The God Story!

## EIGHT GREAT EPOCHS IN THE FABRIC OF TIME

### 50 DAYS - 8 EPOCHS!

The Eight Great Epochs In The Fabric Of Time DVD's and work pad have been produced to help grasp the "big picture" on the God Story and to think through some of the deeper issues of life.

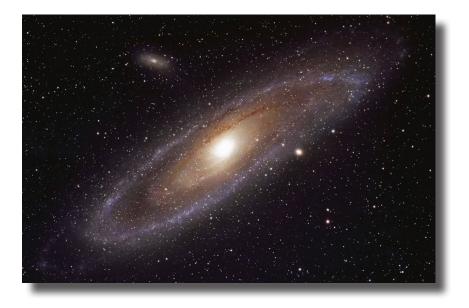
I have done my best to accurately represent the Living God's words about time, eternity, life, death, and the human struggle.

There are 4 DVD's that include eight presentations which are about 30 minutes in length. This work pad follows these DVD presentations, asking questions to augment your understanding of what is presented.

My work is to provide an accurate representation of the facts, not recruit you to an ideology. It is my hope that your worldview will be enhanced as you systematically think your way through each Epoch in their unfolding context.

For a 'beginner' it would be good to read the verses, but for someone looking for a fuller understanding of the God story, context is always necessary. To find context, you should read back and forth over the verses that are listed. And if you can, underline or highlight in your bible each verse you reference.

ENJOY! Dave Nadler



### EIGHT GREAT EPOCHS within the fabric of time!

EPOCH ONE (Days 1-7)
ORIGINS
EPOCHTWO (Days 8-17)
DELIVERANCE
EPOCHTHREE (Days 18-22)
KINGS & KINGDOMSpages 40-51
EPOCH FOUR (Days 23-25)
PROPHETS & CAPTIVITY
EPOCH FIVE (Days 26-29)
THE RETURN & THE SILENCE
EPOCH SIX (Days 30-36)
THE SHINING LIGHTpages 68-99
EPOCH SEVEN (37-39)
TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTHpages 100-111
EPOCH EIGHT (Days 40-50)
THE END OFTHE AGEpages 113-135



#### How to get the most out of this experience...

The slides on these pages mirror the eight presentations included in your four DVD's. I believe if you take three different "passes" at each presentation, you will walk away with enough to evaluate and stimulate your personal worldview from a spiritual perspective.

#### What do I mean by worldview?

Each of us has a series of beliefs or operating principles upon which we make our decisions. For instance, if we lost someone important to us at some point in our life, it may make us sad, depressed, thoughtful, searching, angry, or aggressive about denial. It could make us overindulge in drinking or dangerous about unhealthy choices for food intake. Our experiences, whether traumatic or pleasant, all help to shape our world view. Each of our world views is made up of hundreds of pieces to each puzzle that is uniquely us.

#### **ONE: THE LISTENING & OBSERVING PASS**

I would suggest viewing one presentation, paging through the work pad as you listen. Try to grasp each part of the unfolding epochs, and to weigh each of the conclusions. Track the teaching with the slides, making sure you are weighing the story being told with whatever background you have in the scriptures.

#### TWO: THE ABSORBING PASS

Next, return to each page of that section and answer the questions that are presented - slide by slide. This gives you a chance to absorb what I am communicating and then to look at the passages from which I have derived my conclusions. This should be deliberate and involve some time set aside to think things through. Do I think this is right? Is this something I have encountered or wrestled with before? Is each of these epochs relevant to how my life is unfolding?

#### THREE: THE WORLD VIEW PASS

Finally, draw some conclusions about your own world view. Does this principle (and Dave's conclusions) ring true for me? Is the foundation of how I operate definite and strong? Is there any place where I should consider modifying my world view? In what ways do I feel as though I am on shaky ground with this principle? On solid ground?

If you will take the time to weigh each epoch and evaluate your personal world view, I believe you will grow in your understanding of the Kingdom, your usefulness to the King, and your satisfaction with your spiritual life.

#### HAPPY HUNTING!



#### WELCOME!

Listen to the introduction from video #1 and think about the following questions.

What images come to mind when you think about endless eternity?

How firm are you in your belief that there is eternity apart from the time continuum?

With which of the above eight epochs would you say you are most familiar?

Least familiar?

On a scale of 1 to 10, 10 being the most likely and 1 being the least - how well thought through are your ideas about the scientific and theological realities of existence outside of time (eternity)?

1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5 - 6 - 7 - 8 - 9 - 10 (circle one)

#### **MYWORLDVIEW**

Do I believe in life after death?

Do I feel my mind and heart are prepared to enter eternity?

Do I feel I have any part in the ultimate occurrence of this event?



## DAY ONE

#### HEBREWS 1:1-4

Read this passage in your favorite copy of the scriptures. Search to answer these questions.

Why are the Hebrew prophets relevant to us?

What is the significance of identifying Jesus as the Son of the Living God? Read Psalm 2 regarding the Son. What do you learn about Him?

In your world view, have you ever thought through the fact that Jesus (the Son) made the world? That in His coming to earth and birth as a human child, He accomplished something within the time continuum - and yet He also exists outside of time? Does this seem likely to you? What issues does this present?

#### **MYWORLDVIEW**

Do I believe God has spoken? In nature? Through the God Story? Through the Jews? Do I believe He still communicates with "sons of Adam" today? With me?



The terms "old" and "new" testament are not something that appear within the Scriptures, but are man-made distinctions. Even our traditional teaching of the trinity presents some biblical challenges. There is little doubt that both the Creator Father and the Son reveal themselves as distinct, yet in Their very essence, One. There is only one testament, and only One Living God.

Read and Search: DEUTERONOMY 6:4 How does this passage reflect what we observe in Genesis 1:26?

Read and Search: MATTHEW 22:35-46 Why did Jesus' words preclude future questions?

#### Read MATTHEW 14:22-36

What made Peter come to the conclusion that he did? What would it have been like to have talked with God face to face?

#### **MYWORLDVIEW**

Do I believe that God is One? Does it make sense that there is only one story and one "testament?" Why would this make any difference to me as I read the God Story?





When God chose Abraham it was not because he was a Jew. God was going to fashion a chosen people for His own purposes, and Abram was His choice.

We know from Genesis 1-11 that mankind was subverting the Living God's purposes for the human race. He confused our language and scattered us to the four winds - so that His purpose of redemption could be brought about through loss. This loss was shared with the Living God - in the garden we lost our innocence - and our souls. Before the foundation of the world - the Lord God gave His Son. We cannot imagine the depth of this loss.

The God Story was given to the Jews. Through this nation the power of God would be shown. Through them the scriptures would unfold and be cared for. Through the Hebrews the Messiah would be born - to save us from our sins.

One of the questions I want to ask God when I see Him face to face is why loss was necessary for redemption. Redemption (rescuing) and loss (separation) are somehow linked to who He is on a very deep level. It is also totally entwined with who we are.

Life is a gift of amazing proportions. Loss is inevitable for any human - because death is loss. But the Living God is bringing about a great glory - and He has included mankind right in the middle of the Epic story!

Page 12 - Introduction



## - EPOCH ONE - ORIGINS



It is important to realize that GENESIS 1-11 as well as the book of Job are not Hebrew. They are Human. Through the Hebrew scriptures the Living God has preserved the Story of our origins.

#### SOME GOOD BIG PICTURE QUESTIONS

If you were God, and You wished to speak to the human race over many centuries, what approach would you have taken?

What are your current beliefs about your origins?

What is the relationship between scientific hypotheses and biblical statements about our origins? Remember, all scientific inquiry begins with hypothesis, moves to theory, and potentially is proven as a law or "truth."

What do you feel you know for sure? Do you believe there is a God? What do you feel you know about Him?

DAY THREE Acts 11:2

#### THIS PASSAGE IS KEY TO UNDERSTANDING THE KINGDOM!

So Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus and said, "Men of Athens, I observe that you are very religious in all respects. "For while I was passing through and examining the objects of your worship, I also found an altar with this inscription, 'TO AN UNKNOWN GOD.' Therefore what you worship in ignorance, this I proclaim to you.

"The God who made the world and all things in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands; nor is He served by human hands, as though He needed anything, since He Himself gives to all people life and breath and all things; and He made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined their appointed times and the boundaries of their habitation, that they would seek God, if perhaps they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; for in Him we live and move and exist, as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we also are His children.'

"Being then the children of God, we ought not to think that the Divine Nature is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and thought of man. "Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all people everywhere should repent, because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead."

Now when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some began to sneer, but others said, "We shall hear you again concerning this." So Paul went out of their midst. But some men joined him and believed, among whom also were Dionysius the Areopagite and a woman named Damaris and others with them.

## Paul had been a devoted Jew. He had encountered the Hebrew Messiah, the Son of God, the One Who is the Savior of the world.

What was Paul's approach to explaining the God Story to these unbelievers?

What were the particulars of his explanation? What things are unexpected?



#### THE HEBREW CONNECTION TO OUR LIVES

As we begin to nail down the Eight Epochs of the God Story it is important to properly interpret the role of the Jewish (Hebrew) people. Not understanding this connection is like moving through life with no ties to our family history. The Hebrew story is our "roots." Our human story in GENESIS 1-11 provides the root for the Hebrew story.

Read GENESIS 12 and observe God's interaction with Abraham. What do you see?

Read GENESIS 17. What do you see?

Read ROMANS 9:1-8. This is saying something astonishing! What do you think it is?

#### 8 EPOCHS #1. ORIGINS of matter, the cosmos, life Genesis Human Race

Job = relational narrative Chosen Race

## DAY FOUR 4

If not for His chosen people, we would have no authentic record of man's beginnings - or our future!

#### WHY DO OUR ORIGINS MATTER?

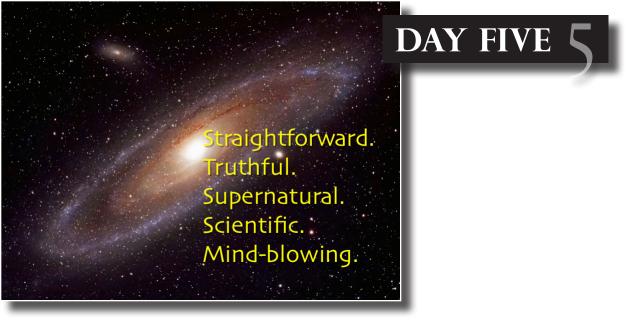
The sheer volume of knowledge that has been garnered in the last generation is astounding. Daniel prophesied that in the last days "knowledge will increase" (Daniel 12:4). Think about what has been learned since the launching of the Hubble satellite with its' amazing telescope (and now Webb)! In science and physics, let alone quantum physics, we have made mindblowing progress in understanding the complexities and beauties of design, right to the molecular level. It is no wonder God said at the Tower of Babel "nothing which they purpose to do will be impossible for them" (GENESIS 11:6).

Genesis provides THE authoritative theological and scientific explanation of our roots. Our connection to our Creator and everything that is made is carefully and succinctly set forth for anyone who wishes to plumb the depths of the real meaning of our existence.

#### **MYWORLDVIEW**

Where do I come down on harmony between science and theology? Do I believe there is an ultimate harmony?

If there is a supernatural God, what is it about my origins that would be personal and at the same time infinite?



#### WHY THE GENESIS ACCOUNT OF OUR ORIGINS IS BELIEVABLE

Honest-minded scientists are open to intelligent design. Randomness is simply not scientifically satisfying. The Bible's science is impeccable and super-intelligent. Natural laws do not preclude supernatural intervention.

Other religious and "modern" accounts of our origins seek to paint mankind in a flattering or self-serving manner. The Bible does not pander to the human ego. It is brutally truthful when it makes scientific, theological, or anthropomorphic claims. While other belief systems bring Creator down to created's level, the Scriptures do just the opposite. God comes near to return mankind to a restored relationship with our Creator.

#### **MYWORLDVIEW**

How much effort have I given to understanding what God has said about my origins?

What about the Bible seems small or limiting to me?

What about the Bible seems hard to understand to me?

GENESIS	Origins	DAY FIVE 5
HUMAN RACE	CHOSEN RACE	
Creation1:1,2 Fall3:6-8 Flood6:8;9:16 Tower11:6,9	Abraham12:1,8 Isaac22:7,8 Jacob25:23 Joseph46:3,4	
1-11	11-20 21-26 27-36 37-50	

#### I AM YOUR CREATOR - I AM THE FATHER OF ALL LIVING THINGS

For the purposes of this study it is important to recognize the connection of Job to the book of Genesis. It is also helpful to understand the unfolding story of the chosen race, and this is best done by becoming familiar with the life, faith, and foibles of the four patriarchs: Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph.

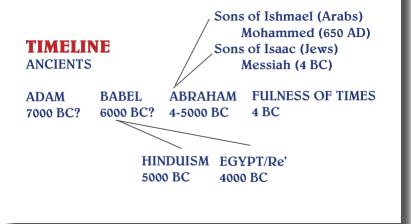
Why are the first 11 chapters of Genesis non-Hebrew?

Why did the Living God choose a people (the Jews) to display His power?

Take a few minutes and look up the references listed in the overview chart above. What do you observe?

#### **MYWORLDVIEW**

If you take the time to highlight each of these references in your bible, you will cover a huge amount of ground in the scriptures. Each of the passages considered in the Eight Epochs in the Fabric of Time series are "markers" that help us to understand the Story!





#### DO ALL ROADS LEAD TO THE SAME PLACE?

The subject of other religions is an interesting one. According to scripture there are basically two religious systems. They are as old as the Garden of Eden.

There is the existence of the Living God. All things created flow from Him, the Son proceeds eternally through Him. He is simply the Father of everything.

From His created beings another "god" emerges. He is one of three archangels. He is a usurper of the glory of the Living God. His name is Lucifer, son of the morning. He is extremely powerful, though all of his authority is derived from his Creator.

From these two sources come all other "gods" and religions of the earth. Just as Lucifer tempted Adam and Eve to usurp the Father's authority over their lives, so other religions hold promise of "liberation" from accountability to our King.

I recommend taking the time to personally investigate Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, and other eastern syncretism - as well as historic Christianity. Compare them to the ancient faith of Abraham, father of the True Jews. Hold each one next to the unfolded God Story from the Hebrew Messianic Scriptures (both "old and new" testaments) - and make your own determination concerning authenticity.

You owe the process to yourself - and the Honor to your Living Father!

#### **MYWORLDVIEW**

Am I familiar with other religious belief systems and the claims they make about spirituality? Am I firm in my choices for what I believe?



#### ABRAHAM IS OUR FAITH LINK TO BELIEVING GOD

According to Paul, Jew among Jews, apostle to the Gentiles: Abraham is our Father. True Jews are those who are Jews inwardly, who have had our hearts circumcised.

Read ROMANS 9:8. What is a "child of the promise?"

Read GALATIANS 3. What is the relationship between the Law and faith? The purpose of the Law?

Who is the "Seed?"

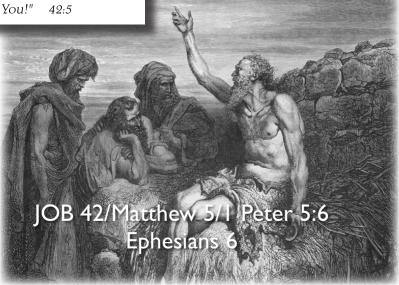
Why was the Son born "under the Law?"

HEBREWS 11 is a really cool chapter to read when looking for the faith link between ourselves as believing Gentiles and our Jewish roots.

JOB	Sovereign Suffering				
Job's Test	Friend's Solution	God's Solution			
1:6-12	42:7	40:2-5			
1-2	3-37	38-42			

Job is a wonderful story which expresses the fundamental truths about God and man. Read JOB 42 and answer the following questions.

This is the conclusion of a long and gut-wrenching experience for Job. What do you learn from the first two chapters about God? About Satan and angels? About the relationship with mankind?



DAY SEVEN

Read MATTHEW 5. What does humility have to do with spirituality?

Read 1 PETER 5:6 and EPHESIANS 6. What do we learn about the spiritual dimension of life?

#### **MYWORLDVIEW**

Do I believe in the active presence of evil in my daily affairs? Am I open to the process of humility that produces growth in the deep parts of my soul?

## - EPOCH TWO - DELIVERANCE



#### GOOD NEWS & BAD NEWS

The story of Genesis is one of understanding our roots. If the Living God is who He says He is, the implications are massive. Implicit in an understanding of our ORIGINS is our need for DELIVERANCE. The Good News means little if we are not acquainted with the Bad News.

Through Adam and Eve we were created to live forever. That was changed when our parents rejected God's Word in exchange for the serpent's word. If we are to once again acquire eternal life, it will be done through faith in the One whom God has sent.

#### **MYWORLDVIEW**

Do I believe that God is my Father? Do I believe that I was born separated from God?

Do I believe that I am lost apart from God's intervention in my life?

Do I believe that my Father cares enough about me to search for me and deliver me?



#### NOTICE THE KEY PEOPLE AND EVENTS IN THE TIME-LINE

It is easy to think that God is not going to come through. It is clear from Scripture and from life experience that all men and women die. Whether Adam and Eve, Noah and his family, the people in the wilderness, Moses himself, or you and me - one fate awaits all men.

But it becomes clear in the God Story that there is more to life than living and dying - there is reward and hope as well. This is the outcome of faith. We have meaning for more than our 80 or so years of life upon this earth. The Law and the prophets lay the foundation for this understanding. Life is good, but what good is life lived apart from God?

Israel saved Joseph's bones and buried them in the promised land (see Exodus 13:19 and Joshua 24:32). While Joseph may have been buried in an Egyptian coffin - his life and death are a picture of the delivering redemption that is on the horizon!

EXODUS	5	Exit		
Deliverance from Bondage	Law Exposited	Tabernacle Constructed		
1:9-22;12:51	20:1-17	25:1-22		
1-12	13-24	25-40		

"God's sovereign redemption." 12:51

Bondage is the Bad News. God's Law is the Good News. God is among us!

Sacrifice 4;2:13;7:37-38	Priest: 9:23-24; 10:1		Ceremony 16:29-34	
1-7	18-10		11-16	
18:3-5;	Vay of Fellowshi           ration         Observar           19:36-37         23:44; 25           7-22         23-27		5:8-12	
	Holiness Rev	Ibelear	11:44	

	Journey I	Prepared	1	
Warriors	Levites	Purity	<b>Worship</b> 10:13,35,36 7-10	
1:2,3,19	3:12,13; 4:49	5:6,7; 6:21		
1-2	3-4	5-6		
	Journey Wa	nderings		
Sinai	to Moab	<b>Events</b> at	Moab	
12:1-3;	14:22-33	25:1-3; 26	:64,65	
10-21		22-36		

40 day journey = 40 years. Because of **unbelief** (Hebrews 3)

## DAY EIGHT 8

## DAY NINE (

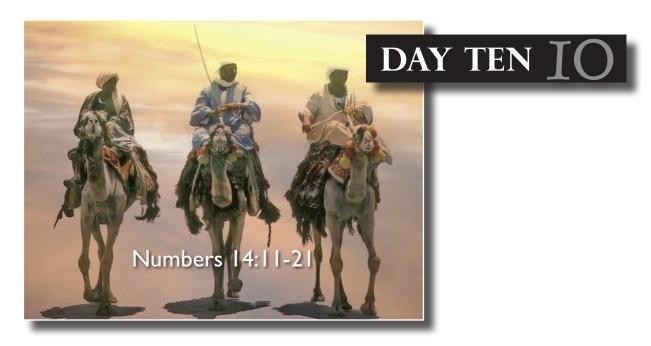
The Lord God has remembered His people in Egypt. He has provided deliverance through Joseph, and now has brought His people out of Egypt with a "mighty hand."

The book of Exodus not only describes this process for the Jews, but also for all who call upon God to deliver us into eternal life. He leads them out through the fire and the cloud.

Because this generation has grown up in Egypt and does not know the Lord, He gives them His Law at Mount Horeb to explain who He is. Yahweh then provides a meeting place called the Tabernacle, where His people can experience His presence.

The priesthood is established in Leviticus to help the Hebrews draw close to their Deliverer. Faith is God's desire for His people, just as it is today.

If you take the time to read and note each of these section passages in your bible, you will establish a solid, basic understanding of His "Torah" or Law. And you will also move deeper insight into how God has chosen to deliver mankind!



#### IT IS NO WONDER WE WANDER

The best way to summarize the events and teaching of the book of NUMBERS is to consider chapter 14.

What was the complaint of the people, and what was their solution to their concerns?

What is the significance of Joshua and Caleb's place in the story?

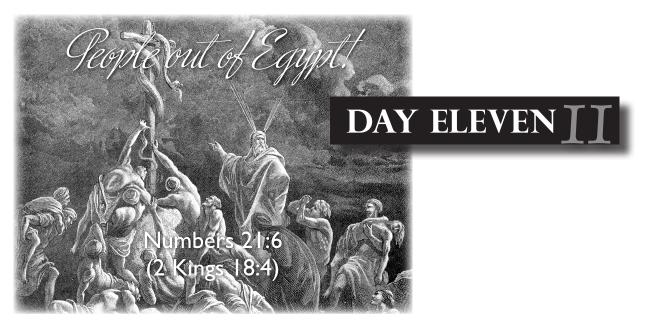
What do we learn about Moses from the events of this chapter?

What was God's issue with the people and the situation?

You may also wish to read about Korah's rebellion in NUMBERS 26.

#### **MYWORLDVIEW**

It appears that all grumbling is evidence of a lack of faith (Hebrews 3). Would I consider myself a grumbler? How do I avoid succumbing to negativity and cynicism? Do I have the same spiritual disposition as Moses?



#### READ NUMBERS 21:1-10

Why were the people upset?

What was God's response to their complaining?

Why was it so harsh?

What does this incident have to do with what Jesus says in JOHN 3:14,15?

What happened in 2 KINGS 18:4 that relates to this story?

#### **MYWORLDVIEW**

There are clear priciples in these first five books of Moses that help us to live in a way that pleases our Father. He also opens the door to eternal life. Cool.

# Equipient of the people. Deuteronomy 1126-28

#### THE GRACE OF LAW

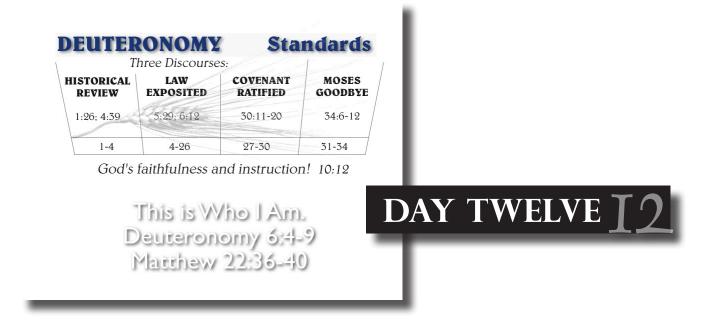
God's Law is not antithetical to His grace - it is a part of His grace. Read DEUTERONOMY 11:26-28.

What was the purpose of His Law?

What were the upsides of following His Law?

The downsides of ignoring it?

GALATIANS 5 places the Law into the context of a person who has encountered the Son of God and found life in His Name. What is specifically explained about the purpose of the Law?



#### THE GREAT COMMANDMENTS

Read DEUTERONOMY 6:4-9. What do we learn about His intention for generations?

Read MATTHEW 22:36-40 and compare it to either list of the "ten commandments" from either EXODUS 20 or DEUTERONOMY 5. What similarities do you see?

Deuteronomy means "second law." What happened to the first set of tablets? Why?

#### **MYWORLDVIEW**

What place do the commandments of God play in my life? In the lives of those who lead my country? In the lives of my co-workers or fellow-students?



Read ROMANS 2:29. Paul was a dedicated Jew. But Paul knew that it was not enough to be connected to God through any blood or social status. Jesus had revealed to him (and throughout all of scripture) that the Good News belonged to the Gentile as well as the Jew.

#### READ ROMANS 11.

What is the result of the Jews rejecting the Messiah, the Son of God?

How should I feel about being a "wild branch" that has been "grafted in" to the true root?

How important is it to continue in His kindness, and what do you think this means?

What were Paul's feelings and conclusion about God's plan for the Jews and the Gentiles?

#### **MYWORLDVIEW**

Gratefulness is one of the true signs of spirituality. Would I consider myself a grateful person? Would grateful be a word others would use to describe me?



We just read ROMANS 2:29 (read it again if you need a refresher). Now read COLOS-SIANS 2:11. Circumcision was the outward sign of the covenant made with Abraham, and with the Hebrew people.

What is the "true circumcision?"

The Law is pretty poorly represented among most modern Gentile believers. Considering how much time was spent by the apostles explaining the link between what Moses said and what Jesus lived and taught, it is incredible that we are so far off base. Read DEUTERON-OMY 30. Was it possible to interact with the Law in such a way as to be right with God?

What do you think that Jesus meant in MATTHEW 5:17 as He explains righteousness through these "beatitudes?"

#### **MYWORLDVIEW**

It is easy to live in a world where accountability is non-existent. Do I feel accountable to my Creator for how I choose to live my life?



READ NUMBERS 16 Who was a "son of Levi?" Why were the people upset with Moses?

Why was this situation a dangerous one for the people? For the purposes of God?

Why was the result so harsh?

#### READ 1 CORINTHIANS 10:1-14

What insight do we receive as Paul looks back on the events of the book of Numbers?

#### **MYWORLDVIEW**

Am I a grumbler? Do I think that there are situations that merit grumbling?



#### READ THE PASSAGES LISTED IN THE OVERVIEW ABOVE

Why was "the land" so important to the Jews?

What is your sense for the type of leadership that Joshua provided?

#### READ ROMANS 8:37-39

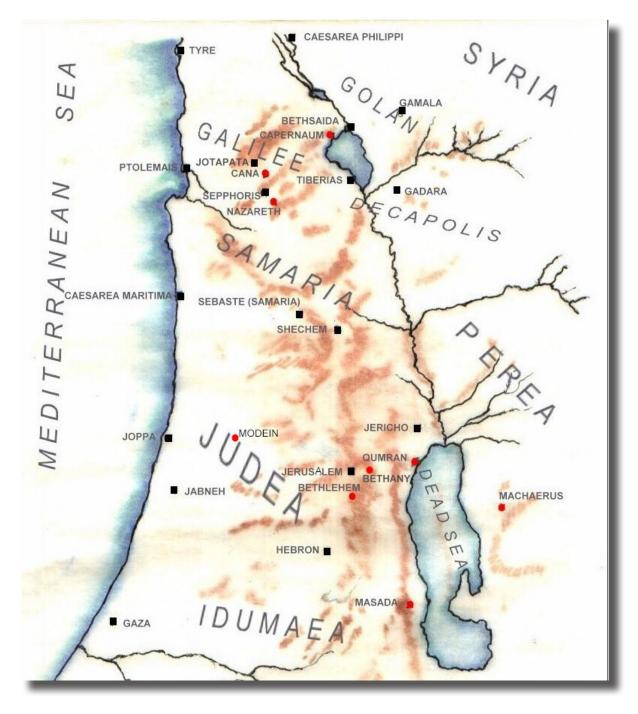
Why is war and conquering so important to the Jews? To God?

#### READ JOHN 16:33

Why is trouble such a big part of our lives?

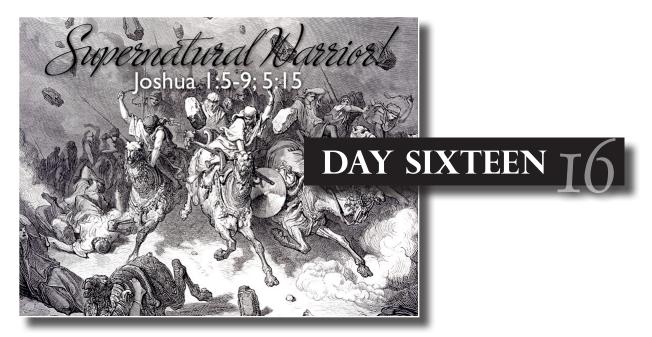
#### **MYWORLDVIEW**

Am I someone who overcomes? Do I view life like a war with a series of battles?



#### **THE BEAUTIFUL LAND: ISAIAH 9:1**

Some basic geography is a helpful backdrop for understanding the Promised Land. Note the location of the Sea in Galilee, where Jesus spent much of His public ministry. Find Nazareth where He grew up - just west of that sea. Now trace the Jordan River, flowing out of the Sea of Galilee downward to the Dead Sea. Look to the left and you will find Jerusalem, Bethlehem, where Jesus was born, and Hebron - where King David ruled. South is Masada, a site with amazing history. For our current purposes note the city of Jericho at the top of the Dead Sea. This is the city mentioned in the book of Joshua. The Living God led the children of Israel in their first "military" campaign to secure the Promised Land - a land flowing with milk and honey - as well as giants to overcome!



READ JOSHUA 1:5-9 What was the core of God's communication to Joshua?

#### READ JOSHUA 5:11-15

Why is this encounter significant, and where have you seen it before?

#### **MYWORLDVIEW**

What are some examples of my personal courage? My spiritual courage?

I feel I have experienced a "take my shoes off" moment when:

### DAY SEVENTEEN



#### **Climate for Testing**

No Leader (1:1) No Persistance (1:27) No Knowledge (2:10) No Power (2:20-23) No Commitment (2:1-3)

1 - 2

for Compromise No Perspective (8:22-23) No Appreciation (8:33-35) No Loyalty (10:13) No Conscience (19:22-30) No Choice (20:3,18) No Understanding (21:3)

3-18

Climate

Cycles

Every man did what was right in his own eyes! 17:6

#### SIN - SERVITUDE - JUDGEMENT

Take the time to observe each of the references in the overview chart of the book of Judges.

What were the problems? Why did the cycles perpetuate? Othniel, Ehud, Shagmar Deborah, Gideon, Abimelech Tola, Yair, Jepthah Ibzan, Elon, Abdon

> Samson Eli Samuel

Note the list of the Judges. Samson is one of the most familiar, and Eli and Samuel will come into focus as we transition to the time of the Kings of Israel. With which judge are you most familiar?\_\_\_\_\_\_

#### **MYWORLDVIEW**

In what areas am I susceptible to compromise?

In what areas have I found cycles in my own life that I just can't seem to shake?

	Ruth and		Story					
Resolve	Unselfishness	Appeal	Reward					
1:15-17	2:11-12	3:9-11	4:11,22					
1	2	3	4					
Under who	se wings you have c	ome to take r		Y S	SEV	ENT	TEEN	17
	John 4 - Ge	1.1.0						

The book of **RUTH** is a high point during the very dark days of the judges of Israel. Because Ruth is a Gentile, her faith in placing herself under the wings of the Living God is even more special and astonishing. Ruth is mentioned in the lineage of Christ!

## READ AND NOTE THE REFERENCES LISTED IN THE OVERVIEW ABOVE What do you learn about love? Disappointment? Reward?

#### READ 1 JOHN 4

What was the Apostle John's (and Jesus') take on the subject of love?

#### **MYWORLDVIEW**

Finish this sentence. "I have found that love..."

Do I feel I have found refuge under His wings? In what ways? In what areas do I still have need?

## DAY SEVENTEEN

The Fire & the Cloud!

EXODUS	will direct you.
LEVITICUS	u belong to Me.
NUMBERS Will you Wa	
DEUTERONOMY	l am with you.
JOSHUA	will carry you.
JUDGES Faith will fa	11/1 Am faithful.
RUTH	m your refuge.

We have encountered the first eight books of the "Old" testament, including the five books of Moses (the Pentateuch). The graphic above walks through the spiritual unity woven through these books.

Am I confident in my origins? Where faith and science and anthropology come together?

Do I feel directable by God?

#### SPIRITUAL SITUATION CLARIFICATION

My sense of belonging to Him is (high) (tepid) (cold).

I feel more like I am (walking) or (wandering).

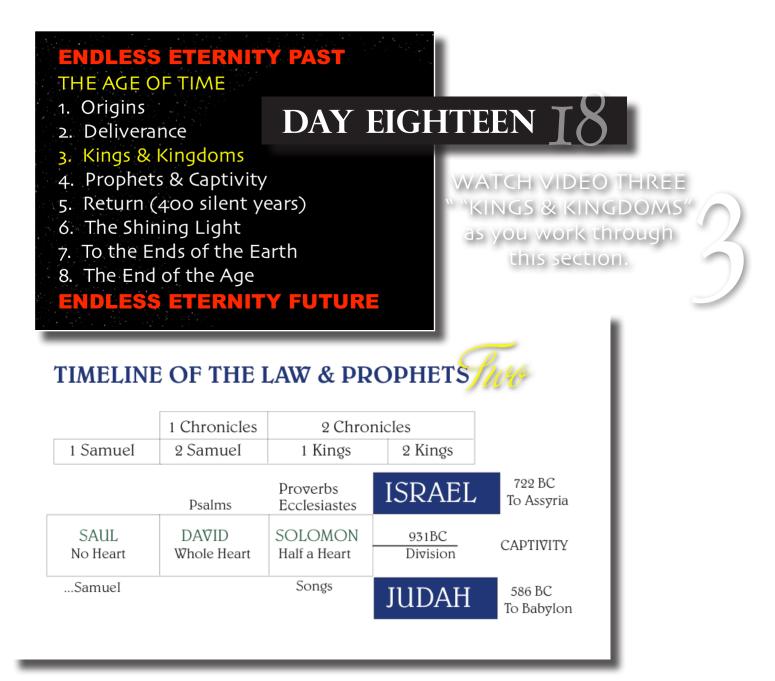
I (sense) or (do not sense) that God is with me.

I am (confident) (not confident) that He is able and interested in carrying me when I need to be carried.

I am (confident) (not confident) that God's faithfulness overrules the times my faith fails.

I feel I have found a refuge in Him (true) (false).

## - EPOCH THREE -KINGS & KINGDOMS

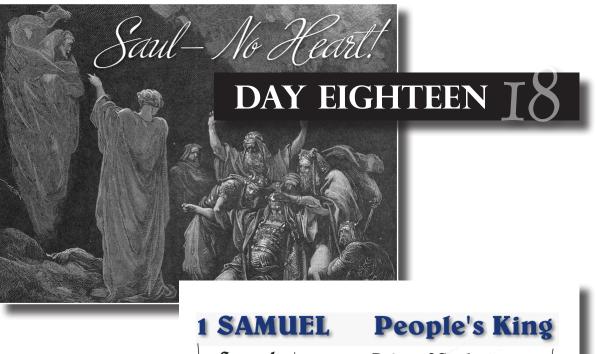


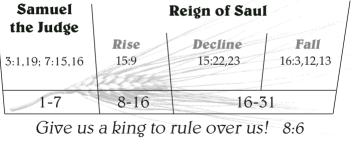
### GOD WANTS TO BE HIS PEOPLE'S CHOICE FOR A KING

Consider that Samuel is the last in a series of judges who delivered Israel. It is almost as if His People try everything except submitting to His Kingship. Notice the timeline overview above.

Who are the three kings of the united Kingdom? What was the chief difference between them?\_\_\_\_\_

When did the northern Kingdom of Israel go into captivity? The southern Kingdom of Judah? What were their respective destinations?\_\_\_\_\_\_





#### READ 1 SAMUEL 8:6.

Why did the people want a king?

#### READ THE PASSAGES LISTED IN THE OVERVIEW ABOVE.

What do you learn about Samuel? He is surrounded by corruption, yet something makes him unique? What is it?\_\_\_\_\_

Why is Saul crowned as king? What made him a suitable candidate?

What appears to be Saul's downfall?

#### **MYWORLDVIEW**

In what ways do I find that I am more impressed with outward appearances than internal substance?

	DAY	NINETEEN	IQ
Dano Urik	2 SAMU	EI. God	's <b>Kin</b> g
	<b>David's</b> <b>Success</b> 3:1,36; 7:18	<b>David's</b> <b>Shame</b> 12:12-24	David's Song
	Judah2:14 Israel5:2,12	Bathsheba11:1-4 Absolom16:20,21	23:1-7
	1-9 You will she	10-20 pherd my people Isl	21-24 rael! 5:2

#### READ 2 SAMUEL 5:2.

Why did God cooperate and yet overrule the people's choice for a king?

#### READ THE PASSAGES LISTED IN THE OVERVIEW ABOVE.

What was the source of David's success?\_\_\_\_\_

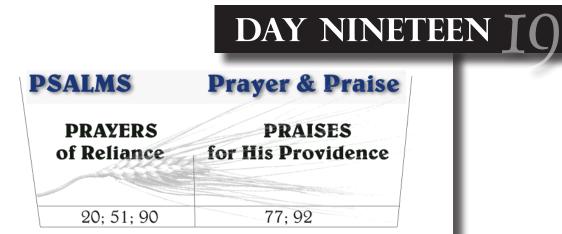
What was the source of his shame?

When you read David's song in chapter 23, what materializes regarding His heart? (also PSALM 51)

#### **MYWORLDVIEW**

In what ways do I find myself to be a person of courage?

In what ways would I consider myself "whole-hearted" toward God?



Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise! 100:4

"Through Him then, let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that give thanks to His name." - Heb. 13:15

#### The lion's share of the Psalms are written by king David. Why do you think this is?

List the Psalms you are most familiar with:

#### READ PSALMS 100:4

How does someone living on the earth enter into the presence of God?

#### READ HEBREWS 13:15.

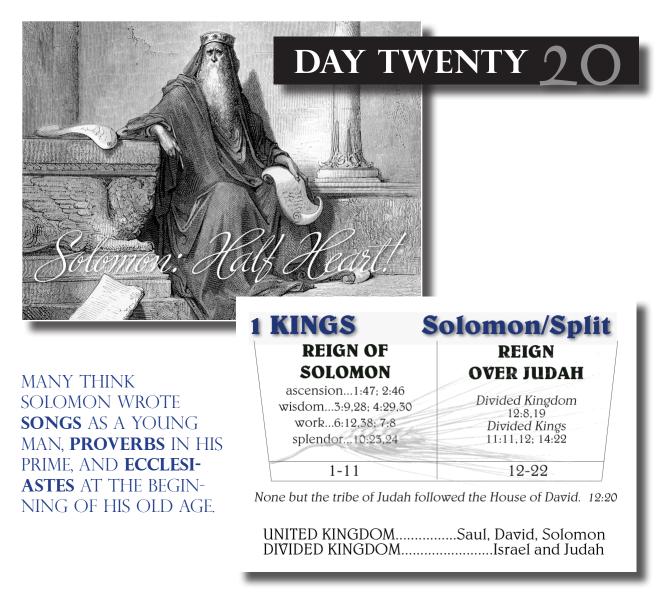
Why are songs and Psalms nourishment for the heart?\_\_\_\_\_

#### READ COLOSSIANS 3:15,16

Why are songs and Psalms good for spiritual relationships?\_\_\_\_\_

#### **MYWORLDVIEW**

Psalms can be incredibly good for my heart. How might I integrate reading and learning from the Psalms into my life? \_\_\_\_\_\_



#### READ THE PASSAGES ABOVE LISTED UNDER THE REIGN OF SOLOMON

What sense do you get for Solomon as a man?\_\_\_\_\_

What appear to be the advantages of being a second generation king?\_\_\_\_\_

#### READ THE OVERVIEW PASSAGES DESCRIBING THE SPLIT IN THE KINGDOM

What appear to have been the reasons for the captivity?\_\_\_\_\_

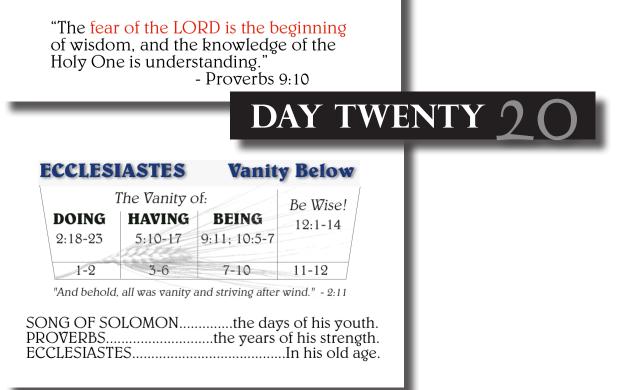
#### **MYWORLDVIEW**

What are the things that make my heart prone to wander?\_\_\_\_\_

#### **PROVERBS** Wisdom Above

Wisdom to be Acquired	Wisdom is Superior	Wisdom's Voice
1:20-25,32,33	3:1-12	10:1; 29:7-9
1	2-9	10-31

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge. 1:7



#### READ THE PASSAGES IN EACH SECTION OF PROVERBS

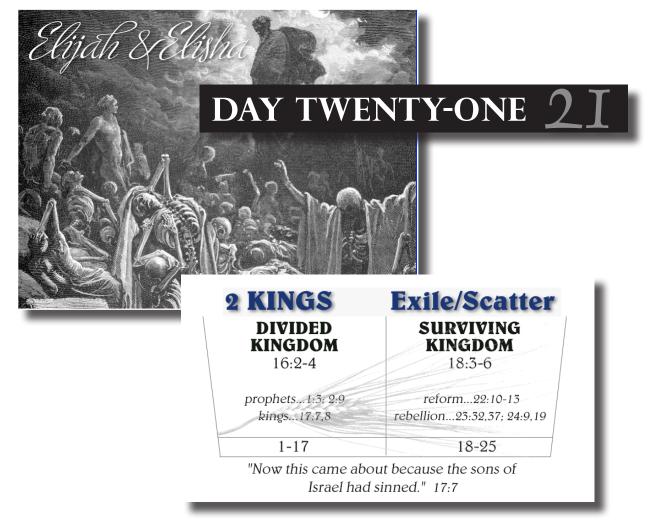
It appears that "fearing" or reverencing our Creator is quite important. Why would fear be the beginning of wisdom?\_\_\_\_\_

#### READ THE PASSAGES IN EACH SECTION OF ECCLESIASTES

How does the tone of this book differ from Proverbs?\_\_\_\_\_

#### **MYWORLDVIEW**

Do I consider myself a reflective person? In what ways could I benefit from more of a reflective approach to life?\_\_\_\_\_\_



#### READ THE KEY VERSE LISTED AT THE BOTTOM OF THE CHART ABOVE

What is the reason given here for the Kingdom falling apart?\_\_\_\_\_

#### READ THE PASSAGES LISTED IN THE OVERVIEW OF 2 KINGS

What did Elijah bring to the situation and how do you think he was received?

What appears to have constituted reform and rebellion among the people?\_\_\_\_\_

#### **MYWORLDVIEW**

How does my life usually respond to the truth?\_\_\_\_\_

## DAY TWENTY-ONE 2



## REQUIEM FOR A SERVANT OF GOD MOST HIGH READ MATTHEW 11

What did Jesus have to say about John the Baptist?

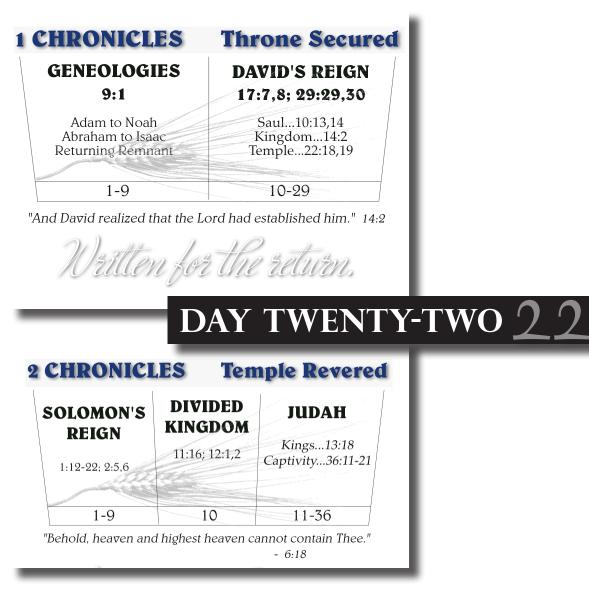
Why did Jesus choose to talk about John at this juncture?

#### READ MALACHI 4 and ISAIAH 40

What here refers to John the Baptist?

#### **MYWORLDVIEW**

In what ways does my life reflect the courage and devotion of John the Baptist?



The content of 1 and 2 CHRONICLES was compiled years later when Israel returned from captivity and resettled her land - under the leadership of Ezra and Nehemiah.

Take a few minutes and look up the references within the overview charts above. What is reinforced about what you already know of these kings?

#### **MYWORLDVIEW**

Three kings - three hearts. In what ways do I reflect the heart of Saul?

David?

Solomon?

### DAY TWENTY-TWO 2

The Fire & the Cloud!

EXODUS	l will direct you.
LEVITICUS	.You belong to Me.
NUMBERS Will you	Walk or Wander?
DEUTERONOMY	I am with you.
JOSHUA	l will carry you.
JUDGESFaith will	ll fail/I Am faithful.
RUTH	I Am your refuge.

The Kings of Israel!

The Carnal Heart
The Soft Heart
The Exiled heart
SThrone Secured
STemple Revered

The Goets of Israel!

JOB	
PSALMS	he living power of praise
PROVERBS	
<b>ECCLESIASTES</b>	Perspective
SONGS	The beauty of true love

Take this opportunity to think through the books we have looked at so far. Do you feel you have a strong sense for the story of these first 19 books of the Hebrew scriptures?



## - EPOCH FOUR -**PROPHETS & CAPTIVITY**



### WELCOME TO THE PROPHETS & THE STORY OF ISRAEL'S CAPTIVITY

The early prophets began to explain to the people why they were headed for captivity. Even their best kings were unable to deliver them spiritually. It is in God's eternal plan to bring all honor and glory to Himself. Men and women of God are instruments in this process.

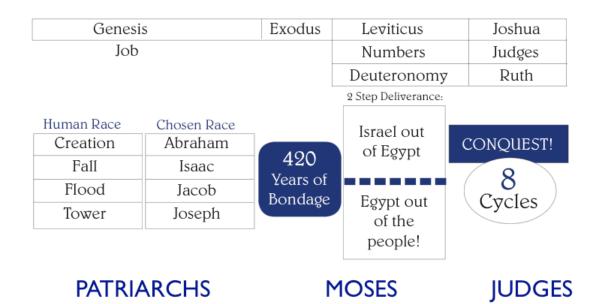
The particulars and purpose of Israel's fall and subsequent captivity is two-fold. First is to recount the story of these two disobedient "sisters" and the consequences for placing idols above the Living God. But there is also a deep companion message communicated through the prophets: "If you will return to Me - I will return to you."

The Lord is gracious with humanity - and gracious with His people. He "longs to be gracious" to us (ISAIAH 30).

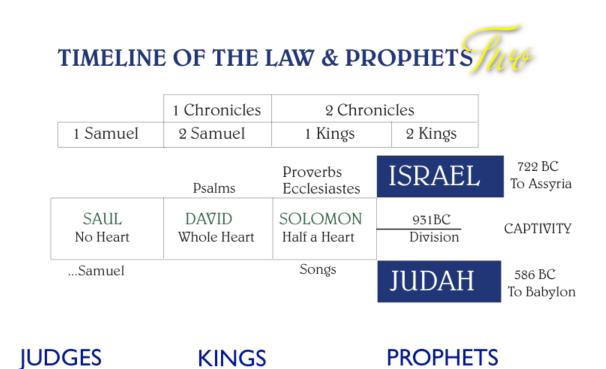
As you encounter this section and observe the severity of captivity remember that God will move heaven and earth to restore a soul. Life is for 80 years if we are fortunate. Eternity is forever!

### DAY TWENTY-THREE 2

### TIMELINE OF THE LAW & PROPHETS



TAKE A FEW MOMENTS AND RECOUNT OUR JOURNEY THUS FAR. Do you feel you are getting a strong sense for the god story?



Page 55 - Prophets & Captivity

## DAY TWENTY-FOUR 24

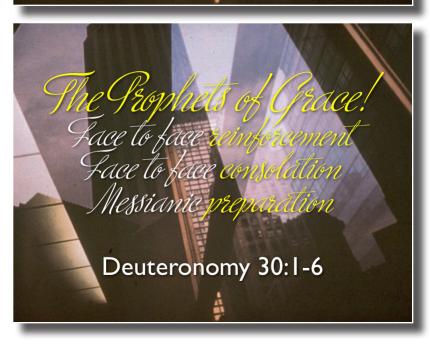
READ JEREMIAH 3:6-10 What do you learn from the story of the two sisters?

#### READ HEBREWS 11:32-40

What does this reflective passage teach us about the role of the prophets?

#### READ DEUTERONOMY 30:1-6

What does this passage teach us about the threefold grace of the prophets?



Who were the prophets

Hebrews 11:32-40

May was srael exiled?

Two sisters - Jeremiah 3:6-10

#### **MYWORLDVIEW**

What would be the potential purposes of the prophets in my life?

Page 56 - Prophets & Captivity

### DAY TWENTY-FOUR

She Grophets of Israel!

PRE-EXILE	Samaria & Judah
CAPTIVITY	Ezekiel & Daniel
RETURN	Zechariah, Malachi

### DIVIDED KINGDOM = GOOD & EVIL KINGS NORTHERN KINGDOM = SAMARIA/ISRAEL SOUTHERN KINGDOM = JUDAH

## HERE ARE SOME BASIC FACTS ABOUT THE PROPHETS THAT PROVIDE A HELPFUL BACKDROP FOR YOUR STUDY OF THE KINGS OF ISRAEL:

Before the EXILE prophets were speaking to both the Northern Kingdom (known both as Israel and Samaria) and the Southern Kingdom (Judah). Ezekiel followed Israel into CAPTIVITY and Daniel was taken as a young man - and prophesied there all of his life. During the RETURN three prophets were raised up to encourage the returning remnant of Jews: Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi.

Prophesies found their fulfillment sometimes in the current time they prophesied, sometimes in the Messiah, others in the future - and some in more than one time period.

After the split in the Kingdom there were two dynasties of kings. Each prophet had a particular audience and a specific role. They came from both low and high places in society. Each prophet's desire and mission can be summarized in the phrase "return to Me." God wanted the hearts of His people to RETURN to Him.

## DAY TWENTY-FIVE

Each king & prophet brings into hu insial lahweh's everla an Micah 7:18; 1 John 5:20,21

#### **READ MICAH 7:18-20**

What does this teach us about God's hopes for His wandering people?

#### READ 1 JOHN 5:20,21

What does this teach us about the presence of idols in our lives?

#### **MYWORLDVIEW**

What premium do I place upon everlasting life? In what ways do the prophets articulate the wandering of America? Of the Church? My own wandering?

DAY TWENTY-FIVE

Take a few minutes to study this chart. These are the prophets and the corresponding kings and kingdoms to which they prophesied. Note where each captivity begins, and which prophet spoke to which king(s). This should help in your future analysis of the kings. There are many helpful principles that can be distilled from these chapters found in 1 & 2 Kings and 1 & 2 Chronicles.

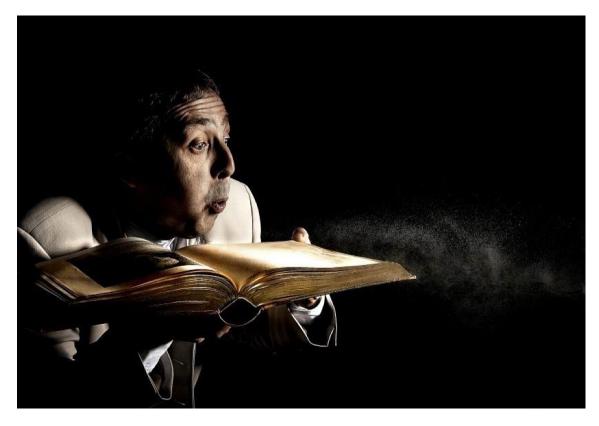
Take the time to highlight the key verses from the following page in each respective book.

	Kings of JUDAH	Prophets	Kings of ISRAEL
950 be	Rehoboarn (17 yrs) Abijaan (3 yrs)	BLUAH 875-848 bc	Jeroboam (92 yrs) Nadab (9 yrs)
900 bc	Astı (41 yızı) Jekonhaybat (25 yızı)	BLISHA B48-TU7 bc	Bancha (91 yrz) 800 bc Elah (2 yrz)
	Jekerim (12 yz) Abaşlah (1 yz) Athallah (6 yz)	OBADIAH B55-B40 bc	Zimuri (1 week) Courri (12 yrs) Alaab (22 yrs)
aco be	Joach (40 yrs)	IOEL	Ahasiah (2 yrs) Jehertan (2 yrs) Jehertan (2 yrs) Jeher (28 yrs)
	Amazinh (29 yrs)	JONAH Tas-175 bc AMOS	Jehoshis (17 yz)
	Axerialı (lizzialı) (52) İstinan (16 yız)	780-750 bc HOSEA 750-715 bc	Jehoneh (16 yrs) Jerobonen 2 (41 yrs)
	Abaş (16 yrs) Heşehlak (99 yrs)	TSO-TIO bc	Zesharinin (8 months) • Shallom (1 month) Menahem (10 yrs)
	Maninssein (55 yrs)	740-681 bc NAHUM 715 bc	Pehablah (2 yz)
799 bc 700 bc	Amon (2 yz)	2EPHANIAH 650 bc	Рећаћ (20 угз) Носћећ (8 угз) 700 bc
	Josiata (51 yrs) Jeinosiasa; (5 mcs) Jeinosiata; (11 yrs)	BABAKKUK 6#8 bc	ASSYRIAN CAPTIVITY
500 bc	Jehekilih (5 moj) Žeđekilih (11 yrs)	JEREMIAH 698 - 585 bc DANIEL	722 bc 500 bc
	BABYLONIAN CAPTIVITY	805-530 bc 122015101, 595-571 bc	(4)
430 bc	First: 538 bc Second: 458 bc Final: 432 bc	HAGGAI 550 bc ZECHARIAH 550-480 bc	ENGAGEI 400 SHENT VEADS
	400 Silent Years	440-430 bc	SILENT YEARS

Page 59 - Prophets & Captivity

## DAY TWENTY-FIVE 2

Genesis	5 LAW	10.0
	Origins	12:2
Exodus	Exit	12:51
Leviticus	Worship	11:44
Numbers	Wander	33:1
Deuteronomy	Standards	10:12
Joshua	12 HISTORICAL Conquest	11:23
Judges	Cycles	17:6
Ruth	Love Story	2:12
1 Samuel	People's King	8:6
2 Samuel	God's King	5:2
	e e	3:2 12:20
1 Kings	Solomon/Split Exile/Scatter	
2 Kings		17:7
1 Chronicles	Throne Secured	14:2
2 Chronicles	Temple Revered	6:18
Ezra	Return/Reformthe Temple	7:10
Nehemiah	Renew/Rebuildthe Walls	5:16
Esther	God Delivers	4:14
T 1	5 POETS	1.01.00
Job	Sovereign Suffering	1:21-22
Psalms	Prayer/Praise	100:4
Proverbs	Wisdom Above	1:7
Ecclesiastes	Vanity Below	2:11
Song of Solomon	Intimate Love	8:6
Isaiah 5 I	Christ is Salvation	<b>57</b> 6
Jeremiah	Sin's Condemnation	53:6 6:16
Lamentations		
	Weeping Prophet Exiles-Ruined/Restored	1:16
Ezekiel Daniel	Future Things	21:27 7:27
	MINOR PROPHETS	1:21
Hosea	Love/Apostasy	14:4
Joel	Blow the Trumpet	2:31,32
Amos	Roaring Punishment	1:2
Obadiah	Brother Violence	1:10
Jonah	Compassion's Voice	1:3
Micah	Unchanging Love	7:18
Nahum	Nineveh's Doom	3:19
Habakkuk	Just/Rejoice	2:4
Zephaniah	Last Chance	2:4 2:3
÷		
Haggai Zechariah	Obedient Building Lord of Hosts	1:4,5
		4:6
Malachi	Sin's Dialogue	2:2



## - EPOCH FIVE -THE RETURN & THE 400 SILENT YEARS



Israel paid a severe price for her idolatrous heart. True to His word, Yahweh is bringing His people back from the futility of captivity. But only a few will return - a "remnant." It appears that those who cling to God are a very small group! (see MATTHEW 7:13,14).

#### **MYWORLDVIEW**

In what ways do I feel I have returned to God?

In what ways do I have yet to surrender to God?

## DAY TWENTY-SIX 2

<b>FIMELINE O</b>	F THE LAW & P	ROPHETS	ree
Esther	Ezra Nehemiah		
CAPTIVITY <b>70</b>	RETURN REFORM REBUILD	400 SILENT YEARS	John the Baptist!
YEARS Ezekiel Daniel	Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi	LLARS	

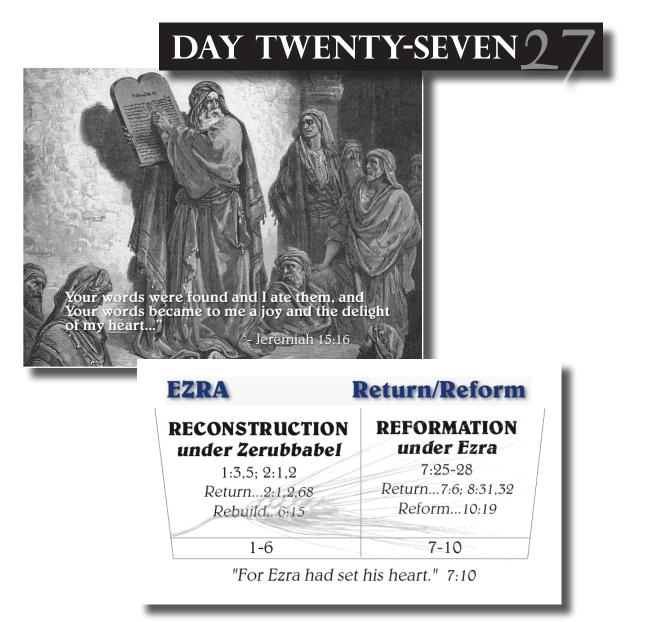
#### TAKE SOME TIME TO OBSERVE THE TIMELINE ABOVE

What do you notice about the corresponding books?

In what ways do you feel that the overall timeline is coming into focus?

In what ways is it still fuzzy?

How does John the Baptist fit in with "old" and "new" testament prophets?



READ EACH OF THE PASSAGES LISTED IN THE OVERVIEW ABOVE What do you learn about reformation of heart?

#### **MYWORLDVIEW**

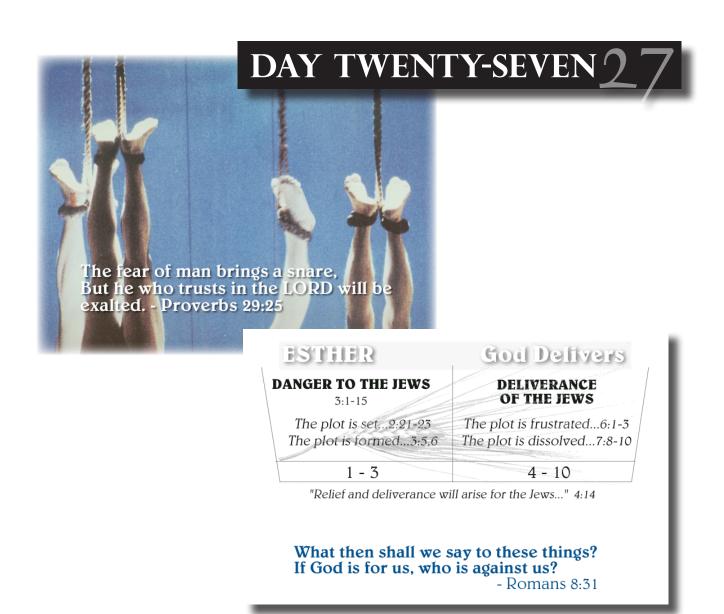
Life reform follows a return to Him. How do I feel about the reconstruction He is accomplishing in my heart?

	<b>er I laid a Iding on it. But he builds on it.</b> Corinthians 3	ENTY-SE	ven27
NE	HEMIAH	Rene	w/Rebuild
	Nehemiah	<b>Walls</b>	<b>People</b>
	Arrives	<b>Restored</b>	<b>Revived</b>
	2:11,12	6:15,16	8:3,17,18
	1-2	3-6	7-13
	"I also applied mys	elf to the work on th	his wall." 5:16

READ EACH OF THE PASSAGES LISTED IN THE OVERVIEW ABOVE What do you learn about principles for rebuilding?

#### **MYWORLDVIEW**

The rebuilding of the **Temple** was the first task, and it was accomplished under the leadership of Ezra. Now it was time to rebuild the **walls** of the city to protect the people. In what ways is my spiritual rebuilding process protecting my heart? The hearts of those I love and care for?



READ EACH OF THE PASSAGES LISTED IN THE OVERVIEW ABOVE What do you learn about deliverance from this basic sketch of the book of ESTHER?

How does PROVERBS 29:25 fit with the theme of Esther?

#### **MYWORLDVIEW**

In what ways do I feel others are against me? That God is against me?

## DAY TWENTY-EIGHT 7

#### **HAGGAI** Obedient Building

REVERENCE FOR GOD	ENCOURAGEMENT FROM GOD
Priorities1:2-6	Vision2:3-5
Produce1:7-14	Acceptance2:20-23
	2

"Consider your ways" 1:4,5

According to the grace of God which was given to me, like a wise master builder I laid a foundation, and another is building on it. But each man must be careful how he builds on it.

- 1 Corinthians 3:10

What does HAGGAI appear to offer the builders under Ezra and Nehemiah?

ZECHARIAH	Lord	of	Host

EIGHT NIGHT VISIONS	HOLY PROPHECIES 6:12-13; 14:20
1:1-6,9	
1-6	6-14

"Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit." 4:6

Then he said to me... "not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit" says the Lord of Hosts. - 1 Corinthians 3:10 What does ZECHARIAH appear to offer the builders under Ezra and Nehemiah?

-		
<b></b>	 	
·····	 	

#### MALACHI

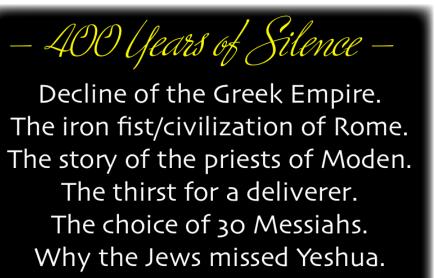
### Sin's Dialogue

God's Love? 1:2 Priests Despise? 1:6,7 Covenant Profaned? 2:13-14 Weary God? 2:7 Way of Return? 3:7,8 Lord Accused? 4:1-4

- SIX QUESTIONS -

"Your words have been arrogant." 3:13

There is a big difference between asking God and seeking answers and questioning His authority. Why ask questions that have been asked - and answered? What does MALACHI appear to offer the builders under Ezra and Nehemiah?







With the transfer from the Greek to the Roman empire, the world entered a new phase of sophistication and domination. No one would be able to stand before Rome. But before the coming of the Messiah, Judas Maccabeus and the priests of Moden delivered Israel from the emerging iron fist of Rome. This political independence was highly valued by the Jews, and once Rome's grip re-emerged and crushed any rebellion in the empire, it left them longing for a promised "Messiah" who would, in their minds, bring national sovereignty once again.

There are apparently accounts of about 30 "messiahs" in Jerusalem as the public ministry of Christ took place. The religious leaders investigated the authenticity of the claims of each, and in the "fullness of times" the Son of God was revealed. The four hundred years of silence (no prophets) was anything but silent. Culture, power, and universal language (Greek) all were shaped into the backdrop for the Good News to launch to "the nations."

Remarkable times indeed!

## - EPOCH SIX -SHINING LIGHT



As you can see though our study thus far, the coming of the Son in human form is not whimsical or reactionary. God's Son literally "incarnates" into a human child and grows to adulthood for the express purpose of "buying back" the souls of mankind.

This is what the concept of "Messiah" is all about. The word means "to smear" or anoint - and clearly is the fulfilled promise of acceptable blood sacrifice foreshadowed in Adam and Eve and their two sons, Cain and Abel.

This SHINING LIGHT is none other than the Creator Himself. There is no doubt that a "covenant" or agreement was made before the foundations of the world between the eternal Father and His Son. This is the prophesied "Shiloh" of GENESIS 49, the prophet of DEUTERONOMY 18, and the Shining Light spoken of in ISAIAH 9. He is the great High Priest of all who believe in Him (HEBREWS 3).

John the Baptist knew who He was (JOHN 2). His followers knew as well (MAT-THEW 16). All that remains is for us to believe or disbelieve.

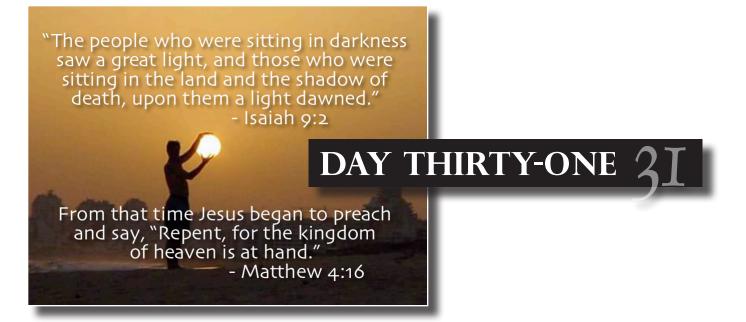
DAY THIRTY The Hebrew earthly expressions are copies of what is in Heaven. - Hebrews 9 na is God

#### READ HEBREWS 9

List the things that you learn about the copies on earth and the "real thing" in heaven.

What do you think "a copy" means?

What light does this shed on the "one story" of the scriptures?



#### **READ ISAIAH 9.**

List the things you find in this prophecy that teach you about the coming Messiah.

How does the message of the last "old testament" prophet (Malachi 4) differ from that of "God's Prophet" in MATTHEW 4:17?

#### **MYWORLDVIEW**

When I consider the prophetic preparation and evidence for the coming Messiah, it makes me feel...

## DAY THIRTY-ONE 2

Is Geshua God's Son?

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being. - John 1:1-3

#### **RE-READ THE PASSAGE ABOVE FROM JOHN 1**

All of humanity is left with one all-or-nothing question. Is Yeshua (Jesus) God's Son?

#### DID THE SON CREATE THE WORLD?

#### **MYWORLDVIEW**

When I disentangle the Son from a supposed 2000 year old religion, all kinds of possibilities arise. Who is Jesus to me?

# DAY THIRTY-TWO 32

Matthew - for the Jewish mind Mark - for the Gentile mind Luke - for the Greek min Fohn - for the human heart

#### FOUR GOSPELS - FOUR PROPHETIC PURPOSES

If you were the Creator and You were going to present Yourself to thousands of cultures over a period of thousands of years, what approach would you take? Yahweh (the Living God) chose to give one people HisTorah - His Law. This Law would suffice for speaking His truth until the "fullness of times," when His own dear Son would come to conquer death and rescue mankind.

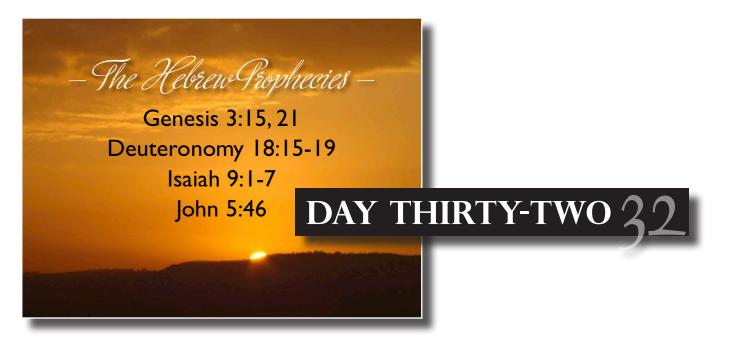
The Jewish mind would trace everything to an authentic Messiah. His pedigree would be important, for Israel was God's chosen people to bring the Light to all the nations. The historic Hebrew context for the Good News would present the seamless Gospel - where those who live by Faith in the Living God will find life. This is the purpose of MATTHEW.

The Gentile would be much more interested in what Jesus did. MARK is a book of action, and the thoughtful reader who listened to the testimony was struck with the authority by which the Word made flesh commanded the blind and the sick.

The Greek mind would be interested in a chronological account regarding such an amazing appearance. This is where Dr. LUKE came in, placing the weight of Jesus' deeds into the greater Story - a "meta-story!"

JOHN, arguably the closest person to the Son of God during His public ministry, wrote for the human heart in every nation under heaven. Here was a personal Gospel, and even though it was contained in an historic context, we have only a small part of all that Jesus taught and did! Read JOHN 21:24,25.

Page 74 - The Shining Light



The prophetic Word concerning the Messiah is significant to every human being who ever has or ever will live on the face of the earth. Check out 2 PETER 1:19. The Morning Star was a re-set point for travelers in the ancient world. It is a reset point for us as well!

READ GENESIS 3:15,21... Why do you think this prophecy is pertinent to you?

READ DEUTERONOMY 18:15-19... Why do you think this prophecy is pertinent to you?

READ ISAIAH 9:1-7...Why do you think this prophecy is pertinent to you?

READ JOHN 5:46...Why do you think this statement is pertinent to you?

# DAY THIRTY-THREE



"This is the same disciple who was eyewitness to all these things and wrote them down. And we all know that his eyewitness account is reliable and accurate.

There are so many other things Jesus did. If they were all written down, each of them, one by one, I can't imagine a world big enough to hold such a library of books."

- John 21:24,25

## EYE WITNESSES

We have recorded approximately 30 days of Jesus' 3-4 year public ministry with about 35 of what must have been thousands of miracles (LUKE 4:40). There were many eyewitness encounters with the resurrected Messiah. 1 CORINTHIANS 15:6 indicates that over 500 people saw Him at one time! And here is a mind-blower. Read MATTHEW 27:50-53.

## READ 2 PETER 1:16

What do you learn about first century witnesses?

## **MYWORLDVIEW**

If you were writing your own account of your encounter with the Messiah, how would you describe it?

#### We have recorded about 30 days of His 3-4 year public ministry.

# DAY THIRTY-THREE 22

# BIRTH

These portions are limited in scope. LUKE gives us the full account of the amazing event. This is the birth of the True King!

# BAPTIST

John the Baptist was the one spoken of in ISAIAH 40 who would "prepare the way" of the coming Messiah. While his ministry was brief, he accomplished all that the scriptures prophesied about this "Elijah."

# TRAINING THE TWELVE

Jesus spent most of His time in GALILEE, training His followers, preaching the Gospel to the non-religious poor, and healing the sick and suffering.

# JERUSALEM TEACHING

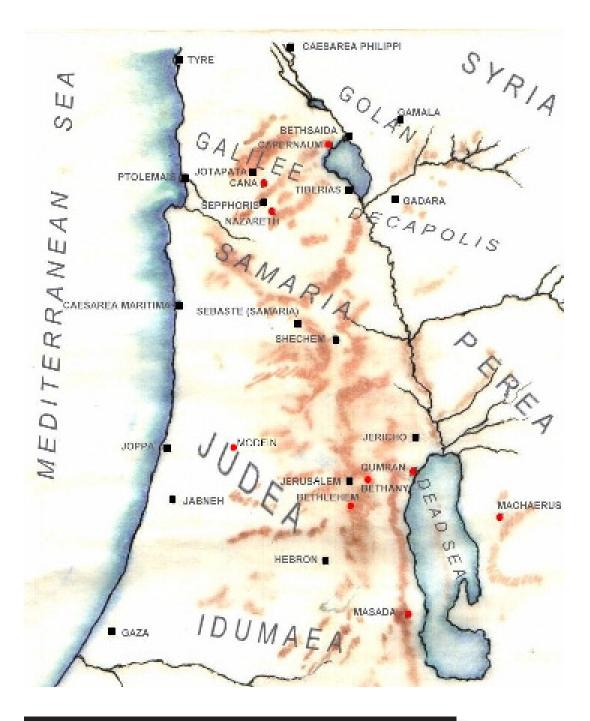
He would often come to JERUSALEM for feasts and celebrations, most often spending the night in the Garden of Gethsemane. This is where He twice scourged the money-lenders in the Temple.

# JERUSALEM KILLING

Jesus' destiny was completely in His own hands. He is "laying down His life" willingly and on His timetable. He is more a LAMB than a King - for now!

# **RISEN LORD!**

As if the many who saw Him after His resurrection were not enough, men and women from every NATION under heaven are experiencing Him - every day in every year!



# DAY THIRTY-THREE 33

## The center of spiritual life: GALILEE The center of religious life: JERUSALEM

Take a moment and familiarize yourself with the regions, cities, and geographical markers. Doesn't it seem odd that Jesus would work from Galilee rather than Jerusalem?



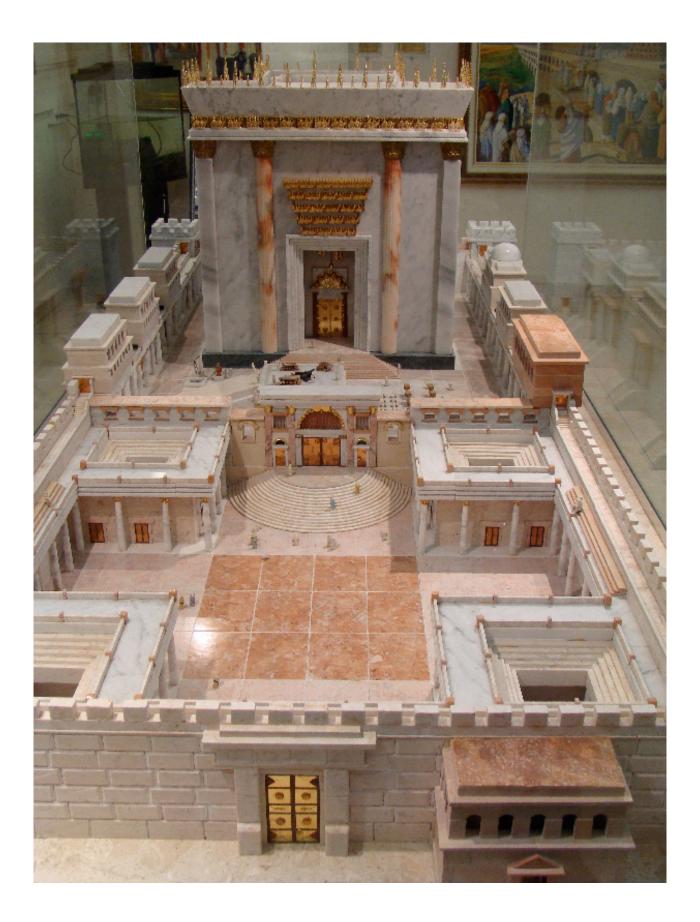
# TAKE A FEW MINUTES AND REVIEW THE CURRENT SNAPSHOT OF THE NATIONS IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

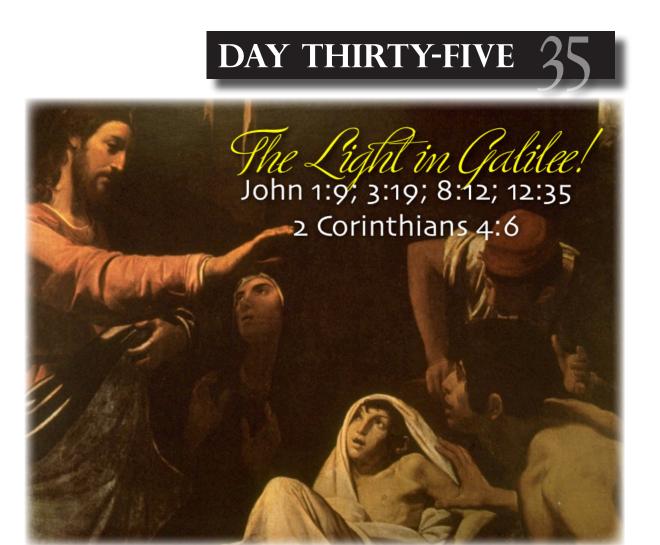
Egypt and Africa are to the south and west.

Asia and Rome are to the west and north - above the Mediterranean. Afghanistan, Russia, and China to the east and north.

It is truly incredible that the tiny nation of Israel is right in the middle of everything - and she will be until the end of time!

What does this map reveal about current and end time events?





THE ABOVE PASSAGES ARE A "STUDY IN LIGHT" What does each one teach us about the nature and impact of light?

JOHN 1:9

JOHN 3:19

JOHN 8:12

JOHN 12:35

## **MYWORLDVIEW**

Read 2 CORINTHIANS 4:6. In what specific ways has Light shone into my life?

Page 93 - The Shining Light



#### READ LUKE 4:16-21

What were the signs that the Promised One had arrived?

## **MYWORLDVIEW**

The most stirring thing I see from Christ's life is...

DAY THIRTY-SIX 20

# TAKE THE TIME TO NOTE EACH OF THE FOLLOWING "KEY VERSE" REFERENCES IN YOUR BIBLE.

What do you notice about the variety and cohesiveness of these basic themes?

Book	Theme	Key Verse
	5 HISTORICAL	
Matthew	King Comes	4:17
Mark	Servant Sacrificed	10:45
Luke	Man Suffers	19:10
John	God Revealed	20:31
Acts	Church Witnesses	1:8
12	CHURCH LETTERS	
Romans	Our Salvation	1:16,17
1 Corinthians	Carnality's Consequences	3:1,3
2 Corinthians	Authority's Care	2:17
Galatians	True Gospel	3:3
Ephesians	Christ's Body	4:16
Philippians	Christ's Joy	3:1
Colossians	Christ's Headship	1:17,18
1 Thessalonians	Excel More	4:1
2 Thessalonians	Day of the Lord	2:1,2
5 PASTO	RAL & 7 GENERAL LET	TERS
1 Timothy	Church's Ministry	3:15
2 Timothy	Church's Minister	2:15
Titus	Sound Teaching	1:9
Philemon	Forgive & Beget	10
Hebrews	Better Covenant	8:6
James	Tested Faith	1:12
1 Peter	Trust in Trials	4:19
2 Peter	Full Knowledge	1:19
1 John	True Fellowship	1:3
2 John	Wrong Hospitality	10
3 John	Right Hospitality	6
Jude	Contend & Build	3,20
	PROPHETIC	

# DAY THIRTY-SIX 2(

"And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life."

These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life."

- 1 John 5:11-13

#### READ 1 JOHN 5

How do we know we belong to God?

What does it mean to overcome in this life?

What does it mean to "have God?"

How do you feel about the "power of the evil one?"

Why do you think John ended this letter the way He did?

## **MYWORLDVIEW**

On the basis of 1 JOHN 5 I would say that my spiritual life is...

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# THE LIFE OF JESUS

It is important to grasp the events of the life of Christ in order to understand His role in our present and future. Just as He walked this earth in submission to His Father's will, we are to pursue the will of the Lord Jesus Christ for our own lives. By understanding the chronological sequence of events, we can clearly see the plan of the Master as He accomplished His purposes. In the Gospels we see firsthand "the author (beginner) and perfecter (finisher) of our faith."

As we observe the "Footsteps of Jesus" we see the pattern for a spiritually productive life; lived perfectly by the only One who was able to do so. This chronology will help us to learn more about this effective pattern for living to help us please the One who created us. The four Gospels give four harmonizing perspectives on this miraculous life!

## **GOD COMES NEAR**

Christ is prepared as the perfect submitted human heart coming to seek and to save what has been lost. Here are the major events of His preparation.

The Method God Chose	Matthew	Mark	Luke 1:1-4	John
The "Word" Revealed The "Word" Introduced (by genealogy)	1:1-17		3:23-28	1:1-18
THE BIRTH				
Baptist Announced			1:5-25	
Jesus Announced			1:26-38	
Elizabeth's Song			1:39-45	
Mary's Song			1:46-56	
Baptist's Childhood & Birth			1:57-80	
Joseph Prepared	1:18-25			
JESUS IS BORN			2:1-7	
Angels and Shepherds			2:8-20	
Jesus is Circumcised			2:21	
Simeon and Anna			2:22-38	
Visit of the Magi	2:1-12			
Flight to Egypt/Children Slain	2:13-18			
To Nazareth	2:19-23		2:39	
Jesus in the Temple			2:41-50	
Childhood at Nazareth			2:51-52	
THE BAPTIST				
Beginnings		1:1	2:1	
Message	3:1-6	1:2-6	3:3-6	
Preaching	3:7-10		3:7-14	
Baptism	3:13-17	7:9-11	3:21-23	
Temptation	4:1-11	1:12-13	4:1-13	

## ALONE WITH HIS OWN

	Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
TRAINING THE TWELVE				
Resting/Feeding	14:13-21	6:30-44	9:10-17	6:1-14
Prevented Proclamation	14:22-23	6:45-46		6:14-15
Water Walk	14:24-33	6:47-52		6:16-21
Parable for Traditions	15:1-20	7:1-23		7:1
Open Opposition	15:39-16:4		8:10-12	
Faith Test	16:13-20	8:27-30	9:18-21	
Death Predicted	16:21-26	8:31-37	9:22-25	
Transfiguration	17:1-8	9:2-8	9:28-36	
Future Resurrection	17:22-23	9:30-32	9:43-45	
A Child's Lesson	18:1-5	9:33-37	9:46-48	
Mistaken Zeal Rebuked	18:6-14	9:38-50	9:49-50	
Forgiveness	18:15-35			
Forsaking All	8:19-22		9:57-62	
Private Approach			9:51-56	7:10

## **PREPARING FOR THE END**

Jesus knew when His time had come to give Himself to be crucified.

	Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
IN JUDEA Messiah at the Feast Adulterous Woman "Light of the World" Attempted Stoning "The Good Shepherd" 70 Sent Forth Martha and Mary Prayer	Mattilew	Mark	10:1-24 10:38-42 11:1-13	7:11-52 7:53-8:11 8:12-20 8:21-59 10:1-21
Parable of the Fig Tree Repeated Parables			14:1-9 13:10-21	10.00.50
Attempted Stoning IN PEREA Messiah at the Feast				10:22-39
Withdrawal to Safety Count the Cost Three Parables			14:25-35 15:1-32	10:40-42
Lazarus Raised To Jerusalem Rich Young Ruler Rebuke For the Future	19:16-20 20:17-28	10:17-31 10:32-45	17:11-37 18:18-30 18:31-34	11:1-44

	Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
IN JERUSALEM TEACHING				
Triumphal Entry	21:1-11,14,17	11:1-11	19:29-44	12:12-19
Fig Tree Cursed/Second Cleansing	21:18-29,12-13	11:12-18	19:45-48	
"If I Am Lifted Up:				12:20-50
The Greatest Commandment	22:34-40	12:28-34		
Religious Leaders Denounced	23:1-39	12:38-40	20:45-47	
Future Things	24:25	13:1-37	21:5-36	
Foot Washing				13:1-20
Desertion Warning	26:31-35	14:27-31	22:31-38	13:31-38
Lord's Supper	26:26-29	14:22-25	22:17-20	1Co 11:23-26
Upper Room Farewell				14
On the Way to Gethsemane				15:16
Intercessory Prayer				17
Agony in the Garden	26:20,36-46	14:26,32-42	22:36-39	18:1
TAKEN IN JERUSALEM				
Betrayed, Arrested, Forsaken	26:47-56	14:43-52	22:47-53	18:2-12
Peter's Denial	26:58,69-75	14:54,66-72	22:54-62	18:15-18,25-27
Before Pilate	27:2,11-14	15:1-5	23:1-5	18:28-38
Before Herod			23:6-12	
Before Pilate	27:15-26	15:6-15	23:13-25	18:39-19:16
First Three Hours	27:35-44	15:24-32	23:33-43	19:18-27
Three Hours of Darkness	27:45-50	15:33-37	23:44-46	19:28-30
Death's Phenomena	27:51-56	15:38-41	23:45-47,49	)
Burial	27:57-60	15:42-46	23:50-54	19:31-42
Tomb Watch	27:61-66	15:47	23:55-56	

## **A NEW BEGINNING!**

Paul says in 1 Corinthians 15, "For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless; you are still in you sins...If we have only hoped in Christ in this life, we are of all men most to be pitied."

	Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
RISEN				
Rolling Earthquake	28:2-4			
Sunday Sunrise Visit	28:5-8	16:2-8	24:1-8	20:1
Guard Report	28:11-15			
The Road to Emmaus		16:12-13	24:13-32	
Catch of Fishes				21
Appearance of 500/Commission Given	28:16-20	16:15-18		1Co 15:6
Another Commission			24:44-49	Acts 1:3-8
Final Appearance/Ascension		16:19-20	24:51-53	Acts 1:9-12
The Road to Emmaus Catch of Fishes Appearance of 500/Commission Given Another Commission		16:15-18	24:44-49	1Co 15:6 Acts 1:3-8

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# - EPOCH SEVEN -TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH

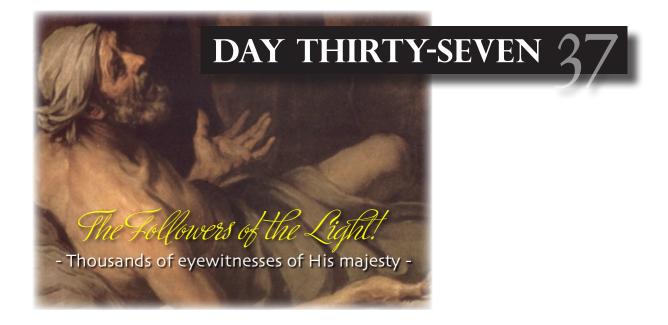




Within the age of time we have found the Bible's explanation of our roots and the ORIGINS of both the human and chosen races. The CHOSEN RACE was delivered from bondage and given the privilege of honoring the Living God among the nations. They inhabit the PROMISED LAND after 40 years of wandering in the wilderness, and are given judges, prophets, and kings to guide them as a spiritual nation.

The Chosen people reject God's Law (the Torah) and in so doing reject Him. The Creator gives them over to 80 years of CAPTIVITY, and afterwards supernaturally restores them to the Promised Land. 400 years of SILENCE ensue during which God is anything but silent. The last prophet speaks, and John the Baptist emerges as the "one crying out in the wilderness." (ISAIAH 40).

The "fullness of times" has arrived, and the spiritual, social, and political sovereignty are all in place. The Roman Empire and the Greek language form a conduit that simply launches the Good News throughout the world, upon the foundation of the Hebrew experience. Jesus or "Yeshua" is the SHINING LIGHT - God Himself. He makes many "disciples" or followers and send them to the ENDS of the earth!



## THE FOLLOWERS OF THE LIGHT

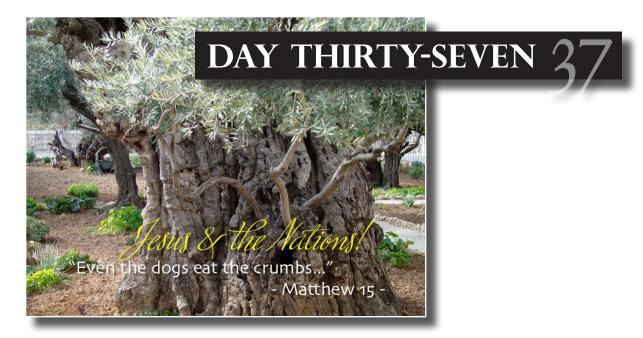
During Jesus' time on earth He deeply impacted family, friends, and followers. He brought the Good News to the Jews because it was theirs by birthright - He brought the Good News to the nations (Gentiles) because this was His plan from the beginning.

#### READ JOHN 10:16 AND GENESIS 12:3.

What do you learn about the above statement from these two passages?

Jesus carefully selected 12 "disciples" and about 70 other men and women to accompany Him during His public ministry. For 3-4 years they lived, ate, and slept the Kingdom. Their home base was Galilee, with many forays into Jerusalem, Samaria, and "beyond the Jordan." This band of men and women, along with the Jewish network throughout the empire, would together turn the world upside down!

What they all seemed to have in common was an understanding that Jesus is the Light of the world. What are the revolutionary aspects to my personal encounter with Jesus Christ, God's Son?



#### READ MATTHEW 15:20-28

Jesus almost seems cruel in dealing with this woman. Why would the fact that she is a Gentile have been held against her?

Why had the woman come to Jesus?

What did her persistence reveal about who she was spiritually? This is what Jesus was talking about in MATTHEW 5:1-11!

## **MYWORLDVIEW**

Do I feel like I deserve spiritual favor, or am I content to take the crumbs which fall from the table?

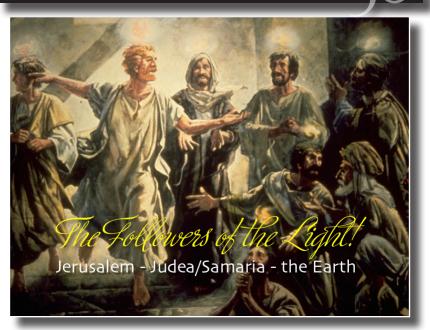
# DAY THIRTY-EIGHT

ACTS & The New Testament Letters

This study is provided to help you see a general chronology of where the church letters fit in relation to the events of the book of Acts. This will prove valuable as you try to determine the circumstances of the author (particularly Paul) at the time each book was penned.

Pentecost (Acts 2) Stephen martyred (Acts 6:8-7:60) JAMES written Agrippa's persecution, James martyred (Acts 12:1-23) First Missionary Journey (Acts 13-14) Peter at Antioch (Galatians 2:11-16) GALATIANS written from Antioch Jerusalem council, Paul's third visit (Acts 15) Second Missionary Journey 1 THESSALONIANS written 2 THESSALONIANS written Third Missionary Journey 1 CORINTHIANS written 2 CORINTHIANS written ROMANS written Paul's arrest and trial before Felix (Acts 21:26-24:22) Paul before the Sanhedrin Appearance of the Lord (night) Trial before Festus (Acts 25:7-12) Trial before Agrippa (Acts 26) Voyage to Rome (Acts 27:1-28:29) MATTHEW written Arrival in Rome **EPHESIANS** written COLOSSIANS and PHILEMON written PHILIPPIANS written MARK written LUKE written 1 TIMOTHY written 1 PETER written JUDE written HEBREWS written (author unknown) **TITUS** written 2 TIMOTHY written 2 PETER written **ACTS** written **REVELATION** written JOHN, 1-2-3 JOHN written

# DAY THIRTY-EIGHT 22



#### **READ ACTS 2**

It is important to recognize that the book of Acts is more the "acts of the Holy Spirit" than the "acts of the apostles." There were Jews and converts from "every nation under heaven" for the Feast of Pentecost, which occurred 50 days after Passover.

Jesus was very clear with His disciples: "You shall receive power after the Holy Spirit has come upon you..." Some people mistakenly believe that the Holy Spirit was not present before Pentecost, but He was present at the Creation of everything (GENESIS 1:2) - as was the Son (HEBREWS 1:2).

This outpouring occurred for the express purpose of launching the Good News to both Jews and Gentiles, and to make it clear that the "fullness of times" was at hand. The effect was electric. These participants dispersed to every corner of the empire - testifying to the reality of the resurrection. Remember, the bold "sermon" of ACTS 1 is a backdrop for the outpouring of ACTS 2.

How we know we know.

"For we did not follow cleverly devised tales when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of His majesty...

...so we have the prophetic word made more sure, to which you do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star arises in your hearts.

But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God."

- 2 Peter 1

# DAY THIRTY-EIGHT 28

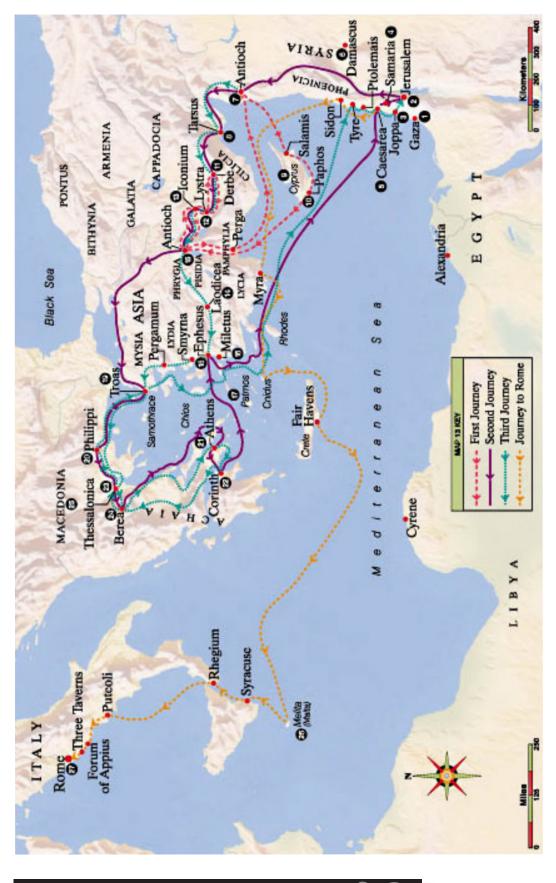
#### READ 2 PETER 1

What did the eyewitnesses supply to the tesimony of the Good News?

Why should we be able to count on the testimony that has been given to us?

## **MYWORLDVIEW**

What part does the Holy Spirit play in my life with regard to illuminating truth?



Page 108 - Ends of the Earth

# **JERUSALEM**

The Gospel poured out of Jerusalem into the world after the Day of Pentecost. That day (ACTS 1-2) there were Jews celebrating the feast from "every nation under heaven." Peter, James, and John were "pillars" in this work, along with the other apostles.

This platform for the Good News was built upon the emerging Kingdom and was rooted in the Hebrew scriptures. Her enemies (see the Jewish leaders) were arrogance and the idolatry of tradition and achieved standing among men.

The roots in Jerusalem were very Hebrew, and through the Law and the Prophets and the Psalms, grounded the fledgling church in a deep, rich history.

# ANTIOCH

The Gospel launched to the Gentiles out of Antioch, primarily under the leadership of men such as Paul, Silas, Barnabas, and Apollos. Antioch was hundreds of miles north of Jerusalem, and poised strategically to reach all the way to Rome - and everything in between.

Antioch was built upon the expanding Kingdom, a "called out" group of Gentiles taken from the "nations." Rooted in the Gospel and the letters, the early "church" stormed the bastions of false gods and worthless idols, calling lost Jews and Gentiles from all over the world to become "one new man" in Christ.

Their chief enemy was paganism and syncretism, against brash idolatry and hybrids that seem to be in never-ending supply when the Kingdom is expanding in the world.

# **ACTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT!**

	SALEM JUDEA &	THE MINIS'	TRY OF TH ACTS 1: IDS OF T	8	
	SAMARIA	JOURNEY 1	JOURNEY 2	JOURNEY 3	ROME
WOMEN DISCIPLES 500	JAMES HEBREWS	ROMANS 1 & 2 CORINTHIANS	GALATIANS EPHESIANS PHILIPPIANS COLOSSIANS	THESSALO- NIANS TIMOTHY TITUS	PETER JOHN JUDE

## THINK THROUGH THE OVERVIEW ABOVE

#### READ ACTS 1:8

Notice how the Gospel grows just as Jesus said it would - to the Jew first and then to the Greek (Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria - then the world!). (page 108)

There were three "missionary journeys" as the Good News spread from the Jews throughout the world to the Gentiles.

Notice how each "letter" is placed somewhere on this historic growth continuum. From a handful of men and women disciples the world was literally turned upside down by the power of God in and through their lives!

Each of these letters is a tool for the Holy Spirit as we devote our hearts to the King of Kings, and await His coming from heaven.

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THE BOOK OF ACTS CONTINUES TO UNFOLD IN AND THROUGH OUR LIVES !
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Upon the foundation of the Kingdom. The Hebrew demonstration

Within the Mystery of the Church. "One New Man" of all the nations

It is important to understand that the word "church" is used only a few times in the Gospels - but the word Kingdom is used over 100 times.

The historic church has somehow switched this emphasis, not realizing that by diminishing the Kingdom (which is organic, growing in the hearts of Kingdom followers) and focusing on building the church (which is organizational, focused on visibility) - a theological hybrid has been produced that has trouble reproducing in the soil of the world.

The Hebrew demonstration is the foundation. The Law, the Prophets, and the Psalms revealed the Messiah. The Gospels and the apostles work together to build the house upon the deep roots of the Hebrew faith. (LUKE 24:44)

At the end of the age our Hebrew roots will unfold with the Mystery of the Church and fulfill the Kingdom Heart of the Messiah and His Father (EPHESIANS 2:15).

When the end comes we will be separated into sheep and goats (MATTHEW 25:32). The sheep will move into life. The goats will not.

This is the story of the Biblical Kingdom.

# - EPOCH EIGHT -END OF THE AGE

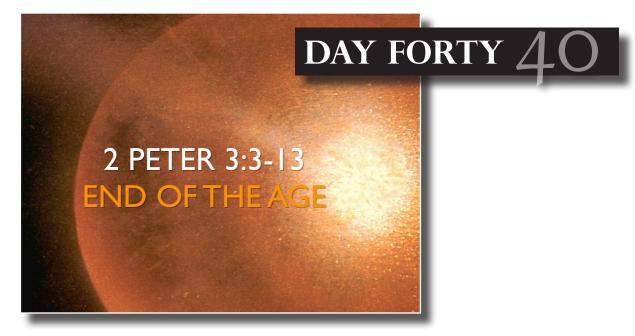


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The Church has accomplished Her purpose - the Kingdom has grown to include every predestined soul within the scope of God's sovereign grace - now it is time to roll up the scroll of time and return to ENDLESS ETERNITY FUTURE!



### READ 2 PETER 3:3-13 What are the specifics about the end of the age from this Peter passage?

#### **MYWORLDVIEW**

I would place myself in the role of a mocker in the sense that...

I would place myself in the role of a Christ follower about these things in the sense that...

# DAY FORTY-ONE

# THE LAST DAYS Joel 2:28-32/Acts 2:1-47

#### READ JOEL 2:28-32

List the particulars of what this passage says about the end of the age:

#### READ ACTS 2:1-47

What similarities do you see to the Joel passage? What differences?

#### **MYWORLDVIEW**

It is hard to imagine such a hard end for mankind. What do you think is the bigger story here (Read EPHESIANS 6:10-17)?



### READ DANIEL 9 What framework is given for the "end of the age?"

What are your impressions of what this time will be like and how long it will last?

How is it possible to apply what is in the book of Daniel to the content of Revelation?

Do I believe that the earth will end the way it is described here?

DANIEL	<b>Future Things</b>
DANIEL EXALTED	FUTURE PRESENTED
1:8; 2:9-21; 3:16-18; 4:25-31; 6:10:11	2:31-35; 7:13,14; 9:24-27; 12:8-13
1-11	12-22

#### READ EACH OF THE PASSAGES LISTED IN THE OVERVIEW ABOVE.

What do you learn about Daniel the man from these verses?

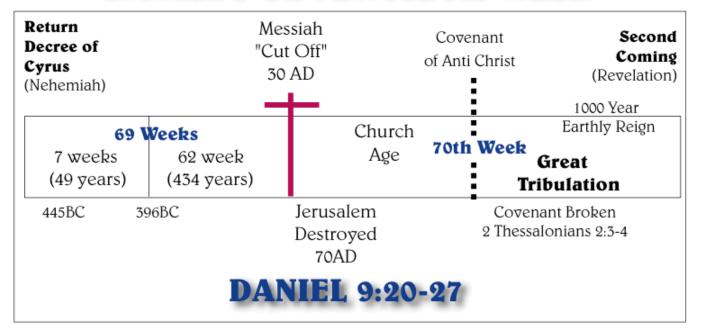
What do you learn about the future from these verses?

## **MYWORLDVIEW**

When I think about the end of time it makes me feel...

# DAY FORTY-THREE 4

# DANIEL'S SEVENTIETH WEEK



#### READ DANIEL 9:20-27

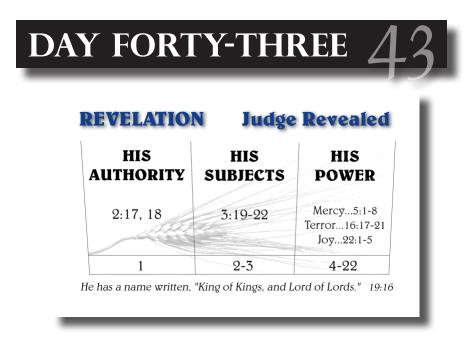
What do you see from this passage that reflects upon the chart above?

## **MYWORLDVIEW**

What do I believe about the eternal nature of my soul?

About the end of the world?

Page 119 - End of the Age



#### READ EACH OF THE PASSAGES LISTED IN THE OVERVIEW ABOVE

What do you learn about Jesus from this basic sketch of the book of Revelation?

## **MYWORLDVIEW**

When I think about Jesus in the manger, Jesus the Healer, Jesus dying on the cross, and Jesus' second coming that is talked about in this book, it makes me feel...



THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF JESUS CHRIST

#### **REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST**

THE VISION - SEALS - TRUMPETS - BOWLS RAPTURE - MILLENNIUM - JUDGMENT - ETERNAL LIFE Danial's Separatisth Week (Danial 0.04.07)

Daniel's Seventieth Week (Daniel 9:24-27)

"But in those days, after that tribulation, 'the sun will be darkened and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven,' and the powers that are in the heavens will be shaken.

"Then they will see THE SON OF MAN COMING IN CLOUDS with great power and glory. "And then He will send forth the angels, and will gather together His elect from the four winds, from the farthest end of the earth to the farthest end of heaven." - Mark 13 (**Luke 21**; Matthew 24)

# NOTICE THE OUTLINE OF REVELATION IN THE BLUE SHADED AREA ABOVE.

What have you been taught about end time events?

Why is it important to be aware about the end of the age?

Take a few minutes and read MARK 13, LUKE 21, and MATTHEW 24. Jesus provides the framework for understanding end times events (after all - He IS God!). What are the things He says with clarity?



#### READ EZEKIEL 38, REVELATION 20, and ISAIAH 49.

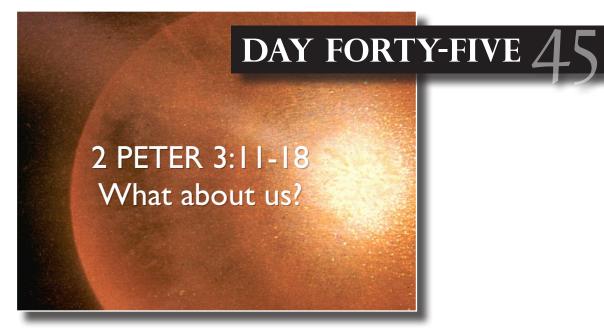
The end of the age will include Jerusalem being surrounded by armies (LUKE 21). It appears that many of the current nations will play a part in the end of the age. Russia, Iran, Libya, China, and Israel will all be key to the events of the end.

It is quite fascinating that this tiny country (Israel) continues to be in the middle of world events - and will continue to be until the end of time!

#### **MYWORLDVIEW**

How strong is my belief that the end of time will unfold the way it is described here?

How does this fact change how I am making choices in my life?



READ 2 PETER 3:11-18 How is it possible to "hasten" the coming day of the Lord?

How is it possible to be "diligent" to be "spotless" and "blameless?"

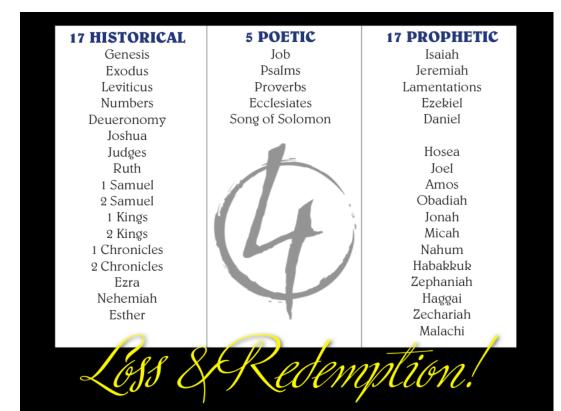
Why are humans so susceptible to error?

### **MYWORLDVIEW**

How strong is my belief that the end of time will unfold the way it is described here?

How does this fact change how I am making choices in my life?

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## DAY FORTY-SIX 40

These two charts help to show how the God Story unfolds. Notice the grouping of the books in each "testament." What do you learn about purposes that are being revealed?

THE SHINING LIGHT

Matthew Mark Luke John **ACTS** 

#### PAUL'S LETTERS and Antioch

Romans Corinthians Galatians Ephesians Philippians Colossians Thessalonians Timothy Titus Philemon

Comes /lear!

#### FAMILY LETTERS and Jerusalem

Hebrews James Peter John

#### END OF THE AGE

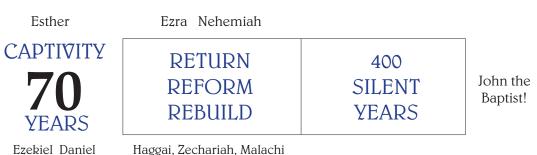
Jude Revelation

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DAY FORTY-SIX /

Carefully think your way through the story of the "old" testament. What do you notice about the flow of the story? What in the story do you find amazing? Compelling? Scary?

Genesis Exodus Leviticus Joshua Job Numbers Judges Deuteronomy Ruth 2 Step Deliverance: Human Race Chosen Race Israel out CONQUEST! Creation Abraham of Egypt 420 Fall Isaac 8 Years of Flood Jacob Bondage Cycles Egypt out Tower Joseph of the people! 1 Chronicles 2 Chronicles 2 Samuel 1 Samuel 1 Kings 2 Kings 722 BC **ISRAEL** Proverbs To Assyria Psalms **Ecclesiastes** SAUL DAVID SOLOMON 931BC CAPTIVITY No Heart Whole Heart Half a Heart Division ...Samuel Songs 586 BC JUDAH To Babylon



Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi

# DAY FORTY-SEVEN 47

Carefully think your way through the story of the "new" testament. What do you notice about the flow of the story? What in the story do you find amazing? Compelling? Scary?

MATTHEWMARKLUKEJOHNKING COMESSERVANT SACRIFICEDMAN SUFFERSGOD REVEALEDJewsGreeksRomansWorld

## MESSIAH'S GOOD NEWS!

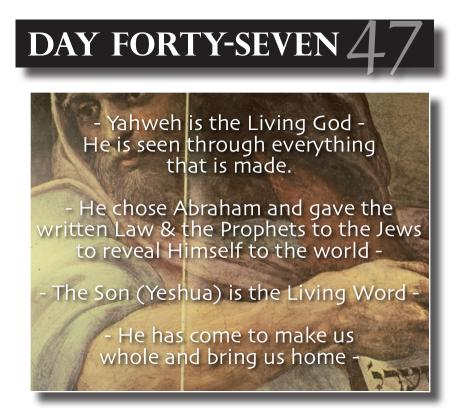
THE SACRIFICIAL SERVING MINISTRY OF JESUS CHRIST

BIRTH BAPTIST TRAINING THE TWELVE JERUSALEM TEACHING JERUSALEM KILLING

## THE ACTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT!



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### **MYWORLDVIEW**

READ ROMANS 1:20.

How is it possible to see the Living God through everything that is made?

Why would He work primarily among the Hebrews to reveal His power to the earth?

RETURN TO ACTS 17, a passage we considered at the beginning of our quest. How is this passage helpful in defining roots for my beliefs about coming to know God?

Have I become convinced that Jesus (Yeshua) is the Living Word?

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# DAY FORTY-EIGHT 48



## **MYWORLDVIEW**

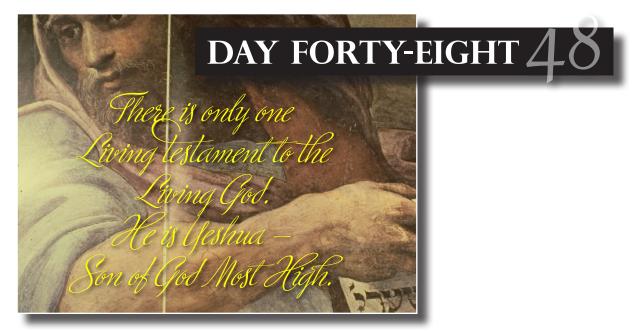
While there are many false gods, according to scripture there is only One Living God. How does this mesh with my beliefs as well as popular, politically-correct views of God?

Do I believe in the existence of angels and demons, good and evil, Satan and God?

Is there any practical difference in the world if there is more than one god?

### READ 1 JOHN 5:12

How can all other religions be incorrect, and how could Jesus be so exclusive about eternal life?



### **MYWORLDVIEW**

How does the perspective of "One Testament" differ from what I have learned in the past?

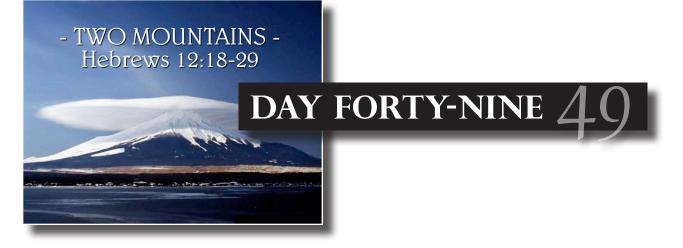
In what ways do I think my Hebrew roots connect to my own walk of faith?

What does the "Jewishness" of Jesus or Yeshua imply about the authenticity of faith?

HOW CAN JESUS THE MESSIAH BE BORN OF JEWISH VIRGIN AND AT THE SAME TIME BE GOD'S SON - THE EXACT REPRESENTATION OF HIS FATHER?

Why is this important to consider in light of my personal faith?

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#### READ HEBREWS 12:18-29

List the unique features of Mount Sinai (Mt. Horeb):

List the unique features of Mount Zion:

What are the similarities between the two mountains?

What are the differences?

The Living God is the same Inhabitant of both mountains. What is the same about Him? What is different?

### **MYWORLDVIEW**

Gratitude appears to be a gift that I possess to give back to God. In what ways is my life a grateful gift?

## **DO NOT UNDERESTIMATE!**

# DAY FIFTY 50

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

and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart." - Hebrews 4:12

## YOU HAVE JUST SPENT A NUMBER OF HOURS LEARNING MUCH ABOUT THE OVERALL STORY OF THE BIBLE.

#### YOU NOW KNOW:

- the designations "old" and "new" testament are man-imposed
- the origins of all we see have been scientifically and spiritually explained
- all men are born fallen in our human nature, and the Lord God is our only hope
- the Living God intervened by presenting His only Son to buy back the souls of man
- God has spoken through Creation, His Word, and finally through His Son
- through each of the Eight Epochs in the fabric of time we are taught more about the Story, who God is, who we are, and the existence of a specific Plan
- each of our lives are significant in the Big Story
- in fact the Big Story is expanded by each of our stories
- the scriptures are knowable for those who devote time and reflection
- the goal of knowing the scriptures is to come to know the Living God more fully

### DO NOT UNDERESTIMATE THE POWER HE HAS CHOSEN TO REVEAL TO US THROUGH HIS WORD!



EACH OF THESE "EPOCHS" fill in more oF the Story, and prepare us for what will happen as we transition out of time and return to our never-ending future.

Think your way through each part of the story and the parts of scripture that are represented in each of the eight epochs.

What were some of the sections you found to be most interesting?

To which will you return for more interaction?

In what ways do you feel you are better prepared to draw more out of the God Story?

## CAN YOU THINK OF ANYONE WHO WOULD ENJOY LEARNING ABOUT THESE EIGHT EPOCHS JUST AS YOU HAVE?

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## HOW TO GET A LOT OUT OF THE BIBLE WHEN I READ!

What are the elements of the passage?

What did it mean to the original participants? What does to mean to me?

It is key to care enough to investigate faith stories from the Word of God. and to make room for asking the question: "what are the basic facts of the story before me?"

We then EXPOSE the meaning by placing ourselves into the particular context from which truth is emerging. What did it mean to the characters involved? The one telling the story? The original recipients of the story? What were the sounds?

The smells? The feelings? The vivid pictures that such a situation exposes?

Once we have been careful to ENCOUNTER and EXPOSE it is time to experience an ENLIGHTENED HEART. What principles have been presented for my personal growth in faith? What does the Holy Spirit have to teach me from this passage? How will adapting such a principle enrich my life as well as the lives of those around me?

It is a true joy in life to live in Light and to help others interact with truth. Our world views dictate how we will live - and how we live is inseparably tied to our eternal glory in Christ!

### **ENCOUNTER THE WORD! EXPOSE THE MEANING! ENLIGHTEN YOUR HEART!**

A number of things contribute to our world view. Our upbringing and culture, our lifeexperiences and those who have been our teachers, our personal philosophical conclusions, and how we view faith and eternity.

JESUS invites us to consider His context for life and eternity, and to allow our personal worldview to be shaped by His Good Spirit. Such a quest is big enough to give substance to even the longest or most obscure life!

#### Always a great question:

How has this particular truth shaped my world view and the way I choose to treat others - and commit my time, my talents, and my treasures?

## HOW THE PSALMS CAN CONTRIBUTE TO MY HEART!

#### Whatever passage you are reading, always look for the heart connection!

The human body is fragile. Even in strength and good health it takes very little to turn everything upside down when our physical health is impaired. Our emotional life is similar. We can be high as a kite on life one moment, and then a simple word or change of circumstances can send us plummeting to earth, often to a very rude landing!

The soul is the indestructible part of us. It is where the true battles are fought and it is the arena of our conscience and our spirit as well. You could say it is where the essence of a man or woman exists. This is where our interior life is thought out, forged, and where we are won or lost. The soul is crucial to the measure of our lives. Giving attention to our interior lives is critical to the sum of who we are.

The Psalms are probably the best representations of an interior life that we have in all of human recorded history. The struggle with good and evil, desire and want, and anger and joy are all arrayed before us in the lives of the Psalmists - David, King of Israel owning the lion's share of these helpful snapshots into our interior lives.

To put this into perspective, we must understand that David probably enjoyed one of the most intimate and spiritually favored lives with the Living God of any human who has ever lived. We can look into his writings and find his heart, and in so doing we can find God's heart. The Psalms are a key to unlocking our hearts.

When you take a look at almost any Psalm you will find it easy to break down, usually by paragraph. Often a premise is explained, a struggle is engaged, and each Psalm usually releases when the Psalmist has given his care and concern back to God.

### **TO "CRACK" A PSALM**

- **Pray** that God will open the Psalms to you as you read.

- Read any story **background** in the scriptures on this particular Psalm that you can find.
- **Divide** the Psalm into sections.
- Follow the circumstance and **emotions** of the Psalmist through the entire passage.
- Choose and **note one or two verses** you think are key to your heart relationship with Him.
- Ask the question, "in what ways is this Psalm expanding my drive to be whole-hearted?"

### **ENJOY!**





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