

# *Satan's Masterful Deception – Part 1*



Past > Present > Future



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**Learn from the Past > Understand the Present >  
Prepare for the Future**



# ***Inreach & Outreach Resource***



Compiled by:  
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Thottimpuri

This booklet is an eye opener of what's happening in the world.

This 40 page A5 size booklet has the key aspects of the –

**PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE.**

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# ***Enter The Ark of Hope***

The Great Controversy between God and  
Satan is primarily over

**“WORSHIP”**

**Who will you Choose?**



# ***Get into the Ark Sanctuary***



**And let them  
make me a  
sanctuary;  
that I may dwell  
among them.**  
– Exodus 25:8

**Psalms 77:13**



# Health Snippet – Exercise

## 6 Benefits of Abdominal Workouts

It's surprising how many people miss the abdominal muscles when working out. In doing so, they miss out on the numerous benefits of abdominal workouts. If you've been skipping your ab session, let's take a look at some of the key benefits of ab workouts...

**THEY'RE NOT FOR THE 6 PACK LOOK!** – Needed for posture, supports spine, balance, stability, respiratory functions, etc..

**IMPROVED PERFORMANCE** - Supports strenuous activities requiring balance, stability and core strength.

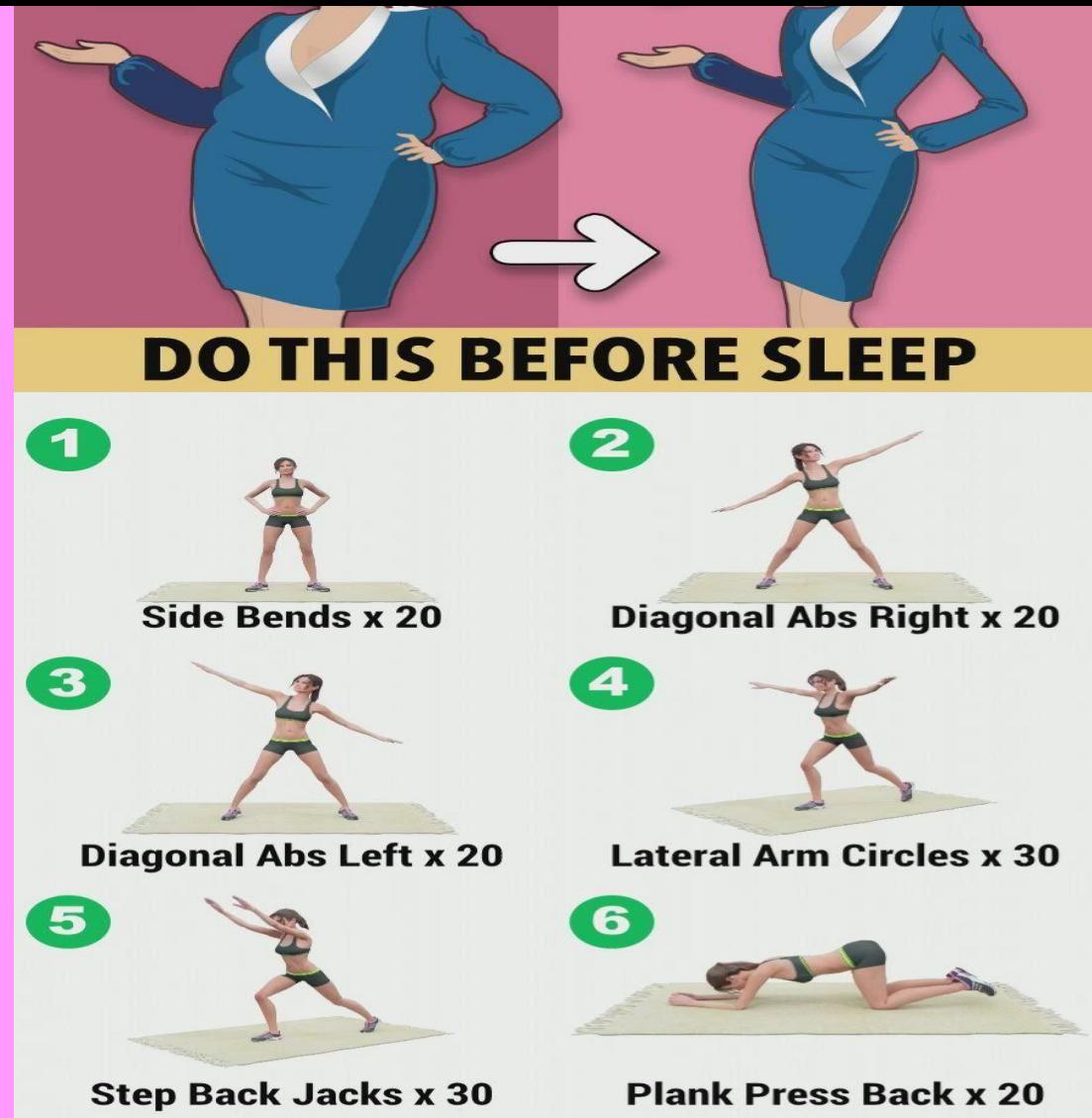
**REDUCED LOWER BACK PAIN** - Weak abdominal muscles contribute to increased lower back pain.

**IMPROVED POSTURE AND STABILITY** - vital for people in sports & the elderly who are at risk a of tumbles and slips.

**IMPROVED ABILITY TO BEAR WEIGHT** - to lift heavier weights without causing damage to the spine.

**FIRMER WAISTLINE** - help in [reducing body fat](#), a problem with many lifestyle diseases such as [diabetes](#) and obesity.

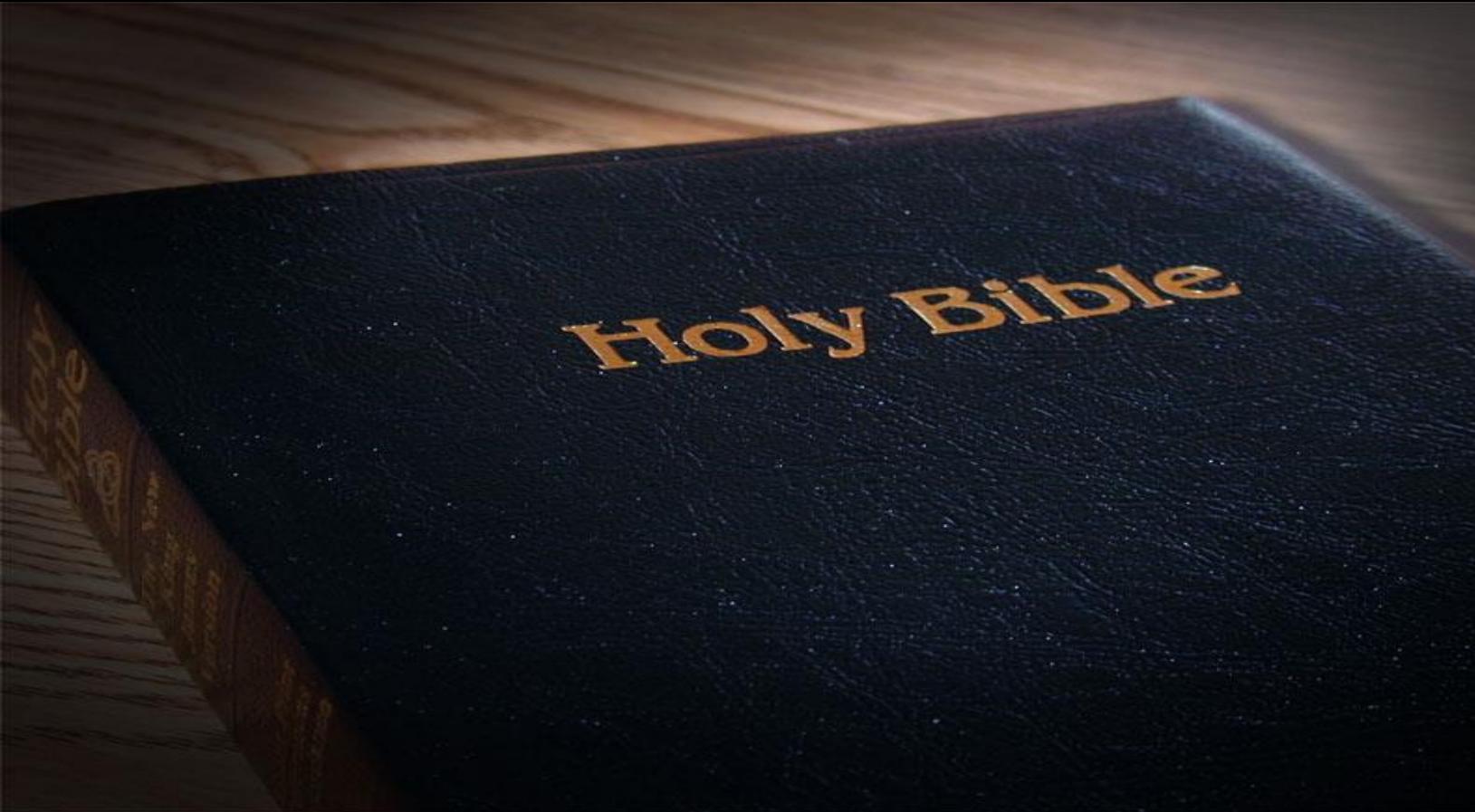
**VARIETY IS KEY – ABS** don't eliminate body fat on their own. If you want to lose weight, then variety is key. Try a balanced workout that includes plenty of cardiovascular exercise.



Start slow and increase gradually to this target!

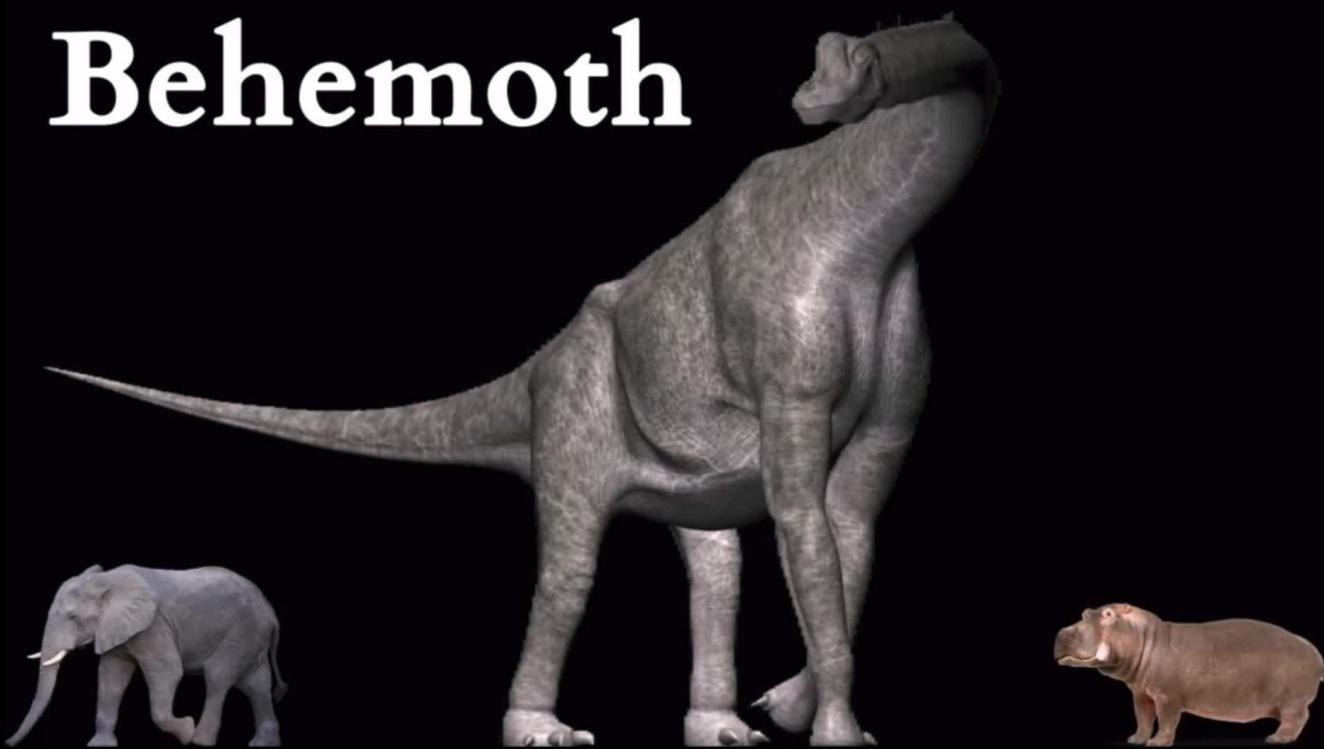


# Can We Trust Bible Prophecy?



# Yes we Can!

## Behemoth



**Job 40:16** - Lo now, his strength [is] in his loins,  
and his force [is] in the navel of his belly.



# *Satan's Masterful Deception – Part 1*



Past > Present > Future



# ***Introduction***

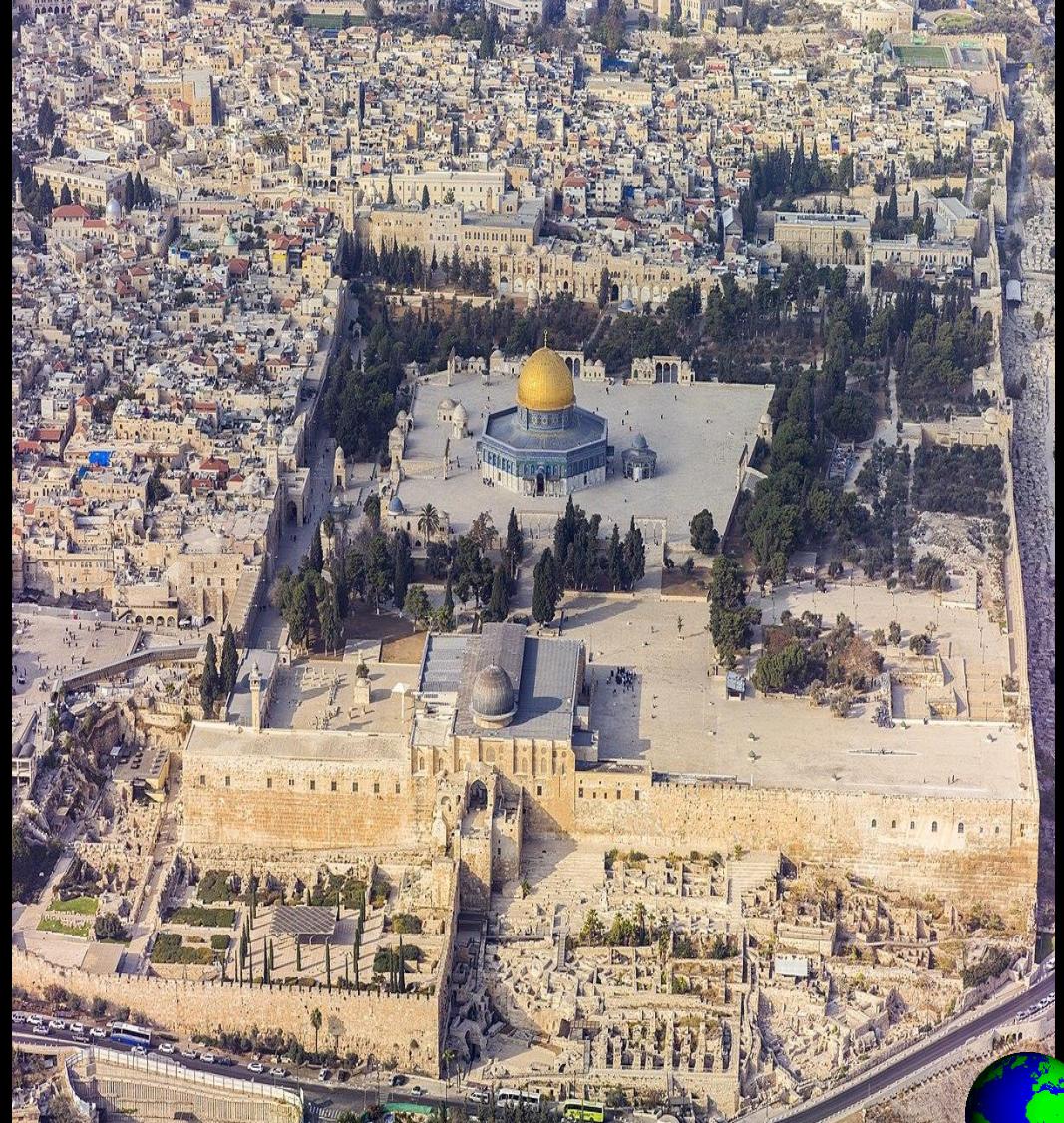
The devil has successfully planted a dangerous lie in modern Christian theology, and it has been unwittingly hatched, adopted and nurtured by most Evangelical churches—and now this parasite is pushing out Bible truth with a bigger-than-life-deception.

Sadly, this adopted falsehood is growing fat with attention while true interpretations of prophecy are starving with neglect.

Today around the globe, millions interested in Bible prophecy have their eyes fixed on Jerusalem.

To be fair, it is really not all that difficult with the legitimate news value that comes from that never-ending strife and bloodshed between Palestinians and Israelites. Christians are constantly speculating about the modern state of Israel, a rebuilt Jewish temple, and a Middle East Armageddon.

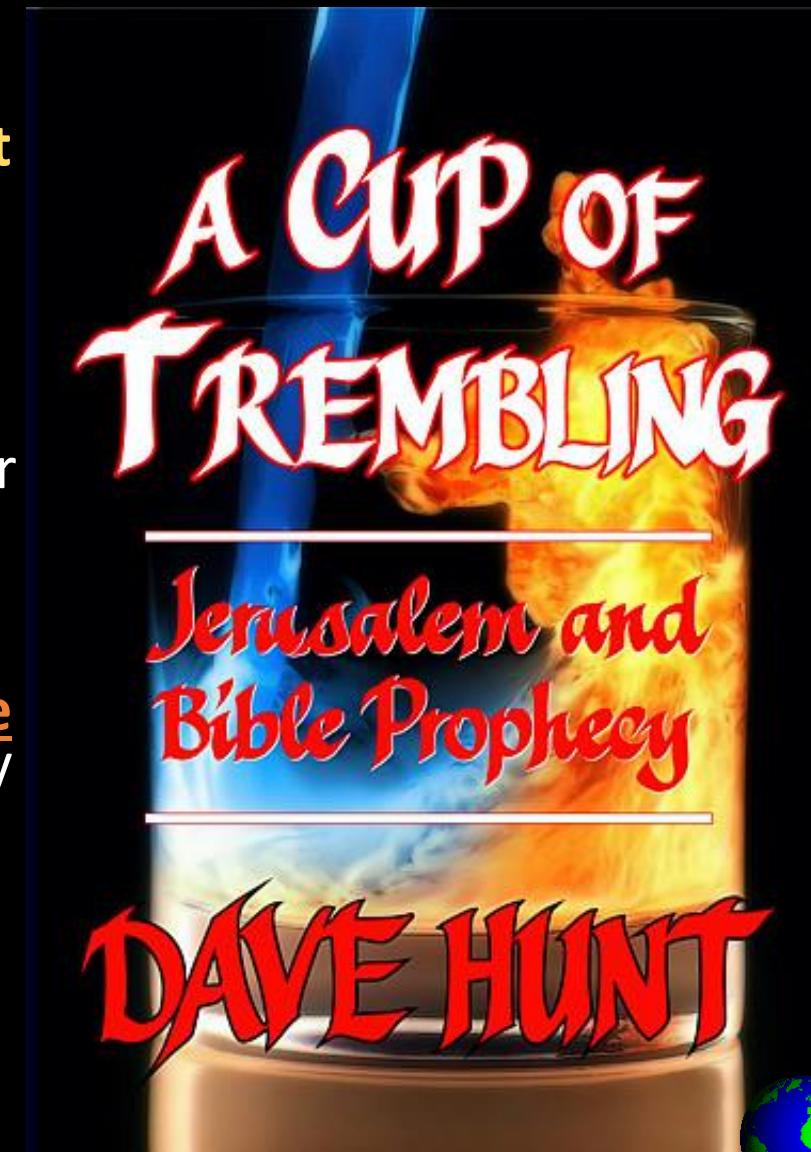
These subjects are being discussed through magazines, books, radio, television, the Internet, the pulpit and at Bible prophecy conferences.



# *This is A Foundation of Sand*

It is amazing how many Christians fully buy into this connection of end-time Bible prophecies concerning the nation of Israel. For example, best-selling author Dave Hunt echoes these views on the back cover of his popular book, **A Cup of Trembling**. He writes: “Fast-moving events in the Middle East point almost daily toward the grand finale—the time of greatest suffering for the Jewish people worldwide, which will climax in the terrifying battle of Armageddon and the glorious return of Messiah to rescue Israel and reign over the world from David’s re-established throne in Jerusalem.”

This “Middle East” approach to prophecy became popular among mainline churches in the 1980s with a series of books from Hal Lindsey. In his bestsellers, including The Late Great Planet Earth and Countdown to Armageddon, Lindsey employed this very literal dispensational approach to prophecy, making several very specific, and very errant, predictions. He wrote that a secret rapture of the church would occur in 1981, which would be followed by the building of a new Jewish temple, the advent of the Antichrist, the great tribulation, the invasion of Israel, the battle of Armageddon and the millennium—all by 1988.

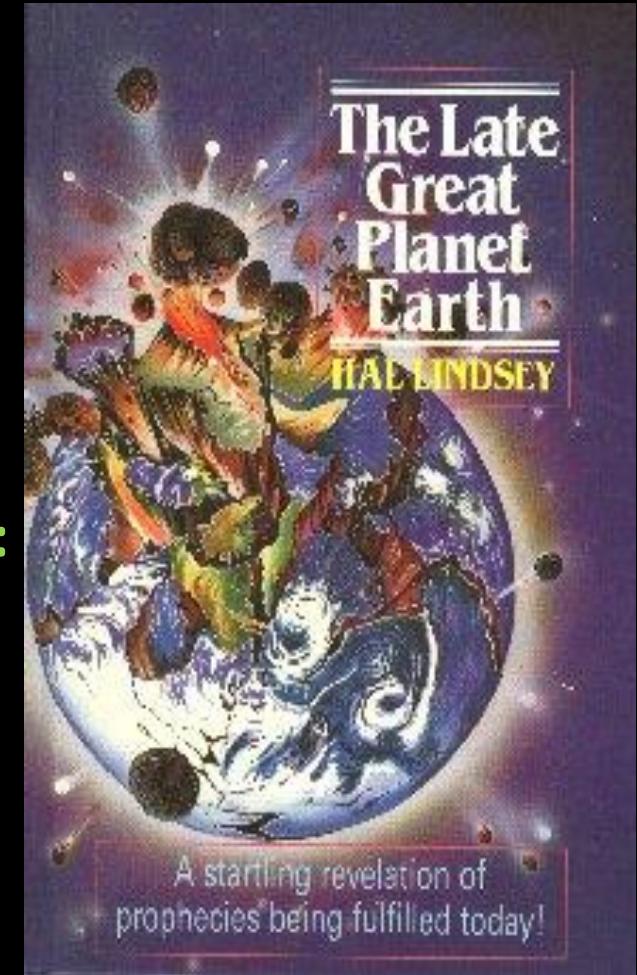


## **A Foundation of Sand (cont'd)**

Despite every single one of these predictions falling flat, his books continue to sell, making for most a standard that all end-time prophecy is viewable only when filtered through “nation of Israel glasses.” Worse, the seeds of error they contain have sprouted and become firmly rooted in many churches. Now millions of Christians are vigilantly guarding a monument with no prophetic veracity, and building on the crumbling sand of popular evangelical trends. What are the primary pillars holding up this diversionary doctrine?

While there remain some differences of opinion among these evangelicals regarding the role of modern Israel in the end-times, the majority agrees on the following five events as core prophecies:

1. The rebirth of the state of Israel in 1948.
2. A soon-coming seven years of “Great Tribulation.”
3. The rebuilding of the Jewish temple on Jerusalem’s Temple Mount.
4. The Antichrist’s rise during the tribulation; He’ll enter the temple to proclaim Godhood.
5. A final war against Israel, which will result in Armageddon.



# ***It's Happened Before! - Past***

Here is the big question: Are all of these end-time prophecies in Scripture regarding Israel and the temple speaking of the literal nation of Jews and a physical building, or is there a deeper spiritual application?

Do you remember when Jesus came the first time? His people misunderstood and misapplied the prophecies regarding His kingdom. They eagerly waited and watched for Him to establish a literal, earthly kingdom. Jesus constantly explained that His first coming was to establish a spiritual kingdom. (Luke 17:20, 21).

But because the persistent and popular teachings of the day focused on a messiah who would overthrow the Romans and seat himself on David's throne, the disciples brushed aside or simply ignored Jesus' statements regarding His spiritual kingdom. They tried to make these spiritual prophecies literal, and the crucifixion crushed their expectations of an Israel with dominion over all the Earth. Longing for freedom from political oppression, they lamented, "But we were hoping that it was He who was going to redeem Israel" (Luke 24:21).

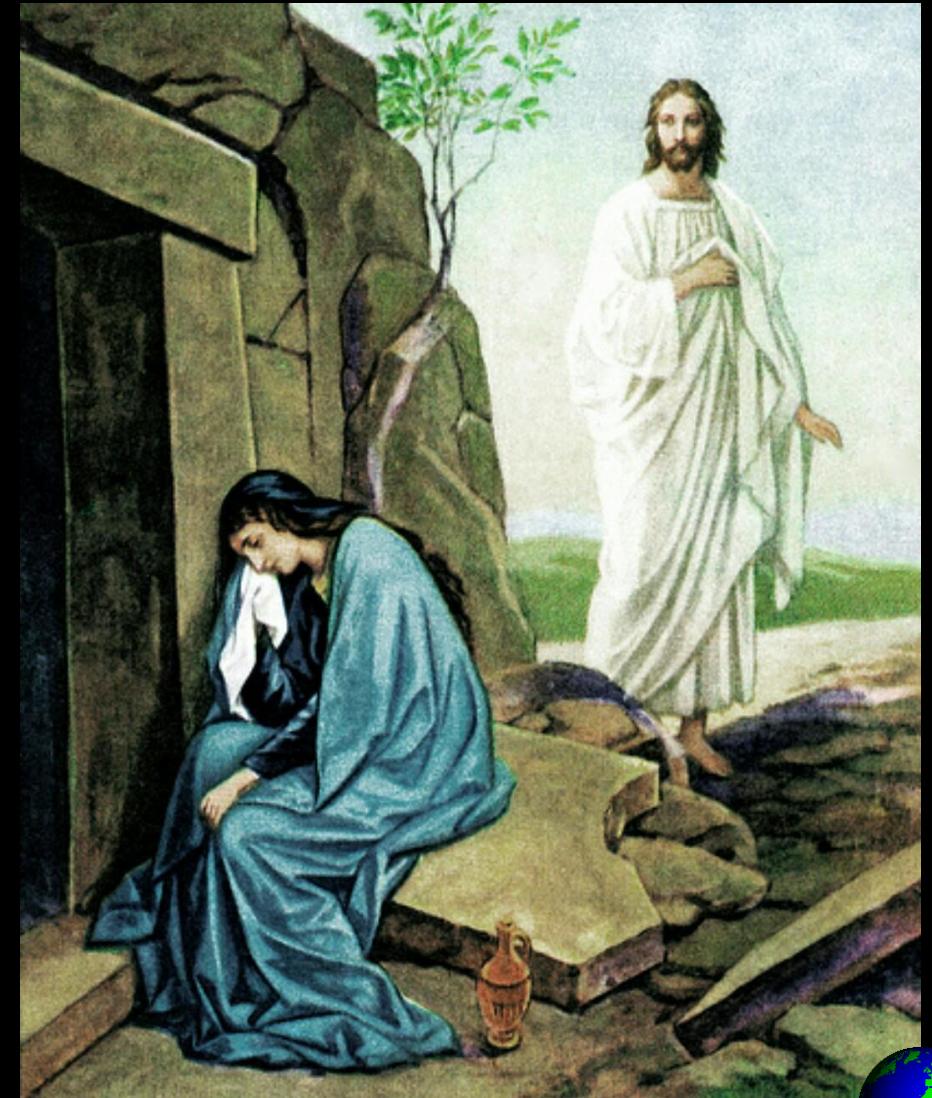


## ***It's Happened Before! (cont'd) - Past***

Even after His resurrection, the disciples still clung to these popular views that had ingrained themselves in their minds, hoping still for an imminent, literal kingdom. “When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?” (Acts 1:6). They wanted so much to believe their own view that the devil was able to blind them to the plain truth.

Is it possible that today’s church at large is making the same mistake by misapplying prophecies regarding spiritual Israel and the temple—interpreting them in a literal sense without basis? If so, they could be preparing to embrace a diabolical deception—not to mention experience a devastating disappointment!

“He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches” (Revelation 2:7). We hope this study of end-time prophecy will clear the muddled understanding of prophecy so prevalent in today’s Christian faith.



# A PROPHETIC DECEPTION

A masterful prophetic deception repeated:

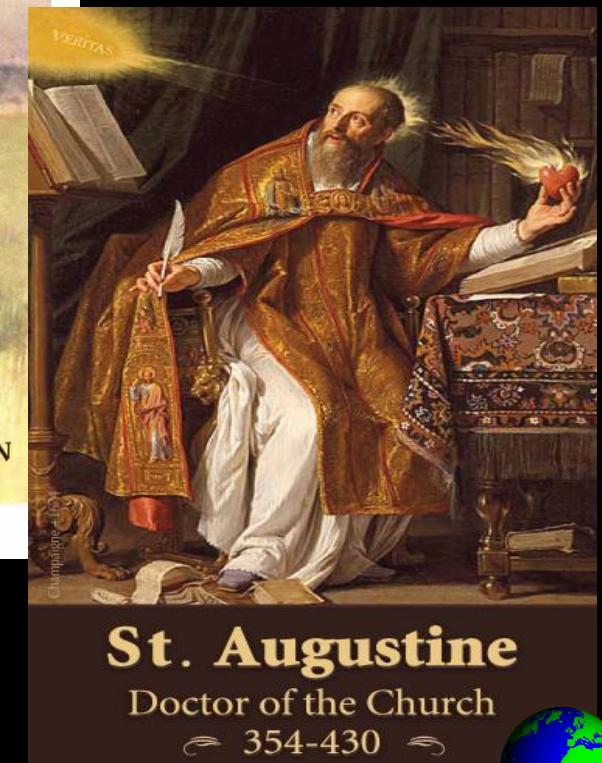
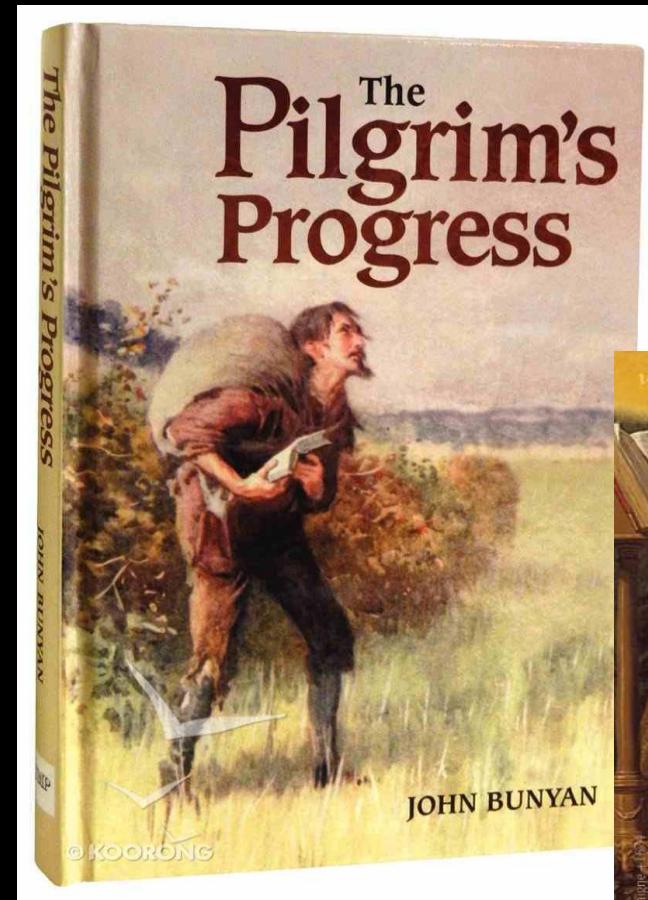
A. Christ's first advent: 1. **Expectation** 2. **Signs**  
3. **Misinterpreted Old Testament prophecy**

B. Similar today: 2 Thessalonians 2:7 –  
**Mystery of iniquity at work a False scripture interpretation:**

1. Allegory – Origin: Ex: **The Pilgrim's Progress** – Christian struggled to escape swamp, which symbolized Christian's struggle in world.

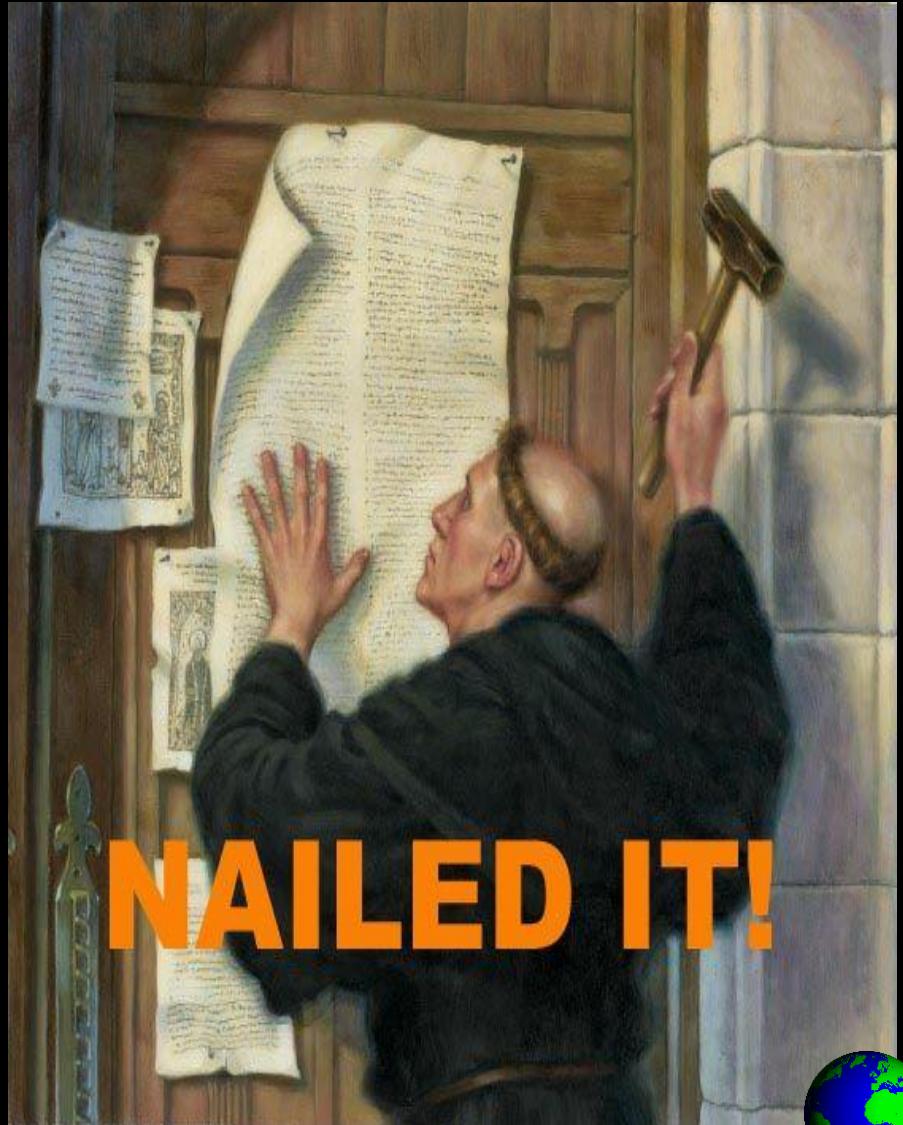
2. Spiritualize: Ex: Augustine spiritualized the Old Testament, teaching that the histories of the Old Testament had nothing to do with God, in reality, that the stories about God in the Old Testament only taught about God in pictures, like parables.

3. Futurism – Dispensationalism: John Nelson Darby, Schofield, Hal Lindsay, Dave Hunt, Harry A. Ironside, Lewis Sperry Chafer, William R. Newell, and Miles J. Stanford, etc...



# ***Historically: Prophetic Interpretation***

- A. Pre-reformation – Waldenses, Wyclifites, Hussites – Protested against papacy.
- B. Reformation – Foundation truths.
  1. Christ and His salvation: Sola Fide, Sola Scriptura
  2. Antichrist and his damnation: Martin Luther in 1520 wrote: “I can hardly doubt anymore, that the pope is really the antichrist, because everything so exactly corresponds to the way of his life, action, words and commandments.” *Schriften*, Vol. 21a. Col. 234 1. Used Daniel 7, 8, 2 Thessalonians 2.
  3. 1516: Fifth Lateran Council prohibited writing or preaching on subject of antichrist.
  4. Melanchthon, Zwingli (Switzerland), Tyndale (1<sup>st</sup> English Bible translation from Greek), John Calvin (French), John Knox (Scotland) - All taught Pope is antichrist.
- C. Counter Reformation by papacy: Ribera – Jesuit priest and scholar 1590 AD – counter interpretation – Futurism.
  - Goal – Take Sights off Papacy



# ***Literal Israel – The Jewish question***

## **A. Application of prophecy to literal Israel:**

- 1. Reformers applied Old and New Testament prophecies to the church, not literal Israel.**
- 2. Increase Mather – 1669 in the book Mystery of Israel's Salvation – applied prophecies to Israel's restoration.**
- 3. Dr. John Owen – 1673:** “The Jews shall be gathered from all parts of the earth where they are now scattered and brought back into their own land.”
- 4. Charles Spurgeon – 1864, predicted Israel's restoration.**
- 5. James Grant – 1866, English scholar:**  
“The personal coming of Christ will not take place until the Jews are restored to their own land and the enemies of Christ and the Jews have gathered together their armies from all parts of the world and have commenced the siege of Jerusalem.”



# ***Literal Israel – Jewish question (cont'd)***

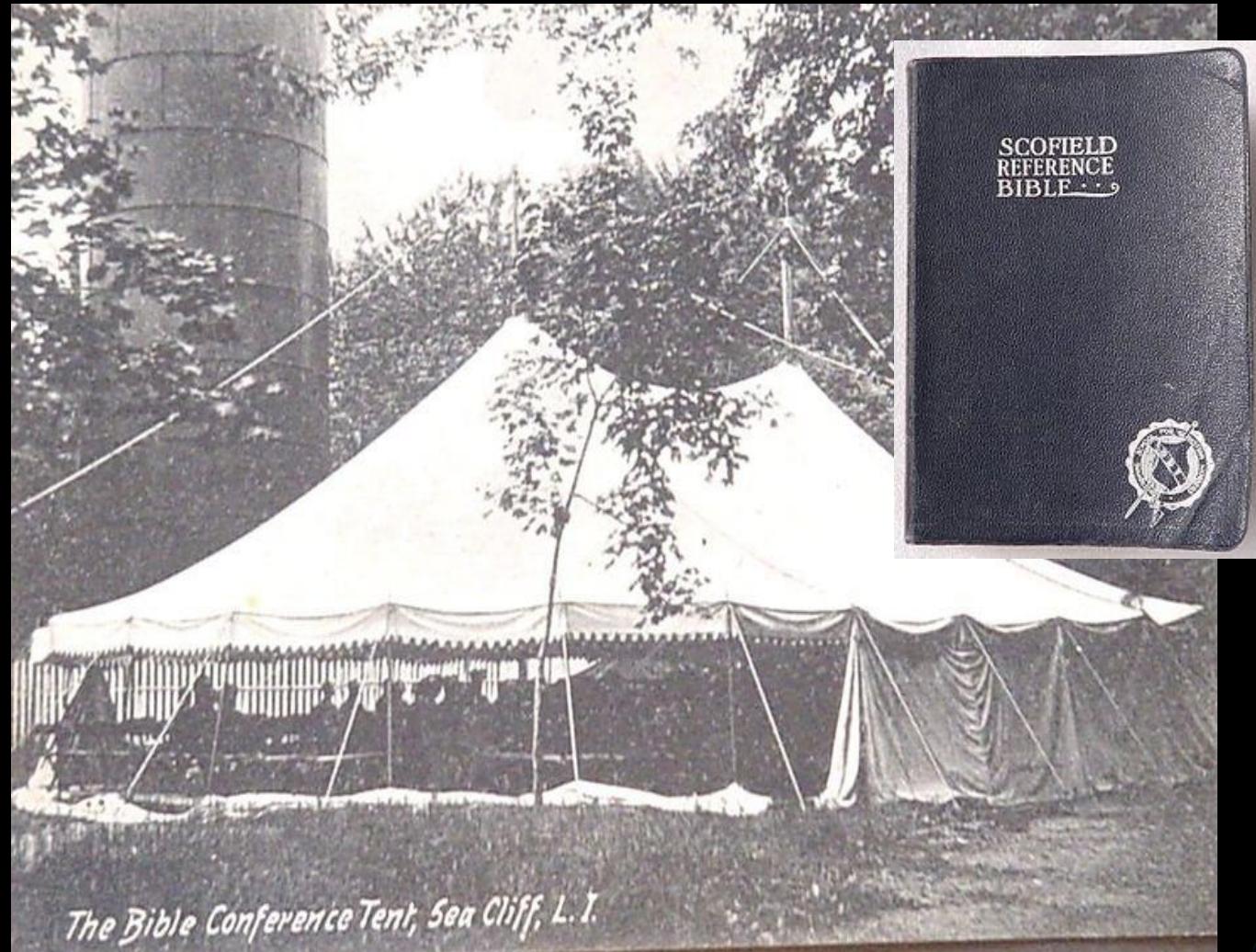
## **B. 1901: Bible Conference at Sea Cliff, Long Island -**

**1. Combined futuristic principles of Ribera and literal Israel application:**

**a. Dispensationalism**

**b. Reaction to liberalism questioning creation, miracles, authorship, historical accuracy of Bible.**

**2. Schofield Reference Bible developed.**



# ***Literal Israel – Jewish question Cont'd)***

**C. Today – “Late Great Planet Earth”**  
by Hal Lindsay:

## **Argument for literal Israel:**

- a. pp. 53-54 - Jews return
- b. pp. 50-51 - 3 predictions
- c. p. 55 one left – rebuild temple
- d. p. 174 - Christ's return, Russian Arab confederacy against Israel, Zechariah 14:1-4 (Ezekiel, Daniel, Joel, Revelation)
- e. **What if there is a war and Christ apparently appears in Jerusalem**
- f. **False Assumption:** p. 176 – God's promises are unconditional

**THE  
Hal Lindsey  
REPORT**

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## The Miracle Before Us

By Hal Lindsey



The State of Israel may seem normal. But it's not. It is no more normal than the restoration of a withered hand or the parting of a vast sea. Israel is not normal. Israel is a miracle!

The nation's existence feels normal to most people today partly because it has been there for 73 years. They forget that for two millennia, Jews were once scattered across the whole globe with no place to call home. In all that time, they continued to revere the law of Moses. They kept on celebrating Passover. Their culture did not disappear into the dominate cultures of the places they landed. They adapted to a variety of civilizations, but at their core, they remained the same. This is unique in human history.

They did not achieve this because of their virtue or courage. We can admire generations of brave Jews standing up to bullying, persecution, and even mass murder. But they remained a unique people because God promised that they would. Through Moses and the other prophets, He had warned them that certain behaviors would cause them to be dispersed across the earth. But even in His warnings, He promised to bring them back to the land He gave them.



# ***Masterful Deception shaping up Today***

**“As the crowning act in the great drama of deception, Satan himself will personate Christ... This is the strong, almost overmastering delusion.” GC 629**

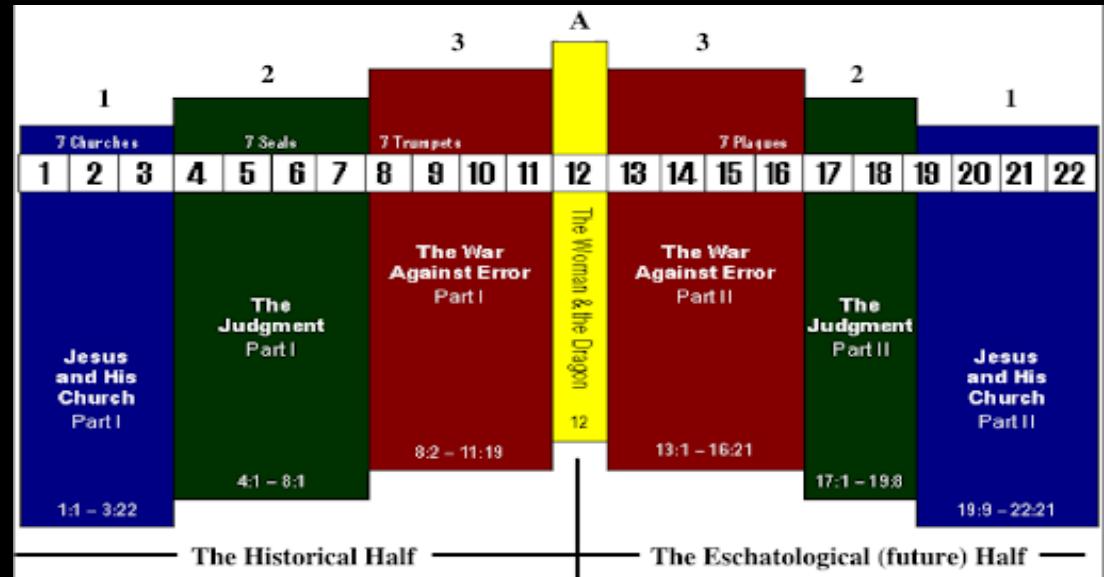
**“Only those who have been diligent students of the Scriptures and who have received the love of the truth will be shielded from the powerful delusion that takes the world captive... Are the people of God now so firmly established upon His word that they would not yield to the evidence of their senses?” GC 625**



# *The Importance of Prophecy Study*

- A. Christ's first advent deception - Israel
- B. Reformation teaching on antichrist
- C. Seventh-day Adventist Church – 3 Angels Message:

1. “When we as a people (not just SDA’s) understand what this book (Revelation) means to us, there will be seen among us a great revival.” TM 113
2. “When the books of Daniel and Revelation are better understood, believers will have an entirely different religious experience. They will be given such glimpses of the open gates of heaven that heart and mind will be impressed with the character that all must develop in order to realize the blessedness which is to be the reward of the pure in heart.” TM 114



DREAMS & VISIONS		
Chapter(s)	Given to whom?	Subject
2	Nebuchadnezzar	Image of the Kingdom of men
4	Nebuchadnezzar	The tree chopped down
5	Belshazzar	The writing on the wall
7	Daniel	The four beasts & God's Kingdom
8	Daniel	The ram & the goat
9	Daniel	His prayer & the 70 weeks
10-12	Daniel	The future of God's people & the time of the end



# **PRINCIPLES OF INTERPRETATION**

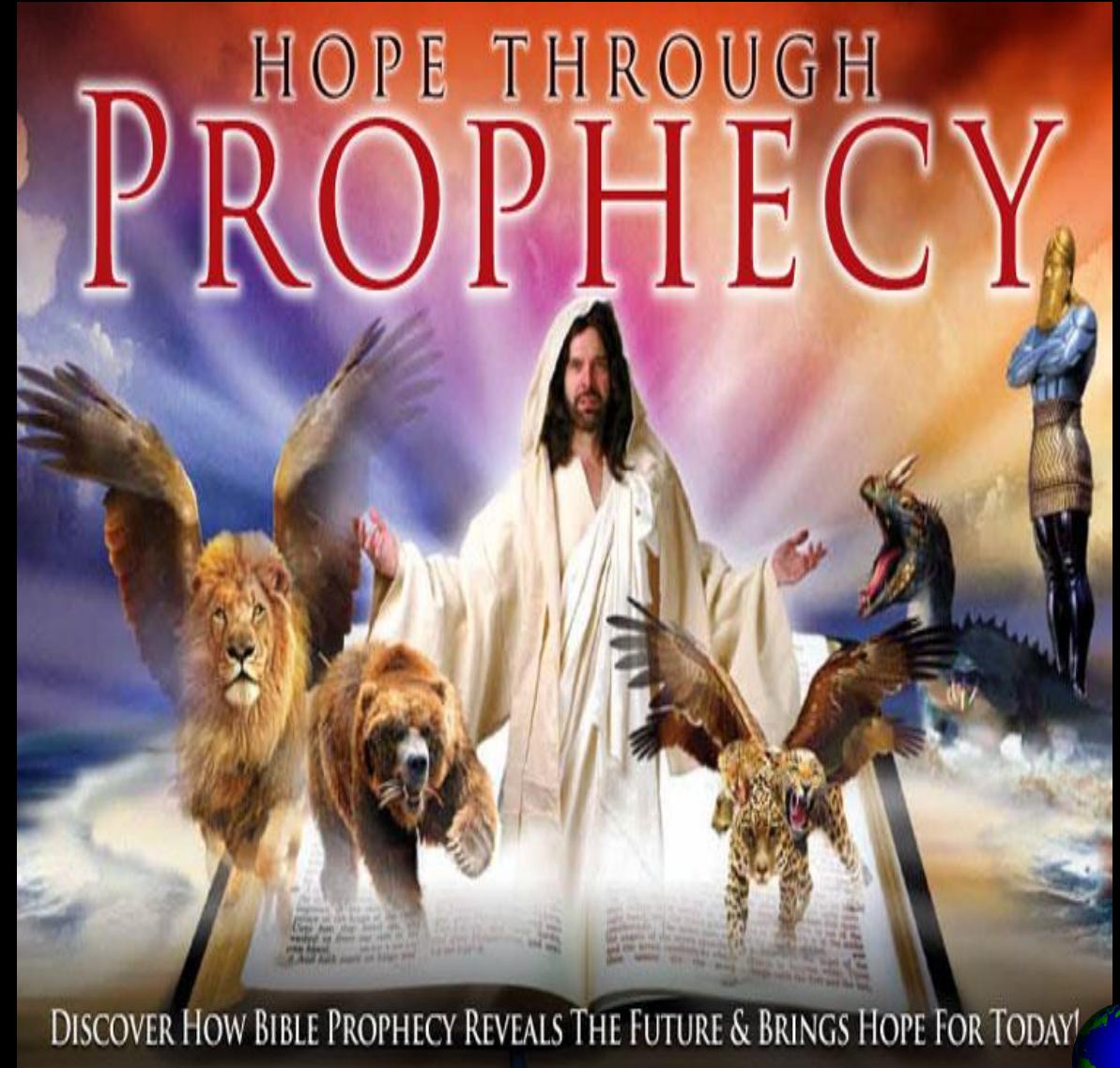
**Every science is based on principles:**

**Physics, chemistry, mathematics, etc.**  
all have underlying principles that  
are necessary to learn if one wants  
to understand that area of science.

**The Bible is no different.**

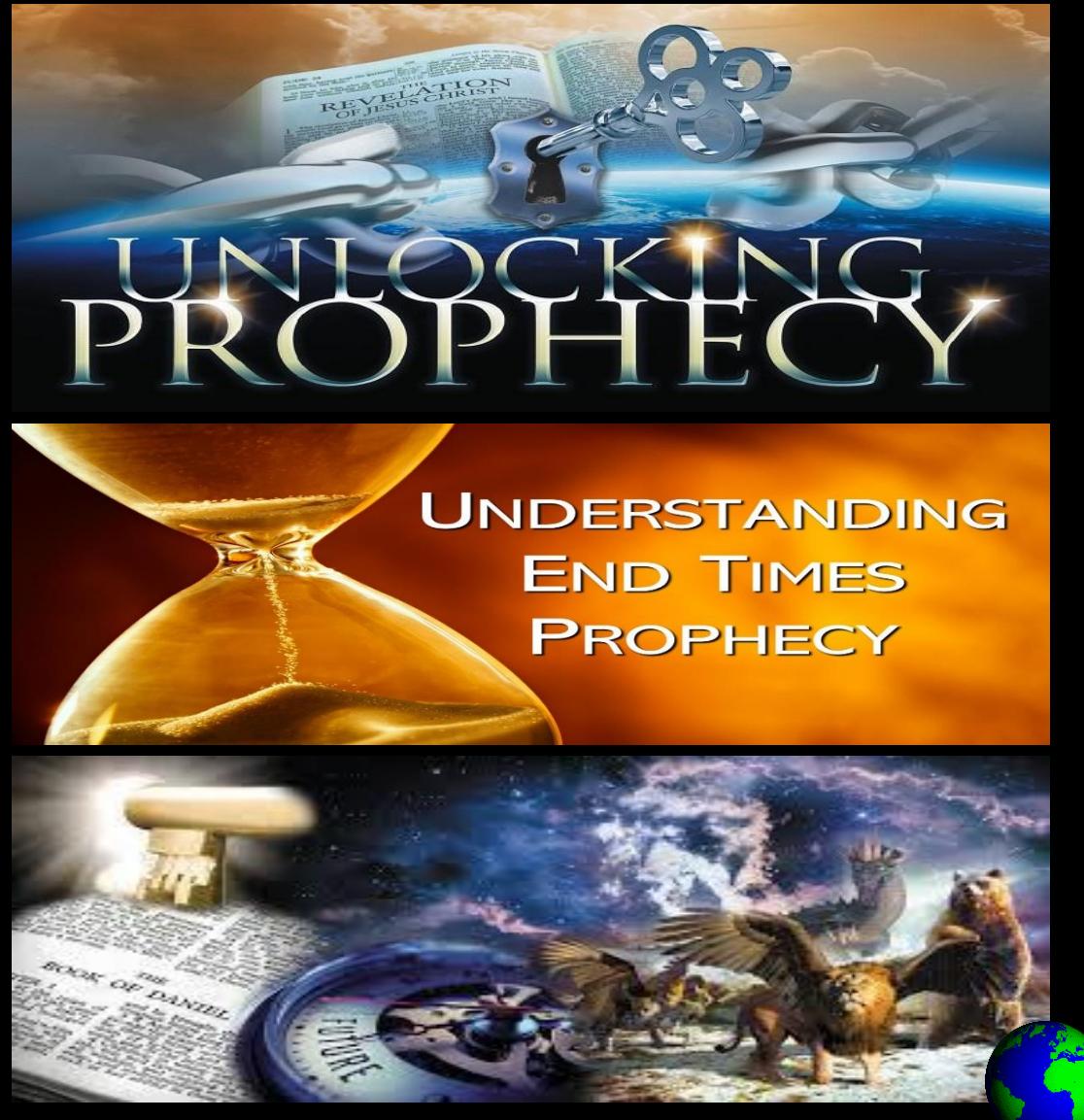
We will study and learn the principles  
of Bible interpretation that will enable  
one to correctly understand the Bible.

- **What does Paul say concerning how we are to study the Bible?**  
- 2 Timothy 2:15
- **Why were the Berean Christians called noble in Acts 17:11.**



# ***Eleven Principles of Interpretation***

- 1 - **Holy Spirit Guidance**: 2 Peter 1:20-21,  
1 Corinthians 2:14, John 16:13.
  - 2 - **All scripture reveals Christ**: John 5:39,  
Isaiah 53, John 1, John 14, 1 John 3:2-3.
  - 3 - **Compare scripture with scripture**:  
1 Corinthians 2:13,
    - **Example**: In [Daniel 7:3](#) Daniel saw four beasts come out of the sea. What did these beasts represent? - [Daniel 7:17](#).
  - 4 - **Learn the deep, spiritual meaning and not just the literal meaning**: John 6:48-51, 53-56 also John 6:60, 63, 66.
  - 5 - **The gospel is taught in every scripture passage and prophecy**: 2 Timothy 3:15-16.
  - 6 - **The law of growth and development – repeat and enlarge**: Mark 4:28.
- **Example**: [Genesis 3:1](#) What does the serpent represent in other Scriptures? [Revelation 12:9](#).



# ***Eleven Principles of Interpretation (cont'd)***

- 7 - **Bible names are significant**: Genesis 3:20, Matthew 1:21, Matthew 1:23.
- 8 - **The church has inherited the things of Old Testament Israel**: Galatians 3:28-29.
- **Example**: Exodus 9:5-6 and 1 Peter 2:9 list the terms that originally applied to the literal nation of Israel but now applies to the church today.
- 9 - **Worldwide events are symbolized by local events**: Jude 7, Revelation 18:2-5.
- 10 - **Three fold application of prophecy**:
- A - A literal Old Testament Israel application.
  - B - A spiritual Israel worldwide (church) application.
  - C - A literal worldwide in glory application.
- 11 - **Day-Year principle: a day in prophecy represents a year in actual time**: Numbers 14:34 & Ezekiel 4:6.



# *The Warning in the Bible!*

**When we do not correctly interpret Scripture what are we actually doing and what will be the result?**

**15** And account *that* the longsuffering of our Lord *is* salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you;

**16** As also in all *his* epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as *they do* also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction. – **2 Peter:3**



# **GOD'S ISRAEL TODAY**

**There is much confusion in the Christian world concerning the role of the modern nation of Israel in prophecy.** We will look at the concept of Israel in the Old and New Testaments. You will see that the literal nation of Israel was God's chosen people in the Old Testament.

**However, when the nation and her leaders rejected their Messiah, Jesus Christ, they ceased to be God's special people and the Christian church took the role of Israel in the New Testament.**



# Promises to Israel were Conditional

1. God's promise of blessing or judgment - Jeremiah 18:7-10.

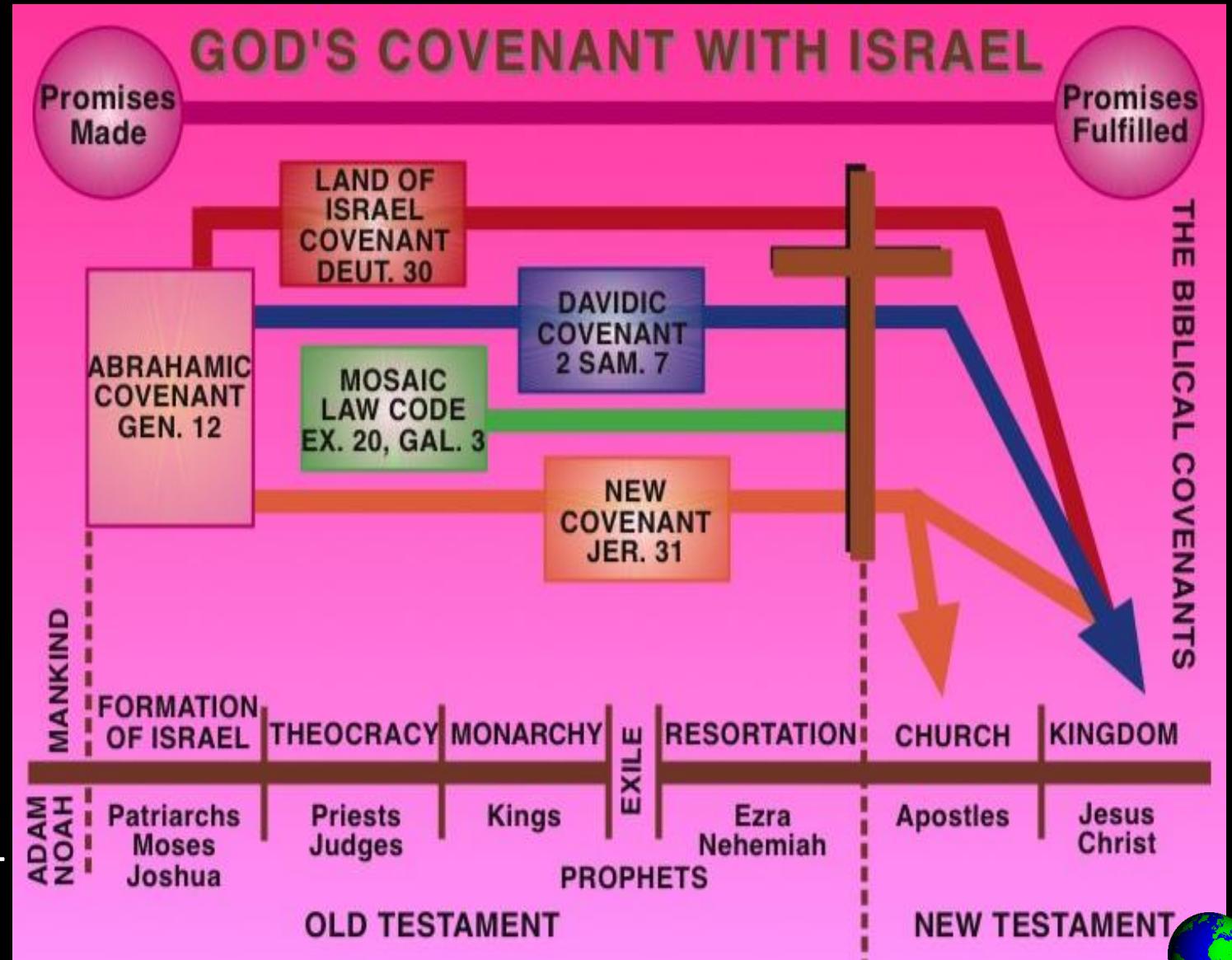
2. God's promise of a special people and nation of God - Exodus 19:5-6.

• **Example** – Deuteronomy 28:1

And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe *and* to do all his commandments which I command thee this day, that the LORD thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth.

3. God to Israel if they disobeyed His commandments –

Deuteronomy 28:15,  
Deuteronomy 8:19-20.



# ***Israel Rejected Because of Unfaithfulness***

**Isaiah's prophecy about Israel's failure to be faithful to God:**

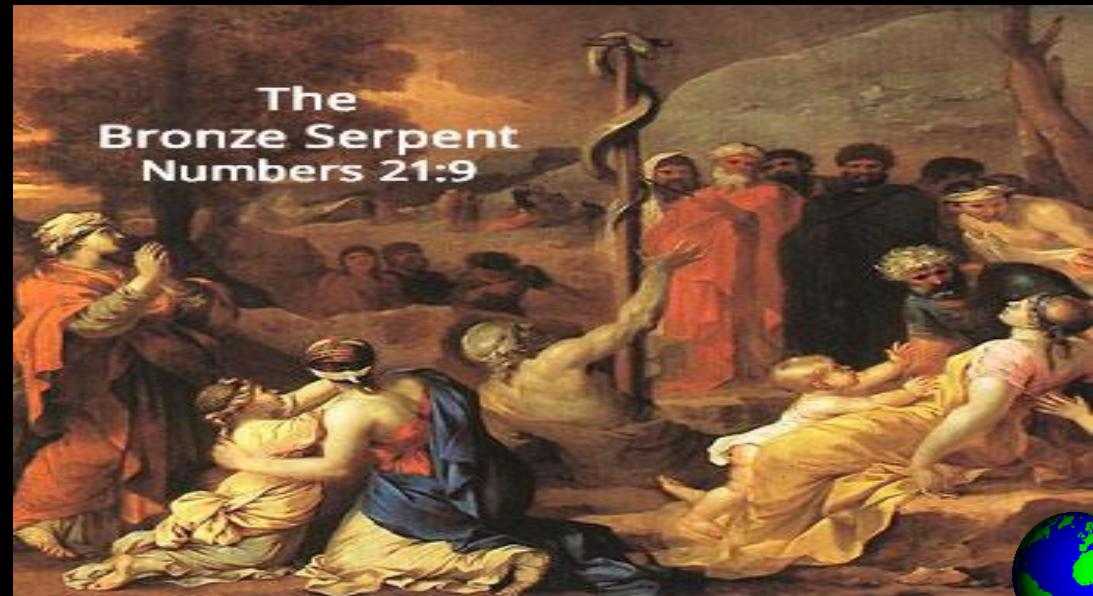
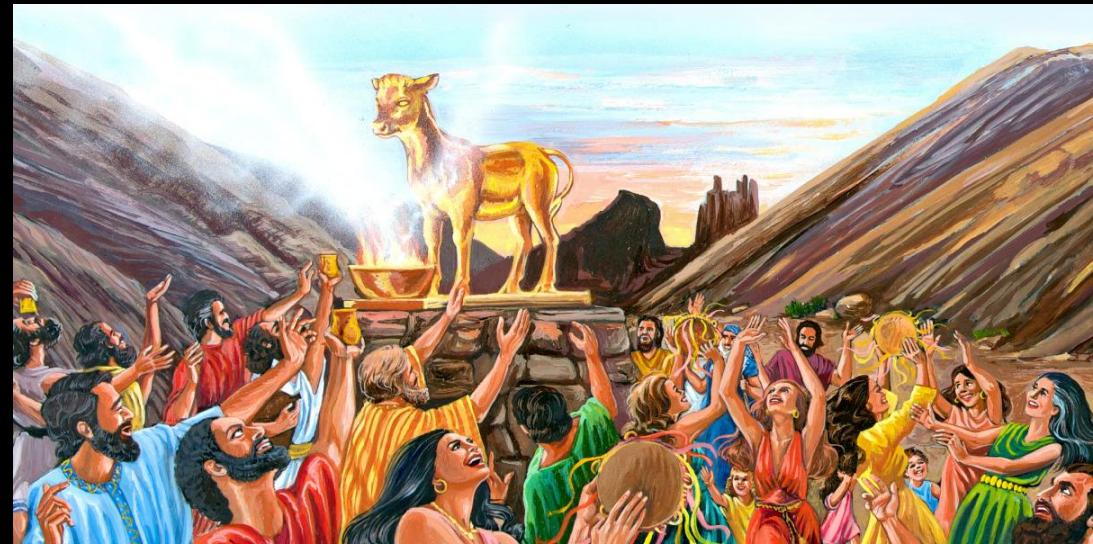
- A. **God's vineyard is Israel** - [Isaiah 5:7](#)
- B. **Israel brought forth wild grapes** - [Isaiah 5:2-4](#)
- C. **God said He will lay it to waste** - [Isaiah 5:5-6](#)

**Jesus the son of the owner of the vineyard how was He treated?**

But last of all he sent unto them his son, saying, They will reverence my son. But when the husbandmen saw the son, they said among themselves, This is the heir; come, let us kill him, and let us seize on his inheritance. And they caught him, and cast *him* out of the vineyard, and slew *him*.. - [Matthew 21:37-39](#)

**Jesus said of Israel and God's kingdom:**

Therefore say I unto you, The kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof. - [Matthew 21:43](#)



# ***Israel Rejected their Messiah***

## **1. Did the Jewish leaders know who Jesus was referring to in His parable?**

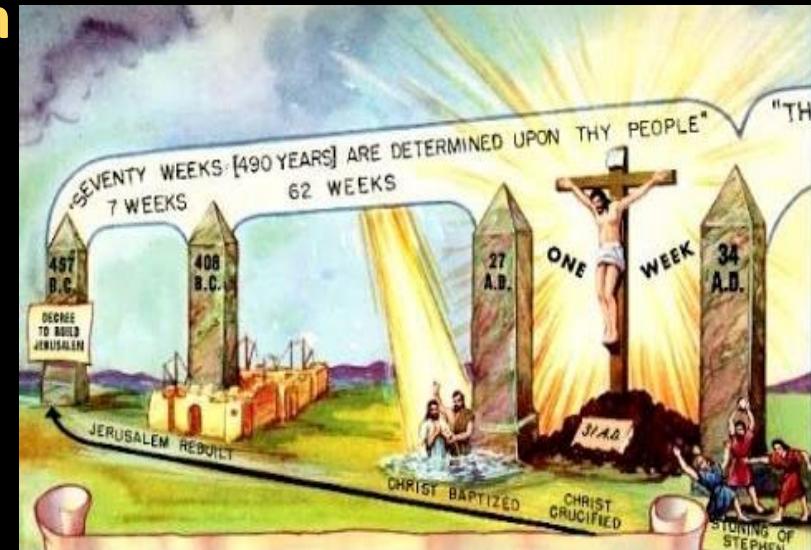
- And when the chief priests and Pharisees had heard his parables, they perceived that he spake of them. - [Matthew 21:45](#)

## **2. What condition did Jesus say the house of Israel would become because of their refusal to come to Him?**

- O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, *thou* that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under *her* wings, and ye would not! Behold, your house is left unto you desolate. - [Matthew 23:37-38](#)

## **3. In what words did the Jewish people and leaders reject Jesus, their Messiah?**

- Then answered all the people, and said, His blood *be* on us, and on our children. - [Matthew 27:25](#)
- But they cried out, Away with *him*, away with *him*, crucify him. Pilate saith unto them, Shall I crucify your King? The chief priests answered, We have no king but Caesar. - [John 19:15](#)



# Gospel Goes to the Gentiles

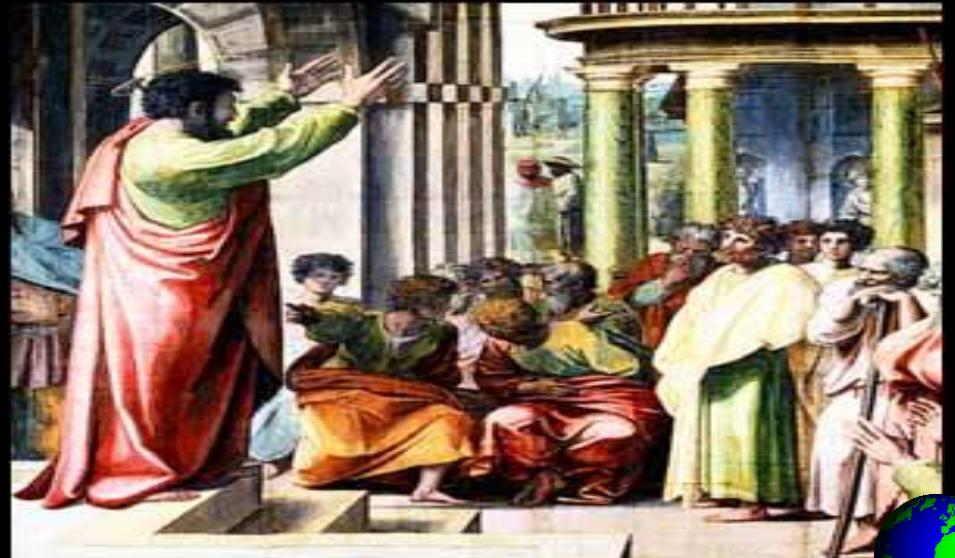
## 4. To whom did the apostles begin preaching the gospel to, because of Israel's rejection of Christ?

Then Paul and Barnabas waxed bold, and said, It was necessary that the word of God should first have been spoken to you: but seeing ye put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, lo, we turn to the Gentiles. - [Acts 13:46](#)

## 5. Does the literal nation of Israel's failure mean that God's prophetic word will fail?

Not as though the word of God hath taken none effect. For they *are* not all Israel, which are of Israel. Neither, because they are the seed of Abraham, *are they* all children: but, In Isaac shall thy seed be called. That is, They which are the children of the flesh, these *are* not the children of God: but the children of the promise are counted for the seed. - [Romans 9:6-8](#)

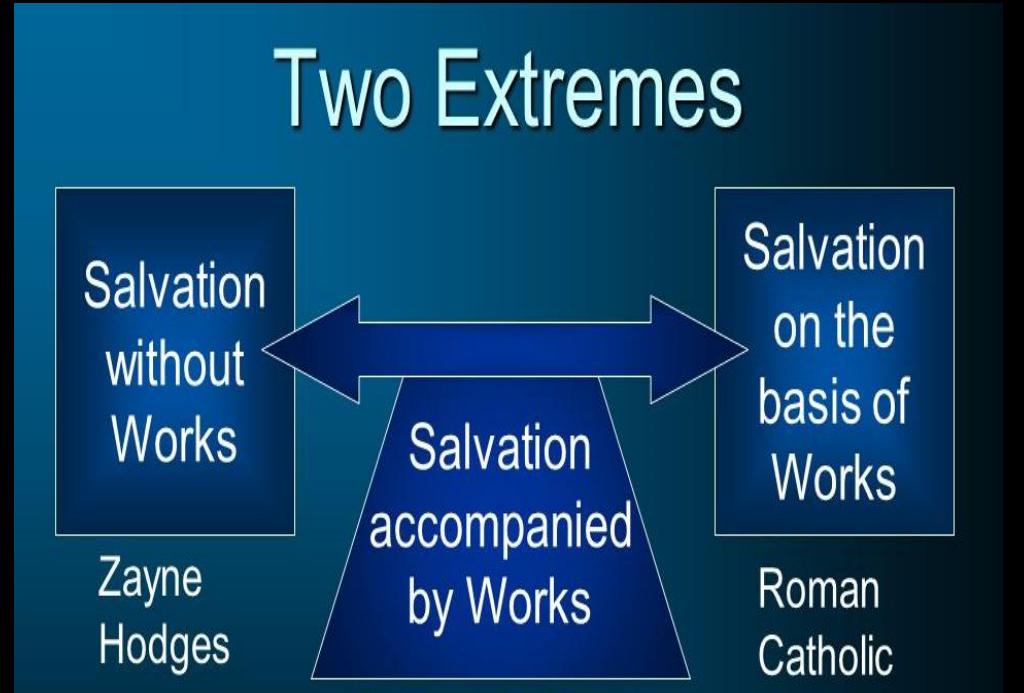
**Note:** Children of flesh refers to blood descendants of Abraham. Children of promise refers to those who have faith in Christ.



# ***Israel did not have Faith only Works***

## **6. Why did the nation of Israel fail to continue as God's people?**

What shall we say then? That the Gentiles, which followed not after righteousness, have attained to righteousness, even the righteousness which is of faith. But Israel, which followed after the law of righteousness, hath not attained to the law of righteousness. Wherefore? Because *they sought it not by faith, but as it were by the works of the law.* For they stumbled at that stumbling stone; As it is written, Behold, I lay in Sion a stumbling stone and rock of offence: and whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed. - **Romans 9:30-33**



**FAITH without WORKS IS DEAD.**  
James 2:26



# **The New Spiritual Israel Is The Church**

## **7. In closing his letter to the Galatian Christian church how did Paul address them?**

- And as many as walk according to this rule, peace *be* on them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God. - [Galatians 6:16](#)

## **8. How does a person today become a descendent of Abraham and inherit the promises to Abraham's seed?**

- And if ye *be* Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. - [Galatians 3:29](#)

**Note:** The believer in Jesus Christ has inherited the promises and prophecies originally given to Abraham and his seed.

## **9. According to the New Testament is there any distinction between a Jew and other peoples?**

- There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. - [Galatians 3:28](#)



# **The True Jew in the New Testament**

## **10. According to Paul who is the true Jew in the New Testament?**

For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither *is that* circumcision, which is outward in the flesh: But he *is* a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision *is that* of the heart, in the spirit, *and* not in the letter; whose praise *is* not of men, but of God. **Romans 2:28-29**

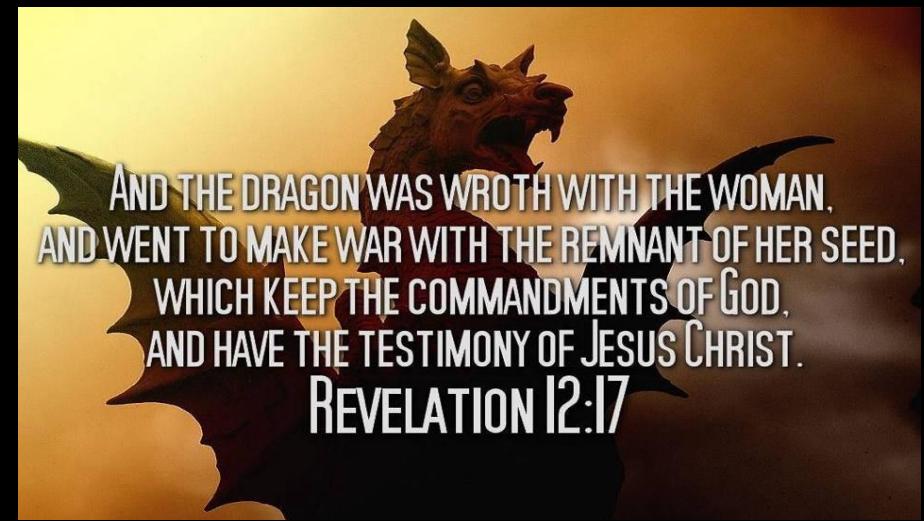
**Note:** “Inwardly” refers to the inner faith of the person.  
“Outwardly” refers to the physical, blood lineage to Abraham.

## **11. How does Peter describe God’s people in the New Testament? **1 Peter 2:9-10****

**Note:** The similar description used in Exodus 19:5-6 describing the nation of Israel.

## **12. In James’ general letter to all Christians how does he address them?**

James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, greeting.  
**- James 1:1**



**THE REMNANT OF REVELATION  
12:17**

**TWO CHARACTERISTICS:**

**FIRST:**

**THEY KEEP THE COMMANDMENTS OF GOD**

**SECOND: THEY HAVE THE TESTIMONY OF JESUS CHRIST**



# **The New Testament Church Has Inherited Old Testament Prophecies**

- Joel 2:28-29 is a prophecy given to Old Testament Israel. How did Peter apply this prophecy? - [Acts 2:1-18](#)

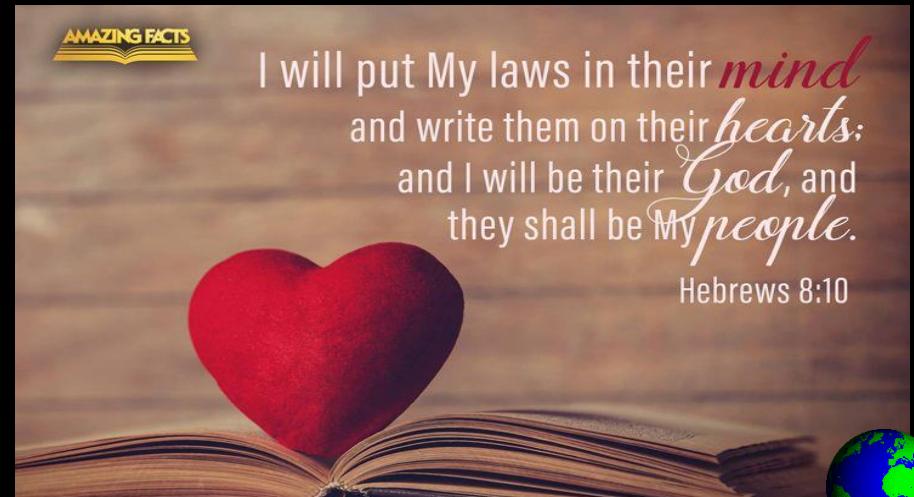
**Note:** Peter applied Joel's prophecy to the church at Pentecost.

- [Isaiah 42:6](#) prophesied that Israel was to be the light to the gentiles. How did Paul and Barnabas apply this Old Testament prophecy? - [Acts 13:46-47](#)

**Note:** Paul and Barnabas applied Isaiah's prophecy to the New Testament church.

- All Christians are living under the new covenant. Who is this new covenant made with? - [Hebrews 8:8-10](#)

**Note:** All New Testament believers are saved under the new covenant and are Considered the house of Israel by God.



# *The church is God's spiritual Israel nation today*

God's promise that the Old Testament nation of Israel would be His special people was conditional on their continued faithfulness to Him. The Jewish nation rejected Jesus, their Messiah, and sought to be righteous by keeping God's law. Because of this they were rejected by God, which Isaiah had foretold in his parable of the vineyard. (Isaiah 5)

In the New Testament God's people is the church, the believers in Jesus Christ. The church has therefore inherited the covenant, promises and prophecies originally given to Abraham and his descendants (seed). The individual who believes in Jesus Christ as their Saviour and obey His Laws is God's true Israelite today.

## New Covenant

Hebrews 8:7-13

- God and everyone
- Salvation, blessings, obey God in all things
- Our hearts will turn from stone to flesh and have God's law written

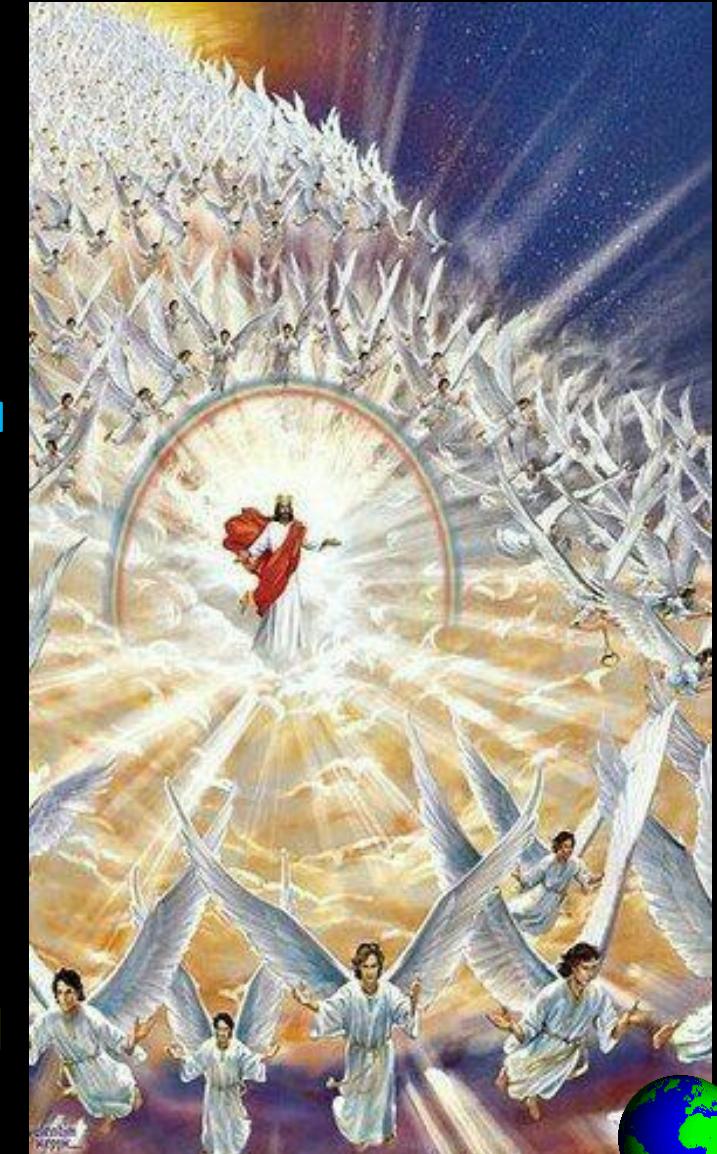


# **THE GATHERING OF ISRAEL**

Many Christians are greatly interested today in the nation of Israel in the Middle East. They see Israel's return to Palestine in 1948 as the fulfilment of prophecy. The Old Testament prophecies, which foretell of God gathering Israel back to their land from the many countries where they had been scattered, are pointed to as having been fulfilled in the 1948 re-establishment of the nation of Israel in their former homeland.

As we study the gathering prophecies on the Old Testament you will see that they do not apply to the modern nation of Israel at all. Rather they initially applied to the gathering of Israel from the Babylonian captivity. You will also learn that Christ, the great I AM, is the One Who does the gathering and to Whom Israel is to gather. The application of the gathering prophecies to the modern nation of Israel in Palestine is a "Christless" application and therefore unbiblical. Christ must be the focus and centre of all scriptural interpretations.

The gathering prophecies continue to be fulfilled today, but not to the nation of Israel. Rather they are being fulfilled as Christ gather's individuals into His church, spiritual Israel. This spiritual gathering will continue until Jesus finishes judgement before He returns to literally gather His people to Himself in glory.



# ***The One Who Gathers is Jesus***

**According to the Ezekiel how did God describe the gathering of His people? - Ezekiel 34:11-13, 23-24**

- As a shepherd seeketh out his flock in the day that he is among his sheep *that are* scattered; so will I seek out my sheep, and will deliver them out of all places where they have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day. – **Ezekiel 34:12**

**How did Jesus describe Himself when He spoke of gathering His people?**

- I am the good shepherd, and know my *sheep*, and am known of mine. As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep. And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, *and* one shepherd. - **John 10:14-16**

**Note: Jesus is the shepherd that is prophesied in the Old Testament as gathering His people.** Christ is the One Who does the gathering in both the Old and New Testament.  
**All the gathering prophesies are Christ centered.**



**The Second Coming of Christ**



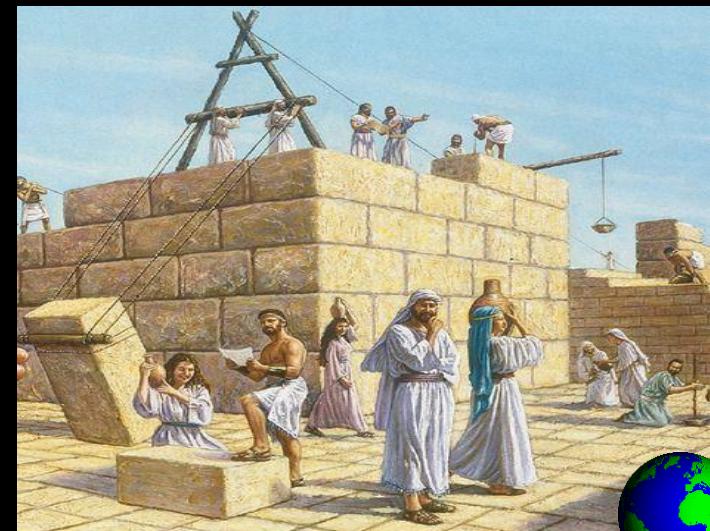
# **Old Testament Gathering Promises Literal Israel – Local Palestine Application**

**How did Moses describe Israel's future prosperity, captivity and their gathering back to their homeland? - Deuteronomy 30:1-5**

**Note:**

1. **The blessing referred to Israel's prosperous years culminating during king David's reign.**
  2. **The curse referred to Israel's Assyrian and Judah's Babylonian captivity.**
  3. **The gathering referred to God restoring Israel back to their homeland following the Babylonian captivity.**
  4. **We will see that all the Old Testament gathering promises apply to the same restoration back to Palestine following the Babylonian captivity.**
- **Jeremiah and Ezekiel were contemporaries living and prophesying during the time of the Babylonian captivity.**

Notice how these two prophets foretell that Israel would someday return to their homeland in Palestine following their captivity in Babylon.



# ***Old Testament Gathering Promises Literal Israel (cont'd)***

**Ezekiel 37:21-22** - And say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will take the children of Israel from among the heathen, whither they be gone, and will gather them on every side, and bring them into their own land: And I will make them one nation in the land upon the mountains of Israel; and one king shall be king to them all: and they shall be no more two nations, neither shall they be divided into two kingdoms any more at all:

**How does Jeremiah describe this same gathering of Israel from the Babylonian captivity?**

Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth. In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this *is* his name whereby he shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS. - **Jeremiah 23:5-6**



# ***Old Testament Gathering Promises***

## ***Literal Israel (cont'd)***

**How did Isaiah describe the gathering out of captivity and whom did he include in the gathering other than Israel?**

And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious. And it shall come to pass in that day, *that* the Lord shall set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people, which shall be left, from Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Cush, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the islands of the sea. And he shall set up an ensign for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth. - [Isaiah 11:10-12.](#)

**Note: The first time God gathered His people was out of Egypt (see verse 16). The second recovery referred to here was the gathering after the Babylonian captivity. This gathering was to be extended to include Gentiles, which is being fulfilled today.**



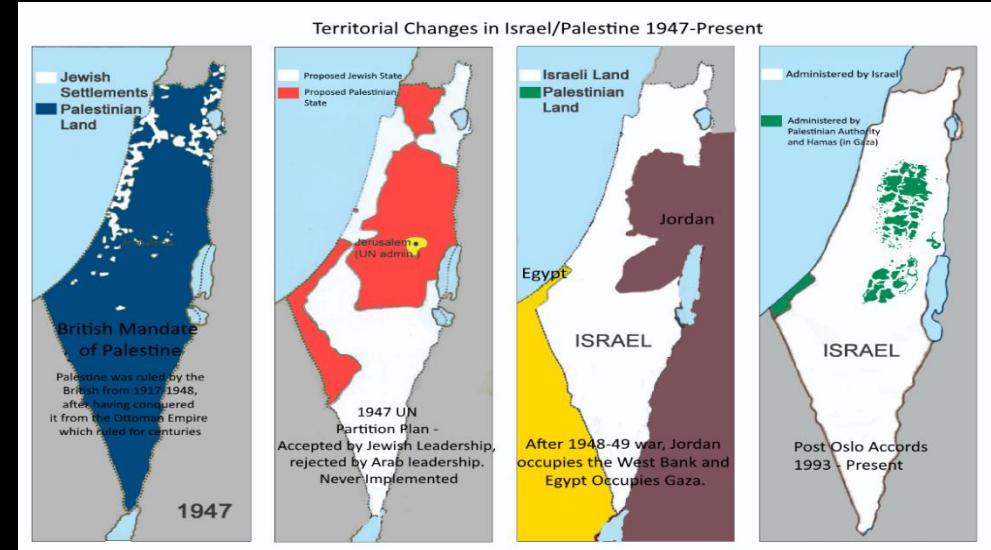
# ***Spiritual Israel - Worldwide Application***

These prophesies were partially fulfilled to literal Israel in local Palestine and Jerusalem following the Babylonian captivity. However, because of their rejection of Jesus Christ, the One Who gathers, these prophesies did not and will not meet a complete fulfilment to literal Israel.

How did Jesus and Paul indicate literal Israel was rejection by God thereby forfeiting of God's prophesies and promises to them?

- Paul referred to Isaiah's prophecy in [Romans 15:12](#) - And again, Esaias saith, There shall be a root of Jesse, and he that shall rise to reign over the Gentiles; in him shall the Gentiles trust.

**Note:** Paul applied Isaiah's gathering promise to the believer coming to Christ and being received by Him by the power of the Holy Spirit. Paul did not apply this prophecy to the nation of Israel being gathered to Palestine at some future time.



**When People Learned  
of Jesus Christ**



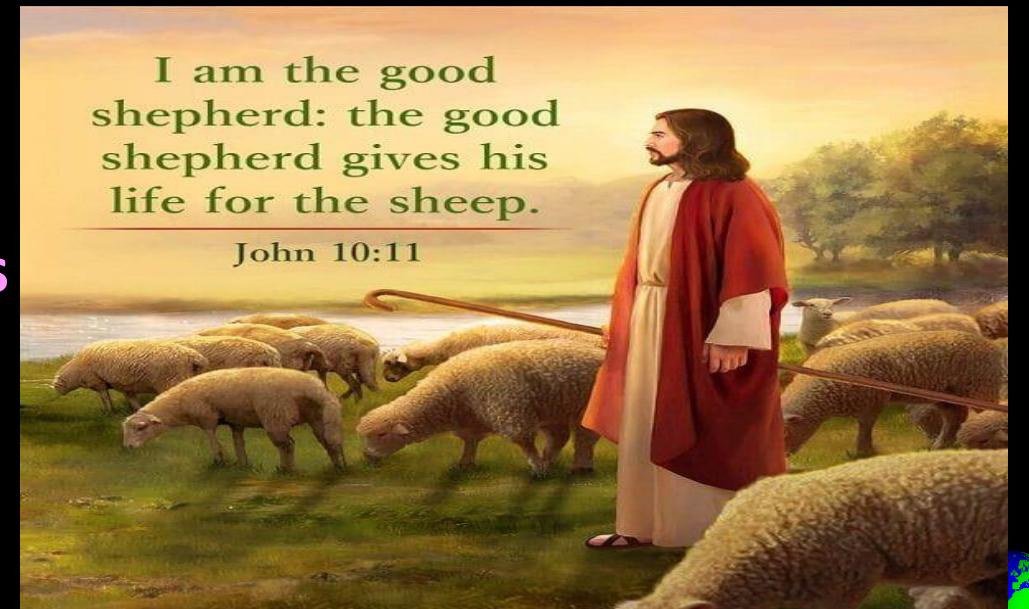
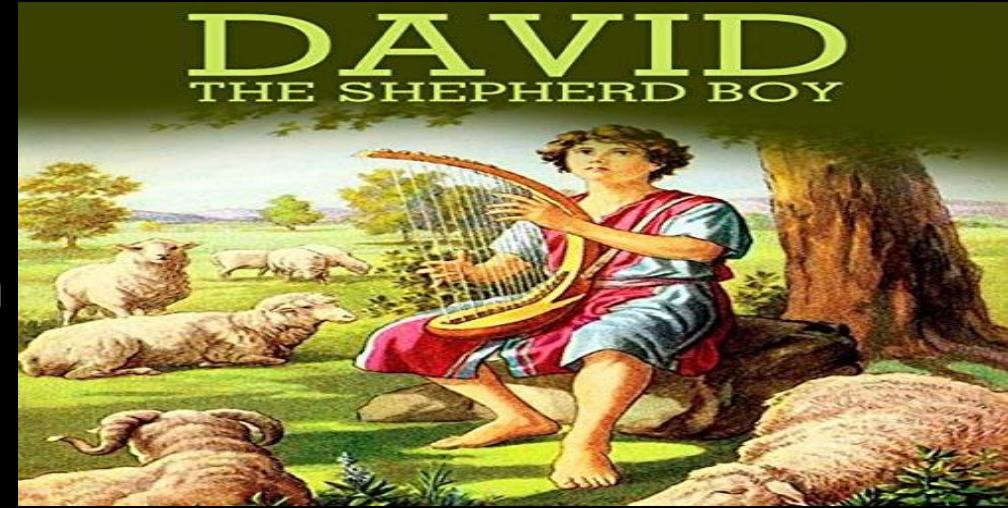
## **Spiritual Israel - Worldwide Application (cont'd)**

**How did Jesus indicate that He was this “shepherd” referred to by Ezekiel and Jeremiah?**

- I am the good shepherd, and know my *sheep*, and am known of mine. As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep. And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, *and* one shepherd. - John 10:14-16

**Note:** Jesus is the shepherd and prince David referred to in Jeremiah and Ezekiel's prophesies (David was a “type” of Christ, Christ is the second David). Jesus knew this and applied the Old Testament gathering prophesies to Himself.

**Jesus is the “Lord Our Righteousness” for all who believe in Him.**



## ***Spiritual Israel - Worldwide Application (cont'd)***

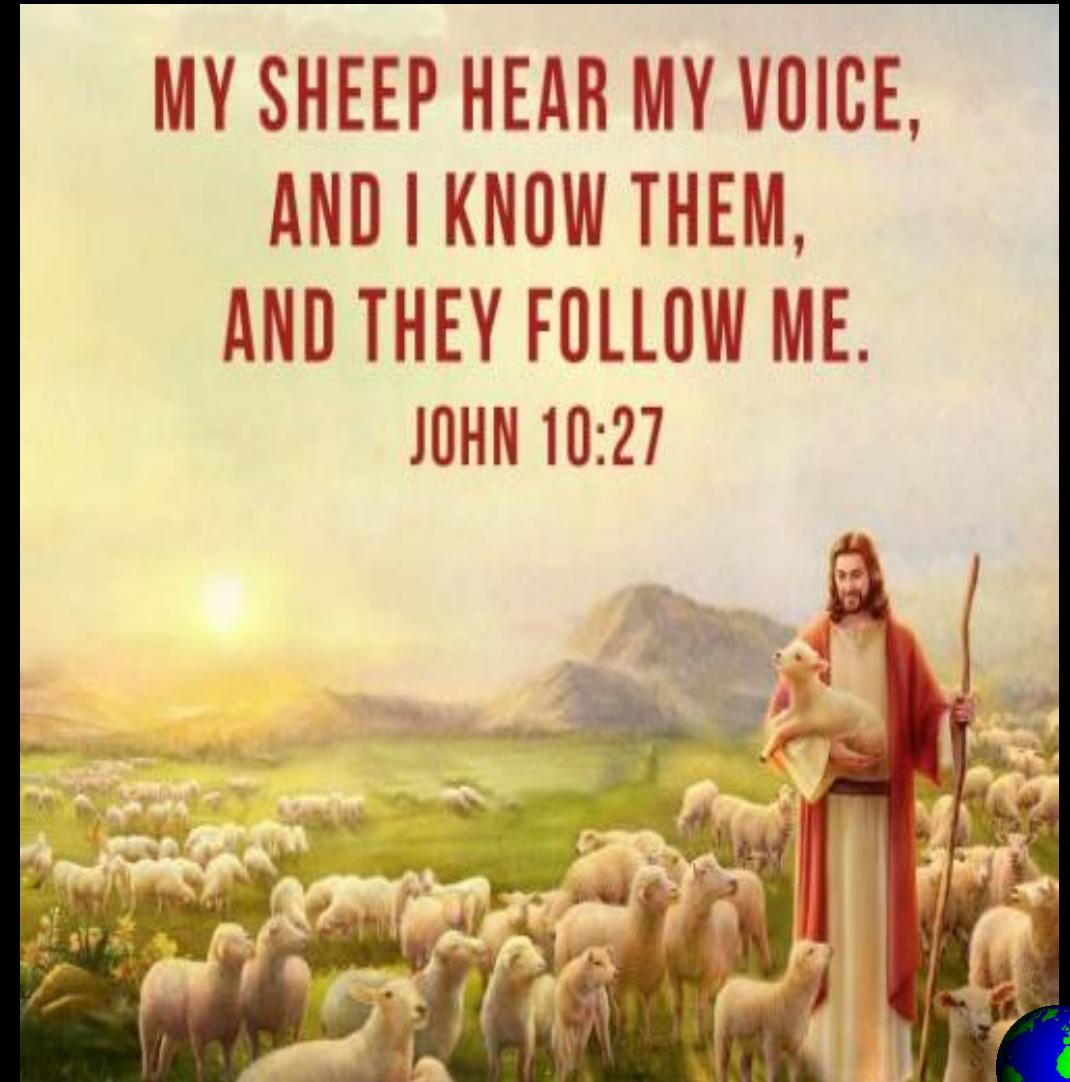
**How did Jesus describe Himself in reference to the God of the Old Testament?**

- Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am. - **John 8:58**

**Note:** **Jesus was claiming to be the I Am of the Old Testament.** (see Exodus 3:14) This means Jesus, before His incarnation, was the One who gave Israel the gathering promises. **He is the One who gathers Israel.**

**How did Jesus describe His desire to gather Israel and the result of their rejection?**

- O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, *thou* that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under *her* wings, and ye would not! - **Matthew 23:37**



# ***Spiritual Israel - Worldwide Application (cont'd)***

**What did Jesus say would happen to Israel? - Matthew 21:43**

**What did Paul say about Israel? – Acts 13:46**

**Who is the true Israel descendant of Abraham today? - Galatians 3:28-29**

**Note:** The believer in Jesus Christ is the true seed of Abraham today, the true Israelite, and has inherited the prophecies and promises given to Abraham and his descendants.

**How did Jesus describe Himself and His plans concerning His people? - John 10:14-16**

**When planning the death of Jesus, in what words did God inspire Caiaphas the high priest to speak concerning the work of Christ for His people? - John 11:47-53**

**How did Paul describe Gentiles becoming a part of God's Israel today? - Ephesians 2:12-13, 19-22**

**How does Paul in Hebrews describe the individual who accepts Christ? – Hebrews 12:22-24**



**"There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus."**

Galatians 3:28 (KJV)

**"You know nothing at all. You do not even consider that it is better for us that one man die for the people**



# ***Literal - Worldwide in Glory Application***

**How did Matthew describe the gathering that takes place when Jesus returns?**

- And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other. - **Matthew 24:30-31**

**How did Paul describe this same event?**

- For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. - **1 Thessalonians 4:16-17**

**Note:** Jesus' second coming to gather His people is the Literal – Worldwide in Glory Application of the Old Testament gathering promises given to Israel.

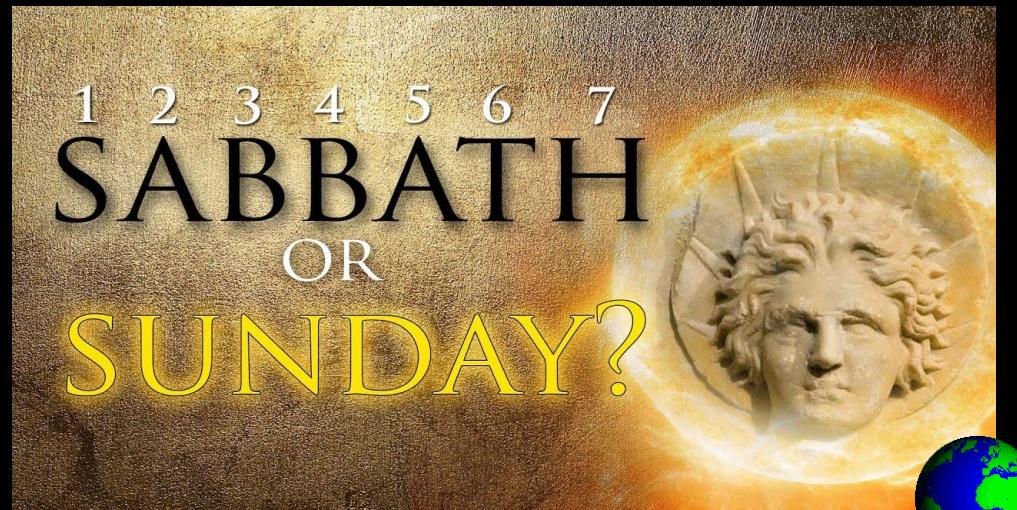


# **GOG AND MAGOG BATTLE ISRAEL**

The “latter days” battle against Israel described in Ezekiel is applied by dispensationalists to a coming battle against the modern nation of Israel in Palestine. The majority of popular Bible commentators try to map out this battle and even name nations that will take part in it.

This prophecy in Ezekiel chapters 36 and 37 does not apply to the modern nation of Israel at all. We will study how the book of Revelation gives us insights into how this prophecy will be applied to God’s people, spiritual Israel (the church) in the last days. We will also see a clear parallel between the events described in Ezekiel’s prophecy and John’s description of the seven last plagues in Revelation.

The battle in Ezekiel describes Satan’s last efforts to destroy God’s remnant people. It will intensify as we near the second coming of Christ. Ezekiel’s battle will culminate and reach its “literal worldwide in glory” fulfilment at the end of the 1000 years as described in Revelation chapter 20.



# ***Literal Israel - Local Palestine Application***

**Ezekiel was writing at the time of the Babylonian captivity:**

**What were the reasons for the coming captivity? - Ezekiel 36:17-19**

**God brought hope to Israel during this difficult time with a promise of restoration:**

**How did God describe this restoration of Israel following the Babylonian captivity? - Ezekiel 36:21-24**

**What was God's plan for Israel after they returned to Palestine following the Babylonian captivity? - Ezekiel 36:25-27**

**What else did God promise if Israel remained faithful to Him? - Ezekiel 36:28-38**



## ***Literal Israel - Local Palestine Application (cont'd)***

**God showed Ezekiel a vision of the valley of dry bones:**

**What did the bones represent? - Ezekiel 37:11**

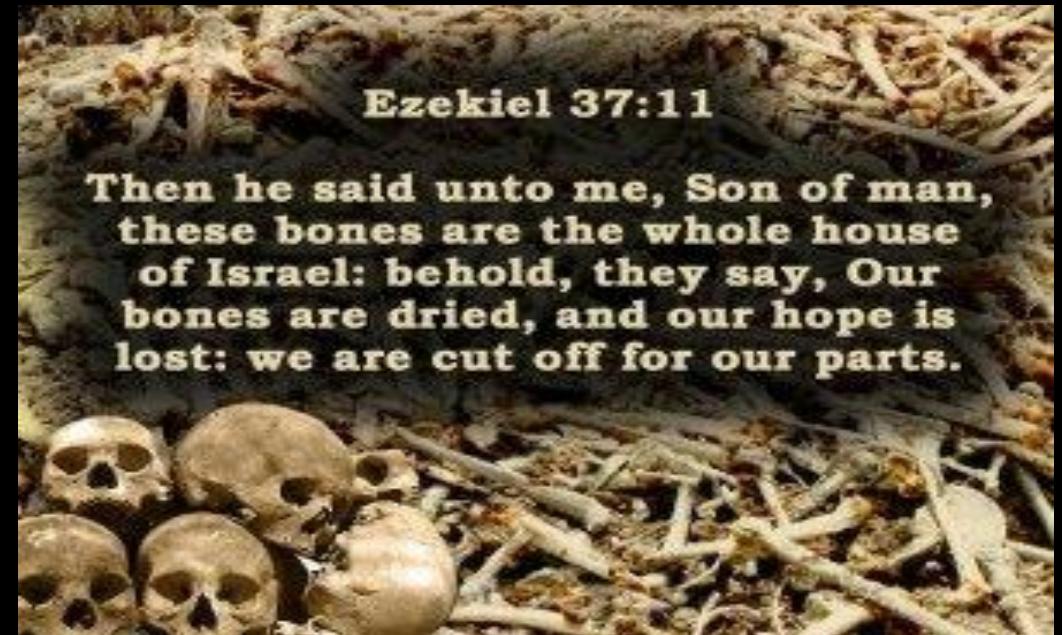
**What did God promise to do to the dry bones? - Ezekiel 37:10**

**How impossible did this promise of restoration seem to Israel in the face of the Babylonian captivity? - Ezekiel 37:11**

**Where did God promise to return Israel to after the Babylonian captivity? - Ezekiel 37:21**

**What did God promise concerning a divided Israel? - Ezekiel 37:22**

God gave Ezekiel a prophecy of Israel's future greatness and of the final conflict that would take place against her. - **Ezekiel 38-39**



## ***Literal Israel - Local Palestine Application (cont'd)***

**When would this final battle take place?**

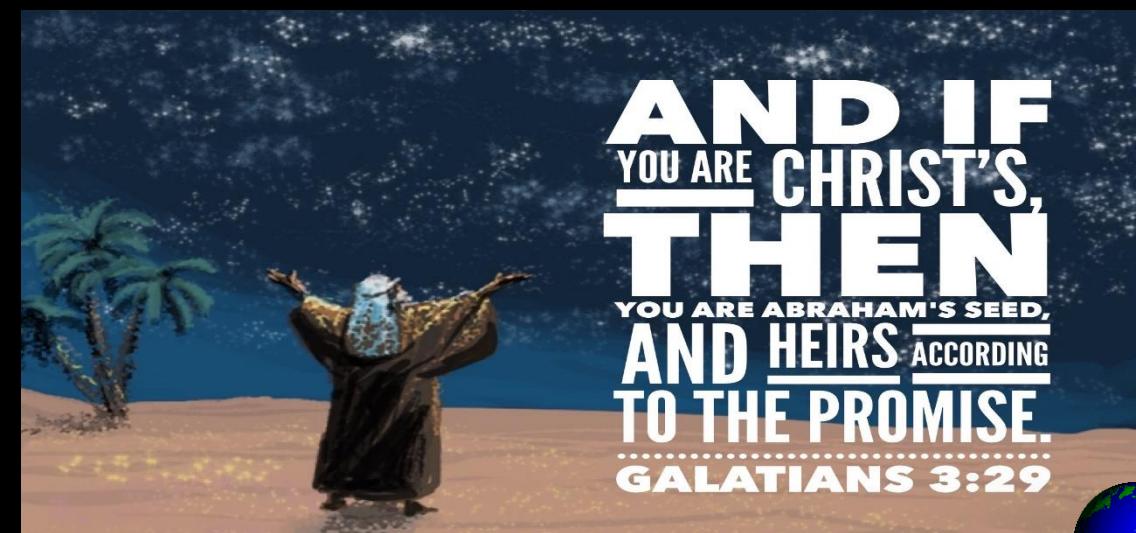
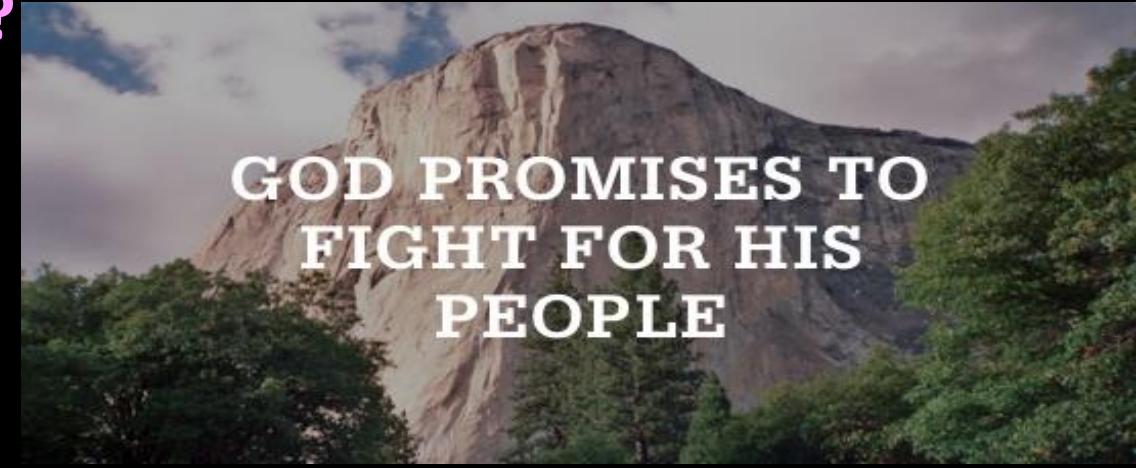
- Ezekiel 38:8, 16

**How would God fight for His people Israel?** - Ezekiel 38:20-22; 39:4, 6.

Ezekiel describes how events would have transpired for Israel after their return from the Babylonian captivity if they had remained faithful to God:

**What did Jesus say regarding Israel's unfaithfulness?** - Matthew 21:43; 23:37-38

**Who has inherited these unfulfilled Old Testament prophesies?** - Galatians 3:29

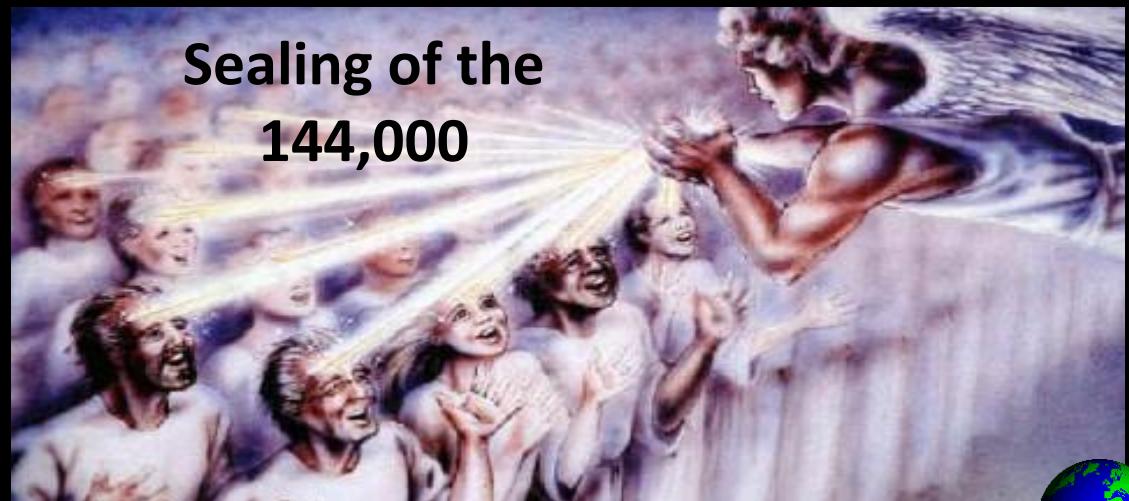


# ***Spiritual Worldwide Application***

The Christian has inherited the unfulfilled Old Testament prophesies originally given to the nation of Israel in Jerusalem:

**Where does the New Testament describe the Christian as dwelling? - Hebrews 12:22**

**Note:** God's people, spiritual Israel, today do not literally go to the heavenly Jerusalem when Christ gathers them to Himself. They are spiritually gathered and symbolically pictured as dwelling on Mount Zion in Jerusalem. Hence, Ezekiel 36:24 is being fulfilled to the church today.

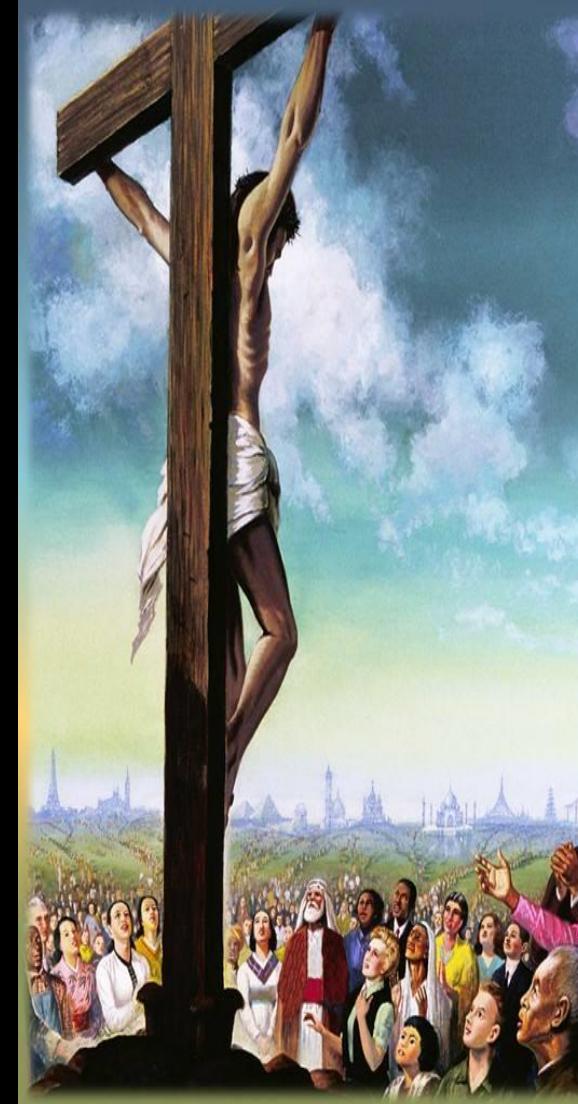


# ***Spiritual Worldwide Application (cont'd)***

**In the Old Testament God promised to gather His people, Israel, back to Jerusalem:**

**In the New testament who is described as gathering God's children that are scattered throughout the world? - John 11:51-52**

**Note:** As we have seen so far, Jesus was the God of the Old Testament Who had promised to gather Israel. Since Israel rejected the One who gathers, it is unbiblical to apply these prophesies to the modern nation of Israel today. The gathering continues today. Jesus is gathering His people, spiritual Israel, to Himself. And they are pictured as coming to the "heavenly Jerusalem". Hence the Old Testament prophecy of Ezekiel describing the enemies coming against Israel in the "latter years" now applies to Satan's attacks on the church, spiritual Israel, dwelling in spiritual Jerusalem.



"Now this he did not say on his own authority; but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation, and not for that nation only, but also that He would gather together in one the children of God who were scattered abroad"

(John 11:51-52)



# ***Spiritual Worldwide Application (cont'd)***

**What did God promise through Ezekiel to do for Israel?**

Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you. - [Ezekiel 36:25](#)

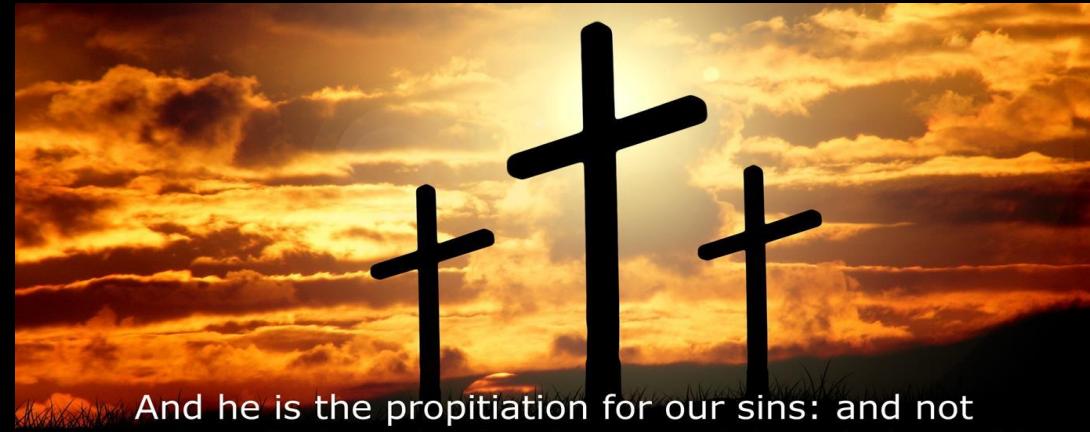
**How does Paul apply this promise in Ezekiel?**

That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, - [Ephesians 5:26](#)

**Note:** Paul applies Ezekiel's prophecy to the church, spiritual Israel.

**What else did God promise to do for His people in Ezekiel? - [Ezekiel 36:26-27](#)**

**Note:** God promised to put his laws in the heart of His people.



And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

DailyVerses.net

**1 John 2:2**



# ***Spiritual Worldwide Application (cont'd)***

**How does Paul apply this promise in Ezekiel to the church? – 2 Corinthians 3:3**

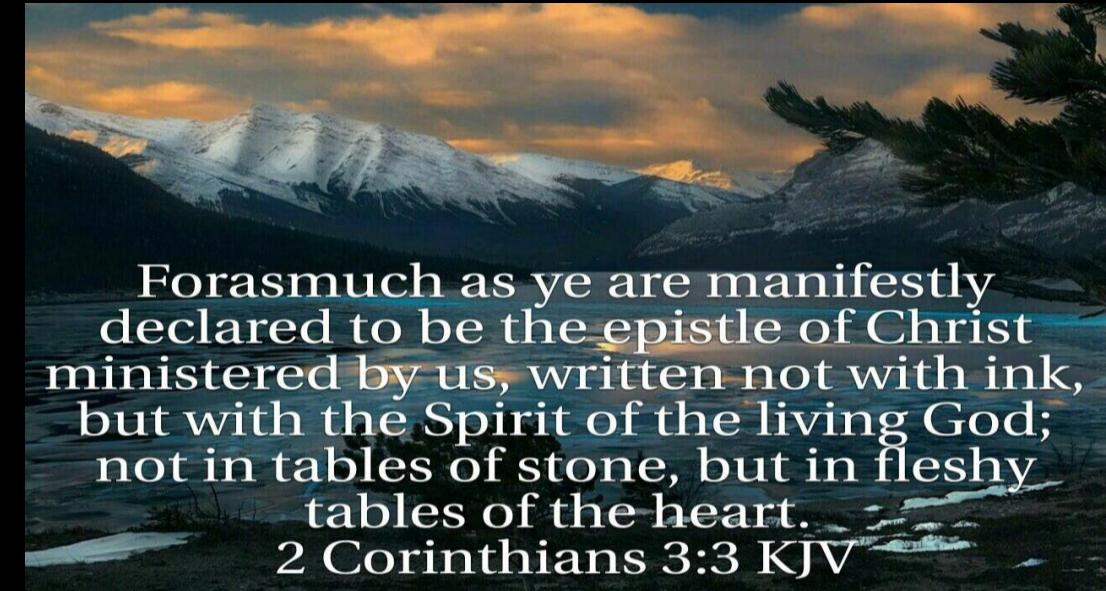
**God was also prophesying through Jeremiah during Ezekiel's time just prior to the Babylonian captivity:**

**In what words did God promise to bring a sanctifying experience to Israel? - Jeremiah 31:31-33**

**Note:** Paul quotes this new covenant promise in **Hebrews 8:8-10** and applies it to the ministry of Christ to the church today.

**How does Paul describe Satan's attack on the church before Jesus returns? - 2 Thessalonians 2:1-4 (Papacy – man of sin)**

**How does John describe this same attack in the book of Revelation? - Revelation 13:7, 12, 15-17**



Forasmuch as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart.  
2 Corinthians 3:3 KJV



# ***Spiritual Worldwide Application (cont'd)***

**In the “latter years” Satan will attack the church and try to destroy it:**

**The book of Revelation describes his attacks and God’s deliverance of His people through the seven last plagues.** Let’s compare Ezekiel 38 and 39 with Revelation 6, 16, 17 and 19 and one will see same events described in both Ezekiel and Revelation.

Ezekiel 38:20; Revelation 6:12; 16:18-20.

Ezekiel 38:22; Revelation 16:2.

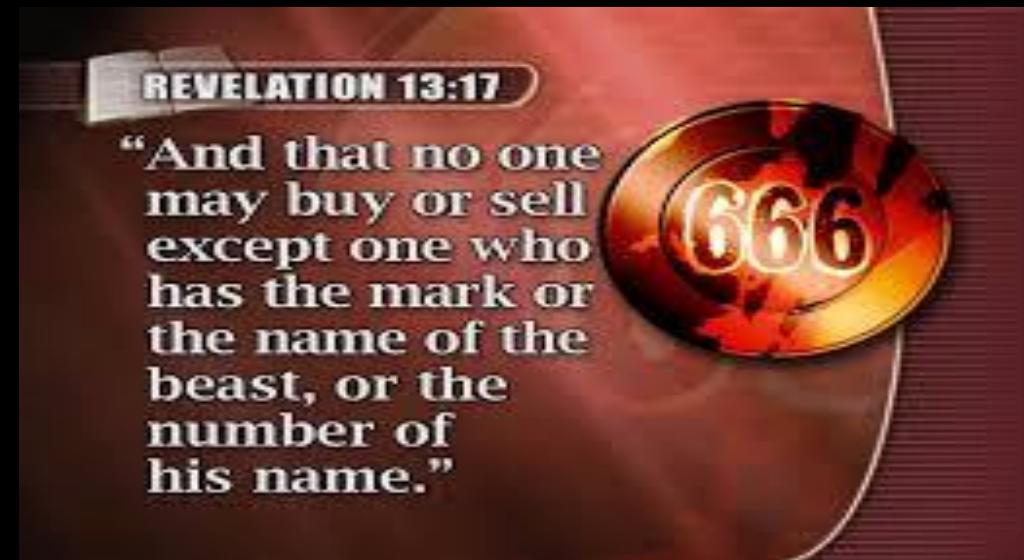
Ezekiel 38:22; Revelation 16:3-7.

Ezekiel 38:22; Revelation 16:21.

Ezekiel 38:22; 39:6; Revelation 16:8; 17:16; 19:20.

Ezekiel 39:4, 17-18; Revelation 19:17-18, 21.

**Note: Revelation is the inspired commentary on how the events of Ezekiel’s prophecy will be fulfilled to the church. Revelation 13 and 17 describe the great last day spiritual battle.**



# ***Literal Worldwide in Glory Application***

**Ezekiel's prophecy has a third fulfilment, which is called the Literal Worldwide in Glory Application.** This fulfilment takes place at the end of the 1000 year prophecy of [Revelation chapter 20](#).

**The believers in Jesus Christ are resurrected at Christ's second coming:** ([1Thessalonians 4:16- 17](#)).

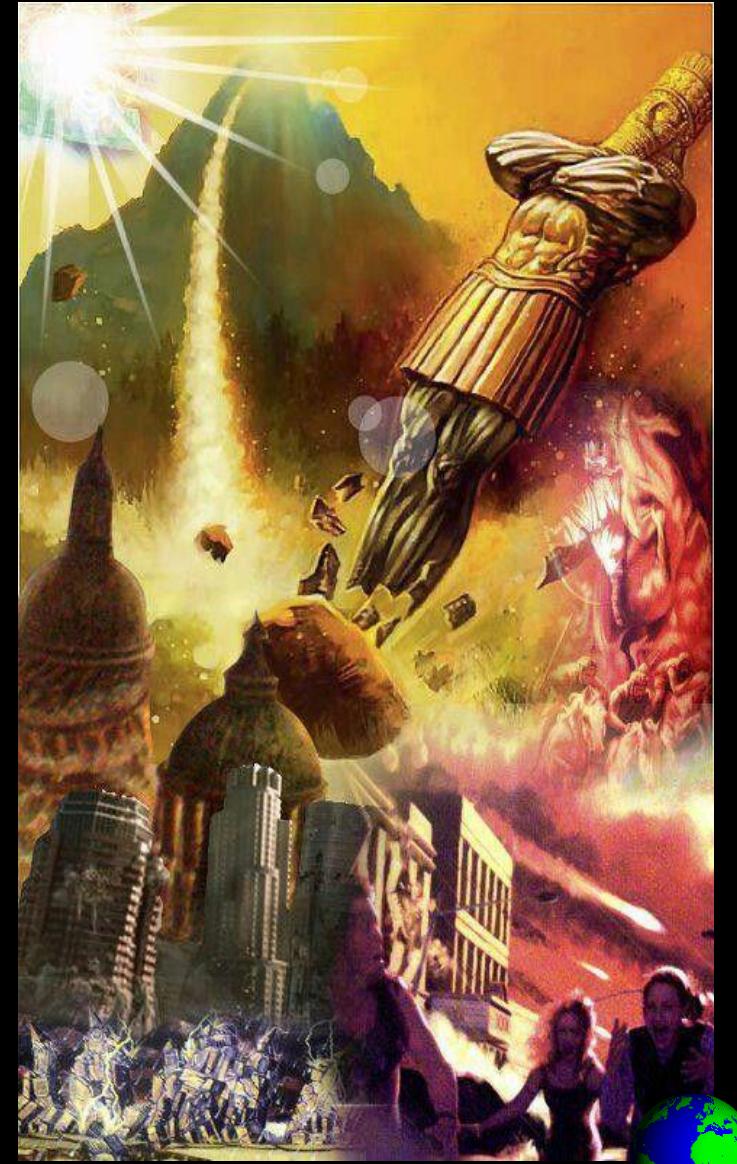
**When are the wicked of all ages resurrected?** - [Revelation 20:5](#)

**What does Satan do after the wicked dead are resurrected and what are they called?**

- And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom *is* as the sand of the sea. - [Revelation 20:7-8](#).

**Note: Gog and Magog are the same names used to describe the enemies that attack Israel in Ezekiel's prophecy:**

- Son of man, set thy face against Gog, the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him,  
- [Ezekiel 38:2](#).



# ***Conclusion of the Matter***

**What is Satan's plan of attack against God's Israel of all ages and what is the outcome?**

And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them. - [Revelation 20:9.](#)

**What is the name of the “beloved city” that Satan attacks where Israel of all ages is located?**

And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. - [Revelation 21:2.](#)



# ***Summary - Three Fold Application***

## **Literal Local:**

Literal Israel in Local Jerusalem Attacked by enemies God, called Gog & Magog before AD 34 - [Revelation 13](#)

## **Spiritual Worldwide:**

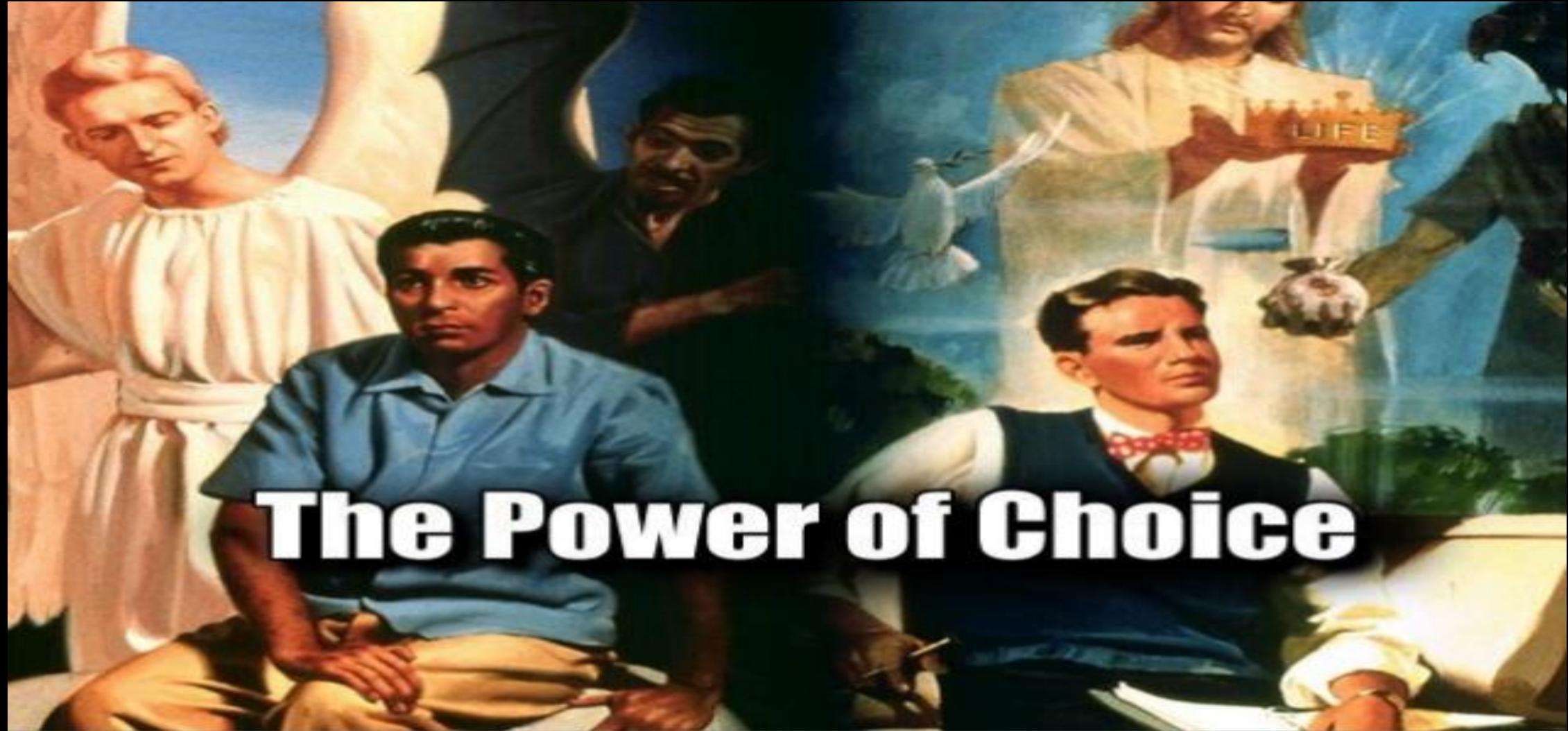
Spiritual Israel (church) In spiritual Jerusalem Attacked by enemies of God before 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming of Jesus – [2 Thessalonians 2:3-4](#) – [Revelation 20](#).

## **Literal Worldwide In Glory:**

Israel of all ages In literal new Jerusalem called Attacked by Gog & Magog at end of 1000 years in heaven - [Ezekiel 38-39](#)

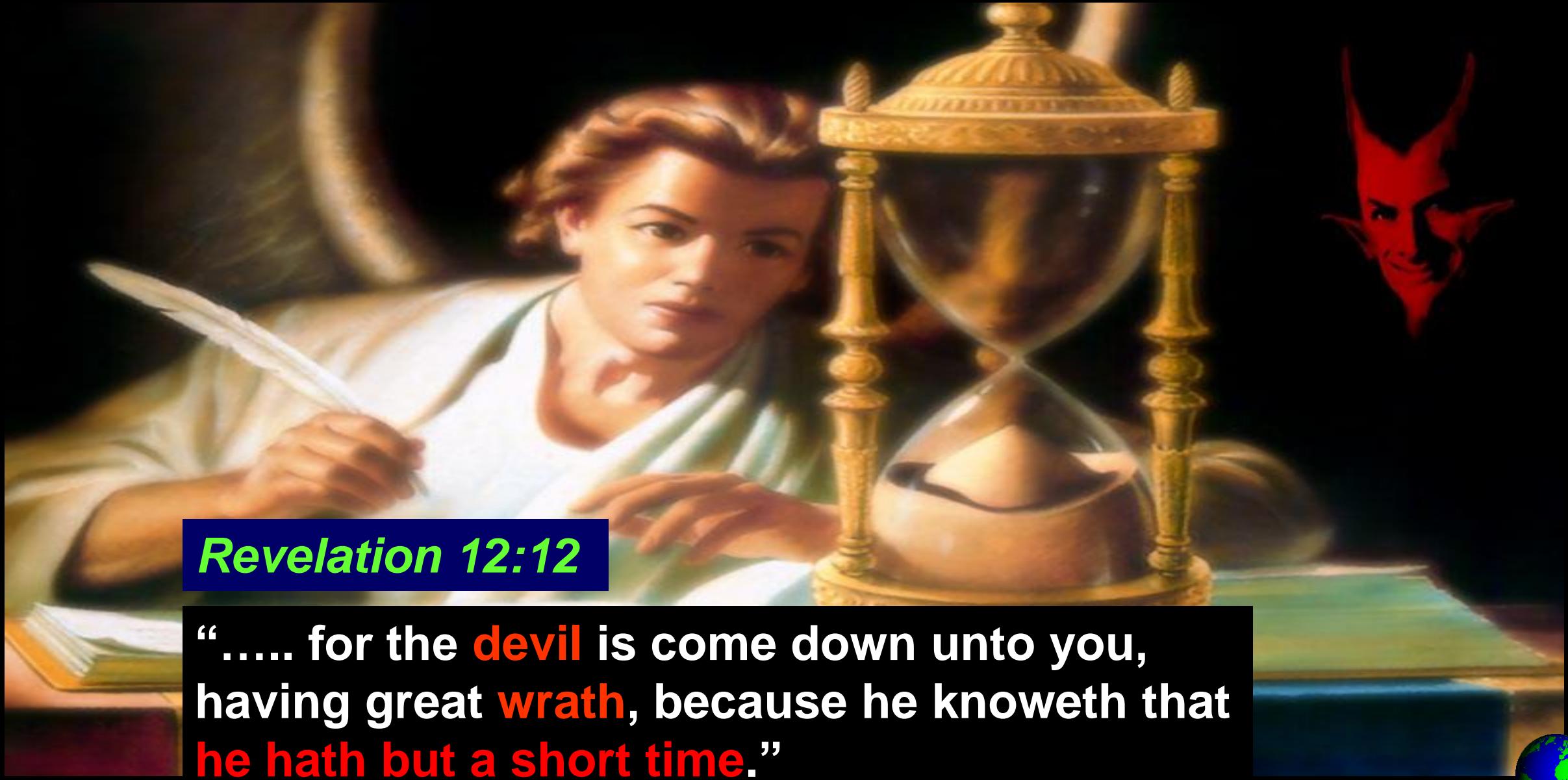


*God has given all:*



**The Power of Choice**





## ***Revelation 12:12***

“..... for the **devil** is come down unto you,  
having great **wrath**, because he knoweth that  
**he hath but a short time.**”

# ***Enter The Ark of Hope***

And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, *and* one shepherd.

– John 10:16



The Ark of the Covenant



**Psalms 77:13**

Behold, I stand at  
the door, and  
knock: if any man  
hear my voice,  
and open the door,  
I will come in to  
him, and will sup  
with him, and he  
with me. –  
Revelation 3:20





# THE END

**ARE YOU READY TO MEET JESUS?**