

The Revelation

Chapter 1:4-8

Part 2

Christ Church

Spring 2026

- Also note that that the Father is identified as a **triad**
 - “**Is**”
 - “**was**”
 - “**to come**”

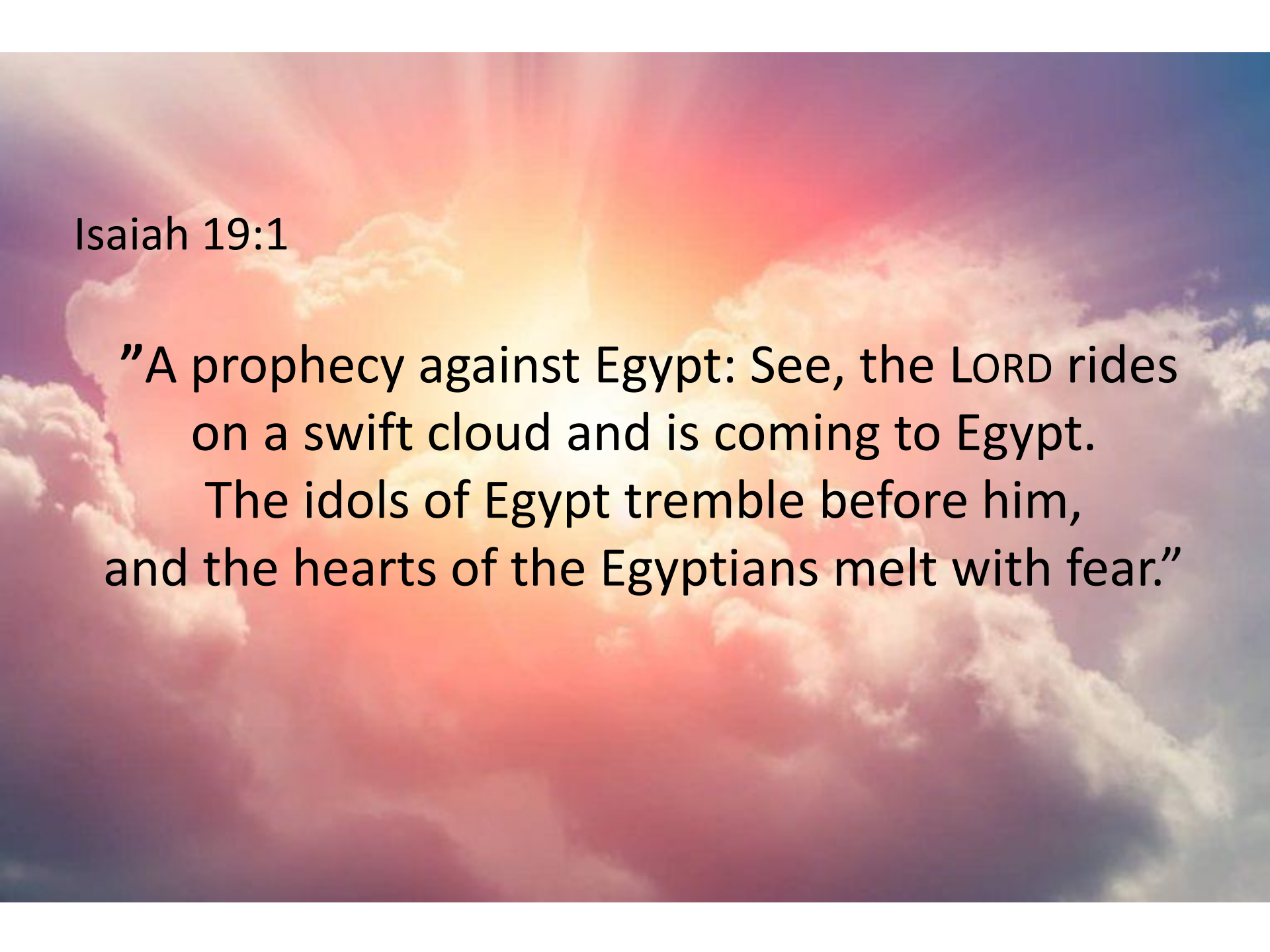
- In v. 5 Jesus is
 - **“the faithful witness”**
 - **“the firstborn from the dead”** – see Colossians 1:18; Acts 2:32-36; * Psalm 89:27
 - **“the ruler of the kings of the earth”** – Matthew 28:19; Psalm 2:8-12;
- Notice it is a **triad**

- He **‘loves us’**
 - He **‘has freed us from our sins by His blood’** (literally “*bathed us*”)
 - He **‘made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve His God and Father’**
-
- And notice Jesus’s actions are a **triad**

- This is precisely the reason that Christians are persecuted by the State
 - Rulers can submit to Christ as absolute sovereign over the earth, or be smashed to bits by the rod of His anger
- It is for this reason that John breaks out in praise

- In vv. 7,8 we get the theme of the book
– the coming of with the clouds
- This image is one of the most familiar for judgment
 - Genesis 15:17; Exodus 13:21-22; 14:19-20, 24; 19:9, 16-19; Psalm 18:8-14; 104:3; Isaiah 19:1; Ezekiel 32:7-8; Matthew 24:30; Mark 14:62; Acts 2:19
 - Then one of the most striking ‘coming in clouds’ is Nahum 1:2-8

- Think of God's Glory-Cloud – the heavenly chariot He make His presence known from – *Psalm 104:3-4
- Psalm 104:3-4
 - ³”and lays the beams of his upper chambers on their waters.
He makes the clouds his chariot
and rides on the wings of the wind.
 - ⁴He makes winds his messengers,
flames of fire his servants.”
- * Isaiah 19:1; Nahum 1:2-8
- God coming in clouds means He is bringing judgment and deliverance



Isaiah 19:1

”A prophecy against Egypt: See, the LORD rides
on a swift cloud and is coming to Egypt.
The idols of Egypt tremble before him,
and the hearts of the Egyptians melt with fear.”

- **What are some of the cloud stories in the OT?**

- Wilderness wandering
- Tabernacle/Temple
- Ezekiel 1
- Daniel 7
- Transfiguration
- Ascension

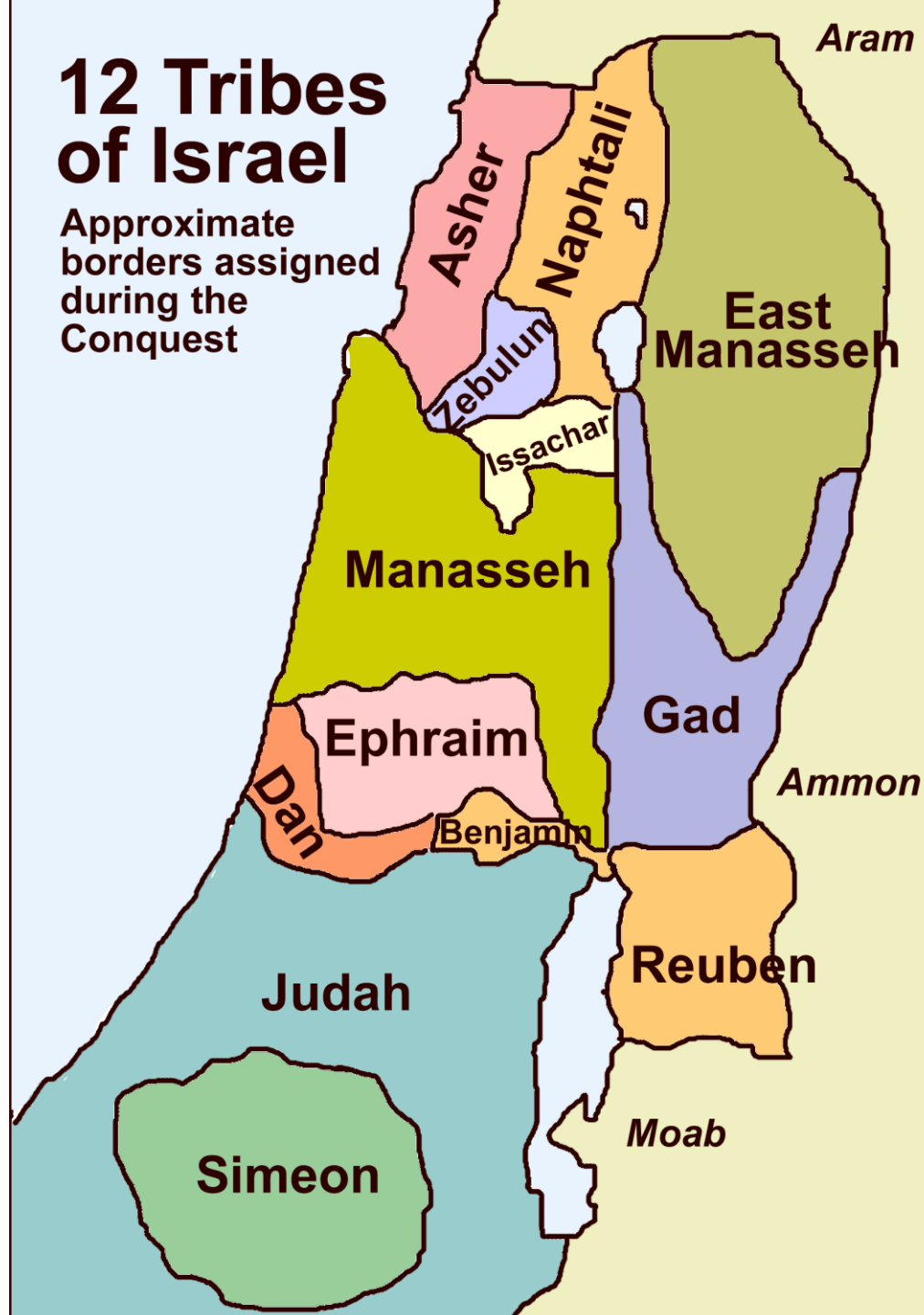
- In v. 7 - **“and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him...”**
 - **‘see’** = experience and understand –
 - namely the Gentiles (John 19:34, 37)
 - And the crucifiers (Matthew 24:30; 26:62)
- **“...all the peoples of the earth will mourn ...”**
 - Bad translation – it is not ‘peoples’ but **‘tribes’** and not ‘earth’ but **‘land’**
 - This is the language of * Zechariah 12:10-14

- **If you make those translation changes to ‘tribes’ and ‘land’ WHAT IS A POSSIBLE MEANING?**

- Do you know any particular, special land in the Bible? A land comprised of tribes?

12 Tribes of Israel

Approximate borders assigned during the Conquest



- This brings us to another biblical truth that is foundational to understanding Revelation

- **WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO ISRAEL?**

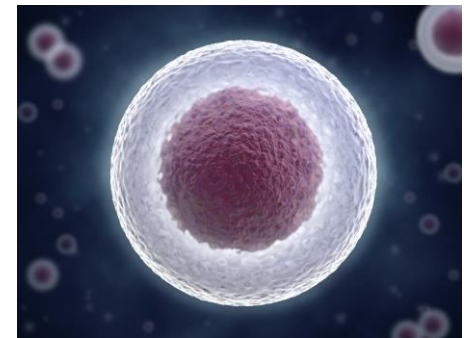
- * Read Romans 9:6
- *“It is not as though God’s word had failed. **For not all who are descended from Israel are Israel.**”*
- There is a biblical distinction made between physical/ethnic Israel and spiritual/covenantal Israel
 - Romans 2:28, 29; 4:13-18; I Corinthians 10:1, 11; Galatians 3:6-9, 26-29; 4:21-31; * 6:14-16; Ephesians 2:11-22

The following slides are from the
Isaiah 10 lecture in October 2024

Remnant

- From Genesis on, the Bible portrays the concept of a handful maintaining the faith while the masses turn apostate
 - Flood – 8 are saved
 - Tower of Babel – Abraham and his family
 - Sodom and Gomorrah – Lot and his family
 - Samuel – entire priesthood was deeply corrupt
 - David – entire army cowered

- Even though Biblical faith is a community faith, it is not a mass faith
- Faithfulness is always intentional and accountable, and that often comes down to a handful
- The remnant is the people who survive divine judgment, subsequently become purged, purified, and faithful
- The remnant becomes the nucleus of a renewed and chosen people



- The remnant will be like
 - ‘a shelter in a vineyard, a hut in a melon patch’ – Isaiah 1:8, 9
 - ‘a stump of a tree’ – Isaiah 6:13
 - ‘a few olives in a treetop’ – Isaiah 17:4-6
 - ‘a pole on a hilltop’ – Isaiah 30:17
- The remnant will truly lean on the Lord – Isaiah 10:20-23

- The remnant distinguishes between
 - The true and false people of God
 - The present and future people of God

- *** **See Romans 9:6**

***“It is not as though God’s word had failed.
For not all who are descended from Israel
are Israel.”***



Ethnic 'Israel'

**True
Israel**

- This is an extremely important truth
- Two systems of theology
 - Dispensation – God has two ‘people’ – Israel and Church
 - Covenant – God has one ‘people’
- Consider the titles/names for Israel

Israel

- **Beloved** – Dt.7:7; 4:37;33:3
- **Bride** – Isa. 54:5,6; Jer.2:2;6:2; 3:14;6:2;31:32; Hos. 1:2; 2:19
- **Called** – Isa. 41:9; 43:1
- **Chosen** - Dt.7:7;10:15 ;14:2;Isa. 43:20,21
- **Children of Abraham** – Ex. 4:22; Dt.14:1; Isa. 63:8; Hos. 11:1
- **Church** – Ps. 89:5; Acts 7:38
- **Circumcised** – Gen. 17:10,13; Jud. 15:18
- **Elect** –Dt.7:6,7; 14:2
- **Field of God** – Jer. 12:10
- **Flock** – Ezk.34; Ps. 77:20;78:52; 80:1
- **Holy Nation** – Ex. 19:5-6
- **House of God** – Num. 12:7
- **Israel** – Num. 15:30,31; Dt. 18:19
- **Jerusalem** – Ps.149:2; Isa. 12:6;49:18,20,22; 51:18
- **Jews** – Ezr.5:1; Jer. 34:8,9
- **Kingdom of God** – Ex. 19:6; I Chr. 17:14;28:5
- **Kingdom of priests** – Ex. 19:5,6
- **New Covenant** – Jer. 31:31-33
- **Olive tree** – Jer. 11:16:Hos. 14:6
- **People of God** – Ex. 6:7; Dt. 27:9; II Sam. 7:23
- **People of inheritance** – Dt. 4:20
- **Saints**– Num.16:3
- **Tabernacle** – Lev. 26:11
- **Vineyard of God** – Isa. 5:3-7; Jer. 12:10

Church

- **Beloved** – Rom. 9:25; Eph. 5:1; Col. 3:12; I Jn. 3:1
- **Bride** – II Cor. 11:2; Eph. 5:31,32
- **Called** – Rom. 1:6,7; I Cor. 1:2
- **Chosen** – Col. 3:12; I Pt. 2:9
- **Children of Abraham** – Rom. 4:11,16; Gal. 3:7, 29; 4:23,28,31
- **Church** – Eph. 1:1; Acts 20:28
- **Circumcised** – Rom. 2:29; Phil. 3:3; Col. 2:11
- **Elect** – Col. 3:12; Titus 1:1
- **Field of God** – I Cor. 3:9
- **Flock** – Jn 10:14,16; Heb. 13:20; I Pt. 2:25; 5:2,3
- **Holy Nation** – I Pt. 1:15,16
- **House of God** – I Tim. 3:15; Heb. 3:2,5,6; 10:21; I Pt. 4:17
- **Israel** – Jn. 11:50-52; I Cor. 10:1; Gal. 6:15,16; Eph. 2:12,19
- **Jerusalem** – Gal. 4:26; Heb. 12:22
- **Jews** – Rom. 2:29
- **Kingdom of God** – Rom. 14:17; I Cor. 4:20; Col. 1:13;4:11; Rev. 1:6
- **Kingdom of priests** – I Pt. 2:5,9; Rev. 1:6;5:10
- **New Covenant** – Lk. 22:20; I Cor. 11:25; II Cor. 3:6; Heb. 8:6,8,10
- **Olive tree** – Rom. 11:24
- **People of God** – Rom. 9:25; II Cor. 6:16; Eph. 4:12; 5:3; II Th. 1:10; Titus 2:14
- **People of inheritance** – Eph. 1:18
- **Saints** – Eph. 1:1; Rom. 1:7
- **Tabernacle** – John 1:14
- **Vineyard of God** – Lk. 20:16; Jn. 15

Israel

1. Saints (Num. 16:3; Deut. 33:3)
2. Elect (Deut. 7:6, 7; 14:2)
3. Beloved (Deut. 7:7; 4:37)
4. Called (Isa. 41:9; 43:1)
5. Church (Ps. 89:5; Mic. 2:5 (LXX)
Act. 7:38; Heb. 2:12)
6. Flock (Ezek. 34; Ps. 77:20)
7. Holy Nation (Exod. 19:5, 6)
8. Kingdom of Priests (Exod. 19:5, 6)
9. Peculiar Treasure (Exod. 19:5, 6)
10. God's People (Hos. 1:9, 10)
11. Holy People (Deut. 7:6)
12. People of Inheritance (Deut. 4:20)
13. God's Tabernacle in Israel
(Lev. 26:11)
14. God walks among them
(Lev. 26:12)
15. Twelve Patriarchs
16. *Christ married to them* (Isa. 54:5;
Jer. 3:14; Hos. 2:19; Jer. 6:2; 31:32)

Church

1. Saints (Eph. 1:1; Rom. 1:7)
2. Elect (Col. 3:12; Titus 1:1)
3. Beloved (Col. 3:12; 1 Thess 1:4)
4. Called (Rom. 1:6, 7; 1 Cor. 1:2)
5. Church (Eph. 1:1;
Acts 20:28)
6. Flock (Luke 12:32; 1 Pet. 5:2)
7. Holy Nation (1 Pet. 2:9)
8. Kingdom of Priests (1 Pet. 2:9)
9. Peculiar Treasure (1 Pet. 2:9)
10. God's People (1 Pet. 2:10)
11. Holy People (1 Pet. 1:15, 16)
12. People of Inheritance (Eph. 1:18)
13. God's Tabernacle in Church
(John 1:14)
14. God walks among them
(2 Cor. 6:16-18)
15. Twelve Apostles
16. *Christ married to them*
(Eph. 5:22, 23; 2 Cor. 11:2)

- In v. 8 the reason for the coming judgment is given - That the world may know “The Lord God”
 - As ‘**the Alpha and Omega**’. The ‘A’ to ‘Z’ (Isaiah 44:6)
 - In Hebrew it would be the “aleph” to “tau”
 - א - ת