

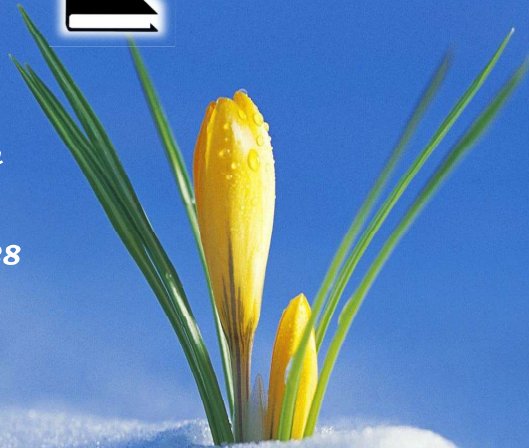
Welcome To Sunday Night Bible Fellowship

Every word inspired.



Every word proclaimed.

*“We proclaim Him,
warning every man and
teaching every man with
all wisdom, so that we
may present every man
mature in Christ.” Col 1:28*



“The Second Coming of Christ”

Part 2

Rev. 19:15-18

March 24, 2019

Quiz

1. How many attributes of God can you name that are displayed in the book of Revelation? Give attribute and example.

Attributes of God

ASEITY - He is self-existent. He does not need us or the rest of creation for anything. While everything other than God depends on God for everything, God depends on no one for existence. (Is. 40:18,25; Ex. 3:14,15)

IMMUTABILITY - He is not subject to change in His person. He never changes in his being (who he is) or His promises He has made. (James 1:17; Heb. 13:8; Mal. 3:6)

INFINITY - He is free from all limitations other than self-limitation. He is not subject to any of the limitations of humanity or his creation.

***Perfect** - in Being (complete, finished, lacking in nothing; no defect). (Matt. 5:48; Ps. 18:30)

***Eternal** - in time. God exists forever, meaning he has no beginning or end (Psalm 90:2; 1 Tim. 1:17). He has always existed in the same way: fully and completely as God.

***Omnipresent** - everywhere in space. This is not to say that God's form is spread out so that parts of Him exist in every location. God is spirit; He has no physical form. He is present everywhere in that everything is immediately in His presence. At the same time He is present everywhere in the universe. No one can hide from Him and nothing escapes His notice. (Job 11:7-10)

MENTALITY - He is the ultimate in intellect.

***Omniscient** - all knowing. God knows all things - 1 John 3:20; Psa.147:5; Heb.4:13;1 Chron. 28:9. This includes the past, the present, and the future. (Is. 46:9,10) It includes actuality, and contingencies. That is, he knows what will happen, and he knows what "could" possibly happen. There was never a time when God did not know anything or everything. The greatest and deepest and most fascinating thing that God knows is Himself, for He is infinitely deep in character and substance and beauty and wisdom.

***Wisdom** - all-wise. He works everything out for the display and enjoyment of his glory and for the good of his people. He never fails, never lacks any foresight, and never estimates. He knows all, and plans all, and he loves to display the glory and beauty of his wisdom by accomplishing things in unexpected and seemingly impossible ways. (Rom, 11:33, 1 Cor. 1:30)

SOVEREIGNTY - He is the highest ruler in the universe and is the source, the means, and the goal (Rom. 11:36) of all events, actions, decisions, and all else that affects man in his existence. Nothing happens without His direction or permission. God works not just some things but all things according to the counsel of His own will (Eph. 1:11). His purposes are all-inclusive and never thwarted (Isa. 46:11; Ps. 33:11); nothing takes Him by surprise. The sovereignty of God is not merely that God has the power and right to govern all things, but that He does so, always, and without exception.

***Will** - He prosecutes His plan designed from eternity past (Dan. 4:35; Matt. 13:35, Eph. 1:4, 1 Pet. 1:20, Rev. 17:8), throughout all of time and eternity future.

***Omnipotent** - He is all-powerful. He can exercise dominion over the entire universe, carry out the purposes of his wisdom, govern the hearts of men, and create things out of nothing. (Ps. 62:11, Ps. 135:6, Rev. 1:8, 4:8)

SPIRITUALITY - He is spirit. (Jn. 4:24)

***Life** - He is the source of all personal energy for His own Being and for others. (Ps. 36:9; Jn. 5:26)

***Personality** - He is the source of personal spontaneity of the will (make decisions without external influence). He is self-conscious and self-determining. (Is. 46:11)

MORALITY - He is the ultimate in purity.

***Goodness** - He is the source of all that is good in the universe.

Love

Grace

Kindness

Peace

Mercy

Patience

Joy

Gentleness

***Holiness** - His character is free from all impurity. He is eternally separate and distinct from all impurity (Is. 6:3).

***Righteousness** - His conduct is free from all impurity. (Ezra 9:15)

***Justice** - His judgment is free from all impurity and able to determine reward or punishment based on His

holiness and righteousness contained in the Law. (Acts 17:31)

Quiz

1. How many attributes of God can you name that are displayed in the book of Revelation? Give attribute and example.
2. Give the 4 terms that describe the place of the dead.

4 terms which describe the place of the dead:

1. Sheol.

*Used 65 times in O.T. – 31 times as “hell”;
31 times as the “grave”; 3 times as the “pit”.

2. Hades.

*Used 11 times. 10 meaning “hell”;
1 meaning “grave”.

3. Tartarous.

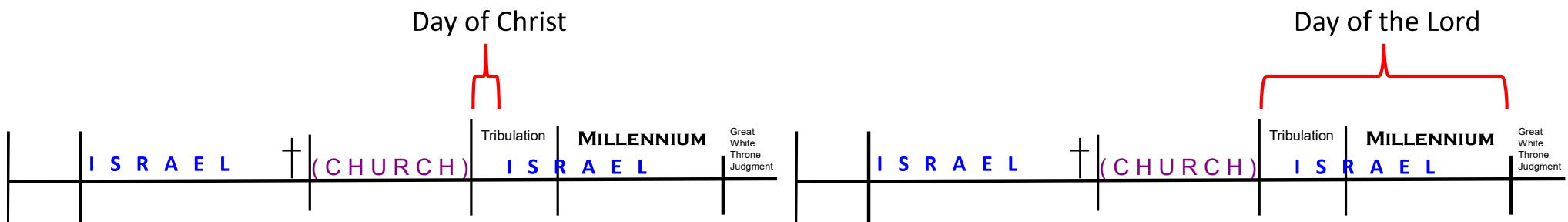
*Used 1 time to denote the holding place for
a group of demons.

4. Gehenna.

*Used 12 times in the N.T. Used as a
geographical term and the final state of the
unsaved.

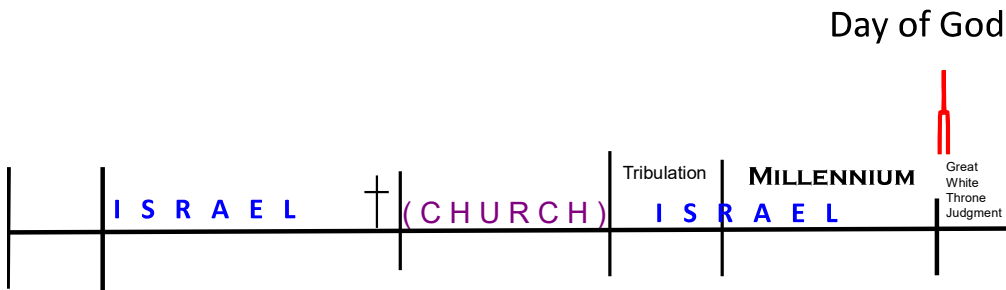
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3. When do each of these take place –
Day of Christ
Day of the Lord
Day of God



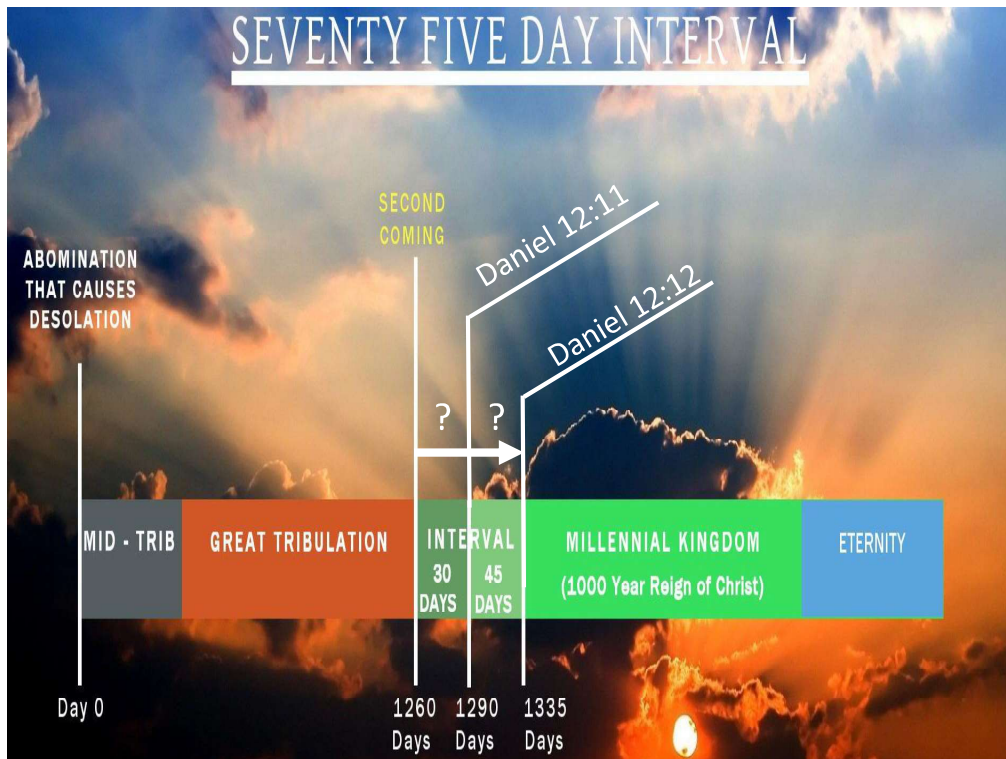
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 - Day of Christ
 - Day of the Lord
 - Day of God
4. What is the 75 day interval?



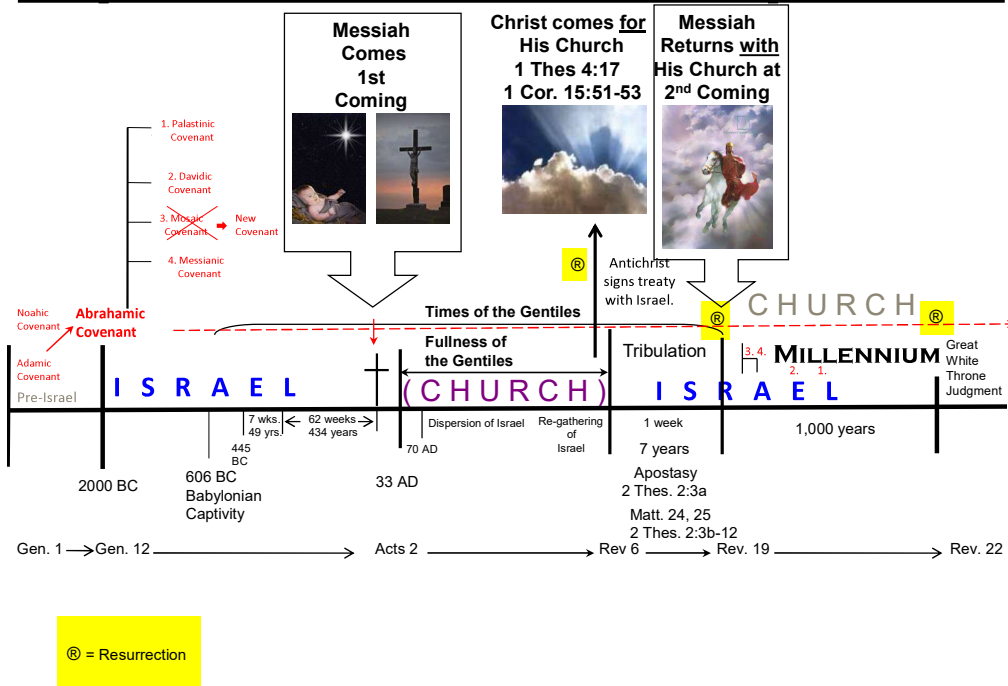
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2. Give the 4 terms that describe the place of the dead.
3. When do each of these take place –
 - Day of Christ
 - Day of the Lord
 - Day of God
4. What is the 75 day interval?
5. The 7 churches are found where in Revelation?



Chapters 2 & 3

Comprehensive Biblical View of Future Prophetic Events



Rev 19:10-14

10 Then I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, "Do not do that; I am a fellow servant of yours and your brethren who hold the testimony of Jesus; worship God. For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.

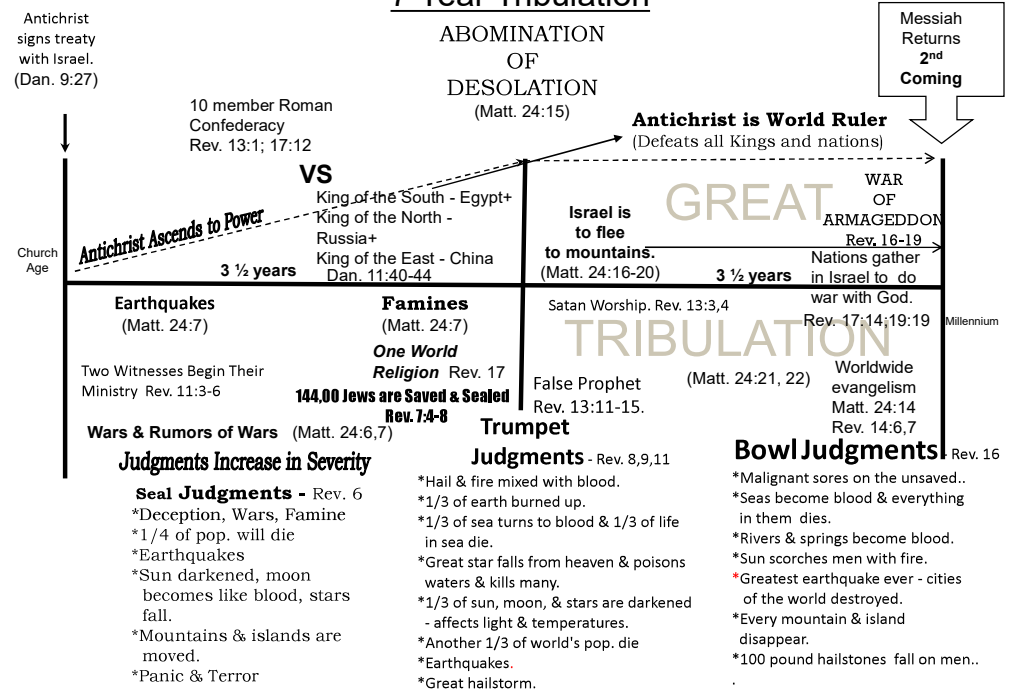
11 And I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse, and He who sat on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and wages war.

12 His eyes are a flame of fire, and on His head are many diadems; and He has a name written on Him which no one knows except Himself.

13 He is clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God.

14 And the armies which are in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, were following Him on white horses.

7 Year Tribulation



Names of Jesus Christ

- Advocate (1 John 2:1)
- Almighty (Rev. 1:8; Mt. 28:18)
- Alpha and Omega (Rev. 1:8; 22:13)
- Amen (Rev. 3:14)
- Apostle of our Profession (Heb. 3:1)
- Atoning Sacrifice for our Sins (1 John 2:2)
- Author of Life (Acts 3:15)
- Author and Perfector of our Faith (Heb. 12:2)
- Author of Salvation (Heb. 2:10)
- Beginning and End (Rev. 22:13)
- Blessed and only Ruler (1 Tim. 6:15)
- Bread of God (John 6:33)
- Bread of Life (John 6:35; 6:48)
- Bridegroom (Mt. 9:15)
- Capstone (Acts 4:11; 1 Pet. 2:7)
- Chief Cornerstone (Eph. 2:20)
- Chief Shepherd (1 Pet. 5:4)
- Christ (1 John 2:22)
- Creator (John 1:3)
- Deliverer (Rom. 11:26)
- Eternal Life (1 John 1:2; 5:20)
- Faithful and True (Rev. 19:11)
- Faithful Witness (Rev. 1:5)
- Faithful and True Witness (Rev. 3:14)
- First and Last (Rev. 1:17; 2:8; 22:13)
- Firstborn From the Dead (Rev. 1:5)
- Firstborn over all creation (Col. 1:15)
- Gate (John 10:9)
- God (John 1:1; 20:28; Heb. 1:8; Rom. 9:5; 2 Pet. 1:1; 1 John 5:20; etc.)
- Good Shepherd (John 10:11,14)
- Great Shepherd (Heb. 13:20)
- Great High Priest (Heb. 4:14)
- Head of the Church (Eph. 1:22; 4:15; 5:23)
- Heir of all things (Heb. 1:2)
- High Priest (Heb. 2:17)
- Holy and True (Rev. 3:7)
- Holy One (Acts 3:14)
- Hope (1 Tim. 1:1)
- Hope of Glory (Col. 1:27)
- Horn of Salvation (Luke 1:69)
- I Am (John 8:58)
- Image of God (2 Cor. 4:4)
- Immanuel (Mt. 1:23)
- Judge of the living and the dead (Acts 10:42)
- King Eternal (1 Tim. 1:17)

King of Israel (John 1:49)
King of the Jews (Mt. 27:11)
King of kings (1 Tim 6:15; Rev. 19:16)
King of the Ages (Rev. 15:3)
Lamb (Rev. 13:8)
Lamb of God (John 1:29)
Lamb Without Blemish (1 Pet. 1:19)
Last Adam (1 Cor. 15:45)
Life (John 14:6; Col. 3:4)
Light of the World (John 8:12)
Lion of the Tribe of Judah (Rev. 5:5)
Living One (Rev. 1:18)
Living Stone (1 Pet. 2:4)
Lord (2 Pet. 2:20)
Lord of All (Acts 10:36)
Lord of Glory (1 Cor. 2:8)
Lord of lords (Rev. 19:16)
Man from Heaven (1 Cor. 15:48)
Mediator of the New Covenant (Heb. 9:15)
Mighty God (Isa. 9:6)
Morning Star (Rev. 22:16)
Offspring of David (Rev. 22:16)
Only Begotten Son of God (John 1:18; 1 John 4:9)

Our Great God and Savior (Titus 2:13)
Our Holiness (1 Cor. 1:30)
Our Husband (2 Cor. 11:2)
Our Protection (2 Thess. 3:3)
Our Redemption (1 Cor. 1:30)
Our Righteousness (1 Cor. 1:30)
Our Sacrificed Passover Lamb (1 Cor. 5:7)
Power of God (1 Cor. 1:24)
Precious Cornerstone (1 Pet. 2:6)
Prophet (Acts 3:22)
Rabbi (Mt. 26:25)
Resurrection and Life (John 11:25)
Righteous Branch (Jer. 23:5)
Righteous One (Acts 7:52; 1 John 2:1)
Rock (1 Cor. 10:4)
Root of David (Rev. 5:5; 22:16)
Ruler of God's Creation (Rev. 3:14)
Ruler of the Kings of the Earth (Rev. 1:5)
Savior (Eph. 5:23; Titus 1:4; 3:6; 2 Pet. 2:20)
Son of David (Lk. 18:39)
Son of God (John 1:49; Heb. 4:14)
Son of Man (Mt. 8:20)
Son of the Most High God (Lk. 1:32)
Source of Eternal Salvation for all who obey him (Heb. 5:9)

The One Mediator (1 Tim. 2:5)
The Stone the builders rejected (Acts 4:11)
True Bread (John 6:32)
True Light (John 1:9)
True Vine (John 15:1)
Truth (John 1:14; 14:6)
Way (John 14:6)
Wisdom of God (1 Cor. 1:24)
Word (John 1:1)
Word of God (Rev. 19:13)

Titles/Names for Christ in Revelation:

“the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth” (Rev. 1:5+)

“the son of man” (Rev. 1:13+)

“the first and the last” (Rev. 1:17+)

“the living One” (Rev. 1:18+)

“the Son of God” (Rev. 2:18+)

“He who is holy, who is true” (Rev. 3:7+)

“the Amen, the faithful and true Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God” (Rev. 3:14+)

“the Lion that is from the tribe of Judah, the Root of David” (Rev. 5:5+)

“the Lamb” (Rev. 6:1+, 16+; 7:17+; 8:1+)

“Faithful and True” (Rev. 19:11+)

“the Word of God” (Rev. 19:13+)

“King of Kings, and Lord of Lords” (Rev. 19:16+)

Rev 19:15-18

15 From His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He may strike down the nations, and He will rule them with a rod of iron; and He treads the wine press of the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty.

16 And on His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, "KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS."

17 Then I saw an angel standing in the sun, and he cried out with a loud voice, saying to all the birds which fly in midheaven, "Come, assemble for the great supper of God,

18 so that you may eat the flesh of kings and the flesh of commanders and the flesh of mighty men and the flesh of horses and of those who sit on them and the flesh of all men, both free men and slaves, and small and great."

“From His mouth comes a sharp sword,”

μαχαίρα – small sword or very large knife. It does small “slice and dice” very particular cuts.

ρομφαία – large sword, used in battle, large stroke, used for mass destruction.



ρομφαία

Rev 1:16

16 In His right hand He held seven stars, and out of His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword;

Rev 2:12

"And to the angel of the church in Pergamum write:

The One who has the sharp two-edged sword says this:

Rev 2:16

'Therefore repent; or else I am coming to you quickly, and I will make war against them with the sword of My mouth.

Rev 19:21

And the rest were killed with the sword which came from the mouth of Him who sat on the horse, and all the birds were filled with their flesh.

μαχαίρα

Heb 4:12

12 For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword,

Eph 6:17

17 And take THE HELMET OF SALVATION, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

“From His mouth comes a sharp sword,”

μαχαίρα – small sword or very large knife. It does small “slice and dice” particular cuts.

ρομφαία – large sword, used in battle, large stroke, used for mass destruction.

- Note: This is the only weapon that Christ and His army will carry. Why? Because He alone is carrying out His vengeance.

Rom 12:19

19 Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "VENGEANCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY," says the Lord.

- His word will be more than sufficient to completely destroy the enemy.

Isa 11:4

4 And He will strike the earth with the rod of His mouth,
And with the breath of His lips He will slay the wicked.

- Just His words, “Be Crushed” will end the lives of all unbelievers on earth.
- This whole battle will be over in a second or less.

Heb 11:3

3 By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things which are visible.

John 1:10

10 He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him.

“The Word of God smites, slays, destroys. The power of the Word is irresistible. God needs no hydrogen warheads, guided missiles, atomic submarines nor supersonic bombers! All God needs to do is utter the Word, and creatures disintegrate. God needs no weapons made with hands.”

- Oliver Greene



“so that with it He may strike down the nations,”

- When He breaks through the clouds, Christ comes to the earth to annihilate the godless, wicked people who have assembled to do battle with Him.
- No nation will be protected.
- All will instantly come under the judgment of God.

“and He will rule them with a rod of iron”

- The rebellion is over.
- Christ will now be ruling in the Millennium with a “rod of iron.”
- **“rule”** – ποιμαίνω – to shepherd, to care for sheep. The Millennial rule of Jesus Christ will involve feeding them, loving them, and providing for all of their spiritual and physical needs, but will also mean discipline and quick and fair justice.
- **“Rod of iron”** - symbolizes strength, authority, and that which can not be broken.

“and He treads the wine press of the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty.”

- To Christ, evil, wicked, mankind appears as plump grapes ready to be stomped on in the winepress.





A Winepress in Ancient Israel

An ancient winepress was a rock-hewn open-air system. Grapes were pressed by being trodden underfoot in a treading floor. The juice would pour through a channel into a vat, where it would ferment. It would then be collected in jars.

The yeast from the skin of the grapes would begin fermenting the grape juice at the time of pressing.

Wine jars were often stoppered with unfired clay (or sometimes olive oil would be floated on top).

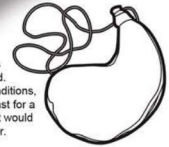


Pressed thorns or other plant fibers were used to filter the grape juice.

The fermentation would take a few days, bubbling vigorously, especially during the first day. When the bubbling stopped, the juice—now wine—was ready to be taken out.

The chalk/limestone bedrock in Israel makes excellent winepresses—it cuts easily and holds liquid well.

Wine skins were also used. Under proper conditions, stored wine could last for a year. If left exposed, it would soon turn to vinegar.



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Rev 14:20

20 And the wine press was trodden outside the city, and blood came out from the wine press, up to the horses' bridles, for a distance of two hundred miles.

“and He treads the wine press of the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty.”

- To Christ, evil, wicked, mankind appears as plump grapes ready to be stomped on in the winepress.
- The Bride can be in her white gown as she is not fighting this battle. No camouflage for her. Everything is in the open and exposed because her Bridegroom, her Warrior-King is fighting the battle and defending her.

2 points in summary:

1. 3 weapons are used by Christ in the battle of Armageddon:

15 From His mouth comes a **sharp sword**, so that with it He may strike down the nations, and He will rule them with a **rod of iron**; and He treads the **wine press** of the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty.

2. This judgment accomplishes three things:

- 1) This judgment will crush the nations. 15a
- 2) This judgment will rule the nations. 15b
- 3) This judgment will pour out wrath on the nations. 15c

Rev 19:15-18

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17 Then I saw an angel standing in the sun, and he cried out with a loud voice, saying to all the birds which fly in midheaven, "Come, assemble for the great supper of God,

18 so that you may eat the flesh of kings and the flesh of commanders and the flesh of mighty men and the flesh of horses and of those who sit on them and the flesh of all men, both free men and slaves, and small and great."

"And on His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, "KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS."

Zech 14:9

9 And the Lord will be king over all the earth; in that day the Lord will be the only one, and His name the only one.

- Typically the sword would be carried on the thigh but here it is in His mouth.
- It is displayed here for everyone to see it.
- So on the robe and on the thigh is another title, which means He is sovereign over everyone, even the top national leaders in the world. There is no one higher. All are lesser authorities.
- Christ returns with ultimate sovereign power to reclaim the earth and His dominion over it.



Rev 19:15-18

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Where is midheaven?

Ezek 39:17-20

17 "As for you, son of man, thus says the Lord God, 'Speak to every kind of bird and to every beast of the field, "Assemble and come, gather from every side to My sacrifice which I am going to sacrifice for you, as a great sacrifice on the mountains of Israel, that you may eat flesh and drink blood.

18 "You will eat the flesh of mighty men and drink the blood of the princes of the earth, as though they were rams, lambs, goats and bulls, all of them fatlings of Bashan.

19 "So you will eat fat until you are gluttoned, and drink blood until you are drunk, from My sacrifice which I have sacrificed for you.

20 "You will be gluttoned at My table with horses and charioteers, with mighty men and all the men of war," declares the Lord God.

Rev 8:13

13 Then I looked, and I heard an eagle flying in **midheaven**, saying with a loud voice, "Woe, woe, woe to those who dwell on the earth, because of the remaining blasts of the trumpet of the three angels who are about to sound!"

Rev 14:6

6 And I saw another angel flying in **midheaven**, having an eternal gospel to preach to those who live on the earth, and to every nation and tribe and tongue and people;

Rev 19:17

17 Then I saw an angel standing in the sun, and he cried out with a loud voice, saying to all the birds which fly in **midheaven**, "Come, assemble for the great supper of God,

Where will this "great supper of God" take place?



Armageddon (HarMeggido)

Great battles have already been fought here:

- Barak and Deborah fought against Sisera.
- Gideon fought against the Midianites.
- Saul was slain by the hand of a Philistine.
- Ahaziah was slain by the arrows of Jehu.
- Pharaoh-Necho slew good king Josiah.
- Jeremiah lamented the slain of the armies of Josiah.
- Druze, and Turks, and British, and Napoleon's armies, all through the ages have fought.

4 suppers in Scripture –

1. The supper of salvation. Luke:14:16-24

Rev 19:15-18

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Luke 14:16-24

16 "A man was giving a big dinner, and he invited many;

17 and at the dinner hour he sent his slave to say to those who had been invited, 'Come; for everything is ready now.'

18 "But they all alike began to make excuses. The first one said to him, 'I have bought a piece of land and I need to go out and look at it; please consider me excused.'

19 "Another one said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to try them out; please consider me excused.'

20 "Another one said, 'I have married a wife, and for that reason I cannot come.'

21 "And the slave came back and reported this to his master. Then the head of the household became angry and said to his slave, 'Go out at once into the streets and lanes of the city and bring in here the poor and crippled and blind and lame.'

22 "And the slave said, 'Master, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.'

23 "And the master said to the slave, 'Go out into the highways and along the hedges, and compel them to come in, so that my house may be filled.'

24 'For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste of my dinner.'"

“When our Lord was on earth the first time, He told His disciples of a great feast to which all men were bidden to come freely. Love set the table and compassion was there to serve. Grace sat as host and joy poured the wine. For almost two thousand years, the Lord has sent out His servants, crying the invitation to one and all, and for almost two thousand years, men for the most part have flouted the love that invited them and despised the grace that pleaded with them. The Lord is the God of patience, but patience will not be mocked forever. The day of wrath must come. And those who have refused the call of grace to the banquet of love must be themselves the victims at another great supper, where their flesh will be picked clean by the fowls of the air.”

- Donald Barnhouse

Look what’s on the menu for the birds . . .

4 suppers in Scripture –

1. The supper of salvation. Luke:14:16-24
2. The Lord’s supper. 1 Cor. 11:20
3. The marriage supper of the Lamb. Rev. 19:9
4. The great supper of God. Rev. 19:17

Rev 19:15-18

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Zeph 1:17-18

17 I will bring distress on men
So that they will walk like the blind,
Because they have sinned against the Lord;
And their blood will be poured out like dust
And their flesh like dung.
18 Neither their silver nor their gold
Will be able to deliver them
On the day of the Lord's wrath;
And all the earth will be devoured
In the fire of His jealousy,
For He will make a complete end,
Indeed a terrifying one,
Of all the inhabitants of the earth.

“This tells an awful story. It tells of the greatest of manmade food for vultures, of kings and leaders, strong and confident, devoured in the field with no one to bury them, of those who thought to conquer heaven’s anointed King rendered helpless even against the timid birds. The great Conqueror comes down, He rides on the bright horse and flies upon the wings of the wind. Smoke goes up from His nostrils and devouring fire out of His mouth. He moves amid storms and darkness from which the lightning hurls its bolts and hailstones mingled with the fire. He roars out of Zion and utters His voice from Jerusalem until the heavens and the earth shake. He dashes forth in the fury of His own incensed greatness amid clouds of fire and smoke. The sun frowns, the mountains melt and split at His presence. The hills bound from their place and skip like lambs. The waters are dislodged from their channels. The sea rolls back with howling fear. The sky is rent and folds upon itself like a collapsed tent. It is the day for executing an armed world, a world in covenant with hell to overthrow the authority and the throne of God, and everything in terrified nature joins to signal the deserved vengeance.”

- Joseph Siess

1 Sam 17:44-46

44 The Philistine also said to David, "Come to me, and I will give your flesh to the birds of the sky and the beasts of the field."
45 Then David said to the Philistine, "You come to me with a sword, a spear, and a javelin, but I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have taunted."
46 "This day the Lord will deliver you up into my hands, and I will strike you down and remove your head from you. And I will give the dead bodies of the army of the Philistines this day to the birds of the sky and the wild beasts of the earth, that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel,

Where do these unbelievers go whose lives were so violently destroyed by the Lord Jesus?

Matt 24:29,30,40,41

29 "But immediately after the tribulation of those days THE SUN WILL BE DARKENED, AND THE MOON WILL NOT GIVE ITS LIGHT, AND THE STARS WILL FALL from the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken.

30 "And then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the SON OF MAN COMING ON THE CLOUDS OF THE SKY with power and great glory.

40 "Then there will be two men in the field; one will be taken and one will be left.

41 "Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one will be left.

Matt 25:31-34,41

31 "But when the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne.

32 "All the nations will be gathered before Him; and He will separate them from one another, as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats;

33 and He will put the sheep on His right, and the goats on the left.

34 "Then the King will say to those on His right, 'Come, you who are blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.

41 "Then He will also say to those on His left, 'Depart from Me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels;

OT Believers

When they die – spirits go directly to Heaven in the presence of the Lord and await the resurrection of their physical bodies

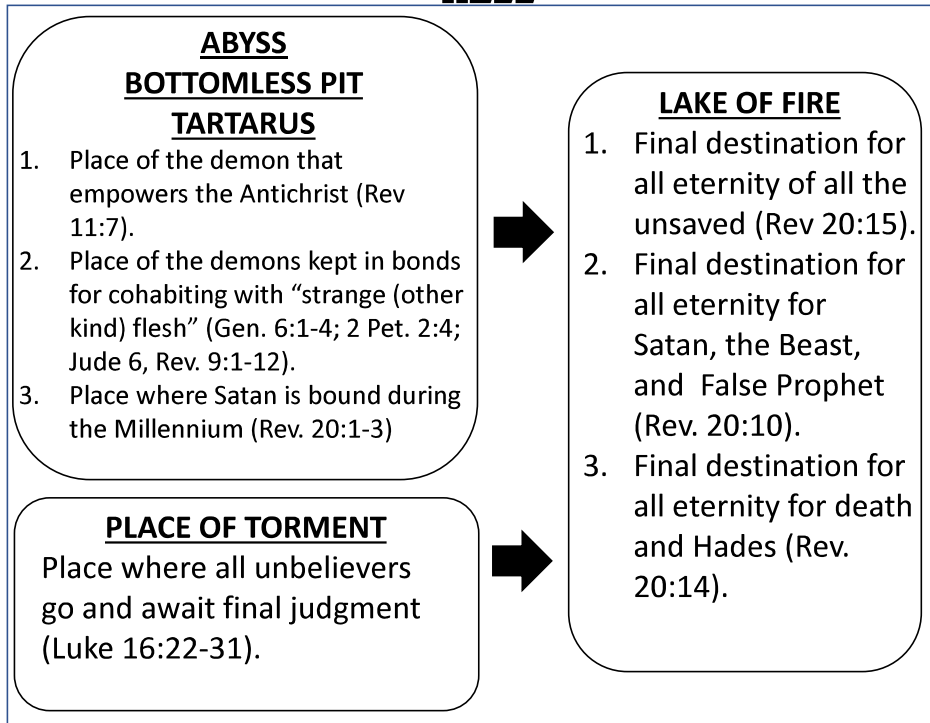
Ps. 16:11; Ps. 23:6, Job 19:25-27; Matt. 22:23-32, Dan.12:1,2

NT Believers

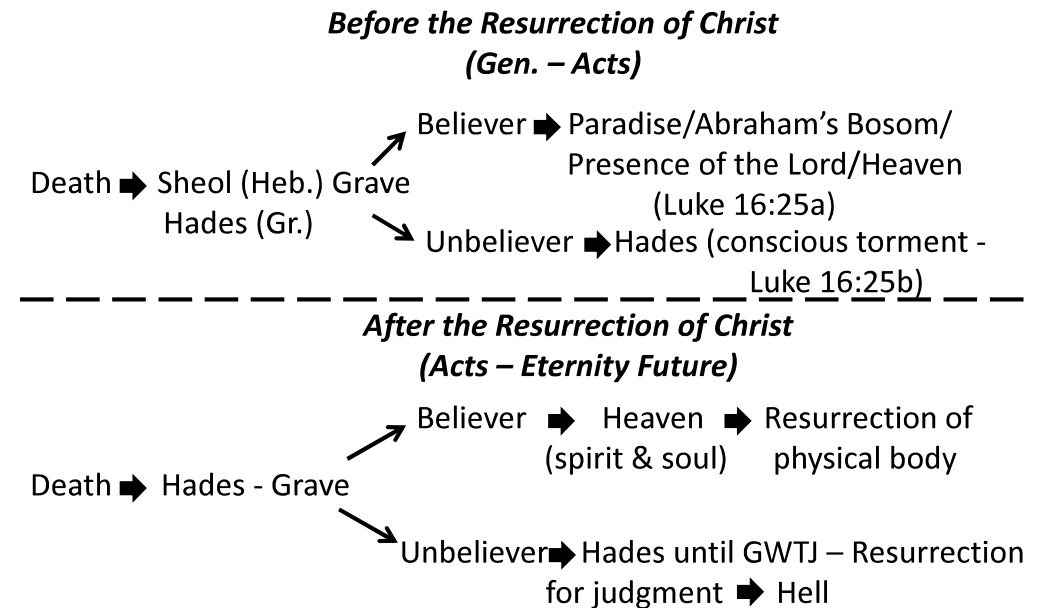
When they die – spirits go directly to Heaven in the presence of the Lord and await the resurrection of their physical bodies.

Phil. 1:23; 2 Cor. 5:1-8; 1 Cor 15

HELL



Where Do People Go When They Die?



?

We don't know who wrote this hymn —and that might be what the author intended. This is a story of a hymn of praise to Father, Son, and Holy Spirit that some might have considered subversive.

This hymn originally appeared in a small pamphlet in 1757 along with another hymn by Charles Wesley. That led some people to believe that Wesley wrote this hymn as well—but we have no evidence to that effect other than the hymn's appearance in that little pamphlet along with another Wesley hymn.

So why would anyone consider this hymn to be subversive? Perhaps because it appeared about fifteen years after another song was written—"God Save Our Gracious King"—the British national anthem. While the hymn is now sung to a tune quite different from the anthem, they were originally sung to the same tune. The hymn might well have been written to call Christians to a higher allegiance than allegiance to the British king.

During the Revolutionary War, British soldiers entered a Long Island church on a Sunday morning and ordered the congregation to sing, "God Save Our Gracious King." The congregation responded by singing this hymn instead—different words—a higher calling— sung to the same tune. The commander and the soldiers were so taken aback – so moved by such deep spirituality – so moved by this earnest prayer to God and its devotion to Christ as King – they marched out of the church without any further threats or intimidations.

So it is entirely possible that the person who wrote this hymn may have intended to remain anonymous to avoid prosecution for subversion. The name of this hymn is

COME, THOU ALMIGHTY KING

**1. Come, Thou almighty King,
Help us Thy name to sing, help us to
praise!**

**Father all glorious, o'er all victorious,
Come and reign over us, Ancient of
Days!**

**2. Jesus, our Lord, arise,
Scatter our enemies, and make them
fall;**

**Let Thine almighty aid our sure defense
be made,**

**Our souls on Thee be stayed; Lord,
hear our call.**

**3. Come, Thou incarnate Word,
Gird on Thy mighty sword, our prayer
attend!**

**Come, and Thy people bless, and give
Thy Word success,
Spirit of holiness, on us descend!**

**4. Come, holy Comforter,
Thy sacred witness bear in this glad
hour.**

**Thou who almighty art, now rule in
every heart,
And ne'er from us depart, Spirit of
power!**

**5. To Thee, great One in Three,
Eternal praises be, hence, evermore.
Thy sovereign majesty may we in glory
see,
And to eternity love and adore!**