

Review Notes

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

Video Series

by

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Revelation of Jesus Christ

#1. Hope from Beyond the Stars

People are curious. They have a desire to explore the unknown world. They search for something that may satisfy their curiosity. People search for ways to improve their lives. They also want to gain knowledge for a better understanding of life. For years people have traveled and studied much to expand their knowledge of the world and space. The goal of many scientists is to search for any intelligent life in the universe. Scientists have spent billions of dollars for space exploration. Scientists hope to discover something that will improve our lives on earth. Interestingly, the Bible has already given information about our world and the universe long before discoveries by scientists. We need to look at God's word to understand how our lives fit in the whole universe.

- Job 22:12 God is in heaven. Heaven is farther than the farthest stars we can see.
- Jeremiah 33:22 We cannot count the stars because they are not possible to count. There are millions of galaxies in the universe, but each galaxy has about 200 billion stars. So, it is not possible for us to know how many stars there are in the universe that God created.
- Isaiah 40:26 God is the Creator of the universe. God knows everything about us.
- Colossians 1:17 Who holds the universe together? The answer is God. The universe was not started by an accident. God created it. Everything in the universe shows that Someone designed everything.
- Psalms 19:1-3 The heavens show that God is Maker of the heavens. Knowing that God creates us with love brings comfort to us as we live in this world.
- Job 22:21 God wants us to know Him so we can have peace in our life.
- Genesis 1:1 The Bible introduces us to God the Creator who began the world.
- Job 26:7 Our earth in space is controlled by the power of God.
- Job 12:10 Everything in the universe and on earth is in working order through the power of God. Everything in nature is perfectly balanced. Water is continuously recycled.
- Job 12:7-9 Nature teaches us that God is the Creator of everything in this world.
- 1 Peter 5:6 Our loving and caring God wants us not to worry about our lives. He wants us to give our worries to Him.
- Psalms 139:17, 18 God thinks of us personally. He cares about how we feel and think.
- Genesis 28:15 God promises us that He will be with us, protect us, and will not leave us.

You Can Live Through the Difficult Times in the Future If:

1. You are friends with God.
2. You know that God cares about you.

3. You put your life in His hands.
4. You discover His love in the Bible.

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2. Countdown to Eternity

- Isaiah 46:9, 10 Only God knows what has happened from the beginning of time until the end of time. God can also see accurately what will happen in the future.
- Daniel chapter 2 King Nebuchadnezzar, the Babylonian king, had a strange dream he couldn't remember. The king called for his advisors to tell him the dream and the meaning of the dream. The advisors were not able to tell the king the dream. The king demanded the advisors to tell him the dream and made a threat. Still, the advisors could not do it. They admitted that only God in heaven could tell the king his dream. The king was angry. The king believed the advisors were wise men who could give the right interpretation of many dreams he had in the past. Now the advisors could not give the interpretation to the king because they didn't know the description of the dream. King Nebuchadnezzar ordered that all the wise men be killed. A soldier found Daniel who was one of the wise men and also one of the Jewish captives trained by the king. Daniel intervened (offered his help) and promised the king that he would help the king. Daniel asked the king for some time so he and his friends could solve the problem. Then the king gave all the wise men another chance through Daniel. Daniel and his three friends prayed to God for help. That night Daniel had a dream. That dream was exactly the same as the king's dream. In the morning Daniel met the king and gave him the description and interpretation of the dream.
- Daniel 2:28 Daniel reminded the king that only God showed the secrets about the future to the prophets.
- Daniel 2:38 The Head of Gold represents Babylon. Babylon ruled from 605 B.C. to 539 B.C.
- Daniel 2:39 The Arms and Chest of Silver represents Medo-Persia. Medo-Persia ruled from 539 B.C. to 331 B.C.
- Isaiah 45:1 Cyrus, the leader of the Medo-Persian empire was named 150 years before his birth. He overthrew the Babylonian Empire.
- Daniel 2:39 The Thigh of Brass represents Greece. Greece ruled from 331 B.C. to 168 B.C. Alexander the Great led Greece against the Medo-Persian Empire and overthrew it in 168 B.C.
- Daniel 2:40 The Legs of Iron represents Rome. Rome ruled from 168 B.C. to 476 A.D.
- Daniel 2:41 The Feet of Partly Clay and Partly Iron represents today's Europe. Europe would not be politically and culturally united ever again despite human efforts. Below is the list of tribes that attacked and divided Rome. Those tribes became the countries found in Europe today.

Alamanni— — — — — Germans
Burgundian— — — — — Swiss
Franks— — — — — French
Lombards— — — — — Italians
Saxons— — — — — English
Suevi— — — — — Portuguese
Visigoths— — — — — Spanish
Heruli, Vandals, and Ostrogoths now gone.

Daniel 2:43 The Nations of Europe will never be united.

Daniel 2:45 The king's dream has come true according to the prophecy.

Daniel 2:44 The Rock that destroys the image represents God's kingdom when Jesus comes again.

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3. A World in Trouble

The Jews were proud of the temple in Jerusalem. It was one of the wonders of the world in human greatness. But, the disciples did not expect what Jesus would tell them. Jesus told the disciples the future of the temple and the signs of the end of time.

John 14:1-3		Jesus promises that He will come back again. His promise gives us hope in our troubled world. We are not stuck in this world forever because Jesus will come again to deliver us.
Luke 19:44		Jesus prophecies that the great Temple and Jerusalem would be destroyed by the Roman armies at 70 A.D.
Matthew 24:3		The disciples were surprised at Jesus' prediction and asked Him about the signs of the end of the world. Jesus outlines the signs of His Second Coming.
Matt. 24:5, 11, 24	Sign #1	False Christ's and False Prophets There is a great interest in psychic and occult.
Matthew 24:6, 7	Sign #2	International Conflict We have more death from wars than any wars of the past. The 20th century is the bloodiest of all.
Luke 21:25		People are discouraged about the continuing and worsening problems of wars and hatred.
Revelation 11:18	Sign #3	The potential (possibility) for world destruction Today, we have enough nuclear warheads and chemicals to destroy the whole world. Many people are worried about their future.
1 Thess. 5:3	Sign #4	Weak Peace Agreement Peace is more difficult to get than ever before.
Matthew 24:6, 7	Sign #5	Famine The world's crops are not able to feed the whole world because of less farming land and the population explosion.
Matthew 24:6, 7	Sign #6	Pestilences More new kinds of disease are appearing than ever before. We are not safe from any diseases even when medical technology has improved our lives.

Isaiah 51:6	Signs #7	Environmental Pollution Governments have passed strict pollution laws but pollution is still a big problem all over the world. The governments of the world are trying to save the world by passing the laws to reduce pollution. With more demand for cars, products, and pleasure, pollution still continues to hurt our environment.
Revelation 11:18		Scientists are saying that our earth is dying. The earth is dying because of a lot of pollution in air, water, and land. Pollution is damaging our sensitive environment.
Matthew 24:7	Signs #8	Earthquakes Each year the world has more than 6,000 major or big earthquakes.
Luke 21:11-25	Signs #9	Nature Goes Wild Natural disaster is increasing each year. It causes death, property damages and destruction.
Matthew 24:37-39	Sign #10	Moral Decay Morality is declining rapidly as we enter the 21st century. More people are following "situation ethnics" that are based on their feeling and philosophy. Actually, people are becoming more evil than ever before. Crime is increasing. Divorce is breaking up more homes and families than ever before.
Genesis 6:5, 6		Before the Flood people everywhere were doing wrong things. Doing something for pleasure and fighting among the people were popular. Today we are seeing the same things happening as was before the time of the Flood.
Genesis 6:11	Sign #11	Rising Crime and Violence
Matthew 24:12		More people are dying at home than at the battlefields.
2 Peter 3:3, 4	Sign #12	An Attitude of Skepticism (Unbelief in God)
2 Timothy 3:4	Sign #13	Lovers of Pleasure Many people are seeking pleasure and fun more than seeking God and His way.
James 5:1-5	Sign #14	Economic Uncertainty Our economy is not predictable and not trustworthy. It is in big trouble.

Matthew 24:14

Sign #15

The Gospel to the Whole World

More people are hearing the gospel story of Jesus more than ever before. Modern technology, Internet, etc. help take the gospel story around the world quickly. More countries are opening their doors to the gospel. More people are being baptized and more new churches are being built. That is one of the important signs of the soon coming of Jesus...

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4. Angel 911

Our country is having “angel fever” as many people show an interest in angels. Stores are selling angel figurines (look-like angels made of glass, etc). Stores are selling angel greeting cards, etc. because many people are interested in angels. The Bible shares with us the truth about the angels.

- Psalm 103:20, 21 We praise God for His angels who help us everyday. God created the angels.
- 2 Cor. 11:14 Some angels are evil angels. We must be careful because not all angels we meet or hear about are good angels. There was a heavenly battle for the throne of God many years before the creation of the earth.
- Ezekiel 28:12-14 Lucifer was a perfect angel created by God, but he turned against God later. The war began in heaven.
- Isaiah 14:13, 14 Lucifer thought that he was better than the Creator God. Pride caused him to lose his home in heaven.
- Revelation 12:7-9 There was war in heaven. The war was between God and His angels and Lucifer and his angels. Lucifer and his angels lost the battle. Lucifer became Satan and the devil.
- Luke 10:18 Satan was expelled from heaven and fell from heaven like lightning.
- Revelation 12:12 Now, Satan is very angry because he has a short time left before he and his angels will be destroyed. Satan is working harder than ever before to deceive the world.
- Genesis 1:28 God created the earth to be a happy home for human beings (people).
- Genesis 3:1-5 Satan was in the form of a serpent that deceived Eve. She sinned against God. Then the world became a sad place.
- John 8:44 Jesus clearly says that Satan is the father of all liars.
- Romans 6:16 Adam and Eve became “slaves” to Satan after they yielded to Satan’s temptation and lies. That means they obeyed Satan rather than God. Sin entered the world. Adam and Eve could not stay in the Garden of Eden. Adam and Eve could not eat from the Tree of Life. If sinners ate from the tree of life, sin and sinners would continue forever. We have all kinds of troubles in this world because of sin. People are wondering if God is causing trouble. The truth is that the devil has been the cause of all the trouble.
- Matthew 13:27, 28 God started good things, but the devil brought trouble to us.

- Jeremiah 31:3 God did not immediately destroy the earth because He loves us with an everlasting love. God had a plan of salvation or rescue for the people in the world.
- Luke 19:10 God sent the Savior, Jesus Christ, to the earth to save the world.
- John 3:17 God did not send His Son to condemn the world but to save the world.
- Hebrews 2:14 Jesus Christ volunteered to come to the world of sin as a man so that He can destroy sin.
- Isaiah 29:15 Jesus' death on the cross is the proof of God's everlasting love for us.
- Matthew 28:2, 3, 6 Jesus rose again to live forever after His terrible suffering and death. That proves we will have a world without sin and death.
- Ephesians 6:12 We are not fighting against human beings. We are fighting against the spiritual darkness or evil beings.
- Rev. 19:11, 14, 16 Jesus will come again to deliver the saved people from this world. He will come as a King leading the army of angels to rescue us.

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5. How to Find Personal Peace

Many people are looking for happiness through wealth, fame, beauty, etc. But when people get what they have been looking for (wealth, fame, beauty, etc.), they continue to not be happy. People are continuing to look for something that will never give them lasting happiness and peace. They have been looking in the wrong places. We can receive true happiness only through Jesus Christ as shown in the Bible.

Genesis God's plan for the world is happiness, health, and eternal life. God's plan was spoiled by sin when Adam and Eve disobeyed God. Adam and Eve accepted Satan's lie in the Garden of Eden. Adam and Eve had to leave the garden home and make their home in the world of sin. Unhappiness, sickness, and loss of eternal life began. Our world is in rebellion.

Isaiah 59:2 Sin separates us from God. God never separates Himself from us. We make the choice to separate ourselves from God. Sin brings: fear, worry, guilt, empty feelings, loneliness and no security at all.

Broken Relationship

Genesis 3:8 With God
Genesis 3:12 With each other
Genesis 3:17 With the world

Romans 6:23 The punishment for sin is death.

Genesis 3:15 God promises a Savior to bring us back to God.

John 1:29 Jesus is the Lamb of God. Lambs sacrificed, then burnt on the altar in the Old Testament times were a symbol of Jesus dying on the cross.

Revelation 1:5 The book of Revelation is the book about the Lamb of God who is Jesus
Revelation 5:12 Christ.
Revelation 12:11
Revelation 13:8
Revelation 14:6
Revelation 19:9, 13
Revelation 22:17

2 Corinthians 5:21 Jesus Christ had no sin. Jesus became sin for us so that we could become right with God.

Ephesians 2:8,9 We are saved by grace through having faith in Christ Jesus. Grace is God's free gift to us.

Steps to Find Peace of Mind

- Romans 3:23 1. Accept the fact that we are a sinner. As a sinner we need Jesus Christ for our salvation.
- Acts 16:31 2. Believe that Jesus Christ is our substitute. He died for us.
- 1 John 1:9 3. Confess our sins to Jesus Christ. Jesus forgives us and will cleanse us.
- Revelation 3:20 4. Decide to follow Jesus Christ.
- 1 John 5:12, 13 People who believe in Jesus will have eternal life.
- Romans 6:23 Without Jesus, our punishment is death because of sin. In John 3:16 God gives us the gift of eternal life. Praise His Name!

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6. Jesus in Bible Prophecy

Archaeologist Yigael Yadin made an amazing discovery in the spring of 1960. He found a bass relief with a story on the stone about Bar Kokba. Bar Kokba was a Jewish hero who claimed to be the Messiah. Actually, he was a false Messiah who failed to remove the Roman power from Israel. The Bible clearly shows that Jesus Christ is the true Messiah.

Matt. 24:5, 11, 24 There were and will be many False prophets and False Messiahs

Revelation's Two Leaders

Revelation 14:4 The Lamb - Jesus Christ

Revelation 13:3 The Beast - Satan and his followers

John 6:38 Jesus came to the earth to do His Father's will. Jesus did not come to the earth to do His own way.

John 5:39 The Bible speaks about Jesus Christ. We will look at five areas of prophecies of Jesus Christ in the Old Testament. These Old Testament prophecies were fulfilled by Jesus Christ Himself in the New Testament.

1. Place of His Birth
2. Manner of His Birth
3. His Identity
4. His Betrayal
5. Manner of His Death

1. Place of His Birth

Micah 5:2 The Messiah was born in Bethlehem instead of Nazareth where Joseph and Mary had lived.

2. Manner of His Birth

Isaiah 7:14 The Messiah would be born of a virgin. It is called incarnation.

Luke 1:28-31 Mary was honored to give birth to the Savior of the world.

Numbers 24:17 The Messiah would be born in Judah or the nation of Israel.

3. His Identity

Isaiah 61:1, 2 Jesus identifies Himself with this prophecy. Jesus did the works of compassion such as healing, forgiving, and raising the dead.

4. His Betrayal

- Psalm 41:9 One of Jesus' disciples would betray Him.
- Zech. 11:12, 13 Prophecy is perfect about the amount, the result, and the place.
- Matthew 27:5, 7 This text shows the fulfillment of the prophecy of Zechariah.

5. Manner of His Death

- Isaiah 50:6 Jesus was beaten by the soldiers.
- Psalm 22:16 In King David's time the cross was not invented or used as a form of execution. The cross was used only during the Roman times. Jesus was crucified as prophesied.
- Zechariah 12:10 This prophecy was made about 500 years before Jesus' crucifixion.
- Psalm 22:18 Jesus' garment was divided and the solidiers gambled for His clothing.
- John 19:23, 24 The fulfillment of Psalm 22:18
- Psalm 34:20 This is the prophecy of the Messiah on the cross with no broken bones.
- John 19:32, 33 The fulfillment of the prophecy of Psalm 34:20.
- John 11:25 Jesus was resurrected and now lives forever.

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7. The Truth of the End Time

On October 31, 1938 many Americans were scared by a fake radio story. The radio program talked about an invasion by the Martians. People, rich and poor, were easily deceived by the radio program. For years people have believed in various false prophets who said they know the future about the end of the world. Their predictions have been proven wrong. We can easily be fooled by someone who claims to know the future. The Bible shows the truth of the End Time. We do not have to be deceived in the last days.

Nostradamus was a 16th century astrologer who predicted that 2/3 of the world would be destroyed by a plague before the year 2000.

Edgar Cayce predicted that the areas near the polar regions (North and South Pole) would melt and there would be great flooding. The tropical or warmer areas would become colder. Mr. Cayce said it was to happen before the year 2000.

The New Agers didn't talk about the destruction of the world. Instead, they predicted that there would be an age of love and peace in 2000.

Nobody was right. Who should we believe?

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|--------------------|---|
| Revelation 16:14 | Satan is a deceiver. He is in this world to deceive people. He uses signs and miracles to fool people. |
| Revelation 12:12 | Satan is angry because he has a short time left to live. So, he is doing his best to deceive the world before Jesus' Second Coming. |
| Matt. 24:5, 24, 26 | Jesus warns us that there will be false Christs who will try to deceive the world. |
| John 14:1-3 | Jesus promises to return to the earth to take us to heaven. |

Truth about Christ's Coming

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|---|--|
| Titus 2:13 | 1. Christ's coming is a literal (real) event. |
| Acts 1:11 | 2. Christ's coming is a personal event. |
| Revelation 1:7
Matthew 24:30 | 3. Christ's coming is a visible event |
| Rev. 16:18, 20
1 Thess. 4:16, 17
1 Cor. 15:52, 53 | 4. Christ's coming is an audible (can be heard) event. |

Someone may say, "Christ's coming as a thief means He will come in

secret. No one will know if He has come or not.” This does not talk about how Jesus comes, but when He comes. Christ’s coming is unexpected. The coming of Jesus is a surprise to people who are not prepared.

Luke 17:27-37 What about two in the field, one taken and one left behind?

Rev. 6:17, 15, 16 The Bible does not teach that those left behind are left alive.

2 Thess. 1:7, 8 The wicked are destroyed with the brightness of His coming.
Isaiah 25:9

Matthew 24:30, 27 5. Christ’s coming is a glorious event.

Rev. 19:11-15 6. Christ’s coming is a climatic or great event.

Jude 14, 15 7. Christ’s coming is a decisive or final event
Matthew 13:49

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8. The Beginning of the End

The world's court system is not perfect. Sometimes bad people do not go to jail while innocent people suffer in jail or face many problems. But there is good news! There is an eternally perfect judgment. We can trust in God who judges the world perfectly.

- Revelation 14:7 God warns us that we are in the time of judgment. We need to be ready for God today.
- Rev. 14:14-16
Revelation 22:12 The judgment of the world happens before Jesus' Second Coming.
- 2 Corinthians 5:10 The judgment is important to us. God will reward us according to what we have done, whether good or bad.
- Daniel 12:4 The book of Daniel shows us about God's judgment.
- Daniel 7:10 The judgment is held in heaven where God is the Judge.
- Daniel 8:14 The judgment begins when the sanctuary is cleansed. Israel was judged when the sanctuary was cleansed. Israel's judgment was symbolic of the final judgment and cleansing of the sanctuary in the last days.
- Daniel 8:17 The angel, Gabriel, clearly shows that the judgment is for the time of the end.
- Ezekiel 4:6
Numbers 14:34 Prophetic key: In Bible prophecy one prophetic day equals one literal (real) year.
- Daniel 8:27 Daniel was concerned about this vision. He didn't understand the meaning of the vision.
- Daniel 9:21, 22 Daniel failed to understand the vision. Later, Gabriel came to explain the meaning of the vision.

When Do These 2,300 Years Begin and End?

- Daniel 9:24 "Determined" means "cut off" or "separated from"
Daniel's "people" means the Jews
"70 weeks are determined upon your people"
 $70 \times 7 = 490$ years
- Daniel 9:25 $69 \text{ Weeks} \times 7 = 483 \text{ Years}$
From the time the law was decreed to rebuild Jerusalem to the anointing of the Messiah would be 69 prophetic weeks or 483 years. The word, "Messiah" means the "anointed one."

Ezra 7:13 The law to restore and rebuild Jerusalem was given in 457 B.C.

Luke 3:1, 21 This text shows when Jesus was baptized at 27 A.D.

Luke 3:22 Jesus was anointed by the Holy Spirit at his baptism.

Mark 1:15 Jesus talks about the time which is related to His baptism according to the prophecy.

Daniel 9:26, 27 This text shows that Jesus would die in the middle of the week.

Mark 15:38 In the middle of the week Jesus Christ, the Messiah, would cause the sacrifice to stop. According to the prophecies of Daniel, God's covenant with the Jews would end in 34 AD. The 70 weeks end when:

1. Stephen died as the first Christian martyr.
2. The Jewish leaders rejected the gospel.
3. The Gospel to the Gentiles began.

Daniel 8:14
Revelation 14:7 Since the year 1844 we have been living in what the Bible calls, "God's judgment hour."

Hebrews 9:24 Jesus Christ is our High Priest in the heavenly sanctuary.



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9. How to Pass the Judgment

The famous trial of O.J. Simpson was called “the trial of the century.” It was the most watched trial in America’s history. Interestingly, the verdict of not guilty caused strong reactions. The strong reactions were from two groups of people — happy people and sad people — but all were disgusted. The trial was not a perfect trial. Many other trials in the world are not perfect either. Many people are not too happy with the judgments given at the trials, but have to live with it. The Bible tells us about another judgment that is far more famous than any earthly trials.

- Rev. 14:6, 7 There is a trial that is much greater than the trial of the century. It is
Daniel 7:13, 9, 10 called the trial of the ages. The God in heaven judges the world. It is a perfect judgment.
- Daniel 8:14 According to this text, we are in the time of the judgment. The judgment began in 1844 or at the end of the 2300 year period. This shows that we are close to the end of the world.
- Acts 17:31 God has appointed a day to judge the world. Why does God need a judgment when He already knows everything? The following texts will show the reasons for the judgment.
- Isaiah 14:12-14 Lucifer, the angelic leader, claimed that God was unfair and wrong. But the heavenly records have shown that God is just and good.
- Romans 14:12 We all are judged for the choice we have made in this world.
Ecclesiastes 11:9
- Ecclesiastes 12:14 God judges us by everything we do and think.
- Hebrews 4:13 We cannot hide from God. God is able to read our thoughts and
Ps. 139:1-3, 16 see our actions.
- Matthew 12:36, 37 We are judged by the words we speak, too.
- Malachi 3:16 A book of remembrance is written of our good deeds done to other
Psalm 56:8 people.
- Revelation 21:27 The Book of Life records those who will be saved.
- Revelation 22:11 There will be two classes of people at the end of the world.
- Psalm 69:28 The wicked will not have their names written in the Book of Life.
- Revelation 3:5 God’s people will have their names on the Book of Life. They have the righteousness of Christ.

Isaiah 64:6 Romans 3:10	No one is good or righteous. All are sinners.
John 5:24	We have eternal life when we truly believe and accept Jesus Christ as our Savior and Lord.
Hebrews 7:25 1 John 2:1	Jesus is our Advocate (Lawyer). As our lawyer, Jesus pleads for us.
Revelation 22:12	When Jesus comes again, He will bring a reward to everyone according to their past behavior.

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10. Why So Much Crime?

Today, some people are saying that the Ten Commandments control us too much. These people say the Ten Commandments are old fashioned and out-of-date. This idea makes our society become more lawless than ever before. Crime is increasing rapidly. Some people say that God's laws are not always right. Some people feel that something is wrong with God's laws. Many people have their different views or ideas on what is right and what is wrong. These new ideas are causing some people to be confused about what is right or wrong.

- Proverbs 28:26 God says that people who trust themselves more than God are fools.
- Hosea 8:7 If we teach wrong ideas, we end up with a lot of problems.
- Psalm 111:7,8
Psalm 19:7 God's ten rules are perfect and trustworthy. God's ten laws have never changed. There are about 35 million laws to control our behavior. God has given us just 10 laws. The principles of God's laws are eternal. God's Ten Commandments law is the basis or what rules the heavenly government.
- Rev. 12:7 Lucifer, the head angel in heaven claimed that God's law was wrong. Then there was a war in heaven. Lucifer (Satan) and his angels were kicked out from heaven. Satan then tricked Eve to believe that God was not fair to them. Eve believed Satan. Rebellion, then, came to the earth. Satan's lie continues to influence people. Cain killed his brother as a result.
- Genesis 4:6, 7
Romans 4:15
1 John 3:4 Adam and Eve already knew the principles of God's laws. Sin is the breaking of God's laws.
- Genesis 26:5 Abraham obeyed God's law many years before Moses. Moses helped establish the Jewish nation. In the Old Testament God's law was the standard between right and wrong.
- Matthew 5:17, 18 In the New Testament Jesus kept the law. Jesus supported or agreed with God's law through His own life. He is our example.
- Isaiah 42:21 Isaiah prophesied that Jesus would come to teach people how to follow God's law. Jesus would support God's law. Jesus did fulfill that prophecy. At the cross the ceremonial system of sacrifice or laws came to an end. These laws pointed to Jesus' death. At His death they were finished. The end of the ceremonial law was not the end of God's law, the Ten Commandments.
- 2 Corinthians 12:9 God promises us the power to obey God's law. Jesus always leads us to obedience.

John 14:15	Jesus commands us to keep His commandments.
John 15:10	Evangelist Billy Graham teaches that Ten Commandments are not out-of-date.
1 John 5:3	If we love God, we will obey His commandments.
Matthew 22:37-40	Two great commandments are the Ten Commandments. Love always leads to obedience, never to disobedience.
Ephesians 2:8,9	We are not saved by obeying the law. Salvation or being saved is a gift from God. Grace always leads to obedience, never to disobedience.
Romans 6:14, 15	“Under the law” does not mean that we no longer need to obey the law of God. “Under the law” means to do something as a way of salvation. This means trying to earn our way to heaven. This is wrong.
Romans 3:19, 20	The law is the knowledge of sin. To be under grace means to accept God’s grace as a way of salvation. By faith I accept Christ’s death in place of my sins.
Romans 3:31	Faith does not end God’s law.
1 John 2:4	To know God is to love God. A person who loves God will keep His commandments and have faith in Jesus Christ.
Revelation 14:12	Christ’s love leads us to serve and love Him.

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11. The Bible's Answer for Stress

Stress is a big problem in the world today. Many people are busier than ever before. Many people have no experience of true peace and relaxation. But, God already has a special place where rest from the stress can be found.

- Revelation 14:6, 7 The call to worship God who created the heaven and the earth. What is the basis for worship? Why do we worship God?
- Revelation 4:11 We worship God because He is the Creator. God created us. Our life depends on God's power.
- Col. 1:16, 17 Jesus Christ is the Creator.
What is the sign of God's creative authority? Has God given us a symbol of His creative power? Deep within the heart of God's law there is a symbol of God's authority. It is the seventh-day Sabbath commandment.
- Exodus 20:8-11 The fourth commandment "Remember the Sabbath to keep it holy . . ." tells us that God is the Creator who created the heavens and the earth.
- Mark 2:27 The Sabbath was made for people, not for Jews only. The Sabbath is God's love gift to the entire human race.
- Genesis 1:1-31 The description of the creation week that ends with the Sabbath rest.
- Genesis 1:26, 27 God created man and woman in His image.
- Genesis 2:1-3 At the end of the sixth day of creation, God had finished His work. He established the seventh-day as the day of rest. God blessed and sanctified the seventh-day on which He rested.
- Proverbs 14:12 Many people believe that it is not important to rest on the seventh-day.
- Exodus 16:26, 28 God taught the Israelites to keep the Sabbath before He gave the Ten Commandments.
- Ezekiel 20:12 The keeping of the Sabbath is a sign of the relationship between God and His people.
- Matthew 5:17 Jesus emphasized that He did not come to destroy God's law. He came to support the law.
- Luke 4:16 Jesus kept the Sabbath all of His life.
- John 14:15 Keeping the Sabbath is a sign of our love for God.

Matthew 24:20 Jesus commanded His people not to escape from Jerusalem on the Sabbath. Forty years after His ascension (Jesus going back to heaven) God's people still kept the Sabbath. They escaped from Jerusalem during the siege on the other days of the week. Jerusalem was destroyed by Roman soldiers.

Acts 13:14, 42, 43 The New Testament church kept the Bible Sabbath. The disciples
Acts 16:13 loved Jesus enough to obey Him.
Acts 18:4

Revelation 14:12 Revelation, the Bible's last book, calls us to keep the Sabbath.

Isaiah 66:22, 23 In the new earth, God's people will worship God on the seventh-day Sabbath.

Can we really be sure which day is the "seventh-day" ? Yes.

Luke 23:54-56 The disciples prepared for the Sabbath day. They also rested on the Sabbath according to the commandment.

Luke 24:1 On the first day of the week the disciples started to work by going to the tomb with spices and oils. They didn't know that Jesus had been resurrected that morning.

Preparation Day - Friday
Sabbath Day - Saturday
First Day – Sunday

Astronomy or, a study of the stars, has proven that the weekly cycle has never been changed or interrupted.

Daniel 7:25 Some have tried to confuse the world about God's law and the Sabbath.

Revelation 1:10 Jesus is the Lord of the Sabbath.
Matthew 12:8
Mark 2:28
Luke 6:5

In over 105 languages in the world the word for the seventh-day of the week is "Sabbath."

Revelation of Jesus Christ

12. The Greatest Cover-Up in History

Is it true that most Christian churches are guarding an old tradition that is not found in the Bible?

- Mark 7:9 Jesus points out that people tend to reject God's commandments so they can keep man-made traditions.
- 2 Timothy 2:15 We need to study the Bible to make sure that we are obeying God. It is important for us to know what the Bible teaches so we will do what God approves.
- Genesis 2:2, 3 God established or made the seventh-day Sabbath at the creation week.
- Exodus 20:8-11 This commandment is based on the creation week when God established the seventh-day as the Sabbath.
- Ezekiel 20:12 Keeping the Sabbath is the sign of the relationship, bond or friendship between God and His people.
- Mark 2:27 The Sabbath was made for all people. People do not make the Sabbath.
- The apostles kept the Sabbath many years after the cross. But Daniel predicted that Satan would try to change God's law and time.
- Daniel 7:2, 3 "The Four Beasts Vision" of Daniel 7 parallels, or means the same as the first vision of Daniel 2.
- Bible Prophecy Symbols
 Seas = People — Revelation 17:15
 Wind = War — Jeremiah 49:36, 37
 Beasts = Kingdoms — Daniel 7:17
- Daniel 7:4 Lion with 2 wings
Daniel 2:32, 38 Head of Gold: Babylon, 605 B.C. to 539 B.C.
- Daniel 7:5 Bear with 3 ribs
Daniel 2:32, 39 Breast and arms of Silver: Medo-Persia, 539 B.C. to 331 B.C.
- Daniel 7:6 Leopard with 4 wings and 4 heads
Daniel 2:32, 33 Thighs of Brass; Greece, 331 B.C. to 168 B.C.
- Daniel 7:7 Terrible Beast with 10 Horns
Daniel 2:33, 40 Legs of Iron: Rome, 168 B.C. to 476 A.D.

Daniel 7:24 Ten horns
Daniel 2:33 Feet of iron and clay, Division of Roman Empire: The nations of Europe
476 A.D. to Jesus' Second Coming

Alamanni - Germans
Burgundian - Swiss
Franks - French
Lombards - Italians
Saxons - English
Suevi - Portuguese
Visigoths - Spanish

Daniel 7:8, 24 A little horn coming up among 10 horns. This horn destroyed 3 kings or kingdoms.

The Little Horn Power

1. Arose among 10 horns: Came out of Rome
2. Arose after 10 horns: After Rome's break-up.
3. Different from 10 horns: Not just political power, but religious.
4. Destroyed 3 kingdoms: Ability to make war.
5. Eyes like a man: Symbol of wisdom and intelligence

“Out of the ruins of the Roman Empire there gradually arose a new order of states whose central point was the Papal See.” The Churches and Churches, pages 42, 43. (After the Roman Empire ended, the Roman Catholic Church took its place with the Pope as head of the new Holy Roman Empire.)

Daniel 7:25 This power tries to change times and laws.

Acts 20:28-30 The Apostle Paul warned that the Christian church would apostatize or backslide in the future. Daniel predicted the change, and the Church admits it.

“You may read the Bible from Genesis to Revelation, and you will not find a single line authorizing the sanctification of Sunday. The Scriptures enforce the religious observance of Saturday.” James Cardinal Gibbons, The Faith of our Fathers, page 89.

From “The Convert's Catechism”, we read:

Q: Which is the Sabbath Day?

A: Saturday is the Sabbath Day.

Q: Why do we observe Sunday instead of Saturday?

A: Because the Catholic Church transferred solemnity from Saturday to Sunday.” Peter Gieremian 1948, page 50. (Sunday worship became holy

in place of Saturday or Sabbath worship.)

“The Church, . . . after changing the day of rest from the Jewish Sabbath, or seventh-day of the week, to the first, made the third commandment refer to Sunday as the day to be kept holy as the Lord’s Day.” Catholic Encyclopedia vol. 4, page 153.

“. . . fundamentalists [Protestants] met for worship on Sunday yet there was no evidence in the Bible that corporates or (encourages) worship to be made on Sunday. The Jewish Sabbath, or day of rest, was, of course, Saturday. It was the Catholic Church that decided Sunday should be the day of worship for Christians, in honor of the Resurrection.” Karl Keating, Catholicism and Fundamentalism, 1988, page 38.

Controversial Catechism

Q: When Protestants do profane work or (their regular work) upon Saturday, (or the seventh day of the week,) do they follow the Scriptures as their only rule of faith?

A: On the contrary (no), they have only the authority of tradition for this practice. In profaning Saturday they violate one of God’s commandments, which, on their principles, has never been abrogated (done away with). “Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy. (Ex. 20:8) Controversial Catechism, page 60.

“The authority of the church could therefore not be bound to (or have to agree with) the authority of the Scriptures, because the Church had changed . . . the Sabbath to Sunday, not by command of Christ, but by its own authority.” Canon and Tradition, page 263.

Malachi 3:6

God Himself never changes. The law of God reflects God’s perfect character that does not change.

“Sabbath . . . a Hebrew word signifying rest . . . Sunday was the name given by the heathens to the first day of the week, because it was the day on which they worshiped the Sun.” John Eadie D.D., LL.D, A Bible Cyclo-
pedia, page 561.

Egyptians, Babylonian, and many ancient cultures worshiped the sun. How did the sun worship enter the church?

1. The Jews were being persecuted.
2. Some Christian leaders wanted to separate themselves from the Jews.
3. Constantine passed the first Sunday law to unite his empire. Constantine, the Roman emperor, attempted to unite his empire. “on the Venerable Day of the Sun let the Magistrates and people residing in the cities rest, and let all workshops be closed.” Edit of Constantine, A.D. 321. Church

leaders accepted this compromise.

“Christian shall not Judaize [by keeping of the seventh-day Sabbath] and be idle on Saturday [the original Sabbath] but shall work on that day, but the Lord’s day they shall especially honor.” Council of Ladodicea, Canon 29.

Satan is a Great Deceiver

**He deceived 1/3 of the angels in heaven.

**He deceived Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden.

**He deceived people in many ways down through the centuries.

Jesus: “I am the way, the truth, and the life.” John 14:6

Satan: “. . . he is a liar and the father of it.” John 8:44

Matthew 15:3

Which one do you want to obey? Man-made traditions or God’s law?

John 14:15

Jesus clearly says that if we love Him we will obey His commandments. Keeping the commandments of God is the sign of love for God.

Revelation of Jesus Christ

13. How to Identify a Cult

The game called “Following the Leader” reminds us of our tendency to look up at a great leader and follow him/her. This lesson will help us to avoid the trap of following a false religious teacher or leader.

Revelation 12:9 Lucifer (Satan) was the Master Deceiver. He deceived 1/3 of the angels and the whole world.

Revelation 13:3 Satan uses a religious system to deceive the world. Today, we see the big growth of cults and false religions.

Jim Jones was a cult leader. He was highly praised by the government and religious circles. But he led more than 900 people to death by ordering them to drink Kool-Aid mixed with poison in Guyana.

David Koresh led a small group of followers in Waco. He and his followers died in the flames as a mass suicide.

Proverbs 16:25 God warns that many things seem right to us but they lead us to death. We need to learn how to avoid cult traps.

John 8:36 Jesus says that He makes us free from sins. It is a freedom from deception and false ideas. Jesus is the Way to life.

What is a cult? From the Christian view, a cult is any group that does not accept Christ as Lord and Savior and the Bible as the foundation of faith.

How to Identify a Cult

1. A cult substitutes a human teacher for Jesus. A cult leader says that we are gods. They teach that we can learn about truth by knowing that we are god.

Isaiah 45:22 There is no other God beside the Lord God. New Age cults repeat the old lies:

- a. “There is no death.”
- b. “Man is God.”
- c. “Knowledge of self is salvation.”

Acts 4:12 There is no salvation in any other person or god, only in the true God and Jesus Christ. Some people say that they are Christ, but it is false.

2. A cult substitutes human teachings for the Bible.

John 17:17 Only the Bible leads us to salvation and to a knowledge of our God.

- 2 Thess. 2:10-11 People are destroyed because they reject the truth from God.
3. A cult works miracles to establish their claims.
- Matthew 24:24 Jesus warns us that false christs and false prophets will show great signs and wonders to deceive the world.
- Revelation 16:14 Satan can give miracles just to fool people. Signs and wonders are never a substitute for obedience.
- Isaiah 8:20 If a person is teaching something that does not agree with the Bible, then we must reject this person and his teaching.
4. A cult encourages group conformity. (doing things all the same way)
- Romans 14:12 We are responsible for our behavior. We will be judged for what we have done.
- Joshua 24:15 We are responsible for the decision we make.
- Ephesians 4:14 We should not be influence by our feelings and someone's false teachings. Without the Bible we will be easily fooled by a cult.
- Revelation 14:12 God's people will keep the commandments of God and have faith in Jesus Christ.
5. A cult attempts to establish heaven on earth. Some people are trying to establish a perfect world here on earth. But the Bible clearly shows that no one on earth can create heaven on earth. Only God can do it.
- Titus 2:13 Our only hope is in the coming of Christ who will establish (set up) His kingdom on earth.

Revelation of Jesus Christ

14. 1,000 Years of Peace?

There are different views on how the world ends with peace:

- **The Tri-Millennia Countdown (New Age): The Age of Aquarius; Harmonic Convergence (everyone living in harmony); All people become gods
- **The Christian Dominionists (Kingdom or Empire): One World Government; Religious laws passed by the governments.
- **The Rapture (a sudden disappearance of believers)

The Bible explains what happens at the Second Coming.

- Matthew 16:27 Jesus will come with the glory of His Father and His angels.
- Matthew 24:27 Jesus' second coming is the same as lightning that flashes across the sky. No one will miss it. Everyone will see it.
- 1 Thess. 4:16, 17 The sleeping (dead) believers will be resurrected at the sound of Christ's voice at His second coming. The living believers will be caught up with the resurrected believers and then join Jesus in the air.
- John 5:28, 29 There will be two kinds of resurrections at the end of the world. The resurrection of the believers and the resurrection of the wicked.
- 1 Cor. 15:51, 53 The bodies of the resurrected believers will be changed. The believers will not sin or die any more.
- 1 Thess. 4:17 The believers will be with the Lord forever. They will go to heaven.
- What happens to the unbelievers or wicked people?
- 2 Thess. 1:7, 8 They will be punished. The brightness of Jesus' second coming will destroy them.
- Jeremiah 25:33 The wicked will be dead all over the world. There are no wicked people left alive on earth after Jesus' second coming.

Second Coming:

- **Jesus returns
- **Living believers and resurrected dead believers go to heaven
- **Wicked people die

- Rev. 20:1, 2 The earth will be a prison for Satan and his angels for 1,000 years. 1,000 years is called Millennium. A millennium or 1,000 years is between the first resurrection and the second resurrection.
- Rev. 20:2, 3 Satan and his angels will be "free" for a short time after the end of 1,000 years.

Genesis 1:2	The earth will be the same as the earth was before the creation week. The earth will be empty. Everything will be destroyed and there will be no life.	
Jeremiah 4:23-26	The earth will be a mess. No one will live there except Satan and his angels who wander around doing nothing.	
Revelation 20:6 1 Cor. 6:2, 3 Revelation 20:4	During 1,000 years believers will be priests and shall rule with God.	
Revelation 16:	Righteous people or the believers, will judge Satan, his angels, and the wicked dead. The believers will know why the wicked dead are lost. That will settle in the minds of everyone in the universe that God is right and that God is love.	
	During the 1,000 years, the righteous people are in heaven and the earth is completely desolate. There are no living people on the earth.	
Revelation 20:7, 8	Satan and his angels will be “free” to trick the world again after 1,000 years.	
Revelation 20:5	The wicked dead will be resurrected after 1,000 years.	
Second Coming First Resurrection	Millennium 1,000 Years	Second Resurrection Holy City Comes Down
Revelation 21:2	The Holy City, the New Jerusalem, will come down to the earth after the millennium.	
Revelation 21:3	God will be with the people forever.	
Revelation 22:4	God’s name will be in the righteous people’s mind. They are loyal to Him forever.	
Revelation 20:7, 9	At the end of the Millennium, Satan gathers the resurrected wicked people. They surround the New Jerusalem and will try to attack the city, but the fire from heaven will destroy them.	
Revelation 20:14	The death of the wicked people by fire is called the second death	
2 Peter 2:9	God’s people will be protected from the fire..	
2 Peter 3:13	God will create a new heaven and a new earth for God’s people.	

Revelation of Jesus Christ

15. Near Death Experience

Some people claim to have a near death experience when they “died.” When they were dying, they felt that they left their body and saw some strange things. They tell their experience after they woke up. Books on near death experience (NDE) have become very popular. Is NDE real? Do spirits come out of people’s bodies when they die? Here are facts about NDE.

1. None of the people who experienced NDE’s really died.
2. Many NDE’s are similar to hallucinations (drugs effect on minds so the person thinks things are happening but it is only in their imagination.) Timothy Leary ate a certain mushroom and had an experience similar to NDE.
3. Out of body NDE’s contradict the Bible.

Job 7:9 A person who dies will never return to their home.
Job 16:22

Hebrews 9:27 Everyone will die once.

4. Many NDE stories are similar to what spiritualism teaches.
Spiritism says that the dead are not dead
Spiritism says that the dead communicate with the living persons.

What happens when a person dies?

Genesis 3:4 The Devil told the lie about death. He claimed no one will die. Spiritism rejects the Bible truth about death.

John 8:44 Jesus says that the devil is a liar.

Revelation 16:14 The devils deceive people through miracles.

Genesis 2:7 The creation of man
Dust + Spirit (Breath of Life) = A Living Soul (Person)

Death is creation in reverse

Ecclesiastes 12:7 When a person dies, he sleeps. His breath returns to God. He become dust.

Job 27:3 “The spirit of God” is really breath or life from God.

Psalms 146:3, 4 A dead person doesn’t think or talk at all.
Dust - Breath = A dead body

Ecclesiastes 9:5 The dead do not know anything.

Psalm 115:17 Dead people don't praise God. They are silent
 Psalm 6:5.

Ezekiel 18:4 A person who sins will die.

Job 4:17 People are mortal. Mortal means they will die. They don't live
 Romans 6:12 forever.
 Romans 8:11
 2 Corinthians 4:11

Romans 2:7, 8 People will become immortal (will not die) when Jesus
 1 Cor. 15:53, 54 comes again.

Only God is immortal. The Bible says death is a sleep 53 times. The doctrine of immortality (not dying) comes from pagan (not Christian) religion. It came into the Christian church many years ago. The ancient Egyptians believed in the pagan teaching of the immortality of the soul. Satanists also believe in the pagan teaching of the immortality of the soul.

Old Testament Bible writers used the phrase "slept (or rested) with their father's" as a way of saying the word "died."

John 11:11-39 Jesus clearly says that death is sleep.

1 Thess. 4:16, 17 The dead believers will be resurrected at the second coming of Christ.

What about the thief on the Cross?

Luke 23:42 The thief accepted Jesus as his Savior and wanted to be in heaven.

Luke 23:43 Jesus gave His promise to the thief that he will go to heaven. But when? This verse with the comma in the wrong place caused misunderstanding Jesus' promise to the thief. The Bible was not written with punctuation marks. It was added many years later by the medieval church. Jesus did not go to heaven on the day of His crucifixion.

John 20:17 This verse proves that Jesus hadn't gone to heaven when he was laying dead in the tomb from Friday to Sunday.

Revelation 1:18 Jesus died, was resurrected and now lives forever. He has the keys to open the grave.

Revelation of Jesus Christ

16. How to Bury Your Past?

- Matthew 28:19, 20 Jesus commands us to share the gospel story with many people, teach them to be followers of Jesus, and then baptize them.
- Baptism is mentioned 80 times in the New Testament.
- John 3:5 Jesus told Nicodemus that people must be baptized by water and by the Holy Spirit.
- Mark 16:16 Salvation comes to people who believe and are baptized.
- Ephesians 4:5 There is only one kind of baptism.
- Matthew 3:5, 6 People came to listen to John the Baptist's preaching and they were baptized in the river Jordan.
- Matthew 3:15-17 Jesus was baptized as an example for the people to follow. The Holy Spirit in the form of a dove anointed Jesus at baptism.
Acts 10:38 The Father was pleased with Jesus.
- Acts 8:36-38 The Ethiopian eunuch accepted Jesus Christ as his Savior and was baptized by Philip in the river.
- Romans 6:3, 4 Baptism is the symbol of Christ's death, burial, and resurrection. It is also an example of new life for a person who accepts Jesus as their personal Savior. It is a death to our old sinful way of life. It is a burial of our sins in the watery grave of baptism. Finally, it is a resurrection to a new life in Christ.

Churches of the past show how the early Christians were baptized. The first century church in Philippi had a large baptismal pool inside of the building. St. Peter at Vatican City has a baptistery. Also, there is one in the leaning tower of Pisa. Cappacocia, Turkey was a Middle Ages Christian city of refuge. In a church room there is a baptismal pool. In Russia, King Vladimir the Great was baptized in a cathedral. But the Council of Ravenna in 1311 AD officially accepted sprinkling and pouring as good as immersion in the rite of baptism. From then on churches used sprinkling and other forms to baptize the new converts or believers.

The Greek word, "baptizo" means "to dip" to "immerse" to plunge under water.

- Acts 2:37 People were convicted by the Holy Spirit and they asked the apostles what they should do.

Steps to baptism:

Step #1—Repent—have a real sorrow for sin, Acts 2:38

Step #2—Believe and accept Jesus as Savior and Lord of our life, Acts 8:37

Step #3—Learn and be taught the basics of Bible truth and faith and accept that Word or truth. Acts 2:41

The question is: Does baptism mean I am becoming part of Christ's church? The answer is: Yes—Acts 2:47; 1 Corinthians 12:13; Colossians 1:18

Matthew 28:19,20 Jesus commands us to make disciples and baptize them into Christ's church.

Acts 22:16 If you have accepted Jesus as your personal Savior and Lord, do not wait too long for baptism. God has called you to be part of God's family through baptism. Baptism is similar to the Passover that was held just before the Children of Israel were freed or delivered from their slavery in Egypt. The blood of the lamb on the doorposts protected the first born from the destroying angel who passed over them. In the same way, baptism is the symbol of salvation from sin and death. Accept His blood to be put on the doorpost of your heart today.

Revelation of Jesus Christ

17. Will God Burn Sinners Forever?

A question many people have asked is: “Why would a loving God burn sinners in hell for millions of years?” So, what is the real truth about hell? Many preachers are confused on the subject of hell.

2 Peter 3:9 This verse clearly shows that God doesn't want anyone to be lost. He wants them all to be saved.

Then why destroy sinners at all?

Isaiah 28:21 God's doesn't want to destroy the sinners, but if they refuse to accept God's plan of salvation, they will have be destroyed. The destruction of sinners is God's strange act. God's nature is not to destroy sinners, but He has to do it.

In the beginning God created a perfect world and perfect human beings. There was no death or sadness. But Eve listened to Satan's lie and disobeyed God.

Romans 6:23 The punishment for sin is death.

Matthew 25:41 The original plan was to destroy the devil and his angels, but since people have followed the devil, they will be destroyed, too.

When does hell happen?

Matthew 13:40 Hell happens on the judgment day.

2 Peter 2:9 The wicked will be punished at the day of judgment.

Matthew 16:27 Jesus will come again with the reward for everyone according to what they have done.

1 Thess. 4:16, 17 At the second coming of Christ, the dead in Christ will rise to live forever, and the living saints will meet the resurrected people in the air. That is the first resurrection before the beginning of the millennium.

How complete is the destruction of the wicked?

Matthew 25:46 The wicked will go away into everlasting punishment. Notice the words, “go away.” It means that they will be gone or destroyed. They will not live again.

Jude 7 Eternal fire of Sodom and Gomorrah is not burning today. The destruction of the cities was the result of the fire. That means the cities will never

come back again. They are eternally gone.

- 2 Peter 2:6 Sodom and Gomorrah were burned into ashes. The result is eternal, not a fire that burns continually forever.
- Malachi 4:1 The fires of hell burns everything completely so nothing is left.
- Malachi 4:3 The wicked will be ashes.
- Psalm 37:20 Again, the wicked will be gone forever.
- Obadiah 16 The wicked will be gone as if they had never lived.

What about the phrase, “forever and forever?”

- Revelation 14:11 This text shows that the smoke of hell will go up for ever and ever. What does the expression “for ever and ever” mean?
- Exodus 21:6
1 Samuel 1:22
1 Samuel 1:28 This expression “for ever” means as long as a person lives.
- Jonah 2:6; 1:17 Jonah wasn't in the whale's stomach forever. It means he was in the stomach for three days.
- “For ever and ever” is a Bible wording that means “until the end of the age.” It doesn't always mean time with no end.
- Jeremiah 17:27 The warning about the fire that would not be put out means that the fire would burn down the city. Nobody could stop the fire until it destroyed the city.
- Matthew 10:28 Hell means a complete destruction of a person.
- Ezekiel 18:4 A person who sins will die. The common belief about hell comes from pagan teaching. The idea of the everlasting burning does not come from the Bible. It was based on the wrong teaching of death. Pagans believed that a person who dies continues to live in spirit. That is not what the Bible teaches.
- Ecclesiastes 9:5 A person who dies knows nothing about what is happening in the world.

Now, what about the parable of the rich man and Lazarus?

Many Christians use this story to prove that the everlasting fire of hell that burn wicked people forever is supported by the Bible. But that parable is not a true story. It is the fifth in a series of

parables. It was a common Jewish traditional story. It gives the spiritual lessons that the riches are not always a sign of God's favor; poverty is not always a sign of God's anger; after death there is no second chance; and people who reject the Bible will not be convinced by miracles.

The prophets believed hell was total destruction

Ezekiel 18:32 God has no pleasure in the death of anyone.

Isaiah 55:7 God is calling us to stop sinning and follow Him. God will forgive us when we are truly sorry for sinning against Him.

Romans 14:10, 11 All of us will stand before the judgment seat of Christ. Judgment must come before the rewards are given. The rewards of eternal life will be given to people who have been forgiven and follow Jesus. The rewards of death will be given to people who reject the gospel and continue to sin against Jesus.

Rev. 20:10, 14, 15 Satan, his evil angels and people who reject God will be in the lake of fire or hell. The lake of fire is the second death.

Revelation 20:9 The lake of fire comes when the fire from heaven comes and burns up all of the wicked that surround the city of God on earth. The earth will be cleansed by the fire.

2 Peter 3:13 Our old earth will be new again after the destruction of sin by the lake of fire.

Nahum 1:9 God promises us that sin will never come again a second time.

Revelation 21:4 Death, illness, sadness and tears will be gone forever.

Revelation of Jesus Christ

18. The Bible's Health Secret

Our greatest need for good health is a new lifestyle. We are concerned about our health especially the killer diseases: 1. Heart disease 2. Cancer 3. Stroke
Health is not a matter of chance. Good health comes from choosing a good lifestyle.

3 John 2 God is interested in our health and happiness. He wants us to be healthy.

John 10:10 Jesus promises us a full life.

Revelation 14:6, 7 A call is given to all people. The call asks people to worship the Creator who created us. We must follow our Creator in every possible way.

1 Corinthians 10:31 We should honor God by what we eat and drink. We also honor God by doing everything in His way, not our own way.

1 Cor. 6:19, 20 Our body is the temple of the Holy Spirit. We need to take care of our bodies because we belong to our Creator God.

Psalm 139:14 We should praise God for creating us. We praise God when we do the right things.

The fact is that our own lifestyle is killing us. We need to know God's way so we can enjoy good health. Satan has a plan to destroy our health. He has a counterfeit health plan.

Satan's Counterfeit health plan pollutes the Air—Cigarette smoking

Cigarette smoking causes:

1. Heart diseases
2. Strokes
3. Different kinds of cancer
4. Emphysema
5. Premature births
6. Poor circulation
7. Shortness of breath

Smoking can hurt your health and your loved ones' health. Smoking is very harmful to babies and children.

Exodus 20:13 If we smoke we are hurting our health. We are breaking God's commandment — You shall not kill.

Philippians 4:13 Smokers can quit smoking through the power of Jesus Christ who gives them strength.

Satan's Counterfeit health plan includes beverages that destroy—Alcoholic drinks—Wine, Whiskey, Beer and etc.

Proverbs 20:1 Drinking wine or any alcoholic beverage can cause our minds not to work properly. Alcohol deceives us and is dangerous. Alcohol can affect our ability to think and reason.

Proverbs 23:31-33 The results of drinking alcoholic beverage can be painful and leads to unhappiness. The best way to avoid trouble is not to drink alcoholic drinks.

The Bible uses the word "wine" that could mean two different grape beverages. One beverage is not fermented (fresh grape juice). The other beverage is fermented or changed to become alcoholic (wine).

1 Cor. 10:13 We all are tempted, but God promises us victory over temptations.

Exodus 15:26 God promises us good health if we follow the right lifestyle. If we disobey Him, then we will suffer bad health.

Diseases of Egypt—Atherosclerosis (build up of fat in the arteries), Heart Disease, Obesity (being too fat), Cancer, Tooth Decay, and Stress

Egyptians didn't follow God's health plan. They suffered from the same diseases as we do today. God's people who left Egypt enjoyed good health because God taught them what to eat and what to do.

Genesis 1:29 The original or first diet before sin started was just fruits, grains, and nuts. That diet was the best for all of us. After the Fall into sin, the health of the people got worse. People lived shorter and shorter lives. But they still lived almost 1,000 years because of that first ideal diet.

After the flood, the people's age or life span went down fast. God gave permission to Noah and the people to eat flesh foods.

Genesis 7:2 God allowed people to eat flesh food, but only from clean animals.

Leviticus 3:17 God gave the rule not to eat the blood and fat of the animals.

Satan's Counterfeit Diet—Unclean Meat

Leviticus 11:2, 3 We can only eat meat from clean animals. Clean animals have divided hoofs that are separated completely in two and they chew the cud. For example, cows, sheep, and deer.

Deut. 14:7, 8 We should avoid any animals that chew the cud, but do not have split hoofs (camel) or that do not chew the cud, but have split hoofs (pig).

Psalm 84:11 God only gives good things to His people.

What is wrong with pork? There are health problems that pork gives.

1. Pork is filled with saturated fats and cholesterol.
2. Cancer in the pig's skin, kidneys, the lymphatic system and other internal organs is common.
3. Pork products are regularly preserved with nitrates which are known to cause cancer.
4. Pork causes many digestive and stomach problems.
5. Pork carries trichina larva that can make us very sick.

Leviticus 11:9, 10 The only seafood we can eat are the animals that have fins and scales.

There are 3 Diets in the Bible

The ideal diet — Vegetarian (No meat)

The acceptable diet — Clean meat

The unacceptable diet — Unclean meat

Were the health laws nailed to the cross? No.

Acts 10:17, 28 Peter's dream was not talking about foods we can eat. God uses unclean animals as symbols of the Gentile people whom the Jews called unclean. God told the Jews to share the gospel with the Gentiles too.

John 1:12
Luke 18:27 We can have victory over our bad health habit(s) through accepting Jesus as our Savior and Lord.

Revelation of Jesus Christ

19. Why So Many Churches?

Have you ever wondered, “How can I find the truth?” The average person is confused with so many churches. Why are there so many different churches?

- Amos 3:7 God shows the prophecies that tell us why we have so many churches.
- Revelation’s Four Horsemen—Revelation 6
- Revelation 6:1 Jesus opened the future for us to see. Prophecies help us to understand why we have many churches. The prophecy is about the future of Christianity.
- Revelation 6:1, 2 First Seal Opens—A Conquering Faith
(From the cross to 100 AD)
White represents a pure faith. The early Christian churches were pure and faithful to God. The doctrines were based on the Bible.
- Colossians 1:23 Christianity spread far and wide. Many people
Acts 5:14 became Christians.
- Acts 5:29 Early Christians were brave in the difficult times. They preferred to obey God instead of people.
- Revelation 6:4 Second Seal Opens—A Bloodstained Faith
(100 AD to 323 AD)
- Many Christians suffered from persecutions and death by the Romans. The Romans were afraid of the growth of the Christian church. Satan tried to destroy the faith of the Christians but failed.
- Revelation 6:5, 6 Third Seal Opens—A Compromised Faith
(323 AD to 536 AD)
- Acts 20:28-30 Paul warned of the coming false teachings that would creep into the Christian church.
- Daniel 8:12 Truth would be rejected in the church. Salvation through Christ was replaced by the teachings of the Church. Idols were introduced and changed into saints.
- Exodus 20:4, 5 Idols are forbidden by God’s commandments.
- Daniel 7:25 The Papacy would try to change times (Sabbath to Sunday) and laws (removing the second commandment). During the time of compromise the pagan’s day of the sun replaced the Bible Sabbath.

Exodus 20:11	The fourth commandment tells us which day is the Sabbath—7th day.
Genesis 2:3	God rested on, blessed, and sanctified the seventh day.
Ezekiel 22:26	People who do not keep the seventh day Sabbath are breaking God's law. They fail to see the difference between the holy and unholy.
Revelation 6:7, 8	<p>Fourth Seal—A Dead Faith (538 AD to 1400's AD)</p> <p>The Christian church did not have the faith of Christ. It was a time the church and state were united. The Roman Catholic church was powerful at that time. The church influenced the government to make religious laws. The church persecuted many people who rejected the teachings of the Catholic Church.</p>
Proverbs 4:18	In the time of deep darkness, there were people who refused to follow the false teachings. These Christian people kept the truth shining in the dark place.
Jude 3	<p>This text encourages us to stand up for the truth. There were people in that time who fought for the truth. First, there were the Bible Believing Waldneses. The Waldneses lived in the mountains to avoid the persecution by the Catholic Church. They believed in the Bible and rejected the man-made teachings of the Church. Then John Huss, a priest, who emphasized obedience to God's word, the Bible. Huss was burned on the stake for his faith in the Bible and God. Martin Luther discovered salvation by faith. He believed in what the Bible had been teaching about God's grace. But Martin Luther did not know all the truth of the Bible (John 16:12). John Calvin taught growth in spiritual life. Anabapists rejected baptism by sprinkling and pouring. They introduced the Bible baptism by immersion (Matthew 28:19, 20). In England, John Wesley taught sanctification by faith. It is a life time spiritual growth becoming more like Christ. In 1800's William Miller preached the second coming of Christ. This truth attracted many people of different faiths. Finally, the Advent Movement taught the importance of the seventh-day Sabbath, the truth about death, and the lessons of health.</p>
Matthew 15:9	People who teach human rules are not really worshiping God.
John 14:15	Jesus clearly says that if we love God, we will obey Him.
Isaiah 58:12, 13	In the last days, God will raise a church that will bring the truth back again. The truth will be the same as the early Christian church.
Revelation 14:12	The last days church will keep all of the commandments of God and have faith in Jesus.

John 10:16

There are many sincere people in other churches. These sincere people will accept the truth that they discover from the Bible.

Revelation of Jesus Christ

20. Revelation's Babylon Revealed

Tylenol Scare—Several years ago an innocent sick person took some Tylenol capsules. The capsules contained Cyanide poison. The sick lady died from the medicine that was supposed to help reduce her illness. Several people in the area died from cyanide poisoning. Someone took the Tylenol bottles and removed the medicine. They put cyanide back in the capsules. People bought the medicine not knowing that the Tylenol bottles were tampered with. Some of these people died. This story illustrates Satan's attempt to deceive the world through "truth." That counterfeit truth can lead people to eternal death.

The book of Revelation Shows Satan's Final Deceptions. Revelation also shows God's protection from Satan's last day deceptions.

- Revelation 12:1 A woman wearing white clothes and a crown with twelve stars symbolizes the true church.
- 2 Corinthians 11:2 This text clearly shows that a woman is the symbol of the church.
- Revelation 17:1-4 A prostitute sitting on the beast is the symbol of an apostate or the false church.

Revelation's Symbols

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| 1. A Woman | The Church |
| 2. A Harlot Woman | The False Church |
| 3. A Pure Woman | The True Church |
| 4. Waters/Seas | Peoples |
| 5. Kings of the Earth | Political Leaders |
| 6. Drunk | Deceived |
| 7. Wine | False Teachings |

What does the Babylonian system represent? The city of Babylon had its origin when God confused the language at the tower of Babel. The term "Babylon" in Revelation represents religious confusion.

The Two Different Systems of Religion Disagree: Truth vs. Error;
God's Way vs. Man's Way; The Woman In White vs. The Woman In Scarlet

Psalm 116:13 The Cup of Salvation

Revelation 14:7 The Wine of Babylon

Revelation predicted that thousands would be deceived when the false teachings of ancient Babylon entered the church.
The Cup of Wine: Satan is deceiving people about the truths in the Bible.

The Early Christian church was started with God's word only. But later the Christian church accepted false teachings.

2 Timothy 4:4 People will reject the truth for man-made teachings.

The Wine Cup—Satan's deception regarding salvation.

Daniel 4:30 Example of salvation by works. People think more highly of themselves than of God.

Romans 3:24 Example of salvation by faith. God's grace is the free gift given to all people who accept God's plan of salvation.

Revelation 1:5 The Cross: Christ is our Savior who saves us.

Genesis 11:5-9 Human Works done to save themselves

The Wine Cup: Satan's deception regarding intercession.

1 Timothy 2:5 Jesus Christ is the only mediator between God and people. False religious systems teach that idols or saints are needed for salvation.

Exodus 20:4, 5 This commandment forbids worship of idols or saints.

Revelation 5:6, 7 In the Heavenly Temple: Christ is our Intercessor

Ezekiel 6:4 Idolatry is in the land

The Wine Cup: Satan's deception regarding the Sabbath

Ezekiel 8:16 Israelites worshiped the sun instead of the God of Creation.

Daniel 7:25 This prophecy tells about the system that attempts to change times (Sabbath) and law (Ten Commandments). The system was the Roman Papacy.

Exodus 20:8-10 The Sabbath Commandment

The Catholic Church does not accept the literal interpretation of Genesis regarding Creation. It is easier to reject the Sabbath commandment, which is based on the seven days of the creation week.

Revelation 14:6, 7 God is calling the world to worship the Creator who created the heavens and the earth. It is related to the Sabbath as the sign of God's authority.

Ezekiel 20:20 Keeping the Sabbath holy is the sign of a relationship between God and His people.

- Revelation 17:5 The harlot is the mother of many harlots. The scarlet woman represents the false religious system as the Catholic Church that has many offsprings (Protestant churches). The Protestant churches still have a connection with the Catholic Church by the keeping of Sunday. Sunday keeping shows the authority of the Catholic Church since they changed the day of worship from Sabbath to Sunday..
- Revelation 14:6, 7 The Sabbath: Christ is my true rest
- Ezekiel 8:16 Pagan Sun Worship was done even in the temple where only God was to be worshiped.

The Wine Cup: Satan's deception regarding death

- Ezekiel 8:14 The Israelites had accepted the false teaching about death.
Revelation 17:3
- Ecclesiastes 9:5 The dead know nothing. The dead do not communicate with us.
- Revelation 1:18 Resurrection: Christ is our Life-Giver
- Ezekiel 8:4 Immortality (Never die)
- Revelation 18:4 God is calling His people out of the false religious systems. There are many sincere Christians in the spiritual Babylon.

The Foundation of the Babylonian System

- the authority of man
- the word of man
- the works of man
- the law of man
- the traditions of man

The Foundation of the God's System

- the authority of God
- the word of God
- the love of God
- the law of God
- the teachings of God

- Revelation 14:12 In the last days God has a church that follows Him faithfully. The people obey God's commands.

Revelation of Jesus Christ

21. Is There a True Church?

Does God have a true church on earth today?

- Matthew 16:18 Jesus says that God already has a church that follows Him completely.
- Acts 2:41, 47 The early church was established after the ascension of Jesus Christ. That was God's first Christian church.
- Matthew 28:18 Jesus claims that He had received the authority in heaven and on earth. He is the head of the church.
- Matthew 28:18, 19 Jesus commands us to plant churches in the world.
- Then, how can we find the church that God has?
Problem: There are over 300 different denominations in North America. Which one is the true church? Good news! The Bible has God's answer.
- Revelation 12 describes a struggle between the forces of good and the forces of evil. Satan's goal is to attack God's church.
- Revelation 12:1, 2 The description of God's true church.
- 2 Corinthians 11:2 The woman is a symbol of the church.
- Revelation 12:7-9 The war began in heaven. Satan and his followers lost the battle and were forced to leave heaven.
- Revelation 12:13 Satan attacks the church and Jesus Christ. Satan attempted to destroy baby Jesus through a jealous king. The king, King Herod, ordered that all male babies below 2 years of age must be killed. But God's angel warned Joseph in a dream to escape to Egypt.
- Revelation 12:5 The child, Jesus Christ, later was persecuted and killed. Jesus was resurrected and went back to heaven.
- Revelation 12:11 Now, Satan begins to attack God's people very very strongly. The Church in the Middle Ages used the power of the government to force the church's laws.
- Revelation 12:6 The papacy or the Roman Catholic Church ruled with full power for 1,260 years. The true Christian church was persecuted during this time.
- Ezekiel 4:6 A day is equal to a year in Bible prophecy. During 1,260 years the true church was protected in the wilderness. God did not let the church be destroyed from the earth. Faithful men and women of God kept the lamp of

truth burning.

Rev. 12:15, 16 The earth helped the woman (church) by people moving to the new world (North America). In the new world the government was new and different from European countries. The new world's government allowed freedom of religion. At the end of the 1,260 year prophecy (1798), Revelation predicted the rise of God's last day movement.

Revelation 12:17 The last day true church of God—"keeps the commandments of God, including the Sabbath, and have the faith in Jesus Christ." The word, "remnant" means that which remains and is like the original.

The book of Revelation shows the characteristics or description of the Remnant.

Revelation 12:17 These texts show two characteristics of God's remnant church.

Revelation 14:12 They are: 1. Obedience to God's commandments and 2. has the testimony of Jesus Christ.

Revelation 19:10 This text shows what is the testimony of Jesus Christ as founded in Revelation 12:17. It is the spirit of prophecy. One of God's gifts to the church is the prophecy.

1 Cor. 1:6,7 Paul outlines the gifts of God to the church. The gifts are given
Ephesians 4:11 for the preparation for the coming of Jesus Christ. So, God's last day church would keep His commandments and have the gift of prophecy.

Daniel 8:14 2,300 year prophecy ended at 1844 AD.

There was a group who believed the Second Coming of Christ would happen in 1844. This group was disappointed that Jesus didn't return as believed. Then, what would God do? Faithful to His word, God raised up the gift of prophecy to guide His disappointed people. God also lead them into a worldwide movement or church. Now they could proclaim the Gospel.

Revelation predicts God's true church would:

1. Appear sometime after 1798.
2. Trust Jesus and keep His commandments.
3. Be guided by the gift of prophecy.
4. Proclaim God's final message to the entire world.

Rev. 14:6, 7 The gospel message will go to the whole world before the end of the world comes. The Seventh-day Adventist Church fits this description of God's remnant church.

Revelation of Jesus Christ

22. A Financial Secret

We are experiencing an economy that is in trouble. History has never seen so much trouble in the world with money and finances. The economy has become a major political issue or problem. The United States national debt has grown rapidly from 1.2 Billion in 1900 to 4.6 Trillion in 1994. Some people are concerned about their future and their security. Life is very uncertain. Personal debt is at an all time high. Revelation predicts a bad economy in the future.

Rev. 18:14-17 A description of labor or work and economic problems in the future.

James 5:1-5 A description of last day money crisis.

Revelation has the answer to all of our financial problems.

Genesis 2:8 God created Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden. Adam and Eve took care of the garden and animals. They were the managers of God's property.

Psalm 50:10, 12 Everything on earth belongs to God who is the Creator of the earth.
Psalm 24:1

Genesis 3:1-15 The story about the Fall of Adam and Eve into sin. Sin led to the loss of the heavenly home in the garden of Eden. Satan's deception was self-centeredness. Satan deceived Eve to believing that she could take anything she wanted as if she owned everything. She disobeyed God when she stole the fruit from the forbidden tree.

Acts 17:24, 25 God gives life.

God's Economics Principle #1: God created us and supports our lives. Everything we have really belongs to God.

Deuteronomy 8:18 Only God can give us wealth and power.

Haggai 2:8 Money belongs to God.

Genesis 14:19, 20 Abraham recognized God's ownership. Abraham paid tithe or a tenth on any increase he got.

Genesis 28:22 Jacob returned tithe, too.

Leviticus 27:30 God instructed Israelites how to return their tithe to God. Why? Because God owns everything.

God's Economics Principle #2: Returning tithe shows that we believe and accept that God gives life. God keeps us living and breathing.

Malachi 3:8-10 People rob God when they refuse to return tithe to God. God promises rich blessings if we return a faithful tithe of what we receive.

Leviticus 27:30 All tithe is holy to the Lord.

Some Individuals who faithfully returned tithe to God were:
William Colgate, John D. Rockefeller, Sr., Henry John Heinz, James Cash Penny, Henry P. Crowell, John Wanamaker, Matthais W. Baldwin, R.L. Le Tourneau, James L. Kraft, and Milton S. Hershey

Malachi 3:11 God promises protection for those who faithfully pay tithe.

Proverbs 3:9, 10 God promises material blessings.

God's Economics Principle #3: Giving with the right motive or reason opens our hearts to receive spiritual and material blessings from God.

Matthew 23:23 Some people are faithful to give God tithes and offerings but fail to show mercy and love to other people. We must have a good reason when we give to God.

God's Economic Principle #4: Giving helps us to have the deep satisfaction of supporting God's kingdom. Tithe is given for the preaching of the gospel.

God's Economics Principle #5: There is no greater motivation to give than the cross. The greatest of all gifts is Jesus. Jesus sacrificed everything to save the world.

God's Economics Principle #6: Sacrificing for God's work teaches us deeper lessons of trust.

Matthew 6:33 We need to seek God first and everything will be taken care of by our God. Our God does care for us.

God's Economics Principle #7: The real concern is: Who has our love and affection?

Matthew 16:26 If we think of the world for ourselves then we show that God is not important.

Luke 12: 19, 20 We will lose eternal life when we show more interest in the world than in God. It is God who supports and cares for us. We need to accept Christ's invitation: Let nothing between me and the Savior.

Revelation of Jesus Christ

23. The Mark of the Beast

The warning against worshipping the beast is the most important message given in the book of Revelation.

- Rev. 14:6, 7 The first angel's message emphasizes the importance of worshipping the Creator God.
- Rev. 14:9, 10 The third angel's message warns us not to worship the beast and receive the mark of the beast.

True and False Worship Collide

- Revelation 14:12 God's people truly worship God when they keep the commandments of God and have faith in Jesus Christ. God desires everyone on this world to be saved through the gospel. God warns the world to be aware of false teachings that can deceive them.

Revelation presents two groups:

1. One group worships the Creator—Revelation 14:7
2. One group worships the Beast—Revelation 14:9

What is the basis of all true worship?

- Revelation 4:11 Worship God because He is the Creator who made the heavens and the earth.

Has God left a sign of His creative authority?

- Exodus 20:8-11 In the heart of the ten commandments there is a sign of creative authority. The sign is the fourth commandment that commands us to rest on the Sabbath.

- Ezekiel 20:12 Keeping the Sabbath is the sign between God and people.

- Romans 4:11 Abraham received the sign of circumcision when he had faith in God. The sign of circumcision is a seal of the righteousness of faith.

- Isaiah 8:16 We receive the seal of God when we accept God as our Lord. God's seal is in the heart of God's law.

God's Seal Has:

1. His name
2. His title
3. His territory

A seal gives authority to a document.

The seal of God is the seventh-day Sabbath. The Sabbath commandment has:

God's name—The Lord Thy God
God's title—Creator
God's territory—Heaven and Earth.

God's seal is in contrast to the beast's mark.

Rev. 7:2, 3
Hebrews 8:10

God's seal and God's law are in the forehead.
Satan has attacked the Sabbath because it is the seal of God's law.

Daniel 7:25

Satan tried to change the Sabbath and the Ten Commandments. Since the final issue will be about worship, what earthly religious power claims that it has the authority to change God's law? The Catholic Church claims that the transfer from the Sabbath to Sunday was the sign of the Church's authority. Satan has attacked God's seal, the Sabbath, the basis of all worship.

Revelation 13

Who is the beast? What is the mark of the beast?

Rev 13:1, 2

Clue #1—A Roman power

What is the dragon? Revelation 12:9 identifies the dragon as Satan. But Satan works through human agencies. In Revelation 12 the dragon, working through pagan Rome, attempted to destroy Jesus.

A Roman:

- official tried to kill baby Jesus.
- governor condemned Jesus.
- executioner crucified Jesus.
- emblem sealed His tomb.
- guard watched His tomb.

Revelation 13:8

Clue #2—A worldwide religious power

Revelation 13:7

Clue #3—A religious power controlling civil powers

Revelation 13:6

Clue #4—A blasphemous power

What does blasphemy mean in the Bible?

John 10:33

Blasphemy deals with the claim to be God.

2 Thess. 2:4

Another example of blasphemy is claiming to be God on earth. Blasphemy is when a person claims the power, position, work, or names of God.

Luke 5:21	Only God can forgive sin, not man or the pope. The Pope claims to have power to forgive sin and that is blasphemy.
1 Timothy 2:5	Jesus is the mediator between God and people on earth. He can forgive our sins.
Rev 13:5	Clue #5—A religious power which rules supreme for 1,260 years
Ezekiel 4:6	A prophetic day is equal to a year. 42 months is equal to 1,260 days or years. The legally recognized supremacy of the pope began in 538 AD. Emperor Justinian made a decree that made the bishop of Rome head over all the churches, the definer of doctrine and the corrector of heretics.
Revelation 13:7	For 1,260 years the papacy persecuted God's people.
Revelation 13:3	The mortally wounding of one of the heads occurred when General Berthier captured the pope. General Berthier brought the Pope to a prison where he died.
Rev. 13:9, 10	The papacy must suffer punishment for what they did to God's people.
Revelation 13:3	Clue #6—The deadly wound was healed In 1929 the Italian government and the papacy signed the historic Roman agreement that healed the wound.
Revelation 13:3	Clue #7—End-time worldwide greatness The papacy has grown in power and influence all around the world.
Revelation 13:18	Number 666 is the opposite of the number 7. Throughout Revelation the number 7 represents perfection, or completeness. The number 6 represents imperfection. The Beast represents a false religious system with: - human authority instead of the authority of Christ. - human traditions instead of God's Word. - substitution of a law for the commands of God. - a counterfeit sabbath instead of the true Sabbath. What is the mark of the beast? The mark of the beast must be the sign of the Roman Catholic Church's authority. Literal or Symbolic? - Symbolic Beast - Symbolic Image - Symbolic Name

- Symbolic Number
- Symbolic Seal
- Symbolic Mark

What is the Mark of the Beast?

<u>Daniel 7's Little Horn</u>	<u>Revelation 13's Beast</u>
1. Lion	1. Lion
2. Bear	2. Bear
3. Leopard	3. Leopard
4. Terrible, Iron Teeth	4. Dragon
5. 10 Horns	5. 10 Horns
6. Speaks Great Things	6. Speaks Blasphemy
7. Reigns 1260 Days	7. Reigns 42 Months
8. Changes Times and Laws	8. Mark of the Beast

The Central Issue is Worship

Daniel 7:25— “Of course the Catholic Church claims that the change was her act. . . And the act is a mark of her ecclesiastical power and authority in religious matters.” Letter, October 28, 1895, from C. F. Thomas

“ Sunday is our mark of authority. . . . The Church is above the Bible, and this transference of Sabbath observance is proof of the fact.” Catholic Record. Sept. 1, 1923

Does anyone have the Mark of the Beast today?—No one will receive the Mark of the Beast until laws are passed forcing the keeping of Sunday.

Rev. 13:15-17 The Bible predicts a coming confederacy of religions attempting to unite church and state. Our historic freedoms will be challenged.

Acts 5: 29 Peter and other disciples were challenged to stop preaching the gospel to the public by the authorities. In the future we will be challenged but we will obey God rather than people.

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

24. The U.S. in Bible Prophecy

The United States was established by people from Europe. These people wanted to avoid the same kind of governments of Europe that forbade the rights of the people. The European people wanted the right to choose their religion, lifestyles, etc in the United States. The Constitution was thought to be the best legal document ever written for a human government. The Constitution tells how the government work. God had led the establishment of the United States for His purpose. The Bible prophesied the establishment of our country that gives freedom of religion. The Bible also prophesied the bad side of our country. God respects human freedom of choice.

Joshua 24:13 We have a choice to make in our daily life. God respects our decision if we choose evil rather than good or good rather than evil.

Revelation 22:17 God respects our freedom of choice and He invites us to choose Him to get eternal life.

Revelation's final issues are about worship and freedom of conscience.

Revelation 13:1, 2 Review on the topic of the Mark of the Beast

The Beast's Seven Identifying Marks

1. It receives its seat of government from pagan Rome.
2. It would be a worldwide system of worship.
3. It would speak blasphemy.
4. It would be a persecuting power.
5. It would rule for 1,260 years.
6. The Beasts "deadly wound" would be healed.
7. The number of its name would be 666.

Revelation 13:3 The whole world was amazed and followed the beast. Pope John Paul II is the most popular pope in the world's history. The world has a very high respect for him.

Revelation 13:11 Prophecy of the New World

Who is the Second Beast?

Rev. 13:10, 3 Clue #1—It arose at the right time. The U.S. appeared around the time when the papacy received the deadly wound in 1798.

Revelation 13:11 Clue #2—It arose in the right place. "coming up out of the earth."

Revelation 17:15 Other beasts came out of the waters or seas which represent many people and nations. So, the earth must represent the land that was not populated

with many people. European people discovered the new world and they moved into it.

Revelation 13:11 Clue #3—It is a new nation. “another beast”

Clue #4—It is a democracy. Horns are a symbol of power. On these horns there are no crowns - no kingly authority. This is in contrast to the first beast in Revelation 13:1. The United States has the Constitution that creates the wall of separation between the government and religion. In Europe the governments made laws that control people’s religion. In the U.S. the government respects people’s choice of religion.

Revelation 13:12 Clue #5—It is a power of worldwide influence. ”makes everyone living on earth worship the first beast.”

Revelation 13:11 Clue #6—Changes in character from a lamb to a dragon. ”Spake as a dragon.” How does a nation speak? A nation speaks through its laws or legislative body. Revelation 13:12—”uses the same power the first beast has.”

Rev. 13:15, 16 The nation would use its power to force people and the world to obey the laws that are against the principles of the Bible. The Bible tells us that we will lose freedoms when church and state unite. How will this happen? What will lead up to this union of church and state?

Rev. 13:13, 14
Revelation 16:14
Revelation 19:20
It will be done through miracles.

Luke 21:10-12 Jesus predicted a time of uncertainty and insecurity before His return. We have experienced a lot of natural problems such as floods, tornadoes, earthquakes, and fires. The serious problems may cause the government to pass religious laws. These laws are to save the country from declining moral values, economic collapse, and natural disasters. Some religious leaders are pushing for laws to control people’s behavior. They want the government to lead America back to God to save the country from disasters.

Revelation 14:6, 7 The issues are about worship: 1. Worship the Creator (Revelation 14:7) 2. Worship the Beast (Revelation 13:4)

Revelation 14:12 Also, the issues are about the authority of the Bible, loyalty to Jesus Christ, and obedience to His commandments.

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

25. The Holy Spirit

What is the unpardonable sin? Is it murder like Moses did? Is it lying or deception like Jacob did? Is it denying Christ like Peter did? Is it denying God's existence and persecuting His people like Saul who turned to Paul did? We may be great sinners but we have a great Saviour.

- 1 John 1:9 We can receive forgiveness for our sins by asking God to forgive us. God is faithful to His word that He will forgive us.
- Hebrews 8:12 God is willing to forgive us and not to remember our sins.
- John 3:16 God sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to this world to save us from eternal death. We can have life through accepting Jesus as our Saviour.
- 1 John 1:7 If we are forgiven we will follow Jesus all the way.
- So, what is the unpardonable sin?
- Matthew 12:31, 32 The word "manner" means "kind" or "type." The unpardonable sin is not a kind of sin, it is the continual rejection of the prompting of the Holy Spirit. We can only understand the unpardonable sin if we understand how the Holy Spirit has worked through the Bible.
- Genesis 1:2 The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Godhead. The Holy Spirit helped with the creation of the earth.
- Genesis 6:3 Before the Flood, the Holy Spirit tried to lead people to stop sinning, but the people refused to listen to Him. Then the Holy Spirit could not help them anymore before the Flood.
- John 16:8 The Holy Spirit shows us our sin. Also, the Holy Spirit strengthens us against temptations.
- John 3:8 The Holy Spirit changes the person's life. This experience is called "being born again."
- John 16:13 The Holy Spirit leads us into truth.
- How can we be filled with the Holy Spirit?
- Acts 1:8 Jesus promised the gift of the Spirit.
- John 14:15
Acts 5:32 Jesus promised to give the Spirit to people who love and obey God.

What does the Bible teach about the gift of tongues?

1. When the gift of tongues was given on the day of Pentecost, every person was able to understand their own language—Acts 2:6
2. The gift of tongues was a real language to communicate the gospel.
3. When the gift of tongues was wrongly used in the Corinthian church. Paul declared, “I would rather speak five words with my understanding, than ten thousand in an unknown tongue.” (1 Corinthians 14:19)
4. The apostles gave these guidelines:
 - a. Tongues are for a sign not to believers but unbelievers (vs. 22).
 - b. Only two or at most three people should speak in tongues in any given meeting (vs. 27).
 - c. There must be an interpreter present (vs. 27).
 - d. Only one person at a time must speak (vs. 27).
 - e. The individual must be in control of his words and actions.

1 Cor. 14:33 Remember that God is interested in orderly meetings. God is not interested in confusing and uncontrollable meetings.

To Be Filled With the Holy Spirit Means:

1. To have a heart that deeply loves Jesus.
2. To have a mind filled with His words.
3. To have a determination to follow the truth.

Psalm 51:11 It is our decision to accept or reject the Holy Spirit.

Psalm 19:13 Continuing to sin against the truth reduces our ability to listen to the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit does not leave us. We are responsible for refusing to listen to the Holy Spirit. We ourselves harden our hearts against the gentle words of the Holy Spirit. The unpardonable sin happens when any person repeatedly says “no” to God. The story of King Saul shows the results of saying “no” to God.

1 Samuel 15:22 King Saul chose to disobey God when he saved something God told him to destroy completely.

1 Samuel 16:14 King Saul rejected the Holy Spirit’s warnings and guidance again and again. The Holy Spirit had to leave the King. King Saul had hardened his heart against the Holy Spirit.

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

26. Home at Last!

The earth, our home, is not a pleasant place to live anymore. It is being filled with waste, chemicals, pollution, etc. that are hurting our health. Scientists warn that our planet might die. The Bible has the solution to the world's problem, but not what we think it would be. God has a better plan for us.

- Genesis 1:31 In the beginning, God created our planet perfectly. There was no death, decay, and destruction. Adam and Eve were happy and peaceful. Everything was perfect. But sin changed God's plan. Because of sin, our planet has suffered and declined in quality of life. But, God has promised restoration of the earth. God promises to bring everything back to where it began originally or even better.
- Acts 3:20, 21 God promised to send Jesus Christ as the Messiah to save us. God promises that He will make everything new again.
- 2 Peter 3:13 We have hope in God's promise of a new earth and a new heaven.
- Revelation 1:7 Jesus will come back again and everyone will see Him in the sky.
- Matthew 16:27 Jesus will come with the glory of God.
- 1 Thess. 4:16, 17 There will be a resurrection of God's people at the second coming of Christ.
- 1 Cor. 15:52, 53 At the second coming of Christ, our body will be changed. We will not die anymore. We will have a new body that has no disease and defects.
- Phil. 3:20, 21 Our body will be like Jesus' glorious body.
- 2 Thess. 1:9 The unsaved will be destroyed at the second coming of Christ.
- Before the millennium or one thousand years, the dead saved people will be resurrected at the second coming of Christ. The resurrected dead will meet Jesus in the air. The living saved will meet with the resurrected people in the air with Christ, too. The resurrected dead and the saved living all go to heaven with Jesus for the millennium. After the millennium, the dead unsaved will be resurrected after the landing of the Holy City, New Jerusalem.
- Revelation 21:1-3 Heaven is a real place for God's people to live in.
- Revelation 20:9 The resurrected unsaved people will surround the Holy City and try to capture the city. Fire comes down from heaven and destroys them and then cleans the whole earth.

- Revelation 21:4 After the destruction of the wicked and the cleansing of sin from the earth, there will be no more crying, tears, pain, illness, and death.
- Revelation 14:4 God's people will be with Jesus forever.
- Isaiah 65:17 God will create new heavens and a new earth after the fire burns up and cleans everything.
- Isaiah 11:6, 9 Wild animals will not harm us anymore. Lions and bears will be our pets.
- Isaiah 65:21-23 We will enjoy doing real activities.
- Matthew 8:11 In the new earth, we will meet Abraham who was faithful to God until his death. He will be resurrected to live forever.
- Hebrews 11:8 Abraham had faith in God and looked forward to heaven as his reward for being faithful to God.
- Hebrews 11:24-27 Moses rejected the offer of the world because he believed in God and followed Him all the way.
- Isaiah 66:23 We will worship God on the 7th day Sabbath in the new earth.
- Revelation 22:1-4 There will be a river of water of life flowing from the throne of God and Jesus. The tree of life will be on each side of the river. It will give fruit twelve times a year. God's people will be with God forever. Separation from God will never come again.