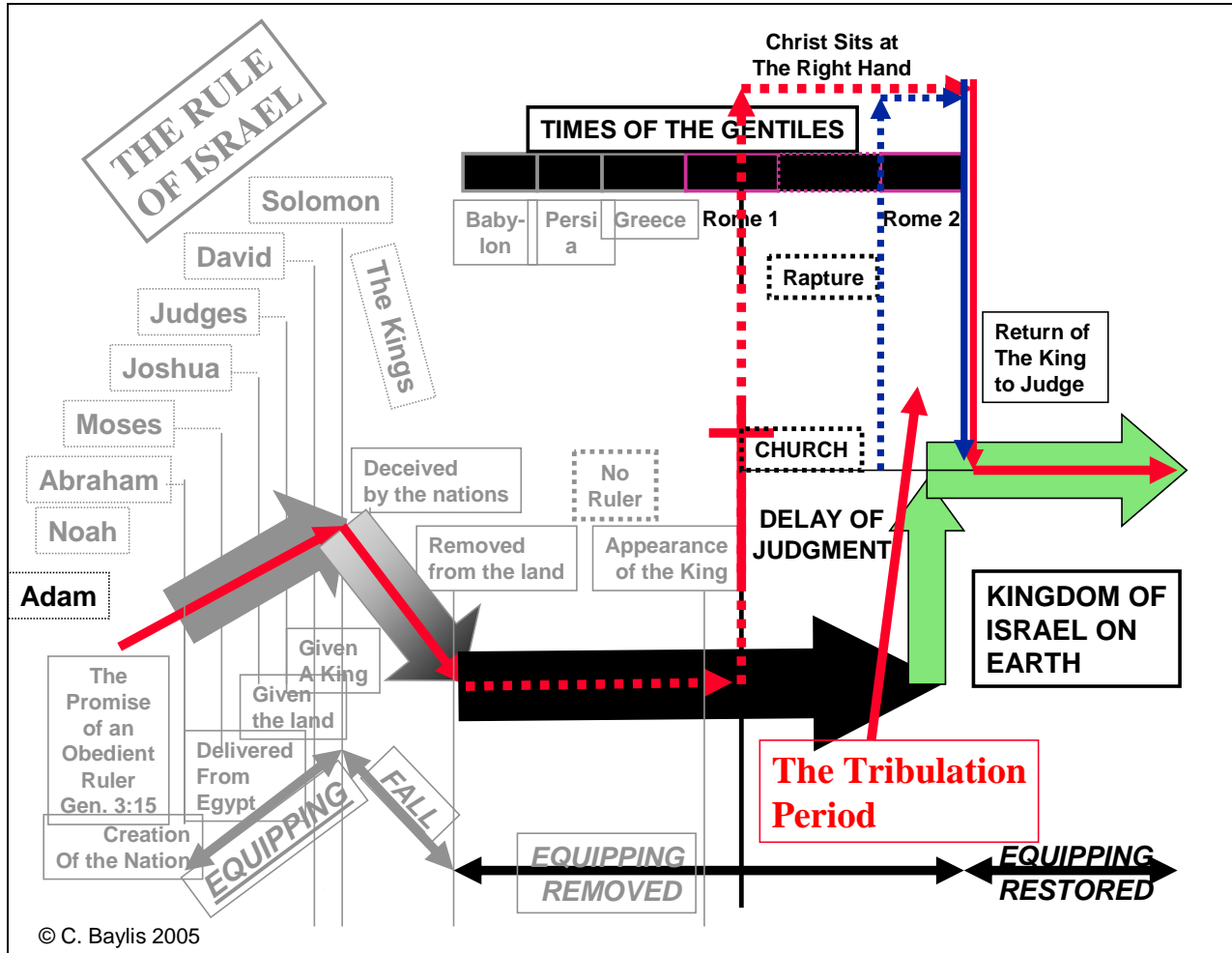


THE STORY OF THE BIBLE

SESSION #14

THE TRIBULATION & THE KINGDOM

The Tribulation: The Seed of the Serpent (The Beast) rules Israel

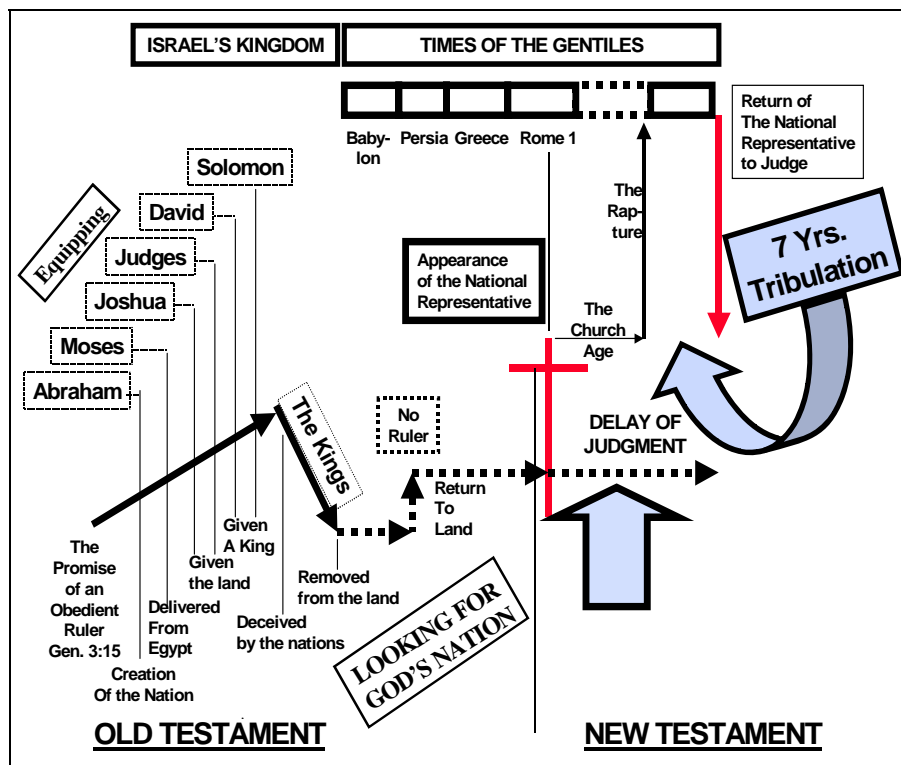


I. The Times Of The Gentiles Would Continue Through The Four Gentile Kingdoms.

The final Gentile kingdom, Rome, is revived at the last of the “Times of the Gentiles” and oppresses Israel. He will seek to eliminate them ultimately, but the Greater Moses will arrive to save them.

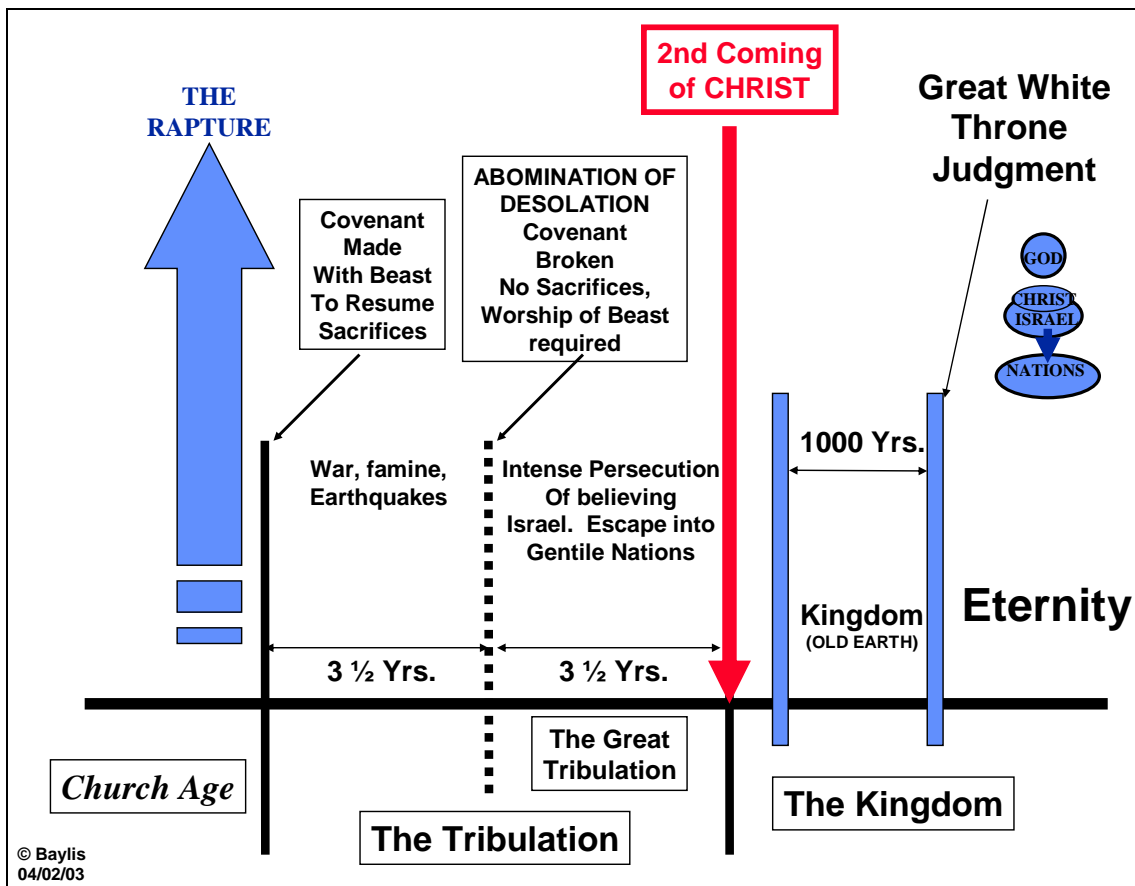
II. Satan seeks to rule over Israel through His Antichrist, The Beast

Satan raises up his greatest representative, the seed of the serpent, the BEAST (the antichrist). This antichrist will rule over Satan's greatest nation, Rome as they oppress the Seed of the Woman, the believers, and particularly the believers in the nation Israel, in order to make them extinct.



III. The Tribulation Period and the Return of Christ

The reestablishment of the rule of Israel and the end of the 'Times of the Gentiles' incorporates several sequences. First of all there will be a seven year tribulation. During this time God will bring Israel back to Himself. It is divided into two parts, each of 3-1/2 years.



A. The Beginning of the Tribulation: The Covenant with the Antichrist.

Israel will make a covenant with Israel so that they can have peace. Israel was not to make any covenant with anyone but God and so begins 3-1/2 years of apostasy.

7 "And he (*likely the Antichrist*) will make a firm covenant with the many (*Israel*) for one week (*7 years*)¹

Daniel 9:27

B. The First 3-1/2 years: Israel in Apostasy: It is during this time that God focuses on returning Israel to Himself through the administration of the curses of Deuteronomy 28—30 and Leviticus 26 upon the nation Israel to bring them back. Thus, it is a time of war, famines and earthquakes.

C. The Middle: The Breaking of the Covenant and Israel's repentance

¹ Italics mine.

It is in the middle of the Tribulation that the Antichrist declares himself to be God and requires all worship. He then breaks his covenant with Israel and requires them to follow him or die.

"And he will make a firm covenant with the many for one week (7 years), but in the middle of the week (3-1/2 years) he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering;

Daniel 9:27

3 . . . the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction, 4 who opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, displaying himself as being God.

2 Thessalonians 2:3-4

Following the middle of the Tribulation, in Revelation 11:13 the City of Jerusalem, based on the Antichrist's entry into the Temple and his killing of the Two Witnesses (Rev. 11) and their subsequent resurrection, begins to turn to Christ. This is the start of Israel's repentance.

13 . . . and the rest (*of the City of Jerusalem*) were terrified and gave glory to the God of heaven.

Revelation 11:13b

D. Israel in exile (3 ½ years): At the middle of the tribulation several events occur; Israel realizes its apostasy and turns to Christ. The antichrist turns on them and they flee to the nations for protection. At first, the nations receive them, but as the antichrist extends his dominion, they begin to oppress Israel. Israel seeks finally to return to the land but the nations oppose this and the curses from heaven begin, in order that the Gentile nations would release them, as Egypt during the original exodus.

E. The New Exodus: The Return of Christ (the New Moses) to Rescue Israel:

The Resolution of the Story: The enemies of God have been conquered through the Seed of the Woman. God's plan has been established as it is clearly seen that God is victorious in His Son's victory over Serpent and his seed.

As Israel returns to Jerusalem, the Beast gathers his armies and the nations' armies to come against them in the land of Israel in one final push to annihilate them completely. The Beast is victorious, as the Jewish women are molested, the houses plundered, and those that are left alive are about to be taken off to exile. The armies are dividing up the plunder in the middle of the city with no fear. As the believing Jews are being taken off, they cry, "Hosanna" ("Save us"; Psalm 118:25) as they did in Christ's first coming.

2 For I will gather all the nations against Jerusalem to battle, and the city will be captured, the houses plundered, the women ravished, and half of the city exiled, but the rest of the people will not be cut off from the city.

Zechariah 14:2

It is at that moment that Jesus of Nazareth, the executed One, the Greater Moses, appears in the sky and descends from heaven, placing His foot on the Mount of Olives. He and the saints and angels who accompany Him do battle with the enemy nations who have come to kill Israel. The heavenly King and His armies move to annihilate the nations' armies. It is a one-sided battle as the King from heaven destroys the armies in a massively bloody battle. They and the Israelites still alive then plunder the armies and now are dividing up the booty of the enemy without fear. As one looks on the dead bodies which are strewn over the landscape, the birds of the air come and have a massive feast. The Beast and his False Prophet are taken and executed, sending them to the pit.

3 Then the LORD will go forth and fight against those nations, as when He fights on a day of battle. 4 And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which is in front of Jerusalem on the east; and the Mount of Olives will be split in its middle from east to west by a very large valley, so that half of the mountain will move toward the north and the other half toward the south. 5 And you will flee by the valley of My mountains

Zechariah 14:3-5

11 And I saw heaven opened; and behold, a white horse, and He who sat upon it is called Faithful and True; and in righteousness He judges and wages war. . . . 14 And the armies which are in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, were following Him on white horses. 15 And from His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He may smite the nations; and He will rule them with a rod of iron; and He treads the wine press of the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty. . . . 19 And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies, assembled to make war against Him who sat upon the horse, and against His army. 20 And the beast was seized, and with him the false prophet who performed the signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image; these two were thrown alive into the lake of fire which burns with brimstone. 21 And the rest were killed with the sword which came from the mouth of Him who sat upon the horse, and all the birds were filled with their flesh.

Revelation 19:11-21

F. The Resurrection of Old Testament Saints

The Old Testament saints bodies are resurrected at the end of the Tribulation just prior to the kingdom. The believers of the church age descend with Christ in their bodies (which were resurrected at the Rapture). The believers are ready to reign with Christ for the 1000 year kingdom in their new bodies.

2 "And many of those who sleep in the dust of the ground will awake, these to everlasting life, but the others to disgrace *and* everlasting contempt. 3 "And those who have insight will shine brightly like the brightness of the expanse of heaven, and those who lead the many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.

Daniel 12:2-3

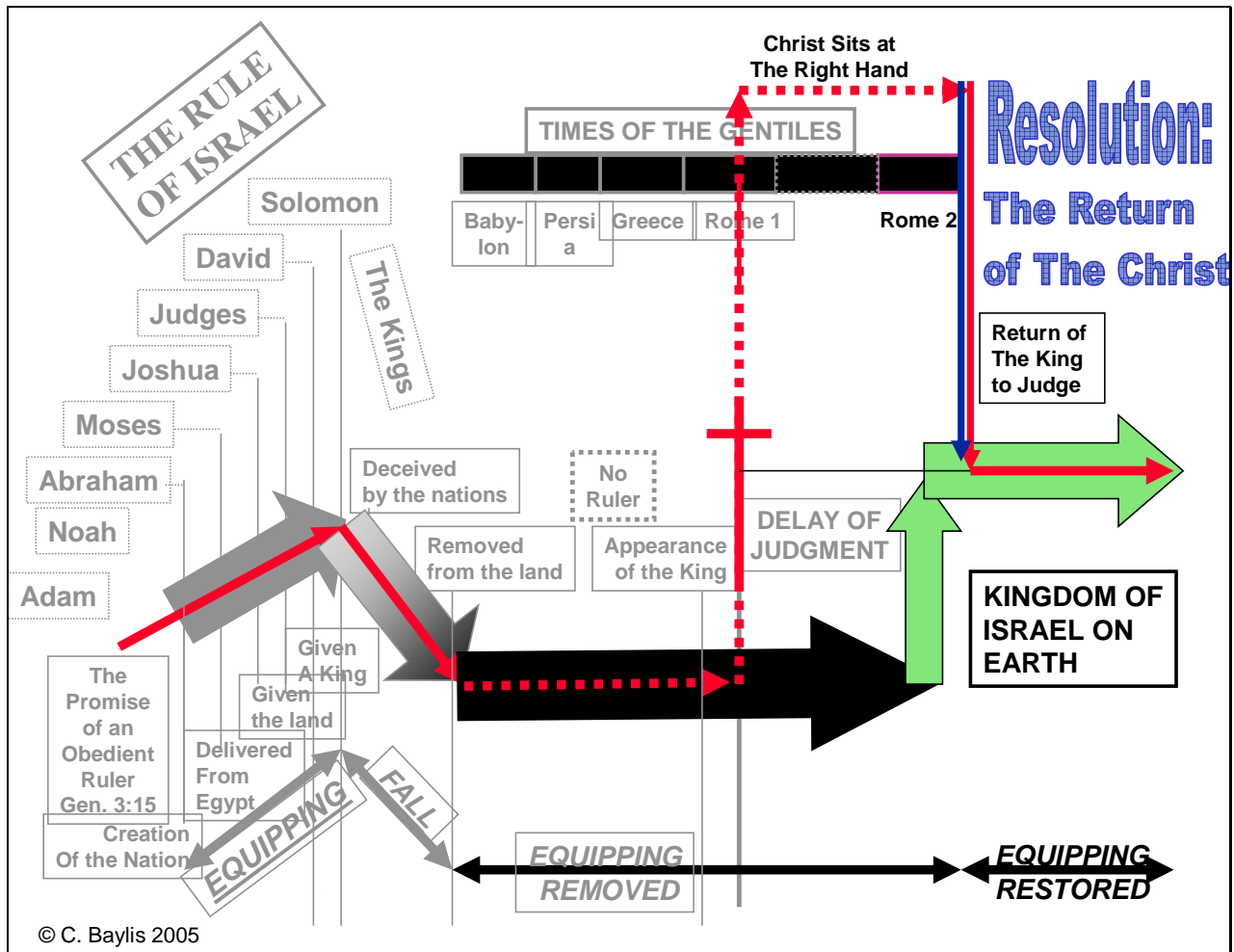
Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years.

Revelation 20:6

Summary: The End of the Tribulation

Now that the fighting is over, the New Exodus has been completed and the Gentile nations destroyed, it is time for the kingdom.

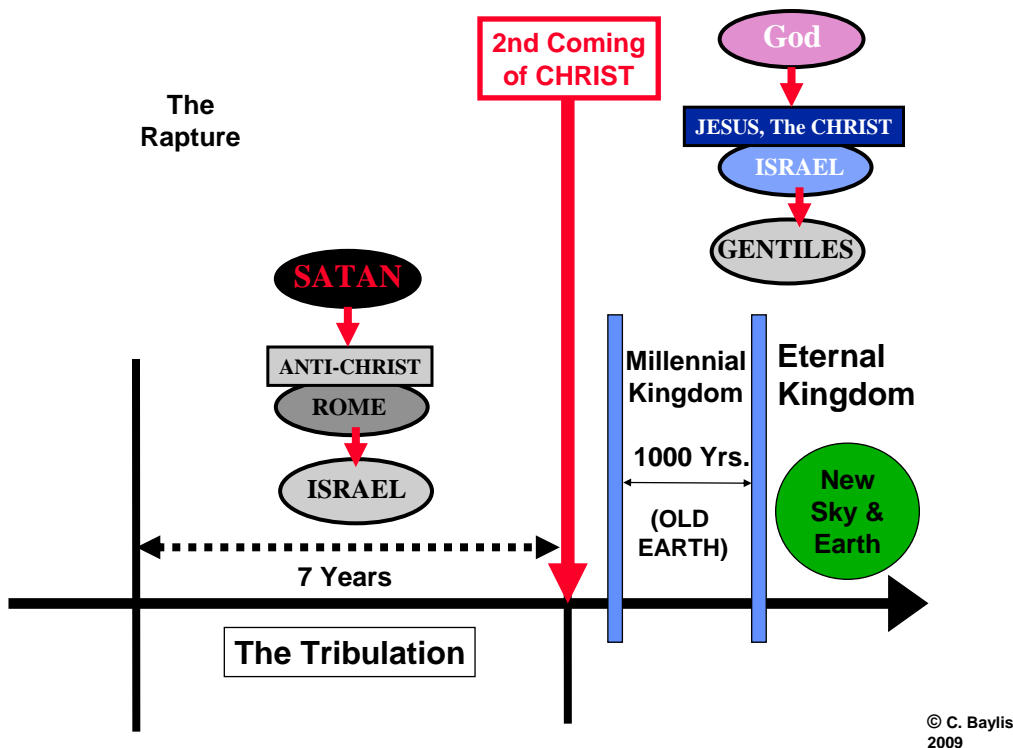
The Millennial Kingdom and the Eternal Kingdom on Earth



I. Return of Christ and The Millennial Kingdom (Rev. 20).

The Resolution of the Story: The enemies of God have been conquered through the Seed of the Woman. God's plan has been established as it is clearly seen that God is victorious in His Son's victory over Serpent and his seed.

Jesus descends, conquers the enemy and sets up a kingdom on this earth. Jerusalem is restored as the capital of the world and Israel. Animals and men are all at peace, with Jesus on the throne in Jerusalem, ruling the world.



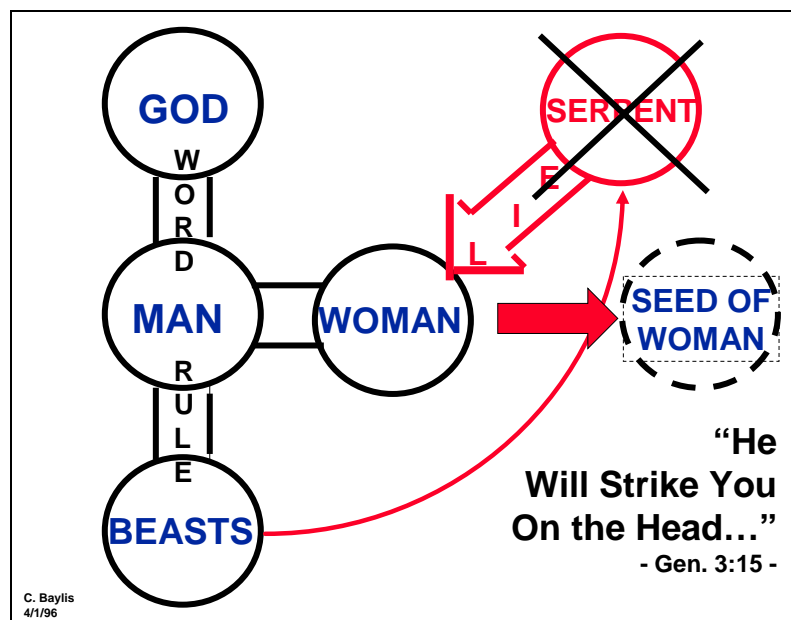
A. The Millennial Kingdom on Earth: Genesis 1:26, 28 and Genesis 12:1-3 fulfilled (Revelation 20)

Now the Kingdom on earth begins. In the beginning God had desired to have man rule over creation (Genesis 1:26, 28) and now man is ruling through His Son, Jesus Christ. In addition, God had desired that Israel would rule over the Gentile nations (Genesis 12:1-3) and now that has been done. The church believers, having been resurrected at the rapture, will now, as the Bride of the King, rule from Jerusalem with Him.

B. The Resurrection of the Saints' bodies to be in the kingdom.

At the rapture, all the church age believers had gotten their bodies back and were in heaven and returned bodily with Christ to conquer the earth. At Jesus' return to earth, He resurrected all the bodies of the Old Testament saints so that they could be in the kingdom as well. (Daniel 12:1-2).

C. Satan, the Serpent of Old, is bound (Rev. 20:1-2):



The Seed of the Woman, Jesus Christ, then puts Satan, the old serpent, in the abyss to be there for 1000 years. He will, following the 1000 years, be put into the Lake of Fire forever, along with the unbelievers. Thus, Satan, the Serpent of old is finally struck on the head and destroyed forever.

II. The Great White Throne Judgment: The New Adam judges the Old Creation (20:11-15)

As Revelation 20 comes to an end, the New Adam sits on a Great White Throne and judges the Old Creation. All the unbelievers of all time are resurrected in their bodies, judged according to their works, and placed forever in the Lake of Fire. Now the “seed of the serpent” is finally judged and eliminated.

III. The Eternal Kingdom, the New Jerusalem (Rev. 21).

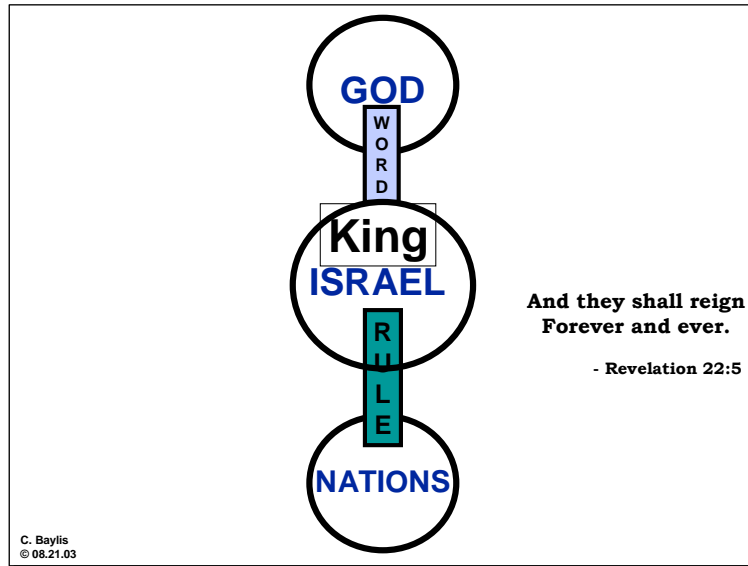
God then recreates the skies and the earth for man to dwell in. No longer is there a curse and believers will now live forever with Christ in this new earth.

A. The New Jerusalem.

The City of Jerusalem descends from heaven to the earth. It is quite sizable, measuring 1500 miles on a side and 1500 miles high. It houses the church saints as well as the 12 Tribes of Israel. Outside throughout the earth, Gentiles live and travel to the City to worship the king.

IV. The End of the Story: The Results

As a result of the story, it now ends. God's plan from the beginning has been implemented. Man is ruling in His Son, Jesus Christ (Genesis 1:26, 28). Israel is ruling with its King, Jesus Christ on the throne in Jerusalem (Genesis 12:1-3). And most of all God is being glorified throughout the earth through each man, now regenerated and with a new body. He will live out God's plan forever and ever.



The prayer of the believer is in the next to last verse of the Bible.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Rev 22:20

Assignment # 14

THE TRIBULATION & THE KINGDOM

Reading:

Revelation 13
Revelation 19
Zechariah 14:1-6
Revelation 20
Revelation 21

Study Questions: Give answers from the Notes

1. What event begins the 7 year tribulation period?
2. What kind of relationship does Israel have with God during the first part of the Tribulation (good or bad?)
3. What event happens at the middle of the tribulation period after 3-1/2 years?
4. During which half of the tribulation does Israel begin to come to Christ?
5. What event ends the Tribulation Period?
6. Where is the 1000 year kingdom; in heaven or on earth?
7. What happens to Satan at the beginning of the 1000 year kingdom?

8. What do the believers from the church age do during the 1000 year kingdom and where are they doing it?

9. Who is the Judge and who gets judged at the Great White Throne judgment?

10. When does the Great White Throne judgment occur in relationship to the 1000 year kingdom and the Eternal Kingdom?

11. Where is the eternal kingdom; on earth or in heaven?
