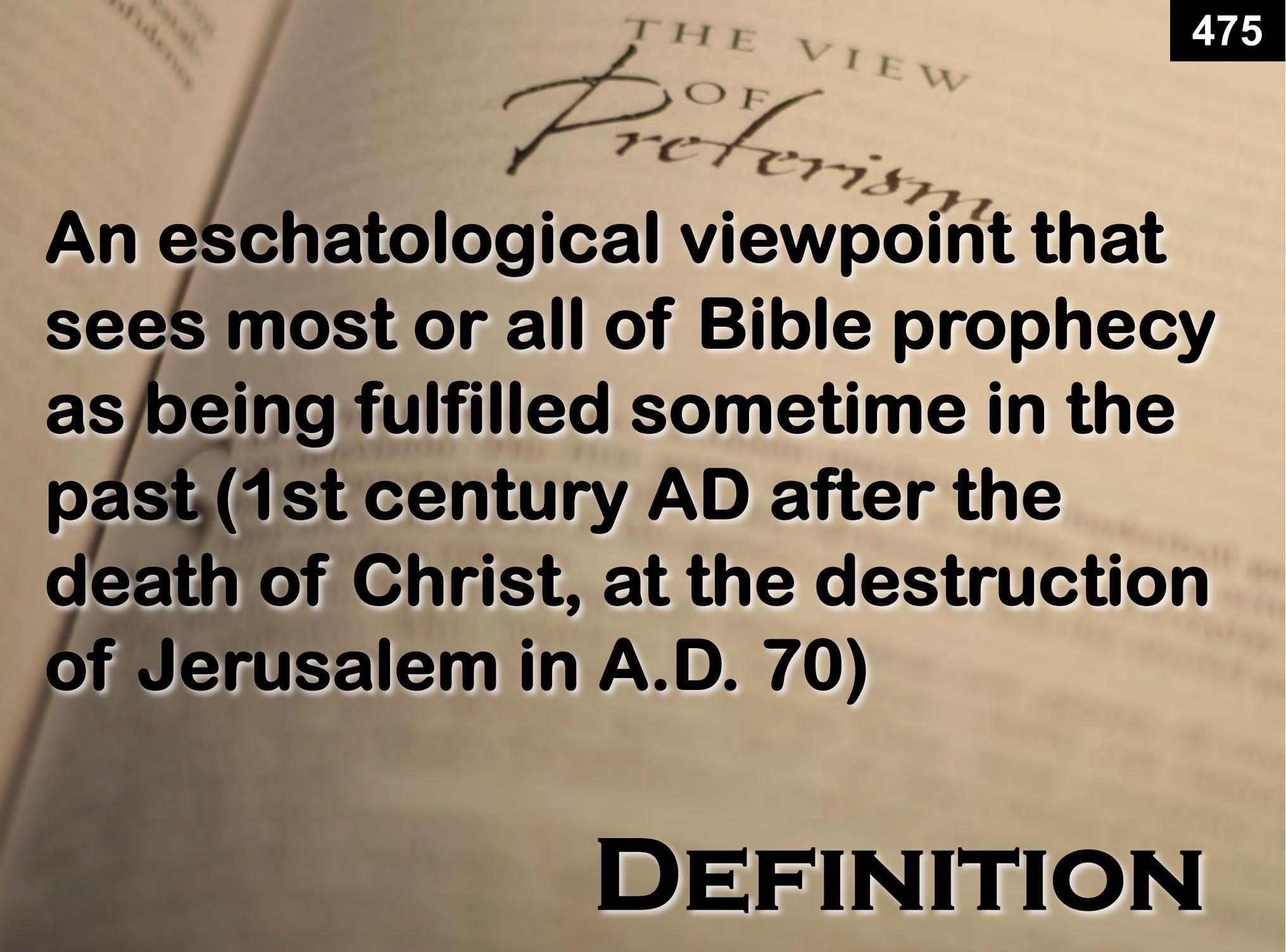
Present

Futurism

Future

Idealism

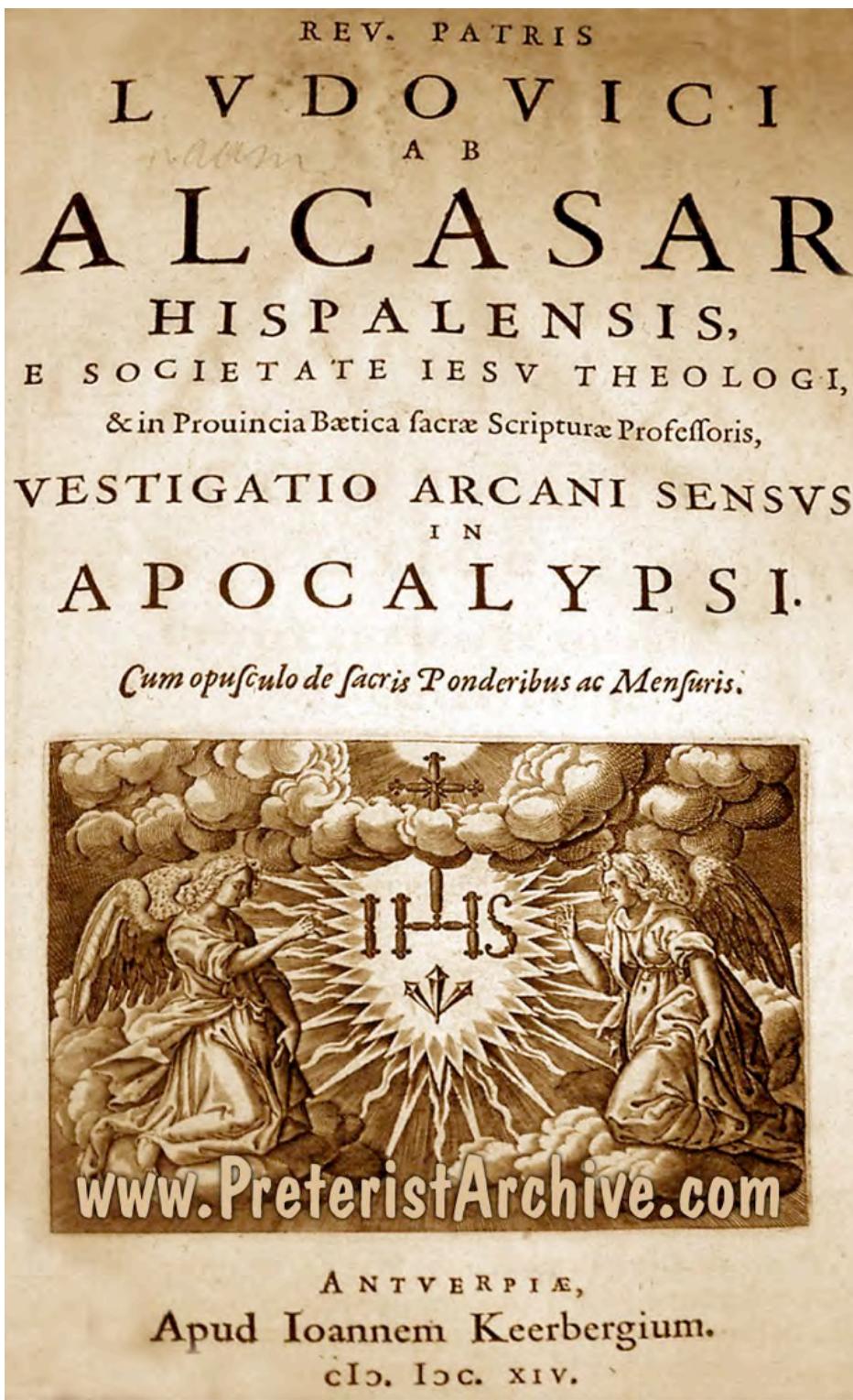
Timeless



THE VIEW
OF
Preterism

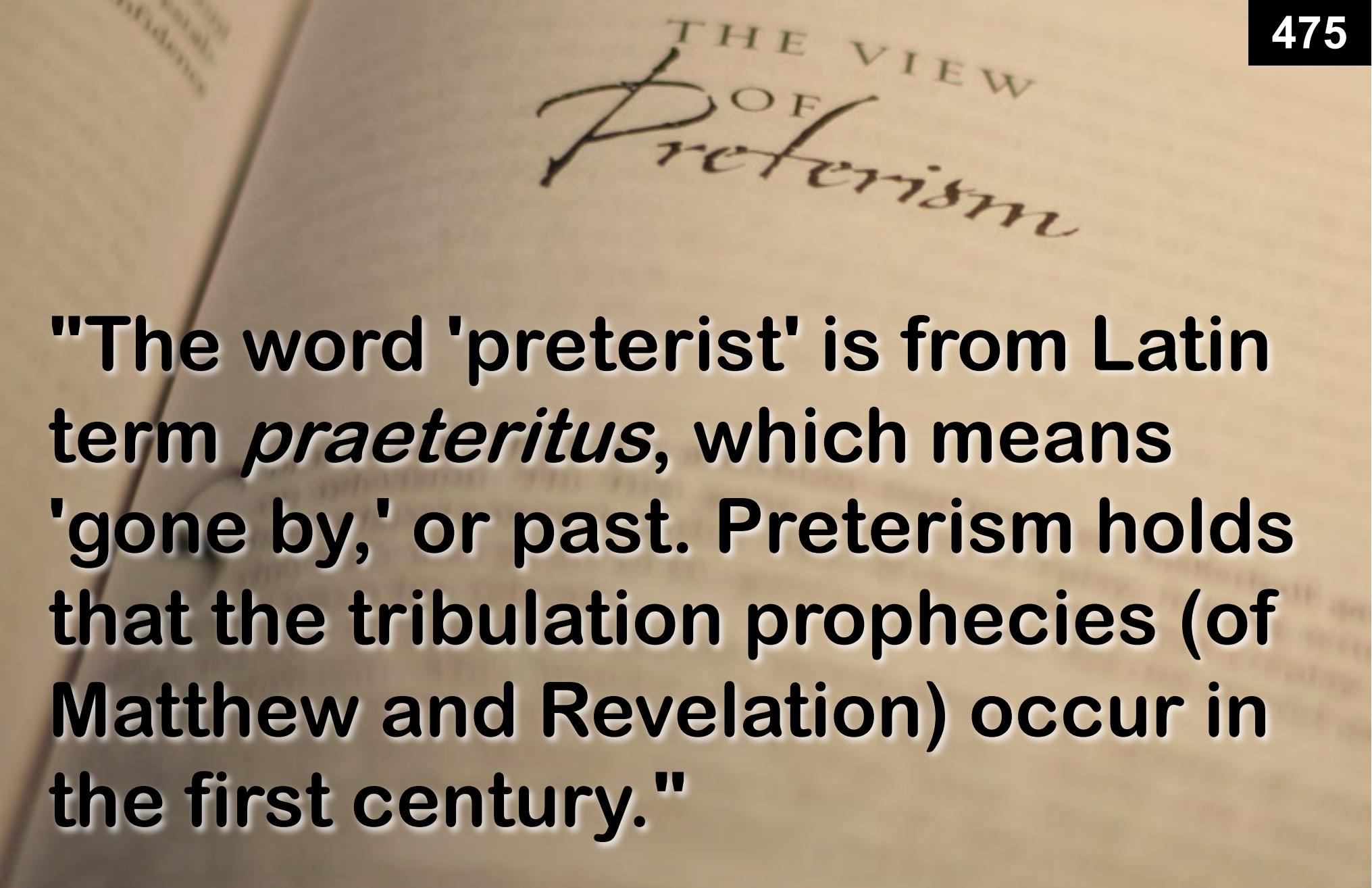
An eschatological viewpoint that sees most or all of Bible prophecy as being fulfilled sometime in the past (1st century AD after the death of Christ, at the destruction of Jerusalem in A.D. 70)

DEFINITION



History
 The first
 systematic
 preterist
 exposition of
 prophecy was
 written by Luis De
 Alcasar in 1614.

Johnson



THE VIEW
OF
Preterism

"The word 'preterist' is from Latin term *praeteritus*, which means 'gone by,' or past. Preterism holds that the tribulation prophecies (of Matthew and Revelation) occur in the first century."

Kenneth L. Gentry, Jr.

Types of Preterists

- **Extreme Preterists**
(Radical/Full/Consistent Preterists) see Tribulation, Resurrection, 2nd Coming & Judgments as past



- **Mild Preterists**
God judged Jews (A.D. 70) & Rome (A.D. 313)
Still look forward for the 2nd Coming of Christ
- **Moderate Preterists**
(Partial Preterists) – Almost all prophecies fulfilled in A.D. 70, Future 2nd Coming



II. Arguments and Responses on Preterism

A. External Evidence

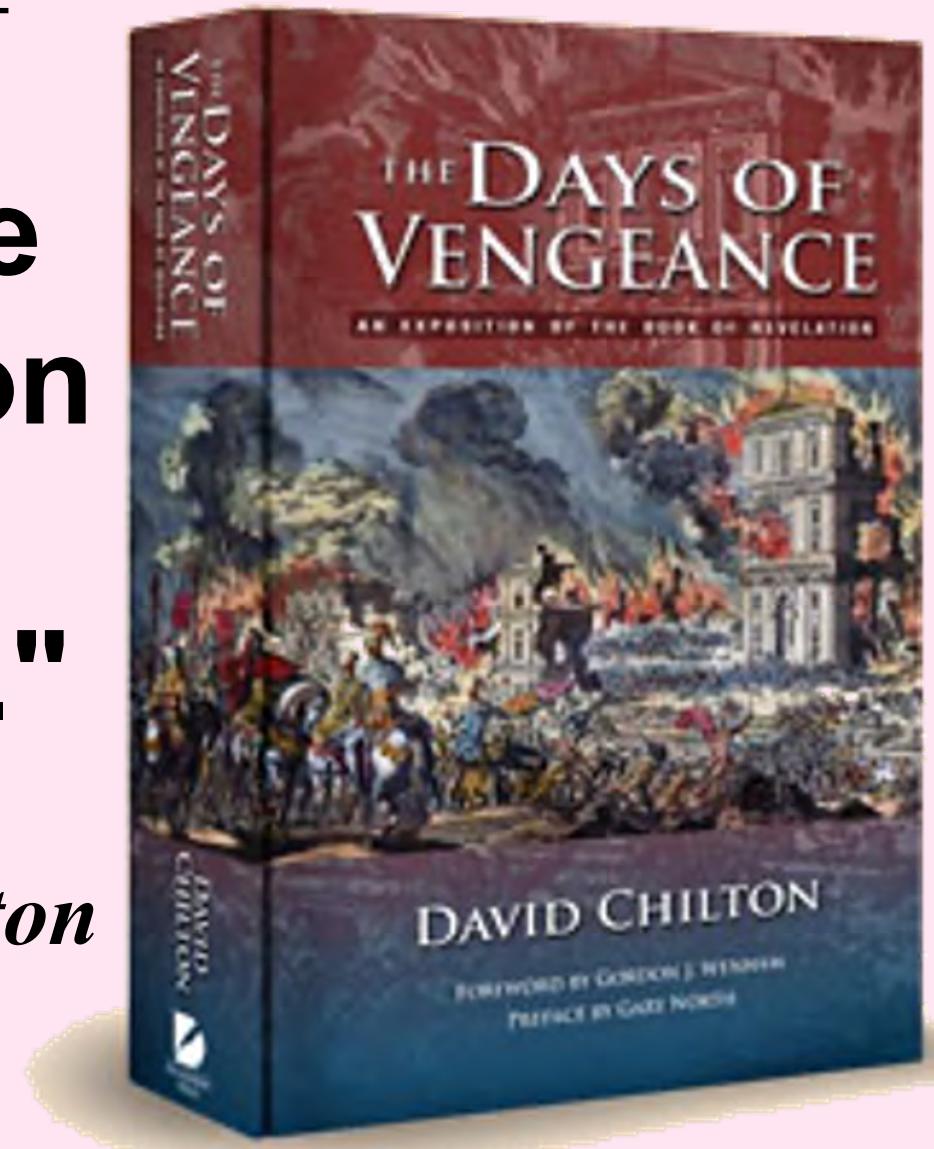


Critical to the position of the Radical Preterists is that they need to date Revelation before A.D. 70

A Radical Claim:

"The dating of the book of Revelation by the Church Fathers is wrong."

David Chilton



Church Fathers & Modern Scholars

- Church Fathers and most modern scholars concur with the date of A.D. 95/96.
- The Tribulation of Revelation does not refer to A.D. 70.



Revelation

Prologue

I The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants what must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, who bears testimony to everything he saw—things that are and the testimony of Jesus Christ—things yet to come. I am the one who bears the words of this prophecy, and I am faithful to him who sent me. Turn to me, therefore, those who hear, and receive the words of this prophecy.

One of these days, and behold, I am alive for ever and ever, and I will reward the ones of death and Hades, what is now power, and I will give them the reward of their actions. I am the one who bears the words of this prophecy, and I am faithful to him who sent me. Turn to me, therefore, those who hear, and receive the words of this prophecy.

B. Internal evidence for dating Revelation before A.D. 70.



**Preterists see the temple in
Rev. 11:1-2 as still standing**

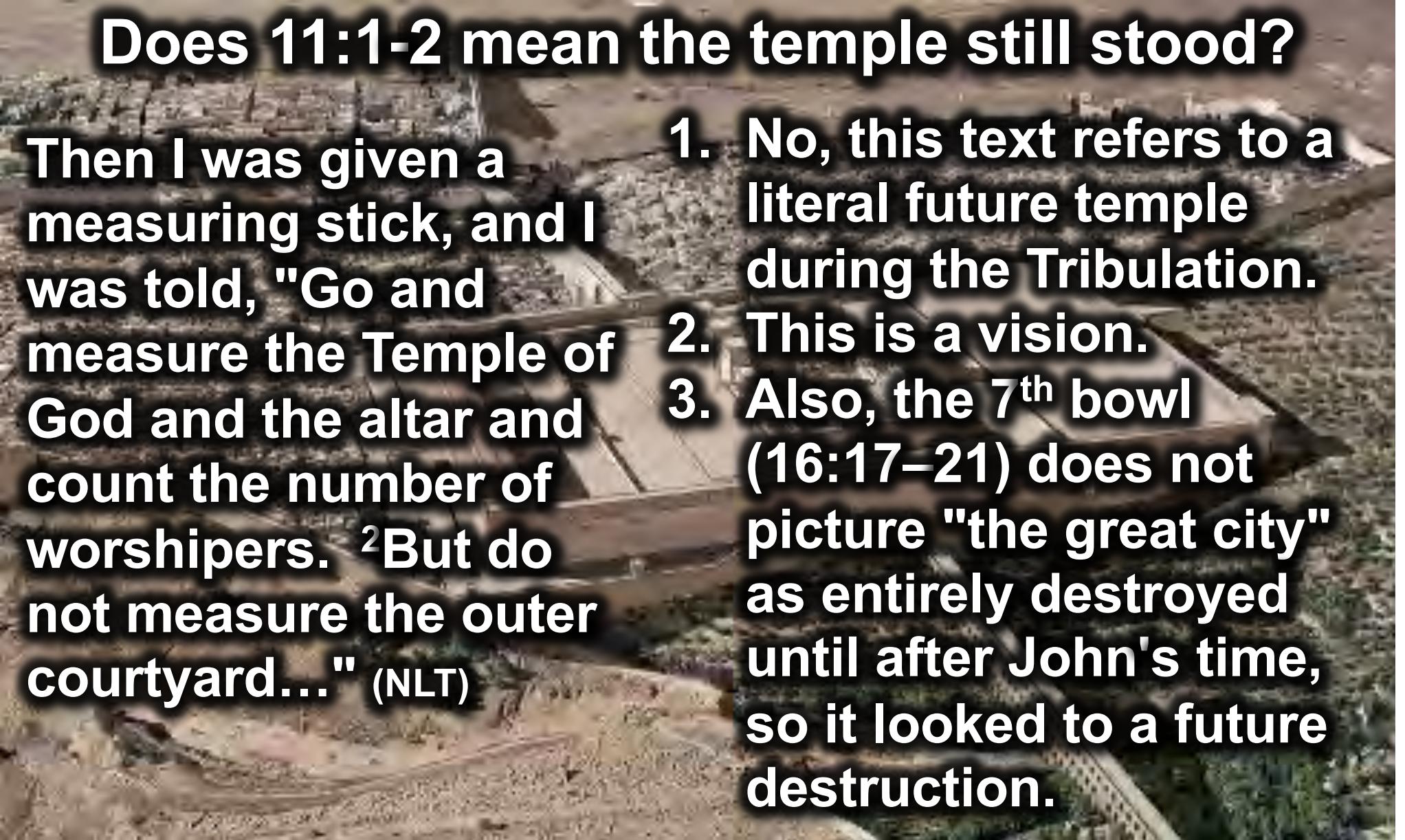
The vision of the Temple in Ezekiel 40-48 was given when the temple in Jerusalem was already destroyed. In the same way, it is not necessary for the temple to be standing for John.



Was Jerusalem destroyed by this time?

Does 11:1-2 mean the temple still stood?

Then I was given a measuring stick, and I was told, "Go and measure the Temple of God and the altar and count the number of worshipers. ²But do not measure the outer courtyard..." (NLT)



1. No, this text refers to a literal future temple during the Tribulation.
2. This is a vision.
3. Also, the 7th bowl (16:17–21) does not picture "the great city" as entirely destroyed until after John's time, so it looked to a future destruction.

Rev. 13:18



Preterists see the number 666 in Rev. 13:18 as Nero, so Revelation must have been written during Nero's time

Response: Future Orientation



Rev. 1:1 and 4:1 state that John (the author) would be shown "what must **soon** take place" and "what must take place **after this.**" This removes any doubt that the number of the beast must be future and not past or present.

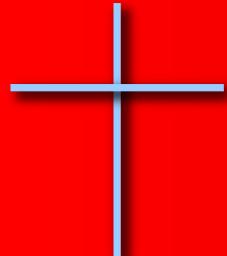
Rev. 17:10



Preterists see the "seven kings" as seven Roman kings from the first century. Then they argue that the sixth king is Nero.

When Did John Write Revelation?

Who was the Roman Emperor then?



Christ
Crucified
AD 33



Jerusalem
Destroyed
AD 70



Revelation
Written
AD 95

Tiberius
14-37

Caligula
37-41

Claudius
41-54

Nero
54-68

Vespasian
69-79

Titus
79-81

Domitian
81-96

Most
preterists
place the
book here

Supported by:
Irenaeus
Victorinus of Pettau
Clement of Alexandria
Eusebius



**Response: Why
can't Nero be
the 666?**

- Nero exercised authority from AD 54-68, not for the required 42 months (Rev. 13:5).
- All inhabitants of the earth did not worship Nero (Rev. 13:8).

Correlation with Daniel

<i>Daniel 7:1-8</i>	<i>Revelation 13:1-2; 17:9-12</i>
Four beasts (lion, bear, leopard, terrible beast with ten horns)	One beast that is like a leopard, bear, and lion (13:2) with ten horns (13:1; 17:3)
Seven heads representing four successive kingdoms	Seven heads representing seven successive kingdoms
Four kingdoms	Seven kingdoms
Ten horns (v. 7)	Ten horns (13:1; 17:3,12)

Eight Successive Kingdoms⁴⁷⁹

(17:10-11)

1. Egypt (Pharaohs)
2. Assyria (Assyrian kings)
3. Neo-Babylonia (Nebuchadnezzar)
4. Medo-Persia (Cyrus)
5. Greece (Alexander the Great)
6. Rome (Caesars; "one is")
7. Reunited Roman Empire (ten kings; "not yet")
8. Final Gentile world kingdom (the Antichrist)

"The successive-kingdoms view avoids the nebulous nature of the symbolic view, is consistent with the Old Testament imagery from Daniel 7, and provides a consistent interpretation of the eight kings. For these reasons this is the preferred view. Therefore Revelation 17:9-11 offers no support for the early date of Revelation based on the idea that Nero is the sixth king."



Rev. 17:10 has no reference to Nero or Domitian as Beale affirms.

C. The timing of fulfillment of the prophecies in Revelation

Preterists say words like "shortly" or "soon" relate to a short time (Rev. 1:1)



**However, they can't explain
"I am coming quickly"
(Rev. 2:16; 3:11; 22:7, 12, 20)**



Preterist difficulties

- Their hermeneutics are not consistent.
- It requires great creativity to prove that Jesus has come.



**D. The timing of the fulfillment of
Matthew 10:23, 16:28 and 24:34**

Their Claim



**Radical Preterists use Matt. 10:23 as support
that the Lord must come in the first century:**

"When you are persecuted in one town, flee to the next. I tell you the truth, the Son of Man will return before you have reached all the towns of Israel."

Response: 481 Pt. 1

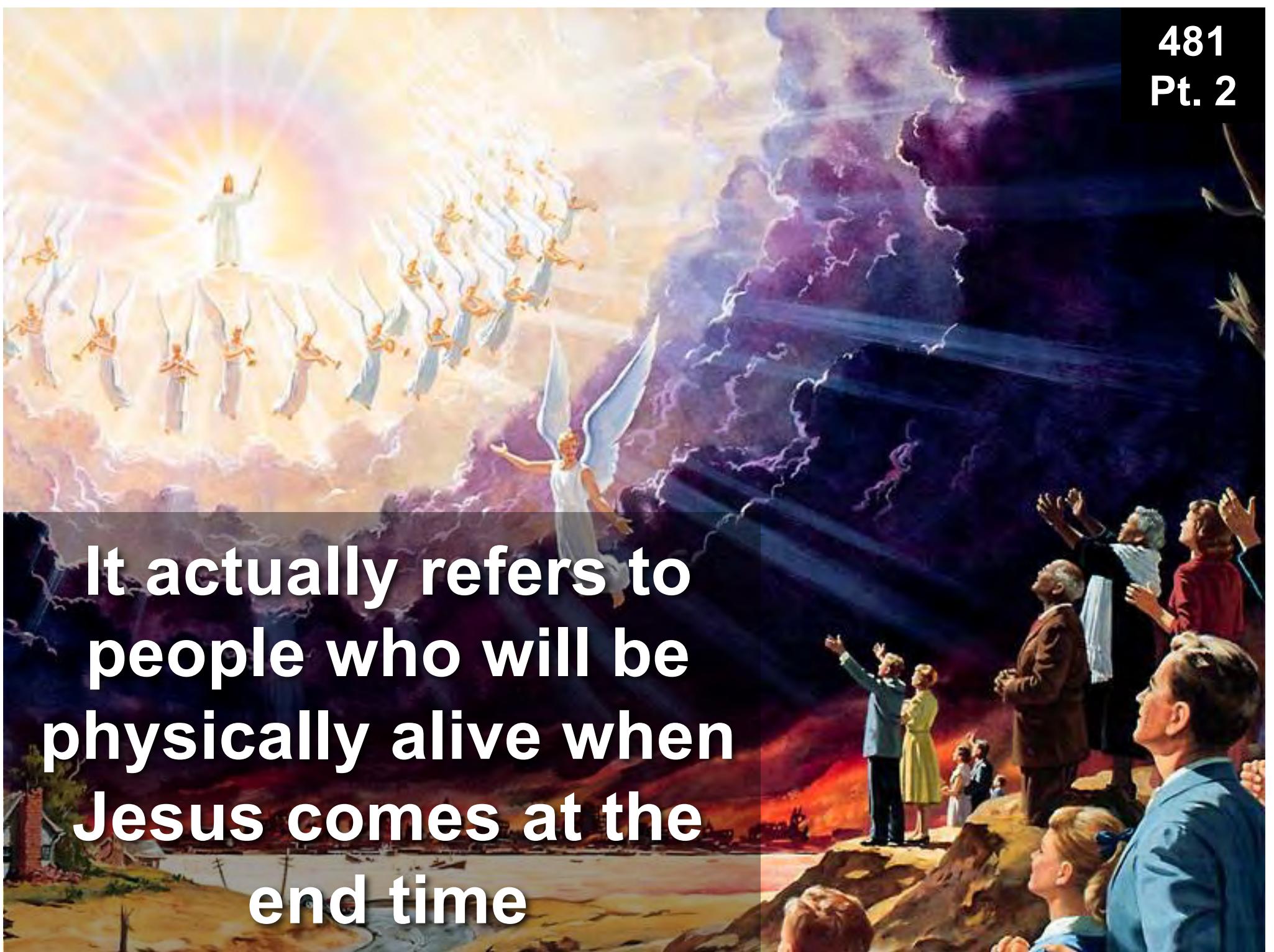
"The evangelization of the rebellious nation of Israel will not be finished by them but will await His return, which is the point made by Paul (cf. Rom. 11:25-29) and the prophets (Zech. 12:10)"

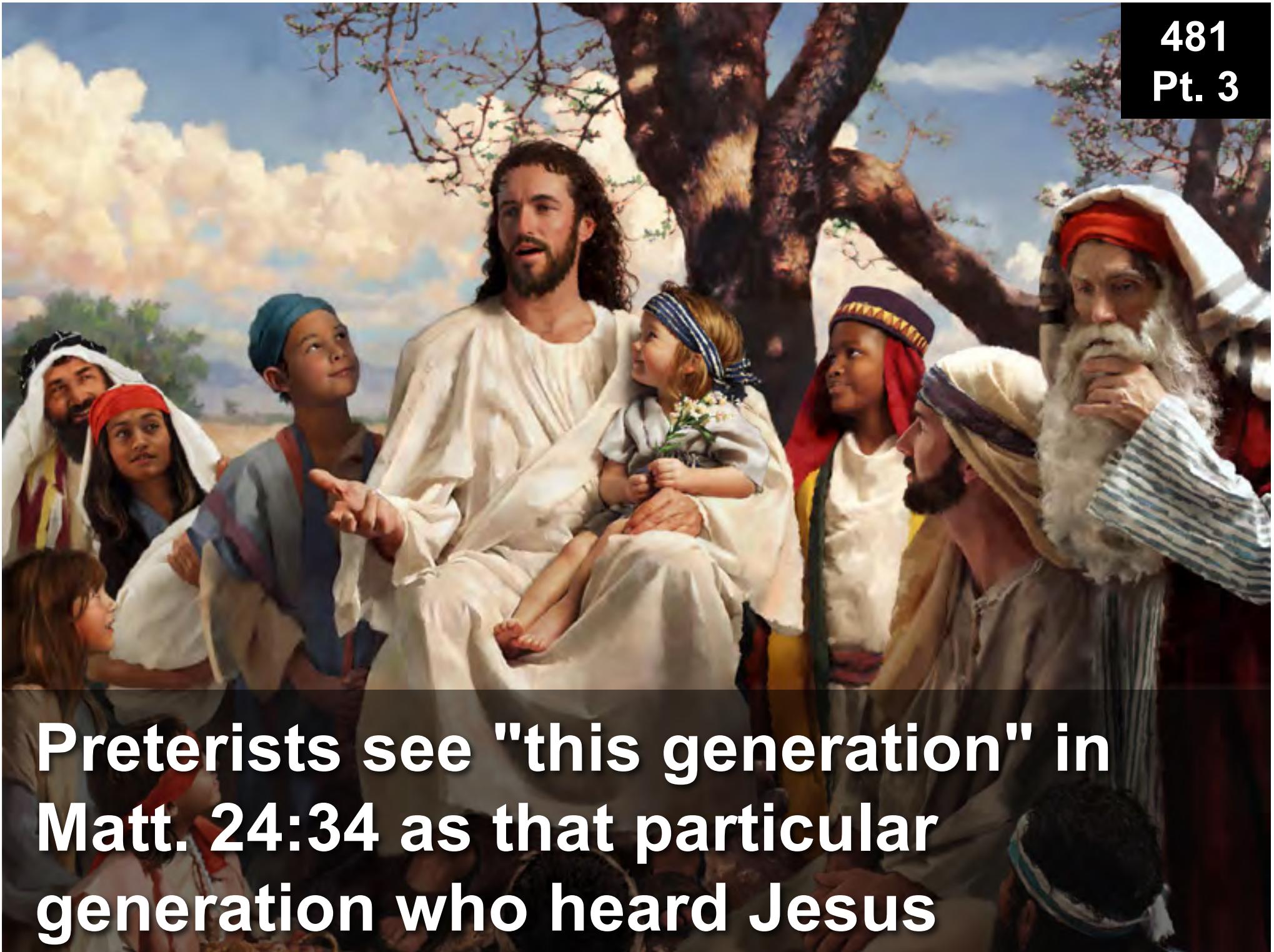


—*Benware*



**Radical Preterists see Matt.
16:28 as saying that Jesus will
come in that very generation**





Preterists see "this generation" in
Matt. 24:34 as that particular
generation who heard Jesus

END TIMES?

481
Pt. 3

- "This generation" refers to a time period when the "birth pains begin" (Matt. 24:8).
- It will continue on until "the gospel is preached to the whole world" (Matt. 24:14).
- The "abomination of desolation" spoken of by Daniel (Matt. 24:15; cf. Dan. 9:24-27) will have taken place.
- The "great tribulation" (Matt. 24:21) will have happened.
- Finally, "the Son of Man will come" (Matt. 24:27).



E. The Olivet Discourse of Matthew 24–25

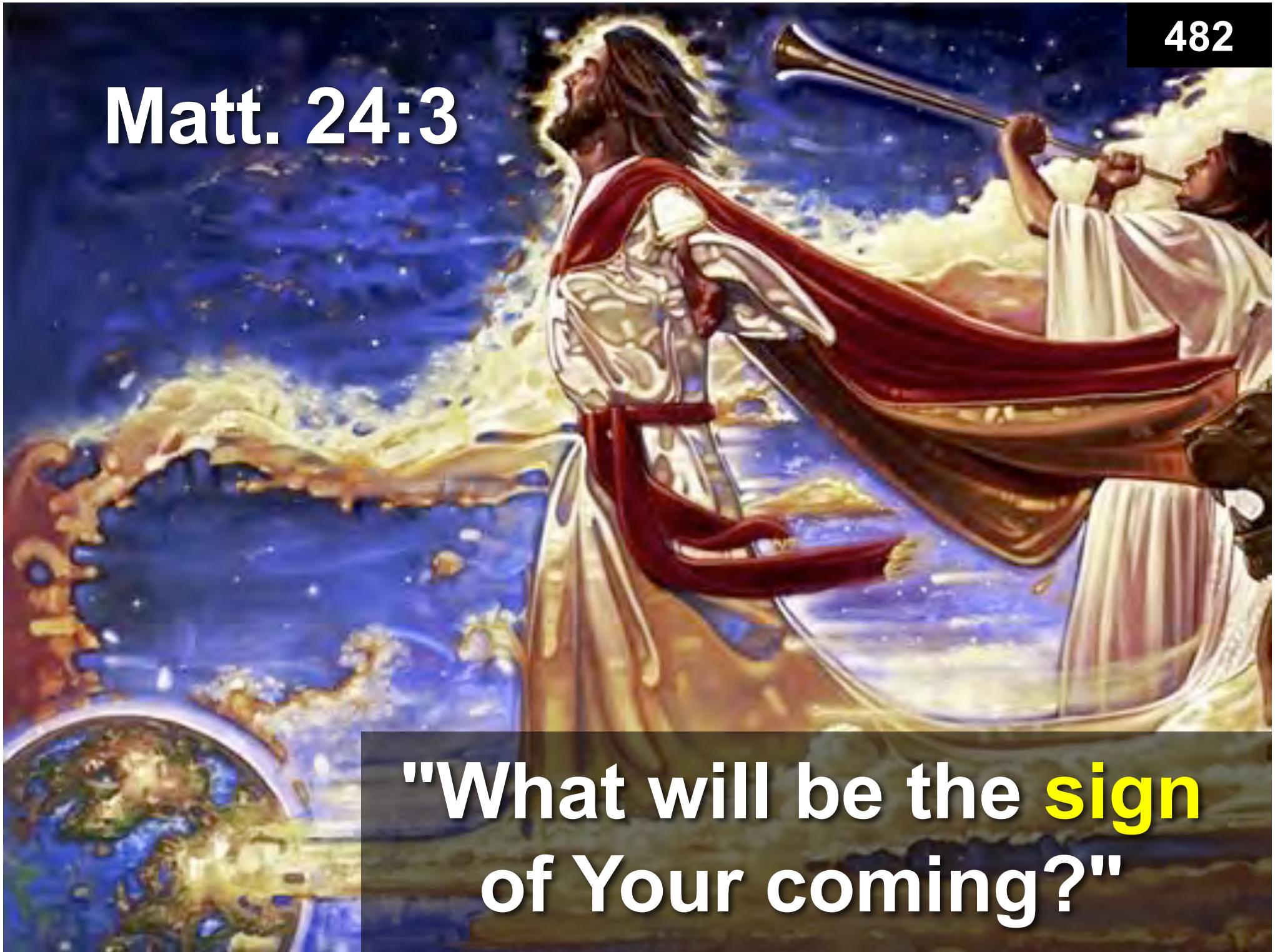
They view all or most of these prophecies as fulfilled in the Temple destruction of A.D. 70.

Matt. 24:3



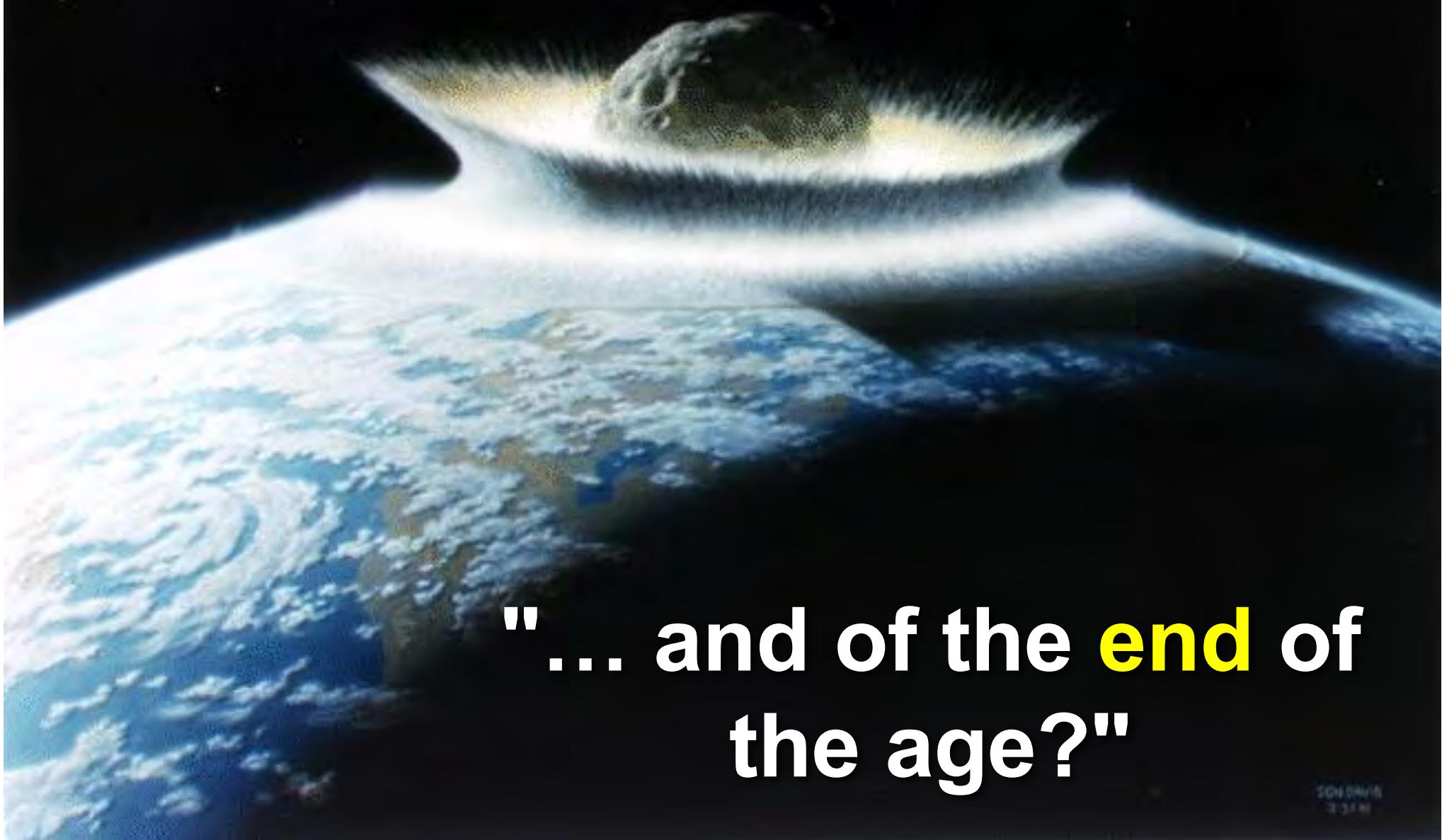
**"Tell us, when will
these things happen?"**

Matt. 24:3



"What will be the **sign**
of Your coming?"

Matt. 24:3



"... and of the **end** of
the age?"

Abomination of Desolation

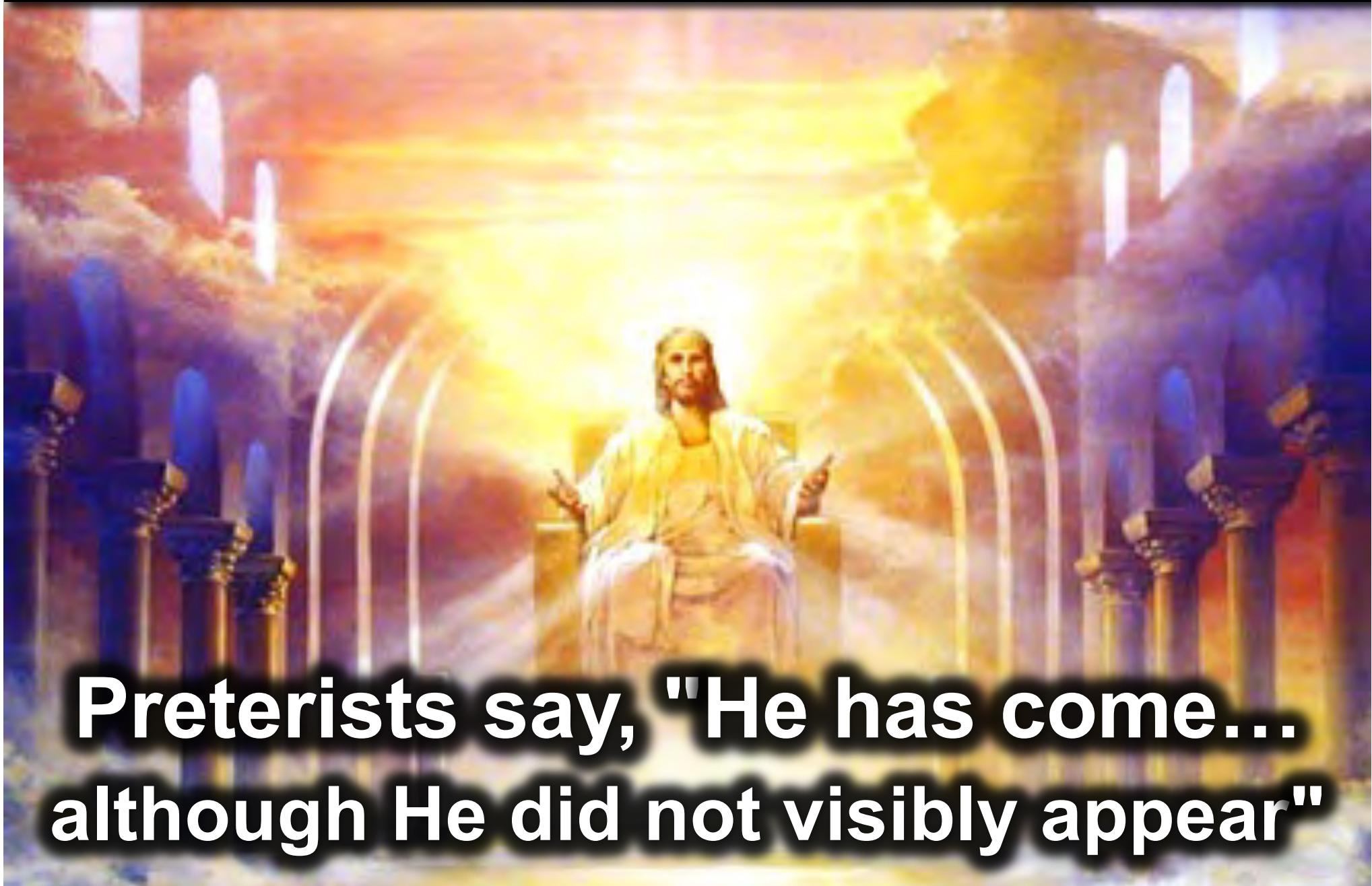
Preterists see this in A.D. 70
by the Romans

- Context of Matt. 24
- OT Prophets see it as future.
- Daniel 9:27; 11:31; 12:11

It could not have occurred!!!

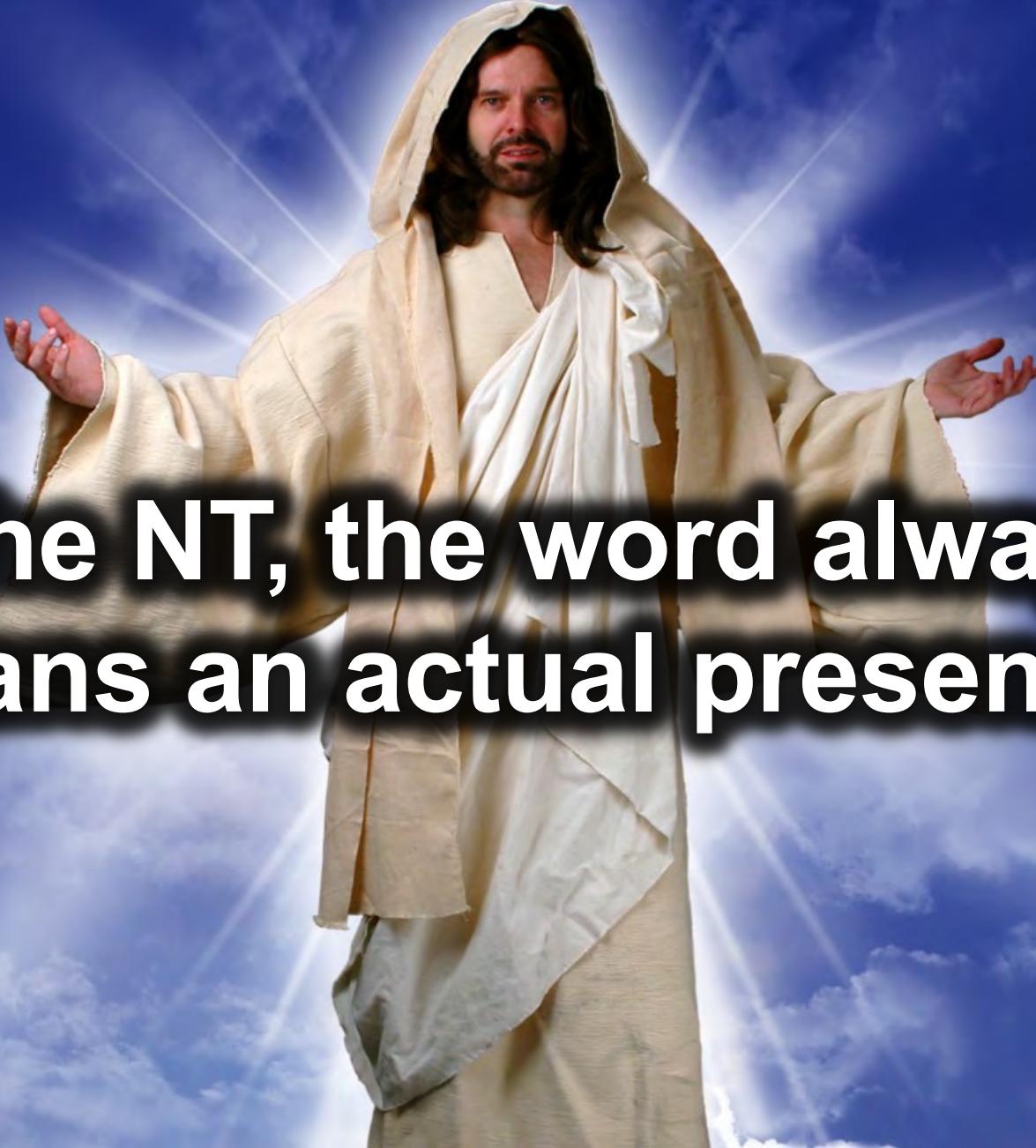
The Coming of Christ

482



**Preterists say, "He has come...
although He did not visibly appear"**

παρουσία | *parousia* (coming)



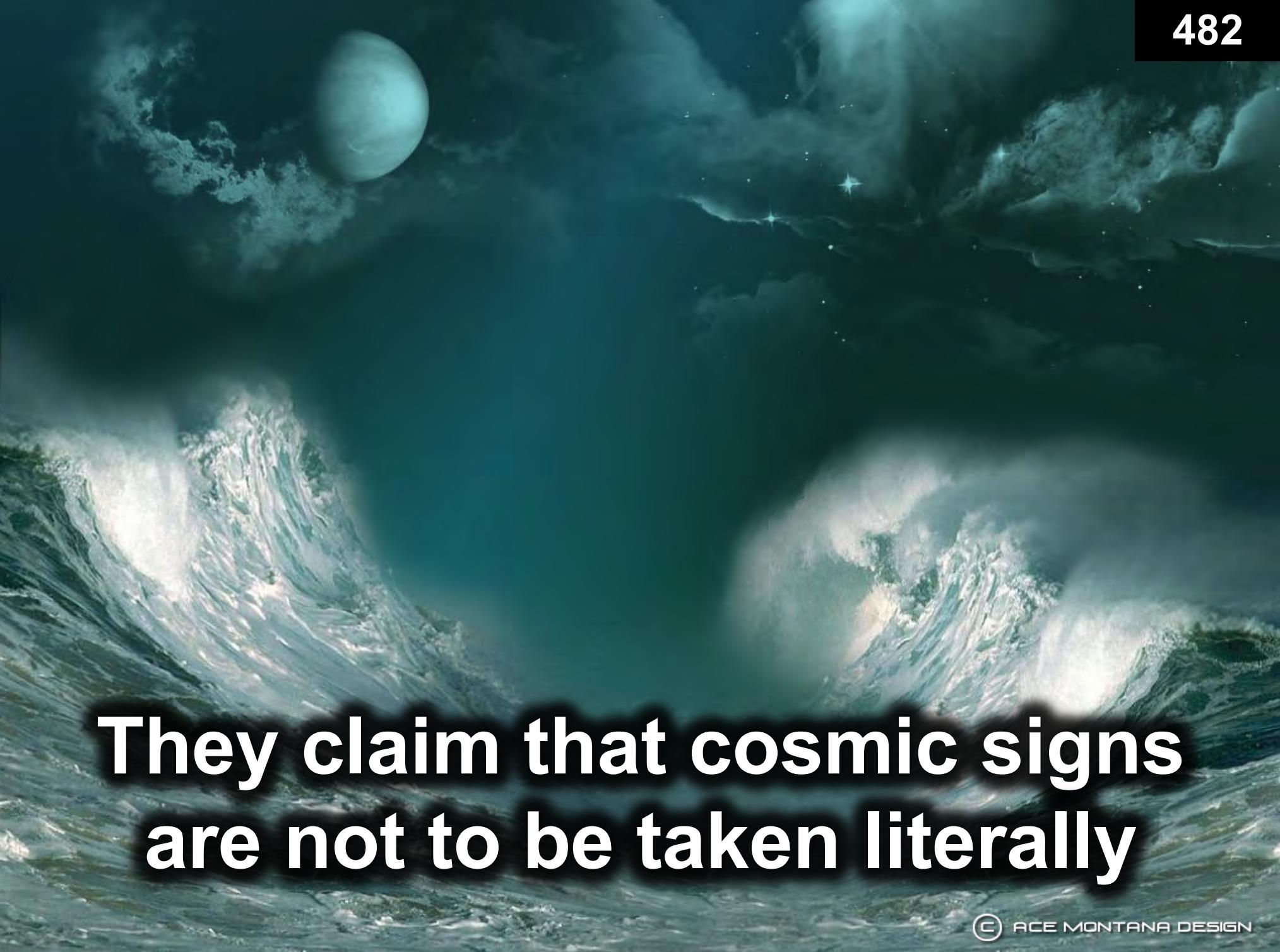
In the NT, the word always means an actual presence

Preterists claim that the "signs in heaven" are only dramatic ways of expressing amazing cosmic signs, national calamity or victory in battle (a non-miraculous approach).

A dramatic apocalyptic scene with a bright sun in the background, casting rays of light. In the foreground, a large explosion with a bright orange and yellow fireball dominates the center. A military tank is positioned in front of the explosion, facing towards the right. In the upper left, a jet fighter is shown in flight. The overall atmosphere is dark and fiery, with red and orange hues.

Are You Ready?

Rapture *Ready.com*



They claim that cosmic signs
are not to be taken literally

Rebuttals:

They are allegorizing the text

**The OT context is not taken
into account (Joel 2)**



Applications

- Evaluate other perspectives, but...
- "The Lord's bond-servant must not be quarrelsome" (2 Timothy 2:24)
- Giving critical evaluation to other views sheds light on your own view
- Teach the Scriptures

Conclusion

- Uphold the importance of:
 - Second Coming
 - Bodily resurrection
 - Day of the Lord
- "Therefore, be on the **alert** for you do not know which day your Lord is coming" (Matt. 24:42).

**"Yes! I am coming soon!"
Amen! Come Lord Jesus!
The grace of the Lord Jesus
be with God's people.
Amen.**



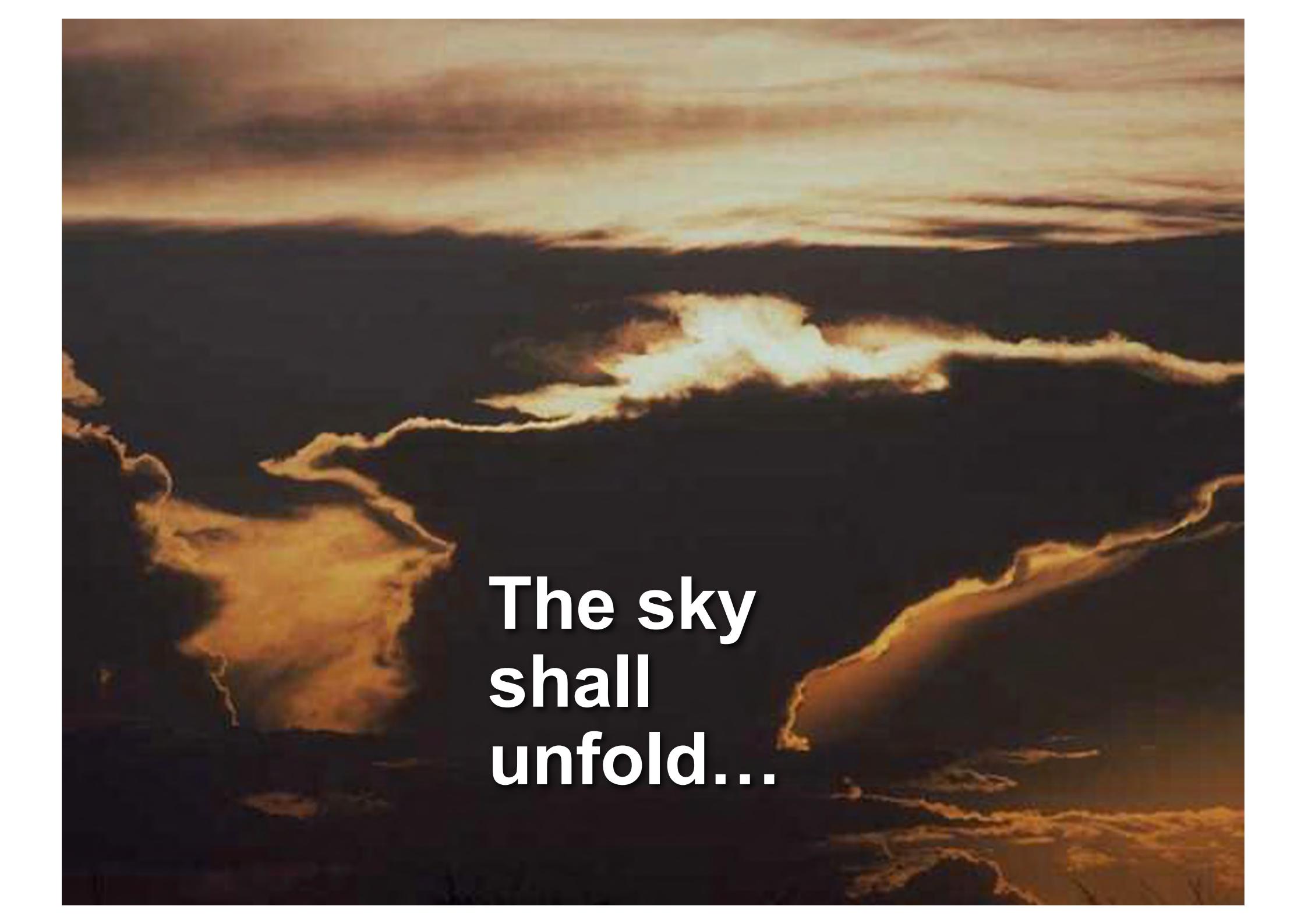
"We will rise to meet Him"



"We Shall Behold Him"



Sung by Sandi Patti



The sky
shall
unfold...

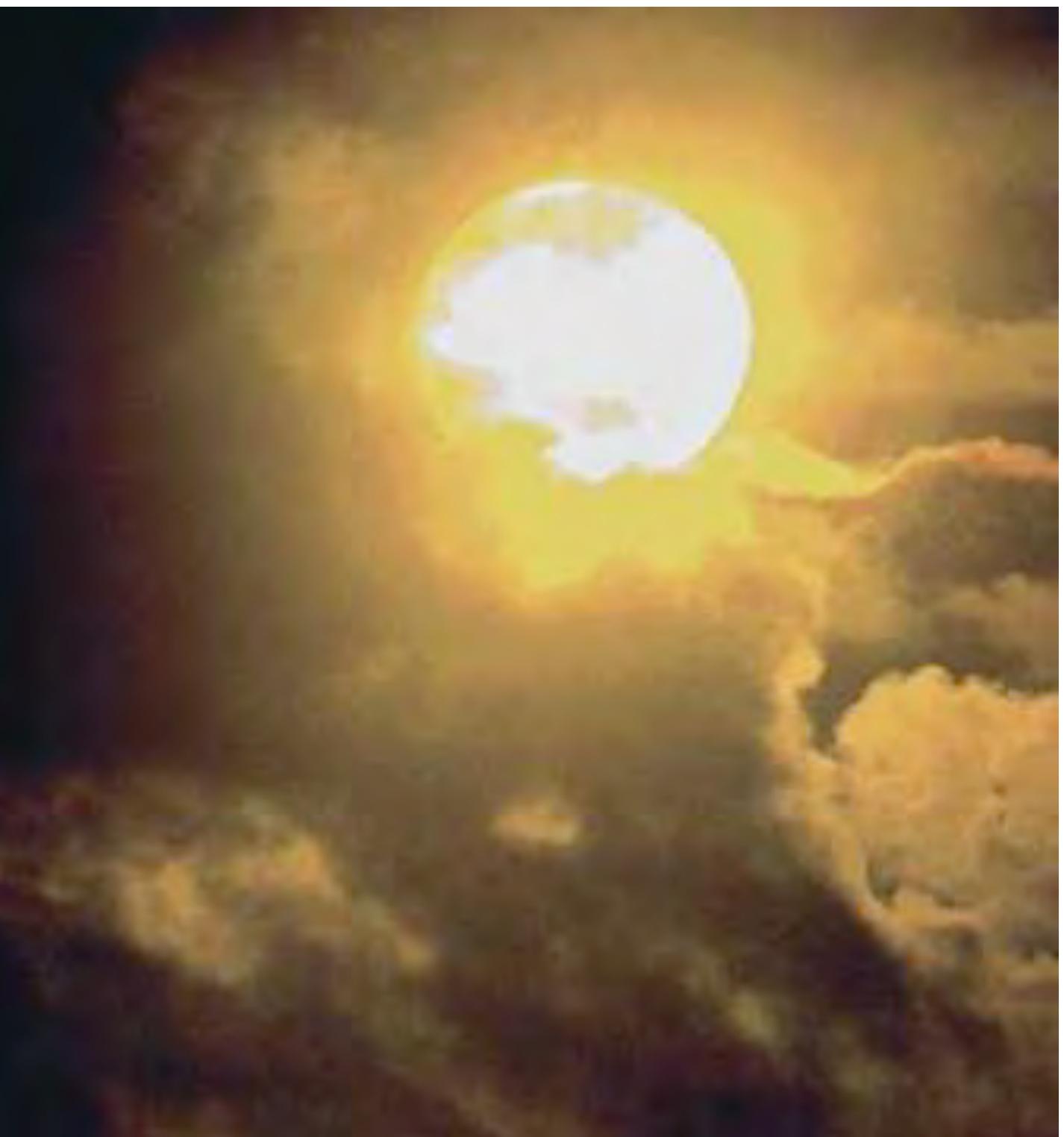


...preparing His entrance



The stars
shall
applaud Him
with
thunders of
praise

The
sweet
light in
His eyes
shall
enhance
those
awaiting



And we shall behold Him
then face to face





**We shall behold Him
We shall behold Him**



**...face to face
in all of His glory**



**We shall
behold Him**

**We shall
behold Him**

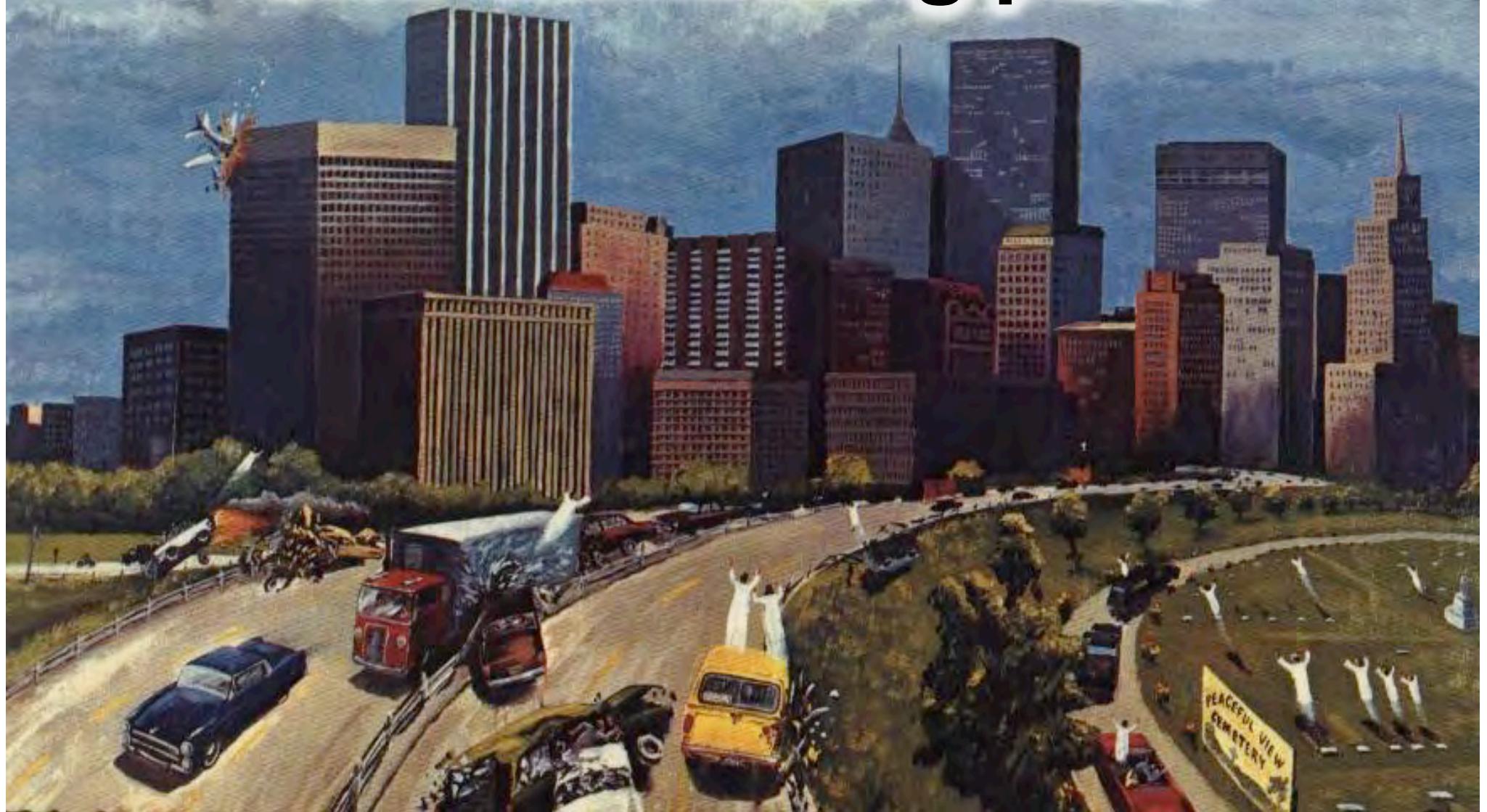


...face to face,
our Savior and Lord



**The angels shall sound the
shout of His coming**

The sleeping shall rise from
their slumbering place



**And those who remain shall
be changed in a moment**



**And we shall behold Him
then face to face**





**We shall behold Him
We shall behold Him**

**...face to face
in all of His glory**





We shall behold Him
We shall behold Him

...face to face,
our Savior and Lord



A man with dark hair and a crown of thorns on his head is kneeling in a prayerful pose. He is wearing a white, flowing robe. His hands are raised, palms open, in a gesture of supplication. The background is a soft, out-of-focus blue and white, suggesting a divine or ethereal atmosphere.

**We shall behold Him,
our Savior and Lord!**

A composite image with a dark blue background. On the left, a bearded man with long, flowing hair and a staff is shown. In the center, a lion and a lamb are facing each other. The lamb is surrounded by a bright, glowing light. On the right, the Alpha and Omega symbols are visible. The entire image has a religious, apocalyptic feel.

**We shall behold Him,
our Savior and Lord!**



Come to the Water!

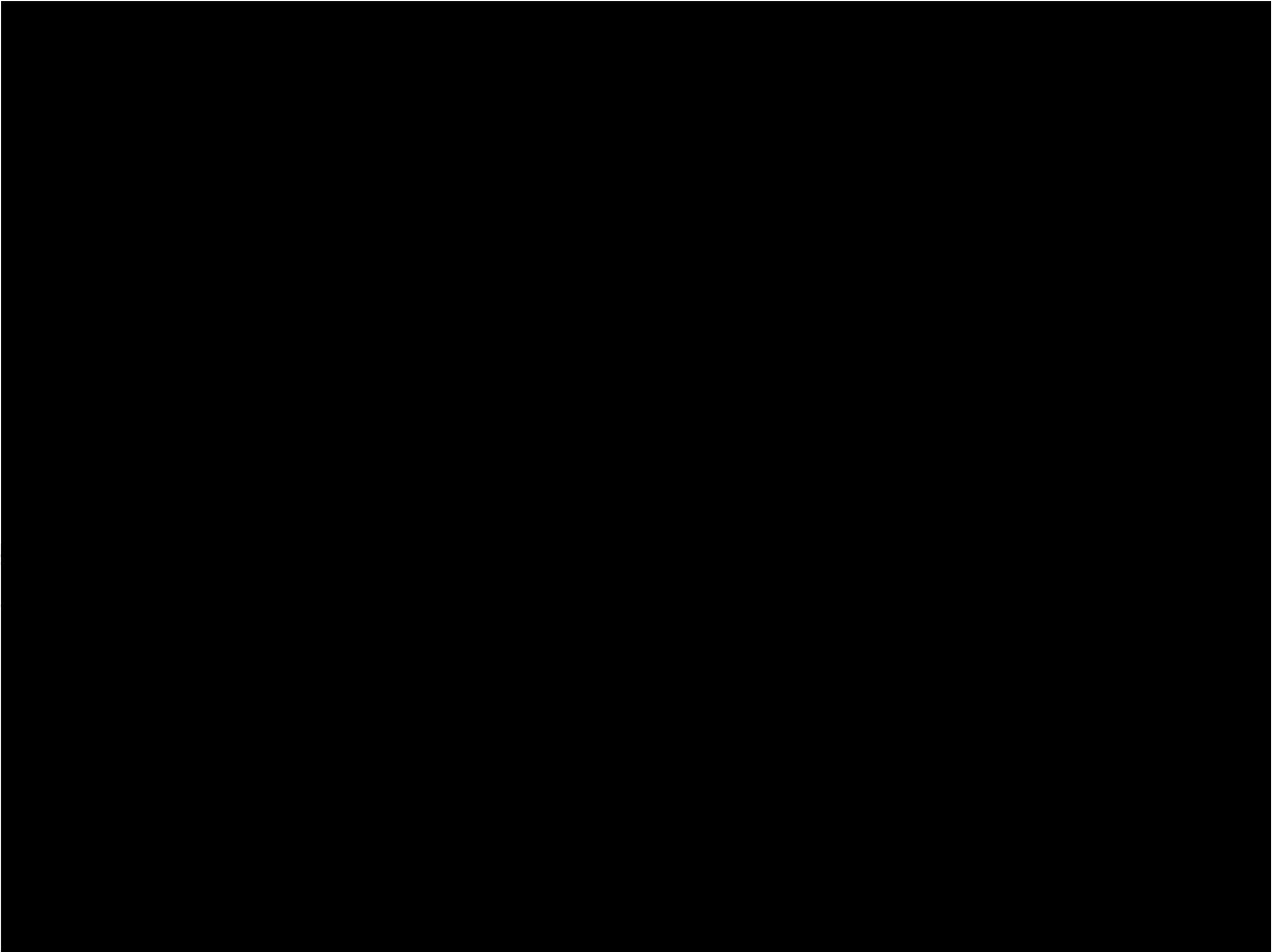
The Spirit and the
bride say, "**Come.**"

Let anyone who
hears this say,
"**Come.**" Let anyone
who is thirsty **come.**

Let anyone who
desires **drink freely**
from the water of life
(22:17).

**"Yes! I am coming soon!"
Amen! Come Lord Jesus!
The grace of the Lord Jesus
be with God's people.
Amen.**





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