

**APOSTOLIC  
DISCIPLESHIP  
COURSE**

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**ESCHATOLOGY**

Raymart C. Luge

# **APOSTOLIC DISCIPLESHIP COURSE**

## **ESCHATOLOGY**

by Raymart C. Lugue

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**PHASE 1**  
**SEVEN CHURCHES**  
**IN ASIA**

## LESSON 1 THE CHURCH

### I. Introduction

- *Church* in the New Testament Greek is *ecclesia* meaning “an assembly of called-out ones.”
- The modern English word *church* is derived from Greek *kuriake* meaning “that which belongs to the Lord”

### II. Body

#### A. *Words Relating to the Members*

1. Brethren – a spiritual brotherhood or fellowship
2. Believers – common faith in Jesus Christ
3. Saints (Holy) – separated from the world and dedicated to God
4. Christians – a religion that centers around Jesus Christ
5. The Elect – chosen by God

#### B. *The Founding of the Church*

- It was foretold by Jesus Christ Himself
  - “Upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it” (Matthew 16:18)
  - It was not Peter; but his confession of the deity of Jesus Christ
- It was historically founded (Acts 2)

#### C. *Church Membership*

- “By one Spirit are we all baptized into one body” (I Corinthians 12:13).
- It is not by signed contracts or membership forms, but by the blood of Christ and new birth experience

### III. Conclusion

#### A. *What the Church Should Do*

1. Prepare for His coming
  - “That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish” (Ephesians 5:27).
2. Preach the Gospel and Baptize People in His name
  - “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them...Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you...” (Matthew 28:19-20)

## **LESSON 2**

### **CHURCH IN EPHESUS**

#### **I. Introduction**

- The book of Revelation is written by John the Beloved when he was in the island of Patmos.
- The book primarily contains John's visions.
- The seven stars are the seven angels (or pastors) and the seven candlesticks are the seven churches (Revelation 1:19-20).

#### **II. Body**

##### ***A. The City of Ephesus***

- The capital of proconsular Asia; it was located on the West Coast of Asia Minor
- Ephesus came into the Roman Empire in 133 B.C. as part of the province of Asia and became so wealthy
- It held the Temple of Diana which was one of the seven wonders of the world, and the residence of the Roman governor

##### ***B. God's Message to the Church in Ephesus***

- "I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience... and for my name's sake hast labored, and hast not fainted. Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee..." (Revelation 2:2-4).
- The church of Ephesus had done many things for Christ. Yet behind these things, God pointed out one thing that was lacking in them.

##### ***C. First Love***

- The Church in Ephesus had left their first love (Revelation 2:4). Their motive behind what they had been doing was other else but love.
- "The first of all the commandments is...And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength" (Mark 12:29-30)
- The church must not come to a point of religiosity, but always maintain the personal relationship and love for Jesus Christ. Everything that shall be done must be done in His name and in love.

#### **III. Conclusion**

Jesus' solution for the Church of Ephesus (Revelation 2:5):

1. Remember from whence thou art fallen – point out the weakness
2. Repent –change of mind to turn back from sin and surrender
3. Do the first works – love is not always feeling; it is doing (See I Corinthians 13)

## **LESSON 3**

### **CHURCH IN SMYRNA**

#### **I. Introduction**

##### **A. Recapitulation of Introduction in Lesson 2**

##### **B. The City of Smyrna**

- It was the “crown of Ionia – the ornament of Asia”
- It was a rich and prosperous city of Ionia, forty miles north of Ephesus at the mouth of the small river Meles where Romans built aqueducts

#### **II. Body**

##### **A. God’s Message to the Church in Smyrna**

- “I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty” (Revelation 2:9)
- The Church in Smyrna experienced persecutions from the Gentiles and the Jewish people who lived in the community.
- They refused to patronize Caesar resulting to their exclusion to guilds. This means unemployment and poverty.
- God encouraged them to fear not and gave them a wonderful promise (Revelation 2:10).

##### **B. Sufferings of the Saints**

- “...ye shall be hated... for my name’s sake” (Matthew 24:9).
- “If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me” (Luke 9:23).
- “In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world” (John 16:33).
- “But he shall receive an hundredfold now in this time, houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers... with persecutions” (Mark 10:30).

#### **III. Conclusion**

In the midst of all tribulations and persecutions, God gave us promises:

- “But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved” (Matthew 24:13).
- “...be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life” (Revelation 2:10).
- “And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away” (Revelation 21:4).

## LESSON 4

### CHURCH IN PERGAMOS

#### I. Introduction

##### A. *Recapitulation of Introduction in Lesson 2*

##### B. *The City of Pergamos/Pergamum*

- A city of Mysia in Asia Minor. The city was greatly addicted was greatly addicted to idolatry, and its grove, which was one of the wonders of the place, was filled with statues and altars
- The city had the first temple dedicated to Caesar and a rapid promoter of imperial cult. This is why Jesus quoted “Satan’s seat.”

#### II. Body

##### A. *God’s Message to the Church in Pergamos*

- “I know... where thou dwellest” (Revelation 2:13). Jesus knows about the environment that seemed to affect the church in Pergamos who was struggling to keep His name and the faith.
- However, the church let the “doctrine of Balaam” (See Numbers 22-25) and the “doctrine of the Nicolaitanes” (mixing in and encouraging idolatrous worship) to infiltrate the church

##### B. *Compromising Spirit*

- to *compromise* means to blend qualities of two different things; it means a mutual concession
- “And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind” (Romans 12:2)
- “Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean *thing*; and I will receive you” (II Corinthians 6:17)
- “...know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God” (James 4:4)

#### III. Conclusion

##### A. *Antipas as an Example (Revelation 2:13)*

- Antipas was still *faithful* in the midst of an idolatrous city
- Antipas was a *martyr*; he was willing to die than to deny his faith
- “Buy the truth, and sell *it* not” (Proverbs 23:23)
- “Repent; or else I will come unto thee quickly” (Revelation 2:16).



## LESSON 5

### CHURCH IN THYATIRA

#### I. Introduction

##### ***A. Recapitulation of Introduction in Lesson 2 and Past Lessons***

##### ***B. The City of Thyatira***

- A city in Asia Minor, Thyatira was situated in the confines of Mysia and Ionia (now Anatolian Turkey)
- The city boasted a special temple to Apollo, the “sun god,” which explains why the Lord introduced Himself as the Son of God

#### II. Body

##### ***A. God’s Message to the Church in Thyatira***

- The believers were busy in God’s Kingdom. Their works were increasing and characterized by faith, love, and patience (Revelation 2:19).
- “...thou sufferest that woman Jezebel (See I Kings 16-21), which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants...” (Revelation 2:20)
- Thyatira was growing in love, but too tolerant of false doctrine (compared to Ephesus that was intolerant of false doctrine but decreasing in love)

##### ***B. False Doctrine***

- “And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many” (Matthew 24:11).
- “For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears” (II Timothy 4:3).

#### III. Conclusion (Guidelines for the Church):

1. Take Heed – “Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall” (I Corinthians 10:12).
2. Avoid Them – “Mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them” (Romans 16:17).
3. Preach the Word – By preaching the truth which we have received, we are letting the doctrine to become assimilated by our spirit.
4. Hold Fast – Continue in the doctrine (I Timothy 4:16). Living the Word of God creates a spirit of deeper revelation and understanding.

## **LESSON 6**

### **CHURCH IN SARDIS**

#### **I. Introduction**

##### ***A. Recapitulation of Introduction in Lesson 2 and Past Lessons***

##### ***B. The City of Sardis***

- It was the capital city of Lydia; a city of western Asia Minor about fifty miles east of Smyrna
- It was made wealthy by textile manufacturing and jewelry making

#### **II. Body**

##### ***A. God's Message to the Church in Sardis***

- "I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead" (Revelation 3:1)
- "...I have not found thy works perfect before God" (Revelation 3:2)
- The church in Sardis had a reputation without reality. This is the type of spirit mentioned as "a form of godliness but denying the power thereof" (II Timothy 3:5)
- Because of this, their works were not perfect before God. No amount of outward appearance can ever cover the corruption of the inner man

##### ***B. Hypocrisy (A Form of Godliness)***

- Hypocrisy is the behavior that does not agree with what someone claims to believe or feel.
- Jesus looks for honesty and transparency:
  - Jesus hated the spirit of the Pharisees (Matthew 23:25) but loved the children to come to Him (Matthew 19:14) because of their transparency
  - Jesus wanted the Samaritan woman to be honest (John 4:16-19)
- Saul, after his rebellion against God, was still covered with the royal robe of a king of Israel. He still lived in the palace of the king. However, the Spirit of God had actually departed from him (I Samuel 16:14).

#### **III. Conclusion**

- "Remember...hold fast, and repent...watch" (Revelation 3:3)
- "And grieve not the holy Spirit of God" (Ephesians 4:30)
- "Quench not the Spirit" (I Thessalonians 5:19)
- "This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh" (Galatians 5:16)

## LESSON 7

### CHURCH IN PHILADELPHIA

#### I. Introduction

##### ***A. Recapitulation of Introduction in Lesson 2 and Past Lessons***

##### ***B. The City of Philadelphia***

- It was situated in a strategic place on the main route of the Imperial Post from Rome to the East (“gateway to the East”). It was also called “little Athens” because of the many temples in the city
- It was prone to earthquakes so citizens refused to move or move back to the city

#### II. Body

##### ***A. God’s Message to the Church in Philadelphia***

- “I know thy works...thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name” (Revelation 3:8)
- “Thou hast kept the word of my patience” (Revelation 3:10)
- The church in Philadelphia was not great in number probably because of its proneness to earthquakes. They had “little strength” and it seemed that those from the “synagogue of Satan” was mocking them (Revelation 3:9). Nevertheless, they were patient and faithful to God.

##### ***B. Little Strength***

- “And the LORD said unto Gideon, The people...are too many for me to give the Midianites into their hands, lest Israel vaunt themselves against me, saying, Mine own hand hath saved me” (Judges 7:2).
- “But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature... for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart” (I Samuel 16:7).
- “Then he took the five loaves and the two fishes, and looking up to heaven, he blessed them, and brake, and gave to the disciples to set before the multitude. And they did eat, and were all filled” (Luke 9:16).

#### III. Conclusion

- “But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty...That no flesh should glory in his presence.” (I Corinthians 1:27-29)
- God can use the little, and make it great. If we will be faithful to Him, He will give us an open door that no man can shut (Revelation 3:8).

## LESSON 8 CHURCH IN LAODICEA

### I. Introduction

#### ***A. Recapitulation of Introduction in Lesson 2 and Past Lessons***

#### ***B. The City of Laodicea***

- It was situated between Hierapolis (known for their hot springs) and Colossae (known for their springs of pure cold water).
- It's known for its manufacture of special eye salve, as well as of a glossy black wool cloth.

### II. Body

#### ***A. God's Message to the Church in Laodicea***

- "...thou art neither cold nor hot... because thou art lukewarm... I will spue thee out of my mouth" (Revelation 3:15-16)
- "Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing... and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor..." (Revelation 3:17)
- Because the Laodiceans were rich, they had a misconception that they "have need of nothing." This caused them to be "lukewarm" or complacent in their walk with God individually and as a church.
- Notice the difference, the church in Smyrna thought that they were poor, but they were declared as rich by God, while this church thought that they were rich, but they were declared poor by God.

#### ***B. Material Blessings and Pride***

- "He that loveth silver shall not be satisfied with silver; nor he that loveth abundance with increase: this is also vanity" (Ecclesiastes 5:10).
- "...feed me with food convenient for me: Lest I be full, and deny thee, and say, Who is the Lord?" (Proverbs 30:8-9)
- "Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall" (Proverbs 16:18)

### III. Conclusion

- "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you" (Matthew 6:33)
- "Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth" (Colossians 3:2)
- "...fervent in spirit; serving the Lord" (Romans 12:11)

**PHASE 2**  
**LAST THINGS**  
**(PROPHECY)**

## **LESSON 9**

### **THE PROMISED RETURN**

#### **I. Introduction**

- Jesus Christ is unique from all other religious founders for many reasons:
  - History is filled with people who tried to be a god. Jesus is God who once manifested as a human being.
  - All religious founders died. Christ also died but he rose again.
  - Jesus promised that He will come again for His church.

#### **II. Body**

##### **A. *The Ascension of Jesus from Mt. Olives (Acts 1:6-11)***

1. “wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?” (v.6)  
The Jews are still looking for a physical kingdom to be restored
2. “But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you” (v.8). The kingdom of God is in the Holy Ghost (Romans 14:17). Jesus refocused them to a spiritual kingdom coming on earth through His Spirit.
3. “...he was taken up, and a cloud received him out of their sight” (v.9). This is a visible ascension.
4. “...two men... in white apparel...also said... this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner...” (v.11)

##### **B. *The Hope of the Church***

- “Looking for that blessed hope, and glorious appearing of the great God and Savior Jesus Christ” (Titus 2:3)
- “Wherefore comfort one another with these words” (I Thessalonians 4:18).
- “Hath begotten us again unto a lively hope” (I Peter 1:3).
- “And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure” (I John 3:3).

#### **III. Conclusion**

- Jesus is preparing a place for us (John 14:2).
- We will do greater works than what Christ did during His earthly ministry (John 14:12).
- “...I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also” (John 14:3).

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## LESSON 10

### THE SIGNS OF HIS COMING – PART 1

#### I. Introduction

- "...the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?" (Matthew 24:3)
- The issue is not about whether He is coming or not; the question was, "What are the signs?"
- A *sign* means something which shows something will happen

#### II. Body

##### A. *Moral Signs – Days of Noah*

- "But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be" (Matthew 24:37)
- "...before the blood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage..." (Matthew 24:38)
- "And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually" (Genesis 6:5)

##### B. *Moral Signs – Days of Lot*

- "...as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded... Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed" (Luke 17:28-30).
- "...the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grievous" (Genesis 18:20)
- "...And he [God] said, I will not destroy it [Sodom and Gomorrah] for ten's [righteous] sake" (Genesis 18:32)
- "...the men of Sodom, compassed the house round about... And they called unto Lot, and said unto him, Where are the men which came in to thee this night? Bring them out unto us, that we may know them" (Genesis 19:5)

#### III. Conclusion

- Compare the days of Noah and the days of Lot with what's happening nowadays, are they the same?
- These moral signs of the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ are not just signs, but also warnings that we should all turn away from these.

## **LESSON 11**

### **THE SIGNS OF HIS COMING – PART 2**

#### **I. Introduction**

- Recapitulation of Part 1
- The New Testament, like the Old, abounds with signs. Signs attended every phase of Christ's life, continued in the apostolic church, and project into the last days.

#### **II. Body**

##### **A. Physical Signs**

- Natural disasters – "...there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places" (Matthew 24:7)
- Persecutions – "...they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations..." (Matthew 24:9)

##### **B. Political Signs**

1. Wars – "...wars and rumours of wars... For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom" (Matthew 24:6-7)
2. The Restoration of the Nation of Israel
  - "And I will bring them out from the people, and gather them from the countries, and will bring them to their own land" (Ezekiel 34:13)
  - Other References: Isaiah 11:12, 27:6, 43:5-7; Jeremiah 16:14-15, 30:3, 32:37; Ezekiel 39:25-29; Zechariah 8:4-8
  - Jewish Diaspora (dispersion of Israelites or Jews) occurred 733 BCE as Assyrian exile, 597 BCE as Babylonian exile, during the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 CE as Roman exile, and in 132 CE under Hadrian who changed the name into Syria Palaestina
  - The State of Israel was declared in May 14, 1948
3. Gentile One World Government
  - "And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise: and another shall rise after them...and think to change times and laws" (Daniel 7:24-25)
  - "...ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings...These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast" (Revelation 17:13)

#### **III. Conclusion**

"And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh" (Luke 21:28).

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## LESSON 12

### THE SIGNS OF HIS COMING – PART 3

#### I. Introduction

- Recapitulation of Parts 1 and 2
- Review and presentation of present-day news in relation to the signs of His coming

#### II. Body

##### A. *Spiritual Signs*

1. Apostasy (abandonment or renunciation of one's belief)
  - "For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets...they shall deceive the very elect" (Matthew 24:24).
  - "...that day shall not come except there come a falling away first" (II Thessalonians 2:3)
  - "...in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils" (I Timothy 4:1)
2. Pleasure Addiction
  - "...in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be... lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God" (II Timothy 3:1-4).
3. Satanism or Demon Worship (Inordinate Worship)
  - "...worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator" (Romans 1:25)
  - "And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast..." (Revelation 13:4)
4. Humanism (an idea that people are basically good and problems can be solved using reason instead of religion)
  - "...even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased" (Daniel 12:4)
  - "Ever learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth" (II Timothy 3:7)
5. Revival of His Church
  - "And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh..." (Joel 2:28).
  - "And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world... and then shall the end come" (Matthew 24:14)

#### III. Conclusion

"But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved" (Matthew 24:13)

## **LESSON 13**

### **NEBUCHADNEZZAR'S DREAM**

#### **I. Introduction**

- God uses dream and visions to speak to His people (Numbers 12:6-8). Dreams are received when a person is asleep, while visions are received when a person is awake.
- Nebuchadnezzar was made king of Babylon after his father's death in 605 B.C. He deported 3,023 citizens of Judah to Babylon.

#### **II. Body**

##### **A. The Dream (Daniel 2:31-35)**

- "...a great image...whose brightness was excellent... and the form thereof was terrible. This image's head was of fine gold, his breast and his arms of silver, his belly and his thighs of brass, his legs of iron, his feet part of iron and part of clay... a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet... and brake them to pieces... the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth."

##### **B. Daniel's Interpretation (Daniel 2:36-45)**

1. Head of Gold (Daniel 2:38)
  - Empire of Babylon, of which Nebuchadnezzar was king
  - 612 – 539 B.C. (73 years)
2. Chest and Arms of Silver (Daniel 2:39)
  - Medo-Persian Empire (or Persian Empire) in 549 B.C.
  - Astyages king of Media and Cyrus the Great king of Persia
3. Belly and Thighs of Bronze (Daniel 2:39)
  - Greco-Macedonian Empire by Alexander the Great in 336 B.C.
4. Legs of Iron (Daniel 2:40)
  - Roman Empire by Augustus in 27 B.C.
  - In 395 A.D. it split into two (legs) – Eastern Byzantine and Western
5. Feet and Toes of Iron and Clay (Daniel 2:41-43)
  - Holy Roman Empire that ruled over ten kingdoms (ten toes)
  - A brittle and unstable mixture of Church and State
6. Stone (Daniel 2:44-45)
  - Kingdom of Jesus Christ that will consume all of the kingdoms and shall stand forever

#### **III. Conclusion**

"For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ." (II Peter 1:11)

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## LESSON 14

### DANIEL'S VISION (FOUR BEASTS)

#### I. Introduction

- Recapitulation of Lesson 13
- The vision was during the first year of King Belshazzar of Babylon. His vision of four beasts correlates with Nebuchadnezzar's dream.
- The four beasts are four kingdoms (Daniel 7:17)

#### II. Body

##### A. *The Lion (Daniel 7:4)*

- It is symbolic of Nebuchadnezzar's kingdom of Babylon
- The lion being transformed like as a man could symbolize Nebuchadnezzar's spiritual conversion (Daniel 4:29-37)

##### B. *The Bear (Daniel 7:5)*

- It is symbolic of the Medo-Persian Empire
- "raised up itself on one side" could depict Persian element surpassed the Median
- "three ribs" could depict three key victories of the empire – against Babylonians, Lydians, and Egyptians
- "devour much flesh" could depict cruelty of attack (Isaiah 13:17-18)

##### C. *The Leopard (Daniel 7:6)*

- It is symbolic of the Greek Empire
- "four heads" could be symbolic of four commanders of Alexander the Great (Ptolemy, Seleucus, Philippus, and Antigonus) who led the empire that was subdivided into four parts.
- See Daniel 8:21-22

##### D. *The Fourth Beast (Daniel 7:7-8)*

- No animal mentioned; described as "dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly"
- It is symbolic of the Roman Empire
- "it devoured and break in pieces, and stamped the residue" could depict the empire's trampling of the former empires and the whole world (Daniel 7:23)
- "ten horns" correlates with ten toes of Daniel 2 and ten horns of Revelation 17:12; symbolic of ten kings
- "little horn" is symbolic of the Antichrist (See Lesson 15 for Antichrist)

#### III. Conclusion

"Until the Ancient of days came... and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom" (Daniel 7:22)

## LESSON 15

### DANIEL'S 70 WEEKS

#### I. Introduction

- The Seventy Weeks prophecy is one of the most significant and detailed Messianic prophecies in the Old Testament
- While Daniel was praying, Gabriel appeared to him and gave him a vision of Israel's future

#### II. Body

##### A. Overview of the Vision

- There are seventy weeks in the timetable that God had given to the nation of Israel (Daniel 9:24)
- Subdivision of seventy weeks (Daniel 9:25-27):
  - 7 weeks } from the command to restore Jerusalem
  - 62 weeks } up to the time of the Messiah
  - 1 week – confirmation of covenant and then abomination of desolation in the midst of the week
- After the first 69 weeks, Messiah will be cut off and the city will be destroyed (Daniel 9:26)

##### B. Fulfillment of Seventy Weeks

- Bible scholars agree that 1 week = 7 years. This means that 70 weeks = 490 years, 7 weeks = 49 years, and 62 weeks = 434 years
- The first 7 weeks (49 years) covered the time to rebuild Jerusalem in “troubled times” (See Books of Ezra and Nehemiah)
- The command to restore and rebuild Jerusalem was given by King Artaxerxes of Persia in 445 B.C. (Nehemiah 2:1-8). Adding 483 years (69 weeks) to 445 B.C. using Jewish calendar takes us to A.D. 30 which coincides with Jesus' triumphal entry (Matthew 21:1-9).
- After the Messiah was cut off (crucified), Jerusalem was destroyed in A.D. 70, fulfilling Daniel 9:26
- The final week (7 years) is yet to be fulfilled as the timetable of God was stopped. This gap between the 69<sup>th</sup> week to the 70<sup>th</sup> week is called the Church Age (times of the Gentiles) in Luke 21:24.
- The midst of the final week (midst of last 7 years) in Daniel 9:27 correlates with the last 3 ½ years or the period of the Great Tribulation

#### III. Conclusion

“...for I am God... declaring the end from the beginning, and from the ancient times the things that are not yet done...” (Isaiah 46:9-10).

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## LESSON 16

### THE GREAT TRIBULATION

#### I. Introduction

##### A. *The Nature of Tribulation*

- From the Greek word *thlipsis* that means *pressure* or *affliction*
- The sources of tribulation are the Word of God (Matthew 13:20-21), world's hate towards Jesus and His people (John 15:19; 16:33), and from the Devil (Revelation 2:10)
- The church has been experiencing tribulation as early as the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2)

#### II. Body

##### A. *The Great Tribulation*

- It is different from the *tribulation* that Jesus said the believers will experience throughout this age, not in kind, but in *degree*
- The Great Tribulation is not judgment, but persecution
- The Great Tribulation is the wrath of Satan (Revelation 12:12) and is different from the wrath of God (Revelation 6:17)

##### B. *The Period of Great Tribulation*

- In the midst of the final week (Daniel 9:27)
- “a time and times and the dividing of time” (Daniel 7:25)
  - Bible scholars agree that a time is 1 year, times is 2 years, and dividing of time is ½ year
- “forty and two months” (Revelation 13:5-7)
- “a thousand two hundred and threescore days” (Revelation 11:3)

##### C. *Events During the Great Tribulation*

1. Abomination of Desolation (Daniel 9:27; Matthew 24:15)
2. Ministry of Two Witnesses (Revelation 11:3-12)
3. Revelation of the Antichrist (II Thessalonians 2:3)
4. Blasphemies & War with the Saints (Daniel 7:21; Revelation 13:7)

##### D. *Who Will Experience Great Tribulation*

- *Saints* (Revelation 13:5-6) or the Church (See Paul's greetings)
- *Elect* (Matthew 24:15, 21-22) or the Church (See Paul's greetings)

#### III. Conclusion

“...be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life” (Revelation 2:10)

## **LESSON 17**

### **THE ANTICHRIST – PART 1**

#### **I. Introduction**

- Recapitulation of Lesson 16
- It is important to study the Antichrist for he is a significant part of the prophecy about the last days especially during the Great Tribulation

#### **II. Body**

##### **A. *What is the Antichrist***

- It is a spirit – “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... and even now already is it in the world” (I John 4:3). See II John 1:7
- He is a certain person – “Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come...” (I John 2:18).

##### **B. *Other Names or Titles***

1. Antichrist (I John 2:18)
2. Son of Perdition (II Thessalonians 2:3)
3. Man of Sin (II Thessalonians 2:3)
4. Little Horn (Daniel 7:8; 8:9)
5. Beast (Revelation 13)
6. Prince that shall come (Daniel 9:26)

##### **C. *Where Will He Come From***

- From the last Gentile kingdom (Daniel 7:8)
- From the sea (Revelation 13:1). Sea is a type of multitudes of people.
- From the bottomless pit (Revelation 17:8). The spirit of the Antichrist that will possess the Gentile leader will come from the bottomless pit

##### **D. *When Will He Come***

- Before the rapture (II Thessalonians 2:3)
- In the 70<sup>th</sup> Week (Daniel 9:27)
- A time in history when the world will be desperate for a great leader

#### **III. Conclusion**

It is important to note that we cannot claim that someone is the Antichrist spoken by these prophecies unless he does the things that the prophecy tells. The response of the Church is not to identify this person at an early time; but to be ready for the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ.

## LESSON 18

### THE ANTICHRIST – PART 2

#### I. Introduction

- Recapitulation of Part 1

#### II. Body

##### **A. *What will the Antichrist do in the Last Days?***

1. He will confirm the covenant by letting the Jews continue their sacrifices in the temple at the beginning of the 70<sup>th</sup> week (Daniel 9:27).
2. He will establish a one world government by flatteries (Daniel 7:8, 11:21; I Thessalonians 5:3; II Thessalonians 2:9).
3. He will establish stop the sacrifices, sit on the Temple at Jerusalem and proclaim himself as god of a one world religion (Daniel 9:27; II Thessalonians 2:4; Revelation 13:8).
4. He will fulfill the abomination of desolation (Daniel 9:27; Mark 13:14).
5. He will declare blasphemies against God (Daniel 7:25; II Thessalonians 2:4; Revelation 13:6).
6. He will make war with the saints and prevail against them (Daniel 7:19-21, 25; Revelation 13:7).
7. He will kill the two witnesses (Revelation 11:7).
8. He will change times and laws (Daniel 7:25).
9. He will require the mark of the beast (Revelation 13:16).
10. He will gather an army against Jesus and his saints at the Battle of Armageddon (Revelation 19:19).

##### **B. *What is the Mark of the Beast?***

- "...mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark" (Revelation 13:16-17)
- "...them that had received the mark of the beast... were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone" (Revelation 19:20)
- 666 in Revelation 13:18 seems to be a symbol of Antichrist's three-fold power: political, ecclesiastical (religious), and economical.

#### III. Conclusion

After the 3 ½ years, the saints will possess the kingdom (Daniel 7:22), the Antichrist will be destroyed by the brightness of His coming (II Thessalonians 2:8), Satan will be bound in the bottomless pit (Revelation 20:2-3), and God will establish His millennial reign with the saints (Revelation 20:4).

## **LESSON 19**

### **THE SECOND COMING**

#### **I. Introduction**

- The Promised Coming – “...as he went up, behold to men stood by them in white apparel; Which also said... this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner...(Acts 1:10-11).
- *Coming is Parousia* in Greek which means *physical aspect of coming*

#### **II. Body**

##### **A. Biblical Description**

1. Descend from Heaven (Acts 1:11; I Thessalonians 4:16)
2. In Clouds (Mark 14:62; Revelation 1:7)
3. Every eye will see Him (Revelation 1:7)
4. With His saints (I Thessalonians 3:13)
5. With His angels (Matthew 16:27; 25:31)
6. Shout and Voice of an Archangel (I Thessalonians 4:16)
7. Trumpet of God (Matthew 24:31; I Corinthians 15:52 I Thessalonians 4:16)

##### **B. Events on the Day of His Second Coming**

1. Wrath of God (Revelation 6:17)
  - Revelation 6:12; Matthew 24:29; Joel 3:14-16; Isaiah 13:9-10
2. End of the Antichrist (Daniel 7:22; II Thessalonians 2:8)
3. First Resurrection (I Thessalonians 4:16; I Corinthians 15:52)
4. Rapture of the Church (I Thessalonians 4:17; II Thessalonians 2:1)
5. Transition to Christ’s Millennial Reign (Revelation 20:1-6)

##### **C. When will it Happen?**

God didn’t give a definite time and date (Matthew 24:42; Mark 13:32). However, the following are given:

- a. Manner – as a thief in the night (I Thessalonians 5:2); an hour that those who didn’t prepare think not (Luke 12:40),
- b. Signs – as the days of Noah (Matthew 24:37) and Lot (Luke 17:28)
- c. Order – after the tribulation (Matthew 24:39-30; II Thessalonians 2:3)

#### **III. Conclusion**

“Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is” (Mark 13:33)



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## LESSON 20

### THE RESURRECTION

#### I. Introduction

##### A. Definition

- Resurrection means *raising up* or *rising up*
- From Greek word *anastasis* which means *to cause to stand*

#### II. Body

##### A. The Hope of Resurrection

- “And if Christ be not raised, your faith *is* vain; ye are yet in your sins” (I Corinthians 15:17)
- “Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live” (John 11:25)

##### B. Types of Resurrection

###### 1. Temporary Resurrection

- Those who are resurrected by the ministry of Jesus and the Old/New Testament saints. The difference is that they died again and are waiting for another resurrection.
- Examples – Lazarus (John 11:43-44), Jairus’ daughter (Mark 5:21-43), Shunamite woman’s son (II Kings 4:32-37)

###### 2. First Fruit Resurrection

- The resurrection of Jesus (Mark 16:1-11; I Corinthians 15:20)
- Old Testament saints (Matthew 27:53-54). He transferred the paradise from beneath the earth into His footstool (Ephesians 4:9-10; Luke 16:23, 26)

###### 3. First Resurrection (Revelation 20:5-6)

- The resurrection that will occur during the Second Coming of Jesus Christ (I Corinthians 15:51-52; I Thessalonians 4:13-17)
- Resurrection unto life (John 5:28-29) of New Testament saints

###### 4. Second Resurrection

- The resurrection of the unbelievers after the millennial reign (Revelation 20:5-6).
- Also called the resurrection unto shame and everlasting contempt (Daniel 12:2) resurrection unto damnation (John 5:28-29).

#### III. Conclusion

“...he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you” (Romans 8:11)

## LESSON 21

### MARRIAGE SUPPER OF THE LAMB

#### I. Introduction

##### A. *The Bridegroom and His Bride*

- “For thy Maker *is* thine husband; the LORD of hosts *is* his name; and thy Redeemer the Holy One of Israel” (Isaiah 54:5)
- “...love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church: That he might present it to himself a glorious church” (Ephesians 5:25-27)

#### II. Body

##### A. *Marriage Supper*

- “Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. Blessed *are* they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me” (Revelation 19:7-9).
- Transition Period – “Blessed *is* he that waiteth, and cometh to the thousand three hundred and five and thirty days” (Daniel 12:12).

##### B. *Major Parts of Wedding Customs*

1. Signing of Contract by the Parents
  - Jesus made a new covenant with us (Hebrews 8:13), signed through the shedding of His own blood (Matthew 26:28).
2. Giving of Dowry to the Bride that Signifies His Return
  - Jesus promised another Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, that is an inner witness of the Church that He will return (John 14:26).
3. Betrothal Period (Matthew 25:1-13)
  - The bridegroom leaves for a season, but leaves a dowry that will signify his return. During this engagement period, the bride prepares herself until the groom’s return. Likewise, the Church prepares for the coming of the Lord Jesus.
4. The return of the Groom with his male friends (Matthew 25:1-13)
  - Usually a year later, the groom returns in a torchlight parade with his male friends and ends up at the house of the bridegroom. Likewise, Jesus will return and take us to the Kingdom of heaven.
5. Marriage Supper Itself (John 2:1-2; Matthew 25:10)

#### III. Conclusion

“That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle... but that it should be holy and without blemish” (Ephesians 5:27).

## LESSON 22

### MILLENIAL REIGN

#### I. Introduction

##### A. *The Promised Kingdom*

- "...an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him" (Daniel 7:22, 27)
- "...and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David..." (Luke 1:32-33)

#### II. Body

##### A. *What Kind of Kingdom?*

1. Spiritual Kingdom (Romans 14:17)
  - This is being fulfilled as the Holy Spirit is poured out upon all flesh. Those who have been sealed with His Spirit have become a part of His spiritual kingdom.
2. Physical Kingdom (Acts 1:6-7)
  - A physical kingdom, which God has promised to the Jews, is yet to be fulfilled in Christ's Millennial Reign.

##### B. *Description of Christ's Millennial Reign on Earth*

1. A time of peace (Isaiah 9:7, 11:6-9; Micah 4:1-4)
2. Jerusalem as the center (Zechariah 8:3)
3. Jesus as King and God (Isaiah 2:2-4)
4. Satan will be bound (Revelation 20:1-3)
5. The saints (Church) will reign with Him (Revelation 20:6)

##### C. *Millennial Reign as the Fulfilment of Prophecies*

1. Palestinian Covenant (Land Covenant) – Deuteronomy 30:1-10
  - With all the boundaries laid out by God
  - Eternal Covenant (Genesis 13:15; Ezekiel 16:60)
2. Davidic Covenant (II Samuel 7:16)
3. New Covenant (Jeremiah 31:31-34; Ezekiel 36:24-30)

#### III. Conclusion

##### A. *Final Phase of the Millennial Reign*

1. After the millennial reign, Satan will be loosed to deceive the nations (Revelation 20:7-8)
2. Battle of Gog and Magog – nations will station around and against Jerusalem. God will send fire and devour them (Revelation 20:8-9)

## LESSON 23 JUDGMENTS

### I. Introduction

#### **A. Parable of Talents (Matthew 25:14-30)**

- Points of the Parable: (1) God has entrusted us time/life, (2) He will return, and (3) there will be a day of reckoning or judgment

### II. Body

#### **A. Judgment Seat of Christ (II Corinthians 5:10)**

- *We* refers to the members of the body of Christ
- This is not a judgment in the sense of a trial to establish guilt or innocence, but a judgment of works of the saved.
- The winning contestants in a Grecian game face the judge sitting on Bema (elevated seat). Winners receive victor's crown of laurel leaves, but those who didn't get rewards didn't receive punishment.
- Abraham's seed as the stars of heaven (Genesis 22:17; Daniel 12:3), which is the Church, will have celestial bodies (I Corinthians 15:40) and will inherit the new heaven (Revelation 21:1)
- Crowns
  1. Crown of Life (James 1:12; Revelation 2:10)
  2. Crown of Glory (I Peter 5:2-4)
  3. Crown of Rejoicing (I Thessalonians 2:19-20; Philippians 4:1)
  4. Crown of Righteousness (II Timothy 4:8)
  5. Incorruptible Crown (I Corinthians 9:25-27)

#### **B. The Nation of Israel (Jews)**

- 144,000 (Revelation 3:7-8)
- Abraham's seed as sand which is upon the sea shore (Jews) will have terrestrial bodies (I Corinthians 15:40) and will inherit the new earth (Revelation 21:1)

#### **C. For the Lake of Fire**

1. The dead (Second Resurrection) – Revelation 20:13, 21:8
2. Death and Hell – Revelation 20:14
3. Satan and the Antichrist – Revelation 20:10
4. Fallen Angels – Jude 6

### III. Conclusion

“For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil” (Ecclesiastes 12:14)

## LESSON 24

### NEW THINGS

#### I. Introduction

##### A. *God's Promise*

- “In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also” (John 14:2-3)

#### II. Body

##### A. *New Things*

1. There will be a new heaven and a new earth with no sea (Revelation 21:1)
2. The holy city, the New Jerusalem, will come down from God out of heaven (Revelation 21:2)
3. The tabernacle of God will be with people on the new earth (Revelation 21:3)
4. There will be no more death, sorrow, crying, or pain (Revelation 21:4)
5. There will be a new paradise (Revelation 22:1-5)
6. There will be a new source of light (Revelation 22:5)
7. Eternal Fellowship with Jesus (John 14:3; II Corinthians 13:12)
8. Eternal Service (Revelation 7:15; 22:3)

##### B. *Admonition*

- “But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved” (Matthew 24:13).
- “...we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ” (Titus 2:12-13).
- “... there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts. And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? The Lord is not slack concerning his promise... but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish...” (II Peter 3:3-4, 9)

#### III. Conclusion

The soon return of Jesus Christ is a comforting promise for the Church (I Timothy 4:16-18). The only pleasure that the ungodly will experience is on earth. The only suffering that the godly will have is on earth, because in heaven is fullness of joy.