

**THE INTERVAL BETWEEN THE SECOND AND
THIRD DOOMS
THE HALLELUJAH CHORUS.**

Rev. 19:1-7.

"And **after these things** I heard a great voice of much people in Heaven, saying, **Alleluia; Salvation, and Glory, and Honor, and Power,** unto the Lord our God: for true and righteous are His Judgments; for He hath Judged the '**GREAT WHORE,**' which did corrupt the earth with her fornication, and hath avenged the blood of His Servants at her hand. And again they said, **Alleluia.** And her smoke rose up for ever and ever. And the 'Four and Twenty Elders' and the 'Four Beasts' fell down and worshipped God that sat on the Throne, saying, Amen; **Alleluia.** And a voice came out of the Throne, saying, Praise our God, all ye His Servants, and ye that fear Him, both small and great. And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunders, saying **Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.** Let us be glad and rejoice and give honor to Him: for the **MARRIAGE OF THE LAMB IS COME, AND HIS WIFE HATH MADE HERSELF READY.**"

After these things. What things? The destruction of "**MYSTICAL BABYLON**" and the restored **CITY OF BABYLON.** The first "**Alleluia**" is for the destruction of the "**GREAT WHORE**"--"**Mystical Babylon.**" The second "**Alleluia**" is for the destruction of the "**CITY OF BABYLON**" whose **smoke** rose up for ever and ever, which could not be said of "Mystical Babylon" but only of a **CITY.** In the preceding chapter, verse 20, at the destruction of the "City of Babylon," we read--"Rejoice over her, thou Heaven, and ye Holy Apostles and Prophets; for God hath avenged you on her." Here we hear the rejoicing. What the merchants, and shipmasters, and sailors, and traders, weep and wail and mourn over, the--"Fall of Babylon," Heaven rejoices over. Here we see the difference between Heaven and Earth's opinion of the these Divine Judgments.

Here we have the first occurrence in the New Testament of the word "**HALLELUJAH.**" It is a compound Hebrew word "**HAL-LELU-JAH**" ("Praise-Ye-Jah"). It occurs **24** times in the Old Testament, and **4** times in the New Testament. In the Old Testament the word is always translated--"**Praise ye the Lord,**" in the New Testament the Greek word "**ALLELUIA**" is left untranslated, but in the New Version the word "**HALLELUJAH**" is substituted for "**Alleluia.**" Four times the word "Hallelujah" is uttered in this chapter, not only by a great multitude, but by the "Four Beasts," and by the "Four and Twenty Elders." It is the "**cry of victory**" in which praise is ascribed to God. They also sang "Hallelujah" because the time had come for the "**MARRIAGE OF THE LAMB.**"

2. THE MARRIAGE OF THE LAMB.

Rev. 19:8-10.

"And to **HER** (The Bride) was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. And he said unto me, Write, **BLESSED ARE THEY WHICH ARE CALLED UNTO THE MARRIAGE SUPPER OF THE LAMB.** And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God."

It is marvellous how the Holy Spirit hath enshrined in the Scriptures the Bridal relation of the Church and her Lord. It is revealed to the spiritual mind in the most unexpected places. It is foreshadowed in the Old Testament in the story of Isaac and Rebekah. Doubtless many readers of the Bible have wondered why the "**SONG OF SOLOMON**" was ever included among the books of the Old Testament. Upon the

first reading it appears as only a love song of Solomon for one of the many women that he loved. But a careful study of the Song reveals the fact that it is an inspired song of the love of the Church of Christ during His absence in the Heavenlies. The Song describes a maiden of Shulam, a Galilean town some 5 miles south of Mt. Tabor, who was taken from her home to one of Solomon's palaces, probably in the Lebanon district, where Solomon tries to win her love. She had lived with her mother, but her brothers had treated her cruelly and made her the keeper of the vineyards until her skin was so tanned that she spoke of herself as "**BLACK BUT COMELY**," and had not kept the vineyard of her own beauty, and her brothers even went so far as to speak disparagingly of her character. But there was one, a shepherd, who loved and believed in her, and whose love she returned with the most intense passion. At times Solomon visited her and sought to win her away from her beloved, but she would not listen to him. During the day she would talk to herself of her lover and imagine she heard his voice calling, and during the night she dreamt of him and imagined she was walking the streets of the city hunting for him. At times she bursts out in rapturous praise of her lover's beauty, then she calls him in loving tones. At last she escapes and finds her lover and they are seen approaching from the meadows happy in each other's love.

What a beautiful picture we have here of the love of the True Church for her absent Lord. The Church is held captive in this world and is being constantly solicited by the offers of wealth and splendor to withdraw her love from Immanuel, her Shepherd Lover, who is feeding His flock in Paradise, and give her heart to her Solomon-like lovers, and consort with the kings and governments of the world, as does her sister the Harlot Church. But she cannot give her Heavenly Lover up. At times she is sorely tempted, then she sees Him with the eye of faith, and dreams of Him as spiritually present, and she is ravished by the vision of His beauty. Then suddenly He vanishes, and she is alone again carrying on the conflict with the world that tries to cast its spell upon her, and offers her its glories if she will only forsake her Shepherd Lover. But while the temptation is great her love never wavers, for she sees

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the time approaching when she shall be caught away from the earth to meet her Shepherd Lover on the plains of Paradise.

The "Marriage of the Lamb" was one of the themes that Jesus loved to dwell on. In the Parable of the "Ten Virgins" He tells how the Virgins went out to meet the Bridegroom, and the unpreparedness of some of them to meet Him. And in the Parable of the "Marriage of the King's Son" (Matt. 22:1-14), He prophetically refers to it, and gives us a foreview of it, and in the verses now under consideration He describes its consummation, saying--"Let us be glad and rejoice and give honor to Him, for the '**MARRIAGE OF THE LAMB**' is come, and His wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white, for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. And he saith unto me, write--"**BLESSED ARE THEY WHICH ARE CALLED UNTO THE MARRIAGE SUPPER OF THE LAMB.**"

Notice that it does not say the "**Marriage of the BRIDE**," but the "**Marriage of the LAMB.**" That grand event will be not so much the consummation of the hopes of the Bride, as it will be the consummation of the **PLAN OF GOD FOR HIS SON**, arranged for **before the Foundation of the World**. Eph. 1:4.

The "Marriage of the Lamb" is the consummation of the joy of Christ **AS A MAN**. It would not have been possible if Christ had not been born **IN THE FLESH**. Otherwise it would have been the union of **dissimilar natures**, for the Bride is of **human origin**. This is why Jesus took His **HUMAN NATURE** back with Him to glory, and today we have in Heaven the **MAN** Christ Jesus. 1. Tim. 2:5.

While the Bride was chosen for Him **before** the Foundation of the World, the "**Espousal**" could not take place until after Christ assumed humanity, and so it was not until after Christ's incarnation that Paul could say--"I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have **ESPOUSED** you to one husband, that I may present you as a **CHASTE VIRGIN** to Christ. 2. Cor. 11:2. There have been many long betrothals in which the betrothed have been faithful to their vows until the long wait has ended in a happy marriage, but the longest this world has ever heard of is that of Christ waiting for His Bride the Church. He has been waiting now for nearly 1900 years, but He will not have to wait much longer. Soon the sleeping Church shall hear the cry--"**BEHOLD THE BRIDEGROOM COMETH, GO YE OUT TO MEET HIM,**" and Heaven will re-sound with the cry--"Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honor to Him, for the **MARRIAGE OF THE LAMB IS COME.**" Rev. 19:7. Ordinarily the most interest in a wedding clusters around the bride, but the intimation in Scripture is, that the most interest at the "Marriage of the Lamb" will centre around the **BRIDEGROOM**. If there is joy in Heaven in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth, and that joy is the joy of the **FATHER**, how much greater will be the joy of the **FATHER** when He shall behold the consummation of His plan for His Son in His Marriage to His Bride the Church. There have been many royal weddings of international interest where the invited guests and spectators witnessed a spectacle magnificent in its appointments, and rejoiced in a union that bound together different nations. But the Wedding of the Lamb and His Bride will surpass them all, for it shall unite Heaven and Earth in a bond that shall never be broken.

Let us now look at the "Marriage of the Lamb" more in detail. Let us ask and try to answer some of the questions that relate to it. Most Biblical Expositors take it for granted that the subject is so familiar to Bible students that it needs no explanation, and so they do not dwell upon it, but this is not so. These difficulties will appear as we try to answer them.

1. WHERE AND WHEN SHALL THIS MARRIAGE TAKE PLACE?

The Marriage takes place in Heaven **after** the "Judgment of Reward," and before the appearing of Christ with His Saints at the Revelation.

The character of the ceremony or who shall perform it (though doubtless it will be God the Father Himself), and what vows the Bridegroom and Bride will take, is not disclosed, but that there will be a ceremony of some kind that no divorce or separation can break, cannot be questioned, for there never was a legal marriage without some ceremony. Of one thing we are certain that there is no one to give away the Bride, for Christ **presents her to Himself** a "**GLORIOUS CHURCH**, not having **SPOT**, or **WRINKLE**, or any **SUCH THING.**" Eph. 5:25-27.

2. WHO IS THE BRIDEGROOM?

To this question there can be but one answer. The "Bridegroom" is the **King's SON** of the Parable of the "Marriage of the King's Son" (Matt. 22:1-14), or **JESUS**, spoken of here as the **LAMB**. John the Baptist spoke of Christ as the "**BRIDEGROOM,**" and of himself as the

"**Friend**" of the Bridegroom who rejoiced to hear His voice. John 3:29. Jesus also represented **Himself** as the "Bridegroom," saying--"Can the 'Children of the Bride-chamber' mourn as long as the **Bridegroom is with them.**" Matt. 9:15. And in the Parable of the "Ten Virgins" Jesus refers to Himself as the "Bridegroom." Matt. 25:1-10. The Bridegroom then is Christ.

3. WHO IS THE BRIDE?

Here there is a difference of opinion. Some claim that the "Bride," because she is called "**WIFE**" in Rev. 19:7, is **ISRAEL**, because in the Old Testament God calls Himself the **HUSBAND** of Israel. Isa. 54:5. Those who advocate this view claim that "Wife" is the earthly name of Israel, and "**Bride**" the Heavenly. Some hold that because Isaac's bride was taken from his own kin, that, therefore, to complete the type, Jesus' Bride must be Israel, His own kin, and not the Church composed mainly of Gentiles. But we must not forget that while Abraham was the first Hebrew his kin were **Gentiles**. Abraham was not, strictly speaking, a Jew, for the Jews are the descendants of Judah, the fourth son of Jacob or Israel. So we see that Rebekah was not an Israelite, but a Gentile, so the type holds good.

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We must not forget that there are "Two Brides" mentioned in the Scriptures. One in the Old Testament, and the other in the New. The one in the Old Testament is Israel, the Bride of Jehovah; the one in the New Testament is the Church, the Bride of Christ. Of Israel it is said--"Thy Maker is Thine **husband.**" Isa. 54:5-8. Because of her Whoredoms, Israel is a **cast off WIFE**, but God, her **husband**, promises to take her back when she ceases from her adulteries. Jer. 3:1-18; Ez. 16:1-63; Hosea 2:1-23; 3:1-5. She will not be taken back as a **Virgin**, but as a **WIFE**. But it is a **VIRGIN** that the Lamb (Christ) is to marry. So the **Wife** (Israel) of the Old Testament cannot be the **BRIDE** (Virgin) of the New Testament. Again the **Wife** (Israel) is to reside in the earthly Jerusalem during the Millennium, while the **BRIDE** (the Church) will reside in the New Jerusalem. These distinctions make it clear that Israel cannot be the "Bride" of Christ. We must remember that John did not call the bride--**WIFE**, until Rev. 21:9, which was **after the marriage**, when she was no longer Bride but **WIFE**.

The Bride of the Lamb is from a disowned and outcast race, made so by the disobedience of the head of that race in the Garden of Eden, but the Bridegroom saw her and loved her. To redeem her He came from His own lovely home in Heaven to her sin-cursed home on earth, where He was rejected by members of her family, and seized and subjected to a mock trial and nailed to a cross as a malefactor, where He laid down voluntarily His life for her, thus demonstrating His love, and opening up the way for her redemption from the Law that held her in bondage. He then left her to return to His Father's House to prepare a home for her, and during the period of her betrothal He has left her with her own family, simply sending the Holy Spirit to teach and protect her, and fit her for the day of her marriage, when He will descend into **midair** to meet her on her way to the **BRIDAL HALLS OF HEAVEN**. 1. Thess. 4:16-17.

Many assume that the "Bride" is composed of all the saints from Abel down to the time of the taking out of the Church, but this can-not be so, for the Church did not exist until the Day of Pentecost, and only those who live and die in Christ between Pentecost and the taking out of the Church belong to the Church.

4. WHAT IS MEANT BY HER MAKING HERSELF READY?

We are told in verse 7, that she hath "**made herself ready**," and in verse 8, that it was permitted her to be "**arrayed in fine linen, clean and white; which is the righteousness of saints**," and in chapter 21:2, she is described as--"**prepared as a bride adorned for her husband**." The fact that the "**fine linen**" in which the Bride is clothed is called not the "righteousness of Christ," but the "**righteousness-es** (plural) of **SAINTS**, makes it clear that it is not the "imputed righteousness" of Christ that is meant, and that the "Wedding Garment" in the Parable of the "Marriage of the King's Son" stands for, but the righteous acts and works of the saints themselves.

Where does the Church thus clothe herself and when? It is certain that she does not thus clothe herself on earth, for we must not forget that the Bride does not put on her wedding robes until **after** she has been tried at the Judgment Seat of Christ, where all her "**false works**" will have been consumed by fire (1. Cor. 3:11-15), and it is this "Fiery Judgment" that Peter refers to as the "**TRIAL OF FAITH**" which--"being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be **tried with fire**, might be found unto **praise** and **honor** and **glory** at the **APPEARING OF JESUS CHRIST**." 1. Pet. 1:7. The "**righteousnesses**" then of the Saints will be their righteous acts and works that will come out of the "**fiery test**" of the Judgment of Reward, and be found unto **PRAISE** and **HONOR** and **GLORY** at the "**APPEARING**" of Jesus Christ; and these shall make up the beautiful wedding garments in which the Saints shall be clothed. What a contrast there will be between the purple and scarlet colored dress, and jewel bedecked person of the "Harlot Wife" of Antichrist, and the spotless white robe of fine linen of the "Bride" of the Lamb.

5. WHAT IS THE MARRIAGE SUPPER?

It is not the wedding itself. The "Marriage Feast" is the supper that follows **after** the Marriage has been solemnized. There is one thing about this Feast it will be such an honor to receive an invitation, and to be present, that the angel said to John, "**WRITE**," put it down in black and white lest you forget, do not trust to tradition lest the world never hear about it, but--"**WRITE, BLESSED ARE THEY WHICH ARE CALLED UNTO THE MARRIAGE SUPPER OF THE LAMB**." What a supper it will be. As a Feast, the Feasts of Belshazzar and Ahasuerus will be but a poor meal in comparison. It is called a "**Supper**" in contrast with the supper mentioned in the seventeenth verse of the same chapter, where the fowls of the air are invited to gather themselves together unto the "**SUPPER OF THE GREAT GOD**, that they may eat the **flesh of kings**, and the **flesh of mighty men**, and the **flesh of horses**, and **of them that sit upon them**, and the **flesh of all men**, both free and bond, both small and great." Rev. 19:17-18.

6. WHO ARE THE GUESTS?

Here again there is a difference of opinion. It is clear that the Guests **are not the Bride**, at least this is true as to earthly weddings. The Bride would not be "**called**" or "**invited**" to the Wedding, she has a place there of her own right and there could be no wedding without her. Some hold that the "Virgins" in the Parable of the "Ten Virgins" are not the "Bride" but simply "**Bridesmaids**"; and that those invited to the "Marriage Supper" of the King's Son, are simply "Guests" and do not constitute the "Bride." But as both of these Parables do not mention the Bride, and are "Kingdom of Heaven" Parables, which describe the character of this Gospel Dispensation, and have a double significance, we are led to believe that the "**Wise Virgins**" and the Guests who possessed a "**Wedding Garment**" are intended to represent the **BRIDE**, because they represent true believers, and true believers constitute the Church, and the Church and the Bride are one and the same.

But there will be "Guests," for as all the dead in Christ shall rise and be present at the "Marriage of The Lamb," and as only those who are saved from Pentecost to the taking out of the Church, belong to the Church (The Bride), there will be present as "**GUESTS**" the Old Testament Saints, such as Abel, Seth, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Job, Moses, David, the Prophets, and even John the Baptist who claimed to be only the "**Friend**" of the Bridegroom. Then there will be the "Blood Washed Multitude" that come out of the Tribulation **after** the Church has been caught out. Thus we see that the righteous of all the past Ages and Dispensations, and all the Saints of God who shall be worthy, and who are not included in the Bride (The Church), will be "Guests" at the "Marriage Supper of the Lamb." Angels will be "**spectators**" of the scene but they cannot be "**Guests**," for that honor is reserved for only those who have been redeemed by the "Blood of the Lamb."

7. WHAT HAPPENS AFTER THE MARRIAGE SUPPER?

What happens at earthly weddings after the supper? The guests make merry among themselves. Often there is music and dancing, and then the Bridegroom and the Bride change their wedding garments for a travelling dress, and steal away on their wedding trip. Generally this is to some pleasure resort or place that they have never seen. Often it is a trip across the ocean to some distant land. Sometimes it is a visit to the old home of the Bridegroom or the Bride. So after the "Marriage of the Lamb" the Heavenly Bridegroom will take His Bride on a wedding trip, and to what more suit-able place can they go than back to the old home of the Bride, this earth. The place where the Bridegroom suffered and died to purchase her redemption with His own precious blood. The place where her people rejected Him, and despised His Royal claims. Then He will show them that He was no imposter, that He was what He claimed to be, the Son of God. He will then set up His Earthly Kingdom, and the Lord God shall give unto Him the "**THRONE OF DAVID**," and His Bride (The Church) shall reign with Him for a **THOUSAND YEARS**. Oh what a sweet and delightful "**HONEY-MOON**" that will be, when, during that long "Millennial Reign" the earth shall be blessed with the presence of the King of Kings and His Consort--**THE CHURCH**. But that long "Honey-Moon" will end, not for the Bridegroom and the Bride, but for the Earth, by the return of the Bridegroom and the Bride to the Father's House. Then after the Earth has had its "Baptism of Fire," they will return with the descent of the "Holy City" to abide on the "New Earth" forever. So enraptured was John by the Revelation that he says--"I fell at his (the angel's) feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See thou do it not: I am thy fellow servant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the Testimony of Jesus is the **SPIRIT OF PROPHECY**." That is, all prophecy testifies of Jesus.

3. THE BATTLE OF ARMAGEDDON.

Rev. 19:11-19.

"And I saw Heaven opened, and behold a **WHITE HORSE**: and He that sat upon him was called '**Faithful and True**,' and in righteousness He doth judge and make war. His eyes were as a **flame of fire**, and on His head were **many crowns**; and He had a name written, that no man knew, but He Himself. And He was clothed with a vesture **dipped in blood**: and His name is called **THE WORD OF GOD**. And the armies which were in Heaven followed Him upon White Horses clothed in fine linen, white and clean. And **out of His mouth goeth a SHARP SWORD**, that with it He should smite the nations; and He shall rule them with a **ROD OF IRON**: and He treadeth the **WINEPRESS OF THE FIERCENESS AND WRATH OF ALMIGHTY GOD**. And He hath on His vesture and on His Thigh a name written, **KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS**. And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, **Come and gather yourselves together unto the SUPPER OF THE GREAT GOD**; that ye may eat the **flesh of kings**, and the **flesh of captains**, and the **flesh of mighty men**, and the **flesh of horses**, and of **them that sit on them**, and the **flesh of all men**, both free and bond, both small and great. And I saw the 'Beast,' and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him that sat on the 'Horse,' and against His Army."

In chapter 6:2, a "White Horse Rider" was seen, who had a bow in his hand, and a crown was given him, and he went forth conquering and to conquer. That "Rider" we saw was "**ANTICHRIST**," but this "Rider" has **eyes like a flame of fire**, and on His head were **many crowns**, and

out of His mouth went a **sharp sword**. This identifies Him as the Person John saw standing in the midst of the "Seven Candlesticks" of chapter one, and whom we saw to be the "**SON OF MAN**." The name of the first "White Horse Rider" is not given, but this "White Horse Rider" is called

"THE WORD OF GOD,"

and on His Vesture, and on His thigh, a name was written "**KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS**."

Many stumble at the "**White HORSE**" and his **RIDER**; and ask, in amazement, if we believe it? Yes! Why not? We believe it, just as we believe the prophecy of Zech. 9:9, where the Prophet, speaking of the First Coming of Christ, said--"Behold, thy King cometh unto thee . . . lowly and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass," which we know was literally fulfilled as recorded in Matt. 21:4-11. Jesus, as far as we know, rode but once in the days of His Humiliation, and then upon an humble animal, an ass, but when He comes again in His Glory, as "King of Kings," He shall sit astride a magnificent **WHITE CHARGER**. Oh, you say that is figurative, who ever heard of **horses** in Heaven? We answer "**horses and chariots of fire**" were seen in the heavens in the days of Elijah and Elisha, and why not again? 2. Kings 2:11 6:13-17.

The riders upon these "White Horses" were clothed in fine linen, white and clean. As this is the dress of the Saints that compose the Bride, it is clear that Christ's Bride will accompany Him back to the earth, and here we have the fulfilment of the prophecy of Enoch, the seventh from Adam, recorded in Jude 14--"Behold, the Lord cometh' with **10,000 OF HIS SAINTS**." But they doubtless will be but one division of that great army, for we are told that Christ shall be accompanied by the **ARMIES** of Heaven.

"Lo, He comes! from Heaven descending,
Once for favored sinners slain:
Thousand thousand saints attending,
Swell the Triumph of His Train!
Hallelujah!
Jesus comes, and comes to reign."

But He does not come unarmed. "Out of His mouth goeth a **SHARP SWORD**, that with it He should smite the nations: and He shall rule them with a **ROD OF IRON**." Here we have the fulfilment of the Second Psalm. "Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? The '**KINGS OF THE EARTH**' set themselves and the **Rulers** take counsel together **AGAINST THE LORD**, and against His Anointed, saying, Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us." These "Kings" are the "Ten Federated Kings" under Antichrist. But the Lord shall have them in derision, and then Christ shall do as the Psalmist says He is directed to do--"Ask of me, and I shall give thee **the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession**. Thou shalt break them with a '**ROD OF IRON**,' Thou shalt **dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel**."

With Christ at this time shall be the "**Overcomers**" of the "Thyatiran Church Period" (A. D. 606-1520), to whom He promised to give power over the nations that they should rule them with a "**ROD OF IRON**," and to them shall be given some official position of a ruling character.

We have here fulfilled the prophecy of Isa. 11:1-4, where a colon (:) in verse 4, makes a break or gap that covers this Present Dispensation from the First to the Second Coming of Christ--"And He shall smite the earth with the '**ROD OF HIS MOUTH**, and with the **BREATH OF HIS LIPS** shall He slay--**THE WICKED** (the **ANTICHRIST**)." 2. Thess. 2:7-8. The "**SHARP SWORD**" that goeth out of the mouth of the "White Horse Rider" is not the "**SWORD OF THE SPIRIT**," for that bringeth "**Salvation**," not destruction, but stands for some supernatural form of destruction, called in the above passage the--"**ROD OF HIS MOUTH**."

But probably the most remarkable thing about this "White Horse Rider" is, that John saw His **VESTURE** had been **dipped in BLOOD**. Whose is this blood? His own blood that He shed on Calvary, or the blood of His enemies? We must turn to the Prophet Isaiah for the answer. Isa. 63:1-6.

"Who is this that cometh from Edom, with **dyed garments** from Bozrah? this that is glorious in his apparel, travelling in the greatness of his strength?" And the answer comes back--"I that speak in righteousness, mighty to save." Then the Prophet asks, "Wherefore art thou **red** in thine apparel, and thy garments like him that treadeth in the **Winefat**?" And the response p. 173is--"I have trodden the wine-press **alone**; and of the people there was none with me; for I will tread them in mine anger, and trample them in my fury; and their blood shall be sprinkled upon my **garments**, and I will **stain all My Raiment**" Isa. 63:1-6.

That this does not refer to Christ's atonement on the Cross is clear, for the Prophet adds

"For the **Day of Vengeance**' is in mine heart, and the year of my redeemed is come."

There was no "vengeance" in Christ's heart on the Cross. It was "Father 'forgive them' for they know not what they do." The time the Prophet foretells, is the "Day of Christ's Vengeance" on His enemies, and the day when He shall redeem His chosen people the Jews from the power of Antichrist. It is the time when He shall tread--

"THE 'WINEPRESS' Of the Fierceness and Wrath of Almighty God."

The Apostle John had a vision of this "Winepress" in chapter fourteen, verses 14 to 20. That was before the pouring out of the "Vials," and was a prophetic foreview of what should happen in chapter nineteen.

In verses 18 to 20, an angel with a sharp sickle is told to

"Thrust in thy **Sharp Sickle**, and gather the clusters of the '**Vine of the Earth**,' for her grapes are **fully ripe**. And the angel thrust in his **Sickle** into the earth, and gathered of the '**Vine of the Earth**,' and cast it into the **Great Winepress** of the wrath of God." And we read that "The Winepress was trodden **Without the City**, and **blood** (not wine), came out of the Winepress, even unto the horses' **bridles**, by the space of a **Thousand and Six Hundred Furlongs**."

From this we see that the "Allied Armies" of Antichrist will cover the whole of Palestine, and so great shall be the slaughter, that, in the valleys and hollows, all over the whole of Palestine, for the length of Palestine as far south as Bozrah is 1600 furlongs or 200 miles, the **blood** shall be up to the **horses' bridles**.

It will be the time of which Isaiah speaks, when the land shall be "**Soaked With Blood**." Isa. 34:1-8.

The "Tribulation Period" will close with the great "Battle of Armageddon." As we have seen the armies of the East and the West will be assembled in the Holy Land by the "Demon Spirits" that shall be sent forth from the mouths of the "Satanic Trinity." The field of battle will be the "Valley of Megiddo," located in the heart of Palestine, the battlefield of the great battles of the Old Testament. The forces engaged will be the "Allied Armies" of Antichrist on the one side, and the "Heavenly Army" of Christ on the other. The "time" will be when the **Harvest of the Earth** **IS RIPE** (Rev. 14:15), and at the "Psychological Moment" when the "Allied Armies" of Antichrist are about to take the city of Jerusalem.

The Prophet Zechariah says--

"Behold the '**Day of the Lord**' cometh." (The "Day of the Lord" is the Millennial Day.) When--"I will **Gather All Nations Against Jerusalem to Battle** . Then shall the Lord **Go Forth and Fight Against Those Nations**." Zech. 14:1-3.

THIRD DOOM.

"THE BEAST" AND "FALSE PROPHET."

Rev. 19:20.

"And the **BEAST** was taken, and with him the **FALSE PROPHET** that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the 'Mark of the Beast,' and them that worshipped his 'Image.' These both were cast **ALIVE** into a 'Lake of Fire' burning with brimstone."

The issue of the "Battle of Armageddon" will never be in doubt. The previous summoning of the birds and beasts of prey, prove this'. Before the destruction of the army of Antichrist, he and the False Prophet will be cast "alive" into the "Lake of Fire." This shows that they are not "Systems" but "Persons," and as Enoch and Elijah were taken to Heaven **without dying**, so Antichrist and the False Prophet will be cast into the "Lake of Fire" **without dying**, and will be still there and alive when Satan is cast in a 1000 years later.

Before Antichrist is seized and cast into the "Lake of Fire," Satan will make his exit from his person, and after the battle is over, Satan will be bound and cast into the "Bottomless Pit," where he will be "sealed up" for 1000 years'. This is the culminating act of the "Tribulation Period."

FOURTH DOOM.

THE ANTICHRISTIAN NATIONS.

Rev. 19:21.

And the remnant were slain with the **SWORD** of Him that sat upon the Horse, which sword proceeded out of His mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh."

So great will be the destruction of human life in the Battle of Armageddon, that God will prepare for it in advance lest the stench of the unburied dead should breed pestilence.

"And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the **fowls that fly in the midst of Heaven** (Buzzards, Vultures, Eagles, etc.), Come and gather yourselves together unto the

SUPPER OF THE GREAT GOD,

that ye may eat the **flesh of Kings . . . Captains . . . Mighty Men**, and the **flesh of horses** and of them that **sit on them** (common soldiers), and the **flesh of all men, both free and bond**, both small and great." Rev. 19:17, 18.

This "Feast" is described in the Old Testament.

"And, thou son of man, thus saith the Lord God, Speak unto every **feathered fowl**, and to every **beast of the field**, Assemble yourselves, and come, gather yourselves on every side to **My Sacrifice**, that I do sacrifice for you, even a great sacrifice upon the **Mountains of Israel**, that ye may eat **flesh**, and drink **blood**. Ye shall eat the **flesh of the Mighty**, and **drink the blood of the Princes of the Earth**, of **rams**, of **lambs**, and of **goats**, of **bullocks**, all of them fatlings of Bashan. And ye shall eat **fat till ye be full**, and **drink blood till ye be drunken**. . . . Thus ye shall be filled 'at My Table,' with **horses and chariots** (their occupants), with **Mighty Men**, and with all **Men of War**, said the Lord God." Ez. 39:1-22.

And in the same chapter we are told that the "**House of Israel**," the occupants of Palestine in that day, shall be **seven months** burying the bones of the dead, the flesh having been eaten by the birds and beasts of prey, and the wood from the weapons of warfare, army wagons, spears, etc., shall last the inhabitants of the land for fuel **seven years**, so that they will not have to take wood out of the field, nor cut down any out of the forests.

The words in Rev. 19:21, "and all the **fowls were filled with their flesh**," declare that those "**Fowl Guests**" will be **GORGED WITH CARRION**.

Then will be fulfilled the words of Jesus--"For wheresoever the carcass is, there will the **Eagles** (birds of prey) be gathered together." Matt. 24:27, 28. The eagle feeds mainly on fresh meat. The Hebrews classed the eagle among the birds of prey, such as the vulture.

The destruction of this great army will be brought about by supernatural means, and as there is to be a "**GREAT HAIL**" to fall from heaven upon the enemies of God when the "Seventh Vial" is poured out, which includes this period, that may be the means God will use, for it was in that way that the enemies of Israel were destroyed on the same battlefield in the "Battle of Beth-Horon" in the days of Joshua. Josh. 10:1-11.

THE INTERVAL BETWEEN THE "FOURTH" AND "FIFTH" DOOMS.

1. SATAN BOUND FOR A THOUSAND YEARS.

Rev. 20:1-3.

"And I saw an Angel come down from Heaven, having the Key of the **'BOTTOMLESS PIT'** and a **GREAT CHAIN** in his hand. And he laid hold on the **DRAGON**, that **OLD SERPENT**, which is the **DEVIL**, and **SATAN**, and bound him a **1000 YEARS**, and cast him into the **'BOTTOMLESS PIT'**, and **shut him up**, and **set a seal upon him**, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the **1000 YEARS** should be fulfilled: and after that he shall be loosed a **little season**."

Here Satan is called by four different names--"Dragon," "Serpent," "Devil," and "Satan." From these and from the fact that he can be **bound**, we see that he is a "**PERSON**," because you cannot bind an "**influence**" or a "principle of evil." While Satan is the "Prince of the Powers of the Air" (Eph. 2:2), and the "God of this Age" (2. Cor. 4:4), and the "Ruler of the Powers of Darkness" (Eph. 6:11-12), and whose position is so exalted that even Michael the Archangel dare not insult him (Jude 9), and while he has great power and influence, yet he is not **omnipotent**, for **ONE Angel** and he is not called a strong angel, is able to seize and bind him. This Angel, who has the "Key" of the "**BOTTOMLESS PIT**," is the same "**STAR Angel**" that is seen by John when the "Fifth Trumpet" sounded (Rev. 9:1-2), who seems to be the custodian of the "Key" of the "Bottomless Pit."

The objection has been raised to the possibility of binding a "**spirit**" with an **IRON** chain. But the word "**iron**" is not used, it is simply a "**great chain**," and we are told in other scriptures that "Spirit" beings can be chained. In 2. Pet. 2:4, and Jude 6, we read of the angels who sinned and kept not their "First Estate," and who are now "**reserved in CHAINS**," in darkness, unto the Judgment of the Great Day (The Great "White Throne" Judgment). What interests us most is, not the character of the chain, but the fact that Satan can and will be bound and confined in a place where he cannot get out for a **1000 years**, and while nothing is said of the binding and confining of his angels and other evil agents, as demons and the "evil powers of the air," the inference is that they too will be power-less during that period.

The Binding of Satan reveals the fact that God can stop his evil work when He is ready, and that without sending the armies of Heaven to do so. When the time has come, God will empower and command a **single Angel** to seize, handcuff, and imprison him, just as an officer of the law with a warrant arrests and locks up a criminal. Satan is not cast at this time into the "Lake of Fire," to keep company with the "Beast" and "False Prophet," because God has further use for him at the end of the 1000 years for which period he is bound.

2. THE FIRST RESURRECTION.

Rev. 20:4-6.

"And I saw Thrones, and they sat upon them, and Judgment was given unto them.

"And I saw the **SOULS** of them that were **beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the 'Beast,' neither his 'Image,' neither had received his 'Mark' upon their foreheads, or in their hands.** (These are the Tribulation Saints.) And they (the 'Throne Sitters' and 'Tribulation Saints') lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. But the rest of the dead (Wicked Dead) lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This (the resurrection of the 'Throne Sitters,' and 'Tribulation Saints') is the **FIRST RESURRECTION**.

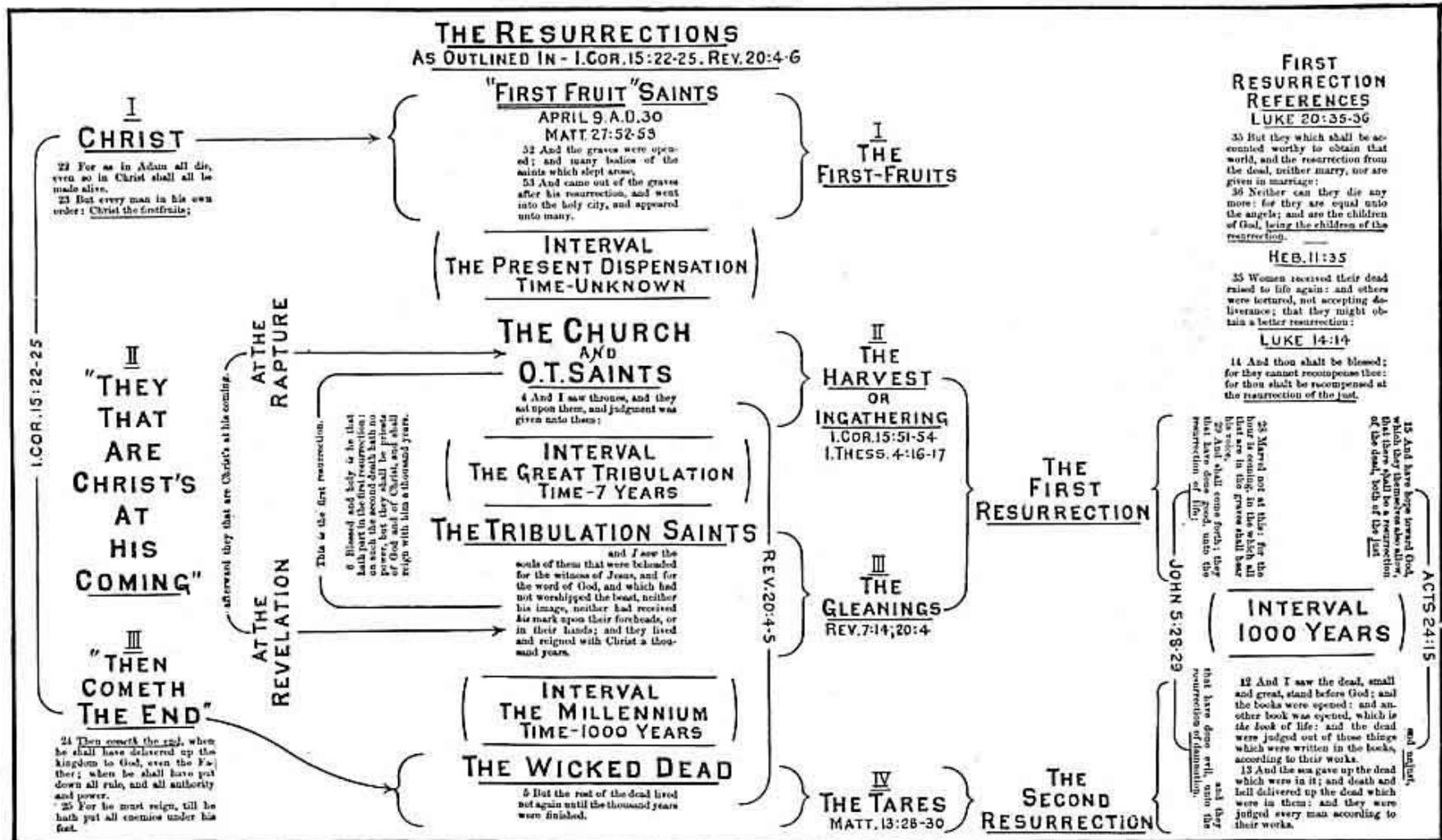
"Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the **FIRST RESURRECTION**': on such the **SECOND DEATH**' hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a **THOUSAND YEARS**."

In this passage we meet for the first time the expression--"**THE FIRST RESURRECTION**." In 1. Thess. 4:16, we read that the dead **IN CHRIST** shall rise **FIRST**, but as no wicked are mentioned it is simply a relative statement to show that the **living** Christians shall not be caught away **before** the "Dead in Christ" shall be raised. This passage speaks of two separate "Companies of Believers" who are to be raised, each in their own order, at the "First Resurrection."

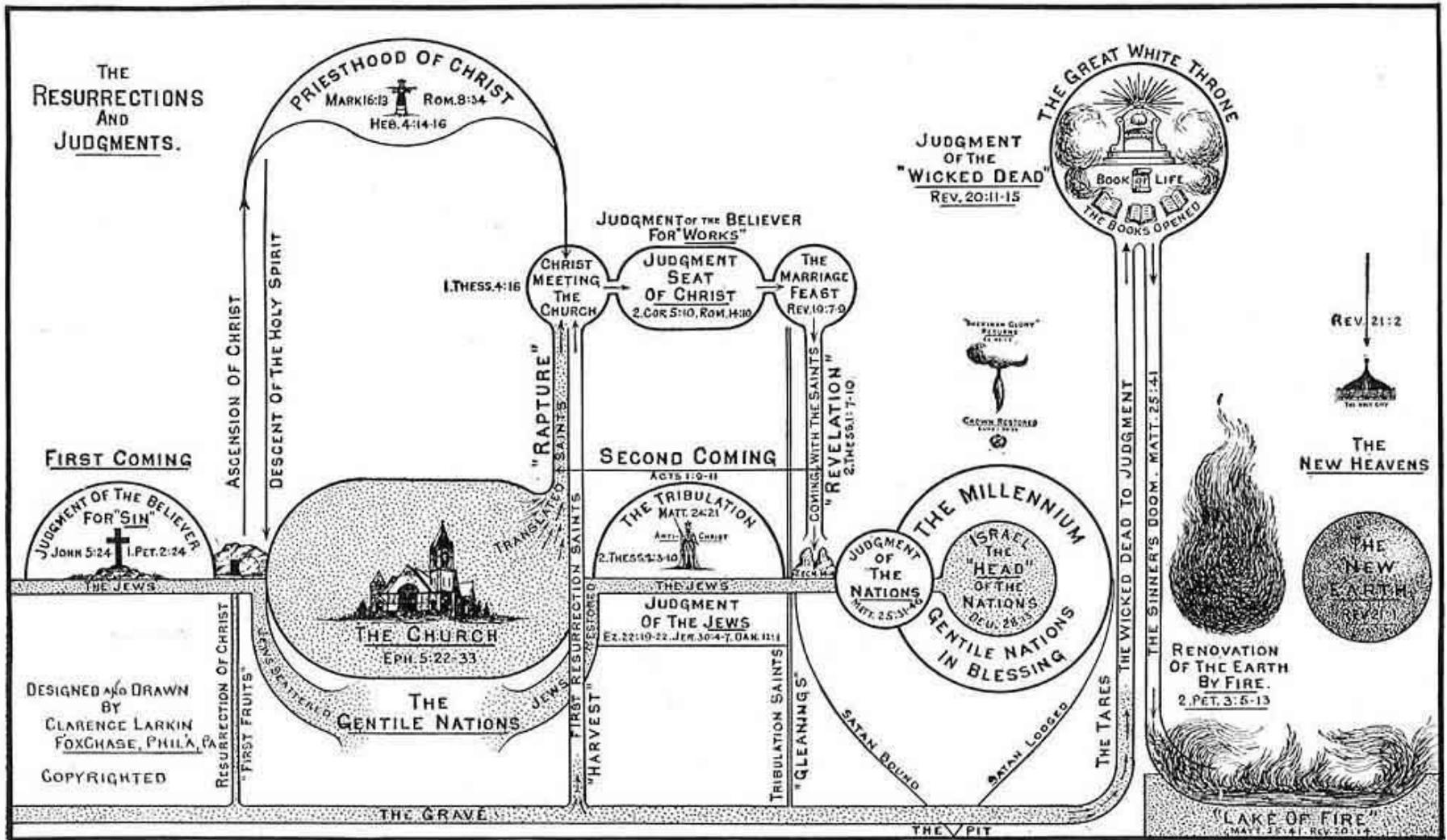
(1). The First Company is described by the words--"I saw Thrones, and they sat upon them, and Judgment was given unto them." Now the only "Company of Believers" that we see **sitting on Thrones** are the "Four and Twenty Elders" of chapter 4:4-5. These as we have seen stand for the Church, and were resurrected or caught out **before** "The Tribulation," and are the "**Harvest**" of which Christ and those who rose at the time of His Resurrection were the "**First Fruits**." See the "[Chart on](#)."

(2). The Second Company is described by the words--"And I saw the **SOULS** of them that were **beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the 'Beast,' neither his 'Image,' neither had received his 'Mark' upon their foreheads, or in their hands.**" This Company is made up of those who were slain for refusing to worship the "Beast" or his "Image," and represent the "**Tribulation Saints**," or those who perish as martyrs **after** the Church has been caught out, and during the "Tribulation Period," and are the "**Gleanings**" of the "Harvest."

Now we read that these Two Companies "**lived**," that is, they were dead but **lived again**, that is, had been raised **from the dead**, for John saw the Tribulation Saints in their disembodied or **SOULISH** state between death and the resurrection of the body. This clearly teaches that both these Companies were resurrected and lived and were to reign with Christ for a **1000 YEARS**, and not that only the Tribulation Saints lived and would reign with Him during the 1000 Years. Thus both Companies make up the **FIRST RESURRECTION SAINTS**.



In the next verse (5) we have another class or Company of persons mentioned, called the "REST OF THE DEAD," who are not to live again (that is, raised from the dead) until the 1000 Years are finished. Who these dead are we are told in verse 12, where they are referred to as the "WICKED DEAD." It is clear then that there are to be **TWO** Resurrections of the dead, the first of the "RIGHTEOUS," and the second of the "WICKED," and that these two Resurrections are to be **1000 YEARS APART**.



But some object to the statement that there are to be **Two** Resurrections, and say that we are not justified in basing such a doctrine on a single statement in a symbolical book. But if we are to reject the statements of the Word of God simply because they are mentioned only **once**, then we must reject the doctrine of the "Virgin Birth," for that was only mentioned once in the Old Testament before it was fulfilled, but of the resurrection of the "Righteous" a 1000 years before the "Wicked" we are told in this Book of Revelation **three** times.

But we do not have to depend on this passage to prove that the "Righteous" shall rise **before** the "Wicked," its value lies in the fact that it gives us the **LENGTH OF TIME** (1000 years) between the Two Resurrections. The Scriptures, while they speak of the Resurrection of the

"**JUST**" and the "**UNJUST**" (the Justified and the Unjustified), Acts 24:15, and a Resurrection of "**LIFE**," and a Resurrection of "**DAMNATION**" (John 5:28-29), also speak of an "**OUT**" Resurrection "**FROM AMONG**" the dead, called in Luke 14:13-14, the Resurrection of the "**JUST**." In Luke 20:35-36 a Resurrection is spoken of called a Resurrection "**FROM** (out from) **THE DEAD**," and is an "**OUT**" Resurrection, because those who rise are called the "**CHILDREN OF GOD**," being the children of "**THE** (First or "out from") **RESURRECTION**." Again in Heb. 11:35, we read of a "**BETTER RESURRECTION**," and all these references to a "**SPECIAL**" Resurrection are made clear, and the "**time element**" and its "**length**" (1000 years) between the Resurrection of the "**JUST**" and "**UNJUST**" revealed in the passage we are considering.

There could be no statement more clear than--"**THE REST OF THE DEAD LIVED NOT AGAIN UNTIL THE THOUSAND YEARS WERE FINISHED**," to show that the "**Unrighteous Dead**" will not be raised until the **end of the Millennium**. This at one stroke does away with the argument of those who claim that **all the dead** will be raised at the **beginning** of the Millennium, and shall have another chance to accept the Gospel and be saved.

We read--"Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the '**FIRST Resurrection**'; on such the '**SECOND DEATH**' hath no power." What is the "**SECOND DEATH**"? First, what is **DEATH**? It is the separation of the "**soul**" and "**spirit**" from the "**body**." That is the "**FIRST DEATH**." At the Resurrection the "**soul**" and "**spirit**" are **reunited** to the "**body**." This is true of both the Righteous and the Wicked. But the Wicked after they have been raised are to be Judged at the Great White Throne Judgment, and because their names are not found written in the "Book of Life," they are sentenced to **die again**, that is, their "**soul**" and "**spirit**" are again separated from their "**body**," and they go to the "**LAKE OF FIRE**" **without a material body**, and as "**soul**" and "**spirit**" are **incombustible** they can remain in the flames of a **literal fire** for all eternity without being consumed. This is the doom of the Wicked dead. The Rich Man in Hell (Luke 16:19-31) was conscious and tormented in the flame after his death, and he shall remain so until his body shall be raised from the dead at the Resurrection of the Wicked, and when he shall be Judged and condemned at the Great White Throne Judgment, and sentenced to **die again**, his "**soul**" and "**spirit**" will descend to the "Lake of Fire" (the Final Hell), where they will exist in a conscious state and in torment for all eternity. But the "Second Death" has no terror for the Righteous, for the promise is that it shall have **no power over them**.

3. THE MILLENNIUM.

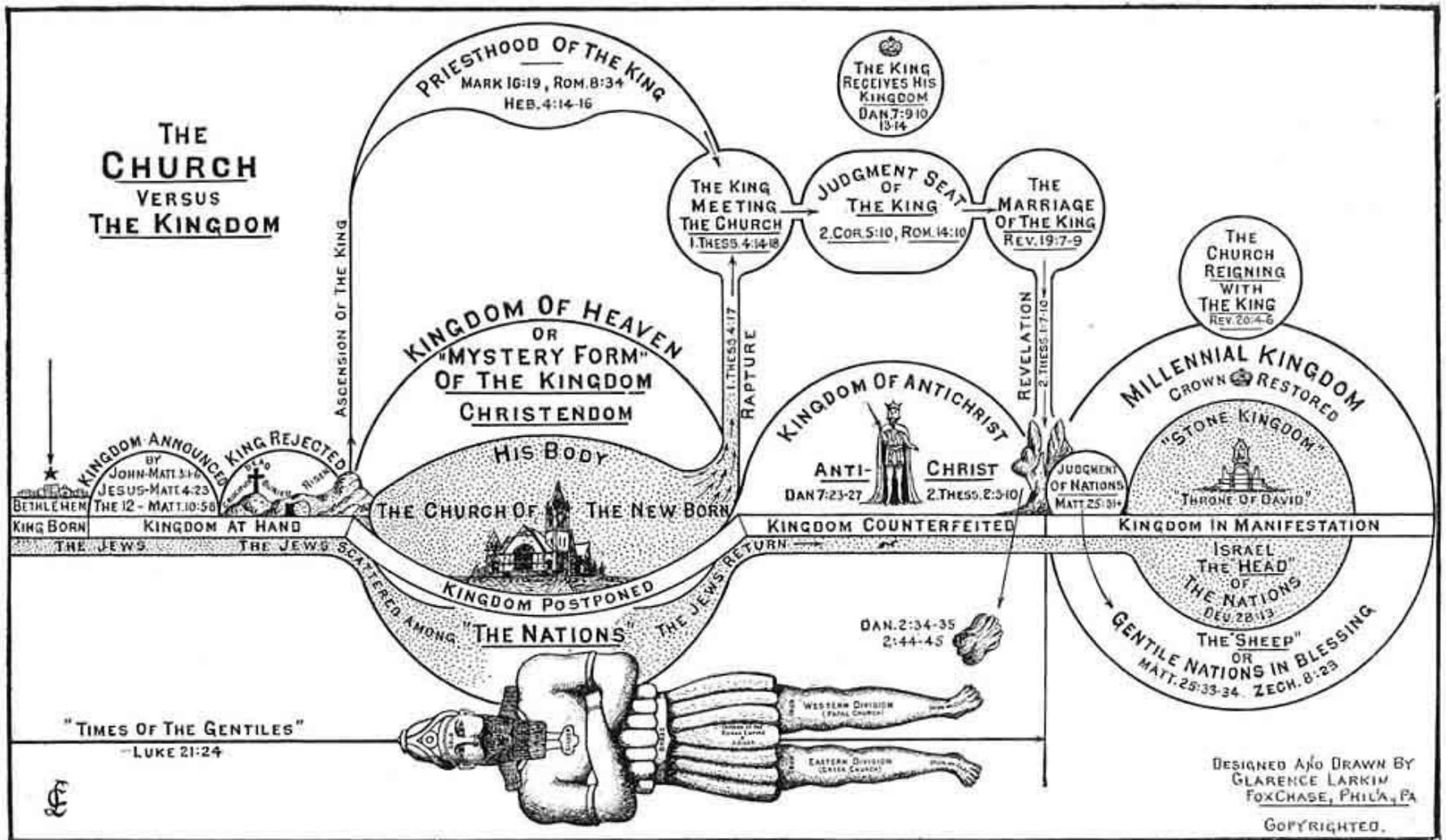
Rev. 20:4.

"And they lived and reigned with Christ a **THOUSAND YEARS**."

That there is to be a period of a 1000 years during which Satan shall be bound and Christ shall reign on this earth, is plainly stated in the New Testament. This period is mentioned 6 times in Rev. 20:1-7, and is generally called

"The Millennium,"

from the Latin words "Mille" (1000) and "Annum" (year). It is to be regretted, however, that the word "Millennium" ever supplanted the Biblical word "Kingdom," for it is this period that Christ taught His Disciples to pray for in the petition--"Thy Kingdom Come."



Let us drop then for the present the word "Millennium" and look at the word "Kingdom." In the Book of Daniel we learn that there were to be "Four World-wide Kingdoms" that were to succeed each other on the earth and that they were to be destroyed in turn by a Kingdom called the

"Stone Kingdom."

As those "Four Kingdoms" were "literal" Kingdoms it follows that the "Stone Kingdom" must be a "literal" Kingdom, for it takes the place of those Kingdoms and "fills the whole earth." This "Stone Kingdom" is the "Millennial Kingdom of Christ."

The time when this "Stone Kingdom;" shall be set up is at the "Revelation of Christ," when He shall come with the "armies of Heaven" and destroy Antichrist (Rev. 19:11-21) and judge the Nations.

"When the Son of Man shall come in **His glory**, and all the holy angels with Him, then shall He sit upon the

"Throne of His Glory";

and before Him shall be gathered **all nations**; and He shall separate them one from another as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats, and He shall set the **Sheep** (Sheep Nations) on His **right hand**, but the **Goats** (Goat Nations) on the left. Then shall the King say unto them on His **right hand**, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the **Kingdom Prepared for You From the Foundation of the World.**" Matt. 25:31-34.

This Kingdom is an earthly, visible Kingdom, and is the "Millennial Kingdom" of the Lord Jesus Christ.

1. The Form of Government.

It will be a "Theocracy." God will rule in the person of the Lord Jesus, Christ.

"And the angel said unto Mary, thou shalt bring forth a son and shalt call His name Jesus. He shall be great and shall be called the 'Son of the Highest,' and the Lord God shall give unto Him the **Throne of His Father David**; and He shall **reign over the House of Jacob FOREVER**, and of **His Kingdom There Shall Be NO END.**" Luke 1:30-33.

There are 7 of God's "**shalls**" in this passage. Four of them have been fulfilled, for Mary did bring forth a "son," He was called "Jesus," He was "great," and was called the "Son of the Highest"; the other three must and will be fulfilled.

Daniel the Prophet describes the event.

"I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the 'Son of Man' came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the 'Ancient of Days' (God), and they brought Him near before Him. And there was given Him **Dominion, and Glory** and a **KINGDOM** that all people, nations, and languages, should serve Him; His **Dominion** is an **Everlasting Dominion, Which Shall Not Pass Away**, and His **KINGDOM** that which **Shall Not Be Destroyed.**"

Whether Christ shall sit in person on the Throne at Jerusalem, or whether He shall rule through another is not so clear. There are several passages of Scripture that seem to teach that King David will be raised and placed on the throne again, and that the Children of Israel will seek him, or it may mean that the new King shall be named David.

"Afterward shall the Children of Israel return, and seek the Lord their God, and **David Their King**; and shall fear the Lord and His goodness in the **Latter Days.**" Hosea 3:5.

"They shall serve the Lord their God, and **David Their King**, whom I will **Raise Up Unto Them.**" Jer. 30:9.

"And David, my servant, shall be **King Over Them.**" Ezek. 37:24.

"I Jehovah will be their God, and my servant **David a Prince in Their Midst.**" Ezek. 34:24.

"My servant David shall be their **Prince Forever.**" Ezek. 37:25.

As the "Lord of Hosts" shall reign in Mt. Zion, and in Jerusalem, and before His ancients "gloriously" (Isa. 24:23), the inference is that King David will reign simply as "Regent," and will be called "King" or "Prince" as circumstances may require. It is very clear from Ezekiel that the "Prince," whoever he may be, is not perfect, and has to offer sacrifices for himself. Ezek. 45:22.

We have a hint of the manner of government in the Parable of the Pounds. That Parable was spoken to show what Jesus will do to His servants (the Jews) when He shall have "received the Kingdom and returned." The man whose Pound shall have gained "Ten Pounds" will be rewarded by being placed in authority over "ten cities." The man whose Pound shall have gained "Five Pounds" will have authority over "five cities." The man who failed to use his Pound is simply deprived of it and loses all opportunity of authority. Luke 19:11-26.

The promise that Jesus made to His Disciples that

"In the **Regeneration** when the Son of Man shall sit on the **Throne of His Glory**, ye also shall sit upon **Twelve Thrones, Judging the Twelve Tribes of Israel.**" Matt. 19:28.

in all probability does not refer to the "Millennial Age," but to the "Perfect Age," the "Age" that is to follow the renovation of the Earth by fire. The use of the word "regeneration" suggests this, as it refers to the time when the present earth is to be "re-created" and made "new." It has occurred to the writer that we have not as yet the proper perspective as to all the Old Testament prophecies, and that we are putting in the "Millennial Age" some things that belong to the "Perfect Age." The one just mentioned for example.

Some object to the "visible reign" of King David, or the Disciples on the earth during the Millennium because it involves the anomaly of intercourse between men in the flesh and those who are clad in resurrected and glorified bodies. But why should this be an objection? Did not Jesus appear "eleven" times "after His resurrection," during a period of "forty days," to His disciples? Did He not "eat" and "drink" with them during that period? Did they not "walk" with Him to the Mount of Olives and see Him go up in that **Same Resurrection Body**? Did not angels appear in human form and "eat" and "drink" with men in Old Testament times? Gen. 18:1-8.

We must not forget that they who shall be accounted worthy to obtain "**That Age**," and the "**Resurrection From Among the Dead**," shall be "**Angel like**" (Luke 20:35, 36), and like the angels can mingle with earth's inhabitants, having visible bodily forms, can eat and drink, and there is probably more truth than poetry in the Prophet's utterance that in those days,

"They that **wait upon the Lord** (as messengers) shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles (Angels); they shall run and **not be weary**; and they shall walk and **not faint.**" Ira. 40:31.

This can be said of only those who have been "**Raised in Power.**" 1. Cor. 15:42, 43.

2. The Seat of Government.

The Seat of Government will be at Jerusalem. Jerusalem is to be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the "Times of the Gentiles be fulfilled." Luke 21:24. Then it will be rebuilt. The Prophet Ezekiel gives us a detailed description of the restored Land and City in Ezek. 48:1-35. See [Chart of the Millennial Land](#).

The "Royal Grant" of land that God gave to Abraham and his descendants extended from the "River of Egypt" unto the "Great River," the river Euphrates. Gen. 15:18. Ezekiel fixes the Northern boundary at Hamath, about 100 miles north of Damascus (Ezek. 48:1), and the Southern boundary at Kadesh, about 100 miles south of Jerusalem. Ezek. 48:28. This "Royal Grant" was not conditional and was never revoked. It is 8 times as large as that formerly occupied by the Twelve Tribes. See [Map of the "Royal Grant" to Abraham](#).

This "Royal Grant" is to be divided among the restored Twelve Tribes in parallel horizontal sections, beginning at Hamath on the North with a section for Dan, next comes Asher, then Naphtali, Manassah, Ephraim, Reuben, Judah. Then comes the

"Holy Oblation,"

a square tract on the west of Jordan, 25,000 reeds, or 50 miles on a side. A "Reed," according to Ezek. 40:5, is 6 cubits long, the cubit being an ordinary cubit 18 inches long plus a hand-breadth, 3 inches, making the "reed cubit" 21 inches. Six of such cubits make the "reed" 10½ feet long. South of the "Holy Oblation" will be the Tribes of Benjamin, Simeon, Issachar, Zebulon and Gad.

The "Holy Oblation" is divided into three horizontal sections. The [Northern](#) section is 25,000 reeds long, from East to West, and 10,000 reeds wide. It is called the "Levites' Portion." South of it is the "Priests' Portions" of equal size. South of the "Priests' Portion" is the section for the "City" with, its suburbs and farming sections. This section is 25,000 reeds long, from East to West, and 5000 reeds wide. Ezek. 48:15-19.

In the centre of this section the City (Jerusalem) is located. This helps us to map out the whole of the "Holy Oblation," as the "New City" is to be located on the site of the Old. The "New City," however, is to be much larger than the Old. It is to be 9 miles square, and with its suburbs, ½ mile on a side, 10 miles square. It will have a wall around it with 3 gates on each side like the New Jerusalem (Ezek. 48:15-18, 30-35), these gates being named after the 12 sons of Jacob.

The "Temple," or "Sanctuary," will not be rebuilt in the "New City," but in the "midst" or middle of the "Holy Oblation." Ezek. 48:10, 20, 21. This will locate it at or near Shiloh, where the Tabernacle rested after the Children of Israel conquered the Land, and where it remained until the Temple of Solomon was finished. A "Highway" shall lead from the "Sanctuary" to the "New City." Isa. 35:8. It will be a magnificent boulevard, 12 miles long, lined with beautiful shade trees.

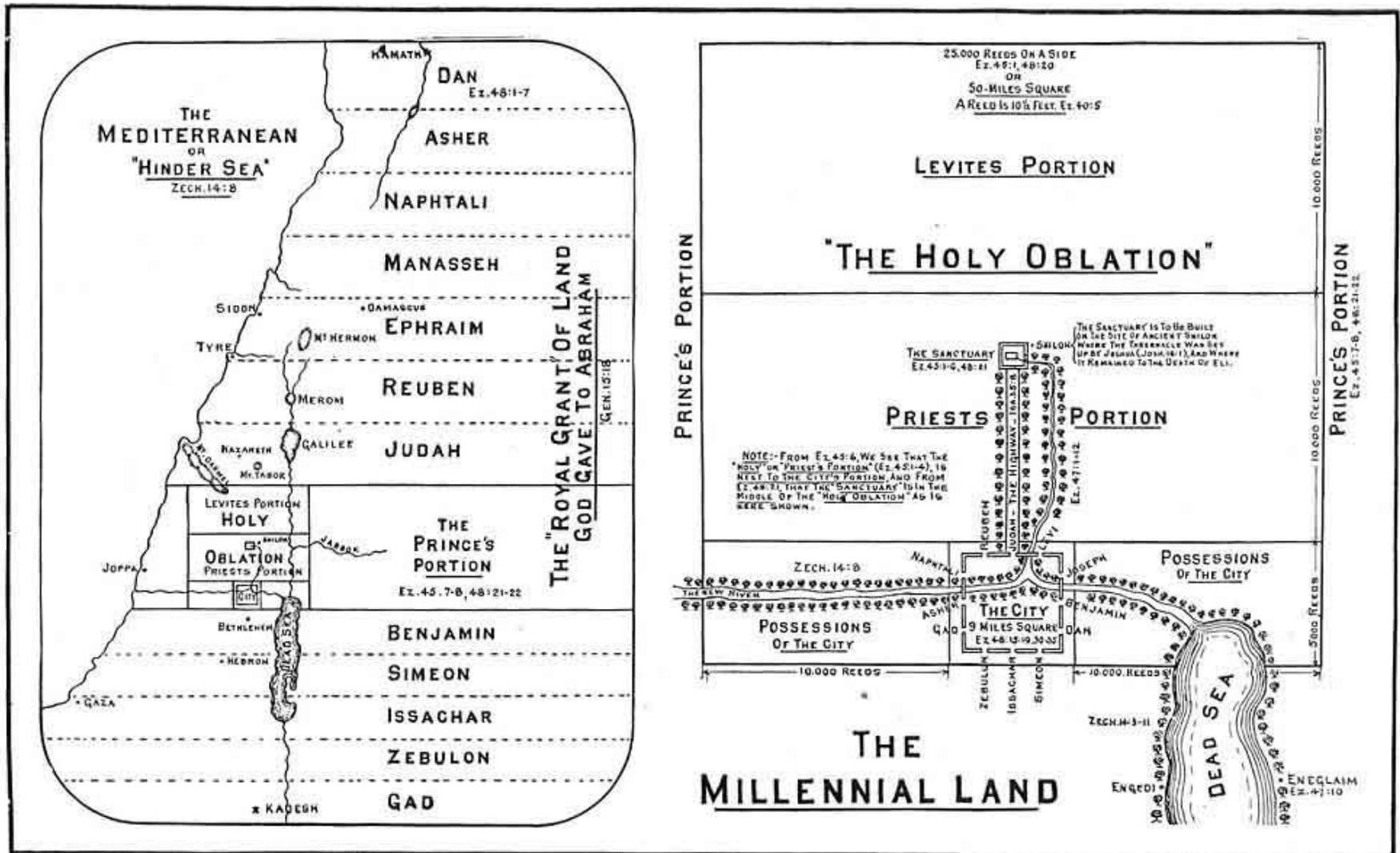
The "New Temple" or "Sanctuary" will occupy a space of 500 reeds on a side, or nearly a mile square. Ezek. 42:15-20. The old Temple was not a mile in circuit.

The Prophet Zechariah tells us (Zech. 14:8), that in "**That Day**" (the Millennial Day)

"**Living Waters Shall Go Out From Jerusalem,**" half of them toward the **Former** Sea (Red Sea) and half of them toward the **Hinder** Sea (Mediterranean); in summer and in winter shall it be."

But those "Living Waters" will not have their "source" in Jerusalem. The life-giving spring from which they flow will be located under the "Sanctuary." Ezekiel tells us how he saw in vision the "New Temple" or "Sanctuary" and how the Lord took him to the eastern door of the

"House" or "Sanctuary," where he saw the waters come forth from under the Threshold of the door, and flow past the "Altar of Burnt Offering" on the south side eastward until the stream was deep enough to swim in.



"Then said he unto me, These waters . go down into the desert (by way of Jerusalem) and go into the sea (Dead Sea), which being brought forth into the sea, the waters (of the Dead Sea) shall be **healed** (lose their saltness). . And everything **shall live** whither the river cometh. And it shall come to pass that the fishers shall stand upon it (Dead Sea), from Engedi (on the west shore) even unto Eneglaim (on the east shore); they shall be a place to spread forth nets; their fish shall be according to their kinds, as the fish of the Great Sea (Mediterranean) exceeding many. . And by the River upon the banks thereof, on this side and on that side,

shall grow **all trees for meat**, whose **leaf shall not fade**, neither shall the **fruit thereof be consumed**; it shall bring forth **new fruit according to its months**, because the waters they issued out of the **'Sanctuary'**; and the **'Fruit'** thereof shall be for **meat** and the **'Leaf'** thereof for medicine." Ezek. 47:8-12. Compare Rev. 22:1, 2.

The size of the "New City," the location of the "New Sanctuary" and the elevation of the Dead Sea, which is now 1200 feet below the level of the Mediterranean Sea, call for great physical changes in the land surface of Palestine. How are these changes to come about?

When Christ comes back it will be to the Mount of Olives from whence He went up. Acts 1:9-12. The Prophet Zechariah describes what will then happen.

"His (Christ's) feet shall stand in **That Day** (the day of His return) upon the **Mount of Olives**, which is before Jerusalem on the east and the **Mount of Olives shall Cleave in the midst Thereof Toward the East and Toward the West, and There Shall Be a Very Great Valley; and Half of the Mountain Shall Remove Toward the North and Half of It Toward the South. . . . "All the Land Shall Be Turned as a Plain From Geba to Rimmon South of Jerusalem;** and it shall be **LIFTED UP AND INHABITED.**" Zech. 14:4, 10, 11.

These great changes will probably be brought about by Earthquakes or volcanic action.

"Behold, the Lord cometh forth out of His place, and will come down, and tread upon the high places of the earth. And the mountains shall be **Molten Under Him**, and the **valleys shall be Cleft as Wax Before the Fire, and as the Waters That Are Poured Down a Steep Place.**" Micah 1:3, 4.

These great physical changes will level the land surface of Palestine, and make room for the "New City," and raise the Dead Sea, so its waters can flow into both the Red and Mediterranean Seas. Ezekiel tells us that the name of Jerusalem in that day shall be "**Jehovah-Shammah,**" **Lord Is There.** Ezek. 48:35.

3. The Temple and Its Worship.

As we have seen the Temple or Sanctuary will be located in the centre of the "Holy Oblation." A full description of the Temple and its courts is given in Ezek. 40:1; 44:31. No such building as Ezekiel so minutely describes has ever yet been built, and so the prophecy cannot refer to either Zerubbabel's or Herod's Temple, and as there is to be no Temple in the New Jerusalem, it must be a description of the Temple that is to be on the earth during the Millennium. That it does not belong to the New Earth is also clear, for the land in which it is located is bounded by the Sea, and the waters that flow from it, flow "into the Sea," but in the New Earth there is "no more sea." Rev. 21:1. This is still further confirmed by the Prophet's mention of the "desert," the "River Jordan," the "Mediterranean Sea," and other localities that will not be found on the New Earth after its renovation by fire.

The "Aaronic Priesthood" will be re-established, and the sons of Zadok shall officiate and offer sacrifices. Ezek. 44:15-31. The New Temple, however, will lack many things that were the features of the old Temple. There will be no "Ark of the Covenant," no "Pot of Manna," no "Aaron's Rod" to bud, no "Tables of the Law," no "Cherubim," no "Mercy Seat," no "Golden Candlestick," no "Shew Bread," no "Altar of Incense," no "Veil," no unapproachable "Holy of Holies" where the High Priest alone might enter, nor is there any "High Priest" to offer atonement for sin, or to make intercession for the people, unless a rather obscure passage in Zech. 6:12, 13 means that Christ (The Branch, Jer. 23:5, 6) shall be a "King-Priest," and perform the duties of High Priest conjointly with His Kingly office.

While the Levites as a class shall perform Temple service they shall be barred from Priestly duties for their past sins. Ezek. 44:10-14. There shall be a daily "morning" sacrifice, but no evening sacrifice. Ezek. 46:13-15. The offerings will be the "Burnt," the "Meat," the "Drink," the "Sin," the "Peace" (Ezek. 45:17), and the "Trespass" offering. Ezek. 42:13. Two Feasts are to be observed, "The Passover," but no Passover Lamb will be offered as Jesus fulfilled that Type (Ezek. 45:21-24), and the "Feast of Tabernacles," Zech. 14:16-19. This Feast is to be observed by all the nations under penalty of "Drought" or "Plague."

The "Feast of Pentecost" will be done away with on account of its fulfillment. The "Day of Pentecost," recorded in Acts 2:1-4, was only a partial fulfillment of the prophecy of Joel 2:28-32. No such wonders in the heavens and the earth as "blood," and "fire" and "pillars of smoke," the "Sun turned to darkness," and the "Moon into blood," occurred at Pentecost. But all those things will happen before "The Great and Terrible Day of the Lord."

The conversion of the Jewish Nation will be sealed with a great outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Whether this shall be universal, or only upon Israel is not clear. The original prophecy in Joel was given to Israel, and its partial fulfillment at Pentecost seems to have been limited to them. The knowledge of the Lord, however, will be world-wide, and "it shall come to pass that ten men of all languages and nations shall take hold of the skirt of him that is a **Jew**, saying, **We will go with you; for we have heard that God is with you.**" Zech. 8:22, 23. There will be one "universal religion" in that day. Malachi 1:11. The "Shekinah Glory" that departed from the Temple at the time of the Babylonian Captivity (Ezek. 10:18-20; 11:22, 23), will again take up its residence in the "New Temple." Ezek. 43:1-5.

4. The Character of the Millennium.

(1.) **Satan Bound.** Rev. 20:1-3.

That man may be "without excuse" God is going to subject him to a final test under the most favorable circumstances. Man has charged his fall and continuance in sin to Satan. "Take him away," he cries, "paralyze his power; cripple his malignant activity; bind and imprison him and deliver us from his dominating influence, and then you will see that man is radically good and virtuous and is simply the victim of an unfavorable environment."

God answers it shall be done. Satan shall be bound and imprisoned so that he can no longer deceive men, and lest man shall say that sinful habits are too deeply rooted to be soon eradicated the test shall last for a **Thousand Years**, and man shall have during that period of probation all the blessed influences of the **Holy Spirit** and the presence of **Christ Himself**.

Man has never known and therefore cannot conceive what this world would be like free from Satanic influence. It would certainly be a marvelously different world. There would be no one to stir up hate and passion, and engender strife and turmoil. True, man would still have an evil heart of unbelief to contend against, but it would be like a magazine of gunpowder without a spark to ignite it. That the evil heart of man has not been eradicated will be evident when at the close of the Millennium Satan is loosed and finds no difficulty in deceiving the nations. Rev. 20:8.

During the Millennium the "Prince of the Powers of the Air" will be "dethroned" and the "Prince of Peace" "enthroned." When the "Great Red Dragon" (Satan) is cast out of the Heavens there will be cast out with him all the "Principalities and Powers" and "Age Rulers of Darkness" (Eph. 6:12), and the Heavens which now are "not clean" in His sight (Job. 15:15), will be "cleansed" of all Evil Powers.

There will be no universal peace until the Lord comes back. Then the nations will beat their swords into "plow-shares" and their spears into "pruning-hooks" (Mich. 4:3, 4), and shall be no longer impoverished by the enormous tax on their revenues for the support of armies and navies and the building of "Dreadnoughts." Then ships of war and armorclad vessels will rust and rot in the navy yards and guns and cannon will be recast into implements of agriculture. The great armies of earth will be disbanded, and in the pursuits of peace and the tilling of the soil, the depleted treasuries of the world will be replenished. There will be little if any political graft. Corporations and combines will not be run in restraint of trade, and there will be no entailed estates if the law of the "Year of Jubilee" is re-established. Lev. 25:8-17. Num. 36:4.

(2.) **The Revival of the Land of Palestine.**

The Land of Palestine when it was first occupied by the Children of Israel under Joshua, was a land of "milk" and "honey" and of "all manner of fruits," and its soil brought forth "abundantly," and this continued as long as the Children of Israel kept its Sabbaths. But God had warned them that if they did not obey Him and turned aside to worship other Gods He would shut up the heavens and the harvests would fail. Deut. 11:13-17. Palestine today has the same fertile soil it had in Joshua's time, but it lacks rain and irrigation. God has withheld the "early" and "latter" rain, but they are now becoming more frequent and copious. The "early" rain falls in October and November, and prepares the land for ploughing and sowing; the "latter" rain falls in April and May and insures a good crop.

In the Millennium the Land of Palestine will be restored to its former fertility. This will be aided not only by the rains, but by numerous rivers and streams that shall flow from the "New River" that shall have its source in the Sanctuary.

"It shall come to pass in **That Day** (Millennium) that the **mountains shall drop new wine**, and the **hills shall flow with milk**, and all the **Rivers of Judah** (where the New River will be) shall **flow with waters**, and a **fountain shall come forth of the House of the Lord**, and shall water the **Valley of Shittim**," the country about the Dead Sea. Joel 3:18.

The "mountains dropping new wine," and the "hills flowing with milk," are figures of speech declaring that the mountain sides will be covered with vineyards from which an abundance of wine shall be obtained, and that the pasture lands will be so productive that they will sustain vast herds of milk cattle.

The harvests will be so great and abundant that the ploughman will "overtake the reaper," and the treader of grapes him that "soweth seed." Amos 9:13.

"The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose." Isa. 35:1.

"Instead of the thorn shall come up the fir-tree, and instead of the briar shall come up the myrtle tree; and it shall be to the Lord for a name, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off." Isa. 55:13.

"**Then** shall the earth yield her increase." Psa. 67:6.

"And the floors shall be **full of wheat**, and the vats shall **overflow with wine and oil**. And I will **restore to you the years that the locust hath eaten**, the **cankerworm** and the **caterpillar**, and the **p. 190 palmerworm**, my great army which I sent among you. And ye shall **eat in plenty** and be **satisfied**, and praise the name of the Lord your God that hath dealt wondrously with you; and **My People** (the Jews) shall never be ashamed." Joel 2:24-26.

(3.) **There Will Be Changes in the Animal Kingdom.**

"The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together, and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice's den. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain (Jerusalem), for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea." Isa. 11:6-9.

We cannot spiritualize these words. This was the character of these animals in Eden before the Fall, and in the Ark. The ferocity of the brute creation is the outcome of the "Fall of Man." While the context seems to imply that this change in the brute creation has reference to the "Millennial Earth," where it may be partially true, yet the fact that the Edenic condition of the earth is not to be restored until the appearance of the New Earth may postpone the fulfillment of this prophecy until then.

The Apostle Paul says--

"We know that the **Whole Creation** groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now. . . . Waiting for the adoption, to wit, the **Redemption of Our Body**." Rom. 8:23.

That is, until the human race is redeemed from the results of the "Fall, and fitted to occupy the New Earth, Creation must wait for its restoration to 'Edenic conditions'."

(4.) **Human Life Will Be Prolonged.**

"There shall be no more thence an **infant of days**, for the **child** shall die a **hundred years old**." Isa. 65:20.

That is, a person dying 100 years old shall be considered only a child. Therefore a man, to be called a man, must live for several hundred years.

"For as the days of a **Tree** (oak tree) are the days of my people." Isa. 65:22.

"Thus saith the Lord of Hosts: There shall yet **Old Men** and **Old Women** dwell in the streets of Jerusalem, and every man with his staff in his hand **For Very Age**." Zech. 8:4.

Patriarchal Years will be restored, and men shall live as long as they did before the Flood. This may be due to some climatic or atmospheric change, or to the healing or life-giving qualities of the water of the "New River" that shall flow from the "Sanctuary," and the leaves of the trees that line the banks of the River, which shall be for "Medicine." Ezek. 47:12.

(5.) **There Will Be a Sevenfold Increase of Light.**

"Moreover the light of the moon shall be as the light of **the sun**, and the light of the sun shall be **SEVENFOLD** as the light of **seven days**, in the day that the Lord bindeth up the breach of His people, and healeth the stroke of their wound." Isa. 30:26.

The "atmosphere" of the Millennial Earth will be of such a character as to make **moonlight nights as bright as day**, and the days **seven times as bright**.

"The sun shall be no more thy light by day: neither for brightness shall the moon give light unto; but the **Lord Shall Be Unto Thee An Everlasting Light, and Thy God Thy Glory.**" Isa. 60:19-20.

This may refer to that part of the Holy Land that shall be illuminated by the "Shekinah Glory," where it will make no difference whether the sun shines or not. It will have its complete fulfillment when the nations of the New Earth shall walk in the **Light of the New Jerusalem**. Rev. 21:23-24.

Israel's Mission during the "Millennial Age" will be that of "blessing" to the Gentile nations. Of the nation of Israel, that has never as yet been a leading nation. God says--

"I will make thee the **Head**, and not the **Tail**." Deu. 28:13.

The nations today are a "Headless" body. There is no "Chief Nation" today. In that day Israel shall be the "Chief Nation," and the nation that will not serve her shall perish. Isa. 60:12.

But those nations will only be kept in subjection by the "Iron Rule" of Christ. This is brought out in the "Messianic Psalm," Psa. 2:6-9. It is very clear that during the "Millennial Age" the "will of God" will not be done on earth as it is done in heaven. The peace among the nations will be more superficial than real. It will only be feigned obedience, more the result of fear than of love. As the "afternoon" of that long "Millennial Day" draws to a close the shadows deepen.

4. SATAN LOOSED.

Rev. 20:7-8.

"And when the Thousand Years are expired, Satan shall be **loosed out of his prison**, and shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea. And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the 'Camp of the Saints' about, and the Beloved City (Jerusalem): and **fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them.**"

As the evening shadows of the Millennial Day fall, the Angel who imprisoned Satan will unlock the "prison house" of the "Bottomless Pit," and Satan will come forth embittered by his forced confinement to vent his anger upon the people of God, a refutation of the claim that the miseries of perdition will lead to repentance. Satan will still be the same malignant being after his 1000 years of confinement that he was before. His hatred against God and His people will be unquenched.

FIFTH DOOM. GOG AND MAGOG.

As soon as Satan is loosed from his prison in the "Bottomless Pit," he will find a vast multitude ready to believe his lie, and to serve and obey him. He will gather them from the "**Four Quarters of the Earth**" to battle. They will be in number as the "**sand of the sea.**" Rev. 20:8-9. The revolt will be **Worldwide**, and will mean the **Mobilizing of Vast Armies**. Satan will conduct them across the "**Breadth of the Earth**" until they compass the "**Camp of the Saints**" (the Holy Land), and lay siege once more to the "Beloved City." From this we see that the unregenerate heart is like a powder magazine, all it needs is a match to set it off, and Satan when freed will be that match. This the "**last war**" that this world shall ever see, will be bloodless, for the vast armies of Satan shall be destroyed by **FIRE**.

From this we see that the "Millennial Dispensation," like all the six Dispensations before it, will end in **failure**. God will have tested man in "Innocence," under "Conscience," under "Self-Government," under the "Headship of the Family," under "Law," under "Grace," and finally under the influence of the "Holy Spirit," free from Satanic influences, and under them all he will prove himself to be hopelessly, incurably and incorrigibly bad.

If after a 1000 years of the **Presence of the King**, and of universal peace and blessing, man still persists in rebelling against his Maker, what will there be left for God to do? Humanly speaking, there will seem to be nothing for God to do but destroy the human race. To send another Flood and wipe out mankind. But this He cannot do, for He promised Noah that He would never again destroy the earth with a flood of waters. Gen. 9:11. But do something He must, so He is going to purge the earth with **Fire**. 2. Pet. 3:7.

SIXTH DOOM. SATAN.

Rev. 20:10.

"And the **Devil** that deceived them was cast into the **LAKE OF FIRE AND BRIMSTONE,** where the **Beast** and the **False Prophet** are, and shall be **tormented day and night for ever and ever.**"

As punishment for his final act of Rebellion, Satan shall be seized, probably by the same Angel that chained him, and hurled into the "**LAKE OF FIRE,**" where he will find alive and waiting for him the "**Beast**" and the "**False Prophet**" who were cast therein a 1000 years before. This shows that there is no such thing as annihilation. The "Lake of Fire" was prepared for the Devil and his angels (Matt. 25:41), not to consume them in, for God could do that with **fire from heaven**, but to **PUNISH THEM IN**; and all those whose names are not written in the "Book of Life" will go to the same place to spend eternity. The reason why Satan does not want people to read and study the Book of Revelation is, because he does not want the world to know that there is to be an end to his power.

Only the "**bodies**" of those who perish in this last great war will be destroyed by fire, their "**souls**" and "**spirits**" will go to the "Hell Compartment" of the "Underworld" to come out at the Resurrection

of the Wicked dead and 'appeal' at the "Great White Throne Judgment," and be sentenced to the "**SECOND DEATH,**" which, as we have seen, means that they must spend eternity without a material body in the "Lake of Fire." See [Chart of "The Underworld."](#)

SEVENTH DOOM.

THE WICKED DEAD.

"THE GREAT WHITE THRONE JUDGMENT."

Rev. 20:11-15.

"And I saw a **GREAT WHITE THRONE**, and Him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven (atmosphere of our earth) **fled away**; and there was found no place for them. And I saw the **dead**, small and great, stand before God: and the Books were opened: and another Book was opened, which is the '**BOOK OF LIFE**': and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the Books, **according to their works**. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it: and '**Death**' and '**Hell**' delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man **according to their works**. And '**Death**' and '**Hell**' were cast into the '**LAKE OF FIRE**': This is the '**SECOND DEATH**.' And whosoever was not found written in the '**BOOK OF LIFE**' was cast into the '**LAKE OF FIRE**'."

This is not a "**General Judgment**," for there is no such thing in the Scriptures. The Church is not in this Judgment, nor is Israel, for both have been already judged. The Church was Judged at the "**Judgment Seat of Christ**," and Israel was Judged during the "**Tribulation Period**." This is a Judgment of the **DEAD ONLY**, and is an entirely different Judgment from that of "The Nations" recorded in Matt. 25:31-46. That is on the earth, this is in Heaven. That is of the "**Living Nations**," as **Nations**, this is of the **DEAD**. That is for the Nations' treatment of Christ's brethren, the Jews, this is for **WORKS**. There no "**books**" are opened, here they are. No "**Book of Life**" is mentioned there, here there is. That Judgment was **before** the Millennium, when Christ shall sit on the "**Throne of His Glory**," and is to find out what Nations shall have a right to enter into the "Millennial Kingdom," this is **after** the Millennium when Christ shall sit on the "**Great White Throne**." The two Judgments are entirely separate as to **time, place, basis of judgment and result**. See [Chart of the Resurrections and Judgments](#).

In this Judgment "**Death**" and "**Hell**" are personified. By "**Death**" we are to understand the "**Grave**" which holds the "**body**" until the Resurrection; by "**Hell**," the Compartment of the "**Underworld**" or "**HADES**," where the "**souls**" of the Wicked Dead remain until the Resurrection of the Wicked. That both "**Death**" and "**Hell**" are cast into the "**LAKE OF FIRE**" signifies that **Death** and **Sin** will not be found on the New Earth.

The "Great White Throne" will not be on the earth, for the "Great White Throne Judgment" will take place during the "Renovation of the Earth By Fire," for the "Renovation of the Earth" is reserved or kept until the time of that Judgment, which Peter calls "**The Day of Judgment and Perdition of Ungodly Men**" (2. Pet. 3:7), because the Judgment of the "Great White Throne" is the Judgment of the **WICKED DEAD**. All the Righteous dead arose at the "First Resurrection." If any Righteous die between the "First Resurrection" and the "Resurrection of the Wicked," or "Second Resurrection," they will rise with the **Wicked dead** at that Resurrection. The words--"Whosoever was not found written in the '**Book of Life**,'" implies that there will be **some**, probably very few in comparison, Righteous at the "Second Resurrection." At the close of the Millennium, and just before the "Renovation of the Earth By Fire," the living Righteous will probably be translated, and the living Wicked or Ungodly will be destroyed in the flames that will consume the Earth's atmosphere and exterior surface.

The Wicked or Ungodly will not be judged to see whether they are **entitled** to "Eternal Life," but to ascertain the "**degree**" of their punishment. The sad feature of this Judgment will be that there will be many kind and lovable people there who were not saved, and who will

be classed among the "**ungodly**" because they rejected Christ as a Saviour. The "**Books**" will be opened in which the "**Recording Angel**" has kept a record of every person's life, and they will be Judged every man **according to his "Works."** Some will be sentenced to a more severe punishment than others, but none will escape. The worst of all is, that those who were not so bad must spend Eternity with the ungodly, and that in the "Lake of Fire." Their punishment includes the "**Second Death**," which means, as we have seen, that they shall lose their resurrection body, in which they were Judged and become "**disembodied spirits**" again, and so exist in the "**Lake of Fire**" **FOREVER**.

What a Judgment Scene that will be. There will be Cain and the wicked Antediluvians; the inhabitants of Sodom and Gomorrah; Pharoah, Ahab, Jezebel, Judas and all those Scribes' and Pharisees and Chief Priests who caused the Crucifixion of our Lord, and did not repent, and Ananias and Sapphira, and the great host of the wicked and rejectors of Christ of all nations and ages.

The "**Fallen Angels**" (not the Devil's angels) who are "**reserved in everlasting chains under darkness**," will be Judged at this time, which **Jude** calls the "**Judgment of the GREAT DAY**." Jude 6. When this Judgment is over the Devil and his angels, and all the ungodly, will have been consigned to the "Lake of Fire," and the Universe purged of all evil, and righteousness shall reign supreme on the New Earth.

The Seven New Things

1. THE NEW HEAVEN.

Rev. 21:1.

"And I saw a **NEW HEAVEN**."

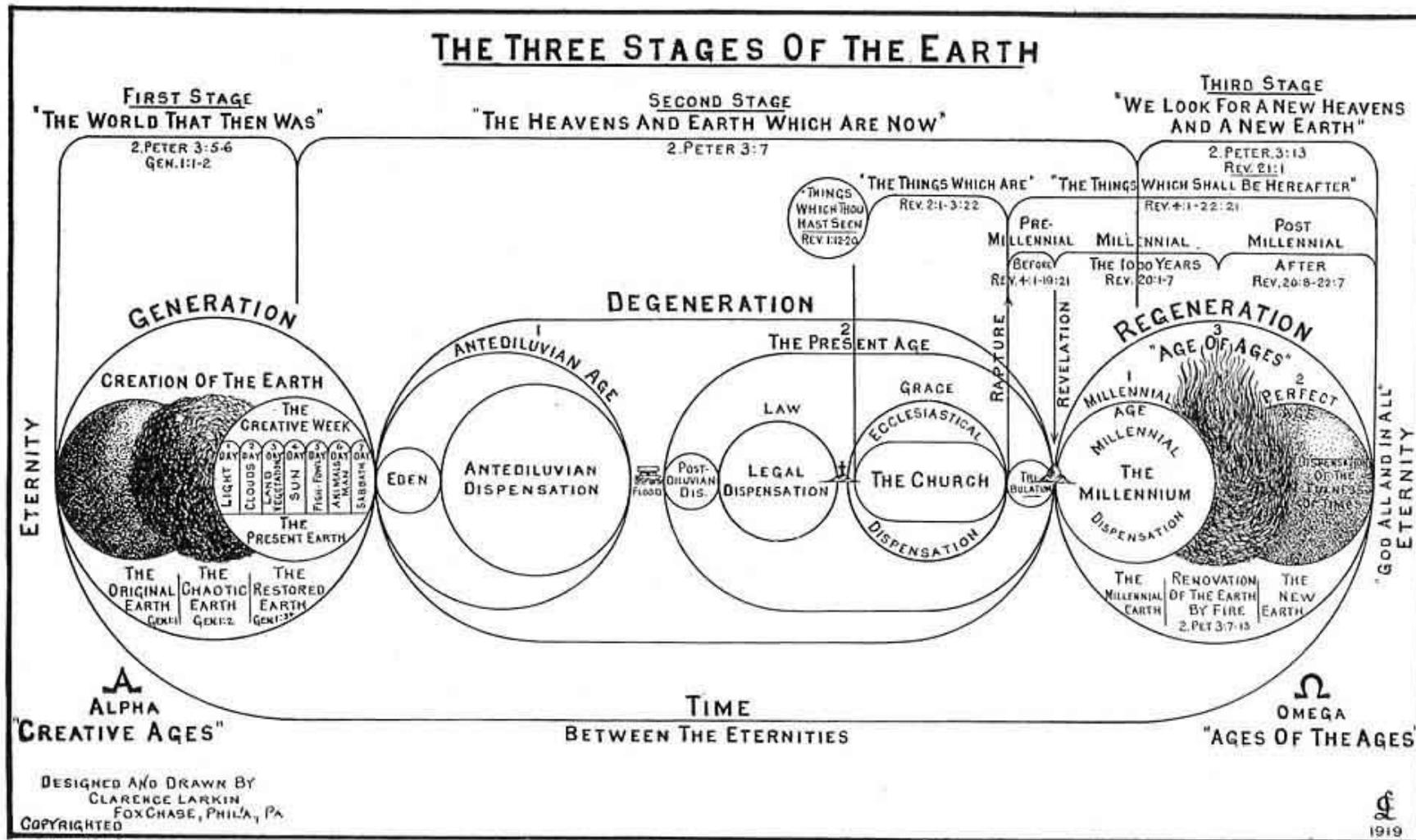
As the word **HEAVEN** is here, and in Gen. 1:1, in the singular number, it will clarify matters to limit this creative act to our own planet, rather than the whole of the sidereal heavens, or the starry spaces of the Universe. By a new **heaven** then we are to understand a new atmosphere for the new earth."

2. THE NEW EARTH.

Rev. 21:1.

"And I saw a new Heaven and a **NEW EARTH**: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was **no more sea**."

The first heaven and the first earth were created in the dateless past. The Scriptures begin with the sublime declaration--"In the **beginning** God **CREATED** the heaven and the earth." Gen. 1:1. The second verse of Gen. 1, records that "the earth was **without form and void**; and **darkness was upon the face of the deep**." That this earth was not originally created "**formless and void**" is clear from Isa. 45:18 (R. V.). "Thus saith the Lord that created the heavens; He is God; that formed the earth and made it; He established it, He created it **not a waste**, He formed it to be inhabited." See also Jer. 4:23-26. What caused the earth to become a **waste** after its original creation is not expressly stated.



Some awful catastrophe must have befallen it. It is clear from the account of the Fall of Adam and Eve that sin existed before man was created. The inference is from Ezek. 28:12-19, and Isa. 14:12-14, that when the earth was originally created that Satan was placed in charge of it, and that he and his angels rebelled and led astray the inhabitants of the Original Earth, and that the Pre-Adamite race are now the demons who as they are permitted liberty seek to re-embodiment themselves in human beings that they may again dwell on the earth. It is clear that the Original Earth was inhabited, or God would not have blessed Adam and Eve and said--"Be fruitful and multiply and **REPLENISH the Earth.**" Gen. 1:28. It does not follow however that those inhabitants were human beings like ourselves. No human remains have been found ante-dating the creation of man.

Peter speaks of the Original Earth as the--"World that then **WAS**, that, being **OVERFLOWED WITH WATER, perished.**" 2. Pet. 3:6. It is clear that Peter does not refer here to Noah's Flood, for the world of Noah's day did **not perish**, and Peter goes on to add that--"The heavens and the earth **WHICH ARE NOW** (that is, have been in existence since the restoration of the earth as described in Gen. 1:3-31), by the same word are kept in store, **RESERVED UNTO FIRE**" (2 Pet. 3:7), nevertheless he adds, "we look for a

NEW HEAVEN AND A NEW EARTH." 2. Pet. 3:13. These words of Peter reveal the fact that this Earth is to pass through 3 stages. First the Original Earth that "**perished**" by **WATER**. Second the Earth that is now, that is to be renovated or cleansed by **FIRE**. And the New Earth that is to exist forever. See the Chart "The Three Stages of the Earth."

There can be no question but what the Earth in its original formation required millions of years. There is ample time in the statement of Gen. 1:1 that--"In the **BEGINNING** God '**created**' the heaven and the earth," for all the "**Geologic Ages**" that science declares were necessary for the **creation of the Earth**. There is no conflict between the Bible and Science as to the time occupied in the formation of the Earth.

How long a period elapsed between the Creation of the Earth and its becoming "**formless and void**" we do not know, neither do we know how long it continued in that condition, but when the time came in the purpose of God to restore it to a habitable state, and make it fit for the abode of the human race, He did it in **six periods** of longer or shorter duration. These "Periods" were **six** in number, and with the seventh or Sabbatic Period, are called the "**Creative Week.**"

These "Six Periods" do not describe or include the original creation. The word "**CREATE**" is not mentioned after Gen. 1:1 until verse 21, which describes the work of the Fifth Day. God did not "**create light**" on the First Day. He simply said--"**let there be light,**" as one would say "**turn on the light.**"

On the Second Day God simply, divided the waters by providing clouds to hold the moisture of the atmosphere.

The work of the Third Day is "**twofold,**" the **emergence of the land from the sea**, and the **reappearance of vegetable life**. This was not a new creation but a **RESURRECTION**. The earth rises up out of the "**Waters of Death,**" and seeds, and the roots of plants and herbs are called upon to germinate and sprout and grow as they did before the catastrophe that submerged the Primeval Earth. If that catastrophe was what we know as the "Glacial Period" the resurrection of plant life no more required a "**creative act**" than vegetation does in the spring of the year after the winter is over. That this is what really happened is clear from Gen. 1:11-12, where it says, "Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit **after his kind**, whose seed is **IN ITSELF, UPON** (in) **THE EARTH.**" That is, the seed was already in the earth, having been buried by the flood that swept over the Primeval Earth, and, being indestructible, it only needed the proper condition to spring up and cover the earth with verdure. This reveals the fact that the Primeval Earth was clothed with verdure, and covered with plants and trees.

The appearance of the Sun and Moon on the Fourth Day was not a new creation. They had existed in connection with the Primeval Earth and had not been destroyed when it was made waste. The word translated "**made**" in the 16th verse is not the same word as is translated "**created**" in verse one, and does not imply a "**creative act.**" What is meant is that the clouds broke away that up to this time had shrouded the earth and

permitted the Sun and Moon to be seen, and that from that time they were appointed to measure the days, and years, and seasons as we have them today. In other words, on the Fourth Day "**Time**" in contrast with "**eternity**" began.

The work of the Fifth Day was the "CREATION" of fish and fowl. Here is the first time we come across the word "**create**" since we read of the original creation of the Earth in verse one. This shows that all "**animal life**" was destroyed in the catastrophe that overtook the Primeval Earth. We have traces of this animal life in the fossil remains of birds and animals found in the earth. If scientists will relegate fossils and the remains of mammoth animals, etc., to the period of the Primeval Earth there will be no conflict between Science and the Genesis account of Creation. The remains of man are never found in a "fossil state," showing that man did not exist on the Primeval Earth. Man was made for this present earth and is a "**NEW**" Creation.

The **creative work** of the Sixth Day was "**twofold**," that of **land animals** and **man**. These land animals were probably the same that we have today. The fact that they were created "**after their kind**," which expression is six times repeated, shows that they were not "**evolved**" from one common species. That man also was "**CREATED**" as **man**, shows that he has not descended from an "**ape**." Man was made in the "**IMAGE OF GOD**," not in the image of an "**ape**," and was not formed from a brute, but of the "**Dust of the Earth**." The fact is, there is an "**IMPASSABLE GULF**" between the lowest order of man and the highest type of beast that science has failed to bridge. The "**Missing Link**" has never been found.

That all the different species of animals were created "**separately**" is proven from the fact that when species are crossed their offspring are **sterile**. The crossing of the jackass and a mare is the mule, and a mule is a hybrid and is **sterile**. That the whole human race is of "**one species**" and had a common origin (Acts 17:26) is clear from the fact that, when the different races of the earth's inhabitants marry their offspring are not sterile but fertile. This nullifies the argument that the white race alone is the Adamic race.

Neither was Adam created a **baby** or a **primitive savage**, but a full grown man perfect in intellect and knowledge, else he could not have named the beasts of the field and the fowls of the air. And the fact that his descendants had such skill in the invention of musical instruments and mechanical devices and could build cities and towers and such a vessel as the Ark, proves that the men of Antediluvian times were men of gigantic intellect and attainments, and that instead of man having "**evolved upward**" he has "**degenerated downward**."

THE FLOOD VERSUS THE SECOND COMING.

While the Earth has had its "**Baptism of Water**," and is to have its "**Baptism of Fire**," it is worth noting that between these two Great Events there are two Minor Events that affect the structure of the Earth. The first was "**the flood**." At that time there were great "**cataclysmic**" and "**climatic**" changes, for the "**FOUNTAINS OF THE GREAT DEEP WERE BROKEN UP**." Gen. 7:11. That is, there was a subsidence of the land, that resulted in great physical changes that affected the climate of the earth, and divested the atmosphere of some of its life sustaining properties, so that the length of life was reduced from 900 to 100 years, and later to three-score years and ten. The second "Minor Event" will be caused by the Return of the Lord Jesus Christ to the earth to set up His Millennial Kingdom. Then the Mt. of Olives will be divided in twain, the mountains and valleys of Palestine will be leveled, the Dead Sea will be raised, and the whole contour of that part of the world will be changed. Zech. 14:4-10. Ez. 47:1-12. As a result of the "**cataclysmic**" and "**climatic**" changes thus produced, the effects of the

Flood will be reversed and the life-sustaining power of the atmosphere will be restored, and human life will again be prolonged, and men shall live as long as did the people before the Flood. Isa. 65:20.

THE NEW HEAVEN AND THE NEW EARTH.

Immediately after the destruction of Satan and his armies, John says,

"I saw a **'Great White Throne'** and Him that sat on it, from whose face the **Earth** and the **Heaven** (atmosphere of the earth) **fled away**; and there was no place for them." Rev. 20:11.

John then describes the Judgment of the "Great White Throne," and then adds--

"I saw a **New Heaven**; and a **New Earth**; for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was **no more sea**." Rev. 21:1.

Of such a change in this earth we are not ignorant, but John does not tell us how it is to come to pass. But the Apostle Peter does.

"But the heavens and the earth which are **now**, by the same word are kept in store, **RESERVED UNTO FIRE** against the **Day of Judgment and Perdition of Ungodly Men**. (The Great White Throne Judgment)-- The 'Day of the Lord' will come as a thief in the night; in the which the **Heavens Shall Pass Away With a Great Noise**, and the **Elements Shall Melt With Fervent Heat**, the **Earth Also and the Works That Are Therein Shall be Burned Up**.

"Nevertheless we, according to His **Promise** (Isa. 65:17; 66:22), look for a **New Heavens** and a **New Earth**, wherein dwelleth righteousness." 2. Pet. 3:7-13.

It is clear that Peter is referring to the same event as John, for he says it is to be at the "**Day of Judgment and Perdition of Ungodly Men**," and that is the "**Great White Throne Judgment**" of the **Wicked Dead**.

A surface reading of the above passage would lead one to believe that the earth as a planet, and the sidereal heavens, are to be **destroyed by fire and pass away**. But a careful study of the Scriptures will show us that this is not so, that what is to happen is, that this present earth, and the atmosphere surrounding it, is to be **Renovated by Fire, so that its exterior surface shall be completely changed**, and all that sin has brought into existence, such as thorns and thistles, disease germs, insect pests, etc., shall be destroyed, and the atmosphere purified and forever freed from evil spirits and destructive agencies.

That this is the correct view of the passage is clear from Peter's words in verses 5 and 6.

"By the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water; whereby the world that **then was, being overflowed with water, PERISHED**."

As we have seen the Apostle Peter was referring here not to the Flood, but to the Primeval Earth, which was made "**formless and void**" by a "**Baptism of Water**" that completely submerged it and destroyed all animal life.

Now as the **Framework** of the "Primeval Earth" was not destroyed by its "**Watery Bath**," so the Framework of the "Present Earth" is not to be destroyed by its "**Baptism of Fire**."

This is confirmed by the Apostle's use of the Greek word "**Cosmos**," which means the "**land surface**," the **inhabitableness** of the earth and not the earth as a planet. It is the **exterior surface** of the earth then that is to "**Melt With Fervent Heat**" and the "**Works Therein Burnt Up**." The intense heat will cause the gases in the atmosphere to explode, which the Apostle describes as the "heavens (the atmosphere) passing away with a **great noise**." The result will be the destruction of all animal and vegetable life, and the alteration of the earth's surface.

The Greek word "**Parerchomai**," translated "**pass away**," does not mean "**termination of existence**" or "**annihilation**," but means to pass from "**one condition of existence to another**." The Apostle Paul in his letter to Titus (Titus 3:5), speaking of the "**Regeneration**" of men, uses the same word that Jesus used when, in Matt. 19:28, He promised His Disciples that in the "**Regeneration**," that is in the "**New Earth**," they should sit on "Twelve Thrones" judging the "Twelve Tribes" of Israel. Now no one supposes that the "**Regeneration of a man** is his **Annihilation**." It is simply a **Renewing Process** by which he is brought back to the condition of man spiritually as before the Fall. The word "**Restitution**" in Acts 3:21, means the same thing. The "**Dissolving**" of which Peter speaks (2 Pet. 3:11), is the same word Jesus used when He said of the colt--"**Loose him and let him go**." The teaching of the Scriptures is, that "Creation" is at present in a "**State of Captivity**," waiting to be **Loosed from the Bondage** that sin has caused. Rom. 8:19-23.

As to the "**Departing as a Scroll**" of the heavens, and the "**Flying Away**" of the earth and heavens, of which John speaks, (Rev. 6:14; 20:11), a total disappearance of all the material worlds is not at all the idea, for he tells us that **afterwards** he saw--the New Jerusalem coming down **out of Heaven**, and **nations living and walking in the Light of it on the earth, and the Kings of the Earth bringing their Glory and Honor Into It**." Rev. 21:2, 24.

The Holy Spirit by Solomon said,

"One generation passeth away, and another generation cometh, but the **Earth Abideth Forever**." Ecc. 1:4.

It is specifically promised that "the **Meek shall Inherit the Earth**," (Matt. 5:5), and that the Children of Israel shall dwell in it **forever**, (Isa. 60:21; 66:22), and if God's people are to inhabit it **forever**, it must **EXIST FOREVER**. It is clear then that this earth as a planet is not to be annihilated, but that it is to be **Cleansed and Purified by Fire** and made fit for the home of those peoples and nations that are to occupy it after its renovation.

This earth that has been consecrated by the **Presence of the Son of God**, where the costliest sacrifice that the Universe could furnish was offered up on Calvary to redeem a race, for which God has a great future, is too sacred a place to ever be blotted out or cease to exist, for it is the most cherished orb in the mind of God of all His great creation.

With the "Renovation of the Earth by Fire," Time does not end and Eternity begin, for we read in the New Testament of a

"Perfect Kingdom"

that Christ shall surrender to the Father, so that God may be "**All in All**." 1 Cor. 15:24-28. A Kingdom in which--

"At the name of Jesus every knee shall bow, of things in Heaven, and things in Earth, and things Under the Earth, and that every tongue shall confess that Jesus Christ IS LORD." Phil. 2:9-11.

This describes a Kingdom in which all things **Celestial, Terrestrial** and **Infernal** are to be subject to the **SON OF MAN**.

Now this "Perfect Kingdom" cannot be the "Millennial Kingdom," for that, as we have seen, ends in **Apostasy** and **Rebellion**. It must therefore mean another Kingdom on the **Other Side** of the "Millennial Kingdom," and as there is to be no other Kingdom **between** the "Millennial Kingdom" and the "Renovation of the Earth by Fire," it must mean a Kingdom that is to **follow** the "Renovation of the Earth by Fire," and that Kingdom is the Kingdom of the **"New Heaven and the New Earth,"** which we call on the "Rightly Dividing the Word" Chart, the **"Perfect Kingdom."**

If, as some hold, the "Seventh Day" of the "Creative Week" corresponds to the Millennium, then we have a prophecy of the Dispensation that follows the "Renovation of the Earth" in the **"Morrow After the Sabbath."** Lev. 23:36.

The Seventh day of Genesis had to do with the "Old Creation," which was imperfect, but the **"Eighth Day"** has to do with the **"New Creation,"** which is perfect, for it was on the **"Eighth Day,"** or the "First Day of the week," that our Lord arose from the dead, and 50 days later, on the **"Eighth Day,"** that the Holy Spirit was given at Pentecost. The "Eighth Day" cannot point to the Millennium, for that is represented by the "Seventh Day," neither can it point to Eternity, for a day is a **Period of Time**, while Eternity is **Timeless**. The "Eighth Day" must then point to a "period of time" **between** the "Renovation of the Earth" and Eternity, or what we are pleased to call the **"Perfect Age."**

It is also a Dispensation, called in Eph. 1:10--

"The Dispensation of the Fulness of Times."

That is, a **"Full-Time Dispensation."** The intimation is, that all the previous Dispensations were not **"Full-Time"** Dispensations, that God had to cut them short on account of sin.

As to the duration of this Dispensation of the "Fulness of Times" we are not in the dark. Israel is to have a large place in that Dispensation.

"For as the New Heavens and the New Earth, which I will make shall remain before me, saith the Lord, so shall your (Israel's) **Seed** and your **Name REMAIN.**" Isa. 66:22.

And as the duration of God's Covenant with Israel was extended in Deu. 7:9 to a "Thousand Generations" or 33,000 years, we have an intimation that the "Dispensation of the Fulness of Times" will last for at least that length of time.

Let us look at some of the characteristics of that Age or Dispensation.

There Will Be No Sin.

All the powers of Evil will have been expelled from the earth and imprisoned in the "Lake of Fire" forever.

The atmosphere of the New Earth will afford no lurking place for disease germs, for there shall be no more sickness or death, and health will be preserved by the use of the leaves of the "Tree of Life." The heavens shall not robe themselves in angry tempests and sombre blackness, nor flash with the thunderbolts of Divine wrath, nor cast plagues of hail on the earth, nor cause devouring floods of water or destructive wind storms. It may be that in that day "a **Mist** shall go up from the earth and water the whole face of the ground" as in Eden, for we read that there shall be--"**No More Sea**," not that there shall not be large bodies of water, for the river that flows through the street of the New City must have an outlet, but that there shall be no great oceans.

The earth shall also put on its Edenic beauty and glory. There shall no longer be thorns and thistles, no parasites or destructive insects, and labor shall be a delight. No serpents shall hiss among its flowers, nor savage beasts lie in ambush to destroy and devour. Its sod shall not be heaped over newly made graves, nor its soil moistened with tears of sorrow and shame, or saturated with human blood in fratricidal strife. The meek shall inherit the earth, and from north to south, and from east to west, it shall blossom like the rose and be clothed with the verdure of Paradise Restored.

Rev. 21:2-8.

"And I John saw the Holy City, New Jerusalem, coming down from God out of Heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of Heaven saying: Behold the 'Tabernacle of God' is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself shall be with them, and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be **no more death**, neither **sorrow**, nor **crying**, neither shall there be any more **pain**; for the **FORMER THINGS ARE PASSED AWAY**. And He that sat upon the Throne said, Behold, I make **all things NEW**. And He said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful. And He said unto me, **IT IS DONE**. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the Fountain of the 'Water of Life' freely. He that **overcometh** shall **inherit all things**; and I will be his God and he shall be My son. p. 203 But the **fearful**, and **unbelieving**, and the **abominable**, and **murderers**, and **whoremongers**, and **sorcerers**, and **idolators**, and **all liars**, shall have their part in the **LAKE OF FIRE** which burneth with **FIRE** and **BRIMSTONE**: which is the **SECOND DEATH**."

3. THE NEW CITY.

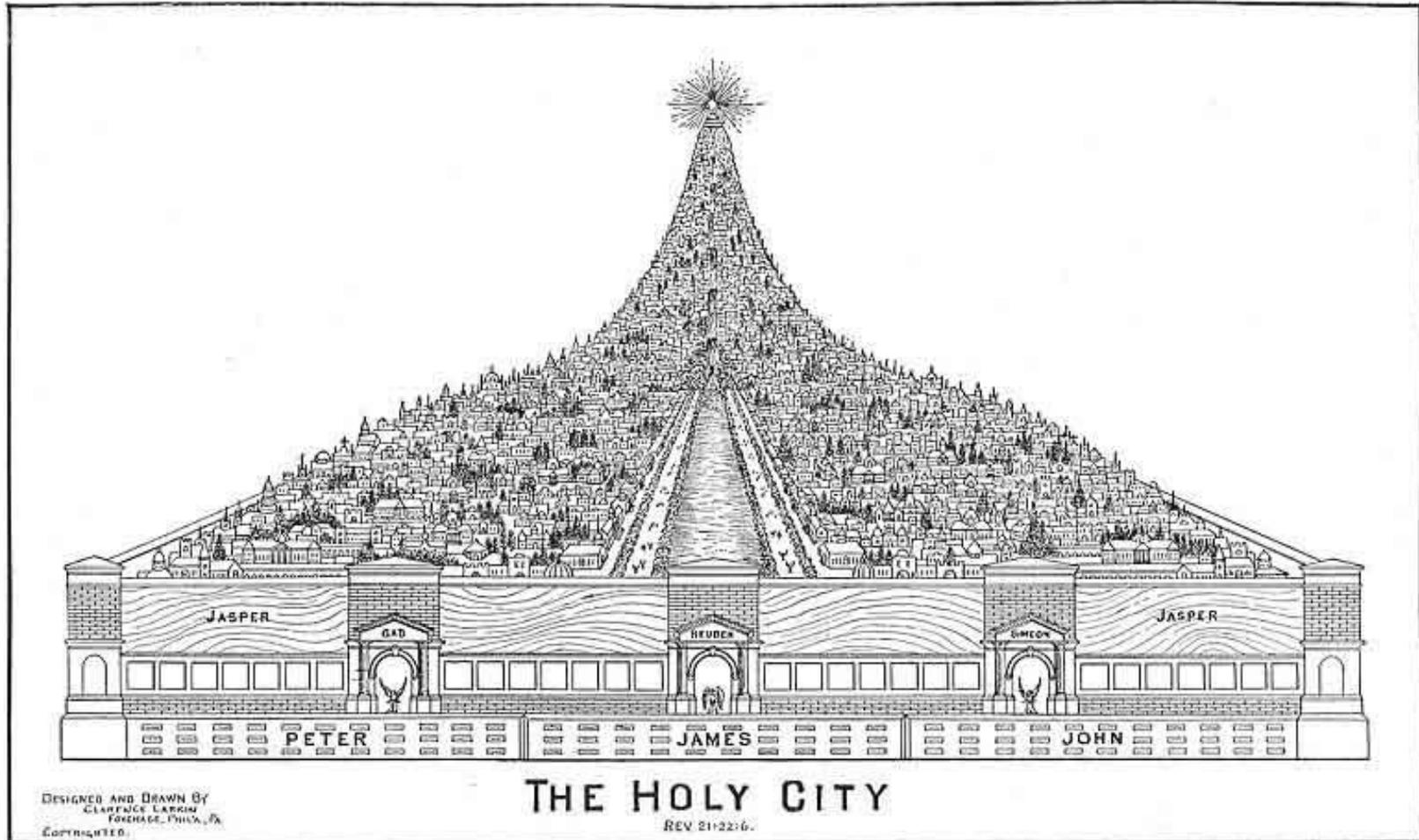
Rev. 21:9-23.

"And there came unto me one of the 'Seven Angels' which had the 'Seven Vials' full of the 'Seven Last Plagues,' and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will shew thee the **Bride**, the **LAMB'S WIFE**. And he carried me away in the '**spirit**' to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that **Great City THE HOLY JERUSALEM, descending out of Heaven** from God, having the Glory of God; and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a Jasper stone, **clear as crystal**; and had a wall great and high, and had twelve gates, and at the gates, twelve Angels, and names written thereon, which are the names of the 'Twelve Tribes' of the 'Children of Israel'; on the East three gates; on the North three gates; on the South three gates; and on the West three gates. And the wall of the City had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the 'Twelve Apostles of the Lamb.' And he that talked with me had a Golden Reed to measure the City, and the gates thereof, and the wall thereof. And the City lieth **foursquare**, and the length is as large as the breadth; and he measured the City with the Reed, 12,000 furlongs. The **length** and the **breadth** and the **height** of it **are equal**. And he measured the wall thereof, a 144 cubits, according to the measure of a man, that is, of the Angel. And the building of the wall of it was of Jasper; and the City was **pure gold, like unto clear glass**. And the foundations of the wall of the City were garnished with all manner of precious stones. The first foundation was **Jasper**; the second, **Sapphire**; the third, a **Chalcedony**; the fourth, an **Emerald**; the fifth, **Sardonyx**; the sixth, **Sardius**; the seventh, **Chrysolite**; the eighth, **Beryl**; the ninth, a **Topaz**; the tenth, a **Chrysoprasus**; the eleventh, a **Jacinth**; the twelfth, an **Amethyst**. And the twelve gates were **twelve pearls**; every several gate was of one pearl; and the street of the City was **pure gold**, as it were **transparent glass**. And I saw no Temple therein; for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the Temple of it. And the City had no need of the Sun, neither of the Moon, to shine in it; for the **Glory of God did lighten it**, and the **LAMB IS THE LIGHT THEREOF**."

Rev. 22:5.

"And there shall be **no night** there; and they need no candle, neither light of the Sun; for the Lord God giveth them light; and they shall reign for ever and ever."

The Angel said to John--"Come hither, I will shew thee the **Bride** the **LAMB'S WIFE**." Some claim that because the word "**WIFE**" is used here, that **Israel** instead of the **Church**, is to be the **Bride** of Christ. But we must not forget that this offer to show John the **Bride**, was made **after** the Wedding of Christ to the Church, and at this time she was no longer the **Bride** but had become the **WIFE** of Christ, and should be thus spoken of. But instead of John being shown a **Woman**, he was shown a **CITY**, the Holy Jerusalem, and as what makes up a City is not its buildings and parks and business, but its inhabitants, it is clear that the **Bride** and the **City** are identical.



That is, that the New Jerusalem is the home and residence of the Bride, that is, the same as the Bride.

From this we see that there is not only to be a **New Heaven** and a **New Earth**, there is also to be a **New City**. This City is the place Jesus said He was going back to Heaven to prepare for His Bride the Church. John 14:2-4. It is just such a place as we would expect the Divine Architect to design and build. The description of it is surpassingly grand. It is of Celestial origin. It is not Heaven itself, for it comes down "out of Heaven." No mortal hands are employed in its construction. It will take up its abode on the New Earth, and we see in this why this present Earth will have to be renovated by fire, and why there shall be "no more sea," for the New City is 12,000 furlongs, or 1500 miles square, and would reach from Maine to Florida, and from the Atlantic Seaboard 600 miles to the west of the Mississippi River. In other words would occupy more than one-half of the United States.

We are told that the length and breadth and the height of it **are equal**. This does not necessarily imply that it is a Cube, for there is another geometrical figure that has equal dimensions, and that is a--**Pyramid**. This is its probable form, for a wall 144 cubits, or 216 feet thick, could not support a wall 1500 miles high, and a wall that high would hide the pyramidal part of the City from view.

The 144 cubits (Rev. 21:17) then must refer to the "height" of the wall. In this wall are 12 gates, 3 on each side, each gate of one Pearl, and these gates are never closed.

The wall itself is of Jasper, and the foundations are garnished with all manner of precious stones. The foundations contain the names of the Twelve Apostles of the Lamb, and over the gates are the names of the Twelve Tribes of Israel.

What a magnificent spectacle such' a city must present from a distance with its pyramidal top surmounted by the light of the

"Glory of God."

"For the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it, for the '**Glory of God**' did lighten it, and **THE LAMB** is **THE LIGHT THEREOF**." Rev. 21:23.

"And the gates of it shall not be shut at all. by day, for there shall be **No Night There**." Rev. 21:25.

This refers to the City only, and not to the outlying parts of the New Earth, for there will be day and night wherever the light of the City does not reach.

The Pyramidal part of the City will doubtless be in the centre of the City, and probably not occupy over one-half of the surface area, leaving the remainder to be divided up into boulevards and broad avenues, with numerous parks and residential sections. We are told that the City itself is of **Pure Gold, Like Unto Clear Glass**. Rev. 21:18. If this refers to the houses and homes of the inhabitants, then the redeemed are to live in palaces of **Transparent Gold**, and the streets are to be of the same material. Rev. 21:18, 21. We cannot imagine a city with such dwellings and streets to be unclean or lack beauty.

4. THE NEW NATIONS.

Rev. 21:24-27.

"And the **NATIONS OF THEM WHICH ARE SAVED** (the Saved Nations) shall walk in the light of it (the City): and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honor into it. And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there. And they shall bring the glory and honor of the nations into it. And there shall in no wise enter into it anything that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's Book of Life."

This last verse does not imply that there will be sin on the New Earth to endanger the City, but to show that the City will never be contaminated by evil of any kind.

Outside the walls of this beautiful City, spread over the surface of the "New Earth," nations shall dwell, whose kings shall bring their glory and honor into it, but nothing that will defile or work abomination shall ever enter in through those "Gates of Pearl," for there will be no sin on that New Earth. Rev. 21:24-27.

Who Are to Be the Happy Inhabitants of This New Earth?

Where did the people who inhabited the earth **after the Flood** come from? They were the lineal descendants of Noah, how did they escape the Flood? They were saved in an Ark which **God Provided**. Gen. 6:13-16. Shall not God then during the "Renovation of the Earth by Fire," in some manner, not as yet revealed, take off righteous representatives of the Millennial nations that He purposes to save, and when the earth is again fit to be the abode of men, place them back on the New Earth, that they may increase and multiply and **replenish** it, as Adam (Gen. 1:27, 28), and Noah (Gen. 9:1), were told to **multiply and replenish** the present earth.

If God could take off Elijah for the purpose of sending him back again to herald the Second Coming of the Lord, surely God can take off representative men from the nations and put them back again on the New Earth to **repopulate it**. If this is not God's plan then we have one type in the Scriptures that has no antitype, for Noah's Ark, which is a type, has no antitype unless it be this.

It is clear from the Scriptures that God does not purpose to create a new race for the New Earth. His promise as to Israel is that the descendants of Abraham shall inherit this earth for a "thousand generations," or 33,000 years; now this is not possible unless they are transplanted to the New Earth. And this is just what God has promised.

"For as the New Heavens and the New Earth, which I will make, shall **remain before Me**, saith the Lord, so shall **Your 'Seed'** and **Your 'Name'** **REMAIN**." Isa. 66:22.

It seems clear from the presence of the Tree of Life in the Garden of Eden, that God intended the human race to populate the Earth, and when it became too thickly populated, to use the surplus population to colonize other spheres. Our "Solar System" is only in its infancy. The Earth is the only one of its planets as yet habitable. Where are the inhabitants for the other planets to come from? Think you that

the planets of our Solar System, and the planets of other solar systems, of which the stars are the suns, were made simply to adorn the heavens for our little earth. God does not plan things on a **Small Scale**, and it magnifies His power and wisdom to believe that He created man in His own likeness, a created being higher than the angels, and gifted with the power of **Procreation**, that He might by means of him populate the Universe. This magnifies the Scheme of Redemption. Think you that God gave His Son to die on Calvary just to redeem a **few** millions of the human race? Why He could have blotted them out, as He probably did the Preadamite race, and created a new race, and Satan would have laughed because he had the second time blocked God's plan for the peopling of this earth.

No, God will not permit Satan to block His plan for peopling this earth with a **Sinless Human Race**. The death of Christ was not merely to redeem a few millions of the human race, but to redeem the **Earth**, and the **Race Itself** from the curse of sin, and the dominion of Satan.

The Apostle James tells us that we are only the "**First Fruits**" of His "**Creatures**." James 1:18. What then must the **HARVEST BE?**

The Universe is **young yet**. We are only in the **beginning of** things, for

"Of the increase of His government and peace **THERE SHALL BE NO END.**" Isa. 9:7.

When this Earth shall have gone through its "Baptism of Fire," and shall be again fit for the occupancy of man, the representatives of the "Saved Nations" (Rev. 21:24) will be men and women in whom no taint of sin will remain, and who cannot therefore impart it to their offspring, who will be like the offspring of Adam and Eve would have been if they had not sinned. This magnifies the whole scheme of redemption, and justifies God in the creation of the human race.

5. THE NEW RIVER.

Rev. 22:1.

"And he shewed me a pure **RIVER OF WATER OF LIFE,** clear as crystal, proceeding out of the Throne of God, and of the Lamb."

The waters of earthly rivers are not crystal clear. Many of them are muddy and contaminated with sewerage. This wonderful river is called the River of the "Water of Life," because of its "life giving" properties. Earthly streams have their source in some mountain spring, but the "River of Life" has its source in the Throne of God. Rev. 22:1.

Somewhere on that "Pyramidal Mountain" in the centre of the City, probably on its summit, will rest

"The Throne of God,"

from under the seat of which shall flow down in cascades, from terrace to terrace, the crystal stream that shall feed that wonderful "River of Life."

6. THE NEW TREE OF LIFE.

Rev. 22:2.

"In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the River, was there the '**TREE OF LIFE**,' which bare **twelve manner of fruits**, and yielded her fruit **every month**: and the **leaves of the Tree** were for the **healing of the nations**."

The streets are to be lined with trees, as are also the banks of a wonderful river. These trees are not mere shade trees, but beautiful **Fruit Trees**, called the "**TREE OF LIFE**," that bear **Twelve Kinds of Fruit**, a different kind each month. The fruit of these trees is for **Overcomers Only**.

"To him that **overcometh** will I give to eat of the '**Tree of Life**' which is in the midst of the Paradise of God." Rev. 2:7.

The leaves of the trees are for the **Healing of the Nations that shall occupy the New Earth**. Not that there will be any sickness, but to preserve them in health, as Adam would have been preserved in health if he had eaten of the Tree of Life in the Garden of Eden. Gen. 3:22-24.

7. THE NEW THRONE.

Rev. 22:3-4.

"And there shall be no more curse: but the **THRONE OF GOD AND OF THE LAMB** shall be in it; and His servants shall serve Him: and they shall see His **FACE**: and His **NAME** shall be in their **foreheads**."

Whoever heard of an earthly city without some place of worship, be it heathen or Christian, but the wonderful thing about the New Jerusalem is, that it has no **Temple**. Why need a Temple when the object of worship is present, for "**The Lord God Almighty and the Lamb Are the Temple of It**." In fact the whole City itself will be a Temple.

"Then the '**Tabernacle of God**' shall be with men, and He will **dwelt with them**, and they shall be His People, and God Himself shall be with them, and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be **no more death**, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain; for the **FORMER THINGS ARE PASSED AWAY**." Rev. 21:3, 4.

This means that Heaven shall have come down to Earth, and that this earth will become the **RESIDENCE OF GOD**.

The Great Abdication

The "**Millennial Age**" and the "**Perfect Age**," between which the Earth is Renovated by Fire, make up the "**Age of Ages**," which period is called the **KINGDOM OF THE SON OF MAN**.

At the close of the "Age of Ages" when Christ "shall have put down all rule and all authority and power, for He must reign till He hath put all enemies under his feet," then Christ as the Son of Man, shall surrender the Kingdom to God, that God may be **ALL IN ALL**. 1 Cor. 15:24-28. This is known as **The Great Abdication**.

There have been many abdications of thrones in the world's history, but none like this. Thrones have been abdicated for various reasons. Some have been forced, others voluntary. Some on account of physical infirmity, or to secure some particular successor. But Christ will not abdicate for any of these reasons. He will abdicate because He has **Finished the Work That Was Given Him to Do as the Son of Man**. He will not surrender His **Human Nature**, but His title "**Son of Man**" will merge back into that of "**Son of God**" so that the Divine **Godhead** shall thereafter act in its **Unity**, and God shall be "**ALL IN ALL**."

The Ages of the Ages

As the "Creative Ages" were the "Alpha" Ages, these will be the "Omega" Ages. With the surrender of the "Perfect Kingdom" to the Father, what we speak of as "Time" ceases, and the "Eternal Ages," called the "Ages of the Ages" begin. They correspond to what the Apostle Paul in his Letter to the Ephesians calls the "Ages to Come." Eph. 2:7. And John in the Book of Revelation says that the "Devil" and the "Beast" and the "False Prophet" shall be tormented day and night forever and ever, or for the "**Aions**" of the "**Aions**," the "**Ages of the Ages**," Rev. 20:10, and that the "Servants of God" shall reign for the same period. Rev. 22:5.

What those "Ages of Ages" shall reveal of the Plan and Purpose of God we do not know, but if we are His we shall live to know, and possibly take part in their development. What we do know is that we are but in the **beginning of things**, and as concerning the "Ages," Eternity is still young.

The Epilogue or Final Testimony and Warnings.

Rev. 22:6-21.

"And he said unto me, These sayings are faithful and true; and the Lord God of the Holy Prophets sent His Angel to shew unto His Servants the Things which must **shortly be done**. Behold, I come quickly: **blessed is he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this BOOK**."

"And I John saw these things, and heard them. And when I had heard and seen, I fell down to worship before the feet of the Angel which shewed me these things. Then saith he unto me, See thou do it not: for I am thy Fellow-servant, and of the [Brethren](#) the Prophets, and of them which keep the sayings of this Book: worship **GOD**."

"And he saith unto me. **Seal not** the sayings of **THE PROPHECY OF THIS BOOK**: for the **TIME IS AT HAND**. p. 210 He that is **unjust**, let him be **unjust still**: and he which is **filthy**, let him be **filthy still**: and he that is **righteous**, let him be **righteous still**: and he that is **holy**, let him be **holy still**. And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be. I am **ALPHA** and **OMEGA**, the **Beginning** and the **End**, the **First** and the **Last**.

"Blessed are they that do His Commandments, that they may have right to the '**TREE OF LIFE**,' and may enter in through the gates into the City. For without are **dogs**, and **sorcerers**, and **whoremongers**, and **murderers** and **idolators**, and whosoever **loveth and maketh a lie**.

"I Jesus have sent mine Angel to testify unto you these things in the Churches. I am the **Root** and the **Offspring** of David, and the **BRIGHT AND MORNING STAR**.

"And the **SPIRIT** (Holy Spirit) and the **BRIDE** (the Church, still on the earth) say **COME**. And let him that is **athirst** **COME**. And **WHOSOEVER WILL**, let him take of the '**Water of Life**' **FREELY**.

"For I testify unto every man that **heareth** the words of the **PROPHECY OF THIS BOOK**. If any man shall **ADD UNTO THESE THINGS, GOD SHALL ADD UNTO HIM THE PLAGUES THAT ARE WRITTEN IN THIS BOOK**: and if any man shall **TAKE AWAY FROM THE WORDS OF THE BOOK OF THIS PROPHECY, GOD SHALL TAKE AWAY HIS PART OUT OF THE BOOK OF LIFE AND OUT OF THE HOLY CITY, AND FROM THE THINGS WHICH ARE WRITTEN IN THIS BOOK**.

"He which testifieth these things, saith, Surely I **COME QUICKLY**. **AMEN. EVEN SO, COME LORD JESUS**.

"THE GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST BE WITH YOU ALL. AMEN."

