

# TRIBULATION SAINTS AND OTHER HEAVENLY BODIES

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A BIBLICAL STUDY ON WHERE YOU GO WHEN YOU DIE

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Dedicated to our step-children who have always loved us both as if we were they  
biologically parents: Jerre Ritchie, Todd Ritchie, Jeremy Hayes and Christy Fields.

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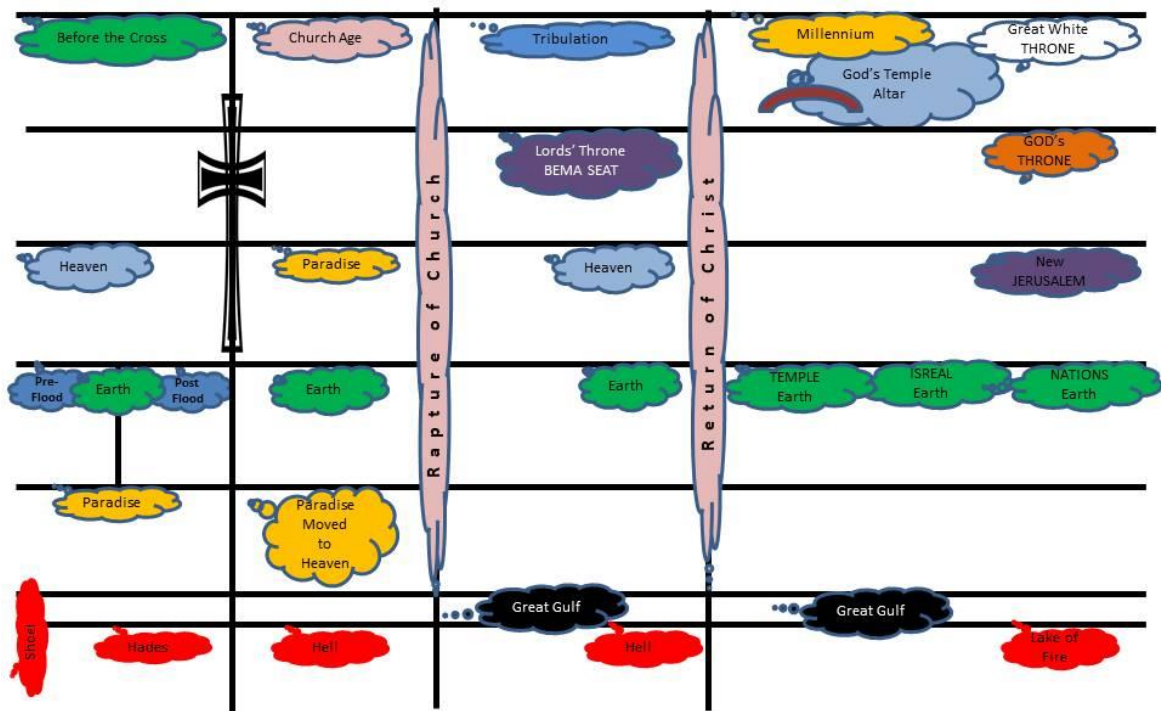
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## INTRODUCTION

Are you afraid to die? Even though you boast of being a Christian and say, "I know my home is with Jesus" do you know what truly awaits you? In my growing up years, I have heard from the pulpits, of many well-meaning preachers, comments of, "You are going to have to face the judgment and pay for your sins," and "You will have to face that White Throne judgment and account for every word you have said." While I am thinking, what did Jesus die on the cross for? Why do I want to go to heaven if all I am going to get is disciplined for my past? It doesn't make sense. So in my endeavor to find out what really awaits me upon death, this Bible study emerged. I ended up spending a great amount of time in Revelations. There I discovered all kinds of saints, evil people, and the devil's final destination. God revealed to me the home of all humanity from Creation to Eternity.

So come join me as we figure out where people of the past went when they died, where the people of today go when they die, and the people of the future go when they die. And best of all how it all fits together in the Millennium Kingdom to come. So let's get started.



First let's look at Worksheet 1 and let's spend a few minutes talking about this diagram. The diagram is divided into four sections: Before the Cross, Church Age, Tribulation and

Millennium. (The diagram is located in the back of the book or it can be downloaded at <http://www.georgeandkaren/TribulationSaints>. Printing a copy will help you.) These sections are listed across the top and will be the decision for each of the four sections of this study. Now let's look at the horizontal lines dividing the chart into locations. The three bottom sections represent Shoal, The Great Gulf and Abraham's bosom. Next section moving upward is the earth. And the last three sections are heaven broken into different parts: Paradise and New Jerusalem, Temple of God and lastly God's Throne Room. Wow, we have covered thousands of years and gone from heaven to hell in one paragraph.

As we work through our Worksheet (1) we will be drawing little boxes in each of these sections. These boxes present different people groups and 1 Corinthians 10 tells us of who these three people groups are: Jews, Gentiles, and the church of God (Christians). Let's give each of these groups a color: the Jews are represented by blue boxes, Gentiles or another term used is Nations are represented by the green boxes, and the church of God, Christians, body of Christ, Christ's bride, all being the same are represented by yellow boxes. The unbelievers who have rejected God and Jesus are presented by the red boxes. Using pencils is a necessity because we will be moving the boxes from section to section. I like colors and found it to be a great help to color these boxes different colors to keep them straight in my mind. If you wish to do the same you will need green, yellow, red, and blue coloring pencils. Or you can simply use the letters G, Y, R, and B to keep you straight. I am periodically going to include Session Keys to help you stay on track. Also an animated chart is available to watch at <http://www.georgeandkaren.com/>

TribulationSaints. Check our website out and find other additional study helps. Let's begin Session 1.



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## HEAVEN BIG PICTURE

Let's start by looking at the big picture first. God has always wanted to dwell with his creation. Read Genesis 1:26-27. Did you catch that little word "own" image and to be like Who? Take a few and think about that! You are created like God and Jesus. Why were you created? The short answer is 'for his pleasure'.

Read Colossians 1:16.

You were created by him and?

God is a personal Being and He wishes to have an honest relationship with you. He didn't create us for his amusement or to provide Him with laughter. God is a creative Being and it gives Him pleasure to create. Neither is He your friend because He needs something from you, God doesn't need anything from you. He is a friend because He created you and loves you.<sup>1</sup>

Jump back and read Genesis 3:8.

What did God create for Adam and Eve to live in?

Who walked with Adam and Eve?

Now let's look at Revelation 21:3.

Where is God going to dwell?

If in the beginning God walked with man and at the end of time God again lives with men. Can we agree that God's plan all along was to live among His people and his creation?

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## GREEN BOX

Let's get started. You need to draw a green box on earth in the "Pre-Flood" section. After Adam and Eve are cast out of The Garden (Genesis 3:23), Eve bears three children Cain (Genesis 4:1), Abel (Genesis 4:2) who dies (Genesis 4:8), and Seth (Genesis 4:25). The Bible doesn't make reference to Eve having any more children, but that does not mean she didn't. One thing we do know is that one son remains righteous.

Look up and read Genesis 4:26.

Which son calls upon the name of the Lord?

From Seth lineage we discover he has a descendant which finds favor with God.

Look up and read Genesis 5:32 and Genesis 6:8-9.

Who is this person?

During the time period from Adam to Noah we have approximately 1650 years of time. By reading Genesis 6 we discover the lifespan of man was extremely long. The population of the earth at the time of the flood could have been 750 million people which is only an estimate<sup>2</sup>. One thing I never thought about, Seth was still alive when Noah was growing up, and that Noah and Methuselah may have known each other all their lives. I came across a wonderful timeline from <https://amazingbibletimeline.com>. It is big but it is very informative, as you can see. You might consider checking it out. Keep in mind the deaths of all these righteous people, recorded in the first six chapters of the Bible, are represented by this green box you have drawn and the “Pre-Flood” section covers 1650 years.

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## HEAVEN BIG PICTURE

Read Genesis 3:1.

Who enters the picture?

The serpent deceives Eve and thwarts God plan to dwell among His creation. This is the first scriptural reference of Satan, but this is not Satan’s first day. So is this serpent Satan? We discover from Ezekiel 28:13 that Satan was perfect in beauty and in Eden, the garden of God. Revelation 12:9, Satan is called the great dragon, serpent of old, Devil, and deceiver, all in one verse. So it appears that Satan has taken the form of a serpent. Satan is a crafty cherub. The Bible tells us in John 13:26-27 just before Judas left the Upper Room to go and betray Jesus, ‘Satan entered into him’. So I think we can conclude that Satan used a specific animal, aka serpent, to tempt Eve to sin.

Let’s take a bit to talk about this Satan who just spoiled God’s plan for humanity. Read Ezekiel 28:11-15.

A note about this scripture, God looks past the King of Tyre and sees Satan, who is influencing the King of Tyre, and speaks directly to Satan. The same way he looks past the

serpent and speaks directly to Satan. Same with the serpent, Genesis 3:14 is spoken to the serpent, and Genesis 3:15 is directed to Satan who influenced the serpent. A New Testament reference is when Jesus rebuked Peter and then spoke directly to Satan (Mark 8:33).

Read Ezekiel 28:11-15.

Who created Satan?

Describe Satan's perfection?

What was Satan's position?

What is your conclusion of Satan?

So before Genesis 3, Satan was a beautiful perfect cherub. He might have been the worship leader of the heavenly choir. So just imagine a cherub covered with glittering stones reflecting God's sparkling light. Image a director shaking his tambourine (tabret) in rhythm with the harps and lyres of the heavenly orchestra, then you hear the most beautiful voice you have ever heard before (pipes within you, aka singing, (Matthew 11:17 KJV). To me, that's what Satan was before his fall.

So why did he fall. Ezekiel 28:15 tells us that iniquity was found in Satan and verse 17 tells us that iniquity was pride. Let's look at and find out how deep this pride became. (Hint: Verses 13 contains three and verse 14 contains two "I will" statements watch for the word "and")

Read Isaiah 14:12-14 and list the "I will" statements Satan said he was going to do.

I will \_\_\_\_\_

I will \_\_\_\_\_

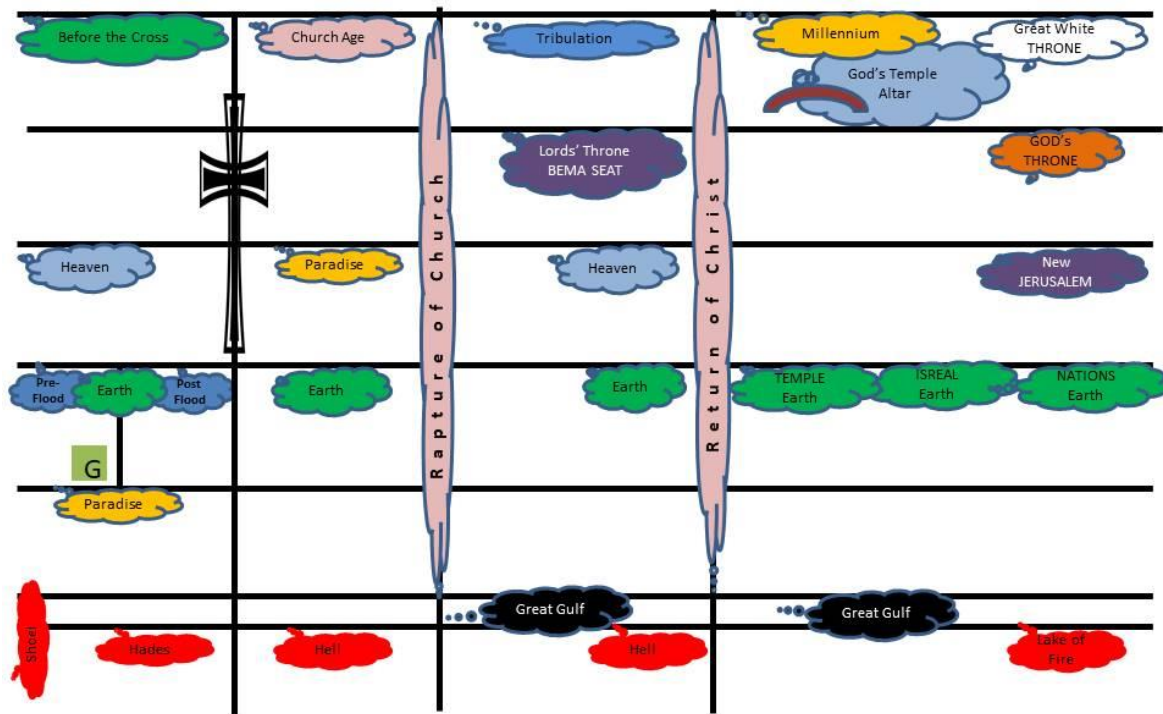
I will \_\_\_\_\_

I will \_\_\_\_\_

I will \_\_\_\_\_

Satan fell because of his pride. He no longer wanted to serve God, but to be God. Satan will do anything and everything in his power to do battle with God and those who follow God. In other words, he wanted to kick God off the throne and take his place; he was not content at

being who God created him to be. He counterfeits all that God does, hoping to gain the worship of the human race here on earth and encourage opposition to God's kingdom. Even though Satan was kicked from God's throne room, he still seeks to elevate his throne above God. Satan is the ultimate source behind every false cult and world religion.<sup>3</sup>



KEY Session 1

## SESSION 2

### EARTH BIG PICTURE RED BOX

Now draw a red box on box on earth under the “Pre-Flood” Section.

The reference of mankind becoming evil and corrupt is in Genesis 6. This corruption seems to have happened very quickly but we must remember 1600 hundred years have passed. Let’s identify part of the people in the red box. In Genesis 4:3 Cain has brought an offering unto God of fruit. God does not accept Cain’s offering and Cain develops an attitude, or maybe had the attitude when he presented his offering. Genesis 4:8-9 tells us Cain did not repent, became angry, and killed his brother. A couple other scriptures which provide evidence of this evil are: 1 John 3:12 which tell us not to be like Cain, because what Cain did was evil and he belongs to the evil one; and Jude 11 gives a bigger warning not to follow Cain’s way with a “Woe to them”. As we read on in Genesis 4 and 5 the decedents of Cain appear to be growing more and more wicked.

Read Genesis 4:23.

Lamech boasted of his sin of being a polygamist and a

Read Genesis 6:4-5 (KJV).

What other types of people lived on the earth?

The Lord reached the point that He was sorry he even made the people of the earth. He declared he would destroy everything upon the earth (Genesis 6:6-7). Therefore your red box drawn in the “Pre-Flood” section of Worksheet 1 includes giants, men whose hearts were continually on evil thoughts, and the evil people which Satan has swayed, in the first six chapters of the Bible.

### HEAVEN BIG PICTURE CONTINUED

But why all the evil? What happened? On earth an event has occurred which causes God to limit the days of man to 120 years and limits his desire to live among his creation (Genesis 6:3).

Read Genesis 6:1-4.

What happened?

Satan has tried to create his own race of beings. Scholars have a least 3 different views. Seems the term “sons of God” is the issue debated. First view, the “sons of God” were godly members of the line of Seth marrying women from the ungodly line of Cain. Second view, they were men in positions of high authority (Karen’s interpretation: major gang leaders, rulers, or dictators). Last view, “sons of God” were fallen angels.<sup>1</sup> This last view makes the most sense to me, so let’s discuss it.

Matthew 22:30 declares at the resurrection people will neither marry nor be given in marriage, they will be like the angels in heaven. It doesn’t say they are not able to marry. Maybe God doesn’t want them to marry and some angels chose to disobey God’s wishes. Because God’s holy angels do not marry or engage in sexual relations does not mean the same is true of Satan and his fallen angels.

For an old testament reference read Genesis 19:1-5. The men of Sodom and Gomorrah wanted to have sex with the two angels who were with Lot. It could be plausible that angels are capable of taking on human form, even to the point of replicating human sexuality and possibly even reproduction.

Read Jude 6.

What did these angels not do?

Where are they now?

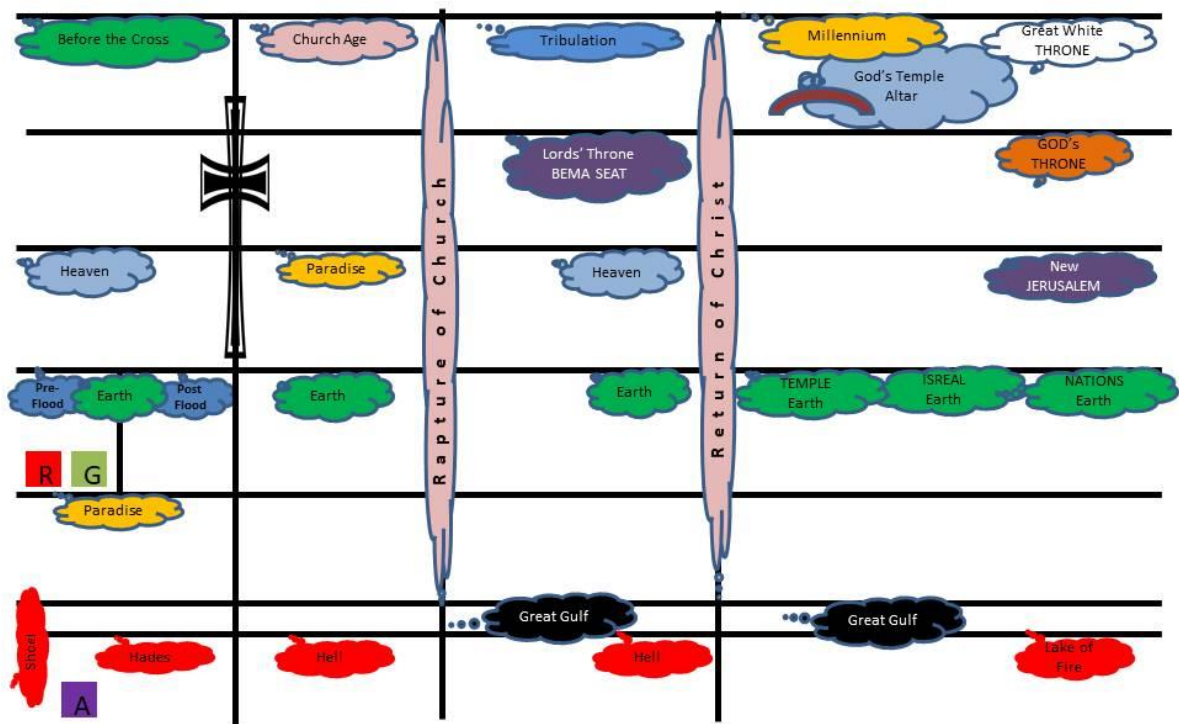
Could it be, by not staying in their position of authority (taking on human form) God imprisoned the fallen angels who committed this evil sin, so that the other angels would not do the same? This same problem existed for period of time even after the flood. How do we know that?

Read Genesis 6:4.

What 3 or 4 words reveal this to us?

So let’s draw a box in Sheol and we will color it purple. Also place the letter A inside the box for angels. See below key for Key Session 2.

This completes session 2 and we should have a feel for the two people groups living on the earth before the Flood takes place. Also we have discovered fallen angels have a home and Satan is going to be a problem from here until the end of the tribulation where is bound for 1000 years. At the end of the 1000 years, Satan will then be released for a short period of time in which he tries to cause havoc again.



KEY Session 2

## SESSION 3

### EARTH BIG PICTURE

As we move along our time line we see the next event “The Flood” is one that is catastrophic to the earth and to mankind. God is righteous and pure; man had become so wicked; God had no other choice but to destroy that which He had created. In this session we are going to cover from The Flood to The Cross. So we are looking at approximately 2350 years of time.

After the Flood, in Genesis 9, God commanded humanity to "increase in number and fill the earth." The human race decided to do the exact opposite, “Come, let us build ourselves a city, with a tower that reaches to the heavens, so that we may make a name for ourselves and not be scattered over the face of the whole earth” (Genesis 11:4). They decided to build an enormous tower as a symbol of their power and to make a name for themselves and this tower is remembered as the Tower of Babel.

In response, God came down and muddled the languages of humankind so that they could no longer communicate with each other (Genesis 11:7). The result was that, people assembled with other people who spoke the same language, and went together and settled in other parts of the world (Genesis 11:8-9). God wanted to enforce His command for people to spread throughout the entire world.

### GREEN BOX

Draw a green box on the earth in the “Post Flood” section which represents the Gentiles/Nations. The story starts with Noah and his three sons.

Read Genesis 9:18.

Who are these sons?

After the flood receded, God makes a covenant with Noah. Noah’s covenant is recorded in Genesis 9:12-15. God promises that, despite humans continued selfishness and evil, He will not destroy the earth again with a flood. Next Noah built an altar and sacrificed to God. Good start for a new world. God blessed Noah and his sons. God told them to have many children and fill the earth with your people, which they do (Genesis 8:20-9:2). Let’s discover which son is the blessed one.

Read Genesis 9:25-27.

Who is blessed?



Let's fast forward about 340 years and see who is a descendent of Shem. Genesis 11:10 starts the genealogy of Shem.

Read Genesis 11:26.

Who is a well-known descendent of Shem?

God selects Abram from among the nations scattered at Babylon, and makes a promise or covenant with him. Hold on, wait a minute. I have to have another box, but let's finish up with the green box. From this point on humanity is divided into two groups of people: Gentiles and Hebrews. Gentile is a term which means "the nations". At the beginning this term was applied to all humanity, but when Abram was called the second group appeared, being the Hebrews which are also called Israel and the Jews. Up to this point our post flood green box represents the righteous people (Gentiles or Nations) who were descendants of Shem up to Abram.

Shem's descendants are not the only righteous people, or are they. After Abram rescued Lot from Kedorlaomer, Abram meets Melchizedek, who is the King of Salem (Jerusalem) and a priest of the God Most High (Genesis 14:18). There are three lines of thought as to who Melchizedek was. If you are true literalist, take the Bible as it is written, then we have a King who is a high priest. This would support that there are other righteous people on earth who had to be descendants of one of Noah's three sons. Another thought is Melchizedek is a title, such as Pharaoh is for Egypt, then this could possibly be Shem himself. He did live to be 600 years old (Genesis 11:10-11), and means he was alive for more than half of Abram's life. Possibly being the one whom taught Abram; Abram knew who he was and gave him the tithe which was due him, according to what Abram had been taught. Last, some propose that Melchizedek was actually a pre-incarnate appearance of Jesus Christ. The green box represents the righteous people (Gentiles or Nations) who were decedents of Shem up to Abram, with possibly other righteous people who follow the God of Shem.

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#### BLUE BOX

Draw a blue box on the earth in "Post Flood" section which represents the Jews. God is calling out Abram from the nations with a promise which includes a piece of land called Canaan (Israel today), a huge family to live there, and others who will be blessed through this family. Also, God changes Abram's name to Abraham (Genesis 17:1-8). Abraham had a son and God repeats this promise again in Genesis 26:3-5.

Read Genesis 17:19.

Who is Abraham's son?

Isaac has a set of twins Esau and Jacob (Genesis 25:24-26), this same promise and covenant was again made with Abraham's grandson.

Read Genesis 28:12-16.

Which grandson was this promise made with?

Let's move on and see who else gets a name change. Jacob is sent to the land of Padanaram marries and has 12 sons. Jacob becomes exceedingly prosperous and his father-in-law's attitude changes toward him for the worse (Genesis 31:2). Jacob decides to return to his father, Isaac, in the land of Canaan. During his trip home, Jacob wrestles with an angel and receives a new name from God.

Read Genesis 32:28.

What is this new name?

Jacob's family, which is called Israel, has grown to be approximately 70 people, and a famine has hit the land. The family ends up in Egypt and after 400 years are being persecuted. They cry out and Moses is sent as their deliverer. Moses is the great-great-grandson of Levi, one of Israel's 12 sons (Exodus 6:14-20). God rescues them and promises to bring them into the Promised Land. Two months into their journey, God makes another covenant with Israel to make them into a priestly nation that will follow Him to show Himself to all nations (Exodus 19:6).

Fast forwarding: Israel continues to grow and becomes a great nation, and God establishes David as their king. God makes a covenant with David that God will make David's name great.

Read 2 Samuel 7:16.

What else did God promise David?

The story of Israel in the Promised Land is told in the books of Joshua thru 2 Kings. Israel isn't able to live by the terms of the covenant and their kings are unfaithful to the covenant God made with David. Israel divides itself into two kingdoms and for 350 years Israel went through a cycle of good and bad kings. Israel (northern tribes) fell to Assyria and ceased to exist in 722 BC. Judea (the southern tribes) falls into Babylon captivity, ending with the destruction of the Temple in around 590 BC. During this time God tries to turn the Jewish people's hearts to him through the use of prophets, but this still didn't break Israel's hard heart. After conquering Babylon, King Cyrus issued a proclamation allowing the Jews to return to their land and rebuild the temple. (Got to throw this in. Cyrus was predicted to do this before he was even born (Isaiah 44:28)). The temple is finished (Ezekiel 6). Daniel is

visited by an angel and is told to tell Israel “Seventy weeks are determined, for your people and for your holy city, To finish the transgression” (Daniel 9:24 KJV). Moving on, 483 years later Jesus has completed his ministry and the crucifixion takes place.

For this to be 2350 years of history, it was rather painless. The blue box represents the righteous and faithful Hebrews/Jewish people from the time of Abraham to the crucifixions of Jesus Christ. (Note the word Jews is first used in 2 Kings 25:25 and not again until Ezra 4:12) I have no idea how many people this represents, but sometimes, I feel that there are not very many. Then I am reminded of Elijah who thought he was the only prophet left when God had Obadiah hide 100 prophets in caves (1 Kings 18). One day we shall know.

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#### RED BOX

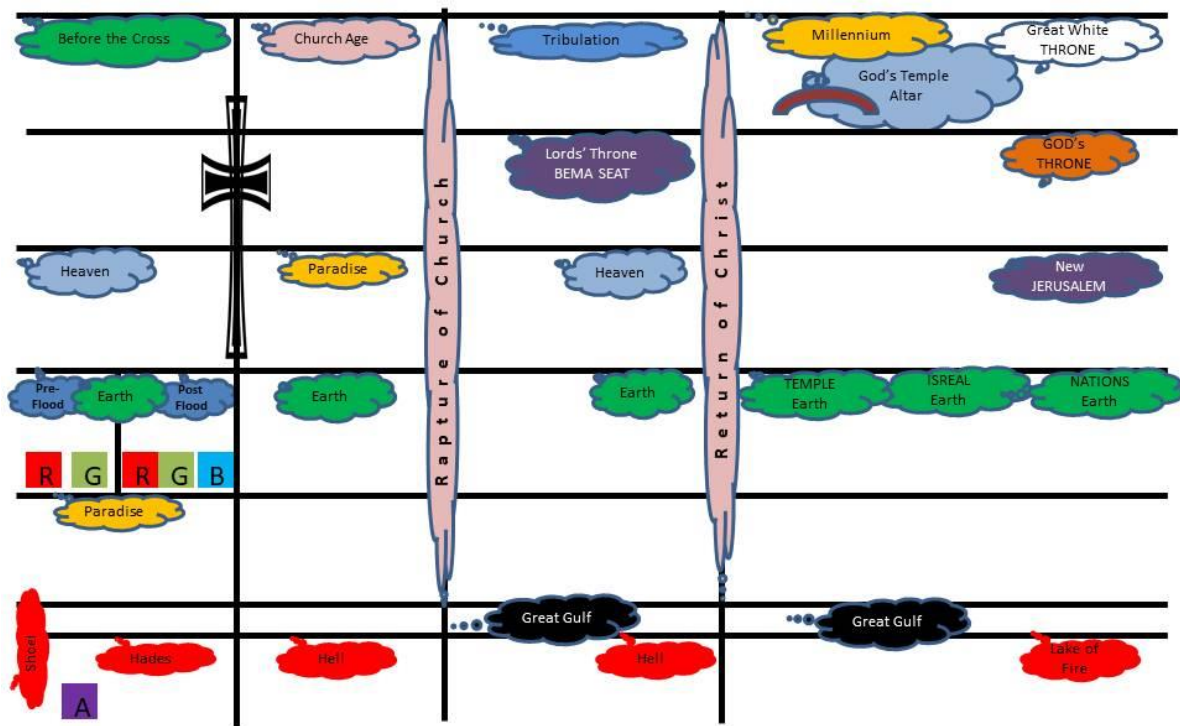
Draw a red box on the earth in “Post Flood” section which remember are the unsaved/unrighteous. Genesis 9:20-26 tells the story of Noah raising a vineyard and becoming drunk. Ham saw his nakedness and Noah cursed Canaan his grandson; the word cursed means the removal of God’s blessings and protection. Let’s take a quick look at the descendants of Canaan.

Read Genesis 10:15-20.

In the stories of the Bible are these “ites” remembered as being positive or negative?

The first king of Israel was Saul who was replaced by David. The throne was passed to his son Solomon who asked God for wisdom. Despite receiving the gift of wisdom Solomon grew to be an unworthy king. After Solomon’s reign, Israel divided into two kingdoms, Israel and Judea. Of all the kings of Israel, most of them practiced idolatry; the worst being Baal. Many kings of Judah served idols; few served the Lord faithfully. Of the 20 kings of Israel none were good kings. Of the 20 kings for Judea, only five started out good and ended up being good when their leadership ended.

Who occupies the red box after the flood but before the cross? All the people who didn’t believe enough in God to follow his laws given to them in Exodus; all the “ites” and all the evil people of that time.



KEY Session 3

## SESSION 4

### HEAVEN BIG PICTURE

When Satan was thrown out of God's throne room (now he has to ask to enter), he came to the garden and tricked Eve. When Adam and Eve succumbed to Satan's temptation, that dominion was lost; Satan stole it became the prince of this earth. God then cursed Satan (Genesis 3:15), and the plan of human salvation is put in motion.

Read Genesis 3:15.

What does the word enmity mean? I have always looked at it as conflict so, let's look at different translations and underline the words which are translated as enmity.

KJV "And I will put enmity between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed."

NLT "And I will cause hostility between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring."

ERV "I will make you and the woman enemies to each other. Your children and her children will be enemies."

MSG "I'm declaring war between you and the Woman, between your offspring and hers."

The first part I understand. There is going to be a WAR between Jesus and Satan. But how can Satan have seed or children if Satan doesn't take on human form? This part has been confusing for me so I want to make sure we have a handle on this "SEED" thing; the seed is in the spiritual realm.

Read Galatians 3:26-27, 29 (KJV).

Fill in the blanks.

We are all \_\_\_?\_\_\_(seeds) of God through faith in?

KJV verse 29

And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's?

Members of the body of Christ become Abraham's spiritual descendants and Jesus confirms this by saying "Abraham's children do the works of Abraham" (John 8:39). In this same chapter Jesus explains that Satan has offspring (seed) also.

Read John 8:42-44.

Who are Satan's offspring?

Back to Genesis 3:15 and the section of bruising; “He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel.” So He is singular; The woman’s seed now is referred back to in singular form. What God is saying here is that a human person (Jesus Christ) born of the seed of woman will suffer a wound from Satan on his heel; we have to understand the word heel from the spiritual angle to grasp this verse. Psalms 41:9 gives insight to Genesis 3:15. David was betrayed by a close friend just as Jesus was betrayed by one of the disciples. Jesus quotes the Psalms 41:9 in John 13:18, when he was trying to give the disciples a heads up that one of them would betray him.

Genesis 3:15: “And I will put enmity, Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel.”

Psalm 41:9: “Even my own familiar friend in whom I trusted, Who ate my bread, Has lifted up his heel against me.”

John 13:1: “I do not speak concerning all of you. I know whom I have chosen; but that the Scripture may be fulfilled, ‘He who eats bread with Me has lifted up his heel against Me.’”

Compare Genesis 3:15, Psalms 41:9, and John 13:18.

What do you see in these verses that tie them together?

Hopefully you see the meaning of Genesis 3:15 by looking at the use of the word heel in the other two verses. Satan came into Judas, who was one of the trusted chosen disciples, causing him to betray Jesus. This act of betrayal was a deep hurt to Jesus, for this betrayal would lead to his death. The wound on the heel is also symbolic of a non-lethal strike<sup>1</sup> and this prophecy was fulfilled in the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. Satan could not get rid of Jesus this easily.

Now for the next part of the verse. Jesus in turn will then inflict a wound on Satan’s head. The wound on the head is symbolic of a lethal strike, but this part of the curse will not be fulfilled until end times. So again let’s look at some verses and see if we can grasp an understanding of ‘bruise your head’. Bruise is such a non-aggressive word, you do not die from a bruise. Think more along the lines of crush, trample, or strike.

Read the following verses

Joel 3:13 (NLT) “Swing the sickle, for the harvest is ripe. Come, tread the grapes, for the winepress is full. The storage vats are overflowing.”

Revelation 2:27 “He shall rule them with a rod of iron; They shall be dashed to pieces like the potter’s vessels’—as I also have received from My Father.”

Revelation 14:19-20 (NLT) “So the angel swung his sickle over the earth and loaded the grapes into the great winepress of God’s wrath. The grapes were trampled in the winepress outside the city, and blood flowed from the winepress in a stream about 180 miles long and

as high as a horse's bridle."

Isaiah 63:3 (NLT) "I have been treading the winepress alone; no one was there to help me. In my anger I have trampled my enemies as if they were grapes. In my fury I have trampled my foes. Their blood has stained my clothes."

Again, hopefully you see the tie in of Jesus winning the battle over Satan and bringing Satan's kingdom to an end by 'bruising his head'. And the final blow comes after a 1000 year wait chained in the Abyss (Revelation 20:1-3) Satan will be hurled into the Lake of Fire.

Read Revelation 20:10.

How long will Satan be held in the Lake of Fire?

One more thought that I found to be intriguing while studying Genesis 3:15. Romans 16:20 (KJV) says, "The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you." Note it says your feet. Not His feet, but your feet. God gives us the same power as Jesus to crush Satan. We just need to learn to trust and use this power which God has placed within us the day we placed our belief in His Son.

Meanwhile, Satan roams about this earth like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour (1 Peter 5:8). This does not mean that Satan is free to do as he pleases. He has to ask.

Let's read Job 1:7-12.

Who does Satan seek permission from?

Let's move on now as prophesy is fulfilled by Jesus receiving the non-lethal strike to the heel and discover how God thwarts Satan's plans again and how it affects where you go when you die.

## SESSION 5

### HELL BIG PICTURE

Never have I given much thought to hell, I guess because I am not going there. Before we can move our red boxes, let's take a minute to examine where they are going. There are several words thrown around that people think all mean the same: Sheol, Hades, Hell, and Lake of Fire. All these words are used in the Bible but get translated as hell most of the time. We need to look at these separately to grasp their different meanings.

In the Hebrew Scriptures, the word used to describe the realm of the dead is sheol. It simply means "the place of the dead" or "the place of departed souls/spirits." Sheol has two compartments: Paradise and Hades.

Read Psalms 16:10 and Psalms 9:17.

Who are the ones in Sheol?

In the Old Testament it seems Sheol is place where both righteous and wicked go after death. Jacob (Genesis 44:29), David (Psalms 88:3), and Job (Job 14:13) all expected to go there. But Sheol is temporary. Psalms 49:15 tells us that God will redeem us from the grave or Sheol. We learn from Luke 16 that Old Testament saints went to Paradise in Sheol and awaited their release, just like the unrighteous are held in Hades for their release.

The New Testament words found are Hades and Hell. The Bible gives a few verses that describe Hell. Let's read three of them and find some descriptive words of what Hell will be like.

Read Mark 9:43, Matthew 22:13, and 2 Thessalonians 1:9 List the words.

The Greek word Tartarus is used only one time in the Bible and it is 2 Peter 2:4. Tartarus is translated as Hell but is a different part of Hades/Sheol.

Read 2 Peter 2:4.

How is Hell described and for whom?

The Lake of Fire, which is mentioned only in Revelation 19:20 and 20:10, 14-15, is the final Hell, the place of eternal punishment for all unrepentant rebels, both angelic and human (Matthew 25:41). It is described as a place of burning sulfur, and those in it experience



eternal, unspeakable agony of an unrelenting nature (Luke 16:24; Mark 9:45-46). We will cover later, those who have rejected Christ and those who are in the temporary abode of the dead in hades/sheol, how they will have the lake of fire as their final destination.<sup>1</sup>

You know even though Hell exists and is real, God never intended for His creation (man) to be there.

Read Matthew 25:41.

Who did God intend hell to be for?

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### GREEN, BLUE, AND RED BOXES

Let's start this section by reading Luke 16:19-31 and answering the following questions because there are a few points I want to make sure we catch. Keep in mind this was before Christ died on the cross and we are covering all of time before the cross.

Who carries Lazarus to paradise?

There must be something real at death for the angels to carry it away and a real place to carry it to. The unsaved go to hell and have a conscious.

What proves this?

A person saved goes where?

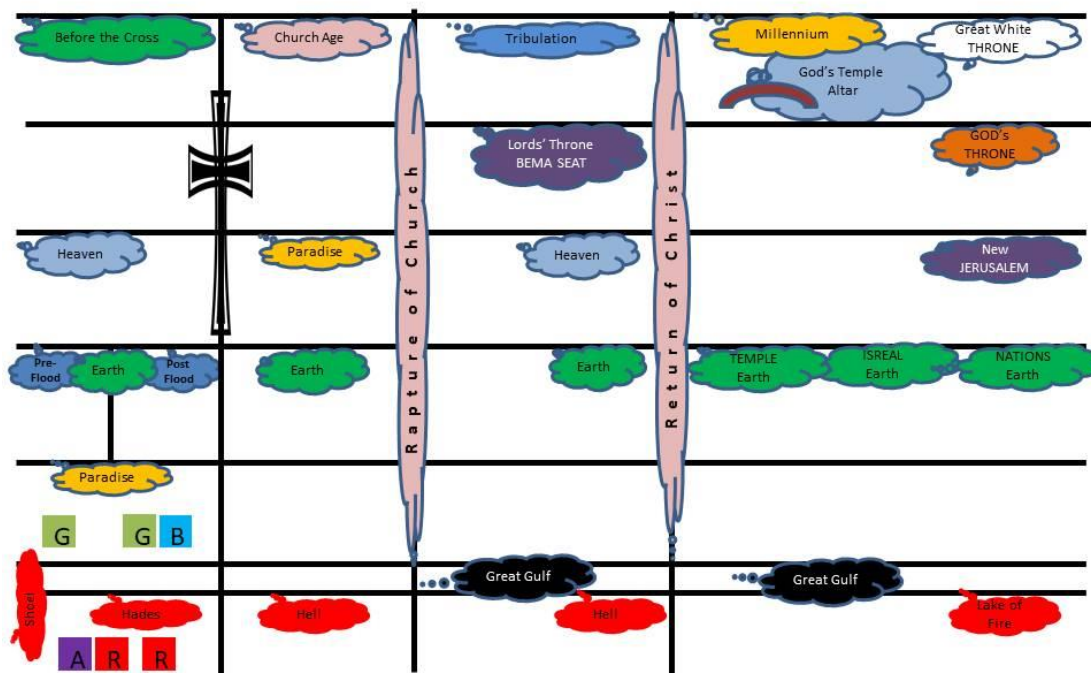
When one dies what does our spirit look like?

The point being made here is when an unsaved person goes to hell they have all their senses still intact. The person will have remorse and despair in seeing the Godly people they despised now in bliss (v23). They will have an eternal desire to be freed of torment (v25). They will have memory of the lost opportunities that could have kept them from being in hell (v25). The list continues: Regret over deeds committed (v25); absolute hopelessness of escape (v26); eternal separation from loved ones (v23-26); remorse over not listening to God's Word; suffering from fire and brimstone (v29-31); constant thirst and pain (v24). If you are unsure of your destination, please find a Christian to talk to.

Back to where people go when they die. We get our understanding of what happened to people who died before the cross from this story of the Rich man and Lazarus (Luke 16:19-31). It shows that no one could get into heaven before the Lord's blood was shed for them. Instead, those who died believing that a redeemer was coming to save them from their sins went to a place the Jews called "Abraham's Bosom" or Paradise. It was a place of comfort and where Lazarus went. Unbelievers went to a place of torment like the rich man. Both were in the "abode of the dead". While the two groups could apparently see each other there was a Great Gulf or deep chasm that separated them so no one could cross from one side to the other.<sup>2</sup>

## MOVING BOXES

Directions for boxes: Draw two new green boxes (Gentiles/Nations) and one blue box (Jews) in Paradise and erase your green and blue boxes on earth. By erasing these boxes we are indicating their death and drawing new ones in a different location indicate their new location after death. Draw two new red boxes (unsaved) in Hades and erase the two red boxes on earth. We have completed our section of Before the Cross. We now know where people went when they died before the cross and the death of Jesus Christ.



KEY Session 5

## IN HEAVEN

Remember back in Session 4, we discussed the enmity between the seed of woman and the seed of Satan. The time has come for the seed of woman to be born. Gabriel is sent to earth to prepare Mary for the birth of Jesus (Luke 1:26). Gabriel shares with Mary, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end.” (Luke 1:30-33 NLT)

Underline the five promises made concerning Jesus’s future in the above verse.

These promises should sound familiar since Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and David all received similar promises. The difference in this promise Jesus is the offspring, the descendant, and the future King. But what about the curse of Satan and the fall of man into sin? Not only is Jesus going to be our future king, He is fulfilling the promise made in the Garden of Eden. From the time of Adam and Eve, man has made sacrifices of innocent lambs to atone for their sins. This type of sacrifice will be put on hold and Christ will offer himself as a perfect sacrifice for our sins (Hebrews 9:14). To do this Jesus had to become lower than the angels (Hebrews 2:9). Wait a minute, we have some pretty powerful angels and Jesus became lower than them.

Read Daniel 10:6.

Describe this angel in your words.

And there are also angels that are ordinary looking. Not that seeing an angel would be an ordinary event.

Read Mark 16:5.

Describe this angel in your words.

Seems angels can also play the role of being God’s messengers. Gabriel had the job of telling Mary that she would have a special baby; an angel told Philip to visit an Ethiopian (Acts 8:26-40); an angel appeared to Cornelius and gave him instruction on where to find Peter (Acts 10:1-8); and angels can be mighty warriors (Revelation 12:7-9); angels can be guardian angels as with Hagar and Elijah (Genesis 21:14-19, 1 Kings 19:4-8). Hebrews 1:14 KJV states, “Are not all angels ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation?” It

seems angels are sent to protect Christians today. Revelation 5:11-12 tells us that over a million angels are called to praise and worship God. Jesus becomes lower than all the angels; He became human just like us. Before we leave the topic of angels one more thought.

Read 1 Peter 1:12.

What are the angels doing?

As Gabriel is sent to earth to visit Mary the angels stoop down to peer and watch as the plan of salvation is unfolding, watching from above with curiosity and awe trying to understand what is happening. For them there is no grace or mercy, only a good angel or a bad angel. No forgiveness; only humans can be saved. Only you and I can be redeemed. They are fascinated by the love God has for his creation. They are never given the opportunity for a new life, a new birth, or the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. We as humans and God's creation are so privileged. And Jesus becomes lower than all the angels. He became human just like us so that he could experience death in our place (Hebrews 2:9).

Why did Jesus have to die? God created earth and man perfect and when Adam and Eve disobeyed Him, God had to make a plan for restoration. Every human since has been guilty of disobeying God in some form by breaking His law which He spoke. To break the law and God not punish the lawbreaker (sinner) would leave Him an unjust judge. The lawbreaker needs to escape the judgment of God or he will face hell. If we all go to hell then God violates His own character of love. A lawbreaker cannot pay for his own sin and live; a sacrifice or substitute has to be made to atone for this sin. Who is this sacrifice and substitute?

Read 1 Peter 2:21-24.

Who made this sacrifice?

Back on Earth

As Jesus starts his short three year ministry Satan jumps right in and tries to con Jesus into worshipping him (Matthew 4:9); the enmity between the woman's seed and Satan's seed continues on. Jesus replies sharply, "You shall worship the Lord your God and serve Him only" (Deuteronomy 6:13, Matthew 4:10 NLT). Having won his battle with Satan, Jesus starts his ministry. He came as the Messiah to Israel, but Israel rejected Him. He preached life-changing sermons and taught intriguing parables. He healed hundreds of incurable diseases, fed thousands, calmed storms, walked on water, and raised people from the dead. Jesus's ministry grew quickly and accomplished what no other man could accomplish. "And

there are also many other things that Jesus did, which if they were written one by one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that would be written" (John 21:25). Of the 12 men he picked 11 of them go on to change the world forever by spreading the Good News of the Gospel. As quickly as Jesus ministry starts it draws to an end and His crucifixion takes place. Jesus turns to the thief and says, "Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise" (Luke 23:43). Christ descended into Paradise and released the believers of Old Testament times. We looked at Psalm 16:10 in our last session when David said, "You will not leave my soul among the dead." This same verse is quoted by Peter on the day of Pentecost when preaching to the crowd (Acts 2:27).

Let's read Ephesians 4:9-10.

Where does Jesus descend?

Where did he go next?

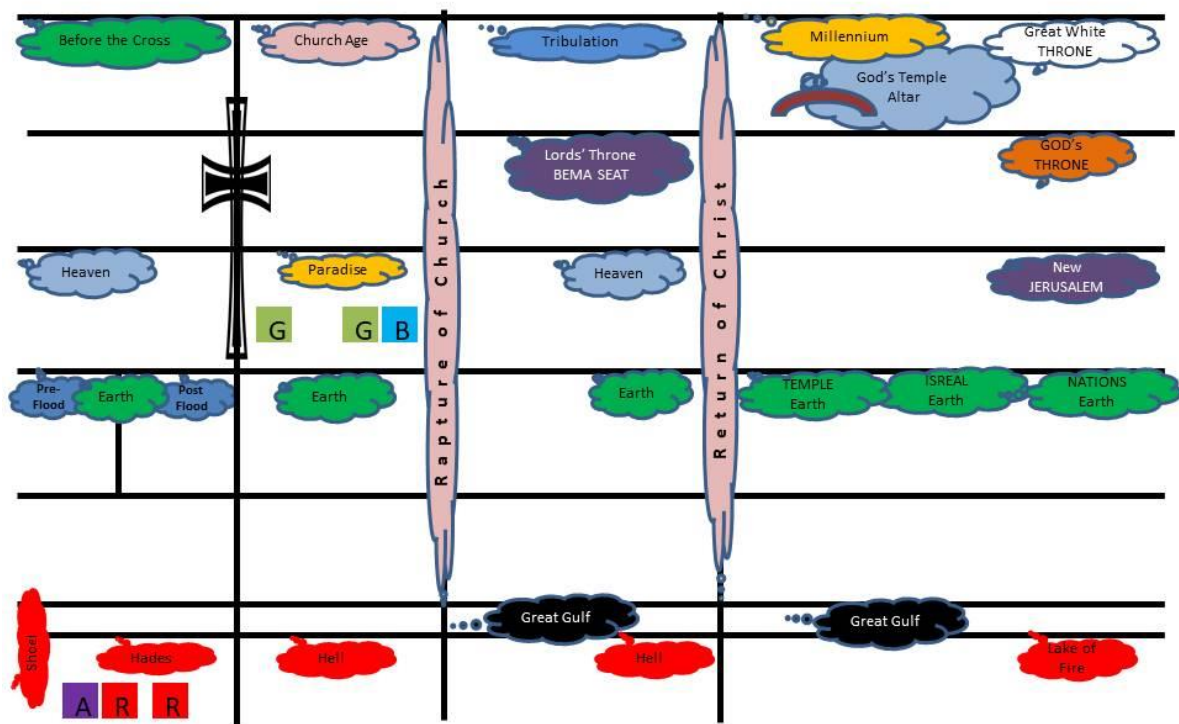
Matthew 27:52-53 tells us, "the tombs opened. The bodies of many godly men and women who had died were raised from the dead. They left the cemetery after Jesus' resurrection, went into the holy city of Jerusalem, and appeared to many people." When Jesus came out of the grave He brought with Him everyone who had been in Paradise waiting for Him and took them to Paradise in Heaven. This fulfilled Psalm 68:18 (NLT), "When you ascended to the heights, you led a crowd of captives;" There is more to this verse but note the ";;", when you see a semi-colon in prophecy verses, it usually means there is a space of time. The next part of Psalm 68:18 (NLT), "You have received gifts from people, yes, even from the rebellious, that the Lord God might dwell among them." The second part of the verse is referring to the Millennium time period. Paradise is now empty.

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#### MOVING BOXES

Draw two new green boxes and one blue box in the Paradise in the Church Age Section and erase the green and blue boxes in Paradise in Sheol. Paradise has been moved. Just as a reminder as to who these boxes represent: green boxes are the Gentiles/Nations who believed in God, and the blue box represents the descendants of Abraham the Jews. The red boxes represent unbelievers and remain in hades and will continue to be there until the end of the Millennium.

This completes Section 1. If you would like, we have an animated chart labeled Section 1 at <http://www.georgeandkaren.com/TribulationSaints> .



KEY Session 6

### NEW BIG PICTURE

Now we are at the start of the Church Age which began with the Day of Pentecost. Wow right off the bat two words with big meanings. First let's define the word church, which first appears in Matthew 16:18. This chapter is where we learn that if we profess and believe "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God" (vs 16) we will become part of the Body of Christ. The word church is not a building but actually a body of believers called out to serve no other God but the Lord Jesus Christ.

Let's read 1 Corinthians 12:13.

Who can become members of the church?

The church has a couple of metaphors which we often throw around which sometimes confuses folks. The first is the "body". The Church is called "one body in Christ" in Romans 12:5, "one body" in 1 Corinthians 10:17, "the body of Christ" in 1 Corinthians 12:27, and "the body" in Hebrews 13:3. Know that you as a believer are part of the body of Christ. The second metaphor is one some struggle with especially if they are a new believer. The Bible applies the imagery of marriage to the believers. Christ is the bridegroom and the church is the Bride. Let's look at the wedding imagery and the betrothal period (engagement today).

Read Ephesians 5:25-27 and Revelation 19:7-8.

What takes places during our betrothal period?

We, as the church, are to stay faithful to our Bridegroom Jesus during betrothal period, aka church age. Paul, in a joking manner, tells the church at Corinth, "For I am jealous for you with the jealousy of God himself. I promised you as a pure bride to one husband—Christ" 2 Corinthians 11:2 (NLT). In other words stay away from Satan, stay away from other religions, stay away from sin but stay pure to Jesus during our betrothal period. At the end of our betrothal or rapture, the church will be united with Christ, our bridegroom, at our "wedding ceremony" (Revelation 19:7-8). Just as a newly married couple today starts a new home, we as the bride of Christ will start our new home.

Read John 14:2.

As the Bride of Christ and a member of the body of church where is our new home?

The local church building is where we can gather to encourage, teach, and build each other up (1 Corinthians 12). Remember, the word church is not a building, but is a group of people which is growing in size daily. It has been growing since the time of the crucifixion of Christ till this very moment in time. Lastly, the group includes people from every nation, tribe, people and language. Remember the word CHURCH the next time you feel alone in serving Christ. You are not alone.

Now the second word Pentecost. What is the day of Pentecost? In the Old Testament, Pentecost carried the name of Feast of Weeks, a time when all the summer fruits and grains were ready to glean. The Israelites brought the samples of their harvest to the temple as a sacrifice to God, because they were thankful for God's blessings. In the New Testament, Pentecost is the day the first church members received something.

Read Acts 2:1-4.

What was given to the group gathered in prayer?

This same Holy Spirit is yours today. Ephesians 1:13-14 teaches us that the Holy Spirit is the seal of salvation for all those who believe, "Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory."<sup>1</sup> In the Old Testament the Holy Spirit indwelt certain people for specific reasons and for a short season, people like judges, warriors, and prophets in a way that gave them extraordinary power: for example, Joshua (Numbers 27:18), Samson (13:25; 14:6), Saul (1 Samuel 10:9, 10) and David (1 Samuel 16:13). However, the Spirit later departed from Saul because of his disobedience (1 Samuel 16:14). That is the big difference for the Church Age and the New Testament. The Holy Spirit now indwells all believers continually.

Read Hebrews 13:5.

How long does this Holy Spirit indwell a believer?

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#### YELLOW BOX

Since we are now part of the Church or Body of Christ we can no longer be called Jew or Gentile. Therefore we cannot use green or blue boxes. Since we are now called Christians (Acts 11:26). We need to draw two yellow boxes and one red box on the Earth under the Church Age Section. During the Church Age it is pretty simple, you believe in Jesus Christ or you don't. Yellow boxes represent Christians and red box represent unbelievers.



## ON EARTH

Now to answer, “Where do people go who die during the Church Age?” Since the cross and Day of Pentecost, when believers die they no longer go to Sheol. Let’s find out where Christians would go if they died today.

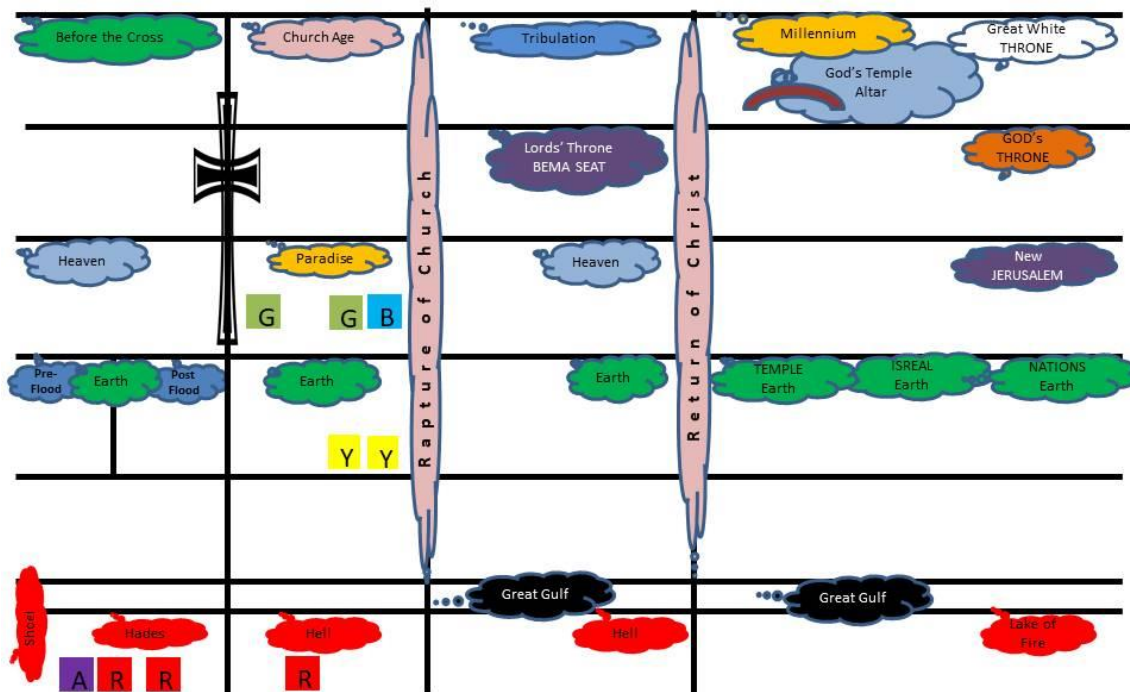
Read 2 Corinthians 5:8.

Where does our spirit go when we die?

From the previous section we learned that Paradise was moved to heaven and this is where Jesus resides. Those who died in our lifetime are now in Heaven with the Lord. For those who refused the notion of a coming redeemer, Hades is still there waiting. Today if a person dies unsaved, they will be among those in torment until the end of the Millennium. Remember the physical body is still in the grave. That was pretty short and simple.

## MOVING BOXES

Draw a new yellow box in Paradise located in heaven below the Church Age Section and erase the yellow box on earth. Just as a reminder this box represents Christians: Draw a new red box in hell and erase the red box on the earth. The red box represents unbelievers.



KEY Session 7

## SESSION 8

### IN HEAVEN

Let's keep moving along the time line and see where the church (Christians) goes next. We can see the Church Age ends with Jesus Christ Glorious Appearing, not his Second Coming. Note: Glorious Appearing and Rapture are often used interchangeably. In the past this took a little study for me to get the two separate. We are going to do some verse comparing to see if you can catch the differences.

Read 1 Thessalonians 4:17 and Revelation 3:10.

At the rapture, believers meet the Lord in the?

The rapture occurs before or after the tribulation?

Read Zechariah 14:4 and Revelation 19:11-16.

At the second coming, the Lord touches the?

The second coming occurs before or after the great and terrible tribulation?

Read 1 Corinthians 15:52.

The rapture will be?

Read Matthew 24:29-30.

The second coming will be visible to?

In short, the rapture precedes the tribulation period and probably only visible to those who are members of the church. It will be short and take place in a twinkling of the eye. At the conclusion of the tribulations, the second coming of Christ will be visible to everyone remaining on earth.

### ON THE EARTH

At Christ Glorious appearing, the church is raptured to Heaven, we are out of here. But there is an order in which we travel.

Read 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17.

Who goes first?

Who goes second?

This is when we will receive our resurrection bodies, as our bodies come out of the grave, we are given a makeover, and are reunited with our soul. Let's look at four different characteristics our new bodies will have:

Underline four of these qualities in 1 Corinthians 15:42-44 NLT:

"It is the same way with the resurrection of the dead. Our earthly bodies are planted in the ground when we die, but they will be raised to live forever. Our bodies are buried in brokenness, but they will be raised in glory. They are buried in weakness, but they will be raised in strength. They are buried as natural human bodies, but they will be raised as spiritual bodies. For just as there are natural bodies, there are also spiritual bodies."

Hopefully you caught that our new bodies will be imperishable, glorious, powerful, and Godly. Wow Godly. No more temptation of sin, complete willingness to obey Jesus' will. Sounds like a makeover to me and I'm anxious to see that before and after "selfie".

There is more to our new bodies that might prove to be enjoyable. Luke 24:31 KJV states, "And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him." Our new bodies will look like ourselves, the very best version of ourselves, no more sickness or pain. In Luke 24:41-43 Jesus appears to his disciples in the upper room and eats with his disciples. And Revelation 19 tells of the Wedding Feast of the Lamb. We get to eat. Perfect bodies and perfect food, what more could one ask for? Last one.

Read John 20:19.

The door was locked but what was Jesus able to do?

We will have no hindrance to traveling. Just think when the earth and heaven are made new what beautiful glorious places we can visit and see. Maybe I am putting a human spin to indescribable place but it sure gives us something to look forward to. We are told to encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near (Hebrews 10:25).

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## BACK IN HEAVEN

Before we start this section let's look at the word 'judgment seat'. The Greek word is bema but gets translated as judgment seat in our Bible. A bema seat is a raised platform where a ruler sits and issues a sentence (Matthew 27:19) but another form of the word beam comes from the Isthmian games which, were played during time period of Christ. The judge of the games, who was seated on the bema seat, would make sure the contestant obeyed all the rules and the victor would be brought to the bema seat to be awarded a laurel wreath which was placed on his head. When scripture uses judgment seat we think of a sentence being passed and not a reward being given. The judgment seat is not to be dreaded by the Christian. 2 Corinthians 5:10 tells us, "We must all appear before the judgment seat (bema) of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad." The judgment seat of Christ involves believers giving an account of their lives to Christ. The judgment seat of Christ does not determine salvation that was determined by Christ's sacrifice on our behalf. Remember 1 John 2:2 (NLT) tells us, "Jesus, himself is the sacrifice that atones for our sins—and not only our sins but the sins of all the world." All of our sins are forgiven, and we will never be condemned for those sins (Romans 8:1). It is our faith in Him that saves us (John 3:16). We should not look at the judgment seat of Christ as God judging our sins, but rather as God rewarding us for our lives.<sup>1</sup> You wouldn't be at this event if you were not saved; you would face the White Throne Judgment which is not good (Revelation 20:11-15). The Bible even speaks of believers receiving crowns actually there five different ones. The Everlasting Crown (Victory), 1 Corinthians 9:25, which is for believers who overcome the temptations that Satan throws our way. For those who have choose to walk the Christian way by being kind to one another, forgiving one another, and following God's commandments. The Crown of the Soul Winner, Philippians 4:1, which is for those whose evangelistic actions brings someone to salvation. But you are saying, "I have never evangelized someone." Really?

Check off all that you have done.

- ☐ Sunday School Teacher
- ☐ VBS teacher/helper
- ☐ Parent teaching your child about God
- ☐ Speaker at an event
- ☐ Gave personal testimony
- ☐ Singer/Sang in Choir
- ☐ Live a Godly life for others to see

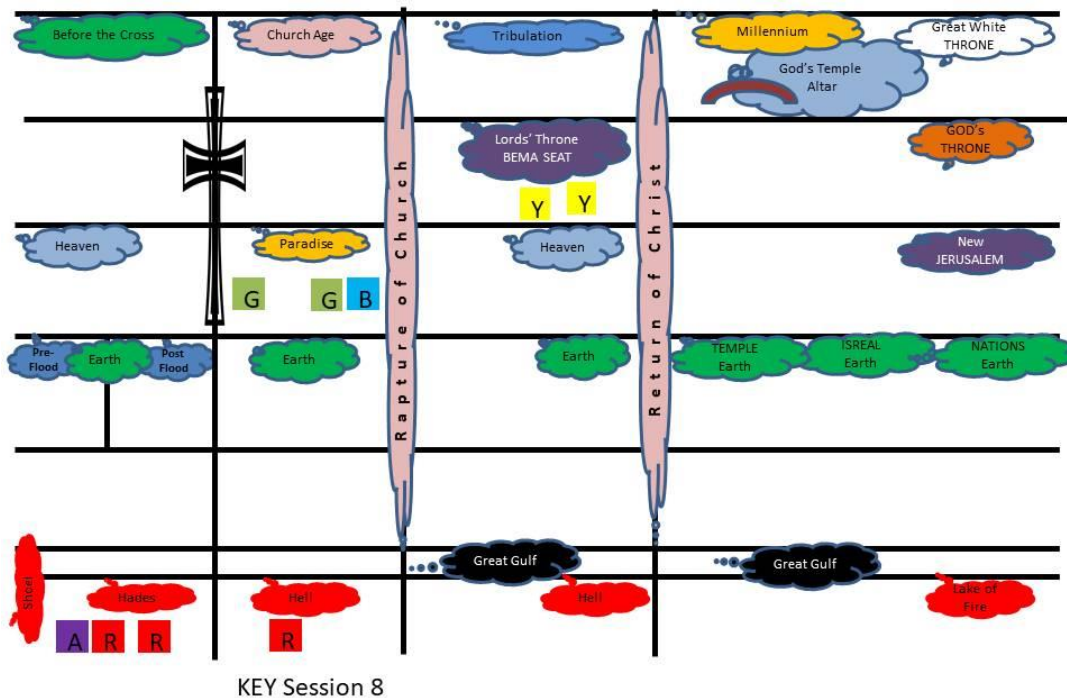
Remember we are judged for efforts not for our results. Let's move on with our crowns. The Crown of Righteousness, 2 Timothy 4:8, which is for those who long for His appearing. The

Crown of Life (Martyr's Crown), James 1:12, which is for those who have faced persecution and suffering for the Lord, even to the point of death. And the last one, The Crown of Glory, 1 Peter 5:4, is for those who are shepherds of God's flock such as elders, preachers, teachers, mentors of youth, and ministry leaders of music, children, shelters, and food banks. One last word about crowns. To qualify for all these crowns/rewards our motives have to be expressions of gratitude to the Lord for what He has done for us in this life; it cannot be for the purpose of recognition for ourselves, position of authority, or favor from God. It is called, "Loving the Lord with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind" (Matthew 22:37 NLT).

## YELLOW BOXES

Erase the yellow box on the earth. Draw a new yellow box below the Bema Seat located in heaven below the Tribulation Section. Erase the yellow box in Paradise. Draw a new yellow box below the Bema Seat located in heaven below the Tribulation Section. Just as a reminder this box represents Christians/Church. Also remember before we ascend to the Bema Seat our bodies are reunited with our old bodies and we are given our new resurrected bodies (our makeover).

This completes Section 2. If you would like, we have an animated chart labeled Section 2 at <http://www.georgeandkaren.com/TribulationSaints>.



### ON EARTH

So back to earth and what's happening there and the seven year tribulation. Since the church has been raptured and is gone the 70th Week of Daniel now starts. More on 70th Week of Daniel in a bit but let's review our boxes. When the church is raptured the clock starts ticking again for the Jewish people therefore we are back to the original colored boxes. Green Boxes (Nations), Blue Boxes (Jews), Red Boxes (Unbelievers). Draw two red boxes, three green boxes, and three blue boxes on the Earth in the Tribulations section. Now this is where things start to get hairy. Pay close attention.

So what is the seven year tribulation? We have to do some background first. Remember Daniel, the guy in the lion's den, God uses him also as a prophet. In the chapters 7 and 8 of Daniel we find some wild visions recorded which Daniel had. These visions include four beasts with seven horns and iron teeth, talking horns on animals, rams, and goats. God uses Gabriel, the messenger angel, to talk with Daniel (Daniel 9:22) and explain to him what these visions meant, remember Daniels's people are Jews/Israel. In this vision Gabriel explains there are 70 weeks in which God will have to finish disciplining Israel and judging the unbelieving world. We covered a little of this back in Session 2. Four hundred eighty years have passed since the decree to rebuild Jerusalem to the cutting off of the Messiah. This leaves one seven-year period to be fulfilled.<sup>1</sup> The tribulation is that seven year period and in this short time period God has something to finish up with.

Read Daniel 9:24 (ERV), underline what God has planned for this seven year tribulation. "God has allowed 70 weeks for your people and your holy city, Daniel. The 70 weeks are ordered for these reasons: to stop doing bad things, to stop sinning, to make people pure, to bring the goodness that continues forever, to put a seal on visions and prophets, and to dedicate a very holy place."

This is when God is going to take the earth back from Satan and kick his butt and finish judging Israel for its sin. The Bible indicates that a great number of people during the tribulation will place their faith in Jesus Christ.<sup>2</sup> It will also be a time of great persecution for the believers—or saints—because of the Antichrist's hatred of them or anything related to God. Not to mention all things that are happening on earth during this time: famine, earthquakes, locusts, seas and rivers turn to blood, and hail just to mention of few. Not a good time.

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## INTERLUDE

To understand where people go when they die in the tribulation period we have to spend a lot of time in Revelation. Ever heard of a love hate relationship, well that is me and studying this book. It is like being a detective and looking at every word for a clue. But I have to say one thing up front; I am not saying I am correct on all the placement of people, but I am saying my husband and I have spent a lot of time studying. Alright, in placing these heavenly beings we are going to take each group or colored box as they show up in Revelation. Revelation is in chronological order but you bounce from Heaven, to earth, so keep in mind this is a big picture view. With that being said let's start.

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## BACK IN HEAVEN

Believers who die during the tribulation will still go be in the presence of the God Most High. These believers are also called tribulation saints and there are a bunch of them. The first group of people (saints) seen in heaven are the ones in Revelation 6:9 when the fifth seal from the scroll is opened. The Lamb Jesus Christ has broken the first seal, and military conquest ensues (Revelation 6:1-2). The second seal is broken and peace flees; homicide and war ensue (Revelation 6:3-4). He breaks the third seal and famine enters (Revelation 6:5-6). He breaks the fourth seal and death stalks by war, famine, pestilence, and wild animals (Revelation 6:7-8). Gosh, even the animals are affected by this fourth seal. Things on earth have got to be crazy and in my mind unbelievers are looking for someone to blame for all the bad things happening. They refuse to repent, acknowledge God, and accept Jesus Christ as their savior. Those who die without repentance will find themselves in Hell waiting their judgment as those of the Church Age and Before the Cross non-believers. Anyone one who professes God or their belief in Jesus Christ is killed. *(These Jesus professing people are to blame for this. Kill the Christians! (My take))*

Read Revelation 6:9-11.

Where are these saints located?

How did they die?

What are they wearing?

What are they told to do?

Who told them what to do?

Several things we have to infer from this passage. The first, God has a temple in heaven and an altar is located inside the temple. Revelation 11:19 NLT tells us, "Then, in heaven, the Temple of God was opened and the Ark of his covenant could be seen inside the Temple." Second, these souls do not have resurrected bodies as the church age believers (1 Corinthians 15:44). Remember we are back to the way things were before the cross. These saints, along with the Old Testament saints who are in Paradise (see them on your chart), are still awaiting Christ Second Coming.

Let's talk a bit about white robes. First let's see who else wears white robes.

Read Mark 16:5.

Who has on white robes?

Read Luke 9:28-30.

Whose robe became white?

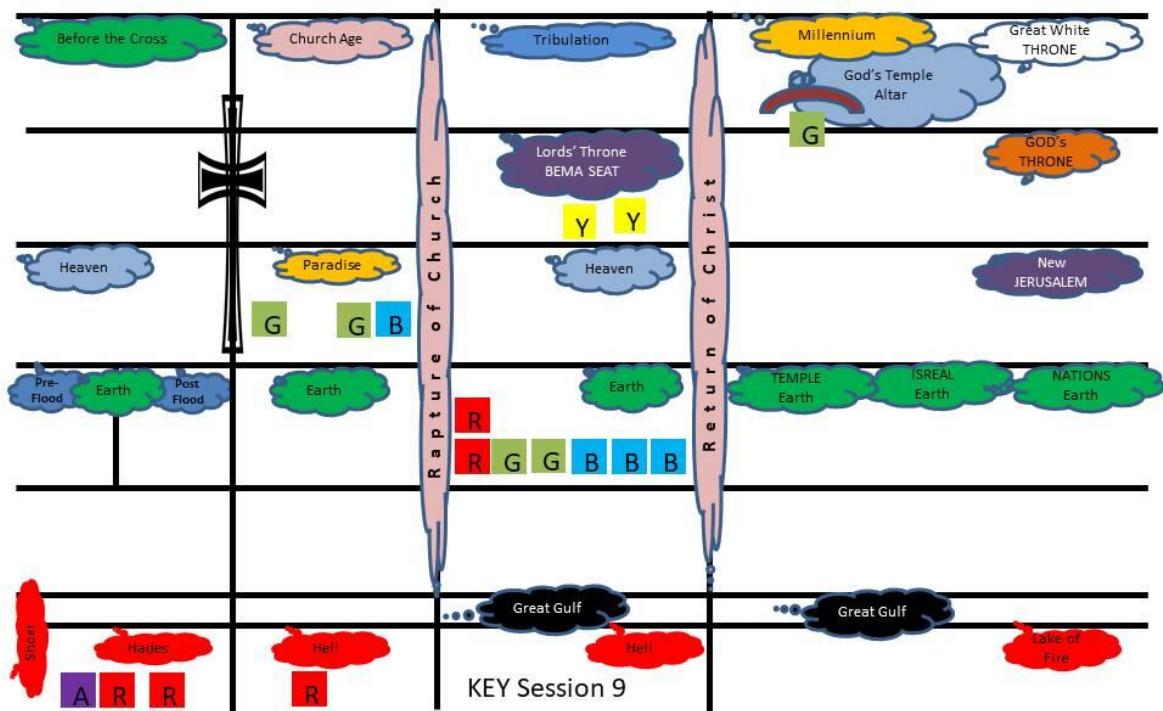
Throughout the Bible, white clothing symbolizes purity. The attire of those who had been found worthy to rule with Jesus in His eternal kingdom is describe as white (Revelation 3:18). And Jesus is usually seen wearing white in prophetic visions (Daniel 7:9). Isaiah 61:10 NKJ states, "For He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of righteousness." So the last thing we can infer is that the "white robes" are the righteousness and salvation of Jesus Christ.

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## MOVING BOXES

Draw a new green box under the altar located in God's temple below the Millennium Section and erase one of the green boxes on the earth in the Tribulation section. Don't get confused by the box being placed in the Millennium section. The return of Christ has not taken place yet. The saints are there in heaven under God's altar waiting for the return to happen. Just as a reminder this green box represents the martyred saints of the Tribulation which could be both Jew and Gentile. On to the next group.





## TOTALLY IRRELEVANT

This section is for all the animal lovers and pet lovers. There are several stories of animals which talk in the bible. What, you say several? We are all familiar with the talking snake in Genesis 3:1, which makes me wonder if all animals talked in the Garden of Eden. Eve didn't seem surprised when the serpent spoke to her. Some may not be as familiar with Balaam and his talking donkey (Numbers 22:28-34). It always frustrated me that Balaam didn't apologize to the donkey. In Revelation 4:6-8 we have rather strange, holy, heavenly creatures. Give this passage a quick read. Revelation 6:1 tells us that one these animals talk, "Now I saw, when the Lamb opened one of the seals and I heard one of the four living creatures saying with a voice like thunder, "Come and see." actually the other three creatures' talk (Revelation 6:3, 6:5, and 6:7). This next scripture just makes me shake my head in wonder. Revelation 5:13 states, "Then I heard every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that are in them, saying: "To Him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and power, forever and ever!"" If the animal kingdom which is a lower life form with mental thoughts understands and worships the Creator of the Universe, why can't man recognize and acknowledge this same Creator. I shake my head at man's ignorance, mine included.

### ON EARTH

What has happened on earth? With the continuation of the seal judgments (Revelation 6), the sixth seal has brought a great earthquake, the sun turning black, the whole moon becoming like blood, and the stars falling to the earth. Also the sky has split apart like a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island have moved out of their places. The people of the earth have hid themselves in caves and among the rocks of the mountains. A great fear has fallen on mankind (Revelation 6:15). God predicts and describes these events in both the Old and New Testaments. God had a plan from the very beginning. Let's look at a couple of verses and compare them.

Read Isaiah 2:17-19 (NLT).

Where do the people hide?

Read Joel 2:31.

What happens to the sun and the moon?

Revelation 7 tells us that God marks 144,000 Jews from each tribe, except the tribe of Dan. The speculation is that Dan's tribe was heavy into idol worship (Judges 18:30-31), therefore not protected during the tribulation time. So what are these 144,000 doing on earth. We know they are going to be protected during the Trumpet Judgments (Revelation 9:4).

Read Revelation 7:3.

What does angel call this group of 144,000?

Paul refers to himself as servant and in charge of explaining God's great mysteries (1 Corinthians 4:1); in other words Paul is an evangelist. Jesus commands us to make disciples of all nations (Matthew 28:18-20). I do believe these folks are to be evangelist! And the redeemed of their work are seen in heaven which leads to our next group or box color?

So let's mark one of the blue boxes on earth with a star so we can remember they are the marked 144,000 on earth.

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## IN HEAVEN

The next large group of people seen in Heaven is in Revelation 7:9-17. Note the first three words "After these things". We do not know how much time has elapsed since the 144,000 have been marked. But we can get a clue.

Read Revelation 7:14.

Where did this group come from?

This part of the tribulation or great tribulation is referred to as the last three and half years. So we might assume this scene is at the end of the tribulation. By reading Revelation 7:9 we find this is a very large crowd and that they are from every nation, tribe, race of people, and language of the earth. This immediately tells us these are Gentiles but are Jews included? Next let's see what they are wearing and carrying.

Read Revelation 7:9.

What is their attire?

What are they carrying?

Remember white robes are only given to the pure and worthy. But what about the palm branches they are carrying. Another time in the Bible we see the use of palm branches is the Lord's entrance into Jerusalem days before His death. In John 12:13 NKJ we see a multitude of people waving palm fronds before the Lord as He rode into Jerusalem; a time of celebration. They said, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord (God the Father), even the King of Israel." This would lead one to think the huge crowds of people are Jews, (The Jews were in Jerusalem to celebrate Passover); but we are told they are from every nation. Remember we are back to pre-cross time. These believers are not part of the Bride of Christ (Bride of Christ is Church Age) but they do believe that Jesus is the coming Messiah. The palm frond is an ancient symbol of victory so these branches could be a symbol of victory over Satan and his mark. I am going to use the palm as a marker for this group being different from the other two groups seen in heaven. Later we find they all have different roles in the 1,000 year reign

Read Revelation 7:15.

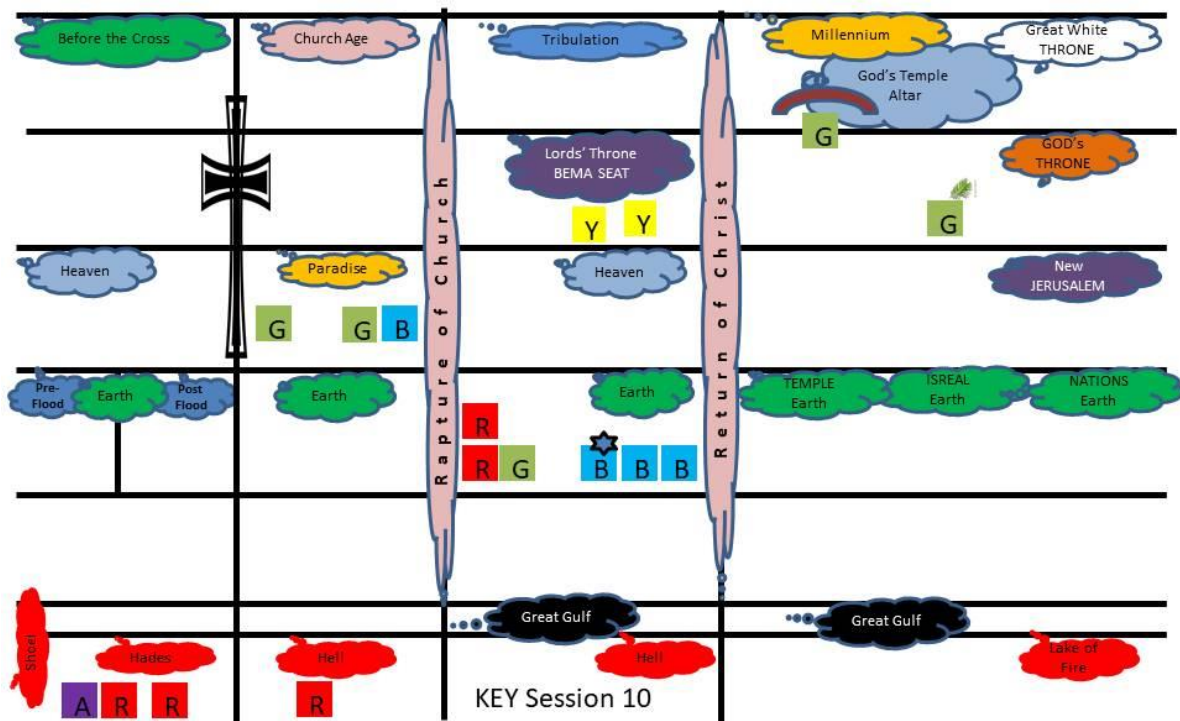
Where are these great tribulations saints standing?

Revelation 7:15 tells us this group is standing before the throne and before the Lamb. It does not say before the Lamb's throne. Putting the two together it seems the scene is God sitting on this throne and Jesus is there by His side.

So the key points to remember from this section for this group of saints are: they are standing before God's throne, wearing white robes, and carrying palm branches.

### GREEN BOX

Erase one of the green boxes on the earth in the Tribulation section. Draw a new green (since we have all nations) under the God's throne located in the Millennium Section. Draw a little palm branch on this box so we can keep it separated from the martyrs under the altar. Just as a reminder this green box represents the saints of the Great Tribulation who are from the nations. Don't forget by erasing a box we are indicating their death and drawing new one in a different location indicate their new location after death.



### ON EARTH

Our last session ended with the sixth seal, which covered half of the first three and half years. The seventh seal is opened and there is a silence in heaven for about half an hour (Revelation 8:1). The angels prepare themselves for the rest of the second half of the first three and half years, which are the trumpet judgments. During this time the earth and the people still living upon the earth must endure hail, fire and one third of the earth being destroyed (Revelation 8:7), one third of the sea and its life destroyed (Revelation 8:8-9), one third of the fresh water destroyed (Revelation 8:10-11), sun, moon, and stars dimmed (Revelation 8:12), nonbelievers stung with locusts, (Revelation 9:3-10), and fire, smoke, and brimstone killing one third of mankind, (Revelation 9:12-21). Praising God I will not be there!

The next people we see are the two witnesses which God sends to the earth during this time of horror (Revelation 11: 1-14). God's so determined to save mankind. Ezekiel 18:23 NLT tells us God says, "I want them (humans) to turn from their wicked ways and live." There is much speculation of the identity of these two witnesses. Let's look at these and you can choose the two who you believe or think they might be. Place a check by your choice.

#### ☐ Moses –

- Due to witnesses' power to turn water into blood which Moses is known for (Exodus chapter 7).
- Moses appeared with Jesus at the transfiguration (Matthew 17:3-4).
- God's promise to rise up a prophet like Moses (Deuteronomy 18:15, 18) (This prophet could be Jesus as well.)

#### ☐ Elijah –

- Due to the witnesses' power to destroy people with fire which Elijah is known for (2 Kings Chapter 1).
- Elijah appeared with Jesus at the transfiguration (Matthew 17:3-4).
- Malachi 4:5 predicted the return of Elijah.
- Never experienced death (2 Kings 2:11).

#### ☐ Enoch –

- Never experienced death (Genesis 5:24).

#### ☐ Unknown Identify –

- Revelation 11:4 tells us “These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands standing before the God of the earth.” In Zechariah 4, Zechariah has a dream of two olive trees and two lampstands. Then the angel says, “These are the two anointed ones, who stand beside the Lord of the whole earth” (Zechariah 4:14). Meaning, God could send two angels to earth in human form to do His work. Or, God is perfectly capable of taking two "ordinary" believers and enabling them to perform these signs and wonders.

Revelation 11:12 tells us that these two witnesses ascended to heaven in a cloud. We are not going to draw a box for these two people. I am not saying they are not worthy of recognition for they are. It just seems our worksheet is getting a little over crowded.

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## IN HEAVEN

Chapter 12 of Revelation opens with a great sign in heaven. John sees this woman about to give birth to a child. Let’s get some detail about the woman and see if we can figure out who she is or who she represents.

Read Revelation 12:1-2.

What are the three things that seem strange about the woman?

Clothed with the \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ under her feet  
 on her head a garland of \_\_\_\_\_

Ok so where else in the Bible do we see sun, moon, and stars together at one time? Back in Genesis Joseph has a couple of dreams. One was that he and his brothers were binding sheaves in the field. Joseph sheaves stood up and his brother’s sheaves bowed down to his sheaves. But let’s look at the second dream.

Read Genesis 37:9-10.

Who did the sun and moon represent?

Who did the stars represent?

By these two hints who do you think the woman in Revelation could be?

Hopefully you made the connection that the woman represents Israel as a nation.

## BACK ON EARTH

Remember back in Session 2 when we talked about Genesis 3:15? The first part of the verse, “I’m declaring war between you and the Women, between your offspring and hers” (MSG), Revelation Chapter 12 is about this war.

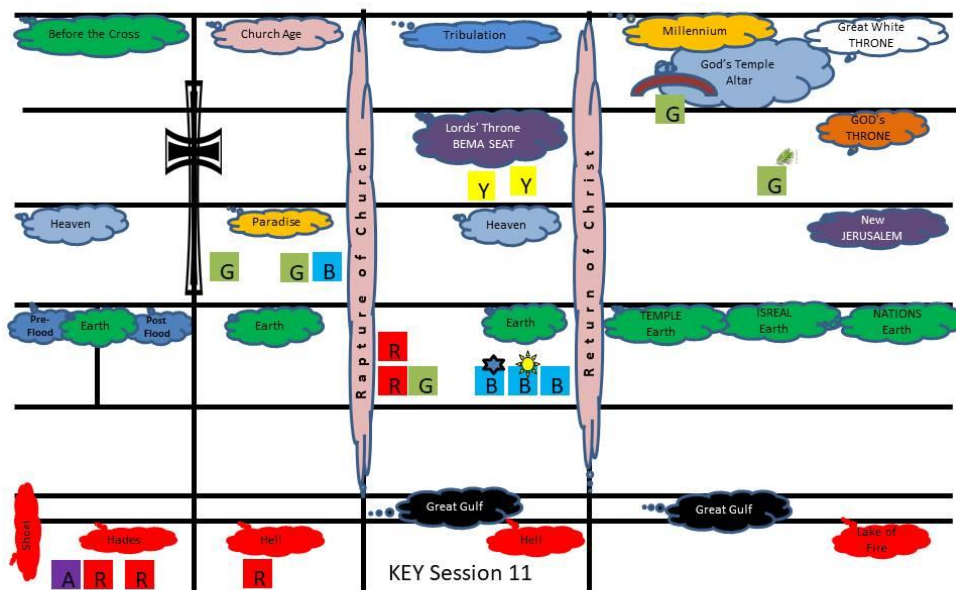
Read Revelation 12:17 (KJV).

The only question I can ask is do you see the fulfillment of this prophecy?

Back to the woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a garland of twelve stars. Verses 6 and 14 tells us that Woman (Israel) escaped to the desert to a place of safety prepared by God, where all her needs are met and comforts are provided her for 1,260 days. Romans 9:27 (NLT) says Isaiah the prophet cried out, “Though the people of Israel are as numerous as the sand of the seashore, only a remnant will be saved.” Jesus even foretells of this event in Matthew 24:15. Jesus tells the Jews when they see the abomination of desolation (aka Anti-Christ setting a statue in the temple) to flee to the mountains, don’t take anything from their house or get any of their clothes. FLEE! This fleeing remnant of Jews will be protected and live through the tribulation period.

## BLUE BOX

To keep our blue boxes or different Jewish groups of people separate, let’s mark one of the blue boxes on the earth in the Tribulation section with a sun looking symbol. This will remind us that this is the Jewish remnant.





## SESSION 12

### ON EARTH

The first woe is past (Revelation 9:12) which consisted of the first five trumpet judgments. The second woe has past (Revelation 9:14) which consisted of the release of the four angels. And the third woe (Revelation 12:12), which consist of the devil coming down to earth having great wrath; the rising of the Antichrist (Revelation 13:1); the positioning of the false prophet (Revelation 13:11); and lastly the marking of the beast (Revelation 13:18).

### IN HEAVEN

In Revelation 14:1 we see the same 144,000, as in Revelation 7, standing with the Lamb (Jesus) on Mount Zion. You say that Mount Zion is on the earth and you are correct, but Mount Zion is also used in scripture to refer to the God's spiritual kingdom. "But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels" (Hebrews 12:22). So is this a heavenly scene or an earthly scene? First let's look at why we think this group in chapter 14 is the same group in chapter 7.

Compare Revelation 7:3-4 and Revelation 14:1.

What is the count of both groups?

What is the similarity between the two groups?

Read Revelation 14:3 & 5.

Where is this group standing?

Since they are before the throne of God, seems the scene is a heavenly one. There must be a heavenly Mt. Zion. I will let you decide. There other unique identifiers of this group.

Read Revelation 14:4.

What are four unusual things about 144,000?

Not defiled with?

Follow the ?

Redeemed from?

What unto God and the Lamb?

The concept of first fruits grabbed my attention. In Hosea 9:10, the people of Israel were referred to as the first fruits of God's harvest. Then in 1 Corinthians 15:20, Christ has become the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. Hum, so we have first fruits for God and first fruits for Jesus. And now we have first fruits for both God and Jesus. In Leviticus 23:10-14, we find no one was to eat any of the grain of the barley harvest until the first sheaf of harvest was brought to the priest, who in turn waved it before God. Remember those Old Testament saints from "Before the Cross" in Session 6 who was seen in Jerusalem, they are part of this barley harvest or Feast of First Fruits. Christ's resurrection was the "first fruits of those who have fallen asleep" (1 Corinthians 15:20). Jesus, as the Holy Priest, went to Paradise and gathered those who were there waiting, took them to Heaven, and presented them to God as the wave offering. Later on Pentecost or Feast of Weeks, two loaves of bread were offered from the first fruits of the wheat harvest (we are the wheat harvest), making this a second first fruits offering. The wheat harvest will be completed at the rapture of the church at the beginning of the tribulation (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17). The final barley harvest is at the end of the tribulation (Revelation 20:4-6).

One step further. Look at the Levitical feast and special days in the Old Testament vs the Levitical feast and special days in the millennial reign.

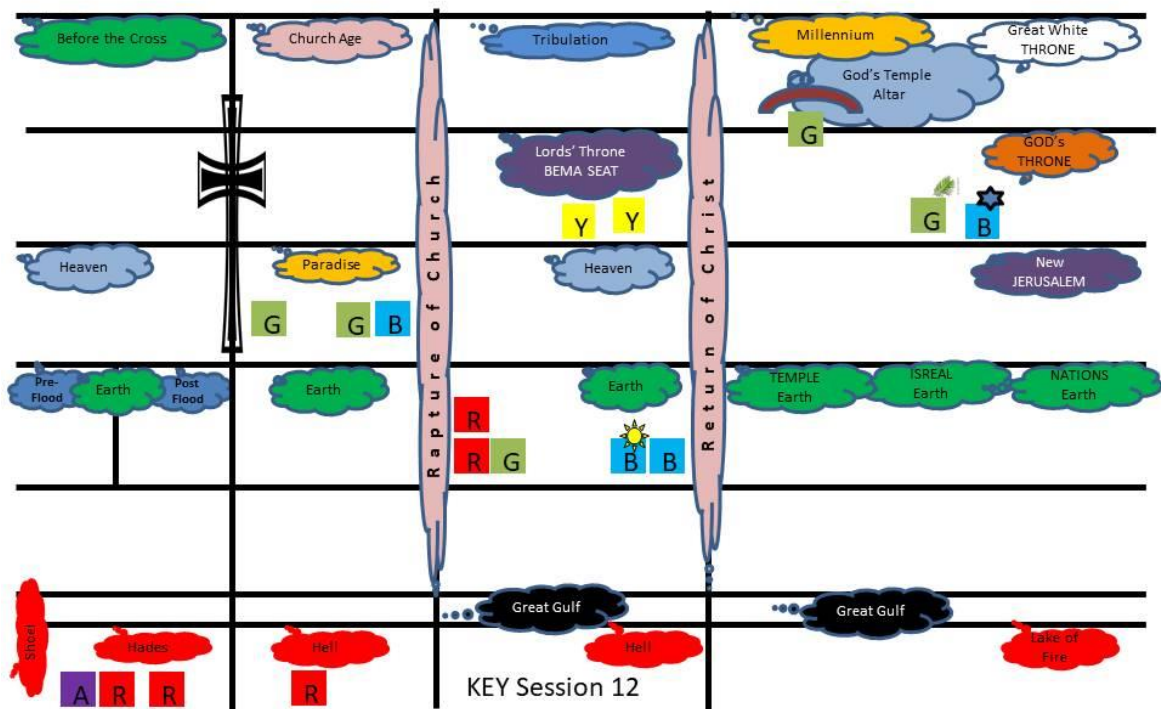
<b>LEVITICAL</b>	<b>MILLENNIAL</b>
Sabbath (Lev 23:3)	New Year (Ezek 45:18-20)
Passover (Lev 23:4-5)	Passover (Ezek 45:21-24)
Unleavened Bread (Lev 23:6-8)	Unleavened Bread (Ezek 45:21-24)
Feast of First Fruits(Lev 23:9-14)	Feast of Tabernacles (Ezek 45:25)
Feast of Weeks (Lev 23:15-22)	Note: Feast not named but has the same date as the Feast of Tabernacles listed in Lev 23:33-44.
Feast of Trumpets (Lev 23:23-25)	
Day of Atonement (Lev 23:26-32)	
Feast of Tabernacles (Lev 23:33-44)	

Notice the Feast of First Fruits and Feast of Weeks are not celebrated in the millennial reign. The Feast of Trumpets was to recognize the end of the harvest year. 1 Thessalonians 4:16 references this trumpet being blown. Day of Atonement will not be needed because the

Jews will recognize Jesus as their Messiah. God releases them from their spiritual blindness and they come to faith in Christ. I pray you got something out all of that.

## MOVING BOXES

Erase the blue box with a star on the earth in the Tribulation section. Draw a new blue box with a star under God's throne below the Millennium Section. Just as a reminder this blue box with a star represents the marked 144,000 of Israel/Jews.



## SESSION 13

### ON EARTH

The scene is actually in heaven but the messages are given to humanity on earth by three angels. The first angel flies around in the heavens close enough to earth so that humanity can hear as the everlasting gospel is shared, warning people not to believe in the Antichrist or take his mark (Revelation 14:6-7). The second angel announces the fall of Babylon (Revelation 14:8). The third angel warns mankind if they take the mark, the name, or the number of the beast they will face punishment of hell (Revelation 14:9-11). The battle of Armageddon is about to take place (Revelation 14:14-20).

### IN HEAVEN AND ON EARTH

Have you ever heard the gospel speakers referencing “Grapes of Wrath” (not the novel)? What they are referring to is Revelation 14:17-20. Many times we miss the first harvest that takes place in this chapter. Let’s compare these two harvests.

Read Revelation 14:14-20.

We have a grain harvest and a fruit harvest.

Who is the grain harvester?

Who is the fruit harvester?

Where does the grain harvested go?

Where do the grapes harvested go?

First what we know, in Joel 3:12-14 we gain the understanding the surrounding nations of Israel have grown wicked and the day for Christ’s return (2nd Coming) is near. The slaughter of the wicked takes place, simply put soldiers who are in support of the beast or antichrist will be killed. The treading of the grapes in the winepress is a nicer way of stating the event. Blood shed will be great. Now for what we don’t know, we are not told where the grain or righteous is stored, I think we can find out. Let’s see who we see next in heaven.

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## IN HEAVEN

In Revelation 15:2 we see another group of people but John didn't ask where this group came from. It seems we can conclude they took the advice of the third angel in Revelation 14:9-11.

Compare Revelation 15:2 with Revelation 14:9.

List the three victories for the group.

1.)

2.)

3.)

While we are reading Revelation 15:2,

Where is this group standing?

A sea of glass mingled with fire? Where is this sea of glass? Back in Revelation 4:6 we discover this sea of glass is located before the Throne of God. It seems the floor of the heavenly temple is like crystal or transparent glass. I think of a prism producing flashes of color. Daniel 10:6 (NLT) describes God with "His body looked like a precious gem. His face flashed like lightning, and his eyes flamed like torches." The glorious light that God and the Lamb produce reflect off the floor of the temple. Only earthly thing it might be like is the northern lights or aurora borealis. Just like John, it is hard to find words to describe. On to what this group is holding in their hands.

Read Revelation 15:2.

What is in their hands?

They were all holding harps that God has given them, which leads me to think they are Jews. Why? For one the harp, which was created by Jubal (Genesis 4:21), was used by David to sooth Saul (1 Samuel 16:18), played during celebrations (Nehemiah 12:27), assigned to the Levite choir (1 Chronicles 15:16), used in worship to praise God (Psalm 43:4), and even used in battle (Isaiah 30:32). Secondly the 144,000, who were chosen from the tribes of Israel, were heard singing and playing harps (Rev 14:3). The harp was used continuously through the Bible by the Jewish people.

Read Revelation 15:3.

What two songs are they singing?

1.)

2.)

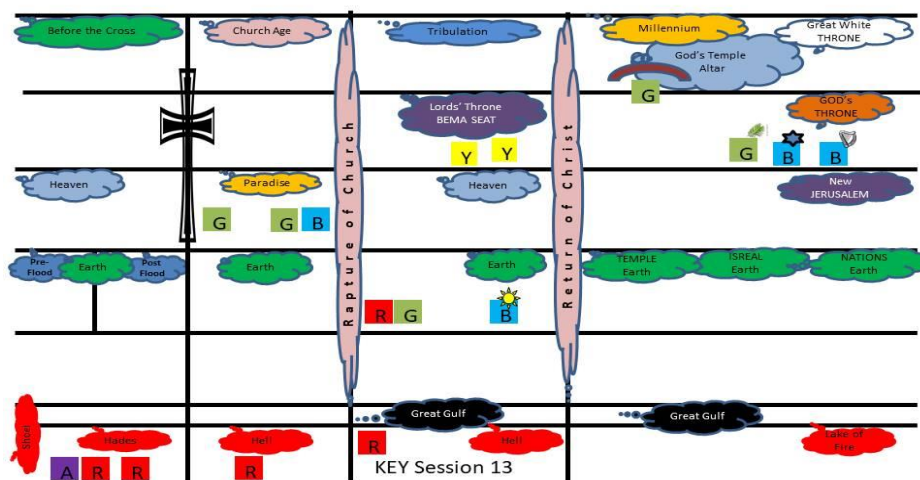
Another reason this group are possibly Jews is they are singing the Song of Moses, not the one in Exodus 15 but the song at the end of Moses's life (Deuteronomy 31:30-32:43). When reading this song, it is as if Moses is predicting Israel's future all the way to the end, including their time of judgment during the tribulation. This song would only make sense to the Jewish people. The other song was to the Lamb Revelation 15:3-4. If they are singing the Song of the Lamb, would this not mean they took the advice of the angel of Revelation 14:9? This same angel tells them, "keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus" (Revelation 14:12). They kept the commandments and believed in Jesus and now they are in heaven singing songs both to God and Jesus.

So the key points to remember from this section for this group are: they are standing around God's throne, carrying harps, and singing the Song of Moses.

### BLUE AND RED BOXES

Erase one of the blue boxes on the earth in the Tribulation section. Draw a new blue box under the God's throne located in the Millennium Section. Draw a little harp on this box so we can keep this box separate from the 144,000. Just as a reminder this blue box represents the Jews martyred during the tribulation. Erase one of the red boxes on the earth in the Tribulation Section. Draw a new red box in Hell. This box represents all the supporters of the Satan and the Anti-Christ.

This completes Section 3. If you would like, we have an animated chart labeled Section 3 at <http://www.georgeandkaren.com/TribulationSaints>.



## ON EARTH

The people of the earth have gone through the bowl judgments which include: loathsome sores, sea turned to blood, rivers turned to blood, scorched by the sun, total darkness and pain, drought, and a great earthquake (Revelation 16). The destruction of Babylon has finally finished (Revelation 18). The tribulation is coming to a close with the Battle of Armageddon. Before we can start discussing the Millennium section and where all these people in heaven will reside, we have two big events: The Marriage of the Lamb/Christ and Christ's Return.

## Prelude

Before we start the next session we need to understand a bit more about Jewish Weddings. Below is a chart that helps explain the wedding analogy behind what is happening in heaven.<sup>1</sup>

Marriage Covenant	The father pays for the bride and establishes the marriage covenant.	Acts 20:28; 1Cor. 6:19-20; 11:25 Eph. 5:25-27
Bridal Chamber Prepared	The son returns to his father's house and prepares the bridal chamber.	John 6:62; 14:2; Acts 1:9-11
Bride Fetched	At a time determined by the father (Mat. 24:36), the groom fetches the bride to bring her to his father's house. "Although the bride was expecting her groom to come for her, she did not know the time of his coming. As a result, the groom's arrival was preceded by a shout, which forewarned the bride to be prepared for his coming."	John 14:3; 1Th. 4:13-18
Bride Cleansed	The bride undergoes ritual cleansing prior to the wedding ceremony.	1Cor. 3:12-15; Rev. 19:7-8
Wedding Ceremony	The private wedding ceremony.	Rev. 19:7
Consummation	In the privacy of the bridal chamber the bride and groom consummate the	Rev. 19:7

	marriage.	
Marriage Feast	The celebratory marriage feast to which many are invited.	Mat. 22:1-14; 25:1-13; Luke 12:36

## IN HEAVEN

Great rejoicing is heard in heaven a great multitude can be heard, "Alleluia! Salvation and glory and honor and power belong to the Lord our God!" (Revelation 19:1) Then the 24 elders and the four living beings bow down; they worshiped God, who sits on the throne. They said, "Amen! Hallelujah!" (Revelation 19:4) Then it happens.

Read Revelation 19:7-8.

What event is taking place?

This is all that is given us describing this great event. Maybe the Lord wants to keep us in suspense.

What has been given the bride to wear?

I have to say it. It is not a white robe!

What does this garment mean?

We are given a garment of fine linen. But wait you have to understand this garment is not a fabric just manufactured in heaven. The fine linen is your LIFE. All the deeds that passed through the fire; all the good things you have done to glorify the Lord; all the struggles when you could have chosen an easier way, but stayed true to his word; how you lived your life for God and Christ. Each glittering, golden sparkly thread represents something from your life which you have done to glorify our Lord and Savior. It is from Christ you have gotten this garment and He is the one who has made it clean and bright.

The last step in a Jewish Wedding is the Marriage Feast. Wow the only scripture we have describing the wedding ceremony is Revelation 19:7. So we let's look at the parable of the wedding feast in Matthew 22:2-14 to see if we can get some insight on who will be there.

Read Matthew 22:11.

What are the guests wearing?



I know it does not give the color or style of the garment, but we can agree there is a garment. We have emphasized white robes being worn by several groups we have discussed in our study: martyrs under the altar, 144,000 and the group with palm branches. So hopefully we can assume that these three groups will be the guest at the feast. Note these three groups all accepted Jesus Christ as the Messiah and are a mix of Jew and other nations.

But what about the others in heaven, the Old Testament saints and those who were given harps, are they included?

First let's read Revelation 14:12-13.

Who are the ones blessed?

Read Revelation 16:15.

Who are the ones blessed?

Now read Revelation 19:9.

Who are the ones blessed?

Tie this with Isaiah 25:6 which refers to the millennial time table and refers to a 'lavish banquet for all people on this mountain' referring to Mount Zion in Jerusalem of Isaiah 24:23. It seems the blessed ones of Revelation 14 and Revelation 16, Old Testament saints, and those given harps are guest to the Marriage Supper of the Lamb.

Here again we are not sure of the timeline. This marriage supper (Revelation 19:9) may not take place until the Millennial Kingdom is established. Here's the reasoning. In Matthew 8:10-12, Jesus is talking to the centurion and tells him many from east to west will come and sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. In order for Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob to participate, it will have to follow their resurrection (Isa. 26:19; Daniel 12:2). In order for the Harp holding martyrs to participate, it will also have to follow their resurrection (Revelation 20:4). More about these resurrections later. Jesus at the Passover meal (not saying the wedding feast and Passover Meal are the same) said, "I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes" (Luke 22:18). Lastly Isaiah 25:6 mentions a great feast for all people. We will have to wait and see. One thing more, please do not get the Marriage Feast confused with the supper of the Great God (Revelation 19:17)<sup>2</sup>. You do not want to be invited to this supper.

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## YELLOW BOX

We could move the yellow box from the Bema Seat (Judgment Seat) to the Earth of the Millennium Section. But we would be moving again to our new home. So let's wait till a later section to make this move.

## SESSION 15

### ON THE EARTH

The next event on earth is the Second Coming of Jesus Christ to the earth, where Jesus defeats Satan and the seven year tribulation ends. Revelation 19:11-16 tells us that the heavens open and Christ appears on a white horse. He comes down to earth and takes care of the ungodly nations of people. This will be a gory scene. Birds and fowls of the air will eat the flesh of man and animal (Revelation 19:8). This time period was predicted in Daniel 12:1 which says, "And there will be a time of trouble such as never occurred since there was a nation until that time." Christ repeats the same words in Matthew 24:21. Jeremiah 30:7 tells us, "Alas! For that day is great, there is none like it."

### IN HELL

Finally the battle is over and God sends an angel down from heaven with the key to the bottomless pit and binds Satan for 1000 years. But Revelation 19:20 tells us of two other people who suffer a much worse fate.

Read Revelation 19:20.

Who are the two individuals?

Where are they cast?

The Lake of Fire is only mentioned in Revelation. It is the final hell a place of eternal punishment (Jude 1:7), a place of fire and brimstone (Rev 14:10), and the second death (Revelation 2:11). Remember the Rich Man in Luke 16:24 said, "...I am in anguish in this flame." This will be Satan's final home after a short appearance at the end of the Millennium (Revelation 20:10).

### GREEN BOX

Satan is bound, but before the Millennium can begin we need to address the three people groups who survive the tribulation. They are believers of Jesus Christ (Gentiles green box), the Jews (Blue boxes), and non-believers (red boxes). We have to look at the Parable of Sheep and Goat to discover what happens to these groups. Let's set the stage.

Read Matthew 25:31.

Can we agree the Sheep and Goat judgment comes at the end of the Tribulation?

Read Matthew 25:32.

So who are the sheep and goats being separated?

Since the scripture says all nations, we can assume this includes all people of the Earth who've survived the Great Tribulation. These people are separated into sheep on his right and goats on his left (Matthew 25:33). The sheep are the ones who trusted in Jesus Christ during the Tribulation; the goats are the ones trusting in Satan who survived the Tribulation. So can we say the saved sheep are presented by the green box; and the lost goats are presented by the red box? But wait what about the blue box?

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#### BLUE BOX

Read Matthew 25:40.

Who are these brothers of mine the King is referring to?

(hint: blue box)

During the Great Tribulation, Satan's goal is to eliminate the Jewish people through persecution, and no doubt the 144,000 Jews would have been on Satan's hit list for extermination. Persecution will be so great the Jewish people will petition the Messiah to return (Hosea 5:15-6:2). On what grounds are the sheep and goat separated? At first read of Matthew 25:31-46 you think good works. But no, the persecution of the Jews is so great they have to depend on other believers to provide water, food and a place to live. They'll be dependent on the charitable acts of others for their very survival. Believers who help the Jews would be aiding and abetting the enemy, a crime punishable by death. Add the fact Satan's informants will be everywhere, "It will be as though a man fled from a lion only to meet a bear; as though he entered his house and rested his hand on the wall only to have a snake bite him" (Amos 5:19) Kinda gives new meaning to "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul and mind." He replied, "And the second is like it. Love your neighbor as yourself" (Matthew 22:37-39). So the method of separation of the sheep and goats is how people treated the Jews during this time. Those who became believers in Jesus as the Messiah helped others including the Jews.

Read Matthew 25:34.

What is the reward mentioned in verse 34?

In helping the Jews they put their faith in action and were told to take their inheritance and enter the kingdom prepared for them.

The surviving Jews also will inherit Israel. Don't forget we have those who were hidden in the wilderness (Revelation 11:6); they will now enter the kingdom at this time also.

## RED BOXES

Now for the goats, or non-believers, who did not treat the Jews well and fell for the deception of Satan, the antichrist, and the false prophet. These people even thought by killing the Jews they were doing a service to God (John 16:2). These people refused to accept Jesus as their Savior.

Read Matthew 25:46.

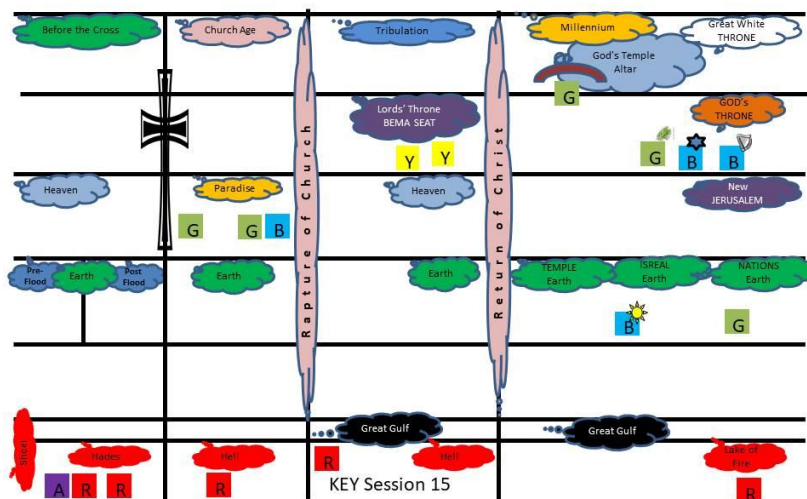
Where are the goats sent?

(aka Lake of Fire)

I like to think of it as being kicked off the planet. I cannot scriptural support that concept, but either way non-believers will not be in the Millennium Kingdom.

## MOVING BOXES

Erase the green box on the earth in the Tribulation section. Draw a new green box in the Millennium Section under "NATIONS Earth". This green box represents the sheep. Erase the blue box with the sun symbol (Jewish Remnant) on the earth in the Tribulation section. This blue box also includes those who were helped by the sheep during the Tribulation. Draw a new blue box in the Millennium Section under "ISREAL Earth". Erase the red box on the earth in the Tribulation section. Draw new red box in the Millennium Section under "Lake of Fire". This red box represents the goats.



## SESSION 16

### ON EARTH

Before we go much further, let's make sure we have the terms Millennium, New Heaven, and New Earth straight. Keeping Millennium scripture and Eternity (new earth and new heaven) scripture separate can be a challenge. The term new heaven and new earth only appears a few times in scriptures. Let's look at them, and as we read, let's glance at what follows and see if we are given a description of the new earth and new heaven.

Read Isaiah 65:17-19.

What is described in verse 17?

What is described in verses 18 and 19?

Note it is not the NEW Jerusalem but the Millennial Jerusalem.

Read Isaiah 66:22-24.

What is described in verses 22?

What is described in verses 23 and 24?

Not much here but verse 24 has the best motivation plan of for living a Godly life. Not a sight I would like to see.

Read 2 Peter 3:13-14.

What are we looking for?

Is verses 14 and 15 about new heaven/new earth?

Read Revelation 21:1-3.

What did John see first?

What does John describe in verse 2 and 3?

Not much about new heaven and new earth, but wow God will finally live with his people.

New Heaven and New Earth (Eternity) does not happen until the end of the Millennium.

So what scriptures do we have describing the Millennium? Lots more than we do Eternity. Here are a few. Politically, a government which Jesus will serve as king and judge (Isaiah 11:1-10) and Jerusalem will be the center of government (Zechariah 8:3). Spiritually, it will be a time of obedience (Jeremiah 31:33), holiness (Isaiah 35:8), truth (Isaiah 65:16), and the knowledge of God (Isaiah 11:9). Agriculturally, there will be an abundance of food. (Isaiah 27:6). The quality of life will be extended (Isaiah 65:20) and disease will be diminished therefore death limited (Isaiah 33:24). Time will still be in place as we know it now. Sounds like a wonderful place for the Millennium residents. As you can see the book of Isaiah is full of clues about the Millennium.

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#### FROM PARADISE TO EARTH

So who are the ones on earth that will live on earth during the Millennium? From the last session, we know that the surviving Jews and Gentiles gained entrance to the Millennium Kingdom at the Sheep and Goat judgment. Let's look at the boxes sitting in Paradise.

Remember we have two different time periods of people, those who are pre-flood Gentiles and post flood Gentiles and Jews. We have three scriptures we need to look at closely to discover how this applies to these people and where they go when they die. All three scriptures mention people who will be brought back to life. Hopefully through process of elimination we can apply these three verses to our three groups. First read all three verses: Daniel 12:1-2, Isaiah 26:19, and Ezekiel 37:12-14, then we will discuss each separately.

Isaiah 26:19 (NLT).

Who shall live again?

Daniel references a time of great trouble which is the Tribulation. Ezekiel references your graves of exile (NLT). Isaiah simply says those who die in the Lord will live. Those who died any time in the past who believe in God (note LORD is in all capital letters) will live again. This has to be referring to the Gentile Nations. Couple this with the predictions of Isaiah: "The Gentiles shall come to your light" (60:3), "The wealth of the Gentiles shall come to you" (60:5), and "You shall drink the milk of the Gentiles" (60:16). There is more. Isaiah wants us to understand the Messiah was for all nations not just the Jews. For these predictions of Isaiah to be fulfilled during the Millennium, there has to be many nations occupying the earth. Plus we have Revelation 21:24-27 which shows Kings of the Earth bringing their splendor to the New Jerusalem. The pre-Cross Gentiles of the past who

believed in God will be brought back life and will re-settle the nations during the Millennium.

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### MOVING GREEN BOXES

Erase the Pre-flood and Post flood green boxes in Paradise. Draw two new green boxes in the NATIONS Earth section of the Millennium Section. Remember these are the righteous people who died before Jesus Christ died on the cross and now brought back to life.

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### FROM PARADISE TO EARTH CONTINUED

Back to our other two verses

Read Ezekiel 37:12-14 (NLT).

Where were the graves of the Lord God's people?

Where does God bring them back to?

I like the NLT translation, "O my people, I will open your graves of exile and cause you to rise again." From the time of Abraham to Christ dying on the cross, the Jews have had a horrific history of existence. Their physical bones have been scattered among many nations. They chose not to follow God's commands and suffered years of exile from their homeland, but they are still God's chosen people. God promises to bring them into the Land of Israel/Canaan promised to Abraham (Genesis 12:1-3) back in Session 3. We have already seen the prophecy starting to be fulfilled. The State of Israel was established in 1948 and over six million Jews live in Israel today. It will not be totally fulfilled until the Millennium time period, when the whole house of Israel is gathered when God brings those Jews, which are waiting patiently in Paradise, to life again. Then God will place His spirit in them and they will know God has fulfilled His promise. Remember the blue box sitting in Paradise represents these Jews from Abraham up to Christ dying on the cross

---

### MOVING BLUE BOX

Erase the blue box in Paradise. Draw a new blue box ISREAL Earth in the Millennium Section. This new box represents all the Jews from Abraham up to Christ now brought back to life.

---

### FROM HEAVEN TO EARTH

Let's move on to our last verse and the remaining Jews on our chart.



Read Daniel 12:1-2.

When do these bodies rise up?

From our previous sessions we have learned the Tribulation is considered to be a time of anguish. With the seven seals, trumpets, and bowl judgment we can readily say it is a time of anguish, greater than any since nations first came into existence.

Read Daniel 12:1.

Which archangel is mentioned here?

Read Revelation 12:7.

Which angel defeated Satan and kicked him out of heaven?

So this group of people brought back to life must be those who died during the Tribulation. By looking at our chart we see we have the Jews sitting under the Altar, 144,000 Jews and the Jews with harps before God's throne. We have identified the group, so where do people come back to life in Revelation?

Let's look at Revelation 20:4 and dissect it into groups:

And I saw thrones, and (Group 1) they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and (Group 2a) I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and (Group 2b) for the word of God, and (Group 3) which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. The word "them" is followed by a colon which usually means more than two items are going to be listed.

Group 1 we will talk about later.

Group 2a The phrase witness of Jesus is used another time in Revelation 17:6 (NLT), "I could see that she was drunk—drunk with the blood of God's holy people who were witnesses for Jesus." This group was not identified earlier for they are not recorded as being seen in heaven.

Group 2b The phrase word of God is used in Revelation 6:9, where we identified the saints under the Altar. They were told more martyrs were to come. So we can maybe look at these two groups actually being one group coming to heaven at different times through the tribulation.

Group 3 The phrase those who have the victory over the beast, over his image and over his mark and over the number of his name is used in Revelation 15:3 where we identified the ones which were given harps.

So what happened to these groups of people? They lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.

So where do we move them to on earth?

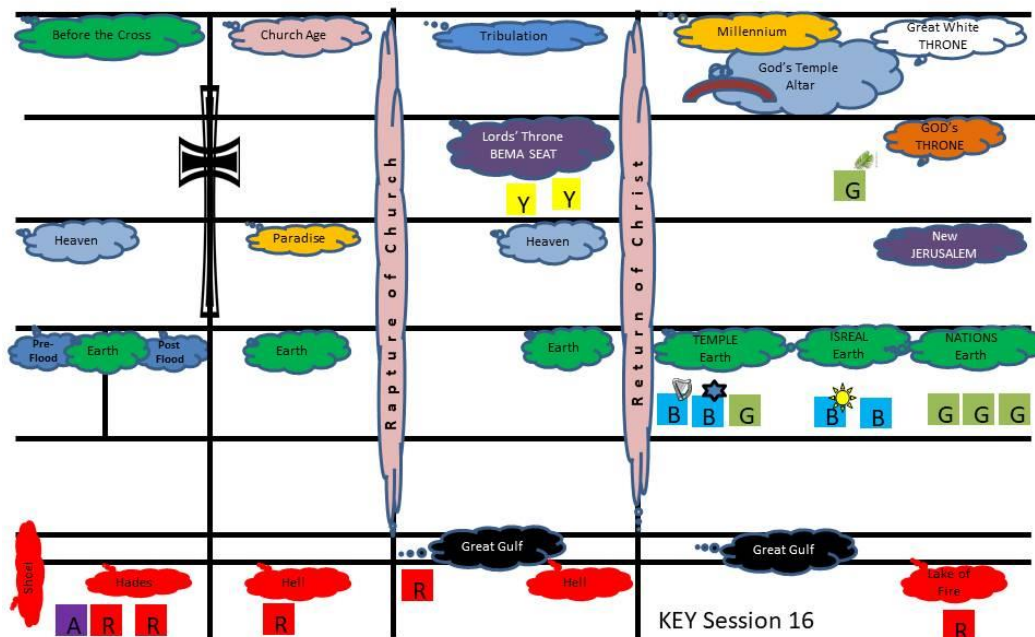
Read Revelation 20:6.

What position will this group hold?

Where does one usually work who holds this position?

### MOVING BLUE BOXES AND GREEN BOX

Erase the blue box with the harp under God's Throne. Draw a new blue box with a harp under the TEMPLE Earth in the Millennium Section. Erase the blue box with the star which presents the 144,000. Draw a new blue box with a star under the TEMPLE Earth. Erase the green box under the God's Altar. Draw a new green box under the TEMPLE Earth.



## SESSION 17

### IN HEAVEN AND ON EARTH

Well we are down to two groups left in heaven and the red boxes. The yellow boxes which by the way are us (Christians from the Church Age) and the group before the throne who are holding palm branches in their hands. Since we are saving the best for last (little biased) we will bring the green box home first.

We are introduced to the palm branch group in Revelation 7 and it is Revelation 7 we are told where their home will be

Read Revelation 7:15-17.

Where do they serve?

Who dwells among them?

Who will lead them?

This group is a mix from all nations (Gentiles). Gentiles serving in the temple will break Old Testament laws. Gentiles were restricted to the outer court of the temple when they came to worship (see Worksheet 2 in the back part of the book). During this session we are going to discover why the Levi priest lost their status and why the Gentiles get to move from the outer court.

Okay before we put anyone else in the Millennium temple, let's discover who builds this temple. Before we start let's set the stage. As you know Israel was not known for obeying God's commands. The nation had split and Zechariah was a prophet to Judea around 509 BC. God told Zechariah to crown Josiah, who was not from the line of David, but the son of a high priest. Let's see what God told Zechariah to tell Josiah. (I think he was letting Josiah know he was not the Messiah predicted but there is one coming.)

Read Zechariah 6:12-13.

Who is The Man?

(hint see 1 Timothy 2:5)

Who is The Branc?

(hint Isaiah 4:2)

Who is going to build the temple?

Who is going to sit on the throne as a priest and King?

From this we learn the Millennium temple will be built upon Christ return. The temple from the Tribulation period was desecrated. We have Christ as the builder, who will become king and high priest. Let's move on to our green boxes.

---

#### ON EARTH WITH LEVIET PRIESTHOOD

Why are these Gentiles from all Nations serving in the temple? It seems back in Israel's history God got annoyed, putting it mildly, with the Levi priesthood.

Underline the offenses to God in Ezekiel 44:7-8.

"You have brought uncircumcised foreigners into my sanctuary—people who have no heart for God. In this way, you defiled my Temple even as you offered me my food, the fat and blood of sacrifices. In addition to all your other detestable sins, you have broken my covenant. Instead of safeguarding my sacred rituals, you have hired foreigners to take charge of my sanctuary."

Read 1 Samuel 2:22.

What had the priest done that God was not pleased with?

1 Samuel 2 tells us how Eli, the high priest, confronts Hophni and Phinehas, his two evil priest sons. Verse 27 tells us that a man of God (no name, out of the blue, could this be the Christ) came to Eli and gave him a message (27-36). Out of this message let's look at two verses.

Read 1 Samuel 2:30 and 2:35 (NLT).

God promised to Eli his branch of the tribe would also be his priest but at the end of verse 30 who will God honor?

Verse 35 tells us God will choose a priest He can trust and will listen to Him. This priest would serve God's chosen

So how does God keep his promise of a member of the Levi tribe as being a priest? In Ezekiel 40 to 46, Ezekiel describes the Millennial Temple and the worship in that temple.

Read Ezekiel 40:46.

Which descendants of the Levi tribe are allowed to serve God (LORD)?

Where will they reside in the Millennium Temple?

(See Worksheet 2 area RP.) You have to look really close, RP is in the inner court.

So who and what did Zadok do that God found favor with? Zadok lived during King David's reign. He carried the Ark of the Covenant (2 Samuel 15:24), informed King David of Absalom's plan of murder (2 Samuel 15), anointed King Solomon (1 Kings 1:39-40), and served as the sole high priest (1 Kings 4:4). Ezekiel 44:14 tells us Zadok's family took care of the sanctuary when the people of Israel turned away from God. For this faithfulness they are rewarded the honor to serve God in the inner court next to the altar in the Millennium temple (Ezekiel 40:46). Other Levites will serve as gatekeepers (Worksheet 2 area G2), and slayers of the animals (Ezekiel 44:11) (Worksheet 2 area K2).

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#### ON EARTH WITH GENTILE PRIEST

What about the Gentiles (Nations); how do they get to serve in the Temple. First let's go all the way back to the time of the Exodus from Egypt. Jews of the Exodus had many foreigners/Gentiles among them when they left. Several of the laws in Leviticus include the term "Israelite or foreigner among you" (Leviticus 17:8, 10, 12, 18:26). This phrase appears 21 times in Leviticus. It seems each time a law was given for the Israelites, God includes the foreigner also. So it appears God has the Gentiles in His plans from the first. Let's jump forward to the New Testament.

Read Ephesians 2:15 (NLT).

What was to be created?

With the goal of God creating one new man which was taught during the Church Age, it seems Jews and Gentiles are the same in His sight. With that thought we will look at two verses that are describing the millennial temple.

Read Ezekiel 44:9.

What two requirements are needed for a foreigner to enter the sanctuary?

1.)

2 )

So take a look at the Worksheet 2 and compare the Jerusalem Temple layout with Millennial Temple layout. Is there a Gentile court in the Millennial Temple? The Gentiles are no longer restricted to the Gentile court because there is no Gentile court in the Millennial Temple.

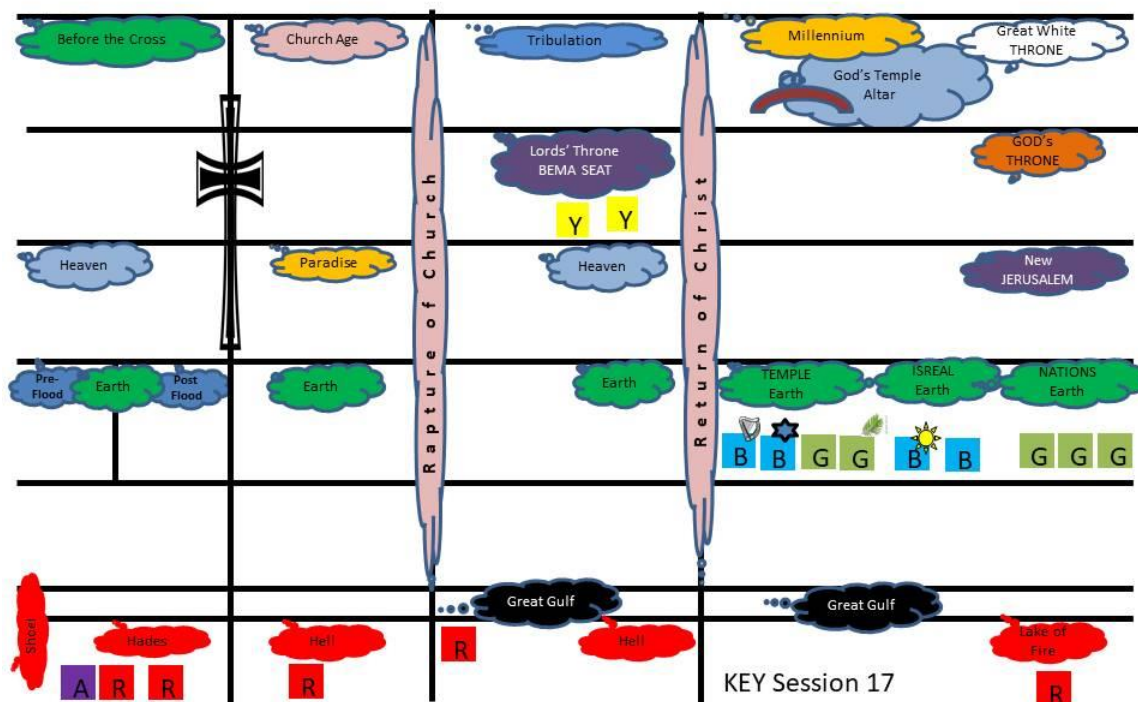
Read Isaiah 56:6-8.

What will be accepted from the foreigners on “My altar/My Temple?”

It appears both Gentiles and Levites will serve as priest in the Temple of the Millennium (Revelation 7:15). You may be asking what about the Church Age, will they serve as priest also? We will find out.

### MOVING GREEN BOX

Erase the green box with palm a branch in heaven under Millennium Section. Draw a green box with palm a branch in the TEMPLE Earth section of the Millennium Section. . Remember these are the righteous people from all nations who died during the Tribulation for Jesus Christ and now brought back to life.



### RED BOXES

Let's take the red boxes to their final destination. This will leave the yellow boxes for the last session. Let's set the stage. The final judgment of unbelievers for their sins occurs at the end of the Millennium, before the creation of the new heaven and earth. This judgment is called The Great White Throne Judgment. But first let's see how many resurrections there are?

Read John 5:28-29 (KJV).

1) Those who have done good to the resurrection of?

2) Those who have done evil to the resurrection of?

Two resurrections: the first for the saved and the last for the unsaved. In 1 Corinthians 15:23 (NLT) tells us, "there is an order to this resurrection: Christ was raised as the first of the harvest; then all who belong to Christ will be raised when he comes back." This is describing the first resurrection, and that resurrection is not complete until the start of the thousand year reign. Revelation 20:6 tells us, "Blessed are those who take part in the first resurrection for they will not have to experience the second death of being cast in the Lake of Fire" (Rev 20:14). They also get to reign with Jesus for 1000 years.

Before we start discussing the "rest of the dead", I need to bring in a point that is very important. At the end of the tribulation Satan is rounded up by God's angel, bound in chains and locked in hell for the most of the millennium period. During this time he will have no influence over anyone on earth at all. God in his wisdom is going to prove a point to man. Our excuse to God for our liking of sin has always been to blame it on someone else. Adam blamed God first, "It was the woman you gave me...", then Eve for his taking a bite of the apple, "...who gave me the fruit, and I ate it." (Genesis. 3:12). Eve blamed the serpent aka Satan. I don't know who Cain blamed because the Bible doesn't tell us. However, he certainly didn't admit it to God. The point is that through the history of man we have never been able to take the responsibility for our own failures and falling into sin. We have used the excuse the Devil made me do it. In the millennium that excuse will not be valid any longer. God is proving to us that it is because of our sinful nature that we commit sins. It is as simple as this, when it comes to our desire to sin we have two choices; either do it or don't do it. However we chose the responsibility is ours and ours alone. We have to make the decision. It is the same as our choice to either accept the pardon offered by Jesus or not

accept it and instead follow Satan. The choice is ours and no one else can make it for us including God. The purpose of the millennium is to teach this to man.

The 'rest of the dead' (Revelation 20:5) are those raised up in the second resurrection, these are those who were lost unbelievers. This resurrection doesn't take place until the end of the Millennium. Satan is released from prison and goes out and gathers up Gog and Magog. Who are these two? In Ezekiel Gog and Magog (which is current day Russia and Turkey) have evil thoughts against Israel (Ezekiel 38:10-17). They surround Israel and enlist the help of allies from other nations (Ezekiel 38:9), but they are eventually destroyed by God Himself (Ezekiel 39:5). Almost ditto in Revelation. The Gog and Magog referred to in Revelation is not one nation but many nations from all over the world that Satan stirs up to rebel by attacking the beloved city, aka Earthly Jerusalem of the Millennium. These people follow Satan into battle (Revelation 20:7-8), they are a great number that includes many nations (Revelation 20:8), and are eventually destroyed by God Himself (Revelation 20:9). And Satan is cast into the Lake of Fire (Revelation 20:10). Then what happens?

Read Revelation 20:11-12.

What happens now?

Who is standing before God (throne)?

Sometimes I get really frustrated with translations. The NASB translates Revelation 20:12 as "And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne..." which makes more sense. Ezekiel 1 gives us a description of God's Chariot Throne.

Read Ezekiel 1:26 and Ezekiel 10:1.

What stone does the throne have the appearance of?

Whether your translation says sapphire or lapis lazuli, both stones are blue not white. This isn't God's throne, this is Jesus's throne. Jesus Christ will be the judge. John 5:22 tells us, "For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son,"

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## MOVING RED BOXES

Erase the Pre-flood, Post flood, Church Age, and Tribulation red boxes in Hades/Hell. Draw four new red boxes under the Great White Throne in the Millennium Section. These red boxes represent all the dead unrighteous, non-believers from the beginning of time till the end of the Millennium.



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## RED BOXES CONTINUED

So after a thousand year reign of Christ the lost are resurrected. These are the ones Jesus was referencing in John 5:28. The books are opened (Revelation 20:12) containing records of everyone's deeds, whether they are good or evil, each judged accordingly (Psalm 28:4; Psalm 62:12; Romans 2:6). The Bible is pretty clear that unbelievers are storing up wrath against themselves (Romans 2:5) and that God will "give to each person according to what he has done" (Romans 2:6). Jesus will then check the Book of Life to insure their names are not listed and then he will cast them into the Lake of Fire for the second death (Revelation 20:15). Remember these are unbelievers of all ages.

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## MOVING RED BOXES AGAIN

Erase the four red boxes under The Great White Throne. Draw four new red boxes in the Lake of Fire.

---

## ANGELS IN HELL

This only leaves the fallen angels in Hades from the pre-cross section. In 1 Corinthians 6:2–3, Paul says that Christians will judge angels. It seems that Satan's hordes of demons will be judged by the redeemed ones of the Lamb.<sup>1</sup> Remember Revelation 20:4, the verse which we dissected in session 14, the very first part reads, "And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them." This is my thought. It appears the ones sitting on these thrones are the Church Age believers and they are given the task of helping with the judging of these fallen angels. Jude 1:6 tells us they will be judged on the great day, which is probably the Great White Throne judgment. Jude 1:7 leads us to believe their final location will be that of The Lake of Fire.

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## MOVING ANGELS

Erase the purple box in Hades under the Before the Cross section. Draw new purple box in the Lake of Fire. Remember this purple box represented the fallen angels.

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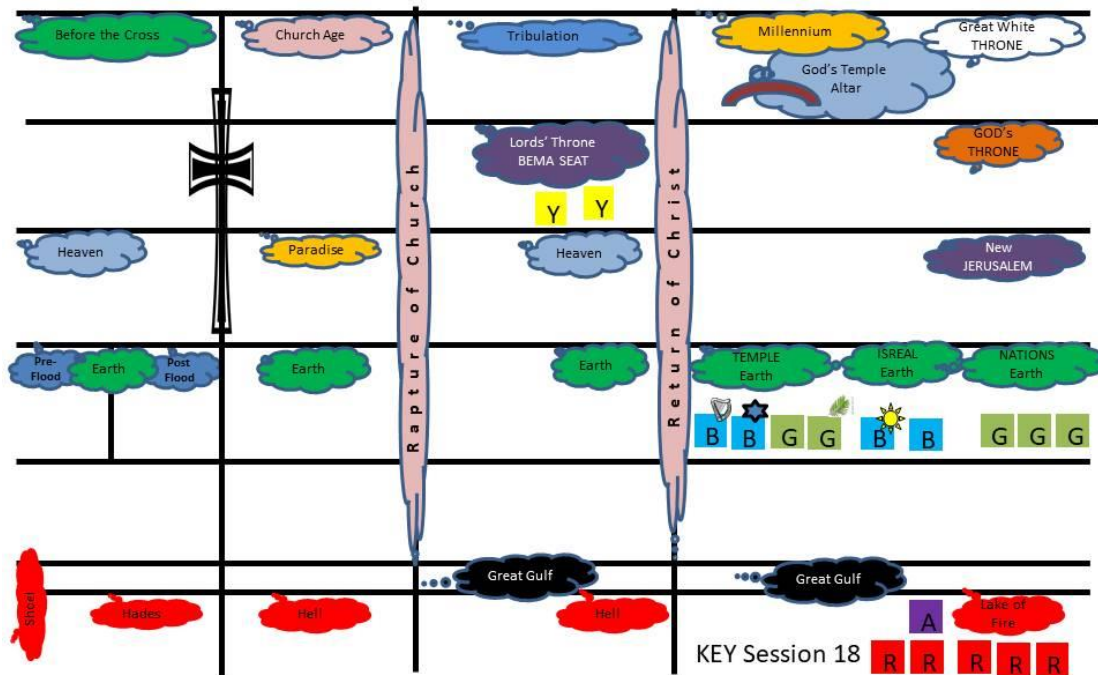
## ONE MORE THING

The second death is the Lake of Fire. We have discovered anyone's name not written in the Book of Life will be cast into the Lake of Fire. But we have one more being assigned this permanent destination.

Read Revelation 20:14.

Who is thrown into the Lake of Fire?

So now we know why there will be no more death, sadness, crying, or pain in eternity (Revelation 21:4). There is a vast difference between the final destination of those who know Christ, and those who do not. I pray you know where your final destination will be.



## SESSION 19

### HEAVEN OR EARTH

This is it, the last session! We get to find out about our final home and what it will be like.

At the end of Session 12, we left the Church or yellow boxes at the Wedding Feast. We were not sure if this feast takes place in heaven or on the earth after the Millennial Kingdom had been first established. So we could be still in Heaven coming to earth or could be on the earth already. Either way from our Wedding Feast we are shown our new home. Jesus tells us, in John 14:2-3, "In My Father's house are many dwelling places. If it were not so, I would have told you. I am going to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, you may be also". Christ has prepared us a home but where?

Read Revelation 21:9-10.

What does the Angel show John?

Where is this city descending from?

Read Revelation 21: 2.

Again where is the city descending from?

Two times John sees the New Jerusalem, and neither time is it described as being on earth? Let's look at why this is so?

Read Revelation 21:16.

How many furlongs?

This city is about 1,380 miles wide, 1,380 miles tall and 1,380 miles deep, basically a cube in shape. It will have a foot print reaching from the Atlantic coast to the Mississippi River and Maine to Florida. Besides that, it's 1380 miles tall. Compare that to the tallest building on earth today at 1800 feet. One big city! It is simply too big to occupy the earth as we know it today. And I truly think we are going to travel back and forth from it to the earth. Kinda like the story of Jacob's ladder.

Back to the New Jerusalem coming down out of heaven. Why now, after the Millennial Kingdom has been established and past? We are at the point of the beginning of Eternity.

Where has this city been? We just answered that question; the city has been in heaven. Remember back in Session 6 when we talked about our new resurrected bodies and how we will have no hindrance to travel. Just like Jesus in John 20:19, we will be able to come and go when needed or sent by our Heavenly Father.

So let's dig a little deeper. There were names written on the gates and the foundations of the city.

Read Revelation 21:12-14.

Whose names were listed on the gates?

Whose names were listed on the foundations?

So why these names? Israel was chosen by God to be a light to all nations (Isaiah 49:5–7; Romans 9:23–25). In the New Jerusalem the gates are inscribed with the names of the twelve tribes of Israel. In the Old Testament God promised the land of Canaan and Abraham to become a great nation (Genesis 12:1–3). To Abraham's grandson Israel, who was originally named Jacob (Genesis 32:28), twelve sons were born who became the twelve tribes of Israel (Genesis 49). Those twelve tribes escaped bondage in Egypt, moved into the Promised Land (Exodus 6:14; 24:4), received the Law or the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), and were selected to be God's covenant people (Exodus 19:5–6). The New Jerusalem has a tribute to the Old Testament by naming the gates after the twelve tribes. The tribute to the New Testament are the foundations, representing the twelve apostles, who would reign over the twelve tribes of Israel (Matthew 19:28, Luke 22:30). But more amazing are what the foundations are made of: jasper, sapphire, emerald, amethyst, and nine other precious stones. What a beautiful treasure! More amazing are the gates.

Read Revelation 21:21.

What are the gates made of?

Read Matthew 13:44-45.

What two things are the Kingdom of heaven describes as?

1. )

2. )

Get out the backhoe we are digging deep. We are going to tie the two parables, the gates and foundations, and the two times John sees the New Jerusalem coming down, all together.

Fill in the blanks for Revelation 21:2.

Then I, John, saw the holy city, \_\_\_\_\_, coming down out of heaven from \_\_\_\_\_, prepared as a \_\_\_\_\_ adorned for her husband.

Read Jeremiah 3:14 (KJV).

Who is God married to?

Read Hosea 2:16 and 19 (NLT).

Who is God married to?

Hopefully, you can see that Israel is referenced as God's wife in the Old Testament. To me the first time John sees New Jerusalem he saw it in the future, past the time of the Millennium. He may have been describing what is called Eternity. John is telling us this is the city for Israel, God's bride. In Revelation 21:4 a voice from heaven says, "former things have passed away". In Revelation 21:5-6 God tells John, "It is finished". Eternity. John has given us the end of the Millennium, then backtracks and talks about the New Jerusalem at the beginning of the Millennium with verse nine.

Back to the Parable of Hidden Treasure in Matthew 13:44: "The Kingdom of Heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all that he had and bought the field." So who is the treasure? In Exodus 19:5, Deuteronomy 7:6, and Malachi 3:17 Israel is described as God's treasure. No other people are given this honor of distinction. God left His treasure (Israel) on earth, God sent His Son to earth as a man to purchase the land (world), Jesus gave his life as the price to redeem the whole world so that he could gain this treasure (Israel). Jesus could see far in the future and see the New Jerusalem, that great treasure, that beautiful city, and His father's bride living there. It is not all about Jesus and his bride.

Now to the second time John sees the New Jerusalem. So John has been looking into the future Eternity, sees God's bride's living quarters and an Angel comes over and says, "Come, I will show you the bride, the Lamb's wife." Back to the beginning of the Millennium time frame, God shows John more details of this New City, which is Jesus' bride's living quarters. Now why the gates of pearls? In Matthew 13:45 we find the merchant (Jesus) looking for fine pearls, which is strange, for pearls come from oysters, which are not "kosher." Oysters, having neither fins nor scales, were forbidden for Israel (Leviticus 11:10-12), so pearls were not prized by them like they were by Gentiles. A pearl is the only gem that comes from a living organism. The Church is referenced as living stones (1 Peter 2:5). Again the merchant (Jesus) went away and sold everything he had and bought the pearl. In other words gave his life to purchase us (believers). As the pearl is removed from the oyster, the church is

removed from the earth.<sup>1</sup> We as believers are taken to the New Jerusalem to live during the Millennium, God's bride will join us there at the end of the Millennium, when the New Jerusalem comes down from heaven.

By reading the description of your new home (that is if you have professed Jesus Christ as your Savior) and the Kingdom Parables, I hope you can see what Jesus was talking about. Jesus could see far in the future and see the New Jerusalem, that great treasure God's bride, and that beautiful city where His bride (Revelation 21:9) would be. In great joy, he gave all he had, aka his life, to buy that great home for both Jew and Gentile. GRATEFUL!

One last point.

Read Revelation 21:22.

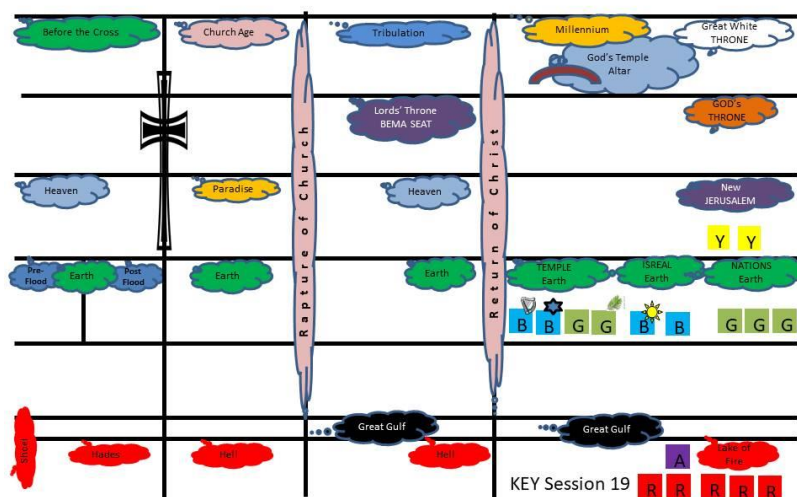
What is the temple in the New Jerusalem?

To me, when it is all done (Eternity), we will be one people worshiping God the creator and Jesus the Redeemer in a New Jerusalem with a new world and new heaven.

## MOVING YELLOW BOXES

Erase the yellow boxes under the Bema Seat section. Draw two new yellow boxes in the New Jerusalem section of the Millennium Section. Welcome Home!

This completes Section 4. If you would like, we have an animated chart labeled Section 4 at <http://www.georgeandkaren.com/TribulationSaints>.



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## FINISHED

Through this study, I hope you now understand “Why you go where you go when you die”. But more than anything I hope you now know there is an awesome and glorious home awaiting you as a believer.

## RESOURCES AND CREDITS

In this list of resources, I do not indorse their interpretations of scripture. These are the sites I used to compare, investigate, and confirm my thoughts and belief of what I perceived what was being said in scripture. My process was: search, compare others interpretation, logic, scripture search, does it mean the same, where is the phrase used elsewhere in scripture, Greek/Hebrew meaning, prayer, and confirmation.

### Websites

<https://www.gotquestions.org>

<https://www.bibletools.org>

<https://gracethruthfaith.com>

<https://answersingenesis.org>

<http://christinprophecy.org>

<https://www.amazingfacts.org>

<https://www.cai.org/bible-studies>

<http://www.revelationcommentary.org>

<http://www.spiritandtruth.org>

<http://www.wordexplain.com>

<https://christianity.stackexchange.com/>

<https://www.preachtheword.com>

<https://www.truthortradition.com>

<https://www.biblegateway.com>

<https://biblehub.com/lexicon>



## FOOTNOTES

### Session 1

- 1 [gotquestions.org/why-did-God-create-us.html](http://gotquestions.org/why-did-God-create-us.html)
- 2 [answersingenesis.org/noahs-ark/pre-flood-population/](http://answersingenesis.org/noahs-ark/pre-flood-population/)
- 3 [gotquestions.org/who-Satan.html](http://gotquestions.org/who-Satan.html)

### Session 2

- 1 [gotquestions.org/sons-of-God.html](http://gotquestions.org/sons-of-God.html)

### Session 4

- 1 [christinprophecy.org/articles/satans-story/](http://christinprophecy.org/articles/satans-story/)

### Session 5

- 1 [gotquestions.org/sheol-hades-hell.html](http://gotquestions.org/sheol-hades-hell.html)
- 2 [gracethrufaith.com/ask-a-bible-teacher/what-happened-to-people-who-died-before-the-cross](http://gracethrufaith.com/ask-a-bible-teacher/what-happened-to-people-who-died-before-the-cross)

### Session 7

- 1 [gotquestions.org/receive-Holy-Spirit.html](http://gotquestions.org/receive-Holy-Spirit.html)

### Session 8

- 1 [gotquestions.org/judgment-seat-Christ.html](http://gotquestions.org/judgment-seat-Christ.html)

### Session 9

- 1 [gotquestions.org/tribulation.html](http://gotquestions.org/tribulation.html)
- 2 [gotquestions.org/tribulation-saints.html](http://gotquestions.org/tribulation-saints.html)

### Session 14

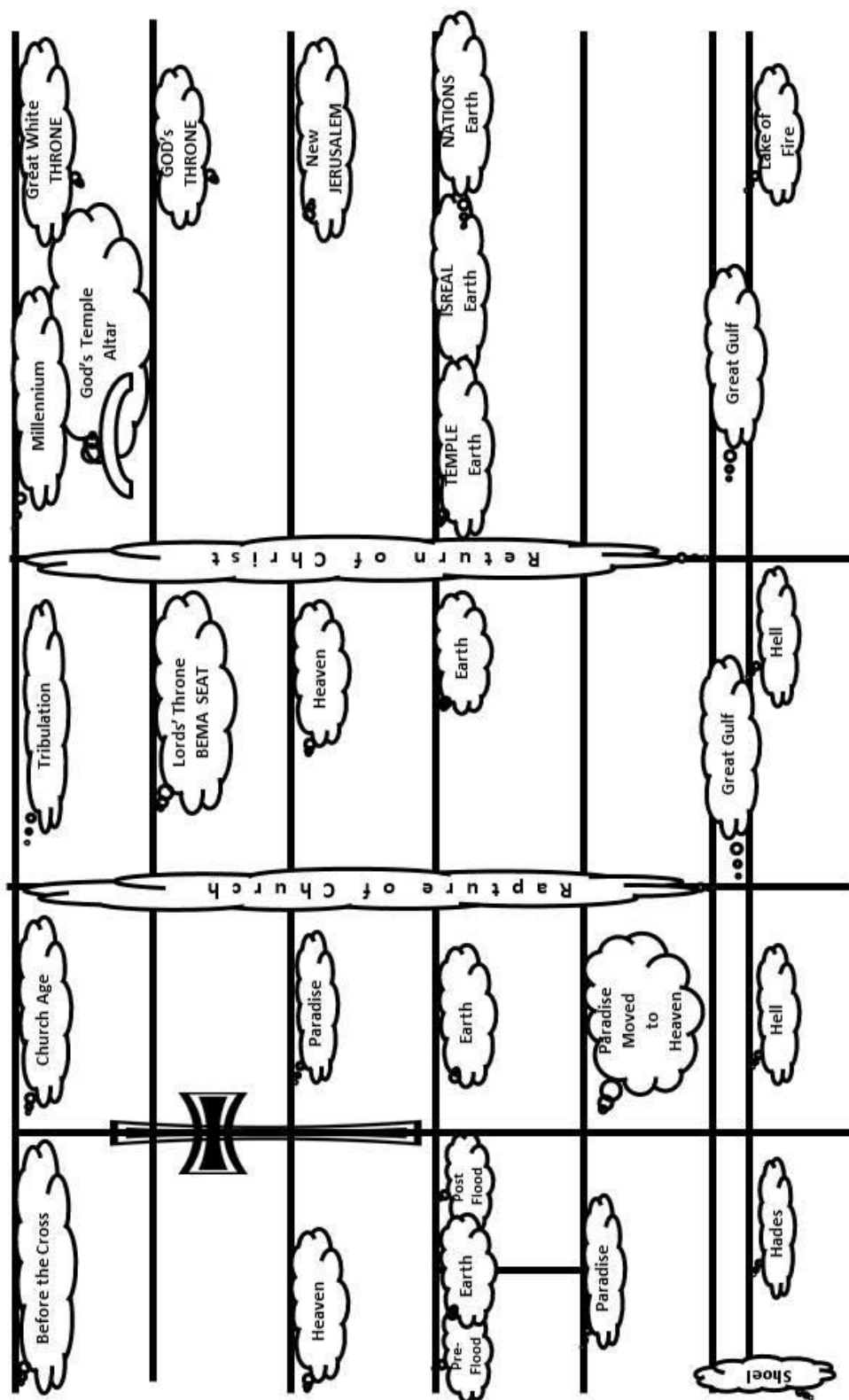
- 1 [spiritandtruth.org/teaching/Book\\_of\\_Revelation/commentary/htm/topics/marriage.html#4.10](http://spiritandtruth.org/teaching/Book_of_Revelation/commentary/htm/topics/marriage.html#4.10)
- 2 [biblestudytools.com/commentaries/revelation/revelation-19/revelation-19-9.html](http://biblestudytools.com/commentaries/revelation/revelation-19/revelation-19-9.html)

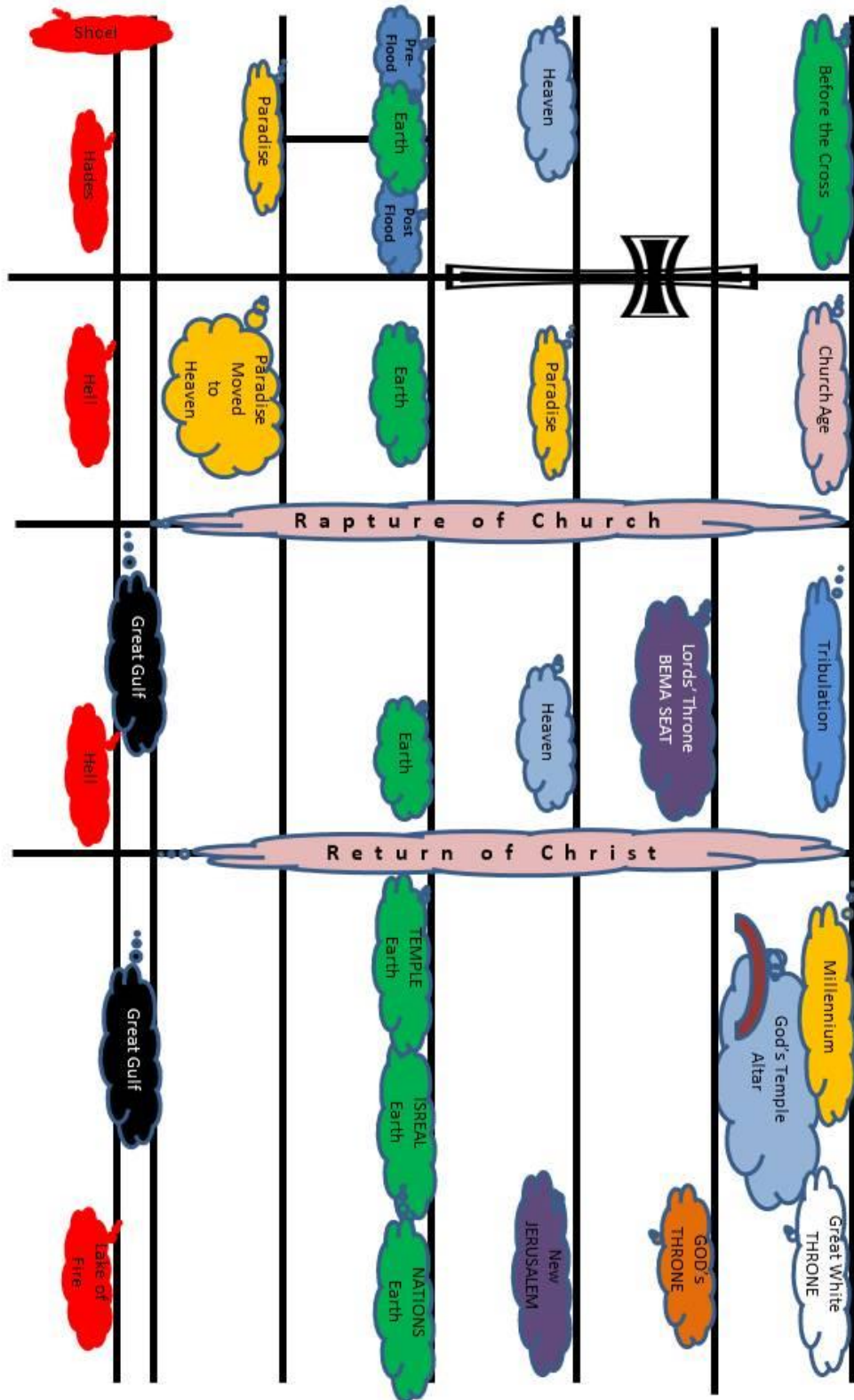
### Session 18

1 [gotquestions.org/all-the-judgments.html](http://gotquestions.org/all-the-judgments.html)

## Session 19

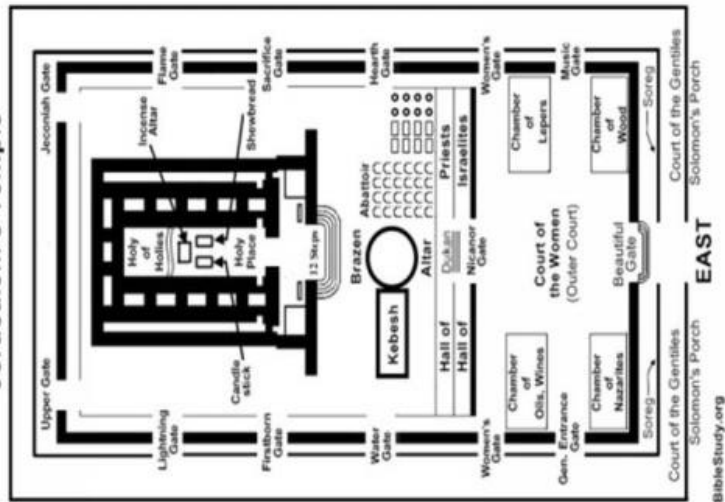
1 [gracethrufaith.com/topical-studies/parables/the-kingdom-parables-matthew-13-part-3](http://gracethrufaith.com/topical-studies/parables/the-kingdom-parables-matthew-13-part-3)



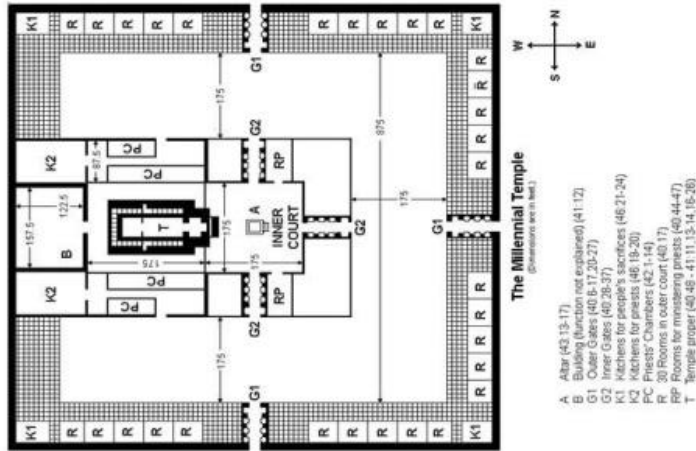


## WORKSHEET 2

### Interior Design of Jerusalem's Temple



### Millennial Temple



## AUTHORS

Karen Hayes-Ritchie has been a Christian for most of her life. She is married to her husband George Ritchie who serves as her main contributor to this book. Since their marriage on May 27, 2006 they have devoted themselves to serving the Lord. They are active in Kentucky Baptist Disaster Relief missions, local and foreign missions through their church, and community mission projects. Together they have completed countless hours of Bible study to increase their knowledge of God's word and to strengthen their faith and love of the Lord. They often dive into the less common subjects of study and the Lord has revealed to them amazing links between the Old and New Testaments. Their goal is to make available study material at a reasonable price that will assist others to grow in Christ Jesus as we have grown, while increasing their knowledge and the reader's Bible knowledge.

## EPILOGUE

If you have reached this page in our study George and I would like to congratulate you on your accomplishment. We sincerely hope that you have achieved the understanding of where all of the people who have departed this world, since the beginning of Genesis to a time in the future, have gone or will go when they die. This is a study area where neither George nor I have heard preached or taught. It has been our intent to show you through the books of the Holy Bible, using the God inspired words contained in its scripture, to document the movement of the people throughout the ages. We learned many things in conducting the research and compiling the information found in this project. Our goal was to inform people who were not well versed in scripture to deal with the subjects of death and life after death. An example is as follows. As believers, born again Christian, we accept life after death. However a non-believer might not share that belief or outright deny any kind of life after death scenario. Another belief is that only Christians are given life after death. This study has shown us differently. All people have life after death including non-believers. What separates the believers from non-believers is their final destination. Believers go to paradise to be in the presents of Christ Jesus, while non-believers go to a place called hades. I will not belabor the point of how terrible of a place Hell is, although it is horrible beyond anyone's belief. The Bible tells of terrible times in the past history, and warns us of terrible times yet to come. In the midst of the doom and gloom especially in the future time of the tribulation we also find hope in the blessings of our Lord and Savior Christ Jesus. Through belief in your heart that Jesus is the living son of God, dying on the cross for our sins, rising on the third day to everlasting life, and finally ascending to heaven to be seated at the right hand of God, we as Christians will not face those terrible times. It was and still is the intent of God that no persons go to hell. God gave man the free will to choose which place he or she is going to spend eternity. There are stipulations you must choose to accept Christ's pardon, and it really is just that simple. There is a time limit on this offer of God. The choice must be made before one draws their last breath, or before the rapture occurs. We would implore anyone reading this document that if you don't know Jesus Christ as your personal savior please accept him into your heart now. Don't wait a second longer. The following is a suggested prayer:

Blessed Lord Jesus'

I admit to you that I am a sinner and Lord I know that on my own merit I don't deserve eternal life. Lord I ask you to please forgive me for my sin. Lord I know that it was because you went on that cross for my sin that I am able to make this request. Thank you Lord. Lord Jesus I know now that it is only through you that I may come to the Father. Lord Jesus come into my life right now that I may experience you now and forever. Lord I accept your gracious offer of life abundant. Thank you, Lord Jesus, for entering my life as my personal

Savior and my Lord. Amen. The words of this prayer is not what saves you; but by the power of the Lord Jesus who hears this prayer he can and will save you. If you have prayed this prayer let me be the first to congratulate you on the wisest and best choice you could ever make. Welcome brother/sister.