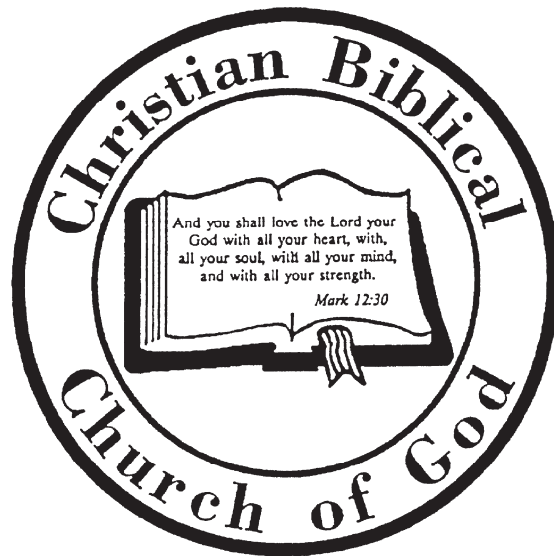


Day 49 & Pentecost 2020



Transcript Book

By Fred R. Coulter

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Fred R. Coulter
Christian Biblical Church of God
P. O. Box 1442
Hollister, California 95024-1442

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It is Written

(Day 49—2020)

The one who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches

Fred R. Coulter—May 30, 2020

Greetings, brethren! Welcome to Day 49! This is going to be quite a day when we really understand the Word of God.

The Word of God is so great, because it's the Truth of God, and it's written in such a way that it is inspired spiritually, and there are meanings that are layered one on top of another. God has made it very simple to begin to understand. It is difficult to understand some very hard parts of the Bible, but it's like everything else, you must learn the basics first.

The key to even having the spiritual blindness removed from your eyes began when you started keeping the Sabbath, the seventh day of the week. *That is God's day!*

IF you do it in sincerity and truth, you do it to find out about the Truth of God, and you begin to obey what you learn—when you first start it's the simple things—**THEN** God will reveal His Truth to you!

When it came time that we were going to translate the New Testament, which was translated first, the key to that was *the Truth of God from the Word of God*, from the *Received Text*, the standard that was brought out for the Word of God.

Of course, God made sure that it was taken care of. We have to be faithful to the Truth. We did the same thing with the Old Testament. Michael Heiss knows all about the Hebrew, and he gave us the understanding that we needed for the Old Testament. He was very diligent in it, and we appreciate what he did so that we could have the whole Bible, *The Holy Bible in Its Original Order, A Faithful Version with Commentary* {afaithfulversion.org}

There's something else about the Word of God and the Scriptures that very few people even understand. We're going to look at that first, as we come to this Day 49, and see how that fits in.

Dan. 10—here we find that Gabriel came to Daniel to give him some understanding of the things that he had written. This was right when Cyrus issued the order to have the Jews begin to leave Babylon to go back to Jerusalem and rebuild the city of the temple.

Daniel 10:19: “[Gabriel] said, ‘O man greatly beloved, do not fear. Peace be unto you; **be strong; yea, be strong.**’”

That's what we need to do, be strong in the Lord! Strong in the Word of God! That' is the Truth! Jesus said that ‘Your Word is Spirit and Life.’ Keep that in mind!

Verse 20: “And when he had spoken to me [Daniel], I was made stronger, and I said, ‘Let my lord speak, for you have strengthened me.’: “Then he said, ‘Do you know why I come to you? And now I must return to fight with the prince of Persia. And when I go forth, lo, the prince of Greece shall come.’”

That actually took several hundred years! But time as determined by God, to spirit beings and angels is entirely different than what it is for us.

Verse 21: “But I will show you that which is written in **the Scripture of Truth**....” *I want you to think about that!* There is in heaven above **the Scriptures of God written down called “...the Scripture of Truth....”**

It's so imperative that when any translation goes on that you stick to the Truth of the Word of God, and you do a lot of praying. You keep your own personality and self out of it, because whenever we handle the Word of God and preach the Word of God we are only custodians of it to make sure that it is the Truth going to the brethren.

- not what we desire to do
- not what we want to do

but

- what God says
- what God wants done
- in the way that He wants it done
- in the time that He wants it done

I think you will understand this even a little more, and these are Scriptures that we have covered many times. With this in mind, that everything is *written down* in “...**the Scripture of Truth**....” **or** the Scroll of Truth' in heaven. We will see that God intended everything necessary for us as human beings *to be written down!*

Matthew 5:17: “Do not think... [don't let it enter into your mind] ...that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets...”

Always remember that Jesus Christ was the Lord of the Old Testament. So, He knows all about the Law and the Testament because that's what He inspired to be written, which was previously written

in “...**the Scripture of Truth**...” in heaven above.

“...I did not come to abolish, but to fulfill” (v 17)--*to complete, and here’s why*: They could burn every single Bible on earth and destroy every digital copy of the Bible on earth, but let’s apply Dan. 10:21 to it:

Verse 18:“For truly I say to you, **until the heaven and the earth shall pass away, one jot or one tittle shall in no way pass from the Law** until everything has been fulfilled.”

Think about this, the Greek behind “...no way...” is a double negative—‘me ou’ or ‘ou me’—it’s expressed both ways. When you have a double negative that means *it’s never going to happen!*

Even if they did what I just described, guess what? **The Scriptures are written “...the Scripture of Truth...” in heaven above**, and God is in charge of that! This is something! God intended all of these things to be written down!

Let’s verify that by Psalm 119:89: “Forever, O LORD, **Your Word is settled in the heavens.**”

That’s where it’s recorded; the official copy is in heaven. We have official written copies. Why do we have it all written down? I want you to think of a Scripture in Matt. 4.

- Why do we have it all written down?
- Why do we have so many Bibles? *Billions of them!*

It’s the most widely published book in the world. Now multiplied over and over again through all the digital hi-tech means that we have. Some of you out there, you have a digital version on your NotePad or your computer, or your smart phone. *The whole Bible, everything there!* Think of that!

Verse 89: “Forever, O LORD, Your Word is settled in the heavens.” *Therefore, it can never be abolished! Never!* Who is going to go to heaven and do that? **No one!**

Let’s see some other things that are important. Why did God want it written down? *We’ll answer that in a bit, but I’ll let you think on it!* It’s very important for us, and very important for Jesus!

Exo. 34—this was after the children of Israel rebelled by worshipping the golden calf. Remember what happened when Moses came down and found that all the children of Israel and Aaron had succumbed to worshipping the golden calf. He took the Ten Commandments written on the slate of stone and threw it to the ground.

God wanted it written in stone! You can’t erase that very well, can you? So, to make sure that they had it, let’s see what God told them:

Exodus 34:1: “And the LORD said to Moses, ‘Cut out two tablets of stone like the first ones. And **I will write upon the tablets the words that were in the first tablets, which you broke.**’”

Amazing! Stop and think about that! God expects us to also write, because that’s how we learn. God made and created us this way so we could learn. The Greek word for *read* is ‘anaginos,’ which means *uptake knowledge to your mind!* It’s a perfect description of what the Bible is: *uptake knowledge to your mind!*

Verse 27: “And the LORD said to Moses, **‘Write these words for yourself**, for in accordance to these words I have made a covenant with you and with Israel.’” *Then Moses was there for 40 days and 40 nights!* All the statutes and ordinances are *written down!* Why? Why does God want that?

Deuteronomy 10: 1: “At that time the LORD said to me, ‘Cut out two tablets of stone like the first, and come up to Me into the mountain, and make for yourself an ark of wood. And **I will write** on the tablets the words that were in the first tablets which you broke, and you shall put them in the ark’” (vs 1-2).

That’s quite a thing! God wanted it there for as long as He was going to have the temple, that **the words written by the finger of God** would be there. **All the statutes and judgments that are written down are based on the Ten Commandments!**

Now let’s look at the Prophets, because there are some things concerning the Prophets that are very interesting.

We have all of these things of Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel and all of them have this in common: *The Word of the Lord came to...*—whichever Prophet it was, and he was to write it down. **There’s a copy of that in heaven in the Scripture of Truth!** What’s written in there for us after we’re resurrected? *I’ll just let you think on that!*

Jeremiah 30:1: “The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying, ‘Thus speaks the LORD God of Israel, saying, **‘Write all the words that I have spoken to you in a book.** For, lo, the days come,’ says the LORD, “that I will turn back the captivity of My people Israel and Judah,” says the LORD. “And I will cause them to return to the land that I gave their fathers, and they shall possess it.” And these *are* the words that the LORD spoke concerning Israel and concerning Judah” (vs 1-4).

All right there! Quite a thing! Think about that for a minute! Let’s see what God told Jeremiah to do, and this is why we have the Old Testament, which is history, teaching, everything we need to

know going back especially to the time after the Flood. The time before the Flood we know very, very little, yet, we have enough knowledge that we know that it took place.

Jeremiah 36:1: “And it came to pass in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah, this word came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying, ‘Take for yourself a **scroll of a book, and write in it all the words that I have spoken to you** against Israel, and against Judah, and against all the nations, from the day I spoke to you, from the days of Josiah, even to this day’” (vs 1-2). *Everything was written down and inspired by God!*

Why do you suppose that God did that? *We’ll answer it in just a bit!* We find the same thing all the way through the Bible; that’s why we have it. **Why did God have it written down?** *We’ll see!*

Isaiah 41:4: “Who has planned and done it, calling forth the generations from the beginning? ‘I, THE LORD, AM THE FIRST AND THE LAST; I AM HE.’” *That’s quite a statement!* Remember, **this is the One Who became Jesus Christ!** This tells you that God is in charge of everything, from the *first to the last!*

- that’s why He’s given it to us
- that’s why He’s given free moral agency
- that’s why He’s told us to choose and love and serve Him

It’s written down! That’s important to realize. Think of all the languages that it’s written in. And if it’s properly translated—***yielding to the Truth, yielding to the Spirit of God—it has the same authoritative meaning*** as if it were from *The Scripture of Truth* in heaven above!

Isa. 44 has to do with Day 49, and again: Why did God go to all this trouble? *So that He could eventually save the greatest majority of all human beings!*

Isaiah 44:6: “Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel, and His Redeemer *even* the LORD of hosts, ‘I AM THE FIRST, AND I AM THE LAST; and besides Me *there is no god*’”—*on the earth!* We know there is *The Most High!*

Verse 7: “And who, as I, shall call and shall declare it and set it in order for Me, since I appointed the ancient people?...” *He has done all of these things through:*

- the power of His Spirit
- the power of His angels
- the power of Satan the devil and the demons

The good and the evil!

Verse 8: “...So, you *are* My witnesses. Is there a God besides Me? Yea, *there is* no other Rock; I know not *one*. Those who make a graven image *are* all of them vanity; and the things in which they delight shall not help; and they *are* their own witnesses. They do not see nor know, that they may be ashamed. Who has formed a god, or melted a graven image that is profitable for anything?” (vs 8-10)—***Nothing!***

Let’s see what God says about Himself; Isaiah 45:5: “I *am* the LORD, and *there is* none else. *There is* no God besides Me; I clothed you, though you have not known Me.”

God has done all of these things when people do not know anything about God. ***Yet, He does things for them!***

Verse 6: “That they may know from the rising of the sun, and from the west, that *there is* none besides Me. I *am* the LORD, and there is none else; I form the light and create darkness; I make peace and create evil. I the LORD do all these things” (vs 6-7).

Written down so we may know! That’s how we can have faith. When we ***know, prove and understand*** that God ***is God*** and that He has written this down for our own good.

Verse 18: “For thus says the LORD the Creator of the heavens, He Himself *is* God, Who formed the earth and made it; He has established it. He created it not in vain, *but* formed it to be inhabited. ‘I *am* the LORD, and *there is* no other. I have not spoken in secret...’” (vs 18-19)—***because it is written down!***

- Why?
- Why did God do this? *Let’s think about this!*
- Have you figured out why He did it?
- Why do we have all of this history?
- Why do we have all of these things put together?
- What is it for us?
- What is it for our conversion?

It is for our having faith, and doing the will of God!

Let’s see something very interesting, here is the reason in Matt. 4 when Jesus went to the wilderness to be tempted of Satan the devil.

Matthew 42:2: “And when He had fasted *for* forty days and forty nights, afterwards He was famished. And when the tempter came to Him, he said, ‘***If*** You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread’” (vs 2-3). *He was famished, He was weak, and Satan probably said:*

Just think about it, just go ahead and make them like fresh bread coming out of the oven; smell it and see how good that is. Don't you think that would help You. Wouldn't you like to have a little more strength in dealing with me.

Here's the purpose of everything that is written down:

Verse 4: "But He answered *and* said, '**It is written...**'" *Look at that very carefully.* It doesn't say, 'It **was** written.' It doesn't say, 'It **has been** written.'

Jesus says, "...'**It is** written...'"—*present tense*, meaning that **the Bible is present tense active** on everyone at every stage down through history as much as God's Word has been revealed to those during whatever time it was. **It is written! Present tense!**

"...'**Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God**'" (v 4)—*and as been written down! That's amazing! You think about that!*

Now let's look at some things for the New Testament and see how they interlock with things found in the Old Testament. This is why I said that the Word of God is layered, because it is *spiritually discerned!* You need the Spirit of God to have those spiritual things understood, to understand what it is.

There's another ingredient that is necessary in order to understand the Word of God, and that is *the Spirit of God*. The Spirit of God is given to those who:

- truly repent of their sins
- accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Master, and Savior
- are baptized by full water immersion
- are conjoined to the death of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of their sins

That is their covenant offer that they provide. Jesus' sacrifice and offering was already given. But each one of us have to likewise have an offering to give, **which is our whole being immersed in water, signifying the death of the old carnal self!**

But we're raised out of the water because we've got to grow in grace and knowledge. We cannot grow in grace and knowledge, which is necessary, so that we can be read for the resurrection, unless we're still living in the flesh but having the Spirit of God.

The Spirit of God is that which gives us understanding. Without the Spirit of God men cannot understand the Bible, even though it's written down. Let's see what Jesus said:

John 6:63: "**It is the Spirit that gives life; the flesh profits nothing...**"

There is no way you can do the spiritual work of God by the physical means of psychology, by the physical means of the rules of men. Think about that and what Jesus said to the scribes and Pharisees **about their traditions!**

They had with their rabbis and everything, they were looked upon as having more knowledge than what is in the Scriptures, *more knowledge than what God wants to give them!*

- How can that be?
- Is a man greater than God?
- Do we not have the same thing with *fake* Christianity today? **Yes!**

Verse 63: "**It is the Spirit that gives life; the flesh profits nothing.** The words that I speak to you, **they are Spirit and they are Life.**" *That's quite a thing!* That's why we have the Spirit of God, so we can understand:

- understand the Holy Days
- understand what God is doing
- understand the importance of this day

Verse 65: "And He said, 'For this reason, I have said to you, no one can come to Me unless it has been given to him from My Father.'" *God intervening to make it possible to understand.*

- the Father draws
- we come to Christ
- Christ leads us to the Father
- Both dwell in us spiritually with the Holy Spirit

So that we can understand the Word of God!

Let's see what we are to cover and how it fits in to the book of Revelation. Remember, Jesus said, '**I am the First and the Last, the Beginning and the Ending.**' *God is in charge of the whole thing!*

Lev. 23 is where all the Holy Days are listed. The instructions, beginning with *the Wave Sheaf Offering up to Pentecost, the 50th Day*, **has more verses than any other Holy Day!** That's quite a thing, and we'll cover some today and some of it tomorrow (Pentecost)

Leviticus 23:9: "And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 'Speak to the children of Israel and say to them, "When you have come into the land, which I give to you, and shall reap the harvest of it, then you shall bring *the premier* sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest to the priest. And he shall

wave the sheaf before the LORD to be accepted for you. On the next day after the Sabbath the priest shall wave it”” (vs 9-11).

What is the next day after the Sabbath? *The first day of the week!* So, *this must be waved on the first day of the week during Unleavened Bread!* If the first day of Unleavened Bread is on the first day of the week, that’s when it is to be waved.

Then you are to number seven weeks, each ending in the Sabbath and come to the 50th day, which is the day after the 7th Sabbath. We’ll cover the rest of that tomorrow.

All the seven weeks of the harvest are shown in Matt. 13. Christ is the One Who sows the seed. It shows the freewill of those who choose to love God and keep His commandments, and those who repent and receive the Holy Spirit of God.

There are a lot of ‘do-gooders’ who come along and they don’t last. Jesus gave a parable showing that some fall where there’s very little soil, some fall in the rocks, some in the weeds, *and all of these don’t have the staying power, because they haven’t committed themselves to God!*

Then Jesus said some things about that in Matt. 13, which covers various different aspects of it. Now let’s come to the book of Revelation and tie this all together. The seven weeks have a special meaning, and remember: *It’s written in the Scripture of Truth in heaven above!*

Rev. 1 is very profound, indeed! It shows that Jesus was the Lord God of the Old Testament. It shows in sequence the Holy Days and the Passover—because He died on the Passover Day. It shows the sequence of the Wave Sheaf Offering, because He was raised from the dead the third day. Then He ascended to the Father on the 4th day.

See how the world has it all mixed up *because they don’t believe God, they don’t believe the Truth of God!*

We’re going to see, as we go through the book of Revelation, Jesus says to *write! write! write!* He wants it written down. Notice how it starts out:

Revelation 1:1: “*The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave to Him... [this came from God the Father] ...to show to His servants the things that are ordained to come to pass shortly... [that’s on God’s timetable] ...and He made it known, having sent it by His angel to His servant John who gave witness to the Word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ, and all the things he saw*” (vs 1-2).

This is truly an amazing book! Now here in v 3 is what happens when you read it, believe it, understand it and have it properly put together.

There’s a special blessing that comes:

Verse 3: “Blessed *is* the one who reads, and those who hear the words of this prophecy and who keep the things *that are written therein*; for the time *is* at hand.

There’s an obligation. You do a survey through all the book of Revelation and you will find every one of the Ten Commandments, either directly mentioned or alluded to. We also know that it’s *spiritually understood!* It’s not just a matter of reading it and you understand it. *NO!* Unless you do the things that are written in the book, you’re not going to understand. You have to do the things that are written previously up to this point so that you’re loving God and keeping His commandments.

Verse 4: “John to the seven churches that *are* in Asia: Grace and peace *be* to you from Him Who is, and Who was, and Who *is* to come; and from the **seven spirits** that are before His throne.”

The “...seven spirits...” are the seven eyes of God sent into all the earth. That’s how God finds out those who are seeking Him. If they will repent and yield to the pulling of one of the seven spirits for them to come to repentance, but there’s choice. There’s always free choice.

Verse 5: “And from Jesus Christ, the faithful Witness, the Firstborn from the dead, and the Ruler of the kings of the earth. To Him Who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, and has made us kings and priests to God and His Father; to Him *be* the glory and the sovereignty into the ages of eternity. Amen” (vs 5-6).

Here we have the very first part of the book of Revelation explaining an outline of the plan of God. You want to put this in a Holy Day setting: *Passover and the Wave Sheaf Offering Day!*

It also means this because if you believe in the death of Jesus Christ and you accept His sacrifice, then you must keep the Passover. If you believe that God meant it when He said to ‘**remember** to keep the Sabbath,’ you keep the Sabbath.

All of the fake Christianity out there in the world, as sanctimonious as they may be, can never be right with God with Sunday-keeping. Therefore, their understanding of prophecy is very spotty, indeed, because they don’t have the Spirit of God, and they do not keep the Truth.

Verse 7: “Behold, He is coming with the clouds, and every eye shall see Him, and those who pierced Him; and all the tribes of the earth shall wail because of Him. Even so, Amen.” *That goes from here clear to Rev. 16 & 19!*

Here's a lesson you need to understand concerning the Bible: Many times the Bible will tell you what is coming. In other words, a forecasting of what is coming. Here we have everything revealed to us:

- the plan of God
- our destiny
- what we're going to do
- what Christ has done

And He's coming!

When will those who pierced Him, see Him? *They're not going to see Him in the flesh when He returns!* But they will be in the second resurrection, and they will see Christ. Think of what those soldiers are going to do who took the nails and drove them into Christ's hands and feet, raised Him up on the stauros, and the soldier who took the spear and jammed it into His side clear up into His heart so that all of His blood and everything would spill out for the perfect sacrifice of the Lamb of God for the sin of the world.

- think how their eyes are going to be opened
- think about how they're going to repent

Knowing that they were instruments of God to do that! That's quite a thing!

(go to the next track)

Remember that Rev. 1 is that you can liken it to the Passover and Wave Sheaf Offering Day. Let's see how this ties in with everything in the Old Testament.

Revelation 1:8: "I am the Alpha and the Omega..." **Why would Christ use those two terms?** *Alpha is the first letter of the Greek alphabet, and Omega is the last letter, signifying that He wanted it written and caused it to be inspired to be written in Greek!* Not Hebrew! Any Hebrew New Testament is a translation from the Greek, with the exception of maybe a few parts initially of Matthew when they had to write to explain to the new converts what the new Christian Passover was all about; when they had the Hebrew-speaking segment of the Church at that time (Acts 6).

"...*the Beginning and the Ending,*' says the Lord..." (v 8).

So, He's tying Rev. all the way back to the beginning. How many prophecy are there all through the Old Testament and New Testament, that when you come to book of Revelation that's where their fulfillment is.

"...*'Who is, and Who was, and Who is to come—the Almighty'.... [that's Christ]I, John,*

who *am* also your brother and joint partaker in the tribulation and in the kingdom and endurance of Jesus Christ, was on the island that *is* called Patmos **because of the Word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ**" (vs 8-9).

He was exiled all alone! This fulfills what Jesus said to Peter, when Peter wanted to know what was going to happen to John, 'What if I desire that he remain until I come?' Well, in giving the book of Revelation and the complete thing there, that's exactly what happened to John. *He saw it in vision!* That also shows the greatness of the Bible, and how tremendous it is!

Verse 10: "I [John] was in *the Spirit* on the Day of the Lord; and I heard a loud voice like a trumpet behind me, saying, 'I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last...'" (vs 10-11)—*ties the whole Bible together!*

Now then, the last part of the Bible to be written by John is the book of Revelation. This is so different from the other writings of John that many of the so-called scholars say that this couldn't possibly be from John. ***The reason is because it's from Christ, Who received it from the Father, to John to write it down for the Church and the world!***

"...and what you see, **write in a book**... [God wants everything written down] ...and send *it* to the churches that *are* in Asia: to Ephesus, and to Smyrna, and to Pergamos, and to Thyatira, and to Sardis, and to Philadelphia, and to Laodicea.' And I turned to see the voice that spoke with me; and when I turned, I saw seven golden lampstands" (vs 11-12)—*probably in a circle, having nothing to do with the lampstand in the temple!*

Verse 13: "And **in the midst** of the seven lampstands *One* like *the Son of man*, clothed in *a garment* reaching to the feet, and girded about the chest with a golden breastplate. And His head and hair *were* like white wool, white as snow; and His eyes *were* like a flame of fire" (vs 13-14).

This is depicting Christ in a special spiritual revelation to John to show what it's going to be like to be a spirit being. God's plan is so great; we can just get a little miniscule bit of it, what God has given to us in understanding in Revelation.

But what is it going to be like at the resurrection? ***That's what we'll find out tomorrow, because Pentecost pictures the resurrection!*** Amazing, because that's the harvest! The harvest are those who are in the first resurrection!

Verse 15: "And His feet *were* like fine brass, as if *they* glowed in a furnace; and His voice *was* like *the sound* of many waters. And in His right hand

He had seven stars, and **a sharp two-edged sword** went out of His mouth... [the Word of God] ...and His countenance *was* as the sun shining in its *full* power” (vs 15-16).

Remember that Jesus took Peter, James and John up to the Mt. of Transfiguration, and they saw the vision of transfiguration. So, John knew that this was Christ, without a doubt; now with all the added details to it.

Verse 17: “And when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as if dead; but He laid His right hand upon me, saying to me, ‘Do not be afraid; I am the First and the Last...’” (vs 17-18).

Everything of God to from the beginning to the ending with everything in between, and all of it written down in the *Scripture of Truth in heaven above*. God the Father gave it to Jesus to give to John and told him to write it. See how all that ties together?

“...even the One Who is living; for I was dead, and behold, I am alive into the ages of eternity. Amen...” (v 18).

- What’s that going to be for all of us when we are alive into the ages of eternity?
- What is God’s plan going to be?

It’s going to be so awesome that I don’t believe our mind can handle it. The most we can understand is from some of the things written in the book of Revelation. Other than that there’s no way we can grasp it.

But when we look out and see the stars in the universe and everything that is out there, we’re told that we’re going to be filled with the fullness of God, what is that going to be like? *That’s why we have Day 49, so we can understand that this devoted to the Church!* The harvest of the Church along with the patriarchs and the kings will take place on Pentecost.

“...And I have the keys of *the* grave and of death” (v 18).

Think about how many people try and seek séances to get in contact with their dead relatives? *They can’t do it, because the dead no nothing, and the One Who has the key is Christ!* He hasn’t opened it yet, because that’s signaling the resurrection.

Verse 19: “Write the things that you saw, and the things that are... [which He’s going to tell John] ...and the things that shall take place hereafter.” ***Christ wants it written down so the Church can know!***

Verse 20: “The mystery of the seven stars that you saw in My right hand, and the seven golden

lampstands, *is this: **the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches***... [to watch over the churches is an angel] ...and the seven lampstands that you saw are *the* seven churches.”

- Why are there seven churches?
- How many weeks are there to the harvest?
Seven weeks!

The harvest for the resurrection is pictured by the seven churches!

When this was first given there were the seven churches in Asia literally on the mail route, beginning with Ephesus and ending with Laodicea. This was to be given to them. Now we know that in looking at the Scriptures that it is ***layered with understanding!***

These are seven times down through history from Christ to the resurrection; seven ages of the churches! Then at the end, if you look at what’s going on with the Churches of God in the world today, it is evident that the seven churches are there. God is doing so much more than we even know with so many more people, because He wants a great harvest for the first resurrection.

There are those today, who you could say are likened to those in Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamos, Thyatira, Sardis Philadelphia and Laodicea. But in this age, the greatest preponderance are those in Laodicea.

Revelation 2:1: “To the angel of **the Ephesian church**, write: ‘These things says He Who holds the seven stars in His right hand, Who walks in *the* midst of the seven golden lampstands.’”

Christ is the Head of the Church, He’s leading and guiding everything that is being done. There is a free moral agency that we are all given, that we must choose to do the things that God wants us to do. It shows that there’s still the weakness of sin, difficulties and problems, and tribulations and challenges that all of those who are in the Churches of God will face.

If you’ve been in the Church a long time, maybe you can even see how some of these things happen in your life, just as an individual person, which covers many of the things connected with the seven churches.

Verse 2: “***I know your works...***” *Christ says that to every one of them!*

We’re going to be judged by our works and by our faith. If you have the Holy Spirit of God, you’re going to have the true works of righteousness motivated by the Spirit. We all have works!

“...and your labor, and your endurance, and

that you cannot bear those who are evil; and *that* you did test those who proclaim *themselves* to be apostles, but are not, and did find them liars” (v 2). *We still do that today!*

Verse 3: “And *that* you have borne *much* and have endured, and for My name’s sake have labored and have not grown weary... [we must always keep at it] ...nevertheless, I have *this* against you, that you have left your first love” (vs 3-4).

We’ve seen that in the Church. What is the first love? *It’s not when you’re first converted!* It is the love of God, the greatest commandment, the first commandment.

- the first command is to ‘love God with all your heart, mind, soul and being’
- the second one is to ‘love your neighbor as yourself’
- the third one is to ‘love the brethren as Jesus has loved us’
- the fourth one ‘to love our enemies’

But they lost the first love toward God! How did they do that? *By doing physical activities in place of learning about God!*

Verse 5: “Therefore, remember from where you have fallen, **and repent, and do the first works;** for if *you do not*, **I will come to you quickly; and I will remove your lampstand out of its place unless you repent.**”

How much of that has happened with what we’ve experience? *We don’t know!* But it’s very possible! That happened, the Church changed!

Verse 6: “But this you have: that you hate the works of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate”—*the top down authority of a hierarchy!*

Notice how this ties in with the what Jesus said in many places in the Gospels:

Verse 7: “**The one who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the Churches....** [Who sends that Spirit? *Christ!* (2-Thess. 3). To the Churches, *all of them!* Not just one necessarily, but He takes each one of the seven and breaks them out.

“...**To the one who overcomes...**” (v 7). In every case its going to be, because we all have things we need to overcome, and we’re not going to be in the Kingdom of God unless we overcome. Christ is there to help us!

“...**I will give the right to eat of the Tree of Life** that is in *the* midst of the paradise of God” (v 7).

As we go through each one of the seven churches here and the message to them. What Christ

commends them for is that He recognizes all the good things that they do. But whatever correction is necessary, if you fit into the category, take it to yourself and then do whatever repenting you need to do to get back right with God.

Verse 8: “And to the angel of **the Church of the Smyrneans** write...”

If it only applied to that Church just in the first century, He wouldn’t have it written down. Down through history:

- many have suffered persecution
- many have suffered going to jail
- many have suffered death

We’re going to see it again, because there’s coming another martyrdom of the saints (Rev. 6).

“...These things says the First and the Last, Who was dead but is alive” (v 8). *He wants them to understand that if you’re alive now, don’t fear death!* There is nothing that anyone can do to you to deprive you have eternal life. **IF** you are martyred and you are faithful, and you have endured, **you’re guaranteed eternal life!**

Verse 9: “I know your works and tribulation and poverty (but you are rich)... [notice the difference between that and the Church of Laodicea] ...and the blasphemy of those who declare themselves to be Jews and are not, but *are* a synagogue of Satan.”

Remember that when anything important happens, **Satan is there to try and destroy it!**

Verse 10: “Do not fear any of the things that you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to cast *some* of you into prison, that you may be tried; and you shall have tribulation ten days. Be faithful unto death, **and I will give you a crown of life.**”

We need to keep that in mind with everything that we have to look forward to in the future!

Verse 11: “**The one who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. The one who overcomes shall not be hurt of the second death.**”

That’s why we need to take these things and apply them to ourselves.

Verse 12: “And to the angel of **the Church in Pergamos...** *That’s where Satan the devil was with the Temple of Zeus!*

When you live in the middle of where all of this is going on, you’re going to have some of those things affect you in what you do. We will see that that’s what happened to those in the Church of

Pergamos.

“...write: ‘These things says He Who has the sharp two-edged sword. I know your works... [notice that he’s warning them the correction is coming]: ...and where you dwell, where the throne of Satan *is*; but **you are holding fast My name, and did not deny My faith**, even in the days in which Antipas was My faithful witness, who was killed among you, where Satan dwells.’”

They held fast, but the pressure from outside was too much. They made the mistake of accepting the church organization patterned after Satan’s way; that is the Nicolaitans, authority from the top down. Now, you have to have authority *but from the top down*, that’s from Christ; not to be ruled over by men as if the men were ‘God.’ ***That’s the mistake that we all lived through!***

Verse 14: “But I have a few things against you because you have there *those* who hold the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to cast a stumbling block before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed to idols and to commit fornication.”

There is physical fornication and there is spiritual fornication. This is *spiritual* fornication probably, but because of the spiritual fornication *the physical fornication got in with it!* ***This is changing the Passover!*** That’s what that was. What is the first thing that Satan always likes to change? *The Passover!* Look at the Churches of God today; even today it affects them and they call the Passover *the Lord’s Supper!* When Paul said, ‘You’re not to eat the Lord’s Supper, and if you’re hungry eat at home’ *before you come to take the Passover!*

Verse 15: “Moreover, you also have *those* who hold **the doctrine of the Nicolaitans, which thing I hate.**”

This is the thing that Jesus says *He hates!* Why? *Because when you have that kind of Church organization you have:*

- politics
- all of those seeking to please men rather than pleasing God
- all of the sins that come in with it apply

Verse 16: “**Repent!....**” *That’s why repenting every day and being changed everyday, that’s the way to keep out of trouble with these things!*

“...For if *you* do not *repent*, I will come to you quickly, and will make war against them with the sword of My mouth” (v 16). **Did we not have that correction come to the Church of God that we were also in? Yes! And it was like a war, and:**

- we had to live through it
- we had to come out of it
- we had to stay faithful to Christ under all circumstances

Verse 17: “**The one who has an ear, let him hear...** [you understand and act upon that] **...what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who overcomes I will give the right to eat of the hidden manna;** and I will give him a white stone, and on the stone a new name written, which no one knows except the one who receives *it.*” *That will happen to all of us!*

We don’t know how much they repented, but we can look at the pattern of what happened in our day, and you have just about the same thing.

I got a notice from one of the Churches of God in Southern California—one of the ones who split off—and in order to keep people together, they adopted, *in addition to the Holy Days*, Christmas and Easter and all of that! A Church of God today! **They didn’t learn the lesson of the Church at Pergamos, so where is that going to lead?**

Verse 18: “And to the angel of **the Church in Thyatira** write...”

Boy! Did they have a terrible time with the Catholic Church!! A lot of them suffered martyrdom, just like they did in Smyrna. A lot of them gave in and accepted the trinity and Sunday-worship. Sound a little like what happened today?

“...‘These things says the Son of God, He Who has eyes like a flame of fire, and His feet *are* like fine brass. I know your works, and love, and service, and faith, and your endurance, and your works; and the last *are* more than the first’” (vs 18-19).

It’s quite interesting that the Seventh Day Adventist Church traces its roots back to this. Look at what has happened to them. The Jesuits have infiltrated and changed almost everything! They have the Lord’s Supper on the first Sabbath of every quarter. *Amazing!* They also keep Christmas, New Years, these things because that’s the way they get along with the world, rather than telling the world to repent. Where is the Seventh Day Adventist Church today?

Sidebar: All the radio programs in the past that were put out by WCG (Worldwide Church of God) many of those people were excited to learn about the Sabbath and the first place they looked—because it was convenient—was the Seventh Day Adventist Church. So the preaching of that program did a lot to build up the Seventh Day Adventist Church. They have a lot of works

today!

Verse 20: “But I have a few things against you, because you allow the woman Jezebel...” *The daughter of the high priest of Baal, or sun-worship!* The Catholic Church is Baal-worship! So, here we have the interaction of the Catholic Church coming right into the Churches of God.

Note DVDs—Jesuit Agenda for the SDA Church—request them. You need to see those and see what happened to the SDA and what you will get out of that is exactly what happened to WCG. You can see how these seven churches are intermixed in all ages.

“...who calls herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce My servants into committing fornication... [another Jesus, another day of worship which spiritual fornication] ...and eating things **sacrificed to idols**” (v 20)—*the Eucharist, the Lord’s Supper!*

Verse 21: “And I gave her time to repent of her fornication, but she did not repent.” *Read that in Rome’s Challenge to the Protestants* right in Appendix N in the *Faithful Version Bible*.

Sidebar: We have all of these things in Bible because those are necessary to study to understand how we got to where we are today.

She didn’t repent, v 22: “Behold, I will cast her into a bed, and those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation... [sounds a little like what’s coming down the road, churches together] ...unless they repent of their works. And **I will kill her children with death**... [if you kill them, they’re dead; you don’t kill them to life; so this must mean the second death] ...and all the churches shall know that I am He...” (vs 22-23).

Think about your life and what you’re doing. Think about the church that you are in. Think about all of these things together and take it before God and see what you’re doing.

“...Who searches *the* reins and hearts...” (v 23). **God knows!** Human nature likes to deceive itself and say, ‘I’ll just do this to get along, God will understand.’ **Yes, He will understand!**

“...and **I will give to each of you according to your works**. But to you I say, and to *the* rest who *are* in Thyatira, as many as do not have this doctrine, and **who have not known the depths of Satan**...” (vs 23-24).¹

There were those who knew the depths of Satan; what’s going to happen to them? *Second death!* “...**kill her children with death**...”

“...as they speak; I will not cast upon you any other burden, but hold fast what you have until I come. And **to the one who overcomes and keeps My works**...” (vs 24-26).

If you’re doing the works of God, those aren’t yours (Eph. 2:10); it’s works that are ordained that we walk in them. Speaking of salvation by grace to do the works of God, you do it through grace.

“...unto *the* end... [the end of their life] ...I will give authority over the nations. and he shall shepherd them with an iron rod, as vessels of pottery are broken in pieces; as I have also received from My Father” (vs 26-27).

He’s going to take that rod of iron and He’s going to do some correcting. When the Millennium begins, believe me, there’s going to be a lot of correcting that needs to be done, a lot of teaching that needs to be done. Think about what the world is today. We’re the ones living at the end of the age, the last shall be first. We’re the ones who are going to have to really help all the rest of the resurrected saints who have come through the ages understand what is happening in this modern age.

Verse 28: “And I will give him the morning star.... [the resurrection in glory] ...**The one who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches**” (vs 28-29).

Revelation 3:1: And to the angel of **the Church in Sardis**... [after Thyatira the Church is now really beaten down and small] ...write: “These things says He Who has the seven spirits of God and the seven stars. I know your works, *and* that you have a name as if you are alive, but are dead.”

Notice what Christ tells them to do. Here they have been so pitiful and so beaten up and persecuted that those who were keeping the minimum bare things, God recognized and told them:

Verse 2: “Be watchful, and strengthen the things that remain, which are about to die. For I have not found your works complete before God. Therefore, remember what you have received and heard, and hold on *to this*, and repent. Now then, if you will not watch, I will come upon you as a thief, and you shall by no means know what hour I will come upon you. You have a few names even in Sardis who have not defiled their garments...” (v 2-4).

That’s why there needs to be repentance, to get rid of the defilement on their garments. Remember that those who are going to marry Christ have to have the white linen of the saints, which is their righteousness.

“...and they shall walk with Me in white because they are worthy. The one who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments; and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life...” (vs 4-5).

Whoa! How many have had their name blotted out of the Book of Life down through time, because they weren't faithful? ***They didn't hear the warning of God!***

“...but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels. **The one who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches**” (vs 5-6).

Verse 7: “And to the angel of **the Church in Philadelphia** write:...” The church of brotherly love; everyone wants to be that church.

But there's a church today that's called 'the church of brotherly love' that's anything but, because they are told they can't have fellowship with even unconverted members of their own family and Church members in other Churches of God. That's ***not*** the Church of Philadelphia. Isn't it amazing that every time that someone professes that their church is the Philadelphia Church, things come out that ***no it is not!***

“...These things says the Holy One, the One Who *is* true; the One Who has the key of David, Who opens and no one shuts, and Who shuts and no one opens” (v 7).

Christ is directing His Church and what is done. That's why the churches are not to run down the road and do things that they think is going to help them get numbers of people into the Church. What you have to do is have the Church in the spiritual condition so that God can add more to it. That's the way it needs to be, ***because God will open the door! He has shut a lot of doors!*** What do we do when the doors are shut?

- we draw close together
- we study the Word of God
- we grow in grace and knowledge

That's what we do!

Verse 8: “I know your works. Behold, I have set before you an open door, and no one has the power to shut it because you have a little strength, and have kept My Word, and have not denied My name.”

Here's the lesson from here: under all circumstances:

- love the brethren
- keep the Word of God
- keep the Truth of God

It is the Truth, the Truth, the Truth!

Verse 9: “Behold, I will make those of the synagogue of Satan, **who proclaim themselves** to be Jews... [the ones really of God, how great they are] ...and are not, but do lie. Behold, I will cause them to come and worship before your feet, and to know that I have loved you.” ***They're going to worship God at our feet!***

Verse 10: “Because you have kept the Word of My patience, I also will keep you from the time of temptation...”

Note sermon: *Temptation to Try the Whole World*, which is the coming *mark of the beast* and the Tribulation follows that.

“...which *is* about to come upon the whole world to try those who dwell on the earth” (v 10). ***Think about that!*** Think about how close we are getting to that!

Verse 11: “Behold, I am coming quickly; **hold fast that which you have so that no one may take away your crown**.” ***There are a lot of men out there wanting to come in and take away your crown! Don't let them do that!***

Notice the great promise given here, v 12: “The one who overcomes will I make a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall not go out anymore; and I will write upon him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which will come down out of heaven from My God; and *I will write upon him My new name.*” ***Three names! That's fantastic!***

Verse 13: “**The one who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.**”

Verse 14: “And to the angel of **the Church of the Laodiceans**, write...”

We're not going to spend a lot of time here, because we've spent a lot of time here before. But let's see what it is:

“...These things says the Amen, the faithful and true Witness, the Beginner of the creation of God. I know your works that you are neither cold nor hot; I would *that* you be *either* cold or hot” (vs 14-15). ***They are lukewarm or cool!***

Verse 16: “So then, because you are lukewarm, and *are* neither cold nor hot, I will spew you out of My mouth.”

- Why? ***Because the Laodiceans talk back to God!***
- What do they say?

Verse 17: “For you say, ‘I am rich... [grown rich; started out small, but]: ...and have become

wealthy, and have need of nothing'..." **We need:**

- God every day
- God's Spirit every day
- mercy and forgiveness every day
- growing and overcoming every day

There can never be a time when we say that we have 'need of nothing.' Look how quick it can be taken away. Look at what has happened with this Coronavirus thing! Look at what that has done; it came from Wuhan, China, and has affected 184 nations in the world. What did it do? *It shut everything down! It can come 'just like that!'*

When everything is nice and smooth, you really don't see yourself for what you really are. That's what Christ says here:

"...and you do not understand that you are wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked" (v 17). *You don't see it! You don't understand it!* In other words, **you're spiritually blind!**

Verse 18: "I counsel you to buy from Me gold purified by fire... [pure spiritual righteousness] ...so that you may be rich... [spiritually] ...and white garments so that you may be clothed, and the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and to anoint your eyes with eye salve, so that you may see."

In other words, there's **a spiritual blindness** that has come upon Laodiceans, and they cannot see what their real problems are. Notice that God still loves you:

Verse 19: "As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore, **be zealous and repent**.... [notice what is necessary]: ...Behold, **I stand at the door and knock**...." *That door is the door of your mind!* God is knocking! Christ is knocking so that you can see your life the way it really is!

"...If anyone hears My voice and opens the door... [repentance] ...I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with Me" (v 20).

That is God will reinvigorate you with His Spirit! This is really telling us that some of the Laodiceans are not converted. We hope that going through with all of these lessons of the seven churches, as it applies to each one of us today, that:

- we will repent
- we will return
- we will overcome

Notice Jesus' final admonition to the churches:

Verse 21: "**To the one who overcomes will I give authority to sit with Me in My throne, even**

as I also overcame, and sat down with My Father in His throne."

He wants us to do great things in the Millennium! That's why when the Spirit of God is knocking on the door of your mind, and giving you thoughts that you need to repent and come to God, **you better do it!**

Verse 22: "**The one who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.**"

Seven weeks to the harvest and the day of the harvest comes next, and we'll see that tomorrow!

Scriptural References:

- 1) Daniel 10:19-21
- 2) Matthew 5:17-18
- 3) Psalm 119:89
- 4) Exodus 34:1, 27
- 5) Deuteronomy 10:1-2
- 6) Jeremiah 30:1-4
- 7) Jeremiah 36:1-2
- 8) Isaiah 41:4
- 9) Isaiah 44:6-10
- 10) Isaiah 45:5-7, 18-19
- 11) Matthew 4:2-4
- 12) John 6:63, 65
- 13) Leviticus 23:9-11
- 14) Revelation 1:1-20
- 15) Revelation 2:1-29
- 16) Revelation 3:1-22

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Matthew 13
- Revelation 16; 19
- Acts 6
- 2 Thessalonians 2
- Revelation 6
- Ephesians 2:10

Also referenced:

- DVDs—Jesuit Agenda for the SDA Church
- Booklet: *Rome's Challenge to the Protestants*
- Sermon: *Temptation to Try the Whole World*

FRC:bo
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First Resurrection

(Pentecost—2020)

The first phase of the coming of Christ

Fred R. Coulter—May 31, 2020

Greetings, everyone! Welcome to Feast of Pentecost!

A lot of us figured we'd be in the Kingdom of God by now. We had all the false starts and misunderstood prophecies, and yet, at that the same time the most fantastic thing about the Sabbath and Holy Days—and in particularly the Holy Days—is that those unlock the secrets of God's plan for all mankind. That's a tremendous thing to contemplate. Think about what it says in:

Revelation 12:9: "And the great dragon was cast out, the ancient serpent who is called the Devil and Satan, who is deceiving the whole world..." *We can see how that's operating today!*

God has intervened to call His people. God has provided His Word, **and He has put in His Word:**

- some things *simple and easy to understand*, like the Ten Commandments and things in the book of Proverbs
- some things *difficult* to understand
- some things that *He has hidden*, and it takes the key of the Holy Days to unlock it and give us understanding

This is why *the majority of establishment fake Christianity* does not keep the Sabbath or the Holy Days, because God put it in what is called the *Old Testament*, which is actually the covenant with Israel.

If you want a true definition of it, it is the covenant with Israel and the covenant with the Church: Old Testament and New Testament. There are some things in the O.T. that are all the way through the N.T. That's what they miss!

They are truly the blind leading the blind! They don't know what God is doing. They have some parts of it, because they're willing to accept part of the Bible, **but not all of the Bible!** That's what we covered yesterday on Day 49!

Lev. 23—we have the Passover, bringing the children of Israel out of Egypt. Then we have Pentecost. Remember that every Holy Day represents a major accomplishment of God, a major step in fulfilling His plan. So, we have the Passover for the children of Israel, sparing their firstborn. Who was the firstborn in the New Testament that was most important? *Jesus Christ!* He was also the

Firstborn from the dead, the Wave Sheaf Offering Day after the Passover.

Important things **hidden** in the Word of God! **The secret of God**, which He has revealed to His Church and His people.

Now, we've already gone through the Sabbath, the Passover, the first and last day of Unleavened Bread, the Wave Sheaf Offering Day, and now we come to the next command beginning with the Wave Sheaf Offering Day. Isn't that something? To start the count to the harvest of the resurrection *begins with the first one resurrected from the dead: Jesus Christ!*

He ascended to heaven on that Wave Sheaf Offering Day! Now we will see that the count from Christ to the resurrection of the saints is a continuous count from that time forward.

Leviticus 23:15: "And you shall count to you beginning with the next day after the Sabbath, beginning with the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering; seven Sabbaths shall be complete." *That means a whole week ending in a Sabbath!*

Verse 16: "Even unto the day after the seventh Sabbath you shall number fifty days...."

People have had it wrong because *they want to do it their way!* What is so interesting is that the Jews—who say that the Old Testament is the Word of God—don't even understand what God is doing. They have covered over everything that they do with their traditions.

In other words, they have professed the Bible, but buried it. They're blinded, don't know and don't understand.

"...And you shall offer **a new grain offering** to the LORD.... [we'll talk about that and what it means] ... You shall bring out of your homes two wave loaves of two tenth parts. They shall be of fine flour. They shall be baked with leaven; **they are the firstfruits to the LORD**" (vs 16-17).

During the days of Unleavened Bread, leaven is a type of sin. But this is an entirely different thing with meaning. This means that when you take this loaf and wave it, you're producing to God something that is entirely different than when you started with the flour.

We find in Matt. 13 about the woman who

takes three measures of leaven and puts it in flour until it's all leavened, and Jesus said, 'That's like the Kingdom of God.'

The Kingdom of God is not likened unto to sin. So, what is the meaning of that? *The good action of leaven that changes the dough into a loaf, then it's baked!*

There are many analogies that you can have here. The grain is crushed fine, **like all the trials and tests that we have!** It is kneaded together, and that's **like the things we have to change and overcome!** The leaven is put into it, and that is **like the Holy Spirit and the raising of the dough is the metamorphose, or the changing and renewing of our mind!**

In other words, this depicts, with the baked loaf, the converted Christian, **and depicts the resurrection, changing from one form to another!** And we will see that **the resurrection is on Pentecost!**

Verse 18: "And you shall offer with the bread **seven lambs** without blemish of the first year... [seven churches] ...and one young bull, and two rams. They shall be *for* a burnt offering to the LORD with their grain offering, and their drink offerings, *even* an offering made by fire, of sweet savor to the LORD." *That pictures the Church!*

Verse 19: "Then you shall sacrifice one male goat for a sin offering, and two lambs of the first year for a sacrifice of peace offerings."

You have sins forgiven for the sin sacrifice, and that's **a type of Christ!** The peace offering means that you have peace with God, because the price of your sins were paid by the sin offering.

Verse 20: "And the priest shall wave them with the bread of the firstfruits, a wave offering before the LORD, with the two lambs. They shall be Holy to the LORD for the priest."

The priest represents Christ, and all of the Churches that He's the Head of. **We all belong to God!**

So, right here in this very lengthy explanation for the Holy Day of Pentecost, there is multiple meanings in the things that are here, and projections into the New Testament.

As you know, we take up an offering on all of the Holy Days. We do this in this age because there are no sacrifices with an offering that is a monetary offering.

(pause for the offering)

After God brought the children of Israel out of Egypt and brought them to Mt. Sinai, it was on

Pentecost that God gave them the Ten Commandments and started the covenant with Israel. **A major event!** The first time that human beings heard the voice of God from His spiritual form and power and glory, from the top of the mountain. No other people have had that happen to them, before that time, or since that time.

Yes, there have been dreams and revelations. Yes, there was the ministry of Jesus Christ, where as a man He taught the 12 apostles and started the Church. So, this is quite a thing. We know that in the New Testament we have:

- Passover, the sacrifice of Christ
- Unleavened Bread, getting sin out of our lives

That's about as far as the Protestants go, and they don't even do it the right way, because they don't understand anything concerning the things that God wants them to learn.

Luke 4 has to do with the temptation by Satan the devil against Christ. Look at the chronologies and Jesus began His ministry, but first He had to meet Satan the devil; as a man, not as God, but a man! To make it even more difficult, He fasted 40 days and 40 nights. The chronology shows that after His baptism He went to the wilderness. That was in 26_{A.D.}

The Day of Atonement—which also carries out a very important part of the plan of God and gives us the details about it—that's when Jesus actually began His ministry, because the temptation of Christ from Satan began on the Day of Atonement in 26_{A.D.}, which was also a Jubilee Year.

After the temptation and Jesus recovered, here's another event that occurred on Pentecost. Though it's not listed as Pentecost directly, but that's what it actually is.

Luke 4:16: "And He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up; and according to His custom, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath Day and stood up to read." This day was the Day of the Sabbaths—plural—the day of the weeks. What day was that? *Pentecost!*

Notice what He did on this Pentecost, which was an important, profound fulfillment of prophecy. This was on this Day of Pentecost.

Verse 17: "And there was given Him *the* book of the prophet Isaiah; and when He had unrolled the scroll, He found the place where it was written, '*The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me...* [referring to Himself] ...for this reason, He has anointed Me... [a prophecy from Isa. 61] ...to preach the Gospel to *the* poor; He has sent Me to heal those who are brokenhearted, to proclaim

pardon to *the* captives and recovery of sight to *the* blind... [physically and spiritually] ...to send forth in deliverance those who have been crushed... [by Satan's system] ...to proclaim *the* acceptable year of *the* Lord” (vs 17-19).

That's an astonishing thing to read! But listen to this: How do you count for a Jubilee Year? *You count 49 years—7 x 7* (sound familiar to Pentecost, 7 full weeks ending in a Sabbath)=49)—then the next day is 50. So, in a Jubilee Year when the temptation with Satan the devil for 40 days and 40 nights, He could not proclaim publicly that He was the Messiah.

But since this was for the spiritual New Covenant, God gave the proclamation on Pentecost where He had been brought up. Pentecost is the 50th day in the 50th year. Think on that, and how God does things!

Verse 21: “Then He began to say to them, ‘Today... [that Pentecost, the 50th day in the 59th year] ...**this Scripture is being**... [present tense passive] ...**fulfilled in your ears.**”

They didn't know what to make of it. They said, ‘Who do you make yourself to be?’ They chased Him out of the synagogue and were going to throw Him over the cliff, but He got out of their hands.

Let's take a look at a another major fulfillment. This was a major fulfillment, the announcement that He... How did He announce it. He didn't stand up there and say, ‘I am the Messiah.’ **NO!** He quoted Scripture to show that He was the Messiah, because it was the pronouncement of God that was given in prophecy to Isaiah, *right from the Scroll of the Book of Isaiah in the synagogue*, which they had probably read many times over. He said that's it's “...**being fulfilled**...” *today!*

Now lets see another fulfillment of the Day of Pentecost, and this is something you really need to understand. Just like God spoke to the children of Israel from the top of Mt. Sinai on Pentecost, now on this Pentecost He began the Church at the temple.

It had to be a the temple, couldn't be anyplace else, because God put His name there, and that was the house of God. This was quite a thing that happened, a major fulfillment. I imagine that it was very stunning when it took place. You know the account, and here's the proper translation of it:

Acts 2:1: “And when the Day of Pentecost, the fiftieth day, was **being fulfilled**... [same verbiage we saw in Luke 4] ...they were all with one accord in the same place. And suddenly *there* came from heaven...” (vs 1-2).

What came from heaven at Mt. Sinai? *The words of God!* The mountain was all on fire like lava rolling down, and the wind was blowing, the tempest was happening, and the trumpet was being blown. I think at the time that this began the trumpet was being sounded in the temple.

Verse 2: “And suddenly *there* came from heaven a sound like *the* rushing of a powerful wind... [the Holy Spirit coming, the power of God] ...and filled the whole house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them divided tongues as of fire, and sat upon each one of them. And they were all filled with *the* Holy Spirit; and they began to speak with other languages, **as the Spirit gave them** *the words* to proclaim” (vs 2-4).

Think about what was happening at this Pentecost at the temple:

- Jesus had His three-year ministry (a little over 3 years)
- He preached mightily
- He healed thousands and thousands of people

I wonder how many of them really understood what was happening? *Because out of all of Jesus' preaching, there were only 120 there on the Day of Pentecost!* That's amazing!

Now then, here comes a message from God ***spiritually, by the power of His Spirit, through His chosen apostles!***

- What did they preach? *The Word of God!*
- What was the command that Jesus gave to them before He ascended to heaven? *You remain in Jerusalem and in Jerusalem there must be preached repentance of sin for remission!*

Then is was to go from the whole world from there, but it had to start from the temple.

“...and they began to speak with other languages... [Why? *Because there were Jews from all different countries there!*] ...as the Spirit gave them *the words* to proclaim” (v 4). *So, this was from God!*

They were the mouthpiece, ***but God was the power!*** What they spoke was the Word of God! So, they were just like a recording machine, a little different though, big megaphone!

Verse 5: “Now, *there* were *many* Jews who were sojourning in Jerusalem, devout men from every nation under heaven.”

I imagine that God inspired many of them to come, because many had heard that the Messiah had died. ‘How could that be? We'll go to Pentecost and

find out what happened.’

God does a lot of things that we don’t understand what He’s doing, but I imagine that God had angels directing certain ones all around the area of the Mediterranean and the Holy Land to come to Jerusalem.

Verse 6: “And when word of this went out, the multitude came together and were confounded, because each one heard them speaking in his own language.”

This is amazing, because everything up to the time—from the temple out—was in Hebrew or Greek later on, but mostly Hebrew. That was the ‘sacred language,’ they said, but now there’s a vast change. That’s why the curtain in the temple, at the death of Christ was ripped in two, to show that the way to God was open to people.

Verse 7: “And they were all amazed, and marveled, saying to one another, ‘Behold, are not all these who are speaking Galileans? Then how is it *that* we hear each one in our own language in which we were born? Parthians and Medes and Elamites, and those who inhabit Mesopotamia, and Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, both Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya which *are* near Cyrene, and the Romans who are sojourning *here*, both Jews and proselytes, Cretes and Arabians; **we hear them speaking in our own languages the great things of God**” (vs 7-11).

Now they were hearing the Word of God! They didn’t do like the children of Israel at Mt. Sinai when they went to Moses and said, ‘O Moses, you speak to us and let God speak to you, and we’ll do what you tell us. We can’t stand to hear the voice of the Word of God anymore.’

Different here! God brought it to a level for conversion, for repentance and for understanding what happened with the death of Jesus Christ. So, that’s when Peter gave this tremendous sermon. This sermon is really something else. He told them that God is pouring out His Spirit like the prophets had said and that the rulers took Jesus and killed Him, but God raised Him from the dead. Now He offers to you repentance of your sins.

No such a thing was heard up until that time! This is an amazing thing that took place at the beginning of the Church. Then Peter really preached to them, and he left no doubt. He said, ‘I want you to know that the tomb of David is still with us, but Christ is raised from the dead.’

Verse 34: “For David has not ascended into the heavens, but he himself said, ‘The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at My right hand until I have made Your enemies a footstool for Your feet.”’ Therefore,

let all *the* house of Israel...” (vs 34-36).

Then later all the nations of the world, beginning with those right there in Caesarea and later in Antioch and then all around the Mediterranean up into Britain, all through Europe and going to the East into Armenia clear over to the Indian border.

Quite an amazing thing that the apostles were doing. But here’s what Peter said:

Verse 36: “Therefore, let all *the* house of Israel know with full assurance... [you can believe it with absolute confidence] ...**that God has made this same Jesus, Whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.**”

There were probably those there who were at that Pentecost who were shouting, ‘Crucify Him!’ Think of how their hearts must have pricked them. Think of how it must have gotten down deep in to their soul and being, that they had part in killing the Messiah.

Verse 37: “Now, after hearing *this*, they were cut to the heart; and they said to Peter and the other apostles, ‘Men *and* brethren, what shall we do?’ Then Peter said to them, ‘Repent and be baptized each one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for *the* remission of sins, **and you yourselves**... [not just the priests, the prophets and kings, but you, the ordinary man and woman] ...**shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit**” (vs 37-38).

That’s quite a thing! You know what happened, they baptized 3,000 on that day. Then you go on into the book of Acts and you see later multitudes and 5,000, and it was an overwhelming thing that was done for the first 12 years of the apostles’ preaching in Judea.

Then you come to Acts 10 and Cornelius. That was where the great addition to the Church began. The Jews, especially the Pharisees, with their traditions that they had, didn’t want to associate with any of the Gentiles in anything.

Then from there it goes out into the whole world, down through the ages and time, down to our day. But then God has given us—as we saw on Day 49—the book of Revelation, which is the revelation from God the Father given to Jesus Christ to give to all of those in the Church. Let’s look at that.

Rev. 1—what do we have here? *We have:*

- the Passover
- death of Christ
- resurrection
- Wave Sheaf Offering ascension

Christ is the central figure of everything in the New

Testament. All of this that we saw on Day 49 *was written down!* God wants it written down so that we know it. That's something!

Then we went through the seven churches. If you count the seven weeks, the seven churches are analogous to the seven weeks of harvest. Quite a thing! There's the parallel with it.

What happens after the seven weeks? *You come to Pentecost!* Here's a type of Pentecost in Rev. 4. It's interesting: Jesus was crucified, in the grave three days and three nights, and on the fourth day—the first day of the week—he ascended to heaven.

Rev. 4—this is like the resurrection, but this was just for John only. He was a type of the firstfruits, the first one to understand about the resurrection, the Throne of God, Jesus Christ, and everything that was to be done from that time forward.

Revelation 4:1: “After these things I looked, and behold, a door opened in heaven; and the first voice that I heard *was* as if a trumpet were speaking with me, saying, ‘Come up here...’”

- When are the saints resurrected? *At the last trump!*
- What is here? *A trump!*

Let's go forward just a little bit! Rev. 11—this is the two witnesses; they have a three and a half year ministry. They are killed and their dead bodies lay in the street of Jerusalem for three and a half days while the world celebrates. All of a sudden there is a great earthquake and they stand on their feet and there's a voice from heaven that says:

Revelation 11:11: “Then after the three and a half days, *the* spirit of life from God entered into them and they stood on their feet; and great fear fell upon those who were watching them. And they heard a great voice from heaven, say, ‘**Come up here!**’ And they ascended into heaven in a cloud; and their enemies saw them *rise*. And in that hour there was a great earthquake...” (vs 11-12)—*and the seventh trumpet blew and the rest of the dead were raised!*

(go to the next track)

When John was told to come up, he said, Revelation 4:1: “‘Come up here, and I will show you *the* things that must take place after these things.’ And immediately I was in *the* Spirit; and behold, a throne was set in heaven, and *One* was sitting on the throne. And He Who *was* sitting was in appearance like a jasper stone and a sardius stone; and a rainbow *was* around the throne, like an emerald in its appearance. And around the throne *were* twenty-four

thrones; and on the thrones I saw twenty-four elders sitting, clothed in white garments; and they had on their heads golden crowns” (vs 1-4)—*and the four living creatures!*

Does this give us a prophetic foretaste of when we're resurrected we going to see the Father? We are His children, aren't we? Jesus is going to present us to the Father!

I'm getting little ahead of myself, but this is kind of foretaste of it here. That's something that is really quite profound.

Rev. 5—here we find that there was the Lamb that was slain that had seven horns, which are the seven churches, and also likened to the Lion of the tribe of Judah, Who is the warrior Christ!

There was a scroll written front and back. Remember what we covered on Day 49 about writing it down. Everything that is going to take place has already been written down. The rest of the book of Revelation is to reveal the things that are to come. Jesus is the only One Who is able to open the seven seals.

When that event occurs, it's going to be quite a thing for the whole creation of God. They're going to glorify God. What is going to happen, beginning in Rev. 6, is going to unfold with the plan of God in the way that it has been written in this book that is sealed with seven seals.

We will go through some of them, because this brings us to a point about the coming of Christ and the resurrection that will follow later.

Revelation 6:1: “And I looked when the Lamb opened one of the seals; and I heard one of the four living creatures say, like the sound of thunder, ‘Come and see.’ And I looked, and behold, *there was* a white horse; and the one who was sitting on it had a bow, and a crown was given to him; and he went out conquering, and to conquering” (vs 1-2).

- *This is the false christ!*
- *This is the pope who represents the false christ, the beast!*

The Seventh Day Adventist think this is Christ; no it's not! That's in Rev. 20; that happens later.

Verse 3: “And when He opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature say, ‘Come and see.’ And another horse went out *that was* red; and *power* was given to the one sitting on it to take peace from the earth...” (vs 1-4). *So, there will be a short time of peace just before the Great Tribulation starts!*

This setting right here of the second seal ties in with Matt. 24. We know from Matt. 24 that there

has to be *the abomination of desolation standing in the Holy Place*. So, the temple has to be built. When the beast enters in, the one in the second seal, and he sits down and says that *he* is God, and greater than anything on earth that is worshipped; whose working is after Satan the devil. ***That's when the Great Tribulation begins!***

We know when the Great Tribulation begins it will be 3-1/2 years because of Dan. 9:27. When that begins, it is unfolding right here in Rev. 6.

Verse 5: “And when He opened the third seal, I heard the third living creature say, ‘Come and see.’ And I looked, and behold, *there was* a black horse; and the one sitting on it had a balance in his hand. And I heard a voice in *the* midst of the four living creatures say, ‘A measure of wheat for a silver coin, and three measures of barley for a silver coin: and *see that* you do not damage the oil and the wine” (vs 5-6)—*rationing!*

Verse 7: “And when He opened the fourth seal, I heard *the* voice of the fourth living creature say, ‘Come and see.’ And I looked, and behold, *there was* a pale horse; and the name of the one sitting on it *was* Death...” (vs 7-8).

So, when that second seal is opened and war begins, the first thing in war is shortage of food, famine and starvation. What follows right on that? *Death!*

“...and the grave followed him; and authority was given to them over *one-fourth* of the earth, to kill with *the* sword and with famine and with death, and by the beasts of the earth” (v 8).

One-fourth of the earth we don't know that location, so we can't tell you exactly where that is.

Verse 9: “And when He opened the fifth seal...” What happens in every war? *You've got to find the fall-guy to blame!* So, they go blame those who have been proclaiming the Truth of God, those who have been saying that Christ is going to return and take over the world. Those who are saying that there is coming a destruction of Babylon the great and everything that it stands for, and all of their armies. ***The beast and the false prophet are coming to their end!***

Before they come to their end, they're going to look out for everyone who is a Christian. The fifth seal is the martyrdom of the saints.

Sidebar: there will be some preserved in a place of safety. Why? *So that what Jesus said, that the gates of the grave would never prevail against His Church*, so they are there to fulfill that promise. Satan doesn't like them there because he comes out from there and *makes war against*

the remnant of her seed who have the testimony of Christ and keeps His commandments!

Here it is right here!

“...I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the Word of God... [this is in vision; there's no one in heaven] ...and for the testimony that they held; and they cried out with a loud voice, saying, ‘How long, O Lord, Holy and true, do You not judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?’” (vs 9-10).

This is very similar to when Peter, James and John went up on the Mt. of Transfiguration with Christ. They saw things taking place that were in vision. So, this is in vision.

Verse 11: “And white robes were given to each of them; and they were told that they should rest a short time, yet, until *it* be fulfilled *that* both their fellow servants and their brethren also would be killed, just as they had been.”

They will try to eliminate all of them, but over in Jerusalem you have *the two witnesses!* They are still there preaching, prophesying, calling down fire, hail and blood ***as often as the will!*** Those are the last two that they want to get! So, the martyrdom takes place.

Notice that after that, God is not going to leave a long period of time until there are more who are converted. But these events are earth-shaking events, and there will be many people being prepared for repentance.

Verse 12: “And when He opened the sixth seal, I looked, and behold, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as *the hair of* sackcloth, and the moon became as blood; and the stars of heaven fell to the earth, as a fig tree casts its untimely figs when it is shaken by a mighty wind” (vs 12-13).

These are earth-shaking events! Christ now is going to make His presence known to the world in a spectacular way.

Verse 14: “Then *the* heaven departed like a scroll...” Wonder what that's going to be like? ***All of a sudden the heavens roll back as a scroll!***

“...that is being rolled up, and every mountain and island was moved out of its place.... [everything is shaken on this earth] ...And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the powerful men, and every bondman, and every free *man* hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains; and they said to the mountains and to the rocks, ‘Fall on us...’” (vs 14-16).

They heard the preaching from the two witnesses, *Christ is going to return!* They heard the saints who were martyred, *Christ is going to return!* So, right at first they believe that this is Christ, which it is. But later they are convinced that is an invasion from outer space. That's why they're going fight! We'll see that leading up to the day of Trumpets.

"...and hide us from *the* face of Him Who sits on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb, because the great day of His wrath has come, and who has the power to stand?" (vs 16-17). *Nobody!*

Let's see what it's going to be like when the heavens are rolled back as a scroll. It's going to be astonishing to the whole world. At first they will believe that it is Christ, but because it does not immediately come to the earth, they will later believe that it's an invasion from outer space by aliens, which in a sense is true. Christ is an alien to them. The resurrected saints will all be aliens, so they have the definition correct, but they have the understanding of who they really are *wrong!* So, let's see what happens:

Matthew 24:26: "Therefore, if they say to you, *'Come and see! He is in the wilderness'; do not go forth. 'Come and see! He is in the secret chambers'; do not believe it'*"—*because He's coming from heaven!*

Here is the first phase of Christ's coming: The heavens are rolled back as a scroll and here's what appears. They're going to see something they never saw before.

Verse 27: "For as the light of day, which comes forth from *the* east and shines as far as *the* west, **so also shall the coming of the Son of man be.**" *That's quite a thing!*

What shines from east to west? *The sun!* So, when the heavens are rolled back as a scroll there will look like there's a second sun, but far enough away from the earth that when they look at it, and it's not coming directly to the earth, that's when they begin to change their mind.

Verse 28: "For wherever the carcass may be, there will the eagles be gathered together. But immediately after the tribulation of those days, the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken.... [tie in Rev. 6] ...And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven... [like a second sun; that's His sign] ...and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming upon the clouds of heaven with power and great glory" (vs 28-30).

The sun is going to be out there for a little over a year. That's quite a thing!

Verse 31: "And He shall send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet..."—*the resurrection*, but that doesn't happen immediately because a lot of events take place.

- the heavens roll back as a scroll
- they see the sign of the Son of man
- the whole world is shaken to the core

Now, all of a sudden it's quiet! All of a sudden there's no fighting! Everybody has to stop and recover from, the earthquakes. Since the Tribulation is 3-1/2 years we know from Dan. 6 that at the beginning of the third year God is going to raise the captivity from Israel, which means there's a year and a half left.

Rev. 7 is when that occurs and God begins to raise up Israel. The first thing He does is to begin to convert 144,000—12,000 from each of the 12 tribes of Israel—and then a great innumerable multitude. That's quite a thing!

From the time of the destruction, which is just before Pentecost. Let's say that Rev. 7 represents Pentecost. Right on Pentecost we have this 144,000 and great innumerable multitude sealed. What does this tell us? *Every one of us today who have the Holy Spirit of God have been sealed!* So, the 144,000 have not been sealed, and since there are no ministers around to do baptizing and so forth, God is going to have an angel bring the Holy Spirit to seal them and convert them. They will be in the first resurrection along with the great innumerable multitude.

When you read the rest of the chapter it appears that they immediately go to heaven. That's not true, because no one goes until the seventh trump sounds. The two witnesses a little bit before, but on their way up the trump sounds.

So, these people are converted from Pentecost to the next Pentecost. On this Pentecost they are saved, and the next Pentecost is the resurrection with all the saints. We will see that as it unfolds.

Rev. 7 & 8 bring about the understanding of the worst wars to come upon the face of the earth. All nations of the world are involved in this. It starts out in Rev. 8, and in Rev. 9 there are great and tremendous things happen, but those are saved for the Feast of Trumpets. We're talking about Pentecost.

Rev. 13 is an inset to show us the dual system of Babylon the Great, which is also detailed in Rev. 17. So, we have a world government, and I

think that is going to come when the false prophet does great miracles and proclaims the beast to be ‘God on earth.’ This is a summary of it before it happens.

Rev. 14 has another 144,000, which is a different group. This is quite a thing!

Revelation 14:1: “And I looked, and I beheld *the* Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred *and* forty-four thousand, having His Father’s name written on their foreheads. Then I heard a voice from heaven, like *the* sound of many waters, and like *the* sound of great thunder; and I heard *the* sound of lyre players playing their lyres. And they were singing a new song before the throne, and before the four living creatures and the elders. And no one was able to learn the song except the hundred *and* forty-four thousand, **who were redeemed from the earth**” (vs 1-3).

- *not from the tribes of Israel*
- *not from the great innumerable multitude*

These represent the very, very faithful down through time who did not get involved in false doctrine or the churches of this world. How do we know that?

Verse 4: “These are the ones who were not defiled with women...”

The woman—the great whore—and her daughters are the women. In other words, ***they never brought in the doctrines of Satan the devil into the Church of God!*** Therefore, they are virgins!

“...for they are virgins; they are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes. They were purchased from among men *as* firstfruits to God and to the Lamb, and no guile was found in their mouths; for they are blameless before the Throne of God” (vs 4-5). ***That shows eventually where they’re going to go!***

Now, at the same time that some of these other events are taking place, we have the three angels’ message. When there are more preachers to give a warning, God sends His angels. The exact time setting on this we don’t know, but it’s quite some time before the mark of the beast and the resurrection.

Verse 6: “And I saw another angel flying in *the* midst of heaven, having *the* everlasting Gospel to proclaim *to* those who dwell on the earth, and *to* every nation and tribe and language and people; saying with a loud voice...” (vs 6-7).

So, ***God is giving an opportunity of repentance!*** Always before God does something of a magnitude of this nature, He always gives a space for repentance. You can read that throughout the Old Testament.

“...‘Fear God, and give glory to Him, because the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him Who made the heaven, and the earth, and *the* sea, and *the* fountains of waters’”—***not the beast!*** Rev. 13 says that ‘the world worships the beast.’ This is a warning to them so they will know better.

Verse 8: “Then another angel followed, saying, ‘The great city Babylon is fallen, is fallen, because of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, *which* she has given all nations to drink.’”

Warning! Babylon is falling! Babylon is falling! Don’t go down with her!

Verse 9: “And a third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, ‘If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives *the* mark in his forehead or in his hand, he shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, ***which is mixed undiluted in the cup of His wrath***; and he shall be tormented in fire and brimstone in the sight of the Holy angels, and of the Lamb” (vs 9-10). ***Warning before the mark of the beast comes!***

Rev. 13 says that if they don’t take the mark of the beast, they will be killed. That’s how the martyrdom is going to take place. All of these things fit together.

Verse 11: “And the smoke of their torment ascends into the ages of eternity...”

How does this happen? *That means it’s going to escape the gravitational pull of the earth!* Once something gets out into outer space it’s there forever, floating on and on and on! Look at the numerous satellites that men have sent up there that have gone to the outer reaches of the solar system and still are working and going. That gives us a hint of what this means.

“...and those who worship the beast and his image, and all who receive the mark of his name, have no rest day and night.’ Here is *the* patience of the saints; **here are the ones who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus**” (vs 11-12).

Now it shows that they’re going to be martyred! Verse 13: “And I heard a voice from heaven say to me, ‘Write: Blessed *are* the dead who die in *the* Lord from this time forward. Yes, says the Spirit, so that they may rest from their labors; and their works follow them.’”

Now we see something very interesting. The last part of Rev. 14 is a little difficult to understand, because here we have what the Bible does in many places: ***it tells you what’s going to take place before it happens!***

When we read it, it looks like it follows immediately one after the other, but that's really not the case. We will see that it tells us that there are two harvests here: first it is ***the harvest of God***, which is Matt. 13, the harvest of the grain, the Wave Sheaf loaves

Verse 14: "And I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and *one* like *the* Son of man sitting on the cloud, having a golden crown on His head; and in His hand *was* a sharp sickle.... [what you use to cut the grain] ...And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to Him Who was sitting on the cloud, 'Thrust in your sickle and reap, because the time has come for You to reap; **for the harvest of the earth is ripe**'"—*that's the resurrection!*

Verse 16: "And He Who was sitting on the cloud thrust forth His sickle upon the earth, and the earth was reaped."

Matt. 24 says that when Christ is coming toward the earth, He's going to send the angels to bring those at the sound of the last trump, and they will be raised!

Now ***the harvest of the wicked***, that is all the battles of the seven last plagues. But that comes after the resurrection of the saints. We'll come back to it, but first:

Revelation 15:1: "Then I saw another sign in heaven, great and awesome: seven angels having the seven last plagues, for in them **the wrath of God is filled up**. And I saw a Sea of Glass mingled with fire, and those who had gotten the victory over the beast..." (vs 1-2).

- When did the beast first come? *In the Garden of Eden! The serpent!*
- Is the serpent the beast? *Yes, it is!*

"...and over his image... [over the idolatry of Babylon the Great] ...and over his mark, *and* over the number of his name, standing on the Sea of Glass, having *the* lyres of God" (v 2).

The angels are going to be raising the saints and bringing them to a vast sea of glass. This may not be the same sea of glass that you find in Rev. 4, or it may be the same sea of glass with the Throne of God on it, expanded so that all the resurrected saints will be on it, *and the world is going to see it!*

The world will probably see the saints being raised out of the earth. Think about what that's going to do to the rest of the world. That's when they're going to be convinced that this is the antichrist; that's what they will be told. What a thing that's going to be to be raised to the Sea of Glass! All the world can look up and see the Sea of Glass and see

everything that is taking place on it. A great phenomena from outer space that is absolutely unreal to them!

But for us, we'll be on the Sea of Glass receiving our reward, our new name, our new garments. We'll be there for the marriage of the Lamb and the Church and all the rest who are invited to the supper. What do we do?

Verse 3: "And they were singing the song of Moses..." All of those who come through the first covenant that God gave beginning with Moses, Abraham and so forth, who will all be there.

"...*the* servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, 'Great and awesome *are* Your works, Lord God Almighty; righteous and true *are* Your ways, King of the saints. Who shall not fear You, O Lord, and glorify Your name? For *You* only *are* Holy; and all the nations shall come and worship before You, for Your judgments have been revealed.'" (vs 3-4)—*after a few other things take place!* Have to get rid of the beast and the false prophet and Satan the devil! That takes place after this.

Verse 5: "And after these things I looked, and behold, the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven was opened."

That's right there, you have the Sea of Glass, now what do you have? *The testimony in heaven above, right there!*

Verse 6: "And the seven angels who had the seven *last* plagues came out of the temple; they were clothed in linen, pure and bright, and girded about the chest with golden breastplates. And one of the four living creatures gave to the seven angels seven golden vials, full of the wrath of God, Who lives into the ages of eternity. And the temple was filled with smoke... [right there with the saints; we'll see all of this going on] ...from the glory of God, and from His power; and no one was able to enter inside the temple **until the seven plagues of the seven angels were fulfilled**" (vs 6-8).

We will cover that sometime before Trumpets, because that takes place after the resurrection on Pentecost, and leads up to Trumpets!

What a thing that is going to be, all the saints together, all of us. God is going to give us:

- a new body
 - a new mind
 - a new language
 - a new name
 - new clothing
- we're all going to be organized and know:*
- what we're going to do

- who is going to lead us
- where we're going to go
- what we're going to do when we get down to the earth

which will be absolutely nearly totally destroyed on the surface!

That's the meaning of the Day of Pentecost! Great things on the Holy Days take place, and this will be the greatest event from the creation of the world to take place, ***and that's the meaning of Pentecost!***

Scriptural References:

- 1) Revelation 12:9
- 2) Leviticus 23:15-20
- 3) Luke 4:16-19, 21
- 4) Acts 2:1-11, 34-38
- 5) Revelation 4:1
- 6) Revelation 11:11-12
- 7) Revelation 4:1-4
- 8) Revelation 6:1-17
- 9) Matthew 24:26-31
- 10) Revelation 14:1-16
- 11) Revelation 15:1-8

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Matthew 13
- Isaiah 61
- Acts 10
- Revelation 1; 5; 20
- Daniel 9:27; 6
- Revelation 7-9, 13, 17
- Matthew 13

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Christian Biblical Church of God Offices:

United States

Post Office Box 1442
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Post Office Box 125
Brockville, Ontario
K6V 5V2 Canada

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Australia

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Post Office Box 8217
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Rep. of South Africa

Malaysia

WDT 00009
Semenyih,
43507 Selangor, Malaysia

La Verdad de Dios

www.laverdadedios.org
Post Office Box 831241
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