

GOD'S LAST MESSAGE OF LOVE



***A powerful collection of
charts, studies and
resources to help
you present the
Third Angel's Message***

God's Last Message of Love

Making Jesus the Centre and Circumference of All Truth

By
Adrian Ebens

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Dedicated to

My Wife Lorelle

Who believes in my dreams and helps make them happen.

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>> Items marked in red reflect the seven roles of Christ sequence.

>> Items marked in green reflect aspects of the sword model

>> Items marked in blue identify various decisions made through the course of study

Overview

This folder is designed to present the Three Angels Message in the most Christ centred way possible. The charts contained in this folder are designed to present the “bigger picture”. The 34 Bible studies contained on the CD-ROM and listed on the contents page are designed to give you the building materials to create the bigger picture, we refer to these as the nuts and the bolts. Many sets of Bible studies present the nuts and the bolts but often fail to give the bigger picture of how all the pieces fit together.

Presentation

Before you present a study chart, review the notes page on the back of the chart and possibly look at the nuts and bolts Bible study as well. Your aim is to present the chart in the Bible study and then leave the nuts and bolts study for the person you are studying with to study and review for themselves. Not every chart has a nuts and bolts study to go with it. When you come to present the next study review the Nuts and Bolts study review page with them and then move on to the next study.

Framework

It is essential to have a framework or model of what you plan to present to others. Giving Bible studies without a plan is like building a house without a plan – it doesn’t work very well. God’s Last Message of Love uses a model based around a sword.

The aim of sharing God’s word is to present the whole truth and nothing but the truth. The Bible tells us in John 14:6 that Jesus is *the* truth. The aim of our Bible study is to present all of Jesus as revealed in the Bible. We have very powerful image of Jesus given to us in the Book of Revelation chapter 1:

Then I turned to see the voice that spoke with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands, and in the midst of the seven lampstands One like the Son of Man, clothed with a garment down to the feet and girded about the chest with a golden band. His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and His eyes like a flame of fire; His feet were like fine brass, as if refined in a furnace, and His voice as the sound of many waters; He had in His right hand seven stars, out of His mouth went a sharp two-edged sword, and His countenance was like the sun shining in its strength. Rev 1:12-16

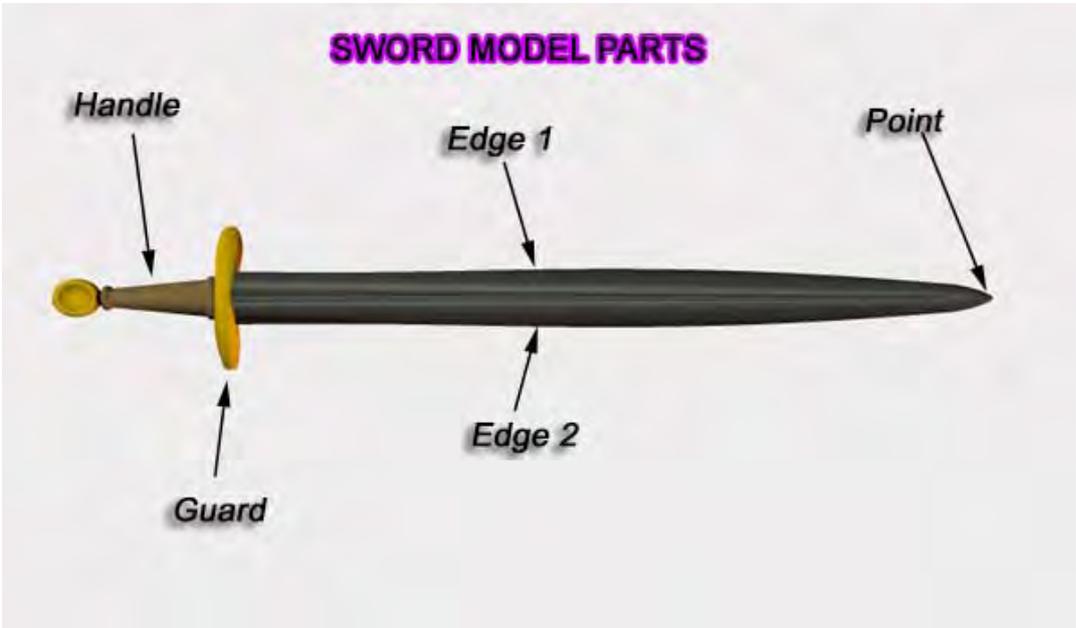
A similar picture is presented to us in Revelation 19:

Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him *was* called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. His eyes *were* like a flame of fire, and on His head *were* many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. He *was* clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword. Revelation 19:11-15



Jesus is referred to as the WORD OF GOD. This is a graphical illustration of John 1:1,14. In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God....And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. What comes out of Jesus’ mouth is significant; a sword, a two edged sword. Paul refers to this sword in

Ephesians 6:17....and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Paul refers to the sword itself as the word of God. Obviously the sword comes from the mouth of Jesus and therefore is the Word of God. I have found that the sword provides a fitting model for presenting the three angels messages of Revelation 14.



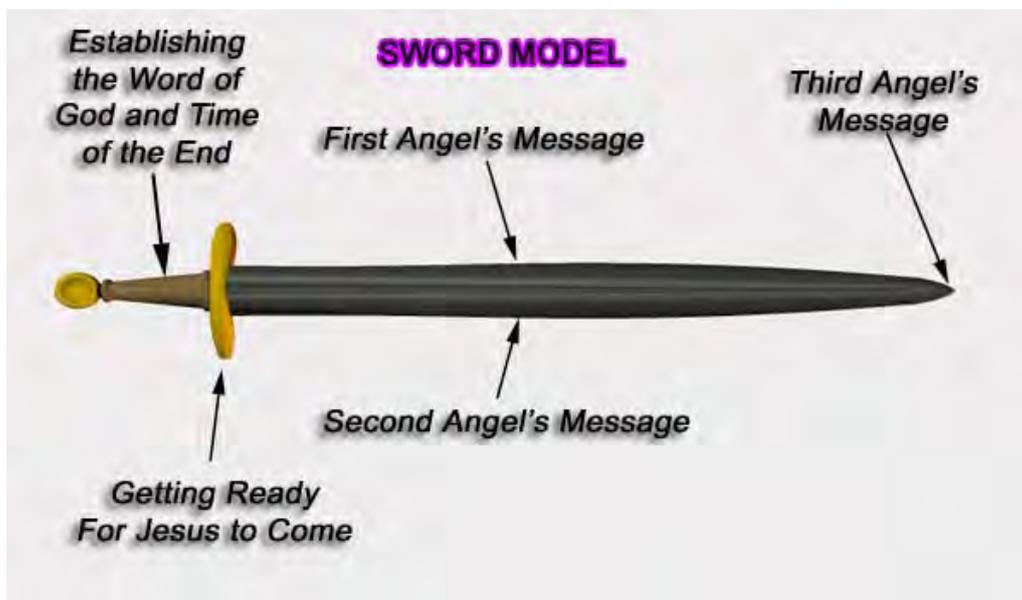
In the picture above, we notice the various parts of the sword.

1. Handle	To be able to use this sword, we need to know where the handle is and how to take hold of it. If we don't know where to pick it up, the sword is useless to us. Having an absolute confidence in God's Word is to know where the handle is. Also to rightly discern the Word of God, we must know the times and seasons (1 Thes 5:1). We must understand the prophetic time that we live in, so we can hear the prophetic word of God that applies to us. For example we are preparing to meet Jesus as King, whereas 2000 years ago, God's people should have been preparing for the Lamb of God. Knowing the time is crucial to a correct handling of the sword.
2. Guard	The Guard stops the user from sliding his or her hand onto the edges of the sword and hurting themselves. God has provided Guard's for us in the Word of God. Guard's include the prophets, strong spiritual life, keeping healthy as shown in the example of Daniel, avoiding worldliness, dressing appropriately etc. All these things protect us and help us to use the sword more efficiently.
3. Edge 1&2	The edges of the sword is what cuts. The cuts of God's word cut in two ways, cuts that heal and cuts that destroy. What that sword cuts is shown in Hebrews 4:12. <i>For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.</i> God's Word cuts into our mind and heart. It defends, comforts and encourages us on the one hand but also attacks and exposes us on the other. The Word says we are all sinners and totally evil on one hand and on the other it points us to Jesus and offers us eternal life and helps us to conquer our evil natures. We will call edge 1 "The healing cut" and edge two "the exposing cut". Truth must expose our errors so it can then truly heal us of our sins.
4. The Point	The point of the sword is often used to confront with a decision. When a person has seen both edges of the sword, the exposing and the healing cuts, they have a choice to accept or reject the exposing and healing process. Hence the term "Getting to the point"

God's Word covers the period from the beginning to the end of the world, so the sword will cover from the beginning to the end of the world. Think of the healing edge as the story of redemption that traces a line from when God promised to Adam and Eve that a redeemer would come right down to when God's city descends on to the earth after the millennium. Think of the exposing edge as the story from When God confronted Adam and Eve with the sin in the garden to Cain who received the curse to Nimrod who formed the religion of Babylon down to the woman who rides the seven headed beast in Revelation and the then the destruction of the wicked in the fire. These two lines run parallel through history, two systems, two kingdoms, two approaches to life. The Sword provides healing through one line and it exposes the false system that Satan has developed over the past 6000 years on the other line. Eventually the world must make a choice as the two lines will not continue. God will bring an end to the world. Think of this as the final events of earth's history, the image to the beast that is set up and the choice we are all given to either worship God or worship the beast. This is the point of decision. With these thoughts in mind, we have the following table.

1. Handle	1. Establishing Your Source of Authority. 2. Establishing the Time of the End
2. Edge 1	3. The First Angel's Message
3. Edge 2	4. The Second Angel's Message
4. The Point	5. The Third Angel's Message
5. The Guard	6. Getting Ready for Jesus to Come

The Guard is placed last because a person will not accept God's guards until they personally have made a decision to follow Him.



1. Establish Your Source of Authority – The Handle Part a

Your source of authority is Christ in His person and His written word. Unless you accept the Bible as the authority for finding truth you will waste your time. In this section we investigate both an objective and subjective case for the Bible. By objective case we mean, that which appeals to the mind, by subjective case we mean that which appeals to the heart. If either is lacking, the Bible will lack authority. The first chart "Jesus of Nazareth" comes right to the point – "Who is Jesus Christ and what will we do with His claims?" The second chart concerning the prophecies of Christ adds indisputable proof that Christ is indeed the Son of God and the Saviour of the World. The third chart "Jesus Believed all the Old Testament" builds on the proof of who Christ is to defend the Old Testament. The last chart gives an overview of we received the Bible.

2. Establish the Time of the End – The Handle Part b

This section is crucial. If we can't see that we are living in the time of the end, then we have no connection to the Three Angel's Messages and can't see that they apply to today. The prophecy of Daniel 2 is used to establish this point. The second chart "Signs of Christ's Coming" covers Matthew 24. Daniel 2 and Matthew 24 are important keys to any presentation of our message. "Ministers should present the sure word of prophecy as the foundation of the faith of Seventh-day Adventists. The prophecies of Daniel and the Revelation should be carefully studied, and in connection with them the words, 'Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.'" GW 148.1.

3. The First Angel's Message (The Everlasting Gospel) – Edge 1

Revelation 14:6 refers to the first angel having the everlasting gospel. This is exactly what is presented in this section. From before creation to the new earth, we will aim to present the gospel story and the principles of God's kingdom and show how and why God is worthy of our worship. The story of the gospel is revealed in the person of Jesus Christ. This story is divided into seven roles that Jesus occupies in the Gospel story. The next two charts form the basis of sharing the First Angel's message. For more information on these seven roles, look at the Training Manual pages 24-28. These two charts remind us that Jesus is THE TRUTH about every teaching of the Bible.

4. The Second Angel's Message (The Counterfeit Gospel) – Edge 2

The call "Babylon is fallen" reveals Satan's attempt to pervert and counterfeit the work of Christ in the gospel. We notice that Cain was not induced to abandon worship or spiritual activity, he was merely tempted to change the forms of worship to suit himself. God has revealed in his Word Satan's false religious movements and their attacks on God's people. God's Word also shows us how His church has often been deceived by false religion and this why God sends the cry – Babylon is fallen. We must leave that system or perish.

5. The Third Angel's Message (The Worship War)- The Point

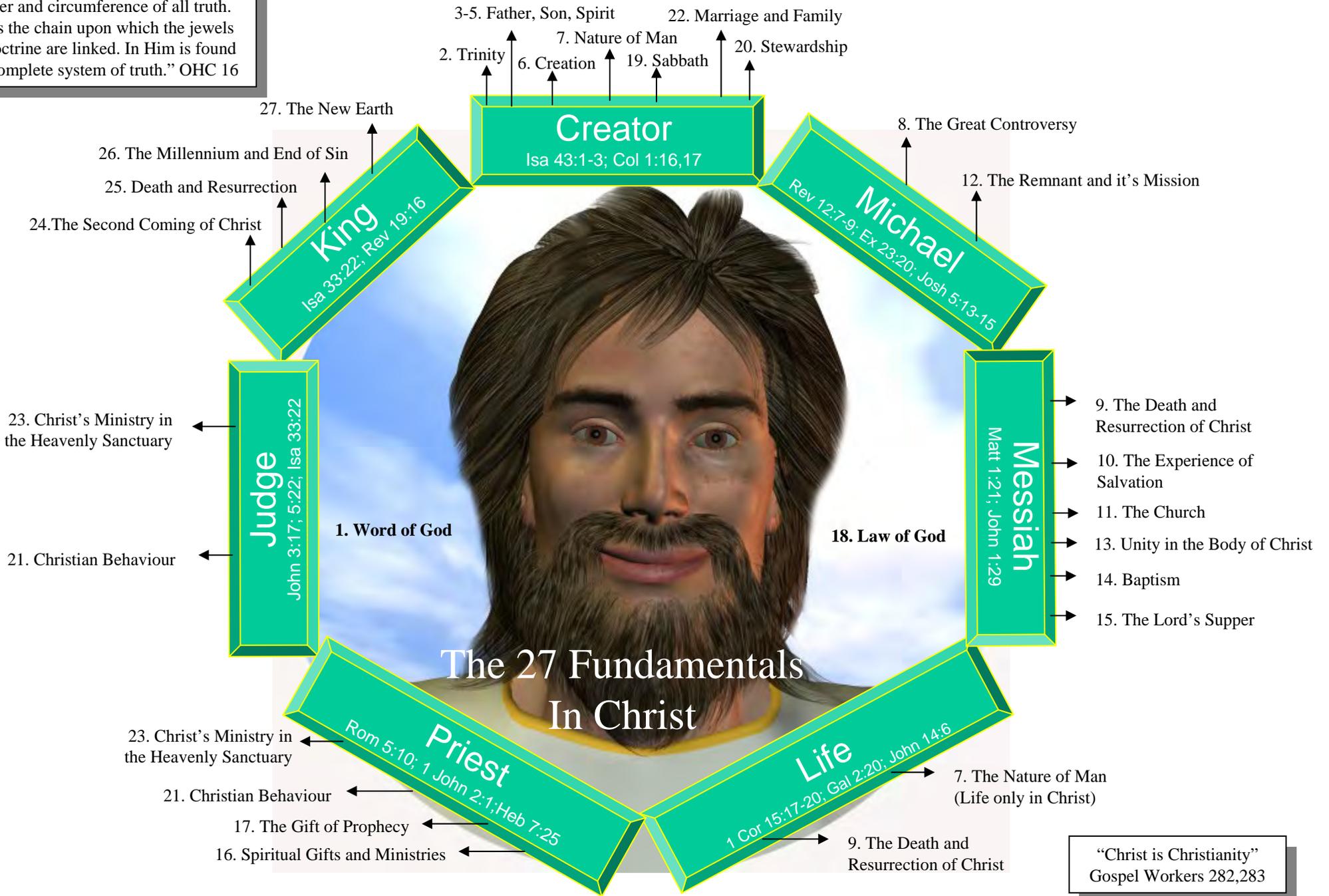
Every person is called to make a choice between God's appointed means of salvation and their own ideas of worshipping God and obtaining salvation. The worship of the Creator as revealed in the Sabbath is the key to the final contest.

6. Getting Ready for the Second Coming of Jesus (God's Guards)

Taking the example of the Israelites who came out of Egypt, God's church emerges from Babylon with a need to be instructed and trained and prepared for the second coming. This section highlights the rise of such a movement and important truths that were given to the church to preserve it and make it efficient in its work.

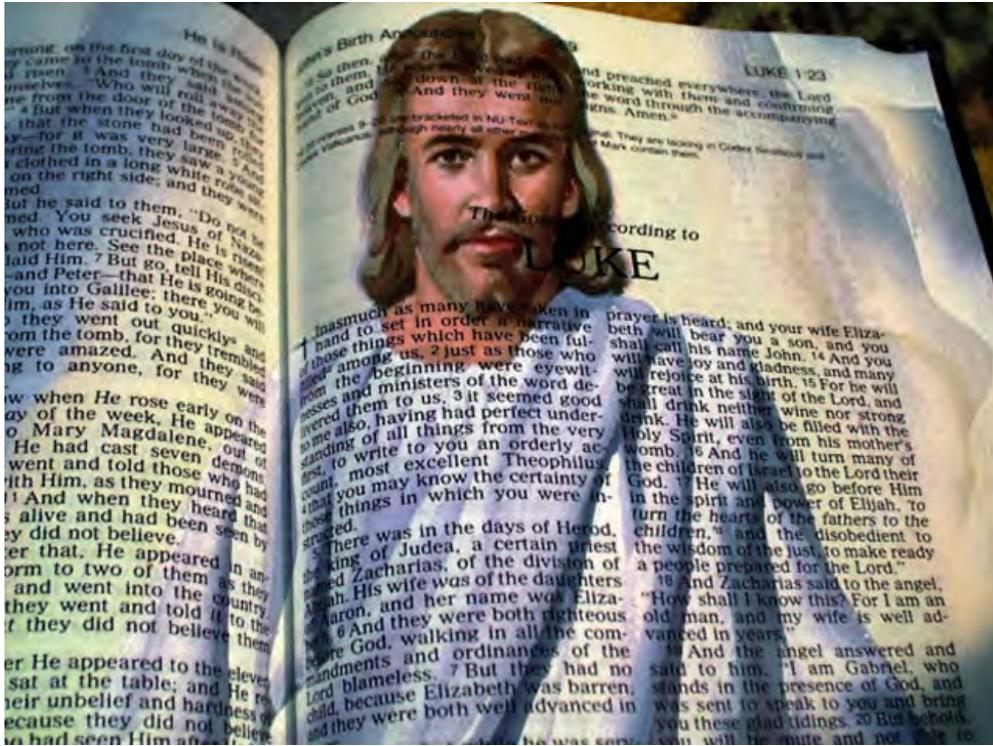
“Christ, His character and work, is the center and circumference of all truth. He is the chain upon which the jewels of doctrine are linked. In Him is found the complete system of truth.” OHC 16

Christ – The Truth



“Christ is Christianity”
Gospel Workers 282,283

While many teachings will apply to more than one role, in most cases it has been placed in one place



Establishing Your Source of Authority

Establishing Your Source of Authority

Every thinking person has a source of authority, an oracle of truth, a place or person where they are confident that they are getting the right information about the realities of life and death. For many people this is their own mind. What they see, hear and experience and study is enough for them to determine the truth. People in this group typically have a scientific orientation. There is another group who simply trust in the traditions passed onto them from their forefathers. People in this group typically have a religious orientation. How can we trust in ourselves or in our forefathers for absolute truth? Unless someone is morally perfect, how can they claim to be logically perfect in their understanding of the world? With the human tendency to exaggerate or underestimate, how can we find truth? Can absolute truth be determined at all? Many people now feel that truth is what you make it – it's relative to your environment. The laws of science would indicate that this is incorrect. There are absolute laws in the physical world that reflect the absolute laws of the spiritual world.

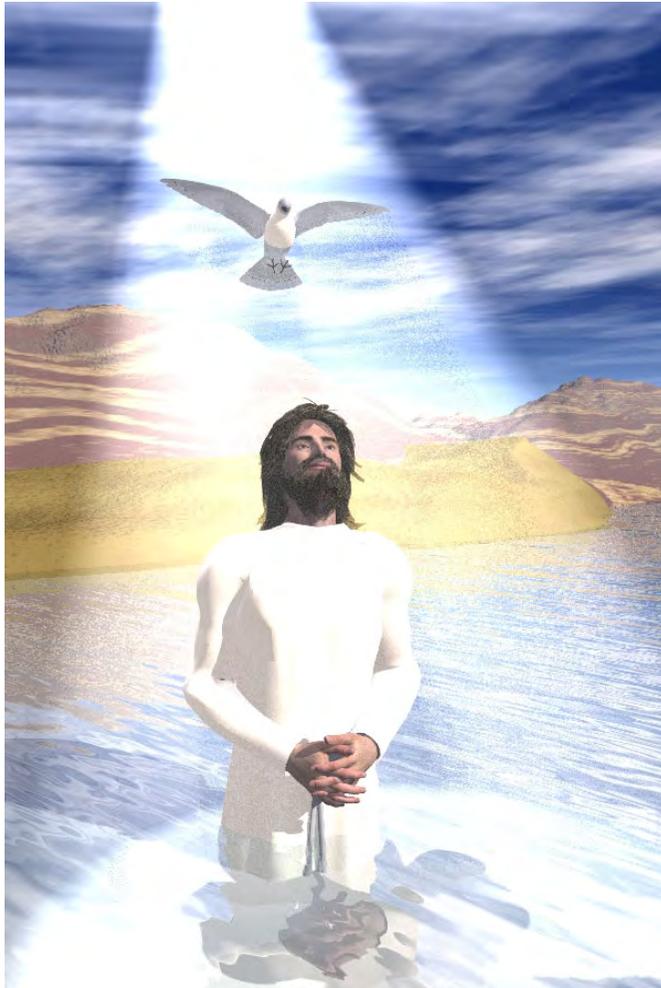
So how does this relate to the Bible? The Bible claims to have the absolute truth (Isaiah 8:20; 2 Timothy 3:16). How can we be sure that this is correct? The Bible is more than just a collection of writings; it is a revelation of a person – Jesus Christ. Luke 24:27. Jesus stated that He is the Truth. John 14:6. The Bible is the written form of the living person of Jesus. By looking at the life of Jesus we can determine the truth and accuracy of the Bible. The Bible wrote so many details about the coming Messiah that the truthfulness of the Bible depended upon the coming of the Messiah and the coming of the Messiah was verified by the Bible. This almost sounds like circular reasoning until you examine the nature of the prophecies concerning the Messiah. There is absolutely no room for fabrication or cover up. Examine the evidence and see for yourself.

Many Christians accept the Bible simply because it is their tradition. We can't have that as a basis. We need to be confident that the Bible is God's Word based on evidence – and evidence there is a plenty!

There are two basic tests that need to be applied: (1) **Objective Test**, (Isa 1:18; 1 John 4:1; 1 Thess 5:21; Acts 17:11) facts and evidence that satisfy the mind, the logic, the rational part of our being. One of the best ways to apply this test is to examine the prophecies of the Bible (Isa 41:21). Many prophecies are easy to test; they are either right or wrong. (2) **Subjective Test**, (Ps 34:8; Rom 8:16, 1 John 1:4) evidences that satisfy the heart, the emotional part of our being. The joy of sins forgiven, the transformation of heart and attitude is a very powerful evidence to suggest something is right. But the subjective test never stands alone. Many claim that their feelings will guide them correctly but feelings are like ropes of sand. For example, love won't survive on feelings alone, there must be commitment based on logic and fact also. Feelings and emotions must always be accompanied by logic and fact. The combination of the two tests produces the truth. This is worshiping in Spirit and Truth. John 4:24.

We start this section by examining the life of Jesus and how His life proves the truthfulness of the Scriptures.

Who do you Say that I Am?



Claims

To be the Son of God who is equal with God. John 5:18

To be able to give and take away life. John 3:36

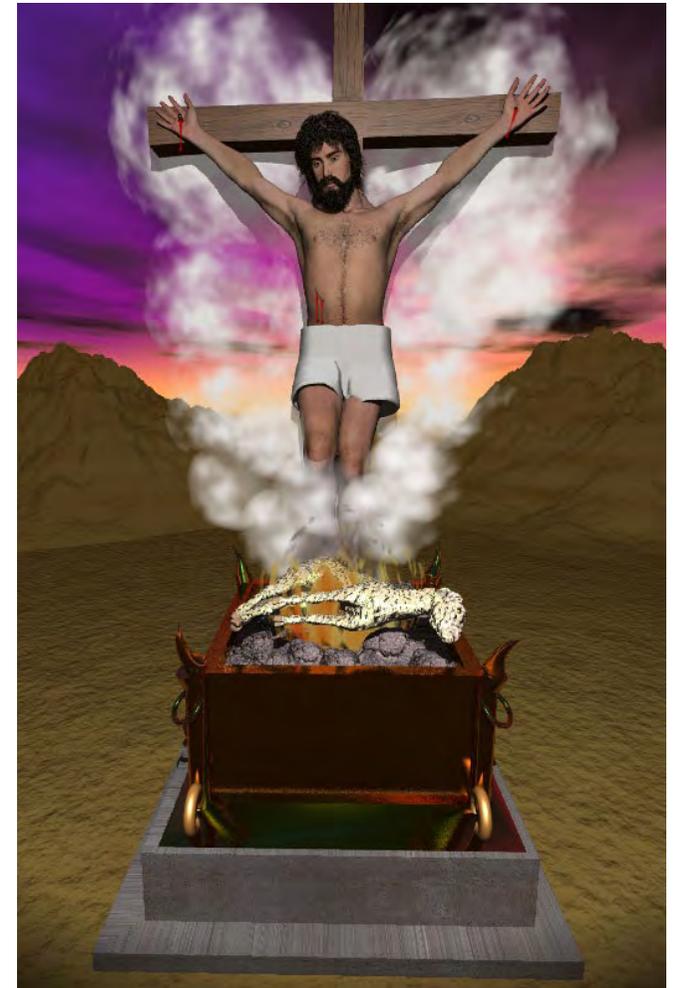
To be the Messiah. John 4:25,26

Power to forgive sin. Matt 9:2-6

To be the only way to God and heaven. John 14:6

To be a revelation of God. John 14:8,9

In Matthew 16:15 Jesus asks "Who do you say that I am?"



Is Jesus who he claimed to be? He must either be a lunatic, a liar or Lord.
He has left no room for any other options.

Who Do You Say That I Am?

AIM:	To show that Jesus can't be ignored, a choice must be made by everyone concerning His claims.
OUTLINE:	How much have you heard or know about Jesus? As you move through the details of His life, ask yourself how a person of His background could achieve what He did? There is no one else who has accomplished what Jesus has. There is something amazing about the person of Jesus. Examine each of His claims and you will see that Jesus has left us no room to class Him as one of the many great teachers of history or a great moral person, He does not leave you room for that conclusion. There is a need to fully investigate and make a choice concerning this person.
NOTES:	<p>There has been so much said and written about Jesus that sometimes we overlook the significance of His short life on earth. Who can calculate the impact of His influence? Millions of lives have been deeply touched and transformed by this person. It is not simply the embracing of His teaching but an acceptance of His claims and entering into a living relationship with Him.</p> <p>Try to imagine what the world would be like without Him having come. Where else will you find such powerful imagery of loving your enemies and forgiving them <i>while</i> they are hurting you? Where will you go to find such powerful illustrations of inter-racial acceptance and love? I am just so thankful that Jesus came and showed us how to love and treasure relationships.</p> <p>The life of Jesus demands investigation. Jesus started the largest moral reform movement in the history of humanity. He achieved this task without writing one book or tract. He never left his country of birth. He had no money, no home, and no friends of influence or position to assist Him. He lived and taught a lifestyle of peace, love, forgiveness and humility while he grew up in a culture of war, hatred, revenge and desire for power. He lived and taught the equality of all people as the children of God. He is reported to have performed many miracles including raising people from the dead. How did he do all these things?</p> <p>Jesus also made a number of startling claims that set Him apart, claims that place Him in the situation that we cannot remain passive towards. He claims to be the Son of God and His representative, meaning He is claiming to be God. He also claims to be the Creator of all things for He said that He is Lord or Master of the Sabbath day. Matthew 12:8. The Sabbath is the sign or memorial of the Creator. He claims to be the only One that will grant you entrance to heaven. These claims are so big and profound that you can't ignore them. Look at the evidence, consider His sayings and teachings, gauge the fruit of His work and decide – Is He who He claimed to be?</p> <p>C.S Lewis, who was once an agnostic, pens these challenging words. “I am trying to prevent anyone saying the really foolish thing that people often say about Him: ‘I'm ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I don't accept His claim to be God.’ This is the one thing we must not say. A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic - on a level with a man who says he is a poached egg - or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God; or else a madman or something worse. You can shut Him up for a fool, you can spit at Him and kill him as a demon, or you can fall at His feet and call Him Lord and God. But let us not come up with any patronizing nonsense about His being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to.” <i>Mere Christianity</i>, page 41,42.</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<p><i>More than a Carpenter</i>, by Josh McDowell. <i>The Best of Josh McDowell – A Ready Defense</i>. Compiled by Bill Wilson. <i>Mere Christianity</i>, by C.S Lewis.</p>

Fulfilled Prophecies of The Messiah

(Probability of One man fulfilling all these prophecies = 1 in 10¹⁵⁷ from "Evidence that Demands a Verdict" by Josh McDowell, page 167)



	Prediction	Fulfillment
1.	Be born of a woman	Gen. 3:15 Gal. 4:4
2.	Be from the line of Abraham	Gen. 12:3, 7; 17:7 Rom. 9:5; Gal. 3:16
3.	Be from the tribe of Judah	Gen. 49:10 Heb. 7:14; Rev. 5:5
4.	Be from the house of David	2 Sam. 7:12-13 Luke 1:31-33; Rom. 1:3
5.	Be born of a virgin	Isa. 7:14 Matt. 1:22-23
6.	Be given the throne of David	2 Sam. 7:11-12; Ps. 132:11; Isa. 9:6-7; 16:5; Jer. 23:5 Luke 1:31-32
7.	His throne would be an eternal throne	Dan. 2:44; 7:14, 27; Micah 4:7 Luke 1:33
8.	Be called Emmanuel	Isa. 7:14 Matt. 1:23
9.	Have a forerunner	Isa. 40:3-5; Mal. 3:1 Matt. 3:1-3; Luke 1:76-78; 3:3-6
10.	Be born in Bethlehem	Micah 5:2 Matt. 2:5-6; Luke 2:4-6
11.	Be worshiped by wise men and presented with gifts	Ps. 72:10; Isa. 60:3, 6, 9 Matt. 2:11
12.	Be in Egypt for a season	Num. 24:8; Hos. 11:1 Matt. 2:15
13.	His birthplace would suffer a massacre of infants	Jer. 31:15 Matt. 2:17-18
14.	Be called a Nazarene	Isa. 11:1 Matt. 2:23
15.	Be zealous for the Father	Pss. 69:9; 119:139 John 6:37-40
16.	Commence His work in AD 27 – the 69 th week	Dan 9:24-27 Mark 1:15; Luke 3:1
17.	Be filled with God's Spirit	Ps. 45:7; Isa. 11:2; 61:1-2 Luke 4:18-19
18.	Heal many	Isa. 53:4 Matt. 8:16-17
19.	Deal gently with the Gentiles	Isa. 9:1-2; 42:1-3 Matt. 4:13-16; 12:17-21
20.	Magnify the law and make it honourable	Isa. 42:21 Matt. 5:17-20
21.	Speak in parables	Isa. 6:9-10 Matt. 13:10-15
22.	Be rejected by His own	Ps. 69:8; Isa. 53:3 John 1:11; 7:5
23.	Make a triumphal entry into Jerusalem	Zech. 9:9 Matt. 21:4-5
24.	Be praised by little children	Ps. 8:2 Matt. 21:16
25.	Be the rejected cornerstone	Ps. 118:22-23 Matt. 21:42
26.	His miracles would not be believed	Isa. 53:1 John 12:37-38
27.	His friend would betray Him for 30 pieces of silver	Ps. 41:9; 55:12-14; Zech. 11:12-13 Matt. 26:14-16, 21-25
28.	Be a man of sorrows	Isa. 53:3 Matt. 26:37-38
29.	Be forsaken by His disciples	Zech. 13:7 Matt. 26:31, 56
30.	Be scourged and spat upon	Isa. 50:6 Matt. 26:67; 27:26
31.	That His price money would be used to buy a potter's field	Jer. 18:1-4; 19:1-4; Zech. 11:12-13 Matt. 27:9-10
32.	Be crucified between two thieves	Isa. 53:12 Matt. 27:38; Mark 15:27-28; Luke 22:37
33.	Be given vinegar to drink	Ps. 69:21 Matt. 27:34, 48; John 19:28-30
34.	Suffer the piercing of His hands and feet	Ps. 22:16; Zech. 12:10 Mark 15:25; John 19:34, 37; 20:25-27
35.	That His garments would be parted and gambled for	Ps. 22:18 Luke 23:34; John 19:23-24
36.	Be surrounded and ridiculed by his enemies	Ps. 22:7-8 Matt. 27:39-44; Mark 15:29-32
37.	Thirst	Ps. 22:15 John 19:28
38.	Commend His spirit to the Father	Ps. 31:5 Luke 23:46
39.	That His bones would not be broken	Exod. 12:46; Num. 9:12; Ps. 34:20 John 19:33-36
40.	Be stared at in death	Zech. 12:10 Matt. 27:36; John 19:37
41.	Caused sacrifice and oblation to cease in AD 31	Dan. 9:27 Col. 2:14
42.	Be buried with the rich	Isa. 53:9 Matt. 27:57-60
43.	Be raised from the dead	Ps. 16:10 Matt. 28:2-7
44.	Ascend to heaven	Ps. 24:7-10 Mark 16:19; Luke 24:51
45.	Then become a greater high priest than Aaron	Ps. 110:4 Heb. 5:4-6, 10; 7:11-28
46.	Be seated at God's right hand	Ps. 110:1 Matt. 22:44; Heb. 10:12-13
47.	Become a smiting scepter	Num. 24:17; Dan. 2:44-45 Rev. 19:15
48.	Rule the heathen	Ps. 2:8 Rev. 2:27

Fulfilled Prophecies of the Messiah

AIM:	To show the absolute assurance that Jesus is the Messiah and therefore the Bible is reliable.
OUTLINE:	<p>Here is some of the highlights from the many prophecies listed</p> <p>Point 5 – Isaiah 7:14 – The birth of Jesus Not only was Jesus to be born (Jesus may have just appeared as an adult) but also He was to be born of a virgin. This is impossible except where God is concerned. Luke 1:37.</p> <p>Point 10 – Micah 5:2 – Where Jesus was born How many people do you know that have decided the place where they would be born? If you were going to attempt to be the Messiah you would have to know your birthplace because the Bible says that the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem Ephratah. Ephratah clearly identifies the Bethlehem where Jesus was born, since there was more than one Bethlehem in Israel.</p> <p>Point 16 – Daniel 9:24-27 – The start of the ministry of Jesus in A.D. 27 Daniel says that it would be 69 prophetic weeks from the beginning of the command to restore and build Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince – the point at which Jesus was baptised. Mark 1:15 says the time (or prophecy) is fulfilled. Jesus began his work exactly when it was predicted. You need to have a good grasp of the seventy-week prophecy if you want to share this point.</p> <p>Point 22 – Isaiah 53:3 – The rejection of Jesus To think that the person the Jews had waited so long for, they ended up rejecting. This is an important prophecy in terms of explaining why the Jews are still waiting for a Messiah and why Jesus was crucified.</p> <p>Points 27,29, 31, 34-38 – The betrayal and crucifixion of Jesus The exact details of Jesus’ death are described in the Old Testament. He was sold for thirty pieces of silver; forsaken by His disciples, spat upon, crucified; His garments were gambled over. Such incredible accuracy predicted hundreds of years before the event. This is compelling evidence that Jesus is indeed the Messiah and that the Bible is 100% trustworthy.</p>
NOTES:	<p>The probability of one person fulfilling these 48 Bible prophecies is 1 in 10^{157}. To try to grasp this probability let us consider the probability of 1 in 10^{17}, which would cover just eight prophecies. Supposing we take 10^{17} dollar coins and laid them side-by-side across the state of New South Wales (in Australia). This would cover almost the entire state to a depth of 60 cm or 2 feet. Mark one of these dollar coins with a black X and stir the coins thoroughly then blind-fold a man and ask him to find that one coin. Try to expand that concept to 10^{157} and you can begin to see how powerful the prophecies of Jesus are.</p> <p>Consider Luke 24:27, 44 where Jesus showed the two men on the road to Emmaus all the things concerning Himself from the Scriptures. Jesus validated his mission by showing what was predicted about Him in the Bible</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<p><i>Desire of Ages</i>, Chapter 3 – “The Fullness of Time”.</p> <p><i>Education</i>, pages 173-184 – “History and Prophecy”.</p> <p>Truth For These Times Study No. 1.</p>

Jesus Believed All of the Old Testament



But he said to him, 'If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead'.

Luke 16:31

Then He said to them, "These *are* the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and *the* Prophets and *the* Psalms concerning Me." And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures. Luke 24:44,45.

Jesus Believed In...

Ten Commandments	Matt 5:17,18; Luke 10:26 ⌘
Creation	Mark 10:6
Marriage	Mark 10:6 9
Angels	Matt 13:39; 18:10; 22:30
Satan	Luke 10:18; 11:18; Matt 4:10
The Flood	Matt 24:38,39
Destruction of Sodom	Matt 10:15; 11:23,24; Luke 17:29
The Exodus Story	Luke 20:37; John 3:14; John 7:22
Jonah & The Fish	Matt 12:39,40

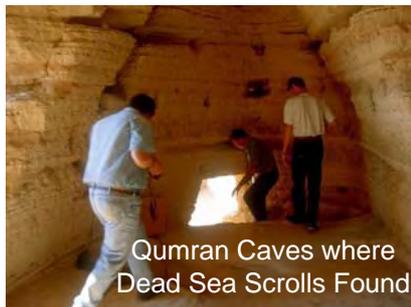
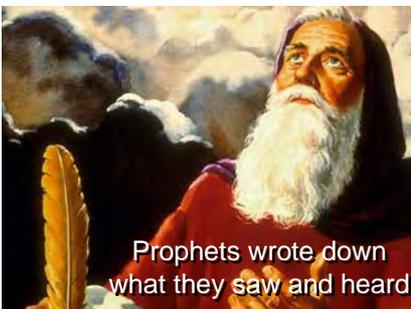
Old Testament Characters Jesus Mentions By Name...

Abel	Matt 23:35
Noah	Matt 24:38,39
Abraham, Isaac & Jacob	Matt 22:32
Moses	Mark 7:10; 12:26; John 3:14
David	Matt 12:3; 22:43,45; Mark 2:25
Solomon	Matt 6:29; 12:42
Elijah	Matt 11:14; Luke 4:26
Elisha	Luke 4:27
Isaiah	Matt 13:13; 15:7
Jonah	Matt 12:39,40; 16:14; Luke 11:30
Daniel	Matt 24:15

Jesus Believed All of the Old Testament

AIM:	To show that because Jesus accepts the stories of the Old Testament, we can be confident that they are reliable since Jesus is authenticated by prophecy.
OUTLINE:	What was Jesus' source of Authority? Where did he go to learn the truth? The Old Testament Scriptures. This is a vital principle that needs to be stressed. Start by quoting Luke 16:31 and explain how that "Moses and the Prophets" are essentially the Old Testament. Here Jesus clearly tells us that if we don't believe the words of the Old Testament then we will be unable to see and accept the truth (See Psalms 11:3). In the section "Jesus Believed In.." Go through as many items listed there as needed to make the point that Jesus took the scriptures literally. He believed in a literal seven day creation, he believed in a literal Satan and a literal flood. Then do the same in the next section with various Bible characters. Jesus saw all these characters as literal. Since Jesus saw them as literal and He is clearly revealed as the promised Messiah, the Son of God, then isn't this how we should read the Scriptures?
NOTES:	<p>Did God Really Say? It goes back to the Garden of Eden when Satan first tempted Eve. He placed doubt in her mind about the literalness of God's Word. Today there is doubt every where about the stories of the Old Testament. Many Christians feel at liberty to choose what they will accept as applying to them and what they won't. In other words they become their own source of authority trusting themselves to know the truth. This is a common but grave mistake.</p> <p>If They Hear Not Moses and the Prophets God has given an infallible guide in His Word. While many people look for miracles and signs for evidence of their faith, as Christians our faith is based on God's Word. We test everything by the Bible.</p> <p>Jesus Believed In... There is a simple saying that says: "Jesus said it, I believe it, that settles it". If Jesus believes there was a flood, then I believe it, because Jesus is authenticated by prophecy as the Messiah.</p> <p>"In childhood, youth, and manhood, Jesus studied the Scriptures. As a little child He was daily at His mother's knee taught from the scrolls of the prophets. In His youth the early morning and the evening twilight often found Him alone on the mountainside or among the trees of the forest, spending a quiet hour in prayer and the study of God's word. During His ministry His intimate acquaintance with the Scriptures testified to His diligence in their study. And since He gained knowledge as we may gain it, His wonderful power, both mental and spiritual, is a testimony to the value of the Bible as a means of education." <i>Education, page 185.</i></p> <p>"All who heard the Saviour "were astonished at His doctrine: for His word was with power." "He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes." Luke 4:32; Matt. 7:29. The teaching of the scribes and elders was cold and formal, like a lesson learned by rote. To them the word of God possessed no vital power. Their own ideas and traditions were substituted for its teaching. In the accustomed round of service they professed to explain the law, but no inspiration from God stirred their own hearts or the hearts of their hearers.</p> <p>"Jesus had nothing to do with the various subjects of dissension among the Jews. It was His work to present the truth. His words shed a flood of light upon the teachings of patriarchs and prophets, and the Scriptures came to men as a new revelation. Never before had His hearers perceived such a depth of meaning in the word of God.</p> <p>"Jesus met the people on their own ground, as one who was acquainted with their perplexities. He made truth beautiful by presenting it in the most direct and simple way. His language was pure, refined, and clear as a running stream. His voice was as music to those who had listened to the monotonous tones of the rabbis. But while His teaching was simple, He spoke as one having authority. This characteristic set His teaching in contrast with that of all others. The rabbis spoke with doubt and hesitancy, as if the Scriptures might be interpreted to mean one thing or exactly the opposite. The hearers were daily involved in greater uncertainty. But Jesus taught the Scriptures as of unquestionable authority. Whatever His subject, it was presented with power, as if His words could not be controverted." <i>Desire of Ages, page 253.</i></p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<i>"Trusting the Word"</i> Chapter Two of the Book <i>Receiving the Word</i> , by Samuel Pipim. <i>Truth For These Times Study No. 2.</i>

The Word of God



1. Inspired By God – 2 Tim 3:16



2. God spoke to Prophets by:

a) Dreams and Visions – Num 12:6; 2 Cor 12:1-4; Dan 7:1; Rev 1:10

b) Audible Voice – 1 Sam 9:15

c) Personal Experience – 2 Pet 1:16



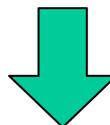
3. Given to holy men [Prophets] as moved by Holy Spirit. 2 Peter 1:21
eg – 2 Sam 23:2; Eze 2:2; 11:5; Micah 3:8



4. Written down by Prophets - Ex 34:27; Isa 8:1; Jer 30:2; 36:28; Eze 43:11; Hab 2:2; Luke 1:3; Rev 1:11,19



5. Scribes faithfully reproduced the Scriptures down through time through an exacting process



6. Preserved by God through History - Ps 12:6,7; Prov 30:5; Matt 24:35



The Word of God

AIM:	To show that the Bible we read today has been carefully preserved and we can trust it has not changed
OUTLINE:	How can I be sure that the Bible we use today is the same as the one nearly 2000 years ago? This is a very common question that you will meet when sharing the Bible with others. As you go step by step through the six steps listed on the chart, you will discover how we have a reliable copy of the Bible today.
NOTES:	<p>The first consideration is that if the Bible had lots of mistakes in it there is no way we could obtain the probability of 1 in 10^{157} as shown in the Chart <i>Fulfilled Prophecies of the Messiah</i>. Human fallibility can't produce this kind of probability; It is impossible. Secondly, God is the author of the Bible. While men wrote it, it has its origin in the mind of God. Point 2 mentions the fact that it was given to prophets through the Holy Spirit. Men did not make up what they wrote, they were moved by God. In Point 3 and 4 emphasize the fact that God revealed His will via dreams, visions, audible voice and personal experience. God's prophets then wrote down in their own words what God revealed to them. While God also helped them in this process, it was their words that were put down. In this way the Bible is a written form of what Jesus is to us because Jesus and the Bible are both human and divine. Point five mentions the faithful reproduction of God's Word. The men who reproduced the Old Testament down through time were the Masoretes.</p> <p>"The Masoretes established exact and detailed rules to be followed in the production of new Bible copies. Nothing was left to the decision of the scribes, neither the length of lines and columns, nor the color of the ink to be used. The words of each book were counted, and its middle word established, to provide means for checking the accuracy of new copies. At the end of each book a statement was attached giving the number of words the book contained, and also telling which was the middle word, besides some other statistical information." <i>SDA Bible Commentary CD-ROM</i></p> <p>Some other points to consider regarding whether the Bible has been changed over the years and whether mistakes have crept in. Firstly, God has promised to preserve His word (Ps 12:6,7) and if God can hold the universe together, surely He could preserve the Bible. Secondly, we have mentioned the faithfulness of the Masorete scribes in producing copies of the Bible but there is another witness, the discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls. These scrolls prove the point that over nearly two thousand years virtually no changes took place in the manuscripts revealing that God has indeed preserved His Word.</p> <p>"It is generally accepted that the Qumran (Dead Sea) scrolls date from the 3d century b.c. to the 1st century a.d. ... These finds have provided us with Bible manuscripts that are a thousand years earlier than the earliest Hebrew Bible texts known before these scrolls came to light. This is of great importance, because we have thus obtained samples of every Old Testament book, save one, as it existed during the time of Christ's ministry. In other words, we now know what the Bible of Christ's time looked like; in fact, we have discovered that its text differed scarcely at all from the one on which our modern translations were based." <i>SDA Bible Commentary CD-ROM</i></p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<p><i>Education</i>, pages 128-134 – "Science and the Bible". <i>Education</i>, pages 169-172 – "Mysteries of the Bible". <i>Fundamentals of Christian Education</i>, pages 92-94 – "Fictitious and Infidel Books". <i>Receiving the Word</i>, by Samuel Pipim. <i>Selected Messages</i>, Volume 1, "The Inspiration of the Prophetic Writers", page 15 onwards. <i>Adventist Bible Commentary</i>, Volume 1 "The Languages, Manuscripts and Canon of the Old Testament" and Volume 4 "The Languages, Manuscripts and Canon of the New Testament".</p>



ESTABLISHING THE TIME OF THE END

Establishing the Time of the End

“But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you. For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief”. 1 Thess 5:1-4. This verse tells us that understanding the **time** is just as important as understanding the **topic**. Jesus said to the Pharisees “You know how to interpret the appearance of the sky, but you cannot interpret the signs of the times”, Matthew 16:3. A paraphrase might be, “Because you don’t know what time it is according to God’s timing, you can’t interpret what is going on around you. God is working to a time schedule for the plan of salvation.” We learn regarding Jesus that He was born on time (Gal 4:4); began preaching on time (Mark 1:14,15); and died on time (Romans 5:6). Time is inseparably linked to the gospel. The Jews rejected Jesus because they didn’t discern the time.

The plan of salvation involves a series of events that occur within a time frame. God has given us the events and the time frame in which they will be accomplished. Jesus moves from the cross to his intercessory ministry and then takes up the work of judgment according to a specific time. God has told us these things so that we can discern the true from the false. **Truth becomes error when it occurs at the wrong time.** Satan seeks to follow the work of Christ one step behind him and pretending to be Christ and counterfeit the true gospel. (2 Cor 11:14). One of the key ways to know truth and reject error is to “know the times and the seasons”.

The books of Daniel and Revelation in particular help us to understand God’s time sequence in regard to the plan of salvation. Daniel 2 provides a highway of prophetic time that is clearly sign posted so we can know where we are in relation to the Second Coming of Christ. This prophecy and those that build on Daniel 2 show without doubt that we are living in the very last days of earth’s history. If we don’t know where we are in the framework of the plan of salvation then the gospel can easily become a false gospel because the gospel is not simply an event it is a process. We must follow that process, we must walk in the light while we have light or else darkness will come upon us. (John 12:35).

It is important to determine the time of the end because God, at this time, sends the special warning to the world in the Three Angel’s Messages. If we can’t show that we are in the time of the end, then we can’t show that these messages are present truth for this time in history.

Having established the time of the end, we can then commence to explain the Three Angel’s Messages.

DANIEL 2

BABYLON

605 BC – 539 BC

**MEDO-
PERSIA**

539 BC – 331 BC

GREECE

331 BC – 168 BC

ROME

168 BC – AD 476

**HOLY ROMAN
EMPIRE**

AD 538 – End

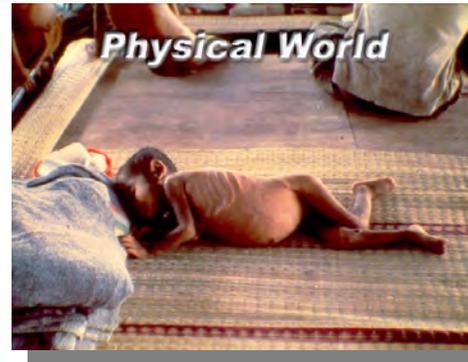


**SECOND
COMING**

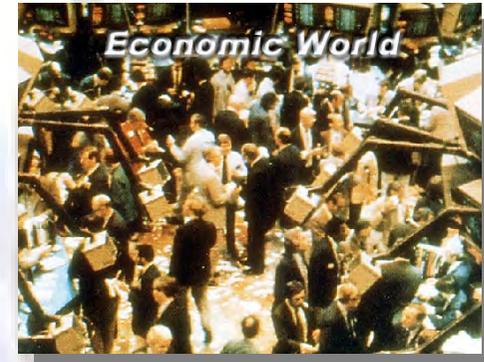
Daniel Two

AIM:	<p>(1) To show the accuracy of the Bible through prophecy.</p> <p>(2) To show that Daniel two is the foundational prophecy of prophetic history.</p> <p>(3) To show that we are living in the time just before the Second Coming of Jesus.</p>
OUTLINE:	<p>Daniel 2 tells us the story of Nebuchadnezzar’s dream and the amazing way in which Daniel received the dream in contrast to the astrologers. (Daniel 2:1-24). This is an incredible story that highlights God’s knowledge of the future in contrast to the ignorance of the magicians and astrologers.</p> <p>As we compare history to the story of Daniel 2 we are impressed at how the prophecy has been accurately fulfilled. There is no other book that contains such an amazing prophecy. It spans 2500 years. This prophecy is like driving down a highway with clearly marked signs letting us know how far we are from our desired destination. The rock that comes and smashes the image represents the coming of Jesus. We are living in the time of the toes just before the rock comes, we are therefore living near the end of human history, as we know it. Since everything in the prophecy has been fulfilled except the stone coming we can be sure that the last part of the prophecy will happen because everything else has happened. Daniel 2:45 – <i>“The dream is certain and the interpretation is sure”</i>.</p>
NOTES:	<p>The image shown to Nebuchadnezzar and Daniel revealed the future history of oppressive world empires that reject allegiance to, and the worship of, the Creator God. This prophecy indicates that this era of rebellion against God will come to an end. True peace will return to the human race when the prince of peace sits upon the throne of the human race.</p> <p>Daniel 2 provides us with a simple time sequence into which all time-based prophecies must fit. We are given a sequence of four world empires – Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece and Rome. We are then given a division of the fourth world empire into ten kingdoms. We are then shown the Second Coming of Jesus as revealed in the stone that strikes the images. The prophecies of Daniel 7,8,11 and Revelation 2-3,6-8,11-14 all fit into this sequence. <i>Daniel Two is the foundational time prophecy</i> with markers that identify where we are in prophetic time. Since we are living in the time of the toes, we know we are living near the Second Coming of Christ.</p> <p>You will not find a prophecy of this length or accuracy in any other book. Daniel 2 gives us incredible confidence concerning the accuracy of the Bible. It confirms for us that God can raise up kings and put down kings. The smashing of the image by the stone gives us hope that these oppressive empires that rule over the people of the world will come to an end and the blessed kingdom of Jesus will rule in their place.</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<p>Truth For These Times Study No. 3. <i>God Cares</i> Volume 1, by M.C Maxwell, pages 31-47.</p>

Signs of Christ's Second Coming



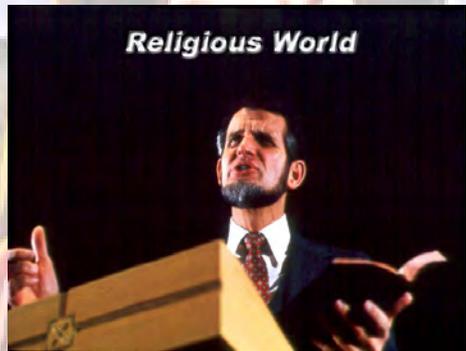
Matt 24:7



James 5:1-4



Matt 24:6,7



Matt 24:5



Matt 24:37-40

Signs of Christ's Second Coming

AIM:	To show a range of signs and events that collectively indicate that the coming of Jesus is near.
OUTLINE:	<p>In Matthew 24:3 we can read the questions that the disciples asked Jesus concerning His Second Coming. “What shall be the sign of thy coming and of the end of the world?” Matt 24 is designed to answer these questions.</p> <p>Step through each of the signs listed giving evidence of how each of these signs are being or have been fulfilled in our current day.</p>
NOTES:	<p>1. Signs in the Religious World There are many claims being made both in the Christian and non-Christian world about the appearing of Jesus Christ. Cult figures like Jim Jones and David Koresh claimed to be Messiah types that would save their followers. Many Christian churches have signs, wonders and miracles occurring in the churches claiming to be from God. Eastern religions have their gurus and teachers claiming to know the way to God or to be God in human flesh leading the way to life. The rise of the New Age movement also claims to know the way to peace, happiness and eternal life. Deception abounds everywhere in the religious world.</p> <p>2. Signs in the Political World The world is in constant conflict. Nations are constantly fighting one another. The conflict in the Balkans, Rwanda, Ireland, Afghanistan and Indonesia are just a few of the recent conflicts that indicate that peace is nowhere in sight.</p> <p>3. Signs in the Physical World Figures are constantly changing, but earthquakes have increased dramatically in the last 30 years. A child dies every few minutes of starvation, drought and famine grip many countries. Tornados and floods are increasing and destroying lives and property on an incredible scale.</p> <p>4. Signs in the Economic World Many countries now have huge debts that they can't repay. Stock market instability and fluctuating dollar values have everyone nervous. Many are predicting a total collapse of our current system. The rise of mega mergers of banks and institutions are driving the world to a global economy and making it impossible for small businesses to compete.</p> <p>5. Signs in the Social World The evidence of moral decay is everywhere. Constant school shootings, violent movies and video games. Pornography and homosexuality are flaunted everywhere. Crime rates are soaring and many are calling and pleading for reformation.</p> <p>“The twenty-fourth chapter of Matthew is presented to me again and again as something that is to be brought to the attention of all. We are today living in the time when the predictions of this chapter are fulfilling. Let our ministers and teachers explain these prophecies to those whom they instruct. Let them leave out of their discourses matters of minor consequence, and present the truths that will decide the destiny of souls.” <i>Gospel Workers</i>, page 148.2.</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<p>Desire of Ages, Chapter 69 – “On the Mount of Olives”.</p> <p>Great Controversy, Chapters 36, 37 and 38.</p> <p>Truth For These Times Study No. 4.</p>

FIRST ANGEL



THE EVERLASTING
GOSPEL

The First Angel's Message

God's Plan to Save the World – Restored

Then I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to those who dwell on the earth—to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people— saying with a loud voice, “Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water.” *Rev 14:6,7.*

The Gospel Restored

The revelation of Jesus Christ in His various roles is the gospel restored by the first angel's message. As Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever, the gospel also has never changed. The gospel needs to be restored because a counterfeit had hidden the work of Christ during the dark ages. This counterfeit is revealed by the second angel's message.

The Everlasting Gospel

The everlasting gospel reveals the various roles of Christ. As Creator He is worthy of our worship and obedience and also has power to recreate us into His image. As Michael, He is the leader against Satan's rebellion and our deliverer. As Messiah, He reveals the love of God and develops a perfect human character. As the Lamb He pays the price of our sins. As the Resurrection and Life, He guarantees our eternal life. As our Priest, He intercedes for us and imparts to us His righteous character. As Judge, He acquits us and as King He delivers us from this world.

To Every Nation

The first angel's message is proclaimed to every person on the planet and therefore is the absolute truth of God for these last days. The destiny of souls depends on their acceptance of this message. Those who reject this message, reject Christ and His Father and therefore forfeit eternal life.

Give Glory to Him

The call to give glory to God is a call to an intimate relationship with God in the context of son and daughtership. It is the voice of Elijah turning hearts toward sacred family relationships. It is finding identity and value solely in the love of our heavenly Father and His Son, Jesus Christ. (Jer 9:23,24). When we accept the first angel's message and Christ is reflected in our lives, then Christ is revealed to the world and is glorified. (John 17:5,21-23). Accepting this message is much more than simply our salvation; it is the vindication of God's character.

The Hour of His Judgment Has Come

The announcement that the hour of judgment has come invites us to understand the doctrine of the sanctuary. The sanctuary provides context and timing for the various roles of Christ. This announcement also warns of the imminent return of Jesus Christ and calls for heart preparation for this most glorious event.

Worship Him who Made Heaven and Earth

The call to worship God who made Heaven and earth is a call to recognise God as the source of life both physically and spiritually. The recognition of God as the source of life shows us that we have no inherent power in ourselves to do anything and prepares the way for God's power to be demonstrated in our lives without us claiming that power as originating with us.

Let us begin our journey. We start with Christ as Creator and Sustainer of all creation and trace each role as revealed in Biblical history.

Christ – The Way, The Truth and The Life

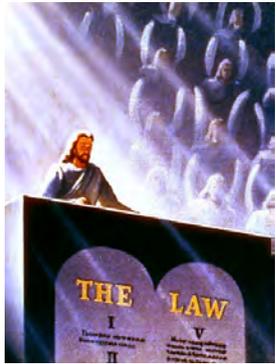
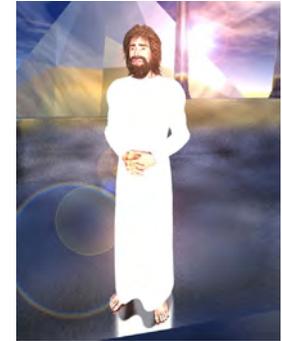
This is eternal life – to know Jesus Christ. John 17:3



King
Isa 33:22, Rev 19:16

Creator
Isa 43:1-3; Col 1:16,17

Michael
Rev 12:7-9; Ex 23:20; Josh 5:13-15



Judge
John 3:17; 5:22; Isa 33:22

Messiah
Matt 1:21; John 1:29



Priest
Rom 5:10; 1 John 2:1; Heb 7:25

Life
1 Cor 15:17-20; Gal 2:20; John 14:6



Christ: The Way, The Truth and The Life

AIM:	To show that Christ reveals the whole truth about God and the gospel. All truth is found in Him.
THEME:	Christ in all His Roles.
OUTLINE:	<p>The Bible tells us that Jesus is the WAY, the TRUTH and the LIFE. John 14:6. This chart shows the various roles of Jesus in the plan of salvation. Every truth in the Bible is related to one of the seven roles of Jesus listed on this chart.</p> <p>The various roles of Jesus have been placed in a circle to reflect that fact that Jesus is the centre and circumference of all truth.</p> <p>This chart forms the foundation for our journey through the first angel's message. At least one of the roles of Jesus will be connected to each of the charts that follow.</p> <p>Our aim is to study Jesus in each of these roles and learn to know Him in each of these roles. John 17:3 tells us that life eternal is to know Him – all of Him. If we only know part of who Jesus is then we don't know all of Him and it important that we learn all about Jesus and His work to save us.</p>
NOTES:	<p>This is life eternal to know God and His Son Jesus Christ. To know Jesus we must spend time with Him and see Him in all His facets. If you wanted to get to know me, you need to spend the whole day with me. When I first awake, I show clearly my role as a son of God in prayer and communion with my God. You would then notice my role as a husband as I talk to and spend time with my wife. Then you would see my role as a father as I spend time with my children. As I go to work, you would see my role as a minister and that involves many facets – preacher, teacher, counsellor, facilitator and administrator. In the evening on some occasions you would see me in a social setting as a friend simply enjoying life with friends. Unless you spend the whole day with me for many days you will not get to know all of who I am and what I do. This is how it is with Jesus. It is not enough to simply know Him as the Lamb or simply as the Teacher-Messiah. We must know Him as Creator, as the Leader in the Great Controversy, as our Priest and our tender Judge and finally our mighty King. It takes some time to get to know and see Him in all His roles but the longer you watch and meditate upon Him the sweeter and brighter and more wonderful He becomes. I can't convey exactly how I feel about Jesus, the emotions are too deep to express, but as I watch Him and talk to Him and see His hand in creation and providence I am continually amazed and thrilled at His character. I yearn to stand on the sea of glass and worship Him face to face and to see the place where He dwells. Soon we will see Him and I can't wait, but I know that when I do see Him I will KNOW him because I have walked with Him on this earth.</p> <p>Some quotes for meditation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Christ is Christianity” (GW 282,283) • “Christ, His character and work, is the center and circumference of all truth. He is the chain upon which the jewels of doctrine are linked. In Him is found the complete system of truth.” (OHC 16) • “Christ crucified for our sins, Christ risen from the dead, Christ ascended on high, is the science of salvation that we are to learn and to teach.” (8T287.2) • “Ministers should present the sure word of prophecy as the foundation of the faith of Seventh-day Adventists. The prophecies of Daniel and the Revelation should be carefully studied, and in connection with them the words, ‘Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.’” (GW 148.1)
FURTHER STUDY:	<i>The Story of Redemption</i> , by E.G White.

The Godhead



FATHER

God for us

21

- 1. Creator, Source, Sustainer and Sovereign of all creation.** Gen 1:1; Ps 104:27,28; Rev 4:11
- 2. Immortal, Invisible and Eternal.** I Tim 1:17
- 3. Limitless power and wisdom.** Not limited by time or space. Isa 46:9,10; Rev 19:6; Prov 15:3
- 4. Holy, just, merciful, gracious, loving, patient and kind.** Ex 34:6,7; I John 4:8; Ps 71:22



SON

God with us

- 1. The Revelation of the Father.** Became incarnate in Jesus Christ. John 1:1,14;14:7
- 2. All Things created through Him and in Him all things consist.** Col 1:16,17
- 3. He is Alpha and Omega, In Fellowship with the Father from Eternity** Worthy of Worship and Honour and Blessing. Rev 1:8; 4:11
- 4. The Way, the Truth, the Life.** Salvation only comes through Him. John 14:6; Acts 4:12
- 5. The lawgiver, the rock, the lamb, the door, the light, the bread, the Word etc.** Gen 49:10; Isa 33:22; 1 Cor 10:4; John 1:1; 1:29; 10:9; 6:41
- 6. The only mediator between God and man, our priest, our Judge, our King.** I Tim 2:5; Heb 8:1; Rev 17:4
- 7. Holy, just, merciful, gracious, loving, patient and kind.** Ex 34:6,7; I John 4:8; Ps 71:22



HOLY SPIRIT

God revealed in us

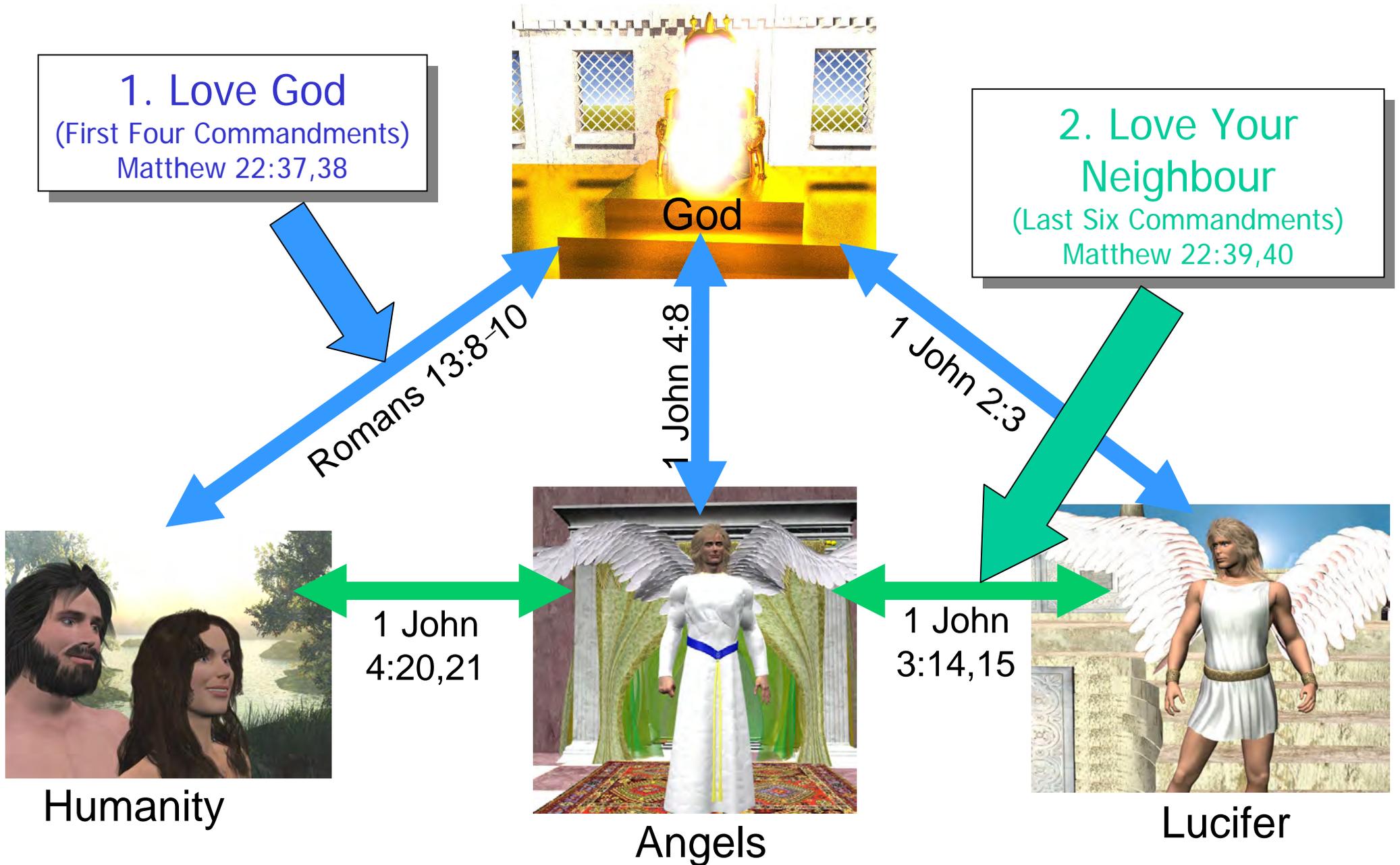
- 1. Active by the Father and Son in the work of Creation and Redemption.** Gen 1:2; I Pet 1:2
- 2. We cannot see the Spirit, but we see the effect of its Work.** John 3:8
- 3. He filled Christ's life with Power on Earth.** Matt 3:16
- 4. He is sent by the Father and the Son to convict and comfort us.** John 14:16; 16:8
- 5. He gives spiritual gifts to the church and empowers the church to share the good news of salvation.** Eph 4:4-13

The Godhead

AIM:	To show what the Bible teaches about God’s nature, attributes and composition.
THEME:	Christ the Creator.
OUTLINE:	This chart seeks to draw out the attributes of the Father, Son and Spirit and what the Bible tells us about them.
NOTES:	<p>“The Father is all the fullness of the Godhead bodily, and is invisible to mortal sight. The Son is all the fullness of the Godhead manifested. The Word of God declares Him to be "the express image of His person." "God so loved the world, that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Here is shown the personality of the Father. The Comforter that Christ promised to send after He ascended to heaven, is the Spirit in all the fullness of the Godhead, making manifest the power of Divine grace to all who receive and believe in Christ as a personal Saviour. There are three living persons of the heavenly trio; in the name of these three great powers --the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit--those who receive Christ by living faith are baptized, and these powers will co-operate with the obedient subjects of heaven in their efforts to live the new life in Christ” Ev 614, 615</p> <p>“I saw a throne, and on it sat the Father and the Son. I gazed on Jesus' countenance and admired His lovely person. The Father's person I could not behold, for a cloud of glorious light covered Him. I asked Jesus if His Father had a form like Himself. He said He had, but I could not behold it, for said He, "If you should once behold the glory of His person, you would cease to exist.”” EW 54</p> <p>“The Sovereign of the universe was not alone in His work of beneficence. He had an associate--a co-worker who could appreciate His purposes, and could share His joy in giving happiness to created beings. "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God." John 1:1, 2. Christ, the Word, the only begotten of God, was one with the eternal Father--one in nature, in character, in purpose--the only being that could enter into all the counsels and purposes of God. "His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:6. His "goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting." Micah 5:2. And the Son of God declares concerning Himself: "The Lord possessed Me in the beginning of His way, before His works of old. I was set up from everlasting. . . . When He appointed the foundations of the earth: then I was by Him, as one brought up with Him: and I was daily His delight, rejoicing always before Him." Proverbs 8:22-30.” PP 34</p> <p>“But turning from all lesser representations, we behold God in Jesus. Looking unto Jesus we see that it is the glory of our God to give. "I do nothing of Myself," said Christ; "the living Father hath sent Me, and I live by the Father." "I seek not Mine own glory," but the glory of Him that sent Me. John 8:28; 6:57; 8:50; 7:18. In these words is set forth the great principle which is the law of life for the universe. All things Christ received from God, but He took to give. So in the heavenly courts, in His ministry for all created beings: through the beloved Son, the Father's life flows out to all; through the Son it returns, in praise and joyous service, a tide of love, to the great Source of all. And thus through Christ the circuit of beneficence is complete, representing the character of the great Giver, the law of life.” DA 21</p> <p>“It is not essential for us to be able to define just what the Holy Spirit is. Christ tells us that the Spirit is the Comforter, "the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father." It is plainly declared regarding the Holy Spirit that, in His work of guiding men into all truth, "He shall not speak of Himself." John 15:26; 16:13. The nature of the Holy Spirit is a mystery. Men cannot explain it, because the Lord has not revealed it to them. Men having fanciful views may bring together passages of Scripture and put a human construction on them, but the acceptance of these views will not strengthen the church. Regarding such mysteries, which are too deep for human understanding, silence is golden.” <i>Acts of the Apostles</i>, page 51.</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<i>Patriarches and Prophets Page 34-36. Desire of Ages Page 21</i>

The Kingdom of God

Identity and value through personal relationship with God. John 17:3; Jer 9:23,24



The Kingdom of God

AIM:	<p>(1) To show that the kingdom of God is based on the ten (relationship) commandments.</p> <p>(2) To show that our identity and value as individuals comes from a personal relationship with our heavenly Father, not from performance and achievement.</p> <p>(3) God’s kingdom protects the rights and freedoms of the individual.</p>
THEME:	Christ the Creator.
OUTLINE:	<p>Matthew 22:37-40 reveals God’s two great laws. God’s kingdom is vastly different from those of this world. God has a unique and personal relationship with each of His created children. This relationship is expressed in the first four of the ten commandments. Each of God’s children respects each other’s relationship with God and loves each other also. This is expressed in the last six of the ten commandments. The Ten Commandments protect our true identity.</p> <p>Our value as individuals comes directly from our relationship to God. Luke 12:6,7 expresses the formula for the value system of God’s kingdom. Jesus contrasts the value of the sparrows to that of human beings by the amount of thoughts that God has toward us. God thinks about us every day. He numbers the hairs of our head, he knows exactly what burdens us and it hurts Him when we hurt. (See Ps 139). To determine how much God thinks about us we can look at Psalms 40:5. You thoughts toward us are more than can be numbered. This means that in God’s kingdom we are priceless. If we choose to embrace this system, we have worth beyond comprehension.</p> <p>This connection between ourselves and God is reflected in Prov 17:6. The glory of children is their father. All of us yearn to be loved and be valued by those who care for us. When we do not receive words of blessings from our parents or guardians, life becomes hellish and we often feel worthless. God has promised us that if our parents forsake us then he will take care of us. Psalms 27:10 because He is our true father that will always love us and care for us. His love for us is expressed in the words of Matthew 3:17. This is my son whom I love. When we hear and believe these words we can glory in knowing and understanding Him rather than in wealth and might and our achievements. Jer 9:23,24</p>
NOTES:	<p>Our world is filled with people who feel worthless and empty. The battle against drugs and suicide is getting harder every day. This is the result of rejecting God’s kingdom of loving relationships. God’s kingdom guarantees the identity and value of every one of its citizens. All citizens know they are children of God and that He loves them. God’s kingdom is the only one where its leadership can be in close contact with every citizen at the same time. This ensures that the needs of all will be met and no one is overlooked. There is no problem with competition and rivalry or warfare or sadness and despair because everyone is content in the love of God. The sacredness of intimate relationships is guarded. There is no-one trying to prove to God they are worthy of His love because there is no need – they simply believe they are loved and trust their heavenly Father implicitly. What a wonderful kingdom to belong to! Seek ye first the kingdom of God!</p> <p>“The law of love being the foundation of the government of God, the happiness of all intelligent beings depends upon their perfect accord with its great principles of righteousness. God desires from all His creatures the service of love--service that springs from an appreciation of His character. He takes no pleasure in a forced obedience; and to all He grants freedom of will, that they may render Him voluntary service. So long as all created beings acknowledged the allegiance of love, there was perfect harmony throughout the universe of God.” <i>Patriarchs and Prophets</i>, page 34,35.</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<p><u>Identity Wars</u> By Adrian Ebens – Chapter’s two, three and four <i>Introduction to Empires of the Bible</i>, by A.T Jones. <u>Individuality and Religion</u>, by A.T Jones. See Chart on CD-ROM “<u>God’s Law Equal’s God’s Character</u>”.</p>

Lucifer's Rebellion



1. Created Perfect
Eze 28:13-15



2. Became Proud
Eze 28:17; Isa
14:13,14



3. Caused War in
Heaven Rev 12:7



4. Cast Out of Heaven Rev 12:9



6. Forms one-
world religion
Rev 13:12-17



5. Deceives
the world Rev
13:3,4



7. Destroyed
Rev 20:10

Lucifer's Rebellion

AIM:	To show the origin of evil and the source of sin.
THEME:	Christ as Michael – Leader against the Rebellion.
OUTLINE:	<p>This chart basically covers the history and prophecy concerning the person of Satan. In John 8:44, Jesus describes Satan as the father of lies and a murderer. In this chart we trace the story of Satan's original thoughts of pride and selfishness through to his final destruction in the lake of fire.</p> <p>From this chart you can establish:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) God is not the author of evil, Satan is. 2) Satan warred against the government of God and was cast out of heaven. 3) Satan caused the fall of mankind and introduced sin here. 4) Satan is attempting through deception and craft to lead the whole world in rebellion against God. 5) God will destroy Satan and those who choose him in the lake of fire.
NOTES:	<p>This chart introduces the theme called "The Great Controversy". This subject is vital to an understanding of the Three Angel's Messages. Revelation 13 and 14 describe the two choices that mankind has to make in terms of worship. This chart traces how the need for such a choice arose.</p> <p>The theme of "The Great Controversy" – The war between Christ and Satan is uniquely understood within the SDA Church. The vision given to Ellen G. White on March 14, 1858 gave deep insights into many passages of Scripture relating to this topic. The Conflict of the Ages Series containing Patriarchs and Prophets, Prophets and Kings, Desire of Ages, Acts of the Apostles and Great Controversy, were based largely on this vision.</p> <p>It is very difficult to understand the issues that one is facing unless you have a firm grasp of how those issues arose. The conflict between good and evil that we see every day has its origins in the war that took place in heaven between God and the highest of the created beings – Lucifer. Once understood, this topic lays the foundations for many other topics that will be addressed in future studies.</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<p>Read <i>Patriarchs and Prophets</i>, Chapter 1 – "Why Was Sin Permitted" and also Chapter 29 – "Satan's Enmity Against the Law".</p> <p>Identity Wars chapter 5 – "Family Crisis"</p> <p>Great Controversy, Chapter 32 – "The Snares of Satan".</p> <p>Truth For These Times Study No. 6.</p>



SATAN'S THREE CHARGES



1

SON OF GOD NOT EQUAL WITH THE FATHER

Luke 4:3; John 5:18; Phil 2:5-11; John 5:23; 1 John 2:21-23



2

WE DO NOT NEED A LAW TO GOVERN US

**John 8:44
Romans 8:7
2 Thess 2:8**



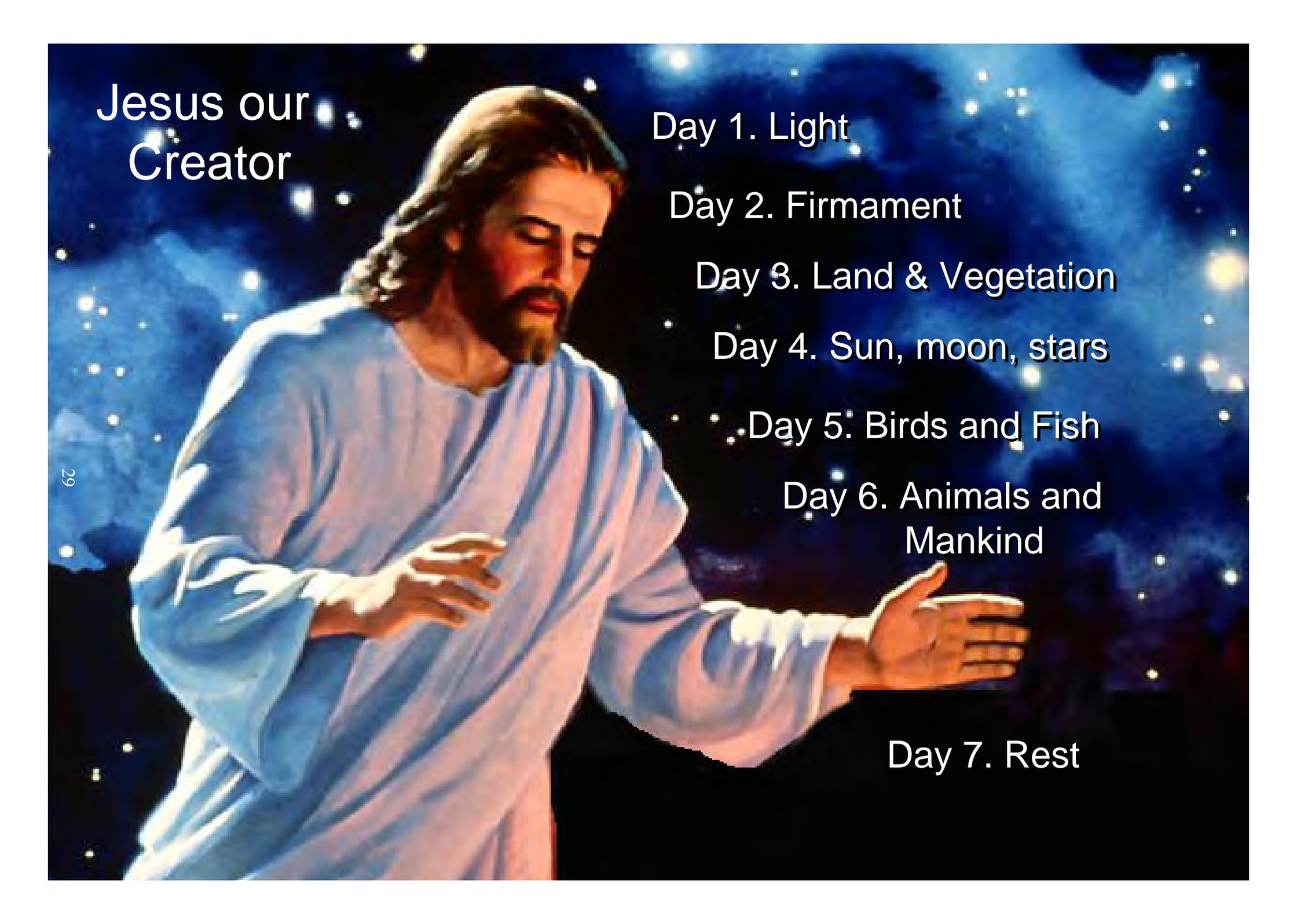
3

GOD IS NOT JUST AND MERCIFUL., HE CAN'T BE BOTH

**Romans 3:1-4, 23-26
Ps 85:10; Ps 86:15
Rev 12:10
Zech 3:1-4**

Satan's Three Charges

AIM:	<p>(1) To show the central issues of the great controversy between Christ and Satan .</p> <p>(2) To show that these charges must be answered before God's kingdom can be fully established</p>
THEME:	<p>Christ in all His Roles.</p>
OUTLINE:	<p>In the chart "The Godhead" we established that the Father, Son and Holy Spirit are all members of the Godhead and worthy of worship. "In the chart the kingdom of God" we learned that God's kingdom is based on close relationships which are guarded by the Ten Commandments. In this chart we see Satan's challenge to both Christ and the Law and how God answers these charges.</p>
NOTES:	<p>Satan rebelled against God's kingdom with three specific charges. Satan's first charge is aimed at the Son of God, Jesus. As we examine scripture we see a recurring theme of the need to honour the Son even as the Father is honoured. John 5:23. The reason for this call is because Satan denied the fact that the Son of God was equal with the Father. <i>"To dispute the supremacy of the Son of God, thus impeaching the wisdom and love of the Creator, had become the purpose of this prince of angels"</i> PP 36. The Great Controversy will not be over until "every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father" Phil 2:9-11</p> <p>Satan's challenge to the Son of God was contrary to the Father's will and the Father made it plain that every knee will bow to the Son. Satan refused to do this and thus broke God's law of love. He became an enemy of the law. Rom 8:7. He became a murderer and a liar John 8:44. Therefore Satan's second charge was against God's Law. <i>"Lucifer went forth to diffuse the spirit of discontent among the angels. He worked with mysterious secrecy, and for a time concealed his real purpose under an appearance of reverence for God. He began to insinuate doubts concerning the laws that governed heavenly beings, intimating that though laws might be necessary for the inhabitants of the worlds, angels, being more exalted, needed no such restraint, for their own wisdom was a sufficient guide"</i> PP 37. This principle was carried to the earth by Satan. To answer this charge it must be shown that God's law is necessary for all. The law forms a central issue in the Great Controversy and this is why God's faithful people are seen as this who keep the commandments of God. Rev 14:12</p> <p>Satan was expelled from Heaven for his rebellion and consigned to this earth (since Adam and Eve had already fallen by this stage) to await judgment. As a final challenge to God, Satan charged that God can not be loving and Just. God's law requires that sinners be destroyed and to let sinners go free would be inconsistent. Therefore because of God's law, He can't be loving and just. He is either one or the other. It is for this reason that Satan must be allowed to show his position to the universe. <i>"For the good of the entire universe through ceaseless ages, he must more fully developed his principles, that his charges against the divine government might be seen in their true light by all created beings, and that the justice and mercy of God and the immutability of His law might be forever placed beyond all question."</i> PP 42 When Jesus died on the cross this charge was answered. Rom 3:26. Jesus paid the penalty and He was merciful and loving toward us.</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<p>Read <i>Patriarchs and Prophets</i>, Chapter 1 – "Why Was Sin Permitted?" <i>Education</i>, pages 99-102 – "God in Nature".</p>

A painting of Jesus Christ with long brown hair and a beard, wearing a blue robe. He is looking down and to the right with his hands slightly outstretched. The background is a dark blue night sky filled with stars and nebulae.

Jesus our Creator

Day 1. Light

Day 2. Firmament

Day 3. Land & Vegetation

Day 4. Sun, moon, stars

Day 5. Birds and Fish

Day 6. Animals and
Mankind

Day 7. Rest

Jesus Our Creator

AIM:	<p>(1) To establish God as the Creator who is worthy of our worship.</p> <p>(2) To show the power of God’s Word</p> <p>(3) To show that Sabbath observance is based on the belief of a literal six-day creation.</p>
THEME:	Christ the Creator.
OUTLINE:	<p>As we consider the creation narrative, we can’t help but be impressed with the awesome power and majesty of the God of the universe that can create substance from nothing – simply by speaking it into existence. Ps 33:6-9. This fact tells something about God’s Word and its power not only at creation but throughout human history.</p> <p>Rev 14:7 calls us to worship Him who made the heavens and the earth. The word “made” is present continuous in the Greek, meaning God not only created this earth in the beginning, He continues to sustain this creation by the same creative power.</p> <p>The same creative power that creates and maintains the physical world also creates and maintains in the spiritual world. David said “Create in me a clean heart O God” Ps 51:10. The word create here (Bara) is the same as in Genesis 1:1. If we truly believe that God could create the world in six days and sustain it, we can believe that he can keep us from falling in our daily lives. Jude 24.</p> <p>A belief in a literal six day creation that occurred around 6000 years ago gives us faith to believe the plain reading of the Bible and also to believe that God can re-create our hearts to be like His. Heb 8:10 says God will write His law on our heart – this is the new covenant. He does this by his creative power combined with our faith and choice to follow and obey Him. Without a belief in a literal six day creation, it is hard to logically believe that God can give us victory over the sins in our lives and that strikes at the very heart of a righteousness that is obtained by faith. Rom 4:1-16</p> <p>This power of God to create and sustain is symbolised and memorialised in the Sabbath command. Ex 20:8-11 and Deut 5:12-54. The observance of the Sabbath is a continual reminder of our faith that God can make our hearts like His, it symbolises righteousness by faith. Heb 4:10</p>
NOTES:	<p>Because Satan seeks to take the worship that belongs to God to himself, he needs to erode the distinction between the Creator and the created. Evolution and its hybrids are a weapon in the hands of Satan that erodes and removes this distinction. It is impossible truly understand Christianity and its purpose and believe in evolution as an explanation of the origin of species.</p> <p>The worship of our God as Creator maintains the distinction between Him and us and keeps us from seeking to worship self. Isa 40:12-31 It teaches us to fear God and give Him glory rather than ourselves.</p> <p>“The work of creation can never be explained by science. What science can explain the mystery of life?” <i>Testimonies to the Church</i>, volume 8, page 258.3.</p> <p>“The theory that God did not create matter when He brought the world into existence is without foundation. In the formation of our world, God was not indebted to pre-existing matter. On the contrary, all things, material or spiritual, stood up before the Lord Jehovah at His voice and were created for His own purpose. The heavens and all the host of them, the earth and all things therein, are not only the work of His hand; they came into existence by the breath of His mouth. "Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear." Hebrews 11:3.” <i>Testimonies to the Church</i>, volume 8, page 258.</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<p>Patriarchs and Prophets, Chapter 2 – “The Creation”; <i>In Six Days</i>, by J.F Ashton.</p> <p>Evolution, Creation and Science by Frank Marsh</p> <p>See Chart on CD-ROM “The Sabbath and the Seven Day Cycle”.</p> <p>Truth For These Times Study No. 7.; Identity Wars chapter 2 – “The Fountain of life”</p>

From Freedom to Slavery

God's Kingdom

In Him we live – Acts 17:24 ☩



Genesis 3



Satan's Kingdom

You will not die – You have life in yourself

Domination, force, control, slavery



Romans 8:7; 3:8-10;
Jer 13:23; 17:9



fallen humanity

Romans 13:8-10;
Jer 9:23,24; Matt 22:37,38



Humanity

Family Based

Performance Based

From Freedom to Slavery

AIM:	To explain what sin is and what affect it has on the human race.
THEME:	Christ as Creator
OUTLINE:	When Adam and Eve ate the fruit of the tree they signed themselves into a completely new kingdom, a completely new way of gaining citizenship. Once this transfer took place there was no way to come back. In the next chart we will see that God had to put into effect His redemption plan to save the human race.
NOTES:	<p>What is sin? This is the key question to understand the plan of salvation. Sin is the transgression of God’s law of loving relationships. 1 John 3:4; Rom 13:8-10. (See Chart: The Kingdom of God) It is the exaltation of self at any cost. Isa 14:12-14; 2 Thess 2:3,4. It is important to realise that this definition includes more than simply the absence of good behaviour; it involves the attitude and the motives of the heart. Rom 7:7-10. This can make sin impossible for other people to detect. There are many Christians that seek to conform to God’s law <i>in order</i> to please God. Such desires are futile, for without faith (in Christ) it is impossible to please God. Heb 11:6. To limit sin to a performance level is to understand it in the context of Satan’s kingdom. But God’s kingdom is relationship based. When we are separated from God relationally we are in sin. Isa 59:1,2. Sin will always result from the absence of intimate relationship with God. All sin falls into the category of transgression of the law because if it does not, it cannot be condemned in a legal sense. God will bring every work into judgment with every secret thing (Ecc 12:14) and for this reason every sin must be addressed in the context of law. Ellen White sums it up well when she says “Our only definition of sin is that given in the word of God; it is "the transgression of the law;" it is the outworking of a principle at war with the great law of love which is the foundation of the divine government.” GC 493. Please notice how Ellen White states under the definition in 1 John 3:4 that it is the outworking of a principle at war with the great law of love. This principle resides within the heart of everyone born into this world.</p> <p>When Adam broke God’s law of love, he broke his relationship with God and set the human race on a course that could not be reversed by anyone from the human family. Rom 5:12; 3:23; Jer 13:23. Every human being has a bent towards evil (no desire to seek after God – Rom 3:10,11) that no human power can escape. Rom 3:10-12; Rom 7:15-24. Humanity needed a Saviour outside of itself to restore the broken relationship and rescue it from destruction.</p> <p>What makes sin so insidious? The fact that once it has claimed its victim, the victim is unable to accept or recognise that there is a problem. Self-justification makes it impossible to seek forgiveness and repentance.</p> <p>When God asked Adam “Did you eat from the tree?” Adam is not able to acknowledge his error; a new master had taken control of his mind that would not allow him to confess his error and his sin. Sin is so blinding that unless God interposed to place a hatred in man’s heart for sin, man never would have wanted to come back to God, he would have been perfectly happy in his fatal delusion.</p> <p>“When man transgressed the divine law, his nature became evil, and he was in harmony, and not at variance, with Satan. There exists naturally no enmity between sinful man and the originator of sin. Both became evil through apostasy. The apostate is never at rest, except as he obtains sympathy and support by inducing others to follow his example. For this reason fallen angels and wicked men unite in desperate companionship. Had not God specially interposed, Satan and man would have entered into an alliance against Heaven; and instead of cherishing enmity against Satan, the whole human family would have been united in opposition to God.” <i>Great Controversy</i>, page 505.</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<p>Patriarchs and Prophets, Chapter 3 – “The Temptation and Fall”.</p> <p>Great Controversy, Chapter 30 – “Enmity Between Man and Satan”.</p> <p>Identity Wars chapter 6 – “Hell on Earth”</p>

The Promised Seed

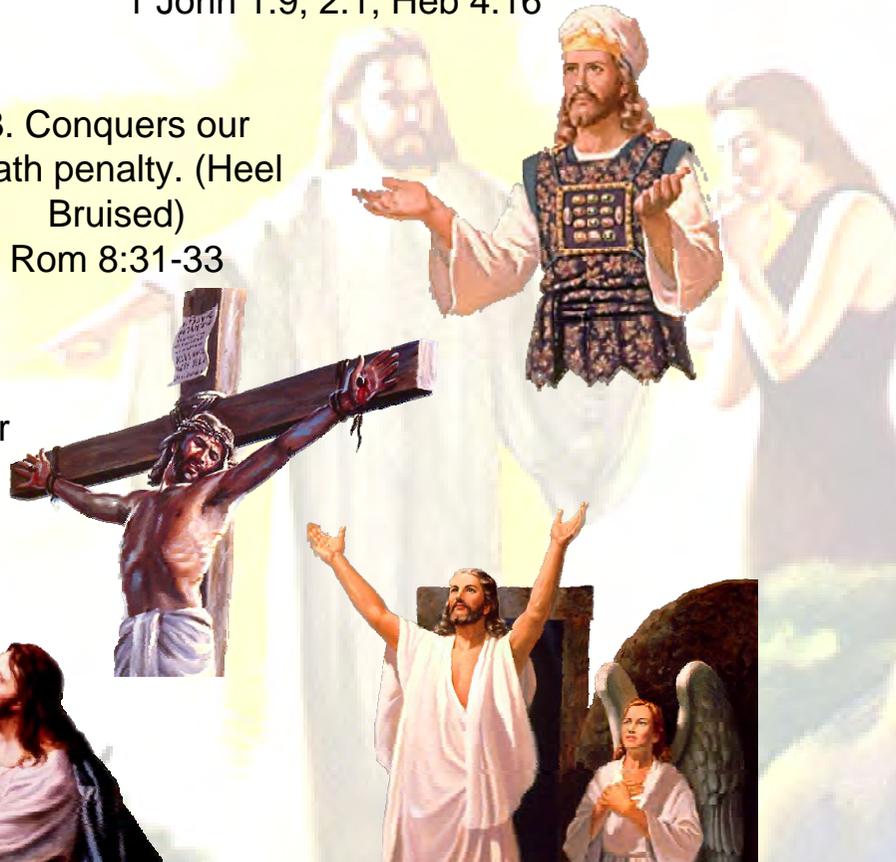
The plan of salvation Gen 3:15

7. Conquers Satan's kingdom and saves His children. (Serpent's head Crushed) Rev 19:11-21; 1 Thess 4:13-18



5. Conquers sin in our lives by forgiveness and cleansing.
1 John 1:9; 2:1; Heb 4:16

3. Conquers our death penalty. (Heel Bruised)
Rom 8:31-33



6. Conquers Satan's charges against us.
John 5:22; Rev 12:10

1. Baptism –
Begin work of
Messiah. Matt
3:16,17



2. Conquers sin for
us by forming
perfect character
Heb 4:15



4. Conquers death
by resurrection.
1 Cor 15:20

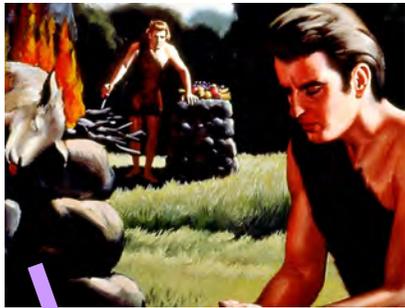
The Promised Seed

AIM:	To show the plan of God to save the human race from sin and all its effects.
THEME:	Christ as Messiah, The Life, Priest, Judge and King.
OUTLINE:	Jesus is the rescue plan for Adam and Eve. He would fulfil a number critical salvation roles to open the gates of heaven to the human family once more. This plan was outlined to Adam and Eve in Genesis 3:15 in the first gospel sermon. Jesus would become the seed of the woman and rise to crush the serpents head. Through the roles of Messiah, Priest Judge and King, He would overthrow Satan’s kingdom and reclaim those who have faith in Him.
NOTES:	<p>The human family were locked into the despair of Satan’s kingdom. Only God could deliver them. Their minds were now hostile to God. Romans 8:7 and there was nothing to prevent them from becoming frontline members of Satan’s plans to remove God as the king of the universe. How was God to reach Adam and Eve? Breaking down the barrier between them would be an immense task. Their recovery and the recovery of their children would require a number of things.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A means of giving the human race the wisdom to recognise their desperate situation along with a way for them to be influenced in the right direction without violating their freedom of choice 2. A way of showing them that they had a wrong perception of God’s character and kingdom and to some how show them that He really loves them 3. A way to remove their guilt and insecurity and to restore their true identity and value as children of God 4. A way to reclaim their sense of purpose, their reason for existence or their destiny 5. All of the above needed time. Adam and Eve had forfeited their own lives, so they needed a life support system to give them time to choose and decide 6. While doing all this, God must maintain a sense of justice. He can’t ignore their rebellion and say it is OK. There must be a penalty for rebellion. This penalty is completely separate from the consequences of sin. Being removed from the Garden of Eden was not a punishment for sin it was a consequence of their choice <p>In John 14:6 Jesus tells us that He is the WAY. In his roles as Messiah. Life, Priest Judge and King each of the above problems are solved.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The penalty for our sins demanded by the law was paid by Jesus on the cross 2. The simple fact of Jesus becoming a man reconnected the human family to heaven. Jesus became the Second Adam. 1 Cor 15:45. and we are accepted in Him. Eph 1:6 3. The life of Jesus demonstrated what God is really like. 4. Since Jesus became the new head of the human race, we could continue to have life through him. We could have temporary life to give us the probationary time needed to make a decision as whether God truly loves us and whether we wish to worship and serve Him. When Jesus burst through the tomb Jesus could then offer us eternal life. 5. Since Jesus has enabled us to be sons and daughters of God again and demonstrated how much he loves us through his gift on the cross, we can have real security and be released from fear 6. With Jesus working as a priest He can impart grace and strength and wisdom to discern God’s true character of love
FURTHER STUDY:	<i>Patriarchs and Prophets</i> , Chapter 4 – “ The Plan of Salvation ”. Truth For These Time Study No. 8. Identity Wars chapter 7 – “ Heaven’s Life Line ” and Chapter 8 – “ Comparing the Two kingdoms ”

The Two Paths, Two Seeds, Two Women, Two Cities

And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed. Gen 3:15

JERUSALEM – Seed of the Righteous – Keepers of the Covenant



1 John 3:12

Abel



Abraham
Gen 12:1-3; Gal 3:29



Messiah
Gal 3:16



White Woman
Rev 12; Gal 4:26

35

Cain
Gen 4:14

BABYLON* – Seed of the Wicked – Rejecters of the Covenant



Nimrod
Gen 10:8-10



Nebuchadnezzar
Dan 3:5; 4:30



Little Horn
Dan 8:11,12



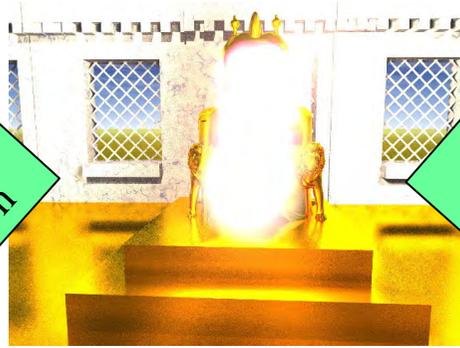
Scarlet Woman
Rev 17:5; Gal 4:25

* From Babel – meaning “door or portal to God” – or another path than the path God gave to Adam

The Two Paths

AIM:	To show the two paths people follow in their response to God: Complete obedience or partial obedience and partial doing it your own way.
THEME:	Christ as in all His roles.
OUTLINE:	<p>In the chart <i>From Freedom to Slavery</i> we saw that Adam and Eve had locked the human family into Satan’s kingdom. In the Chart <i>The Plan of Salvation</i> we witnessed God’s breathe taking plan to liberate the human family and offer us the choice to re-enter God’s kingdom. In this chart we see the two human responses to God’s plan. From Abel we trace a remnant of people who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus to the very end. They follow God’s instructions by simple faith and trust. From Cain we trace another larger group who acknowledge God but want to serve him on their own terms. These two groups culminate in Revelation 13 and 14, God’s faithful giving the First angel’s message and point the world to the true gospel and the creator and those who follow the beast and His image.</p>
NOTES:	<p>In Genesis 4 we read the story of Cain and Abel. These two men symbolise two paths in the Christian walk. Abel represents those who simply follow God’s directions and trust Him in everything. Cain represents those who want to alter God’s plan to accommodate their worldly desires. They want the best of both world’s but end up destroying themselves.</p> <p>God warned Cain to follow the right path but he refused and in jealous anger killed Abel. Cain stepped to a point of no return. In anguish he cries out “My iniquity is greater than can be forgiven” (Marginal reading) Cain trapped himself and now believed he could not be forgiven for killing his brother. Cain was now driven by insecurity and restlessness – (Fugitive and a vagabond) Cain became the first man to build a city. Gen 4:17. The City makes it easier to forget the clear commands of God.</p> <p>The spirit of Cain lived on in Ham, son of Noah who abused his father while intoxicated. The family of Ham was marred with unnatural family relations which breeds deeper insecurity. Nimrod reflected this instability when he married his mother Semarimis. Nimrod became a mighty warrior or hunter against the Lord. He was the first man to establish his own kingdom and developed the concept of state government rather than family government.</p> <p>His spirit dominates the world and we trace it to the great world empires to the little horn power of Daniel 7 to the scarlet women of Rev 17. This line of people develop a worship system referred to in the Bible as Babylon: a mixture of good and evil.</p> <p>This system is revealed by the message of the second angel of Revelation 14. We will study this more in the next section.</p> <p>In contrast we see the Seed of the woman in Gen 3:15 pass to Abraham who was promised a Seed that would bless all nations. That Seed was Christ. God promised that he would preserve a group of people that would remain faithful and believe in the promised seed.</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	Identity Wars chapter 9 – “The Heart of Babylon”

The Gospel Lost and Restored (Part 1)



Primitive gospel copy given at Eden

Detailed gospel copy given at Sinai

The copy and shadow of the heavenly sanctuary.
Heb 8:5 RSV



HEAVEN

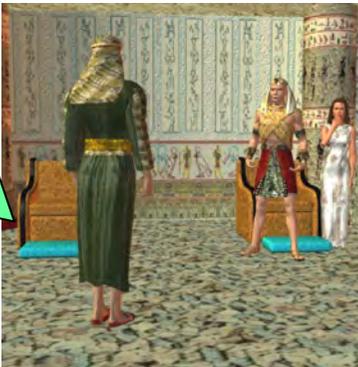


PATRIARCHS

SINAI

Gospel Lost in Egypt

Israel Delivered
Ps 105:43-45



EGYPT

1. LAW – Gen 26:5
2. ALTAR – Gen 12:8
3. PRIEST – Job 1:4,5
4. LAMB – Gen 4:4

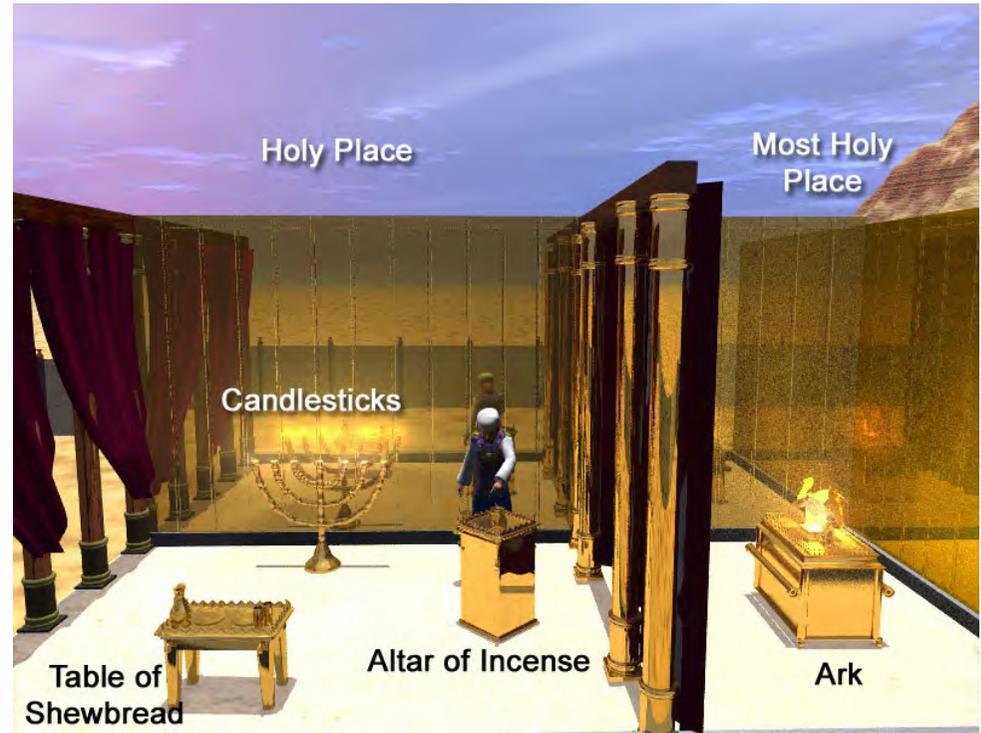
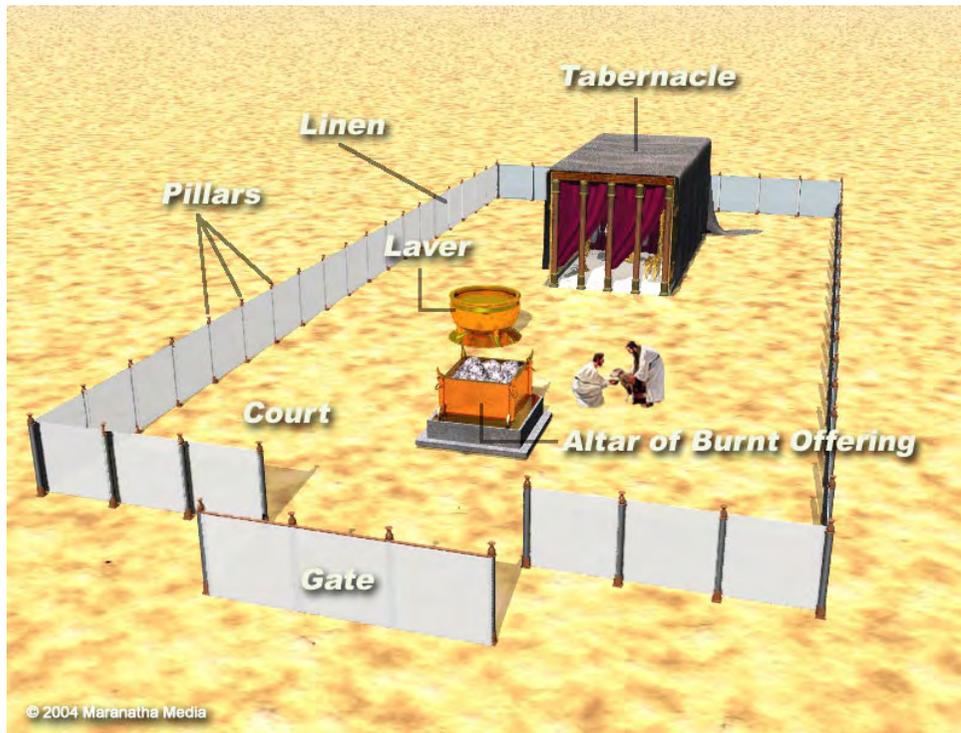
1. LAW – Exodus 20–23
2. SANCTUARY – Ex 25–27
3. PRIEST – Exodus 28
4. LAMB – Exodus 29

The Gospel Lost and Restored (Part 1)

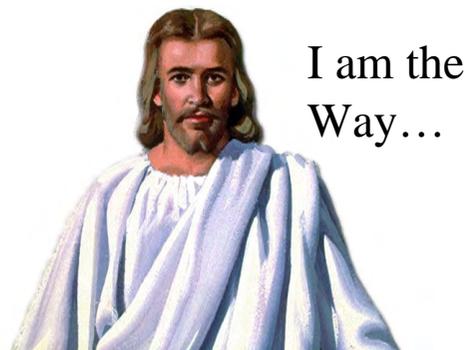
AIM:	<p>(1) To show how the gospel was lost from the patriarchs in Egypt and regained when God delivered His people from Egypt.</p> <p>(2) To show that the Sanctuary system given to Moses was a copy or shadow of the what was in Heaven</p> <p>(3) To establish an Old Testament example of what occurred to the Christian Church.</p>
THEME:	Christ as Michael – Deliverer of Israel, Captain of the Lord’s Host.
OUTLINE:	<p>God gave to Adam and Eve the symbols of the altar and the lamb to represent to work of Jesus. In the last chart <i>The Two Paths</i> we saw how Cain altered the system of worship. It is Satan’s constant desire to cause people to misunderstand the gospel message. In this chart we see how the gospel message was lost while in Egypt. God brought Israel out of Egypt and gave them a very detailed system of the plan of salvation through the Sanctuary service. The main aspects were the law, the priest, the lamb and the Sanctuary furniture. This system was a copy or shadow of the heavenly Sanctuary.</p>
NOTES:	<p>“The sacrificial system, committed to Adam, was also perverted by his descendants. Superstition, idolatry, cruelty, and licentiousness corrupted the simple and significant service that God had appointed. Through long intercourse with idolaters the people of Israel had mingled many heathen customs with their worship; therefore the Lord gave them at Sinai definite instruction concerning the sacrificial service. After the completion of the tabernacle He communicated with Moses from the cloud of glory above the mercy seat, and gave him full directions concerning the system of offerings and the forms of worship to be maintained in the sanctuary.” <i>Patriarchs and Prophets</i>, page 364.</p> <p>Satan was eager to remove the gospel plan of the human race. He sought to smother it while the Israelites were in Egypt. God delivered His people through His servant Moses. He then gave the children of Israel a great deal of instruction concerning the plan of salvation and on appropriate lifestyle practices. The following nine-point summary serves as an interesting parallel to the rise of the SDA movement out of Babylon.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Entered Egypt pure in faith but after a time slipped into apostasy in faith and teaching. They went in with the great knowledge of the gospel and came out knowing very little – a bunch of slaves. 2. Israel got mixed up with idolatry including bull and calf worship c.f. Ex 32:1-4. 3. In order for Israel to serve God properly again, they had to separate themselves from the Egyptians so they could regain a knowledge of the plan of salvation and keep His commandments. Ex 5:1-5; Ps 105:43-45. 4. God used Moses as his mouthpiece to instruct the children of Israel concerning the gospel and how they should best worship God. Moses died before they all went into Canaan – but Moses wrote down much instruction that continued to guide them once in the Promised Land. 5. Just as Israel came out of Egypt, they experienced the high of the Red Sea and then the bitter disappointment at Mara. Shortly after this they received instruction about the Ten Commandments. 6. The Sabbath was used by God as a test of loyalty to Him. Ex 16:4,23-28. 7. Israel was arranged into a complete organization ordered by 1000’s then 100’s then 50’s then 10’s. Ex 18:14-24. 8. Special instruction was given on healthful living – see Lev 11. 9. Worship was based around the sanctuary. Ex 25:8.
FURTHER STUDY:	<p><i>Patriarchs and Prophets</i>, Chapter 11 – “The Call of Abraham”; Chapter 22 – “Moses”; Chapter 27 – “The Law Given to Israel”; Chapter 32 – “The Law and the Covenants”.</p>

The Map for Following Jesus Through the Plan of Salvation

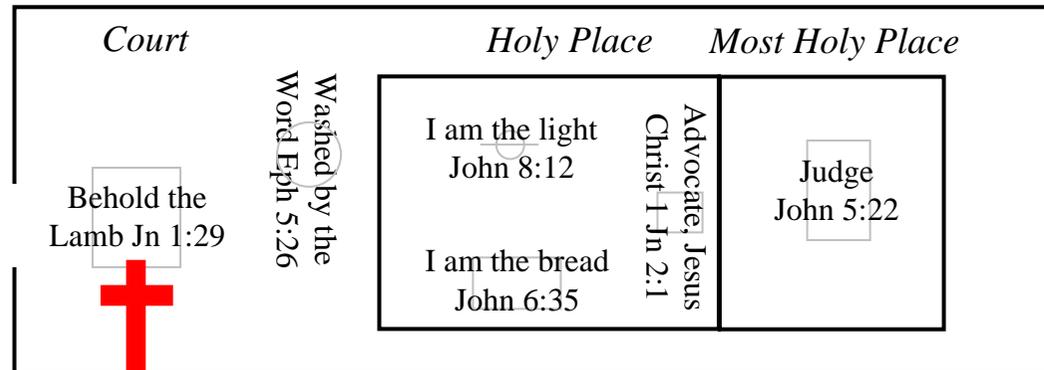
“Your WAY O God is in the Sanctuary” Psalms 77:13



39



I am the door
John 10:9



Creator	Michael	Messiah	Life	Priest	Judge	King
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The Map for Following Jesus Through the Plan of Salvation

AIM:	<p>(1) To become familiar with Sanctuary system given to Israel</p> <p>(2) To show that the same gospel that was preached to Israel is preached to us.</p>
THEME:	Christ as Creator, Messiah, Priest.
OUTLINE:	The sanctuary and its services were given to Israel to teach them the plan of salvation. Every aspect of the Sanctuary represents the work of Jesus on our behalf. As we look at each piece of furniture we see the work of Jesus represented.
NOTES:	<p>The Sanctuary was surrounded by a white linen fence. This fence signifies righteousness. We can not approach God without righteousness. The walls were too high to climb over. There was one door into the sanctuary. This door symbolised Christ. This tells us we can only approach God through Jesus. His righteousness is credited to us when we choose to follow Him.</p> <p>As we enter the Sanctuary we are immediately confronted with the brazen altar. This altar was the place where sacrifices were offered. There were many types of sacrifices offered including burnt offerings, sin offerings and thank offerings. The most common sacrifice was the morning and evening sacrifice in which a lamb was offered for sacrifice. This lamb represents Jesus who died for us on the cross. John 1:29. When we behold the Lamb we begin to appreciate the price of our salvation and the cost of sin and desire to repent of our ingratitude and selfishness.</p> <p>We then move onto the Laver where the priests would cleanse themselves with water. The water symbolises the cleaning Jesus does in our lives when we accept his work on the cross. It also represents baptism. John 3:5</p> <p>We then move from the court yard to the holy place inside the tabernacle. Inside we see three pieces of furniture. The Table of Shewbread, the Candlesticks and the altar of incense. The bread is a symbol of Jesus who is our spiritual strength. Jesus said I am the bread. John 6:35. For us eating the bread means studying His Word, the Bible.</p> <p>The Altar of incense is where the priest made intercession for the people and symbolises the work of Jesus for us interceding to God for us and strengthening us through His ministry. His intercession is vital to our spiritual life. The altar for us reminds us of the importance of prayer and communion with God.</p> <p>The Candlesticks lighted the Holy Place so that you could see where to Walk. Jesus is the light of the world and helps us to know how to walk the Christian path. Jesus also calls us to be a light to others and so it also represents the importance of sharing Jesus with others and letting our light shine.</p> <p>The final destination is the Most Holy Place. The Altar of Sacrifice was the centre of the court and the Ark of the Covenant is the centre of the Tabernacle. The Ten Commandments found in the ark is what God wants to write on our hearts. Heb 8:10. Since it is the place of judgment, it is the place of complete revelation. Here there are no secrets, all is revealed, just like it is between husband and wife. Now we are totally reunited with God. The plan is complete.</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<p><i>Patriarchs and Prophets</i>, Chapter 30 – “The Tabernacle and its Services”.</p> <p><i>Great Controversy</i>, Chapter 23 – “What is the Sanctuary”.</p> <p><i>The Cross and its Shadow</i>, by S.N. Haskell.</p> <p>The Pattern of Salvation Series – CD-ROM also available from Maranatha Media</p>

When Jesus Becomes the Messiah

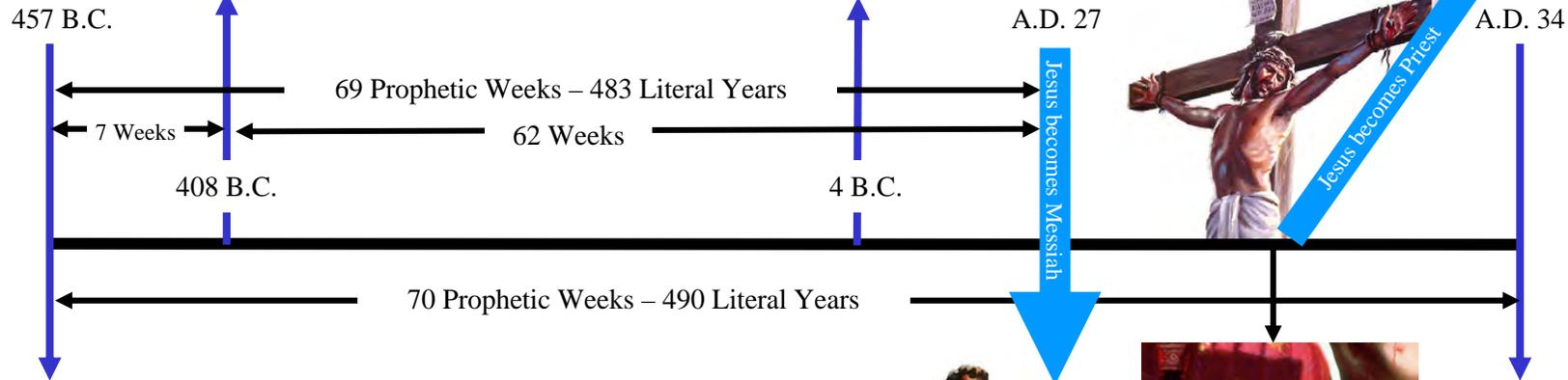


Jerusalem Rebuilt

The Birth of Jesus



The Death of Christ
A.D. 31



41



Command to Rebuild Jerusalem.
Ezra 6:14; 7:1

Seventy weeks are determined for your people ... Know therefore and understand, *that* from the going forth of the command to restore and build Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince, *there shall be* seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; Daniel 9:24,25



Christ's Baptism. Matt 3:16,17

Christ is the Greek form of the Hebrew word Messiah. Messiah means "anointed one". Christ officially became the Messiah when He was baptised and the dove descended upon Him from Heaven.



Old Covenant Completed. Matt 27:51



Gospel to Gentiles
Acts 13:46,47

When Jesus Becomes the Messiah

AIM:	(1) To show the accuracy of the Bible in predicting the coming of the Messiah. (2) To show that the gospel plan is following a time line. (3) To show that the Jewish copies of the gospel elements would be replaced (cause sacrifice and oblation to cease) when Jesus died on the cross.														
THEME:	Christ as Messiah.														
OUTLINE:	Take your student to Mark 1:14,15 where Jesus says, “The time is fulfilled”. The time Jesus referred to was the time prophecy of Daniel nine. Impress upon your student the fact that the baptism and death of Jesus was clearly foretold 600 years before by the prophet Daniel. Establish the year-day principle and then move step by step through the various dates showing their fulfilment.														
NOTES:	<p>The Gospel Plan Linked to Time This prophecy is the most amazing prophecy in Scripture. It clearly pinpoints the baptism and death of Jesus. But more than this it links the plan of salvation to prophetic time. We learn regarding Jesus that He was born on time (Gal 4:4); began preaching on time (Mark 1:14,15); and died on time (Romans 5:6). Time is linked to the gospel. In Amos 3:7 it says “Surely the Lord GOD does nothing, unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets.” God has revealed to His people not only His plan to save us but how and when the various events will occur. This prophecy focuses on the arrival of the lamb – the central work in the court of the sanctuary. The 2300-day prophecy focuses on the central work of the Most Holy Place – judgment. Time is linked to God’s plan.</p> <p>Historical Support for Dates</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Date</th> <th>Historical Support</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>457 BC</td> <td>1. Dating of the Olympics 2. Ptolemy’s Canon 3. Elephantine Papyri 4. Babylonian Cuneiform Tablets</td> </tr> <tr> <td>408 BC</td> <td>Historian - Humphrey Prideaux</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4 BC</td> <td>Herod died April 1 4BC - Matt 2:1 Jesus birth was before this time</td> </tr> <tr> <td>A.D. 27</td> <td>15th year of Tiberius Caesar. Luke 3:1 Jesus was 30 at this time. Luke 3:21,22</td> </tr> <tr> <td>A.D. 31</td> <td>Darkness for three hours. Matt 27:45 Recorded by 13 Historians cited in - William Hale <i>A New Analysis of Chronology</i>, Vol 1, pages 69,70,94</td> </tr> <tr> <td>A.D. 34</td> <td>Dating back from Acts 18:12 to Paul’s conversion, brings us to AD 34 which was soon after the stoning of Stephen.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Date	Historical Support	457 BC	1. Dating of the Olympics 2. Ptolemy’s Canon 3. Elephantine Papyri 4. Babylonian Cuneiform Tablets	408 BC	Historian - Humphrey Prideaux	4 BC	Herod died April 1 4BC - Matt 2:1 Jesus birth was before this time	A.D. 27	15th year of Tiberius Caesar. Luke 3:1 Jesus was 30 at this time. Luke 3:21,22	A.D. 31	Darkness for three hours. Matt 27:45 Recorded by 13 Historians cited in - William Hale <i>A New Analysis of Chronology</i> , Vol 1, pages 69,70,94	A.D. 34	Dating back from Acts 18:12 to Paul’s conversion, brings us to AD 34 which was soon after the stoning of Stephen.
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FURTHER STUDY:	<p><i>Desire of Ages</i>, Chapter 23 – “The Kingdom of God is at Hand”.</p> <p>Sermon Presentation by Geoff Youlden: “The Cursed Chapter of Daniel Nine”.</p> <p>Daniel and Revelation Committee Volume 3, “70 weeks, Leviticus, Nature of Prophecy”, pages 99-104.</p> <p>Truth For These Times Studies No’s 9</p>														

He Humbled Himself

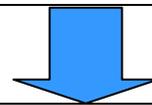
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1



Mighty
Creator

Phil 2:6; John
1:1-3; Col
1:16,17

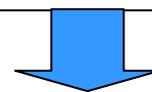


2



Mighty
General

Rev 12:7-9; Dan
10:21; I Thess
4:16

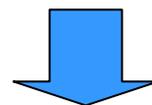


3



Human
Being

Isa 7:14; Matt
1:21; Heb 2:7-18

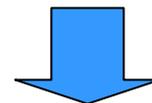


4



Humble
Servant

Phil 2:8; Mark
10:44,45; Rom
15:1-3

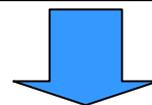


5



Obedient to
Death

Phil 2:8; Matt
26:39; Heb 12:2

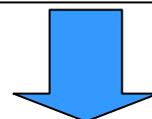


6



Shame of
the Cross

Phil 2:8; Matt
27:29-31; Isa 53:3



7



Second
Death

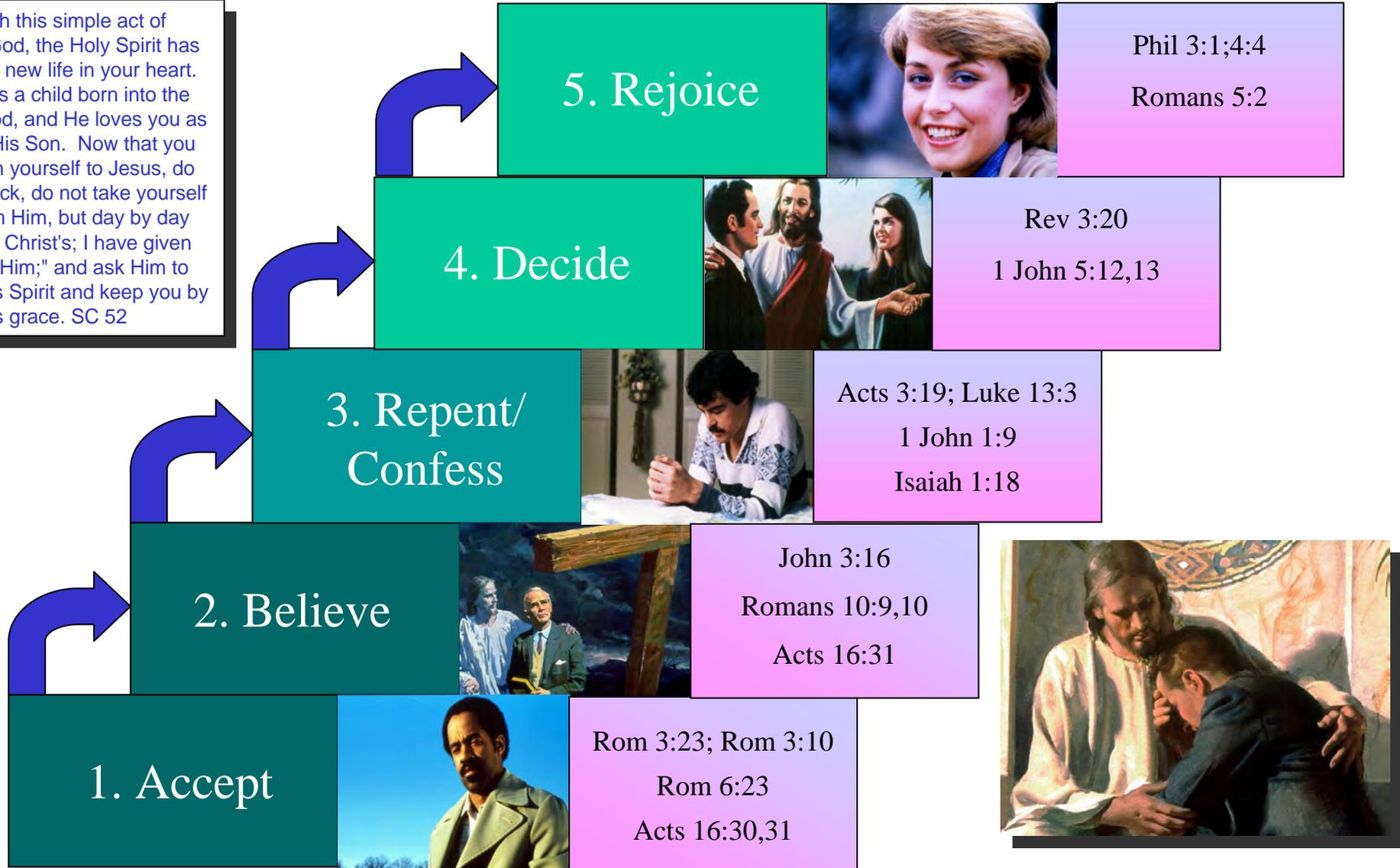
Matt 27:46; Heb
2:9; Rev 20:6

He Humbled Himself

AIM:	To reveal the wonderful selfless love of God in giving Jesus, the lamb, as a sacrifice for sin.
THEME:	Christ as Creator, Michael, Messiah.
OUTLINE:	This chart follows seven phases of the complete humiliation of Christ. This whole chart is based on Philippians 2:5-8. Trace the story starting from the mighty Creator and King of the universe to the unutterable woe and anguish of the second death. At each stage share your feelings that you can't resist such a powerful demonstration of love like this. I love to share this chart and each time I do, it leaves me in awe and wonder that we serve such a wonderful Saviour.
NOTES:	<p>Phase 1 – Jesus the Creator In the Bible Jesus is referred to as Jehovah – the Self-Existent one. This term applies to all three members of the Godhead. (See the chart "The Godhead"). Jesus made all things. There is nothing in this universe from the smallest atom to the largest galaxy that He did not make or understand. All creation worshipped Him as one with the Father.</p> <p>Phase 2 – Jesus the Prince Lucifer became jealous of Jesus and war broke out in heaven. Jesus could have blinked an eyelid and vaporised Lucifer – but he did not. He condescended to the level of the angels. He fought as Michael the Archangel in the war with Lucifer. He is always God with us. When the good angels were confused and wondering what was going on – Jesus was there right beside them leading them.</p> <p>Phase 3 – Jesus the Man This step down in position is beyond comprehension. It seems absurd that you could win a war by giving up your power and position and putting yourself in such a vulnerable position for the enemy to attack you. This is exactly what Jesus did for you and for me. He determined to save us at any cost to himself. What a God!</p> <p>Phase 4 – Jesus the Servant Jesus may have come to earth and commanded us to follow him and repent. He may have got others to work for him, but Jesus served us – He is the Son of man. He did nothing but for the good of others. Totally selfless, totally caring, total love.</p> <p>Phase 5 – Jesus Submits to His Father – Gethsemane Could you imagine being separated forever from your best friend? Could you imagine embracing the very thing you hated? This is what Jesus faced in Gethsemane. Jesus was pure and holy and yet the weight of our sins was to be placed upon Him. Those sins would cut Him off from His Father, from whom He had never been separated. All this out of love for you and me. He could have said "no" to the Father's will but He humbly submitted.</p> <p>Phase 6 – Jesus Submits to Physical Torture – Calvary How can we describe Calvary? The shame, the torture, the mocking, the spitting, my hearts aches as I write – Why did Jesus submit himself to this? For you and for me! Jesus has stepped down another step, yielded another right, and surrendered Himself fully.</p> <p>Phase 7 – Jesus Submits to Separation – Second Death No human has ever experienced it except Jesus – we will never really understand that torturous cry "My God. My God Why have you forsaken me?" He died alone, wondering if He would ever see His Father again. But willingly He gave up His life – even forever that we might live. Such love, such incredible love – how can it be resisted?</p> <p>"Christ laid aside His royal robe, His kingly crown, and His high command, and stepped down, down, down, to the lowest depths of humiliation. Bearing human nature, He met all the temptations of humanity and in our behalf defeated the enemy on every point." 9T 190</p> <p>"There is one great central truth to be kept ever before the mind in the searching of the Scriptures--Christ and Him crucified. Every other truth is invested with influence and power corresponding to its relation to this theme." FLB 50</p> <p>"The cross must occupy the central place because it is the means of man's atonement and because of the influence it exerts on every part of the divine government." 6T 236.</p> <p>"The sacrifice of Christ as an atonement for sin is the great truth around which all other truths cluster. In order to be rightly understood and appreciated, every truth in the Word of God, from Genesis to Revelation, must be studied in the light which streams from the cross of Calvary, and in connection with the wondrous, central truth of the Saviour's atonement." SD 221</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	Desire of Ages , Chapter 1 – " God With Us "; Chapter 74 – " Gethsemane "; Chapter 78 – " Calvary "; Chapter 79 – " It Is Finished ".

Steps to Finding Personal Peace

Through this simple act of believing God, the Holy Spirit has begotten a new life in your heart. You are as a child born into the family of God, and He loves you as He loves His Son. Now that you have given yourself to Jesus, do not draw back, do not take yourself away from Him, but day by day say, "I am Christ's; I have given myself to Him;" and ask Him to give you His Spirit and keep you by His grace. SC 52



45

You cannot atone for your past sins; you cannot change your heart and make yourself holy. But God promises to do all this for you through Christ. You believe that promise. You confess your sins and give yourself to God. You will to serve Him. Just as surely as you do this, God will fulfill His word to you. If you believe the promise,--believe that you are forgiven and cleansed,--God supplies the fact; you are made whole, It is so if you believe it. Do not wait to feel that you are made whole, but say, "I believe it; it is so, not because I feel it, but because God has promised." SC 51

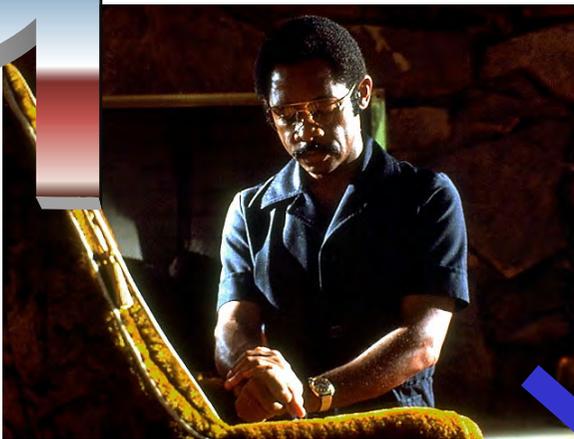
Steps to Finding Personal Peace

AIM:	<p>(1) To show the simple steps necessary to accept Christ as your Saviour.</p> <p>(2) To show that we can have the assurance of salvation now in Christ.</p>
THEME:	Accepting Jesus in all His Roles.
OUTLINE:	This chart is what is often referred to as a “gospel presentation”, leading a person to Christ. Starting at point one “Accept” move through each point slowly and carefully. If your student has not made a decision for Christ, now is the time to warmly and joyfully extend to them the invitation. Once they accept Christ as their Saviour, stress the fact that God has cleansed them even if they do not feel it. Their names have been placed in the book of life and God looks at them as if they have never sinned. What a wonderful God!
NOTES:	<p>1. ACCEPT that We are a Sinner that Needs a Saviour. The Bible tells us that all have sinned and that no one is righteous. Accepting this fact is strong evidence that a person is responding to the Spirit of God. In the notes for the chart From Freedom to Slavery we noted that the subtlest thing about sin is that it justifies its actions. It cannot acknowledge that it is wrong. When we accept that we have sinned and done wrong and need help we have taken the first wonderful step towards Jesus.</p> <p>2. BELIEVE that Jesus Died for You. God gave to us His only Son that whoever would believe in Him, that is believe that Jesus came to take away our sins (1 John 3:5), would be granted eternal life. Once we accept that we are sinners we need to immediately look to Christ as the remedy for our situation and believe that He will save us. There are many who acknowledge they are sinners but then wallow in that thought and are hard on themselves for being sinful. All this is unnecessary if we look to Christ and believe. This concept is best illustrated by the story of Moses lifting up the serpent in the wilderness. Num 21:7-9. The people were being bitten by serpents and were dying. Moses erected a serpent on a pole (a symbol of Jesus who was made sin for us, 2 Cor 5:21) and told the people to look toward the serpent and they would be healed. Let us look to Jesus and let His demonstration of love inspire hope in our hearts. Let us believe that Jesus has paid the price for our sins.</p> <p>“The soul who sees Jesus by faith, repudiates his own righteousness. He sees himself as incomplete, his repentance insufficient, his strongest faith but feebleness, his most costly sacrifice as meager, and he sinks in humility at the foot of the cross. But a voice speaks to him from the oracles of God's Word. In amazement he hears the message, "Ye are complete in Him." Now all is at rest in his soul. No longer must he strive to find some worthiness in himself, some meritorious deed by which to gain the favor of God. Beholding the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world, he finds the peace of Christ; for pardon is written against his name, and he accepts the Word of God, "Ye are complete in Him" (Colossians 2:10). How hard is it for humanity, long accustomed to cherish doubt, to grasp this great truth! But what peace it brings to the soul, what vital life!" <i>Faith and Works 107 - 108</i></p> <p>3. REPENT/CONFESS With the assurance of knowing that Jesus died for us and made provision to take away our sins, we can make the determination to repent – that is we <i>will</i> to change. Repentance is not something that we have power in ourselves to do, it is also a gift from God; but as we look to the cross and see the wickedness of sin that would require such a sacrifice, we can <i>will</i> to repent and God will supply the fact. Then with the assurance of God’s acceptance, we can kneel down and confess to him our sins or in other words give them to Him. God asks us to confess for our sake, He knows our sins already; but as we confess them God says that He forgives our sins and cleanses us from them. 1 John 1:9.</p> <p>4. DECIDE to allow Jesus to Take Control of Your Life. Even though we have repented and confessed our sins and been make clean we are not free from falling back into sin. Our natures are evil and we need the constant abiding presence of Jesus to abide in us and keep our heart pure. Jesus abides with us through the agency of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit walks with us and constantly points us to Jesus and impresses us with good and noble thoughts. We need to pray for the Holy Spirit every day so that we do not revert to what we were before we accepted Christ. We must decide every day to invite Jesus into our lives to guide and keep us from sin.</p> <p>5. REJOICE When we rejoice we show that we have believed that Jesus has taken away our sins. We show that we believe that we are forgiven; we show that we believe that we have eternal life. Many Christians fail at this point. Rather than focusing on what Christ HAS done for us and IS DOING for us, they look at the errors and faults in their characters that have not been overcome. We must never take our eyes off Christ; even when we fall, let us focus on the merits of Jesus and what He has done for us. (SC, pages 71 and 72). “The joy of the Lord is our strength” (Neh 8:10) and when we rejoice we become a light to others around us.</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<p>Read Steps to Christ, pages 9 to 56.</p> <p>Read <i>Faith and Works</i>, Chapters 14 to 16.</p> <p>Truth For These Times Study No.10</p>

Walking With Jesus

1

PRAYER



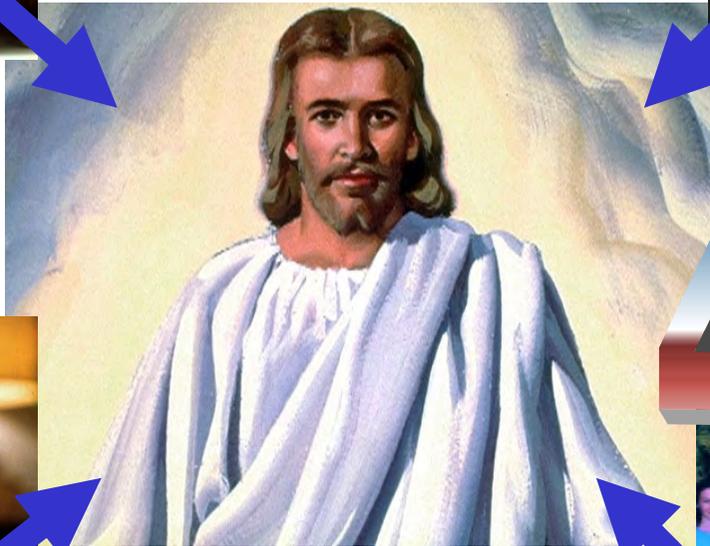
Luke 11:1-13; 1 Thess 5:17

3

FELLOWSHIP



Hebrews 10:25



2

BIBLE STUDY



Matt 4:4; Acts 17:11;
1 Thess 5:19; Isa 8:20; 28:10

4

SHARING YOUR FAITH



Prov 11:30; Mark 5:19
Matt 28:19,20

Staying close to Jesus,
keeping Him in our
thoughts and words and
actions will keep us from
falling into sin

The Holy Spirit draws
us close to Christ
when we participate
in these activities.

Walking With Jesus

AIM:	To show some key principles for experiencing a strong Christian walk.
THEME:	Learning to know Jesus in all His roles.
OUTLINE:	Cover each of the four sections on the chart giving examples from your experience of how they have helped you stay close to Jesus.
NOTES:	<p>1. PRAYER – Our Spiritual Breath Prayer is the breath of the soul. As any family counsellor will tell you, the essence of a strong relationship is plenty of communication. In prayer we share our thoughts and feelings with our Saviour. Prayer is much more than requests for help, but rather a means of developing a close relationship. “Keep your wants, your joys, your sorrows, your cares, and your fears before God. You cannot burden Him; you cannot weary Him. He who numbers the hairs of your head is not indifferent to the wants of His children. "The Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy." James 5:11. His heart of love is touched by our sorrows and even by our utterances of them. Take to Him everything that perplexes the mind. Nothing is too great for Him to bear, for He holds up worlds, He rules over all the affairs of the universe. Nothing that in any way concerns our peace is too small for Him to notice.” <i>Steps to Christ</i>, page 100.</p> <p>2. BIBLE STUDY – Our Spiritual Food Jesus tells us that He is the bread of life. John 6:48. Since Jesus is the Word revealed in all the Bible (Luke 24:27,44) studying the Bible is our spiritual food. Jesus said if we don’t eat His flesh and drink His blood we have no life in us. John 6:53. Aided by the Holy Spirit (2 Cor 2:14) we can grow in faith and strength. We are born again by the Word, grow in faith by the Word, are sanctified by the Word, overcome by the Word. 1 Peter 1:23; Rom 10:17; John 17:17; 2 Pet 2:4. The Bible is the most precious gift to Christians. Read and be blessed! – “There is nothing more calculated to strengthen the intellect than the study of the Scriptures. No other book is so potent to elevate the thoughts, to give vigor to the faculties, as the broad, ennobling truths of the Bible. If God's word were studied as it should be, men would have a breadth of mind, a nobility of character, and a stability of purpose rarely seen in these times.” <i>Steps to Christ</i>, page 90.</p> <p>3. FELLOWSHIP – Our Spiritual Exercise There are few blessings like coming together and sharing with each other about Jesus. As we come together as brothers and sisters and tell what Jesus has done for us and helped us overcome trials and blessed us in the study of the Word, we encourage each other. The sense of oneness and joy found in true fellowship cannot be matched by any other community experience. We need each other to help each other.</p> <p>4. SHARING YOUR FAITH – Our Spiritual Exercise Faith grows as faith is shared. As we plant seeds of joy in the hearts of others and watch the Holy Spirit grow those seeds, we continually are watching the miracle of conversion. As we share, we are reminded of our own journey, as we lift up Jesus to others, our own hearts burn with love for Him. Those who do not share their faith soon lose it. The joy of the gospel cannot be contained, it is like a fountain that must pour out blessings upon others. “Every act, every deed of justice and mercy and benevolence, makes music in heaven. The Father from His throne beholds and numbers the performer of them with His most precious treasures. "And they shall be Mine, saith the Lord of hosts, when I make up My jewels." Every merciful act to the needy or the suffering is as though done to Jesus. Whoever succors the poor, or sympathizes with the afflicted and oppressed, and befriends the orphan, brings himself into a more close relationship to Jesus.” <i>Christian Service</i>, page 268.</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	Read the chapter in Steps to Christ, “Growing Up Into Christ” . Truth For These Times Study No.11

Walking with Jesus in the Sanctuary

	Court		Holy Place			Most Holy Place
						
	Altar of Sacrifice	Laver	Table of Shewbread	Candlesticks	Altar of Incense	Ark
49	Messiah		Priest			Judge
Christ	<i>Cross</i>	<i>Cleansing</i>	<i>The Truth</i>	<i>The Way</i>	<i>The Life</i>	<i>Judge</i>
	John 1:29	Eph 5:26; I John 1:9	John 6:35	John 8:12; Ps 119:105	Heb 7:25; Rom 5:10	Mal 3:5
Us	Courtship		Engagement			Marriage
	Repent	Baptism	Bible Study	Witnessing	Prayer	Victory
	John 3:16; Acts 2:37,38	John 3:5	John 5:39	Matt 5:14	1 Thess 5:17	John 15:5

Walking With Jesus in the Sanctuary

AIM:	To show Jesus the WAY.
THEME:	Jesus as Messiah, Priest, Judge.
OUTLINE:	<p>The Sanctuary reveals the complete process of restoration between God and Man. Walking from the door of the Sanctuary neat the Altar of Burnt offering to the Ark represents the walk of the Christian with Jesus.</p> <p>In the court we experience repentance and Baptism. The furniture in the holy place reflects to key things we need to walk with Jesus. Prayer, Bible Study and Witnessing. This is the engagement process to prepare us for the wedding. Connecting our daily work with Jesus to the Sanctuary will add great depth to our understanding of the gospel and how we live it.</p>
NOTES:	<p>John 17:3 says that eternal life comes from an intimate relationship with God. The Sanctuary details the path God has established for this relationship to be restored. Jesus tells us in John 14:6 that he is the WAY. Psalms 77:13 says that God’s way is in the Sanctuary. Each part of the Sanctuary represents the work of Jesus as was outlined in the chart “Map for following Jesus through the Plan of Salvation”</p> <p>As we come to each piece of furniture we learn more about the person and ministry of Jesus.</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<p>Truth For These Times Study No.12, 13 The Pattern of Salvation Series – CD-ROM also available from Maranatha Media</p>

Christ Our Resurrection and Life

The Biblical Memorial of Christ's Death, Burial and Resurrection

Death



2 Cor 5:21; John 3:14-16; Rom 5:8-10

Burial



John 12:24

Resurrection



1 Cor 15:16-22
Rev 1:17,18
John 10:18;11:25;14:6

Die to Self



Mark 16:15,16; Acts 2:38; John 3:5; Matthew 28:19,20

Buried with Him



Col 2:12; Gal 3:27

Raised a new person



Phil 3:10; Eph 2:10; 2 Cor 5:17

Jesus Our Resurrection and Life

AIM:	<p>(1) To show the events and results of the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus.</p> <p>(2) To show that Christians remember Christ’s death, burial and resurrection publicly by being baptised by immersion.</p>
THEME:	Christ as Messiah, The Life.
OUTLINE:	<p>After relating the amazing humility of Jesus on the chart He Humbled Himself, look through the top part of this chart explaining the significance of His death, burial and resurrection. We are reconciled by His death; Christ took our sins with Him to the grave and came forth in newness of life. His resurrection secured our present and eternal life. Impress your student with the fact that the resurrection of Jesus is central to the whole plan of salvation. As you share these events, reach for the heart and reveal the awe you feel for Christ that he would suffer these things for us to secure our eternal welfare.</p> <p>Once you have related the story of Jesus in the top half, show how that we follow Jesus through this process by baptism by immersion. The symbolism of baptism is important to show that we die to this world and its ways, our sins are buried with Him and we are then raised to live by the power of His life. It is no longer us that live but Jesus that lives in us. Take your student to the texts that reveal that baptism is the sign given to show our public acceptance of Jesus. Many people feel afraid to be baptised in front of others, but if we deny Jesus before men then he will be forced to deny us. If Jesus has done so much for us is it too much to ask to do this for Him?</p>
NOTES:	<p>A decision for baptism means that you believe in Jesus, you have an appreciation of the cost of salvation, feel that He died for you personally and can see that He has power to help you overcome sin. A person is not ready for baptism if they can’t see and believe this.</p> <p>Believing in Jesus It sounds like a relatively easy thing to do but it is not. The Bible states that the carnal mind is enmity (hatred) against God. Rom 8:7. We naturally like to do things our own way. Even when we make a profession to accept Christ, human nature often seeks to follow God using its own conditions. Cain is a classic example. Gen 4:1-6. To really believe in Jesus is to completely give control of your life and destiny into His hands and that will require all of your will power. The good news is that when we realise that Jesus HAS paid our debt of sin and assures us of salvation, we can make that choice. The Bible tells us that if we truly believe in Jesus we will be baptised as a sign of that belief. Mark 16:16; John 3:5; Acts 2:38; Acts 8:36-38. The Bible mode of baptism is by complete immersion. Matt 3:16; John 3:23; Acts 8:39.</p> <p>An Appreciation of the Cost of Salvation The chart He Humbled Himself outlines the steps that Christ took to save us. We need time to sit and absorb exactly what Christ did for us. To appreciate the cost of something, we need to count that cost. Counting can take time when the cost is large. The cost that Jesus paid was beyond comprehension. Therefore counting the cost of the price Jesus paid for us will never have an end! But how do we begin to have an appreciation of that cost? We think about Him rather than ourselves. We ask questions like “I wonder how it felt for him to be rejected?” or “I wonder how he felt when His Father withdrew His presence from Him?” or “I wonder how He felt when all the disciples left Him?” Ask the questions; try to put yourself in His position. Only the Holy Spirit can give you a sense of what it was like, but as you seek to understand the Spirit will help you.</p> <p>Feel that Jesus Died for You This is the personal application. Would Jesus really die for me? The thought that the God of the universe who made everything we see, would become a man and give His life for you personally is very hard to accept. It is so unlike us to do that. Because we would never do it ourselves, we find it hard to believe that He would do it. Jesus is that most precious person in this universe. His character is so selfless, so loving, so giving that He could do nothing else but give His life. You will struggle to accept this but when you do the joy that will flood your soul will know no limits! When you know that Jesus died for you personally, you can cease trying to prove you are worth something. You can rest in His arms of love and know that you are worth the life of the God of the universe. You can be assured that your sins ARE forgiven and that you have been washed totally clean. Hard to believe? You must and when you do, you are ready for the final step of believing in Jesus.</p> <p>Intelligent understanding faith that His death makes it possible for you to cease from sin This is the application of the first two points. When we realise what Jesus has done for us and surrender to Him, then we are ready to accept “Christ in us the hope of glory”. Col 1:27. As we look to Jesus by faith he imparts to us His precious character and we become like Him. To the one who appreciates the cross of Christ this is exactly what they desire – to be like Him, to think like Him, to always be with Him in mind and thought and in this state we cease to sin. Praise God! What a wonderful Saviour we have. I believe! I believe, Do you?</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<p>Steps to Christ Desire of Ages, Chapter 80 – “In Josephs Tomb”; Chapter 81 – “The Lord is Risen” Truth For These Times Study No.14.</p>

When Jesus Becomes Priest

**INVISIBLE,
HEAVENLY**

LAW

SANCTUARY

LAMB

PRIEST



Heavenly Reality – Ministry of Jesus. Heb 8:1,2

Heaven

53

Mt Sinai

Acts 6:13,14



Christ
Ascends to
Commence
Heavenly
Ministry

Acts 7:55-57

John 4:21

Earth

Earthly – Symbolic Ministry. Heb 8:4,5



LAW

SANCTUARY

LAMB

PRIEST

**VISIBLE,
EARTHLY**

When Jesus Becomes Priest

AIM:	<p>(1) To show the Gospel resumed its heavenly focus when Jesus ascended back into heaven.</p> <p>(2) To show that a key benefit of Christ returning to Heaven was sending of the gift of the Holy Spirit.</p> <p>(3) To show that the ministry of Jesus for us in Heaven is as essential to the plan of salvation as is the cross.</p>
THEME:	Christ as Priest.
OUTLINE:	<p>Your key objective is to show how the gospel elements shift from being earthly and visible to being heavenly and seen only by faith. Stress the point that nothing has changed after the cross that was not there before the cross, except in location and visibility. Show how important it is for Christians to now enter by faith into the sanctuary above. Stress that there is nothing on the earth that we are to look to for salvation. This all occurs in heaven.</p>
NOTES:	<p>The Shift from Earthly to Heavenly</p> <p>This chart details the shift from the Jewish era to the Christian era of the <i>everlasting gospel</i>. Jesus revealed a number of times that the place of worship in Jerusalem was going to become irrelevant. When Jesus talked to the woman at the well, He said “Woman, believe me, <i>the hour cometh</i>, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father.” John 4:21. The hour that was to come was when the temple veil was rent in two. The earthly shadows that were given to Israel, which were guides to point them to heaven, ceased to be of importance. They had served their purpose. The antitype had come and now Christians look to heaven by faith with no visible tokens.</p> <p>Jesus’ work in the heavenly sanctuary was vital to the plan of salvation. In Heaven Jesus intercedes for us and makes effectual His work on the cross. He covers us with His righteousness. He sends to us the most precious of gifts – the Holy Spirit. Through the Holy Spirit Christ imparts to us the grace and power to live the Christian life. Reborn and strengthened by a view of the Cross, the Christian finds comfort and strength in looking by faith to Christ in the heavenly sanctuary.</p> <p>“The intercession of Christ in man's behalf in the sanctuary above is as essential to the plan of salvation as was His death upon the cross. By His death He began that work which after His resurrection He ascended to complete in heaven. We must by faith enter within the veil, "whither the forerunner is for us entered." Hebrews 6:20. There the light from the cross of Calvary is reflected. There we may gain a clearer insight into the mysteries of redemption.” GC 489</p> <p>Jews Cling to Copies</p> <p>Satan, well aware of the changes to come, sought to bind their thinking to the copies by making them think that they would last forever. To suggest that the temple would be removed was blasphemy. Acts 6:13,14. It was worshipped in place of its Author. See Acts 24:5,6. In terms of the lamb, the Jewish leaders over time came to believe that the lamb itself atoned for the sins (Lev 17:11) of the people and when the Messiah came, He would come as King and not as sacrifice. The Jews thought that the Messiah would be a political saviour that was earthly and visible whereas the true Messiah went back to heaven and was invisible to the natural eye. The Jews also taught that the Aaronic priesthood was eternal and it was blasphemy to suggest that a change would come to this priesthood. Finally, the Jews had so twisted the meaning of the law through all their rules and regulations that they had made the true law void by their tradition, they had established their own law to rule by their own authority. Through these turn of events, Satan sought to keep the minds of people focused on the earth so they lost sight of the priestly ministry of Christ and lose all its benefits.</p> <p>“The rending of the veil of the temple showed that the Jewish sacrifices and ordinances would no longer be received. The great Sacrifice had been offered and had been accepted, and the Holy Spirit which descended on the day of Pentecost carried the minds of the disciples from the earthly sanctuary to the heavenly, where Jesus had entered by His own blood, to shed upon His disciples the benefits of His atonement. But the Jews were left in total darkness. They lost all the light which they might have had upon the plan of salvation, and still trusted in their useless sacrifices and offerings. The heavenly sanctuary had taken the place of the earthly, yet they had no knowledge of the change. Therefore they could not be benefited by the mediation of Christ in the holy place.” <i>Early Writings</i>, page 259.</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<p><i>Desire of Ages</i>, Chapter 87 – “To Your Father and My Father”. <i>Early Writings</i>, pages 258-261 – “A Firm Platform”.</p>

The Comforter

I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;
John 14:16 KJV



Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. Acts 2:38

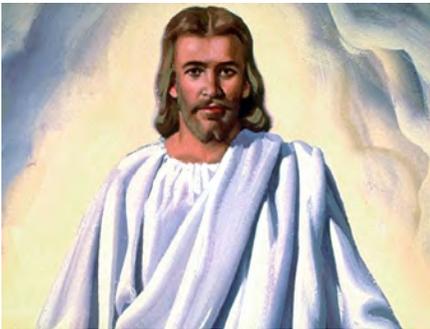


Comforter/Guide

Teacher

Transformer

Empowerer



Brings the personal presence of Jesus to us.
John 14:16-18



Guides us into all truth.
John 14:26; 16:13;
I John 2:27



Fills us love, joy, peace, patience, self-control and other attributes that make us like Christ.
Gal 5:23,24



Grants various gifts to the church to complete the work of sharing the Gospel. Eph 4:8-12; Rom 12:4-8; 1 Cor 12

The Comforter

AIM:	To show the work of the Holy Spirit.
THEME:	Christ abiding in us by His Spirit.
OUTLINE:	<p>Your aim is to show the all-essential work of the Holy Spirit for God’s Church. Move through the four major roles in which the Spirit comes to us. Avoid trying to specify exactly what the Spirit is and how He works, this is a mystery beyond our comprehension.</p> <p>“It is not essential for us to be able to define just what the Holy Spirit is. Christ tells us that the Spirit is the Comforter, ‘the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father.’ It is plainly declared regarding the Holy Spirit that, in His work of guiding men into all truth, ‘He shall not speak of Himself.’ John 15:26; 16:13. The nature of the Holy Spirit is a mystery. Men cannot explain it, because the Lord has not revealed it to them. Men having fanciful views may bring together passages of Scripture and put a human construction on them, but the acceptance of these views will not strengthen the church. Regarding such mysteries, which are too deep for human understanding, silence is golden.” AA 51,52.</p>
NOTES:	<p>Comforter and Guide Jesus tells us in John 14:16-18 that He would send <i>another</i> comforter to us when He went back to heaven. This comforter is to represent Christ in His work for us. In John 14:18 Jesus says He won’t leave us comfortless but that He would come to us. Jesus comes to us through the agency of the Holy Spirit. In this sense we have a greater advantage with Jesus being in heaven, than if He were still here. Jesus can be with all of us individually through the Holy Spirit. Jesus said The Holy Spirit would convict us of sin and of righteousness and of judgment. John 16:8. The word comforter in the Greek <i>parakletos</i> comes from two words <i>para</i> from which we get the English word parallel and <i>Kletos</i> which means to call. This gives a beautiful picture of the Spirit walking parallel with us or beside us calling us to look to Jesus and to avoid going the wrong way. Whenever we desire to do right, whenever we acknowledge that we are wrong, this is always evidence that the Spirit is working on our hearts, silently, quietly and gently.</p> <p>Teacher The Holy Spirit has set Himself to guide us into all truth. What a wonderful thought. Without the Holy Spirit we could not understand the Bible. Whenever we discern truth, it is because the Holy Spirit has taught us. “Through the Scriptures the Holy Spirit speaks to the mind, and impresses truth upon the heart. Thus He exposes error, and expels it from the soul. It is by the Spirit of truth, working through the Word of God, that Christ subdues His chosen people to Himself.” YRP 13.1</p> <p>Transformer It is the Holy Spirit who causes Christ to grow in our hearts. All the blessings of Christ-likeness are given through the Spirit. Therefore do not grit your teeth and try harder to be patient and loving, pray with confident joy for the Spirit who will freely give you these things. “When the Spirit of God takes possession of the heart, He transforms the life. Sinful thoughts are put away, evil deeds are renounced; love, humility, and peace take the place of anger, envy, and strife. Joy takes the place of sadness, and the countenance reflects the light of heaven. No one sees the hand that lifts the burden, or beholds the light descend from the courts above. The blessing comes when by faith the soul surrenders itself to God. Then that power which no human eye can see creates a new being in the image of God.” DA 172</p> <p>Empowerer In John 15:5 Jesus made a very important statement. Without me you can do nothing. Every gift and every talent displayed in the church is a manifestation of the power of the Spirit. This removes all need for people to become proud about their ability to do things and conversely there is no need for despair about not having certain gift. We all are given gifts to serve the master. What a wonderful God to give us the ability to serve with Him in sharing the Gospel. “In all the Lord’s arrangements, there is nothing more beautiful than His plan of giving to men and women a diversity of gifts. The church is His garden, adorned with a variety of trees, plants, and flowers. He does not expect the hyssop to assume the proportions of the cedar, nor the olive to reach the height of the stately palm. Many have received but a limited religious and intellectual training, but God has a work for this class to do, if they will labor in humility, trusting in Him.” YRP 191.2</p> <p>“Why do we not hunger and thirst after the gift of the Holy Spirit, since it is the means whereby the heart may be kept pure? The Lord designs that divine power shall cooperate with human effort. It is all-essential for the Christian to understand the meaning of the promise of the Holy Spirit just prior to the coming of our Lord Jesus the second time. Talk of it, pray for it, preach concerning it; for the Lord is more willing to give the Holy Spirit than parents are to give good gifts to their children.” YRP 10.2</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<p><i>Ye Shall Receive Power</i> – A devotional book from the Writings of E.G. White. Truth For These Times No. 15.</p>

Christ's Victory is Ours

To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne. Rev 3:21

FIRST ADAM
Failed the Test



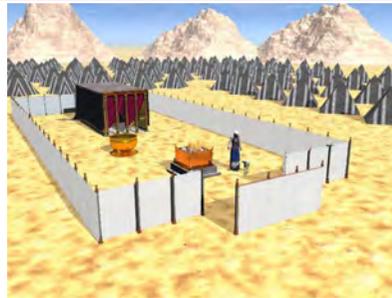
ADAM & EVE

Genesis 3:1-5

Temptation	Fall
1. Hath God said you shall not eat?	Appetite
2. You shall not surely die	Unbelief in God
3. Ye shall be as gods	False worship

Worthy of Death

ISRAEL
Failed the Test



ISRAEL

Numbers 11,14,25

Temptation	Fall
1. Yearned for flesh. Num 11:6,7	Appetite
2. Kadesh Barneah. Num 14:11	Unbelief in God
3. Worship of Baal. Num 25:2	False Worship

Worthy of Death

SECOND ADAM
Passed the Test



CHRIST

Matthew 4:1-10

Temptation	Victory Over
1. Turn these stones into bread	Appetite
2. Cast thyself down	Unbelief in God
3. Worship me	False Worship

Paid Penalty of
Death on Cross

NEW CREATIONS IN CHRIST
Pass Test Through Christ



US IN CHRIST

Rev 14:12; 1 Cor 2:16

Temptation	Victory Over
1. Appetites & Passions	...Appetite through Christ
2. Distrusting God	...Unbelief in God through Christ
3. False Worship	...False Worship through Christ

Jesus intercedes for us and both covers us and imparts to us His character that we may overcome

"Many look on this conflict between Christ and Satan [in the wilderness] as having no special bearing on their own life; and for them it has little interest. But within the domain of every human heart this controversy is repeated." *Desire of Ages*, page 116. "The scene of trial with Christ in the wilderness was the foundation of the plan of salvation, and gives to fallen man the key whereby he, in Christ's name, may overcome." *Confrontation*, page 63.

Christ's Victory is Ours

AIM:	<p>(1) To show that Christ must intercede for us and cover us with His righteousness continually.</p> <p>(2) To show that the victory of Jesus in the wilderness of temptation redeemed Adam's failure and was an essential part of the plan of salvation. The victories gained by Jesus are now mediated to those who look to Jesus as their intercessor that they may overcome as He did.</p>
THEME:	Christ as Priest.
OUTLINE:	<p>Your study is based around the three temptations that Jesus faced in the wilderness. These three temptations are the same in principle as those faced by Adam and Eve. They are the same as we face today. Work through the story of Adam and Eve's fall, drawing out the themes of: (1) Indulgence of appetite (2) Disbelief in God's word and (3) Self will or self worship. These three failures by Adam and Eve placed the death penalty upon them. Then show how Jesus overcame each of these failures – to develop the character of the Second Adam – the new head of the human race. The life of Jesus secured the character that we needed and His death paid the penalty of death that we deserved. Finally, show how the character of Jesus is imparted to us – that is through His intercession for us in heaven. Our thoughts are imbued with His thoughts; we have access to the victories that He obtained for us.</p>
NOTES:	<p>This chart reveals that absolute necessity of the work of intercession that Jesus performs for us. Jesus both covers us with His blood and imparts to us His mind, His thoughts (through His blood) that we may overcome as He did. This is the work that must be done in preparation for the judgment.</p> <p>The Bible clearly tells us that we have access to the mind of Christ – 1 Cor 2:16. 1 John 5:21 says that Christ has given us an understanding (<i>mind</i> in Greek) that we may know Him. This is the power of grace to which we have access. Romans 5:2. This process leaves us no excuse for sin. When we are trusting in the merits of Christ, looking by faith into the heavenly sanctuary with hearts overflowing with love for Him – we will never fall. 2 Peter 1:10; Jude 24.</p> <p>“I marvel that professing Christians do not grasp the divine resources; that they do not see the cross more clearly as the medium of forgiveness and pardon, the means of bringing the proud, selfish heart of man into direct contact with the Holy Spirit, that the riches of Christ may be poured into the mind, and the human agent be adorned with the graces of the Spirit.” <i>Upward Look</i>, page 191.</p> <p>“Satan assailed Christ with his fiercest and most subtle temptations, but he was repulsed in every conflict. Those battles were fought in our behalf; those victories make it possible for us to conquer. Christ will give strength to all who seek it. No man without his own consent can be overcome by Satan.” <i>Great Controversy</i>, page 510.</p> <p>“In our own strength it is impossible for us to deny the clamors of our fallen nature. Through this channel Satan will bring temptation upon us. Christ knew that the enemy would come to every human being, to take advantage of hereditary weakness, and by his false insinuations to ensnare all whose trust is not in God. And by passing over the ground man must travel, our Lord has prepared the way for us to overcome. It is not His will that we should be placed at a disadvantage in the conflict with Satan. He would not have us intimidated and discouraged by the assaults of the serpent. "Be of good cheer," He says; "I have overcome the world." John 16:33. Let him who is struggling against the power of appetite look to the Saviour in the wilderness of temptation. See Him in His agony upon the cross, as He exclaimed, "I thirst." He has endured all that it is possible for us to bear. His victory is ours... "The prince of this world cometh," said Jesus, "and hath nothing in Me." John 14:30. There was in Him nothing that responded to Satan's sophistry. He did not consent to sin. Not even by a thought did He yield to temptation. So it may be with us. Christ's humanity was united with divinity; He was fitted for the conflict by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. And He came to make us partakers of the divine nature. So long as we are united to Him by faith, sin has no more dominion over us. God reaches for the hand of faith in us to direct it to lay fast hold upon the divinity of Christ, that we may attain to perfection of character." <i>Desire of Ages</i>, page 123.</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<p>Desire of Ages, Chapter 12 – “The Temptation”.</p> <p>Great Controversy, Chapter 30 – “Enmity Between Man and Satan”.</p> <p>Confrontation, by Ellen G. White, pages 27-64.</p> <p>Identity Wars chapter 10 – “Breaking the Chains of the Duracell”</p>

The Feasts and Their Meaning

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Spring Feasts

Autumn Feasts

50 Days (Seven Sabbaths + 1 Day)



Passover
Nissan 14
First Month
Lev 23:5; Ex 12



Unleavened Bread
Nissan 15-21
First Month
Lev 23:6-8



First Fruits
Nissan 16
First Month
Lev 23:9-14



Feast of Weeks
Sivan 6
Third Month
Lev 23:15-21



Trumpets
Tishri 1
Seventh Month
Lev 23:23-26



Day of Atonement
Tishri 10
Seventh Month
Lev 23:27-32



Feast of Tabernacles
Tishri 15
Seventh Month
Lev 23:33-36



Crucifixion
1 Cor 5:7



Christ in Tomb
John 6:51;
John 12:24



Resurrection
1 Cor 15:20



Pentecost
Acts 2:1-4;
Rev 5:6



Second Advent Movement
Rev 14:6,7



Pre-Advent Judgement
Dan 7:9,10;
Rev 11:19; 14:7



Homegoing at Second Advent
Rev 14:14-16

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Type/Symbol → Antitype/Real →

Court Ministry

First Apartment Ministry

Second Apartment Ministry

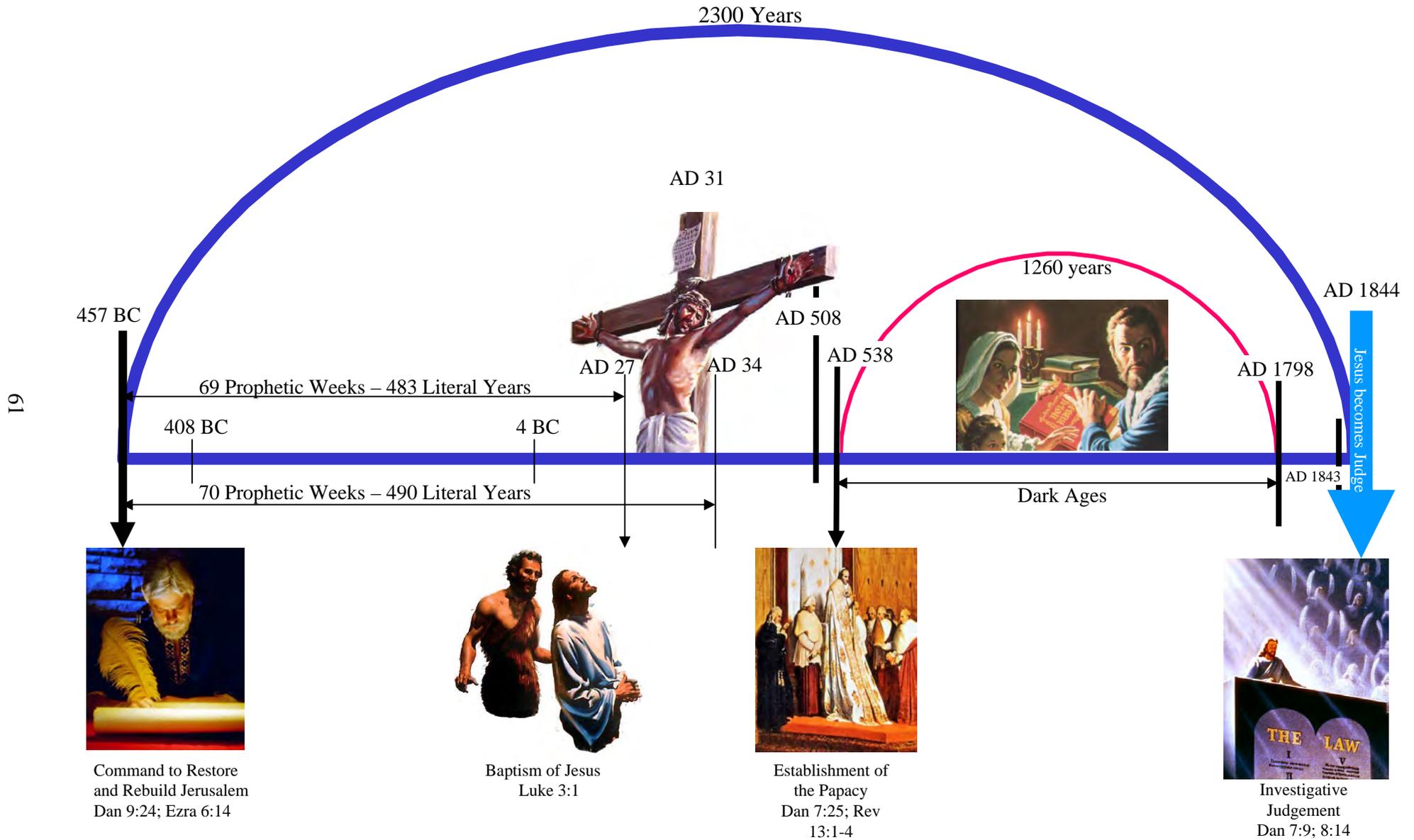
1844

The Feasts and Their Meaning

AIM:	To show that the various feasts given to the Jews reveal that the gospel involves a chronological process. That just as the Passover pointed to the death of Jesus on the cross, so also the Day of Atonement pointed to the great day of judgment.
THEME:	Christ as Messiah, The Life, Priest, Judge, King.
OUTLINE:	Go step by step through the feasts of the Jews and notice their fulfillments to <i>time</i> as well as to <i>event</i> and remember that salvation is a process. The seven (seven = completeness) feasts reveal the complete process of salvation, to save the human race. The feasts are divided into the Spring and Autumn of each year. The system of services given to the Jews is rich with symbolic meaning concerning the plan of salvation. From a quick observation of this chart you can see that the cross of Jesus marked the beginning of the plan of salvation, not the finish or end of it. This lays the basis to establish the commencement of the judgment in 1844. If all finished at the cross, then a judgment is useless, but this chart makes it clear that the judgment is just as much a part of the plan of salvation as the cross. In Revelation 14:6, the first angel proclaims the everlasting gospel. What he preaches is the <i>hour of His judgment is come!</i> Judgment is gospel just the same as the cross is gospel. It is all good news.
NOTES:	<p>The Passover: Celebrated the 14th day of the first month every year. The slain lamb pointed to the coming Messiah who would die for our sins. John the Baptist said of Jesus “behold the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world.” John 1:29. Jesus died on the day of the Passover, at the very time the lamb in the temple was to be killed. (The ninth hour – Matt 27:46).</p> <p>Unleavened Bread: Leaven (in this context) represents sin. 1 Cor 5:8. The unleavened bread symbolises the perfect character of Christ who was sacrificed for us. Jesus was the wheat grain that dropped into the earth and caused new life to occur by His resurrection. Jesus was in the tomb as an unleavened sacrifice at the very <i>time</i> of the first day of the feast of unleavened bread.</p> <p>First Fruits: The feast of first fruits occurred in the second day of the feast of unleavened bread. The priest would take some grain from a grain field and form it into a sheaf and wave it before the Lord as recognition that it is the Lord who gives life. The harvest of the grain could not occur until this ceremony was performed. Jesus was raised on the very day of the feast of the first fruits. He is the resurrection and the life. Now we all can come forth from the grave because He did.</p> <p>Feast of Weeks: As the wave sheaf was presented at the beginning of the harvest, before any of the new yield might be used, so Pentecost (Feast of Weeks) marked the end of the harvest season, it was the joyous acknowledgment of Israel’s dependence upon God as the giver of all good gifts. Pentecost symbolizes the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. As the wave loaves were offered 50 days, inclusive, after the wave sheaf, so there were 50 days, inclusive, between the resurrection of Christ and the outpouring of the Spirit on the day of Pentecost. The feast was fulfilled exactly on the day the feast was celebrated.</p> <p>Trumpets: On this day the trumpets were blown, for the Day of Atonement was near at hand, and the first nine days of the month were to be days of preparation for it. The first day of the seventh month of the religious calendar was new year’s day, the first day of the civil calendar year. God sent warning to the world of the coming judgment through preaching of the “Great Advent Movement”. While the messengers misunderstood the type of judgment, the world was warned of the coming of Christ and need to get ready. This movement began in earnest in the early 1830’s and really intensified when the falling of the stars occurred in 1833.</p> <p>Day of Atonement: The Day of Atonement was the day of judgment to the Jews. A time for close examination of the heart and deep soul searching. While the spring feasts were connected to the seventy weeks, the Autumn feasts are connected to the 2300 days. The Bible clearly outlines that the judgment would occur at the end of the 2300 days of Daniel 8. The termination point is linked to the day the feast was to occur in that year. That date was October 22, 1844. Prophetically we are given the year of the death of Jesus by the reckoning of the 490-year prophecy and we find that Jesus fulfilled that event upon the feast day. We also are given the year the judgment is to begin: 1844. We would conclude that the point at which the judgment would begin is on the feast day – which is October 22, 1844.</p> <p>Feast of Tabernacles: All the Jews would camp in tents in Jerusalem. It was a joyous feast and celebration that the judgment was past and concluded. This represents the Second Coming of Christ and our time “camping” (Rev 20:9) in heaven for a thousand years. The judgment has passed and we are redeemed.</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<i>The Cross and its Shadow</i> , pages 93-122 ; 201-239 .

When Jesus Becomes the Judge

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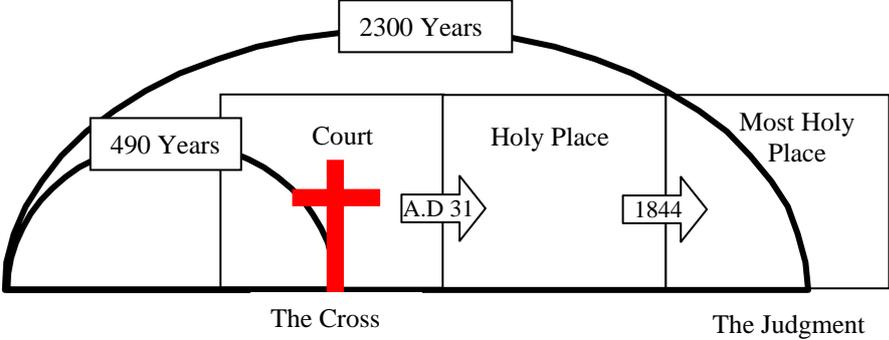
Command to Restore and Rebuild Jerusalem
Dan 9:24; Ezra 6:14

Baptism of Jesus
Luke 3:1

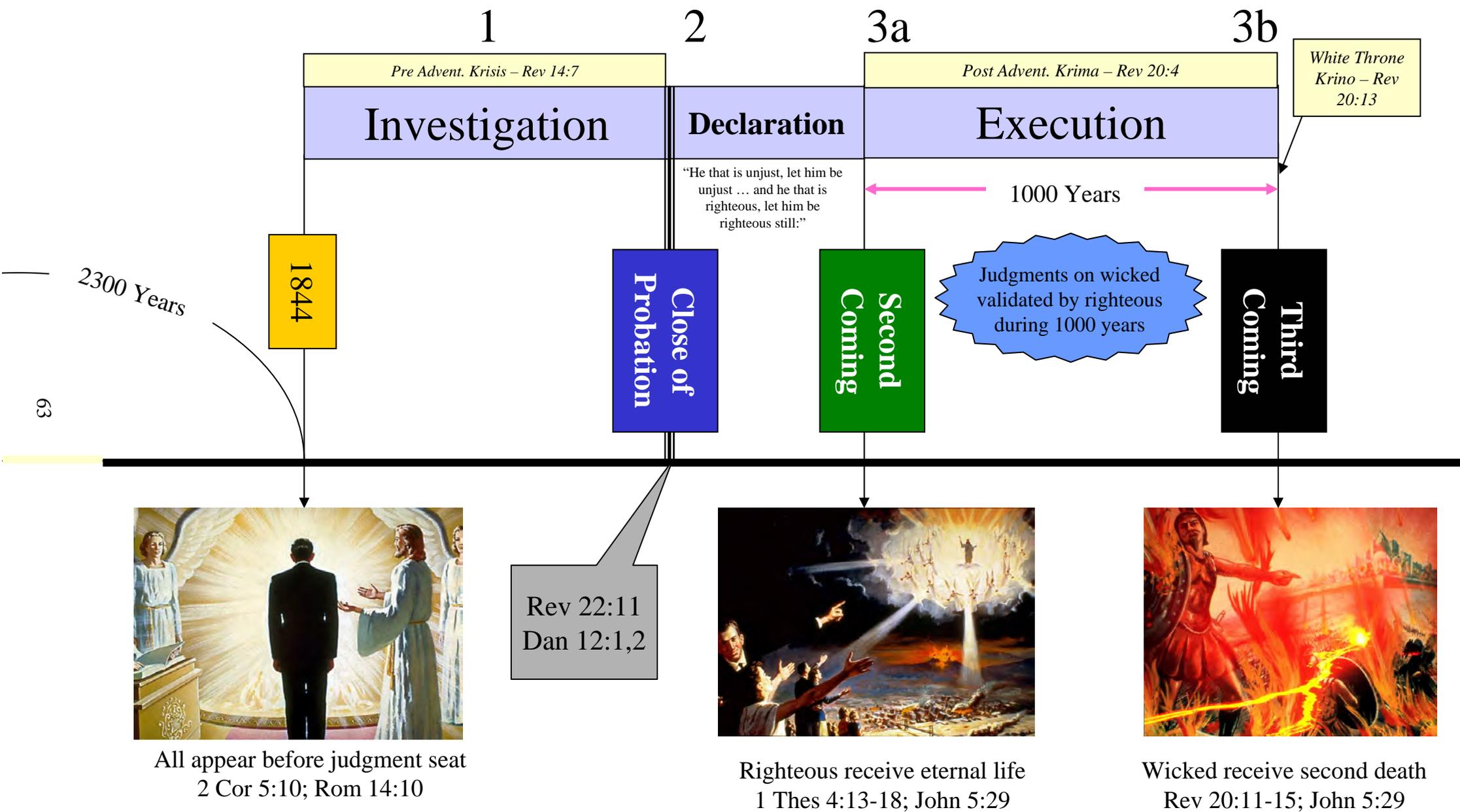
Establishment of the Papacy
Dan 7:25; Rev 13:1-4

Investigative Judgement
Dan 7:9; 8:14

When Jesus Becomes Judge

AIM:	<p>(1) To show the commencement time of the judgment. (2) To show the beginning of the time of the end. (3) To show that the major gospel events are linked to prophetic time.</p>
THEME:	Christ as Messiah and Judge.
OUTLINE:	<p>This is a multi purpose chart. It has been placed here in the sequence of charts to show how the date of 1844 is arrived at. Whenever you are referring to time prophecy you may wish to refer to this chart. Use this chart according to the aims listed above.</p>
NOTES:	<div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p>The diagram above shows how the two major time prophecies highlight the cross (the key that unlocks all the power of the gospel) and the judgment (the climax of the great controversy). After Jesus left this earth, He began His holy place ministry. In 1844 Jesus began His Most Holy Place ministry.</p> <p>“The Father [rose] from the throne, and in a flaming chariot [went] into the holy of holies within the veil, and [sat] down. Then Jesus rose up from the throne, and the most of those who were bowed down arose with Him. I did not see one ray of light pass from Jesus to the careless multitude after He arose, and they were left in perfect darkness. Those who arose when Jesus did, kept their eyes fixed on Him as He left the throne and led them out a little way. Then He raised His right arm, and we heard His lovely voice saying, "Wait here; I am going to My Father to receive the kingdom; keep your garments spotless, and in a little while I will return from the wedding and receive you to Myself." Then a cloudy chariot, with wheels like flaming fire, surrounded by angels, came to where Jesus was. He stepped into the chariot and was borne to the holiest, where the Father sat. There I beheld Jesus, a great High Priest, standing before the Father.” <i>Early Writings Page 55</i></p> <p>The 2300-day prophecy is the very foundation of the SDA faith. The first section establishes the Messiah and locks in the rest of the prophecy. Both Jesus and John the Baptist preached a <i>time</i> and an <i>event</i> message. (Mark 1:14,15) The Great Advent Movement also preached a <i>time</i> and an <i>event</i> message. The judgment occurring in 1844. (See chart “The Two Disappointments” on the CD-ROM, for the parallel). The 2300-day prophecy pinpoints who we are as a people. It points us to our mission – the Three Angel’s Messages. To be a Seventh-day Adventist is to have absolute confidence in the date 1844 as the beginning of the judgment.</p> <p>“The Scripture which above all others had been both the foundation and central pillar of the Advent faith was the declaration “Unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the Sanctuary be cleansed.” <i>Great Controversy</i>, page 409.</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<p>The Great Controversy, Chapter 23 – “What is the Sanctuary?” See Chart on CD-ROM “The Command to Restore and Build Jerusalem” regarding establishing the date 457 B.C and also “The Pre-Advent Judgment”. Truth For These Times Study No.9.</p>

The Three Phases of the Judgment



The Three Phases of the Judgment

AIM:	To show the logical sequence and progression of God’s judgment.
THEME:	Christ as Judge.
OUTLINE:	<p>Take your student step by step through the three phases of the judgment. As with any court process there is: 1) Investigation followed by 2) Verdict or declaration and then 3) Sentence or execution. The purple line – Investigation, Declaration, Execution, follows this process. Since only those who make a profession of Christ enter the Investigative Judgment (John 3:18) and since God invites the righteous who enter heaven to investigate the fairness of His sentencing of the wicked, there is a secondary line that is followed through the judgment process. This is shown by the yellow boxes. The “Krisis” is the judgment of those who profess Christ. The “Krima” is the investigation of the sentencing of the wicked by the saints and the “Krino” is God’s execution of the wicked at the end of the 1000-year period. The sequence denoted by the purple boxes is the overall process of judgment. The sequence denoted by the yellow boxes reveals the care that God has taken in dealing with the sin problem. To allow others to investigate the fairness of the Judge’s sentencing is amazing, but it reveals the openness and kindness of our God. Impress upon your student the fairness and mercy of God in this process. God is not willing that any should perish (1 Peter 3:9). God is more than gracious in this process.</p> <p>You will need to reassure your student that those who have confessed Christ as their Saviour and claim Him as their righteousness (1 Cor 1:30) and believe that He will give them victory in their lives (Rev 3:21) have nothing to fear in judgment. We can be confident. We can rejoice! Isa 33:22 says “For the LORD <i>is</i> our judge, the LORD <i>is</i> our lawgiver, the LORD <i>is</i> our king; he will save us.”</p>
NOTES:	<p>Investigation The Bible says that we must all appear before the judgment seat of God. 2 Cor 5:10. Only those who make a profession to accept Christ and whose names are written in the book of life are considered in this Investigative phase of Judgment. John 3:18; 1 Peter 4:17. Those who do not accept Christ obviously exclude themselves from being considered candidates for heaven. 1 John 5:12. Christ stands up and intercedes for those who allow Him to live completely in them and who are clothed in His righteousness, trusting Jesus completely for their salvation.</p> <p>Declaration God allows time for humanity to respond to his gracious offer of salvation. His delay in executing judgment is seen by the wicked as evidence that God offers “toothless threats” or that He does not exist at all. God will come to the point where time is no longer granted to respond. Each person by their own lives will demonstrate their choice. Christ will stand and the awesome pronouncement will be made. “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.” Rev 22:11.</p> <p>Execution This is the reward or punishment that God administers. The righteous receive their reward at the Second Coming. But He delays the punishing of the wicked until the righteous are satisfied with the sentencing. Therefore the wicked are not punished until after the 1000 years. The fact that the wicked seek to surround the heavenly city and make war on the saints, proves that their hearts are unchanged and they are worthy of death. A sad, sad day indeed.</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<p><i>The Great Controversy</i>, Chapter 28 – “Facing Life’s Record” and Chapter 42 – “The Controversy Ended”; <i>False Balances</i>, by Clifford Goldstein. See Chart on the CD-ROM “The Three Books Used in the Judgment”. Truth For These Times Study No.16.</p>

When Jesus Becomes King

RESURRECTION OF LIFE

RESURRECTION OF DAMNATION

LAST DAYS

1000 YEARS

ETERNITY

1st Resurrection

Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice and come forth—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation. John 5:28,29

2nd Resurrection

65

1. Jesus Returns

For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. 1 Thessalonians. 4:16



2. Righteous Dead Raised

And the dead in Christ will rise first. 1 Thessalonians. 4:16



3. Wicked Slain

And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming. 2 Thessalonians. 2:8



4. Living Saints Caught Up

Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. 1 Thessalonians. 4:16



5. Satan Bound

He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; Revelation 20:2



6. Earth Desolate

I beheld, and indeed there was no man, and all the birds of the heavens had fled. I beheld, and indeed the fruitful land was a wilderness, and all its cities were broken down at the presence of the Lord, by His fierce anger. Jer 4:25,26



Righteous In Heaven

Revelation 20:4



Wicked Remain Dead

Jer 4:23-28; Zeph 3:6



Satan Bound by Chain of Circumstances

Revelation 20:2



Earth at Rest



1. Christ, Saints & City Descend

Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven. Revelation 21:2,3

2. Wicked Dead Raised

and will go out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth Revelation 21:2,3



3. Satan Loosed

and will go out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth Revelation 20:7



4. Wicked Surround City

They went up on the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city. Revelation 20:9



5. Wicked Destroyed

And fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them. Revelation 20:9



6. Earth Renewed

Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Revelation 21:1



When Jesus Becomes King

AIM:	To show the process of life and death at the end of time.
THEME:	Christ as The Life, King.
OUTLINE:	This chart is based on the text John 5:29. It describes two resurrections. One to life and one to damnation. On the left is described the events that occur at the Second Coming. This is the resurrection to life. Take your student through each of the texts describing the events that occur. On the right hand side are the events that occur at the end of the 1000 years. This is the resurrection to damnation. Between the two resurrections is the 1000 years. Show how that no one is alive on the earth during this time. They are either dead or in heaven. Then describe the events of the resurrection of damnation.
NOTES:	There is a popular misconception that people will be alive on the earth during the 1000 years. It is seen as a great time of peace and victory for the human race. The Bible does not support this view. Daniel 2 clearly shows us that human history is totally altered by the Second Coming of Jesus. The stone smashes the image and Jesus establishes His kingdom. Daniel 2 also shows the inability of man to bring peace to the earth. When Jesus comes the righteous are taken to heaven and the wicked are destroyed by the brightness of His coming. No one is left except Satan and his angels. This explains the ferocity of the stone striking the image in Daniel 2.
FURTHER STUDY:	<p>Great Controversy, Chapter 40 – “God’s People Delivered”.</p> <p>Great Controversy, Chapter 41 – “The Desolation of the Earth”.</p> <p>Great Controversy, Chapter 42 – “The Controversy Ended”.</p> <p>Truth For These Times Study No.17, 18, 19.</p> <p>www.finalevents.com</p>

SECOND ANGEL



BABYLON
EXPOSED

The Second Angel's Message

Humanity's Desire to Save Itself – Revealed

And another angel followed, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication. Rev 14:8.

Babylon – The State

Nimrod founded the city of Babylon. He was the first man to create his own kingdom. Rejecting the kingdom of God, which is based on parental authority, he created a state system. Each person that resided in a designated territory became his subject and owed allegiance to him. Power and control became the essence and heart of Babylon. This desire for conquest and control spread through the whole world. Many kingdoms have risen and fallen – Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, Roman and the “Holy” Roman Empire. Identity and value was found not in intimate relationship with our Father God but rather, each person creates their own identity and is valued by their achievements and performance.

Babylon – The Church

To turn the hearts of people from God to himself, Nimrod created a new religion: A worship of the “inherent” power in nature. When Nimrod died, his wife said that Nimrod was now embodied in the sun and they must worship the sun. Sun worship became almost universal throughout the world. Worshipped as Ra in Egypt; in Caanan as Baal, Moloch; in Syria as Tammuz; in Moab as Baal-peor and Chemosh; in Babylon and Assyria as Bel; in Perisa as Mithra; in Greece as Adonis, Apollo, Bacchus and Hercules; and in Rome as Bacchus, Apollo and Hercules. The essence of this religion teaches the inherent immortal power of man. The nature of this religion is one of force and control by means of the state, to deny individuality and to control the spirit of humanity. Before the arrival of the “Holy” Roman Empire the state controlled the church and its functions but in the Papacy we see a new and diverse kingdom emerge – the church controlling the state. This new kingdom used religion as its prime mode of warfare (“holy wars”) and sought to fully possess mind as well as body.

Is Fallen

From the time of Christ until the end of the first century, the Christian church was sustained by the power of God and not a worldly government. As time moved on and persecution raged, the church fell into a trap of false peace. In the fourth century, Emperor Constantine, to gain political unity, welded the religion of sun worship to the Christian church. The church let go of its hold on God and trusted human power to safeguard her. This was no less than spiritual fornication. In A.D. 533 Emperor Justinian signed a decree handing all the power of the Roman Empire into the hands of the church, and soon the most despotic power ever witnessed became the last in the line of kingdoms to use the principles of Babylon to form a government.

Wine of her Fornication

The wine of Babylon is her belief in the inherent power of nature as reflected in the teaching of the immortality of the soul and the principle of the state to enforce its dogma's. The wine of Babylon is also reflected in the assumption to change and annul the laws of God as reflected in Sunday observance while at the same time claiming to be the bride of Christ. The fornication of Babylon is reflected in the church's intimacy with the state and a rejection of God's government and rulership.

The Objective and Subjective Cry of Babylon is Fallen

The objective cry “Babylon is fallen” unveils this shameless harlot and reveals the abomination of her filthiness in assuming the position of God and establishing an idolatrous system of worship that is based on self. It reveals the fact that Satan has counterfeited the work of Christ and deceived the world. The cry “Babylon is fallen” is Elijah revealing the prophets of Baal as false prophets before the multitude. The subjective cry “Babylon is fallen” reveals the tendency of every human heart towards this false worship. The cry “Babylon is fallen” in the context of Jer 51:8 is a victory cry of its destruction. When as individuals, we see the fallen condition of Babylon in our lives, we are then able to come out of this system and Babylon is destroyed in us. In this sense “Babylon is fallen” is a cry of freedom for the individual. It is important to note that only those who have subjectively experienced the fall of Babylon can preach with power and Christlikeness the objective cry “Babylon is fallen”.

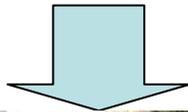
We trace the story of Babylon during the Christian era. We see how Christ's heavenly ministry is obscured by an earthly counterfeit. We firstly identify this power and then examine its activities.

The Curse of Babylon

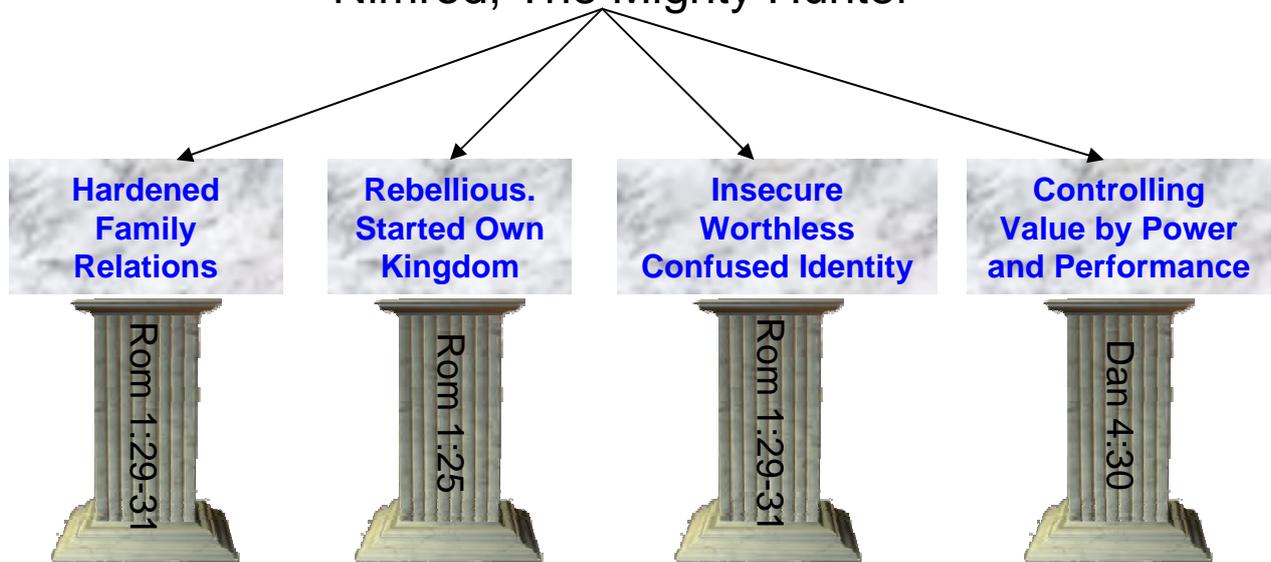
And he said, Cursed be Canaan. He shall be a servant of servants to his brothers. Gen 9:25



Ham Despises Family Authority



Nimrod, The Mighty Hunter



The Curse of Babylon

AIM:	Explore the foundations of the spirit of Babylon
THEME:	Christ as Creator (Father), King
OUTLINE:	<p>Babylon (Babel) is the name of name of the first city that Nimrod built. This city symbolises all the elements of humanity in rebellion to God and the sickening effects of the lack of God’s blessing.</p> <p>God’s kingdom works on the basis of the family. Blessing and prosperity come through parental guidance and authority. When either parent or child rebel against this channel of blessing, devastating effects occur. 1 Cor 11:3 outlines the channel of blessing in the family structure. God to Jesus to Man to Woman to children. Each person receives blessings directly from God but there is a crucial blessing that comes through the family channel that binds the fabric of the community with the family kingdom of God.</p> <p>Genesis 9 tell us of the sad story of Ham and his shameful and disrespectful act towards Noah, his father. Ham broke the channel of blessing and invoked the curse of Cain – a fugitive and a vagabond, forever wrestling with the chains of worthlessness and the guilt of what he did to his father. Noah, in prophetic language, pronounces the curse that will come to Ham’s family. The curse is specifically aimed at Ham and one of his son’s Caanan, who became the father of the land of Caanan which became known for its wickedness. But the curse on Ham would affect all his children and the way he related to them and treated them. As he had shown disrespect to his father, so his practises would be reflected in his children.</p> <p>One of Ham’s grandsons became a mighty hunter before (against) the Lord. Gen 10:9. The strange family practices of Ham would continue in his off spring. Nimrod was obviously a disturbed young man, because he decided to marry his mother due to her influence on the people. Soon research suggests that Nimrod murdered his father to marry his mother. Such incredibly bizarre family behaviour is the last thing you want in a community leader. The sacredness of family relations was the last thing on Nimrod’s mind and his urgent need to make up for the lost blessing caused him to develop a kingdom based on performance and achievement. Nimrod built Babylon and then other cities. He then began to invade other tribes and used their resources to glorify himself. Nimrod developed a tax system, banking system and many other features that a reflected in nations around the world today. This system at its core is anti-family because it takes authority away from family and centralises it in one person or persons. The attitude of Nimrod influenced the surrounding family tribes and they also began to become warlike, kingdom based systems. The Bible says the nations have been made drunk with the wine of Babylon. This wine is the thirst for power, control and domination of those around you. It strikes at the heart of God’s family based system by removing parental authority on many issues. This system affects every one of us because we are surrounded by it. It will not end until the show down in Revelation 13 and 14 is concluded and this beastly system is taken and destroyed.</p>
NOTES:	<p>The seeds of Babylon are based on a number of factors. All relate to the abandonment of God’s Family based system of Government. (1) Hardened family relations. Often impacted by strange sexual behaviour that destroy the natural affections of the home. (2) Hardened family relations breeds extremely rebellious children. Such Rebellion produces the seeds to want to do things on their own. (3) Without the blessing of Godly parents, children are doomed to the feelings of worthlessness and insecurity. There is confusion of identity which leads to more strange behaviour. (4) In an attempt to deal with the insecurity, such children become very controlling or willingly let themselves be controlled by others. Identity comes purely by what you achieve. All of these attributes manifest themselves in the women that rides the beast in Revelation 17. A controlling angry blood thirsty system that seeks to manipulate those ignorant of her devices and eliminate any who would stand against her.</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	Patriarchs and Prophets Chapter 10 “ The Tower of Babel ” Identity Wars Chapter 9 The Heart of Babylon

Babylon And Israel Power Structures

NIMROD



ABRAHAM



1. State Controlled (Gen 10:10)
2. City Builders and Dwellers (Gen 11:4)
3. Identity through Achievement (Gen 11:4)
4. Reject 10 Commandments (Rom 1:29 - 32)
5. Sun-(day) Worship (cf 2 Kings 22:17; 23:5)
6. Immortality of the Soul (Gen 3:4; 1 Sam 28:3;8)
7. Worships visible, material objects (Rom 1:25)

1. Family Controlled (Gen 18:19)
2. Nomadic Rural Dwellers (Heb 11:8-10)
3. Identity through Parental Blessing (Gen 12:2)
4. Observe 10 Commandments (Gen 18:19; 26:5)
5. Sabbath Memorial of Creator (Ex 20:8-11)
6. Soul Sleep and Resurrection (Heb 11:17-19)
7. Worships the Invisible God (Heb 11:3; Rom 1:20)

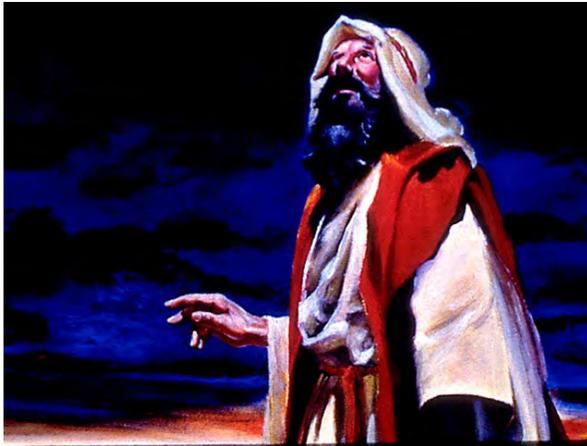
Babylon and Israel Power Structures

AIM:	To contrast the governmental systems of Babylon and Israel
THEME:	Christ as Creator (Father) King.
OUTLINE:	<p>Genesis 10:10 indicates that Nimrod established his own kingdom. A kingdom must have policies on a number of key areas. We will list a few here. 1) Governance – Who governs and how 2) Currency – What do we use to trade and exchange goods and services 3) Citizenship – how a person becomes an accepted member of a community. In this chart we contrast a number of features of God’s kingdom represented in the person of Abraham and Satan’s kingdom represented in the person of Nimrod.</p> <p>God’s government is based on the family system. The head of the government is the Father. The relationship between the leader and its citizens is close and intimate. This principle is developed in the chart The kingdom of God. On the other hand Satan’s kingdom is about being the strongest. Those who are the strongest are those who rule.</p> <p>In points 2 through 7, on Abraham’s side, we see some of the key factors that contribute to strengthen a family based system. Country living is more suited to family lifestyle and the fostering of family values. In Abraham’s family great emphasis was focused on the blessing as especially demonstrated in the first born. The observance of the ten commandments is critical to the survival of the family and a reflection of God’s kingdom. Each command safe guards some aspect of both human and divine relationships. The Sabbath command is vital to the preservation of a family system and the protection of the channel of blessing. As a family depends wholly on the Lord to sustain them during the Sabbath hours, the principle of dependence upon established authority is strengthened and maintained. It is also a reminder that all good things come from a tender heavenly Father and we can live in gratitude and peace rather than anxiety and fear which often destroy families. The doctrine of soul sleep also affects our thinking about how dependent we are on God whereas in Nimrod’s kingdom, the concept of immortality fosters the belief of independence and self sufficiency. We can live on regardless of God. Tithes and offerings works in a similar way – it enhances our understanding of our dependence upon parental authority for life and blessing.</p> <p>Some people look at the doctrines of the law and the Sabbath as a yoke or burden that restricts. Nothing could be further from the truth. These teachings support and protect the family from much of the destruction we see in families today – when they are seen in their correct place.</p> <p>The kingdom of Nimrod was dominated most of the world. It is for this reason we see the demise of the family and the growth of individuals that are ripe for the kingdom of Babylon. The lack of parental blessing and security within homes has led to generations of individuals that seek the lost blessing through their achievements and successes. This situation will prepare the way for the final conflict between those who worship the beast and his image and those who worship Him that made the heavens and the earth.</p>
NOTES:	<p>The bible has recorded in many places the genealogies of God’s people. At times it can seem tedious to read through these, but their very presence re-enforces the principles of God’s kingdom and that is that our identity comes through a family relationship as opposed to achievements and successes. So often today when a speaker is introduced, their qualifications and positions held are listed as to why they are a good biblical preacher, but such listing of qualifications is often pointless because the speaker is always dependent on God to deliver his message. It would be wonderful to reclaim the principle of identification by heavenly genealogy. “This man is qualified because he is a son of God!”</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	Identity Wars Chapter 8 Comparing the Two Kingdoms

Captivated by Babylon

now make us a king to judge us like all the nations. 1 Sam 8:5

Samuel's Leadership



Decline under Kings of Israel and Judah



Babylonian Captivity



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1. Tribal leaders made decisions under Prophets Guidance (1 Sam 8:4; 7:3)
2. Land belonged to family tribes (Gen 12:7; 13:7)
3. Worship fostered by Prophets Guidance (1 Sam 3:19,20)
4. No Taxation to Service Kingly Court (1 Sam 8:17)
5. Son's and daughters not taken from families to service kingly court (1 Sam 8:11,13)

1. King made decisions. Sometimes Prophets had influence and mostly not.
2. Land belonged to family tribes, but much land taken by King.
3. Worship directed by King and enforced by soldiers. Few Kings directly rightly.
4. People taxed to support Kingly Court
5. Son's and daughters taken from families to service kingly court
6. Grossly immoral practices increased

1. Slaves and captives (2 Kings 24:15,16)
2. Land taken by Babylon (2 Kings 24:7)
3. Forced to worship false gods by King of Babylon (Dan 3:1-5)
4. Son's and daughters taken to service kingly court (Dan 1:3,4)
5. Surrounded by gross moral conduct and abandoned appetites (Dan 5:1-4)

Captivated by Babylon

AIM:	To show how Satan attacked God’s people and caused their national downfall by tempting them to want a governmental system like the other nations
THEME:	Christ as King.
OUTLINE:	<p>Under the leadership of Samuel, Israel maintained a high degree of autonomy and freedom. The Israelites were still led by parental, tribal leaders and guided by the prophet. Satan tempted the Israelites to desire to be like the other nations that had patterned themselves on the principles of Nimrod’s kingdom principles. Samuel warned the people with these fearful words:</p> <p>And he said, This will be the privilege of the king who shall reign over you. He shall take your sons and appoint <i>them</i> for himself, for his chariots, and his horsemen. And they shall run before his chariots. And <i>he</i> will appoint commanders over thousands, and commanders over fifties, and some to plow his ground and reap his harvest, and make his weapons of war and weapons for his chariots. And he will take your daughters <i>to be</i> perfumers and cooks and bakers. And he will take your fields and your vineyards and your olive-yards, the best, and give <i>them</i> to his servants. And he will take the tenth of your seed and of your vineyards, and give <i>it</i> to his eunuchs and to his servants. And he will take your male slaves and your slave girls, and your finest young men, and your asses, and put <i>them</i> to his work.</p> <p>He will take the tenth of your sheep, and you shall be his servants. 1 Sam 8: 10-17</p> <p>But the people refused to listen. Rom 6:16 says to whom you yield yourselves servants to obey – His servants you are! Israel prepared themselves to become servants and slaves to Satan. The transferral from Parental leadership to Kingly leadership removed the element of paternal affection and this led to Israel’s downfall. This prepared them to become slaves to Babylon.</p> <p>It is worthy to note that God’s people are not Babylon but their hearts are captivated by her system of government which is a system of death. God’s remnant church is not Babylon but we often emulate her in desire for kingly power and displays of pride. For this very reason God warns the church of Laodicea – You think you are rich and increased with goods and have need of nothing but you are wrong! May we heed the warning and humble ourselves before God</p>
NOTES:	<p>The nation of Israel was established on God’s kingdom principles. We see the true position of a Father when Jacob blesses the king of Egypt. God had promised Israel that “The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be.” Gen 49:10. Through the family line of Jacob, the Messiah would come. If Satan could wipe out this line, he may prevent the coming of the Messiah. It was also critical for Satan to twist the meaning of family values to marr the image of God;s kingdom in the family. Satan tempted the Israelites to desire a king, to be like the other nations. This decision would have been their total downfall if God had not sent Daniel to work on behalf of God’s people to have them returned to Israel from Babylon.</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<p>Patriarchs and Prophets Chapter 59 “The First King of Israel” Prophets and Kings Chapter 37 “Carried Captive into Babylon”</p>

Babylonian System Dominates the World



Babylonian System Dominates the World

AIM:	(1) To show the world wide dominion of Nimrod’s kingdom system. (2) God’s judgement of this system		
THEME:	Christ as Judge and King.		
OUTLINE:	<p>Daniel 7 outlines for us in breath taking detail the incredible system of Nimrod’s system of government. The people of the city of Babylon, the first city that Nimrod built, rose to a level of power not seen by any nation before it. Babylon captured Jerusalem in 606BC and carried their finest young people to Babylon to teach them their governmental system and worship. Daniel and his three friends faced a spiritual and mental battle to remain faithful their invisible Creator God. The foundations of Nimrod’s government always ensure its downfall and Babylon (The Lion) ruled by Nebuchadnezzar and his sons came to an end in 539BC when Medo-Persia (The Bear) animated by the same thirst for greatness and power took world dominion and continued to refine and develop Nimrod’s government system. Medo-Persia was replaced by Greece (The Leopard) in 331 BC. Greece further developed the Babylonian system and refined many features of science, art, recreation, education and government to enhance Nimrod’s kingdom system. Most of the features introduced by Greece are present with us today and the Bible portrays the Beast of Revelation 13 as predominately leopard like. Its influence and affect on the minds of men and women has been the greatest in terms of seducing minds into the Babylonian system. Greece was eventually toppled by Rome in 168BC and perfected the system that previous three kingdoms had worked on. Through these four kingdoms Satan perfected his system of government. The coming of Christ and the evangelism of the disciples nearly brought the kingdom of Rome to its knees. Regardless of how many Christians Rome killed the more they came. Constantine realised he could not beat the Christians and with Satanic genius he embraced the Christian Church and made it his own. During the dark Ages, the Babylonian system took the name of Christ (The Little Horn) and ruled the world with even greater power. Only God could stop this system and this is where the Judgement is mentioned. God would judge this parading impostor claiming to be God’s representative and cast her into the lake of fire.</p>		
NOTES:	<p>Daniel 2 and Daniel 7 are parallel prophecies. When we line up these two prophecies we can determine the approximate time of the judgement. It comes after the supremacy of the little horn. The time of the judgement is one of the focal points of the plan of salvation and Daniel 7 helps us to determine its time:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; vertical-align: top;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Daniel Two</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Babylon 2. Medo-Persia 3. Greece 4. Rome (pagan) 5. Rome (Europe/Papal) <p style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;">6. God’s Kingdom</p> </td> <td style="width: 50%; border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; vertical-align: top;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Daniel Seven</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Babylon 2. Medo-Persia 3. Greece 4. Rome (pagan) 5. Rome (Papal) <p style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;">Judgment in heaven</p> <p style="text-align: center;">6. God’s Kingdom</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p style="text-align: center;">Daniel Two</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Babylon 2. Medo-Persia 3. Greece 4. Rome (pagan) 5. Rome (Europe/Papal) <p style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;">6. God’s Kingdom</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Daniel Seven</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Babylon 2. Medo-Persia 3. Greece 4. Rome (pagan) 5. Rome (Papal) <p style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;">Judgment in heaven</p> <p style="text-align: center;">6. God’s Kingdom</p>
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FURTHER STUDY:	<p><i>1844 Made Simple</i>, Chapter 4, pages 20-29, by Clifford Goldstein. <i>The Message of Daniel</i>, God Cares Volume 1, pages 107-147, by M.C Maxwell. <i>Daniel and Revelation</i>, pages 105-147, by Uriah Smith. Truth For These Times Study No.20.</p>		

Babylon Infiltrates the Church

Yea, he magnified *himself* even to the prince of the host. Dan 8:11
And he shall speak great words against the most High, Dan 7:25

Claims To be God on Earth

For thou art the shepherd, thou art
the physician, thou art the
director, thou art the
husbandman; finally, thou art
another God on earth.

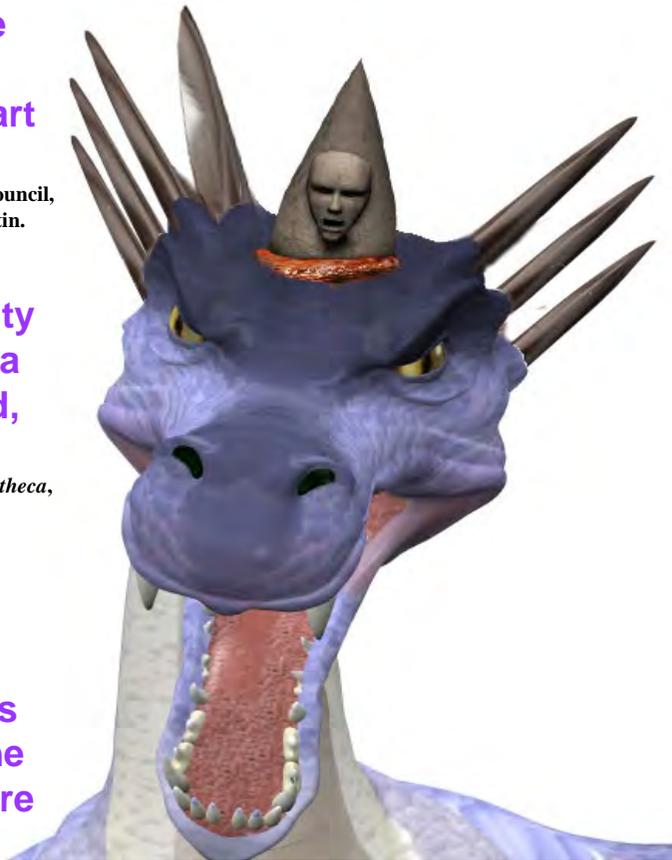
Christopher Marcellus, Oration in the Fifth Lateran Council,
Session IV (1512), in Mansi SC, Vol. 32, col. 761. Latin.

“The Pope is of so great dignity
and so exalted that he is not a
mere man, but as it were God,
and the vicar of God. ...

(translated from Lucius Ferraris, “Papa II,” *Prompta Bibliotheca*,
Vol. VI, pp. 25–29).

All names which in the
Scriptures are supplied to
Christ, by virtue of which it is
established that he is over the
church, all the same names are
applied to the Pope.

“On the Authority of Councils,” Bellarmine (R.C.) book 2
chapter 17 (Vol II, page 266)



Claims Power to Forgive Sin

Peter and his successors have power to
impose laws both preceptive and
prohibitive, power likewise to grant
dispensation from these laws, and, when
needed to annul them. It is theirs to judge
offenses against the laws, to impose and
to remit penalties. This judicial authority
will even include the power to pardon sin.
For sin is a breach of the laws of the
supernatural kingdom, and falls under the
cognizance of its constituted judges.

The Catholic Encyclopedia, Vol XII, art, “Pope,” page 265.

The claims of the Pope are the
same as the claims of Christ.
Christ wanted all souls saved. So
does the Pope. Christ can forgive
all sin. So can the Pope. The Pope
is the only man who claims to the
vicarage of Christ. His claim is not
seriously opposed, and this
establishes his authority.

Extract from a sermon of Rev. Jeremiah Prendergast, S.J. (R.C.)
Syracuse Post Standard, March 13, 1912.

Babylon Infiltrates the Church

AIM:	To identify the little horn as the Papacy – the promoter of the counterfeit gospel.																																																																																																																								
THEME:	Counterfeit of Christ as Creator, Messiah, Priest and King.																																																																																																																								
OUTLINE:	The Bible identifies two key behaviours that constitute blasphemy. (1) A man claiming to be God (John 10:33) and (2) claiming the power to forgive sins. (Mark 2:7). The Papacy does both of these.																																																																																																																								
NOTES:	<p>Identifying the Little Horn</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td>1. Arose out of the Fourth Beast – Dan 7:7,8</td> <td>1. Popes succeeded the Ceasars</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Among the 10 horns</td> <td>2. Papacy grew to power amongst the nations of Europe</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Different from the Other Horns Dan 7:24</td> <td>3. Both Religious and Political Power</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4. Look more stout than other horns Dan 7:20</td> <td>4. Would wield more power than kings</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5. Uprooted 3 kingdoms Dan 7:8,20,24</td> <td>5. Removed the Heruli, Vandals and Ostrogoths</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6. Spake great words against the Most High Dan 7:24</td> <td>6. Claimed to be God on Earth and power to forgive sins</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7. Wore out the saints of the Most High Dan 7:25</td> <td>7. Between 50 and 150 Million people killed by the Papacy</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8. Thought to Change times and Laws Dan 7:25</td> <td>8. Changed Sabbath to Sunday, Removed Second Commandment.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9. Reigned for time, times and half a time Dan 7:25</td> <td>9. Papal supremacy was from 538 AD till 1798 AD</td> </tr> </table> <p>The Witness of History Concerning the Interpretation of the Little Horn</p> <p>As early as the 3rd century men such as Tertullian and Hippolytus taught from their study of Daniel and Revelation that the Antichrist would arise within the church shortly after their time. With amazing insight for his time, Hippolytus stated that the then current power of Rome was holding back the coming antichrist who was to arise among the ten kingdoms that would arise after Rome fell. By the 12th Century quite a number of scholars were pointing to the Papacy as the Little Horn of Daniel Seven and the Antichrist.</p> <p>Listed below is a list of well known scholars who taught in their writings that the Papacy was the Little Horn and the Man of Sin:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Name</th> <th>Date</th> <th>Little Horn</th> <th>Man of Sin</th> <th>Rev 17 woman</th> <th>Antichrist</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Waldenses</td> <td>12th Cent.</td> <td></td> <td>Papacy</td> <td>Roman Church</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Eberhard II (Salzburg)</td> <td>d. 1246</td> <td>Papacy</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>John Milicz</td> <td>c. 1367</td> <td></td> <td>Papacy</td> <td>Papacy</td> <td>Papacy</td> </tr> <tr> <td>John Wycliff</td> <td>c. 1379</td> <td>Popes</td> <td>Papacy</td> <td>Papacy</td> <td>Popes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>John Huss</td> <td>c. 1412</td> <td></td> <td>Papacy</td> <td>Papacy</td> <td>Pope</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Girolamo Savonarola</td> <td>c. 1497</td> <td></td> <td>Papacy</td> <td>Papacy</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Martin Luther</td> <td>1522</td> <td>Papacy</td> <td>Papacy</td> <td>Papacy</td> <td>Papacy</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Philipp Melanchthon</td> <td>1543</td> <td>Papacy</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Papacy</td> </tr> <tr> <td>John Knox</td> <td>1547</td> <td>Papacy</td> <td>Papacy</td> <td>Papacy</td> <td>Papacy</td> </tr> <tr> <td>William Tyndale</td> <td>1550</td> <td></td> <td>Papacy</td> <td>Papacy</td> <td>Papacy</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nicholas Ridley</td> <td>1554</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Papacy</td> <td>Papacy</td> </tr> <tr> <td>John Hooper</td> <td>1550</td> <td></td> <td>Papacy</td> <td>Papacy</td> <td>Papacy</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Thomas Cranmer</td> <td>1582</td> <td>Papacy</td> <td>Papacy</td> <td>Papacy</td> <td>Papacy</td> </tr> <tr> <td>James I of England</td> <td>1600</td> <td>Papacy</td> <td>Papacy</td> <td>Papacy</td> <td>Papacy</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sir Isaac Newton</td> <td>1727</td> <td>Papacy</td> <td>Papacy</td> <td>Papacy</td> <td>Papacy</td> </tr> <tr> <td>John Wesley</td> <td>1764</td> <td></td> <td>Papacy</td> <td>Papacy</td> <td>Papacy</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The Papal interpretation of the Little Horn and Antichrist was the standard interpretation for centuries. It was not until the 19th century after the 1260 years had finished that Protestant scholars began to embrace the teaching of Jesuit scholar Francis Ribera that the Antichrist was still in the future. This Catholic teaching is now taught by all the major Protestant denominations.</p>	1. Arose out of the Fourth Beast – Dan 7:7,8	1. Popes succeeded the Ceasars	2. Among the 10 horns	2. Papacy grew to power amongst the nations of Europe	3. Different from the Other Horns Dan 7:24	3. Both Religious and Political Power	4. Look more stout than other horns Dan 7:20	4. Would wield more power than kings	5. Uprooted 3 kingdoms Dan 7:8,20,24	5. Removed the Heruli, Vandals and Ostrogoths	6. Spake great words against the Most High Dan 7:24	6. Claimed to be God on Earth and power to forgive sins	7. Wore out the saints of the Most High Dan 7:25	7. Between 50 and 150 Million people killed by the Papacy	8. Thought to Change times and Laws Dan 7:25	8. 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FURTHER STUDY:	<p><i>Observations on Daniel</i> - Sir Isaac Newton <i>1844 Made Simple</i>, Chapter 4, pages 23-24, by Clifford Goldstein. <i>Revelation to the Nations</i> by David Gilmore Lesson 21 – Rev 13 Part 1 Truth For These Times Study No.20.</p>																																																																																																																								

Attack on the Gospel

LAW SANCTUARY LAMB PRIEST



Heavenly Reality – Ministry of Jesus Second Covenant

Let no one deceive you by any means; for *that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first*
2 Thessalonians 2:3,4

Heaven

Tradition

Purgatory

Mass

Baby Baptism

Priesthood

Immortal Soul

Sunday Worship

Over a process of one thousand years the church shifted its gaze from the heavenly gospel to an earthly counterfeit that is no gospel.

Earth

Christ ascends to commence Heavenly Ministry

Tradition erodes true gospel

Gospel Replaced



LAW

SANCTUARY

LAMB

PRIEST

Man's law – Sabbath changed; Idols accepted

Vatican city in Rome

The Mass

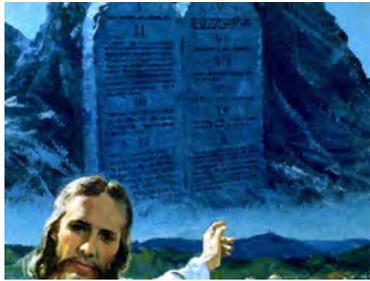
Claims to be Christ in the flesh. The Vicar of the Son of God – In place of Christ

The Christians were pronounced atheists, because they were destitute of temples, altars, victims, priests and all the pomp in which the vulgar suppose the essence of religion consists. For unenlightened persons are prone to estimate religion by what meets the eyes. To silence this accusation, the Christian doctors thought to introduce some external rites which would strike the senses of the people, so that they could maintain themselves really to possess all those things of which Christians were charged with being destitute, though under different forms.
A.T Jones - *The Secrets of Sun Worship and the Great Falling Away*, p 32.

Attack on the Gospel

AIM:	To show how Satan counterfeited and perverted the gospel of Jesus Christ after Christ had ascended to heaven.
THEME:	Christ as Messiah, Priest and Judge.
OUTLINE:	In the chart “Transition from Earthly to Heavenly Ministry” we observed that all the elements of the gospel – LAW, LAMB, PRIEST, SANCTUARY were removed from the earth and are now accessed by faith not by sight. The kingdom system of Nimrod we looked at in “Babylon and Israel Power Structures” requires a worship system that is material, visible because it is not based on relationships but power and achievement. The counterfeit is by sight. By faith the Christian looks to Jesus in heaven who died for us once. By faith we look to our Priest in heaven. By faith we look into the sanctuary in heaven and believe that Jesus will give us the power to keep the law that is contained in the Most Holy Place. All of this is by faith. There are no external elements to the plan of salvation to represent God’s part in that plan. This act of looking alone to Christ signifies that we have forsaken the belief that we or any other man or woman can save us. In the vertical heavenly gaze we are justified by faith. The Christian maintains the vertical look into heaven for salvation. Satan knew that to corrupt this process he must shift the gaze of humanity away from heaven and back to man. Since man is so eager to save himself and naturally resists God’s plan to save him, he easily introduced a system that would please the carnal heart and look similar to the real plan. Over a period of time, the gaze of man was shifted from heaven back to earth. Only by looking to Christ do we have salvation. There is no man, no Pope, no system that can save us outside of the upward gaze by faith into the sanctuary above.
NOTES:	<p>How the Counterfeits were Introduced</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sanctuary: Constantine built a temple with a high altar for the church on Vaticanus Hill. This became the temple of focus. 2. The Sacrifice: From the year A.D. 394 the daily practice of the mass was observed – the eating of the wafer. By A.D. 1050 the mass came to be understood to be actual sacrifice of Jesus – a bloodless sacrifice like that of Cain. The sacrifice of the mass, each time the words are spoken “This is my body” – literally drags Jesus out of heaven and casts him to the ground. 3. The Priesthood: The system of bishops and priests became so powerful that they ruled over kings and during the mid dark ages were incredibly immoral and despotic. All sins were confessed to the priest. The priest had power to forgive sins. The priesthood of Jesus was eclipsed by an earthly counterfeit. 4. The Law: Firstly the change of the fourth commandment from Sabbath to Sunday – this change is claimed as a symbol of Roman power, and secondly the removal of the second commandment concerning images. <p>The Results of the Earthly Gaze</p> <p>Christianity ceased to be a religion that touched the heart and converted the soul. A round of external visible rites became the core and substance of religion. Man no longer came to God directly through Christ but through earthly impostors who made themselves rich by their trade and traffic in religion. Now turned away from Christ, the gospel lost its power. The focus on externals created a focus on works that were intended to please and appease God. These thoughts should make us weep that the church would trade their bridegroom for a wicked impostor – Satan.</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	Truth For These Times Study No.21 Identity Wars Chapter 14 Same Gods, Different Names

Attack on the Ten Commandments



The Ten Commandments As Given By God Exodus 20:2-17

I
You shall have no other gods before Me.

II
You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me, but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.

III
You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain.

IV
Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord your God. In it you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates. For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.

V
Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the Lord your God is giving you.

VI
You shall not murder.

VII
You shall not commit adultery.

VIII
You shall not steal.

IX
You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

X
You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that is your neighbor's."



The Ten Commandments As Shown in Roman Catholic Catechism

I
I am the Lord thy God. Thou shalt have no strange gods before Me.

[Second Commandment Removed]

II
Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain.

III
Remember thou keep holy the Sabbath day.

[God's Seal Removed from 4th Commandment]

IV
Honour thy father and thy mother.

V
Thou shalt not kill.

VI
Thou shalt not commit adultery.

VII
Thou shalt not steal.

VIII
Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

IX
Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife.

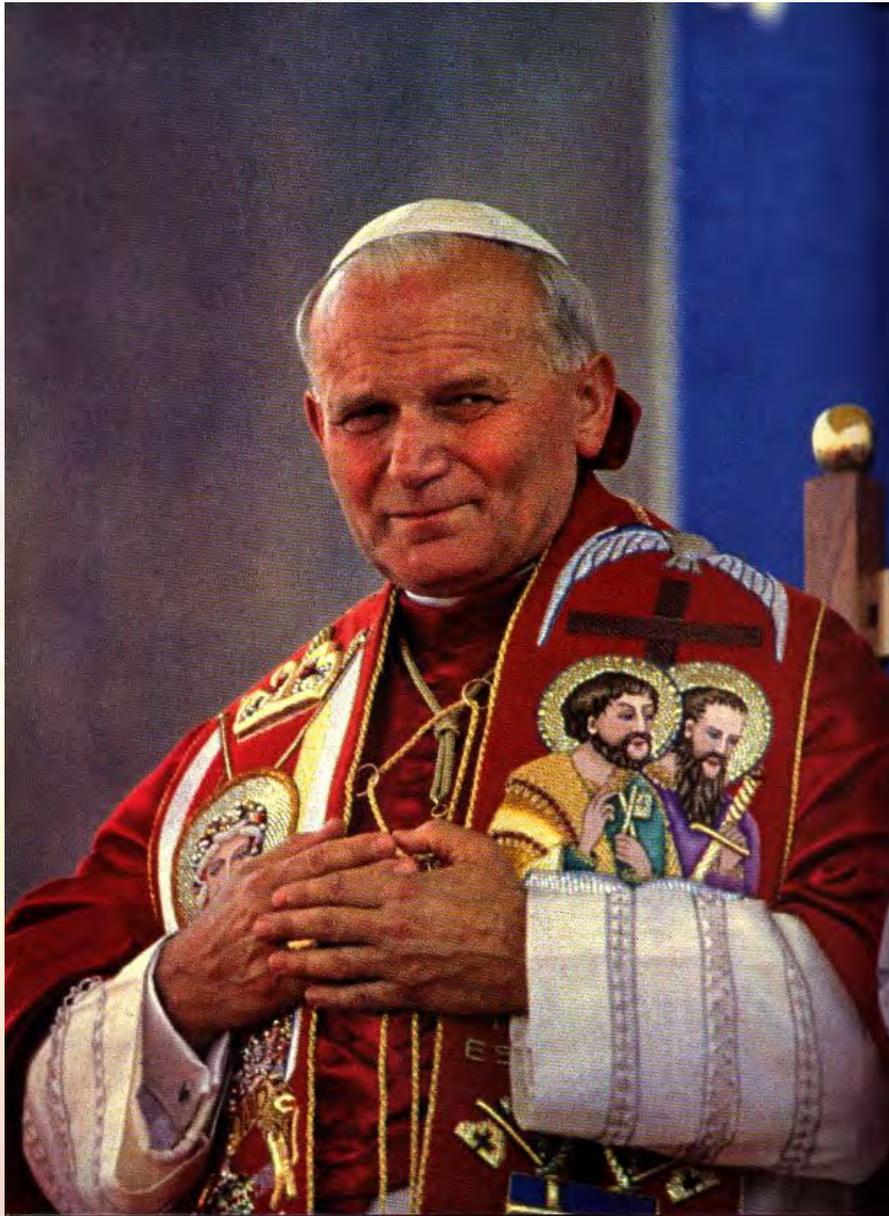
X
Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's goods.

[Last Commandment Split to make Ten]

Attack on the Ten Commandments

AIM:	To show the significance of the Papacy changing the law of God and it's fulfilment of Daniel 7:25 – “he shall think to change times and laws”.
THEME:	Christ as Creator and King.
OUTLINE:	<p>Many people are surprised that there are at least two versions of the Ten Commandments. The true version is found in the scriptures, The altered one is found in the Roman Catholic Catechism. The alterations are very significant and bear investigation. The wording of the first commandment is changed from “No other gods” to “No strange gods”. The second commandment has been completely removed, and the explicit day that we are to worship, the seventh-day Sabbath and the signature of the Creator God has been removed from the fourth commandment. The tenth commandment has been split into two to fill the void made by removing the second commandment. These changes remove the identity of its author. In these changes we see the hand of the antichrist “changing times and laws”.</p> <p>We noticed in the chart “The kingdom of God” that the Ten commandments are a protection of our identity. They clearly outline our position in relation to God and our fellow man. In altering the commandments, our identity is attacked and we become vulnerable to the system of Babylon.</p>
NOTES:	<p>The Significance of Changing the Law of God God's law is a reflection of His character (see chart “God's Law Equals God's Character” on CD-ROM). Satan wanted to be worshipped in the place of God. (See charts “Lucifer's Rebellion”). The fourth commandment clearly identifies the God that we are to worship – The God who made the heavens and the earth. The second commandment ensures that the mind of man is not diverted to worship in a horizontal-earthly fashion – but by faith looking into heaven. Satan sought to remove the second commandment to make it easier to divert the minds of men to gods that are merely reflections of the works and thoughts of men. Satan could never make the claim that he made the heavens and the earth. If he was ever challenged he could not even create one blade of grass! Therefore he needed to modify the fourth commandment to accommodate himself. In removing the primary reason for worshipping God – Creator, he also removed the source of restoration from sin – creative power. Seek to comprehend the implications of this thought. Satan is seeking to prevent any idea that we can overcome sin. The changing of the Sabbath was essential to the success of his plan. This is why the observance of the Sabbath is the token of our belief that we have ceased to be saved in our own way and rest in the assurance that His creative power will restore us to be obedient sons and daughters of God, fully reflecting the character of Jesus.</p> <p>The Ten Commandments are the only part of the Bible that was written by the finger of God. This is direct communication from God. Prophets or priests did not give it. So important was the formation of this document that the Son of God himself wrote them with His own finger. They were written in stone. A symbol of permanence. Who would dare to alter this direct communication from God? This communication was the reflection of God Himself, to change this law is equivalent to seeking to murder God or do away with Him – this is exactly what Satan tried to do at Calvary – murder the Son of God!</p> <p>The changing of God's law by Satan and men proves the truth of Romans 8:7 “the carnal mind <i>is</i> enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.” Man in his natural state does not want to serve anyone else except himself. The revised commandments as given by the papacy give room for man to serve himself. But there is no freedom in seeking release from the law of God. God's law is the law of liberty. James 2:12. It is the protector of our identity. It frees us from the oppression and slavery of self. Let us never surrender the precious law of liberty for a counterfeit.</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<p>Great Controversy, Chapter 35 – “Liberty of Conscience Threatened”.</p> <p>See chart on CD-ROM “God's Law and Catholic Church's Law Compared”.</p> <p>Truth For These Times Study No.22.</p>

Attack on the Sabbath



The Catholic Church Claims:

“The Pope has power to change times, to abrogate laws and to dispense with all things, even the precepts of Christ.”

Decretal De Translat. Espiscop. Cap

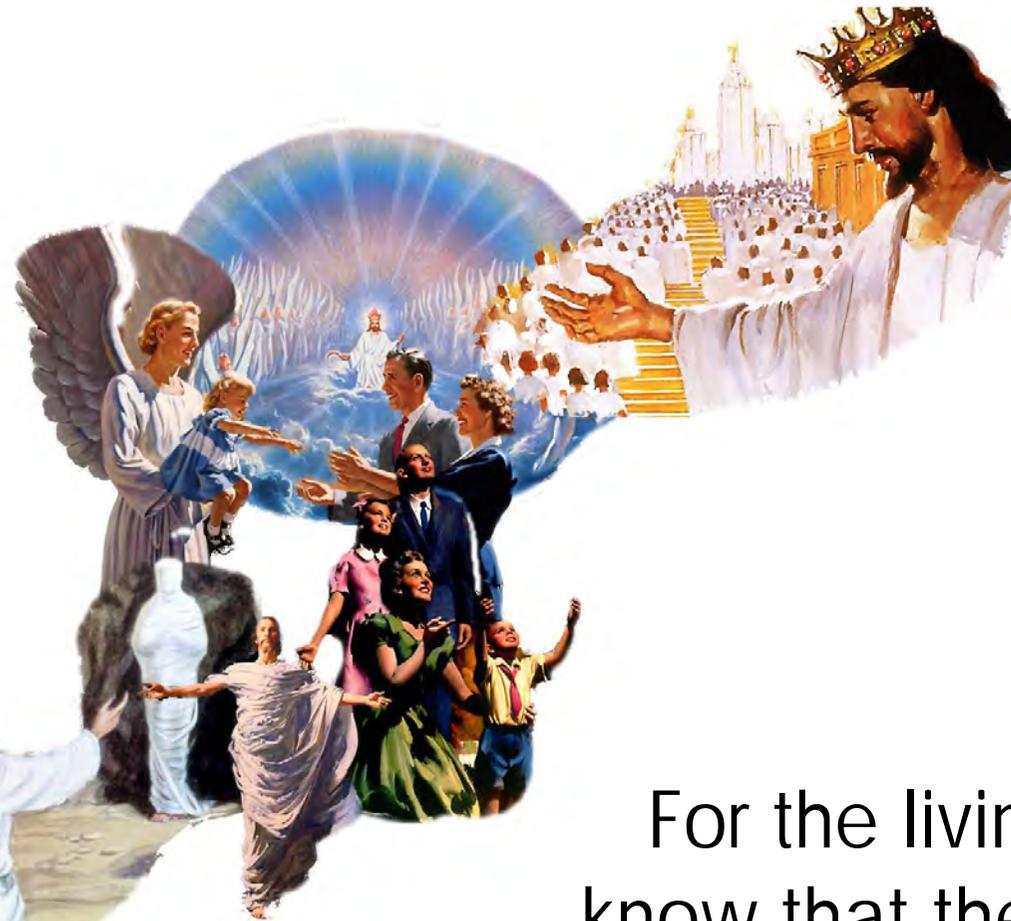
“Perhaps the boldest thing, the most revolutionary change the church ever did happen in the first century. The holy day Sabbath was changed to Sunday...not from any directions noted in the scriptures, but from the churches sense of its own power...People who think that the scripture should be the sole authority should logically become 7th Day Adventists and keep Saturday holy.”

*Saint Catherines Catholic Church Sentinel,
May 21 1995*

Attack on the Sabbath

AIM:	To show the significance of the Papacy changing the law of God and it's fulfilment of Daniel 7:25 – “he shall think to change times and laws”.
THEME:	Christ as Creator.
OUTLINE:	The quotes listed on this chart are simply astounding. Such blatant claims represent the height of arrogance and blasphemy in this antichrist power. To claim to have the power to abrogate (remove) the precepts of Christ is clear evidence of the aims of this system. The second statement is bold and also logical. It asserts that the Roman church did not get Sunday from the Scriptures but from its own authority. In this sense Sunday represents the mark of Rome's authority to change and alter the scriptures and work according to its own desires.
NOTES:	<p>Why is the Sabbath such an important issue? Isn't one day in seven acceptable? There are many issues attached to the change of the Sabbath. We will list some of them here.</p> <p>The Sabbath a mark of our relationship with God: Eze 20:12, 20 tell us that the Sabbath is a sign between us and God that we are His. It is a mark of ownership.</p> <p>The Sabbath Identifies the God of the Commandments: The fourth commandment says we should worship Him that made the heavens and the earth. This is the only identifier in the 10 commandments of which God is asking us to do these things. Remove this line and any god could say they require it of us.</p> <p>The Sabbath strengthens our faith in God's power to recreate our lives and overcome sin: The Sabbath calls for remembrance of the great creative Word of God and how this world was spoken into existence. The Sabbath is a key way of reminding us that all life comes from God. Every breath, every inspired thought – everything comes from Him. Focusing on these things strengthens our faith in God's ability to change us and keep us from falling. Jude 24.</p> <p>The Sabbath is the ultimate test of submission. It is something God has asked us to do without any apparent logical reason for humans to do it. The Sabbath is similar to the tree in the garden test. Why did God choose one tree over all the others as His which we could not touch? A simple test of submission. God used this test with Israel in Ex 16:4 to test if they would follow Him. The Sabbath will also be used as a final test for those who wish to enter the heavenly Canaan when we are called to Worship Him that made the heavens and the earth.</p> <p>So how was the Sabbath changed? Many people believe that when Jesus died on the cross the Sabbath was removed. But God's commandments cannot be changed, they stand forever. Ps 111:7.8. Many people use texts which refer to the fulfilling of the sacrificial system as saying that the 10 commandments were also removed. But if the commandments are referred to as righteousness in the Psalms (119:172) why would Jesus seek to remove righteousness? The truth is the commandments were not changed until after the death of the apostles. In the 2nd century the Jews became more and more trouble for the Romans and the Romans began to really force the Jews to submit. Because Christians kept the same day of worship as the Jews, they were often identified with the Jews. To escape this identification, Christians began to worship on Sunday as a mark of the resurrection of Jesus. So for a time Christians worshipped on both days. By 384 AD in the Laodicean counsel, the Sabbath was relegated and Sunday was exalted without any scriptural authority. It has been observed by many professed Christians ever since.</p> <p>Study the Further Study material for a deeper look at how the Sabbath changed.</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<p>Truth for these times Study 23. “The Sabbath”; Study 24 “Sunday in the Bible”; Study 25 “The Change of the Sabbath.”</p> <p>The History of the Sabbath by J.N Andrews</p> <p>Facts of Faith by Christian Edwardson</p> <p>Rome's Challenge</p> <p>From Sabbath to Sunday by C.B Haynes</p>

Attack on Soul Mortality



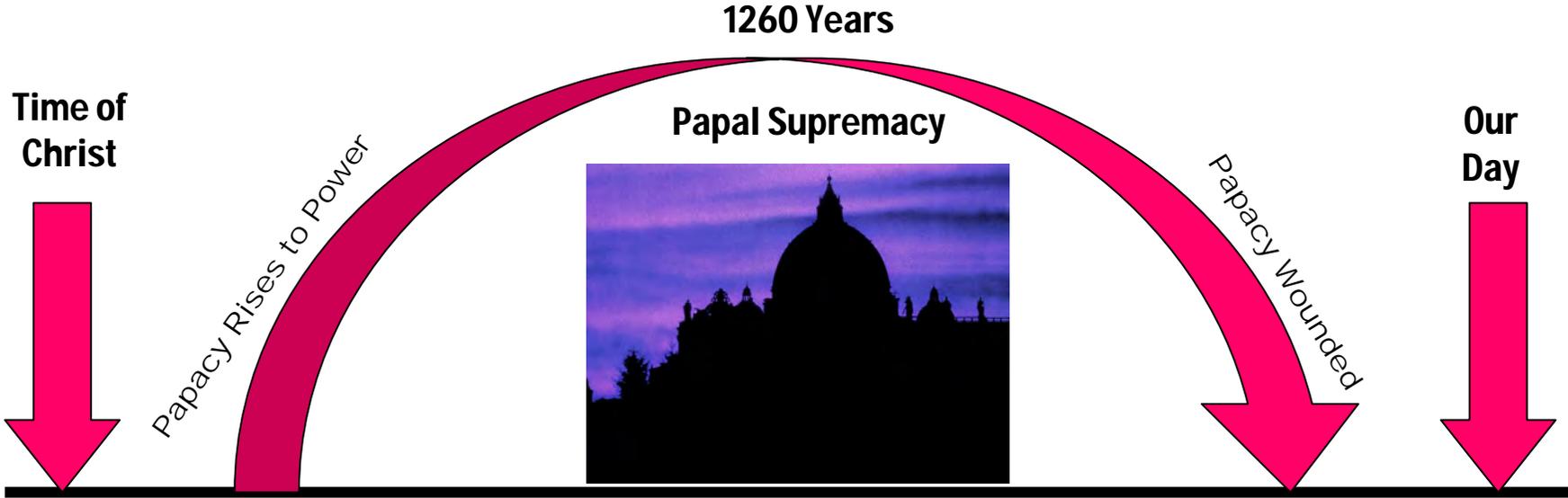
For the living
know that they
shall die; but the dead do
not know anything. Ecc 9:5

Attack on Soul Mortality

AIM:	To show Satan has attacked the Bible teaching that man is mortal and totally dependent on God for life.
THEME:	Christ as Creator and “The Life”.
OUTLINE:	<p>From the very inception of Sin, Satan has taught us that “we shall not surely die” (Gen 3:5) if we disobey God. This suggests that human beings have some form of life source or power in themselves. This teaching entered the Christian church as the doctrine of the immortality of the soul. A belief in the immortality of the soul is one of the key pillars of Babylon. It suggests a level of independence from God that either allows us to ignore God and do our own thing or seek to obey God’s requirements with the power we have inside of us. A belief in immortality is directly linked to a belief in salvation by works, because it suggests we have power inherent in us to add to God’s work of salvation. In a similar way, the doctrine of immortality also contributes to the belief in value by performance and achievement. The combination of the doctrine of immortality and the rejection of the Sabbath commandment is a deadly combination that renders the teaching of righteousness by faith almost powerless. It helps force the issue into a performance/non performance debate and confuses the wonder of Christ in you the hope of glory.</p> <p>The doctrine of immortality forces God to appear as completely unjust and heartless. Man supposedly has a power that not even God can destroy and so those who reject Him must burn in an agonising fire for all eternity. This is not justice, this is evil beyond comprehension. Will the saints hold their eyes and close their ears to block out the sheiks of the wicked as they roll in the flames? The thought is utterly repulsive and Satanic. Since many Christians actually believe that God will do this to people, they are in danger of reflecting the god they worship – A heartless ruthless dictator. Heaven becomes a fire escape and their religion is dominated by fear. How many have rejected this false god as the God of the Bible, only eternity will tell.</p>
NOTES:	<p>Death and the Judgment It is important to understand what happens when a person dies for many reasons. One reason is that if a person goes to heaven when they die, then they have received their reward before they are judged. This would be very embarrassing if the person when judged was found to be guilty and then had to be destroyed! No one receives their reward until Jesus comes Rev 22:12. A correct understanding of death helps to give a correct understanding of judgment.</p> <p>Death and the Second Coming The Bible calls the Second Coming “The blessed hope.” Titus 2:13. It is the point at which the whole family meet together for the first time. Christians yearn for this time and long for Jesus to come back. If a person believes that they go straight to heaven when they die, then the Second Coming means very little and is not the blessed hope. Death becomes the blessed hope! How absurd this is.</p> <p>Death and the Cross Those who believe the soul to be immortal and that sinners must be punished forever are faced with a big problem concerning the cross. Jesus paid the penalty of death for us on the cross. If the penalty for sin is eternal punishment in hell then Jesus should still be there paying that price! Again this is absurd! Jesus tasted death for every man. He paid the price in full.</p> <p>Life in the Son The Bible says that those who have Jesus have life and those who do not have Jesus do not have life. 1 John 5:12. Life means to be conscious. If people are going to be in hell forever, then they are alive. Granted, it would not be pleasant, but it is still life. It makes a mockery of the Bible. It suggests that we can have life without Christ.</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<p><i>The Great Controversy</i>, Chapter 33 – “The First Great Deception”. <i>The Conditionalist Faith of Our Fathers</i>, Volumes 1&2, by Leroy Froom. Truth For These Times Study No.26, 27</p>

Attack on God's People

And they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and one-half time. Dan 7:25



A.D. 538

Ostrogoths Overthrown

Dan 7:25... A time, times, and half a time
 Dan 12:7... A time, times, and a half a time
 Rev 11:2... Forty two months
 Rev 11:3... Twelve hundred and sixty days
 Rev 12:6... Twelve hundred and sixty days
 Rev 12:14... A time, times, and a half a time
 Rev 13:5... Forty two months

A.D. 1798

Pius VI Imprisoned by Napoleon

Attack on God's People

AIM:	<p>(1) To unlock the meaning of the 1260-day prophecy. (2) To establish the time of the end. (3) Identity an intense period of persecution against God's people.</p>
THEME:	<p>The Supremacy Period of the Counterfeit Christ.</p>
OUTLINE:	<p>Daniel 7:25 tells us that God's people shall be given into the hands of the Little horn for a period of a time, times and half a time or 1260 years. God allows the Little horn to manifest its true nature by killing the saints. The Little Horn may kill the body but it can't kill the soul. The Little horn shows its insecurity by seeking to kill all those who oppose it. This is the fruit of Nimrod's kingdom. This is the spirit that led Cain to kill his brother and the Pharisees to kill Christ. The 1260 year period not only reveals the spirit of the Little Horn but also it helps us determine when the time of the end begins and the soon approach of the judgment.</p>
NOTES:	<p>Satan Revealed Before the Judgment Before judgment could occur in 1844, Satan's government must be fully displayed. The 1260 years provided a complete revelation of Satan's hatred for Christ. Between 50 million and 150 million followers of Jesus were put to death during this 1260-year period. Satan not only sought to kill Christ, but all who would follow Him. To understand the sinfulness of sin, time must be given to show how depraved and evil Satan's government is. Rev 13:5 says that power <i>was given</i> unto the beast to continue 42 months. This shows how God allowed this to happen. If we simply trusted and believed God, none of this would have been necessary.</p> <p>The Various Time References The 1260 days is referred to seven times in the Bible. In one place "1260 days", in another "time, times and half a time", and in another "42 months". Rev 11:2&3 link the 42 months to the 1260 days and Rev 12:6,14 link the 1260 days to the time, times and half a time, as referring to the same time period. You will notice that each reference is an abnormal use of time. The collection of units is unusual. Usually when we get to seven days we say week; to 4 weeks, we say month; 12 months, a year. But these are different. The unusual references suggest their symbolic nature. The use of the word "time" in Dan 7:25 and Rev 12:14 means 1 prophetic year or 360 literal years.</p> <p>History on A.D. 538 and 1798 "The prophetic period of the little horn began in A.D. 538, when the Ostrogoths abandoned the siege of Rome, and the bishop of Rome, released from Arian control, was free to exercise the prerogatives of Justinian's decree of 533, and thenceforth to increase the authority of the "Holy See". Exactly 1260 years later (1798), the spectacular victories of the armies of Napoleon in Italy placed the pope at the mercy of the French revolutionary government, which now advised him that the Roman religion would always be the irreconcilable enemy of the Republic, and added that "there is one thing even more essential to the attainment of the end desired, and that is to destroy, if possible, the centre of unity of the Roman Church; and it is for you, who unite in your person the most distinguished qualities of the general and of the enlightened politician, to realize this aim if you consider it practicable". In response to these instructions and at the command of Napoleon, Berthier, with a French army, entered Rome, proclaimed the political rule of the papacy at an end and took the pope prisoner, carrying him off to France, where he died in exile. "The overthrow of the papacy in 1798 marks the climax of a long series of events connected with its progressive decline, and also the conclusion of the prophetic period of 1260 years." <i>SDA Bible Commentary</i> on Daniel 7:25.</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<p><i>Foxes Book of Martyrs</i> by John Foxe <i>History of Protestantism</i>, Vol One, Two & Three by J.A Wylie.</p>

Spiritual Babylon Captures Christianity

NIMROD



PAPACY



1. Church & State Control (Gen 10:10)
2. City Builders and Dwellers (Gen 11:4)
3. Identity through Achievement (Gen 11:4)
4. Reject 10 Commandments (Rom 1:29 - 32)
5. Sun-(day) Worship (cf 2 Kings 22:17; 23:5)
6. Immortality of the Soul (Gen 3:4; 1 Sam 28:3;8)
7. Worships visible, material objects (Rom 1:25)

1. Church & State Control (Rev 13:16,17)
2. Asset Accumulator (Rev 18:16)
3. Identity through Position (2 Thess 2:4)
4. Commandments Changed (Dan 7:25)
5. Sabbath Changed to Sunday (Dan 7:25)
6. Immortality of Soul Introduced (Gen 3:4)
7. Worships visible material (Ex 20:4)

Spiritual Babylon Captures Christianity

AIM:	To show that after many attacks from many angles, Spiritual Babylon takes Christianity captive and imposes its philosophy and kingdom principles on it
THEME:	Christ as Messiah, Life, Priest, Judge and King
OUTLINE:	This chart is an extension of the chart “Babylon and Israel power structures” on page 71. As Nimrod’s descendents took Israel captive through Nebuchadnezzar and they were held captive until the commandment to restore and build Jerusalem, so Christianity was taken captive by Babylon in the years after the apostles through the time of Constantine up to the time of Justinian in the 6 th century A.D. The parallel between Nimrod’s kingdom and the church of the dark ages has many similarities. Some of this has been documented in Alexander Hislop’s book “The Two Babylons”
NOTES:	History bears out the fact that Rome does seek to control the State, to accumulate wealth for its purposes, place a strong emphasis on position and power and has attacked the key doctrines of the Bible that point to God as a life source.
FURTHER STUDY:	<i>The Two Babylons</i> by Alexander Hislop <i>The Babylonian Captivity</i> by Martin Luther <i>History of Protestantism</i> by J.A Wylie <i>The Great Controversy</i> by Ellen White

The Call to Come Out of Babylon

Early Church

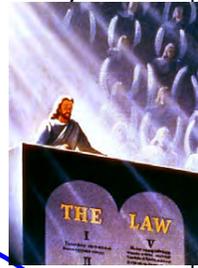
1. Faith of Jesus
2. Commandments of God
3. Keep the Sabbath
4. Saved by Grace
5. Believer's Baptism
6. Second Coming
7. Priesthood of Believers

Remnant Church

1. Faith of Jesus
2. Commandments of God
3. Keep the Sabbath
4. Saved by Grace
5. Believer's Baptism
6. Second Coming
7. Priesthood of Believers

2300 Years
Daniel 8:14

1260 Years
Rev 11:2,3



AD 27
AD 31
AD 34
91

AD 538
Woman flees into wilderness



AD 1798
Remnant Survives



AD 1844

Saints caught up to meet Jesus in the air

- Ephesus
- Smyrna
- 321 Sunday Law
- 325 Easter
- 336 Christmas
- 376 Pope receives keys from Babylonian Cult & becomes Pontifex
- 381 Mary Worship
- 384 Sabbath declared day of mandatory work
- 416 Infant Baptism
- 500 Burning Incense
- 519 Practice of Lent
- Pergamos



Sardis



Philadelphia

Laodicea
Rejection of 3 Angel's Messages leads to fall of Protestant churches



God's people called out of Babylon by Third Angel's Message

- 700 Easter Eggs
- 767 Image & Saint veneration formulated
- 831 Doctrine of Transubstantiation formulated
- 1123 Celibacy of Priests
- 1215 Annual Confession
- 1229 Bible reading by laymen forbidden
- 1239 Pope claims supremacy over all rulers
- 1319 Purgatory proclaimed as dogma
- 1545 Tradition declared equal to Bible
- 1870 Absolute Infallibility of the Pope
- 1965 Mary Declared Mother of God
- Thyatira



Fallen churches unite against the remnant and worship the beast



Wicked destroyed by brightness of the Coming of Jesus

The Call to Come Out of Babylon

AIM:	To give an overview of the conflict between truth and error covering the time between the first and second advent of Christ.
THEME:	Christ as Messiah, Life, Priest, Judge and King
OUTLINE:	This chart is designed to give us a broad sweep of Christian history. Not long after the death of the apostles we see two clear paths emerge. A small group clings to the original teachings of the apostles while the rest follow the wide path that leads to destruction. God used the Protestant reformation to try and reclaim those who were taking the wide path but many rejected the call. When the call to judgement came all the protestant churches rejected this call except the advent movement. There will be one more call for God's people to come away from the wide path of Babylon and join God's faithful people. This call will come through the Third angel's message and amplified in the Angel of Revelation 18:1-4. God is calling all of us now to come out of Satan's false religious systems and come fully into the light.
NOTES:	<p>The Two Paths Starting from the cross, we see two paths. The straight path represents the faithful who clung to God's word as their rule of faith. The descending line that finds its destination in the woman riding the beast, shows the line of those who wished to follow tradition (rather than the Bible only) and develop a system of religion that claims a person can save him or her self in his or her own way.</p> <p>The Reformation God in his mercy will not allow the church to simply go blindly to destruction and therefore sent light to the church through the reformation – to bring people back to the true gospel of Jesus Christ through following the Bible only and not the traditions of men.</p> <p>The Three Angel's Messages The climax of the reformation led to a proclaiming of the Three Angel's Messages – a proclaiming of the true gospel that included the judgment. This was a complete restoration of God's plan to save us and included the four elements of the gospel with a heavenly focus.</p> <p>Messages Rejected Many of those who had come out of Babylon and embraced the light of the reformation would not follow Jesus into the Most Holy Place in heaven by faith and accept all the claims of the Ten Commandments. Those who reject these messages will eventually descend back to the line of tradition and become a part of the woman who rides the beast (religious power controlling state power to enforce religious traditions).</p> <p>Final Call God gives a final call to those in Babylon to come out before He destroys the woman who rides the beast. A final pleading call to accept God's plan to save us and to cease resistance to His commandments.</p> <p>Final Results Those who submit to God's plan and do not resist Him receive the reward of living with Him forever. Those who resist Him and choose their own way receive the results of their choice – separation from Him, which means second death. Let us cease to resist our loving Saviour's call.</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<i>The Great Controversy</i> , by E.G. White. Truth For These Times Study No.28.

THIRD ANGEL



WORSHIP
WAR



The Third Angel's Message

The Choice Between the Worship of God and the Worship of Self

Then a third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives *his* mark on his forehead or on his hand, he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation; ...***Here is the patience of the saints: here are those that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus. Rev 14:9-12.***

If any man worship the beast and his image

Our heavenly Father in urgent tones of love sends this most fearful warning. The anti-Christ and law-breaking nature of the beast has been clearly revealed in the second angel's message as a counterfeit of the worship of God. The image to the beast is revealed by an enforcement of human law that contradicts the claims of God's law.

Receive his mark

The mark of the beast is the mark of its power – "*Perhaps the boldest thing, the most revolutionary change the church ever did happened in the first century. The holy day, the Sabbath, was changed from Saturday to Sunday... not from any directions noted in the scriptures, but from the church's sense of it's own power*" Saint Cathrines Catholic Church Sentinel, May 21 1995. The mark of the beast therefore is an enforcement of this change of the fourth commandment from Sabbath to Sunday.

He himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God

Those who accept this mark face the wrath of God. This wrath is not a sudden rise of anger on the part of God but rather the culmination of centuries of forbearance and waiting and pleading for people not to turn away from Him, not to use God's power and claim it as their own, not to torture, hold captive or kill their fellow human beings. The wrath of God is poured out in the seven last plagues. Each person must face either the wrath of the beast or the wrath of God. Who will you choose to follow?

Here is the patience of the saints

This difficult test calls for patience on the part of God's people – a trust that cannot be shaken, a reliance upon God's word over and above the senses. This patience is shown by: keeping all of God's word as revealed in His commandments, and the faith of Jesus.

This choice is described prophetically in Revelation 13 and 14. The charts in this section come largely from these chapters. Worship is the key choice. Do we worship the Creator or gods of our own design? The worship of the true God as defined by the first four commandments of the law of God defines our relationship to Him. Satan seeks to counterfeit each of these laws to suit his purposes. The climax of the conflict finds its source in the observance of the Sabbath, the ultimate sign of our loyalty and allegiance to God. It shows that we recognize God as sovereign. It also signifies that we are trusting in God's work to save us and that we are resting from our own efforts.

The Gospel Lost and Restored (Part 2)



ELIJAH

I saw another angel
... **having the everlasting gospel**



LAW

SANCTUARY

LAMB

PRIEST



95

5.. Restores Sanctuary

4. Restores Sabbath

3. Restores Commandments

2. Restores Priesthood

1. Restores True Lamb

1844

Heaven

Sabbath/Sanctuary
Seventh-day
Adventist

Second Advent Millerites

Immersion (No Babies) Baptist

Christian Standards –
Methodists

Practical & Workable (Christianity)
Congregationalist/Presbyterians

Salvation (By Faith) Lutheran

Earth

No Images (No Mariolatry)
Episcopalians

No Pope (God alone Infallible)
Greek Orthodox



LAW

SANCTUARY

LAMB

PRIEST

Man's law –
Sabbath changed;
idols accepted

Vatican City in Rome

The Mass

Claims to be Christ in the
flesh. The Vicar of the Son
of God – in place of Christ.

The Gospel Lost and Restored (Part 2)

AIM:	To show how God restored the four elements of the everlasting gospel after the apostasy of the Christian church during the dark ages.
THEME:	Restoring of True Christ.
OUTLINE:	In the chart attack on the gospel we saw how the little horn copied the elements of the gospel and brought them to earth. Before Judgment can begin, the true gospel must be revealed. The restoration of the true worship of God is expressed in the scripture as the Elijah Message. (I kings 18, Mal 4:1-5) The presentation of the Elijah message is the Third Angels Message, they are the same message. This chart shows the step by step ascension process of the gospel from the reformation with Luther right through to the present time showing how each part of the gospel was restored.
NOTES:	<p>Having the Everlasting Gospel: It is interesting to note that the angel in Revelation 14 <i>has</i> the everlasting gospel to give to the world at the time judgment is to commence. Up to this point in history the true and complete gospel of Jesus had practically been lost. Since God was about to enter into judgment and because He was preparing a people to meet Him face to face, God needed to restore the pure gospel. This was essential because man was to be judged by the gospel. Rom 2:16. Therefore the gospel that was lost is now restored. Each of the four elements is revealed in the context of the heavenly ministry of Jesus. This revelation automatically exposes the false gospel of man and allows the cry to go out from the second angel that “Babylon is fallen”.</p> <p>In the quotes below we see the four elements of the gospel restored. The lamb and priesthood were restored during the reformation, the commandments of God (including the Sabbath) were taught and practised by a number of reformers, but it was not until 1844 that the law in the context of the heavenly sanctuary was understood. Through the reformation era, God overthrows the vertical attack on Christ’s ministry by the little horn. Praise God for this precious revelation of truth!</p> <p>The Lamb Restored: “The Mass in the Papacy must be the greatest and most horrible abomination, as it directly and powerfully conflicts with this chief article, [Jesus died and rose again for our Justification] and yet above and before all other popish idolatries it has been the chief and most specious. For it has been held that this sacrifice or work of the Mass, even though it be rendered by a wicked (and abandoned) scoundrel, frees men from sins, both in this life and also in purgatory, while <i>only the Lamb of God shall and must do this.</i>” Martin Luther, The Smalcald articles, page 10.</p> <p>The Priesthood and Heavenly View: “Instead of the hierarchy whose reservoir of power was on the Seven Hills, whence it was conveyed downward through a mystic chain that linked all other priests to the Pope, much as the cable conveys the electric spark from continent to continent, they restored the universal priesthood of believers. Their fountain of power is in heaven; faith like a chain links them to it; the Holy Spirit is the oil with which they are anointed; and the sacrifices they present are not those of expiation, which has been accomplished once for all by the Eternal Priest, but of hearts purified by faith, and lives which the same divine grace makes fruitful in holiness. This was a great revolution. An ancient and stablished order was abolished; an entirely different one was introduced.” The History of Protestantism, by Rev J.A. Wylie, Vol 1, page 843.</p> <p>The Law in the Context of the Heavenly Sanctuary: “The minds of all who embrace this message are directed to the Most Holy Place, where Jesus stands before the ark, making His final intercession for all those for whom mercy still lingers and for those who have ignorantly broken the law of God. ... After Jesus opened the door of the most holy, the light of the Sabbath was seen, and the people of God were tested, as the children of Israel were tested anciently, to see if they would keep God’s law. I saw the third angel pointing upward, showing the disappointed ones the way to the holiest of the heavenly sanctuary. As they by faith enter the most holy, they find Jesus, and hope and joy spring up anew.” Early Writings, page 254, 255.</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<i>History of Protestantism</i> , Vol One , Two & Three by J.A Wylie. <i>Early Writings</i> , – “The Third Angel’s Message” and “A Firm Platform”, page 255-261.

Keys to unlocking Revelation

Revelation 1:1-3



Revelation Of Jesus Christ

Read literally, the revelation of Jesus Christ means “*revealing the salvation of Jehovah*”. Revelation is a revelation of the Gospel of Jesus

Show unto his Servants

This meaning of this book will be revealed to those who have accepted Jesus as their saviour and are committed to serving Him

Must

The prophecies of this book are going to happen. Nothing will prevent them from taking place

The **Revelation of Jesus Christ**, which God gave unto him, to **show unto his servants** things which **must shortly come to pass**, and he **signified it** by his angel unto his servant John: Who bare record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he saw. **Blessed is he that readeth**, and they that **hear the words of this prophecy**, and **keep those things which are written therein**: for the time is at hand

Come to pass

This word means “begin to be; appear in history; come upon the stage; be fulfilled. This book reveals the future from the time of Christ till the end of the world

Signified

This word means “To make known by signs and symbols.” We are told here that signs and symbols will be used to describe the book.

Blessed - Read, Hear, Keep

There are three conditions to receive the blessing of Revelation. We must read, learn and know accurately the words of this book and once learnt we must keep and hold fast the things we have learned. Then we will be blessed

Prophecy

This book is not nice poetry, It is a prophecy declaring the purposes of God, it warns the wicked, comforts the afflicted and reveals the future.

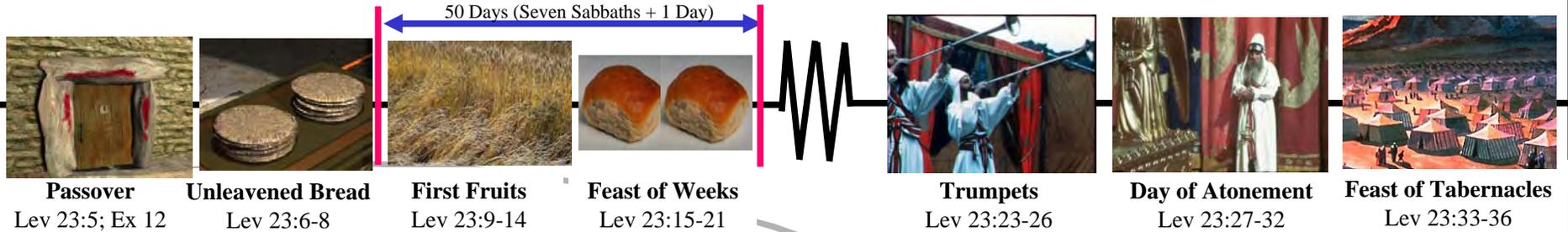
Keys to Unlocking Revelation

AIM:	To examine the introduction to Revelation and set the context for the study of the book
THEME:	The Revelation of Jesus Christ.
OUTLINE:	The last chart “The Gospel lost and restored shows that truth would be revived for the last days after a long period of apostasy in the church as shown in the chart “The call to come out of Babylon” This chart begins a series of charts that will lay the foundation for the worship war that is described in Revelation 13 and 14. This chart points out some vital clues as to how we should interpret Revelation.
NOTES:	<p>1. The Revelation of Jesus Christ: This literally means “revealing the salvation of Jehovah.” In other words this book is the gospel according to Jesus Christ. The Father gave it to him to give to John. As we study this book we need to keep in mind that the plan of salvation is the central theme of the book.</p> <p>2. Show unto His Servants: Show means: “Expose to the eyes; to give proof or evidence of a thing” Servants mean: One who gives himself up to another’s will; those whose service is used by Christ in extending and advancing His cause among men. Jesus gives proof and evidence to his faithful followers of how the plan of salvation will unfold in this world. This information will not be discerned by those who are not His servants</p> <p>3. Must: This means “Necessity established by the counsel and decree of God, especially by that purpose of His which relates to the salvation of men by the intervention of Christ and which is disclosed in the old testament prophecies.” Revelation is not a conditional prophecy. It will happen, God said it <i>must</i> take place.</p> <p>4. Come to Pass: This means “<i>begin to be; appear in history; come upon the stage; be fulfilled</i>” That which is shown to God’s servants is that which will appear in history. This tells us that Revelation will use a historical approach. It will reveal what is going to happen in history from the time of John till the establishment of the God’s Kingdom after the Second Coming.</p> <p>5. Signified: This means “to make known by signs and symbols.” A lot of the imagery used in Revelation is used as symbols to describe world events. Seven Churches, Seals and Trumpets, seven headed monsters, mountains being thrown into the sea, a large star falling from heaven, these events are all symbolic of important events in the plan of salvation.</p> <p>6. Blessed is he that reads and those that hear and keep the words: A special blessing is given to those that study (read and hear) revelation but this blessing is only given if we keep or obey what is written in the book.</p> <p>7. Prophecy: This book is a prophecy. It tells events future from the time of John. It is a special warning to Gods people to be ready and reveals God’s wonderful plan to save us.</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<i>Keys to the Code</i> , Introduction to the Book of Revelation by Jon Paulien (Audio). <i>God Cares Vol 2</i> , by M.C Maxwell.

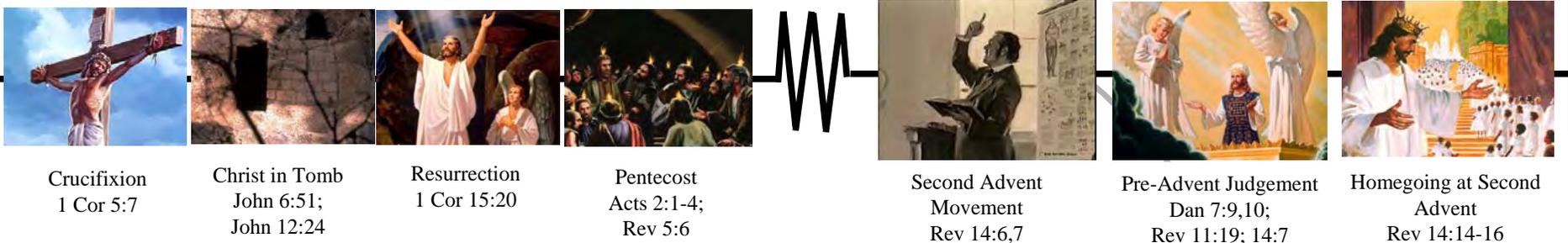
The Feasts in Revelation

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One Jewish Year symbolises



Entire Christian Era = Book of Revelation



Messiah (Court)

Life

Priest (Holy Place)

Judge (Most Holy)

King

1844

Seven Churches (1-3)

7 Seals (4-6)

Seven Trumpets(8-10)

Rev 11 -20

Rev 21,22

Rev 1:5
Death

Rev 1:18
Resurrection/
Candlesticks

Rev 5:6
Spirit into all Earth

Rev 8:2
Trumpets/Altar of Incense

Rev 11:18,19
Ark of Covenant

Rev 21:3
Tabernacle with men

The Feasts in Revelation

AIM:	To show that Revelation clearly reveals the plan of salvation as reflected in the Jewish feasts and once again set a correct context for interpreting Revelation
THEME:	The Revelation of Jesus Christ.
OUTLINE:	On page 59 we studied the yearly feasts of Jews and found that every feast pointed symbolically to a part of the plan of salvation. Every year the whole cycle was completed reflecting the work of Jesus from the cross to the Second Coming. The book of Revelation covers that exact time period, so it is no accident that Revelation uses terms and phrases that highlight this sequence of Jewish feasts. Seeing the feasts in Revelation give us a compass for navigating the book.
NOTES:	<p>Passover and Unleavened Bread: The message of the Passover is the lamb that was slain to pay the cost of our sin. It signifies the death of Jesus on the cross for us. I Cor 5:7. Revelation alludes to this in Rev 1:5 “To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood” It is the first and most critical part of the plan of salvation</p> <p>First Fruits: The message of the feast of first fruits was a focus on life in the grain crops that springs forth from the earth by the power of God. This was a symbol of the resurrection of Jesus. 1 Cor 15:20 and Revelation reminds us of this event in Rev 1:18 “I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen”</p> <p>Feast of Weeks: The feast of weeks or Pentecost symbolized rapid growth of the grain through the agent of leaven. It’s fulfillment is described in Acts 2:1-4 when the Holy Spirit was poured out on the disciples as an agent of rapid growth. Revelation signifies this event in Rev 5:6 where it tells us the spirit that is sent out into all the earth from the throne of God. Acts gives the earthly perspective. Revelation gives the heavenly perspective</p> <p>Trumpets: The feast of trumpets was a warning of the coming judgment on the day of atonement. There was special blowing of trumpets 10 days before the day of atonement. Lev 23:24. An interesting fact reveals that on the first day of every month there was a blowing of the trumpet. Num 10:10 This means between Passover and the day of atonement there was seven blowings of the trumpet. Revelation talks specifically about the blowing of seven trumpets. These trumpets talk of judgments that occur on earth. These judgments fall on those who are turning away from God as reminders that they need to prepare for the Day of Judgment.</p> <p>Day of Atonement: After the feast of Trumpets the Day of Atonement occurred. In Revelation after the Seven Trumpets are blown, John is show the ark of the Covenant and he hears that the time has come that the earth should be judged. Rev 11:18,19. Revelation follows the same sequence as the Jewish feasts</p> <p>Feast of Tabernacles: The feast of tabernacles was a festive celebration and symbolized the reunion of God with His People. Rev 21:3 says that God will bring down the new Jerusalem and Tabernacle with men. It also refers to the holy city in Rev 20 as the camp of the saints. The word camp reflects the camping of Gods people with their God.</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<i>The Cross and Its Shadow</i> pages 93-122; 201-239. <i>Symposium on Revelation Book 1</i> : Sanctuary Typology by Richard Davidson, Pages 119-126

THE CHIASTIC STRUCTURE OF REVELATION

7 CHURCHES (1:10 to 3:22)	7 SEALS (4:1 to 8:1)	7 TRUMPETS (8:2- 11:18)	GREAT CONTROVERSY (11:19 to 14:20)	7 LAST PLAGUES (15:1 to 16:21)	FALL OF BABYLON (17:1 to 19:10)	MILLENNIUM (19:11 to 21:8)	NEW JERUSALEM (21:9 to 22:9)
<i>Christ Counsels His Church, at war, Scatted in many Cities</i>	<i>Christ Shields His Afflicted People</i>	<i>Severe Judgements Warn the World</i>	<i>Trials of the True Mother and Her Children</i>	<i>Very Severe Judgements punish the World</i>	<i>Downfall of the False Mother</i>	<i>Christ Enthrones His Resurrected People</i>	<i>Christ Rewards His Church, At Peace, Gathered into one City</i>
Christ walks among the seven candlesticks 2:1 Tree of life 2:7 Open door 3:8 Christ sits on His Father's throne 3:21 New Jerusalem comes down from heaven 3:12 I am coming quickly 3:11	Heaven opened 4:1 Rider on white horse followed by riders on coloured horse 6:2-8 Souls of martyrs, under altar, ask for judgement 6:9,10 White Robes 6:11; 7:9-14 Kings, generals, etc ask to be killed 6:15,16	1. Earth 8:7 2. Sea 8:8,9 3. Rivers & Fountains 8:10,11 4. Sun, Moon & Stars 8:12 5. Darkness, Bottomless Pit, Locusts 9:1-11 6. River Euphrates 9:13-21 7. Loud voices: The Kingdom is Christ's! 11:15-18	True Mother Dressed in White. 12:1,2 Her Children keep the Commandments 12:17 Woman in Wilderness 12:14 Beast with 7 Heads, 10 horns 12:3; 13:1 Babylon is Fallen! 14:8 Testimony of Jesus. 12:17	1. Earth 16:2 2. Sea 16:3 3. Rivers & Fountains 16:4 4. Sun 16:8,9 5. Darkness on throne of beast 16:10,11 6. River Euphrates 16:12,16 7. A loud voice: It is Done 16:17-21	False Mother Dressed in Purple 17:4 Her Children are Harlots 17:5 Woman in Wilderness 17:3 Beast with 7 heads & 10 horns 17:3 Babylon is Fallen! 18:2 Testimony of Jesus 19:10	Heaven opened 19:11 Rider on white horse followed by riders on white horses. 19:11-16 Souls of Martyrs, resurrected, are enthroned as judges 20:4-6 White Robes 19:14 Kings captains, etc are killed 19:17-21	Christ is the eternal Lamp 21:23 Tree of life 22:2 Gates never closed 21:25 Throne of God and of the Lamb 22:1,3 New Jerusalem, comes down from heaven 21:10 I am coming quickly 22:7
← Historical Section				Final Events Section →			
Priest / Judge				King			

The Chiastic Structure of Revelation

AIM:	To show that the literary structure of Revelation divides the book into two major sections. A historical section and an end time section. It also reveals that the judgment is at the heart of its message
THEME:	The Revelation of Jesus Christ.
OUTLINE:	A close observation of Revelation reveals a carefully crafted organisation. Themes that occur at the beginning of the book also occur at the end of the book. Themes that occur in the second section also occur in the section to last section. The first of the book is mirrored by the last part of the book. This structure is common in Hebrew thought and is referred to as a chiasm. The letter in the Greek alphabet that looks like an “X” is called Chi (Kye). The letter symbolises a crossover of ideas from beginning to end. Understanding this structure will help us to interpret its meaning correctly
NOTES:	<p>Why is it important to notice this Chiasm in scripture? When we realize that Revelation chapters 1 to 14 deal with historical events and 15 to 22 with End time events its helps us how to interpret the various passages. Many people believe the events of the seals and trumpets are still in the future. These people follow an interpretation of Revelation often referred to as “Futurism.” But the structure of Revelation makes it impossible to place these events in the future, except for the sixth and seventh seal and final trumpet which historically reach till the end time events.</p> <p>The second thing that the chiasm highlights is the cross over point. Writers use chiasm to highlight a central point. The cross over point of Revelation centres on the Judgment. The areas marked with grey and white form the centre of the cross over. The trumpets focus on the warning judgments. Revelation 11 to 14 focus on the judgment event and Revelation 15 to 19 focus on punishments that come as a result of the judgment. So judgment is the central theme here.</p> <p>It is interesting to note the parallels between the historical and end time sections. It makes us stand in awe of the skill and wisdom found in the book. But the main point is the divisions of the book and the highlighted crossover point which focuses on the judgment.</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<i>God Cares Vol 2</i> , by M.C Maxwell.

Revelation's Four Perspectives of History

From the Time of Christ to the Second Coming

Time of Christ

Second Coming



The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come (upon the scene of history) to pass; Rev 1:1

1

Seven Churches - Rev 2 & 3 (Counsel- Condition/Remedy)

2

Seven Seals - Rev 4 - 6 (Covenant Blessings & Curses)

3

Seven Trumpets - Rev 8 - 11 (Preliminary Judgements)

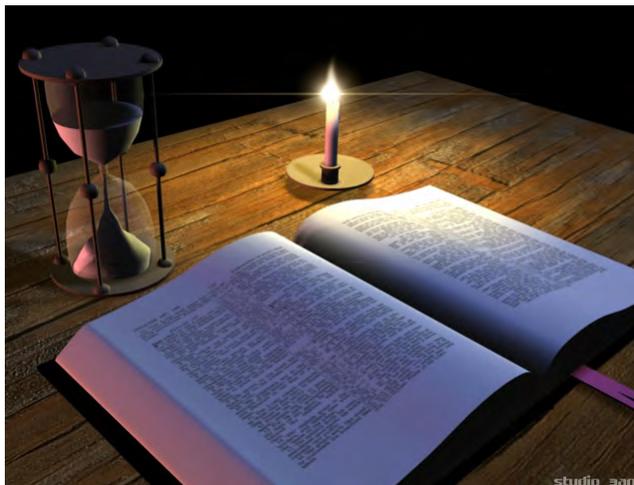
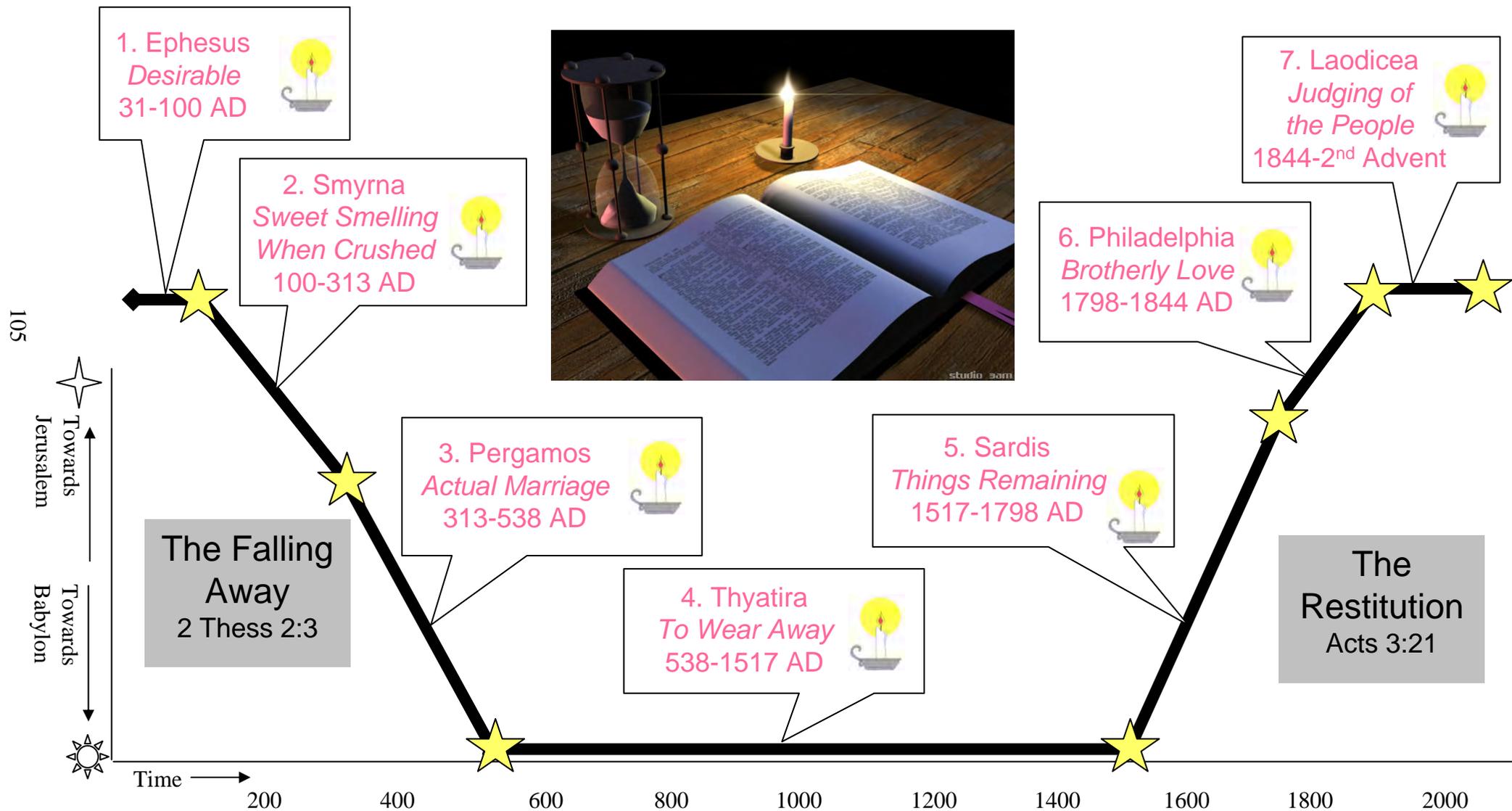
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Great Controversy - Rev 12 - 14 (Worship War)

Revelation's Four Perspectives of History

AIM:	To show that the literary structure of the historical section of Revelation.
THEME:	The Revelation of Jesus Christ.
OUTLINE:	<p>In the chart <i>Keys to unlocking Revelation</i>, we noted that one of the keys was to see that things which would shortly come to pass or begin to appear in history. The book of Revelation looks at the history of the world from the time of Christ till the Second Coming in four different perspectives.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Seven Churches: This perspective shows what would happen to the church during this time. We see a great struggle takes place, apostasy enters the church, Satan takes control of one part of the church, a reformation takes place and a remnant hold on to the original truths preached by the apostles. For each church period, Jesus gives counsel as to how best deal with the struggle the church faces at that time. We will deal more with the Seven Churches in the next chart. 2. The Seven Seals: This perspective shows how the church would either experience blessing or cursing depending on their obedience or disobedience to the new covenant (allowing God to write his law in our hearts Heb 8:10). The language of the seals is similar to the language of Deut 28 where God promised blessing and cursing depending on faithfulness to the covenant. Since the Seven Church perspective reveals that apostasy would gradually enter the church, so the seals reveal that blessings diminish and curses increase. The seals are reminder of Rev 3:19 which says “As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent.” The seals therefore show us the faithfulness of God in trying to keep our eyes on Him and not be turned toward the world. We will cover more on the seals on page 107. 3. The Seven Trumpets: This section deals with God’s preliminary judgments on those who reject his covenant. The trumpets in the Bible were used to warn of coming judgments. Lev 23:24; Num 29:1. The language of the trumpets is parallel to the language of the seven last plagues, so the trumpets are like warnings of the coming plagues. The trumpets serve as a reminder to God’s people that we can go to far and abuse God’s grace and be snared by the devil. 4. The Great Controversy: This section details the story of God’s faithful remnant people. It starts with the woman (the church) who gives birth to Christ and then flees into the wilderness for 1260 days (years) This faithful remnant remain faithful to the commandments of Gods and the faith of Jesus. As the end approaches God’s people and the wicked are locked in a worship war, a war between the beast (Rev 13:1-8) and the Creator God (Rev 14:6,7) This worship war will be covered in greater detail in the coming charts
NOTES:	<p>The number seven in scripture denotes completeness. God completed the creation of the world in seven days is one example of this. The Seven’s used here describe the complete history of the church from Christ till the end from various perspectives.</p> <p>Why four perspectives? That is a good question. This style of writing is also found in Daniel where Daniel 2,7,8 and 9-12 provide 4 parallels of world history. The gospels also provide four perspectives of Christ’s ministry on earth, so this pattern is continued in the book of Revelation.</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<i>God Cares Vol 2</i> , by M.C Maxwell. Revelation to the Nations Study Series on the CD in the Folder <i>Revelation Series</i> . also <i>What the Bible says about the End time</i> by Jon Paulien.

The Seven Churches of Christian History



The Seven Churches of Christian History

AIM:	To give a detailed view of the Seven Churches of Revelation
THEME:	The Revelation of Jesus Christ.
OUTLINE:	<p>From the chart Revelation's Four Perspectives we learnt that the Seven churches cover seven periods of church history. While the counsel to the seven churches did apply to the actual churches at the time Revelation was written, their experiences form a prophetic picture of what would happen to the churches through history. This is event with the use of the number seven, There were more than seven churches in Asia, but these seven were chosen for their prophetic significance.</p> <p>Note the chart below. Each church has a description of Jesus which holds the key to the remedy for each church. Jesus gives comfort, praise and warning to each of the churches. One key point we learn from the seven churches is that the church experiences a falling away or apostasy and then a reformation. Understanding the apostasy that takes place IN the church is important in determining who is the man of sin mentioned in 2 Thessalonians 2:3,4. The comforting thing we learn from the seven churches is that "though it walks through the valley (apostasy) of the shadow of death, Jesus keeps His promises to always be with his people.</p> <p>As you examine each church on the chart, refer to for chart below for more details.</p>

NOTES:

NAME	EPHESUS	SMYRNA	PERGAMOS	THYATIRA	SARDIS	PHILADELPHIA	LAODICEA
							
PERIOD	31-100 AD	100-313 AD	313-538 AD	538-1517 AD	1517-1798 AD	1798-1844 AD	1844-To End
Description of Christ	Holds 7 Stars, Walks among 7 candlesticks	First & Last Was dead and is Alive	Has Sharp two edged Sword	Son of God Flaming Eyes Feet of Brass	Holds 7 Spirits And 7 Stars	Holy and True Key of David Opens & Shuts	Amen True Witness Ruler of Creation
Christ Knows	Works Labour Patience	Works Tribulation Poverty	Works Dwelling where Satan's seat is.	Works Faith Service Patience	Works	Works	Works False Claims True Condition
Praise	Can't bear Evil Test Teachers Hate Nicolaitanes	You Are Rich	Hold fast My Name Not denied the faith	Last Works better than the first	A few have not defiled their garments	Kept My word Not denied My name	
Rebuke	Left First Love		Some Baalaamites And Nicolaitanes	Tolarates Jezebel Wont Repent	Works Imperfect Seems alive but dead		Lukewarm Poor, Blind Naked
Counsel	Repent!, Remember Return to First love And First works	Don't Fear Be Faithful unto death	Repent!	Repent!	Repent! Remember! Awake! Strengthen!	Hold Fast!	Repent! Buy! Open!
Warning	I Will Remove Candlestick		I will make war	Sickbed Great Tribulation Death	I will come as a thief		I will Spue out
False Jews		Slander You				Will Worship At your feet	
Promise/Reward	Eat from tree of life	Crown of Life	Hidden Manna White Stone New Name	Rod to Rule Nations Morning Star	White garments Walk with Me Confess Name Not Blot out	Pillar in Temple Name of God written on them City of new Name	Sup with Me Sit with Me on throne

FURTHER STUDY:

God Cares Vol 2, by M.C Maxwell.
 Revelation to the Nations Study Series on the CD in the Folder *Revelation Series*.

Seven Seals

31 AD



The Church at War.
Covenant Curses and Deliverance. Deut 28



Second Coming



1. White Horse
Gospel Preached
Rev 6:1,2

2. Red Horse
Persecution
Rev 6:3,4

3. Black Horse
Divisions, Apostasy
Rev 6:5,6

4. Pale Horse
Death
Rev 6:7,8

5. Souls cry for
Deliverance
Rev 6:9-11

6. Second
Coming
Rev 6:12-17

7. Silence
in Heaven
Rev 8:1

Curses increase as truth compromised

Satan attacks Church

Deliverance from Curses

The Seven Seals

AIM:	To give a detailed view of the Seven Seals of Revelation.
THEME:	The Revelation of Jesus Christ.
OUTLINE:	<p>The seven seals run parallel to the seven churches in history. (See chart Revelations Four Perspectives) The introduction to the seals is found in Revelation 4 and 5.</p> <p>In introducing the prophecy of the seven seals it is helpful to review chapters 4 and 5 of Revelation. These introduce the seven seals. In Revelation four God is revealed as Creator upon the throne in supreme control. In Revelation five Jesus Christ is brought to view as the omnipotent Lamb who has conquered Satan and paid the price for the world's redemption. This means that the world's destiny is decided. The saints of God are guaranteed the kingdom and all rebels against God are guaranteed destruction. In the seals, the church of God is revealed in deadly conflict with the powers of darkness and though error and apostasy appear to dominate, yet God is in control.</p> <p>As the seals are opened the language reveals strong link to the curses promised to those who forsook the covenant in the time of Old Testament Israel. Lev 26:21-26 and Deut 32:41-43. These passages describe war, famine, pestilence and wild beasts. As each seal opens the curses get worse as God's people slide further into apostasy. The curses are sent by God to cause God's people to repent and return to him.</p>
NOTES:	<p>The first four seals are symbolized by different coloured horses. The horses symbolize warfare. See Rev 19:11 for example. The white horse which parallels the First church advances the gospel rapidly. The white colour of the horse symbolizes the purity of gospel and the righteousness of Christ. The Red horse and the sword reveal intense persecution suffered by God's people during this time. It is during this time that some churches began to observe Sunday as well as Saturday and introduce other practices that slowly began to lead God's people into apostasy. The black horse symbolizes the opposite of the white horse – error and unrighteousness. The horse parallels the church of Pergamos when many false teachings entered the church. The pale horse symbolized death and destruction and parallels the church of Thyatira. The weight the curses lead God's people to cry out in the 5th seal "How long till our blood is avenged" The yearning for God leads to repentance and a return to truth for some of God's people. The sixth and seventh seals reveals the avenging of God's people, the wicked are slain and the righteous are taken to heaven.</p> <p>The seals reveal the intense warfare between Christ and Satan. Satan seeks to take all of God's people to destruction, but Christ causes things to work together for good to those who love him and brings God's people back out of apostasy and prepares them for the judgment and the Second Coming.</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<p><i>God Cares Vol 2</i>, by M.C Maxwell. Revelation to the Nations Study Series on the CD in the Folder <i>Revelation Series</i>. Symposium on Revelation Book 1 <i>The Seven Seals</i> page 199 to 244</p>

Revelation Identifies Remnant Movement

Origin Rev 10



1. The sealed book of Daniel Opened Rev 10:2
2. The 2300 days established Rev 10:6
3. A Disappointment occurs from misunderstanding Rev 10:8-10
4. Told to prophesy again Rev 10:11

Heritage Rev 12



1. Jesus leaves earth to direct work from Heaven Rev 12:5
2. Satan persecutes the church since he can't attack Christ Rev 12:6;12
3. Church goes into hiding for 1260 years. Rev 12:6,14
4. Church emerges from hiding and identified as those keeping the Ten Commandments and have the gift of prophecy in their midst Rev 12:17

Mission Rev 14:6-12



- Three messengers fly in mid heaven with the following message to all the world
- Angel 1 Believe the Gospel and prepare for the Judgement
 - Acknowledge that Babylon has fallen
 - Refuse the mark and image of the beast by keeping the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus

Revelation Identifies the Remnant Movement

AIM:	To outline the characteristics of God’s Remnant people who will be locked in a worship war with the followers of the Sea beast of Revelation 13
THEME:	The Revelation of Jesus Christ.
OUTLINE:	<p>Knowing your origin, heritage and mission is vital to knowing who you are and why you are here. This fact is no less true for God’s remnant people. If you don’t know who you are or why you are here then you will have know idea what battles to fight and how to fight them.</p> <p>Revelation Chapter 10 describes a group of people that find a little book open that was closed or sealed. The only book in the Bible to be sealed or closed is the book of Daniel. Dan 12:9. As this group of people study the book of Daniel they discover the meaning of the time prophecy located in Daniel chapter 8. They discover that the judgment will come in 1844 at the completion of 2300 day (year) prophecy. A misunderstanding of the meaning of the sanctuary in Daniel 8 causes a bitter disappointment (Rev 10:8-10) After intensive reexamination of the prophecies they discovered that the 2300 days point to Jesus entering into the Most Holy place to begin the work of Judgment. Realising that Jesus is in the Most Holy place, they were reminded that the Ten commandments were in the ark in the Most Holy Place. This led them to rediscover the Sabbath commandment which formed the basis of worshipping Him who made the heavens and the earth as described in Rev 14. Having reclaimed the truth of the Sanctuary, the Judgment and the Commandments including the Sabbath, this group were convinced they needed to share these truths with the world and so they began to “prophesy again” as Revelation 10:11 stated would occur.</p> <p>Revelation Chapter 12 details the history of God’s remnant people from the time of Christ. The pregnant woman clothed with the sun and standing on the moon represents the church. Jer 6:2 and Eph 5:25 give examples of a woman representing the church. The child that is born and caught up to heaven represents Christ and the dragon represents Satan as revealed in Rev 12:9. Since Christ had returned to heaven, Satan focuses his attention on the woman and tries to destroy her. The woman flees into the wilderness, meaning a desolate or hidden place for a period 1260 days (years) God’s faithful people were not found in the big churches of Europe but in the secluded mountains and isolated places. The Waldenses a one group of people that fit the description of the woman during the dark ages. The Waldenses fled into the mountains of northern Italy and there they kept the Bible truths of the commandments and the Sabbath and other apostolic doctrines. After 100’s of years of persecution the Waldenses were weakened, but the truths they carried passed to others including the Adventists who discovered the Sabbath truth after their disappointment. Revelation 12:17 describes the remnant or the last piece (group) who emerge from the wilderness after the 1260 days having the commandments of God and the Testimony of Jesus which is the Spirit of Prophecy Rev 19:10. Revelation tell us that the Identity of the Remnant is defined by commandment keeping and the testimony of Jesus.</p> <p>Revelation Chapter 14 describes God’s people as they are locked in combat with the beast and his image. They have three gospel focused messages to give. Worship the Creator God, The Judgment has commenced, The second message reveals the fallen condition of Babylon which represents every system that rejects the plain teachings of scripture regarding salvation. The last message warns of the destruction of those who fail to heed this message.</p>
NOTES:	
FURTHER STUDY:	<p><i>Keepers of Flame Video Series</i> by Dr Alan Lindsay <i>Facts of Faith</i> by Christian Edwardson <i>Truth Triumphant</i> by Benjamin Wilkinson</p>

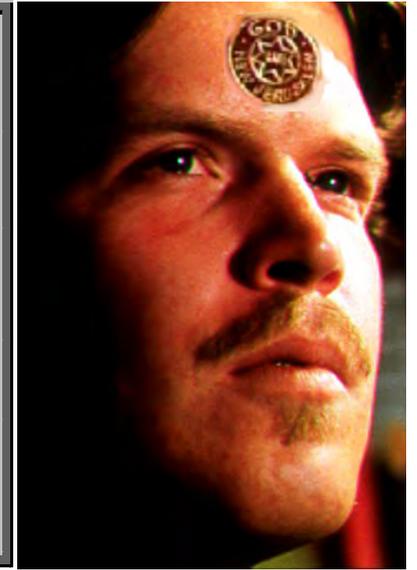
WAR OF WORSHIP IN REVELATION

The Issue: Worship

Away with you, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve.' Matt 4:10



The False Worship Attack Revelation 13		The True Worship Counter Attack Revelation 14	
Rev 13:4	They worshipped the dragon	Rev 14:7	Call to WORSHIP GOD!
Rev 13:8	Worship the beast	Rev 14:9	Warning against worshipping the beast
Rev 13:12	Worship the first beast		
Rev 13:15	Seek to kill those who won't worship image to the beast	Rev 14:11	Judgments on those who worship the beast



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False Worship – False Identity Revelation 13 – Breaks First Four Commandments		True Worship – True Identity Exodus 20:1-11 – The First Four Commandments	
Rev 13:4	Worshipped the Dragon and Beast	Ex 20:3	No Other gods – Worship God Only
Rev 13:14,15	Made and Image to the Beast	Ex 20:4,5	No Images
Rev 13:6	Blasphemed God's Name	Ex 20:7	Do Not Take God's Name in Vain
Rev 13:16	Caused All to Receive a Mark	Ex 20:8-11	Keep the Seventh Day Sabbath Holy

The Three Angel's of Revelation protects our identity by warning us against the worship of the beast

War of Worship in Revelation

The Issue: Worship

AIM:	To show that the last battle between good and evil will revolve around worship.
THEME:	The Choice to Worship Christ or His Counterfeit.
OUTLINE:	<p>This chart divides into four quarters. The top left shows every reference to worship of the beast in Revelation 13. Follow this sequence showing the building pressure to worship the beast. The top right section shows God’s response as revealed in Revelation 14. The imperative statement declares “Worship God” and the next two verses show the warnings and judgments that will fall on those who reject God’s warning. For those of us living in these last days we will have to make a choice either to serve God and face death threats from the beast, or serve self and Satan and forfeit an eternal relationship with a loving God. The bottom half of the chart shows the definition of true worship and it’s counterfeit. The bottom right corner shows what constitutes true worship – the first four commandments. The beast breaks and challenges each of these commandments. Will you determine now to serve God and reject the false worship of the beast?</p>
NOTES:	<p>The encounter between Christ and Satan in the wilderness of temptation reveal the insane desire of Satan for worship. He is so filled with selfish desire and is determined that the whole world must worship him. Worship belongs to God alone – the Creator of all.</p> <p>This whole issue of worship is going to force everyone to make a choice. Satan, through the beast, issues a death decree for all those who do not worship the beast. Rev 13:15. On the other hand God clearly outlines the fate of those who stubbornly reject the beautiful gospel of Jesus and refuse to humble themselves. Some of the most fearful warnings in the whole Bible are found here. God does not want to scare people, but the truth is that self-worship is self-destructive and threatens the safety of the all. There is no avoiding the choice. Both choices offer life and death. To choose the mark of the beast is to have access to “buying and selling” therefore securing your temporal future. On the other hand to choose the seal of God is to face death in this life but secure eternal life with Jesus. Why do God’s people have to be put in this position?</p> <p>We all know how easy it is to say and not do. The Bible says, “Not the hearers of the word of God will be justified but the doers of God’s word.” Rom 2:13. It is easy to say that I believe in Jesus, but you can’t really know until it is put to the test. This test is not whether we have the commando courage to grit our teeth and pass the test. This test is about whether we really believe in Jesus and trust Him to the point where He is living in us and has complete control of our lives. This test is a loyalty test. Is this something new? No! The very language of Revelation 13 reminds us of Daniel 3 and the loyalty test faced by the three Hebrew young men. We can also think of the experience of Adam and Eve and the fruit loyalty test. The closest parallel is the case of Israel. Before God led the children of Israel into Canaan he tested them as to whether they would keep the Sabbath. Ex 16:4. This same test comes to us. We have nothing to fear if Jesus is abiding in our hearts by faith. What a thrill to allow Jesus to work through his people so that he can turn to the watching universe and say – humanity does trust me therefore we can trust them.</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<p><i>What the Bible Says About the End Time</i>, by Jon Paulien. Great Controversy, Chapter 25 – “God’s Law Immutable”.</p>

WAR OF WORSHIP IN REVELATION

The Contenders for Worship: The True & False Godhead



Counterfeit of the Father:

1. Like the Most High (Isa 14:12-14)
2. Receives worship (Rev 13:3)
3. Works through other beasts

Dragon - Satan

Work of the Father:

1. IS THE Most High (Rev 4:11)
2. Receives worship (Rev 4:9)
3. Works through Son & Spirit



Father



Sea Beast Counterfeit of the Son:

1. Looks like Dragon (Rev 12:3; 13:1)
2. Receives authority from Dragon (Rev 13:2)
3. Receives fatal wound (Rev 13:3)
4. Receives life again (Rev 13:3)
5. Has a work for 42 months (Rev 13:5)
6. Is worshipped by the world (Rev 13:4)

Sea Beast - Papacy

Work of the Son:

1. Looks like Father (John 14:9; Dan 7; Rev 1)
2. Receives authority from Father (Matt 28:18)
3. Receives fatal wound (Rev 5:6)
4. Receives life again (Rev 5:9)
5. Has a work for 42 months (Dan 9:27)
6. Is worshipped by the world (Rev 5:12-14)



Son



Land Beast Counterfeit of the Holy Spirit:

1. Takes up work of the Sea Beast (Rev 13:12)
2. Points people to Sea Beast (Rev 13:12)
3. Calls fire down from heaven (Rev 13:13)

Land Beast - USA

Work of the Holy Spirit:

1. Takes up work of Christ (John 16:7)
2. Points people to Christ (John 16:13)
3. Calls fire down from heaven (Acts 2:1-3)



Holy Spirit

War of Worship in Revelation

The Contenders for Worship: The True and False Godhead

AIM:	(1) To show that Satan will use deception to secure his goal of obtaining worship. (2) To show that Satan has patterned his government on God’s system – an acknowledgement that God’s way is the best way!
THEME:	The Choice to Worship Christ or His Counterfeit.
OUTLINE:	As we note the characteristics of the Godhead, we see in Revelation that Satan is truly seeking to be like God. He has his own trinity with similar characteristics.
NOTES:	<p>Satan is the Father of lies. John 8:44. This is his best weapon. He will come with “signs, power and lying wonders” 2 Thess 2:9. We are told that Satan himself will transform himself into an angel of light. 2 Cor 11:14. Satan knows that all he has to do is follow one step behind Jesus and if he can convince the world that he is the genuine article then the world will miss the gospel train because they were one step too late! Satan will work through his earthly co-workers to prepare the way for his coming. He will counterfeit the work of Christ’s <i>first</i> coming. He will “heal” the sick and do wonders that will convince the untrained Bible scholar. It is also obvious that Satan will pattern himself on the government of God because he said, “I will be like the Most High.” Isa 14:12-14. This desire is the highest acknowledgement that God is right and Satan simply wants to copy it.</p> <p>“As the crowning act in the great drama of deception, Satan himself will personate Christ. The church has long professed to look to the Saviour’s advent as the consummation of her hopes. Now the great deceiver will make it appear that Christ has come. In different parts of the earth, Satan will manifest himself among men as a majestic being of dazzling brightness, resembling the description of the Son of God given by John in the Revelation. Revelation 1:13-15. The glory that surrounds him is unsurpassed by anything that mortal eyes have yet beheld. The shout of triumph rings out upon the air: “Christ has come! Christ has come!” The people prostrate themselves in adoration before him, while he lifts up his hands and pronounces a blessing upon them, as Christ blessed His disciples when He was upon the earth. His voice is soft and subdued, yet full of melody. In gentle, compassionate tones he presents some of the same gracious, heavenly truths which the Saviour uttered; he heals the diseases of the people, and then, in his assumed character of Christ, he claims to have changed the Sabbath to Sunday, and commands all to hallow the day which he has blessed. He declares that those who persist in keeping holy the seventh day are blaspheming his name by refusing to listen to his angels sent to them with light and truth. This is the strong, almost overmastering delusion.” GC 624.</p> <p>Again we ask the question: “Why does God let this happen?” Jesus speaking to the disciples concerning the future prefaced everything with the words, “Let no man deceive you”. God has given abundant evidence that we might know the truth. We can easily detect the counterfeit if we cling to the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus. Rev 14:12. The sad fact is that while God has earnestly and persistently sought every person in the world, most will reject this incredible offer of mercy. Therefore, because they did not love the truth, God will send them a strong delusion that they should believe a lie. 2 Thess 2:11,12.</p> <p>Jesus said “And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. Yet they will by no means follow a stranger, but will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.” John 10:4,5. We must KNOW Jesus if we would not be deceived. Are you sure that you know Him? Phil 3:10; 2 Tim 1:12.</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<p>Great Controversy, Chapter 36 – “The Impending Conflict”.</p> <p><i>What the Bible Says About the End Time</i>, by Jon Paulien.</p> <p>See Charts on CD-ROM “War of Worship – Sea Beast Counterfeits the Work of Christ”; “War of Worship – The Earthly Representatives”; “War of Worship – Ancestors of the Sea Beast”.</p>

GOD'S RELATIONSHIP SEAL

Bind up the testimony, seal the law among my disciples. Isa 8:16

Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees till we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads. Rev 7:3
 ...one hundred forty-four thousand, having His Father's name written in their foreheads. Rev 14:1



We have the mind of Christ.
 1 Cor 2:16



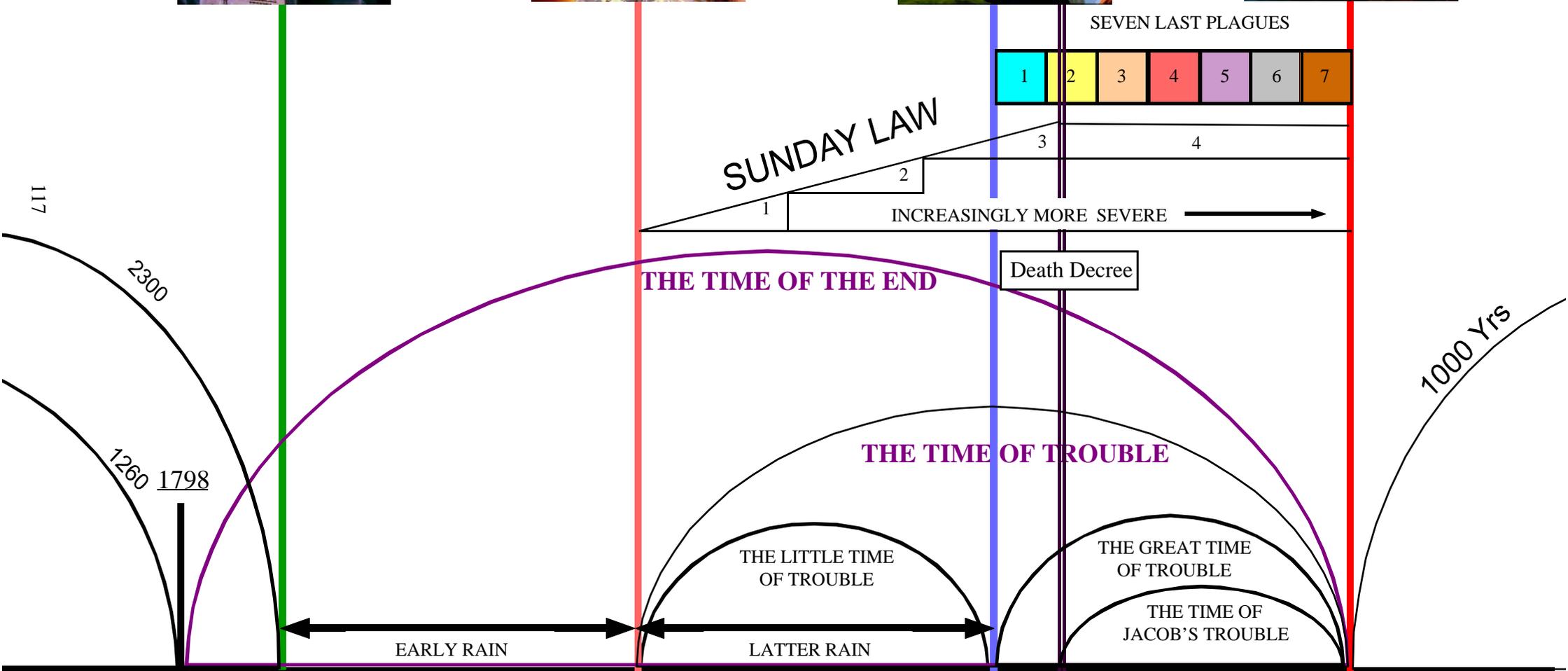
Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work: But the seventh day *is* the sabbath of the **LORD thy God**: ... For *in* six days the **LORD** made the **heaven and the earth, the sea**, Ex 20:7-11

God's Relationship Seal

AIM:	To explain why the Sabbath is connected to the seal of God.
THEME:	Christ as Creator.
OUTLINE:	<p>Go to Rev 7:1 and Rev 14:1 and observe the context of this seal or mark being placed in the forehead. 2 Tim 2:19 tells us that a seal contains two aspects: (1) A relationship between God and man that (2) causes man to depart from iniquity. This process is shown in the table in the middle of the chart. The Sabbath represents the relationship of God and his people. Ezek 20:12,20. The Sabbath in a literal sense provides a time for a relationship to develop thus fulfilling the first part of the seal. In a symbolic sense it reminds us of the power that God has to perform in us the second part of the seal – to depart from iniquity.</p> <p>The seal can also be seen in a political sense. Any governmental or royal seal contains three elements: (1) Name (2) Title (3) Dominion. These three elements are found in the Sabbath. The text at the bottom of the chart is colour coded to show where the seal occurs in the fourth commandment.</p> <p>The pictures on the left hand side illustrate the fact that those who are sealed have the mind of Christ. This makes sense because only those who know the mind of Christ can know Him and only those who know Him will have eternal life. John 17:3.</p>
NOTES:	<p>SEALING THE LAW God's law (a reflection of God's character) is written into the minds of His people as He promised in the second covenant. Heb 8:10. This process is accomplished by faith in God's recreative power to restore humanity. Rom 4:22. This faith is signified by Seventh-day Sabbath observance. This is the seal of ownership for it contains God's right to worship and service. The Sabbath provides the best opportunity to bring every thought captive to Christ (2 Cor 10:5) and in this process become like Him. 1 John 2:2.</p> <p>CONNECTING RELATIONSHIP TO THE SABBATH So how do you connect a relationship with God to the Sabbath? My wife and I, have certain special events in our "Marriage Calendar". We set aside certain days that figured prominently in the development of our relationship. Each time we revisit those special days, they take on more meaning and depth. Why? Because our relationship has grown, and because these events are symbols of our relationship, they grow in meaning directly proportional to the meaning of our relationship. In the same way the Sabbath is a special day that symbolises the relationship of God with His people. It is significant that the first day that Adam and Eve spent with God was the Sabbath. Man and woman first celebrated their relationship with their loving Creator on Friday evening to really get acquainted. Up to this point there was naming animals and meeting Eve and the adjustment to new surroundings. Then in the Sabbath Adam and Eve could just behold their Creator and simply spend time with Him. For this reason God has used the Sabbath to symbolise the process by which we will be restored to open fellowship with God, like the first time that God and Adam and Eve spent time together on Friday evening. In Exodus 20:8-11 we see the Creator-creation relationship. In Deuteronomy 5:15 we see the Deliverer-delivered relationship connected to the Sabbath. Lastly we see the Sabbath used to symbolise the final freedom from sin when God comes to take us home and celebrate a millennial Sabbath of rest.</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<p><i>The Great Controversy</i>, Chapter 26 – "A Work of Reform". The Seal of God – Sermon by Glen Hughes. On CD-ROM. The Relationship Between Sabbath and Eschatology – Essay by Adrian Ebens. On CD-ROM. See Chart on CD-ROM "God's Memorial of Creation and Redemption".</p>

Final Events

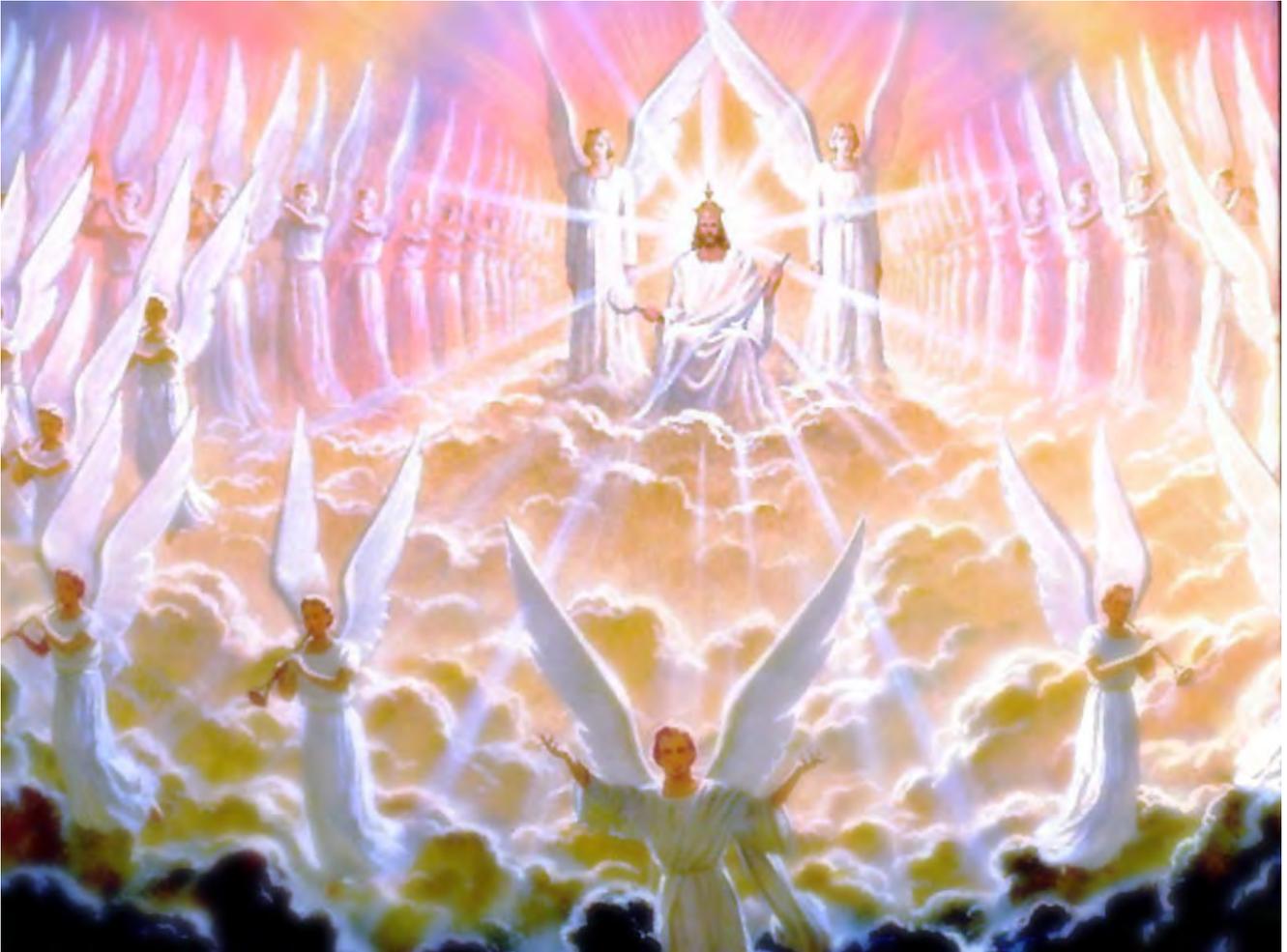
- 1** INVESTIGATIVE
BEGINS 1844
- 2** NATIONAL
SUNDAY LAW
- 3** CLOSE OF
PROBATION
- 4** THE SECOND
COMING



Final Events

AIM:	To show what events will occur just before Jesus comes.
THEME:	Christ as King.
OUTLINE:	There are four many events that take place from the beginning of the Judgement. 1) The Investigative Judgement where the saints of all ages come in review before God. 2) The Sunday Law which will bring about the mark of the beast 3) The Close of probation where mercy will no longer plead for the human race and 4) The second coming. There are many aspects attached to each of these four events that could be studied. The aim of this chart is to give an overview of these events
NOTES:	<p>From the material covered in the third angel's message, we understand that the issue of worship will be brought to a climax on the day of worship observed. At a point in the near future, religious and social groups seeking to stem the tide of moral decline, will pressure political bodies to enforce a day of rest - Sunday. This move will raise the question as to which day should we worship. The Sabbath will be placed in the "spot light" and many will enquire "What does the Bible really teach on this matter?"</p> <p>As the moral decline continues and natural disasters increase, more severe Sunday laws will be set in place. It will then be decided that those who still keep the Sabbath are displeasing to God and need to change or be put to death for the safety and good of the world. When the first plague falls it will be reasoned that a death decree must be issued for the destruction of all Sabbath keepers — similar to what happened to Esther. Then God will be appeased. Sad theology but typical of Satan's regime.</p> <p>At this point God's people will go into the Time of Jacob's Trouble. A searching of heart and soul to know: (1) whether they are truly clinging to Christ as their righteousness; (2) whether they truly believed the truth and allowed God to transform their hearts. Satan will seek to press their sins upon them - can they trust that Jesus has forgiven all, can they trust with the weight of Satan's accusations that Christ will not forsake them. Only those who know by experience that He will never leave them or forsake them, will endure the trial. Truly, the test of their relationship with Christ will be complete.</p> <p>As the plagues continue to fall upon the wicked, the rage of the wicked grows more and more. God's people are surrounded; they seem doomed, abandoned to the wickedness of Satan. Will God deliver them? At that point a bright light appears in the sky. The ten commandments appear with a light around the fourth commandment. The wicked are thrown into terror and turn upon the priests and religious leaders with rage saying, "Why didn't you tell us these things?" Now we are lost because of you!</p> <p>Soon after that, the cloud the size of a man's hand appears and approaches the earth. It becomes a bright light and the righteous suddenly are seized with fear - Who shall see God face-to-face and live? Jesus calls from the clouds "My Grace is sufficient" and the righteous rejoice. The brightness that embraces the righteous as they are carried into the clouds by the angels, destroys the wicked as they cry for the rocks and mountains to fall on them. Rev 6:14-18.</p> <p>Just to think about these things makes me rejoice with trembling. O how I long to be ready for that day, to see Jesus face to face. I do trust and believe that His grace is sufficient for me! What about you?</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<p><i>Last Day Events</i>, by Ellen G White. Great Controversy chapters 38-42. What the Bible Says About The End Time, by Jon Paulien Final Events DVD by Pr Doug Batchelor. www.finalevents.com</p>

Getting Ready for the Second Coming of Jesus

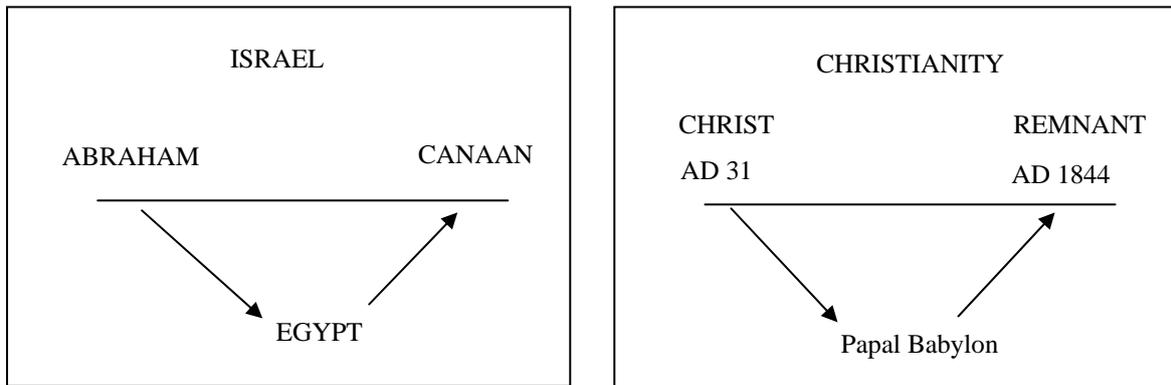


**Spiritual Safeguards
that help us to
be prepared.**

Getting Ready for the Second Coming of Jesus

Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come. *1 Cor 10:11*

When the Children of Israel were in Egypt it was impossible for them to serve God in the way appointed. While in Egypt, the Israelites lost the special truths that God had given them. They were also exposed to the culture of Egypt that brought disease and stress. How could they truly follow God while living in Egypt? It could only happen if the entire lifestyle and culture was transformed. God led the children of Israel out of Egypt by the use of His prophet Moses and reminded them of His law and taught them lifestyle and health laws that would bring them peace and happiness. Psalms 105:43-45. We noticed on the chart [The Gospel Restored Part 1](#) that God brought Israel out of Egypt and gave them back the gospel and then planned for them to be a light for the Gentiles Isa 60:1-3. Paul tells us that all these things were written for our example. 1 Cor 10:11. We can see from the second angel's message that the Christian church went into "Babylon" just as Israel went into Egypt. Just as God led His people out of Egypt and re-taught them the gospel, so now God calls us out of Babylon and teaches us the true gospel and teaches us how to walk in His ways.



For the truth of God to be fully demonstrated it must be demonstrated in a community. Only in this way can all of the Ten Commandments be seen in operation. God chose the Israelites as the community to demonstrate the truths of God before the time of Christ. In these last days God has chosen another community to demonstrate those who have the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus. This community is the Seventh-day Adventist movement. To this movement God has restored both the truths of God and the lifestyle principles that reflect His kingdom. This movement is set as a light to the Gentiles to show the light of God's love in action, in real life. This section will show the identifying marks of God's final movement, the lifestyle and health practices that God has taught this movement through Bible study and the gift of prophecy. Praise God for this movement. Thank God that we can be a part of it!

The Identifying Marks of the Remnant Church of God



Preach the Everlasting Gospel – Rev 14:6
(Same Gospel preached before and after the Cross)
 Matt 24:14; 28:19,20; 1 Tim 3:16; Heb 4:2;
 Gal 1:6-9; Gal 3:8



Preach a Judgment Message – Rev 14:7
(The Hour of His Judgment is Come)
 Rom 2:15,16; 1 Peter 4:6; Eccl 3:17; 12:14; 2 Cor
 5:10; Acts 17:31; 24:25; Rom 14:10; 1 Pet 4:17



Have the Word of God – Rev 20:4
(Both Old and New Testament)
 2 Tim 3:16; Luke 24:27,44; 1 Cor 10:11; Luke 16:31;
 Rev 11:3-12; Matt 24:15; Rev 1:3



Have the Testimony of Jesus – Rev 12:17
 Which is the Spirit of Prophecy – Rev 19:10
 2 Chron 20:20; Amos 3:7; Joel 2:28,29; Eph 4:11-13;
 1 Cor 1:6,7; Rev 22:9



Keep the 10 Commandments – Rev 12:17
(Including the Seventh-day Sabbath)
 Luke 10:26; Matt 19:16,17; 1 Cor 7:19; Rev 14:12;
 Rev 22:14 [Gen 26:5; Gal 3:29]; Heb 4:9
 James 2:10-12; Matt 5:17-19



Warn of Fall of Babylon – Rev 14:8
 Warn against Mark of the Beast – Rev 14:9-11
 Dan 7:25; 2 Thess 2:1-8; Rev 13:1-18



Constitute a Remnant – Small Portion. Rev 12:17
 Few there be that find it – Matt 7:13,14
 Many are called but few are chosen – Matt 20:16
 As in the days of Noah so shall it be – Matt 24:37



Have an Ark of Safety – 1 Peter 3:20
 As in the days of Noah – Matt 24:37-39
 Baptism is entrance into ark of safety – 1 Pet 3:20
 Baptised into Christ's body – 1 Cor 12:13
 Christ's body equals the church – Eph 1:22,23



Preach to Every Nation and Kindred and Tongue and
 People – Rev 14:6
(Will seek to present the Gospel to every nation)
 Matt 24:14; Mark 16:15; Acts 1:8



Have the Faith of Jesus – Rev 14:12
(Total Trust in God's Word)
 Eph 2:8-10; Acts 26:18; Rom 1:17; Gal 5:6; 1 John
 5:4; Matt 4:4; John 6:63; 2 Peter 1:4; Rev 6:9;
 3:21; 12:11; Rom 4:13-21; 10:17

The Identifying Marks of the Remnant Church

AIM:	To clearly identify God’s last-day movement.
THEME:	The call to return to the True Christ.
OUTLINE:	This is a very comprehensive chart and can’t be fully covered in one session. There are numerous texts supplied to support each point. At each stage ask yourself who has these marks of identification?
NOTES:	<p>Preach the Everlasting Gospel: The gospel that many teach is that Christianity has a different gospel to the Jews. It was different in terms of the visible aspects of Jewish worship but salvation by faith and trust in the blood of the true Lamb has never changed.</p> <p>Have the Word of God: This sounds obvious. Some churches raise tradition above the Bible (e.g. Catholic church), others downgrade the Old Testament. God’s people have and apply all of God’s Word.</p> <p>Keep the Ten Commandments: Those who have the Word of God will keep the commandments as the Bible dictates. Most churches observe nine commandments but the Bible says all ten are to be observed. Very few churches observe the Seventh-day Sabbath as the Bible requires.</p> <p>Constitute a Remnant: A sad identifier! The remnant comes from the original and forms a small part. Therefore it is not the largest or most popular of churches.</p> <p>Preach to Every Nation and Kindred and Tongue and People: Only two organizations are close to having a presence in every country of the world: The Roman Catholic church and the Seventh-day Adventist movement. Any church that seeks to fulfill the identifying marks must be serious about reaching the whole world.</p> <p>Preach Judgment Hour Message: The first angel declares “Fear God and give glory to Him for the hour of His judgment <u>has come!</u>” God’s remnant church has been given the times and the seasons to know that God, in these last days, has opened the court of heaven for judgment.</p> <p>Have the Testimony of Jesus: The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy. God’s last day church will have the gift of prophecy operating in its midst.</p> <p>Warn of the Fall of Babylon and the Mark of the Beast: These are the second and third angel’s messages. God’s remnant church will expose the errors of man’s efforts to defend and save himself and will identify the false movements that embrace the teachings of Babylon.</p> <p>Have an Ark of Safety: God has a community that holds the truth of God for these days. In the time of Noah it was an ark of safety. In the times of Israel it was the cities of refuge. Today it is God’s last day movement who have the identifying marks of prophecy.</p> <p>Have the Faith of Jesus: This is the most precious of marks. God’s remnant people will have the faith of Jesus living in their lives, not by their own works, but by complete trust in the merits and atonement of our living Saviour. By beholding Him we are changed into His image and live His life. The most precious of gifts we have, the mind of Christ in word and deed!</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<p><i>Identifying Marks of the Remnant Church</i> – Sermon by Adrian Ebens. On CD-ROM.</p> <p>See Chart on CD-ROM “Revelation Identifies the SDA Movement”.</p> <p>Truth For These Times Study No.28.</p>

The Tests of a True Prophet



Spiritual Tests	References	Physical Tests	References
Speak according to God's Word	Isa 8:20	Loses all natural strength	Dan 10:8,16,17
The predictions of the prophet come to pass	Jer 28:9	Is supernaturally strengthened	Dan 10:18,19
Point people to the true God	Deut 13:1-4 1 Kings 18:21	Have their eyes open	Num 24:3
Encourage obedience to the Ten Commandments	2 Chron 24:19,20 Rev 12:17	Does not breathe	Dan 10:17
Their work produces good fruit	Matt 7:15-20	Speaks without breathing	Dan 10:17-20
Confess that Christ is come in the flesh	1 John 4:2,3	Tongue controlled by the Lord	2 Sam 23:2
Prepare people to meet the Lord	Luke 1:17	Unconscious of natural surroundings	2 Cor 12:2-4

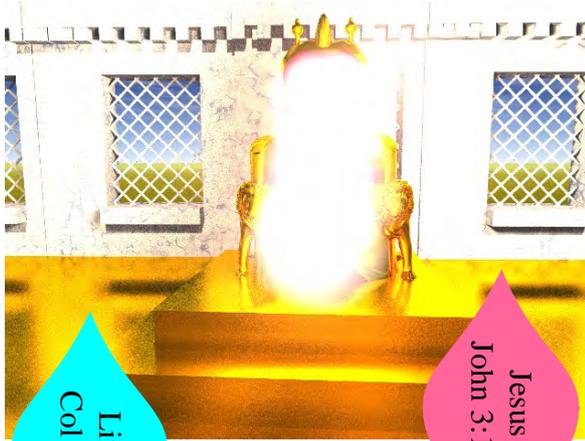
Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world. 1 John 4:1

Test all things; hold fast what is good. 1 Thess 5:21

The Tests of a True Prophet

AIM:	To show that the Bible has given us clear instruction on how to test those who claim to have messages directly from God.
THEME:	The Testimony of Jesus Christ.
OUTLINE:	<p>If someone came to you and said they had a message from God or a book or letter from someone that claimed to have a message from God, how would you test it?" The Bible has spiritual and physical tests to examine so called prophets. The spiritual tests are by far the most important tests, but the physical tests support the spiritual tests. This tells us that we have a responsibility to test genuine claims to messages from God. 1 Thess 5:21. As you move through the list of spiritual tests, ask the question at each stage – does the person, book or letter claiming to be from God, meet these criteria. Move through the physical tests. These tests are for those who claim to have visions from God. One way to test someone is this. "If someone claims to be having a vision, ask if you can test them when in vision. When the person is "in vision" prevent them from breathing. If they don't turn blue and die – you know they are a prophet! This is because prophets do not breathe while in vision. In closing testify how you have found that Ellen White has fulfilled each of these criteria.</p>
NOTES:	<p>The Ministry of Ellen G. White (1827 – 1915) Ellen G. White is the most influential person within the SDA movement. As a young girl her lungs were almost totally useless and she was given months to live. She lived another 71 years, had nearly 2000 dreams and visions, became one of the most translated writers in the entire history of literature, the most translated female writer in history and the most translated American writer in history. A whole network of publishing houses, schools, medical and health institutions were initiated by the visions that Ellen claimed to receive. She gave numerous prophecies, was a preacher, teacher, temperance motivator, wife, mother, neighbour and friend. She never held a single office in the SDA church. Most of all she was known as the woman who spoke so lovingly about Jesus. A happy, caring, loving person who longed to meet her Saviour face to face.</p> <p>In my own experience I fell in love with Jesus while reading the book <i>Steps to Christ</i>, which she authored. I have been directed again and again to the Bible through her counsel and been blessed in my relationship with Jesus as a result.</p> <p>Good fruit indeed, but subjective proof is one thing objective proof is another. We need to be able to objectively test Ellen White in the light of the Bible. It is one thing to <i>feel</i> blessed it is another to <i>know</i> it is right. The tests provided in this chart cannot be faked. You have it or you don't. It is not too hard to apply the tests but it will require some reading of EGW material to test that she speaks according to the Bible. For me an enjoyable test.</p> <p>The full impact of Ellen White's life and writings will never be fully known. There is much criticism of her ministry as there is for all true prophets. Test her and see. Apart from this, God has told us that the prophetic gift would be manifested in the last days so we can't just ignore the issue, we will have to test someone to find out if they are true. Happy testing!</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<p><i>Prophet of Destiny</i>, by Rene Noorbergen. <i>Believe His Prophets</i>, by D Rebok. <i>A Prophet Among Them</i>, by T.H. Jemison. See Chart on CD-ROM "The Role of Prophets in Relation to the 2300 Year Prophecy". Truth For These Times Study No.30.</p>

Recognition of God's Abundant Blessings



Human Race



Everything belongs to God. Ps 24; Haggai 2:8. He rains these blessings on us because He is love. James 1:17; 1 John 4:8. God asks us, for our own benefit, to recognize His blessings. 2 Cor 9:7; Proverbs 3:9,10. God requires us to return tithe to Him (Mal 3:8-10) but leaves offerings to our freewill.

Recognition of God's Abundant Blessings

AIM:	(1) To show we can recognise God's ownership in all that we have and possess; and (2) To show how we can express gratitude to God in tangible ways.
THEME:	Recognising Christ as the Source of Life and Blessing.
OUTLINE:	The blessings that God pours upon us is like a fresh shower of rain. Temporal blessings are flowing down the left side of the chart and eternal blessings flowing down the right side of the chart. God requires tithe from us. It is not a choice; it does not belong to us. But God does not require it because he needs it; He simply wants us to enjoy the benefits of acknowledging the abundant gifts that God has given us. Learning the art of giving can free us from the disease of selfishness
NOTES:	<p>Our Giving God God is a God of giving. Rom 8:32. His nature is generous and kind. Our lives are surrounded by the 1000's of blessings that He is constantly providing for us. The beating of our heart, the air we breathe, the food we eat, the shelter, the clothing, nature, rain, sunshine, the list is endless. The careful balanced environment. If the earth was a few degrees closer to the sun we would all die of heat and a few degrees further away and we would all freeze. How much do we owe God for everything that He does for us? Just as I write, I am overwhelmed with His love and grace.</p> <p>Add to these blessings the gift of salvation, Jesus is permanently given to us forever – He is one with us. Then the constant intercession by Jesus, all the resources of heaven have been placed at our disposal – what a God! How can we be stingy with giving to God when He has been so gracious to us? What is the point, He owns it all anyway!</p> <p>The Obligation of Tithe Many people see paying tithe as not important. This spirit betrays a selfish spirit. The above comments show how much God has done for us. If we want to be like Him, we need to give like He does. Some people teach that tithing ceased at the time of the cross. Tithing did cease for the Levitical priesthood, but Jesus is our high priest of the order of Melchisedec. Heb 7:1-4. The Priesthood of Levi is a type of the priesthood of Christ. Just as tithes were paid to the Levites, so tithe is to be paid to Christ. Mal 3:8-10. But God only accepts these things from a grateful heart. 2 Cor 9:7. There is no point returning tithe with a grumbling spirit! Return to God with a grateful heart.</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<i>Counsels on Stewardship</i> , by E.G. White. Truth For These Times Study No.31.

SDA Tithe & Offering System

Honor the Lord with your possessions, and with the firstfruits of all your increase; Proverbs 3:9

NAME Local Church Member
 ADDRESS

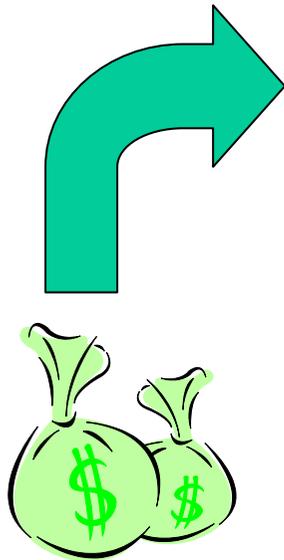
DATE Each Week

Tithe and Stewardship

*"Honour the Lord with thy substance."
Proverbs 3:9*

Tithe—The Lord's Tenth	\$	\$50.00
*STEWARDSHIP (Local Budget)	\$	\$12.50
Today's Offering	\$	\$10.00
Camp Mission Pledge	\$	
Evangelism	\$	\$25.00
.....	\$	
TOTAL ENCLOSED	\$	\$97.50

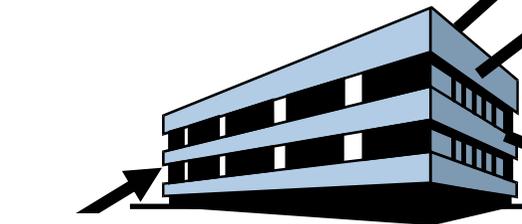
* % of this amount will be credited to the Sydney Adventist Schools Building and Maintenance Fund and is tax-deductible. Retain your receipt as your record for tax purposes.



Wages
eg \$500
per week

Tithe = 10% of Income = \$50

- Stewardship Suggestion
- Approx 25% of tithe amount for local expenses. Example 25% of \$50 = \$12.50.
 - Seek to allocate other amounts up to a the equivalent of a second tithe. For items as special projects and evangelism.

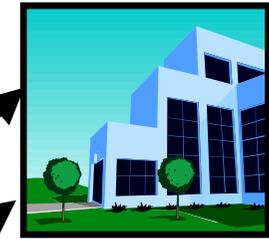


Local Conference

Other Contributions

10%

- Ministers Wages
- Evangelistic Programs
- Evangelistic Subsidies (Videos)



Union

Training Subsidies
Resources



Local Church

- Building Maintenance
 - Insurance
 - Phone, Electricity, Heating
 - Lesson Pamphlets
- Evangelistic Programs



Education System

50% of stewardship is allocated to education system until education allocation is met.

SDA Tithe and Offering System

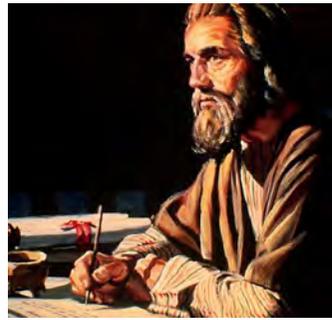
AIM:	To explain how the tithe and offering system works in the Seventh-day Adventist Church.
THEME:	Recognising Christ as the Source of Life and Blessing.
OUTLINE:	This chart commences on the bottom left hand side with a weekly wage. We then move to a tithe envelope to show how tithe and stewardship are applied on the basis of a wage of \$500 per week. From this point we see how the tithe and stewardship are used and applied in the SDA system.
NOTES:	<p>The principle of giving to the Lord's service reflects the heart of God. If we are not willing to give to God's movement and support it, then we really are not in principle a part of that movement. It shows our lack of trust in God's leading of His church. Giving is such a blessing and God loves a cheerful giver.</p> <p>How the system works. Many new Adventists are never properly introduced to the tithing system, they pick it up along the way. Therefore many members still don't really understand the system. Tithe is, in most cases, with few exceptions, paid into the local church. Freewill offerings are referred to as stewardship. All tithe paid into the local church is passed on to the local conference. This ensures even distribution of funds and accountability from the local churches. The books of the local church are audited to ensure that funds are not being defrauded or misappropriated.</p> <p>The local conference uses the tithe to pay the ministry and support evangelistic projects. 10% of all tithe received into the local conference is passed on to the local union, plus some other contributions. The union provides resources and training at a higher level. Although not shown on this chart the local union pays 10% of all its income to the division. The division forms a part of the General Conference and the General Conference uses funds it receives to sponsor projects like Net 98 and Global Mission. This ensures the global focus of the movement.</p> <p>Stewardship Stewardship encompasses our freewill offerings. Each local church incurs expenses such as lighting, electricity, insurance and building and maintenance. These are paid for by stewardship. Support for the SDA educational system is also included in stewardship. Each church is allocated a levy according to membership size. This highlights the need for having an accurate church roll so that the levy is correctly charged to the church.</p> <p>Suggestion The chart suggests that a member could pay 25% of the tithe dollar as stewardship. In other words if you pay \$50 in tithe, then you would pay an extra \$12.50 in stewardship. This is simply a practical suggestion that seems to ensure a local church will run smoothly and effectively. Stewardship is purely voluntary and is a gift of free will.</p> <p>God has led his people in the establishment of our tithe system. The system that was a forerunner of tithes and offerings was "systematic benevolence" and Ellen White has this to say about it.</p> <p><i>"There is order in heaven, and God is well pleased with the efforts of his people in trying to move with the system and order in his work. I saw that there should be order in the church of God, and arrangement in regard to carrying forward successfully the last great message of mercy to the world. God is leading his people in the plan of Systematic Benevolence."</i> 2SG 230</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<p><i>Counsels on Stewardship</i>, by E. G. White. See Chart on CD-ROM "SDA Church Organisation". Truth For These Times Study No.32.</p>

HEALTHFUL LIVING

Original Diet: Gen 1:29
Fruits, Nuts & Grains



Clean beasts by sevens and
unclean by twos went into
the ark. Gen 7:2



After man sinned: Vegetables
were added. "The herb of the
field." Gen 3:18

God gives food &
health laws to Israel
via Moses on Mt Sinai.
Lev 11; Deut 14:3-23

do you not know that your body is the
temple of the Holy Spirit *who is* in you,
whom you have from God, and you are not
your own? For you were bought at a price;
therefore glorify God in your body and in
your spirit, which are God's. 1 Cor 6:19,20

When we enter heaven we shall
return to our original diet. Fruit
will form the basis of our
heavenly diet. Rev 22:2

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Mt Sinai



Fall of Adam & Eve
Genesis 3:1-8



Meat eating introduced after the
flood. Gen 9:3,4. Decrease in man's
life span follows quickly.

Adam: 930 years, Gen 5:5
Methuselah: 969 years, Gen 5:27
Noah: 959 years, Gen 9:29
Shem: 600 years, Gen 11:10:11
Arphaxad: 438 years, Gen 11:12,13
Peleg: 239 years, Gen 11:18,19
Abraham: 175 years, Gen 25:7

Clean Animals

These *are* the animals which you may eat: the ox, the sheep, the goat, the deer, the gazelle, the roe deer, the wild goat, the mountain goat, the antelope, and the mountain sheep. And you may eat every animal with cloven hooves, having the hoof split into two parts, *and that* chews the cud, .Deut 14:4-6

Unclean Animals

Nevertheless, of those that chew the cud or have cloven hooves, you shall not eat, *such as* these: the camel, the hare, and the rock hyrax; for they chew the cud but do not have cloven hooves; they *are* unclean for you. Also the swine is unclean for you, because it has cloven hooves, yet *does not* chew the cud; you shall not eat their flesh or touch their dead carcasses. Deut 14:7,8



When Jesus comes, the Bible says
that those who eat swine's flesh, the
mouse and the abomination, shall be
destroyed at the Second Coming.
Isa 66:15-17

Healthful Living

AIM:	To show what the Bible says about diet and its importance to the gospel.
THEME:	Recognition of Christ as Creator and King.
OUTLINE:	<p>This chart forms a time line showing various events in relation to diet. The main point here is that God’s original diet in Eden and God’s final diet in heaven do not include flesh food. Starting in Eden, man was given fruit and nuts and grains as the optimal diet. Vegetables were added after the fall. Meat was included as being permissible after the flood. The reason was twofold: to shorten the life of man because of wickedness, and also because initially vegetation was scarce. It is noteworthy that God gave special instructions to Moses in regard to health. These principles were a <i>restoration</i> of truth already held by God’s people previously. Noah was well aware of the principles of clean and unclean meat. Gen 7:2.</p> <p>The cross of Jesus Christ was to save man not to destroy him. The death of Jesus does not release us to eat those things that will shorten our lives and kill us! It is significant that God’s word says that at His Second Coming He will destroy those who eat certain types of foods. It is interesting to note that the heavenly diet will not be meat based and it would be well to adjust now!</p>
NOTES:	<p>The Importance of Healthful Living The example of Daniel and his three friends tells us very clearly the relationship between diet and usefulness in this life. Daniel was wiser and possessed a more powerful intellect because he looked after his body and ate healthful food. We have a responsibility to live up to all the light God has given us and the blessings of doing so will be worth it. See <i>Counsels on Diet and Foods</i>, Page 28,29.</p> <p>Health Reform is Connected to the Third Angel’s Message “The health reform, I was shown, is a part of the third angel’s message, and is just as closely connected with it as are the arm and hand with the human body. I saw that we as a people must make an advance move in this great work. Ministers and people must act in concert. God’s people are not prepared for the loud cry of the third angel. They have a work to do for themselves which they should not leave for God to do for them. He has left this work for them to do. It is an individual work; one cannot do it for another. "Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God." Gluttony is the prevailing sin of this age. Lustful appetite makes slaves of men and women, and beclouds their intellects and stupefies their moral sensibilities to such a degree that the sacred, elevated truths of God’s word are not appreciated. The lower propensities have ruled men and women. In order to be fitted for translation, the people of God must know themselves. They must understand in regard to their own physical frames, that they may be able with the psalmist to exclaim, "I will praise Thee, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made." They should ever have the appetite in subjection to the moral and intellectual organs. The body should be servant to the mind, and not the mind to the body.” <i>Counsels on Diet and Foods</i>, Page 32.</p> <p>“Let it ever be kept before the mind that the great object of hygienic reform is to secure the highest possible development of mind and soul and body. All the laws of nature--which are the laws of God--are designed for our good. Obedience to them will promote our happiness in this life, and will aid us in a preparation for the life to come”. <i>Counsels on Diet and Foods</i>, Page 23.</p> <p>Being healthy, happy and fit is not bondage and legalism, as people suggest, it is freedom. While some people turn health reform into health deform, it does not take away the principles that should be followed. Praise God for the light that we have been given as a people. We would be dead without it!</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<p><i>Ministry of Healing</i>, by E.G. White; <i>Counsels on Diet and Foods</i>, by E.G. White. See Lecture 9 “Health” By Geoff Youlden. On CD-ROM See Chart on CD-ROM “Environmental Impact of a Flesh Diet” Truth For These Times Study No.33</p>

Dress and Adornment

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Outward Focus

Rev 17:4; Isa 3:16-24; Hos 2:13



Inward Focus

Rev 12:1; 1 Tim 2:9; 1 Peter 3:3; Ex 13:5,6



Do not let your adornment be *merely* outward ...rather *let it be* the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible *beauty* of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God. 1 Peter 3:3,4

In dress, as in all things else, it is our privilege to honour our Creator. He desires our clothing to be not only neat and healthful, but appropriate and becoming. . . . Our appearance in every respect should be characterized by neatness, modesty, and purity. . . . Our clothing, while modest and simple, should be of good quality, of becoming colours, and suited for service. Chaste simplicity in dress, when united with modesty of demeanour, will go far toward surrounding a young woman with that atmosphere of sacred reserve which will be to her a shield from a thousand perils. *The Faith I Live By, page 243.*

A disposition in you to dress according to the fashion, and to wear lace and gold and artificials for display, will not recommend to others your religion or the truth that you profess. . . . Simple, plain, unpretending dress will be a recommendation to my youthful sisters. In no better way can you let your light shine to others than in your simplicity of dress and deportment. You may show to all that, in comparison with eternal things, you place a proper estimate upon the things of this life. Now is your golden opportunity to form pure and holy characters for heaven. You cannot afford to devote these precious moments to . . . beautifying the external to the neglect of the inward adorning. . . . *Lift Him Up, page 305.*

Dress and Adornment

AIM:	To show that the primary focus of the Christian is to allow Jesus to transform their characters to be like him. Therefore the Christian focus is inward not outward.
THEME:	Recognition of Christ as Creator and King.
OUTLINE:	Contrast the two sides of the chart. The worldly person seeks to find value and attract others by what they wear. The Christian person finds their value in the sacrifice that Jesus made for them. They dress neatly, cleanly and modestly attracting people by their character. It is interesting to note the comparison between the woman in Revelation 12 and the woman of Revelation 17. Provocative dressing and jewellery are associated with apostasy from the truth. Do you want the joy and freedom of focusing on Christ or the constant drain of focusing on self and what you wear?
NOTES:	<p>Many people feel that they are <i>free</i> to choose to wear whatever they please, but this is a fantasy. The Bible says: “Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?” Romans 6:16. The person who seeks to gain attention by what they wear is trapped by fear and pride. It has been the testimony of many that when they focus on the external, they were constantly comparing with others, fearing that another would surpass their beauty and appearance. The nagging depression that “I just don’t look good enough”, the guilt and fear of being overweight, the money spent on finding the right look and the debts incurred. This is what many call freedom? Seeking to find a true identity and never finding it. This is total bondage. Compare this with the freedom for those who are complete in Christ. They have found their identity in Christ and are not seeking to fill the void with temporary externals.</p> <p>As Christians, the Bible tells us to seek to focus on our characters and not on what we look like. Our characters can last forever, what we wear and look like is very temporary.</p> <p>Christians also have a responsibility not to tempt others by what they wear. God will hold us accountable if we lead others into temptation and immorality.</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<i>Testimonies</i> , Volume 1, page 521-525.

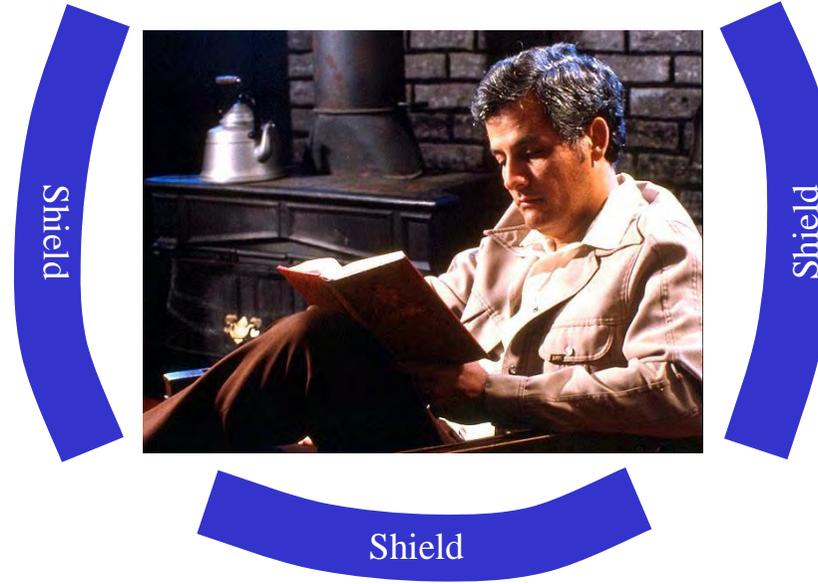
GUARDING THE AVENUES OF THE SOUL

whatever things are true, whatever things *are* noble, whatever things *are* just, whatever things *are* pure... —meditate on these things. Phil 4:8



LISTENING
(Hearing)

Filter everything you
read and hear by
God's Word



EATING
(Taste)



READING & VIEWING
(Sight)

It is through our
senses that Satan can
gain control of our
minds

Those who would not fall a prey to Satan's devices, must guard well the avenues of the soul; they must avoid reading, seeing, or hearing that which will suggest impure thoughts. AA 518 (cf AH 401-418; MYP Chapter 92)

Any book, TV program, movie, video or song that does not uplift and glorify God in us is not fit for Christian consumption. Those who watch TV regularly and/or attend movies are not helping themselves to become like Jesus. Our mind must constantly be fixed upon the one who dies for us and now intercedes for us in Heaven.

Guarding the Avenues of the Soul

AIM:	To show the importance of feeding the mind with wholesome subjects and thoughts.
THEME:	Recognition of Christ as Creator and King.
OUTLINE:	This chart is based on Phil 4:8. We must carefully choose what we read, watch and do, so that it draws us closer to Jesus. Ask yourself: “Are there things that I am reading and watching and listening to that do not draw me to Jesus?” It is easy to rationalise, but look again to the cross and remember what Jesus has done for you and pray that God will give you grace to do only those things that please Him.
NOTES:	<p>The Bible says that if we abide in Christ we will have the joy of walking with Him always and be blessed by His presence. To abide in Christ is to have Him fill our thoughts. If we read and watch those things that draw us away from Him we will fall.</p> <p>With the age of television, movies, internet, music and games, opportunities are endless for feeding our minds with sex, violence and rebellion. It is impossible to be connected to Christ and watch movies and play games that do not reflect the values of Christ. If we love the things of this world then it is obvious we are not in love with Jesus Christ.</p> <p>Let me share some of my testimony on this point. When I regularly attended movies and watched television and listened to the local rock music station I found it difficult to be interested in studying my Bible and spending quality time on my knees with God. My world was dominated by emotion and adrenaline and it made me very unstable. When Jesus broke through into my world, He demonstrated how much He really loved me. From that point on I found it hard to watch movies with swearing and sexuality. I felt uncomfortable listening to rock music that described an adulterous relationship between two people. Whenever I listened to and watched these things I knew Jesus was not there and I could not bear to be apart from Him. He had given His life for me and I wanted always to be with Him.</p> <p>Consider what Jesus has done for you. Is the sacrifice too great to put away your movies, rock music and violent games? I hope not – Jesus is so much more fulfilling than these things.</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<p><i>Stalking the Dragon</i> – Video Sermon by Dwight Nelson from Net 98.</p> <p><i>Messages to Young People</i>, by E.G. White.</p> <p>See Essay on CD-ROM – “Music in Worship” by Adrian Ebens.</p> <p>Truth For These Times Study No.34.</p>

The Spirit of Christ Versus the Spirit of the World

“There must be no competition among you” Phil 2:2, Jerusalem Bible



1. Humility Versus Pride

The gospel teaches us to be humble and place the needs and interests of others above our own. Phil 2:4. A competitive spirit seeks to place its needs above others and to glorify self. You cannot be competitive and serve others.



2. Value in Christ Versus Value in Our Own Performance.

This is the key to the gospel. Looking to and trusting in the performance of Jesus and believing that it is given to us. Competition is exactly the opposite. It trains us to look to and develop our performance within ourselves.



3. Peace Versus Aggression

When we are justified by faith, trusting in the righteousness (performance of Jesus) we have peace. Rom 5:1. Competition is the source of violence and aggression because we must prove ourselves at the expense of others. James 4:1-4.



4. Serving Others Versus Serving Self

Jesus constantly lived to serve others. Mark 10:44,45. When we are performing against others we are forced to serve and focus on ourselves. Instead of helping family with daily duties we are “working on our game”.



5. Internal Eternal Focus Versus Temporal External Focus

The gospel focus is on the eternal world. The competitive focus is on the temporal world. The Christian works on character through Christ, the competitor on image through self.



6. All Winners Versus One Winner and Many Losers

All who accept Christ are winners. There are no losers. All receive the prize. Sadly with competition there is only one winner. 1 Cor 9:24. The losers face the shame and fear of worthlessness or the fire of getting even.



7. True Worship Versus Idolatry

The gospel teaches us to abide in Christ and keep our thoughts always on Him. 2 Cor 10:5. Anything that takes a higher priority in our thinking than worshipping God, is idolatry. The spirit of competition makes self the centre of thought and action rather than God.



The Spirit of Christ Versus the Spirit of the World

AIM:	To show the Spirit of Jesus is completely opposite to the spirit of competition within the world.
THEME:	Recognition of Christ as Creator and King.
OUTLINE:	In Phil 2:5-8 we see the humility and grace of Jesus Christ. He was willing to give up all and leave His image and reputation in the hands of His Father. Compare this with Isa 14:12-14 where it describes the spirit of Satan, and his desire to be first at all costs. Go to Matt 23:12 and read how those that seek to exalt themselves will be abased and those who humble themselves will be lifted up by God. Then move through the chart making the comparisons.
NOTES:	<p>The desire to be first is the spirit that rules the world. For this reason the world constantly engages in competitions so that the desire to be first can be satisfied. We see that while the gospel teaches humility, competition fosters pride and confidence in self and your own performance.</p> <p>The fundamental principle of Christianity is not to look to your own performance or work harder to become what you desire. Eph 2:8. Competitive sports create an illusion that good is achieved because we feel better about ourselves and develop concepts of self discipline and achievement, but it is all based on self. If we constantly participate in competitive sports we engrain the principle of looking to self to improve and trusting in our performance for value. This makes it harder and harder to believe that we are justified by faith, trusting in Christ's righteousness and performance.</p> <p>The spirit of the world is a spirit of war. The striving for first place. This produces aggression and violence James 4:1-4. For this reason we see fights regularly breaking out at football matches. Fights in the crowds at soccer and cricket matches. This is all the spirit of self. Another effect of competition is that of winning at any cost. This is why we see drugs and all forms of deception and match fixing taking place.</p> <p>A person who regularly competes needs to maintain their reputation, and this gets harder and harder and requires more time developing self. Self becomes the entire focus. There is less time to visit the sick and spend time with those who need our help. We need to work on our game.</p> <p>People often say that sport is good to teach us how to be good losers. In the context of Christianity, I have never read a Bible verse that supports this. All Christians win the prize!</p> <p>In my personal experience: I have played many sports at fairly competitive levels. I have never been able to maintain my love and devotion to Jesus and excel at sport. The more I spent time developing my game the more I thought about the game until it was an idol. Sport produced in me feelings of revenge, jealousy, fear, pride, arrogance, sometimes expressed and sometimes not. I also remember watching some of my friends hurt and upset when I would win. Many would say "that is their problem", but the Bible says that we are our brother's keeper and should not be a stumbling block. I know that most people believe that Christianity and sport are completely in harmony. I am pleading with you to examine the evidence and see that this is not true. To truly experience the joy and humility of the gospel, anything that promotes self must be removed. Sport is the promoter of self, otherwise what is the point! Why score!</p> <p>At the same time, if we do reject competition but think ourselves better, then we have simply changed the parameters of competition. We must never condemn anyone who participates in these things. We must meekly live the principles of Jesus.</p> <p>Finally, try to imagine Jesus standing on the podium with clenched fists taking the gold medal, try to imagine Jesus playing rugby league and bruising the very bodies that He has fearfully and wonderfully made. If you can imagine these things without pain then you don't know my Jesus.</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<i>Messages to Young People</i> , by E.G. White, pages 363 – 402. <i>Strange Fire – The Rise of Modern Olympism</i> , by Barry Harker.

IT'S TIME...

"Servants of God, with their faces lighted up and shining with holy consecration, will hasten from place to place to proclaim the message from heaven. By thousands of voices, all over the earth, the warning will be given." GC 612

The above statement is a constant source of comfort and joy for me. I dream of the dormant energies of the church raised into vigorous action under the influence of the Holy Spirit and proclaiming the wonderful news of Jesus our precious Saviour in every city and every street and in every house. This quote is also a mission statement, a goal, a vision, a dream that I yearn to see fulfilled. It is time for all the members of the church to take swift and decided action to bring the harvest in. It is time to earnestly seek for the Spirit of God to convert and reform us. It is time to put aside matters of lesser importance and feel the weight of souls going to Christless graves. It is time to be servants of God with faces lighted up and shining with holy consecration to hasten from place to place and proclaim God's Last Message of Love.

About the Author



Adrian & Lorelle Ebens
with their two boys Michael
and Daniel

"I knew that my life was coming to a cross roads; could my parents religion save me from the destructive path I was beginning to enter? I had to find out! I knew that I was losing control and I needed help if I was going to survive. I picked up a little book called *Steps to Christ* and started reading. My parents had a copy in their library and I tried reading it a few years earlier but it just seemed like trying to read a foreign language; it was so boring. But now with a desperate need, the book came alive and spoke directly to my heart. I read these words...

"It was to redeem us that Jesus lived and suffered and died. He became 'a Man of Sorrows,' that we might be made partakers of everlasting joy. God permitted His beloved Son, full of grace and truth, to come from a world of indescribable glory, to a world marred and blighted with sin, darkened with the shadow of death and the curse. He permitted Him to leave the bosom of His love, the adoration of the angels, to suffer shame, insult, humiliation, hatred, and death. 'The chastisement of our peace was upon Him; and with His stripes we are healed.' Isaiah 53:5. Behold Him in the wilderness, in Gethsemane, upon the cross! The spotless Son of God took upon Himself the burden of

sin. He who had been one with God, felt in His soul the awful separation that sin makes between God and man. This wrung from His lips the anguished cry, 'My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?' Matthew 27:46. It was the burden of sin, the sense of its terrible enormity, of its separation of the soul from God--it was this that broke the heart of the Son of God." SC 13.

"I had heard many times that Jesus had died for *our* sins. I thought that was nice, but it had never really hit me that He died for *my* sins. Now as I read this paragraph, I saw in my mind Jesus hanging on the cross and I saw Him hanging there for me. Somehow I felt that He was more than willing to do this for me and that He loved me. I felt a warmth and love fill my heart in response to what He did for me. I chose to believe that He did it for me and that He loved me with an incredible love. At that point I fell in love with Jesus. He became my God, my hero and my friend. I had tried so long to prove that I was worth something and here I found all the worth that I needed. It was God saying to me 'You are my beloved son in whom I am well pleased'."

Adrian has served as a minister in Australia for the last nine years. He and his wife Lorelle and two boys are currently serving in South Queensland, caring for two churches.