

A Brief History of the Future

Great Middle East Wars

Ya.... Its gunna leave a mark.



Pre-Flood, Pre-Furnace, Pre-Fierce Anger (*orgēn*)
How is that "Times of the Gentiles" workin' out for Ya, World?

My nephew was in the Air Force Academy training to be a pilot. He was concerned that since he knew that one day All Nations will come against Israel, and that he would be called upon to join that attack. This pamphlet started out as a way of showing him that he, as a believer, had nothing to worry about.

A Brief History of the Future Great Middle East Wars A Pamphlet

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One of the main contexts of this paper is that the Bride of Christ is promised to be kept entirely from the time and/or place of the Lord’s Wrath. Therefore, wherever we see the Lord’s Wrath falling in an area, there can be Zero of the Bride in that area. Evacuation, Extermination by satan’s sock puppets, or Rapture are all candidates for 100% of the Bride being absent in that area being affected by the Lord’s Wrath.

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Jesus Himself pointed out the key to all End-Times prophecy in Matt 24:15 “When you therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoever reads, let him understand:)” (Appx F → Studying Prophecy is a commandment of the Lord - Matt 24:15-16 & Mark 13:14 & Dan 9:25).

Which directly points to Daniel 9:24

Dan 9:24 Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy. 25 Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times. 26 And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off (executed), but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined. 27 And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.

The word “weeks” to a Jewish reader is similar to the word “decade” to a Western reader. It means 7 years (rather than 10 years that decade means). So as foretold by Prophet Daniel, from the time that the edict went out to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem until the Messiah would come would be 62+7 weeks of years or 69 weeks or 483 years. Sir Robert Anderson in the 1890’s, chief of Scotland Yards, documented in “The Coming Prince” that it was exactly 483 biblical years between the Decree of King Artaxerxes given to Nehemiah (to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem) until Palm Sunday when Jesus rode into Jerusalem through the Eastern (Golden) Gate on a donkey declaring Himself to be King (fulfilling Zech 9:9). Jesus apparently held the Jews accountable in Luke 19 for knowing this prophecy. This was their Day when the Kingdom was being offered to them by their Promised Messiah. The stones would have cried out if the people had been silent.

Luke 19:41 When He approached Jerusalem, He saw the city and wept over it, 42 saying, “If you had known in this day, even you, the things which make for peace! But now they have been hidden from your eyes. 43 “For the days will come upon you when your enemies will throw up a barricade against you, and surround you and hem you in on every side, 44 and they will level you to the ground and your children within you, and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not recognize the time of your visitation.”

The Lord apparently takes prophecy extremely seriously. The generation that saw Jesus on the donkey would also see Jerusalem destroyed because in His own words, they did not recognize the “Time of Your Visitation” as given to Daniel. Daniel also foretold that the Messiah would be “cut off” - the Hebrew word means “cut-off/executed in making a covenant” - which happened at the cross.



Because Israel rejected their Messiah, they have been temporarily set aside for a period of time while the Lord draws out a Bride for His Son (Acts 15:13-18). Romans 11:25-27 talks about this temporary setting aside which will end “that blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles be come in.” The Church Age thus interrupts the 70 Weeks that Israel was given back in Daniel 9. 69 weeks of years exactly had already occurred up until Palm Sunday.

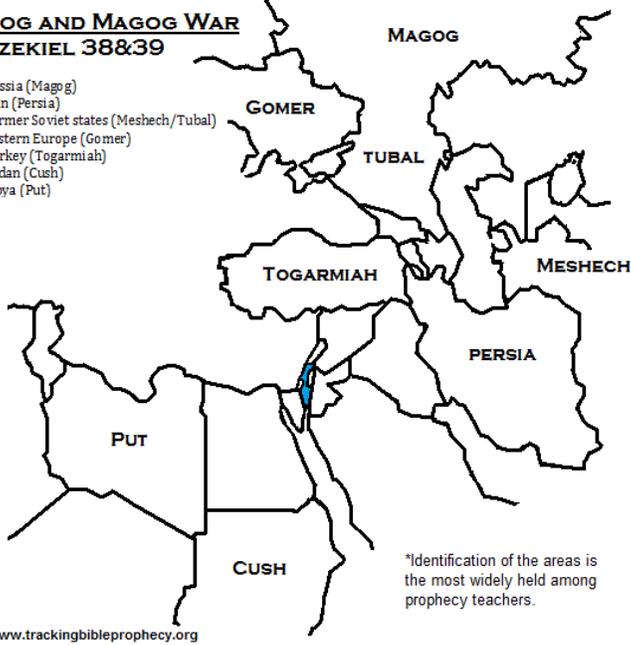
Daniel's 70th Week is still in the future. The Church Age, the drawing out of His Bride, began at Pentecost and will end at the Rapture of the Church. There is a period of time between the Rapture and the beginning of the 70th Week of Daniel (i.e. Tribulation - 7 years) The following study will deal with two major events that will most probably take place in this interval of time that is after the Rapture but before the Tribulation. We will take these events in reverse order. -- (Appx C discusses why the Rapture occurs before these two events).

The most well known major event before the Tribulation is the Ezek 38-39 Battle of Gog/Magog. These verses have long been looked at as End Time Prophecies. They describe a number of countries that will come against Israel to plunder them. These countries include Russia, Turkey, Iran, Eastern Europe, Libya, and Sudan. Israel at the time of the invasion is described as "Regathered From The Nations" (which happened 1948), "Living in Safety/Securely", "Without Walls, Bars or Gates". This does not describe Israel's situation of today. So something drastic must happen between now and the Ezek 38 invasion to cause Israel to feel secure. (More on this later).

Ezek 38/39 War Gog/Magog War

GOG AND MAGOG WAR EZEKIEL 38&39

- Russia (Magog)
- Iran (Persia)
- Former Soviet states (Meshech/Tubal)
- Eastern Europe (Gomer)
- Turkey (Togarmiah)
- Sudan (Cush)
- Libya (Put)



Ezekiel 38:1-11 Now the word of the LORD came to me, saying, "Son of man, set your face against Gog, of the land of Magog, the prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal, and prophesy against him and say, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Behold, I am against you, O Gog, the prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal. 4 I will turn you around, put hooks into your jaws, and lead you out, with all your army, horses, and horsemen, all splendidly clothed, a great company with bucklers and shields, all of them handling swords. 5 Persia, Ethiopia (or Cush), and Libya (or Put) are with them, all of them with shield and helmet; Gomer and all its troops; the house of (Beth) Togarmah from the far north and all its troops - many people are with you. 10 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "On that day it shall come to pass that thoughts will arise in your mind, and you will make an evil plan: You will say, 'I will go up against a land of unwalled villages; I will go to a peaceful people, who dwell safely, (betach) all of them dwelling without walls, and having neither bars nor gates' - to take plunder and to take booty, to stretch out your hand against the waste places that are again inhabited, and against a people gathered from the nations, who have acquired livestock and goods, who dwell in the midst of the land.

Never in history have these nations as a group attacked Israel as foretold in Ezek 38-39, therefore this prophecy must still be in the future. They are coming to "take plunder and to take booty" from the "people gathered from the nations" (Israel after 1948). These nations' armies are destroyed by the Lord in the Mountains of Israel. (This is NOT Armageddon in which ALL nations attack Israel at the end of the Trib nor is it the Gog / Magog battle of Rev 20 which is at the end of the Millennial Kingdom.)

(Note: There is a 7 year period after Ezek 39 for the burning of weapons. Israel will be fleeing the AC after the Mid-Trib. Several noted bible scholars (Dr. Fruchtenbaum, Dr Ice, et al) see that Israel would not be able to burn weapons while they are fleeing. They see this as indicating that Ezek 39 must end at least 7 years before the Mid-Trib or at least 3.5 years before Trib.)

Notice that ZERO of the countries immediately surrounding Israel are mentioned in the attacking force of Ezek 38-39. It does not seem possible that those Palestinians, Gaza, Syria, Jordanians, and others currently hating on Israel would pass up the opportunity to attack along with a major force such as this one. Unless something really devastating has happened to them first (see below).

Sequence of Events?? (see also Appx B)

The sequence of events seem to be foreshadowed in Ezek 28:25-26*

Ezek 28: 25 'Thus says the Lord GOD, "When I gather the house of Israel from the peoples among whom they are scattered, and will manifest My holiness in them in the sight of the nations, then they will live in their land which I gave to My servant Jacob. 26 "They will live in it securely (betach); and they will build houses, plant vineyards and live securely (betach) when I execute judgments upon all who scorn them round about them. Then they will know that I am the LORD their God."'"

After Israel is regathered (1948), the Lord will execute judgments upon all their neighbors who hate Israel (Ps 83, Is 17, Zep 2, Zech 9, Amos 1) then Israel can live securely ("betach") (pre-req for Ezek 38).

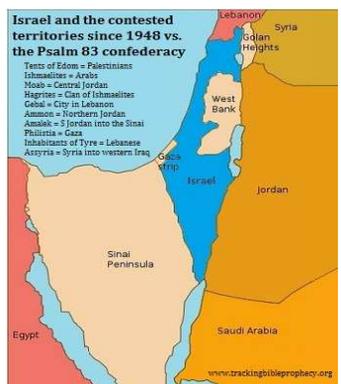
The Lord says that Israel will live securely (same Hebrew word as used in Ezek 38, "betach" *dwelt safely*) after **The Lord Himself** judges those surrounding hostile scornful neighbors.

These judgments from the Lord are where the next set of verses comes in. Psalm 83 describes a prayer by Asaph the Seer for judgment against a group of nations that are surrounding Israel, that hate her and that want Israel wiped off the map. This prayer was prayed during a time when Israel was in a Covenant Relationship with the Lord. It was prayed so that the Lord would answer it at a time when they weren't in a Covenant Relationship Zep 2, Zech 9, Jer 49, Oba 1, Amos 1, Is 11, Ezek 25, et al. describe the Lord's judgments against these Ps 83 nations in answer to that prayer.

Let's now look at this Psalm 83 scenario from scripture that seems to be right out of today's newspapers.

The Confederacy against Israel – Great Middle East War Ps 83 et. al. (Appx A)

Psalm 83:1-8 Do not keep silent, O God! Do not hold Your peace, And do not be still, O God! For behold, Your enemies make a tumult; And those who hate You have lifted up their head. They have taken crafty counsel against Your people, And consulted together against Your sheltered ones. They have said, "Come, and let us cut them off from being a nation, That the name of Israel may be remembered no more." For they have consulted together with one consent; They form a confederacy against You: The tents of Edom and the Ishmaelites; Moab and the Hagrites; Gebal, Ammon, and Amalek; Philistia with the inhabitants of Tyre; Assyria also has joined with them; They have helped the children of Lot.



The people groups mentioned in Ps 83 & Isa 17 not only include the hostile / scornful neighbors (political areas) but also include these hostile / scornful refugee & terrorist groups.

- The People Groups -- Hostile / scornful refugee & terrorist groups
- Tents of Edom (descendants of Esau) = Palestinians in Tents
- Ishmaelites = Arabs
- Hagrites = Clan of Ishmaelites – East Jordan
- Inhabitants of Tyre = Lebanese
- The Descendants of Lot = Moabites and Ammonites



The Political Areas- Nations	Their Fate
Moab = Central Jordan Ammon = Northern Jordan	Zep 2:9 Surely Moab shall be like Sodom, And the people of Ammon like Gomorrah - Overrun with weeds and salt pits, And a perpetual desolation...
Tyre - Gebal = Lebanon Cities	Zec 9:4 Behold, the Lord will cast her out; He will destroy her power in the sea, And she will be devoured by fire.
Amalek & Edom = Southern Jordan into the Sinai	Jer 49:18 No one shall remain there, Nor shall a son of man dwell in it. Ez 35:9 I will make you perpetually desolate, and your cities shall be uninhabited; then you shall know that I am the LORD.
Philistia = Gaza	Zep 2:5 I will destroy you; So there shall be no inhabitant.
Assyria = North Iraq/Syria Damascus – Syria	Zep 2:13 .. destroy Assyria Isa 17:1 Behold, Damascus will cease from being a city, And it will be a ruinous heap...

The Fates of these Ps 83 nations include terms of “perpetual desolation” and “no inhabitant” and are enough to take our breath away. From these terms we know none of these Fates have been fully executed in history so therefore they are still in the future.

These verses describe a Ps 83 confederation of nations that have a different purpose than the Ezek 38 nations. Ps 83 nations want to destroy Israel so that it is “Remembered No More” (contrast with Ezek 38 purpose - “taking plunder”). This is right out of today’s newspapers and right at our doorsteps. Their prophesied Fates are incredible. The War prayed for in Ps 83 (fulfilled in Zep 2, Zec 9, Joel 1, Amos 1, Obadiah 1) allows Israel to feel secure “Betach” at least temporarily after defeating all the scornful nations that surround Israel (Ezek 28:25-26). Israel will also grow rich due to these conquests of neighboring nations (also pre-req for Ezek 38) as well as developing their oil/gas reserves. So it looks like the Ps 83 judgments must happen before and may even be part of the cause of the Ezek 38 invasion. Scripture also talks about Israel inhabiting the Land of their enemies. Isaiah 11:12-14; Zeph 2:9, Jer 49:2

Dispensation Changes – Couple of Indicators of We’re Outta Here!

My People -#1 Indicator

In Zeph 2:8 (part of Ps 83) & Ezek 39:6-7 the Lord again is calling Israel “My People”. This indicates that Dispensations have changed. The Age of the Church has ended and the Lord is again dealing with Israel as His People again in a Post-Christian Dispensation.

No Wrath for Bride - #2 Indicator (details in Appx C)

The Bride of Christ is promised to entirely escape the time and place of wrath/fierce anger (*orgēn* SG#3709) of the Lord which are His judgments. All of the Bride’s judgments were nailed to the cross and completely taken care of.

1 Thess 1:10 ... *even Jesus, who delivered (rhoumai SG#4506) us from (ek SG# 1537) the wrath (orgēn SG#3709) to come.*
1 Thess 5:9 *For God hath not appointed us to wrath (orgēn SG#3709), but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,*
Rom 5:9 *Much more then, being now justified by His blood, we shall be saved (sōzō SG#4982) from (apo SG# 575) wrath (orgēn SG#3709) through Him.*

rhoumai (SG#4506 Delivers) --- to draw to oneself - to draw or rescue a person *to and for the deliverer.*
ek (SG# 1537) Out of but towards something --- i.e. Out of wrath and towards Himself.
sōzō (SG#4982) (*from sōs, "safe, rescued"*) – properly, deliver out of danger and into safety;
apo (SG# 575) Means separation of Time & Place
orgēn (SG#3709) Wrath of God

Scripture promises that the Bride will be subject to ZERO of the Lord's Wrath. ALL of the Lord’s Wrath/Judgments were all taken care of at the cross for the Bride. This Wrath of Zep 2 (i.e. Ps 83) & Ezek 38 is exactly the same Wrath (*orgēn* SG#3709) that is declared to have already come sometime previous to Rev 6:17 as pointed out by biblical prophecy teachers.

Rev 6:17 *For the great day of His wrath (orgēn SG#3709) has come; and who shall be able to stand?*

If we look at the LXX verses surrounding the Ps 83 & Ezek 38-39 wars we see that the Lord is describing these as His Wrath (*orgēn* SG#3709).

Zephaniah 2:2-3 *Before the decree is issued, Or the day passes like chaff, Before the LORD's fierce anger (orgēn SG#3709 (LXX)) comes upon you, Before the day of the LORD's anger comes upon you! Seek the LORD, all you meek of the earth, Who has upheld His justice. Seek righteousness, seek humility. It may be that you will be hidden In the day of the LORD's anger (orgēs SG#3709 (LXX)).*

Ezekiel 38:19 *For in my jealousy and in the fire of my wrath (orgēn SG#3709(LXX)) have I spoken, Surely in that day there shall be a great shaking in the land of Israel.*

Thus these Ps 83 judgments are described by the Lord as **His judgments** on Israel's surrounding nations in Ezek 28 & the Lord's Fierce Anger/Wrath in Zep 2. The exact same Wrath (*orgēn SG#3709 (LXX)*) that the Bride is promised to be entirely kept from the time of and the place of or anything to do with them in 1 Thess 1:10, 1 Thess 5:9, & Rom 5:9 (Appx C).

These are not Satan's persecutions (which the Bride is subject to), these are declared to be the Lord's **judgments** (which the Bride is **not** subject to). Somehow the Lord must get the entire Bride out of the areas affected by these judgments, possibly by evacuation (worked in 70 AD) or extermination by Satan's sock puppets (in process now). The Rapture is also a great candidate.

After the Rapture, the Lord will again be dealing directly with and protecting Israel as seen in Psalm 83 (Is 17, Zep 2, Zach 9, Jer 49) and Ezek 38-39. Then the enforcing of a 7 year treaty will start the 70th week of Daniel (the Tribulation) in which the Lord will complete the 70 week prophecy of Dan 9: *"to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy."*

Sequence of Events

- 1) Rapture -- Bema Seat & Lamb's Wedding Occurs in Heaven during next few years
- 2) Ps 83 - ~1?? year gap or so
- 3) Then Ezek 38/39 – then ~3.5?? year gap – (Israel burns Gog's weapons for 7 years after Ezek 39 till Mid Trib Fleeing)
- 4) AC Enforces 7 year Treaty – Begins 7 year Tribulation (Dan. 9:27) -- Temple rebuilt
- 5) Mid 7 years – AC goes into the Temple and declares himself to be god - Desolations. Great Trib Begins. Matt 24:15-21
- 6) 1,260 days after Mid-Trib - Great Trib Over – *Sun/Moon Darkened, Sign in Heavens, Nations Morn,
- 7) Small indeterminate Gap - hours to few days -- Then 2nd Coming -- Matt 24:29-31

2nd Coming Sequence -

- 1) Christ at 2nd Coming enters into battle with forces of AC that are attacking Israel Remnant at Bozrah
- 2) The Battle continues From Bozrah to the Valley of Jehoshaphat
- 3) Jesus' Descent onto Mount Olives – Splits Mount East to West – River flows from Temple to Med Sea & Dead Sea
- 4) Jesus slays AC with His breath. AC (resurrected) & Prophet thrown alive into Lake of Fire
- 5) Then Resurrection of OT & Trib Saints, Cleansing of the Temple (by 1,290th day after Mid-Trib), Sheep/Goat Judgment - Surviving Trib Saints (sheep) enter MK as Blessed mortals at 1,335th day after Mid-Trib.

Millennial Kingdom

- 1) Beginning of the Millennial Kingdom with the Lamb's Wedding Feast.
- 2) Bride lives in 1,400 mile square (Floating??) Holy City Jerusalem (not New Jerusalem -- see Appdx N)
- 3) 1,000 years of Earth being ruled by Jesus from Jerusalem.
- 4) Satan Loosed for Short Time, Gathers an Army to attack Jerusalem, Fire from heaven kills them all.
- 5) Great White Throne -- Satan, Hades & everyone in it, along with Death itself are judged & thrown into Lake of Fire
- 6) New Heavens & New Earth & New Jerusalem -- Eternity

Definitions:

Tribulation – (term not actually specified in scripture)-but commonly 70th week of Dan 9 – 7 years long.

Great Tribulation – Last 3.5 years of Tribulation – Specified by Jesus in Matt 24:21 and Rev 7:14

Day of the Lord --- associated with the Lord's Wrath which is scripturally linked to starting some period of time before (and yet includes) the 7 year Tribulation - Jacob's Troubles – See Appendix I

For more details see:

<http://gracethrufaith.com/end-times-prophecy/psalm-83-preview-of-a-coming-attraction/#more-3209>

http://www.trackingbibleprophecy.com/middle_east_war.php *Above maps used by permission and attribution

Appendix A

Issue: Psalm 83 is Only a Prayer not a Prophecy

Completely agree that Psalm 83 describes a prayer by Asaph the Seer for judgment against a group of nations that are surrounding Israel, that hate her and that want Israel wiped off the map.

This prayer was prayed during a time when Israel was in a Covenant Relationship with the Lord. It was prayed so that the Lord would answer it at a time when they weren't in a Covenant Relationship. This prayer was prayed by a Seer which is another name for a Prophet.

Psalm 83 is therefore also a Prophecy and Zep 2, Zech 9, Ezek 35, and Jer 49 are the Specific Prophecies of the Lord's judgments against these Ps 83 nations in answer to Asaph's prayer.

Definite Prophecy in Ps 83

Asaph in Psalm 83 specifically **prophesizes** that the surrounding nations would *"For they have conspired together with one consent; They form a confederacy against You"*. This has never happened in the past that these nations ever all conspired together. 1948/49, 1967 were pretty close but not close enough for a final fulfillment of scripture but probably points to the beginning of the fulfillment of Ps 83. Asaph prayed/prophecied that these surrounding nations that would be planning on destroying Israel would in turn be destroyed themselves.

It looks like Asaph's prayer is pretty effective as per the following prophetic scriptures:

Edom= Southern Jordan.....(Psalms 83:6) --> Jer 49:18 ..no one shall remain
Moab= Central Jordan.....(Psalms 83:6) --> Zep 2:9 ..perpetual desolation
Ammon=Northern Jordan....(Psalms 83:7) --> Zep 2:9 ..perpetual desolation
Hagarenes=Eastern Jordan....(Psalms 83:6)
Philistines=Gaza.....(Psalms 83:7) --> Zep 2:5 .. no inhabitant
Gebal=northern Lebanon (Psalms 83:7) --> Zec 9:4 ..devoured by fire.
Tyre..=southern Lebanon (Psalms 83:7) --> Zec 9:4 ..devoured by fire.
Assur=northern Syria..... (Psalms 83:8) --> Zep 2:13 .. destroy Assyria
Assur=northern Iraq..... (Psalms 83:8) --> Zep 2:13 .. destroy Assyria
Amalek= the Sinai..... (Psalms 83:7) --> Jer 49:18 ..no one shall dwell in it.

The Fates of these Ps 83 nations include terms of "perpetual desolation" and "no inhabitant" are enough to take our breath away. From these terms we know none of these Fates have been fully executed in history so therefore they are still in the future.

We can see that there are definite corresponding Prophecies of destruction for each of the Nations and People groups that are mentioned in Psalm 83. Those that claim Asaph's Psalm 83 is not a Prophecy must also somehow prove that Zephaniah, Zechariah, and Jeremiah and their writings in scripture are not Prophecies either. A pretty tall drink of water indeed...

Therefore we see that Asaph's Psalm 83 is indeed a Prophecy as written by a Prophet (Seer) and has collaboration in additional Prophecies by the Prophets Jeremiah, Zephaniah, and Zechariah and nobody questions their credentials as prophets.

These verses describe a Ps 83 confederation of nations that have a different purpose than the Ezek 38 nations. The Ps 83 Nations want to destroy Israel so that it is "Remembered No More" (contrast with Ezek 38 Nations' purpose - "taking plunder"). This is right out of today's newspapers and right at our doorsteps. The War prayed for in Ps 83 (fulfilled in Zep 2, Zec 9, Joel 1, Amos 1, Obadiah 1) allows Israel to feel secure "Betach" (pre-req for Ezek 38) after defeating (at least temporarily) all the scornful nations that surround Israel (i.e. Ezek 28:25-26). Israel will also grow rich due to these conquests of neighboring nations (also pre-req for Ezek 38) as well as developing their oil/gas reserves. So it looks like the Ps 83 judgments must happen before and may even be part of the cause of the Ezek 38 invasion. Scripture also talks about Israel inhabiting the Land of their enemies. Isaiah 11:12-14; Zeph 2:9, Jer 49:2. This has not happened in the past and therefore is still in the future.

Appendix B Issue: Questions on Timing of Ps 83 & Ezek 38/39

Ps 83 & Zep 2 must occur before Ezek 38/39 rather than during the Tribulation

A) Ps 83 -- War or Prayer or Foreseeing

Ps 83 is a prayer by a Seer/Prophet that was prayed when Israel was in a Covenant Relationship with the Lord. It does lack a response from the Lord contained inside the Ps itself. However, the Lord definitely answered the prayer via Zep 2, Zech 9, Jer 49, Oba 1, Amos 1, Is 11, Ezek 25, et al. These prophecies of the destruction of Edom, Ammon, Moab, Philistia, Tyre, and Amalek have not been totally fulfilled in the past so therefore they must be still in our future. Therefore Ps 83 et al will be fulfilled in the future.

B) 'Betach'

Israel MUST be living in 'Betach' before Ezek 38 as Scripture states. Many offer discussions as to how Israel is already in "Betach" or discussions as to what must happen first before "Betach" is achieved, relying on their own understanding. We should let Scripture tell us when Israel will be in "Betach". Ezek 28 tells that Israel will live in 'Betach' after the Lord judges those surrounding nations that hate Israel (the Ps 83 nations). Therefore Ps 83 is Pre-Ezek 38

C) Possess East of Dead Sea

Ezek 39 describes defeated enemies being buried in Ammon/Moab which are declared to be Israel's territory. This seems to be due to [Zep 2:9/Is 11/Ps 83](#) where it is declared that Israel will possess that land. Therefore Ps 83 is Pre-Ezek 38

D) ZERO Ps 83 in Ezek 38

ZERO of the nations described in Ps 83 are involved with Ezek 38 war. It defies imagination that they would remain out of the action when the Islamic nations of Ezek 38 attack unless they have been judged and taken out first. Therefore Ps 83 is Pre-Ezek 38

E) AC would stifle Ps 83 et al 1st half Trib

The purpose of Ps 83 nations is to wipe Israel off the map. This is exactly what the AC would thwart while ENFORCING the covenant with Israel during the 1st half of the Trib. Therefore Ps 83 not in 1st half Trib.

F) ZERO ability to possess land 2nd half Trib

Israel will be too busy fleeing the AC in the 2nd half to deal with any of the Ps 83 issues or possess any land such as [Zep 2:9 & Jer 49:2](#) dictate. [Zep 2:9 & Isaiah 11:13-14](#) also talk about Israel plundering Edom, Moab, and Ammonites. Again ZERO ability to do this 2nd half Trib. Those unfulfilled prophecies MUST be fulfilled – Pre-AC. Therefore Ps 83 not in 2nd half Trib.

G) Must Build Temple

ZERO ability of Israel to build their Temple (which is required to be in operation by Mid-Trib) if any of the Islamic nations surrounding Israel were still in existence. Moreover Allah MUST be shown for the impotent god that he really is such that there would be ZERO jihadists that would be willing to blow themselves up for his cause. Ps 83 et al & Ezek 38 accomplish that. Therefore they both MUST be Pre-Trib.

H) Increasing Ring of Judgments

The pattern of judging those inner ring of nations (Ps 83 et al), then the next ring of nations (Ezek 38), then finally the entire world of nations (Trib) really follows the Lord's long suffering nature. He will begin judging with undisputable actions on a few nations and will expand the judgments as the world stubbornly refuses to acknowledge Him.

I) Arguments from silence:

There is absolutely ZERO mention of the Ruler of the World, AC, or a Temple in any of the Ps 83 et al & Ezek 38 verses.

There is also absolutely ZERO mention of any Seal/Bowl judgments falling on the rest of the world while the Ps 83 et al & Ezek 38 battles are going on. The Trib judgments are laid out and they fall on all the nations. In fact the nations are seen standing back and asking "Really???" in response to the Ezek 38 attack.

J) Islam's minions

The pattern of the Ps 83 et al nations attacking Israel first and being judged also really fits with the tactics of Islam in that Iran/Turkey will send in their minions first at Israel before they will risk their own necks in the Ezek 38/39 war. Therefore Ps 83 et al is Pre-Ezek 38.

Ps 83 & Zep 2 must occur before Ezek 38/39 (cont.)

Possess land East of Dead Sea

Ezek 39 – Gog/Magog buried In Israel East of the Dead Sea.

[Ezekiel 39:11](#) that God declared "a place there of graves IN ISRAEL" for Gog himself and the entire multitude of his military forces, and then specifically identified that location as the Valley of the Passengers (Travelers) which lies EAST OF THE DEAD SEA.

This valley is located on an east and west axis from the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan town of Dhiban. This land is definitely NOT in Israel today. It is part of Jordan. This area is in ancient Moab. Something must happen between now and Ezek 39 for Israel to possess this land.

[Zep 2:9](#) "Therefore, as I live," declares the LORD of hosts, The God of Israel, "Surely Moab will be like Sodom And the sons of Ammon like Gomorrah-- A place possessed by nettles and salt pits, And a perpetual desolation. The remnant of My people will plunder them And the remainder of My nation will inherit them."

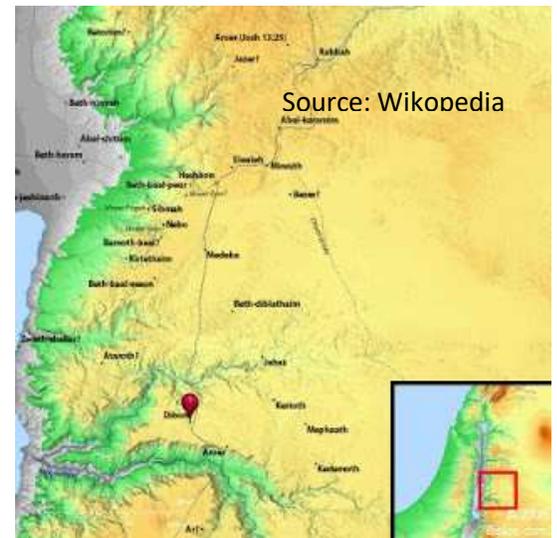
Zep 2:9 states that Israel will possess Moab after the Zep judgments occur and & Isaiah 11:13-14 as a 2nd witness agrees. As we have seen before these are the same judgments called for in Ps 83.

Isaiah 11:13-14: "Ephraim (House of Israel) will not be jealous of Judah (the Jews), nor Judah hostile toward Ephraim. They will swoop down on the slopes of Philistia (modern day Gaza) to the west; together they will plunder the people to the east. They will subdue Edom and Moab, and the Ammonites (modern day Jordan) will be subject to them."

Therefore Ps 83 & Zep 2 & Isa 11:13-14 MUST occur before Ezek 38/39.

A final timing argument concerning "Psalm 83 occurs during the final seven-year tribulation period" theory. One of my favorite eschatologists, Dr. Arnold Fruchtenbaum, once held this view as expressed in his [Footsteps of the Messiah](#) book.P491 (1982-2004) Dr. Fruchtenbaum, who does believe that Psalm 83 is a prophecy, has reconsidered this view in 2009 for the general reasons that are explained in Bill Salus' article called "[Is Psalm 83 a Great Tribulation Event.](#)"

<http://prophecydepot.blogspot.com/2009/12/is-psalm-83-great-tribulation-event.html> Dr. Fruchtenbaum has stated



that he believes that the great majority of the judgments against the Ps 83 nations MUST occur Before the Tribulation. Dr F also teaches that Ezek 38/39 must occur at least 3.5 years BEFORE the Tribulation. Since Ps 83 et al occur before Ezek 38/39, that would mean Ps 83 would be more than several years before the Tribulation.

Bill Salus asked Dr Fruchtenbaum a multi-layered question: First, the purpose of the false covenant is to guarantee Israel's military security and, therefore, the I.D.F. will not likely be very active during the first three and one-half years of the Tribulation period. Thus when the "Abomination of Desolation"[iv] occurs at the midpoint of the Trib period, the I.D.F. won't be ready to "tackle it". Israel is dwelling in a condition of peace guaranteed by the false covenant with the Antichrist. Second, the Jews will be fleeing from the Antichrist rampage during the second three and one-half years of the "Great Tribulation" and thus they won't likely be stopping in mid-flight to conquer the Psalm 83 confederates. Therefore, I pointedly asked him, then how can Psalm 83 find final fulfillment during the seven year Tribulation period? He said, "That's why I believe the majority of Psalm 83 occurs Pre-Trib; before the actual tribulation".

Again, this above quote is from an interview with Dr Fruchtenbaum in Dec 2009 and is a change of teaching from his book "Footsteps of the Messiah" as revised in 2004 wherein he states on P490-491 -- "While such a conspiracy of the Arab nations (Ps 83) has been present since 1948, and was evident more so during and after the Six Day War, it is to have its full force in the Great Tribulation."

Appendix C No Wrath for Bride – Its a Promise

The Bride of Christ is promised to escape entirely the time and place of the Lord's wrath/fierce anger (*orgēn SG#3709*) which are part of His judgments. All of the Bride's judgments were nailed to the cross. Here are those Promises:

1 Thess 1:10 ... *even Jesus, who delivered* (rhoumai SG#4506) *us from* (ek SG# 1537) *the wrath* (*orgēn SG#3709*) *to come.*
1 Thess 5:9 *For God hath not appointed us to wrath* (*orgēn SG#3709*), *but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,*
Rom 5:9 *being now justified by His blood, we shall be saved from* (apo SG# 575) *wrath* (*orgēn SG#3709*) *through Him.*

rhoumai (SG# 4506) --- to draw to oneself - to draw or rescue a person *to and for the deliverer.*

ek (SG# 1537) Out of but towards something --- i.e. Out of wrath and towards Himself.

apo (SG# 575) Means separation of Place & Time – i.e. taken out of the time and place of the wrath.

orgēn (SG#3709) – Wrath or Fierce Anger

(SG# = Strong's Greek word Number)

Scripture therefore promises that the **entire** Bride will be kept **entirely** from the Time or Place of the Lord's Wrath. These Wrath/Judgments were all taken care of at the cross for the Bride. This Wrath is entirely different than Satan's persecutions which the Bride is subject to. There are several examples in scripture that the Lord removed the Righteous entirely (by various methods) from an area before His Wrath fell on that area. The Wrath in those above scriptural promises is exactly the same Wrath (*orgēn SG#3709*) that is declared to have already come some point before the time of the Tribulation of Rev 6:17 .

Rev 6:17 *For the great day of His wrath* (*orgēn SG#3709*) *has come***; *and who shall be able to stand?*

**Aorist Indicative verb tense -meaning that it describes a punctiliar act (that is to say a single act at an undetermined point in time past that does not need to be repeated because its consequence continues on into the present and the future). i.e. The Lord's Wrath has come at some time before Rev 6:17 and the Wrath still continuing on.

Lord's Wrath is therefore declared to already have come upon the earth before this verse; therefore Zero of the Bride can be on earth when Rev 6:17 happens. The Rapture therefore has already happened sometime before Rev 6 and definitely before the Lord's Wrath falls.

1 Thess 4:16-17 & 1 Cor 15:51-53 talks about the actual Rapture event. It is from these verses that the Rapture gets the name from the Latin term for "caught up" – rapturo. .

1 Thess 4:16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up (rapturo Latin) together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord.

1 Cor 15:51 Behold, I tell you a mystery; we will not all sleep, but we will all be changed, 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. 53 For this perishable must put on the imperishable, and this mortal must put on immortality.

Act 15:14-17 Describe that the Lord will come take (lambanó) the Church from among the Gentles (Rapture) and then afterwards return to earth a 2nd time and rebuild David's Kingdom Israel so that the whole world will seek the Lord during the Millennial Kingdom. So these verses also layout the same timeline sequence. Lambanó is the same root word used in John 14:3 where after preparing a "Place for us in His Father's House" Jesus returns and takes us with Him – The Rapture.

Act 15:14-17 "Simeon has related how God first concerned Himself about taking (SG#2983 lambanó) from among the Gentiles a people (Rapture) for His name.15 "With this the words of the Prophets agree, just as it is written,16 'AFTER THESE THINGS I will return, AND I WILL REBUILD THE TABERNACLE OF DAVID WHICH HAS FALLEN, AND I WILL REBUILD ITS RUINS, AND I WILL RESTORE IT, 17 SO THAT THE REST OF MANKIND MAY SEEK THE LORD, AND ALL THE GENTILES WHO ARE CALLED BY MY NAME,'

Looking at the words of Jesus in John 14:3 "if I go ... I will return and take you with me" and the words of Jesus' half brother in Acts 15 we see → Rapture, then 2nd Coming, then Restoring Israel for the Millennium. (Notice James states that there will be men still seeking to know the Lord during the Millennium. Those are the children born to the Believing Mortals that survive the Tribulation (The Sheep of the Sheep/Goat Judgment) and enter into the Millennium and repopulate the World.)

Appendix D Interlude between Rapture and Tribulation

Dr Fruchtenbaum, Dr Ice, Ron Rhode "Northern Storm Rising", Dr. Reagan, as well as other biblical scholars teach that there is an interlude of at least 3.5 years between the end of Ezek 38/39 and the beginning of the Trib due to the 7 mo cleanup & 7 year weapons burning required by Ezek 39 which would be impossible while fleeing from the Anti-Christ during the 2nd Half of the 7 year Tribulation.



Possible Sequence of Events:

- A)** Rapture before the Wrath* of Jer 49, & Zep 2 -- therefore Rapture before Ps 83 events. It is always Imminent.
- B)** Jer 49:34-39 Wrath* against western Iran - Elam
37I will shatter Elam before their foes, before those who want to kill them;
 I will bring disaster on them, even my fierce anger (wrath orgēn SG#3709 (LXX)) ,”
- C)** Ps 83, Zep 2, Is 17 Wrath* against Israel's scornful neighbors
 INTERLUDE few months to few years for Israel to be dwelling safely (Betach) and grown wealthy indicated by Ez 38.
- D)** Ez 38, 39 Wrath* against Magog, Persia et al
- E)** INTERLUDE Dr Fruchtenbaum talks about 7 mo + 3.5 years due to Ezek 38/39 clean up & 7 years of weapons burning which need to end when Israel flees the Anti Christ at mid-tribulation at the Abomination of Desolation event.
- F)** Enforcing of Covenant by the Anti-Christ -- Tribulation begins – Daniel’s 70th Week
 INTERLUDE of about 3.5 years – Temple is built in Israel and daily sacrifices begin during this period.
- G)** Mid –Trib Anti-Christ sets up Abomination that causes Desolation in the Holy Place of the Temple in Israel.
 Jews flee for Bozrah/Petra to escape the Anti-Christ
- H)** 1260 days later Great Trib ends – then sequence of events of Matt 24:30 culminating with 2nd Coming which No one knows the Day nor Hour (because no one knows how long events of Matt 24:30 will take).

*The Lord must remove His Bride before He unleashes His Wrath or Fierce Anger or Judgments that are talked about in Jer 49, Zep 2, Ezek 39 et al. (See App. C)

Some believe that the only Wrath that the Bride is promised to avoid is “ONLY” a “World Wide” Wrath. But scripture does not say that in 1 Thess 1:10, 1 Thess 5:9 or Rom 5:9. It just states that the Bride will be kept from the time and place of the Lord’s Wrath. Really can’t believe that the Lord would subject part of the Bride to His Wrath -- especially since it goes against the plain reading of scripture. The World Wide statement is in Rev 3:10 but that only refers to the World Wide Hour of Testing that will come upon the whole earth. The Lord’s Promises of “No Wrath for the Bride Ever-Zero-Nada-Zilch” still stand. Where ever you see the Lord’s Wrath falling on an area in scripture you can be certain that there are NO Christians in that area. Evacuation, Extermination by satan’s sock puppets (Persecution), or Rapture are all candidates for the method that the Bride is totally missing from that area where His Wrath strikes. (And there is NO Partial Rapture.)

Appendix E Ezek 28 - Pre, Mid, or Post Trib???

Issue: Some say Ezek 28 only deals with the Trib or the MK period.

They state that Israel will ONLY live in “Betach” AFTER the Tribulation Judgments have fallen on ALL the nations of the world.

But Ezek 28 is not talking about when “all Israel will be saved” (i.e. the MK) – it is talking about when they are gathered from all the nations that they have been scattered. It is talking about those surrounding hating nations being destroyed. So those that hold the Ezek 28 occurs in the MK views are way off here.

Ezek 28:25 is talking about 1948 thru today – the current gathering. The Lord will be Proved Holy by what the Lord does in regards to Israel i.e. destroy their neighbors that hate them. They will then live in Betach or “Dwelling Safely” (according to the Lord’s own Word in Ezek 28) AFTER the Lord Himself judges those Hating/Surrounding nations. And yes, this Betach or safety/security will be temporary as the Ezek 38/39 invasion is right around the corner from Ezek 28. Also notice that Ezek 28 makes a point that the Lord is judging the nations that surround Israel. This is NOT the World Wide judgments that fall on ALL the nations that despise Israel. That comes later (at least 7 to 11 years after Ezek 38).

Dr. Fruchtenbaum states that “Betach” is found in Jer 49:31 (nestled between the prophecies against Damascus and the destruction of Elam – Western Iran) & Zep 2:15 (Destruction of Nineveh (currently the area of Mosul, Iraq) who was also living in Betach) Dr Fruchtenbaum states that “Betach” or “Dwelling Safely” is not necessarily only talking about MK in “Dr. Arnold Fruchtenbaum- The Sequence of Pretribulation Events” Pre-Trib-Events.pdf page 28.

A second objection, and the one most commonly used, is that the “dwelling safely” or “securely” as used in the Old Testament always refers to millennial peace and security, something that Israel will not receive before the Tribulation. However, this is an overstatement. While it is true that the term “dwell securely” is used of life in the Millennium, this is true only of the minority of cases and not at all true of the majority. A list of references where this is not true includes: Leviticus 25:18-19; Deuteronomy 12:10; I Samuel 12:11; I Kings 4:25; Psalm 4:8; 16:9; Proverbs 1:33; 3:23, 29; Isaiah 47:8; Jeremiah 49:31; and Zephaniah 2:15. The Jeremiah reference is particularly significant since it uses the very same phrases that are found in Ezekiel 38:11. This phrase is used more in non-millennial contexts than in millennial ones.

Dr. Fruchtenbaum also states that the “Latter Days” period can include the closing days of the Church Age

So, it really looks like scripture states that Israel will be able to live in “Betach”, a requirement for Ezek 38, AFTER the Lord judges the scornful nations that surround Israel. This prophecy is stated explicitly in Ezek 28 and fulfilled in a prophecy prayer of Asaph → Ps 83.

Psalm 83 describes a prayer by Asaph the Seer for judgment against a group of nations that are surrounding Israel, that hate her and that want Israel wiped off the map. This prayer was prayed during a time when Israel was in a Covenant Relationship with the Lord. It was prayed so that the Lord would answer it at a time when they weren’t in a Covenant Relationship. Zep 2, Zec 9, Joel 1, Amos 1, and Obadiah 1 describe the Lord’s judgments against these Ps 83 nations in answer to Asaph’s prayer. These judgments then lead to Israel living in “betach” – at least for a while until the Ezek 38 nations begin their movements.

Appendix F Why Study Prophecy? Well... for one thing -- It is commanded by the Lord. --

Understanding Prophecy is a command from the Lord. 1 Thess 5:20 -- *do not despise prophetic utterances.*

In Luke 19:44 the Lord declared: *They will dash you to the ground, you and the children within your walls. They will not leave one stone on another, because you did not recognize the time of God's coming to you*

The Lord was angry at and disappointed in Israel for NOT recognizing, from Prophecy (Dan 9) that had been given to them, that this (Palm Sunday) was the Prophesied Day of their Messiah coming to them AND that their city would be destroyed because of that failure..

A few days later, Jesus extended the responsibility to understand prophecy to the Church. We are commanded in Matt 24:15-31 and Mark 13:14 -"let the reader understand" – another command to understand the prophecy that the Lord was giving in relation to the coming Temple, and the ac desecrating it and how it is tied in with the prophecies given to Daniel especially in Dan 9.

In those verses, the Lord declared that 1) Daniel himself had written those verses and 2) Daniel was a True Prophet and 3) those verses were a Prophecy for future times yet to come i.e. Someday people in Israel will be able to see someone standing in the Holy Place of the Temple and declare himself to be god and that 3.5 years of the greatest tribulation that the world has ever seen will then follow. It also says that they will be able to see this ac standing in the Holy Place while on their roof tops and while they are in their fields.

One needs to make sure that their view of End Times agrees with the words of Jesus. If it doesn't then they need to adjust their views until they do agree. The Lord takes His Word VERY seriously indeed.

The Lord Himself states that they should have recognized His 1st Coming from the 300 prophecies of His 1st Coming that were given to them. Should the 600 prophecies of His 2nd Coming be allegorized into insignificance???? Is that safe?

The religious leaders knew where the Messiah was to be born and even directed those Magi to Bethlehem. But they themselves did not even bother to check it out for themselves.

The leaders of Israel had blinded themselves to these prophecies and therefore had not idea what Prophetic Time it was. AND the Lord held them responsible for not knowing scripture – "*you did not recognize the time of God's coming to you*".

If we also blind ourselves to the almost 600 prophecies of His 2nd Coming, we also will not know what Prophetic Time it is. The Lord in Matt 24:15 commanded that they (and we) should "know and understand" what the Prophet Daniel wrote regarding the Abomination that causes Desolation in Daniel Chapter 9. This is the key to understanding all end times prophecies. Sir Robert Anderson in his book *The Coming Prince*, published back in the 1880's, showed that the Daniel 9 prophecy regarding the 70 Weeks foretold the exact day that the Lord would enter into Jerusalem declaring Himself to be the Messiah. Daniel 9 also talks about the final 7 year period called the Tribulation during which the Anti Christ will assume control of the world governments and present himself in the rebuilt Jewish Temple as god.

Absolutely -- We are not to know the events that are purposely hidden – i.e. the Day or Hour of His 2nd Coming – but He has given us many, many prophecies and commanded us to understand them – i.e. Matt 4:15:16 and Mark 13:14 and Dan 9. And there are some prophecies that He has specifically hidden and has specifically told us which ones they are.

However - Those that choose to ignore those nearly 600 prophecies of His 2nd Coming risk at least a couple of things.

1) They risk not being eligible for the Crown of Righteousness in 2 Tim 4:8, → loving and anticipating the return of Jesus

2) They also risk working against the Plans of the Lord. They risk not seeing that the establishment of Israel in their promised land is part of His Plan. Those that join the Boycott or work against Israel's existence are working against the Lord's Plans.

To be perfectly clear --- Understanding End Times Prophecy is NOT a salvation issue. But many risk working against the Lord's purposes by ignoring what He has told them He is going to do.

Many hold to the Inerrancy of Scripture yet do not hold to a literal physical 1,000 year reign of Christ on the earth. Many allegorize scripture in all the places that it talks about this Millennial Kingdom as an entirely spiritual kingdom rather than a

spiritual kingdom now and a future physical kingdom with Christ ruling from His throne in Israel as the literal reading of the scripture teaches.

These that hold these allegorical views must come to an understanding (as ordered by the Lord Himself) as to what the Lord meant when He said thru scripture that those in Judea will see the Anti-Christ will stand in the Temple (Matt 24:15) and proclaim himself to be god (2 Thes 2:4) that they are to flee from their homes and fields extremely quickly for there shall be the worst distress to fall since the beginning of time or will ever happen again. Daniel is declared a prophet by Jesus and in Dan 9: Some say that the Abomination of Desolation has already occurred. General Titus did enter the burning temple in 70 AD to look around a bit --- but he hardly declared himself to be god. It was way too hot and no one on the rooftops or in the field saw it. So we know this "Walk in/Look around" event is not the event that Jesus was talking about in Matt 24. Also 2 Thess 2:4 states that the Anti-Christ will actually sit in the Temple and proclaim himself to be god. This absolutely confirms that it won't be merely a Roman flag with an image on it posted on a Temple outer wall (as some insist) but that it will be a real person sitting in the real Jewish Temple that causes the Abomination/Desolation. (Foreshadowed by 1 Macc 1:54) Rev 11:1 talks about this rebuilt Temple in Jerusalem. Rev 13:14-16 also talks of an Image that will be set up that people will be forced to worship on the pain of death.

Inerrancy is Fundamental

<https://answersingenesis.org/is-the-bible-true/the-rise-and-fall-of-inerrancy-in-the-american-fundamentalism/>

The doctrine of inerrancy continues to be a hot topic among conservative Christians and skeptics today. It is rather common to hear the claim that inerrancy is a somewhat modern invention.³⁵ Skeptics charge that the Princeton scholar B. B. Warfield created this doctrine to slow the growth of the attacks on Scripture made by liberals and higher critics. This claim is demonstrably false. Long before the rise of the fundamentalist movement, Christian scholars and pastors held to the inerrancy of Scripture, but did not use the terminology because it was rarely alleged that Scripture contained errors. In the fourth century Augustine clearly delineated his position on the inerrancy of at least the Gospel accounts.

Therefore, when those disciples have written matters which He declared and spoke to them, it ought not by any means to be said that He has written nothing Himself; since the truth is, that His members have accomplished only what they became acquainted with by the repeated statements of the Head. For all that He was minded to give for our perusal on the subject of His own doings and sayings, He commanded to be written by those disciples, whom He thus used as if they were His own hands.³⁶

There can be little question about how Augustine viewed the remaining books of the Bible. Throughout his book, *The City of God*, he repeatedly referred to Scripture as the words of God, infallible Scripture, divine revelation, Holy Scripture, God's Word, divine oracles, and oracles of God.³⁷

Thomas Aquinas, the greatest theologian of the medieval period also minced no words in expressing his view on the inerrancy of Scripture. In his magnum opus, *Summa Theologica*, he wrote, "*I firmly believe that none of their authors have erred in composing them*"³⁸ and that "*nothing false can underlie the literal sense of Scripture.*"³⁹ In his commentary on Job, Aquinas stated, "*It is heretical to say that any falsehood whatsoever is contained either in the gospels or in any canonical Scripture.*"⁴⁰

John Calvin also expressed complete trust in the inerrancy of Scripture. He wrote, "*Our true wisdom is to embrace with meek docility, and without reservation, whatever the Holy Scriptures have delivered.*"⁴¹ He added, "*So long as your mind entertains any misgivings as to the certainty of the word, its authority will be weak and dubious, or rather it will have no authority at all.*"⁴²

Martin Luther adamantly stood on the inerrancy of Scripture and believed that one had to approach the Bible in an all-or-nothing fashion.

And whoever is so bold that he ventures to accuse God of fraud and deception *in a single word* and does so willfully again and again after he has been warned and instructed once or twice will likewise certainly venture to accuse God of fraud and deception in all His words. [Therefore,] it is true absolutely and without exception, *that everything is believed or nothing is believed.* The Holy Ghost does not suffer Himself to be separated or divided so that He should teach and cause to be believed one doctrine rightly and another falsely⁴³ (italics in original).

Yes, on one hand Martin understood the inerrancy of Scripture but on the other hand he still held on to the Amillennial teachings of Origen (later declared a heretic by RCC) and others whose "scriptural discoveries" were

accepted by the RCC (pushed by Constantine and his bishops) even though it is acknowledged that was never a teaching of the Apostles. Really don't know how Martin reconciled that in his own mind. The 300 prophecies of the 1st Coming were fulfilled literally yet the 600 prophecies of the 2nd Coming are to be entirely Spiritualized????

As the old saying goes:

Many carry a large amount of baggage on their journey from Rome to Wittenberg – even Martin.

Excerpted from “Prophecy for Today” – J. Dwight Pentecost (1961).

The first great result of the study of prophecy is that the prophetic Scriptures prove to us the authority of the entire Word of God. The Bible is different from every other religious book. There is no other book upon which a religion has been founded which includes prophecy within it.

These books upon which false religions or false cults are founded seek to interpret the past or the present, but they are entirely silent upon the future. And yet the Word of God, from the opening chapters of Genesis right through the closing chapters of the Book of Revelation, contain countless prophecies.

These revelations of coming events are authentications of the fact that the Bible is of divine origin and therefore both trustworthy and true. The test of the truth of prophecy is always its fulfillment and if that which was prophesied came to pass, we would know that the prophecy was divinely inspired. There is no greater test for proof of the inspiration, validity, authority and trustworthiness of the Bible than the proof of fulfilled prophecy. This could be illustrated briefly by some of the prophecies concerning the coming of Christ.

Hundreds of years before He was born, the Old Testament told us the time of His birth in Daniel 9; the fact of the virgin birth in Isaiah 7; the place of His birth in Micah 5, the intimate details of His life and death in Psalm 22 and Isaiah 53; the fact of His resurrection in Psalm 16. One mathematician has figured out, considering only the prophecies concerning the first coming of Christ, that there is only one chance in 87 plus 93 zeros that the Bible could be right on the basis of guess alone.

God has revealed prophecy and then fulfilled some of the prophecies to prove that Scripture is of divine origin, is trustworthy, and is to be studied with confidence. After all, all that we know of God is that which is recorded for us in this Word. If it is not trustworthy, we have no revelation at all. But fulfilled prophecy proves to us that a God who can tell us what is yet in the future is a God who is to be trusted.

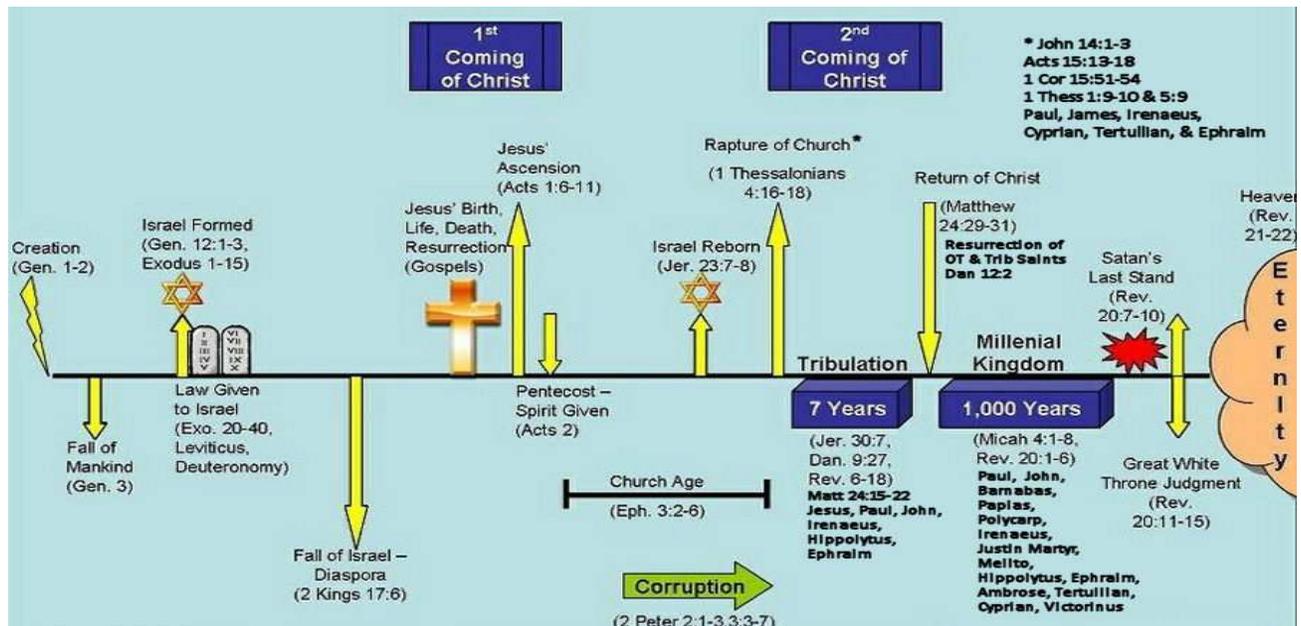
Why study prophecy?

Because it is in the Bible. It is about 1/3 of scripture.

Jesus specifically told us to spend the necessary effort to understand it.

The better question to ask is → Why not study prophecy?

Appendix G Early Church Fathers taught about the Rapture, Tribulation, and the 1,000 year Reign of Christ on the earth from Jerusalem.



The salient features of Futurism are all found in the Early Church Father's writings.

- (1) The Rapture of the Church, pre-millennial and pre-tribulation.
- (2) The rule of Anti-Christ.
- (3) The seven-year (week) period tribulation, and the 2nd half of the week.
- (4) The revival of Israel.
- (5) The 2nd Coming of the Lord
- (6) 1,000 year reign of Christ and the saints.
- (7) Rebuilt Temple in Jerusalem
- (8) Resurrection of OT & Trib Saints before Millennial Kingdom

The reference numbers in the text below refer to the topics listed above.

Papias, Bishop of Hierapolis (80-163 AD). A "hearer of Apostle John" and the other Apostles: In "Exposition of the Oracles of the Lord" Fragments 4 and 5, describes in lyrical terms the fertility of the millennial times, and in Fragment 6 affirms his belief that "there will be a millennium(6) after the resurrection of the dead(8) when the personal reign of Christ will be established on the earth. (6)" <http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/papias.html>

Irenaeus (Bishop of Lyons 200 AD), was a friend of Polycarp, who in turn was a disciple of the Apostle John. There were a lot of heresies that were creeping into the Church. He wrote an authoritative set of books *Against Heresies* (c. 180) and it contains;

Against Heresies (Book 5 Chap 30:4) "But when this Antichrist (2) shall have devastated all things in this world, he will reign for three years and six months (3), and sit in the temple at Jerusalem (7); and then the Lord will come from heaven in the clouds (5), in the glory of the Father, sending this man and those who follow him into the lake of fire; but bringing in for the righteous the times of the kingdom(6), that is, the rest, the hallowed seventh day(6); and restoring to Abraham the promised inheritance, in which kingdom the Lord declared, that "many coming from the east and from the west should sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.(6 & 8)"

Against Heresies (Book 5 Chap 35:1): "For all these other passages are unquestionably spoken of a Resurrection of the just(8), which happeneth after the coming of Antichrist(2) and the perdition of all the nations subsisting under him(2) : in which the just shall reign upon earth(6), growing by their sight of the Lord, and by Him shall be accustomed to comprehend the glory of God the Father." <http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/irenaeus-book5.html>

Tertullian (120-225 AD) "But we do confess that a kingdom is promised to us upon the earth(6), although before heaven, only in another state of existence; inasmuch as it will be after the resurrection(8) for a thousand years in the divinely-built city of Jerusalem(6), 'letdown from heaven,' which the apostle also calls 'our mother from above;' and, while declaring that our citizenship is in heaven, he predicts of it that it is really a city in heaven. This both Ezekiel (4) [Ezek Chap 40-48] had knowledge of and the Apostle John beheld." <http://www.ccel.org/ccel/schaff/anf03.v.iv.iv.xxiv.html>

Justin Martyr, living in the second century AD., was a pronounced Pre-millennialist.

"But I, and whoever are on all points right minded Christians, know that there will be a resurrection of the dead(8) and a thousand years in Jerusalem(6), which will then be built, adorned and enlarged, as the prophets, Ezekiel and Isaiah(4) and others, declare." And further, a man named John, one of the Apostles, predicted by a revelation that was made to him that those who believed in our Christ would spend 1,000 years in Jerusalem.(6)" <http://www.biblestudytools.com/commentaries/revelation/related-topics/the-millennial-kingdom-in-the-early-church.html>

Ephraim The Syrian (306 AD – 373 AD) Excerpts from Sermon Entitled "On the Last Times, the Antichrist, and the End of the World"

.Therefore, when he receives the kingdom, he orders the temple of God to be rebuilt for himself, which is in Jerusalem(4) ; who, after coming into it, he shall sit as God and order that he be adored by all nations(2) . . then all people from everywhere shall flock together to him at the city of Jerusalem, and the holy city shall be trampled on by the nations for forty-two months just as the holy apostle says in the Apocalypse, which becomes three and a half years, 1260 days(3).

..... and there will be a Great Tribulation, as there has not been, since people began to be upon the earth .

.....And when the three and a half years have been completed, the time of the Antichrist(2 & 3), through which he will have seduced the world, after the resurrection of the two prophets, in the hour which the world does not know, and on the day which the enemy or son of perdition does not know, will come the sign of the Son of Man, and coming forward the Lord shall appear with great power and much majesty, with the sign of the word of salvation going before him, and also even with all the powers of the heavens with the whole chorus of the saints Then Christ shall come (5) and the enemy shall be thrown into confusion, and the Lord shall destroy him by the Spirit of his mouth(5). And he shall be bound and shall be plunged into the abyss of everlasting fire alive with his father Satan; and all people, who do his wishes, shall perish with him forever; but the righteous ones shall inherit everlasting life with the Lord for ever and ever."

Pre-Tribulation Rapture was taught by:

Irenaeus (130 A.D. – 202 AD) *Against Heresies* (Book 5 Chap 29:1):

And therefore, when in the end the Church shall be suddenly caught up from this(1), it is said, "There shall be tribulation such as has not been since the beginning, neither shall be.

Cyprian (200 AD – 258 AD) *Treatises of Cyprian*

"We who see that terrible things have begun, and know that still more terrible things are imminent, may regard it as the greatest advantage to depart from it as quickly as possible. Do you not give God thanks, do you not congratulate yourself, **that by an early departure you are taken away, and delivered from the shipwrecks and disasters that are imminent?(1)** Let us greet the day which assigns each of us to his own home, **which snatches us hence(1)**, and sets us free from the snares of the world and restores us to paradise and the kingdom."

Ephraim The Syrian (306 373 AD) Sermon Entitled "On the Last Times, the Antichrist, and the End of the World"

For all the **saints and elect of God are gathered, prior to the tribulation(1)** that is to come, and are taken to the Lord lest they see the confusion that is to overwhelm the world because of our sins.

The Early Church fathers' such as Barnabas (ca.100-105), Papias (ca. 60-130), Justin Martyr (110-195), Irenaeus (120-202), Tertullian (145-220), Hippolytus (ca. 185-236), Cyprian (200-250), and Lactantius (260-330) wrote on the imminent return of Jesus Christ for the Church, which is a central argument for the Pre-Tribulation Rapture view.

Summary of Early Church Fathers:

Thus, even though Rapture/Millennialism is now a position condemned by Main Line Denominational Churches, people they venerate as "Saints" including the Apostle John (late 1st century), [Papias](#) (early 2nd century), Justin Martyr (middle 2nd century), [Melito](#) (middle 2nd century), Irenaeus (late 2nd century), Hippolytus (early 3rd century), and Ambrose (4th century) all believed and taught a literal millennial reign of the Lord on the earth. A Rapture of Christians followed by a 7 year Tribulation was also taught by Early Church Fathers (ECF's) who have been designated as Saints.

It appears that the first to object to the teaching were those such as [Marcion](#) and various Gnostics later branded as heretics/apostates (rightly so) by both the [Roman Catholic](#) and [Eastern Orthodox](#) churches. But sadly, later (around the end of the fourth/early fifth century) many in the Greco-Roman Churches adopted their anti-millennialist view.

Did The Early Church Teach Millenarianism? <http://www.cogwriter.com/millenarianism.htm>

These writings of these ECF's are not the same as scripture by any means. They are presented here only to illustrate that the concepts of Rapture, Tribulation, and Millennial Kingdom were first understood by these ECF's and not a modern invention like some would like you to believe.

Scripture – The Real Meat

Jesus pointed out the key to all End-Times prophecy in Matt 24:15-28:

Matt 24:15 "When you therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoever reads, let him understand:)"

Matt 24:21 "For then there will be a great tribulation, such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever will."

Jesus makes it plain that the Abomination/Desolation is still in the future and happens immediately before the Great Tribulation occurs (Mid Tribulation = Middle of 70th week of Daniel). The Lord also instructs those that read this to understand it – to put some time into the study of this. He takes this seriously and wants us to do likewise. It is right after these verses that the Lord talks about His 2nd Coming so again, it is a very serious subject.

The Abomination/Desolation that Jesus spoke of points directly to Daniel 9:24:

Dan 9:24 Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy. 25 Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times. 26 And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off (executed), but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined. 27 And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.

The word "weeks" to a Jewish reader is like the word "decade" to a Western reader. It means 7 years (rather than 10 years that decade means). So as foretold by Prophet Daniel from the time that the edict went out to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem until the Messiah would come would be 62+7 (69) weeks of years or 483 years. Sir Robert Anderson in the 1890's, a chief of Scotland Yards, documented (The Coming Prince) that it was exactly 483 biblical years (360 days/biblical year) between the Decree of King Artaxerxes given to Nehemiah (to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem) until Palm Sunday when Jesus rode into Jerusalem through the Eastern (Golden) Gate on a donkey declaring Himself to be King (fulfilling Zech 9:9). (Sir Robert Anderson was later knighted by Queen Victoria.) Jesus apparently held the Jews accountable in Luke 19 for knowing this prophecy. This was their Day when the Kingdom was being offered to them. We have it on excellent authority that the stones themselves would have cried out if the people had been silent.

Luke 19:41 When He approached Jerusalem, He saw the city and wept over it, 42 saying, "If you had known in this day, even you, the things which make for peace! But now they have been hidden from your eyes. 43 "For the days will come upon you when your enemies will throw up a barricade against you, and surround you and hem you in on every side, 44 and they will level you to the ground and your children within you, and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not recognize the time of your visitation."

The Lord apparently takes prophecy seriously. The generation that saw Jesus on the donkey would also see Jerusalem destroyed because they did not recognize the “Time of Your Visitation” as given to Daniel. Daniel also foretold that the Messiah would be “cut off” - the Hebrew word means “executed in making a covenant” - which happened at the cross.

2 Thess 2:4 states that the Anti-Christ will actually sit in the Temple and proclaim himself to be god. This absolutely confirms that it won't be merely a Roman flag with an image on it posted on a Temple outer wall (as some insist) but that it will be a real person sitting in the real Jewish Temple that causes the Abomination/Desolation. (Foreshadowed by 1 Macc 1:54) Rev 11:1 talks about this rebuilt Temple in Jerusalem. Rev 13:14-16 also talks of an Image that will be set up that people will be forced to worship on the pain of death.



Scripture declares that because Israel rejected their Messiah, Israel has been temporarily set aside for a period of time while the Lord draws out a Bride for His Son (see below Acts 15:13-18). After drawing out His Bride, He will then return and rebuild David's fallen house/kingdom such that Israel will rule during the Millennium. Romans 11:25-27 talks about this temporary setting aside which will end “that blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles be come in.” The Church Age thus interrupts the 70 Weeks that Israel was given back in Daniel 9. 69 weeks of years exactly had already occurred up until Palm Sunday. Daniel's 70th Week is still in the future. The Church Age began at Pentecost and will end at the Rapture of the Church. There looks to be a period of time between the Rapture and the Covenant Enforced i.e. beginning of the 70th Week of Daniel (7 year Tribulation). The Bride's blessings will be even greater than Israel's (which will be huge blessings – i.e. ruling the world) during the Millennium.

No Wrath for Bride – It's a Promise

The Bride of Christ is promised to entirely escape the time and place of the Lord's wrath/fierce anger (*orgēn* SG#3709) which are His judgments. All of the Bride's judgments were nailed to the cross. Here are those Scriptural Promises:

1 Thess 1:10 ... *even Jesus, who delivered* (rhōmai SG#4506) *us from* (ek SG# 1537) *the wrath* (*orgēn* SG#3709) *to come.*
 1 Thess 5:9 *For God hath not appointed us to wrath* (*orgēn* SG#3709), *but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,*
[Rom 5:9](#) *being now justified by His blood, we shall be saved from* (apo SG# 575) *wrath* (*orgēn* SG#3709) *through Him.*

rhōmai (SG# 4506) --- to draw to oneself - to draw or rescue a person *to and for the deliverer.*

ek (SG# 1537) Out of but towards something --- i.e. Out of wrath and towards Himself.

apo (SG# 575) Means separation of Place & Time – i.e. taken out of the time and place of the wrath.

orgēn (SG#3709) – Wrath or Fierce Anger

Scripture therefore promises that the Bride will be kept entirely from the Time or Place of the Lord's Wrath. These Wrath/Judgments were all taken care of at the cross for the Bride. This Wrath is entirely different than Satan's persecutions which the Bride is subject to. There are several examples in scripture that the Lord removed the Righteous entirely from an area before His Wrath fell on that area. The Wrath in those above scriptural promises is exactly the same Wrath (*orgēn* SG#3709) that is declared to have already come some point before the time of [Rev 6:17](#) (which is towards the beginning of the Tribulation).

[Rev 6:17](#) *For the great day of His wrath* (*orgēn* SG#3709) *has come***; *and who shall be able to stand?*

**Aorist Indicative verb tense - meaning that it describes a punctiliar act (that is to say a single act at an undetermined point in time past that does not need to be repeated because its consequence continues on into the present and the future). i.e. The Lord's Wrath has come at some time previous to Rev 6:17 and the Wrath still continues on through the time of Rev 6 and on into the Future from Rev 6.

Lord's Wrath is therefore declared to already have come upon the earth before this verse; therefore Zero of the Bride can be on earth when Rev 6:17 happens. The Rapture therefore has already happened sometime before Rev 6 and definitely before the Lord's Wrath falls.

Thess 4:16-17 & 1 Cor 15:51-53 talks about the actual Rapture event. It is from these verses that the Rapture gets the name from the Latin term for “caught up” – rapturo. .

Thess 4:[16](#) *For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. [17](#) Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up (rapturo Latin) together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord.*

1 Cor 15:[51](#) *Behold, I tell you a mystery; we will not all sleep, but we will all be changed, [52](#) in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. [53](#) For this perishable must put on the imperishable, and this mortal must put on immortality.*

Act 15:14-17 Describe that the Lord will come take the Church from among the Gentiles (Rapture) and then afterwards return to earth a 2nd time and rebuild David’s Kingdom Israel so that the whole world will seek the Lord during the Millennial Kingdom. So these verses also layout the same timeline sequence. Rapture, then 2nd Coming, then Restoring Israel for the Millennium. (Notice that there will be men still seeking to know the Lord during the Millennium. Those are the children born to the Believing Mortals that survived the Tribulation and entered into the Millennium and repopulated the World i.e. the Sheep of the Sheep/Goat Judgment)

Act 15:14-17 “Simeon has related how God first concerned Himself about taking from among the Gentiles a people for His name.[15](#) “With this the words of the Prophets agree, just as it is written,[16](#) ‘AFTER THESE THINGS I will return, AND I WILL REBUILD THE TABERNACLE OF DAVID WHICH HAS FALLEN, AND I WILL REBUILD ITS RUINS, AND I WILL RESTORE IT, [17](#) SO THAT THE REST OF MANKIND MAY SEEK THE LORD, AND ALL THE GENTILES WHO ARE CALLED BY MY NAME,’

Summary of Scriptural View of Rapture, Tribulation, and Millennial Kingdom

- 1) Next event is the Rapture or Catching Up of the Church. Nothing has to happen before this, it is imminent. This is why the Imminent Return of Christ was a major theme in the Apostolic and ECF writings. (A whole bunch of stuff must happen on earth before the 2nd Coming. The 2nd Coming is NOT imminent.) The Wedding of Christ to His Bride occurs in heaven sometime before the 2nd Coming.
- 2) There will be a 7 year Covenant Enforced by the man we call the Anti-Christ. It looks like this Covenant allows Israel to rebuild their Temple. This Covenant Enforcement begins the 70th Week of Daniel – the Tribulation. The Four Horsemen and the following events of Revelation begin to occur. There will be those people that suddenly recognize what is really going on and will turn to the Lord. There will be great multitudes of people who will be saved during the Tribulation. A lot of these will be martyred for their new found faith.
- 3) In the Middle of the Tribulation, the Anti-Christ will go into the Temple in Israel and declare himself to be god (2 Thes 2:4). This will start the Great Tribulation that is talked about by Jesus in Matt 24:15-22. This is when the Anti-Christ really starts ruling the whole world.
- 4) At the end of the Great Tribulation, there will be great signs in the heavens, darkening of the sun and moon, nations will mourn, and then the Lord will return. He will destroy the Anti-Christ and his armies. Anti-Christ and his prophet are sent to Lake of Fire. Satan is bound for 1,000 years.
- 5) The Lord will resurrect all of the Old Testament Saints and those Saints who died during the Tribulation. He will judge all of the Living Mortals that made it thru the Tribulation alive. The Goats are sent away into Hades. The Sheep will enter the Millennial Kingdom as mortals to repopulate the world.
- 6) Israel will rule the world for 1,000 years. The Bride of Christ’s blessings will be greater than even those of Israel. The Lord will be King above all.
- 7) At the end of 1,000 years Satan will be loosed. He will gather an army from some of those born during the Millennium that have chosen to rebel against the Lord. The Lord will destroy them all and send all those that rebelled against Him from all of the ages of the earth into the Lake of Fire along with Satan (Great White Throne judgment).
- 8) Eternity begins with a new heaven and a new earth.

There are bunches more scripture and bunches more explanation but this is a good start.

Overview: Daniel and Ezekiel foretell that the 3rd Temple (the Tribulation Temple) is the same Temple as Ezekiel's Temple (Millennial Kingdom Temple - Ezek 40-48) and is built at the beginning of the Trib about 20 miles north of Jerusalem in Shiloh when someone points out to Israel that their own scriptures (Ezek 40-48) dictate that their next temple is not built on the overly popular Temple Mound location.

Summary: Tribulation Temple must be the Millennial Temple (Ezek's)

- 1) Lord is angry that the AC desecrated the Ezek Millennial Temple (Ezek 44:7)
 But AC only desecrates the Tribulation Temple...
 Therefore Ezek Temple = Trib Temple
- 2) River of Living Water comes from Ezek Temple and flows into crevice formed @ 2nd Coming
 Therefore Ezek Temple already built at 2nd Coming & not destroyed by East/West crevice.
- 3) Timeframe of Building the 3rd Temple shows that the Tribulation Temple requires it to be still in existence after the 2nd Coming. The Tribulation Temple is "Cleansed" and "Restored" (not destroyed) after 2nd Coming (Dan 8:14)
 Therefore the Ezek Temple = Trib Temple.

Explanation:

1) Lord Angry Re: AoD

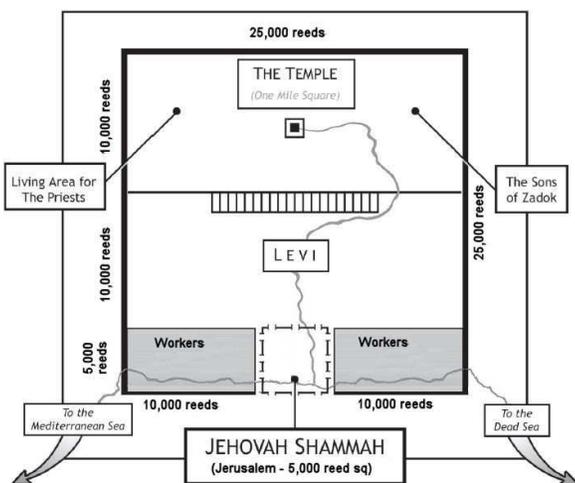
In the Millennial Kingdom, the Lord is angry that Israel allowed an Uncircumcised in neither the heart (i.e. Not-Christian) nor the flesh (i.e. Not-Jewish) to desecrate His Ezekiel Temple as documented in Ezek 44:6-8. That could only have happened when the AC does his Abomination that Causes Desolations (AoD) act in the Holy Place in the Trib Temple (Ezek's Temple) at the midpoint of the 7-year Tribulation.

Ezek 44:7 *"In that ye have brought into my sanctuary strangers, uncircumcised in heart, and uncircumcised in flesh, to be in my sanctuary, to pollute it, even my house, when ye offer my bread, the fat and the blood, and they have broken my covenant because of all your abominations."*

Therefore Ezek Temple is the same Temple as the Trib Temple that the AC desecrates.

2) River from Ezekiel's Temple is already flowing at 2nd Coming

The Lord causes a huge East/West crevice (Zechariah 14:4) from the Mediterranean Sea to the Dead Sea when he touches down on the Mt of Olives during His 2nd Coming (Acts 1:9-11).



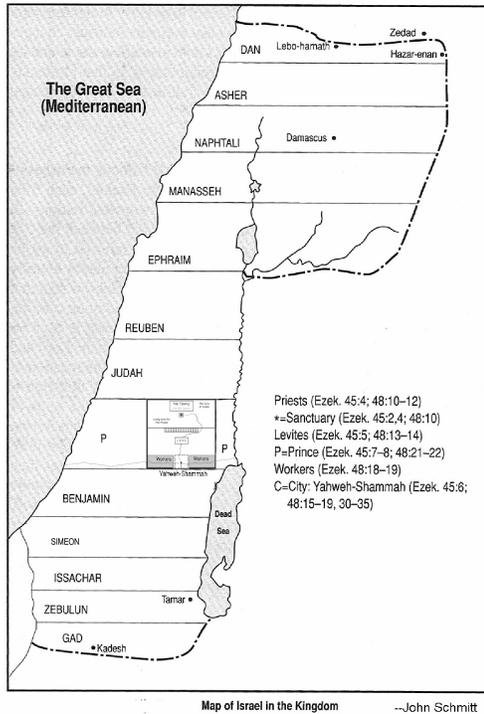
This Crevice looks to pass directly thru the current Temple Mount and very probably destroying the Muslim Dome of the Rock & Mosque since they are directly west of the Mt of Olives.

There will be a River of Living Water (Zechariah 14:8 and Joel 3:18) that fill this Crevice that flow into the two seas. Zech 14:8 states that this Living Water will flow "In that day" that the Lord stands on the Mt Olives and the East/West crevice is formed. Since this Living Water is coming from Ezek Temple (Ezek 47:1-10), that Ezek Temple must therefore be standing and the Living Water River flowing when the Lord's feet touch the Mt of Olives at the 2nd Coming.

Ezekiel 48 describes a Temple/Priest/City Area that is 25,000 reeds square or about 34 miles sq. (See map detail below - Reed = 7.2 feet here.) Therefore Ezekiel's Temple is about 20 - 25 miles North of Jerusalem being in the center of the Priest section which is north of the Levi's section which is just north of Jerusalem (Ezekiel 48). Looks like Shiloh is a great candidate for its location. Shiloh was the location of the Ark for 369 years before the First Temple was built.

Detail:

Dr. Fruchtenbaum states^{bb} “According to Joel 3:18, the Millennial River will originate at the Temple building itself. The point of origin is further described in Ezekiel 47:1-2. From the front part of the Temple, by the threshold of the door and the right side of the Altar which will stand in front of the Temple, the Millennial River will gush out, first leading east until it passes the eastern gate..” continuing for at least 4,000 cubits or 1.5 miles, and then heading south toward Jerusalem and then splits and half of the river towards the Dead Sea.



Dr. Fruchtenbaum continues: “It will not flow directly from the Temple to the Dead Sea, but will first flow to Jerusalem, as depicted in Zechariah 14:8. While the river will begin in the Temple and initially flow eastward, it is clear from this passage that it will then flow southward to the City of Jerusalem, where it will be divided into two branches. The western branch will flow down the mountain and empty into the Mediterranean Sea. The eastern branch will flow into the Dead Sea. The branching out of these waters toward the areas designated for growing food on both sides of Jerusalem will provide the necessary water for the growth of the crops.” The East/West crevice that these rivers flow in is formed by the splitting of the mountain when the Lord’s feet touch the Mt of Olives at the 2nd Coming.

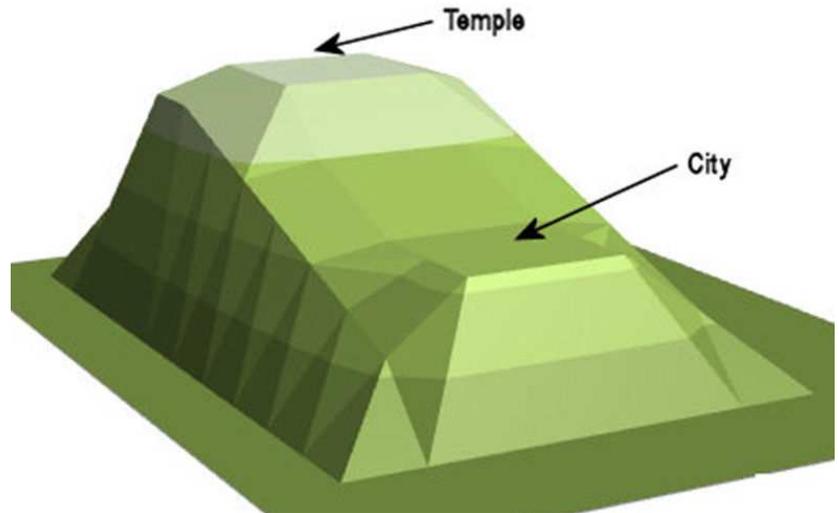
Since the eastern branch empties into the Dead Sea, the character of the Dead Sea will change. It will begin swarming with life, as prophesied in Ezekiel 47:8-10.

Using the measuring reed (Ezek 42:15) which was 7.2 feet gives us a Holy Square area of 34 miles sq and using Ezek 48 instructions in dividing the land among the tribes of Israel as well as instructing that the Sanctuary shall be located in the middle of the land allocated to the Priests which is north of Jerusalem, the Millennial Temple will be located about 20-25 miles to the

North of present day Jerusalem.



Map of 34 mile sq Temple/Levi/City Area On current map of Israel



Possible Elevation Diagram of Temple/Levi/City Area

Therefore....

The next Temple (Trib Temple) will be built ~20 miles North of Jerusalem using the detailed instructions of Ezekiel 40-48.

Verses

Joel 3:18 And in that day The mountains will drip with sweet wine, And the hills will flow with milk, And all the brooks of Judah will flow with water; And a spring will go out from the house of the LORD To water the valley of Shittim (Dead Sea).

Zech 14:4 In that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which is in front of Jerusalem on the east; and the Mount of Olives will be split in its middle from east to west by a very large valley, so that half of the mountain will move toward the north and the other half toward the south.

Then Zechariah 14:8 shows us where the waters will flow, "And it shall be in that day, that living waters shall go out from Jerusalem; half of them toward the former sea (Dead Sea), and half of them toward the hinder sea (Mediterranean Sea): in summer and in winter shall it be."

3) Timeframe of Building the 3rd Temple

We need to realize that a total number of days was placed on the Temple that specified the timeframe from the beginning of the sacrifice to the re-cleansing of the Temple after the AoD. That number is 2,300 days total.

Dan 8:9 Out of one of them came forth a rather small horn which grew exceedingly great toward the south, toward the east, and toward the Beautiful Land. 10 It grew up to the host of heaven and caused some of the host and some of the stars to fall to the earth, and it trampled them down. 11 It even magnified itself to be equal with the Commander of the host; and it removed the regular sacrifice from Him, and the place of His sanctuary was thrown down. 12 And on account of transgression the host will be given over to the horn along with the regular sacrifice; and it will fling truth to the ground and perform its will and prosper. 13 Then I heard a holy one speaking, and another holy one said to that particular one who was speaking, "How long will the vision about the regular sacrifice apply, while the transgression causes horror, so as to allow both the holy place and the host to be trampled?" 14 He said to me, "For 2,300 evenings and mornings; then the holy place will be properly restored."

In Dan 8:9 the context switches from the foreshadowing of Antiochus Epiphanes to the End Times - Tribulation references. Verse 10 speaks of the Small Horn that Grew Great causing some of the Heavenly Host to Fall From Heaven. These verses are obviously NOT speaking of Antiochus Epiphanes at this point – They can only be speaking of the Being that has just been tossed from Heaven at the mid-point of the Tribulation who will be possessing the AC.

Also it was made very clear to Daniel that this was speaking of the End Times – what we call the Tribulation, especially specifying the Evening and Mornings vision.

Daniel 8:26 The vision of the evenings and the mornings that has been told is true, but seal up the vision, for it refers to many days from now."

Foreshadowing Fulfillments

The Lord has foreshadowing fulfillments of prophecies so that when the real fulfillment comes along it will be recognized.

The Abomination that causes Desolation is a great example. Antiochus Epiphanes put up that statue of Zeus with his own face on it. So when Jesus used that term the people listening knew what He was speaking of. Looks like Antiochus desecrated the temple for 2,300 Evenings and Mornings which can be counted as 2,300/2 or 1,150 days. This uses a different meaning for Evening and Morning than in the Tribulation fulfillment. Antiochus' fulfillment (i.e. foreshadowing fulfillment) uses the method of (2,300 Evenings and Mornings = 1,150 Evenings + 1,150 Mornings = 1,150 Days) whereas the Tribulation fulfillment (i.e. Final Fulfillment) uses the original definition of Evening and Morning from Genesis where it means an entire single Day. 2,300 Evenings and Mornings = 2,300 Days

The 2,300 days speaks of the total time in which the Tribulation Temple will be in operation until it is cleansed since the passage speaks of the times that include (from Dan 8:13-14):

A) daily sacrifice begins,

- B) transgression of desolation,
- C) to give both the sanctuary and the host to be trodden under foot
- D) until the sanctuary will be restored/cleansed (Note: The Temple that is Desolated is Restored/Cleansed not Destroyed.)

Now there are 1,260 * 2 or 2,520 days from the Signing/Enforcement until the Great Trib is over. At that time a sequence of events occurs -- the sun/moon is darkened and the Sign of the Son of man will be seen in the Heavens, then the nations will morn and finally then the Son of Man will come – the 2nd Coming.

So there will be some time for that sequence of events to occur after the Great Trib ends before the 2nd Coming. These events that occur immediately after the Great Tribulation ends (1,260th day after Mid-Trib) could take hours to days to occur. Nobody knows that day nor hour of the 2nd Coming -- even those that see the AC stand in the Holy Place.

But at His 2nd Coming He has a bit of work to do. First He will start at Petra/Bozrah and end up at the Valley of Jehoshaphat with His stained garments. He will then descend on the Mt of Olives and make that East - West crevice.

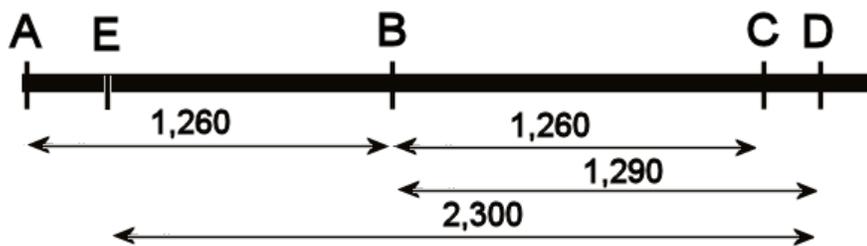
There is another time frame given in [Daniel 12:11](#)

From the time that the daily sacrifice is abolished and the abomination that causes desolation is set up, there will be 1,290 days.

Which says that the AoD will last 1,290 days. Which is 30 days past the 1,260 of the Great Tribulation. (That 'and' in that verse connects the 'daily sacrifice being abolished' and the 'AoD' into one unit. It does not mean the time between those two events. As further proof of this there are other verses that connect these two events to the same duration of time. The 1,290 days refers to the period of time that those two events will exist.)

Since the 2,300 includes that 30 day period it would follow that there are 250 days at the beginning of the Trib for the building of the Temple including any prep time needed from the signing/enforcing of the covenant until the daily sacrifice in the Temple begins.

Diagram of the Timing of Tribulation Events



- A = Enforcing of 7 yr Covenant by AC -- Beginning of Daniel's 70th Week - Tribulation
- B = Mid-Trib when Abomination of Desolation is setup in Temple – AC proclaims himself to be god.
- C = End of Great Trib (2nd Coming is sometime after this – No Man Knows Day or Hour.)
- D = AoD removed -- Daily Sacrifice resumes -- Restoring/Cleansing of Temple Daniel 12:14
- E = Beginning of Temple Sacrifices

From A to B --- 1,260 Days between Signing to AoD

From B to D +1,290 Days while AoD in existence, (AoD until Restoring/Cleansing) Daniel 12:11

From A to D 2,550 Days between Enforcing and Restoring/Cleansing

From A to D 2,550 Days between Enforcing and Restoring/Cleansing

From E to D -2,300 Days between Daily Sacrifice Start and Restoring/Cleansing Dan 8:14

From A to E 250 Days from Enforcing until Daily Sacrifice Starts -- Temple built & dedicated.

Objections:

Objection 1) But, The Lord builds the Temple.

Indeed Zechariah 6:12-17 says that The “Branch” or The “Messiah” will build the temple again.

It does state that the Lord will build this temple. *V13 It is He who will build the temple of the Lord,*

However a couple verses later the Lord states: *V15 Those who are far away will come and help to build the temple of the Lord, and you will know that the Lord Almighty has sent me to you.*

So as in many other situations the Lord raises up workers to do His Building.

Thus the Lord explains that He will not be bringing the Temple with Him at the 2nd Coming nor actually physically rebuilding the Temple Himself after the 2nd Coming. That His Ezek Temple will be built using human hands and Restored/Cleansed after His 2nd Coming.

So the discussion point that the Lord must rebuild it is dealt with by the Lord raising up workers, some who come from a great distance, to build His Temple. He states in Ezek 39:28 that He will bring all Israel to their land not leaving one behind. This will happen just before the Tribulation. So in these two scriptures we see that ALL Israel will be brought to their land and that these will be part of those that help build the Temple. This Temple building of Zech 6:15 must occur at the beginning of the Trib since there will be no Jews to return from distant lands at the end of the Trib to build a 4th Temple due to Ezek 39:28.

It is a few verses earlier in Ezek 39:22 “From that day forward the people of Israel will know that I am the Lord their God.” that we see Israel finally recognizing the Lord their God. They will want to enter into a Covenant Relationship with Him at this point. Since they do not yet recognize their Messiah, they will want to pick up where they left off with the OT relationship which requires sacrifices and therefore a Temple. Israel will therefore finally want a Temple and a few verses later the Lord states that he will bring all of Israel back to their land. These are the workers that Zech 6:15 says will build the 3rd Temple on North part of Mountain.

It won't be until the end of the Tribulation where Israel will finally admit their Sin (rejecting their Messiah) [Hosea 5:15](#) and look on Him they have pierced Zech 12:10, mourn and declare “Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord” [Matthew 23:39](#). It is only then that Israel will as a nation accept their Messiah then the 2nd Coming of the Lord will occur.

Objection 2) The Lord would never accept the Tribulation Temple since the AC desecrates it.

The Lord in Matt 24:15 calls the area that the AC desecrates “The Holy Place”. The Lord is obviously accepting this Tribulation Temple because ONLY a Holy Place can be desecrated. The Holy Speakers of Dan 8 also call this Trib Temple a Holy Place that will be trampled on. But Daniel 8:14 promises that this Holy Place will be properly restored (not destroyed). Therefore scripture states that the Holy Place desecrated by the AC will be properly restored and function in the Temple during the Millennial Kingdom.

Sources:

Jack Kelly – GraceThruFaith.com – The Coming Temple

<http://gracethrufaith.com/ikvot-hamashiach/the-coming-temple/>

^{bb} Dr. Arnold Fruchtenbaum <http://www.ldolphin.org/otpremill.html>

Also Footsteps of the Messiah p464.

Appendix I

Question: "What is the day of the Lord?"

<http://www.gotquestions.org/day-of-the-Lord.html>

One key to understanding these phrases is to note that they always identify a span of time during which God personally intervenes in history, directly or indirectly, to accomplish some specific aspect of His plan.

Answer: The phrase "day of the Lord" usually identifies events that take place at the end of history ([Isaiah 7:18-25](#)) and is often closely associated with the phrase "that day." One key to understanding these phrases is to note that they always identify a span of time during which God personally intervenes in history, directly or indirectly, to accomplish some specific aspect of His plan.

"Be silent before the Lord God! For the day of the Lord is near" ([Zephaniah 1:7](#)). This is because the Old Testament passages referring to the Day of the Lord often speak of **both a near and a far fulfillment**, as does much of Old Testament prophecy. Some Old Testament passages that refer to the Day of the Lord describe judgments that have already been fulfilled in some sense ([Isaiah 13:6-22](#); [Ezekiel 30:2-19](#); [Joel 1:15, 3:14](#); [Amos 5:18-20](#); [Zephaniah 1:14-18](#)), while others refers to divine judgments that will take place toward the end of the age ([Joel 2:30-32](#); [Zechariah 14:1](#); [Malachi 4:1, 5](#)).

The New Testament calls it a day of "wrath," a day of "visitation," and the "great day of God Almighty" ([Revelation 16:14](#)) and refers to a still future fulfillment when God's wrath is poured out on unbelieving Israel ([Isaiah 22](#); [Jeremiah 30:1-17](#); [Joel 1-2](#); [Amos 5](#); [Zephaniah 1](#)) and on the unbelieving world ([Ezekiel 38-39](#); [Zechariah 14](#)). The Scriptures indicate that "the Day of the Lord" will come quickly, like a thief in the night ([Zephaniah 1:14-15](#); [2 Thessalonians 2:2](#)), and therefore Christians must be watchful and ready for the coming of Christ at any moment - Rapture.

Therefore the Day of the Lord is associated with the Lord's Wrath which is scripturally linked to starting some period of time before (and yet includes) the 7 year Tribulation. (Zep 2 /Jer 49 / Ezek 38 would therefore be part of the Day of the Lord that is before the Tribulation.)

Appendix J Zeph 2 will be Completely Fulfilled only in the future.

We see that a major theme of Zephaniah is the nearness of the “Day of the Lord”.

As Dr Ken Rathbun (7) states:

I draw several conclusions from the text based on a consistently literal understanding of these Scriptures. **First and foremost**, Zephaniah’s prophecy has not been fulfilled yet. The prophet presents this message as a unified whole. It predicts God ruling upon the earth and significant changes to Israel’s fortunes, neither of which has happened. Many Christians will immediately identify God’s rule in this passage with the kingdom Christ preached during His earthly ministry. Some would like to see certain aspects of Christ’s kingdom fulfilled today, but a warrant for that view comes from a less-than-literal understanding of the Bible.¹²

John Walvoord (1) declares that Zephaniah 1:14-16: & Zeph 3:14-15 are concerning the future Day of the Lord and links these verses to be the same endtimes timeframe as discussed in 1 Thess 4 & 5 therefore they are definitely in our future.

Zeph 2:1 talks about the nation of Israel being gathered together (1948) without acknowledging their shame (THE SIN of rejecting their Messiah?).

Zeph 2:2 talks about this being a time that is before the Lord’s Wrath falls which is called the Day of the Lord’s Anger (Wrath orgēs SG#3709) Drs. Ice (2), Fruchtenbaum(3), & Ken Rathbun (7), as well as Ron Rhodes(8), John Phillips, Edward B. Pusey, & Chuck Missler (pre-2005) (4) all declare that the Day of the Lord talked about in Zeph is still future to our day. Therefore Zeph 2 is talking about final fulfillment during modern times.

Zeph 2:3 intriguingly talks about the Meek of the Earth being hidden during this Day of the Lord’s Wrath. Again Zeph is talking about the Meek of the Earth and not the shameless nation of Israel that He has just told to gather together. Two separate groups. More than several writers see the possibility of this being a reference to the Rapture of the Church.

In the above verses we see that a major theme of Zephaniah is the nearness of the “Day of the Lord”. There are both Near and Far Fulfillments of “Day of the Lord” verses in the Old Testament (6). The Near fulfillments are only partially fulfilled but point to a future Far fulfillment that will be total.

Judah was conquered only about 50 years after Zephaniah was written. There wasn’t time for these next verses to be fulfilled in their entirety. While there have been historical partial fulfillments of these next verses there has never been total fulfillment, therefore we know that these are still in Israel’s Future.

Zeph 2:6-7 ‘And the sea coast will be pastures, With shelters for shepherds and folds for the flocks. And the coast will be for the remnant of the house of Judah, They will feed their flocks on it. In the houses of Ashkelon they will lie down in the evening, For YHWH their God will visit them and bring again their captivity.’

Only since 1948 has Israel been in control of the coast lands & Ashkelon that were once ancient Philistine. These verses show that Zeph 2 is being fully fulfilled in modern times.

Zeph 2:9 Therefore, as I live,” declares the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, “Moab shall become like Sodom, and the Ammonites like Gomorrah, a land possessed by nettles and salt pits, and a waste forever. The remnant of my people shall plunder them, and the survivors of my nation shall possess them.”

When since Zeph was written did Judah plunder & inherit the territories of Moab & Ammon? Jack Kelley(5) & Dr Fruchtenbaum (3) have stated that these verses point to a time that is yet future when Israel will possess Moab & Ammon.

Zeph 2:11 *The LORD will be terrifying to them, for He will starve all the gods of the earth; and all the coastlands of the nations will bow down to Him, everyone from his own place.*

When since Zeph was written did the Lord famish **all** the world's gods and **all** the nations of the world bow down to the Lord? But this verse parallels quite nicely with the Ps 83:16-18 verses which will be fulfilled in the future.

These last Zeph verses surely also point to a time that is yet in our future.

Therefore Zeph has not been fulfilled in the past and awaits a future final full fulfillment.

Footnotes to this appendix:

(1) <http://www.walvoord.com/article/174>

(2) Dr. Tomas Ice <http://www.pre-trib.org/articles/view/is-modern-israel-fulfilling-prophecy>

(3) Dr Fruchtenbaum in Footsteps of Messiah P103 states that Zeph 2:1-2 will occur before the Tribulation and is not an ancient fulfillment. He also states P792 that Zep 2:7-9 is yet future because Israel will be in possession of Moab.

(4) Chuck Missler http://www.kimclement.com/hod/downloads/DrChuckMissler_ETS_Notes.pdf P26

(5) Jack Kelly <https://gracethrufaith.com/end-times-prophecy/edom-moab-ammon/>

(6) <http://www.gotquestions.org/day-of-the-Lord.html>

(7) Ken Rathbun, Ph.D., The Future Kingdom in Zephaniah

<http://www.faith.edu/resources/publications/faith-pulpit/message/the-future-kingdom-in-zephaniah/read>

(8) Dr Ron Rhodes The Doctrine of the Tribulation in Relation to the Rapture

<http://home.earthlink.net/~ronrhodes/Tribulation.html>

Appendix K Jewish Wedding Parallels Bride of Christ -- Calvary Chapel Pastor in Hawaii, J.D. Farag

The Jewish Wedding	Bride of Christ Wedding	Ref
The groom's father makes the match (Shiddukhin) and chooses the bride, and the groom approves the choice.	The Father chooses us the bride, and Jesus approved the choice.	John 15:16 John 10:28
A marriage covenant (Ketubah) is made in writing for the bride as a promise to the bride that it will be fulfilled.	A new covenant is made in the written Word of God, for us the bride. The Old Covenant Promise is fulfilled	Jeremiah 31:31f Hebrews 1:1 1 Cor 3:1-8
They would then break bread and drink from the cup to seal the betrothal (Kiddushin) and new covenant.	He breaks bread and drinks from the cup at the last supper sealing His New Covenant in His blood.	Matthew 26:27-29 Luke 22:14-20
The groom pays the price (Mohar) showing the bride his love for her.	Jesus paid the price for us on the cross. This shows us the bride how there's no greater love for us.	John 15:13 1 Cor 6:20
The groom makes a speech of promise to his bride that he would come for her soon.	Jesus' speech is recorded as a promise to us His bride, that He will come again for us soon.	John 14:1-3 Acts 15:15-18
The groom prepares a place for His bride and builds a room addition on his father's house.	Jesus says He goes to prepare a place for us in His Father's house where there are many rooms.	John 14:1-3
The Father is the only one who knows the day or hour of the grooms return for his bride – when Bride's Place is ready..	Jesus said that no one but the Father knows the day or hour of His return for us, as His bride.	Mark 13:32-33
The groom gives the bride love gifts (Mattan).	Jesus our groom gives us His bride gifts of love, eternal life, peace, etc.	John 10:22-282 John 14:13-14, 27
The Father gives the bride gifts (Shiluhim) to equip her for her new life, as an inheritance.	We are given the gifts of the Holy Spirit and our spiritual gifts are from the Father for us in our new life in Him, and with Him.	John 14:16-17 2 Corinthians 1:21-22 Galatians 5:22
The bride would then take a purifying bath or Mikveh which is the Hebrew word for baptism.	We are baptized in the Holy Spirit Who cleanses and purifies us.	Acts 1:4 & 8 Acts 2:1-4
The bride's unmarried friends (bridesmaids) attend to the bride and provide light for the Groom Who will come as a thief in the night.	We prepare the bride by letting our light shine so the bride is ready for the groom who will come as a thief in the night.	Matthew 25:1-13
The bridegroom comes, the grooms' men run ahead and shout that He is coming by blowing the Shofar.	When our bridegroom comes, it will be with a shout of the trumpet that Jesus is coming..	Rev. 4:1 1 Thes. 4:16-17 1 Cor. 15:51-52
The groom snatches away and abducts his bride. [The actual wedding occurs at the father's house]	Jesus, our groom, will rapture us away as 6:40 He abducts us as His bride. [Crowns awarded at Bema Seat. Church's wedding occurs in heaven.]	[1 Cor 15:51-52] [2 Cor. 5:10]
The groom takes his bride to the chamber: they consummate (Nissuin), and celebrate for a period of	Jesus will take us to His bridal chamber where we will celebrate an intimacy with Him for a period of seven	Joel 2:15-16

seven (Shavuah) days.	(Shavuah) years.	Daniel 9:27
The party waits outside until the groom tells the best man that it is consummated. Then the guests rejoice for a period of seven days.	During our seven year celebration, the world goes through the seven year tribulation. [Guests are pre-resurrected OT saints & pre-resurrected Trib saints.]	Revelation 19:7-8
[When the bridesmaids discovered that the bride had been “spirited away” they would organize a great torch-lit procession, going throughout the whole town announcing that the wedding banquet was soon to begin. – Jack Kelly]	[144,000 Jews will be sealed for service to the Lord and proclaim His 2 nd coming and the Wedding Supper of the Lamb.]	Revelation 7:3-4 Matt 25:1-13
After the wedding celebration in Heaven, there is a big feast, (the wedding feast), the beginning of the Millennial Kingdom on earth.	Christ returns to earth at the end of the Tribulation with His bride [, The 2 nd Coming, cleans up the mess the earth is in,] and sets up His Millennial Kingdom “MK” which will start with the Marriage Feast of The Lamb. Lord finally enjoys that Cup of Wine with His Bride.]	Revelation 19:9 Matt 26:29
There were three groups present at the wedding feast: the groom, the bride, and the invited guests	There will also be three groups of people involved in the Marriage Feast of the Lamb: The Groom –Jesus, The Bride-Church and the Guests-[resurrected OT saints & resurrected Trib saints and MK mortals.].	2 Cor 11:2, Matt 8:11 Ephesians 5:23-27 Rev 20:4-9 & 21:9-10 Rev 7:13-14
The new home of the bride was Jerusalem and it was the bridegroom who came to the bride to dwell with her.	It is from the new [“Holy City”] Jerusalem that the believers in the Messiah during the Messianic age, or Millennium, will reign with the Messiah [over the MK mortals (Sheep) and their children some of whom will eventually rebel against Jesus at end of MK.]	Rev. 21:9-12 & 27 Ezekiel 43:1-2,7 Isaiah 2:2-4 Micah 4:1-5

[Living Believers at end of Trib (sheep) will enter the MK as mortals and populate the MK. Living non-believers at end of Trib (goats) will be translated to Torments. Matt 24:40-41 & Matt 25:31-34. Trib Saints are those that died while still faithful to Jesus during the Trib. They are resurrected at the end of the Tribulation along with the OT Saints. The Lost will include those that died in OT, NT, Trib, and Millennial periods without faith in Jesus. The Lost all go to Torments to await Great White Throne Judgment which occurs at the end of the Millennium. (The ac & his prophet are immediately thrown into Lake o’ Fire.)] *Table taken from Palestinian Calvary Chapel Pastor in Hawaii, J.D. Farag’s, sermon notes (2011) and modified with stuff in [].

<http://www.calvarychapelkaneohe.com/index.php/component/sermonspeaker/sermon/10586>

Justification – Being REALLY savedThe Penalty for all our sins is eternally paid for – ALL Charges Cancelled Forever

One big issue is that many jump to the assumption that it is our responsibility to maintain our belief or our faith at a certain level to continue being saved. Or that we can “give back” our salvation once we have truly believed. Or that we have to make a certain level of progress in our sanctification (or stopping sinning) or become Holy enough in order to be accepted into heaven. They feel that there is a certain level of Good Works/Alms Giving/Support for Praying Nuns or that there is some other sort of check list they must pass after they die before they get into heaven.

None of that is scriptural.

Once we change our minds about our need for a savior (repent) and belief/reliance in the Lord’s Death and Resurrection has taken root in our hearts (faith), then the Lord takes responsibility to maintain our faith and therefore our salvation.

We need to look at the really clear verses about Salvation/Justification/Sanctification to help us with the verses that aren’t so clear. What we really need to avoid is building doctrine on unclear verses that contradicts doctrine from the really clear verses.

First: He has the Power to maintain our faith that He gifted to us in the First Place.

*Jude 1:24 - "Now unto Him that **is able** to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy."*

We give Him this power over our Free Will as part of accepting Him and His finished Work. This is part of becoming that New Creation. How could this scripture be true if He wasn’t able to keep us from falling in ALL circumstances?

Second: A legal transaction was accomplished.

The Holy Spirit guarantees that we will be with the Lord forever.

*2 Cor. 1:21-22. Now he who establishes us with you in Christ, and has anointed us, is God; Who has also **sealed** us, and given the **earnest** (SG# 728 arrabón - a deposit ("down-payment") which guarantees the balance) of the Spirit in our hearts.*

*Ephesians 1:13-14 In whom you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after you believed, you were **sealed** (sphragisamenos) with that Holy Spirit of promise, Who is the **guarantee** of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.*

So if we were able to lose our faith such that we became un-saved then the above verses would not be true. Notice that there is nothing mentioned such as “If you make satisfactory progress in your Sanctification” or “must maintain your faith at an acceptable level” or “unless you sin too much” or even “must utilize the small talent that has been given to you” in that guarantee. Just an iron clad guarantee.

*Ephesians 4:30 "And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God with which ye are **sealed** for the day of redemption."*

That doesn't say "sealed until resurrection (redemption) or you lose your faith whichever comes first". It says "sealed until redemption (resurrection)" period! It does say that you should not make the Holy Spirit sad about your behavior. It says nothing about Him leaving you if you do. Just says don't do it. No penalty is mentioned in this command.

The reality of this legal transaction for the Bride was recorded in the Lamb’s Book of Life before the foundations of the world were laid. Nobody can go back and change the entries in that Book thousands of years later.

Third: Once He starts something, the Holy Spirit finishes it -- Guaranteed!

Philippians 1:6: Being confident of this very thing, that he who has begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:

So again, if we were able to lose our faith such that we became un-saved then the above verse would not be true. That verse promises that if the Holy Spirit has started to Sanctify you (which He is promised to do after you accept the Lord), the Holy Spirit will finish the job and deliver you to the Lord.

Fourth: We don't have the right to "Take Back" our faith.

1 Cor. 6:19-20 "What? know you not that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have of God, and you are not your own? For you are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's."

Because we legally belong to the One who has paid the deposit.

Fifth: Many "Problem Passages" are simply due to mistranslations from Greek to English.

The Greek word "eige" translated as "If" really means "Since".

Colossians 1:23 If (eige S#1489) you continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which you have heard, and which was preached to every creature who is under heaven; of which I Paul am made a minister;

Actually "If" (eige) means "**Since** ye continue in the faith grounded and settled..."

Eige S#1489 from (#1487) and (#1065) indeed, inasmuch as, since

Or the "Problem Passage" is not talking about losing Salvation/Justification at all - but the interruption of Relationship. i.e. Heb 6:4-6 *For in the case of those who have once been enlightened and have tasted of the heavenly gift and have been made partakers of the Holy Spirit, 5and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, 6and then have fallen away, it is impossible to renew them again to repentance, since they again crucify to themselves the Son of God and put Him to open shame.*

In context, this is talking about those who have fallen back into Judaism and that sacrifices were no longer effective in repairing the relationship between the Father and the sinner -- "renew them again to repentance". The ONLY way to repair the relationship is the Believer's Bar of Soap - 1 John 1:9 *If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.* The sacrifice of animals (nor good works, tithes, alms, penance, the continual re-sacrifice of communion elements, etc.) no longer has any effect on repairing the relationship with God. Confession/repentance is the ONLY remedy.

Sixth: The Lord Himself gave us the gift of faith and will sustain our faith (finish it)

He gave us that saving faith to begin with. He does not give snake gifts. The faith He gives is absolutely sufficient to Save.

Ephesians 2:8 For by grace are you saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

Hebrews 12:2 Looking unto Jesus the author and perfecter (finisher) of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Phil 2:12b-13 ... work out your own salvation with fear and trembling for it is God who works in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure

Again, the emphasis is put on the Lord who is working in us. (No sentence break between v 12 & v 13 in original Greek.)

Seventh: The Lord Himself states that none will "fall away" once they believed in Him.

John 6:37 *All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out. 38 For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me. 39 And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day. 40 And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day.*

John 10:27-30 *My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. I and the Father are one"*

It is the Father's will that Jesus loose NO ONE. Nothing and no one (not even ourselves by not maintaining our faith (that's the Holy Spirit's job)) or by sinning too much can snatch us out Jesus' hands and the Father's combined hands. Again there are no exception clauses in those verses. Jesus ALWAYS does the Father's will.

Eighth: Jesus will do whatever it takes to keep those who have believed in Him

Luke 15:3-6 *Then Jesus told them this parable: "Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn't he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.'*

Notice: Jesus goes after all the sheep that wander away and He has a successful recovery rate of 100%. Just like the Prodigal Son, who had declared that he wished his father were dead by demanding his inheritance. He soon found himself in a situation where he was miserable. He then changed his mind (repented) and came back to his father. He had never lost his sonship. This is much the way the Holy Spirit draws wandering sheep back to the Father. His arm is never too short that He can't make sure that the wandering sheep is miserable in his wayward condition. Repentance thereby becomes the obvious option even to the most reticent and reluctant prodigal sheep.

Ninth: Jesus saves to the uttermost, i.e. He is ABLE TO and COMPLETELY saves.

Hebrews 7:25 *Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.*

Tenth: Saved whether we are on fire for the Lord or slothful

1 Thes 5:10 *Who died for us, that, whether we wake (spiritually alert) or sleep (katheudo - whether we are not spiritually alert), we should live together with him.*

SG#2518 [e] katheudo - metaphorically, to yield to sloth and sin, and be indifferent to one's salvation: Ephesians 5:14 & 1 Thessalonians 5:6.

Eleventh: God gives His righteousness to *all* who believe.

Romans 3:21 *"But now a righteousness from God (Christ), apart from the law, has been made known to which the law and the prophets testify. This righteousness from God comes by faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe".*

Twelfth: God promises that salvation is forever and fadeth not away and kept by the power of God.

Hebrews 10:14-17 *"For by one offering he hath perfected forever them that are being sanctified.*

So, again, if you are being Sanctified (and ALL True Believers are) then you Have Already Been (past tense) Perfected/Justified FOREVER.

1 Peter 1:4-5 *"To an **inheritance** incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, Who are **kept by the power of God** through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time". (KJV)*

Sanctification– The present tense of Salvation – Relationship

Although we never lose our Salvation/Justification in Christ, we can lose the enjoyment of close communion and fellowship with our heavenly Father through not asking for forgiveness when we sin (and we will sin) 1 John 1:9.

Some state that OSAS allows people to just say a simple prayer and then go out and do any sin they want without fear of losing their salvation – calling it “cheap grace”. These critics of OSAS forget that if there was a genuine conversion where the seeds planted took root in the heart wherein a new creation was formed. Yes, new (and old) Christians will sin in thought, word, and deed ... but now they have a Father and the indwelling Holy Spirit to guide them and discipline them. The critics forget that the Father’s arm is never too short to cause His children to again change their minds (repent) about their sin and to bring them back. The Lord has a 100% recovery rate for sheep that have wandered away. Even if the discipline required is unto physical death even though their souls are saved. Jesus, Himself, declares the He will loose ZERO of all those that the Father has given to Him.

It looks like the only hope anyone has of not being with the Lord forever is to have never accepted Him in the first place.

Of course the Lord wants us to do good works after we are saved and there are many passages regarding this. Of course the Lord strongly desires and even commands us to live Holy lives that testify to our new relationship with Him. However the penalty for not doing so is loss of relationship - not loss of salvation. These good works done in gratitude for what has already been done for us are accomplished thru cooperating with the Holy Spirit in His work of conforming us to the image of the Lord – Sanctification. A work that will only be completed at our Glorification (the future tense of Salvation).

The Lord’s desire (or even stronger His command) to us is to be perfect, Matt 5:48. The only way we can be perfect is accepting the Lord’s finished work as a free gift and thus the perfect righteousness of Christ is imputed to us as our own righteousness. Rom 3:21-22 & 2 Cor 5:21 We then are free to live our lives with the indwelling of the Holy Spirit becoming what we already have been declared to be – perfect image of Christ.

James 2:14-26 and others talk about the Faith that is Rooted and Truly Saves is a Faith that does produce good works such as helping others out of love. These are done out of gratitude for the great work that has been done in us through the Holy Spirit. After one has truly accepted the Lord with a true faith, sometimes people do spend time in their own sinful pig pens as the prodigal son did. As Chuck Smith states in his Calvary Chapel Perspectives, “We do believe in the perseverance of the saints (true believers), but are deeply concerned about sinful lifestyles and rebellious hearts among those who call themselves ‘Christians.’ ” One thing to remember is that the Rooted comes first then the Fruit – NOT the other way around as some would teach.

Again as Chuck Smith stated “But we also are deeply concerned over the words of Jesus in Matthew 7:21-23: *“Not every one that saith unto Me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven, but he that doeth the will of my Father, who is in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Thy name? And in Thy name have cast out devils? And in Thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never (SG# 3763 oudepote) knew you; depart from Me, ye that work iniquity.”* Apparently there are many who claim to be believers that in fact are not - and their “mighty works” do nothing to help them in the end. Jesus declared in John 6:29 the ONLY “work” required for salvation was “This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He has sent.”

As Pastor Chuck rightly points out the key was that Jesus “never (SG# 3763 oudepote) knew” them. It wasn’t -“I used to know you but you didn’t meet my expectations” nor “We met once but you walked away, sinned too much, or just lost interest”. No -- They had never accepted Him into their hearts—He Never Knew them --- NOT EVER. They felt they had worked ‘mighty works’ (and were counting on those) but because there had never been a relationship, all these ‘mighty works’ were considered by the Lord to be evil. [never -- SG# 3763 oudepote -- denying absolutely and objectively]

1 Cor 6:9. *Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God?* This verse is talking about Unbelievers. True Believers have the Righteousness of Jesus imputed to them.

Those of Matt 7 are the people who come to church and are really active in it (lead huge stewardship drives, build large additions to churches, etc) but never accepted the Lord in their hearts. CINO's -- Christian in Name Only.

If someone does completely "fall away" the bible states the reason is: I John 2:19 "*They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us.*" --- They were never True Believers in the first place – again CINO's.

Of course, they have the rest of their lives to accept the Lord's free gift but then the door closes. Not all who claim to be saved are saved. Not all church members are saved. If they are saved, they will eventually show a change (and we can be deeply concerned until they do and pray) and false professors of Christ eventually fall away. Just make sure you are trusting ONLY Jesus and HIS righteousness to get you to heaven, and not in YOU maintaining YOUR faith at a high enough level or a prayer you said once or work(s) you have done. You believe (trust) to the "saving of the soul" in Christ's finished work at the Cross completely for your salvation and NOT in a Grace Plus Works theology.

We SHOULD have fear and trembling before God: our salvation is not something to trifle with. The stakes are way too high. There are many who will appear before Christ and to whom He will say "depart from me, I never knew you". These are they who are not Christ's; never were. They may have had an intellectual knowledge of Him but not a rooted in the heart relationship. They have not trusted entirely in His all-sufficient sacrifice. They were trusting in their own works to finish the work that Christ 'began on the Cross' rather than establishing a relationship with Him by letting those seeds take root in their hearts. They are CINO's – Christian in Name Only. They came to church every Sunday – never missed a single one. They essentially told the Lord – "Yes, I know you died on the Cross, and that got most of the job done, but I can take it from here and finish the job thru my own efforts." Grace Plus Works – THE ultimate Oxymoron.

Beware: Some "teachers" use Jesus' teaching of the 5/2/1 Talents in the Olivet Discourse to warn that if we don't fully utilize a LEAST talent (i.e. singing) we will be thrown into Outer Darkness. Others teach that if you don't forgive everybody for everything you will be thrown into the Outer Darkness. These "teachers" are denying OJAJ and this leads them down these terrifying unscriptural pathways. This is NOT AT ALL what Jesus was teaching to the Bride. (Appx O)

If you truly believe yourself to be a sinner, deserving of hell, and without any hope of your own; if you truly believe in your heart that He is God come in the flesh, that He truly lived on earth a sinless life, that He sacrificed Himself at the Cross; if you trust completely that He died on the Cross, He was raised from the dead, ascended to Heaven for you because of your sinful condition to pay your well deserved penalty completely; then you are saved eternally.

However, there are many who still cling to the belief that we MUST do good works or NOT DO bad works or be responsible for maintaining our faith at an acceptable level, in order to keep our salvation. If ANYTHING involving our salvation involves us other than Believing then we will fail 100% of the time.

As James states, our good works give evidence of our Salvation/Justification but do not contribute to it. These good works are the Fruit Not the Root of our Justification.

There are basically only two camps – again A Tale of Two Cities:

Rome – You need to do good works to get or stay saved. It is what we bring that saves us or keeps us saved.

Wittenberg – Salvation is by Faith Alone in Christ Alone thru Grace Alone thru Scripture Alone.

As the old saying goes - Many carry large amounts of baggage on their journey from Rome to Wittenberg – even Martin. Of course, all this only applies to the Bride. Different mail for different dispensations.

Great Resources: **ebook: OSAS Anthology:** <https://gracethrufaith.com/free/ebooks/ebook-osas-anthology/>
Union & Fellowship Expanded: <https://gracethrufaith.com/topical-studies/forgiveness/union-and-fellowship-expanded/>
<https://gracethrufaith.com/topical-studies/eternal-security/and-such-were-some-of-you/>

Appendix M Jer 49:34-39 Destruction of Elam – Western Iran

Modern day Iran is a combination of the ancient nations of Elam and Persia (mostly). Elam controlled the western part of modern Iran and Persia controlled the eastern part.



Elam proper was the red area *(left) but controlled more territory (see map below).

Elam was known to Ezekiel and he prophesied their destruction in Ezek 32:24-25, however he does not mention Elam in the Ezek38/39 nations that attack Israel.

The discussion below deals with the scriptures that indicate that Elam is destroyed before the Ezek 38/39 battle.

Jer 49:34-39 KJV

34 The word of the LORD that came to Jeremiah the prophet against Elam in the beginning of the reign of Zedekiah king of Judah, saying, 35 Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Behold, I will break the bow of Elam, the

chief of their might. 36 And upon Elam will I bring the four winds from the four quarters of heaven, and will scatter them toward all those winds; and there shall be no nation whither the outcasts of Elam shall not come. 37 For I will cause Elam to be dismayed before their enemies, and before them that seek their life: and I will bring evil upon them, even my fierce anger (orgēn SG#3709), saith the LORD; and I will send the sword after them, till I have consumed them: 38 And I will set my throne in Elam, and will destroy from thence the king and the princes, saith the LORD. 39 But it shall come to pass in the latter days, that I will bring again the captivity of Elam, saith the LORD

Jeremiah issued his prophecies concerning Elam about 596 BC. Jer 49 was therefore written AFTER Elam was destroyed in 640 BC by Assyrians and again conquered in 605 BC by the Medes.

Ezekiel's ministry spanned between 593-571 BC

This means that Ezekiel prophesied about Elam's future destruction approximately ten to twenty years after [Jeremiah 49:34-39](#) was written and therefore well after Elam was destroyed by the Assyrians therefore must be discussing a future event. AND Ezekiel was silent about Elam in Ezek 38/39 but does name Persia (western Iran) which also indicates Elam was not around (i.e. already destroyed) to participate in Ezek 38/39.

Furthermore, in Jer 49:7-12 (before the Assyrian/Mede destruction of Elam a few verse later) Jeremiah prophesied destruction of Edom (southern Jordan). It is fascinating that there is an attack prophesied on Western Iran (Elam Jer 49:34-39) that is still in the future (because hasn't happened in the past) AND that it is after the prophesied destruction of Edom (Ps 83 et al) and yet before Ezek 38/39. i.e. Ps 83 nations are judged then Western Iran then Ezek 38/39 nations (which include Eastern Iran – Persia).

Elam actually controlled more area (see map below). towards the North and Northeast than indicated in the above map There was a known Elamite city called Sialk that was just north of Natanz. This region today is the location of the nearly operational Arak heavy water plutonium reactor, also known as IR40 (Iran 40MegaWatt reactor), and the under-construction 360MW Darkhovin heavy water plutonium reactor, and the operational 1000MW Bushehr nuclear power plant. As well as the location of most of Iran's missile defenses.



Therefore the destruction of Elam would entail the destruction of most if not all of Iran's nuclear capabilities.

Great Articles on Jer 49

The Lord's Fierce Anger Upon Iran

<http://eschatologytoday.blogspot.com/2014/01/global-sitrep-b5-13-lords-fierce-anger.html>

The Dual Prophecies of Iran – Part Two

<http://www.prophecydepotministries.net/2012/the-dual-prophecies-of-iran-part-two/>

Are Jeremiah 49 and Ezekiel 38 the Same Prophecy? - Part 1 By Bill Salus

<http://www.raptureforums.com/FeaturedCommentary/arejeremiah49andezekiel38thesameprophecypart1.cfm>

Ezekiel 38 Conspicuously Omits Elam and the Psalm 83 Populations

What About Elam; Did Ezekiel Know About Elam?

Are Jeremiah 49 and Ezekiel 38 the Same Prophecy? - Part 2 By Bill Salus

<http://www.raptureforums.com/FeaturedCommentary/arejeremiah49andezekiel38thesameprophecypart2.cfm>

Ezekiel 32: Meshech, Tubal and Elam (no Persia)

Iran's Double Jeopardy: Persia is in Ezekiel 38, but Elam is in Ezekiel 32

Other Reasons Jeremiah 49:34-39 and Ezekiel 38 and 39 Differ

Appendix N Holy City Jerusalem versus New Jerusalem – Another Tale of Two Cities

This section discusses the issue that the “New” Jerusalem discussed in Rev 21:2 is talking about the Eternal City that comes down from Heaven AFTER the Millennial Kingdom. Whereas a few verses later, Rev 21:9 we are taken BACK in time to the beginning of the Millennial Kingdom where the “Holy City” Jerusalem is discussed. Two separate cities.

Therefore the Bride will live during the Millennial Kingdom in the Holy City Jerusalem of Rev 21:9 where earth’s mortal kings will bring their tribute -- Most probably a 1,400 mile square & tall Holy City in a Near Earth Stationary Orbit. There will also be a future eternal New Jerusalem that will come down after the Great White Throne judgment at the end of the Millennial Kingdom (MK) at the beginning of the New Heavens and the New Earth.

In [Rev 21:1](#) the “new heavens and new earth” seems to be the same wording as [Isa 65:17](#). However a new element is added that states the First heaven and earth has passed away. This “passed away” element is not in Isaiah.

[Rev 20:7](#) thru [Rev 21:8](#) is talking AFTER the Millennial Kingdom is over and finishes the story of satan being released, War, and then tossed into the Lake of Fire as well as the GWT events. Definitely Post-MK events.

[Rev 21:1-8](#) MUST also be describing Post-MK conditions for New Jerusalem because it talks about:

- A) No Seas – Yet during the MK, Ezek’s division of land clearly states Med Sea as a boundary. Also a stream of Living Water flows from Jerusalem to Med & Dead Seas during MK. There has just gotta be Seas during the MK.
- B) No Death – Yet there will be death in MK even among the Priests because there are provisions made for their widows.
- C) No Mourning, Crying, Pain – Since there is death during the MK this can’t apply.
- D) City has different name – Holy City New Jerusalem of Rev 21:2 verses Holy City Jerusalem (NOT “New”) of [Rev 21:10](#).

Looks like that the Chapter Division Guy of the 1200’s AD has struck again. Looks like the Chap Division really should be 9 verses later at Rev 21:9 where the angel who finished emptying bowls (referring us back to the End of Tribulation time frame) takes John to see the Holy City Jerusalem (not "New") coming down from Heaven at the Beginning of the Millennial Kingdom.

Therefore John’s vision of the end of the Millennial Kingdom continues from [Rev 20:7](#) till [Rev 21:8](#). This story is kept in one piece so as to avoid interrupting the story of what happens to satan and all those that followed him and on into eternity.

Everybody agrees that there is a time shift from the end of the MK/GWT back to the beginning of the MK. Some feel that the time shift is at the Chapter Break. But these chapter breaks are artificial and were added somewhere in the 1200’s.

A more logical and scriptural time shift is after the prophecy of the wrap up the fate of satan/ Lake of Fire and the wrap up of the MK/GWT and the beginning of Eternity, John is then brought back to the end of the Tribulation at [Rev 21:9](#) by reference to the angel with the bowls which begins a section that definitely describes the MK in that the need for healing of the nations is described in Rev 22:2 which is contrary to the “no crying or pain” of [Rev 21:4](#) description as well as the restriction of unclean entering the Holy City in Rev 21:27 which wouldn’t even need a statement describing it in Eternity. The same verse states that -- Only the Bride is able to enter the Holy City which does not make sense if Holy City were the Eternal City. Also the kings of the earth bring their tribute into the Holy City Jerusalem Rev 21:24 – This MUST be MK timeframe and NOT Eternity as in the New Jerusalem City . Rev 22:15 talks about sinners being kept outside the Holy City. During eternity there is not even a thought of the previous life nor sinners. There are thus many items that show that John is describing the MK City of “Holy City Jerusalem” rather than the Eternal New Jerusalem with these Rev 21:9 thru 22:5 verses. Again, it just does not make sense that these issues would be in Eternity.

Again, [Rev 20:7](#) till [Rev 21:8](#) is talking about the End of the Millennial Kingdom then in [Rev 21:9](#) John is then catapulted back to the end of the Trib by the angel, that still has the bowls of Tribulation judgment in their hands, to describe events at End of the Trib/Beginning of the MK and to see the Bride’s MK home -- Holy City Jerusalem -- descend from heaven.

Therefore the Bride will live during the MK in the Holy City Jerusalem of Rev 21:9 where earth’s mortal kings will bring their tribute. Again, most probably a 1,400 mile square & tall Holy City in a Near Earth Stationary Orbit.

Nothing to build doctrine on. But fascinating none the less.

Appendix O Olivet – At That Time

The context of Matt 24:29 thru Matt 25:45 is extremely important. This section begins at the end of the Great Tribulation continues with the sequence of events that ends in the Lord's 2nd Coming some unknown days/hours later. It also contains a few parables that describe circumstances of these end times and finishes with the Sheep/Goat judgment.

The importance of the correct context for the Olivet Discourse is demonstrated when some teachers misread the context as including the Bride and launch off on their perceived Performance Requirements for the Bride. They teach that if these Performance Requirements are not met then the Bride suffers rejection from the Kingdom. Some even go so far as to teach that if members the Bride don't fully utilize their gifts, even if they are small gifts such as singing, they will be thrown out of the Kingdom – into Outer Darkness. Some teach that you must be a fully devoted member of the Bride in waiting, being one of those that forsake everything and everyone to follow the Lord only or you will be Cut to Pieces and thrown out of the Kingdom.

These are Terrifying and Wrong Teachings. Certainly the Father wishes for His children to be totally devoted and given over but there is no Performance Penalty for the Bride except that their Wood, Hay, and Stubble being burned away at the Bema Seat with associated loss of possible rewards, yet they will still enter into the Kingdom.

These "Terrifying and Wrong Teachers" start their ill fated theological journeys by attributing the Olivet Discourse to the Bride and thereby completely discount the intended audience which is the Tribulation Saints.

Several of the themes thru the entire Olivet section of scripture are:

- 1) 2nd Coming of the Son of Man
- 2) Nobody knows the Day or Hour of this 2nd Coming
- 3) Those who are alive during the Great Tribulation need to be especially watchful and ready
- 4) There are only two fates declared for these people – Eternal Life or Eternal Death. There are no second chances for redemption after the 2nd Coming for entrance into His Millennial Kingdom. (Totally not the case for the Rapture - there will be untold multitudes saved (but not part of the Bride) after the rapture and during the Tribulation.)

We can also see from the sequence of events in Matt 24:29-30 that #2 above even applies to those that see the Abomination/Desolation at mid Trib. The Great Trib will end 1,260 days later but nobody will know which day or hour of the actual return of the Lord due to the sequence of events that then occurs. More on that later.

Below are underlined wordings of the above themes as they appear in the scripture of the Olivet Discourse. This scripture will show that the Olivet parables are about the 2nd Coming and NOT the Rapture. A discussion of this scripture follows.

After Tribulation - 2nd Coming

Matt 24:29 "But immediately after the tribulation of those days THE SUN WILL BE DARKENED, AND THE MOON WILL NOT GIVE ITS LIGHT, AND THE STARS WILL FALL from the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. 30 "And then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the SON OF MAN COMING ON THE CLOUDS OF THE SKY with power and great

glory. **31**“And He will send forth His angels with A GREAT TRUMPET and THEY WILL GATHER TOGETHER His elect from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other.

Parable of the Fig Tree

32“Now learn the parable from the fig tree: when its branch has already become tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near; **33**so, you too, when you see all these things, recognize that He is near, *right* at the door. **34**“Truly I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place. **35**“Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will not pass away.

36“But of **that day and hour no one knows**, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone. **37**“For the **coming of the Son of Man** will be just like the days of Noah. **38**“For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, **39**and they did not understand until the flood came and took them all away; so will the **coming of the Son of Man be**. **40**“Then there will be two men in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. **41**“Two women *will be* grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one will be left.

Trib Saints Need to be Ready for His 2nd Coming

42“Therefore be on the alert, for you **do not know which day** your **Lord is coming**. **43**“But be sure of this, that if the head of the house had known at what time of the night the thief was coming, he would have been on the alert and would not have allowed his house to be broken into. **44**“For this reason you also must be ready; for the **Son of Man is coming** at an **hour when you do not think He will**.

45“Who then is the faithful and sensible slave whom his master put in charge of his household to give them their food at the proper time? **46**“Blessed is that slave whom his master finds so doing **when he comes**. **47**“Truly I say to you that he will put him in charge of all his possessions. **48**“But if that evil slave says in his heart, ‘My master is not coming for a long time,’ **49**and begins to beat his fellow slaves and eat and drink with drunkards; **50**the master of that slave will **come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour which he does not know**, **51**and will cut him in pieces and assign him a place with the hypocrites; in that place there will be **weeping and gnashing of teeth**.

Parable of Ten Virgins

25:1“**At that time**, the kingdom from heaven will be comparable to ten bridesmaids who took their oil lamps and went out to meet the groom. **2**Now five of them were foolish, and five were wise, **3**because when the foolish ones took their lamps, they didn’t take any oil with them. **4**But the wise ones took flasks of oil with their lamps. **5**Since the groom was late, all of them became sleepy and lay down. **6**But at midnight there came a shout: ‘The groom is here! Come out to meet him!’ **7**Then all the bridesmaids woke up and got their lamps ready. “But the foolish ones told the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, because our lamps are going out!’ **9**“But the wise ones replied, ‘No! There will never be enough for us and for you. You’d better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’

10“While they were away buying it, **the groom arrived**. Those who were ready went with him into the **wedding banquet**, and the door was closed. **11**Later, the other bridesmaids arrived and said, ‘Lord, lord, open up for us!’ **12**“But he replied, ‘I tell all of you with certainty, I don’t know you!’ **13** So keep on watching, because **you don’t know the day or the hour**.”

The Parable about the Talents

14“Similarly, it is like a man going on a trip, who called his servants and turned his money over to them. **15**To one man he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, based on their ability. Then he went on his trip.

16“The one who received five talents went out at once and invested them and earned five more. **17** In the same way, the one who had two talents earned two more. **18** But the one who received one talent went off, dug a hole in the ground, and buried his master’s money.

19“After a long time, the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. **20**The one who had received five talents came up and brought five more talents. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you gave me five talents. See, I’ve earned five more talents.’

21“His master told him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy servant! Since you’ve been trustworthy with a small amount, I’ll put you in charge of a large amount. Come and share your master’s joy!’

22“The one with two talents also came forward and said, ‘Master, you gave me two talents. See, I’ve earned two more talents.’

23“His master told him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy servant! Since you’ve been trustworthy with a small amount, I’ll put you in charge of a large amount. Come and share your master’s joy!’

24“Then the one who had received one talent came forward and said, ‘Master, I knew that you were a hard man, harvesting where you haven’t planted and gathering where you haven’t scattered any seed. **25**Since I was afraid, I went off and hid your talent in the ground. Here, take what’s yours!’

26“His master answered him, ‘You evil and lazy servant! So you knew that I harvested where I haven’t planted and gathered where I haven’t scattered any seed? **27**Then you should’ve invested my money with the bankers. When I returned, I would’ve received my money back with interest.’ **28**Then the master said, Take the talent from him and give it to the man who has the ten talents, **29**because to everyone who has something, more will be given, and he’ll have more than enough. But from the person who has nothing, even what he has will be taken away from him. **30**Throw this useless servant into **the darkness outside!** In that place **there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.**”

The Judgment of the Nations -- 2nd Coming

31“When **the Son of Man comes** in his glory and all the angels are with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. **32**All the nations will be assembled in front of him, and he will cull them out, one from another, like a shepherd separates sheep from goats. **33**He will put the **sheep on his right but the goats on his left.**

34“Then the king will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who have been blessed by my Father! Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, **35**because I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat. I was thirsty, and you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger, and you welcomed me. **36**I was naked, and you clothed me. I was sick, and you took care of me. I was in prison, and you visited me.’

37“Then the righteous will say to him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and give you something to eat, or thirsty and give you something to drink? **38**When did we see you as a stranger and welcome you, or see you naked and clothe you? **39**When did we see you sick or in prison, and visit you?’

40The king will answer them, ‘I tell all of you with certainty, since you did it for one of the least important of these brothers of mine, you did it for me.’

41“Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Get away from me, you who are accursed, into the eternal fire that has been prepared for the devil and his angels! **42**Here’s why: I was hungry, and you gave me nothing to eat. I was thirsty, and you gave me nothing to drink. **43**I was a stranger, and you didn’t welcome me. I was naked, and you didn’t clothe me. I was sick and in prison, and you didn’t visit me.’

44“Then they will reply, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or as a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and didn’t help you?’

45Then he will say to them, ‘I tell all of you with certainty, since you didn’t do it for one of the least important of these, you didn’t do it for me.’ **46**These people will go away into **eternal punishment**, but the righteous will go into **eternal life**.”

Discussion

One extremely strong feature of this scripture is that the Themes #1 thru #4 described above are continued throughout this entire section of the Olivet Discourse.

1) 2nd Coming of the Son of Man

2) Nobody knows the Day or Hour of this 2nd Coming

3) Those who are alive during the Great Tribulation need to be especially watchful and ready

4) There are only two fates declared for these people at the 2nd Coming– Eternal Life or Eternal Death (eternal punishment / weeping and gnashing of teeth). There are no second chances for redemption after the Bridegroom Comes. (Totally not the case for the Rapture - there will be untold multitudes saved after the rapture and during the Tribulation.)

Some try and state that the timeframe is jumping from Post Trib to Current Day, yet they have no explanation as to how the Themes are continuous throughout the entire section of scripture.

Fig Tree = Catapult???

Some try to say that the mention of the Fig Tree catapults us back in time from the Post Trib to the current day due to a “Fig Tree always means Israel” theory, but they have no explanation as to the parallel passage in Luke 21:29 where it states “Look at the fig tree and all the trees.” “All the trees”???? How does that relate to Israel only???? Really shoots a hole in the “Fig Tree always means Israel” theory. AND just what Catapults them back to the Future the next time the 2nd Coming is discussed?

As Jack Kelly of Gracethrufaith.com states so well:

A basic rule of Bible interpretation says, “When the plain sense of a passage makes common sense, seek no other sense.” The plain sense of Matt. 24:32 is that just as a blossoming fig tree indicates that summer is near, the appearance of the signs the Lord had been talking about indicates His return is near. It happens that the fig tree is the last to get leaves in the spring, so when it does you know summer is really here. There’s no reason to look any further into the passage for a hidden meaning.

We can know is that when we start seeing these signs that the End Times are near. This is the lesson from the Fig Tree example and not as a literary device to catapult us to an entirely different timeframe than the one plainly indicated in the scripture. Why would the Lord catapult us from what is clearly talking about the 2nd Coming to lessons for the church that only apply after Israel is regathered back into her land in 1948???? Does not make sense. Again -> Context is extremely important.

Especially since that after the Fig Tree reference in verse 32, scripture immediately returns to the 2nd Coming timeframe theme by mentioning the “No man knows day or hour” and twice mentioning the 2nd Coming. In fact between the “Fig Tree Catapult” and the 10 Virgins, the “2nd Coming” is mentioned 6 times and the “No man knows” is mentioned 4 times. Really don’t see how any literary “catapult jump in timeframe” theory could survive being clearly taught against that many times. Makes you wonder just what the Lord could have written to make it any plainer. No – as Jack Kelly states

above - the Fig Tree and All the Trees illustration is used to point out that once these things start to happen you know that the time is near for the fulfillment of all of them .

Others agree that the beginning of Matt 24/Olivet is talking about the 2nd Coming, however they try and use the word “But” (“peri de”) in Matt 24:36 as another Time-Catapult claiming that a new subject is being introduced and therefore catapult us back to talking about the Rapture. However the very next words in that verse state “But of that day” which places these verses smack dab back in the 2nd Coming timeframe. Some also try and state that the phrase “Nobody knows the Day or Hour” can only refer to the Rapture however, as we will discuss towards the end of this article that phrase always refers to the 2nd Coming. Some get confused and claim that there is no separation of people that occurs at the 2nd Coming and therefore all the separation verses must refer to the Rapture. These confused persons have apparently forgotten about the Sheep/Goat Judgment which occurs during the 2nd Coming time period where there is definitely a separation of people happening into only **two** groups. One is “Paralambano” or gathered into the Kingdom and the other is “Alpeimi” or “send away /divorced/ separation” into Outer Darkness (Appx P)

At That Time

The whole point of this section is that the Lord is bringing the Kingdom From Heaven to the Earth. After this point the Lord’s Will be “done on earth as it is in heaven”.

This is exactly what is described by the beginning verses of the 10 Virgins.

25:1 “**At that time**, the kingdom from heaven will be comparable to ten bridesmaids

“At that time” definitely points us back to the specific timeframes that have been in view in the previous sections, namely the period of the 2nd Coming and those that are alive and awaiting it.

These Bridesmaids(Trib Saints) do indeed need to be prepared, with faith, in order to enter the Millennial Kingdom i.e Wedding Banquet.

Also notice that the Bridesmaids are entering into the Wedding Banquet. The Wedding has already occurred in Heaven at some point previous to Rev 19:7 but after the Bema Seat of Christ where the Bride’s Righteous Acts were judged for adorning her wedding garment. These Bridesmaids can’t be the Bride – completely wrong timeframe – again this is after the Wedding in Heaven. These are those who are called Blessed for being invited to the Wedding Banquet at some point in the future of Rev 19:9. Rev 19 plainly states that the sequence will be Wedding then Wedding Banquet.

To Whom is this Mail Addressed?

The purpose of these parables is to teach that Trib Saints - in order to enter the Millennial Kingdom - must demonstrate their faith in the “One the Father has sent “by actual examples or suffer the Weeping/Gnashing/Shut Out Penalty as pointed out by:

- Matt 24:49 "begins to beat his fellow slaves and eat and drink with drunkards" For those in charge of His flocks - they must not lay unnecessary burdens on the flock (beating) nor dilute the Lord's doctrine or word with the worldly wisdom (drunkards). Non Performance Penalty – Cut to pieces – weeping and gnashing
- Matt 25:1-13 The Bridesmaids need to keep their faith until the Bridegroom shows up on His way to the Wedding Banquet. Notice that they are denied entry to the Wedding Banquet. The Wedding itself has already happened in Heaven BEFORE the Lord returned at the 2nd Coming per Rev 19. The Lord is between the Wedding and the Wedding Banquet. This is when He encounters this group that is invited into the Banquet. Again these are Trib Saints. Non Performance Penalty -- Shut out from Wedding Feast /Millennial Kingdom.
- Matt 25:14-29 Parable of the Talents shows that the Lord will be entrusting His servants with something very valuable - His Word. They will be judged on how they treated His Word. Non Performance Penalty → Thrown into Outer Darkness where Weeping and Gnashing

The above verses state that Under-Achievers are Cut to Pieces and thrown in to the Outer Darkness forever. These certainly are NOT the penalties for the Bride for Performance based issues. The Bride is judged on her Faith in the Lord's finished work at the cross and that is it – period. There are no salvation penalties for the Bride's performance levels. Differences in Rewards/Crowns/Accolades/Responsibilities – Yes - but not the status of their Justification. The Bride is absolutely not in view here but the Tribulation Saints are. (Appx P)

These are the Post Rapture Bridesmaids that MUST demonstrate a level of devotion to the Lord --a requirement that Joseph Chambers wrongly attributes to the Bride herself in his book "The Rapture and the Oil of the Holy Ghost".

Yes – certainly there are lessons that we as part of the Bride can learn from this scripture, but we really have to keep in view as to who this mail was addressed to. Onerous burdens can be put on His little ones otherwise with erroneous theology developed from reading somebody else's (i.e. Trib Saints) mail. Some springboard off these parables and teach that you must be a "Totally Devoted" member of the bride, who has "Forsaken everything and everyone to follow the Lord only" or you will be in danger of being left behind at the rapture because these "teachers" misread the context of these parables (i.e. Joseph C.).

The Bride has ZERO Preparation Works Requirements in her salvation plan. Her requirements are totally based on Faith Alone in Christ Alone. In Fact, trusting in their Works of Preparedness for entrance into the Kingdom would be counted as a sin for the Bride.

Wedding Banquet follows Wedding Ceremony

Also this is the Wedding Banquet which follows the Wedding Ceremony itself. The Wedding Ceremony takes place in Heaven before the 2nd Coming and the Wedding Banquet takes place on earth AFTER the 2nd Coming. And most likely kicks off the Millennial Kingdom itself.

John W. Walvoord agrees in his book: - The Nations, Israel, and The Church in Prophecy, Zondervan, 1967

"Further confirmation is given that this [the marriage itself] is an event fulfilled in heaven rather than on earth in the millennium is the declaration in Revelation 19:7-9, at the time of the return of Christ to the earth to set up His earthly kingdom. The church is pictured as already the wife of the Lamb and as already arrayed in fine linen. The marriage of the Lamb is declared to have already come and now the invitation is extended to those outside the church, the body of Christ, [i.e. OT & Post Trib Saints] to participate in the marriage supper (Revelation 19:9) which seems to be a spiritual representation of the millennium or at least its inauguration. As the marriage feast is the final stage, it should be clear that the Lamb has already come for His bride and claimed her previously in the rapture of the church. The marriage (Gr. gamos) is actually the entire ceremony subsequent to the coming of the bridegroom for the bride. In this marriage ceremony is the marriage supper (Gr. deitnon) which is the meal or supper proper."

Dr Ice also agrees:

It is at this point that many Christians today often confuse the marriage of the Lamb with the marriage supper of the Lamb. But they are two separate events that occur at two different times in history. *Revelation 19:9 says, "Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb."* This passage clearly has a forward look anticipating a future time. It cannot refer to anyone in heaven since the church (the bride) is the only redeemed entity in heaven. However, after the second coming when believers from other ages will be resurrected (*Dan. 12:2*) along with tribulation saints, both mortal and resurrected ones (*Rev. 20:4*), these will be the invited guest who will be guests at this celebration supper. I believe that the marriage supper will be during the first part of the millennial reign of Christ [Pre-Trib Research Center - www.pre-trib.org/articles/view/marriage-supper-of-lamb](http://www.pre-trib.org/articles/view/marriage-supper-of-lamb)

Dr Ice further states:

The admonition in the parable of the ten virgins is that those who are not watchful will be excluded entrance into the millennium (25:1-13). Matthew 24:42-49 conveys the same point. The ten virgins represent Gentiles in

the Tribulation. <http://www.pre-trib.org/articles/view/consistent-pretribulationism-and-jewish-questions-of-end>

Dr Fruchtenbaum also agrees:

Hence, the "many" who are bidden to attend the marriage feast on earth are all the Old Testament saints and the Tribulation saints resurrected after the Second Coming. While the marriage ceremony will take place in Heaven just before the Second Coming, the marriage feast will take place on earth after the Second Coming. In fact, it would seem that the marriage feast is what begins the Millennium or the Messianic Kingdom; the Church's co-reigning with the Messiah will start with a tremendous marriage feast. Fruchtenbaum, Footsteps, p. 597.

[Matt 26:29](#) points out that the Lord will not drink wine until He drinks it with us in the Kingdom. Would He really have a Wedding Feast in heaven without wine? The example He demonstrated on earth says --> Nope. Therefore Wedding Feast is on the earth.

Dr Ice also states:

Matthew 8:11

This passage says, " And I say to you, that many shall come from east and west, and recline at the table with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven." Here is a picture of the redeemed of the ages (from Adam to John the Baptist) sitting down with Christ in the kingdom and enjoying a meal together. These are likely the invited guest that we see spoken of in Revelation 19:9, since they are redeemed human beings from the ages who are not part of the church, the Bride of Christ. In this way there will be guests at the marriage supper of the Lamb who will be able to celebrate the marriage of the second person of the Trinity to His bride- the church. ibid – Ice

Those that are invited to the yet future Wedding Supper are called Blessed in [Rev 19:9](#). As well as those in [Dan 12:12](#) states: *And blessed are those who wait and remain until the end of the 1,335 days.*

[Matt 25:1-13](#) demonstrates that the Bridegroom, after the wedding, collects the surviving Trib Saints (5 Bride's Maids) (The Sheep) on the way to the Banquet.

So it looks like those that make it to the 1,335th day (the Sheep) will be invited into the Kingdom (as mortals) and will also be among those that are Blessed at the Wedding Supper (Rev 19:9) along with the resurrected OT Saints & Trib Saints and of course -> the Bride.

Appendix P “No One Knows Day nor Hour” applies to 2nd Coming

Question: Doesn't the 2nd Coming occur immediately after the 7 year Tribulation?

Answer: Nope

Scripture states that there is an unknown period of time between the end of the Great Trib and the 2nd Coming.

[Matt 24:29-30](#) Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall

- a) the sun be darkened, and the
- b) moon shall not give her light, and
- c) the stars shall fall from heaven, and
- d) the powers of the heavens shall be shaken: 30 And
- e) then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and
- f) then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and
- g) they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

Events a thru f begin to occur at the end of the Great Trib (1,260th day after the AoD/Mid Trib). We are not told how long they take. Pretty sure they could take a few days at least. A pause to allow the nations mourning could last a day to a week or so in itself. The point is that we don't know the time from the 1,260th day and the Coming of the Lord. This is exactly what scripture states. Nobody knows the Day nor Hour of the 2nd Coming. Not even those who see the AoD.

The "Indwelling/Ernest Deposit Guaranteeing Redemption" Ministry of the Holy Spirit ends at the Rapture. From the Garden – “Belief in the One He will/has Sent” has been and will always be the basis for entrance into the Kingdom. However in the Post Rapture Economy there seems to be an "As Demonstrated By" requirement much like there was Pre-Pentecost. [Matt 25:34-46](#) spells out at least one very important "As Demonstrated By" requirement (“doing it to the least of these my brethren” i.e. Jews) that will be used at the Sheep/Goat judgment. Nothing like this is required for the Bride's salvation.

But Doesn't One Taken One Left = Rapture?

Problems occur in just looking at the English words without looking at the underlying Greek to see what they are really meaning.

Again let's look to Jack Kelly for an explanation:

“Those who believe they see the rapture in **Matt. 24:40-41** (One in the Field Taken/One Left) first have to ignore the fact that Jesus was explaining events on Earth on the actual day of His return (**Matt. 24:39**), which would place the Rapture after the 2nd Coming, something no one believes. They also have to ignore the fact that in **Matt. 24:40-41** both believers and non-believers are sent somewhere, believers being received unto Him, while non-believers are sent away. You have to research the Greek words translated “taken” (paralambano) and “left” (alpheimi) to realize this, but when you do you'll see that the English is misleading. Paralambano actually means “to take, or join to one's self”. Alpheimi means “to leave” or “send away” and is often used in reference to a divorce.”
<https://gracethrufaith.com/end-times-prophecy/defending-the-pre-trib-rapture-again/>

Summary:

“Taken” = Paralambano → Received unto one's self – like choosing people to be on your team (or into your Kingdom).

“Left” = Alpheimi → Sent Away – sever relationship as in a divorce.

This is definitely a picture of the Sheep/Goats judgment where there are only Two fates available and NOT the Rapture.

Rapture was a Mystery revealed first by Paul

Paul stated that the Rapture was Mystery that was only revealed years after the Lord gave His Olivet Discourse discussion of One Taken/One Left. Therefore the Lord was NOT teaching us about the Rapture.

Behold, I tell you a secret; we will not all sleep, but we will all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed ([1 Corinthians 15.51-52](#)).

Paul here states that Jesus never gave a clear teaching of the Rapture because if He had it would not be a Mystery for Paul to reveal.

Whose Mail are You Reading?

Jesus never gave a plain teaching of the Rapture such as some would have you believe. They need to be more careful about whose mail they are reading. The Olivet Discourse was definitely addressed to Tribulation Saints (with applications for the Christian Life certainly but with none of the Trib Saint's Outer Darkness/ Weeping/ Gnashing of Teeth Performance Penalties being applicable for the Bride).

<http://gracethrufaith.com/ask-a-bible-teacher/44684/>

http://gracethrufaith.com/assets/uploads/2013/08/seven_things_Jack_Kelley.pdf (page 61)

<http://buzzardhut.net/index/htm/prop.htm>

Calvinist Theology	Proportion Theology	Arminian Theology
<p style="text-align: center;">1</p> <p><u>God's Sovereignty is Exhaustive</u></p> <p>God has determined everything which will take place in the universe by his decrees in past eternity ~ including who will be saved and who will be condemned in hell (reprobation).</p>	<p>I. Permissive & Perceptive will - God's Perfect will for man's volition.</p> <p>The decree of God's exhaustive sovereignty allows movement within His permissive will through autonomous individual moral agents. God's perceptive foreknowledge and grace of all events enables man's volition within the boundaries of His overall sovereign plan.</p> <p>The ways of God, His presence, righteousness, and good news of salvation through Jesus Christ, is revealed to all hearts through faith that acknowledge and glorify Him, The consequences of His wrath is revealed to all who reject and suppress acknowledgment of His presence, design in creation, and His will for mankind.</p> <p>Romans 1:16-21; Romans 11:20-32; Romans 12:1-2; Mark 8:14-18; II Peter 3:9; I Corinthians 13:4; Revelation 3:20; Ezekiel 16:42-43</p>	<p><u>God's Sovereignty: Self-Limited</u></p> <p>God has limited the exercise of His sovereignty by creating angels and humans as autonomous moral beings and progressively delegating authority and responsibility to them.</p>
<p>2</p> <p>TOTAL DEPRAVITY means total inability. Human spiritual death is defined in an extreme way as a total inability to please God in any way, including inability to repent and believe the gospel of Christ. People are seen as spiritual corpses.</p>	<p>II. Perpetual Depravity - Mankind is spiritually dead, stuck in Sin.</p> <p>Mankind is totally depraved in extensive corruption, fallen through Adam's disobedience, marred in the image of God, unable to please God, and cannot seek salvation, unless he responds to the pricking of the Holy Spirit's convictions, and changes his mind to belief through God's faith for repentance, and cries out under God's good and prevenient grace and mercy, with working faith given from the enlightening gospel message delivered unto him by the Holy Spirit.</p> <p>Genesis 6:5-6, Jeremiah 17:9, Isaiah 64:6, Ezekiel 34:11-16, Matthew 5:43-48, Matthew 13:1-8, John 6:44, Acts 2:37, Romans 2:4 I Peter 1:12 Romans 10:14-21 Jeremiah 5:21 Ezekiel 12:2 Acts 28:27 II Corinthians 4:4 I Samuel 10:19 Luke 10:16 John 3:36 Acts 7:39 I Thessalonians 4:8 I Timothy 1:19 II Timothy 3:8 Exodus 32:8 Psalms 80:14-19 Jeremiah 8:5 Jeremiah 15:6 Jeremiah 17:13-16 Matthew 24:10 II Chronicles 30:8 Ezekiel 18:30</p>	<p>There are diverse views of depravity. Some do not emphasize the full impact of Adam's sin. God has given prevenient (preceding) grace to all mankind through the cross to enable sinners to repent, believe, and do good works.</p> <p>Arminius believed that the fall of man was not total, maintaining that there was enough good left in man for him to will to accept Jesus Christ unto salvation.</p>

<p>3 UNCONDITIONAL ELECTION Before we were even born, God has decided and decreed who will be saved and who will go to hell apart from anything we do or can do. His basis for this choice is an unrevealed mystery.</p>	<p>III. Perfect Election - The saved are the elect, through specific faith</p> <p>God foreknew (foreknows) the number of the elect, but does not determine their salvation decision. God patiently calls upon every man, revealing Himself with the enlightenment of his awareness through specific faith, and accepts man's decision for or against salvation. God alone knows man's final decision for or against Him and acts accordingly.</p> <p>Matthew 16:17 Luke 2:26 John 12:38 Romans 1:5-17 Romans 2:5 Romans 10:20 I Corinthians 2:10 II Corinthians 4:10 Galatians 3:23 Job 13:1 Job 42:5 Proverbs 20:12 Isaiah 11:3 Isaiah 43:8 Romans 11:2-12 I John 4:19 Matthew 22:14 Mark 13:20 John 15:19 Acts 1:24 I Corinthians 1:27-28 Ephesians 1:4-11 (in Him) Colossians 1:27 I Thessalonians 1:4 I Peter 2:4-9 Revelation 17:14 John 12:48 Joshua 24:15-24 Deuteronomy 26:14-9 Acts 5:32 Jeremiah 32:40 II Peter 1:3-11 Romans 4:17 I Corinthians 16:22</p>	<p>CONDITIONAL ELECTION</p> <p>Election is conditioned on foreknowledge of faith (plus perseverance in good works??).</p> <p>Man's "act of faith" was seen as the "condition" or his being elected to eternal life, since God foresaw him exercising his "free will" in response to Jesus Christ.</p>
<p>4 LIMITED ATONEMENT Christ died only for the "elect," who were sovereignly chosen in past eternity. God does not really love the "non-elect." Many say that He hates them.</p>	<p>IV. Pertinent Atonement & Sanctification - Offered to all, applied to some</p> <p>God offers His propitiation (satisfaction) of Jesus' sacrificed blood to every individual and applies the sprinkling of Christ's blood upon the mercy seat only for the elect who repent through God's specific faith in Jesus' blood sacrifice for sin, sets them aside for ministry, and prepares eternal fellowship with them, to inherit and partake in God's kingdom of light. Jesus Christ's payment for sin, through His blood atonement, is sufficient for all but efficient only for those under His cross, personally converted through Christ's direct salvation. (scripture references from KJV)</p> <p>Proverbs 8:17 Leviticus 16:14 Exodus 12:1-13 Isaiah 1:18 Romans 5:9 Romans 11:18 Matthew 7:7 Luke 11:9-13 John 15:4-6 I Corinthians 2:7-8 I Corinthians 5:7 Hebrews 9:13-22 Hebrews 10:19 Hebrews 13:12 Romans 3:21-25 Ephesians 1:7 Ephesians 2:13 Colossians 1:14 I John 1:7-9 I John 5:8 Revelation 1:5 I Peter 1:18 Revelation 12:11</p>	<p>GENERAL REDEMPTION</p> <p>Redemption is based on the fact that God loves everybody, that Christ died for everyone, and that the Father is not willing that any should perish. The death of Christ provided the grounds for God to save all men, but each must exercise his own "free will" in order to be saved..</p>

<p>5 IRRESISTIBLE GRACE The “elect” are directly and irresistibly regenerated before they believe, since they cannot first exercise saving faith.</p>	<p>V. Progressive Grace - General grace given to all, Specific grace applied to some</p> <p>The Holy Spirit constantly seeks the lost, pursuing and pricking their conscience, through general revelation of nature and the cosmos, combining bible faith & divine grace with specific revelation through scripture, evangelism, life's circumstances, and reasoning with man's thought process' to consider God's redemption for conviction to obtain righteousness, until the Holy Spirit ceases contending with them, giving them over to their depraved minds. Only God knows when a person's conscience is permanently sealed against considering salvation.</p> <p>Genesis 6:3 Matthew 23:37 Romans 1:19-28 John 1:31 John 2:11 Isaiah 6:8-12 Isaiah 32:3 Isaiah 35:5 Ezekiel 40:4 Matthew 13:15-16 Acts 18:27 Ephesians 2:8 Romans 4:2 Romans 11:18 I Corinthians 1:18-30 I Corinthians 4:7 II Corinthians 1:9-12 Mark 4:3-20 John 3:11 Ephesians 6:24</p>	<p>RESISTIBLE GRACE</p> <p>Prevenient grace enables sinners to believe, but they must themselves respond.</p> <p>God wanted all men to be saved, He sent the Holy Spirit to "woo" all men to Christ, but since man has absolute "free will," he is able to resist God's will for his life.</p>
<p>6 PERSEVERANCE OF THE SAINTS We cannot really be sure we are among the “elect” unless we persevere until the end. We must constantly search our hearts to make sure we are not counterfeits.</p>	<p>VI. Permanent Security - Everyone in Christ is eternally secure in salvation (OSAS - Once Saved Always Saved)</p> <p>Every regenerated believer is eternally secure, may fall into sin, but recovers as an adopted child of God. Those permanently departing from God never truly experienced the actual redemptive process, but experienced a synthetic or manipulative conversion. (easy beliefism).</p> <p>Believe in the perseverance of the saints (true believers), but are deeply concerned about sinful lifestyles and rebellious hearts among those who call themselves "Christians." The Holy Spirit becomes responsible for "<i>He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Chris</i>" Delivering ALL who come in faith to the Father.</p> <p>I Peter 1:5 Ephesians 6:18 Ephesians 2:8-9 Ephesians 4:30 Hebrews 12:1 James 1:25 Romans 3:21-24 Romans 8:23-39 John 10:27-30 Philippians 1:6 I Corinthians 3:10-15 II Corinthians 5:17 John 3:14-16 Colossians 3:1-3 I John 1:7-9</p>	<p>CONDITIONAL SECURITY</p> <p>Believers may know that they are saved now, but ultimate salvation is conditional upon continued faith (and good works??).</p> <p>If man cannot be saved by God unless it is man's will to be saved, then man cannot continue in salvation unless he continues to will to be saved.</p>

Statement of the Traditional Southern Baptist Understanding of God's Plan of Salvation

Articles of Affirmation and Denial

<http://sbctoday.com/2012/05/30/>

Article One: The Gospel

We affirm that the Gospel is the good news that God has made a way of salvation through the life, death, and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ for any person. This is in keeping with God's desire for every person to be saved.

We deny that only a select few are capable of responding to the Gospel while the rest are predestined to an eternity in hell.

[Genesis 3:15](#); [Psalm 2:1-12](#); [Ezekiel 18:23, 32](#); [Luke 19:10](#); [Luke 24:45-49](#); [John 1:1-18, 3:16](#); [Romans 1:1-6, 5:8; 8:34](#); [2 Corinthians 5:17-21](#); [Galatians 4:4-7](#); [Colossians 1:21-23](#); [1 Timothy 2:3-4](#); [Hebrews 1:1-3; 4:14-16](#); [2 Peter 3:9](#)

Article Two: The Sinfulness of Man

We affirm that, because of the fall of Adam, every person inherits a nature and environment inclined toward sin and that every person who is capable of moral action will sin. Each person's sin alone brings the wrath of a holy God, broken fellowship with Him, ever-worsening selfishness and destructiveness, death, and condemnation to an eternity in hell.

We deny that Adam's sin resulted in the incapacitation of any person's free will or rendered any person guilty before he has personally sinned. While no sinner is remotely capable of achieving salvation through his own effort, we deny that any sinner is saved apart from a free response to the Holy Spirit's drawing through the Gospel.

[Genesis 3:15-24; 6:5](#); [Deuteronomy 1:39](#); [Isaiah 6:5, 7:15-16; 53:6](#); [Jeremiah 17:5,9, 31:29-30](#); [Ezekiel 18:19-20](#); [Romans 1:18-32; 3:9-18, 5:12, 6:23; 7:9](#); [Matthew 7:21-23](#); [1 Corinthians 1:18-25; 6:9-10; 15:22](#); [2 Corinthians 5:10](#); [Hebrews 9:27-28](#); [Revelation 20:11-15](#)

Article Three: The Atonement of Christ

We affirm that the penal substitution of Christ is the only available and effective sacrifice for the sins of every person.

We deny that this atonement results in salvation without a person's free response of repentance and faith. We deny that God imposes or withholds this atonement without respect to an act of the person's free will. We deny that Christ died only for the sins of those who will be saved.

[Psalm 22:1-31](#); [Isaiah 53:1-12](#); [John 12:32, 14:6](#); [Acts 10:39-43](#); [Acts 16:30-32](#); [Romans 3:21-26](#); [2 Corinthians 5:21](#); [Galatians 3:10-14](#); [Philippians 2:5-11](#); [Colossians 1:13-20](#); [1 Timothy 2:5-6](#); [Hebrews 9:12-15, 24-28; 10:1-18](#); [1 John 1:7](#); [2:2](#)

Article Four: The Grace of God

We affirm that grace is God's generous decision to provide salvation for any person by taking all of the initiative in providing atonement, in freely offering the Gospel in the power of the Holy Spirit, and in uniting the believer to Christ through the Holy Spirit by faith.

We deny that grace negates the necessity of a free response of faith or that it cannot be resisted. We deny that the response of faith is in any way a meritorious work that earns salvation.

[Ezra 9:8](#); [Proverbs 3:34](#); [Zechariah 12:10](#); [Matthew 19:16-30, 23:37](#); [Luke 10:1-12](#); [Acts 15:11](#); [20:24](#); [Romans 3:24, 27-28](#); [5:6, 8, 15-21](#); [Galatians 1:6](#); [2:21](#); [5](#); [Ephesians 2:8-10](#); [Philippians 3:2-9](#); [Colossians 2:13-17](#); [Hebrews 4:16](#); [9:28](#); [1 John 4:19](#)

Article Five: The Regeneration of the Sinner

We affirm that any person who responds to the Gospel with repentance and faith is born again through the power of the Holy Spirit. He is a new creation in Christ and enters, at the moment he believes, into eternal life.

We deny that any person is regenerated prior to or apart from hearing and responding to the Gospel.

[Luke 15:24](#); [John 3:3](#); [7:37-39](#); [10:10](#); [16:7-14](#); [Acts 2:37-39](#); [Romans 6:4-11](#); [10:14](#); [1 Corinthians 15:22](#); [2 Corinthians 5:17](#); [Galatians 2:20](#); [6:15](#); [Colossians 2:13](#); [1 Peter 3:18](#)

Article Six: The Election to Salvation

We affirm that, in reference to salvation, election speaks of God's eternal, gracious, and certain plan in Christ to have a people who are His by repentance and faith.

We deny that election means that, from eternity, God predestined certain people for salvation and others for condemnation.

[Genesis 1:26-28](#); [12:1-3](#); [Exodus 19:6](#); [Jeremiah 31:31-33](#); [Matthew 24:31](#); [25:34](#); [John 6:70](#); [15:16](#); [Romans 8:29-30](#); [9:6-8, 11:7](#); [1 Corinthians 1:1-2](#); [Ephesians 1:4-6](#); [2:11-22](#); [3:1-11](#); [4:4-13](#); [1 Timothy 2:3-4](#); [1 Peter 1:1-2](#); [1 Peter 2:9](#); [2 Peter 3:9](#); [Revelation 7:9-10](#)

Article Seven: The Sovereignty of God

We affirm God's eternal knowledge of and sovereignty over every person's salvation or condemnation.

We deny that God's sovereignty and knowledge require Him to cause a person's acceptance or rejection of faith in Christ.

[Genesis 1:1](#); [6:5-8](#); [18:16-33](#); [22](#); [2 Samuel 24:13-14](#); [1 Chronicles 29:10-20](#); [2 Chronicles 7:14](#); [Joel 2:32](#); [Psalm 23](#); [51:4](#); [139:1-6](#); [Proverbs 15:3](#); [John 6:44](#); [Romans 11:3](#); [Titus 3:3-7](#); [James 1:13-15](#); [Hebrews 11:6](#); [12:28](#); [1 Peter 1:17](#)

Article Eight: The Free Will of Man

We affirm that God, as an expression of His sovereignty, endows each person with actual free will (the ability to choose between two options), which must be exercised in accepting or rejecting God's gracious call to salvation by the Holy Spirit through the Gospel.

We deny that the decision of faith is an act of God rather than a response of the person. We deny that there is an "effectual call" for certain people that is different from a "general call" to any person who hears and understands the Gospel.

[Genesis 1:26-28](#); [Numbers 21:8-9](#); [Deuteronomy 30:19](#); [Joshua 24:15](#); [1 Samuel 8:1-22](#); [2 Samuel 24:13-14](#); [Esther 3:12-14](#); [Matthew 7:13-14](#); [11:20-24](#); [Mark 10:17-22](#); [Luke 9:23-24](#); [13:34](#); [15:17-20](#); [Romans 10:9-10](#); [Titus 2:12](#); [Revelation 22:17](#)

Article Nine: The Security of the Believer

We affirm that when a person responds in faith to the Gospel, God promises to complete the process of salvation in the believer into eternity. This process begins with justification, whereby the sinner is immediately acquitted of all sin and granted peace with God; continues in sanctification, whereby the saved are progressively conformed to the image of Christ by the indwelling Holy Spirit; and concludes in glorification, whereby the saint enjoys life with Christ in heaven forever.

We deny that this Holy Spirit-sealed relationship can ever be broken. We deny even the possibility of apostasy.

[John 10:28-29; 14:1-4; 16:12-14; Philippians 1:6; Romans 3:21-26; 8:29,30; 35-39; 12:1-3; 2 Corinthians 4:17; Ephesians 1:13-14; Philippians 3:12; Colossians 1:21-22; 1 John 2:19; 3:2; 5:13-15; 2 Timothy 1:12; Hebrews 13:5; James 1:12; Jude 24-25](#)

Article Ten: The Great Commission

We affirm that the Lord Jesus Christ commissioned His church to preach the good news of salvation to all people to the ends of the earth. We affirm that the proclamation of the Gospel is God's means of bringing any person to salvation.

We deny that salvation is possible outside of a faith response to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

[Psalm 51:13; Proverbs 11:30; Isaiah 52:7; Matthew 28:19-20; John 14:6; Acts 1:8; 4:12; 10:42-43; Romans 1:16, 10:13-15; 1 Corinthians 1:17-21; Ephesians 3:7-9; 6:19-20; Philippians 1:12-14; 1 Thessalonians 1:8; 1 Timothy 2:5; 2 Timothy 4:1-5](#)

A group of current and former Southern Baptist leaders has signed a statement affirming what they call the "traditional Southern Baptist" understanding of the doctrine of salvation, with the goal of drawing a distinction with the beliefs of "New Calvinism."

The statement was posted May 31, 2012 at SBCToday.com and includes a preamble and 10 articles, along with signatures from two entity presidents (Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary's Paige Patterson and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary's Chuck Kelley), four state executive directors (Georgia's Bob White, Mississippi's Jim Futral, Louisiana's David Hankins, Alaska's Mike Procter), and in addition to Patterson, five other former SBC presidents (Bailey Smith, Jimmy Draper, Jerry Vines, Morris Chapman and Bobby Welch).

The document was titled, "A Statement of the Traditional Southern Baptist Understanding of God's Plan of Salvation."

"For the most part, Southern Baptists have been glad to relegate disagreements over Calvinism to secondary status along with other important but 'non-essential' theological matters," the document reads in the preamble. "The Southern Baptist majority has fellowshiped happily with its Calvinist brethren while kindly resisting Calvinism itself. And, to their credit, most Southern Baptist Calvinists have not demanded the adoption of their view as the standard. We would be fine if this consensus continued, but some New Calvinists seem to be pushing for a radical alteration of this long-standing arrangement."

The document further asserts that the "vast majority of Southern Baptists are not Calvinists and that they do not want Calvinism to become the standard view in Southern Baptist life."

"We believe it is time to move beyond Calvinism as a reference point for Baptist soteriology," the statement reads. Soteriology is the study of the doctrine of salvation.

Many "New Calvinists" in the Baptist Church do NOT believe that one can become saved without a believing faith in Christ contrary to what the Standard TULIP 5-Point Calvinist beliefs are reported to be.

"I don't know a single Calvinist in the SBC alive who would argue that a person can be saved apart from repentance and faith," wrote Akin, who added he believes the statement (*Statement of the Traditional Southern Baptist Understanding of God's Plan of Salvation*) is divisive.

<http://web.archive.org/web/20070502051125/http://www3.calvarychapel.com/library/smith-chuck/books/caatwog.htm>

Calvary Chapel's Perspective

It is not our purpose to take sides on these issues or to divide the body of Jesus Christ over human interpretations of these Biblical truths concerning our salvation. We simply desire to state how we in the Calvary Chapel fellowships understand the Bible's teaching regarding these matters.

1. DEPRAVITY

We believe that all are sinners (Romans 3:23) and unable by human performance to earn, deserve, or merit salvation (Titus 3:5). We believe that the wages of sin is death (Romans 6:23), and that apart from God's grace, no one can be saved (Ephesians 2:8-9). We believe that none are righteous, or capable of doing good (Romans 3:10-12), and that apart from the conviction and regeneration of the Holy Spirit, none can be saved (John 1:12-13; 16:8-11; I Peter 1:23-25). Mankind is clearly fallen and lost in sin.

2. ELECTION

We believe that God chose the believer before the foundation of the world (Ephesians 1:4-6), and based on His foreknowledge, has predestined the believer to be conformed to the image of His Son (Romans 8:29-30). We believe that God offers salvation to all who will call on His name. Romans 10:13 says, "For whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved." We also believe that God calls to Himself those who will believe in His Son, Jesus Christ (I Corinthians 1:9). However, the Bible also teaches that an invitation (or call) is given to all, but that only a few will accept it. We see this balance throughout scripture. Revelation 22:17 states, "And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely." I Peter 1:2 tells us we are, "elect according to the foreknowledge of God, the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ." Matthew 22:14 says, "For many are called, but few are chosen (elected)." God clearly does choose, but man must also accept God's invitation to salvation.

3. ATONEMENT

We believe that Jesus Christ died as a propitiation (a satisfaction of the righteous wrath of God against sin) "for the whole world" (I John 2:2; 4:9-10), and that He redeems and forgives all who will believe in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ as their only hope of salvation from sin, death, and hell (Ephesians 1:7; I Peter 1:18-19). We believe that eternal life is a gift of God (Romans 6:23), and that "whosoever believeth" in Jesus Christ will not perish, but will have eternal life (John 3:16-18). I Timothy 4:10 says "we trust in the living God, who is the Savior of all men, specially of those that believe." Hebrews 2:9 states that Jesus, "was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, should taste death for every man." The atoning sacrifice of Jesus Christ was clearly sufficient to save the

entire human race.

4. GRACE

We believe that God's grace is not the result of human effort or worthiness (Romans 3:24-28; 11:6), but is the response of God's mercy and love to those who will believe in His Son (Ephesians 2:4-10). Grace gives to us what we do not deserve nor can earn by our performance (Romans 11:6). We believe that God's grace and mercy can be resisted by us. Jesus said in Matthew 23:37, "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them who are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not." We are not condemned because we have no opportunity to be saved, but a person is condemned because he makes a choice not to believe (John 3:18). In John 5:40 we read "And ye will not come to Me, that ye might have life." Jesus also said in John 6:37, "All that the Father giveth Me shall come to Me; and him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out." John 6:40 states, "And this is the will of Him that sent Me, that everyone who seeth the Son, and believeth on Him, may have everlasting life." In John 7:37 Jesus said "If any man thirst, let him come unto Me, and drink." In John 11:26 He adds "whosoever liveth and believeth in Me shall never die."

Jesus clearly acknowledges the fact of human resistance and rejection. In John 12:46-48 He said, "I am come as a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on Me should not abide in darkness. And if any man hear My words, and believe not, I judge him not; for I came, not to judge the world but to save the world. He that rejecteth Me, and receiveth not My words, hath One that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day." In Stephen's message in Acts 7:51, he concluded by saying, "Ye stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost; as your fathers did, so do ye." In Romans 10:21, the apostle Paul quotes Isaiah 65:2 when he speaks of God's words to Israel, "All day long I have stretched forth My hands unto a disobedient and gainsaying people." In one of the five warning passages of the book of Hebrews, we read in Hebrews 10:26, "For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins." Verse 29 adds, "Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, with which he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?" Clearly, God's grace can either be resisted or received by the exercise of human free will.

5. PERSEVERANCE

We believe that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ our Lord (Romans 8:38-39), and that there is no condemnation to those who are in Jesus Christ (Romans 8:1). We believe that the promise of Jesus in John 10:27-28 is clear: "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of My hand." Jesus said in John 6:37, "him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out." We have this assurance in Philippians 1:6 "Being confident of this very thing, that He who hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ." We believe that the Holy Spirit has sealed us unto the day of redemption (Ephesians 1:13-14; 4:30).

But we also are deeply concerned over the words of Jesus in Matthew 7:21-23: "Not every one that saith unto Me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of

heaven, but he that doeth the will of my Father, who is in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Thy name? And in Thy name have cast out devils? And in Thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you; depart from Me, ye that work iniquity." Apparently there are many who claim to be believers that in fact are not.

Jesus said in Luke 9:62, "No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God." I Corinthians 6:9-10 insists that "the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God" and warns us not to be deceived. A list is then given of various kinds of sinful lifestyles with an ending remark that they will not inherit the kingdom of God. Similar statements and conclusions are given in Galatians 5:19-21 and Ephesians 5:3-5. Galatians 5:4 says "Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace."

Colossians 1:22-23 says about Jesus Christ "In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unproveable in His sight, if ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature that is under heaven, of which I, Paul, am made a minister." II Timothy 2:12 says "if we deny Him, He also will deny us." Hebrews 3:12 says, "Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God." Can true believers ("brethren") depart from the living God? I Timothy 4:1 says that "in the latter times, some shall depart from the faith." II Thessalonians 2:3 speaks of "a falling away" or an apostasy. II Peter 2:20-21 makes these remarkable statements: "For if, after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in it, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning. For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them." It is no wonder that Peter says in I Peter 1:10, "Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure; for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall."

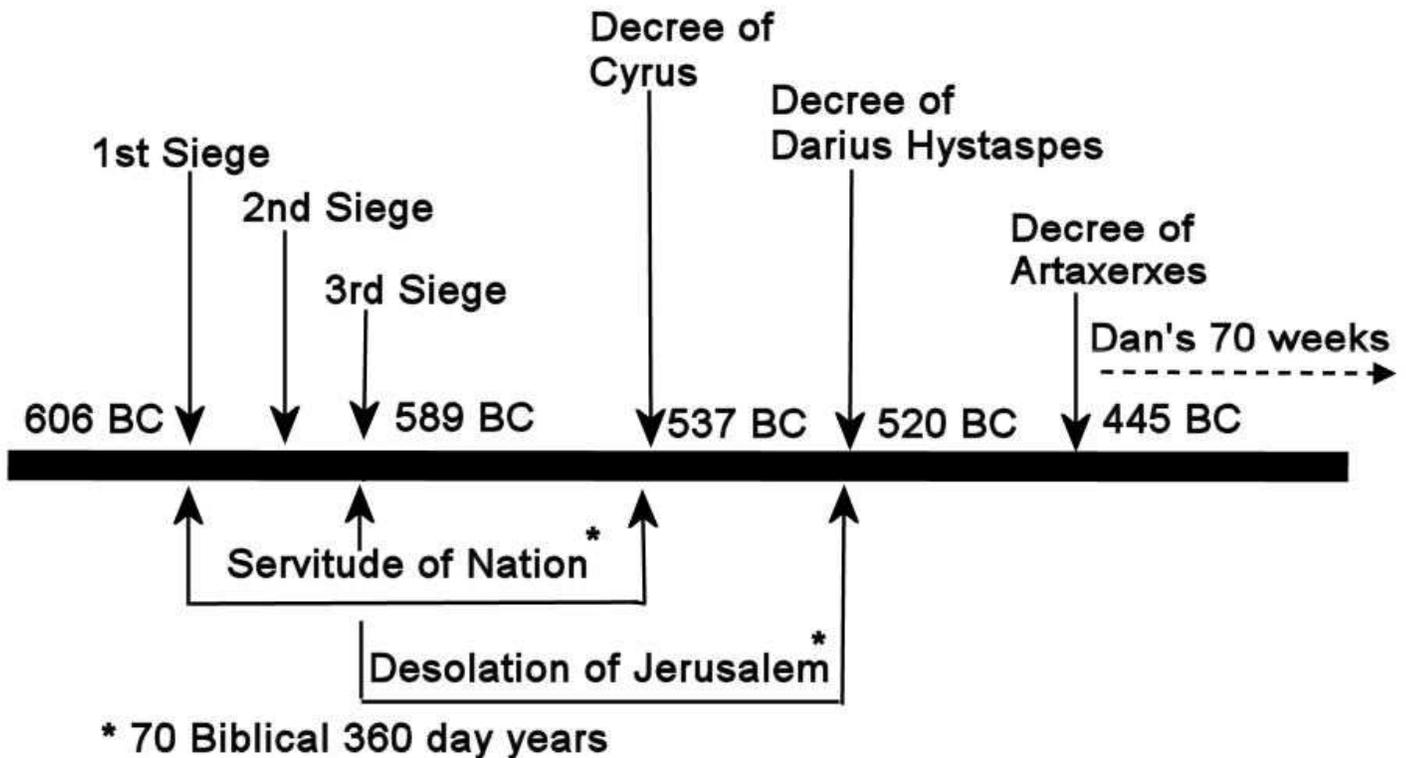
We thank God for the encouragement of Jude 24 - "Now unto Him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy."

Maintaining a Bible-centered balance in these difficult issues is of great importance. We do believe in the perseverance of the saints (true believers), but are deeply concerned about sinful lifestyles and rebellious hearts among those who call themselves "Christians." We don't have all the answers to these matters, but we desire to be faithful to the Lord and His word. If we find ourselves basing our view of salvation on the performance and attitudes of people we become discouraged and concerned. But when we keep our eyes on the Lord, and trust in Him alone and in His power, we say with Peter in I Peter 1:3-9:

Appendix R

Servitude of the Nation and Desolations of Jerusalem—Sir Robert Anderson

Sir Robert Anderson realized that the years talked about in Daniel, Jeremiah, and Revelation were 360 days long. There are 70 Biblical 360 day years for the Servitude of the Nation as well as 70 Biblical 360 day years for the Desolation of Jerusalem. The Servitude is what concerned Daniel and moved him to prayer in Daniel 9. Gabriel was dispatched to provide an answer to Daniel's prayer which included the 70 Week Prophecy which predicted the day that the Lord would present Himself as the Messiah which turned out to be Palm Sunday.



Source: The Coming Prince text by Sir Robert Anderson Pg 123-126

From Sir Robert's Book: Scripture thus distinguishes three different eras, all in part concurrent, which have come to be spoken of as "the captivity." First, the servitude; second, Jehoiachin's captivity; and third, the desolations. "The servitude" began in the third year of Jehoiakim, i. e., B. C. 606, or before 1st Nisan (April) B. C. 605, and was brought to a close by the decree of Cyrus seventy years later. "The captivity" began in the eighth year of Nebuchadnezzar, according to the Scriptural era of his reign, i. e., in B. C. 598; and the desolations began in his seventeenth year, B. C. 589, and ended in the second year of Darius Hystaspes — again a period of seventy years. See Sir Robert's App. 1 regarding the chronological questions involved here. (Above graphic chart was taken from data in App. 1)

Sir Robert Anderson was a chief at Scotland Yards; and wrote The Coming Prince back in the 1890's. His insights and technical expertise in dating events in cooperation with the London National Observatory have been extensively referenced as authoritative on this topic.

Appendix S Behold the Hand - Behold the Nail

YHWH in Hebrew understanding means something like "He Who Causes 'That Which Is' To Be".

However, ancient Hebrew was a very pictorial writing, as seen in the first column below. Each pictorial letter had a visual meaning. Their writing during the Babylonian period is seen in the second column. Modern Hebrew letters are seen in the third column. The fourth column shows Anglicized Hebrew lettering.

Therefore, besides the above Hebrew understanding of the entire name YHWH, when the ancient Jewish people were looking at the meanings of the individual ancient picture letters for YHWH they would come up with:

Yud Image: Arm and closed hand Meaning: Work, Throw	𐤃 𐤄 𐤅 𐤆	Y -- Closed hand
Hey Image: Man with arms raised Meaning: Look, Reveal, Breath	𐤇 𐤈 𐤉 𐤊	H -- Behold or Look or Reveal
Vav Image: Tent Peg Meaning: Add, Secure, Hook	𐤋 𐤌 𐤍 𐤎	W -- Nail or Peg
Hey Image: Man with arms raised Meaning: Look, Reveal, Breath	𐤇 𐤈 𐤉 𐤊	H -- Behold or Look or Reveal

So putting the Ancient Picture Meanings together in Anglicized form we get: "Behold the Hand - Behold the Nail"

Yahushua (often Yeshua or Yahshua), the Hebrew name of the Messiah, the son of Yahweh, means "YHWH is salvation."

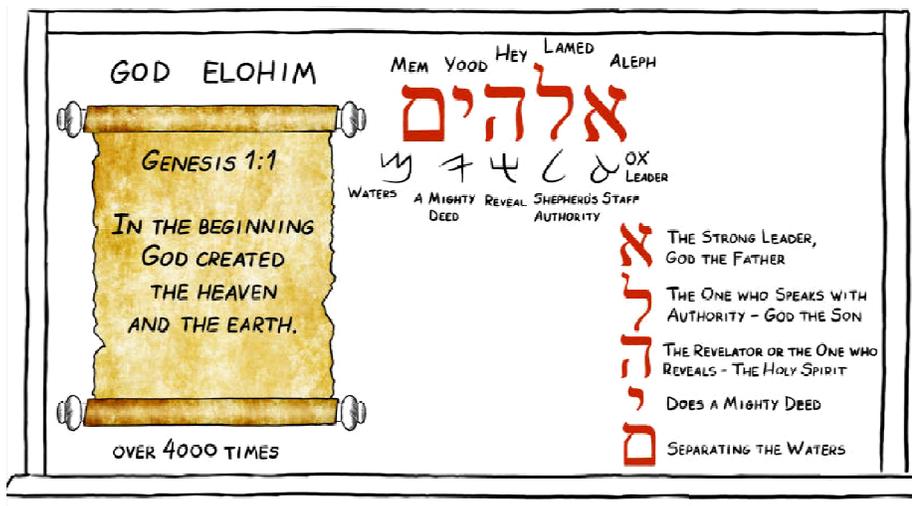
http://www.bibleanswerstand.org/QA_savior.htm

Therefore, you can take that a step further and see it as "Behold the Hand - Behold the Nail is salvation".

Here is a link for a complete table of Hebrew pictorial letters.

<http://www.bridgesforpeace.com/images/content/itl/Hebrew%20Alphabet.jpg>

Similarly the Jewish word for God "Elohim" also has a pictorial meaning .

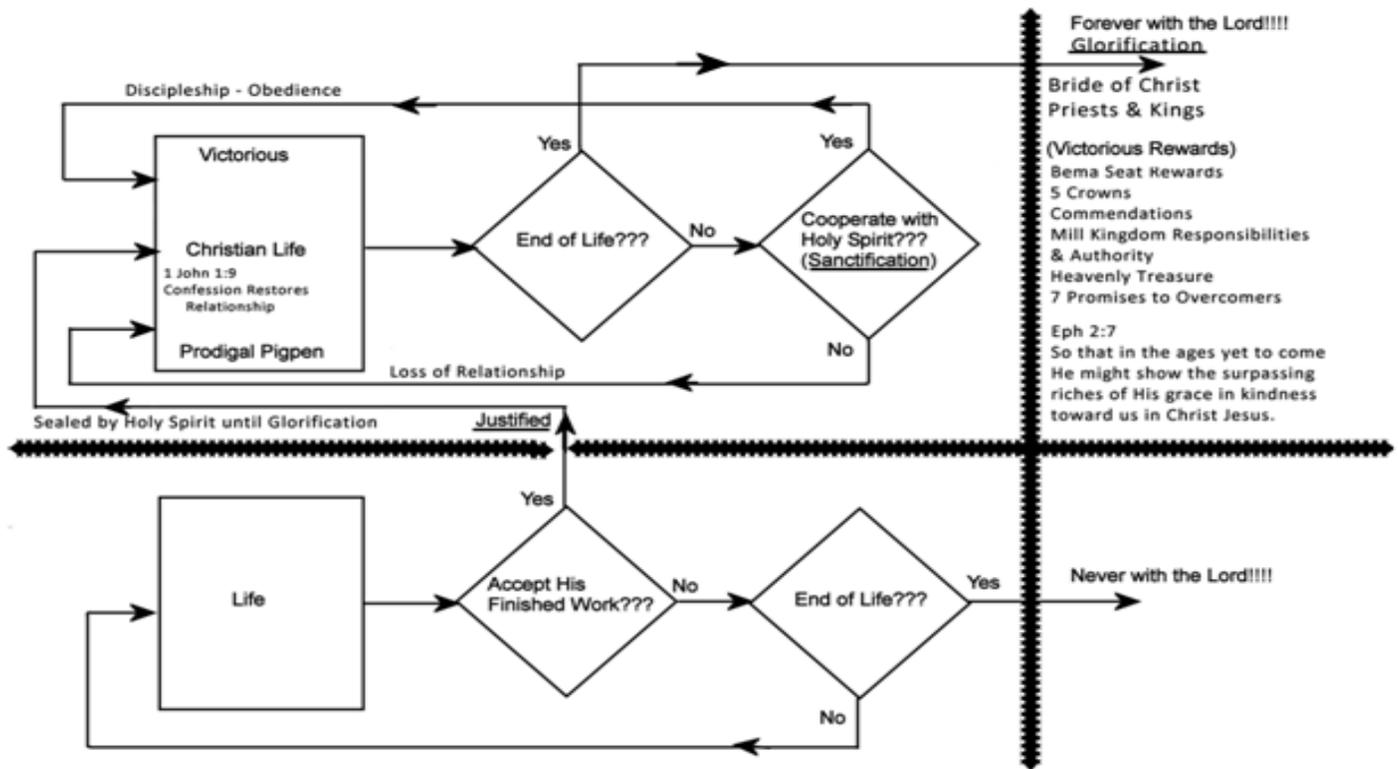


God the Father
God the Son
The Holy Spirit
Does a Mighty Deed
Separating the Waters

<http://livingwordin3d.com/?word=elohimnum>
RockIslandBooks

This is all conjecture --- Nothing to build doctrine on. But fascinating none the less.

Appendix T Flowchart -- Living the Christian Life during the Church Age.



We all begin Life after the Age of Accountability in Lower half where we remain until we Accept Christ's Finished Work. Doesn't matter if we do "Good Stuff" or not as far as our final destiny is concerned. Age of Accountability factors into the bottom half's ultimate fate.

Once we accept Christ's Finished Work of the Cross we are Justified Forever and begin living the Christian Life. As soon as we hear the Gospel and Believe it; the Holy Spirit is Sealed in our Hearts; Guaranteeing our future Redemption – Glorification. Ephes 1:13-14

Our Cooperation with the promptings of the Holy Spirit determines whether we live a Victorious Life or a Prodigal life. (We will all spend in the Pigpen.) Victorious Life is the result of being Sanctified – Being Conformed to the image of the Son. Works of gold, silver, precious stones, are accomplished in cooperation with the Holy Spirit.

The Prodigal part is where the loving arm of the Father disciplines His wandering lambs with the goal of bringing them back to repentance. Works of wood, hay, straw are accomplished by not cooperating with the Holy Spirit.

Rewards are given for leading the Victorious Life – however ALL who accept the Lord will be with Him forever even if all their works are wood, hay and stubble and are thus burned up during the Bema Seat of Christ judgments.

1 Cor 3: 12 Now if any man builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, 13 each man's work will become evident; for the day will show it because it is to be revealed with fire, and the fire itself will test the quality of each man's work. 14 If any man's work which he has built on it remains, he will receive a reward. 15 If any man's work is burned up, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.

The Believer's Bar of Soap will repair our relationship with the Lord. *1 John 1: 9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

Justified – Freed from Penalty of Sin; Sanctification – Freed from Power of Sin; Glorification – Freed from Presence of Sin

Appendix U Is the Millennium foreshadowed in the Ark of the Covenant?

Leader of my small group bible study brought this up a while ago...

Ark of the Covenant

Hebrews 9:4

Which had the golden censer, and the ark of the covenant overlaid round about with gold, wherein was the golden pot that had manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tablets of the covenant.

Ark contained:

1. Commandment Tablets: Testifying that Israel (& world) rejected God's law – Exodus 25:16
2. Manna: Testifying that Israel rejected God's provision of bread for life – Exodus 16:33 – Num 11:4-6
3. Budded Rod: Put in after Israel rejected God's chosen leader as a testimony against them -- Num 17:10

God seemed to be collecting tokens that represent Israel's rejection of Him --- of His Law, His Bread of Life, His Chosen Leader. What more could Israel have done to reject God?

God also made sure Israel took these tokens of rejection everywhere they went. They were covered by wood/gold and were to be sprinkled with blood and under the Mercy Seat. The angelic audience must have been amazed that in spite of Israel's proven rejection, the Lord still blessed them. This must have been especially so when He had Israel proudly bear the tokens of their rejection of Him into battle.

And if God's mercy towards Israel amazed the angels then, His mercy towards us must totally astonish them now.

From a world sense, the Ark represents a summary of the entire human history from God's perspective:

1. Commandments: The world rejected God's Law during the time(s) of Israel.
2. Manna: The world is in the process of rejecting God's Bread of Life, during the Christian era.
3. Budded Rod: The world will reject God's Chosen Leader at the end of the 1K year reign by raising up an army to attack Him.

What more could the World do to reject God? Rejecting His Law, His Provision, His Leader?

The Cross is also a symbol of the World's rejection of His Bread of Life, the empty tomb is His response.

Yet there is a Fulfilled Ark/Mercy Seat, The Christ, thru whom we are able to fellowship with God.

This is all conjecture --- Nothing to build doctrine on. But fascinating none the less.

Appendix V Is Rapture same as 2nd Coming?

There are many differences between the Rapture and the 2nd Coming. Basically the differences between them stem from the Rapture being --“Translation of All Believers in the Twinkling of an Eye into Heavenly Places Prepared for Us” and the 2nd Coming being -- “All Eyes Seeing the Triumphant Lord Returning with Destroying Wrath upon all the Ungodly”.

Dr Tomas Ice gives a very good paper on this topics at <http://www.pre-trib.org/data/pdf/Ice-DifferencesBetweenTheRapt.pdf> A chart from Dr. Ice’s paper is given below.

RAPTURE AND SECOND COMING CONTRASTS

Rapture/Translation	2nd Coming/Estab. Kingdom
1 Translation of all believers	1 No translation at all
2 Translated saints go to heaven	2 Translated saints return to earth
3 Earth not judged	3 Earth judged & righteousness established
4 Imminent, any-moment, signless	4 Follows definite predicted signs including tribulation
5 Not in the Old Testament	5 Predicted often in Old Testament
6 Affects Believers only	6 Affects all men – the whole earth
7 Before the Day of Wrath	7 Concluding the Day of Wrath
8 No reference to Satan	8 Satan bound
9 Christ comes <u>for</u> His own	9 Christ comes <u>with</u> His own
10 He comes in the air	10 He comes to the earth
11 He claims His bride	11 He comes with His bride
12 Only His own see Him	12 Every eye shall see Him
13 Tribulation begins (few years later)	13 Millennial Kingdom begins (a few months later)

Daymond Duck also gives a great summary also at <https://www.raptureready.com/featured/duck/dd24.html>

And Geoffery Grider gives more explanation and associated scripture at <http://www.nowtheendbegins.com/the-bible-believers-guide-to-understanding-the-differences-between-the-rapture-and-the-second-coming/>

Appendix W Jesus Believed in the OT

Jesus taught us:

- Adam and Eve as the first married couple ([Matthew 19:3–6](#); [Mark 10:3–9](#)),
- Abel as the first prophet who was killed ([Luke 11:50–51](#)),
- Noah and the Flood ([Matthew 24:38–39](#)),
- Moses and the serpent in the wilderness ([John 3:14](#)),
- Moses and the manna from heaven to feed the Israelites in the wilderness ([John 6:32–33](#), [49](#)),
- the experiences of Lot and his wife ([Luke 17:28–32](#)),
- the judgment of Sodom and Gomorrah ([Matthew 10:15](#)),
- the miracles of Elijah ([Luke 4:25–27](#)), and
- Jonah and the big fish ([Matthew 12:40–41](#)).

Jesus told us to believe in what Moses wrote (AND Jesus taught that Moses really wrote it).

[John 5:45–47](#), Jesus says, “Do not think that I shall accuse you to the Father; there is one who accuses you—Moses, in whom you trust. For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me; for he wrote about Me. But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe My words?” In this passage, Jesus makes it extremely clear that He really expects us to believe what Moses wrote and not rely on what the “wisdom of the world” teaches – especially the teachings of “Higher Criticism” which really go against the plain teachings of the Lord’s Word.

In the midst of giving Moses the Ten Commandments, the Lord repeats that everything was created in six days (Exodus 20:11) “For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.”

So the Lord taught that it REALLY was a 6 day creation and made that fact VERY clear.

Do people really believe that He was confused about what happened or was deliberately trying to teach us something that wasn’t true????

Elsewhere in the Bible, the events in Genesis 1–11 are referred to as historical fact. Jesus referred to Noah’s flood in Matthew 24:37–39, as does Hebrews 11:7, 1 Peter 3:20, 2 Peter 2:5, and many other places in the Old Testament. If you believe Zechariah was a real person, you must believe Adam and Eve had a son named Abel, since Jesus refers to Zechariah and Abel in the same breath in Luke 11:50–51. In Matt 24:15, Jesus declares that Daniel was a Prophet and wrote the Book of Daniel (much to the consternation of the Church of Higher Criticism who teach Daniel was written by unknown authors around 160BC).

Not sure how the Lord could have made it any plainer. Genesis was written by Moses as revealed to him by the Holy Spirit. Genesis is true and Jesus feels that it is extremely important that we believe it.

And for those who have really studied the advances over the past 20 years in Quantum Physics, Stochastic Electrodynamics, Zero Point Energy and its effects on the exponentially decreasing speed of Light that effects radioactive decay, --- the realization that the Universe really being about 6K years old is a very logical and scientifically supportable fact... AND it is exactly what Jesus and scripture have taught us. People need to make the choice of whether they are going to believe Jesus or not. (See the work of Barry Setterfield http://www.setterfield.org/research_history.html and Lambert Dolphin <http://www.ldolphin.org/constc.shtml> Chuck Missler’s overview <http://www.khouse.org/articles/1999/225/>)

Appendix X Wedding Prayer

We are gathered here in Your Holy Name, Lord, to celebrate this marriage of and

But, we really do not understand fully what is happening here.

Paul stated that marriage is one of the Great Mysteries hidden from the foundation of the earth.

He declared that marriage was a model of relationship of Christ and His Bride the Church.

This Relationship was only enabled when the Second Adam gave Himself completely for His Bride – the joy set before Him.

In the Garden, the Lord stated that it was not good for the First Adam to be alone - to not have a suitable person to have a relationship with - and then He created a Bride - Eve.

One Bible student asked the question: What if this was the second time that the Lord made this Statement?

What if the first time this statement was made was about a week earlier - before the foundations of the earth were laid? Where the Father was talking about the Son, that it was not good that His Son did not have a suitable Bride, a suitable relationship.

He then declared "Let There be Light", and thus the creation of a Bride for His Son.

Thus One of the main purposes for all of creation was for His Son to have a suitable Bride to have an eternal relationship with.

Paul also wrote that "The Bride is Your Masterpiece, Oh Lord, declaring the exceeding limitlessness of Your Grace towards her as an example for all the ages yet to come."

A Great Mystery indeed. An example for the ages yet to come.

Lord, we ask you to Sanctify this union of and

Help them, O Lord, to keep firm in the commitments they have just made.

Guide them, O God, as they become a family, as they each change through the years.

May they be flexible as they are faithful.

Father, we ask You to help them to follow and serve You with an ever growing commitment because of their union.

Guide them into greater love and sacrifice as they care for each other's needs, knowing You will care for them.

Protect and Provide for them, Lord, but not so much that they forget their reliance on You.

Bless them, Lord, as we celebrate their marriage today.

Watch over and protect them and be with them Lord as well as with your entire Bride.

In Your Son's Holy Name. Amen

Appendix Y Wedding Supper of the Lamb

John Walwood, Dr Ice, Dr Fruchtenbaum, and Lambert Dolphin all teach that the Wedding Supper of the Lamb occurs:

- a) **after** the 2nd Coming,
- b) on the earth,
- c) at the beginning of the Millennial Kingdom.

John Walvoord:

*"Further confirmation is given that this [the marriage itself] is an event fulfilled in heaven rather than on earth in the millennium is the declaration in [Revelation 19:7-9](#), at the time of the return of Christ to the earth to set up His earthly kingdom. The church is pictured as already the wife of the Lamb and as already arrayed in fine linen. **The marriage of the Lamb is declared to have already come and now the invitation is extended to those outside the church, the body of Christ, to participate in the marriage supper ([Revelation 19:9](#)) which seems to be a spiritual representation of the millennium or at least its inauguration.** As the marriage feast is the final stage, it should be clear that the Lamb has already come for His bride and claimed her previously in the rapture of the church. The marriage (Gr. *gamos*) is actually the entire ceremony subsequent to the coming of the bridegroom for the bride. In this marriage ceremony is the marriage supper (Gr. *deitnon*) which is the meal or supper proper." (John W. Walvoord, *The Nations, Israel, and The Church in Prophecy*, Zondervan, 1967)*

[Rev 19:9](#) points to a future Banquet. Not one that has already occurred before the 2nd Coming. The Wedding itself is declared to have already come (some time prior to [Rev 19:7](#)).

Dr Ice agrees and states:

*.... It is at this point that many Christians today often confuse the marriage of the Lamb with the marriage supper of the Lamb. But they are two separate events that occur at two different times in history. [Revelation 19:9](#) says, "Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb." This passage clearly has a forward look anticipating a future time. It cannot refer to anyone in heaven since the church (the bride) is the only redeemed entity in heaven. However, after the second coming when believers from other ages will be resurrected ([Dan. 12:2](#)) along with tribulation saints, both mortal and resurrected ones ([Rev. 20:4](#)), these will be the invited guest who will be guests at this celebration supper. **I believe that the marriage supper will be during the first part of the millennial reign of Christ***

The Marriage Supper of the Lamb by Thomas Ice

<https://www.raptureready.com/featured/ice/TheMarriageSupperoftheLamb.html>

Dr Fruchtenbaum agrees and says:

*Hence, the "many" who are bidden to attend the **marriage feast on earth** are all the Old Testament saints and the Tribulation saints resurrected **after the Second Coming**. While the marriage ceremony will take place in Heaven just before the Second Coming, **the marriage feast will take place on earth after the Second Coming**. In fact, it would seem that the marriage feast is what begins the Millennium or the Messianic Kingdom; the Church's co-reigning with the Messiah will start with a tremendous marriage feast. Footsteps, p. 597.*

[Matt 26:29](#) points out that the Lord will not drink wine until He drinks it with us in the Kingdom. Would He really have a Wedding Feast in heaven without wine? The example He demonstrated on earth says --> Nope.

Dr Ice further states:

[Matthew 8:11](#)

*This passage says, "And I say to you, that many shall come from east and west, and recline at the table with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven." Here is a picture of the redeemed of the ages (from Adam to John the Baptist) **sitting down with Christ in the kingdom and enjoying a meal together**. These are likely the invited guest that we see spoken of in [Revelation 19:9](#), since they are redeemed human beings from the ages who are not part of the church, the Bride of Christ. In this way there **will be guests at the marriage supper of the Lamb** who will be able to celebrate the marriage of the second person of the Trinity to His bride- the church. http://www.pre-trib.org/articles/view/marriage-supper-of-lamb#_edn2*

Lambert Dolphin also agrees in his article **THE MARRIAGE SUPPER OF THE LAMB**

The actual marriage supper of the Lamb itself is specifically announced in connection with the second coming (the epiphaneia) of the Lord Jesus: <http://www.lldolphin.org/Msup.html>

Those that are invited to the Wedding Supper are called Blessed in [Rev 19:9](#). [Dan 12:12](#) states: *And blessed are those who wait and remain until the end of the 1,335 days.*

[Matt 25:1-13](#) demonstrates that the Bridegroom (after the Wedding in Heaven) collects the surviving Trib Saints (5 Bride's Maids) (The Sheep) on the way to the Banquet.

Ed Hindson also agrees and further supports his position with the aorist tenses of Greek verbs to demonstrate the scriptural sequence of these Marriage & Banquet events.

Ed Hindson in his book "The Book of Revelation: Unlocking The Future" page 192 says, "Christ is still pictured symbolically as the Lamb (19:7), but the picture of the marriage is clearly expressed. The aorist tense of 'has come' (Greek, *elthen*) indicates a completed act, showing that the wedding is now consummated. Instead of the normal seven-day Jewish wedding ceremony, this one presumably lasts seven years (during the Tribulation period). The marriage is completed in heaven ([Rev. 19:7](#)), but the marriage supper probably takes place later on earth where Israel is awaiting the return of Christ and the Church."

So it looks like those that make it to the 1,335th day (the Sheep) will be invited into the Kingdom (as mortals) and will also be among those that are Blessed at the Wedding Supper along with the OT Saints & resurrected Trib Saints & the Bride.

So to recap the sequence of events:

- Rapture, Going from earth to Heaven, Meeting the Lord in the air
- In Heaven: Bema Seat, Rewards White Linen Clothes Representing Righteous Acts of Saints, Wedding of the Lamb – completed at some point prior to [Rev 19:7](#)
- Mid-Trib - ac stands in Holy Place declaring to be god (Abomination of Desolation -- AoD) –
- Blessing Pronounced for Future Wedding Banquet attendees [Rev 19:9](#)
- Great Trib Ends - 1,260 days after Mid-Trib - Darkening of Sun/Moon, Sign of Christ's Coming in the Sky, Mourning of the Nations (could take days)
- Coming from Heaven to Earth (Christ's 2nd Coming with Wife) (some period of time after the Great Trib ends – no one knows Day nor Hour)
- Petra/Winepress, Mt of Olives/Splitting Cravis (sans Pumas) from Med Sea to Dead Sea.
- Cleansing of Temple (1,290 days after Mid-Trib)
- Resurrection of OT Saints/Tribulation Saints
- Gathering of the Nations & Sheep/Goats Judgment
- Beginning of Millennial Kingdom (1,335 days after Mid-Trib)
- Wedding Feast of the Lamb (Blessed Invited guests are OT/Trib Resurrected Saints and Believing Trib Survivors) -- Jesus drinks wine with His bride in the Kingdom and thus fulfills [Matt 26:29](#)

Appendix Z The Gift And the Prize --- The Differences between them,

Justification: Involved with your Life after Death.

Past tense of the term Salvation for the Believer. The Gift of Eternal Life is given not earned. We change our minds about our need for the Lord and our sinfulness. Belief rooted in our hearts that the Lord's death and resurrection has paid for our sins. This is irrevocable.

Sanctification: Involves your Life after Re-Birth

Present tense of the term Salvation for the Believer. Cooperate with the Holy Spirit in becoming conformed to the image of our Lord. This is where Paul talked about Running the Race for the Prize.

Glorification: Involves your Future Life

Future Tense of Salvation for the Believer. New Glorified Bodies, Prizes & Rewards Given and Eternally with our Lord.

Gift is Eternal Life with Christ, freely given at Justification when we first believe and trust in the Lord's finished work at cross. (Justification is the Past Tense of the word Salvation for the Believer).

Ephesians 2:8-9 really states it clearly that salvation is a Gift from God.

Ephesians 2:**8** *For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; **9** not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.*

Please see Appendix L for a more thorough discussion on Justification.

Prize & Rewards given at Bema Seat for righteous acts during Sanctification (which is the Present Tense of the word Salvation)

Philippians 3:13-14 explains this. *"Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."*

The difference between the Gift and the Prize is also seen in *1 Cor. 3:12-15. If any man builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, his work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each man's work. If what he has built survives, he will receive his reward (Prize). If it is burned up, he will suffer loss (lose Prizes); he himself will be saved (Gift), but only as one escaping through the flames.*

1 Corinthians 9:24-27 he explained the difference in greater detail. *Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last; but we do it to get a crown that will last forever.*

1 Cor 9:27 *I beat my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.* (Paul, of all people, was worried about losing **Prizes!!** (But not the **Gift**))

2 Cor 5:10 appear before the judgment seat of Christ. Rewards and Prizes.

Below is Partial List of these Crowns, Rewards, and Prizes.

(1) The 5 crowns, stephanos - the victor's wreaths, are identified as the: and are Rewards for:

Everlasting Crown (Victory) in 1 Cor 9:25, living set apart for the Lord and from the world
Crown of Rejoicing in Phil 4:1 and 1 Thes 2:19, witnessing, follow-up, and ministry to others
Crown of Righteousness in 2 Tim 4:8, loving and anticipating the return of Jesus
Crown of Life in James 1:12 and Rev 2:10, faithfulness, enduring testings (trials) and temptation even unto death
Crown of Glory in 1 Peter 5:4. leading and ministering to other believers

Rev. 4:10 reveals believers will cast their crowns before the Lord

(2) The Promise of Heavenly Treasure (Matt. 6:20; 1 Pet. 1:4). Stresses their eternal value and security

(3) The Promise of Accolades or Commendations. i.e. “well done thou good and faithful servant ...” (cf. Matt. 25:21; Lk. 19:17; 1 Cor. 4:5b).

(4) The Promises to Overcomers:

Rev. 2:7 eat of the tree of life,
Rev 2:10 given crown of life,
Rev 2:17 eat hidden mana & white stone/new name,
Rev 2:26 power over nations,
Rev 3:5 clothed white raiment,
Rev 3:12 made a pillar in God’s Temple
Rev 3:21 sit with Jesus on His throne.

(5) The Promise of Special Responsibilities and Authority of the Lord’s Possessions (cf. Matt. 19:28; 24:45-47; 25:21, 23; Lk. 19:17-19; 22:29-30; Rev. 2:26)

(6) Rev 19:7-8 The Bride is made ready for the Groom. Fine Linen clothing (i.e. righteous acts of the saints) - **given** to the Bride. (not “earned by” or “made by” the bride)

Rev. 22:12 Behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to render to every man according to what he has done.

The judge at the Bema, (Paul referring as Athletic Event Platform), bestowed various rewards to the victors. He did not whip the losers.

Glorification at Resurrection, Future Tense of Salvation -- Receiving our Glorified Eternal Bodies.

Appendix AA Daniel – By Whom and When Was it Written?

Jesus declares that Daniel the Prophet wrote the Book of Daniel in Matthew [24:15](#) and in Mark [13:14](#) and commands us to spend the time and energy to understand what He is talking about.

The Book of Daniel itself declares that it was written by Daniel with the phrases “me, Daniel” or “I, Daniel:” in [7:28](#); [8:1](#), [15](#); [9:2](#); [10:2](#); and [12:5](#). Therefore the timeframe for Daniel being written is circa 550 BC.

The Book of Daniel placement in the Septuagint, which was begun in 285 BC, also declares that the Daniel was already written many years before and not a late date as some would demand.

The Book of Daniel placement in the Dead Sea Scrolls found at Qumran and 4QDan, which are dated from the 200’s BC, also testify to the fact that Daniel was considered scripture and had been written much earlier.

However, many people (especially Higher Criticism) cannot accept that the Prophecies in Daniel are indeed Prophecies that were written hundreds of years before they so accurately were fulfilled during the 100’s and 200’s BC time periods. They feel that somebody MUST have been writing down what had already happened rather than what was going to happen. Daniel’s Prophecies are extremely accurate and insightful even to describing some of the palace intrigue that was going on behind the scenes. They are TOO accurate for some so they therefore date the writing of Daniel around 160 BC by an unknown author.

So we can save ourselves a bunch of problems about the authorship of Daniel and the validity of the Prophecies contained therein if we will just trust in what Jesus says. Isn’t that always the case???

Background Information (Ref 1)

Some use the fact that Daniel is placed in the Masoretic Text in Writings rather than Prophets and since they feel the Writings were collected after the prophetic canon was closed, they then conclude that Daniel could not have written Book of Daniel.

Their errors start with not recognizing that other books in the Writings were also written much earlier in the circa 1000 BC i.e. some Psalms and Proverbs and Job was written circa 2000 BC. The Septuagint has Daniel listed in the Prophets and Jesus called Daniel a Prophet.

Some others believe that the Masoretes (ca. AD 750-950) may have moved Daniel from the Prophets to the Writings since much of the book is history and because Daniel only talked with angels and not with God Himself so the Masoretics didn’t feel that Daniel qualified as a Prophet. Jesus disagrees with them.

Josephus in his writings implies that Daniel is the author of the book bearing his name. Where Josephus declares (in *Antiquities of the Jews*, Book 11.8.5) that the Book of Daniel was shown to Alexander the Great in about 328 BC.

“And when the book of Daniel was showed to him (Alexander the Great) wherein Daniel declared that one of the Greeks should destroy the empire of the Persians, he supposed that himself was the person intended.”

Josephus wrote this a few years after the destruction of the Temple in 70 AD. So this is what the Jewish scholars believed in that timeframe (i.e. that Book of Daniel was shown to Alexander). Therefore the Book of Daniel was written way before 328 BC.

The Talmud also describes the drama of that first encounter (Yoma 69a). Simon the Just came forth with other members of the priesthood, as well as the sages of the Sanhedrin, to greet Alexander at the gates of Jerusalem.

The Book of Daniel (Daniel 7:3-7) begins with a frightening vision: four beasts, one more frightening than the other, emerge from the sea. According to Jewish tradition (Midrash, Leviticus Rabbah 13:5), each beast represents one of the four major empires that would exile the Jews: Babylon, Persia, Greece and Rome.

Jesus called attention to Daniel's prophecy of 70 Sevens or Weeks of Years.

Something that is worth noting is that this "seventy-sevens" is the fourth 490 year period in Israel's history. (Ref 2)

- 1) From Abraham to the Exodus was 505 years. Subtract 15 years of Ishmael then you have 490 years
- 2) From Exodus to the Temple is 601 years. Subtract the 111 years of six servitudes in Judges, and you get 490 years.
- 3) From the Temple to the decree of Artaxerxes is 560 years. Subtract the 70 years of captivity you get 490 years.
- 4) The "Seventieth" week adds the final week to the seven and sixty-two weeks totaling again, 490 years.

References:

1) The Date and Authorship of the Book of Daniel © 2008 By [Charles Ray](http://www.spiritandtruth.org/teaching/documents/articles/34/34.htm?x=x#_ftn32)
http://www.spiritandtruth.org/teaching/documents/articles/34/34.htm?x=x#_ftn32

2) From Chuck Missler
<http://documentslide.com/documents/a-walk-through-the-bible-with-bro-bill-parker-sr-56cc5225bf8da.html>

Appendix AB Did Jesus really believe what Daniel wrote? Should we?

Jesus, Himself, tells us about this topic in 3 Gospels - Matthew, Mark, and Luke. So, it must be important...

Jesus declares that Daniel, the Prophet, wrote the News that an angel made a special trip to deliver that the God Himself ordered delivered.

Jesus also declares that this News will come true in the future.

Paul and other writers give us more information as the Holy Spirit led them.

And as that one paper stated - "The evidence that Jesus was confused about this or is purposely deceiving us is practically non-existent.

Daniel was told to "know and discern" what is being told him in Daniel 9.

This command is extended to us as readers of Matt 24:15-18 and Mark 13:14-16 where we as the readers are told by the Holy Spirit thru scripture specifically to "understand" what we have read.

I don't know anywhere else in scripture that we are commanded to specifically "understand" what is being told to us.

So it really seems that we should spend the time and effort needed to understand it.

It also implies that we, as normal readers, can understand it -- that it isn't some huge hidden puzzle that only Phd's can figure out.

It implies that enough information has been given and it is our responsibility to understand it.

We know that some do not want to understand -- do not want to figure it out..... but that is not what the scripture says... especially on this particular topic apparently.

Daniel Chapter 9:24-27

490 Years decreed for Israel and Jerusalem in which certain things will be accomplished.

24 "Seventy weeks have been decreed for your people and your holy city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sin, to make atonement for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy and to anoint the most holy place.

From Artaxerxes Longimanus' decree to rebuild Jerusalem & wall till Messiah - 483 yrs -- (7+62)=69 weeks -- Rode into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday on exact date.

25 "So you are to know and discern that from the issuing of a decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince there will be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; it will be built again, with plaza and wall, even in times of distress.

After the 62 week period Messiah will come (Palm Sunday) and then be executed in making a covenant

26 "Then after the sixty-two weeks the Messiah will be cut off and have nothing,

The Romans will destroy Jerusalem (in 70 AD).

26(cont) and the people of the prince who is to come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. And its end will come with a flood; even to the end there will be war; desolations are determined.

A future Prince (AC) from the Romans will enforce a 7 year covenant with Israel. The Final 70th Week.

27 "And he will make a firm covenant with the many for one week,

After 3.5 years the AC will enter the Holy Place and cause desolation by declaring himself to be god.

27(cont) but in the middle of the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; and on the wing of abominations will come one who makes desolate, even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate."

These verses are depicted in the left hand side of the graphic below up to Palm Sunday. Then the 70th week will happen sometime in the future after the Church Age.



2 Thes 2:3-8 gives additional details on the Mid Week and 2nd Coming events.-- AC will Actually sit in Temple declare himself to be god

3 Let no one in any way deceive you, for it will not come unless the apostasy comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction, 4 who opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, displaying himself as being God. 5 Do you not remember that while I was still with you, I was telling you these things? 6 And you know what restrains him now, so that in his time he will be revealed. 7 For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only he who now restrains will do so until he is taken out of the way. 8 Then that lawless one will be revealed whom the Lord will slay with the breath of His mouth and bring to an end by the appearance of His coming;

What did Jesus say about Daniel?

Again: Matt 24:15-22 (& Mark 13:14-16) Jesus declares Daniel himself wrote these words and is a prophet and that the AC will stand in the Holy Place at some point in the future. And then there will be the worst tribulation since the beginning of the world, We are all commanded to understand this. Judean's are commanded to flee.

15 "Therefore when you see the ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the Holy Place (let the reader understand), 16 then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains. 17 "Whoever is on the housetop must not go down to get the things out that are in his house. 18 "Whoever is in the field must not turn back to get his cloak. 19 "But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! 20 "But pray that your flight will not be in the winter, or on a Sabbath. 21 "For then there will be a great tribulation, such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever will. 22 "Unless those days had been cut short, no life would have been saved; but for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short.

But there are other interpretations...

Yes, there are ... But We do need to make sure that no matter how good the interpretation sounds --- that it matches up with what Jesus stated -- that there is a coming Abomination of Desolation as spoken of by Daniel and there will be huge desolation that will immediately occur when that Abomination of Desolation occurs (as well as matching up with the other scripture).

Let's check out what the earliest Church Fathers thought about these scriptures. Irenaeus' teachings in his set of books "Against Heresy" (~180AD) give us insight as to what the early apostles & disciples thought. Irenaeus was a student of Polycarp, who in turn was a disciple of the Apostle John (who also wrote quite a bit on this topic). Irenaeus was in an excellent 'First Hand' to declare what the Apostle really meant what he wrote or not. Irenaeus very clearly answers the modern day question of whether John was writing about a literal event or complete allegory. (Answer: Irenaeus agrees with Jesus and teaches that the Abomination of Desolation is a literal real future event.) Here is a link to Irenaeus' book #5 in his "Against Heresy" collection: <http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/irenaeus-book5.html>

In Book 5, in Chap XXV entitled.-"The Fraud, Pride, and Tyrannical Kingdom of Antichrist, as Described by Daniel and Paul":

Paragraph #2 Irenaeus quotes Jesus' statements in Matthew 24:15 and states that this will be fulfilled with the Antichrist literally going into the Jewish temple for the purpose of presenting himself as Christ. He also confirms Jesus' words that state there will immediately follow a Great Hardship that will be worse than anything since the beginning of the world.

Paragraph #3 Irenaeus clearly links the prophecy of the little horn in Daniel 7 to 2 Thessalonians 2 and he indicates that the Antichrist will be in power three and a half years.

Paragraph #4 Irenaeus has an extended discussion about the Antichrist, which culminates in his linking this with Daniel 9:27. "And then he [Daniel] points out the time that his [Antichrist's] tyranny shall last, during which the saints shall be put to flight, they who offer a pure sacrifice unto God: 'And in the midst of the week,' he says, 'the sacrifice and the libation shall be taken away, and the abomination of desolation [shall be brought] into the temple: even unto the consummation of the time shall the desolation be complete.' Now three years and six months constitute the half-week."

Again Irenaeus clearly links the:

- A) Antichrist sitting in the Jewish Temple "as if he were Christ" leading to the
- B) "sacrifice and the libation shall be taken away" and the
- C) "Abomination of Desolation"
- D) As lasting 3.5 years before the "consummation of the time shall the desolation be complete."

We really need to make sure that all the theories or interpretations that we accept conform to Jesus' words that the coming Bad Guy will sit in the Jewish Temple declaring himself to be god and that terrible things will happen immediately for a period of 3.5 years.

The literal interpretation of Jesus', Daniel's, Matthew's, Mark's, John's, and Paul's scripture meets that requirement.

- A) There is a Coming period of 7 years – Daniel's 70th Week
- B) Where there will be a Bad Guy that sits in the Jewish Temple
- C) Proclaims himself to be god and
- D) Causes huge destruction on Judea and All Flesh as nothing has ever affected Judea and All Flesh in the past.

And Remember.... that we are commanded by the Holy Spirit (three separate times) to spent the time and effort necessary to understand this issue.