

Apocalypse Survival Guide: Charting New Bible Prophecy

**By
Norman E. Jones**

June 23, 2012

Copyright 2008 Norman E.Jones
Under another Title

**You may copy this book for personal use; you are prohibited
from changing any part, and you are prohibited from copying it to sell.**

Acknowledgements

First I would like to thank Father God, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit for giving me life, salvation, spiritual gifts and inspiration to write this book. Without them, I am nothing. Without them, this book would not be possible. I love you Lord.

I also want to acknowledge that the Bible, in the original languages, is inerrant. The New American Standard Version Bible, which I study, is the inerrant Word of God in my life. It is the supreme authority in all matters of its history, of faith and human conduct. Thank you God for loving me.

I would like to honor my parents, Stanton W. and Virginia C. Jones for bringing me up in the way I should go; to love and serve God.

I thank Karen, my wife, for putting up with me spending thousands of hours writing. In a way, she has given her life for the cause of Christ by forgoing pleasures and companionship because I was occupied. I love you for believing in God's purposes and in me to fulfill them. Thank you for your effort above and beyond. I know your honor is great in Heaven.

I want to acknowledge the worth of Charles C. Ryrie, for his book, Basic Theology, as a great asset to classifying and denoting the hundreds of facets of God and Christianity. This work has given me an outline, into which, I can insert the explanation of my understanding of God. Thank you for your monumental effort to the cause of Christ.

Apocalypse Survival Guide: Charting New Bible Prophecy

Table of Contents

Acknowledgements.....	3
Table of Contents	5
Preliminary Remarks	9
A Warning to the People of the United States	13
Chapter One - What is God Accomplishing in the World	15
The Meaning of Life.....	15
God Manages People in the World.....	18
Chapter Two - “Types;” A key to Revealing Additional Biblical Truth	23
Why Study “Types?”.....	23
Types of “Types”.....	24
Validity of “Types” for Knowledge	25
PART ONE - The Timing of the End	
Chapter Three - A Timeplan?	29
Scriptures on Planning	29
Design and Significance In Creation	30
Time Order?	31
Scriptures For a Timeplan.....	32
The Approximate Time.....	33
The Birth Process	34
Chapter Four - The Sabbath Day / Millennium Theory	37
The Sabbath Day - Millennium Theory	37
Creation Days Parallel Millennial Years.....	40
Creation Day One Chart	40
Creation Day Two Chart.....	41

Table of Contents

Creation Day Three Chart	42
Creation Day Four Chart	43
Creation Day Five Chart	44
Creation Day Six Chart	45
Creation Day Seven Chart	46
Conclusion	
Chapter Five - Three Dispensations	47
Design in God’s Interaction with Man Chart	48
Design in Bible History Chart	50
Dispensation Chart	52
Chapter Six - Our Place in Time	55
Isaac; A Type of Jesus Christ	
Isaac; A Type of Jesus Christ Chart	56
Significance of Numbers	58
Our Place in Time	60
Time Implications of Isaac as a “Type” of Jesus Christ	60
Computation of Years Chart	61
The Rapture Season	62
Jewish Feasts in Prophecy Chart	62
 PART TWO - The End Time Players	
Chapter Seven - Modern Nations In Biblical Prophecy	67
1. Future King?	69
2. Succeeding and Concurrent Empires	69
3. The Type Picture	70
The Times of the Gentiles Chart	71
4. Present World Powers	72
The British Lion and American Eagle	72

Table of Contents

The Russian Bear	75
The Arab-African Leopard	75
The Ten-Headed European Beast	76
5. The End Time Bear	77
6. Revelation 13 parallel to Daniel	77
Chapter Eight - The Conservative Expositors View	79
The Three Contextual Possibilities	79
Possibility 1, Vestiges?	80
Possibility 2, The Accepted Fundamental Conservative Position	80
Possibility 3, Similar Empires But Not Identical	82
Increased Strength	83
Different National Symbols	84
A Summary and Conclusions	84
PART THREE - The Great Tribulation Apocalypse	
Chapter Nine - Each Players Role	89
Israel	89
The Map of the Apocalypse - Left Half	90
The Map of the Apocalypse - Right Half	91
Antichrist and the EEC	93
World Council of Churches	94
The Fate of the CIS	95
Arab-Africa Coalition Defeated	95
The Destiny of the United States	95
Nebuchadnezzar; A “Type” of the USA Chart	99
Chapter Ten - Order of Events	101
The Timeframe	101
The Apocalypse Order	102

Table of Contents

The Apocalypse Outline - Israel's View Chart	102
A Closer Look at the Apocalypse Order.	103
Exodus to Jericho Like First to Second Coming	103
Period "Type" Comparisons Chart - Top Half	104
Period "Type" Comparisons Chart - Bottom Half	105
Chapter Eleven - The Seal Judgements	109
Battle Tank, A Destructive Animal - Illustration.	110
First Seal, First Year	111
Second Seal, Second Year.	112
Third Seal, Following Year.	112
The Fourth Seal.	113
The Fifth Seal	113
The Sixth Seal.	114
Chapter Twelve - Trumpets and the End	115
Trumpets One thru Four	115
The Fifth Trumpet.	116
The Sixth Trumpet	117
The Seventh Trumpet and Seven Vials of God's Wrath	118
Appendix A - George Washington's Vision	123
Appendix B - A Special Letter to Preppers	127
Appendix C - How to know God Personally, Right Now	131
Bibliography	135
Glossary	139 - 152

Preliminary Remarks

Personal Testimony, Theology, Generalities, and so

I. Personal Testimony

I believe God has been preparing me for this work for most of my life. My parents were members of the Church of Christ. I grew up with a four-part harmony congregational singing because the Church didn't believe in instrumental music. The worship quality was far better than today. I loved the singing. It was very uplifting and worshipful.

My christian life started with asking Jesus to be my savior, and being baptized when I was twelve years old at a church camp. I was an ordinary kid and didn't get into much trouble. My first interest in the Bible came in the third year of high school. Our pastor was selling family type Bibles, big ones, and I bought one. I didn't read it all that much but I filled out the family information section. I have kept it all these years. I am now seventy years old.

I went to church through the time I was in the Army but stopped going when I got out in 1962 and started going to college. It wasn't until 1975 that I felt God again tugging at my heart strings. I started missing God. And, one Sunday, I realized I had left God, and I became afraid I would die and go to Hell before I rededicated my life. So I ran to the nearest Church of Christ and rededicated. But I was still not born-again. I went to church for a while but my unbelieving wife would not go with me so I went alone.

In September, 1976, when my oldest daughter was four years old, and youngest daughter six months, their mother decided she wanted a divorce from me. I was devas-

tated. I didn't know what to do. I was going to church but God was not very real to me. Some months before, a youth pastor was going around our neighborhood calling on people to talk about God. He talked to me but I was not buying it.

After my wife had divorce papers served, I wondered what to do. I thought I would leave her and the kids just escape to Alaska, where my brothers lived, and start over with a new life. But I knew I really shouldn't abandon my children, so after two weeks of agonizing, I finally decided I needed to stay around and try to make it right with her and the kids.

But when I made that decision to stay, I also was forced to acknowledge that I was a failure. This was my second failed marriage. I felt terrible. It was a Sunday, so I decided to go to the youth pastors church near our house. I talked to him and he agreed to come over that evening.

He came to the house and I told him about what I have told you. He said that before I could make it right with my wife and kids, I needed to make it right with God. I said to him, "What has God got to do with any of this?" He said to me that if I would ask God to forgive my sins, He would forgive me and would manage my life. **God managing my life!** The pastor said *my* responsibility was to "Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all other things, the provisions of life, God would add unto me (Matt. 6:33)." The pastor said I should do what God said in the Bible, and God would make my life successful by His standards.

That is exactly what I needed; I was a fail-

ure, and I needed the God of the universe to manage my life. I asked God to forgive me and to take responsibility for success of my life. That night I was rebaptized, and a tremendous burden was lifted off my back.

I didn't have to worry about being a success anymore. I didn't have to worry about being a failure anymore. I didn't have to worry about making a living, owning a house, making investments, being retired, none of it. It was now God's job to take care of me. It was my job to **be** a man of God. I have sought to be a man of God ever since.

I started to be a man of God by **studying**. I was living alone after the divorce, and I *studied* three hours a day, every day for a year. The youth pastor discipled me, one on one, for that year.

At 35 years old, I went to the high school bible study that he taught. I learned right along with the kids. My appetite for the Word of God was voracious. The bible my mentor gave me has been rebound twice. Its nearly worn out a third time.

I was a failure and I wanted to be different. God had a purpose and a plan for my life all along. I didn't know it then, but I just trusted God to make my life successful by His standards. I began to want to study future prophecy because it interested me. I have discovered some things of value for the future. They can be read in this book or viewed on my website, "www.soulsurvival.info".

God has given me talents and the desire to do for Him. As the years have gone by, I have seen His hand greatly on my life. My life has not been easy but both my daughters have grown up with God in their lives, and both have married christian men who walk with God, and both are raising their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. They, serving God, are my greatest joy in life.

II. God's Plan For My Life

When I started studying, I just wanted to know God. I wasn't studying anything in particular. I just studied. It was ten years in before I rec-

ognized a definite interest in prophecy.

One day a pastor was teaching a lesson on the battle of Jericho. He said they went around the city once a day for six days and seven times on the seventh day. I thought to myself, where have I seen this sequence before? I think I'll look into that some time. I have been looking into that and other prophetic things ever since.

When I was done with the prophecy book on my website, God revealed the need for a theology section. With the inception of this extension to my prophecy book, I began to see what His plan was for me more completely. I have now completed the Theology Section on my website and turned it into a printed theology book. This is the printed version of the website Theology section.

Someone before me spoke of how Moses, the son of Pharaoh's daughter, spent the first forty years of his life learning that he was a "somebody." He spent the second forty years on the backside of the desert, learning he was a "nobody," and the third forty years learning that God could take a "nobody" and make him a "somebody." I feel like how Moses might have felt towards the end of his life. This job is daunting. But God and I are a majority; because He has prepared me for this my whole life. That is why I can write this book. God is with me, and I with Him.

III. Theology

Defined

I follow Ryrie's definition, page 13:

“. . . Theology, then, is the discovery, systematizing, and presentation of the truths about God.”

General Theology

Dr. Charles C. Ryrie's book on "Basic Theology" (B.T. will be a reference to Ryrie's book throughout) is a standard work of some importance among lay people who are not professional theologians. What he says is both foundational and written in a non-technical

way. I would like to quote him as follows, page 10:

“The phrase ‘sound doctrine’ that Paul (the Apostle) uses means healthy doctrine (e.g., 2 Tim. 4:3; Titus 1:9). Healthy doctrine or healthy theology is always expected to result in holy living. When Paul prayed for churches, he prayed for an increase in knowledge, for he realized that this would produce holy living (e.g., Phil. 1:9-11; Col. 1:9-10). Healthy theology is expressed not only in creed but in fruitful living, and holy living must be based on healthy theology.

“How theology affects my life or your life is our own personal and individual responsibility. But to conform our lives to the image of Christ is the ultimate goal in studying theology. Yet in the final analysis no book can do that. Only God and you can.”

Healthy theology is my own goal as well as Dr. Ryrie’s.

My Theology in General

Since I want my opinion to be heard in the christian forum, and since I am unknown, as to what I believe, it seemed prudent to give you some idea of what kind of christianity I embrace.

I can say that I tend to have a Arminian point of view. The points on which I differ with Arminianism is significant but generally compatible. The only exceptions to that might be the issues which I address in my theology book. That would be the part which I personally contribute.

I will endeavor, as I write, to note any significant differences. Other than this, you can depend on my being orthodox, in the sense of balanced, like Dr. Ryrie. I hope you will agree.

I will do my best, with the Holy Spirit’s leading, to *honor* God, and uphold His reputation, in this effort to convince christianity to be different and produce a healthy church which honors God. I believe in Managed Cooperation Theology.

Managed Cooperation Theology Defined

Quite simply, God manages; man cooperates.

It is God that manages my life, and should manage all christians lives. As I cooperate with Him in my life; in the same way, all christians should cooperate with His management of their lives. This idea is expressed by John MacArthur when he talks about making Jesus “Lord” of your life. But that is not happening in many American churches.

Christians, for the most part, don’t cooperate with God in God managing their lives. Most don’t even know God wants to manage their lives. See Matthew 6:33.

IV. On Presuppositions

The Bible is the watershed presupposition as Ryrie said. It is the final authority on matters pertaining to God. I embrace that.

V. Bible Usage and Quotes

All quotes and usage will be from the New American Standard Version, The Lockman Foundation, 1975.

VI. Other Writing

See my complete writing on-line at:
www.soulsurvival.info

Other books:

Managed Cooperation Theology, Norman E. Jones, Divinely Timed Publications, 2011; available on Amazon.com.

The United States of America In Biblical Prophecy, Norman E. Jones, Divinely Timed Publications, 2011; available on Amazon.com.

Questions can be E-mailed to me at:
normanejones70@hotmail.com.

A warning to the People of the World

“Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand.”

These are the words of John the Baptist who lived and preached concerning the first coming of Jesus of Nazareth, who is called Christ, almost 2000 years ago. These are also the words of God for the people of the United States, and the world, in 2012 because the second coming of Jesus will be soon.

If a man rapes a baby girl, we might call him an "animal". God calls men who do such things "beasts". In the Bible book of Daniel, the people of the United States are characterized as a beasts. We are called beast because we continually commit and *approve* the following kinds of abhorrent behavior.

(1) Idolatry, making any person or thing more important in your life than God.

(2) Abortion, the legal murder of thousands of babies as a method of birth control.

(3) Fornication, intercourse between two unmarried people.

(4) Adultery, intercourse between a married person and a person not a spouse.

(5) Homosexuality, a person sexually stimulating another person of like gender.

(6) Lying, people telling lies of every kind, on every subject, for personal gain.

If we compare what the majority of people approve today, as demonstrated by the above list, and what the people of the late 1700's approved, you will find none of the above was

approved in those years. That is why we were once a "nation under God", a christian nation, but are not so now.

It is written, "Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all everywhere should repent, because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead."

Israel has turned against God at various times in their history and God has judged them by allowing their enemies to occupy their lands and enslave their people. A similar judgment is eminent for the United States. Our land will be invaded, our men killed and our women ravaged. The corporate sins of the people of the United States will be judged as God has prophesied. However, individuals who repent may be forgiven.

The purpose of the prophetic section of this book is to warn people of what is coming, and tell them what to do about it after it arrives. This book will make sense of the chaos. It will tell you what God will do and how you can cooperate with the inevitable such that you can spiritually survive the apocalypse. The details of what God will do, when, can be ascertained in the remainder of this book.

Chapter One - What is God Accomplishing in the World?

or What is the meaning of life?

The Meaning of Life

Throughout history, people have asked the questions: Why am I here? Is this all there is to life? These questions try to shed some understanding on the life that we see with our eyes, which seems to indicate there is more to life than just being born, living and dying.

Many men have put forth theories suggesting the meaning of life but none are adequate. None are adequate because they start from the mind of man who is inadequate. Men have failed because the meaning of life must start from Him who is the originator of life . . . the God of the Bible! There is no other true and living God. Buddha, Hari Krishna and the like are all deceptions of the Devil.

He who created life and sustains life also established the meaning of life. Life and its meaning are too complicated to figure out. It must be revealed.

God the Originator

The meaning of life starts with the one and only true and living God who is the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit of the Bible. As many have said before; the Bible is the Word, or thoughts, of God to mankind. It is God's message to us. It is God's plan for the Earth and mankind.

In the original languages, the Bible is absolute truth. We do not have to decide what part of it is true; it is all true. That means we can believe it all and depend on it all. It is from this position of the strength of God's message to us that we learn from Him the meaning of life.

Before the creation existed, **God wanted**

to have a people whom He could love forever, and who would love and appreciate Him forever. *This is the central purpose for God's creation; the Earth.* This is kind of like, couples now, each wanting to have the other to love and be loved. So you sought each other out. You made a place and a life together for the two of you. You loved each other. Likewise, God created the Earth and universe to have a place where He could love and be loved by His people.

God created a wonderful world with a myriad of beautiful plants, unique animals and gorgeous scenery. He wanted the one's He loved to see His love for them in the beauty of the place where they would live. Most people appreciate the natural beauty of the creation but don't appreciate the creator. But you are doing the right thing, you are learning about God right now, as you read.

God also made angels, some of whom are loyal to God and some who are not. Satan, the Devil, is the chief angel who is against God and God's people.

God made man in His own image. We look similar to Him. And like Him, we are individuals. He made us autonomous. We think for ourselves. God made us autonomous because autonomy is required to have the capability to love. No autonomy, no love. Therefore, no love for God.

The downside of autonomy, from God's point of view, is man may not want to love God. God has infinite wisdom and perfect character, man has finite wisdom and imperfect character. Therefore, man's thoughts, actions and behavior will be different than

God's thoughts, actions and behavior. If you remember, this is the lesson of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. There man learned to trust his own judgement rather than trust God's judgement.

Adam and Eve, before eating the forbidden fruit, assumed God was correct in everything He said. But when the devil put the question to them, "Did God say you shall not eat?" (from the tree of knowledge of good and evil) That put the Garden couple into the position of: (1) doubting God, (2) answering Satan's question, and (3) by default, deciding whether or not God was correct about eating from the forbidden tree. They were deceived because they didn't have the wisdom or knowledge to make such a decision. They were missing God's point of view. They just went on; assuming they had all the wisdom needed to properly manage their own life when they really didn't. That's exactly what every man does today. He makes decisions about life assuming he has enough wisdom to make good decisions.

They judged God and His love for them. After all, He was keeping them from the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. So they decided to eat. Thus, *they took over responsibility for managing their own life* rather than trusting God to manage their lives.

God had previously said, "In the day that you eat, you shall surely die." They did die "spiritually" that day which is what God meant. Dying means a separation. They were separated from God (driven out of the Garden).

They were separated from God because He does not want rebellious people in His presence. Do you? Of course not.

Since they didn't die physically that day, they thought God was mistaken. They were deceived by the devil. Since they thought God was wrong, they began to not trust Him. Since they thought they were right, they trusted their own judgement. Since men are autonomous, they have trusted their own judgement ever since, even to this day. Don't you trust your own judgement about life?

Satan deceived Adam and Eve and he continues to deceive all men even today. Men don't realize there are evil angels working against them and righteous angels working for them. Angels influence people's thinking toward or away from God's thinking and actions.

God has decreed that someday there will be a judgement, where the people who love Him will go to be with Him in paradise forever, and where the people who choose not to love Him will go to some kind of Hell, forever.

This is an impossible situation for man. Separation from God means man can never love God! Because, you cannot love whom you do not know. And, you cannot come to know a person from whom you are separated.

But, this is also an impossible situation for God. For God to have a people who would love Him forever: (1) He had to create them capable of loving Him and capable of not loving Him (because love is a choice); (2) expose them to the concept of rebellion; (3) allow them to rebel; (4) separate them from Himself, and (5) then set up conditions such that they would love and appreciate Him, and allow Him to manage their life, instead of continuing their own rebellious leadership.

In addition, men would have to be "knowers" not just "believers" that God's way is best. Men would have to *experience* God as well as "believe" in Him.

Therefore, God on His own initiative, would have to: (1) overcome physical death, (2) bridge the separation between God and man, and (3) devise a new way for man to love God. *It is these conditions which established the need for God's salvation plan through Jesus Christ.*

God's Answers to an Impossible Situation

God wants a people who will love him forever. He will overcome *physical death* by resurrection. If you are dead, He will make you alive again with a new body. If you are alive at a resurrection event, He will give you a new body and take you to be with Him.

God will overcome the separation

between God and man through “faith” in Jesus of Nazareth who is called Christ. Godly men will tell other men about the love and the “goodness” of God. Some men will listen, believe, and act on their belief (have faith), and come to experience God in their life.

God will *persuade men to love Him* by first loving all men through the person and work of Jesus Christ.

God, the Father, said, I will send my Son, Jesus Christ to Earth to tell them I love them. I will heal their sick, heal their wounds, cast the devil out of their lives, save them from their sins (wrong and different thinking), and show them what righteousness (God’s thinking and actions) really is. I will prove to them that God loves them by sending this Jesus, who is part of the Godhead, to love them, even though they will torture Him to death. He will suffer excruciating pain as shown in the movie, “The Passion Of The Christ.”

God says, if they ask me, I will forgive them of their heinous crime because I want them to believe I really do love them. *This proof is the most I can do to demonstrate my love.*

All they have to do is: (1) be open to my existence and truth, (2) be open to Me showing my love to them. If they are open, they will see my love. If they are not open, they will not perceive my love, as my love. They will perceive my love as good luck or good fortune.

The meaning of life from God’s point of view emerges from the question “What persons will be open to loving My Son, Jesus of Nazareth, who is called Christ? God has asked that question. God has given every man and woman a lifetime to answer. What will your answer be?

The meaning of life from a person’s point of view is: will I, or will I not, allow myself to learn about God and His Christ, such that I can discover if He is really “good” and worthy to be loved.

I ask you; the reader . . . who is this Jesus of Nazareth who is called Christ? Is He God, is He a liar, or is He a lunatic? If you are not sure, go find out.

Our Response

If you don’t know how to find out just ask God, right now, right where you sit or stand, to guide you. You may want to say something like this: “God, if you are there, please reveal yourself to me.”

You may ask, “How can I love God?” “I don’t even know Him.” Think about it. If you saw a girl or guy to which you were attracted, how would you decide if you loved him or her? Of course, you would get to know the person. That would put you in the position of knowing whether the person is worth loving. Learning about God is done the same way. *Be open to the truth about God.* Get to know Him, read your Bible. Ask Him to help you.

Learning that every person should give God a chance to show His reality and “goodness” to them is life’s most important issue. It is so because your eternal destiny depends on your openness to the truth of who God really is. Jesus, on the cross, took all the punishment for all the sins of the world. So no one goes to Hell because they are a sinner. If they go Hell, its because they didn’t open themselves to see God’s “goodness” by taking the punishment which every man deserved for his own rebellion against God.

If you allow yourself to seek the truth about God diligently, He will allow you to find his “goodness” which will lead you to loving Him with all your heart, soul, mind and strength, and your neighbor as yourself. Thus, you get to Heaven to be with God and with His people

If you don’t allow yourself to be open and seek the truth about God diligently, you don’t get exposed to the love and goodness of God. Thus, you are only left with a point of view which does not include the love and goodness of God. Thus, whatever or whomever you do love, will not include God, His worth, and His people. This results in you not caring about God and not wanting to be with Him. He will allow you to not be with Him; which results in you going to some form of Hell.

The world is a beautiful place. God

intended for us to enjoy His creation, to appreciate and love the creator; which is the meaning of life. But instead, the Devil has deceived most men into believing there is no Creator.

The bottom line is this; *whatever subject you want to know about* requires some investigation. If you want to know about business, you study business. If you want to know about mathematics, you study algebra and geometry. If you want to know about God, you study the Bible and bible writings. You are on the right track by reading this book. Keep on going!

The overall objective that God is trying to accomplish is to obtain as many people as possible who will love and appreciate Him. But this is no easy trick. He has been at it for several thousand years.

God Manages People in the World

No matter who you are, no matter what you are experiencing, no matter what conditions you face, God still controls this world. That means there is hope for you. However, that's probably not what you see.

Is your world falling apart? Maybe you have seen a loved one disappear along with thousands of others. This is God¹ taking away His people to Heaven. He retains control of this and many other aspects of life. Do you see men trying to control their own destiny? God surely has given man some authority. Or, maybe you have seen the rise of a world leader from a united Europe who some call Antichrist but many call "messiah".

How much crime, lawlessness, "crazy" and "demonic" activity do you see --- a lot, I bet. God has given Satan,² the great destroyer, vast influence over the Earth for a short time. God allows these events, which appear out of His control and, in Satan's con-

trol, because He wants to show people how sick the world is contrasted to how "good" God is. God is good all the time! Even if that is not what you see.

I want everyone to see that God is not some faraway entity that no one can connect with in everyday life. Instead, knowing His overall plan provides a picture frame, through which, we can interpret what we see happening everyday. God is working in our lives daily. Do you see His hand in your life? Or, do you just see lucky and unlucky circumstances? God's hand appears the same as coincidence. Consider this situation.

You are careful to cross at the crosswalk. In the middle of the lane, you see the driver of a fast car looking to the side. You are stunned. He looks toward you just in time to swerve. Your heart races, and you sit down before you fall down. Who caused the driver to turn just in time? Was it God who prompted the driver to turn his head to the front, or did he do it himself by coincidence? To whom will you give credit?

Do you give credit to God for saving you or do you give credit to the driver? If God is more real to you than the circumstances of life; you will give the credit to God. If God is not real, you will give the credit to the driver because he is more real. In the same way, what part of the incredible events unfolding before the world are God's doing and what part is man's? This book will help you find answers to that and many other questions concerning God.

Christians talk about Heaven and Hell. Is there such a thing? Do you want to know the truth? If your answer is no, then there is no reason to keep reading. You may just as well go eat, drink and do your own thing. But I presume that you do want to know the truth of life; whatever it is.

Men have been asking questions about life for thousands of years. Maybe you have asked some of these yourself. Is there really any purpose for life? Is there more to life than just meeting physical needs and being comfortable? Why am I here? What happens

1. This God, King of Kings, Lord of Lords, of all the universe is personal, separate and apart from His creation. See Appendix D.

2. Satan is a created archangel; see Isaiah 14 and Ezekiel 28.

after I die? Is there a God? Where do I fit in the grand scheme of things? How could a loving God send men to Hell? Who is Jesus? Can God make me successful in spite of my failures? Take heart my friend, God thinks you and I are very special. God Almighty, the Lord of Lords, King of Kings, Creator and Master of the Universe has seen fit to reveal to you and me the ultimate genius of His work for mankind in a book; the Bible.

Many have heard *about* the Bible but few *know* the Bible. Maybe you haven't heard the whole truth. So I encourage you to hear me out. Man has no answers to the above questions apart from the Bible. He only has theories which generate more questions. God's creation is too complex for science to figure out but His plan, as revealed in the Bible, can be understood. When you see the world from God's point-of-view, answers to life's questions will become clear, and hope will emerge from chaos. Hope will come from seeing God's plan for the creation and where you fit in. So we will try to look at life from God's point-of-view.

*GOD DESIRES A PEOPLE THAT HE CAN LOVE AND THAT WILL LOVE HIM FOREVER*³

This desire is the central purpose for the creation.⁴ Everything God has done, is doing now, and will do in the future is aimed at accomplishing that purpose. That is the aim for every man in every age. I love God, he loves me.

Loving God makes sense to me because I know I want to be loved. It feels good to be appreciated for what I have done. I want my wife to be proud of me. I feel loved when she gives me a big hug and a kiss only because she feels like it. I enjoy seeing her face light up with pleasure when I do something for her that she can't do easily for herself. And, just as we enjoy appreciation, so does God. He deserves appreciation for who He is and what He has done.

3. Duet. 6:5; Isa.54:5,6; Matt.22:36-38; Luke 10:25-28; Gen. 3:8-10; II Sam. 7:23-,24; Psalm 4:3

God made man in His image. And a part of that image is the element of sovereignty over one's own life. That element is necessary to choose love. In order to love God meaningfully, we must have the choice to love or not love Him. That's because the nature of love from the heart is voluntary. Love results from a motivating decision. We show love when it's there. But even God cannot extract love when it is not present. So love must be given. Since love cannot be taken, God has gone to a lot of trouble to create conditions which will persuade us to love Him.

The rest of the chapter attempts to explain how God persuades us to love Him. That will help relate what you see *in* the world to God's plan *for* the world.

God loves us and wants us to love Him. So He created a "persuading" ground, the Earth, and it's associated universe. He created people and put them here. God added one more element, the spirit world.

The spirit world parallels the visible world. In it are angels and the triune God. Many angels obey God and many don't⁵. God's loyal angels influence people for good. Angels in rebellion against God, influence people for evil. These evil angels are called demons and Satan leads them.

Satan is a powerful angel in the spirit world which you and I cannot sense. However, he and his other angels affect this world through people. God allows Satan to exist to deceive men such that if they close their heart

4. This follows from knowing God's foremost command; see Matt. 22:38. Dr. Francis A. Schaeffer, the foremost christian thinker of our day, has this to say: 'When someone asks me the Christian answer to this question of purpose, the reason for man's existence, I would always take them to the first commandment of Christ. In passing, let us note that there is no reason to think that the first commandment: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength" (He footnotes Mark 12:30; Duet. 6:5) is merely a first command uttered by Jesus. We know it is not so because He quoted it from the last book of Moses, the book of Deuteronomy. But we can say something more. Surely it is the first commandment because it is the one that expresses the purpose of Man and, individually, my purpose.' (The God who is There, p. 146)

to His goodness, they open themselves to Satan's destructive influence.⁶ Men will either be clearly godly, or clearly ungodly. There is no middle ground. Some day, at the end of God's persuasive effort, He will take to Heaven those people who have chosen to love Him. And one thousand years later, those who do not want His love and grace, will be separated to outer darkness forever.⁷ People who not only ignore His love and grace but despise God to the degree of working against Him, will go to the lake of fire forever.⁸ The Bible calls these two places Hell.

This plan may sound harsh but most people agree even if they don't realize it. Do you want others around you causing trouble? It dampens your joy. Anger and strife make you feel bad. So, why should it seem strange that God wants to avoid trouble? God simply wants people to accept Him for who He really is; Creator, Boss, Manager, King of Kings and Lord of Lords. He owns the universe just like a man owns *his* property.

In order for man to love God forever, man would have to be convinced beyond any doubt that God's thoughts and ways were right, or no one would accept God's thoughts and ways. That insight can only come through seeing the contrast between God's good thought patterns and man's evil thought patterns. The thoughts of good and evil become obvious through actions. Love, joy, peace and patience are the fruit of God's Spirit; revenge, anger, wrath and cruelty are the fruit of Satan's spirit.

The fact that man has the capacity to make choices, coupled with limited knowledge and weak character; and influence by Satan, gives mankind thought patterns different than God's. It is the same way between any two people. My wife and I have different experiences, and we make different choices; sometimes in response to the same question! How we feel and what we know about a question affects our

5. Matthew 25:41, Revelation 12:7

6. II Thessalonians 2:10-11

7. Matthew 22:13

8. II Peter 3:7 (possibly thrown into the sun)

choice of responses. And the sum of those thoughts determine our responses about that subject.

Its the same with all mankind. From the time of Adam and Eve until today, those different thought patterns and resulting actions conflict with God's thoughts and actions. So God separated Himself from man to make the test fair and so He wouldn't have to endure man's rebellion in His presence. This is why you can't go "some place" to see God. But He is around.

Conflicts are everywhere today. All marriages start wonderfully but half end in divorce. The loving thoughts which each had for the other turn negative. When it gets bad, they separate to have peace. Then, it is no wonder God did not want to be in the presence of man with all the strife we see today. But there is a purpose for this separation.

God had to allow man to make rebellious decisions in order for man to see that God's thoughts are good and man's opposing thoughts are evil. And man, by faith, would have to buy into that idea by seeing the contrast between the good of God's thoughts and the evil of man's opposing thoughts. We see the evil of men's hearts everywhere today but do we see much of the good of God's thoughts and ways? Most people don't recognize His hand in their lives; they see lucky and unlucky circumstances. So, they give God no credit or appreciation.

Seeing the good of God only comes from observing Jesus of Nazareth. He is the one true God's *only* Son and Savior of the world. The only path to the Father. He, being God in the flesh, did not destroy man when men crucified Him. *That shows love in the face of cruelty*⁹. God loves mankind. He loved man by offering eternal life and forgiveness of sins; that is, forgiveness of man's evil thoughts and actions. All that a man need do is open himself to examine the contrast between Jesus of Nazareth and the evil of his own heart. Seeing the contrast between good and evil, as con-

9. Romans 5:8

victed by the Holy Spirit, will persuade men that Jesus can direct a life better than the self. Therefore, a man will give management of his own life to Jesus. Since God loved man so much via this process, man has a reason to love God in return. When we see that His leadership is best, we will begin to appreciate him. As we continue to appreciate Him, we will begin to return His love. This way God is assured of permanent love by us, and we get eternal life and fellowship with Him.

Christian or not, what you know and don't know about God and His overall plan has a direct effect on your life today. Knowing God's plan while recognizing ones own depravity, causes one to realize the need for the direction of Jesus Christ. Thus, that one will be spared Hell, gain future Heaven and gain a loving Father who will train them and meet their every need now.

After creation, you will remember that Satan influenced Adam and Eve. He deceived them into believing they could be like God if they would just listen to Satan and be independent from God.¹⁰ But the truth is, we become like God when we copy Jesus (God); not when we are independent from Him. To this day, Satan still promises people they can be master of their own fate (independent from Him). And we observe that everyone is sovereign over his own life.¹¹ But loving God requires giving Him back sovereignty over one's own life. *Which means that I will obey because I know it's in my best interest.*

For man to give God the responsibility of managing one's own life, one must see the need to give the control back to God. So God left man alone to wallow in the consequences of his own bad decisions. Why did God do that? So that when man came to see the lousy situation he found himself in, and

compared that to the much better situation with God directing his life, man would see a difference. *It is this difference which provides a contrast that God's ways are "good" and man's ways are "evil."* Thereby, man can see that he should allow God to direct and manage his life.

The plan was that God's son, Jesus Christ, would someday come and show love while receiving hate. And that by seeing His love while giving Him hate, we might come to see the contrast between good and evil.

God's plan called for Jesus to come to Earth at one time in history; at the 'right' time.¹² This means that everyone living before Jesus Christ would look forward to His coming, and everyone living after would look back in history to Him. Our view is to the past.

By men opening themselves to the possibility that God might be worth loving, allows the Holy Spirit to start to work in the person's life to convict the individual of sin, righteousness, and judgement.¹³ Opening oneself to God starts the process of a mutually beneficial relationship. You learn that He is worth loving; He takes care of you now, and takes you to Heaven later.

Once you open yourself to God, He will work with you to give you a perspective of His goodness which draws you to Him. Then, the situation becomes you learning to trust Him until His love is matured inside you.

The way to start is to look at who Jesus of Nazareth, who is called Christ, really is. He gave Himself to die on a cross so you would be able to discern that God loves you and that you should return that love. Appreciate Him for His sacrifice for you.

10. Genesis 3:5

11. Being sovereign over one's own life means that I am the who decides what I will think, say and do. In other words, there is no other higher authority which compels my thoughts and actions. If I obey any higher authority, it is ultimately because I want to and not because of the authority.

12. Romans 5:6

13. John 16:8

Chapter Two - "Types;" The Key to Revealing Additional Biblical Truth

"... And the base things of the world and the despised, God has chosen, the things that are not, that He might nullify the things that are, that no man should boast before God."
I Corinthians 1:28-29

Have you ever noticed something that you never saw before? Maybe you've seen a butterfly with a new color pattern and wondered if anyone had ever seen that variety before. That's what happened to me!

In the early eighties, I was at Church, in Sunday school, and the pastor was teaching from the book of Joshua about the nation of Israel fighting the Battle of Jericho. He went through the bizarre sequence where God told Israel to march around the city once a day for six days, then seven times on the seventh day, and the walls would fall down.

I thought to myself, where have I seen that sequence before? I think I'll look into that sometime. Well, I have been looking into that now, for 36 years. At the time, I was interested in prophecy, and I had read about a similar bizarre sequence in the book of Revelation. In Chapter Six, there are seven Seals and seven trumpets which come out of the seventh seal. That was similar to the sequence in Joshua. So I started to study about what that meant.

Through my years of study, I have observed that and other Biblical passages which indirectly offer prophetic insight which scholars have overlooked. I am not saying there is new extra biblical information. I am saying we have overlooked some important prophetic implications.

"Apocalypse Survival Guide: Charting New Bible Prophecy" contributes to prophetic knowledge by increasing our understanding of "Types". And, increasing our understanding of "types" yields a greater understanding of prophetic events which the "types" reveal.

As you probably know, "types" are Bibli-

cal words and stories which have figurative meaning as well as literal meaning. They are a number of people, places, or things having in-common traits or characteristics that distinguish them as a group or class. They provide additional understanding to succeeding and more important historical events.

For example, Jesus is spoken of as "the Lamb slain for the sins of the world." And just as the sacrifice of the Passover lamb shielded Israel from the death angel under Moses, before the Exodus; so it is, the sacrifice of Jesus Christ protects you and I from Hell. The "Passover Lamb" is the "type," and Jesus Christ, the One dieing on the cross (slain), is the great "antitype." That is, the other matching half of the "type" picture.

There are many "types" throughout the Bible. But few books use "types" as a source of prophetic information. Most depend on scripture which directly says this or that about prophecy. This study in "types" offers new insight resulting in a more detailed, less foggy prophetic view. This leads into the reasons why I study "type" pictures.

A "Type" which is short for "type picture," is a device God has used to accomplish two things: (1.) validate the authenticity of the Bible, and (2), provide additional detailed information to the one who can decipher the figurative language which is actually written in scripture.

An example of how complex "types" can be, is that Moses is a "type" of Jesus Christ. It has been documented that Moses in 68 similarities and 14 contrasts is a "type" of Jesus Christ. This is scripture compared to scripture

82 times.¹⁴ God is incredible!

Validating the authenticity of the Bible is accomplished because the pictures presented are so complex that it would be impossible for the mind of man to dream it up. Therefore, God must be the author, and the writers were just penman inspired by the Holy Spirit.

Providing additional information through “type” pictures is what God had in mind in the intricate weaving of a stories in the Old Testament with its corresponding story in the New Testament. And God giving you this information through my writing, is what this book is all about. Here is another commonly recognized example.

In the Jewish Temple, at the time of Christ, was a veil, a humongous curtain, maybe 20 feet tall, yards wide, and made from many layers of fabric. It might have been three inches (7.5 mm) thick. This curtain separated the Holy Place from the Most Holy Place (two rooms) in the Temple building. At the moment Jesus died, this curtain was torn all the way through the thickness of it, from top to bottom. This feat was done by God. It would be impossible for men to do.

Previously, the Most Holy Place was the dwelling place of God. It could not be entered by anyone, on pain of death, except once a year, and only by the High Priest after a certain ritual. The curtain represented a separation between God and man¹⁵. The High Priest went in, once a year, to make atonement to God for the sins of the people.

Physically, tearing the veil, opened the passage way between the Holy Place and the Most Holy Place. It allowed anyone to go in. It also showed that physically, God was not there anymore.

Figuratively, the veil is a “type” of Jesus Christ.¹⁶ It showed that through the suffering and death of Jesus (the tearing), the partition between God and man had been cleared away. And now, through Him, men have access to

God. This is how a picture is worth a thousand words.

Why Study Types?

The main reason, from the above example, we can see that **it is important to God!!** He is the one who tore the veil! He is the one who told the story. Shouldn't we pay attention to what He thinks is important?

The “types” are not just arbitrary. They are planned. This means **God wants to tell us something**. There are usually sequences involved. You notice patterns like “. . . go around Jericho once a day for six days and seven times on the seventh day. . . .”¹⁷ What's up with that bizarre marching order?

“When you cross the Jordan, follow no closer to the Ark than 2000 cubits.”¹⁸ These kinds of unusual patterns are clues that God has a message imbedded in there somewhere. After all, He did say, “I will guide you into all truth.”¹⁹

Ada R. Habershon, a writer of the 19th century, said this:

“It is very important to understand what is meant by a type. In I Cor. x. we are told concerning the various wilderness experiences of the children of Israel, that “all these things happened unto them for types”; and Paul explains that the record of these events is given to us in the Bible for a special purpose, vis., to teach us certain lessons. This passage seems to cover all that befell God's redeemed people in their journey from the place of bondage to the land of promise; and we may also conclude from it that other portions of their history are given to us with a similar purpose.”²⁰

God gave us these “type pictures” so we can

14. “The Study of the Types,” p. 165-168.

15. Exodus 26:33

16. Hebrews 10:19-22

17. Joshua 6:2-5

18. Joshua 3:4

19. John 16:13

20. “The Study of the Types,” p.11

discover new facts about old history.

The Old Testament and the New Testament complement each other. As Mrs. Habershon said, “Not only are the Old Testament types *unfolded* in the New Testament, but the New Testament is *enfolded* in them.” (emphasis mine)²¹ The specific and subtle connections, in the form of “types,” between the Old and New Testaments, illustrate the perfection of design involved. It is so complicated, only God could do it. Because only God could do it, means the additional connection helps **validate the truth of the whole Bible**. Now, lets take a look at the different kinds of “types” we can find in scripture.

Types of “Types”

“Types” can be found in sequences of events, characters, numbers, animals, things. I have already mentioned “once a day for six days,” “Moses and Jesus,” “2000 cubits,” “the Lamb,” and “the veil.”

You may remember the incident; when Jesus was baptized, a dove came flying and descended and landed on Him. Thus indicating the Holy Spirit coming upon Him.²² This was God validating Jesus in a way that could be seen because the Holy Spirit coming upon Him is a phenomenon which normally could not be seen.

In other places the Holy Spirit is spoken of as like the “wind.”

I didn’t mention places. It is intriguing to think about how places match in “type.” Isaac, Abraham’s son, is a “type” of Jesus Christ. God told Abraham to take Isaac up Mount Moriah to sacrifice him. It turns out that Mount Moriah is the exact same location as Golgotha where Jesus was sacrificed. So “types” are even found in places.

There is “typical” meaning in colors. Red is associated with the blood of Christ. White is associated with the righteousness of the saints. Purple is associated with kingly robes.²³

Red, we see in the story of Rehab, the prostitute, who helped the two spies. She was saved by hanging a scarlet rope out of her window, down from which, she let the spies escape.²⁴ Being saved by the scarlet rope looked forward to the time when we would be saved by the red trail of blood which would seep down the Savior’s body after His side was pierced while on the cross.

White, we see, is the color of the garments of the saints which are before the throne at the Bema Judgement.²⁵ The garment color is white to indicate their status of forgiven innocence; “. . . clothes washed in the blood of the Lamb.”²⁶

Validity of “Types” for Knowledge

I want to demonstrate that God uses “types” as a source of information. I will do that by showing that God gets very upset when the “type” picture, which God is trying to set up, is defeated by someone not doing what He is told. I will walk you through one of these cases.

The first part of the set-up is Moses does what God told Him to do in striking the rock at Horeb.²⁷ In this incident, Israel is wandering in the wilderness and times are hard. God has provided manna for them to eat, and now they run out of water. They complain, as usual, and Moses is beside himself with worry and fear. He, in turn, complains to God, and God soothes his troubled spirit. God tells Moses to strike the rock and water will come out for everyone.

When he strikes the rock, water comes out, and the people are satisfied. Life is good for a while.

Later, at Meribah, the situation is different. God wants to create a “type” picture which tells us, in our day, after Christ, that if

21. “The Study of Types,” p. 21.

22. John 1:32

23. Daniel 5:7

24. Joshua 2:18

25. Revelation 7:9, 13, 14

26. Rev. 7:14

27. Exodus 17:6

you will ask Jesus to provide for your needs, He will do so.²⁸ The next opportunity arises. Israel needs water again. They are afraid they will die of thirst.

As usual, the people complain to Moses; they are worried and tell him so. Again, He and Aaron fall on their knees and entreat the Lord on behalf of the people.

The Lord in all His grace, mercy and love gave instructions to Moses on what to do.

Interlude here.

Moses as leader, staff in hand, is to speak to the rock which will produce water to satisfy the needs of the people.

Likewise, in our day, if I have enough faith to ask Jesus to provide for my needs, He will do so. I can attest that I have been a christian for more than 36 years, and I have been asking God to provide for my wife and I the whole time. He has done so faithfully the entire time. *Now back to the story.*

Moses and Aaron assembled the people and said to them, "Listen now, you rebels; shall we bring forth water for you out of this rock?"

I get the idea that he was angry at the people. This anger probably didn't help his frame of mind at the time. So he hit the rock with his staff as he had done before at Horeb. This was a big faux pas. He was supposed to *speak* to the rock! The Lord in all His grace, did not embarrass Moses in front of the people, but allowed the water to flow anyway. They drank and were filled. But that is not the end of the story.

Later, God said to Moses and Aaron. "Because you have not believed Me, to treat Me as holy in the sight of the sons of Israel, therefore you shall not bring this assembly into the land which I have given them."²⁹

Wow! It seems God was really upset!! On the surface of it, God ending their lives before entering the promised land, was a little harsh. It was such a little mistake. Hitting the rock instead of speaking to it.

But it wasn't just that. God has considerations, good considerations, which our finite minds don't think of, which fail when we don't do exactly as He asks. This is a case, in point; God's plan for future generations was partially defeated because Moses *struck* instead of *spoke*. Because he struck instead of speaking, it messed up the "type" picture God was trying to create for future generations. This development put God into the position of going to plan "B."

Plan "B" was to make an issue with Moses and Aaron of this mistake so that people like you and I would read about the error and still "get the picture."

The point here is God's seemingly harsh behavior toward Moses and Aaron for a seemingly insignificant mistake was actually not-so insignificant. The whole future of teaching a very important concept was in jeopardy. That is why God treated the situation so seriously; because it *was* seriously important! It's just that Moses didn't see it as important at the time.

Now I ask you, isn't that just like us? Don't we many times, want to do our own thing instead of doing it God's way. We say to ourselves, it's no big deal, it's just a little thing. I'll do it my way this time.

This short Bible story is very significant to me because it demonstrates how important "types" are to God. And, if they are important to Him, they should be important to me. That's why this book should be important to you. You and I are getting important information from God through the "type" pictures. I will demonstrate that as the book progresses. You will see the importance of the "types" as you see the prophetic information revealed.

28. Matthew 6:32-34

29. Numbers 20:5-12

Part One - The Timing of the End

Chapter Three - A Timeplan?

“There is an appointed time for everything. And there is a time for every event under Heaven . . . ,”
Ecclesiastes 3:1

Does God have a specific timeplan for the completion of all history? The idea that He has no such plan is very popular. Of course, we all agree that just because an idea is popular doesn't make it true. After all, People of the 15th century thought the world was flat, and people now believe the world is billions of years old. Christians do not believe the world is flat but many try to reconcile evolution and the Bible.

Theistic evolution has influenced christian thinking, and it is taught in some seminaries. The current creation "science" espouses a 10,000 year old earth. That is still too many years if you believe in the inerrancy of the Bible. So this idea that God might have a timeplan will be thought of by many as speculative. But please don't stop reading now!

I am not the first person to suggest existence of a timeplan. Some before me, including first century authors, believed in one. And we will look at what some of them had to say.

First, I will present scripture verses that imply God planned the creation overall. Next, we will look at God's perfection. Everything God does must have design and significance because He is perfect. These attributes imply *perfect* planning. Then I will give reasons why time is a part of the creation. And if I can show the creation has any order with respect to time, then we can reasonably conclude, God has a perfect timeplan. Simply because; if God has any kind of plan, it must be perfect. That is; perfect from His point of view, not necessarily our point of view.

What is the nature of such a timeplan? For an answer, we need to first look at the con-

text of the Millennium. The Millennium appears by itself, seemingly fitting nowhere in scripture, like an arm with no body attached. Next, we will want to see how the sabbatic days and years, given in Leviticus, have significance in "type" that provides a context for the Millennium. Finally, we will look at several reasons for this view including some historical and scholarly opinions.

Scriptures on Planning

Lorraine Boettner echoes the sentiment of many conservative scholars:

"It is unthinkable that a God of infinite wisdom and power would create a world without a definite plan for that world."³⁰

He goes on to list some scripture references that cause him to believe this. I would like to offer these as well.

Isaiah 40:12 - "Who has measured the waters ... marked off the heavens... calculated the dust of the earth ... weighed the mountains and hills in a scale?"

How can anyone measure, mark-off, calculate or weigh on a scale and there not be planning? Doesn't this sound like planning?

II Timothy 1:9 - (God) "... who saved us, and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ

30. "The Reformed Doctrine of Predestination", p.20.

Jesus before times eternal."

This implies that Christ had a purpose for people before the creation existed. Wouldn't this suggest the need for the planning of the creation?

Matthew 25:34 - "Then shall the King say unto them on His right, 'Come, you who are blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world'.

Since God has seen the end before the beginning commenced, how can there *not* be planning?

Psalms 139:16 - "Thine eyes have seen my unformed substance; And in Thy book they were all written, The days that were ordained for me, when as yet there was not one of them."

Surely, all of ones days being known before they began suggests God could plan them.

Daniel 2:28 - "However, there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries, and He has made known to King Nebuchadnezzar what will take place in the latter days."

Has God planned some things?

Isaiah 14:24 - "The Lord of hosts has sworn saying, 'Surely, just as I have intended so it has happened, and just as I have planned so it will stand, ...'"

Here is prima facia evidence of planning; God's testimony to that effect.

Isaiah 46:11 - "Truly I have spoken; truly I will bring it to pass, I have planned it, surely I will do it."

Since God has directly said He has planned in general is it possible God also has a time plan? We see in these verses implications of purpose and design. This adds up to planning.

Design and Significance In Creation

In this section, I hope to show adequately that time is a part of the creation; and, that time related historical events have some order. If I

accomplish those two things, it will mean God must have a perfect timeplan. Why? Because everything that God does is perfect.

E. W. Bullinger, a nationally known scholar quoting Psalm 18:30 and 29:7 suggested that God's way is perfect. And if God's way is perfect, then everything He does must have design and significance.³¹ That means you can add nothing to His plan, nor can you take anything from it without making it less than perfect or complete.

We, who know our creator, subscribe to the doctrine that it is He who defines what is good, acceptable and perfect.³² God's way is perfect; not only in the sense of correct but in the sense of complete.

For example, a car is designed to fulfill the purpose of transportation. That means each part of the car has a function; it has a significant job to perform. That means if a part does not have a function that contributes to the overall purpose of transportation, then that part is not needed for transportation and therefore we would have an imperfect design. But, God *is* perfect, so we can conclude that in His car all parts are significant.

That is why the Bible *is* the Word of God rather than just *contains* the Word of God.³³ Isn't this the basis for our belief in Biblical inerrancy; every detail accounted for, every detail fits?³⁴ It is faith in the Doctrine of Inerrancy which enables us to know that God has a complete plan which can be known if He chooses to reveal it.

We can readily see design in the works of God by just looking at the creation. The beauty of a rose just after opening, or the intricacy and uniqueness of a snowflake. This is the fruit of creative design at its best. Compare that to a stinking, filthy garbage bucket which is the result of degeneration and chaos. What more does a wise man need to believe

31. "Number In Scripture", p.1-2

32. Psalms 18:30; 29:7; Romans 12:2

33. If the Bible only contains the Word of God, then how does any man know what part is truth and what part isn't?

34. Matthew 5:18

that God is the Grand Designer?

The design of God is readily seen in the creation of the universe. We observe space through a telescope; we observe energy by sticking our finger in a light socket or lighting a birthday candle. We can experience mass by carrying a pound of lead in one hand and a pound of feathers in the other.³⁵

We get the sensation of velocity while riding in the car. And we get our sensation of passing time by recording historical events. I would like to suggest that time is as much a part of the creation as any of the other properties of mechanics that I named.

Time is a part of the creation because it has a beginning, a history and an end just as the rest of the creation. Science has proved that time is a physical function like mass and velocity. In fact, if you were to take a journey and travel near the speed of light, time would change for you compared to people back on earth.³⁶ If your journey was for one month, when you came back you might find that several years had passed on earth. Since time can change as a function of other physical properties, means it must also be a part of the creation.

Time order?

Now let's look and see if there is any order with respect to time. We observe time in the present by looking at our watch whose mechanism is patterned after the movement of the stars. The stars move from one place to another in a repeating sequence which we define as a cycles called months and years. Keeping track of the cycles help us get per-

spective on our world.

God gave us this idea in Genesis 1:14 where He said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night, and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days and years." Thus one of the purposes is to keep track of time.

We know that's true because He said in Isaiah 46:9,10, "I am God and there is none like me; declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times things that are not yet done." After all, God could have created the planets with no movement. But He didn't, so the movement must be significant because God's "car" has no unnecessary parts.

We find in the Old Testament that God ordained certain increments of time as holy days and years that should be observed. He ordained that Israel should work six days and rest on the seventh.³⁷ He also decreed they should work the land six years, and let it rest (lie fallow) the seventh year.³⁸

God practiced what He preached in the process of creation. Genesis tells us He did His creative work in six days, and He rested from all His work on the seventh day. Don't we have a pattern here where a rest period is decreed as the last of seven periods of time?

That means there is order to certain time sequences. Namely, the ones where we find a series of seven periods of time; work six and rest one. There may be order to other segments of time but this is the relevant one.

Intuitively, we can see that God having a timeplan is a reasonable observation about the creation. In addition, we have discussed several lines of reasoning; one suggests God is perfect. Another line of reasoning suggests time is a part of the creation; and, I have offered scientific evidence to substantiate that claim. On top of that, we looked at several time periods; each a series of seven; each God's invention. These sets of time periods suggest time order. Lastly, this all means that since God is perfect, He must have a *perfect*

35. Mass is equal to the weight per unit of volume.

36. This phenomenon is expressed by one of Albert Einstein's theories of relativity. Robert Eisberg, in his textbook, *Fundamentals of Modern Physics*, says, "We see that a time interval between two events occurring at the same place in some frame of reference is *longer* by a factor one divided by the square root of one minus the quantity velocity squared divided by the speed of light squared when viewed from a frame moving relative to the first frame and, consequently, in which the two frames are spatially separated."

37. Leviticus 23:2

38. Leviticus 25:3,4

time order; or in other words, a perfect time plan. Conversely, what is the implication about God if we show some order of events but not perfect order?

Scriptures for a Timeplan

As we have previously shown, it appears God may have planned the overall scope of the creation and all important events in it at very least. Calvinists would have us believe *all* things are planned down to the last detail. Do we have any scriptures that directly relate to the idea that God planned the important events of Bible history? Sure there is!

Daniel 9:24 - "Seventy weeks have been decreed for your people and your holy city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sin, to make atonement for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most holy place."

This seems like an edict by God of His plans. A specific period of time to accomplish certain goals.

Daniel 9:25 - "So you are to know and discern that from the issuing of a decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince there will be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; it will be built again, with plaza and moat, even in times of distress."

We know that "Messiah the Prince" is Jesus at His first coming.³⁹ And there was a specific time when he did arrive on the world scene. This was March 30, 33 A.D.⁴⁰ God held the Jewish leaders responsible for knowing the time of His arrival. It turns out that Jesus triumphantly came into Jerusalem, riding on a donkey, to the cheers and praise of the people exactly 69 weeks⁴¹ of years later. And because the rabbis did not recognize the fulfill-

39. This was shown clearly by Sir Robert Anderson in his book, "The Coming Prince".

40. Chronological Aspects of the Life of Christ, p. 139.

41. See the Daniel 9:25 quote just above the footnote.

ment of this prophecy, God decreed the destruction of Jerusalem.

Luke 19:43-44 - "For the days shall come upon you ... surround you ... level you to the ground ... and not leave one stone upon another, because you did not recognize the time of your visitation."

So what about the time or *your* visitation, do you see God's hand yet?

If the First Coming was predicted precisely, isn't it consistent to believe the Second Coming could be predicted, at least, generally?

Acts 17:31 - "... He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead."

Here is another verse alluding to a time plan.

Hebrews 9:26 - "... at the consummation of the ages He has been manifested"

Galations 4:4 - "... when the fullness of time came, God sent forth His son, ..."

These verses suggest to me that He came when the *time* was right from God's viewpoint. Didn't God define the "fullness of time", at least partially, in Daniel 9:25 when He predicted the day of Messiah's arrival? This is prima facia evidence of a timeplan.

Matthew 24:36 (Referring to the Second Coming of Jesus) - "But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone."

This verse suggests to me that we can know the year or maybe the season of the year but not the exact day or hour. If we can not know the year or season then the passage, as written, is to some degree misleading. In any case, the words firmly imply that the Father does have a time planned for the Second Coming; even if we can't know it.

Revelation 9:15 - "And the four

angels, who had been prepared for the hour and day and month and year, were released, so they might kill a third of mankind."

How can God prepare angels for a certain job at a certain time and not have a time plan? While speaking of the Second Coming, Jesus in Acts 1:7 said,

"It is not for you to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority."

Two observations jump out at you from this verse. God has said flat out that the date of the second coming is already planned and decided.⁴² And at first glance, it would appear that Jesus is suggesting that we cannot know the approximate time of the Second Coming. But before you form an opinion, please hear me out.

I believe Jesus is choosing to tell us about His time plan through other scripture and not tell the early disciples; just like He told John, the Apostle, but not us, about the seven thunders of Revelation 10:3,4. And, it makes good sense. If the disciples knew the physical kingdom would not come for some 2,000 years, they would get easily discouraged because of their perceived small impact on millions of people yet future.⁴³ They would be overwhelmed with the enormity of it all.

The parallel passage; I Thessalonians 5:1, suggests they didn't need to know when.

"Now as to the times and epochs, brethren, you have no need of anything to be written to you."

God knew they would all be dead; so there was no need for them to know. Likewise now, after nearly 2,000 years of low key Biblical activity, some might miss the kingdom if they didn't think it was near.⁴⁴ For their sakes, we need to be able to show the kingdom is near. This idea is confirmed in Daniel, Chapter 12.

42. See also Acts 17:31

43. They knew it would be millions because of God's promise to Abraham of seed "... as the sand which is on the seashore; ..." (Genesis 22:17)

44. I Thessalonians 5:1-6

There God tells Daniel to seal up his book *until the time of the end* when it can be understood in the context of the time period in which fulfillment takes place.

Thus, it makes sense for God to give us information in 2012 not revealed to them in the first century. We can also find support for this interpretation because other scripture indicates we *can* know the approximate time of the Second Coming.⁴⁵

The Approximate Time

Evidence for knowing the approximate time can be seen in several sets of direct scripture. Let's look at Matthew, chapter 24.

You will remember the scene where the disciples ask Jesus (vs:3), "Tell us, when will these things be, and what will be the sign of your coming, and of the end of the age?" To understand this passage correctly you must recognize that three questions were asked; *When* will these things be, *What* are the signs of your coming, and *What* are the signs of the end of the age. He answers the *when* question last as shown in verses 32- 41.

"Now learn the parable from the fig tree: when its branch has already become tender, and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near; even so you too, when you see all these things, recognize that He is near, right at the door. Truly I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place. Heaven and earth shall pass away, but My words shall not pass away. But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone.

(Is there any question that God has appointed a specific day, even if we can't know it?)

"For the coming of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah. For as in those days which were before the

45. Matthew 24:32-39; Luke 21:27-30; I Thessalonians 5:1-11; Daniel 12:9,10; Matthew 25:1-13

flood they were eating and drinking, they were marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and they did not understand until the flood came and took them all away, so shall the coming of the Son of Man be. Then there shall be two men in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken, and one will be left. Therefore be on the alert, for you do not know which day your Lord is coming.”

If God means by using the word “day” that we cannot know even the approximate time, then why this unique wording? Standard wording for this concept would be to say something like “You do not know when your Lord is coming;” or “You do not know the time when your Lord is coming.” But since it actually says day, I think we should take Jesus at His word. Verse 50 again refers to not knowing which *day* and *hour* He might come. Here is another example.

The parable of the ten virgins in Matthew 25:1-13, is a story relating the marriage of Jesus (the Bridegroom) to the Church. The ten virgins (Israel and others) are not occupied with regular duties at their own individual homes but are waiting together in a place where the bridegroom will appear. Since they went to sleep, they must not have been worried about him being late. Thus they must have known the approximate time but not the exact time of his arrival.

Now isn't that the normal procedure at modern weddings? The guests come early and wait for the ceremony to start. There is a scheduled time to start but many times for one reason or another the ceremony isn't on time. In the relaxed culture of the first century, a Hebrew wedding could start late enough that guests might take a nap.

Despite how much credibility my reasoning is given, the moral of this story is presented in verse 13. "Be on the alert then, for you do not know the day nor the hour." This is a warning to Christians today that Jesus is

coming, and we may know approximately but not exactly when.

Another direct scripture suggesting we can know the approximate time is Hebrews 10:25. It says, "...encouraging one another; and all the more, as you see the day drawing near." What day? The context is a reference back to chapter 9, verse 28, to those awaiting His coming. Is this not an exhortation to action as we observe the Rapture approaching? Doesn't it also imply we *know* approximately when the day will come?

The Birth Process

Here is another “type.” The following verses deal with the concept of how the coming kingdom of Jesus Christ is like the birth process. There are two applicable observations we can make about the birth process: (1) it takes a specific amount of time; a doctor can discern approximately but not exactly when a baby is due, and (2) labor pains start near the end. Once the pains begin, the intensity increases and the spasms come more frequently until they are continuous at birth. We can see this "type" in modern history. We observe low-key Biblical activity for 2,012 years but we expect apocalypse (birth pains) to start soon.

Matthew 24:8 - "But all these things are the beginnings of birth pangs."

Here Jesus is talking about events leading up to the 2nd Coming.

I Thessalonians 5:3 - "While they were saying, 'Peace and safety!' then destruction will come upon them suddenly like birth pangs upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape."

We see here the same "type" application. But this reference is to the rapture of the Church.

Romans 8:22 - "for we know that the whole creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now."

Does this verse imply the whole creation is subject to the "type" of the birth process? Can

we infer thereby that a timeplan is in place, and that we can know approximately when a "birth" will occur? Isn't that the implication of all the verses we have examined?

We have looked at some direct references to a time plan but much of our knowledge on this subject must be confirmed through studying "types". That is probably the best way God could tell us something He didn't want to reveal in former times.⁴⁶ And, I believe one of the information items to be the approximate time of the rapture, Marriage of the Lamb, and Second Coming. So my perception seems consistent with the idea of an end time expansion of knowledge.⁴⁷

We have also shown by direct scripture the idea of an "appointed time for everything". Don't these reasons mean God has some kind of timeplan, and because He is perfect, His timeplan is perfect? If it is true that God has a timeplan, what might such a plan look like?

46. Refer to Daniel 12:9,10

47. Daniel 12:4

Chapter Four

The Sabbath Day / Millennium Theory

“Do not quench the Spirit; do not despise prophetic utterances,
But examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which is good.”

I Thessalonians 5:19-20

The observations and implications seen so far clearly show God is involved in time related activities. And because He is perfect, His plans and activities must be complete and without flaw. Assuming God has a time-plan which we can know, what direct scripture speaks to the *nature* of this plan? ANSWER: Psalms 72; Isaiah 2, 11, 65; Jeremiah 23:7; Zechariah 14; II Peter 3:8 and Revelation 20.

These verses deal with the doctrine of the millennium. This doctrine suggests the Lord Jesus Christ, at His 2nd Coming, will usher in a 1,000 year period of rest and peace. Christians, as servants and brethren, will help Him to govern the nations and peoples. God's loving, and just, governing of this 1000 year period will stand in contrast to the previous 6000 years of man's inhumanity to man and God. The contrast will *prove* to everyone at judgement that God is absolutely fair and just. As you will remember, this proof fulfills one of the fundamental objectives of the creation.

The scope of this book does not include making a case for the doctrine of the Millennium. Other writers have adequately covered that subject.⁴⁸ Thus, I will assume the existence of a 1000 year literal period yet future.

Can there be any doubt that we live in a corrupt world? The prisons, pollution, wars and insane asylums suggest we do. The Doctrine of the Millennium says that it will not always be so. Therefore, how does the world become different? Let's look at a couple of verses that say the world, the one we live in now, must be redeemed to again produce the

fullness that God originally intended.

Romans 8:19-21 - “For the anxious longing of the creation waits eagerly for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself also will be set free from its slavery to corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God.”

The world is corrupt now but it will be liberated to the glory of the children of God. Do these verses imply there is coming a time when the creation will be different? Won't it be different such that “the leopard will lay down with the lamb” and the “lion will eat straw like the ox”?⁴⁹ It would seem so.

If we accept the concept of a coming 1000 year period of peace, my question is: what is the context of the Millennium time period in God's overall time plan for man? Where does it fit? What broader plan of creation contains the Millennium phase of time? In answering these questions, we will find the nature of God's overall time plan.

The Theory Defined

I would like to suggest that just as there are seven days of creation; six days where God worked and the seventh day He rested; so is there seven thousand years in all of Man's time on earth. He will have six thousand years to show his love for God and the seventh one

48. "The Basis of the Premillennial Faith".

49. Doctrine of the Millennium. Isaiah 11:6-9

thousand year period (Millennium), Jesus will govern as a time of peace. This is not a new idea with me. Some of the early church fathers believed in such a plan. Tim LaHaye comments:

“Some in the early church taught that since there were six literal days of creation after which God rested, so there would be six one- thousand year periods of time given to man upon the earth, after which he would rest for a thousand years of peace.

“This view was revived somewhat during the nineteenth century but has not been given wide acceptance, probably because modern science teaches that there are millions of years of human history. It would not be surprising if this ancient theory were revived as we approach the year 2,000, which will then total six thousand years of Biblical history.

“This theory may become appealing in that it would parallel the many signs of the end of the age rapidly approaching -- signs that are so obvious to the careful student of prophecy.”⁵⁰

It would seem that Mr. LaHaye views this theory as a valid hypothesis. There are others. Carl Amerding and W.W. Gasque, in their book on prophecy, suggest the following:

“Those who regard millennialism as an alien import into the Christian faith have been much embarrassed by its entry and widespread acceptance in the church during its earliest history. "S.D.F. Salmond, for example, who considers millennial conceptions totally foreign to Christ's teachings, has to admit that 'the dogma of a Millennium ... took possession of Christian thought at so early a date and with so strong a grasp that it has sometimes

been reckoned an integral part of the primitive Christian faith.'³”

“Papias (ca. A.D. 60-130), who had personal contact with those taught by Christ and His apostles and who may well have been a disciple of John, asserted that 'the Lord used to teach concerning those (end) times' that 'there will be a period of a thousand years after the resurrection of the dead, and the kingdom of Christ will be set up in material form on this very earth.'⁴

“Though Papias fleshes out his reference to the millennium with details from the apocryphal writing called the Apocalypse of Baruch, his account is a weighty testimony to early christian beliefs concerning eschatology.”

“The author of the so-called Epistle of Barnabus (written no later than A.D.138) was a millennialist. The six days of creation are interpreted by him as representing a period of six thousand years, because a thousand years are as one day in the sight of God (Ps.90:4).

“In six 'days' (six thousand years), everything will be completed, after which the present evil age will be destroyed and the Son of God will come again and judge the ungodly and change the sun, moon, and stars, and will truly rest on the seventh day.

"This will lead to the dawning of the sabbath of the millennial kingdom.”⁵¹

Apparently, the millennial idea is consistent with some knowledgeable people's opinion. I have brought it up again because it is consistent with my perception of the scriptures.

Every scholar I know of, who accepts the idea of a literal 1,000 year reign of Jesus Christ, also agrees that it is characterized by peace and rest. Now let's take a look at what other periods of rest are scriptural, and how they might relate to the millennial idea. Con-

50. "Revelation", p.287

51. "Dreams, Visions and Oracles", p.177

sider the sabbath day.

God created the heavens and the earth in six days, and on the seventh day He rested from all His work.

Genesis 1:31-2:3 - "Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made."

Exodus 31:13,17 - "But as for you, speak to the sons of Israel, saying, 'You shall surely observe My sabbaths; for this is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I am the Lord who sanctifies you. 'It is a sign between Me and the sons of Israel forever, for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, but on the seventh day He ceased from labor, and was refreshed.'"

Leviticus 23:3 - "For six days work may be done; but on the seventh day there is a sabbath of complete rest, a holy convocation."

Leviticus 25:3 - "Six years you shall sow your field, and six years you shall prune your vineyard and gather in its crop, but during the seventh year the land shall have a sabbath rest, a sabbath to the Lord; you shall not sow your field nor prune your vineyard."

We can make two observations from these scriptures: When considering a time period of seven equal parts; one out of seven, the last of the series, is a rest period. And God has said that these rest periods are important to Him. The following verse suggests how important.

Colossians 2:16-17 - "Therefore let no one act as your judge in regard to food or drink or in respect to a festival or a new moon or a sabbath day-- things which are a mere shadow of what is to come; but the substance belongs to Christ."

I see in these verses the idea that the law concerning food, drink, festivals and sabbath days

are "types" of events related to Christ. This concept is confirmed in Hebrews 9:8-10. In what way could the sabbath day be related to future events? Could the sabbath day of rest relate to the millennium rest?

Now let's look at a scripture that connects the idea of a day of time to 1,000 years of time.

II Peter 3:1-9 (outline)

Vs 1 Peter's response: a reminder (ref. II Peter 1:15-16).

Vs 2 Remember the prophecy and commands of Jesus.

Vs 3-4 Mockers will say: Where is the promise of His coming? Nothing has changed since creation.

Vs 5-7 Mockers don't realize God has a plan; first creation, then judgments by water and fire.

Vs 8 Discern the Lord's hint about time: "one day is as a thousand years and a thousand years as a day".

Vs 9 God is not slow but patient. He wishes everyone to come to Him.

I view the creation as part of the context of II Peter 3:1-9. If there is a connection, in God's view, between a day and a thousand years, then is it possible that the 1,000 year Millennium rest period relates to the rest day of creation? Could God make the connection between a day and a thousand years; *and*, suggest that the last period of time in a series of seven is a rest period; *and*, say that a 1,000 year period of rest is coming after some 6,000 years of Biblical history; *and*, Him have a perfect plan where everything has design and significance, and then God *not* make the context of the Millennium a prior six-thousand year period?

If there were no such connection, then it could be shown that God is imperfect. Why? Because it should fit. Every other "rest" period in the Bible has a context of six other periods. Keeping the Sabbath is the fourth of the Ten Commandments; that makes it important to God.⁵² It would be inconsistent for

52. Exodus 20:8-11

God to specify a rest period without it being a sabbath. Remember, in God's car, there are no extra or missing parts. There is no other probable context for the Millennium. But since we know God *is* perfect and His plans *are* perfect; therefore, 1,000 years of rest *must be* preceded by 6,000 years of man's history. *And that is the way history has happened.* Reality bears witness to the truth.

Creation Days Parallel Millennial Years

In this next section, I would like to point out another new observation which confirms that "a day is as a thousand years and a thousand years as a day".

The highlights of each creation day of Genesis, Chapter One relates, figuratively, to the highlights of each one-thousand year period of Bible history.

Each creation day is described in literal language. When you read the words, they tell

of God's creative activities. However, if you read the same words and observe that they also have *figurative* meaning, the same words provide additional prophetic information.

The creation day descriptions, taken figuratively, relate to the highlights of the corresponding 1000 year period of Biblical history. The most obvious match is the Millennium rest period and the creation rest day, which we just talked about. (See Creation Day Seven.)

Why is this important? It would seem to suggest the creation days are a type of the 7,000 years of man. This kind of intricate, complex weaving of history sets the Bible apart as the perfect Word of God. A match would offer meaning to II Peter 3:8, "One day is as a thousand years and a thousand years is as a day." The correlation would demonstrate design and significance in God's plans for man. With the other evidence presented, it certainly would imply God has a specific time-plan. I offer this series of observations for your consideration. Please follow along on

CREATION DISCRPTION		PERIOD HIGHLIGHTS	
God creates the heavens and Earth.	Genesis 1:1	Creation	
Earth is formless and void. (no boundries which offer definition to the Earth)	Genesis 1:2	Adam and Eve have no "good" / "evil" frame of reference; they know "good" but not "evil."	Genesis 2:17, 3:5
Darkness prevails over the face of the deep. (darkness = deceptiveness of sin.)	Genesis 1:2 Proverbs 4:19	Fall of Man - Satan causes man to separate himself from God; the deception prevails (succeeds).	Genesis 3:8
God creates light. (light = knowledge of truth)	Genesis 1:3 II Corinthians 4:4	At Enosh, year 235, meen seek God (His person and truth.)	Genesis 4:26
Separates light from darkness.	Genesis 1:4	Enoch (person of light) carried to Heaven. Evil generation left behind.	Genesis 5:24

© Norman E. Jones 1987
Revised March 2012

Creation Day One

Creation to the rapture of Enoch (Year 1 to 1000)

Creation Day Three

© Norman E. Jones 1987
Revised March 2012

Death of Peleg to Death of Saul (Year 2001 to 3000)

CREATION DISCRPTION	PERIOD HIGHLIGHTS
<p>God separates the waters from the Earth. Genesis 1:9</p>	<p>Circumcision of Abram; God's chosen people. Genesis 17:11 Romans 4:11</p>
<p>God names dry land, Earth.: Earth = figurative name for Israel. Genesis 1:10</p>	<p>Nation of Israel is born from Abraham. Genesis 12:1-3 Genesis 17:1-11</p>
<p>The Earth is a place to walk.</p>	<p>The Mosaic Law - a godly standard, by which, all the world could "walk."</p>
<p>God names the gathering of waters seas. Genesis 1:10</p>	<p>Gentile nations develop their own names and heritage.</p>
<p>God makes vegetation, plants and trees.. Genesis 1:11-12</p>	<p>Nations naturally develop throughout the world.</p>

clouds because later it rained for forty days and nights. And, of course, we need clouds to get rain. As I explain in the Creation Day Two table, God making an expanse relates to "thinning out". Vapor, of which clouds are made, is a "thin" form of water.

"Raquia" also implies great expanses of space. Where there were great masses of clouds before the flood, there were great expanses of blue sky after the flood. And, this matches what we see today.

God "separates the waters from the waters". "Waters" or "seas" is a figurative name for the nations of the world other than Israel. The Hebrew word "yam" used in Genesis 1:10 denotes the same word as used in Daniel 7:2,3 which figuratively means nations. See also Isaiah 57:20; Amos 8:12; Ezekiel 26:16 (per Unger's Bible Dictionary). Conveniently enough, right here in Bible history lies the story of the tower of Babel. You will remember that here God confused the languages and scattered the people. So I see separating waters from waters similar to scattering nations from nations. The difference is figurative language.

On **Creation Day Three**, God separated
Page 42

the waters from the earth. Remember, "waters" relate to nations other than Israel, and "earth" relates to Israel. With that in mind, we would expect Israel to be separated from other nations ... if the figurative story holds true. The next historical act is God circumcising Abram who is the father of the Jewish nation. The connections are becoming predictable.

God names the dry land earth. Not long after Abraham comes Isaac. Isaac fathers Jacob whom God renames Israel. The nation of Israel is born. Thus naming dry land earth is like naming Jacob Israel.

The comparisons could get boring if it weren't so perfect. This is God at His best! No man could make the story of creation match historical highlights. What genius!

God names the gathering of the waters seas. This is the period where nations are born all over the world; including the ones which harass Israel to this day. Naming waters (gentile nations) seas relates to gentile nations forming with their own name and heritage.

Next, God makes the vegetation, plants and trees after their own kind. So the world develops. This is straight-forward figurative translation. But Creation Day Four translates

Creation Day four

© Norman E. Jones 1987
Revised March 2012

Death of Saul to Resurrection of Jesus (Year 3001 to 4000)

CREATION DISCRPTION	PERIOD HIGHLIGHTS
<p>God creates the greater light Genesis 1:16</p> <p>Sun = Jesus. See John 1:4-9, 3:19-21; Malachi 4:2</p> <p>Greater light governs the day. (darkness goes away whenever confronted by light)</p> <p>God creates a lesser light, the moon.</p> <p>The lesser light governs the night.</p> <p>God creates the stars. (reflected lights)</p> <p>To separate light and darkness. Genesis 1:18</p>	<p>“ . . . a child will be born to us, a son will be given . . .” Isaiah 9:6</p> <p>People who walk in darkness will see a great light. Isaiah 9:2</p> <p>Jesus brings truth to His people which dispells disception.</p> <p>David is a great king but a lesser king than Jesus. Isaiah 9:7</p> <p>King David governs the Jews. He is their greatest king.)</p> <p>Prophets are the “reflection” of God.</p> <p>Jesus defines people into those saved and those lost in darkness.</p>

harder.

The figurative translation requires a broader interpretation. This is the period from the death of King Saul to the resurrection of Jesus. The entire *creation day description* relates to Jesus in one way or another. And the *historical period* relates to Jesus in one way or another. The historical period starts with King David, a type of Christ, and ends with the first coming of Jesus, who is called Christ (Messiah).

On **Creation Day Four**, God creates a greater light; the Sun. Figuratively speaking, Jesus is the sun. John 1:6-9 and 3:19-21 suggest that Jesus is the light of the world. The light, spoken of here, is the truth which causes men to know God. In the figurative, Jesus is the source of "light" (truth) just like the Sun is the source of light which takes away darkness. Therefore, in the sense of sources of light, the Sun relates to Jesus.

During this historical period, many messianic prophecies were given to Israel. Most speak of Messiah as king, and a few speak of Messiah as a suffering servant. Ever since, Israel looks for a King like David. Our savior was a suffering servant but has risen as ruler. We see King David as a "type" of Christ's kingship. When God says He created a greater light it refers to King David as a representation of Christ's ruling role. During this 1000 years, the concept of messiah developed. It started with David and ended with Jesus, who is called Christ.

The greater light shall govern the day. Jesus brings the truth of God (light) to His people. This truth will govern His people. That means His people will live by God's Word. Israel did then, most of the time, and we (God's people) do so now.

God creates a lesser light. In the beginning of this historical period, King David is on

Creation Day Five

© Norman E. Jones 1987
Revised March 2012

Resurrection of Jesus to Otto I of the Holy Roman Empire (Year 4001 to 5000)

CREATION DISCRPTION	PERIOD HIGHLIGHTS
<p>God creates birds to fly. Genesis 1:20</p> <p>(Flying = Holy Spirits leading.)</p> <p>God creates sea monsters. (sea = nations)</p> <p>God fills the seas with creatures..</p>	<p>Apostolic churches established in the first century A.D.</p> <p>Holy Spirit came upon Jesus like a dove. John 1:32-34</p> <p>The great satanic religions develop: Mahammed starts Islam circa 600A.D. Catholic Church begins circa 312A.D.</p> <p>Civilization has its greatest expansion with every kind of religion and philosophy.</p>

the scene. This was Israel's heyday. Israel ruled much of the world during David and Solomon's time. David is a light to Israel but certainly a lesser king, from God's view, than Jesus. And we can say that David as a "lesser light" was a ruler of Israel. Thus a lesser light governing the night could be David governing the Jewish nation (ones of darkened understanding) who never accepted Jesus as messiah.

God creates the stars. The stars, like the moon (lesser light), are reflected lights. The prophets could be thought of as small reflections of God. Their writings are small glimpses of God which offers truth (light). And this truth separates people of light from people of darkness. People of darkness believe something other than truth. Let's sum up the fourth day action.

The period introduces Jesus as Messiah who is to come, and it ends with His first coming. Most Old Testament scripture is written during this period.

Creation Day Five descriptions relate easier to corresponding highlights. Here God creates birds to fly. Flying, as opposed to walking or crawling, appears as a higher form. A bird who walks is awkward not living up to

his potential. So it seems in the scripture. In the period following the resurrection, we see the Holy Spirits' greatest work in world evangelism. You will remember the dove, (a flying bird) a symbol of the Holy Spirit, touched Jesus at His baptism. Creating birds to fly suggests action by the Holy Spirit. And the apostolic period was the greatest action by the Holy Spirit. So the connection fits.

God creates sea monsters. Again, seas denote gentile peoples. How would God see a "monster" figuratively related to gentile peoples? How about organized religions? During this period Mohammed started Islam, circa 600 A.D. And the Holy Roman Catholic Church, began around 312 A.D., persecuted christians without mercy. Between the two, thousands of christians have died.

God filling the seas with creatures, relates to how the world has developed with nations, tribes and tongues and every kind of religion and philosophy. Day Six is as easy to figuratively interpret as Day Two.

On Creation Day Six, God creates mankind. First, it is the beasts. Literally, He creates the mammals, cold and warm blooded; then man. In the figurative sense, beasts are men of abased nature. Have you ever seen

Creation Day Six

© Norman E. Jones 1987
Revised March 2012

Otto I, Holy Roman Empire to Armageddon (Year 5001 to 6000)

CREATION DISCRPTION	PERIOD HIGHLIGHTS
<p>God creates cattle. Genesis 1:25</p>	<p>People are not fully committed to God. Cattle = men who backslide Hosea 4:16</p>
<p>God creates beasts (animals) Genesis 1:25</p>	<p>Beast = Men of debased nature who don't know God. Romans 1:23 Dark Ages - Most people turn from relationship with God to mere ritual.</p>
<p>God creates creeping things. Genesis 1:25 face of the deep. (darkness = deceptiveness of sin.) Proverbs 4:19</p>	<p>Men worship the creation rather than the creator. Creeping Things = Men who worship creation rather than the creator. Romans 1:21-25</p>
<p>God creates man and woman. Genesis 1:26 (Man / Woman = Men and women with God's nature.) Daniel 4:16,34-37</p>	<p>Protestant Reformation (1517). (Men turn to God and holiness.)</p>
<p>Man should subdue the beasts. Genesis 1:28</p>	<p>Men with God's nature (christians) should have influence over men of debased nature.</p>
<p>Man given right to rule over all the Earth.</p>	<p>Antichrist usurpes world rule for 3.5 years. Jesus, "The Son of Man" claims His rightful throne over the Earth.</p>

someone do something really gross? In response, one might say, "You animal!" What do they mean? Isn't it that the doer acted like an animal. God sees men of debased nature as "beasts" or animals.

History records this period as the "Dark Ages". A time when most men knew the flesh, the world and the devil; but knew not God. In the same way, God creating cattle speak of men who backslide after knowing this God. "Creeping things" - men who worship the creation rather than the creator abound. On the same day

God creates man; and woman; His crowning achievement. This is good, very good. Man is the figurative symbol for men and women with God's nature and Spirit. This relates to the historical period of the Reformation. At this point in history, men again turn

to God with personal relationship. They again worship in spirit and truth.

God's last act of creation is to give man charge to rule over the animal kingdom. But who should come along and usurp that right? You guessed it.; Satan. But only for a limited time. You have heard it said that Jesus is coming again, and you have heard right. He will come back to reclaim His rightful place. That is the main theme of this book. We are seeing how and why that will occur.

How **Creation Day Seven** relates to history is obvious. God rested from all His labor and the Millennium period of 1000 years is also a rest period.

Conclusion

One can see that God has an overall timeplan

Creation Day Seven

© Norman E. Jones 1987
Revised March 2012

Second Coming of Jesus to Millennium end (Year 6001 to 7000)

CREATION DISCRIPTION

PERIOD HIGHLIGHTS

God rested from all His labor.. Genesis 2:1-3

The whole creation rests and is at peace.
Romans 8:19-23

Jesus reigns and proves God's way is "good,
acceptable and perfect."
Romans 12:2

The wolf will dwell with the lamb; the child lays
down by the hole of the cobra; the calf and lion
lays down together.
Isaiah 11:6-9

for man because His perfection dictates that everything He does have design and significance. That means if He has anything whatever to do with time, His dealing with it will be without flaw and complete.

The observations and implications of scripture clearly show that God has involved Himself to a large extent in time related activities. And we conclude He must do so perfectly.

We looked at some direct scripture for a timeplan which confirms this concept. We have examined a context for the comparison between the creation days and the corresponding 1,000 year period. We will see in the next chapter how Bible history is set in three different 2000 year periods plus a 1000 year Millennial rest. Between all of these it appears we have a timeplan which is consistent with all previous related accepted fundamental doctrines.

Now, if we assume this is God's time plan, it is relatively easy to observe our approximate place in time. Look over on Creation Day Six.

Nearly 2,000 years have gone by since Jesus was here; therefore we must be getting close to the Second coming. We see other writers and scholars who believe the end is near. This theory is consistent with all scrip-

ture and many opinions regarding time left before the Lords return. Thus, with confidence, we can believe the end is near.

In the next chapter, I will offer additional observations which estimate our place in time a little closer.

Chapter Five - Three Dispensations

“. . . His devine power has given us everything pertaining to life and godliness,”

II Peter 1:3

God will get people to love Him by illustrating the difference between the *goodness* of God and the *evil* of man throughout Bible history. Man must love God forever and not just for a finite time.

When men who love God go with Him to Heaven, they must believe and know that God was fair and just with them, and also fair and just with all the people who went to Hell. If someone were to think that God was not fair, with anyone who went to Hell, that thought might cause the person to think God was not 100% holy and good. This would cause doubt. Doubt gives rise to every kind of speculation. These are the seeds of insurrection in Heaven. Therefore, God must make sure He deals with everyone fairly and justly. To that end, He has spared no detail left undone to be fair and just with all people for all time. We see His fairness and justice in all of Bible history.

Bible history can be divided into three periods. Each period illustrates one of three fundamental ways which God and man can relate. Each of these fundamental ways, in which God works, scholars have named “dispensations.” As I understand it, dispensational scholars believe there are seven dispensations, but I can only see three dispensations in the scripture.

Any interaction between God and man, in any age, is either the work of God or the work of man. I define work as any action or activity that God or Man can do.⁵⁵ And, any work done by God or man will be at the *direction* of God or man. Either He directs or we direct what work will be done in the relationship. In

other words, God's will or man's will guides the work of God or man. Given those conditions, God and man can interact in only four possible fundamental ways.

This means, for the purpose of persuading man to love God, the interaction is either : (1) Man's will - Man's work; (2) Man's will - God's work (absurd; God will not do Man's will); (3) God's will - Man's work; or (4) God's will - God's work. Because option two violates God's sovereignty, He disallowed it⁵⁶ and the other three options remain. See the chart on the next page.

We can see these three ways of relating all through the scripture. They correspond to three of four periods of Bible history. From Adam to Isaac is the first period, from Isaac to the first coming of Jesus is the second period, from the first coming to the second coming of Jesus is the third period. Each period is approximately 2000 years long. The fourth period is the 1000 year rest (Millennium). Prior to Adam was creation; after the Millennium rest, the earth is destroyed.

From Adam to Isaac, God allowed man to work his own will (Option One). I have called this time the period of Conscience; where God gave an example of sacrifice to Adam's family and the plan of salvation in the heavenly constellations,⁵⁷ but left the responsibility of seeking Him, following Him, and loving Him to

55. If only two parties are involved, then whatever happens between them must be the work of one or the other.

56. Duet. 4:39; Isaiah 45:7; Acts 17:24-25

57. See the book: “The Gospel in the Stars”

Design in God's Interaction with Man

© Norman E. Jones 1987
Revised March 2012

Man's Will Man's Work	<p>ADAM - A Type of Christ. Rom. 5:14</p> <p>Conscience</p> <p>2000 Years</p> <p>- GOD ALLOWS MAN TO LOVE GOD ON HIS OWN, GOSPEL IN THE STARS.</p>	<p><i>No Awareness of Sin</i></p> <p>This period demonstrates man will not love God under his own leadership. Acts 14:15-17; Rom. 1:18-25, 5:13-14</p>
God's Will Man's Work	<p>ISAAC - A Type of Christ. Heb. 11:19</p> <p>Promise and Law</p> <p>2000 Years</p> <p>- IF YOU DO GOOD, YOU GET A BLESSING, IF NOT NEUTRALITY.</p> <p>- IF YOU DO BAD, YOU GET PUNISHED, IF NOT NEUTRALITY.</p>	<p><i>Awareness of, but no power over sin</i></p> <p>- God promises redemption;</p> <p>- God gives the Law to show man he needs redeeming. Gal.3:19-24</p>
God's Will God's Work	<p>JESUS CHRIST - A Suffering Servant</p> <p>Grace</p> <p>2000 Years</p> <p>- GOD PERSUADES MEN TO LOVE HIM.</p>	<p><i>Awareness and power over sin</i></p> <p>God redeems a people for Himself by giving Himself for them.</p>
God's Rest	<p>JESUS CHRIST - A Conquering King</p> <p>1000 Years</p>	<p>God proves He loves man by directly governing.</p>

man.

Man gets to direct (Man's Will) and man gets to "do" (Man's Work) his own will. We see Abel, Enoch, and Noah as examples of faith during this period.⁵⁸ However, most of the world did not love God.

God's witness of a savior to come was given in the arrangement of stars into constellations. Originally, the 12 signs of the Zodiac told of His first coming as a suffering servant and His second coming as King of Kings.⁵⁹ Since then, Satan has polluted the witness of the stars into the present form of paganism known as Astrology. And with the advent of

concrete and pavement, people do not have occasion to gaze at the stars for extended periods as they once did. So that form of the Gospel is not widely known.

The significance of this period is that it demonstrated that man would go bad under his own leadership.⁶⁰ And he did. So, God decided to destroy man in a flood.

From Isaac to the first coming of Jesus, God allowed man to work out God's will (Option Three). This is the period of Promise / Law; where God gave man promises (incentives) and law (commands) that could cause man to seek and follow Him.

God gave man the Gospel during this

58. Heb.11:4,5,7

59. See "Gospel in the Stars", p.10-12

60. Genesis 6:5-7

period via promises to Abraham (God's Will). God promised that through Abraham's seed all the nations of the world would be blessed. God repeated the same promises to Isaac and Jacob (Israel). Abraham, Isaac and Jacob were all men of faith in this period.⁶¹

At the Exodus, Moses gave the law (God's Will) concerning things to do and not do (Man's Work). The gospel lay in the picture of sacrifice of the passover lamb. And it was repeated and amplified by keeping of the various laws. Here we see Moses, Joshua, Caleb and Rahab as examples of faith.⁶² But as before, Israel rebelled against God, made a golden calf and were finally destroyed in the wilderness. In the remaining time of this period, God raised up prophets to clarify, teach, and exhort the people to seek God via the Promises and the Law. Then came the period we live in.

From the first coming of Jesus to the second coming, God is working out His own will in the affairs of men (Option Four). This is the period of Grace; where God has shown His love, by sacrificing Jesus on the cross, to the extent that man will return His love by seeking and following Him. In this period, people of faith comprise the true Church. But as in the other periods, we see the good of God and the evil of man. Only we know it by personal experience. After the creation is destroyed, God will have: (1) His people with Him in Heaven and; (2) All other people who have ever lived to be judged at the white throne judgement. *Man needs God in order to stay out of Hell.*

The three dispensations (periods) correlate to three possible excuses that man could give God at judgment for not loving Him.

(1) Period of conscience - "If you had just left me on my own, I would have loved you." This excuse is proved wrong in the experience of the first 2000 years.

(2) Period of Promise / Law - "If you had just given me some incentive and told me what

to do, I would have loved you." This excuse is proved wrong in the second 2000 years.

(3) Period of Grace - "If you had just loved me enough, I would have loved you." This excuse is proved wrong in the third 2000 year period.

This excuse is proved wrong because no one can do more to prove their love than give their life for another. Jesus gave His life to redeem people from the punishment of death for disobedience. The horrible part is most men have cast aside, and cheapened the torture of the Lord Jesus Christ who loves them. He loved everyone enough to endure the excruciating pain of the Cross and still forgive.

Because we see men of faith who loved God in all three dispensations, the test is fair.⁶³

Thus God will protect the hearts of His own people from rebellion against Him a million years from now by judging the people of the world justly.

Jesus Christ, God incarnate, the most important "man" to ever live, stretches His influence over the entire time of mankind. He is the First and the Last, the Alpha and Omega, the First Adam⁶⁴ and the Last Adam.⁶⁵ Jesus is First in the sense that he existed before the earth was created.⁶⁶ And Adam is a "type," in contrast, to Him. He is the Last in that He will return to establish a literal kingdom upon the earth. Not only is Jesus the first and last in the absolute sense; but in "type," He is also the first and last of each dispensation. But before we see how, let's define a "type".

"Types" are models or similitudes that have common elements with other descriptions of events in Biblical history. One of the more common "types," picture Jesus as a lamb. You will remember that God, via Moses, asked each person to sacrifice a lamb and apply the blood to the lintel and two door posts so the

61. Hebrews 11:8, 17, 20, 21

62. Hebrews 11:23-31

63. Conscience: Hebrews 11:4-7; Promise / Law: Ibid vs. 8-32; Grace: I John 3:10-11

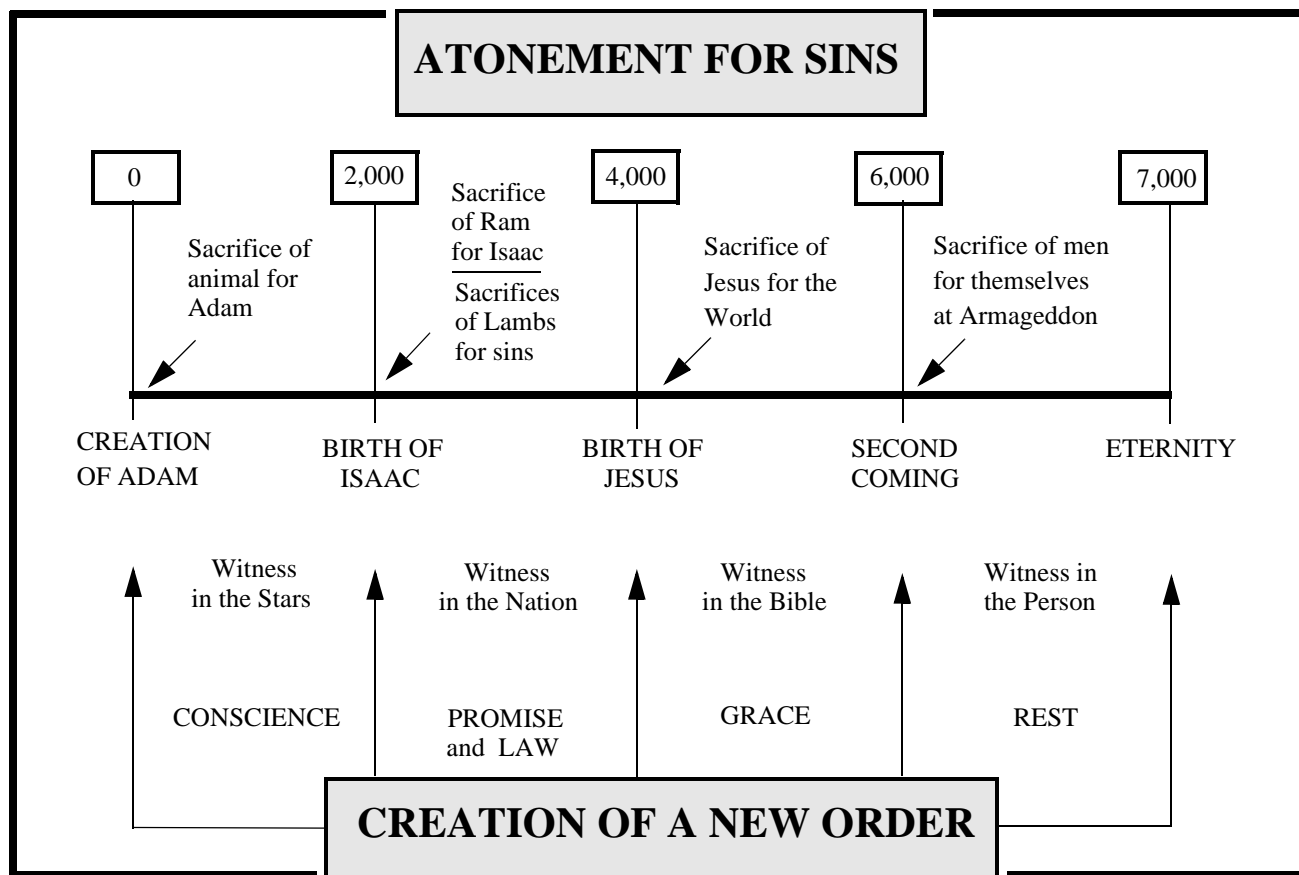
64. Romans 5:14

65. I Corinthians 15:45

66. John 1:1-3, 14; 8:58

Design in Bible History

© Norman E. Jones 1987
Revised March 2012



death angel would pass over their house and not kill the firstborn.⁶⁷ Thus, by their faith in doing so, their firstborn was saved from death. That's where the Passover Feast celebration comes from. The sacrifice of the lamb under the law looked forward to Jesus, "the Lamb" (John 1:29). And 1500 years later, we find Jesus sacrificed by the Father so that whoever might trust in Jesus might be saved to Heaven. Thus the Passover lamb is a type of Jesus Christ and His work on the Cross. The "type" adds meaning to the identity of Jesus and our relation to Him. In this way, we can relate more easily to the concept of savior. Now, the following shows how Jesus is the first and last of each dispensation.

Jesus The First and The Last

From the fall of Adam (when Adam and Eve ate) to the sacrifice of Isaac is about 2000

67. Exodus 12:1-13

years. We know that Adam is a type of Christ⁶⁸ as is Isaac a type of Christ.⁶⁹ Adam dying spiritually⁷⁰ (on the day he ate) is a "type," in contrast, of Jesus' sinlessness. We see in Genesis 3:21 that God slew the animal and made a covering for the garden couple that demonstrated His mercy. Likewise, God made a "covering" for you and I that by Jesus' blood, shed on the Cross, that we might be shielded from God's wrath. Therefore Jesus, in "type," is the "first" of this dispensation. See the chart above.

We see Isaac as a "type" of Jesus' sacrifice. You will remember how Abraham and Isaac went up on the mountain at God's request to sacrifice his only son on an altar.⁷¹ Thus the sacrifice of Isaac corresponds to the sacrifice of Jesus. And in "type," Jesus is the first and the

68. Romans 5:14; I Corinthians 15:39-49

69. Hebrews 11:19

70. Genesis 2:17

71. Genesis 22:1-19

last of the Dispensation of Conscience.

In the period from the sacrifice of Isaac to the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross is also about 2,000 years. Since Isaac is a “type” of Jesus, we see that “at the right time”⁷² the “type” was fulfilled in the actual death, burial and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. Thus, He is also the first and last of the Dispensation of Promise / Law.

In the period from the first coming to the second coming of Jesus is about 2,000 years. Here we easily see that Jesus is the first and the last of this dispensation of grace. The Second Coming will complete a total of 6000 years of time. With the additional 1,000 years of rest in which Jesus applies His government to mankind, He will *prove* that God's way is best. He will truly be the First and the Last; the Alpha and the Omega. Thus, at judgement, men will be without excuse. Jesus is God come in the flesh. There is no other savior. *There is no other way to God, the Father.* Jesus is the only provision for mans relationship with God.

More Dispensation Observations

Not only is the genius of God shown in the three fundamental ways of dealing with mankind but it is also shown in the way all of Bible history fits into those ways of dealing with mankind.

There are, at least, seven common elements that appear in each of the three periods which I call dispensations. They are outlined in the seven feasts which God told Israel to keep for all time.⁷³

The most obvious is the Feast of the Passover. This feast can be seen in the original story of how the death angel passed over the children of Israel under Moses' leadership. Some 1500 years later, we see Jesus sacrifice himself so that we would not see death but have everlasting life. Prior to that, we see Abraham nearly sacrifice Isaac; and still further back, we see God slay the animal to

“cover” Adam and Eve.⁷⁴ We find common elements of each feast in each of the three dispensations which flesh out the three skeletal ways of dealing with mankind. You can follow this on the right side of the Dispensation Chart on the next page.

The right side lists the seven feasts. If you look across the page on a particular line, you will see the corresponding historical event in each of the dispensations on the same line. In the box labeled “Passover”, you can follow the example I just gave about the death angel passing over the people who put the blood on the lintel and two door posts of their home.

In later chapters, I will discuss each of these historical sequences in more detail. Because we can compare the history of one period with another, and find common elements that align with each other, it is no less than a miracle.

Earlier, when I said God is perfect in detail *and* in completeness, this is to what I was referring. Have you any idea what the probability is of this being a random happening? The probability is so high it may not be calculable. This is such a miracle it cannot be other than from God. It demonstrates His genius.

Now the question is *can we use this information to shed some light on prophecy?*

I believe so because God is *perfect*. And what is on the Dispensation Chart is the observations of his perfection. Therefore, I am not afraid to use these observations to gain further insight into the prophetic future.

Once God has completed persuading man through the plan already outlined, and during the 1000 year period of rest, prove that God's way of leading is right, all will be complete.⁷⁵

It is through this complete plan that God will accomplish the goals of showing that He loves man; of getting men to love Him; and demonstrating that He is perfectly fair and just. The completeness of God's plan is the key to

72. Romans 5:6

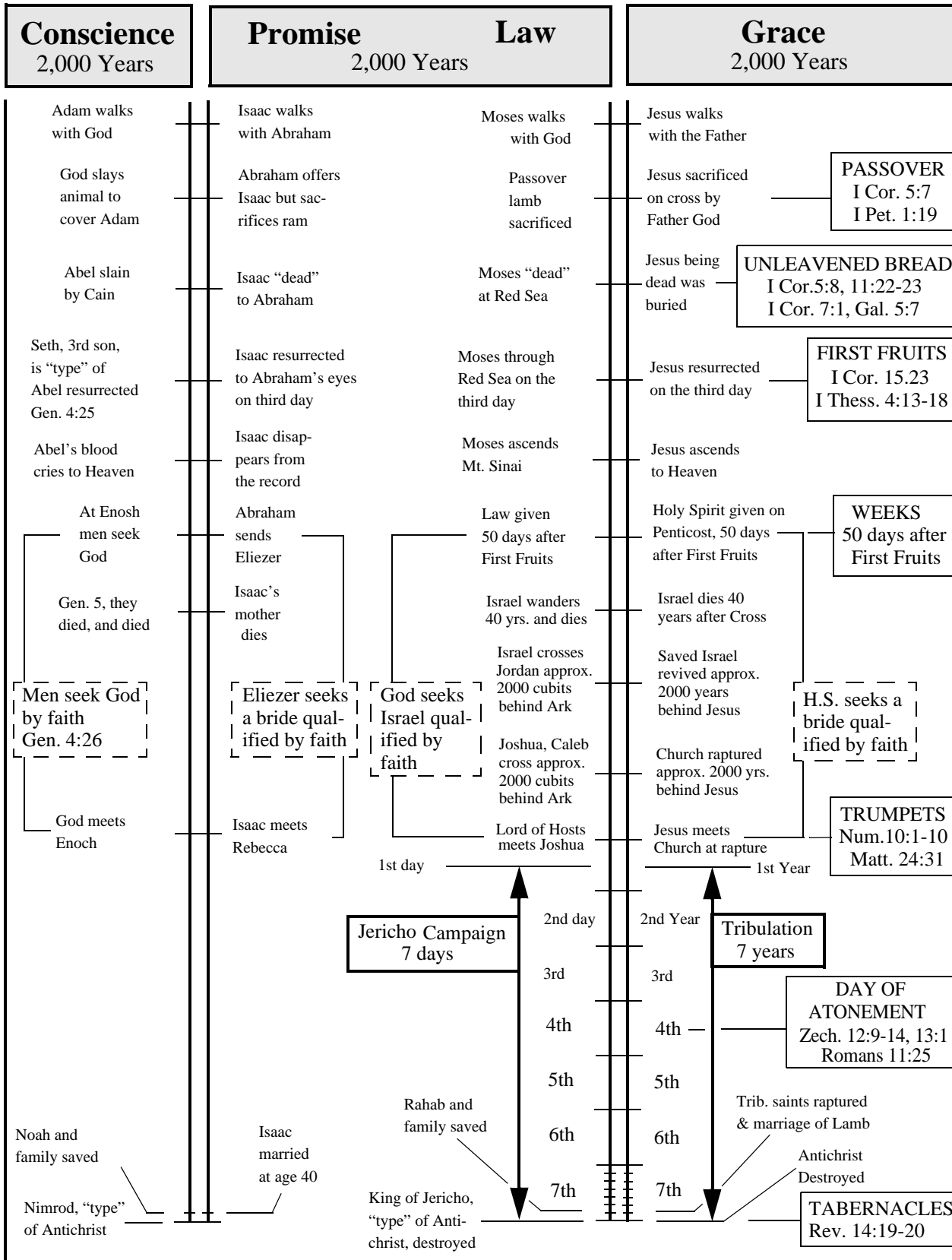
73. These are outlined in Leviticus 23.

74. Genesis 3:21

75. Romans 12:2

Dispensation Chart

© Norman E. Jones 1987
Revised March 2012



the rest of what I have to say in this book. Because God is complete and accurate in everything He does, we can know the limits of His dealings with us. One of the ways we know that we have the truth is when the pieces of the plan **fit** in context with all the other pieces.

This overall plan is like a big picture puzzle. Once we can find the outside pieces, we can search and eventually discover where the inside pieces go. And my premise is that the plan I have just outlined; namely, the three periods of God's dealings with man; 6000 years, plus the 1000 years of rest, comprise the outside of a time plan puzzle picture. And the three dispensations define periods which make sense of all Biblical history. And in the next chapters, I will develop this idea further. But for now, I want to connect this overall plan to God's sub-plan for man in 2012 and beyond.

Prophecy in God's Overall Plan⁷⁶

During the period of Promise and Law, which I talked about earlier, God picked a nation, Israel, to demonstrate his ways to mankind.⁷⁷ He had to pick some nation, so He chose them. God gave them incentives and directions, through Abraham (Promises) and Moses (Law), expecting that mankind would see and learn God's plan. The judeo-christian influence on western civilization is obvious, but more-so in past years.

God offered the Promises and Law to Israel such that they might receive salvation (a promised blessing) and not go to Hell (a punishment of law). God's intention was that promise / law should produce relationship with Him through faith. It did in some people.⁷⁸ But for most people, especially around the time of Christ, it did not.

Instead, they concentrated on the promises and laws themselves. This caused them to see the letter, not the spirit, of the law and

promises. And without really knowing it, they transferred focus from God to self.⁷⁹ Keeping the law became a contest to see what person could break the least number of laws. So a man could be proud of the number of laws he kept; and conversely, the few which he broke. God was not involved.

So when Christ came and said that Jewish leadership should turn back to God, and that He was the Son of God, they were outraged. Their pride in their own achievements and lack of perspective of real Godly relationship caused their spiritual blindness, rejection and outrage.⁸⁰ So they killed the Lord of Glory.

The Father expected their reaction.⁸¹ The rejection of Jesus was part of the plan.⁸² Because of Jewish rejection, God would offer salvation to the gentiles⁸³. So God is making Jews jealous of the gentiles relationship with God.⁸⁴ But God has not rejected the Jew or Israel. A remnant has been, and *will be*, saved.⁸⁵

God in His infinite wisdom decreed a seven year period, known in the book of Daniel as the "seventieth week"⁸⁶ to occur at the end of the period of Grace (third, 2000 year period). This same seven year period, appears in the New Testament as the "Tribulation" (apocalypse) spoken of mainly in the book of Revelation. **This is where prophecy comes into the modern world scene.**

I have shown that God has planned seven thousand years of time for mankind to love God. He has further planned three periods of time to test man in every significant way of relating. From the perfection of God's "type" pictures He has revealed additional details of prophecy not seen in direct scriptural chapter and verse. The comparison of similar inci-

76. This plan is outlined in Romans chapters 9, 10, 11.

77. Romans 9:3-4

78. Hebrews 11:8-32

79. Romans 10:3

80. Romans 10:4

81. Isaiah 65:2 and Romans 10:21.

82. Duet. 32:21 and Isaiah 65:1

83. Ibid

84. Dueteronomy 32:21 and Romans 10:19, 11:11

85. Romans 11:1-5

86. Daniel 9:27

dents in different dispensations, serve to highlight what God thinks is important. For example, the seven days of the Jericho battle, relate in a figurative way, to the seven years of the Apocalyptic (Tribulation) period.

We are near the end of the third 2000 year period. The Bible predicts that Israel will accept a coming world leader as Messiah, and 3.5 years later, in the middle of the Tribulation, this “messiah” will turn against Israel proving that he is not the real messiah. Then all Israel will realize that Jesus of Nazareth; is, in fact, the real Messiah.

If Israel’s rejection of Jesus is the reconciliation of the gentile world to God, then Israel’s future acceptance of Jesus will be like life from the dead!⁸⁷ Prophecy, therefore, facilitates the salvation of Israel and the last remnant of gentiles. “For God has shut up all in disobedience that He might show mercy to all.”⁸⁸ The remainder of this book outlines what God will do and how each of the players fit into His plans.

The taking away of thousands of God's people, the Antichrist's appearance and the humbling of the U.S. pride are necessary to widen the contrast gap between God’s thinking and man’s thinking. This widened contrast gap will make it easier to see the difference between good and evil. And therefore, people will see the difference between Jesus and Satan who drive the forces of good and evil. This is why God allows sin, and why He will allow chaos in the future. Thus, many more will come to see their need for a changed life. And they will come to appreciate and love, our savior, Jesus of Nazareth who is called Christ.

In the next chapter, I will connect some of this dispensational theory to prophecy which is the main subject of this book. The connections will be made with respect to God’s prophetic time plan.

87. Romans 11:15

88. Romans 11:32

Many scholars and other knowledgeable christians believe the end of the age is near. On an

