

# DANIEL IS OUT OF ORDER

ELLIS H. SKOLFIELD





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*"Surely I come quickly." Amen.  
Even so, come, Lord Jesus.  
"The grace of the Lord Jesus  
be with you all. Amen."*

*Revelation 22:20-21*

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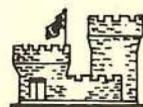
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*To those church elders who refused to listen . . . it's alright, my brothers. Like Jacob's sons who sent their brother down into Egypt; the Lord's hand was in it, and He meant it for good. Because some of you closed your hearts, the Lord strengthened mine to write.*

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## ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATIONS

The photographs of the Dome of the Rock, the Golden Gate, and the Dome of the Tablets on pages 7, 25 and 31 are reprinted courtesy of Biblical Archeology Review, the March 1983 issue.

The woodcuts are from Dore's Bible Illustrations, Dover 1975, and are reprinted by permission. Below are the titles, and the scriptures which inspired each illustration:

INSIDE . . . DANIEL IN THE DEN OF LIONS  
FRONT      "*My God has sent his angel, and has  
COVER      shut the lion's mouths, so that they  
            have not hurt me*" Daniel 6:22

PAGE 4 . . . MARTYRDOM OF STEPHEN  
            "*And he kneeled down, and cried  
            with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this  
            sin to their charge. And when he  
            had said this, he fell asleep. . . .*"  
            Acts 7:60

PAGE 20 . . . ARTAXERXES GRANTING LIBERTY  
            TO THE JEWS  
            "*I make a decree, that all they of the  
            people of Israel . . . which are  
            minded . . . to go up to Jerusalem,  
            go with thee . . .*" Ezra 7:13

PAGE 32 . . . NEHEMIAH VIEWING SECRETLY THE  
            RUINS OF THE WALLS OF JERUSALEM  
            "*Ye see the distress that we are in,  
            how Jerusalem lieth waste, and the  
            gates thereof are burned with fire:  
            come, and let us build up the wall of  
            Jerusalem . . .*" Nehemiah 2:17

INSIDE . . . THE NEW JERUSALEM  
BACK      "*And I John saw the holy city, new  
COVER      Jerusalem, coming down from God  
            out of heaven, prepared as a bride  
            adorned for her husband. . . .*"  
            Revelation 21:2

PAGE 40 . . . BABYLON FALLEN  
            "*For her sins have reached unto  
            heaven, and God hath remembered  
            her iniquities. . . .*" Revelation 18:5

PAGE 48 . . . DANIEL INTERPRETING THE  
            WRITING ON THE WALL  
            "*In the same hour came forth fingers  
            of a man's hand, and wrote over  
            against the candlestick upon the  
            plaister of the wall of the king's  
            palace . . . MENE, MENE, TEKEL,  
            UPHARSIN . . .*" Daniel 5:5, 25

PAGE 57 . . . ST. JOHN AT PATMOS  
            "*I John, who also am your brother  
            . . . was in the isle that is called  
            Patmos . . .*" Revelation 1:9

PAGE 68 . . . THE DESTRUCTION OF LEVIATHAN  
            "*In that day the Lord with his sore  
            and great and strong sword shall  
            punish Leviathan the piercing  
            serpent, even Leviathan that  
            crooked serpent; and he shall slay  
            the dragon that is in the sea . . .*"  
            Isaiah 27:1

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# 1 CONCEAL THESE WORDS

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We are in the *end times*. This is not conjecture, but a scripturally provable fact. The time of gentile domination of Palestine and Jerusalem was completed in June 1967. "And Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the gentiles until the time of the gentiles is complete.", Luke 21:24

Over the centuries many false doctrines and traditions have crept into the church that threaten its well-being and cause confusion among the brethren. Since these divergent views are held by many who obviously love the Lord, it is commonly believed that our position on certain doctrines is not important. This is absolutely untrue, and is of the enemy. Understanding and teaching the truth is inseparable from serving the living God who is truth.

Two events unique to history have taken place in our own time. First, following a centuries-long dispersion of the Jews among the nations and a holocaust in which they were almost eliminated from Europe; in March 1948 the nation of new Israel was established. Then secondly, for the first time in 2575 years, the city of David came under the control of God's chosen people, the Jews, when in June 1967 Jerusalem was freed from gentile domination. A geo-political impossibility and yet it has happened just as the Bible predicted. Many of the prophecies that we believe foretold a seven-year tribulation period are fulfilled in these two events in Israel! Consequently we must re-examine the scripture to find what the Lord intends for us in these final hours.

The way the Lord has led and allowed the author to unravel what He has kept hidden through the ages is truly astonishing. A picked-up magazine here, a paragraph in a borrowed

book, a news item; it was "order on order, order on order, line on line, line on line, a little here and a little there," Isaiah 28:10, and it all started from some unusual anomalies in the Bible for which there has to date been no good explanation.

Daniel is out of chronological order! It is out of order for a reason. The book of life, the water of life, and the tree of life spoken of in Revelation are recorded in that order for a reason. The first half of Daniel in Aramaic and the last half in Hebrew are in those languages for a reason.

Forty-two months is 1,278 days. That is not the same time as 1,260 or 1,290 or 1,335 days. Five months are 152 days. There is time, times, and half a time. What can these things mean?

In Daniel 12:4 the Lord states: "Conceal and seal these words until the end of time." If we are at the end of time, we should be able to understand those scriptures which have been closed to us. All scripture is given for our learning. Is now the time for us to understand these things?

To find out, let's begin by taking a short look at what the church has been doing for the last 2,000 years. It may seem strange to start a book on prophecy by looking at history, but be patient. We can't see *why* events are going to happen the way they will, until we see where we have been. Without a good understanding of where the church is today, how it became the way it is, and how its history parallels the history of the Jewish people; the reasons for the role it will play in these end times will escape us. Our history is not a pretty story. It is a terrible story, and it gave the author no pleasure to write it. But, we have to set the stage.



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## 2 LOOKING BACK

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It has been almost twenty centuries since, on a darkened afternoon, blood dripping from His hands and feet, that Jesus said, "It is finished," and bowed His head and died. Thus, the plan of redemption for fallen man was accomplished, and the wall of sin that separated us from our heavenly Father was forever torn down.

When we look at the terrible events, from Tamerlane to Buchenwald, that have taken place during the Christian era, realizing that the Lord in eternity knew about them all, we wonder . . . Why did He bother?

From the day that Cain slew his brother Abel until now, man hasn't changed. But the troubles that now beset the world far transcend one brother murdering another, and they won't go away. They are even now beyond our ability to correct and are worsening and becoming more complex by the hour . . . a world population explosion concurrent with a diminishing world food supply, irreparable damage to our environment, wars without solution, and now we have toys capable of destroying the planet.

We are headed for a doom of our own making that is impossible to avoid . . . and are like a man in a dream, falling into a pit of deadly vipers. Our arms flail, our fingers claw the jagged rocks until bleeding we see them . . . now in fear we are screaming, screaming . . . but nothing slows our fall. Cold sweat envelops us, we gasp for air, but can't wake up. . . . It is now, our world, our inescapable reality, and, were it not for His bleeding hands and feet of long ago, we would be without any hope at all.

Shortly after Jesus' resurrection and ascension into heaven, the church He established was threatened with extinction. Stephen was

stoned to death, and all of His disciples, save one, died violently. These weren't criminals but the most gentle of men, teaching only that Jesus had come to save us from our sins.

So rabid was imperial Rome's hatred of the church that, in the catacombs under the city alone, there are the bones of up to twenty million Christians. These graves are so vast that, until this day, no accurate account has been made.

In the fourth century, Rome, under Constantine, made Christianity the State religion, and the church itself, like a vampire feeding on the blood of its own young, began to persecute the brethren. It seems inconceivable that God's children, so lately the objects of torture and murder, would, in turn, become the persecutors, but the historical evidence to these events is too conclusive for debate.

Millions (only the Lord knows how many) Bogomils, Hussites, Albigensians, Anabaptists, Waldensians and other sound Christian brethren were brutally eradicated in the name of Christ, by boiling in oil, drownings, holy wars (so-called), and burning at the stake . . . tortures beyond number and description. These depredations continued until modern times. This speaks only of those killed by the church; to them add the numberless saints martyred by enemies of the gospel.

In its early days, the church had three major branches; the Roman church in the West, the Eastern church centered in Constantinople (now Istanbul, the capital of Turkey) and the Coptic church, which spread from India through the middle East and covered all of North Africa.

This great Coptic church, a third of Christendom, was totally destroyed by the Mohammedan jihad, or holy war, which started in 636 A.D. and lasted for about 152 years. Some Christians were killed, and whole populations were made slaves. The weak among them were converted to Mohammedanism.

Jerusalem fell in 648 A.D. and Palestine remained primarily under Mohammedan domination until March 1948 when the new nation of Israel was established. Jerusalem itself was freed in June 1967 and was named the capital of the country in January 1981.

Of all the epochal events of the whole Christian era, none can be more important in God's eyes than the Mohammedan domination of His Holy City and the building of the Dome of the Rock.

Late in the seventh century, Abd el Malik, a Mohammedan prince and governor of Jerusalem, cleared Mount Moriah, where the temple of God had stood, and built a mosque to Allah. Construction was started in 685 A.D. and continued until his death in 705 A.D.

This was the same hill where Abraham, the father of the Hebrew people, offered up Isaac, where the temples of Solomon, Nehemiah, and Herod had stood; in the city where God Almighty had said, "In Jerusalem I shall put My name." What an abomination this mosque is unto the Lord! Is it "*The Abomination of Desolation*" as spoken of by Daniel, the prophet, over 1,200 years earlier? If it is, the 20 year period from 685 A.D. to 705 A.D. may be one of the most significant times in the whole Christian era.

That mosque stands there until this day and (despite a legion of viewpoints to the contrary) may not be torn down before the return of Jesus. Like the pig which Antiochus Epiphanees offered 160-odd years before the birth of Jesus, the Dome of the Rock has kept the Jews from worshiping on God's holy hill from the seventh century of the Christian era until now and was instrumental in their final dispersion into the nations.

In Europe, the Roman church marched on with a political and military power that, until the middle of the 16th century, was not equaled by all the Western nations combined. At their command kings were crowned and wars were fought. The reformers of the middle ages stood against the excesses and doctrines of the papacy, and in the 17th century, Roman secular power was eclipsed by the rising protestant movement which swept Europe and England.

Still, persecutions did not stop. Some of the reformers themselves, and their successors became little better than what they replaced. The Americas were initially populated by Christian brethren seeking refuge from their tormentors. The Puritans, Quakers, French Huguenots, Pilgrims, and Pennsylvania Dutch, all chose an uncertain life in a strange land for the freedom which is in Christ Jesus.

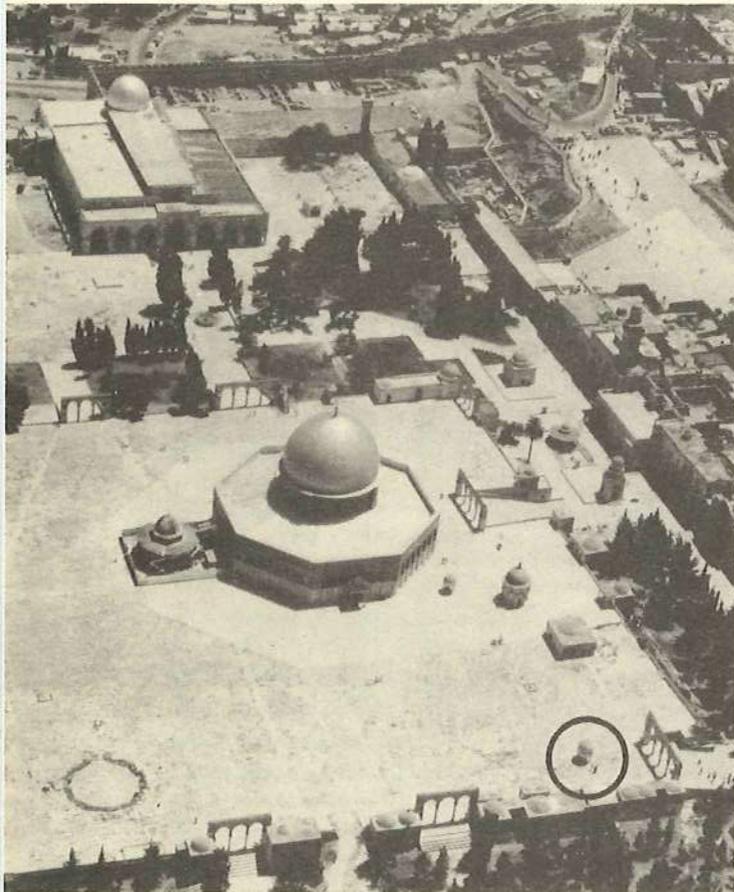
From the nations, God sovereignly separated out a people peculiar unto Himself, and set them in a land flowing with milk and honey; just as He had set the Israelites in Palestine more than 3,000 years before. The Lord blessed the work of His hand and by the 20th century the United States had become the most powerful nation on the globe. It was a Christian nation, too.

A century ago, a visitor here would have been hard pressed to find a community where the people did not fear the Lord our God and our Savior, Jesus Christ. But, as the Israelites did before us, we too have gone a-whoring after other gods.

First, in His land of plenty, we gathered our grain into our barns and said, "Soul, take thy ease." We forgot that it was the lovingkindness of the Lord that gave us all these good things; and we worshiped the god of materialism. This false god remains enthroned today, and is a major stumbling block in many a Christian life. There are some churches that even teach that material well-being is the goal of the believer.

Then there was a falling away from the Word, and false teachings were accepted in many churches. Self-styled, counter-Christian

The temple mount as seen from the north. The Mohammedan mosque "The dome of the Rock" stands in its center as it has for almost 1,300 years. Circled in the lower right is a little, unimposing cupola "The Dome of the Tablets." Late archeological evidence indicates that the Holy of Holies in the Solomonic and Nehemiahian temples was located here, some 330 feet northwest of the dome itself, the dome is situated in what was once the court of the gentiles.



Illustration, Courtesy Biblical Archeology Review.

"Bible scholars" (so-called), not recognizing the Bible as an absolute and without spiritual insight, attempted to discredit the Scriptures; and some of the weak in the faith were carried away by their error. Historically, when scriptural inerrancy has been questioned, God in His omniscience has tweaked the noses of these self-deluding savants; and He will do so again. Questions about the Mosaic authorship of the

Pentateuch, late dating, form criticism, questions on historicity, all have been either wholly or in part discredited by an ever-increasing body of new textual and archaeological discoveries.

Nevertheless, some whited sepulchres, calling themselves ministers of the gospel but "denying the Master who bought them" continue to teach the precepts of men as the doctrines of God. Do they think for one minute that He will not recompense unto them for leading His sheep astray? He shall surely judge them in accordance with their deeds. II Peter 2 spells it all out.

The great protestant denominations are the children of the reformation churches. Some few are true to the Word, but most have fallen away into modernism, neo-orthodoxy or humanism, a social gospel of works replacing repentance and faith unto salvation. These and other apostasies have so clouded the simple truth of the gospel — Christ Jesus and Him crucified for the remission of sins — that it is impossible to come to a saving knowledge of the Lord by what they preach. Woe to these blind guides!

Some churches are scripturally sound but spiritually *dead* and none in the congregation can remember the last time that someone was led to the Lord. These have retreated into a formal, ritualistic worship with little awareness that we truly serve a living Savior who has "quickened us by His Spirit and called us into newness of life!"

Of those that remain alive, some are so worldly that there is no visible distinction between saint and sinner. Some are bound by counter-scriptural doctrines. However, there are a very few who are following hard after the Lord, turning neither to the right hand nor the left from seeking His face. There is a remnant.

All through the Christian era man has been concerned about the *visible* church. We have built buildings, formed organizations, elevated leaders, centralized, counted our members, punched, tabulated, and computed, all on the basis that we were building the church. There

is no scriptural basis for any of these works of man; in fact, these activities are against the plan of the Lord, counter to His Word, and have restricted the growth of the church.

8 Over the centuries, the church has accepted a body of tradition for which there is no scriptural support. The church has grown inward, not outward. Instead of taking the gospel to those who need it, we try to get the lost into a building we call church. Scripture is clear, the Lord has made every born-again believer a priest, Rev. 1:6, 1:9, 5:10. But we set aside our office, and instead, expect a relatively few professionals we call ministers to evangelize the world. We put a division between the responsibilities of clergy and body when no such scriptural division exists.

Then, rather than devoting their time to prayer and ministry of the gospel as the Holy Spirit directs in Acts 6:2-4, our ministers have become some sort of glorified baby sitter over monumental structures, and congregations of spiritual babes who refuse to grow up. We have been led astray into building and shepherding separate congregations and defending them from the imagined heresies of our neighbor churches.

By the word and through the body, will we ever allow the Holy Spirit to decide what we are to believe? We are not here to build the church; Jesus said He would do that, Matt. 16:18. We are here to fulfill the great commission, and to equip each new saint so that he, too, can lead the lost to Christ.

When the Lord starts a new work in the church, one of the first things the enemy tries to do is organize it. Before we know it, worship and soul winning, the original goals of the brethren have been replaced by programs, activities, and building committees.

Then loving the chief seats in the synogogue, some elders take a position of rulership over the church and its functions for which there is no scriptural support. They seek the title of *the* minister, pastor or priest, ignoring that "To minister" comes from two Greek words "leitourgikos" and "diakonos" both of which

mean a servant. Ministers then are the servants, not the rulers of the church.

As teachers of the word, we may gauge our own yieldedness to the Lord Jesus by the degree to which we are willing to yield our authority to the brethren. Peter the apostle claimed no more than fellow eldership, I Peter 5:1; and "whoever wishes to be first among you shall be the slave of all." Mark 10:44. Despite its Biblical soundness, this view is not overly popular in certain quarters, and we rarely hear it preached from the pulpit. Why I wonder?

Well, the reason is a simple one. The church is full of little kings who don't allow the Lord Jesus to run His own church. Unfortunately, when one of these goes doctrinally astray, he takes his whole congregation with him. The Jim Jones and Guianan incident is an extreme example of a common plight of many churches.

It is sad to see how so many men who have been led of the Lord to preach the gospel have fallen into the trap of vertical authoritarianism. In most instances it isn't their fault. It is ours. Church members through laziness or inaction push them into taking over duties and responsibilities that belong to the body. We elevate them, putting them upon thrones which face the congregation, a position which should be occupied only by the Lord. Our ministers are only human, and humanity being what it is, from this environment authoritarian figures arise before whom all the saints must yield. What we have sown we then must reap.

The authoritarian minister usually selects rubber stamp elders who will not oppose him, and makes all the major pulpit and ministerial decisions. He denies the priesthood of the individual believer and becomes a "lord" of the flock contrary to the word, I Peter 5:3. We don't need just strong pastors, but congregations that are also strong in the Lord.

A strong body is composed of strong individual saints each one exercising the spiritual gift within him, "But to *each* one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good." I Corinthians 12:7. Every member of the body has an ordained function in the church. This

function is not decided by a minister, or a committee, but by the Holy Spirit. The authoritarian minister who does not listen to the Holy Spirit, through the body, destroys the very thing he wishes to grow; a Spirit-filled church.

Hearts aren't awakened by vast buildings or by congregations sitting unmoving and unfunctioning, Sunday after Sunday, mesmerized by weighty sermons. Lives are changed and made worthwhile by the individual saint teaching, healing, helping, prophesying, and sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins with those who are hurting. Is the Holy Spirit any different now than he was nineteen centuries ago, has the gospel lost its power to save?

Denominational authority over a number of churches saps the individual church's initiative, and unfortunately the dangers that exist with the authoritarian minister are multiplied a thousand fold in one of these multi-church organizations. When a denomination goes astray, its seminaries spew forth a host of doctrinally unsound ministers who then lead hundreds of churches into apostasy. This has happened to some main line protestant churches in our own lifetime! The results are frightening. I have heard church elders say "yes, we know what the Bible says, but we can't go against our denomination." Man-made, totalitarian authority is a death knell to the church that wishes to be under the headship of Christ and the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

We must begin to wonder if the Lord can still use most of the present day established churches. When we look at the first-century Christians, we notice that just 12 lowly fishermen, tax gatherers and the like, with no titles, but empowered by the Holy Spirit; within a few decades turned the whole Roman empire upside down. They had no seminaries, Bible colleges, church buildings or organizations in those days. How could this have happened without TV, print, an elevated clergy, and great sanctuaries?

Well, the individual believer didn't know that he had to be "ordained." The New Testa-

ment had not been written then, so he hadn't memorized it from cover to cover. He didn't understand all the fine points of doctrine. He didn't know that he had to check with denominational headquarters before he started sharing the gospel. He didn't know that you had to have a special building called "church." He didn't know that someone would get mad at him because he taught immersion rather than pouring, or vice-versa.

All he knew was that Jesus had come into his heart, had changed him, and had freed him from bondage and the mess he had made of his life. So he just went around to people and said, "Jesus did this for me, and He can do it for you." And his friends, by his Christian walk, saw that it was true and they turned to Jesus by the hundreds.

The way our church is structured today, the individual saint is told that he isn't qualified. Many so-called ministers are not saved themselves, so they can't teach the new birth with power. They teach great philosophical precepts in pear-shaped tones pretty well, but not the new birth.

So we, the body, not being instructed in what to do, bring people into the church who are not saved. We share Communion with them and, rather than lead them to the Lord ourselves, as the individual priest should, we leave it to a pastor who might not know how, or who doesn't know the true condition of his congregation. The end result is that the church is filled with dead wood.

Furthermore, the Bible instructs us to be separate from the world. When we worship, we should not do so with known unbelievers, nor should we have Communion with them. "Come out from among them and be ye separate, saith the Lord," II Corinthians 6:17.

So, as the Lord "ordained" in the first century, it is up to us, the body, to lead the lost to Him. You, the saint, are a priest of the Lord Jesus; you are ordained by Him to a heavenly calling. If you need marching orders, guess where you go to get them? Directly to the Lord

Jesus, of course. Is He not the head of the church? Our earthly leaders are too busy fighting with each other, counting numbers, and building huge buildings unto themselves. Most have become more concerned with the size of their sanctuary than with its sanctity . . . except, of course, for a remnant.

The saints have not cried out when an individual or a church has gone astray. We've been too busy with our toys, and it wasn't our business anyway. Wrong! It is our business! "He has made *us* a kingdom of priests unto our God," Revelation 5:10. We have become lukewarm, and the church has lost its way. We have sold our birthright for a mess of porridge and, as a consequence, look what has happened to our land.

Within the last four decades, the very laws which protected our rights of freedom of worship before the Lord have now been used to gratify the lusts of what used to be a very small, worldly minority.

Prayers have been stopped in school. Homosexuals flaunt their perversions on the front steps of Houses of God. Pornography is piped into almost every home via cable and pay TV. Our children have become rebellious and licentious. Prostitutes, murderers, pimps, and muggers roam our streets and seduce our children. Counter-scriptural faiths, masquerading as science, are taught in our schools. Drug abuse and related evils are epidemic. So-called musicians with sick minds and painted faces, selling depravity of every form, have become the heroes of our children. Good has become evil; and evil, good.

Now, at the end of this age we, the greatest Christian nation the world has ever known, have sunk into a morass of moral degradation from which we will not recover, nor shall the whole world . . . until Jesus returns! Have the churches spoken out against these abominations? A few, but the gospel has become so diluted by worldliness that its clear trumpet call to the righteous life has become like the croak of a bullfrog. "Jesus saves" has been traded in for the new, shinier models of "posi-

tive thinking," "upward mobility," and "humanitarian duty."

How has this happened? We, the individual Christians, have not stood forth and said, "Thus saith the Lord . . . Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, soul and mind . . . and touch not the unclean thing." But that will get people mad at me! II Timothy 3:12 states: "All who desire to live Godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution." That is a promise, the result of living the way the Lord wants us to. If we are not suffering persecution for our faith, it is time we stop deluding ourselves; get before the Lord and find out why . . . Put on the whole armor of God of Ephesians 6, and get in the fight. When we separate ourselves enough from our lusts for the world to be convicted by our walk, rest assured, persecution *will* follow.

Sad as it may seem, when we turn our lives wholly over to the Lord, the first who will persecute us will be the people in our own church. Far-fetched supposition? Look at church history; this has been the pattern for 20 centuries.

Is it hopeless then? Yes, to all but a few. The Lord has a remnant, those who have found the narrow gate, who have not soiled their garments, who walk as the Lord gives them grace in accordance with His word. They can't be found by race, creed, denomination or congregation, because they are the Lord's sheep with-in all the churches. It is to this few that I write and say in the Lord . . .

### Stand Up and Be Counted as One of His!

The Lord promised that "in this world ye shall suffer tribulation." He left a persecuted church, and He's coming back for one. So, it is to these few, who will need the encouragement, that this new understanding of Daniel and Revelation is written; His *invisible* church. . .

This is a message of hope and blessing. The Lord is near, even at the door, and He is all the hope we've got, or need, for that matter.

Why did He bother? Because He loves us!

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## 3 TIME OF THE GENTILES ENDS

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As the end of the age approaches, we Christians have to be on guard against false doctrines as never before. Satan is loosed and is trying to deceive Jesus' sheep.

Today there are more end-time pundits and quasi-prophets than at any other time in history. Consequently, we must lay the straight edge of scripture up against everything we read or hear. We see around us many cults and splinter groups claiming to have the final truth and final-hour guidance, self-serving talks with Jesus and the like. *Go not after them!*

II Timothy 4:3-4

- 3 "For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance with their own desires;  
4 and will turn away their ears from the truth, and will turn aside to myths."

It seems strange to me that we would expect the Lord who is "the same yesterday, today, and forever" to start doing things differently in these final hours from the way He has for the last 2,000 years, such as giving us visionary revelations in addition to those already in the Bible. This flies in the face of His own Word,

Revelation 22:18

- 18 "I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to them" (i.e., claims he has an additional revelation to what is in the Word of God) "God shall add to him the plagues that are written in this book."

Jesus specifically warned us to be on watch for this sort of thing;

Matthew 24:24-26

- 24 "For false Christs and false prophets will arise and will show great signs and wonders, so as to mislead, if possible, even the elect.

25 Behold, I have told you in advance.

- 26 If therefore they say to you, 'Behold, He is in the wilderness,' do not go forth, or, 'Behold, He is in the inner rooms,' do not believe them."

But some, including ministers of the gospel, are carried away by these errors. So the scripture must remain, as it always has, our only infallible guide to the truth. "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge" (of the scripture). Hosea 4:6.

The Bible is *objective* truth. We need the Holy Spirit to open our eyes to spiritual things, but our subjective perceptions of the Word must not be allowed to cloud the plain statements of scripture. If the Lord had meant other than what He said straight out, He would have said it that way. As we look at history in the light of scripture, keep this basic principle in mind.

### THE END OF THE TIME OF THE GENTILES

In the last four decades, two epochal events have taken place unlike any in the last two millennia, and, excluding the life of Jesus, they fulfill more prophecy than any other events in all history.

1. With the re-establishment of the nation of New Israel, March 1948, Palestine is no longer under control of the gentile powers, and the Jews are being gathered from the nations.

Ezekiel 39:25-29

- 25 "Therefore thus says the Lord God, 'Now I shall restore the fortunes of Jacob, and have mercy on the whole house of Israel; and I shall be jealous for My holy name.  
26 'And they shall forget their disgrace and all their treachery which they perpetrated against Me, when they live securely on their own land with no one to make them afraid.

- 27 'When I bring them back from the peoples and gather them from the lands of their enemies, then I shall be sanctified through them in the sight of the many nations.
- 28 'Then they will know that I am the Lord their God because I made them go into exile among the nations, and then gathered them again to their own land; and I will leave none of them there any longer.
- 29 'And I will not hide My face from them any longer, for I shall have poured out My Spirit on the house of Israel, declares the Lord God'."

Jeremiah 30:8

8 "'And it shall come about on that day,' declares the Lord of hosts, 'that I will break his yoke from off their neck, and will tear off their bonds; and strangers shall no longer make them their slaves'."

2. As of the Six Day War, June 1967, Jerusalem is no longer under gentile domination. This, too, fulfills a legion of prophecies, including those quoted above, but to which we must add the words of Jesus;

Luke 21:24

24 "and they" (the Jews) "will fall by the edge of the sword, and they will be led captive into all the nations; and Jerusalem will be trampled underfoot by the gentiles until the time of the gentiles be fulfilled."

Depending on your viewpoint then, from either 1948 or 1967, Jerusalem is no longer politically or militarily under gentile control, and . . . **The Time of the Gentiles Is At An End!**

That's very significant, because there is only one other scripturally defined "time" left open to us after the time of the gentiles, the "end time" of Daniel 12:9, and referring to this end time;

Daniel 12:4

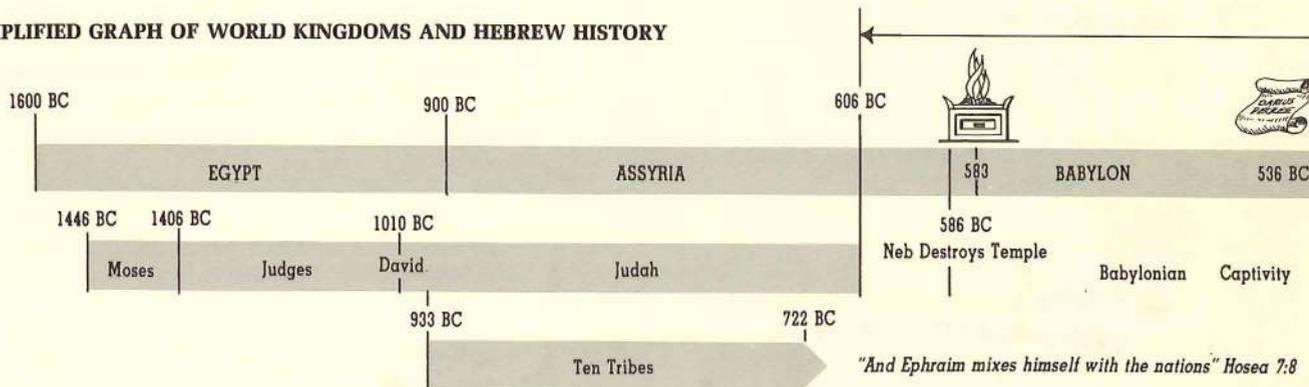
4 "But as for you, Daniel, conceal these words and seal up the book until the *End of Time*. Many will go back and forth" (through the book) "and knowledge will increase."

Now, five hundred, one hundred, fifty years ago was not the *End of Time*, obviously, because we are still here! Yet a lot of doctrines we've grown up with, and still hold, are based on interpretations of Daniel made a long time ago. Since by God's command, this book was sealed until the *End of Time*, what may we suspect about these beliefs? If we aren't careful, we'll be just like the Pharisees and "by our traditions, we will make the Word of God to no effect." Consequently, this major Old Testament apocalyptic prophet must be continually examined until Jesus returns.

The time of the gentiles ended March 1948 or June 1967. Why is this so important? Since God sealed Daniel until the "end of time", all of the doctrines we derived from this book prior to the end-times must at best be incomplete, and at worst totally erroneous!

The seven year tribulation view was arrived at long ago from the prophecy of the 70th week found in Daniel 9:27, and yet v. 24 states "Seventy weeks are decreed for thy people." Daniel

SIMPLIFIED GRAPH OF WORLD KINGDOMS AND HEBREW HISTORY



was a Jew, his people were the Jews, this prophecy was to and about the Jewish people.

The seven year tribulation position holds that this week refers to a seven year time of trial at the end of the church age. That is an unfounded supposition, and we are guilty of making New Testament doctrine from an Old Testament prophecy which plainly states that it is to the Jewish nation!

Now, closer to the end of time, the Lord has opened up a new way to look at this and many other verses. To understand them fully, we will have to look at the historical setting of both Daniel in 606 to 533 B.C. and John the Apostle circa 95 A.D.

### DANIEL IN BABYLON

Daniel, a prophet to Israel and the gentile kingdoms, was historically positioned from the fall of the Davidic Kingdom, 606-605 B.C. He began his prophetic ministry in Babylon about three years after his being taken captive, 603 B.C., and continued until the third year of Cyrus, the Persian, 533 B.C.

The Babylonian captivity itself began in 606-605 B.C. with the fall of Jerusalem, the temple of Solomon in ruins, and God's people led in chains, across barren lands, to that strange and godless city, mighty Babylon. They were to remain there for seventy years, until 536 B.C. as foretold by the prophet Jeremiah 25:11 and 27:10.<sup>2</sup> Though discounted as a fable by

liberals at the beginning of this century, archaeology now confirms the historicity of the Bible account of this exile.

Nebuchadnezzar took Jewish captives back to Babylon on four separate occasions. The first was in 606-605 B.C. during his campaign at Carchemish against Neco the Egyptian Pharaoh. Daniel was in this first group. The second group was taken in 596 B.C. The third captivity took place in 586 B.C., at which time Nebuchadnezzar also destroyed the temple of Solomon. Then "In the twenty-third year of Nebuchadnezzar, Nebazaradan, the captain of the guard, carried into exile 745 Jewish people," Jeremiah 52:30. Since the accession year of Nebuchadnezzar may be placed with some certainty in 606-605 B.C., this final captivity was in 583-582 B.C.

Then circa 536 B.C. after the fall of the Babylonian Empire to the Medo-Persians, Darius the Mede issued a decree which allowed the Jewish captives to return to Palestine.

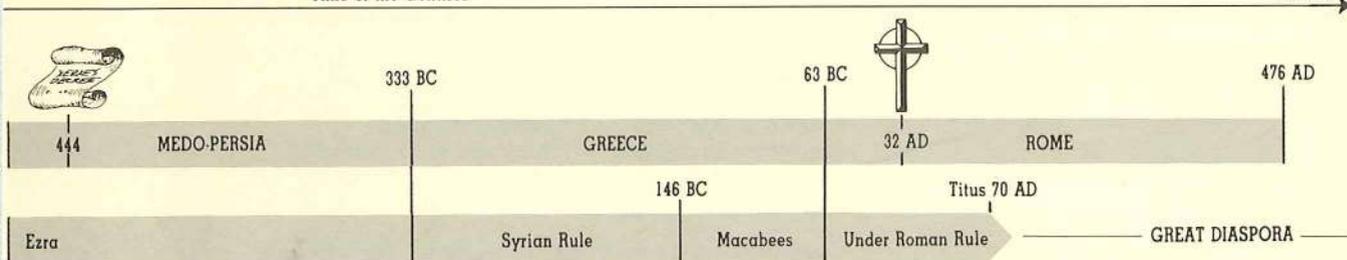
Three years after the Babylonian captivity was over, in the third year of Cyrus, 533 B.C.,

<sup>1</sup>Apocalyptic, from a Greek root word meaning disclosure, usually understood to be in symbolic, visionary, or allegorical language.

<sup>2</sup>The chronology used in this study reflects the conservative position, and may be verified in the Zondervan Pictorial Bible Encyclopedia (1975), Vol. 1, pp. 836-845; or in Halley's Bible Handbook (1978) chronology of the Old Testament.

Time of the Gentiles

1948 AD →



the Lord gave Daniel his final vision of the future. From the rest of the book, we notice that God usually revealed His plans to Daniel in symbolic language, and this last prophecy is no exception.

Daniel 12:11

11 "And from the time that the regular sacrifice is abolished, and the abomination of desolation is set up, there will be 1,290 days."

14

What kind of 1,290 days? Literal? Figurative? Did the Lord mean three and a half of our years, or something else? When did they start? To find out, we first have to look at a fulfilled prophecy that we understand, that uses the same symbolism, a vision like the Seventy Weeks.

First, we will look at 69 of the 70 weeks. The 70th week refers to an entirely different subject which we will study fully in chapter 4.

#### THE SEVENTY WEEKS

Daniel 9:24-26

24 "Seventy weeks" (or seventy sevens) "have been decreed for your people and your holy city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sin, to make atonement for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most holy place.

25 "So you are to know and discern that from the issuing of a decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince, there will be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; it will be built again, with plaza and moat, even in times of distress.

26 "Then after the sixty-two weeks the Messiah will be cut off and have nothing, and the people of the prince who is to come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. And its end will come with a flood; even to the end there will be war; desolations are determined."

Ah-so . . . from the decree to rebuild Jerusalem, until Messiah will be cut off (a Hebrew idiom for killed), will be 7 sevens, plus 62 sevens, or 69 sevens, which equals 483 somethings.

After the Babylonian captivity ended, there were three decrees given to the Jews by their captors. The dating of the first two is not relevant. These first two decrees were about the Jews returning to Palestine and the rebuilding of the temple. But the well established date of the third decree is relevant. This third decree gives Nehemiah permission to *Rebuild Jerusalem!* That's the one we're interested in. That is the one this scripture is talking about.

The decree to rebuild Jerusalem was given by Artaxerxes II in 444 B.C. or possibly 445 B.C. and is recorded in Nehemiah 2:1-8. The city was indeed rebuilt with great difficulty, in troublous times, as that book relates.

Now, 69 literal weeks, or 483 days after the 444 B.C. decree, is only a year and a quarter. Nothing of historic significance is recorded in 442 B.C., certainly no messiah being killed. . . . Whereas Jesus was crucified almost 500 years later. So, if this prophecy is about Jesus, the Lord is using a different time scale to tell Daniel about it. To find out what kind of scale, we look to Ezekiel.

#### ON TIMES

Jewish calendar

12 months  
30 days per month  
360 days per year

Solar (Roman) year

12 months  
30.43666 days per month  
365.24 days per year

#### PRINCIPLE

Scripture in *Hebrew* use Hebrew calendar.  
Scriptures in *Aramaic or Greek* use solar calendar.

#### CONVERSION FACTORS

Jewish to solar year -  $360 \div 365.24 = .985653269$   
Solar to Jewish year -  $365.24 \div 360 = 1.014555556$   
Solar month -  $365.24 \div 12 = 30.43666667$

A prophetic day = Ezekiel 4:6 "a day for each year."

**THE DAY-YEAR**

Ezekiel 4:5-6

- 5 "For I have assigned you a number of days corresponding to the years of their iniquity . . .
- 6 "I have assigned . . . a day for each year."

So the Lord has given us a *New* yardstick to tell prophetic time. He has established the *Day-Year*. In other words, when an Old Testament prophet like Daniel says days, he really means years.

Ezekiel was a prophet exiled in Babylon just like Daniel. The prophecy of Jeremiah, written in Palestine and Egypt, was known to Daniel, as we see from 9:2: — "I, Daniel, observed in the books the number of years which was revealed as the Word of the Lord to Jeremiah" — Since Daniel possessed the book of Jeremiah that had been written in a foreign country, it is inconceivable that he would not also have possessed the work of Ezekiel, written more than 30 years earlier, in his own province. So the scripture that could enlighten him to the *Day-Year* principle was available to Daniel.

Daniel was a Hebrew, probably of the royal family, II Kings 20:18. Hebrew was his language, and so were his customs. This second half of his book is written in Hebrew, so, naturally the calendar he used here would also be a Hebrew one — 12 months of 30 days each for a 360-day year. More on this later.

All of our history is recorded in solar years, 12 months, of 30.44 days, for a year of 365.24 days. That's super important, because we have

to convert what the Lord told Daniel, the Hebrew, to fit our history books.

It sounds complicated, but isn't. We just multiply prophetic days by .9857, and that will give us solar years.

From the decree to restore Jerusalem (444 B.C.) until Messiah the Prince is killed will be 69 sevens.

$69 \times 7 = 483$ Hebrew years	$\times .9857 = 476$ solar years
Artaxerxes II decree	444 B.C.
Crucifixion of Jesus	32 A.D.

The best authorities accept a window of between 29 A.D. and 33 A.D. for the crucifixion. Since we know when the decree of Artaxerxes II was given, to the year, we can now pin the date of the crucifixion to the year. From Qumran we have manuscripts of Daniel circa the second century B.C., so it is provable that this prophecy was not written after the fact.

**THE 1,290 DAYS**

Now that we can see how the *Day-Year* works, let's look at Daniel 12:11 again: "From the time that the regular sacrifice is abolished, and the abomination of desolation is set up, there will be 1,290 days."

The Lord directed Moses to initiate these regular sacrifices during the wilderness wanderings of the children of Israel between 1446 B.C. and 1406 B.C. These regular evening and morning sacrifices continued almost non-stop for about 850 years down into Daniel's own

**THE 69 WEEKS**

"From the decree to rebuild and restore Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince . . . there will be (69) weeks . . . and Messiah will be cut off and have nothing."

1. From the decree  $69 \times 7 = 483$  Hebrew or 476 Solar years.
2. Decree of Artaxerxes 444 B.C.
3. Jesus crucified between 29 and 32 A.D.



444 B.C.  
Artaxerxes Decree

396 B.C.  
Malachi Written  
O.T. Canon Closes



32 A.D.  
The Cross

7 Weeks

62 Weeks

$69 \times 7 = 483 \times .9857$  (factor)  $= 476$  solar years  $- 444 = 32$  A.D.

time. As a child in Jerusalem he had undoubtedly brought offerings to the temple himself. This worship pattern of his continued in Babylon, where he prayed three times a day facing Jerusalem, Daniel 6:10.

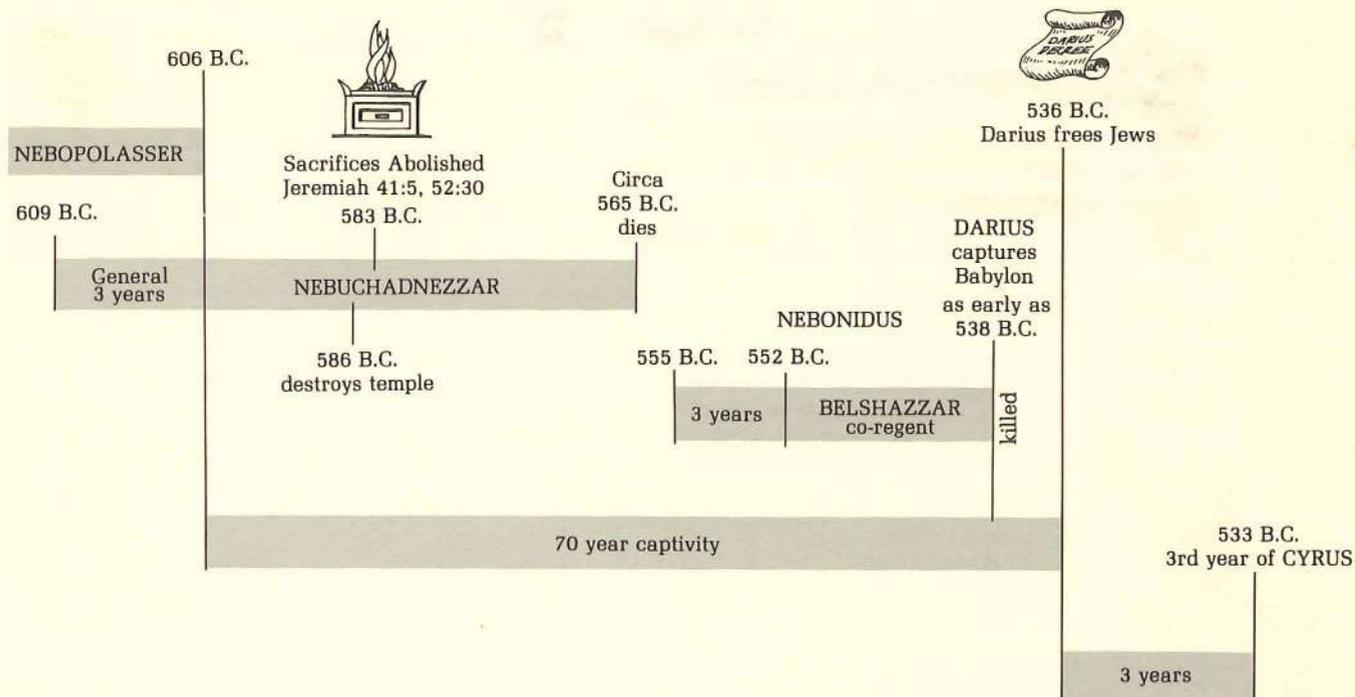
Sometime *during Daniel's lifetime* the regular sacrifices in Jerusalem *were* abolished, and despite opposing views, we have absolutely no reason, either historic or scriptural, for assuming that Daniel is referring to a cessation of sacrifices sometime in the future. This is so important that we must state it again. The regular evening and morning sacrifices were abolished in Daniel's lifetime by Nebuchadnezzar . . . sometime between 606 B.C. and 583 B.C.

When we read prophecy we must set ourselves in the historic setting of the prophet. Daniel saw the priests taken to Babylon. He knew about the temple being destroyed. He knew that sacrifices had stopped in Jerusalem.

We have no reason to think that the Lord was telling Daniel about an event yet to take place, be it 70 A.D., or some future "great tribulation" period. No, the Lord was telling Daniel about an abolition of sacrifices that he knew about. We do not handle the scripture aright when we say that this has to refer to some future event, particularly when we do so to fit some pre-conceived doctrinal position for which there is insufficient scriptural support.

At the beginning of this last prophecy, Daniel 10:1, he states "and he understood the message and had an understanding of the vision." So he understood the *Day-Year*, and must have known when the sacrifices were abolished; but how do *we* know when the 1,290 days started? Nowhere does scripture directly state when the Levitical sacrifices were abolished, so we must deduce this date from what the Bible and history do tell us.

**CHRONOLOGY of the BABYLONIAN EMPIRE**



When the Babylonians took captives into exile, they didn't do so as an ancient world experiment in population relocation. What they did was take the rulers, the educated, the priests, and the artisans so that there wouldn't be anyone in authority left around who could cause a rebellion. Ezekiel, for example, was a priest, so they took the priests.

Daniel, a prince, was in Babylon for the same reason. Early in his career there, he interpreted the dream of the great image for the king, one that the king couldn't even remember. The full story is recorded in Daniel 2. This so astonished Nebuchadnezzar that he promoted him to be governor over the whole province of Babylon, then,

Jeremiah 52:30

30 "In the twenty-third year of Nebuchadnezzar, Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard carried into exile 745 Jewish people . . ."

This was the final captivity. With this captivity, would there be any priests left in Jerusalem who were authorized to make the evening and morning offerings? Most unlikely, thus, the regular sacrifices were probably abolished then.

First Year of Nebuchadnezzar	606 B.C.
23 <sup>rd</sup> Year of Nebuchadnezzar	23
Sacrifices Abolished	583 B.C.

This event took place three years after the temple was burned in 586 B.C., but that wor-

ship was continuing after the temple was destroyed is proved by Jeremiah 41:5. This final captivity could not have been hidden from Daniel, ruler of the province of Babylon, who was daily in the king's court. The year was 583 B.C.!!!

This dear old saint knew, all right, that the sacrifices had been abolished, and it must have broken his heart and the heart of every other exile who loved the Lord. Daniel needed to give no explanation of when the 1,290 days had started. He heard about it with his own ears, and it was common knowledge among his people in exile.

1,290 Hebrew Day-Years × .9857 =	1,271.5 solar years
Sacrifices Abolished	583 B.C.
Dome of The Rock	688.5 A.D.!!!

As you will remember from chapter I, Abd el Malik built the Mohammedan mosque, *The Dome of the Rock*, on the temple mount between 685 A.D. and 705 A.D. This temple to a false god has desecrated that site until this day, thus it is the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet. Four times, as we shall see, the New Testament supports this date and this interpretation.

THE ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION IS THE DOME OF THE ROCK!

We have no reason scripturally to think otherwise, or to think that this is an event still

THE 1,290 DAYS

"And from the time that the regular sacrifice is abolished, and the abomination of desolation is set up, there will be 1,290 days" Daniel 12:11

1. 1290 Hebrew years = 1,271 Solar years.
2. Sacrifices abolished 583 B.C. Jeremiah 41:5 and 52:30.
3. Dome of the Rock constructed between 685 and 705 A.D.



583 B.C.  
Sacrifices abolished



CROSS



Abd El Malik  
Dome of the Rock  
688 A.D.

1,290 Hebrew days = 1,271.49 solar

to come. Jesus Himself thought this abomination to be of sufficient importance to mention in His discourse on the Mount of Olives,

Matthew 24:15-21

- 15 "Therefore when you see the *Abomination of Desolation* which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in *The Holy Place* (let the reader understand),
- 16 "then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains;
- 17 "let him who is on the housetop not go down to get the things out that are in his house;
- 18 "and let him who is in the field not turn back to get his cloak.
- 19 "But woe to those who are with child and to those who nurse babes in those days!
- 20 "But pray that your flight may not be in the winter, or on a Sabbath;
- 21 "for then there will be a great tribulation, such as had not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever shall."

Mark 13:14

- 14 "But when you see the *Abomination of Desolation* standing where it should not be (let the reader understand), then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains."

There are two significant interpretative guideposts included in these quotes. First, in Mark we notice that the abomination is spoken of as an "it." A "he" is a person, but an "it"

can be a structure. Secondly, "let the reader understand." Inconceivable as it might seem, this simple math showing the Dome of the Rock to be the "Abomination," has been hidden from the church throughout history, and, if you, the reader, don't understand and believe, it might still be. But the time of the gentiles is now ended, and since the *End Times* have begun, the book of Daniel is *open* to us, and we can recognize that mosque for what it is.

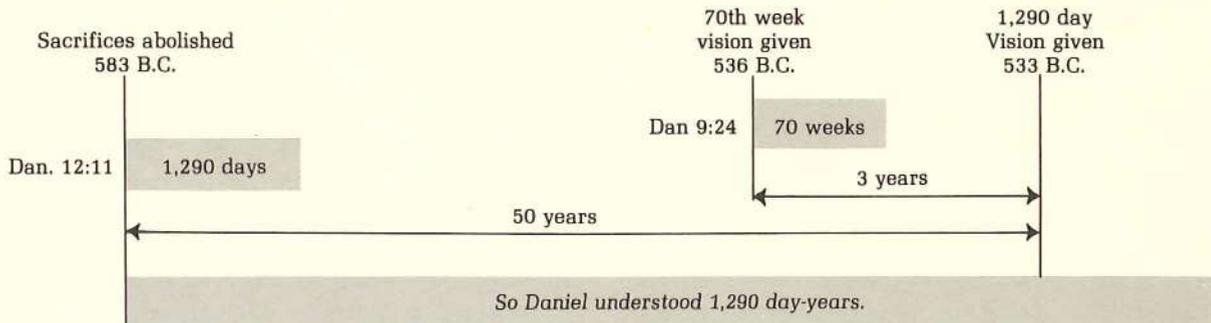
"Let the reader understand." We understand for the first time in the 1,290 odd years that The Dome of the Rock has stood, that it is the abomination of desolation. *Thus the warnings that follow "let the reader understand" are to us, our generation; they can be applicable to no other! We are the generation that understands!* Isn't God's Word wonderful?! He's perfect! All along we have thought the Lord was telling us just to wise up, while He was really telling us *when* to wise up.

THE 1,335 DAYS

Throughout the 7th century the Mohammedan jihad continued unstoppable. The Near East fell, Jerusalem in 648 A.D., then Egypt

DANIEL "HAD AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE VISION." HOW?

- 1. Ezekiel 4:6 "I give you a day for a year." Ezekiel was written in Babylonia 30 years before the vision of the 1,290 days, so Daniel could know about the prophetic day-year.
- 2. The vision of the seventy sevens, given three years before (536 B.C.), was still unfulfilled. If the 69 weeks were literal, this prophecy would have been fulfilled a year and a half before the vision of the 1,290 days.
- 3. If the 1,290 days were literal, the prophecy would have been fulfilled 46 years before God gave it because this vision was given in 533 B.C. and the sacrifices were abolished almost fifty years earlier!



and all of North Africa, Asia (now Turkey), and finally Spain.

Then the Mohammedan hordes entered France, where in 732 A.D. at Poitiers, they met an inferior force of French nobles and peasants led by Charles Martel. The Lord strengthened His little army of Christian knights to defeat the forces of the enemy that day, for the armies of the Lord stood with them in a battle impossible to win. Historians tell us that, but for that battle, Christianity could have been wiped from the face of the Earth.

Daniel 12:12

12 "How blessed is he who keeps waiting and attains to the 1,335 days!" (Counting, of course, from when the sacrifices were abolished.)

How blessed, indeed, is he who waits and attains unto the time when the Lord destroyed the armies of those who, some 40 years earlier, had desecrated His city and His sanctuary.

We now may argue that the final destruction of Jerusalem should not be credited to Titus in 70 A.D. Even though the temple was destroyed by him, there remained a sizable Jewish community in Palestine. The Jews could have continued to sacrifice if they had wanted to, right on up into the 7th century, just as they continued to worship at the site after Nebuchadnezzar destroyed the temple in 586 B.C. The Romans were at war with Jewish political aspirations, not God. In fact, except for a short-lived temple to Jupiter, the temple site re-

mained vacant for more than six centuries.

It is the Mohammedans, 618 years later, who finally destroyed the sanctuary. They are "the people of the prince who is to come." Daniel 9:27 With the Dome, they prevented for all future time sacrifices unto the Lord on God's Holy Hill. How can the Jews sacrifice while that mosque to a false god stands? They can't . . . until Jesus returns.

1,335 Hebrew Day-Years × .9857 = 1,315.9 solar yrs.	
Sacrifices abolished	583. B.C.
Battle of Tours	732. A.D.

19

The Mohammedans are the children of the false prophet who destroyed a third of Christendom. They have been the enemies of Christians throughout history, and today are the implacable enemys of God's chosen people, the Jews, about whom the Lord has said;

Jeremiah 32:37

37 "Behold, I will gather them out of all the lands to which I have driven them in My anger, in My wrath, and in great indignation; and I will bring them back to this place and make them dwell in safety."

Today, at the temple site, the Dome of the Rock still stands, the *Abomination of Desolation*. We, being the generation who understands, will be here when the prophecies which surround its future are fulfilled. Scripture so indicates, as we shall see.

*But, not to worry, brethren,  
God is on the throne.*

#### THE 1,335 DAYS

"How blessed is he who keeps waiting and attains to the 1,335 days" Daniel 12:12.

- 1,335 Hebrew years = 1,315 Solar years.
- Battle of Tours 732 A.D.
- Sacrifices abolished 583 B.C.



Sacrifices abolished  
583 B.C.

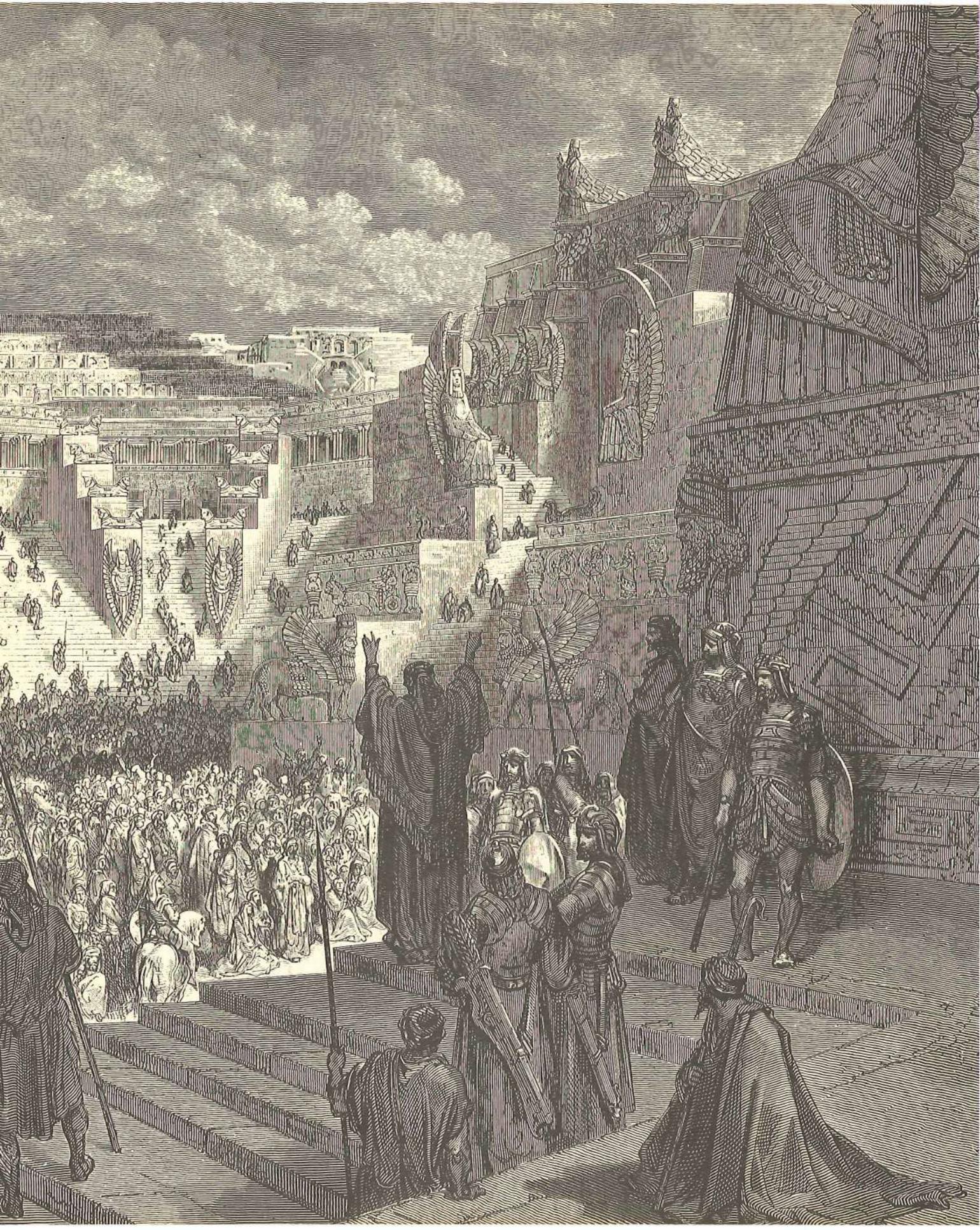


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Battle of Tours  
Charles Martel  
732 A.D.

1,335 Hebrew days = 1,315.84 solar



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## 4 42 MONTHS IS NOT 1260 DAYS

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In 70 A.D. the Roman legions under Titus sacked Jerusalem. Stone by stone they tore down the massive second temple, (the one built by Nehemiah and improved by Herod), until "not one stone stood upon another," as prophesied by Jesus 38 years earlier. This prophecy is found in Matthew 24, Mark 13, and Luke 21.

The destruction of the temple was so complete, that even the memory of its exact location was lost. Over six centuries passed. Then the Mohammedans, using the local populace including the Jews, cleared the rubble from the Temple mount. They found two promontories in the bedrock. "as-Sakhra," on which they built the Dome of the Rock, and a second unusually flat stone some 330 feet north and slightly west of it. Having no science of archeology in those days, guess what?

### THEY BUILT THE DOME OF THE ROCK ON THE WRONG ROCK!!!

It's all the author can do not to shout, and dance around the room. By allowing its total destruction, which hid its location, the Lord protected His Holiest of Holies from the desecration of having a mosque to a false god built over it.

More importantly, if the Mohammedans had not built on the wrong rock, it would be impossible for some of the scriptures we shall study in this chapter to be fulfilled! Now we can prove beyond any reasonable doubt that the 42 months of Revelation 11:2, are months of day-years which have been fulfilled in the church age!

Late archaeological evidence indicates that the Kodesh Ha-Kodashim, or Holy of Holies, in the temple of Solomon was situated under what is

now a little, unimposing cupola called the Dome of the Tablets which stands some 330 feet north of the Dome of the Rock.<sup>1</sup> The mosque itself stands over what was once the *Court of the Gentiles!*

This changes our whole perception of the 42 months and the 1,260 days as recorded in Revelation and markedly alters the way we look at the rest of that book. Now, instead of viewing Revelation as a linear series of visions relating to events in the *End Times*, we will see how it is possible to view the book as a concurrent series of prophecies relating to all of Old and New Testament times. If this is correct, it would indeed be a fitting conclusion to the Bible; the Lord God summing up His dealings with man throughout the ages.

### THE 42 MONTHS

Revelation 11:1-2

- 1 "And there was given me a measuring rod like a staff; and someone said, 'Rise and measure the temple of God, and the altar, and those who worship in it.
- 2 'And leave out the court which is outside the temple, and do not measure it, for it has been given to the nations; and they will tread underfoot the holy city for 42 months'."

"— leave out the court —" The mosque is over the court! The gentiles will tread underfoot the holy city (have rulership over it) for 42 months. Is this to take place in some future tribulation period, or can this have taken place already? Can the Lord be speaking of *Months of Day-Years* here, as He spoke of *Weeks of Day-Years* in the vision of 70 weeks He gave to Daniel?

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<sup>1</sup>Biblical Archaeology Review, March 1983

To find out, we again have to put ourselves in the shoes of the recording prophet . . . in this instance, the apostle John. When Revelation was penned, Palestine had been under Roman rule for 160 years. John's spoken language was Aramaic. Because of the Hellenizing efforts of the rulers of the land for the prior 300 years, he was, culturally, almost a Greek. Revelation was even written in Greek, as is the rest of the New Testament. John was reared on the solar calendar, and since he was a fisherman and not a priest, it is doubtful that he knew any other. So, in interpreting *days* in Revelation, we don't need to convert from Hebrew. John used a calendar almost identical to the one we use today.

Less than two decades ago during the Six Day War, June 1967, the army of New Israel took East Jerusalem. They have been there ever since and will remain so until prophetic moments before the return of Jesus. Israel has total military and political control of its ancestral capitol, the City of David, for the first time in more than 2,575 years.

This is an impossibility. Once a people has been conquered and dispersed, none in world history has maintained its national identity for over five generations, or about 200 years. Yet the Jews have done so ten times over, and have even re-captured their ancient country, that the scripture might be fulfilled.

This 1967 event is an indisputable historic fact that has taken place in our lifetime. So

let's proceed *backwards* from this known event. The holy city, dominated 42 months, of *Day-Years*?

A solar month is 30.44 days:

$$42 \times 30.44 = 1,278.5$$

Jerusalem, freed of gentile control in 1967 A.D.

"trodden underfoot"

$$42 \times 30.44 = 1,278.5 \text{ solar yrs.}$$

Dome of the Rock 688.5 A.D.!!!

So, from the sacrifices being abolished in 583 B.C., the Lord knew and told us when He was going to give Jerusalem back to His people. He told Daniel about the 1,290 days until the mosque would be built, and told John about the remaining 42 months of the time of the gentiles. From the descriptions in context, Revelation 11:1-2 and Daniel 12:11-12, this interpretation is sound, and the mathematical

*This sketch of the Temple mount shows the Mohammedan Mosque "The Dome of the Rock" to be some 330 feet south of the sites for both the first and the second temples. The dotted line shows the position of the Temple of Solomon. Notice that it faces directly at the Golden Gate. The interrupted dotted line shows the position of the temple of Nehemiah which, for reasons unknown, was turned some 6° more easterly. In both temples, the flat bedrock which is now under the little "Dome of the Tablets" was in the Kodesh Ha-Kodashim, or Holy of Holies.*

#### THE 42 MONTHS

"And leave out the court which is outside the temple, and do not measure it, for it has been given to the nations; and they will tread under foot the holy city for 42 months." Revelation 11:2.



Abd El Malik  
Dome of the Rock  
688 A.D.

1. The COURT has been given to the nations.
2. The HOLY CITY is trodden under foot.
3. 42 months =  $42 \times 30.43666 = 1,278.34$ .
4. Jerusalem was freed in 1967.

THE ABOMINATION THAT MAKETH  
DESOLATE CAN NOW BE  
POSITIVELY IDENTIFIED

**THE DOME OF THE ROCK!**



Jerusalem free  
of Gentile domination  
June 1967

42 months = 1,278.34 days

WEST



Stairway to platform

northwestern stairway to platform

Wall of platform

Holy of Holies (Kodesh Ha-Kodashim)

Dome of the Tablets

Holy Place (Kodesh)

House of the Lord

Porch

Hekhal (main building of Second Temple compound)

Altar of Burnt Offering

Temple of Solomon

Court of the Gentiles

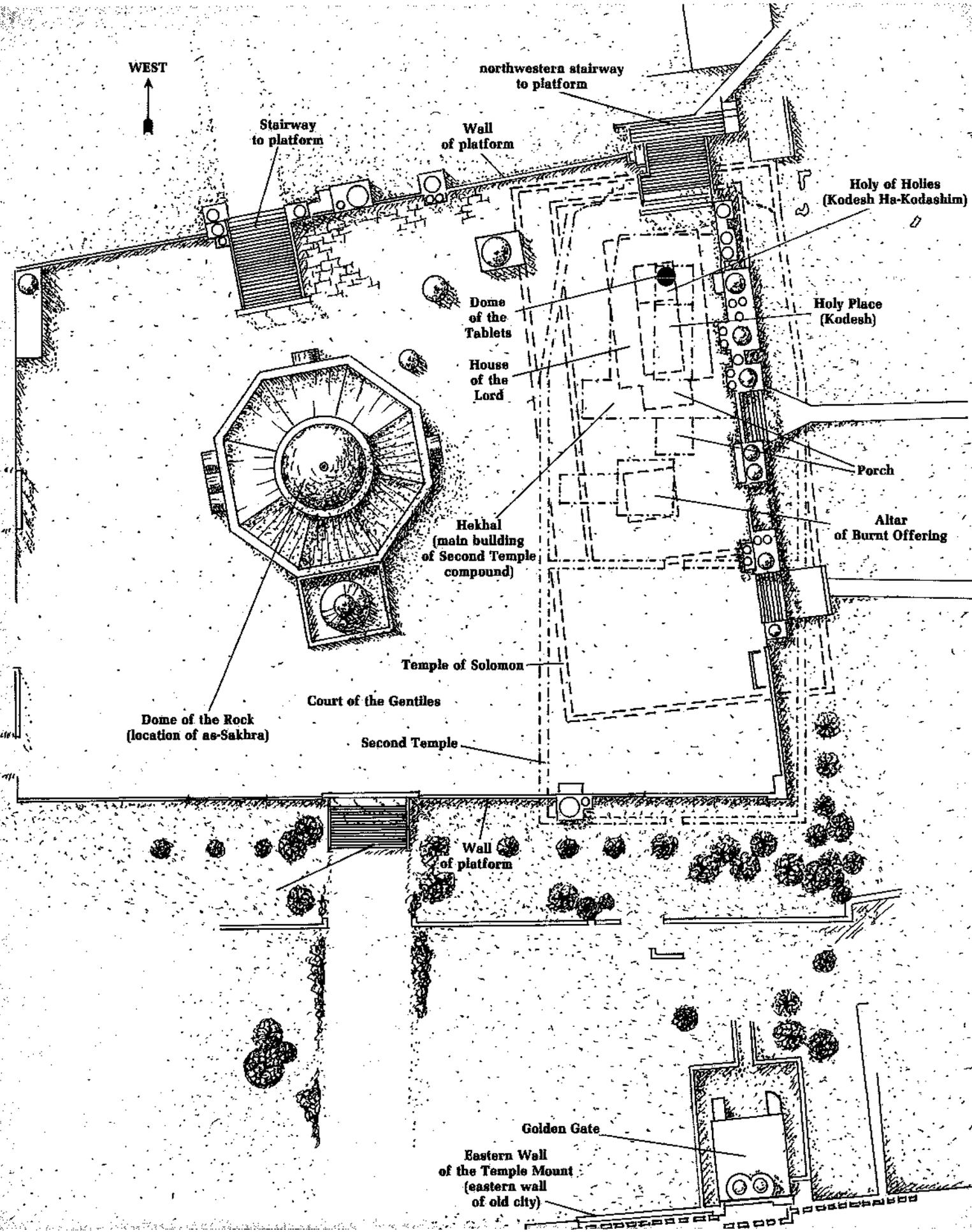
Dome of the Rock (location of as-Sakhra)

Second Temple

Wall of platform

Golden Gate

Eastern Wall of the Temple Mount (eastern wall of old city)



improbability of this being an erroneous view boggles the mind. With the number of variables in over 2,500 years of history, the mathematical odds are somewhere on the order of infinity over one.

As an aside, this puts the liberal position on Daniel in great jeopardy. With an understanding of the time lines here and in further chapters, not to mention the chiasms of chapter 6; a continued denial of Daniel's or Revelation's prophetic message is untenable. Liberal scholars will now have to claim redaction<sup>1</sup> all the way through 1967 A.D., and that might pose quite a problem.

Conservative or liberal, if we keep Jeremiah 41:5 and 52:30 in mind and allow the widest latitude for scholarly difference, we find there is probably only a two year window for disagreement on the 583 B.C. dating of the abolition of sacrifices. . . . Whereas, the window for the construction of the mosque, 685 to 705 A.D., is 20 years, and, regardless of viewpoint, there is no way to miss that window! The 586 B.C. dating of the destruction of the temple is reasonably secure, and the accession of Nebuchadnezzar to the throne of Babylon in 606 B.C. or 605 B.C. is not in question. So, even from positional extremes, we are talking about a maximum of only .00078% of error!

$$\frac{2,550+2,552}{2,550 \times 2,552} = .00078 \text{ maximum \% of error}$$

Despite the foregoing evidence, it is conceivable that the regular evening and morning sacrifices were abolished anywhere from the beginning of the Babylonian captivity, 606 B.C., to the 583 B.C. date chosen by the author; and there are alternate interpretations.

It is possible that the Lord used a 360-day year only for the vision of the 70 weeks. If we use solar years to interpret the 1,290 days,

<sup>1</sup>Redaction: Liberal scholars claim that many of the Old Testament books were edited and re-written after the historic event prophesied in the book had taken place. They claim this so that they will not have to admit to the reality of Bible prophecy.

from 606 B.C. to 583 B.C. would correspond to 684 A.D. through 707 A.D., which is just slightly longer than the total time window of the construction of the Dome of the Rock, 685 A.D. to 705 A.D.! Thus, it is still almost impossible to miss that window. Make no mistake, *the Dome of the Rock is the Abomination of Desolation!*

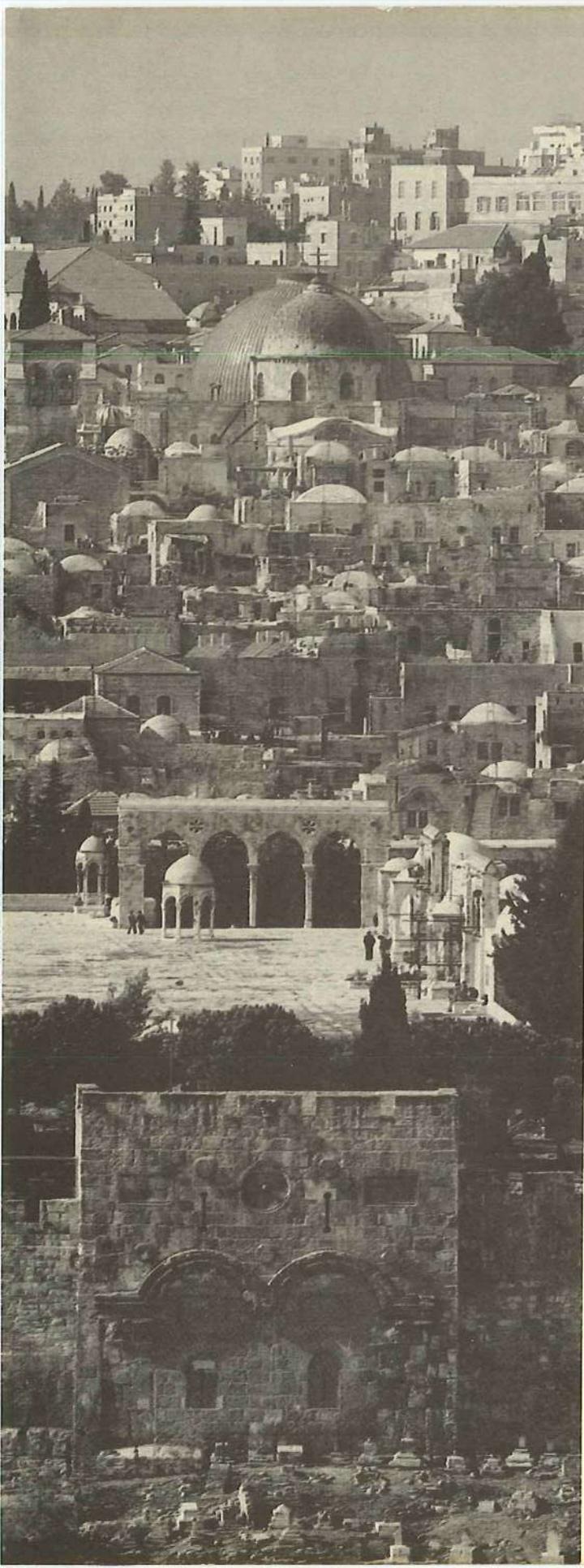
A 360-day calendar was recorded in the Book of the Jubilees discovered at Qumran, and the Hebrew feasts were based on a lunar calendar, the true synodic rate of which is 29.53 days. The Jews themselves considered a month to be 30 days. They added extra days and sometimes an extra month in a cycle that repeated itself every 19 years to keep in tune with the seasons. That the Lord, at least prophetically, also used a calendar of 12 months of 30 days for a 360-day year is provable by the 69 weeks. The Artaxerxes II decree which allowed Nehemiah to rebuild Jerusalem was issued in 444-445 B.C. If we use a true lunar 354 day-year in this 483 Hebrew day-year computation, the crucifixion would have had to take place in 23 to 24 A.D., a date too early for serious consideration, so the 360-day prophetic year stands secure.

If you are careful about your math, you will notice that in some instances decimal fractions are used, rounded out, or dropped. This is for clarity and simplicity sake; otherwise, we would have to compute to months and days, about which many authorities disagree. That endeavor is for those who like that sort of thing. After all, this is primarily a spiritual study, not a mathematical one.

There is further confirmation of the importance of the 688 A.D. date in Revelation. The

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*The Golden Gate pictured from directly East, clearly shows the East/West alignment of the Dome of the Tablets with this historic entrance into Jerusalem. If we were standing on this vantage point during the Davidic Kingdom, beyond the Golden Gate we would see the outer court of the Temple of Solomon, and the entrance to the house of the Lord. We would see the smoke rising from the altar of burnt offering, and the priests about their daily tasks in the service of the Lord.*



Illustration, Courtesy Biblical Archeology Review.

scripture states, "By the mouth of two or three witnesses, every fact may be confirmed." Matthew 18:16. The Bible has given us four confirming voices.

#### THE WOMAN WITH TWELVE STARS

Revelation 12:1-5

- 1 "And a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars;
- 2 "and she was with child; and she cried out, being in labor and in pain to give birth.
- 3 "and another sign appeared in heaven: and behold a great red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads were seven diadems.
- 4 "And his tail swept away a third of the stars of heaven, and threw them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she gave birth he might devour her child.
- 5 "And she gave birth to a son, a male child, who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron; and her child was caught up to God and to His throne."

25

The male child who is to rule all nations that is caught up to God is obviously Jesus, and these verses bring us to the ascension of 32 A.D. Thus, the woman with 12 stars is Israel and the 12 tribes, clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

Revelation 12:6

- 6 "And the woman fled into the wilderness where she had a place prepared by God, so that there she might be nourished for *one thousand two hundred and sixty days.*"

For centuries we know that Israel was dispersed in the nations, here called the wilderness. This was a protection to God's people that lasted until the Third Reich tried to exterminate them.

Jeremiah 30:5-8

- 5 "For thus says the Lord, 'I have heard a sound of terror, of dread, and there is no peace.
- 6 'Ask now, and see, if a male can give birth, why do I see every man with his hands on his loins, as a woman in childbirth? And why have all faces turned pale?
- 7 'Alas! For that day is great, there is none like it; and it is the time of Jacob's distress, but he will be saved from it.

8 'And it shall come about on that day,' declares the Lord of hosts, 'that I will break his yoke from off their neck, and will tear off their bonds; and strangers shall no longer make them their slaves'."

A more moving description of the holocaust would be hard to imagine. "Why do I see every man with his hands on his loins like a woman in childbirth?" God's people, lines of them, naked, cold, shuffling forward to the gas ovens for the final solution; broken, heads bowed, their hands crossed in front of them to hide their shame; beaten, shuffling on. It was the time of Jacob's trouble. How the Lord's heart must have ached for them, having seen in eternity the terrible tortures His people would suffer.

Isaiah 11:11

11 "Then it will happen on that day that the Lord will again recover the *second time* with His hand the remnant of His people who will remain from Assyria, Egypt, Pathros, Cush, Elam, Shinar, Hamath, and from the islands of the sea."

The first return refers of course to the restoration after the Babylonian captivity. The "second time" can refer to nothing in history except the new nation of Israel established in March 1948.

Only three years after the holocaust, out of all that death, New Israel was born, and God called His people home. The Lord prophesied by John that they would be fed in the nations for 1,260 days. Does that fit in day-years?

New Nation of Israel	1948 A.D.
Nourished in the Nations	1260 solar years
Dome of the Rock	688 A.D.!!!

Again, 688 A.D. We may now begin to see how important this temple site is to the Lord. When the Jews were in the nations, the mosque standing there was academic. But they are home now, and can't worship on their ancient, Holy Place. How long do you think the Lord will let the Abomination stand there? Scripture indicates not longer than our own generation.

#### THE WOMAN WITH 12 STARS

"And a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars." Revelation 12:1.

"And she was with child . . . a male . . . who is to rule all nations with a rod of iron . . . her child was caught up to God and to His throne. Revelation 12:2-5.

1. The woman is ISRAEL.
2. The child is JESUS.

"And the woman fled into the wilderness where she had a place prepared by God, so that there she might be nourished for one thousand two hundred and sixty days." Revelation 12:6

1. Woman nourished for 1,260 DAYS.
2. The Hebrew people were no longer in the nations AFTER 1948.



Abd El Malik  
Dome of the Rock  
688 A.D.



Israel returns home  
1948 A.D.

Woman in the wilderness 1,260 days

## THE TWO WITNESSES

Revelation 11:3-4

- 3 "And I will grant authority to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for twelve hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth."  
4 "These are the *two olive trees* and the *two lampstands* that stand before the Lord of the earth."

Another 1,260 days. Surely, since this is talking about two witnesses, this can't be day-years. Nobody lives that long. Fortunately, the scripture tells us *Who* these two witnesses are.

In the Bible, when allegorical language is used to describe something, the allegory is almost always defined somewhere else. The two witnesses are no exception. They are described as *olive trees* and *lampstands*. Now, let's go look for the definition.

Revelation 1:20

- 20 "As for the mystery of the seven stars which you saw in My right hand, and the seven golden lampstands, the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches."

Romans 11:25-25

- 24 "For if you were cut off from what is by nature a *wild olive tree*, and were grafted contrary to nature into a *cultivated olive tree*, how much more shall these who are the natural branches be grafted into their own olive tree?  
25 "For I do not want you, brethren, to be uninformed of this mystery, lest you be wise in your own estimation, that a *partial hardening* has happened to *Israel* until the fulness of the *gentiles* has come in; and thus all Israel will be saved."

There is a reference in Zechariah 4, describing olive trees in a different way; but, by the rule of scriptural adjacency, we don't go into the Old Testament to find an uncertain definition of a New Testament allegory, when there is a good New Testament definition that fits perfectly.

Difficult as it might be for us to accept, the two witnesses described as lampstands, the scripture defines as *churches*. These two churches described as olive trees are defined as the *Jews* and the *gentiles*. So contrary to the

popular opinion that they are the two Old Testament saints Enoch and Elijah, the two witnesses are: *The Jewish people and the gentile church!*

This has to be. You see, if the Jews did not have a partial hardening, so as not to accept Jesus as their Messiah, they would have become Christians and been absorbed into the church. The Jews would have disappeared, and all of those scriptures about the return of the Jews could *not* have been fulfilled!

What a witness the Jews have been. In spite of almost universal persecutions including by the church, they have stood on God's Word, protected the Old Testament, and kept looking for their coming Messiah. The nation of New Israel was established in 1948; that's the time of one witness; but what about us? We are still here.

In the same year that New Israel was established, 1948 A.D., the National Council of Churches was established as an arm of the World Council of Churches; and the main line protestant churches went into apostasy. This was more fully described in Chapter I.

During the last century there has been a falling away of believers unprecedented in the Christian era. What happened to the missionary zeal of the 1800's? Even Biblically sound churches are allowing counterscriptural and worldly behavior that our forefathers shed blood fighting against.

Regardless of what city in the Western world we call home, we can count the humble men of God, who truly teach the gospel of Christ, on the fingers of one hand. The great protestant churches have *died*. Civic duty, social gospel, the Christian and his politics . . . You'll hear a lot of that, all right; but very little of Jesus having died for your sins and mine. The boob-tube, booze, and the economic news have replaced the worship of the living God.

New Israel born	
and the protestant church dies	1948 A.D.
The time of the two witnesses	1260 solar yrs.
Dome of the Rock	688 A.D.

The time of the two witnesses did not start before 688 A.D. because, prior to the Moham-medan jihad, both churches could freely wor-ship in Jerusalem.

#### JUDGMENT COMING

As the time of the gentiles is over, so the time when the gentile church was center stage is over. Ever since Jerusalem was freed, our eyes have been focused there for the soon-coming King. We Christians can feel the expec-tancy in the air. In all history there have been only three truly pivotal events: the creation it-self, the life of Jesus, and His return. We're at one of them. He is "even at the door." Praise God. The time of trial for the church will soon be over.

But the history of the church parallels that of the Davidic kingdom. When the Israelites went after other gods, the Lord, as a just God, allowed judgment to come upon them.

God has not changed. We, too, have gone a-whoring after other gods, the gods of materi-alism and forces, that our fathers knew not.

Ezekiel 9:4-9

- 4 "And the Lord said to him (an angel), 'Go through the midst of the city, even through the midst of Jerusalem, and put a mark on the foreheads of the men who sigh and groan

over all the abominations which are being committed in its midst'.

- 5 "But to the others (angels) He said in my hear-ing, 'Go through the city after him and strike; do not let your eye have pity, and do not spare.
- 6 'Utterly slay old men, young men, maidens, little children, and women, but do not touch any man on whom is the mark; and *you shall start from My sanctuary.*' So they started with the elders who were before the temple.
- 7 "And He said to them, 'Defile the temple and fill the courts with the slain. Go out!' Thus they went out and struck down the people in the city.
- 8 "Then it came about as they were striking and I alone was left, that I fell on my face and cried out saying, 'Alas, Lord God! Art Thou destroying the whole remnant of Israel by pouring out Thy wrath on Jerusalem?'
- 9 "Then He said to me, 'The iniquity of the house of Israel and Judah is very, very great, and the land is filled with blood, and the city is full of perversion; for they say, 'The Lord has forsaken the land, and the Lord does not see!''"

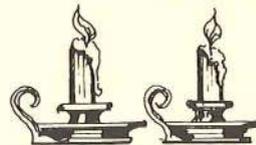
In our day, *the Lord will begin His judgment in the church*, just as He did in Ezekiel's day. But you, brethren, who have His mark; He knows where you are, spiritually and geograph-ically. Surely the Lord knows how to rescue the righteous in the day of trouble.

#### THE 1,260 DAYS

1. The new nation of *Israel* was established March 1948.
2. The *National Council of Churches* joined the *World Council of Churches* in 1948.
3. With the protestant church in apostacy and the Hebrew people home, *the period of the two witnesses is complete.*



Abd El Malik  
Dome of the Rock  
688 A.D.



New nation of Israel established  
Council of Churches  
1948 A.D.

The Gentile church and Hebrew people prophesy for 1,260 days.

THE CHURCH AGE

Revelation 11:3-7

- 3 "And I will grant authority to My two witnesses, and they will prophesy for twelve hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth.
- 4 "These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands that stand before the Lord of the earth.
- 5 "And if any one desires to harm them, fire proceeds out of their mouth and devours their enemies; and if any one would desire to harm them, in this manner he must be killed.
- 6 "These have the power to shut up the sky, in order that rain may not fall during the days of their prophesying; and they have power over the waters to turn them into blood, and to smite the earth with every plague, as often as they desire.
- 7 "And when they have finished their testimony, *the beast that comes up out of the abyss will make war with them, and overcome them and kill them.*"

Now our spiritual eyes can be opened. We can see that throughout the church age the Lord gave His people all power, "Greater works than these shall ye do, for I go unto My Father." We, the church didn't trust the Lord, and forgot to use the power to bind or loose,

and that's part of the reason we are in all this trouble. But as He promised, He gave the power to us all the same.

Revelation 11:8-9

- 8 "And their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city which mystically is called Sodom and Egypt, where also their Lord was crucified.
- 9 "And those from the peoples and tribes and tongues and nations will look at their dead bodies for *three days and a half*, and will not permit their dead bodies to be laid in a tomb."

Here, if anywhere in scripture, is the *Great Tribulation*; and from context it is clear that this prophecy refers to the church. We will be here brethren during this three days and a half. The last trumpet has not yet sounded and we are taken to be with the Lord at the *Last trumpet!* I Corinthians 15:52.

So now, in the end times, that prophecy quoted from Ezekiel will be again fulfilled, for three and a half days, probably *Day-Years* as it has been everywhere else in Revelation; the church will be sorely tested and purified, as if by fire.

SYNOPSIS OF DANIEL'S 1,290 & 1,335 DAYS AND REVELATION'S 42 MONTHS, 1,260 DAYS

Dan. 12:11		1,290 Hebrew years × .98565 = Sacrifices abolished Dome of the Rock		1,271.49 solar years 5,83.00 B.C. 688.49 A.D.!!!
Dan. 12:12		1,335 Hebrew years × .98565 = Sacrifices abolished Charles Martel, Battle of Tours		1,315.84 solar years 583.00 B.C. 732.84 A.D.!!!
Rev. 11:2		42 months × 30.4366 = Jerusalem freed Dome of the Rock		1,278.34 1,967.00 A.D. 688.66 A.D.!!!
Rev. 11:3		Two Witnesses prophesy New Israel established Dome of the Rock		1,260 days 1,948 A.D. 688 A.D.!!!
Rev. 12:6		Woman in the wilderness New Israel established Dome of the Rock		1,260 days 1,948 A.D. 688 A.D.!!!

The word dead bodies is "carcasses" in Greek. The world doesn't understand the spiritual nature of the true church, so they are going to see a lot of empty buildings around, while the true church is in hiding. *The Lord Tells Us What To Do.*

Isiah 26:20-27:1

- 20 "Come, my people, enter into your rooms, and close your doors behind you; *hide for a little while*, until indignation runs its course.
- 21 "For behold, the Lord is about to come out from His place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity; and the earth will reveal her bloodshed, and will no longer cover her slain.
- 1 "In that day the Lord will punish Leviathan the fleeing serpent, with His fierce and great and mighty sword, even Leviathan the twisted serpent; and He will kill the dragon who lives in the sea."

The Lord tells us to hide. This scripture cannot refer to any time but the end . . . "The Twisted Serpent," Satan, will not be judged until then, so this prophecy is to us.

Zephaniah 2:1-3

- 1 "Gather yourselves together, yes, gather, O nation without shame,
- 2 "before the decree takes effect — The day passes like the chaff — Before the burning anger of the Lord comes upon you, Before the day of the Lord's anger comes upon you.
- 3 "Seek the Lord, all you humble of the earth who have carried out His ordinances; seek righteousness, seek humility. *Perhaps you will be hidden* in the day of the Lord's anger."

#### THE END OF THE AGE

Revelation 11:10

- 10 "And those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them and make merry; and they will send gifts to one another, because these two prophets tormented those who dwell on the earth."

The true church did torment the world by exposing their evil, by telling them to flee the wrath to come, to turn to the Lord and away from sin. That's torment to the lost.

Will we have end-time persecution? Scripture says so. Some of us will be killed, as our brethren before us. A servant is not greater

than his master, but *stand fast*, the Lord will not allow us to be tempted above that we are able, and final victory is ours.

Revelation 11:11-15

- 11 "And *after* the three days and a half the breath of life from God came into them, and they stood on their feet; and great fear fell upon those who were beholding them."
- 12 "And they heard a great voice from heaven saying unto them, *Come up hither*, and they went up into heaven in the cloud and their enemies beheld them.
- 13 "And in that hour there was a great earthquake, and the tenth part of the city fell and there were killed in the earthquake 7,000 persons and the rest were affrighted and gave glory to the God of heaven.
- 14 "The second woe is past. Behold the third woe cometh quickly.
- 15 "And the seventh angel sounded (*the Last Trumpet*) and there followed great voices in heaven, and they said the kingdom of the world is become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever."

"Come up here!" That's us; now we are going up to meet the Lord in the air. Note in v. 15, this is the beginning of the eternal kingdom of God.

*So, not to worry, Brethren;  
"We're the apple of His eye," and  
God is on the throne.*

*We are filled with reverence and awe when we realize that under this little cupola, upon the now exposed bedrock, stood the Holy of Holies of the Temple. On this rock stood the Ark of the Covenant. When Solomon dedicated the Temple in 966 B.C., this very space was filled with the Glory of the Lord.*

*The Ark of the Covenant was lost during one of Nebuchadnezzar's sieges of Jerusalem. Jewish tradition states that the prophet Jeremiah took the Ark, and the original Tabernacle, through a secret tunnel under Jerusalem and buried them on Mount Nebo. There is no record of the Ark having ever been in the temple of Nehemiah, still standing when Jesus was on earth. This second temple was totally destroyed by Titus, the Roman General, in 70 A.D. . . . and, as the Bible states, not one stone was left upon another.*





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## 5 TIME, TIMES & THE 70<sup>TH</sup> WEEK

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When we were looking at the 70 weeks in Chapter 2, we saw 69 weeks of day-years lead us to the year of the crucifixion. This day-year interpretation has been generally understood among theologians for some time. However, since the 70th week deals exclusively with the Abomination of Desolation, it seemed wise to wait until we understood what this Abomination was, and when and how it got there, before studying this week in depth. From the preceding two chapters, we now know that *the Mohammedan mosque on the temple site is this Abomination.*

Daniel 9:27 NIV

27 "He will confirm a covenant with many for one seven, but in the middle of that seven, he will put an end to sacrifice and offering, and one who causes desolations will place abominations on a wing of the temple, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him."

Prophecy scholars of the past century have stated, reasonably enough, that this day-year view holds true for the 70th week also. These brethren have theorized that, between the 69 weeks (the crucifixion) and the 70th week, there was to be a time gap of uncertain duration, at the end of which there would be a week, a seven years, of great distress on earth. This now famous theological position is called the *Great Tribulation* period.

Daniel 9:27 is the scripture from whence this doctrine springs. There is no other verse in the Bible that even remotely suggests a seven-year tribulation period, nor does this one when we realize that Daniel 9:27 was written to the Jewish nation.

Nevertheless, from the beginning of the 20th century (hardly the end of time to which

Daniel was sealed), this doctrine has been accepted and taught by most of the evangelical churches.

From this *Seven Year Great Tribulation* doctrine has come a host of other beliefs, some relating to the Jews, some to the church.

1. This view was used to explain the 1,290; 1,335; 1,260 days; the 42 months, and the time, times and half a time appearing in Daniel and Revelation, claiming that these times were either in the first or second half of *The Tribulation*. There are some difficulties in accepting that view which are agreed upon by all. 1,260, 1,290, and 1,335 days are all different time durations, and 42 months is 1,278 days. How can four different time periods refer to the first and second half of a single seven year tribulation? Our God is not uncertain about how long it will be from one event to another.

2. Since there was going to be a *Great Tribulation* and scripture states that we are going to be "taken up to be with the Lord" and "will ever be with the Lord," when would this "rapture" be? These are three popular concepts:

- A. Before the Tribulation  
(called pre-tribulation rapture)
- B. In the middle of the Tribulation  
(called mid-tribulation rapture)
- C. After the Tribulation  
(called post-tribulation rapture)

There are staunch adherents to each view, willing almost to go to the stake in defense of their positions . . . and this made a lot of sense until the events of the last four decades opened our eyes, but there is more.

3. Since sacrifices, according to the great tribulation view, are going to be stopped in the middle of the *Tribulation* week, first they would have to be *started* again.

4. Since they have to be started again, the Jews will have to rebuild their temple. Scripture states that the temple has already been rebuilt in the church. Acts 15:12-18

5. Since the Jews will have to rebuild their temple, the Dome of the Rock has to be destroyed.

All of the foregoing are pillars in the temple of this *Great Tribulation* doctrine, based on a human interpretation of only one verse, Daniel 9:27. Nowhere does God's word state that there will be a seven-year tribulation, so we're like the Pharisees after all, and "by our traditions have made the word of God to no effect."

**THE TIME OF THE GENTILES IS THE 70th WEEK**

From Chapters 2 and 3, we may be certain that the Abomination of Desolation is *not* something *still* to come, but stands in Jerusalem today, and has for almost 1,300 years. We are able to arrive at this conclusion because we now have six knowns that were not available to saints of an earlier time. These *knowns* enable us to look at Daniel 9:27 anew.

1. The new nation of Israel was established in 1948.

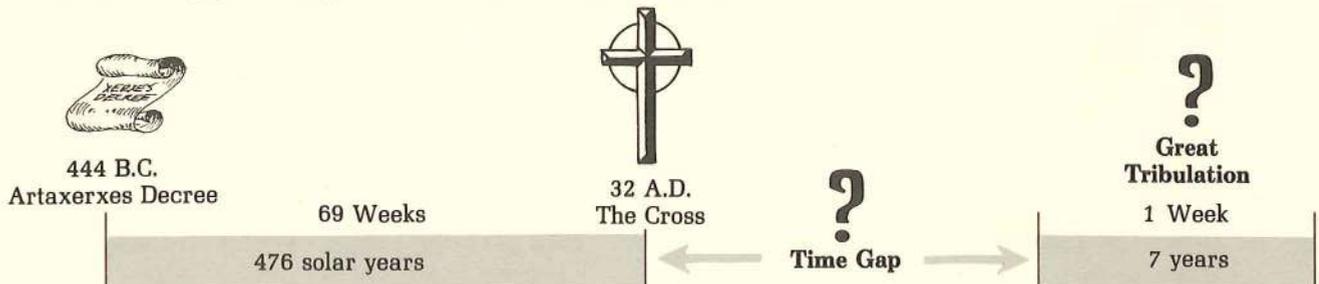
2. New textual discoveries open Daniel 9:27 itself.
3. The time of the gentiles is ended; we are in *end times*. Luke 21:24
4. The 1,290 days of Daniel 12:11 are fulfilled.
5. Thus . . . *the 70th week relates to that mosque!*
6. The Dome was constructed from 685 A.D. to 705 A.D., which then is the *middle of the 70th week!*

That is another statement that has to be made again. Once we recognize that the Dome of the Rock is the Abomination of Desolation, then we really have to look closely at Daniel 9:27. Two key words within it are *abominations* and *desolations* so Daniel's 70th week ought to refer to this mosque. This mosque was built from 685 A.D. to 705 A.D. After it was constructed no Jew could ever again sacrifice on God's mountain, so the Dome absolutely and irrevocably prevented sacrifices. Thus the middle of the week ought to be between 685 to 705 A.D.

To what time frame can this week then refer? Can it be a seven-year period surrounding the construction of the mosque? Now go back and re-read Daniel 12:11 and Daniel 9:27. You will see that the Lord is speaking of the same event and we know that Daniel 12:11 is fulfilled. Is it possible that Daniel 9:27 is speaking of a longer period than seven years, maybe stretching for centuries into the past and future? Who is "he"? How long can this week be?

**THE TRIBULATIONIST VIEW OF THE SEVENTY WEEKS**

This view states that there is a "time gap" of uncertain duration following the fulfillment of the 69 weeks at the crucifixion. At the end of this gap, a Seven-year "Great Tribulation" period is postulated.



Let's give the Bible itself and history a chance to enlighten us. All the scripture quotes so far have been from the new American Standard Bible, but this one quote is taken from the New International Version. The NIV, as it is called, was translated from an eclectic text, meaning that the translators didn't use a single source (the Masoretic text used by most versions), but chose from additional early source manuscripts when the Masoretic text itself was unclear. Also, the NIV uses newer methods of translation which can clear up indistinct areas caused in some instances by scribal errors and omissions. This is one of those instances.

Daniel 9:27 NIV

27 "He will confirm a covenant with many for one seven, but in the middle of that seven, he will put an end to sacrifice and offering, and one who causes desolations will place abominations on a wing of the temple, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him."

If your Bible is a King James, you will read "for the overspreading of abomination he shall make it desolate," or in the New American Standard, "on the wing of abominations one will come who makes desolate."

Neither of those translations has any application either to history or current events that we can understand. What is an "overspreading" or "wing" of abominations?

But the NIV states, "on a wing of the temple." Amazing! We can relate to that . . . that is where the mosque is . . . on a wing, in the Court of the Gentiles! It's not dead center over the temple of Solomon but 330 feet south of it! So how can we now interpret this verse?

In the 70 weeks, the Lord saw that He was sending His Son to earth to die on the cross in 483 Hebrew years, and He told us so in the 69 weeks. He also saw the whole history of His chosen people. He saw that, with the Babylonian captivity now over, the Jews would soon be returning to Palestine as authorized by the decree of Darius, 536 B.C.; but for almost 2,500 more years, their land would be ruled by gentile nations.

He also saw that in the middle of that 2,500 years, an absolute horror would stand on His own temple site, the Abomination of Desolation. This 2,500 years is a long time to us, but to the Lord . . . only a week, and on down in the end times, God wanted us to understand that He's sovereign, and He knew all along what was going to happen. So He hid it in a week, in Daniel's Hebrew calendar, a simple conversion that any child can do in this day of the hand calculator.

In the 69 weeks the Lord used a day equals a year, but in this last week, God is using a different scale, 7 years of day-years, or 7 x 360 Hebrew day-years.

7 x 360 = 2,520 Hebrew	
day-years x .9857 = 2483.96 solar years	
New nation of Israel born	1948 A.D.
Decree of Darius	535.96 B.C.

That is close enough to make your hair stand on end. The decree of Darius to let the Jews go back to Palestine was implemented in 536 B.C. with a maximum window of a year or two earlier. But, was the Dome built in the middle of this 2,483.96 years?

Middle of the week	2,483.96 ÷ 2 = 1241.98
Decree of Darius	536 B.C.
Dome construction completed	705.98 A.D.!!!

If we wish to accept the earlier dating of 537 B.C. or 538 B.C. for this decree, it fits the window even better. Construction was from 685 A.D. to 705 A.D.

When 2,500 years is described as a "week" and we are within a minute or two, that's on time for an appointment by anyone's standard. The language within the verse itself supports this interpretation.

Who then is the "he" to whom the prophet refers? It can't be a man. Nobody lives to 2,484 years. In the rest of Daniel, the Lord goes to great lengths to show us that the war in which we are engaged is primarily spiritual.

Besides showing us some of His angels, Michael, Gabriel and a Christophany (Jesus before He came to earth), the Lord also names two of the satanic princes who stand against Him.

Daniel 10:20-21

- 20 "Then he said, 'Do you understand why I came to you? But I shall now return to fight against the prince of Persia; so I am going forth, and behold, the prince of Greece is about to come.
- 21 'However, I will tell you what is inscribed in the writing of truth. (Yet there is no one who stands firmly with me against these forces except Michael your prince'."

The decree to allow the Jews to return home was issued by Darius the Mede, probably the general Gubaru, in the service of Cyrus the Persian. The Medo-Persian empire then continued until 332 B.C. This empire was influenced by *the Persian satanic prince*.

In 332 B.C. Alexander the Great defeated Darius III Codomannus at the battle of Issus, ushering in the Greek empire. This new world empire was then influenced, undoubtedly, by *the Greek satanic prince*. During the ensuing centuries, the Near East became Hellenized and, by the time of Christ, Koine' Greek had become the common language of the civilized world.

**THE 70th WEEK, A LINIAR HISTORIC VIEW**

"He will confirm a covenant with many for one seven, but in the *middle* of that seven he will *put an end to sacrifice and offering*. And one who causes desolation will place abominations on a wing of the temple until the end that is decreed is poured out on him." Daniel 9:27.

1. The Identity of the Abomination That Maketh Desolate is firmly established by Daniel 12:11 as the *Dome of the Rock* 685 - 705 A.D.
2. The Historical Position of this vision (536 B.C.) is "The first year of Darius" Dan. 9:1.
3. The 70th week is divided "in the midst" by the end of sacrifice.
4. The Abomination is built on "a wing of the temple" — so is the Dome!
5. Mark 13:14 states "When you see it (not him) standing in the *holy place*." (not the Holy of Holies).
6. Scripture does not state what time periods this week is composed of.



Darius 1st year  
536 B.C.

*Seventieth week*

From first year of Darius	
7 x 360 (prophetic year) x factor =	2,483.80
Vision in the first year of Darius =	- 536.00
New Jewish Nation =	1,947.80!!!



1948 A.D.  
New Israel

A Seven Of 360 Day Years    7 = 360 x .9857 = 2,483.8 - 536 = 1947.8 A.D.!!!



536 B.C.  
Decree of Darius

*Midst of the week*

7 x 360 (Hebrew year) x factor =	2,483.80
2,483 ÷ 2 =	1,241.90
Vision in the first year of Darius =	536.00 B.C.
Construction of the Dome of the Rock	
685 - 705 A.D. =	705.90!!!



MIDST OF THE WEEK  
End of Construction  
705 A.D.

2,483.8 ÷ 2 = 1,241.9 - 536 B.C. = 705.9!!!

Throughout the Christian era, Palestine has been dominated culturally, and most of the time politically, by gentile powers under the influence of these two satanic princes. This area is now known to us as the Mohammedan world, and these satanic princes of Persia and Greece still rule there. The satanic domination of Palestine ended in 1948 of course, which is truly what today's upheavals in the Near East are all about. The forces of the enemy see that God's chosen people are home, despite all their efforts through the centuries to prevent this from happening, including the desecration of the temple site, and they know that their time is short.

With the above understanding, it is reasonable to expect that the final satanically empowered "prince who is to come" will be from the Mohammedan world, probably from Syria-Lebanon.

#### TIME, TIMES AND HALF A TIME

We have already seen that the different prophetic times are not just several creative ways of saying  $3\frac{1}{2}$  years. Man might be so shallow as to believe that, but let us not attribute this same lack of depth to the Lord.

1,290 days	=	1,271 solar years
1,335 days	=	1,315 solar years
1,260 days	=	1,260 solar years
42 months	=	1,278 solar years
1 week	=	2,483 solar years
69 weeks	=	476 solar years

Time, times and half a time = ???

No, the Lord our God did not use these different expressions of time to be poetic, but because they mean different time periods.

In Daniel, two different words, one Aramaic and one Hebrew, are used to describe time, times and half a time: "Iddan" and "Moadah". Neither is ever translated years, but is translated as appointed time, appointed meeting, situation, moment, or time. Hebrew has a specific word for year, "Shanah," and that word is not used here. So, when Daniel says time, times, and half a time, what makes us

think the Lord means years? Surely our God knows the Hebrew word for year.

From the 70th week, we saw how the Lord used a week to describe 2,484 years, and "he" was not a man but a satanic prince. Would the Lord use the same allegorical forms again? Would it be possible for time, times, and half a time to describe centuries, or even millenia?

We read in Daniel 7 about the four great beasts which represent the four great kingdoms that throughout time are going to dominate Palestine, at the end of which we come to a ten nation confederation, v. 24, out of which is the "prince who is to come" and then;

Daniel 7:25

25 "And he will speak out against the Most High and wear down the saints of the Highest One, and he will intend to make alterations in times and in law; and they will be given into his hand for a time, times, and half a time."

First, who speaks out against the Most High? Satan! Second, who in Daniel's day were the *saints*? When this was written, the church was still 580 years in the future. . . . Why then, this reference has to refer to the Old Testament saints, the Jewish people. What about this, "and he will intend to make alterations in times and in laws"? In 321 A.D. Constantine, the Roman emperor, changed the usual church Sabbath worship day to Sunday to coincide with his pagan sun worship. Some translations even say, "he shall make alterations in times and in feast days" which spells it out even clearer. It is interesting to note that the church is concerned about all of the ten commandments except the fourth. "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy." The Sabbath is the seventh day of the week, not the first.

So, now we can postulate that the Jews will be given into Satan's hands for a time, times and half a time, and feast days will be changed.

The new nation of Israel was born in March 1948, and the Jews are no longer in Satan's hand. . . . Thus, this prophecy could be fulfilled, but how can we relate this to history?

Let's look at the Hebrew language again. Scholars tell us that time, times, and half a time

can be a Hebrew idiom and cite several Old Testament examples of similar phrase structures.

“For God Speakest once, yea twice” Job 33:14  
 “Once I have spoken, yea twice” Job 40:14  
 “Guarded more than once or twice” II Kings 6:10

38

Here we have “once” meaning “one” and “twice” meaning “once more,” for a total of two. In the same way, time equals one; if you add one more, the total is times; and a half more equals 2½ times. Idiomatic language is easier to understand than it is to explain, but from the above, you can see that the Lord might not be talking about 3½ years, but 2½ somethings He calls “times.”

We read in Daniel 8:12, “As for me, I heard but could not understand, so I said, My Lord, what will be the outcome of these things?” As we have seen, Daniel could have understood day-year but not time, times and half a time. Why?

Daniel understood day-year because he read the scripture, and was familiar with Ezekiel 4, but “time” was not to be described for another 580 years, so he couldn’t know. The source for his spiritual understanding then was the same as it is for us today — God’s Word.

II Peter 3:8

8 “But do not let this one fact escape your notice, beloved, that with the Lord *one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.*”

Now, the Greek word for day is “hemera” and it is so translated in numerous places in the New Testament. However, in 12 instances (NASB), “hemera” is translated “time”! So, let’s look at II Peter 3:8 again in that light. “A Time with the Lord is as a thousand years.” Now we are getting somewhere! Two and a half times could equal 2,500 years. Since that insight was given to Peter, who like John was under the solar calendar, we don’t need to convert from the Hebrew.

When do the 2,500 times begin then? When was the prophecy given? Daniel 7:1 states, “In the first year of Belshazzar, Daniel saw a dream . . .” Though scholars are not in firm agreement, the first year of Belshazzar was circa 552 B.C.

Jews given into Satan's hand	
time, times and half a time =	2,500 solar years
First year of Belshazzar	552 B.C.
New Israel	1948 A.D.!!!

Isn’t that remarkable?! From the time the Lord gave the vision to Daniel until the Jews were back in their homeland was exactly 2,500 years, plus or minus nothing, and the church now worships on Sunday! But, exciting as this might be, God gives confirmation of this interpretation from Daniel’s final vision given him in the third year of Cyrus, 533 B.C.

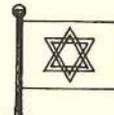
TIME, TIMES, AND HALF A TIME . . . DANIEL 7:25

“And he will speak out against the Most High and wear down the saints of the Highest One . . . alterations in times and law . . . they will be given into his hand for a time, times and half a time.

1. Vision given in first year of Belshazzar, Daniel 7:1.
2. Satan speaks against God.
3. Jews under gentile control until 1948.
4. Sabbath worship changed to Sunday.



552 B.C.  
 First Year of Belshazzar



1948 A.D.  
 New Israel

Time, Times and Half a Time = 2,500 years - 552 B.C. = 1948 A.D.

Daniel 12:1-7

- 1 "Now at that time Michael, the great prince who stands guard over the sons of your people, will arise. And there will be a time of distress such as never occurred since there was a nation until that time; and at that time your people, everyone who is found written in the book, will be rescued.
- 2 "And many of those who sleep in the dust of the ground will awake, these to everlasting life, but the others to disgrace and everlasting contempt.
- 3 "And those who have insight will shine brightly like the brightness of the expanse of heaven, and those who lead the many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.
- 4 "But as for you, Daniel, conceal these words and seal up the book until the end of time; many will go back and forth, and knowledge will increase'.
- 5 "Then I, Daniel, looked and behold, two others were standing, one on this bank of the river, and the other on that bank of the river.
- 6 "And one said to the man dressed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, 'How long will it be until the end of these wonders?'
- 7 "And I heard the man dressed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, as he raised his right hand and his left toward heaven, and swore by Him who lives forever that it would be for a *time, times, and half a time*; and as soon as they finish shattering the power of the holy people, all these events will be completed."

So, to the end of the wonders described in this last vision will be time, times, and half a time beginning in 533 B.C. when this vision was given to Daniel.

Time, times and half a time  
to the end of these wonders = 2,500 solar yrs.  
Vision of the third year of  
Cyrus, the Persian = 533 B.C.  
Jerusalem Freed = 1967 A.D.!!!

But, wait a second; Michael hasn't arisen; the dead have not been raised; Jesus has not come. How can this be the correct interpretation? Let's read that very last phrase again, ". . . and as soon as they finish shattering the power of the holy people, all these events will be completed."

The nation of New Israel is, as of this writing, victorious; and we saints, as spiritual Israel, here in our own country and abroad, have not had our power shattered yet. But as the weaker brethren continue to long for the fleshpots of Egypt, and as surely as God's word will stand, it's coming; it's coming. The Lord will not let one jot or tittle of his word fall to the ground until all is fulfilled. But as for you, those who long to see His face, who sigh and groan over the abominations committed in your midst, who have His mark upon your forehead . . . "Here is the perseverance of the saints who keep the commandments of God and their faith in Jesus."

*And not to worry,  
not a sparrow falls  
without our Father knowing,  
and God is on the throne.*

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**TIME, TIMES, AND HALF A TIME . . . DANIEL 12:7**

" . . . it would be for a time, times and half a time; and as soon as they finished shattering the power of the holy people all these events would be completed.

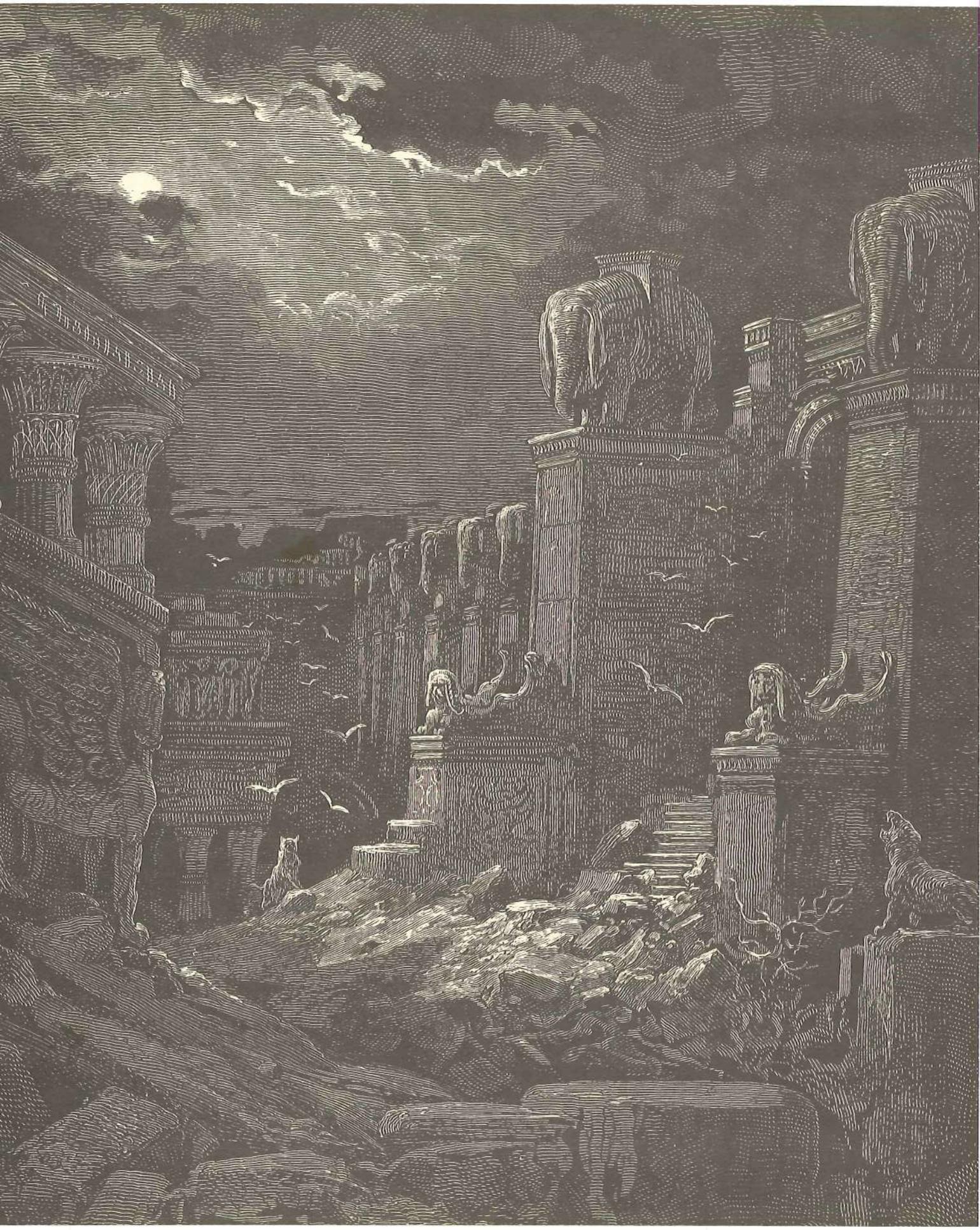
1. Vision given in 3rd year of Cyrus, Daniel 10:1.
2. All events of this vision not completed until power of holy people shattered.
3. Jerusalem freed in June 1967.

533 B.C.  
Third Year of Cyrus



1967 A.D.  
Jerusalem Freed

Time, Times and Half a Time = 2,500 years - 533 B.C. = 1967 A.D.



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## 6 THE LAST TRUMPET

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When this book was undertaken, "it was in my mouth sweet as honey, but it made my stomach bitter." No one likes to think about a tribulation scenario if he is going to be in it. We always hope that tribulation will be 10,000 miles away and happening to somebody else. For the Christian, final victory is ours, of course, but in the interim, there are some terrible trials coming upon the earth before Jesus returns, trials in which at least some of the church will play a part. If these thoughts disturb you, skip to the next chapter.

Luke 21:25-28

- 25 "And there will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and upon the earth dismay among nations, in perplexity at the roaring of the sea and the waves,
- 26 "men fainting from fear and the expectation of the things which are coming upon the world; for the powers of the heavens will be shaken.
- 27 "And then will they see *the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.*
- 28 "But when these things begin to take place, straighten up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

It should be more than just of casual interest to saints to understand where we will be in all this. Will we be here on Earth? If so, will the Christians in the United States be persecuted? "Behold, I have told you in advance." Matthew 24:25.

In the preceding chapters, all scriptures used to formulate the seven-year *Great Tribulation* belief are shown to have been historically fulfilled. If they have been, and the mathematics certainly make it appear so, then there remains no scriptural support for a defined seven-year Tribulation belief, unless we have a double

reference, which, from context, seems unlikely.

As a result, how can there be a pre- or mid-*seven-year Tribulation* rapture? Obviously inconsistent. As a further outgrowth, it is not necessary for the Dome of the Rock to be destroyed so that the temple can be rebuilt, nor for sacrifices to be restarted so that they can be stopped in the middle of the "week."

In the past these have been thought of as events that had to take place prior to the return of Jesus, but they may *never* happen. We have been looking for the wrong signs of His coming. As stated earlier, Acts 15:12-18 makes it clear that the temple has been rebuilt in the church.

When is the tribulation as spoken of in scripture? How long will it last? Let's see what the Bible says about these things.

### TRIBULATION, THE CHURCH AGE

Revelation 1:9 (NASB)

- 9 "I, John, your brother and fellow-partaker in *The tribulation and kingdom and perseverance which are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos, because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus.*"

In 95 A.D. John was on the Isle of Patmos "for the testimony of Jesus" and while writing Revelation there knew that he at that time was in *The tribulation*. The Holy Spirit inspired him to so state in scripture.

Earlier in this book in our synopsis of church history, we have seen that *never* have the saints been spared persecution or tribulation. In fact, nowhere does the Lord inspire any of the New Testament writers to even suggest such a thing; just the opposite is true:

John 16:33

33 "These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world."

Romans 5:3

3 "And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations; knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance;"

Romans 12:12

12 "Rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer,"

II Timothy 3:12

12 "And indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted."

These are a few of many proof texts. Additionally, the book of Acts is full of accounts of persecution, starting with the stoning to death of Stephen just shortly after Pentecost. For a Christian, tribulation is the norm, not the exception. Again, from the II Timothy 3:12 quote above, we note that it is absolutely *guaranteed* to follow those who just *desire* to live Godly lives.

Imagine telling the saints in arenas throughout the Roman empire, being trampled by elephants and eaten by lions, while others of the brethren, wrapped in straw and soaked in oil, were impaled on poles and set afire to light these festivities; yes, imagine telling them that they weren't in *the* tribulation; or the hundreds of thousands who were burned at the stake, or sawn in two, or ripped apart on the rack, or the six million Jews in the death camps . . . imagine telling them. Preposterous! How bad does it have to be to merit "tribulation" status?

Saints by the millions have died by every means at Satan's disposal . . . by every method that sinful man, under his influence, has invented to murder his brother. For details, read Fox's "*Book of Martyrs*." The tribulation began with the crucifixion of the Lord Jesus Himself, the first martyr, and continues unto this day, sometimes worse, as during the holocaust, sometimes less, as it is now in our country, but always present and it will continue until Satan is finally defeated and Jesus reigns as King.

We have been so insulated from our history by the efforts of the enemy that we have forgotten the centuries of suffering brethren, our spiritual forefathers. They earnestly asked the Lord for a haven from oppression. The Lord then graciously provided one on this side of the Atlantic. Sadly, as we as a nation fall away from the Lord, we are turning this land back over to the enemy, and there is no place left to which we may flee. "And every island (of safety) fled away." Rev. 16:20.

To date, our country has been spared tribulation because of these fathers and because there are some who have not bowed the knee to Baal. But the world has not changed nor has the enemy. This country, the church within it, the people, all have changed. Oh, how sad. With religious freedom came haters of God, enemies of the gospel, those who wished to destroy; and they have led the people astray.

The battle is not East against West, or Mohammedan against Jew, but Satan against the Living God; it has always been so. This battle is growing continually more intense, the lines of conflict clearer, more defined, and closer to home. They aren't in Africa or Lebanon or some other remote corner of the globe any more; they are on Your Street, U.S.A. . . . alcoholism, promiscuity among our children, drug abuse, pornography, adultery in the home, and epidemic child abuse.

One-fourth of the world is on the edge of starvation, yet we squander the bountiful riches over which God has made us stewards on fancy homes, fancier cars, and vacations to far away places. But then we need not go so far afield; sometimes our brother for whom Christ died, sitting over there in the very next pew, doesn't even know where his next meal is coming from. . . . the paradox is that the United States and the rest of the western Christian nations are the richest lands on earth.

James 5:1-3

- 1 "Come now, you rich, weep and howl for your miseries which are coming upon you.
- 2 "Your riches have rotted and your garments have become moth-eaten.

3 "Your gold and your silver have rusted; and their rust will be a witness against you and will consume your flesh like fire. *It is in the Last Days that you have stored up your treasure!*"

Do we turn away from these things? No, instead we seek teachers after our own lusts, who tell us we are doing just fine. We don't grasp the true spiritual condition of the church as God sees it, and hide our eyes from the awareness that we will be here until the very end of this age.

The forces of the enemy are marshalling for the final battle. Attacks on church and individual saint are multiplying and increasing in intensity until, at the every end, we will surely be required to strive against sin unto blood. Against these forces, we have been disarmed by the enemy with a false sense of security, and some are saying, "Don't worry about a thing brother, when the going gets really rough, we're going to be raptured out." In all of recorded history, regardless of how the saints have suffered, the Lord *has not* raptured out a single soul, any more than He spared His own Son. Did He love them any less than He does us?

The pre-tribulation rapture position is dangerous, and robs the church of the fear of being in sin, or of being worldly. If we're going to be raptured out, we don't need continual repentance or sanctification. We don't need to work out our own salvation with fear and trembling, nor pray that we might be counted worthy to escape these things that are to happen in the earth. We can continue on safe in the knowledge that, as long as we are saved, nothing too bad is going to happen to us. Oh, my brethren, "Judgement *begins* at the house of God."

Some have said, "Our parents who have gone to be with the Lord and our pastors don't believe this . . . How do we suddenly know that we are going to be here until the end of all things? You are just another doomsday nut, a false prophet like you accuse others of being. . . ."

Not so brethren, for several reasons. First, not a single prophet of the Old Testament went to the Jews and said, "you are doing just fine,

and despite the fact that you have worshiped idols and turned away from God, He will protect you anyway." Yet, this is where the church is today — we have turned against the Lord, and gone our own way, but we expect Him to protect us anyway. The Lord surely brought judgment on Israel, and He will on us. He is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Second, the events in Palestine of the last four decades have given us *new* insight into God's word. Third, most ministers of the gospel are so busy just keeping the flock together that they have little time for lengthy historoscriptural studies; and they teach what they learned in seminary *before* the Word was opened. In every other time in history, that was all right; but not now.

Now in the *end times*, the church needs to know what's going to happen. If the seven-year tribulation doctrine and the pre-tribulation rapture positions are incorrect, and the enemy thought these views important enough to get into the church, we saints should be open minded to the truth and just as concerned about getting them out. Fortunately, scripture is open now and very clear on the subject.

#### THE LAST TRUMPET

I Corinthians 15:51-52

- 51 "Behold, I tell you a mystery; we shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,  
52 "in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the *last* trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed."

The last trumpet! There can be only *one* last trumpet, and there can't be any more trumpets *after* the last trumpet, so every other trumpet must be *before* the last trumpet.

That seems so simple that it hardly needs explaining, but this simple truth of I Corinthians 15:52 does more to aid our understanding of end time chronology than any other single verse in scripture. Later on we shall look at Revelation 10:6-7 which should be studied in conjunction with this verse in I Corinthians,

but right now let's look at Jesus' own words on the Mount of Olives:

Matthew 24:21-31

- 21 "For then there will be a *Great Tribulation*, such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever shall.
- 22 "And unless those days had been cut short, no life would have been saved; but *for the sake of the elect* those days shall be cut short.
- 23 "Then if any one says to you, 'Behold here is the Christ,' or 'There He is,' do not believe him.
- 24 "For false Christs and false prophets will arise and will show great signs and wonders, so as to mislead, if possible, even the elect.
- 25 "Behold, I have told you in advance.
- 26 "If therefore they say to you, 'Behold, He is in the wilderness,' do not go forth, or 'Behold, He is in the inner rooms,' do not believe them.
- 27 "For just as the lightning comes from the east, and flashes even to the west, so shall the coming of the Son of Man be.
- 28 "Wherever the corpse is, there the vultures will gather.
- 29 "But immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will fall from the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken,
- 30 "and then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky with power and great glory.
- 31 "And He will send forth His angels with a *Great Trumpet* and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other."

Notice the order of events in this passage of scripture, an order that is verified almost word for word in Mark 13:19-27.

V. 21 *Great Tribulation*

V. 22 Days cut short for the elect's sake. "*Elektos*" is a New Testament Greek word used exclusively to refer to the church; not the Jews.

V. 24 False signs and false prophets will arise.

V. 29 After the tribulation, the sun and moon will be darkened.

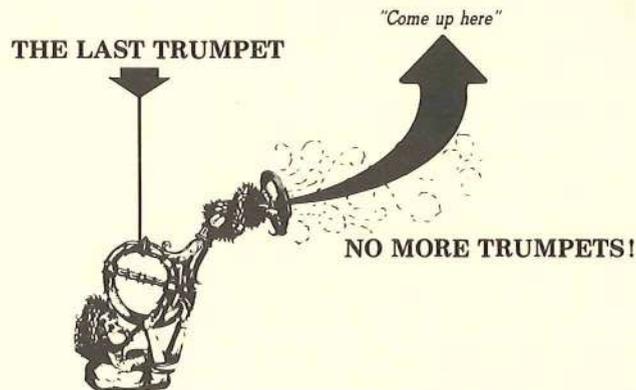
V. 30 Then the Son of Man will appear.

V. 31 He will gather His elect with a *Great Trumpet*.

Since the church will be taken up at the *last trumpet*, this *Great Trumpet* either has to be *our trumpet*, or our trumpet would have to come *after* it. Now notice that *Great Tribulation* is way back in v. 21, to support a pre-tribulation rapture position we would have to re-write the scripture and place v. 31 before v. 21!!!

Irrefutable as this argument may be, the Lord kindly gives us more than one proof text. In Revelation 8 through 11, John records the vision of the seven trumpets. According to many theologians, the first five refer to various plagues; the sixth foretells the battle of Armageddon, which is the final battle between Satan and Jesus as He returns to the earth as King. Now read I Corinthians 15:52 again.

Since our trumpet is the *last trumpet*, six of the seven trumpets in Revelation 8 through 11 *must* be fulfilled before ours is sounded. Let's say that again: six of the seven trumpets must





events must take place in the church age, or God's word in Revelation 10:6-7 can not stand! Sometimes we wonder how we have missed these things through the centuries. It is God's living word, and He opens our eyes to spiritual understanding in *His* own time.

There will be scriptures the Lord will probably not allow us to understand until the final moments of this age. We won't understand them then if we don't stay in the Bible and be willing to let the traditions go.

**THE FIG TREE**

We now know that we will be here right to the end; but when will the end be? Scripture doesn't say *exactly*, but the Lord has given us some good clues.

I Kings 4:25

25 "So Judah and Israel lived in safety, every man under his vine and his fig tree, from Dan even to Beersheba, all the days of Solomon."

Jeremiah 24:5

5 "Thus says the Lord God of Israel, 'Like these good figs, so I will regard the captives of Judah, whom I have sent out of this place into the land of the Chaldeans.'"

Time and again in the Old Testament the Lord uses the fig tree as an allegorical type of the Jews. He continues to do so in the gospels.

Mark 11:12-14

12 "And on the next day, when they had departed from Bethany, He became hungry.  
13 "And seeing at a distance a fig tree in leaf, He went to see if perhaps He would find anything

on it; and when He came to it, He found nothing but leaves, for it was not the season for figs.

14 "And He answered and said to it, 'May no one ever eat fruit from you again!' And His disciples were listening."

Mark 11:20-22

20 "And as they were passing by in the morning, they saw the fig tree withered from the roots up.

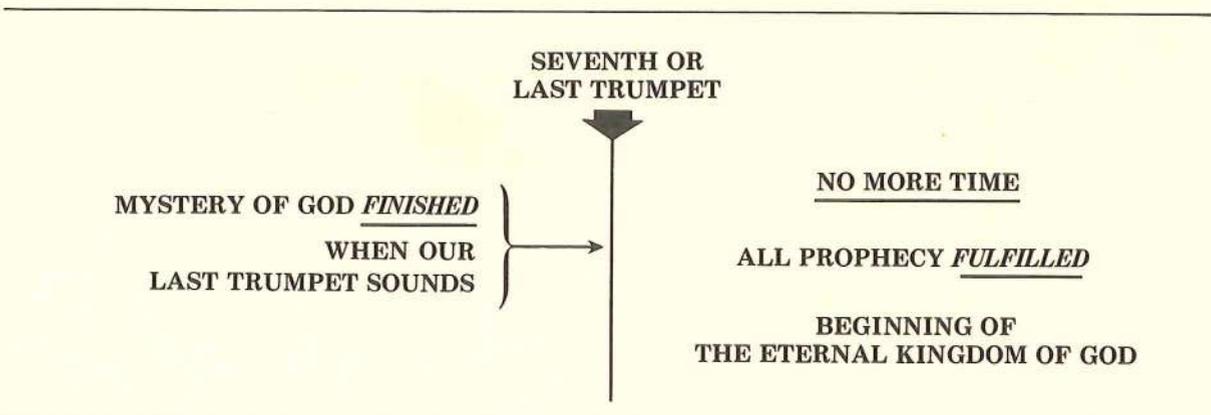
21 "And being reminded, Peter said to Him, 'Rabbi, behold, the fig tree which You cursed has withered'.

22 "And Jesus answered saying to them, 'Have faith in God.'"

During His life on earth, Jesus saw that His chosen people, the Jews, were not bringing forth spiritual fruit unto righteousness. The gospels tell of His many conflicts with the religious leaders of His day. Jesus was shortly to go to the cross which would usher in the church age and bring an end to the old Levitical code. Centerstage from then would be the New Testament saints, spiritual Israel.

Now Jesus did not curse the fig tree because He was mad at it. The Lord cursed the fig tree to show us this spiritual message allegorically, and, for a sign of the end. In v. 22 is one of the strangest responses in scripture. After Peter remarked about the fig tree dying from the roots up, Jesus said "Have faith in God." What can faith in God have to do with a dead fig tree?

Well, when we understand the fig tree represents the Jews, the Lord is saying that this dead Jewish nation will come back to life and



to believe God for it. At the time Peter did not understand these spiritual implications, but we do now. Through the church age, that fig tree (the Jews) was dispersed among the nations (withered) and continued so until it came back to life as New Israel in March 1948 A.D.

Matthew 24:32-35

- 32 "Now learn the parable from the fig tree: when its branch has already become tender, and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near;
- 33 "Even so you too, when you see all these things, recognize that He is near, right at the door.
- 34 "Truly I say to you, *this generation will not pass away until all these things take place.*
- 35 "Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words shall not pass away."

Though some scholars believe longer, according to Jewish tradition a generation is considered to be about forty years. Beside tradition, there are several scriptural indications for this generation length. First, prior to His death, Jesus prophesied that the temple would be destroyed before a generation had passed; 38 years later it was. Second, there are twelve generations recorded between the Exodus, 1446 B.C., and Solomon's temple, 966 B.C., (See *I Kings 6:1*) which is  $480 \text{ years} \div 12 = 40$  . . . forty years to a generation.

In 1948, when New Israel came into being, allegorically speaking, the fig tree that Jesus cursed had become tender and put forth leaves. But, in 1967, Jerusalem itself was freed of gentile domination, so which of these dates should we use? Hard to tell; but it is likely that within 40 years of one of these two dates, we shall see Jesus standing on the Mount of Olives as King of kings and Lord of lords.

To complicate matters, Matthew 24:22 states: "These days will be cut short for the elect's sake." The Lord chose not to tell us by how many days, so we can't figure when he is coming, and this is what the Lord intended.

It is counter-scriptural to predict the return of Jesus to a given date. "But of that day and hour no one knows . . . but the Father alone." Furthermore, it is possible that the Lord has

some *entirely different* event in mind when He spoke of the fig tree budding. However, *all* scriptural day-years, months, and times, have been fulfilled with these two events, so these conclusions are not unreasonable. Jesus severely criticized the religious leaders of His own day because they did not recognize the signs of the times, and, unfortunately, that same criticism holds true for many of us today.

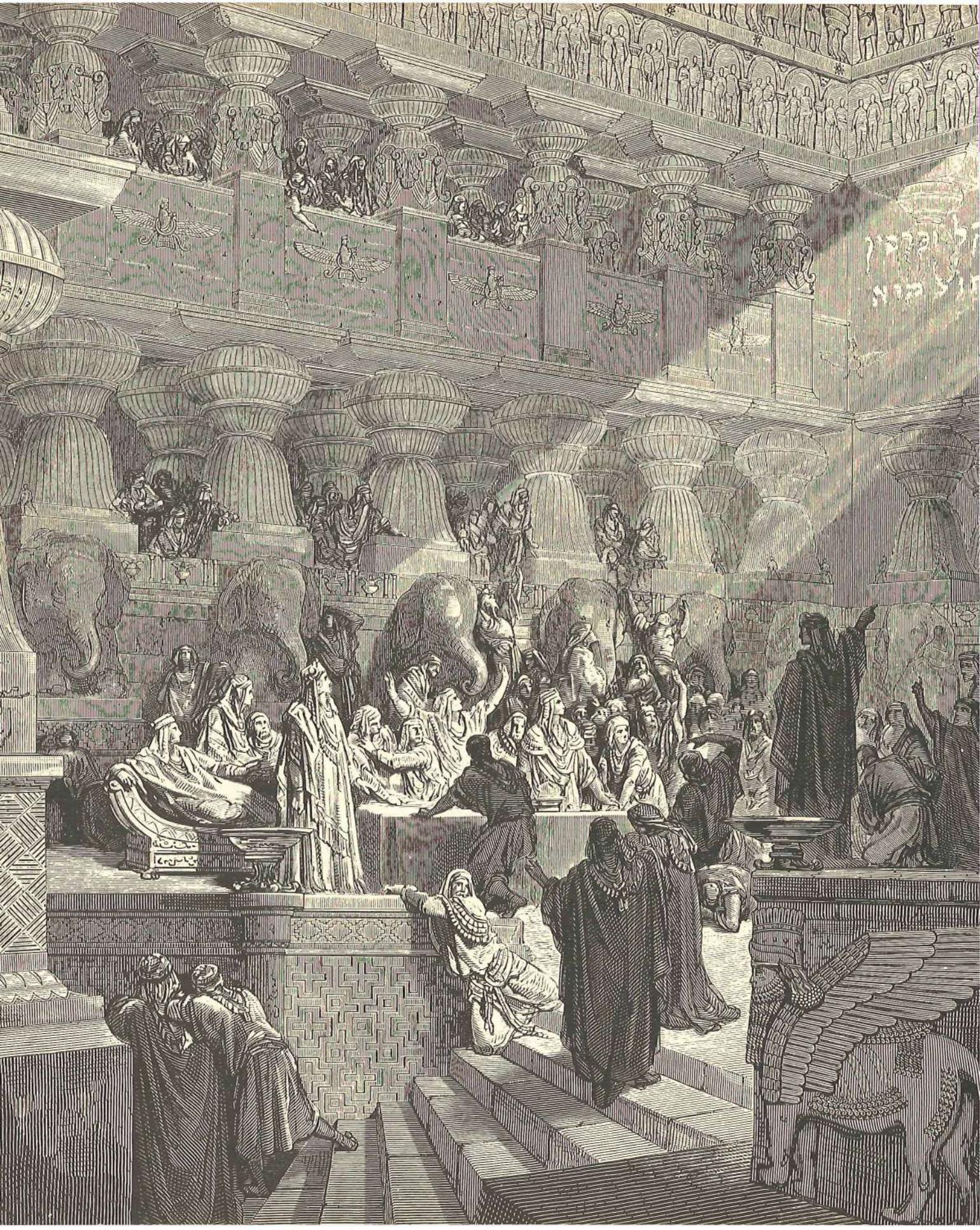
#### FINAL TRIALS

What about all the wrath spoken of in Revelation and elsewhere? History illustrates that when the Lord poured out judgment upon nations, with rare exception He used human agencies. When Ninevah fell as prophesied, it fell to Babylon, Babylon to Medo-Persia, Tyre to the Greeks, Jerusalem to the Romans, and finally in 688 A.D. to the Mohammedans.

In our own time we have no reason to think that the Lord will abandon the methods He has used throughout history and use some great series of miraculous judgments. He could, of course; but will He? With the continuing buildup of massive assault weaponry by the Eastern Bloc and the Arab states, not to mention our own, it requires no great flight of fancy to envision the bowls of wrath poured out from heaven appearing on earth as ballistic missiles and atomic clouds. Six times the scripture states that the Lord is coming in the clouds. What kind of clouds, I wonder?

During this time of trouble, we will have to cling to that blessed hope with unswerving fervor. As the age closes, prophecy will be fulfilled so fast that individual divine guidance will become an indispensable part of the saint's daily life, for his family and his little persecuted church in hiding. There is a positive aspect though. We'll have company, "Behold I stand at the door and knock, if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in with him and dine with him, and he with Me." Revelation 3:20.

*So, not to worry, Brethren,  
Jesus will be with us.*



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## 7 CHIASMS & BIFIDS

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There is an old story of four blind men who went to see an elephant. The first felt his side and said, "The elephant is like a wall"; the next man felt his ear and said, "The elephant is like a leaf"; the third felt his leg and said "The elephant is like a tree"; the fourth man pulled his tail and stated, "The elephant is truly like a rope".

Every one of them was absolutely right, and that is the way the Lord inspired His prophets. Each prophet looked at the future from a different angle; thus, we have several different views of the same prophetic scene. It is up to us, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, to correlate these different views into cognate doctrine.

Though three or four prophets address themselves primarily to the end times, many other Bible books contain important end-time prophecies. As a consequence, we cannot arrive at the whole prophetic truth by studying one or two books like Daniel and Revelation in isolation. Furthermore, as the Lord continues to open His living word, the brilliant discovery we make today may prove to be the scripturally unsupported tradition of tomorrow — as is now true of the Great Tribulation position. Let this be a warning to us, for this Seven-year Tribulation belief is so deeply entrenched in the evangelical world, that, despite a lack of scriptural support, it may remain in place until Jesus Himself stands on Mount Zion. This attitude of lethargic spiritual blindness could be one of the reasons that "in an hour that ye think not, the Son of Man cometh". How sad. If there is one thing the saint of the Lord should have, it is a teachable spirit, and to paraphrase George Muller, "Only he who continues to learn remains qualified to teach." So

let us at least *look* at some of the new data available to us today.

In the last three decades the study of Biblical archaeology and textual criticism has been greatly accelerated by the support of the Israeli government. Scholars with a spade in one hand, and an open Bible in the other, have been running to and fro all over Palestine; and knowledge has been increased. Numerous finds from various sites, including the Essene Library from Qumran, are telling us much about the lives and times of the writers of both Testaments, and are opening their language and customs to us as never before. This better enables us to see the scripture through the eyes of the original writers.

Sometimes these discoveries modify our traditional views, but this should not frighten us. One of the ways the Lord sealed His Word until the fullness of time, was by burying some of the evidence in the windblown sands of Palestine.

Earlier we saw the possibility that Revelation could be a series of parallel prophecies. If so, it should be written in accordance with common literary forms found elsewhere in the Bible. Our Western literature takes many forms: prose, narrative, novel, poetry, etc. Poetry itself has many verse forms, among them, the sonnet, ballad, rondeau, couplet and Spenserian stanza. An understanding of these forms enhances our enjoyment of what we read, and gives us insight into the *intent* of the author. Let's say that again — an understanding of literary form gives us additional insight into the intent of the author, and helps us understand what he wishes to tell us. *The same is true of scripture.*

The bifid and the chiasm, two lately discovered forms which were used by the writers of both Testaments, dramatically alter the way we look at the prophetic books.

What is to follow on the next few pages might prove fairly technical, to some, nonetheless, an understanding of the bifidic and chiasmic structure of the prophetic books is vital to their proper interpretation. So if you really wish to understand Daniel and Revelation, take the few minutes you will need to grasp these concepts.

### BIFID

As various prophetic books parallel each other, so, also, within a single book there are prophecies that are parallel. Some books are cleft or divided into roughly two equal parts which are also parallel. This literary structure is called the *Bifid* form. When a prophetic book is written in this way, the two halves are not consecutive but concurrent and parallel. Isaiah is shown in detail because this is one of the clearest examples of this literary form in the Bible.

Isaiah 1 through 33 are parallel to Isaiah 34 through 66, not just in a general sense, but in the order of contents.<sup>1</sup>

1-5 } 34-35 }	Ruin and Restoration
6-8 } 36-40 }	Biographical Material
9-12 } 41-45 }	Blessings & Judgment
13-23 } 46-48 }	About Gentile Nations
24-27 } 49-55 }	Redemption and Deliverance
28-31 } 56-59 }	Ethics and Sermons
32-33 } 60-66 }	Restoration of Israel

<sup>1</sup>Packer-Tenny-White, *The Bible Almanac* (1980) p. 349

### BIFID IN DANIEL

Though the *Bifid* structure is not always as apparent elsewhere as it is in Isaiah, in Daniel it is inescapable. Daniel 2 through 7 are written in Aramaic (the court language of the Babylonians) while Daniel 8 through 12 are in Hebrew.

Why would the Lord inspire Daniel to write a book in two different languages? Because then, as now, people are addressed in their own languages. The first section of Daniel in Aramaic is to and about the gentile nations. The second half in Hebrew is to and about God's people in captivity. Daniel 2 through 7 contains concurrent prophecies to the gentile nations, foretelling the "time of the gentiles" which was from 606 B.C. until 1948 or 1967 A.D. Daniel 8 through 12 also contains concurrent prophecies about the "time of the gentiles," but in these chapters the message is directed to the Hebrew people.

Daniel, the apocalyptic prophet, at the beginning of the time of the gentiles is the key to understanding Revelation written at the beginning of the church age. Their structure is the same; and why not? They were inspired by the same unchanging Sovereign Lord.

### BIFID IN REVELATION

In Revelation 5:1 we notice that God the Father holds a scroll sealed with seven seals, written on both sides. The recto-verso scroll, as it is called, is very unusual. Most first century scrolls were written on one side only.

Revelation 5:6-7

- 5 "... behold, the Lion that is from the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has overcome so as to open the book and its seven seals."
- 6 "And I saw between the throne (with the four living creatures) and the elders a Lamb standing, as if slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God, sent out into all the earth.
- 7 "And He came, and He took it out of the right hand of Him who sat on the throne."

The book is given to the Lord Jesus who then opens the seals, one by one, to unfold the

mystery of God in the seven seals, followed by the seven trumpets; then, after these visions have been revealed:

Revelation 10:1-2

- 1 "And I saw another strong angel coming down out of Heaven, clothed with a cloud; and the rainbow was upon his head, and his face was like the sun, and his feet like pillars of fire;  
2 "and he had in his hand a little book which was open. And he placed his right foot on the sea and his left on the land;"

If we compare the above quote with Revelation 1:14-15, we see a striking similarity between the former literal description of Jesus and this later allegory of Him in Revelation 10. Now that these seven seals are open, the book in Jesus' hand is an open one. Having opened the seals and read *one* side (recto) He comes to earth and hands this open book to John for him to read the reverse (verso) side. Thus we see an allegorical description of the *Bifid* form.

Revelation 10:8 and 11

- 8 "And the voice which I heard from heaven, I heard again speaking with me, and saying, 'Go, take the book which is open in the hand of the angel who stands on the sea and on the land'.  
11 "And they said to me, 'You must prophesy *again* concerning many peoples and nations and tongues and kings'."

By that word *again* we may argue that the Lord has read the whole prophetic picture in the seven seals, seven trumpets and two witnesses. John is now to repeat these pictures when he reads about the woman with 12 stars; the Leopard-Lion-Bear Beast; the seven bowls, the scarlet beast, and the 1,000 years.

Thus, Revelation 2 through 11 parallel Revelation 12 through 20, and Revelation is *Bifidic*. The above scriptural evidence for this view is strong, but not conclusive, so we must look further.

## CHIASM

Another poetic form the Bible writers used was the *Chiasm* (pronounced key-asm). This form is best described as a two-sided step ladder. When we read a *Chiasm*, in our imagina-

tion we ascend on one side of the ladder to the peak of the story, and then descend on the other. These descending steps are just like the ones we passed on the way up. We find *Chiasms* throughout both testaments in poetry, prose and narrative.<sup>1</sup>

Isaiah 55:8

- (A) "For my thoughts  
(B) "Are not your thoughts  
(B) "Neither are your ways  
(A) "My ways, declares the Lord"

This verse begins and ends with the Lord; thought (A); while man, thought (B), is the second step of this 2-part *Chiasm*.

Psalms 68:15-16

- (A) "A mountain of God is the Mountain of Bashan;  
(B) "A mountain of many peaks is the mountain of Bashan.  
(B) "Why do you look with envy, oh mountains with many peaks,  
(A) "At the mountain which God has desired for His abode."

Here we see the mountain of the Lord, thought (A), as the first step; with many peaked mountains, thought (B), the second.

Acts 17:24-25

- (A) "God that made the world and all things therein  
(B) "Seeing that He is the Lord of Heaven and Earth,  
(C) "And dwelleth not in temples made with hands  
(C) "neither is worshiped with men's hands. . . .  
(B) "Seeing He giveth to all life and breath,  
(A) "And all things,"

This quote from Paul's sermon at the Areopagus shows his familiarity with the *Chiasm*. Here the Lord's omnipotence is the central element, thought (B), of this 3-part *Chiasm*. In the chiasmic structure we see that we are not reading four or six different unrelated thoughts, but two or three thoughts *that are repeated!* These thoughts are parallel and concurrent.

*Chiasms* are not limited to just a few lines. In the 5th chapter of Mark, the whole story of the demoniac of Gadarene is an example of a *Chiasm* almost a chapter long.

<sup>1</sup>Packer-Tenny-White. The Bible Almanac (1980) p. 364

- (A) It starts and ends with the Lord entering and leaving the scene; (verses 1 and 20)
- (B) Jesus confronts the demoniac bound, then free. (verses 2 and 18)
- (C) The demoniac before and after, (verses 3-5 and 15)
- (D) The demons speak (verses 7 and 10)
- (E) Jesus speaks to the demons (verses 8 and 9)

Contained within this chapter-long step-ladder is the description of the demonized man himself in a little 3-part *Chiasm*.

Mark 5:3-5

- (A) He had his dwelling among the tombs,
- (B) and no one was able to bind him anymore,
- (C) . . . he had often been bound with shackles and chains.
- (C) and the chains . . . and the shackles broken in pieces,
- (B) and no one was strong enough to subdue him.
- (A) and he was constantly night and day in the tombs.

This poetic imagery shows the deplorable condition of the man, and heightens the drama of the miracle the Lord was to perform; but what can this possibly have to do with Daniel and Revelation?

#### DANIEL IS OUT OF ORDER

Scripture, certainly within a given book, is written in historic sequence, yet there is one book in the Bible that records events in a different order from which they occurred. Daniel is out of chronological order! Daniel 7 and 8 were written *before* Daniel 5 and 6!! Why? To date there has not been a totally satisfactory explanation for this scriptural anomaly.

Chapter 2	Early in Nebuchadnezzar's reign
Chapter 3	About 15 years later
Chapter 4	Nebuchadnezzar's last years
Chapter 5	Belshazzar's death
Chapter 6	
Chapter 7	Belshazzar's First Year
Chapter 8	
Chapter 9	Darius' First Year
Chapters 10-12	Cyrus the Persian's Third Year

The vision of the four great beasts was given "In the first year of Belshazzar" Daniel 7:1;

while the vision of the ram and the he goat was given "in the third year of Belshazzar," Daniel 8:1; and yet Belshazzar's death is recorded in Daniel 5:30. "that same night Belshazzar the Chaldean king was slain." Isn't that strange? This is obviously intentional. Daniel and the Lord didn't make a mistake, did they? Of course not!

In so doing, the Lord used two different language sections; the first to the gentile nations, and the second to His people, to form two giant, multi-chapter Chiasms. If Daniel had not been arranged out of chronological order, these two chiasms would not have been formed! As a consequence, we would not have Old Testament confirmation for the parallel and concurrent structure of apocalyptic literature. This understanding is central to the interpretation of Revelation.

Now that we understand the chiasm, we can look at Daniel a little differently. Not only do the individual visions have a message for us, but we can see why the Lord included the historic and biographic material in the order He did, and arrive at a better understanding of His central message for each chiasm and, thus, the whole book. As we saw in earlier chiasmic examples, we are not being presented with a series of different, unrelated thoughts, but with two chiasms of *parallel and concurrent visions of the future* starting within the lifetime of the prophet.

#### THE FIRST CHIASM – TO THE NATIONS

**Thought (A) The Great Image and the Four Beasts.** The message to the gentile nations of all time is that there will be only four world empires that will rule in Palestine: Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece and Rome, and their descendants.

**Thought (B) The Fiery Furnace and Daniel in the Lions' Den.** During this time of the gentiles, God's chosen people, the Jews, will be in tribulation. How well history has borne this out.

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## BIFID AND CHIASMS IN DANIEL

Chapter 1 Introduction  
Chapters 2-7 To the gentile nations (1st half)

◊ ◊ ◊ Bifid ◊ ◊ ◊

Chapters 8-12 To the Jewish people (2nd half)

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### First half, in Aramaic, a 3-step Chiasm

(A) Chapter 2	Four gentile kingdoms to rule Palestine	The Great Image
(B) Chapter 3	God's people in tribulation	The Fiery Furnace
(C) Chapter 4	Gentile king judged	Nebuchadrezzar goes insane
(C) Chapter 5	Gentile king judged	Belshazzar slain
(B) Chapter 6	God's people in tribulation	Daniel in the Lion's Den
(A) Chapter 7	Four gentile kingdoms to rule Palestine	The Four Beasts

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### Second half, in Hebrew, a 2-step Chiasm with parallels

(A) Chapter 8	a. Two gentile kingdoms b. A heathen king c. A time period	The Ram and the Goat The Little Horn The 2,300 evenings and mornings
(B) Chapter 9:24-26	The 69 weeks	The coming Messiah
(B) Chapter 9:27	The 70th week	Gentile domination of Palestine
(A) Chapters 10-12	a. Two gentile kings b. A heathen king c. A time period	The kings of North and South The king who does what he pleases The 1,290 and the 1,335 days

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**Thought (C) Nebuchadnezzar goes insane and Belshazzar slain.** The peak of this prophetic *Chiasm* is that, at the very end, the God of Gods will judge the kings who have desecrated His Holy City and persecuted His people.

#### THE SECOND CHIASM — TO HIS PEOPLE

In this 2-part *Chiasm* of prophecies with parenthetics to the Jews, the Lord takes note of the two major powers that have dominated Palestine since the time of Daniel: the Medo-Persian empire, the Greek empire, *and their descendants!*

**Thought (A) The Ram and He Goat and Kings of North and South.** After the fall of Babylon, with the exception of a 400-year Roman rulership, Palestine and Jerusalem (until 1948 and 1967) have been controlled primarily by Near Eastern powers under the influence of the satanic princes of Medo-Persia and Greece. (Daniel 10:20-21) The Near East, including Palestine, has been the Mohammedan world since 648 A.D.!

At the very end of time, out of this same area will come a little horn, a king who will do as he pleases. He will stand against the Prince of princes, and Michael will stand up, and this willful king will be brought to ultimate and final defeat.

**Thought (B) The 70 Weeks.** This is the central message to God's people. During this time of gentile control, the Messiah will come to earth and die for our sins. This is the 69 weeks. The gentiles will rule Palestine for a given time of 2,483.9 years. This is the 70th week. Both are times set in eternity by our Sovereign God.

With the exception of those verses relating to the final judgment of the nations and Satan, and the return of the Prince of princes; Daniel the prophet to the *time of the gentiles* is fulfilled.

#### STRUCTURE IN REVELATION

We have seen the repetitive nature of the prophetic visions of Daniel, and how the Lord inspired him to order these visions into two great *Chiasms*. Is it possible that the Lord

would inspire John to write the same way in Revelation?

Revelation 2 and 3 are about churches, and now that we can see that the two witnesses are churches, so is Revelation 11. Revelation 6 is about seven seals; Revelation 8 and 9 are about seven trumpets. Then Revelation 7 is about the tribes of Israel and the gentile church. It does fit! It appears that the Lord used *Chiasms* in Revelation just as He did in Daniel!

In Daniel each prophecy was complete, foretelling the mystery of God from the time of the prophet until the time of the end. Now we may contend that this also holds true for Revelation.

This is so important that it requires amplification. We notice in the great image of Daniel 2 how the Lord told the whole story of the gentile domination of Palestine; He repeated this story in the four beasts of Daniel 7. The story of tribulation of the Jews told in the fiery furnace is repeated in Daniel in the lions' den, Daniel 3 and 6. The judgment of heathen kings with Nebuchadnezzar going insane is repeated in Belshazzar's death, Daniel 4 and 5. All refer to *the same time period*, the time of the gentiles!

We now see the same structure in Revelation so we may apply the same principles of interpretation. The seven churches of Revelation 2 and 3 end with our being caught up, "Come up here" Revelation 4:1. So do the two witnesses, "Come up here," 11:15. Both prophecies then end with almost identical descriptions of the throne of God, 4:2-11 and 11:15-17.

The sixth seal and the sixth trumpet both appear to refer to Armageddon. The Hebrew people and the church of Revelation 7 both end with us being with the Lord Revelation 7:12-17. So at the end of each prophecy we see the church and the Hebrew people with the Lord, or we see the battle of Armageddon. Thus these prophecies are all parallel and refer to the same time period, *the church age*. Note the following graphic representation of this structure.

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## BIFID AND CHIASMS IN REVELATION

Chapter 1	Introduction
Chapters 2-11	Primarily to the church
◊ ◊ ◊ Bifid	◊ ◊ ◊
Chapters 12-20	Primarily to the nations
Chapters 21-22	Epilogue

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### First half of Bifid (A Chiasm with parenthetics)

(A) Revelation 2-5	(The Church)	The seven churches
(B) Revelation 6	(The world judged)	The seven seals
(C) Revelation 7:1-8	(Old Testament saints)	The 144,000
(C) Revelation 7:9-17	(New Testament saints)	Saints in white robes
(B) Revelation 8-9	(The creation judged)	The seven trumpets
<i>Revelation 10, parenthetic - The angel with the little book, and seven thunders</i>		
(A) Revelation 11	(The Church)	The two witnesses

---

### Second half of Bifid (A Chiasm with parenthetics)

(A) Revelation 12	The Church Age	Woman with 12 stars
(B) Revelation 13	Seven Kingdoms	Beast with seven heads
(C) Revelation 14	Final Judgment	Winepress of wrath
(D) (D) Revelation 15	Final Victory	Song of Moses and the Lamb
(C) Revelation 16	Final Judgment	Seven bowls
(B) Revelation 17	Seven Kings	Scarlet beast with seven heads
<i>Revelation 18-19 — parenthetic - Babylon judged, and return of the Lamb</i>		
(A) Revelation 20	The Church Age	Satan bound

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## THE FIRST CHIASM — TO THE CHURCH

**Thought (A) The Seven Churches and the Two Witnesses.** The message to the saints in this first Chiasm is that throughout the coming age God's people will be in the earth suffering persecution as witnesses for Him, but will also be victorious. That the tribulation and the kingdom are concurrent.

**Thought (B) The Seven Seals and the Seven Trumpets.** The message to the world is that throughout this age there will be many trials upon sinful man, and warnings from the Lord to forsake our abominations and turn unto God.

But the world will not listen to His warnings, and will continue on until final judgment comes upon them, as is shown by the final passages of these two visions.

Revelation 6:13-17

- 14 "And the sky was split apart like a scroll when it is rolled up; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.
- 15 "And the kings of the earth and the great men and the commanders and the rich and the strong and every slave and free man, hid themselves in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains.
- 16 "and they said to the mountains and to the rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the presence of Him who sits on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb;
- 17 "for the great day of their wrath has come; and who is able to stand?"

**Thought (C) The 144,000 and Those in White Robes.** In Revelation 7 we see the children of Israel and the multitude of saints before the throne of God and the Lamb.

Revelation 7:16-17

- 16 "They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun beat down on them, nor any heat;
- 17 "for the Lamb in the center of the throne shall be their shepherd, and shall guide them to springs of the water of life; and God shall wipe every tear from their eyes."

In the fullness of time, all things will be accomplished and we will stand before the throne in final victory. This is the peak of the

first *Chiasm*, and the central message to the churches, both Jew and gentile.

## THE SECOND CHIASM — TO THE NATIONS

**Thought (A) Woman with 12 Stars and the 1,000 Years.** In this last *Chiasm*, the Lord recaps all of His dealings with the Hebrew people as a nation, and the church as His kingdom. He shows us that after Jesus ascended into heaven, the church and His chosen people would be persecuted, Revelation 12, but that since Satan was cast down at the cross, John 12:31, we would be victorious throughout the church age, Revelation 20. At the end of the age Satan would be loose for a short season and then finally defeated, which would usher in the eternal kingdom of God.

**Thought (B) The Leopard-Bear-Lion Beast and the Scarlet Beast.**

Throughout history there would be seven major world empires, five before Jesus, one during His life on earth, one later, then a final kingdom, the eighth. These kingdoms are fully described in chapter 7.

**Thought (C) The Winepress and the Seven Bowls.** At the end of this time, Jesus will return to earth and destroy that eighth kingdom; and Satan and death, the final enemies, will be cast into the lake of fire.

**Thought (D) The Victorious Saints.** Before the throne will stand those who sing the song of Moses (the Hebrew people) and those who sing the song of the Lamb (the gentile church). This is the central message to the saints.

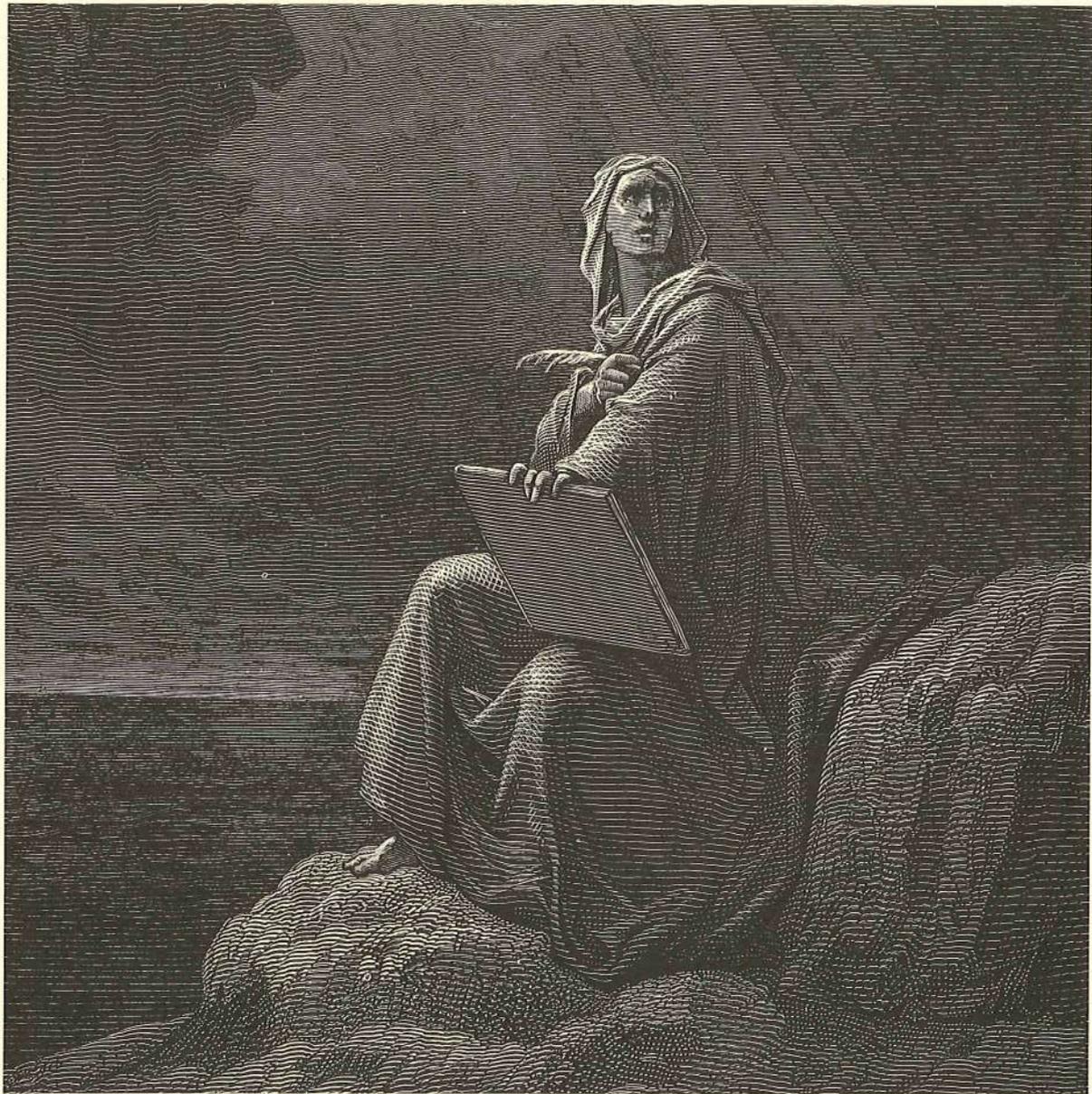
"Behold I am coming like a thief. Blessed is the one who stays awake and keeps his garments, lest he walk about naked and men see his shame." Revelation 16:15. This is the message to us, brethren; the time is at hand; almost all Bible prophecy has been fulfilled, and we have been looking for the wrong signs of His coming . . . "and as soon as they finish shattering the power of the holy people, all these events shall be completed." Daniel 12:7.

*But not to worry, brethren;  
obviously, the Lord our God knew all this  
in eternity,  
and He is on the throne.*

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## 8 OF SEALS & BEASTS

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Now that we understand the bifidic and chiasmic nature of the apocalyptic books, and see that most of Daniel is fulfilled in history, we can take what we have learned from that book in form and allegory and apply it to unraveling the mystery of the two chiasms in Revelation.

Rather than looking at these visions one chapter at a time, and then trying to understand what all of Revelation might be telling us; we can stand back and look at the book as a

whole, and from this view have a foreknowledge of the general content of the individual prophecies. Unlike four blind men seeing a leaf, a wall, a tree and a rope, we can see that not only is the elephant all those things, but is also much, much more. We can see how the whole animal is joined together and functions.

Revelation appears to be a series of 12 concurrent visions in one 3-step and one 4-step chiasm. Each chiasm has a major parenthetic before the final (A); Revelation 10 in the first

THE SEVEN CHURCHES  
The Linear Historic View  
Revelation 2 through 4

1) EPHESUS	“Faithful”	Pentecost to 95 A.D.
2) SMYRNA	“Persecuted 10 days”	10 major persecutions by the Roman empire. 95 A.D. - 304 A.D.
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 95 A.D. Domitian</li> <li>2. 98 A.D. Trajan</li> <li>3. 117 A.D. Hadrian</li> <li>4. 138 A.D. Antonius Pius</li> <li>5. 161 A.D. Marcus Arelius</li> <li>6. 193 A.D. Septimus Severus</li> <li>7. 235 A.D. Maximin</li> <li>8. 249 A.D. Decius</li> <li>9. 253 A.D. Valerian</li> <li>10. 284 A.D. Diocletian</li> </ol>
3) PERGAMUM	“At Satan’s throne”	Made state religion 305 A.D. - 665 A.D.
4) THYATIRA	“Tolerated Jezebel”	Idolatrous central church 665 A.D. - Circa 1000 A.D.
5) SARDIS	“Dead”	Pre-reformation legalism 1000 A.D. - Circa 1500 A.D.
6) PHILADELPHIA	“A little power”	Reformation, missionary church 1500 A.D. - 1948 A.D.
WE ARE HERE	7) LAODICEA	“Lukewarm” Modern, weak church 1948 - until Jesus’ return

chiasm, and Revelation 18 and 19 in the second. Furthermore, we can see that the first chiasm addresses itself more to God's people, the church; while the second chiasm speaks more of the nations and the final defeat of Satan.

With this structure in mind, following in outline form, are the major parallel prophecies in Revelation that can be related to known world history. The seven seals, trumpets, and bowls are highly allegorical. To fully expound on

these three visions is a book unto itself, and not central to our theme. However, the outlines are included for personal study.

Refer again to the graph on "Chiasms in Revelation" in chapter 6. This will help you understand the position of each prophecy. The woman with twelve stars and the two witnesses were covered fully in previous chapters so there is no need to repeat their interpretation again here.

THE SEVEN SEALS, TRUMPETS AND BOWLS

Revelation 6

The first five seals are a description of conditions throughout the church age:

	<i>1st seal</i>	A white horse	Conquerors, leaders and rulers
	<i>2nd seal</i>	A red horse	Warfare among the nations
	<i>3rd seal</i>	A black horse	Rich get richer and poor get poorer
	<i>4th seal</i>	An ashen horse	Natural disasters and anarchy
WE ARE HERE	◇ ◇ ◇	<i>5th seal</i>	The alter of God    The dead in Christ now in heaven
		<i>6th seal</i>	Great earthquake <i>Armageddon</i>
		<i>7th seal</i>	Silence in Heaven    Ushers in God's Kingdom

THE PARALLELITY OF THE SEVEN TRUMPETS AND SEVEN BOWLS

Revelation 8, 9 and 16

	<i>1st trumpet and bowl</i>	Earth pollution	
	<i>2nd trumpet and bowl</i>	Ocean pollution	
	<i>3rd trumpet and bowl</i>	Fresh water pollution	
	<i>4th trumpet and bowl</i>	Air pollution	
WE ARE HERE	◇ ◇ ◇	<i>5th trumpet and bowl</i>	Mohammedans
		<i>6th trumpet and bowl</i>	<i>Armageddon</i>
		<i>7th trumpet and bowl</i>	Kingdom of God

1. The *trumpets* are historical throughout the church age.
2. The *bowls* appear to refer to the last days as a final concentration of trumpet plagues.
3. The church is taken up at the sound of the *last* trumpet.
4. "Seven" in Revelation usually begins God's Kingdom.
5. The Mohammedans appeared in the middle ages, and have now re-appeared in our own time. We are between the 5th and 6th seal and trumpet.

WHO IS THE BEAST?

When we study Revelation it is wise to look to Daniel for our allegorical pattern. Daniel is full of Beasts, Horns and Kings, so is this second chiasm of Revelation.

During the Babylonian captivity, in the first year of Belshazzar the king, 552 B.C., the Lord gave Daniel the vision of four beasts. These four beasts were an allegorical representation of the *four major world empires* that would rule in Palestine during the time of the gentiles.

60

Daniel 7:3-7

- 3“ And four great beasts were coming up from the sea, different from one another.
- 4 “The first was like a lion and had the wings of an eagle. I kept looking until its wings were plucked, and it was lifted up from the ground and made to stand on two feet like a man; a human mind also was given to it.
- 5 “And behold, another beast, a *second one, resembling a bear*. And it was raised up on one side, and three ribs were in its mouth between its teeth; and thus they said to it, ‘Arise, devour much meat!’
- 5 “After this I kept looking, and behold, *another one, like a leopard*, which had on its back four wings of a bird; the beast also had four heads, and dominion was given to it.
- 7 “After this I kept looking in the night visions, and behold, *a fourth beast, dreadful and terrifying* and extremely strong; and it had large iron teeth. It devoured and crushed and trampled down the remainder with its feet; and it was different from all the beasts that were before it, and it had ten horns.”

Daniel 7:17-24

- 17 “*These great beasts, which are four in number, are four kings* who will arise from the earth.
- 18 “But the saints of the Highest One will receive the kingdom and possess the kingdom forever, for all ages to come.
- 19 “Then I desired to know the exact meaning of the *fourth beast, which was different from all the others, exceedingly dreadful*, with its teeth of iron and its claws of bronze and which devoured, crushed, and trampled down the remainder with its feet.
- 20 “and the meaning of the *ten horns* that were on its head and *the other horn which came up*, and before which *three* of them fell, namely, that horn which had eyes and a mouth uttering great boasts, and which was larger in appearance than its associates.
- 21 “I kept looking, and *that horn was waging war with the saints and overpowering them*
- 22 “until the Ancient of Days came, and judgment was passed in favor of the saints of the Highest One, and the time arrived when the saints took possession of the kingdom.
- 23 “Thus he said: ‘the fourth beast will be a fourth kingdom on the earth, which will be different from all the other kingdoms, and it will devour the whole earth and tread it down and crush it.
- 24 “As for the ten horns, out of this kingdom ten kings will arise; and another will arise after them, and will be different from the previous ones and will subdue three kings.’”

This prophecy is parallel to the vision of the great image given to Nebuchadnezzar and both accurately foretell what is now known history.

Nowhere in scripture does the Lord give us a different allegorical definition for *Beasts*, so it

DANIEL'S VISIONS OF GENTILE DOMINATION

606 BC	536 BC	333 BC	63 BC
BABYLON		MEDO-PERSIA	GREECE
DANIEL 2 – The Great Image			
HEAD		CHEST	THIGHS
DANIEL 7 – The Four Beasts			
LION		BEAR	LEOPARD

is reasonable to conclude that *the Beasts in Revelation can also refer to world empires or the spiritual princes who influence these empires.* We have no scriptural reason for believing that these Beasts are men, no matter how satanic. Thus, Daniel's specific identification of these powers may be valid today.

Leopard = Greece  
 Bear = Medo-Persia  
 Lion = Babylon  
 Beast/Strong and Terrible = Rome

In today's world the Medo-Persian empire = Iran; the Babylonian empire = Iraq; the Greek empire = Syria and Lebanon; while the Beast, Strong and Terrible = Europe. Greece being Syria sounds strange to our ears today, but not so in the 1st century A.D.

After subjugating the whole known world, the Greek conqueror Alexander the Great died in Babylon in 323 B.C. His empire was then divided among his four generals, the largest slice going to Seleucus, founder of the great Seleucid dynasty which ruled from Antioch in Syria for the next 250 years. This Greek control of the Near East, centered in Syria, continued until the Roman conquest in 65 B.C. The Greek language continued as the world trade language even longer, and as previously stated is the language in which the New Testament is written.

When we look at prophecy, we cannot forget *the historic position of the prophet.* When the

Lord inspired John the apostle to write Revelation, Syria was known to be Greek. So when we read an allegory that we may define as Greece, we have reason to believe that the Lord is really talking about Syria.

There are two major prophecies in Revelation that give us a linear view of world history: The Leopard-Bear-Lion Beast of Revelation 13 and the Scarlet Beast, of Revelation 17. Daniel 7 and 8 is the key to understanding these visions.

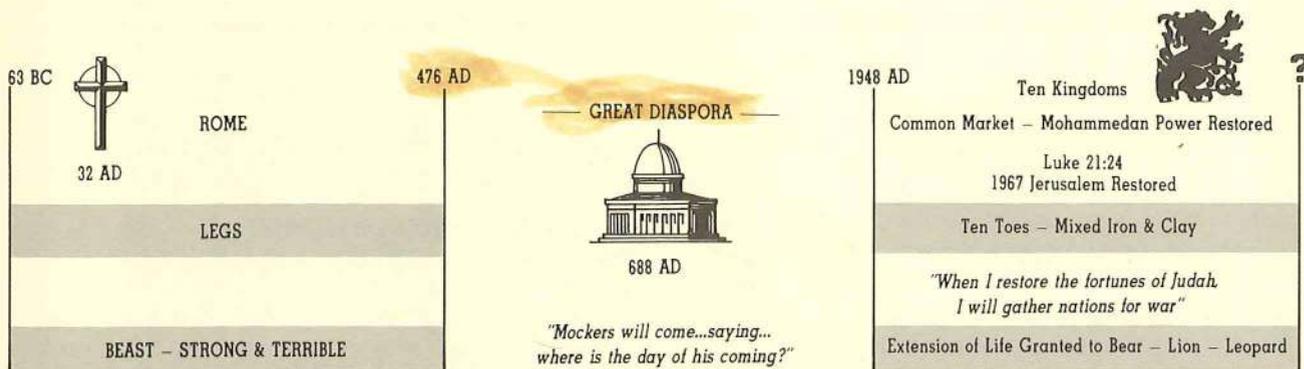
In the prophecies of the four beasts of Daniel 7 and the ram and the he goat of Daniel 8, the Lord uses *Beasts* to tell us about empires, *Heads* to tell of nations, and *Horns* to describe kings. As stated before, when we read similar allegories in Revelation, we have no scriptural reason for changing these definitions. Unlike Daniel, whose visions covered from the Babylonian captivity until the end, in Revelation the Lord recaps His dealings with man from the beginning of the children of Israel *as a nation* in Egypt until the end of time. The vision of Revelation 17 is the easiest for us to understand, so we will discuss this prophecy first.

THE SCARLET BEAST

Revelation 17:3

3 "And I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast, full of blasphemous names, having seven heads and ten horns,"

Isaiah 1:14 tells us that scarlet is a type of sin, so this scarlet beast well describes the satanic rulership of the world and its empires.



During Jesus' temptation, Satan showed him all the kingdoms of the world and said, "I will give you all this dominion and glory for it has been handed over to me." Luke 4:5-6. Thus, this beast could be Satan himself out of which all the godless empires of the world have sprung. That "he was and is not and will come" can refer to his being bound and cast down during the church age, John 12:31 and Revelation 20:2-3, and 20:7-8.

Revelation 17:8-19

- 8 "The beast that you saw was and is not, and is about to come up out of the abyss and to go to destruction . . . he was and is not and will come.
- 9 "The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits,
- 10 "and they are seven kings; five have fallen, one is, the other has not yet come; and when he comes, he must remain a little while."
- "The seven heads are . . . seven kings . . ."
1. "Five have fallen"
- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| 1. Egypt       | } These are the five major world empires before Rome. |
| 2. Assyria     |   |
| 3. Babylon     |   |
| 4. Medo-Persia |   |
| 5. Greece      |   |
2. "One is"
- Rome — The kingdom in power when John penned Revelation.
3. "The other has not yet come — and when he comes he must remain a little while." Nazi Germany and Adolph Hitler geographically covered Old Roman Empire and lasted "a little while."
4. Nazi Germany ends the Old Roman Empire and is the end of the beast with seven heads! How do we know? We find a parallel in Daniel. Out of Rome, the fourth beast of Daniel 7, comes a little horn, i.e. Adolf Hitler. This is followed by a confederation of Near Eastern states with its own little horn. Study Daniel 8:9-26 and note the following proof text.

Daniel 7:11-12

- 11 "I kept looking until the beast strong and terrible, (i.e., Rome) was slain, and its body was destroyed and given to the burning fire,

12 "As for the rest of the beasts, their dominion was taken away, but an extension of life was granted to them for an appointed period of time."

After the seven-headed beast is destroyed, i.e., Rome and its descendants, look at what is left: the leopard, bear and lion . . . Iran, Iraq and Syria who are the major Mohammedan anti-Israeli powers today!

#### THE EIGHTH BEAST

Revelation 17:12-14

- 12 "And the beast which was and is not, is himself also an eighth, and is . . . of the seven, and he goes to destruction. And the ten horns which you saw are ten kings, who have not yet received a kingdom, but they receive authority as kings with the beast for one hour.
- 13 "These have one purpose and they give their power and authority to the beast.
- 14 "These will wage war against the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, because He is Lord of Lords and King of Kings."
1. "The beast that you saw was and is not"
- A. Kingdom prior to Rome (in 95 A.D.)
- B. Is going to come out of the abyss (future to 95 A.D.). Satan is the angel of the abyss. (Rev. 9:11, 11:7 & 20:3)
2. "The beast which was . . ."
- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| Egypt       | } These five kingdoms were before Rome. We now know this area as the Mohammedan world; so this final empire must come from there! |
| Assyria     |   |
| Babylon     |   |
| Medo-Persia |   |
| Greece      |   |
3. ". . . and is not . . ."
- In the time of John (95 A.D.) Rome "is" so this final beast is not the Roman Empire.
4. ". . . is himself also an eighth . . ."
- The seven-headed beast is past with Nazi Germany.
5. "is of the seven"
- Composed of some of the empires before Rome!

BEAST WHICH WAS...	AND IS NOT . . .	AND WILL COME
1. Egypt 2. Assyria 3. Babylon 4. Medo-Persia 5. Greece	6. Rome, Revelation written when Rome is. 7. Nazi Germany is also Rome and lasted a little while.	8.  The Mohammedan World.

Since he was, he must come from these five empires *before* Rome; and he is not a neo-Roman empire, which is the 7th, and is from the wrong geographic area. The beast which was, is the 8th!

Revelation 13 and Daniel 7:11-12 tells us that a Leopard-Bear-Lion Beast is going to come to life during the church age, 688 A.D. and the Dome of the Rock, and *after* the fall of the Roman Empire as reconstructed in Nazi Germany, Daniel 7:11-12.

So the eighth beast is composed of those rabid, Near Eastern nations so strongly opposed to Israel. Note in Daniel 11:43 that "the Lybians and Ethiopians will follow at his heels." Those two states are in continued negotiations with Syria, and they, too, are noted for their rabid hatred of Israel. All are friendly to Russia, Cuba and the communistic world. The plot thickens.

- 6. "The ten horns . . . are *ten kings* . . ." A neo-Roman Empire "*likeness*" has *ten nations*.
- 7. "They receive authority *as kings* . . ." Not totally *autonomous* entities.
- 8. ". . . with the beast . . . *for one hour* . . . and they give their authority to the beast . . ." The neo-Roman likeness will lend its authority to the eighth kingdom for *two weeks*, based on Ezekiel's day-year.
- 9. "These will wage war with the Lamb . . . and the Lamb will overcome them." The return of Jesus as *King*.

The eighth beast is part of the *Mohammedan world!*

The ten horns are probably *the common market!*

This interpretation fits known history exactly. There were five major Near Eastern empires prior to Rome, and after Rome only Nazi Germany has controlled almost the same geographic area controlled by the Roman empire; all of Europe and North Africa, and it remained a little while.

Scripture deals primarily with the Holy Land, God's people, and the church, and addresses itself to these geographic areas. There is little prophecy pertaining to the Far East or the New World.

THE LEOPARD-BEAR-LION BEAST

Revelation 13:1-3

- 1 "And I saw a beast coming up out of the sea, having ten horns and seven heads, and on his horns were ten diadems, and on his hands were blasphemous names.
- 2 "And the beast which I saw was like a leopard, and his feet were like those of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. And the dragon gave him his power and his throne and great authority.
- 3 "And I saw one of his heads as if it had been slain, and his fatal wound was healed. And the whole earth was amazed and followed after the beast;"

In the vision of the scarlet beast, the seven heads were before the ten horns; now they are after. Why? Probably because the seven-headed beast is past and what remains is the ten horns, and the Leopard-Bear-Lion beast has taken preeminence over the individual heads. Unlike the scarlet beast, scripture tells us *who* this beast is; he is defined in the seventh chapter of Daniel.

- 1. Leopard = Greece = Syria
- 2. Bear = Medo-Persia = Iran
- 3. Lion = Babylon = Iraq



These Near Eastern empires are the cradle of all Western powers, and are now known as the Mohammedan world.

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"Having ten horns and seven heads."

- 1. Egypt
- 2. Assyria
- 3. Babylon
- 4. Medo-Persia
- 5. Greece
- 6. Rome
- 7. Nazi-Germany

The ten horns are a ten-nation power out of the last of the seven heads, i.e., a European empire. "Out of this kingdom ten kings will arise." Daniel 7:24

"One of the heads as if slain" — Rome was destroyed in 476 A.D., "and the fatal wound was healed" . . . 1,500 years after the fall of Rome, Adolph Hitler restored the Roman empire for a "little while" as we saw in Revelation 17. This restoration went far beyond just geographic boundaries; the similarities between the two are astonishing:

The Roman Eagles = The German Eagles  
 Hail Caesar = Heil Hitler  
 Great civic works, buildings, and highways = Great civic works, buildings, and highways  
 Oppressive and militaristic = Oppressive and militaristic  
 Persecuted the Church = The Holocaust

As we have seen earlier, with the fall of Nazi Germany, the seven-headed beast is past. During that time, however, something was happening back in Palestine.

Revelation 13:5-7

- 5 "And there was given to him (i.e., the Leopard-Bear-Lion Beast) a mouth speaking arrogant words and blasphemies; and authority to act for forty-two months was given to him.
- 6 "And he opened his mouth in blasphemies against God, to blaspheme His name and His tabernacle, that is, those who dwell in heaven.
- 7 "And it was given to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them; and authority over every tribe and people and tongue and nation was given to him."

1. "Authority to act for 42 months" x 30.4366 = 1,278.34 years

2. "Against God and . . . His Tabernacle," i.e., Mohammedan Domination of Jerusalem

Dome of the Rock 688 A.D.	Jerusalem freed 1967 A.D.
------------------------------	------------------------------

Holy city trod under foot 42 months 1,278.34 years

3. Make war with saints' = Coptic church destroyed.

The authority spoken of here is not given to the head who was wounded and came to life; but to the Leopard-Bear-Lion Beast itself. Indeed, authority was given to this beast to blaspheme God's "tabernacle" i.e., the temple mount for 42 months, as we see from the foregoing illustration. Jerusalem is free now, and the 42 months are over.

The Mohammedan world did make war with the saints, destroying the Coptic church. From the fifth trumpet, Revelation 9:1-11, we see that this jihad would last five months: 5 x 30.44 = 152 years. This assault on Christendom began in about 634 A.D. and continued until about 786 A.D. when Haroun al Rashid came to power. During his reign the Mohammedans made peace with the Christian nations.

#### THE TWO-HORNED BEAST

Revelation 13:11-13

- 11 "And I saw another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spoke as a dragon.
- 12 "And he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence. And he makes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose fatal wound was healed.
- 13 "And he (the two-horned beast) performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down out of heaven to the earth in the presence of men.

After the 42 months and the seven-headed beast is past, June, 1967, John sees another beast with two horns. In our own day we have two major powers: East and West. We are like a lamb in that we speak and sound peaceful; but Satan influences these present day horns to build deadly war machines. We worship the first beast, the Mohammedan world, by sending much of our gold to the Near Eastern states for crude oil. The Near East was dormant from a geopolitical standpoint for centuries. Now, with OPEC and the political unrest in that area which threatens to engulf the whole world, this beast has come to life. We have to state that again. The eighth beast, the Mohammedan world, has come to life!

The two-horned beast "performs great signs so as to make fire come down out of heaven." Our atom bombs, ballistic missiles, rockets, and science deceive man into worshiping his own works rather than the Lord.

Revelation 13:14-15

- 14 "And he deceives those who dwell on the earth because of the signs which it was given him to perform in the presence of the (leopard-bear-lion) beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to *make an image to the beast* who had the wound of the sword and has come to life.
- 15 "And there was given to him to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast might even speak and cause as many as do not worship the image of the beast to be killed."

Who had the wound of the sword? Nazi Germany was destroyed in a major war. This European empire has now come to life in an image or "likeness" of the Roman empire, and from Revelation 13:1 we see that this head has ten horns, or ten kings. The common market has ten nations!

These beasts and heads or nations and kings are the *last empires* spoken of in Revelation. There are *no* more to come. From this alone, we may conclude that we are indeed in the last hours of this age.

Scripture now indicates that the final powers that will war in Palestine are the European combine, and Syria, Iraq, and Iran, or loosely

speaking, the Mohammedan world. Some of the ten horns are there now as a "peace keeping force," including us. It is inconceivable that the United States and the USSR will not be drawn into this conflict. The prophet Ezekiel states that nations from the uttermost parts of the North will be involved, but this is not spoken of either in Daniel or Revelation, the two books we are studying.

Revelation 13:16-18

- 16 "And he causes all, the small and the great, and the rich and the poor, and the free men and the slaves, to be given a mark on their right hand, or on their forehead,
- 17 "and he provides that no one should be able to buy or sell, except the one who has the mark, either the name of the beast or the number of his name.
- 18 "Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for the number is that of a man; and his number is six-hundred and sixty-six."

This image of the beast, the neo-Roman likeness with ten horns, will decree that everyone under his control must have an identifying mark on hand or forehead.

#### THE MARK OF THE BEAST

Many of today's schools are teaching "base 6" in their classes in modern math. The retail bar code begins with a 6, has a 6 in the middle and ends with a 6, for 666. From "no one should be able to buy or sell," we see that this is an economic tyranny. Current technology enables us to invisibly laser imprint a person's account number under his skin, a number that requires special equipment to read. Other authors have documented governmental intentions to implement this system here in the United States, and it is currently being tested in Europe.

Remembering, however, that our warfare is spiritual, not carnal, it is possible that the taking of this mark may be allegorical rather than literal. When the Lord put a mark on His people the Jews, Revelation 7:2-4 it was an allegorical mark. From context, we can see that this sealing took place at Calvary. With our dependence on computer controlled credit

cards, and by being deeply indebted to this world's credit system, are we not allegorically depending on the beast and worshipping his image? Are we not asking him for our daily bread, rather than the living God?

Some Christians are so deeply in debt that they have practically sold their souls to keep the world's financial institutions from taking their possessions away. Is this not literally being enslaved by the beast? Who are these poor brethren worshipping?

Revelation 14:9-11

- 9 'And another angel, a third one, followed them, saying with a loud voice, 'If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives a mark on his forehead or upon his hand,
- 10 "he also will drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is mixed in full strength in the cup of His anger; and he will be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb.
- 11 "And the smoke of their torment goes up forever and ever; and they have no rest day and night, those who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name."

We Christians are absolutely prohibited from taking this mark. If the mark is a literal one in our future, Satan will come in like an angel of light and make it sound so good. No one will be able to forge your name on a check or steal your goods. Positive identification will be made with every transaction. But no Christian may take the mark, regardless of the excuse. The Lord does not tell us why, but this is a command we must obey. Brethren, get free of worldly obligation, because even in obedience, at the very end we shall truly "strive against sin unto blood."

#### THE GATHERING OF THE SAINTS

Revelation 14:12-16

- 12 "Here is the perseverance of the saints who keep the commandments of God and their faith in Jesus.
- 13 "And I heard a voice from heaven, saying, 'Write, Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on!' 'Yes,' says the Spirit,

'that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow with them.'

- 14 "And I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and sitting on the cloud was one like a son of man, having a golden crown on His head, and a sharp sickle in His hand.
- 15 "And another angel came out of the temple, crying out with a loud voice to Him who sat on the cloud, 'Put in your sickle and reap, because the hour to reap has come, because the harvest of the earth is ripe'.
- 16 "And He who sat on the cloud swung His sickle over the earth; and the earth was reaped."

From v. 12 we see that the saints are here during this time of trouble in the earth, at the end of which the Lord Jesus is given a sickle and told to reap. Twelve times in the gospels this reaping of the earth is used as an allegory for bringing in the saints. This is one of three times in Daniel, and six times in Revelation, that this gathering of the Christians is either directly stated or implied.

- Rev. 1:7 "And every eye shall see Him."  
 Rev. 4:1 "Come up here."  
 Rev. 10:7 "The mystery of God is finished."  
 Rev. 11:12 "Come up here."  
 Rev. 14:16 "And the earth was reaped."  
 Rev. 19:7 "The marriage of the Lamb has come."

#### THE GRAPES OF WRATH

Revelation 14:17-20

- 17 "And another angel came out of the temple which is in heaven, and he also had a sharp sickle.
- 18 "And another angel, the one who has power over fire, came out from the altar; and he called with a loud voice to him who had the sharp sickle, saying 'Put in your sharp sickle, and gather the clusters from the vine of the earth, because her grapes are ripe.'
- 19 "And the angel swung his sickle to the earth, and gathered the clusters from the vine of the earth, and threw them into the great wine press of the wrath of God.
- 20 "And the wine press was trodden outside the city, and blood came out from the wine press, up to the horses' bridles, for a distance of two hundred miles."

Armageddon and the wrath of God — How terrible and how sad. Throughout the church

age the Lord has left His two witnesses on the earth, the Jewish people and the gentile church, to warn of this hour, but the ungodly did not listen. From Revelation 3:10, we know that this hour of testing will come upon *the whole inhabited earth*. Six times in Daniel, and six times in Revelation this coming battle is foretold either directly or in allegory. This time is surely coming, and very soon.

Daniel

- 2:34 "Stone struck the statue" 2:45 "The stone crushed" (type)
- 5:30 "Belshazzar the king was slain" (type)
- 7:26 "His kingdom was annihilated and destroyed."
- 9:27 "Complete destruction on one who makes desolate"
- 11:36 12:1 "Michael will arise . . . and a time of distress"
- 12:7 As soon as they finish *shattering* the power of the holy people, all these events will be completed.

Revelation

- 6:12-17 "and the "generals" . . . hid themselves in caves."
- 9:15-16 "A third of mankind killed . . . 200,000,000 man army"
- 12:17 "Dragon enraged . . . war with woman's seed and saints"
- 14:20 "Winepress trodden... blood for 200 miles"
- 19:19 "Assembled to make war"
- 20:8-9 "Gog and Magog gathered together for war"

Is God doing this because He is mad at us? No! We have abandoned Him; not He, us. These trials that He will allow in the world are to turn us from our sinful ways. Will the wicked repent? No! Only those who are called and chosen before the foundation of the world will repent.

Revelation 22:11

- 11 "Let the one who does wrong, still do wrong; and let the one who is filthy, still be filthy; and let the one who is righteous, still practice righteousness; and let the one who is holy, still keep himself holy."

TIMEWISE, WHERE ARE WE NOW?

*The final beast is here*, the emerging Near Eastern power, no waiting! Iran, Iraq and Syria are not as yet fighting as a unit on the mountains of Israel, but that could be just a

matter of interpretation. Many of their guerilla units have been fighting in Lebanon against the Jews; and ever since the new State of Israel was formed, these countries have been in constant and unremitting conflict with God's chosen people.

Armageddon is prophetic minutes away, and scripture states that the whole world will be involved. Revelation 3:10, "That hour of testing that is to come upon the whole inhabited earth."

Will we still be here? Yes. There are a few indications in scripture that we may be with the Lord during the final cataclysmic moments of the age; but, remember, we are not taken up in the clouds until the *last* trumpet.

What, then, are the Lord's final marching orders to His people, both Jew and Christian, during this time of distress upon nations?

1. Look up for your redemption draweth near! (Luke 21:28)
2. Put on the whole armor of God that we may be able to stand in *the* evil day. (Eph. 6:14)
3. Do not take the mark of the beast, or worry about possessions! We will not be able to buy or sell. (Rev. 13:15 and 14:9-12)
4. *Hide!* "While the Lord judges the twisted serpent (Satan)"
5. Be in obedience! "perhaps you will be hidden in the day of the Lord's anger" (Zephaniah 2:2-3)
6. "Praying in order that you may have the strength to escape all these things that are to take place and to stand before the Son of Man" (Luke 21:36)

II Peter 3:12-15

- 12 "Looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, on account of which the heavens will be destroyed by burning, and the elements will melt with intense heat!
- 13 "But according to His promise we are looking for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells.
- 14 "Therefore, beloved, since you look for these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace spotless and blameless,
- 15 "and regard the patience of our Lord to be salvation."



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## 9 LOOKING AHEAD

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In our own time and in no other, the Lord has allowed us to see that all the day-years, weeks, and times in Daniel and Revelation have been fulfilled historically. The only time period we have not studied in detail, the time, times and half a time of Revelation 12:14 was fulfilled in the 18th century, but that is the subject for another whole book.

We now understand that Revelation is a series of concurrent prophecies relating to the whole church age. We can clearly see the invalidity of the *Seven-year Great Tribulation* view, and consequently that a pre- or mid-tribulation rapture position is outright counter-scriptural.

That the church will remain on earth until the end of time is apparent from I Corinthians 15:52 and Revelation 10:6-7. Many scriptures state that we are in tribulation and the kingdom today, so the tribulation and the spiritual kingdom of Jesus are concurrent in the church age. In the past, it was thought that after His return, Jesus would reign on earth for a thousand years, after which Satan would be released for a short season. There would then be a final battle, a final victory, and then we would see the judgment seat of Christ followed by the eternal kingdom of God. This pre-millennial position is a very popular view and is held by most evangelicals.

From Revelation 10:6 "there will be *time* no longer" we may now clearly see that the pre-millennial position is counter-scriptural. If there is no more time at our seventh and last trumpet there surely can't be a thousand years! Thus Revelation 20 must refer to the church age and the final battle of Revelation 20:7-10 must be concurrent with the battle of Armageddon prophesied throughout scripture.

Since the church will be on earth until the end of time, we cannot avoid Armageddon, 666, the tribulation, the bowls of wrath, all must be fulfilled by the end of time! These are not suppositions, nor is this creative theology. This is just believing what the Bible states straight out.

When we discard our scripturally unsupportable traditions, what does the Bible indicate the course of events will be until the return of Jesus as king? Well, conditions will continue to worsen. Neither science nor the clearest thinking minds on earth will be able to bail us out of the judgments that are to come upon the world at the end of this age.

Famines and earthquakes are becoming an every day occurrence. Unusual weather disasters and volcanic eruptions are increasing. The polar ice caps are melting because of the greenhouse effect. As few as 1,000 nuclear explosions can cause a nuclear winter which would blanket the earth with a new ice age, incidentally fulfilling two obscure verses in Job which undoubtedly refer to Armageddon . . .

Job 38:23-24

- 23 "Have you seen the storehouses of the snow,  
or have you seen the storehouses of the hail,  
24 "which I have reserved for the time of distress,  
for the day of battle?"

There are more than 40 different wars being fought today, and these wars are on the increase. People are rising against their governments, and violent crime and terrorism have reached a level unprecedented in history. Children are murdering their parents, and mothers are aborting their children. Man continues to become more openly sinful and a great falling away from God is evident world-

wide. For the first time in history a major world power, the Soviet Union, is against the worship of any god at all. This is not scientific enlightenment: it is Satanic! Even in our own land the worship of Satan and the doctrines of demons abound.

In the Near East there is a continuing unremitting war against God's people by Mohammedan "holy war" fanatics; a conflict from which we will not be able to extricate ourselves. A new Mohammedan power backed by the Soviet Union is taking shape. Out of this alliance will come the little horn of Daniel 8, who is the same as the willful king of Daniel 11:36. This little horn will lead a major military attack on Israel. Will it happen soon? Joel 3 states "when I restore the fortunes of Judah . . . I will bring *all* the nations forth for war." Armageddon! The fortunes of Judah were restored in March 1948. It is an inescapable conclusion that this final war will take place within our generation.

This final conflict has probably already started, we just don't recognize it. The United States and her allies are being drawn in. There are scriptures without number which indicate this will be a battle like none before it. Two hundred million men will be involved, Revelation 9:16. The battle will be 200 miles long, from Jerusalem North to Mageddo, and on up into Lebanon, Revelation 14:20. There will be unbelievably deadly weaponry, a third of mankind will be killed, Revelation 9:18. That is almost two billion people! A nuclear holocaust undoubtedly. Can the United States escape? No, we shall not escape, Revelation 3:10; and we shall not win this war, but at the end of it, Jesus will!

This is the real world and its awesome future, there are no escape hatches. Do we like an ostrich try to hide our heads in the sand of end-time doctrinal ambivalence, hoping that if we all don't agree on a danger, that it isn't really there?

Even now, some prophesy loudly that these bowls of wrath will take place during a *Great Tribulation* period, but after the church has

been taken to be with the Lord. Zechariah 13:4 states, "And it will come about in that day that the prophets will each be ashamed of his vision when he prophesies," and so it shall be. Note the following verse which is positioned in scripture *after* the fifth bowl, just before the battle of Armageddon.

Revelation 16:15

15 "Behold I come as a thief, blessed is the one who stays awake and keeps his garments, lest he walk about naked and men see his shame."

There are six other references in the New Testament which speak of the Lord's thieflly return. From their contexts it is obvious that this return as a thief is directed to the church. Jesus cannot come like a thief for the church during the bowls of wrath, unless the church is still on earth. There are no scriptures which indicate that the Lord will return as a thief twice, so the church must be on earth *during* the bowls of wrath!

These judgments in themselves, horrible as they may be, do not represent the real threat, the church is sound asleep and therein lies the danger. We treat the coming time of distress as if it were just of academic interest not affecting our lives too much. Not so, and may God be merciful to us for our willful blindness.

We are going to go through a time of trouble that will make the Nazi holocaust look like the bush leagues. Corrie TenBoom days magnified many times over, not just in Europe, but in the whole inhabited earth, Revelation 3:10.

After the Hebrew nation fell away from the Lord, destruction came upon them. Throughout the Christian era, saints far more sanctified than we have been slaughtered by the millions. What makes us think, in these final hours, lukewarm as we are, that we are more worthy to escape than they? From Isaiah to Revelation the Lord has forewarned us with word pictures of unparalleled vividness.

I Peter 4:17

"For it is time for judgment to *begin* with the household of God; and if it begins with us first, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God?"

Read this verse again and again until it sinks into your soul, then note the following:

Zechariah 14:5

- 5 "And you will flee by the valley of My mountains, for the valley of the mountains will reach to Azal; yes, you will flee just as you did before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah. Then the Lord, my God, will come, and all the Holy ones with Him."

When we are close to annihilation the last trumpet will sound and we will be taken to be with Jesus who will be returning to stand on Mt. Zion. By the word of His mouth He will instantly and forever defeat His enemies. Then cometh the Judgment.

If I did not trust in the Lord at this moment, I would be terrified. Where can we hide? There is no hole deep enough, no hill high enough, and no island far enough away. Without the direct intervention and protection of the Lord, there is no hope for anyone at all. Given the accuracy of Bible prophecy to date, the death rattle of our civilization will make Hollywood's attempts to portray it look like a garden club tea.

Revelation 16:2-18 (excerpts)

"And the first angel poured out his bowl into the earth and it became a loathsome and malignant sore upon the men who had the mark of the beast . . . and every living thing in the sea died . . . and the rivers and the springs of water became blood . . . and it was given to scorch men with fire . . . and they gnawed their tongues because of pain. And they gathered together to a place which in Hebrew is called Har-Magedon."

Zechariah 14:12-13

- 12 "Now this is the plague with which the Lord will strike all the peoples who have gone to war against Jerusalem; their flesh will rot while they stand on their feet, and their eyes will rot in the sockets, and their tongues will rot in their mouths.
- 13 "And it will come about in that day that a great panic from the Lord will fall on them; and they will seize one another's hand, and the hand of one will be lifted against the hand of another."

Revelation 19:17-21

- 17 "And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried out with a loud voice, saying to all

the birds which fly in midheaven, "Come assemble for the great supper of God;

- 18 "in order that you may eat the flesh of kings and the flesh of commanders and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses and those who sit on them and the flesh of all men, both free men and slaves, and small and great.
- 19 "And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies, assembled to make war against Him . . . (Jesus) and His army.
- 20 "And the beast was seized, and with him the false prophet who performed the signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image; these two were thrown into the lake of fire which burns with brimstone.
- 21 "And the rest were killed with the sword which came from the mouth of Him (Jesus) . . . and all the birds were filled with their flesh."

#### WE ARE RESPONSIBLE

Here we are on the eve of these cataclysmic events, yet we the church sit . . . rich, fat, and complacent, in the belief that these prophecies refer to some time in the future, or if they do happen soon, we will be raptured out anyway so it isn't our problem. God help us, that is the doctrine of the enemy! Wake up. The time is now. We should be on our knees praying fervently for the strength to escape, Luke 21:36.

With this new understanding of Bible prophecy, the Lord has forged a new spiritual weapon to bring the church to repentance and to lead the lost to Him. Use this new weapon. Share the provable soon return of the Lord Jesus. He died for all and He is not willing that any should perish. It is up to you and me, my brother. Now that we have this knowledge, we are responsible before the Lord our God to alert the brethren as He opens the doors.

There are some who are saying that teaching a new end-time doctrine would be divisive and could cause a schism in the body. I can hear the Pharisees saying the same thing to Peter and Paul; and it sounds exactly like what the false prophet Zedekiah, the son of Chenaanah, said to Micaiah. "Then Zedekiah the son of Chenaanah came near and struck Micaiah on the

cheek and said, 'How did the Spirit of the Lord pass from me to speak to you?'" The whole story is recorded in II Chronicles 18:4-24; so we are in good company!

They didn't let the critics stop them, and don't you. Witness to the lost, and to those brethren who sigh and groan over the abominations in our midst, and then trust the Lord for the increase. Play time is over! The Lord is going to shake the olive trees, and the unproductive branches will fall.

Flee from those who handle God's word carelessly, and be on guard against false doctrine, which leads inevitably to disobedience. Many men and women claim Divine guidance for beliefs that cannot be proved from scripture, or which distort the plain statements of the Bible. Be not deceived.

A spirit of rebellion has invaded even some of the so-called evangelical churches. They explain away the commands in scripture with such reasonable-sounding phrases as "That verse is open to interpretation," or, "Obviously directed to the first century Corinthians, and not applicable in our culture today."

With these and other self-serving evasions of what the Bible states, they question the omniscience of God Almighty . . . as if He did not know exactly what He wished to say to His children down through the centuries. From Isaiah 40:8 we know that His word will stand forever; and the Lord inspired Samuel to say, "Has the Lord as much delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as He has in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice," I Samuel 15:22.

Yet some sit around and pontificate away such direct commands as "Let a woman . . . cover her head . . . when praying or prophesying," I Corinthians 11:5-6; "Let women keep silent in the churches," I Corinthians 14:34 and "I do not allow a woman to teach or hold authority over a man," I Timothy 2:12. The author does not cite these examples to pick on his dear sisters in the Lord, but to show how careless we have become about obeying God's word. Because we do not understand *the reason* for one of God's laws does not excuse us from obeying it. However, from the contexts of the above quotes, and from Ephesians 5:22-32

the typological reasons for these commands are apparent, and "It is the little foxes" (*the "small" commands we ignore*), "that spoil the vines" (*that hurt our fellowship with the Lord*), Song of Solomon 2:15.

Sometimes it is difficult to foresee the outcome of what appears to be a minor sidestep to total obedience. But among us today are some female "theologians" who in their liberality are questioning the gender of the living God . . . as if He had not already spoken clearly of His divine nature. When Jesus was on earth as a *man*, He said, "I and my Father," (*not, I and my mother*) "are one." Additionally, the masculine forms used in the Greek and Hebrew texts when referring to Deity are indisputable and extensive enough to make any counter argument futile. How then can such a ludicrous and bizarre heresy creep into the church? By ignoring just one of the little foxes . . . "Let women keep silent in the churches." Now because of our disobedience to this "little" command, some, weak in the faith, will be carried away into error. If anyone wishes to criticize this position on the role of women in the church, let him find it in error from the Bible. Until then, the author is simple enough to stand on what God's word states.

The Holy Spirit will not speak against Himself. He will not inspire the Bible writers on one position, and then subjectively guide someone contrary to what He has already written. Yet we hear of this all the time. Some are saying, "My spirit witnesses to that," or, "My spirit does not witness to that," when referring to some verse of scripture under discussion. This is gross heresy . . . as if our subjective feelings could have any bearing whatsoever on the truth of the objective written Word of God!

Why are we including these doctrinal points in a book on prophecy? Scripture states that in the end times we will go after doctrines of demons, I Timothy 4:1. Today, our churches are chock full of such heresies. Precept upon precept for which there is no Bible support.

What is frightening is that very few seem to be too upset about it. How the Lord's heart

must ache. All the way through His word He instructs us. Then He warns us of the results of disobedience. Yet we carelessly continue on in our waywardness, and expect no judgment! How foolishly blind we have become. The results of disobedience have been the same since the creation of mankind.

So no matter what goes on about us, we must stand on God's word, if we stand alone. Much about us, claiming to be the work of the Lord, is sinking sand. Cling to God's word with all your might, obey Him with all your heart. Watch out for the little foxes, even if no one else you know is doing so. It is not going to gain you popularity, but the Lord didn't promise popularity. What He promised is tribulation, so don't be surprised when it comes.

To those dear humble pastors and elders who are standing squarely on the Bible . . . He knows your tribulation, stand on. But to you ministers, teachers, priests and elders who are not . . . come down from your lofty and prideful thrones, so that the common people no longer make idols of you. Abandon dead liturgical systems which kill the spirit. Stop worrying about building *your* church and *your* flock, because it isn't yours. It is the Lord Jesus' church and *His* flock! Worry not about the precepts of men. If you teach to Jesus' sheep doctrines that you can't, in your heart, honestly support from scripture, the Lord will judge. Stop depending on denominational headquarters for your spiritual insight, look instead to the Lord as He has revealed Himself in His word. Trust in the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and believe that God answers prayer. Seek no more to control your brethren. Return the rulership of the body to the Lord Jesus, to whom it rightfully belongs.

Denominations, free your member churches to grow spiritually as the Holy Spirit guides them. Unless you can honestly claim that you, as leaders, are filled with the Holy Spirit, and the local churches are not, return their leadership back to the Lord, where it too belongs. One group controlling another is counter to the basic truth of the Holy Spirit indwelling the in-

dividual. It is the Roman error . . . different only in degree.

To my younger brethren in the Lord who do not fully understand their glorious position in Christ Jesus . . . Remember that you are a priest of the living God, called to a heavenly calling. Support and love those few precious pastors and Bible teachers who are absolutely true to the Word of God. But if you are in a church which clings to counter-scriptural dogma, warn them twice as the scripture directs, and fear them not. The living God indwelling one saint is a majority. If they continue to ignore the word, shake their dust from off your feet. Flee as if your spiritual life depends on it, for I say to you in the Lord, it surely does.

Revelation 18:5

5 "And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, 'Come out from her my people, that you may not participate in her sins and that you may not receive of her plagues'."

Start home Bible prophecy studies and churches, all first century churches were in the home. Invite your friends. Don't look for the support or approval of church leaders, you may not get it, and you could become discouraged. Don't forget that you are a priest too. Seek only to please the Lord, and look to Him for your reward. If anyone argues with you, make him prove his contention from the scripture. With the help of the Holy Spirit, and this little book as a guide, you now understand more about Bible prophecy than 99.999% of the people on earth. Don't be afraid. The Holy Spirit will guide you just as He did the first century saints, and just as He guided me to write this book.

Three years ago I was an alcoholic and an adulterer. The Lord purified my life in one day, and found a way to use even me. I am no great saint, author or grammarian, and undoubtedly professors of various disciplines will take me apart; but I know that the message of this little book is true, and if the Holy Spirit dwells within you, so do you. Nothing is impossible for the Lord. If He can use me, He can use you

too, whoever you are, and no matter what you have done.

If you still do not know the Lord, and but ask Him, the Lord Jesus can cure you of all your sins in an instant and make your life worth living. Don't be one of those who have tried to take out a spiritual "fire insurance" policy. They claim they are Christians, but are not. They have a false hope because there is a doctrine of easy believeism in the church which states that all we have to do is "believe" in the Lord Jesus and we shall be saved. In a way that is true, but really believing in the Lord is a life-changing experience! The scripture states, "By their fruits ye shall know them," and from James 2:17 "Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone." Accepting Jesus as our Savior is more than just warming a pew for three or four hours a week. According to the above scriptures, spritual fruit and spritual works will follow our belief. True faith will bear fruit, because we by nature act on what we truly believe.

If we are not bringing forth fruit, or are living in sin, we better take a close look at our true spiritual condition. "Our God is a consuming fire," Hebrews 12:29; and "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God," Hebrews 10:31. Spiritual game time is over. Judgement is at hand. The church needs awakening, and there are lost to be saved.

Give your life totally to the Lord Jesus and go forth in His power, bringing forth fruit unto righteousness. God will surely bless you. He will not go back on His own word, "So shall my word be which goes forth from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, without accomplishing what I desire, and without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it" Isaiah 55:11. In His name I lay my hands on you all . . . go forth.

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Shock . . . unutterable pain . . . spikes hammer into flesh and sinew. They part wrist bones, then bury into the rough hewn wood.

Coarse hands lift and drop a cross in place; torture to arms and feet. If He cries out six legions of angels will take Him down, but He won't ask . . . for this is why He came.

Sweat mingled with blood runs down His face and burns His eyes. He longs to wipe it away, but cannot move His hands. He looks down upon a sea of jeering faces. Because He is God, He looks through time, and sees your jeering face and mine.

"Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do."

He gasps for breath, and tries to stand on feet pierced through. He cannot; for the burden of your sins and mine a horror . . . too great for wounded body to bear; and yet, "he hath borne our griefs and carried our sorrows."

"My God, My God, why has Thou forsaken me?" . . . and He dies.

Those are the bleeding hands and feet of Jesus long ago. Through it all, He never ceased to love us. "How shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation?"

Are there still unsaved who have read this far?

*"Seek ye the Lord while He may be found;  
Call upon Him while He is near.  
Let the wicked forsake his way,  
And the unrighteous man his thoughts;  
And let him return to the Lord,  
And He will have compassion on him;  
For He will abundantly pardon."*

As for you, brethren, not to worry:

*"For you will go out with joy,  
And be led forth with peace,  
The mountains and the hills will break forth  
into shouts of joy before you.  
And all the trees of the field will clap their  
hands" . . .*

*"Preserve justice and do righteousness,  
For My salvation is about to come,  
And My righteousness to be revealed . . ."*

*Isaiah 55:6-7, 12 and 56:1*

APPENDIX

Once we see the Chiasms in Daniel and Revelation, suddenly, they seem to appear everywhere in scripture. However, there are two events recorded in the Bible at which man could not have been an observer; the creation and the eternal kingdom of God yet to come. As a consequence, these accounts must have been directly dictated by the Lord, and both are Chiasmic.

Genesis	1:1	(A) God and Earth
	1:2	(B) The waters
	1:4	(C) Light and Dark
	1:5	(C) Light and Dark
	1:9	(B) The waters
	1:10	(A) God and Earth
Revelation	21:27	(A) Book of Life
	22:1	(B) Water of Life
	22:2	(C) Tree of Life
	22:14	(C) Tree of Life
	22:17	(B) Water of Life
	22:19	(A) Book of Life (KJV)

Thus, the Bible opens and closes with a Chiasm and the theological implications are staggering. Over a 6,000 year period with many cultural and literary influences, this poetic form has been extant in scripture even when man himself was not there. So whose literary device is the Chiasm? The Lord's. And this form appears in couplet, paragraph, chapter, whole book and even inter-testamentally.

Old Testament	Daniel 1-7	(A) Gentile Nations
	Daniel 8-12	(B) God's Chosen People
New Testament	Rev. 1-11	(B) The Church
	Rev. 12-20	(A) The Nations

The 583 B.C. date for the abolition of sacrifices was chosen not only because of scriptural and historic evidence, but because of the four confirming prophecies in Revelation which indicate the importance of the 688 A.D. date. Secondly, when 583 B.C. is used to interpret the 1,335 days, we arrive at the Battle of Tours, 732 A.D., to the year, which adds another confirming time line. When studied in its entirety, with this many lines of confirming evidence, one could fill every book in the local library with zeroes and still not have enough to show the x10 probability of this view being in error.

It is scripturally conceivable that the man of sin spoken of in II Thessalonians 2:2-12 is fulfilled in our humanistic religions of today, and the false prophet could have been fulfilled in Mohammed.

Anti-Christ as an individual appearing in the end times may be an incorrect view. The little horn spoken of in Daniel 7 was probably fulfilled in Adolph Hitler, who was not the Anti-Christ as we have been led to believe he shall appear. Furthermore, Daniel 7 is not the vision of the end, Daniel 8 is, and the scripture flatly states it to be. Daniel 8:17 and 8:19. So if an Anti-Christ as a final world leader is to appear he must come from the Mohammedan world. Because of these uncertainties, the final Anti-Christ, if there will be one, is little spoken of in this book. Since we understand beasts to be nations, will we recognize the leader of these nations as *the Anti-Christ* ??? This author is not sure, and does not believe that scripture is clear *as yet* on this subject.

One of the most remarkable aspects of this study is that all of the data and information used in its formulation is readily available to anyone who looks. The historic material is available in any Bible encyclopedia and any good history of Western man. The mathematical fulfillment of the days and months is not dependent on any special translation or data additional to what has been in the scripture throughout the ages. The only difference is that, with current events, the Lord has opened up His prophetic word in a new way. This may not be the last time He does so, and if the Lord tarries, the straight edge of scripture must also be laid against what is written here. The author will not be offended.

There is a vast difference between what we know to be true because the scripture states it, and what we believe by interpretation. This saint wishes that he were wise enough to always be able to tell the difference. However, he has tried to avoid stating unsupportable suppositions as struck-in-stone doctrine. The church has certainly had enough of that to last us.

*The Lord bless you, brethren. Maranatha!*

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## A BOMBSHELL . . .

### An Absolute Must For Students of Bible Prophecy!

This is a terrifying work! Point by scriptural point, Skolfield shows us how we have accepted tradition rather than the scripture for our end-time doctrine, and brings us face to face with our frightening future. Suddenly we wake up, and realize that we may no longer be complacent about the soon return of the Lord, and the horrifying events that will precede His advent.

Detailed and methodical, Skolfield describes the present spiritual condition of the church and the world in the light of scripture. He shows how the sins existing in Israel which caused their destruction by the Babylonians, exist in the church today. He then leads us to an inevitable conclusion . . . that the scripture indicates we shall probably suffer the same fate! If Skolfield is right, and his evidence certainly makes it appear so, we are not dealing with just another prophetic view here, but with the correct interpretation of Daniel and Revelation. Astonishing! How have we missed this view for so long?

This is the most exciting book on Bible prophecy in a decade. Highly evangelical in tone, "Daniel is Out of Order" explains how the prophecies in this Old Testament book may be used as a guideline to interpret Revelation. Using the latest discov-

eries in archaeology and text, Skolfield concludes that many of the prophecies that we have here-to-for believed were to take place in the Great Tribulation have been fulfilled in the church age.

Showing extensive, and sound research into the Bible and history, this book proves beyond reasonable doubt that the 1,290 days, and times, times and half a time of Daniel 12; and the 42 months, and 1,260 days of Revelation 11 and 12; have been fulfilled by the new nation of Israel. This calls into question many of the end time positions that we hold today.

The discovery of the reason that Daniel is out of chronological order has long-range implications, and will undoubtedly have a major influence on many other areas of Bible study. As a bonus, in addition to the day-years mentioned above, this new data makes untenable the current position of the liberal Daniel scholars.

Written for the man on the street, "Daniel is Out of Order" is a serious work on Bible prophecy which may be understood by anyone. This book will be remembered long after its more lurid and sensational contemporaries are forgotten, and should be on the bookshelf of every student of the scripture.

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