

## “Understanding of the Times”

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### INTRODUCTION

David’s ascendancy as King of Israel had just begun (I Chr. 11:1-3), since Saul had died (I Chr. 10:1-14), Jerusalem was conquered (I Chr. 11:4-9), and the tribes of Israel aligned with him (I Chr. 11:10-12:40). As these events began to unfold, the Scripture states, “*And of the children of Issachar, which were men that had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do; the heads of them were two hundred; and all their brethren were at their commandment*” (I Chr. 12:32). Jacob had predicted that Issachar’s descendants would be strong and desirous of rest in the good land (Gen. 49:14-15). The “rest” (*menuchah*) that they desired was that which Jehovah promised about the land of Canaan to the nation of Israel (Dt. 12:9). It was also the rest which He denied to the rebels in the wilderness (Ps. 95:11; cf. Heb. 3:11-19). Moreover, it was the rest that the LORD gave Solomon (I Ki. 8:56) pre-figuring the Millennial rest that the earth would enjoy under the Messiah (Isa. 11:1-10). Therefore, the children of Issachar applied their understanding of Jehovah’s overarching plan for His creation around His chosen people (Ex. 19:5; Dt. 7:6) to their “*sitz im leben,*” and recognized God’s theological and chronological plan of Israel.

### BIBLICAL TEMPLATE

In order for man to have an “*understanding of the times,*” he must take the theological and chronological template of Scripture and apply it to his immediate temporal setting. The theological aspect of the biblical template finds parameters based on the Seed Promise and the Land Promise given to mankind through the Jews. Jehovah promised that the woman’s seed would bruise the head of the serpent’s seed, predicting the coming Messiah and His ultimate victory over the Devil (Gen. 3:15; Isa. 7:14; Mt. 1:23; I Tim. 3:16; Heb. 2:14; Rev. 19:20; 20:10). This predicted conflict between Messiah and Anti-Messiah through the ages would intensify to the point of worldwide rebellion (Gen. 11:1-9; II Tim. 3:1 ff.; I Jn. 4:3) before judgment and ultimate defeat (Rev. 6-19).

The chronological aspect of the biblical template finds fulfillment in the predicted “*seventy weeks*” of Daniel’s prophecy (Dan. 9:24-27; 12:11-12). The prophet predicted that a total 490 years would relate to Jehovah’s dealing with His chosen people, culminating in “*Jacob’s trouble*” (Jer. 30:7). From the time of the rebuilding the Second Temple (445 BC) to the Cross (AD 30) some 483 years would elapse. The LORD revealed that an interval would occur historically between the 483 years and the last 7 years (Tribulation) of Daniel’s prophecy. During this time the Messiah would be crucified and the Second Temple destroyed along with Jerusalem (Mt. 24:1-3). The NT revealed that two other events would have to occur during the interval, namely the death of Peter (Jn. 21:18-19) and the completion of the biblical canon (I Cor. 13:8-10). Since all four prophesied events have occurred in the first century, the next theological and chronological event in the divine template for an “*understanding of the times*” will be the catching away (“Rapture”) of NT saints (I Thes. 4:13-18) which will initiate the appearance of the Anti-Christ (II Thes. 2:3-12). He will make a seven-year covenant with Israel during which time of “peace” the Anti-Christ will allow the Jews to build their Third Temple on the

temple mount, presently occupied by the Muslims. Satan has vested interest in this Third Temple since he wants to usurp Christ’s worship by the chosen people in the Temple (II Thes. 2:4; Rev. 6:1-2; Rev. 11:1-13; Rev. 12:12-17).

### APPLICATION

In 2017, the student of the Bible has the potential of “*understanding of the times*” by recognizing that the Lord’s eternal plan relates to His chosen people (Jews) in His chosen city (Jerusalem) in His chosen land (Israel). The world’s setting will increase in global rebellion, monetary chaos, theological pantheism (occultism), political hypocrisy, and national militarism. At the center of all this will be extreme anti-Semitism focusing on the obliteration of anything Jewish, including the people, the land, and the city of Jerusalem. The world increasingly will look for a “messiah” to deliver from the ultimate “nuclear option” of self-destruction. He will come! For the unbeliever, he will be the Anti-Messiah. For the Christian, He will be the biblical Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ. The Anti-Christ will be revealed immediately after the biblical Messiah returns for His saints who “*shall be caught up*” in the Rapture. For the reader, preparation must be made spiritually through repentance of sin and reception of Christ (the New Birth) in order to be ready for the coming true Messiah. Paul concluded saying, “*For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: <sup>21</sup> Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself*” (Phil. 3:20-21).

### CONTEMPORARY QUOTES

1. “On December 1, 2016, outgoing President Barack Obama signed his last presidential waiver prohibiting the relocation of the Embassy of the United States of America from Tel Aviv to Israel’s capital, Jerusalem. Israel is the only country in the world where the US Embassy is not situated in the capital, close to the center of governmental affairs.” **“Mr. Trump, move that Embassy,” *Israel My Glory*, (March-April 2017), p. 6.**

2. “Eyeing what appears to be a twice-in-history opportunity, the organization called the Sanhedrin has called on U.S. president-elect Donald Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin to join forces and back the rebuilding of the Jewish Temple in Jerusalem. The Sanhedrin is an attempt to renew the glorious Great Court of the same name from the last Jewish kingdom, some 2,000 years ago.

Prof. Rabbi Hillel Weiss, spokesman for the Sanhedrin, said, ‘The political conditions today, in which the two most important national leaders in the world support the Jewish right to Jerusalem as their spiritual inheritance, is historically unprecedented.’

He said that the election of Donald Trump, who has promised to recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, coupled with Putin’s expressed desire for the Temple’s rebuilding, prompted the Sanhedrin to send a letter to both leaders. The letter proposes that they act jointly as did King Cyrus of Persia 2,500 years ago and show most practically that they recognize the importance of Israel and the Holy Temple. ‘We are poised to rebuild the Temple,’ Weiss said.

Trump's support for Israel, and for the relocation of the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem, is well-known, and many of his close aides are similarly strong supporters of Israel. Less well-known is Putin's support for the Holy Temple. As the Sanhedrin writes in its letter, Putin paid a late-night visit to the Kotel (Western Wall) in 2012, during his third official trip to Jerusalem. Upon his arrival, the former KGB agent who became the leader of Russia stood in silent prayer for several minutes, after which he read Psalms from a Russian-Hebrew prayer book. At one point, an Israeli bystander called out in Russian, ‘Welcome, President Putin.’ Putin then approached the man, who explained the importance of the Temple Mount and the Jewish Temple. Putin reportedly responded, ‘That’s exactly the reason I came here – to pray for the Temple to be built again.’”  
[www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/220289](http://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/220289)

3. “Tuesday on *TruNews*, Pastor Rodney Howard-Browne, founder of Revival Ministries International, told host Rick Wiles he believes Donald Trump is the New World Order's ‘worst nightmare.’

Howard-Browne has endorsed the Republican Party front-runner. In discussing his choice, he said he believed the billionaire's candidacy has thrown ‘the hold of the global agenda’ out of sync. He then read from a statement he made Monday:

‘Coming from outside America—and having become citizens of the USA—we see things a little differently. We see it from a global perspective; from what is happening globally. We know that the Bible tells us that the devil's end-time plan is a one-world religion, one-world money system and one-world government—a ‘New World Order.’ This is a plan that threatens every freedom we have and hold dear.

‘Christianity and the Bible is a threat to this global plan. So is anyone who thinks for themselves. The American Constitution—the document that made America the great nation it is—stands in the way of this global agenda. This is why it has been under attack—from our own president, and others, on down. We realize that it is the New World Order's Agenda to destroy the United States.’”

<http://www.charismanews.com/politics/primaries/55914-charismatic-pastor-donald-trump>

## I. THEOLOGICAL TEMPLATE

### A. The Seed Promise

1. “*And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and **her seed**; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel*” (Gen. 3:15). The seed of the serpent (not baby snakes but the Antichrist) will hate the seed of the woman (the Lord Jesus Christ) and receive the permanent bruising as Christ will receive the temporary bruising, both occurring on the cross. The culmination of the “spirit of Antichrist” will occur when he and the false prophet are cast into the Lake of Fire (Rev. 19:20).

2. “*And Adam knew Eve his wife; and she conceived, and bare Cain, and said, **I have gotten a man from the LORD**” (Gen. 4:1) and “*And Adam knew his wife again; and she bare a son, and called his name Seth: For**

God, said she, ***hath appointed me another seed*** instead of Abel, whom Cain slew” (Gen. 4:25).<sup>1</sup> Eve thought her firstborn Cain was Jehovah incarnate in the flesh, then she thought it was Abel, and then Seth. Women had the expectation to having the male child who would be the Messiah.<sup>2</sup>

3. “And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing” (Gen. 12:2), “And the LORD appeared unto Abram, and said, Unto thy seed will I give this land: and there builded he an altar unto the LORD, who appeared unto him” (Gen. 12:7), and “And Abram said, Behold, to me thou hast given no seed: and, lo, one born in my house is mine heir. And, behold, the word of the LORD came unto him, saying, This shall not be thine heir; but he that shall come forth out of thine own bowels shall be thine heir” (Gen. 15:3-4). The promised seed would come through Abraham even though he and Sarai were childless at this time. Abraham received the divine covenantal promise that he would have a great nation in the Promised Land.

4. “And he said, I will certainly return unto thee according to the time of life; and, lo, Sarah thy wife shall have a son. And Sarah heard it in the tent door, which was behind him. Now Abraham and Sarah were old and well stricken in age; and it ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. Therefore Sarah laughed within herself, saying, After I am waxed old shall I have pleasure, my lord being old also?” (Gen. 18:10-12). The LORD promised the seed line to and through the aged couple.

5. “And God said, Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed; and thou shalt call his name Isaac: and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his seed after him. And as for Ishmael, I have heard thee: Behold, I have blessed him, and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly; twelve princes shall he beget, and I will make him a great nation. But my covenant will I establish with Isaac, which Sarah shall bear unto thee at this set time in the next year” (Gen. 17:19-21). Jehovah promised an everlasting covenant to the promised offspring of the seed promise who was named Isaac (“laughter” [Gen. 18:12]). Ishmael, on the other hand, was the ancestor of the Arabic people who eventually embraced the teachings of Mohammad (AD 570-632) written in the Koran and becoming Islamic or Moslems.

6. “And God said unto Abraham, Let it not be grievous in thy sight because of the lad, and because of thy bondwoman; in all that Sarah hath said unto thee, hearken unto her voice; for in Isaac shall thy seed be called” (Gen. 21:12; Rom. 9:7; Heb. 11:18). The seed promise would find fulfillment through Isaac.

7. “And Isaac intreated the LORD for his wife, because she was barren: and the LORD was intreated of him, and Rebekah his wife conceived. And the children struggled together within her; and she said, If it be so, why am I thus? And she went to enquire of the LORD. And the LORD said unto her, Two nations are in thy womb,

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<sup>1</sup>Cain cut the throat of Abel, as John revealed with the verb “slew” (σφάζω *sphazo*), saying, “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” (I Jn. 3:12).

<sup>2</sup>Until Mary was impregnated by the Holy Ghost (Lk. 1:35), “the desire of women” (Dan. 11:37) was to have a son through a Jewish man. Matthew recorded the Lord’s physical lineage through four women, namely Tamar, Rahab, Ruth and Bathsheba (Mt. 1:3-6).

and two manner of people shall be separated from thy bowels; and the one people shall be stronger than the other people; and the elder shall serve the younger” (Gen. 25:21-23), and “Neither, because they are the seed of Abraham, are they all children: but, In Isaac shall thy seed be called. That is, They which are the children of the flesh, these are not the children of God: but the children of the promise are counted for the seed. For this is the word of promise, At this time will I come, and Sara shall have a son. And not only this; but when Rebecca also had conceived by one, even by our father Isaac; (For the children being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth;) It was said unto her, The elder shall serve the younger. As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated” (Rom. 9:7-13). Again, the seed promise went from Abraham to Isaac to Jacob.

8. “And, behold, the LORD stood above it, and said, I am the LORD God of Abraham thy father, and the God of Isaac: the land whereon thou liest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed; And thy seed shall be as the dust of the earth, and thou shalt spread abroad to the west, and to the east, and to the north, and to the south: and in thee and in thy seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed” (Gen. 28:13-14). In Jacob’s dream of the ladder the LORD promised the land of Canaan to Jacob’s seed which would become numerous.

9. “And Jacob rose up from Beersheba: and the sons of Israel carried Jacob their father, and their little ones, and their wives, in the wagons which Pharaoh had sent to carry him. And they took their cattle, and their goods, which they had gotten in the land of Canaan, and came into Egypt, Jacob, and all his seed with him: His sons, and his sons’ sons with him, his daughters, and his sons’ daughters, and all his seed brought he with him into Egypt” (Gen. 46:5-7). Jacob left Beersheba, the southern part of the land of Israel, to go to Egypt with all of his seed to meet Joseph.

10. “And Jacob said unto Joseph, God Almighty appeared unto me at Luz in the land of Canaan, and blessed me, And said unto me, Behold, I will make thee fruitful, and multiply thee, and I will make of thee a multitude of people; and will give this land to thy seed after thee for an everlasting possession” (Gen. 48:3-4). Jacob revealed to Joseph that the land of Canaan was God’s gift of everlasting possession for the seed of Jacob, the Israelites!

11. “Judah, thou art he whom thy brethren shall praise: thy hand shall be in the neck of thine enemies; thy father’s children shall bow down before thee. Judah is a lion’s whelp: from the prey, my son, thou art gone up: he stooped down, he couched as a lion, and as an old lion; who shall rouse him up? The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be” (Gen. 49:8-10) and “And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof” (Rev. 5:5). From the tribe of Judah<sup>3</sup> would come *Shiloh* (שִׁילֹה), the Messiah. *Shiloh* would be the nation’s King and Lawgiver (Mt. 21:5 and Isa. 33:22; Jam. 4:12, respectively).

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<sup>3</sup>The name “Jew” derives from the Medieval Latin *Iudaeus* (for Judah) after the “d” dropped out. Many hate the name “Jew” because the spirit of Antichrist motivates this hatred towards the One coming from the Tribe of Judah.

12. *“And the LORD said unto Moses, Depart, and go up hence, thou and the people which thou hast brought up out of the land of Egypt, unto the land which I swore unto Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, Unto thy seed will I give it”* (Ex. 33:1). Moses was to lead the children of Israel, the seed promise, into the Promised Land.

13. *“And I took your father Abraham from the other side of the flood, and led him throughout all the land of Canaan, and multiplied his seed, and gave him Isaac. And I gave unto Isaac Jacob and Esau: and I gave unto Esau mount Seir, to possess it; but Jacob and his children went down into Egypt. I sent Moses also and Aaron, and I plagued Egypt, according to that which I did among them: and afterward I brought you out. And I brought your fathers out of Egypt: and ye came unto the sea; and the Egyptians pursued after your fathers with chariots and horsemen unto the Red sea. And when they cried unto the LORD, he put darkness between you and the Egyptians, and brought the sea upon them, and covered them; and your eyes have seen what I have done in Egypt: and ye dwelt in the wilderness a long season. And I brought you into the land of the Amorites, which dwelt on the other side Jordan; and they fought with you: and I gave them into your hand, that ye might possess their land; and I destroyed them from before you”* (Josh. 24:3-8). Joshua recounted the divine plan for the seed promise to be in the Promised Land, by rehearsing the miracles of the Ten Plagues and the Red Sea deliverance.

14. *“And when thy days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build an house for my name, and I will stablish the throne of his kingdom for ever. I will be his father, and he shall be my son. If he commit iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men, and with the stripes of the children of men: But my mercy shall not depart away from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away before thee. And thine house and thy kingdom shall be established for ever before thee: thy throne shall be established for ever”* (II Sam. 7:12-16). The Lord promised David that the seed promise would be fulfilled through his progeny, namely Solomon the Temple builder and descendents, culminating with the Messiah reigning forever in the Davidic dynasty.

15. *“So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations; and from David until the carrying away into Babylon are fourteen generations; and from the carrying away into Babylon unto Christ are fourteen generations. Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a publick example, was minded to put her away privily. But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins”* (Mt. 1:17-21). Matthew summarized the lineage of the seed promise through Abraham to David through David’s royal descendents including “*Jechonias and his brethren*” to Joseph and Mary, culminating in the virgin conceived son, Jesus of Nazareth.

16. *“For thus saith the LORD of hosts; Yet once, it is a little while, and I will shake the heavens, and the earth, and the sea, and the dry land; And I will shake all nations, and **the desire of all nations** shall come: and I will*

*fill this house with glory, saith the LORD of hosts” (Hag. 2:6-7). The world since Adam has been looking for the Messiah, “the desire of all nations.”*

## **B. The Land Promise**

1. *“And God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let **the dry land** appear: and it was so. And God called the **dry land Earth**; and the gathering together of the waters called he Seas: and God saw that it was good” (Gen. 1:9-10). The LORD gave form to earth and created land so that the Land Promise could be fulfilled.*

2. *“And it came to pass in the six hundredth and first year, in the first month, the first day of the month, the waters were dried up from off **the earth**: and Noah removed the covering of the ark, and looked, and, behold, the face of **the ground was dry**. And in the second month, on the seven and twentieth day of the month, was **the earth dried**. And God spake unto Noah, saying, Go forth of the ark, thou, and thy wife, and thy sons, and thy sons' wives with thee. Bring forth with thee every living thing that is with thee, of all flesh, both of fowl, and of cattle, and of every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth; that they may breed abundantly in the earth, and be fruitful, and multiply **upon the earth**” (Gen. 8:13-17). After the world-wide flood God dried the land and commanded Noah to reproduce on the earth. Shem would be son through whom the Seed and Land Promises would find fulfillment.*

3. *“And Terah took Abram his son, and Lot the son of Haran his son's son, and Sarai his daughter in law, his son Abram's wife; and they went forth with them from Ur of the Chaldees, **to go into the land of Canaan**; and they came unto Haran, and dwelt there. And the days of Terah were two hundred and five years: and Terah died in Haran. Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, **unto a land that I will shew thee**” (Gen. 11:31-12:1). The LORD instructed Abram to go to the Promised Land. Abraham came from Eber who came from Shem (Gen. 10:21; 11:17 ff.).*

4. *“And the LORD said unto Abram, after that Lot was separated from him, Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art northward, and southward, and eastward, and westward: For **all the land** which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for ever. And I will make thy seed as the dust of the earth: so that if a man can number the dust of the earth, then shall thy seed also be numbered. Arise, walk through **the land** in the length of it and in the breadth of it; for I will give it unto thee” (Gen. 13:14-17), and “In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given **this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates**” (Gen. 15:18). The Promised Land extended from the Nile River on the south to the Euphrates on the north. All of this territory was given by Jehovah for the Jews forever. Ishmael's progeny has no claim!*

5. *“And **the field of Ephron**, which was in **Machpelah**, which was **before Mamre, the field, and the cave** which was therein, and all the trees that were in the field, that were in all the borders round about, were made sure Unto Abraham for a possession in the presence of the children of Heth, before all that went in at the gate of his city. And after this, Abraham buried Sarah his wife in **the cave of the field of Machpelah before Mamre: the***

*same is Hebron in the land of Canaan. And the field, and the cave that is therein, were made sure unto Abraham for a possession of a buryingplace by the sons of Heth*” (Gen. 23:17-20), and “*There they buried Abraham and Sarah his wife; there they buried Isaac and Rebekah his wife; and there I buried Leah. The purchase of **the field and of the cave that is therein** was from the children of Heth*” (Gen. 49:31-32), and “*For his sons carried him into **the land of Canaan**, and buried him in **the cave of the field of Machpelah**, which Abraham bought with the field for a possession of a buryingplace of Ephron the Hittite, before Mamre*” (Gen. 50:13), and “*And Joseph said unto his brethren, I die: and God will surely visit you, and bring you out of this land unto **the land which he sware to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob**. And Joseph took an oath of the children of Israel, saying, God will surely visit you, and ye shall carry up my bones from hence. So Joseph died, being an hundred and ten years old: and they embalmed him, and he was put in a coffin in Egypt*” (Gen. 50:24-26). The patriarchs so recognized that the land of Canaan was the Promised Land that they insisted on burial in the land.

6. “*I have set **the land** before you: go in and **possess the land** which the LORD sware unto your fathers, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give unto them and to their seed after them*” (Dt. 1:8; *et al*). Numerous times the LORD challenged the Jews to go into the Promised Land that He had given them to possess it.

7. “*But when ye go over Jordan, and dwell in **the land which the LORD your God giveth you to inherit**, and when he giveth you rest from all your enemies round about, so that ye dwell in safety*” (Dt. 12:10). He gave the Promised Land to the Jews for rest. Joshua from the Tribe of Ephraim from Jacob claimed the Promised Land for the Jews.

8. “*And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their substance that they had gathered, and the souls that they had gotten in Haran; and they went forth to go into **the land of Canaan**; and into the land of Canaan they came* (Gen. 12:5). The Promised Land was the land of Canaan, but became the Land of Israel.

9. “*Now there was no smith found throughout all **the land of Israel**: for the Philistines said, Lest the Hebrews make them swords or spears*” (I Sam. 13:19) and “*Yea, and what have ye to do with me, O Tyre, and Zidon, and all **the coasts of Palestine**? will ye render me a recompence? and if ye recompense me, swiftly and speedily will I return your recompence upon your own head*” (Joel 3:4). The Land of Israel as the Promised Land was distinct from Philistia or “Palestine.”<sup>4</sup>

10. “*Also, thou son of man, thus saith the Lord GOD unto **the land of Israel**; An end, the end is come upon the four corners of the land*” (Ezk. 7:2). The LORD temporarily removed the Jews from the Land of Israel during the Babylonian captivity.

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<sup>4</sup>The conspiracy to disassociate the Jews from Jehovah’s divine Land Promise was cautioned by Asaph and accomplished by the Romans in the second century. The psalmist bemoaned, saying, “*They have said, Come, and let us cut them off from being a nation; that the name of Israel may be no more in remembrance*” (Ps. 83:4). “Palestine” has become the replacement name for the Land of Israel, and the Arabic *Al Quds* (“the holy”) for the city of Jerusalem.



11. “In the visions of God brought he me into **the land of Israel**, and set me upon a very high mountain, by which was as the frame of a city on the south” (Ezk. 40:2). The LORD gave Ezekiel a vision of the future millennial Land of Israel.

12. “So shall ye divide **this land** unto you according to the tribes of Israel” (Ezk. 47:21) and “This is **the land** which ye shall divide by lot unto **the tribes of Israel** for **inheritance**, and these are their portions, saith the Lord GOD” (Ezk. 48:29). The Promised Land will be divided for the Twelve Tribes of Israel to inherit.

12. “And he arose, and took **the young child** and his mother, and came into **the land of Israel**. But when he heard that Archelaus did reign in Judaea in the room of his father Herod, he was afraid to go thither: notwithstanding, being warned of God in a dream, he turned aside into the parts of Galilee: And he came and dwelt in **a city called Nazareth**: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, He shall be called **a Nazarene**” (Mt. 2:21-23). The Seed Promise (Jesus) ended up in the Promised Land (city of Nazareth) as the OT prophets had preached.

### C. The City of Jerusalem

1. “And Melchizedek king of **Salem** brought forth bread and wine: and he was the priest of the most high God” (Gen. 14:18; cf. also Heb. 7:1, 2) and “In **Salem** also is his tabernacle, and his dwelling place in Zion” (Ps. 76:2). The revelation about Jerusalem, the most important city in human history, was slow but steady.

2. “And the border went up by the valley of the son of Hinnom unto the south side of the **Jebusite; the same is Jerusalem**: and the border went up to the top of the mountain that lieth before the valley of Hinnom westward, which is at the end of the valley of the giants northward” (Josh 15:8). The Canaanite name for the city of Jerusalem was “Jebus” (= “threshing place”). “Jerusalem”<sup>5</sup> means “city of peace” and occurs 811x (from Josh. 10:1 to Rev. 21:10).

3. “And the king and his men went to **Jerusalem** unto the Jebusites, the inhabitants of the land: which spake unto David, saying, Except thou take away the blind and the lame, thou shalt not come in hither: thinking, David cannot come in hither. Nevertheless David took **the strong hold of Zion**: the same is **the city of David**” (II Sam. 5:6-7; cf. Jdg. 1:8). David finally captured the city of Jerusalem, Zion, the city of David, permanently.

4. “For I will gather all nations against **Jerusalem** to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city” (Zech. 14:2) and “And **the great city** was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell: and great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath” (Rev. 16:19). Jerusalem will be the final and only city standing at the end of the Tribulation.

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<sup>5</sup>Significantly, the noun Jerusalem (יְרוּשָׁלַיִם) *Jerushalayim* has the rare dual ending (*ayim*), denoting the duality of the city of Jerusalem, both the earthly and the heavenly city (Gal. 4:25-26)!

5. “And I John saw the holy city, **new Jerusalem**, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband” (Rev. 21:2). All saints from all ages will have as their eternal heavenly home the New Jerusalem.

#### D. The Temple

1. “And the LORD God planted **a garden** eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed” (Gen. 2:8) and “So he drove out the man; and he placed at the **east** of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life” (Gen. 3:24). God met with man first of all in the Garden of Eden. The eastern direction prepared for the gate of entrance into the Tabernacle and Temple (Num. 3:38; Ezk. 43:1-2).

2. “And let them make me a **sanctuary**; that I may dwell among them. According to all that I shew thee, after the pattern of the **tabernacle**, and the pattern of all the instruments thereof, even so shall ye make it” (Ex. 25:8-9) and “And look that thou make them after their pattern, which was shewed thee in the mount” (Ex. 25:40). “Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such an high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens; A minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man” (Heb. 8:1-2). The Lord instructed Moses to build the Tabernacle after the heavenly pattern of “the true tabernacle.”

3. “Then a cloud covered the tent of the congregation, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. And Moses was not able to enter into the tent of the congregation, because the cloud abode thereon, and **the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.**” (Ex.40:34-35). The Lord authenticated His place of meeting in the Tabernacle with the Jews.

4. “And he said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into **the land of Moriah**; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of” (Gen. 22:2). Jehovah revealed to Abraham that the location of ultimate worship would be Mount Moriah.

5. “But when ye go over Jordan, and dwell **in the land** which the LORD your God giveth you to inherit, and when he giveth you rest from all your enemies round about, so that ye dwell in safety; Then there shall be **a place** which the LORD your God shall choose to cause his name to dwell there; thither shall ye bring all that I command you; your burnt offerings, and your sacrifices, your tithes, and the heave offering of your hand, and all your choice vows which ye vow unto the LORD” (Dt. 12:10-11). The LORD promised Moses that He would show the Israelites His required “place” of worship in Canaan.<sup>6</sup>

6. “Then the angel of the LORD commanded Gad to say to David, that David should go up, and set up an altar unto the LORD in the threshingfloor of Ornan the Jebusite...Then David said to Ornan, Grant me **the place** of

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<sup>6</sup>Later, Jeroboam changed the place to Bethel and Dan, laying foundation for Mt. Gerizim in Samaria (I Ki. 12:25-29).

*this threshingfloor, that I may build an altar therein unto the LORD: thou shalt grant it me for the full price: that the plague may be stayed from the people.”* (I Chr. 21:18, 22). The Angel of the LORD revealed to David the place for the altar which was on Ornan’s threshingfloor.

7. “*And it came to pass in **the four hundred and eightieth year** after the children of Israel were come out of the land of Egypt, in the fourth year of Solomon's reign over Israel, in the month Zif, which is the second month, that he began to build the house of the LORD”* (I Ki. 6:1) and “*Then Solomon began to build the house of the LORD at Jerusalem in **mount Moriah**, where the LORD appeared unto David his father, in **the place** that David had prepared in the threshingfloor of Ornan the Jebusite”* (II Chr. 3:1). So significant in human history was the construction of the LORD’s Temple that it was dated relative to the great Red Sea deliverance miracle. In 967-966 BC, Solomon built his Temple in the exact location of Mount Moriah as the LORD had required. In all of God’s creation, there was only one place from where He wanted the Jews to worship him, in Jebus (Jerusalem), in Ornan’s threshingfloor, on Mount Moriah. The Jews call this sacred site the **Temple Mount** whereas the Muslims call it **Haram al-Sharif** (“the noble sanctuary”).

8. “*In the second year of Darius the king, in the sixth month, in the first day of the month, came the word of the LORD by Haggai the prophet unto Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, saying, Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, This people say, The time is not come, the time that **the LORD'S house** should be built...And the LORD stirred up the spirit of Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and the spirit of Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, and the spirit of all the remnant of the people; and they came and did work in **the house of the LORD of hosts, their God”*** (Hag. 1:1-2, 14). Under the leadership of builder Zerubbabel and high priest Joshua the Jews rebuilt the Second Temple in the same location as the Solomonic Temple.

9. “*And he taught daily in **the temple**. But the chief priests and the scribes and the chief of the people sought to destroy him”* (Lk. 19:47) and “***O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not! Behold, **your house** is left unto you desolate.***” (Mt. 23:37-38). Later the Lord Jesus Christ worshipped in the Zerubbabel-Herod Temple and finally condemned the city Jerusalem and the Temple.

10. “*And there was given me a reed like unto a rod: and the angel stood, saying, Rise, and measure **the temple of God**, and the altar, and them that worship therein. But the court which is without **the temple** leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under foot forty and two months”* (Rev. 11:1-2)<sup>7</sup> and “*Afterward he brought me to the temple, and measured the posts, six cubits broad on the one side, and six cubits broad on the other side, which was the breadth of the tabernacle”* (Ezk. 41:1). There will be two more earthly Temples for the Jews, the Tribulation Temple and the Millennial Temple.

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<sup>7</sup>Cf. what the Lord and Paul said, respectively: “*When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in **the holy place**, (whoso readeth, let him understand:)*” (Mt. 24:15) and “*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”* (II Thes. 2:4).

11. “*And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. And I John saw the holy city, **new Jerusalem**, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, **the tabernacle of God** is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.*” (Rev. 21:1-3). The final heavenly home for all saints will be the glorious New Jerusalem, the true Tabernacle, the Holiest of Holies.

## **E. The Lies of the Garden**

1. “*And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was **very good**. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day*” (Gen. 1:31). By the end of the Sixth Day of Creation all was good and there was no sin.

2. “*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!*” (Isa. 14:12) and “*Not **a novice**, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil*” (I Tim. 3:6). Quickly after the Sixth Day Lucifer sinned and tempted Adam and Eve.

3. “*Now the **serpent** was more subtil than any beast of the field which the **LORD** God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And the woman said unto the **serpent**, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: 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*” (Gen. 3:1-3). Satan through the serpent tempted the first couple with his theological tenets.

4. “*And the serpent said unto the woman, **Ye shall not surely die**: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and **ye shall be as gods**, knowing good and evil*” (Gen. 3:4-5). These tenets are the deathlessness of man (> reincarnation) and the deification (> humanism) of man. The supposed “deification” of Lucifer and of Adam and Eve opened the door to the world view of pantheism, which prepared for Plato’s “universalism,” which led to the Patristics’ “catholicity,” which led to “globalism,” which leads to the One World Order, including the One World Government, the One World Currency, and the One World Religion.

5. “*Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some **shall depart from the faith**, giving heed to **seducing spirits**, and **doctrines of devils**; Speaking **lies** in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron; **Forbidding to marry**, and commanding to **abstain from meats**, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth.*” (I Tim. 4:1-3). The corollary to the two tenets is the mantra “flesh is evil.” The Gnostic message: Avoid marital and animal flesh—promote celibacy and vegetarianism!

6. “*And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: **God was manifest in the flesh**, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory*” (I Tim. 3:16) and “*Now if Christ be preached that he rose from the dead, how say some among you that there is **no***”

*resurrection of the dead?*” (I Cor. 15:12). These demonic doctrines oppose the incarnation and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. The incarnation of God repudiates the re-incarnation of man!

7. “*Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen*” (Rom. 1:25) and “*And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie*” (II Thes. 2:11). These lies were foisted on the first couple in the Garden and will pervade religious Babylonianism through history and into the Tribulation.

8. “*And he saith unto me, The waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues. And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire*” (Rev. 17:15-16). The Lord will allow the Antichrist to destroy the ecumenical movement of religious Babylonianism.

9. “*And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life*” (Rev. 21:27) and “*For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie*” (Rev. 22:15). The Lord Jesus Christ will permanently eliminate Satan’s lie and all who perpetuate it.

## **F. The Spirit of Antichrist**

1. “*And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel*” (Gen. 3:15). Ever since the hatred for the woman’s seed by the serpent’s seed there has been the spirit of Antichrist against Christ.

2. “*And he said, Blessed be the LORD God of Shem; and Canaan shall be his servant*” (Gen. 9:26). This hatred has been directed toward the Messiah’s lineage coming out of Shem, and is known as anti-Semitism.

3. “*Neither shall he regard the God of his fathers, nor the desire of women, nor regard any god: for he shall magnify himself above all*” (Dan. 11:37). This hatred will culminate during the Tribulation in the Antichrist/Christ showdown.

4. “*Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time*” (I Jn. 2:18). The spirit of Antichrist has intensified since the incarnation of the Lord Jesus Christ.

5. “*Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son*” (I Jn. 2:22), “*And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world*” (I Jn. 4:3), and “*For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist*” (II Jn. 1:7). The spirit of Antichrist has denied the

identification of Jesus with the Christ (Adoptionism)<sup>8</sup> and the incarnation of Jesus Christ (Docetism).<sup>9</sup> The spirit of antichrist will perpetuate and promulgate the lies of the Garden, denying the incarnation of God, and perpetuating pantheism, universalism, catholicity, globalism, and the One World Order.

6. “*And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of **the prince** that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary*” (Dan. 9:26a), and “*And **the beast** that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition*” (Rev. 17:11), and “*Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, 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*” (II Thes. 2:3-4). The spirit of Antichrist will manifest in a man who will come out of Revived Roman Kingdom and have a proclivity toward the Jews.

7. “*And **the beast** was taken, and with him **the false prophet** that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone*” (Rev. 19:20). The Lord Jesus Christ will ultimately defeat the Antichrist and False Prophet permanently by casting them into the Lake of Fire.

## Summary of the Theological Template

The history of mankind focuses around the Seed Promise of the Messiah and His adversary the Antimessiah whose enmity or anger focuses on Christ, the land of Israel, Jerusalem, and the Temple. Satan’s opposition is in the form of the lies of the Garden and perpetuated by the spirit of Antichrist attempting to thwart God’s redemptive Gospel for the Jews and all of mankind. Satan will indwell and empower the Beast-Man, Antichrist. The Theological Template has Israel at the center and all human and supernatural events relating to the advancement of and/or opposition to the Messiah, Israel, Jerusalem, and the Temple.

## II. CHRONOLOGICAL TEMPLATE

### A. Daniel’s Prophecy Relating to the Gentiles

1. “*And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into **all nations**: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of **the Gentiles**, until **the times of the Gentiles** be fulfilled*” (Lk. 21:24). Also, see “*And there was given me a reed like unto a rod: and the angel stood, saying, Rise, and measure the temple of God, and the altar, and them that worship therein. But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto **the Gentiles**: and the holy city shall they tread under foot forty and two months*” (Rev. 11:1-2). The historian Luke revealed the Lord’s prophecy concerning the holy city Jerusalem and her

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<sup>8</sup>This is the Gnostic heresy that teaches the divine Christ Spirit adopted Jesus at His baptism and left Him at His death.

<sup>9</sup>Again, this Gnostic heresy posits that Jesus Christ only “seemed” (δοκέω *dokeo*) to be in the flesh but was really phantasmal, that His human form was an illusion.

submission to Gentiles until the end. John confirmed this interpretation that the times of the Gentiles will exist until the end of the Tribulation.

2. *“Thou, O king, sawest, and behold a great image. This great image, whose brightness was excellent, stood before thee; and the form thereof was terrible”* (Dan. 2:31). Daniel interpreted the king’s dream as an image and began to unfold the historic interpretation of the symbolism representing the Gentile nations depicted in the image.

3. *“This image's head was of fine gold, his breast and his arms of silver, his belly and his thighs of brass, <sup>33</sup> His legs of iron, his feet part of iron and part of clay. Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces”* (Dan. 2:32-34). He described four sections of the anatomy of the image (head, breast and arms, belly and thighs, and legs and feet), representing four kingdoms.

4. *“Thou, O king, art a king of kings: for the God of heaven hath given thee a kingdom, power, and strength, and glory”* (Dan. 2:37). The first kingdom was the one represented by Nebuchadnezzar—Babylon.

5. *“And after thee shall arise **another kingdom** inferior to thee, and **another third kingdom** of brass, which shall bear rule over all the earth. And **the fourth kingdom** shall be strong as iron: forasmuch as iron breaketh in pieces and subdueth all things: and as iron that breaketh all these, shall it break in pieces and bruise”* (Dan 2:39-40). The second kingdom (Media-Persia) was inferior to the first whereas the third (Grecia) was represented as brass and the fourth (Roman) as iron.

6. *“**The first** was like a lion, and had eagle's wings: I beheld till the wings thereof were plucked, and it was lifted up from the earth, and made stand upon the feet as a man, and a man's heart was given to it”* (Dan. 7:4). Daniel gave further identification of the first kingdom (Babylon) with the symbols of a lion (Jer. 50:44-45) with eagle’s wings, presumably representing the swift victories and the ultimate restoration of Nebuchadnezzar from boanthropy (Dan. 4:16).

7. *“And behold another beast, **a second**, like to a bear, and it raised up itself on one side, and it had three ribs in the mouth of it between the teeth of it: and they said thus unto it, Arise, devour much flesh. After this I beheld, and lo **another**, like a leopard, which had upon the back of it four wings of a fowl; the beast had also four heads; and dominion was given to it”* (Dan. 7:5-6). The second (Media-Persia) and third kingdoms (Grecia) were likened to a bear and a leopard, respectively.

8. *“Then I lifted up mine eyes, and saw, and, behold, there stood before the river **a ram** which had two horns: and the two horns were high; but one was higher than the other, and the higher came up last... And as I was considering, behold, **an he goat** came from the west on the face of the whole earth, and touched not the ground: and the goat had a notable horn between his eyes”* (Dan. 8:3 and 8:5). Daniel interpreted the ram (second kingdom) and the he goat (third kingdom) as follows: *“The ram which thou sawest having two horns are **the kings of Media and Persia**. And the rough goat is **the king of Grecia**: and the great horn that is between his*

eyes is the first king” (Dan. 8:20-21). The first three Gentile kingdoms in Daniel’s prophecy were Babylon, Media-Persia, and Greece, and “the great horn” was Alexander the Great.

9. “Therefore the **he goat** waxed very great: and when he was strong, **the great horn** was broken; and for it came up four notable ones toward the four winds of heaven. And out of one of them came forth **a little horn**, which waxed exceeding great, toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the pleasant land. And it waxed great, even to the host of heaven; and it cast down some of the host and of the stars to the ground, and stamped upon them” (Dan. 8:8-10). This “**little horn**” came out of Grecia and was great and opposed believers (i.e., “stars” [Dan. 12:3]). He was the Seleucid Antiochus Epiphanes IV (215-164 BC), who in December 167 BC slaughtered Jews, erected an altar to Zeus in the Temple, and offered swine upon it. On December 25, 165 BC Judas Maccabeus cleansed and restored the Temple, signaling the “dedication” or Hanukkah celebration (cf. Jn. 10:22).

10. “And as the **toes** of the feet were part of iron, and part of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong, and partly broken. And whereas thou sawest iron mixed with miry clay, they shall mingle themselves with the seed of men: but they shall not cleave one to another, even as iron is not mixed with clay. And in the days of **these kings** shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever” (Dan. 2:42-44). The fourth kingdom was the Roman Empire.<sup>10</sup> The image’s ten toes represent ten kings which will be destroyed by the fifth kingdom, the millennial kingdom.

11. “And **the ten horns** which thou sawest **are ten kings**, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast. These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto **the beast**. These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful” (Rev. 17:12-14). The ten king federation will make war with the Lord and be destroyed.

12. “And here is the mind which hath wisdom. The **seven heads** are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth. And there **are seven kings**: five are fallen, and one is, and the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space. And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition” (Rev. 17:9-11). Since the Apostle John was alive during the **Roman Empire**, the previous five kingdoms in reverse chronological order were **Greece, Media-Persia, Babylon, Assyria, and Egypt**. The one “not yet” will be the **Revived Roman Empire**, and the eighth will be the **Antichrist’s kingdom**, whose person and kingdom will go into perdition as Christ will destroy both and then set up His Millennial Kingdom.

13. “After this I saw in the night visions, and behold **a fourth beast**, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth: it devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet

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<sup>10</sup>The words “Rome” and “Roman” never occur in the OT. The Lord required the reader to assume that the fourth kingdom was Rome, which assumption is confirmed by Rev. 17:9-11.



of it: and it was diverse from all the beasts that were before it; and it had ten horns. I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things” (Dan. 7:7-8). The fourth beast, as identified as Rome, will have a ten nation federation out of which the “little horn” (Antichrist) will come.

14. “Thus he said, **The fourth beast** shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces. And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise: and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings. And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.” (Dan. 7:23-25). Coming out of the Revived Roman Empire of which the Antichrist will subdue three kings, blaspheme God, wear out the saints, and change times and laws for the last three and half units or years of the Tribulation.

15. “And in the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors are come to the full, **a king** of fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up. And his power shall be mighty, but not by his own power: and he shall destroy wonderfully, and shall prosper, and practise, and shall destroy the mighty and the holy people. And through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand; and he shall magnify himself in his heart, and by peace shall destroy many: he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without hand” (Dan. 8:23-25). Daniel’s prophetic eye jumped from the Antiochus through the Roman Empire to the final enemy who shall “stand up against the Prince of princes” (the Lord Jesus) and be broken.

16. “And **the king** shall do according to his will; and he shall exalt himself, and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak marvellous things against the God of gods, and shall prosper till the indignation be accomplished: for that that is determined shall be done. Neither shall he regard the God of his fathers, nor the desire of women, nor regard any god: for he shall magnify himself above all” (Dan. 11:36-37). Continuing with the Antichrist, Daniel revealed his last days of blasphemy, not regarding “the desire of women” (the Messiah) or any god.

17. “But tidings out of the east and out of the north shall trouble him: therefore he shall go forth with great fury to destroy, and utterly to make away many. And **he shall plant** the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him” (Dan. 11:44-45). He will invade the Promised Land (Jerusalem) and be attacked by armies from the north, south, and east in the final showdown called the Battle of Armageddon.

## **B. Daniel’s Prophecy Relating to Israel**

1. “**Seventy weeks** are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to

*seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy”* (Dan. 9:24). The LORD revealed His plan of dealing with Daniel’s people (Israel) for four hundred and ninety years, with six purpose infinitives, the first three dealing with the removal of sin and the second three with the restoration of righteousness.

2. “*Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be **seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks**: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times”* (Dan. 9:25). With two temporal increments (forty-nine [49] years and four hundred and thirty four [434] years) from the command to restore and rebuild Jerusalem (445 BC [Neh. 2:5 ff.]<sup>11</sup> unto the Messiah four hundred and eighty three [483] years would elapse.

3. “*And **after threescore and two weeks** shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined”* (Dan. 9:26). The prediction that the Messiah would be cut off (c. AD 30)<sup>12</sup> and that the city of Jerusalem and the Temple destroyed (AD 70) would be fulfilled during the “gap” between the first four hundred and eighty-three years and the last seven years (“*Jacob’s Trouble*” [Jer. 30:7]). At some point after these predicted events occurred, Daniel’s seventieth week would begin.<sup>13</sup>

4. “*And he shall confirm the covenant with many for **one week**: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate”* (Dan. 9:27). The Roman prince (Antichrist) will make a covenant with the Jews for seven years, offering them peace and safety to rebuild the Tribulation Temple. He will break his covenant half way through and demand that the Jews worship him in the Temple. He will persecute the remnant Jews until the end of the Tribulation when Christ comes back.

5. “*And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, Come and see. And I saw, and behold **a white horse**: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer”* (Rev. 6:1-2). The Antichrist is the rider on the white horse offering peace and safety to the Jews, apparently allowing them to build the Tribulation Temple on the Temple Mount where the Islamic Dome of the Rock currently exists.

6. “*And thou shalt say, I will go up to the land of unwalled villages; I will go to them that are at rest, that dwell **safely**, all of them dwelling without walls, and having neither bars nor gates”* (Ezk. 38:11; cf. v. 2; 21-22).

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<sup>11</sup>King Cyrus allowed and encouraged the post-exilic Jews to return to rebuild the Temple, not the city (Ezra 1:1-4).

<sup>12</sup>Although there is some debate on whether the Lord Jesus was crucified in AD 30 or AD 33, depending on several factors such as the date for the rebuilding of Jerusalem and the length of a year, God is not interested in satisfying curiosity seekers. This author receives the AD 30 date.

<sup>13</sup>The Bible indicates two other necessities before the Rapture: the death of Peter (Jn. 21:18-19) and the completion of the biblical canon of Scripture (I Cor. 13:8-12). Christians are not looking for signs but for the Saviour (Phil. 3:20-21).

Israel will enjoy a climate of false peace until the Gog/Magog attack occurs, and then Lord will destroy this attacking nation in the first half of the Tribulation.

7. “And I saw **one of his heads** as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast” (Rev. 13:3), “**The beast** that thou sawest was, and is not; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition: 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” (Rev. 17:8), and “And when they shall have finished their testimony, **the beast** that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, and kill them” (Rev. 11:7). The Antichrist will stage a coming-back-to-life event and be satanically empowered to kill the two witnesses.

8. “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” (II Thes. 2:4) and “When ye therefore shall see the **abomination of desolation**, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:) Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains” (Mt. 24:15-16). Once the Antichrist kills the two witnesses he will demand that the Jews worship him and pursue the remnant.

9. “And from the time that the daily sacrifice shall be taken away, and the abomination that maketh desolate set up, there shall be a thousand two hundred and ninety days. **Blessed** is he that waiteth, and cometh to the thousand three hundred and five and thirty days” (Dan. 12:13-14). Daniel predicted that from the midpoint of the Tribulation there would be an additional twelve hundred and ninety (1290) days, thirty days beyond the three and a half years of Tribulation. Then the realm of Blessedness (Millennium) would be ushered in thirteen hundred and thirty-five (1335) days beyond the midpoint. In other words, between the end of the Tribulation and the beginning of the Millennium would be an interval of seventy-five (75) days.

10. “Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, and thy spoil shall be divided in the midst of thee. For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city. Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle. And **his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives**, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south” (Zech. 14:1-4), “Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven. Then returned they unto Jerusalem from **the mount called Olivet**, which is from Jerusalem a sabbath day's journey” (Acts 1:11-12), and “Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken: And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory” (Mt. 24:29-30), and “And it shall come to pass in that day, that the light shall not be clear, nor dark: But it shall be one day which shall be known to the LORD, not day, nor night: but it shall come to pass, that at evening time it shall be light”

(Zech. 14:6-7). After the Tribulation, God’s creation will turn dark, and on this unique day the glorious and resurrected Lord Jesus Christ in His brilliance with His retinue of saints will return to the Mount of Olives, and His feet shall touch and split the Mount of Olives, allowing the Jews trapped in Jerusalem to escape and be delivered from the Antichrist. He will destroy the Antichrist and the armies of the world.

11. “When **the Son of man** shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world” (Mt. 25:31-34). During the seventy-five day interval the Lord will judge the nations with respect to the attitude and faith toward the Jews (indicating their salvation or lack thereof), and allow saved Gentiles into the Millennium.

12. “And I will bring you out from the people, and will gather you out of the countries wherein ye are scattered, with a mighty hand, and with a stretched out arm, and with fury poured out. And I will bring you into the wilderness of the people, and there will I plead with you face to face. Like as I pleaded with your fathers in the wilderness of the land of Egypt, so will I plead with you, saith the Lord GOD. And I will cause you to pass under the rod, and I will bring you into the bond of the covenant: And I will purge out from among you the rebels, and them that transgress against me: I will bring them forth out of the country where they sojourn, and they shall not enter into the land of Israel: and ye shall know that I am the LORD” (Ezk. 20:34-38). Likewise, the Lord will judge the living Jews and purge out unbelievers who have survived the Tribulation, and allow only believing Jews with believing Gentiles to enter the Millennium.

13. “Before she travailed, she brought forth; before her pain came, she was delivered of **a man child**. Who hath heard such a thing? who hath seen such things? Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day? or shall a nation be born at once? for as soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her children” (Isa. 66:7-8). Christ was born before the Tribulation. After the Tribulation the Lord will bring the saved Jews in the Millennium, and the nation of Christ, Israel, will be born in a day.<sup>14</sup>

14. “Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you. A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. And **I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them**” (Ezk. 36:25-27) and “And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit” (Joel 2:28-29). The Lord Jesus Christ ratified the New Covenant (Jer. 31:31 ff.) on the cross with His shed blood. The spiritual provisions of the New Covenant (cleansing, new creature, indwelling of the Spirit [= regeneration]) were available to Jewish and

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<sup>14</sup>Contrary to fallacious claims of some fundamentalists (Pre-Tribulation Rapture, Laodicean-Church-Age Dispensationalists) and prophetic sensationalists (Mid-Tribulation or Pre-Wrath Rapturists), this prophecy did NOT occur with the Balfour Declaration of Israel’s Independence in 1948!

Gentile believers in **the Holy Spirit’s First Coming** at Pentecost and will be completely fulfilled at **His Second Coming** for Jewish and Gentile believers at the outset of the Millennium. All believers will be regenerated throughout the duration of the Millennium.

### **Summary of the Chronological Template**

The LORD revealed through His servants the prophets, especially through Daniel, the divine chronology for mankind fleshed out in past, present, and future history. Daniel predicted the rise and fall of near eastern empires as they related to Israel, namely, Babylon, Media-Persia, Grecia, and the Roman empires. He also prophesied the Revived Roman empire extending out of the old Roman empire and expanding into the Antichrist’s short-lived empire during the Tribulation. Furthermore, Daniel revealed the Lord’s four hundred and ninety (490) year plan for the nation of Israel with the purpose of having a believing remnant to enter the Millennium and worship the Lord Jesus Christ in the Promised Land. Within this 490 year plan He revealed a gap between the four hundred and eighty-third year and the last seven years during which several events would occur such as the crucifixion and the destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple. This period also includes the “Baptist assembly age” up unto the Rapture. A believing remnant of Jews and Gentiles will come out of the Tribulation to enter the Millennium and worship Christ during his Kingship on earth.

The world, the flesh, and the Devil have attempted and will continue constantly to attempt to demean, diminish, deny, delegitimize, denigrate, denunciate, and destroy, the Jewish people, the land of Israel, the city of Jerusalem, the place of Temple worship, and the Jewish Messiah. However, for His Chosen People Jehovah God has a purpose and a plan which will not be thwarted by the Devil and his henchmen. Amen!

*Finis*