

The Revelation of Jesus Christ
Chapter 19
Continued

13 He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood,

**Who is this who comes from Edom,
in crimsoned garments from Bozrah,**

**he who is splendid in his apparel,
marching in the greatness of his strength?**

**“It is I, speaking in righteousness,
mighty to save.” Why is your apparel red,
and your garments like his who treads in the winepress?**

Isaiah 63:1-2

**“I have trodden the winepress alone,
and from the peoples no one was with me;
I trod them in my anger
and trampled them in my wrath;
their lifeblood spattered on my garments,
and stained all my apparel.
For the day of vengeance was in my heart,
and my year of redemption had come.**

Isaiah 63:3-4

This is Armageddon!

**20 And the winepress was trodden
outside the city, and blood flowed from
the winepress, as high as a horse's bridle,
for 1,600 stadia. Revelation 14:20**

The blood will rise to the horse's bridals!

**He is returning to conquer, rule and
reign!**

**13 and the name by which he is called is
The Word of God.**

**In the beginning was the Word, and the
Word was with God, and the Word was
God. He was in the beginning with
God. All things were made through him,
and without him was not any thing
made that was made. John 1:1-3**

14 And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white horses.

There are more than 250 times in the Old Testament that He is called Jehovah Sabaoth or some version (or Adonai Tzva'ot), which translates God of the armies of heaven. There is no reason to limit this army to only the church (arrayed in fine linen).

He was Lord of Heaven's Armies long before the Rapture. I'm sure the holy angels want in on this action as well. They watched as Jesus was crucified!

**The first time He came to the earth
alone, as a baby.**

**The second time He comes as the
General of the Armies of Heaven.**

**The first time, He came as a Baby,
meek and mild.**

**He returns as a conquerer,
mighty and riled!!!**

15 From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations,
For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

Hebrews 4:12

sword

gr. **rhomphaia**
Strong's g4501
a large sword,
properly a long
javelin, also a
kind of long
sword.

**By the way, THAT'S the type of
army I want to be in.
The Lord speaks.....
The battle is over!**

15 and he will rule them with a rod of iron.

You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.”

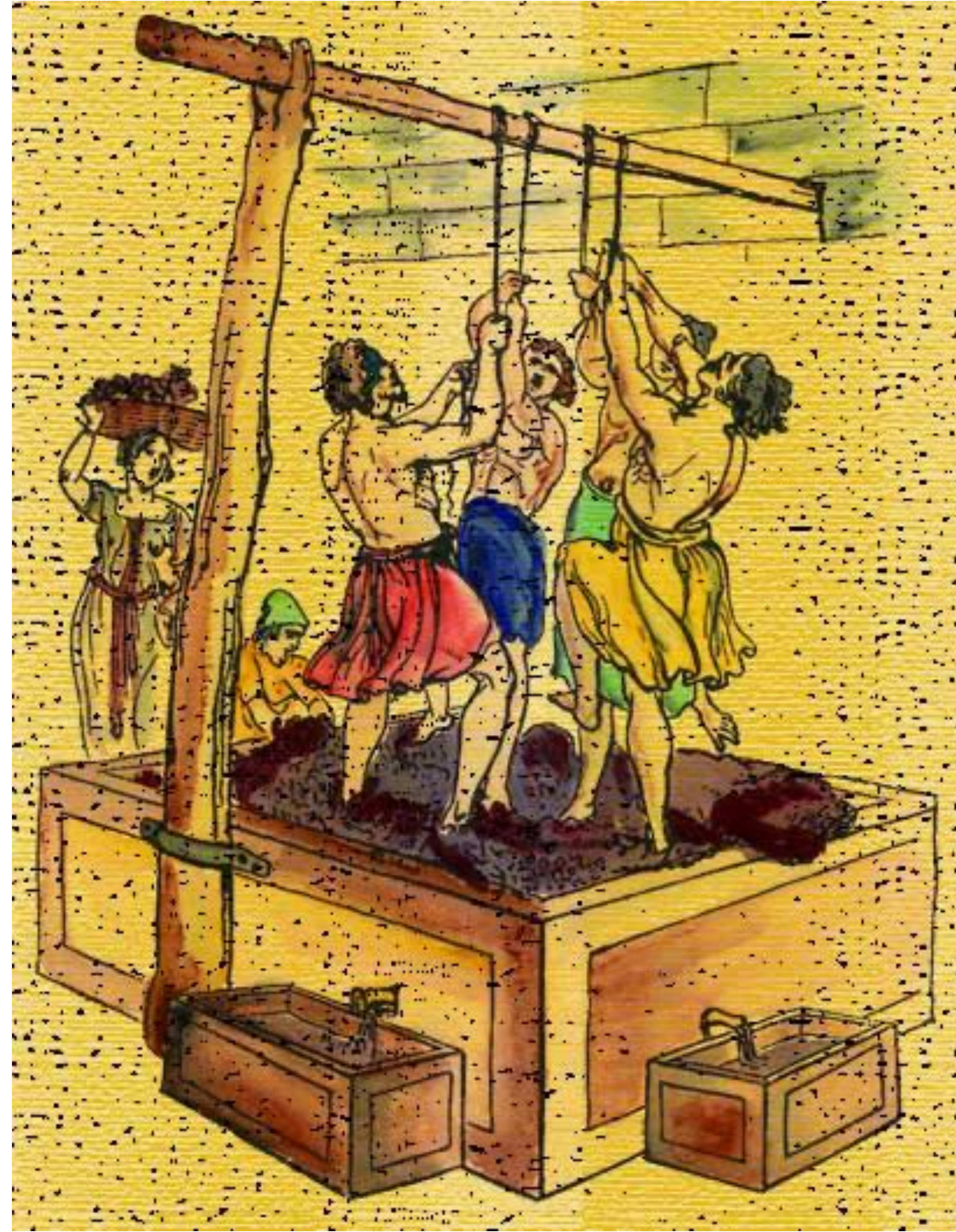
Psalm 2:9

and he will rule them with a rod of iron, as when earthen pots are broken in pieces, even as I myself have received authority from my

Father. Revelation 2:27

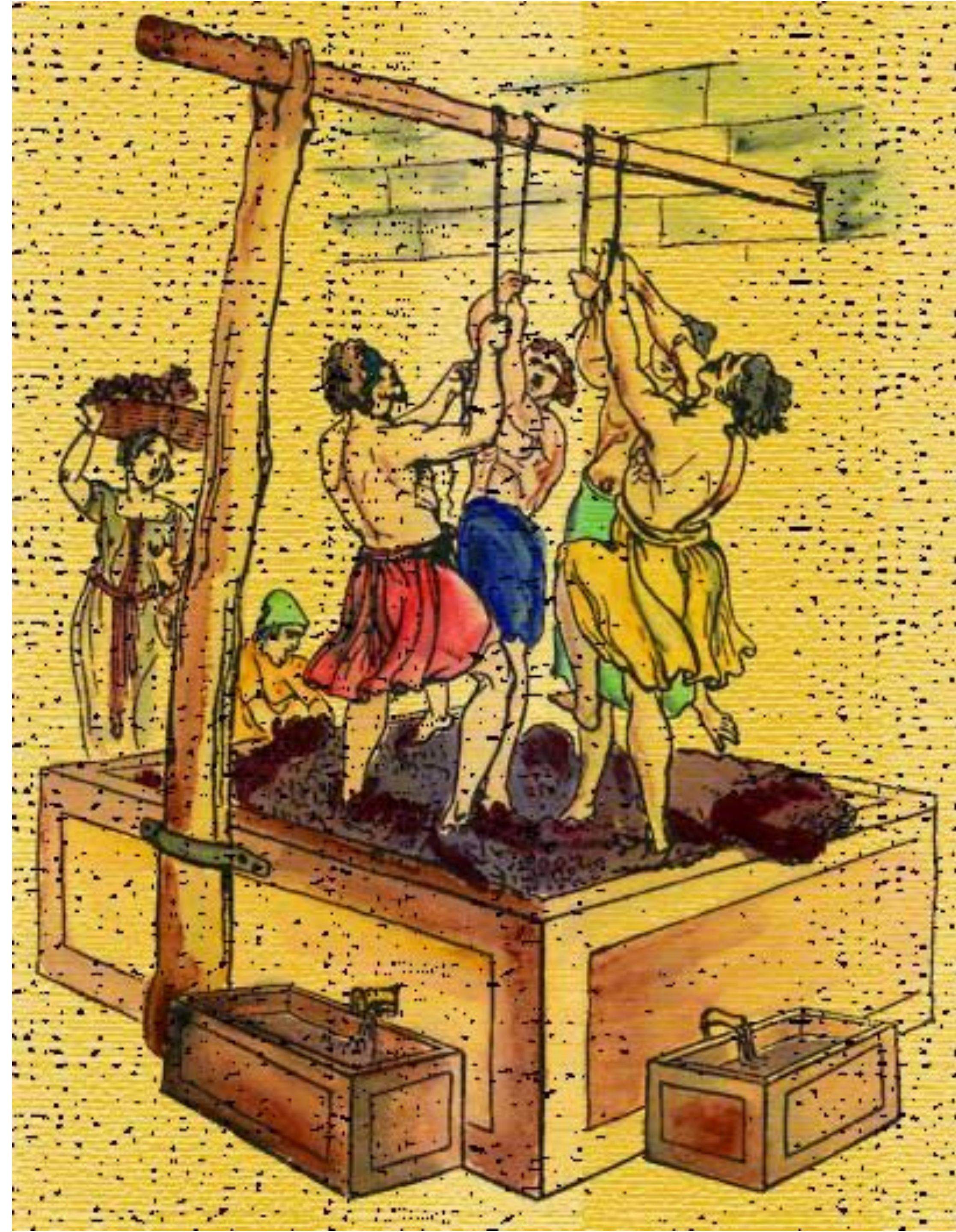
Everyone will conform to the righteous standards of God!

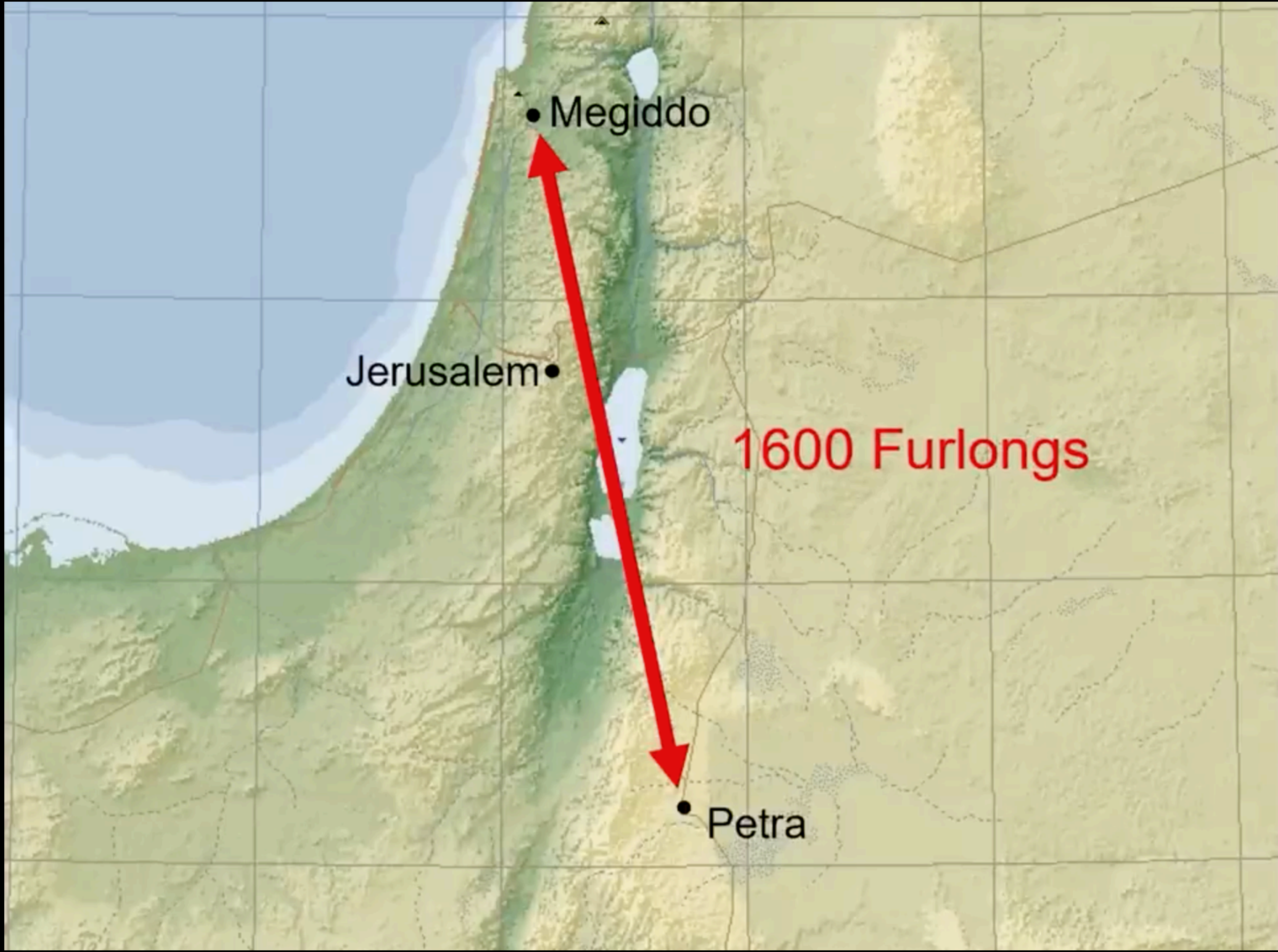
**15 He will tread the
winepress of the fury of the
wrath of God the Almighty.
Grace has been spurned, so
judgement is merciless!**



So the angel swung his sickle across the earth and gathered the grape harvest of the earth and threw it into the great winepress of the wrath of God. And the winepress was trodden outside the city, and blood flowed from the winepress, as high as a horse's bridle, for 1,600 stadia.

Revelation 14:19-20





• Megiddo

• Jerusalem

1600 Furlongs

• Petra

¹⁶ On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords.

At last, our long-awaited Savior and King comes to reign.

Take heed all you nations!!!!

**Now therefore, O kings, be wise;
be warned, O rulers of the earth.**

**Serve the Lord with fear,
and rejoice with trembling.**

**Kiss the Son,
lest he be angry, and you perish in the way,
for his wrath is quickly kindled.**

Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

Psalm 2:10-12

17 Then I saw an angel standing in the sun, and with a loud voice he called to all the birds that fly directly overhead, “Come, gather for the great **supper of God,**

The same word used for the marriage supper but with a profoundly different focus!

supper

gr. **deipnon**

**Strong’s g1173
dinner, the chief
meal.**

**supper, especially
a formal meal
usually held at
the evening**

**¹⁸ to eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of captains,
the flesh of mighty men, the flesh of horses and
their riders, and the flesh of all men, both free
and slave, both small and great.”**

The birds will feast on the army of the beast.

Men of all classes and stature.

Even the horses.

The playing field is level.

Judgement is inflicted upon all.

19 And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth with their armies gathered to make war against him who was sitting on the horse and against his army.

The battle is lost.

The army is decimated and destroyed.

The ten kings associated with the beast and their armies are totally destroyed along with all the others who participate in this final battle against the King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

Now comes the judgement of the beast.

It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

Hebrews 10:31

20 And the beast was captured, and with it the false prophet who in its presence had done the signs by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped its image.

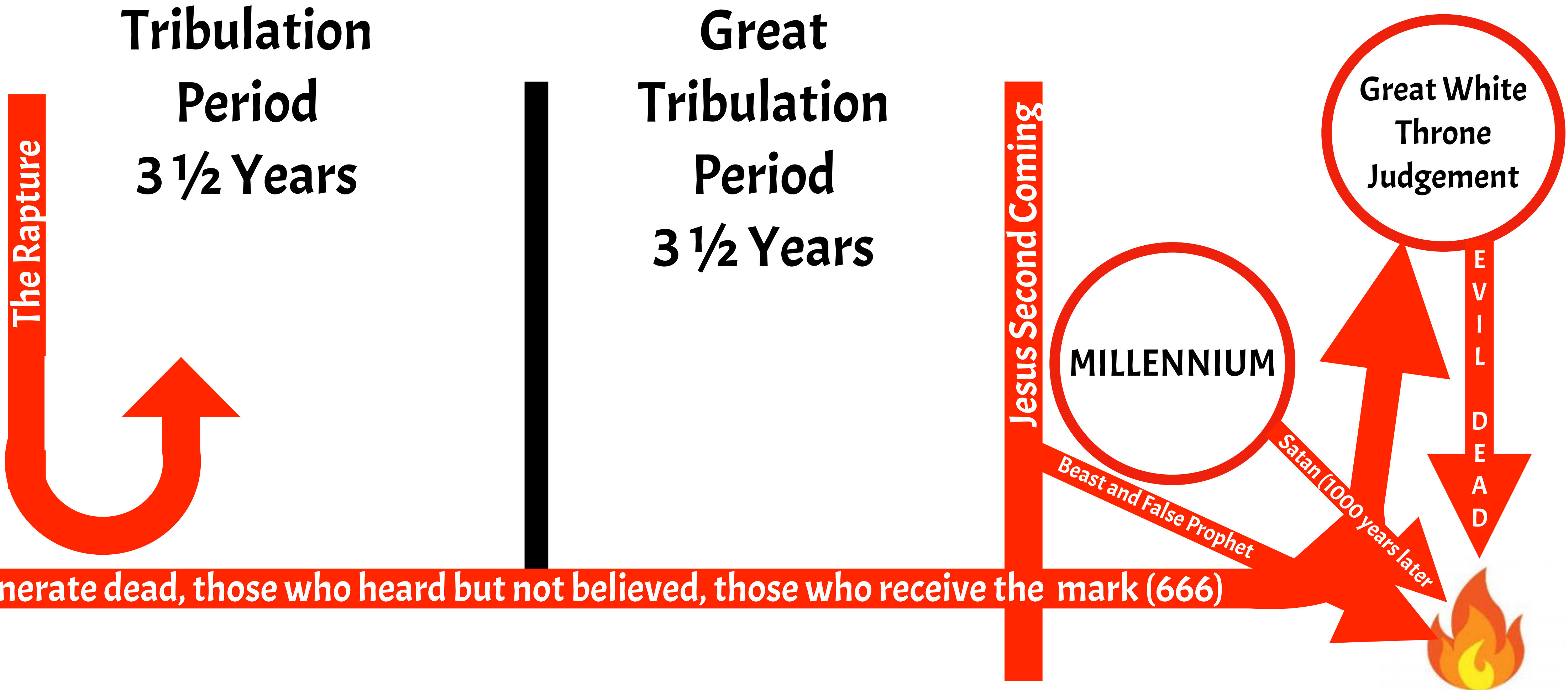
**Nowhere to run, nowhere to hide.
The beast and the false prophet of
Revelation 13:11-16 are captured!**

²⁰ These two were thrown
alive into the lake of fire
that burns with sulfur.



They are the first to be thrown into the lake of fire, the
place for those judged unworthy to spend eternity
with God. These were Satan's masterpieces and they
preceded him into the lake of fire where he, himself,
will be thrown a thousand years later.
An eternity of endless torment.

21 The rest of the evil dead, after being judged at the great white throne, will follow the beast, the false prophet, and the devil into this eternal doom!



For those who believe

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16

For those who don't

21 And the rest were slain by the sword that came from the mouth of him who was sitting on the horse, and all the birds were gorged with their flesh.

This act of judgement appears to be inflicted by Christ Himself and not by the armies that accompany Him.

The Reign of Christ!

Many scholars believe that hundreds of Old Testament prophecies are filled in this Chapter, such

as -

“Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely. And this is the name by which he will be called: ‘The Lord is our righteousness.’

Jeremiah 23:5-6

Revelation 20



**In these ten verses, we have sort of an
order of events.**

**One event happens before the
millennium,
another during,
and three of them afterwards.**

**We have, first of all, the removal of Satan.
That has to happen before you can have a
millennium.**

After that, we'll see the reign of the saints that happens during the thousand years.

**At the end of the thousand years we have three more events:
the release of Satan,
the revolt of a segment of society,
and then the recapture of Satan.**

**Virtually all commentators I have used
agree that this vision of an Angel
binding Satan and casting him into the
abyss is NOT symbolic, it is literal!**

Satan is bound which leads to a period of heretofore unknown peace and prosperity on earth.

Prior to the return of Christ and the beginning of the Millennium, Satan was cast from heaven and could concentrate all of his anger and effort on the earth.

He is now bound.

He is cast into a pit and the pit is sealed.

This makes it impossible for Satan to deceive for a period of one-thousand years.

Satan is rendered inactive and out of touch with the world.

There are a multitude of Biblical passages dealing with the Millennial Kingdom period in which Satan is never found working in the world.

The reference to a thousand years, or millennium, is only found in Revelation 20. “Millennium” comes from a Latin word meaning one-thousand. Chíli(oi) was the word for 1000 in the Greek.

χίλιοι

STRONG'S NUMBER: g5507

Dictionary Definition

g5507. χίλιοι *chilioi*; plural of uncertain affinity; a thousand: — thousand.

AV (11) - thousand 11;

1 a thousand

**The term “a thousand years” is mentioned six times
in seven verses.**

It's repeated over and over and over again.

**He's bound a thousand years,
they reigned a thousand years,
and after the thousand years.**

Hence, the word millennium.

**This idea of a millennium has been a theological
battleground for centuries.**

Just exactly what is the kingdom age?

What will happen?

Who will be there?

How long will it last exactly?

Is it literal?

Is it figurative?

**Your view, your interpretation, of
Revelation 20 is the pivot for
interpreting the rest of prophecy because
of the major viewpoints that this section
can be approached with.**

**Not everybody agrees on when the
millennium will be, what heaven will be
like, or for that matter who's going to
heaven.**

Wilbur M. Smith, in his “Revelation, The Wycliffe Bible Commentary” states that

Revelation 20:1-6 is “one of the most debated passages in the Word of God”.

Down through the ages, some have argued that because the reference to the thousand-year reign only appears in Chapter 20, you cannot insist that the thousand-year period will really come to pass.

**Subsequently, there are three different
major views of the millennium.**

Literal and Premillennial

Postmillennial

Ammillennial

First of all the pre-millennial view.

Simply put, Jesus will return to the earth before the millennium, then He'll set up a thousand year reign on the earth.

This is a very straightforward approach. It's a very literal approach to the Scripture.

It can be believed just as it is written, that Jesus will return to the earth, that He will literally bind Satan for a thousand years, and set up a thousand year reign upon the earth from the city of Jerusalem.

It's the viewpoint that says God has made a lot of promises to the nation of Israel.

He promised them that they would return back to their land, which they did, but God also promised that they would have an everlasting kingdom from the throne of David.

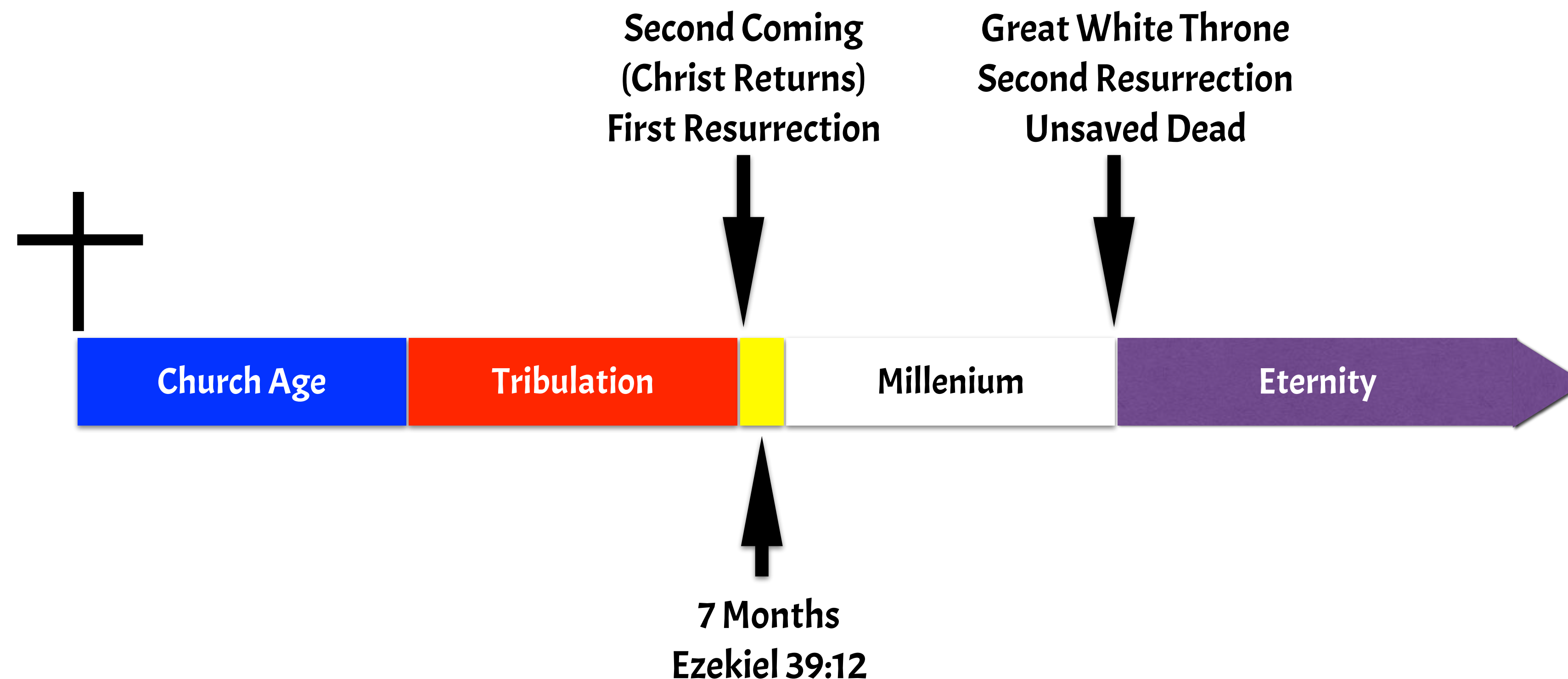
Their Messiah of the lineage of David would rule, literally, from Jerusalem, Mount Zion.

That hasn't happened yet.

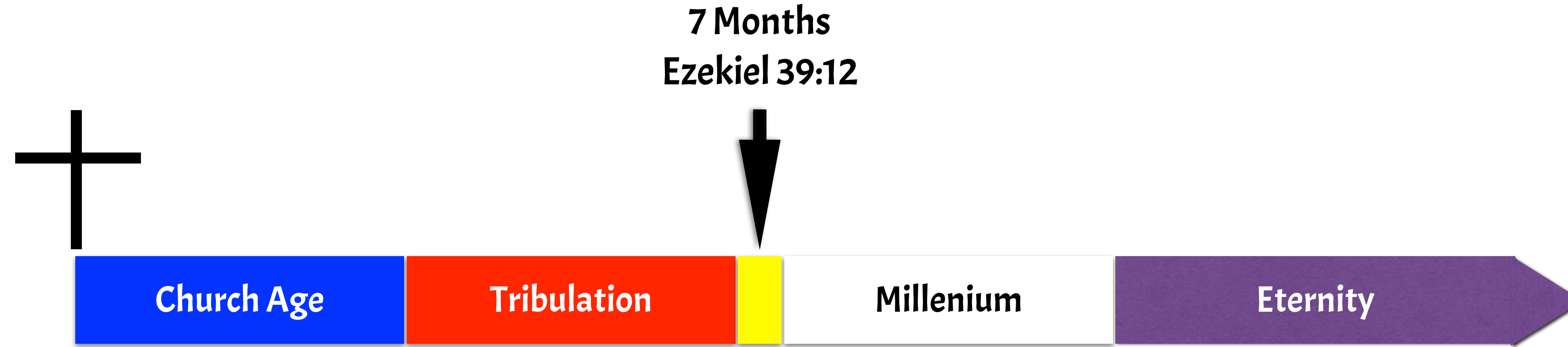
The pre-millennial view says one day it will happen.

This viewpoint says the world will be getting worse and worse and worse until finally God steps in, intervenes, and changes things.

Those who believe in the Literal and Premillennial interpretation believe that the thousand-year reign of Christ in the earth is a literal period of time preceded by and followed by resurrection and judgement.



Seven months?



“On that day I will give to Gog a place for burial in Israel, the Valley of the Travelers, east of the sea. It will block the travelers, for there Gog and all his multitude will be buried. It will be called the Valley of Hamon-gog. For **seven months** the house of Israel will be burying them, in order to cleanse the land. Ezekiel 39:11-12

Wilbur M. Smith also states that, regarding premillennialism, “the early church was unanimous in holding this view”.

Then there is the post-millennial view and just like the name implies, the idea is that Jesus won't come before the millennial kingdom, He will come afterwards.

This is sort of a part literal, part figurative, interpretation.

Yes, there will be a literal kingdom but I can't say it will last a thousand years.

That's sort of a figurative number.

**The post-millennial viewpoint is this:
the kingdom of Christ on the earth
will be brought in, not by Christ, but
by us.**

**The church will bring in the kingdom
and present the kingdom to Christ
and at the end of that period,
Jesus will just come down into His
kingdom and we'll say, "here it is!"**

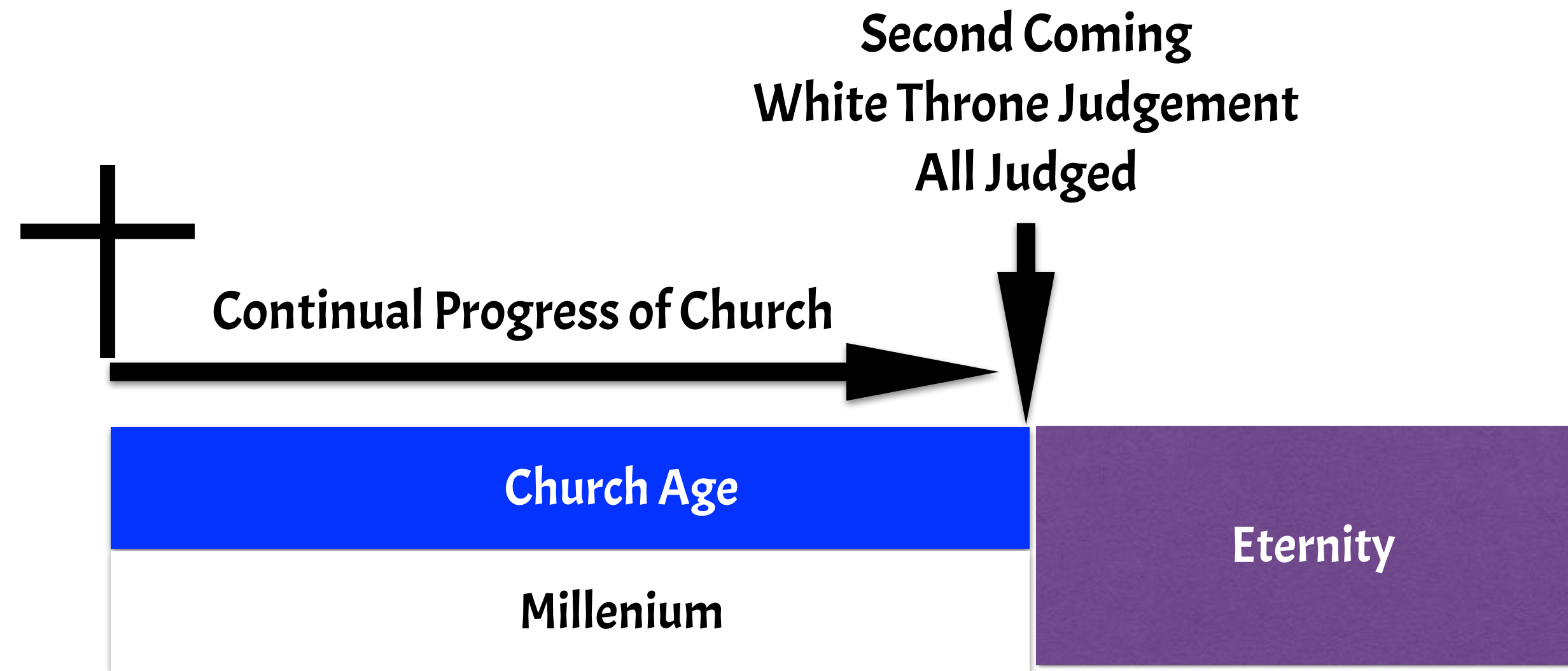
This was a popular viewpoint in the end of the 19th century, beginning of the 20th century, especially in western civilization.

It died out.

The postmillennial view states that Christ will return at the end of the millennium.



The millennium runs concurrent with the church age.



This is seen as a “golden age” of ever-increasing righteousness and victory for the church.

The church essentially gives a redeemed kingdom to Christ at the end of the millennium.

The Postmillennial view assumes that Christ will come at the end of the thousand years. Man could clean up the world and bring in the kingdom.

Man would take over the establishment. Man would take over places of power and establish the kingdom.

Man would bring in the kingdom by the preaching of the Gospel and present the kingdom to Christ.

**Then, there is the amillennial viewpoint.
Amillennialists believe there is no millennium.**

**The millennium not literal.
It's to be taken figuratively.
It's spiritualized.**

**This is just simply one big sign, one big metaphor.
There's not literally a kingdom on a literal earth
from a literal throne of David.**

**There won't be a literal revived Israel, a literal
throne in Jerusalem, or a literal thousand years.**

The church is the kingdom and the kingdom started, they say, from the cross, from the crucifixion and the resurrection.

Satan was bound at the cross and now we're living in the millennium.

This is the kingdom.

The earth won't get better, the earth won't get worse, and it will just stay the same until God decides it is time to end it.

People who hold that viewpoint know that God made a lot of promises to Israel but, because Israel blew it, all those promises go to the church.

That we're a spiritual Israel.

We're spiritual sons and daughters of Abraham

(Wow, if this is the kingdom, I'm very disappointed.)

If the Millennium is only to be taken spiritually, figuratively, then why did God take a whole book to tell us it's not actually going to happen?

Why would God write a whole book that really says nothing except that it's figurative and none of that is really going to happen because it already has happened?

But that is the viewpoint.

It's inconsistent because it says God made promises and curses to Israel and they get all the curses and we get all the promises.

We get all the blessings that they forfeited.

They get all the curses.

The millennium is needed to fulfill all of God's promises to Israel.

God promised David, 2 Samuel 7, a perpetual throne that can only be fulfilled in the Messiah.

And your house and your kingdom shall be established forever before you. Your throne shall be established forever.””” 2 Samuel 7:16

**He reiterated that promise and confirmed it with
an oath in Psalm 89.**

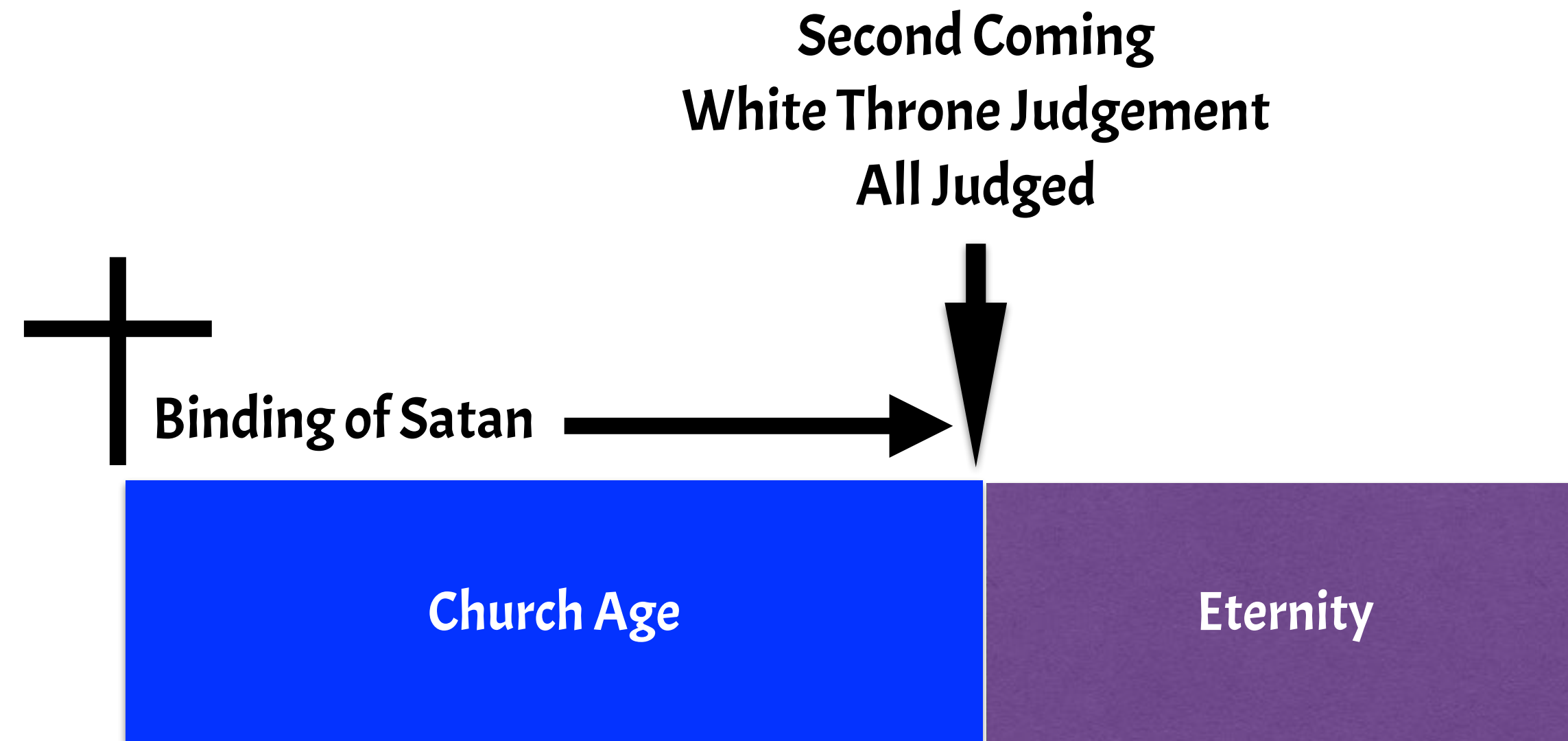
**"I have made a covenant with My chosen,
I have sworn to My servant David:
'Your seed I will establish forever,
And build up your throne to all generations.'"**

Psalm 89:3-4

The kingdom is predicted in the Psalms, in virtually all of the prophets, Major Prophets and Minor Prophets, that there would be an earthly kingdom, as well as a heavenly kingdom. The millennium is phase one to God's promises. There will be an earthly kingdom that will last a thousand years. At the end of that time the earth will be destroyed.

God will create a new heaven, we'll read about it in chapter 21, and a new earth because now all of the promises to the nation of Israel are fulfilled and the earth, though restored, is still tainted by sin and must be recreated and we'll see that.

The ammillennial view denies the literal nature of an earthly millennial kingdom over which Christ reigns for a thousand years. Ammillennials understand Revelation 20 to be describing the binding of Satan being fulfilled in the Church Age.



They believe the present age continues until Christ's return, followed by the resurrection of both believers and unbelievers.

If, according to the Postmillennialists and the Amillennialists, the church age continues right up to the White Throne Judgement, then it must mean that Satan is bound right now. Does it appear to you that Satan is currently bound and has no influence in the world?

Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. 1 Peter 5:8

The approach that we have taken in the many weeks that we have studied the book of Revelation has been a straightforward, literal approach to prophecy.

This viewpoint fits the chronology of Revelation.

In chapter six the tribulation begins. In chapter 19, the tribulation ends. In chapter 19 Jesus comes back.

**In chapter 20, He establishes the
millennial kingdom of a thousand-year
reign on the earth.**

**In chapter 21, He destroys the earth
and makes a new heaven and a new
earth and we go from the kingdom on
earth to the eternal state in Revelation
21.**

3 After that he must be released for a little while.

Why?

Because those who enter into the Millennium will enter because of their faith in Jesus Christ,

but,

they will have many, many children over the thousand year period.

And -



Many of the children born during the millennium will grow up and not embrace the faith.

Even in this perfect age under the rulership and absolute control of a righteous King they will rebel in their hearts!

McGee states that this will be a time of a population explosion. Disease will be eliminated.

The curse of sin removed.

The curse will be removed from the earth and food production will be unhindered to feed the increased population.

McGee further states that the Millennium is the testing of man under ideal conditions.

Though the Millennium will be a period of holiness and righteousness and purity as Jesus rules with a rod of iron, it will also be a period that emphasizes man's depravity.

The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?

Jeremiah 17:9

For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot.

Romans 8:7

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The Scriptures mention seven great “Dispensational Tests” of man from his creation until the New Heaven and the New Earth appear.

He was tested in “innocence” in the Garden of Eden; under “Conscience” before the Flood; under “Human Government” at Babel; under the “Headship of the Family” under the Patriarchs; under “Law” before Christ; he is now being tested under “Grace”; and he is to have one more test before God will give him up as hopelessly, incurably, incorrigibly God-hating and disobedient, and that test will be final and deprive him of his last shadow of excuse.

At the end of the Millennium, Satan will be released for a little while and there will be enough ungodly people on this earth to follow him on his final revolt.



Now, we come to the reign of the Saints.

**4 Then I saw thrones, and seated on
them were those to whom the authority
to judge was committed.
and you have made them a kingdom and
priests to our God,
and they shall reign on the earth.**

Revelation 5:10

**So, who are they that are seated on the
thrones?**

**What group or groups did God ever
make a promise that they would rule
and reign with Him?**

**But the saints of the Most High shall receive
the kingdom, and possess the kingdom
forever, even forever and ever.’
Then the kingdom and dominion,
And the greatness of the kingdoms under the
whole heaven,
Shall be given to the people, the saints of the
Most High.**

**His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
And all dominions shall serve and obey Him.’**

Daniel 7:18, 27

So certainly Old Testament saints are included in those “seated on thrones” in verse 4.

So Jesus said to them,
"Assuredly I say to you, that
in the **regeneration**, when
the Son of Man sits on the
throne of His glory, you who
have followed Me will also
sit on twelve thrones,
judging the twelve tribes of
Israel. Matthew 19:28

παλιγγενεσία

STRONG'S NUMBER: g3824

Dictionary Definition

g3824. παλιγγενεσία *paliggenesia* from 3825 and 1078; (spiritual) rebirth (the state or the act), i.e. (figuratively) spiritual renovation; specially, Messianic restoration: — regeneration.

AV (2) - regeneration 2;

1. new birth, reproduction, renewal, recreation, regeneration
 - A. hence renovation, regeneration, the production of a new life consecrated to God, a radical change of mind for the better. The word often used to denote the



Dictionary

Thesaurus

regeneration



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Medical Definition

regeneration **noun**

re·gen·er·a·tion (ri-jen-ə-'rā-shən, ,rē-)

- 1 : an act or the process of **regenerating** : the state of being **regenerated**
- 2 : the renewal, regrowth, or restoration of a body or a bodily part, tissue, or substance after injury or as a normal bodily process

So, the [regenerated] Old Testament saints and the [regenerated] twelve apostles were all promised a position of ruling and reigning with the Messiah.

**Do you not know that we shall judge
angels? 1 Corinthians 6:3**

If we endure, we shall also reign with Him.

2 Timothy 2:12

**But you are a chosen generation, a royal
priesthood, a holy nation 1 Peter 2:9**

**So, we've got Old Testament saints,
we've got twelve apostles over twelve
tribes of Israel;
and we've got New Testament saints.**

4 Also I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for the testimony of Jesus and for the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or its image and had not received its mark on their foreheads or their hands.

This is a specific class of saints. Those who had not worshipped the beast or received his mark.

They were martyred by beheading.

After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands,

and crying out with a loud voice, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!” And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying, “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?” I said to him, “Sir, you know.” And he said to me, “These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Revelation 7:9-14

**So all of the resurrected saints of all of the
ages will be there ruling and reigning.
Old Testament saints in their glorified
bodies,
twelve apostles in their glorified bodies,
New Testament saints in their glorified
bodies,
tribulation saints in their glorified bodies
all ruling and reigning for a thousand
years on earth.**

**4They came to life and reigned with
Christ for a thousand years.**

**Their spirit was joined to their glorified
bodies.**

**Those who were the focal point of Satan's
hatred and the beast's persecution
through the tribulation are now exalted,
rewarded and blessed by being
resurrected and reigning with Christ for a
thousand years.**

5The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended. This is the first resurrection.

In his explanation of the “first resurrection”, Walvoord states this - “At the end of the church age the rapture of the church will take place, and the dead in Christ will be raised. At the end of the great tribulation, the tribulation saints will also be raised from the dead.”

**Walvoord continues,
“It would seem clear from these facts that
the term ‘the first resurrection’ is not an
event, but an order of resurrection
including all of the righteous who are who
are raised from the dead before the
millennial kingdom begins.
They are the ‘first’ in contrast to those who
are raised last, after the millennium, when
the wicked dead are raised and judged.”**

**Walvoord concludes,
“Just as there are two kinds of physical death,
the first death that results in burial, and the
second death that is described as being cast into
the lake of fire, so there are two kinds of
resurrection, a first resurrection of the righteous
and a second resurrection of the evil.
They are separated by at least a thousand years.**

Just as the first death did not occur all in one moment but is experienced individually by those who die over a long period of time, so the first resurrection is fulfilled according to either the raptured saints or the resurrected saints at the beginning of the millennium.”

The Revelation of Jesus Christ
Chapter 20
Continued



1 Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding in his hand the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain. **2** And he seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years, **3** and threw him into the pit, and shut it and sealed it over him, **so that he might not deceive the nations any longer, until the thousand years were ended.**

Why is the Millennium Important?
**The millennium is needed to redeem creation
from the curse and from judgment.**

Then to Adam He said, "Because you have heeded the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you, saying, 'You shall not eat of it': "Cursed is the ground for your sake; In toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life. Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you, and you shall eat the herb of the field. In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for dust you are, and to dust you shall return." Genesis 3:17-19

**For the creation was subjected to futility,
not willingly, but because of Him who
subjected it in hope; because the creation
itself also will be delivered from the
bondage of corruption into the glorious
liberty of the children of God. For we know
that the whole creation groans and labors
with birth pangs together until now.**

Acts 8:20-22

The millennium is needed to fulfill all of God's promises to Israel.

Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end." Luke 1:30-33

When your days are fulfilled and you rest with your fathers, I will set up your seed after you, who will come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be his Father, and he shall be My son. 2 Samuel 7:12-14

**Israel and the church have different origins,
missions and destinies.**

**If you believe that the Church has replaced
Israel, then you deny Israel its place in God's
program. This can lay the basis for increased
anti-semitism.**

**The millennium will reveal the depths of man's
rebellious nature.**

**It will dispell the notion that we're just a
product of our environment.**

**If we had a perfect environment we'd be perfect
people.**

**However, the problem is not on the outside of
man, the problem is on the sinful nature of man.**

**There will be a perfect environment in the
millennium and redeemed saints will rule.**

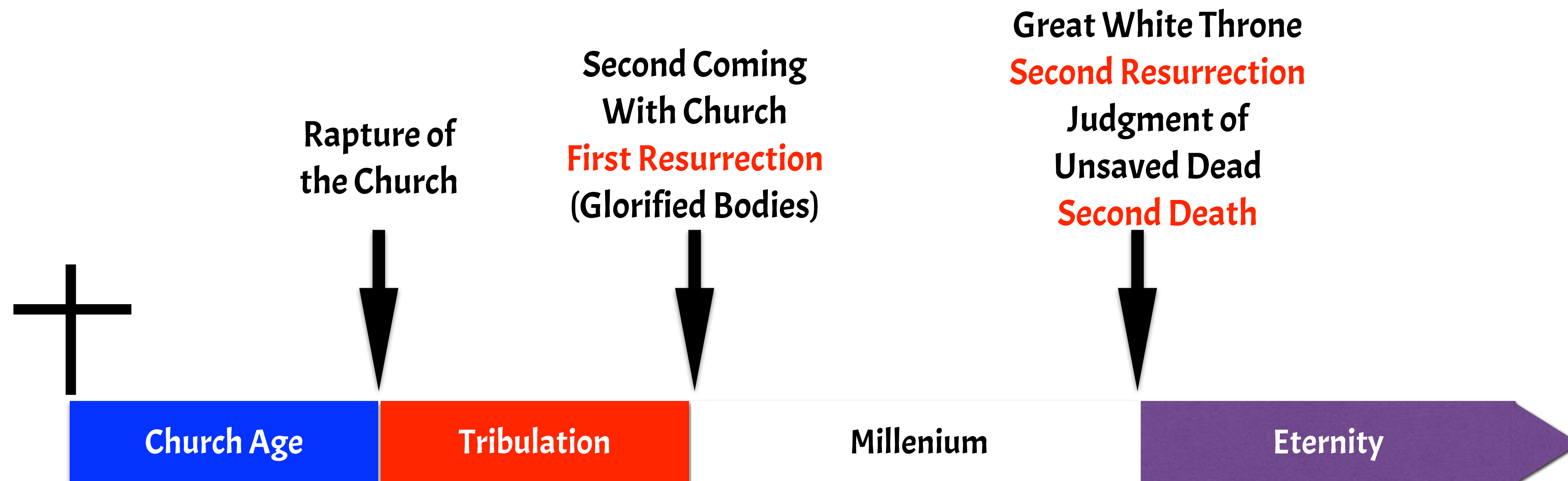
However, there will be people at the end of the tribulation who get into the millennium.

The reproductivity of the earth will be greatly increased like we've never known it before.

There will be some people who will volitionally follow the Messiah under His reign and some who will still rebel.

When Satan is released after a thousand years, he will gather up all those rebellious ones for one final rebellion.

**6 Blessed and holy is the one who shares
in the first resurrection! Over such the
second death has no power, but they will
be priests of God and of Christ, and they
will reign with him for a thousand years.**



**So all of the resurrected saints of all of the ages
will be there ruling and reigning.**

**Old Testament saints in their glorified bodies,
twelve apostles in their glorified bodies,**

**New Testament saints in their glorified bodies,
tribulation saints in their glorified bodies**

**all ruling and reigning for a thousand years on
earth, and all of those will**

avoid the judgement of the Second Death.

7And when the thousand years are ended, Satan will be released from his prison

The Millennium is the testing of man under ideal conditions.

At the end of the Millennium, Satan is released to again wreak havoc.

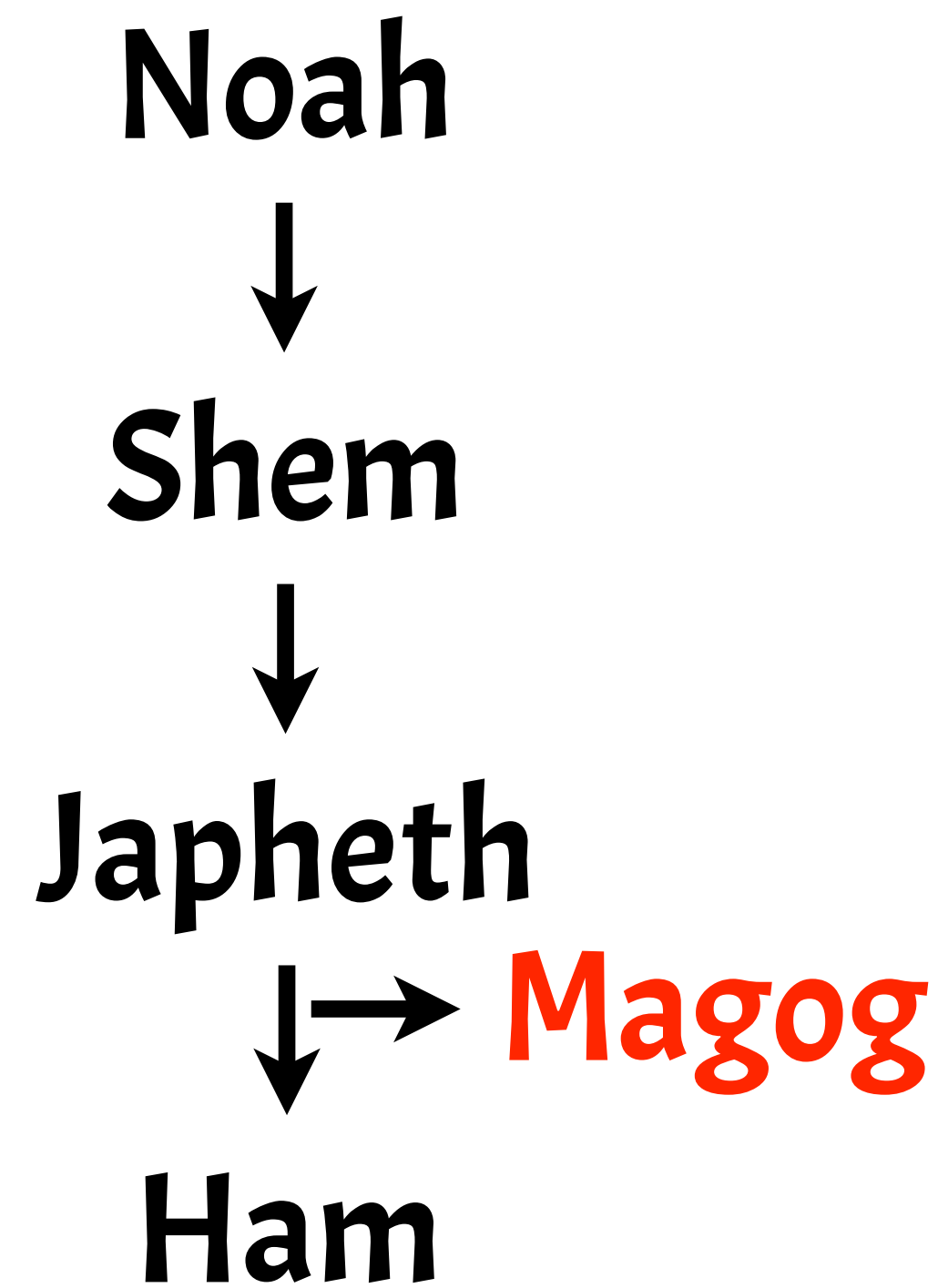
8 and will come out to deceive the nations that are at the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them for battle; their number is like the sand of the sea.

The first thing Satan will do is to organize a war. The reference to Gog and Magog probably refer to the similar territory of the invasion in Ezekiel 38 and 39.

It would indicate a huge invasion force of those who rebel against the “iron rod” leadership of Christ through the Millennium.

Gog is typically seen as a ruler.

Magog is the ancient grandson of Noah who tradition tells us settled in the northern regions of the Black Sea which is Russia.



There is much debate as to whether the Gog and Magog of Ezekiel and the Gog and Magog of Revelation are the same.

Jon Courson writes -

“At this point, Russia already having been destroyed on the hills of Israel (Ezekiel 38-39), I believe this usage of God and Magog in this passage is similar to our usage of ‘Waterloo’. Because Napoleon was defeated by Wellington in the Battle of Waterloo, the term ‘Waterloo’ has come to signify a decisive battle or turning point. So, too, I believe the reference to God and Magog in this passage speaks of a cataclysmic, monumental battle in which Satan attempts a final rebellion.

Chuck Missler writes -

- This is not to be confused with Ezekiel 38:39:**
 - ◆ Which is from the north**
 - ◆ Not from the four corners of the earth**
 - ◆ Occurs before the second coming**
- The time, place, and participants are all different.**

9 And they marched up over the broad plain of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city, but fire came down from heaven and consumed them,

A cataclysmic judgement on Satan and his wicked followers.

The camp of the saints is preserved.

10 and the devil who had deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and sulfur where the beast and the false prophet were, and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

Satan joins the evil masterpieces he created, the beast and the false prophet, in **the lake of fire and sulphur, where they have been tormented for 1000 years as they waited for their “prince”.**

This is the last stop for Satan.

This is the end of his career.

***11 Then I saw a great white throne and
him who was seated on it. From his
presence earth and sky fled away, and no
place was found for them.***

12 And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Then another book was opened, which is the book of life. And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done.

**This is the Second Resurrection.
The resurrection of those who are DEAD,
physically and spiritually!
THERE WILL BE NO CHRISTIANS AT
THE GREAT WHITE THRONE
JUDGEMENT!
In the Book of John, we are told that
Jesus Himself will be the judge.**

22 For the Father judges no one, but has given all judgment to the Son, 23 that all may honor the Son, just as they honor the Father. Whoever does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent him. 27 And he has given him authority to execute judgment, because he is the Son of Man.

John 5:22-23, 27

40 but God raised him on the third day and made him to appear, 41 not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. 42 And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. Acts 10:40-42

Both resurrections are included in this. The First Resurrection of the Living spanning both the Rapture and His Second Coming. The Second Resurrection of the spiritually dead!

**I charge you in the presence of God and
of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living
and the dead, and by his appearing and
his kingdom: 2 Timothy 4:1**

another book was opened, which is the book of life. And the dead were judged by what was written in the books

Jon Courson writes -

If you're a Christian, your name is written in the Book of Life. Those who are not a Christian, are not.

“But I lived a pretty good life”, they’ll protest. Yet the books that have recorded everything they ever did will prove otherwise.

**by canceling the record of debt that
stood against us with its legal demands.
This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.**

Colossians 2:14

Thank you Lord Jesus!!!!!!

13 And the sea gave up the dead who were in it, Death and Hades gave up the dead who were in them, and they were judged, each one of them, according to what they had done.



The resurrection of the evil.

Those raised from the sea are indicative of those who did not have a normal burial.

Even if the earthly body has disintegrated, it will be resurrected.

Hades will give up those who have been awaiting the final White Throne Judgement.

The term **each one of them implies individual judgement.**

Apparently, in the Millennium, men and women will return to the lifespan God granted in Genesis -

No more shall there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not fill out his days, for the young man shall die a hundred years old,

Isaiah 65:20

But it also seems that men will grow old and die in the Millennium.

Walvoord continues -

The righteous are given bodies like the holy, immortal, and incorruptible body of Christ in His resurrection.

The evil dead are given resurrection bodies suited for eternal punishment.

14 Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire.

All who died physically and were in Hades, the intermediate state, are here found unworthy and cast into the Lake of Fire.

The Second Death.

**Tribulation
Period
3 ½ Years**

**Great
Tribulation
Period
3 ½ Years**

The Rapture

Jesus Second Coming

MILLENNIUM

**Great White
Throne
Judgement**

**E
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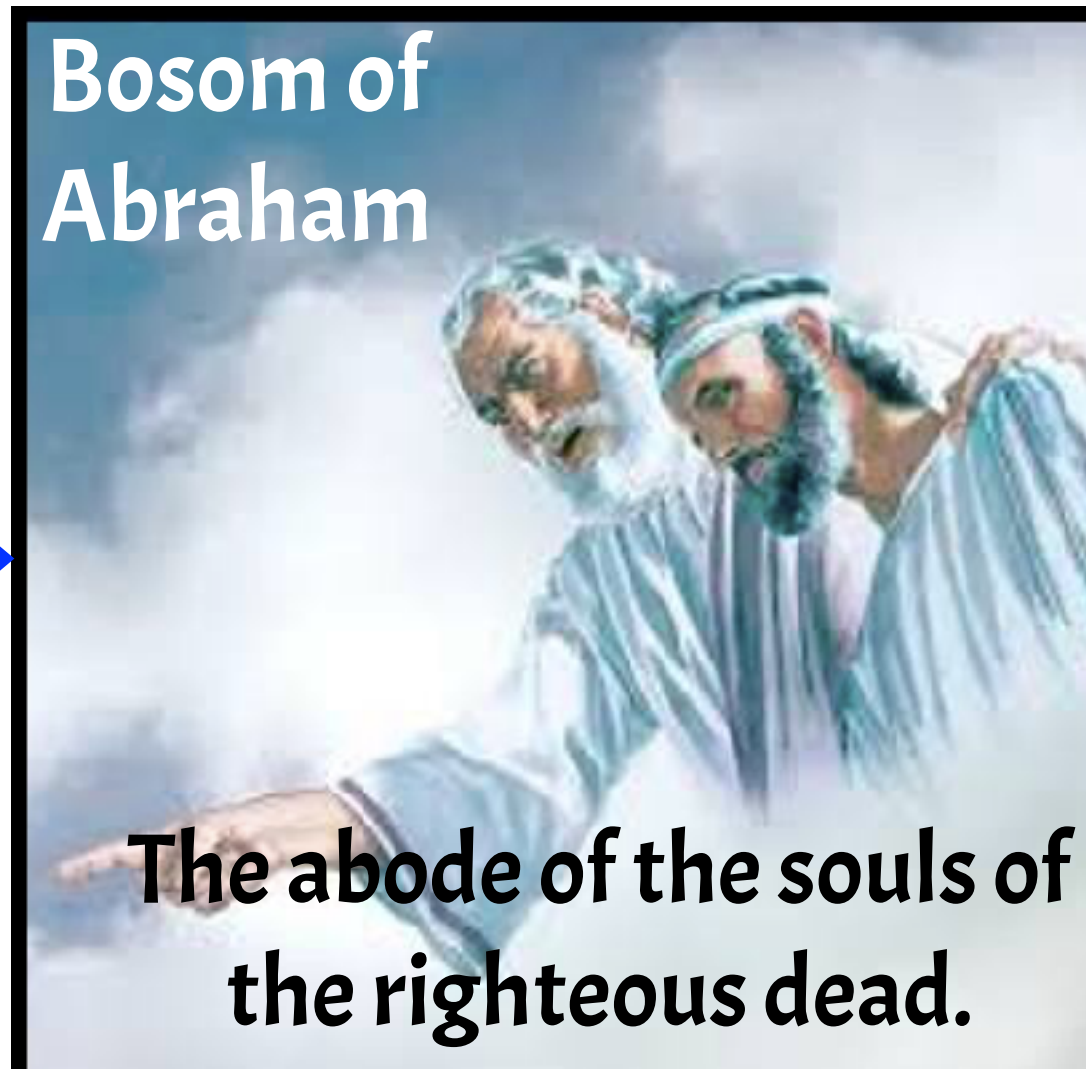
The unregenerate dead, those who heard but not believed, those who receive the mark. HADES



Taken to Heaven at Jesus' Resurrection

The Rich Man and Lazarus Luke 16:19-31

Old Testament Believers



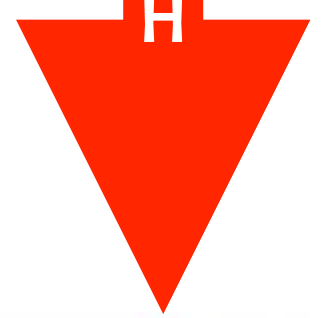
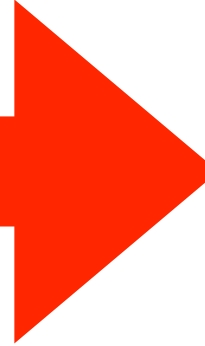
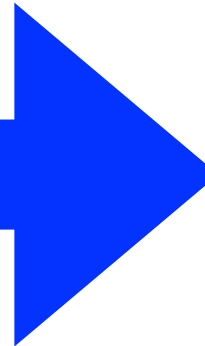
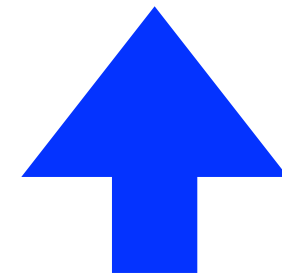
Great Chasm



Evil Dead (Names not in Book of Life)



DEATH



The Lake of Fire is not symbolic!

22 The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried, 23 and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. 24 And he called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue, **for I am in anguish in this flame.' Luke 16:22-24**

(This is NOT a parable.)

**15 And if anyone's name was not found
written in the book of life, he was
thrown into the lake of fire.**

**Why are they thrown into the lake of
fire?**

**Because their names were not in the
Lamb's Book of Life!**

**Those who are cast into the Lake of Fire are
not destroyed or killed.**

**Remember, the Beast and the False Prophet
have been in this torment for a thousand
years waiting for Satan.**

**But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the
detestable, as for murderers, the sexually
immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars,
their portion will be in the lake that burns
with fire and sulfur, which is the second
death.” Revelation 21:8**

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

Chapter 21

**2 In my Father's house are many rooms.
If it were not so, would I have told you
that I go to prepare a place for you? 3 And
if I go and prepare a place for you, I will
come again and will take you to myself,
that where I am you may be also.**

John 14:2-3

This is it!!!!

**1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth,
for the first heaven and the first earth had
passed away,**

The old earth is gone!

**Then I saw a great white throne and him
who was seated on it. From his presence
earth and sky fled away, and no place was
found for them. Revelation 20:11**

“Behold, I am making all things new.

Revelation 21:5a

“For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth, and the former things shall not be remembered or come into mind. Isaiah 65:17

“For as the new heavens and the new earth that I make shall remain before me, says the Lord, so shall your offspring and your name remain. Isaiah 66:22

But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat? Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

2 Peter 3:10-13 NKJV

**The earth and the heavens will be
cleansed.**

**In Genesis 6 and 7, the earth was
cleansed by water.**

**Prior to the coming of the New Heavens
and the New Earth, the earth and
heavens will be cleansed by fire.**

and the sea was no more.

**Apparently, in the New Heaven and New Earth,
there will be no need for water.**

**Our resurrected, eternal bodies will have no need
for it.**

**Dr. Henry Morris thinks this suggests that our
resurrected bodies will have no need for blood,
since blood is about 90% water and present day
human flesh is about 65% water.**

**We are redeemed, blood has already redeemed us
before we enter the eternal state.**

There is no need for it anymore.

and the sea was no more.

This also implies that there will be no boundaries separating God's people in the New Heaven and New Earth.

Currently, the sea separates nations and peoples.

That will no longer be true.

2 And I saw the holy city,

The city is holy!

Has there ever been a truly holy city???

Why is this city holy?

The answer is in Verse 8.

8 But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the detestable, as for murderers, the sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars, their portion will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death.

**2 And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem,
coming down out of heaven from God,
prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.**

**The city comes down from God Himself.
The place that Christ has been preparing for
since his Resurrection over 2000 years ago!
If He created the earth in 6 days, think about
what this city will look like after construction
for 2000 years.**

**What, this side of heaven, is more beautiful
than a bride adorned for her husband?**

3And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God.

If we are saved, the Holy Spirit dwells within us. However, this “dwelling place” (“tabernacle” in the KJV) is in contrast to the tabernacle in the wilderness in which God dwelt and also to the tabernacle in heaven (Rev 13:6; 15:5).

It means God is now present with humanity. The benefits of God dwelling with us will be revealed as we continue.

4 He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

The first incredible benefit.

Every tear will be wiped away.

**There may be tears in the Millennium
tears for those not present,
tears for those lost.**

**But every tear will be wiped from every
eye in the New Heaven and New Earth
because the former things that brought
us sorrow **have passed away.****

5 And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things **new**.” Also he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.”

The connotation here is that of a **DRASTIC CHANGE!**

The words are trustworthy and **true!!!**

You can take it to the bank!

new
gr. **kainos**
Strong's g2537
with respect to
substance, it means
of a new kind,
unprecedented,
novel, uncommon,
unheard of

6 And he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment.

It is done! The whole drama of human history prior to the eternal state is completed.

Alpha and Omega; the same term used to describe Christ in Revelation 1:8 will be used again in Revelation 22:13.

**To the thirsty I will give from the spring of
the water of life without payment.**

**The water of life is promised in abundance
to those who are thirsty. It is given freely!**

**For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will
be their shepherd, and he will guide them
to springs of living water, Revelation 7:17**

“Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

Isaiah 55:1

Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.” John 4:10

Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life. John 4:13-14

7 The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son.

Here, the generous provision is made that they who conquer will receive a FULL HERITAGE!

This is in dramatically sharp contrast to Verse 8.

8 But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."

9 Then came one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues and spoke to me, saying, “Come, I will show you the Bride, the wife of the Lamb.”

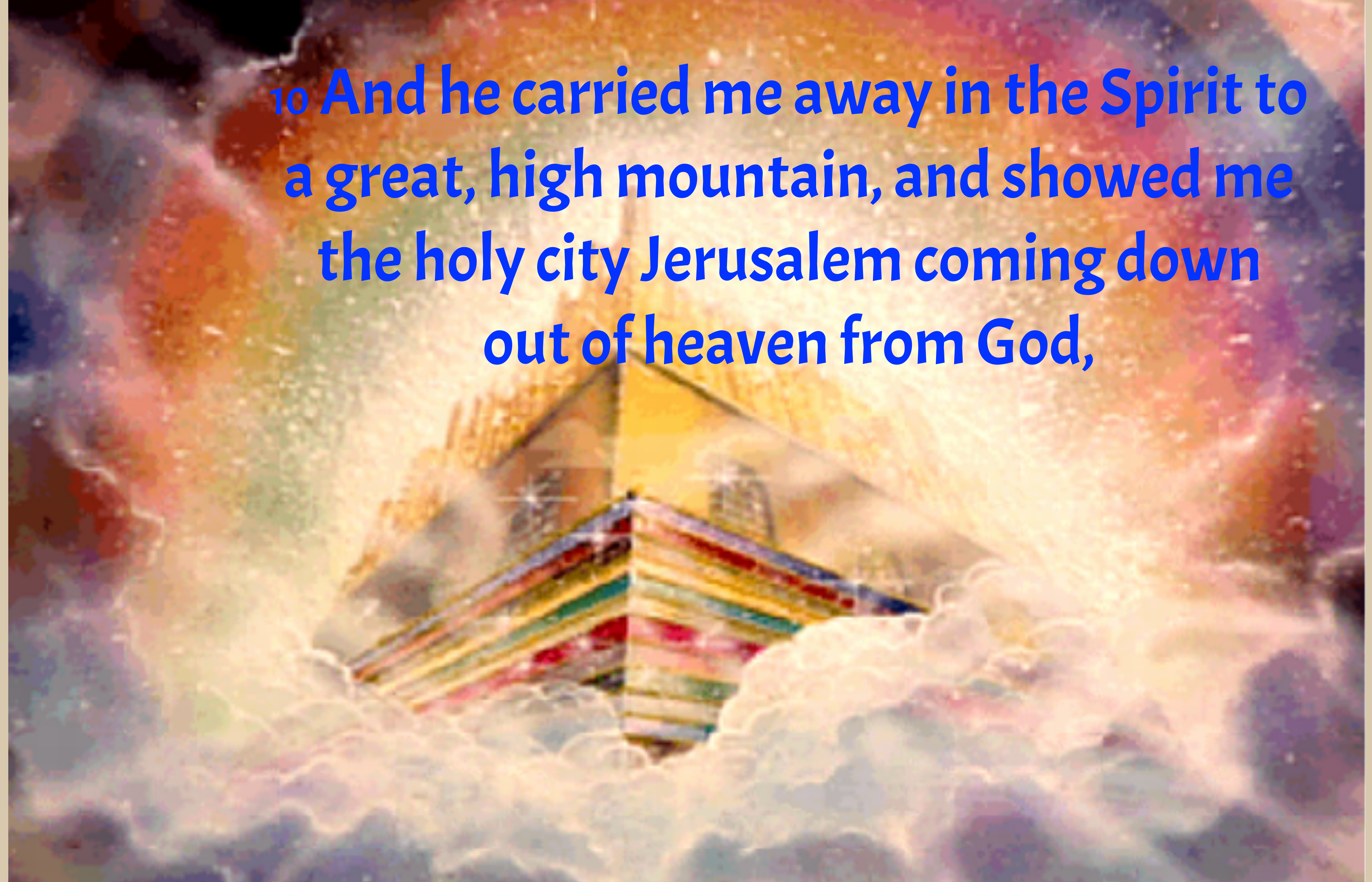
The city is not a bride, the church is the bride.

The truth here represented is that the city, the residence of the saints of eternity future, is to be compared to a bride for beauty and is intimately related to Christ the Lamb.

John actually saw what he recorded, and was guided by the Holy Spirit when he wrote.

John actually saw a city that was inhabited by believers of all ages, and that God Himself was present in it.

10 And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great, high mountain, and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God,

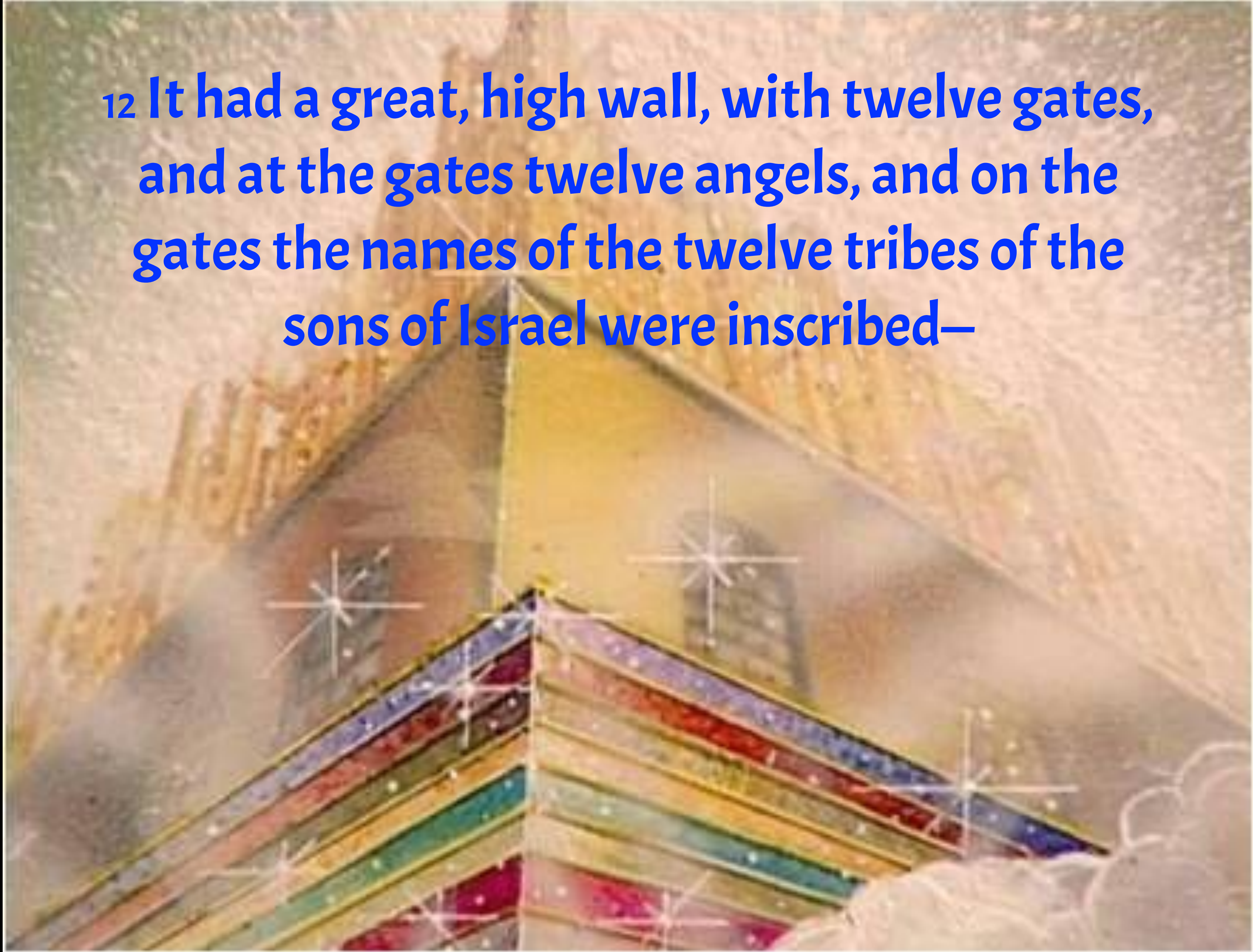


**11 having the
glory of God, its
radiance like a
most rare jewel,
like a jasper,
clear as crystal.**



**Jasper is an
opaque variety of
Chalcedony.
Chalcedony is the
form of Quartz
that is compact
and
microcrystalline.**

**12 It had a great, high wall, with twelve gates,
and at the gates twelve angels, and on the
gates the names of the twelve tribes of the
sons of Israel were inscribed—**



The names of the twelve tribes of Israel are inscribed on the gates because that is our heritage, the foundation of belief.

The Messianic age was predicted and promised to Israel.

The prophets came from Israel.

The foundation of the New Testament is the Old Testament.

God had a unique covenant with the twelve tribes of Israel.

**13 on the east three gates, on the north
three gates, on the south three gates,
and on the west three gates.**

three gates, the gate of Reuben, the gate of Judah, and the gate of Levi, the gates of the city being named after the tribes of Israel. On the east side, which is to be 4,500 cubits, three gates, the gate of Joseph, the gate of Benjamin, and the gate of Dan. On the south side, which is to be 4,500 cubits by measure, three gates, the gate of Simeon, the gate of Issachar, and the gate of Zebulun. On the west side, which is to be 4,500 cubits, three gates, the gate of Gad, the gate of Asher, and the gate of Naphtali.

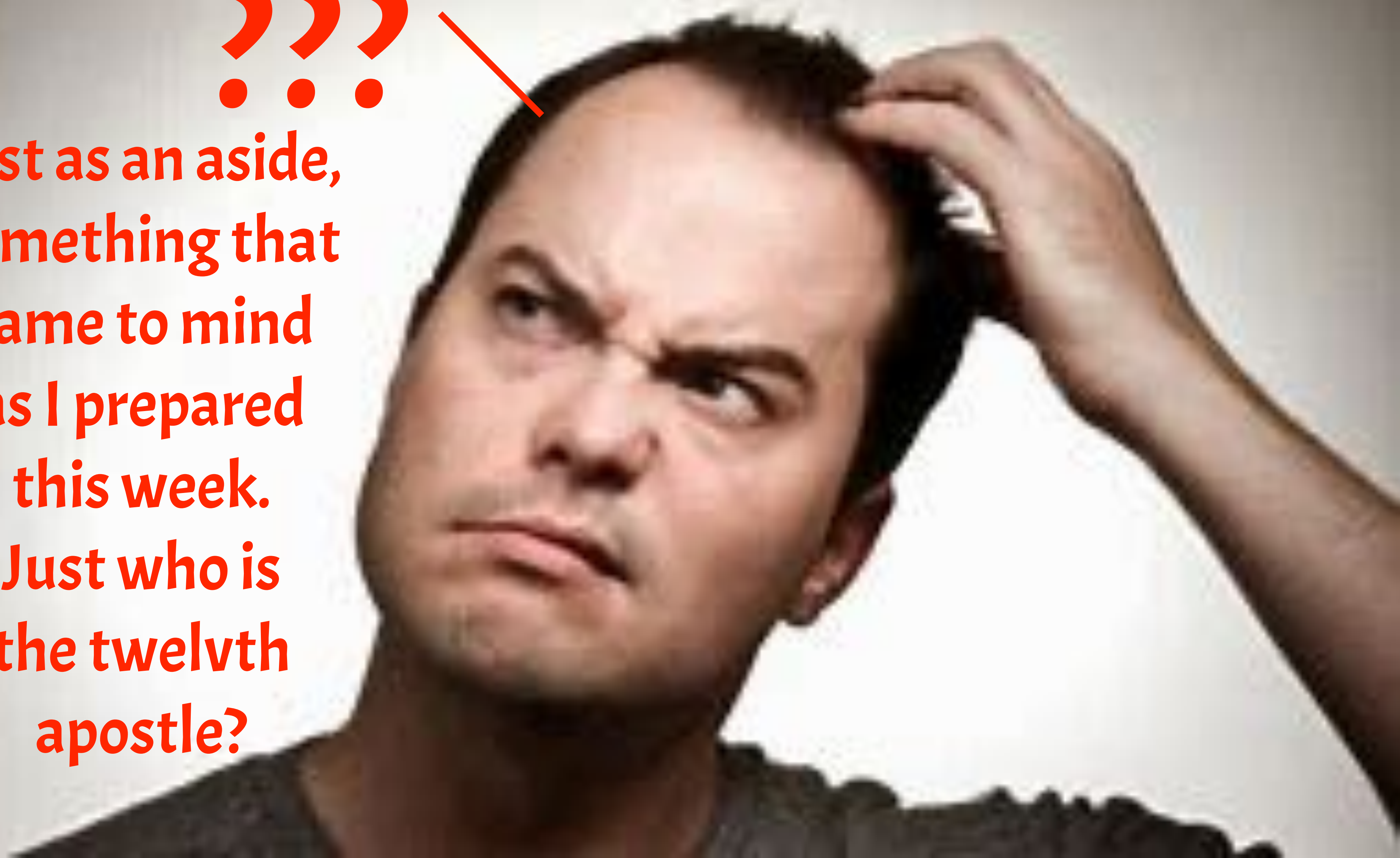
Ezekiel 48:31-34

14 And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

The twelve apostles were of Israel and were called out of Israel to be leaders in the church, and, as such, representative of both Israel and the church.



**Just as an aside,
something that
came to mind
as I prepared
this week.
Just who is
the twelvth
apostle?**



**And they cast lots for them, and the lot
fell on Matthias, and he was numbered
with the eleven apostles. Acts 1:26**

**Paul, called by the will of God to be an
apostle of Christ Jesus, and our brother
Sosthenes, 1 Corinthians 1:1**

15 And the one who spoke with me had a measuring rod of gold to measure the city and its gates and walls. 16 The city lies foursquare, its length the same as its width. And he measured the city with his rod, 12,000 stadia. Its length and width and height are equal.

Randy Acorn writes -

The city's exact dimensions are measured by an angel and reported to be 12,000 stadia, the equivalent of 1,400 miles or 2,200 kilometers, in length, width, and height (Revelation 21:15-16).

Even though these proportions may have symbolic importance, this doesn't mean they can't be literal.

**In fact, Scripture emphasizes that the dimensions are given in “man’s measurement” (Revelation 21:17).
If the city really has these dimensions (and there’s no reason it couldn’t), what more could we expect God to say to convince us?**

A metropolis of this size in the middle of the United States would stretch from Canada to Mexico and from the Appalachian Mountains to the California border.

The New Jerusalem is all the square footage anyone could ask for.

Even more astounding is the city's 1,400-mile height.

**We don't need to worry that Heaven will
be crowded**



**The ground level of the city will be nearly
two million square miles.**

**This is forty times bigger than England and
fifteen thousand times bigger than
London.**

**It's ten times as big as France or Germany
and far larger than India.**

But remember, that's just the ground level.

Given the dimensions of a 1,400-mile cube, if the city consisted of different levels, and if each story were a generous twelve feet high, the city could have over 600,000 stories.

If they were on different levels, billions of people could occupy the New Jerusalem, with many square miles per person.

Randy Acorn concludes -

The cube shape of the New Jerusalem reminds us of the cube shape of the Most Holy Place in the Temple.

The inner sanctuary was twenty cubits long, twenty cubits wide, and twenty cubits high. 1 Kings 6:20

**17 He also measured its wall, 144 cubits
by human measurement, which is also
an angel's measurement.**

**The wall is relatively small compared to
the size of the city (~216 feet).**

**Some expositors believe this refers to
the thickness of the wall, but there is
nothing to keep out!**

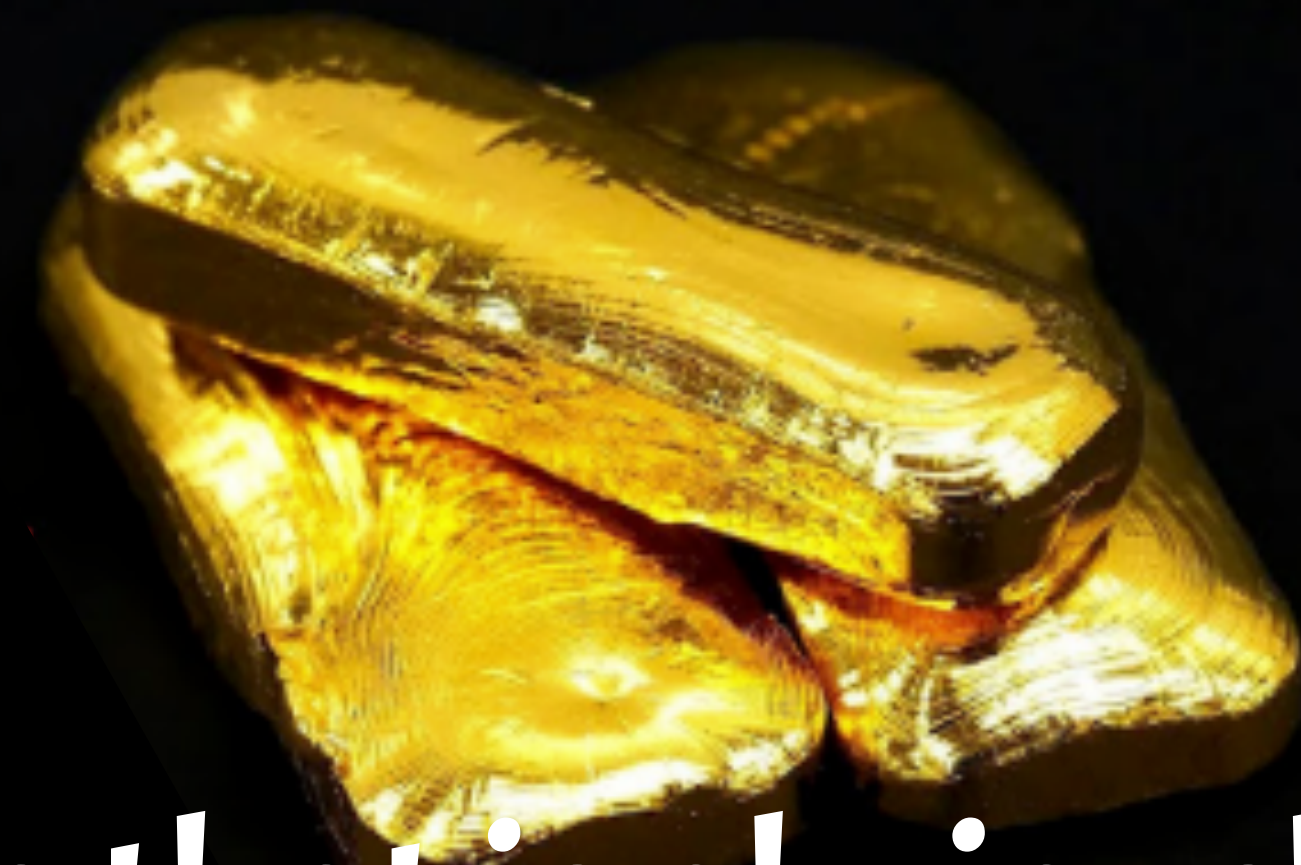
Sin has been obliterated.

18 The wall was built of

jasper,



**while the city was pure
gold, like clear glass.**



**John is trying to describe a scene that is obviously
indescribable because it transcends earthly experience.
“Transparency” is a common theme in the description
indicating that the city is designed to transmit the glory
of God.**

19 The foundations of the wall of the city were adorned with every kind of jewel. The first was jasper, the second sapphire, the third agate, the fourth emerald, 20 the fifth onyx, the sixth carnelian, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth chrysoprase, the eleventh jacinth, the twelfth amethyst.



The first was jasper

John may have been speaking of Diamond when he said Jasper. He could have also be speaking of a Jasper so pure, it was crystal clear

the second sapphire



**the third agate
(or chalcedony - KJV)**



the fourth emerald



the fifth onyx





the sixth carnelian

the seventh chrysolite



Beryl actually represents a group of stones including aquamarine, emerald, heliodor and morganite.

John could have meant aquamarine.

The beryl of choice during that time was aquamarine, so he could have been speaking of that particular stone.

the eighth beryl



the ninth topaz



the tenth chrysoprase



the eleventh jacinth



the twelfth amethyst



**21 And the twelve gates were twelve pearls,
each of the gates made of a single pearl,**

The “pearly gates”.

**These were huge pearls of God’s own
making (not from a giant oyster).**

**I think the choice of pearl here is truly
significant.**

**The pearl is the only gem formed by living
flesh.**

**One writer writes “There is a sermon in
the fact that the gates are pearl.
Heaven is entered through suffering and
travail.**

**Through redemption and blood.
Through the agony of a cross.**

**A pearl is a jewel made by a little animal
that is wounded.**

**Without the wound, the pearl is never
formed.”**

**But he was pierced for our
transgressions; he was crushed for our
iniquities; upon him was the
chastisement that brought us peace, and
with his wounds we are healed.**

Isaiah 53:5



**and the street of the city was pure gold,
like transparent glass.**

**Nothing needs to be hidden in this city.
There is no hidden agenda, no sins to
hide.**

23 And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb. 24 By its light will the nations walk,

**John was a first-hand witness to this earlier!
And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light.**

Matthew 17:1-2

**Based upon his first-hand experience
with Jesus, John would later say.....**

**This is the message we have heard from
him and proclaim to you, that God is
light, and in him is no darkness at all.**

1 John 1:5

**24 By its light will the
nations walk,**

**Heaven is not limited to one
group.**

**There is no prejudice in
heaven, no class-warfare,
no political correctness.
No divisions among black,
white, yellow or red.**

nations

gr. ethnos

Strong's g1484

a tribe; a

multitude

associated or

living

together.

24 and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it, 25 and its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. 26 They will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations.

Perhaps a reference to the experience of Moses!

When Moses came down from Mount Sinai, with the two tablets of the testimony in his hand as he came down from the mountain, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. Exodus 34:29

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

Chapter 22

1 Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb 2 through the middle of the street of the city; also, on either side of the river, the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

And out of the ground the Lord God made to spring up every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. A river flowed out of Eden to water the garden, and there it divided and became four rivers. Genesis 2:9-10

Eternity will return to the level of perfection God had created in the Garden of Eden!

1 Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb 2 through the middle of the street of the city;

There will be no more sea, but the water of the river of life will be sufficient through all eternity.

On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as[a] the Scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.’” John 7:37-38

2 also, on either side of the river, the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month.

J. Vernon McGee writes that up to this verse, heaven has been all mineral and no vegetable.

Praise the Lord, we will eat in heaven.

Though it appears we will be vegetarians with a choice of twelve different fruits blossoming each month.

Everything will be fresh and new!

2 The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

Why would healing be necessary in eternity to come?

Walvoord states that the Greek word for “healing”, *therapeia*, from which we get our word “therapeutic” can be understood as “health-giving” because the word in its root meaning has the idea of serving or ministering.

healing

gr. *therapeia*

Strong's g2322

1. **service rendered by one to another as in household service.**
2. **medical service; curing, healing**

**Walvoord continues that
the leaves of the tree
promote the enjoyment of
life in the New Jerusalem
and are not for correcting ills
that do not exist.**

**This is confirmed by the fact
that there is no more curse,
as we shall see in verse 3.**

healing

gr. **therapeia**

Strong's g2322

1. **service rendered
by one to another
as in household
service.**
2. **medical service;
curing, healing**

healing

gr. **therapeia**

Strong's g2322

1. service rendered by one to another as in household service.
2. medical service; curing, healing

Jon Courson agrees. He writes -

The Greek word translated “healing” is literally **therapeia from which we get our word “therapy”.**

It doesn't mean healing from sickness, but rather a maintaining of health.

In fact, the original language also implies exhilaration and invigoration.

**Finally, Dave Mayer
writes -
Between the therapeutic
leaves and the vegetarian
diet, we will be really,
really healthy.**

healing

gr. **therapeia**

Strong's g2322

- 1. service rendered
by one to another
as in household
service.**
- 2. medical service;
curing, healing**

**3 No longer will there be anything
accursed,**

The curses of Genesis 3 are no more!

¹⁶ To the woman he said,
“I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing;
in pain you shall bring forth children.
Your desire shall be contrary to your husband,
but he shall rule over you.”

¹⁷ And to Adam he said,
“Because you have listened to the voice of your wife
and have eaten of the tree
of which I commanded you,
‘You shall not eat of it,’
cursed is the ground because of you;
in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life;
¹⁸ thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you;
and you shall eat the plants of the field.

**3 but the throne of God and of the Lamb
will be in it, and his servants will
worship him.**

Hmmmmmm.....



Forget that! We will be serving!!!

We will serve God and the Lamb in a way that we are beautifully and blessedly gifted to do so. Think about whatever act of service in this life that brings you the most joy. Now imagine multiplying that joy a hundred-billion times Who would want to live in eternal idleness and uselessness This is a picture of blessedness in service rather than of arduous toil!

And, we will worship Him!
Can you imagine lifting your voice in a
choir a billion-billion strong?
Think about all the beautiful praises that
John heard sung as he witnessed the
massive choirs in heaven.

4 They will see his face,

The fact that they will see His face demonstrates beyond question that these are glorified saints.

2 Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. 1 John 3:2

J. Dwight Pentecost writes - No redeemed individual could ever fully understand the glory of the prospect set before him. John summarized the anticipated glory by saying, “we know that when He appears we shall be like him”. The glory of our expectation is that we shall be transformed into His likeness, being sinless, deathless, and experiencing the perfection of development.

J. Dwight Pentecost continues -
There is the danger that the redeemed one will become
so occupied with the anticipation of his own
experience of glory that the supreme glorification of
the Godhead is lost. Our occupation in the eternal
state will not be with our position or glory but with
God, Himself because “we shall see Him as He is”. We
shall be fully occupied with the One -
who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his
blood and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and
Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever.
Amen. Revelation 1:5b-6

4 and his name will be on their foreheads.

God's name is on our forehead because we truly belong to Him!

saying, "Do not harm the earth or the sea or the trees, until we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads. Revelation 7:3

Then I looked, and behold, on Mount Zion stood the Lamb, and with him 144,000 who had his name and his Father's name written on their foreheads. Revelation 14:1

The one who conquers, I will make him a pillar in the temple of my God. Never shall he go out of it, and I will write on him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem, which comes down from my God out of heaven, and my own new name. Revelation 3:12

5 And night will be no more. They will need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

Again, John had a glimpse of this at the Transfiguration.

Jesus knew how important it was to have John present at the Transfiguration so that he could relate the reality of the fact that the radiance of God would light the entire New Heavens and New Earth!

No more night and no need for sleep for our eternal bodies!

**Peter also had a glimpse of this at the
Transfiguration, and he wrote....**

For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty. For He received from God the Father honor and glory when such a voice came to Him from the Excellent Glory: "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." And we heard this voice which came from heaven when we were with Him on the holy mountain. And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts; 2 Peter 1:16-19a

**6 And he said to me, “These words are
trustworthy and true.**

**The glorious garden city, the time when
things are right at last, the pure river
that flows, the fruit-bearing trees -
they’re not too good to be true.**

THEY ARE TRUE!

Skip Heitzig points out several things -

There will be a purity of character.

You will not have an old nature tempting you.

The process that we go through now to become more like Christ in holiness will be instantaneous in eternity.

We will have a glorified body.

who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.

Philippians 3:21

He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.” Revelation 21:4

So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power. It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body.

1 Corinthians 15:42-44

**Skip Heitzig concludes -
We will have total satisfaction.
We will see Him!**

6 And the Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets, has sent his angel to show his servants what must soon take place.”

The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show to his servants the things that must **soon** take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, Revelation 1:1

“Tachometer” - The word in Greek indicates the rapid progression of events once they begin to occur. The idea is not that the event may occur soon, but that when it does, it will be sudden.

soon

gr. **tachos**

Strong's g5034
a brief space (of time), i.e. in haste, quickly, shortly, speedily.
Quickness, speed.

HIS RETURN IS CERTAIN!!!

7 “And behold, I am coming soon. Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book.”

12 “Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay each one for what he has done.

20 He who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming soon.” Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

**We are told three times that He is coming
SOON!**

I can promise you a blessing!

3 Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written in it,

Revelation 1:3a

Reading this book results in a promise of blessing!

Blessed is the one who reads and those who hear.

This reflects the status of the early church.

Copies of scripture were not readily available, so letters were read aloud in the assembly.

8 I, John, am the one who heard and saw these things. And when I heard and saw them, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who showed them to me, 9 but he said to me, “You must not do that! I am a fellow servant with you and your brothers the prophets, and with those who keep the words of this book. Worship God.”

**John is overwhelmed.....
again!**

Then I fell down at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, “You must not do that! I am a fellow servant with you and your brothers who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God.” For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.

Revelation 19:10

The angel admonishes John by telling him that he is a fellow servant, just as John is.

**The angel's command is direct and to the point:
"Worship God!"**

10 And he said to me, “Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is near.

Daniel was told to seal the book until the time of the end!

10 But you, Daniel, shut up the words and seal the book, until the time of the end. Many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase.” Daniel 12:10

But John is told quite the opposite!

Don't seal up this book John because the entire plan for humankind has now unfolded.

There is nothing left to be told.

Now, it needs to be totally revealed, because Christ's return is imminent and the consummation of the ages is near!

- ◆ **It's all about Jesus! It is about a revelation of Christ!**
- ◆ **Chapters 1-3, He is the exalted King over His church.**
- ◆ **Chapters 4-5, We see Jesus in heaven as the glorified Lamb of God.**

- ♦ **Chapters 6-18, We see Jesus Christ as the judge throughout all the earth as the judgements are poured out on mankind.**
- ♦ **Chapter 19, We see Jesus Christ as the returning King of Kings and Lord of Lords.**
- ♦ **The book closes with Jesus as the bridegroom taking His bride into the heavenly city.**

Many, even Christians, neglect this book. It is the devil who has turned thousands of people away from this portion of God's Word.

Why?

Do you think the devil desires us to read a book which tells how he himself is to be cast out of heaven, bound in the bottomless pit for a thousand years, and eventually cast into the lake of fire, to "be tormented day and night for ever and ever?"

Do you suppose he wants men and women to read a book that tells what his punishment is to be?

I think not.

As you read in Revelation of his coming doom, you are not surprised that he has persuaded many people not to read the book at all.

Again, there is yet another reason why Satan has persuaded people not to read this last portion of the Bible, and that reason is this: Revelation tells us of the coming glory of that self-humbled One, the Son of God.

It is the book which tells us that He will return as King of kings and Lord of lords; and that one day He will take the scepter in His hand, to rule from sea to sea over a purified and Satan-delivered earth.

It is no wonder the devil has tried to persuade people that it is useless to try to understand this book.

But God foresaw all this; therefore, He opened its message with a promise of blessing for those who read it.

Then read it, my friend; hear it; believe it; and God says your soul will be blessed.

-THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST

Louis T. Talbot

11 Let the evildoer still do evil, and the filthy still be filthy, and the righteous still do right, and the holy still be holy.”

Walvoord writes -

By this He does not mean that people should remain unmoved by the prophecies of this book, but rather that if the prophecies are rejected, there is no other message that will work.

If the warnings of the book are not sufficient, there is no more that God has to say.

The evil must continue in their evil way and be judged by the Lord when He comes.

In the same way, the righteous must continue in holiness.

Jon Courson writes -

If you choose to be unjust after reading this prophecy, be unjust still.

If you choose to be filthy after reading this prophecy, be filthy still.

In other words, if you cannot be convinced of the truth of the Word by the Revelation of Jesus Christ and the fulfilling of Bible prophecy, what could possibly convince you?

After reading this book, you have no other logical option, no other rational course than to say, "Jesus is Lord, and I'm going to live for His Kingdom."

12 “Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay each one for what he has done.

Christ reiterates that He is returning, lest the reader forget! The reference to bringing my recompense (reward) with Him most likely refers to the judgment seat of Christ as it relates to the Christian.

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.

1 Corinthians 5:10

13 I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.”

“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.” Revelation 1:8

And he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. Revelation 22:13

Christ is the beginning and source of all things, as well as the goal and consummation of all.

He is the eternal God.

14 Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they may have the right to the tree of life and that they may enter the city by the gates.

Those who have washed their robes in the precious blood of the Lamb have the right to enter the city!

After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

Revelation 7:9-10

Then they were each given a white robe and told to rest a little longer, until the number of their fellow servants and their brothers should be complete, who were to be killed as they themselves had been. Revelation 6:11

And I said to him, “Sir, you know.” And he said to me, “These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Revelation 7:14

**15 Outside are the dogs and sorcerers and
the sexually immoral and murderers and
idolaters, and everyone who loves and
practices falsehood.**

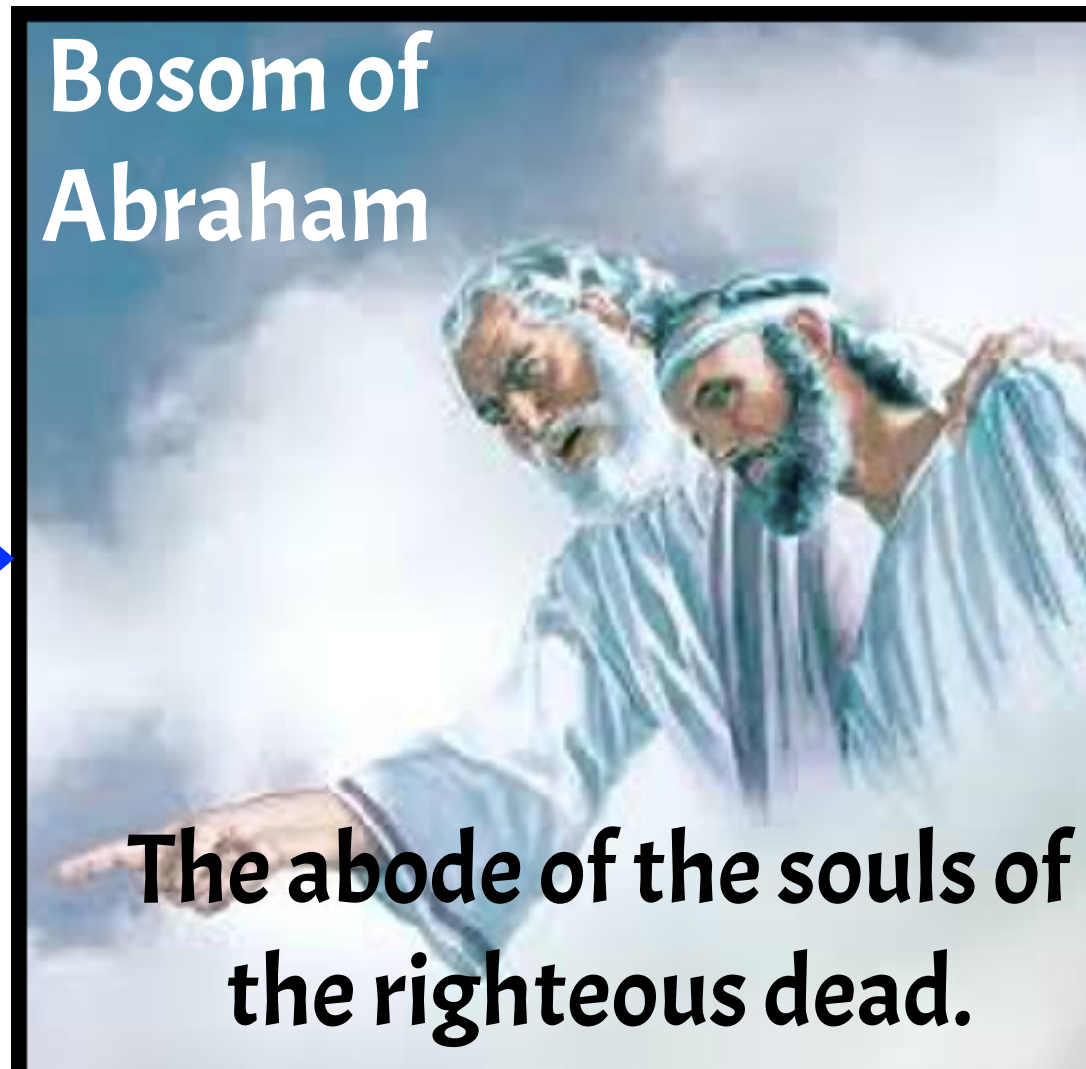
The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried, and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. And he called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in anguish in this flame.' Luke 16:22-24

We know that Paradise was emptied when Christ was resurrected and Hades was thrown into the Lake of Fire.

Taken to Heaven at Jesus' Resurrection

The Rich Man and Lazarus Luke 16:19-31

Old Testament Believers



Great Chasm



Evil Dead (Names not in Book of Life)



DEATH



**But the Bible is unclear about where the
Lake of Fire is in eternity.**

**We know that the inhabitants of the
Lake of Fire will be punished in it forever.**

**Some have tried to describe hell as
“eternal separation from God” in a
probable attempt to minimize the
suffering that the Lake of Fire will bring.**

**Maybe it is both separation and
suffering!**

**How much would our understanding of
that suffering increase if we were to
understand that the Lake of Fire were
somewhere outside the eternal city and
those in the Lake of Fire could observe
the joy of the eternal city, much like the
rich man and Lazarus!**

**16 “I, Jesus, have sent my angel to testify
to you about these things for the
churches.**

Jesus identifies Himself.

**Jesus Himself sent His angel to testify to
the truth of this book to John for delivery
to the churches!**

**16 I am the root and the descendant of
David,**

How can this be?

**David comes from Christ and Christ from
David?**

**As the Babe of Bethlehem, Jesus was the
offspring of David, but as the creator and
Christ of eternity, He existed before David.**

**There shall come forth a shoot from the
stump of Jesse,
and a branch from his roots shall bear
fruit. Isaiah 11:1**

**David had a divine revelation of this in
Psalm 110:1**

**The Lord says to my Lord: “Sit at my
right hand, until I make your enemies
your footstool.”**

**Which Jesus further validates by
quoting it in
Luke 20:42-43**

16 the bright morning star.”

I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near: a star shall come out of Jacob, and a scepter shall rise out of Israel: it shall crush the forehead of Moab and break down all the sons of Sheth.

Numbers 24:17

The one who conquers and who keeps my works until the end, to him I will give authority over the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron, as when earthen pots are broken in pieces, even as I myself have received authority from my Father. And I will give him the **morning star**. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.’ Revelation 2:26-29

We previously discussed this as an indication that He gives the overcomer the power to rule (in the future) and the promise of the rapture!

The morning star is none other than Jesus Christ who will return to rapture his church!

17 The Spirit and the Bride say, "Come."

This is an urgent command!

**The day will arrive when it will be too
late!**

**Notice it reads that the Holy Spirit
AND the Bride say "Come".**

WE ARE THE BRIDE!

**This is our clarion call to go into the
world and say "COME!"**

**These are the last words of Holy Scripture.
Compare these to the last words that Jesus said
before His ascension!**

**And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority
in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go
therefore and make disciples of all nations,
baptizing them in the name of the Father and of
the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to
observe all that I have commanded you. And
behold, I am with you always, to the end of the
age.” Matthew 28:18-20**

17 And let the one who hears say, “Come.”

How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!” But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?” So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ. Romans 10:14-17

When I taught Romans, we talked about how this really works!

15 And how are they to preach unless they are sent?

(The church sends preachers)

And how are they to hear without someone preaching?

(Preachers preach)

And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard?

(People hear!)

14 How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed?

(Those who hear, believe! Believers call and they are saved!)

**How beautiful upon the mountains are
the feet of him who brings good news,
who publishes peace, who brings good
news of happiness, who publishes
salvation, who says to Zion, “Your God
reigns.” Isaiah 52:7**

**And let the one who is thirsty come; let
the one who desires take the water of
life without price.**

**“Come, everyone who thirsts, come to
the waters; and he who has no money,
come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and
milk without money and without price.**

Isaiah 55:1

²⁸ **“Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.**

Matthew 11:28

¹⁴ **But when Jesus saw it, he was indignant and said to them, “Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God.**

Mark 10:14

³⁹ **He said to them, “Come and you will see.” So they came and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day, for it was about the tenth hour.**

John 1:39

Jesus makes the invitation to a doomed and lost world.

A thirsty world.

A world that is dying.

We, the church, have the privilege of extending that invitation.

Salt is good, but if the salt has lost its saltiness, how will you make it salty again? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

Mark 9:50

If people aren't thirsty, make 'em thirsty!

let the one who desires take the water of life without price.

The price has already been paid, so.....

COME!

**¹⁸ I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book,
Revelation 22:18**

This book is sacred! This prophecy is sacred!

**There are other warnings in Scripture about tampering with
the Word of God.**

**²You shall not add to the word that I command you, nor take
from it, that you may keep the commandments of the Lord
your God that I command you.**

Deuteronomy 4:2

**³²“Everything that I command you, you shall be careful to do.
You shall not add to it or take from it.**

Deuteronomy 12:32

**Do not add to his words,
lest he rebuke you and you be found a liar.**

Proverbs 30:6

**³Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy,
and blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written
in it, for the time is near.**

Revelation 1:3

19 and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his share in the tree of life and in the holy city, which are described in this book.

Walvoord writes -

No one can dare add to the Word of God except in blatant unbelief and in denial that the Word is indeed God's own message to humanity.

Likewise, no one should dare take away from the words of this Revelation, which is also an insult to the inspired Word of God.

**I personally take this as a solemn warning!
God is deadly, repeat deadly serious about
this book and this revelation. Woe to
those who change it
(or teach it unwisely).**

**Maybe this is why many of you have come
to me and told me that you've never
before had an opportunity to study this
book.**

Pray for me that I have done this well!

20 He who testifies to these things says, “**Surely** I am coming soon.” Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

Come, Lord Jesus! Come and rapture your church.

John writes this from the loneliness of exile on Patmos. This is the singular event that John awaits with the most eager anticipation.

surely

gr. **naí**

Strong's g3483

A primary particle of strong affirmation; yes, surely, truth, verily, yea.

**Grace to you and peace from him who is and
who was and who is to come, and from the
seven spirits who are before his throne,**

Revelation 1:4b

²¹ The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all.

Amen.

**The Book of Revelation opens and closes with
Grace.**

**We've seen the stark contrast between Grace
and judgement.**

The Grace is for all who will.

“Remember the law of my servant Moses, the statutes and rules that I commanded him at Horeb for all Israel. “Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the Lord comes. And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction.” Malachi 4:4-6

The Old Testament ended with Law.

**The New Testament, the culmination of
all things, ends with Grace!**

**He who testifies to these things
says, “**Surely** I am coming soon.”**

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

Revelation 22:20

**Paul's Epistles speak about the return of
the Lord over 50 times.**

**Yet many churches will not even teach
the Book of Revelation.**