



THE BOOK OF REVELATION
An End Time Bible Study
By Sal Smario

THE BOOK OF REVELATION INTRODUCTION

We are all Christian believers who are watching the end times come to pass, so I can say with confidence that you won't be here when most of what is spelled out in this final book of the New Testament occurs.

So, the reason we teach this course is to demonstrate how God uses the history, events & timing that He teaches us in Daniel, the message He gives the Jews in Matthew, and the meaning of Paul's teaching to the Church about the Rapture, to show that this final book is God's summary of the outcome of His covenants, and a record, of the final events of the age, that He gave us in order to reassure Christian believers that He kept His word, and Raptured us, and a glimpse of what our faith in Him has saved us from.

To the deceived left behind, there is the promise of leaders and a means of escape. The covenant made with the Jews will conclude just as written. Those without promise are lost. Our goal is to sort out, from the summary, the outcome of all the people with promises, their "order of march", as Paul puts it, into Heaven, and then on to investigate the outcome of the dark period that will occur on the earth and to its inhabitants, called the Great Tribulation.

We begin the study showing the Rapture from Revelation, and how scripture settles the question of when the Rapture occurs.

This is an unusual approach to studying Revelation and should prove most interesting and educational for you.

REVELATION PART I

The Rapture As Seen From Revelation

Today we begin teaching through the book of Revelation. We stated the viewpoint and the goals from which this study will be approached in the introduction.

I want to use this first session to lay down a foundation, painted in broad strokes that will allow us to later concentrate on the details.

I have read some commentators who said there was a key to this book that was lost during the middle ages sometime, and therefore nobody can understand the mystery. Hogwash!

I know that the Catholic stream of the Church for years has tried to keep it's people from reading the book. They didn't want them confused was the reason. I wish some preachers had listened to the Catholic Church, because it isn't the reading that has confused people, it's some who read it, and mess it up.

There are many who try to organize this book. I have seen it organized in 2's, and 7's, and one in 4 parts, based upon the "seer", John, who was taken to four different places in the book..

It isn't often that God organizes something so clearly for you that you don't have to work that hard. God does the organizing in the 19th verse, 1st chapter.

Jesus had appeared to John, on the isle of Patmos, it was a spellbinding appearance, as John says in the 17th verse; when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as dead. And He laid His right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last . . .

I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and death.

Jesus had already described himself in the 8th verse as Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty, so we know it is Jesus who John was speaking with.

Verse 10, John says: I was in the spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as a trumpet saying I am Alpha, the Greek letter A, and Omega, the last Greek letter: and what thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia and he names them.

Vs.12 And I turned to see the voice that spake with me, and being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks; and in the midst of the seven candlesticks, later to be interpreted as the seven churches, one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the feet, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle.

Vs. 14 His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow and his eyes were as a flame of

fire; and his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and his voice as the sound of many waters.

Vs. 16 And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp two-edged sword and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength.

Vs. 17 And when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as dead. And He laid His right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last; I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and death.

Now, here is the division of the book.

Vs. 19 Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter.

That phrase: shall be hereafter, from the Greet means, is after these things, namely the things which are.

Write the things thou hast seen - He'd just seen Jesus.

Write the things which are- that's going to be the revelation of the seven churches - what is existing in that day, and the goings on of the churches, and after the goings on of the churches, after these things, the churches, write the things that shall be after these things.

He then begins interpreting - John does exactly what he says - he writes the things which he had seen, already up to that point, he writes the things which are, which is the mystery of the seven churches and the seven candlesticks. That takes him through the third chapter.

And he ends up in the 22nd and 23rd verses of the third chapter: To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame and am set down with my Father in his throne.

Now, that's a key verse. It also follows, vs.20 - Behold I stand at the door and knock: if any man hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him and he with me. To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame and am set down with my Father in his throne.

The repetition of throne is important.

He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

The 19th verse said: write the things that thou hast seen - he'd just seen Jesus, the things which are, that's the mystery of the seven churches and the seven stars, and the things that shall be after these things.

He's now going to finish the things which are: Vs.22 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit

saith unto the churches

There are three simple divisions to this book. The things which John had seen, through that 19th verse; the things which are, the mystery of the churches, and the goings on in the churches, which ends with the 22nd verse of the third Chapter: He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches. Period - end of that subject.

A bridge will occur in the fourth chapter and suddenly, the thing that will occur after these things about the churches on earth, are going to unfold.

From the fourth chapter, to the end of the Book of Revelation, you have events after the things having to do with the churches on this earth. You won't encounter them again until the 19th Chapter.

The whole New Testament, after the Gospels close, and the crucifixion of Christ, every Epistle there after, including the one to the Hebrews, is to the Church. To the Saints that have come to know the good news of the Gospel and the righteousness of faith, and have become the wild olive branch of faith, grafted on to the promises of Abraham.

Yet, in this last book, after the second and third chapters being absorbed with the Churches, who are not only seven actual Churches, but are seven Churches in type, of all Churches, not another word to the Churches, beginning in chapter 4, on earth, until they come, in chapter 19, from Heaven, with the Lord.

From chapter four, verse one onward, the third division of the Book of Revelations, John is writing, the things which shall be AFTER the things of the Church on earth.

That's why He says: He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches. The message to the Church on earth, ENDS right there, at verse 22! And when you turn this key, you will save yourself a lot of confusion.

Chapter 4: After this, after these things, I looked, and behold, a door was opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me:

Whose voice is like the trumpet?

Vs. 10: John speaking, I was in the spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as a trumpet saying I am Alpha & Omega- Jesus Speaking!

After this, after these things, I looked, and behold, a door was opened in heaven: Where does the door open? Heaven!

I am painting with broad strokes right now and I will for a little longer, because I am starting to lay down the foundation so we can pull this book into pieces, so please bear with the broad strokes - the details will fill in later.

Chapter 4: After this, after these things, I looked, and behold, a door was opened in heaven: and the

first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, COME UP HITHER - come where? Come down? No, COME UP! Up where? HITHER! Where's HITHER? HEAVEN!

Some people make this book so complicated! You should have your Bibles open. Revelation Chapter 4 - read along.

4:1 I saw a door opened in, where? HEAVEN! And the trumpet voice (Jesus) said what? COME UP! Come up to where? HITHER! And where's HITHER? In HEAVEN! . . . and I will show thee things that must be hereafter - again, you're back to the Greek - hereafter -after these things - the things to do with Church on earth.

Vs. 2 And immediately I was in the spirit; John says, and, behold a throne was set in heaven, and one sat on the throne. Vs3. And he that sat was to look upon like a jasper and a sardine stone: and there was a rainbow round about the throne, in sight like unto an emerald.

Vs.4 and round about the throne were four and twenty seats: What did He say in the 21st verse of the 3rd chapter, to the Church? To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in where? MY THRONE.

Round about the throne were four and twenty seats and upon the seats: I saw four and twenty elders sitting, clothed in white raiment; (the symbol of Christ's righteousness, always) and they had on their heads crowns of gold. And out of the throne proceeded lightnings and thunderings and voices; and there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven spirits of God.

And before the throne there was a sea of glass like unto crystal; and in the midst of the throne, and round about the throne, were four beasts (it should not be beasts, should be living ones - zoa), full of eyes before and behind.

And the first living one was like a lion, and the second like a calf (an ox it was to the eyes of Ezekiel), the third had face as a man, and the fourth was like a flying eagle.

And the four living ones had each of them six wings about him; and they were full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night (Ezekiel saw them like lightning covering the whole earth and the whole universe), saying Holy, holy, holy, Lord God almighty, which was, and is and is to come.

That's an interesting phrase. John's up in Heaven, before the throne, he sees, Jesus and the description of the Lord God almighty is, that He was, and is, and is still to come again.

The elders are there, before the throne. He was, and is, and is yet to come - The second coming in fact hasn't yet occurred. He didn't come down, He called up. He said "Come up Hither".

As I have said many times, the day of the Lord is many events. The day of the Lord is every victory that God accomplished over Satan, the day of the Lord included the first coming, and the day of the lord will include the second coming.

The Jews missed the first coming, because they looked for Messiah in only one package. The second coming is many events. The signs that Jesus gave the Jews pointed to the end. And the second coming encompasses many events before His feet touch the mount of Olives, and it cleaves in half, as Zechariah 14 describes it, and a way of escape is provided for the remnant of God's people out of Jerusalem.

The Rapture takes place before that end. Not only is the second coming many events, the Rapture is more than one event, but there is only one Rapture for the Church. Remember, these are board foundational strokes.

Vs. 9 And when those living ones give glory and honor and thanks to Him that sat on the throne, who liveth for ever and ever, the four and twenty elders fall down before him that liveth for ever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne saying, Thou art worthy, O Lord to receive glory and honor and power, for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

Vs.8 Chapter 5 After He took the book out of the right hand of Him that sat upon the throne, and when He had taken the book, the four living ones and four and twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odors, which are the prayers of saints. Vs.9 And they sung a new song (this is the Elders), saying, thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast REDEEMED US - who? The four and twenty elders. Thou hast redeemed US to God by thy blood (by Thy life poured out - You paid the price to redeem us) out of every tongue, and people and nation, and hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall REIGN ON EARTH.

There's the Church! There's the children of Faith, There's the Redeemed. There's the Abraham, that Romans 4 said, had his faith counted as righteousness. The price tag of allowance, that let God credit his faith as righteousness, the blood of Jesus Christ, that as a mediator, in the book of Hebrews, paid the price for every sin, from day one to now, to future.

In those Elders; King David, who Romans 4 says, because he lied, he committed adultery, he murdered, he falls short of the law, he never made it in under the Old Testament Covenant. Because the Law said, if you keep it, you'll live in it - if you violate it, you'll die.

The only reason David is going to be in Heaven, not because he was king of Israel, not because he kept the law, but because God placed David in Christ, as Romans 4 says, credited David's faith to righteousness, and brings him in on the same basis as the New Testament Church comes in.

Moses, the law giver, is there. Not because like no other man, God would hide him in the cleft of the rock on Mt. Sinai and let him catch a glimpse of the brightness of God's presence, until when he came from the mountain, his face shone, and he didn't know it shown and not because God allowed him to talk with His Son on the mount of transfiguration. Moses sinned, but God took his faith, as recorded in the 11th chapter of the book of Hebrews, and credited it to righteousness.

Because, Jesus Christ lived the righteousness for us all, died for the sins of us all, and God placed the

sins of Moses and David and Abraham and all of them into Christ. That's why you are going to find twelve foundation stones in the city of the Lamb, and twelve gates. Twelve gates related to the twelve patriarch tribes, and the twelve foundation stones, the apostles of the Lamb, you find twenty four elders, that symbolize those that have been redeemed to God, by the blood, out of every kindred, and people and tongue and nation.

There will be some that come in of the Jews, who recognize their true Messiah, there will be 144,000 sealed in their foreheads, which we haven't talked about yet, caught up, at a later time, there will be Jews who turn to their Messiah, when they recognize their mistake of having bowed down to Antichrist.

And these Jews who ultimately will recognize their Messiah, as Ezekiel has seen in the reconstituted temple, will offer sacrifices with understanding, for the first time, that it is none other than Jesus, that they have been symbolizing with their sacrifices down through the years.

But in this 4th Chapter were dealing with those that are caught up to be with the lord at the end of the happenings of the church, when God turns again to that 70th week of Daniel, to deal with His people for the last time, the literal natural descendants of Abraham.

I will say a lot more about it, but these four and twenty elders are the redeemed of all ages, those saved by faith, whose faith in the Old Testament, was substituted for righteousness, and whose faith in the New Testament was a response to the good news of the Gospel, that are raptured and raised and caught up are with Him, throughout that great and terrible tribulation on earth, that follows this fourth chapter.

In short, the Church is in the twenty four elders upon seats around the throne. It's not twenty four. It's not the twelve apostles and the twelve patriarch sons of Jacob. It's those redeemed, by the blood of Christ, out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation.

Twenty four, constituting the saints of the Old Testament and the New Testament, saved by Faith, redeemed by the blood of Jesus Christ, caught up.

The word Rapture, is a cognate, of a Latin word, Repare, that means "to catch away". There is only one place, the Greek word, that means catching away, is used in the New Testament.

That's when Philip, was raptured (caught away) from the Gaza Strip, after having baptized the Ethiopian, while on the road. Scripture says that he was caught away, and instantly appeared, in miracle form, as scripture has it, caught away to Azotus.

That is the only place in the New Testament the word we call Rapture, which is a cognate of the Latin word, translating a Greek word that means "catching away". That's the only place we encounter the word rapture.

We find derivatives, we find the Greek phrases that discuss, and describe a "catching away", but the word Rapture, is a word that simply means caught away, and is used only once.

We have words like "enrapture". We have ecstasy described as "rapture". The root of the word meaning, there is a psychological state where people can get enraptured, to where they are literally caught away from them selves, into the joy and the feeling.

But the word as the New Testament describes it is a literal catching away. As Philip was caught away from Gaza to Azotus.

But as I said, you have a lot of Greek phrases describing the incident of catching away.

Here it is.

Because John was a saint, it was not his hope to go through the tribulation and finally recognize is Messiah. John was a disciple, suffering persecution, because he recognized his Messiah.

John, as the four and twenty elders, is a type, or is one of literally, those to be caught away. In his case, raised from the dead, to be caught away, a part of the Church. That's why John literally, as it opens the chapter, himself, becomes a type of the rapture.

After this I looked, and, behold a door was opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were at trumpet talking with me. There is a very important word there - first voice. He is going to hear voices all though this book. The first voice, John, one of those that's the Church, the first voice he hears was of a trumpet talking with me, which said - COME UP HITHER!, and I'll show thee things that must be hereafter. And he's caught up.

John is a type of the close of the things of the Church, and the opening of the things that begin to happen in heaven and on this earth in Daniel's 70th week, which is the tribulation, the Bible calls it The Great Tribulation. John's caught up! The four and twenty elders are there before the throne. I challenge you to find the Church again any where in this book. Two chapters talks about nothing but the Church. The things which are. But, the things that shall be after these things, namely, the Church, begins in chapter 4. I challenge you to find any reference to the Church, until Jesus comes back with His saints in chapter 19. Throughout the rest of this book, the Church is where the four and twenty elders are. Gone.

Well will talking about some harsh things happening on this earth. Terrible things. The Church is not here. The four and twenty elders are not here. There gone.

The 144,000 that will be sealed by God, are here. The man child is here, up to the point he actually comes to birth, after Satan is cast out of heaven, by that great Angel that looks out for the children of Israel, that was called Daniel's Angel, Michael.

With the war in Heaven, the Devil is cast onto the earth - we will teach on that.

The sun clothed woman is here. The remnant is here, the man child is born, and the Dragon, now restrained to the earth is waiting to destroy that man child, but it's caught up, the 144,000, the sealed ones, they're taken, the man child is taken. That happens during the tribulation.

That's why a lot of confusion is occurring when people try to make the second coming one event, and they try to have the catchings away, as one event.

We haven't talked about the Man Child, the 144,000, the Remnant or the Woman, just in reference, but we will.

John is caught up the first voice he hears, and the four and twenty elders are there, and they stay there, till the saints come back after the marriage supper of the Lamb.

The Church is not on this earth from Revelation 4, till they come back in Revelation 19.

This is a mystery. A lot of confusion comes from Matthew 24, Luke 21 and Mark 13. You need to understand, and this is my answer to people who argue about a gap theory; Jewish scholars for years read Isaiah in the Synagogue, during the feast of the Tabernacles, and the feast of the Trumpets. Jesus stepped into the Synagogue, as you'll recall, and began to read it, and stopped in mid sentence. The sentence between the good works, and the activities that Jesus would fulfill on earth in His first coming and the righteous, vengeance, vindicating, warring Messiah that would come to execute judgement.

He stopped in mid sentence. For centuries the Jews had read it with out pausing in mid sentence. He didn't read a chapter to shock them, they had read that chapter year in and year out. Jesus stepped out and read it and stopped in mid sentence and said this much is fulfilled in your eyes today. Here I am! Of course they didn't believe it. The rest of it was yet to come.

The Jews missed the Messiah in His first coming, because they didn't separate the suffering servant Messiah, that Isaiah said in another passage, "a bruised reed shall he not break, and smoking flax shall he now quench" - Gap! - "till he come forth unto judgement, whose right it is to reign"!

They didn't see the gap. Daniel was shown 70 weeks, in the 9th chapter, of history of the Jews. He had prayed to God concerning the Jews. He saw from the books, that they were 70 years in bondage. Jeremiah prophesied it. He began to pray about the 70 years of bondage.

The Angel came after fighting the Prince of Persia, an evil supernatural demoniac spirit that ruled that land, behind the throne, to answer his prayer. He not only gave him the assurance that 70 years would be completed and they would go back, he then gave him prophecy of 70 weeks of years. Seventy times seven years, in three segments.

Forty nine years, seven sevens, one week of years, that they would rebuild the city in troublesome times. Daniel was in bondage, the city was a wreck. He was just praying that they would get out of bondage at the end of 70 years. The angel tells him the rest of the history.

Not only will you go out of bondage in 70 years, but I'm going to tell you about 70 weeks of years of your history written in advance.

After you get out of bondage, after the 70 years, you will then build the City in troublesome time, and

it will take seven weeks of years, 49 years to do it.

Then there will be 68 weeks of years until Messiah is cut off. Again, Daniel didn't see the gap, as Isaiah didn't see the gap. Isaiah didn't see the gap between the good works of the Messiah and the vengeance and righteous vindication of the Messiah. Jesus split it in mid sentence, and said the first half is fulfilled, leaving unsaid, yet to come.

Daniel didn't see the gap between the 69th week and the 70th week.

I happen to have a view of God, that God does not leave out options. I refuse to believe that there was no opportunity for the Jews to receive Christ. Why would Jesus weep over Jerusalem, and say, "how oft would I have gathered you together under my wings, but you would not. . ."?

The heart of God is revealed in parables. How the owner of the vineyard, sent his emissaries, the prophets, again, and again, and they were rejected and stoned by those who were working His vineyard. Finally He said, they will treat my son differently. He sent His son, they treated Him worse. That's God's heart pouring out. He wasn't play acting a drama.

I don't have some of the Calvinistic fixation boxes on God that doesn't allow Him any maneuvering room. I find God to be one who can do and be what He wants, who is faithful to His word, and enters into all things to work His purposes. But can look at Eli and say, "I know what I said about you when you were in the loins of Aaron, but, today I say this ".

I believe the Jews had a genuine chance. Why else would Jesus lament the fact; ". . . he came to his own and his own received him not". Jesus would have given His life, no matter what. They revealed their nature, as the instruments to bring it about. Jesus didn't finish when He stood in that Synagogue, He just said; "this much is fulfilled", he left the unfulfilled portion, which we know now, is yet to come.

Daniel saw, 69 weeks of years, $7 \times 69 = 483$ years till Messiah was cut off, not for himself. The prophecy of Jesus dying for the sins of others.

Then comes the 70th week, when a Prince will come and set himself against God. He will confirm a covenant with many of God's people, and in the middle of the week, 3.5 years into the final 7 years, will break his covenant, commit an abomination in a newly constituted temple, and then the Jews will discover they chose the wrong one.

The gap between the 69th and 70th week is that time of the Churches. When God turns, and does what Paul, in the Roman letter says, is a grafting on to the trunk of Abrahams promise, the old olive tree. He grafts a wild olive branch on, which the children of Faith, the recipients of the Gospel, the redeemed by the blood of Christ, become.

That's the Church Age. Now, Matthew 24, that confuses many, is an address by Jesus, to a Jewish audience, concerning questions about their end, because He has discussed the temple, and the tearing down of the temple, and not a stone will be on top of another stone, and they say, and when will this

be, and what are the signs of it. And He begins to answer it.

I will teach on Matthew 24 as part of this series, but let me just say, as I paint with these broad strokes today, that the message of Matthew, 24, Luke 21 and Mark 13 is to the Jewish nation. There is no discussion of the mystery of the Rapture in those chapters, where he is answering their questions.

Now, mystery is something strange to us. The Greek word being translated mystery, is interpreted by God in the Ephesian Letter. A mystery is that which is known only to God and cannot be discovered, and can only be know by man, if God reveals it. You can search throughout eternity and never find it. The mystery defined in God's book, is a mystery that is in God's mind, and He reveals it.

Paul was God's choice to reveal the mystery to the Church. John experienced it. He was caught up. The first voice like a trumpet caught him up, and there were the twenty four elders. He is there, before that seal is opened that begins to unleash the Great Tribulation, raise Antichrist to power, and start the 70th week.

I've always said that you must view the Jew and everybody else as two separate people. In the Bible there are only two kinds of people, the Jews and the Gentile. When the Jews received him not, and is own rejected him and Messiah was cut off, the 70th week, was pushed in history down to God's appointed time. And in between, the end of the 69th week, in Daniel 9, shown to Daniel in that vision, and the 70th week, when Antichrist will rise, is the Age where God deals through the Gospel, the good news, preached in the book of Romans, and the epistles of the New Testament, and the Church is raised up, and the twenty four elders are made complete.

And John, as a part of them is caught up before the Tribulation comes and the Church is above it all during this period. That's the mystery.

Go now to I Cor. 15, because Paul was the one who revealed the mystery. That mystery was not discussed with the Disciples. It remained for God to reveal it.

Paul is talking in I Cor. 15 of resurrection. He is arguing with the learned of his day, who says there is no bodily resurrection. He comes down to the 51st verse, having talked of resurrection and argued it in grand terms throughout the whole chapter.

He says, behold, I show you a mystery. Again, the Ephesians Letter makes it clear, the word is something known only to God, and cannot be discovered, He has to reveal it, through His ordained voice. Paul is it.

Behold I show you a mystery, to the Ephesians he talked of the mysteries, hidden, contained in God's book, but hidden until God revealed it through His prophet. A prophet is one who speaks froth from God.

Behold I show you a mystery, we shall not all sleep - his word for death - but we shall all be changed. Now you say, do you believe this?

Read 15:3: I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, and that he was buried and he rose again the third day according to the scriptures, and that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve: after that he was seen of about five hundred brethren at once; of who the greater part remain into this present, but some are fallen asleep. Some have died, but most can be found of the 500 that saw him.

After that He was seen of James; then of all the apostles and last of all he was see of me also, as of one born out of due time.

If in this life only we have no hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable. And if the dead rise not, then is not Christ raised? And if Christ is not raised, then your faith is vain, you're yet in your sins, they which are fallen asleep are perished and gone forever.

If there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen? If Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain. Everything in Christianity comes out of that truth of the resurrection.

Now, if I can believe that he came through a rock, through a door and sailed off, I can believe this. Same God is doing it.

I show you a mystery, we shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye - that's not the bat of an eye - an eye twinkles faster than you can bat it - it's not the eyelid batting, it's the eye twinkling - like a light, faster than I can snap my finger.

This is basic Christianity - We shall not all sleep - not all die - I tell you a mystery!

Up to this point, resurrection was believed by certain ones that are the believers. A rare person like Elijah - caught up! Enoch, was not, for God took him - caught up! Rare.

Now, Paul reveals a mystery. We shall not all die. But we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, the Abrahams, the David's, the Jacobs, all of them, raised incorruptible.

All those, out of every tribe, every tongue and every kindred. We just read it in the book of Revelation. They sung a new song. Those are the twenty four elders that will sing, thou hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, tongue, people and nation. Everyone to whom God credited the righteousness of faith. And all those dead in Christ shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.

So when this corruptible shall put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.

I wonder how many funerals have been conducted this week, in Los Angeles, San Francisco and New England. And, I wonder how many people have heard a preacher recite these verses, and no more believe it than they believe there's a man in the moon.

For me, I would not mess with Christianity if I were not going to go all the way.

This is a literal happening, when this mortal shall put on immortality and this corruptible shall put on incorruption!

So when this corruptible shall put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died the death that was the sting for our sins.

Therefore my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord. It's hard not to keep going, because he says now concerning the collection for the saints, and he took up and offering! That's the mystery, and it's not the only place Paul talked about it. Keep that in mind as we turn to I Thessalonians 4.

Vs. 13 I will not have you ignorant brother - he was a blunt talking preacher - concerning them which are asleep - Dead - your love ones who died in the faith - that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. When you see someone agonizing over their dead, they are either feeling sorry for them selves, or they have no hope. Paul says, I wouldn't have you ignorant like them, for if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.

For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of our Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.

God isn't going to postpone the Rapture till the rest of us die, because the Rapture removes that necessity.

For the Lord himself shall descend from where? Heaven! Where was that door? In Heaven! Where did God's word speak forth like a trumpet and say to John to come up to? Heaven!

For the Lord himself shall descend from Heaven, with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first!

Now, some people still believe that Abraham and David won't go up, but Romans 4 says they're in the same camp. Because their sins were in Christ and God credited their faith to give them an opening, for the dead in Christ shall rise first.

Then we which are live and remain, shall be caught up together with them in the clouds. Notice, He doesn't touch this earth. Part of the second coming is a meeting in the air. We shall be caught up together with them to meet the Lord in the air.

This is the blessed hope!

From the 4th chapter of Revelation we're gone! Wherefore comfort one another with these words. Second Thessalonians - Paul wrote them a second letter later - he had already written them this first one.

Then, they started listening to false preachers, telling them that everything is being so hard on them that they must be in the tribulation. Paul says, Now we beseech you brethren by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him - caught up - that ye be not soon shaken in mind or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us - some people were even claiming they had a letter from Paul - and that the day of Christ is at hand.

You're being persecuted, but that's not the Great Tribulation - Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come except there be a falling away first - some translations equally reads - except there be a departure (catching away) first (more in context to what is being addressed here) - and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition - that's Antichrist - who opposeth and exaltheth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshiped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.

Now, don't you remember, that when I was yet with you, I told you these things? And, now you know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time. (I already told you - there is something withholding Antichrist)

For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now hindereth will hinder, till he be taken out of the way. And then - and only then - shall that wicked be revealed, who the Lord shall consume with the spirit of His mouth and shall destroy with the brightness of His coming.

Even him whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, and with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

Antichrist can't come to power till the Church is gone. We're going to be caught up! John was caught up, the twenty four elders were there already, before the 144,000 go and before the man child goes.

Revelation 5 talks about that scene in Heaven where they sing before the throne. Thou hast redeemed us by thy blood, out of every kindred, people, tongue and nation. And the 6th Chapter opens - the Church is gone - the mystery of iniquity that works - the spirit of Antichrist - but the man of sin could not be revealed until the restraining force - the Church is taken out of the way, because God's word say, we are not appointed unto wrath!

Then John says - I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I saw and behold a white horse - the great imitator - and he that sat upon him had a bow and a crown was given him and he went forth conquering and to conquer. Daniel's 70th week starts in that sixth chapter.

And Antichrist comes in on a white horse - looking good - with a bow and no arrow - he doesn't come by force - he conquers with a deceiving tongue and a deceitful way.

Only those that are in Christ are going to be caught up. Romans 8 says: there's therefore now no

condemnation to them which are in Christ. Go down about 5 verses, you find out how you get in Christ. It says that you are in Christ if His spirit is in you. How do you get His spirit in you?

Third chapter of Revelation ended saying that. Verse 20 Behold I stand at the door and knock, if any man bid me, I'll come in. You ask Him in!

Salvation no longer requires going up and bringing Him down, or descending into deep and bringing Him up. Paul said the word's already nigh you, it's in your mouth, speak it forth. For with the heart man believeth, with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

That seals the covenant. You ask God in, and the same ability of God's spirit to penetrate a rock and take Jesus to glory, can enter this person of ours, and we literally become new creatures in Christ, Jesus, with a dual nature, that the Galatians' letter says, contains warfare.

The old man in us, dug in, fighting for it's rights, and the new man in Christ, Jesus, reaching to the one who is worthy. None of us will ever be delivered from sin, until the God of peace sanctifies us fully over there.

But the message that Paul lays on the saints that are caught up - let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body. God's spirit comes to give us the power to start winning the battle over the drag of our self seeking nature.

Not everyone will be caught up - a lot of people are going to be left here. But those that are in Christ are going to be caught up! And, before the Tribulation!

"God is not a man that He should lie, neither the son of man that He should repent, hath He said, and shall He not do ? or hath He spoken, and shall He not make it good?"(Num.23:19) Alleluia!

REVELATION PART II

THE DARKNESS AHEAD

Open your Bibles to Revelation 13. There are some mean Angels on the horizon and there are some dark days ahead for this old world!

Our study in Part I revealed the record of what had taken place on earth with the Churches and ended up at the opening of the first seal. The Church was there to see it open and sing the song of the Redeemed before the throne.

God kept his word to us, and now, from the 6th chapter on, are the things that will happen after these things that happened to the Church.

The reason I love prophecy so much is that once you get into the Word of God, you get convinced that no mortal man conceived it. In different generations, with multitudes of voices, and in sixty six different books, God wove a pattern of revelation. And, because of the authority of that book, I've come to know, that it is not only a record of God's dealing with man in history, and a road map to eternity, it's also a projection and prophecy in advance, of what's going to come to pass.

Jesus told John, while on the Isle of Patmos, to write the things he saw, the things that are, and the things hereafter; this is part of the hereafter. 13th chapter he says: And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, (you don't have to turn to it now, but Daniel, in the 7th chapter, identifies that sea - it's the sea of multitudes of peoples, nations, tongues and races - out of the convulsion and confusion of a sea of people, in a future day), having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns, ten crowns, and upon his heads the names that blaspheme (from the original).

You will never understand the book of revelation unless you learn to tie it into all the rest of God's book, because as Peter has said; "no prophecy of scripture is for private interpretation"; you can't take just one, and hang on it.

Daniel was given the visions exclusive to the people of Israel and the natural descendants of the seed of Abraham. In visions he saw seventy weeks of years. And, you plot those seventy weeks of years from the decree to rebuild the city.

From an exact point in history, which is the third decree out of Babylon for the building of Jerusalem, sixty nine weeks of years are calculated until the ceasing of the sacrifice in the temple and the collapsing and disbursement of the Jewish people.

Then an interlude comes in. There is no exact timing on the interlude. That interlude period between the sixty ninth week and seventieth week is when God's people are scattered and disbursed.

The seventieth week, seven years was also dealt with by Daniel, and that seventieth week, seven years, is what is known as the tribulation, the first three and a half, referred to in various ways, such as, days in some passages, and in a phrase, time, times and a half of time, which is one year plus two years, plus a half a year, which is three and a half.

The last three and a half years receives a designation in God's book called the tribulation, the great tribulation. A double designation as people in the Greek, doubly begged for the opportunity to give to God, when Paul was raising money for Jerusalem, and it says that the Macedonians begged with much entreaty. It's a style in the Greek language that adds double emphasis to things. The last three and a half years is the Great Tribulation, the Great Tribulation.

Daniel, seeing those seventy weeks, with the break between the sixty ninth and seventieth, was also given the visions of world kingdoms that would grow out of and be related to those that oppressed Israel. A lot of confusion, interpreting the symbols of world history, in the Bible, will be removed, if you understand that this prophecy is about a certain group of kingdoms, not the whole worlds kingdoms.

There is no mention of the South American kingdoms of the Aztecs or the Incas, or the huge Oriental Dynasties, or the great African nations. The kingdoms that are zeroed in on have a common characteristic. They are used as instruments, by God and Satan, under God's dominion, with Israel being their object. God's chosen people.

Now, between the sixty ninth and seventieth week, the wild olive branch, to use a figure of speech out of Paul in the book of Romans, is grafted on to the tree of God's promise. God is a covenant making God. The whole world had abandoned him by the time he called Abram out of Ur of the Chaldes. The world had abandoned him previous to that when the flood wiped them all out, but the one family of Noah. It took only two generations from there to Nimrod.

Where the devil through Nimrod, would win the hearts of the people and turn them away from God, and set the stage, for God to have to look for just one man of Faith in the whole world, Abram. And He called him forth. And because of Abrams faith, God chose an oracle, a custodian.

He elected a people that would keep the pure stream of His revelation until the fullness of time, when the literal living word of God would move out of eternity and become the substance of life, revealing God in human flesh incarnate on the stage of history.

These people who were His oracle, out of whom the son of God would come in earthly flesh to reveal God on the stage of history, became the target of the warfare between Satan and God to thwart God's purposes in man.

And the kingdoms that are focused on in the visions of Daniel, and Zechariah and in this book of Revelation, are kingdoms that have their meaning because of their relationship to God's people, and the oppression of God's people, allowed and sometimes used by God, and always dominated by Satan.

Now, as this beast comes out of the sea, it will take shape in the last form of attack against the remainder of God's people, the Jews, in the last days of this world.

Revelation 13:2 And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard. That immediately brings to mind the beasts of the book of Daniel. In Daniel 2, the young man Daniel was a prince in King Nebuchadnezzar's court in the Babylonian Empire.

Nebuchadnezzar had a dream. None of his sooth sayers could interpret it. He saw the great image of the head of gold, and it progressively diminished to the arms and shoulders and to the torso or belly portion and then to the legs and finally to the ten toes of iron and clay. Nobody could interpret it for him.

Daniel was called. He interpreted it by saying; what you are seeing in this image is a succession of kingdoms that will flow out of you. The head of gold is your kingdom. The next, two parts, the Medo-Persian that would follow. He identifies it clearly. Then that kingdom that would follow would be the Grecian Empire, under Alexander the Great.

I am going to move fast through this, because to those who have taken the Daniel class, this is review. To those who have not, you will have the scripts to this class, and you can look it all up later to confirm it, but until then, take my word for the things I rush over.

He interpreted it as kingdoms that grow out of Nebuchadnezzar's Kingdom. The third kingdom would be the Grecian Empire, that would break into the various parts and would be followed by a great kingdom of iron, that would grind everything in it's way, and then would break into the ten toed kingdom. Daniel has a dream, he sees beasts come out of water. You read them in verse 7 & 8.

The first one is a Lion, the second one is a Bear, the third is a Leopard, the fourth is a nondescript beast, and that nondescript, vicious, ugly beast, suddenly has ten horns grow out of it's head and then suddenly another horn grows and it uproots three of the ten horns that were there.

An angel comes and give Daniel the interpretations. The first beast, The Lion, the Nebuchadnezzar Empire, at the time that Daniel was prophesying, the second beast, The Bear, the Medo-Persian empire that conquers Nebuchadnezzar's Empire.

The third, The Leopard, the Grecian Empire. Remember that Leopard, because as I teach ahead, that leopard will leap out to prominence more than any other single beast of the four.

And the last beast, an ugly nondescript beast, that is the Roman Empire. Ruthless, with out beauty. You that know your history, knows that Rome conquered Greece, but Greece conquered it. The reason you find so many statues throughout that land with the heads off of them, is the Grecian artists produced good sculpture. The Romans came along and knocked the heads off of them so they could put Caesar's, or some other Romans likeness in it's place. The heads were made of weaker substance, and as a result, today you find lots of Grecian sculptures with the heads gone.

The Romans, they didn't do very much. They brought Law and Power and Grinding of peoples under their feet. This nondescript beast with the ten horns that grow out of it, is interpreted by the angel, and this is what causes people to talk of a renewed Roman empire.

It ought to be viewed as a revised Roman Empire, not a renewed one. Out of the Old Roman Empire, the ten toes of the Image, that come from the legs of iron, that was the Roman Empire, represent a reconstitution, loosely held together as are iron and clay, of kingdoms that were a part of the original Roman Empire.

The ten horns that come out of the nondescript beast is another way of saying the same thing. That evil looking beast, grows, out of itself, ten horns, and those ten horns, loosely held together, will have yet another horn grow up among them, who will uproot three among them, and that little horn is Antichrist.

All that is background to what we are going to study today.

Now, I ran with seventy league boots over this landscape so far. Don't worry if you don't remember it, because I'm doing what God did. He says the same thing in so many different places, if it doesn't gel with one, it will gel with another.

Out of the dream of Nebuchadnezzar, prophecy, future was written. Your kingdom will fall to a lesser two parts kingdom, and history shows that was the Medo-Persian Kingdom, that will fall to another, and in the prophecy later, that third kingdom will break into four parts. It will have it's own horns. That third kingdom will fall to a fourth kingdom, that begins at the hip level as one, but breaks into two. That will be followed by the ten toes, a loose confederation that grows out of Rome's Empire.

The next picture is Beasts. A lion, out of the Babylonian kingdom, suddenly a Bear will conquer it, and then a leopard that will conquer them, and I can tell you that the leopard is the Grecian Empire, and then will come a nondescript, uncultured beast, the Roman empire, and out of the Roman Empire, that nondescript beast will grow ten horns, like the ten toes. But Daniel is allowed to see more now - a little horn that uproots three and takes power. That's the Antichrist.

You suddenly see the Grecian Empire in another prophecy as a he goat. And the he goat in Daniel has a notable horn who produces four horns, and out of one of them, a little horn that uprooted and takes possession. So the Grecian Empire, is that third element of the image that Nebuchadnezzar saw. The Grecian Empire is the leopard in the succession of beasts, that God's own angel interprets as kings of the earth.

Lion, Bear, Leopard, the Greeks, nondescript, Roman, with it horns, leading up to the little horn. Now we have it in Revelation. Daniel gave us the background.

I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise upon out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the names that blaspheme. And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard. That's the Grecian Empire, suddenly appearing again.

His feet were as the feet of a Bear, symbolizing the territory in which it's standing, the Medo-Persian Empire. His mouth as the mouth of a lion; elements of the Babylonian Empire. And the Dragon gave him his power, Satan.

Satan, that has all the kingdoms of this world, is going to plant a beast, in a person, ruling a kingdom, that will receive what Satan already offered to Jesus, in the great temptation, that Jesus refused.

There was no debate in Luke 4, when Satan tempted Jesus, and said, if He bowed down to him, he would give Him all the kingdoms of this world. They were Satan's to give. Now, to this beast, the Dragon gave him his power, and his seat and great authority.

And I saw one of his heads - now what are those heads? - kingdoms - how many has he got? - seven - I saw one of his heads (one of his kingdoms) as it were wounded to death, and his deadly wound was healed, and all the world wondered after the beast. One of the KINGDOMS is wounded, as to death

And they worshiped the dragon, that gave power unto the beast, and they worshiped the beast, saying, who is like unto the beast? Who is able to make war with him? There was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months. That's three and a half years.

This beast is going to rise to power, full power for the last three and a half years of that seventieth week of years in the middle of the tribulation. He will be there during the first three and a half years. He will rise up among ten kings from the region, three of the ten will be uprooted and in the middle of the week he gets his power, and his old kingdom, the seventh in the series since Assyria, the Hashemite Kingdom, will have completed it's rise to the kingdom ruled by Satan.

And, for forty two months, he has this power. Since we will be learning ahead, I won't go back to Daniel, chapters 7 and 8, 10, 11, 12 and on to the end of the book, where you find that this personality will deceive the Jews that remain on the earth. In the last three and a half years of his reign, he will actually set up the seat of his rulership in Jerusalem.

A temple will be built, and the Jews will accept him as a false deliverer, and he will confirm a treaty with them, as part of the peace, and in the middle of the week of years, his true colors will be revealed. That's when he will rise up and begin to blaspheme against God. To blaspheme his name, and the tabernacle, and them that live in heaven. The name of the God in the Temple is Jehovah, not Jesus.

And it was given unto him to make war with the saints and to overcome them. Now, there are a lot of saints in God's book. Saints are people who give themselves to God. We are saints that are not going to be here to witness that battle, but there will be some saints, old testament lineage saints, and those who suddenly discover the mistake of worshiping this false ruler/deliverer.

And it was given unto him to make war with the saints and to overcome them, and power was given him over all kindred's, and tongues, and nations.

Some Dark days are coming.

And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the lamb slain from the foundation of the world. If any man have an ear, let him hear. He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity.

I beheld another beast, he says, coming up out of the earth, and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon. Satan is going to have his last fling as the ruler of the kingdoms of this world. He's going to have two agents. Two ministers that carry out his purpose on the earth before the final Armageddon.

One is that little horn, the last personification of political rulership, the Antichrist, who for some years

is a substitute deliverer, and fools the Jews into accepting him. He also is going to have as his second vice regent, a second beast coming up out of the earth.

Daniel 7 makes it clear that the Antichrist will come up out of the sea of confusion, out of the world torn in strife, a world torn in revolution, a world that is unstable. The 10 kings will give to him power, and for a moment stability rules. Earth being the symbol of stability, suddenly coming up out of the earth is this next beast.

He had two horns like a lamb. He comes in the situation of order, but he spake as a dragon. He exerciseth all of the power of the first beast before him and causes the earth and all that dwells therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. (so, the worshiped beast is a restored kingdom)

He exerciseth all of the power of the first beast before him - that means that he's got power from Satan last kingdom in this case - I'll tell you the mystery of it.

The beast that thou sawest was - that means that it existed at one time on this earth - and is not - it was here at one time, it isn't here now - and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition.

You will never understand this beast until you realize that he is symbolizing three different things in all these same passages. He is symbolizing the possessed person ruler of that last Antichrist Kingdom, it symbolizes the Antichrist himself, and that symbol receives detail in the book of Daniel, as the little horn, that uproot other horns of the ten kingdoms, and establishes himself as the ruler overall. The beast is that Antichrist.

The beast is also that kingdom. As Babylon symbolizes the message of the false prophet and as Babylon symbolizes the false Church, and Babylon is a locateable city that is the seat of the false church, likewise the beast is the symbol of the person Antichrist, is the symbol of the Kingdom of the person Antichrist and is thirdly the symbol in this case, of the Prince of Evil released from the Abyss where he has been bound, to once again take possession of an earthly ruler and rule through him.

We're back to Daniel again.

Daniel is now clear into successor kings, and is praying again, and for 21 days he prayed. Suddenly an angel appeared and began to talk to him and says, the reason I'm here is because you prayed. I heard your prayer twenty one days ago, but the Prince of Persia resisted me, and I was only able to make it here in twenty one days, because I remained with those rulers of Persia.

Not the earthly King of Persia. But, in the dominions of this world, as Ezekiel could prophesy against the Prince of Tyre, and suddenly, you could see through the earthly ruler, and you see that he is not prophesying against the King, earthly ruler of Tyre, he's prophesying against the Prince of Tyre, that is the supernatural, Satanic being who ruled that kingdom as his domain under God's grant.

Because suddenly, the Prince of Tyre becomes Lucifer. And he begins to see Lucifer before he was

cast down when he lifted himself in pride in Eden, before there was any man.

Again, the Prince of Persia here, is not that King that Daniel could walk out and knock on the door and talk to. The angel had not been twenty one days in that Kings court. If he had been, Daniel was there also and would not have had to wait twenty one days to hear the message.

But, the seat of authority for that supernatural reigning over the Kingdom of Persia, that's were the Prince of Persia was, and for twenty one days before the angel from the throne of God could get to Daniel who was praying, he was resisted because he moved into the territory where that supernatural Prince ruled.

It took him twenty one days, and he only made it, because Michael, the Prince that is assigned to protect Israel, came into the territory with him and interceded, and it took twenty one days to get the "passport" to come into that Prince's territory.

When he is finished telling Daniel what is going to happen, he tell him that, now I am going to go fight the Prince of Persia. Didn't say how long he'd fight him, but the next place I'll be, the angel said, is fighting the Prince of Persia, and when I leave, after fighting that battle, there will be no more Prince of Persia, but lo, another Prince will come - the Prince of Grecia.

And the Prince assigned to rule the domain of Greece would now come in the form of the leopard. And that leopard, led by the mighty King that would then break into four parts. Alexander didn't oppress Israel very much, but when he dies, his kingdom, broken up among his four generals, which come to be dominated by Assyria and Egypt.

And as you trace the prophecies, one of them, Assyria, in Daniel 11, the king of the north will conquer the king of the south, and Daniel 11 makes it clear that the last ruler who violates his agreement with Israel will come out of Assyria, the king of the North.

Now, put them all together. He says, I'll tell you the mystery of the woman, and the beast that carrieth her, that has seven heads and ten horns. The beast that thou sawest was - where was he? We are talking about the Prince now, that is going to come out of the bottomless pit. The third element of the beast - not the Antichrist per say - not the kingdom per say - the Prince, who ruled the kingdom when it was.

What's the kingdom that was - the Leopard Kingdom. When Greece fell to Rome, Alexander the great had died, his four generals ultimately die, the Kingdom fell to Rome. As the Prince of Persia, moved aside, when the Prince of Grecia conquered Medo-Persia, when Rome conquered Greece, the Prince that had been assigned to Greece, that gave him the power to move into the seat - and he didn't just conquer Persia, the Prince of Grecia was able to move in and conquer Medo-Persia because the angel that talked to Daniel went back and fought with that Prince, and conquered him.

God still controlled it. The Prince of Grecia moved on the scene. Alexander was the historic ruler, and his generals successors, but the real ruler was the Prince of Grecia. When Rome, and the Prince of Rome brought the hoards of Rome down, and Rome conquers Grecia, the Prince of Grecia was not

just left flying loose. He's assigned to the bottomless pit.

There is going to be a phrase in revelation that talks about angels being turned loose, when an angel comes down and looses the four angels that are bound at the River Euphrates. We may find the clue to where the Prince of Persia went when the Prince of Grecia came and we may find what happened when the angel left Daniel, he bound the Prince of Persia, and they are not going to be released until this Great Tribulation when they come forth with two hundred thousand thousands of demoniac horsemen to slay one third of earth.

Likewise when those demon locusts are released out of the pit, there is a Prince of evil called Appollyon, the Destroyer, that comes to lead those locusts as they spread pain across the earth for the assigned days.

The Prince of Grecia, the Leopard Kingdom- when the Prince of Rome came, the Prince was separate from Alexander the Great, Alexander the Great died, the Prince was assigned to the bottomless pit and chained there. The angel is telling John, here's the mystery, this is the beast, he's one of those heads that was, but was slain. Greece died, but its wound is healed, it brings amazement!

It shocks anybody in the modern world to think that Greece could rise to prominence. It won't be that peninsula, it will be the Assyrian portion of it. The one threat to Israel is not Russia. Russia may be involved. It's not Iran, unless Iran becomes a part of the Old Babylonian Syrian section of the Grecian Empire.

It's Assyria, because out of Assyria will come the threat. The leopard will rise again. The slain head, wounded to death, will suddenly come alive. The little horn will rise up among the reconstituted, revised Roman Empire, will uproot three of them, and defeat Egypt to the south, and Israel is compressed.

Alexander died, the Prince of Grecia lived. He was just bound in the pit. He was, when Greece, the Leopard ruled, and is not, because when John's writing it, the Prince of Rome is ruling, and shall ascend out of the bottomless, that's the beast out of the Abyss that rules behind the scenes and gives Satan's power to the person Antichrist, who will rule from the Grecian kingdom from out of the reconstituted Roman Empire.

The beast that thou sawest was - that's the leopard, Grecia - is not, because it had been wounded to death - Rome conquered Grecia - shall ascend out of the bottomless pit - suddenly, he's seeing the future - that Prince of Grecia that has been assigned through the centuries in the bottomless pit will be turned loose, to give power to a reconstituted Grecian territory ruler.

There is one more thing to deal with in this Grecian Territory that pinpoints the exact location and name, that time has revealed to be the Seventh Empire on the land.

Revelation 17 explains about this same beast that was and is not and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit.

Verse 10, there are seven kings: five are fallen - as we've shown before, Daniel started with Babylon, but there were two other kingdoms that suppressed Israel before Babylon. They were Egypt who took them into bondage, and later Assyria who captured them and put them in bondage, then Babylon was the third, then Medo-Persia was the fourth and Grecia was the fifth.

Those are the five kingdoms that had fallen by the time John was writing this.

Now, during Johns time was the sixth - Rome. Then the gap, waiting for the seventh kingdom upon the land out of Babylon that was yet to come.

History shows that the next Empire on that very land was the Moslem Empire. The Moslem Empire is, the after the gap, seventh Empire, that came to power on that land, that was yet to come in Johns day. And stands alone as the last Empire to occupy that land. And, that Empire was founded and ruled by Muhammad, the prophet of Allah,, and he ruled it from his kingdom, The Hashemite Kingdom, which is within the boundaries of the Seleucid Portion of the Old Grecian Empire, exactly where Daniel 11, verses 18-21 says the Little Horn that rises in the end time will come from.

And, it is from out of this seventh kingdom, the Hashemite Kingdom, that the 8th kingdom will come - Antichrist's kingdom.

Scripture is amazingly clear bout this.

Lets read it.

Revelation 17, from verse 9: The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth. And there are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, and the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space. And the beast that was, - the Prince over Grecia - the one that ruled the Leopard Kingdom - and is not, - having been defeated by Rome - even he is the eighth, and is of the seven - what's the seventh? - the Moslem Empire/Hashemite Kingdom - and goeth into perdition. And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; - in John's day - but receive power as kings one hour with the beast. They have one mind and shall give their power and strength unto the beast. These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them; for he is Lord of Lords, and King of Kings, and those that are with him are called, and chosen and faithful.

In this passage, we find that the little horn comes from a kingdom that is the seventh on the land, and that the ten kings from the revised Roman Empire - ten toes from Daniel, grown out of the feet, which was the Kingdom after Rome, The Moslem Empire - support him in his effort to fight against the Lamb - Jesus - and that Jesus and those that were chosen - named in the Lambs book of life from the foundation of the world, the faithful, the redeemed out of every kindred, tongue, people and nation are with him, and they overcome him.

This scene is on the present day stage of history. The Little Horn, is about to make his public appearance as the man on the white horse from Revelation 6.

But, as we saw in the previous class, that can't happen until the Church is caught up. They are seen in heaven, singing the song of the Redeemed when Jesus opens that first seal that releases the man on the white horse and the beginning of the Tribulation. As I said before, the picture of the Rapture in Revelation is a summary of the events from the ending of the Church Age till the completion of God's plan, but Paul revealed it to the Thessalonians, long before the summary was written.

Lets close this class by going back to II Thessalonians.

The Thessalonians were confused, they were in tribulation, they thought the end was on them, they thought the Great Tribulation was there, as we said earlier. Paul says; now we beseech you, brethren - 2nd Thessalonians, chapter 2 - by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and; by our gathering together unto him, that ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand.

Let no man deceive you by ANY MEANS: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first - now traditionally that has been interpreted as a vast falling away, and that is going to be historically true, because the religions of this world will follow the false prophet. It just doesn't happen to be good translation. Except there come a departure - a catching away first, and that man of sin be revealed - Scripture always confirms itself. You see this repeated a couple of verses later - the son of perdition. There is the Antichrist personified.

Who opposeth and exaltheth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshiped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God. - That's the blaspheming we just read about in Revelation.

Remember ye not, that , when I was yet with you, I told you these things? And now you know what with-holdeth - what's holding it back - that he might be revealed in his time. For the mystery of iniquity doth already work. Only he who is now (literally) restraining will continue to restrain, until he - the restrainer - be taken out of the way. And then shall that Wicked - capital W indicating that wicked man of sin - be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming. Even him, - who? - the wicked one - whose coming is after the workings of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, and with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them - who? The Jews & those left after the Raptures - strong delusion that they should believe a lie: that they might be damned who believed not the truth, but that had pleasure in unrighteousness.

What's this saying? Don't you get upset you Thessalonians, don't get upset you folks on today's stage of history, tribulation may be upon you; that man of sin is going to come; that beast will rise; that false prophet will rise; the spirit already works - we're fighting it! - the spirit of the false prophet already works - it fights us! - that man of sin will be revealed; the Roman empire will reconstitute itself; one will rise up out of the Seleucid portion of the Old Grecian Empire, who uproots three and grow to great power; the false prophet will work miracles that will cause people to bow down; and that great established church will ride in pride on that beast; and they will destroy that church.

But, where are you Thessalonians, and us of today? GONE!

That beast can't come out of that confusion, he can't rise up, because there is a restraining force, and the restraining force will restrain him, until it's caught away, taken out of the way. We're going to be gone. The key to revelation is where the Church is in the fourth chapter.

He just finished the last word about the Church in the whole book - He said: "he that hath an ear, let him hear what the spirit sayith unto the churches". Done with the Church at that point.

4th chapter - After this I looked and a door was opened in heaven, and the first voice that I heard was as it were, a trumpet talking with me, which said, COME UP HITHER, and I will show thee thing that must be hereafter, and immediately I was in the spirit, and behold a throne was set in heaven, and one sat on the throne . . .

And John becomes a type of the Church being caught up. That's the Rapture! Used only once as I have said - when Philip was Raptured - caught away - from the Gaza Strip - from that one word, comes the designation of what happened.

A restraining force, the Church, - before the seventieth week, where God again turns to deal with the old olive tree; - The grafted wild branch, the Church, the people that have accepted Christ, they're suddenly caught up! They're in heaven. The twenty four elders typify all the saints of the old testament and the Church - they're there!

What we have been studying in Revelation goes on down here, but we're gone! You say, do I believe that? Sure do! I believe Jesus came out of the tomb, pierced a rock, pierced a door and sailed off to glory, and they were looking up at Him, and the angel said; why stand Yee gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus will come again. We're Gone!

We have a blessed hope, not a hopeless wrath to look forward to - we're citizens of the Heavenly Kingdom - We that are alive and remain will be changed and caught up in the twinkling of an eye, and those in Christ that rose will be with us. We are up there!

But we come back. After this beast has risen; after he has gotten his power; after the false church has been destroyed; after Babylon, the city of the established church has been wiped out in a day; after the Antichrist's concerns about the rumblings out of the North and the East; after the vials dry up the river Euphrates to make way for the kings of the east; and there is a gathering for the conflict in the plain of Megiddo.

John says, I saw heaven open - Rev. 19 - and behold a white horse, and he that sat upon him was called faithful and true and in righteousness doth judge and make war. His eyes were as the flame of fire, on his head were many crown; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood; and his name is called the word of God.

And all the armies that were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. - which is the symbol of being clothed with his righteousness - and out of his mouth goeth

a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the wine-press of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. - That's Jesus coming, and we're behind him!

And he had on is vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORDS OF LORDS. You will of course read the remainder of chapter 20 and 21, but let me summarize.

Satan is bound in the bottomless pit, the beast and false prophet have been defeated, Judgement has been past, the new Jerusalem comes down, new heaven and new earth, new King, no sin, no death, we'll rule and reign with Him throughout eternity.

If you don't believe that, why are you a Christian? That's our destiny. And as Peter says, we ought to act like it. Don't succumb to the false prophet's spirit that is preaching in the land. Hang on, till we all march in. Just keep watching!

REVELATION PART III THE HEADS AND THE HORNS

As I have said many times in this and past teachings, I can't see how anyone can say they believe in the Bible, and not believe in demons. There is one Devil, Satan, Lucifer, but there are many demons.

The Bible tells us that there is a princely hierarchy in the fallen spirit world that ranges from the Prince of the Power of the Air, to Locust Demons that come out of the Pit. And scripture distinguishes between them.

The Bible is full of reports of encounters with demons. And, as an illustration of their abilities and understandings, I like citing the example that is recorded in Mark, and Luke concerning the time that Jesus came upon a demon possessed man in the country of the Gaterines.

Those demons in that man recognized Jesus for who He was. Jesus asked, "what is thy name?" and the answer was, "Legion", because many demons were entered into him. And they besought Jesus not to send them into the Abyss, but rather into the herd of pigs in the field next to them. And you all know the story; the pigs wouldn't have them, and ran off and drowned themselves.

The point is that demons in the spirit world exist, have the ability to invade and occupy people by as many as legions at a time, they're smart, and their "jail" is the Abyss.

Now, in Daniel, we find an Angel, Gabriel by name, coming to bring Daniel a message concerning a 490 year history of the Jews and Jerusalem, and telling Daniel that he had heard his prayer twenty one days prior, and had been delayed twenty one days in getting there, because of being detained by the Prince of Persia. He was a supernatural demonic Prince that was the spiritual leader of the Medo-Persian territory.

Gabriel told him that it would have taken longer to get there, but he enlisted the Prince designated to the Jews, Michael, to help him out, and get the necessary "clearances" to enter Prince Persia's domain.

But then he told Daniel that when he returned, he and Michael were going to subdue the Prince of Persia, and he would be no more, but lo, the Prince of Grecia would come.

A new spiritual ruler would be taking over that territory. And, in history, Alexander the Great comes on the scene, and sweeps up the Medo-Persian Empire with little resistance. Alexander's power came from the spiritual force that ruled that territory, The Prince of Grecia.

But when Alexander died, those who inherited his kingdom did not rule in his power. There was a time, when there was a vacuum in the territory, waiting to suck in another powerful spiritual Prince. During that time, the tracks are laid that point directly into the future.

The head, where the mouth is, is established in Babylon, and the territory where the final drama plays

out, is established where the feet of the bear are planted, the Medo-Persian Empire.

Under Babylon, the Jews are captured and put into bondage. Under Medo-Persia, the Jews are allowed to return to rebuild Jerusalem & the Temple and resume their life within their own little Theocracy within the Medo-Persian Empire. It is at this time that the decree is given to rebuild Jerusalem, that is the key, to the time to start the clock on the seventy weeks.

The Grecians didn't oppress the Jews much. Before he died, Alexander moved his capital from Alexandria to Baghdad, keeping the mouth in Babylon. As Alexander has no children to succeed him, His generals inherit his kingdom, so it breaks it into four parts.

Two of those parts become prominent; The Ptolemy's; Egypt, and The Seleucid's, who took the northern part of the kingdom. Their territory includes western Iran, Kuwait, Iraq, Syria, and a portion of southern Turkey, Lebanon, Israel and Jordan.

It is into this area that the new super power rises. The Romans, with their evil Prince, comes on the scene, and dominates the world during their rule with harshness and grinding of Law.

But later, Rome adopts a new posture in the world, it embraces Christianity and becomes the Holy Roman Empire and is ruled by Constantine out of the east, in Constantinople, ruling over the territory once ruled by the Grecian generals who divided up Alexander's Kingdom. All of a sudden, history arrives at a time, when a Holy Roman Emperor from Constantinople is ruling the Old Grecian Empire of Alexander the Great.

During Rome's conquest of that territory, one of her generals won the territory claimed by Alexander's general Seleucus, and placed a tax on the people to pay for the war.

God recorded that event in Daniel, and used it to name the place from which a future vial person, who gets identified as Antichrist, will come from.

That same territory comes into prominence again when God uses it to show where the Antichrist will rule.

Nebuchadnezzar's image depicts four more kingdoms that arise out of Babylon. The last of those kingdoms does not appear on the stage of history until after six of the kingdoms, that had oppressed Israel, would have come and passed from the scene.

Revelation 17 numbers them for you, and history names them. The angel showing John this scene in Revelation 17 says; ". . . The beast that thou sawest was, is not and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit . . .".

That meant, that the beast, identified as a kingdom, was, at one time, is not, at that time, but its jailed former leader shall ascend, in the future, and become the 8th kingdom to oppress Israel, and he will become the 8th, by possessing the 7th kingdoms King.

That 7th Kingdom is identified as the one coming after five that had fallen, after the one that is, Rome at the time, which is the sixth, and the one that was yet to come, which would be the 7th.

The five fallen kingdoms that had oppressed Israel were; 1. Egypt; 2. Assyria; 3. Babylon; 4. Medo-Persia and 5. Grecia. The one that was, number six, was Rome, and the one yet to come was not known at that time.

Well, now it is said that we are in the end times. That means that we should be able to look back in time, and follow all these empires and their rulers and their events, and determine if a 7th kingdom has in fact risen on that land that was once Babylon, Medo-Persia, Grecia and Rome.

What history reflects is that the 7th kingdom to grow over that same territory was the Moslem Empire, ruled by the founder from his kingdom whose borders lie within the borders of the Seleucid Kingdom, which was later controlled by Rome.

That Kingdom, the Kingdom of Muhammad, the Hashemite Kingdom, ruled the Moslem Empire but for a short space, as Muhammad dies, and within a year, the empire split and has never again been the same.

But the Hashemite Kingdom survived, and were the keepers of Mecca and Medina and all the Holy places of the Moslems for over 1,100 years as the generations of Muhammad, the Prophet of Allah, their one true God, continues into the modern times.

Today the Hashemite Kingdom is misplaced in Jordan. A land once called Palestine and claimed as part of Syria. Huh! How did that happen?

In 1921, after the "Arabs" (many different Bedouin tribes), helped the British win the Ottoman war against the Turks, they (the British) wound up indiscriminately dividing up the territory without regard for the established territorial boundaries of the Arab bands. In other words, the Arabs were double-crossed.

The British gave Iraq to the reigning Hashemite, but took the 700-year control of Mecca and the holy shrines of the Moslems, and gave it to the Saudi's and gave Palestine (by then called Trasjordan) to Abdullah, the Hashemite Kings brother.

The French formed a Christian territory out of part of Syria and named it Lebanon, and reserved a portion of the land of Palestine to be the future state of Israel.

When Israel becomes formal in 1948, it's no wonder the game was afoot. The British, along with the Americans, who by now had gained control of the Saudi Oil, backed the formation of the Independent State of Israel.

Here was the British stirring up the kettle again. The rest is modern history.

The Hashemite=s are wiped out of existence by the UAR (Syria & Egypt) in 1958. They assassinate Abdullah, the next in the Hashemite line, and the throne goes to Hussein, then 18. They try to kill him for his entire life, but he becomes the longest reigning monarch on earth.

His vow is to put Hashemite rule back into power in Iraq and regain the control of the Holy Shrines

as the living descendants of Muhammad.

King Hussein builds on his fragile position in history by becoming friends with Israel and Israel's friends. His conquest for peace in the region is relentless, as he is in constant jeopardy of losing his throne in Jordan. He is hailed by the Israeli people as the Prince of Peace, setting the stage for him to appear on the stage as the Peacemaker of Revelation 6, but alas, he does not live long enough to fulfill the role.

He names his eldest son, Abdullah, as successor before his death, and now the son, the new Hashemite King, the forty third descendant of the Prophet Muhammad, has taken his place on the modern day stage.

History and Scripture have identified the Moslem Empire as the 7th Kingdom, out of which the beast from the bottomless pit arises and possess the heretofore benevolent King, that gets his reconstituted Hashemite throne, from the 10 kings out of the Roman portion of the Moslem Empire, and begins his reign on that land in the heart of the Medo-Persian Empire, speaking great things from the dragon, out of the mouth of Babylon. And, he will move swiftly as the Leopard as he strikes out against God's people, Israel, and conquers Egypt, setting up his throne in Jerusalem.

The rise of the Little Horn of Daniel to full power takes three and a half years from the time of the opening of the first seal in revelation 6. During that rise, 3 dissenting kings from the 10 that opted for peace will be uprooted, and the remainder will give him their backing. A false church led by a false prophet will sing his praises.

Then the possession will take place, the 8th ruler will be in place, abominate the temple, turn on the Jews and double cross what everyone had perceived to be the plan, and the second half of the tribulation, known as the Great tribulation the Great is underway.

But, these beasts that are symbolized in Revelation, and in Daniel, are not always representing the same entity. The Antichrist is made up of three parts. Satan, the great imitator at work once again. Antichrist is the physical earthly man. Antichrist is also a government, and finally Antichrist is the spirit from out of the Abyss that rules with words out of Satan's mouth. How do we know who is who in the prophecy?

Lets start with the beast that was, and is not, and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit. This beast is not the earthly Antichrist, and is not the earthly kingdom. The vehicle for this beast will be Antichrist, and will be his kingdom. But the 7th kingdom does not come out of the bottomless pit. Antichrist the person doesn't come out of the bottomless pit.

Don't look for somebody to be shot in the head, judged by a doctor to be dead, then come alive, and then say, Oh, here's the Antichrist! This beast is out of the bottomless pit. The bottomless pit is where the demons Jesus cast out for the Gaterines didn't want to go! This is a demon in the pit. Who is he? He's the Prince of Grecia.

He is the beast that was. He gave power to Alexander to defeat the Medo-Persian's, after the angel that came to Daniel defeated the Prince of Persia. He was, and is not. Why not? Because John is writing on the isle of Patmos, and the Prince of Rome is ruling, and the Prince of Grecia had been

conquered, and is no more. Where is he? He's where he's going to come from.

He's in the Abyss, locked up. Sent there to the Abyss. The Gaterines demons didn't want to be sent there. He was sent there.

He was, as he ruled Grecia, he is not in John's time, but he shall ascend out of the bottomless pit. He will come forth again, in the last days, to empower Antichrist and to empower the final kingdom. That is why I say that the Antichrist will come out of the Seleucid portion of the Old Grecian Empire/conquered by Rome, uproot three from out of that Roman area, the others will give him their newly acquired power and Antichrist's Kingdom will be reborn.

And he will be empowered by the demon Prince of Grecia, as Cyrus of Medo-Persia, was empowered by the Prince of Persia. He was, and is not and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit and go into perdition, and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, whose names were not written in the book of life, from the foundation of the world, when they beheld the beast that was - when he ruled Greece - and is not - because Rome was ruling while John was writing this, and yet is . . . because he's going to be turned loose again.

Now here is the mind, which hath wisdom -, now we get to my first question - what are the seven heads and the ten horns?

The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sits, and there are seven kings, five are fallen. We discussed that earlier.

Now, this seventh kingdom - The Hashemite Kingdom - gets its power at the time from the seven kings left after the uprooting. Hence, the Antichrist's Kingdom's actual land area will be supported by their combined strength, accounting for the rebirth of the true Hashemite Kingdom.

He wins it by cunning and flattery, and is given a crown in honor. I wonder if that honor crown is reestablishment of their rightful position as overseers of Mecca and all the holy shrines of the Moslems. Fully restored to the throne, and now spiritually ruled and ready to take revenge on God's people.

It requires peace to accomplish this plan in this day and age. Peace, including temple mount rights are on center stage in the area of the Medo-Persian Empire today.

The hatred between the King of the north - the Hashemite - and the King of the south - Egypt - Mubarak - is still going on. The hatred includes Syria, as it was Egypt and Syria that formed the UAR and murdered the Hashemites and grabbed what little rule they had left after Briton's careless split up of the Mideast following the Ottoman war.

Syria hates the Hashemite=s because they now own Palestine which was Syrian territory. The Palestinians are displaced by Jordan and Israel and are the center of the controversy. The Saudi's take good care of Mecca, but the Hashemite=s want it back as is proper, The Jews want security and a temple, the west want stability and control of the oil.

Iran will be friendly and not play a large role until the final days. So, that leaves only two territories that need to be straightened out to make this deal for peace.

Palestine and Iraq, and Jordan is sitting in the middle of that controversy. Jordan is also sitting in the middle of the Israeli, Palestinian controversy, and right in the middle of the Syrian Palestinian/Israeli controversy.

Syria claims Lebanon because they say the French had no right to establish a Christian territory in Syria. The French did so to establish a Christian presence in the Mideast.

The false deliverer is the guy who can straighten out that mess to everyone's satisfaction. And, you can't do that without knocking a couple of guys off. Syria & Iraq for sure, Libya because he is against the peace and winds up at the feet of the Antichrist.

The key seems to be Jordan. If the support were to go to Jordan to reestablish the Hashemite Kingdom in Iraq, and Jordan would relinquish in some manner to Palestine, Syria would give up Lebanon for the Golan, and Israel will feel secure with that deal as long as the temple is included. Everyone is already agreeing to Jerusalem being a shared capital. All that smells like peace to me. Ah, but a false peace, as it only lasts three and a half years.

What am I saying by all of this? Simply that the modern stage of history got here out of the prophesied past. It is not just jumping up and appearing, as some people seem to think that it will happen.

The spirit of Antichrist was at work in Paul's day. We happen to live in a time when this is where we are in prophesied time. The peace is in final status talks. Delayed for sure, but up to final status. We can actually envision a time when this peace might be accomplished in the not too distant future. But there seems to be a restraining force, keeping it from happening. How much longer can it take? That's why we watch. We know when He comes; He's coming in Spring for the Church.

We saw in Part I that the church is caught away before the 6th seal opens. We teach that the Rapture occurs in fulfillment of the Ascension of Jesus. Each year the anniversary of the Ascension occurs 40 days after the Feast of First fruits, and 10 days prior to Pentecost.

I believe that scripture clearly shows that many of the dead in Christ that rise first will rise on First fruits and be seen by many for 40 days. If that were so, then the warning sign of the Rapture would be that for sure. So, watch! God knew what He was talking about when He commanded us to Watch, and put a reward up for those who do, so, heed His word, and Watch!

There are still a lot of unanswered questions, but we are getting the answers together. I'm learning it at the same speed as you. We are learning it together, as we watch together, because we are all in the same time.

This is as close as we have ever been. Watch and enjoy the play.

I started out to show you how to tell which one of the three parts of the Antichrist you are seeing when you are reading about the beasts, but the spirit took us in another direction, as often happens.

REVELATION PART IV

THE HEADS, THE HORNS & THE CROWNS

God used as symbol, the image of a beast with seven heads and ten horns throughout these end time prophecies. There were also crowns involved, and sometimes the crowns were on the heads and some time the crowns were on the horns.

That is a small detail, but nonetheless important in the identification of whom these symbols identify. In today's session, I want to illustrate the precision with which God used these symbols to keep track of who he was talking about - it's important from the standpoint to show that God knows exactly what He is doing, and He's going to get it done, His way. In the full study on the CD, the maps illustrating all these territories can be seen in the map room in full color with narration.

The scripture says in Daniel, at the time of these ten kings, loosely held together, like clay and iron, will the events of the end time, the last seven years, the seventieth week begin to unfold.

When the subject is Satan, who ruled all seven kingdoms, and when the timing is before he is cast out of heaven to the earth by Michael, and before the man child has been raptured, the eighth kingdom (Antichrist's kingdom) is not yet in power, so there are no crowns, the symbol of power, on the horns.

And when the Subject is the Devil, who is the real ruler; the crowns are on the seven kingdoms, the seven heads. But, when the subject changes from the Devil to the beast who will give Antichrist power to conquer the remainder of the reconstituted Roman Empire and set up the final eighth kingdom - when he, as Antichrist will rule and set himself up as the one to be worshiped, then the crowns go on the horns.

I want you to see the precision with which God outlines the end of time.

Lets review.

What are the seven heads and the ten horns?

Rev.17:9: The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sitteth and there are seven kings, five are fallen. What five kings, that have oppressed Israel, have fallen.

Egypt was the first, took them into bondage, Assyria, that took the Northern Tribes was the second, Babylon was the third, Medo-Persia was the fourth, Greece is the fifth.

There are seven kings; five are fallen - one is - that's the sixth - the Roman Empire, the other is not yet come. But when he cometh, he must continue a short space - that's that seventh one, which history shows is The Moslem Empire. The Moslem Empire was short lived as formed, as Muhammad dies, the Empire brakes in two within a year.

The great image of Nebuchadnezzar's dream progressed from the legs of iron, to the FEET of iron and clay, then to the toes of iron and clay. Iron and clay denotes a change in material, just as gold turned to silver. Each change in material represented a kingdom change. The feet are made up of material as strong as iron and as weak as clay. The Empire they represent, the Moslem Empire, had those characteristics. The toes grown out of the same material as the feet, thus, out of the Moslem Empire.

But, the sixth beast (the nondescript beast of Daniel), Rome, is who grows the ten horns. So, the power that the beast from the pit gets comes from the Roman portion of the Moslem Empire.

The Seleucid portion of the Grecian Empire, which contains the land of the Hashemite Kingdom, of the Moslem Empire, was conquered by the Romans and is the territory from where these ten kings grow. And the one that grows up among them, the eleventh, grows up among them in that territory, but was not there at the time of the Romans. So the "little horns" kingdom is an emerging kingdom. Jordan is that Kingdom that grew up among them in the modern times, and Jordan is ruled by the Hashemite King.

And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition. And the ten horns that thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast. These kings get their power at the time of the beast, which is in the second half of the Great Tribulation.

The ten toes of Daniel, are ten kings of the last days, out of the Grecian portion of the Roman portion of the Moslem Empire, who come together loosely in the end times to give power to the Little Horn to form Antichrist's short lived final kingdom, the restored Hashemite Rule in the Hashemite Kingdom.

Now Daniels vision starts with Nebuchadnezzar's Empire, the third kingdom. Two had already gone by when Nebuchadnezzar was typified as the head of gold, the Medo-Persian empire coming next, the silver, then the brass, the Grecian, then the legs of iron, the Roman, then the feet, the Moslem, then the ten toes, reconstituted, end time kingdom on the land of the seventh kingdom.

That will be the reconstitution of the real Hashemite Kingdom of the Moslem Empire, which will be given power in the last days by ten of the kings on that land. The Moslem Empire included Iraq, Syria, Turkey, Kuwait, Lebanon, Israel, Palestine/Jordan, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Iran, all the Moslem lands around the Black sea, the Caspian Sea and along the Caucasus Mountains between them (the lands of Magog), and Saudi Arabia.

Two had gone by before the image of Nebuchadnezzar picks up the other five. The Egyptian and the Assyrian were gone by the time that Nebuchadnezzar image begins the final five of the seven.

There are seven kings; the seven kingdoms that will oppress Israel. Let me run it by you again; I want it fixed in your mind - five are fallen - Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Medo-Persia and Grecia - one is - Rome - that's six - the other is not yet come, but when he cometh he must continue a short space - That turns out to be the Moslem Empire, the seventh - then comes the Little Horn/Antichrist, who will uproot three of the ten and then the remaining kingdoms give him power and he forms the eighth

out of the Roman portion of the Moslem Empire, the seventh.

The beast that was and is not, even he is the eighth and he is of the seven, because he is part of the ten kingdoms that give him rulership, but then he will take over, and establish his Antichrist kingdom, when that beast, out of the pit, ascends and empowers him to do it, that's the eighth kingdom out of the seventh.

And the ten horns that thou sawest are ten kings which have received no kingdom as yet, John speaking, because Rome still rules, we are still in the legs of Iron, not yet to the feet and the ten toes, but will receive power one hour with the beast, for a very short time, as the beast uproots three, and the rest give him power, that's when he rides in on the white horse carrying the bow with no arrow.

They give their power and strength to the Beast. He shall make war with the lamb and the lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called chosen, and faithful. That's us the Church, and all those who John saw in heaven, including the Jews and the martyrs.

Then the ten horns destroy the whore - the false church, and then comes the destruction of the city Babylon.

Now, what is that beast in final Antichrist form? It is the Dragon, who is the power behind all of these kingdoms, the Devil, Satan. The Grecian beast once ruled the fifth kingdom, which was the Grecian Empire and he will rule the eighth kingdom as he empowers the Little Horn to take over.

So, the eighth kingdom will be like horns with crowns on the seven heads. The beast is there, out of which the ten horns grow to the final eighth kingdom.

The beast of Revelation 13, is that one that comes out of the pit (the Prince of Grecia), who rules the eighth kingdom (Antichrist's Kingdom), which is the outgrowth of the ten kingdoms, that becomes the eighth kingdom of Antichrist, the ten horns under his power.

Back to the first question - 12th chapter - Because Satan is the subject of the third verse, the crowns are upon his heads - because Satan is the subject, and full power has not yet been given to the eighth kingdom, because the full power of Antichrist to conquer the reconstituted Roman empire, after the short span, and reveal his true nature in the middle of the week, as he moves on to conquer in the last part of the week - the crowns are upon the heads, because the real ruler of all seven of those previous kingdoms is Satan.

He was the ruler, assigning his specific Princes to rule over Egypt, over Assyria, over Babylon, over Medo-Persia, over Greece, over Rome, over Moslem/Hashemite, over the 10 toed kingdom, where Little Horn/Antichrist has power given to him, for a day or so, for a brief span, as he, having uprooted three, is voluntarily given power, he rides in on a white horse, war follows, it doesn't ride in before the white horse of Revelation 6.

Little Horn/Antichrist comes riding in on a white horse, a man of peace, with a bow and no arrow.

And these 10 kings, when they see him uproot three, they give him power. Now he's in charge of the Seventh Kingdom - the Hashemite Kingdom! But the real ruler is Satan. So the crowns are on the heads.

13th Chapter - here comes the beast from out of the bottomless pit - Satan's demon agent, who was the Prince of Grecia, that empowered the fifth kingdom, had been put in the Abyss, is now released to add his power to the Little Horn who by the possession of the beast, becomes the fully risen Antichrist, who voluntarily took over by the power from the ten kingdoms, now, war follows the white horse of Revelation 6, and he conquers those kingdoms and becomes supreme. Now, it's the eighth kingdom.

He's ruling at the time of these kings, so the crowns are not on the heads, but on the horns, because the subject is the Beast and Antichrist's kingdom that's ruling. The subject is not the Devil behind it who had the crown on each of the heads - the subject is the kingdom itself.

We now move past a generic abstract look at the real ruler behind all kingdoms to the specific happening when the beast comes out of the pit and the ten horned kingdom is suddenly seized by the Little horn, who is then possessed and becomes the eighth ruler in the seventh kingdom.

We find in the 11th chapter of Daniel from the 36th verse to the 39th verse the description of Antichrist's characteristics, and in the 40th verse, the final conflagration between Antichrist and Egypt.

Antichrist, having conquered, and set up his eighth kingdom, sees Egypt rise up. Antichrist is no longer on a white horse, with a bow and no arrow as Revelation 6 says. The red horse moves on the scene, war.

He moves southward and enters into Israel, the glorious land in the 41st verse and many countries shall be overthrown, but these shall escape out of his hands, even Edom and Moab and the chief of the children of Ammon. Three little pockets of Geography between the dead sea and south of it, and east of it, and a little north of it. That pocket of desolate real estate around the Dead Sea and the Gulf of Aqaba are not going to be conquered by Antichrist.

Back to Rev. 12. Michael is going to defeat Satan, and limit him just to the earth. The man-child is brought forth and caught up. The woman is left and she flees into the wilderness to a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there, a thousand two hundred and three score days, the final three and a half years of the tribulation.

Michael cast the dragon out of the heavens, he's restricted to the earth and when Satan saw that he was cast into the earth, (13th verse), he persecuted the woman who brought forth the man-child. The woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, times and half of time, from the face of the serpent.

Obadiah, in his prophecy looked to this moment. You will find in the book of Obadiah, translation attempts to make it history. Thou shouldest not have done thus and so. That's bad translation. What the prophet says looking to the future, is do not do this. When that time comes, don't you do - talking

to Edom - what you did then.

And, Isaiah will also tell them what to do. But that's next time.

What's the point of all of this?

Only to show the precision with which God deals with the world, and how He keeps His word. This confirms to me that He does know when the sparrow falls, and how many hairs are on each of our heads, and why I can have the faith to cast my cares on Him, because I believe that my cares are His constant concern. Alleluia!

REVELATION PART V

THE WOMAN AND THE MAN CHILD

We are working our way through the book of Revelations. The object being to show that the message on the Rapture is supported in many places in Scripture.

The book of Revelation, as I stated before, is an unveiling of the things that occurred, written after the fact, as it were, as John was writing the thing that he saw that were to take place after the things of the Church on earth.

I believe in the past few classes, I have made my point, that the Church is Raptured before the Tribulation begins. The remainder of this study is to reinforce that point, and to demonstrate what it is that happens here on earth after the Rapture, and when it happens.

We still have to see how scripture deals with the Jews and the multitude that are left here. Part of that story involves the Woman, and the Man Child. We start tonight with the Woman.

Because the Rapture occurs before the Tribulation begins, we are going to be above it, but things here on earth are going to get rough.

Seven years is the tribulation, and it's broken into two parts. The first three and a half years to the middle of the seventieth week and the second three and a half years to the end of the week.

Antichrist comes on the scene in the 6th chapter. Seven seals are going to be opened. The first seal turns him loose with a bow and no arrow. He comes as a man of peace. A crown is given unto him. He's on the scene, as a man of peace at the very outset of tribulation.

A second seal -War - follows Antichrist's peaceful introduction.

A third Seal - Famine

Fourth Seal - Death

Fifth Seal - Martyrdom - but because John's in heaven, he sees the other side of it, he sees the souls of those that are martyred.

Sixth seal - Great earthquake, sun becomes black - stars of the heavens fall - people cry out that mountains and rocks would fall on them, as the great day of Gods wrath begins to flow.

A parenthesis comes in the seventh chapter.

Seventh seal is the 8th chapter - a great silence in Heaven - about the space of half and hour - we are still in the first half of the tribulation. A brief parenthesis follows that, then seven trumpets.

The Trumpets: 1st Hail and fire mingled with blood 2nd Great mountain cast into the sea and a third of the sea becomes blood. 3rd A great star called "Wormwood" falls upon the earth, and the rivers

and fountains of water become poisonous. 4th A third of the sun, moon and stars darkened - and a day shown not for a third of it, and the night likewise.

Strange change in the skies. Then an angel parenthetically flies saying Woe to the inhabitants of the earth - He seems to be saying: if you think it's been bad up to now, woe to you, if you're still here when these next three trumpets sound! We are still in the first three and a half years.

5th I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth and to him was given a key to the bottomless pit. And he opened the bottomless pit; and there rose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit. And there came out of the smoke locusts.

These are those demon locusts described, who are sent forth from the bottomless pit and commanded that they should not hurt the grass of the earth or any green thing, or any tree, but only those men who have not the seal of God in their foreheads.

144,000 of the tribes of Israel. Jews. Found, selected and isolated by God, who have a visible mark placed on their foreheads. And these demons locusts, out of the pit, are ordered by God not hurt the green things or these marked individuals, but to torment the rest of mankind for five months.

This is all happening in the first three and a half years, and we know that we are at least five months into it to this point.

6th He blows the note that loosens the four demon angels that are bound at the river Euphrates. God set an exact time for these four angels to be set free. They will have with them an army of two hundred million demons.

Then comes a parenthesis. And the seventh trumpet blasts in the 15th verse of the 11th chapter.

Somewhere during the 6th, or between the 6th and the 7th, we move into the middle of the week. And from the 7th trumpet on, through the 7 vials, we are in the last three and a half years of the tribulation.

The 12th chapter opens saying there appeared a great "wonder" (correct translation of "wonder"= symbol/sign) - there appeared a great symbol/sign in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars;

As a symbol, the descendants of Jacob would remember the dream of Joseph. For this is a symbol of the Nation Israel. It's not the Church. The Church was raptured in the 4th chapter.

And she being with child cried, travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered. And there appeared another "wonder", symbol/sign in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his HEADS.

Lets contrast this with the 13th chapter. Rev.13. John speaking: I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns and upon his HORNS ten

crowns, and upon his heads the names who blaspheme. This is the Antichrist kingdom in the 13th chapter.

In the 12th chapter, it is the great red dragon, Satan, who is behind all evil kingdoms of this world. Notice how God differentiates between them. There is a significant difference.

Notice that dragon in the 12th chapter has seven heads and ten horns, and that the Crowns, which are signs of actual rulership, are on the HEADS. Since it is the dragon being symbolized in this chapter, Satan himself, the seven heads, which are the seven kingdoms that oppressed Israel throughout her history, ruled by Satan, which includes the 8th (which comes out of the 7th, which is yet to come), are wearing the crowns.

The 13th chapter describes the Antichrist's kingdom, the 8th, that will come, so in this case, the crowns are not on the heads, but on the HORNS, which represents that 7th, or kingdom to come, which is the kingdom the beast takes over when he gets out of the pit. A small difference, but a significant key as to who is the real subject of the imagery.

In the 12th chapter, Satan is the subject. In the 13th chapter, though Satan is behind it all, the last kingdom, the revised Roman Empire, that will give it's power to the Little Horn, is the subject, so the crowns, that signify actual rulership, are on the horns, signifying the kingdom growing out of those predecessors in the 13th chapter. But in the 12th chapter, the subject is shifted to Satan, himself, that ruled all those kingdoms, and he is the great red dragon, having 7 heads and ten horns, and having seven crowns upon his heads.

His tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, - sure they did! It's Satan that's the object, who ruled through all of these seven kingdoms throughout history, as he fought against the Church, in recent days, as he fought against Israel throughout her history, he is always the same power behind it all. And when God casts him down, as John saw it, a third part of the stars went with him.

His tail drew a third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born. And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and to his throne.

This is much argued scripture. Lets look at another passage, simply to point out what I say all the time, that no prophecy of scripture is of private interpretation.

Isaiah 66:5 Hear the word of the Lord: ye that tremble at his word; Your brethren that hated you, that cast you out for my name's sake, said, Let the Lord be glorified: but he shall appear to your joy, and they shall be ashamed. A voice of noise from the city, a voice from the temple, a voice of the Lord that rendereth recompense to his enemies. Before she travailed, she brought forth; before her pain came, she was delivered of a man child.

(That means before the real persecution that is the travail being referenced in Revelation, before it got so bad, that it becomes the tribulation, the great tribulation, she was delivered a man child. The man child is separate from her.)

Vs.8 Who had heard such a thing? Who hath seen such things? Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day? Or shall a nation be born at once? For as soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her children. Shall I bring to the birth, and not cause to bring forth? Saith the Lord: shall I cause to bring forth, and shut the womb? Saith thy God.

Rejoice ye with Jerusalem, and be glad with her, all ye that love her. Vs 12. I will extend peace to her like a river, and the glory of the Gentiles like a flowing stream: Vs.13 as one whom his mother comforteth, so will I comfort you: and ye shall be comforted in Jerusalem.

This is a passage of the end times. Read on - 15th vs. For behold the Lord will come with fire, and with his chariots like a whirlwind, to render his anger with fury, and his rebuke with flames of fire. For by fire and by his sword - the one that goeth out of his mouth - will the Lord plead with all flesh; and the slain of the Lord shall be many.

Vs. 24 They shall go forth, and look upon the carcasses of the men that have transgressed against me: This man child is not my subject right now, I just want to tell you that it's not the church either. The man child comes forth before the persecution of the woman reaches it's main thrust in intensity.

Back to Revelation 12:6 The woman fled into the wilderness, where she had a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there, a thousand two hundred three score days.

(Now, this scripture taken out of context by some who believe the woman is the Church, to argue that the thousand two hundred three score days represents the first half of the tribulation and that the Church will be delivered in the middle of the week. Nonsense! The Church went up in the 4th chapter, and we have seven seals and six trumpets already behind us, which are a necessary parts of the tribulation. The three and a half years are already gone!

It's used by others, who still believe this is the Church to show that the Church is going to go through the tribulation, including the last three and a half years, is again nonsense. This isn't the Church, it's Israel. The woman is the nation Israel. The people brought back out of every nation.

12:8 There was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, and prevailed not; neither was there place found any more in heaven. And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

Michael is finally turned loose to take the devil, that's the Prince of the Power of the Air, and his angels, and cast them out of the heavenly's, where they rule, where they give so much trouble to the Church in today's world, that makes it necessary, as the Ephesian letter says, that we be clothed with the full armor of God, because we wrestle not against flesh and blood.

They will be cast out of the heavenly's, limited for a season, to the last area where he can do his work, this earth.

Vs.10 I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused

them before our God day and night.

Now some people take this verse and try and make it the same as the statement as when Jesus said, I beheld Lucifer cast down. Jesus beheld him cast out from being the crowning cherub on the mountain of God. But he was still the accuser. He had long been cast out as Jesus saw him, when he came with the sons of God to accuse Job. He had long since been cast out when he was seen by Zechariah standing accusing Joshua, as a representative of the people, and the Lord saying to him - I rebuke you Satan.

He had long since been cast out when the New Testament calls him the accuser of the brethren, before this. Now, the loud voice out of heaven says, when Michael cast him out of the heavenly's, the second phase of his casting down is completed.

When he was the crowning cherub in the mountain of God, before being cast out, as Jesus saw it, there were no brethren to be accused, they hadn't even been created yet. This is a second casting down.

Vs. 12 Therefore rejoice ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them - that includes us - we are already up there - Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and the sea! for the devil has come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he that but a short time.

And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man child. And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, INTO HER PLACE, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and a half a time (a thousand two hundred three score days - 3.5 years), from the face of the serpent, who now has one last area to attack - The woman. Now, the symbol/sign portrayed people on earth - the sign was in heaven - there appeared a great sign in heaven, but the woman is on the earth, because it's the nation Israel (reconstituted).

And the serpent cast out of his mouth, water as a flood. The serpent, again is a symbol, but it is also a being. It isn't water that goes after her, it a flood of people. An army pursues, after the woman that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood, but the earth helped the woman - just like Corah, and his crowd that opposed Moses, God's man, the earth opened up and swallowed them. Just like the Red Sea was pulled apart and later to swallow Pharaoh and his army.

The earth opened up her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth. And the dragon was wroth with the woman and went to make war with the remnant of her seed - now, the remnant is not the man child - not everybody is going to flee - a remnant will be left.

You have to see the Jews during the tribulation in three groups. There are 144,000 sealed, they are going to be caught up. The tribulation is still in progress in the 14th chapter- I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Zion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand having his Fathers name written in their foreheads. And I heard a voice from Heaven - they're up there.

Somewhere, the 144,000 get caught up. The man child, I haven't talked about yet - he's going to get

caught up. The church is already caught up. You begin to understand when you see that God is not limited to only one catching away. He can catch whom he will. He took Enoch way back yonder. He caught up Elijah - quit putting boxes on God - He can catch up who he will.

He caught up Philip, but put him down again. From Gaza to Azotus. The Church is caught up in the first verse of the 4th chapter. But God is going to catch some others up also. You can't try and make them all the same happening.

But the woman is here - fleeing to the wilderness, but not everybody goes. There are always some dummies like Lots wife. Remnant. This dragon who sent a flood army after those who were fleeing like on wings of eagles, sees his army swallowed up, he now turns to persecute and make war with the remnant. They're still in Jerusalem.

That opening up, swallowed up the army chasing the woman who was now hidden away in the wilderness, but there is a remnant that he can make war on, that keep the commandants of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

Now he sees the beast rise up out of the sea. Daniel, more than anyone else is the prophet to the Jews in the Old Testament. God let him see, in response to a simple prayer. He prayed that God would answer the promise given to Jeremiah, that the bondage of the Jews in Babylon would last only 70 years.

In the next class we are going to sail through the book of Daniel, and come to this wonder of wonders, the place in the wilderness, that God provided for the Israelites to spare the woman in the last three and a half years, when tribulation rains down on this earth as has never been seen anywhere.

REVELATION PART VI THE WOMAN AND THE MAN CHILD II

Paul was given the mystery of the kingdom, that he might reveal to the Gentile Church, that we, the wild olive branch, have a hope that is eternal.

But, these prophecies in the book of Revelation and the book of Daniel, are prophecies to the old olive branch, of the root of the tree of God's promises to Abraham. When you understand that, you will understand why all the imagery of Daniel is not world history, but world history in relation to Israel, as a people.

The imagery reflect Kingdoms that effect Israel.

Egypt was the first to take them into bondage, then Assyria. Then Daniel begins with the Nebuchadnezzar's Kingdom of the head of gold, the Medo-Persian Kingdom of silver, the Grecian Kingdom of brass, the Roman Kingdom of iron, the reconstituted Roman Kingdom of the last days, the ten toes.

Those are the only Kingdoms. You don't read about the other great kingdoms that have come and gone on the earth throughout history. Nothing about the Aztecs, or Incas, the Chinese or the

Africans. Only those Kingdoms that determined the destiny of Israel are chronicled.

It's only Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Medo-Persia, Grecia, Rome, Moslem and the end time reconstructed Roman territory, and it treats the world as though the center of it were Jerusalem. The images that Daniel sees rise out of the sea of human confusion - the lion, Babylon, the bear, the Medo-Persians, the leopard, moving so fast it doesn't seem to touch the ground, the Grecian, with four heads, Alexanders generals, and the nondescript beast that crushes everything, that was Rome, with the horns growing out - the ten kingdoms.

Then it's specified - out of the ten kingdoms, as we have learned, will rise up another little horn, before whom three of the horns will be plucked up by the roots. The little horn with eyes and a mouth, will come out of the Seleucid portion of the old Grecian Empire - the old Leopard Empire.

Daniel says that the end will come in the time of those ten kings. Another will rise up, uproot three, and the other seven will give him power.

Revelation 17 tells us that it will be the seventh kingdom to rise on that land that will be the one that will persecute Israel. In history, the seventh kingdom on that land was the Moslem Empire, ruled from the Hashemite Kingdom of Muhammad, the prophet of Allah, the one true god of the Moslems. The Moslem Empire lasted only one year after the death of Muhammad, but the Hashemite Kingdom continued over 1300 years, until it was broken up.

As history has it, the Hashemite Kingdom is lost to the world in 1921, when the British indiscriminately divided the land of the Mideast after winning the war with the Ottoman Empire. For 1100 years, the Hashemite's, who are the direct descendants of Muhammad, were in charge of the holy shrines of the Moslems, and maintained it's capital in Baghdad.

When the British divided the lands after the war, they gave, what is now Iraq, to the Hashemite's, but gave their responsibility of the care of the Moslem shrines to the Saudi's. They gave the territory which was Palestine, a part of Syria, to Prince Abdullah, of the Hashemite's. That territory today is known as Jordan.

The French were involved in the Middle east at the time, and claimed yet another piece of Syria, and established a Christian presence in the Mideast, by forming the Christian country of Lebanon. And, in 1948, the portion that was left to Palestine was given to Israel.

From that moment on, there has been war and discord in the Middle East, and these boundary disputes are at the root of it.

Ironically, the Hashemite Kingdom is the kingdom that is described in Daniel, as the Seleucid portion of the old Grecian Empire, where the Antichrist will come from. That territory was eventually overtaken by the Romans, and eventually ruled from Constantinople, in the days of Constantine, and the Byzantine Empire.

Hence, that territory is also a part of the old Roman Empire. So, Daniel tells us that from out of

Roman territory of the Moslem Empire, ten kings will rise in the latter days, and another king, a little horn, from the Hashemite Kingdom (the seventh Kingdom), will rise, uproot three of the ten kings, and be given his power by the other seven kings, and that it would be the reconstituted seventh kingdom, out of which the Antichrist's Kingdom would emerge as the eighth.

Just by following the history of what actually took place on the ground, over the centuries, one can readily see how the players of the present day stage of history were cast in their roles. That's why God gave us that history in Daniel, and then got specific in Revelation about who is who in the last days.

Daniel 20, 21, 23, and 24, are kingdoms. Ten kings that will arise, the seventh kingdom to persecute Israel - Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Medo-Persia, Grecia, Rome, Moslem and the ten toes, the reconstituted Roman portion, out of the old Grecian, will be the seventh, 24th verse - another shall rise after them - that's the eighth one- he is the one that will uproot three, and be given power by the other seven.

He shall be diverse form the first and he shall subdue three king - that's the uprooting of the horns- and the other seven will give him power.

In the 8th chapter, Daniel narrows it down to two kingdoms that oppress Israel. He talks about a Ram and a Goat with a notable horn between his eyes. In verse 20, the angel that interprets it says the Ram is the Medo-Persia Kingdom, and the Goat is Grecia, and the horn is Alexander the Great.

He goes on to explain that when Alexander dies, his four generals would divide the kingdom, but would not rule in his power. These do not inherit the kingdom as would children, but fight for it. Of the four, two again are focused on throughout the prophecies - Ptolemy, Egypt, and Seleucus, the Grecian portion. Throughout history, these two have been at each others throats. And, it's in the latter time of their kingdom, that the end will come.

This is what causes some people to try to make all of this prophecy of Daniel 8, 10, 11, happen before Christ came the first time. Because they say the Grecian Kingdom was broken and conquered by Rome, therefor they say, all of these things had to happen in the dying days of the Grecian Empire when Rome conquered it and Jesus came the first time.

That's because they won't put a gap between the 69th and the 70th week. It's because they fail to understand what God makes clear in the book of Revelation in the 17th chapter.

I can move fast through this, because I have covered all of this before. Antichrist kingdom at the end, will be a beast out of the Abyss, a demon prince under Satan, that once ruled over the Grecian Empire, has been locked up in the Abyss, throughout the history days since Greece fell, and will be released in the last days to put supernatural power behind Antichrist, that is ruling over a reconstituted Roman portion of the Moslem Empire, that comes up in the Seleucid portion of the old Grecian Empire.

It is only if you understand that Antichrist Kingdom will be headed in supernatural power, by the same demoniac prince that ruled over Alexander the Great's kingdom, will you be able to understand

what Revelation 17:8 says. The beast that thou sawest (the one that came out of the bottomless pit), WAS (means that he existed on this earth at one time), and IS NOT (means that while John is writing, he's not around), and SHALL ASCEND out of the bottomless pit and go into perdition - he's going to be let out again.

That Prince of Grecia is the one, that in the 10th chapter, of Daniel, come on the scene after the Angel leaves Daniel and goes back to defeat the Prince of Persia. The Prince of Grecia is the beast the WAS!

When Michael and Gabriel defeat the Prince of Persia, that gave the power to the Medo-Persian Kingdom, a vacuum is created in the territory, which would be filled by the Prince of Grecia, who gave Alexander his power.

Earthly forces were moving, and Alexander was a military genius, but it wasn't just that, the supernatural power behind Medo-Persia was gone. And into the vacuum, empowered by the Prince of Grecia, moving so fast that it looked like the feet never touched the ground, came the Grecian Kingdom.

Now, when the Prince of Grecia is defeated, and the Prince of Rome comes on the scene, all that's left is earthly kingdoms. The evil Prince of Grecia is put in the bottomless pit, that Rome might now conquer, and be ruling when Jesus comes.

Understand that, and you'll then be able to understand why, in the 8th, 10th & 11th chapters, we have suddenly leaped across the wild olive branch, Church history. We have leaped across the gap of the cutting off of Messiah, to the restoring again of the old olive branch.

And in the time of tribulation, the Prince of evil, that WAS the ruler of Greece, behind Alexander the Great, the Prince of Grecia, that was defeated when the Prince of Rome came, and was locked up in the bottomless pit, would be let out in the last three and a half years of it, to empower Antichrist in his earthly rule.

Then you can make sense of Daniel 8:22 - (four stood up) and in the latter time of their kingdom - That's the Grecian Kingdom - when the transgressors are come to the full, a king of fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up. And his power shall be mighty- not by his own power, No! - That beast will come out of the pit again.

He shall destroy the mighty ones (is the literal translation), and shall prosper and practice, and shall destroy the mighty and the holy people. And through his policy also, he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand; and he shall magnify himself in his heart; and by peace shall destroy many (coming in on the white horse originally): and he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes (that's Jesus himself), but he shall be broken without hands.

Because Jesus will come and the sword of his mouth will destroy him. You need to put on the 23rd verse there, the gap has occurred, we are now into the tribulation, were into the Grecian Kingdom of the latter days (The Hashemite Kingdom restored), when that beast comes out of the pit.

Now, go to the 9th chapter, 26th verse. After threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself. That ends the 483rd year of God's dealing in the prophecy of Daniel's seventy weeks.

And the people of the Prince that shall come (that's Antichrist), shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined. And he (Little Horn/Antichrist) shall confirm a covenant with many for one week:(he will come in peacefully, he will confirm a covenant with the Jews for seven years, and they will think that their problems are solved, and he will be viewed as a man of peace - white horse, bow and no arrow), and in the midst of the week, (3.5 years in - about the time of the sixth trumpet, into the seventh trumpet - in the middle of the week - seven seals were opened, and six trumpets blown, before the seventh trumpet, and before the seven vials), he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations, he shall make it desolate even until the consummation, and that determined, shall be poured upon the desolate.

In the 11th chapter, God stops talking in symbol. In the first year of Darius, the Mede, the Angel says: And now will I shew you the truth. Behold, there shall stand up yet three kings in Persia; and the fourth shall be far richer than they all: by his strength through his riches he shall stir up all against the realm of Grecia.

You have no trouble in history identifying this king as Xerxes. He decided to go against Greece. And a mighty king shall stand up(That's Alexander the Great.), that shall rule with great dominion, and do according to his will. And when he shall stand up, his kingdom will be broken, and shall be divided toward the four winds of heaven (no longer 4 heads on a leopard, no longer 4 horns, prose now is describing history in advance from the mouth of an angel.)

Alexander has not yet shown up, and Xerxes has not yet attacked Greece - but Xerxes, that fourth king of the Medo-Persian Empire, will stir up Alexander the Great - you can read in history, that the excuse that Alexander used to invade the Medo-Persian Empire, was the action of Xerxes against Greece, but the angel prophesied it before it ever happened! - now instead of 4 heads or 4 generals, it's four winds of heaven), and not to his posterity, nor according to his dominion which he ruled: for his kingdom shall be plucked up, even for others beside those. And the king of the south shall be strong - that's Egypt- and one of his princes; and he shall be strong above him, and have dominion; his dominion shall be a great dominion. History reads through all of this.

Seleucus went to Ptolemy's court in Egypt- left Babylon, escaping, became strong in Egypt, until he became stronger than the Ptolemy's and took over the Seleucid portion of the kingdom, that includes, Turkey, Syria, Iraq, Iran, all the territory that is the Grecian portion of the Middle Eastern world where the Arab nations are now struggling. Seleucus is that prince, coming out of Egypt, having gone there escaping from Babylon.

And in the end of years they shall join themselves together, as it tells of the history that follows between the Seleucid's and the Ptolemy's and their various alliances. Now we have the gap coming up, because in the describing of the king of the north and the king of the south through this 11th chapter you come to the time of the end.

You come to the King in verse 36 that describes characteristics that can only be Antichrist. In verse

29 - at the time appointed he shall return - somewhere beginning about the 20th to the 21st verse on, is where I break the 69th and 70th week. And suddenly you leap into the 70th week, and you're talking about the time of the end when Little Horn/Antichrist comes on the scene.

Verses 36 to 40 are the most detailed description of Antichrist in the whole book. Be sure and read them carefully.

Verse 40: And at the time of the end shall the King of the South push at him: and the King of the North (Antichrist) shall come against him like a whirlwind.

Sadat thought he figured it out, but God picked Sadat to divide Egypt from the rest of that Arabian axis, and isolate it, because the King of Egypt is going to be at war at the end with the King of the North that comes out of Seleucid Portion of the old Grecian Empire - the Hashemite Kingdom - the seventh on the land, reconstituted at the end time, in a alliance with those Arab nations that were once ruled by the Roman Empire.

Verse 40: And at the time of the end shall the King of the South push at him: and the King of the North (Antichrist) shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over.

(And even though he is made a covenant with the Jews) Vs. 41: He shall enter also into the glorious land (Israel), and many countries shall be overthrown: but these shall escape (be delivered) out of his hands, even Edom, and Moab, and the chief of the children of Ammon.

I have been painting with broad strokes, and I will continue to do so until I begin to tie it down in precision. I started out with the Woman, Israel, during the tribulation, that when Satan is cast down out of the heavenly's, in the middle of the week, he will with fury, seek to attack, this engraftation of the old olive branch back on again.

He will cause Antichrist to break his covenant of peace in the middle of the week, and he will with fury go against Israel. But, God has prepared a place for them in the wilderness. And though Antichrist will conquer that Middle Eastern world, there will be a place prepared to where this woman can flee.

I have one over riding concept in all of these messages: Can we see that God keeps his hands on history, and that when he says something, He's going to do it! If we understand that, we can surely believe that He can take care of us, so we can believe what He says about the Rapture. That's the point.

Throughout Daniel, He has painted with broad stokes, to illuminate the nations that oppressed Israel. He stretched apart the dying of the Grecian Empire, while He deals with the mystery of the Church, and lets the Roman Empire rise. Then at the end comes to a reconstituted Roman portion of the Moslem Empire that will in fact be dominated by the Grecian portion of that Empire (the Hashemite Kingdom), and a ruler that is empowered by the release of an evil satanic prince of Grecia, that will rule for three and a half years.

Now, the dragon Satan, and the beast out of the Abyss, that is that lieutenant of Satan's, the demon power that ruled Alexander the Great's kingdom, will be released again to rule Antichrist. The literal ruler Antichrist, empowered by these supernatural forces, will turn on that woman, Israel, that's been brought back to the land, and who thinks they have peace, because Antichrist rode in on a white horse, with a bow and no arrow.

He made a one week covenant with them, and in the middle of the week, after the sixth trumpet blows, the beast is released. The Dragon is beat out of heaven by Michael, and is going to turn on that woman.

This ruler Antichrist, empowered by that demon force, shall enter also into the glorious land, and many countries shall be overthrown. But these shall escape (be delivered) out of his hands.

He is overthrowing many countries, but these shall escape. Why these? It's not Israel. It's a middle eastern land, in the desert just north and east and south of the Dead Sea, where the Israelites wandered around in the wilderness.

These shall escape out of his hands. Some people say that Antichrist is going to conquer the whole world - he's not even going to conquer these three countries. Edom and Moab and the chief of the Children of Ammon.

Can you imagine that? God is describing the flow of the most powerful kingdoms in the western world. Here is a Prince of evil, empowered with a beast out of the bottomless pit, and empowered by the Dragon, Satan himself, conquering the holy land and these escape - Edom, Moab and Ammon!

Vs.42 He shall stretch forth his hand also upon the countries: and the land of Egypt shall not escape, but he shall have power over the treasures of gold and of silver, and over all the precious things of Egypt: and the Libyans and the Ethiopians shall be at his steps.

But tidings out of the east and out of the north shall trouble him: therefore he shall go forth with great fury to destroy, and utterly to make away many. And he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him. Because Jesus will come with 10,000 thousands of his saints in Revelation 19.

Why Edom, Moab and Ammon? Were back to where we started, Revelation 12:14.

This woman, that is Israel, fled into the wilderness where she had a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there, three and a half years; a thousand two hundred and three score days.

Vs.14: To the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into HER PLACE, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and a half a time, from the face of the serpent.

And the Dragon will breathe out a force of men to pursue them, and the earth will swallow them up as the Jews flee into Edom, Moab and Ammon, because the Antichrist didn't conquer that area by

reason of them being delivered out of his hands. Just as they were delivered out of the hands of Pharaoh at the Red Sea crossing.

If you ever travel to the holy land, go down to Bozrah and Petra. That's the area. Isaiah sees the end in Isaiah 63: Who is this that cometh from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah? The answer comes back: I that speak in righteousness, mighty to save. Wherefore art thou red in thine apparel, and thy garments like him that treadeth in the winefat? I have trodden the winepress alone; and of the people there was none with me.

Those Israelites were not there to fight for their deliverance. God comes in the person of His son, and He wipes out Antichrist. Bozrah in Edom is that hidden place.

Go to Isaiah 16:1-6. Send ye the lamb to the ruler of the land from Sela to the wilderness, unto the mount of the daughter of Zion. For it shall be, that, as a wandering bird cast out of the nest, so the daughters of Moab shall be at the fords of Arnon. Take counsel, execute judgement; make thy shadow as the night in the midst of the noonday; hide the outcasts; bewray not him that wandereth.

Let mine outcast dwell with thee, Moab; be thou a covert to them from the face of the spoiler: for the extortioner is at an end, the spoiler ceaseth, the oppressors are consumed out of the land. And in mercy shall the throne be established: and he shall sit upon it in truth in the tabernacle of David, judging and seeking judgment, and hasting righteousness.

God gives a warning way back there in the 16th chapter of Isaiah. To the people of Moab - stay on the alert, because if my people ever show up on your borders, running from the spoiler, hide them! That's your hope Moab! He goes on to say: We have heard of the pride of Moab; he is very proud: even of his haughtiness, and his pride, and his wrath: but his lies shall not be so. Therefore shall Moab howl for Moab, everyone shall howl:

But God gives that miserable people a chance. And it's as though He's saying: if you ever see my people running into your territory, receive them, because the end is at hand - your salvation!

Edom, Moab and Ammon are her place - the woman, as God looks out for is own.

Go to Isaiah 26:20,21 - Come my people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee: hide thyself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation be overpast. For, behold, the Lord commeth out of his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity; the earth also shall disclose her blood and shall no more cover her slain.

This is all part of the hiding away. You ought to have it written in the margin of your Bible. Read Isaiah 63:1-6 again. I have it written in the margin of my Bible, right along side of the 14th verse of the 12th chapter.

Isaiah 63:1-5, I quoted it earlier: Who is this that cometh from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah?(same as Petra - it's Edom) this that is glorious in his apparel, travailing in the greatness of his strength. I that speak in righteousness, mighty to save. Wherefore art thou red in thine apparel, and

thy garments like him that treadeth in the winefat?

I have trodden the winepress alone; and of the people there was none with me: for I will tread them in mine anger, and trample them in my fury; and their blood shall be sprinkled upon my garments, and I will stain all my raiment. For the day of vengeance is in mine heart, and the year of my redeemed has come.

What am I saying? God provided a place for them in the wilderness.

His vengeance on these people is in Psalms 60:8-12 - Moab is my washpot; over Edom will I cast out my shoe: Philistia, triumph thou because of me. Who will bring me into the strong city? Who will lead me into Edom? Wilt not thou, O God, which hadst cast us off? And thou, O God, which didst not go out with our armies?

Give us help from trouble: for vain is the help of man. Through God we shall do valiantly: for he it is that shall tread down our enemies.

Who will lead me into Edom? That's a Messianic Psalm, a subject for another time. Read Ezekiel 20:33-38 - write that down in the margin also.

As I live, saith the Lord God, surely with a mighty hand, and with a stretched out arm, and with fury poured out, will I rule over you: and I will bring you out from the people, and will gather you out of the countries wherein ye are scattered, with a mighty hand, and with a stretched out arm, and with fury poured out.

And I will bring you into the wilderness of the people, and there will I plead with you face to face. Like as I pleaded with your fathers in the wilderness of the land of Egypt, so will I plead with you, saith the lord God.

And I will cause you to pass under the rod, and I will bring you into the bond of the covenant: And I will purge out from among you the rebels, and them that transgress against me: I will bring them forth out of the country where they sojourn, and they shall not enter into the land of Israel: and ye shall know that I am the Lord.

Go on, read it clear through to the 44th verse. This passage, like the others is taking them into Edom.

Go to Hosea 2:14-20 - Therefore, behold, I will allure her, and bring her into the wilderness, and speak comfortably unto her. And I will give her vineyards, from thence, and the valley of Achor for a door of hope: and she shall sing there, as in the days of her youth, and as in the day when she came up out of the land of Egypt.

(They sing because the army that comes out of the mouth of the Dragon is swallowed up by the earth.)

And it shall be at that day, saith the Lord, that thou shalt call me Ishi; and shalt call me no more Baali.

For I will take away the names of Baalim out of her mouth, and they shall no more be remembered by their name. And in that day will I make a covenant for them with the beast of the field, and with the fowls of heaven, and with the creeping things of the ground: and I will break the bow and the sword and the battle out of the earth, and will make them to lie down safely.

I will betroth thee unto me for ever; yea, I will betroth thee unto me in righteousness, and in judgement, and in loving kindness, and in mercies. - That is the end of time! - I will even betroth thee unto me in faithfulness: and thou shalt know the Lord.

I will bring her into the wilderness - again and again!

I will be on this subject for many classes, as I talk about the woman and the man child, and the last three and a half years of the tribulation as God hides them away, and leaves only the unbelieving remnant in Jerusalem, for Satan to persecute.

What's the point of this whole message? Satan, and the beast out of the pit empowering Antichrist will never conquer, Edom, Moab and the children of Ammon because God just threw a ring around that bunch of heathen, and way back in the Old Testament he said: when you see our people show up on your borders, you had better receive them.

And with wings like an eagle, before that seventh trumpet blows, and the vials of God's wrath pour out, that woman is going to flee into the wilderness prepared for her, and she will stay there through the storm, and Jesus will visit them there and will come with dyed garments from Bozrah, in that vision seen by Isaiah.

As He comes with His saints to deliver that woman that's been hid for a time, times and a half a time - 3 and a half years she hides in the wilderness - Ammon, Moab and Edom.

God not only writes the broad history of the world, empires of Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Medo-Persia, Grecia, Roman, and a reconstituted kingdom of Antichrist, he writes the history of His little nest in the wilderness.

That even though this olive branch had to be lopped off, and even though they have been faithless, and crucified the son of glory, in the time of His wrath, He has a hiding place for them to escape to.

We are all beneficiaries of God's grace, that's why you don't have to worry about finding a place to hide in the wilderness - the Church will be gone when this happens.

REVELATION PART VII

THE WOMAN AND THE MAN CHILD III

We are back in the book of Revelation.

One must project oneself onto the landscape and into the scene of the end times, from the Biblical viewpoint, in order to get a full comprehension of how the symbolism used in the telling of the story, rely's heavily on an understanding of the forces at hand.

Satan is the Prince of the Power of the air. He is an angel.

Now, we have already spent a considerable amount of time in the study of Angels and demons and their hierarchy and their prisons. Their reality is certain, and their power seems limitless, in comparison to our own.

Satan's purpose is to win full rulership, and have the people of the earth worship him as their god . God's purpose is to prevent that, by saving a remnant of people, to begin again, under His rule, and further purge Satan from the spirit of man, until the final confrontation, at the end of the millennium, when man is finally ready to enter eternity with God.

It's that battle, being fought in that realm, by those beings, that is being decided. The fate of mankind's spiritual nature is at stake. Physically, we must all die (with exception to the raptured), because it's man's nature to die. But spiritually, man has been given a choice. He can choose to live eternally, or to die. Two paths were provided to gaining life eternal. The Law came first, then supernatural redemption. Both are still in existence.

Just before the time of the fulfillment of the law (the last three feasts), the supernatural redemption occurs, and the period of the fulfillment of the Law begins.

It is during the latter part of this time, that God hides the remnant of His "chosen people", in the wilderness, in order to keep His word and go into the new beginning with a remnant of them, under the rule of the true Messiah and His redeemed.

In the book of Revelation, we have been studying the scriptures identifying the woman of chapter 12, as the Nation Israel, and we have come to the point where Satan is about ready to be cast down to the earth, which signals the start of the second three and a half years, the rule of Satan's power directly upon the earth. The Little Horn has come to full power; He is now Antichrist! - The false deliverer - who brought security and a temple to the Jews - now turns on them.

As we saw, a place was prepared for her in the wilderness where she would be visited by God, and pleaded with, face to face, as it was in the time of the Pharaoh; Edom, Moab and Ammon.

Antichrist sends an army after them, but, as in the time of the Pharaoh (this time it's the earth that opens up) the earth opens up, swallows up the horde and delivers them out of his hands. And they

stay there, in their place, for three and a half years.

Daniel 12 takes us to the time this final period begins, and tells us what Michael is doing: And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince of thy people (the Jews), during a time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people (the Jews) shall be delivered, - what time? when Michael stands up.

That means that "thy people" are on the scene. Michael is looking out for the Jews. They're on the scene, and at that time (when Michael stands up), "thy people" will be delivered - who? - everyone that is written in the book. A specific bunch. Not all the Jews, a very specific bunch of Jews. Those that are written in that book.

Verse 2. Many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, - we explained before about the "togma's" that Paul taught - the marching orders into heaven- Jesus rose, the first fruits, some people were seen raised in Jesus' time, after his resurrection - the Thessalonian Saints rose, and now, some others are going to rise at this time, and later, some will rise to everlasting life and some to shame and everlasting contempt.

But thou O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge will be increased. (This is where we are in Biblical Time)

Then I Daniel looked, and, behold, there stood other two, the one on this side of the bank of the river, and the other on that side of the bank of the river. And one said to the man clothed in linen, which was upon the waters of the river, How long shall it be to the end of these wonders? And I heard the man clothed in linen, which was upon the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand unto heaven, and swore by him that liveth for ever that it shall be for a time, times, and a half; - three and a half years - because, this event is the time of trouble such as never was on this earth.

This event, when Michael stands up, turns loose a time of trouble such as was never seen before on this earth. For how long? Three and a half years, when he shall have accomplished to scatter the power of the holy people, all these things shall be finished.

Turn to Revelation 12. The context of Daniel gives this chapter understanding.

There appeared a great wonder - again, this is a symbol/sign - in heaven. A woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars: and she being with child cried, travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered.

And there appeared another wonder - sign/symbol - in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven head and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads. - it's Satan being symbolized here, who really was the ruler over all the seven kingdoms that had oppressed Israel. And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them down to earth; and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born.

And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and his throne.

Probably there has never been a passage written in God's book with as much confusion generated as this one. I've read, in no less than the prestigious Pulpit Commentary, where the commentator says: "It's clear that this man child is Christ." No it isn't clear at all, that the man child is Christ!

The also say, "it's clear that the woman is the church." No it isn't clear, that the woman is the Church! The Church is already in heaven at this point, and this isn't the way the Church comes back. The Church comes back with Jesus, riding on that white horse, coming back to execute judgement.

What is clear is that the woman is not the Church, the woman is Israel! Likewise, the man child is not Christ. The hang up is that the man child rules with a rod of Iron.

There are several categories of redeemed saints. There are the Raptured Church, the Saints, the twenty four elders, including those that are raised in Christ along with the children of faith from throughout scripture, that are taken in by the righteousness of faith, that will rule and reign throughout eternity. They're up there.

There's the 144,000 - you check at 14:1, you find that they're up there, with the name written in their foreheads. And we know that the 144,000 are those sealed in their foreheads, so those demon locusts from the pit can recognize them, so they won't hurt them through the blowing of the trumpets.

We know the tribulation saints and martyrs are up there. They're going to rule throughout all eternity. The Old Testament Saints and the New Testament Saints, that rule as the children of faith, comprising the Church, and the 144,000 are there and come back to reign.

Rod of Iron simply means authority to rule, and it doesn't limit it to Christ.

This man child is not Jesus, and is not the Church. Jesus wasn't born during the tribulation. This is a tribulation event. This is the period that occurs after the seventh trumpet.

That's the scene, the woman fled into the wilderness, 12:6 - where she had a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there - how long? - a thousand two hundred and threescore days.

This woman, which is National Israel, the nation restored, the people of Israel that have been brought back out of every nation, that have been suddenly descended upon by Antichrist, by Satan, will have the place prepared in the wilderness that is theirs.

Antichrist breeches the covenant in the middle of the week and reveals his true colors in the last three and a half years. He's out to destroy Israel. The beast is released out of the pit to empower him, and he's out to destroy Israel. Satan is going to be cast down to the earth, and he's out to destroy Israel. That's the kind of trouble for Israel's people. Everything descends on them.

Suddenly the Antichrist, who they thought was the peacemaker, who confirmed a covenant with them for seven years, in the middle of the week, he turns on them. Suddenly the beast out of the Abyss is there, and suddenly Satan is there and concentrates every energy on destroying them.

Antichrist turns on the Jews, and breaks the covenant in the middle of the week, leaving three and a half years to go, as the beast out of the pit adds his power, and Satan comes directly on the scene, with a fury he never had before.

Then the time of trouble, such was never before, is come. And the woman, which is the people in National Israel, that learn the true colors of Antichrist, are faced with this trouble, and have got to flee.

The woman fled into the wilderness, 12:6 - where she had a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days. There was war in heaven. (All of this is going on at the same time.) Michael and his angels fought against the Dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven.

He once was the crowning cherub in heaven. He rebelled and a third of heaven fell. Jesus saw him cast down, and ever since he's been a Prince of Evil. Man gave over to him, dominion of this earth, and he's the Prince of the Power of the Air, and he's got access, and he's been the root of all problems.

Now, Michael is going to be turned loose on him. That's the war that Daniel saw (12:1). Michael stands up and fights with the Dragon (who was compressed out of his position in heaven, but still had access), and now he's going to be restricted to this one little planet in the universe, and that's the only place he will have to operate in.

Vs.9 - The great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which Deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.(He is no longer the Prince of the Power of the Air!)

I heard a loud voice saying - where? - in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ; for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night. He's no longer there to do his accusing. (Of who? The brethren.) They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death. (That simply speaks to the quality of those who are already up there.)

Therefore rejoice - who? - ye heavens, and - who? - ye that dwell in them. (It's obvious, those that are rejoicing, are those that overcame by the blood of the Lamb - the saints are already in heaven - and there's somebody else that's in heaven - the 144,000 Jews are there and the man child is also there.)

They're the ones rejoicing, they are above it all now.

Therefore rejoice ye heavens, ye that dwell in them - but the woman is still down here. She's got to flee to the wilderness. So, National Israel, for the most part is here, but her child's gone; someone out of that National Israel. Now we get a limitation on the 144,000.

God knows who the tribes of Israel are, and is going to place a seal on a 144,000 of them. He knows exactly who and where they are.

Let me just state at this point - the man child is the same as the 144,000. They are a group, out of National Israel that are sealed and saved, not allowed to be hurt by the demon locusts, and caught up by God.

There is a seal in their foreheads and we know what that seal is by the 14th chapter. Because immediately following the outbreak of the final three and a half years, that unfolds in the rest of this and the 13th chapter; chapter 14 open with:

I looked and lo a Lamb stood on the mount Zion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having this Fathers name written in their foreheads.

Next class I will show that it's the same 144,000 as the seventh chapter, and show you that it's the same as the man child. There is only one special group of Jews, those sealed that are in the book. Daniel in the 12th chapter says: Michael will stand up and deliver every one that shall be found written in the book.

As God's got a Lamb's book of Life, into which the saints are written, that are caught up at the Rapture; God has got a book, in which there is sealed 144,000 that He will pick up in this last moment in the middle of the week, and that's the man child, it's the 144,000.

Sorry, but they won't come out of the Jehovah's Witnesses!

God's got them in His book, and He seals them with the name of God. He saves them from those trumpets because they will be preachers of righteousness like this world will have never seen before then. And because they are the man child, they are going to come out of National Israel. They'll need a revival in that place in the wilderness, in the midst of all the other mess. And when these demons are turned loose, God knows exactly where the 12,000 are from each tribe. They may not have kept their genealogy straight, but God did.

And that woman that is National Israel, pains to be delivered. Out of her, comes the 144,000. The Nation brings forth a people - it takes a woman to bring forth a son! The woman is a symbol, a Nation, reconstituted out of every nation, brought back as Ezekiel has it; to the mountains that have always laid waste.

That God would say: I will say to the North, give up, and to the South, keep not back, bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the ends of the earth. And I'll bring them again to the mountains again, and will feed them therein, in the mountains and in the valleys and the well watered plains thereof.

He's restored Israel! Out of that restored Israel, which is the woman, comes the man child, comes the 144,000! They come out of reconstituted National Israel. The rest of the saints are in heaven.

Vs. 12 - Therefore rejoice ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. (The elders, the raptured saints, which are the elders, the man child, which is the 144,000 - you are only going to confront them when you see them in the 14th chapter on the mount Zion with Christ.) Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! For the Devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he

hath but a short time.

And when the Dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man child. How come he didn't persecute the man child? He hovered, as the Dragon, because he wanted to get the man child, that's what he was after.

The DRAGON stood before the woman (he still Prince of the Power of the Air), ready to be delivered (out of her comes the 144,000), to devour her child. He is the Prince of the Power of the air during that first three and a half years, and when those trumpets start blowing, and the seal is placed in their heads, so the demon locusts won't hurt them, he knows about that child. Now, when he's cast down, God protected the child and caught him up. When he's finally whipped by Michael, and cast to the earth, there's no man child here. There's only the woman, which brought forth the man child.

Vs. 13 - and to the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished (that's the place God prepared - Moab, Edom and Ammon.)

Well, you say, if the Devil knows all of this, isn't he going to make sure that the first place Antichrist conquers is Moab and Edom? He'll try, but God is still in control. Edom, Moab and Ammon will be spared, and delivered out of his hands, by God, because that her place where she is nourished. I went over it in the last class, the warnings in the prophecies to Moab, when my people Israel, show up at thy borders, welcome them, because they can gain, in that evil day, the favor of God, by seeing their purpose, to nourish this woman in the wilderness, during this last time of trouble.

Vs. 13 - and to the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times and a half a time, from the face of the serpent.

And the serpent (Remember, this is symbol) cast out of his mouth water as a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood.

He doesn't come looking like a Dragon, or a serpent, any more than the Nation Israel looks like a woman. The serpent, Satan, now limited to this earth, cast out of his mouth, water as a flood, that's symbol; usually, symbols of water as a flood is armies of people; after the WOMAN, that he might cause HER to be carried away of the flood. (All the effort is directed at the woman.)

They're not running from a serpent, they're running from the Devil, who is limited to this earth now, and casts out a flood. It doesn't matter if you want to believe it's water, because the result is the same for both.

vs.16 - The earth helped the WOMAN, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth. And the dragon was wroth with the WOMAN, and went to make war with the remnant of HER seed, which keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

There is always a Lot's wife that is going to hang on. Not everybody ran to the wilderness. Not everybody believes the scripture, that when they get to Edom and Moab the earth is going to open up, but if they had read their scripture, they would know, that when the time of this trouble comes, the safe place prepared for them was in Moab and Edom.

There will be a doubting bunch that is going to stay when they see the Dragon running after the woman; they'll think that their compromise staying is going to work. The woman is delivered out of his hands, the earth opened up and saves her, so what does he do? He turns around and attacks the remnant that remains in Jerusalem which keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

That doesn't mean that they are "Church Saints"; the Church was in heaven before the first seal opened. These are the remnant of the "woman's seed" that woke up, and come to their senses to know who the real Messiah is. Unfortunately, they will be the ones who were not smart enough, or scripturally taught enough, or obedient enough, to run down to that hiding place.

That's the way it going to be folks. Thank God, we are up there with the Lamb.

REVELATION PART VIII

THE MAN CHILD & THE 144,000

There are seven seals, seven trumpets and seven vials that describe the happenings that the New Testament speaks of as "the tribulation, the great tribulation". The Greek has it in that double emphasis like that, which makes a lie of the foolish and shallow approach, to the Bible's teaching on the tribulation, the great tribulation, as though it has already occurred.

I have heard people say: try and tell the people in China, and the martyrs throughout history, that they did not go through tribulation, and my response is - I wouldn't try to tell them.

They earned a martyrs crown in that tribulation, but they did not go through the "tribulation, the great tribulation". That's why the Greek specifies the distinction. There will always be tribulation. Jesus said that, in one of His last messages to his disciples, when He said, "in the world ye will have tribulation".

Paul, writing to the Saints at Rome, said, we ought to glory in tribulation because it produces the experience of triedness and proves the capacity to endure, and gives the hope we'll make it through the whole trip.

That's tribulum, the Latin word being the rod used to beat the chaff from wheat. That's not the "tribulation, the great tribulation". The great tribulation is the Wrath of God. The great tribulation is a pouring out of God's wrath on earth, and a completion of what God intended to do to His people, Israel. And, God has not appointed, us, His Church, unto wrath!

When these things come upon the earth, I'll be gone!

Now, there are four companies of redeemed saints. If you read Ezekiel, and if you understand the book of revelation properly, the Jews will finish certain assignments, given them by God, during the millennium.

Evil is not yet over. Satan will be let out after a thousand years and Gog and Magog will rise up a second time in sin. This time they will gather around Jerusalem and they will be destroyed by fire, not by Jesus coming in the battle of Armageddon with the saints and the sword out of his mouth.

There are a lot of events that are encompassed in the last days. Most confusion comes by trying to put them into one simple set of events. The tribulation, is the seventieth week of seventy weeks of years that God showed Daniel, and interpreted by His angel, who says that seventy weeks are determined for THY PEOPLE. That limits it. Thy People Israel, and thy city Jerusalem.

Those seventy weeks relates to Daniels people, Israel, and to Jerusalem. It's set up in three segments as you read in the book of Daniel. Seven sets of seven years, forty nine years to build the city in troubled times.

Then, sixty two weeks, to the cutting off of Messiah. Then there's a gap between that sixty ninth week and the seventieth week. And the seventieth week, constitutes the period known as "the tribulation, the great tribulation", when the cause of the "tribulum" is God. Or when the cause of the "tribulum" is allowed by God, and evil men are his instruments to finish what is cataloged for those seventy weeks, in the book of Daniel in one verse.

To finish all of the things cataloged in the 24th verse of Daniel 9.

Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people, and thy holy city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sins, to make reconciliation for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up the vision, and prophecy and to anoint (literally) the most holy place.

To make an end of sins - what's the subject? - for thy people. It obviously doesn't make an end to sins in the seventy weeks, just to pick one illustration. It goes to the close of the millennium, a thousand years after the seventy weeks are over.

Satan will be released, Gog and Magog will rise up again, Satan will tempt for a season, some will fall for his temptation and sin, and will gather outside Jerusalem, and be destroyed with fire. You've got to understand that Daniel was the recipient of God's prophecies, "UPON THY PEOPLE - speaking to Daniel - AND THY HOLY CITY", Jerusalem.

Now the seven years of the "tribulation, the great tribulation", are to accomplish and finish what's left after the sixty nine weeks of those purposes. There are seven seals opened. They begin in the 6th chapter. Antichrist comes on the scene on a white horse - peaceful - with a bow, and no arrow. Followed by, war, famine and death.

When the trumpets begin, through the fourth trumpet, you have terrible things landing on this earth till the end of the 8th chapter. The last three trumpets of the seven, are called "Woes". They are so terrible, that an angel flying in the midst of the heaven in the 13th verse, cries with a loud voice, saying, Woe, Woe, Woe to the inhabitants of the earth, by reason of the other voices of the trumpets of the three angels that are yet to sound.

Those final three trumpets, represent those three Woes. Seven seals, four trumpets are past. We are well into the tribulation. The Church left this earth at the opening of the fourth chapter, and has been caught up. John catches glimpses, in a parenthesis passage, of the Saints in heaven, and one of the seals opens up a glimpse of souls under the alter, that represent martyrs, during the early part of this tribulation period.

The righteous dead have gone up with the rapture. The Saints of the Old Testament and the Saints of the New Testament time already have new bodies. But there are some dis-embodied souls under the alter.

Jesus once said, "what will you give in exchange for your soul?", and "what have you gained, if you gain the whole world, and lose your soul?" Don't fear him that can only hurt the body, rather fear him that can destroy both the body and soul in hell.

I don't know what the soul is, or where it's located, but the description makes it clear that there is a soul, that represents God's implantation, as he breathed into that form He created called man, and he became a living soul.

There is a period, during this tribulation period, when martyred Saints souls are seen under the altar, crying out, "how long". Now, I repeat, all the dead in Christ have already been raised. Their bodies have joined the soul, and they are up there in the four and twenty elders. Yet, there are souls, and they cry out, "how long must we wait" and "our souls cry out for vengeance" - the answer comes back - "until they are joined by others" who will be martyred like them.

There will be companies of redeemed in heaven. There will be the Old Testament Saints, redeemed by their faith, credited with the righteousness of God, because of their faith, that will be raised with the righteous Saints, who were redeemed by faith, and those two companies represent the four and twenty elders around the throne.

There will also be martyred Saints, through the tribulation, that have caused some people to foolishly think that all of the Church will go through the tribulation, and be redeemed by giving their heads. No! Some will come to the knowledge of the truth, and pay a terrible price during the tribulation, refuse to take the mark of the beast, and those are the martyrs, who will be joined by other martyrs, and out of every tongue and kindred, will form a vast multitude of martyred Saints.

There is also, 144,000 sealed children of Israel, out of every tribe of Israel, named in the book of revelation, as the twelve tribes from which He will seal twelve thousand. These are the same Jews, that in the book of Daniel are referenced as those that Michael will save, that are written in the book, that carries the list of those that God will redeem during the tribulation.

The 144,000 show up in the 7th chapter and the 14th chapter. In the 7th chapter they are on earth, protected against the demons, and in the 14th chapter, they are on Mount Zion, with the Lamb in heaven. Somewhere between the 7th and 14th chapters, they've gone up to heaven, raptured also.

I said last class, and I am on that subject now, they are the man child. There's the explanation of their rapture. In the 12th chapter of revelation, it explains why. They're on earth in the 7th chapter, through all these first three and a half year events of the great tribulation and are caught up in the middle of the week, and appear in the 14th chapter on Mount Zion.

If you can get these vast time zones you'll be able to understand this book of revelations. There are seven seals, all of which are opened in the first three and a half years, before the middle of the week, before Antichrist breaks his covenant with the Jews.

There are four trumpets that bring terrible things upon the earth, and as you move towards the middle of this final seven year period, the final three trumpets are forewarned as terrible Woes. The intensity of God's tribulation now begins to heat up in this seven year period.

The first Woe of the last three trumpets. Fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth, and to him was given the key to the bottomless pit. You would be amazed at the reputable

Biblical Scholars that identify this star as Satan. As if God would give that old rascal the key to the bottomless pit. And, pray tell, when did he give it back to the other angel who came down, seized him and put him in it?

The star that falls from heaven is one of God's angels! To him was given the keys to the bottomless pit, and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace, and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit. And there came out of the smoke locusts upon the earth.

Following them, comes the sixth trumpet, which releases the four angels that are bound by the river Euphrates. When Satan was cast down, some of his angels, that represented a third of heaven, were put into a bottomless pit, the Greek is simply Abyss, sometimes translated the pit, sometimes translated bottomless pit.

Some of them are turned loose to move about on this earth, and the great fear of those that are turned loose, throughout the gospels, where ever Jesus went, before the people ever recognized him, the demons did. He would come upon a demoniac, and demons would speak forth, immediately recognizing Jesus as the Lord of Glory.

And one of their first questions would be, "are you going to make us go back to the pit, before our time" - some are bound in places - someone tried to convince me that the four angels tied down by the river were good angels that God had tied down before he turned them loose - well, if they are goodies, I don't want to meet the badies!

Out of the smoke came locusts upon the earth, and it was commanded them that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; but only those men which have not the seal of God in their foreheads. Well, where did they get the seal? Go back to the 7th chapter.

We need to go through these seals until they are riveted in our minds. The first seal released Antichrist. The second seal released war. The third seal released famine. The fourth seal released death. The fifth seal gave a glimpse, because it released martyrdom, souls in martyrdom in the early phases of the tribulation, that's the 9th verse. The sixth seal, earthquake, the sun became black, the moon became as blood and the stars of the heavens fell. Then comes a parenthesis.

We are well into the tribulation, the sixth seal has been opened, - vs.7 - after this I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree. And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom was given to hurt the earth and the sea, saying hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads.

Now, obviously, they are on the earth. Antichrist has already come- we are clear past the sixth seal, well into the seven years. Four angels are standing by with power to hurt terribly, and much more than the six seals that have released the things that we have already just reiterated.

Don't you hurt the earth now, till we've sealed the servants of our God in their forehead. And I heard the number of them which were sealed: and there were sealed an hundred and forty and four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel.

The tribe of Dan is left out, and one of the sons of Joseph is left out, but we don't have to worry about Joseph's son, because the tribe of Joseph is sealed, and includes him. Everybody tries to figure out why Dan was left out. Answer: God wanted to leave them out. He only sealed those mentioned here, and Dan was not included. His reasons are His own, and if He wanted us to know, He would have said.

Now, back to the 9th chapter. They have already been sealed, they are on the earth, now these locusts come forth, as the first Woe, which is the sounding of the fifth trumpet. Verse 4 - And it was commanded them (the locusts) that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; but only those men which have not the seal of God in their foreheads. And to them it was given that they should not kill them - who? The unsealed men of the earth - but that they should be tormented five months - who? The unsealed men of the earth - and their torment was as the torment of a scorpion, when he striketh a man.

And in those days shall men - who? The unsealed men - seek death, and shall not find it; and shall desire to die, and death shall flee from them. And the shapes of the locusts were like unto horses prepared unto battle; and on their heads were as it were crowns like gold, and their faces were as the faces of men.

And they had hair as the hair of women, and their teeth were as the teeth of lions. (Remember that) And they had breastplates as it were breastplates of iron; and the sound of their wings was as the sound of chariots of many horses running to battle.

And they had tails like unto scorpions, and there were stings in their tails; and their power was to hurt men five months.

You won't believe what some commentators have called these creatures. Contrary to their beliefs, these are demons, and they look like locusts as described. These are the creatures that can't touch the 144,000.

Verse 11 - and they had a king over them, which is the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in the Hebrew tongue is Abaddon, but in the Greek tongue hath his name Apollyon.

One woe is past; and, behold, there come two more. I want you to pay close attention - where did the locusts go? It just says that for 5 months they can't kill anybody, and for five months they can't destroy vegetation, and for five months they can't touch the sealed ones, and for five months they sting and give pain and make people want to die.

But, what authority of scripture have we got that they leave? Those monsters are still around. There is no place that says that these locusts leave.

And the sixth angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God, saying unto the sixth angel which had the trumpet, loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates.

And the four angles were loosed, which were prepared for an hour, and a day, and a month, and a year (literally, for an exact time) for to slay a third part of men. And the number of the army of the horsemen were two hundred thousand thousand: and I heard the number of them.

And thus I saw the horses in the vision, and them that sat on them having breastplates of fire, and of jacinth, and brimstone: and the heads of the horses were as the heads of lions; and out of their mouths issued fire and smoke and brimstone.

By these three (the fire, the smoke and the brimstone) was the third part of men killed, by the fire, and by the smoke, and by the brimstone, which issued out of their mouths. For their power is in their mouth, and in their tails: for their tails were like unto serpents and had heads, and with them they do hurt.

And the rest of the men which were not killed by these plagues yet repented not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship devils, and idols of gold, and silver, and brass and stone, and of wood: which can neither see, nor hear nor walk: neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts. These are not symbols, these are real happenings.

Now comes a parenthesis - another mighty angel coming down from heaven. The second Woe, which is the sixth trumpet is passed by the 14th verse of the 11th chapter. We are still about the middle of the great tribulation week.

And the seventh angel sounded - this is the third Woe - the final three trumpets - six seals, then the seventh seal - four trumpets and then the warning, look out for the next three - we are now to the seventh trumpet - we are only half way through the great tribulation - we are going into that period of time that is the middle of the week.

The seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven saying, the kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever. And when that trumpet sounds, there is preparation, there is background, because the main happening of that seventh trumpet is in the second half of the twelfth chapter.

Michael is finally turned loose. Daniel was told, way back in the Old Testament, that Michael was the special angel assigned to thy people - the Jews. Michael was referred to, as Gabriel spoke to Daniel, as your angel. Michael was the special angel, given the assignment to look out for the people of Israel, as a people, and the city, Jerusalem.

It's Michael, as we said, that comes to wrestle with Lucifer over the body of Moses. It's Michael that comes to fight with the angel that came to answer Daniel's prayer, when he prayed twenty one days. It's Michael that comes to help and fight against the Prince of Persia, that terrible evil angel that

empowered the kingdom of the Medo-Persians, and held him at bay, so the angel Gabriel could come to Daniel and deliver the message of the seventy weeks.

But, when Michael fought with Satan, over the body of Moses, Jude, in the New Testament (you see, these are not just Old Testament fantasies) , that little book, only one chapter, tells how Michael when he fought Lucifer, wrestling for the body of Moses, dared not rail against him. It said, I rebuke you in the name of the Lord.

Lucifer was cast down from his position in heaven, but he still had access to the throne of God. He was still there, the accuser of the brethren. He was still there when the sons of God gathered and Job was brought in focus, in the Old Testament book of Job, but his seventh trumpet, the main event, announced by the seventh trumpet, which brings the rejoicing before, and after the trumpet blows. Michael is going to be turned loose to fight against the Dragon, which is Satan, and narrow his sphere, to where no longer will he have access to the heavenly's, but for a limited season, that three and a half years that remain of the great tribulation, he's going to be restricted to the earth. That's the seventh trumpet.

Rev.12: 7 - and there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, and prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. And the great Dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

Cast out where? - Into the earth!

I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, - where? In heaven - now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night. Still there, even into the tribulation. Still there to accuse, throughout the centuries.

But now he's cast down, and the brethren that had been accused, vs.11 - they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death. Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Who ? - ye heavens, and ye that dwell in THEM - the heavens, they are the only ones that can rejoice at this moment.

Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! For the devil is come down unto you having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time.

And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man child. But the woman was given two wing of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times and a half a time (3.5 years) from the face of the serpent.

This seventh trumpet begins the last three and a half years. This seventh trumpet is going to open the door to the beast coming out of the Abyss that adds his supernatural power to the rulership of Antichrist.

This last three and a half years will see Satan limited as the Dragon, to just this earth. Antichrist will break his covenant, and all Hell will break loose!

Following that seventh trumpets, will come the seven vials. The first one (Rev. 16:2), a noisome and grievous sore upon the men which had the mark of the beast, and upon them that worshiped his image.

The second angel poured out his vial upon the sea; and it became as the blood of a dead man; and every living soul died in the sea.

The third angel poured out his vial upon the rivers and fountains of waters; and they became blood.

The fourth angel poured out his vial upon the sun; and power was given unto him to scorch men with fire.

The fifth angel poured out his vial upon the seat of the beast, and his kingdom(the place where he is ruling from) was full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues for pain.

The sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared.

And unclean frogs go out of the mouth of the Beast, who is on earth and ruling. The False Prophet, who is on earth, and deceiving. The Dragon, that's Satan, whose been restricted to the earth, and these evil supernatural, frog like demons go forth to grab and bring people to a place where carcasses will lie, as the stage is set for Armageddon.

The seventh angel pours out his vial and announces that it's over.

That's all, those seven vials are the last three and a half years of tribulation. The seventh trumpet primarily announces the defeat of Satan in the heavenly's and the casting him down to the earth. Just before that seventh verse, which is encompassed in the seventh trumpet, when Michael defeats the Devil and his angels, and restricts him to the earth, is that passage we were on last class, there appeared a great wonder (sign/symbol) in heaven.

Literally a great sign or symbol. It's a symbol - A woman clothed with the sun. As I said, I've heard some teachers call this the Church, and the sun, the righteousness of Christ. And then they'll go on and say that out of this professing Church will come a man child which is either the bride, or the spirit filled saints of God, or a special bunch of over comers that make it, and the rest of the Church will have to be purified.

Hogwash! You don't clothe an impure Church with righteousness! They're either righteous and made pure by that clothing or not. They're all impure on their own merits. This is not the Church, the Church is in heaven, we have already been over this.

This woman is a symbol in heaven. And it's a symbol of something that's on earth. It is the symbol of

the restored nation Israel. During tribulation days, she being with child, cried travailing in birth and pained to be delivered.

Symbols don't have kids. The woman is a symbol of a group of people - God's people Israel, that are going to have a place prepared for them in the wilderness, prophesied by multitudinous voices in the Old Testament, who will be persecuted by Satan, in that last half of the tribulation, after he is limited to this earth.

They are already in travail, they are in great tribulation. They don't bring forth a literal man child. They bring forth a people out of themselves. Someone lesser, as a child is less than the woman, and smaller, but it's a symbol of people.

There appeared another symbol in heaven, a great red Dragon, with seven heads, and ten horns with seven crowns upon his heads. That again is a symbol - Satan doesn't look like that. The locusts and the angels at the river Euphrates, and their horseman army are not symbols, they are literal angels and demons.

This red Dragon is a symbol, as the woman is a symbol. His tail drew a third part of the stars of heaven and did cast them to the earth, and the Dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born. And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron.

And her child was caught up unto God and his throne. And the Dragon was not able to touch the child. So, when Michael threw him out of the Heavenly's, there was no child for him to persecute.

Rev.12:13 - when the dragon was cast out unto the earth, he persecuted the WOMAN, which brought forth the man child, and to the WOMAN were given two wings of a great eagle, and she went three and a half years, to hide in the wilderness. A remnant remains in Jerusalem and he will persecute them there.

This woman is Israel restored, that made the covenant with Antichrist, and in the middle of the week the covenant will be broken. The 144,000 are not going to be chosen from Jews in Africa, and south America, or diamond street in New York, because those that are sealed, are sealed in Israel. They come out of that restored nation Israel.

Those 144,000 Jews represent those saints in Daniel, that are delivered, whose names are written, in a book that God keeps, and He'll seal them, 12,000 from each tribe.

Go to Rev.20:4 - I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: (this is after Satan has been bound, and cast into the bottomless pit, and Armageddon is over, and Satan is bound 1,000 years in the pit, millennium is about to start) I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus (these are the martyred tribulation saints),

(Now, we have seen Old Testament saints that are going to rule for ever and ever in Daniel 7:18, which include the 144,000 that are going to rule. We saw in Rev.2:26, the Church is going to overcome and rule through the centuries with a rod of iron.)

Now, we see the martyred tribulation saints, who were beheaded for the witness of Jesus and the word of God, and which had not worshiped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. Reigned with Christ!

Just because the phrase says that the man child is going to rule with a rod of iron, that does not make him Jesus! Jesus is the power that has been given all dominion, and God gave Him the promise cataloged in Philippians 2, that if He would obey, obedient unto death, which bought the purchase price in full for all mankind, God would give Him a name above every name, that at the name of Jesus, every knee would bow.

Jesus is going to rule for sure, but He's going to rule through his vice regents, which includes: the twenty four elders, which includes the 144,000, which includes the martyred saints, which includes the man child. Which we have already said is the same as the 144,000.

There are two great bodies of Jews, apart from the saved Jews (there's the righteous by faith Jews who went up with the rapture, and there are those who recognize the true Messiah during tribulation, and come up with the martyred saints, but as God turns from the wild olive branch of Romans 9, back again (Romans 9, 10, 11 describes it), to the old olive tree, to finish what He started with the literal descendants of Abraham.

And those literal descendants of Abraham, during the tribulation, take the firstfruits of a restoration of the Israelites, and the firstfruits are the 144,000, the firstfruits of the religious return of the Jews that Ezekiel talks about when they build the temple during the millennium.

The 144,000 will be sealed, will become preachers of righteousness, they will be protected from these demons and all of a sudden, with out anything else being said about them, they show up in the 14th chapter in heaven.

How did they get there? They are the man child! And at the time of the seventh trumpet, before the devil comes down to destroy that man child, the child is caught up. That's how the 144,000 get there. The man child is the 144,000 in symbol! Sure they are going to rule, they come out of the woman, which is the Nation Israel, and her child is caught up unto God and to his throne.

Rev. 14 - I looked and lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Zion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Fathers name written in their foreheads. And I heard a voice from heaven, as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder: and I heard the voice of harpers harping with their harps: and they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the elders; and no man could learn that song but the 144,000, which were redeemed from the earth.

The man child caught up - Michael was fighting with Satan, and Satan was cast down to the earth when the Dragon saw that he was cast down to the earth, he persecuted the WOMAN, which brought forth the man child - vs.13. Man child is already gone. But the woman's got other kids.

To the woman was given two wing of a great eagle that she might go into the wilderness for three and a half years to a place prepared. And the serpent - the symbol of the Devil - cast out of his mouth, water, as of a flood - still symbol - peoples, his army - after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood.

But the earth helped the woman, opened up her mouth and swallowed up the flood, and she escaped to the wilderness. If you read the conquering march of Antichrist in the book of Daniel, the places that got delivered out of his hands, were Edom, Moab and Ammon.

At the time of the end, the King of the South, which is Egypt, pushes against him, and he goes now to conquer. And as he enters into that glorious land, which is Israel, many countries shall be overthrown, but these shall be delivered from out of his hands, even Edom, Moab and Ammon. That's the place that's prepared in the wilderness. There is a psalm that says to the Moabites, a song out of the prophets, when you see my people gather at your borders, welcome them in, because it their own way to obtain salvation as they provide this place in the wilderness.

So what 's the devil do? He was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed. Her other kids, a remnant that stays in Jerusalem. He's going to persecute them now.

Now let me show you something. Isaiah 66 speaks of this man child. No prophecy of scripture is of private interpretation. Verse 5: Hear the word of the Lord, ye that tremble at his word: you brethren that hated you, that cast you out for my name's sake, said, Let the Lord be glorified: but he shall appear to your joy, and they shall be ashamed.

A voice of noise from the city, a voice from the temple, a voice of the Lord that rendereth recompense to his enemies, before she travailed, she brought forth, before her pain came (that terrible pain of the last three and a half years), she was delivered of a man child.

Who has heard such a thing? Who hath seen such things? (This is the nation Israel we are talking about) Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day? Or shall a nation be born at once? For as soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her children.

Shall I bring to the birth, and not cause to bring forth? Saith the Lord: shall I cause to bring forth, and shut the womb? Saith thy God. Rejoice ye with Jerusalem, and be glad with her, all ye that love her: rejoice for joy with her, all ye that mourn for her:

And then He goes on to talk about the relationship between mother and children but the man child has already been caught up. But the rest of her children, the remnant are persecuted at Jerusalem during that last three and a half years.

Lets go to Joel. The word of the Lord that came to Joel. (Now, Joel prophesies before Amos, because Amos quotes Joel - this is prophecy before Nebuchadnezzar ever invaded the land - centuries earlier - this is prophecy before Daniel ever got his prophecy of the seventh weeks)

Hear this, ye old men, and give ear, all ye inhabitants of the land. Hath this been in your days, or even

in the days of your fathers? (Have you ever heard of anything, like I'm going to tell you now?) Tell ye your children of it (what I'm telling you now), and let your children tell their children, and their children another generation. (Which explains why Peter had it on the tip of his tongue, when the spirit fell that day, he could say to all of them - all I do is reference it here - "this is that which is spoken of by the Prophet Joel, which has come to pass in the last days")

Joel had said, tell your children, and let them tell their children, and theirs after them, something you've never heard of before.

Vs.4 - that which the palmer-worm hath left hath the locust eaten; and that which the locust hath left hath the cankerworm eaten; and that which the cankerworm left hath the caterpillar eaten. Now, these are Hebrew words. One of them means "multitudinous", the second one means "Gnawing"(like a gnawing, biting rat), the third word means "licker", like an anteater, sucking it in, and the fourth word means "devourer"- one who chews up and devours.

They hunted for human, or earthly analogies, but the words have their roots. Here comes a multitudinous army gnawing, licking and devouring.

Vs.5 - awake, ye drunkards, and weep; and howl, all ye drinkers of wine, because of the new wine; for it is cut off from your mouth. For a nation has come up upon my land, strong, and without number, whose teeth are the teeth of a lion, and he hath the cheek teeth of a great lion.

He hath laid my vine waste, and barked my fig tree: he hath made it clean bare, and cast it away; the branches thereof are made white. Lament like a virgin girded with sackcloth for the husband of her youth. (Is dead) The meat offering and the drink offering is cut off from the house of the Lord; the priests, the Lord's ministers, mourn.

The field is wasted, the land mourneth; for the corn is wasted: the new wine is dried up, the oil languisheth. Be ye ashamed, O ye husbandmen; howl, O ye vine dressers, for the wheat and for the barley; because the harvest of the field is perished.

Vs.13 - Gird yourselves, and lament, ye priests: howl, ye ministers of the altar: come, lie all night in sackcloth, ye ministers of my God: for the meat offering and the drink offering is withholden from the house of your God. Sanctify ye a fast, call a solemn assembly, gather the elders and all the inhabitants of the land into the house of the Lord your God, and cry unto the Lord.

(Now there will be a temple built during the Tribulation, when Israel thinks they have peace, and Antichrist has made a covenant with them. That temple will be desecrated in the middle of the week. There will be another temple, the one that Ezekiel saw, built during the millennium. So, there will be a temple.)

Vs.15 - Alas for the day! For the day of the Lord is at hand, and as a destruction from the Almighty shall it come(the great tribulation is upon them). Is not the meat cut off before our eyes, yea, joy and gladness from the house of our God?

I don't want to write out the whole book of Joel, but you read it, and then wonder as I, how did the Jews miss the truth? Here is Joel, and in Daniel and Ezekiel, God wrote in prophecy, without the

detail.

Now, as God closes the New Testament, he takes old John, on the Isle of Patmos, and fills in the details. To show the blindness of people, every Jew if he had laid down the book of revelation, and read it along side his prophecy, he would know who the Messiah is!

But they are going to be blinded until it takes this kind of treatment to bring them into repentance. Joel 2:17 - Let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, spare thy people, O Lord, and give not thine heritage to reproach, that the heathen should rule over them: wherefore should they say among the people, where is there God? Then will the Lord be jealous for his land, and pity his people.

Yea, the Lord will answer and say unto his people, Behold, I will send you corn, and wine and oil, and ye shall be satisfied therewith: and I will no more make you a reproach among the heathen: But I will remove from off from you the northern army, and will drive him (the northern army) into the land barren and desolate, with his face toward the east sea, and his hinder part toward the utmost sea, and his stink shall come up, and his ill savor shall come up, because he hath done great things.

Fear not, O land; be glad and rejoice: for the Lord will do great things. Vs. 28 - and it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions: (now, that's the quote that Peter lifted - and it's become the basis for some to try to put all of the prophecies of the seventy weeks, prior to acts 2.

The principle of double fulfillment lets you pick out of prophecies as Jesus did, when he walked into the Synagogue on the feast of the Tabernacles, and said this part is fulfilled in you ears. G. Campbell Morgan translated Acts chapter 2 and he has what I feel is the best translation - He says: When the day of Pentecost BEGAN to be fulfilled - Pentecost is the feast of Harvest, that opens up the beginning of the harvest of souls that God intended to bring into the Kingdom. The KINGDOM, not to heaven! Jews get the kingdom.

It was the germinated beginning of Joel's last day prophecies, but the first focus of Joel's prophecy is not that day of Pentecost, not even now. You haven't seen this yet have you?

Vs.29 - and also upon the servants upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit. And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the Lord come.

We just read what happened in Revelation. This is a scene of the Tribulation time.

Joel 3:2 - I will also gather all nations, and will bring them down into the valley of Jehoshaphat, and will plead with them there for my people are for my heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations, and parted my land.

Joel 3:6 - The children of Judah and the children of Jerusalem have ye sold unto the Grecians, and that ye might remove them far from their borders.

I told you that the area of that Antichrist comes out of is the Seleucid portion of the old Grecian Empire, the seventh kingdom on the land out of Babylon - the Hashemite Kingdom - that's why this 6th verse of Joel is asking if they have sold unto the Grecians.

This is before Nebuchadnezzar; this is before Cyrus the great, and the Medo-Persians, and centuries before Alexander the great and the Grecian Empire. That's why they try to make Joel history instead of Prophecy, but it won't work, because Amos quoted him, and so did Isaiah.

This is way back there in prophecy, yet he saw Antichrist, ruled by the Prince of Grecia, and Judah sold to him.

3:9 - Proclaim ye this among the Gentiles, Prepare war, wake up the mighty men, let all the men of the war draw near; let them come up: beat your plowshares into swords, and your pruning hooks into spears: let the weak say, I am strong.

Assemble yourselves, and come, all ye heathen, and gather yourselves together round about: thither cause thy might ones to come down, O Lord. Let the heathen be wakened, and come up to the valley of Jehoshaphat for there will I sit to judge all the heathen round about.

Put ye in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe: come, get you down: for the press is full, the vats overflow; for their wickedness is great. Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision - literal is valley of pressures. Do you know what is going to happen?

Revelation 19 is going to happen - Joel 3:16 - The Lord also shall roar out of Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the heavens and the earth shall shake: but the Lord will be the hope of his people, and the strength of the children of Israel.

And John saw heaven open, Jesus sitting on a white horse, the saints behind him, He comes to execute righteous judgment, the demons, and the angels from the Euphrates, and the horsemen, and the beast, and the false prophet, and the kings of the earth and their armies and every other kind of beast that is on the scene, are slain on the plain of Megiddo.

And the scripture says, and don't try to spiritualize it, the blood will flow to the bridle - 4 feet deep for 200 miles - as out of the mouth of Jesus - you say, do you believe that? - well, if He spoke, and out of nothing, the whole universe became everything, I don't think He will have any trouble speaking and materializing a sword, that in an instant, will slay all the kings, and all the captains and all the mighty men, and all the horsemen and all that sat upon them and the horses, till the blood flow 200 miles, 4 feet deep.

And they spend month on top of month cleaning up the mess as the northern army leaves a stench of it's dead body behind it, and retreats into that desert area, which brings me to Gog and Magog, which is the next class, with a few more words on Joel.

There is a great day coming folks, we're coming back with Jesus, and let nobody trouble you, as Paul said to the Thessalonians, with rumors that Antichrist had come, for he cannot come to power till there be a catching away first, and he that restrains him, which is the church, will restrain him, until he be taken out of the way, then shall that man of sin be revealed.

Some say that's the Holy Spirit. Well, they have a right to be wrong. The Holy Spirit is still here. The Holy Spirit empowers the two witnesses; the Holy Spirit gives the strength to the 144,000. God is not ever going to leave - the only place He leaves a vacuum with none of His Spirit is in that bottomless pit, and He holds the key to it.

Don't have the Holy Spirit disappear - it's the Church! The raptured Saints, and the dead in Christ of all ages that go up with them. But it's the church that restrains Antichrist, the first seal can't open until the Lord says "Come up hither", as He said to John in the 4th Chapter.

Then come the seven seals, and the seven trumpets, and when the seventh trumpet comes, up goes the man child, the 144,000. Then comes the three and a half years, and that great northern army, will descend, as we have seen, the woman will flee to the wilderness, a remnant will be persecuted and as they gather in Megiddo, the Lord will come with thousands of His Saints to execute judgment, then comes millennium and Satan and all of his bunch are back into that bottomless pit for a 1000 years, but we are still not done with that northern army.

REVELATION PART IX

Gog & Magog

My point in using Revelation as part of this teaching was to demonstrate that God used this book as a summation of the conclusion of both His covenants, the one with the Church, and the one with the Jews.

We found the record of the Church in the first three chapters, and the conclusion of the age of the Church in the fourth and fifth chapters. Then from chapter six on, is the record of the horrifying events that lead to the conclusion of the covenant of the Jews.

This entire teaching, from the beginning, through Daniel, to the fifth chapter in Revelation, has been a teaching on the faithfulness of God to His word.

I have found that Christianity today lacks the understanding of just how faithful to His word, God really is. I have tried to develop a sound basis for any Christian who takes the time to really study this series of teachings, to come to that knowledge and understanding.

Through understanding the faithfulness of God to His word, by seeing the historical side to the prophecies, and how faithfully, and meticulously God wove the history of man to conform to His plan, one would come to the realization that His plan for the closing of the Church Age, at the Rapture will be carried out with an equal amount of meticulous care and precision. So, one could expect to find an equal amount of attention paid to the Rapture in scripture, demonstrating how it's woven into the fabric of God's word.

God is not a man that He should lie, neither the son of man that He should repent, hath He not said and shall He not do or hath He spoken, and shall He not make it good?

My purpose is to teach the understanding of what scripture reveals about the Rapture, because to a Christian, that is the time when their redemption comes to pass. If God only wanted Christians to just be ready for the Rapture to occur at a moment in time that is imminent, I believe that He would have said so, and left it at that.

But, scripture reveals that He spent a lot of time weaving the plan of the catching away into the way He closes the covenants that He made. And to understand it, it must be studied, and then passed on by those who come to clearly see what it is that God did reveal in scripture about the Rapture.

And, when one sees the veracity with which God sticks to His word in prophecy, then maybe, it will build enough trust in Him, to believe that what He says He's going to do, at the time of the end for the Church, at the Rapture, will come to pass precisely as He reveals it. That's my point. I hope I have made it!

Since we will be gone, nothing after chapter five makes any difference to us, the Christians who were Raptured. But, there is a lot of myth and confusion that has been spread about this book, and I hope

that in my explanation I have managed to dispel some of them.

There is still one, that is a pet of mine that I have not explained, and so I am going to attempt to do that in this final chapter of this teaching. Gog and Magog.

To get the proper understanding, we need to turn to Ezekiel 37.

The hand of the Lord was upon me, and carried me out in the spirit of the Lord, and set me down in the midst of the valley which was full of bones, and caused me to pass by them round about: and, behold, there were very many in the open valley; and, lo, they were very dry.

And He said unto me, Son of man, can these bones live? And I answered, O Lord God, thou knowest. Again He said unto me, Prophecy upon these bones, and say unto them, O ye dry bones, hear the word of the Lord.

Thus saith the Lord God unto these bones; Behold, I will cause breath to enter into you and ye shall live: and I will lay sinews upon you, and will bring up flesh upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and ye shall live; and ye shall know that I am the Lord.

So I prophesied as I was commanded: and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and behold a shaking, and the bones came together, bone to his bone. And, when I beheld, lo, the sinews and the flesh came up upon them, and the skin covered them above: but there was no breath in them.

Then said He unto me, prophecy unto the wind, prophecy, son of man, and say to the wind, Thus saith the Lord God; Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.

So, I prophesied as He commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood up upon their feet, an exceeding great army. Then He said unto me, Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel: behold, they say, Our bones are dried, and our hope is lost: we are cut off for our parts.

Therefore prophecy and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, O my people, I will open your graves, and cause you to come up out of your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel.

Now, Ezekiel is to prophesy to ISRAEL. Before he begins his prophesying God picked him up from the river Chebar and carried him to where ever the house of ISRAEL had been carried. We are not talking about the house of Judah, he was with them.

God called Ezekiel, a priest, who was part of the captives, a descendant of the house of Zadok, by the River Chebar, captured by the Babylonians. But God called him to be a prophet to the last house of ISRAEL. And God picked him up, and took him to where ever THEY were, and the scripture says, it was a vast plain.

And, he remained there, astonished, among them for seven days, so he could preach with some awareness that they were very much alive. Now God gives him this message, preparatory to the

messages that will talk of the great cleansing that's to come during the millennium. From the 40th chapter onward, he becomes the voice of the future millennium. Reconstituted worship, reconstituted land, reconstituted government - millennium time.

A prelude to that, is the battle of Armageddon. Getting a people ready for that, who centuries ago, had already thought they were dead, settled on the eastern borders of the Assyrian Empire. But, God says tell them this - this is what's going to happen.

Your graves are going to open! When, He doesn't say - but, we are able to determine it better than them. Your graves are going to open, and I will bring you into the land of Israel. They weren't in it, they were in bondage.

Vs.13 - Ye shall know that I am the Lord, when I have opened your graves, O my people, and brought you up out of your graves.

He has already explained what that grave is. A state of mind, we are lost, we are cut off, exactly what God said that He would do to them through Hosea. But you shall know that I am the Lord when I bring you out of that lostness, out of that cut off place, and return you to the land of Israel, which the ten tribe house of Israel had never done through the centuries, till the beginnings of recent years.

Ye shall know when I have opened your graves, O my people, and brought you up out of your graves. And shall put my spirit in you, and ye shall live, and I shall place you in your own land: then shall ye know that I the Lord has spoken it, and performed it, saith the Lord.

Vs. 15 - The word of the Lord came again unto me, saying, moreover, thou son of man, take thee one stick, and write upon it, For Judah, and for the children of Israel his companions: (you see, Judah, the southern kingdom, when it was carried into bondage into Babylon, included many of the people of the ten tribe kingdom to the north, who had fled south, as well as others who had come simply to worship in the Temple in Jerusalem.

The specifics here are very careful. Judah is the nation, the southern three tribe kingdom. One stick for Judah and the children of Israel, his companions. When they came back, after Babylonian captivity, under Joshua and Zerebeble, they were able to find a handful of descendants from most of the tribes, companions of Judah. One stick for Judah and the children of Israel, his companions.)

Then, take another stick, and write upon it, For Joseph, the stick of Ephraim, and for ALL the house of Israel, his companions.

(You see, SOME children of Israel, the sons of Jacob, are companions of Judah, but ALL the house of Israel, All of it, is companion to Ephraim, Joseph, the ten tribe kingdom. A lot of people who read the Bible don't understand that more people went into bondage in Assyria, conquered by Sanaccarib, than came back from Babylon to resettle Jerusalem.

Before Babylon came to conquer Jerusalem, the heart of the Judaic Kingdom had been gutted. Most of the cities of Judah had also been conquered by the conqueror of the ten tribe kingdom to the north. In one campaign, over 200,000 citizens of Judah were carried into bondage in Assyria. There was no

portion of the house of Israel that was not companions of the house of Ephraim.)

Vs. 17 - and join them one to another into one stick; and they shall become one in thine hand. And when the children of thy people shall speak unto thee, saying, Wilt thou not shew us what thou meanest by these?

Say unto them, Thus saith the lord God; Behold, I will take the stick of Joseph, which is in the hand of Ephraim, and the TRIBES of Israel his fellows, and will put them with him, even with the stick of Judah, and make them one stick, and they shall be one in mine hand.

And the sticks whereon thou writest shall be in thine hand before their eyes. And say unto them, thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I will take the children of Israel from among the heathen, whither they be gone, and will gather them on every side, and bring them into their own land: and I will make them one nation in the land upon the mountains of Israel; and one king shall be king to them all: and they shall be no more two nations, neither shall they be divided into two kingdoms any more at all; Neither shall they defile themselves any more with their idols, nor with their detestable things, nor with any of their transgressions: but I will save them out of all their dwelling-places, wherein they have sinned, and will cleanse them: so shall they be my people, and I will be their God.

And David my servant shall be king over them; and they all shall have one shepherd: they shall also walk in my judgements, and observe my statutes, and do them. And they shall dwell in the land that I have given unto Jacob my servant, wherein your fathers have dwelt; and they shall dwell therein, even they, and their children, and their children's children for ever: and my servant David shall be their prince for ever.

You see, David's dynasty could never be allowed to die.

Vs. 26 - moreover I will make a covenant of peace with them; it shall be an everlasting covenant with them; and I will place them, and multiply them, and will set my sanctuary in the midst of them for ever more. (They may not have peace in the world, but God will have peace with them)

My tabernacle also shall be with them; yea, I will be their God, and they shall be my people. And the heathen shall know that I the Lord do sanctify Israel, when my sanctuary shall be in the midst of them for evermore. They are going to build another temple, as you know. There is no such thing as chapter and verse. The next prophecy brings us to Armageddon

Ch.38: And the word of the Lord came unto me saying, Son of man, set thy face against Gog, the land of Magog, the prince, chief of Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him, and say thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I am against thee, O Gog, the prince, chief of Meshech and Tubal: and I will turn thee back and put hooks into thy jaws, and I will bring thee forth, and all thine army, horses and horsemen, all of them clothed with all sorts of armor, even a great company with bucklers and shields, all of them handling swords.

Today's understanding of the territory of the land of Magog is that this refers to Russia. But, I don't think that is the case. Although the territory of Magog was occupied by, and was once a part of the

USSR, history has seen to it, that what used to be is no longer the case. These territories are all Moslem territories.

The study that I have done in this area is reflected best in the work of Carl Ludwigson, a Hebrew scholar that points out that the land of Magog, along with the lands of Syria, Togarmah (Turkey), Meshech and Tubal, were all doing business with Tyre, six centuries before Christ. That territory was part of the Moslem Empire also, and as such, carries more weight in that context than does Russia, when it comes to this prophecy. (You can read the work of Carl Ludwigson in an article I wrote called the Nations of Ezekiel 38.

According to Carl, the Hebrew word "rosh" is translated "head", or "chief", 423 times in the Old Testament. "Rosh" is not Russia. The word "nish", or prince has the accent which is disjunctive and indicates a pause.

The correct Hebrew translation of Ezekiel 38:3, should read: "Behold, I am against thee, O Gog, the prince, (pause) chief of Meshech and Tubal.

All atlases of the Bible printed before the 1940's show the land of Magog to be in the northern part of Iraq, just north of Baghdad, and Meshech and Tubal are in the area that today is Turkey and portions of northern Syria as well as northern Iraq.

From this it's clear that Gog (Antichrist, the Chief Prince), will be from Iraq and that he will become the Chief Prince (once again) of that portion of Turkey and the northern part of Syria along with Iraq, which again is the former Seleucid/Hashemite Kingdom, the kingdom grown out of the Moslem Empire, the seventh Empire on the land out of Babylon.

The seventh kingdom, represented by the Feet, on Nebuchadnezzar's great image, historically, becomes the Moslem Empire (which was also split into two parts), and the toes, growing out of that Empire will be kingdoms, loosely united, from within the Roman portion of the Grecian Kingdom, that will fulfill the remainder of the prophecy of Daniel and Revelation.

This prophecy is describing the Antichrist's kingdom! Gog, the spiritual prince, who is the chief of the lands that describe the Seleucid/Hashemite Kingdom, is who God is against, not Russia. It's Antichrist who comes down on Israel, not Russia. Russia may be allied to these nations, but in the end, Antichrist double crosses them all, and they wind up at Armageddon.

This is borne out in the correct Hebrew translation of Ezekiel 38:3, which should read: "Behold, I am against thee, O Gog, the prince, (pause) chief of Meshech and Tubal. (Gog is the Prince of Grecia - out of the pit) And I will turn thee back, and put hooks into thy jaws, and I will bring thee forth - It's God who will control the movements of Antichrist.

God turns the Antichrist back when He swallows up the army chasing the Jews into their hiding place in the wilderness, and then puts a hook in his jaw and brings him forth (Michael gives Satan the boot) to continue his outrageousness (Satan was wroth with the woman, so he went and kicked over their altar, and proclaimed himself as God, in God's temple, and slaughtered the remnant of them in Jerusalem who were worshiping Christ) until it leads to the show down at Armageddon. Frankly,

what does Russia have to do with any of that? The Antichrist would have to be Russia?

How long is it going to take everyone to come to the realization that this all comes down to the Jews against the Muslims, and who, is defending who, at the final battle. So, all the nations will be involved in the conflict.

But this can only happen in a time when the United States and Briton, Ephriam and Manasseh, come together, committed to Israel's life and security. It's at that time that the ten kings out of the old Roman area, will have come to power, and the little horn will have grown, but not yet fully matured.

Well, here we are, occupying the time for this to come to pass. The United States and Briton have linked arms over the issue of Israel's security, and peace in the region, and stand committed with the blessing of their countries.

The kings of the region have met and agreed on peace in the area amongst them, and have given their power of attorney, to the Hashemite King, to represent the Moslem interests, in negotiating the peace with the Jews. There are three dissenters among the ten. Tension mounts in every direction in the Mideast, and lines are being drawn in the sand. This will all lead to a false peace. That peace is on the table presently, and has arrived at the stage tagged, "final Status talks".

By anyone's definition of "sanity" , this territorial dispute should be over and done with. The greatest powers on earth are unable to apply enough pressure to have their way. Something is definitely standing in the way

Folks, Daniel is coming to pass before our very eyes - we have reached the edge of time! The vision of these events were locked up in time, by God, to be seen only when it was their time to occur. Our time is the time for the fulfillment of Daniel's seventieth week to begin!

The evidence of what has happened, since the formation of the state of Israel, which was the event that began the era, of the future end time of the Jews, to the present day, continues the fulfillment of prophecy that comes right out of the history of the region as spoken in Daniel.

Time is marching on, and the events that occur in time are merely the present state of the past history. God left us a ton of prophecy about this time so we would recognize it when it came upon us.

But, just like the first coming of the Messiah, by the time the time came for it to occur, the prophecies that preceded him, were lost in other meanings, so they missed Him. This time, He will get their attention.

And, for the Christian, living at this time, it has to be the most joyous time of their lives - but it's not! I wonder why?

I'm sorry, but the Church leaders and the present day Prophecy Gurus should be getting their congregations watching this end time drama, and have them rejoicing with one another, singing in the day of their redemption, as Paul commanded.

But, instead, they are locked into what they think is the fact, that Russia is going to come down on Israel, and the Antichrist comes from Europe! I'm sorry, but scripture says different, and the proof of the matter is playing out on the ground, right in front of your eyes this very minute!

Most importantly, the mainstream Church has not studied the Rapture. They are getting very mixed messages about the Rapture, simply because they are uninformed or misinformed by these same popular gurus who have Russia and Europe mixed up.

Very few are taking a stand and waking up the Church to the reality of the Biblical time we now occupy, and how close we really are to our redemption.

I pray that this teaching has been a blessing to you and that you respond to God's call - Pass on the light, and support this Ministry.

Thank you and God bless