

The Great planet Earth
Paradise Lost, Paradise Gained

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A Great War in Heaven

Lucifer mounted a rebellion against God's throne in heaven. Satan fought against Michael and his angels, but Satan was defeated and was cast back down to earth, as were the angels that rebelled with him. Jesus was there; He saw it happen. "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven."

So Lucifer mounted a rebelling (war) against God's throne in heaven. He fought against Michael and his angels. So Lucifer was no longer the "Light Bringer" but now he is an adversary, a competitor, and an enemy.

The Great Planet Earth

This study on the Great Planet Earth was written by Elder Richard L. Chatfield, and with his faithful wife, Helen. She graduated with a Bachelor degree in Christian Counseling from the Evangelical Theological Seminary and Bible College.

This study was compiled and written for new value and Christian information only.

This C.D. was written for any person who desires to study the teaching of God's Words in an orderly manner. On this C.D. the authors do not pretend to have brought out all gems of the Bible about the creations of the Great Planet Earth and it's beginning.

There was a great war in heaven that destroyed everything on earth, weapons unknown, volcanic action, sulfur, brimstone and fire. The earth was so hot that it had to be cooled for a great length of time, thousands of years. God covered the earth with water, until there was nothing but one great ocean over it (Gen.1:2).

Long before the new earth was created' God was preparing a garden call Eden, a paradise, a perfect place for man to live.

Who created the world? Was the earth created long before man? What was living on the earth before man was created? Was the earth destroyed before God recreated it so man could live upon it? Would God create an earth without form, and void, and in darkness, then would have to build a new heaven and earth?

The very first words in the Bible tell us: "In the beginning God created the heaven and earth" (Genesis 1:1). There could have been thousands of years between verse 1 and verse 2, "And the earth was without form, and void, but God planned to make man and give him a beautiful home. So He (God) began to recreate; that is, to make things new. Then He told Adam to be "fruitful, and multiply, and Replenish the earth" (Gen.1:28).

In order that righteous Noah and his family might live past that world's end, God told Noah to make a wooden ark, it would be needed to save their lives, because the world was to be destroyed by a great flood of water. "Then God bless Noah and his sons, and said unto them, be fruitful and multiply, and Replenish the earth" (Gen.9:1).

The third time God will destroy the earth by fire, "there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth" (Matt.13:41-42).

Long before the Garden of Eden was created, even before the world came to be, God decided to make a beautiful place called earth. So God began to create, that is to make something that had never been done before. So He made a perfect paradise for man to live in, a beautiful Garden, a place of peace and pleasure for all mankind. But to create, there must be a creator, "For thus said the Lord that created the heavens; God himself that formed the earth and made it; He hath established it, He created it not in vain, He formed it to be inhabited: I am the Lord; and there is none else" (Isa.45:18).

But you may ask, how did the earth come to be, and why was it placed where it is? Who made it, and why did He make it? To answers these questions there is only one place to go and that is the Bible.

The earth is just one of many planets or members of the solar system. Living upon the earth, we often think that it is the largest and most important body that exists; but when we study a little about the sun, the moon and the stars, we soon see that this earth of ours is just one of many small specks in this great universe. Although the earth is only a tiny speck when compared with some of the other heavenly bodies, so far as we know it is the only place in the universe where there are animals and humans living together.

All the early thinkers turn their attentions to the earth and tried to explain how and when it began, what it was made up of. Many scientists have different ideas about the way the earth began. One scientist explained that the earth was formed by a great mass of hot gas. Another theory is that there were great mass of dust particles whirling around in space and it became larger and larger by adding other particles to themselves and finally there came a time when they became the stars, sun, moon, the earth and other planets. Then there is the big bang theory.

Many science and geology and most preachers deny that the great mountains, deep canyons, and high cliffs had been cause by some sudden and violent action. When they speak of the natural wonders of the world such as the Alps, the Grand Canyon and the Colorado River, or the Niagara Falls, they usually speak of them that they were formed by the flow of the rivers, which has cut its way through the rock to its present level. But again they deny as if they have been cause by some great convulsion of nature. It is now known that these wonders have been cause by a great war in heaven that destroyed the earth.

But how was the earth made? Just who made this universe, the stars, moon, sun and atmosphere for man? Thou, Lord (Elohim) in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thine hands (Heb.1:10).

"In the beginning (Greek, arche, commencement) was the Word (Logos), and the Word (Logos or Jesus) was with God, and the Word (Logos) was of God. The same was in the beginning with God. All thing were made by Him and without Him was not anything made" (or created) (John 1:1-3).

The Hebrew word reshiyth, translation "beginning" in connection with the creation of heaven and earth (Genesis 1:1), and the Greek word arche translation "beginning" in connection with creation of the universe (Heb.1:10), and beginning of Logos (Jesus) (John 3:1-2), means any beginning, but never means eternity or duration before a first beginning. The Greek Lexicon by Lidell and Scott defines arche as a beginning, first cause, origin. And Thayer concordance as, first beginning, the first person or thing that commences, the first person or thing in a series. Arche appears fifty-eight times in the

Greek text, but never is it translated, "beginning" or "originator." The overall evidence is that the Word (Jesus) had a beginning before His birth by His mother Mary.

"In the beginning God"---God was before all. The next word in Genesis chapter 1;1 was "created" "God created." He (God the Father) created. He created the heaven and the earth. But the very next verse of the first chapter of Genesis says this: "The earth was without form, and void." The Hebrew words for "without form, and void" are tohu and boh. Translated into English, they mean chaotic, in confusion, waste and empty.

Who is the Supreme Being? What about His divinity and infinity? What was His first creative product? Who is the Son of God? The Son's characteristics? What were the Son's functions? Are the Father and Son co-equal and co-eternal? Did Jesus (Hebrew name Yahshua) exist before John the Baptist, before Abraham, before the earth was created? Has the Father and His Son lived though out all eternal? "The earth was without form, and void," Why? Was there life on earth before Adam? What kind of life could it has been? It wasn't human life. Then what kind of life had populated the earth prior to Adam, prior to the week called "Creation Week?"

Did God create a devil? When and how were the angels created? How did they (Satan and his demons) obtain their dominion? How did they maintain their control? Where did the devil get the power to control and to lead and to rule this earth?

Most of us have been predisposed to various kind of doctrines, creeds, beliefs, and teachings, so that when we encounter something contrary to our beliefs, we are inclined to look for evidence to counteract such. In doing so we may find a passage that support our previous opinion, even if it contradicts a half of dozen other passages on the same subject. Perhaps we have taken a text out of context, or it may be an obscure passage, a phrase, or an allegory. Hence, there is a danger of not "rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Tim.2:15), or giving a 'private' interpretation (2 Peter 1:20). Never interpret a clear and plain passage of scripture by a doubtful or obscure passage. .

Now let us investigate for the answers to the questions above,

Geologists in their study of the earth has come to understand something of the geological forces that shape the earth, let us go back to the past eras and find out what the earth was like during those times. We shall be amazed by the variety and the size of some of the prehistoric animals and plants.

Earth, the third planet in the solar system in point of proximity to the sun, and the fifth in point of size and mass. Its main distance from the sun is 92,897,000 miles. It is the only planet in the solar system known to be cable of supporting intelligent form of life. The rotation of the earth reaches the speed at the equator at 1,000 M.P.H.; at the middle of the earth it reaches the speed of 667 M.P.H

The age of the earth is therefore, as the creation scientists believe that the earth is less than 10,000 yeas old. While many geologists believe it is probably between 3500 and 5500 millions years old. The age of the mountains can be told roughly from their appearance. The high, rugged mountains with sharp, jagged peaks and steep walls, like the Rockies and the Alps, are young mountains because they have not been here long enough to have sharp tops and corners rounded off by the weather. Low, round mountains, like the Appalachian range in the eastern United States, are older, and all their jagged peaks and edges have been smoothed off leaving round-topped hills such as Stone mountain in Georgia, (Cyclopedia of the world knowledge, Junior Britannica).

The solar system is like a mighty clock with planet for balance, wheels set in motion by the laws of God (Yahvah). Around the sun revolve the nine known planets that make up the solar systems and with them revolve many smaller bodies known as planetoids. The earth itself is one of the planets, and like the others it follows its changeless path, or orbits, round and round the sun. The time required for one round trip makes what we call one year. Other planets have years different in length from the earth's year.

The nine planets are, in the order of their distance from the sun: Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, and the newly discovered Pluto. Of these only Venus, Mars, Jupiter, and Saturn can be seen by the naked eye. These planets are enormous bodies, as large as, or many times larger than the earth.

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Viewing the skies from our position on earth, we can hardly tell the planets from the stars. All are glittering points in the heavens above, and if we could see the earth from some other heavenly body, our own planet would look just like another such point in the sky. However, if we study the heaven at all carefully, we see that the stars seem to hold fixed position in the sky relation to each other, while the planets moves independently of the stars and in relation only to other planets and sun. You can also tell a planet by the fact that it sends out a steady light, whereas the stars seem to twinkle. This is due to the fact that while the stars shine with a light of their own, the planets, like the moon, reflect the light from the sun.

The scientist has said that we can only guess as to how the planets, the sun and the solar system came to be. The theory is that they now believe for the sake of argument, that the origin of the earth and the others planets was cause by accident.

The solar system, with all its planets, is a small part of this great universe, containing perhaps thousand of systems in the heaven above, and all keeping harmony in their giant circling of the sky (Junior Britannica).

This great universe was not caused by some accident but by the hand of God (Yahvah). The Bible tells us in Genesis chapter 1, "In the beginning God (Yahvah) created the heaven and earth."

Once upon a time the universe was formless, darkness was universal, not one planet, or star marked the sky were found in solar system. The Eternal, Independent and self Existent Being, the Being whose purpose and actions spring from Himself, True and Holy, cause of all being, the upholder of all things, before the creative acts, all was eternity, the creator was God (Elohim).

Biblical Cosmogony, (term applied to the origin of the universe, to theories concerning its origin, it is a study of its origin and development. In primitive cosmogonies some supernatural being created life). The God of the Bible created the angels, sun, stars, the earth, and man from a formless chaos. "In the beginning God." God was only a Spiritual Being in the universe, nothing but darkness throughout space.

The Supreme Being, (the Almighty and most high God) is the creator of "all things." "God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that He is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands" (Acts 17:24). See also Revelation 4:10-

11, Isaiah 44:24. It necessarily follows that He (Yahivah) is also the Creator of His son, a view considered heretical by many Bible scholars today.

“Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature” (Colossian 1:15), an image is a copy of another, a likeness, and duplication. A creature is one subject to the will of another, any living being. Creature signifies creation. Logic demands that the first born in any family is the first one born, and this verse shows that Jesus (Yahshua) was the first of all creation to come into existence, not merely in position or rank but in time the firstborn had an origin at a point prior to all other acts of creation. “The Lord (Yahvah--God) possessed me (Yahshua--Jesus), in the beginning of His ways, before His works of old. I (Jesus) was set up from everlasting, from the beginning, or ever the earth was. When there was no depth, I was brought forth: When there were no fountains abounding with water. Before the mountains were settled, before the hills was I brought forth. While as yet He (God the Father) had not made the earth, nor the fields, nor the highest part of the dust of the world. When He (Yahvah) prepared the heavens, I (Yahshua) was there; When He (God) set a compass upon the face of the depth: When He established the clouds above: When He strengthened the fountains of the deep: When He gave to the sea His decree, that waters should not pass His Commandments: When He appointed the foundation of the earth Then I (Jesus) was by Him (God): as one brought up with Him: and I was daily His delight, rejoicing always before Him (Proverbs 8:22-30.” He (Christ) was the firstborn of every creature, the firstborn among many brethren, and the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He might have the preeminence (Rom.8:29; Colossian 1:15-18). Today, more than ever we need to dwell in the pages of the Word of God.

“These things said the Amen, the faithful and true witness of the creation of God” (Revelation 3:14). He (the son) is the beginning, not the beginner, of the creation of God. “For as the Father hath life in Himself, so hath He given to the Son to have life in Himself” (John 5:24). This declares that there was a time when the Son did not have life. Yahvah the eternal was considered a “Father” long before the “Word” became flesh.

The Apostle Paul drew an analogy in his writing concerning the origins of the two Adams. “And so it is written. The first man Adam was made a living soul: the last Adam was made a quickening spirit. The first man is of the earth, earthy: the second man is the Lord Jesus from heaven”(1 Corinthians 15:45-47). The Greek here for “made” is the same as used in John 1:3: namely *ginomai*, in the sense of created, came into being, or came forth. The Hebrew word for “made” as used in Genesis 2:3, is *Asah*, and signifies create, produce, or bring forth. If the first Adam was made or created, so was the second Adam (Jesus) created and brought forth. “The Lord created me as the first of His creations, before all of His works. When there were no depths. I was brought forth” (Proverbs 8:22-30).

The Pre-Existence of the messiah was foretold unto us in both the Old Testament and in the New Testament (Genesis 1:26, 1 Corinthians 1:30, John 17:5).

If Jesus is the Son of God, then God is His Father. He referred to God as the Father: “which the Son of man shall give unto you: for Him hath God the Father sealed” (John 6:27). Notice His prayer to God: “Father, the hour is come: glorify thy Son, that thy Son also glorify thee. And this is life eternal, that they may know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent” (John 17:1-3). Isn't this interesting? “I ascend unto my Father, and your Father, and to my God and your God” (John 20:17). The apostle

Paul also agreed that the Messiah was subordinate to God. “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessing in heavenly places in Christ” (Ephesians 1:2-3, 2 Corinthians 1:2-3). Other Pre-Existence Scripture can be found, “Verily, verily I say unto you, before Abraham was, I am” (John 8:58). “And now, O Father, Glorify thou Me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was, for thou lovedst Me before the foundation of the world” (John 17:5, 24).

After the Father created the first spiritual being, some think that Michael the Archangel is the Son of God. Certainly the Angel of Jehovah, or the Second person of the God Head, in pleading for Joshua the high priest representing the Jewish people, used the same rebuke to Satan as Michael does in Jude 9, Zechariah 3:1-5. Michael will usher in the coming resurrection by standing up for people of God (Daniel 12:1). The name Michael means, who is like God.

We have discovered that the Supreme Being, (the Most High God, YHVH) is the creator of all things, “The Spirit of God made me, and the breath of the Almighty hath given me life” (Job 33:4). “Lord, thou art God which hast made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all that in them is” (Acts 4:24). Hast thou not known? Hast thou not heard, the Everlasting God, the Lord, the creator of the ends of the earth” (Isaiah 40:28)? Also see Jeremiah 32:17-18, Revelation 4:10-11).

“And to make all men to see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ”(Ephesians 3:9). “For through there be that are called gods, whether in heaven or in earth, (as there be many, and lords many), but to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in Him: and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by Him” (1 Corinthians 8:5-6). “All things were made by Him, and without Him (Christ) was not anything made that was made” (John 1:3, Colossians 1:17).

“He was in the world, and the world was made by Him, and the world knew Him not” (John 1:10). In these verses, Christ is said to have created all things.

Is there a contradiction in the Bible when it stated that God created every thing? Then it would state that He “Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: for by Him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principality, or power; all things were created by Him, and for Him: and He is before all things, and by Him all things consist” Colossians 1:15-17).

No! Jesus said, that from the beginning of creation God (Jehovah) was greater than He (John 14:28; John 10:29). That He (Jesus) could do nothing of Himself (John 5:19; 8:28). Jesus was not part of creation; He existed when no part of creation existed; as he formed all created nature; for “without Him was not anything made” (John 1:3). The Word (Jesus) was the spokesman for God (Jehovah) and through His power that the Father gave His Son. And through that power He (Jesus) created all things

A father exists before a son. A father is progenitor (parent) of a son. To say the son is as old as His Father is an obvious contradiction. The Son is dependent on the Father for the Father gave “The Son to have in Himself” John 5:26, John 6:57). “Have we not all one Father? Hath not one God created us (Malachi 2:10)?

The Apostle Paul in his writing did not indicate either that the Son was co-equal with the Father. In his epistle to the Ephesians he expressed his stand on the Godhead in some

of the following extracts: "Bless be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessing in heavenly places in Christ. That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him. One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in all" (Ephesians 1:3,17, 4:6). If the Most High is the God and Father of all, "who is above all, then He is still above His Son even after the Son returned to Him in heaven. Paul used similar expressions in His Corinthian epistle, and beside also these: "And ye are Christ; and Christ is God's" (1 Corinthians 3:23)."But I would have you to know, that the head of every man is Christ: and the head of every woman is the man, and the head of Christ is God" (1 Corinthians 11:3).

If our interpretation of the 'beginning' or "Origin" of the Son of God is correct, now is it possible to confess that He (Jesus) was and is divine? Being the offspring, or a Son of God, He shares the same basic nature as His Father, which is Divine.

When the Messiah was accused of making Himself equal with God, He answered: "Say ye of Him whom the Father hath sanctified and sent into the world, thou blasphemest; because I said, I am the Son of God" (John 10:36).

Consider also this: "But unto the Son He said, Thy throne, O god, is for ever and ever: the scepter of thy kingdom is a right scepter. Thou lovest righteousness, therefore God even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows" (Psalm 45:6-7; Hebrew 1:8-9). The Son inherited His Godhood from His Father: "For it was the Father gracious will that the whole of divine perfections should dwell in Him" (Colossian 1:19). "For in Him dwelleth all fullness of the Godhead bodily" (of God) (Colossian 2:19). Yet, after acknowledging that He to was Divine and had glory with the Father before the world was (John 17:5). He still maintained that His Father alone is God, and the only true God (John 5:44; 17:3).

Lucifer, (light bringer) the bright and morning star, the second created spiritual being (angel) was a brilliant, glorious spiritual being--an archangel and full of wisdom, the prince of this world. Lucifer had some mysterious connection with this earth and its animals (prehistoric reptiles), before man's appearance. Death already had affected the pre-Adamic animal kingdom, as geology shows. Before he became the devil (Satan), he was an archangel, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty. "Thou sealest up the sun"(Ezekiel 28:12). There was neither sun nor moon over the earth. Lucifer (the bright and morning star) was so bright that he was the sun that lit up the whole earth.

After Michael (Jesus), Lucifer the archangel was created, he was the most beautiful angel ever created, "Thou art the anointed cherub (angel) that covereth" (Ezekiel 28:14). He (Lucifer) is likened to the cherub that guarded the gates of paradise, and kept the way of the tree of life (Genesis 3:24); or to one of the cherubs whose wings, spreads out, covered the mercy seat (Exodus 25:18-20). "Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that wast created; the brightness (likened unto the sun); the most beautiful angel with the greatest wisdom of all created angels. He walked up and down among the stones of fire; that is, the way has been paved with precious stones that shone and sparkled like fire (Ezekiel 28:12-15).

After Michael and Lucifer was created, thousands upon thousands, and thousands and thousands angels were created (Daniel 7:10), Revelation 5:11). Angels are a supernatural or heavenly being, a little higher in dignity than man. Angels are created being (Psalm 148:2-5). Scriptures does not tell us the time of their creation, but it was certainly before

the creation of the earth and man. All angels are described as “spirit” (Hebrews 1:14). Although without a bodily organism, they have often revealed themselves in bodily form as a man (Genesis 18:1-3). They therefore constitute a company, not a race developed from one original pair. Scriptures describes them as spiritual being. Although they possess superhuman intelligence, they are not omniscient, and although stronger than men, they are not supreme (Psalm 103:20). They are not glorified human being, but are distinct from man (Hebrews 1:14). They are of various ranks and endowment (Colossians 1:16), but there is only one Michael, which is called an archangel (Jude 9). This great host of angels, both good and bad is highly organized.

The Bible clearly teaches that the universe, and all matter had a beginning, and came into existence through the will of the eternal God (Yahvah). There was a long gap between verses 1 and 2 of chapter 1 in Genesis; it could have been millions and millions of years before man.

Angels are described many ways in the Old Testaments, “watchers” (Daniel 4:13), “holy ones” (Psalm 89:7), and more than 100 times as God’s host.

The New Testament refers to them as “the angels in heaven” (Matthew 24:36), “the heavenly host” (Luke 2:13), “ministering spirits” (Hebrews 1:14).

The Bible does speak forcefully about angels. Scripturally, angels were meant to be a blessing and a comfort to believers.

The most common biblical terms translated as ‘angels’ are Malak in the Old Testament and Angelos in the New Testament. Malak—the most used term is defined as messengers: representative,

Cherubim (plural of Cherub) and Seraphim also appear in the Bible for the names of angels. The Cherubim guarded the tree of life in the garden of Edon from Adam in Genesis chapter 3 and are described as throne bearers of Yahweh (Ezekiel 1:19-28).

The word Seraph or Seraphim--from a word meaning “fire” or “burning”--are found only in Isaiah 6:2, 6, this same aspect is featured in the vision in Revelation chapter 4.

The name Gabriel (Man of God) and Michael (one who is as God) each appear twice in the Old Testaments (Daniel 8:16, 9:21, 10:13, 21). The New Testament says that Gabriel stands in the presence of God (Luke 1:19) and calls Michael an archangel (Jude 9). The word for Archangel is found only in 1 Thessalonians 4:16 and Jude 9.

Fallen angels were divine messengers created by God who rebelled against Him and were cast out of heaven. The Lord, or prince of these fallen angels is Satan (Revelation 17:9). Fallen angels or messengers continue to serve Satan, but their power is limited. Judgment awaits them in the future (Matthew 25:41). The fallen angels in 2 Peter, chapter 2, verses 4 and Jude 6, were once pure and holy but turned to a life of sin, and now they are waiting for God’s judgment.

The angels of the Lord perform actions associated with God, such as revelation, deliverance, and destruction, but they can be spoken of as distinct from God (2 Samuel 24:16; Zechariah 1:12). Angels also protect the people of God (Daniel 3:28; Matthew 26:53). They meet a wide variety of human needs, including relieving hunger and thirst (Mark 1:13), and overcoming loneliness and fear (Luke 22:43). They sometimes deliver people from danger (Acts 12:6-11).

The vast army of unfallen angels delight in praising the name of the Lord continually (Psalm 103:21, 148:1-2). Angels represents God in making significant announcements of good (Luke 2:8-15), and destruction (Revelation 17:1), danger, (Matthew 2:13), in some

cases they are God's agents in destruction and judgment of evil men (Genesis 19:30; 2 Samuel 24:16).

The Son of Man shall send forth His Angels and they will separate the wicked from the just and gather in the harvest and cast them into the furnace of fire at the end of this age (Matthew 13:39-49). But no harm will befall the righteous because Jesus shall give His angels charge to keep them from all harm (Psalm 91:1-11). "For the Son of Man shall come in the glory of His Father with His angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works" (Matthew 16:27).

Who is the Creator? Don't you believe that Michael (called Jesus after His birth) the Son of God is the creator? The very first reference to creation says: "In the beginning God created the heaven and earth" (Genesis 1:1). Isaiah seems to be explicit in defining this God. "The everlasting God, the Lord (Yahvah) the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not" (Isaiah 40:28). "Thus saith God the Lord, He that created the heaven" (referring to His servant (Yahshua), it is He that will "keep thee for a covenant of the people for a light to the Gentiles" (Isaiah 42:1-8). The Patriarch Job had this to contribute: "The Spirit of God hath made me, and the breath of the Almighty hath given me life" (Job 33:4). "Ah Lord God behold, thou hast made the heavens and the earth, the Great and mighty God (Elohim), the Lord (Yahvah) of host is His name"

We have discovered that the Supreme Being, "the Most High God, Father, the everlasting God (Yahvah) is the Creator of all thing." "For in those days shall be affliction, such as was not from the beginning of creation which God created unto this time, neither shall be" (Mark 13:19). "Men of Athens, I notice that you are very religious, for as I was out walking I saw your many alters, and one of them had this inscription on it--to the unknown God.' You have been worshiping Him with out knowing who He is, and now I wish to tell you about Him. He made the world and every thing in it, and since He is Lord of heaven and earth. He Himself gives life and breath to every thing, for in Him we live and moved" (Acts 17:22-31). Also see Jeremiah 32:17-18; Isaiah 40:28; Malachi 2:10; and Revelation 4:10-11).

Scrutiny of the following scriptures verify the facts that the Father Yahvah used the Word (Jesus) His Son, as the agent to create everything that was created: "And to make all men to see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ" (Ephesians 3:9). Also see Colossians 1:15-17), John 1:3, 10, Hebrew 1:1-4. Is there a contradiction? No! God the Father gave the power to the Word (Jesus), which in turn used that power "to create all thing that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be throne or dominions, or principalities, or power: all things were created by Him and for Him" (Colossian 1:16).

After the angels were created, then it was the time to turn to the creation of the galaxies; the planets that makes up the solar system: Mars, Mercury, Venus, Jupiter, Saturn and the Earth with other planets throughout the universe.

Although the earth is only a tiny speck when compared with some of the other heavenly bodies, we are the only place in the universe where there are living things. "For thus said the lord that created the heavens; God himself that formed the earth and made it; He hath established it, He created it not in vain, He formed it to be inhabited: I am the Lord; an there is none else" (Isaiah 45:18).

How did the earth come to be, and how was it placed where it is? Scientist has long speculated on the age of the earth. Lets us go back billions and billions of years before there was any history or even any earth or sun family at all.

“Hast thou not known? Hast thou not heard, that the Everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the end of the earth, He stretcheth out the heavens as a curtain, and spreadeth out as a tent to dwell in” (Isaiah 40:15; 17-19; 21-22; 26; 28)?

“He stretches out the north over the empty place, and hangeth the earth upon nothing” (Job 26:7). “For thus said the Lord that created the heaven; God Himself that formed the earth and made it; He hath established it, He created it not in vain, He formed it to be inhabited: I am the Lord; and there is none else” (Isaiah 45:18). “He hath made the earth by His power, He hath established the world by His wisdom, and hath stretched out the heaven by His discretion” (Jeremiah 10:12; 51:15-16). When God created the heaven and earth, He did not create this earth in a state of confusion. God is the author of peace. God is the author of order and law.

Why would God create the earth in disorder and have to straighten it out? “God saw every thing that He had made, and, behold, it was good,” implies a perfect and beautiful order and system (Genesis 1:31). God talking with Job about the creation, God is saying to Job: “where wast thou when I laid the foundation of the earth? Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? Or who hath stretched the line upon it? Where upon are the foundations thereof fastened? Or who laid the corner stone thereof (Job 38:1-6). The angels were so overjoyed by the beautiful creation that they “sang and shouted for Joy” (Job 38:7). The morning stars and the sons of God, refers to intelligent being who existed before the creation of the visible heavens and earth. The angelic host is meaning they were first before the creation of the earth.

Was there life on the planet earth? If so, what kind of life could it have been? Who was in charge of the earth to dress it and keep it? It was none other than Lucifer, the bright and morning star (sun), a righteous archangel, he walked upon the trail of precious stone made of diamonds, sapphires, emeralds and gold (Ezekiel 28:13). He was perfect in all his ways from the day that he was created (Ezekiel 28:15). So this, too, implies a perfect and glorious creation of the earth. God made him ruler and he is called the prince, and god of this world (John 16:11; 2 Corinthians 4:4). Lucifer the archangel was the star (sun) and his brightness was so bright that he lit up the whole earth. There was no need of the moon, stars, or sun as we know them today, because, Lucifer the archangel was the bright and morning star (Ezekiel 28:12).

Was man on earth at this time, maybe 70 million years ago? Were there animals, as we know them today? What was the earth like 70 to 100 million years ago? It was like the Garden of Eden, with trees, lakes, flowers, and animals. Prehistoric animals occupied the world during the Mesozoic period (the period of great reptiles). Dinosaur: common name for any of the large group of extinct reptile which flourished some 100 million years ago. During this period they were the dominant form of land animals life, and fossils that remain of the group have been found in all parts of the world. There were many kinds of these reptiles, but the most interesting ones were the huge land reptiles called dinosaurs. It is estimated that 99 per cent of all living things of the past have perished without leaving any trace behind.

The dinosaurs exhibited great variety of form. The reptile tyrannosaurus, a flesh-eater, feeding on other animals, had an overall length of about 50 ft. and stood about 18 ft. high.

Its massive head was about 4 ft. in length, and its mouth was armed with sharp, dagger like teeth. A dinosaur whose skeleton was reconstructed from a fossil remains which was dug up in Montana. It was the largest land living meat-eating animal known to science.

The Brontosaurus was the largest land animal of all time. The longest of all the dinosaurs, the heaviest and most bulky, attained the great length of 60 feet, with an estimated weight for the live beast of 20 tons. This dinosaur was an herbivorous, a grass-eater. Fossil beds are graveyards of the past dead. Fossils from this gigantic lizard were found in the upper Jurassic strata of Wyoming but have also been found throughout the world.

The bird-like group, Ornithischia were all herbivorous. Many were heavily enough armored to live secure in the fact that they were indigestible. Stegosaurus had two rows of bony plates each three feet high erected along his back. One strange Biped name Irachodon had no defense but a sharp spiked thumb. Trachodom had a duck-beaked mouth and 2,000 grass-chewing teeth. Triceratops had three horns, one over each eye and on the end of his nose. He wore a bony protective frill across the back of his neck like a little cape.

Dinosaur fossils have been found in all the continents, but chiefly in North America, Asia, Africa and South America. In the great plains region of the United States, in Nebraska, the Dakotas, Wyoming and Colorado, so many fossil dinosaur bones have been unearthed that this region is called a dinosaur "cemetery".

It is not definitely when life first appeared on the earth, but there is evidence of its existence at a very early period. The earth was occupied in prehistoric times but not by man. Man unlike the prehistoric animals, could not have survived under such conditions. Man was created on the sixth day after God was ready to replenish the earth for the second time.

Was the great mountains, deep canyons, and high cliffs caused by some sudden and violent action? When men speak of the natural wonders of the world such as the Alps, the Grand Canyon, or Niagara Falls, they usually speak of them as they had been caused by some great convulsion of nature.

Did some volcanoes belching out fire, smoke, cinders, and melted rock, or the trembling of the ground during a great earthquake destroy the earth?

From a study of the inside of the earth they have found the interior very hot, 4,000 degree centigrade. The heat of the earth's interior is known from the molten rock, or lava, that pours out upon the surface from volcanoes. Then comes some great force, which pressed against the sides of these rocks, and they are folded into great mountains range such as the Rockies of the western United States, the Alps of Europe, and the Himalayas of Asia. These mighty mountains are only wrinkles on the surface of the earth. What force could have caused such a destruction of the great planet earth, and to cause the disappearing of such gigantic animals buried under molten rock to preserve the stories of such great animals and giant reptiles that once ruled the world? Fossils tell the story.

When Lucifer was still a righteous archangel, God made him ruler over the earth. But that position did not satisfy him. He wanted more. He became driven by vanity and greed. He wanted control over everything, not just the earth. His desire was to be worshiped and to be like God (Ezekiel 28:12-15). According to the Bible, the devil was the angel Lucifer--the shining one or light-bearer (Isaiah 14:12-14). His pride led him to

rebel against God and became Satan, the prince of darkness, the same one who tempted Adam and Eve.

The sin that caused this physical destruction to the earth was not sin caused by humanity, because there had been no one of the present human family on earth until the sixth day of that re-creation or that remaking. So it was not a sin of the present human family, descended from Adam. We find in 1 Corinthians 15:45 that Adam is called the first man on this earth. In Genesis, Eve is called the mother of all living human beings. There was no other race of modern humans prior to Adam and Eve. “And God blessed them, and God said unto them, be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth” (Genesis 1:28).

So the sin, which brought chaos, was not caused by man. And yet life must have populated the earth because a sin had occurred on the earth that brought it into a condition of chaos and confusion by breaking the laws of God.

What kind of life could it have been? It wasn't human life. Then what kind of life had populated the earth prior to Adam, prior to the week called “created week?” Could it have been Spiritual being? Peter tells us, “For God did not spare even the angels that sinned and delivered them into outer darkness, to be reserved for judgment” (2 Peter 2:4). Also Jude, who was writing to Christians everywhere reminding us of those angels who once pure and holy, but turned to a life of sin. Now God then chained up in prison of darkness, waiting for judgment day.

Here are the sins of angels mentioned, since the earth was populated by prehistoric animals, and the angelic being had dominion over all living things until they sinned, then the earth was in a state of confusion, chaos, destruction, and was cast into total darkness.

“And spared not the old world,” which started with Adam and ended with Noah (Genesis 6:5-7), “but saved Noah, the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly.” After God had recreated the new earth for man. There it mentions the sins from Adam to Noah, and it mentions the physical destruction to the earth as a result of the flood for the second time from the time of its beginning, a chaotic, physical condition brought about on the earth by the sins of men.

Was there a chaotic condition brought about on the earth as a result of the sins of angels? The sins of the angels are mentioned first, and it occurred first! Which brought about the destruction of the earth the first time as a result of the sins of the angels that occurred before Adam. “And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation.” (Lucifer was given a place where they lived, the earth), a habitation, an estate, and they left it; Lucifer said, “I will exalt my throne (which was on the earth) above the stars (angels) of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the side of the north: I will be like the most high: (Isaiah 14:13-14). It was the angels that sinned and brought destruction on the earth the first time.

So Lucifer mounted a rebellion (war) against God's throne in heaven (Revelation 12:7). He fought against Michael and His angels (Revelation 12:7). But he was defeated and was cast back down to earth, as were the angels that rebelled with him (Revelation 12:9). Jesus was there and saw it happen. He recalled, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven” (Luke 10:18).

Lucifer, the once mighty angel, the God over all the earth, falls as lightning, with the utmost suddenness, as a flash of lightning falls from the cloud, and at the time in the most

observable manner. Satan has defiled his sanctuaries by the multitude of his iniquities (Ezekiel 28:18).

Through Satan has fallen, God has not yet removed him from his position of being “the ruler of this world,” as Jesus acknowledged him to be (John 14:30). The devil has authority over the kingdom on earth (Luke 4:5-6).

So Lucifer was no longer (morning star) “light bringer” but now an adversary, an aggressor, a competitor, and an enemy. This foe is called by many names and descriptive designation in the New Testament. He is called “the devil” (meaning the slanderer) (Matthews 4:1; John 8:44). “Abaddon” or Apollyon” (Revelation 9:11); “Accuser of the brethren” (Revelation 12:10); “Adversary” (1 Peter 5:8); “Beelzebub” (Matthews 12:24; “Belial” (2 Corinthians 6:15); “the deceiver of whole world” (Revelation 12:9); “the great dragon” (Revelation 12:9); “the evil one” (Matthew 13:19, 38, 1 John 2:13); “the father of lies” (John 8:44); “the god of this world” (2 Corinthians 4:4); “a murderer” (John 8:44); “the old serpent” (Revelation 12:9); “the prince of this world” (John 12:31, 14:30); “the prince of the power of the air” (Ephesians 2:2); “the tempter” Matthew 4:5, 1 Thessalonians 3:5).

A third of the angels (Revelation 12:4, which are called stars) united with Satan in his rebellion against God. That is what caused the chaos and destruction of this earth. The sins of angels reached into the heavens and made the earth “void and without form,” and darkness covered the earth. What the geologist and astronomers see is not an evolving universe, but the wreckage of a gigantic battle waged by spirits throughout space, a battle fought before man’s creation.

From the study of fossils through history much has been learned of how life was changed through this war between good and wicked angels. We see great animals formed that have been preserved in lava and sandstone like the great dinosaurs and reptiles which once ruled the earth, then, suddenly they perished.

What power the angels must have had when this great war erupted that destroyed this planet and the animals with it, and buried them under molting rock and volcano ash which was thrown out when volcanoes exploded that cause volcanic mountain, form by the pouring out and piling up of volcanic material, include some of the highest mountains in the world. A great earthquake moved the earth that caused great canyons and mountains to appear, and this eruption that came so suddenly it buried the gigantic reptiles still eating leaves and other food in their mouths. This hot lava that covered them so quickly preserved the animals: plants life for our knowledge and understanding.

This chaotic condition was brought about on earth as a result of sins of angels. And the earth was destroyed because of Satan’s revolt against God. The earth was smoldering, so God covered the earth with water (Genesis 1:2). Water actually undermines the entire superstructure of the earth; for such a catastrophe, continuing for a thousands and thousands of years and covering all the high mountains of the earth before Noah’s flood, must of absolute necessity, have accomplished a vast amount of geological work in a long period of time, such as the Grand Canyon.

Most material that is used as fuel for today comes from the trees and plants that were buried deep in the earth that was caused by the destruction from this Great War. Oil and Coal also comes from animals, trees, and plants that was buried under the smoldering rocks during this time and lay buried for thousands and thousands of years. The great

planets of the universe (Mercury, Saturn, Mars) lie desolate as proof of such a devastating war.

All of this came about because Lucifer (Satan) had allowed his beauty and perfection to fill him with vanity-with self glory, self-desires. He became envious of God' power, resented authority over him. He plotted with His angels to marshal them into an invading army to invade the heaven of God, to removed God from the throne of the universe. So Lucifer was no longer "Light-bringer" but an adversary.

So did God not created a devil? He created a cherub Lucifer--perfect in his ways, but with the power of free choice--and Lucifer transformed himself into a devil by rebelling against God and His Government.

Evangelical scholars have claimed that the earth has existed for billions of years, that animals preceded man by as many years, but as for man, a vast period of time came between Genesis chapter 1 verse 1 and Genesis chapter 1 verse 2. All the prehistoric species had become extinct before Adam's creation.

He (God) reveals His secrets through His prophets (Amos 3:7). This is where Bible prophecy is related to creation. With a Divine purpose and a plan in creation, there are promises and many things that were to happen in bringing that plan to its climax.

When God create the heaven and the earth, did he create this earth in a state of confusion? Did He create it without form, and void, without light, and with the earth covered with water (Genesis 1:2)? Why would He create the earth in disorder and then have to straighten it out before placing man upon it? We read in 1 Corinthian 14:33 that "God is not the author of confusion."

God recreated the heavens and the earth and formed the earth to be inhabited by man (Psalms 115:16). The word heaven must, therefore, comprehend the whole solar system, as it is very likely the whole habitation, heaven and earth was recreated in these six days. We have the detailed, inspired record of recreation in Genesis chapter 1 and 2. This is God own record of all that recreation.

God spoke the recreated world into existence (Genesis 1:3; Hebrew 11:3). "And God said let there be light." When the earth was destroyed, Lucifer lost hid brightness because of sin, and the whole universe was cast into darkness, but God called upon His brightness to illuminate the world (Psalms 33:6,9). God personally controlled those first three days of the time dividing the light from the darkness (Genesis 1:4-5). God's throne is in the north part of heaven, and the brightness from the most Holy of Holiness lit up the earth, so when the earth rotated around on its own axis, which is the cause of the distinction between day and night, it brings the different parts of the surface of the earth successively into and from God's throne. God gave this rotation to the earth at the beginning of time. "Thou renewest the face of earth" (Psalm 104:30).

God's continue with His creation on the second day (24 hours). "By the word of the Lord were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of His mouth" (Psalm 33:6; Jeremiah 10:12). The firmament means the heavens, simply signifies an "expanse" or "space" and consequently that space or expansion separating the clouds which are in the higher regions of it, from the water which covers over three-fifths of the globe which are below it. The firmament in a sense includes the whole solar system (Genesis 1:6-8).

On the third day (24 hours), God continued His creation by separation the waters from the land (Job 26:10; Psalms 33:7; 95:5). Then He brought forth the grass, herbs, fruit and different kinds of trees, and all kinds of vegetables. All seeds which contain all the

power to multiplying itself into many different species: “and God saw that it was good.” (Genesis 1:9-13). How astonishing was the showing of His wisdom and power on this day.

On the fourth day (24 hours), “God set the Sun, the Moon and the Stars up in heaven to divide the day from night, and let them be for a sign, and for seasons, and for days, and years.” The sign of these lights is for a continual token of God tender care for man. The Sun is the greatest light in the solar system; and so true is that the Moon is a great light that it affords more light to the earth than all the planets in the solar system, and all the innumerable Stars in the vault of heaven, put together (Psalms 76:16; 136:7-9; Jeremiah 31:35). From here on no one can question the fact of literal days ruled by the Sun as it is now (Genesis 1:14-19).

On the fifth day (24 hours), God created millions of different types of fish, great whales (Psalms 104:25), birds and fowls of the air (Psalms 104:12). In these also God has shown His skills and His power in the great and little--in the vast ostrich and in the beautiful humming bird, which in plumage (fathers) excels the splendor of the peacock, and in size is most on a level with the bee. The coloring of birds is a fascinating subject. And as a rule, brilliant coloring are confined to male birds, whose mates are much duller and are, therefore, when sitting on the nest in less danger from their enemies.

There are songbirds, and then there are the water birds, ducks, geese, swans, and the cranes. Among land birds: the hawk, the owls, and the buzzard which feeds upon the prey, then there is the beautiful eagle, a predator of the falcon family (Genesis 1:20-23).

On the sixth day (24 hours), God created all “living creatures and made man in the likeness of the creator, and things after his kind, the beast, cattle, and every thing that creepeth upon the earth,” and the entire animal kingdom (Psalms 104:1-30), and the last creature was man. Adam was created instantly as a grown man, also all the earth living creatures were created fully grown within that six days (Genesis 1:24-31).

The crowning glory of this creation was man, made in the likeness of the Creator, and given dominion over this earth and over all the creatures upon the face of the earth (Psalm) 8:3-9). Man was created upon the sixth day, and the earth with all living creatures was created for man (Isaiah 43:12,18).

On the seventh day (24 hours) God chose it to be the day whereby man would be link to Him by a weekly rest, it was given to mankind at the close of creation as a memorial of His creation (Genesis 2:1-3). God chose the seventh day whereby man would be linked to Him by a weekly day of rest. And not just any day, but only the seventh day (Saturday), whereby man’s loyalty to His Creator would come and worship Him. The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath (Mark 2:27). It was created at the end of creation, 2000 years before the first Israelite was every born! The Bible indicated that even Adam enjoyed God’s Sabbath along with his wife Eve to rest and to worship their God. God did not sanctify and made it holy for His own benefit but for man.

God has now produced a man with a spirit, formed after the perfections of His own nature. God is the fountain whence this spirit issued; hence the stream must resemble the spring which produced it. God is holy, just, wise, good, and perfect; so much the soul be that spring from Him: there could be in it nothing impure, unjust, ignorant, evil, lowbase, mean, or vile. Man was created after the image of God; and that image consisted of

“righteousness,” “true holiness” and “knowledgeable.” Hence man was wise in his mind, holy in his heart, and righteousness in his actions.

With God’s creation of man was brought about because the yearning in the heart of God to have a family, this yearning is a natural expression of the heart of love and the act of kindness God desire to share the glory of His own person with others. This led to the planning of the divine “family.” The problem that face God in the creation of man with divine nature is that divine nature is not a product of force, and can only is brought into being by the proper choice and right desire of the creatures themselves. And what happen to Adam and Eve was brought on by their disobedient.

God created the world previously when Lucifer and his angels which was created perfect, and was given dominion over all the earth, Lucifer was created with the same attributes as man, but iniquity (sin) cause the angels to lose their first estate, which cause universal destruction (Ezekiel 28:17-18). They had an estate, which they didn’t keep (Jude verse 6). God will not put the world tomorrow, the kingdom of God, which is yet to come; it will not be under subjection to angels (Hebrews 2:5). God Himself will rule, God place the great cherub, (Lucifer) to carry out His government on the earth, but Lucifer failed to do God’s will.

God formed this earth to be inhabited by man (Psalms 115:16). Man was made in the image of God and a little lower than angels--crowned with glory and honor and given dominion over all the animal world--over this earth in it’s Edenic glory at creation, and to all human being who trod the earth. What a beautiful world Adam found himself in with everything to make him happy, a world without sin and without sorrow! God first made, as it were, the great house of the world, then brought His tenants (animals) to occupy it (Psalms) 104:11-14). And it was not an empty home, but furnished with everything needed to make life content. God provided every single thing to satisfied man’s need.

He was given a perfect dominion on earth. It was called “very good” (Genesis 1:31). This perfect dominion was to be man’s forever on condition of obedience. God place him in the Garden of Eden with every tree that was good for food, also many other thing that was pleasant to the eye--everything needful for mortal life at its fullest was there (Genesis 2:9). Another gift from God was there for man if he obeyed God--“The tree of Life” also in the midst of the Garden. Adam and Eve had the right to this tree of life as long as they obeyed God (Genesis 2:15-17).

The Bible does not tell us how long Adam state of blessedness and innocence lasted. But Paradise was lost through Eve’s listing to the voice of the Tempter (Satan). Adam was relieved of his occupation as the gardener of Eden (Genesis 3:22-23).

God’s planned was for man to live forever on the earth. But there were condition, Man must love and obey God. The power of choice was given to Adam and Eve. If they ate of the forbidden fruit, it meant death and the loss of the right to that “tree of Life”--also they lost the right to eternal life.

By “one man sin enter into the world so death was passed upon all men”. Why? For “all have sinned” (Romans 5:12). Genesis chapter 3 tells the sad story of how Adam and Eve disobeyed God (just like Satan), and as a result, this great loss came to them and all mankind. The death penalty was pronounced upon them and every one that came after them, all of mankind (1 Corinthians 15:21-22). They lost the right to the tree of life. They were mortal and all their children were mortal. They also lost that perfect dominion on earth--a curse was placed upon the ground because of sin (Genesis 3:17-19). This

great lost and the curse came down to all of Adams race (Romans 5:12; 3:23-26; 6:23). This left man hopeless and helpless to redeem himself, since all were under sin and the penalty of death (Psalms 49:7-9).

The results of sin are seen in all the evils that plague mankind. Sin brought the curse of death to the race. Sin destroys peace and creates a high price from the sinner. "The way of the transgressor is hard" (Psalms 13:15). Sin has fatally damaged the entire creation, so that it "groans and travails in pain now" (Romans 8:22).

Sin separates man from fellowship with His Creator and blinds him to the right course of life. But the ultimate effect of sin will be realized in the final judgment, "in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God" (Jude verse 15).

God's creation plan remained unchanged. The earth is yet to be the eternal abode of man--righteous mankind. God, in love for man, had foreordained a plan of redemption for man before creation (1 Peter 1:18-20). Jesus is called the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world (Revelation 13:8). Only a sinless one could pay the penalty for man's sin and restore to him what was lost through Adam's transgression. God foreknew what would happen, and in His great love He planned to send His only begotten son to die for all (John 3:16). Jesus tasted death for every man (Hebrews 2:9). This included Adam and all mankind. He came to seek and to save that which was lost (Luke 19:10). God did not have to do this for man. It was God's love. Only by the God's grace that we are redeemed. It is salvation by grace for all who accept, before and after Jesus. By the grace of God, He (Jesus) tasted death for every man (Hebrews 2:9). He came to earth, to die on the cross for us and to shed His blood that we might have life. These scripture are inspiring and are intended to strengthen Christians in their daily living. .

Is Satan dead? Is his work of influence over mankind finish since he was cast out of heaven (Revelation 12:9)? When God put Adam and Eve in this beautiful garden and gave them everything they needed, Satan was there as a tempter, waiting to deceive (Genesis 3:1-4). However, Satan immediately put question into Eve's mind about God's instruction. Satan approach makes God seem unjust and appeals to intellectual and spiritual vanity. So Adam and Eve, our first parents succumbed, and mankind has been under the influence ever since.

We are now entering an awesome period in human history--the time when Satan and his army of evil spirit will wage their supreme battle to overthrow God's people--just before the end of this age on earth. "Satan is God of this world" and its human society (2 Corinthians 4:4). He is the invisible the "prince of the power air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience" (Ephesians 2:2). The Bible says that the devil and his demons still exercise power over the nations. They are, within God's--ordain limits, the unseen rulers of this world.

Satan, the devil is at the bottom of what the Bible calls sin--something that affects all human being (Romans 3:23). To live in sin is to live in the ways that destroy our relationship with God (1John 3:4; Isaiah 59:1-3). Satan approach makes God seem unjust and appeals to intellectual and spiritual vanity. So our first parents, Adam and Eve, succumbed to the influence Satan, and mankind has been under the influence of Satan every since. We must face up to the reality of the spirit world and take certain key steps to ensure our spiritual survival.

The disobedience of Adam and Eve, which we usually think of as the first sin of man, was the product of their believing a lie rather than believing God. "You will not die,"

said the old serpent, "For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be open, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." Their disbelief of God was the primary sin, resulting in then eating the forbidden fruit.

This denial, however, goes much deeper than the denial of sin itself. It derives from a denial of God. It is rooted in unbelief, as this is the original sin and the root of all sin.

God destroyed the first creation because of sin of the angelic being, fire, earthquakes, volcanoes, and floods, tell the story of the earth's history fossils. From the study of fossils much has been learned of how life has changed throughout the long ages of the earth. We see great animals forms like the giant reptiles ruling the world, and then perishing. Even the appearance of the earth and its climate in time past by these remains of once--living things.

There was a second flood that destroyed the earth, that flood was in the time of Noah and water covered the entire earth. Noah was a just man who found favor in the eyes of God (Genesis 6:8-9; 7:1; Ezekiel 4:14), in an age when the whole earth was corrupt (Genesis 6:1-13). God repented that He had made man (Genesis 6:6). And decided to destroy the earth with the flood (Hebrews 11:7). Noah was then given exact instruction for building the Ark (Genesis 6:14-16). While engaged in this colossal task, a preacher of righteousness (2 Peter 2:5), he warned men for 120 years of the coming destruction of the earth. So Noah build a craft of "gopher wood" and God told Noah to take with him, his wife, and three sons with their wives, and two of every species of the unclean, and seven of the clean beast, birds, and insects (Genesis 7:2-3). When all were safely inside, God shut the door (Genesis 7:16).

Then it rain for forty days and forty night until the water covered the entire earth and maintained its hills and mountains covered depths for 150 days (Genesis 7:24), and then water subsided sufficiently for Noah to disembark in the mountain of Ararat after 221 days (Genesis 8:4). And God made a covenant with Noah that never again would He send another universal flood, which would destroy all mankind again, but would set His bow (rainbow) in the cloud as a symbol of mercy (Genesis 8:21-22; 9:9-17).

God bless Noah and his family and commanded them to be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth (Genesis 9:1). The Webster dictionary identifies the word replenish as (1) to fill again, (2) to supply what was removed. Just like Adam, God told Adam to be fruitful, and multiply, and to replenish the earth (Genesis 1:23).

The hold history of man, from its beginning with Adam has been worked out by studying the fossils that was left by the flood of Noah times, when God destroyed the earth by water. Even such tiny creatures as ants and termites may be kept in perfect shape as fossils.

The fossils of great Reptiles and Dinosaurs has been found buried deep in the formation of sedimentary rock--that is, rock which have been laid down in bodies of water or on the land after the water has subsided. Some bones are often discovered lying on top of the ground where they have been exposed by the wearing away of the rock in which they had been entombed.

The whole history of the world and man has been written by studying the fossils that has been left. Only only a few remains have identified some of the steps in history. Geologists and scientists claims that man has been on the earth for 1,000,000 years or more, known in the beginning as Heidelberg man, built from a jaw bone that which was later conceded as a human bone. Nebraska man was scientifically built up from one tooth

and later found to be the tooth of an extinct pig. Piltdown man's jawbone turned out to be a modern Ape, Peking man, 500,000 years old, which has no evidence but may have been descendants of the Trinil race (a highly developed ape) known from a skull found in Java.

Neanderthal man, at the international congress of Zoology (1951), Dr. A.J. Cave said that his examination of the famous Neanderthal skeleton found in France over 50 years ago is that of an old man who suffered from arthritis. New Guinea man, he dates away back, this species has been found in the region just north of Australia. Cro-Magnon man, one of the earliest and best established fossils is at least equal in physique and brain capacity to modern man. And the Modern man, this genius thinks we came from a monkey.

Most of the men have been reconstructed from a single skull. Just any skull, some of the workers in paleontology saying that they can restore a complete skeleton if they are giving just a few bones, like a jaw bone, a tooth, skull, or even a leg bone.

Remains were discovered in England, ages later possibly about 40,000 B.C., here lived the Cro-Magnon race of men, who were true forerunners of the modern man. When they disappeared they left behind them skilled carving, painting and tools, evidence of having cared for their dead. These traits indicate that Cro-Magnon man reached a relative high degree of development and was distinctively and definitely human. If he were alive today, and if he were to walk down the street in a business suit, he would go completely unnoticed. But he lived during Noah's time.

Many of animals flourished here during the day of Noah. Scientists are finding teeth and bones (Cro-Magnon man) from ancient flood deposits in caves that lie beneath the earth's surface. The biggest were probably the Mastodon and Mammoth, which were large Elephants. The Mastodon ate leaves and branches, while the Mammoth was more of a grazer. These and other animals along with the New Guinea man and Cro-Magnon was destroyed when God flooded the earth in the time of Noah (Genesis 6:4).

Geologists can never understand the facts of geology. They refuse to acknowledge that during the rebellion of Satan and his demons against God, the perfect post-Adamic earth was destroyed. This knowledge makes clear why the strange world of the Dinosaurs, flying reptiles, and all the other strange plants and animals of that age were first suddenly buried in the lower rock and in the older coal seams.

Neither can geologists understand the facts of geology until they realize that Noah's flood buried the remains of men, warm-blooded mammals and many other creatures as fossils in an overlying layer of rocks. These post-Adamic deposits, in most cases, were laid down on top of the lower sediment rock formed by the pre-Adamic catastrophe.

Some time the deposits from Noah's flood were laid down on the original rock surface of the earth and early deposits were later washed in by the flood and covered them in an inverted order.

Now that we know what the Bible reveals about the pre-Adamic creation and how it was destroyed by a worldwide catastrophe because of the sins of Satan and his angelic followers, we can understand the geological history of the earth.

Notice the true facts of geology. The pre-Adamic catastrophe involved water. Laid down first by the swirling waters was the smaller sea creatures were buried. They appeared in the deepest and lowest sediment layers. The larger creatures of the land, by

comparison, were able to flee to higher hills. They were not drowned until the rising floodwaters spread over all the mountains, which covered the entire earth.

Geologists have discerned proof of this pre-Adamic flood. They know that rising floodwaters first swept up the ocean bottom dwellers, the trilobites, and other shall creatures of the sea and these ocean bottom dwellers were scattered over wide areas. Later, during Noah's flood, other sediment rock with land life was laid down on top of them.

That is exactly why fossils of the sea creatures, such as the trilobites, suddenly appeared as fossils in the deepest and lowest sediment rocks.

Not knowing the Bible reveals a pre-Adamic catastrophe that destroyed all life: amazed geologists exclaimed the sudden appearance of abundance of fossils in the low rock in which life is found is remarkable.

Now, a worldwide flood can only lay down fossils on a worldwide scale. It is obvious therefore that the fossil forms appeared suddenly in the lower and deeper rocks because a pre-Adamic destruction buried them first.

The raging flood waters which were but a part of this pre Adamic destruction rose higher and higher, engulfing the jungles and low-land. The flood engulfed and uprooted whole forests. Plants remains often were washed into huge piles, covering them with deep layers of mud. These masses of vegetable remains later were crushed by the weight of the mud. Today we know them as the coal beds. Before coal can be formed, plants remains must not only be covered quickly to prevent decay, but must be covered deep enough so that the massive weight of millions of tons of sediment will transform the carbon of the plants and trees into coal. The pre-Adamic destruction by flood is the only possible means by which the oil and hard coal found on earth today could have been formed.

How did the earth come to be, and how was it placed where it is? Let us go back billions of years before there was a sun, or even the earth. If we could have been present back in that very early times, we would have seen the Word (Jesus) who was with God at the beginning of creation, and created every thing that was made by Him that was made (John 1:1-3).

When we consider the awesome majesty of His works, it is difficult to realize that God of the Bible is not some impossible distant deity, but a Father who has chosen to reveal Himself to man. He reveals Himself in nature, which He created, in the minds and hearts, and in the Bible, the written record of His activities in history.

We would now like for you to consider the complexity of the order and design of our planet and the universe. In researching the size of the earth we discovered that the mass and size of the earth are just the right size. If the earth's diameter were 7,200 miles instead of 8,000, almost the whole earth, due to a lessening of its atmospheric mantle, would be reduced to snow and ice waste through the entire world. If there were a variation of only 10 percent, either in the increase or decrease of the size of our world, no life, as we know it on earth be possible.

If the average temperature of the earth were raised but two or three degrees you could bid goodbye to many of the big cities of the earth, for the glaciers would melt, and that in turn would flood many of the big cities. This would also submerge hundred of thousand of square miles of our most fertile land.

The earth axis, which now points toward the North Star, is tilted just right-at the strange angle of 23 degrees, from the perpendicular, that is, in relation to the plane of its orbit. Because of this tilt the Sun appears to go north in the summer and south in the winter, giving us four seasons in the temperate zone. For the same reason, there is twice as much of the land area of the earth that can be cultivated and inhabited, as there would be if the sun were always over the equator, with no change of seasons. Think what would happen if the earth were tilted any other way than it is.

We lived miraculously on this planet, protected from eight killer rays from the sun, by a thin layer of ozone high up in our atmosphere. If that little belt of ozone, approximately forty miles up and only one eighth of an inch thick (if compressed) should suddenly drift off into space, all life on earth would perish. This ozone is not found around any others planets.

The first miracle, in the light of what the rest of the universe is like, is that there is no ocean there! In the universe as a whole, liquid water of any kind--sweet or salty--is an exotic rarity. Contrary to common belief, the liquid state is exceptional in nature; most matter in the universe seems to consist either of flaming gases, as in the stars, or frozen solids drifting in the deepest part of space.

The amazing accuracy and smoothness with which the universe revolves--as a flawless, perfect machine--can be seen in the perfection that characterizes the journey of our earth around the sun. It takes the earth 365 days, 5 hours, 48 minutes and 48 seconds to make its journey around the sun. And in this circuit--the earth has varied in only the slightest degree. None but an infinite God could achieve such flawless, continuous perfection.

I believe as God states in the Bible (Romans 1:20) that nature and creation itself reveals that there is a Creator. We know that for every design there is designer, and for every law there is a lawgiver. "In the beginning God created," is still the most up--to --date statement on the origin of the universe and all that it contains. One: know that God is, that He is the creator and active ruler of the universe, and that He is God.

With this view in mind we realize that the Bible is the most unique writing in the world. The Scriptures have served as God's method of reveling Himself to a world of doubters and the Bible serves as the written revelation of the past.

Now the Dinosaurs were in their heydays. The flying reptiles and prehistoric mammals were upon the earth before man. The pre-Adamic flood--as the floodwaters reached the higher hills--the dinosaurs were rapidly exterminated and buried, and become fossils. These reptiles completely dominated life on the earth: but life came to a close with a sudden destruction. It was a time of great destructions of the earth, and death. Up on the entire inhabitant.

Because the Bible doesn't tell us, we do not know how long the earth remained a paradise--or how long the water covered the earth. The world is certainly old, but God would not have allowed the desolation to remain long.

But the Bible does reveal that almost 6,000 years ago, God recreated and re-fashioned the earth in a week of seven days. He placed Adam and Eve and the plants and animals of today on this earth, and commanded them to be fruitful, and multiply, and to replenish the earth.

Just as in the pre-Adamic flood, Noah's flood also buried the heavy shelled sea life first, then the smallest animals that could not flee fast enough to escape the rising flood

waters, finally, the raging flood waters in Noah's days engulfed the very biggest and fastest animals that had fled to the top of the highest hills. What the fossil recorded really proves is that the larger mammals died last.

In the upper rock layers of Noah's flood, the cattle, sheep's, goats, and men, were buried there, in the upper layer of rocks known as fossils.

The rock layers were laid down quickly by the floodwaters that destroyed the earth, and on each occasion it reveals certain forms of life only because life was destroyed and buried in a relative order. The rocks revealed only the order in which life died in each of the two floods that was a worldwide destruction.

We can now see that there were two worldwide creations as well as worldwide destructions. There was the animal kingdom that ended in chaos. Then there was a kingdom that was given to man, and it was also destroyed.

When God created man about 6,000 years ago, He created an environment suited for the needs of man, He created a vast array of plants, which provides the vegetables, fruits, grains, and meat man needed in order to survive, and to conduct a productive life.

The earth will be destroyed again for the last time, not by water (Genesis 9:12-15), but "in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God" (2 Thessalonians 1:8; Malachi 4^{1,3}). The earth was destroyed the first time because of the sins of fallen angels, then the second time because the sins of unrighteous men. They were in a state of wickedness. All was corrupt within, and all unrighteous without. This wickedness was great, was multiplying; it was continually increasing and multiplied until the whole world was corrupt. God was sorry that He had made man, and was grieved in His heart, because of their iniquities, so He (God) destroyed all mankind because Satan had deceived them to. His influence had filled the world with opportunities to break God's laws. But Noah and his family found "grace in the eyes of God." Because he was a just man, he was "perfect in his generation," he "walk and talked with God"--he was not only righteous but he believe God.

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth" (Genesis 1:1). This first sentence in the Bible does not actually take us back to the "beginning" of all that is, it does go back to the beginning of what we know as time. Here we are told of the creating of Heaven and Earth; but we are not told why God decided to create the earth to be inhabited and then created Adam to take care of the Garden that God created for him.

God created this beautiful paradise for His children because of God's yearning in His heart to have a family. This yearning is a natural expression from the heart of kindness and love. He desired to share the glory of His own attributes to man. This great love led to the planning of the divine "family." Let us keep in mind that the Father's major object of creation was to have sons: "He has chosen us to be His children--before the foundation of the world" (Ephesians 1:4).

Probably no question has aroused more widespread controversy than that of how mankind came into existence as a living form, distinct from all others. Physically, many animals are superior to man. Some are much stronger, others can run faster, many can see, hear, and smell better than man--and yet man has dominion over life of these very animals here on earth (Genesis 1:28). Why? Because God the Father, the creator of this universe, created man in His own image and likeness, with same attributes and similitude's that He and His son Jesus Christ has (James 3:9).

The problem that faced the Creator when making a divine creature (Man), was giving man to be a “free mortal agency.” The choice to choose between good and evil. Adam chose to do evil and his sins passed down to all generations (Romans 5:19). There is a day coming, that all of us must appear before the “Judgment seat of Christ” (Romans 14:10). We will answer to God for our own sins; not the sins of Adam. Jesus said: ”And I tell you this, that you must give an account on Judgment day for every idle word you speak.” Your words now reflect your fate then: “either you will be justified by them or you will be condemned” (Matthew 12:36-37). Not only our words, but also our works will be open before God. So you see, a man is saved by what he does, as well as by what he believes (James 2:23-24).

So be careful not to jump to a conclusion before the Lord returns as to whether someone is a good servant or not. When the Lord comes, He will turn on the light so that everyone can see exactly what each one of us is really like, deep down in our hearts. Then everyone will know if we have been doing the Lord’s work. At that time God will give to each one whatsoever praise is coming to him (1 Corinthians 4:6). For we must all stand before Christ to be judged and have our lives laid bare--before Him. Each one of us must receive whatsoever we deserve for the good or bad things we have done in his or her earthly body (2 Corinthians 5:10).

But no, most people will not listen; and so we are saving up terrible punishment for ourselves because of our stubbornness in refusing to turn from our sins; for there is going to come a day of wrath when God will be the just Judge of all the world. He will give each one whatever his deeds deserve. He will give eternal life to those who patiently do the will of God, seeking for the unseen glory and honor and eternal life that He has offered. But He will terribly punish those who fight against the truth of God and walk in their evil ways--God’s anger will be poured out upon them. There will be sorrow and suffering for the Jews and Gentiles alike who keep on sinning.

But there will be glory and honor and peace from God for all who obey Him, whether they are Jews or Gentiles. For God treats everyone the same (Romans 2:5-11). Then Peter replied, “I see very clearly that the Jews are not God’s only favorites” (Acts 10:34). Jesus said: “Not all who sound religious are really godly people. They still won’t get into the kingdom of God. For the decisive question is whether they obey our Father who is in heaven. At the judgment many will tell me, Lord, Lord, we told others about you and used your name to cast out demons and did many great miracles. But I will reply, you have never been mine. Go away, for your deeds are evil” (Matthew 7:21-23).

The patience of God is never exhausted. This is evidenced by the fact that “many are called, but few are chosen” (Matthew 20:16). He isn’t really being slow about His promise to return, even though at times it seems that way. But He is waiting, for the good reason that He is not willing that any should perish, and for His great love for them, He is giving more time for sinners to repent (2 Peter 3:9).

The desire of our heavenly Father is that He might have a family. God wishes to share the glory of His own nature! The attribute of love is the true nature of God. “God so loved the world that He Gave His only begotten Son” (John 3:16). In His planning of that divine family was that it should be formed, molded, shaped and made like His own Son Jesus Christ. But the just man die’s only once, “and after that comes judgment” (Hebrews 9:27). “Called the Great White Throne Judgment” (Revelation 20:15). Mankind will be rewarded according to his deeds while he lived upon this earth, a record

of which has been kept in a “book,” the book of life. Then the righteous will receive eternal life, immortality, and be accepted into the family of God as His children. God has no grandchildren. We shall live forever and ever in the restored paradise that was lost because of the sins of Adam, His first son.

Before paradise, the church must go through an awesome time of tribulation orchestrated by demonic powers which now, is happening in many countries. Where there are thousands being killed because of their belief in the Son of God; Jesus Christ. The world has become more and more anti-Christian, and the churches has copied the behavior and customs of this world. We must be a new and different person, totally different from the world, with a fresh newness in all we do and think. Then we will learn from our own experience how His ways will really satisfy us (Romans 12:1-2).

But before the Great White Throne Judgment of God can begin, there are two prophecies that must come about and they are the great tribulation, and the Millennium (One Thousand years reign of Christ).

“For then shall be great tribulation such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no nor ever shall be” (Matthew 24:21). In full accord with the prophecies of the Lord Jesus Christ and the Holy prophets of the Bible, we are rushing toward world war three, called Armageddon. Furthermore, Jesus rated the time of trouble as a worldwide calamity, not a provincial or parochial event. For these reasons, we believe the Great tribulation is future. Distress of nations, troubles, wars, fear and uncertainty will increase until the climax of the final war. This will surely be the tribulation, which will eclipse all of the other tribulation in mankind’s long record of all other trials and wars.

The fear of atomic war and economic breakdown is a constant threat to the nations, both great and small, and none of our leaders have the answer. As we come near the end, more and more “men’s hearts will fail” because of fear of those things they see coming upon the earth (Luke 21:26). The major statement is that “This generation shall not pass, till all these thing be fulfilled” (Mark 13:30).

There are many reasons for us to believe that worldwide trouble is about to erupt. It is no secret that a stable peace among nations of the world is at best an elusive dream. There is hostility between the nations on several different fronts: economics, religion, and politics, with hope of an agreement on these differences short of war. Another sign is moral breakdown in the churches, Paul list 18 sins that we find prevailing today, just as foretold, and these are sins that have penetrated the churches in general. “Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away. In these last days it is going to be very difficult to find true Christian in any congregation (2 Timothy 3:1-5).

There are many prophecy in the Bible dealing with the last days and Jesus’ second coming the end of this age. All world conditions is telling us that we are entering that day of God’s wrath leading to and including Armageddon.

“Proclaim ye this among the Gentiles; prepare war, wake up the mighty men, let all the men of war draw near; let them come up: beat your plowshare into sword, and pruning hook’s into spears; let the weak say, I am strong. Let the heathen be awakened, and come up to the valley of Jehoshaphat: for there will I set in judgment of the gentiles round about” (Joel 3:9-13).

“For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle. Then shall the Lord go forth, and fight against those nations. And the Lord shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one Lord” (Zechariah 14:1-9).

God in his anger fights against this Gentile host with all of His might, even with all their modern weapons will not bring victory when God destroy this great armies (Ezekiel Chapter 38-39, Zechariah 13:8-9). “And the angel thrust in his sickle into the earth, and gathered the vine of the earth, and cast it into the great winepress of the wrath of God” (Revelation 4:14-20).

Then I saw thrones, and sitting on them were those who had been given the right to judge. They had come to life again and now they reigned with Christ a thousand years. This is the first Resurrection. (The rest of the dead did not come back to life until the thousand years had ended). “Blesses and holy are those who share in the first resurrection. For the second death hold no terrors, for they will be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years” (Revelation 20:3-6).

Millennium is a Latin word for “thousand years.” It comes from Revelation where a certain period of a “Thousand Years” is mentioned six times. During this period Satan is “Bound” with a “Great Chain,” “Lock Up” and “Sealed” in “the Abyss” (grave), so that he can not “Deceive the nations,” persons designated as “Martyrs” who have been “Beheaded” “Live” and Reign with Christ.”

The Millennium. The period of Christ coming reign with His Saints over the earth, delivered from Satan presence. As Satan and his kingdom in successive stage sinks, Christ and His kingdom rise. Satan has been foiled in his last desperate attempt to overthrow Christ kingdom by the Anti-Christ or the Beast, shall by the just law of necessary retributive consequence be bound immediately afterwards and imprisoned in the bottomless pit (Grave) a thousand years. On the same just principle they who have suffered for Christ, and have not worshiped the God opposed world power, shall come to life again and reign with Christ at His coming, a thousand years. Their resurrection is “the First Resurrection.” The rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years are finish (Revelation 20:5).

The Apostle John summarizes this time of peace in Revelation 20. There he saw in a vision the Resurrection, Immortal Saints who “lived and reign with Christ a thousand years.” Jesus Christ will not work alone in creating a world at peace with God and Himself. Many sincere people assume that when Jesus comes, he will take the saints from earth to heaven. The Bible however, clearly teaches that when Jesus returns, He is coming back to earth. His followers will come back with Him and He will stand on the Mount of Olive (Zechariah 14:4-5,9).

Christ will descend from clouds with the Saints and everyone will alight on the Mount of Olive. Immediately, Christ will begin the Job of instituting His Government over all the nations. His first act will be to obliterate armies of the heathens. The now-immortal saints will remain with Christ on earth and assist Him in the formation of a new government bringing One Thousand Years of peace to humanity.

The Resurrected and immortal saints, meanwhile, are to be part of this 1,000-years government. They will have offices of government and ecclesiastical service to perform. The resurrected saints will sit down with Christ on His throne after He returns to earth, even as Christ presently sits with the Father on His throne (Revelation 3:21). At the

resurrection, the saints will receive a crown of life (Revelation 2:10) and Christ will give them "power over nations" (Revelation 2:26).

The citizenship of one awaiting full membership in the kingdom of God is held in trust even while that member may now be dead and buried. Those who are called and are alive when Christ returns also have their citizenship held in trust.

The first resurrection has been interpreted in a spiritual sense as a resurrection from the death of sin to the life of righteousness. But it is clearly the reward of the saved at the coming of the Lord. The second death is the death at the end of the Millennium Kingdom after the last judgment, as distinguished from the physical death, which is the lot of all humanity (Revelation 20:5-6). One great king over the entire world! The great world kingdom is soon to be established. All dictators, prime ministers, kings, and presidents, will lose their positions when the great King takes over to rule the world! Notice the mention of a special time period of 1,000 years! This tells us that those who come up in the first resurrection will be Priests and Kings, and they will reign with Christ for that special time of 1,000 years.

"All the heavenly host joined together to magnify God, that He had utterly discomfited His enemies and rendered His friends glorious." This will be truly the case when the kingdom of this world becomes the kingdom of God and Christ (Revelation 11:15). And He (Christ) will rule with a rod of iron" (Revelation 2:27). He shall execute the severest judgment on those who oppose His truth. As grapes are trodden to express the juice, so His enemies shall be bruised and beaten, so that their life's blood shall be poured out. Yes, it is the Lord Jesus Christ who is soon coming to be king over the Earth (Revelation 19:15).

Thus we see that this is called a special period of the time of restitution (Acts 3:21). And we note from the text that this special period is a time, which begins at the second advent of Christ. He (Christ) has already appeared upon the earth (Baby Jesus), and accomplished the end of His appearing; He has ascended unto heaven (Acts 1:11) to administer the concern of His Kingdom (Hebrews 8:1) and there He continues till He comes again to judge the quick and the dead. When He comes He will restore all things, destroying the bad, and establishing the good-taking the kingdom out of the hands of sin and Satan, and putting it into those righteousness and truth. All things are restored to their primitive order.

"In the twinkling of an eye" (1 Corinthians 15:52), as soon as a man can wink, which expressions show that this mighty work is to be done by the almighty power of God, as He does in all of His works. "The dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed." The resurrection of all the dead from the foundation of the world to this time, and the change of all the living then upon the earth, shall be the work of a single moment (John 5:28-29). At the last trumpet, "For the trumpet shall sound." By this the Apostle confirms the substance of the tradition that there shall be the sound of a trumpet on this great day, and these other Scriptures teach (Matthew 24:31; John 5:25; 1 Thessalonians 4:16), in this latter place the Apostle treats this subject among the Thessalonians as he does here among the Corinthians. "Shall be raised incorruptible." Fully clothed with a new body, to die no more. We shall be changed (Daniel 12:2). That is, those who shall then be found alive. Because flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God.

Where will the redeemed, which will come up in the first resurrection, reign with Christ? Will it be in Heaven or on this Earth? Where will Christ be at this time? When

Christ comes, He sits on the “Throne of His Glory” (Matthew 25:31). We also note that the throne promised to Christ in prophecy is the throne of David and that throne was on earth. We also found that after Christ returns, as described in Zechariah 14:9, that He will be “King over all the earth.”

We have just seen that the redeemed that come up in the first resurrection, which takes place when Christ returns, will then reign with Him for 1,000 years. Since Christ is then to be reigning over the earth on the throne of David, it follows that the redeemed who are reigning with Him will also be on the earth! But we do not have to get this entirely from such a line of reasoning even though it is very clear.

The Christians in all nations, and among all kinds of people (Revelation 5:9-10), and through the whole compass of time; all these are said to be redeemed by Christ blood, plainly shows that His life was a sacrificial offering for the sins of mankind, and He will reign on earth (Matthew 5:5). We find the redeemed Saints of all ages singing the glory of Christ, and those who are made Kings and Priests at the first resurrection, when Jesus comes, will then reign with Him for a 1,000 years on earth.

This is to be understood as referring to the New Kingdom, which the nobleman had just received (Luke 19:6-16). His former trustiest and most faithful servants he now represents as being made Governors under Him over a number of cities (Luke 19:17-19), according to the capacity He found in each, which capacity was known by the improvement of the amount of the some of money. The resurrection and immortal Saints, meanwhile, are to be part of this 1,000-years government (Matthew 25:21). They will have offices of government and ecclesiastical services to perform.

Jesus Christ will create a world of peace and blessing beyond what most have imagined. But these blessing won't happen in all nations at once. This new society won't be built in a day, with so many wrong ideas to unlearn and to overcome. Nations will need to learn the Biblical way to lasting happiness and radiant health (Zechariah 9:10). The Millennium will be a Sabbath of rest for the nations (Hebrew 4:9). When that age comes, and the Messiah is really ruling, then wars will cease. There seems not to be much hope that this great boon will come early. Men must first be brought everywhere to accept their king.

Such a world is not possible under human Government. But with God all things are possible, and he will work an even greater miracle than changing animal nature. With a willing humanity: His main purpose is to change human nature! As God is going to give the lion a peaceful nature, so He will make a truly marvelous and miraculous change in man's hostile mind. “The wolves, leopards, lions, and the lambs, goats, calves, bears, and cows shall graze together; and the lion shall eat straw like an ox. The nursing child shall play by the cobra's hole, and the weaned child will put his hand in the viper den (Isaiah 11:6-9). They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain” (God Kingdom). The wild animals are not destroyed, but their nature is changed. Man is not a creature apart; he belongs to the creation and so do the animals, both wild and tame. Here in these beautiful figures we have a serious effort to show that in the Messianic age it will not merely be man who is redeemed but the whole creation. This same conception carries over beautifully into the New Testament (Romans 8:19-22).

Here is a chapter full of joy and gladness of hope in realization, of redemption beyond compare. The first two verses describe the desert as blossoming so beautiful as to compare well with the finest and fairest portions of Palestine. Today's, wasteland will

become fertile land in the Millennium, and will not have to depend on dying soil. The earth will be cultivatable! He will reduce the bare, snow-swept and rugged mountains, raise up some of the deep, and desert valleys, and change the world weather pattern. He will make all the deserts green, and fertile (Isaiah 35:1-2. 6-7).

Then, there will be provided good gentle rainfall, in the right balance, just at the right season (Ezekiel 34:26-27)! And then what happens? Multiple millions of acres of unbelievably fertile, productive, wonderful farmland suddenly become available--just waiting to be discovered, and pioneered. Deserts become green, fertile, garden, lands of trees, shrubs, budding springs and brooks; mountains are brought low, and made inhabitable. "The wilderness and the solitary places shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose" (Isaiah 35:1-2).

The redeemed of this age will then be immortal kings and priests, reigning with Christ. Evidently the living waters of salvation and message of everlasting life will be needed by other people who will be living upon the earth. The establishment of the Kingdom of Christ over all the Kingdoms of this world is described in symbolic language. This prophecy was to be fulfilled by the coming of the Messiah, and it indicates perfect peace, security, and rural comfort, where wonderfully productive communities and human beings living by the laws of God (Psalms 72:7).

Read all of these verses in your Bible and meditate upon what they may mean to mankind as the events take place during the glorious reign of Christ. Surely the Millennium will be a wonderful time, and truly there shall be much work to be done (Zechariah 8:3; Isaiah 65:18-25).

At the end of the Millennium, Satan will be released out of the bottomless pit, and then he will go and deceive the nations (Revelation 20:7-9). All of the wicked will be gathered together by Satan, and this great army shall attack Jerusalem, and the Saints camp where they are camped in the valley just outside of Jerusalem. Thus this ungodly multitude is destroyed by fire of God. They become ashes and are left with "neither root nor branch" (Malachi 4:1,3). Following this is the Judgment at the Great White Throne, which culminates the work of the Millennium (Revelation 20:5).

The redeemed of the present age will already have been judged, for they will have reigned with Christ for a thousand years. But there is evidently a need for a judgment for many others at this time (Revelation 20:11:12). This judgment will be made from records compiled in the great record books of God. Even as it is with us, the names of those who are found to be God's true people will be found recorded in the Book of Life for those who lived through this period (Revelation 20:14-15).

The sea, and the grave delivered up the dead and they were judged, each one according to his works. Rather than to let them suffer and live a miserable life in hell, God will pronounce a death sentence upon them. They will be cast into the lake of fire, prepared for the devil and his angels (Matthew 25:41). And burn them up (2 Peter 3:10), and will be ashes under the saints feet (Malachi 4:1; 3), which is the second death (Revelation 20:6).

We are to be with Jesus here on earth "that where I am, there ye may be also." We shall be ruling with Christ on earth over nations for a thousand years (Revelation 5:10; 20:5). No wonder Jesus said, "the meek shall inherit the earth" (Matthew: 5:5).

Now comes Satan's final fate along with those who have rebelled against God (Matthew 24:34). Satan and his angels sinned after God created the world (Ezekiel 28:13). and

place a punishment of death by “everlasting fire,” that was “prepared for the devil and his angels” Matthew 25:41). The angels sinned, and it is right that they should share with Satan’s punishment.

Does the reader believe in a general judgment? Does the reader believe in the Bible, which says: “He (God) hath appointed a day in which He will judge the world” (Acts 17:31)? Now let me ask--will God commit men to hell before they are judged? Does the reader see the difficulty here? If the sinner goes to hell at death, will he be brought out of hell at judgment, to be tried, to determine whether he should have gone there? A false doctrine, like any other lies is a dangerous thing, for it leads to some very awkward conclusion, and the hell of orthodoxy clashes most seriously with a coming day of judgment. No--the dead are in their grave and will remain there until the voice of God calls them forth.

Dreadful as death is to others, I (Job) shall esteem it a high privilege; it will be to me a cover from the affliction, distress and the wrath from God. “Keep me secret, hide me in the grave, and appoint me a set time, and remember me! If a man dies, shall he live, having accomplished the days of his life? I will endure till I live again.” Here is no doubt, but a strong persuasion, of the certainty of the general resurrection. “All the days of my appointed time, will I wait till my change comes” (Job 14:12-14).

This present earth (kept in store) which is liable to the same destruction as in the days of Noah, because the same means still exist, there is iniquity enough to induce God to destroy it and its inhabitants, are nevertheless kept in store, “treasured up” kept in God’s storehouse, to be destroyed (not tortured) by fire at the day of judgment (2 Peter 2:9). If man goes to his reward or punishment immediately at his death, there would be no purpose in a resurrection.

The Bible tells us that the wicked are “Reserved” unto the Day of Judgment to be punished. The scriptures say, “Kept in store,” Reserved unto fire against the day of judgment” (2 Peter 3:7), and the last text quoted says, “the wicked is Reserved to the day of destruction” (Job 21:29-30). The one word in this text that settles the question is “Reserved.” The definition for the word Reserved is as follows: “Reserved--To keep in store for the future or other use; to keep back.” The scriptures are specific when they says the sinner are “Reserved.” The popular idea that man goes to heaven or hell at death is unreasonable as well as unscriptural.

By your long course of iniquity, and impenitent heart--produced by your hardness will continue to increase your dept to the divine justice, which will infallibly inflict wrath, punishment, in the day of wrath--judgment day, in which He will render to every man according to his works (Romans 2:5-6). By wrath we are to understand “punishment,” which, in the Day of Judgment, will reward and punish every man according as his life and conversation have been (Ecclesiastes 12:14). All the action of men, whether good or bad, is written in a book (the book of life) and all of them shall give account (Revelation 20:12). At the time of their death, they should not be judge, but after judgment, then God will destroy them when he destroys the earth (Revelation.11:18).

There is to be a judgment at the end of this age (end of the world), and this judgment will be just. In the work of God there is perfect order, and the record of life of every individual will be spread out at the judgment. Therefore, the only logical conclusion from these texts is that there can be no punishment meted out to the sinner, until all of his

deeds have been weighed in God's balances. And that judgment takes place at the end of this age (Revelation 20:5).

It is almost unbelievable that men can read this statement that, "He (God) will make an utter end and they shall be devoured as stubble fully dry" (Naham 1:9-10), and still believe in a literal endless hell. Jesus compares the "wicked to Tares" (Matthew 13:40). "If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, that is withered; and men gather them and cast them into the fire, and are burned up" (John 15:6). "They shall be like the fat of the lamb; consumed away" (Psalms 37:20). "When a righteous man turns away from his righteousness, he shall surely die" (Ezekiel 18:26).

In addition to the above we have the following expression applied to the sinner: "Burn up"--"Consumed"--"Perish"--"Shall Die"--"Be Cut Of"--"An Utter End"--"Shall Not Be"--"Be as they had not been." The doctrine of an endless Hell of torture is a lie, it is of the devil, and a stain on the religion of Christ; it is a dark blot on the mercy of God. Let us, for God's sake, for the sake of truth, vindicate the fair name of Christian Religion by repudiating this wicked lie.

Where did the idea of Satan with a pitchfork, torturing wicked people in an underground world of flames and darkness occur? Did Christian get this idea out of the Bible? No, it is not the teaching of Jesus Christ or the Christian church.

The term "forever and ever" refers to the wicked that will be destroyed by fire (Revelation 14:11). But we must maintain that when the fire of the last days has destroyed all that there is to be destroy, then it will go out and the smoke will cease. We deny the eternity of the existence of the fires. "Forever" is translated from the Greek word "aion," and is defined to mean--a period of time, limited by surrounding circumstances--a lifetime--and when speaking of God it means as long as God lives, eternally, never ending. When speaking of man it means a lifetime or until death. One can plainly see that expression "forever" in this text means as long as the fire burns (Isaiah 34:10).

The word "Eternal Damnation" means literally, a crisis or judgment, decision or separation; hence the sinner is in danger of an Eternal Crisis, Judgment, Decision, or Separation. "Everlasting Fire," not everlasting in duration, but everlasting in its consequences or purpose. Whatsoever that fire destroys will be everlasting destroyed (Matthew 15:41). "They shall be devoured as stubbles fully dry" (Nahum 1:10).

Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed with "Eternal Fire," but it is still not burning today (Ezekiel 28:17-19). The word eternal and everlasting are from the same Greek word. Now, if everlasting or eternal has reference to time, we must conclude that the fire which destroyed these cities of the plains is still burning, and will continue to burn throughout eternal (Genesis 19:24-25; 2 Peter 2:6).

The conclusion is clear. Eternal fire turns everything it touches into ashes (Malachi 4:1-3), and eternal or everlasting fire is "Eternal" or "Everlasting" in its purpose. Sodom and Gomorrah will never be restored, but are eternal destroyed, and the wicked who go into everlasting or eternal fire will in like manner be turned "into ashes," never to be restored. Malachi says of the wicked--"They shall be ashes under the saint feet." Malachi and Peter, referring to the turning of the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah "into Ashes;" what Jude calls "Eternal Fire" (Jude verse 7), tells us that what happen to these cities was "an example unto those that after should live ungodly" (2 Peter 2:6). The sinner will be destroyed, turn into ashes, and cease to exist. After the earth is purified the

words of Christ will be fulfilled--Blessed are the meek for they shall inherit the earth” (Matthew 5:5).

Every man stands in personal relationship to God: none dies for his own sins (Jeremiah 31:30). It is so important to remember that here soul (Ezekiel 18:4-28) here means “Person” or Self--the whole man, not just the body, but Body Soul, and Spirit of man will be cast into the lake of fire and will be burned up (Revelation 20:15). Therefore, ordinary physical death cannot be what is intended; eternal death is the most striking of legal penalties for punishment for sin.

The sinner will be cast into the lake of fire along with Satan and his angels. At the time of judgment a reformed sinner will not have his past brought up against him, nor a backslider be able to plead his former righteousness. God will judge each of us as we are. Men may act like he is changeable, but God acts in accordance with eternal principles. When we quote the word of God, “The soul that sinneth it shall die” (Ezekiel 18:4), and “The Wages of sin is death” (Romans 6:23), do men believe these texts? No, they will say, it does not mean a literal death, or absence of life, but that this is the death that never dies. A death that never dies is just about as sensible as a life that never lives. Death is defined to be, “a total and permanent cessation of all the vital functions; extinction of life.”

He (God) hath appointed a day in which He will judge the world (Acts 17:31). Will God commit men to Hell before they are judged? If the sinner goes to Hell at death, will he be brought out of Hell at the great white throne judgment (Revelation 20:10-15), to be tried, to determine whether he should have gone there? A false doctrine, like any other lie is a dangerous thing, for it leads to some very awkward conclusions, and the opinion of Hell clashes seriously with a coming day of Judgment. No, the dead are in their grave and will remain there until the voice of God calls forth.

The doctrine of endless torture of sinners is based upon the false teaching of immortality of the soul. Man does not have a conscious, immaterial nature, which continues to have lived after death. Man is unconscious in death (Ecclesiastes 9:5).

The incentive to Christians is love; and “greater love hath no man than this, that a man should lay down his life for a friend” (John 15:13). “God is love”

Why turn to a dangerous spiritual counterfeit? When the time--tested promise of scripture is to “let your request be made known to God. And the peace of God which suppresses all comprehension, shall guard your heart and your mind in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 4:6-7).

All Christians agree, “that Christ died for our sins according to the Scripture” (1 Corinthians 15:1-3). And “that my grace of God, Christ should taste death for every man” Hebrews 2:9). Christians agree that, “Christ died for the ungodly” (Romans 5:6). If we believe that Jesus death on the cross, paid the penalty for our sins, then we must agree that death is the penalty for sins.

Jesus’ soul (body) was made an offering for sins (Isaiah 53:10-11). The shed blood of the Son of God is the real atonement, “the just for the unjust.” Christ sacrifice teaches the one truth that death, not eternal torment, is the penalty for sins. The Bible says that, “the wages of sin is death” (Romans 6:23). It also says that Jesus, by the grace of God, “tasted death for every man” (Hebrew 2:9). Why contradict this plain gospel truth by teaching that the wicked will be punished with eternal torment? Let us except the gospel truth that death is the penalty for sin.

More serious words have probably never been uttered. Let us not suppose that God will provide some secret way of this snare for a special order of people who have not met the standards of His Word. Jesus Himself has set the requirements for avoiding the great catastrophe that will surely precede His return to earth with power and great glory. The time to prepare is now. Spend much time in prayer seeking for guidance and direction.

When the Scriptures are fulfilled, God will have a clean universe. There will be no sin, no sinners, and no devil, and all will be blessed and joy forever more (Revelation 5:13). God will again renew the heavens and earth, and will dwell among His Family (1 Corinthians 15:28). And shall wipe away all tears from their eyes, and there shall be no more death, neither sorrows nor crying, neither shall be any more pain, for the former things are passed away (Revelation 21:1-4). This will be after the 1000 years called the millennium.

Even Christ is then subject to the father “that God may be all in all” (1 Corinthians 15; 28). This ushers in the beautiful picture described in Revelation chapter 21 and 22, the kingdom of God on the New Earth. This old earth will have been cleansed by fire in the same manner it was once cleansed by water, as we find described in 2 Peter 3:5-13.

Bad news will be a thing of the past. Peace, happiness and abundance at last! Our future is a world of physical blessing under Christ’s millennial reign. Beyond that, immortal, spiritual life is a spectacular, transformed universe! When we see and experience suffering in our present world, let’s be thankful for our loving Creator’s plan of salvation. This is hope of humanity. What glorious good news!

John’s warning in Revelation 18:1-8 is not a warning about a future world ruler that will force the world again to false religion under the penalty of death but an all out world war that will end this world as we know it (Joel 3:1-2; 9-16). That war is God’s judgment on this wicked world. That is when Jesus will set up His Kingdom and peace will then cover the whole earth. “Let’s us be glad and rejoice, and give honor to Him: for the marriage of the lamb is come: and His wife (church) hath made herself ready” (Revelation 19:7).

What a wonderful privilege to be given the marriage and family relationship so that we may be prepared for the spiritual marriage to Christ and the Divine Family status, for eternity, in the kingdom of God.

The first marriage took place when God brought the woman Eve to Adam and joined them as man and wife. God bless them and He said to them: “be fruitful and become many and fill the earth and subdue it” (Genesis 1:28). Therefore, God ordained the family relationship for human being. Therefore, family relationship demands marriage.

Because of the coming marriage between Christ and the church--because the church is now the affianced bride, engage to marry Christ--for this reason, God ordain the marriage institution in the Garden of Eden. The family relationship demands the husband—and--wife relationship! That demands marriage and faithfulness to that matrimonial bond! The Church is merely that body, composed of the begotten children of God. The church as a body is the affianced bride of Christ (Ephesians 5:22-32).

As we are living near the coming of the bridegroom, it is now time for the bride to become the wife of the Lamb. The faithful are bidden to come to the wedding supper (Matthew 22:2-14). It is time for the church to make herself ready, instructed by God to clothe herself with fine linen (Revelation 19:7-9), which has been wash in the blood of the Lamb.

In Paul's writing in 2 Corinthians 11:2, He said: "for I am jealous over you with Godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you a chaste virgin to Christ." How was he to do that? "That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word. That he might present it to himself a glorious Church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing, but that it would be holy and without blemish (Ephesians 5:26-27). This is a great mystery: but speak concerning Christ and the Church' (Verse 32).

Christ begins to speak in parables as an effective method of revealing truth to the spiritual and ready mind and at the same time concealing it from others. One must understand the parables in the relation to the bride, Church, and Christ the Bridegroom. One must not overlook the Jewish culture in which our Lord lived and worked.

Under this culture the Father or his friends would see a young girl, then he would select her for the young man's bride. Then he would go to the home of the young woman to meet her to initiate the wedding proposal. If she agreed, the two then would seal the covenant with a glass of wine. Then there was the agreement on a price to be given to the father for the girl. This payment was compensation for the loss of a worker. The sum was mutually agreed upon. After this agreement was made the couple was considered married. Between betrothal and marriage all communication between the betrothed ones was carried out through "the friend of the bridegroom" (John 3:29). She was regarded as His wife, so that unfaithfulness was punished by death (Deuteronomy 22:23-24).

After the payment for the bride was completed, the bridegroom then had to go and build a house for the two of them to live in (John 14:1-3). It would take two or more years to finish. The father of the bride would then inspect the premises to see if it was ready for the marriage

While the bridegroom was building the home the bride was to make herself ready, for she did not know when he would come for her. She would leave a lamp burning in her window to show she was ready to go out to meet him (Matthew 25:7). The Jewish wedding was generally celebrated in the night (Matthew 25:26). The bride had arrayed herself long before the marriage, for her wedding robe of fine linen, clean and white was laid out and ready for her to dress when she heard the bridegroom coming (Revelation 19:7-9). The bride would always bathe so she would be clean and pure to put on her white robe (Hebrews 10:22; Ephesians 5:26-27), often richly embroidered. She would put her bridal girdle around her waist; cover her face with a veil (1 Corinthians 11:10).

After the father of the bride said it was finish, the bridegroom, attended by his friends, set out from his house to the house of his bride's parents (Matthew 25:26). The procession was happy occasion, and was often accompanied by singers shouting: "here comes the bridegroom" with sound of the trumpets. He took his bride back to his house accompanied by singing and the playing of musical instrument. The wedding festivities continued for one or two weeks.

The parable of the ten virgins signifies the condition of the church (the bride) when Christ (the bridegroom) shall come to judge the world. Five of them were wise. They took care to make proper provisions beforehand, and left nothing to be done in the last moment. Five were foolish. They did not see that it was necessary to have the salvation of God in their souls. They had once walked the Christian course, now they have left their first love; they have backslidden from the walking that straight and narrow path, and now they are excluded from their marriage. Unfaithfulness means death.

Paul's statement in Ephesians chapter 5, verse 32, tells us that this is a great mystery concerning Christ and the Church. To understand this mystery we compare these parables side by side, comparing earthly things with heavenly truths. So the creation and the union of Adam and Eve was intended, in the design of God to point out the union of Christ and the Church, a most important union that can be conceived. Therefore, the Apostle called it a great mystery.

It was a constant practice of our Lord to take the subjects of His discourse from persons present, or from the circumstances of times, persons, and places: "A marriage for His son, "A marriage feast," or to those who have been bidden, or "invited to the wedding" (Matthew 22:1-14).

Jesus used the wedding festivities as a way to show His followers what must shortly come to pass. Friends of the bridegroom would pick the future bride for the groom, being a member of the "Visible Church" whose duties was to introduce new people to Jesus Christ the groom. They then must persuade them to enter the Father's house to hear the preaching of the Gospel, where each person was invited to partake of the blessed wedding, invited to the marriage supper. If they accepted Jesus Christ, repent, then was baptized, he/she was now considered (Betrothed). Engaged. When they came together with the body of Christ (the church), and drank from the cup; the fruit of the vine at the Lord supper, he/she sealed the covenant of there marriage (Mark 14:24-25).

Now that the betrothal is finalized, a price had to be paid for the bride (the church). Jesus paid the ultimate price for the Church, with the shedding of His blood. Crucifixion was one of the most cruel and barbarous from of death know to man. "For we bought a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's" (1 Corinthians 6:20). So being bought with the price of the blood of Christ, you are sure not your own; you are His property.

After the bride had accepted the proposal from the groom and the price was agreed upon, then the bridegroom was responsible to build a house before the wedding could take place. It could be a new dwelling, or an addition to his father's house. After the house was built the father of the bride had to inspect the premise before the marriage. Jesus, our bridegroom, made a statement: "In my Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you so, I go to prepare a place for you" (John 14:2-3). Jesus' mansion is almost ready to be occupied. He is coming back soon for His bride.

The parable of the ten virgins shows the state the professing Christians; what the condition of the visible Church will be in when Christ returns for His bride. In this parable the bridegroom is understood to be Jesus Christ. The wise virgins are those who truly enjoy the purity and holiness of the Gospel. The vessel is her heart; the oil is her faith. The lamp is her burning light within her soul.

The wise had her lamp burning, which shows her burning desire that others could see Christ living in her life; she lived the gospel, her light shone forth to the world (Luke 12:35). The oil was her faith, which works by love (Galatians 5:6), and her heart was the vessel, which adorned her life with the fruit of the spirit (Galatians 5:22-23), while patiently waiting for the return of her bridegroom, Jesus Christ.

The foolish virgins were Christians and faithful followers of Jesus at one time in their lives, but became unsound in their thinking. "The cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lust of others things entered in, chokes the word, and it become unfruitful" (Mark 4:19). They lost the zeal; the flame was no longer burning in

their hearts, like many parishioners in our Churches today. They have let the light that was once burning in their souls (religious profession) become darkness (Luke 11:35), and it was to them too late when they heard Jesus Christ coming for His Church.

The bride must constantly bathe and be prepared for the coming of the groom (Psalms 45:13-14). The Church is represented as the spouse of Christ; she washes, cleanses, and prepares herself each day. How? By washing her self with pure water which is the word of God (Ephesians 5:26; Hebrews 10:22). So when Christ comes, He will find His bride in every splendid and honorable, because there will be no spots or blemish on her but only purity and holiness (Ephesians 5:27).

Jesus has finished His work, He has paid the price, He has now finished the house, and now He is ready to come for His bride. "The marriage of the Lamb is come, and His wife has made herself ready." Revelation paints the festival as a great wedding party in which Christ (the Lamb), and His followers (the bride), declare their union. The symbol--the bride of Christ--represents God's Church. They are clothed in fine linen, dazzling white, which symbolized purity (Revelation 19:7-9).

Christ's bride has arrayed herself long before the wedding. The bride's wedding robe is made out of the righteous conduct of the saints. It is the responsibility of the Church to make herself ready, and it is given to her by God to clothe herself (Philippians 2:12-13). The raiment of the bride is to be interpreted as the acts of the saints, and refers to spiritual bodies, which the righteous has in accordance with their character. The bride would meet the bridegroom with a veil over her head. Anciently, women betrothed in meeting their future husbands, and at wedding only used the veil. The bride's veil, a mark of modesty and subjection to her lord (1 Corinthians 11:10).

The bride has made herself ready for the return of the groom. She heard a cry: "Behold the bridegroom cometh" (Matthew 25:6). "For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven from with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and the trump of God" (1 Thessalonians 4:16). The bride was ready and went in with Him to the marriage and the door was shut (Matthew 25:10).

The invitation to marriage supper had been issued to intimate all was ready (Matthew 22:3-4). Refusal to come to the marriage feast, when invited, is considered a breach of the law of God. Any one who is invited to the dinner and does not accept this invitation disobeys God and His messengers. This marriage supper was prepared for the marriage of the Lamb. One man, came who was not dressed in a wedding--robe (furnished by the groom), and he was cast outside the chamber into the dark. This call is the universal appeal which through the public preaching of the gospel, and only a few of the hearers will accept it with all their hearts and souls.

So what is this parable of the marriage supper about? The bride is the one who has accepted Jesus Christ as her personal Saviour, which makes up the church body. The groom is Jesus Christ who paid the price for His bride on the cross. Jesus has left to go build a house for His bride, the Church. Only the Father knows when it is completed. The bride has made herself ready. He has completed His project, and is about to return. He is coming back with a shout of the archangel, and the sound of trumpets, and His bride is going to meet Him in the air.

The lesson enforces in his parable of the ten virgins is not that of wakefulness, for they all grew drowsy and went to sleep. It is rather that of forethought, for although the five took their lamps, they took no oil with them, whereas the sensible took oil in their vessels

as well as their lamps. They know that the bridegroom will return. So, it is not enough just to have a supply of spiritual life, which will be exhausted in a short time.

Christ is still calling people to His marriage supper; everyone is invited. "The spirit and the bride say, come. And let him that hearth say, come. And let him that is athirst; come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely (Revelation 22:17).

Soon the lamb will take His bride, to be ever at His side. All the host of heaven will assembled be, 0' twill be a glorious sight. All the saints in spotless white, and with Jesus they will feast eternally, "Come and dine," the Master calleth, "Come and dine," you may feast at Jesus table all the time. He who fed the multitude, turn the water into wine, to the hungry calleth now "Come and dine."

Now that the betrothal was finalized, the marriage of the Lamb has been arranged, the invitations has been given, a price had to be paid for the Bride (the Church), but what a price it was. Jesus paid the ultimate price for the Church, with the shedding of his blood. Crucifixion was one of the most cruel and barbarous forms of death known to Man. But Jesus Christ was willing to suffer for our sins so we could have eternal life. This is what Jesus went through for the each one of us so that we might be saved.

It all started about 2000 years ago, a man came into the world whose presence was to have a profound influence on humanity. His public life lasted only about three and a half years. He was only in His thirties when He suffered an agonizing death on the cross. His name has founded the most widespread religion on this earth.

Who was this man that thousands of followers have loved and given their lives willingly to suffer poverty and even martyrdom for? What manner of His life and teaching so inspired millions of people? It was Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. He did not of himself leave any written record, as far as we know. Our main source of information is the three gospels, according to Matthew, Mark and Luke. They are known as Synoptic (condensed statement) gospel because they have a "common aspect," closely resembling one another, and using much of the same material. The fourth Gospel that was written by John gave much more evidence of the suffering of Jesus. Also, the Epistle of Paul, including many other writers gave more information as to His suffering and hardship He endured. Many writers of he Old Testament bring out much about Jesus' pain that He suffered for all mankind. These records furnish me with the foundation upon which I have based my account of the agony of the death of Jesus Christ.

It was inevitable that His teaching would make for Jesus many powerful enemies among those He fearlessly denounced. These enemies began to plot His destruction and to lay out traps for Him. The Master sensed that He was already walking in the shadow of the cross. The enmity He had aroused among the rulers meant but one thing for Him--certain death. The powerful drama of Jesus' life was brought to a close at a place called Calvary, outside Jerusalem.

Devoted Jews still expected the Messiah to come, as was foretold in the writings of Isaiah, Micah, and other prophesies. But they were hardly prepared for a messiah like Jesus. Many of them were expecting a Godlike warrior who would help them to overthrow Roman rules. They were hardly expecting a loving, kind, traveling preacher, who spoke equally with the Pharisees and Samaritans, a friend to the rich and poor alike, prostitutes and beggars. They were not expecting a carpenters' son turned preacher.

Jesus, knowing that His time was drawing close, prepared for the Passover supper, better known today as the "Lord Supper." When Jesus and the others arrived that all sat

down together at the table, and Jesus began speaking: "I have look forward to this hour with deep longing, anxious to eat this Passover meal with you before my suffering begins. For I tell you now that I won't eat it again until what it represents will occur in the Kingdom of God."

Then He took a glass of wine (grape juice), and when He had given thanks for it, He said, "Take this and share it among your selves, for I will not drink it again until the Kingdom of God has come."

Then He took a loaf of bread; and when He had thanked God for it, He broke it apart and gave each apiece and said, "This is my body, given for you. Eat it in remembrance of me" (Luke 22:19-20).

The Lord Supper, was as represented indicated and predicts redemption effected by the death of His Sacrifice. Christ knew that His death was at hand.

After the Passover feast was over, Jesus went up to the Garden Grove, Gethsemane, where Judas, one of His twelve, betrayed Him. Then Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priest, and asked, "How much will you pay me to get Jesus into your hands? And they gave him thirty peaces of silver. From that time on, Judas watched for an opportunity to betray Jesus to them (Matthew 26:14-16). And Judas said unto them. "If ye thank good give me my price and not forbear. So they weighed for my price thirty pieces f silver" (Zechariah 11:12). Then it was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremy the prophet, "And they took thirty pieces of silver of him that was valued, whom they of the child of Israel did valued (Matthew 27:9). It was a custom then in a time of Jesus when some one was injured or kills to pay a price of thirty peaces of silver. It was a price paid foe a life of a child or a servant killed, "If there be laid on him a sum of money, then he shall give for the ransom of his life whatsoever is laid upon him. He shall give unto their master thirty pieces of silver" (Exodus 21:30-32).

Then Jesus brought them (Disciples) to a garden grove, Gethsemane, where He fell down to pray, and then Judas came straight to Jesus and embraced Him with a kiss. Then the mob led Him to the home of the High Priest, where all the Jewish leaders were gathered. There they questioned Him all night. Early in the morning, the Chief Priest and others led Him to Pilate, the Roman governor, in chains. The Roman governor asked Jesus, "Are you the Jew's Messiah? "Yes," Jesus replied.

Now the governor's custom was to release one prisoner each year during the Passover celebration--anyone the Jews wanted. The mob called for Barabbas, a murderer, to be set free, and Pilate released Barabbas. The Roman soldiers scourged Jesus (beating Him by striking Him repeatedly), and they delivered Jesus up to be crucified. The soldiers then took Him into the common hall where all the band of soldiers was gathering together. And they stripped Him, and put on Him a scarlet robe. They then put a crown of thorns upon His head and a reed in His hand, and they bowed before Him and mocked Him saying, "Hail, King of the Jews! And they "spit" upon Him, and took the reed and smote Him on the head. And they led Him away to be crucified (Matthew 27:26-31).

After the crucifixion, the solders threw dice to divide up His clothes among themselves. Then they sat around and watched Him as He hung there. And they put a sign above His head, "This is the King of the Jews."

There are many other Scriptures in the Old Testament that prophesied about His Judgment and death such as the book of Lamentation. In chapter 3 verses 28-30: "He

sitteth alone, and keeps silent. He puts His mouth in the dust, there may be hope, He gives His Cheek to them that Smitteth Him.”

“I was not rebellious, neither turned my back away. I gave my back to be smitten, and my cheeks to them that plucked off the hair (bread). I hid not my face from shame and spitting upon me” (Isaiah 50:5-6). “Many were astonished at Him; His face was so marred, more than any man, and his body scarred more than the sons of men.” (Isaiah 52:14).

Jesus, the Son of God offered Himself in total obedience, knowing that it would bring great suffering upon Him. He knew that when He declared the message that God the Father gave Him; He was going to suffer abuse. But despite the torture laid upon Him, nothing would dissuade Him from His mission. Even to the end, He was an obedient sacrifice.

This was just the beginning of the punishment that Jesus had to go with the beating and the extreme pain and anguish that were afflicted upon Him. “They gaped (stared) upon me with their mouths open, as a ravening and a roaring lion. I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; my heart is like wax; it is melted in the midst of my bowels. My strength is dried like a potsherd (clay pot); and my tongue cleaveth to my jaws; and I was brought into dust of death, for they have compassed me; the assembly of the wicked has enclosed me; they pierced my hands and my feet. They look and stared upon me. They part my garment among them, and cast lots upon my vesture. But be not far from me, O Lord, O my strength, haste thee to help me” (Psalms 22:13-19).

This happen when Jesus was on the cross, about the ninth hour, suffering from pain, “cried with a loud voice saying, My God my God, why has thou forsaken me” (Matthew 27:46).

Now the prophesies of Daniel tells us that Jesus would be cut off in the middle of the week, about the ninth hour, on Wednesday, about three o’clock in the afternoon, not on Friday as the modern day churches teaches today (Daniel 9:27). Then after 3 days (72 hours) he would be resurrected about the 12 hour (6 o’clock) Saturday afternoon (Matthew 28:1), fulfilling Jesus own prophecy that He would be in the “heart of the earth for three days and three nights” (Matthew 12:39-40).

The Lamb that was killed in the Old Testament had to be perfect, without spot and without blemish, before it could be sacrificed on the altar. Christ has now become that sacrificial Lamb. “Only with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot. Who was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you. Who by Him do believe in God, that raised Him up from the dead, and gave Him glory; that your faith and hope might be in God” (1 Peter 1:20-20).

On the Jewish Passover Eve, the master of the house in every household carries out a ritual; this ritual is called “Afikoimen.” An evening meal is prepared and everyone in the house, including guest, partake of it. The meal is called “Seder.” The master of the house then stands up and tells the story of the first Passover when the death angel came and killed the first born of the Egyptians. During the meal the master of the house would take a dish containing thee pieces of “matza” or unleavened bread, which until then have been covered with a towel. A special prayer is read, then the first piece of “matza’ is place to one side. The second piece is broken. The children are sent out of the room, and the broken piece is hidden. The children return. All grown-up taking part in the meal

have to drink three goblets of wine, but before the third goblet is drunk, the children are told to look for the hidden piece of bread. When they would find it they would shout for joy.

The explanation of this Passover supper is this: The three peaces of bread represents the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit (the Comforter), thus the second piece represents the second person of the Deity. The breaking of bread signified the body of our Savior being broken on the cross, the third peace, which was hidden, signifies the burial. The three goblets represent Christ death, burial and resurrection. The first, the three days he had spent in the tomb, second, His shed blood on the cross, the third, the rediscovery of the bread and the shout of delight represent the joy of the Resurrection. The Jew's carry out this ritual without realizing, that it symbolizes the suffering and resurrection of the Savior.

He accepted it all willingly, and the emphasis is not place on death and burial, but as Christ went to the slaughter, it compared with the gentle innocence of a lamb, the meekest of all domesticated animals. "He was like a lamb that is brought to the slaughter as a sheep" (Jeremiah 11:19). "And He open not His mouth because they did this" (Psalms 39:9).

Now, as we look back on the prophesies of Isaiah, we understand what He saw in a vision of the suffering of our Lord Jesus Christ. He reveals the innocence and submissiveness of the servant. Isaiah compares Him to a sheep, both in the aspect of proclaiming no defense of being the sacrificial lamb. He paints a disturbing portrait of that triumph victory over death, which fulfilled the Scriptures of Genesis 3:15; "And I will put enmity between thee and the woman (church), and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shall bruise his keel. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested (made clear), that He might destroy the works of the devil" 1 John 3:8). Isaiah used words such as "stricken," "wounded" "despised," "rejected," "oppressed," and "afflicted" in what our Messiah must go through. He had no beauty, He was not tall and big that would attract people to Him. He had no beauty; He was just a humble and ordinary carpenter of His days. The prophecy of Isaiah and other writers presents a picture of sadness, suffering, and overwhelming grief, not of joy and victory.

"He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrow, and acquainted with grief, and we hid as it were our face from Him; He was despised, and we esteemed Him not. Surely He hath born out grief, and carried our sorrows: and was afflicted. He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for iniquities, the chastisement of our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned to our own ways; and God has laid on Him the iniquities of us all. He was oppressed, and He was afflicted, yet He open not His mouth; He is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her sharers is dumb, so He open not His mouth. He was cut off from the land of the living, and He was taken from prison and from judgment, and for His people was He stricken. He made His grave with the wicked, and with the rich in His death; because He had done no violence, neither was any deceit in His mouth. He made His soul an offering for sin" (Isaiah 53:3-10).

At the first Passover, the Lord spoke unto Moses that the ordinance was to be kept by taken a lamb of the first year and sacrificing it and that, "neither shall ye break a bone thereof" (Exodus 12:46). Moses and David both proclaimed that neither would Christ's legs be broken. "He keepeth all His bones: not one of them is broken" (Psalms 34:20).

“I may tell all my bones: they look and stare upon me” (Psalms 22:17). With all of the afflicting and beaten He endured, yet not one bone was broken, even by His weight when He hung upon the cross by the nails which was attached to His hands and feet. The body being thus extended, the principal bones become prominent, and easily discernible.

“Then came the soldiers, and brake the legs of the first, and of the other which was crucified with Him. But when they came to Jesus, and saw that He was dead already, they brake not His legs” (John 19:32-33).

“And if his offering be of the sheep, for a burnt sacrifice; he shall bring it a male without blemish” (Leviticus 1:10). “Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year; you shall take it out from the sheep” (Exodus 12:5). Jesus Christ, the sacrificial lamb was the only one who could quantify that was with out a blemish (not spoiled by a flaw) to fulfill this prophecies.

The Bible speaks of how Jesus would be taken from the living and nailed to the cross-impaled by three old rusty nails and hung between two thieves. “For dogs have compassed me (Samaritans, Gentiles, Roman soldiers), the assembly of the wicked has enclosed (between thieves): they pierced my hands and my feet” (Psalms 22:16). “And when they were come to the place, which is called Calvary, there they crucified Him, and the malefactors, one on the right hand, and the other on the left” (Luke 23:33).

After He was resurrected, there was much joy from the disciples when seeing Him, but Thomas refused to believe that Jesus was alive until he could put his fingers in the nail holes in His hands; then Jesus said to Thomas ”Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side; and be not faithless, but believe” (John 20:27). “Behold my hands and my feet, that it I myself: handle me, and see, for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have” (Luke 24:39).

“But when they came to Jesus, and saw that He was dead already, brake not His legs; but one of the soldiers with a spear pierced His side, forthwith came out blood and water” (John 19:32-34). This could be that the water was an emblem of baptism and the blood was also an emblem of sanctification. “And they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for Him, as one mourning for his own son” (Zechariah 12:10). “Behold, He cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see Him, and also which pierced Him” (Revelation 1:7). This is the prophecy of the end time judgment, which will come upon Israel during the war at the end of this age. The Jewish people will be crying out for their messiah whom they had pierced.

It was prophesied that the people of Jerusalem would despise Him. “He was despised and rejected by men” (Isaiah 53:3). “But I am a worm, and no man: a reproach of men, and was despised of the people” (Psalms 22:6). This is the way they treated Jesus as a worm. They utterly despised Him; they treated Him with utmost contempt. They laugh, they shouted, they shook their heads; all the while our Lord was hanging upon the cross. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew Him Not” (John 1:10).

“And when they had crucified Him, they parted His garment, casting lots (threw dice) upon them, what every man should take” (Mark 15:24). “They parted my garment among them, and cast lots upon my vesture” (Psalms 22:18). “And they parted His garments among them, and cast lots (Luke 23:34). This prophecy took place at the crucifixion of our Lord. When the soldiers gambled for the garments that Jesus wore.”

“For these were the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled” (Luke 21:22).

These verses represent the suffering and the pain that is beyond our magnitude of imagination as Jesus was led to the cross to die for the sins of all mankind. After His resurrection, He ascended up into heaven, and is now sitting on the right hand of God. Jesus is soon to return to judge the world, and then to sit up His Kingdom, and “His Kingdom is an everlasting Kingdom” (Psalms 145:11-13), and “Thy throne, O God, is forever and ever: a scepter of righteousness is the scepter of thy Kingdom (Hebrews 1:8), “and there shall be no end” (Isaiah 9:7; Luke 1:33).

Soon Jesus will return in the clouds of glory and power, to set up an earthly, world wide, 1000-years political Kingdom, and to judge the world in righteousness. He will then award immortality and incorruptibility to the saints of His everlasting Kingdom and reward every man according to His works (Matthew 16:27).

“And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain; for the former things are passed away” (Revelation 21:1-7).

“And He that sat upon the throne said, behold, I make all thing new. And He said unto me, write: for these words are true and faithful” (Revelation 21:4-5).

Paradise lost, Paradise gain. You can be in this new paradise that is coming soon. Will you honor the King today by renewing your vows of loyalty and obedience to Him? Will you rededicate your life in service to Him who suffered and gave His life for you so you could enjoy the benefits of His kingdom? It is time now to restore Him to His rightful place as King of our lives, our hearts, and our homes. Will you do this now?

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