Level 1: The First Step

The Truth You Need

Many people in America and around the world sense that we are drawing close to cataclysmic events on the Earth. As you are reading this, a deadly pandemic is sweeping over the world, bringing the nations of the world to a virtual standstill.

No, you aren't imagining things. In addition to facing an unprecedented health crisis, humanity is facing events on the horizon that will dramatically affect the lives of everyone in your community, nation, continent, and the whole Earth. But, before you can understand what is taking place, you have to have accurate information <u>and</u> you have to be able to place this information in the correct context so that your conclusions and resulting plan of action will be effective.

We all know that accurate, objective Truth is becoming increasingly difficult to find during these turbulent times. The vast majority of people don't know what to believe anymore, and with all the arguing back and forth, the only thing that is growing is a sense of confusion and anxiety.

Before we start, I'm sure you are wondering who "we" are and what our motivations are.

"We" are group of people who are filled with love and compassion for the citizens of the Earth. Our objective is to help as many people as possible to come to know the Truth about humanity, where you come from, and what will happen in the very near future. That is why we must very carefully lay an accurate foundation for your understanding. However, we must guard against an overload to the human mind both individually, and collectively. To avoid this overload, we have created a series of steps, that explained in the proper sequence, will make it possible for you to understand:

- 1. What is happening in the world around you?
- 2. Why do you feel and act the way you do?
- 3. How will you overcome the difficult times that lie ahead and have a future of hope, promise, and happiness?

It will be helpful if we start with an illustration of what we have to overcome in order for you to fully realize the Truth.

There was an American film back in the 1980's entitled, *They Live*, about an alien invasion of Earth. In the beginning of the movie, the main character arrives in a new city to find work. During a stay at a local shelter, he finds some sunglasses that, when worn, revealed a totally different world than the one in which he thought he lived. These glasses revealed that alien beings had infiltrated Earth and had set up a series of "transmitters" that kept humans from seeing what they really looked like. So, all of humanity was going through daily life completely oblivious that alien beings were now in control of the world and walking among us every day. Without the glasses, everyone and everything looked perfectly normal.

With the glasses on, the hero of the story could see true reality: macabre, skeleton-like, alien creatures were weaving a web of illusion and control around humanity. The aliens had programmed subliminal messages in signs, magazines, television, and all visual media. While the human population was seeing normal electronic billboard advertising for something like a new watch or a plumbing service, they were actually being bombarded with behavior-shaping commands like "obey authority", "consume", and "conform".

When the main character of the story sees the alien presence for himself, the first thing he does (of course) is to **try and get someone else to put on the glasses**. The person he chooses to enlist as his first ally thinks he's completely crazy, and fights like mad in resisting his attempts to put the glasses on him. But, after a painful fight, he physically places the glasses on his friend, and then everything becomes clear. His friend finally sees the bizarre, shocking reality that was enveloping the Earth and he joins the fight to liberate humankind.

We face a similar challenge with you.

We are going to be asking you to "put on: a different pair of "glasses", or more specifically, a different perspective than you normally have. We have no illusions about how difficult this is going to be for some of you. However, we cannot, and it is not our intention to FORCE you to accept the Truth we will reveal to you.

Here is where we arrive at an extreme paradox concerning humans today. Most people will tell you that they are totally "open-minded" and that they can "imagine" any number of fantastic realities. In fact, modern world citizens pride themselves on just how open-minded they are. These same people will tell you that we need to be completely tolerant of alternative ideas and that they can envision a future where the world is dramatically different than it was just a generation ago.

Yet, from our research, these same "open-minded" people can be some of the most resistant to "putting on the glasses" and accepting a new reality.

Why, you ask?

Because of THE PROGRAMMING.

How has this programming happened, you ask?

The first level of human programming is determined genetically. You, "us", and every human that has ever lived has a set of genetic instructions built into your DNA which is totally unique. This genetic makeup makes you pre-disposed to certain diseases, will determine your

physical makeup, and will strongly influence your thought patterns, your fears, and your belief systems.

The second level of programming takes place during childhood conditioning and the experiences you have during this critical period of development. The human brain is an incredible organ, capable of storing immense amounts of information. Even while you were in your mother's womb, your brain and central nervous system began constantly recording experiences. From simple associations like the sound of your mother's voice to the pain and pleasure you experienced in your childhood, everything has been recorded including the emotions that your mind associates with these events.

The early childhood environment is especially significant for human children because of the influence their parents have on them. The child is either punished or rewarded for exhibiting certain beliefs and behaviors which, of course, are strongly influenced by the conditioning of their parents. Pair this reinforcement with a human child's natural desire to mimic their parents, and the result is a powerful determinant of your belief systems and behavior.

The last century has seen another programming phenomenon explode onto the scene...Mass Digital Communications. What started with radio in the early 20th century has now evolved into an internet communications network that has become the central focus and obsession of humans across the planet. Literally everything is becoming part of this network of digital information. The influence of the content that humans are exposed to every day through this Mass Digital Communication is directly and indirectly shaping fears, beliefs, hopes, and behavior.

In fact, the average American is now inundated with over 50,000 messages every day. The content of these communications includes everything from news and commentary programs to commercials, video games, movies, social sites, all the way to the extremes of the dark net. And like a vine engulfing a tree, the tendrils of this world-wide digital network are spreading all over the world, even to the most remote parts of the Earth.

The result of all the inherited, intentional, and accidental programming is that each human being develops a **MINDSET** that is so natural to them, that they are "unconscious" of what created it in the first place.

Please consider the implications of what you just heard us say.

The result of this **PROGRAMMING** is that each human being develops a **MINDSET that is** so natural to them, they are "unconscious" of it.

In fact, as you are hearing this, your mind is already at work analyzing it in order to determine if this information will "agree" with its programming, or will it "threaten" your mind's control on what you think and believe?

Here is where it really gets interesting. Think of your brain, the physical organ, as your hard drive/computer. Then, consider that your mind and your emotions are the software, or the PROGRAM that dictates what information and feelings you experience, moment to moment to moment.

Do you understand the implications of what we are telling you?

All human minds have been programmed.

Here's the real kicker: You are NOT your mind.

Instead, you are a human being whose thoughts are dominated by YOUR MIND.

You are a PROGRAMMED being.

Yes, **YOU** are a **PROGRAMMED** being.

Yet, even now your mind is telling you it's not true. Other people may be programmed, but, not you. The Truth is that there are over 7 billion programmed beings on this planet, and each one of us is controlled by a programmed mind that dictates our thoughts, emotions, beliefs, and the very predictable choices we make.

Ironically, humans are very adept at "seeing" the programming of others. Yet, the vast majority of humans will spend their whole life completely unconscious of their own programming. This is why no matter how many changes they make, or new things they try, humans can't seem to achieve the contented life they've been told is out there.

Why?

Because, humans repeat the same cycles of belief/behavior over and over again, because they have been PROGRAMMED to do so.

If you have any honesty in your being, you can acknowledge the repetitive cycles of thought and behavior that make up <u>your</u> life. We all have them. It may be as innocuous as phrases you use all the time, all the way to the behavior of humans exchanging one intimate partner for the next (but, ending up with someone who treats them the same way, over and over again).

So, what does this programming have to do with what we want to reveal to you? The answer is simple. In order to comprehend the information you are about to hear and in order for you to experience a breakthrough, you must be willing to acknowledge your own programming. If you can't do that, it will be fruitless to share anything more.

Will you acknowledge that your feelings and beliefs have been created by a combination of heredity, childhood, cultural, and digital conditioning?

NO: I refuse to accept this Truth.

-Your quest ends here. (For you to read anymore will be fruitless – don't bother reading anymore).

YES: I acknowledge that my feelings and beliefs have been created by a combination of heredity, childhood, cultural, and digital conditioning.

-Proceed to the next level.

Level 2: "Right"

As we discovered in the first level, all of humanity has been programmed and their resulting belief systems are being reinforced and modified through a mind-numbing array of digital information. This programming is so embedded in our thinking that we are unconscious of it, yet it strongly defines our beliefs and our behaviors. In fact, humans can become so convinced of what they know to be "true", that they are willing to define their lives, or even forfeit their lives because they are convinced they are "right" about something.

"Being right", is a constant obsession of humanity, but what does it really mean to be "right" about something?

In one sense of the word, to be "right" about something means that what you've stated is factually true. For instance, you observe a room of people, count them and state to someone else, that "there are 10 people in the room". Your friend looks in the door, counts them, and affirms that "you're right".

The ability to discern what is factually true is not always easy because of our emotional programming. Take for example the experience of Jeff, who has been married for 10 years and is convinced that his wife is cheating on him. He doesn't have any verifiable evidence, but because of the way he was programmed as a child and the experiences he had with women during his adolescent years, he interprets the attitudes and behaviors of his wife as indicators that she is having an affair. In fact, he is so convinced of it, that regardless of her denials to the contrary, he KNOWS she is lying. It's so real to him because he FEELS it.

Yet, Jeff's belief is factually WRONG – his wife isn't having an affair. There are problems in the relationship, but his wife is not having an affair.

INSIGHT: The Truth is, that much of what humans "KNOW" to be factually true is in fact wrong, or at best, only partially true.

You're probably nodding your head in agreement that much of what we believe we "know" is actually not accurate. What you don't yet understand are the almost unfathomable implications of this agreement.

Before we move on, there is another foundational aspect of humanity's concept of "right" that must be understood in order for you to comprehend the information we will give you. The other sense of the word "right" implies a moral quality about one's decision. For example, a young man sees a woman unknowingly drop some money on the ground. Some people would say he did the "right" thing when he picked it up and returned it to her. And of course, if certain things are "right", then it follows that in the mind of every human, there are certain things that are "wrong".

The Earth will soon have 8 billion humans living on it and each person has a set of moral guidelines that have been created through a combination of heredity, learning, religious and cultural programming, and experience. Predictably, these guidelines vary greatly from, "I'm in charge of my life, and what I do is completely my decision," all the way to strict codes of conduct administered by authoritarian governmental structures that enforce strict adherence.

And everything in between.

In large part, the laws of human legal systems are an interesting mix of ancient scriptural writings, indigenous historical and economic influences, and contemporary political ideology. Consider that there are now over 196 countries and 6000 ethnic groups all competing for natural resources, military power, economic power, and political power. They each have their own concept of what is "right and wrong".

Yet, many people will tell you that there is no absolute right and wrong.

And with all of this lack of agreement as to what is "right and wrong", it should surprise no one that we live in a world of increasing chaos, war, economic deprivation, destruction, death, confusion, hopelessness, and despair. It seems as if humanity is unwilling and incapable

of living in peace and things seem to be rapidly spinning out of control. At the most basic level, humans can't agree on a moral framework that is endorsed and adhered to by all people comprising the cultures and countries of the world.

The result? The people of the Earth now face a future of war, disease, and terrorism that will kill millions, a widening gap between the poor and the super-rich, a deteriorating environment, and an increasing sense of despair and hopelessness.

In preparation for the next level, please acknowledge the following Truth: there is a wide spectrum of what I and other humans believe about the world in which we live. Furthermore, much of what each of us believes is either factually wrong or morally wrong in the minds of other people.

I disagree: I refuse to accept this Truth.

-Your journey ends here. (If you don't embrace this Truth, it will be fruitless for you to read any further).

I agree: Proceed to Level 3.

Level 3: The Authorities

Every human being is subject to the power of authority. First, there are the limitations that are imposed by the physical laws of the universe in which we live. Regardless of what you believe about gravity, if you step off a 10th story balcony, you will certainly fall due to the law of gravity and your human body will be destroyed. Another example: if a human consumes too much sugar, he or she will gain weight and may develop a plethora of serious medical conditions. And yet another example: heat some water at sea level to 212 degrees Fahrenheit; the water will boil every time. Why? Because, the laws that govern matter and energy are quantifiable and capable of being replicated.

Humans are also subject to the authority of a wide array of other authorities and powers. For example, if you are a Canadian who lives in a city, there are laws, taxes, and ordinances to which you are subjected from the city, county, provincial, and federal governments. In addition to that, there may be rules and expectations about specific behaviors and traditions that are part of various religious, fraternal, or corporate entities.

The result is that every human being on this planet is accountable to a variety of authorities that enforce compliance with various types of influence, coercion, social pressure, and raw power. Every human must decide whether or not to comply with the ordinances and laws in the area where they live. Some humans have decided that they don't recognize or endorse the limitations placed on them. In most cases, these people are considered lawbreakers, and depending on the severity of the crime, they are tracked, arrested, tried, and sentenced. This is especially true if their station in life is considered lower class. It becomes even more significant if they have no connections to political power. Point being, these laws

don't seem to apply to everyone equally. For those that have economic, social, or political status, there always seems to be a way out.

It's as if there is a secret, invisible group of people that operate on a different level of power and authority. In fact, there are many levels of power and authority, some you know about, and others that have been hidden from you.

You shall learn about them shortly.

Please acknowledge your agreement or disagreement with the following statements:

1) there are laws to which all humans are subject; 2) each human being can choose which ones to accept and obey, and there are consequences for every decision we make.

I disagree: I refuse to accept this Truth.

-Your journey ends here. (It will be fruitless for you to read anymore).

I agree: Proceed to Level 4.

Level 4: Dimensions of Reality

All humans experience multiple overlapping dimensions of reality. On the most basic level, there is the subjective reality of every individual human on Earth. Think of this as the dimension of your soul. The soul is comprised of your thoughts, ideas, beliefs, and raw emotions. Next is the physical reality of each human's body, not only in the basic physical stature of the human, but its innate strength, ability to recover from injury or infection, appearance, and the overwhelming effect your emotions have on your physical health.

Relationships comprise another central dimension of every human's life. Some people have just a few important relationships, while others may have dozens. But, no matter how many relationships each human has, their basic programming dramatically affects each relationship. The emotions that are associated with each key person in their circle are generated by both the person's innate programming and the "experience" that is created during the time you spend interacting with others.

Each of these realities contribute to the creation of a dominating concept of self for every human that eventually becomes a drama or story that becomes your defining "role" in life. Some of these dramas are negative, tragic, and even self-destructive, while others are positive, motivational, and emotionally uplifting to others. Regardless of the type, these dramas are powerful dominating influences on each human's life. Most people choose to "live" predominantly in these realities, repeating the same cycle over and over again, yet not seeing how they are locked into a programmed drama.

The result is that humans are by nature, so inwardly focused, that the vast majority of the moments in their life are spent in their own thoughts and feelings. This is especially illustrated in the human need for love and attention.

Every child that is born is completely dependent on the mother and or family for survival. In addition to food, water, and shelter, every child also literally needs to be touched. In fact, science has demonstrated that lack of enough physical contact can lead to illness or even infant death.

If we could examine every human's life in detail, we could look back and see where the major determinants of your beliefs and behaviors came from. Let's use the example of a girl who was born into a family where the parents were in a co-dependent relationship. The father was an alcoholic and the mother enabled him by constantly bailing him out of the messes he created. The unfortunate young girl didn't receive much love from either parent, primarily because they were both so involved in their own drama that she was lucky to just attend school, get fed, and remain clothed.

Because of the natural "love deficit" that was created by her environment, the girl responded in her adolescence by aggressively seeking after men that would give her love and affirmation. Unfortunately, that kind of "love and affirmation" wasn't the kind that really fulfilled her deep-seeded need. Given that her only experience and guidance had come from observing and interpreting the behavior of her mother, her quest led to sexual encounters, pregnancy, economic dependence, anger, resentment, and drug abuse as she perpetually enabled unstable, co-dependent men. This is just one example of how a human's experience and thus the rest of his or her life can become dominated by specific events and needs.

Every human being, including you and me, spends the vast majority of our time preoccupied by what is "missing" in our lives. This deficit motivates us to try and find other dimensions of reality that will help mitigate the emptiness, frustration, and anger that we experience internally.

One of those dimensions to which we all try and escape is the acquisition of things. Humans are obsessed with materialism - the obsession and belief that the acquisition of things will lead to fulfillment. This can range from the most basic of needs such as food and water all the way to electronic devices, furniture, cars, art, and the seemingly never-ending need for clothing. ("I have NOTHING to wear!")

The marketing that promotes these products always holds out the promise of safety, efficiency, healing, love, and happiness. Consequently, a large part of humanity spends their time working and trying to move up the income ladder because they have been programmed to believe that they will be happier and more content if they can get the right things (possessions) in their life. This, of course, is not true. Things don't make us happy. If they did, people in Western culture would have become "happy" a long time ago.

INSIGHT: The majority of the Earth's population has become totally focused in this reality.

In the midst of this frantic pace to acquire things, some people look at the increasing economic divide in our society and they yearn to see things changed politically in order to make things more "equal". And so, we have another smaller yet very active group of the population that becomes focused on the "us vs. them" dimension of reality. One political party achieves a victory, and attempts to institute their promised change, only to be resisted by the other party, and then the cycle flips as the problems in our society become even more acute. Nothing seems to really change, yet the game is played over and over again. Not surprisingly, the more serious the problems become, the degree of worry, stress, and anger and alienation becomes even more acute.

Ironically, while the majority of the population becomes fixated on the argument between political parties, there is a growing suspicion that the real authority and power isn't in our elected officials at all. Conspiracy videos on the internet are rife with theories about secret organizations overseen by the super-rich that are acquiring more and more economic and political power. The result: more suspicion, distrust, hopelessness, anger, and despair.

PLEASURE SEEKING

Another important dimension of reality is Hedonism, the focus on seeking pleasure. This dimension is evident in a vast number of economic and cultural phenomena including the fixation on an ever-increasing variety of sexual expressions, the widespread use of alcohol and drugs, and the obsession with food preparation and enjoyment.

RELIGION

Religion is another dimension of reality prevalent on Earth today. At its most basic level,

human religious expression has sought to establish both an explanation for man's existence and

the "right" way for us to live. While there may be a wide variety of beliefs and traditions, they

all seem to end up focused on acquiring more power, money, and adherents.

THE ECONOMY

Finally, the basic needs that humans have for food, shelter, and water require everyone

to participate in some form of an economic system. These "economies" can be as simple as a

trading system in a simple agrarian society, all the way to a modern, technology-driven system

found in the United States and other developed countries. But, no matter what level of

complexity a citizen experiences, he or she has to find some way to acquire wealth so that they

can acquire the "things" that they need or want. This work, whether it is panhandling, simple

manual labor, or complex technical vocations, require significant energy, attention, and

commitment. The result is that many humans spend the majority of their life focused on their

career or job, either out of necessity or out of pure enjoyment for their vocation. Each

individual human on Earth is involved in some degree with each of these dimensions of reality.

Some focus more on one or the other, but we all have one thing in common: every human is so

caught up in their own experience that their own personal reality has become so dominating

that they find it almost impossible to break out of it.

Please acknowledge your agreement or disagreement with the following statement:

there are overlapping dimensions of reality that attract the attention, focus, and energy of all

humans on Earth. Each human decides which dimensions in which to spend their time.

I am one of those humans.

I disagree: I refuse to accept this Truth.

-Your quest ends here.

I agree: Proceed to Level 5.

Level 5: The Mosaic and the Inoculation Barrier

We've all seen mosaic artwork in which you need to stand back far enough and look at the whole thing in order to see a pattern or picture. However, if you are standing right next to the mosaic, you would just see lots of what seemed to be unrelated colors, shapes, and textures. Each of these separate bits of the mosaic taken alone may seem irrelevant, or even distasteful to you, but they don't express the complete picture or Truth. You have to take them all in from the proper perspective, by standing back and looking at the whole thing to see the real message or picture.

That is exactly what we are going to do next. We are going to show separate parts of a mosaic and then give you the ideal place to stand to see the whole picture. Many of you will already have pre-conditioned responses to the different parts we will show you.

We beg you, **be aware of your own PROGRAMMING** and use the most mature part of your personality to simply "observe" what we are going to present to you.

Examine ALL the evidence, and once you've seen the whole mosaic, you can choose whether or not to embrace it or reject it.

In the following levels, we will share the mosaic that will reveal:

- 1. The true nature of the universe in which we live
- 2. A breakdown of each part of the mosaic and how they fit together
- 3. Clear, unambiguous proof that what we have presented is factually true
- 4. Clear, unambiguous information concerning the choices you can make

Let's Get Started.

The reason that many of you are unhappy, depressed, unfulfilled, fearful, and purposeless, is because you are victims of a deception that is so diabolical that you aren't even aware that you are a victim. You were born into a world in which an invisible battle is taking place-a battle for the eternal soul of every human being, including YOURS. Ironically, the vast majority of humans on Earth are completely ignorant that this war is taking place. The Truth and the ultimate reality, is that you live in a **satanically-ruled world that is systematically rebelling against and separated from the one TRUE GOD-THE GOD of the Bible.** The ultimate Truth of who He is, and how we can be assured of ETERNAL LIFE is revealed in the Bible, which is literally, and truthfully, the WORDS OF GOD.

STOP!

The vast majority of you just read this and you THINK you know exactly what we are talking about. Unfortunately, most of you are victims of what is known as "inoculation". Analogous to an inoculation that a child receives (which contains a small portion of a virus or bacteria which prevents future contraction of the infection), you have received a certain amount of information about GOD and the Bible. The problem is that most of what people have been taught/programmed to believe about "GOD and the Bible" has actually INNOCULATED you from knowing the ACTUAL REALITY AND TRUTH.

Why is this important to know?

Because of this inoculation, the minds of most humans have set up a strict barrier that prevents them from understanding any information that goes against what has been programmed into their mind already...**EVEN IF IT IS ACTUALLY TRUE!**

One small example: the vast majority of people would quote a well-known verse in the Bible, "money is the root of all evil." But, that is not what the Bible says. What GOD said in 1 Timothy 6:10 is, "The LOVE of money is the root of all evil." [emphasis added]

If you add up the effect of all the misinformation that people have been conditioned to believe about the Bible, you can begin to understand why the vast majority of humans are utterly deceived and totally oblivious to what is happening right in front of their eyes.

YET, THE EVENTS HAPPENING AROUND US, INCLUDING THE CORONA VIRUS, ARE EXACTLY AS PREDICTED IN THE WORD OF GOD.

What you are about to find out is so antithetical to what you have been programmed to believe that most of you won't be able to see it, because you have been PRE-PROGRAMMED TO REJECT IT. However, it doesn't absolve us of the <u>responsibility to tell you the Truth in love</u>, even if the vast majority of you will reject it. We beg you to consider the following proposal before you decide what to do next.

We propose to:

- 1. Present the Truth to you.
- 2. Present the evidence to support that what we are presenting is THE TRUTH.
- 3. Give you the opportunity to render your own verdict and make a conscious decision to choose GOD'S Kingdom or reject it.

You have freedom of choice. You can decide to leave now, but be forewarned: **one day** soon, you will stand in front of the Creator of the universe, and you will be without excuse because you chose NOT to listen to the Truth.

What do you have to gain by going on?

Eternal Life in Heaven, and the ability to overcome the very difficult times that lay ahead.

What do you have to lose by going on?

Eternal Life in Heaven, and the ability to overcome the very difficult times that lay ahead.

Are you willing to acknowledge that you may have attitudes and pre-conceived beliefs about the Bible and about God that MAY NOT be accurate?

No: I know everything; I've never been wrong. -Your quest ends here.

Yes, I agree: Proceed to Level 6.

Level 6: The Foundational Truths

The reason we are sharing this information with as many people as possible is because we are in the last days leading up to cataclysmic events that are the result of man's rejection of God's authority over our world. The events include pandemics we are seeing now, the coming wars (in which BILLIONS of humans will perish), famine, the rise of a worldwide satanic dictatorship, mass persecution and executions, and the return of Jesus Christ.

We love the people of the Earth, and our compassion-driven hope is that our efforts will reach as many as possible before they die. Therefore, we are giving you a shortened, "crash briefing" in hopes that many will be reached before the mass destruction begins.

Remember our question to you in a previous chapter? Have you ever been wrong about anything in your life? Don't forget your answer as you read this section. Just because you don't like the Truth, doesn't change the fact that it is true.

The following is an outline of true reality that most humans have been conditioned to reject, or to believe <u>only the parts that accommodate the sin in their life.</u>

WE WILL PROVIDE EVIDENCE TO DEMONSTRATE THAT THE FOLLOWING FACTS ARE THE ONLY *REAL TRUTH* IN A WORLD OF DECEPTION.

WE IMPLORE YOU TO CHECK EVERYTHING WE WILL NOW REVEAL BY CHECKING THE REFERENCES IN YOUR OWN BIBLE.

WARNING: (DO NOT USE A BIBLE THAT HAS BEEN TRANSLATED BY A CULT OR COUNTERFEIT RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATION).

We suggest you use the New King James Version, which you can access online, in order to verify the following Truths and the future events we will reveal.

The Bible is literally the Word of God and is the ultimate guide for all Truth in the Universe.

2 Timothy 3:16

The Bible's authority supersedes all human religious tradition and beliefs.

Isaiah 55:9; Mark 7:6-13

The Bible reveals the Truth about the world in which we live. The vast majority of humans mistakenly believe that what we see around us is the ultimate reality. But, the Truth is that the world around us is actually an elaborate series of repeating deceptions intended to keep humans focused on **anything but the Truth that will save them set them FREE**.

Matthew 24:34-36

The Bible reveals that there is an invisible battle going on in us and around us in which **invisible demonic entities** are influencing human thought and actions in order to deceive and destroy you and every other human being.

Ephesians 6:12

The Bible reveals that every human being is born with a sinful nature and that Earth is under control of Satan, an angel that rebelled against God. This is why life on Earth is so filled with violence, war, divorce, school shootings, sexual assault, human misery, depression, poverty, disease, and confusion.

Romans 3:23, 5:12, 6:23, 8:22

The Bible reveals that humans were created by God.

Genesis 1:27

Satan has encouraged humanity to believe the lie of evolution so that humanity will reject God's authority and decide what is right and wrong for us.

2 Corinthians 4:4

The Bible reveals that God is ALL HOLY, ALL KNOWING, ALL LOVING, ALL MERCIFUL, AND THE ALL RIGHTEOUS JUDGE IN A UNIVERSE THAT **HE CREATED and OWNS**.

Hebrews 4:12; Psalm 139:4

The fallen, satanically influenced nature of man, has created an "upside down" mindset in humanity that "thinks" God should do things the way WE want. Instead of acknowledging the reality that God owns the complete universe including us individually, humanity has tried to create a world in which God is an afterthought, subservient to our wishes, or at worst, His very existence is denied.

Romans 1:28; 2 Corinthians 4:4

We see this mindset revealed in the following ways:

In "religious" people, there is constant disappointment that God doesn't do things the way we want. Humans are constantly crying out with, "Why, Why, Why, God?". This belief that God "owes us" has infected the vast majority of human thinking.

Isaiah 10:15; Isaiah 45:9; Jeremiah 18:6; Romans 9:20

Other humans have rejected God's authority completely and have elevated man's position to be the God of this world.

Psalm 2:1-12; Hebrews 3:12

This "upside down" belief system that places man's authority above the LORD, is evident in every part of the world.

Isaiah 5:20; Psalm 2:1

The Bible reveals that humans are fascinated by and drawn to the worship of people and things that God created, <u>instead of worshiping the GOD that created all of them.</u> The elevation and worship of "mother earth" is a prime example of this idolatry.

Romans 1:25

The Bible reveals that God has given humans **free will** so that they can either choose to enter His Kingdom, or stay in the Kingdom of Darkness in which they were born. God gave us free will because He will not force us to love Him and enter His Kingdom.

Galatians 5:13; Joshua 24:15; Mark 8:34

Further, the Bible reveals that when we die, there are two possible outcomes:

1) Heaven in the presence of GOD

John 14:2-3; Philippians 3:20-21; Acts 1:11; Revelation 21:1-4; Isaiah 65:17-25

2) Hell-which is total separation from GOD

Matthew 10:28, 23:33, 25:46; Luke 12:5; 2 Peter 2:4; Revelation 20:14-15

The Bible reveals **GOD'S** plan of salvation for humanity. The ONLY way YOU can escape the Kingdom of Darkness and become part of God's Kingdom is revealed in His Word.

John 14:6; Acts 4:12; 2 Corinthians 7:10

The Bible reveals God's perfect laws and His prescriptions on how we are to live in this fallen, dying world.

Psalm 19:7-14

God's will for your life is that you experience **TRUE JOY AND CONTENTMENT** that comes from having an intimate relationship with Him.

Psalm 16:11; Romans 15:13; 1 Timothy 2:4

The first major section of the Bible, the Old Testament, explains the history and Truth about Israel-the people and the land which are the apple of God's eye and who are at the very center of the cataclysmic events which are even now, unfolding.

Deuteronomy 7:6; Zechariah 2:8; 1 Kings 3:8, 8:16; Nehemiah 1:9

The second section of the Bible, the New Testament, explains the history and Truth about Jesus Christ, the only true Messiah/Savior, and the Church that He birthed during His life here on earth.

<u>GOD'S Church is not any denomination or religious organization of which you've ever heard</u>. It is comprised of humans from every tribe and tongue that have repented and placed their faith in Jesus the Messiah.

Acts 11:26, 14:27, 20:28; 1 Corinthians 1:2, 12:28; Ephesians 1:22, 3:10, 5:23-32; Colossians 1:18, 1:24; 1 Peter 2:9

Both the Old Testament and the New Testament have specific prophecies about the future. Many of these prophecies have already been fulfilled which demonstrates the Truth and authenticity of the Bible.

Other prophecies are very close to taking place and indicate that we are in the days leading up to...

The rise of the Anti-Christ and his world government, religion, and economic system.

Revelation 13:1-18

God's judgment of every city, every nation, and every human being that has ever lived, including YOU.

Hebrews 9:27

The catching away of the Church (The Rapture).

Matthew 24:37-41; 1 Thessalonians 4:17

The return of Jesus to Earth to set up a 1000-year government.

Matthew 24:36

The establishment of the New Jerusalem, God's holy city in which every Jew and Gentile who has repented and placed their faith in Jesus will live forever in the presence of the LORD.

1 John 5:14

The Bible explicitly reveals that the only way for a human being to be saved from God's righteous judgment, is to...

1. ADMIT THAT YOU ARE A SINNER.

(A sin is anything you've done that violates God's holy law as set forth in the Bible.)

1John 1:9

2. REPENT OF YOUR SINS.

(To repent means to change your mind about sin and to commit yourself to seeking and obeying God's will for your life.)

Acts 3:19; 2 Peter 3:9

3. Place your faith in the atoning sacrifice of JESUS CHRIST WHO DIED ON THE CROSS FOR YOUR SINS, AND ROSE FROM THE DEAD IN VICTORY OVER Satan and his Kingdom of Darkness.

Romans 10:9-10; 2 Corinthians 5:21

4. Submit to HIS total Lordship AS YOUR SAVIOR and KING in your life. Your obedience is <u>NOT what saves you from God's judgment</u>; rather it is <u>PROOF that you have been</u> "born again" with a new nature that wants to please God.

John 12:46; Luke 9:23

The Bible reveals that humans have been deceived into thinking that intellectual knowledge of the aforementioned Truths is enough to meet the requirements of God.

James 1:22, 2:19

This is perhaps one of the greatest deceptions at work in the world today!

The Bible reveals **that intellectual knowledge/agreement** is not enough and that many people will be SHOCKED when Jesus returns because He will say, "Away from me, I never knew you".

Matthew 7:23

Now we will reveal how everything fits together.

Then you must choose how you will respond.

If you do nothing, then you are choosing to reject God's offer of rescue from this satanic world.

Level 7: The True Nature of the World and the Universe

There are in fact, only two **spiritual** dimensions that any human can inhabit-the Kingdom of Darkness and the Kingdom of God. **All humans are born by default into the Kingdom of Darkness**. It doesn't matter what culture into which you were born, your physical location, or the ancestry of your family, EVERYONE including YOU has been born into the Kingdom of Darkness.

First, we will provide an explanation and then we will offer evidence that what we present is in fact, the only real Truth in a world filled with confusion, illusion, and deception. The following is what the Bible specifically states about what is actually true about our life here on Earth and our future.

In the beginning, God created the Heavens, the Earth. The GOD of the Bible created the universe, and <u>HE is the Owner of everything in the universe</u>. God is eternal; He had no beginning and has no end. The ultimate Truth of who He is, and how we can be assured of ETERNAL LIFE is revealed in the Bible, which is literally, and truthfully, the WORDS OF GOD.

INSIGHT: While there are many "supernatural beings" in the universe, there is only one omnipresent, omniscient, all loving, all just, all holy, GOD.

After creating the universe, the Earth, and the animals, God created the first humans, Adam and Eve. They were created perfectly and lived in a perfect place that had no sin, no disease, and no death. Think about that for a moment. At that time, Adam and Eve lived in a perfect place, with no pain, no arguments, no violence, no disease, no war, no guilty feelings, no anger, and no depression. It was a perfect place where the first two human beings didn't KNOW about anything other than the love of GOD and the perfection of the perfectly pristine garden home in which they lived.

God gave them only one restriction or law: they were not to eat of the fruit of a special tree in the garden-the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. There were lots of other trees filled with delicious fruit in the garden, but this one was specifically off limits. This was man's first opportunity to obey or disobey God.

The "Spiritual Con Man"

Before creating man and woman, God had created angels of various types to serve in His Kingdom. One of the highest placed angels was one named "Lucifer". (Which means "light bearer"). Lucifer chose to rebel against God's authority, and he convinced 1/3 of all the angels to join him in the rebellion. Lucifer was not satisfied with his position of being a created angel in the universe that GOD had created. He decided that he would rebel against GOD because he wanted to be EQUAL TO GOD. Thus, the first sins in the history of the universe were PRIDE and REBELLION.

INSIGHT: This pride is the same pride that is at the foundation of humanity's rejection of GOD'S authority and ownership.

After deciding to rebel against his Creator, Lucifer chose to attempt to thwart GOD'S plan for humanity. As part of his rebellion, Lucifer **chose** to deceive Adam and Eve, and he started by posing a question to them, which was designed to mislead them.

INSIGHT: In the New Testament, Lucifer is also referred to as Satan or, "The Devil". His name means, "deceiver", and "the accuser". In the book of Genesis, he is referred to as "the serpent".

Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?"

Genesis 3:1

INSIGHT: One of Lucifer's standard deceptions is to misquote the WORD of GOD. Throughout all the world's history, man has been influenced by Satan's kingdom to create "religions" that utilize SOME part of GOD'S WORDS in their doctrine.

<u>Satan loves religion</u> and utilizes it in his deceptions because it appeals to the human predilection to "do good works" in order to win God's approval. However, "religion" is eternally

dangerous because it gives humans a false sense of security. Consequently, Satan delights in encouraging **any type of religious expression** that attracts humanity's interest with beliefs and traditions that are <u>not Biblically accurate</u>.

INSIGHT: There are hundreds of "religions" in the world, but there is only one way to know God, one Truth, and ONE PATH to attain eternal life in Heaven. There is ONLY ONE TRUTH. Jesus stated, "I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH AND THE LIGHT, NO MAN COMES TO THE FATHER EXCEPT BY ME".

John 14:6

Jesus specifically stated that KNOWING HIM, (not just knowing ABOUT HIM), is the ONLY WAY TO HAVE ETERNAL LIFE. Any other "religious belief" will result in your separation from God, now and in eternity after you die.

Now let's examine what GOD had actually said in Genesis.

"Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it; for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die."

Satan went on to accuse GOD of lying.

He said to Eve, "Ye shall not surely die for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil."

INSIGHT: Satan wants you to believe ANYTHING, <u>as long as it isn't what GOD has said</u> in the Bible.

INSIGHT: If you listen carefully to the political and religious authorities of today, (especially influencers who espouse tolerance and multi-culturalism), you will notice that every book and message is defended except for one: THE BIBLE.

Ponder that for a minute. This should set off a major alarm for any truly honest, intelligent person who seeks the Truth. The one book that the world wants to silence is the Bible. Yet, despite 2,000 years of persecution, it is spreading faster now than ever before!

Do you see the exquisite irony in this reality? The only real Truth is the one that humans seem the most committed to outlawing and rejecting!

The Original and Ongoing Lie

Satan's original and his <u>ongoing deception</u> is that "<u>You can be as God, knowing good and evil.</u> Once again, Satan mixes deception with Truth. According to the Bible, humans <u>do</u> know good and evil, but no human can be "equal to God".

In other words, Satan's "offer" to Adam and Eve <u>and his ongoing temptation to you is</u> to "choose" to be the one who decides what is right in YOUR Kingdom (YOUR LIFE). And he loves to fill your life with "choices" that will distract you from the only real choice that will matter in eternity.

Every hour of the day, every human being decides how to "spend their time". This includes what to wear, whether to be married or single, with whom to spend time, what video to watch, what hobby in which to invest, what kind of education to pursue, what car or truck to buy, what jewelry to wear, when to get up in the morning, with whom to be intimate, what coffee or tea to drink, what to eat for breakfast, lunch, and dinner, what weight with which to be satisfied, what laxative to take, organic or regular food, and on and on and on and on. Ad Nauseum.

The options that the world and life seem to offer appear endless. Ironically, the more choices we are offered, the more frustrated humans seem to become. Now, try and clear your mind of all preconceptions so you can just understand one simple, but universe revealing Truth:

All these questions that make up our lives are intended to distract you from the single most important and fundamental question every human being really has to make. That is, which Kingdom will you choose to live in for ETERNITY-the Kingdom of GOD or the Kingdom of Darkness?

I can hear the predictable response to this question spun up from your programmed minds, "Oh, I'm already a _____!" (Fill your religious affiliation in the blank.)

You don't get it.

You have been programmed, trained, and indoctrinated since you were born with what to believe about the world in which you live, who God is, how you should live during your life, and how you can get to Heaven. All of these "beliefs" are based on a world-wide delusion

designed to keep you from knowing the Truth about GOD, His plan for your life, and His plan for your city and nation. The Truth is that the VAST MAJORITY OF PEOPLE in the world have been deceived into thinking that their "religious practices" will please God enough to gain them entrance to heaven. Jesus revealed the Truth in the Gospel.

Enter by the narrow gate; for wide *is* the gate and broad *is* the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it.

Matthew 7:13

In other words, very few people will find the "narrow gate" that leads to eternal life in the Kingdom of God. **Just ask yourself this simple but profound question:** if going to church, getting baptized or confirmed, or taking Communion was what God required, (the majority of people in the Western world have done these things), WHY WOULD JESUS SAY THAT THERE ARE MANY WHO WILL ENTER THE GATE TO DESTRUCTION?

Let this Truth sink in...the number of people who are trusting only in their repentance and their faith in Jesus' atonement are few in number compared to the vast majority of humans who believe that their practice of religious traditions will get them into Heaven. It doesn't matter what "denomination" to which you belong, (Methodist, Baptist, Catholic, Presbyterian, Church of God, or any one of the thousands in the world), membership in any church won't get you admitted into the Kingdom of God!

So, what happened next in Genesis? It was true that Adam and Eve would not die physically right away. However, by disobeying GOD, the Earth and all of creation was infected with sin which brought death into the world.

What GOD says is always Truth, and it always manifests in the future just the way HE says it will.

And GOD decides when that will happen.

One prime example: you and all humans have an appointment with death, you just don't know when that is. Only God knows. It could be one second from now, or be many years to come, but, one way or the other, you will die. The real question: will you be in the Kingdom of God or in the Kingdom of Darkness when you die?

INSIGHT: Satan always includes some shred of Truth in every deception. His spiritual deceptions are like counterfeit money. They are designed to look like the real thing, but they aren't the real thing.

The result of Adam and Eve's choice was that <u>they</u> were <u>separated</u> from GOD. And the moment they were separated from GOD, <u>they died a SPIRITUAL death</u>. Because spiritually dead creatures can't produce spiritually ALIVE progeny, every human descendant from Adam and Eve has been born SPIRITUALLY DEAD. In other words, the result of their choice to disobey GOD, was that sin would now be present in humanity's minds, bodies, and spirits.

Remember in a previous section how we shared that the human brain and central nervous system function similarly to a computer hard drive? What do we see taking place today in the world's computers, whether they be a PC, a mainframe, or the portable computer (your smartphone) that you carry everywhere with you? **Hacking & corruption!**

There is a constant attack on our hard drives to place malicious code into our computers that is designed to corrupt them and hijack them. This is exactly what happened when sin entered GOD'S creation. This malicious code of SIN/REBELLION invaded EVERYTHING IN ALL OF CREATION including human minds, souls, bodies, and everything in creation we see around us on this Earth. This is why there is so much hatred, fighting, war, murder, and self-destruction. This is why there is so much sickness, depression, anxiety, suicide, and death.

INSIGHT: Sin has corrupted all of nature including all plants and animals, and it has been passed on genetically.

You and every human being were conceived in this corrupted state and no matter what men and women do to try and "fix" things in the world, conditions on this planet, are in fact, getting worse and worse.

Summary

We live in a fallen world in which everything and everyone has been infected with sin. The vast majority of humans are ignorant to the fact that there are only two Kingdoms in the universe-the Kingdom of God and the Kingdom of Darkness. Every human being that has ever lived, including you, was born into the Kingdom of Darkness (Satan's Kingdom). Many people believe that being "religious" will save them, but that is a deception that will lead them to separation from God-Hell.

Level 8: "Real" Zombies

The moment that Adam and Eve chose to sin, the Earth and humanity became Satan's domain or kingdom.

INSIGHT: Until you choose to rebel against the ruler of this world (Satan) and become a born-again child of God, you belong to Satan.

Just because you don't believe that Satan exists, or that you are under his domain, doesn't change the Truth. Sinful, and separated from GOD, is the default condition of every human being that is born on the Earth. Look carefully at this portion of the Bible (directly below) in which GOD is addressing a group of people that were rescued from this satanic world.

And you, He (Jesus) made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the <u>prince of the power of the air</u>, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, among whom also <u>we all</u> once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others.

Ephesians 2:1

GOD uses the Bible to reveal that, Satan is the "god" of this world. He is the "prince of the power of the air". What else can we glean from these verses?

- 1. The people who Jesus "made alive" were previously "dead in trespasses and sins".
- 2. Previous to being made alive, these people had "walked according to the course of this world, following the lead of Satan, who ALL people have conducted themselves in the lusts of the flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and the mind".
- 3. Because of this sinful condition, all that have sinned are by nature "children of wrath".

God has declared that all of humanity is guilty of sin and will be judged by him.

For all have sinned and fallen short of the GLORY OF GOD.

Romans 3:23

But because of your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath when God's righteous judgment will be revealed.

Romans 2:5

GOD is explicit in his warning to humanity that the world we live in is filled with satanic deception.

Satan, who is the god of this world, has blinded the minds of those who don't believe. They are unable to see the glorious light of the good news. They don't understand this message about the glory of Christ, who is the exact likeness of God.

2 Corinthians 4:4

In other words, the world we live in is a corrupted system that is full of messages, beliefs, and symbolism that are designed to deceive, enslave, and keep every single human being including YOU, separated from GOD. We live in an artificial, temporary world that is designed to convince humans that this "world" is the ultimate reality.

Our mission is to open your eyes to the Truth in hopes that you will rebel against Satan.

This is clearly explained in a Bible passage penned by Paul, a former Jewish priest, who had been called by Y'shua, the Messiah (Jesus), to reach people who are living in darkness.

.... open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in Me.

Acts 26:18

Are there any clues in the world that support the Bible's clear teaching that the Earth is under satanic control?

The world is influencing the true nature of humanity. Humanity's spiritual condition in terms of beliefs, behaviors, our culture, and especially our entertainment shows that the world and not the GOD'S WORD is responsible for who we have become. Humanity displays our spiritual condition and our belief systems into the characters we describe in books, videos, and movies. There is one, especially telling cultural phenomenon that is a powerful example of this worldly influence: ZOMBIES.

THERE IS AN OBSESSION WITH ZOMBIES, SKULLS, AND DEATH IN OUR CULTURE.

Why are zombies so popular? THE REASON IS SIMPLE. WE ARE ALL ATTRACTED TO

PEOPLE THAT ARE LIKE US. What are the classic qualities of "zombies" as portrayed in movies, videos, and books in popular culture?

1. Zombies are unaware of their "condition". Zombies are animated, yet they are dead, **but, they don't know it.**

The vast majority of humanity is completely ignorant of their spiritually dead condition.

2. Their instinct is to kill or destroy living creatures.

Anyone with any intellectual honesty will have to admit that humanity is completely obsessed with MURDER and mayhem. The vast majority of movies and video content is connected to murder and destruction. Now, in these current days, there is an escalation of mass murder and satanically-inspired child sacrifice and abuse.

3. They infect their victims by contaminating the blood of their victims so that they will also become zombies.

As mentioned previously, since the fall of man in the garden of Eden, humanity's sinful condition has been passed down to every human ever born because our very nature, including our blood, was corrupted by sin.

THE FOLLOWING BRUTAL TRUTH IS MEANT TO AWAKEN YOU LIKE A BUCKET OF ICE COLD WATER.

EVERY HUMAN BEING IS BORN AS A SPIRITUAL ZOMBIE.

UNTIL YOU REPENT AND PLACE YOUR FAITH SOLELY IN JESUS, YOU ARE A SPIRITUALLY DEAD ZOMBIE AND YOUR FUTURE DESTINATION IS THE LAKE OF FIRE.

Revelation 20:13-14

The Secret about Blood

The Bible revealed a secret about our blood thousands of years ago that has only recently been "discovered" by modern medical science.

For the <u>life of the flesh is in the blood</u>, and I have given it to you upon the altar to make atonement for your souls; for <u>it is the blood that makes atonement</u> for the soul.

Leviticus 17:11

Here we learn two critically important facts that the Bible spoke of thousands of years ago.

- 1. The life of every creature on Earth is in the blood. If your blood is drained, or is infected, you will die.
- 2. God set forth a specific way for "atonement" to be made for our souls. It had to be a "blood sacrifice".

This is further confirmed in the book of Hebrews.

Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.

Hebrews 9:22

In HIS divine wisdom, the LORD created an "escape plan" for humans to be rescued from the satanic world in which we live.

Now you will learn about the **ONLY HOPE** you have of receiving GOD'S forgiveness and receiving eternal life.

Level 9: ATONEMENT

GOD'S PLAN FOR SAVING YOU

The concept of **ATONEMENT** is one of the first revelations about God's plan to rescue humanity that is revealed in Genesis, the first book of the Bible. At the very beginning of human existence, God revealed that "atonement" would be the only acceptable way for man to be reconciled to HIM. To be reconciled means that you are accepted into God's family and can go to Heaven and be granted eternal life.

After Adam and Eve disobeyed God's commandment, the Bible records what the Lord did for them.

Also, for Adam and his wife the LORD God made tunics of skin and clothed them.

Genesis 3:21

We can infer from this passage that:

- 1. An animal was killed (sacrificed) and the shed blood of the animal was utilized by God as a substitutionary sacrifice for Adam and Eve.
- 2. The skins were a visible reminder to the first humans that their sin had cost a life and that a sacrifice for their sin was required.

Before you reject this idea of atonement, imagine the following scenario. You wake up one day to find out the someone has completely vandalized your yard, your house, killed your dog, stolen your car, and drained your cash at an ATM. The perpetrators are tracked down,

arrested and after they are tried, (in what seems to be an open and shut case), the following takes place.

Jury Foreman: We find the defendants guilty on all counts and recommend restitution in the amount of \$10 million dollars.

The Defendants: Your Honor, we are really sorry for what we did and we promise you we won't rob and destroy again!

Now let's think about how a wise judge would react. Would a wise judge say, "Oh, no problem, you are excused......"? Of course not, because even in our less than perfect human sense of right and wrong, there is something within us that screams, "JUSTICE MUST BE DONE!"

No human judge in his or her right mind will allow the guilty to go free. Now, imagine that a long-lost friend of the defendants offered to pay the 10 million dollars? The judge could then let the guilty men go free, because **the penalty had been paid.**

Atonement: GOD'S FORGIVENESS PLAN

One of the most fascinating aspects of the Bible is how GOD introduces certain foundational Truths and then repeats them BOTH LITERALLY AND SYMBOLICALLY so that HIS TRUTH AND HIS WILL ARE REVEALED. If "atonement" is really a key foundational Truth in GOD'S Kingdom, we would expect to see it revealed again and again in the Bible. And that is exactly what is revealed as you study GOD'S WORD.

Repeatedly in the Bible, God reinforces certain themes such as blood atonement, as well as foreshadows future events of blood atonement-the most significant of which is Jesus Christ, the Messiah, providing the sacrifice needed for humans to be saved from the slavery and mortal penalty for sin.

The Two Sons/The Two "Ways"

Among the many children that Adam and Eve had, there were two boys, Cain and Abel. Abel was a keeper of the sheep, and Cain was a tiller of the ground. When it was time for the boys to give an offering to the Lord, Abel brought a lamb, a "firstling of the flock". Cain brought an offering of the ground, in other words, he brought some of the food he had grown.

God commended Abel's offering of the animal, which is another foreshadowing of the blood atonement that God's Son would provide. However, God did not accept the offering that Cain brought, and Cain was very angry. In fact, he was so angry and jealous, that he killed Abel in his rage.

INSIGHT: Although there are hundreds of religious beliefs and practices in the world today, there are in fact only two basic ways that man attempts to meet God's requirements and to attain eternal life.

The first way is through a system of religious "works". This is the common error in every religion...to offer our good deeds and things that we have produced with our own hands and minds in hopes of pleasing God. This is the "Cain" way, and it doesn't work today any better than it did when God rejected his offering in the Old Testament. In fact, this works-centered mentality that is believed by the vast majority of humans is one of the greatest deceptions created by Satan.

INSIGHT: Roman Catholicism and Islam are two examples of religious systems that are "works" based.

The second way, the "Abel" way, is based on following God's requirements for a blood sacrifice, because the only way our sin can be forgiven is through a perfect, sinless sacrifice. The Truth is that if you ask the vast majority of humanity about their plan to get into Heaven, they will say that they are hoping that their good deeds (works) and the fact that they have never committed a capital crime will be enough to please God. Humans always compare their "goodness" with the "badness" of other people.

What they really should be comparing themselves to is the PERFECT HOLINESS OF GOD.

This "I'm better than other people I know" mindset is a rejection of God's plan of salvation and will send the vast majority of people to Hell. **Does the Bible provide other proof that the only way to be forgiven by God is through blood atonement? Yes.** In fact, there is so

much evidence that only a seriously deceived person could miss this conclusion. Let's look at some of the key Biblical events which reveal the Truth AND confirm the accuracy of the Bible.

GOD calls Abram to leave the area that he lived, called Ur. He commands Abram to leave his country, his family, and his father's house and travel to a country that He will show him.

INSIGHT: GOD wants all humans to leave their "old life" in the Kingdom of Darkness, and enter a "new life" in His Kingdom

GOD makes a promise to Abram that is quite remarkable.

And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing. And I will bless them that bless thee and curse him that curseth thee; and in thee shall **all** families of the Earth be blessed.

Genesis 12:2

INSIGHT: History is filled with examples of nations that were cursed or blessed because of how they treated Israel-that is, the descendants of Abram (who is renamed by God as Abraham in Genesis 12). Every nation that has attacked or cursed Israel has ultimately been, or eventually will be DESTROYED.

After making this promise to Abram some truly remarkable events take place in Abram's life.

- 1. He obeys GOD and travels to the new land.
- 2. When he arrives in this new land, the Lord appears to Abram and promises to give "his seed" the land. This is why we have seen the miraculous rebirth of Israel and watched millions of Jewish people from around the world return to Israel.
- 3. When Abram arrives in the land, Abram builds an altar and calls upon the name of the LORD.
- 4. Later, when a famine takes place, he and his wife, Sarai, go to Egypt where Pharaoh was afflicted by GOD because he "took" Sarai into his house. When Pharaoh realized what was happening, he "sent them away".

INSIGHT: This was a foreshadowing of the Jewish people's future subjugation in Egypt and this would be how GOD brought plagues upon Egypt, leading to the Israelites' exodus.

5. Abram, and his nephew, Lot, had both become very wealthy, and decided to separate since their herdsmen were beginning to have disputes. Abram chose to live in the land

that GOD had given him in Canaan, and Lot dwelled in the cities of the plain, which included the city of Sodom.

INSIGHT: This foreshadows the two choices and paths open to every human being: to obey GOD and live in His kingdom, or to go your own way and live in the world.

- 6. Once this "separation" had taken place, GOD told Abram to "look in all directions" and He gave him all the land that Abram could see. But, the land wasn't for just Abram. God promised it to his "seed" FOREVER. This is why the tiny land of Israel still exists today in spite of the world's attempt to destroy the Jewish people and take it away. IN FACT, the land that GOD gave Israel is much greater than the little parcel they live on today.
- 7. God also promised Abram to make his seed as numerous as there are particles of dust on the Earth. (That's an unfathomable number!)
- 8. After Abram rescues Lot from being kidnapped, Melchizedek, the King of Salem and a priest of GOD, appears to Abram and blesses him. Melchizedek brings forth bread and wine which is a foreshadowing of the Lord's Supper and the "Communion" that the LORD instituted after the death and resurrection of Jesus.
- 9. The Lord came to Abram in a vision and promises his seed (descendants) would be as numerous as the stars in the sky.

Abram "BELIEVED" in the LORD, AND GOD COUNTED HIM AMONG THE RIGHTEOUS.

INSIGHT: The Hebrew word that is at the root of the English word "believe", means to TRUST.

The English word "believe" has really deceived millions of people because it implies just "intellectual agreement". Example: "Yes, I believe in God". The Bible explicitly explains that just "believing in God" does not qualify as faith that saves us from God's righteous judgment. Look at the following verse:

You say you believe in one God. Good. The demons also believe and tremble.

James 2:19

In other words, just believing in God doesn't qualify you as being a child of God. The Devil and all his demons KNOW WHO GOD IS and they tremble because they know that their destination is the Lake of Fire.

- 10. When Abram asks God how he can know that God's promise will actually take place, God makes a covenant with Abram, sealed with the blood of sacrificed animals, in which God promises Abram certain amazing things:
 - A. That Abram's seed (his family descendants) would live in a strange land in which they would be oppressed for 400 years. (This was a prophecy of the 400 years of slavery that the Jewish people would endure in Egypt).

This is a fact with which historians agree.

- B. That the people would "come out with great substance". (The Egyptians gave the Hebrew people precious gifts during their Exodus).
- C. God gave Abram and his descendants specific land: "from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates; the Kenites, and the Kenizzites, and the Kadmonites, and the Hittites, and the Perizzites, and the Rephaims, and the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Girgashites, and the Jebusites."

This "land", that God promised Abram is an area much larger than the very small amount of real estate that the Jewish people are living on today.

Prophetic implication: Israel will recover this land very soon.

INSIGHT: There are certain covenants in the Bible that are "bilateral and conditional". That is, both parties, man and God, have certain obligations that must be fulfilled in order for God to fulfill His promises.

However, this covenant was completely one-sided. God will bring it to pass, no matter what Satan and deceived humans try to do to stop it. When you understand what God promised Abram, you will begin to see why this tiny strip of land in the Middle East has become such a point of contention for the whole world.

A Son for Abram

While Abram and his wife Sarai knew the Lord had promised that their descendants would be as numerous as the stars in the sky, they became impatient because Sarai had born no children. So, Sarai decided to take matters into her own hands and suggested that Abram impregnate her Egyptian servant, Hagar. (Genesis 16:2). Abram agreed with the plan, and Hagar became pregnant. As could be predicted, Sarai regretted her decision, and began to treat Hagar harshly, so Hagar ran away.

What happens next reveals another prophetically significant reality that we see at work in the world today. An angel of the Lord appears to Hagar and instructs her to return to Sarai. However, the angel also tells her that the child's descendants will be a "multitude", and instructs her to name her son "Ishmael". Then, the angel explains that her son will be "a wild man, and his hand will be against every man, and every man's hand against him".

This is exactly what happened; Ishmael's descendants (follows of Islam) make up the population of much of the Middle East where there is almost constant war and bloodshed. Just as GOD predicted, much of this bloodshed is perpetrated among the various sects of Islam (Ishmael's descendants), with the two major ones being Shia and Sunni.

INSIGHT: Whenever humans decide to take matters into their own hands instead of waiting on God's direction, the inevitable result is chaos, disillusionment, and destruction.

Just as the angel predicted, Hagar bore a son to Abram and he was named Ishmael.

And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said unto him, "I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect. And I will make my covenant between me and thee and will multiply thee exceedingly." And Abram fell on his face: and God talked with him, saying, "As for me, behold, my covenant is with thee, and thou shalt be a father of many nations. Neither shall thy name any more be called Abram, but thy name shall be Abraham; for a father of many nations have I made thee. And I will make thee exceeding fruitful, and I will make nations of thee, and kings shall come out of thee. And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee. And I will give unto thee, and to thy seed after thee, the land wherein thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God."

Abraham, The FATHER OF THE NATIONS

In Genesis 12, GOD introduces us to Abraham, who was originally called "Abram", which means, "father of many". God changes Abram's name to "Abraham" which means, "father of a multitude". The Lord also commanded Abraham to institute circumcision as a sign of the covenant in every male child who would be born in all following generations. Then the LORD turned his attention to Sarai. Remember that she is now over 90 years old and had never had a child.

And God said unto Abraham, "As for Sarai thy wife, thou shalt not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall her name be. And I will bless her and give thee a son also of her: yea, I will bless her, and she shall be a mother of nations; kings of people shall be of her." Then Abraham fell upon his face, and laughed, and said in his heart, 'shall a child be born unto him that is a hundred years old? and shall Sarah, that is ninety years old, bear?' And Abraham said unto God, "O that Ishmael might live before thee!" And God said, "Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed; and thou shalt call his name Isaac: and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his seed after him. And as for Ishmael, I have heard thee: Behold, I have blessed him, and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly; twelve princes shall he beget, and I will make him a great nation. But my covenant will I establish with Isaac, which Sarah shall bear unto thee at this set time in the next year." And he left off talking with him, and God went up from Abraham.

Genesis 17:13-21

What do we learn from this passage?

- 1. Sarai's name was changed to Sarah, which means "princess". She is now in the royal lineage of the Kingdom of God.
- 2. She will be the mother of nations.
- 3. God reveals that Sarah would have a son, and Abraham's response to this news was that he laughed because what God was promising him seemed so "impossible".
- 4. God commands that the son's name will be "Isaac" which means, "he laughs" in Hebrew!

(And you thought that God doesn't have a sense of humor!)

INSIGHT: Words, their definitions, <u>context</u>, and <u>meanings</u> are foundational in everything in God's Kingdom and the Truth He reveals in the Bible-THE WORD of GOD. The BIBLE is the only source of ALL Truth and <u>that is why the world</u>, and the majority of people, reject it and try to destroy it!

In Genesis 18, the Lord appears to Abraham again. In the ensuing conversation over a meal that Abraham prepares, the LORD explains that Sarah will have a child. Sarah heard the conversation from behind the door, and she, like her husband, "laughed" at the idea that she would bear a child. Then, the LORD reveals something to Abraham that every human being needs to know:

And the Lord said unto Abraham, "wherefore did Sarah laugh, saying, 'Shall I of a surety bear a child, when I am old?' Is anything too hard for the Lord? At the time appointed I will return unto thee, according to the time of life, and Sarah shall have a son." Then Sarah denied, saying, "I laughed not;" for she was afraid. And he said, "Nay; but thou didst laugh."

Genesis 18:13-15

In response to their understandable doubt that having a child at their extreme age was possible, the LORD said, "Is anything too hard for the Lord?" The LORD repeats in the New Testament.

Nothing is impossible with God.

Luke 1:37

INSIGHT: The vast majority of people don't believe in an omnipotent, all powerful God, because HE doesn't answer their prayers the way they think HE should.

This reveals that the vast majority of humanity has an "upside down" mindset when it comes to God. Humanity shares a belief that God should do what we tell Him. An American example: "GOD BLESS AMERICA!" As we shall soon see, commanding GOD to do anything is not a good plan. Humanity has placed itself above God instead of recognizing that HE IS THE LORD, HE OWNS ALL OF CREATION (INCLUDING YOU), AND THAT THE WORLD WE LIVE IN, IS LIVING IN REBELLION TO HIM.

ESCAPING THE ANGEL OF DEATH

The events that God describes in the Bible regarding the history of the Jewish people consistently underscore the concept of "atonement". Just as the Lord had predicted, the Jewish people went to Egypt to escape a famine and ended up being enslaved by pharaohs for

400 years. In the midst of their suffering, God sent them a deliverer named Moses in a very unusual way.

Before we look at this incredible deliverance, please listen closely because we will now reveal a <u>secret to understanding a miraculous reality about the Bible</u>. When you begin to study GOD'S WORD, you discover that GOD foreshadows future events in what has been referred to as the law of "<u>double fulfillment</u>". This means that certain events in history have, OR WILL, take place multiple times.

A Deliverer Named Moses

Pharaoh was concerned that the Hebrews would become too strong and numerous so he ordered all midwives to drown any male children that were born. However, many who feared God, disobeyed this order. One of the Hebrew boys that was born during this time was named, Moses. His mother placed him <u>in an ark</u> and placed him in the bulrushes by the river bank where he was discovered by Pharaoh's daughter, and subsequently Moses was raised as an Egyptian.

INSIGHT: Going back to the times of Noah, he and his family were saved by being in an ark during God's judgment which sent the great flood.

Moses eventually grew up to be the second most powerful leader in Egypt and was Pharaoh's trusted advisor. However, Moses had to flee Egypt after killing an Egyptian guard that was beating a Hebrew slave. He escaped to a desert area called Midian and spent 40 years as a shepherd. He married a woman, Zipporah, who was the daughter of a man named Jethro.

Zipporah was a Gentile- that is, a non-Jewish person. Jesus, the Jewish Messiah, would eventually extend his offer of salvation to the Gentiles because his own Jewish people rejected Him. So, the Church that he birthed would largely be made up of "Gentiles". This true Church, made up of those who have repented and placed their complete faith in Jesus, are referred to as "The Bride of Christ".

INSIGHT: Moses took a Gentile bride before delivering the Jews from Egypt. When the Rapture (the snatching away) of the true Church takes place, (which the exodus out of Egypt foreshadows), Jesus will take a Gentile Bride before He will deliver Israel from the Anti-Christ and his Kingdom of Darkness!!!

In Exodus 2:24, God remembers His covenant with the people of Israel after hearing their groaning and suffering in Egypt.

INSIGHT: The vast majority of humans, whether they are rich or poor, will eventually groan and suffer under the weight of slavery to sin and our dying bodies. This sin, physical pain, despondency, and mortality is the "slavery" under which every human suffers. The poor think that money is the answer to our suffering, but they are wrong. Humans who are rich by the world's standards find out that money isn't the answer because even with prosperity, there is still an emptiness and ache in our hearts for something that is missing. (Ecclesiastes 3:11). This "missing thing" is a VOID, intentionally placed in our heart by the LORD so that we would seek after Him. It is like a homing beacon for those that are lost. No matter what a man or woman achieves in life, it will never bring permanent satisfaction or completion. The only thing that brings true peace is not a "thing" at all. It is the relationship with God for which we were designed. It can only be found in one way and that is turning in repentance to Jesus, the Messiah.

Now, back to the story. God selects Moses as a deliverer and sends him to Egypt to gather the people and bring them out of slavery. He explains to Moses that he will "stretch forth his hand and strike Egypt so that Pharaoh will let His people go". This is exactly what happens. Moses and his brother, Aaron, confront Pharaoh who rejects their demand and in response, places even greater work demands on the Hebrew people. Then God gave Moses special instructions.

When Pharaoh says to you, "Prove yourselves by working a miracle," then you shall say to Aaron, "Take your staff and cast it down before Pharaoh, that it may become a serpent."

Exodus 7:9

Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and did just as the Lord commanded. Aaron cast down his staff before Pharaoh and his servants, and it became a serpent. Then Pharaoh summoned the wise men and the sorcerers, and they, the magicians of Egypt, also did the same by their secret, dark arts. Each man cast down his staff, and they became serpents. But, Aaron's staff swallowed up their staffs. Still, Pharaoh's heart was hardened, and he would not listen to them, as the Lord had said.

INSIGHT: The Kingdom of Darkness has real power that is manifested in many ways here on Earth. This is why GOD specifically warns humans NOT to get involved in occultic and Satanic practices. Another indication of how evil the world is, is this pre-occupation with occultic symbols, witchcraft, and "new age" beliefs ranging from reincarnation all the way to the "Christ Consciousness" espoused by many in eastern religions. However, this is not a battle of "equals". Satan can't do anything without the LORD allowing it.

As the story continues, Pharaoh "hardens his heart". As a result of this, God sends a series of ten judgments:

- 1. All the water in Egypt is turned to blood.
- 2. An infestation of frogs covered the land.
- 3. An infestation of gnats covered the land.
- 4. An infestation of flies covered the land.
- 5. All the Egyptian livestock in the land died, but the livestock owned by the Hebrews didn't die.
- 6. Boils appear on all the people.
- 7. A gigantic hail storm ravages the cities.
- 8. A plague of locusts covered the land.
- 9. Complete darkness covered the land.
- 10. All firstborn sons would die.

INSIGHT: In the near future, these judgments will be poured out on the whole Earth before Jesus returns. You can read about them in the book of Revelation, the final book of the Bible.

After each of these judgments, Pharaoh would first ask for Moses to convince the LORD TO REMOVE the affliction, and then he would let the Jewish people go. **But in each case, when each judgment ceased, Pharaoh would change his mind, "harden his heart", and refuse to let the Jewish people go.** (We will see this in our future as well).

Moses and Aaron did all these wonders before Pharaoh, and the Lord hardened Pharaoh's heart, and he did not let the people of Israel go out of his land.

Exodus 11:10

Then the LORD gave Moses and Aaron specific instructions which would pave the way for God's people's deliverance out of EGYPT: THE PASSOVER!

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, "This month shall be for you the beginning of months. It shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell all the congregation of

Israel that on the tenth day of this month every man shall take a lamb according to their fathers' houses, a lamb for a household. And if the household is too small for a lamb, then he and his nearest neighbor shall take according to the number of persons; according to what each can eat you shall make your count for the lamb. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male a year old. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats, and you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month, when the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill their lambs at twilight. Then they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted on the fire; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs they shall eat it. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted, its head with its legs and its inner parts. And you shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. In this manner you shall eat it: with your belt fastened, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. And you shall eat it in haste. It is the Lord's Passover. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the Lord. The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt.

Exodus 12:1-13

Moses, and all the people did as the LORD instructed. They sacrificed the lambs without defect and applied the blood to the doorposts and the lintel in their homes. That night, GOD sent an angel of death over Egypt and in every home where there was no blood on the doorposts, the firstborn son of the family died. Finally, Pharaoh relented and agreed to let the Hebrew slaves go.

Then Moses said to the people, "Remember this day in which you came out from Egypt, out of the house of slavery, for by a strong hand the Lord brought you out from this place. No leavened bread shall be eaten. Today, in the month of Abib, you are going out. And when the Lord brings you into the land of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites, which he swore to your fathers to give you, a land flowing with milk and honey, you shall keep this service in this month. Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread, and on the seventh day there shall be a feast to the Lord. Unleavened bread shall be eaten for seven days; no leavened bread shall be seen with you, and no leaven shall be seen with you in all your territory. You shall tell your son on that day, 'It is because of what the Lord did for me when I came out of Egypt.' And it shall be to you as a sign on your hand and as a memorial between your eyes, that the law of the Lord may be in your mouth. For with a strong hand the Lord has brought you out of Egypt. You shall therefore keep this statute at its appointed time from year to year. When the Lord brings you into the land of the Canaanites, as he swore to you and your fathers, and shall give it to you, you shall set apart to the Lord all that first opens the womb. All the firstborn of your animals that are males shall be the Lord's. Every firstborn of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb, or if you will not redeem it you shall break its neck. Every firstborn of man among your sons you shall redeem. And when in times to come your son asks you, 'What does this mean?' you shall say to him, 'By a strong hand the Lord brought us out of Egypt, from the house of slavery. For when Pharaoh stubbornly refused to let us go, the Lord killed all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both the firstborn of man and the firstborn of animals. Therefore, I sacrifice to the Lord all the males that first open the womb, but all the firstborn of my sons I redeem.' It shall be as a mark on your hand or frontlets between your eyes, for by a strong hand the Lord brought us out of Egypt."

Exodus 12:14-27

All these events are remembered and memorialized in the Jewish celebration of the Passover. But, don't miss the most important aspect that was the key to the deliverance for the Hebrew People:

THE BLOOD OF THE LAMB!

It was the blood of the Lamb that was slain by every family that was applied on each side of the door and at the top of the lintel. That night if you would have walked by every Jewish home, you would have seen doorway after doorway with the red stain of blood of an innocent, spotless lamb. Just as the sin of Adam and Eve had been "atoned for" by animal sacrifice in the Garden of Eden, God had provided a way for the sin of the Jewish people to be atoned for so that they would be protected from the judgment that was poured out on Egypt.

In Revelation 12:11, the LORD reveals that in the battle against the future world dictator, the Anti-Christ, those who refuse the MARK OF THE BEAST, will do so with, "The blood of the Lamb, and the word of their testimony!" We see that in the Old Testament, this was just the beginning of an exodus that GOD was arranging for His chosen people. When the firstborn, male child of everyone in Egypt was slain by the angel of death, Pharaoh finally relented. The following day, the Jewish people, now over 600,000 in number, literally walked out of Egypt.

Moses, staff in hand, led them toward the Red Sea which stood between them and the desert path that would lead to "the promised land". This new home was a beautiful, pristine area of which they could only dream. It was a land of milk and honey, where they could live under the love and the rule of Almighty God. But, before God's people could enter the promised land there would be a long, difficult journey filled with challenges and tests.

And this journey, and all of the revelations that would be unveiled, would be a perfect foreshadowing of what happens in the life of those who <u>place their faith in the atoning</u>
<u>sacrifice of Jesus Christ, the Lamb who taketh away sin!</u>

John 1:29

Level 10: GOD'S PERFECT LAW

A generation ago, I would not have to tell you what happened next. In the mid 20th century, there was a solid Biblical knowledge base throughout America and the world. But now, there is just a **remnant**, a small number of people who know about the remarkable events described in the Bible. Many of you have heard fragments about what you are about to learn, but you have been intentionally deceived not only about the true history of the world, but most importantly about the implications of the Biblical record.

Once again, a warning and an exhortation: **Don't assume you already know the Truth.**What most of you know is the programming that has molded your thinking, your emotions, and your world view.

Here is what happened next as the Jewish slaves were escaping from Egypt. As the Jewish people made their way toward the Red Sea, God hardened Pharaoh's heart and Pharaoh suddenly changed his mind, again.

"What is this we have done, that we have let Israel go from serving us?" So, Pharaoh made ready his chariot and took his army with him and took six hundred chosen chariots and all the other chariots of Egypt with officers over all of them. And the Lord hardened the heart of Pharaoh, King of Egypt, and he pursued the people of Israel while the people of Israel were going out defiantly. The Egyptians pursued them, all Pharaoh's horses and chariots and his horsemen and his army, and overtook them encamped at the sea, by Pihahiroth, in front of Baalzephon. When Pharaoh drew near, the people of Israel lifted up their eyes, and behold, the Egyptians were marching after them, and they feared greatly. And the people of Israel cried out to the Lord. They said to Moses, "Is it because there are no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us in bringing us out of Egypt? Is not this what we said to you in Egypt: 'Leave us alone that we may serve the Egyptians'? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness."

INSIGHT: As long as we live on this Earth, the enemy (Satan) will attempt to thwart the purpose and plan of God for the people of God. The Jews who had obeyed the LORD and been protected by the blood of the Passover lamb, were now being pursued by Pharaoh and his vast army. From any normal "earthly" perspective, at best they would be captured and returned to slavery. At worst, they would be slaughtered. But, for those that trust HIM, GOD will always guide us in order for us to overcome any trial! This doesn't mean we won't have to go through trials; it means that by relying on GOD, we can get through them victoriously!

And Moses said to the people, "Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the Lord, which He will work for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again. The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to be silent." The Lord said to Moses, "Why do you cry to me? Tell the people of Israel to go forward. Lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the people of Israel may go through the sea on dry ground. And I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they shall go in after them, and I will get glory over Pharaoh and all his host, his chariots, and his horsemen. And the Egyptians shall know that I am the Lord, when I have gotten glory over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his horsemen."

Then the angel of God who was going before the host of Israel moved and went behind them, and the pillar of cloud moved from before them and stood behind them, coming between the host of Egypt and the host of Israel. And there was the cloud and the darkness. And it lit up the night without one coming near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided. And the people of Israel went into the midst of the sea on dry ground, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left. The Egyptians pursued and went in after them into the midst of the sea, all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots, and his horsemen. And in the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and of cloud looked down on the Egyptian forces and threw the Egyptian forces into a panic, clogging their chariot wheels so that they drove heavily. And the Egyptians said, "Let us flee from before Israel, for the Lord fights for them against the Egyptians."

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots, and upon their horsemen." So, Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the sea returned to its normal course when the morning appeared. And as the Egyptians fled into it, the Lord threw the Egyptians into the midst of the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the horsemen; of all the host of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea, not one of them remained. But the people of Israel walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.

Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great power that the Lord used against the Egyptians, so the people feared the Lord, and they believed in the Lord and in His servant Moses.

The Jewish people had been gloriously delivered by God out of slavery, and now they would start their journey to the promised land through a huge desert area. They would face tests and trials in what would become long term, God ordained, "character development". These events are a spectacular example of how God foreshadows future events and eternal lessons in the Old Testament.

INSIGHT: Every human being lives in a form of Egypt. That is, we are all born into slavery to sin. Pharaoh is a representation of Satan who does not want us to be freed from his dominion. God offers a way of deliverance by the blood of a lamb. This lamb is a foreshadow of Jesus who was the "Lamb of God" that was sacrificed on the cross for our sins, so that we can be delivered from the Kingdom of Darkness.

A Journey of Tests

Now, free of Egyptian bondage, Moses began leading the people through the desert; their objective was the "promised land". But, after only three days, they came up to Marah, where the water was so bad, it was undrinkable. And the people began to grumble against Moses, who cried out to the LORD. The Lord then showed Moses how to make the water drinkable with a log. It was at this time that the LORD established a **conditional** promise.

There the Lord made for them a statute and a rule, and there He tested them, saying, "If you will diligently listen to the voice of the Lord your God, and do that which is right in His eyes, and give ear to His commandments and keep all His statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you that I put on the Egyptians, for I am the Lord, your healer."

Then they came to Elim, where there were twelve springs of water and seventy palm trees, and they encamped there by the water.

Exodus 15:26-27

INSIGHT: GOD made it plain to the people that their health would be dependent on them obeying His statutes. Also notice that there were twelve springs of water and 70 palm trees. There were 12 apostles of Jesus, and He sent out "the 70" to evangelize Israel.

Luke 10: 1-23

The WILDERNESS OF SIN

The next test that the people would face would be the "Wilderness of Sin".

INSIGHT: This is the world in which we all live. Everywhere your foot treads in this life there is sin and its temptation is beckoning you.

They set out from Elim, and all the congregation of the people of Israel came to the wilderness of sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after they had

departed from the land of Egypt. And the whole congregation of the people of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness, and the people of Israel said to them, "Would that we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the meat pots and ate bread to the full, for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Behold, I am about to rain bread from heaven for you, and the people shall go out and gather a day's portion every day, that I may test them, whether they will walk in My law or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather daily." So, Moses and Aaron said to all the people of Israel, "At evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because He has heard your grumbling against the Lord. For what are we, that you grumble against us?" And Moses said, "When the Lord gives you in the evening meat to eat and in the morning bread to the full, because the Lord has heard your grumbling that you grumble against Him—what are we? Your grumbling is not against us but against the Lord."

Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the people of Israel, 'Come near before the Lord, for He has heard your grumbling." And as soon as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the people of Israel, they looked toward the wilderness, and behold, the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. And the Lord said to Moses, "I have heard the grumbling of the people of Israel. Say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall be filled with bread. Then you shall know that I am the Lord your God."

In the evening quail came up and covered the camp, and in the morning dew lay around the camp. And when the dew had gone up, there was on the face of the wilderness a fine, flake-like thing, fine as frost on the ground. When the people of Israel saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat.

Exodus 16:1-15

The LORD called this amazing food "manna", which means, "what is it?" Imagine over a half million people on a trip through the desert, and imagine that they have just been introduced to the CREATOR of the universe who rescued them from slavery and made a way for them to have the single most important resource in the desert: water. But, the people would also need an immense amount of food to sustain them on this journey to the promised land. So, the LORD first demonstrates and then explains to the people through Moses how He will meet their need. In the twilight He literally covers the campground with quail, a small, easy to harvest bird that is an excellent source of protein and nutrients. In the morning, the LORD provided flakes of a special bread made by the KING OF KINGS, AND THE LORD OF LORDS.

Think of it...a food designed and prepared by GOD. I can't imagine the kind of nutrition manna provided, but whatever it was, it would be another example of GOD'S promise to provide what His children need.

INSIGHT: A time is coming soon when we will experience a severe shortage of food and water. One of God's names in the Hebrew language is "Jehovah Jirah" which means, "the Lord your provider". When these days come, you must trust and rely on GOD to feed and clothe you.

Israel at Mt. Sinai

After three months, Moses led the people to a special mountain where the LORD would reveal the Ten Commandments-the very foundation of God's law for humanity. This part of the journey is found in Exodus 19.

On the third new moon after the people of Israel had gone out of the land of Egypt, on that day they came into the wilderness of Sinai. They set out from Rephidim and came into the wilderness of Sinai, and they encamped in the wilderness. There Israel encamped before the mountain, while Moses went up to God. The Lord called to him out of the mountain, saying, "Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the people of Israel: 'You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to Myself. Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, you shall be My treasured possession among all peoples, for all the Earth is Mine; and you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words that you shall speak to the people of Israel."

So, Moses came and called the elders of the people and set before them all these words that the Lord had commanded him. All the people answered together and said, "All that the Lord has spoken we will do." And Moses reported the words of the people to the Lord. And the Lord said to Moses, "Behold, I am coming to you in a thick cloud, that the people may hear when I speak with you, and may also believe you forever."

When Moses told the words of the people to the Lord, the Lord said to Moses, "Go to the people and consecrate them today and tomorrow, and let them wash their garments and be ready for the third day. For on the third day the Lord will come down on Mount Sinai in the sight of all the people. And you shall set limits for the people all around, saying, 'Take care not to go up into the mountain or touch the edge of it. Whoever touches the mountain shall be put to death. No hand shall touch him, but he shall be stoned or shot; whether beast or man, he shall not live.' When the trumpet sounds a long blast, they shall come up to the mountain." So, Moses went down from the mountain to the people and consecrated the people; and they washed their garments. And he said to the people, "Be ready for the third day; do not go near a woman."

On the morning of the third day there were thunders and lightnings and a thick cloud on the mountain and a very loud trumpet blast, so that all the people in the camp trembled. Then Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet God, and they took their stand at the foot of the mountain. Now Mount Sinai was wrapped in smoke because the Lord had descended on it in fire. The smoke of it went up like the smoke of a kiln, and the whole mountain trembled greatly. And as the sound of the trumpet grew louder and louder, Moses spoke, and God answered him in thunder. The Lord came down on Mount Sinai, to the top of the mountain. And the Lord called Moses to the top of the mountain, and Moses went up. And the Lord said to Moses, "Go down and warn the people, lest they break through to the Lord to look and many of them perish. Also let the priests who come near to the Lord consecrate themselves, lest the Lord break out against them." And Moses said to the Lord, "The people cannot come up to Mount Sinai, for You Yourself warned us, saying, 'set limits around the mountain and consecrate it." And the Lord said to him, "Go down, and come up bringing Aaron with you. But do not let the priests and the people break through to come up to the Lord, lest He break out against them." So, Moses went down to the people and told them.

Exodus 19:1-25

The Ten Commandments

And God spoke all these words, saying...

I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

- 1. You shall have no other gods before me.
- 2. 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 or 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 the fourth generation of those who hate Me, but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love Me and keep My commandments.
- 3. 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.
- 4. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your

gates. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore, the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

- 5. Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.
- 6. You shall not murder.
- 7. You shall not commit adultery.
- 8. You shall not steal.
- 9. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
- 10. You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's.

Now when all the people saw the thunder and the flashes of lightning and the sound of the trumpet and the mountain smoking, the people were afraid and trembled, and they stood far off and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, lest we die." Moses said to the people, "Do not fear, for God has come to test you, that the fear of Him may be before you, that you may not sin." The people stood far off, while Moses drew near to the thick darkness where God was.

Exodus 20:1-21

INSIGHT: GOD had appointed and chosen Moses as a deliverer for His chosen people. Now, Moses would be going before the Creator God as an intermediary. (He was foreshadowing the Messiah, Jesus).

INSIGHT: GOD warned Moses to keep the people from breaking through in their spiritual condition because they would die in HIS HOLY PRESENCE.

INSIGHT: This same reality exists today. Humans can NOT enter the presence of GOD without meeting God's requirements.

After giving Moses the Ten Commandments, the LORD gave him many other commandments concerning worship, altars, idols, slavery, punishment for murder, restitution, social justice, the sabbath, and specific festivals that should be held every year.

The LORD also explained that he would drive out the inhabitants of the land HE had given them.

"Behold, I send an angel before you to guard you on the way and to bring you to the place that I have prepared. Pay careful attention to him and obey his voice; do not rebel against him, for he will not pardon your transgression, for My name is in him. But, if you carefully obey his voice and do all that I say, then I will be an enemy to your enemies and an adversary to your adversaries. When My angel goes before you and brings you to the Amorites and the Hittites and the Perizzites and the Canaanites, the Hivites and the Jebusites, and I blot them out, you shall not bow down to their gods nor serve them, nor do as they do, but you shall utterly overthrow them and break their pillars in pieces. You shall serve the Lord your God, and He will bless your bread and your water, and I will take sickness away from among you. None shall miscarry or be barren in your land; I will fulfill the number of your days. I will send my terror before you and will throw into confusion all the people against whom you shall come, and I will make all your enemies turn their backs to you. And I will send hornets before you, which shall drive out the Hivites, the Canaanites, and the Hittites from before you. I will not drive them out from before you in one year, lest the land become desolate and the wild beasts multiply against you. Little by little I will drive them out from before you, until you have increased and possess the land. And I will set your border from the Red Sea to the Sea of the Philistines, and from the wilderness to the Euphrates, for I will give the inhabitants of the land into your hand, and you shall drive them out before you. You shall make no covenant with them and their gods. They shall not dwell in your land, lest they make you sin against Me; for if you serve their gods, it will surely be a snare to you."

Exodus 23:20-33

At first glance, many humans read this account and argue that a loving God wouldn't kill people so the Bible must not be true. This thinking is so prevalent in the programming of the modern humanist mind, let us stop and address it now. You see, the dominant religion we see today is what is called "secular humanism". This is the belief that man, not a transcendent God, is the center of the universe and that humanity has the "right" to decide what is right and wrong.

INSIGHT: In fact, secular humanism is just the latest version of Satan's lie "repackaged" in modern form. Satanists around the world point to one command that they argue should be obeyed over all others: **DO WHAT YOU WILL.**

In other words, every human should do whatever they want. This "law" is in direct opposition to GOD'S commandments. What is the Truth?

Without a Creator God, there is NO morality.

Modern man believes and argues that all morality is subjective. That is, each of us decides on what is "right" for us. The logical extension of this belief is that there are nearly 8 billion people on planet Earth and that each of them have their own ideas of what constitutes "right and wrong". So, what if one group of people decides that another certain group of people should be subjugated, raped, pillaged, and killed? Is that "wrong"?

Of course, the secular humanist will say, you shouldn't hurt other people. But, this is a logically incoherent argument <u>because without a "Creator source of Truth"</u>, it's just <u>one man's will against another.</u> Hitler, Stalin, and millions of other humans throughout history have forced their "will" and "laws" on millions of other humans. They would argue that they were "right", just as their victims said they were wrong. Humanists believe that MAN should decide what is right. That is the exact same admonition that Satan used in the garden of Eden. And, that is EXACTLY what GOD says that man will do.

In those days there was no king in Israel: every man did that which he thought was right in his own eyes.

Judges 21:25

Are YOU Guilty of Breaking the Ten Commandments?

There is a common belief among spiritually lost people that if you sincerely try and lead as good of a life as possible, and if you don't break as many of God's laws as other people do, then maybe you can get into Heaven. This belief is completely opposite, or "upside down" from what God says in the Bible. GOD does not grade on a curve. His law is perfectly holy, and even if you violate just one law, it is as if you have broken the whole law. God did not give us the law because He expected us to be obedient to it. Rather He gave it to us so that in looking at its perfection, we would become convicted of our sin and realize that we needed a Savior. He reveals that in the New Testament in the book of Galatians.

Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

Galatians 3:24

Think of the law as a mirror for our life. When you look into a mirror, you see what you look like; and when you look at the law, it is obvious how filthy we are in our natural human state apart from the righteousness of Christ. The LORD expressed it another way in the book of Isaiah.

But we are all as an unclean *thing*, and all our righteousnesses *are* as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.

Isaiah 64:6

The word "rags" comes from a Hebrew word meaning literally, menstrual rags. This is the real condition of our lives when seen through the eyes of a holy God. You can wear the finest clothes, drive a Rolls Royce, and live in a billion-dollar mansion, but the LORD sees you how you really are. During His ministry on Earth, Jesus explained that the Ten Commandments didn't just cover physical acts. The laws also applied to our **thought life**. He knew that people would try to justify themselves by saying things like, "I've never been an adulterer, so maybe God will accept me."

You've heard it said, "do not commit adultery". But, I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery in his heart.

Matthew 5:28

How many lies have you told in your life? What do you call someone who tells lies? Yes, they are called a liar. All it takes is telling one lie, and according to God's perfect law, you cannot get into Heaven. Unless, of course, you have a perfectly sinless person who has taken your punishment for you.

The Agreement is Signed

The LORD instructed Moses to come up to Him, but to assemble 70 of the elders of Israel to worship from afar. He constructed an altar that had 12 pillars according to the 12 tribes of Israel.

INSIGHT: This is another example of the Bible foreshadowing a future event. Jesus first called 12 Apostles and later appointed 70 to go throughout Israel proclaiming that the "Kingdom of God was near".

Moses told all the people the words of the LORD, and then he had the men sacrifice animals as burnt offerings and peace offerings of oxen. Half the blood was applied to the altar and the other half was placed in basins and sprinkled ON THE PEOPLE.

Summary

God had chosen a people among those living on Earth to be His nation, to help establish the Kingdom of GOD, and to be the family from which the Savior of mankind, the Messiah, would originate. The LORD had sent a Messiah-like figure (Moses) to confront Pharaoh and lead the people to freedom. HE then gave Moses the laws which Israel would have to follow in order to reach the promised land. Now that they were out of Egypt, they would have to decide whether or not to follow and obey God.

Level 11: The "Presence of God" and the History of Israel

The Jewish people continued on their trek through the desert. As He had promised, GOD went before them in a cloud by day, and a pillar of fire by night. It was during this time of complete dependence that GOD gave the Hebrews specific instructions on building the Tabernacle. This Tabernacle would be constructed as a mobile place for the presence of God to dwell among the people.

INSIGHT: GOD's design of the Tabernacle, and the instructions He gave for its use, reveals Truth about HIS nature, man's nature, and HIS PLAN for redeeming humankind from the effects of being separated from GOD after sin entered the world.

There were three distinct areas of what was known as the "sanctuary". First, there would be an area referred to as the "outer court". A fence surrounded this rectangular area of about 150×75 ft. The fence was constructed of curtains and poles.

Inside this area was:

- 1. The altar of sacrifice where animals were sacrificed in order to atone for the sins of individual people and for the nation of Israel
- 2. The bronze laver which was a large wash basin filled with water provided for the washing of the priests who would enter beyond the outer court
- 3. The tabernacle or "tent of the meeting" which had two inner rooms:
 - A. The holy place
 - B. The Holy of Holies which was were the Ark of the Covenant was located

There was only ONE ENTRANCE or DOOR to the tabernacle. Don't miss the significance of the singular entrance. All through the Bible, God is clear that there is only ONE way to obtain salvation.

Truly, I say to you, I am the <u>door</u> of the sheep. All who came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture.

John 10:7-9

I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the father but by Me.

John 14:6

So, when an Israelite realized that he had sinned, he went to the entrance and brought an animal to be sacrificed to atone for that sin. Here he would be met by an Aaronic priest that was dressed in all white. These priests were the only ones to be allowed to serve in the sanctuary. The person who desired forgiveness would lay his hand upon the animal and lean on the animal as if he were symbolically transferring the sin to the animal.

INSIGHT: In the Garden of Gethsemane, when the Roman soldiers came to arrest Jesus, the Bible recounts that they "laid hands on him". (Jesus would be the sacrifice for the sin of all the world).

Next, the animal would be sacrificed on the altar of sacrifice and the blood would be collected in order to be used as atonement for the sins of the person, family, or the nation of Israel. These sacrifices were the basis for burnt offerings and peace offerings. As part of their consecration, priests would then wash their hands in the bronze laver.

The burnt and peace offerings that were offered after the animals were sacrificed were very significant. Those who offered the sacrifices were ransomed from the power of death; the animal functioned as a substitute, taking the punishment that should have fallen on the priests. Blood from the altar was then sprinkled on the priests to make them holy. Also, having been consecrated, the worshipers were to eat the consecrated meat of the sacrifice.

For the priests that had been cleansed and consecrated, they could go inside the holy place, which was one of two rooms in the tabernacle. Inside the holy place was a small table, a

golden lampstand, and a huge thick curtain which provided access to the Most Holy Place. Within the holy place, priests acted as representatives of the people of Israel before God. There were always 12 loaves of unleavened bread representing the 12 tribes on the table. The bread was removed every sabbath, eaten by the priests inside the holy place, and replaced with new loaves. Also, inside the holy place was the golden lampstand; this would have been the only source of light since there were no windows in the room. In another prophetic fulfillment, Jesus said, "I am the LIGHT OF THE WORLD."

Judging from its name, the "Most Holy Place" was a room that no ordinary person could enter. It was God's special dwelling place in the midst of His people. During the Israelites' wanderings in the wilderness, God appeared as a pillar of cloud or fire in and above the Holy of Holies. The Holy of Holies was a perfect cube — its length, width and height were all equal to 15 feet. In the book of Revelation, the apostle John had a vision of the new Jerusalem which GOD is preparing for his family of born-again believers. This "new Jerusalem" is also a perfect square, just as the Holy of Holies was (Revelation 21:16).

On the third element, the altar of incense, the priests burned sweet-smelling incense every morning and evening. The smoke from the incense rose to the ceiling, went through the opening above the veil, and filled the Holy of Holies during the high priest's annual rite. The curtain which covered the entrance to the Most Holy Place was also known as "the veil."

This curtain was made of fine linen with blue, purple, and scarlet yarn. There were figures of cherubim (angels) embroidered onto it. Cherubim, (spirits who serve God), are in the presence of God to demonstrate His almighty power and majesty. They also guarded the throne of God. These cherubim were also on the innermost layer of covering of the tent.

The word "veil" in Hebrew means a screen, divider, or separator that hides. What was this curtain hiding? Essentially, it was shielding sinful man from a HOLY GOD. Whoever entered into the Holy of Holies was entering the very presence of God. Inside was the Ark of the Covenant. The Ark was constructed of gold and acacia wood, and inside were the two tablets with the Ten Commandments.



Moses and Joshua bowing before the Ark Painting by James Tissot, c. 1900

A CRASH COURSE IN ISRAEL'S HISTORY

When GOD provided the Israelites with this design, it would be duplicated in the two Temples that would later be built and destroyed in Jerusalem. The first was constructed by Solomon, the son of David, while the other would be built in Herod's reign.

In order to help you understand the history and context of how the Tabernacle and the Jewish people are at the center of world events unfolding before our eyes today, let's take a moment and look at a basic timeline of events.

(We have emboldened certain parts to help you understand the significance of the Temple in the history of Israel, and how they will affect the destiny of all humans on Earth.) The following timeline is inspired by material found on the Israeli Embassy's website.¹

TIMELINE OF HISTORICAL HIGHLIGHTS

17th-6th C. BCE BIBLICAL TIMES

(BCE - Before the Common Era)

c.17th century Abraham, Isaac, Jacob - patriarchs of the Jewish people and bearers of a

belief in one God - settle in the Land of Israel Famine forces Israelites to migrate to Egypt

c.13th century Exodus from Egypt: Moses leads Israelites from Egypt, followed by 40

years of wandering in the desert

Torah, including the Ten Commandments, received at Mount Sinai.

(The tabernacle is created)

13th-12th	Israelites settle in the Land of Israel
centuries	
c.1020	Jewish monarchy established; Saul, first king
c.1000	Jerusalem made capital of David's kingdom
c.960	First Temple, the national and spiritual center of the Jewish people,
	built in Jerusalem by King Solomon
c. 930	Divided kingdom: Judah and Israel
586	Judah conquered by Babylonia; Jerusalem and first Temple destroyed;

THE SECOND TEMPLE PERIOD

538-142	Persian and Hellenistic periods
538-515	Many Jews return from Babylonia; Temple rebuilt (the second Temple)
332	Land conquered by Alexander the Great; Hellenistic rule
166-160	Maccabean (Hasmonean) revolt against restrictions on practice of Judaism and desecration of the Temple
63	Jerusalem captured by Roman general, Pompey

63 BCE-313	Roman rule
CE	

63-4 BCE Herod, Roman vassal king, rules the Land of Israel;

most Jews exiled

Temple in Jerusalem refurbished

(CE - The Common Era)

c. 30-33 Ministry of Jesus of Nazareth who predicted that the Temple would be

destroyed

Jewish revolt against the Romans

70 Destruction of Jerusalem and second Temple

73 Last stand of Jews at Masada

FOREIGN DOMINATION

313-636 Byzantine rule 614 Persian invasion

636-1099 Arab rule

On site of first and second Temples in Jerusalem, Dome of the Rock built

by Caliph Abd el-Malik

1099-1291 Crusader domination

(Latin Kingdom of Jerusalem)

1291-1516	Mamluk rule
1517-1917 1564 1860 1882-1903 1897	Ottoman rule Code of Jewish law (Shulhan Arukh) published First neighborhood built outside walls of Jerusalem's Old City First Aliya (large-scale immigration), mainly from Russia First Zionist Congress convened by Theodor Herzl in Basel, Switzerland; Zionist Organization founded
1904-14 1909 1917	Second Aliya, mainly from Russia and Poland First kibbutz, Degania, and first modern all-Jewish city, Tel Aviv, founded 400 years of Ottoman rule ended by British conquest; British Foreign Minister Balfour pledges support for establishment of a "Jewish national home in Palestine"
1918-48 1919-23 1924-32 1929 1933-39 1936-39 1939-45 1947	British rule Third Aliya, mainly from Russia Fourth Aliya, mainly from Poland Hebron Jews massacred by Arab terrorists Fifth Aliya, mainly from Germany Anti-Jewish riots instigated by Arab terrorists Jewish immigration severely limited by British White Paper World War II; Holocaust in Europe UN proposes the establishment of Arab and Jewish states in the Land
STATE OF ISRAEL	
1948	End of British Mandate (14 May) State of Israel proclaimed (14 May) Israel invaded by five Arab states (15 May) Israel Defense Forces (IDF) established War of Independence (May 1948-July 1949)
1949	Armistice agreements signed with Egypt, Jordan, Syria, Lebanon Jerusalem divided under Israeli and Jordanian rule First Knesset (parliament) elected Israel admitted to United Nations as 59th member
1948-52	Mass immigration from Europe and Arab countries
1956 1962 1967	Sinai Campaign Adolf Eichmann tried and executed in Israel for his part in the Holocaust Six-Day War; Jerusalem reunited
1968-70 1973	Egypt's War of Attrition against Israel Yom Kippur War

When you examine Israel's history, you can see that the Temple played a central role in the history of the world. The first Temple was built during Solomon's reign. Basically, the tabernacle's design of the outer court, the holy place, and the Holy of Holies was housed inside of a huge beautiful Temple built in Jerusalem. But, the purpose of each Temple was exactly the same as the original, more mobile, tent version. It would be a place where God's presence would dwell, and where sacrifices would be offered to atone for the sin of the Jewish people and the Jewish nation.

Anyone except the high priest who entered the Holy of Holies would die. Even the high priest, God's chosen mediator with His people, could only pass through the veil and enter this sacred dwelling once a year, on a prescribed day called the Day of Atonement. And...only if he was anointed with the **blood from a sacrifice.**

The picture of the veil was that of a barrier between man and God, illustrating the absolute holiness of God. God's eyes are too pure to look on evil and He can tolerate no sin. (Habakkuk 1:13). The veil was a barrier to make sure that man could not carelessly and irreverently enter into God's awesome presence. Even as the high priest entered the Holy of Holies on the Day of Atonement, he had to make some meticulous preparations: he had to wash himself, put on special clothing, bring burning incense to let the smoke cover his eyes from a direct view of God, and bring blood with him to make atonement for sins.

The Holy of Holies is described in the book of Hebrews this way:

But only the high priest entered the inner room, and that only once a year, and never without blood, which he offered for himself and for the sins the people had committed in ignorance.

Hebrews 9:7

So, the presence of God remained shielded from man behind a thick curtain during the history of Israel. However, Jesus' sacrificial death on the cross changed that. When He died, the curtain in the Jerusalem temple was torn in half, from the top to the bottom. Only God could have carried out such an incredible feat because the veil was too high for human hands to have

reached it without a great deal of forethought, planning, and great human resources. Further, no single human would have been strong enough to have torn it. (The Jerusalem Temple, a replica of the wilderness tabernacle, had a curtain that was about 60 feet in height, 30 feet in width and four inches thick.) Further, it was torn from top down, meaning this act must have come from above.

Matthew 27:51 describes it this way: "Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the Earth quaked, and the rocks were split." As the veil was torn, the Holy of Holies was exposed. God's presence was now accessible to all. Shocking as this may have been to the priests ministering in the Temple that day, it is indeed good news to us as believers, because we know that Jesus' death had atoned for the sins of those that would place their faith in HIM.

The torn veil also illustrated Jesus' body broken for us, opening the way for us to come to God. As Jesus cried out, "It is finished!" on the cross, He was indeed proclaiming that God's redemptive plan was now complete. The age of animal offerings was over. The ultimate offering had been sacrificed. For those that repent of their sins and place their faith in Jesus, humans can now boldly enter into God's presence: "the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, where Jesus, who went before us, has entered on our behalf." (Hebrews 6:19-20)

Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, His body...let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith.

Hebrews 10:19-22

For the born-again child of GOD, the pattern of the Temple is also a beautiful image of our life after we have repented and placed our faith in Jesus, the Messiah. At the moment that a human repents and places their faith completely in Jesus' sacrifice on the cross, they can then enter the presence of GOD because of HIS BLOOD.

Look at the obvious parallel between the Temple and the life of a born-again believer laid out in the Bible.

- 1. The vast majority of the world's population live outside the sanctuary (God's presence)
- 2. For those who recognize their sinfulness and want to enter the Kingdom of GOD, there is only ONE DOOR-Jesus, the Messiah (this applies to both Jew and Gentile)
- 3. When they enter the door, the first stop is to acknowledge that Jesus provided the perfect sacrifice for their sin by living a sinless life and offering his blood for their **redemption.** (The altar of sacrifice)

INSIGHT: Look at the definition of "redemption" in the dictionary.

- 1. the action of saving or being saved from sin, error, or evil "God's plans for the *redemption* of His world."
- 2. the action of regaining or gaining possession of something in exchange for payment, or clearing a debt

After acknowledging the Messiah's sacrifice for your salvation, the next stop is the bronze laver. For the believer today, this represents the "washing of the word" cited in the book of Ephesians.

Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the Church and gave Himself for her, that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, that He might present her to Himself a glorious Church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.

Ephesians 5:25-27

The world is a sinful place and we need the word of God to cleanse and renew our minds. Reading and meditating on the Bible is part of our responsibility and a unique blessing that GOD gives us as HIS CHILDREN. Also revealed is a key to understanding how GOD looks on humans that have been redeemed by the blood of the Lamb (Jesus).

GOD'S plan to overcome our programming WITH THE TRUTH

When a redeemed person reads the Bible, they are "transformed, by the renewing of their minds" (Romans 12:2).

Remember how we revealed that we are all PROGRAMMED? The WORD of GOD TEACHES US the Truth and **de-programs our minds** as we read it and study it faithfully.

INSIGHT: The born-again believer is recognized by GOD as a "priest".

For You were slain and have redeemed us to God by Your blood out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation and have made us *kings and priests* to our God; And we shall reign on the Earth.

Revelation 1:6

INSIGHT: One of the greatest mistakes perpetrated by man-made religious organizations is that to approach GOD you need to *go TO a priest*. The Truth is this...if you have repented and placed your faith SOLELY in Jesus as Messiah, <u>YOU HAVE BECOME</u> A PRIEST IN THE KINGDOM OF GOD!

We are made worthy of God dwelling within us <u>not by our own sacrifices or good</u>
works, but by the saving death and resurrection of Jesus. God credits Jesus's
righteousness to us through His gift of grace, entitling us to eternal life with Him in Heaven.

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.

Ephesians 2:8-9

A Foreshadowing of Heaven

The Holy of Holies is a representation of Heaven itself, God's dwelling place, to which we have access now BECAUSE OF THE SACRIFICE THAT GOD PROVIDED WHEN JESUS VOLUNTARILY DIED ON THE CROSS AND ROSE AGAIN FROM THE DEAD.

For Christ did not enter a man-made sanctuary that was only a copy of the true one; He entered Heaven itself, now to appear for us in God's presence. Nor did He enter Heaven to offer Himself again and again, the way the high priest enters the Most Holy Place every year with blood that is not his own. ...But now He has appeared <u>once</u> for all at the end of the ages to do away with sin by the sacrifice of Himself.

Hebrews 9:24-26

This passage and others in the Bible reveal a number of critical Truths that once again confirm the Bible's accuracy as the only Truth in a world of deception and lies. Remember, the

design of the Temple that was first used by the Hebrews in the desert, which was subsequently built into the design and construction of two other Temples? These two Temples, and the <u>one</u> that is being prepared right now in Israel are key pieces of Biblical prophecy that is coming true right before our eyes.

¹HISTORY of Israel: Timeline. (2010). Retrieved April 27, 2020, from https://embassies.gov.il/pretoria/AboutIsrael/history/Pages/History-Israel-Timeline.aspx

Level 12: Proof, Prophecy, and the Coming Anti-Christ System

You will seek me and you will find me when you seek me with all of your heart.

Jeremiah 29:11

We have presented Truth to you, but the real question: will you trust your eternal life to the Jesus Christ of the BIBLE? (This is opposed to mere intellectual assent to the God that you have created in your mind that "winks" at your sin.) In order for you to grasp the incredible accuracy of the Bible we will now share some specific Biblical prophecies that have come to pass exactly as predicted. Our goal is to provide you evidence that the Bible is GOD'S WORD and that it is the **one source** you should trust.

First, you need to know these facts about the Bible. Approximately 30% of the Bible's content pertains to prophecy – that is the foretelling of future events. Much of the prophecies in the Bible have already come to pass, some are coming to pass right now, and some will be fulfilled in the future.

Before we look at specific prophecies, let's review what secular scholars acknowledge about the Bible. 1) The word of GOD was written over a time span of 1500 years and 40 generations. 2) It was penned by over 40 authors from a great diversity of backgrounds: kings, peasants, philosophers, fishermen, poets, statesman, scholars, and a physician. 3) It was written in three languages: Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek. 4) In spite of the time span and the various authors and cultures, there is a perfect consistency and continuity that takes us from the loss of paradise in the garden of Eden, to the paradise regained in the final book of the Bible, Revelation. 5) The Bible has been read by more people and published in more languages than any other book. 6) The Bible has survived and thrived over thousands of years in spite of

repeated attempts to destroy it. From the Roman persecutions, to the communist oppression of the last 100 years, the Bible has not only survived, it has grown dramatically in its circulation.

7) The Bible has been proven accurate by archaeology and its authenticity has been demonstrated time and time again by examining the early manuscripts. In other words, we know that the Bible you hold in your hand today is a faithful version of the original.

For an intensely detailed analysis of these Truths, I invite you to review one of the most comprehensive books ever written on the subject which is entitled, *Evidence That Demands a Verdict*, by Josh McDowell.¹

Fulfilled Biblical Prophecy Proves that the Bible is True and the GOD it Reveals is REAL

In the following section, we will share just a few of the hundreds of fulfilled prophecies found in the Bible which provide inarguable proof that the Bible was inspired by GOD. As we explained before, the Old Testament is centered on the history of Israel. The New Testament is focused on Jesus, His ministry, His death, His resurrection, His Church, and His future return in which He establishes the Kingdom of GOD on Earth.

In the Old Testament, Israel's history is recounted in detail by Moses and the other prophets of Israel. One of the most amazing aspects of their writings is that they include specific verses that include prophecies about future events which have come to pass hundreds (in some cases over thousands) of years later. While some of the prophecies in the Bible have not taken place YET, many have already taken place literally with 100% accuracy. But, without proper context, some of what you are about to learn could be confusing.

In the beginning of the Bible, God recounts the creation of our universe, the Earth, the animal and ocean creatures, and humankind (Adam and Eve). He reveals the way that Satan deceived Adam & Eve and how they were separated from God because of their sin. God details the family tree and the events surrounding the ancestors of the Hebrew people that would eventually comprise the country and people of Israel. God also describes some of the other groups that lived at this time.

God specifically details the struggles that Israel had to battle in order to live in the land that God had given them in Genesis 15. The other humans living in this area worshipped other

"gods" and shared one especially evil practice that was found in almost all of the other cultures of this time: **child sacrifice.**

One of worst examples was the worship around the Canaanite god called Moloch, in which people would take their children and place them into the arms of a huge Idol of Moloch which had been superheated by fire. In order to cover up the screams of the children from their parents, the people would pound on loud drums. Moloch and the other "god" that people worshipped, Baal, were and are actually fronts or aliases for Satan and the demonic entities he commands.

GOD commanded the people of Israel not to worship Moloch or Baal. Some of these religions were centered upon sexual acts of various kinds, and many of them created "temples" in which male and female prostitutes acted as "priests". All these abominable acts were in direct rebellion to the ONE true God. Sadly, depending on what king was on Israel's throne, the country would descend into spiritual idolatry and then GOD would send judgment in the form of <u>DISEASE</u>, earthquake, invasion by conquering armies, political division, or famine.

We are seeing this happen RIGHT NOW!

Then, every so often, a king would arise that would restore the right pattern of worship and ensure that the people were obedient to the LORD. Things would get better for a short time. But, the people's obedience never seemed to last very long. Why?

INSIGHT: Obedience would not last long because we live in a fallen, satanically-inspired world system THAT CAN'T BE "FIXED". Don't gloss over what we just told you. This world CAN'T BE FIXED by humanity. It is completely infected with Satanic Sin, death, and destruction.

Eventually, Israel split into two kingdoms: Judah-which included the city of Jerusalem in the south, and Israel-which included the cities of Shechem and Samaria.

INSIGHT: The United States of America, just like Israel, is dividing into two increasingly different mindsets and "camps".

While recounting the historical events in Israel's history, God used a number of men and woman as **PROPHETS** who would first warn the people to repent of their rebellion against

God, and then if they did not respond, they would tell the people that God was going to bring judgment on the people. These judgments in many cases would FORETELL OR SYMBOLIZE something that was going to happen in the future.

In Chapter 21 of the book of Numbers in the Hebrew Bible, God explains how the Jewish people had sinned against God and His resulting judgment took the form of venomous snakes. When the people realized what they had done, they came to Moses and admitted their sin (Numbers 21:6). The Lord then instructed Moses to make a bronze snake and *put it up on a pole*. Then, when anyone was bitten by a snake and <u>looked</u> at the bronze snake, he lived. It wasn't the snake that was healing the people; <u>it was the Lord</u>. They received their deliverance from Him by admitting their sin, expressing their faith in God, and being obedient to His instruction.

INSIGHT: This event is an object lesson screaming at the people of the world. According to God's word, we have all been "bitten" by the curse of sin. Just as the snake was lifted up on the pole, Jesus was lifted up on the cross so that all of the world could have the chance to turn to Him. All who turn to Him will be saved from their sin!

Jesus attested to how this judgment foreshadowed His sacrificial death on the cross.

And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

John 3:9-15

A Cycle of Rebellion, Judgment, Repentance, and Restoration

If you looked at Israel's history from a historical perspective, it would reveal a definite cycle: the people would listen and obey, then they would fall away into rebellion and spiritual idolatry. They would be warned, they wouldn't listen, and then God would bring judgment. Only SOME of them would return to following the Lord. This small number of people who would remain steadfast in their faith and their love for the LORD is referred to as the "remnant".

Yet I (the Lord) have reserved seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal and every mouth that has not kissed him.

INSIGHT: In the terrible days we are entering in which a world government will eventually coalesce and will eventually be taken over by the Anti-Christ, there will also be a remnant that will not take the mark of the beast, even if it means that they will die.

As part of God's warnings to Israel, He specifically foretold through prophets that if Israel did not repent of their sin, they would be captured by foreign armies, carried away to other countries, and be enslaved. This judgment and dispersion are exactly what happened two times in the past. The first time was when Jeremiah warned the people that the Babylonian Empire would invade and conquer Judah. This happened exactly as Jeremiah had prophesied it.

The Babylonian Captivity Foretold in Jeremiah 25

⁴And though the Lord persistently sent you all His servants the prophets, you have neither listened nor inclined your ears to hear ⁵when they said, "Turn now, every one of you, from your evil way and wicked doings, and you will remain upon the land that the Lord has given to you and your ancestors from of old and forever; ⁶do not go after other gods to serve and worship them, and do not provoke Me to anger with the work of your hands. Then I will do you no harm. ⁷Yet you did not listen to Me", says the Lord, "and so you have provoked Me to anger with the work of your hands to your own harm".

⁸Therefore thus says the Lord of hosts: "Because you have not obeyed My words, ⁹I am going to send for all the tribes of the north", says the Lord, "even for King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon, My servant, and I will bring them against this land and its inhabitants, and against all these nations around; I will utterly destroy them, and make them an object of horror and of hissing, and an everlasting disgrace. ¹⁰And I will banish from them the sound of mirth and the sound of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride, the sound of the millstones and the light of the lamp. 11This whole land shall become a ruin and a waste, and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years. ¹²Then after seventy years are completed, I will punish the king of Babylon and that nation, the land of the Chaldeans, for their iniquity," says the Lord, "making the land an everlasting waste. 13I will bring upon that land all the words that I have uttered against it, everything written in this book, which Jeremiah prophesied against all the nations. ¹⁴For many nations and great kings shall make slaves of them also; and I will repay them according to their deeds and the work of their hands." ¹⁵For thus the Lord, the God of Israel, said to me: "Take from My hand this cup of the wine of wrath, and make all the nations to whom I send you drink it. ¹⁶They shall drink and stagger and go out of their minds because of the sword that I am sending among them." ¹⁷So I took the cup from the Lord's hand, and made all the nations to whom the Lord sent me drink it: 18" Jerusalem and

the towns of Judah, its kings and officials, to make them a desolation and a waste, an object of hissing and of cursing, as they are today; ¹⁹Pharaoh, king of Egypt, his servants, his officials, and all his people; ²⁰all the mixed people; all the kings of the land of Uz; all the kings of the land of the Philistines—Ashkelon, Azzah, Ekron, and the remnant of Ashdod; ²¹Edom, Moab, and the Ammonites; ²²all the kings of Tyrus, all the kings of Zidon, and the kings of the coastland across the sea; ²³Dedan, Tema, Buz, and all who have shaven temples; ²⁴all the kings of Arabia and all the kings of the mixed peoples that live in the desert; ²⁵ all the kings of Zimri, all the kings of Elam, and all the kings of Medes; ²⁶ all the kings of the north, far and near, one after another, and all the kingdoms of the world that are on the face of the Earth. And after them the king of Sheshach shall drink.²⁷Then you shall say to them, 'Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Drink, get drunk and vomit, fall and rise no more, because of the sword that I am sending among you.' ²⁸And if they refuse to accept the cup from your hand to drink, then you shall say to them: 'Thus says the Lord of hosts: You must drink!' ²⁹ See, I am beginning to bring disaster on the city that is called by My name, and how can you possibly avoid punishment? You shall not go unpunished, for I am summoning a sword against all the inhabitants of the Earth", says the Lord of hosts.

³⁰ You, therefore, shall prophesy against them all these words, and say to them:

The Lord will roar from on high,
and from His holy habitation utter His voice;
He will roar mightily against His fold,
and shout, like those who tread grapes,
against all the inhabitants of the Earth.

31 The clamor will resound to the ends of the Earth,
for the Lord has an indictment against the nations;
He is entering into judgment with all flesh,
and the guilty He will put to the sword,
says the Lord.

32 Thus says the Lord of hosts:
See, disaster is spreading

from nation to nation, and a great tempest is stirring

from the farthest parts of the Earth!

33 Those slain by the Lord on that day shall extend from one end of the Earth to the other.

They shall not be lamented, or gathered, or buried; they shall become dung on the surface of the ground.

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Wail, you shepherds, and cry out; roll in ashes, you lords of the flock, for the days of your slaughter have come—and your dispersions, and you shall fall like a choice vessel.
Flight shall fail the shepherds, and there shall be no escape for the lords of the flock.
Hark! the cry of the shepherds, and the wail of the lords of the flock!
For the Lord is despoiling their pasture,
and the peaceful folds are devastated, because of the fierce anger of the Lord.
Like a lion He has left His covert; for their land has become a waste because of the cruel sword, and because of his fierce anger.
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JUST AS THE BIBLE PREDICTED, in 587 B.C., the Babylonian army conquered Jerusalem and carried off most of the remaining Hebrew survivors to Babylon. This was what became known as the first Jewish "diaspora", which means the dispersion of a people from their original homeland.

Another Hebrew prophet, Isaiah, had previously foretold that two hundred years into the future, a king named Cyrus would be raised up and would facilitate the return of the people from Babylon, and that the Temple would be rebuilt.

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"This is what the Lord says—
your Redeemer, who formed you in the womb:
I am the Lord,
the Maker of all things,
who stretches out the Heavens,
who spreads out the Earth by myself,

25 who foils the signs of false prophets
and makes fools of diviners,
who overthrows the learning of the wise
and turns it into nonsense,
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who carries out the words of His servants and fulfills the predictions of His messengers, who says of Jerusalem, 'It shall be inhabited,' of the towns of Judah, 'They shall be rebuilt,' and of their ruins, 'I will restore them,'
who says to the watery deep, 'Be dry, and I will dry up your streams,'
who says of Cyrus, 'he is my shepherd and will accomplish all that I please; he will say of Jerusalem, "Let it be rebuilt," and of the Temple, "Let its foundations be laid."

Just as the LORD promised, a new Babylonian king, Cyrus, made it possible for the Jews to return to their homeland and to rebuild their Temple. The Jews began returning in 536 B.C after Babylon was invaded and taken over by the Medo-Persian Empire.

A few years later, the Jews began to rebuild the Temple in Jerusalem! God always fulfills His promises and His prophecies exactly as He says. Unfortunately, Israel would fall away again from obeying the LORD and in 63 B.C., the Roman General Pompey invaded and conquered the land of Israel. This Roman occupation of Israel is born out and described in the New Testament accounts of life during the birth, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

The Amazing Truths Revealed in the Old Testament about Jesus

Is it possible that what you believe, what you've been taught about Jesus, could be wrong? Logically, there are two different possibilities when it comes to the Truth about Him. The first possibility is that He truly IS the Messiah. The other logical possibility is that He isn't. So how can we know what the Truth is about Jesus?

There are millions of people who claim He is the Messiah; millions whose lives, like ours, have been miraculously touched. But, what is the objective evidence for this claim? There are hundreds of references in the Jewish Scriptures (the Tenach) that provide clues to the identity of the Messiah. The critical question: does Jesus fulfill these scriptures?

Speaking through the prophet Micah, God told us where the Messiah would be born.

But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of you shall come forth to Me the One to be Ruler in Israel, whose goings forth are from of old, from everlasting.

Micah 5:2

The scripture is clear that this "One" is eternal, so it can't possibly mean a regular ruler in Israel's history. Interestingly enough, today Bethlehem is a completely Arab town and is being turned over to Palestinian authority. Luke 2:4-7 in the New Testament describes Jesus' birth in Bethlehem. The word Bethlehem means "house of bread," and Jesus referred to himself as the "Bread of Life" in John 6:48.

Some of the Messianic references in the Hebrew Scriptures focus on miracles. God gave clues to the Jewish people through Isaiah about the power of God that they would see in the future.

Then the eyes of the blind will be opened, and the ears of the deaf will be unstopped. Then the lame will leap like a deer, and the tongue of the dumb will shout for joy.

Isaiah 35:5-6

Matthew, one of the Jewish followers of Jesus, described what he saw happening around Jerusalem at that time.

Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the Gospel of the Kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.

Matthew 9:35

The prophet Isaiah wrote many startling things about the Messiah, including graphic references of Him being beaten, wounded, bruised, pierced, and spit upon.

But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed.

Isaiah 53:5

I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who plucked out the beard; I did not hide my face from shame and spitting.

Isaiah 50:6

The accounts of Jesus' crucifixion in the New Testament vividly portray the fulfillment of these events that were foreseen and foreshadowed by Israel's prophets. John 1:11 describes Jesus as One who "came to His own, and His own did not receive Him." Time and time again in the New Testament, we read of Old Testament prophecy being fulfilled.

Then they spat in His face and beat Him; and others struck Him with the palms of their hands ... And when they had come to the place called Calvary, there they crucified Him.

Matthew 26:67, Luke 23:33

Even the Old Testament scriptures indicated that this suffering Messiah would be crucified and would be rejected by His own people, taunted by His persecutors, and that His garments would be taken by them after casting lots.

He is despised and rejected by men, a Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.

Isaiah 53:3

¹ My God, my God, why have You forsaken me? Why are You so far from saving me, so far from my cries of anguish?

² My God, I cry out by day, but You do not answer, by night, but I find no rest.

³ Yet You are enthroned as the Holy One; You are the one Israel praises.

⁴ In You our ancestors put their trust; they trusted and You delivered them.

⁵To You they cried out and were saved; in You they trusted and were not put to shame.

⁶ But I am a worm and not a man, scorned by everyone, despised by the people.

⁷ All who see me mock me; they hurl insults, shaking their heads.

⁸ "He trusts in the Lord," they say, "let the Lord rescue him.

Let Him deliver him,

since He delights in him."

⁹ Yet You brought me out of the womb;

You made me trust in You, even at my mother's breast.

From birth I was cast on You; from my mother's womb You have been my God.

- ¹¹ Do not be far from me, for trouble is near and there is no one to help.
- ¹² Many bulls surround me; strong bulls of Bashan encircle me.
- ¹³ Roaring lions that tear their prey open their mouths wide against me.
- ¹⁴I am poured out like water,

and all my bones are out of joint.

My heart has turned to wax; it has melted within me.

- ¹⁵ My mouth is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth; You lay me in the dust of death.
- ¹⁶ Dogs surround me, a pack of villains encircles me; they pierce my hands and my feet.
- ¹⁷ All my bones are on display; people stare and gloat over me.
- ¹⁸ They divide my clothes among them and cast lots for my garment.

Psalm 22:1-18

Once again, the New Testament accounts line up perfectly with the prophecies of the Hebrew Bible. In Matthew 27, the LORD details some of the events of the crucifixion.

²²"What shall I do, then, with Jesus who is called the Messiah?" Pilate asked. They all answered, "Crucify him!" ²³"Why? What crime has he committed?" asked Pilate. But they shouted all the louder, "Crucify him!" ²⁴When Pilate saw that he was getting nowhere, but that instead an uproar was starting, he took water and washed his hands in front of the crowd. "I am innocent of this man's blood," he said. "It is your responsibility!" ²⁵All the people answered, "His blood is on us and on our children!" ²⁶Then he released Barabbas to them. But he had Jesus flogged, and handed him over to be crucified. ²⁷Then the governor's soldiers took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole company of soldiers around him. ²⁸They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, ²⁹ and then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on his head. They put a staff in his right hand. Then they knelt in front of him and mocked him. "Hail, king of the Jews!" they said. ³⁰They spit on him, and took the staff and struck him on the head again and again. ³¹After they had mocked him, they took off the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him. ³²As they were going out, they met a man from Cyrene, named Simon, and they forced him to carry the cross. ³³They came to a place called Golgotha (which means "the place of the skull"). ³⁴There they offered Jesus wine to drink, mixed with gall; but after tasting it, he refused to drink it. ³⁵When they had crucified him, they divided up

his clothes by casting lots. ³⁶And sitting down, they kept watch over him there. ³⁷Above his head they placed the written charge against him: THIS IS JESUS, THE KING OF THE JEWS. ³⁸Two rebels were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁹Those who passed by hurled insults at him, shaking their heads ⁴⁰ and saying, "You who are going to destroy the Temple and build it in three days, save yourself! Come down from the cross, if you are the Son of God!" ⁴¹In the same way the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the elders mocked him. 42"He saved others," they said, "but he can't save himself! He's the king of Israel! Let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. ⁴³He trusts in God. Let God rescue him now if he wants him, for he said, 'I am the Son of God.'" ⁴⁴In the same way the rebels who were crucified with him also heaped insults on him. ⁴⁵From noon until three in the afternoon darkness came over all the land. ⁴⁶About three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lemasabachthani?" (which means "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"). 47When some of those standing there heard this, they said, "He's calling Elijah." ⁴⁸Immediately one of them ran and got a sponge. He filled it with wine vinegar, put it on a staff, and offered it to Jesus to drink. ⁴⁹The rest said, "Now leave him alone. Let's see if Elijah comes to save him." ⁵⁰And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit. ⁵¹At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The Earth shook, the rocks split ⁵² and the tombs broke open. The bodies of many holy people who had died were raised to life. 53They came out of the tombs after Jesus' resurrection and went into the holy city and appeared to many people. ⁵⁴When the centurion and those with him who were guarding Jesus saw the earthquake and all that had happened, they were terrified, and exclaimed, "Surely he was the Son of God!"

I believe that anyone who will look objectively at the evidence will conclude that Jesus fulfills the Bible's description of the Messiah.

"So, what?" you say, "What if He is the Messiah foretold in the Old Testament, what does that have to do with me?" Two thousand years ago, a Jewish rabbi named Nicodemus, living in the days of Jesus Christ, wondered the same thing.

"Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him."

Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the Kingdom of God."

Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old?

Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?"

Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the Kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is

Nicodemus was really confused now. Jesus was telling him that he would have to go through another birth, a spiritual birth to see the Kingdom of God.

Nicodemus answered and said to Him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered and said to him, "Are you the teacher of Israel, and do not know these things? Most assuredly, I say to you, We speak what we know and testify what we have seen, and you do not receive our witness. If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how will you believe if I tell you heavenly things? No one has ascended to Heaven but He who came down from Heaven, that is, the Son of Man who is in Heaven. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life."

John 3:9-15

An Amazing Genealogical Proof

One of the most incredible pieces of evidence which proves the Bible's divine nature and God's plan for saving mankind is hidden inside the names of the first descendants of Adam. In Genesis 5 you will find the genealogy of Adam through Noah. Let's look at each name and the Hebrew root word upon which each name is built.

English	Hebrew Meaning
LIIGIIJII	TICDICW WICATIII

Adam man

Seth appointed

Enosh mortal, frail, miserable

Kenan sorrow

Mahalahel blessed God

Jared shall come down

Enoch teaching

Methuselah His death shall bring

Noah comfort

Now let's just put these meanings together and see what they show. Man (is) appointed mortal sorrow; (but) the blessed God shall come down teaching (that) His death shall bring (the) despairing rest. The Gospel, the "good news" that God would die for sinful man and bring us comfort, is built right into the fifth chapter of the first book of the Bible!

The Jewish Nation, World History, and the Emerging Political Order

We have shown you how the LORD warned Israel that their idolatry would bring judgment in the form of pestilence (disease), conquering armies, and dispersion. This happened EXACTLY as the LORD said it would in the Bible. HE also prophesied that the dead bones of Israel would come back to life and that Israel would return to their homeland. Look at this astounding prophesy in Ezekiel 37.

The hand of the Lord was on me, and He brought me out by the Spirit of the Lord and set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me back and forth among them, and I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, bones that were very dry. He asked me, "Son of man, can these bones live?"

I said, "Sovereign Lord, You alone know."

⁴Then He said to me, "Prophesy to these bones and say to them, 'Dry bones, hear the word of the Lord! ⁵This is what the sovereign Lord says to these bones: I will make breath^[a] enter you, and you will come to life. ⁶I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover you with skin; I will put breath in you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the Lord.'"

⁷ So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I was prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone. ⁸ I looked, and tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered them, but there was no breath in them.

⁹ Then He said to me, "Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to it, 'This is what the Sovereign Lord says: Come, breath, from the four winds and breathe into these slain, that they may live.'" ¹⁰ So I prophesied as He commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet—a vast army.

¹¹ Then He said to me: "Son of man, these bones are the people of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up and our hope is gone; we are cut off.' Therefore prophesy and say to them: 'This is what the Sovereign Lord says: My people, I am going to open your graves and bring you up from them; I will bring you back to the land of Israel. Then you, My people, will know that I am

the Lord, when I open your graves and bring you up from them. ¹⁴I will put my Spirit in you and you will live, and I will settle you in your own land. Then you will know that I the Lord have spoken, and I have done it, declares the Lord.'"

Keep in mind that GOD is eternal; He doesn't live and exist in "time" the way we do. When He looks at human history HE sees everything, from the moment He created everything, to the last moment of human existence on this present Earth. So, the Creator of the universe, the perfectly Holy God, could inspire Ezekiel, a Jewish prophet in 571 B.C., to write that Israel would come back to life 2,500 years later and be a nation-a great army!

GOD sees the end from the beginning. Now let's look at world history and see if it lines up with the Bible's account.

- GOD selects a chosen people (Israel)
- They rise and fall multiple times
- -They build two Temples
- -They are dispersed ALL OVER THE WORLD (exactly as God prophesied)

FACT: There are virtually no places in the world in which you won't find Jewish people, yet there are only about 15,000,000 of them in a world of 7.5 BILLION PEOPLE! Just as the LORD predicted, Jewish people started returning to the land of Israel in the 1800's. It was nothing but arid desert after all these centuries. It was referred to as Palestine. In 1917, the British government made the Balfour Declaration, establishing this area as a home for the Jewish people. The return was dramatically accelerated by the Holocaust-the Nazi attempt to exterminate the Jewish people. So, by the mid 1940's there were approximately 800,000 Jewish people living in Israel. On May 14th, 1948, Israel declared its independence from the British, and Israel was reborn in a day just as the LORD prophesied through the prophet Isaiah.

8"Who has heard such a thing? Who has seen such things?

Can a land be born in one day?

Can a nation be brought forth all at once?

As soon as Zion travailed, she also brought forth her sons.

⁹"Shall I bring to the point of birth and not give delivery?" says the Lord.

"Or shall I who gives delivery shut the womb?" says your God.

¹⁰"Be joyful with Jerusalem and rejoice for her, all you who love her;

Be exceedingly glad with her, all you who mourn over her...

Immediately, the surrounding Arab/Muslim countries attacked Israel in an effort to exterminate the newly reformed Israel. Even though they were hugely outnumbered (just like many of their early struggles in the promised land), because of God's provision, Israel prevailed!

Israel, God's Time Clock

The Bible prophesies other startling future events concerning Israel, the Anti-Christ, and the world. The LORD says in Zechariah 12:2, "Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling unto all the people round about..." If you have even a smidgen of knowledge about modern history you know that one tiny sliver of land in all the world has dominated the news right up to and including present day-ISRAEL AND ITS CAPITAL CITY, JERUSALEM!

The countries surrounding and adjacent tried to destroy Israel in 1967 during what became known as the Six Day War. Israel once again won the war, and miraculously retook Jerusalem!! Since this time, there has been a growing movement within Israel to rebuild the Temple and preparations are almost complete. How do we know that the Temple will be rebuilt? Let's look at a remarkable prophesy in the book of Daniel.

The Seventy-Weeks Prophecy

²⁰Now while I was speaking, praying, and confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel, and presenting my supplication before the Lord my God for the holy mountain of my God, ²¹ yes, while I was speaking in prayer, the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly, reached me about the time of the evening offering. ²²And he informed me, and talked with me, and said, "O Daniel, I have now come forth to give you skill to understand. ²³At the beginning of your supplications the command went out, and I have come to tell you, for you are greatly beloved; therefore consider the matter, and understand the vision:

²⁴"Seventy weeks are determined For your people and for your holy city, To finish the transgression, To make an end of sins, To make reconciliation for iniquity, To bring in everlasting righteousness, To seal up vision and prophecy, And to anoint the Most Holy. ²⁵"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: The street shall be built again, and the wall, Even in troublesome times. ²⁶ "And after the sixty-two weeks Messiah shall be cut off, but not for Himself; And the people of the prince who is to come Shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end of it shall be with a flood, And till the end of the war desolations are determined. ²⁷ Then he shall confirm a covenant with many for one week; But in the middle of the week He shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate, Even until the consummation, which is determined, Is poured out on the desolate."

Daniel 9:20-27

This passage covers over 1500 years of history, reveals the identity of the Messiah, and prophesies the rise of the Anti-Christ who will walk into the third Temple and declare himself to be GOD! The first thing you need to understand is that the word "weeks" in Hebrew actually means "a period of seven". It can mean 7 days, 7 weeks, 7 months, or 7 years. In this case there is strong evidence that in this verse the LORD was describing 490 years (70 x 7). We know this by looking at an earlier event in the book of Genesis in which Jacob served Laban for seven years in order to marry Rachel. Unfortunately, Laban was dishonest and refused to give Rachel to Jacob on his wedding night, even though she was the one for which he had labored. Instead, Laban gave Jacob his oldest daughter, Leah. Jacob did not discover the problem until the morning. (What a hangover that must have been!)

We discover in verse 30 that Laban offers Rachel, his younger daughter, to Jacob if he will serve another "week." Then at the end of the verse we are told that this "week" is seven years. This example demonstrates that the term "week" means "seven years" in the proper context.

Daniel 9:24 tells us that 70 weeks or 490 years had to elapse before...

- Sin would be eliminated and everlasting righteousness would prevail (this will be completed when Jesus returns to establish the Kingdom of GOD on Earth, lasting 1,000 years).
- 2. To make reconciliation for iniquity. (Jesus' atonement did that on the cross!)
- 3. To seal up vision and prophecy. (In Daniel 12:4, God commands Daniel to seal up the vision until "the time of the end; many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase.")

Use your common sense and think about what GOD was predicting in the future. The speed at which humans travel didn't change much for thousands of years. We had horses and ships with sails, and that was about it. But, with the advent of steam leading to the modern engine, and now jet/rocket travel, the speed and frequency of travel has increased dramatically. In 2018, a BILLION people traveled by air, and countries all over the world are zigzagged with super highways and millions of streets.

Humanity is definitely "running to and fro"! And what about knowledge? Buckminster Fuller created the "Knowledge Doubling Curve"; he noticed that until 1900 human knowledge doubled approximately every century. By the end of World War II knowledge was doubling every 25 years. Today things are not as simple-different types of knowledge have different rates of growth. For example, nanotechnology knowledge is doubling every two years and clinical knowledge every 18 months. But, on average human knowledge is doubling every 13 months. According to IBM, the build out of the "internet of things" will lead to the doubling of knowledge every 12 hours. (www.industrytap.com)²

Now, back to the book of Daniel. He prophesies that 490 years would have to elapse before...

4. The anointing of the Most Holy. (Remember that the earthly Holy of Holies was God's Holy presence for the Israelites on Earth. In Heaven, God's presence IS THE MOST HOLY PLACE. When Jesus ascended into Heaven after rising from the dead, he entered Heaven as our High Priest and presented His blood as the payment for our sins!)

²⁵"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;
²⁶"And after the sixty-two weeks
Messiah shall be cut off, but not for Himself;

Daniel 9:25-26

How Accurate was this Prophecy?

Sir Robert Anderson was an assistant police commissioner in London, an intelligence officer, theologian, lawyer, and writer who lived in the nineteenth century. He conducted an exhaustive analysis of this prophecy in order to determine its accuracy. His findings were presented in his seminal book entitled, *The Coming Prince*. What follows are the facts that summarize what his research uncovered about the prophecy.

Dismissing from our minds, therefore, all mere theories on this subject, we arrive at the following definitely ascertained facts:

- 1. The epoch of the Seventy Weeks was the issuing of a decree to restore and build Jerusalem. (Daniel 9:25)
- 2. There never was but one decree for the rebuilding of Jerusalem.
- 3. That decree was issued by Artaxerxes, King of Persia, in the month Nisan in the 20th year of his reign, i.e. B.C. 445.
- 4. The city was actually built in pursuance of that decree.
- 5. The Julian date of 1st Nisan 445 was the 14th March.
- 6. Sixty-nine weeks of years i.e. 173, 880 days reckoned from the 14th March B.C. 445, ended on the 6th April A.D. 32.
- 7. That day, on which the sixty-nine weeks ended, was the fateful day on which the Lord Jesus rode into Jerusalem in fulfillment of the prophecy of Zechariah 9:9; when, for the first and only occasion in all His earthly sojourn, He was acclaimed as "Messiah the Prince the King, the Son of David."³

In other words, GOD gave humanity a confirmation that Jesus is the Messiah right in the Book of Daniel! Further, the prophecy says that after the command to restore Jerusalem that came from Artaxerxes in Ezra 7:11-28, that the "Messiah would be cut off, but not for Himself". Messiah Jesus wasn't sacrificed for Himself – He was sinless. He was sacrificed for us!!

And the people of the prince who is to come
Shall destroy the city and the sanctuary.
The end of it *shall be* with a flood,
And till the end of the war desolations are determined.

27Then he shall confirm a covenant with many for one week;
But in the middle of the week
He shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering.
And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate,
Even until the consummation, which is determined,
Is poured out on the desolate."

Daniel 9:26-27

Notice in verse 26, the LORD says, "and the people of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary......then he shall confirm a covenant for one week, but in the middle of the week (7 years), he shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering and on a wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate." Now, let's look at what GOD reveals in 2 Thessalonians about what is about to happen.

¹Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, we ask you, ² not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of Christ had come. ³ Let no one deceive you by any means; for that day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, ⁴ who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.

⁵Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you these things? ⁶And now you know what is restraining, that he may be revealed in his own time. ⁷For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains *will do so* until He is taken out of the way. ⁸And 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. ⁹The coming of the *lawless one* is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, ¹⁰and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the Truth, that they might be saved. ¹¹And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, ¹²that they all may be condemned who did not believe the Truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

2 Thessalonians 2:1-12

DON'T MISS THE CONNECTION BETWEEN THESE PROPHECIES!

In Daniel 9, the LORD says that a "prince" who is from the same people who destroyed Jerusalem and the Temple in 70 A.D., will be the same man that "brings an end to the sacrifice and offering". Right at this moment, final preparations are going forward in Israel to establish the THIRD TEMPLE!

If you find this hard to believe, just look at this Wikipedia article:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The Temple Institute.4

So, using scripture in proper context, here is what the Word of GOD is revealing to us.

- A. The third Temple will be built and the old animal sacrifices from the first two Temples will be re-established. (This makes perfect sense because the VAST majority of Jewish people don't believe that Jesus was the Messiah. So, their Rabbi's want to re-establish the temple in preparation for the "Messiah" that they are looking for in the future so they can atone for the sin of the Jewish people).
- B. Jesus said, that "He who now restrains will do so until He is taken out of the way." "He" is in fact the third person of the Trinity, THE HOLY SPIRIT, that was poured out on the Church after Jesus had ascended into Heaven. The HOLY SPIRIT has been restraining evil and preventing Satan from introducing the Anti-Christ to the world.

Notice that Jesus says, "until He is taken away".

This refers to the catching away of the True Church in what is referred to as, "The Rapture". This term comes from the Latin word, "rapio" which means to "to snatch away forcibly." In 1 Thessalonians 4:17, the Greek word "harpazo" is used which means to "snatch away". So, once the presence of the Holy Spirit is gone from the Earth after the True Church (not mere church goers or denominations) is raptured, Satan will then be allowed to introduce his fake "Messiah", the Anti-Christ, and his fake Holy Spirit, "The False Prophet". Notice how Satan even tries to counterfeit THE TRINITY OF GOD! Instead of the FATHER, SON, and HOLY SPIRIT, Satan/Lucifer wants the world to worship him, the Anti-Christ, and the False Prophet.

C. Jesus said, "...with all power, signs, and lying wonders, and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the Truth, that they might be saved (2 Thessalonians 2:9-10).

Satan will use deception to convince those people who are perishing (those that have not been born-again and saved), because they did not receive the love of the Truth. Remember, John 14:6 says, "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Light, no one comes to the Father except by Me". So, for those who have not come to the Truth (The REAL JESUS OF THE BIBLE), Satan will deceive them into following him. The destiny of those who follow Satan will be "the eternal Lake of Fire." (Rev. 21:7-15)

D. In verse 11, Jesus says that these people will be sent a "strong delusion". While He does not specifically describe what this delusion will be, there are strong indications from recent activities on Earth that it relates to the appearance of "extra-dimensional beings" who though they may claim to be from another galaxy or another "time", they are in fact "demons who will usher in the Anti-Christ". A prince shall arise out of a revived Roman Empire (Europe) who will take over many nations both by "peace" and by conquest.

²³And in the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors are come to the full, a king of fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up. ²⁴And his power shall be mighty, but not by his own power: and he shall destroy wonderfully, and shall prosper, and practice, and shall destroy the mighty and the holy people. ²⁵And through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand; and he shall magnify himself in his heart, and by peace shall destroy many: he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without hand.

Daniel 8:23-25

NOW, look at what Jesus said will happen before and during the time of the Anti-Christ.

³Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, ⁴ who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.

2 Thessalonians 2:3-4

1. There will be deception.

- 2. A falling away occurs this has happened right before our eyes over the last generation. A majority of people have "fallen away" from faith in the Bible, and the faith that Jesus is the only way of salvation. They have accepted the lie that there are many paths to God. They have accepted and supported modern child sacrifice aborting children and sacrificing them for their own benefit. Modern humans have assumed God's place as the Lord in their own lives and have decided that they are the ones who will decide what is "right and wrong". They have supported and endorsed lifestyles and behavior that God specifically prohibited such as homosexuality, bestiality, and pedophilia.
- 3. This falling away will lead to the rising of the Anti-Christ who will "make a covenant with many for seven years", and at the midpoint will walk into the rebuilt Temple in Jerusalem and declare himself to be GOD and demanding worship!

4. The current pope is attempting to establish an ecumenical "one world religion" by convincing various religions and Christian denominations to join together. It is possible that this pope will become the False Prophet who will join together with the Anti-Christ to establish a world-wide government. The Catholic Church admits that there have been prophecies predicting an "evil pope".

5. In Revelation 13, God forewarns us what the Anti-Christ will do during his reign.

¹⁶He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads, ¹⁷and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

Revelation 13:16-17

Think of the astounding accuracy and timing of this prophecy! Until very recently, humans did not possess the technology to create a "mark" that could be applied to people that would be connected to a world-wide communication system (the internet) that would control a world-wide financial system.

INSIGHT: As we speak, Bill Gates and other influencers are suggesting that everyone in the world be vaccinated and be able to prove their obedience by displaying a special "mark".

Next, we shall see what is on the horizon.

¹McDowell, J., & McDowell, S. (2017). *Evidence that demands a verdict: Life-changing truth for a skeptical world*. Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson.

²Schilling, D., & David. (2017, June 13). Knowledge Doubling Every 12 Months, Soon to be Every 12 Hours. Retrieved April 23, 2020, from https://www.industrytap.com/knowledge-doubling-every-12-months-soon-to-be-every-12-hours/3950

³ Preface to the Tenth Edition [Preface]. (1894). R. Anderson (Author), *The coming prince: The last great monarch of Christendom* (10th ed., pp. Xii-Xiii). London: Hodder and Stoughton.

⁴ The Temple Institute. (2020, January 12). Retrieved April 28, 2020, from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The Temple Institute

Level 13: The Corona Virus

Warning, Cleansing, and the Tribulation

Jesus prophesied the destruction of the second Temple in Matthew 24 which includes an incredible panoramic prophecy which reaches all the way up to our present day and Christ's return. Below, we will share the entire chapter of Matthew 24 and include insights concerning the prophetic implications of the corona virus.

¹Then Jesus went out and departed from the Temple, and His disciples came up to show Him the buildings of the Temple. ²And Jesus said to them, "Do you not see all these things? Assuredly, I say to you, not one stone shall be left here upon another, that shall not be thrown down."

Matthew 24:1-2

PROPHECY FULFILLED: The destruction of the second Temple, known as "Herod's Temple", occurred just as Jesus prophesied in 70 A.D. The Roman army wanted to get the gold that was built into the Temple so they burned it and then broke down the huge edifice. Not one stone was left upon another!

³Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things be? And what will **be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?"** ⁴And Jesus answered and said to them: "<u>Take heed that no one deceives you</u>. ⁵ For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many. ⁶ And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. ⁷For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And

there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. ⁸All these are the beginning of sorrows.

Matthew 24:3-8

INSIGHTS:

1. Notice that the first thing Jesus warns us about is deception, and that many will come saying, "I am the Christ". This is what the future evil leader known as the Anti-Christ will do – he will claim to be "the Christ". And many people will fall for his deception. Satan always tries to mimic what GOD has done, so he will deceive many into thinking that the man that he "possesses" as the Anti-Christ is actually from GOD. He will be able to do miracles and in doing so, he will fool a lot of "lukewarm Christians". (Revelation 4)

The prefix "anti", in the original meaning actually means "in place of", which is what Satan wants you to do – accept him as Lord instead of Jesus and take the mark of the Anti-Christ in place of being sealed by the Holy Spirit like it says in Ephesians 1:13.

 Notice that Jesus specifies the conditions on Earth before He returns: "For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, **Pestilences**, and earthquakes in various places.

THE CORONA VIRUS PANDEMIC

The corona virus seemingly came out of nowhere and has stunned the world. As of this writing, it has infected over 3 million people, and over 214,000 have died. While there is intense speculation about its origin and the best way to treat it, <u>don't miss the single most important reality that is taking place right before your eyes.</u>

In HIS LOVE and MERCY, GOD has allowed this and is using this outbreak to accomplish two critical purposes in these final days.

1. GOD IS TRYING TO WAKE UP AND WARN A REBELLIOUS WORLD TO REPENT AND TURN TO HIM BEFORE THE TRIBULATION.

This plague is forcing people to isolate in their homes and is removing a large part of the distractions of their lives. Everything that they have trusted in and have taken for granted is now falling apart. In Matthew 7, Jesus warned the world about what happens when your life is built on anything other than having complete faith and finding ultimate purpose in HIM.

²⁴ "Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. ²⁵ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. ²⁶ But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. ²⁷ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash."

Matthew 7:24-27

This cataclysmic disaster is still unfolding and no one knows yet when or IF it will end.

The cost of what is taking place is incalculable and there is now open talk of civil unrest,

economic collapse, and government tracking.

We beg you. Recognize this PESTILENCE for what it is. It is a warning from GOD to repent and place your faith in the only ONE that can guide you through these times and give you ETERNAL LIFE in HEAVEN.

2. GOD IS AWAKENING CHRISTIANS AND WARNING THEM TO REPENT IN ORDER TO PREPARE THEIR GARMENTS FOR THE WEDDING SUPPER OF THE LAMB.

One of the most amazing parallels in the Bible is the symbolism that the LORD reveals between a Jewish wedding in the days when Jesus was on Earth, and the events that will occur when He returns for His Church.

The first thing that happened was the engagement or the betrothal. This is when the groom would travel from his home to the home of the woman he wanted to marry, in order to pay the dowry and establish the marriage covenant. Then, the groom would return to his

father's house in order to prepare the living accommodations for he and his bride. During this time, the bride would prepare and go through a ritual cleansing. Once this building preparation was completed in the father's house, the groom would return for his bride at a time not exactly known to her. Then they would both travel to the father's house to consummate the marriage and celebrate the wedding feast for seven days.

Now, see the astounding symmetry and reality of what the LORD has revealed in HIS WORD.

The betrothal: When a man or woman repents and places their faith in Jesus as Messiah, this is a commitment like an engagement or a betrothal. When this betrothal takes place, we become part of "The Church".

The father pays for the bride: Jesus paid the full price for us on the cross!

⁹Do you not know that your bodies are Temples of the Holy Spirit, Who is in you, Whom you have received from God? You are not your own; ²⁰ you were bought at a price.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

²⁵Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the Church and gave Himself up for her ²⁶ to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, ²⁷ and to present her to Himself as a radiant Church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.

Ephesians 5:25-27

Be shepherds of the Church of God, which he bought with his own blood.

Acts 20:28

³¹"For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh." ³²This is a profound mystery—<u>but I am talking about Christ and the Church.</u>

Ephesians 5:31-32

<u>The bridal chamber is prepared at the father's house:</u> Jesus has gone to prepare a place for His Bride, The Church!

²In My Father's house are many mansions; if *it were* not *so,* I would have told you. <u>I go to prepare a place for you.</u>

John 14:2

The groom returns for his wife at a time of the father's choosing: The bride (the Church) does not know when the groom (Jesus Christ) will return, so she must keep herself ready.

³⁶"But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of Heaven, <u>but My Father only.</u>

Matthew 24:36

¹³But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. ¹⁴For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus.

¹⁵For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive *and* remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. ¹⁶For the Lord Himself will descend from Heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we who are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus, we shall always be with the Lord. ¹⁸Therefore comfort one another with these words.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

The bride prepares herself while she is waiting for the groom to return for her: As we are to prepare ourselves for Christ's return for His Church.

And to present her to Himself as a radiant Church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.

Ephesians 3:27

¹²Now if anyone builds on this foundation *with* gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, ¹³each one's work will become clear; for the day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. ¹⁴If anyone's work which he has built on *it* endures, he will receive a reward. ¹⁵If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.

1 Corinthians 3:12-15

The wedding is consummated as the bride and groom are joined together as one! Just as Jesus Christ (the groom) will be joined with His Church (the bride).

⁷Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready." ⁸And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints. ⁹Then he said to me,

"Write: 'Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!"

Revelation 19:7-9

The wedding feast takes place!

¹And Jesus answered and spoke to them again by parables and said: ²"The Kingdom of Heaven

is like a certain king who arranged a marriage for his son, ³ and sent out his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding; and they were not willing to come. ⁴Again, he sent out other servants, saying, 'Tell those who are invited, "See, I have prepared my dinner; my oxen and fatted cattle are killed, and all things are ready. Come to the wedding." 5But they made light of it and went their ways, one to his own farm, another to his business. ⁶And the rest seized his servants, treated them spitefully, and killed them. ⁷But when the king heard about it, he was furious. And he sent out his armies, destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city. 8Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy. Therefore go into the highways, and as many as you find, invite to the wedding.' 10So, those servants went out into the highways and gathered together all whom they found, both bad and good. And the wedding hall was filled with guests. ¹¹"But when the king came in to see the guests, he saw a man there who did not have on a wedding garment. ¹So he said to him, 'Friend, how did you come in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless. ¹³Then the king said to the servants, 'Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

¹⁴"For many are called, but few *are* chosen."

Matthew 22:1-14

IT IS TIME TO INSPECT OUR WEDDING GARMENTS

You have to be blind not to see what the LORD is saying. For those of us who are "betrothed" to Jesus Christ, it is time to look at ourselves honestly in light of the word of GOD. It is time to rid ourselves of any of the world's corruption and any sinful places in our lives, and purify our wedding garments which is representative of the "righteousness of the saints".

In Revelation 3, Jesus has a stern warning for the Laodicean Church which is symbolic of the contemporary church.

¹⁴"And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write,

'These things say the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God: ¹⁵ "I know your works, that you are **neither cold nor hot**. I could wish you were cold or hot. ¹⁶ So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth. ¹⁷ Because you say, 'I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing'—and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked— ¹⁸ I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments, that you may be clothed, *that* the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see. ¹⁹ As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore, be zealous and repent. ²⁰ Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I

will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.²¹ 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.

²² "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."

Revelation 3:14-22

Unfortunately, "lukewarm" definitely describes the modern church in America and Europe. We are "rich" by the standards of the world. Millions of self-professing Christians have become so much like the world, that the LORD threatens to "vomit" us out unless we repent. He counsels us to be "refined" in the fire.

INSIGHT: This world-wide pandemic is part of the LORD'S REFINING FIRE. We must examine ourselves honestly, and get rid of any sin that hinders us.

Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares *us*, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us."

Hebrews 12:1

²⁵See that you do not refuse Him who speaks. For if they did not escape who refused Him who spoke on Earth, much more *shall we not escape* if we turn away from Him who *speaks* from Heaven, ²⁶whose voice then shook the Earth; but now He has promised, saying, "Yet once more I shake not only the Earth, but also Heaven." ²⁷Now this, "Yet once more," indicates the removal of those things that are being shaken, as of things that are made, that the things which cannot be shaken may remain.

²⁸Therefore, since we are receiving a Kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear. ²⁹For our God *is* a consuming fire.

Hebrews 12:25-29

TRUTH: GOD is going to shake everything in this world, and everything that is sinful and worldly will be destroyed. Only that which is eternal will survive what is coming. What will survive the refining fire of the LORD and what we will be rewarded for in Heaven at the judgment seat of Christ will be...

- 1. Our Love and Faith in GOD
- 2. The acts of service we have performed for GOD (not for ourselves and our recognition)

3. The people to whom we have witnessed, the ones we have led to Jesus, and the ones we have discipled.

What is Next?

The LORD warned us that after the "beginning of sorrows" (which includes all the disasters Jesus prophesied including "pestilences" like the corona virus), the world would enter the Tribulation.

⁹"Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name's sake. ¹⁰And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another. ¹¹Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. ¹²And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. ¹³But he who endures to the end shall be saved. ¹⁴And this Gospel of the Kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.

Matthew 24:9-14

INSIGHTS:

Do we see increasing persecution against Christians in the world today? YES!

Do we see the Gospel being preached around the world? YES.

Do we see false prophets and deception in the world today? YES!

Do we see the love of many growing cold? YES!

The Great Tribulation

Remember in Level 12 when we revealed God's prophecy about the Anti-Christ rising who would walk into the Temple and declare himself God? The Bible refers to this as the "abomination of desolation" and these events kick off the worst of what will be known as "The Tribulation".

¹⁵"Therefore when you see the 'abomination of desolation,' spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place" (whoever reads, let him understand), ¹⁶"then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. ¹⁷Let him who is on the housetop not go down to take anything out of his house. ¹⁸And let him who is in the field not go back to get his clothes. ¹⁹But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! ²⁰And pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath. ²¹For then there will be great Tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall

be. ²²And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened.

²³"Then if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or 'There!' do not believe it. ²⁴For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. ²⁵See, I have told you beforehand.

²⁶"Therefore if they say to you, 'Look, he is in the desert!' do not go out; or 'Look, he is in the inner rooms!' do not believe it. ²⁷For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes to the west, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. ²⁸For wherever the carcass is, there the eagles will be gathered together.

The Coming of the Son of Man

²⁹"Immediately after the Tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from Heaven, and the powers of the Heavens will be shaken.³⁰Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in Heaven, and then all the tribes of the Earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of Heaven with power and great glory. ³¹And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of Heaven to the other.

The Parable of the Fig Tree

³²"Now learn this parable from the fig tree: When its branch has already become tender and puts forth leaves, you know that summer is near. ³³So you also, when you see all these things, know that it is near—at the doors! ³⁴Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all these things take place. ³⁵Heaven and Earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away.

Matthew 24:15-35

In order to help you understand these events and the sequence that Jesus laid out, let's look at a simplified timeline:

- 1. Deception
- 2. Wars & rumors of wars
- 3. Nation rising against nation
- 4. Famines
- 5. Pestilences
- 6. Earthquakes
- 7. The Tribulation begins and those who won't take the mark of the Beast will be hunted and killed (Compare with Revelation 14:9-11)
- 8. Betrayal even family members will turn against family members
- 9. The Gospel will be preached to all nations

10. The end will come

Up to verse 14, Jesus revealed a broad panoramic view of what is called the "end times". We have actually been living in the "end times" for many, many years. But, in verse 15, He goes into more detail concerning the event that will kick off the "Tribulation". This word is derived from the Latin word "tribulum" which was a device used in the Roman empire to separate the wheat from the rest of the plant (the chaff). In other words, in the days that we are entering, the people who choose to follow Jesus no matter what the cost, will be separated from those who choose to remain "in the world" and under the power of Satan.

The details of the Tribulation are set out in the book of Revelation which is a must read for those of you that decide to repent and place your faith in Jesus. GOD actually promises a blessing for those who read it!

Let's look at the sequence of events that will take place within the Tribulation that are revealed starting in Matthew 24:15.

- 1. The abomination of desolation-This is when the Anti-Christ goes into the new Temple in Jerusalem and declares himself GOD.
- 2. Many Jewish people in Israel will realize the evil one and will flee to the mountains.
- 3. The Anti-Christ's power grab will be so fast that the LORD warns His people to not even go back in the house for a coat before fleeing.
- 4. The Tribulation will be so horrendous that unless God shortened those days, all of humanity would be annihilated.
- 5. There will be false "christs and prophets" who will show great signs and wonders in order to deceive and entrap even the "elect"- that is, people who have placed their faith in Jesus Christ as the Messiah.
- 6. The sun and moon will be darkened and stars will fall from Heaven. The original word used for stars was "asteres", from which we derived the word asteroids. Scientists have been warning for the last decade that we may eventually be hit by an asteroid!
- 7. Then, Jesus, the "Son of Man", will appear in Heaven, and all the tribes of Earth will mourn.

And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for *his* only *son*, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn.

Zechariah 12:10

(Meaning, the Jewish people of Israel will suddenly realize that the one they crucified, was truly their MESSIAH!!)

8. GOD will gather together all the "elect".

Next, Jesus gives us a clue as to what life will be like when these events begin.

The Second Coming of Jesus

³⁶"But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of Heaven, but My Father only. ³⁷But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. ³⁸For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. ⁴⁰Then two men will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left. ⁴²Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming. ⁴³But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into. ⁴⁴Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

The Faithful Servant and the Evil Servant

⁴⁵"Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his master made ruler over his household, to give them food in due season? ⁴⁶Blessed is that servant whom his master, when he comes, will find so doing. ⁴⁷Assuredly, I say to you that he will make him ruler over all his goods. ⁴⁸But if that evil servant says in his heart, 'My master is delaying his coming,' ⁴⁹and begins to beat his fellow servants, and to eat and drink with the drunkards, ⁵⁰the master of that servant will come on a day when he is not looking for him and at an hour that he is not aware of, ⁵¹and will cut him in two and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites. There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Matthew 24:36-51

In this panoramic vision of the future, Jesus warned us that when **ALL** these signs are happening simultaneously, the beginning of sorrows would lead into the TRIBULATION.

Jesus also shares a key insight about what life on Earth will be like before His return. It will be like "the days of Noah; people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, and they were clueless about the coming flood that would take them all away."

In other words, life will be just like it is now.

Soon you will be **forced** to decide between the Satanic world we live in, or the Kingdom of GOD.

WHAT WILL YOUR DECISION BE?

Level 14: The Unfolding Destiny of Israel & America

But if the watchman sees the sword coming and does not blow the trumpet, and the people are not warned, and the sword comes and takes any person from among them, he is taken away in his iniquity; but his blood I will require at the watchman's hand.

Ezekiel 33:6

In the previous levels, we looked at the tidal wave of events prophesied by Jesus leading up to His return. Luke, another disciple of Jesus, also recorded Jesus' prophecies and in the book of Luke, the Lord mentions "the fig tree".

Look at the fig tree and all the trees. ³⁰When they sprout leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is near. ³¹So also, when you see these things happening, know that the kingdom of God is near. ³²Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have happened. ³³Heaven and Earth will pass away, but My words will never pass away.

Luke 21:29-33

In the Bible, the fig tree is symbolic of Israel, which was "reborn" in 1947 after 2000 years. Since early in the 20th century, Jews have been returning to Israel from all over the world in increasing numbers (putting forth leaves). GOD specifically said He would bring the Jewish people back to the land in Isaiah.

That the Lord shall set His hand again the second time
To recover the remnant of His people who are left,
From Assyria and Egypt,
From Pathros and Cush,
From Elam and Shinar,
From Hamath and the islands of the sea.

12 He will set up a banner for the nations,
And will assemble the outcasts of Israel,
And gather together the dispersed of Judah
From the four corners of the Earth.

Isaiah 11:11-12

INSIGHT: This is EXACTLY what has been happening over the last 70 years; Jews have been moving back to Israel. God promises that He will bring ALL the Jews back to Israel before Jesus returns.

Read carefully this passage from Isaiah 43.

¹But now, this is what the Lord says— He who created you, Jacob, He who formed you, Israel: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are Mine. ²When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze. ³For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior; I give Egypt for your ransom, Cush and Seba in your stead. ⁴Since you are precious and honored in My sight, and because I love you, I will give people in exchange for you, nations in exchange for your life. 5Do not be afraid, for I am with you; I will bring your children from the east

and gather you from the west. 61 will say to the north, 'Give them up!' and to the south, 'Do not hold them back.' Bring My sons from afar and My daughters from the ends of the Earth-⁷everyone who is called by My name, whom I created for My glory, whom I formed and made." 8Lead out those who have eyes but are blind, who have ears but are deaf. ⁹All the nations gather together and the peoples assemble. Which of their gods foretold this and proclaimed to us the former things? Let them bring in their witnesses to prove they were right, so that others may hear and say, "It is true." 10"You are my witnesses," declares the Lord, "and My servant whom I have chosen, so that you may know and believe Me and understand that I am He. Before Me no god was formed, nor will there be one after Me. 11, even I, am the Lord, and apart from Me there is no savior. 12 have revealed and saved and proclaimed— I, and not some foreign god among you. You are My witnesses," declares the Lord, "that I am God. ¹³Yes, and from ancient days I am he.

No one can deliver out of My hand. When I act, who can reverse it?"

Isaiah 43:1-14

INSIGHT: THIS RETURN TO ISRAEL BY MILLIONS OF JEWS HAS HAPPENED RIGHT BEFORE OUR EYES!

However, there is one place that has not seen that many make "aliyah" which means, "the act of going up" – to Jerusalem, to Israel.

America!

While there are 9 million Jews in Israel today, there are still 7.5 million Jews living in America, with the greatest number living in New York. We know that whatever God prophesies in HIS Word, must come true. So, we can expect that events will take place soon that will mean the remaining Jewish people from America and around the world will return to Israel.

The Coming Judgment on the Nations

In Level 5, The Foundational Truths, we explained that GOD brings judgment on cities, countries, and individuals. We beg you; EXAMINE this scripture again.

"If I shut up the Heavens so that **there is no rain**, or if I command the **locust to devour the land**, or if I **send pestilence among My people**, and My people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from Heaven, will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

2 Chronicles 7:13-14

This verse is often quoted at services and prayer meetings, but curiously, the first part about "locusts and pestilences" is usually omitted. If you are an American, and especially if you claim the identity of a "Christian", then these two verses should be especially alarming to you.

The Truth is heart breaking but we must acknowledge it: GOD is allowing a pestilence in the form of the corona virus to literally bring America, and many other nations to a stand-still. And, at this very moment, there are locusts destroying vast areas of crops in Africa.

A Critical Moment in American History

Now America faces a test that will decide the fate of our nation. In response to this crisis, will we as a country pray, seek the Lord's face, **AND TURN FROM OUR WICKED WAYS?**

This same scripture was quoted after the attacks of September 11th, 2001. There were many prayer gatherings, and many people talked about seeking the LORD, <u>but we did NOT turn</u> <u>from our wicked ways.</u>

What exactly are the national sins from which we must turn?

- 1. We took prayer and the Ten Commandments out of public schools. In two landmark cases in 1962 and 1963, the Supreme Court declared school sponsored prayer and Bible reading unconstitutional.
- 2. The murder of over 65 million innocent children. Not only did our Supreme Court legalize the killing of unborn children, but we have also spent hundreds of millions of dollars spreading this holocaust around the world.
- 3. We have redefined GOD'S definition of marriage and endorsed a myriad of alternative lifestyles in order to accommodate and encourage the open expression of sexual sin.
- 4. We have become obsessed with the love of money and the acquisition of material things instead of loving GOD, our Provider, and making Him the most important one in our lives.
- 5. We have become extremely prideful and we spend more time boasting about our riches, accomplishments, and patriotism, rather than giving glory to the One who created us, provides for us, and literally gives us each breath of life
- 6. We have supported and tolerated the production and export of every form of pornography which has destroyed countless marriages and led to the enslavement of women and children who have been kidnapped, trafficked, and murdered for profit and adrenochrome harvesting.
- 7. We have supported the entertainment industry that has systematically conditioned us and our children with music and imaging that is satanically-inspired.
- 8. We have created a false image of God that tolerates our sin and idolatry instead of worshiping the ONE TRUE GOD of the Bible.

Why is America's sin so grievous, you ask, when other countries are equally guilty? The LORD says that "For everyone to whom much is given, from him much will be required; and to whom much has been committed, of him they will ask the more." In other words, since GOD has blessed America with such great natural resources, mercy, Biblical knowledge, answered prayer, and economic success, He expects a lot more from us than other countries. So, unless we see a dramatic repentance, we will lose our country and a lot of people will be separated from God forever.

"What about other countries?" you may ask. America will not be the only country that will be judged by GOD. The other nations will be held to account as well. Every nation, city, and individual will face the coming judgment.

Look how God describes people in the end of days:

But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. ²People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, ³without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, ⁴treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God— ⁵having a form of godliness but denying its power. Have nothing to do with such people.

2 Timothy 3:1-5

The world is filled with people that will boast that they are "religious" or "spiritual", but bring up the Bible, Jesus, holiness, or repentance, and they will tell you that their GOD isn't a GOD of judgment, and he would never send anyone to Hell. Of course, "their god" wouldn't do that; HE ONLY EXISTS IN THEIR MINDS!

So, why hasn't GOD already brought judgment against America and the other nations that have broken His holy laws?

We believe God's mercy has been extended because of America's support of Israel. In other words, GOD'S righteous judgment has been delayed because we have been one of the few countries that have supported and protected Jewish people and the nation of Israel. America has also been a place where the Jewish people have found a somewhat safe, hospitable home. Because of our constitutional system which includes the Bill of Rights, Jewish people have become tightly woven into the fabric of American life. And, while they may enjoy visiting Israel, the majority of them would say that they aren't planning on emigrating.

So, what could cause this to change?

Over the last few years, the United States has increasingly pressured Israel to accept a Peace Plan that is based on dividing Israel and giving part of the land that GOD gave them to their enemies. If we push Israel to actually divide their land, we can expect that GOD will **divide** our land, either through invasion or a massive earthquake. And here is the most disconcerting, troubling Truth we know of concerning America in the Bible: **America isn't mentioned in the Bible**.

The other countries in the world that have ANY connection to Israel are listed specifically by name, or at the least they are identified in the Bible by their geographic and ethnic characteristics in the Bible...but, not America.

Think of the implications of what you just learned. The country that for a generation was the world leader in every major category you can mention is missing in the Bible. The country that has been a staunch ally of the State of Israel and has exercised more military and economic power than any other contemporary nation is missing in the Bible. The country that placed the first man on the moon and has been responsible for more technological advances than anyone else in history is missing in the Bible.

The most obvious conclusion is that America as we know it today will not exist in the final years leading up to Jesus' return. How could America's demise fit into end time events?

Since its rebirth in 1948, America has been the greatest economic and military supporter of Israel. Not only have we given Israel literally BILLIONS of dollars in aid, we have also defended her existence to the point of risking our own nuclear destruction. In 1973, the Muslim countries surrounding Israel once again attacked her during Yom Kippur, one of the most important Jewish holidays. Israel's borders were initially overrun, and Israelis appealed to the United States for an airlift of military supplies and diplomatic pressure to prevent further escalation. The Soviet empire was supplying and advising the invading countries and began resupply efforts to their side as well. The U.S. responded with a massive resupply effort and increased the readiness of its forces in case the Israeli military couldn't recover and take the offensive.

Thanks to a lightning fast activation of their reserves, the Israelis stopped the enemy and then quickly invaded Egypt. Their forces began encircling the Egyptian army and a clear path to Cairo had opened. It appeared that they would finally be able to totally destroy the Egyptian threat. However, the Russians, panicked by the sudden reversal of fortunes of their chosen ally, began to fly cargo planes with tactical nuclear weapons to Egypt in hopes of destroying the quickly moving Israeli forces.

President Nixon ordered American nuclear forces to DEFCON 2, just one level short of nuclear war, and, after tense negotiations convinced the Russians to turn their planes around. The U.S. also "pressured" Israel to stop further advances, and to pull back from Egypt.

This seminal event is symbolic of America's resolute defense of Israel. Because of the large number of and influence of its Christian population (who know about the importance of Israel to God), America has pledged to always support and defend Israel.

Here is the key implication you must understand-as long as America helps to protect Israel, the invasions of Israel prophesied in the Bible will be delayed (Ezekiel 37 & 38; Revelation; Psalm 83). America's support of Israel must be removed so that Israel will turn to God during the coming Tribulation. The LORD does not want His people to place their trust in Washington, He wants them to turn to HIM.

THE OTHER CLUES ABOUT AMERICA'S DEMISE

As we have explained, the LORD is very clear in His warning that a ONE WORLD GOVERNMENT led by the Anti-Christ is fast approaching AND MUST COME TO PASS. In fact, if you examine the efforts of the United Nations, the international banking systems, and certain Illuminati-thought leaders, you will be able to easily see that this world government is their ultimate goal.

This should come as no surprise to anyone who has even a cursory knowledge of history. From the earliest attempt at uniting the world under human control at the Tower of Babel, through four major world empires, man's history has seen this attempt over and over again. Just in the last century, the Nazis and communists came dangerously close to successfully subjugating humanity.

Much to the chagrin of Satan, his demonic helpers, and the humans that pay him tribute, the ultimate goal of a one world government, economic system, and one world religion has been thwarted by AMERICAN resistance time and time again.

A classic example has been the attempt by many world elites to use climate change to bring about sweeping changes that would make America submit herself to regulation and taxation by the United Nations. Simultaneously, there has been a bizarre, completely illogical

mania to "open our borders" in order to allow "refugees" to come in unimpeded and to tax the people of the United States to support this effort.

This has been a brilliant strategy that will eventually change the socioeconomic and political makeup of America so dramatically we will suffer the same fate as the Roman Empire. The people will vote in political leaders who will give them more and more benefits and entitlements, until we are crippled by debt.

The rich rules over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender.

Proverbs 22:7

AMERICA'S PRIDE AND ARROGANCE

Sadly, the attempt by leaders and traditionally-minded Americans to resist these trends, has resulted in a "super patriotism" which has elevated the importance of America OVER our love and obedience to GOD. The constant refrain is, "GOD BLESS AMERICA", as if we can tell the Creator of the universe to bless our culture as it turns more and more into something akin to Sodom and Gomorrah.

The stark Truth is this: GOD has been pulling His hand of protection away from our land over the last generation in response to our increasing rebellion against His rule in our lives.

That is the real reason for 09/11/2001, our intense political division, our failed attempts in the Middle East, and now the pestilence that is totally destroying our economy.

What we should be praying and working toward is for America to BLESS GOD by repenting and uniting in our faith and love for HIM! No matter what. Just like the Apostles who were all martyred.

When you combine all of these trends and the clear prophecies of a world government, there is only one heartbreaking conclusion: either America as we know it will be destroyed, or we are so weakened that our influence on the world is vastly reduced.

So, how could this happen? As we explained, there isn't any specific mention of America in the Bible so we can only speculate based on how the LORD has brought judgment on other lands.

Scenario #1 - Military Conquest: The U.S. faces a world full of enemies that yearns to see her destruction: China, Russia, Iran, Iraq, Cuba, and Nicaragua to name just a few.

There have been a number of prophetic warnings from men and women who have had dreams and visions revealing a future destruction of America. One of the most noteworthy came from a man named Dimitru Duduman, a Romanian pastor who was exiled to America after being imprisoned by the communist regime in his home country. Dimitru spoke extensively around the U.S and shared a warning that America has become the Babylon that is destroyed by fire as described in Jeremiah 50 and 51.

You can hear his testimony and his warning here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5RrkmgUxT0M&list=PLPPfA1oSHDC-aodM-9zly51-lu9DpOt3z&index=11

Unfortunately, the audio of this video is somewhat difficult to understand at times, so directly below is a brief summary of what Dimitru shares.

A time of civil unrest in America occurs and while the government is busy dealing with the rioting, from the oceans comes an all-out attack by Russia and many other countries. The attack is aided internally by sleeper agents that have been placed here over the last several decades, and in just one day, America falls.

An interesting side note: the man who introduces Dimitru, John Kilpatrick, was at that time the pastor at Brownsville Assembly of God Church in Pensacola, Florida. This is the same church that experienced a dramatic, years-long revival and visitation by GOD in the late 1990's.

Scenario #2 - "A Natural Disaster": There are four major possible scenarios which all fit into the larger picture described in the Book of Revelation.

A gigantic earthquake: Earthquakes are specifically mentioned repeatedly in the Bible in passages predicting end time events. Currently, scientists are concerned with two major fault areas in the U.S.-The San Andreas Fault on the West Coast, and the New Madrid Seismic Zone which stretches from Missouri up through multiple states towards Chicago. Major earthquakes in either of these areas would be crippling to the U.S.

A volcanic eruption: There are 169 Volcanoes in the United States that scientists consider active. The largest and potentially most destructive lies underneath Yellowstone

National Park. If this volcano were to explode, the resulting explosion and ash it would produce would completely blanket a majority of the country. The major agricultural areas in the Midwest would be ruined, and the resulting famine would kill millions of Americans and people around the world who rely on our crops.

An asteroid or meteor impact: In Revelation 8:11, the LORD reveals that the Earth will be hit by a "star" named wormwood, and that because of the water being poisoned, there is a huge toll in death and destruction. It is noteworthy that many government agencies are actively tracking space objects and have warned that we will have to face a destructive impact sometime in the future. There have also been numerous, but unsubstantiated reports that a dark star, often referred to as "Niburu" is on a course which will bring it close to Earth. The massive debris field that such a body has collected during its orbit around the sun, could indeed pummel the Earth with millions of meteorites.

A deadly pestilence (pandemic): Years ago, many people would have laughed at the suggestion that a virus could bring significant damage to America and the world, but this is exactly what is happening right before our eyes. And while the percentage of people dying from this plague has been relatively small, the impact on the world economy has been truly devasting. Even more concerning, is the possibility that the virus will mutate or rebound a second or third time, or that another mysterious illness will attack us in the future.

Scenario #3 – An Economic Collapse: In response to the pandemic, governments will borrow and print TRILLIONS of dollars in a vain effort to hold everything together, but it won't work. The U.S. just passed a 2-trillion dollar aid plan, on top of the 21-trillion dollar deficit that existed even before this happened. These kinds of policies will eventually lead to a total collapse of the economic system. There will be rioting and increasing mayhem in the streets of major cities because entitlements will be severely curtailed.

In response, a new digital currency and economic system will probably be presented that will be touted as the solution. As part of the plan to subjugate the world, the Satanically-inspired people pushing this system will probably offer "debt forgiveness" in exchange for people agreeing to participate in the system. And of course, in order to identify the people who

are "in" the system, the Bible says that there will be a mark placed on the wrist or forehead of people.

NEVER TAKE THE MARK – EVEN IF IT MEANS YOUR DEATH AND THE DEATH OF YOUR CHILDREN AND FAMILY!!

Scenario # 4 - The Rapture: America is taken over by other countries because her leadership and economic power is decimated by the removal of people who were the "restrainers of evil" (CHRISTIANS).

Summary:

In order to be spared complete destruction, America's only chance lies in **national repentance and a great awakening** in which we place our faith in the Messiah, Jesus Christ. The obvious question on your mind is probably, "How many Americans need to repent before GOD will reduce the coming judgment? We don't know, but we do know that in the Bible there are instances in which specific cities repented and were spared by GOD. One obvious example was Nineveh, the city which GOD sent Jonah to preach a simple but terrifying message-40 days and Nineveh will be destroyed. Repent!

The Bible records in Luke 11:32, that Nineveh did repent and was spared. So, it is possible that specific areas or cities in America could be spared total destruction.

The fate of America hangs in the balance. We are praying that millions of Americans will repent and turn to the LORD in this fateful hour. Our prayer is that enough Americans will repent and place their faith in Jesus so that the LORD will have mercy in the judgment that HE has righteously planned for us (Habakkuk 3:2).

What will OUR decision be?

What will YOUR decision be?

¹ Duduman, D. (2014, November 8). Wake Up America. Retrieved April 28, 2020, from https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5RrkmgUxT0M&list=PLPPfA1oSHDC-aodM-9zly51-lu9DpOt3z&index=1

Level 15: What Must YOU do to be SAVED?

As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore, be zealous and repent.

Revelation 3:19

We have shared the Truth with you in love, clearly and directly. Unfortunately, many people reading this will scoff and reject it.

Knowing this first: that scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts.

2 Peter 3:3

However, some of you are being convicted by the Holy Spirit. You know that the word of GOD, is TRUE, and you are ready to repent and place your faith alone in Jesus the Messiah of the Bible. Let us share with you what it is time for you to do.

1. Take two right turns: turn from sin and turn to Jesus

If you have read God's law (The Ten Commandments) and have been convicted in your spirit and you know that you need to repent, pray with us:

Father GOD, I confess that I have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. I choose to repent of the sin in my life, and place all of my faith for my salvation in JESUS, the Messiah. I believe that YOU died on the cross for me and paid the price in full for all my sins. I now choose to get off the throne of my life, and I ask you JESUS to take over my life as my LORD and SAVIOR. Please fill me with the Holy Spirit and give me the power to be obedient to you from now on, no matter what I have to face. In Jesus' name I pray, Amen.

2. Thank HIM and worship the LORD

Now in your own words, thank the LORD for saving you, for making you a part of HIS FAMILY. If your repentance is genuine, you have been washed clean by the blood of the LAMB, and you will want to WORSHIP AND PRAISE HIM! You may already know some worship and praise songs but if you don't, we have some suggestions for you to begin your worship and praise.

Worship: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=456N6A6 XvQ (lyrics are found in Appendix A)

Praise: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KwX1f2gYKZ4 (lyrics are found in Appendix B)

3. Tell others of your repentance and faith.

In Romans 10, the LORD reveals a simple test to know if your repentance and faith is genuine.

⁹ that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Romans 10:9-10

To "confess" means to share with others that you have placed your faith in Jesus! The LORD will bring to your mind those people that HE wants you to tell. It maybe someone that has been praying for you a long time, your spouse, a good friend, or a complete stranger. But, whatever the LORD tells you to do, step out in faith and tell others what Jesus has done for you! This is referred to as your "testimony" (Revelation 12:11). We go into this more in the final level.

4. Get Baptized

The LORD commanded us in Acts 2:38 to be baptized AFTER we repent. Being baptized as a child doesn't count because it was done TO you, instead of being a voluntary act. You see, going underneath the water is symbolic of what happened when you repented and placed your faith in Jesus. You died to your old life and the LORD has raised you as a new creation.

Your baptism is a public profession of your death, your rebirth, and your faith in Jesus.
YOU HAVE BEEN BORN AGAIN! (John 3:3-16)

5. Become a part of GOD'S BODY, THE CHURCH.

²⁵ Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

Hebrews 10:25

A word of caution: as we explained earlier, there is intense deception in the world and sadly that means that some churches have strayed from the Truth.

Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, ² speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron, ³ forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from foods which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the Truth.

1 Timothy 4:1-3

As you prayerfully consider what church to join, ask these questions:

A. What is the ultimate source of Truth in the church I'm considering?

IF it is NOT the WORD OF GOD ALONE, then do not attend that church. In other words, don't be fooled by responses like this:

"Yes, we use the Bible, but our church's traditions are equally or more important than the Bible...."

"Our church or denomination is the only TRUE CHURCH, and if you aren't a member, you can't be saved..."

B. What must one do to receive salvation (forgiveness and eternal life)?

If you hear anything in addition to repentance and faith in Jesus, do not get sucked in.

Repentance:

¹⁰ For godly sorrow produces repentance *leading* to salvation....

1 Corinthians 7:10

Faith:

⁴ But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, ⁵ even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), ⁶ and raised *us* up together, and made *us* sit together in the Heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus, ⁷ that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in *His* kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not of works, lest anyone should boast. ¹⁰ For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

Ephesians 2:4-10

NOTE: Many people reading this are realizing that the church they have been attending does not meet these Biblical standards, and you are wondering what to do. Be obedient; do not compromise by giving your tithe and your support to any institution that waters down or makes the word of God of no effect because of "tradition".

He answered and said to them, "Why do you also transgress the commandment of God because of your **tradition**?"

Matthew 15:3

IF THE CHURCH YOU ARE CONSIDERING (OR CURRENTLY ATTENDING) FAILS THIS TEST,
LEAVE IT AND FIND ONE THAT IS BIBLICALLY GROUNDED!

6. Read and learn the word of GOD EVERY DAY!

If the Bible is completely new to you, start by reading the book of John. You will notice that as you begin to read GOD'S word, your hunger to know more of HIS WORD will grow and grow. In addition to the book of John, read one chapter a day from the book of Psalms as well as the book of Proverbs.

7. Take a discipleship course if one is offered in your church or small group, so that you can get grounded well in the WORD OF GOD.

Many churches are hosting groups and teaching online so that you can "attend" church from home via video conferencing (i.e. "zoom meetings").

8. Commit time every day to pray.

Pray for the salvation of your family and the people that the LORD brings to your mind. (It may seem like they are not interested, but GOD does "invisible" work on their

hearts!)

Pray that America and the other countries of the world will awaken and repent so that HE will extend mercy even during the coming judgment.

9. Expect persecution but count it all joy.

¹² Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.

2 Timothy 3:12

These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.

John 16:32-33

My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials....

James 1:2

10. Look forward to Heaven!!

We have become so conditioned to thinking that life on Earth is so important. In actuality, this was always going to be just a fleeting moment in time in which we should be focusing on taking as many others to Heaven with us as possible.

For our citizenship is in Heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Philippians 4:20

11. Keep learning and go deeper with GOD because your faith is like a muscle; it must be exercised to grow or it will weaken and atrophy.

In order to help you live your new life as a born-again child of GOD, we have prepared a list (Appendix C) of teachers who focus on key areas. Please take the time to listen and learn from these Christian ministries that the LORD is using in these days.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

We explained earlier that the WORD of GOD reveals that individuals, cities, and countries will ultimately face judgment. If you repented and placed your faith in Jesus alone for your salvation, then you will escape the judgment in which all those who were not saved by the blood of Jesus are sentenced to-eternal separation from GOD in the Lake of Fire.

But, what about your friends, your family, your city, and your country? Is there anything

you can do to help save them from the judgment to come?

Yes, there is.

Chapter 16: A Divine Opportunity and Invitation

Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven has come near.

Matthew 3:2

At this point in the story, John the Baptist was going throughout Israel urging people to turn to Jesus Christ, the true Messiah. All throughout the Gospels, the LORD reveals what happens when someone "finds" the Messiah. In the following passage, the Bible is referring to Andrew.

⁴⁰One of the two who heard John speak and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. ⁴¹He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated, the Christ). ⁴² And he brought him to Jesus.

John 1:40-42

INSIGHT: When Andrew met Jesus, he recognized him as the Messiah; he began "following Him", and he immediately began leading others to Jesus.

The book you are now reading was written to share; that's why we have made it available for free to anyone who will read it. We believe that through this writing, we may <u>lead</u> <u>others to Jesus Christ.</u>

Knowing the Truth is just the first step.

We beg you to send our link (<u>www.thetruthyouneed.com</u>) to as many people as you possibly can. If every one of us begins prayerfully sharing this book with family, friends, and complete strangers, it is possible, even PROBABLE, that it will become viral and spread all over the world.

"Why bother," you ask?

1. The Great Commission: GOD commands us to reach others with HIS TRUTH:

¹⁸ And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in Heaven and on Earth. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even* to the end of the age." Amen.

Matthew 28:18-20

2. It will demonstrate that your repentance and faith are real.

In the book of Matthew, the LORD shares a powerful illustration of four kinds of people that receive the Word of God (the seed).

³ Then He spoke many things to them in parables, saying: "Behold, a sower went out to sow. ⁴ And as he sowed, some seed fell by the wayside; and the birds came and devoured them. ⁵ Some fell on stony places, where they did not have much earth; and they immediately sprang up because they had no depth of earth. ⁶ But when the sun was up they were scorched, and because they had no root they withered away. ⁷ And some fell among thorns, and the thorns sprang up and choked them. ⁸ But others fell on good ground and yielded a crop: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹ He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"

Matthew 13:3-9

Continuing on in the same book, Jesus explained the parable of the seed.

¹⁸ "Therefore hear the parable of the sower: ¹⁹ When anyone hears the word of the Kingdom, and does not understand it, then the wicked one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is he who received seed by the wayside. ²⁰ But he who received the seed on stony places, this is he who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; ²¹ yet he has no root in himself, but endures only for a while. For when tribulation or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he stumbles. ²² Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the word, and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful. ²³ But he who received seed on the good ground is he who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and produces: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty."

Matthew 13:18-23

You see, GOD doesn't hold us responsible for what people decide to do with the word of GOD, but, He DOES hold us responsible for sharing it.

3. You will receive a "crown" in Heaven for leading others to Jesus.

1 Peter 5:2

Remember this sobering fact: the only things that you can take to Heaven, that will survive the judgment we must all face, are the things we did for the LORD; especially, the people that we brought with us to Heaven.

NOTHING ELSE WILL MATTER IN ETERNITY.

- 4. Leading others to Jesus is the most wonderful experience you can have this side of Heaven. (I know it sounds like a fantastic claim, but once you've experienced it, you'll know it's true.)
- 5. Our collective obedience to lead others to Christ can change the DESTINY of cities and countries.

As we have explained, GOD will judge nations, cities, and individuals. If you have already repented and placed your faith in Jesus, then you will escape the judgment that unbelievers will face.

But, what about your city and your country?

If enough people will repent and turn to Jesus in your city and your country, it is possible that the LORD will reduce HIS JUDGMENT or even "Passover" select places. There are instances in the Bible where the repentance of people changed the degree and timing of judgment.

In light of this fact, we are inviting everyone who is reading these words, to join with others around the world on August 2, 2020 for an **International Day of Repentance**.

On this day, we implore you to:

- 1. Assemble Christians in your family and confess the sins of your city and your country.
- 2. List them out one by one as the Holy Spirit brings them to mind.
- 3. Cry out to GOD and ask Him to have mercy on your city and your country.
- 4. Ask the LORD to bring a Great Awakening that will result in millions of people who will repent and turn to the Messiah.

As August 2nd draws near, please visit <u>www.thelastwarning.com</u> which will go live in the latter part of July.

Our Prayer of Blessing for You and Your Family

Heavenly Father, we thank you that this person read the words of this book. We ask You in the Name that is above every other name, the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, to pour out Your blessing, Your anointing, and Your love on them so that they will NEVER BE THE SAME. Please complete Your work in them so that they will become the child of GOD You designed them to be. Please fill them completely with the HOLY SPIRIT and open the eyes of their heart to the word of GOD. Teach them to recognize Your still small voice and to be obedient, even unto death if necessary, so that they can one day stand before You and hear those precious words, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

In Jesus' name we pray,
And everyone who agreed with this prayer said, AMEN.

WE LOVE YOU, AND WE WILL SEE YOU SOON IN HEAVEN AND IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD.

New King James Version (NKJV) Biblical Citations

(in sequential order as they are referenced in this work)

[in text emphases added]

1 Timothy 6:10	Romans 1:25	1 Kings 3:8
2 Timothy 3:16	Galatians 5:13	1 Kings 8:16
Isaiah 55:9	Joshua 24:15	Nehemiah 1:9
Mark 7:6-13	Mark 8:34	Acts 11:26
Matthew 24:34-36	John 14:2-3	Acts 14:27
Ephesians 6:12	Philippians 3:20-21	Acts 20:28
Romans 3:23	Acts 1:11	1 Corinthians 1:2
Romans 5:12	Revelation 21:1-4	1 Corinthians 12:28
Romans 6:23	Isaiah 65:17-25	Ephesians 1:22
Romans 8:22	Matthew 10:28	Ephesians 3:10
Genesis 1:27	Matthew 23:33	Ephesians 5:23-32
2 Corinthians 4:4	Matthew 25:46	Colossians 1:18
Hebrews 4:12	Luke 12:5	Colossians 1:24
Psalm 139:4	2 Peter 2:4	1 Peter 2:9
Romans 1:28	Revelation 20:14-15	Revelation 13:1-18
2 Corinthians 4:4	John 14:6	Hebrews 9:27
Isaiah 10:15	Acts 4:12	Matthew 24:37-41
Isaiah 45:9	2 Corinthians 7:10	1 Thessalonians 4:17
Jeremiah 18:6	Psalm 19:7-14	Matthew 24:36
Romans 9:20	Psalm 16:11	1 John 5:14
Psalm 2:1-12	Romans 15:13	1 John 1:9
Hebrews 3:12	1 Timothy 2:4	Acts 3:19
Isaiah 5:20	Deuteronomy 7:6	2 Peter 3:9
Psalm 2:1	Zechariah 2:8	Romans 10:9-10

Biblical Citations

(continued)

2 Corinthians 5:21	Ecclesiastes 3:11	Ephesians 5:25-27
John 12:46	Exodus 7:9	Romans 12:2
Luke 9:23	Exodus 11:10	Revelation 1:6
James 1:22	Exodus 12:1-27	Ephesians 2:8-9
James 2:19	Revelation 12:11	Hebrews 9:24-26
Matthew 7:23	John 1:29	Jeremiah 29:11
Genesis 3:1	Exodus 14:5-31	Numbers 21:6
John 14:6	Exodus 15:26-27	John 3:9-15
Matthew 7:13	Luke 10:1-23	1 Kings 19:18
Ephesians 2:1	Exodus 16:1-15	Jeremiah 25:4-38
Romans 3:23	Exodus 19:1-25	Isaiah 44:24-28
Romans 2:5	Exodus 20:1-21	Micah 5:2
2 Corinthians 4:4	Exodus 23:20-33	Luke 2:4-7
Acts 26:18	Judges 21:25	John 6:48
Revelation 20:13-14	Galatians 3:24	Isaiah 35:5-6
Leviticus 17:11	Matthew 5:28	Matthew 9:35
Hebrews 9:22	John 10:7-9	Isaiah 53:5
Genesis 12:2	John 14:6	Isaiah 50:6
James 2:19	Revelation 21:16	John 1:11
Genesis 16:2	Habakkuk 1:13	Matthew 26:67
Genesis 17:1-8	Hebrews 9:7	Luke 23:33
Genesis 17:13-21	Matthew 27:51	Isaiah 53:3
Genesis 18:13-15	Hebrews 6:19-20	Psalm 22:1-18
Exodus 2:24	Hebrews 10:19-22	Matthew 27:22-54

John 3:2-15	Hebrews 12:25-29	John 16:32-33
Ezekiel 37:1-14	Matthew 24:9-35	James 1:2
Isaiah 66:8-10	Zechariah 12:10	Philippians 4:20
Zechariah 12:2	Matthew 24:36-51	Matthew 3:2
Daniel 9:20-27	Ezekiel 33:6	John 1:40-42
Daniel 12:4	Luke 21:29-33	Matthew 28:18-20
Ezra 7:11-28	Isaiah 11:11-12	Matthew 13:3-9
2 Thessalonians 2:1-12	Isaiah 43:1-14	Matthew 13:18-23
Revelation 21:7-15	2 Chronicles 7:13-14	1 Peter 5:2
Daniel 8:23-25	2 Timothy 3:1-5	
2 Thessalonians 2:3-4	Ezekiel 37 & 38	
Revelation 13:16-17	Revelation (entire)	
Matthew 24:1-8	Psalm 83	
Revelation 4	Proverbs 22:7	
Ephesians 1:13	Revelation 8:11	
Matthew 7:24-27	Luke 11:32	
1 Corinthians 6:19-20	Habakkuk 3:2	
Ephesians 5:25-27	Revelation 3:19	
Acts 20:28	2 Peter 3:3	
Ephesians 5:31-32	Romans 10:9-10	
John 14:2	Revelation 12:11	
Matthew 24:36	Acts 2:38	
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18	John 3:3-16	
Ephesians 3:27	Hebrews 10:25	
1 Corinthians 3:12-15	1 Timothy 4:1-3	
Revelation 19:7-9	1 Corinthians 7:10	
Matthew 22:1-14	Ephesians 2:4-10	
Revelation 3:14-22	Matthew 15:3	
Hebrews 12:1	2 Timothy 3:12	

Appendix A

Nobody Like You

By Paul Wilbur

Lord of all
I bow down at your feet
All to you Lord
I give, all of me
My soul long to behold who you are
The veil is torn
Holy, is the Lord of glory

We lift our voice

And sing to You our King

Worthy, You alone are Worthy,

We lift our voice and sing to You,

Our King

Lord of all

I bow down at your feet

All to you Lord

I give, all of me

My soul longs to behold who you are

Veil is torn

Holy, is the Lord of glory

We lift our voice

And sing to You our King

Worthy, You alone are Worthy,

We lift our voice and sing to You,

Our King

And with our voices aloud

We've come to sing it out,

Nobody like You,

Nobody like you

And with our voices aloud

We've come to sing it out,

Nobody like You,

Nobody like you

And with our voices aloud

We've come to sing it out,

Nobody like You,

Nobody like...

Appendix B

Graves into Gardens

By Steven Furtick, Chris Brown, Tiffany Hammer, Brandon Lake

I searched the world But it couldn't fill me Man's empty praise and treasures that fade Are never enough

Then You came along
And put me back together
And every desire is now satisfied
Here in Your love

Oh there's nothing better than You
There's nothing better than You
Lord there's nothing, nothing is better than You
I'm not afraid
To show You my weakness
My failures and flaws
Lord You've seen them all
And You still call me friend

'Cause the God of the mountain Is the God of the valley There's not a place Your mercy and grace Won't find me again

You turn mourning to dancing You give beauty for ashes You turn shame into glory You're the only one who can

You turn graves into gardens You turn bones into armies You turn seas into highways You're the only one who can You're the only one who can

Appendix C

How to Share the Gospel (evangelize): Ray Comfort is a teacher evangelist that teaches and models the best way to reach the lost effectively.

www.livingwaters.com

Praise and Worship: Elevation Worship from Elevation Church: https://www.youtube.com/elevationworship

Bible Study: Cru (Campus Crusade for Christ) is an excellent place to for Bible study resources. One of their ministries is Family Life Today, which provides excellent insights into practical applications of God's Word in family and life.

www.cru.org

Perry Stone Ministries: Perry Stone is a teacher of GOD'S Word and is especially gifted in providing prophetic insights related to Israel and the Church.

Christian Radio: There are usually one or two Christian radio stations in each city that have teaching programs. David Jeremiah, Chuck Swindoll, and John McArthur are three great ministries that will help you develop a solid Biblical foundation.

Seniors Ministry: The Christian Worship Hour is an extraordinary teaching ministry founded and led by Pastor Harold Salem. This amazing man of God has a deep love for Seniors and has been reaching people for Christ longer than most people have been alive.

www.CWH.org

Cross Examined with Frank Turek: This is one of the most interesting ministries because Frank actually takes GOD'S WORD right into one of the most resistant areas in civilization today: The College Campus. He is an excellent Apologetics speaker who patiently uses logic, science, and history, and effectively deals with some of the most difficult questions coming out of our culture today. If you have come this far, yet are still hesitating because of a particular "sticking point", chances are, Frank addresses it.

http://www.crossexamined.com/