Tribute to the Bible

This Book contains – “The mind of God, the state of man, way of salvation, doom of sinners, and the happiness of believers.

Its doctrines are holy, its precepts are binding, its histories are true, and its decisions are immutable.

Read it to be wise, believe it to be safe, and practice it to be holy.

It contains light to direct you, food to support you, and comfort to cheer you.

It is the traveler’s map, the pilgrim’s staff, the pilot’s compass, the soldier’s sword, and the Christian’s charter.

Christ its grand subject, our good its design, and the glory of God its end.

It should fill the memory, rule the heart, and guide the feet.

Read it slowly, frequently, prayerfully.

It is a mine of wealth, a paradise of glory, and a river of pleasure.

It is given you in life, will be opened at the Judgment, and be remembered forever.

It involves the highest responsibility, rewards the greatest labor, and condemns all who trifle with its holy contents.

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How to Study the Bible

(Bible Study #1)

"But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asks you a reason of the hope that is within you with meekness and with fear." **1Peter 3:15**

Remember: The Bible was written for our admonition and learning that we through comfort of the scriptures might have Hope. **(Romans15:4 / I Corinthains10:11**)

1SB - Philippians 4:6 Pray in all things.

2SB - John 16:13 Pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. (reference: **Psalm 119:18, 34, 66**)

3SB - Acts 17:11 Receive the Word with openness of mind, searching it daily.

4SB - 2Timothy 2:15 Study/rightly dividing the Word of Truth – **IN ITS CONTEXT!**
(**1 Thess. 5:21** Prove all things)

5SB - 1Corinthians 2:13 Comparing Spiritual things with Spiritual.

6SB - Isaiah 28:10 Line upon line, precept upon precept. (Compare scripture with scripture.)

7SB - Ephesians 6:6 Seek to do the will of God from the heart. (reference: **John 17:7**)

The Bible
(Bible Study #2)

1TB – Amos 3:7 God chose holy men who were dedicated to Him to be His penmen.

2TB – 2 Peter 1:19-21 Through these selected individuals God gave His revelations.

3TB – 2 Timothy 3:15-17 The Holy Scriptures are **inspired** by God.

4TB – John 5:39 Jesus admonishes us to study the scriptures so we will **know** Him.

5TB – Luke 24:27 Prophecy helps us to believe. (Ref. **John 14:29**)

6TB – John 17:17 The Word of God **IS** the **SOURCE** of **Truth**. Through it, we are sanctified.

7TB – Hebrews 4:12 God's word discerns the intents of the heart.

8TB – Psalm 119:11 The Word in our hearts, keeps us from sinning. (**Proverbs 30:5** A shield)

9TB – Matthew 4:2-10 Jesus overcame the devil through the Word of God.

10TB - 2 Peter 1:4 Through the promises of God we become partakers of His nature.

11TB - Psalm 119:105 God's Word is a lamp and light to guide us through life.

12TB - Luke 11:28 A blessing for those who obey (**Matthew 4:4**) all the word of God.

God The Father

(Bible Study #3)

1GF - Psalm 90:1, 2 He is and has always been / from everlasting to everlasting

2GF - Daniel 2:20,21 All powerful and wise / sets kingdoms up, tears them down

3GF - Isaiah 46:10 Declares the end from the beginning

4GF - Genesis 1:1 All powerful Creator

5GF - Psalm 19:1 The heavens reveal His Glory

6GF - 1John 4:8, 16 God is love. **Jeremiah 31:3** He draws us with loving kindness. (***Romans 2:4**)

7GF - John 14:8, 9; 10:30 We can know God through Jesus. (**John16:27** The Father loves you.)
Mark 1:41 Jesus is moved with compassion for our needs. (**Mark 5:36**)

8GF - Exodus 34:6,7 Longsuffering, Gracious, Merciful… (**Micah 7:18, 19**)

9GF - Lamentations 3:21-26 His mercies are new every morning

10GF- Isaiah 41:10 Promises to be there and strengthen us in every trial

11GF- Hebrews 13:5, 6 He promises never to leave us nor forsake us

12GF- Romans 8:31, 32 He gave His own son for us (**John 3:16, 17**)
He gave Jesus to save you and me. Have you received Him as Lord of your life?

Our Need of A Savior

(Bible Study #4)

1ONS - Romans 5:12 All humanity was created in Adam so all are affected by his sin. (**Genesis 3:6**)

2ONS - Psalm 51:5 We were born with a sinful nature.

3ONS - Jeremiah 17:9 Our hearts are deceitful**.**

4ONS - Isaiah 53:6 We've all gone astray; it affects us all.

5ONS - Romans 3:10-12 (**Ref. Isaiah 64:6**) As a result of the fall all are unrighteous.

6ONS - Romans 8:6-8 The carnal mind is in opposition to God's law.

7ONS – John 8:34 Apart from Christ, we are servants (slaves) of sin.

8ONS – **John 15:5** Without Christ we can do nothing.

<u>There is good news:</u>

9ONS - 1 Timothy 1:15 Why did Jesus come into the world.

10ONS - John 8:36 Freedom from the slavery of sin is found only is Jesus. When we are in Christ sin will not have dominion over us – **Romans 6:14**

11ONS- Proverbs 28:13 Confesses and forsakes will have mercy.

12ONS- John 1:12 By faith we receive power to become God's children.

Salvation
(Bible Study # 5)

OUR CONDITION:

1 Romans 3:23 Everyone of us has sinned.

2 Jeremiah 13:23 We cannot change ourselves.

3 Romans 6:23 The wages of sin is death, but God's gift is eternal life.

GOD'S REMEDY:

4 John 3:16, 17 God so loved the world that He gave…

5 1 John 5:11-13 He who has the Son has life.

6 Ezekiel 36:26-28 Christ will give us a new heart.

7 John 3:1-7 We must be born of water and of the Spirit. What does Christ mean by the water? **V. 23** (**Matthew 3:13-16**) He is our example – **1 John 2:6**

IT'S YOUR CHOICE:

8 1 John 1:9 Acts 2:36-38 Repentance comes before baptism

9 Romans 10:9-11 If we believe (belief or faith is active; it will be seen in obedience to God's will found in His Word) with the heart and confess with our mouth.

10 Revelation 3:20 "Behold I stand at the door and knock…" (**Acts 22:14-16**)

Knowing Jesus

(Bible Study # 6)

1KJ - John 17:3 Eternal life is given to those who love, trust, and know Jesus Christ.

<u>The Bible teaches us that there are 4 ways in which you and I can know the Lord.</u>

2KJ - John 5:39 Through His word that we come to know Jesus. ***Luke 24:27** (**2 Peter 3:18**)
Grow in grace and the knowledge of Jesus Christ /**1 Peter 2:2** Through His word.
Job 22:21 "Acquaint now yourself with Him…"

3KJ - Matthew 6:6 Through prayer we talk to God and tell Him what is on our heart.
His eyes are upon us and He hears our prayers (**1 Peter 3:12**)

4KJ - 1 Samuel 24:17-19 (Share the setting: cave at Engedi. David could have killed Saul but did not. We can also learn what God is like through the words and actions of others. (**John 4:39** Women at the well who told others)

5KJ - Job12:7-10 Nature testifies of its' Creator. ***Psalms 19:1-3** The heavens declare the glory of God.

<u>The 4 ways we can know God are</u>:

1. By reading His Word
2. Talking to Him – prayer
3. Through others
4. Through nature

6KJ - Jeremiah 29:11-13 As we come seeking we will find, because He has promised!
Exodus 34:6,7 His character. **John 6:37** The one who comes to Christ will not be cast off.

7KJ - Joshua 5:13, 14 We come seeking to know His will. (**Ps. 32:8** He'll teach us His ways)

8KJ - Psalm 5:3 Seek Him 1st thing in the morning. **Psalms 143:8-10** His loving kindness in A.M.
Psalms 55:17 <u>We will seek His presence all day long</u>.
"We ought to see the face of God every morning before we see the face of man." *D.L. Moody*

9KJ - Mark 1:35 Christ's life is an example (**I John 2:6**) to us today.

10KJ-<u>The Subjects of our Meditation</u>: Psalm 119:148 Study of God's word

1. **Psalms 104:34; 63:5-7** The goodness of God to me and others.
2. **Psalms 77:12; 143:5; 25:5** God's works, ways, and truth
3. **Psalms 1:2; 119:97, 23** Not just the letter but the Spirit of His Holy Law.

11KJ- Genesis 18:17-19 Abraham's commitment to God lead to a life of obedience.
He walked in harmony with God's will. (**Genesis 22:16-18**)

12KJ- 1 Peter 2:9 Our lives will also show forth His praises as He re-forms us into His image (*** Colossians 3:10***)

The life of the Converted Christian

(Bible Study # 7)

1LC - Acts 16:25-31 Believe and you shall be saved. **Romans 12:3** To each has been given a measure of faith.

2LC - James 2:21-23 Faith is active – harmony with the will of God. ***Ephesians 4:22-24**

<u>What are the characteristics of the converted Christian</u>?

3LC - Deuteronomy 6:5 They have yielded their hearts to Christ. **Psalm 139:23, 24** Search me

4LC - Proverbs 30:5 They recognize the authority and importance of God's Word. (**Romans 10:17**)

5LC - 1 Kings 20:4 "I am yours, and all that I have." Humbly submit all to Him.

6LC - Exodus 3:4 "Here am I." They seek daily to give God their undivided attention.

7LC - Ephesians 5:17, 10 They come to the Bible to understand what His will is, "Proving what is acceptable unto the Lord"

8LC - Romans 2:13 He applies the word to his life.

9LC - John 15:7, 8 Abiding in Him, the Christian abides in His words.

10LC- 1 John 4:17, 18 They are bold in Christ and fear has lost its power.

11LC- Ephesians 5:1 The believer will seek to imitate Jesus.

12LC- Psalm 40:8 Their greatest joy will be to do His will.

13LC - Hebrews 11:5 We will daily seek to live a life that is pleasing to God.

Christ; Our Example
(Bible Study #8)

1CE - 1 John 2:6 We will live the way He lived. (**1 Peter 2:21**) How did He live?

2CE - John 8:29 He lived to please the Father. (**2 Timothy 2:4**)

3CE - John 13:34, 35 Love one another as I have loved you…
John 3:16 He taught us how to love

4CE - John 11:40, 41 / Mark 4:39 He taught us how to have faith

5CE - Luke 23:34 Jesus loved His enemies (**Matthew 5:44**)

6CE - Matthew 4:4 We are to live by the Word like He did.

7CE - Luke 4:16, 31, 44; 13:10 / Mark 6:2 Jesus attended church / Sabbath

8CE - Luke 11:1-13 Christ taught us how to pray

9CE - 1 Peter 2:22 (**Rev. 14:5**) No guile (deceit) in Christ or His followers

10CE- Matthew 3:15, 16 Christ gave us an example to follow Him in Baptism

11CE- Matthew 9:36 Compassionate, caring, considerate.

12CE- Matthew 27:34 Put nothing in us that would defile (**1 Cor. 6:19, 20**)

13CE- Romans 12:1, 2; 13:14 Don't be conformed to this world.
Matthew 7:26, 27 If we follow the world and do not obey, our house will fall.

14CE- 2 Corinthians 3:18 By beholding we become changed.

15CE- John 14:6 The Way, The Truth, The Life! We can't go wrong!

The Holy Spirit
(Bible Study #9)

1HS - John 14:16, 17, 26 Jesus promises to send the H.S. Who is He and what is His work?
2HS - Matthew 28:19 Equal with the Father and the Son. (**2 Corinthians 13:14**)
He was present and active at creation (**Genesis 1:2**) He has a mind (**Romans 8:27**)
3HS - Luke 1:35 Actively involved in Christ's birth. (**Matthew 3:16, 17** At His Baptism)
4HS - Acts 5:3, 4 Lying to the Holy Spirit is lying to God.
5HS - Acts 13:2 Took strong active role in early church.

(He is God)

6HS - John 15:26; 16:7 Sent now in Christ's place to be with His followers.
7HS - John 16:13, 14 He is a teacher, guiding us into all truth.
8HS - John 16:8-11 He Convicts of sin, righteousness, and judgment.
9HS - John 14:16 He is the Comforter. (Counselor – NIV and RSV)
10HS -Psalm 139:7-10 None can escape His influence. (**John 3:8** not with observation)
11HS -1 Samuel 10:6, 9, 10 The Spirits' influence changes the heart.
12HS -Genesis 6:3 The Spirit strives with us to do what is right. He can be grieved **Eph. 4:30**

(His work and influence)

13HS -1 Samuel 16:23 (**1 Sam. 15:22, 23**) Saul had rejected the Lord, he became depressed.
14HS -1 Kings 22:6-8 Conviction can bring anger, hatred, resentment, etc.
15HS –Acts 24:24, 25 (**Acts 26:24-29**) There are times when we run from conviction.
16HS -Acts 2:36, 37 They felt guilt and remorse and sought forgiveness.

(Our response)

17HS –John 3:5 In order to receive eternal life we must be born of the Spirit.
18HS – Luke 11:9-13 Jesus wants us to receive the Holy Spirit.

(Appeal)

When someone is filled with His Spirit, they will exhibit these attributes:

Isaiah 8:20 – They will agree with scripture, being taught by the Holy Spirit (**John 14:26**).

Matthew 7:17 – Will bring forth good fruit; the fruits of the Spirit (**Galatians 5:22-24**).

1 John 4:6 – They know God and hear His Truth.

John 8:47 – They hear God's Words and does His will (**Matthew 7:21**).

1 John 4:8 – They love others.

Origin of Evil
(Bible Study # 10)

1E - Genesis 1:31 The world was "very good" when God created it.

2E - Ezekiel 28:12-15 Before his fall, Satan was called Lucifer. He was an "anointed "cherub; perfect and beautiful before he fell.

3E - Isaiah 14:12-14 Lucifer fell because wanted to be God and raise above his creator. Satan allowed pride into his heart which brought sin. Middle of sin and pride is I!

4E - Revelation 12:4, 7-9 When Lucifer fell, his name was changed to Satan and he took a third of the angels with him.

5E - Genesis 3:1-6 Satan **deceived** Adam and Eve and sin came into the world. He overcame Eve by causing her to doubt God and His Word. They **choose** to disobey the Lord. It brought pain, death, suffering, etc. The wages of sin is death – **Romans 6:23**

6E - Matthew 13:24-28, 37-39 Satan planted evil in this world.
Galatians 5:19-21 The seeds that Satan plants: Adultery, fornication ("immorality"), uncleanness ("impurity"), lasciviousness ("unbridled lust"), Idolatry, witchcraft ("sorcery"), hatred, variance ("hostility"), emulations ("jealousy"), wrath, strife, seditions ("division"), heresies ("factions"), envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings ("carousings"). (Rebellion- **I Samuel 15:22, 23**) His work is to destroy – **John 10:10** / How he trips us up - **Luke 8:5-15**
Acts 24:24, 25 Satan seeks to get us to put off conviction so that we will be lost.

7E - Genesis 3:15 God promised to put enmity (hatred) between those who follow Jesus and those who follow Satan.

8E - Hebrews 2:14, 15 Christ came to do deliver us from sin, death, and Satan (**Isaiah 61**) and to complete the work He has started in us (**Philippians 1:6**).

9E - Revelation 12:10, 11 Sinful humans overcome Satan by faith in Christ's sacrifice. (**Heb.11:6**)

10E -Revelation 21:1-4 Christ will restore all things back to His original design before sin entered the world. Satan wants to destroy you but God wants to save you and the choice is up to you!

Do you want to live with Jesus forever? Do you want Him to help you to be faithful to Him?

Daniel 2
(Bible Study #11)

Daniel is mentioned by a contemporary Ezekiel in **Ezekiel 14:14, 20; 28:3**

1D2 - Daniel 2:1-30 The King has a troubling dream and cannot remember it.

2D2 - Daniel 2:31-36 Daniel reveals the dream to the King.

3D2 - Daniel 2:37,38 Babylon – The Head of Gold: 605-539 BC (Reference: **Daniel 7:4** Lion w/ eagle's wings – symbol of Babylon.)

4D2 - Daniel 2:39 Medo-Persia - Chest and Arms of Sliver: 539-331 BC (Reference: **Daniel 7:5** Three ribs are Babylon, Lydia, and Egypt.)

5D2 - Daniel 2:39 Greece – Belly and Thighs of Brass 331-168 BC (Reference: **Daniel 7:6** Alexander the Great: four wings = great speed: 4 heads= Alexander's 4 generals.)

6D2 - Daniel 2:40 Pagan Rome – Legs of Iron: 168BC – 476AD (Reference: **Daniel 7:7** 1st part; Rome used Iron for their weapons.)

7D2 - Daniel 2:41-43 Europe – Feet of Iron mixed with Clay: 476AD – to end of world; (Reference: **Daniel 7:7** Ten Horns / Ten Toes of the feet = 10 kingdoms of Europe.)

8D2 - Daniel 2:44,45 Christ's Everlasting Kingdom – The Stone: The end of the World.
Deuteronomy 32:4 / 2 Samuel 22:3 / Psalm 62:6 / 1 Corinthians 10:4 That rock was Christ.

Hippolytus (3rd Century) TREATISE ON CHRIST AND ANTICHRIST.

The golden head of the image and the lioness denoted the Babylonians; the shoulders and arms of silver, and the bear, represented the Persians and Medes; the belly and thighs of brass, and the leopard, meant the Greeks, who held the sovereignty from Alexander's time; the legs of iron, and the beast dreadful and terrible, expressed the Romans, who hold the sovereignty at present; the toes of the feet which were part clay and part iron, and the ten horns, were emblems of the kingdoms that are yet to rise; the other little horn that grows up among them meant the Antichrist in their midst; the stone that smites the earth and brings judgment upon the world was Christ.
Source: http://www.newadvent.org/fathers/0516.htm (Paragraph 28)

9D2 - Daniel 2:46,47 The Lord who sees the future revealed it not only to this king but to you and I.
Isaiah 46:9, 10 God reveals the end from the beginning.

10D2- John 14:29 God reveals the future so that you and I **will** believe!

Signs / Second Coming

(Bible Study #12)

1SC - Matthew 24:1-3 The disciples ask what would be the signs of Christ's coming.
2SC - Matthew 24:4, 5, 11, 24 A repeated warning, do not be deceived by false prophets.
3SC - Matthew 24:7 Christ said there would be wars, earthquakes, famines, and diseases.
4SC - Luke 21:25, 26 signs in the heavens, distressed nations, perplexity and terrifying weather.
5SC - 2 Timothy 3:1-5 Perilous times would come due to the moral decay in the world.
6SC - Matthew 24:14 The most significant sign of His coming is the Gospel to the world.

What does the Bible say it will be like when Jesus comes the 2nd time.

7SC - John 14:1-3 Jesus promises to return. (Titus 2:11-13 Blessed Hope **Hebrews 9:28** The 2nd time)
8SC - Acts 1:9-11 Jesus **will come** in the **same way** He went to heaven, after His resurrection.
9SC - Revelation 1:7 **Every eye** shall see Jesus when He comes the second time.
10SC- Matthew 24:27 **A spectacular event** / **visible to all.** (**Matt. 16:27** Comes in Father's glory)
The righteous will say (**Isaiah 25:9**) The wicked will say (**Revelation 6:15-17**)
11SC- II Thessalonians 1:7-9; 2:8-10 (**Jude 14, 15**) The wicked will be destroyed at Christ's coming.
12SC- 1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17 **His coming will be an event the whole world will hear and see. (*Psalms 50:3-6)** Nothing **secret** about the second coming. (**Matthew 24:30, 31** A trumpet call) (**Matthew 24:26, 27** It will not be secret but a grand and glorious event!)

13SC- 1 Corinthians 15:35, 51-54 God's people will be given immortality when Jesus returns.
14SC- Matthew 25:31-34, 41, 46 Two groups when Jesus comes. (**Matthew13:18-30, 36-43**)
15SC- Luke 17:34-37 (**Matthew 24:40, 41**) "One shall be **taken** the other one left…"
The question asked in **V. 37** is where Lord? Where are they taken to? Read **Matthew 24:37-39** Notice **V. 39** "…the flood came, and **took** them all away…" Notice this: Noah and his family were safe on the ark, they were the ones who were left. Those who were taken (took) were taken to **destruction** (**Luke 17:27** " … the flood came, and **destroyed** them all.") Go back to **Luke 17:37** They ask where Lord? Jesus answers them, "Where ever the body is, there will the eagles be gathered together." (**Matthew 24:28** and **Revelation 19:17, 18, 21.**
16SC- 2 Peter 3:10-12 Jesus comes unexpectedly; **the earth is destroyed by fire.** (**1 Thess**. 1:7-9)
17SC- Matthew 24:42-44 Watch and be ready!
18SC- Revelation 22:11, 12, 17-20 Jesus promises to come quickly and will bring His reward with Him. Will you accept that invitation to be Christ's child now and for eternity?

7 Points to Consider

1) Jesus will come Himself / It is a real event (**Acts 1:9-11 / Revelation 1:7**)
2) Every eye shall see Him (**Revelation 1:7**)
3) A spectacular event that cannot be missed (**Matthew 24:27**)
4) The sound of the trumpet / voice of the arch angel (**1 Thess. 4:16, 17 / Matt. 24:30, 31**)
5) The dead in Christ will be raised (**1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17**)
6) Resurrected righteous and living righteous will receive new immortal bodies (**1 Cor. 15:51-54**)
7) The earth will burn with fervent heat (**2 Peter 3:10-12**)

Heaven

(Bible Study #13)

1H - 1 Kings 8:30 God's dwelling place is in heaven.

2H - John 14:1-3 Jesus is preparing homes for us there.

3H - Philippians 3:20, 21 God will give us glorious immortal bodies**. (Ref – 1 Cor. 15:51-54)**

4H - 1 Corinthians 13:12 People in heaven will be real and we will know each other.

5H - 1 Corinthians 2:9, 10 We can't even imagine the beauty of the place God has for us.
Matthew 8:11 We will fellowship with Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and others.

6H - Revelation 22:1-5 Heaven is a beautiful place. (**Isaiah 64:4**)

7H - Revelation 21:1, 2, 17-21 God creates a new heaven and a new earth. The Holy City , The New Jerusalem is there.

8H - Zechariah 14:4, 8, 9, 11 The New Jerusalem will descend to the earth.

9H - Isaiah 65:21, 22 The righteous will build there own home to live in and plant their own garden to eat from.

10H- Isaiah 65:25 Heaven will be a safe place. The animals will be tame, and nothing will hurt or destroy there.

11H- Revelation 22:14, 17 Happy are those who obey God for they will have the joy of eating from the Tree of Life. We will inherit the kingdom prepared for us by the Lord Jesus (**Matt. 25:34**)

Death
(Bible Study # 14)

On a Headstone in a cemetery in Crested Butte, Colorado, were written these words: Pause stranger, when you pass me by, as you are now, so was I. As I am now, so you will be, so prepare for death and follow me. **A passer-by wrote this reply:** To follow you I am not content, until I know what way you went.

1D - Genesis 1:27, 28 The human race was created to live forever. **(Romans 5:12** By one man's sin death came into the world**) (Ezekiel 18:4** The soul that sins it shall die)

2D - Genesis 2:7 Body + breath= living soul *neh'-fesh*; properly a *breathing* creature, *vitality*;

3D - Psalm 146:4 Body – **Breath** Hebr. *roo'-akh Wind*, *breath*, exhalation, life, etc. ***Ecclesiastes 12:7**
Same Hebrew word. **Psalm 104:29** you take away their breath… **Genesis 3:19 / Psalm 30:9**

4D - Ecclesiastes 9:5, 6 When man dies there is no consciousness.

5D - Psalm 115:17 The dead do not praise the Lord. **Isaiah 38:18, 19** (**Psalm 6:5** No remembrance of Him)
Job 7:9, 10 He does not come home anymore.

6D - John 11:11-14, 21-25, 41-43 Jesus called death a sleep. (***Acts 7:59, 60; 8:1, 2**) Note:
Death is called sleep 43 times in the Old Testament and 9 times in the New. ***Psalms 13:3**
1 Corinthians 15:3-6 Jesus rose from the dead.

7D - John 5:28, 29 (**Acts 24:15**) Two groups waiting in the grave. (**Daniel 12:2**) (***Job 14:11-13**)
Matthew 27:52, 53 Saints arose at Christ's resurrection. **Acts 26:8** Christ will raise the dead.

8D - Acts 2:29, 34 King David is still resting in his grave waiting the resurrection.

9D - 1 Thessalonians 4:15-18 Those who sleep in the graves will rise again at the 2nd coming. **(1 Cor. 15:20-23)**

10D- 1 Corinthians 15:51-54 (**Job 4:17**) We receive immortality when Jesus comes the 2nd time. **(1 Tim. 6:16)**

11D- Revelation 16:14 Who are the psychics then talking to?
Deut. 18:10-12 God calls it an abomination **Isaiah 8:19, 20** we should seek council from His Word.
II Thessalonians 2:10, 11 Those who will not believe are overtaken by a strong delusion

12D- Revelation 21:1, 4 In the beginning no death (**I Cor. 15:26**); in new beginning no more death forever!

Note the following:

1) No consciousness (**Ecc. 9:5, 6 / Psalm 146:4**)
2) Don't praise God (**Psalm 115:17 / Isaiah 38:18**)
3) No memory (**Psalm 6:5**)
4) Can't declare His Truth (**Psalm 30:9**)
5) Don't go home anymore (**Job 7:9, 10**)
6) No more breath (**Psalm 104:29**)
7) Resting in grave (**Acts 2:29, 34**) (**John 5:28, 29 / Daniel 12:2**)
8) Jesus calls it sleep (**John 11:11-14**)

Answers to Difficult Bible Texts:

1. **Luke 23:39-43** Thief on the cross / Key: **John 20:15-17**
2. **Philippians 1:23** …depart and be with Christ / Key: **2 Timothy 4:6-8**
3. **2 Corinthians 5:1-8** …absent from the body / Key: **I Corinthians 15:53**

Cemetery: "graveyard," "sleeping place, dormitory," "to put to sleep," "I lie down," "rest." Early Christian writers were the first to use it for "burial ground."

"This doctrine can be traced through the muddy channels of a corrupted Christianity, a perverted Judaism, a pagan philosophy, a superstitious idolatry, to the great instigator of mischief in the Garden of Eden. The Protestants borrowed it from the Catholics, the Catholics from the Pharisees, the Pharisees from the pagans, and the pagans from the old Serpent, who first preached the doctrine amid the lonely bowels of Paradise to an audience all too willing to hear and heed the new and fascinating theology- "Ye shall not surely die." *Amos Phelps* Is Man By Nature Immortal? Amos Phelps was a Methodist-Congregational minister who lived from 1805 to 1874.

"If you have fallen in with some who are called Christians, but who do not admit this (the truth of the resurrection), and venture to blaspheme the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob; who say there is no resurrection of the dead, and that their souls, when they die, are taken to heaven; do not imagine that they are Christians (Justin Martyr, "Dialogue With Trypho," chapter LXXX, Ante Nicene Fathers, 1:239). Justin Martyr was an early church father who died in A.D. 165.

The Millennium

(Bible Study #15)

1M - 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17 The 2nd Coming is the end of world and thus begins the 1,000 years.
Hebrews 9:28 He shall "…appear the second time without sin unto salvation."
Titus 2:11-13 "Looking for that blessed hope"

2M - John 5:28, 29 There are two resurrections. The 1st resurrection begins the 1,000 years.

3M - Revelation 20:6 The righteous dead will be raised in the 1st resurrection and they and the living righteous will go to the kingdom.

4M - Jeremiah 4:23-27 The Earth is destroyed and remains desolate for 1,000 years.

5M - Revelation 20:1-3 Satan is bound with no one to tempt for the 1,000 years.

6M - Revelation 20:4 During the 1,000 years the saints reign with Christ and render judgment.

7M - Revelation 20:5 All the wicked remain dead until the end of the 1,000 years. Then when the 1,000 years are expired they will be raised in the 2nd resurrection.

8M - Revelation 20:7, 8 When the 1,000 ends Satan will be loosed and the wicked raised.

9M - Revelation 20:9 The wicked try to capture The Holy City, but they are destroyed.

10M- Revelation 21:1-7 God will then **create** new heavens and a **new earth**.

The 2nd Coming to the New Earth

Millennium Supplement

Jesus told His Disciples that He was going back to the Father (who is in heaven – **1 Kings 8:30** and **Psalm 33:13, 14**) to prepare a place for them and come again and receive them (and us too) unto Himself (**John 14:1-3**) . When the Lord Jesus departed to go back to heaven, two angels told His disciples that He would come back the same way He left (**Acts 1:11**). John the Revelator tells us that Jesus will come again the 2nd time in the clouds of heaven and every eye shall see Him (**Revelation 1:7)** It also says that Christ will come in the Glory of His Father, with His angels (**Matthew 16:27**) and the tribes of the earth will mourn as they see Him coming with great power and glory (**Matthew 24:30**). He comes to this earth as a conquering King (**Revelation 19:11-14**) and His rewards are with Him to give to everyone as his works shall be (**Revelation 22:12**).

At His coming, when that trumpet shall blow, at that very moment, the righteous dead will be raised and along with the living righteous, they will receive immortality (**1 Corinthians 15:52-54**). God's people will be caught up together in the air to meet the Lord in the air and so shall we ever be with the Lord (**1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17)**. The saints will be gathered together by God's holy angels (**Matthew 24:31**) and taken to heaven.

At the same time the wicked will be destroyed by fire (**2 Thessalonians 1:7-9**) and the earth with everything in it, will be burned up (**2 Peter 3:10-12**). The Devil is now bound for a 1,000 years (**Revelation 20:1-3**). He has no one to tempt because the righteous are with the Lord in heaven, (**1Thessalonians 4:17**) reigning with Him (**Revelation 20:4, 6**) and all the wicked have been destroyed by His coming, and remain dead during the 1,000 years (**Revelation 20:5**).

At the end of the thousand years Satan will be loosed (**Revelation 20:7**) and go out to deceive the wicked who have been resurrected to receive the punishment of eternal death (**John 5:28,29**).
The City of God, The New Jerusalem comes down from God out of heaven with all (God's people) the saints (**Revelation 21:2**). The Lord's feet touches the Mount of Olives and it divides in two and there is where the city will rest (**Zechariah 14:4, 8, 9**). The wicked come up and surround the beloved city (**Revelation 20:9** 1st part) to take it by force. And there at that time all who have ever lived in history will stand before the Great White Throne of God to be judged by all that they have done (**Revelation 20:11-13**). God will then execute judgment against the wicked and fire will come down from God out of heaven and consume them (**Revelation 20: 9** last part and verses**15** and **14**). Satan himself will be thrown into the lake of fire (**Revelation 20:10**) and he (**Ezekiel 28:18, 19**) as well as the wicked (**Malachi 4:1, 3**) will be turned into ashes. God's work of destruction will be so complete that their won't even be a coal left to warm at (**Isaiah 47:14**).

After the destruction of the wicked, God will create a new heaven and a new earth (**Revelation 21:1**) The bible says we will inhabit this new earth. It will be a perfect world where we will plant gardens and build homes (**Isaiah 65: 21, 22**). All the animals will be tame (**Isaiah 65:25**) and every Sabbath we will come before the Lord to worship Him (**Isaiah 66:22, 23**). None of the things of the past (the old sinful world, with its heartache and pain) will come to mind (**Isaiah 65:17**). Sin will not rise up the second time, (**Nahum 1:9**) throughout all of eternity! Don't you want to be there and live with Jesus for eternity!

Hellfire
(Bible Study #16)

1HF - Jeremiah 31:3 God is a God of love, that is His character.

2HF - 2 Peter 3:9 God is not willing that any should perish. (**Ezek. 33:11** No pleasure in their death)

3HF - Hebrews 12:29 God is a consuming fire to sin and sinners. (**2 Pet. 3:7, 10-12**)

4HF - Matthew 25:41 Hell fire was prepared for Satan and his angels / not humanity.

5HF - Isaiah 13:9-11 On that great day of the Lord He will destroy all sinners.
***Isaiah 28:21** "God's strange work, His strange act…"

6HF - Revelation 20:7-9 Wicked are devoured – **Nothing left.**

7HF - Malachi 4:1-3 The wicked will be burned to ashes – **nothing will be left.**
(**Psalm 37:20** The wicked shall perish / V.**10** Shall not be / V. **36** Will not be found.

8HF - Jude 7 Sodom and Gomorrah suffered **"eternal fire"**, but they are not still burning. They lie today under part of the Dead Sea. **2 Peter 2:6** They were turned into ashes.

9HF - Revelation 20:10 The wicked will be destroyed forever. Literally: "until the end of the age." It is not endless existence. (**Jonah 2:6; 1:17 / Ex. 21:6 / 1 Sam. 1:22, 28** until they die; ***Revelation 21:8**)

10HF - Ezekiel 28:18, 19 Satan will be destroyed, and he will become ashes, **never to rise again.**

11HF - Matthew 25:46 The punishment is everlasting, not everlasting punishing. (**Romans 6:23**)

12HF - Isaiah 47:14 The fire will burn out, not even a coal to warm at. **There'll be nothing left.**

13HF - Nahum 1:9 Sin itself will be destroyed and never rise again!

14HF - 2 Peter 3:12, 13 The old world shall be dissolved and God will create a new heaven and earth.

15HF- John 3:16 "…**should not perish** but have eternal life…"

Revelation 20:14, 6; 21:8 2nd death

Romans 6:23 Wages of sin is death

God's Holy Law
(Bible Study #17)

1 GL - 1 John 3:4 How does the Bible define sin? The person who sins breaks God's law. Yes, sin is living against God's law. New Century Version (NCV) Everyone who commits sin breaks God's law, for that is what sin is, by definition—a breaking of God's law. J.B. Phillips New Testament (PHILLIPS) Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness. (NIV)

2 GL - Romans 3:20 By the law comes the knowledge of sin and that knowledge brings conviction and repentance which brings salvation.

3 GL - Romans 4:15 If there was no law there would be no sin) …But if there is no law, there is nothing to disobey. New Century Version (NCV) For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

4GL - Romans 5:12-14 (Reference: **Genesis 3:1-6**) Adam and Eve broke God's law – No law, no sin.

5GL - Genesis 26:4, 5 Law before Sinai

6GL - Genesis 20:1-9 / Genesis 39:7-9 / Exodus 16:4, 25-30 Other evidences of God's Holy Law before Sinai.

7GL - Exodus 20:1-17 God gave His Ten Commandments.

God spake all these words - The law of the ten commandments is a law of God's making; a law of his own speaking. God has many ways of speaking to the children of men by his spirit, conscience, providences; his voice in all which we ought carefully to attend to: but he never spake at any time upon any occasion so as he spake the ten commandments, which therefore we ought to hear with the more earnest heed. This law God had given to man before, it was written in his heart by nature; but sin had so defaced that writing, that it was necessary to revive the knowledge of it. *John Wesley*

8GL - Psalms 111:7, 8 God's law is eternal. **Psalm 119:151, 152** (**Exodus 25:16, 21, 22** "Testimony")
9GL - Romans 7:12 Law – Holy, Just, Good **Psalm 19:7** God's Law is perfect, converting the soul.
10GL - James 2:10-12 God's Ten Commandments will be the standard for the judgment.
11GL - Matthew 5:17-19 Jesus did not come to do away with the Law but to live out its principles in His life on earth.
12GL - Isaiah 42:21 Jesus came to magnify the Law and make it honorable. (***Matt. 5:27, 28**)
13GL - Hebrews 8:10 In this beautiful covenant relationship God promises to write His Law in our hearts, so that it's righteous principles will be lived out in our lives (**Romans 8:4**).
14GL - John 14:15 Love for God. (**Romans 6:17** obedience from the heart) The condition of obedience which would have kept Adam and Eve in Eden becomes the condition for our restoration. **Genesis 22:16-18; 26:5** Blessing in obedience. (***1 Cor. 7:19**) **Romans 1:17** The just live by faith.
15GL - Luke 1:6 It will be exhibited in His people. **Matthew 19:16-21** Those who have entered into life will be keeping. **Ecclesiastes 12:13** Fear God and keep His commandments **–** Man's whole duty**.**
16GL - 1 John 2:3, 4 If we do not keep, the truth abides not in us.
17GL- Revelation 12:17 A special characteristic of God's people in the last days. (**Revelation 14:12; 22:14**)

Obedience: An issue of loyalty

1OL - Genesis 3:3-6 What was the issue in the beginning?

2OL - 2 Kings 18:11, 12 God's people Israel, refused to obey and lost His blessings. (**Isaiah 42:24**) They would not walk in His ways nor keep His law.

3OL - Luke 6:46 Why do you call me Lord and do not the things that I say.

4OL - Deuteronomy 5:29 God desires us to obey Him always that it may be well with us. **Jeremiah 7:23** If we will obey His voice He will be our God.

5OL - Proverbs 8:36 "He who sins against me wrongs his own soul." (**James 4:17** – defines sin)

6OL - Hebrews 5:8, 9 He is the author of eternal salvation to those who obey**.**

7OL - 1 Peter 1:2, 22 The sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit leads to obedience. (***Acts 5:32**)

8OL - John 14:23, 24 The one who loves God will keep His words, and will be obedient to all that He asks (**1 Pet. 1:14**). We will want to be obedient to one master (**Rom. 6:16**)

9OL - I John 2:3-5 The one who says they know Christ but does not keep His commandments is a liar. (**John 15:10** We are to keep God's commandments as Jesus did)

10OL- Numbers 32:11, 12 God wants whole hearted obedience. (**Romans 6:17** From the heart)

11OL- Jeremiah 38:17-23 If we do not obey we will suffer great loss to us and our families.

12OL- Revelation 22:14 (**Rev. 12:17**) Those people who are obedient will enter through those beautiful pearly gates into the city of God! (***Isaiah 26:2**)

"Unless he obeys, a man cannot believe." Dietrich Bonhoeffer

The Bible Sabbath

(Bible Study #19)

1TS - Genesis 2:2-3 The Sabbath was given to **all mankind** in a perfectly created world before the entrance of sin. It was given 2300 years before there was a Jew. It is the only day that God blessed and sanctified, setting it apart for a holy use, a sacred day to worship God.

2TS - Exodus 16:25-28 Before the children of Israel came to Mt. Sinai the Lord caught them braking the Sabbath. He did not say they were breaking the Jewish laws but **My Laws.**

3TS - Exodus 20:8-11 The Sabbath is found in the **Heart** of the Ten Commandments. It is not introduced as a new institution but as having been founded at creation. In this commandment God identifies Himself as the Creator, the one who gave the Sabbath to all mankind. He begins with "Remember," so that we would not forget. God links the Sabbath with Creation (**Gen. 2:1-3**), Redemption (**Deut. 5:12-15**), and Sanctification (**Ezekiel 20:12, 20**).
God both spoke the Law audibly (**Deut. 4:12,13**) and wrote it in stone (**Exodus 31:18**)

> "He that observes the Sabbath aright holds the history of that which it celebrates to be authentic, and therefore believes in the creation of the first man; in the creation of a fair abode for man in the space of six days; in the primeval and absolute creation of the heavens and the earth, and, as a necessary antecedent to all this, in the Creator, who at the close of His latest creative effort, rested on the seventh day. The Sabbath thus becomes a sign by which the believers in a historical revelation are distinguished from those who have allowed these great facts to fade from their remembrance.'
> JAMES G. MURPHY, "Commentary on the Book of Exodus," comments on Exodus 20: 8-11.

4TS - Mark 2:27, 28 Jesus tells us the Sabbath was given for all mankind. (Ref. – **Isaiah 56:6, 7**)

5TS - Luke 4:16, 31, 44 For Jesus, attending church was a priority. On Sabbath, you would find Jesus attending the services at the synagogue (Church) for it was important to Him.
He is our example of how to live (**1 John 2:6 / 1 Pet. 2:21**) He is the Creator. (**John 1:1,3,14**)

6TS - Luke 23:55-56 They kept the Sabbath according to the commandment, after His death.
** Watch this, it is so beautiful! God rested from His creative works on the 7th day and He rested from His work of redemption in the tomb on the 7th day Sabbath. God planned it that way!

7TS - Luke 23:52-56; 24:1 Which day is the Sabbath? (**Mark 15:42** The day after good Friday)
(Ref. – **Genesis 11:1, 7, 9**) In 145 languages Saturday is called the Sabbath.
Saturday – the seventh and last day of the week: **Sunday** – the first day of the week:
(Webster's New World Dictionary, Third College Edition)

8TS - Matthew 24:20 Jesus said His people would be keeping the Sabbath in AD 70 (the destruction of Jerusalem) almost 40 years after His crucifixion.

9TS - Acts 17:1, 2 Paul kept the Sabbath. (**Acts 13:13, 14**) It was a priority. (**Acts 16:13**)

10TS - Acts 18:4 Paul not only worshipped with the Jews on the Sabbath but also the Gentiles. (Ref. – **Acts 13:42-44**) Paul followed Jesus example – **1 John 2:6**

11TS - Ezekiel 20:12,20 The Sabbath is a sign of our Sanctification. **Galatians 3:29** – By faith… "heirs according to the promise."

12TS - Malachi 3:6 The Lord is the same – you can depend on it! (Ref. – **Hebrews 13:8**)

13TS - Hebrews 4:1-11 There remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God.

Hebrews 4:1-4 - Now since the same promise of rest is offered to us today, let us be continually on our guard that none of us even looks like failing to attain it. For we too have had a Gospel preached to us, as those men had. Yet the message proclaimed to them did them no good, because they only heard and did not believe as well. It is only as a result of our faith and trust that we experience that rest. For he said: 'So I swore in my wrath, they shall not enter my rest'; not because the rest was not prepared - it had been ready since the work of creation was completed, as he says elsewhere in the scriptures, speaking of the seventh day of creation, 'And God rested on the seventh day from all his works'.
4:5-7 - And in the passage above he refers to "my rest" as something already in existence. No, it is clear that some were intended to experience this rest and, since the previous hearers of the message failed to attain to it because they would not believe God, he proclaims a further opportunity when he says through David, many years later, "today", just as he had said "today" before. 'Today, if you will hear his voice, do not harden your hearts'.
4:8-10 - For if Joshua had given them the rest, we should not find God saying, at a much later date, "today". <u>There still exists, therefore, a full and complete rest for the people of God. And he who experiences his real rest is resting from his own work as fully as God from His.</u> *(J B PHILLIPS Translation of the NEW TESTAMENT)*

"The first four commandments set forth man's obligations directly toward God.... But when we keep the first four commandments, we are likely to keep the other six. . . . The fourth commandment sets forth God's claim on man's time and thought.... The six days of labour and the rest on the Sabbath are to be maintained as a witness to God's toil and rest in the creation. . . . No one of the ten words is of merely racial significance.... The Sabbath was established originally (long before Moses) in no special connection with the Hebrews, but as an institution for all mankind, in commemoration of God's rest after the six days of creation. It was designed for all the descendants of Adam."-*Adult Quarterly, Southern Baptist Convention series, Aug. 15, 1937.*

"Sunday was a name given by the heathens to the first day of the week, because it was the day on which they worshipped the sun, ...the seventh day was blessed and hallowed by God Himself, and ...He requires His creatures to keep it holy to Him. This commandment is of universal and perpetual obligation...The Creator 'blessed the seventh day'-declared it to be a day above all days, a day- on which His favour should assuredly rest. ...So long, then, as man exists, and the world around him endures,' does the law of the early Sabbath remain. It cannot be set aside so long as its foundations last.... It is not the Jewish Sabbath, properly so-called, which is ordained in the fourth commandment. In the whole of that injunction there is no Jewish element, any more than there is in the third commandment, or the sixth." *Eadie's Biblical Cyclopedia, 1872 Edition, page 561.*

"God instituted the Sabbath at the creation of man, setting apart the seventh day for the purpose, and imposed its observance as a universal and perpetual moral obligation upon the race." *American Presbyterian Board of Publication, Tract No. 175.*

"The Sabbath was binding in Eden, and it has been in force ever since. This fourth commandment begins with the word 'remember,' showing that the Sabbath already existed when God wrote the law on the tables of stone at Sinai. How can men claim that this one commandment has been done away with when they will admit that the other nine are still binding?"- *D.L. MOODY, "Weighed and Wanting," page 47.*

A sacred regard to the authority of God ought to lead us to reject an error, however old, sanctioned by whatever authority, or however generally practiced. *Charles Spurgeon*

The true follower of Christ will not ask, "If I embrace this truth, what will it cost me?" Rather he will say, "This is truth. God help me to walk in it, let come what may!" *--A.W. Tozer*

14TS- Isaiah 66:22, 23 In heaven and the world made new we will be worshipping the Lord as our <u>Creator</u>, <u>Redeemer</u>, and <u>Sanctifier</u> on His Holy Sabbath Day.

Sunday in the Bible

(Bible Study #20)

1SB - John 14:21, 23 Our love for Jesus is shown in our obedience to His Commandments.

2SB - Genesis 1:3-5 Only text in the entire Old Testament that talks of the 1st day of the week.

3SB - Matthew 28:1 The women went to the tomb. (**Luke 24:1-3 / John 20:1 / Mark 16:1, 2, 9**)

4SB - John 20:19 Notice: They were gathered not for worship, but for fear of the Jews.

5SB - Acts 20:6, 7 This was Paul's third and last missionary journey. (1st – **Acts 13 & 14** 2nd – **Acts 15:36 – 18:22** / 3rd – **Acts 18:23 – 21:17**). He comes to Troas and stays for 7 days with the Christians there. He had stayed for one week and it terminated on Saturday. This meeting takes place on Saturday night (NEB -"On the Saturday night, in our assembly for the breaking of bread…") and as part of this protracted farewell meeting (as Paul is ready to depart **V. 7**) they celebrate the Lord's Supper together (**V. 11** "had broken Bread"). He was not to see these Christians anymore, for as he says in verses 22-25 to the Christians in Ephesus that he would see them again no more because the Holy Spirit had been warning him that bonds awaited him when he came to the city of Jerusalem. Paul "departed" in the morning on foot at the break of day (between 5 and 6 A.M.) Some of his companions took the ship to Assos but Paul walked the 19 miles instead of going by sea a days journey around the cape, and at the end of the day he met them there at Assos and continued with them by ship to Mitylene. Nothing about a change in the day of worship at all.

The eminent church historian, Augustus Neander, remarks on this passage in this way: "This passage is not entirely convincing, because the impending departure of the apostle may have united the little Church in a brotherly parting-meal, on occasion of which the apostle delivered his last address, although there was no particular celebration of a Sunday in the case." (The History of The Christian Religion and Church, tr. Henry John Rose, vol. 1 p. 337)

6SB - 1 Corinthians 16:1-3 The Apostle was promoting a special project on behalf of the needy believers in Jerusalem (**2 Corinthians 8; 9**) Years before he had brought a special gift for the famine stricken from the Church at Antioch (**Acts 11:28-30; 12:25**). Paul had a burden for his country men – Jewish Christians (**Galatians 2:10**). The taxes (both civil and religious) were right at about 40% of a person's income; the poor remained poor in Jerusalem.

V. 2 "Lay…" The construction of the Greek indicates that it be done each first day of the week. **" by him…"** Greek – par' heauto, literally, "by himself," equivalent to English is "at home." **"In store…"** Literally, "treasuring up," "storing up," probably in a special spot or container in the house. **"Gatherings,"** Greek – logeiai, "collections." Paul requested the donations be ready when he came. Nothing said at all about a worship service or a change of the day of worship.

7SB - Colossians 2:14-17

V. 14 – Ephesians 2:15

V. 16 – Ezekiel 45:17 / 1 Chronicles 23:31, 32 / Numbers 10:10 / Leviticus 23:3-28, *38

The Passover, the Feast of unleavened Bread, Pentecost, the Day of Atonement, and Feast of Tabernacles.

"The seventh day is the Sabbath] This, because the first and greatest solemnity, is first mentioned. He who kept not this, in the most religious manner, was not capable of keeping any of the others. The religious observance of the Sabbath stands at the very threshold of all religion."
Clarke's Commentary Vol. 1 p. 585

V. 17 – Hebrews 8:1-5; 10:1 The Ceremonial Law was a shadow pointing to Jesus.

Albert Barnes, a Presbyterian commentator, states the following on this passage:
"There is no evidence from this passage that he (Paul) would teach that there was no obligation to observe any holy time, for there is not the slightest reason to believe that he meant to teach that one of the ten commandments had ceased to be binding on mankind… He had his eye on the great number of days which were observed by the Hebrews as festivals, as part of their ceremonial and typical law, and not to the moral law – no one of the ten commandments could be spoken of as 'a shadow of good things to come.' These commandments are, from the nature of the moral law, of perpetual and universal application."

8SB - Revelation 1:10 What day is the Lord's Day? (**Matthew 12:8 / Luke 6:5** / **Mark 2:28**)
In the N.T. Sunday is known as the 1st day of the week – **Mat. 28:1 / Mark 16:2**, etc.
9SB - Romans 6:4, 5 Baptism is a symbol of the resurrection, not Sunday. (**Colossians 2:12**)
10SB- Mark 7:7-13 If we set aside God's commandments for man's – we worship Him in vain.
11SB- Revelation 12:17 John is shown that God's people are those who keep His Commandments!

"The Christian church made no formal, but a gradual and almost unconscious transference of the one day to the other."- F.W. FARRAR, D.D., "The Voice From Sinai," page 167.

"Thus we learn from Socrates (H.E., vi.c.8) that in his time public worship was held in the churches of Constantinople on both days.... The view that the Christian's Lord's day or Sunday is but the Christian Sabbath deliberately transferred from the seventh to the first day of the week does not indeed find categorical expression till a much later period.... The earliest recognition of the observance of Sunday as a legal duty is a constitution of Constantine in A.D. 321, enacting that all courts of justice, inhabitants of towns, and workshops were to be at rest on Sunday (venerabili die Solis), with an exception in favor of those engaged in agricultural labor...The Council of Laodicea (363) ... forbids Christians from Judaizing and resting on the Sabbath day, preferring the Lord's day, and so far as possible resting as Christians."-Encyclopedia Britannica, 1899 Edition, Vol. XXIII, page 654.

"Unquestionably the first law, either ecclesiastical or civil, by which the sabbatical observance of Sunday is known to have been ordained is the sabbatical edict of Constantine, A.D. 32I." - Chambers' Encyclopedia, Article "Sunday."

"Sunday (Dies Solis, of the Roman calendar, 'day of the sun,' because dedicated to the sun), the first day of the week, was adopted by the early Christians as a day of worship. The 'sun' of Latin adoration they interpreted as the 'Sun of Righteousness.' . . . No regulations for its observance are laid down in the New Testament, nor, indeed, is its

observance even enjoined."-SCHAFF HERZOG, Encyclopedia of Religious Knowledge, 1891 Edition, Vol. IV, Art. "Sunday."

"Take which you will, either of the Fathers or the moderns, and we shall find no Lord's day instituted by any apostolical mandate; no Sabbath set on foot by them upon the first day of the week."-PETER HEYLYN, "History of the Sabbath," page 410.

"The current notion that Christ and His apostles authoritatively substituted the first day for the seventh, is absolutely without any authority in the New Testament." Dr. Layman Abbot, in the Christian Union, June 26, 1890.

"It must be confessed that there is no law in the New Testament concerning the first day." Buck's Theological Dictionary page 403.

"There is no command in the Bible requiring us to observe the first day of the week as the Christian Sabbath."-ORIN FOWLER, A.M., "Mode and Subjects of Baptism."

"You will tell me that Saturday was the Jewish Sabbath, but that the Christian Sabbath has been changed to Sunday. Changed! but by whom? Who has authority to change an express commandment of Almighty God? When God has spoken and said, Thou shalt keep holy the seventh day, who shall dare to say, Nay, thou mayest work and do all manner of worldly business on the seventh day; but thou shalt keep holy the first day in its stead?
This is a most important question, which I know not how you can answer. You are a Protestant, and you profess to go by the Bible and the Bible only; and yet in so important a matter as the observance of one day in seven as a holy day, you go against the plain letter of the Bible, and put another day in the place of that day which the Bible has commanded.
The command to keep holy the seventh day is one of the ten commandments; you believe that the other nine are still binding; who gave you authority to tamper with the fourth? If you are consistent with your own principles, if you really follow the Bible and the Bible only, you ought to be able to produce some portion of the New Testament in which this fourth commandment is expressly altered."" *Library of Christian Doctrine: Why Don't You Keep Holy the Sabbath-Day? (London: Burns and Oates, Ltd.), pp. 3, 4.

"Some have tried to build the observance of Sunday upon Apostolic command, whereas the Apostles gave no command on the matter at all.... The truth is, so soon as we appeal to the litera scripta [literal writing] of the Bible, the Sabbatarians have the best of the argument." The Christian at Work, April 19, 1883, and Jan. 1884

How to Keep the Sabbath

(Bible Study #21)

We are to search the scriptures that we may "do those things that are pleasing in His sight." **1 John 3:22**

1KS - Isaiah 56:1,2 A special blessing for those who keep it.

2KS - Leviticus 23:3 The Sabbath is called an Holy Convocation or gathering of the people. It was given to us by God as a special day of worship. (* **Luke 4:16** Jesus demonstrated that worship (church attendance) is a priority for the Christian!

3KS - Acts 17:2, 18:4, 11 A day to teach / preach the Word – A time for prayer **Acts 16:13** A time for Singing. **Eph. 5:19-20, Col. 3:16, Psalms 92** is the "Sabbath Psalm." ***Psalms 89:7**

4KS - Genesis 35:2, 3 It is important to God how we dress. (**1 Pet. 2:9 / Exodus 28:2, 3**)

5KS - Leviticus 23:32 The Sabbath begins at sunset Friday night and ends at sunset on Saturday night. (Ref. – **Genesis 1:5,8,13,19,23**)

6KS - Mark 15:42 Friday, the day before the Sabbath is called the preparation day in the Bible. It is a day to prepare for the Sabbath (Ref. – **Exodus 16:22, 23**)

7KS - Exodus 20:8-11 It is not a day for secular work. We cease our everyday pursuits in order to enter into fellowship with God. (**Luke 23:56; 24:1**) Jesus body not prepared. It is a day of <u>rest</u>, <u>worship</u>, and <u>fellowship</u> with other believers.

8KS - Nehemiah 13:15-22 We are to cease from everyday business transactions, buying and selling and work. (**Jeremiah 17:20-23, 27**) God wants our full attention in worship. (Ref. – **Exodus 34:21** Don't plow or harvest your fields)

9KS - Isaiah 58:13,14 <u>A day to delight ourselves in the Lord.</u> It is not a day for doing our own pleasure. Such as sports, secular games, business advancement, school, or entertainment that are not in harmony with the holiness of the Sabbath Day. Not speaking our own words.

10KS - Isaiah 40:26 One of the things we can enjoy on the Sabbath is God's creative works - (**Genesis 1:31; 2:1-3)**

11KS - Matthew 12:10-13 Jesus demonstrated in His life the joy of doing good on the Sabbath. (Ref.- **Matthew 25:35,36** Be helpful to others in need, and visit them in prison)

12KS - Ezekiel 20:12,20 We keep the Sabbath as a sign of our redemption by God and freedom from the slavery of sin.

13SK - Isaiah 66:22, 23 The redeemed will worship God in His presence on the Sabbath day both in heaven and in the new earth.

Baptism
(Bible Study #22)

"Baptized" – Occurs 51 times in Scripture. **"Baptism"** – Occurs 22 times **"Baptize"** – Occurs 7 times

1B - Matthew 28:19,20 Go and teach, Baptizing them.

2B - Mark 16:16 He that believes and is Baptized shall be saved. It is essential to salvation.

3B - John 3:5 We must be born again of the water and the Spirit or we will not enter God's kingdom.
2 Corinthians 5:17 New creature in Christ / **1 John 2:6** We will live as He did.

4B - Ephesians 4:5 One Lord, one faith, one Baptism.

5B - Mark 1:9-11 The New Testament endorses Baptism by immersion only and no other means.
(Ref. – **Matthew 3:13-17** Christ's Baptism)

6B - Acts 8:38,39 Ethiopians' baptism by Phillip.
Ref.- **John 3:23** John Baptized where there was much water to dip them under.
Baptize = (Gr. Baptizo) It means "to dip" or "to plunge under."

7B - Romans 6:3-6 Baptism is a symbol of our death and burial to the old life and a resurrection into a new life in Christ. (Ref.- **Colossians 2:12** Buried with Christ through Baptism)
"For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ." **Gal. 3:27.**

Martin Luther – "...I would have those who are to be baptized to be entirely immersed, as the Word imports and the mystery signifies."

John Wesley – "…buried with him alludes to baptizing by immersion according to the custom of the first church."

John Calvin – "… the word "baptize" signifies to immerse. It is certain that immersion was the practice of the ancient church."

8B - Acts 2:38 Repentance is a necessary step in preparation for Baptism.

9B - Acts 19:1-5 When a person receives significant new light from the Lord, re-baptism may be an appropriate step to take.

10B- 1Corinthians 12:12,13,27, 28 We are Baptized into the body of Christ, the church.
(**Acts 2:41, 47 / *Ephesians 1:17-23**)

11B- Acts 22:14-16 Arise and be Baptized and wash away your sins.

The Old Testament Sanctuary

(Bible Study # 23)

"There is no other subject which so fully unites all parts of the inspired Word into one harmonious whole, as the subject of the sanctuary. Every gospel truth centers in the sanctuary service, and radiates from it like the rays of the sun."

(The Cross and Its Shadow by Stephen N. Haskell)

1OS - Jeremiah 13:23 Man is hopelessly caught in sin separated from God. (**Matt. 19:26**)

2OS - Exodus 25:8, 9 To help man understand the process of redemption, God commanded Moses to build a sanctuary. Here God gave a living illustration of his plans to overcome sin in our lives.

3OS - Exodus 26:33,34; 27:9, 10 The Sanctuary consisted of the courtyard, the Holy Place, and the Most Holy Place. Each was significant in the removal of sin. (Courtyard dimensions: 172' by 86' by 8'7" high / Door faced East (34' 6")

4OS - Leviticus 1:2-4 The process began in the courtyard where the sinner brought his lamb.

5OS - John 1:29 The sinner confessed his / her sin over the lamb and then killed the lamb. Those lambs represented Jesus. The blood is what makes the atonement (**Lev. 17:11**).

6OS - Romans 3:23-26 Jesus became the propitiation (pardon, reconciliation) for our sins.

7OS - Leviticus 1:5 Sin was symbolically transferred to the lamb, and it's blood taken to the Holy Place by the priest.

8OS - Leviticus 16:29-31 (Day of Atonement, 10th day of the 7th month) On that day, and four days before, was a time of heart searching and a putting away of sin in the life. (The two goats – verses **5-22**) Atonement – at-one-ment.

9OS - Matthew 27:51 When Jesus died the earthly sanctuary and its sacrifices ended.

10OS- Genesis 22:5-8 God will provide a "Lamb."

11OS- Hebrews 8:1, 2 Jesus Christ is our High Priest in the heavenly sanctuary.

The New Testament Sanctuary

(Bible Study # 24)

1NS - Psalm 77:13 God's way is in the sanctuary.

2NS - Exodus 26:30 Moses built the Tabernacle with the pattern shown him on the mount.

3NS - Hebrews 8:5 The Earthly Sanctuary served as an example of the heavenly.

4NS - Hebrews 10:1-10 Christ came as our sacrifice.

5NS - Luke 23:33,46 On that cross He died for our sins.

6NS - Revelation 13:8 Jesus was that lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

7NS - Hebrews 9:11-14, 24 Upon ascending to heaven Jesus went into The Holy Place in the Heavenly Sanctuary as our High Priest. Gr. *hag'-ee-on* a *sacred* thing (that is, spot): - holiest (of all), holy place, sanctuary.

8NS - Hebrews 8:1, 2, 6 Mediator of better covenant. **Hebrews 7:22-27** Dying once for all, he ever lives to make intercession for us. **1 Timothy 2:5** One Mediator

9NS - Revelation 1:12; 4:5; 7 lamps of fire, an alter of incense, and a golden censer.

10NS- Revelation 1:20 The Church: and by extension you and I. **Ephesians 2:10** We are His workmanship created for good works. **Matthew 5:14, 16** We are lights in this world. **Leviticus 24:2** Those candles were to be continually burning, and so is our light for Christ. (**Acts 2:4-11** Filled with the Spirit will become light bearers.)

11NS- Revelation 8:3, 4 Represents the Prayers of God's people. **Romans 8:26, 27** Holy Spirit helps us. **Psalms 141:2** The Alter of Incense represents continual intercession. **Exodus 29:38-42 / Luke 1:10** Incense renewed daily. Incense = Christ's Righteousness. The fragrance of a life of prayer will be experienced by others around you.

12NS- Leviticus 24:5-9 Bread of the presence – Showbread: A continual offering before the Lord. It teaches us of our need and dependence upon God for both our temporal and spiritual food. **John 6:48** Christ the Bread of Life. **John 1:1, 14** Christ is the Word = Bible We need to hear His voice everyday and feast upon His Word. The bread represents His body = His life. **1 Corinthians 10:16, 17**

13NS - Revelation 11:19 The Ark of the Testament is seen in Heaven. **Revelation 14:6, 7** Cleansing of Sanctuary is cleaning it from all that defiles. **John 2:13-17** (**Luke 19:45, 46**) cleansing of the temple – Represents His work of reform in our lives. **James 4:8-12** Reform / **1 Corinthians 6:11 / Hebrews 12:1, 2, 12-14 / Jude 1:24, 25**

14NS - Hebrews 4:14-16 We have a friend in the Heavenly Sanctuary, Jesus our high Priest. He understands our needs and wants us to come to Him with confidence that we may receive help from Him in time of need.

The Issue in the Last Days

(Bible Study #25)

1. **1 Corinthians 10:11 / Romans 15:4** Bible was written for our instruction and learning.

2. **Daniel 3:1** New system of false worship (**Ch. 2:38-42**) The King took the truth of God and perverted it. This power in the end does the same (**Rev. 13:1, 2, 4, 5**) Blaspheme is perverting the truth.

3. **Daniel 3:2-5** A call to **false** worship (**Revelation 13:6-8**) Who is behind this false worship? Satan is, because he wants to take God's place – **Isaiah 14:12-14 / Matthew 4:8, 9**
   God alone is worthy of our worship – **Revelation 4:11**
   What is the point of contention? Who do we worship and GOD'S HOLY LAW. (Compare **Daniel 3:4, 5** with **Exodus 20:4-6 / Daniel 6:5** To **Revelation 13:14-16 / Revelation 12:17**

4. **Daniel 3:4-7, 15** The death decree (**Revelation 13:11,12, 15**) The death decree falls on those who obey the Lord. (**Revelation 12:17**) (**Acts 5:29** we should obey God not man) (**Matthew 12:30** We cannot remain neutral)

5. **Daniel 3:17, 18** Their statement of faith (**Rev. 12:11; 13:8**) Is your name written there?

   Notice the Issues in both Daniel and Revelation: Who receives our worship, who has our loyalty, and who will we obey. Who has our heart determines who receives our worship, loyalty, and obedience. Their worship was pure, their loyalty uncompromising, and they were unswerving in obedience to God and His Holy Law and so it can be with you and I today!
   In both Daniel and Revelation God's people point the world and its inhabitants to Jesus Christ and the restoration of true worship.

   OUR DECISION WILL DETERMINE OUR DESTINY – For Life or for Death.

6. **Daniel 3:24-26, 28** God's people delivered **/ 1Thess. 4:16-18 – Matthew 24:31**

7. **Daniel 3:27** Their witness affected others. Our witness will have a direct affect on our family, friends, enemies, etc.

8. **John 8:31, 32** The commands and principles of God's Word must be applied and experienced daily in our lives.

9. **1 kings 18:21** – The Lord wants us to make a decision. **Deut. 30:19** Therefore choose life **(2 Corinthians 6:2** Now is the time, today is the day of salvation.)

WE MUST TAKE A DECIDED STAND FOR JESUS, IF WE WOULD BE SAVED!

Antichrist / The Beast Power

(Bible Study #26)

The Bible calls him: **1.** The Antichrist – **1 John 2:18**

Definition: Composite word – An-tee'-Khris-tos

an-tee' ; *opposite*, that is, *instead*: - in the room of. *Contrast*, *substitution*, etc.

khris-tos'; *anointed*, that is, the *Messiah*, an epithet of Jesus: - Christ.

Antichrist = Would be by definition one who tries to take the place of Christ. The Antichrist represents a power that would seek to overtake, usurp, and obscure the work of Christ.

2. The Beast – **Revelation 13:1-3**
3. Little Horn – **Daniel 7:8**
4. Man of sin – **2 Thessalonians 2:3**
5. Son of Perdition – **2 Thessalonians 2:3**

Note: Judas is the only other one in the Bible called the son of perdition (**John17:12**). **This is important.** He was not an opponent from without but a betrayer from within! He would not be a pagan but a professed apostle (false) of Jesus Christ. (See **2 Corinthians 11:13**)

1A - Daniel 7:1-3 What does a beast represent? What does the sea represent?
(**Daniel 7:23 /** A kingdom) (**Isaiah 17:12, 13** / **Revelation 17:15 /** nations, peoples)

2A - Verse 4 Lion = Babylon **Daniel 2:38** (wings = speed / **Deuteronomy 28:49**)

3A - Verse 5 Bear = Media – Persia **Daniel 2:39 / 8:20**

4A - Verse 6 Leopard = Greece **Daniel 2:39 / 8:21**

5A - Verse 7 Fourth Beast = Rome **Daniel 2:40**

6A - Verse 7 (last part) Ten Horns = Ten Toes (**Daniel 2:41-43**)
What do the horns represent? **Daniel 7:24** (10 kings or kingdoms)

7A - Verse 8 Little Horn = Antichrist

8A - Verses 19, 20 Daniel wants to know about this beast power!

The Bible gives13 identify marks of this power.

9A – (1) It would rise up in Western Europe and rule over it. **Verse 8 / Rev. 13:1, 7**

10A- (2) Comes out of pagan Rome / receives power from dragon. **Verses 7, 8 / Rev. 13:2**
11A- (3) It would have a man at its head to speak for it. **Verse 8, 24, 25**

12A- (4) It would pluck up or uproot three kingdoms. **Verse 8**

13A- (5) It would be different power, a religious power. **Dan. 7:24 / Rev.13:3,8; 17:1, 2, 4**
The Devil seeks worship through this Antichrist power. **Rev. 13:4** / **Isaiah 14:12-14** / **Matt. 4:8, 9**

14A- (6) It would make war, persecute the saints / World power. **Verse 21, 25 / Rev. 13:7**
15A- (7) God's people would be persecuted for "a time and times and dividing of times."
Verse 25 / Revelation 13:5 (42 months) (1260 years)

16A- (8) It would "speak great words against" or blaspheme God. **Verse 25 / Rev. 13:5**
17A- (9) It would receive a deadly wound / deadly wound healed. **Revelation 13:3**

18A- (10) The woman sits on 7 mountains (hills) **Revelation 17:9**
19A- (11) The colors of this beast power are purple and scarlet. **Revelation 17:4**

20A- (12) It would have the mysterious number 666**. Revelation 13:18**
21A- (13) It would think to change times and laws. **Daniel 7:25**

Who is this little Horn power?

1) Papal Power, Rome, Italy
2) "To the succession of the Caesars came the succession of the Pontiffs in Rome. When Constantine left Rome, he gave his seat to the Pontiff." Lablanca, Professor of History, University of Rome.

"The Popes filled the place of the vacant emperors of Rome, inheriting their powers, prestige, and titles from paganism(Pontifex Maximus) … The Papacy is but the ghost of the deceased Roman Empire, sitting crowned upon its grave." Stanley's History, p. 40.

3) Little Horn (picture #2) "Catholics hold that the church, which is a visible society, must have a visible head. Christ before His ascension into heaven, appointed St. Peter to act as His representative…hence the Bishop of Rome, as head of the Church, was given the title, 'Vicar of Christ." Our Sunday Visitor, (Catholic Weekly) Bureau of Information, Ind., April 18, 1915.

4) Verse 8: Three of the 10 horns plucked up -

Visigoths = Spain
Anglo-Saxons = England
Franks = France
Alemani = Germany
Burgundians = Switzerland
Lombards = Italy
Suevi = Portugal
Heruli = *** Rooted up**
Ostrogoths = *** Rooted up**
Vandals = *** Rooted up** (Thompson and Johnson, Medieval Europe, pp. 88, 89)

"The Catholic emperor Zeno (474-491) arranged a treaty with the Ostrogoths in 487 which resulted in the eradication of the Kingdom of the Arian Heruls in 493. And the Catholic emperor Justinian (527-565) exterminated the Arian Vandals in 534 and significantly broke the power of the Arian Ostrogoths in 538." Dr. Mervyn Maxwell, God Cares vol. 1, p. 129

5) "The Papacy's power became supreme in Christendom in **538 A.D.** Due to a letter of the Emperor Justinian known as Justinian's Decree, which set up and acknowledged the Bishop of Rome as the **head of all churches**. It gave the Papacy **political power – civil power –** as well as **ecclesiastical power**. This letter became part of Justinian's Code, the fundamental law of the empire, and that year Pope Vigilius ascended the throne under the military protection of Belisarius." History of the Christian Church, vol. p. 327.

" Out of the ruins of the Roman Empire there gradually arose a new order of states whose **central point** was the Papal See. Therefore inevitably resulted a position, not new, but very different from the former." The Church and the Churches, pp. 42, 43.
It would be **"diverse"** from the others. (**Daniel 7:24**)

6) "The time is coming that whoever kills you will think that he offers God service." John 16:2
"It is estimated by careful credible historians, that more than fifty million of the human family have been slaughtered…by popish persecutors, an average of more than forty thousand religious murders for every year of the existence of Popery." History of Romanism, pp. 541-2.

"That the Church of Rome has shed more innocent blood than any other institution that has ever existed among mankind, will be questioned by no protestant who has a competent knowledge of history. The memorials, indeed, of many of her persecutors are now so scanty, that it is impossible to form a complete conception of the multitude of her victims, and it is quite certain that no power of imagination can adequately realize their sufferings." History of the Rise and Influence of the Spirit of Rationalism in Europe, vol. II, p. 32.

"Heretics have no rights. They can be tortured without scruple. Like traitors to the State, heretics have put themselves outside the mercy of the law. They must be put to death." (Innocent IV, Ad extrapanda)

7) He would rule for "forty and two months." **Revelation 11:2; 13:5** " A time, times and the dividing of times." **Daniel 7:25; 12:7 / Revelation 12:14** "…a thousand two hundred and three score days." **Revelation 11:3; 12:6** All these are the same time periods, just stated differently.

This time period began in 538 AD, (see #5) and would extend to 1798. What happened in 1798? Napoleon's general Berthier took the Pope captive and took away his power.

8) Has the Papacy blasphemed God? **John 10:30, 33** (Claiming to be God is blasphemy.)
"Confronted with the Pope, one must make a choice. The leader of the Catholic Church is defined by the faith as the Vicar of Jesus Christ (and accepted as such by believers). The Pope is considered the man on earth who represents the Son of God, who **takes the place** of the second person of the omnipotent God of the Trinity." His Holiness John Paul II, Crossing the Threshold of Hope, p. 3. (**Antichrist** = One who tries to **take the place** of Christ.)

"We hold upon this earth the place of God almighty." Encyclical Letters of Leo XIII, p.304.

"The Pope is not only the representative of Jesus Christ, but he is Jesus Christ, Himself, hidden under the veil of flesh. Does the Pope speak? It is Jesus Christ who speaks." Archbishop of Venice prior to becoming Pope Pius X, Catholic National, July, 1895.

"The Pope is called the most holy because he is rightfully presumed to be such. The Pope alone is the Vicar of Christ, who is the fountain source and fullness of all holiness." Lucius Ferraris, Prompta Bibliotheca

Luke 5:21 / Mark 2:7 "Who can forgive sins but God alone."

"Seek where you will, through heaven and earth, and you will find but one created being who can forgive the sinner, who can free him from the chains of hell. That extraordinary being is the priest, the (Roman) Catholic Priest. Yes, beloved brethren, the priest not only declares the sinner is forgiven, but he really forgives him… So great is the power of the priest that the judgments of heaven itself are subject to his decision." The Catholic Priest pp. 78-9.

"For there is one God and one **mediator** between God and men, the man Christ Jesus." (**1 Timothy 2:5**)

9) "General Berthier marched on Rome**,** entered it unopposed on February 13, 1798, and, proclaiming a Roman Republic, demanded of the Pope the renunciation of his temporal authority. Upon his refusal he was taken prisoner, and on February 20, was escorted from the Vatican to Siena, and thence to the Certosa near Florence. The French declaration of war against Tuscany led to his removal… to the citadel of Valence, the chief town of Drome where he died six weeks after his arrival, on August 29, 1799…" The Wikipedia Encyclopedia, Pope Pius VI

The Bible says, "He that leads into captivity shall go into captivity." (**Revelation 13:10**)

"Half Europe thought… that with the Pope the Papacy was dead." Joseph Rickaby, "The Modern Papacy" Lectures on the History of Religion, lecture 24, (London: Catholic Truth Society, 1910), p.1

Revelation 13:3 "The deadly wound was healed." (Show newspaper article)

On February 11, 1929, the Lateran Treaty was signed between the Roman Church and Italy. "The Roman question tonight was a thing of the past, and the Vatican was as peace with Italy in affixing the autographs to the memorable document, **healing the wound**, extreme cordiality was displayed on both sides." San Francisco Chronicle, February 11, 1929

10) Revelation 17:9 The women, this apostate church, sits on 7 mountains (hills). Classical writers often refer to Rome as the city on Seven Hills. The Catholic Encyclopedia states: "It is within the city of Rome, called the city of seven hills, that the entire area of Vatican State proper is now confined." (The Catholic Encyclopedia (Thomas Nelson, 1976), s.v. "Rome.")

11) The Bible says, "And the women (the apostate church) was arrayed in purple and scarlet color." (**Revelation 17:4, 5)** It is a fact that the Cardinals of the Catholic Church wear the

scarlet color (red) and the Bishops wear purple. (show picture of John Paul II funeral)

"The mother of harlots…" "It must be always clear that the one, holy, Catholic, and apostolic universal church is not the sister, but the mother of all churches." Cardinal Ratzinger 9 / 4 / 2000

12) Revelation 13:17, 18 In the Apostle John's time, there was a very popular game called "Gematria," in which one calculated the number of a name by adding up the numerical value of each letter in that name, using the Roman Numeral System.

"The title of the Pope of Rome is **"Vicarius Filii Dei"** (English: "Vicar of the Son of God").
"Answers to Readers' Questions," Our Sunday Visitor, November 15, 1914
NOTE: Malachi Martin, in The Keys of This Blood, uses the same title for the Pope on pages 114, and 122.

The Bible says, "Here is wisdom. Let him that has understanding count (calculate) the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is six hundred threescore and six."
(Revelation 13:18)

Using the Roman numerical system lets calculate the Pope's title:

V = 5	**F = 0**	**D = 500**
I = 1	**I = 1**	**E = 0**
C = 100	**L = 50**	**I = 1**
A = 0	**I = 1**	
R = 0	**I = 1**	
I = 1		
U = 5*		
S = 0		**= 666**

*** U and V equal 5 in Roman numerals.**

13) The Bible says, this power "… would think (intend) to change **times** and **law(s)**." (**Daniel 7:25**)

Literally: Times = Hebrew *zem-awn'* – season, **time**. *Root*; an *appointed* occasion- season / time
Laws = Hebrew *dawth* – decree, **law.**

…He will **try to change God's Law (CEV)** …he will intend to **make alterations in times and in law** (NASB)
Another words He would try to change (alter) the appointed or set time in God's law.

Adam Clarke's Commentary on Daniel 7 – Methodist And think to charge times and laws] Appointing fasts and feasts; canonizing persons whom he chooses to call saints; granting pardons and indulgences for sins; instituting new modes of worship utterly unknown to the Christian Church; new articles of faith; new rules of practice; and reversing, with pleasure, the laws both of God and man. - Dodd.

"The Pope is of so great authority and power that he can modify ("To change or alter; esp., to change slightly or partially in character, form, etc." Webster's New World Dictionary, Third College Edition), explain, or interpret even divine laws…" Translated from Lucius Ferraris Prompta bilothica, art. "Papa," II, Vol. VI, pp. 26-9

How has the Papacy tried to change God's Law's? In three ways.

1) In her catechisms she has omitted the 2nd Commandment which guards against the worship of graven images (**Exodus 20:4, 5**). In The Convert's Catechism of Catholic Doctrine, p. 49 they quote the 2nd commandment as "Thou shall not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain." (**Exodus 20:7**) They are here actually quoting from the 3rd Commandment.

2) They have shortened the 4th Commandment (The Sabbath, **Exodus 20:8-11**) from 94 words to just 8, taking out the wording of the Commandment which identifies the Sabbath as the 7th day of the week. When they took out the 2nd Commandment they had to move all the Commandments down 1 spot. **Example:** Commandment #4 moved to #3 spot and #3 was moved to the #2 spot.

Their catechism reads this way on p. 50:

Q. "What is the third commandment?'

A. "The third commandment is: Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath day."

3) They were now one Commandment short so they divided the 10th Commandment into two parts. **Their** 9th commandment is "Thou shall not covet thy neighbor's wife." And **their** 10th is "thou shall not covet thy neighbor's goods."

How has the Papacy attempted to change God's Holy Law? In two ways:

1) She (The Catholic Church) has thought to change the Sabbath, the 7th day of the week, to Sunday the 1st day of the week. A change found nowhere in the Bible. In her own catechism we read the following on p. 50:

Q. "Why do we observe Sunday instead of Saturday?"

A. "We observe Sunday instead of Saturday because the Catholic Church transferred the solemnity from Saturday to Sunday."

2) The Catholic Church has thought to change God's times by adopting the Pagan Roman custom of counting her days from mid-night to mid-night, instead of God's way from sunset to sunset. (See **Genesis 1:5,8,13,19,23,31 / Leviticus 23:23**

"'But,' say some, 'it was changed from the seventh to the first day.' Where? When? and by whom? No man can tell. No; it never was changed, nor could it be, unless creation was to be gone through again: for the reason assigned must be changed before the observance, or respect to the reason, can be changed! It is all old wives' fables to talk of the change of the Sabbath from the seventh to the first day. If it be changed, it was that august personage changed it who changes times and laws *ex officio* - I think his name is Doctor Antichrist.' Alexander Campbell, *The Christian Baptist,* Feb. 2, 1824, vol.1 No. 7, p.164

The Papacy is the antichrist and every reformer without exception came to the same conclusion. Men such as John Wycliffe, Lord Cobham, John Huss, Jerome, Martin Luther, Phillipp Melanchthon, John Calvin, John Knox, William Tyndale, Nicholas Ridley, Hugh Latimer, Bishop Cranmer, John Bradford, not to mention the English Bible translators of 1611, The Episcopalian Church, The Presbyterian Church, Methodists, Baptists, Congregational, and Seventh-day Adventists.

Martin Luther: We here are of the conviction that the Papacy is the seat of the true and real antichrist. (LeRoy Froom, *The Prophetic Faith of Our Fathers,* vol. 2, p. 281)

John Calvin: I deny him to be the vicar of Christ. . . . He is antichrist—I deny him to be head of the church. (*John Calvin Tracts,* vol. 1, pp. 219, 220)

John Knox: That tyranny which the pope himself has for so many ages exercised over the church, the very antichrist and son of perdition, of whom Paul speaks. (*The Zurich Letters,* p. 199)

Philipp Melanchthon: It is most manifest, and true without any doubt, that the Roman pontiff, with his whole order and kingdom, is very antichrist. . . . Likewise, in 2 Thessalonians 2, Paul clearly says the man of sin will rule in the church by exalting himself above the worship of God. (LeRoy Froom, *The Prophetic Faith of Our Fathers,* vol. 2, pp. 296–9)

John Wesley: Romish Papacy, he is, in an emphatical sense, the man of sin. (John Wesley, *Antichrist and His Ten Kingdoms,* p. 110.)

The statement from the **Westminster Confession of Faith** of the Church of England, which was later used by the Presbyterians, is significant: "There is no other head of the church but the Lord Jesus Christ, nor can the pope of Rome in any sense be head thereof, but is that antichrist, that man of sin and son of perdition that exalteth himself in the church against Christ and all that is called God." (*The Westminster Confession of Faith,* Section 6, chapter 25)

Cotton Mather (Congregational Theologian) "The oracles of God foretold the rising of an Antichrist in the Christian Church: and in the Pope of Rome, all the characteristics of that Antichrist are so marvelously answered that if any who read the Scriptures do not see it, there is a marvelous blindness upon them." Taken from The Fall of Babylon by Cotton Mather in Froom's book, The Prophetic Faith of Our Fathers, Vol. 3, pg. 113.

Thomas Cranmer (Anglican) "Whereof it followeth Rome to be the seat of antichrist, and the pope to be very antichrist himself. I could prove the same by many other scriptures, old writers, and strong reasons." (Referring to prophecies in Revelation and Daniel.) Taken from Works by Cranmer, Vol. 1, pp. 6-7.
Roger Williams (First Baptist Pastor in America) He spoke of the Pope as "the pretended Vicar of Christ on earth, who sits as God over the Temple of God, exalting himself not only above all that is called God, but over the souls and consciences of all his vassals, yea over the Spirit of Christ, over the Holy Spirit, yea, and God himself...speaking against the God of heaven, thinking to change times and laws; but he is the son of perdition (II Thess. 2)." Taken from The Prophetic Faith

We have allowed the Bible to identify for us who this Beast power is in Daniel 7, and also in Revelation 13. He is represented as the antichrist (literally means, one who takes the place of Christ) power that stands as a deceptive, persecuting power, who stands in opposition to the God of heaven and His people. We have also been able to calculate the number of his name (title) 666.

What is his <u>MARK</u>?
It is crucial that we understand what it is because the Bible says, "If anyone worships the Beast and his image, and receives his **<u>mark</u>** in his forehead or in his hand, the same shall drink of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture (full strength) into the cup of His indignation…"

Revelation 14:9, 10 According to these two verses whoever receives the **<u>mark</u>** of the beast will be eternally lost. Our decision to either conform to the demands of this power (**Revelation 13:16, 17**) or to reject its claim upon our lives. It is a life and death decision. In order for us to fully understand the nature of the **<u>mark</u>** we must first understand the seal of God. When we understand what the seal of God is we will then understand the full implications of those who receive the **<u>mark</u>** of the beast. Our Destiny hangs upon the decision we make!

I want to be on the Lord's side and be His child, don't you?

The Seal of God / Mark of Beast

(Bible Study #27)

A Mark = A Sign or A Seal (Webster's New World Dictionary, 3rd College Ed. P. 828)

1SG - Revelation 14:9, 10 According to these two verses, it is crucial for us to know the nature of the Mark, because those who receive it, die eternally.

2SG - Revelation 7:1-3 The Mark of the Beast and the Seal of God are placed on the forehead. (**Rev. 9:4**) Both are in direct opposition to one another. By understanding what the Seal of God is we will be able to discover what is the Mark of the Beast. (**Rev. 13:16**) (*** II Corinthians 6:14** what communion has darkness with Light)

3SG - Ezekiel 9:4 The bible teaches us that the Mark of God is placed upon those who refuse to take part in practices that are against the will of God. God's word is even more precise…

4SG - Deuteronomy 6:6, 8 After giving the law (10 commandments) to Moses and the people, God clearly states that it would be a sign (mark) on their hand or in their foreheads. If we keep them in our mind we will keep them in our works (hands).

5SG - Esther 8:8

Remember that a mark, a sign, and a seal can be the same thing. For a seal to be official it must contain 3 pieces of information:

A) It must have the name of the one in power
B) It must bear his title
C) It must also reveal the territory that he has dominion of.

6SG - Exodus 20:10, 11 His Name: **The Lord** His Title: **the Lord made** (Creator) His Territory: **heavens, earth, sea, etc.**

7SG - Romans 4:11 Paul tells us here that a seal can also be a sign**.**

8SG - Exodus 31:13, 17 (Ezekiel 20:12, 20) The Sabbath is a sign between God and His people, forever. (***Isaiah 8:16**) (***Ephesians 1:12, 13** Salvation)

9SG - Revelation 14:9, 10, 12 It is by being in God's divine will that we will be saved from His wrath and receiving The Mark of the Beast.

10SG -Daniel 7:25 This power would **think** to change times and laws…
This Beast power not only has left out the 2nd commandment from God's Holy Law but has thought to change God's times too! In doing so it has thought to change God's day of worship. What is the Mark of the Beast? Let this power speak for itself:

"Sunday keeping… not only does not rest on the Bible, but also is in flagrant contradiction with the letter of the Bible that prescribes the rest of the Sabbath or Saturday. It was the Catholic Church which… transferred this rest to the Sunday…
Thus the observance of Sunday by the Protestants is an homage they pay, in spite of themselves, to the authority of the Church." (Monsignor Louis Segur, Plain Talk About Protestantism of Today, 1868, p. 213.

"Protestants do not realize that by observing Sunday, they accept the authority of the spokesperson of the Church, the Pope." (Our Sunday Visitor, February 5, 1950)

"Sunday is our mark of authority… The Church is above the bible; and this transference of Sabbath observance from Saturday to Sunday is proof of that fact. Deny the authority of the Church and you have no adequate or reasonable explanation or justification for the substitution of Sunday for Saturday in the Third – Protestant Forth – Commandment of God."
Catholic Record, September 1, 1923

"…Of course the Catholic Church claims that the change (from Sabbath to Sunday) was her act… And the act is a **MARK** of her ecclesiastical power and authority in religious matters." (Reply of Chancellor C.F. Thomas to a letter dated October 28, 1894, and addressed to Cardinal Gibbons.)

11SG - Deuteronomy 4:2 We are not to add or take away from God's Holy Word.
(***Proverbs 30:5, 6 / Revelation 22:18, 19**)

"The first precept in the Bible is that of sanctifying the seventh day: 'God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it.' Genesis 2:3. This precept was confirmed by God in the Ten Commandments: 'Remember the Sabbath day to keep It holy. ...The seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God.' Exodus 20: 8, 10. On the other hand, Christ declares that He is not come to destroy the law, but to fulfil it. (Matthew 5: 17.) He Himself observed the Sabbath: 'And, as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day.' Luke 4: r6. His disciples likewise observed it after His death: 'They . . . rested the Sabbath day, according to the commandment.' Luke 23: 56. Yet with all this weight of Scripture authority for keeping the Sabbath or seventh day holy, Protestants of all denominations make this a profane day and transfer the obligation of it to the first day of the week, or the Sunday. Now what authority have they for doing this? None at all but the unwritten word, or tradition of the Catholic Church, which declares that the apostle made the change in honour of Christ's resurrection, and the descent of the Holy Ghost on that day of the week."-JOHN MILNER, "The End of Religious Controversy," page 71.

12SG - Mark 7:7-13 We worship Christ in vain if we follow men's teaching.
References: **Matthew 15:9** / **Titus 1:14**
Isaiah 5:24 It is because mankind has forsaken God's law that there is trouble in the world.

13SG - Acts 5:29 We must obey God rather then men.

14SG - Revelation 13:17 No one at the present time has the mark.

15SG - Matthew 12:30 We can not remain neutral this battle.

"If it [the Ten Commandments] yet exist, let us observe it... And if it does not exist, let us abandon a mock observance of another day for it. 'But,' say some, 'it was changed from the seventh to the first day.' Where? when? and by whom? - No, it never was changed, nor could it be, unless creation was to be gone through again: for the reason assigned [in Genesis 2:1-3] must be changed before the observance or respect to the reason, can be changed. It is all old wives' fables to talk of the 'change of the sabbath' from the seventh to the first day. If it be changed, it was that august personage changed it who changes times and laws ex officio, - I think his name is "Doctor Antichrist.'" Alexander Campbell, The Christian Baptist, February 2, 1824, vol 1, no. 7

16SG - Revelation 13:8 By refusing to worship the beast and receive his mark our names will remain written in God's book of life. Is your name written there?

17SG - Revelation 3:5 Putting our trust in Christ we will receive His righteous and He will confess our name before His father. The Sabbath will indeed be a sign between us and our God that He is the one that does sanctifies us. (**Ezekiel 20:12,20**)

Do you trust Him today? Do you want Him to place His seal in your forehead?
Do you want to be identified with God's people as those who keep all His Commandments?
(Revelation 14:12)

Supplement: Revelation 13:16 And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a **mark** in their right hand, or in their foreheads:
G5480 charagma *khar'-ag-mah* From the same as G5482; a ***scratch* or *etching***, that is, ***stamp*** (**as a *badge* of servitude**), or *sculptured* figure (*statue*): - graven, **mark.**

Revelation 9:4 …the seal of God in their foreheads.
G4973 sphragis *sfrag-ece'* Probably strengthened from G5420; a ***signet*** (as *fencing* in or protecting from misappropriation); by implication the ***stamp*** impressed (as a **mark** of privacy, or genuineness), literally or figuratively: - **seal**.

The USA in Bible Prophecy

(Bible Study #28)

1USA - Revelation 13:1 – 10 Two powers represented in this chapter. The 1st beast is a composite beast and we saw this same power in **Daniel 7:4-8**, **24, 25,** which represents the Papacy. (A beast represents an earthly government or kingdom – **Daniel 7:23**)

2USA - Revelation 13:5, 3 The bible predicted that this power would loose its world influence and power (deadly wound) at the end of 42 months. Note: The Bible gives us this same time period in 3 different ways: 42 months – **Revelation 11:2; 13:5** A time, times and ½ a time - **Revelation 12:14 / Daniel 7:25** 1260 days - **Revelation 11:3; 12:6** Prophecy was fulfilled in 1798. 538AD Papacy was given full power –1798 General Berthier takes Pope captive and he dies in captivity (**Revelation 13:10**)

3USA - Revelation 13:11 Another beast is seen coming up at the time the papacy receives its deadly wound in 1798. Brief history: US declared independence in 1776, voted in its Constitution in 1787, Bill of Rights adapted in 1791, and it was clearly recognized as a World power in 1798. No other nation could possibly fit the Prophecy!

Identifying marks of this 2nd beast power

4USA - V.11 Unlike the beast who rises up out of the sea, (**Rev. 17:15** Representing nations, peoples and multitudes) this lamb-like beast rises up out of obscurity (the earth) in a sparsely populated area. "The mystery of her coming forth from vacancy, like a silent weed, we grew into an empire."
The New World Compared with the Old, G.A. Townsend, p. 635

A. V.11 It is a "Christian" power symbolized by the Lamb (Christ – **Rev. 5:5, 6**)

B. V.11 Unlike the 1st beast, it has no crowns – no kings.

C. V.11 The two horns represent it's power – They represent the two governing principles of the United States – civil and religious liberty. These two principles have been labeled "republicanism" (a government without a King) and "Protestantism" (a church without a Pope). "Every man conducting himself as a good citizen and being accountable to God alone for his religious opinions ought to be protected in worshipping the Deity according to the dictates of his own good conscience." George Washington, 1789.

D. V.11 It speaks as a dragon – The very nature of this beast has changed!

5USA - Revelation 13:12, 14, 15 It becomes a persecuting power, supporting the 1st beast by enforcing a death decree on all who will not worship this papal Antichrist power.

6USA - Revelation 13:14, 15 It will make an image to the beast. What is the image to the beast? It is when the United States legislates (forces) religious practice. It will force people to worship, to either obey or face death. It combines both religious and civil powers.

"Don't interfere with anything in the Constitution. That must be maintained, for it is the only safeguard of our liberties." - Abraham Lincoln

"America will never be destroyed from the outside. If we falter and lose our freedoms, it will be because we destroyed ourselves." - Abraham Lincoln

Listen to the words of Pope John Paul in his Apostolic Letter, Dies Domini, May 31, 1998 but released on July 7, 1998: "Therefore, also in the particular circumstances of our own time, Christians will naturally strive to ensure that civil legislation respects their duty to keep Sunday holy."

7USA - Malachi 2:7-9 The word of God predicted that many pastors would be partial to some commandments causing people to stumble. The prophet of the book of **Ezekiel 22:26** points out that this problem would include the 4th or Sabbath commandment.

8USA - Revelation 13:16, 17 The bible predicts that the United States will force its own citizens and people of other nations to accept the Mark of the Beast, Sunday worship.
Cardinal Gibbons, speaking about the change from Saturday to Sunday stated this:
"Of course the Catholic Church claims that the change was her act… And the act is a "mark" of her ecclesiastical authority and power in religious matters."
Spiritual Evidences, p. 100.

9USA - Matthew 7:21-23 Many will be lost because they think the way they live is ok, but they are not in harmony with the word of God, they are keeping man made traditions (**Matthew 15:3, 9, 15**) and will be destroyed in the end because they have rejected truth (**II Thessalonians 2:10-12**).

10USA- Ezekiel 20:12, 20 Jesus wants you and I to honor His Sabbath because it is a sign between us and Him that He is the Lord that sanctifies us. And he also has no greater joy then to know that His children walk in the truth of His word (**3 John 1:4**)!

Do you want to give joy to the heart of Jesus today and follow Him?!

Why So Many Denominations

(Bible Study # 29)

1WD - Genesis 1:26, 27 In the beginning there was only one faith.

2WD - Genesis 4:3-5 When sin entered the world God's truth became divided. (**Hebrews 11:4**) Cain and Abel represent two divergent faiths. One lives by their own works the other by faith and obedience. Ever wonder where all these divergent faiths came from all around the world? It began with Cain who chose to worship God his own way. There are many like Cain today who do not live wholly by the word of God (**Matthew 4:4**) but choose to worship Him in the way they want to. It has been Satan's plans from the beginning to cause division in God's Church (**Num. 16:1-3 / 2 Pet. 2:1, 2**)

3WD - Genesis 11:1, 7-9 God changed their language and they went to different parts of the world with their own idea's of how to worship God (**Judges 17:6**) Just look at all the different religions of the world and the fragmentation of Christianity today. It is because many have forsaken God's law (***Isaiah 5:24***)

4WD - Hebrews 11:5, 7, 8, 20, 23 God's truth was preserved through those who were faithful to Him. (Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Moses, Daniel, etc.) There were 2 prominent characteristics – Faith and Obedience –

5WD - Revelation 12:1-6, 14-16 God's true church is symbolized here by the woman. Church in the wilderness – 1260 years (538 to 1798)
(**Jeremiah 6:2, Isaiah 51:16**) A women in prophecy represents a church.
Symbols in chapter 12 that most commentators agree on are:
Crown: 12 stars = 12 apostles **Sun:** The light of the Gospel (**John 1:12**)
Moon: Mosaic system of types and shadows (**Colossians 2:17**) **Child:** Jesus (**Psalm 2:7-9 and Revelation 19:13-16**) **Great Red Dragon:** Pagan Rome under Herod (**Matthew 2:7-18**)

6WD - Revelation 12:17;19:10 Notice the characteristics of God's true church (**Rev. 14:6-12**) Keeps all commandments / Spirit of Prophecy / World wide movement / calls world to worship the Creator / Give Him glory / The hour of His judgment **is** come.

7WD – Revelation 17:3-5 The false churches represented by the women, the **mother** of harlots. This mother has daughters – Who are they? We will let her (The false church) speak for herself: "But since Saturday not Sunday is not specified in the Bible, isn't it curious that non-Catholics who profess to take their religion directly from the Bible and not from the church observe Sunday instead of Saturday? Yes, of course it is inconsistent, but this change was made about fifteen centuries before Protestantism was born and by that time the **custom** was universally observed… …they have continued the **custom** even though it rests upon the authority of the Catholic Church and not upon an explicit text in the Bible. That observance remains as a reminder of the **mother** church from which the non-Catholic sects broke away. Like a little boy running away from home, but in his pocket, still carrying a picture of his mother or a lock of her hair."

Father John A. O'Brien, The Faith of Millions pg. 421

Revelation 17:4 Apostate Protestantism has also drank of her cup of false doctrines: Sunday sacredness, the immortality of the soul, baptism by sprinkling, etc.

8WD - Daniel 8:12 (**2 Thessalonians 2:3-7**) The Bible predicts that God's truth would be cast to the ground and that there would be a falling away and departure from it. They have "a form of Godliness but deny the power thereof...." (**2 Timothy 3:5**)

9WD - 1 Thessalonians 2:14 Church of God / Church of living God (**1 Timothy 3:15**) Church of Christ (**Romans 16:16**) The name of a church is not what is crucial to our salvation and relationship with Jesus Christ.

10WD- Luke 6:46 What is really matters is that we are obedient to His Word. Many want to be called by His name but want their own way (**Isaiah 4:1**) The test is not the name of a church but in Christ's doctrine or teachings. (**Matthew 7:21**, **1 John 2:3, 4**)

11WD- Acts 2:47 (**1 Thessalonians 2:13, 14**) Church membership is absolutely essential.

12WD- 1 Timothy 3:15 (**Matthew 16:18**) God's true church is the ground and pillar of truth.

13WD- John 10:16 God's people are scattered everywhere and the Lord is calling them into one fold.

14WD- Colossians 3:15 We are called into one body / The church is the body (**Colossians 1:18**) We enter the body by baptism (**1 Corinthians 12:13, 14**)

15WD- Genesis 7:1, 5-7 In Noah's day there was only one ark, one true church – made up of those who trusted and believed God: one nation of Israel who His truth was given, and God has on this earth one true church today who seek to live faithfully by His word. (**Ephesians 4:3-5, 13 / Matthew 4:4**) They are a unified church, in doctrine and practice.

16WD- Revelation 18:2-4 Babylon (the false churches) is fallen and soon to reap what she has sown and God is calling His people to come out of them. He's calling you, do you hear Him calling?!

2300 Day Prophecy

(Bible Study #30)

"About the time of the end, a body of men will be raised up who will turn their attention to the prophecies, and insist upon their literal interpretation, in the midst of much clamor and opposition." -Sir Isaac Newton (1643 – 1727)

1DP - John 14:29 Jesus tells us beforehand so that we will believe!

2DP - Daniel 8:13, 14 The longest time prophecy in the bible. **(Leviticus 23:28-32** The earthly Sanctuary was cleansed once a year, it was a day of judgment.

3DP - Numbers 14:34 In prophecy, a day equals a year. **(Ref. – Ezekiel 4:6)**

V. 14 – "Though literally it to be two thousand three hundred evenings and mornings, yet I think the prophetic day should be understood here, as in other parts of this prophet, and must signify so many years." Verse 26. The vision of the evenings and the morning which was told is true) That mentioned in ver. 14. For it shall be for many days.) Not less than two thousand three hundred years!" **Clarke's Commentary, Vol. IV, p. 598, 599**

4DP - Daniel 8:3-5, 8, 9, 20-27 Give overview of vision – all explained except 2300 days.

5DP - Daniel 9:2, 21-23 Daniel's prayer – Angel Gabriel comes to give understanding of the vision of the evenings and mornings. (Reference – **Genesis 1:5**)

6DP - Daniel 9:25 The bible tells us that the starting point of this prophecy begins with the decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem.

7DP - Ezra 7:21, 25, 26 It was given by king Artaxerxes in 457 BC.

8DP - Daniel 9:24-27 70 weeks are given to God's people. It took 7 weeks (49 years) to build the city – 7 weeks (49 years) + 62 weeks (434) = 69 weeks (483 years) to Messiah the the Prince (v. 25 Ref. – **Luke 3:21, 22**; **Mark 1:15** - Autumn of AD 27). In the midst of 70th week the Messiah would be cut off (31 AD – The Cross). 34 AD marks the end of the 70 weeks. (Reference **Acts7**, and chapter 10 Gospel now goes to the gentiles)

V. 26 – "And the people of the prince…" "By the 'prince' Titus, the son of Vespasian, is plainly intended; and 'the people of the prince' are no other than the Romans, who, according to the prophecy, destroyed the sanctuary…" **Clarke's Commentary, Vol. IV, p. 603**

V. 27 – "He must confirm the covenant with many. He shall introduce a new covenant between God and man, a covenant of grace, since it had become impossible for us to be saved by a covenant of innocence. …He must cause the sacrifice and oblation to cease. By offering himself a sacrifice once for all he shall put an end to all the Levitical sacrifices, shall supersede them and set them aside; when the substance comes the shadows shall be done away. …He causes all the peace-offerings to cease when he has made peace by the blood of his cross, and by it confirmed the covenant of peace and reconciliation. …Concerning the final destruction of Jerusalem, and of the Jewish church and nation; and this follows immediately upon the cutting off of the Messiah, not only because it was the just punishment of those that put him to death, which was the sin that filled up the measure of their iniquity and brought ruin upon them…"
Matthew Henry's Commentary, Vol. IV, pps. 1094, 1095

"'He shall confirm the covenant with many for one week,' that is 7 years, ver. 27. This conformation of the covenant must take in the ministry of John the Baptist with that of our Lord, comprehending the term of seven years, during the whole of which he might be well said to confirm or ratify the new covenant with mankind." **Clarke's Commentary, Vol. IV, p. 602**

9DP - Revelation 14:6, 7 The Judgment begins in 1844. 490 years (34 AD) + 1810 = 2300 days (years in prophetic time).

10DP - Hebrews 9:24 After His death, Jesus went back to heaven to be our High Priest.

11DP - 1 John 2:1 He is our Advocate and Mediator in heaven.

12DP - Hebrews 7:25 Christ lives to make intercession for us in heaven.

The Judgment

(Bible Study #31)

1J - Acts 17:31 God has appointed a day in which He will Judge the world.
2J - Romans 14:10-12 Everyone of us must stand before the judgment seat of Christ.
3J - Revelation 11:18, 19 The judgment begins while people are still living on the earth.
4J - Daniel 7:9, 10 Daniel sees the judgment taking place in the last days in heaven. (**Ref. – Daniel 8:14**, It began in 1844)
5J - Matthew 24:29 God sends signs to warn us of His coming judgment. (**Rev. 6:12, 13 / Joel 2:31 / Genesis1:14)** *See notes below
6J - Revelation 14:7 The 1st angel announces that the time of God's judgment **has come**. *See notes below on William Miller
7J - James 2:10-12 The standard for the judgment – God's Holy Law.
8J - Revelation 20:11, 12 We'll be judged by our deeds. **Ecclesiastes 12:13, 14** Nothing will be missed or overlooked.
9J - Ecclesiastes 3:17 God will judge both the righteous and the wicked. (**1 Peter 4:17** The judgment begins with God's people.) (**Matthew 24:38,39** probationary period)
10J- Exodus 32:31-33 It is possible for those who's names are written in the book of life to turn away from the Gospel (Jesus) and have their names blotted out of the book.
11J- Romans 6:23 We deserve death but Jesus offers life. **Titus 2:11-14** How should we live?
12J- Revelation 3:5, 20 Jesus offers us His righteousness and life today before the judgment is pronounced.

The Judgment- A Jewish Perspective

Yom Kippur = Day of Atonement

"God, seated on His throne to judge the world, at the same time Judge, Pleader, Expert, and Witness, openeth the Books of Records; it is read, every man's signature being found therein. The great trumpet is sounded; a still, small voice is heard; angels shudder, saying, this is the day of judgment: for His very ministers are not pure before God. As a shepherd mustereth his flocks, causing them to pass under his rod, so doth God cause every living soul to pass before Him to fix the limit of every creature's life and to foreordain its destiny… On the Day of Atonement it is sealed who shall live and who are to die." **Jewish Encyclopedia, "Day of Atonement."**

On Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement) the Jews greet one another with the Hebrew phrase that basically means "May you be sealed in the Book of Life for good."

Rabbi Yechiel Eckstien describes Yom Kippur as "our final opportunity to come before God to plead for merciful judgment." **(Jews and Judaism, Word Books: Waco, Texas, 1984, p. 125.**

The Dark Day - Matthew 24:29
On the 19th of May, 1780, this prophecy was fulfilled. It was not an eclipse. Timothy Dwight says, "The 19th of May, 1780, was a remarkable dark day. Candles were lighted in many houses; the birds were silent and disappeared, and the fowls retired to roost. ... A very general opinion prevailed, that the day of judgment was at hand." Quoted in Connecticut Historical Collections, compiled by John Warner Barber (2nd ed.; New Haven: Durrie & Peck and J.W. Barber, 1836) p. 403. For further commentary on this event please continue reading.

"Almost if not altogether alone as the most mysterious and as yet unexplained phenomenon of its kind, . . . stands the dark day of May 19, 1780,--a most unaccountable darkening of the whole visible heavens and atmosphere in New England." That the darkness was not due to an eclipse is evident from the fact that the moon was then nearly full. It was not caused by clouds, or the thickness of the atmosphere, for in some localities where the darkness extended, the sky was so clear that the stars could be seen. Concerning the inability of science to assign a satisfactory cause for this manifestation, Herschel the astronomer declares: "The dark day in North America was one of those wonderful phenomena of nature which philosophy is at a loss to explain."

"The extent of the darkness was also very remarkable. It was observed at the most easterly regions of New England; westward, to the farthest part of Connecticut, and at Albany, N. Y.; to the southward, it was observed all along the sea coast; and to the north, as far as the American settlements extended. It probably far exceeded those boundaries, but the exact limits were never positively known. With regard to its duration, it continued in the neighborhood of Boston for at least fourteen or fifteen hours."

"The morning was clear and pleasant, but about eight o'clock there was observed an uncommon appearance in the sun. There were no clouds, but the air was thick, having a smoky appearance, and the sun shone with a pale, yellowish hue, but kept growing darker and darker, until it was hid from sight." There was "midnight darkness at noonday."

"The occurrence brought intense alarm and distress to multitudes of minds, as well as dismay to the whole brute creation, the fowls fleeing bewildered to their roosts, and the birds to their nests, and the cattle returning to their stalls." Frogs and night hawks began their notes. The cocks crew as at daybreak. Farmers were forced to leave their work in the fields. Business was generally suspended, and candles were lighted in the dwellings. "The Legislature of Connecticut was in session at Hartford, but being unable to transact business adjourned. Everything bore the appearance and gloom of night."

The intense darkness of the day was succeeded, an hour or two before evening, by a partially clear sky, and the sun appeared, though it was still obscured by the black, heavy mist. But "this interval was followed by a return of the obscuration with greater density, that rendered the first half of the night hideously dark beyond all former experience of the probable million of people who saw it. From soon after sunset until midnight, no ray of light from moon or star penetrated the vault above. It was pronounced 'the blackness of

darkness!'" Said an eye-witness of the scene: "I could not help conceiving, at the time, that if every luminous body in the universe had been shrouded in impenetrable darkness, or struck out of existence, the darkness could not have been more complete." Though the moon that night rose to the full, "it had not the least effect to dispel the death-like shadows." After midnight the darkness disappeared, and the moon, when first visible, had the appearance of blood. Milo Bostick in Stone's History of Massachusetts says, "The moon which was at its full, had the appearance of blood."

The poet Whittier thus speaks of this memorable day:--
"'Twas on a May-day of the far old year
Seventeen hundred eighty, that there fell
Over the bloom and sweet life of the spring,
Over the fresh earth, and the heaven of noon,
A horror of great darkness."
"Men prayed, and women wept; all ears grew sharp
To hear the doom-blast of the trumpet shatter
The black sky."

May 19, 1780, stands in history as "The Dark Day." Since the time of Moses, no period of darkness of equal density, extent, and duration has ever been recorded. The description of this event, as given by the poet and the historian, is but an echo of the words of the Lord, recorded by the prophet Joel, twenty-five hundred years previous to their fulfillment: "The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the Lord come." Joel 2:31.

NEW ENGLAND'S DARK DAY

Though daytime skies for several days had been unusually coloured — a dirty yellow tinge with a reddish-hued sun — no one in New England was fully prepared for the darkness that descended over the region on the morning of 19 May. When an early descending darkness took hold around the noon hour, all life reacted. Birds began singing their evening songs, then went silent and disappeared from view; frogs began to peep. Chickens returned to their roosts, and cattle walked slowly back to their barns, thinking evening had descended. Human outdoor travel became difficult. Professor Daggett of New Haven, Connecticut reported: "The greatest darkness at least equal to what was commonly called candle-lighting in the evening. The appearance was indeed uncommon, and the cause unknown."

Opinions as to the cause of the darkness were mixed. Yale president Timothy Dwight observed: "It was the general opinion that the day of judgment was at hand." Many New Englanders abandoned their daily activities and congregated at hastily-convened religious services. Those with a more scientific viewpoint examined the sky and rain water that fell during the event to find a cause. In any case, the day would go down in history as "New England's Dark Day," "Black Friday" and even "The Wonderful Dark Day."

The intensity of the darkness was described by many observers:
"In some places, the darkness was so great, that persons could not see to read common print in the open air.... The extent of this darkness was very remarkable." Prof. Samuel Williams, Cambridge MA.
"The darkness of the following evening was probably as gross as ever has been observed since the Almighty fiat gave birth to light.... A sheet of white paper held within a few inches of the eyes was equally invisible with the blackest velvet." Dr Samuel Tenney of Rowley, (MA?), letter dated from Exeter (NH?).
"By 12, I could not read anywhere in the house — we were forced to dine by candle light. It was awful and surprising." Rev. Ebenezer Parkham, Westborough, MA.

The most interesting reaction came from the Connecticut Legislature sitting at Harford. The general opinion of many legislators was that the day of judgment was at hand. In the House of Representatives, members being unable to transact their business adjourned, according to Timothy Dwight. A move to adjourn the Council was opposed by Colonel Abraham Davenport who purportedly rose in opposition. "I am against an adjournment. The day of judgment is either approaching, or it is not. If it is not, there is no cause of an adjournment: if it is, I choose to be found doing my duty. I move that candles be brought, and we proceed to business." (Davenport has been immortalized for this stand in a poem "Abraham Davenport" by John Greenleaf Whittier.)

The Stars Fall from Heaven

"And the stars shall fall from heaven." Matthew 24:29.

The great star shower took place on the night of November 13, 1833. It was so bright that a newspaper could be read on the street. One writer says, "For nearly four hours the sky was literally ablaze."* Men thought the end of the world had come. Look into this. It is most fascinating, and a sign of Christ's coming.

*Peter A. Millman, "The Falling of the Stars," The Telescope, 7 (May-June, 1940) 57.

In 1833, the last of the signs appeared which were promised by the Saviour as tokens of his second advent. Said Jesus, "The stars shall fall from heaven." Matt. 24:29. And John in the Revelation declared, as he beheld in vision the scenes that herald the day of God: "The stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig-tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind." Rev. 6:13. This prophecy received a striking and impressive fulfillment in the great meteoric shower of November 13, 1833. That was the most extensive and wonderful display of falling stars which has ever been recorded; "the whole firmament, over all the United States, being then, for hours, in fiery commotion. No celestial phenomenon has ever occurred in this country, since its first settlement, which was viewed with such intense admiration by one class in the community, or such dread and alarm by another." "Its sublimity and awful beauty still linger in many minds. . . . Never did rain fall much thicker than the meteors fell toward the earth; east, west, north, and south, it was the same. In a word, the whole heavens seemed in motion. . . .

The display, as described in Professor Silliman's journal, was seen all over North America. . . . From two o'clock until broad daylight, the sky being perfectly serene and cloudless, an incessant play of dazzlingly brilliant luminosities was kept up in the whole heavens."

"No language indeed can come up to the splendor of that magnificent display; no one who did not witness it can form an adequate conception of its glory. It seemed as if the whole starry heavens had congregated at one point near the zenith, and were simultaneously shooting forth, with the velocity of lightning, to every part of the horizon; and yet they were not exhausted--thousands swiftly followed in the track of thousands, as if created for the occasion." "A more correct picture of a fig-tree casting its figs when blown by a mighty wind, it is not possible to behold."

On the day following its appearance, Henry Dana Ward wrote thus of the wonderful phenomenon: "No philosopher or scholar has told or recorded an event, I suppose, like that of yesterday morning. A prophet eighteen hundred years ago foretold it exactly, if we will be at the trouble of understanding stars falling to mean falling stars, in the only sense in which it is possible to be literally true."

Thus was displayed the last of those signs of his coming, concerning which Jesus bade his disciples, "When ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors." Matt. 24:33. After these signs, John beheld, as the great event next impending, the heavens departing as a scroll, while the earth quaked, mountains and islands removed out of their places, and the wicked in terror sought to flee from the presence of the Son of man.

Many who witnessed the falling of the stars, looked upon it as a herald of the coming Judgment,--"an awful type, a sure forerunner, a merciful sign, of that great and dreadful day." Thus the attention of the people was directed to the fulfillment of prophecy, and many were led to give heed to the warning of the second advent.

Healthful Living

(Bible Study # 32)

"The Doctor of the future will give no medicine, but will interest his patient in the care of the human frame, in diet, and in the cause and prevention of disease." Thomas Edison

1HL - 3 John 1:2 God wants us to be in good health, which includes a clear mind.

2HL - Romans 12:1, 2 God wants us to keep our bodies healthy and He gives us guidelines that are reasonable and logical.

3HL - 1 Corinthians 6:19, 20 Our bodies belong to God, and we should treat them as such.

4HL - Isaiah 55:2 God wants us to eat only those foods that are good for us.
Exodus 23:25 There is a blessing in eating good food

5HL - Genesis 1:29 God's original diet for the human family consisted of fruits, nuts, and grains. After the fall (when sin entered) He gave mankind vegetables (**Genesis 3:17, 18**)
Daniel 1:8,12-16,20 Daniel and his friends chose to eat the best food for their bodies.

6HL - Genesis 9:1-4 Following the flood, God allowed mankind to eat flesh food.

7HL - Genesis 7:2 distinction between "clean" and "unclean" given before flood and before the Mosaic laws were given. Clean animals by 7's and the unclean by 2's.

8HL - Leviticus 11:1-20 (Deuteronomy 14:2-20) God clearly defines "clean" and "unclean" animals. No fat or blood to be eaten (**Lev. 3:17; 17:10-14, Deut. 12:23-25) (Acts 15:20**)
Fat gives us cholesterol and the blood carries disease. (Ref. ***Isaiah 66:15-17**)

9HL –Proverbs 20:1 abstain from all alcoholic beverages. (**Daniel 1:8** Daniel purposed that he would not defile himself with King's wine) (**Proverbs 23:29-35; Ephesians 5:18**)
1 Corinthians 6:9, 10 No inheritance in God's kingdom**. Isaiah 65:8** A blessing in the cluster, fresh grape juice. <u>Jesus refused things that affect the mind</u>. ***Matthew 27:34***
(**Proverbs 31:4** Princes / **Leviticus 10:9, 10** Priests (**1 Pet. 2:9**) / **Numbers 6:3** Nazarite

10HL –1 Corinthians 3:16, 17 Drugs, coffee, tobacco, injures and defiles our bodies. (**John 2:14-16** Jesus cleansing the earthly temple from defilement – Example of His work in our lives)
Romans 6:16 We become servants to these things. **Exodus 20:13 "**you shall not kill…"

11HL – Revelation 21:27 Nothing shall enter into heaven that defiles.

12HL – Philippians 4:13 Christ will give you the power to overcome.

13HL – Isaiah 33:24 All the inhabitants will not say, I am sick… (**Revelation 21:4)**

<u>Misunderstood texts</u> – "Kingdom of God not meat and drink…"Romans 14:17 (v. 15 – food)
"Unwashen hands" Mark 7:1-23 / *Matthew 15:1-20. "Nothing to be refused" 1 Timothy 4:1-5
Peter's dream Acts 10:14, 28, 34,35.

Biblical Standards for Christians

(Bible Study # 33)

1BC - 2 Corinthians 5:20 We are ambassadors for God / **2 Cor. 3:18** Beholding we are changed
2BC - Philippians 4:8 The Christian seeks to be in harmony with heaven.
3BC - Psalm 101:3 We will not put ourselves in a position to see evil.
4BC - 2 Corinthians 6:14 Don't be unequally yoked with unbelievers.
5BC - 1 John 2:15-17 Do not to love the world; Its music, lifestyle, fashions, etc. **Romans 12:2** Don't let it put you into its mold. **Romans 13:11- 14 / 1 Peter 2:11** The flesh (**Gal. 5:19-21**)- The Spirit (**Gal. 5:22-25**)

6BC - Deuteronomy 22:5 Clothing, neat and clean, tailored for the gender.
7BC - Leviticus 19:28 No tattoos for the children of God – **Genesis 1:26, 27**
8BC - 1 Timothy 2:9 Modesty and simplicity Dress tells others who we are and what we are.
9BC - Genesis 35:1-4 Note: Spiritual reform is always accompanied by dress reform.

Notice two very important points:

1) The foreign gods and jewelry God classified together. There has always been a close association between pagan worship and jewelry. In order for Jacob and his family to come and worship before the Lord they must **separate themselves from idolatrous practices**. They did not make a temporary removal of these objects, it was permanent, **they buried them!**

2) The word **Bethel** means **"House of God."** We are the temple of the Spirit of God (**1 Corinthians 3:16, 17**) and we are not to defile it. God wants His people to be separate from the world (**2 Corinthians 6:17)**

10BC- Exodus 33:5, 6 Children of Israel got rid of their jewelry as they stood before the Lord. This act implies **mourning** (sorrow for sin) and **reformation**.

11BC- Isaiah 3:16-23 God identifies jewelry with Idolatry. Jewelry's function, is to enhance the appearance of the one who wears it, **artificially.** Nothing more nothing less. (**Hosea 2:13**) Our goal is to point people to Jesus, not ourselves. Makeup - **(2 Kings 9:30 / Jeremiah 4:30**

12BC- Revelation 12:1 (Ref. Ch. 17:4) There are two symbolic women that appear in Revelation. (A women in prophecy represents a church: **Jeremiah 6:2** and **Isaiah 54:5, 6**)
Notice that the primary way the bible identifies them is by what they are wearing.
God's church is clothed with natural light and the apostate church is clothed with the artificial. Obviously these things are associated with the appearance of evil and we are commanded to "Abstain from all appearance of evil." **1 Thessalonians 5:22**

13BC- 1 John 2:6 Jesus is our example. **Jesus never wore jewelry**. At the cross they did not cast lots for His jewelry, because He didn't have any, it was for His seamless tunic. **(John 19:23, 24)** Be followers of Christ, not the world (**Ephesians 5:1**)

14BC- 1 Peter 3:3, 4 "Your beauty should reside, not in outward adornment – the braiding of the hair, or jewelry, or dress – but in the inmost center of your being, with its imperishable ornament, a gentle, quiet spirit, which is of high value in the sight of God. **(NEB)** We are to show His praises to the world **(1 Peter 2:9)**

Christian Stewardship

(Bible Study #34)

1CS - Psalm 50:10-12 Our God is the owner and possessor of all things.

2CS - 1 Corinthians 4:2 We are the stewards of God's gifts to us.

3CS - 1 Timothy 6:10 The love of money is root of evil – not money.

4CS - Exodus 20:8-11 God claims one 7^{th} of our time.

5CS - Leviticus 27:30-33 God claims one 10^{th} of our income as His (tithe).

6CS - Genesis 14:18-20 Tithe is given long before the Mosaic Law.

7CS - Numbers 18:20-24 Used for the support of the Gospel Ministry. (**1 Corinthians 9:13,14**)

8CS - Matthew 23:23 Jesus endorses tithing.

9CS - Malachi 3:8-12 To be placed in the church treasury, supporting His work. For those who give faithfully God promises wonderful blessings. (Both tithes and offering)

10CS- 2 Corinthians 9:6, 7 God wants us to give cheerfully.

11CS- Matthew 6:19-21 Jesus urges us to store up our treasures in heaven.

The True Church

(Bible Study #35)

"…the giving ear to the prophets is a fundamental character of the true church." Sir Isaac Newton

1TC - Revelation 12:1 This chapter / History of God's church / A women = A church (**Jeremiah 6:2 / Isaiah 54:5, 6**) False church = **Revelation 17:3-6**

2TC - Revelation 12:2-6, 13,14* Early church history – Christ child – Rome in both its pagan and papal phases – God's people forced into exile. (538 – 1798 AD)

3TC - Revelation 12:15,16 Persecution and false doctrine nearly obliterate God's church.

4TC - Revelation 12:17** Lives in obedience to all God's commandments – Prophecy – **Rev. 19:10.**

5TC - Revelation 14:6-12 The message and work of God's true church. Note: An angel represents a messenger, pastor (to bring tidings) Gr. Aggelos In **Luke 7:27 /Mark 1:2 / Matt. 11:10** the word messenger is the same Greek word used for angel. John also represents God's faithful people (messengers) who prepare the world for Christ's 2nd Coming. (**Mal. 3:1**)

6TC - Revelation 14:6** A world wide missionary movement – Preaches the Everlasting Gospel. (**Matthew 28:19,20 / 1 Timothy 1:15 / Ephesians 2:8**)

7TC - Revelation 14:7*** Calls the world to glorify God in their lives (**1 Corinthians 10:31**) Announces that God's judgment has come (**Acts 24:25**) - A call to worship the Creator.

8TC - Revelation 4:11 The basis of all true worship – God is our creator.

9TC - Exodus 20:8-11 The Sabbath is the symbol of Creation. (**Genesis 2:1-3**)

10TC- Revelation 14:8* Warns against the false doctrines of Spiritual Babylon. (**Rev. 17:4**)

11TC- Revelation 14:9-11** Warns about receiving Mark of beast (Sunday worship) – The truth about death & destruction of the wicked. (**Ecclesiastes 9:5 / Malachi 4:1**)

12TC- Revelation 14:12 God's church will have faith in Jesus and lead others to obey God's Law.

13TC- Revelation 18:4 God's true church will call others out of Babylon.

14TC- John 10:16 They are called into His fold – One Body (**Col. 3:15**) – The Church (**Col. 1:18**) "… and they shall hear my voice…" Do you hear His voice speaking to your heart. He is calling you to be a part of His flock. Is that your desire!?

Ten identifying marks of God's people and their message

1. They are a worldwide missionary movement sharing the everlasting gospel – **Revelation 14:6**
2. They keep all His commandments – **Revelation 12:17; 14:12**
3. They have the prophetic gift – **Ephesians 4:11-13 / Revelation 12:17; 19:10**
4. They call the world to "fear" reverence God – **Revelation 14:7**
5. They glorify God in their bodies – **Revelation 14:7 / 1 Corinthians 6:19, 20; 10:31**
6. Proclaim that God's hour of judgment has come – **Revelation 14:7 / Acts 24:25**
7. They point the world to God's Holy Sabbath – **Rev. 14:7 / Ex. 20:8-11 / Gen. 2:2, 3**
8. They warn the world of Babylon's false doctrines – **Revelation 14:8**
9. They warn the world about receiving the Mark of the Beast – **Revelation 14:9, 10**
10. They will call others out of spiritual Babylon – **Revelation 18:4**

The Spirit of Prophecy

(Bible Study #36)

1SP - Ephesians 4:8, 11-14 The gifts remain until Jesus comes. (**I Cor. 1:4-7, 28 / Romans 12:6-8**)
2SP - Amos 3:7 God reveals His secrets, His will through His prophets / both Old and New testament.
3SP - Numbers 12:5, 6 Visions / Dreams God's way to communicate His will.
4SP - Exodus 15:1, 20 (Moses – **Deut. 34:10**) The Bible tells us that God uses both men and women.

Non-Canonical Prophets: (**35**) Abraham, Unnamed prophet (Judges 6:8), company of prophets (1 Samuel 10:5), Gad, Nathan, Ahijah, A man of God (1 Kings 13), Jehu, Elijah, Elisha, Unnamed prophet (1 Kings 20:13), Micaiah, Shemaiah, Iddo, Oded, unnamed prophet (2 Chronicles 20:15), John the Baptist, Agabus, Unnamed prophets (Acts 11:27), Barnabas, Simeon, Lucius, Manaen, Judas, and Silas.

Non – Canonical Prophetess's: (**9**) Miriam (Exodus 15:20), Deborah (Judges 4:4-7), Huldah (2 Kings 22:11-20), Isaiah's wife (Isaiah 8:3), Anna, Philip the evangelist's four daughters (Acts 21:8, 9).

5SP - Nehemiah 9:30 God's spirit testifies through His servants the prophets "God's spirit was given to the prophets; and they testified to the people, according as they were taught and influenced by this spirit." *Adam Clarke* **Note:** There is no varying degree of inspiration between a canonical and non-canonical prophet.

6SP - Acts 2:16-18 Prophecy will be given in the last days. (**1 Thess. 5:20** Despise not prophesy)
7SP - Revelation 12:17 Satan is angry at God's faithful ones.
8SP - Revelation 19:10 God's last day church will posses this true gift.
9SP - Lamentations 2:9 Forsaking God's law, the prophetic voice is lost. **Ezekiel 7:25, 26**
10SP- Matthew 24:4,5,11,24 Jesus warns of false prophets. O.T. **Jeremiah 14:14 / 2 Kings 22:5-8**
11SP- 1 John 4:1 God invites us to test the Spirits. ***1 Thessalonians 5:19-20**

Test of and The Identifying Marks of A True Prophet

12SP- 1. **1 John 4:2-3** True prophets emphasis the truth about Jesus.

13SP- 2. **Matthew 7:15-17** We will know them by our fruits.

14SP- 3. **Jeremiah 38:11-20** A true prophet will always call others to obedience to God's word.

15SP- 4. **Jeremiah 28:1-9** Prophecies always come true – unless conditional (**Jonah 3:4-10**) (**Deuteronomy 18:22**) When a prophet speaks and it does not happen God has not sent him.

16SP- 5. **Isaiah 8:19, 20** The prophet will speak in harmony with God's word. (**Jeremiah 23:28)**

17SP- II Chronicles 20:20 Believe His prophets.

The Unpardonable Sin

(Bible Study #37)

1US - Matthew 12:22-32 Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit. (**1 John 5:16,17**) sin leading to death.
John 9:1, 6, 7, 13-16, 26-34 Blasphemy, is closing your mind against the truth in Christ.
(***James 4:17** When we know to do right and do not do it, to us it is sin)

2US - John 16:8, 13 The work of the Holy Spirit is to convict of sin, righteousness, and judgment.
(of sin – **Acts 2:37** / righteousness – **Romans 8:4** / judgment – **John 12:48** The Spirit of God convicts us of sin, points us to Christ and His salvation, and warns us of judgment to come if we continue in our sins, refusing the salvation freely offered to us in Christ.)

3US - 1 John 1:7, 9 There's no sin God cannot forgive – if we meet the conditions for forgiveness.

4US - Proverbs 28:13 If we do not confess our sins we cannot be forgiven – It is dangerous to resist the pleadings of the Holy Spirit. (**Genesis 6:3**)

5US - Ephesians 4:30 We can grieve the Holy Spirit if we persistently harden our hearts.

6US - Hebrews 10:26-29 The unpardonable sin is the sin we do not ask forgiveness for, nor want to.

7US - Psalm 18:44 When the Holy Spirit brings conviction we must act. (**Psalm 119:60**)

8US - John 12:35 Walk in the light (God's ways, His truth) less darkness come upon us.

9US - Psalm 51:10-13 We need to pray daily to have the gift of the Holy Spirit (**Luke 11:13**)

10US- 2 Corinthians 6:1, 2 The time to respond to the leading of the Spirit is now!

Living For Jesus

(Bible Study #38)

1LJ - John 17:3 / Jeremiah 9:23, 24 God wants a personal relationship with each one of us.

2LJ - Philippians 4:6 / John 5:39 We will seek daily to grow in Christ and become more like Him through spending time with Him through Bible reading and prayer. We want His Word within our hearts so we will not sin against Him – **Psalms 119:11**

3LJ - Exodus 34:6, 7 As we see His character reveled to us in His word and in life's experiences we will learn to love and trust Him more. (**Psalm 34:8**)

4LJ - 1 John 2:6 We will walk as Christ walked, live the way He lived. We will seek Christ as our example, not others. ***(John 8:29)***

5LJ - Ephesians 6:6 / Romans 6:17 / 2 Timothy 2:4 We obey from the heart, doing those things that please Him. Love guards against legalism!

6LJ - Ecclesiastes 12:13 We will reverence God and keep His commandments. (**Revelation 14:12**)
We seek daily to experience the New Covenant relationship with Jesus – **Hebrews 8:10**

7LJ Psalms 139:23, 24 We will seek to be in harmony with God's will. (**Phil. 2:5**)
Acts 19:18-20 We will get rid of those things that are not in harmony with His Word.
Romans 13:14 We will make no provision for the flesh.

8LJ - Acts 9:1-8, 17-25 Paul turned 180 degrees for Christ**.** Lost friends, his position, job, etc. He found truth and was willing to leave all for Christ. (***Philippians 3:5-8**) Example: One who did not choose to give all up for Christ – **Mark 10:15-22** (Gives to all a test of loyalty)

9LJ - Luke 6:46-49 God wants us to truly follow Him, not just make a profession.
(**Matthew 7:21-23**) He wants more then lip service, he wants the heart.

10LJ- Matthew 28:19, 20 Because we love Jesus we will become involved in active service for others and in sharing the gospel.

11LJ- Psalm 128:1, 2 There is a blessing for those who obey! (***Luke 11:28** / **Luke 18:28, 29**)

12LJ- Revelation 22:4 The bible says that those who are wholly obedient to Christ will enjoy living in God's presence for eternity! (**Hebrews 5:9**)

Commitment

(Bible Study #39)

"A pledge or promise to do something; dedication to a long-term course of action; engagement; involvement." Webster's New World Dictionary, 3rd College Edition p. 281.

1CO - John 1:29, 35-42 Peter introduced to Christ / Do you remember when you were? He became a follower of Christ.

2CO - Matthew 16:13-17, 21-23 Peter struggled with his commitment.
Lesson: **V. 24, 25** we must deny self and choose to serve Him. **Joshua 24:15**

3CO - Matthew 26:31-35 Peter thought he would die for Christ but didn't know his own heart. (**Luke 22:31, 32**) **Lesson:** Watch unto prayer **Matthew 26:40, 41** "The flesh is weak…" We must rest in His power to overcome. **Philippians 4:13**

4CO - Matthew 26:69-74 Peter denies the Lord 3 times.

5CO - Luke 22:61, 62 That one look changed his life. (**Romans 2:4**)

6CO - Acts 4:6-13 When we are converted and committed we posses a boldness in Christ.

7CO - 1 John 2:3-6 When we are truly committed we will obey Him in all things.

8CO - Acts 9:1-6 There will be times that God will revel truth to us that goes against what we have believed – Paul embraced the truth . He left his position, job security, friends – all for his love for Jesus.

What can a commitment to Christ accomplish?

8CO - Daniel 3:1, 4-6, 12, 13, 15-18, 20, 21, 24-28 They committed all to God. Their decision changed the course of a nation; ours could change our family!

*** Are you committed to Christ today? Do you want to follow all that His Word teaches?**

Statement on Commitment

"There's a difference between interest and commitment. When you are interested in doing something, you do it only when circumstances permit. When you're committed to something, you accept no excuses, only results." Art Turock

THE PLAN OF REDEMPTION

(Bible Study #40)

1 - Genesis 1:31 God created a perfect world

2 - Genesis 3:1-8 Sin came into the world.

3 - Genesis 3:9-15 3 points: **1**- when there was sin there was a Savior.
2- They put blame on something else **3**- 1st Gospel message preached.
(**V. 15** Ref. **Hebrews 2:14**)

4 - Revelation 13:8 A lamb slain from the foundation of the world (**1 Timothy 1:15**)

5 - Exodus 34:6, 7 (Micah 7:18, 19) God is merciful. (**2 Timothy 1:9**)

6 - Isaiah 9:6 Wonderful, councilor, The Mighty God.

7 - Matthew 1:21, 23 God with us!

8 - John 1:29, 32-36 Behold the Lamb of God**!** By beholding we become changed!
Titus 2:14 / Colossians 3:10

9 - Mark 1:15 He came at just the right time. (**Daniel 9:25 / *Galatians 4:4, 5**)

10- Luke 23:34 "Father forgive them…" (**Isaiah 53:5, 10, 11 / Ephesians 1:7**)
(**1 John 1:9**) That prayer was for every individual – **1 Timothy 2:4**

11- Romans 5:8 "…While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

12- Luke 23:32, 33, 39-43 Christ's death on the cross exhibited the plan of Salvation.

13- John 3:14, 15 "Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world…"

Our Assurance in Christ

(Bible Study #41)

I John 5:13 These things were written that we may have the assurance of eternal life.

Romans 10:9-11 To confess Christ is to accept Him as Lord. (**I John 1:9** God calls us to repentance as demonstrated in the life of Zacchaeus – **Luke 19:1-9**) Unless there is a change in our lives we will never be saved.

Ezekiel 36:26, 27 When our heart is renewed His Spirit will cause us to walk in His ways.
John 15:4, 5 With out Him we can do nothing.

Romans 8:16 The Spirit reveals to us that we are God's children.

I John 3:24 Christ dwells in us as we keep His commandments and this confidence is given us through His Spirit.

I John 4:15-17 When the spirit of Christ (love) abides in the heart it will give us boldness (No fear – see verse 18) in the day of judgment.

1 John 2:28, 29 We can have confidence in Christ at His coming as we walk in His righteous.

Hebrews 3:14 We are to keep our confidence in Christ and in His promises steadfast unto the end. (**Hebrews 11:6**)

I John 5:3 For this is loving God when we keep His commandments. (**John 15:10**)

I John 2:17 The person who does God's will, will have eternal life.

I John 3:22 We can have confidence in our relationship with Christ when we live in harmony with His commandments and His word (**Matthew 4:4**)

WHY GOD ALLOWS SUFFERING

(Bible Study # 42)

1WS - 1 John 4:8 God's character is love.

2WS - Lamentations 3:33 The Lord does not afflict us willingly.

3WS - John 15:18-20 The world will hate and persecute those who are Christ's.

4WS - John 16:33 Jesus said in this world we will suffer. **2 Timothy 3:12 / Acts 14:22 Isaiah 48:10, 11** (**Rev. 12:17** We're in a war)

5WS - Luke 13:11-17 Who did Jesus say was responsible for this women's illness?

6WS - Jeremiah 38:17-23; 39:5, 6 Some times we are the cause of our own sufferings.

7WS - 2 Corinthians 12:7 Who gave Paul his "thorn in the flesh"

8WS - 2 Corinthians 12:8-10 Two reasons for this thorn.

9WS - 1 Corinthians 10:13 What does God offer His followers. (**Isa. 43:1-3 / Ps. 34:19**)

10WS- Hebrews 12:5-11 What is the desired results of God's discipline in our lives.

11WS- Romans 8:28 The individual in Christ learns all things work together for good.

12WS- Romans 8:35, 38-39 God is there to keep our faith strong.

13WS- Isaiah 25:8 (**Revelation 21:4**) God promises no more death, sorrow, suffering, etc.

Faith and Works

(Bible Study #43)

1FW - Romans 1:17 (**Habakkuk 2:4**) "The just shall live by faith."

2FW - Galatians 2:16 "..not by the works of the law…" (**Titus 3:4, 5** Not by works)

3FW - Ephesians 2:8, 9 "for by grace are you saved by faith…"

4FW - 2 Corinthians 5:17 "If any man be in Christ He is a new creature…"

5FW - Galatians 5:16 "…Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.

6FW - John 15:5 "Without me (Jesus) you can do nothing."

7FW - Philippians 2:12, 13 "God works in you…to do His good pleasure."

8FW - Romans 4:3-5 Righteousness = Obedience to God's Law, His word.

9FW - James 2:21-26, 18-20 "Faith without works is dead…" (Faith works)

10FW- John 17:17 "Sanctify them through your truth, your word is truth."
Psalm 119:142 God's Law is truth.

11FW- Hebrews 12:14 "Without… (Holiness) no man shall see the Lord."

12FW- James 1:22-25 (V. 25 – **James 2:11,12**) The doer of the law shall be justified (***Romans 2:13**)

13FW- John 14:15, 21 "If you love me, keep my commandments…" (***1 John 5:3**)

14FW- 1 John 2:4 "He that says I know Him and keeps not His commandments is a liar…"

15FW- Matthew 7:21 "Not everyone who says to me Lord, Lord … but he that does the will of my Father" **Matthew 7:16** know them by their fruits

16FW- Deuteronomy 5:29 "Oh that there were such a heart in them…that they would obey me always."

17FW- Revelation 14:12 God's people are known for their loyalty and obedience to Him.

"Unless he obeys, a man cannot believe." Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Law / Grace

(Bible Study #44)

1LG - Ephesians 2:8-10 We are saved by Grace though Faith, not by the works of the Law.

2LG - 2 Timothy 1:9 No one (both Old and New Testaments) is saved by the works of the Law. We are saved by the Grace that has been with us since the beginning of the world.

3LG - Romans 6:12-15 When we are in Christ we are no longer under the law's condemnation.

4LG - Romans 3:31 Our faith in Christ's sacrifice establishes His Holy Law.
1 Corinthians 7:19 Paul emphasizes the fact that we must keep God's Holy Law.

5LG - Romans 8:1-4 God's Grace sets us free from sin and death and through His Spirit the righteous requirements of the law are lived out in our lives.

6LG - Romans 7:7, 8 The problem is not with God's law, it is with our sinful natures.

7LG - Romans 1:5 God's Grace enables His people to be obedient to His Word.

8LG - Romans 2:13 Those who are justified, are obedient to His Law.

9LG - James 2:17-23 A saving relationship with God is demonstrated in our active obedience to His Word (His Law). The Christian seeks to be in harmony with God's will (**2 Cor. 13:5**)

10LG- Revelation 14:12 The Bible tells us that at the end of time God has a people who are His and they will be keeping all of His Commandments.

ONCE SAVED / ALWAYS SAVED

(Bible Study #45)

1AS - John 10:28 Doesn't the bible teach that once we are saved we can never loose our salvation?

2AS - Ephesians 2:8 We are saved by grace through faith , it is the gift of God. (**Acts 16:30,31**) Belief is a function of the will.

3AS - Hebrews 3:12-14 The same mind which chooses to believe can choose to disbelieve and unbelief can bring a fall from grace (**Galatians 5:4**) and spiritual death.

4AS - Hebrews 12:15 "Looking diligently" (**Luke 13:24**) We must strive to enter in

5AS - Hebrews 6:4-6 Persistently rejecting God it becomes almost impossible to come back.

6AS - 2 Peter 2:19-22 / Rev. 3:5 / 1 Corinthians 9:27 It is always possible to return to the old life of sin and have our name blotted out of the book life.

7AS - Ezekiel 18:24, 26 If we fall from grace we will die in our sins. (***Exodus 32:31-33 Psalm 69:28 – Philippians 4:3**)

8AS - 1 Samuel 10:6, 9 King Saul was given a new heart (**1 Chron. 10:13,14**) / Died for his sins.

9AS - 1 John 2:3, 4 If we claim to be saved and obey not the Law we are liars.

10AS- Hosea 14:4 God wants to heal our backsliding. / **1 John 5:13** We have assurance of eternal life in Christ Jesus as we are connected with Him (**John 15:4, 5**)

Predestination:

Are Some Chosen and Some Lost?

(Bible Study #46)

1P - 1 Timothy 1:15 (Romans 3:23) Jesus came to **save sinners**, and all have sinned.

2P - Hebrews 2:9 (2 Corinthians 5:14,15,17) Christ tasted death for **every** man, He died for all.

3P - Titus 2:11 Through Christ salvation has appeared unto **all** men. ***Romans 5:18** Free gift for **all**.

4P - 1 John 2:2 Christ died for the sins of the **whole** world.

5P - Luke 9:56 / John 12:47 Jesus came not to destroy but to save the world.

6P - Matthew 18:11 / Luke 19:10 Came to seek and save that which was lost.

7P - 1 Timothy 2:4-6 God wants **all** men (mankind) to be saved and come to a knowledge of the truth.

8P - 2 Peter 3:9 God is not willing that **any** should perish, but would have them repent and live. (**Ezekiel 18:23, 32;33:11**)

9P - 1 Timothy 4:10 (Acts 2:21) Christ is a Savior to **all** who believe. You and I have a choice.

Problem texts

10P – Matthew 22:14; 20:16 Many called few chosen… (Key – **Matthew 22:1-14** in it's context) "Many are called but few are chosen…" because they refuse to wear the wedding garment (**V 11**) which is Christ's righteousness (**Isaiah 61:10** and **Revelation 19:8**)
The Lord says not everyone will choose to be saved, **John 3:18-21**

11P –Exodus 4:21 ".. I (God) will **harden** his (Pharaoh) heart …" The Hebrew word used is "Chazaq" which literally means, "strengthen, courage." EXAMPLE: 1 Samuel 30:6 "David **encouraged** himself in the Lord." The same Hebrew word is used here. The Lord actually encouraged Pharaoh's heart to let Israel go. But Pharaoh chose to harden his own heart, **Exodus 8:15, 32; 9:34** The Hebrew word "Kabed" is used here, which literally means, "to make heavy, harden."

12P –Romans 8:29, 30 He did predestinate (Read in context of all we've read, verses numbered 1-9)

13P –Ephesians 1:5, 11-13 Predestined according to **His will**.

APPEAL

14P –John 6:40 (**Isaiah 45:22**) The Lord's **will** for us is to be saved. He wants **all** to be saved!

15P –John 3:14-17, 36 Do you want to accept His Gift, it is for **all** who will believe.

DIVINITY OF CHRIST

(Bible Study #47)

1DC - Matthew 1:23 Immanuel, "God is with us."

2DC - John 1:1,3, 14 The Bible reveals that Jesus was our Creator

3DC - John 17:5, 24 Jesus existed with the Father before the foundation of the world.

4DC – John 8:58 Jesus declared himself to be the great "I Am."

5DC - Luke 5:20-24 Jesus forgives sin, only God can do that.

6DC - Hebrews 1:5,6, 8 The Father addresses the Son as God.

7DC - Isaiah 9:6 Jesus is called the Mighty God and Everlasting Father.

8DC - Micah 5:2 Christ's going forth is from everlasting.

9DC - 1 Timothy 6:15, 16 Jesus has immortality.

10DC - Philippians 2:5-11 Jesus voluntarily gave up His Divine privilege to become our Savior

Prophecies of The Messiah

(Bible Study #48)

1. **Micah 5:2** Birthplace – Bethlehem (**Luke 2:1-7**)
2. **Isaiah 7:14** Virgin Birth (**Matthew 1:23**)
3. **Genesis 49:8-10** Jesus lineage through Judah (**Luke 1:30-32**)
4. **Numbers 24:17** A star shall arise out of Judah (**Matthew 2:1, 2**)
5. **Isaiah 61:1-3** The ministry of the Messiah predicted in advance (**Luke 4:16-21**)
6. **Psalm 55:12, 13** Betrayed by a friend (**Matthew 26:47-50**)
7. **Zechariah 11:12, 13** Betrayed for 30 pieces of sliver / purchased Potter's field (**Matt. 27:3-9**)
8. **Isaiah 53:4-7** Led as a lamb to the slaughter (**John 1:29 / Acts 8:32-35**)
9. **Psalm 22:16** Jesus' hands and feet pierced (**Luke 23:33; 24:39**)
10. **Psalm 22:18** Soldiers cast lots for His clothes (**Matthew 27:35**)
11. **Psalm 22:1** Christ's words, "My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?" (**Matt. 27:46**)
12. **Psalm 34:20** Not a bone broken (**John 19:36**)
13. **Isaiah 53:9** Buried in a rich man's grave (**Matthew 27:57-60**)
14. **Psalm 16:10** Resurrected from the dead (**Matthew 28:2-7**)

Saying No to Temptation

(Bible Study #49)

1SNT - Romans 3:23 All have fallen into temptation.

2SNT - James 1:14, 15 How and why we fall.

3SNT - 1 Corinthians 10:13 **"**…a way of escape…"

4SNT - James 4:7, 8 We are to draw near to Jesus.

5SNT - Romans 6:11 Reckon yourself dead to sin.

6SNT - Romans 13:14 Make no provision for the flesh.

7SNT - Titus 2:11-14 denying ungodliness and lust.

8SNT - 2 Corinthians 10:4, 5 Our weapons are mighty through God.

9SNT - Jude 24 He is able to keep us from falling.

10SNT- Philippians 4:13 As we trust in His power we will have victory.

THE PROMISE OF VICTORY

(Bible Study #50)

1PV - Isaiah 61:1 Christ came to set us free. (**Matthew 1:21**)

2PV - John 15:5 Without Christ we can do nothing.

3PV - Romans 8:35, 37 We can be more than conquerors, trusting in Christ.

4PV - 2 Corinthians 2:14 We will always triumph when we are in Christ.

5PV - Romans 8:31, 32 By claiming the presence of Christ in your life, all that He possess, will be yours, if you ask in faith. (**Luke 11:9, 10**)

6PV - 1 Corinthians 1:30 "Redemption" – frees us not only from the guilt of sin but from its power. "Sanctification" – denotes continuous daily growth in overcoming sin. "Righteousness" – literally means right – doing / walking in harmony with God's will.

Note:

1. Christ came to set us free
2. Through Him we are more then conquerors
3. We will always triumph in Christ.
4. Everything that we need God gives us in Christ.
5. Christ Jesus gives daily power to overcome.

THE SECRET OF VICTORY **– Four Simple Steps**

7PV - 1 Corinthians 15:57 Victory is a Gift! We receive it by faith through Jesus.

8PV - 1 John 5:14, 15 It is His will for you to be free (***1 John 3:8**) (**Phil. 2:5**)
Faith accepts the FACT of deliverance, and constantly claims the Victory! (***John 8:36**)

10PV- Romans 13:14 With confidence in His power working in us we will stay away from the areas that will cause us to fall into sin again.

Remember: Victory is not dependent upon our strength but on Christ's. He is one who knows no failure. That victory will remain as long as you continue to receive it by faith in Christ Jesus.

1. It is a Gift
2. We receive it by faith
3. We accept it now as fact.
4. We will make no provision for the flesh / we put it out of our lives.

11PV- Matthew 9:29 "According to your faith be it unto you."

He has borne the burden of our guilt. He will take the load from our weary shoulders. He will give us rest. The burden of care and sorrow also He will bear. He invites us to cast all our care upon Him; for He carries us upon His heart. Ministry of Healing, p. 71

THE ARMOR OF GOD

(Bible Study #51)

1AG - Ephesians 6:10, 11 The "complete" armor of God – Calculated to defend against the cunning attacks of the enemy. Satan works in subtle ways and attacks us at our weakest point.

2AG - Ephesians 6:12, 13 Without the whole armor of God the Christian is certain to suffer spiritual defeat. We must have our spiritual defense on before we enter the daily battle with the devil.

3AG - Ephesians 6:14 "Loins girt about with truth" (Includes both intellectual and moral integrity) **Psalm 51:6 / John 14:6 / John 17:17**

4AG - Ephesians 6:14 "Breastplate of righteousness" Justification – Harmony w/ God **Philippians 1:11** Being filled with the fruits of righteousness – **Galatians 5:22-24** **Roman 1:17** Received by faith **Revelation 19:8** Righteousness of the saints **Isaiah 54:17** Our Righteousness is found in Christ (**Romans 8:4** Righteousness of the law fulfilled in us)

5AG - Ephesians 6:15 "Feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace" "Gospel of Peace" **Isaiah 52:7 / Romans 10:15** **Romans 5:1** We have peace w/ God It is encouraging to know that the soldier in the midst of spiritual conflict can stand firm in heaven's peace.

6AG - Ephesians 6:16 "Shield of faith" (Roman shield was 4' by 2 ½' – covered entire body) **1 John 5:4** "the victory that overcomes the world" **Hebrews 11:6** "Without faith" **James 2:21-23** Faith is active

7AG - Ephesians 6:17 "Helmet of Salvation" Protects most vital part – intelligence / will **1 Thessalonians 5:8** "hope of salvation" **Romans 1:16** "to everyone who believes" **Ephesians 2:5, 8** (Past) "you have been saved" **1 Corinthians 15:2** (Present) "you are being saved" **Romans 10:9** (Future) "you shall be saved" **1 Corinthians 9:27 – 2 Peter 1:4-10**

8AG - Ephesians 6:17 "Sword of the Spirit" Both offensive and defensive **Hebrews 4:12** Sharper than any 2-edged sword. **Matthew 4:4 / Psalm 119:11**

9AG - Ephesians 6:18 "Praying always" **1 Thessalonians 5:17** "pray without ceasing"

The Traps of Satan

(Bible Study #52)

1TS - Genesis 3:1-6 He tries to get us to doubt God's word.
(**Daniel 7:25 / Isaiah 24:5**) He tries to get us to break God's law

2TS - Matthew 13:18-23 He tries to rob us of God's power in our life.

3TS - Matthew 4:5-7 twisting scripture

4TS - Mark 13:21, 22 For **false Christ's** and **false** prophets shall rise… to seduce, if it if it were possible the very elect. . 2 Corinthians 11:13-15 / Matthew 7:15-20 Wolves in sheep clothing.

5TS - 2 Thessalonians 2:9-12 (**Revelation 13:13, 14**) (**2 Cor. 11:13-15**) Satan tries to deceive us to pull us away from Christ.

6TS - Luke 10:38-42 Satan tries to keep us too busy to spend time with Jesus.

7TS - 2 Corinthians 10:12 Comparing ourselves to one another – Christ are only example: (**1 John 2:6**)

8TS - I Corinthians 6:19, 20 (**1 Cor. 3:16, 17**) Satan tries to get us to destroy our bodies.

9TS - Hebrew 10:24, 25 Tries to keep us from going to church

10TS - Galatians 5:19-21 Works of the flesh – using these to hold us captive (**2 Tim. 2:26**)
Psalm 101:3 We should not put ourselves in the position to see evil!

11TS - Galatians 5:22-25 The Lord wants to give us the fruits of the Spirit
(**2 Corinthians 13:5** We are to examine ourselves to see if we be in Christ

12TS - Psalm 119:9-11 We must take God's word to heart. (**Matthew 4:4**)

Tongues

(Bible Study #53)

1T - Mark 16:15 We are called by Christ to go into all the world and preach the Gospel.

2T - Genesis 11:1, 7-9 The world was divided into different language groups.

3T - Mark 16:17 They shall speak with new tongues (languages).

4T - Acts 1:6-8 The sign of the indwelling of the Spirit is power to witness, not tongues.

5T - Acts 2:1-11 Given to communicate the gospel**.** The crowd of people present that day represented at least 15 different language groups.

6T - Acts 10:44-46 Different people groups represented here too.

7T - Acts 11:15 Peter recognizes that this is the same gift that they had experienced at Pentecost.

8T - Acts 4:31 To receive the Holy Spirit does not mean you will speak in a new language.

9T - 1 Corinthians 14:6-9, 19, 27, 28 The right use of tongues. (**1Timothy 6:20, 2 Timothy 2:16**) (**1 Corinthians 14:22**) Tongues given for those who do not believe.

10T- 1 Corinthians 14:14 (Ref. **Romans 8:26**) Heavenly Language? If you don't know what your praying for, how do you know your prayers are being answered.

11T-1 Corinthians 14:15, 16 If you don't understand the prayer how can you respond with Amen.

12T-1 Corinthians 12:28 There is an order in the church (**1 Corinthians 14:5**)

13T-1 Corinthians 12:29, 30 Not everyone has the same gift.

14T-1 Corinthians 12:31 Covet the best gifts.

The Investigative Judgment

(Bible Study #54)

Does the Bible speak of a judgment to come?

Romans 14.10-12 We shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ. (**2 Cor. 5:10**)

Acts 17:31 Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness. (* **Hebrews 9:27**)

Who will be judged?

Ecclesiastes 3:17 "God shall judge the righteous and the wicked…" (**Ps. 7:11**)

2 Timothy 4:1 who shall judge the quick [living] and the dead at his appearing (**Acts 10:42**)

Does God keep records?

Psalms 69:28 Let them be blotted out of the book of the living, and not be written with the righteous.

Malachi 3:16 "a book of remembrance was written…"

Exodus 32.33 Whosoever has sinned against me, him will I blot out of my book. (***Ezekiel 18:24**)

Revelation 3.5 "He that overcometh... I will not blot out his name out of the book of life…"

Who does God judge first?

1 Peter 4:17 For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?

Where does the judgment take place?

Daniel 7:9-10 I beheld till the thrones were cast down (note sequence of events)

What is the Standard of the Judgment?

James 2:8-12 judged by the law of liberty.

Ecclesiastes 12:13, 14 The commandments of God (***John 12:48**)

Are His rewards Him when He comes?

Revelation 22:11-15 my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.

Matthew 22:1-14

(1) And **Jesus** answered and spake unto them again by parables, and said,
(10) So those servants went out into the highways, and gathered together all as many as they found, **both bad and good**: and the wedding was furnished with guests.
(11) And when the king **came in to see** the guests, **he saw** there a man which had not on a wedding garment:

Notice these 5 points:

Point # 1 Once the wedding was furnished with guests, the king comes in to "see" those present. While seeing, he finds a man unprepared for the wedding (verse 11). With all the people that were present the king found one unprepared individual there. The king's "seeing" and finding this certain individual must have therefore been an investigation he performed upon those who were there.

Point # 2 This is not a scene of heaven, but of earth, because both "good and bad" are present. This means that when the king "investigates" those present, he is investigating those upon the earth.

Point # 3 The king can be none other then God himself. If God, then he has to be in heaven, looking (investigating) down upon the earth, for God on earth would result in the destruction of the earth by reason of his glory. Therefore God, from heaven, is investigating both the good and bad people on earth.

Point # 4 After the king performs the "investigation" of the people at this wedding, he finds a man unprepared and as a result pronounces a "judgment" upon him (verse 13). This is therefore an "Investigative Judgment" because along with the investigation there was a Judgment.

Point # 5 This scene of the "Investigative Judgment" takes place before the Second Coming. Notice what Jesus says in Luke 12:

Luke 12:36-37

(36) And ye yourselves like unto men that wait for their lord, when he will return **from the wedding**; that when he cometh and knocketh, they may open unto him immediately.
(37) Blessed are those servants, whom the lord when he cometh shall find watching: verily I say unto you, that he shall gird himself, and make them to sit down to meat, and will come forth and serve them.

Notice in verse 36 how it specifically says that Jesus will come "from" the wedding. If therefore the wedding and the marriage were the same event, how is it that he comes "from" the wedding to pick up his children? The marriage, says John the Revelator, is the Second Coming:

Revelation 19:7

(7) Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for **the marriage** of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.

If the above verse were read in context, you will find two very important points:

A) Just before this verse, all those in heaven proclaim, "True and righteous are his **Judgments**…" God has performed a Judgment in heaven upon the wicked on earth before Jesus' Second Coming. The greek word translated "Judgments" is "krisis" which can be subjectively (*for*) or objectively (*against*). In other words, God just finished performing either subjective or objective Judgments upon people before the coming. This is why we read of both "good and bad" in the Investigative Judgment (the wedding) of Matthew 22. An objective Judgment was pronounced upon that "great whore" –verse 3.

B) Right after this verse, a scene of the Second coming of Jesus Christ is seen:

Revelation 19:11- 21

…And I saw heaven opened, and behold **a white horse**; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True…

The Doctrine of the Investigative Judgment

by Bob Pickle

Seventh-day Adventists teach that phase one, the investigative phase, of the Judgment began in 1844 at the end of the 2300 days of Daniel 8:14, and that this phase will conclude just before the seven last plagues are poured out and Christ returns. This is a judgment that only considers the cases of professed believers, and is the antitype to the ancient Day of Atonement when the sanctuary was annually cleansed. Is there a Biblical basis for these views?

1. A separation of true believers from mere professors must take place at the end.

Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind: [48]Which, when it was full, they drew to shore, and sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away. [49]So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just, [50]And shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. (Mat. 13:47-50)

Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn. . . .

As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world. [41]The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; [42]And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. [43]Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear. (Mat. 13:30, 40-43)

2. Before God either hands down a sentence or executes judgment, He always investigates the facts of the case, even though He already knows everything. First He searches hearts, then He rewards.

And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou? [10]And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself. [11]And he said, Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat? (Gen. 3:9-11)

And the LORD said unto Cain, Where is Abel thy brother? And he said, I know not: Am I my brother's keeper? (Gen. 4:9)

And the LORD came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of men builded. (Gen. 11:5)

And the LORD said, Because the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grievous; [21]I will go down now, and see whether they have done altogether according to the cry of it, which is come unto me; and if not, I will know. (Gen. 18:20, 21)

And I will kill her children with death; and all the churches shall know that I am he which searcheth the reins and hearts: and I will give unto every one of you according to your works. (Rev. 2:23)

3. True to the way God operates, we would expect Him to investigate before He separates the wheat and the tares, the good fish from the bad. An investigation of professed believers does in fact take place just prior to Christ's wedding.

So those servants went out into the highways, and gathered together all as many as they found, both bad and good: and the wedding was furnished with guests. [11]And when the king came in to see the guests, he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment: [12]And he saith unto him, Friend, how camest thou in hither not having a wedding garment? And he was speechless. [13]Then said the king to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. [14]For many are called, but few are chosen. (Mat. 22:10-14)

4. Since this wedding takes place prior to Christ's return, this investigative judgment, this examination of the guests invited or called to the wedding, must also occur before He comes.

And ye yourselves like unto men that wait for their lord, when he will return from the wedding; that when he cometh and knocketh, they may open unto him immediately. (Luke 12:36)

5. Just as Christ's wedding precedes His return, so also does His receiving His kingdom precede His return.

He said therefore, A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom, and to return. (Luke 19:12)

6. Since the Judgment begins before Jesus receives His kingdom, the Judgment must also begin before He returns to this earth.

I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire. [10]A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened. . . .

I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. [14]And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve

him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed. (Dan. 7:9, 10, 13, 14)

7. The first angel of Revelation 14 uses the past tense (aorist tense) in describing the beginning of the Judgment: "The hour of His judgment *came*." The angel is proclaiming that the Judgment has already commenced. Since the first angel precedes the third angel's warning about the mark of the beast, the Judgment must be already in progress by the time the mark of the beast becomes an issue.

And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, [7]Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters. . . .

And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand. (Rev. 14:6, 7, 9)

8. The first angel said, "Fear God and give glory to Him," in the context of a judgment already begun. Solomon connected fearing God with the Judgment as well, but he was a little more distinct about what he meant by fearing God. "Fear" appears to be an appropriate sense of respect and reverence that leads to obedience to all of God's commandments.

Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. [14]For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil. (Eccl. 12:13, 14)

9. The reason obedience to God's commandments is important in light of a Judgment already commenced is that the Ten Commandments are to be the standard by which men's lives are judged.

For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all. [11]For he that said, Do not commit adultery, said also, Do not kill. Now if thou commit no adultery, yet if thou kill, thou art become a transgressor of the law. [12]So speak ye, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty. (James 2:10-12)

10. If there is one of the ten that most people ignore today and refuse to keep literally, it is the fourth. How appropriate then for the first angel, in calling attention to the Judgment already being in progress, to quote from the Fourth Commandment, asking people to worship the Creator. And the one specific way given in Scripture to worship the Creator God is the observing of the Fourth Commandment.

Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters. (Rev. 14:7)

Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. [9]Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: [10]But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: [11]For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it. (Ex. 20:8-11)

11. Marriage is used in Scripture to illustrate the closeness between Christ and His church, but this does not authorize us to spiritualize away the Seventh Commandment. Some might claim to keep this commandment by being married to Christ and Christ alone, while at the same time they are being unfaithful to their wives. In actuality, they would be transgressors, despite their claim to obedience. God expects us to literally keep the Ten Commandments, even though they may be used to illustrate spiritual truths.

For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. [32]This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church. (Eph. 5:31, 32)

Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body. (1 Cor. 6:18)

And he said unto them, Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition. . . .

Making the word of God of none effect through your tradition, which ye have delivered: and many such like things do ye. (Mark 7:9, 13)

But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men. (Mat. 15:9)

12. Daniel 7 and 8 give similar sequences of the kingdoms that would hold sway upon earth: Babylon, Persia, Greece, and Rome. While Daniel 7 has the Judgment following Rome, Daniel 8 has the cleansing of the sanctuary following Rome. This implies that the cleansing of the sanctuary and the Judgment are related events.

Thus he said, The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces. [24]And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise: and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings. [25]And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time. [26]But the judgment shall sit, and they shall take away his dominion, to consume and to destroy it unto the end. (Dan. 7:23-26)

And out of one of them came forth a little horn, which waxed exceeding great, toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the pleasant land. [10]And it waxed great, even to the host of heaven; and it cast down some of the host and of the stars to the ground, and stamped upon them.

[11]Yea, he magnified himself even to the prince of the host, and by him the daily sacrifice was taken away, and the place of his sanctuary was cast down. [12]And an host was given him against the daily sacrifice by reason of transgression, and it cast down the truth to the ground; and it practised, and prospered. [13]Then I heard one saint speaking, and another saint said unto that certain saint which spake, How long shall be the vision concerning the daily sacrifice, and the transgression of desolation, to give both the sanctuary and the host to be trodden under foot? [14]And he said unto me, Unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed. (Dan. 8:9-14)

13. The book of Daniel was to be sealed until the time of the end. The time of the end begins at the conclusion of the 1260 day prophecy.

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 shall be increased. [5]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. [6]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? [7]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 sware by him that liveth for ever that it shall be for a time, times, and an half; and when he shall have accomplished to scatter the power of the holy people, all these things shall be finished. [8]And I heard, but I understood not: then said I, O my Lord, what shall be the end of these things? [9]And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end. (Dan. 12:4-9)

14. In chapter 8 Daniel was also told that his vision was to be shut up. He tells us that none understood the vision. However, Gabriel had explained every part of the vision except the 2300 days of verse 14, so it was only the 2300 days that were not understood, and not to be understood, until the time of the end. This point is made even stronger by the fact that in the Hebrew the 2300 days are literally 2300 "evenings-mornings." When Gabriel refers to the "vision of the evening and the morning," saying that the vision is to be shut up, he is specifically talking about the 2300 days.

And the vision of the evening and the morning which was told is true: wherefore shut thou up the vision; for it shall be for many days. [27]And I Daniel fainted, and was sick certain days; afterward I rose up, and did the king's business; and I was astonished at the vision, but none understood it. (Dan. 8:26, 27)

Then I lifted up mine eyes, and saw, and, behold, there stood before the river a ram which had two horns: and the two horns were high; but one was higher than the other, and the higher came up last. . . .

And as I was considering, behold, an he goat came from the west on the face of the whole earth, and touched not the ground: and the goat had a notable horn between his eyes. . . .

Therefore the he goat waxed very great: and when he was strong, the great horn was broken; and for it came up four notable ones toward the four winds of heaven. And out of one of them came

forth a little horn, which waxed exceeding great, toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the pleasant land. . . .

And he said unto me, Unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed. . . .

The ram which thou sawest having two horns are the kings of Media and Persia. [21]And the rough goat is the king of Grecia: and the great horn that is between his eyes is the first king. [22]Now that being broken, whereas four stood up for it, four kingdoms shall stand up out of the nation, but not in his power. [23]And in the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors are come to the full, a king of fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up. (Dan. 8:3, 5, 8, 9, 14, 20-23)

15. The being who predicted that the time of the end would commence at the end of the 1260 days in Daniel returns in Revelation 10 to give another message. Daniel was to be sealed until the end of the 1260 days, and the specific part that was sealed was the 2300 days. In Revelation 10 the angel holds a little book opened, signifying that Daniel has been unsealed and that the 1260 days have ended. The 2300 days must now be able to be understood, and the angel's declaration that "there shall be time no longer" must be an announcement of the soon ending of the 2300 days.

And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow was upon his head, and his face was as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire: [2]And he had in his hand a little book open: and he set his right foot upon the sea, and his left foot on the earth. . . .

And the angel which I saw stand upon the sea and upon the earth lifted up his hand to heaven, [6]And sware by him that liveth for ever and ever, who created heaven, and the things that therein are, and the earth, and the things that therein are, and the sea, and the things which are therein, that there should be time no longer. (Rev. 10:1, 2, 5, 6)

16. After consuming the book of Daniel, John has a sweet taste in his mouth and a bitter feeling in his belly. Somehow, understanding the 2300 days was to be a bittersweet experience, after which those going through this experience were to give another message from God to all the world.

And he said unto me, Thou must prophesy again before many peoples, and nations, and tongues, and kings. (Rev. 10:11)

17. This new message had something to do with the temple in heaven and the measuring of God's professed people.

And there was given me a reed like unto a rod: and the angel stood, saying, Rise, and measure the temple of God, and the altar, and them that worship therein. (Rev. 11:1)

18. The measuring of God's professed people has something to do with a judgment. Thus we have directly connected in these passages the 2300 days of Daniel 8:14 and the commencement of an investigative judgment.

Judge not, that ye be not judged. [2]For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again. (Mat. 7:1, 2)

For we dare not make ourselves of the number, or compare ourselves with some that commend themselves: but they measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise. (2 Cor. 10:12)

19. In the final phase of the Judgment, the book of life is opened.

And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. (Rev. 20:12)

20. The unbeliever does not have life. Therefore his name cannot be entered in the Book of Life.

He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him. (John 3:36)

He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. (1 Jn. 5:12)

21. If we do not accept Christ as our Savior, we are already condemned. Therefore, to have our names entered in the Book of Life, we must accept Christ.

He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. (John 3:18)

22. It is possible to have one's name removed from the Book of Life. True to the way God operates, such an event should only come at the conclusion of an investigative judgment.

Yet now, if thou wilt forgive their sin--; and if not, blot me, I pray thee, out of thy book which thou hast written. [33]And the LORD said unto Moses, Whosoever hath sinned against me, him will I blot out of my book. (Ex. 32:32, 33)

Let them be blotted out of the book of the living, and not be written with the righteous. (Ps. 69:28)

He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels. (Rev. 3:5)

And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book. (Rev. 22:19)

23. On the ancient Day of Atonement, among other things, the high priest put fire from the altar into a censer, and entered the Most Holy place.

Now when these things were thus ordained, the priests went always into the first tabernacle, accomplishing the service of God. [7]But into the second went the high priest alone once every year, not without blood, which he offered for himself, and for the errors of the people. (Heb. 9:6, 7)

And he shall take a censer full of burning coals of fire from off the altar before the LORD, and his hands full of sweet incense beaten small, and bring it within the vail. (Lev. 16:12)

24. Such Day of Atonement imagery is used in the Revelation to describe scenes immediately prior to Christ's return. Therefore most of the fulfillment of the Day of Atonement type must be at the end of time and not at the cross.

And another angel came and stood at the altar, having a golden censer; and there was given unto him much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne. [4]And the smoke of the incense, which came with the prayers of the saints, ascended up before God out of the angel's hand. [5]And the angel took the censer, and filled it with fire of the altar, and cast it into the earth: and there were voices, and thunderings, and lightnings, and an earthquake. (Rev. 8:3-5)

And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail. (Rev. 11:19)

25. The lightnings, voices, thunderings, earthquake, and hail mentioned in these texts are all associated with the voice of God that speaks just prior to Christ's return.

And the seventh angel poured out his vial into the air; and there came a great voice out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, It is done. [18]And there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, and so great. . . .

And there fell upon men a great hail out of heaven, every stone about the weight of a talent: and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail; for the plague thereof was exceeding great. (Rev. 16:17, 18, 21)

26. Since there were two veils in the earthly temple and sanctuary, there should be something similar in the heavenly temple. In the book of Revelation, these veils are called doors, one leading to the Holy where the seven lamps and altar of incense are, and the other leading to the Most Holy where the ark of the covenant is.

After this 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, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter. . . .

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. (Rev. 4:1, 5)

And another angel came and stood at the altar, having a golden censer; and there was given unto him much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne. (Rev. 8:3)

And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail. (Rev. 11:19)

27. Looking at the seven churches from an historicist perspective, the Church of Philadelphia should be near the end of time. If the message to Philadelphia is referring to the opening of the door into the Most Holy and the closing of the door into the Holy, then during the Philadelphian time period is when the antitypical Day of Atonement would occur. The next and last church is Laodicea, *lao* meaning people, and *dicea* referring to some sort of judicial act of judgment. Jesus addresses Laodicea as the "Faithful and True Witness," which suggests that the heavenly court is in session during the Laodicean time period. So we have here another, though not as strong, connection between the opening of the Most Holy on the Day of Atonement and the commencement of the Judgment.

And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth; [8]I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name. . . .

And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God. (Rev. 3:7, 8, 14)

28. Micah, in the introduction to his book, appears to echo the first angel's message of Revelation 14. Both contain a message to every nation and people on earth. Both refer to events immediately preceding the return of the Lord to destroy the surface of the earth.

Hear, all ye people; hearken, O earth, and all that therein is: and let the Lord GOD be witness against you, the Lord from his holy temple. [3]For, behold, the LORD cometh forth out of his place, and will come down, and tread upon the high places of the earth. [4]And the mountains shall be molten under him, and the valleys shall be cleft, as wax before the fire, and as the waters that are poured down a steep place. (Mic. 1:2-4)

And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people. (Rev. 14:6)

29. Micah is portraying an end-time call to return to obedience to God's commandments when he pleads for all to let the Lord be witness against them from His holy temple. Interestingly, the sanctuary is called the "tabernacle of testimony." It was called this because the ark within it was called the "ark of the testimony." And the ark was called this because the Ten Commandments within it were called the "tables of testimony." And the Ten Commandments were called this because they witnessed against the people's sins. After all, that is the purpose of the Ten Commandments anyway. They point out sin.

And he gave unto Moses, when he had made an end of communing with him upon mount Sinai, two tables of testimony, tables of stone, written with the finger of God. (Ex. 31:18)

And thou shalt put into the ark the testimony which I shall give thee. (Ex. 25:16)

And thou shalt put the mercy seat upon the ark of the testimony in the most holy place. (Ex. 26:34)

This is the sum of the tabernacle, even of the tabernacle of testimony, as it was counted, according to the commandment of Moses, for the service of the Levites, by the hand of Ithamar, son to Aaron the priest. (Ex. 38:21)

Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin. (Rom. 3:20)

What shall we say then? Is the law sin? God forbid. Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet. (Rom. 7:7)

Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law. (1 Jn. 3:4)

30. The sanctuary was to be a place for God and His commandments to dwell, where sinners could find atonement for the transgression of those commandments through the blood of a substitute.

And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them. (Ex. 25:8)

For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: [14]How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? (Heb. 9:13, 14)

Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; [19]But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot. (1 Pet. 1:18, 19)

31. The Lord investigates men and women from His temple, then He comes forth to execute judgment. In this investigation He compares our lives with His commandments, the realization of which causes us to shut our mouths.

The LORD is in his holy temple, the LORD's throne is in heaven: his eyes behold, his eyelids try, the children of men. [5]The LORD trieth the righteous: but the wicked and him that loveth violence his soul hateth. [6]Upon the wicked he shall rain snares, fire and brimstone, and an horrible tempest: this shall be the portion of their cup. (Ps. 11:4-6)

But the LORD is in his holy temple: let all the earth keep silence before him. (Hab. 2:20)

Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. (Rom. 3:19)

32. When Christ concludes the Investigative Judgment, the destiny of all is forever fixed. He then returns to give everyone their reward.

He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still. [12]And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be. [13]I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last. [14]Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city. (Rev. 22:11-14)

ATTENDING CHURCH

(Bible Study #55)

1AC - Acts 2:41,47 The Lord added to the church daily those who should be saved.

2AC - Acts 16:4,5 Churches were established and increased daily.

3AC - 1 Corinthians 12:12,13,27 We are all members of one body in Christ Jesus.

4AC - Colossians 1:18 Christ is the Head of the Church. (Ref. **Ephesians 5:23,24,30**)

5AC - 1 Timothy 3:14,15 House of, church of the living God.

6AC - Leviticus 23:3 Holy Convocation – A public gathering (assembly).

7AC - Luke 4:16 Jesus attended Church**.** (Ref. **Matt.13:54-58 Mark 1:21-29;6:1-6**)
The bible says that Jesus is our Example (**1 John 2:6; 1 Peter 2:21**)

8AC - Acts 17:2;18:4 Paul attended Church. He gave much counsel to the Church.
(Example: **1 Corinthians 11:18; 14:1-40**)

9AC - Hebrews 10:25 God wants us to be together in His house

10AC- Ephesians 4:18-22 Don't you want to be apart of God's church, comforting and encouraging one another. Having the privilege of fellowshipping with others who love Jesus and want to serve Him.

The Old and New Covenant
(Bible Study #56)

tes·ta·ment
1. Law : a will, esp. one that relates to the disposition of one's personal property.
5. a covenant, esp. between God and humans.
Dictionary.com Unabridged (v 1.1)
Based on the Random House Unabridged Dictionary, © Random House, Inc. 2006.

will
a legal declaration of a person's wishes as to the disposition of his or her property or estate after death, usually written and signed by the testator and attested by witnesses.
Dictionary.com Unabridged

1NC - Hebrews 8:6, 7, 13 Christ, a mediator of better (new) covenant

What was the old covenant?
2NC - Exodus 19:3-8 Here**,** all the elements of a true covenant, conditions and promises.
3NC - Exodus 24:3-8 The covenant was not the 10 commandments, it was the basis of it.

Why a need for a New Covenant?
4NC - Hebrews 8:7-9 They would not keep His covenant (**Psalm 78:10, 11, 20**) (**Deut. 31:16**)
5NC - Romans 9:31-33 "Because they sought it not by faith…"
6NC - Hebrews 10:4, 9-14 Christ died once for all to save from sin. (**Hebrews 9:15**)

7NC - Matthew 26:28-29 Jesus establishes a New Covenant

What is the New Covenant
8NC - Jeremiah 31:31-33 **Hebrews 8:10 / Romans 8:4** "that the righteousness of the law…"
Isaiah 51:7 The Old Covenant / law written in their hearts too! (**Psalm 37:31; 40:8**)

The Last Will and Testament of Jesus Christ
9NC - Hebrews 9:14-17 When a person dies the will goes into effect and cannot be changed (**Galatians 3:15**)

Two essential components common to both Covenants
Faith – O.T.- Genesis 15:6 / Hebrews 11 N.T. – Romans 3:31 / James 2:18-23
Obedience – O.T. -Genesis 26:5 / Deuteronomy 5:29 N.T. – 1 John 2:3-5 / Rev.14:12

10NC - Romans 2:28, 29 We want to be in harmony with the will of God, don't we?! Those who experience real heart circumcision are the Israel of God.

11NC - Galatians 3:29 All who receive Christ enter into that New Covenant relationship and receive (experience) the promises given to Abraham.

Do you want to experience that New Covenant relationship with Jesus Christ today?

The Covenants of the Bible

(Bible Study #57)

1. **Genesis 3:15** Here expressed in prophetic language God reveals the coming of the Deliverer. "Seed" is in the singular form. Jesus Christ is that pre-eminent one – **Revelation 12:1-5 Galatians 3:16, 19** He came to destroy the works of the devil – **Hebrews 2:14 / 1 John 3:8**

2. **Genesis 9:8-17** Made with Noah and all humanity (**Isa. 54:9, 10 / 2 Pet. 3:3-9**)

3. **Genesis 26:5; 17:1-22** With Abraham and his promised seed.

4. **Exodus 19:4 through chapter 24 / Isaiah 56 / Deut.** The Sinai covenant

5. **2 Samuel 23:5 / Isa.55:3** With David and his descendants.

6. **Jeremiah 31:31-34** (**Hebrews 8:8-12**) The Everlasting Gospel (**Rev. 14:6 / Isa. 24:5**) The New Covenant – graced-based, gospel- bearing, faith-inducing and mission directed. Notice: It is given to the house of Israel; those who are of the lineage of faith – **Galatians 3:6, 7, 28, 29**.

Covenants:	"I will write my laws in their hearts" **Sanctification**	"I will be your God and you will be my people" **Reconciliation:**	"All will know me" **Mission:**	"I will forgive your sins" **Justification:**
Old Covenant **Exodus 19:4 -24:12**	**Ex. 31:12,13 Lev. 20:7,8 Deut. 30:6, 10-14 Ps. 37:31; 40:8 *Isaiah 51:7**	**Exodus 6:7 Lev. 26:12,42,45**	**Exodus 19:5, 6 with 1 Pet. 2:9 Ezek. 36:22, 23 Psalm 67:1, 2**	**Exodus 34:6-10 Psalm 103:2-14 Isaiah 1:18 Micah 7:19**
New Covenant **Jeremiah 31:31-34 Hebrews 8:8-12**	**Jeremiah 31:31-34 Hebrews 8:8-12**	**Jeremiah 31:31-34 Hebrews 8:8-12**	**Jeremiah 31:31-34 Hebrews 8:8-12**	**Jeremiah 31:31-34 Hebrews 8:8-12**

Both covenants had:
The Gospel was preached unto them **Hebrews 4:2**

2 Timothy 1:9 both were saved by grace.

His covenant was forever:

Psalm 111:9 "…He has commanded His covenant for ever."
Means = eternity, always, eternal, perpetual, without end.

Both Covenants were:

Grace-based **Genesis 6:8** Noah found grace… in the Lord (**Eph. 2:5**)

Gospel-bearing **2 Peter 2:5** Noah, preacher of Righteousness (**Isa. 49:3,6** / **Matt. 28:19,20**)

Faith-inducing **Rom. 4:3** Abraham believed God… (**Hebrews 11:6**)

Mission directed **Ezk. 36:23** I shall be sanctified in you (**Matthew 28:19,20**)

Hebrews 13:20 A COVENANT OF LOVE!

What is the essence of all the covenants?

*Isaiah 42:6 CHRIST!

The Dual Applications of the Covenants: Historical and Experimental

The historical old covenant was characterized by God's acts to save His people; a moral system of civil laws and the Ten Commandments biased on love for God; and a ceremonial system with an imperfect priesthood and centered on animal sacrifices which could never take away sin.

The Old Covenant was ratified by the blood of animals – **Gen. 4:4; 8:20; Ex. 24:4-8; Heb. 9:22**

The New Covenant was ratified "once for all" by Jesus Christ – **Heb. 10:10; 1 Cor. 15:1-4**
It also has a simpler ceremonial system: Baptism, communion, and a greater revelation of God in the life of Jesus.

The Old Covenant Experience:

Romans 10:16 Not all Israel accepted the good news.

Romans 9:31-32 They sought salvation by the works of the law perverting the gospel **Gal. 1:7**

Galatians 3:1, 2, 6, 10-12 Keeping the law without faith is meaningless

Hebrews 8:7-8 But finding fault with them – they tried to be saved by their own righteous **Romans 10:3**

Romans 3:31 Faith establishes the law because it is written is the heart (**Hebrews 8:10**)
Romans 1:5 they exhibit the obedience that comes by faith.

New Covenant Experience: P. 3

John 3:3-6 "born of the Spirit"

Gal. 522-25 bears fruits "of the Spirit"

Jeremiah 31:33 God's law is written in the heart fulfilling its requirements in our lives
Romans 8:4

Those who have the new Covenant experience will delight in God's Holy 10 Commandment Law. **Psalm 1:1-3; 119:47, 97; Romans 7:22** They know that it is perfect converting the soul. **Psalm 19:7** Creating true freedom in the heart of all who believe – **Psalms 119:44, 45 James 2:8-12**

The true covenant experience of both the Old and New Testaments was based on Grace (**2 Tim 1:9; 1 Pet. 1:18-20; Rev. 13:8**) Faith (**Hab. 2:4; Rom. 1:17**) and Obedience (**Genesis 22:18 / *Deuteronomy 30:19, 20 / Hebrews 5:9 / Acts 5:29, 32**).

Law and Love in the Old and New Covenant

"It would be a great mistake to view the law as mere regulations; it is divine communication and guidance. The greatest privilege was to be the friend of God and in being his friend there was great reward. In the law was revealed the way to live as God's friend." **Rayburn, "The Contrast Between the Old and New Covenants", p. 47**

"Torah is a relationship word; it calls to mind the image of a particular torahgiver—a teacher—and implies a personal tie between the instructor and the instructed. Whereas disobedience to "law" results in punishment, disregard of torah breaks a relationship. Israel's obedience to the torah was a sacramental sign of her continuing fidelity to a relationship that Yahweh had freely offered and she had freely accepted."
R.C. Dentan, The Knowledge of God in Ancient Israel (New York: Seabury Press, 1968), p. 50

Obedience is an expression of loyalty to a trustworthy God.

Covenant Signs P. 4

1. The Rainbow: Genesis 9:8-17 There appears to be no terminus for this sign.

Ezekiel 1:28

Revelation 4:3

Revelation 10:1 A symbol of His Faithfulness to His covenant promises, even throughout eternity.

2. Circumcision: Genesis 15:6-18 God's covenant with Abraham

Jeremiah 34:18, 19 This done in ancient times.
Genesis 15:17, 18 God promises it Himself.
Genesis 17:7, 11, 13, 19 The sign of the covenant
Genesis 17:12-14; 21:2-4 Reminder of their dependence on God not on their own efforts.
Exodus 4:24-26 Moses
Joshua 5:1-9 Reminding them that the conquest of Canaan would be by their trust in God, not in their own efforts.
Deuteronomy 30:6 Represented their total dependence on God for both physical and spiritual needs. It was given to all who would not resist the Holy Spirit.
Romans 10:16 Not all of Israel accepted the Good News.
Acts 7:51 Stephen told his people that "uncircumcised hearts" result from "always resist (ing) the Holy Spirit."

Note: The Old Testament emphasis on circumcision was not just the physical aspect but also focused on the Spiritual.

Exodus 6:12, 30 Moses expressed doubts that he could speak for God.
1 Samuel 17:26, 36 David was not just talking about Goliath's physical foreskin but also his rebellious attitude toward the living God.
Jeremiah 6:8-10; 9:26 Jeremiah complains that Israel's "ears are closed" (Hebrew: "uncircumcised") to the warnings God has sent them, rendering them "uncircumcised in heart." (**Ezekiel 44:7-9**)
Romans 2:28, 29 The experience of the new heart in the Holy Spirit.
Romans 4:11, 12 Abraham is the father of the circumcised and uncircumcised.
Acts 15:1 Jews still believed it was binding.
Acts 15:23-29 The Spirit of God guided the church to not place circumcision on the gentiles.
Colossians 2:11, 12 Circumcision was replaced by the rite of Baptism in the NT.
Romans 6:3-6 Baptism is a symbol of our death and burial to the old life and a resurrection into a new life in Christ

The Covenant Rest P. 5

Exodus 33:14 A Spiritual rest offered to God's Covenant people

Jeremiah 6:16 To walk in God's Covenant we will find rest for our souls.

Genesis 2:3 (**Ex. 20:8-11**) The Sabbath – a sign of Covenant rest (not only a physical rest, but a spiritual one as well – **Ex. 31:12, 13**) The physical rest of the Sabbath envisioned and promoted a deeper spiritual rest in God.

Mark 2:27 That rest was and is for all mankind
(Gr. – anthrōpos **1)** a human being, whether male or female
a) generically, to include all human individuals

Numbers 15:15, 16 In God's covenant community,(Israel) the alien (stranger) were held to the same laws and regulations.

Isaiah 56:3, 4, 6, 7 For the strangers also: The Sabbath rest. "who hold fast my covenant."

Psalms 95:7-11 They did not enter that rest because they rebelled

Matthew 11:28-30 Jesus offers us rest

Hebrews 4
4:1-4 - Now since the same promise of rest is offered to us today, let us be continually on our guard that none of us even looks like failing to attain it. For we too have had a Gospel preached to us, as those men had. Yet the message proclaimed to them did them no good, because they only heard and did not believe as well. It is only as a result of our faith and trust that we experience that rest. For he said: 'So I swore in my wrath, they shall not enter my rest'; not because the rest was not prepared - it had been ready since the work of creation was completed, as he says elsewhere in the scriptures, speaking of the seventh day of creation, 'And God rested on the seventh day from all his works'.
4:5-7 - And in the passage above he refers to "my rest" as something already in existence. No, it is clear that some were intended to experience this rest and, since the previous hearers of the message failed to attain to it because they would not believe God, he proclaims a further opportunity when he says through David, many years later, "today", just as he had said "today" before. 'Today, if you will hear his voice, do not harden your hearts'.
4:8-10 - For if Joshua had given them the rest, we should not find God saying, at a much later date, "today". There still exists, therefore, a full and complete rest for the people of God. And he who experiences his real rest is resting from his own work as fully as God from his.
(J B PHILLIPS Translation of the NEW TESTAMENT)

Ezekiel 20:12 He is the Lord that does sanctify us.

Church Organization

(Should I be apart of it?)

(Bible Study #58)

Church Gr. ekklesia = "To call out" (called out ones)

1CO - Acts 7:38 This idea of Church goes back along time, used here for The Nation of Israel in and around the wilderness of Mt. Sinai.

2CO - Matthew 16:18 "Upon this rock I will build my church…" (Christ is the rock)

3CO - Acts 2:47 Notice: "The Lord added to the church daily…"

4CO - I Corinthians 12:12-14, 27 The Church is made up of many members all of which belong to Christ. (We are baptized into one body – The Church)

5CO - Acts 11:26 The people in the Church are called Christians.

6CO - Acts 14:23 The Church was expanding rapidly and Paul and Barnabas knew that organization is essential to maintaining the spiritual life and growth of the Church, so they personally chose and ordained leaders (Elders) in every church. (**I Tim. 3:14, 15** Office of an elder) (**Acts 20:28** They were to care for the Church)

7CO - I Corinthians 12:28 God gave the Church leaders

8CO - Matthew 18:15-18 Jesus shares how discipline should be carried out in His Church.

9CO - Ephesians 5:23, 24 Christ is the head of the Church, the body (**Col. 1:18**)

10CO- John 10:16 Christ is going to bring all his sheep into one flock. Remember: Church means "To call out" from false religion and the world. (**Eph. 4:5** one faith)

11CO- Ephesians 5:25-27 God's design is to receive His bride (the Church) into the glorious home that He has prepared for her (**John 14:2, 3**)

Do you want to be a part of His Church and His people.

The Christian and Government

(Bible Study #59)

1CG - Daniel 4:17, 34, 35 God has dominion over all the kingdoms of the earth.

2CG - Matthew 22:17-21 Christ sets down the fundamental principal of the Christian's relationship to civil authorities. His authority takes first place. (**Mark 12:17 / Luke 20:25**)

3CG - Romans 13:1-7 We are to be subject to civil powers / doing what is right

4CG - Titus 3:1 Christians should be known for their loyalty to civil powers.

5CG - I Timothy 2:1-3 Pray for those in authority / obey / Walk in peace with all men (**Heb. 12:14**)

6CG - I Peter 2:13-17 Submit yourselves to every human institution for Christ's shake.

7CG - Acts 5:29 (**Acts 4:19,20**) Where civil authority conflicts with conscience we must obey God.

8CG - Romans 12:18 (Principle) As much as possible let us live peaceably with all men.

The Jewish Nation

(Bible Study #60)

1JN - Genesis 32:24-28 The 1st time the name Israel is used in Bible. It has deep spiritual meaning. Jacob means "Deceiver." This new name symbolized his spiritual victory over his past sin. The man Jacob was now spiritual "Israel."

2JN - Exodus 4:22, 23 The name Israel is now being expanded from Jacob to his descendants. It was God's desire that this new nation should be victorious as Jacob, through faith in God.

3JN - Hosea 11:1 Written about 800 B.C. the Lord expressed His love for Israel, but they had failed to live up to the spiritual meaning of their own name. They had not lived righteously. The Lord declared, "They sacrificed unto Baalim, and burned incense to graven images." (**Hosea 11:2**) But God had a special plan that He would begin to make clear with the birth of Jesus some 800 years down through time.

4JN - Matthew 2:15 **A New look at Jesus** Matthew uses the exact same prophecy for Jesus. Israel called "a vine" the Lord brought up out of Egypt (**Psalm 80:1,8,14,15**). Christ is the true vine (**John 15:1**). Israel is called the seed of Abraham (**Isaiah 41:8**). Paul wrote that Jesus is the seed of Abraham (**Galatians 3:16**) What originally applied to the nation of Israel in the O.T. is applied to Jesus in the N.T. (Israel, "firstborn" **Ex. 4:22 / Col. 1:15** Christ, "firstborn")

5JN - Galatians 3:28, 29 Paul here tells the Gentile converts that if they are Christ's then they are Abraham's seed. Israel was a victorious man and his children were to be victorious. In the N.T. Jesus and those who believe in Him represent spiritual Israel. They are the people of faith, both Jew and Gentile **(Galatians 3:7 / Romans 10:12**)

6JN - Romans 9:6 There are two Israels in the New Testament. (Israel, "according to the flesh" **Romans 9:3** and Israel in the Spirit, by faith **Galatians 3:6, 7**) The concept of "faith lineage". Three examples in the N.T. **Matthew 3:1, 7, 9, 10 / John 8:39-42, 44, 47 / Romans 2:17, 25-29**

7JN - Exodus 19:3-6 God's promises were conditional through obedience to Him. (**2 Kings 21:8**) (**Exodus 23:20-22 / Isaiah 1:19, 20 / Deut. 11:27, 28 / *Leviticus 26:3-13, 14-39, 40-45**) (***Jeremiah 7:5-7; 17:24-27**) But they would not obey! (***Acts 7:37-39, 51-53**).

8JN - Deuteronomy 28:49-62 (**Deuteronomy 30:18;31:27-29)** Moses looked into the future and saw Israel as a nation cast off, her city destroyed, reaping the results of her rejection of God. (**Luke 19:41-44**) Jesus foretold of Israel's destruction for rejecting Him as the Messiah.

9JN - Luke 21:20-24 (**Matthew 24:15-20**) Jesus describes the destruction of Jerusalem. Take careful note to verse **22**: "Days of vengeance- Which are written" (See **Deut. 27:11-26** and **Deut. 28:15-68** also **Daniel 9:26, 27**)

10JN- Matthew 21:33-43 (**Mark 12:1-12 / Luke 20:9-19**) Jesus states in no uncertain terms that Israel was to loose their special standing with God. But didn't the Apostle Paul say that all Israel would be saved? **Romans 11:26** Please note: **V. 14** "save some" **V. 23** "grafted in"

11JN- Matthew 23:29-38 Note verse **32**: "Fill you up…" They were about to fill up their cup of sin as a nation and when they rejected Christ (**John 19:15**) their cup overflowed just as King Belshazzar's had done on the night that Babylon fell. Also notice verse **38**: The day before (**Matthew 21:13**) Jesus had called it "my house." Now it is their house and it is desolate.

12JN- Acts 11:26 The nation that Christ said "would bear the fruits thereof" is the Christian church.

13JN- Galatians 3:26-29 The Israel of Christ is both Jew and Gentile. If we choose Christ, then we are "heirs according to the promise." There is now no more a wall of division (**Eph. 2:11-20**) Now the Gentile and the Jew are fellow heirs of the Household of God. (***Eph. 3:4-6**)

Do you want to be of the household of God, spiritual Israel, heirs according to the promise?

Argument #1 – Does the Antichrist sit and rule for a 3rd temple in Jerusalem?

1. **2 Thessalonians 2:3, 4** The Antichrist is pictured seated in the temple of God. Is this the third temple? Just what temple is this that Paul is talking about?
   A. **Ephesians 2:19-22** (**2 Corinthians 6:16 / 1 Corinthians 1:2; 3:16**) Every time the Apostle Paul uses the word "temple" (Greek word "naos") in his letters, he applies it to the Church, not a building in Jerusalem! To Paul, the temple of God was the Christian church (**Acts 11:26; 18:4**) *Adam Clark, the famous Christian commentator, states this about Paul's words (**2 Thess. 2:4**): "By the temple of God the apostle could not well mean the temple of Jerusalem; because that, he knew, would be destroyed within a few years. After the death of Christ the temple of Jerusalem is never called by the apostles the temple of God." He also went on to say in his commentary, "Under the gospel dispensation, the temple of God is the church of Christ."
   The New Testament of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, with a commentary and Critical notes by Adam Clarke, Vol. 11- Romans to the Revelations (New York: Abingdon – Cokesbury Press), notes on 2 Thessalonians 2:3, 4, p. 602.

2. **2 Thessalonians 2:4** "…so that he as God **sits** in the temple of God…" What does it mean by sits?
   A. **Mark 16:19** To "sit" means to be in a position of authority. The antichrist will sit in the church with authority that is in opposition to the supreme authority of Jesus Christ. Like Judas he will be a betrayer from within. (See **Acts 20:28-31 / 1 Timothy 4:1 / 2 Timothy 4:3, 4**)

   Martin Luther: "We here are of the conviction that the Papacy is the seat of the true and real antichrist." (LeRoy Froom, The Prophetic Faith of Our Fathers, vol. 2 p. 256)

   "There sits the man, of whom the apostle wrote (**2 Thessalonians 2:3, 4**) that will oppose and exalt himself above all that is called God. That man of sin to be revealed, the son of perdition …He suppresses the law of God and exalts his commandments above the commandments of God." (Ibid. , p. 281)

   Philipp Melanchthon: "It is most manifest, and true without any doubt, that the Roman pontiff, with his whole order and kingdom, is very antichrist… Likewise, in 2 Thessalonians 2, Paul clearly says the man of sin will rule in the church by exalting himself above the worship of God."

   "There is no other head of the church but the Lord Jesus Christ, nor can the pope of Rome in any sense be head thereof, but is that antichrist, that man of sin and son of perdition that exalteth himself in the church against Christ and all that is called God."
   (The Westminster Confession of Faith, Section 6, chapter 25)

Argument #2 – Do the temple texts in Revelation reveal a 3rd temple that will be built?

Revelation 11:19; 14:17; 15:5; 16:17 All four of them without exception, specify "in heaven." John sees the heavenly sanctuary, of which Christ our Great High Priest is there ministering for us. None of the verses speak of an earthly temple at all.

Argument #3 – Does the Antichrist make a covenant with the Nation of Israel in the midst of a 7 year tribulation period?

Notice the following 10 points:

1. **Daniel 9:24-27** The entire prophecy covers 70 weeks as one sequential block of time.
2. Logically, the 70th week follows immediately after the 69th week.
3. No logic in inserting a 2,000 year gap between the 69th and 70th week / No Biblical precedent.
4. Verse **27** says nothing about a 7 year tribulation period, or an Antichrist.
5. The focus of the prophecy is the Messiah not the Antichrist. "The people of the prince" would "destroy the city and sanctuary" was Prince Titus / Jerusalem destroyed in AD 70 (**Matt. 22:2-7**)
6. **V. 27** "He shall confirm the covenant" (The Messiah – Jesus **Romans 15:8**)
7. **V. 27** "He shall confirm the covenant with many" "my blood… shed for many" (**Matt. 26:28**)
8. "midst of week…shall cause the sacrifice…to cease" When Jesus cried out "It is finished" (**John 19:30**) the temple curtain was torn (**Matt. 27:51**). He was the final sacrifice!
9. "He shall make it desolate." Jesus applied to "abomination of desolation" **Matt. 24:15** (AD 70) **Luke 21:20** "compassed with armies, then know…the desolation is near." (**Matt. 23:28**)
10. **Daniel 9:24** This prophecy applies to the Jewish people. (**Matt. 18:21, 22**) AD 34 The gospel now goes to the Gentiles. (Peter **Acts 10:1-28**) (Paul **Romans 11:13 / Acts 13:46**)

Nowhere in scripture does the bible ever intimate a covenant between the devil and God's people.

Argument #4 – Doesn't the Bible talk about an end time gathering of the Jews, fulfilled in 1948?

In The Late Great Planet Earth, Hal Lindsey gives three reasons why Ezekiel's prophecy must point to the 1948 establishment of Israel as a nation: **(1)** Ezekiel 36:24 "I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and bring you into your own land." **(2)** The phrase "out of all countries," must apply to a "world wide dispersion," so it cannot apply to the time they were in Babylonian captivity. **(3)** Ezekiel's prophecy (Ezekiel 38:16) will be fulfilled "in the latter days," which according to Hal Lindsey, is a "definite" term applying to "the time just preceding" the 2nd coming of Jesus Christ. The Late Great Planet Earth pp.49, 50

Here are 5 points that clearly show that this idea is completely out of context with scripture.

1. **Jeremiah 29:10, 14, 18** The Lord told the Jews that He would gather them "from all nations" immediately after the 70 years captivity in Babylon. It is also worthy to note that Ezekiel, from which Hal Lindsey quotes, was a contemporary of Jeremiah. Thus this passage clarifies the time in which Ezekiel's prophecy would be fulfilled, right after the 70 years in Babylon.

2. **Jeremiah 29:10-14; 30:1-3, 18, 23, 24;** Jeremiah tells us that the time period right after the Babylonian captivity is called "the latter days."

3. **Ezekiel 38:8, 11, 14** Three times the Prophet reveals to us that Israel would "dwell safely." He could not be speaking of Israel today, for she does not dwell in safety, but dwells instead with terrorism and Arab hostility.

4. **Jeremiah 16:10-13; 29:18, 19** The reason why Israel was scattered in the O.T. is because they had forsaken God, broken His laws, and disobeyed His word. The Bible clearly teaches that Israel must return to Him and then He would bring them back into their own land. **Deuteronomy 30:1-3 / Nehemiah 1:8, 9** It is very clear from God's word that the Zionist movement in 1948 did not in any way fulfill these conditions.

5. **Ezekiel 38:1, 2, 8, 9, 12, 18, 22, 23** There are those who say that this chapter points to Israel being established as a nation once again, which they say began in 1948. Also that Gog (which they say is Russia) will fight against the Jewish nation in the final Middle East battle. Yet the truth is that the book of Revelation actually applies Ezekiel's prophecy to a global event that occurs at the end of the 1,000 years. **Revelation 20:7-9** <u>All the major elements are the same</u>. Both Ezekiel 38 and Revelation 20 speak about Gog, Magog, a great army, a final battle against Jerusalem, and fire coming down from heaven. Thus Revelation 20 takes what was to literally apply to the Jewish nation and applies it to the final global battle against the saints (Spiritual Israel) of Jesus Christ, who are in the new Jerusalem at the end of the millennium. Compare also **Ezekiel 39:17-20** with **Revelation 19:17, 18** and note the striking parallel between the two passages.

   We must be willing to accept the New Testament's application of Old Testament prophecies thus being faithful in rightly dividing the word of God.

Beware of False Prophets!

(Modern Day Spiritualism)

(Bible Study #61)

1FP - Matthew 24:4, 5, 11, 24 Jesus warned His Disciples repeatedly to not be deceived.

2FP - Deuteronomy 18:10-12 When you enter the land the LORD your God is giving you, do not learn to imitate the detestable ways of the nations there. Let no-one be found among you who sacrifices his son or daughter in the fire, who practices divination or sorcery, interprets omens, engages in witchcraft, or casts spells, or who is a medium or spiritist or who consults the dead. Anyone who does these things is detestable to the LORD, and because of these detestable practices the LORD your God will drive out those nations before you. You must be blameless before the LORD your God. (NIV)

Terms:

Divination = One who attempts to foretell the future.
Sorcery = Use of evil supernatural power over someone else and their affairs.
Omens = a thing or happening supposed to foretell a future event.
Witchcraft = Black magic
Medium = One who supposedly communicates with the dead.

3FP - Leviticus 20:6, 27 A strong punishment for those who disobeyed the Lord in this.

4FP - 1 Timothy 4:1 In the last days many will give heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of Devils. Many will be turned from truth by these teachers (**2 Timothy 4:3, 4**)

5FP - 2 Corinthians 11:13-15 Some may say good things and seem nice but satan is guiding them.

6FP - Revelation 13:13, 14 Signs, wonders and miracles are not a sure sign of truth.

7FP - Isaiah 8:19, 20 We are not to go to these people but to the Lord in His word.

8FP - 2 Kings 22:8-13; 23:3, 5, 14, 24 We should follow the king's example. If there are things in our lives that are not pleasing to the Lord, we should get rid of them, including false teachers.

9FP - 2 Peter 1:19-21 We have something that is true and gives good answers to all our questions about life, it's the word of God. Do you want to make Jesus and His Word your guide today?!

Jewelry and The Christian

(Bible Study # 62)

1JC - Genesis 1:27 Man and women were created in God's image. **(Genesis 2:7)**
Adam and Eve were clothed with a simple garment of light (**Genesis 3:9, 10 / Psalm 104:2**)

2JC - Genesis 24:22 Over time people began to ware their money. The children of Israel used their money, the wages (jewels) they received from the Egyptians just before the Exodus. **(Exodus 35:22)** They were adopted by pagan custom not by a command of God.

3JC - Isaiah 3:16-23 God identifies jewelry with Idolatry. Jewelry's function, is to enhance the appearance of the one who wears it, **artificially.** Nothing more nothing less. (**Hosea 2:13**)
The supreme goal of every Christian should be to draw attention to Jesus and not one's self.

4JC - Ezekiel 7:19 Speaking of the people who will be living at the end of time, Ezekiel warns us: "They shall cast their silver in the streets…"

5JC - James 5:3 The bible declares the folly of investing in such things.

6JC - Exodus 33:5, 6 Children of Israel got rid of their jewelry as they stood before the Lord. This act implies **mourning** (sorrow for sin) and **reformation**.

7JC - Genesis 35:1-4 Notice two very important points:

1) The foreign gods and jewelry God classified together. There has always been a close association between pagan worship and jewelry. In order for Jacob and his family to come and worship before the Lord they must **separate themselves from idolatrous practices**. They did not make a temporary removal of these objects, it was permanent, **they buried them!**
2) The word **Bethel** means **"House of God."** We are the temple of the Spirit of God (**1 Corinthians 3:16, 17**) and we are not to defile it. **God wants His people to be separate from the world** (**2 Corinthians 6:17; 1 Peter 2:9**) and to show forth the praises of Him who has called us from darkness into His marvelous light.

8JC - Revelation 12:1 (Ref. Ch. 17:4) There are two symbolic women that appear in Revelation. (A women in prophecy represents a church: **Jeremiah 6:2** and **Isaiah 54:5, 6**)
Notice that the primary way the bible identifies them is by what they are wearing.
God's church is clothed with natural light and the apostate church is clothed with the artificial. Obviously these things are associated with the appearance of evil and we are commanded to **"Abstain from all appearance of evil." 1 Thessalonians 5:22**

9JC - 1 John 2:6 Jesus is our example. **Jesus never wore jewelry**. At the cross they did not cast lots for His jewelry, because He didn't have any, it was for His seamless tunic. **(John 19:23, 24)**

10JC- 1 Timothy 2:9, 10 Paul's council is for our dress to profess godliness and good works.

11JC- 1 Peter 3:3, 4 "Your beauty should reside, not in outward adornment – the braiding of the hair, or jewelry, or dress – but in the inmost center of your being, with its imperishable ornament, a gentle, quiet spirit, which is of high value in the sight of God. (NEB)

Romans 6:16 is clear that whose voice we yield to reveal whose servant we are and in the end our eternal destiny. The word of God is clear when it comes to adornment. He said take it off. God does not change (Malachi 3:6, Hebrews 13:8, James 1:17) Obedience to His word is a test of loyalty. Jesus identifies His children as those that hear and obey. (Matthew 10:32) If we chose to just hear and do our own thing we simply deny Him and in the end unless we repent, believe and act on it we will be lost. He will not confess our name before the Father. (Matthew 10:33)

PRINCIPLES OF HEALTH

(Bible Study #63)

1PH - 1 Corinthians 6:19, 20 Our bodies belong to God, and we should treat them as such.

2PH - Isaiah 55:2 God wants us to eat only those foods that are good for us that we may glorify God in our bodies. **Genesis 1:29** God's original diet for the human family consisted of fruits, nuts, and grains. After the fall (when sin entered) He gave mankind vegetables (**Genesis 3:17, 18**). **Ecclesiastes 10:17** eat for strength and not drunkenness.

3PH - Daniel 1:12 We all need water. (**Proverbs 25:21**)

4PH - Deuteronomy 24:19 (**Proverbs 10:16; 14:23**) Exercise is good for a healthy body.

5PH - Deuteronomy 33:14 (**Matthew 5:45**) Sunshine.

6PH - 1 Corinthians 9:25-27 Temperance (**1 Cor. 10:31**) Self-control – **Prov. 24:13; 25:16, 27** We are to be temperate in all things, refusing to put anything into our bodies that would harm it. (**Matt. 27:34**)

7PH - Acts 17:25 Fresh air.

8PH - Psalm 3:5 (**Ecc. 5:12**) Rest.

9PH - Psalm 34:8 Trust in the Lord.

NEWSTART

N = Nutrition
E = Exercise
W = Water
S = Sunshine
T = Temperance
A = Air
R = Rest
T = Trust in God

7 Steps to Overcoming Tobacco

(Bible Study #64)

1. Recognize that smoking is a sin against your own body and your God.
A) **Romans 12:1** B) **1 Corinthians 6:19,20**

2. Acknowledge your weakness and inability to quit on your own without the help of Jesus. Admit that He alone is the one who can give you power to be free of this habit. The Leper: **Mark 1:40-42**
"Without me you can do nothing." **(John 15:5)**

3. Believe that while you are weak He is Strong. Trust Him that although you cannot do it on your own you can rest in His strength to give you victory! Choose to surrender your weak will to His will and you will experience victory!
A) **1 Corinthians 10:13** B) **Philippians 4:13** C) **1 John 5:14,15**

4. Surrender yourself and all your tobacco to the Lord.
A) **Joshua 24:15** B) **2 Corinthians 6:2** **C) 1 Kings 20:4**

5. Believe in the victory that Jesus offers you and thank Him for giving it to you just now! A) **Matthew 7:7,8** B) **1 John 5:4** C) **1 Corinthians 15:57**
NOTE: You may still have the craving to smoke because of the nicotine in your body but remember that **smoking is a choice.** Victory **IS** yours by faith in the Lord Jesus. (**Galatians 3:11**)

6. Destroy all of the Tobacco you have. Get the temptation out of the way. Submit yourself to God. (**James 4:7,8,10**)

7. Believe in the Victory that is now yours in Christ! Thank Him from delivering you from this habit that has been destroying your body.
A) **Isaiah 61:1** B) **1 John 4:4** C) **Philippians 2:13**

Here is a list of simple things you can practice that will help you to rid your body of nicotine.

1. Take slow deep breaths repeatedly, when the craving comes, until it subsides. Continue to praise Jesus for the victory that He has already given you.
2. Drink 8-12 glasses of water each day for the next 5 days.
3. Relax in a WARM (not hot) bath each night before going to bed.
4. Do your best to get 8 hours of sleep at night.
5. AVOID all stimulants including coffee and alcohol.
6. Take two 30-minute walks daily.
7. Continually thank The Lord for setting you free. (**John 8:36**)

The Communion Service

(Bible Study #65)

1 – 1 Corinthians 11:23-30 These are symbols of His death. (Reference: **Matthew 26:26-30**)

2 – 1 Corinthians 5:7, 8 Leaven & fermentation / It is a symbol of sin.

3 – Hebrews 10:10-14 Jesus died once/ communion is a symbolic remembrance of Christ's sacrifice for us.

4 – John 13:1-17 Jesus gave us this example before His death on the Cross.

5 – Luke 22:16, 18 The communion service looks forward to the marriage supper of the Lamb which we will eat with Jesus in heaven.

Faith or Feeling: What Should We Live by

(Bible Study #66)

1FF - 1 Samuel 13:5-14 - Saul goes by his feelings.

2FF - Proverbs 16:25 - There is a way that seems right but it leads to destruction.

3FF - Matthew 4:4 - We are to live by the word of God.

4FF - John 8:47 - If we are in Christ we will hear God's word.

5FF - Psalms 25:4, 5 He will guide and teach us His ways.

6FF - Romans 12:2 - We are to find out what God's will is. (**1 Thess. 5:21** Prove all things, hold fast to that which is good)

7FF - Psalms 73:24 - He will guide us with His counsel. (**Prov. 22:21, 22**)

8FF - Isaiah 8:20 - We must live by the word of God.

9FF - Isaiah 30:21 - God will guide us and confirm when we are on the right path.

10FF-Ephesians 6:5, 6 - Do the will of God from the heart. (**John 8:29**)

The Seven Churches

(Bible Study # 67)

Revelation 1:4, 10, 11 The "…7 churches that are in Asia…" A region some 300 miles by 260 miles lying in the western part of the Roman province of Asia and known today as Asia Minor, in the present republic of Turkey.

📖 **The Seven Churches of Revelation (Revelation 2–3)**

🔑 **Key Framework**

- Found in: Revelation 2–3
- Audience: Real churches in Asia Minor (modern Turkey)
- Prophetic Meaning: **Seven successive eras of Christian history**
- Pattern in each message:
    1. Christ reveals Himself
    2. Commendation
    3. Rebuke
    4. Counsel
    5. Promise to overcomers

Summary Timeline

Church	Time Period	Condition
Ephesus	31–100 AD	Lost first love
Smyrna	100–313 AD	Persecuted
Pergamos	313–538 AD	Compromise
Thyatira	538–1517 AD	Apostasy
Sardis	1517–1798 AD	Dead formalism
Philadelphia	1798–1844 AD	Missionary revival
Laodicea	1844–Present	Lukewarm

🌿 **Major Themes**

1. Jesus Walks Among His Church - Christ is present in every age (Rev. 1:13)

2. Progressive Decline and Reform - History shows cycles of:

- Purity → Compromise → Apostasy → Reform

3. The Remnant Principle - God always has faithful believers (Rev. 12:17)

4. The Urgency of Laodicea - The final message is a **personal appeal for revival**

1. EPHESUS — The Apostolic Church

📖 *Revelation 2:1–7*

Meaning: "Desirable"
Time Period: ~31–100 AD

Characteristics:

- Pure doctrine
- Hardworking and patient
- Tested false apostleProblem: - "Left thy first love" (Rev. 2:4)

Spiritual Lesson: - They had truth without love**—orthodoxy but declining devotion.**

Promise: - Eat from the tree of life (Rev. 2:7)

👉 **Application:**
Truth must be united with love for Christ.

2. SMYRNA — The Persecuted Church

📖 *Revelation 2:8–11*

Meaning: "Myrrh" (associated with suffering)
Time Period: ~100–313 AD (Roman persecution)

Characteristics:

- Faithful under intense persecution
- Spiritually rich despite material poverty

Key Theme:

- "Be thou faithful unto death" (Rev. 2:10)

Historical Context:

- Severe persecution under Roman emperors (e.g., Diocletian)

Promise:

- Crown of life
- Not hurt by second death

👉 **Application:**
Faithfulness is proven in trials

3. PERGAMOS — The Compromising Church

📖 *Revelation 2:12–17*

Meaning: "Height" or "Exalted"
Time Period: ~313–538 AD

Characteristics:

- Church begins to unite with the state (after Constantine)
- Christianity becomes popular

Problem:

- Doctrine of Balaam (compromise with paganism)
- Nicolaitans (corruption of authority)

Key Shift:

- Pagan practices enter the church

Promise:

- Hidden manna
- White stone (symbol of acceptance)

👉 **Application:**
Compromise with the world corrupts truth.

4. THYATIRA — The Medieval Church

📖 *Revelation 2:18–29*

Meaning: "Sacrifice of contrition"
Time Period: ~538–1517 AD

Characteristics:

- Longest church period
- Dominated by apostasy

Problem:

- "Jezebel" (symbol of false religious system)
- Spiritual corruption and persecution of faithful believers

Faithful Remnant:

- A group remains loyal to God

Promise:

- Power over nations
- Morning star (Christ)

👉 **Application:**
Even in darkest times, God preserves a faithful remnant.

5. SARDIS — The Reformation Church

📖 *Revelation 3:1–6*

Meaning: "That which remains"
Time Period: ~1517–1798 AD

Characteristics:

- Protestant Reformation begins (e.g., Martin Luther)

Problem:

- "Thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead"
- Incomplete reformation

Key Issue:

- Truth rediscovered, but spiritual life lacking

Promise:

- White garments
- Name in the Book of Life

👉 **Application:**
Reformation must continue—truth alone is not enough without revival.

6. PHILADELPHIA — The Missionary Church

📖 *Revelation 3:7–13*

Meaning: "Brotherly love"
Time Period: ~1798–1844 AD

Characteristics:

- Great missionary movement
- Revival of Bible study and prophecy

Key Theme:

- "Open door" (opportunities for gospel work)

Historical Note:

- Linked with the Advent movement (e.g., William Miller)

Promise:

- Pillar in God's temple
- Name of God written on them

👉 **Application:**
God opens doors for those who are faithful to His Word.

7. LAODICEA — The Last Church

📖 *Revelation 3:14–22*

Meaning: "People judged"
Time Period: 1844 AD – Present

Characteristics:

- Lukewarm (neither hot nor cold)
- Self-sufficient but spiritually poor

Problem:

- Blind to true condition

Counsel:

- Buy:
  - Gold (faith and love)
  - White raiment (Christ's righteousness)
  - Eyesalve (spiritual discernment)

Key Verse:

- "Behold, I stand at the door and knock" (Rev. 3:20)

Promise:

- Sit with Christ on His throne

👉 **Application:**
This is **our present condition**—a call to revival and repentance.

The Seven Seals

(Bible Study #68)

Revelation 5:1-5

"The prophecies of the Revelation are not successive, they are repetitive; that is, they double back, covering the same period of time. For example, the seven seals, and the seven trumpets cover the same period as do the seven churches." Unfolding the Revelation, Roy Allen Anderson, p. 60

Revelation 6:1, 2 "<u>A white horse</u>" (1st seal = **31-100 AD**) Symbol of victory / purity of faith. It is a beautiful symbol of the apostolic church as she went forth successfully sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ. So swiftly was the gospel carried to other nations that Paul writing to the Colossians around 62AD declared that the gospel had gone "to every creature which is under heaven." (**Colossians 1:23**) The bow in the rider's hand symbolizes conquest, and the crown, victory. It fulfilled the prophecies of **Habakkuk 3:8, 9** and **Psalm 64:7-9**.

V. 3, 4 "<u>another horse that was red</u>" (2nd seal = **100-313 AD**) Symbol of war / bloodshed. The violent persecutions of the Roman Caesars during this time period are well characterized by the horseman who carries a "great sword" and has power "to take peace from the earth." The contrast in color from white to red is significant. If white represents purity of faith, then red may be regarded as a corruption of faith and the acceptance of falsehood and heresies. It was during this time period that Christians began to move off the platform of truth.

V. 5 "<u>a black horse</u>" (3rd seal = **313-538**) Symbol of defeat / corruption of faith. The work of corruption continued to progress, year after year and century after century. "As the stream of Christianity flowed farther from its foundation, it became more and more corrupt, and as the centuries advanced, superstition with them; and… tales of purgatory, and pious frauds, and the worship of saints, relics, and images, took the place of pure and simple Christianity: till at length, the Book of God being laid aside for legendary tales, and 'the traditions of men,' all these corruptions were collected into the regular system of superstition and oppression." J. C. Woodhouse, The Apocalypse, p. 146

The "<u>balances</u>" represent the union of religion with the state power and also, the undo concern for the material necessities of life.

V. 6 "<u>a measure</u>" (aprox. 1 quart) The amount of grain for a day's ration for the working man.
"<u>a penny</u>" A day's wages for the ordinary (Roman) laborer.
"<u>Barley</u>" It was a grain cheaper then wheat used by the poor and used as feed for animals.

"During this period of spiritual famine, a cheaper grade of spiritual food was being offered to the people, and they could receive only the smallest amount of the word of God. Tradition and the teachings of the Catholic fathers were being taught rather than the pure doctrines of Christ. This corrupted religion was being sold or bartered as a commodity." Unfolding the Revelation, Roy Allen Anderson, p. 67

"the oil and wine" has been interpreted as symbols of faith and love.

V. 7, 8 "a pale horse" (4th seal = **538-1517** To Reformation) Symbol of fear / death. Millions upon millions were martyred for their faith in Christ during those dark centuries. "The noon of the papacy was the midnight of the World." The History of Protestantism, J. A. Wylie, Vol. 1, p. 16

"Hell" The abode of death.
"the forth part" A wide area of the earth.
"Sword" Notice the progression: Sword, hunger, death (pestilence), and beasts of the earth.

V. 9, 10 Souls under the alter (5th seal = **1517-1798**) The alter itself is believed to be like the Bronze alter of the earthly sanctuary in the Old Testament. The souls crying out is figurative, like the blood of Abel (**Genesis 4:10**) crying out to God for justice. This message of the 5th seal is to encourage those who have faced or who will face persecution and martyrdom. It is a reassurance that the cause of God will ultimately triumph!

V. 12-14 "a great earthquake" (6th seal = **1798-1844**) (**Joel 2:10 / Isaiah 13:9-11 / Amos 8:9**)

The **1755 Lisbon earthquake**, also known as the **Great Lisbon Earthquake**, took place on November 1, 1755, at around 9:40 in the morning.[1] The earthquake was followed by a tsunami and fires, which caused near-total destruction of Lisbon in Portugal, and adjoining areas. Geologists today estimate the Lisbon earthquake approached magnitude 9 on the Richter scale, with an epicenter in the Atlantic Ocean about 200 km (120 mi) west-southwest of Cape St. Vincent. Estimates place the death toll in Lisbon alone between 10,000 and 100,000 people,[2] making it one of the most destructive earthquakes in history.
The shock waves of the earthquake destroyed part of Covilhã's castle walls and its large towers, and were felt throughout Europe as far as Finland and North Africa. Tsunamis as tall as 20 metres (66 ft) swept the coast of North Africa, and struck Martinique and Barbados across the Atlantic. A three-metre (ten-foot) tsunami hit Cornwall on the southern English coast. Galway, on the west coast of Ireland, was also hit, resulting in partial destruction of the "Spanish Arch" section of the city wall.

"the sun became black" It was called the dark day in History. (May 19, 1780)
Isaiah 13:10 / Ezekiel 32:7 / Joel 2:31 / Matthew 24:29 / Mark 13:24

"Almost if not altogether alone as the most mysterious and as yet unexplained phenomenon of its kind, . . . stands the dark day of May 19, 1780,--a most unaccountable darkening of the whole visible heavens and atmosphere in New England." That the darkness was not due to an eclipse is evident from the fact that the moon was then nearly full. It was not caused by clouds, or the thickness of the atmosphere, for in some localities where the darkness extended, the sky was so clear that the stars could be seen. Concerning the inability of science to assign a satisfactory cause for this manifestation, Herschel the astronomer declares: "The dark day in North America was one of those wonderful phenomena of nature which philosophy is at a loss to explain."

"The morning was clear and pleasant, but about eight o'clock there was observed an uncommon appearance in the sun. There were no clouds, but the air was thick, having a smoky appearance, and the sun shone with a pale, yellowish hue, but kept growing darker and darker, until it was hid from sight." There was "midnight darkness at noonday."

"The occurrence brought intense alarm and distress to multitudes of minds, as well as dismay to the whole brute creation, the fowls fleeing bewildered to their roosts, and the birds to their nests, and the cattle returning to their stalls." Frogs and night hawks began their notes. The cocks crew as at daybreak. Farmers were forced to leave their work in the fields. Business was generally suspended, and candles were lighted in the dwellings. "The Legislature of Connecticut was in session at Hartford, but being unable to transact business adjourned. Everything bore the appearance and gloom of night."

From soon after sunset until midnight, no ray of light from moon or star penetrated the vault above. It was pronounced 'the blackness of darkness!' " Said an eye-witness of the scene: "I could not help conceiving, at the time, that if every luminous body in the universe had been shrouded in impenetrable darkness, or struck out of existence, the darkness could not have been more complete."

May 19, 1780, stands in history as "The Dark Day." Since the time of Moses, no period of darkness of equal density, extent, and duration has ever been recorded. "The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the Lord come." **Joel 2:31**.

"<u>the moon became as blood</u>" (May 19, 1780) **Matthew 24:29 / Joel 2:31**

The moon became as red as blood on the night of the "dark day," May 19, 1780. Milo Bostick in Stone's History of Massachusetts says, "The moon which was at its full, had the appearance of blood."

"<u>the stars of heaven fell</u>" (November 13, 1833) **Matthew 24:29**

The great star shower took place on the night of November 13, 1833. It was so bright that a newspaper could be read on the street. One writer says, "For nearly four hours the sky was literally ablaze." * Men thought the end of the world had come. Look into this. It is most fascinating, and a sign of Christ's coming.

*Peter A. Millman, "The Falling of the Stars," The Telescope, 7 (May-June, 1940) 57.

V. 17 "<u>who shall be able to stand</u>?" Compare **Nahum 1:6 / Malachi 3:2 / Luke 21:36**
Chapter 7 is an answer to this question.

Revelation 8:1

THE 7 LAST PLAQUES

(Bible Study #69)

1LP - **Revelation 7:1-2** (**V. 1 – Daniel 7:2**) John sees here in vision angels holding back the forces of destruction from all over the world.

2LP - Revelation 7:3 They are sealed with God's seal in their foreheads. **Ezekiel 9:4 / Isaiah 8:16** **2 timothy 2:19** Character qualification. **Hebrews 10:16** God's Holy Law

3LP - Revelation 15:1, 5-8 The 7 angels with the 7 last plaques.

4LP - Revelation 16:1, 2 1st painful and severe sore. Same word for Egyptian boil (**Ex. 9:9,10)**

5LP - Revelation 16:3 2nd Sea becomes blood /Every living thing dies / marine life

6LP - Revelation 16:4-6 3rd Waters become blood

7LP - Revelation 16:8, 9 4th The sun scorches mankind

8LP - Revelation 16:10, 11 5th Seat (throne) of beast is full of darkness

9LP - Revelation 16:12 6th The great river Euphrates dries up **Rev 17:1-4, 15** Mystical Babylon The withdrawal of human support for the apostate power.

10LP-Revelation 16:17-21 7th Thunder / lighting / earthquake / hail – weighing 66 lbs.

11LP-Revelation 19:1, 2, 11-14; 1:7 (**Jude 1:14, 15**) Second coming of Christ

12LP-Revelation 22:14 A blessing for those who obey!

BATTLE OF ARMAGEDDON

(Bible Study #70)

Problems

1. Occurs once in the Bible – **Revelation 16:16**

2. Where is it? No place called Armageddon existed in bible times. There was small but important fortress town called Megiddo which existed in early times. It was situated on a rise of ground at the south end of the valley called Esdraelon or as in Zechariah 12:11 called the valley of Megiddo.

3. The valley is triangular in shape**,** with 18-20 miles on a side, covering less then a 200 square area – perhaps 2/3's the size of Lake Tahoe. It served for some pretty important battles in the past but very small for the armies of today.

4. Some suggest that the spelling is incorrect (Armageddon), because some of the Greek manuscripts spell it as har-migdo, "His fruitful mountain," or Mount Zion. The Interpreter's Dictionary states that this is the most likely meaning because Revelation 9:13 to 11:14; 14:14-20 and 16:12-16 take much of their imagery from the Old Testament book of Joel, where it is from Mount Zion that the power of the Lord fights against His enemies. (See Joel 3:16)

5. Armageddon is not the only name given for the sight of that last great battle. The bible also calls it the valley of Jehoshaphat in Joel 3:2, 12. Note: those valleys are located in 2 different spots, Megiddo and Jehoshaphat. But no one knows for sure geographically where this valley is located?

Note: But we do know that God won a great battle for His people in that valley that day, 2 Chronicles 20:14-18, 21-25.

This I believe has given us an important clue.
In the book of Judges we find another miraculous deliverance of God's people from their enemies. Deborah and Barak Judges chapters 4 and 5. The battle took place along the swampy banks of the river Kishon- the river that flows north through the plain of Megiddo!

Armageddon is a symbol.

Revelation 16:12-16 The drying up of the river Euphrates.

If we would spend more time on the river Euphrates, the meaning of Armageddon might take care of its self.

A symbolic interpretation.

Isaiah 44:27 to 45:1 King Cyrus (came from the east)

At the second coming Jesus comes from the east, **Matthew 24:27**
The events surrounding the fall of ancient Babylon were a symbolic model for the events of Armageddon.

The Euphrates in the last days – **Revelation 17:15** "the waters you saw…" nations of the world.
The Euphrates in prophecy is a symbol of the world's population, organized under human governments.

Revelation 13:3, 4 enjoys unprecedented prominence in the world.

Revelation 17:12-14 similar scenario

The way earthly governments make war with the Lamb is by persecuting His people and opposing His truth.

This Modern Babylon trusts in her "Euphrates" (which is the support of most of the world's population) as naively as ancient Babylon did in her river Euphrates.

Revelation 17:16 The deception is taken away and the bible says that the horns (the nations of the world) will turn against the harlot (the great city Babylon); "They will make her desolate and naked, and devour her flesh and burn her up with fire."

Notice verse **17**:
"For God has put it into their hearts (the hearts of the nations) to carry out His purpose."

At the 6th plague the nations of the world clearly see the hypocrisy of their spiritual leaders and clergy. The drying up of the Euphrates is the withdrawal of popular support for the end-time false religious system known as Babylon.

THE TRIBULATION

(Bible Study #71)

1. **John 16:13** The Spirit will guide us into all truth. His word is truth (John 17:17)
2. **John 7:17** If we have a heart to do God's will we will know of the doctrine.

3. **Ezekiel 22:23-30**

Biblical Interpretation

**See paper on Principles For Biblical Interpretation

Ezekiel 38, 39 Prophecies on future Israel are conditional upon their obedience to God.
See: **Jeremiah 18:7-11** **Deut. 31:26-29** **Deut. 28:49-57**

Ezekiel 40 Question: Why would God design for there to be in the future a new temple in our days with animal sacrifices. That would be contrary to the Cross! It is stating what might have been. Nehemiah and Ezra never mentioned this prophecy.

Daniel 9:25-27
Matthew 24:21, 29 The Tribulation was during the dark ages.

Daniel 12:1 This takes place just before Christ comes (**Revelation 13:18**)

SOCIAL RELATIONSHIPS

(Bible Study #72)

1SR - Matthew 22:37-40 In order to love others God's love must reign supreme in the heart.

2SR - Ephesians 4:1-3, 32 With His love abiding in the heart we will be kind one to another.

3SR - 1 Peter 4:9, 10 We will seek to minister to each others needs.

4SR - 1 Peter 5:5 We are to be subject (accountable) to one another.

5SR - James 2:1-5 We will treat everyone with dignity and equality.

6SR - Colossians 3:8-10 We will not lie to one another and to others.

7SR - Matthew 7:1-5 We will not sit in judgment of one another.

8SR - Matthew 18:15-17 We will settle disputes by Christ's method alone.

9SR - Matthew 5:43-45 We will have the love of Christ for those who claim to be our enemies.

10SR- John 13:34, 35 We will love others as Jesus loves us. (**1 Cor. 13:4-8**)

MARRIAGE / FAMILY

(Bible Study #73)

1MF - Genesis 1:26 Created in **His** image, we are social beings. (man = both male and female)

2MF - Genesis 2:21-24 God created marriage from the very beginning. (**Matthew 19:6** let no one break it up) It is a covenant **Malachi 2:14 / Proverbs 2:16, 17**

3MF - Genesis 1:27, 28 Be fruitful and multiply – Family

.

4MF - Psalm 127:3 Children are an heritage of the Lord.

5MF - Ephesians 6:4 Train them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. Parents are to be committed to their children both spiritually (**Luke 2:22-39**) and in training them in the way they should go (**Proverbs 22:6**)

6MF - Genesis 33:14 Lead them with the love of Christ. (**Genesis 18:17-19**) **

7MF - Ephesians 6:1-3 Children obey parents. (**Exodus 20:12**)

8MF - Matthew 5:31, 32 Divorce given for unfaithfulness (Adultery).

9MF - 1 Corinthians 6:9 Adultery also includes other sexual perversions.

10MF-Ephesians 5:25-28, 33 Husbands are to love their wives as Christ loves the church, and wives are to reverence their husbands.

GUIDANCE IN MAKING DECISIONS

(Bible Study #74)

1DM - James 1:5, 6 God promises to give us wisdom if we ask.

2DM - Psalm 139:23, 24 Search your heart to make sure you are in harmony with the Lord.

3DM - James 4:3 Make sure you are asking in His will. **(1 John 5:14, 15)**

4DM - Psalm 32:8 Believe that He will guide you.

5DM - Psalm 119:18, 130 Discover bible principles that will guide you.

6DM - Proverbs 11:14 Seek council from other Christians that are strong in the Faith.

7DM - Proverbs 23:26 Look for God's providences based upon sound judgment and biblical principles found in His Word. **(Ecclesiastes 8:5)**

8DM - Isaiah 30:21 After praying about it, **(Philippians 4:6)** make the wisest decision, trusting in the Lord to guide you.

HELP IN TIME OF TROUBLE

(Bible Study #75)

1HT - Jeremiah 33:3 He will answer us when we come to Him for help.

2HT - Isaiah 41:10, 13 Don't be afraid, He will strengthen, He will help!

3HT - Psalm 56:3 When we feel afraid we can place our trust in Him.

4HT - Psalm 46:1, 2 Our Refuge, Strength, and Help in all our troubles.

5HT - Nahum 1:7 A stronghold in the day of trouble.

6HT - Isaiah 43:1-3 He is with us through the trials.

7HT - Hebrews 13:5, 6 He will never leave us nor forsake us.

8HT - Psalm 33:18-22 God eyes are upon those who hope in His mercy.

9HT - Psalm 34:4, 15, 17-19 We have many afflictions but the Lord delivers us from them all.

10HT- Romans 8:18, 28, 38, 39 As we trust in Jesus, we will have a confidence in knowing that He is working things out for our best good and that nothing will be able to separate us from His love and care.

11HT- Zephaniah 3:17 He is mighty, He will save. (**Psalm 32:7**) He encourages us with songs of deliverance.

PRINCIPLES TO LIVE BY

(Bible Study #76)

Principle *-- A fundamental truth, law, doctrine, or motivating force, upon which others (moral principles) are based. (Webster's New World Dictionary: Third College Edition)*

1PL - Matthew 22:37-40 Love God supreme and your neighbor as yourself.

2PL - Ephesians 6:5, 6 Do the will of God from the heart. (**John 8:29** Those things that please Him)
Micah 6:8 Walk humbly with your God. **Psalms 15:1, 2** Walk uprightly, speak the truth.

3PL - Matthew 7:12 (**Luke 6:31**) Do to others and you would have them do to you.

4PL - James 2:1-4, 9 Don't be a respecter of persons (**Deuteronomy 1:17**)

5PL - Mark 12:17 Render to Caesar the things that are his and to God His. (**Acts 5:29**)

6PL - Matthew 10:8 Freely you have received, freely give. (**Prov. 3:9** Honor the Lord w/ increase)

7PL - Proverbs 27:23 Be diligent to know the state of your flocks (**Gen. 33:13,14** lead on softly)

8PL - Ecclesiastes 9:10 Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might.

9PL - II Thessalonians 3:10 If a man will not work, neither shall he eat.

10PL- Galatians 6:7 What we sow we will reap. (**II Cor. 9:6** sow sparingly / sow bountifully)
We often sow weeds and expecting in the end to harvest a beautiful garden.

11PL- II Corinthians 6:14 Be not unequally yoked together with those who do not believe.

12PL- I Thessalonians 5:22 Flee all appearances of evil.

13PL- Psalm 101:3 Do not set any wicked thing before your eyes.

14PL- 1 Corinthians 10:31 Eat or drink or what ever you do, do all to His Glory (**Ecc. 10:17**
Eat for strength not for drunkenness) (**Prov. 25:16, 17** Eat in moderation)

Creation

(Bible Study #77)

1C - Genesis 1:1-31; 2:1-3 God created the world in a 7 day time frame.

2C - Psalm 33:6, 9 The Lord spoke the world into existence. (**Psalm 102:25**)

3C - Isaiah 45:18 God created it to be inhabited. **Job 12:7-10**

3C - John 1:1, 3, 14 Jesus is the Creator.

4C - Genesis 1:27; 2:7 God created man in His image and in a special manner.

5C - Isaiah 43:7, 21 Man was created for God's glory and praise. (**Revelation 4:11**)

6C - Genesis 1:5,8,13,19,23,31; 2:1-3 God created our world in 7 days.

7C - Leviticus 23:23 God measures each day in a 24 hour time frame, evening to evening.

8C - Romans 1:18-20 God is clearly revealed through His created works.

9C - Isaiah 65:17 God is going to create a new heaven and a new earth.

10C- Revelation 21:4, 5 The former things will pass away – He will make all things new!

God's People in The Last Days

(Bible Study #78)

What are they like?

1GP - John 3:16 They have a saving relationship with their Lord – **John 17:3**
2 Corinthians 5:17 A new creature in Christ.

2GP - Matthew 22:36-40 They love Jesus and their fellow man, and enemies (**Matt. 5:44**).

3GP - Habakkuk 2:4 They live by faith (**Romans 1:17**) (**Rev. 14:12**)

4GP - James 1:22, 27 Their lives are ordered in accordance with His Word and unspotted from the world. (**Matt. 4:4**) **Psalm 139:23,24** They seek God's will.

5GP - 1 Timothy 4:12 They are an example to the believers **1 John 2:6**

6GP - Galatians 5:22-25 They will possess the fruits of the Spirit.

7GP - Rev. 12:17 A Commandment keeping people **1John 5:3** Their love for God leads them to obey Him from the heart (**Romans 6:17**) because He has written His law in their hearts (**Hebrews 8:10**)

8GP - Rev. 3:21 / 21:7 They are over comers. (**1 Peter 2:22 / Rev. 14:5** No guile)

9GP - Joshua 24:15 They have made it very clear who they serve. (**1 Kings 18:20-39**) (**Leviticus 10:10**) **Daniel 6:1-28** They will be loyal unto death. (**Rev. 12:11**)

10GP- Genesis 5:1; 9:6 (**2 Corinthians 3:18 / Colossians 3:10 / Romans 8:29**) Day by day they are being renewed into His image.

11GP- Matthew 28:19, 20 / Mark 16:15 They will take the gospel to the whole world. They will not only preaching the Word but allow Christ to shine forth in their lives. (**1 Peter 2:9 / 1 Corinthians 4:9**)

12GP- Revelation 21:3 They will live with God forever.