

BIBLICAL PROPHECY

Eschatology



ESCHATOLOGY

***From The Next Great Event on God's Time Clock
To The
Great White Throne of Judgement***

ESCHATOLOGY #1

THE NEXT GREAT EVENT ON GOD'S TIME CLOCK

Intro: We are studying Prophecy

Never study or teach Prophecy for sensationalism (As Jack Van Impe does!)

Never study or teach Prophecy to "foretell the future" (Never be a "Date Setter")

Never go beyond the Bible – ALWAYS RIGHTLY DIVIDE THE WORD OF GOD

God has told us everything He wants us to know about future events.

Note: There are at least four teachings about which God does not want us to be ignorant.

A. Paul said, "I would not have you ignorant...." (God wants us to know...")

1. Not ignorant of God's righteousness (Romans 10:3).

2. Not ignorant of Spiritual gifts (I Cor. 12).

3. Not ignorant of Satan's devices (II Cor. 2:11).

4. Not ignorant concerning believers who have died (I Thessalonians 4:13).

Question: **What is the Next Great Event on God's Time Clock?**

A. Some people believe the world is coming to an end.

B. Some people believe a nuclear war will break out and nations will destroy nations.

C. Hollywood makes films like; Armageddon – which portray the End of the World.

D. Some people believe the Anti-Christ will appear and that is the next event.

Answer: **Paul Answered the Question for us - - - FOR CHRISTIANS**

A. Titus 2:13: "Blessed Hope"

1. The Next Great Event will be called, "The Blessed Hope."

2. The Blessed Hope cannot be war – nuclear destruction – Armageddon – Anti-Christ

3. The next great event has to be something that is a "blessing to Christians."

4. The next great event is the "RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH."

B. Paul explains what that event will be.

1. "The glorious appearing of our Lord Jesus." (Titus 2:13)

Various Positions: There are three positions held by men concerning the Rapture

1. Post-Tribulation Rapture – The "Church" will go through the Tribulation Period.

a. This position is a "theory" and cannot be proven.

2. Mid-Tribulation Rapture - The "Church" will go through the first 3 ½ years of Tribulation.

a. This position is a "theory" and cannot be proven.

3. Pre-Tribulation Rapture – The "Church" will be taken to Heaven before the Tribulation begins.

a. This position is a Bible Truth and can be proven by the Bible.

There are three passages that explain this next great event.

I. First Passage: John 14:1

1. In the Upper Room – Day or two before His death –

2. Jesus had foretold his death - Disciples were troubled

3. He told them:

a. "I go"

b. "I will prepare a place for you"

c. "I will return"

d. "I will receive you."

4. Jews had never heard this
 - a. They had heard of the Kingdom – nothing more.
 - b. This is the first and only time Jesus mentioned “the rapture” in His earthly ministry!
 - c. They understood the picture Jesus used of the “Jewish Wedding.”
5. Jewish/Eastern wedding of that day
 - a. A man was espoused to the woman he was going to marry.
 - b. Started to prepare a place on the side of his Father’s house in which they would live
 - c. Months went by – maybe a year
 - c. When the place was ready – Bridegroom would “return” for his bride
6. Bride was “looking” forward to his return!
 - a. She had a “Blessed Hope” of him returning for her
 - b. She would consider it a great “Blessing” when he appeared!
7. Every Christian should be longing for his appearing.
 - b. No Christian should want anything more than his return.
8. What is the next great event? - Not war, nuclear event, Armageddon or anti-christ
 - a. His return for His Bride – Our Blessed Hope!**

II. **Second Passage: I Corinthians 15:51**

- A. Mystery: Not like which appears on a present day TV Show! (I Peter 1:10-12)
 1. Something that was previously hidden – now being revealed.
- B. Show you – WHAT?
- C. Sleep in Bible – Death of the body
 1. Mystery: Not all will die
 - a. Everyone dreads death – Even Christians –Never died before
 2. Dead will be raised
 3. We who are alive will be changed
 - a. In a moment
 - b. Quicker than the twinkling of an eye!
 4. Mortals will put on immortality (Not capable of dying!)

III. **Third Passage: I Thessalonians 4:13-18**

- A. No reason to sorrow for those who have died
 1. People were in sorrow.
- B. These people believed in the resurrection
 1. Did not know when their loved ones would be resurrected.
- C. They believed that the Church would not go through the Tribulation Period.
 1. If they believed the Church would endure this event, they would be glad their loved ones would miss it.
- D. Assured them their loved ones would be resurrected “with them”

I Thess. 5:9 – **God has not appointed us – His Bride – to wrath!**

IV. **When Does the Rapture Take Place?**

- A. Revelation 4:1 – **Keenly observe the Language**
- B. **NO MENTION OF CHURCH FROM REVELATION 4:1 UNTIL REVELATION 20:9**

THERE ARE NO SIGNS THAT POINT TO THE RAPTURE – ALL SIGNS POINT TO THE 2ND COMING

ESCHATOLOGY #2

Daniel 9:20-27
DANIEL'S SEVENTH WEEK

Intro: The passage finds Daniel in Prayer

- A. He was reading from Jeremiah Chapter 25. (Daniel 9:1-2)
- B. Daniel's Prayer
 - 1. Confession of Sin (Daniel 9:3-15)
 - 2. Supplication (Daniel 9:16-20)
- C. Prophecy of "70 weeks" is a direct answer to Daniel's prayer (Daniel 9:21)
 - 1. God reveals "when" He will restore Israel

I. To Whom Does the Prophecy of 70 weeks apply?

- A. The prophecy is to ISRAEL - - - No mention of Church
 - 1. Daniel/Israel had never heard of "the church!"
 - a. Verse 20: "...my people"
 - b. Verse 24: "...Upon thy holy city"
 - 2. All "time-lines" in the Bible deal with Israel.
 - 3. God's "time-clock" centers around Israel and Jerusalem.

II. The Meaning of the Word, "Weeks."

- A. The word "weeks" – refers to "A Unit of Measure."
 - 1. We use the phrase, "A dozen."
 - 2. A dozen of what? A dozen donuts, A dozen eggs
- B. "Weeks" in the passage - a "week" means "a week of years" - or 7 years
 - 1. Genesis 29:15-28 - (Jacob and Laban)
 - 2. Genesis 29:18 – "her week" (Seven years)
 - 3. Genesis 29:22 – "Seven years – (her week)"
- C. Daniel was referring to years. (Daniel 9:1-2)
- C. Daniel's prophecy is "70 sets of seven years each, or 490 years"

THREE DIVISIONS OF THE PROPHECY **(The Seventy Weeks)**

Intro: The first two divisions run continuously and are combined - with no gap between them.
There is division or "a gap" between the first two divisions - and the third division.

I. First Division of Prophecy was Seven weeks of 7 years each: 7 X 7 = 49 years:

- 1. Commenced with: "From the going forth of the commandment to rebuild Jerusalem"
The commandment was to "restore and rebuild Jerusalem"
(NOT just the Temple, but the city)
- A. There were three decrees:

1. Cyrus – 538 BC Ezra 1:1-4 & 5:13-17
 - a. This cannot be the decree – This was merely to rebuild the Temple – not the city
2. Darius – 513 BC Ezra 6:1-2
 - a. This cannot be the decree – This only confirmed the “decree by Cyrus”
3. Artaxerxes – Nisan (April) 445 BC (Neh. 2:1)
 - a. Nehemiah, Chapter 2
 1. Verse 3: “...when the city, the place of my father’s sepulchers...”
 2. Nehemiah’s Request: Neh. 2:5:

“And I said unto the king, if it please the king, and if thy servant have found favour in thy sight, that thou wouldest send me unto Judah, unto the city of my fathers’ sepulchers, that I may build it.”
 3. Neh. 2:6: “So it pleased the king to send me.....”
 4. Neh. 6:15: “So the wall was finished...” (The CITY was rebuilt)
 - c. It was from “THIS” decree that the “time-line” begins.
 - d. Daniel states: “From the going forth to rebuild – it shall be seven weeks”
7 weeks of 7 years each: $7 \times 7 = 49$ years
 - e. This 49 year period took the Jewish people from the going forth of the commandment to the close of the Old Testament. It concluded with Malachi.

II. Second Division of Prophecy was $62 \times 7 = 434$ year

A. The second division, in which the number of years is included with the 49 years, began immediately after the 49 years had expired:

A. The 62 week period began at the close of the Old Testament.

1. It continues until, “Messiah be cut off.” (Daniel 9:26 - Month Nisan - April 32 AD)
 (Sir Robert Anderson spent years studying the time-line
 (His findings are based on a Jewish calendar of 30 days to a month - 360 days in a year.)
 - a. A.D. does not mean, “After Death” as many people think.
 - b. A.D. is a Latin Phrase: “Anno (means year) Domini (means Lord).
 A. D. Means: “**The Year of our Lord.**”
 - c. B.C. and A.D. meet on the same day! The day of the birth of Christ.

C. The time of the “Commandment going forth was 445 BC.

1. That time period covered 49 years.
2. When that time period expired, the 62- year period began
3. This time period covered 434 years ($62 \times 7 = 434$)
4. The two time periods - 49 years + 434 years = 483 years.
 - b. This marks the time of the exact year of the first Palm Sunday. (John 12:12-15)
 - a. This is when Christ was presented and His rejection began.
5. One week of 7 years, plus 62 weeks of 7 years = 69 weeks or 483 years.
6. That leaves “one” week remaining or “one period of 7 years.”
 - a. When “Daniel’s 7th week” is added, (7 years) the total will be 490 years.

III. The Reason for the Gap between the 69th week and the 70th week.

- A. There would not have been a “gap” had the Jews accepted Jesus as Messiah.
 - 1. They rejected Him!
- B. The Angel did not reveal the gap – which is the “Church Age” - to Daniel.
- C. The Kingdom was “taken from the Jews” (Matthew 21:43)
 - 1. Today, Christ is not dealing with the Jews as a nation.
 - a. Christ is dealing individually with Jews, but not collectively with Israel.
- D. The “gap” between the 69th and the 70th week began with:
 - 1. Acts 2:47 & 15:13-17 – and will conclude in Revelation 4:1
- E. The “Church Age” was not revealed to any of the Old Testament Prophets (Eph. 3:1-6).
- F. The “Church Age” continues until this very minute.
 - 1. At the end of the “church age” the rapture takes place.
 - 2. The earth will then enter “**Daniel’s Seventh Week**” called “The Tribulation Period.”
 - 3. God will again deal with Israel.

IV. Six events that God will “Finish” in His dealing with Israel are found in Daniel 9:24

- A. Finish the Transgression

Accomplished by the preaching of the Gospel, and pouring out of the Holy Ghost on the people of Israel.
- B. Make an end to Sin (Hebrews 9:11-12)

Make an end to “sin offerings.” They will acknowledge that Jesus, their Messiah, died once and for all.
- C. Make Reconciliation for Iniquity (Hebrews 9:28)

Accomplished by Christ when He offered Himself.
- D. Bring Everlasting Righteousness (Revelation 19:15)

By bringing in the everlasting “Righteous One” the subject of the prophets throughout the ages.
- E. Seal up the Vision (Revelation 22:19)

To put an end to any further revelations by completing the canon of Scripture and fulfilling the prophecies related to Israel.
- F. Anoint The Holy One (Revelation 19:15)

The anointing or appointing of our Blessed Lord to be Prophet, Priest, and King of all mankind.

V. Events that will Take Place during the 70th Week

- A. The Anti-Christ will make a Covenant with the Jews.
 - 1. He will broker a “False Peace” with Israel (The Jews).
 - 2. He will allow them to build their Temple.
 - 3. He will allow them to offer sacrifices.
- B. The Jews will accept him as a friend and as the hope of their nation.
- C. Anti-Christ will break his covenant in the “middle of the week.” (3 ½ years)

1. There will be Great Tribulation as never before (Matthew 24:21, Rev. 7:14)
 - a. And NEVER will be after!

VI This Will Be Covered in Detail in the Study of the Olivet Discourse.

A. Three passages must agree:

1. Daniel's 70 Weeks
2. The Olivet Discourse in Matthew, chapters 24-25
3. John's Seals and Trumpets in Revelation

ESCHATOLOGY #3

THE EIGHT JUDGMENTS OF GOD

Intro #1: When most people think of “judgment” they think – ONE BIG GENERAL JUDGMENT!
1. Then the “End of the World will come”
2. There will be one great general judgment – then it’s all over

Intro #2: This is not true. There are eight major judgments. They are as follows:
1. One Is Complete
2. One Is Continuing
3. Six Are Coming

I. The Judgment of Sin – Romans 5:8 - I John 2:2

A. This Judgment took place at the cross and is complete.

B. This Judgment was “once and for all” – Never to be done again! (Hebrews 10:4-12).

1. God took all the sins of all times and placed them on Jesus Christ (II Cor. 5:21)

2. God put Christ on the Cross.

3. God turned His head – Christ “died” on the Cross - **SIN WAS JUDGED!** – Once for all!
(Matthew 27:46)

C. This Judgment is COMPLETE

1. No one’s sin will ever be judged again! (Rev 20:12-15)

II. The Judgment of Self – I Corinthians 11:28-31

A. This judgment takes place, **in church**, during “The Lord’s Supper.”

B. This judgment is “continuous” (I Cor. 11:26) – “...as often...”

1. This is a commandment – not an option

2. Steps in Self-judgment

a. Examine yourself (I Corinthians 11:28)

b. “...so let him eat.”

GREEK WORD for “so” is “*houto*” – its meaning: “after that - eat!”

c. It refers to what is to be done between I Corinthians 11: 27 and 29

3. God does not give a Christian the option “to examine one’s self and “not eat.”

4. Nowhere is it implied that a Christian has the option to refuse the Lord’s Supper.

5. God EXPECTS a Christian to: Examine – Confess – Partake

6. That is the major purpose of the Lord’s Supper.

III. The Judgment of Christians – II Corinthians 5:10, Romans 14:10, I Cor. 3:12

A. This judgment takes place in Heaven, after the Rapture.

B. This is called, “The Judgment Seat of Christ.”

C. This judgment is yet future.

D. We will do a complete lesson on this later in this series

IV. The Judgment of Israel – Ezekiel 20:34-38. (Method of measuring)

A. This judgment takes place, on earth, at the end of the Tribulation Period.

1. There are 3 ½ years of Great Tribulation Period to prepare Israel for this judgment.

2. God will call Israel back to their land and to Him (Ezekiel 20:34-38)

B. Romans 11:26 – “... all Israel shall be saved.” (Does not mean “every person in Israel.”

1. The Deliverer shall “turn away ungodliness...”

2. **Not all Israel is Israel** (Romans 9:6 – Gal 3:6-7). (Natural Israel & Spiritual Israel)

Abraham’s true seed are, “Those of faith.”

C. The time – The close of the Tribulation Period (Matthew 24-25).

D. The place – Israel is an “earthly people.”

1. It will take place on earth (Ezekiel 20:37- 40, Zechariah 14:4).

E. This will be covered in detail in the lessons on “The Olivet Discourse.”

V. The Judgment of the Beast & of the False Prophet - Revelation 19:20.

A. This judgment takes place at the 2nd coming of Christ (Great Day of the Lord)

B. It takes place “on earth.” (Rev. 19:17-21)

C. Precedes the Judgment of the Gentile nations (Revelation 19:20-21)

VI. The Judgment of the Gentile Nations - Revelation 19:17-21.

A. The time of this judgment commences following the gathering and judgment of Israel.

1. Matthew 25:31-46, Joel 3:1-2

2. Precedes the Millennium (Matthew 25:31-34)

B. The Place of the Judgment

1. It takes place on earth – no mention of the “dead” at this judgment.

2. Some believe it is in The Valley of Jehoshaphat (Joel 3:2 through 16)

There is no sure location of the Valley of Jehoshaphat.

It may be the same as the Kidron Valley

3. It is more likely at the Mt. of Olives (Zech. 14:4).

The “great valley” spoken of is not there today.

The “great valley” spoken of may also be known of as the “Valley of Jehoshaphat.”

4. The people who will be judged here are **those who come through the Tribulation Period**

a. The “dead” have not been resurrected at this time.

5. The basis for the judgment will be the way the Gentiles have treated God’s people

a. Matthew 25:40, 45, 46.

VII. The Judgment of Satan - Revelation 20:10 – Fallen Angels - Jude 6.

A. Satan will be “bound for 1000 years” during the Millennium (Revelation 20:1-2).

B. Satan is “cast into the lake of fire – forever and ever” (Revelation 20:10)

C. The judgment of Fallen Angels – nothing is said concerning their time of judgment.

1. Possibly at the time that Satan is judged (Jude 6)

VIII. The Judgment of The Great White Throne - Revelation 20:11-15.

A. This Judgment takes place at the end of the Millennium.

B. We will do a complete study on this judgment at a later time.

ESCHATOLOGY #4
THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST
Part One
II Corinthians 5:6-11

Intro: There are Two Words for Judgment:

1. *Criterion*: James 2:6 – This is a “judicial” judgment – judgment for a crime
2. *Bema*: II Corinthians 5:10 – (Acts 18:12 & 16, plus Romans 14:10)
 - A. A Raised Platform
 - B. A Reward Seat
 - C. The Olympic Games has a “raised platform” based upon this Biblical definition.
 1. Given our rewards for a good performance.

I. When will it take place?

- A. Immediately after the “rapture” of the church from earth to Heaven (Luke 14:14).
- B. II Timothy 4:8 – Associated with “that day” (The day of Christ)
- C. “The Day of Christ” is, that day in which the Lord calls the Church home – (The Rapture).
 1. This is different from “The Day of the Lord.”
 2. The Day of The Lord is always “The Second Coming” of Christ.

II. Where will it take place?

- A. Heaven (II Corinthians 5:9-10).
- B. Immediately after the believers are “absent from the body....” via the rapture

III. Who will be the Judge?

- A. II Corinthians 5:10 – “...appear before the judgment seat **of Christ...**”
- B. John 5:22: “The Father judgeth no man ... committed all judgment to the Son.”

IV. Who will be judged at this judgment?

- A. Can’t possibly miss this truth (II Corinthians 5:1-19)
- B. ONLY Christians – Believers! – **There are no lost people at this judgment!**
 1. Verse 1 “...a house not made with hands.”
 2. Verse 4 “...mortality will be swallowed up of life.”
 3. Verse 5 “... wrought us for the selfsame thing is God.”
 4. Verse 5 “...hath given us the earnest of the Spirit.”
 5. Verse 7 “...walk by faith, not by sight.”

V. What is the basis for the judgment?

- A. It is not a **Judicial** judgment – It is not, if you believe or if you did not believe.
 1. Christ delivered believers from all judgment concerning sins we committed in life.
(Romans 8:1, John 5:24, I John 4:17)
 2. Believers will be judged “for our works.” (covered at a later time)
 3. To be judicial He would have to bring all our sins before us.
 - a. That would be contrary to Hebrews 10:17.
 - b. As a person, we were “weighed and found wanting.”
 - c. His blood blotted out all our sins.

- B. We will “appear” before Him and He will judge us on our performance as a Christian
 - 1. Be it good or bad (II Corinthians 5:10)
 - a. The word, “bad” is not bad as in evil.
 - b. The word, “bad” is as “worthless, or good for nothing.”
(II Corinthians 3:12 “...wood, hay, stubble.”)
 - 2. It is not to chastise His child for his failure – but to reward His child for service.
 - a. Paul said, “...lest I be a castaway” (*adokimos*): Worthless or disapproved
 - B. Mark 8:35 – Possible to waste your life.

VI. The Results of the Examination (I Corinthians 3:14-15)

- A. Done by fire
- B. The fire is to determine “...**what sort it is**” and not “how much it is.”
- C. It is clear that this judgment is about the believer’s **WORKS** done for Christ.
- D. It is not based on “external observation” but on “character and motivation.”
- E. Are the works “destructible or indestructible?”

THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST

Part Two

II Corinthians 5:6-11

Intro: Brief Review

I. It will be a Place of Review (I Corinthians 3:11-13)

- A. Manifest – Placed on Dress Parade!
- B. Believers will be judged, “one by one” “Every one may receive...” (Not in mass)
- A. We will be judged for: What you HAVE done

II. It will be a Place of Rewards – Some say we should not work for rewards.

- A. I Corinthians 9:24 -...so run that ye may obtain
- B. Revelation 22:12reward is in my hand
- C. Matthew 16:27according to your works
- D. Matthew 6:20lay up treasure (This is a mandate)

How will rewards be decided?

- A. According to quality – not quantity (I Corinthians 3:11)
Rather have a handful of diamonds or truck load of dirt?
- B. According to motive (I Corinthians 9:16-17)
Tell me WHY you do what you do. I'll tell you WHAT your reward will be.
- C. According to what you attempted (I Kings 8:17-18)
Nate Saint – Jim Elliot – Paul Flemming – Ed McCully – Roger Youderian
Five men died – did not win anyone – will share in the rewards – paved way.

*“If you succeeded and do not suffer, it is because some suffered before you.
If you suffer and do not succeed, it is because someone will succeed after you.”*

- D. According to “IF you have done what you could have done.”
Mark 14:8, “She had done what she could.”

E. We will be accountable for the difference in what we did and what we could have

III. What will the rewards be?

- A. God will give the believers Crowns:
 - 1. An Incorruptible Crown - Mastery of the old man (I Cor. 9:25)
 - 2. A Crown of Rejoicing for Soul Winners (I Thess 2:19).
 - 3. A Crown of life for enduring trials (James 1:12).
 - 4. A Crown of righteousness for loving His appearing (II Timothy 4:8)
 - 5. A Crown of glory for feeding the flock (I Peter 5:4).

IV. A Place of Re-Evaluation

- A. Mark 8:34 – World - vs - Working for Christ (The World is Worthless)
 - 1. I John 2:15 – In that day the world will not seem important

STORY: Wm Carey was a missionary from England going to India. He was a shoe cobbler. One day two very well-known men ran into Wm Carey on the street. They had heard he was going to be a

missionary. They asked, “Mr. Carey, What is your business?” He replied, “My business is to preach the Gospel.” They responded, “Oh yes, we know you are going to India, but what is your business here.” Again, Carey said, “My business is preaching the Gospel.” He knew what they were referring to, so he continued. “Do you men want to know what I do to earn money?” “Yes! They replied.” Carey answered, “Sirs, I cobble shoes to make money. But the only reason I work and cobble shoes is to make money to finance my business!”

That should be the attitude of every Christian.

V. A Place of Regret – I John 2:28

A. You may be saying, “I used to serve, tithe, teach, witness, missions...”

1.” At least I have that laid up in Heaven”

B. Maybe not: Revelation 3:11hold fast that which ye have....

C. Some will suffer loss (I Corinthians 3:15).

What does that mean “suffer loss?”

If you were saved and your wife and kids were not, and if your house caught fire and burned to the ground in the middle of the night and your wife and kids die, plus all your stocks and bonds went up in smoke, would you say, “Well there it goes, my wife, my kids, my life’s work and savings, but, it’s okay. I’m saved and I’m going to Heaven?”

It is not enough to “be saved!”

You should strive to “be approved” of God.

If not, you will be saved and go to Heaven,

But, you will suffer great loss.

ESCHATOLOGY #5
THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST
Part Two
II Corinthians 5:6-11

Intro: Brief Review of Part One.

I. It will be a Place of Review (I Corinthians 3:11-13)

- A. Manifest – What you’ve done for Christ since salvation will be “Placed on Dress Parade!”
- B. Believers will be judged, “one by one.” “Every one may receive...”
- C. You will be judged and rewarded for: What you HAVE done

II. It will be a Place of Rewards – Some say we should not work for rewards.

- A. I Corinthians 9:24 – “...so run, that ye may obtain”
- B. Revelation 22:12 “....reward is in my hand”
- C. Matthew 16:27 “....according to your works”
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Rather have a handful of diamonds or a truck load of dirt?
- 2. According to motive (I Corinthians 9:16-17)
Tell me WHY you do what you do. I’ll tell you WHAT your reward will be.
- 3. According to what you attempted (I Kings 8:17-18) – (David)
Nate Saint – Jim Elliot – Paul Flemming – Ed McCully – Roger Youderian
Five men died – did not win anyone – will share in the rewards – paved the way.
- 4. According to “IF you have done what you could have done”
Mark 14:8, “She had done what she could.”
- 5. We will be accountable for the difference in what we did and what we could have done.

III. What will the rewards be?

A. God will give the believer’s Crowns for the following:

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| 1. A Incorruptible Crown - | Mastery of the Old Man | (I Cor. 9:25) |
| 2. A Crown of Rejoicing for - | Soul Winners | (I Thess. 2:19) |
| 3. A Crown of Life for - | Enduring Trials | (James 1:12) |
| 4. A Crown of Righteousness for - | Loving His Appearing | (II Timothy 4:8) |
| 5. A Crown of Glory for - | Feeding the Flock | (I Peter 5:1-4) |

IV. A Place of Re-Evaluation

- A. Mark 8:34 – World - vs - Working for Christ (The World is Worthless)
 - 1. I John 2:15. – In that day the world will not seem important.

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If you were saved and your wife and kids were not, and if your house caught fire and burned to the ground in the middle of the night, and your wife and kids died, plus all your stocks and bonds went up in smoke, would you say, “Well there it goes, my wife, my kids, my life’s work and savings, but, it’s okay. I’m saved and I’m going to Heaven?”

It is not enough to just “be saved!”

You should strive to “be approved” of God.

If you are not approved, you will be saved and go to Heaven,

But, you will suffer great loss!

ESCHATOLOGY #6
THE MARRIAGE OF THE LAMB
Revelation 19:1-10

THE PRELUDE PLAYS!
Four Alleluias
Redemption – Retribution – Realization - Reign

Intro: The **BRIDGROOM** has been looking forward to the Marriage for 2000 years.
The **BRIDE** should be looking forward to the Marriage – TODAY – Making herself ready!

Beginning: The instant you trusted Christ - Became espoused to Christ! – Legal Contract

NOW! The Bridegroom returns for His Bride (John 14:1-5)

The “Bema Seat” – **Preparation of the Bride for the Wedding**

God the Father – Waiting to Congratulate His Son

God the Son – Waiting to take his Bride

The Bride (Church) waiting to “become one” with her Husband

I. The Marriage Ceremony!

A. Many New Testament passages use the relationship between a husband and wife
(John 3:29; Romans 7:4; II Corinthians 11:2; Ephesians 5:25-33; Revelation 19:7-8)

1. In Marriage Today: All eyes are on the Bride

DIFFERENT

a. Organ plays, “Here comes the Bride,” - People stand.....

2. In Marriage That day: All eyes will be upon Jesus, the Son of God – The Bridegroom

a. Including the Bride! She has waited a long time to be his wife.

II. The Time of the Marriage

A. Close of the Tribulation on earth - - - - before the 2nd advent.

1. **“IS COME....” Rev. 19:7 “....The marriage of the Lamb ‘is come’ – COMPLETES**

2. FINAL ACT OF MARRIAGE.....

A. Espoused – Time of Salvation

B. Rapture - - - -Presents “Hope Chest”

1. **“wife has made herself ready”**

B. “Bema” seat – Life of Works reviewed!

1. Salvation is by grace apart from works.

a. Imputed - (Romans 3:21-12).

b. Cleansed by Christ – (Eph 5:25-27)

2. The “fine linen” ...is the righteousness of the SAINTS (RIGHT ACTS)

a. Doing right while here on earth!

b. It is **granted** for her to be arrayed in fine linen

The Bride is Rewarded!

THE PICTURE:

OLDEN DAYS – Brides: **“Made their wedding dresses”** (Diane Gambrell made her dress)

A. This Bride – The church – **has made her own wedding garment**

1. Has been working on it since salvation

2. “Righteous Deeds – Things accepted at the Bema Seat”

B. Each of us will be wearing a “wedding garment” **of our own making!**

1. EVERYTHING YOU DO FOR CHRIST

Tracts – Witnessing – Teaching – Tithe – Faith Promise

Drove Bus – Cooked for church – cleaned church – ALL!

III. The Place of the Marriage

A. The place only can be in heaven!

1. Continuing picture of the Judgment Seat

2. From “Heaven” - - - - Christ descends to earth for 2nd advent (Rev. 19:11)

a. Bride descends WITH Him (Rev. 19:14)

B. It is a Heavenly Marriage – It could not take place on earth in the presence of gross immorality!

1. The Church is a Heavenly association – Ephesians 1:3

2. Israel is always connected with the earth. (Exodus 20:22 – Deut 26:15)

IV. The Participants in the Marriage- - - - (The Heavenly Host looks on - I Peter 1:12 & Heb 12:22)

A. The Marriage involves **ONLY** Christ and the Church! - - - - - Heavenly Host!

1. The resurrection of Israel and the Old Testament Saints **takes place at the 2nd advent.**

a. Daniel 12:1-3

b. Isaiah 26:19-21

2. The Resurrection of the Tribulation Saints takes place at the 2nd Advent

a. Revelation 20:4-6

V. The Difference between the (1) Marriage of the Lamb and the (2) Marriage Feast

A. The Marriage of the Lamb is an event that has particular reference to the church.

1. It clearly takes place in Heaven

B. The Marriage Supper is an event that involves (1) Israel and (2) takes place on the earth.

1. Matthew 22:1-14; Luke 14:16-24, and Matthew 25:1-13 makes it clear that Israel is awaiting the return “of the bridegroom and the bride!

C. The Wedding Feast or Supper takes place on earth and becomes a **picture of the entire millennial age.**

1. **Israel will be invited** to the Supper during the Tribulation Period. (Old Testament Saints)

a. Many Israelites will accept the invitation. Matt. 25!

b. Many Israelites will **reject** the invitation.

2. **Gentiles who were saved during the Tribulation will be invited.**

b. Matthew 22:1-14 (**Verse 9**) & Luke 14:16-24 (**Verse 21**)

3. **Israelites who endured the Tribulation Period will be invited.**

4. The Marriage of the Lamb is ALWAYS in relation to the CHURCH.

5. The Marriage Supper is ALWAYS in relation to ISRAEL.

C. The BRIDE is presented as a “**Trophy of God’s Grace**” (Ephesians 1:12)

ESCHATOLOGY #7

THE RESURRECTIONS

Revelation 20:4-6

- Intro:** 1. There is a great lack of teaching on this subject, which generates a great deal of misunderstanding and assumptions.
2. There are at least **seven resurrections** mentioned in Scripture. Each of those will be studied in this lesson.
3. **Those seven resurrections are divided into “two categories.”** There is the “first resurrection,” and there is the “second resurrection.”
4. There is NO MENTION of a “second resurrection” in Scripture. However, a “second resurrection” is implied in Revelation 20:6, where the Scriptures state:

“Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.”

This truth is also clearly illustrated in the following verses:

“And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.” (Daniel 12:2)

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

UNDERSTANDING THE FIRST RESURRECTION

A. The term, “first” is an inclusive term. It does not apply to “just one” individual resurrection. It includes six resurrections and includes all those who have been saved since the time of Adam and Eve. The “First Resurrection” includes six of the resurrections mentioned in Scripture.

The “Second Resurrection,” which includes all the lost since the time of Adam and Eve, takes place at one time.

Example: On Thanksgiving Day a farmer may make the statement, “All of the harvest has been gathered in the barn.” All of the harvest was not gathered in “one” day. A small amount of the harvest may have been gathered in the early days of the harvest. Then, more of the harvest may have been gathered day by day. The harvest may have been interrupted, due to bad weather, possibly for 2-3 weeks. After the weather improved and the ground dried, they continue gathering the harvest. However, when the farmer said, “The harvest is all in the barn,” he would not break the harvest down, day by day.

THE FIRST RESURRECTION
(There are “six-stages” which make up the First Resurrection.)
(As near as possible in chronological order)

I. The Resurrection of Jesus Christ

- A. Matthew 28:1-7; Mark 16:1-11; Luke 24:1-12; John 20:1-18; & I Corinthians 15:20.
- B. The Scripture states that Christ is the “first fruits” (I Corinthians 15:20-23).
 - 1. AFTERWARDS....They that are Christ’s – (Saved) – More harvest!

II. The Resurrection of “many bodies of the Old Testament Saints arose” (Matthew 27:50-53).

- A. It is clear that it was widely known that the graves opened and they were resurrected.
 - 1. Those resurrected people went into the holy city (Jerusalem) (Vs. 53)
 - 2. They appeared unto many (Vs. 53).
 - 3. The Centurion and others saw Jesus, saw the earthquake, and **the things done** (Vs. 54).
 - a. Saw graves open!
 - b. Saw people resurrected!
 - 4. The Centurion and others “feared greatly.”
- B. **No more is said** of these people or what happened to them after they were resurrected.
- C. Good and Godly Bible scholars are divided on what happened to those resurrected:
 - 1. Some believe they had glorified bodies (Hebrews 12:23).
 - 2. Some believe they ascended to glory at the time of Christ (Eph4:8-10).
 - 3. Others believe they lived a period of time, died, were reburied and will be resurrected again.
 - 4. **The Scriptures are silent on this subject; therefore it is impossible to have a sure answer.**
 - a. **All of the above are possible.**

III. The Resurrection of the “Dead in Christ” at the Rapture

- A. This includes the entire Church.
 - 1. All saved people from the Cross to the Rapture
- B. John 14:3; I Thessalonians 4:13-18; I Corinthians 15:50-53.
- C. This resurrection takes place BEFORE the Tribulation Period.

IV. The Resurrection of the two witnesses (Revelation 11:11-12) (Entire text – 3-12)

- A. This resurrection takes place at the middle of the Tribulation Period.
 - 1. Time of the Gentiles ended at the Rapture – Explained in Rev. 11:2
 - a. The “court” which is “without the temple”
 - b. **This was where the Gentiles gathered.**

2. Immediately after the rapture – God “called out” two men to be witnesses
 - a. They condemned the sins of the nations.
 - b. They were hated by the world.
 - b. They continued for a period of 3 ½ years.
3. The Jewish calendar contained 360 days in a year.
4. The two witnesses will prophesy for 1260 days = 42 months - 3 ½ years
5. The beast rises up and kills the two witnesses.
 - b. The world rejoices!
 - a. Three days later, these two witnesses are resurrected.

V. The Old Testament Saints will be Resurrected at the end of the Tribulation Period.

Three passages attest to this

A. Daniel 12:1-2

1. It is after the “time of trouble such as never was.”
2. It says, “...at that time thy people shall be delivered.”
 - a. Vs. 2 – Speaks of the resurrection.

B. Isaiah 26:19

1. This takes place as Israel is preparing to go into the Millennium – **Singing**
2. Previous verses refer to a “restored Israel”
 - a. This takes place at the end of the Tribulation Period.

C. Ezekiel 37:1-14

1. Verses 1-11 speak of Israel as “dry bones” being revived and coming back to life.
2. Verse 12 speaks of the graves opening, and – God’s bringing them into the land of Israel
3. Verse 14 speaks of
 - a. God putting His spirit in them
 - b. God shall place them in their own land.

VI. The Tribulation Martyrs will be Resurrected (Revelation 20:4-6)

A. Clearly stated in verse 4

Conclusion: “Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection....” (Revelation 20:6a)

The First Resurrection comes in six-stages.

All those resurrected were/are saved people. They all went/are going to Heaven.

This completes the picture of “the harvest being complete.”

THE SECOND RESURRECTION

This resurrection takes place at the same time and at the same place.

I. The Resurrection of the Dead! (Revelation 20:11-15).

A. The Second Resurrection is in one stage only!

- B. This resurrection includes all those who have died since Adam and Eve whose names are not found in the “Book of Life.”
- C. This resurrection occurs in order that these people can be brought before the Great White Throne!

ESCHATOLOGY #8

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

Intro: Chapter 13 portrays the true person of Anti-Christ as he is in the last 3 ½ years of the tribulation.

- A. The first 3 ½ years reveal he is a deceiver. (Revelation 6:2)
- B. The last 3 ½ years reveal his true identity
 - 1. Daniel 9:27, Matt. 24:15, II Thess. 2:8

Intro: Chapter 12 - Satan's defeat and overthrow (Revelation 12:7-2)

- A. Cast out of Heaven
 - 1. Formerly had access (Job 1:6)
 - 2. Accuser of the Brethren (Rev. 12:10)
 - 3. Satan was angry (Rev 12:12)

I. The Seven-Year Reign of the Anti-Christ

A. The Rapture:

- 1. World will not understand the "rapture" – the disappearance of people
- 2. World will be in confusion – easy prey
 - a. Medical Services
 - b. Transportation Services
 - c. Internet Services
 - d. Financial System – Stock market
 - e. Political World in disarray
 - f. Peace will be his "Platform."

Anti-Christ will explain all of this

3. A man will come forth and...

- a. Will **appear** to have all the answers
- b. He will be "**clean-cut**," well dressed, a good reputation, etc.
 - 1. Great Intellect – (Ezekiel 28:3)
 - 2. Great wisdom – Well-being of people is main concern!
 - 3. Great influence – (Daniel 11:21)
 - 4. Great confidence – Will command attention (Rev. 13:8)
 - 5. Great Deceiver – Will deceive the nations – world leaders (Daniel 7:20)
 - 6. Great power – doing signs and wonders (II Thess. 2:7-10)

II. His First Two Acts During the First 3 ½ years of the Tribulation Period

A. He will bring peace to the earth (Revelation 6:2-4)

- 1. There must be peace before peace can be taken away!

B. He will make a covenant with Israel! (Daniel 9:27).

- 1. He will provide protection and peace for Israel.
- 2. He will allow and help them build their Temple.
- 3. He will allow the Jews to again practice the "sacrificing of animals."

- a. He had to have allowed sacrifices - in order to cause them to cease (Daniel 9:27)
- C. This continues for 3 ½ years – He will be admired as the man who brought peace to the world

III. His First Three Acts During the Last 3 ½ years of Great Tribulation (Matthew 24:21)

NOTE: He will show his “true colors,” explained in Revelation 13

He will turn vicious, proud, and be committed to controlling the world.

- A. He will break his covenant with Israel. (Daniel 9:27)
 - 1. He will turn against Israel in a vicious manner (Matthew 24:15-21)
 - 2. How dreadful will it be – We cannot imagine - Jesus told them to:
 - a. Flee to the mountains
 - b. Don’t even return to their houses to get anything – including a change of clothes
 - c. Pray the women will not be with child
 - d. Pray it won’t happen in winter
 - e. Pray it won’t happen on the Sabbath day (Could only walk 1 ½ mile on the 7th)
- B. He will turn against all the Saints of God (Rev. 12:17 & 13:7).
 - 1. There will be “saints” during the tribulation.
 - a. Not part of the Bride of Christ – Same as Old Testament saints
 - 2. He will attempt to destroy any and ALL references to God in the society.
- C. He will enter the Holy Place (Temple) and declare himself to be God!
 - 1. Matthew 24:15
 - 2. II Thess. 2:4
 - 3. An image will be made of him (Revelation 13:14-15)

The “Counterfeit Trinity” of the Tribulation (Father – Son - Holy Spirit)

- A. The First Beast** – Anti-Christ – (Revelation 13:1-2) (II Thess. 2:4) – (Counterfeit Christ).
 - 1. The Beast is a **man** - not an animal – “Beast” describes his character!
 - a. The Devil is a “spirit.” (**He must inhabit a man in order to do his best work**).
 - b. He receives his power from the Dragon (**Rev. 13:1 - Devil – Rev 12:9; 20:2**)
 - 2. He will rise out of the “sea.” – (The “sea” always refers to the Gentile Nations)
 - a. Come from somewhere in the revived Roman Empire (**United States of Europe**)
(Daniel 7:7, 8, 20, 25; Revelation 17:8-14)
 - 3. He will rule the entire world apart from those whose names are in the Lamb’s Book of Life (Revelation 13:8).
- B. The Dragon** (Satan – Devil – Revelation 12:3 & 9). (Counterfeit of God the Father).
 - 1. He will seek to be worshiped.
 - a. His image will be set up in the Temple (Rev. 13:14, 15; Rev. 16:2).

2. Will “set up:”
 - a. His own church – Counterfeit
 - b. His own religion - Counterfeit
 - c. His own Christ – Counterfeit

C. The Second Beast – Rev. 13:11

1. Counterfeit of the Holy Spirit – Rev. 13:11
 - a. Holy Spirit always exalts Christ (John 16:13-14)
 - b. Second beast will promote the first Beast (Rev 13:13-14)
1. Will come from the “earth.” (Refers to the land where Christ was born – **Palestine!**)
 - a. He will be a Jew! – Out of the earth – Palestine
2. Will use “fire” to convince people that he is the christ – Revelation 13:13
 - a. See II Kings 1:10 & I Kings 18:36-38

V. The Identity of the One-World Dictator – the Anti-Christ! (Rev. 19:18) – Number is 666)

- A. People through the years have sought to identify this man.
1. Some have thought he will be Nero – the Emperor of Rome
 2. John Wesley believed and taught it would be one of the Popes
 3. Some have believed it is Henry Kessinger – a Jew!

EXAMPLE: Men have identified Hitler.

They propose that A=100, B=101, C=102 and continue through Z

H – 107

I – 108

T – 119

L – 111

E – 104

R – 117

Total 666 – This cannot be proven in any way!

B. If he can be identified, Judas is the most likely

1. Judas and the Anti-Christ are the only two men in Scripture who are referred to as “Son of Perdition.”
 - a. Judas - John 17:12 - - - Anti-Christ - II Thess. 2:3
2. Judas is the only man that Christ ever called “A devil.” (John 6:70)
3. Judas is the only man that the Bible says was entered into by the Devil (HIMSELF) (Luke 22:3).

NOTE: You cannot prove this! It is a matter of opinion, but it is possible!

C. He will not be “fully revealed” until after the rapture (II Thess. 3:2)

1. The “cover will be removed.”

ESCHATOLOGY #9

THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

Revelation 19:11-16

Intro: There are at least seven major events that take place at the end of the Tribulation Period. The exact chronological order of these events has long been a subject of debate.

A. The seven major events are:

1. The return of Christ in Glory.
2. The judgment of Israel.
3. The judgment of the Gentile Nations.
4. The resurrection of the Old Testament Saints.
5. The doom of the Beast and the False Prophet.
6. The binding of Satan for 1000 years.
7. The Tribulation Saints are resurrected.

NOTE: We will look at each event and try to place them, as nearly as possible, in the correct order.

I. The Second Coming of Jesus Christ (Revelation 19:11-16)

A. Comes from Heaven (Verse 11) – Matthew 24:27 – 24 hour period!

1. Two major turning points in the book of Revelation
 - a. Revelation 4:1 – Heaven opened and the Church ascends to Heaven.
 - b. Revelation 19:11 – Heaven opened and all who ascended will descend with Christ.

B. Christ identified as “Faithful and True” (Verse 11) & The Word of God (Verse 13).

1. Called “Faithful and True” in Revelation 3:14
2. Called “The Word of God” by John in 1:1, I:11, I:14
3. Will come again in “like manner”Acts 1:11
 - a. Ascended in a cloud – Acts 1:9
 - b. Returns in a cloud – Matthew 24:30

D. The Armies which followed Him. (Rev. 19:14)

1. The Bride (White Linen - Verse 8)
 - a. Enoch prophecy (See Jude 14-15).
2. The Holy Angels (Matthew 25:31 & II Thess. 1:7-10)
3. The possibility of the Old Testament Saints and the Tribulation Saints.
 - a. Some men believe and teach this possibility.
 - b. The time of the resurrection of the Old Testament Saints is not given.
 - c. The resurrection of the Tribulation Saints seems to come later (Rev. 20)

E. The Armies will not fight the war! (Rev. 19:15-16).

1. Christ will be KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS
2. Christ will smite the Nations with the “Sharp Sword of His Mouth.” (Rev. 19:21)
 - a. Prophesized in Isaiah 11:4
 - b. The Word of God called a “Sword.” (Hebrew 4:12).
 - c. Demonstrated in John 18:6 – He spoke – they fell to the ground!

II. The Completion of the Judgment of Israel at the Second Coming of Christ

A. The judgment of Israel will be completed (It will take place on earth – Zech. 14:4)

1. This is covered in Matthew 24 – 25 (The Olivet Discourse). (Last 3 ½ years of Tribulation).
 - a. The judgment will be the separation of the saved from the lost.
 1. Ezekiel 20:33-37
 2. Romans 11:26 – All Israel shall be saved....
 3. Romans 9:6 & Gal 3:6-9 – (“Not all Israel is Israel”)
 - b. Matthew 25:1-30 (Read 26 - 30 - “Cast into outer darkness....” (LOST)

III. **The Judgment of the Gentile Nations at the coming of Christ.**

Follows the judgment of Israel – (Matthew 25:31-46)

Called: The Battle of Armageddon (Rev. 16: 13-16)

Armageddon means “Mount of Slaughter”

- A. The Battle of Armageddon is not “a one-time battle.”
 1. Battle: “Polemos” – A prolonged, continuing battle; a campaign (Battle – Rev. 16:14)
 2. The battle covers the last 3 ½ years of the Tribulation.
 3. It involves the “kings of the earth” (Rev 16:13-16).
- B. The Battle begins after the 2nd coming with a call of the fowls of Heaven - (Revelation 19:17).
 1. Also, foretold in Matthew 24:28
 - a. Gives an indication of how bloody the slaughter will be!
 - b. Blood to the horse bridles! (Rev. 14:20)
 4. Prophesied in: (Ezekiel 39:1; 17-20)
- C. The Battle will be led by the Beast and The False Prophet (Rev 19:19)
 1. They come to do the unthinkable – Make war with Christ – The King of Kings!
- D. The Battle will be with the Revived Roman Empire – (10 Federated Nations)
 1. Daniel 7:24
- E. The Battle of Armageddon’s location.
 1. Joel 3:1-2 – Valley of Jehoshaphat (?)
 2. The Kidron Valley (?)
 3. Best option: Mount of Olives - Jerusalem (Zech. 14:2- 4)
 - a. Jehoshaphat denotes “Jehovah Judges.”
- F The Gentile armies will be destroyed by the Lord Jesus Christ – **Alone!** (Rev. 19:21)
 1. Zechariah 14:1-3

IV. **The Resurrection of the Old Testament Saints**

- A. Resurrection takes place between the 2nd Coming and Millennial Kingdom.
(Daniel 12:1-2: Isaiah 26:19: Ezekiel 37:1-14)

V. **The “Beast” and “The False Prophet” will be the first ones to be doomed** (Rev. 19:20).

- A. Both were cast ALIVE into a lake of fire burning with brimstone
- B. They are found there, alive and tormented” after 1000 years (Rev. 20:10)

VI. **Satan will be bound for 1000 years** (Rev. 20:1-3)

- A. The doom of Satan does not take place until the end of the 1000 years (Rev 20:10).
- B. This will be covered in a later lesson on The Great White Throne

VII. **The Tribulation Saints Resurrected** (Revelation 20:4).

- A. This “appears” to be after Satan is bound, but before the Millennium begins.

ESCHATOLOGY #10

CHRIST TITLE DEED TO THE THRONE

Intro: “The Millennial” Reign of Christ:

Comes from two Latin words: Mill – (Thousand) - Ennum (Anos) – 1000 - Years

A. Christ will return to earth and rule for 1000 years

B. Will sit on the Throne of David

Order of Events:

A. Rapture: Christ comes for the Church – But stops in clouds – does not come to earth.

1. Believers (ALL saved people – not just Baptists) will be “caught up” to meet Him

2. Ridiculous to believe that just Baptists will be the Bride of Christ

a. I Corinthians 1:2-8 (Corinth - carnal church – saved, saints)

B. The Tribulation will begin and continue for seven years.

C. At the end of the Tribulation period

1. Christ will return to earth

2. Christ will judge the inhabitants of the earth.

2. Christ will literally sit on the throne of David

3. Christ will rule the world for 1000 years – **HERE ON EARTH.**

There are five major passages of Scripture that teach this truth.

I. II Samuel 7:4-13

A. Abrahamic Covenant – Genesis 15:18 – God promised Israel a land.

B. Davidic Covenant – II Samuel 7:4-13 - God made a covenant with David

1. Verse 13: Underline three words:

a. House - Family

b. Throne - Authority

c. Kingdom - Eternal

2. First man to serve as king – Adam – Had dominion

3. Jews never had a king

a. Heathen Nations had kings

b. Israel wanted a king

Selected the wrong man – Saul

God gave them the right man – David

4. David wanted to build a house (I Kings 8:17-20)

a. God said no! You’re a man of war – bloody hands

b. Your son Solomon will build me a house

5. God made David a promise (Covenant)

a. (I Kings 13-17) A Ruler will come from your seed

b. Establish your throne “forever.” (Not David’s Kingdom– **HIS Kingdom**)

c. Three words: Remember these three words – They will come up again!

House – Throne – Kingdom

II. Luke 1:31-33

A. JESUS – Give unto him, (Jesus) the throne of his father David”

B. Shall RULE over the house of Jacob. What is the house of Jacob? Israel

- C. Of His **kingdom** there shall be no end.
 - 1. Did not say DAVID would rule (David had died) – States: Jesus, would rule.
 - 2. Where was David's Throne? Not in Heaven – ON EARTH IN JERUSALEM!
- D. Jesus NEVER sat on a throne while he was **on earth** when He came the first time.
- E. God never promised David he would sit on a throne.
 - 1. Promised that his heritage would sit on the throne and rule.
 - 2. Three words: **House – Throne – Kingdom**
 - 3. Promise was: Jesus would come down and rule

III. **Psalms 2**

- A. Vs. 1-3: The kings of the earth want to be FREE from God's rule (UN Voted)
- B. Governments do not want God to have any role in their countries or policies
- C. Verse 6: "...set my king upon my Holy Hill of Zion
 - 1. Where is Mount Zion?
 - a. On one side of Jerusalem!
 - b. Exactly where David's throne was!
- D. Verse 7-9 Earth will be subject to his rule!
- E. Jesus will rule in righteousness – like a "rod of iron"
 - a. See: Revelation 2:27, 12:5, 19:15
- F. UN seeking Peace – There will never be any peace until Jesus "rules with a rod of iron."

IV. **Psalms 110**

- A. The Lord said to my lord....
 - 1. Jehovah of the Old Testament is Jesus of the New Testament
 - 2. David's Lord was Jehovah.
 - a. David said, "The Lord said unto my Lord..."
 - b. God of Heaven said to His Son, Jesus....
- "Sit thou on my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool"*
- B. "...until I make **thine** enemies...."
- C. "...rule thou in the midst of **thine** enemies..."
 - 1. WHERE are the enemies of God?
 - a. Not in Heaven.
 - b. Here on earth. Vs. 1, 2, 5, & 6

V. **Matthew 24:30**

- A. This text describes the middle of the Tribulation.
 - 1. Jesus will come with power and great glory!
- B. The first time He came it was not in power and great glory
 - 2. Born in manger – straw and animals
- C. The second time he comes it will be with Great Power and glory.
 - 1. Matthew 25:31 – This time he will sit on a throne.
 - 2. Christ NEVER sat on a throne during His lifetime spent on earth.
- D. Jesus will sit on the throne of David in Jerusalem!
- E. Then we will go into the Millennium

VI. **Why did God plan a Millennium?**

- A. Because of the Doctrine of the Depravity of Man
 - 1. Today: men do evil and wickedness and are told it is because of the environment!
 - 2. They blame "things" on the way they were raised by their parents.

B. Millennium – Perfect environment – (1) no devil, (2) no social sins (Hollywood), (3) no corruption.

1. God will PROVE to man that it was not the environment –
 - a. It was man's totally depraved nature!
2. Man will have no one to blame but himself.

ESCHATOLOGY #11

ISRAEL'S TITLE DEED TO THE PALESTINE

Intro: This has been a subject of discussion – and warfare – for hundreds of years – even to this day.

- I. To Answer This Question – One must go back to the beginning** (Genesis 12:1-3).
- A. The Choice of Abraham is a new beginning and new era.
 - 1. Before, God had dealt with ALL people in the same manner.
 - B. Abraham was a Gentile living in Chaldea
 - 1. He was from Ur – Babylonia – North of the junction of the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers
 - C. Abraham was an Idolater- A Worshipper of Idols.
 - D. Why did God pick Abraham?
 - 1. A question that no one has ever answered – And cannot answer
 - 2. God in His sovereign will chose Abraham – with no explanation
 - E. New Testament declares that truth.
 - 1. Acts 7:1-5 “The God of glory appeared to our father, Abraham....”
- II. The Abrahamic Covenant** (Genesis 12:1-3)
- A. Depart from the land – From thy Kindred – From thy father’s house
 - B. Go to a land that I will show you.
 - C. I will make of thee a great nation (Not just a great family)
 - 1. Nation: has government – laws –structure
 - D. The Nation is identified by three names
 - 1. Hebrews – Because they “crossed over.”
 - 2. Israel – God changed Jacob’s name to Israel (Genesis 32:28)
 - 3. Jews – Josephus tells us - Ten tribes split. Two left, one was Judah – those were called “Jews.”
(I Kings 11:30-32, 36; II Kings 17:21)
 - E. Covenant was confirmed by Blood
 - 1. Three ways of confirming a covenant: (A contract)
 - a. Minor covenants were confirmed by “a shoe” (Boaz) (Ruth 4:7-8).
 - b. Important covenants were confirmed by “a hand under the thigh” (Gen 24:2).
 - c. Major covenants were confirmed by Blood (Genesis 15:2-18).
- III. The Boundaries of the Land Promised to Abraham (The Great Nation of Israel).**
- A. Genesis 15:18
 - 1. The River of Egypt (Nile) - (South approximately 300 miles south from the sea down the Nile River)
 - 2. The Great River Euphrates (Genesis 15:18)
 - B. Deuteronomy 34:1-4
 - 1. Jordan River (Viewed from Mt. Nebo, across Jordan, toward Jericho)
 - 2. To the Utmost Sea (Mediterranean Sea).
 - C. The Fertile Crescent:
 - 1. Extends from the Sea south approximately 300 miles down the Nile River
 - 2. Extends from the Sea south approximately 1000 miles down the Euphrates River

IV. The Covenant Was Unconditional

A. Some say it was conditional and Abraham disobeyed God and canceled the covenant.

1. Genesis 15:18 - about 2000 B.C.
2. Deuteronomy 34:1-4 - about 1450 B.C.

B. Some say this was fulfilled on May 16, 1948

1. UN voted that Israel would be a nation.
2. Gave them the land they occupied at that time.
3. Preachers today say, "Israel is in their land!"

NO, NO, NO, They are not!

V. When will Israel Get their land?

A. Not in the Church Age!

B. First three and one-half years of the Tribulation

1. Anti-Christ will show favor and give Israel permission to
 - a. Build their Temple
 - b. Make sacrifices
2. Some men believe the Anti-Christ will also give them their land.
 - a. There is NO mention of land
 - b. ONLY Sacrifice and Oblations (Daniel 9:27)

C. GOD promised Israel their land.

D. GOD will give them their land. Ezekiel 37:14, 21, 22 (No more two nations)

This will be fulfilled following the Tribulation Period (Verse 11-14) "Put my spirit in you...."

ESCHATOLOGY #12

THE MILLENNIUM

Revelation 20:1-4

Intro: Millennium comes from two Latin words

Mille – Thousand

Annum – Years

Biblical term: Used to identify “The one-thousand year reign of Christ on the earth.”
“The Kingdom Age”

I. When does the Millennium Begin?

A. Immediately after the Tribulation Period

1. Revelation Chapter 19

- a. There are four alleluias (Verses 1, 2, 4, & 9)
- b. The Marriage of the Lamb
- c. After which Christ descends to earth with the church
- d. Activities when Christ arrives. (No order established)
 - Judgment of Gentile Nations - Armageddon (19:17)
 - Judgment of Israel
 - Raising of Old Testament Saints
 - Raising of Tribulation Saints
- c. Millennium begins!

II. There are “three” first-time events during the Millennium

A. Satan will not be present on earth during the 1000 years.

1. Satan was created by God – The most beautiful cherub (Ezek. 28:12-15)
2. Was the “head” of the Cherubim (Ezek. 28:14)
3. Selected to Guard the throne of God
4. Held the highest position in Heaven next to God.
5. Fell because of Pride (Isaiah 14)
6. Cast Down to the earth – Revelation 12:9 & 10
7. He had never before been banned from Heaven
 - a. Job 1:6
 - b. Came to heaven to “Accuse Christians.” (Revelation 12:10)
8. He became the “God of this world.” (II Corinthians 4:4)
9. NOW! – Cast out of heaven – bound – 1000 years in the bottomless pit.

B. The Curse Will Be Lifted.

1. From the earth – Romans 8:21-23
2. From the animals – Isaiah 11:6-9 – Isaiah 35:9

C. There will Be Perfect Peace on The Earth for 1000 Years.

1. War began in Genesis 4:8

2. Since that time there has been continual warfare on the earth.
3. Today, in the year 2015 the following wars and armed conflicts are on going.

	WARS	ARMED CONFLICTS
Africa	60	142
Asia	15	119
Europe	8	67
Middle East	8	165
Americas	5	25
Total	60	519

4. The United Nations spends millions of dollars trying to bring peace.
 - a. There will NEVER be peace until the Millennium.
 - b. Jesus will rule and reign with a rod of iron. (Isaiah 11:4)

E. It will be a time of continual worship
 1. Isaiah 66:23

F. The nations will speak one language – No confusion (Zephaniah 3:9 – Pure language)
 1. What will the language be? (This cannot be proven, but it is implied)
 2. Hebrew (Revelation 19 – Four times, people say “Alleluia.” (This is Hebrew)
 a. The people do not say, “Praise the Lord.”

III. Who Will Be On Earth During The Millennium?

- A. The Church Saints – The Bride of Christ (Revelation 19:14)
 1. They are identified by the “fine linen” in Verse 8
- B. The Old Testament Saints – resurrected at the end of the Tribulation – 1000 years.
 1. Daniel 12:1-2 – Raised after the “time of trouble such as never was.”
 2. Isaiah 26:19 – Israel singing – a restored Israel
 3. Ezekiel 37: 1-14 – Happens during the Millennium.
 - a. Vs. 1-11 – Dry bones being revived and coming back to life
 - b. Vs. 12 – Graves opening – God bringing them into the land of Israel
 - c. Vs. 14 – Putting His Spirit in them – Place them in their own land
- B. The Tribulation Martyrs – Revelation 20:4
 1. This is the “First Resurrection.”
- C. The people who came through the Tribulation and lived (Matthew 24:13)
- D. Children born to those same people during the Millennium
 1. These people and their children will have the original sin nature.

IV. Who Will Govern the Earth During The Millennium?

- A. Jesus Christ will sit on the Throne and govern with a “rod of iron.”
- B. The Church/Bride of Christ will rule with him (Revelation 20:4a & Luke 19:17)
- C. The Tribulation Martyrs (Revelation 20:4b – Revelation 5:10)

V. There Will Be Limited Temptation

A. Today, people are tempted by the: World, the Flesh, and the Devil (I John 2:16)

1. There will be no Devil
2. There will be no World (social) temptation.
 - a. No Hollywood – no movies
 - b. No Television programs portraying sin of any type
 - c. No Internet sites presenting sin of any type
 - d. No Playboy magazines
 - e. No “Bill-boards” presenting sin of any type
 - f. No strong drink
 - g. No drugs
 - h. No temptation of ANY type will be tolerated by the King of Kings!!!

VI. Why Did God Plan The Millennium?

A. For years people have committed every type of crime possible

1. Blamed was placed on the environment!
2. Blamed was placed on being abused as a child.
3. Blamed was placed on mental illness.
4. Courts have made legal decisions that “he was not responsible for his actions.”

B. The Millennium will be a PERFECT environment

1. There will be temptation – Only by the depraved nature of man!
2. There will be no social sins to tempt

C. In spite of the above,

1. Watch how quickly the nations turn on God when Satan is loosed
2. Revelation 20:7-9

D. The Millennium PROVES the God was right

- 1. Man is totally depraved**
2. Man is totally responsible for his actions.
 - a. A man’s environment is not to blame.

E. It JUSTIFIES God’s actions toward wicked men!

1. Why? Because wicked men are to blame for their actions – no one else!

It will be a time when the Scriptures shall be fulfilled:

Every knee will bow and every mouth will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord (Phil. 2:10)

Entire population will worship Christ, the Son of God (Isaiah 66:23)

ESCHATOLOGY #13
THE GREAT WHITE THRONE OF JUDGMENT
Revelation 20:11-15

Object of the Lesson:

To reveal the actual reason for the Great White Throne.
The Reason is Not that people be punished!

Intro: There are eight major judgments in the Word of God.
Only one has to do with sin.

1. The judgment of Sin – Calvary
Sins of ALL the world – Once and forever – Put on Christ
Christ died – that was the judgment of sin.
2. The Judgment of Self – I Corinthians 11:28-31
3. The Judgment Seat of Christ – Works of a Christian
4. The judgment of Israel during Tribulation – Works of Israel
5. The judgment of the Gentile nations – Works of the Nations against God
6. The judgment of the Beast and False Prophet – Revelation 19:20
7. The judgment of Satan and Fallen Angels – Jude 6
8. The judgment at the Great White Throne – Works of lost men

I. The Great White Throne of Judgment
(A place where Justice is decided)

A. When will this take place?

1. At the end of the millennial reign of Christ (Rev. 20:5 & 12-13)

B. Where will this take place?

1. Not in Heaven – Not on Earth
2. Somewhere in between (Revelation 20:11).

C. Who will be judged?

1. "...the dead"
2. The resurrection of the saved is complete
3. ONLY the "dead" are mentioned in this passage.

D. For what will the dead be judged? NO MENTION OF SIN! Sin was judged at Calvary!

1. Not to determine if they are lost or saved – This has already been decided
2. Their works are to be judged. (Rev 20:12) (Their "works" examined!)
 - a. To determine the degree of punishment (Luke 10:10-14; Luke 12:47,48)
3. Their works and amount of light they had determine their judgment.
4. It proves that by "works" no man shall be justified. (Romans 4:1-5, Gal. 2:16)

II. How will the Judgment be presented?

A. A "good" man - lived his life, but never trusted Christ

1. Morally good
2. Helped people
3. Did good things in the community
4. Went to Church
5. Taught a SS class
6. Gave money to the church
7. Was a liberal, but good man
8. He dies and goes into the center of the earth.
 - a. Lonely – dark – separated – thirsty – tormented
9. One day, the door opens – he is called up - he sees light
 - a. Brought up in space to a platform in the sky
 - b. The LAST thing he ever wants to do is return to “that place.”

B. The “Books” Are Opened

1. These contain all the “works” done by “the dead.”
2. A Great multitude watching– Rev. 20:12
3. Every work the man did is recorded. – NOT HIS SINS
4. His “works” are reviewed.
 - a. According to his WORKS!
 - b. He will plead his case – point to all the good things he did.
 - c. Taught a Sunday School class – gave money to the church - considered a good husband – good father – good neighbor
 - d. Never in trouble – never in jail – never stole – good to all people
5. He will hear Jesus say: - “**NOT ENOUGH**”
 - a. Not even close!
 - b. Romans 4:4 – The man was trying to pay his debt – has not paid enough.
 - c. Jesus said: NOT ENOUGH – NOT NEARLY ENOUGH!
6. If the man had read his Bible instead of the “liberal Sunday School Quarterly”
 - a. He would have known a man cannot work his way to Heaven.
 Romans 3:23 – For all have sinned and “come short”
 Titus 3:5, Eph. 2: 8 & 9, Gal. 2:16
7. God is not going to ask, “What did you do with Jesus?” **(Already recorded)**

C. The Book of Life is then Opened

1. True purpose of the Great White Throne of Judgment
 - a. It is not to punish the lost – included, but not the purpose of God

III. **God’s Reasons for having The Great White Throne of Judgment.**

1. To show the man why he is lost
 - a. The Book of life is opened.
 - b. NAME: John Doe
 - c. BORN: The name John Doe was there (All names there – II Peter 3:9)
 - d. NOW: The spot where his name was is now blank!
 His name was removed when he reached the age of accountability.
 Sinned **voluntarily!** – **He was separated from God - John 8:21,24**
 - e. Why? Not because of his sin
 His sin had been judged

Debt had been paid

He was offered a free gift of eternal life! - Offered a PARDON

BUT he tried to "work" his way to Eternal life! (Romans 4:4)

It is recorded that **he refused the gift God offered him**

And chose his own way.

He KNEW – John 1:9 – Psalms 19: 1-6

2. To show all the "dead" and the "living" that God was/is fair and just!

a. **All saved people** since Adam and Eve will be present and around the Throne.

Old Testament Saints

The Bride of Christ

The Tribulation Saints

Those saved during the Millennium

b. **All lost people** since Cain will be there and will be judged

Lost of the Old Testament

Lost of the Church Age

Lost of the Tribulation Period

Lost of the Millennial Period

c. There are degrees of suffering in the Lake of Fire (Luke 12:47-48)

d. Just before the man is cast into the Lake of Fire – The Second Death

e. God will say, "I made you the offer of a free gift."

"I left the space blank in the Book of Life"

"You refused the gift – It was free" (Romans 3:24)

"You chose, by your own volition, to reject my gift and work.

f. Your works are all listed here.

They are not enough – not nearly enough!

You had light – you said no!

REASON:

To show the world that God is FAIR - God is JUST!
God is not going through eternity with people saying,
"You were not fair!"

GOD IS FAIR AND JUST IN EVERYTHING HE DOES

Including casting people in the lake of fire.

Many people think God is cruel, creating Hell and letting people go there.

God is not cruel.

Hell was not created with men in mind.

Hell was created for the Devil and his fallen angels (Matthew 25:41).

Men "choose" to go there by their own choice!

ESCHATOLOGY #14

WHAT WILL IT BE LIKE IN HELL?

Intro: I sat in Gulfport, Miss: I read a Newspaper at breakfast. It stated: "WE NEED A NEW WORD FOR HELL. Today, a commonly used word – "Hell"- has no meaning to anyone."

Jesus mentioned "Hell" 70 times – More often than He mentioned "Heaven."

The World's View of Hell

- A. Old fashioned – cruel – narrow minded
- B. The Supreme Court would rule against Hell if given the opportunity.

I. Hell is a Place of Vile, Wicked, Ungodly Associations – Revelation 21:8 (Who will be there?)

- A. The Devil – (Rev. 20:10, Matthew 25:41)
- B. Demons – II Peter 2:4
- C. Ungodly (Eight of the worst sins known to man)

Romans 1:19 list 22 sins which were common in Paul's Day

The eight listed in Revelation 21:8 are sins that are predominate in the last days.

- 1. Fearful
 - a. Fear losing of something – Convinced of truth – but refuse
 - 80% of US claim some religion, but will be vague about what they believe
- 2. Unbelieving
 - a. They resist against full evidence
- 3. Abominable
 - a. Sodom had a King (Genesis 14:2)
 - Government – laws (**Legalized sodomy**)
 - a. America has followed the same manner - Global Problem
 - b. This will be the major sin in "the very last days." Jude 7
- 4. Murderers
 - a. Hitler – Ben Laden – Saddam Hussein – Serial killers
- 5. Whoremongers
 - a. Rapists – Prostitutes – Continual adultery – Continual fornication
- 6. Sorcerers (Our English word "Pharmacist" is derived from this word)
 - a. Drug users and peddlers
 - b. America has legalized "pot." (People rejoicing)
- 7. Idolaters
 - a. Look around at that for which people strive.
- 8. Liars
 - a. Hypocrites

Conclusion: the vile of the earth.

II. Hell is a Place where there is NO GOOD THING! (Luke 13:28)

- A. The world enjoys a good life because of Christians (II Thess. 2:7 & 8).
 - 1. Hell - No love – No friends - No concern – No family
- B. Young man going out for night of sin: given a tract by his mother – asked,

1. "Is there not anywhere I can go where no one will give me one of these tracts?"
2. "Yes," his mother said, "you can go to Hell and no one will give you a tract."

III. Hell is a Place of Continual Darkness (Jude 13)

- A. Total Blackness – causes men to go crazy
 1. A fire that burns so hot it gives off no light!
- B. Ironical! - Jesus offered light, - Men refused light – and will spend eternity in darkness
- C. Imagine the vile people who are in present – filthy people- total darkness - vile language

IV. Hell is a Place where People Continually Die, but Never Die (Mark 9:42-44)

- A. Death is a horrible experience
- B. Some nurses have left the profession after watching death.
- C. People will suffer the pains of death - but are never able to die.

V. Hell is a Place where Lost People Will forever Remember Their Earthly Life (Luke 16)

- A. They will remember
 1. Every tract they were given
 2. Every witness they heard
 3. Every message they heard
 4. The pleading of wife, children and those who loved them
 5. Will remember every promise they made to be saved
 6. They will remember every time they said "No!" or "Not now."
 6. Carry the Pain "of their memory" to Hell with them forever! (Daniel 12:2)

VI. Hell is a Place where there is NO HOPE (Proverbs 11:7)

- A. Sign over Hell's Door
 - "Abandon All Hope Those Who Enter These Doors"
- B. People say they will change their mind (Hebrew 9:7)

VII. Hell is a Place of Real Fire (Matthew 25:41 & Mark 9:43-44)

- A. People join the Jehovah Witnesses hoping they are right - taught there is "no fire."
- B. We know Hell is a place of "Fire" because Jesus said it is!

VIII. Hell is a Place that was not prepared for People (Matthew 25:41)

- A. Life with Jesus is easy (Matthew 11:29)
- B. Life without Jesus is hard (Proverbs 13:15)

IX. Example: "The Court Jester"

In the days of kings, every king had a "court jester." The "court jester" was called "the fool." It was his job to make the king laugh when he was sad.

The kings became more or less friends with "the fool" because the fool entertained them and made them "feel good." A certain king fell sick and was told he was going to die. One day that king called for "the fool." He did not want to tell "the fool" he was going to die, but he wanted to do something special for him, as "the fool" had helped him many times. When the "fool" came to his quarters, he said, "Fool, I am going on a long journey and will be away for a while. I am not sure if I will return." He

continued by saying, "While I am gone, I want to leave my 'Golden Scepter' with you." With that he handed the Golden Scepter to the "fool."

The "fool" took the Scepter, but asked the king, "Sir, you said you are going on a long journey. Do you know where you are going?" The king answered, "No, 'Fool,' I don't know where I am going." The "fool" then asked, "Sir, do you know how long you will be gone?" The king replied, "No, 'Fool,' I really don't know how long I'll be gone." The "fool" asked a third question, "Sir, did I hear you correctly, you do not know if you will return?" The king said, "That's correct, 'Fool.' I do not know if I will return or not."

With that the "fool" handed the Golden Scepter back to the king and said, "King, you need to take this back. If you are going on a long journey, and you've made no preparation, you do not know where you are going, and you do not know how long you will be gone, and you do not know if you will return or not, you are a bigger fool than I am."

This story is true of people who go through life and make no plans for eternity!

THE OLIVET DISCOURSE #1

Matthew 24-25

(Repeated in Mark 13 & Luke 21)

Background: This discourse took place the day before Christ's Death (Matt. 26:1-2)

A. Chapter 22-23: Christ rebuked the Pharisees and Sadducees – Spent most of the day.....

1. Pronounced "7 - woes." (Matthew 23:14-31; Matthew 22:15-46)

a. Verses: 14, 15, 16, 23, 25, 27, 29

2. Called them Hypocrites – blind guides – whited sepulchers – murderers

a. Strongest rebuke in the ministry of Christ

3. Pronounced Judgment on "their house" (THE TEMPLE) (Matt. 23:38)

4. Declared this would be last time they would see him until His 2nd coming (Matt. 23:49)

a. First time to mention that He was coming again!

5. Walked out of Temple – through Gate – to the Mount of Olives

I. The Place of the Discourse

A. Mount of Olives (Matthew 24:3)

B. One of four discourses Jesus had with his disciples

1. Sermon on the Mount – Beatitudes (Matthew 5)

2. Mysteries of the Kingdom – (Matthew 13) (From a ship)

3. The Olivet Discourse (Matthew 24-25)

a. Longest of four discourses

b. Most detailed of four discourses

4. The Upper Room the night before his death (Matthew 26:20)

II. The Reason for the Discourse

A. Jesus had pronounced judgment on the Temple (Matthew 24:2)- Went to Mt. of Olives & sat down.

B. They were sitting and looking at a beautiful Temple!

Note: Started in 20 BC – completed in 64 AD – Destroyed 6 years later in 70 AD by Titus!

The Temple was "under construction" as they looked at it, yet was usable.

1. Disciples knew it had been totally destroyed in 586 BC.

2. Disciples knew Israel had gone into captivity for 70 years (Babylonian)

3. Disciples wondered about their future!

B. They could not conceive of the Temple's being destroyed!!!

1. Stones mentioned in all three recordings of this discourse

a. Stones measured 4' Square – 24 – 30 feet long!

2. Therefore, the disciples could not imagine such a great catastrophe and had questions!

III. Three Questions the Disciples - Peter, James, John, & Andrew – asked: (Mark 13:3)

A. When shall these things be? (Matthew 24:2)

B. What shall be the sign of thy coming?

C. When will be the end of the world? (Age in Jewish mentality – End of the Jewish age)

IV. The answer of Christ to the Disciples

- A. He did not mention or answer the first question at all!
 - 1. THERE ARE NO SIGNS THAT POINT TO THE RAPTURE! NONE – NONE - NONE.
 - 2. Paul thought the rapture was coming in his day!
- B. The second and third questions are answered in (Matthew Chapters 24-25)

KEY TO UNDERSTANDING THIS PASSAGE

I. Three facts that must be established in order to understand any passage of Scripture

- A. Who was doing the speaking?
- B. To Whom was he speaking?
- C. What is the setting when the questions were asked?

II. The Answers to those three Questions:

- A. Who was speaking?
 - 1. Jesus was speaking.
- B. To whom was He speaking?
 - 1. He was speaking TO THE JEWS! (vitally important)
 - a. Questions were asked by the Jews
 - b. It was about the destruction of their Jewish Temple
 - c. It was in the “Jewish Age.”
 - 2. **NOTHING in Matthew 24-25 applies to “the church!” NOTHING!**
 - a. **Disciples had no idea of “the church.”**
- C. When will these events occur?
 - 1. There are four views of when these events take place.
 - a. The Liberal
The liberal contends that none of this is real. Jesus said a few words and the disciples added to it and added to it. They contend it is “make believe. (This is Stupid!
 - b. The Amillennial theory projects that this was fulfilled in the past.
(Occurred 70 years from date – with the destruction of Jerusalem)
Under the rule of Titus, future Roman Emperor, in 70 AD
NOT POSSIBLE – Why?
None of “all these things” given in Matthew 24:33 had taken place
The Amillennist believes:
Today, the world is getting better and better
The next step is that it will “get so good” we go into Eternity.
 - c. The Post-Tribulation position postulates that everything in Matthew 24-25 states what will be going on JUST before the rapture.
 - 1. You must ignore about 1/3 of the Gospels to accept this theory!
 - 2. The Jews had never heard of the Church!
 - 3. The Jews had never heard of the Rapture!
 - 4. Why would Jesus give “signs” of something they never heard?

REMEMBER

CONFUSION:

- d. The Pre-Tribulation position, which is the true Bible position, says the Olivet Discourse is TOTALLY about God's dealing with Israel. The Church has been raptured. God, during the Tribulation Period, is dealing with the Jewish nation.

THE PURPOSE OF STUDYING THE OLIVET DISCOURSE

To show that God is dealing with Israel and not the church – The church will be gone!

To show "WHEN ALL THESE THINGS" take place it is a "FUTURE EVENT?"

- INTRO:** 1. Jesus begins to answer the question, "What shall be the sign of thy coming?"
2. Jesus did not go directly to the questions asked by the disciples.
3. Jesus started by WARNING them not to be deceived (Matthew 24:4 & 26).

MATTHEW 24:

- I. **Verse 5:** There will be many who claim to be Christ and be so real they will deceive many.
 - A. Never has been a man that has claimed to be God in the Flesh and deceived many
 - B. When this takes place the man claiming to be Christ will do miracles (Rev. 13:11-14, 19-20)
- II. **Verse 6:** Wars and Rumors of Wars
 - A. There are wars today, but nothing compared to the day this speaks of.
 - B. All nations will be at war – Kingdom against Kingdom
- III. **Verse 7:** There will be Famines and pestilences.
 - A. There will be a "world-wide" shortage of food
 - B. So bad that people will have to accept the mark of the beast to buy food.
- IV. **Verse 7:** There will be earthquakes.
 - A. This will be an earthquake like the world has never known.
- V. **Verse 9:** There will great DEATH to Christians.
 - A. Christians will be afflicted, hated, and killed.

IB. Where do these 5 things take place in Scripture?

REVELATION 6:

- I. **Verse 2:** A Beast – On a White Horse – Has a crown – conquering
 - A. **False Christ!** -Not the Real Christ of Revelation 19:11
- II. **Verse 3-4:** A 2nd Beast – On a Red Horse – Sword
 - A. **Wars** and open killing
- III. **Verse 5-6:** A 3rd Beast: Black Horse – Pair of balances – a penny
 - A. **Famine** – a quart for a day's pay!
- IV. **Verse 7-8:** A 4th Beast – riding a Pale Horse (Death), kills a forth part of the people of earth.
 - A. **Death!** Jews will be killed by Sword – Hunger – Wild beast – For the Word of God – 144,000
 - B. Estimates killed from the "Dark Ages – Spanish Inquisition" are from 50 – 150 Million!
- V. **Verse 12:** **A Great Earthquake** – Possibly world wide
 - A. Sun, moon, and stars are shaken!

ALL FIVE of the events in Matthew 24 take place during the tribulation period in Revelation chapter 6!

We are, “Judo-Eschatologists”

Meaning: We believe that God is not through dealing with Israel - The Jews. We believe that God will again deal with the Jews during the Tribulation Period and they will see Him as their Messiah!

THE OLIVET DISCOURSE #2

Matthew 24:13

NINE INFALLIBLE PROOFS THAT MATTHEW 24 DOES NOT APPLY TO THE CHURCH

Intro: Last week we compared the events foretold in Matthew 24:1-9 to their fulfillment in Rev. 6

I. Verse 10 - Jews will be offended and will betray one another.

A. This has never happened before.

1. This did not happen in 586 B.C. when Jerusalem was destroyed by Babylon.
2. It did not happen when six million Jews were killed by Hitler.

D. Jews fought unto death against the Roman Empire!

1. At this time, they will begin to be offended and betray one another
 - a. Following the rapture!

II. Verse 13 – The Promise to those who “endure to the end.”

A. Many preachers use that “terminology” today...

B. People request prayer that they will “endure to the end.”

1. This verse does **mention about the salvation of the soul.**
2. This applies to saved Jews who endure to the end of the Tribulation Period
 - a. They will be “saved” physically and enter the Millennium!

C. Today, we preach the “Gospel of Grace” - NOT WORKS!

1. SIN HAS BEEN JUDGED
2. Our “eternal security” depends upon Christ
 - a. II Timothy 2:13
 - b. Ephesians 1:12-14
 - c. John 10:27-29 (We are not simply in His hand - We are PART of His hand!)

III. Verse 14 – The Gospel of the Kingdom will be preached.

A. The Kingdom signifies the Messianic “earthly rule” of Jesus Christ

1. Signifies a King, Government, Laws, Enforcement!

B. It is called the Kingdom of Heaven on earth – Earth ruled by principles of Heaven

1. Matthew 6:10, “Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth, as it is in Heaven.”

C. Jesus preached the “Gospel of the Kingdom.” Matthew 4:17

1. “Gospel of the Kingdom” is mentioned only 5 times in the New Testament
 - a. Three times in Matthew and twice in Mark
 - b. The “Gospel of the Kingdom” IS NOT PREACHED IN THE CHURCH AGE.

1. It is spoken of – but it refers to the FUTURE Kingdom on Earth.

- a. It is **not the message of the CHURCH AGE!**

IV. Verse 15a – Daniel went from the rejection of Christ – directly to the tribulation period.

A. Daniel was not shown “The Church Age” – never dreamed of such a time. (Daniel 9:25-27)

B. Daniel saw NOTHING but God’s dealing with the Jews.

V. Verse 15b – The Abomination of Desolation” refers to the “The Wicked One.”

NOTE: There are two “Abominations of Desolation” (175 BC)

1. Antiochus Epiphanes – A Syrian who hated the Jews – 175 years before Christ.
 - a. Went into the Temple, killed a hog and poured the blood on their altar!
2. The Abomination in Matthew 24:15 refers to the one in Daniel 9.
 - b. The first one took place in 175 B.C.

A. II Thessalonians 2:7-8

1. This man will be revealed AFTER the Holy Spirit is taken out of the way.
2. The Holy Spirit is taken out of the way when The Church is removed from earth - Rapture.
3. At the time it was written – it was a FUTURE event.
 - a. Antichrist will make a “pack” with Israel
 - b. He will allow Israel to build a temple and offer sacrifices
 - c. He will promise them peace
 - d. In middle of the Tribulation Period, he will break his promise
 - e. He will enter their Temple, have an image set up, and claim to be God! (Rev.13)
 - f. Jews killed Jesus because he claimed to be God (John 5:18)
4. “He will enter the TEMPLE.”
 - a. **Cannot apply to the church**
 - b. **If it did, we could not say “the Rapture is imminent”**
 - c. **Why? There is no temple in which he is to stand!**
 - d. **We could say, “The rapture IS NOT CLOSE – The temple is to be built first.”**

VI. Verse 15c – When you “see” these things

A. To the “Church,” it is always declared, “hear” and “believe....”

VII. Verse 16 – Written to “them that be in Judaea.”

A. That refers to THE JEWS!

VIII. Verse 20 – Jews instructed to pray that their flight would not be on the SABBATH DAY.

- A. The Sabbath Day is JEWISH – and Jewish ONLY (Exod. 31:16-17).
B. The Church DOES NOT MEET OR WORSHIP ON THE SABBATH DAY! (Never has)
C. The Church meets and worships on the “First day of the week.” (Acts 20:7 & I Cor.16:2)

IX. Verse 21 – Great Tribulation – Such as was not since the beginning of the world unto this time...

- A. Some teach that the Temple was destroyed in 70 A.D. – This is impossible
 1. Why? Verse 21 HAS NOT TAKEN PLACE UNTIL TODAY!
- B. There have been several periods in history much worse than the destruction of the Temple in 70 A.D.
 1. Hitler had over 7 million Jews put to death!
 2. The Arab nations – Islam – has tried for years to destroy Israel
NOTHING TO COMPARE TO “A FOURTH PART” BEING DESTROYED (Rev. 6:8)
- C. That was over 2000 years after the destruction of the temple in 70 A.D!
- D. The Greatest Tribulation is yet future and the Temple will be destroyed in that day.

GOD'S TIME-LINE

1. Genesis 1:1 to Genesis 11:32 – God dealt with (all people)
2. Genesis 12:1 to End of The Gospels – God dealt with Israel – the Jews
3. Acts 1:8 to Revelation 4:1 – God deals with the Gentiles and calls out “A Bride” (the Church)
4. Revelation 4:1 – Revelation 19 – God again deals with Israel – the Jewish nation.

THE OLIVET DISCOURSE #3

Matthew 24:27

THE LORD'S RETURN TO EARTH

Review: Matthew 23 – Jesus rebuked the Scribes
Announced the destruction of the Temple
Went to Mt. of Olives
Disciples asked three questions
Jesus dealt with those questions in Matthew 24:3-22

Today: Christ teaches the disciples concerning the events of His Second Coming.

Intro: (Verse 23) “Then” – AFTER the above listed things...

I. Warning of False Christ and False Prophets (Matthew 24:23)

A. Warned them AGAIN in **verse 25**

1. Warned that the false prophets will claim that Christ is
2. In the desert - Don't Go!
3. In a Secret Chamber – Don't Go!

II. What will Christ's Second Coming Be Like? (Verses 27-31)

A. Like Lightning! (Noah - Verses 38-39) **Greek Meaning:** **Cometh...** Starting point.

1. Will come **suddenly** – (without warning). **Even unto** - Continuing
2. Will shine from the EAST TO THE WEST (There is no ending place from east to west)
3. Will continue for a period of 24 hours
 - a. Christ ascended in a cloud (Acts 1:9)
 - b. Christ will return in a cloud - from heaven - with power - GREAT glory (Verse 30)

Note: Comparing the Rapture and the Second Coming

Rapture – Quickly and it is over (I Corinthians 15:51-52)

1. Paul said, “In a moment” – No! That's too long – “In the twinkling of an eye!”
2. None of the lost of earth will see the Rapture
3. No one left behind will realize what has happened.

2nd Coming - Slowly – Covers a period of 24 hours

1. Every tribe and nation of the earth will see Him returning
2. Every person will realize that the One coming is Christ

What will be the status of People on earth? (Luke 21:25-28)

1. Nations will be in distress
2. People will be perplexed – not knowing what to do
3. Sea and waves roaring

4. Men's hearts will fail because of fear – great numbers of heart attacks
Realization that judgment has come!
(The wheels of judgment grind slow, but grind exceedingly fine)

4. They will see Him, AND REALIZE that He is the Christ they have rejected!
 - a. They will realize there is nothing left for them but judgment!

- III. **Israel (his elect people) will be gathered from one end of the earth to the other.**
A. Matthew 25:31

CHRIST TOLD SEVERAL BRIEF STORIES CONCERNING HIS RETURN AND HIS DEALING WITH ISRAEL

- I. **The Fig Tree (Matthew 24:32).**
Only reference to “when” these events will happen.
 - A. Some have claimed the fig tree is a symbol of Israel.
 1. This is indicated and may be true in Matthew 21:18-20.
 2. This claim has no textual basis in this parable.
 - B. The reference to the “fig tree” was the only instant Jesus “touched” on the question, “When shall these things be?”
 - C. Fig tree produces later in the summer than other fruit trees.
 1. It always yields FRUIT before leaves
 2. When you SEE these things – “know that it is near – even at the door.”
- II. **There is a set day and time** – but the time is known only to God. - Verse 36
 - A. God gave this AS A WARNING
 - B. **Immediately** went to the illustration of Noah.
- III. **The Days of Noah: (Matthew 24:37-39)**
(Given as an example of the attitude of people who will be present before He comes)
 - A. Verse 37
 1. Christ reminds them:
 - a. That the warning given to people in Noah's day – **was not heeded!**
 - b. That conditions will be the same at the coming of Christ
 - B. Verse 38
 1. The main point is not “the licentiousness and ungodliness of the people”
 2. The main point is three fold:
 - a. The unpreparedness of the people
 1. Watched and saw the ark being prepared
 2. Heard him preach for over 100 years
 3. They gave NO HEED!
 - b. The reckless manner in which they continued to live in spite of warnings.
 1. We see that type of life style forming today - Much more in “that” day.
 - c. The unexpectedness of the Lord's coming.
 1. Two in the field – working as always – one taken, the other one left!
 - C. Verses 40-41

1. Much confusion and misunderstanding about these two verses.
 - a. The “one taken” is lost. The one is taken in death and will be raised again at the Great White Throne of Judgment.
 - b. The “one left” trusted Christ during the Tribulation Period and will remain alive to go into the 1000-year reign of Christ. (The Millennium).
- C. Verse 39 – “Knew not....”
1. They would pay no attention to the signs of coming judgment!
 2. Preferred the carnal pleasures over spiritual things
 3. Lord assures us that similar recklessness and unbelief will be found at His coming.

THE OLIVET DISCOURSE #4

MATTHEW CHAPTER 25

God's Continuing Judgment of Israel

THESE PASSAGES DO NOT PERTAIN TO THE CHURCH!

Nothing in Matthew 25 pertains to the church.

Intro: Matthew 25 begins with the word, "Then...." CONTINUATION!

A. Follows the chronological order of God's dealing with Israel

I. **The Ten Virgins (Matthew 25:1-13).**

There are two main views of the passage.

UNSCRIPTURAL APPLICATION OR THEORY

A. Some men believe that this applies to the church at the close of the church age.

WHY THIS PASSAGE CANNOT REFER TO THE CHURCH

1. The "time" is indicated by the first word of Matthew 25, "Then..."
This would not be a reference to the Church, but to God **continuing** to deal with Israel
2. The LORD is returning to earth – He **MUST** bring his bride with Him (Rev. 19: 11-14)
Therefore, those waiting for him on earth **cannot be His bride!**
3. The pictures includes the wise and the unwise – the saved and the lost
Therefore, it could not apply to the Rapture – **ONLY** saved people comprise the Church.
4. "Weeping and gnashing of teeth" **ALWAYS** refers to Israel. (Verse 30)
5. This scene is on "earth." The ten virgins go to meet Him to attend the marriage **feast!**
 - a. Matthew 25:10 (Context shows that this is the Feast – not the wedding!)

SCRIPTURAL APPLICATION

B. This passage deals with the Israelites who made "false professions."

1. Five were wise and prepared for the return of Christ.
2. Five were "false professors."
3. It will be a day of untold number of "false professors."

II. **The Talents (Matthew 25: 14-30).**

This parable of the talents further illustrates this same truth that Israel will be judged at the second advent of Christ to determine who will go into the Millennium and who will be excluded.

When the Lord comes again in power, He will reckon with the remnant of Israel (Ezekiel 20) to determine who shall receive the Kingdom blessing. This story of the talents is a fulfillment of the prophecies found in Ezekiel, Chapter 20

- A. The fate of the unprofitable servant who was cast into outer darkness is: **“they shall not enter into the land of Israel”** (This takes place during the Millennium, which is found in Ezekiel 20:37, 38).
- B. The “enter thou into the joy of thy Lord” (verses 21 & 23). These verses provide information regarding the entrance into the land for the Kingdom blessing - The Millennium! (Ezekiel 20:40-42).
- C. This is **not** teaching a “works” salvation as some men teach.
- a. This would be contrary to Scripture!
 - 1. One would have to do away with half of the New Testament to believe such foolish teaching.
 - 2. Ephesians 2:9 – “Not of works lest any man should boast”
 - 3. Titus 3:5: “Not by works of righteousness which we have done...”
 - c. **“Works” identify a person as being lost or saved.**
 - 1. James 2:14-20 - “Faith without works is dead....”
 - 2. Matthew 7:16-20 – “Ye shall know them by their fruits.”