

"Applying the Principles of Interpretation to the Book of Revelation"

Part 2

Feb. 9, 2020

Quiz

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Chapter	<u>Subjects</u>
1	2 witnesses
2	7 Trumpet Judgments
3	Satan (bound, freed, cast into Lake of Fire),GWTJ
4	Churches at Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira
5	Passing of the Scroll from Father to Son
6	The glory of Jesus Christ
7	The Harlot of Babylon – Religion
8	River and Tree of Life, Rewards, Warning
9	144,000 Jewish evangelists
10	Intro. to the 2 Beasts.
11	2 nd Coming, Marriage, FP & AC into Lake of Fire
12	7 Seal Judgments and the 4 horsemen
13	Churches at Sardis, Philadelphia, Laodicea
14	Elders and 4 Living Creatures around the throne
15	200,000,000 demon locusts/scorpions out of the Abyss
16	The City of Babylon – Political/Economic
17	New Heaven, New Earth, New Jerusalem
18	7 Bowl Judgments
19	Angel preaching the eternal gospel
20	Strong angel with foot on sea and foot on land with book
21	Satan evicted from heaven
22	Martyrs singing song of Moses

Quiz

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How did we interpret the Book of	Revelation?

Axiom – a statement universally accepted as true. An established principle or law that needs no proof because the truth is obvious.

5 Axioms of communication:

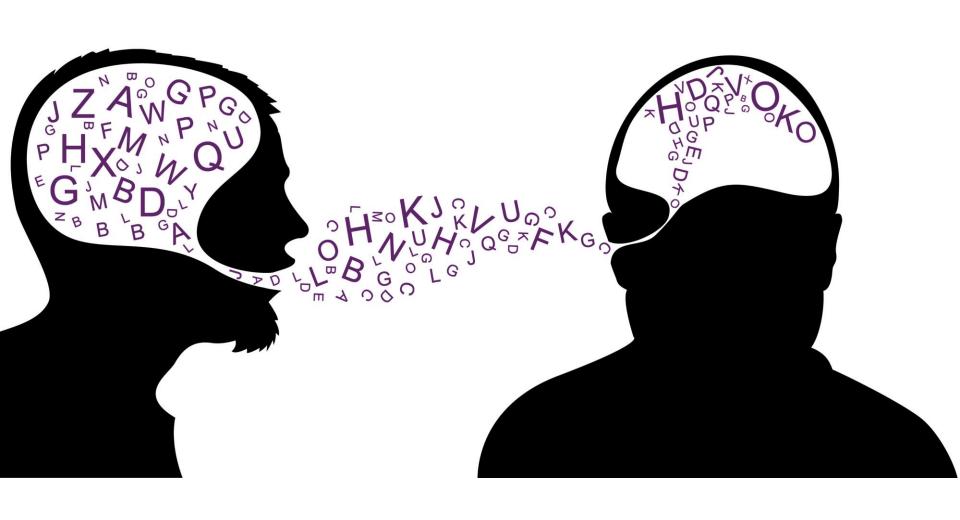
- 1. The purpose of speech is the impartation of thought.
- 2. The purpose of interpretation is to apprehend the exact thought of the author.
- 3. Words and language are reliable mediums of communication.
- 4. Usage determines the meaning of words. Therefore the meaning of a word depends on its association with other words.
- 5. By one expression one thought is conveyed, and only one.

United States Constitution. Article II Section 4...

"The President, Vice President and all civil Officers of the United States, shall be removed from Office on Impeachment on Impeachment for, and Conviction of, Treason, Bribery, or other high Crimes and Misdemeanors."

Book of Revelation. Chapter 20. Verse 6

"Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years."



To understand Scripture one must use one's brain.

It is not understood mystically.

" experientially.

" intuitively.

Scripture is understood with reason.

-like how you solve a math problem.

- " an engineering problem.

- " read a schematic diagram.

- " follow a road map.

- " diagnose an illness.

- " perform surgery.

- It is the same way you build a house.
- in the same way you process any information that's how the Bible is to be understood.

What someone thinks it means doesn't matter.

What someone would like it to mean doesn't matter.

The 6 Major Principles of Interpretation

I. The principle of LITERAL interpretation.

"Understanding the meaning of a sentence in its usual, ordinary, or normal way it is used in writing or conversation."

II. The principle of GRAMMATICAL interpretation.

"Paying close attention to the words of a sentence - meaning, order, syntax, parts of speech, action of the verbs, are all investigated to determine what is meant by what is said."

III. The principle of HISTORICAL interpretation.

"Studying the history of a particular setting in the Bible - a nation, race, country, kingdom, city, etc."

IV. The principle of CULTURAL interpretation.

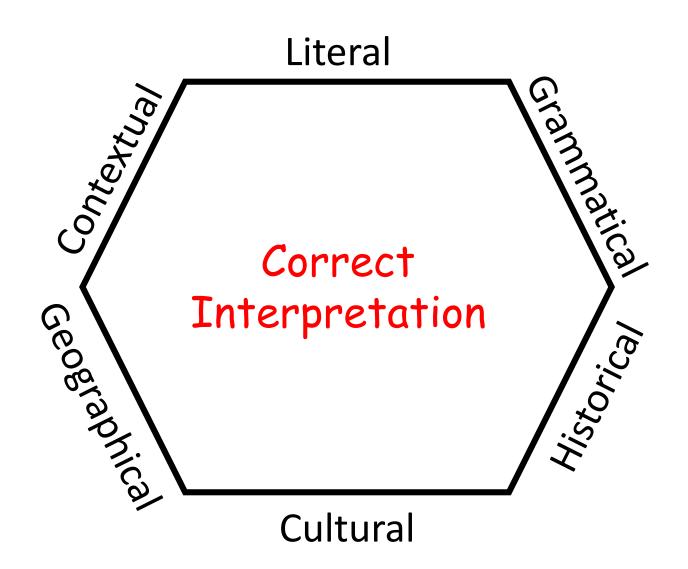
"Understanding the culture of the day in which the Bible was written - customs, traditions, dress, food, manners, entertainment, marriage, family, occupations, etc."

V. The principle of GEOGRAPHICAL interpretation.

"Studying atlases, maps, etc. to determine where a particular event or span of time took place - the climate, temperature, terrain, distance, etc."

VI. The principle of CONTEXTUAL interpretation.

"Paying close attention to the material surrounding a passage of Scripture, both before and after. Immediate, chapter, book, O.T. or N.T. all are a critical consideration as they will have great bearing on the meaning of a given word, sentence and/or passage."





2 Tim 2:15

Study to present yourself approved to God as a <u>workman</u> who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth.

I. The principle of LITERAL interpretation.

"Understanding the meaning of a sentence in its usual, ordinary, or normal way it is used in writing or conversation."

Were these prophecies in Zech. fulfilled literally or figuratively?

The Messiah will come humbly, riding on a donkey (9:9).

He will be hailed as a king (9:9).

He will be betrayed by a friend (13:6).

He will be betrayed for 30 pieces of silver (11:12).

The betrayal money will be used to purchase a potter's field (11:13).

The Messiah will be forsaken by His disciples (13:7).

The Messiah will be pierced (12:10 & 13:6).

II. The principle of GRAMMATICAL interpretation.

"Paying close attention to the words of a sentence - meaning, order, syntax, morphology, etymology, parts of speech, action of the verbs, are all investigated to determine what is meant by what is said."

- "strong angel"
 - Gabriel = strength of God
- "proclaiming" κηρυσσω to hearld (public crier), to shout, to announce loudly.
- "loud" $\mu\epsilon\gamma\alpha\sigma$ megas. mega gigantic, huge.

The angel wants his voice to penetrate every corner of the universe.

"worthy" – $\alpha \xi 10\sigma$ - axios – having weight

χρονοσ - sequential time - second, minute, hour, day, week, year. Calender time.

Καιροσ - seasons, eras, epochs. Large chunk of time.

παντοκρατωρ

"to have strength and might over all. One who has his hand on everything. One who has a firm grip."

It speaks of the great sovereign control of the Lord Jesus over everything – past, present, and future.

He is Almighty in sustaining His people, yet equally Almighty in judgment on His enemies.

"παρουσια" parousia "coming (22 X) or presence (2X)"

Matt 24:3

As He was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things happen, and what will be the sign of Your parousia, and of the end of the age?"

Mat 24:27

"For just as the lightning comes from the east and flashes even to the west, so will the *parousia* of the Son of Man be.

Mat 24:37

"For the parousia of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah.

Mat 24:39

and they did not understand until the flood came and took them all away; so will the *parousia* of the Son of Man be.

1Co 15:23

But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, after that those who are Christ's at His *parousia*,

1Co 16:17

I rejoice over the *parousia* of Stephanas and Fortunatus and Achaicus, because they have supplied what was lacking on your part.

"παρουσια" parousia "the coming of Christ"

2 Part Coming

Part 1

"Christ comes FOR His saints IN the clouds"



Part 2

Christ comes WITH His saints WITH the clouds"



- "immorality" π opv ϵ v ω to prostitute, practice prostitution or sexual immorality generally, but also used figuratively to denote the practice of idolatry.
- So the kings of the earth spiritually fornicate with her.
- They unite with her. They become one with her.
- They sell themselves out to her.
- They become "putty" in her hands.

- "abominations" βδελυγμα bdelugma something so vile that when it is brought before God it arouses his wrath. It includes all forms of idolatry anything that distracts from the worship of God.
- "unclean things" $\alpha\kappa\alpha\theta\alpha\rho\tau$ ov akatharton refers to filth. That which pollutes the mind and soul. It refers to the ideas, doctrines, philosophies of man-made religion.

αποχωριζω from απο which means "from," showing source, separation, departure," plus χωριζω which means "to separate, divide."

This compound verb means to tear apart, split or separate as when a huge curtain is separated or pulled back to reveal what lies behind it as in a theater.

III. The principle of HISTORICAL interpretation.

"Studying the history of a particular setting in the Bible - a nation, race, country, kingdom, city, etc."

Smyrna -

- Had a history of dying as a city but coming back to life.
- Population: 200,000.
- Very wealthy city.
- Emperor worship.
- Loyalty to Rome.
- Large Jewish population.

City of Laodicea

- 1. Founded in 261-253 BC by Antiochus II and named after his wife Laodice.
- 2. Laodicea means "people ruling."
- 3. It was the richest city of the 7 cities and maybe in the world at that time.
- 4. It had many buildings including a stadium, baths, temples, a gymnasium, theatres, and Senate House.
- 5. Laodicea became one of the most important and flourishing commercial centers of Asia Minor.

Center of Finance

Banking - large money transactions.

Center of Garment Manufacturing

Known for black wool – used for garments and carpets. Fashion center.

History of ancient Babylon.

- Βαβυλον Babylon is the Greek word.
- בבל Bab-el is the Hebrew word.
- Founded by Nimrod (2,300 B.C.) "to rebel".
- Babel represented rebellion against God.
- All idols of the world originate from Babylon.
- All false religious systems originate from Babylon.
- Nebuchadnezzar built the city for his glory (600 B.C.) -

Dan 4:30

- 30 "The king reflected and said, 'Is this not Babylon the great, which I myself have built as a royal residence by the might of my power and for the glory of my majesty?'
- Like "Hollywood" the name represents the world system as well as being the name of a particular city.

1 Peter 5:12-13

- 12 Through Silvanus, our faithful brother (for so I regard him), I have written to you briefly, exhorting and testifying that this is the true grace of God. Stand firm in it!
- 13 She who is in Babylon, chosen together with you, sends you greetings, and so does my son, Mark.
- Babylon is the fountainhead for all idolatry and pagan religious systems.

IV. The principle of CULTURAL interpretation.

"Understanding the culture of the day in which the Bible was written - customs, traditions, dress, food, manners, entertainment, marriage, family, occupations, etc."



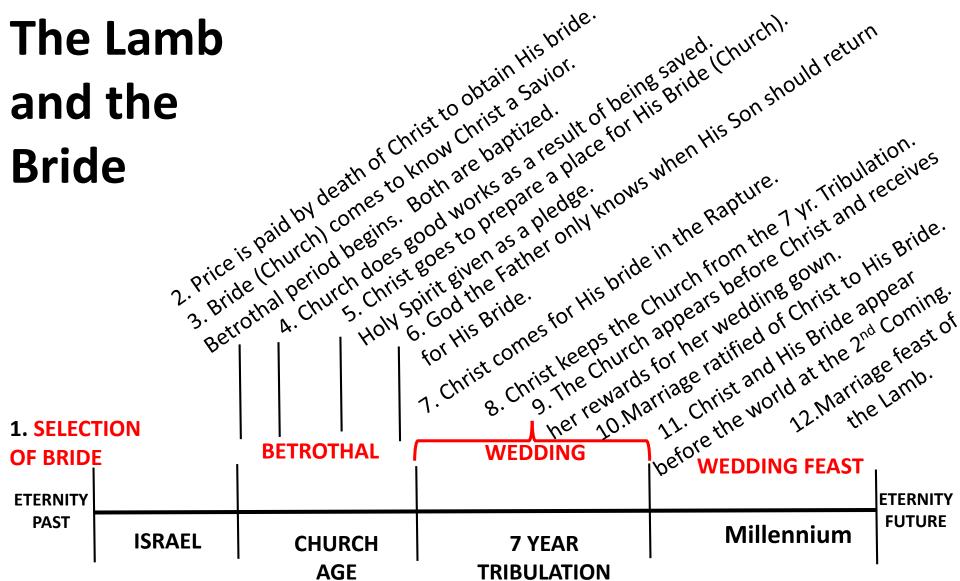
A scroll with seals.

- 1. Scrolls would be written on either sheets of papyrus or the skins of parchment that were sewn together. It would be smooth on one side and more rough on the other.
- 2. Scrolls with seals were used for all kinds of official documents: marriage-contracts, rental and lease agreements, release of slaves, contract-bills, bonds, real estate transactions and last will and testaments.
- 3. Seals were used to seal sections of the document. In general, the more seals, the greater the importance of the document.
- 4. As each seal was opened a section of the document could be read.
- 5. Each section of the document would usually require a signature of a witness and then it would be sealed.
- 6. A seven seal document would indicate a last will and testament and would involve the transfer of the title deed of a piece of property. Roman law required 7 seals on a will.
- 7. A typical will would contain a description of the person seeking title to the property, a description of the property itself, and a history of the property.

Trumpets were used at events of great importance:

- A trumpet announced the manifestation of God's presence upon Mount Sinai (Ex. 19:16; 20:18).
- The year of jubilee when all debts were forgiven was heralded by the blast of a trumpet (Lev. 25:9).
- The sounding of trumpets were used for the downfall of Jericho (Jos. 6:4-20).
- A trumpet will attend God's overthrow of the kingdoms of the earth (Ps. 45:7)
- A trumpet warns that the Day of the Lord is at hand (Joel 2:1).
- A trumpet signals the gathering of the Church at the Rapture (1Cor. 15:42; 1Th. 4:6)
- A trumpet gathers the elect prior to the Millennial Kingdom(Mat. 24:31).
- Trumpets attend significant events in the book of Revelation (Rev. 8:2+, 6+, 13+; 9:14+).

Jewish Weddings



V. The principle of GEOGRAPHICAL interpretation.

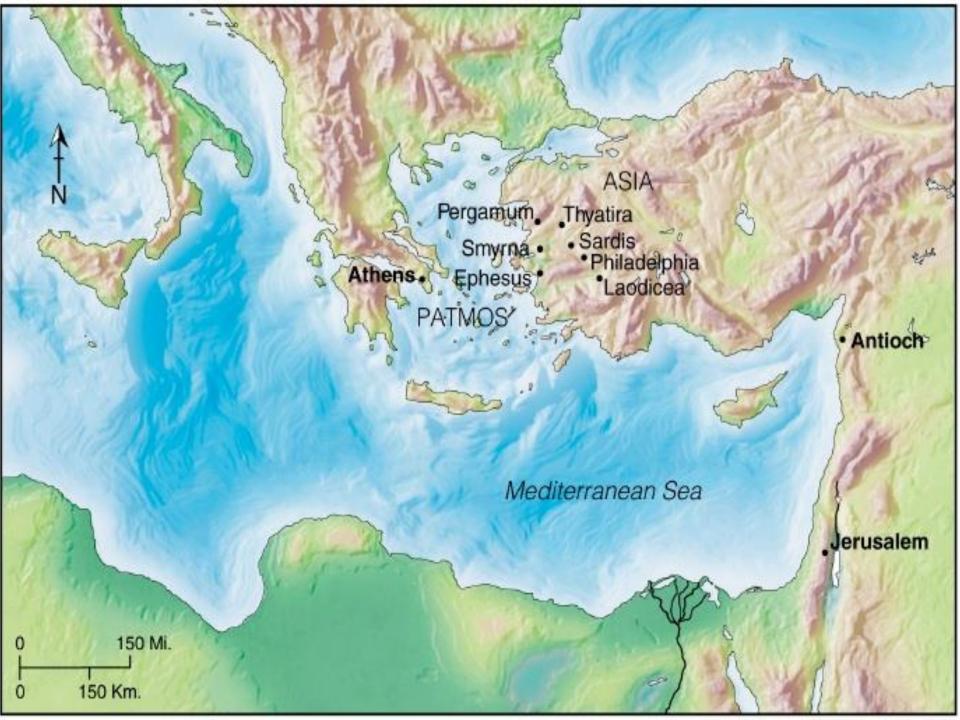
"Studying atlases, maps, etc. to determine where a particular event or span of time took place - the climate, temperature, terrain, distance, etc."

Island of Patmos

- 7.5 miles long X 6 miles wide.
- Rough terrain, rocky, hills.
- Moderate climate: Summer 85/74 Winter 58/49

Rainy season: Nov. – February

- Now has population of approx. 3,000.
- 2 sites dedicated to John:
 - 1. Monastery of St. John
 - 2. Cave of the Apocalypse



Seven Churches of Revelation

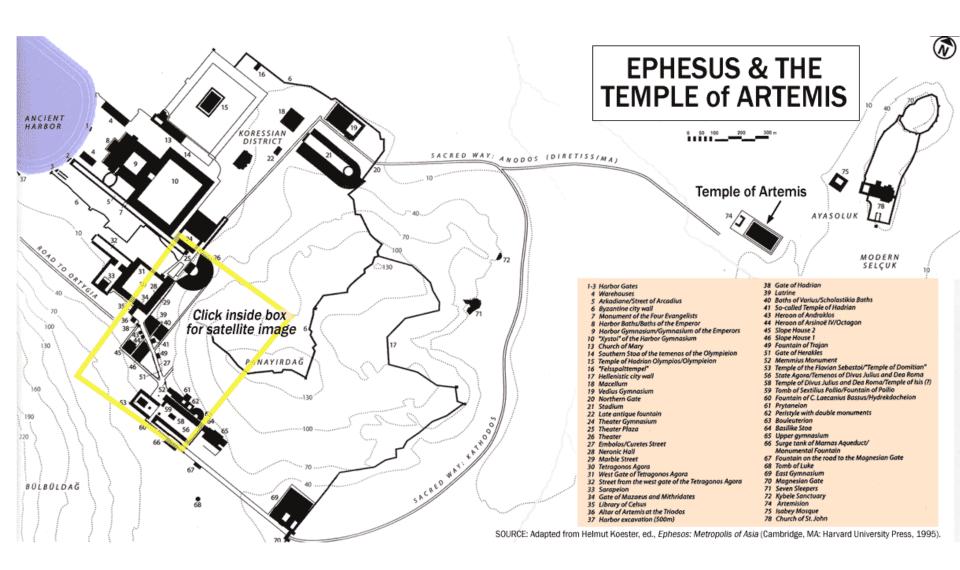
Chapters 2-3

- Ephesus
- Smyrna
- Pergamos
- Thyatira
- Sardis
- O Philadelphia
- Laodicea

Island of Patmos: where John received the vision



The City of Ephesus





VI. The principle of CONTEXTUAL interpretation.

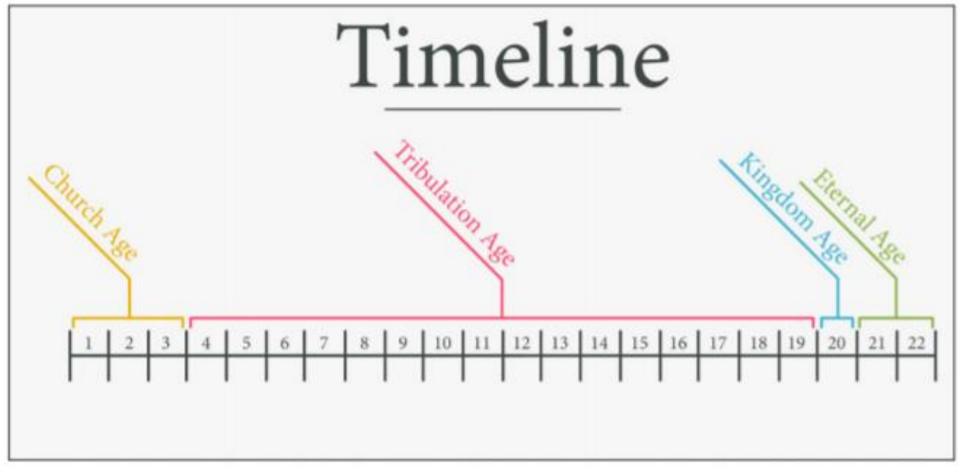
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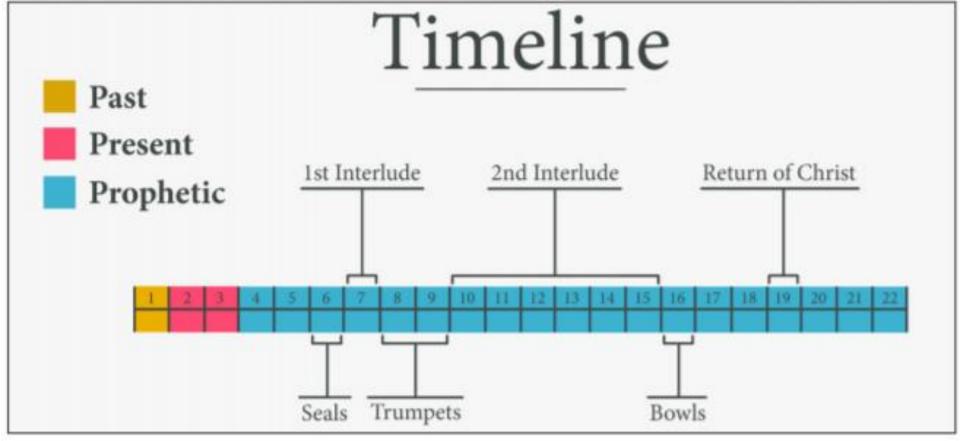


Rev 3:14-22

- 14 "To the angel of the church in Laodicea write:
- The Amen, the faithful and true Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God, says this:
- 15 'I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot; I wish that you were cold or hot.
- 16 'So because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of My mouth.
- 17 'Because you say, "I am rich, and have become wealthy, and have need of nothing," and you do not know that you are wretched and miserable and poor and blind and naked,
- 18 I advise you to buy from Me gold refined by fire so that you may become rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself, and that the shame of your nakedness will not be revealed; and eye salve to anoint your eyes so that you may see.
- 19 'Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline; therefore be zealous and repent.
- 20 'Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and will dine with him, and he with Me.
- 21 'He who overcomes, I will grant to him to sit down with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.
- 22 'He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'"

Book Context







Gen. 12:1-3	Dan. 2:44-45; 7:9-14	Matt. 24
Is. 9:6,7	Zech 12; 14:1-15	Matt. 25
Ezek. 36	2001 12, 14.1-10	Acts 1:7
Ezek. 37	Joel 3:1-17	
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Dan. 2	Haggai 2:6-9	
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Dan.9	Hab. 2:14	
Joel 2		
Zech. 12		

ABRAHAMIC COVENANT

Messiah.

- 1. Palastinic Covenant Land for Israel
- 2. Davidic Covenant Kingdom with a King in Israel forever (Eternal House, Eternal Throne, Eternal Kingdom, Eternal Descendant)
- 3. Mosaic Covenant
 Personal Plessing for Israel

 New Covenant
- National Salvation for Israel

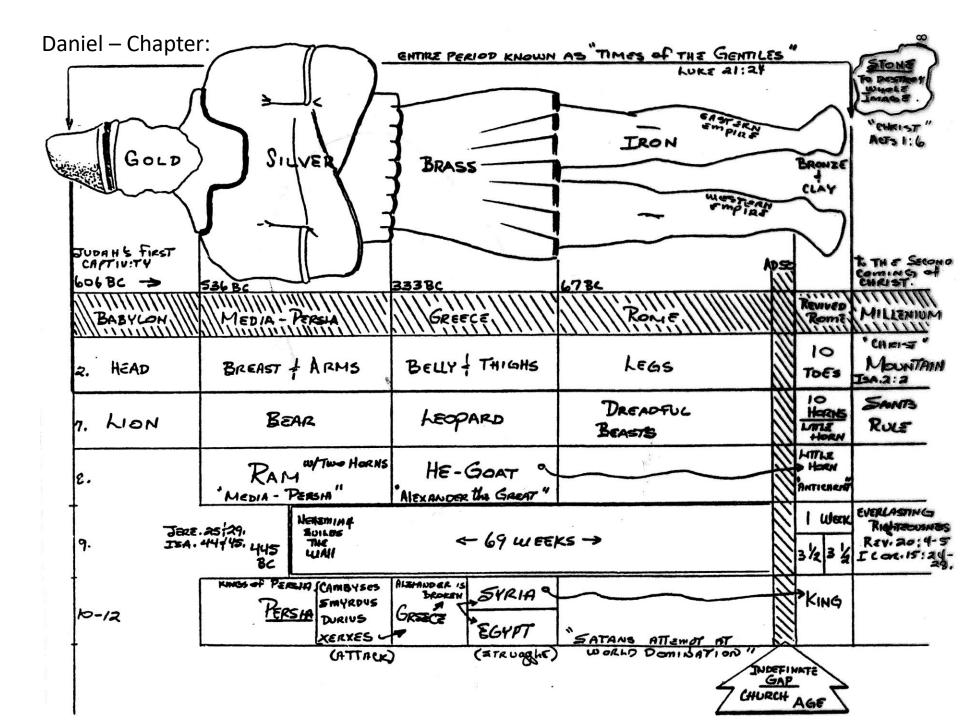
 4. Messianic Covenant Israel and Gentile nations would be blessed through the seed of Abraham which is the the

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Isa 9:6-7

- 6 For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us;
- And the government will rest on His shoulders;
- And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.
- 7 There will be no end to the increase of His government or of peace,
- On the throne of David and over his kingdom,
- To establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness
- From then on and forevermore.
- The zeal of the Lord of hosts will accomplish this.

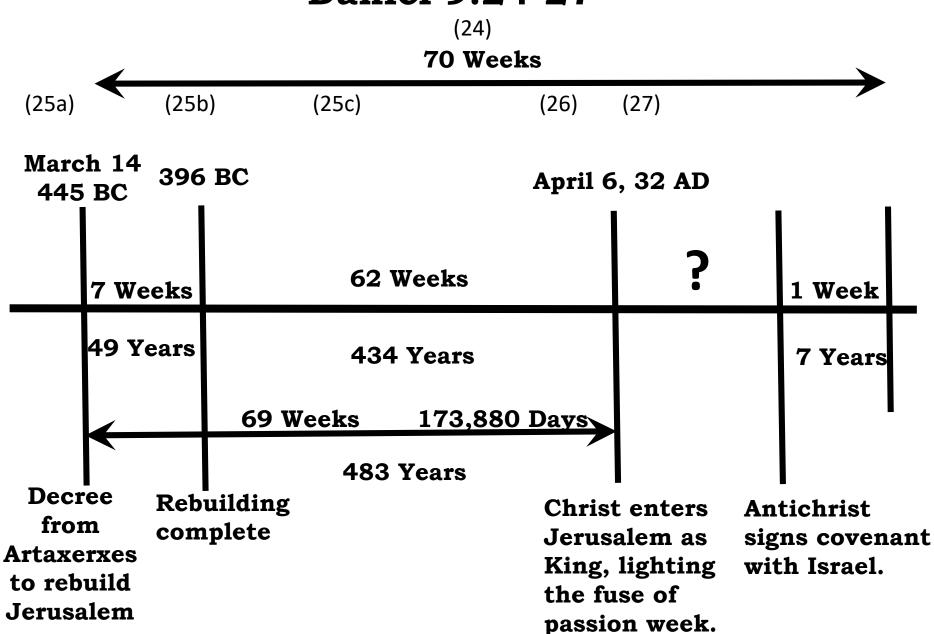
Gen. 12:1-3 Covenants Is. 9:6,7 Millennium Ezek. 36 Rest. of Israel Ezek. 37 " " Ezek. 38 1st War Gog Ezek. 39 " Ezek. 40 Mil. Temple Ezek. 41 " Ezek. 42 " Ezek. 44 " Ezek. 44 " Ezek. 45 Div. the Land Ezek. 46 " Ezek. 47 " Ezek. 48 " Dan. 2 Dan. 7	Dan. 2:44-45; 7:9-14 Zech 12; 14:1-15 Joel 3:1-17 Zeph. 3:8 Jer. 3:18; 14,15 Mal. 3:1-3; 4:1-6 Is. 2:2; 60-66 Joel 2:21-29 Zeph. 3:14-20 Micah 4:1-7 Haggai 2:6-9 Zech. 8:3,4; 14:16-21	Matt. 24 Matt. 25 Acts 1:7 Rom. 9 Rom. 10 Rom. 11 1 Thes. 4:13-17 1 Cor. 15:51-53 2 Thes. 2:1-11 1 Tim. 4:1-3 2 Tim. 3:1-4 2 Pet. 3:10
	Zech. 8:3,4; 14:16-21 Hab. 2:14	



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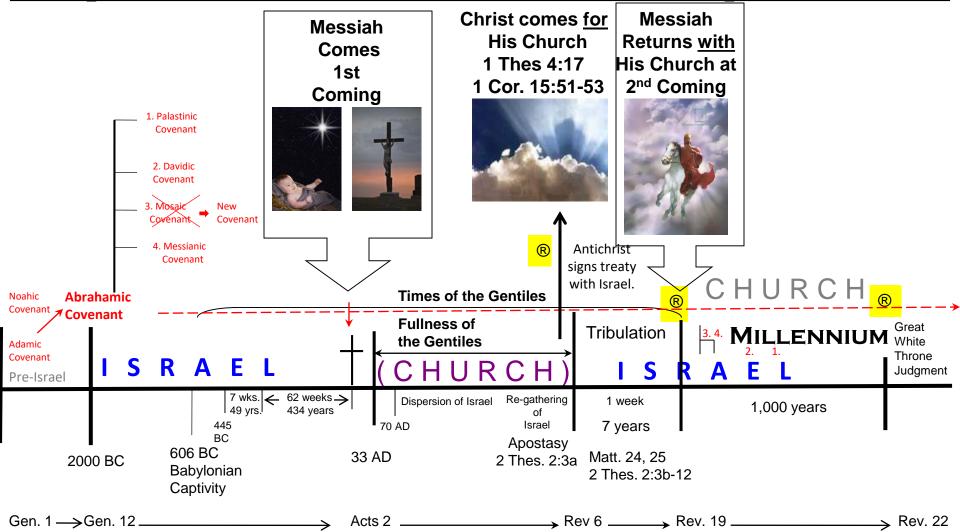
3. Daniel 9 Prophecy

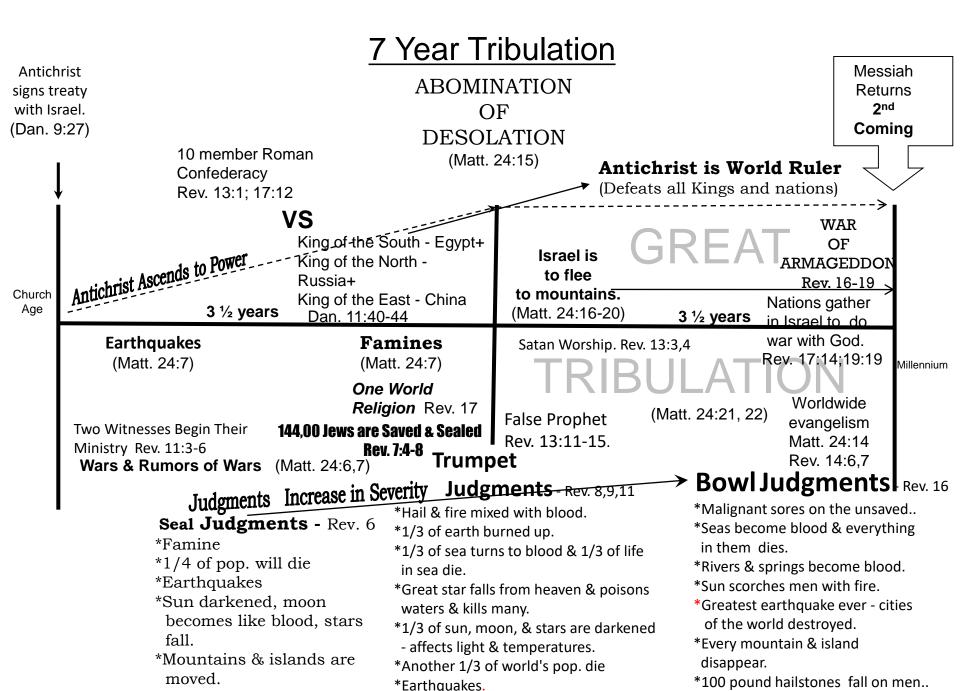




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Zech. 12 1 st war		

Comprehensive Biblical View of Future Prophetic Events

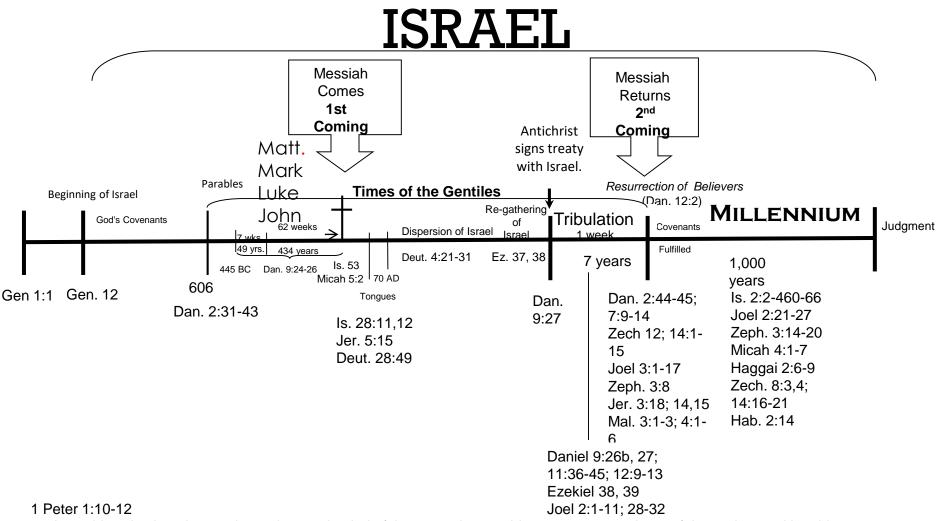




*Great hailstorm.

*Panic & Terror

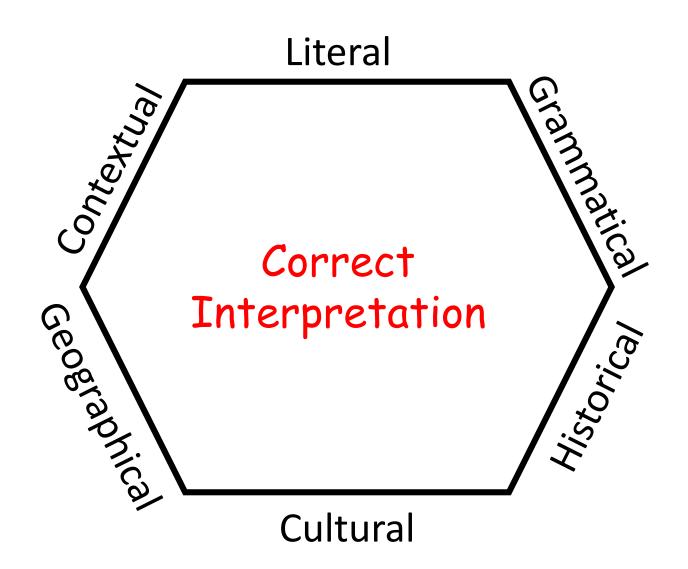
Old Testament View of Future Prophetic Events



- 10 As to this salvation, the prophets who prophesied of the grace that would come to you made careful searches and inquiries,
- 11 seeking to know what person or time the Spirit of Christ within them was indicating as He predicted the sufferings of Christ and the glories to follow.

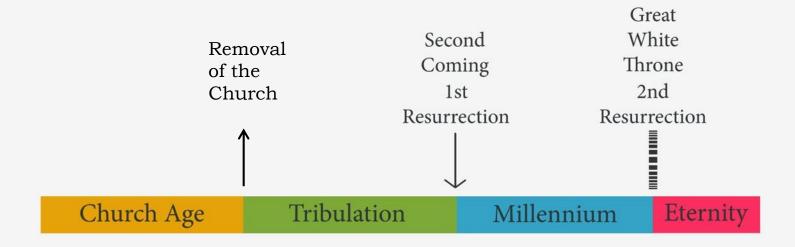
12 It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves, but you, in these things which now have been announced to you through those who preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven -- things into which angels long to look.

Don't take verses out of context.



Who is following the principles of interpretation when interpreting prophecy?

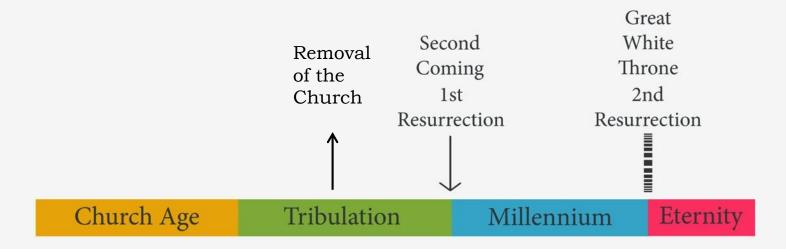
Pre-Tribulation Premillennialism



Pre-Trib/Pre-Mill

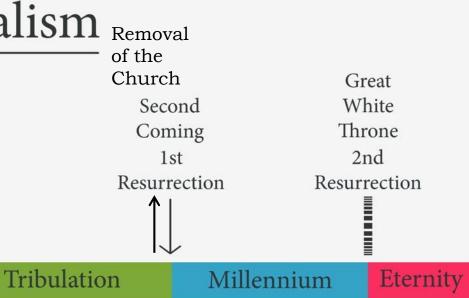
- 🗹 Literal
- Grammatical
- Mistorical
- 🗹 Cultural
- ✓ Geographical
- Contextual

Mid-Tribulation Premillennialism



Post Tribulation Premillennialism Removal

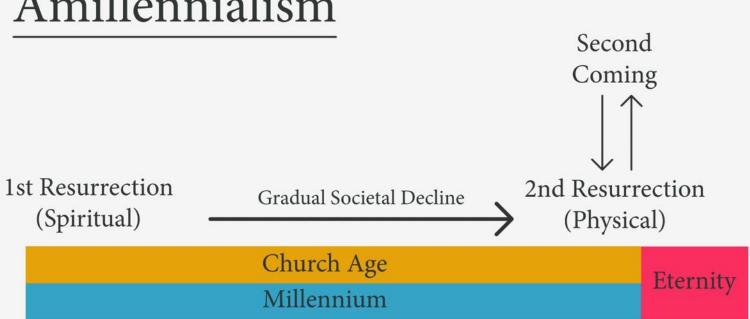
Church Age



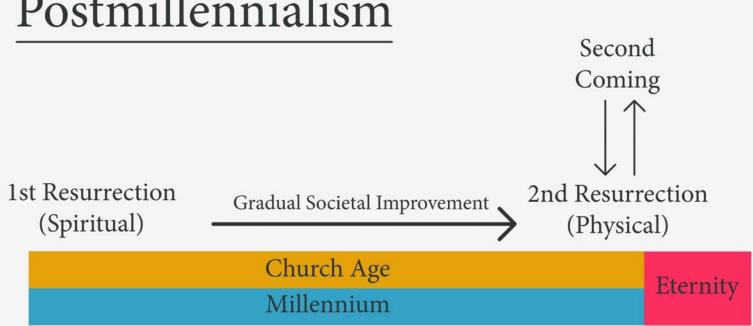
Mid-Trib and Post-Trib/Pre-Mill

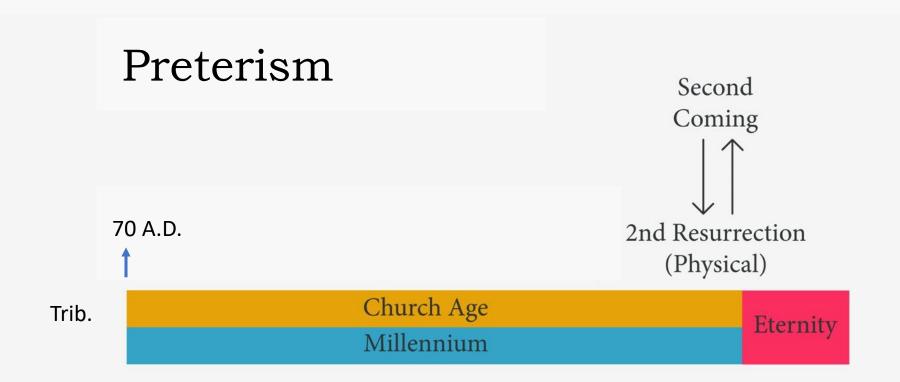
- 🗹 Literal
- ✓ Grammatical
- Historical
- Geographical
- Contextual

Amillennialism



Postmillennialism





Amill/Postmill/Preterist

- 🔲 Literal
- Grammatical
- Historical
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- Geographical
- Contextual