



*For all those who believe
there is more to God's Word
than what you hear on Sunday*

In the church we went to as a child the pastor would read a few verses from the New Testament, a few from the Old, and then preach on them or, on occasion, preach on something totally unrelated.

Usually it was the latter.

As time went on I felt there had to be more to God's Word than what was being taught and I yearned to know what it was.

After thirty-five years of research and intense study, what I learned fascinated me. I discovered things I never knew existed in the bible, things I could now personally lean on in my relationship with God, when I go through hard times, or for the times I question my purpose in life.

Although there are many more, I would like to share with you just "Ten Biblical Mysteries Most Pastors Don't Talk About."

Dan Celentano is the author of:

"Ten Reasons Why I believe in Jesus Christ"

"The Search for Shelby"

"My Journal by Tony Marcino"

Ten Biblical Mysteries Most Pastors Don't Talk About

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First Edition published April, 2022

Original first edition published in hard cover, April, 2022

First international paperback edition published April, 2022

First eBooks published April, 2022

First audiobook edition: TBA

ISBN: 978-1-4583-0568-8

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

This Book is Dedicated to

My Parents

For planting the seeds of faith as a child,
which came to grow as an adult.

Pastor Arnold Murray

For the biblical foundation you gave me to build on
and for teaching me:

*"... not to trust this man or any man.
Check out The Word of God for yourself."*

I did so and have been blessed because of it.

RIP my friend.

My Brother Tom

For helping me put this book together.

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INTRODUCTION

For many years I have listened to preachers teach the Word of God in the churches I attended. During this time the messages I heard all seemed to be the same; "*have faith in God*," "*repent*," "*be born again*," "*John 3:16*," "*Jesus loves you*," etc. Whereas these are all important, there just wasn't ***any depth*** to what was being taught.

I wanted to know more.

One day, I decided I'd had enough and began to study the Bible on my own. For over 35 years I looked into biblical mysteries that I had always wondered about. I studied different translations of the bible, took words back to the original Greek and Hebrew for meanings and used the original Greek and Hebrew manuscripts for clarification on different passages. In essence, I let ***God teach me the Word*** and didn't depend on man to do it for me. After all, isn't that one of the reasons Jesus came to earth, ***to shed light on the Word (Jn 1v1&14; 8v12)?***

As I dug into the Word of God, incredible new ***Biblical revelations*** opened up to me. Truths I wondered about for years were now making sense to me. My perspective of the world began to change as I saw the meaning of life in ***totality*** as opposed to individual incidents.

In this book I give you ***10 Biblical Mysteries*** I've learned that I never heard pastors talk about in my early days as a Christian.

For example:

- There is a clear purpose for *suffering* and an overall victory in the end for those who understand it.
- There was an earth age (same earth, different age) *before* this one *millions of years* ago and everyone who has lived, is living and will live *was there*. What was it about and how does it affect us today?
- The *Path We Walk* on in life was determined by God even *before we were born* and God has a *major influence* in the direction we go.
- The *Second Coming of Christ* is nearer than most people think. What role will Satan play when he appears *in person* here on earth?
- All the destruction and lawlessness you see in this world today is due to a group who are part of what is called *The Locust Army*. Who are they and how do you defeat them?
- What happened in the *Garden of Eden* had nothing to do with apples. You will be amazed to learn what *really* happened.

And much more.

I hope The Mysteries I discuss in this book will encourage you to not only attend church for worship, but more importantly study God's Word either on your own or with a group of people who are committed to seeking out God by going beyond "*surface knowledge*" and into a deeper understanding of the hidden mysteries in the Word of God. (*Pr. 2v4*)

Other books by Dan Celentano

Available for free PDF download
at
DanCelsBooks.com

“The Search for Shelby”

*“Ten Reasons Why I Believe in Jesus Christ
and why you should too”*

“My Journal by Tony Marcino”

The End of The Lord

The End of The Lord Defined

Often times we as Christians question God as to what He has said, what He has done, what He should do, what He shouldn't have done, etc.

His Word, instead of being revered, is often criticized. We might say we have faith in God, but when it comes time to *execute* that faith, many fall short. *The End of The Lord* is a time in our spiritual life when we are able to step over the line of *Faith* and into the realm of *Trust*.

Having Faith in God is one thing . . . Trusting in Him is another:

*Faith is the belief in something or someone,
while*

Trust is the execution of that belief.

You could say that **TRUST** is the true measure of how much **FAITH** you have in someone or something.

For example, let's say I'm busy and don't have time to deposit money into my bank account to cover a \$1000 check I wrote. I may have *Faith* in a man I just met on the street that he *could* deposit it for me if I gave him the money, but I wouldn't *Trust* him to do so because I don't know him.

It is the same with God. You may have *Faith* in God and what He can do through His promises, but do you *know Him* well enough to *Trust* Him when those promises don't come through *the way you wanted* them to?

Do you *know* Him well enough to *Trust* that . . .
God knows better than mankind what is good for him/her?

Job Meets The End of The Lord

The first reference to *The End of The Lord* can be found in the book of James:

“Behold, we count them happy which endure (strive to reach the end). Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy. James 5:11

However, it is in the book of *Job* where we will find the full explanation of what is meant by “*The End of The Lord*.” In *Chapter 1 of Job*, Job is described as

“ . . . perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil.”

In fact Job himself was not shy in letting others know just how “perfect” he was:

“I am clean without transgression, I am innocent; neither is there iniquity in me.” Job 33:9(As an aside: none are “perfect” in the English sense of the word. *Perfect* here means *full of age* in various applications of life and moral character.)

But how “perfect” was Job *really*? It didn't take long to find out. Within a few days, Job lost his wealth, home, and worst of all, his children.

Not only that, he also developed deep, painful boils on his body which caused him great suffering. As time went on, the same man who had so much *FAITH* in God and one who thanked

God repeatedly for all his blessings was now **condemning Him** for his suffering saying things like...

- *He destroyeth the perfect and the wicked. When disaster brings sudden death, He mocks at the calamity of the innocent.*
- *I cry out of wrong, but I am ignored*
- *God layeth up his iniquity for His (own) children.*
- *I cry unto thee and thou regardest me not; that art become cruel to me.*
- *Even that it would please God to destroy me. That He would let loose His hand and cut me off. He who hateth me. I should have been carried from womb to grave.*
- *When I looked for good then evil came unto me. And when I waited for light there came darkness...*

How many of these complaints sound familiar to you when you go through hard times or don't get what you ask for in prayer?

Judging from the complaints Job makes throughout the book, it would seem as though Job knows more about God's plan for his life than God does.

Here is a man who was revered by others for his **faith**. However, as soon as something traumatic happened in his life, he **condemned** God with his **pride** instead of **trusting** in Him with his **faith**.

After **thirty-seven chapters**, many of which Job **condemns God**, the Lord finally had enough and answers Job in a whirlwind:

TEN BIBLICAL MYSTERIES
MOST PASTORS DON'T TALK ABOUT

Who is this that darkeneth counsel by words without knowledge? Gird up now thy loins like a man; for I will demand of thee, and answer thou me. (38v2-3)

From here, God begins to ask Job questions that only one in a spiritual body could answer.

Basically what He says to Job is this: *"If you think you know more than I do about what is best for you, answer me this..."*

v4 *Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare, **if thou hast understanding.***

v5 *Who hath laid the measures thereof, **if thou knowest?** or who hath stretched the line upon it?*

v6 *Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof;*

v16 *Hast thou entered into the springs of the sea? or hast thou walke in the search of the depth?*

v17 *Have the gates of death been opened unto thee? or hast thou seen the doors of the shadow of death? **(Job 38)***

After **four grueling chapters** of questions about things on the other side of this life, Job responds:

v2 ***"I know that you can do all things; no purpose of yours can be thwarted."***

v3 *You asked, *Who is this that obscures my plans without knowledge? Surely I spoke of things **I did not understand, things too wonderful for me to know.****

v6 Therefore I despise myself and repent in dust and ashes.”

It was at this moment in which Job would step over the line of **Faith** and into the realm of **Trust** in which he **condemns himself** and justifies **God**.

Job now comes to the kind of conclusion God hopes all of us will come in our lifetime:

***God is Greater Than Man, so in Him
will I put my trust in all things.***

With this, Job had reached **The End of The Lord**. Upon doing so... *the LORD restored his fortunes and gave him twice as much as he had before.*

v12 The LORD blessed the latter part of Job's life more than the former part. He had fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand camels, a thousand yoke of oxen and a thousand donkeys.

v13 And he also had seven sons and three daughters.

v15 Nowhere in all the land were there found women as beautiful as Job's daughters, and their father granted them an inheritance along with their brothers.

v16 After this, Job lived a hundred and forty years; he saw his children and their children to the fourth generation.

v17 And so Job died, an old man and full of years. (Job 42v10-13; 15-17)

The man who once thought he was "without sin" now stands before God with great *humility* and *reverence*.

Reaching The End of The Lord in Our Life

It is Gods' plan that no one should perish so all will share in the Kingdom of God (*2 Pt3v9*).

Unfortunately, all will *not* share in the *Kingdom of God* but this doesn't stop God from trying to win souls nonetheless.

To accomplish this goal, God constantly works to get our attention in order to turn our thoughts towards Him. He does this in many different ways. For example, it could be through blessings such as health, family, provisions, etc., which we would then *turn to Him in gratitude*. (*1Thes.5v18; Deu 8v11-14*).

Then there are times when things happen *naturally* in life such as illness or when someone passes away or job-related difficulties or family problems; all of which we would then *turn to Him* for His *comfort, support* and *counsel* (*Ps. 16v7*).

Next, God may get our attention through a dream or vision as described in *Job 33v14-18*.

Then there is the method God allowed Satan to use on Job called *Tough Love* (*Job 1 & 2*). This method is described in **Chapter 33**.

Because of Job's *stubborn pride*, Tough Love was the *only way* to get his attention. After all, it's hard to convince someone of something when they think they know it all. Although it may not seem like it at the time, this process of *Tough Love* is part of God's *Divine Love for us*. (*Heb. 12v6-7*)

Biblical scholar E.W. Bullinger sums up God's tough love this way:

Divine Love Rules and then Overrules:

It wounds that it might heal...

It is brought low that it might lift up...

It humbles that it might be exalted.



Lastly, there are those situations, especially situations involving children, that begs the question:

"how can a loving God allow such a thing to happen?"

They are traumatic situations in which no **human** logic can explain.

Under circumstances such as this, can one still strive to reach the **End of The Lord** as he/she goes through life, or will resentment and anger be too difficult to overcome?

For some, hatred runs deep, Satan's grip holds tight and forgiveness can never become a reality. Feeling like this is certainly understandable.

However, there are those who are able to break the grip of Satan's influence and **strive** to draw closer to God.

Paul, for example, was one of God's greatest servants. In fact he wrote most of the New Testament. However, not many people have experienced more traumatic situations than Paul. He describes some in **2Cor 11: 24-28**:

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MOST PASTORS DON'T TALK ABOUT

Five times I received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one. Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was pelted with stones, three times I was shipwrecked, I spent a night and a day in the open sea, I have been constantly on the move. I have been in danger from rivers, in danger from bandits, in danger from my fellow Jews, in danger from Gentiles; in danger in the city, in danger in the country, in danger at sea; and in danger from false believers. I have labored and toiled and have often gone without sleep; I have known hunger and thirst and have often gone without food; I have been cold and naked. Besides everything else, I face daily the pressure of my concern for all the churches.

Besides this, Paul spent a total of **5 years** in prison for simply preaching The Word.

Why in the world would God allow things like this **to** happen to one of His **most faithful servants**? It doesn't make sense. You would think God would be giving Paul nothing but blessings his entire life. There was **no clear explanation** for it.

Paul, however, didn't see it like that. Instead, he saw his tribulations as a way of keeping him close to God:

*Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake:
for when I am weak, then am I strong.
(2Corinthians12:10)*

Paul understood that the **sum total of our life** does not stop in **this flesh dimension of time, but rather goes far beyond** a dimension that we cannot see nor feel, much less comprehend.

This was the lesson of Job and is clearly stated by Paul when he said:

*While we look **not** at the things which are **seen**, but at the things which are **not seen**: for the things which are seen are **temporal**; but the things which are not seen are **eternal**. (2Corinthians 4:18)*

Put another way:

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart (mind)
and do not lean on your own understanding
In all your ways acknowledge him
and he will make straight your paths. (Pr 3v5-6)*

~

If we were able to see only a **very small fraction** of the other side of this fleshly dimension, we would be **astonished beyond words** at what we saw and the sufferings and tribulations we experience in life, **no matter how severe**, would take on a whole new meaning in relation to our salvation.

In lies the importance of going beyond **Faith** and being able to totally **Trust** in God.

*For since the beginning of the world men have not heard,
nor perceived by the ear, neither hath the eye seen, O God,
beside thee, what he hath prepared for him that waiteth for Him.*

Isaiah 64:4

Conclusion

There is an old saying that says: *you can lead a horse to water but you can't make him drink.* In the book of Job, this saying goes more like... *It is better to let a horse go thirsty so that he will search out water to drink on his own.*

This is what the Lord does to us. In different ways and according to *each individual need*(1Cor10v13), God lets us go "*thirsty*" so that we will *seek Him out* and "*draw living water*"*from Him.* (Jn 4v10; 13-14).

With this understanding, you will have reached

The End of The Lord.

Other References

STRIVING to reach *The End of The Lord* is a process that develops in time. In fact working to get close to God and prepare to be with Him in heaven is the *sole reason* for our existence here on earth. This notion is *documented* repeatedly in God's Word. Here are just a few examples:

James 1v2: My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations (trials);

v3 Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.

v4 But let patience have her perfect work (to be brought to maturity), that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing (reaching an End).

v12 Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.

2Thessalonians1v4: So that we ourselves glory in you in the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that ye endure:

v5 This is evidence of the righteous judgement of God, that you may be made worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you are suffering.

Heb 12v10: For they disciplined us (earthly father) for a short time as seemed best to them, but He disciplines us for our good, in order that we may share his holiness.

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MOST PASTORS DON'T TALK ABOUT

1Peter1:7: That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ

The First Earth Age

It has been said that if one doesn't understand what happened in the *First Earth Age*, he/she will never truly understand many of the in depth mysteries of the bible. For example:

- Who is the Antichrist and what did he do in the *First Earth Age* that he will do again at the *End Times* of this age?
- What is the true purpose for our existence here on earth?
- Who are Gods' elect, how were they chosen and where are they today?
- Who are the *locust army* and why are they doing so much damage?

Answers to these and many other questions can be found in understanding what happened in the *First Earth Age*.

The Beginning

The formation of the *First Earth Age* begins in *Genesis, Chap.1:*

v1 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

Notice the period at the end of the sentence. This sentence marks the creation of the *First Earth Age*, which took place millions of years ago. *Same earth, different age.* Along with this, both *you, I* and *all* of mankind were created in spiritual bodies at this time. We all existed in *First Earth Age*, millions of years ago. This will be documented throughout this study.

Verse 2 explains what happened to this *First Earth Age*:

v2 And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.

The word “*was*” is translated “*became*” in the Hebrew. The word “*without form*” is *tohu*, which being translated is “*empty and void.*” So the verse reads: “*And the earth became empty and void.*” You can read about the destruction of the *First Earth Age* in a number of places in the bible. *Jeremiah Chapter 4* describes it this way:

- v23 *I beheld the earth, and, lo, it was without form, and void; and the heavens, and they had no light.*
- v24 *I looked on the mountains, and lo, they were quaking, and all the hills moved to and fro.*
- v25 *I looked, and lo, there was no man, and all the birds of the air had fled.*
- v26 *I looked, and lo, the fruitful land was a desert, and all its cities were laid in ruins before the LORD, before his fierce anger.*
- v27 *For thus says the LORD, "**The whole land shall be a desolation; yet I will not make a full end**"(he will not totally destroy the earth nor the souls He created)*
- v28 *'For this the earth shall mourn, and the heavens above be black; for I have spoken, I have purposed; I have not relented nor will I turn back.'*

Psalms 104 adds this:

- v6 *Thou coveredst it with the deep as with a garment: the waters stood above the mountains.*
- v7 *At thy rebuke they fled; at the voice of thy thunder they hasted away. (unlike the flood of Noah whereby it took 150 days for the water to dry up)*
- v8 *They go up by the mountains; they go down by the valleys unto the place which thou hast founded for them.*
- v9 *Thou hast set a bound that they may not pass over; that they turn not again to cover the earth.*
- v10 *He sendeth the springs into the valleys, which run among the hills.*

TEN BIBLICAL MYSTERIES
MOST PASTORS DON'T TALK ABOUT

Isaiah 24 also gives a good account of the destruction of the First Earth Age as well as other places in the bible.

So the **First Earth Age**, (not the earth itself nor the souls created), was destroyed.

In **Chapter 1 of Genesis**, God then **replenishes** the new earth age (the age we are living in now) by putting spiritual "man" into flesh bodies:

So God created man (flesh "man") in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.28 And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: (Gen. 1v27-27)

In **Chapter 2**, God declares that the **Second Earth Age** complete:

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. (2v1)

The word **host** is translated as "**mass of waiting people**" in the Hebrew. ALL the "mass" of mankind created in **spiritual bodies** in the First Earth Age were now **waiting** to be put into flesh bodies to pass through this Earth Age in order to test their loyalty to God.

The word host is further translated **solders; an army waiting to do battle**. To do battle against who? To do battle with Satan and his followers (**see Locust Army chapter**).

There are 3 earth & heaven ages: **1st Gen 1; 2nd Gen 2v1; 3rd Rev 21v1**.

2Peter3 talks about all three ages:

v5 (1st earth age) *For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens **were of old**, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water:*

v6 *Whereby the world that then was, **being overflowed with water, perished:(Ps 104v6)**7 (2nd Earth Age) But the heavens and the earth, **which are now**, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgement and perdition of ungodly men. (Zep. 1v18)*

v10 *But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; (1Thes.5v2) in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.*

v11 *Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness,*

v12 *Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?*

v13 (Third Earth Age) *Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth (**age**), (Rev 21) wherein dwelleth righteousness.*

v14 *Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless.*

What Happened?

What happened in the *First Earth Age* that caused God to want to "void" it out. The answer can be found in, among other places, the book of *Ezekiel*.

Ez 28v2 Son of man, say unto the prince of Tyrus (one of many names for Satan meaning rock. But his rock is not our rock (Deu. 32) Thus saith the Lord GOD; Because thine heart [is] lifted up, and thou hast said, I [am] a God, I sit [in] the seat of God, in the midst of the seas (people; Rev 17); yet thou [art] a man, and not God, though thou set thine heart as the heart of God... .

v15 Thou [wast] perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee....

v17 Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee.

Satan was a special creation of God who was gifted with great beauty and wisdom and was *perfect (complete) in all the ways*. Because of this, he became prideful thinking it was he who should be sitting on the throne of God instead of God Himself. It is at this point in which Satan rebels against God and goes out to try and mislead the souls created in spiritual bodies into believing he is God.

Is. 14 talks about this rebellion:

v12 How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! [how] art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!

v13 For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: v14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.

v15 Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.

v16 They that see thee shall narrowly look upon thee, [and] consider thee, [saying, Is] this the man that made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms;

v17 [That] made the world as a wilderness, and destroyed the cities thereof; (caused 1st earth age to be destroyed) [that] opened not the house of his prisoners? During this time Satan deceived one third of the souls into thinking that he was indeed God.

In **Rev 12** it says:

v3 And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon (Satan)... .

*v4 And his tail drew the **third part of the stars** (children of God (Job 38v7), and did cast them to the earth:*

So a third of Gods children were deceived in the First Earth Age, many who are with us today in the flesh (**Ps 58v3**). Another

third wavered or were slothful (*Rev.3v15*) and the final third were loyal to God, i.e., the *Elect*.

Not wanting to destroy the children who were unfaithful or rebellious against Him, God created the earth age we are living in now to allow them to make a choice between Him or Satan.

However, this time there will be a new addition: *redemption* for sin through the blood of Jesus Christ *if they chose to accept it*. Will they? Or will they reject Him once again as they did in the First Earth Age?

The Elect

During the rebellion of Satan in the First Earth Age, there were those who stood firm against his attempt to mislead them and thus proved their loyalty to God in the process. These people are called *The Elect of God* (not to be confused with the Jews, who were the chosen people to bring Gods word to the world).

Even before passing through this earth age in the flesh, *the elect*, unlike those who followed Satan or who were undecided, have already been judged to be in heaven with God even though judgement day does not occur until *after* the millennium. (*Rm 8v30*). Some, who have already been tested and judged in the first earth age, will be here again when Satan comes at the end of this age:

The beast, which you saw, once was (was here in the First Earth Age), now is not (is not physically here now), and yet will come up out of the Abyss (will come in the end times) and go to its destruction. The inhabitants of the earth whose names have not been written in the book of life from the creation of the world (from the First Earth Age) will be astonished when they see the beast (Satan)[that] once was, now is not, and yet will come. (Rev 17v7-8)

In Revelation 13 it repeats this notion:

v1 And I stood upon the sand of the sea (people), and saw a beast (Satan) rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy

v8 And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are NOT written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. (Those written in the "Book of Life" are those already judged to be with God in Heaven.)

When Satan comes at the end of *this earth age*, all are going to worship him thinking he is Jesus *except* two groups of people:

1. The *Elect of God*
2. Those who have studied God's Word and will know what to expect before he comes.

(See The End Times chapter)

Examples of The Elect

There are many key figures in the bible who were loyal to God, followed his ways in the First Earth Age and who have passed through this earth age in the flesh.

For example, the leaders of the 12 tribes of Israel and 12 apostles already have a place in heaven as stated in the book of Revelation, **Chapter 4v4**.

Matt. 17v1-3 tells us that Elijah and Moses are already in heaven with God:

*And after six days Jesus taketh Peter, James, and John his brother, and bringeth them up into an high mountain apart, And was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light. **And, behold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elias talking with him.***

In talking to the prophet **Jeremiah**, God says this:

Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee (set you apart), and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations 1v5.

Where did he know him? In the **First Earth Age**.

The apostle Paul declares it in the book of *Ephesians*:

*According as he hath chosen us in him **before the foundation of the world**, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:5 Having **predestinated us** unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,1v4*

Peter too was among the elect:

*Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, **Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father**, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: (1Peter1)*

In Romans God talks about Esau and Jacob:

*v11 For the children being **not yet born, neither having done any good or evil**, that the purpose of God according to election might stand (Jacob), **not of works, but of him that calleth;***
v12 It was said unto her, The elder shall serve the younger.
*v13 As it is written, **Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated.***

Even before they were born, God chose Jacob not for any works he had done, but for his loyalty in the First Earth Age

Even many who are not so *prominent* as those mentioned above are Gods' elect. An example would be a man who was blind from birth who Jesus and His apostles passed by one day:

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MOST PASTORS DON'T TALK ABOUT

***John 9v2** And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind?*

v3** Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: **but that the works of God should be made manifest in him.

The elect living today could be you, me, or anyone else who was loyal to God in the First Earth Age.

We'll find out for sure when Satan comes again at the end of this age, for the elect will know who he is and what he will do.

Conclusion

Knowing what happened in the First Earth Age is vital for a number of reasons, but none more important than for understanding what will happen in the End Times of this age.

The Jews wandered 40 years in the wilderness to be tested, to be humbled and to prove what is in their hearts before they could enter into the promise land. (*De 8:2*)

When the Antichrist comes, the world will be tested also before anyone can enter into Heaven.

What Really Happened in The Garden of Eden

To understand what really took place in the *Garden of Eden* one must first understand the meaning of *two key words*:

Trees

The bible sometimes uses **trees** to reference people. Some examples:

And he took the blind man by the band, and led him out of the town; and when he had spit on his eyes, and put his hands upon him, he asked him if he saw ought. v24 And he looked up, and said, I see men as trees, walking. (Mk 8v23)

In the garden, there were *two particular trees* referenced. One was *The Tree of Life* which is Christ:

He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God. Revelation 2:7

The other, The *Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil* was Satan:

Ezz 28v12 Son of man, take up a lamentation upon the king of Tyrus (name for Satan), and say unto him, Thus saith the Lord GOD.

v13 Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering,

The tree of *The Knowledge of Good and Evil* is also referenced in *Ezekiel 31*:

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Ezekiel 31:8 *The cedars in the garden of God could not hide him: the fir trees were not like his boughs, and the chesnut trees were not like his branches; **nor any tree in the garden of God was like unto him in his beauty.***

v9 *I have made him fair by the multitude of his branches: so that all the trees of Eden, **that were in the garden of God, envied him.***

v18 *To whom art thou thus like in glory and in greatness among the trees of Eden?*

Satan is also referenced as a tree in the End Time book of Daniel, Chapter 4.

Fruits

The next word one must understand about the Garden of Eden is ***Fruits***. Fruits here are ***not referring to apples*** but the fruits of a man.

*The **Fruits** of a man are the **moral characteristics** he/she displays in their thoughts, words, actions and motives.*

It is through these "**fruits**" one gets to know the character of an individual. Some ***examples***:

Mt 12:33 Either make the tree good, **and his fruit good**; or else make the tree corrupt, and his fruit corrupt: **for the tree is known by his fruit.**

Lk 3v7 O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come?

v8 Bring forth therefore fruits worthy of **repentance**, and begin not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father:

Matt 7 v15 Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.

v16 Ye shall know them by their fruits.

~

The following is an outline of what *really* happened in the *Garden of Eden*:

1. Adam and Eve are placed in the Garden of Eden.

In the *original manuscripts*, Adam is called **eHa a don**, or **The Man**(*Gen 2v7*)as opposed to just **a dam** which is **mankind** in general. He was **FORMED** separately (*Gen 2v7*) and called **The Man** because through him would come the seed line of Christ (*see genealogy in Luke 3*).

2. Adam and Eve were warned that they could partake of any fruit in the garden except for the fruit of the tree in the midst of the garden.

3v 1 Now the **serpent** was more subtil than any beast of the **field** (**Matt 13v38**) which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath

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*God said, Ye shall **not eat** of every tree of the garden?*

v2 And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden:

*v3 **But of the fruit of the tree** which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye **touch it**, lest ye die.*

***Touch** in the Hebrew is *Naga*, a prime root, meaning to touch, i.e., lay the hand upon, to lie with a woman*

***Note:** the word "eat" is a Hebrew idiom meaning to take in information, "chew"(meditate) on it, and digest it (see Rev 10v9*

So the warning to Adam and Eve was to stay away from Satan who was called both the "serpent," (**Rev20v2**) and the "tree of good and evil." "The fruit" (his craftiness (**v1**), his wisdom (**Ez 28v3**), his good looks (**Ez 28v12**), of that tree was not to be "eaten."

3. Satan's fruits ("crafty" conversation and being, "perfect in beauty") *seduces Eve into having sex with him.*

3v6 And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food (to "eat"), and that it was pleasant [lust] to the eyes (1Jo 2:16& Matt 4v2-3), and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

v7 And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

(The apron covered their private parts. Their eyes were now **open** and they **knew** what they did was **wrong**.)

(The sexual act in which Adam took part in with Satan is not indicated. Keep in mind that **Satan can transform himself into whoever he chooses** to be (2Cor11v14).

4. God asked what she had done. Eve responds...

*...And the woman said, "The serpent [Satan] beguiled me, and I did eat." (beguiled in the Hebrew is **wholly seduced** as we see in the passage below)*

*2Cor11v3 But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent **beguiled** Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.*

5. The Lord said...

*v15 And I will put **enmity** (a feeling or condition of hostility; hatred) between thee and **the woman, and between thy [Satan's] seed and her seed** (Adam where by Christ shall come); it shall bruise **thy head, and thou shalt bruise His heel.***

*(The word "seed" is **sperma** in the Greek which is: "something sown that is seed including the male sperm." (see Matt 13v38)*

6. Adam and Eve are both driven out of the Garden of Eden

3v23 *Therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken.*

7. Shortly after, Adam has sex with Eve

4v1 *And Adam knew Eve his wife; and she conceived, and bare Cain (**Satan had sex with her first**), and said, "**I have gotten a man from the LORD.**"*

v2 *And she **again** bare his brother Abel. And Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground.*

*(The word "again," **isyâsaph** in the Hebrew, which is **to continue in labor.**)*

*(Cain was therefore the **child of Satan, Able the child of Adam and Eve.**)*

8. In time, the two offered their first fruits of their crop to the Lord. Cain's, however, was not acceptable to the Lord. Cain slew Able in the field. (Gen 4v8)

1Jn 3:12 *Not as Cain, [who] was of that wicked one, and slew his brother. And wherefore slew he him? Because his **own works were evil**, and his brother's **righteous.***

9. Cain knew his wife and had children. With this, Satan's flesh seed line is now "planted" throughout the world

Matt 13v 24 *Another parable put He (**Jesus**) forth unto them, saying, "The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good **seed** in his field:*

v25 **But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way.**

v38 **The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked one**

10. After Able was slain, Eve had another child named Seth

Genesis 4:25 *And Adam knew his wife again; and she bare a son, and called his name **Seth** (the **seed from which Christ would come**): For God, said she, hath appointed me another seed instead of Abel, whom Cain slew.*

Seth in the Hebrew means **substitute**, in this case substitute for Able. You will find the seed line from Adam to Christ in the book of *Luke, Chapter 3*. However, you **will not** find **Cain** in Adams' genealogy because **he is Satan's child, not Adams'**.

The Birth of The Sons of Satan Arrives Here on This Earth Through Cain

1Jn 3:12 *Not as Cain, who was of that wicked one (**Satan**), and slew his brother. And wherefore slew he him? **Because his own works were evil, and his brother's righteous.***

*John 8:44 (Speaking to the Pharisees) **Ye** are of your father the **devil**, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a **murderer from the beginning (Cain; the first murderer)**, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.*

Kenites

Some scholars believe that the sons of *Cain* are the *Kenites* mentioned in the bible. Translating both *Cain* and the *Kenites* back to the original Hebrew language, this would prove to be credible:

Cain #7014 Qayin, kah-yin; the name of the first child, also of a place in Pal.; and of an oriental tribe; *Cain, Kenite(s)*.

Kenite #7017 Qiyniy, kee nee'; patron 7014; a Kenite or member of the tribe of *Kayin/Cain*: Kenite.

The story of what happened in the Garden of Eden does not end here but rather continues in the chapters entitled:

“The Locust Army”
and
“The End Times”

Find out what role Satan’s children play in your life now and especially the role they will play just before Christ returns to earth.

Jesus is God

The Trinity

As you know, the trinity, *Father, Son and Holy Spirit*, make up the *full Godhead*; i.e., *one God; three persons*.

1Jn 5:7 For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word (Christ), and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.

That being said, the question is often asked: "*how can three people make up one person? Aren't we suppose to worship only one God?*" True, we are to only worship one God (*Ex. 20v2*).

However, the trinity is not 3 different people, but rather *one person* playing *three different roles*.

Simply stated, a man could have the role of a husband, a provider and a father but yet all titles are under one name, one person.

In the trinity, we have God as *The Creator* and *Father of us all* (*Gen 1v1 (creator) & 2v1 (host being his children)*).

Next, God as *Christ* who came in the flesh to deliver *The Word* (*John 1v1; v14*) and die for our sins.

And Lastly, God as the *Holy Spirit* who is within us as our teacher (*Jn 14v26*), comforter (*Jn 14v26*), guide in life (*Ps. 32v8*), counselor (*Ps 16v7*) and much more.

All are under one name: *God* or *Elohim*

When The Three Became One

When Christ returns to earth, all mankind will be put under His feet for judgement.

***Matt 22 v 44** The LORD(**God**) said unto my Lord (**Jesus**), Sit thou on my right hand, till I make thine enemies thy footstool (**He in heaven, mankind on earth, the earth being His "footstool"**)*

When the role of Christ is completed and judgement is finalized, all three roles go back to being a single entity making up **The Full Godhead**. *1Corinthians 15 explains:*

*v24 Then cometh the end, when He (**Christ**) shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when He shall have put down all rule and all authority and power.*

*v25 For He (**God**) must reign, till He (**as Christ**) hath put all enemies under his feet. (**John 5:22 The Father judges no one, but has given all judgement to the Son**)*

*v26 The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death(**Satan (Heb 2v14)**).*

*v27 For He (**God**) hath put all things under His feet (**the role of Christ**). But when he saith, all things are put under Him, it is manifest that He is excepted, which did put all things under Him.*

*v28 And when all things shall be subdued unto Him (**God**), then shall the Son (**the role of Christ**) also Himself be subject unto Him (**God**) that put all things under Him, **that God may be all in all.***

The Many Ways Christ is Documented to Be God As The Creator

Gen. 1 *In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.*

(Jesus documentation below)

John 1v1 *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God
(God=Elohim of the O.T., denoting the Creator)*

v3 *All things were made by Him; and without Him was not anything made that was made.*

v14 *And the Word (Christ) was made flesh, and dwelt among us.*

As The Bridegroom

Mark 2:19 *And Jesus said unto them, Can the children of the bride chamber fast, while the bridegroom is with them? as long as they have the bridegroom with them, they cannot fast.*

v20 *But the days will come, when the bridegroom shall be taken away from them, and then shall they fast in those days..*

Is 54v5 *For thy Maker is thine husband; the LORD of hosts is his name; and thy Redeemer the Holy One of Israel; The God of the whole earth shall he be called.*

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Rev. 19 v6 for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.

*v7 Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for **the marriage of the Lamb (Christ: John 1:29) is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.***

*v9 And he saith unto me, Write, **Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb.** And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God.*

As Our Savior

*Titus 2:13 Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great **God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;***

1Tm 2v2 For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.

*v3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of **God our Saviour;***

*Lk 1v47 And my spirit hath rejoiced in **God my Saviour.***

As Our Light

*John 1v1&4 1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, **and the Word was God.** In Him was life; and the life was **the light** of men.*

*v5 And **the light** shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.*

John 8:12 *Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world:*

1Jn1v5 *This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.*

Psalm 27:1, *"The LORD (yehôvâh = God) is my light and my salvation whom shall I fear?"*

Rev 21v23 *And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb [is] the light thereof.*

V24 *And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it.*

As Our Rock

Deu 32v4 *He is the Rock, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgement: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is he.*

2Sam Chapter 22 *gives us complete layout in reference to God being our Rock.*

Psalms 27:5 *For in the time of trouble he shall bide me in his pavilion: in the secret of his tabernacle shall he hide me; he shall set me up upon a rock.*

Psalms 28:1 *A Psalm of David. Unto thee will I cry, O LORD my Rock;*

Who “**The Rock**” is referred to repeatedly in the **Old Testament**:

1Co 10:4 And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ.

As Our Shepherd

Ps 23:1 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

John 10:14 I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine.

Direct Divine Reference

Matt 4v6 (the devil to Christ) If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee:

v7 Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.

John 8:58 Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you,

Before Abraham was, I am. (I AM, the sacred name (Ex 3v13-14) is used 7 times in John.)

John 20v27 Then saith he to Thomas, reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing .

v28 And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God.

Is 43v 3 For I am the LORD thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Saviour:

1Tm 3v16 God was manifest in the flesh (Jn1v14)

References in The Old Testament

Note: It is interesting to note that almost every book in the Old Testament makes at least some reference to Christ.

Isaiah 9:6 *For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called **Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.***

Psalms Chapter 22 *His crucifixion. This Psalms was referenced by Christ while on the cross to show that it was He to whom the Prophetic Psalm was referring to.*

Micah 5:2 *But thou, **Bethlehem Ephrathah**, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.*

Isa 44:6 *Thus saith the LORD the King of Israel, and his redeemer the LORD of hosts; **I am the first, and I am the last; and beside me there is no God.** (Rev 1v8; Heb 10v7)*

Isa 49:26 *And I will feed them that oppress thee with their own flesh; and they shall be drunken with their own blood, as with sweet wine: and all flesh shall know that **I the LORD am thy Saviour and thy Redeemer, the mighty One of Jacob.***

Ho 13:4 *Yet I am the LORD thy God from the land of Egypt, and thou shalt know no god but me: for there is no saviour beside me.*

2Sa 22:3 *The God of my rock; in him will I trust: He is my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my high tower, and my refuge, my saviour; thou savest me from violence.*

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*Deu 6v 4 Hear, O Israel: The **LORD** our **God** is one
LORD*

Conclusion

Isaiah 7:14

Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign;

*Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall
call his name **Immanuel***

*(**Immanuel** = **God with us** in the Hebrew)*

Coming Soon...
The End Times

Much has been said by man as to what will happen in the End Times when Christ returns to earth. Let's find out what **God's Word** has to say.

~

The end times will be a compilation of two key factors:

First, a test of how well your faith survives *The Locust Army* you see around us today. (*see The Locust Army chapter*).

Second, and more importantly, your *Knowledge of God's Word*, especially about the End Times.

According to Gods' word, the end of days will be all about *deception, loyalty, whoring after the Antichrist* and *fornication*. Fornication, which is not of the flesh, but rather the spirit, is mentioned *11 times* in the book of Revelation.

Breaking it Down

I think the best way to understand the End Times is to break down what Paul said in *2Thes.2*. He gives us the best *simplified version* of what will happen.

2Thes2 (Starting with v3) *Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day (coming of Christ) shall not come, except there come a falling away first.* (The “*falling away*” or *apostasy* in the Greek, is the falling away from the faith).

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...and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.

“**The man of sin**” is Satan. “Perdition” means to perish. There is only one person named who has been sentenced to perish and that is Satan himself (**Ez 28v18**). When he is “revealed” here on earth, he will exalt himself above all that is called God as he did in the First Earth Age (*see The First Earth Age chapter*).

*For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: **only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way.***

God has entrusted **one person** to be responsible to hold back Satan from physically coming to this earth until the time appointed. That person is Michael.

This is documented in the book of Daniel:

*Daniel 1v1 **And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: (see also Rev. 12v7-8)***

*And then shall that **Wicked (one) be revealed**, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders.*

This is the same Satan who misled Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden (**Ezz 28v13**). In the End Times he will do the same thing to most of the people on earth when he comes

pretending to be Jesus showing "**power and signs and lying wonders**"(Mk 13v22).

*And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because **they received not the love of the truth**, that they might be saved.*

Those who do not study **The Truth** will be deceived and taken in by Satan thinking that he is Jesus.

*And for this cause God shall **send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie**: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.*

The "**strong delusion**" talked about here will be that of the **Antichrist and his lies** and God will let it be so if you choose to believe him.

The Harlot of the End Times

The Antichrist is identified in the book of **Revelation 17** as **the mother of harlots**. He is called this because he will **seduce many** into worshiping him.

To understand this further, you must first understand the relationship we have with God in terms of the **bride** and **bridegroom**.

We as Christians are waiting for a **wedding**. This wedding is between Christ, our "husband," and His children, "the bride." The "**wedding**" will occur when **Christ returns to earth**.

Isaiah 54:5 For thy Maker is thine husband; the Lord of hosts is his name; and thy Redeemer the Holy One

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of Israel; The God of the whole earth shall be called.

v6 For the Lord hath called thee as a woman forsaken and grieved in spirit, and a wife of youth, when thou wast refused, saith thy God.

If we worship any other God other than our God (**ĕlôhîym**), we would be committing adultery by **whoring after other gods** or other "husbands." This is why the Antichrist is called a harlot.

The commandment *Thy shall not commit adultery* refers not only to our earthly marriage, but our spiritual marriage with Jesus Christ as well.

Paul references this in **2Cor11** when talking about being seduced by the Antichrist:

v2 For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ (when He comes).

v3 But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled (wholly seduced in the Greek) Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

This is the reason Jesus tells us that upon His return...

Matt 24:19 woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck in those days!

Spiritually, if we, as the bride of Christ, are "with child" upon His return, it means we have committed adultery with some other God. In this case, it would be the Antichrist.

One of the best places to find information about Satan as the harlot is in **Revelation 17**:

v1 *And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither; I will shew unto thee the judgement of the **great whore** that sitteth upon many waters (people): (as you will see, the great whore is the Antichrist)*

v2 *With whom the kings (political rulers) of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication.* (other than the elect and those who have studied Gods' word, all on earth, including our leaders (kings), will have committed fornication by worshipping the Antichrist (Satan) who they think is Jesus).

v3 *So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman (whore of v1) sit upon a scarlet coloured beast (Satan; Rev. 13v2), full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.*

v 4 *And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet colour (royalty), and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full*

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*of abominations and **filthiness of her fornication**
(of her lies)*

v5 *And upon her forehead was a name written,
**MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE
MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND
ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.** (Babylon is
another reference to Satan. In the Hebrew it means
confusion. There will be MUCH confusion when
Satan comes pretending to be Christ)*

v6 *And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the
saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus: and
when I saw her, I wondered with great admiration.
(admiration = wonder)*

v7 *And the angel said unto me, Wherefore didst thou
marvel? I will tell thee the mystery of the woman, and
of the beast that carrieth her, which hath the seven
heads and ten horns. (Rev 13)*

v8 *The beast that thou sawest **was** (Satan was in the
first earth age) **and is not** (is not bodily here now);
and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit (will
come (Rev 9), **and go into perdition** (he is already
sentenced to perish):*

*and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder,
**whose names were not written in the book of
life from the foundation of the world, when
they behold the beast that was, and is not,
and yet is.** (the ones who have already
overcome Satan in the first earth age when they
"beheld the beast" will not wonder after the
Antichrist when they see him in this Earth Age.
(See **First Earth Age chapter.**)*

Warning Signs of The End Times

There are many Chapters in God's Word that gives us the events that will happen just *before* the *Return of Christ*.

Some would include *Matthew 24; Mark 13; Luke 17 & 21; the Book of Revelation*, to name just a few.

As you saw earlier in this study, Paul gives us one significant warning sign when he talks about the *falling away* of the faith or the *apostasy (2Thes.2v1)*.

In the book of Timothy(*2Tim3*), Paul zeros in on this particular warning sign in detail:

2Tim3v1-8*But know this, that in the last days grievous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, haughty, railers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unboly, without natural affection, implacable, slanderers, without self-control, fierce, no lovers of good, traitors, headstrong, puffed up, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God; holding a form of godliness, but having denied the power thereof: from these also turn away. For of these are they that creep into houses, and take captive silly women laden with sins, led away by divers lusts, ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.*

Luke, in his book, gives us the following warning referencing Sodom and Gomorrah:

Lk 17v28*Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded;*

v29 *But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all.* **30** ***Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed.***

Luke gives us another event to be watching for not found in either Matthew or Mark. He tell us to keep our eyes on Israel:

Luke 19v43 *For the days shall come upon thee, that thine enemies shall cast a trench about thee, and compass thee round, and keep thee in on every side, (talking about Israel)*

v44 *And shall lay thee even with the ground, and thy children within thee; and they shall not leave in thee one stone upon another; because thou knewest not the time of thy visitation.*

This passage is backed up in more detail in the Old Testament

In fact the Old Testament itself has many references to the ***End Times***, especially when talking about the Antichrist. Check them out for yourself:

The Book of Daniel
Ezekiel 28
Isaiah 14, 32, 47,
The Book of Joel
The Book of Zephaniah
(to name just a few)

Whether it be the Old Testament or New, one thing is clear in Gods' Word when talking about the End: ***We, as God's servants, need to be "watchmen."***

Probably the best illustration of the importance of being a "watchman" can be found in the ***Parable of the Ten Virgins***:

The ten virgins (those who, in a spiritual sense, did not whore after other Gods) were waiting for the bridegroom to appear (***Christ return***). However, five of them lacked one important thing that all Christians should be aware of in the End Times:

Matthew 25

v1 *Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom.*(lamps = **Christ** is the **light of the world** because **he sheds light on the TRUTH** which is **the Word of God**: Jn 8v12)

v2 *And five of them were wise, and five were foolish.*

v3 *They that were foolish took their lamps, and took **no oil** with them:*

v4 *But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps.*
(**Oil = the oil of our people. El ah yon** in the Hebrew withel and **yon** being names for **God**. (**God** i.e., **Christ**: Jn 1v1). **Christ is the Living Word**.)

v5 *While the bridegroom (**Christ**)tarried, they all **slumbered and slept**.*

v6 *And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him.*

v7 *Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps.*

TEN BIBLICAL MYSTERIES
MOST PASTORS DON'T TALK ABOUT

- v8** *And the foolish said, "Give us of your oil; for our lamps are gone out." (they had **no oil — God's Word — to light the light**)*
- v9** *But the wise answered, saying, Not so; lest there be not enough for us and you: but go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves.*
- v10** *And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; **and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut.** (Those who went out to "**buy oil**" were **not prepared to meet Christ** because of **no light**. Could the **lack of oil (The Word of God)** and **no "light"** to shine on it, have caused them to worship **the wrong Christ, i.e., the Antichrist?**)*
- v11** *Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us.*
- v12** *But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, **I know you not.***
- v13** *Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the **Son of man cometh***

Conclusion

There will be *no wedding* between you and Christ unless there is *light* to shine on *The Truth*.

There is no *light* without oil (*El Ah Yon = The Word of God*).

There is no *oil* unless one studies *The Word* in order to fill the lamp so there will be *light* on *The Truth*.

How full is your lamp with oil?

The Path of Your Life

The age old question of "*what is God's plan for me in this life*" is clearly answered within the realm of the subject *The Path of Your Life*. To decipher it, you would need to go back to the *First Earth Age* (see *First Earth Age chapter*).

After Satan's rebellion, and the revelation of Gods glory, God wanted His children, now in spiritual bodies, to make a choice as to what god they want to worship; Him or Satan. (*Rom 6v16*)

Not wanting anyone to perish (*2 Peter 3:9*), God did *two things* to help us make this choice:

First: He put our spiritual body into a *sinful flesh body* (*Rm 7v25*).

Second: He then set us on a path of life, *guided by Him*, that we would need to follow *for our salvation*.

It will be our *sinful flesh body* that will force us to make the choice between God and Satan, and the *path* that God chooses for us that will lead us to salvation *if we walk on it*.

Both are designed to help us accomplish one goal: *Eternal Life* with our heavenly Father

Characteristics of The Path of Life

God *knew* that man could not walk on his own path in life that would *lead to salvation*:

I know, O Lord, that the way of human beings is not in their control, that mortals as they walk cannot direct their steps. (*Jer 10v23*)

TEN BIBLICAL MYSTERIES
MOST PASTORS DON'T TALK ABOUT

Thus the Path to Salvation needed to be *designed by God*. In fact the path you are walking on now was designed even **BEFORE** you were born.

That's right, you were still in a *spiritual body* when your path in life was laid out for you by God.

— *Your eyes beheld my unformed substance. In your book were written all the days that were formed for me, when none of them as yet existed. Ps 139v16*

If you choose to walk with God on this path, He promises to **guide** and **direct** you on the choices you make along the way, opening one door and closing another.

— *I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go; I will guide you with my eye upon you. (Psalm 32v8)*

— *I am the LORD thy God which teacheth thee to profit, which leadeth thee by the way that thou shouldest go. (Is 48v17)*

Walking in The Spirit

Walking with God on your path through life is called **walking in the spirit**. It means that you are trying your best to align your **thoughts** and **actions** with that of the teachings of Christ.

In Romans it says: *There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. Romans 8:1*

When you do this, you and Christ **become one**. You both walk the Path together with God as your **personal guide**.

Although God knows where He wants to take you on your path, **the choices** you make along the way *are all yours*.

You walk, *You* choose, *He* guides

The choices will be a combination of both success and yes, failures. In fact, you'll probably experience more failures, big and small, than success. This begs the question...

*If God is guiding us, why would he **allow us** to walk into something that will fail?*

Have you ever **failed** at something that you set out to do that was either job related, or related to friends or family, or to a dream you hoped to fulfill that went **bust** instead?

How about straying so far away from the Path of God that the choices you made lead to drug or alcohol problems or problems with the law?

Truth is, failing is not all that bad if you stay with God

Have any of your failures in life ever turned out to be the **best thing** that could have happened to you at that time? Do you think God knew about this **in advance**? According to **Jeremiah 23v23-24**, you can count on it.

Failure has a way of forcing a person to head in **another direction** either to achieve the stated goal or to try something different.

Could this "new" direction be God's way of guiding us back onto the path He chose for us in the first place?

TEN BIBLICAL MYSTERIES
MOST PASTORS DON'T TALK ABOUT

*Who is the man who fears (reveres) the Lord? (it is...) him will he instruct **in the way that He (God) should choose.** Psalm 25:12-15*

The way God *intervenes* in our lives is *incredible*. **Psalms 139** gives us just a small glimpse of how much He's involved:

You have searched me, LORD, and you know me.

You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar.

*You discern my going out and my lying down; **you are familiar with all my ways.***

Before a word is on my tongue you, LORD, know it completely. You hem me in behind and before, and you lay your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain.

Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?

If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.

If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea;

*Even there **shall thy hand lead me**, and thy right hand shall hold me.*

For you created my inner most being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. (Ps 139v1-10;13)

Even if you fall on your walk with God, God will pick you up by the hand, dust you off and set you back on your way:

*The steps of a man are **directed by the Lord**, when he delights in his way; **though he fall**, he shall not be cast headlong, for the Lord **upholds his hand** (Psalm 37:23)*

For those times when it seems as though God has left you walking all alone on your path, they are instead times when He is the *closest to* you. (*Jos 1v9*)

Mankind is unable to do all these things which is one of the many reasons why we cannot set our own path to salvation... thank God.

The Second Choice:

Walking *with God* is one choice you have regarding your spiritual life, but of course you **DO** have another.

You can ignore God's influence in your life, choose to walk on your own path and do your own thing.

Many try, and though some succeed and end being fruitful and productive in *THIS* life, too many others find that their choice to walk alone only lead them to drug addition, alcoholism, suicide, prison, depression, etc..

One of the main factors that shapes the decisions of many to "walk alone" usually has to do with some form of tribulation they have experienced in their lifetime.

Whether it be as a child or an adult, tribulation has a way of turning some people *away* from God's path and onto their own.

(For information on *suffering* and *tribulation*, see the chapter entitled: *The End of The Lord.*)

Conclusion

When Paul was about to be martyred, there was no doubt in his mind that the **path he walked on** was directed by God and that he would be rewarded for following it:

*I have fought a good fight, I have finished **my course** (my path in the Greek), **I have kept the faith** (walked with God)*

v8 Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day. (2Tim4v7)

***If you are walking with God
you can be as confident as Paul
about the path that you are on.***

If not, you're on your own.

Other Documentation on The Path of Life

Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not ***lean on your own understanding***. In all your ways ***acknowledge him***, and he will make straight your paths

Joshua 1:9, "This is my command — be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. ***For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.***

Proverbs 3 Have no fear of sudden disaster or of the ruin that overtakes the wicked, for the ***LORD will be at your side and will keep your foot from being snared.***

Ps. 142v3 When my spirit grows faint within me, it is you who watch over my way.

Out of all of them however, I think this one says it all:

Proverbs 20:24 A man's steps are from the Lord; ***how then can man understand his way?***

If your walk in life is determined by God,
If He is guiding as you walk,
If He will pick you up when you fall . . .

then why try to understand what is happening along the way?

After all: .. ***as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are Gods' ways higher than your ways (Is 55v9)***

What Happens When We Die

Much has been said on the subject of *Where Are The Dead*.

Some say when we die, we stay in the grave until Christ returns. Others say we immediately get judged and are sent to either 'hell' or join God in heaven. Still others believe the rapture is our future.

But what does God's Word say about this?

To understand what happens when we die, we first must understand the makeup of our body:

Flesh, Spiritual & Intellect

There are three facets of our body that play a role when we die:

The *Flesh* Body

The *Spiritual* Body

The *Intellect* of the Flesh and Spiritual Body

1Cor 15v40 There are also heavenly bodies, and bodies earthly: but the glory of the heavenly is one, and the glory of the earthly is another... but of one kind indeed(will be) the glory of the heavenly, and another kind that of the earthly.

When we die, our *flesh body* returns to the earth from where it came and our spiritual body returns to the *Father* who created it. (*Ecclesiastes 12:7 (see also Gen 2v7)*)

However, *where* our spiritual body goes after death depends on whether there was a genuine *love* and *respect* for God or a total disregard for Him and His word.

The Intellect of Our Flesh & Spiritual Body

The intellect of our ***Flesh Body*** will be the intellect of our ***Spiritual Body*** simply moving from a ***human*** dimension to a much higher ***spiritual*** dimension. (Examples of the Intellect in transition from the Flesh to Spiritual: ***Acts 7v55-56; 2Cor12v2-4***)

It would be impossible for man to describe what it is like to be **totally** in a Spiritual dimension (***Is 64v4***), but consider this: we as human beings use only about **10% of our brain** while here on earth. When we transfer from a ***human intellect*** to a ***spiritual one***, ***we will be experiencing 100%*** of our brain.

That is 100% of all aspects of human emotions and awareness **EXCEPT** for negative things such as pain, suffering, sorrow, depression, etc. (***Rev 21v4***)

Imagine, as far as your human mind will allow, the ultimate beauty, peace, tranquility, love, etc., with **no negative emotions** to interfere.

Where Are The Dead: BEFORE The Return of Christ

1. For ***The Elect*** who have died, they have already been judged for what they did in the First Earth Age (***see First Earth Age chapter***) and are raised into ***heaven*** with Christ in their Spiritual Body.

Rev 19v6 7 Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.(spiritually

speaking, we as His children are His bride and He is the groom (*Is 61v10*)

v8 And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints (saints = set aside ones or the elect)

The “fine linen” talked about above is what will be worn by **all** of those who overcame on earth and enter into heaven. Anyone **without** this *Garment of Righteousness* will not be allowed in until the final judgement (*see the parable of Matt. 22v11-13 also Rev 7v9-17 to document*).

This is what is meant when Paul said: *For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven: If so be that being clothed we shall not be found naked. (2Cor5v2-3)*

2. For those who have died and who were followers of Christ but still have fallen short in some way, they must wait for the **millennium** which takes place when Christ returns to earth. Upon their death, their **spiritual body** will be raised into **paradise** during this waiting period.

TEN BIBLICAL MYSTERIES
MOST PASTORS DON'T TALK ABOUT

*Lk 23v39 And one of the malefactors which were hanged
railed on him, saying, If thou be Christ, save thyself and
us.*

*v40 But the other answering rebuked him, saying, Dost not
thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same
condemnation?*

*v41 And we indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of
our deeds: but this man hath done nothing amiss*

*v42 And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou
comest into thy kingdom.*

*v43 And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee,
To day shalt thou be with me in paradise.*

Who Are The Souls Taking Part in The Millennium (meaning 1000 years)

Probably the best way to answer this would be to refer to the parable in **Luke 12v42:**

*And the Lord said, "Who then is the faithful steward (we
as Christians are Gods servants) and prudent man,
whom his lord shall set over his household, to give them
their measure of food (the word of God) in due
season?"*

*v43 Happy is that servant, whom his lord when he
cometh shall find so doing.*

V44 *Of a truth I say unto you, that he will make him ruler over all that he bath.***(Rev 20v6)**

v45 *But and if that servant say in his heart, My lord delayeth his coming; and shall begin to beat the menservants and maidens, and to eat and drink, and to be drunken;*

v46 *The lord of that servant will come in a day when he looketh not for him, and in an hour when he knows not, and will cut him in sunder, and will appoint him his portion with the unbelievers* **(will receive an unfaithful persons' reward which is the lake of fire).**

v47 *But that servant, which knew his lord's will, and prepared not himself, neither did according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes.* **(will be disciplined for correction harshly)**

v48 *But he that knew not, and did commit things worthy of stripes***(knew the Lords will but did things out of ignorance),***shall be beaten with few stripes* **(disciplined but not the same level as v47).**

v48 *For unto whomsoever much is committed* **(faith), from him shall be much required:** *and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more.*

The millennium, therefore, is a place where faith is disciplined, strengthened, and expanded for those not quite ready for heaven. The *priest* of the Elect will probably carry out this duty. **(Rev 20v6)**

3. Lastly, for those who died and who were not loyal to God; those who disrespected and believed not in God nor His word, they too will *"be present with the Lord"* as stated in **2Cor5v8**.

However, *"to be present with the Lord"* after death will take on a whole new meaning for these people.

Their fate is best described in the parable told by Christ in **Luke 16v19-31**. Although a metaphor, it still symbolizes what will actually happen backed up by scripture.

Parable of Lazarus and The Rich Man

Lk 16v19 There was a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day:

v20 And there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, which was laid at his gate, full of sores,

v21 And desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table: moreover the dogs came and licked his sores.

*v22 And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom (**remember Abraham is one of Gods elect and thus judged and is in paradise with God (see First Earth Age study): the rich man also died, and was buried;***

v23 *And in hell (grave or hades in the Greek) he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.*

V24 *And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.*

V25 *But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented.*

V26 *And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that would come from thence.*

V27 *Then he said, I pray thee therefore, father, that thou wouldest send him to my father's house:*

v28 *For I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment.*

V29 *Abraham saith unto him, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.
(They have Gods word. Let them read and study it)*

v30 And he said, Nay, father Abraham: but if one went unto them from the dead, they will repent.

*v31 And he said unto him, **If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead.***

Further Documentation For Luke 16

In the *Goodspeed* edition of the Apocrypha (a collection of biblical books which were *not canonized* but still appear in certain editions of the bible), the *Second Book of Esdras, Chapter 7* starting with *v75* goes into more details describing what will happen to those on the other side of the "*gulf*":

2Esd 7v78 ... For about death, the teaching is: When the final sentence goes forth from the Most High that a man is to die, when the soul departs from the body to return again to him who gave it, first of all it prays to the glory of

v79 the Most High; if it was one of those who scorned and did not observe the way of the Most High, and of those who have despised his law, and of those who hate those who fear

v80 God, such spirits shall not enter dwellings but wander about (in a spiritual state) thenceforth in torment, always grieving and sad, in seven ways

v81 *The first way is that they have scorned the Law of*

v82 *the Most High. The second way is that they can no longer*

v83 *make a good repentance, so that they may live. The third way is that they will see the reward destined for those who*

v84 *have believed the agreements of the Most High. The fourth way is that they will consider the torment destined for them*

v85 *in the last days. The fifth way is that they will see that the dwelling-places of the others are guarded by angels in profound silence.*

V86 *The sixth way is that they will see that some of them will pass over to be tormented henceforth.*

V87 *The seventh way, which is worse than all the ways that have been mentioned, is that they will waste away in shame and be consumed in disgrace, and wither with fear, at seeing the glory of the Most High before whom they sinned while they lived, and before whom they are destined to be judged in the last times.*

Other Documentation For Luke 16 can be found in Lk 13v27-28 and Ps 37v34

Those of *Luke 16* and *Esdras 7* will also utilize 100% of their *Spiritual Intellect* in terms of *emotions* and *awareness*.

However, because they are ***not in Paradise***, they will also be aware of such emotions as pain, suffering, grief, fear, etc. as illustrated in both ***Luke*** and ***Esdras***. Using 100% of their emotions such as pain and grief; could this be the “hell” we all hear about?

Whether it be from the other side of the gulf or, as some say, from the grave in their spiritual body, those who don't make it will be observing heaven from a distant until judgement day.

Judgement Day

*1Cor 15v51 Behold, I shew you a mystery; **We shall not all sleep (die), but we shall all be changed (into our spiritual bodies),***

*v52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at **the last trump (the last trump is the 7th; the return of Christ): for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.***

When Christ returns to earth, all will be instantly changed into their Spiritual Bodies. Once this happens, the following will take place:

1. Satan (*the Antichrist*) will be bound and tossed into the bottomless pit to be held for a thousand years during the millennium.

*v1 And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the **bottomless pit** and a **great chain** in his hand.*

*v2 And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the devil, and Satan, **and bound him a thousand years,***

*v3 And cast him into the **bottomless pit**, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years (millennium) should be fulfilled.*

After Satan is secure in the bottomless pit, the millennium will take place for those other than the elect. The elect will take part in millennium as "priests" with Jesus: (*Rev 20v6*)

2. After the millennium, Satan will be released out of the pit for short time and will go out to deceive many who resided outside of paradise (*Luke 16*) in order to do battle with those who take part in the millennium. Satan will gather people from the 4 corners of the earth to try to accomplish this. Many will be deceived into following him.

TEN BIBLICAL MYSTERIES
MOST PASTORS DON'T TALK ABOUT

*v7 And when the thousand years are expired, **Satan shall be loosed out of his prison,***

*v8 And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, **Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea..***

*v9 And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed **the camp of the saints about the, and the beloved city:***

However, this will not be a concern to those in the millennial temple because God will take care of business Himself:

*... and fire came down from God out of heaven, **and devoured them.***

*v10 And the devil that deceived them was **cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are (roles of Satan), and shall be tormented day and night forever and ever.***
(Rev 20v7-10)

This is called the ***Battle of Armageddon.***

3. After Christ conquers in the Battle of Armageddon, all stand before God. Three books are open: one for Elect, one for those who took part in the millennium and one for those souls who didn't make it. Judgement is for reward as well as punishment.

*v12 And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the **books were opened**: and **another book was opened, which is the book of life**: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, **according to their works**.*

**At this time all will be judged
on what was done in the flesh**

*2Cor.5v10 For we must all appear before the judgement seat of Christ; that every one may receive the **things done in his body**, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.*

Those who don't make it will be cast into the lake of fire. This is called the **second death**. There is the death of the **flesh**, and then there is the second death, the death of the **soul**.

And the sea (people Rev 17v15) gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. (Rev 20v13-14)

*Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the **first resurrection**: on such the second death hath no power, (Rev 20v6)*

4. For those who take part in the “First Resurrection,” i.e.,
Heaven:

*1 And I saw a new heaven and a new earth age:
for the first (former) heaven and the first earth
were passed away; and there was no more sea.*

*2 And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem,
coming down from God out of heaven prepared
as a bride adorned for her husband (Is 62v5)*

*4 And God shall wipe away all tears from their
eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither
sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any
more pain: for the former things are passed
away.*

*5 And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I
make all things new.*

6 And he said unto me, It is done.

At this point, you will have returned back from
where you came from (see First Earth Age chapter)
and thus gone through the full circle of life;

Born in the *Spiritual Body*,
Tested in the *Flesh*,
and
Rewarded back into the *Spirit* to live forever.

The Locust Army

If you are in the flesh body and live on this earth, you've been affected by them. Whether it be the flesh or the spirit, personally or indirectly, they will always be a part of your life, especially if you allow them in.

They are what the bible calls, ***The Locust Army***. Knowing who they are and why they are here will help you a great deal in being able to defeat them.

Although ***The Locust Army*** is mentioned *in every book of the bible* in one form or another, the army is best described in the book of ***Joel***.

Who They Are

The Locust Army is simply an '***army***' of Satan and his followers who attack mankind either through the flesh body, the spirit, or both. Their primary goal is to ***eat away at ones Christian faith***.

They are a strong army, having different members who play different roles.

Ephesians 6 breaks down these roles:

Ep.6v 11 *Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the **wiles of the devil**.*

v12 *For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against **principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.***

Understanding Each Member's Role

— **Principalities.** The *chief ruler* of this world (In the Greek: beginning, origin; the first person or thing in a series, the leader; i.e., **Satan himself**)

1Jo 3:8 He that practiseth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning.

— **Powers: delegated power;** power delegated by Satan through those who **reject God** by what they say or do. For example:

Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air (Satan), the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience Eph 2:2

A more focused description of **Delegated Power** can be found in the book of **Deuteronomy**:

They have corrupted themselves, their spot [is] not of His children: [they are] a perverse and crooked generation.

v31 For their rock is not as our Rock...(Christ is our rock; 1Cor10v4)

— **Rulers of darkness of this world:** Anti-Christian political leaders of this world. (We are seeing plenty of them these days.)

Rev. 17v22 With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication.
(Anti-Christian leaders who legislate their views onto the people they serve.)

— **Spiritual wickedness in high places:** Spiritual hosts of the wicked one; i.e., **evil spirits.**

Luke 7:21 *And in that same hour he cured many of their infirmities and plagues, and of evil spirits; and unto many that were blind he gave sight.*

As stated earlier, The Locust Army is lead by Satan who is also called **Lucifer** or "**bright star**" in the Hebrew:

Revelation 9v3 ... *and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth...*

v2 *And he opened the bottomless pit... And there came out of the smoke locusts upon the earth: and unto them was given power (by Satan)*

Besides **personal** attacks, The Locust Army will concentrate on penetrating **4 different institutions** in this world to further bring down our faith.



TEN BIBLICAL MYSTERIES
MOST PASTORS DON'T TALK ABOUT

The 4 institutions are:

Politics Education
Religion Economy

These institutions are represented by the *leopard with 4 heads* in Daniel's dream *of the end times* (previous page).

Dan 7v 6 ... like a leopard, which had upon the back of it four wings of a fowl; the beast had also four heads; and dominion (control) was given to it (by Satan).

In *Deuteronomy* they are described this way: *32:5 ...they are a perverse and crooked generation, their spot [is] not of His[children].*

In one way or another, everyone in the world is affected by these four institutions. However, make no mistake about it. Either through the institutions or through you personally, the number one goal of The Locust Army is to *tear apart your Christian faith and values.*

The Stages of The Locust

Since the beginning of time and right up to this very moment, The Locust Army has been attacking believers in waves or *stages* with each stage picking up where the previous one left off and each excreting more power than the previous..

There are 4 stages of The Locust Army in the book of Joel.

The first wave started after the birth of Cain(*see Chapter on The Garden of Eden*). It is called the *Palmer worm* or the *gnawer* stage.

Centuries later the next wave came called the **Locust** or *swarmer* stage which took over for the Palmer worm eating away even more of the faith.

After that, the *Cankerworm* or *devourer* stage came and is with us to this day.

Finally, when the end times come, it will be the *Caterpillar* or the *consumer* stage.

When one stage ends, the next one takes over with even greater force. In the Hebrew the attacks read like this:

Gnawer's remnant, the *Swarmer* eats,
Swarmer's remnant, the *Devourer* eats,
Devourer's remnant, the *Consumer* eats.

When the end times comes and *Christ's return is near*, Christianity will have been so "*chewed*" up and people *so ignorant of Gods word*, that the anti Christ and his followers will have no problem "*consuming*" them *with deception*.

In fact one of the definitive signs of the *End Times* is a falling away of our faith called the *Apostasy*.

Currently we are witnessing a *massive falling away* of the Christian Faith in this world which clearly identifies the Locust Army as being in the *Devouring Stage*(*Rev. 9*)

Battle Lines Are Drawn

In Chapter 2 of Genesis, Gods' creation is completed:

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host (mankind) of them (v1).

The word “**host**” in the *Hebrew* is a very important word for us to understand, especially in the times we are living now. It is interpreted. as... *a mass of persons organized for war (an army) battle, soldiers, waiting upon, war (-fare)*

God created mankind in the *spiritual body*, put us into *flesh bodies* here on earth, and then set us out to fight a battle; a battle for our *FAITH* and our *SOULS* against Satan and his *army*.

This battle we are now fighting is *not* a political battle but rather a *spiritual* one between good and evil. (*Eph 6v12*)

*There has never been a time in recent history
where the battle lines between good and evil
have been more clearly defined than they are today*

In *Chapter 2 of Joel*, Joel focuses in on the end times *we are in now* and how the locust army will “*devour*” people with deception. Much that is said in this chapter parallels that of *Rev. 9*, a chapter also describing the *devouring stage* which is *one stage* before the coming of Christ.

Joel 2v3 A fire **devoureth** before them (**the people**); and behind them a flame burneth: the land is as the garden of Eden before them, and behind them a **desolate wilderness**; yea, and nothing shall escape them. The appearance of them is as the **appearance of horses**; and as horsemen, so shall they run. (**Rev 9v7,9,17**) Like the noise of **chariots** on the tops of mountains shall they leap, like the noise of a flame of fire that **devoureth** the stubble, as a strong people set in battle array. (**Rev9v9**) Joel 2v3-5

How to Defeat the Locust Army

In the Chapter entitled *The Path of Life*, I talk about what is called *Walking in The Spirit*.

Walking in the Spirit simply means doing all you can to keep the commandments of God daily so that you and God **become one**.

The more you do this, the closer you come to God, while, at the same time, *shutting Satan and his army out of your life*.

*Satan and God cannot exist together
in one "house" . . . you invite one or the other in*

Make no mistake about it, you have both the choice and the power to do so.

Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions (names for the devil and his followers), and over all the power of the enemy (all his army): and nothing shall by any means hurt you. Luke 10:19

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MOST PASTORS DON'T TALK ABOUT

James sums it up this way:

*Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil,
and he will flee from you. 4:7*

Your Choice of Weapons

In order to Walk in *The Spirit of God*, you need to know what God *wants* and *expects* from you so that you can keep His commandments.

The only way to do this is to take some time out to read *The Word of God*.

The Bible is, among other things, an instructional manual on *how to fight this battle* we are currently in.

In the *Book of Ephesians, Chapter 6*, Paul talks about the things we need to have to go war with Satan. First...

Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day (evil days).

Once the armor of God is on, take...

the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God (Eph 6v17)

Being equipped with the Word of God as your sword,
Satan has NO POWER over you.

Conclusion

Mark Levin, a well respected news commentator and constitutional scholar said the following:

*"I don't know what's happening to our country.
Politics are **Devouring** our institutions."*

I doubt if he really knew just how profound that statement was because, yes, the institutions, along with the Christian people, are definitely being **Devoured** by Satan and his . . .

LocustArmy

The Knowledge of God:

Part 1

To understand the importance of *The Knowledge of God*, it would first be helpful to understand the *Four Types of Christians* there are in the world in reference to knowledge.

Which one best describes you?

1. Those who might have heard or read about God but never understand it and didn't make any effort to pursue it further.
2. Those who hear about God, receive the Word with joy, but then the things of this world pull them away from God and towards worldly things.
3. Next are those who hear or read the Word of God, understand it, but never get much deeper than the simple basic teachings of God's Word.
4. Those who hunger for God's word. They hear it, they read it and they want to know more about it.

The four categories you have just read are **NOT** my thoughts, but rather can be found in the book of **Matthew**. The teaching is called "The Parable of the Sower."

The Parable:

Behold, a sower went forth to sow;

v4 And when he sowed, some seeds (God's Word) fell by the way side, and the fowls came and devoured them up:

v5 Some fell upon stony places, where they had not much earth: and forthwith they sprung up, because they had no deepness of earth:

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*v6 And when the sun was up, they were scorched;
and because they had no root, they withered away.*

*v7 And some fell among thorns; and the thorns sprung up, and
choked them:*

*v8 But other fell into good ground, and brought forth fruit,
some an hundredfold, some sixtyfold, some thirtyfold.*

The Parable Explained

ONE

*v19 When any one heareth the word of the kingdom,
and understandeth it not, then cometh the wicked
one (Satan), and catcheth away that which was
sown in his heart. This is he which received seed by
the way side.*

These are those who may have heard or read something about God, or maybe even attended church at one time or another.

However, they never make any effort to learn about God or try to follow His ways. They go on with life void of any Christian values or beliefs.

Because of this, "the seed," which falls on the **hard path**, takes no root and thus opens the door for Satan to come in and snatch away any faith or knowledge they may of had.

*". . . then cometh the wicked one, and catcheth
away that which was sown in his heart.(v19)"*

TWO

*v22 He also that received seed **among the thorns** is he that heareth the word; **and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful.***

As stated earlier, these are people who hear about God and receive Him with joy, but the material things of the world eventually become more important to them and thus they stray and join the world in sin.

The reason for this is very similar to the next group of people.

THREE

*V20 And he that was sown upon the **rocky places**, this is he that **heareth the word**, and straightway with joy receiveth it;*

*V21 yet hath he **not root in himself**, but endureth for a while; and when **tribulation or persecution ariseth because of the word**, straightway he stumbleth.*

These are people who hear the Word and, at first, receive it with joy.

However, whereas they attend church or read The Bible now and then, they never seem to get any deeper into the Word.

It's the *same* reading, *same* preaching, over and over and over again.

In other words, there is no depth to their Knowledge of God.

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In the parable describing these people, the plant grows but only for a short time because *the roots* do not go deep enough to absorb *water* and *sustain the life* of the plant.

Christ is our *Living Water* (*Jn 4v13-14*). The more we get our nourishment through Christ, the more we are able to grow as Christians and endure whatever life has to offer.

You might have experienced this very thing yourself as a young Christian. Something trying or traumatic happened in your life and you hit rock bottom. As much as you try to keep the faith during this time, you have nothing to turn to other than the same old *basic teachings* you've heard over and over again. Eventually the depression or despair overwhelms any knowledge of God's Word you may have.

Paul puts it this way:

For every one that partaketh of milk is without experience of the word of righteousness; for he is a babe. But meat is for full grown men, (Heb. 5v13-14)

The "*milk*" in Gods word are the *basic teachings* on such things as Faith, Baptism, Works, etc.

Again Paul says:

Wherefore leaving the doctrine of the first principles of Christ, let us press on unto perfection; (lets move on towards more understanding) not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, of the teaching of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgement. (leave this basic teaching and move on to more in depth learning)

*For as touching those **who were once enlightened** and tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Spirit, and tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the age to come, and then fell away, (for those who have gone past the “milk” and into the “meat”) it is **impossible to renew them again unto repentance**; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame. (renewing them by the same old teachings again is like crucifying Christ all over.) (Heb 6v1-6)*

In the book of Isaiah, you will find the same teaching:

v28 Whom will he teach knowledge? and whom will he make to understand the message? them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts? For it is precept upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, there a little...

*...that they may go, and **fall backward**, and be broken, and **snared**, and taken. (The "**snare**" talked about here is the **snare of Satan** [Is 59v5]).*

When you "**fall backward**" in life, no matter what form it may take, wouldn't it be nice to fall back on something that will **counsel you**, give you **understanding**, **comfort you**, **encourage you** and **give you hope for the future** instead of something you have heard over and over again that offers no comfort in dealing with the particular situation you are in?

FOUR

*v23 But he that received seed into the good ground is he that **heareth** the word, and **understandeth** it; which also **beareth fruit**, and bringeth forth, some an hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.*

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Those who understand God's Word will reap much fruit in their life.

However, in order to understand God's Word you need to take time to go beyond the "**milk**" and seek out the "**meat**."

This process is explained in Proverbs 2:

Proverbs 2v1 My son, if thou wilt receive my words, and hide my commandments with thee;

v2 So that thou incline thine ear unto wisdom, and apply thine heart to understanding;

v3 Yea, if thou criest after knowledge, and liftest up thy voice for understanding;

v4 If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hid treasures;

v5 Then shalt thou understand the fear (reverence) of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God.

So if you were to "*received The Word,*"
apply your heart (mind) to "*understanding it,*"
crying out for knowledge,"

and "*seek her as you would a treasure,*"
you will, with the help from the Holy Spirit,
"find the knowledge of God."

Once you do this...

....the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you (give you wisdom to understand) all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. John 14:26

In the next chapter, you will see how the

Traditions of Men
have become
The Knowledge of God
for many Christians

**Other Biblical Reference
on
The Importance
of
The Knowledge of God**

Col. 1:9,10 *For this cause, we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire (Desire what?) that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding. (Why? For what purpose? To what end?) That ye may walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and **increasing in the knowledge of God.***

Ho 6:6 *For I desired mercy, and not sacrifice; and the **knowledge of God** more than burnt offerings.*

2Ti 2:15 *Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*

1Co 15:34 *...for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak this to your shame.*

2Tm 4v3 *For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;*

v4 *And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables. (will go to teachers who will tell them what they want to hear; what is pleasing to them as opposed to what should be taught)*

Ho 4v6 *My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge because thou hast rejected knowledge.*

The Knowledge of God

Part 2

The Traditions of Men

In studying God's Word all these years, I realized that a number of things that were taught to me in the past did not line up with the Word of God but rather were **traditions of man** passed down from generation to generation. This may be the reason why so many mysteries were now being opened up to me in my personal study.

Take away what you heard from man and replace it with what you hear from God and a whole new world will open up to you.

For those familiar with God's word, this revelation is nothing new. Fact is, the number one criticism Jesus had with the Pharisees and Sadducees had to do with their constant obsession to follow their own traditions in the place of God's Word.

***Mr. 7:8** For laying aside the commandment of God, **ye hold the tradition of men**, as the washing of pots and cups: and many other such like things ye do.*

v9** And he said unto them, Full well ye reject the commandment of God, **that ye may keep your own tradition.

Their traditions would not only **cancel out** God's word,

*Making the word of God of **none effect through your tradition**, which ye have delivered: and many such like things do ye. (**Mr 7:13**)*

but would often **replace it**:

*The scribes and the Pharisees **sit in Moses' seat**:
(**make their own laws; Moses was the law giver**)
(**Matthew 23:2**)*

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The repeated command by Jesus to the Pharisees and Sadducees to move away from traditions and more towards the Word of God is an example for us today.

However, replacing *truth* with *traditions* is not an easy thing to do. Traditions have been embedded into the Word of God for centuries and most people are not eager to let it go.

Isaiah says this:

Wherefore the Lord said, "Forasmuch as this people draw near Me with their mouth, and with their lips, do honor Me, but have removed their heart far from Me and their reverence toward Me is taught by the precept (laws) of men" (Is 29v13)

As stated in the *Locust Army chapter*, the goal of the Locust Army is to tear down our personal faith and Christian beliefs.

Certainly one way of doing this is to make the word of God of "*none effect through traditions.*" This way one will never know the truth unless they find it out for themselves. This, according to studies, is becoming more and more unlikely for people to do.

Degrees of Traditions

As you can see from *Pro. 30v5-6*, God is not pleased with those who add or take away from His word no matter how big or small it may be. Fortunately, some of the traditions that have been added to God's word are minor in that they do not change the subject matter being discussed.

For example:

- The number of times Christ was tempted in the wilderness: (*Tradition Says: 3 times Fact is: 6 or more*),
 - The number of people crucified with Jesus (*Tradition Says2: Fact is4*),
 - The Birth of Christ (*Tradition Says: December Fact is: September*).
- . . . and there are many more examples.

There are, however, other traditions that go beyond simplistic and step over the line into being *disrespectful* and even *blasphemous* showing *little or no regard* for God's Word at all.

A good example of this is the word *easter* to refer to the most Holy Time of the year,

The word *easter* appears only one time in the bible (*Acts 12v4*) and is a mistranslation. The word *easter* is translated *pascha* in the Greek which should be *Passover*.

Origins of The Word easter

There are a number of different theories on the Origin of the word *easter*. However, most scholars do agree on two things:

1. It is derived from a pagan holiday celebrating the beginning of spring.
2. A pagan goddess was created to represent this occasion.

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Of the many theories given about the word *easter*, two seem to stand out the most:

1. The German spring goddess is Eostre. It is unclear whether she was worshiped or was simply a representation of the beginning of the spring season. With Passover being celebrated at the same time of year, the two somehow merged from the Eostre spring celebration into Easter Passover celebration.

It is amazing how man can so easily switch from a pagan holiday with a pagan goddess into the most scared time of year.
2. Another theory on the origin has to do with the goddess Asherah also called Istar. This is the only one I found to have biblical reference. However, whereas she is referred to in a number of places in God's Word, the connection to the word *easter* is not biblically clear.

Much like Eostre, the goddess Asherah was originally set up to honor spring, *"the beginning of new life."*

Soon, however, it went from being the origin of new life to becoming a corrupt procreation and fertility ceremony.

Each spring, the pagans would set up phallic poles called Asherahs under trees on high hills and celebrate their fertility festival with unbridled sexual perversion.

When the Israelites started to incorporate this into their worship, God was provoked to anger: (*1 Kings 14:15,22-23*)

In *Exodus 34:13 and Deuteronomy 12:3*, the Israelites were commanded to destroy the Asherah poles.

Even Solomon himself succumbed to her voluptuous worship
(*1 Kings 11:5; 2Kings23v13*)

The motivation of women to worship Ashtoreth stemmed from the reputation she had as a fertility goddess, and, as the bearing of children was greatly desired among women of that era, the worship of this “*queen of heaven*” was rampant among pagan civilizations. (*Jer 7v18*)

Soon eggs and the bunny rabbit were brought in as signs of fertility.

Like Eostre, Asherahs or Ishtar somehow merged with Passover to form what is now call *easter*.

~

Whatever the origin of *easter* may be,
truth is . . .

the origin doesn't really matter.

Passover is the most sacred time of year for Christians. It is when Christ died on the cross for us and became our *Passover* (*1 Corinthians 5:7*), so that upon repentance, death passes over us and we go from death to life.

Shouldn't this most holy time be called *what it really is* rather than what *man thinks it should be*?

Wouldn't it show a total *lack of respect* to Christ for what He went through and for what His death represents to call it anything else other than Passover?

Calling Passover *easter* out of ignorance is understandable.

Calling Passover *easter* out of indifference *is not*.

The Crucifixion of Christ

Another topic that steps over the line from simple traditions into the area of indifference and even borderline blasphemous is the timing of the Last Supper and Crucifixion of Christ.

When one commemorates an important event, obviously it is imperative that the day of the event be correct in order to show **respect** for the occasion.

For example, we don't honor the veterans who died at Pearl Harbor on **December 10th, 1941**. This would be disrespectful and show a total disregard for the event and for the people who died in it.

The same could be said about the tragedy at the **World Trade Center**. Would it not be disrespectful to the ones who died and to the relatives and survivors to remember this day on **September 15th** instead of **September 11th**?

That being said, are not certain sacred events in **Gods' Word** such as the **Last Supper** and the **Crucifixion of Jesus** just as important as any other event to remember?

Shouldn't they also be observed at the proper time?

If so, why do we seem to dismiss or trivialized this event to a point where we just accept mans' version of when it took place instead of remembering it on the actual days it happened?

~

When I was a teenager I remember having a question about this very topic.

It was on a "good Friday" after church service when I decided to see the pastor. I walked into the rectory and after some small talk I nervously asked him the question. It was a simple question and in fact I was a little embarrassed to even ask.

"Christ rose from the dead after spending 3 days in the tomb, I said. "How is it three day from Friday to Sunday?"

He paused for a moment. He then said:

"Well, let's see, Friday, Saturday, and then, He rose on Sunday. Three days,"he said.

Back when I was a kid, pastors were considered to be **extremely holy** — without a doubt, direct messengers of God. There was no way I was going to question him any further. After all, he spent years in school to be a pastor.

"Oh," I said. "Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Yeah...yeah, I see. Why didn't I think of that. Friday, Saturday and rose on Sunday. Now I get it."

Well, I didn't get it. If Christ was buried just before the evening hours on Friday and raised early Sunday morning, that's not three days.

However, I simply did what many people do; trust in man's word and leave it at that. After all, he was a Pastor, and Pastors couldn't be wrong.

Two Important Points

To understand the time frame of the The Crucifixion, one must first understand the following:

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1. There were two Sabbaths the week Jesus died on the cross; the High Sabbath, which was Passover, and the regular Sabbath which was on Saturday according to the Jewish calendar.
2. The Jews considered a day to be from sunset to sunset as opposed to a set 24 hour day.

The Week of The Crucifixion

The following is a brief outline with documentation of the events during that week:

- The week of the Last Supper and Crucifixion occurred on the *Week of Nisan*, which is a feast celebrating the beginning of spring season and which usually occurs 15 days after the Spring equinox. Nisan is considered the first day of the Jewish year.
- The Last Supper was eaten on *Tuesday* of that week *after sunset* which would be the beginning of *Wednesday*. (*Matt 26v26-29 and others*)
- The agony in the garden and the trials took place throughout the evening. (*Matt 26: 36-46 and others*)
- Christ was Crucified *Sunrise on Wednesday* (9:00 am). (*Mk 15v25-26*)
- They buried Him just *before sunset* on *Wednesday* as to Jewish law. (*Matt 27:57-66*)
- From sunset *Wednesday* to sunset *Thursday* is *one day*: From sunset *Thursday* to sunset *Friday* is *two days*: From sunset *Friday* to sunset *Saturday* is *three days*.

Christ rose sometime Saturday night.

Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early the first day of the week which would be on a **Sunday** according to Jewish calendar. (*John 20v1*)

So, the Last Supper actually takes place on a
Tuesday, not **Thursday**,

the Crucifixion on **Wednesday**, not **Friday**
and

the resurrection sometime **Saturday night**, not **Sunday**
(to be celebrated on Sunday)

Deciphering Traditions From Truth

The best way to decipher **Traditions** from **Truth** is to **NOT** trust this "man" or that one, or any other person with Gods' word.

Check things out for yourself.

That's not to say we shouldn't use resources written or spoken by man to help us study. However, once you do, always go back to the Bible and document what was said from not one scripture, but several scriptures to lock in the truth. Be it one day or seven; be it one hour or two; is not your soul worth spending some time in Gods' word? After all...

...what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? (Matthew 16:26)

Never a Better Time

In the book of Daniel, Daniel prophesied that in the end times **"knowledge shall increase."** (Dan 12v4).

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Well, these are the "End Times" and Daniel was certainly right about knowledge increasing.

From the internet to the abundance of resources available to search for Truth in God's Word, there has never been a better time to find those hidden mysteries Jesus talked about in the Gospels.

In the 35 years of studying God's word I have used a number resources and methods to decipher Traditions from Truth. I have some suggestions that were helpful to me and may be to you:

1. Strongs Concordance

The *Strongs Concordance* is a resource used in conjunction with the *King James Bibles* that defines every word in the bible from the original Greek (New Testament) or original Hebrew (Old Testament) manuscripts from which it was written. It can be bought in book form or downloaded for free in PDF form from the internet.

This is an invaluable tool in understanding those words that don't seem logical in its context.

2. Greek and Hebrew Interlinear Bible

Another good resource to is the *Greek and Hebrew Interlinear bible*. It is the original manuscript translated in English helping you to uncover the original meaning of a passage or word. It can be downloaded for free on the internet.

3. App

There are a number of bible Apps. Two that I use are *Olive Leaf* and *Unbound Bible*. *Olive Leaf* has a number of different bible translations which is good for deciphering difficult passages.

The *Unbound Bible* app is a quick, simple reference app that has both the bible plus a *Strongs Concordance* all in one.

4. The Companion Bible

Without a doubt the best study bible written is the *Companion Bible by the Bible scholar, E.W. Bullinger*. It not only contains invaluable resource information within the reading text itself, but also includes an additional 194 in-depth studies on a variety of subjects. It can be bought in book stores or downloaded online at no cost.

Conclusion

Col 2:8

***Beware lest any man spoil you
through philosophy (Grk: use of fallacious arguments)
and vain deceit,
after the tradition of men,
after the rudiments of the world,
and not after Christ.***