**Scripture Notes**

**~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~**

[Anti-Christian](https://www.koffeekupkandor.com/gods-word-seven.php#Anti-Christian)

[Part I](https://www.koffeekupkandor.com/gods-word-seven.php#Part%20I)

Satan has sought for millenniums to use the Gentile nations to do away with Israel, and he has been following a somewhat similar pattern during the past two thousand years in his efforts to do away with Christianity. Aside from an early persecution of Christians at the hands of the leaders in Israel, Satan has used the Gentile nations down through the years as his main instrument to destroy Christianity. Satan and his angels hold the sceptre in the heavenly sphere of the present kingdom, and the Gentile nations hold the sceptre under Satan and his angels in the earthly sphere. Within this framework, power from the heavenlies is exhibited through an earthly rule among the nations in Satan’s ever-continuing anti-Semitic and anti-Christian endeavors. The Gentile nations are being used by Satan on both fronts, though in different ways; and this is a fact which must be recognized.

“A tree” in Scripture symbolizes *a national power*. In [Judges 9:8-15](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Judges+9.8-15&t=NKJV), which relates the oldest known parable in the world, “trees” represent *nations* which sought to elect a king to reign over them.

**~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~**

[The Sons of Noah](https://www.koffeekupkandor.com/gods-word-seven.php#The%20Sons%20of%20Noah)

Noah’s three prophecies concerning His sons (Shem, Ham, and Japheth) in Genesis chapter nine are prophecies having to do *with the nations of the earth*. These prophecies, as evident by their contextual setting and content — dealing with *a new beginning in the human race, necessitating all-inclusiveness* — have to do with *federal headship and the prophetic destinies of races comprising nations, with the prophecies in this respect not limited to the three individuals in the prophecies but to their descendants as well* ([Genesis 9:18-19](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+9.18-19&t=NKJV); [10:1-32](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+10.1-32&t=NKJV)).

**~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~**

[At Midnight](https://www.koffeekupkandor.com/gods-word-seven.php#At%20Midnight)

Both saved and unsaved man have that foreshadowed by darkness (the old sin nature), but only saved man has that foreshadowed by light (a new, God-imparted nature). And, because the darkness, the old nature, remains with saved man, he can easily be led into following this nature if he takes his eyes off that associated with the new nature.

And Christ is presently ministering in the heavenly sanctuary, providing a present cleansing for Christians because of this very problem. This is what is seen in [John 13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=John+13&t=NKJV) when Christ girded Himself, took a basin of water and began to wash the disciples’ feet. Or this is what is seen throughout John’s first epistle.

There is a present judgment for sin in the preceding respect. And if a Christian judges himself during the present time ([I Corinthians 11:31](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=I+Corinthians+11.31&t=NKJV)), he will not be judged yet future ([Romans 8:1](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Romans+8.1&t=NKJV)).

In that future day when Christians appear before the judgment seat of Christ, judgment, in one respect, will all be past — whether judgment which occurred at Calvary, or judgment which occurred in the heavenly sanctuary, at the mercy seat. In this respect, the judgment seat of Christ will be an execution or reckoning of that already judged, though referred to in a judgmental respect as well.

**~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~**

[Eternal Salvation](https://www.koffeekupkandor.com/gods-word-seven.php#Eternal%20Salvation)

Scripturally, spiritual control of one’s life always appears in connection with maturity in the faith, not in connection with initially exercising faith, resulting in salvation. And a Christian may or may not experience spiritual growth in this respect, which can have nothing to do with a prior belief, which allowed him to pass “from death unto life.”

A servant within a household in the world today may or may not submit to his master’s wishes, but such submission has nothing whatsoever to do with his being or not being a servant. It has to do with his being a faithful or an unfaithful servant.

And this is exactly the way Scripture presents the matter. *Becoming a servant in the Lord’s house* is one thing, but *submission as a servant in the house is something entirely different.* The latter is always subsequent to — *never* in connection with — the former.

There is nothing difficult about believing on the Lord Jesus Christ, becoming a Christian, entering into servitude. *Grace on God’s part* and *difficulty on man’s part* are incompatibles in the message pertaining to eternal salvation. Difficulty on man’s part arises only after he becomes a Christian, only after he possesses a life in which such difficulty can manifest itself.

How easy is it for an unsaved man to exercise faith, resulting in salvation? It’s just as easy as it was for the Israelites in Egypt during Moses’ day to apply the blood of a slain lamb to the door posts and lintel of the houses in which they dwelled ([Exodus 12:3-7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Exodus+12.3-7&t=NKJV)); or it’s just as easy as it was for these same Israelites, later in the wilderness, to look upon the brazen serpent which had been raised up on a pole ([Numbers 21:5-9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Numbers+21.5-9&t=NKJV)).

“Christ our Passover” has been “sacrificed for us” ([I Corinthians 5:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=I+Corinthians+5.7&t=NKJV)), and the blood can be applied through a simple act of faith; or Christ, as the serpent in the wilderness, has been *lifted up*, “That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life” ([John 3:14-15](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=John+3.14-15&t=NKJV)).

How simple and easy is salvation? It was during Moses’ day and remains today, *Look and live*. It’s that simple and easy.

**~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~**

“Outer darkness” is simply one realm immediately outside of another realm, called “outer darkness” by way of contrast to the “inner light.” Those cast out are removed from a sphere associated with light and placed outside in a sphere associated with darkness.

**~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~**

[The Son of Man Coming in His Kingdom](https://www.koffeekupkandor.com/gods-word-two.php#The%20Son%20of%20Man%20Coming%20in%20His%20Kingdom)

**Part III**

**Moses and Elijah in That Day (I)**

The Lord, following the announcement concerning building His Church ([Matthew 16:18-19](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+16.18-19&t=NKJV)) began revealing to the disciples approaching events pertaining to His *death*, *burial*, and *resurrection*. Peter, only a short time before, having made the statement concerning Christ’s *Sonship* and *reign*, couldn’t understand this at all. And, as a result, Peter took the Lord aside and “began to rebuke Him” ([Matthew 16:20-21](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+16.20-21&t=NKJV)).

Jesus, in response, associated Peter directly with Satan:

*“Get thee behind me, Satan…”*

Peter’s actions shortly before this had emanated from *above*, from God; now his actions emanated from *below*, from *Satan*.

(In reality, these are the only two spheres from which a person’s actions can emanate. A person, in his actions, can either be brought forth “from above” or “from below.” There is *no middle ground* [[Luke 11:23](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Luke+11.23&t=NKJV)].)

**~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~**

[Eternal Salvation](https://www.koffeekupkandor.com/gods-word-seven.php#Eternal%20Salvation)

A servant within a household in the world today may or may not submit to his master’s wishes, but such submission has nothing whatsoever to do with his being or not being a servant. It has to do with his being a faithful or an unfaithful servant.

**~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~**

**Revelation**

Note that events in chapter one actually follow events in chapters two and three, though they are listed first in the book. The Lord's Day, during which time these events occur, will not begin until Christians have been removed at the time of the rapture (following events in chapters 2, 3). And this is where both chapters one and four begin. Events beginning with verse ten in chapter one and events throughout chapter four actually occur either at or about the same time, which is at the time of and immediately following the removal of Christians from the earth into the heavens at the conclusion of the present dispensation.

Events throughout the first four chapters, beginning with verse ten of chapter one, concern God’s dealings with Christians, both during and immediately following the present dispensation. Then chapter five is somewhat of a transitional chapter. God's dealings with Christians will have been completed at this point in the book (dealings that terminate in heaven with events at the judgment seat [chapter 1] and the relinquishment of crowns by the twenty-four elders [chapter 4]), and God will then turn His attention toward Israel and the nations on earth.

Chapter five ([Revelation 5](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+5&t=NKJV)) is given over to a search for and revelation of the One found worthy to break the seals of the seven-sealed scroll; and the breaking of these seals — with the breaking of the first seal marking the beginning of the seven-year Tribulation — then begins to occur in [Revelation 6](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+6&t=NKJV).

Thus, along with the three-way division of the book given in verse nineteen of chapter one, the preceding divisions must also be recognized. Except for several statements in the opening nine introductory verses, the first four chapters constitute the Christian section of the book. Then beyond that, events shift away from God’s dealings with Christians to His dealings with the earth-dwellers (Israel and the Gentile nations); and most of the remainder of the book (through chapter eighteen) is given over to these events.

Christians appear *on earth* during the present dispensation in chapters two and three. They appear in heaven at the end of the present dispensation in chapter one and again in chapter nineteen at the end of the Tribulation, concluding the present age. Then events in chapter four indirectly concern Christians, *in heaven*, though there is no reference to them in the chapter.

Events in chapter five present a scene *in heaven*, anticipating the Tribulation *on earth*; and chapters six through eighteen are given over to a description of this seven-year period *on earth*. These chapters ([Revelation 6-18](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+6-18&t=NKJV)) have to do strictly with Israel and the nations, and they form the most exhaustive, detailed treatment to be found anywhere in Scripture of events that will transpire *on earth* during the last seven years of the present age.

The first reference to the Day of the Lord in Scripture forms *a first-mention principle*, establishing a meaning and usage for this day that holds constant throughout Scripture. The Day of the Lord is first mentioned in [Isaiah 2:12](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+2.12&t=NKJV) as a day when the “*lofty looks of man shall be humbled*, *the haughtiness of men shall be bowed down*, *and* *the LORD alone shall be exalted*” ([Isaiah 2:11-17](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+2.11-17&t=NKJV)). To bring the latter to pass (the Lord’s exaltation), the Day of the Lord is always associated in Scripture with God’s judgment, both upon man and the material creation. Judgment during this day falls first upon *the Church* (*cf.* [Revelation 1:10-20](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+1.10-20&t=NKJV); [1 Thessalonians 5:2-4](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1Thessalonians+5.2-4&t=NKJV)), then upon *Israel and the Gentile nations* (*cf.* [Revelation 6:1ff](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+6.1ff&t=NKJV); [Joel 1:15](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Joel+1.15&t=NKJV); [2:1-2](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Joel+2.1-2&t=NKJV), [11](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Joel+2.11&t=NKJV), [31](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Joel+2.31&t=NKJV); [3:14](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Joel+3.14&t=NKJV)), and then upon *the material creation* (*cf.* [Revelation 21:1](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+21.1&t=NKJV); [2 Peter 3:10](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=2Peter+3.10&t=NKJV)). This is the way the book of Revelation is structured.

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

**Overcomers (saved soul) vs. Non-Overcomers (unsaved soul)**

[**Cast Outside into Outer Darkness**](http://www.koffeekupkandor.com/gods-word-three.php#Cast%20Outside%20into%20Outer%20Darkness)

[**The Second Death**](http://www.koffeekupkandor.com/gods-word-three.php#The%20Second%20Death)

[**Kingdom Truths Introduced and How One’s Soul is Saved**](http://www.koffeekupkandor.com/gods-word-three.php#Kingdom%20Truths%20Introduced%20and%20How%20One%E2%80%99s%20Soul%20is%20Saved)

[**Trial (Approval), Tried (Approved)**](http://www.koffeekupkandor.com/gods-word-six.php#Trial%20(Approval),%20Tried%20(Approved))

The resurrection (anastasis) of Christians will be a separation of “the dead in Christ” from the remainder of the dead, whether Old Testament saints or the unsaved dead. The out-resurrection (exanastasis) will be a further separation beyond this point. It is the “standing up” of a particular group “out of” all those previously raised from among the dead (“out of” all Christians).

At the time of the resurrection (anastasis), Christians will be separated from non-Christians; but at the time of the out-resurrection (exanastasis), certain Christians will be separated from other Christians. A smaller group will be separated from the larger group. The called out will be removed from the called, from the complete body of Christians.

Understanding exanastasis in the light of its context in [Philippians 3:11](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Philippians+3.11&t=NKJV) will clearly reveal that a resurrection *per se* (a rising from the dead) is not what is in view at all. The subject at hand is “overcoming,” “winning a prize in a conflict”; and these things are associated with the issues of the judgment seat and the coming kingdom. Exanastasis has to do with certain Christians (the overcomers) being elevated to a status above — “a standing up out of” — the status occupied by the remaining Christians (the non-overcomers).

At the judgment seat of Christ, certain Christians will be shown to have overcome the world, the flesh, and the Devil — the three great enemies presently confronting every Christian. And the remaining Christians will be shown to have been overcome.

Overcoming Christians will then be elevated to a standing above Christians who were overcome and, in this manner, will be set apart for the distinct purpose of occupying positions with Christ in the kingdom. They will realize the “prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus” ([Philippians 3:14](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Philippians+3.14&t=NKJV)). The overcomers will “stand up out of” (exanastasis) the entire group that had previously “stood up” (anastasis) from among the dead.

These are the ones who will realize life during the Messianic Era, as opposed to those who will not ([Romans 8:13](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Romans+8.13&t=NKJV)). And this life will be in connection with a new order of sons (comprising a firstborn son, following the adoption) that God will bring forth at that time ([Romans 8:14ff](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Romans+8.14ff&t=NKJV)).

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

To distinguish between millennial and eternal conditions in this respect, note that those outside the gates during the eternal ages will be the Gentile nations, as the New Jerusalem rests on the new earth ([Revelation 21:24-27](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+21.24-27&t=NKJV)); but those outside the gates during the preceding Messianic Era, with the New Jerusalem in the heavens above the earth, will be the non-overcomers ([Revelation 22:14-15](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+22.14-15&t=NKJV)). And the place that they will occupy is described at least four other ways in Scripture — through the use of Gehenna, the outer darkness, the furnace of fire, and the lake of fire.

Why does Scripture associate non-overcoming Christians with the lake of fire in relation to Christ’s millennial reign, in this manner? The answer would be the same as the reason why Scripture associates the unsaved with the lake of fire throughout the endless ages of eternity, following the Millennium.

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

The adoption of Christians can occur only following events surrounding the judgment seat of Christ, for the adoption has to do with sons occupying the position of “firstborn” [firstborn sons] — something that cannot occur preceding a separation of Christians [the overcomers from the non-overcomers], based on decisions and determinations rendered at the judgment seat. Christians having been shown faithful at the judgment seat, realizing the salvation of their souls/lives, will be adopted as firstborn sons. But such will not be, for it cannot be, the case for unfaithful Christians, those having forfeited their souls/lives.

According to [Romans 8:18-23](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Romans+8.18-23&t=NKJV), adoption as firstborn sons is in connection with rulership [in the human realm, only firstborn sons can rule in this manner within the theocracy]. And the unfaithful, though possessing spiritual bodies of flesh and bones, will be in no position to rule *and* cannot be adopted into a firstborn status. They can only appear as the ones seen in [Hebrews 12:8](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+12.8&t=NKJV) — as individuals who had previously rejected God’s child-training [[Hebrews 12:5-7](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+12.5-7&t=NKJV)] and cannot *now be His sons* [the sons seen in [Romans 8:19](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Romans+8.19&t=NKJV), adopted into a firstborn status in [Romans 8:23](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Romans+8.23&t=NKJV)].

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

[One Taken, Another Left](http://www.koffeekupkandor.com/gods-word-four.php#One%20Taken,%20Another%20Left)

The coming reign of Christ is the climactic event of the ages pertaining to man in relation to this present earth. *All Scripture, after some fashion, moves toward this event*; and to ignore this fact can only prove detrimental to any sound method of biblical study.

In the Jewish section of the Olivet Discourse ([Matthew 24:4-39](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+24.4-39&t=NKJV)), the kingdom of Christ follows God’s dealings with Israel during and after the Tribulation; in *the Christian section* of this discourse ([Matthew 24:40-25:30](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+24.40-25.30&t=NKJV)), the kingdom of Christ likewise follows God’s dealings with Christians during and at the end of the present dispensation; and exactly the same thing is seen concerning God’s dealings with the Gentiles at the end of the Tribulation in *the Gentile section* of this discourse ([Matthew 25:31-46](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+25.31-46&t=NKJV)).

The reign of Christ over the earth is *the consummative event in view throughout the Olivet Discourse*. God’s dealings with the Jews during and following the Tribulation, His dealings with Christians during and at the end of the present dispensation, and His dealings with the Gentiles at the end of the Tribulation are *ALL intimately related to the kingdom that follows these dealings.*

“Salvation” is for *a purpose*, and this purpose has to do with *the coming kingdom*. Christians have been called “*unto His own kingdom and glory*” ([1 Thessalonians 2:12](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1Thessalonians+2.12&t=NKJV); *cf*. [1 Peter 5:1](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1Peter+5.1&t=NKJV), [10](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1Peter+5.10&t=NKJV); [2 Peter 1:3](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=2Peter+1.3&t=NKJV)). And the biblical picture of one’s salvation is not so much *saved from* (“from hell”) as it is *saved into* (“*unto His own kingdom and glory*”).

Teaching that the salvation of the soul has to do with the eternal salvation that we presently possess (the salvation of the spirit) is foreign to any New Testament usage of the expression, and such an association will serve only to obscure that which Scripture actually teaches on the subject.

Notice three passages of Scripture by way of illustration: [Matthew 16:24-27](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+16.24-27&t=NKJV); [James 1:21](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=James+1.21&t=NKJV); [1 Peter 1:9](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1Peter+1.9&t=NKJV): In “*Matthew*,” the saving of the soul is *in connection with works that will be revealed and rewards that will be given at the time of Christ’s return* ([Matthew 16:27](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+16.27&t=NKJV)); in “*James*,” the saving of the soul is *in connection with a justification by works for those who have already been justified by grace through faith* (*cf.* [James 1:21-22](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=James+1.21-22&t=NKJV); [2:14-26](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=James+2.14-26&t=NKJV)); and in “*1 Peter,*” the saving of the soul is *in connection with a person receiving the* “*end* [goal]” *of his faith* (works emanate out of faithfulness to one’s calling).

**Miscellaneous**

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

Satan Names:

• Lucifer, son of the morning (name and title prior to his fall)[Isaiah 14:12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+14.12&t=NKJV)
• Satan (resistor) — [Job 1:6ff](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Job+1.6ff&t=NKJV); [Zechariah 3:1-2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Zechariah+3.1-2&t=NKJV); [Acts 26:18](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Acts+26.18&t=NKJV); [2 Thessalonians 2:9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=2Thessalonians+2.9&t=NKJV); [Revelation 12:9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.9&t=NKJV)
• Devil (accuser, slanderer) — [Matthew 4:1ff](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+4.1ff&t=NKJV); [Luke 4:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Luke+4.6&t=NKJV), [12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Luke+4.12&t=NKJV); [9:42](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Luke+9.42&t=NKJV); [John 8:44](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=John+8.44&t=NKJV); [13:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=John+13.2&t=NKJV); [Ephesians 4:27](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ephesians+4.27&t=NKJV); [6:11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ephesians+6.11&t=NKJV); [Hebrews 2:14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+2.14&t=NKJV); [James 4:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=James+4.7&t=NKJV); [1 Peter 5:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1Peter+5.8&t=NKJV); [Revelation 12:9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.9&t=NKJV); [20:10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+20.10&t=NKJV)
• Serpent of old (implies guile, insidious deception) — [Genesis 3:1ff](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+3.1ff&t=NKJV); [Revelation 12:9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.9&t=NKJV)
• Angel of the bottomless pit — [Revelation 9:11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+9.11&t=NKJV)
• Abaddon/Apollyon (destroyer) — [Revelation 9:11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+9.11&t=NKJV)
• Dragon (implies his power) — [Revelation 12:9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.9&t=NKJV); [16:13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+16.13&t=NKJV)
• Belial (worthlessness) — [2 Corinthians 6:15](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=2Corinthians+6.15&t=NKJV)
• Beelzebub (O.T. master of flies; N.T. prince of the demons) — [2 Kings 1:2-3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=2Kings+1.2-3&t=NKJV), [6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=2Kings+1.6&t=NKJV), [16](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=2Kings+1.16&t=NKJV); [Matthew 10:25](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+10.25&t=NKJV); [12:24](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+12.24&t=NKJV)
• Prince of the demons — [Matthew 12:24](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+12.24&t=NKJV)
• Father of “the lie” — [John 8:44](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=John+8.44&t=NKJV)
• Murderer — [John 8:44](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=John+8.44&t=NKJV)
• Adversary — [1 Peter 5:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1Peter+5.8&t=NKJV)
• Tempter — [Matthew 4:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+4.3&t=NKJV)
• The evil one — [John 17:15](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=John+17.15&t=NKJV)
• The accuser of our brethren — [Revelation 12:10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.10&t=NKJV)
• The prince (ruler) of this world — [Luke 4:31](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Luke+4.31&t=NKJV); [John 12:31](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=John+12.31&t=NKJV); [14:30](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=John+14.30&t=NKJV); [16:11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=John+16.11&t=NKJV)
• The prince of the power of the air — [Ephesians 2:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ephesians+2.2&t=NKJV)
• The god of this world — [2 Corinthians 4:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=2Corinthians+4.4&t=NKJV)

• Wicked (Lawless) one — [Matthew 13:19ff](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+13.19ff&t=NKJV); [Ephesians 6:16](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ephesians+6.16&t=NKJV); [2 Thessalonians 2:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=2Thessalonians+2.8&t=NKJV)

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

Christians, by large, see only *one issue* today — the issue dealing with eternal verities in relation to salvation or damnation. All Scripture is somehow pressed into this mold, and, resultantly, verses that have nothing whatsoever to do with eternal salvation or damnation are made to teach something other than what they deal with. They are made to teach issues concerning one’s eternal destiny.

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

The first Adam had been created to rule the earth in the stead of Satan, who had previously disqualified himself. However, through sin, the first Adam was also disqualified, allowing Satan to continue as ruler over the earth. The confrontation between Satan and the last Adam was with the same objective in view — *rulership over the earth, preceded by Calvary* (*cf.* [Genesis 1:26-28](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+1.26-28&t=NKJV); [Luke 4:5-6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Luke+4.5-6&t=NKJV); [24:21-27](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Luke+24.21-27&t=NKJV)).

Christ’s appearance in the presence of Satan, showing that He was fully qualified to redeem that which the first Adam had forfeited in the fall, anticipated not only Calvary but also events beyond Calvary. It was at Calvary that Christ paid the price for man’s redemption, making it possible for man to ultimately be brought back into the position for which he had been created.

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

In [John 18](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=John+18&t=NKJV); [19](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=John+19&t=NKJV), *God’s firstborn Son, Christ*, stood before Pilate and was falsely accused by *God’s firstborn son, Israel*; and Pilate himself became *increasingly afraid* surrounding the entire matter. The fear that Pilate exhibited, as seen in the text, could only have been a mild description of how Pilate would possibly have responded had he known the full scope and implications of that which was transpiring on that day, for he was using his power to *subjugate one son* and to *ultimately condemn the other Son*. And both of the Sons being mistreated that day were *the Ones possessing the right to hold the scepter*, not Pilate.

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

Hopefully, it has become clear that God’s Redemptive Plan, the concept of “salvation” as seen in the Word of God, which incorporates His original purpose for man, i.e., dominion over the earth, is considerably more complex than simply the saving of a person for eventual residence in “heaven” in the hereafter.

Hopefully, it has become clear that “soul salvation” has everything to do with the consequences for the way Christians live their temporal ([tem po ral] worldly) life, to be eventually faced at the Judgment Seat of Christ, the result of which will last a very long time (1,000 years). Such is a very grave matter.

In fact, it is the consideration of the consequences connected to “soul salvation” that will give meaning to the following verse of Scripture:

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom. (Psalm 111:10a)

In any case, this is why the salvation of God, as seen in the Word, is both a gift and a reward, depending of course, which aspect of it is being considered.

The salvation that we presently possess is wrought through divine works — the Spirit breathing life into the one having no life — and is based on a finished, divine work, the finished work of God’s Son. Unsaved man is spiritually dead and cannot function in the spiritual realm. He can do no more than allow God to do a work on his behalf.

But, once man has passed “from death to life,” coming into possession of spiritual life, he can then be active in the spiritual realm. And, as the ruined earth was able to bring forth in [Genesis 1](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+1&t=NKJV) after the Spirit of God had moved upon the face of the waters, God had spoken, and light had come into existence ([Genesis 1:2-3](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+1.2-3&t=NKJV), [11](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+1.11&t=NKJV) [2b], ruined man, as well, is able to bring forth following a divine work on his behalf ([Ephesians 2:8-10](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ephesians+2.8-10&t=NKJV)).

Once man possesses spiritual life [spiritual aspect] and is able to function in the spiritual realm, as in [Hebrews 11](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+11&t=NKJV) or [James 2](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=James+2&t=NKJV), he, as the earth in [Genesis 1:11](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+1.11&t=NKJV), can bring forth. But faith must precede and be inseparably connected with man bringing forth, producing works. And to understand how this all comes together, a principle from the Old Testament must be understood first.

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

(Both “grace” and “faith” are seen in relation to the salvation of the soul in [1 Peter 1:9](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1Peter+1.9&t=NKJV):

“Receiving the end [‘goal’] of your faith — the salvation of your souls.” “Grace” in relation to the salvation of the soul in [1 Peter 1:9](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1Peter+1.9&t=NKJV) is seen in [1 Peter 1:2](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1Peter+1.2&t=NKJV),[10](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1Peter+1.10&t=NKJV),[13](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1Peter+1.13&t=NKJV); and “faith” in relation to the salvation of the soul is seen in [1 Peter 1:5](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1Peter+1.5&t=NKJV), [7-9](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1Peter+1.7-9&t=NKJV).)

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

“A dispensation” simply has to do with the management of the Lord’s household affairs through those whom He has placed in His house (stewards). And when there is a stewardship change within God’s dealing with mankind, there is, correspondingly, a change in the dispensation. This would have to be the case, for stewardship and dispensation are synonymous in this respect.

There is a present dispensation (during which God is dealing with Christians), there were at least two past dispensations (one in which God dealt with Israel, and the other in which He dealt with mankind at large prior to His dealings with Israel), and there is a future dispensation (the Messianic Era).

1) From Adam to Abraham (2,000 years), mankind at large.

2) From Abraham to Calvary (2,000 years), Israel.

3) From Calvary to the Tribulation (2,000 years), Christians.

4) Then 1,000 years toward which everything will have moved since God, in the beginning, “*made the worlds* [‘the ages’]” (Hebrews 1:2)

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

Attempting to see and understand that which has been occurring in the Middle East and the world at large since May 14, 1948 as God restoring the Jewish people and their land in accordance with His numerous promises presents *a dispensational problem*. God is not, He *cannot be*, dealing with Israel in this respect today. Israel has been set aside while God, through His Spirit, calls out a bride to reign as consort queen with His Son in the coming kingdom. God will turn back to and deal with Israel *ONLY AFTER the Spirit has completed His work in this respect, ONLY AFTER the present dispensation has run its course*.

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

Following the point in time referred to in [Isaiah 43:1](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+43.1&t=NKJV), mankind found itself divided into two segments — those *in Adam* and those in Jacob. The special creation in Jacob (as the later special creation “in Christ,” forming a third creation within mankind) wrought no change in man’s fallen spiritual makeup inherited from Adam (retention of the old sin nature, *etc*.). But in the case of Jacob it did form a separate and distinct creation within *the physical realm*, which could be passed on through procreation from one generation to the next. And by means of this special creation, *God could bring forth a nation through which His plans and purposes would be realized*.

Partaking of the tree of life has to do with the acquisition of wisdom and knowledge to rule and reign [see the author’s book, [Bible One - Arlen Chitwood's Judgment Seat of Christ, Ch. 5](http://bibleone.net/JSC05.htm)]. Christ Himself, being very God of very God, possesses such knowledge apart from partaking of the tree. But His bride in that day won’t. However, as Christ partook of food following His resurrection, He will just as easily be able to partake of the tree of life with His bride should He so choose.

Christ will have a dual reign during the Messianic Era. And it will be after this fashion that Christ will exercise power and authority over the earth for 1,000 years.

Christ’s rule *from the heavens* will involve *His co-heirs* (*His wife*), who will exercise power and authority with Him over the nations. And Christ’s rule *on the earth* will involve *the Jewish people* (*the restored wife of Jehovah*) who will also exercise power and authority with Him over the nations.

Accordingly, the Gentile nations, in this manner, will be governed from two realms during this time — *heavenly* and *earthly*; and blessings will flow forth through Abraham’s Seed from both realms (*cf*. Genesis 12:3; 22:17-18; Romans 9:4-5; Galatians 3:16, 29).

And the object of Christ’s rule after this fashion will be *to bring order out of disorder, to effect a cosmos out of a chaos.*

“*All rule and all authority and power*” must be put down; “*all enemies*” must be put “*under His* [under Christ’s] *feet*,” even “*death*.” And when “*all things shall be subdued unto Him* [unto Christ],” the kingdom will be “*delivered up*” to “*God, even the Father*” in order that “*God may be all in all* [‘God may be all things in all of these things’]” (1 Corinthians 15:24-28, KJV).

This is what the whole of Scripture, beginning in the opening verses of Genesis, anticipates; and to bring the matter to pass, the Son, in conjunction with His co-heirs in the heavens and the nation of Israel on the earth, will rule the earth for the duration of that seventh day — for 1,000 years — foreshadowed by the seventh day seen at the very beginning, in Genesis 2:1-3.

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

[‘The Powers That Be…’](https://www.koffeekupkandor.com/gods-word-four.php#%E2%80%98The%20Powers%20That%20Be%E2%80%A6%E2%80%99)

According to Scripture, *it is a serious thing to murmur against, bring railing accusations against, those whom God has placed in positions of power and authority. Any rebellion against Divinely established authority is a rebellion against the Lord.* It was so during Moses’ day, and it is no different during the present day.

“The powers that be are ordained of God,” whether during Moses’ day or today. *ALL POSITIONS* *of power and authority are by Divine appointment*. And whosoever “resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation [‘judgment’]” ([Romans 13:1-2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Romans+13.1-2&t=NKJV)).

*God rules in the kingdom of men* and gives it “to whomsoever he will.” God is the One Who establishes rulers, and He is also the One Who removes rulers ([Daniel 4:17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Daniel+4.17&t=NKJV), [25-32](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Daniel+4.25-32&t=NKJV)). “There is no power but of God” ([Romans 13:1](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Romans+13.1&t=NKJV)), which today, in view of the coming age, is vested in His Son.

Jesus told His disciples, “All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth” ([Matthew 28:18](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+28.18&t=NKJV)). In view of this, any rebellion against existing ordained powers — whether in the heavens or upon the earth — is a rebellion against the power vested in God’s Son, which is simply a rebellion against Christ Himself.

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

[In Such a Time](https://www.koffeekupkandor.com/gods-word-seven.php#In%20Such%20a%20Time)

Three dispensations of 2,000 years each comprise Man’s 6,000-year Day, corresponding to the three divisions of mankind — *Jew, Gentile, and Christian*.

*The first dispensation* (*Gentile*), from Adam to Abraham, has run its course. *The second dispensation* (*Jewish*), from Abraham to the Messianic Kingdom, has seven years to run (the coming seven-year Tribulation). Time during this dispensation was stopped seven years short of completion, and *God began to deal with Christians for a third 2,000-year dispensation, which is almost complete.*

Once the present dispensation has run its course, the Church will be removed, God will turn back to Israel and complete the last seven years of the prior dispensation, and Christ’s return in possession of the kingdom (with all ensuing events leading into the kingdom) will follow.

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~`

The following *God's Path to Glory Plan DIAGRAM,* also titled ***God's Plan for Believers***, was designed using architectural software. It challenged my patience, but I endured.

Be sure to use [God's Plan for Believers Final LEGAL SIZE.docx](http://www.koffeekupkandor.com/resources/God%27s%20Plan%20for%20Believers%20Final%20LEGAL%20SIZE.docx), a Word Document, if you desire to print. It's easy to use - safe to open and print. Just remember legal size and landscape setting.

**His Plan For Me**

When I stand at the Judgment Seat of Christ
And He shows His plan for me,
The plan of my life as it might have been
Had He had His way - and I see
How I blocked Him here, and checked Him there,
And I would not yield my will,
Will there be grief in my Savior's eyes,
Grief though He loves me still?
Would He have me rich and I stand there poor,
Stripped of all but His grace,
While memory runs like a hunted thing,
Down the paths I cannot retrace.
Lord, of the years that are left to me
I give them to Thy hand
Take me and break me and mold me,
To the pattern that Thou hast planned!
 ~Author known only to God