<u>According to the Scriptures the</u> <u>Biblical Symbol of the Antichrist is a</u> Wild Beast



This is chapter 6 of <u>The Effect of the Jesuit Eschatologies on America Today</u> – by Dr. Ronald Cooke

Dr. Harry Ironside himself said that it is important to take note of the symbolic nature of the Apocalypse (Book of Revelation). He noted that,

This book is a book of symbols. But the careful student of the Word need not exercise his own ingenuity in order to think out the meaning of the symbols. It may be laid down as a principle of first importance that every symbol used in Revelation is EXPLAINED or ALLUDED TO somewhere else in the Bible. ¹ (emphasis added)

This observation of Dr. Ironside's is an excellent one, although not followed either by himself, or many other commentators, in the case of the symbol used to describe the Antichrist in Revelation 13. One of the plain teachings of Scripture laid down in the book of Daniel is that the word BEAST (CHAYAH in CHALDEAN- THERION in GREEK) is used as a symbol of a kingdom or world empire, not as the symbol of an individual man. In fact, EVERY commentator I have ever read on the book of Daniel has so interpreted the word BEAST. Even those who do not apply the same meaning to the symbol in Revelation 13. Even Dr, Ironside taught that the great BEASTS of Daniel stood for symbols of great WORLD WIDE KINGDOMS. He wrote,

In Daniel's 7th chapter...the man of God...saw...the four GREAT EMPIRES (which) were represented as four ravenous BEASTS so dreadful that nothing on earth fully answers to the descriptions of the wild creatures here depicted. ² (emphasis added)

Dr. Ironside, like so many others here, while correctly identifying the four BEASTS of Daniel with FOUR WORLD WIDE KINGDOMS, does NOT APPLY the SAME meaning to the symbol when it is used in Revelation 13. If he had done so, he would have been more consistent in following what he called his principle of FIRST IMPORTANCE, that the symbols of the book of Revelation are explained in other places in the Bible.

Dave Hunt, said so dogmatically and so blatantly, about the Reformers, "Scripture does not support their claim." Surely the Scripture does indeed support their claim far more than those who completely IGNORE what Daniel says about the BEAST-KINGDOMS!

Since the earliest of times men have identified the BEASTS of Daniel as WORLD-WIDE KINGDOMS. Cyril of Jerusalem noted that,

We teach these things not of our own invention, but having learned them out of the divine Scriptures, and especially out of the prophecy of Daniel… even as Gabriel the Archangel interpreted saying thus: the fourth BEAST shall be the fourth KINGDOM upon earth, which shall exceed all KINGDOMS: but that this is the Romans, ecclesiastical writers have delivered. ³

Jerome, Theodoret, and Austin, all see the Beast of Daniel as KINGDOMS and not individuals. The early theological writers in the church ALL interpreted the WILD BEASTS as great WORLD-WIDE EMPIRES.

Martin Luther declared that,

Here then are the two BEASTS; the one is the (ROMAN) EMPIRE, the other with the two horns, the papacy, which has now become a temporal KINGDOM. 4

John Calvin, said of the BEASTS of DANIEL,

"It is clear that the four MONARCHIES are here depicted." 5

Later he says concerning Daniel:

He says a FOURTH BEAST APPEARED. He gives it no fixed name, because nothing ever existed like it in the world. The Prophet, by adding no similitude, signifies how horrible this monster was, for he formerly compared the Chaldean Empire to a lion, the Persian to a bear, and the Macedonian to a leopard. ⁶ (emphasis his)

Here Calvin clearly show that he regards the BEASTS as monarchies or empires.

Newton in his dissertation notes that,

The fourth Beast shall be the fourth KINGDOM upon earth, which shall be diverse from all KINGDOMS, and shall devour the whole earth. This fourth KINGDOM can be none other than the Roman Empire. 7

Matthew Henry mentions the various views that commentators give concerning the identity of the fourth BEAST but in each case the BEAST is said to REPRESENT a KINGDOM or EMPIRE, not a man. He writes,

The learned are not agreed concerning this anonymous (fourth) BEAST; some make it to be the Roman EMPIRE, which was then in its glory...others make this fourth BEAST to be the KINGDOM of Syria..which was very cruel and oppressive to the people of the Jews... Herein that EMPIRE was diverse

from those that went before. 8 (emphasis added)

Albert Barnes also describes the BEASTS of Daniel and Revelation as representing great EMPIRES.

In this description, it is observable that John has combined in one ANIMAL or MONSTER, all those which Daniel brought successively on the scene of action as representing different EMPIRES. Thus in Daniel the LION is introduced as the symbol of the Babylonian power; the bear as the symbol of the Medo-Persian; the Leopard as the symbol of the Macedonian; and a nondescript animal-BEAST-fierce, cruel, and mighty, with two horns as the symbol of the Roman. In John there is one ANIMAL representing Roman POWER, as if it was made up of all these (others)... There was an obvious propriety in this, in speaking of the ROMAN POWER, for it was, in fact, made up of EMPIRES represented by the other beasts in Daniel. ⁹

Peter Lange, who wrote in the middle of the 19th century observed that,

The wild beast (of Rev. 13) is a compound of the four Danielic Beasts..Be it observed however, in this connection, that the fourth Beast of Daniel, as the REAL ESCHATOLOGICAL BEAST, embraces, together with the vision of the Roman kingdom, the entire series of World-Powers as coinciding, in perspective with that KINGDOM. ¹⁰ (emphasis added)

Elliott noted that Daniel "Is NOT describing the aspect of a man, but rather that of a 'spiritual kingdom.'" ¹¹ (emphasis added) This point seems to be overlooked when men come to the BEAST of the Apocalypse.

In his commentary on the Apocalypse, Adam Clarke is a good example of a man who recognized and followed the principle which Ironside proclaimed was one of very great importance. Clarke does NOT say with William R. Newell, (and a thousand others like him) that proper interpretation of Revelation 13 MUST regard these two Beasts as two men, but must regard these two Beasts in the same way the angelic interpreter in Daniel did, as TWO Kingdoms.

Clarke wrote,

Before we can proceed in the interpretation of this chapter (Rev. 13) it will be necessary to ascertain the meaning of the prophetic symbol-BEAST. For the lack of a proper understanding of this term has been one reason why so many discordant hypotheses have been published to the world. ¹² (And they have certainly multiplied a thousand fold since Clarke wrote.)

He then rightly shows that in this investigation it is IMPOSSIBLE to resort to a higher authority than the Scriptures, for the Holy Spirit is His own Interpreter. What then is meant by the term BEAST in Scripture? He proceeds to show that if in one prophetic vision a symbol is explained, that explanation must govern the symbol when it is used in another place in the Bible. 12

Having laid this foundation, the angel's interpretation of the last of the four BEASTS of Daniel must be examined. Daniel, was very desirous to "know the truth of the fourth BEAST, which was diverse from all others, exceeding dreadful, and the ten horns that were on his head." The angel thus interprets the vision. "The fourth BEAST shall be the fourth KINGDOM upon earth which shall be diverse from all KINGDOMS, and shall devour the WHOLE EARTH." Clarke then shows the significance of the Angel's interpretation of the BEAST. "In this Scripture it is plainly declared that the fourth BEAST should be the fourth KINGDOM upon earth; consequently the four BEASTS seen by Daniel are four KINGDOMS: hence the term BEAST is the prophetic symbol for a KINGDOM."

Clarke continues his explanation,

As to the nature of the KINGDOM which is represented by the term BEAST, we shall obtain no inconsiderable light in examining the original word CHAYAH. This Old Testament word is translated in the Septuagint by the Greek Word THERION, and both words signify what we term a WILD BEAST. THERION is the word used by John in the Apocalypse, in chapter 13. ¹⁵

So if we take up the Greek word THERION in this sense of a WILD BEAST then the POWER or KINGDOM represented must partake of the nature of a WILD BEAST. Hence an earthly BELLIGERENT POWER is evidently designed. And the comparison is very appropriate; for as several wild beasts carry on perpetual warfare in the animal world, so most governments in the political world. 16

This BEAST is said to rise up out of the sea, in which it corresponds with the four BEASTS of Daniel; the sea is a great multitude of nations… and the meaning is, that every mighty EMPIRE is raised upon the ruins of a great number of nations… It therefore follows that the KINGDOM or EMPIRE represented by the BEAST, is that which sprang up out of the ruins of the western ROMAN EMPIRE. ¹⁷

Clarke clearly shows that the Old Testament word CHAYAH, (probably Chaldean, or what is now termed Aramaic, and which is the root of CHEYVA-WILD ANIMAL) was translated by the Septuagint scholars with the Greek word THERION-WILD BEAST, and which in each case used in Daniel stands for a world wide KINGDOM or EMPIRE, never for an individual man.

Fairbairn corroborates what Clarke has said. He consistently connects the Beasts of Daniel with the Beasts of Revelation 13.

We notice first the representation that is given in the Apocalypse of the WORLDLY POWER. In Daniel this appeared as a succession of BEASTS, each symbolizing a new and somewhat different form of the GREAT MONARCHIES OF THE WORLD. But now it appears simply as a BEAST, a BEAST however, that had the same origin with those of Daniel, like them arising out of the sea, and a composite creature, UNITING together the several forms of the three first in Daniel (the lion, the bear, and the leopard), and possessing also the ten horns, which were seen in the fourth... The BEAST of the Apocalypse, accordingly, is the WORLDLY POWER, not in its several parts or successive forms of manifestation, but in

its totality. 18

The Wild Beast of the Apocalypse is a great world-wide empire. It represents all the evil powers of Daniel's Beasts, and more. For it is an empire which is not only SIMILAR to the other beasts, but it is also unlike them, in that it is held together by an evil spiritual power. Nothing has ever been seen like it among ordinary political dictatorships; it holds sway over the minds and hearts of men by a pretended holiness, by lying miracles, and by the most outlandish dogmas and irrational claims.

Dean Alford wrote,

By the woman SITTING on the wild-beast, is signified that superintending and guiding power which the rider possesses over his beast; than which nothing could be chosen more apt to represent the superiority claimed and exercised by the See of Rome over the secular kingdoms of Christendom, full of the Names of Blasphemy... The names of blasphemy, which were found before on the heads of the beast only, have now spread over its whole surface. As ridden and guided by the harlot, it is tenfold more blasphemous in its titles and assumptions than before.

The heathen world had but its Divi in the Caesars, as in other deified men of note: but Christendom has its "most Christian" and "most faithful" kings, such as Louis XIV, and Philip II; its, "defenders of the faith," such as Charles II, and James II; its society of unprincipled intriguers called after the sacred name of our Lord, and working Satan's work "ad majorem Dei gloriam;"* its "holy Office" of the Inquisition, with its dens of darkest cruelty; finally its Patrimony of St. Peter," and its "holy Roman Empire:" all of them, and many more, new names of blasphemy, with which the woman has invested the beast. Go where you will and look where you will in Papal Christendom, names of blasphemy meet us. The taverns, the shops, the titles of men and of places are full of them. ¹⁹

* For the greater glory of God.

As I was reading my Greek New Testament, "I saw that the Beast-THERION-wild-beast of the Apocalypse, arose out of the sea of nations, and upon his heads the NAME OF BLASPHEMY." Surely no other system in the known history of mankind has had a greater claim to the NAME OF BLASPHEMY than the Roman Catholic papacy. Here you see a dynasty of men unmatched for veniality, lechery, murder, massacre, and every evil Known to men, claiming to be called the Vicar of Christ and the Supreme Lord of the Universe. Can the depths of such blasphemy be sounded and can any other dynasty of men achieve such depths of blasphemy? Or can any one man match the combined blasphemy of this Wild Beast of the Apocalypse?

This beast stands for a kingdom as Daniel shows, though very few today pay any attention to Daniel. So the name of blasphemy describes the whole. For the blasphemy of Rome extends beyond the papacy to the Mass and to all the other blasphemies which seek to rob Christ of his unique role as the ONLY mediator between God and men, and which blasphemously push Mary and the saints as additional mediators. The rejection of Christ's unique ability to save the lost, by conjuring up that most wicked blasphemy of Purgatory, surely cannot be surpassed,

Theological truths are the most important and when these are twisted and mangled and replaced by human fables, there is no greater blasphemy that evil man can do. The battle of the ages is THEOLOGICAL; the casualties in this war are THEOLOGICAL casualties. The blasphemies in this conflict are spiritual and theological. Blasphemy is railing against God. Pretending to be God. Seeking to replace Christ. Teaching blasphemous fables in place of Divine truth. The Name of Blasphemy has to do primarily and absolutely with theological truths and concepts.

The Name of Blasphemy has been a long and enduring one connected to all the evils that the Popes of Rome have spoken and done. No other organization can match the length or extent of such blasphemies. The NAME of Blasphemy fits the WILD BEAST-THERION-of the Apocalypse, for THERION refers to a kingdom, a dynasty of men, not a single individual as Daniel the prophet clearly reveals.

The Septuagint says,

TAUTA TA THERIA TA TESSARA TESSARES BASILEIAI ANASTESONTAI EPI TES GES. Daniel 7:17.

These four beasts are four kingdoms that shall rise up on the earth,

William R. Newell shows that he does not take the SCRIPTURAL identification of the word BEAST when he writes that the BEASTS of Revelation 13, MUST BE interpreted as SINGLE MEN. That is; MUST BE, from his particular prophetic predilection, certainly NOT from the SCRIPTURES! Taking the ANGELIC interpretation of the word BEAST as given in the prophetic scriptures in Daniel, the word BEAST MUST BE interpreted as A KINGDOM OR EMPIRE!

Here it is William R. Newell, and thousands of others just like him, who SPIRITUALIZE the interpretation which the Scripture gives of the word BEAST. He changes the meaning of the symbol and makes it into an individual man. The Bible very clearly in four separate places sets forth the meaning of the symbol. But the Jesuits and the modern Protestants who now follow them reject what the Bible declares.

I have not been able to find ONE writer who does not identify the Beasts of Daniel with world-wide kingdoms. Nor can I find ONE writer who identifies the Beasts of Daniel with individual men. Dr. Harry Ironside, with countless others, all identify the Beasts of Daniel with monarchies or kingdoms. They do NOT identify them with individual men. Yet all these writers do NOT then transfer that meaning to the Beasts of Revelation. Why? Why do they not follow the Splendid rule that Dr. Ironside puts forward that the symbols used in Revelation are explained or alluded to somewhere else in the Bible?

Patrick Fairbairn pointed out that the biblical symbols are always to be

brought forward from the Old Testament to the New. "It was not the image of the future which threw itself back into the past, but rather the image of the past which threw itself forward into the future." He also wisely noted that "in foreshadowing things that are yet to be, it (the Prophet's mind) must avail itself of those which have already been." ²¹

In other words, the KNOWN MEANING of the symbol given in the past, has already established the precedent for future interpretation of that same symbol. The great WORLD-EMPIRES of Daniel were portrayed by WILD BEASTS. The singular form for WILD BEAST in the Septuagint was THERION. Therefore when THERION is used in the New Testament, the meaning already established by angelic interpretation in Daniel, must apply to the Apocalypse. If it is a WORLD-WIDE EMPIRE in Daniel; it must be A WORLD-WIDE Empire in the book of Revelation.

The reason, of course, why the Jesuits did not want to see what is plainly revealed in the Scriptures concerning the nature of the WILD BEAST, was because, as Larkin noted, the papal dominion corresponded so closely with the eschatological kingdom of the Beast of Revelation. The Jesuits went to work to disassociate the Papal dominion from the dominion of the BEAST-the Antichrist. Obviously, there were two ways open to the Jesuits and they used them. They made the Antichrist to be only a man who appeared early in church history, or a man who would not appear in church history until the very end of it. In this way they could then assert to anybody who would listen, (and the majority of Protestants HAVE listened) that the Papal dominion could not be the Beast, since the Beast was only a man who either has already appeared and gone, or a man who has not yet appeared.

The fact that the Jesuits promoted and defended BOTH of their views is surely an important issue. For it did not seem to matter to them, that BOTH views were mutually exclusive. If you believe that Antichrist arose and fell in the first century, then you cannot at the same time assert that he is yet to come. But the Jesuits did just that. On the one hand some Jesuits asserted that the Antichrist had already appeared and gone, and other Jesuits claimed that the Antichrist had not yet appeared. So it seems that they were primarily concerned about trying to refute the position of the Reformers and the Puritans even if it meant CONTRADICTING each other. They also managed to get the Protestants FIGHTING each other. For the Reconstructionists all follow Alcasar the Jesuit while most Futurists follow Ribera the Jesuit, so you have the strange anomaly of Bible-believing Protestants fighting each other over Jesuit teachings. I have read some of the scorching rhetoric of the Reconstructionists blasting the futurist position without them apparently realizing that they are contending for a Jesuit doctrine, not a Reformed Protestant one. However, as, I read more about Reconstructionism and the Jesuits, I see more and more that the Reconstructionists follow the Jesuits very closely in their view of the community, the idea of the cultural war and the promoting of a co-belligerency with Roman Catholics and their church to fight secular humanism.

The Reconstructionist eschatology certainly affects their ecclesiology. Antichrist could not be a co-belligerent with all those Reformed Reconstructionists. So they had to rid Rome of that stigma so that she could

become a co- belligerent of the Reformed.

As Sir Robert Anderson noted, * it was the power of the truth that enabled men to stand against Rome. This was the secret of the triumph of the martyrs of Jesus.

* Sir Robert Anderson, Harry Ironside, and Dave Hunt, with many others, blast the Roman Catholic System, while at the same time promoting the Jesuit position on the Man of Sin. A strange anomaly to say the least.

With hearts awed by the fear of God, garrisoned by the peace of God, and exulting in the love of God, shed abroad there by the Divine Spirit, they stood for the truth against priests and princes combined, and daring to be called heretics they were faithful to their Lord in life and in death.

Heaven was as silent then as it is now. No sights were seen, no voice was heard to make their persecutors pause. No signs were witnessed to give proof that God was with them as they lay upon the rack or gave up their life-breath at the stake. But with their spiritual vision focused upon Christ, the unseen realities of heaven filled their hearts, as they passed from a world that was not worthy of them to the home that God has prepared for them that love Him. ²²

The martyrs of Jesus show the evidence of the great conspiracy in history, out to silence the truth of the glorious gospel of redeeming grace. For in the bowels of that great apostate conspiracy are found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth (Rev. 18:24).

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The Bible Reveals the Existence of Conspiracies



This is chapter 3 of <u>The Effect of the Jesuit Eschatologies on America Today</u> — by Dr. Ronald Cooke

Some Bible believers repudiate the whole idea of a conspiracy because they say they believe in a sovereign God who controls history. The Bible calls Satan, the god of this world, because millions in this world worship him and follow his wisdom. This does not mean that Satan will triumph over God. He surely will not. But his effort is real and historical. The great apostasy is real even though it does not succeed finally.

The war against Satan still has to be fought. The truth must be proclaimed to overcome Satan and all his false prophets, many of whom work in the visible church to deceive, if it were possible, the very elect. According to the Apostle Peter, false teachers are in the church, even as the false prophets were in Israel. The truth must be taught so that the efforts of all false prophets will be defeated.

In the book of Jeremiah, the Word of God reveals that the false prophets cried peace when there was no peace. This is an identifying mark of a false prophet. These false prophets were involved in a conspiracy against God.

The Lord said unto me (Jeremiah) a conspiracy is found among the men of Judah, and among the inhabitants of Jerusalem. They are tumed back to their iniquities of their forefathers, which refused to hear my words; and they went after other gods to serve them; the house of Israel and the house of Judah have broken my covenant which | made with their forefathers. Therefore, thus saith the Lord, behold I will bring evil upon them, which they shall not be able to escape.

The Hebrew word translated conspiracy here in this passage, is QESHAR from the root QASHAR meaning to make a league, to knit together, to conspire to commit treason; so any unlawful alliance, confederacy, or conspiracy. The same Hebrew word is used in Ezekiel 22:25.

Son of Man, say unto her (Israel) Thou art the land that is not cleansed, nor rained upon in the day of indignation. There is a conspiracy of her prophets in the midst thereof, like a lion ravening-tearing to pieces-the prey; they have devoured souls; they have taken treasure and precious things; they have made her many widows in the midst of her.

Her priests have violated my law, they have profaned my holy things; they have put no difference between the holy and the profane, neither have they shown difference between the clean and unclean, and have hidden their eyes from my Sabbaths and I am profaned among them. Her princes in her midst are like wolves ravening (tearing) the prey to shed blood, and to destroy souls, to get dishonest gain. And her prophets have daubed themselves with untempered mortar, seeing vanity, and divining lies, saying thus saith the Lord, when the Lord has not spoken. (Ezekiel 22:24-28).

Here there was a conspiracy to profane the holy and to put no difference between the clean and the unclean. And to pretend to speak for the Lord, when He had not spoken, thus giving out lies. Surely a description of the great Harlot of Rome who also puts no difference between the clean and the unclean and profanes that which is holy.

The Man of Sin in Rome also pretends to speak for the Lord Jesus Christ on earth, when in effect, he is the great deceiver of mankind. Malachi Martin has some critical things to say against the modern Roman Catholic System in his writings, but he does not criticize the office of the papacy. He believes that the papacy has been instituted by God and that all the popes of Rome have descended from the Apostle Peter and that they hold the powers invested in them by the Triple Tiara which is placed on their head by the cardinal deacon accompanied by the words:

Receive the tiara with three crowns and know that thou art Father of princes and kings, Ruler of the world, Vicar of our Savior Jesus Christ, to whom is honor and glory, world without end, Amen.

According to the Roman Catholic dictionary, the first crown symbolized the pope's "universal episcopate;" the second, his "supremacy of jurisdiction;" and the third, his "temporal supremacy."

The Papal Man of Sin claims more power and authority than any other man in the world today. He claims to be the HEAD of the Universal church. The supreme arbiter of mankind, and the sovereign ruler of the kingdoms of the world. Truly "he sits in his temple as 'god'" claiming and showing himself "that he is god." Malachi Martin calls the pope, he was writing about in THE KEYS OF THIS BLOOD, the SERVANT of God's GRAND DESIGN," in the millennial end game, that he saw emerging in the world as the twentieth-century drew to a close. The Bible-believer sees the Papal Man of Sin, the servant of a design that is much lower than grand, and indeed promotes THE LIE instead of the truth. It is interesting to note the similarities between the conspiracy revealed in Ezekiel and the one mentioned in the Apocalypse. For both speak of princes devouring souls, and the merchants trading in the souls of men, and taking treasures and riches which all perish in the overthrow of the Great Prostitute of Babylon.

The conspiracies in Israel are revealed by the inspired writers of the Old Testament. So they are real conspiracies. The Scriptures also reveal in the second Psalm that the rulers of the world take counsel against the Lord and His Anointed One — The Christ. So again the Word of the Lord reveals the enmity, rebellion, and conspiracy of the world's rulers against the Lord Jesus Christ.

In the New Testament the Scriptures again reveal the presence of a worldwide system that is opposed to the true Church — Mystery Babylon the Great. Through the work of the Jesuits, this great conspiracy against the true Church is put off into the future, and is thus removed from history. Or it is said to have arisen in the first century and then is destroyed by AD 70. This view also was first set forth by the Jesuits. Either way, Mystery Babylon the Great, is not a part of church history, according to the Jesuits.

The Protestant Reformers believed that Roman Catholicism was the backbone of this great conspiracy against the true Church. The Puritans, many of whom also viewed Roman Catholicism as the foundation of Mystery Babylon the Great, believed that the Jesuits were the strength behind the Counter-Reformation, and thus the greatest conspirators against historic Bible Protestantism that the world has ever seen.

The Jesuits, on the other hand, have always denied many of the accusations made against them by Protestants. In recent times their sordid history has been completely erased from the public mind, and they are now regarded as some of the best and most loving leaders of the modem ecumenical movement.

The Bible teaches that there is a great apostate conspiracy against the true church. This great apostate conglomerate is made up of many evils and evil people. The Scripture says,

I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of the names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns. And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet color, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication: and upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH. And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with blood of the martyrs of Jesus: and when I saw her, I wondered with great wonder (Revelation 17:3-6).

And the Woman which thou sawest is that great city which reigns over the kings of the earth (Revelation 17:18),

And he (the angel) cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the Great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of demons, and the hold- prison-of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. For ALL nations have drunk of the wine of the fury of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are through the power of her luxury enriched (Revelation 18:2-3).

The Bible here describes historical reality, not just an end-time scenario. It reveals a great composite picture of the world's attempt to unite her false religions into one. God's people are told to separate from this religious conglomerate that extends from a great city out to encompass the rulers and merchants of the earth. These all unite with the great Prostitute in idolatrous worship. For centuries the Jesuits have been involved in trying to overthrow the true church and bring the whole world into this habitation of demonic activity.

The modem ecumenical movement is also a part of the Jesuit conspiracy. They have been working in the ecumenical movement for years. In recent times they have been working with evangelicals. At least they profess to be evangelical. God's people should not be working with the enemies of the gospel. Yet it is an obvious fact that many do. Witness the recent involvement of evangelicals with the Roman Catholics in ECT (Evangelicals and Catholics Together) I and II which also involved the participation of several Jesuits.

Working with the enemies of the Lord is not something new. We see that type of activity revealed in the Old Testament, away back in the days of Jehoshaphat, king of Judah. God's inspired Word reveals the traitorous activity of Jehoshaphat.

Now Jehoshaphat had riches and honor in abundance, and made a marriage alliance with Ahab. 'And Jehoshaphat, the king of Judah, returned to his house in peace in Jerusalem, And Jehu, the son of Hanani, the seer, went out to meet him, and said to king Jehoshaphat, shouldest thou help the wicked, and love them that hate the Lord? Therefore, there is wrath upon thee from before the Lord (II Chronicles 18:1 and 19:1-2).

Jehoshaphat is an example of a man who did many things right and yet worked with the enemies of God. He certainly sets forth the God of the Bible in his prayer, when he says,

O Lord God of our fathers, art not thou God in heaven and rulest thou not over all the kingdoms of the nations? And in thine hand is there not power and might, so that none is able to withstand thee? Art not thou our God, who didst drive out the inhabitants of this land before thy people, Israel, and gavest it to the seed of Abraham, thy friend forever? And they dwelt in it, and have built a sanctuary for thy name, saying, If, when evil comes upon us, as the sword, judgment, or pestilence, or famine, we stand before this house, and in thy presence (for thy name is in this house), and cry unto thee in our affliction, then thou wilt hear and help...

When Jehoshaphat prays, the Lord assures him of an answer.

Thus saith the Lord unto you, Be not afraid nor be dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's. (II Chronicles 20:6-15).

So the Bible reveals that God is over all the kingdoms of nations and that He intervenes on behalf of his people and fights for them against their enemies. For he tells them that you shall not need to fight in this battle; set yourselves, stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord.

Here we see that Jehu, the son of Hanani, went out to meet Jehoshaphat and said to him,

"Why do you help the wicked, and why do you love them that hate the Lord? Therefore there is wrath — God's anger — upon thee from before the Lord, because you are acting contrary to the will of God." So godly men can be all tangled up in helping the cause of wicked men and those who hate the Lord.

This is why the Bible teaches separation from all ungodly entanglements. This is why there is so much confusion today. Godly men will not obey the Lord and separate from those that hate Him. Therefore, millions follow their confused example and all this confusion is called Mystery Babylon the Great — Mystery Confusion the Great. It is a mystery why godly men entangle themselves with those that hate the Lord. And the CONFUSION generated is GREAT. It is

widespread.

When the head of the World Evangelical Alliance Dr. Tunnictiffe claims he is engaged in ecumenical dialogue with Roman Catholicism, he demonstrates the confusion of which the Bible speaks. This Alliance is said to represent close to half a billion evangelicals. So the confusion is widespread and millions are obviously all entangled up in an unholy amalgam with those who hate the Lord.

At Edinburgh, Scotland, in the year of our Lord 2010 every type of unbelief and compromise with it, was represented at the centenary celebration of the first Edinburgh conference in 1910. There were Baptists, Roman Catholics, Presbyterians, Methodists, the Reformed, the Pentecostal, and Seventh Day Adventist, all meeting together with all kinds of "evangelical" schools, and organizations. Ecumenical evangelism has succeeded in bringing together almost every kind of denomination, church, organization, and academic institution that calls itself "Christian."

According to Dr. Ralph Colas, General Secretary of the American Council of Christian Churches, this conference included the following schools, churches, and societies:

Perkins School of Theology; Catholic Theological Union, Chicago;
Maryknoll (Roman Catholic) Missionaries; World Evangelical Missions
Commission; St. Thomas University; World Alliance of Reformed Churches;
Seventh Day Adventist Church; Agape International Missions; Baptist
World Alliance; Asbury Theological Seminary; Fuller Theological
Seminary; Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary; World Council and
National Council of Churches USA; Youth with a Mission; Fordham (Jesuit)
University; Yoiddo Full Gospel Church; Lutheran World Federation;
American Baptist Church, USA; Saint Paul School of Theology; Churches
Together in Britain and Ireland; Vanderbilt University; Assemblies of
God; Tyndale Seminary, Toronto, Canada; World Council of
Churches/Presbyterian Church of Canada; Kentucky Council of Churches;
Princeton Theological Seminary; United Bible Societies, and BIOLA
University. These are but a few of the many on the official delegate
list.¹

Dr. Tunnicliffe informed those present at this ecumenical gathering that the World Evangelical Alliance (WEA) represents 128 Evangelical Alliances and 420 million evangelicals worldwide. He then added,

In the WEA we have fruitful discussions with the Pontifical Council of the Roman Catholic Church, the World Council of Churches and the (Eastern) Orthodox Churches. We need to listen to one another with love and respect, building bridges rather than to create chasms. ²

Chasm is an interesting word. It is actually a Greek word that occurs in the Greek New Testament. It is translated GULF in Luke 16:26. In the original it is CHASMA. So chasm is a transliteration rather than a translation of this word.

According to inspired Scripture, and not the drivel of Dr. Tunnicliffe, it is God who fixes this CHASM. It is a chasm, not created by man but created by God. It is FIXED. Meaning it is established firmly and NO MAN, according to Christ, will ever BRIDGE THIS CHASM.

Dr. Tunnicliffe may want to build bridges to connect truth with error but neither he, nor any other man, can build a bridge over the chasm that separates truth from error, no matter how hard he may try. No where in the Bible is a true believer taught to respect and love evil. The Bible categorically states that we are to,

ABHOR EVIL AND CLEAVE TO THAT WHICH IS GOOD.

The believer is to HATE evil and to HATE lies and to HATE false doctrines that lead millions to a lost eternity.

While Roman Catholicism, aided by the Jesuits, continues its drive to take over the United States, and to completely destroy what is left of Protestantism, millions of self-confessed evangelicals continue their slide toward apostasy and unbelief. As the leadership of Dr. Tunnicliffe demonstrates, what is left of evangelical Christianity is leaderless and helpless in the face of the Jesuit onslaught.

America is now far more influenced by the Jesuits than by any leader of what is left of Protestant evangelicalism. Politically, culturally, socially, philosophically, and theologically America follows the leadership of Rome. It certainly does NOT follow the Puritan Protestantism that brought this nation into being and developed it to become the greatest nation the world has so far seen. We will endeavor to show that such is the case in the following pages.

REFERENCES

- 1. ACCC News Letter, Report by Dr. Ralph Colas, 2010.
- 2. Loc.cit.

Continue to the next chapter: <u>JESUIT ESCHATOLOGY AND THE AMERICAN PULPIT</u>

Chuck Baldwin on Romans Chapter 13



Police in the UK clash with demonstrators protesting the Covid lockdowns

Forward by the webmaster:

What's happening today in Canada, Australia and New Zealand is utter tyranny in the name of medical safety! It's really part of the Jesuit's plan to bring about a new world order of the elite. The only reason why the USA has not fallen totally under leftist tyranny so far is because of the US. Constitution and the fact that American citizens still have Second Amendment rights.

"We have not government armed with power capable of contending with human passions unbridled by morality and religion. Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other." —U.S. President John Adams

"It is tragic that most Bible-believing Christians today are misguided concerning Biblical submission to government. God never intended for Christians to blindly yield to government tyranny, blatant abusive of power and treason against it's own citizens. What ever happened to the Bill of Rights?" — From Should Christians Obey Criminal Government? By David J. Stewart

Article by Chuck Baldwin of Liberty Fellowship

Published: Friday, August 10, 2007

It seems that every time someone such as myself attempts to encourage our Christian brothers and sisters to resist an unconstitutional or otherwise reprehensible government policy, we hear the retort, "What about Romans Chapter 13? We Christians must submit to government. Any government. Read your Bible, and leave me alone." Or words to that effect.

No doubt, some who use this argument are sincere. They are only repeating what they have heard their pastor and other religious leaders say. On the other hand, let's be honest enough to admit that some who use this argument are just plain lazy, apathetic, and indifferent. And Romans 13 is their

escape from responsibility. I suspect this is the much larger group, by the way.

Nevertheless, for the benefit of those who are sincere (but obviously misinformed), let's briefly examine Romans Chapter 13. I quote Romans Chapter 13, verses 1 through 7, from the Authorized King James text:

"Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation. For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same: For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil. Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake. For this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing. Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honor to whom honor."

Do our Christian friends who use these verses to teach that we should not oppose President Bush or any other political leader really believe that civil magistrates have unlimited authority to do anything they want without opposition? I doubt whether they truly believe that.

For example, what if our President decided to resurrect the old monarchal custom of Jus Primae Noctis (Law of First Night)? That was the old medieval custom when the king claimed the right to sleep with a subject's bride on the first night of their marriage. Would our sincere Christian brethren sheepishly say, "Romans Chapter 13 says we must submit to the government"? I think not. And would any of us respect any man who would submit to such a law?

So, there are limits to authority. A father has authority in his home, but does this give him power to abuse his wife and children? Of course not. An employer has authority on the job, but does this give him power to control the private lives of his employees? No. A pastor has overseer authority in the church, but does this give him power to tell employers in his church how to run their businesses? Of course not. All human authority is limited in nature. No man has unlimited authority over the lives of other men. (Lordship and Sovereignty is the exclusive domain of Jesus Christ.)

By the same token, a civil magistrate has authority in civil matters, but his authority is limited and defined. Observe that Romans Chapter 13 clearly limits the authority of civil government by strictly defining its purpose: "For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil . . . For he is the minister of God to thee for good . . . for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil."

Notice that civil government must not be a "terror to good works." It has no power or authority to terrorize good works or good people. God never gave it

that authority. And any government that oversteps that divine boundary has no divine authority or protection.

Civil government is a "minister of God to thee for good." It is a not a minister of God for evil. Civil magistrates have a divine duty to "execute wrath upon him that doeth evil." They have no authority to execute wrath upon him that doeth good. None. Zilch. Zero. And anyone who says they do is lying. So, even in the midst of telling Christians to submit to civil authority, Romans Chapter 13 limits the power and reach of civil authority.

Did Moses violate God's principle of submission to authority when he killed the Egyptian taskmaster in defense of his fellow Hebrew? Did Elijah violate God's principle of submission to authority when he openly challenged Ahab and Jezebel? Did David violate God's principle of submission to authority when he refused to surrender to Saul's troops? Did Daniel violate God's principle of submission to authority when he disobeyed the king's law to not pray audibly to God? Did the three Hebrew children violate God's principle of submission to authority when they refused to bow to the image of the state? Did John the Baptist violate God's principle of submission to authority when he publicly scolded King Herod for his infidelity? Did Simon Peter and the other Apostles violate God's principle of submission to authority when they refused to stop preaching on the streets of Jerusalem? Did Paul violate God's principle of submission to authority when he refused to obey those authorities who demanded that he abandon his missionary work? In fact, Paul spent almost as much time in jail as he did out of jail.

Remember that every apostle of Christ (except John) was killed by hostile civil authorities opposed to their endeavors. Christians throughout church history were imprisoned, tortured, or killed by civil authorities of all stripes for refusing to submit to their various laws and prohibitions. Did all of these Christian martyrs violate God's principle of submission to authority?

So, even the great prophets, apostles, and writers of the Bible (including the writer of Romans Chapter 13) understood that human authority—even civil authority—is limited.

Plus, Paul makes it clear that our submission to civil authority must be predicated on more than fear of governmental retaliation. Notice, he said, "Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake." Meaning, our obedience to civil authority is more than just "because they said so." It is also a matter of conscience. This means we must think and reason for ourselves regarding the justness and rightness of our government's laws. Obedience is not automatic or robotic. It is a result of both rational deliberation and moral approbation.

Therefore, there are times when civil authority may need to be resisted. Either governmental abuse of power or the violation of conscience (or both) could precipitate civil disobedience. Of course, how and when we decide to resist civil authority is an entirely separate issue. And I will reserve that discussion for another time.

Beyond that, we in the United States of America do not live under a monarchy. We have no king. There is no single governing official in this country. America's "supreme Law" does not rest with any man or any group of men. America's "supreme Law" does not rest with the President, the Congress, or even the Supreme Court. In America, the U.S. Constitution is the "supreme Law of the Land." Under our laws, every governing official publicly promises to submit to the Constitution of the United States. Do readers understand the significance of this distinction? I hope so.

This means that in America the "higher powers" are not the men who occupy elected office, they are the tenets and principles set forth in the U.S. Constitution. Under our laws and form of government, it is the duty of every citizen, including our elected officials, to obey the U.S. Constitution. Therefore, this is how Romans Chapter 13 reads to Americans:

"Let every soul be subject unto the [U.S. Constitution.] For there is no [Constitution] but of God: the [Constitution] that be [is] ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resisteth the [Constitution], resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation. For [the Constitution is] not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the [Constitution]? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same: For [the Constitution] is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for [the Constitution] beareth not the sword in vain: for [the Constitution] is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil. Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake. For this cause pay ye tribute also: for [the Constitution is] God's minister, attending continually upon this very thing. Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honor to whom honor."

Dear Christian friend, the above is exactly the proper understanding of our responsibility to civil authority in these United States, as per the teaching of Romans Chapter 13.

Furthermore, Christians, above all people, should desire that their elected representatives submit to the Constitution, because it is constitutional government that has done more to protect Christian liberty than any governing document ever devised by man. As I have noted before in this column (See: http://www.chuckbaldwinlive.com/c2005/cbarchive_20050630.html), Biblical principles form the foundation of all three of America's founding documents: The Declaration of Independence, The U.S. Constitution, and The Bill of Rights.

As a result, Christians in America (for the most part) have not had to face the painful decision to "obey God rather than men" and defy their civil authorities.

The problem in America today is that we have allowed our political leaders to violate their oaths of office and to ignore, and blatantly disobey, the "supreme Law of the Land," the U.S. Constitution. Therefore, if we truly believe Romans Chapter 13, we will insist and demand that our civil

magistrates submit to the U.S. Constitution.

Now, how many of us Christians are going to truly obey Romans Chapter 13?

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How Many Times Does the Bible Tell Us Not to Fear?



A common saying among Christians today is, "'Fear not' is in the Bible 365 times." I saw this on a Facebook post and was surprised at how many Christians agreed with the statement. The Bible does tell us not to fear, but not 365 times. Let's see how many times I can come up with.

Doing a search for "fear not" in my King James Pure Bible software, I came up with 63 occurrences, but two of those occurrences are not telling us not to fear.

Psalms 55:19 God shall hear, and afflict them, even he that abideth of old. Selah. Because they have no changes, therefore they **fear not** God.

1 Peter 2:18 Servants, be subject to your masters with all fear; not only to the good and gentle, but also to the froward.

I also removed Judges 4:18 because Jael is telling Sisera not to fear so she can catch him off guard and kill him!

Judges 4:18 And Jael went out to meet Sisera, and said unto him, Turn in, my lord, turn in to me; **fear not**. And when he had turned in unto her into the tent, she covered him with a mantle.

And I removed from the list 2 Samuel 13:28 because evil Absalom is telling

his servants not to fear to kill his brother Ammon!

2 Samuel 13:28 Now Absalom had commanded his servants, saying, Mark ye now when Amnon's heart is merry with wine, and when I say unto you, Smite Amnon; then kill him, **fear not**: have not I commanded you? be courageous, and be valiant.

And 2 Kings 17:34 was removed because it's talking about people who do not fear the Lord.

2 Kings 17:34 Unto this day they do after the former manners: they **fear not** the LORD, neither do they after their statutes, or after their ordinances, or after the law and commandment which the LORD commanded the children of Jacob, whom he named Israel;

Psalms 64:4 was removed because it's talking about evil doers who don't fear to do evil.

Psalms 64:4 That they may shoot in secret at the perfect: suddenly do they shoot at him, and **fear not**.

All the other verses are either the Lord telling us not to fear, or the Lord's servants telling their people not to fear.

Verses that encourage us or others to "fear not."

- 1. Genesis 15:1 After these things the word of the LORD came unto Abram in a vision, saying, **fear not**, Abram: I am thy shield, and thy exceeding great reward.
- 2. Genesis 21:17 And God heard the voice of the lad; and the angel of God called to Hagar out of heaven, and said unto her, What aileth thee, Hagar? **fear not**; for God hath heard the voice of the lad where he is.
- 3. Genesis 26:24 And the LORD appeared unto him the same night, and said, I am the God of Abraham thy father: **fear not**, for I am with thee, and will bless thee, and multiply thy seed for my servant Abraham's sake.
- 4. Genesis 35:17 And it came to pass, when she was in hard labour, that the midwife said unto her, **fear not**; thou shalt have this son also.
- 5. Genesis 43:23 And he said, Peace be to you, **fear not**: your God, and the God of your father, hath given you treasure in your sacks: I had your money. And he brought Simeon out unto them.
- 6. Genesis 46:3 And he said, I am God, the God of thy father: **fear not** to go down into Egypt; for I will there make of thee a great nation:
- 7. Genesis 50:19 And Joseph said unto them, **fear not**: for am I in the place of God?
- 8. Exodus 20:20 And Moses said unto the people, **fear not**: for God is come to prove you, and that his fear may be before your faces, that ye sin not.

- 9. Deuteronomy 1:21 Behold, the LORD thy God hath set the land before thee: go up and possess it, as the LORD God of thy fathers hath said unto thee; **fear not**, neither be discouraged.
- 10. Deuteronomy 20:3 And shall say unto them, Hear, O Israel, ye approach this day unto battle against your enemies: let not your hearts faint, fear not, and do not tremble, neither be ye terrified because of them;
- 11. Deuteronomy 31:6 Be strong and of a good courage, **fear not**, nor be afraid of them: for the LORD thy God, he it is that doth go with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.
- 12. Deuteronomy 31:8 And the LORD, he it is that doth go before thee; he will be with thee, he will not fail thee, neither forsake thee: **fear not**, neither be dismayed.
- 13. Joshua 8:1 And the LORD said unto Joshua, **fear not**, neither be thou dismayed: take all the people of war with thee, and arise, go up to Ai: see, I have given into thy hand the king of Ai, and his people, and his city, and his land:
- 14. Joshua 10:25 And Joshua said unto them, **fear not**, nor be dismayed, be strong and of good courage: for thus shall the LORD do to all your enemies against whom ye fight.
- 15. Judges 6:10 And I said unto you, I am the LORD your God; **fear not** the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but ye have not obeyed my voice.
- 16. Judges 6:23 And the LORD said unto him, Peace be unto thee; **fear not**: thou shalt not die.
- 17. Ruth 3:11 And now, my daughter, **fear not**; I will do to thee all that thou requirest: for all the city of my people doth know that thou art a virtuous woman.
- 18. 1 Samuel 4:20 And about the time of her death the women that stood by her said unto her, **fear not**; for thou hast born a son. But she answered not, neither did she regard it.
- 19. 1 Samuel 12:20 And Samuel said unto the people, **fear not**: ye have done all this wickedness: yet turn not aside from following the LORD, but serve the LORD with all your heart;
- 20. 1 Samuel 22:23 Abide thou with me, **fear not**: for he that seeketh my life seeketh thy life: but with me thou shalt be in safeguard.
- 21. 1 Samuel 23:17 And he said unto him, **fear not**: for the hand of Saul my father shall not find thee; and thou shalt be king over Israel, and I shall be next unto thee; and that also Saul my father knoweth.
- 22. 2 Samuel 9:7 And David said unto him, **fear not**: for I will surely shew thee kindness for Jonathan thy father's sake, and will restore thee all the land of Saul thy father; and thou shalt eat bread at my table continually.
- 23. 1 Kings 17:13 And Elijah said unto her, **fear not**; go and do as thou hast said: but make me thereof a little cake first, and bring it unto me, and after make for thee and for thy son.
- 24. 2 Kings 6:16 And he answered, **fear not**: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them.
- 25. 2 Kings 25:24 And Gedaliah sware to them, and to their men, and said unto them, **fear not** to be the servants of the Chaldees: dwell in the land, and serve the king of Babylon; and it shall be well with you.
- 26. 1 Chronicles 28:20 And David said to Solomon his son, Be strong and of

- good courage, and do it: **fear not**, nor be dismayed: for the LORD God, even my God, will be with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee, until thou hast finished all the work for the service of the house of the LORD.
- 27. 2 Chronicles 20:17 Ye shall not need to fight in this battle: set yourselves, stand ye still, and see the salvation of the LORD with you, 0 Judah and Jerusalem: fear not, nor be dismayed; to morrow go out against them: for the LORD will be with you.
- 28. Isaiah 7:4 And say unto him, Take heed, and be quiet; **fear not**, neither be fainthearted for the two tails of these smoking firebrands, for the fierce anger of Rezin with Syria, and of the son of Remaliah.
- 29. Isaiah 35:4 Say to them that are of a fearful heart, Be strong, **fear not**: behold, your God will come with vengeance, even God with a recompence; he will come and save you.
- 30. Isaiah 41:13 For I the LORD thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, **fear not**; I will help thee.
- 31. Isaiah 41:14 **fear not**, thou worm Jacob, and ye men of Israel; I will help thee, saith the LORD, and thy redeemer, the Holy One of Israel.
- 32. Isaiah 43:1 But now thus saith the LORD that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, **fear not**: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine.
- 33. Isaiah 43:5 **fear not**: for I am with thee: I will bring thy seed from the east, and gather thee from the west;
- 34. Isaiah 44:2 Thus saith the LORD that made thee, and formed thee from the womb, which will help thee; **fear not**, 0 Jacob, my servant; and thou, Jesurun, whom I have chosen.
- 35. Isaiah 54:4 **fear not**; for thou shalt not be ashamed: neither be thou confounded; for thou shalt not be put to shame: for thou shalt forget the shame of thy youth, and shalt not remember the reproach of thy widowhood any more.
- 36. Jeremiah 40:9 And Gedaliah the son of Ahikam the son of Shaphan sware unto them and to their men, saying, **fear not** to serve the Chaldeans: dwell in the land, and serve the king of Babylon, and it shall be well with you.
- 37. Jeremiah 46:27 But **fear not** thou, 0 my servant Jacob, and be not dismayed, 0 Israel: for, behold, I will save thee from afar off, and thy seed from the land of their captivity; and Jacob shall return, and be in rest and at ease, and none shall make him afraid.
- 38. Lamentations 3:57 Thou drewest near in the day that I called upon thee: thou saidst, **fear not**.
- 39. Daniel 10:12 Then said he unto me, **fear not**, Daniel: for from the first day that thou didst set thine heart to understand, and to chasten thyself before thy God, thy words were heard, and I am come for thy words.
- 40. Daniel 10:19 And said, O man greatly beloved, **fear not**: peace be unto thee, be strong, yea, be strong. And when he had spoken unto me, I was strengthened, and said, Let my lord speak; for thou hast strengthened me.
- 41. Joel 2:21 **fear not**, 0 land; be glad and rejoice: for the LORD will do great things.
- 42. Zechariah 8:13 And it shall come to pass, that as ye were a curse among

- the heathen, O house of Judah, and house of Israel; so will I save you, and ye shall be a blessing: **fear not**, but let your hands be strong.
- 43. Malachi 3:5 And I will come near to you to judgment; and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, and against the adulterers, and against false swearers, and against those that oppress the hireling in his wages, the widow, and the fatherless, and that turn aside the stranger from his right, and **fear not** me, saith the LORD of hosts.
- 44. Matthew 1:20 But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, **fear not** to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.
- 45. Matthew 10:28 And **fear not** them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.
- 46. Matthew 28:5 And the angel answered and said unto the women, **fear not** ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified.
- 47. Luke 1:13 But the angel said unto him, **fear not**, Zacharias: for thy prayer is heard; and thy wife Elisabeth shall bear thee a son, and thou shalt call his name John.
- 48. Luke 1:30 And the angel said unto her, **fear not**, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God.
- 49. Luke 2:10 And the angel said unto them, **fear not**: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.
- 50. Luke 5:10 And so was also James, and John, the sons of Zebedee, which were partners with Simon. And Jesus said unto Simon, **fear not**; from henceforth thou shalt catch men.
- 51. Luke 8:50 But when Jesus heard it, he answered him, saying, **fear not**: believe only, and she shall be made whole.
- 52. Luke 12:7 But even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. **Fear not** therefore: ye are of more value than many sparrows.
- 53. Luke 12:32 **fear not**, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.
- 54. Luke 18:4 And he would not for a while: but afterward he said within himself, Though I **fear not** God, nor regard man;
- 55. John 12:15 **fear not**, daughter of Sion: behold, thy King cometh, sitting on an ass's colt.
- 56. Acts 27:24 Saying, **fear not**, Paul; thou must be brought before Cæsar: and, lo, God hath given thee all them that sail with thee.
- 57. Revelation 1:17 And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, **fear not**; I am the first and the last:

Verses that say "fear ye not."

- 1. Genesis 50:21 Now therefore **fear ye not**: I will nourish you, and your little ones. And he comforted them, and spake kindly unto them.
- 2. Exodus 14:13 ¶ And Moses said unto the people, **Fear ye not**, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will shew to you to day: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen to day, ye shall see them again no more for ever.
- 3. Isaiah 44:8 Fear ye not, neither be afraid: have not I told thee from

- that time, and have declared it? ye are even my witnesses. Is there a God beside me? yea, there is no God; I know not any.
- 4. Isaiah 51:7 ¶ Hearken unto me, ye that know righteousness, the people in whose heart is my law; **fear ye not** the reproach of men, neither be ye afraid of their revilings.
- 5. Haggai 2:5 According to the word that I covenanted with you when ye came out of Egypt, so my spirit remaineth among you: **fear ye not**.
- 6. Zechariah 8:15 So again have I thought in these days to do well unto Jerusalem and to the house of Judah: **fear ye not**.
- 7. Matthew 10:31 Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more value than many sparrows.

Jeremiah 5:22 is not included in the "fear ye not" set of verses because it talks about fearing the Lord which is always in a positive sense.

Jeremiah 5:22 Fear ye not me? saith the LORD: will ye not tremble at my presence, which have placed the sand for the bound of the sea by a perpetual decree, that it cannot pass it: and though the waves thereof toss themselves, yet can they not prevail; though they roar, yet can they not pass over it?

Verses that say "fear thou not."

- 1. Isaiah 41:10 **Fear thou not**; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.
- 2. Jeremiah 30:10 Therefore **fear thou not**, 0 my servant Jacob, saith the LORD; neither be dismayed, 0 Israel: for, lo, I will save thee from afar, and thy seed from the land of their captivity; and Jacob shall return, and shall be in rest, and be quiet, and none shall make him afraid.
- 3. Jeremiah 46:28 **Fear thou not**, 0 Jacob my servant, saith the LORD: for I am with thee; for I will make a full end of all the nations whither I have driven thee: but I will not make a full end of thee, but correct thee in measure; yet will I not leave thee wholly unpunished.
- 4. Zephaniah 3:16 In that day it shall be said to Jerusalem, **Fear thou not**: and to Zion, Let not thine hands be slack.

Verses that say "fear him not."

- 1. Deuteronomy 3:2 And the LORD said unto me, **Fear him not**: for I will deliver him, and all his people, and his land, into thy hand; and thou shalt do unto him as thou didst unto Sihon king of the Amorites, which dwelt at Heshbon.
- 2. Numbers 21:34 And the LORD said unto Moses, **Fear him not**: for I have delivered him into thy hand, and all his people, and his land; and thou shalt do to him as thou didst unto Sihon king of the Amorites, which dwelt at Heshbon.

Verses that say "fear them not."

- 1. Numbers 14:9 Only rebel not ye against the LORD, neither fear ye the people of the land; for they are bread for us: their defence is departed from them, and the LORD is with us: **fear them not**.
- 2. Joshua 10:8 ¶ And the LORD said unto Joshua, **fear them not**: for I have delivered them into thine hand; there shall not a man of them stand before thee.
- 3. Ezekiel 3:9 As an adamant harder than flint have I made thy forehead: **fear them not**, neither be dismayed at their looks, though they be a rebellious house.
- 4. Matthew 10:26 **fear them not** therefore: for there is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; and hid, that shall not be known.

Verses that say "neither fear ye."

- 1. Isaiah 8:12 Say ye not, A confederacy, to all them to whom this people shall say, A confederacy; **neither fear ye** their fear, nor be afraid.
- 2. Numbers 14:9 Only rebel not ye against the LORD, **neither fear ye** the people of the land; for they are bread for us: their defence is departed from them, and the LORD is with us: fear them not.

Verses that say "be not afraid."

- 1. Deuteronomy 20:1 When thou goest out to battle against thine enemies, and seest horses, and chariots, and a people more than thou, **be not afraid** of them: for the LORD thy God is with thee, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt.
- 2. Joshua 1:9 Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.
- 3. Joshua 11:6 ¶ And the LORD said unto Joshua, **Be not afraid** because of them: for to morrow about this time will I deliver them up all slain before Israel: thou shalt hough their horses, and burn their chariots with fire.
- 4. 1 Samuel 28:13 And the king said unto her, **Be not afraid**: for what sawest thou? And the woman said unto Saul, I saw gods ascending out of the earth.
- 5. 2 Kings 1:15 And the angel of the LORD said unto Elijah, Go down with him: **be not afraid** of him. And he arose, and went down with him unto the king.
- 6. 2 Kings 19:6 ¶ And Isaiah said unto them, Thus shall ye say to your master, Thus saith the LORD, **Be not afraid** of the words which thou hast heard, with which the servants of the king of Assyria have blasphemed
- 7. 2 Chronicles 20:15 And he said, Hearken ye, all Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem, and thou king Jehoshaphat, Thus saith the LORD unto you, **Be not afraid** nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's.
- 8. 2 Chronicles 32:7 Be strong and courageous, **be not afraid** nor dismayed for the king of Assyria, nor for all the multitude that is with him: for there be more with us than with him:

- 9. Proverbs 3:25 **Be not afraid** of sudden fear, neither of the desolation of the wicked, when it cometh.
- 10. Isaiah 10:24 ¶ Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD of hosts, 0 my people that dwellest in Zion, **be not afraid** of the Assyrian: he shall smite thee with a rod, and shall lift up his staff against thee, after the manner of Egypt.
- 11. Isaiah 37:6 ¶ And Isaiah said unto them, Thus shall ye say unto your master, Thus saith the LORD, **Be not afraid** of the words that thou hast heard, wherewith the servants of the king of Assyria have blasphemed me.
- 12. Isaiah 40:9 ¶ O Zion, that bringest good tidings, get thee up into the high mountain; O Jerusalem, that bringest good tidings, lift up thy voice with strength; lift it up, **be not afraid**; say unto the cities of Judah, Behold your God!
- 13. Jeremiah 1:8 **Be not afraid** of their faces: for I am with thee to deliver thee, saith the LORD.
- 14. Jeremiah 10:5 They are upright as the palm tree, but speak not: they must needs be borne, because they cannot go. **Be not afraid of them**; for they cannot do evil, neither also is it in them to do good.
- 15. Jeremiah 42:11 **Be not afraid** of the king of Babylon, of whom ye are afraid; be not afraid of him, saith the LORD: for I am with you to save you, and to deliver you from his hand.
- 16. Ezekiel 2:6 ¶ And thou, son of man, **be not afraid** of them, neither be afraid of their words, though briers and thorns be with thee, and thou dost dwell among scorpions: be not afraid of their words, nor be dismayed at their looks, though they be a rebellious house.
- 17. Joel 2:22 **Be not afraid**, ye beasts of the field: for the pastures of the wilderness do spring, for the tree beareth her fruit, the fig tree and the vine do yield their strength.
- 18. Matthew 14:27 But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid.
- 19. Matthew 17:7 And Jesus came and touched them, and said, Arise, and **be not afraid**.
- 20. Matthew 28:10 Then said Jesus unto them, **Be not afraid**: go tell my brethren that they go into Galilee, and there shall they see me.
- 21. Mark 5:36 As soon as Jesus heard the word that was spoken, he saith unto the ruler of the synagogue, **Be not afraid**, only believe.
- 22. Mark 6:50 For they all saw him, and were troubled. And immediately he talked with them, and saith unto them, Be of good cheer: it is I; **be not afraid**.
- 23. Luke 12:4 And I say unto you my friends, **Be not afraid** of them that kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do.
- 24. John 6:20 But he saith unto them, It is I; be not afraid.
- 25. Acts 18:9 Then spake the Lord to Paul in the night by a vision, **Be not afraid**, but speak, and hold not thy peace:
- 26. 1 Peter 3:14 But and if ye suffer for righteousness' sake, happy are ye: and **be not afraid** of their terror, neither be troubled;

Verses that say "nor be afraid."

1. Isaiah 8:12 Say ye not, A confederacy, to all them to whom this people shall say, A confederacy; neither fear ye their fear, **nor be afraid**.

2. Deuteronomy 31:6 Be strong and of a good courage, fear not, **nor be afraid** of them: for the LORD thy God, he it is that doth go with thee;
he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.

The following two sections are thanks to input from Jim Arnett.

Verses that say "dread not"

- 1. Deuteronomy 1:29 Then I said unto you, **Dread not**, neither be afraid of them.
- 2. 1 Chronicles 22:13 Then shalt thou prosper, if thou takest heed to fulfil the statutes and judgments which the LORD charged Moses with concerning Israel: be strong, and of good courage; **dread not**, nor be dismayed.

Verses that say "nor be dismayed"

- 1. Joshua 10:25 And Joshua said unto them, Fear not, **nor be dismayed**, be strong and of good courage: for thus shall the LORD do to all your enemies against whom ye fight.
- 2. 1 Chronicles 22:13 Then shalt thou prosper, if thou takest heed to fulfil the statutes and judgments which the LORD charged Moses with concerning Israel: be strong, and of good courage; dread not, nor be dismayed.
- 3. 1 Chronicles 28:20 And David said to Solomon his son, Be strong and of good courage, and do it: fear not, **nor be dismayed**: for the LORD God, even my God, will be with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee, until thou hast finished all the work for the service of the house of the LORD.
- 4. 2 Chronicles 20:17 Ye shall not need to fight in this battle: set yourselves, stand ye still, and see the salvation of the LORD with you, 0 Judah and Jerusalem: fear not, nor be dismayed; to morrow go out against them: for the LORD will be with you.
- 5. Jeremiah 23:4 And I will set up shepherds over them which shall feed them: and they shall fear no more, **nor be dismayed**, neither shall they be lacking, saith the LORD.
- 6. Ezekiel 2:6 ¶And thou, son of man, be not afraid of them, neither be afraid of their words, though briers and thorns be with thee, and thou dost dwell among scorpions: be not afraid of their words, nor be dismayed at their looks, though they be a rebellious house.

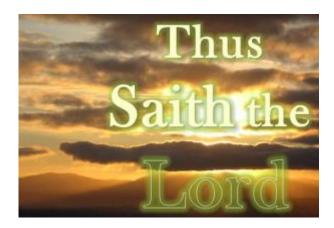
Verse that says "Be not affrighted"

1. Mark 16:6 And he saith unto them, **Be not affrighted**: Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: he is risen; he is not here: behold the place where they laid him.

The grand total of 57+7+4+2+4+2+26+2+2+6+1 = 113. The Bible tells us exactly 113 times not to fear or dread evil nor be dismayed at what's happening to us!

Did I miss something? If so, please tell me in the comments below and I will

How Many Times Does the Bible Say "Thus Saith the Lord"?



As my wife Tess and I were reading together during our daily devotions the Book of Jeremiah, we noticed how often "thus saith the Lord" is repeated in that book. She asked me to do a study on it. Here it is.

"Thus saith the Lord" appears only in the Old Testament. It occurs exactly 415 times in 413 verses and 161 chapters. In two verses it's repeated twice. In the 39 Books of the Old Testament, it occurs in 19 books. The Book of Jeremiah wins hands down with 148 occurrences! After that Ezekiel has 126 occurrences and Isaiah has 35 occurrences.

By the way, this study and all the Bible studies on my website use the <u>King James Version</u> which I believe to be the most accurate of all English translations. Notice I wrote, "most accurate" but not perfect as some think it to be. I don't believe any translation can be perfect. Why do I believe that? I had 11 years of experience working as a professional translator/proofreader from English to Japanese. Something is always lost in translation due to cultural differences.

	Book	Number of times
E	kodus	10
Joshua		2
Judges		1
1	Samuel	3
2	Samuel	5
1	Kings	13
2	Kings	20
1	Chronicles	4

2 Chronicles	8
Isaiah	35
Jeremiah	148
Ezekiel	126
Amos	13
Obadiah	1
Micah	2
Nahum	1
Haggai	4
Zachariah	18
Malachi	1

It's interesting that Jeremiah, the least heeded prophet, has the most occurrences of thus saith the Lord.

Jeremiah 7:26 Yet they hearkened not unto me, nor inclined their ear, but hardened their neck: they did worse than their fathers.

And after him, the prophet Ezekiel, was not heeded. The children of Israel didn't like him very much either, and especially their rulers.

Ezekiel 3:7 But the house of Israel will not hearken unto thee; for they will not hearken unto me: for all the house of Israel are impudent and hardhearted.

May the Lord help us all to listen to His Word, and heed and obey it for our own good and the good of our loved ones and associates!

What is the Great Tribulation of Matthew 24?



The words "great tribulation" appear three times in the King James Version of the Bible. But are they all referring to the same event?

Matthew 24:21 For then shall be **great tribulation**, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.

Revelation 2:22 Behold, I will cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into **great tribulation**, except they repent of their deeds.

Revelation 7:14 And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of **great tribulation**, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

I don't think these three Scriptures are all talking about the same event. You may dispute that. But this article is specifically about the tribulation Jesus was talking about in Matthew 24:21.

What do most evangelicals today teach about the Great Tribulation of Matthew 24? Some teach it's a *future* event of God's judgement on the wicked, and God's people will escape it in the Rapture. Correct me if I'm wrong but I think this is what John MacArthur teaches.

Others say the Great Tribulation is about the wicked persecuting the saints! They say this because they do not believe the Bible teaches a pre-tribulation rapture. I think so too. But is this really what the great tribulation of Matthew 24 is all about?

I hope you agree with me that the Bible is its own best interpreter. If that is true, shall we not look at what the two parallel passages of the other two synoptic Gospels in Mark and Luke have to say?

Mark 13:19 For in those days shall be **affliction**, such as was not from the beginning of the creation which God created unto this time, neither shall be.

Mark 13:19 is similar to Matthew 24:21 but rather than say "great tribulation" it says "affliction". Affliction on whom? Let's see what the Gospel of Luke has to say.

Luke 21:22-24 For these be the **days of vengeance**, that all things which are written may be fulfilled. 23 But woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck, in those days! for there shall be **great distress** in the land, and **wrath upon this people**. 24

And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled.

I hope you can see from the verses in Luke 21:22-24 that this is talking about the destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple in 70 AD. It's talking about the wrath of God through the Roman army on the unbelieving Christ-rejecting Jews. How do I know that only Christ-rejecting Jews are the ones who are afflicted and slaughtered by the Romans? Because Jesus told His followers to flee Jerusalem and Judea when they see the Romans coming!

Luke 21:20-21 And when ye shall see Jerusalem compassed with armies, then know that the desolation thereof is nigh. {21} Then let them which are in Judæa flee to the mountains; and let them which are in the midst of it depart out; and let not them that are in the countries enter thereinto.

And by the way, "Jerusalem compassed with armies" is the same thing as the abomination of desolation of Matthew 24:15!

Matthew 24:15-16 When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:) {16} Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains:

I hope you can see clearly that the parallel passage of Matthew 24:15-16 is Luke 21:20-21, It clearly defines the abomination of desolation as the armies of Rome. Rome was an abomination to the Jews and its armies made their capital city of Jerusalem desolate. It clearly tells Jesus' disciples what to do when they see the armies coming: To flee Jerusalem and Judea and run to the mountains. All the Christians who knew believed and obeyed Jesus' commandment were saved from slaughter by the Romans. The Christ-rejecting Jews believed the false prophets that they would be saved by running into the temple. They were all killed by the Romans! And this is all confirmed by secular history and the writings of Josephus.

To sum up: The great tribulation of Matthew 24 occurred in 70 ad. It was God's judgment through the Romans for rejection of their Messiah, Jesus Christ. It was a past event that will never happen again! Why do I think so? Because Jesus said so!

Matthew 24:21 For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, **nor ever shall** be.

Mark 13:18-19 And pray ye that your flight be not in the winter. {19} For in those days shall be affliction, such as was not from the beginning of the creation which God created unto this time, neither shall be.

Jesus told the high priest that he will see the Son of Man at the right hand of power.

Matthew 26:64-65 Jesus saith unto him, Thou hast said: nevertheless I say unto you, Hereafter shall ye see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven. {65} Then the high priest rent his clothes, saying, He hath spoken blasphemy; what further need have we of witnesses? behold, now ye have heard his blasphemy.

When do you think the high priest saw Jesus sitting at the right hand of power? It must have been when the high priest was still alive! I believe it was most likely during the attack on Jerusalem by the Romans in 70 AD. It was 40 years later and the high priest was most likely still alive. When he saw Jesus up in the clouds, how could he not help but think God was punishing him and his people for rejecting Jesus of Nazareth as the very Christ, the Son of God, the Messiah!

The Rapture Occurs On the Day of the Lord!



This post is to add more information on what I wrote on <u>The Popular but False</u> <u>Doctrine of the Rapture.</u>

And why did I call the doctrine of the Rapture false? I am talking about how the majority of evangelicals define the Rapture:

A) The rapture doctrine purports that Christ will come back to this earth in two phases. First, He will come spiritually to "rapture away" believers who

have been faithful to Him. This first phase of His coming is going to be silent or secret.

- B) After the righteous are raptured away to heaven, a fierce antichrist power will appear on the earth and rule the world for a period of seven years. This seven-year period is popularly referred to as the tribulation period.
- C) During this tribulation period, people who will refuse to go along with the new order of the antichrist will be brutally persecuted. However, amidst the great persecution by this satanic power, anyone who will believe and embrace Christ at this difficult time will have a second chance at salvation.
- D) After the seven-year tribulation period, Christ returns visibly to destroy the antichrist power and dispense His wrath on the world's nations. This is the general teaching of the secret rapture doctrine. (From: https://whitethroneministries.org/resources/lessons/the-secret-rapture-doctrine)

None of the above are supported by Scripture! All of these statements are speculation, reading into the Bible what isn't there, and based on a false interpretation of the 70th Week of Daniel.

Today, December 1st 2021, I saw for the first time that the prophecy at the end of I Thessalonians chapter four does *not* end with that chapter but it continues on with more information in chapter five! And that shows it's a continuous event!

- 1 Thessalonians 4:15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.
- 16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:
- 17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.
- 18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words.
- 1 Thessalonians 5:1 **But of the times and the seasons**, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you.
- 2 For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.
- 3 For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.

If you keep in mind there are no chapter breaks in the original text, you will see the prophecy at the end of First Thessalonians chapter 4 continues on to chapter 5. And if you see that, I think you should see that the rapture of the saints happens the same day as the destruction of the wicked. Therefore it **cannot** be a secret event!

Another Scripture that confirms the rapture occurs on the Day of the Lord:

Matthew 13:30 Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together **first the tares**, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat (the redeemed of Christ Jesus) into my barn.

The Six Seals of the Apocalypse: A Synopsis of History from Christ to the End of Time



Reading what Matthew Henry had to say about Revelation chapter 6 made me realize it's a summary of events over the past 2000 years!

<u>Geneva Bible Footnotes Refute Popular</u> <u>Contemporary Evangelical Endtime</u> <u>Doctrines</u>



My wife and I attend a local Baptist church. We like the pastor. He's a humble man who teaches the Word of God directly from the King James Version of the Bible. He preaches the true doctrine of salvation by faith alone, through grace alone, through Christ alone. He teaches us good practical lessons on how to avoid sin in our lives. But we also think Baptist eschatology is wrong because it was influenced by C.I. Scofield and his reference Bible. We are thankful that our pastor doesn't preach these false Endtime doctrines of Scofield. He himself confessed to being weak in eschatological doctrines. That's fine with me and my wife. Better not to teach them at all than to teach false doctrines. And what are these false doctrines that are held as truth by many evangelicals today?

- 1. Pre-tribulation rapture
- 2. Secret rapture of the saints
- 3. The 70th Week of Daniel being an Endtime event of the seven-year reign of the Antichrist
- 4. Israel is the time-clock of the Endtime.
- 5. The creation of the modern state of Israel in 1948 was fulfilment of prophecy
- 6. The Temple of Solomon will be rebuilt in the Endtime so that the Antichrist will sit in it and declare himself to be God.

The most commonly held Southern Baptist eschatology is known as "pretribulational premillennialism." In this view, Jesus will return to earth but not stay. He will rapture believers, removing them from Earth. Southern Baptists believe that a seven-year-long tribulation period will follow the rapture. They believe during the tribulation period that the Antichrist will conquer Earth, and they believe that Jesus will return again after the seven years and judge the living and the dead. Finally, they believe a 1,000-year-long Kingdom of God on Earth will follow. (From Southern Baptist Eschatology Beliefs

Where do the Baptists get the idea of a seven-year-long tribulation person after the rapture? Not from the Bible! They got it from a false interpretation of Daniel 9:27 promoted by John Nelson Darby and C.I. Scofield.

The Geneva Bible was published in 1560, which is 51 years before the King James Version. It was translated by men of God in Geneva Switzerland who were

not under any political / government pressure that influenced their translation. The translators included footnotes to help make difficult passages clearer. Those footnotes are all based on what all Protestants in general held to be true. King James of England did not like some of those footnotes. He wanted a Bible that didn't include them. Hence we have the King James Version which is very similar to the Geneva Bible but without the footnotes. Let's see how the footnotes interpret certain scriptures.

Daniel 9:27 is probably the most misinterpreted prophecy in the entire Bible! Let's see how the Geneva Bible interprets it:

Daniel 9:27 And he {a} shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to {b} cease, {c} and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make [it] desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.

- (a) By the preaching of the Gospel he affirmed his promise, first to the Jews, and after to the Gentiles.
- (b) Christ accomplished this by his death and resurrection.
- (c) Meaning that Jerusalem and the sanctuary would be utterly destroyed because of their rebellion against God, and their idolatry: or as some read, that the plague will be so great, that they will all be astonished at them.

And how does modern evangelical eschatology interpret it? They replace the "he" which is Christ with Antichrist and say the Antichrist will make a 7-year covenant with the Jews in order that they can rebuild a third Temple of Solomon to renew their animal sacrifices to God. Just ask yourself, would a rebuilt Temple Solomon honor God? Absolutely not! And why? Because it would represent a further rejection of the Blood of the Lamb, the Blood of Jesus Christ for our sins, and substitute animal blood instead! Would such a Temple be therefore the "holy place" of Matthew 24:15? Again, absolutely not for the reason stated above. There is no prophecy anywhere in the Bible of a third Temple of a Solomon. And not only does Daniel 9:27 not talk about a rebuilt Temple, it's a prophecy about the destruction of the Temple and Jerusalem in 70 AD! It's only speculation that the Jews need to rebuild the Temple in the Endtime so that the Antichrist can sit in it to proclaim himself to be God! And why did they speculate that? From a false interpretation of 2 Thessalonians 2:3-4)

- 2:3 Let no man deceive you by any means: {3} for [that day shall not come], except there come a falling away first, and {e} that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;
- (3) The apostle foretells that before the coming of the Lord, there will be a throne set up completely contrary to Christ's glory, in which that wicked man will sit, and transfer all things that appertain to God to himself: and many will fall away from God to him.
- (e) By speaking of one, he singles out the person of the tyrannous and persecuting antichrist.
- 2:4 Who opposeth and {f} exalteth himself above all that is called God, or

that is worshipped; {4} so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.

- (f) All men know who he is that says he can shut up heaven and open it at his pleasure, and takes upon himself to be lord and master above all kings and princes, before whom kings and princes fall down and worship, honouring that antichrist as a god.
- (4) He foretells that the antichrist (that is, whoever he is that will occupy that seat that falls away from God) will not reign outside of the Church, but in the very bosom of the Church.

Any Protestant reading the Geneva Bible footnote of verse 4 would know for certain it is talking about the Popes of Rome. Evangelicals today do not interpret it that way. They say 2 Thess 2:4 is talking about the Endtime Antichrist sitting in a rebuilt Temple of Solomon. What does the New Testament call the Temple?

1 Corinthians 3:16 ¶Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?

The Church, the saints of God, is the Temple of God, not a physical temple made with hands. The early Protestants knew that which is why they believed the identity of the Antichrist is the popes of Rome. It was the Pope who set himself above the kings and princes of Europe. It was the Pope who claimed to be the head of the Church and the vicar of Christ. Does Pope Francis today say the same thing? He does.

Here is the crux of the matter and the reason for false Endtime teaching: They were cooked up by Jesuit priests who lead the Counter-Reformation to get the Protestants to get their eyes off the Popes of Roman as the biblical Antichrist! They sure did a bang-up job, didn't they? But thankfully there are Christians today who know the truth, and they are mostly Christians who still remember what Protestants used to teach up to the 18th century. The Baptists do not identify with Protestanism because they claim to be descended from the Anabaptists who predate the Protestant Reformation. This is true. It's just sad that Baptists and other evangelicals such as Pentecostals were influenced by C.I. Scofield's doctrines while the Presbyterians and other mainstream Protestant churches were not.

The Destruction Of Jerusalem



Forward by the Webmaster:

I was inspired to transcribe part of Dr. Chuck Baldwin's message on the destruction of Jerusalem from a YouTube posted by Liberty Fellowship. I was not asked by Liberty Fellowship to do this. I am receiving no remuneration from them.

I think this message is extremely important for all Christians to know. It contains information that I certainly didn't know. And I think having a message in text format makes it more accessible to all. It sure helps me absorb the message deeper in my heart when I can read it. I hope you appreciate it and share this article with your friends.

The Destruction Of Jerusalem - by Dr. Chuck Baldwin

Open your Bibles please to Matthew chapter 23. Matthew chapter 23. I am preaching a message today that most of you have never heard a message of this nature preached in your life. You might be a senior citizen well up in years. I would venture to say you've never heard a message like I'm going to bring today, not because this message is not important, it is critically important, but the problem is there has been a great falling away among the Church over the last hundred years, and many of these great truths of the Word of God are not being taught any longer. This is one of those.

I'm speaking today on the destruction of Jerusalem. Matthew chapter 23 in verses 37 and 38, hear what Jesus said:

Matthew 23:37 O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!

38 Behold, your house is left unto you desolate.

God introduced His covenant with Moses with mighty signs and miracles as we have already discussed. Again and again, again and again, the children of Israel, in spite of those miracles, rejected God, His Word, and His messengers. God sent them warning, after warning, after warning, prophet after prophet, miracle after miracle, oppressor after oppressor, and still Israel remained stiff-necked, hard-hearted and obstinate.

Moses in Exodus 32:9 said, "I have seen this people and behold it is a stiff-necked people."

In Exodus 33:5: "For the Lord said to Moses say unto the children of Israel ye are a stiff-necked people."

In Deuteronomy 9:6 "Understand therefore that the LORD thy God giveth thee not this good land — the promised land — to possess it for thy righteousness." He's not giving you this land because you have been righteous. "For thou art a stiff-necked people."

Deuteronomy 9:13: "Furthermore the Lord said unto me saying I have seen this person and behold it is a stiff necked people."

2nd Chronicles chapter 30 and verse 8: "King Hezekiah said now be he not stiff necked as your fathers were."

In Acts chapter 7 verse 51 Stephen said: "Ye stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, you do always resist the Holy Ghost, as your fathers did, so do ye."

Jesus said to Jerusalem, "Thou that stonest the prophets, killest them that are sent unto thee." Jesus meant that.

Samuel was stormed against by the people, threatened, rejected, and mauled over by public opinion, Isaiah murdered with a wooden saw by King Manasseh, Joel, Uzziah, the son of King Amaziah, clubbed him to death. Amos, the son of a priest, drove a nail through his Temple. Micah was murdered by Joram, the son of Ahab. Habakkuk, stoned to death by Jews in Jerusalem. Ezekiel murdered by the chief of the Jews in Chaldea. Zachariah, King Joash murdered this prophet between the steps and the altar of the Temple, and then sprinkled his blood on the horns of the altar. Jeremiah, imprisoned, tortured, starved, and stoned to death by the Jews.

Look at Jeremiah chapter 19, take your Bibles to Jeremiah chapter 19, hear the prophecy of Jeremiah relative to the destruction of Jerusalem. Jeremiah chapter 19. I'm going to be giving you a *lot* of material today, and I know it may be hard to remember everything that I'm going to say that's why I hope that you'll get the video afterward, but I hope you'll watch intently at this prophecy of Jeremiah as it is applied to the destruction of Jerusalem, because *every single thing* that Jeremiah said in this chapter came to pass, and we will see it in this message.

Jeremiah 19:1 ¶Thus saith the LORD, Go and get a potter's earthen bottle, and take of the ancients of the people, and of the ancients of the priests; 2 And go forth unto the valley of the son of Hinnom, which is by the entry of the east gate, and proclaim there the words that I shall tell thee, 3 And say, Hear ye the word of the LORD, 0 kings of Judah, and inhabitants of Jerusalem; Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will bring evil upon this place, the which whosoever heareth, his ears shall tingle.

4 Because they have forsaken me, and have estranged this place, and have burned incense in it unto other gods, whom neither they nor their fathers have known, nor the kings of Judah, and have filled this place with the blood of innocents;

- 5 They have built also the high places of Baal, to burn their sons with fire for burnt offerings unto Baal, which I commanded not, nor spake it, neither came it into my mind:
- 6 Therefore, behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that this place (Jerusalem) shall no more be called Tophet, nor The valley of the son of Hinnom, but The valley of slaughter.
- 7 And I will make void the counsel of Judah and Jerusalem in this place; and I will cause them to fall by the sword before their enemies, and by the hands of them that seek their lives: and their carcases will I give to be meat for the fowls of the heaven, and for the beasts of the earth.
- 8 And I will make this city desolate,

What did Jesus say? "Jerusalem, your house is left unto you desolate."

Jeremiah 19:8 And I will make this city desolate, and an hissing; every one that passeth thereby shall be astonished and hiss because of all the plagues thereof.

- 9 And I will cause them to eat the flesh of their sons and the flesh of their daughters, and they shall eat every one the flesh of his friend in the siege and straitness, wherewith their enemies, and they that seek their lives, shall straiten them.
- 10 ¶Then shalt thou break the bottle in the sight of the men that go with thee,
- 11 And shalt say unto them, Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Even so will I break this people and this city, as one breaketh a potter's vessel, that cannot be made whole again: and they shall bury them in Tophet, till there be no place to bury.
- 12 Thus will I do unto this place, saith the LORD, and to the inhabitants thereof, and even make this city as Tophet:
- 13 And the houses of Jerusalem, and the houses of the kings of Judah, shall be defiled as the place of Tophet, because of all the houses upon whose roofs they have burned incense unto all the host of heaven, and have poured out drink offerings unto other gods.
- 14 Then came Jeremiah from Tophet, whither the LORD had sent him to prophesy; and he stood in the court of the LORD'S house; and said to all the people, 15 Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will bring upon this city and upon all her towns all the evil that I have pronounced against it, because they have hardened their necks, that they might not hear my words.

That was Jeremiah's prophecy of the destruction of Jerusalem. Every word came to pass as we will see in a minute.

Description of Jerusalem

First, let's talk about the city of Jerusalem itself. It was built on two major mountains, and five lesser mountains. Three massive walls surrounded the city on every side except one side which was inaccessible. One wall was erected on a hanging rock and fortified by sixty towers. The middle wall had fourteen towers. The third wall had nearly 90 towers. In clear weather, one could see the Mediterranean Sea, Arabia, and the entire nation of Israel, from one vantage point. The towers were built of white marble. The tower

stood between 90 and 135 feet high. Again, they all stood on the top of great hills and mountains. Nearby on the north side was the royal palace with its porticoes, galleries, apartments, groves, gardens, walks, fountains, aqueducts, all made from the costliest and most elegant materials. The Temple and the fort of Antonia were on the east side directly opposite the Mount of Olives. Inside the fort was the castle of Antonia, seventy five feet high, each side faced with marble. The towers of the fort were elegant and massive beyond description. The foundations of the lower Temple were four hundred and fifty feet deep, and the stones of which they were composed were more than 60 feet long and seven feet high, made of the whitest marble. The circuit of the whole building was four furlongs. Its height 100 cubits, 160 pillars each 27 feet high, ornamented and sustained the immense and ponderous edifice. In the front, spacious and lofty galleries wainscoted with cedar were supported by columns of white marble in uniform rows. In short, says Josephus, nothing could surpass even the exterior of this Temple for its elegant and curious workmanship. It was adorned with solid plates of gold that rivaled the beauty of the rising sun, and were scarcely less dazzling to the eye than the beams of that luminary. Of those parts of the building which were not guilt when viewed from a distance, some, says he, appeared like pillars of snow, and some like mountains of white marble. The splendor of the interior parts of the Temple corresponded with the external magnificence. It was decorated and enriched by everything that was costly, elegant, and superb.

In the lower Temple was placed the sacred curiosities; the seven-branched candlestick of pure gold, the table for the show-bread, and the altar of incense, the two latter of which were covered over with plates of the same metal, gold. In the sanctuary were several doors 55 cubits high, 16 in breadth which were all likewise of gold. Before these doors hung a veil of the most beautiful Babylonian tapestry composed of scarlet blue and purple, exquisitely interwoven, and wrought up to the highest degree of art. From the top of the ceiling depended branches and leaves of vines and large clusters of grapes hanging down five or six feet all of gold, and of most admirable workmanship. In addition to these proofs of the splendor and riches of the Temple may be noticed its eastern gate of pure Corinthian brass, more esteemed even than the precious metals. The golden folding doors of the chambers, the beautiful carved work, gilding and painting of the galleries, golden vessels of the sanctuary, the vestments of scarlet, violet and purple, the vast wealth of the treasury, abundance of precious stones and immense quantities of all kinds of costly spices and perfumes, in short, the most valuable and sumptuous of whatever nature or art or opulence could supply was enclosed within the consecrated walls of this magnificent and venerable edifice.

On Palm Sunday Jesus entered into that city, Jerusalem. The people laid palm leaves in His path and shouted, Hosanna! Blessed be the king that cometh in the name of the Lord. Peace in heaven and glory in the highest. But listen to what Jesus said, Luke 19:41 through 44.

Luke 19:41 ¶And when he was come near, he beheld the city, and wept over it, 42 Saying, If thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day, the things which belong unto thy peace! but now they are hid from thine eyes.

43 For the days shall come upon thee, that thine enemies shall cast a trench about thee, and compass thee round, and keep thee in on every side, 44 And shall lay thee even — even — with the ground, and thy children within thee; and they shall not leave in thee one stone upon another; because thou knewest not the time of thy visitation.

On Wednesday of that week, Jesus rebuked and confounded the scribes and the Pharisees, and warned the disciples of the barbarous treatment that they would receive very soon at the hands of the Jews. He then said those words that we began this address with.

Luke 13:34 O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them that are sent unto thee; how often would I have gathered thy children together, as a hen doth gather her brood under her wings, and ye would not!

35 Behold, your house is left unto you desolate:

The Olivet Discourse

Turn in your Bibles to Matthew chapter 24 beginning in verse 1.

Matthew 24:1 ¶And Jesus went out, and departed from the Temple: and his disciples came to him for to shew him the buildings of the Temple.

Not sure this was all of the disciples. It could have been Peter, James, John and Andrew, but they came out to Jesus and engaged in a private conversation with Him, and Jesus foretold the destruction of the city of Jerusalem.

Verse 2 And Jesus said unto them, See ye not all these things?

Remember this discourse took place on the Mount of Olives which commanded a full view of the city of Jerusalem and the Temple. Jesus and the disciples are looking at the city. They're looking at the Temple when Jesus said, "See ye not all these things?" Jerusalem, the Temple, the walls, the towers, the beauty, the grandeur, the riches. "Verily I say unto you, There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down. Jesus here predicts the city and the Temple's complete demolition.

Verse three: And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? — the destruction of Jerusalem — and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world? Or the end of the age. meaning the end of the Jewish age, the end of the Jewish world, not talking about the end of the world as almost everyone interprets this verse to mean. Jesus is talking about the destruction of Jerusalem, the end of an age, the end of the Jewish system, the end of their city, the end of their Temple, the end of their worship. When shall these things be?

Verse 4 ¶And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you.

5 For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.

Within a year after Christ's death and resurrection, many false Christs appeared. Dasu Theas the Samaritan, Simon Magus a second Samaritan false Christ, a false Christ named Tudas under the government of Felix, a host of false Christs appeared claiming to perform great signs and miracles. An Egyptian false Christ collected 30 thousand followers. In the time of Festus, another false Christ appeared, and this is just a sample of the hundreds and hundreds of false Christs that came into Judea and Jerusalem shortly after the death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ, just as He had predicted.

Verse 6 And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. 7 For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places.

This is not talking about the end of the world, this is talking about the destruction of Jerusalem. There were wars and commotions occurring so frequently between Jesus death and the destruction of Jerusalem that the whole interval could be regarded as the fulfillment of this prophecy. War between Herod and Aretas king of Arabia Petraea, the wars of Caligula, the wars against the Jews by the Greeks and Syrians in the city of Seleucia with a huge slaughter, the wars between the Jews and the Philadelphians at Perea, the battle between the Jews and Kuminus resulting in the deaths of 10,000 Jews, war between the Jews and the Samaritans, war between the Jews and the Syrians in Ceceria resulting in the deaths of 20,000 Jews, war in Damascus, Tyre, Ascalon, Gadara, and Scythopolis. In the first three cities I just mentioned 10,000 Jews were killed in one hour. The siege of Chapada killed 40,000 Jews. In Alexandria the Romans killed 50,000 Jews. You shall have wars and rumors of wars, nation against nation. It was all fulfilled just as Jesus said between the time of Christ's death and the destruction of Jerusalem.

And great earthquakes shall be in divers places, Jesus said. Within that same period of time of this prophecy, this was literally fulfilled. In the reign of Claudius there was an great earthquake in Rome. There was an earthquake in Apamea, another earthquake in Syria, another one in Crete, there were earthquakes in Smyrna, Meletis Caius and Samos, another in Laodicea as well as Hierapolis and Colossi, and a dreadful earthquake occurred in Jerusalem a short time before the Roman siege against Jerusalem began. It **all** took place just as Jesus said. Jesus said, famines, great famines at the time extended through Greece and Italy but were felt most severely in Judea and especially in Jerusalem. Helena, Queen of Abiabeena, sent large supplies of grain to Jerusalem to help the starving in the city. The Gentile Christian Churches at the urging of the Apostle Paul sent much relief to the city of Jerusalem because of the starvation and famine in the city just as Jesus predicted.

Jesus said pestilences would occur. The first occurred in Babylon about 40 AD. The second occurred in Rome in 65 AD. Tens of thousands of people, maybe hundreds of thousands perished by the disease accumulating due to starvation and sickness. Dead corpses rotting on the streets, infected rats and insects, just as Jesus said, disease permeated the region for many years in between the death of Christ and the destruction of Jerusalem. In Luke chapter 21 and verse 11 Jesus said:

Great Signs from Heaven

Luke 21:11 ...and fearful sights and great signs shall there be from heaven.

The following extraordinary signs occurred just as Jesus said:

A meteor resembling a sword hung over Jerusalem during one entire year. This could not be a comet for it was stationary and was visible for twelve successive months. A sword too, a fit emblem of destruction.

"On the eighth of the month, (before the feast of unleavened bread) at the ninth hour of the night, there shone round about the altar, and the adjacent buildings of the Temple, a light equal to the brightness of the day, which continued for the space of half an hour." This could not be the effect of lightning, nor of a vivid aurora, for it was confined to a particular spot and the light shone unintermittently thirty minutes, as the High Priest were leading a heifer to the altar to be sacrificed, and brought forth a lamb, in the midst of the Temple.

Such is the strange account given by the historian. Some may regard it as a "Grecian fable," while others may think that they discern in this prodigy a miraculous rebuke of Jewish infidelity and impiety, for rejecting the ANTITYPICAL Lamb, who had offered Himself as an atonement, "once for all," and who, by thus completely fulfilling their design, had virtually abrogated the Levitical sacrifices. However this may be, the circumstances of the prodigy are remarkable. It did not occur in an obscure part of the city, but in the Temple, not at an ordinary time, but at the Passover, the season of our LORD'S crucifixion, in the presence, not of the vulgar merely, but of the High Priests and of their attendants, and when they were leading the sacrifice to the altar.

About the sixth hour of the night, the eastern gate of the Temple was seen to open without human assistance. When the guards informed the curator of this event, he sent men to assist them in shutting it, who with great difficulty succeeded. This gate, as hath been observed already, was of solid brass, and required twenty men to close it every evening. It could not have been opened by a "strange gust of wind," or a "slight earthquake;" for Josephus says, it was secured by "iron bolts and bars, which were let down into a large threshold; consisting of one entire stone."

Soon after the feast of the Passover, in various parts of the country, before the setting of the sun, chariots and armed men were seen in the air, passing round about Jerusalem. Neither could this portentous spectacle be occasioned by the aurora, for it occurred before the setting of the sun, or merely the fancy of a few villagers, gazing at the heavens, for it was seen in various parts of the country.

Beyond that, at the subsequent feast of Pentecost, while the priests were going by night, into the inner Temple to perform their customary ministrations, they first felt, as they said, a shaking, accompanied by an indistinct murmuring, and afterwards voices as of a multitude, saying, in a distinct and earnest manner, "LET US DEPART HENCE." This gradation will

remind the reader of that awful transaction, which the feast of Pentecost was principally instituted to commemorate. First, a shaking was heard, this would naturally induce the priests to listen: an unintelligible murmuring succeeds; this would more powerfully arrest their attention, and while it was thus awakened arid fixed, they heard, says Josephus, the voices of a multitude, distinctly pronouncing the words "LET US DEPART HENCE." And accordingly, before this period for celebrating this feast returned, the Jewish war had commenced, and in the space of three years afterwards, Jerusalem was surrounded by the Roman army, the Temple converted into a citadel, and its sacred courts streaming with the blood of human victims.

And the last and most fearful omen, Josephus relates that one Jesus, the son of Ananus, a rustic of the lower class, during the Feast of Tabernacles, suddenly exclaimed in the Temple, "A voice from the east, a voice from the west, a voice from the four winds, a voice against Jerusalem and the Temple a voice against bridegrooms and brides — a voice against the whole people!" These words he incessantly proclaimed aloud both day and night, through all the streets of Jerusalem, for seven years and five months together, commencing in A.D. 62, when the city was in a state of peace, and overflowing with prosperity, and terminating amidst the horrors of the siege. This disturber, having excited the attention of the magistracy, was brought before Albinus the Roman governor, who commanded that he should be scourged. But the severest stripes drew from him neither tears nor supplications. As he never thanked those who relieved, so neither did he complain of the injustice of those who struck him. And no other answer could the governor obtain to his interrogatories, but his usual denunciation of "Woe, woe to Jerusalem!" which he still continued to proclaim through the city, but especially during the festivals, when his manner became more earnest, and the tone of his voice louder. At length, on the commencement of the siege, he ascended the walls, and, in a more powerful voice than ever, exclaimed, "Woe, woe to this city, this Temple, and this people!" And then, with a presentment of his own death, added," Woe, woe to myself." He had scarcely uttered these words when a stone from one of the Roman engines killed him on the spot. The great signs just as Jesus predicted.

Matthew chapter 24 verse 8 Jesus continues saying all these are the beginning of sorrows.

Luke 21 verse 12 Jesus said that before all these things they shall lay hands on you — the disciples — and persecute you delivering you up to the synagogues and into prisons being brought before kings and rulers for my name's sake. In the verse 16 of that chapter, and ye shall be betrayed both parents and brethren and kinsfolks and friends, and some of you they shall cause to be put to death. As we know John the Baptist had already been beheaded, Peter and John were in prison, Stephen was stoned to death, James was beheaded, Paul was beheaded, eventually all of the disciples except John were violently martyred, just as Jesus said.

Verse 14 in Matthew 24: And this Gospel of the kingdom shall be preached into all the world for a witness unto all nations and then shall the end come. He's not talking about the end of the world, he's talking about the end of the **Jewish** world, the end of the **Jewish** age, the Gospel shall be preached to

all the world, then shall the end come. The persecution of the Jews against the early Church forced the apostles and disciples to flee the city of Jerusalem. The book of Acts records the preaching of the Gospel into all the world, Rome, Corinth, Galatia, Ephesus, Philippi, Colossi, Thessalonica, Pontius, Cappadocia, Bethinia.

Colossians chapter 1 verse 23 listen to what the Apostle Paul said.

If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the Gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached — which was preached — to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister. Just as Jesus said, the Gospel would be preached to **everyone** in the world, everyone under heaven. So here Paul proclaims the fulfillment of Jesus prophecy which was preached to **every creature under heaven**!

All of this, all of this was Jesus prophecy of things preceding the destruction of Jerusalem. Everything we have discussed to this moment happened *prior* to the destruction of Jerusalem. They were the precursors of that which was to come.

The wars referred to earlier escalated between the Jews in Jerusalem and Rome until it reached a boiling point. Nero appointed Vespasian to prosecute the war against the Jews in Jerusalem. Assisted by his son Titus, they marched an army of 60,000 men against Jerusalem in 67 AD. As the Roman army marched through Judea towards Jerusalem, it spared no one, woman or child. The siege and surrounding Judea went on for 15 months. Vespasian leveled the cities of Galilee and the chief towns of Judea killing at least a hundred and fifty thousand inhabitants. The terrors and calamities in the coastal city of Joppa were especially dreadful. Thousands of Jews took to ships to escape Vespasian's fury, but a great tempest of wind pushed the ships back to land, and hundreds of vessels were dashed against the rocks. Many Jews killed themselves to escape being tortured by the Roman army. Over four thousand dead bodies were strewed along the coasts, and thousands more were killed inland. Thus was fulfilled Jesus prophecy Luke 21:25 and upon the earth distress of nations with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring.

While Vespasian returned to Caesarea to plan his great and final assault against Jerusalem, he was summoned back to Rome upon the death of Nero. His son Titus was left in charge of the Roman army. Thus there was a respite of almost two years before Titus would seize the city of Jerusalem. God again gave the Jews yet another chance to repent and turn to the Lord. After all these things that have already happened, pestilences, disease, death, earthquake, wars, 150,000 killed in Judea, after all of this there was a twoyear respite. The Jews could have repented. The Jews could have turned to the Lord. God gave them another opportunity after all of the opportunities God had given Israel from the time of Moses, to the time of Joshua, to the Judges, to the prophets, over and over and over and over and over and over and over again for thousands of years God gave them an opportunity to repent, an opportunity to come to the Lord, an opportunity to obey God, an opportunity to be faithful to His Word, so many opportunities they're too numerous to count! And now on the very verge of their destruction, on the very verge of the total annihilation of their people,

their way of life, their religion, their Temple, their city, God gave them another chance to repent. And they did not. Think of all the opportunities God gave the children of Israel from the time Moses delivered them from bondage all the way through the times of the prophets. The plagues, the judgments, the invasions, the captivity, the miracles, the deliverance. And then came John the Baptist and they killed him. Then came their Messiah, and they crucified Him. They're hard to stubbornness iniquity wickedness and blasphemy only grew worse and worse.

And now on the verge of total annihilation, the rebellion of the Jews against God intensified to unspeakable proportions. Inside the city of Jerusalem a great civil war broke out between the inhabitants. These two "factions" spared no one, women or children. They killed each other by the thousands. Eighty five hundred bodies lied rotting on the streets of Jerusalem killed by fellow Jews. Twelve thousand Jewish leaders were killed including many Pharisees. Their carcasses lay in heaps along the city streets. Unrestrained lawlessness ran rampant throughout Judea. There was no law. There was rampant, rampant, unbridled violence, murder, rape, pillage, plunder, death, destruction, Jew against Jew!

It was during this background that the city inhabitants became aware that the Roman army was approaching for its final assault. Listen to Jesus in Matthew chapter 24 begin reading from verse 15:

Matthew 24:15 When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:)

- 16 Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains:
- 17 Let him which is on the housetop not come down to take any thing out of his house:
- 18 Neither let him which is in the field return back to take his clothes.
- 19 And woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck in those days!
- 20 But pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the sabbath day:
- 21 For then shall be great tribulation, (**He's talking about the destruction of Jerusalem!** There shall be **great** tribulation!) such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.

Let me pause right there. There has never in the history of the world been a slaughter, been an annihilation, been a destruction, of any people, of any city, anywhere in the history of the world, that compares to the destruction of the city of Jerusalem. And since that dreadful destruction, in modern history, with all of the advances in technology, and all of the warfare, the bombs, the planes, the ships, the guns, the canons, everything, World War I, World War II, think of all of the great horrors of military conflict that have taken place, to this very day there has never been an annihilation of any people, anywhere, in any war, that compares to the annihilation of the city of Jerusalem just as Jesus said in Matthew chapter 24 and verse 21, read it again, for then shall be Great Tribulation such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor shall ever be.

22 And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened.

And in Luke 21 verse 20 Luke adds this, Jesus speaking:

Luke 21:20 ¶And when ye shall see Jerusalem compassed (or surrounded) with armies, then know that the desolation thereof is nigh.

When you see the Roman armies surrounding this city, your doom is upon you. Previously Jerusalem had been invaded, Jerusalem had been captured, Assyrians, the Babylonians, the Chaldeans, but now Jerusalem will be utterly and totally annihilated.

The day on which Titus encompassed Jerusalem was the Feast of the Passover, the 37th anniversary of the day when the Jews crucified their Messiah, 37 years to the day. Unaware of the bloodshed and the mayhem that was taking place in Jerusalem, tens of thousands of Jews faithfully came to Jerusalem to celebrate Passover as they did each year, but in doing so this year they ignored the warning of Jesus.

Luke 21:21b ...and let not them that are in the countries enter thereinto. (The city of Jerusalem.)

If you're in the country, stay there. Do not enter the city of Jerusalem. The tens of thousands, yea, hundreds of thousands of Jews did just that. Josephus, the greatest of all Jewish historians, was an eyewitness to the destruction of Jerusalem. He was **in** Jerusalem when the siege began. He was taken prisoner by the Roman army, and when they recognized who he was, they spared his life, and they charged him to be an eyewitness on-site reporter, and to record every detail of the events that he witnessed during the course of this siege which is exactly what he did. Josephus said there were so many Roman crosses in Jerusalem one could hardly walk through the city. Rumors among the Roman troops were that Jews had swallowed gold, and you can imagine what the Roman troops did to the Jewish bodies in an attempt to recover the swallowed gold.

After visualizing the carnage that the Jews had inflicted upon themselves, and that now his troops were inflicting, Titus was so grieved at the scene that he stopped, raised his hand toward heaven, and prayed to God that he never intended so much death and destruction as the Jews had inflicted upon themselves. But the horrors of famine intensified. People were eating their belts, their sandals, the skins of their shields, dried grass and the order (???) of oxen. Men were eating each other, and women were eating their children. Remember the words of Jeremiah? Again Jesus warned Luke 23:28 as He was carrying his Cross to Mount Calvary and the women around Him were weeping Jesus said, "Daughters of Jerusalem weep not for me but weep for yourselves and for your children!" They had no idea what He meant, but Jesus knew what was soon to come to this city.

Finally, the Romans breached the inner wall, I am trying to make this as expeditious as I can leaving out so many details of this. Your imagination can take you to the scene and you can only imagine the horror that was taking

place as I tell you about this. The Romans breached the inner wall and gained possession of the great Tower of Antonio in advance toward the Temple. Titus had determined in planning the siege to not, I repeat, to not destroy the Temple. He wanted to preserve it as a trophy of Rome. Titus would not have his way. As his soldiers began burning the Temple, Titus personally rode to the scene and commanded his men to spare the Temple. But so violent was the battle between the Romans and the Jews that they either did not see their commander, or if they did, they ignored him. Jews were rushing from every quarter to save the Temple. There is no language to describe the scene of fire and smoke and blood and death that ensued as the Jews fought desperately to save the Temple of God! And the Romans, obsessed with their destruction, it was something so unimaginable, it's impossible to describe.

The old and the young, the feeble and the fit, the priests and the commoners, the Pharisees and the scribes, mothers and fathers, parents and children, brothers and sisters, the ground could not be seen! The ground could not be seen for dead bodies. Men were not walking on the earth, they were walking on the bodies of the dead. In some parts of the city, blood was up to the horse's bridle.

Before the final demolition, however, Titus took a survey of the city and its fortifications. And while contemplating their impregnable strength, could not help ascribing a success to the peculiar interposition of Almighty God. He said, "Had not God himself aided our operations, and driven the Jews from their fortresses, it would have been absolutely impossible to have taken them. For what could men and the force of engines have done against such towers as these." — The Roman general Titus.

After this he commanded that the city should be raised — leveled — to the foundations. Of the Jews destroyed during the siege, Josephus records not less than 1,100,000, to which must be added above two hundred and thirty seven thousand who perished in other places, and innumerable multitudes who were swept away by famine and pestilence of which no calculation could be made. The actual number of Jews killed in the siege of Jerusalem was somewhere within a million at the least, and maybe two million dead.

In executing the command of Titus relative to the demolition of Jerusalem, the Roman soldiers not only threw down the buildings, but even dug up their foundations. You remember? Four hundred fifty feet deep! They dug up the foundations, and so completely leveled the whole circuit of the city that a stranger would scarcely have known that the city had ever been inhabited by human beings. Thus was the great city which only five months before had been crowded with nearly 2 million people, who glorified in its impregnable strength, entirely depopulated and level to the ground. And thus also was our Lord's prediction that her enemies shall, "lay her even with the ground," fully accomplished. This fact is confirmed by Eusebius who asserts that he himself saw the city lying in ruins.

Thus was literally fulfilled the prophecy of Micah in Micah 3:12

Micah 3:12 Therefore shall Zion for your sake be plowed as a field, and Jerusalem shall become heaps, and the mountain of the house as the high

places of the forest.

So significant was the destruction of Jerusalem, that it is the subject of a very large portion of prophecies in both the old and new testaments. Pause, sadly the vast majority of pastors either ignore these prophecies or they misapply them, and take away their meaning completely applying it to something that wasn't true! And so most people don't even realize how many scores and scores of verses in both the Old and New Testaments prophesy the destruction of Jerusalem! In other words, God placed the destruction of Jerusalem as a monumental sign and lesson, not to Israel, but to the Church.

First this caveat: Titus was the most unlikely man throughout the Roman armies to become a scourge to Jerusalem. He was eminently distinguished for his great tenderness and humanity, which he displayed in a variety of instances during the siege. He repeatedly made specific overtures to the Jews, and deeply lamented the infatuation that rejected them. In short he did everything which a military commander could do to *spare* them and to *preserve* their city and Temple, but without effect. Thus was the will of God accomplished by human agency, although contrary to the wish of Titus, and his predicted interposition to punish his rebellious and apostate people in this way rendered more conspicuously evident. In other words, by using Titus to be the one through whom the destruction of Jerusalem would come, **in itself, was a miracle**, a sign for the Church, **forever**, that everything about the destruction of Israel was divine in origin. It was the fulfillment of prophecy, the **judgment** of God **forever** upon Israel, Jerusalem, their Temple, and their religion.

Think of it: Not a single Christian perished in the siege of Jerusalem. Think of it, Jerusalem is where the Church began. Remember the day of Pentecost 3,000 were saved baptized and added to the Church in one day, in Jerusalem. The Church grew by leaps and bounds! But not one single Christian died in the siege of Jerusalem. They were dispersed in persecution, and those that weren't heeded the Oracles of God pertaining to the destruction of Jerusalem, and left before the siege began.

When Jesus said, "This generation shall not pass before all these things were fulfilled," it came to pass just as He said. A generation is 40 years in biblical terminology. Within 40 years time everything that Jesus had predicted had come to pass. That generation of people did not pass. They saw, experienced, lived and died in that fulfilled prophecy.

For copyright reasons I deleted the last part of the text. Please see the YouTube to hear the rest of Pastor Baldwin's message.

Science Confirms the Truth of the Bible



True scientific discoveries confirm the truth of the Bible. The very first verse in the Bible, Genesis chapter one verse one, has a profound meaning in physics.

Genesis 1:1 ¶In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

Einstein's *space-time continuum* verifies Genesis 1:1. Before "the beginning" there was no time, there was no heaven — space — and there was no earth — matter. Time, space, and matter all must exist simultaneously or none of them can exist.

Physicist Dr. John Gideon Hartnett adds to the preceding paragraph:

At first glance, this seems to give credibility to the Big Bang theory that the universe had a beginning in time and was 'created' out of 'nothing'. Those are in scare quotes because there is no creator in the big bang universe, and prior to it existing there was nothing. But nothing does not spontaneously create a universe unless you are a believer in Steven Hawking's wishful thinking. See

https://biblescienceforum.com/2014/07/15/the-singularity-a-dark-beginning/

Without space and time, matter cannot exist, but neither can a universe exist without a creator and the Bible tells us who He is. The Creator is a God whom we can know personally. He is the great I AM, who was always there, the uncreated First Cause, and we can trust what He says, because He never lies (Numbers 23:19, Titus 1:2). His name YHVH from Hebrew means the 'self-existent One'. He is not created but He created all things."

Dr. Henry M. Morris, Ph.D., says,

"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." Time itself, according to this most profound (yet simple) of all declarations, had a beginning. Space (i.e., "the heaven") and matter ("the earth") began simultaneously with time. Before that beginning, there was nothing—that is, nothing except God! (Quoted from https://www.icr.org/article/eternal-future-time-space-matter/)

The Bible confirms the existence of harmful bacteria

The laws of sanitation in the Bible were written some 3000 years before Louis Pasteur in the 19th century linked germs with infectious disease!

There are numerous rules for sanitation and quarantine found in the Old Testament, and especially in the Book of Leviticus that God gave for the benefit of His children to keep them free from contagious diseases. The scientific community only much later in time discovered the importance of these health rules which includes washing one's body in running water!

Leviticus 15:13 And when he that hath an issue is cleansed of his issue; then he shall number to himself seven days for his cleansing, and wash his clothes, and bathe his flesh in running water, and shall be clean.

"Soap and water don't kill germs; they work by mechanically removing them from your hands. Running water by itself does a pretty good job of germ removal..." (Quoted from https://www.health.harvard.edu/newsletter_article/The_handiwork_of_good_health

You have probably heard the proverb, "Cleanliness is next to godliness." The phrase "running water" is found exactly seven times in the King James translation of the Bible! The number seven is God's special number, for it signifies spiritual perfection and completion. The Bible mentions it more than any other number.

Leviticus 14:5 And the priest shall command that one of the birds be killed in an earthen vessel over **running water**:

Leviticus 14:6 As for the living bird, he shall take it, and the cedar wood, and the scarlet, and the hyssop, and shall dip them and the living bird in the blood of the bird that was killed over the **running water**:

Leviticus 14:50 And he shall kill the one of the birds in an earthen vessel over running water:

Leviticus 14:51 And he shall take the cedar wood, and the hyssop, and the scarlet, and the living bird, and dip them in the blood of the slain bird, and in the **running water**, and sprinkle the house seven times:

Leviticus 14:52 And he shall cleanse the house with the blood of the bird, and with the **running water**, and with the living bird, and with the cedar wood, and with the hyssop, and with the scarlet:

Leviticus 15:13 And when he that hath an issue is cleansed of his issue;

then he shall number to himself seven days for his cleansing, and wash his clothes, and bathe his flesh in **running water**, and shall be clean.

Numbers 19:17 And for an unclean person they shall take of the ashes of the burnt heifer of purification for sin, and **running water** shall be put thereto in a vessel:

More Scriptures about sanitation

Leviticus 11:31 These are unclean to you among all that creep: whosoever doth touch them, when they be dead, shall be unclean until the even.

- 32 And upon whatsoever any of them, when they are dead, doth fall, it shall be unclean; whether it be any vessel of wood, or raiment, or skin, or sack, whatsoever vessel it be, wherein any work is done, it must be put into water, and it shall be unclean until the even; so it shall be cleansed.
- 33 And every earthen vessel, whereinto any of them falleth, whatsoever is in it shall be unclean; and ye shall break it.
- 34 Of all meat which may be eaten, that on which such water cometh shall be unclean: and all drink that may be drunk in every such vessel shall be unclean.
- 35 And every thing whereupon any part of their carcase falleth shall be unclean; whether it be oven, or ranges for pots, they shall be broken down: for they are unclean, and shall be unclean unto you.
- 36 Nevertheless a fountain or pit, wherein there is plenty of water, shall be clean: but that which toucheth their carcase shall be unclean.

The words "unclean" and "clean" indicate to me either the presence of germs and harmful bacteria or the absence of them. The microscope had not yet been invented in the time Moses led the children of Israel out of Egypt. The people of course could not see microbes. They didn't have the "germ theory" in their education. They just obeyed God's commands to Moses not knowing the scientific reasons why they should.

Medieval Europe was plagued with diphtheria, measles, tuberculosis, leprosy, typhus, anthrax, smallpox, salmonella and other maladies. The worst of such diseases was of course the Black Death.

Leviticus 15:1 ¶And the LORD spake unto Moses and to Aaron, saying,

- 2 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When any man hath a running issue (a discharge such as puss) out of his flesh, **because of his** issue he is unclean.
- 3 And this shall be his uncleanness in his issue: whether his flesh run with his issue, or his flesh be stopped from his issue, it is his uncleanness.
- 4 Every bed, whereon he lieth that hath the issue, is unclean: and every thing, whereon he sitteth, shall be unclean.
- 5 And whosoever toucheth his bed shall wash his clothes, and bathe himself in water, and be unclean until the even.
- 6 And he that sitteth on any thing whereon he sat that hath the issue shall wash his clothes, and bathe himself in water, and be unclean until the even.
- 7 And he that toucheth the flesh of him that hath the issue **shall wash his clothes**, **and bathe himself in water**, and be unclean until the even.
- 8 And if he that hath the issue spit upon him that is clean; then he shall wash his clothes, and bathe himself in water, and be unclean until the even.

- 9 And what saddle soever he rideth upon that hath the issue shall be unclean.
- 10 And whosoever toucheth any thing that was under him shall be unclean until the even: and he that beareth any of those things **shall wash his** clothes, and bathe himself in water, and be unclean until the even.
- 11 And whomsoever he toucheth that hath the issue, and hath not rinsed his hands in water, he shall wash his clothes, and bathe himself in water, and be unclean until the even.
- 12 And the vessel of earth, that he toucheth which hath the issue, shall be broken: and every vessel of wood **shall be rinsed in water**.
- 13 And when he that hath an issue is cleansed of his issue; then he shall number to himself seven days for his cleansing, and wash his clothes, and bathe his flesh in running water, and shall be clean.

Does modern science tell us it's important for good health to keep our bodies and hands clean? You know it does. And why? To remove the presence of harmful bacteria, that's why.

Did you know that in the early part of the 19th century, <u>'Wash your hands'</u> was once controversial medical advice?

Regarding the hygiene principle and germs, Ignaz Philipp Semmelweis (1818 - 1865), who was a Hungarian physician, discovered that 10%-35% Of the mothers that came to the medical institutions suffered fatalities. Puerperal fever was common in mid-19th-century hospitals and was fatal. Doctors in those clinics had three times the mortality of midwives' wards. Sadly, nobody knew why. But after close observation, Semmelweis discovered that the incidence of puerperal fever or "childbed fever" could be **greatly reduced by the use of hand disinfection** in obstetrical clinics.

Semmelweis proposed the practice of washing hands with chlorinated lime solutions in 1847 while working in Vienna General Hospital's First Obstetrical Clinic. He ordered physicians to wash their hands thoroughly after every examination. In three months, **the death rate fell from 18% to 1%**. These were astounding results. And he was called the "savior of mothers." He published a book of his findings in Etiology, Concept and Prophylaxis of Childbed Fever. Despite various publications of his successful results, Semmelweis's suggestions were **not accepted by the medical community** of his time.

Why was Semmelweis research rejected? Because germs were virtually a foreign concept for the Europeans in the middle-19th-century. Later, Semmelweis's publications earned widespread acceptance only years after his death, when Louis Pasteur confirmed the "germ theory" and Joseph Lister, acting on the French microbiologist's research, practiced and operated on patients while using hygienic methods with great results.

Had the medical community paid attention to God's instructions that were given 3000 years before, many lives would have been saved. The

Lord gave the Israelites hygienic principles against the contamination of germs and taught the necessity to quarantine the sick (Numbers 19:11-12). And the book of Leviticus lists a host of diseases and ways where a person would come in contact with germs (Leviticus 13:46).

Germs were no new discovery in 1847. And for this fact, Roderick McGrew testified in the Encyclopedia of Medical History: "The idea of contagion was foreign to the classic medical tradition and found no place in the voluminous Hippocratic writings. The Old Testament, however, is a rich source for contagionist sentiment, especially in regard to leprosy and venereal disease" (1985, pp. 77-78). — (from https://bibleask.org/did-the-bible-teach-the-germs-theory/

The practice of the quarantine of people with infectious diseases is in the Bible

Numbers 12:10 ¶And the cloud departed from off the tabernacle; and, behold, **Miriam became leprous**, white as snow: and Aaron looked upon Miriam, and, behold, she was leprous.

- 11 And Aaron said unto Moses, Alas, my lord, I beseech thee, lay not the sin upon us, wherein we have done foolishly, and wherein we have sinned.
- 12 Let her not be as one dead, of whom the flesh is half consumed when he cometh out of his mother's womb.
- 13 And Moses cried unto the LORD, saying, Heal her now, O God, I beseech thee.
- 14 And the LORD said unto Moses, If her father had but spit in her face, should she not be ashamed seven days? **let her be shut out from the camp seven days**, and after that let her be received in again.
- 15 And Miriam was shut out from the camp seven days: and the people journeyed not till Miriam was brought in again.

Other than the "germ theory" we also have the "terrain theory"

Diseases are results of our internal environment and its ability to maintain homeostasis against outside threats. Terrain theory believes if an individual maintains a healthy terrain, it can handle outside invaders or threats which cause diseases. When terrain is weak, it favors the microorganisms. Hence, health depends on the quality of an individuals' terrain. (Quoted from https://drkarenwolfe.org/germ-theory-or-terrain-theory-of-disease/)

Are these two theories of the cause of disease at odds with each other? I personally do not think so. In my opinion, both are true. We are supposed to wash our hands before we eat so we do not transfer harmful bacteria into our mouths, and we try as much as possible to live in an environment free of toxic chemicals. We also are supposed to maintain a strong immune system by eating a nutritious diet, daily exercise, taking a good night's sleep and rest when our bodies tell us it's tired, and having a good mental attitude

toward life in general.

<u>Sharing Christ with a Convicted</u> Criminal on Death Row



Patrick and Norah Pakai

The testimony in this article is from my Facebook friend, Patrick Pakai, a pastor in Zimbabwe, one of the poorest nations in Africa since the evil Robert Mukabe took the farms away from the white farmers and destroyed the economy through greed and corruption. I was so impressed with how Patrick talked to this prisoner I had to share it!

Today I was asked to speak the word of God to a prisoner on death row, condemned to be hanged any day for many crimes he commited against humanity. This huge guy was seated there motionless, with red threatening eyes, like he wanted to break my bones with his huge bare hands. I greeted him and he did not answer or moved. I introduced myself as a Pastor and that I had brought the good news of our Lord Jesus Christ to him. He looked at me straight in my eyes and said, "Pastor, you are so late with your Jesus, its too late now, am facing death and your Jesus can not save me from death. Even you can not help me in any way, so pastor, get out of this place right now because I dont want to see you.

I said a quick prayer and I felt the presence of the Holy Spirit giving me strength and words of wisdom. I said to him, "My brother, I understand you and I will be out here soon, but you are telling me that you are sentenced to death, now tell me my brother, Who in the world is not going to die? We all carry the sentence of death upon us, the only difference is the time and how we will die. As I am talking to you right now this minute, a thousand people have died in the whole world. And before they hang you, thousands will be dead in the world, and the judge who has judged you will die one day and the hang man will also die. So you see my brother, we all carry the sentence of death upon us, but what matters is we do not have to die without Jesus Christ in our lives because hell is certain for those who die without Christ. And today I am not late to you, you are blessed that I have come to present Jesus Christ to you while you are still alive. I am so sad that I am late to many others who have already died without Christ for they will spend eternity in hell. So my brother, Jesus loves you and He wants to be with you forever in paradise".

As I was speaking to him, I saw tears coming down from his eyes, I did not invite him to kneel down, but he was there on the floor on his knees and pleading with me to lead him to Christ. Oh what an amazing time as I hold his huge hands and began to pray for him. One soul added to the Kingdom, praise the Lord.

(End of testimonial)

Please see Patrick's posts on Facebook:

In Thee Shall All Families of the Earth Be Blessed



As you see from the meme, the title of this post is taken from Genesis 12:3. Here it is in context:

Genesis 12:1 ¶Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee:

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

To whom was that promise made?

John Hagee, a prominent Christian Zionist pastor says of Genesis 12:2-3:

No pronouncement of scripture is clearer or more decisive. God smiles on the friends of the descendants of Abraham, and they enjoy heavenly favor. In contrast, God will answer every act of anti-Semitism with harsh and final judgment Final Dawn Over Jerusalem, page 20

Pastor Hagee is applying those Scriptures to the Jews and the modern nation of Israel. But does the Word of God itself apply it that way? Absolutely *not*! That promise does not apply to the Jews / Israelis today! How do I know that? The Apostle Paul in Galatians chapter 3 clearly says the promise of God of Genesis 12:2,3 was made to Abraham and his Seed! That Seed is Christ and those in Christ, those who hold Jesus of Nazareth to be Christ!

Genesis 28:14 adds additional insites.

Genesis 28:14 And thy seed shall be as the dust of the earth, and thou shalt spread abroad to the west, and to the east, and to the north, and to the south: and in thee and **in thy seed** (singular) shall all the families of the earth be blessed.

And the Apostle Paul in Galatians chapter 3 makes it abundantly clear to whom these promises are referring to.

Galatians 3:16 Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many (plural); but as of one (singular), And to thy seed, which is Christ.

The King James Version of the Bible uses the archaic form of you, the word "thee" and its possessive form "thy" which is singular. And it also uses the word "you" which, when you see it in the KJV, you should know it's always plural. And it uses grammatical forms of you we don't have today such as "ye" which is plural. A great example of this is John 3:7.

John 3:7 Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

The "thee" of John 3:7 was the person who Jesus was talking to, Nicodemus, and the "ye" is everybody else, us, the people of the world.

The NIV translation is John 3:7 is

You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.'

The NIV is not as clear as the KJV when it uses the word "you" in John 3:7. The KJV is true to the original Greek which uses both the singular and plural form of the Greek word for you in John 3:7.

Why I am talking about English grammar in this Bible study? Because the key to understanding Genesis 12:3 and Genesis 28:14 is to know the words "thee" and "thy" are referring to Abraham and his seed singular, not plural.

Genesis 12:3 And I will bless them that bless **thee**, and curse him that curseth **thee**: and in **thee** shall all families of the earth be blessed.

God today blesses those who bless Abraham's seed.

Genesis 28:14 And thy seed shall be as the dust of the earth, and thou shalt spread abroad to the west, and to the east, and to the north, and to the south: ...d

Genesis 28:14 clearly is applicable to the Gentiles who have received Christ as their Lord.

Galatians 3:29 And **if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed**, and heirs according to the promise.

Combining Genesis 12:3 with what the Apostle Paul teaches in the Book of Galatians, we can clearly see God's promise to Abraham refers to people who bless Christ and Christians, those who acknowledge that Jesus of Nazareth is the Christ, the Messiah! And all the families of the earth who have received Jesus of Nazareth as the Christ, the Messiah, have been blessed. It's not at all talking about blessing the Jews or the modern nation of Israel. In fact, the Bible doesn't even call them Jews!

Romans 2:28 For he is **not a Jew, which is one outwardly**; neither is that circumcision, which is outward in the flesh:

29 But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God.

In other words, only those in Christ are Jews in God's eyes!

Should we bless the Jews who do not believe in Jesus of Nazareth as their Messiah? We should rather pray for them! Pray that their eyes be opened to the light of the Gospel of Christ!

Just the other day I had a wonderful conversation with a lady who calls herself Jewish. She was born in Israel and raised in Guam. She went to both a synagogue and a Christian school. I shared the Gospel with her and she listened.

I hope you see why it is important to read from a Bible translation such as the KJV that makes a difference between the singular and the plural. Most languages of Europe still use different words to denote a singular and a plural you. I know Russian does, and therefore probably all the Slavic languages, and I know Spanish does, and therefore probably all the Romance

languages do. I don't know about the Germanic languages because I haven't studied them as I have Spanish and Russian. I heard that English dropped the singular words, "thee", "thou", "thy" and "thine" because they can be used in a condescending way. This is true of other European languages as well, but the singular form of the word you still remains part of their modern-day language.

Who Are The True Citizens of Israel? Those in Christ Jesus!



The saints are those people who are sanctified in Christ Jesus be they Jews or Gentiles!

The Abomination of Desolation of Matthew 24: Jerusalem Compassed with Armies





The early Protestant Reformers asserted that "Scripture interprets Scripture", which means the Bible is its own best interpreter. With that in mind, let's look at the Olivet Discourse as told in two of the three synoptic Gospels of Matthew 24 and Luke 21. I am not including Mark 13 because it's similar to Matthew 24.

Matthew 24:15 When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:)

- 16 Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains:
- 17 Let him which is on the housetop not come down to take any thing out of his house:
- 18 Neither let him which is in the field return back to take his clothes.
- 19 And woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck in those days!
- 20 But pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the sabbath day:
- 21 For **then** shall be **great tribulation**, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.

The parallel passage of the Olivet Discourse in the Book of Luke adds more detail to what Matthew wrote.

Luke 21:20 And when ye shall see Jerusalem compassed with armies, then know that the desolation thereof is nigh.

- 21 Then let them which are **in Judaea** flee to the mountains; and let them which are in the midst of it depart out; and **let not them that are in the countries enter thereinto**.
- 22 For these be the **days of vengeance**, that all things which are written may be fulfilled.
- 23 But woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck, in those days! for there shall be **great distress** in the land,

and wrath upon this people.

24 And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and **Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles**, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled.

How Luke 21 explains Matthew 24

Let's compare Matthew 24 verse by verse with Luke 21 and see what we can learn.

Matthew 24:15 When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:)

Luke 21:20 And when ye shall see Jerusalem compassed with armies, then know that the desolation thereof is nigh.

Luke 21:20 tells us what Matthew 24:15 doesn't. It explains clearly the final prophecy of Daniel 9:27:

Daniel 9:27b ... and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.

The "overspreading of abominations" is the Roman army. "He shall make it desolate" is the destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple. Notice Luke 21:20 says, "the desolation thereof is nigh"? The desolation of what? Clearly from the context, it's talking about Jerusalem. And when? In 70AD by General Titus.

Matthew 24:16 Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains:

Luke 20:21 Then let them which are **in Judaea** flee to the mountains; and let them which are in the midst of it depart out; and **let not them that are in the countries enter thereinto**.

See how Luke adds more detail to the Olivet Discourse compared to Matthew? Not only does it tell the people of Judea to flee to the mountains, but it tells those who live outside Judea not to try to enter it! And why? Because if you do, the Romans will kill you! Do you see how this prophecy applies only to the people Jesus was talking to at the time? It's cannot possibly be an Endtime prophecy unless you include 70 AD as part of the Endtime. Jesus was telling who to flee? The people who lived in Jerusalem and Judea, not anywhere else in the world. And who obeyed Jesus' warning? The Jewish Christians! Every one of them was saved from the slaughter of the Romans! The ones who were killed were the ones who believed the false prophets and fled to the Temple to be saved.

Luke 24:22 For these be the **days of vengeance**, that all things which are written may be fulfilled.

This verse is not included in Matthew 24. It explains why Rome was attacking

Jerusalem. The "days of vengeance" are God's wrath on the unbelieving Jews who rejected Jesus of Nazareth as the Christ, the Messiah. Jesus Himself brought the Roman army to destroy Jerusalem and the Temple to show that God is done with the Jews as a people. True Israel today consists of both Jews and Gentiles! The Epistles of Paul and the Book of Hebrews make this abundantly clear.

Galatians 3:26 For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.

- 27 For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.
- 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.
- 29 And **if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed**, and heirs according to the promise.

Hebrews 8:8 For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when **I will make a new covenant** with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah:

- 9 Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord.
- 13 In that he saith, A new covenant, he hath made the first old. Now that which decayeth and waxeth old is ready to vanish away.

Matthew 24:21 For then shall **be great tribulation**, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.

Luke 21:23b ... for there shall be **great distress** in the land, and wrath upon this people.

When was the "then" of Matthew 24:21? It was when Rome was attacking Jerusalem. The "days of vengeance" are God's wrath on the unbelieving Jews who rejected Jesus of Nazareth as the Christ, the Messiah. Those days are over. There was never such tribulation of the Jews as there was in 70 AD!

Notice that Matthew 24 says "great tribulation" and Luke 21 says "great distress"? There are both the same thing! And Luke goes further and says, "wrath upon this people". Upon which people? Upon the unbelieving Jews who did not obey Jesus' warning to flee Jerusalem and Judea! They were killed by the Romans. According to pastor Chuck Baldwin of Liberty Fellowship, General Titus did not want to totally destroy the city of Jerusalem and the Temple. His army was so enraged against the Jews his couldn't stop them! The soldiers therefore must have been divinely inspired to do what they did! Not even their own general could stop them from destroying the city and the Temple.

I hope I have given you enough food for thought in case you believe in the

Futurist doctrine of a comimg third Temple of Solomon and a future Antichrist occupying it for a seven-year peace pact with the Jews. The Temple may be rebuilt in the future, but I would not call it a fulfillment of prophecy. And I certainly wouldn't call it the "holy place" of Matthew 24:15! It would be an abomination to God because it would reflect yet the further rejection of the Blood of Christ in preference of the blood of animal sacrifices. God is finished with animal sacrifices! How do I know that?

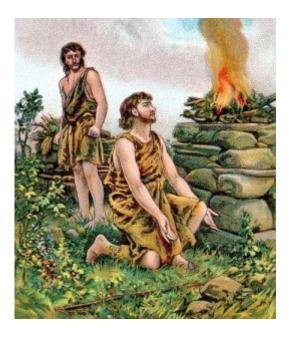
Daniel 9:27 ...he (the Messiah) shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease...

Hebrews 9:11 But **Christ** being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, **not made with hands**, **that is to say**, **not of this building**;
12 **Neither by the blood of goats and calve**s, but **by his own blood** he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.

"Ok James Japan! So you're saying there won't be great tribulation in the Endtime?" I'm not saying there won't be tribulation caused by the enemies of Christ resulting in persecution of Christians. And I certainly do not believe that the Lord will rapture the Saints out of the midst or even before the beginning of great persecution. Nowhere does the Bible say that. If you think it does, please state the Scriptures that say so in the comments below. What I am saying is we do not know how long such a tribulation will last. It may be much shorter than 3 and a half years. It may be much longer than that. We cannot go by a final seven years scenario as I was taught because such a doctrine is based on a false interpretation of Daniel 9:27.

"So what will happen, James Japan?" I don't know! We only know that Christ will return for us. When? We don't know. Did any prophet of God predict that antichrists would bring the entire world into bondage and many into economic hardship by engineering the coronavirus scare which resulted in pandemic phobia and leading to greater government control of the people through vaccinations and vaccination passports? NO! NOT ONE PROPHET OF GOD PREDICTED THAT! Am I wrong? If I am, please educate me in the comments below. Thank you!

<u>God's Word of Encouragement to Cain</u> <u>Before He Killed Abel</u>



Today, May 5th, 2021, I learned I have been misinterpreting Genesis 4:7 my entire life!

Genesis 4:6 ¶And the LORD said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen?

7 If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee shall be **his** desire, and thou shalt rule over **him**.

Who or what is the "his" and "him" of Genesis 4:7? I always thought it was referring to sin. But when listening to an audio version of Genesis 3:16, it struck me how similar the words are which the Lord used to speak to both Eve and Cain.

Genesis 3:16b ... and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.

Then I read what the 18th century Bible commentator Adam Clarke had to say about Genesis 4:7.

Unto thee shall be his desire, &c. — That is, Thou shalt ever have the right of primogeniture (the exclusive right of inheritance belonging to the eldest son), and in all things shall thy brother be subject unto thee. These words are not spoken of sin, as many have understood them, but of Abel's submission to Cain as his superior, and the words are spoken to remove Cain's envy.

Wow! God was telling Cain he shouldn't be envious of his younger brother Abel! Cain was the firstborn and he was Abel's superior. Cain had the birthright, not Abel. But in spite of the Lord's encouragement to him, his envy of his younger brother still got the best of him and he killed him. In spite of the fact the Lord tried to lift up Cain's spirit so he wouldn't sin, Cain's pride and jealously caused him to sin anyway! So sad!



God speaking to Cain.