# - EPOCH EIGHT -END OF THE AGE



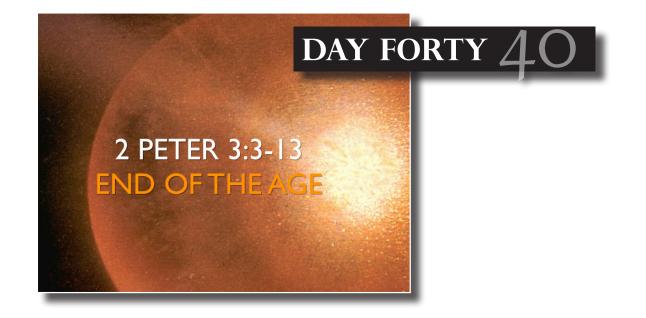


Within the age of time we have found the Bible's explanation of our roots and the ORIGINS of both the human and chosen races. The CHOSEN RACE was delivered from bondage and given the privilege of honoring the Living God among the nations. They inhabit the PROMISED LAND after 420 years in *bondage* and 40 years of *wan-dering* 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 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 sends them to the ENDS of the earth!

The Church fulfills God's purpose and the Kingdom grows 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**

 $\sqrt{1}$  I would identify myself as a mocker in the sense that...

 $\sqrt{1}$  I would place myself in the role of a Christ follower in the sense that...

### DAY FORTY-ONE 4

# 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:

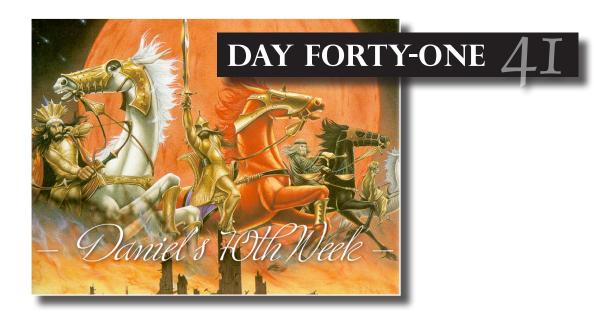
#### READ ACTS 2:1-47

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

### **MYWORLDVIEW**

It is hard to imagine such a difficult end for mankind.  $\sqrt{}$  What is the bigger story here (Read EPHESIANS 6:10-17)?

Page 116 - End of the Age



### READ DANIEL 9 What framework is explained 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?

Jesus covers this same message in Matthew chapters 24 and 25.

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

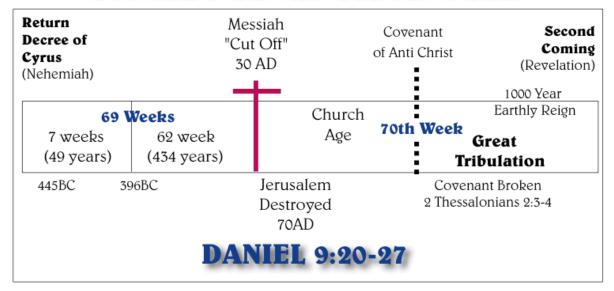
### **MYWORLDVIEW**

 $\sqrt{}$  When I think about the end of time it makes me feel...

Page 118 - End of the Age

### DAY FORTY-THREE 4

### DANIEL'S SEVENTIETH WEEK



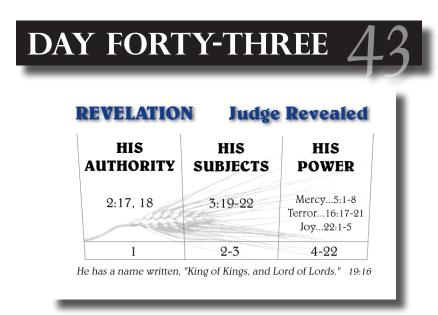
### READ DANIEL 9:20-27

 $\sqrt{}$  What do you see from this passage that reflects upon the chart above?

### **MYWORLDVIEW**

 $\sqrt{}$  What do I believe about the eternal nature of my soul?

 $\sqrt{}$  About the end of the world?



### 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:

- $\sqrt{}$  Jesus in the manger
- $\sqrt{}$  Jesus as Healer
- $\sqrt{}$  Jesus dying on the cross and
- $\sqrt{}$  Jesus coming back makes me feel...



"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!).

 $\sqrt{}$  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 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 = 150 miles long by 75 miles wide) continues to be in the middle of world events - and will continue until the end of time!

### **MYWORLDVIEW**

 $\sqrt{1}$  How strong is my belief that the end of time will unfold the way it is described here?

 $\sqrt{1}$  How do these facts impact 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**

 $\sqrt{1}$  How strong is my belief that the end of time will unfold the way it is described here?

 $\sqrt{}$  How does this fact change how I am making choices in my life?

Page 123 - End of the Age



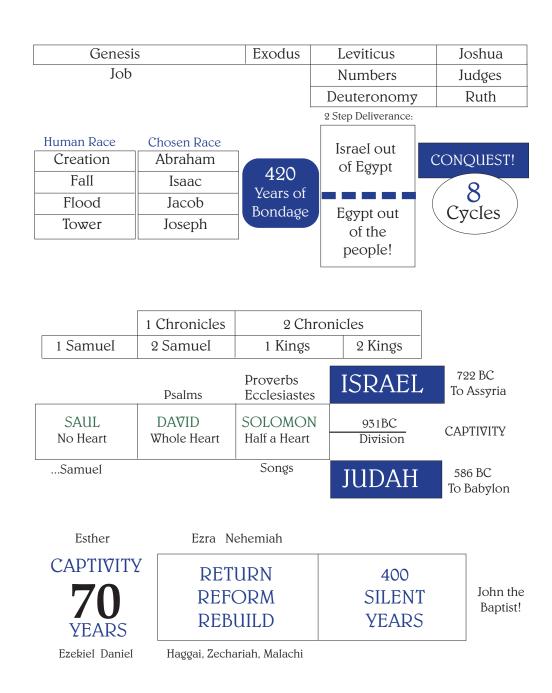
# DAY FORTY-SIX 46

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



DAY FORTY-SIX **A**(

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



# DAY FORTY-SEVEN 47

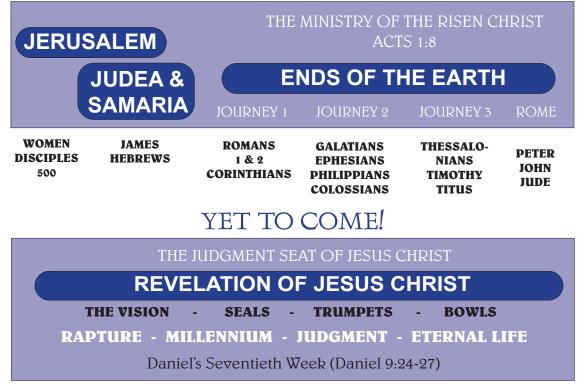
Carefully think your way through the story of the "new" testament. What do you notice about the flow of the story? What in the story do you find amazing? Compelling? Scary?

| MATTHEW           | MARK               | LUKE               | JOHN                |
|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| <b>KING COMES</b> | SERVANT SACRIFICED | <b>MAN SUFFERS</b> | <b>GOD REVEALED</b> |
| Jews              | Greeks             | Romans             | World               |





### THE ACTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT!



### DAY FORTY-SEVEN 4

Yahweh is the Living God -He is seen through everything that is made.
He chose Abraham and gave the written Law & the Prophets to the Jews to reveal Himself to the world The Son (Yeshua) is the Living Word He has come to make us whole and bring us home -

### **MYWORLDVIEW**

READ ROMANS 1:20.

 $\sqrt{1}$  How is it possible to see the Living God through everything that is made?

 $\sqrt{}$  Why would He work primarily among the Jews 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?

 $\sqrt{}$  Have I become convinced that Jesus (Yeshua) is the Living Word?

Page 127 - End of the Age

# DAY FORTY-EIGHT 48



### **MYWORLDVIEW**

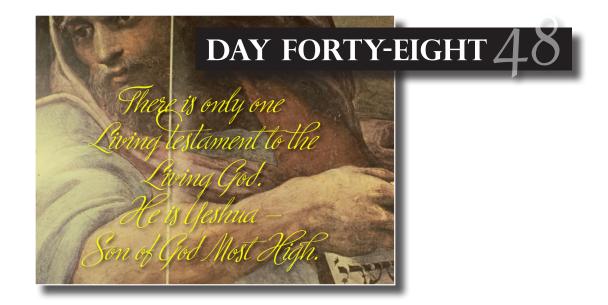
While there are many false gods, according to scripture there is only One Living God. How does this mesh with my own beliefs as well as popular, politically-correct views of God?

What do I believe about the existence of angels and demons, good and evil, Satan and God?

What is the practical difference in our 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?

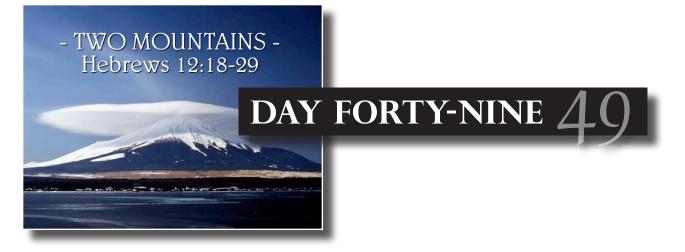
In what ways do I think my Hebrew roots connect to my own walk of faith?

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?

Page 129 - End of the Age



### READ HEBREWS 12:18-29

 $\sqrt{}$  List the unique features of Mount Sinai as found here (Mt. Horeb):

 $\sqrt{}$  List the unique features of Mount Zion:

 $\sqrt{}$  What are the similarities between the two mountains?

 $\sqrt{}$  What are the differences?

 $\sqrt{}$  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 may possess to give back to God.

 $\sqrt{}$  In what ways is my life a grateful gift? \_\_\_\_\_

### **DO NOT UNDERESTIMATE!**

"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

### DAY FIFTY 50

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

#### YOU NOW KNOW:

- $\sqrt{}$  the designations "old" and "new" testament are man-imposed
- $\sqrt{}$  the origins of all we see have been scientifically and spiritually explained
- $\sqrt{\phantom{1}}\,$  all men are born fallen in our human nature, and the Lord God is our only hope
- $\sqrt{\phantom{1}}\,$  the Living God intervened by presenting His only Son to buy back the souls of man
- $\sqrt{}$  God has spoken through Creation, His Word, and finally through His Son
- $\sqrt{}$  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 God-plan
- $\sqrt{}$  each of our lives are significant in the Big Story
- $\sqrt{}$  in fact the Big Story is expanded by each of our stories
- $\sqrt{}$  the scriptures are knowable for those who devote time and reflection
- $\sqrt{}$  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 segments you found to be most compelling?

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?

Page 132 - End of the Age

## HOW CAN I 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 before me?" We must take the time and have a plan!

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

 $\sqrt{1}$  The smells?  $\sqrt{1}$  The feelings?  $\sqrt{1}$  The vivid pictures that such a situation exposes?

Once we have been careful to ENCOUNTER and EXPOSE it is time to experience an EN-LIGHTENED HEART.  $\sqrt{}$  What principles have been presented for my personal growth in faith?  $\sqrt{W}$  What does the Holy Spirit have to teach me from this passage?  $\sqrt{H}$  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.  $\sqrt{}$  Upbringing and culture,  $\sqrt{}$  our lifeexperiences and those who have been our teachers,  $\sqrt{}$  our personal philosophical conclusions, and  $\sqrt{how}$  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.

#### Always a great question:

How has this particular truth shaped my world view and the way I choose to treat others - and invest 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 person exists. It 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

- $\sqrt{\mathbf{Pray}}$  that God will open the Psalm to you as you read.
- $\sqrt{}$  Read any story **background** in the scriptures on that particular Psalm that you can find.
- $\sqrt{$  **Divide** the Psalm into sections (paragraphs or thoughts).
- $\sqrt{}$  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.
- $\sqrt{}$  Ask the **question**, "in what ways is this Psalm expanding my drive to be whole-hearted?"

### **ENJOY!**