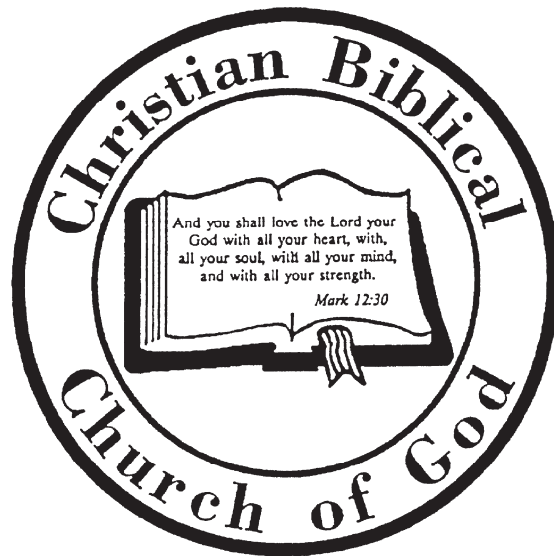


# Day 49 & Pentecost 2021



**Transcript Book**

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## Lessons for Us From the Seven Churches

(Day 49)

*Be zealous and repent, “Behold, I stand at the door and knock.”*

Fred R. Coulter—May 15, 2021

Greetings, everyone! Welcome to the Sabbath before Pentecost, or Day 49.

Remember, in counting Pentecost there has to be seven complete weeks, each ending with a Sabbath. Those seven complete weeks are 49 days, and this is where we are today. I would like to show you a chart:

### Count Pentecost Chart

We start out with Passover in Egypt. You will notice that for the Holy Days we mark them importantly, especially the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> day of the 1<sup>st</sup> month, showing that the Passover begins after sunset of the 13<sup>th</sup> as the 14<sup>th</sup> day began, and the lambs were killed.

It works out that way when you take the Calculated Hebrew Calendar and you punch in the year of the exodus.

- 14<sup>th</sup> day is Passover
- 15<sup>th</sup> day, the exodus began as the 14<sup>th</sup> day ended and the 15<sup>th</sup> day began

That’s very interesting and everything, because we have all of the Scriptures that we’ve covered concerning it.

Here is the key: when the Wave Sheaf Offering happens. You look at the year, in which the exodus occurred and you will see that the Wave Sheaf Offering Day took place on the 18<sup>th</sup> of Nisan, which is the day after the weekly Sabbath.

As you know, the Passover does not fall in this sequence all the time. There are different day on which it falls. When it falls like it did this year, on a Sabbath Day, then the Passover Day being the Sabbath and an Unleavened Bread day, is the day which is the Sabbath during Unleavened Bread.

The next day as it was this year was the 15<sup>th</sup>. So, the count was actually three days earlier than this chart shows. But this chart—in the year of the Passover—was exactly the same sequence as it was in the year of the crucifixion in 30<sub>A.D.</sub>

Then we come to the 21<sup>st</sup> day of the 1<sup>st</sup> month, day #4 of the count to Pentecost. This is when Israel crossed the Red Sea.

Then they began their journey and ended up three days journey with the Sabbath on the 24<sup>th</sup>. This is where they had to have the miracle of the tree

thrown in the water to make the water sweet from being bitter.

That’s the end of week one in counting to Pentecost. Week two ends (turn chart to the second side) and you come to the second month.

The end of the second week is the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the 2<sup>nd</sup> month, and we end up in Exo. 16 where there was the argument what they were going to eat. This is a key chapter to always remember, because this shows the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the 2<sup>nd</sup> month—that was a Sabbath Day.

Then the 16<sup>th</sup> day is the first day of the count toward the manna. But when the 15<sup>th</sup> day ended at sunset, God sent the quail. They ate them between sunset and dark.

Then we come along and we count all the way to Pentecost. We’ll get there in just a little bit. Let’s think about something for just a minute: *every single Holy Day of God, plus the Passover—a Feast, but not a Holy Day—God does something tremendously important on those days!*

That’s why the Sabbath and the Holy Days reveal what God is doing, and how prophecies are fulfilled and when they’re about to happen.

You also have to plug in what we have with the study: *Daniel/Revelation*, because all of that ties together. But on every one of the Holy Days and major things, *God does something tremendously important!*

On the Passover Day in Egypt, what did He do? *He killed all the firstborn of the Egyptians and their animals!*

The next day, the beginning the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the Night to Be Much Observed Unto the Lord, a great event happened; what was that? *The children of Israel started to leaven Egypt!* That’s a tremendous thing to consider.

The next Holy Day had a great event, as well. The rolling back of the Red Sea so the children of Israel could cross and go over to the Sinai Peninsula.

Then we come to Exo. 19 and we will see a definition that is important for us to understand, which is this:

They arrived on the 4<sup>th</sup>, then we have three days before God came down on the mountain, which was Pentecost.

A great event happened on Pentecost: *the giving of the Ten Commandments!*

Exodus 19:1: “In the third month when the children of Israel had gone forth out of the land of Egypt, **on the same day...**”—*of the week that they left Egypt!*

It’s the same day of the week. It couldn’t be the same day when they left because they weren’t at Mt. Sinai. This is the same day of the week that:

“...**they came to the wilderness of Sinai;** for they had journeyed from Rephidim, and came to the desert of Sinai, and had pitched in the wilderness. And Israel camped there in front of the mount” (vs 1-2)—*Mt. Sinai!*

Let’s see what happened, because this always becomes important. What happened here is like God calling us, but this is back at Mt. Sinai, and God was going to speak to them, and He was going to make a covenant with them. Understand that whenever God proposes a matter, it sounds simple. We’ll see it here:

Verse 3: “And Moses went up to God, and the LORD called to him out of the mountain, saying, ‘Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob and tell the children of Israel, “You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and *how* I bore you on **eagles’ wings** and brought you unto Myself”’” (vs 3-4).

“...**eagles’ wings...**” *is a type of protection!* They walked; that’s how they got there.

Now here’s a key thing for everybody in their relationship with God—you and me and everybody down through history, going all the way back to Adam and Eve and going forward to everybody in the future—here it is right here. This is exactly what Jesus confirmed:

Verse 5<sup>[transcriber’s correction]</sup>: “Now, therefore, if you will **obey My voice** indeed, and **keep My covenant**... [all the details of the covenant that were yet to be given] ...then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine. And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a Holy nation.’ These *are* the words which you shall speak to the children of Israel” (vs 5-6). *Simple!* But within it are all the details.

- “...if you will **obey My voice...**” *means whatever God says!*
- “...**keep My covenant...**” *means whatever God will have written down, because as we*

will see an important part of the covenant is to write it down.

Verse 8: “ And all the people answered together and said, ‘All that the LORD has spoken we will do.’...” *Always remember this:*

When *you tell God* something that you will do, you better do it! Likewise, *if God tells you* something to do, you better do it!

“...And Moses returned the words of the people to the LORD” (v 8).

So, God said, ‘All right, you, Moses, get them all ready, they have three days to get ready.’ (see the three days on the chart)

- day 1—Friday—they washed their clothes (v 10).
- day 2—Sabbath—they rested while the clothes were drying
- day 3—first day of the week—the day when God gave the Ten Commandments

That’s a great and historical thing, a one-time thing that has happened in this world and never again to happen the same way.

There may have been upwards of two million people all gathered around the mountain. God came down on the mountain and it was burning with smoke and fire *because of the power of God!*

The people trembled, moved way back; they were afraid. God called Moses up again and said, ‘You go down and tell them not to get near here—the mountain—or any animal. So, Moses went down and told them. After he got back down there, God spoke the Ten Commandments.

If there’s anybody out there who thinks that the Ten Commandments are harsh, they are totally wrong! Why? *Because it’s not the commandments that are harsh!* We’ll review them quickly since they were given on Pentecost. It is profoundly important. God’s commandments are based on love, the love of God.

In Deut. 30 Moses spoke as a rehearsing before they went into the ‘promised land.’ Here’s something always keep in mind: *everything that God does is based on His love, and based on the premise that ‘IF you will obey My voice and keep My covenant’—and commandments—THEN blessings will come!* But the harsh part of it is, not the laws of God, but the *penalty for breaking them! That becomes the harsh part!*

Unfortunately, the Protestants can’t separate that out from the rest of what God has said. They like to claim His love, but they don’t love Him back

because they don't keep His commandments. That's why God made it conditional: **IF!** Let's read the details of that **IF!**

Deuteronomy 30:10—*Moses says:* “**If** you shall obey the voice of the LORD your God to keep His commandments and His statutes, which are written in this Book of the Law, *and if...* [notice *how* you are to do this]: ...you turn to the LORD your God **with all your heart and with all your soul.**”

The blessings of God and the blessing of eternal life are so tremendous that God wants you to be wholehearted and wholly devoted to Him!

- not to any man
- not to any minister
- not to any pope

**But God, because He wants to bless you!**

Verse 11: “For this commandment, which I command you today *is* not hidden from you, neither is it far off.”

Everybody has access to a Bible today, think about what that means in this world. There are more Bibles in the world, between what is printed and what is digital than at any time in the history of the world! Isn't that amazing, that that is occurring just before the return of Jesus Christ? *No one can say, 'I didn't know, Lord!'*

- They could have known **IF** they would have read it!
- They could have known **IF** they would have kept the Sabbath!
- They could have know **IF** they would have kept His Holy Days!

**But they refuse!** God is leaving no excuse available:

Verse 12: “It *is* not in heaven *that you should* say, ‘Who shall go up to heaven for us, and bring it to us, so that we may hear it and do it?’”

What did they say about hearing the voice of God? *Oh Moses, you speak to us!*

Verse 13: “Neither *is* it beyond the sea *that you should* say, ‘Who shall go over the sea for us to bring it to us, so that we may hear it and do it?’ But the Word *is* very near you, in your mouth and in your heart, so that you may do it” (vs 13-14).

Not that God put it there, but in a language that you will understand; in your mouth, your language; in your heart a mind to understand it.

**IF you believe** that is *the work of God*, but here's the detail: **you must obey!** That's what Jesus also said.

Verse 15: “Behold, I have set before you this day life and good, and death and evil.”

*God always gives us choice!* What are we going to choose? That choice comes to us all the time! In fact, everything we do in life is a choice, automatic or thought through, makes no difference.

Verse 16: “In that I command you this day to **love the LORD your God...**”

That's the first thing; that's the first commandment. Jesus said that it was ‘the greatest commandment,’ that we should love God with all our heart, mind, soul and being! That's how we do it.

“...**to walk in His ways...**” (v 16). Remember, *‘there is a way that seems right to a man, but the ends thereof are the ways of death.’*

“...and **to keep His commandments...** [nobody else's] ...and **His statutes...** [the Holy Days] ...and **His judgments...** [how to figure out difficult problems] ...**so that you may live and multiply...** [that's what God wants] ...And the LORD your God shall bless you in the land where you go to possess it” (v 16).

Notice that God always gives a warning. As I read these next verses I want you to think about what is going on here in America and in the world. The curses are coming because as a people **we've rejected God!** They come automatically because there is also Satan the devil to stir it up! Going clear back to Adam and Eve, they chose Satan instead of the Lord God. *So, God always gives a warning!*

People don't like the warning, because they want to go do whatever they want. That's how people get hooked into so many different things:

- lying
- cheating
- stealing
- adultery
- abortion
- drugs
- falsification in business
- lying from the pulpit every Sunday

I don't think that we grasp the severity of that last statement in relationship to what God is doing.

Verse 17: “But **if** your heart turn away **so that you will not hear...** [a choice] ...but shall be drawn away and worship other gods and serve them.”

Isn't that what's happening today? *Yes!* Right here in the state of California they are teaching

the worst perverse things of perverse sex beginning in the second grade! I already showed you the book that they have: *The GayBCs* by M.L. Webb. They have the worst thing in the world, abortion upon demand right up to the point of birth.

Planned Parenthood has a new program now that they can chemically change the sex, called *chemical castration! It's done through the schools without the parents consent!*

You wonder why we have all these problems? But if I read the Word of God and say the Ten Commandments, *I'm harsh, miserable, cruel and angry!* Do you want to meet God face-to-face and explain it to Him? *Think about that!*

So, all of these things that I just mentioned are other gods!

Finally, in California they are teaching the children to chant to the cannibalistic human sacrifice gods of the Mayans and Aztecs of Central America! ***But they won't let the Bible in the classroom, lest those precious little children learn the Truth!*** Here's what God says is going to happen; ***God doesn't have to do a thing! It is automatic!***

Verse 18: "I denounce to you this day that you shall surely perish; you shall not prolong *your* days on the land where you pass over Jordan to go to possess it. I call heaven and earth... [It's still here, isn't it? *Yes, it is!*] ...to record this day **against you that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing. Therefore, choose life, so that both you and your seed may live**" (vs 18-19). *That's what God wants!*

But He will and already has set in motion ***the penalties that come automatically because of the sins of the people!*** You need to understand that!

*But here's what God wants;* v 20: "That you may **love the LORD your God, and may obey His voice, and may cleave to Him; for He is your life...**"

***Never forget that!*** No one anywhere in any nation that has ever been is an entity unto his or her own self. ***You***—and every human being on earth—***has life because of God, whether they understand that or not!***

"...and the length of your days..." (v 20)—*because God wants to bless you!*

Jere. 16—Here's what God told Jeremiah when things were really getting bad, as Jerusalem and Judah were going down, ***down, down*** into the cauldron of sin. They were sinning so much so that God was left no choice because of their sins and depravity to send them off into captivity to Babylon

and destroy Jerusalem and wipe it off the face of the earth. He did it again in 70<sup>A.D.</sup>

And for anyone who believes in God doing things on days, the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of Ab—on both occasions: 500<sup>S.B.C.</sup> and 70<sup>A.D.</sup>—destroyed Jerusalem and the temple! So, poor Jeremiah was having a tough time!

Here's what God told Jeremiah, and let's listen to these words because these are very instructive. Here we are on the day before Pentecost, which pictures the first resurrection; just exactly as the Day of Pentecost, when they heard the Ten Commandments and God speak, ***they became God's nation all gathered together before God!***

So, here they are 900 years later, Israel—the 10 tribes—was already carried off into captivity, and Judah, Benjamin and some of the Levites were left. Remember, Jeremiah was a priest.

Jeremiah 16:1: "The Word of the LORD came to me, saying, 'You shall not take a wife for yourself, nor shall you have sons or daughters in this place.' For thus says the LORD concerning the sons and concerning the daughters who are born in this place, and concerning their mothers who bore them, and concerning their fathers who begot them in this land: 'They shall die grievous deaths of diseases...'” (vs 1-4). ***Sound like what's going on today?***

"...they shall not be mourned, nor shall they be buried... [that's coming] ...*But* they shall be as dung on the face of the earth. And they shall be destroyed by the sword and by famine; and their bodies shall be food for the birds of heaven and for the beasts of the earth' For thus says the LORD..." (vs 4-5).

Now listen to this—and these days are going to be repeated for us—so hang on, look to God so that you can be as God wants you to be:

Verse 5: "...'Do not enter into the house of mourning; do not go to weep nor moan over them....'"

There comes a time when God will do this, because He's been merciful, kind, loving and understanding ***in spite of all of their sins***, but they choose to do so much evil. Now it comes to this:

"...**For I have taken away My peace from this people,**' says the LORD, **'even loving kindness and mercies'**" (v 5). *That's the result of sin and curses!*

Now let's go back and read the Ten Commandments. Let's see how good, wonderful, right and tremendous they are. And you can add on

to it the Passover, the Holy Days, the whole way of God!

Here are the greatest number of people to hear the voice of God when He was in His glorified form speaking from the top of Mt. Sinai in great thundering language with the trumpet blowing and the wind blowing *to show the power of God*, which then God would use to bless them ***IF they obeyed His voice and kept His covenant!***

Exodus 20:1: “And God spoke all these words, saying, ‘I *am* the LORD your God, Who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of **the house of bondage**’” (vs 1-2)—*slavery!*

How many people today may not be slaves working in a household, but are slaves to sin? *Let’s start with:*

- Sunday-keeping
- drugs
- lying and cheating

*God wants you to come out of that!*

### **Commandment #1**

Verse 3: “**You shall have no other gods before Me.**”

Why? *Because God wants to give you:*

- His love!
- His peace!
- His grace!
- His blessing!

### **Commandment #2**

Verse 4: “**You shall not make for yourselves any graven image**, or any likeness of *anything* that *is* in the heavens above, or that *is* in the earth beneath, or that *is* in the waters under the earth. You shall not bow yourself down to them, nor serve them, for I, the LORD your God *am* a jealous God...” (vs 4-5).

Why is He jealous? *Because the devotion that you should be giving to God personally is going to some stupid idol that can’t see, hear, walk, create or answer prayer! That’s why!*

“...visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of those who hate Me” (vs 5).

There are a lot of people who hate God today; that’s why it’s so evil! Remember, all of these things come automatically, just like day and night!

Verse 6: “But showing mercy to thousands of those who love Me and keep My commandments”

(v 6).

That’s Old Testament doctrine and New Testament doctrine! That’s what God wants to do. But men say,

O God, we have a better idea. We think that because of the situation, that it would be better if we didn’t keep the fourth commandment. But Sunday is one day in seven, so we’ll do it that way, and You have to accept it because we’re good people.

*That is a satanic lie!*

### **Commandment #3**

Verse 7: “**You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain**, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain.”

### **Commandment #4**

Verse 8: “**Remember the Sabbath Day...**”

*All Sunday-keeping ministers take God’s name in vain every single week!* All of those who believe in Halloween, Christmas, New Years, Easter and a Sunday resurrection *believe in another god!* That’s well documented! The truth is, they know all of those things are pagan.

Oh, but it’s good for the children! Really! Is it good to lie to your children? Satan comes and ‘let’s have fun.’ That drives God away! They forget the Sabbath!

“...to keep it Holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day *is* the Sabbath of the LORD your God.... [He owns it! So, get your dirty feet and filthy hands off His Sabbath!] ...In it you shall not do any work, you, nor your son, nor your daughter; your manservant, nor your maidservant, nor your livestock, nor the stranger within your gates; **for in six days the LORD made the heaven and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day.** Therefore, the LORD blessed the Sabbath Day and sanctified it” (vs 8-11).

The only other days that He blessed and sanctified are the Holy Days! *No other days!*

Now back off and think about as I read the next commandments. How great, how peaceful, how wonderful the society would be if they kept the commandments of God.

### **Commandment #5**

Verse 12: “**Honor your father and your mother** so that your days may be long upon the

land, which the LORD your God gives you.”

How many teenagers die in various things: drugs and accidents and so forth.

### Commandment #6

Verse 13: “**You shall not murder.**”

Do you think God overlooks 62-million murders of the most innocent being killed and torn apart as they’re ripped from their mother’s wombs?

### Commandment #7

Verse 14: “**You shall not commit adultery.**” And that’s how all of that (abortions) comes about!

### Commandment #8

Verse 15: “**You shall not steal.**”

### Commandment #9

Verse 16: “**You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.**”

### Commandment #10

Verse 17: “**You shall not covet** your neighbor’s house. You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that *is* your neighbor’s.” *Wonderful thing!*

(break)

Let’s see what happened and how they responded, and let’s see how God gave them wonderful statutes and ordinances so they would know how to get along with each other in love.

We’re to love God *first*, and love our neighbors as ourselves. Then we, as Christians, are to love each other as Christ loved us. We’re also to love our enemies.

Exodus 20:18: “And all the people saw the thunderings, and the lightnings, and the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking. And when the people saw, they trembled and stood afar off. And they said to Moses, ‘You speak with us, and we will hear. **But let not God speak with us, lest we die**” (vs 18-19). *Whoa!*

Verse 20: “And Moses said to the people, **‘Do not fear, for God has come to prove you...’**”

We don’t have to put God on the judgment seat to judge Him, *because He made us! He judges us!*

“...**and so that His fear may be before**

**your faces, so that you may not sin**” (v 20). *God didn’t want them to sin, because He knew the automatic penalties that would come!*

Verse 21: “And the people stood afar off, and Moses drew near to the thick darkness where God *was*. And the LORD said to Moses, ‘Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, “You have seen that **I have talked with you from the heavens**. You shall not make with Me gods of silver, nor shall you make gods of gold for yourselves”’” (vs 21-23). *Then God tells him how to build an altar! Quite an interesting and tremendous thing!*

What happened in less than 40 days? *Aaron made a golden calf! What a short memory!*

Exo. 21-23—God gave all the statutes and commandments on how to get along with each other, and the ordinances.

Exo. 24—God had Aaron, Nadab and Abihu and 70 of the elders come up near to where God would be, along with Joshua who was the attendant of Moses. They saw God on a Sea of Glass. They ate! *They had a meal in the presence of God!*

We’ll cover that a little later: We’re called to the Lord’s supper, which will be in heaven at the first resurrection. *Think about that!*

Then they had the sacrifice of animals and the sprinkling of blood and the people again said, ‘All that the Lord has said, we will do.’ *They said it twice!*

Then God responded by having Moses come up and He gave him specific instructions beginning with how to make the Ark of the Covenant and all the things concerning the tabernacle.

Why did God do this? *Because He wanted to do something special for the people:*

- so they would always remember Him
- so that He could bless them
- so they could love Him
- so He could love them

Here’s what God wanted.

Exodus 25:8: “And let them make Me a sanctuary so that I may dwell among them.”

*God wanted to dwell with His people!* That’s been the whole story of human kind beginning with Adam and Eve. God wanted them to dwell with Him. But they rather have Satan the devil.

Let’s see what God was going to do, because they wanted *a man* to speak to them, *instead of God!* Well, that didn’t work with Moses,

did it?

- How long did it work with Joshua?
- How long did it work after Joshua and the elders died off?

*In a flash they were out after other gods!*

So, God said that in the future He was going to fulfill their desire to have God speak directly to them as a man. Here's a prophecy of Jesus Christ, and He—the One Who gave the Ten Commandments—divested Himself of His glory to become a pinprick of life and be born of the virgin Mary. To grow up and be a man to be the Messiah, God manifested in the flesh.

Deuteronomy 18:15: “The LORD your God will raise up unto you a Prophet from the midst of you, of your brethren...”

Jesus was of the house of David, the tribe of Judah, and the prophesied Seed of Abraham.

“...One like me. **To Him you shall hearken**” (v 15). *That's a very interesting phrase!*

This means that *you will listen to obey or there's no other option left!* He's saying here, this is why I'm doing it.

Verse 16: “According to all that you desired of the LORD your God in Horeb in the day of the assembly, saying, ‘Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God, neither let me see this great fire any more, so that I do not die.’ And the LORD said to me, ‘They have spoken well what they have spoken’” (vs 16-17). *They were well-intended!*

How many times do good intentions or well-intended people end up in disaster? *Because these good intentions is an excuse to leave God!*

Verse 18: “I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, *One* like you, and will put My words in His mouth. And He shall speak to them all that I shall command Him.” *You can read what Jesus said about that:*

- I don't say anything of Myself
- I don't do My own will
- I do all that the Father commanded Me to do
- I speak the words of the Father

Verse 19: “And it shall come to pass, whatever man will not hearken to My words, which He shall speak in My name, I will require *it* of him.... [pretty heavy words] ...But the prophet who shall presume to speak a word in My name...” (vs 19-20).

Remember that Jesus said about that: *In the*

*end-time there shall arise false prophets, many! False christs and give great signs and wonders to deceive the elect! So, we need to be on guard! God is going to require it of them!*

Verse 20: “But the prophet who shall presume to speak a word in My name, which I have not commanded him to speak...”—‘let us all keep Sunday’ ***God never commanded anywhere***—New Testament or Old Testament—to ***change the Sabbath and Holy Days of God—period!***

“...or who shall speak in the name of other gods, even that prophet shall die” (v 20)—*the second death!*

Let's see something very important; let's see what Jesus said. What was it that Jesus said to Satan when Satan was tempting Him for 40 days and 40 nights? *He quoted:*

Deuteronomy 8:3: “...man does not live by bread alone; but by every *word* that proceeds out of the mouth of the LORD does man live.” What was Jesus also called? *The Word of God!*

Now, this is absolutely consistent with what God said in the Old Testament; this is today:

Luke 6:46: “And why do you call Me, ‘Lord, Lord’...”

Yes, ‘many will come in My name saying that I'm the Christ and shall deceive many!’ We'll see in a minute that all the Churches of God always have to be on guard!

“...but *you* do not practice what I say?” (v 46). What is it that He said? *Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God!* And the only Word of God at that time was the Old Testament. Tie in Deut. 18:15.

Verse 47: “Everyone who comes to Me and hears My words and practices them...”—*that's us!*

We have to live them, practice them and think about them. That has to be every bit a part of what we do and how we think!

“...I will show you what he is like: He is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid *the* foundation on the Rock... [that Rock is Christ] ...and a flood came, and the torrent beat against that house, but could not shake it, ***because it was founded on the Rock***” (vs 47-48).

*Now turn the coin to the other side; v 49: “But the one who has heard My words and ***has not practiced them***...”*

Oh we like this and that's so nice, but the Sabbath and these Holy Days... No, we really

have so much more fun with Halloween, Christmas, Easter and New Years. Yes, that's fun!

**That leads to death! Christ's way leads to eternal life!**

- What do you want in the flesh?
- The Truth of God so you can live forever?

**or**

- The fun of the lies of this world promulgated by the ministers of Satan the devil and you die with no hope of eternal life?

"...is like a man who built a house on *top of* the ground, without a foundation; and *when* the torrent beat against it, it fell at once, and the ruin of that house was great" (v 49).

Here's what we have to do; the old self has been buried, died in the watery grave. We're to walk in newness of life. But we still carry around part of the old man so that we can learn to overcome.

Luke 9:23: "Then He said to all, 'If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself...'"

How do you do that? *Love God with all your heart, mind, soul and being!* That's denying the self!

"...and let him take up his cross **daily**... [whatever that may be, and it's different with everyone] ...and let him follow Me; for whoever desires to save his life shall lose it... [to save it *their* way] ...but whoever will lose his life for My sake shall save it. For what is a man profited by gaining the whole world, if he himself is lost or destroyed?" (vs 23-25).

*Think about this;* v 26: "For whoever shall be ashamed of Me and My words, of him shall the Son of man be ashamed when He comes in His own glory, and *in the glory* of the Father and of the Holy angels. But I tell you in truth..." (vs 26-27).

Then He takes them up on the Mount of Transfiguration.

"...there are some of those standing here who shall not taste of death until they have seen the Kingdom of God" (v 27).

They saw Jesus in His glorified form and that was the same as being in the Kingdom of God.

Now let's look at the seven Churches, and see something that's important. If there's any one thing, it's this: *once saved, always saved* can only be true if the following phrase is added: **If we are faithful to the end!** Remember what we just read: *practices His words*—Old Testament and New

Testament all together.

Just like a lot of people, the Church at Ephesus, began with love, zeal and miracles, and then they let down.

Let's understand that Christ is in the middle of all of His Churches. He's the Head of the Church, even though there are seven subdivisions of that, as listed here in Rev. 2 & 3, because He talks to each one of them. He's in the midst of the seven Churches!

These Churches were seven Churches in Asia Minor when this was written. They are all types of historical prophetic projection of the Church down through history to the end-times.

Then in the end-times we will again have all seven Churches manifested. That's why with all the proving and testing that we have gone through, with all the different Churches of God, Christ is still the Head!

Jesus Christ knew ahead of time what would happen. Rev. 2 & 3 are here to give us encouragement. Christ is always with us as the Head of the Church. He loves us and He knows our works. ***But He also knows our shortcomings and our sins!***

So, here is the Church at Ephesus, and notice that people heard the voice of God directly, but here's a prophecy from Christ that we all ought to listen to the messages to the seven Churches.

### **Church at Ephesus**

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**'"—*which are the seven Churches!*

Verse 2: "I know your works..."—*God knows us!*

- Do we have the Spirit of God in us? *Sure!*
- Does He know that? *Yes!*

"...and your labor, and your endurance, and that you cannot bear those who are evil... [they tried them out] ...and *that* you did test those who proclaim *themselves* to be apostles, but are not, and did find them liars" (v 2). *Look at what we have today with all of the liars!*

Verse 3: "And *that* you have borne *much* and have endured, and for My name's sake have labored and have not grown weary; nevertheless, I have *this* against you ... [notice that He points out the difficulty] ...that you have left your first love" (vs 3-4).

The first love, the primary love, is the love toward God. What happened? *They turned toward doing things for brethren and people more than worshipping God and serving the brethren from the attitude of serving 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 strong is that? If you think some of the things that I read in the Old Testament were strong, compare that with this:

Verse 6: “But this you have: that you hate the works of the **Nicolaitans**, which I also hate.” *That’s the hierarchy to rule over the brethren and ending up bringing in false doctrines! We’ll see what happens.*

Verse 7: “**The one who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the Churches.** To the one who overcomes I will give *the right* to eat of the Tree of Life that is in *the* midst of the paradise of God.”

All of these messages are to the Churches, because even though it flows to the seven Churches originally, and down through different eras of the Churches through history, everything still applies to all the Churches of God all the time, because all these different attitudes can be found with these spiritual conditions within the Churches of God.

### **Church of Smyrna**

Verse 8: “And to the angel of the Church of the Smyrneans write: These things says the First and the Last, Who was dead but is alive. ‘I know your works and tribulation and poverty (but you are rich)... [spiritually] ...and **the blasphemy of those who declare themselves to be Jews...**” (vs 8-9).

Paul wrote that a *spiritual Jew* was one who was *a Jew inwardly, with the circumcision of the heart!* That’s what Christ is talking about. They were claiming to be true Christians, but they weren’t, that’s how the Catholic Church began, a little at a time. Then tribulation against the Church they would be imprisoned.

“...and are not, but *are* a synagogue of Satan” (v 9). *So, the devil is always there trying to come after the Church!*

- Did that happen in our day? *Yes, indeed!*
- Where are all the ministers that left?
- Where are all the ones who went to Ambassador College?

- Where are all of those who were baptized, but never stuck it through?

*Satan is there!*

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... [or proved, do you really believe?] ...and you shall have tribulation ten days. Be faithful unto death... [they’re going to kill you] ...**and I will give you a crown of life.**”

Don’t worry about it! The only thing they can do is lop off your head!

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.”

- Isn’t it interesting that there are seven Churches? *Yes, indeed!*
- How many weeks is it counting to Pentecost? *Seven weeks!*

This is typical, spiritually fulfilled, of the seven weeks counting to Pentecost, and we will see tomorrow that Pentecost is the first resurrection! Here we have it.

- Did the children of Israel have troubles and trials all during that time? *Yes, they did!*
- Does the Church have troubles and trials all during the time of Christ’s death and resurrection to His second coming? *Yes!*

Notice that once Satan comes in and he gets a foothold, he doesn’t leave! The only thing that the *true Christians* can do is leave those organizations. That’s why we’re scattered today!

### **Church of Pergamos**

Verse 12: “And to the angel of the Church in Pergamos, write: ‘These things says He Who has the sharp two-edged sword. I know your works and where you dwell, where the throne of Satan *is...*’” (vs 12-13).

Anytime you get close to the operation of Satan the devil you are bound to have some practices come off on you like they did.

“...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” (v 13).

After that, what happened? *We’ve seen that when the ministers of Satan come in and take over!*

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...”

Oh, come over with us, children of Israel, and have some nice meat; you haven’t had much meat lately. Oh, we have a little bread for you to eat; we heard that you can’t eat anything but manna. So, come over here and have some of our bread. Oh, by the way, we’re going to have a wonderful sex orgy. You will really enjoy that!

“...to eat things sacrificed to idols and to commit fornication. Moreover... [in addition to that] ...you also have *those* who hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitans, **which thing I hate**” (vs 14-15).

*They were building the hierarchy; putting a man between the brethren and God!*

Notice how serious what they were doing was, in fact, before God.

Verse 16: “**Repent!** For if *you* do not *repent*, I will come to you quickly, and will make war against them with the sword of My mouth.” **Do you want God to fight against you?**

Verse 17: “The one who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the Churches....”

### **Church of Thyatira**

*Oh what a Church that was!*

Verse 18: “And to the angel of the Church in Thyatira write: ‘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).

This is during the time of the Waldensians, and also of the Church in Britain, and the time of when the Protestant Reformation came. This was quite a span of time, *about 500 years!*

We have a church historian—John Guenther—who has studied out all of this and found out about the Church. The Church at Thyatira was pretty powerful, but it was always at war against the Roman Catholic Church, and the Roman Catholic Church against the Church at Thyatira.

Verse 20: “But I have a few things against you, because you allow the woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce My servants into committing fornication and eating things sacrificed to **idols**”—*the Sacrifice of the Mass or the Roman Catholic Eucharist!*

And everything but the Passover falls within the realm of what they were doing here.

Verse 21: “And I gave her time to repent of her fornication, but she did not repent.”

Even in the Council of Trent, which lasted for decades, they had a party of priests who wanted to return to ***the Bible only*** and not have any traditions. But they were voted down. As you will read in **Rome’s Challenge to the Protestants** (Appendix N in the *Faithful Version Bible*), Cardinal Gibbon documents that they lost the attempt to bring *Scriptures only* into the Roman Catholic Church, ***because the Protestants kept Sunday!***

Sunday was a tradition and instrument that the Catholic Church invented and Cardinal Gibbon wrote about every place in the New Testament the first day of the week has nothing to do with Sunday-keeping. The Bible only teaches the Sabbath, and in 1893 when Gibbon published *Rome’s Challenge to the Protestants* for four weeks in a row in July 1893. since then the Protestants have gone down hill!

Verse 21: “And I gave her time to repent of her fornication, but she did not repent.”

*So, God is going to cast them “...into great tribulation, unless they repent of their works”* (v 22).

Verse 23: “And I will kill her children with death...”—*that has to be the second death!* Her ‘daughters’ are the daughters of Rev. 17.

“...and **all the churches shall know that I am He Who searches the reins and hearts**; and I will give to each of you according to your works” (v 23).

Then He says that those who repent and don’t fall to the depths of Satan will rule the nations.

Rev. 3—notice the progression of what happens:

### **Church of Sardis**

Revelation 3:1:”And to the angel of the Church in Sardis, write... ‘I know your works, *and* that you have a name as if you are alive, but are dead.’”

That’s what happened. They got down to a few, didn’t do anything but just keep the Sabbath and the Passover. That was about it! They didn’t do much evangelizing, small groups everywhere.

So, Christ told them, v 2: “...For **I have not found your works complete** before God.”

“...I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life...” (v 5), *but I will give you white robes and you shall walk with Me!*.

### Church at Philadelphia

Now, here’s the one everyone wants to be, but it can’t be. This is the Church that Jesus loves with ‘agape’ love. Laodiceans He loves with ‘phileo’ love. Here’s why: *The Philadelphians*:

- stay true
- are faithful
- keep the Word of God
- do not tolerate false doctrine
- do not give in to the synagogue of Satan

They resisted against that so much that God is going to make sure that when those of the synagogue of Satan are resurrected that they are going to have to worship God at the feet of the true Philadelphians!

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.**”

Think about that! If you don’t keep the Word of Christ, you’re denying His name!

Verse 9: “Behold, I will make those of the synagogue of Satan, **who proclaim themselves to be Jews 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.** Because you have kept the Word of My patience... [patiently kept My Word] ...I also will keep you from the time of temptation, **which is about to come upon the whole world to try those who dwell on the earth**” (vs 9-10).

Not some little local thing, *this is worldwide!* What does that mean? {note our message: *Understanding Temptation vs Tribulation*} *Temptation is the receiving the mark of the beast!*

Verse 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*”—triple name!

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

### Church of Laodicea

Here is the one that today is the most

prominent!

Verse 14: “And to the angel of the Church of the Laodiceans, write: 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’re ‘cool man’!* A word today in the English languages that explains the same thing; *you’re ‘cool’!*

Verse 16: “So then, because you are lukewarm, and *are* neither cold nor hot, I will spew you out of My mouth. For you say...” (vs 16-17).

Think about this: *The Laodiceans are the only ones of the seven Churches that talk back to God!* They want it *their* way.

“...‘**I am rich**...’” (v 17).

Look at all the blessings that God has given us, and all of these things that we have. It’s kind of like a little Garden of Eden down here on the earth.

“...and have **become wealthy**...”

Remember that the income for one year—before the collapse of WCG happened—was \$200-million!

“...**and have need of nothing**; **and you do not understand that you are wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked**” (v 17),

You can’t even see or understand your own condition; you think that everything is just fine! ‘Yes indeed, let’s have a reunion in Las Vegas! That will be hunky-dory’

Verse 18—*God says this*: “**I counsel you** to buy from Me gold purified by fire so that you may be rich; 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.**”

- *see the Word of God and that it means exactly what it says*
- *see your own wretched condition*
- *see how satisfied with all the things that you have*
- *see how you look upon them as blessings from God*
- *see how you don’t need God as much as ‘those poor people over there that are struggling’*

*You better have another thought!*

Verse 19: “As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore, be zealous and repent. **Behold, I stand at the door and knock....**” (vs 19-20)—*which two meanings:*

1. He’s close to returning!
2. “...If anyone hears My voice and opens the door...” (v 20)—*and repents!*

*Opens the door of his mind to receive what God has!*

In other words, a lot of those in the Church of Laodicea should be converted, ***but they’re not!*** They have lost their conversion because of what they were doing, *and thinking everything was fine!*

Here they have a chance to redeem that conversion if they repent and come to God: ***open the door of your mind!***

“...I will come in to him... [by the Spirit of God and the Spirit of Christ] ...and will sup with him, and he with Me” (v 29).

May there be for the people of God who are in this condition ***a vast repentance and return to God!***

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. **The one who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches**” (vs 21-22).

*The day before Pentecost!*

#### Scriptural References:

- 1) Exodus 19:1-6, 8
- 2) Deuteronomy 30:10-20
- 3) Jeremiah 16:1-5
- 4) Exodus 20:1-23
- 5) Exodus 25:8
- 6) Deuteronomy 18:15-20
- 7) Deuteronomy 8:3
- 8) Luke 6:46-49
- 9) Luke 9:23-27
- 10) Revelation 2:1-23
- 11) Revelation 3:1-2, 5-10, 12-22

#### Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Exodus 16; 19:10; 21-24
- Revelation 17

#### Also referenced:

- Chart: *Count Pentecost*
- In-Depth study: *Daniel/Revelation*

- Booklet: *Rome’s Challenge to the Protestants* (also Appendix N; *The Holy Bible in Its Original Order, A Faithful Version Bible*)
- Message: *Understanding Temptation vs Tribulation*

FRC:bo  
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# The Greatest Events in the History of the Universe

*The first resurrection and the return of Jesus Christ*

(Feast of Pentecost)

Fred R. Coulter—May 16, 2021

Greetings, everyone! Welcome to the Feast of Pentecost!

Let's turn to one of the most important chapters in the Bible, and yet, it doesn't seem like it, but it is! Why is Lev. 23 the most important chapter in the Bible? It doesn't tell you that it is right here, but this is the foundation of the greatest events ever! I want you to think on that!

We know what it is here, we know where we are, so let's just list them:

## Sabbath:

How important is that? *You cannot have contact with the true God unless you keep it!* You cannot understand the Word of God unless you keep it! I want you to think about that!

For the weekly Sabbath—*the special in which God puts His presence*—for those who are gathered in the name of Jesus Christ and God the Father. Think about that! Contact with God! How important is that?

## Passover

Look at what God has done on the Passover, beginning with Abraham, then the children of Israel (Exo. 12). Then coming all the way down to the day that Jesus Christ died. The most important day in understanding how we're going to get rid of our sins.

## Feast of Unleavened Bread

First and last day, they're all important. The first day the children of Israel left Egypt, the last day they walked through the Red Sea.

With us the Feast of Unleavened Bread shows how we remain in contact with God and through His Spirit overcome sin and be converted and transformed in our mind and await the next great day, which is:

## Pentecost

As we're going to see today, is a tremendous day!

## Feast of Trumpets

That's so important that it's going to affect everyone in the world!

## Day of Atonement

How great and important is that? Getting rid of and locking up, and eventually judging and getting rid of Satan the devil! Is that not huge?

## Feast of Tabernacles

For a thousand years! Is that not important?

## The Last Great Day—the 8<sup>th</sup> day

The second resurrection! Think about that! *None* of what I just said concerning these Holy Days is found in Lev. 23. But they're found in other places in the Bible, *because Lev. 23 is the framework on which all that God does hangs!*

We're going to see how important every word of God is.

Isaiah 14:24: "The LORD of hosts has sworn..."

When God swears by Himself, there can be nothing greater or nothing more powerful, nothing more assured that it's going to happen, because it's based on His existence!

"...saying, 'Surely **as I have thought...** [whatever God thinks He's going to carry it out] ...so it shall come to pass...'" (v 24). *I want you think about that in relationship to:*

- the laws and commandments of God
- the Holy Days of God
- everything that's in the Bible

*because what's in the Bible are the words of God:*

- which He has thought
- which He has spoken
- which He has caused to be written down

*Think on that!* Now do you understand why the Christianity of this world can never understand what God is doing? The little bit that they have is partial knowledge, and that's about all.

"...and as I have purposed, *so it shall stand*" (v 24). *Everything God has purposed:*

- every prophecy

- everything in relationship to those of us who are converted

*and constantly being converted, growing in grace and knowledge!*

At that time it this happened with the Assyrian army, and it's going to happen again with the King of the North in the books of Daniel and Revelation.

Remember that none of these things are written in Lev. 23. A lot of people get fooled by that, because they think it's unimportant. That's like saying the foundation of the house is not necessary.

Try and build the house, what did Jesus say when the storm comes and the waters come and the winds blow? *It's going to fall, because it wasn't founded on the Rock and wasn't built according to God's specifications!*

What is God's specification for us? *That we be converted!* So, brethren, the truth of the matter is that *God has called us to the most important thing that there can ever be in our physical life in this world!*

Verse 25: "That I will break Assyria in My land, and upon My mountains, and trample him under foot. Then his yoke shall be removed from them, and his burden shall be taken off their shoulders."

- God is a God of purpose!
- God is a God of meaning!
- God is a God of carrying out everything that He said He would do!

Verse 26: "This *is* the purpose that *is* purposed upon all the earth... [Doesn't all the end-time events affect everyone on earth in an unbelievable way?] ...and this *is* the hand... [God's hand] ...that *is* stretched out upon all the nations."

What did God say He's going to do in preaching the Gospel before Jesus Christ returns: *And this Gospel of the Kingdom of God shall be preached as a witness to all nations, and then the end shall come* (Matt. 24).

Verse 27: "For the LORD of hosts has purposed, and who shall reverse it?..."

*No one is going to change what God has said He's going to do, with the exception that IF there is repentance, He will delay the punishment!* But it's still going to happen.

Any man who thinks he has power against God, any man who thinks he can tell God what to

do, read this:

**"...And His hand is stretched out, and who shall turn it back?"** (v 27). **Nobody!**

The truth is, the foundation for all that God is doing is right here in Lev. 23 with each one of the Holy Days right on down in sequence. But you can't see it here. You can't understand it unless you keep the commandments of God!

Let's get on with Pentecost, and I want you to always note this when you read in the Old Testament. You will understand that there are very few words that are from men to God. ***All the words are from God to men and women!*** And it comes this way:

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**...." (vs 9-11).

We know that this is Jesus Christ, and it applies from the things in the New Testament that the sacrifice of Jesus Christ is accepted ***for you and me when we repent***. But He had to die, be buried in the tomb for three days and three nights as He said, and resurrected and ascend to the Father. He is the perpetual sacrifice! Isn't that marvelous!

Then give all the things to give us the offerings, and many of those things picture the Church.

Verse 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... [or seven weeks] ...shall be complete"—*ending in a Sabbath!*

That is 49 days, 7 weeks, each week having seven days. You can't have partial weeks, and you can never have a Monday Pentecost. That was one of the gross errors of Worldwide Church of God. The day after the 7<sup>th</sup> week, which is the 50<sup>th</sup> day, *and also it is the 8<sup>th</sup> day*—counting the last 7+1—*think on that!*

When did Jesus ascend? *On the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the crucifixion week, which then was the 8<sup>th</sup> day!* Amazing how all of these things take place. So, 50 days, and then you bring a new offering, an offering made with leaven, ***because only during the Feast of Unleavened Bread is leaven pictured as sin!***

We find in Matt. 13 that one of the parables

was a woman took three measures of flour and put leaven in it until it was leavened. Jesus likened that to the Kingdom of God

- What is this?
- Is the Kingdom of God sinful?

*NO! The Kingdom of God is righteous, righteousness!*

This shows the good action of the Holy Spirit converting each one of us. Then when the bread has risen it is baked, and everything is permanently set in the bread. ***That's also a type of the resurrection!***

We will be changed *permanently!* We will see that this is what this day pictures!

In the March letter, I wrote how that Jesus talked about the last day, and that last day ***was not*** the Last Great Day of the Feast of Tabernacles, but the last day of the count to Pentecost, which is day #50! Amazing!

Fifty is a type of the Jubilee! Won't that be amazing? We'll be resurrected and be free of everything of the flesh, what a Jubilee that will be! It's a type of a Jubilee.

Brethren, I want you to think about those things as you prepare to give an offering. That all of us have been called to the greatest thing possible, through the love, power and instruction of God, ***that we will be the firstfruits!***

(pause for offering)

Brethren, thank you very much for the offering that you are sending in, and it will be put to good use because everything that all the brethren send in, that's all God's money. Just as you are a steward to tithe and give offerings, in which God holds you accountable for on an individual level, so everything that comes into the Christian Biblical Church of God we use:

- to serve the brethren
- to preach the Gospel
- to publish books
- to send out CDs & DVDs
- to maintain websites

We do it as frugally as we can, so that we can make the most use of those funds to increase all the brethren in grace, knowledge, truth and understanding.

We're going to spend all the rest of the time in the New Testament, with the exception of a couple of references to the Old Testament

concerning Pentecost and all the events leading up to it. Here is an event on the Day of Pentecost that Christ Himself announced. So, we'll get there, but in the first part of Luke we have the temptation of Jesus Christ by Satan the devil. Christ past all of the tests!

Satan wants to disturb even Christ, but he couldn't do it. After He recovered, and it took a while to do that, this becomes a very interesting part:

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... [this day was the day of the Sabbaths—plural—the Day of Pentecost] ...and stood up to read. 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... [referring to Himself]: ...'*The Spirit of the Lord is upon **Me**; for this reason...*'" (vs 15-18).

Think about all the people in the synagogue listening to Him and what He had to say. There He was standing right in the middle for reading, and He says:

"...He has anointed **Me** 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, to send forth in deliverance those who have been crushed to proclaim *the* acceptable year of *the* Lord" (vs 18-19).

He applied all of that to Himself! Apparently, they understood that this man was the Messiah because they said, 'Who is this!' They were going to get rid of Him, but escaped and got out of their hands. Was this not an important thing to happen on a Holy Day? *Yes!*

Acts 2—we go here quite often, but now is the time to go here because this is the day on which the events in this chapter of the New Testament happened. So, it appropriate that we read it.

We saw yesterday that the children of Israel wanted to hear a man give instructions to them instead of God. They said, 'Oh, if we hear the voice of God we're going to die! So, Moses, you speak to us and we'll hear.' Well Jesus Christ came and He:

- taught and spoke to the crowds
- healed them
- was crucified
- buried
- resurrected from the dead
- ascended to the Father

- came back and for 40 days and taught the apostles extra things they needed to know about the Word of God and opened their minds to it

Then ten days later on Pentecost, here they were in a special meeting room at the temple area.

Acts 2:1: “And when the Day of Pentecost, the fiftieth day, was being fulfilled... [an articular infinitive meaning *it was taking place right then*] ...they were all with one accord in the same place. And suddenly *there* came from heaven... [from God] ...a sound like *the* rushing of a powerful wind, and filled the whole house where they were sitting” (vs 1-2).

What may have been happening outside? Remember, on Pentecost was the giving of the Law, and not only did they have the wind, they had the fire, smoke and all the demonstration of that, and the power of the voice of God. They couldn't take it. They didn't want God to talk to them.

- What was happening in the temple?
- What did they do on the Day of Pentecost at the temple? *They blew a trumpet!*

It was probably (speculation) at the time that this event occurred when they were there in the room.

“...a powerful wind, 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” (vs 2-3). **What did they see on Pentecost at Mt. Sinai? Fire!**

Verse 4: “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.”

So, here comes the Holy Spirit, VOOM! as a flame of fire direct from God! They started speaking in other languages; each one of the apostles was speaking in his own language, but it was coming out in all the different languages of all the Jews that were there at the temple.

You can imagine that the temple was filled with a lot of people because of all the events that happened leading up to the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Here are all of these Jews coming from the Diaspora. They were coming to Jerusalem to find out what happened. Some might say:

I remember coming here two years ago, and I saw Him heal and they killed Him! We hear that they couldn't find the body. Could it be that He's resurrected?

Well, Peter and the apostles told them that:

- yes, this was from God
- yes, He rose from the dead
- yes, He was killed and resurrected
- yes, this is the Christ

It was a powerful message that they gave. They referred to other Scriptures in the Old Testament fulfilling of God's Word and so forth!

Verse 31: “He [God] foresaw *this and* spoke concerning the resurrection of Christ, that His soul was not left in *the* grave, nor did His flesh see corruption. This Jesus has God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses” (vs 31-32).

- we saw Him
- we handled Him
- we touched Him
- we spoke with Him
- He spoke with us

Verse 33: “Therefore, having been exalted by the right hand of God, and having received the promise of the Holy Spirit from the Father, He has poured out this that you are now seeing and hearing.”

This was a spectacular major event! How many of the fulfillments that come during the Holy Days are a one-time event!

- a one-time event at Mt. Sinai
- a one-time event at the temple on this Pentecost
- a one-time event of the crucifixion of Christ

*You wouldn't know that just by reading Lev. 23!*

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”’” (vs 34-35).

They were familiar with a lot of these Scriptures, and they're standing there hearing all of this and all these languages. Notice what Peter said to them:

Verse 36: “Therefore, let all *the* house of Israel... [today it is the whole world, because they were to preach the Gospel to the whole world] ...know with full assurance... [without a doubt] ...that God has made this *same* Jesus, **Whom you crucified**, both Lord and Christ.”

They're standing there and they began to

understand what an evil thing that they did.

How terrible! Oh my, we shouldn't have done it! Look at all the things that we thought about Him and all that we were told by the Pharisees what an evil man He was. But He wasn't an evil man. He was a righteous Man and was raised from the dead and sits at the right hand of God. What do we do?

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 shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit**’ (vs 37-38).

An amazing thing! God has given that to us, as well. I want you to think about these things in a deep way. Not just today, but as you go on. Think about what God is doing in your life and my life and all those who have come before us, and all of those who will come after us.

***God has purposed it! As He has thought, so shall it be!*** That's an amazing thing!

Verse 39: “For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all those... [including all the Gentiles yet to come] ...who are afar off, as many as *the* Lord our God may call.” *That's why it's important!*

How are we called? *The Father draws us!* If we answer the call, then we are chosen! If we're chosen then we're led to baptism and the receiving of the Holy Spirit. *Then we become the faithful!* Think about that! ***That's why we're here, and why we keep these days!***

- How precious are these days?
- How good are these days?

Verse 40: “And with many other words he earnestly testified and exhorted, ‘Be saved from this perverse generation.’ Then those who joyfully received his message were baptized; and **about three thousand souls were added that day**” (vs 40-41).

You can read other parts of the book of Acts and see how the apostles literally turned everything upside down in Jerusalem and in Judea. We won't get into all of that.

Now we're going to spend the rest of this message in prophecy, and see how that is fulfilled as

it comes to the Day of Pentecost and the resurrection of the saints.

I want you brethren to also understand what a great and marvelous thing it is that today we can understand some of these prophecies. Some we can understand very clearly; some of them we can ‘see through a glass darkly.’ Some of them we can surmise certain things that appear true, and we will do all those today.

Revelation 1:4: “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...”

Remember that God says, ‘As I think and as I say, it shall stand!’ So, Christ is going to return!

“...and from the seven spirits that are before His Throne” (v 4).

Those seven spirits are the seven eyes of God that goes into all the world looking for those who want to worship God in Spirit and in Truth! Keeping God informed about what goes on in the world because He knows everything that's going on.

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.”

- For what purpose?
- Just so we can feel good about ourselves?  
*No! God has a great purpose for us!*

Verse 6: “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.”

Verse 7—We're going to see how this is going to be fulfilled in a tremendous way:

Verse 7: “Behold, He is coming with the clouds, and **every eye shall see Him**... [no one is going to miss this; they won't be able to miss it; we'll see why] ...and those who pierced Him...”

That takes place at the second resurrection for those who literally pierced Him with nails in the hands and feet and the spear in the side.

But since the sacrifice of Jesus Christ is applied to each one of us individually, that is spiritually true for us, so that includes us.

“...and **all** the tribes of the earth shall wail because of Him. Even so, Amen” (v 7).

(break)

The seven Churches equal the seven weeks of time from the Wave Sheaf Offering—the

resurrected Christ going to the Father in heaven—until Pentecost. So, in Rev. 4 we find a type of the 50<sup>th</sup> Day, because John, in vision, sees the Throne of God! The only one who saw part of it before was Isaiah in vision. So, here in vision, John is going to see it again. Notice how it's introduced.

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..."—*a trumpet!* What is blown on Pentecost? *A trumpet!*

Go back and read Num. 10, all the things when the trumpet is going to be blown. All of them will be fulfilled on the Day of Pentecost.

Speculation: ringing of the bell for anything I might say that is supposition based upon the facts of the Scripture.

"...saying, '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" (vs 1-2).

And John saw the four living creatures and the 24 elders and he heard the four living creatures say:

Verse 8: "...'Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was, and Who is, and Who *is* to come.'" ***What an awesome thing to see!***

Revelation 5:1: "And in the right hand of Him Who sits on the Throne I saw a book... [a scroll] ...written within and on *the* back, which had been **sealed with seven seals.**

We find that Jesus Christ was the only One qualified to open the seven seals (Rev. 5), and that nothing on earth is going to be done concerning the Scriptures—that we're going to read now forward in the book of Revelation—are going to be enacted unless Jesus Christ opens the seals at the command of God the Father. He's the only One to open them, no one else can!

Sidebar: I was watching TBN—I keep up on that just once in a while—and here's someone saying that the fifth seal has already been opened. *No, it hasn't! I might ask:*

- Where is the King of the North?
- Where is the King of the South?

Now let's see what happens when this occurs (the opening of the 7 seals); let's see what a thing this is going to be. Remember that everything that takes place from here on out are going to be

major events leading up to the resurrection of the saints and the return of Jesus Christ. Then the return of Christ with all the saints back to the earth.

Everything leads to that! There are some inset chapters that tell us how these things develop, but it flows one after the other beginning with the seven seals.

Verse 7: "And He came and took the book out of the right hand of Him Who sits on the Throne. And when He took the book, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having harps and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. And **they...**" (vs 7-9)—*the saints, not the 24 elders!*

A lot of people get that mixed up and say that the 24 elders sing the song. ***NO!*** "...the saints. And they..."

"...sang a new song, saying, 'Worthy are You to take the book, and to open its seals because You were slain, **and did redeem us to God...**'" (v 9).

The 24 elders didn't need to be redeemed. The four living creatures didn't need to be redeemed. *But we, the saints, do!*

"...by Your own blood, out of every tribe and language and people and nation, and did make us unto our God kings and priests; and we shall reign on the earth" (vs 9-10). *That's not the 24 elders!*

It's interesting how easily some people mis-read that.

Verse 11: "And I saw and I heard *the* voices of many angels around the Throne, and *the* voices of the living creatures and the elders, and thousands of thousands."

So, when these are opened up, there's going to be a lot of activity at the Throne of God!

Verse 12: "Saying with a loud voice, 'Worthy is the Lamb Who was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honor, and glory and blessing.'"

I don't know how v 13 is going to work, but it's going to be done just like He says:

Verse 13: "And every creature that is in heaven... [everything that God has made, all of the angels and whatever else is there] ...and on the earth, and under the earth, and those that are on the sea, and all the things in them..."

Think about that! I wonder how an elephant

is going to do it on land, and how a whale is going to do it in the oceans?

“...I heard saying, ‘To Him Who sits on the Throne... [God the Father] ...and to the Lamb, *be* blessing, and honor, and glory, and sovereignty into the ages of eternity.’ And the four living creatures said, ‘Amen.’ And the twenty-four elders fell down and worshiped *Him Who* lives into the ages of eternity” (vs 13-14). *Quite a thing!*

### **First Seal—One-world religion**

There are many events taking place today. One of the major events that is taking place on a *big* scale is the events described in the first seal.

So, it’s very likely that the first seal has already been opened. The mission of the first seal is going on, but it’s taking place like a natural thing on earth. That is the bringing of all religions together.

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...” (vs 1-2)

This is *the false christ, the false prophet!* What does he do?

“...and the one who was sitting on it had a bow... [notice that it doesn’t say arrows] ...and a crown was given to him...” (v 2). *Did you know that the pope has a crown?*

“...and he went out conquering, and to conquer” (v 2).

Think about this: going out and bringing in all the religions in the world back to the suzerainty of the pope. The other vision of this is Rev. 17 where the woman sits on the beast! The woman and her daughters full of the names of blasphemy.

Not everything is contained in one place. Just like with Lev. 23, you would never guess just by reading that alone that the things that we are covering today are based on the foundation of those things in Lev. 23.

“...and he went out conquering, and to conquer” (v 2)—*and it’s happening!*

Islam is now becoming ‘Chrislam’ that will become a world religion to even encompass those who don’t believe in God.

Notice the key one that has not yet been opened. This one is opened at the midway point of the 70<sup>th</sup> week prophecy in Daniel. First there will come the King of the North, and there will be an

agreement made with the Jews and the temple in Jerusalem. The first three and half years of the seven years is going to be a wonderful peace, because everything is going to be happy, lovely and just really great.

Then the King of South will push at the King of the North and he will come down into the Holy Land and into Egypt and Libya, and he will go into the Temple of God saying *that he is God!* They will build a temple!

Sidebar: some people who don’t know the Bible have said that the third temple has already been built, which is the resurrected Christ, His body.

*Not so!*

The King of the North is going to hear things, and he’s going to come down there against the King of the South, and when he comes into Jerusalem, then he’s going to go into the temple, which the Jews will build! They’ve got a lot of things already done to do it.

When he goes in there—2-Thess. 2—he’s going to declare himself to be ‘God on earth,’ and the pope will back him up on it. The pope will be doing great miracles. All nations will have submitted to the world government.

Here at the halfway point, it all falls apart! Now the events of the last three and a half years unfold in quite rapid fashion, especially the first two years of the last three and a half unfold in Rev. 6.

### **Second Seal—War!**

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... [war] ...and *power* was given to the one sitting on it to take peace from the earth... [there will be a time of peace when all these things take place] ...and *to cause* them to kill one another; and a great sword was given to him” (vs 3-4). *This was war, men against men with whatever weapons that they have!*

Now he’s got extra power! When that’s given to him, the third seal is opened. Let’s see how this takes place, right there midway through the last seven years.

What happens when there’s war? There’s death and destruction! There are dead people, wounded people, people deprived of everything, and refugees flooding out of the war zone, etc. Always happens!

### **Third Seal—Famine!**

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)—*because they’re precious and we need those!*

What happens when there is war? *People cannot get food.* Look at us today, how vulnerable we are with the stores. Everything there that we think we need, plus everything that we don’t need to, as well. Most of the things that we get that we don’t need, that generally ends up around the waist.

Now, the shooting may calm down a little bit, but look at what always follows the shooting when everything is destroyed. People are moved out of their homes and cities and countries, having to flee!

### **Fourth Seal—Death!**

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, and the grave followed him; and authority was given to them... [all of the four horses] ...over *one-fourth* of the earth, to kill with *the* sword and with famine and with death, and by the beasts of the earth”

Who are they going to blame? *Got to have a scapegoat!* The fifth seal doesn’t happen until after the Great Tribulation begins. So, it couldn’t have happened already, because the Great Tribulation hasn’t arrived, yet.

### **Fifth Seal—Martyrdom of the saints!**

Verse 9: “And when He opened the **fifth seal**, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the Word of God, 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?’ 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” (vs 9-11).

A great event is going to happen, and we’ll

see the timeframe in just a bit. Remember when we said from Rev. 1 that Jesus is going to come with the clouds and every eye shall see Him! Remember that while all these events are occurring, the Earth is rotating on its axis and it’s moving around in its orbit around the sun. that does not stop!

So we come to a time that something is going to happen; that every eye will see. At first they will say that this is the return of Christ, which will be true, but we will see that the return of Christ comes in two phases!

1. the first phase is right here
2. the second phase is Rev. 11 & 15

Then the finality of the second phase will be when Christ and the resurrected saints come to the earth.

Let’s see what’s going to happen; *every eye is going to see this!* They will not miss it!

### **Sixth Seal—Sign of the Son of man in heaven**

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. Then *the* heaven departed like a scroll that is being rolled up...” (vs 12-14).

The Earth is turning, still going in its orbit. What they see is that the heavens open up!

“...and **every mountain and island was moved out of its place**” (v 14). *It’s going to affect the whole world!*

Not only are they going to see it, but they are going to feel it!

Verse 15: “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”—*trying to find some place of safety!*

Verse 16: “And they said to the mountains and to the rocks, ‘Fall on us, 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). **No one!**

How long is a day in prophecy fulfillment? *One year!* We’re going to see that this one year is going to be a 13 month year, meaning an extra 30 days.

Let's look at the next thing to happen, and then we'll look at the Old Testament to find out a timeframe as to exactly when this occurs.

Revelation 7:1: "And after these things I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding back the four winds of the earth, so that the wind might not blow on the earth, or on the sea, or on any tree. Then I saw another angel ascending from *the* rising of *the* sun, having *the* seal of *the* living God; and he cried out with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to damage the earth and the sea, saying, 'Do not damage the earth, or the sea, or the trees **until we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads**'" (vs 1-3). *This means repentance and conversion!*

What do we have? *Sealed from the 12 tribes of Israel!* Here's where we get the timing of the timeframe when this will happen. But that's found in the book of Hosea. We will get an exact timeframe at this point and will help us understand the rest of the timing that we find up to the resurrection.

We will see what Hosea says, and we will see how it fits into prophecy. We know from other prophecies that the children of Israel are going to be in captivity. They're going to be in the north, the south, the east and the west, because they will all be conquered by *the beast* and be in captivity!

*Here is the repentance of the 12 tribes of Israel;* Hosea 5:13—*God says:* "When Ephraim saw his sickness, and Judah saw his wound, then Ephraim went to the Assyrian and sent to King Contentious.... [the coming beast] ...Yet, he could not heal you nor cure you of your wound, for I *will be* to Ephraim as a lion, and as a strong lion to the house of Judah. I, *even* I, will tear and go away. I will take away, and none shall rescue him" (vs 13-14).

So, they enter into their Tribulation and captivity!

Verse 15: "I will go; I will return to My place until they confess their guilt and seek My face; in their affliction they will seek Me earnestly."

That repentance is going to take place right there at Rev. 7—*repentance and conversion!*

Hosea 6:1 *tells us what they will do:* "Come and let us return to the LORD, for He has torn, and He will heal us; He has smitten, and He will bind us up. After two days..." (vs 1-2)—*two years in fulfillment of prophecies; after two full years!*

In the last three and a half years *this will be after two of those years!*

"...He will revive us... [the protection of the 144,000 and the great innumerable multitude (Rev. 7)] ...in the third day... [beginning with the third year] ...He will raise us up, and we shall live in His sight" (v 2).

Take three and a half years and deduct two years, how many years do you have left? *A year and a half!* From that year and a half you deduct the time from Pentecost until Trumpets, which is about four and a half months.

Then the wrath of Christ is going to be from Trumpets to Trumpets against those on the earth. But for those who are saved, which is right here, this probably occurs on Pentecost. So, from Pentecost to Pentecost will be the time from those of the 144,000 until the resurrection of all the saints; one year for that.

Then you have the time in between that all the nations will then be able to recover from everything that takes place with the ripping of the heavens opened. Then we will come to Rev. 8, which will be the last year from Trumpets until Trumpets. So, you have two things going:

1. from Pentecost to Pentecost—*the resurrection*

then you have space in between, the 144,000 sealed, the great innumerable multitude and people on the earth recovering and right here is where you have the resurrection.

2. from Trumpets to Trumpets

We will find out what it's going to be like when the heavens are ripped open.

- What Jesus said about it?
- What are they going to see?
- What's going to happen with it?

Matt. 24:26—Jesus says, '***Don't go after any false alarms.***'

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."

Now here is how every eye is going to see Him; v 27: "For as the light of day... [the sun] ...which comes forth from *the* east and shines as far as *the* west... [it does it because the Earth is turning on its axis as well as moving in its orbit] ...so also shall the coming of the Son of man be." *Think about that!*

Verse 29: "But immediately after the tribulation of those days... [the two years against

Israel and the great innumerable multitude] .... the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven... [Rev. 6] ...and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken. And then shall appear **the sign of the Son of man in heaven...**" (vs 29-30).

It appears as another sun in the universe (v 27). Here they are, the heavens are rolled back and all of a sudden there's another sun that appears out there from the earth. It hasn't yet come to the earth, and everyone is terrified. They think that Jesus is coming. They are true in saying that, but He's not going to coming to the earth, yet.

Therefore, that gives Satan plenty of time to convince them that this is not the Christ, but invaders from outer space! That's why they're going to fight Christ!

Verse 29: "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 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 29-30). *That coming is at the end of that time!*

Verse 31: "And He shall send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet... [recall that, the last trumpet] ...and they shall gather together His elect from the four winds... [What did the angels do? *Hold back the winds* (Rev. 7)] ...from one end of heaven to *the other.*"

So, we know that with the sealing of the 144,000, this probably takes place on a Pentecost, just like we have those who were converted at the temple with the Holy Spirit. These are converted on Pentecost, relieved of their captivity, still where they are but the captivity is lifted from them—144,000!

Rev. 8 talks about the seven trumpets, each one blown in succession. These will occur beginning with the Feast of Trumpets—next to the last one—with the return of Christ coming at the end of that year with all the saints. So, let's see how this is going to work.

We have all the trumpets that are blown, and that ends with the greatest battle of all right there in the Holy Land, between all the kings of the East and the power of the Beast Power. Those battles are going to take place (Rev. 8-9).

Rev. 10—we don't know what's going to happen with those, but it's going to be awful,

because the angel told John, 'Don't write these things.'

Rev. 11 goes back to when the two witnesses started, and when do they start? *Just before the Beast Power goes into the temple and says that he's 'God'!* Their prophecy is 1,260 days. No one is going to be able to touch them. ***Two men in sackcloth against the whole world!***

All the forces of the world can't come against them. If they try to kill them, fire will go out of their mouths and devour them. Finally when their mission has come to an end, God will let the beast that ascends out of the abyss to kill them. The world will go ecstatic and everyone will send gifts to one another!

Then what's going to happen? *Just before the seventh trump—the last trump—that shall sound, the two witnesses will be raised from the dead!* A voice will come out of heaven and say, 'Come up here!' The two witnesses shall rise and there will be a great earthquake and 7,000 men will die.

Then the seventh angel sounds and the seventh angel is the last trump. That's what Paul wrote:

***We shall all be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump, for the trumpet shall sound and we shall be raised from the dead!***

How is the resurrection going to work?

Revelation 11:15: "Then the seventh angel sounded *his* trumpet; and *there* were great voices in heaven, saying, 'The kingdoms of this world have become *the kingdoms* of our Lord and His Christ, and He shall reign into the ages of eternity.'"

When that happens, something else is going to take place. When that trumpet sounds and the resurrection starts, that second sun out here—the sign of the Son of man—is going to swoosh down here to the earth, and when it gets down to the clouds, it's going to all of a sudden turn into a gigantic Sea of Glass.

Every eye is going to see it! The world is going to be absolutely amazed! They're going to say, 'aliens from outer space are coming, and look at these people...'

I don't know what they're going think about seeing the dead being raised out of their graves and raised to meet Christ in the air on the Sea of Glass and with all the saints. That's going to be something! Now notice what the 24 elders say when the first resurrection occurs:

Verse 16: “And the twenty-four elders, who sit before God on their thrones, fell on their faces and worshiped God, saying, ‘We give You thanks, O Lord God Almighty, Who is, and Who was, and Who *is* to come; for You have taken *to Yourself* Your great power, and have reigned. For the nations were angry, and Your wrath has come...” (vs 16-18)

***The wrath of God is going to be the seven last plagues!*** That’s to come, but here is the first resurrection on Pentecost, because the seventh trumpet and the last day of man’s rule on the earth occur together. That’s why Jesus said in John 6 that ***He will raise us up on the last day! That’s the 50<sup>th</sup> day, Pentecost resurrection!***

“...and the time for the dead to be judged, and to give reward to Your servants the prophets, and to the saints, and to *all* those who fear Your name, the small and the great; and to destroy those who destroy the earth” (v 18).

Every category of those who are going to be raised *will be raised!* Let’s see how this is fulfilled. Next week I’m going to cover what we will be doing on the Sea of Glass. How about the seven last plagues that are poured out. We have the time from Pentecost to Trumpets that all of these other things are going to take place. We’ll cover the rest of the story next week.

Revelation 14:14: “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.”

Remember, Matt. 13 shows the harvest of God as a harvest of grain.

Verse 15: “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.’ And He Who was sitting on the cloud thrust forth His sickle upon the earth, and the earth was reaped” (vs 15-16). *That’s the first resurrection!*

- Rev. 14—destruction of the wicked when Christ and the saints return
- Rev. 15—the Sea of Glass and everything that’s going to take place on the Sea of Glass and the seven angels with the seven last plagues

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.”

Go clear back to Rev. 6:12, which talks about the year of the Lord, the wrath of God to come. That’s going to come, but the resurrection and all the saints on the Sea of Glass come before those take place. So, all of the saints, all of the Prophets, all the patriarchs, all who are resurrected are all going to see the seven last plagues poured out!

That is after Pentecost up until Trumpets. So, there’s still more to the rest of the story. But here’s the Sea of Glass:

Verse 2: “And I saw a Sea of Glass mingled with fire...”

Where did we see the Sea of Glass? *Exo. 24 when Moses, Aaron, Nadab and Abihu and 70 of the elders of Israel looked up and saw God walking on a Sea of Glass!* Then when John was raised in vision to see the Throne of God, it was sitting on a Sea of Glass.

This is how we’re going to meet Christ in the air, because the Sea of Glass will be in the air in the clouds right over the Holy Land! It will be a huge Sea of Glass. The world is going to be absolutely unable to understand what this is. So, they will label it as *an invasion from outer space by aliens!*

Sidebar: Is the world being prepared for that now? *Yes, Satan is doing his work!*

Let’s read what going to happen on the Sea of Glass, and then next week I’ll tell you what’s going to happen. It’s going to be very interesting, indeed!

Verse 2: “And I saw a Sea of Glass mingled with fire, and those who had gotten the victory over the beast...”

When did the beast first come? *In the Garden of Eden, Satan the devil as a serpent!*

“...and over his image... [all the idolatry of it] ...and over his mark... [which comes at the end-time] ...and over the number of his name, **standing on the Sea of Glass...**” (v 2).

Think about all that are numbered here in v 2! It doesn’t number them, but it tells you that it’s a great number!

Verse 3: “And they were singing the song of Moses, *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).

***That’s projecting on into the Millennium when there will be peace on the earth!***

This brings us up to the fulfillment of one of the greatest events in the history of the universe, ***the resurrection of the saints from the dead!*** That’s the meaning of Pentecost.

Scriptural References:

- 1) Isaiah 14:24-27
- 2) Leviticus 23:9-11, 15
- 3) Luke 4:16-18
- 4) Acts 2:1-4, 31-41
- 5) Revelation 1:4-7
- 6) Revelation 4:1-2, 8
- 7) Revelation 5:1, 7-14
- 8) Revelation 6:1-17
- 9) Revelation 7:1-3
- 10) Hosea 5:13-15
- 11) Hosea 6:1-2
- 12) Matthew 24:26-27, 29-30
- 13) Revelation 11:15-18
- 14) Revelation 14:14-16
- 15) Revelation 15:1-4

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Exodus 12
- Matthew 13
- Numbers 10
- Revelation 17
- 2 Thessalonians 2
- Revelation 8-10
- John 6
- Exodus 24

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