# SURVEY OF BIBLICAL END TIME EVENTS LESSON ONE "BEGINNING OF BIRTH PAINS"

#### I. Spiritual Birth Pains Defined

Birth pains in Scripture are specific signs Jesus said would come on earth to warn people of the coming seven year tribulation, the end of the church age, and the rapture of the church. The birth pains will all happen simultaneously and with increasing intensity as the tribulation approaches. Jesus said like the beginning of physical birth pains announce the birth of a child, spiritual birth pains can be seen, felt, and interpreted as an accurate forecast of the timing of coming events.

Matthew 24:8; Mark 13:8

#### II. When Do the Spiritual Birth Pains Begin?

Most biblical scholars agree that all end time prophecy revolves around the nation of Israel and the city of Jerusalem in particular. Since Israel ceased to be an organized nation until 1948, most biblical scholars see the rebirth of Israel as a nation as a significant and triggering event in end time prophecy. While birth pains may have been felt in all of the church age, the frequency and intensity have come since 1948.

Genesis 17:8; Ezekiel 37:11-13; Isaiah 66:7-9

#### III. Why is the Timing of the Beginning of Spiritual Birth Pains Important?

Because Jesus promised that the generation that witnessed the beginning of the birth pains would not pass away before the tribulation began and the rapture took place.

Matthew 24: 32-35; Mark 13:28-30; Luke 21:29-33

The two main questions that have to be answered are:

- 1. When did the birth pains start?
  - 1948 birth of Israel as a nation
  - Jerusalem divided 1948 1967
  - Jerusalem law July 1980 Knesset passed the "Basic Law: Jerusalem", which states that reunited Jerusalem is the capital of Israel.

#### 2. How long is a generation?

• A biblical generation can be 40 years, 50 years, or 70 years.

Psalm 90:10

# IV. When Do I Believe the Birth Pains began and what is my personal opinion about the Time Line?

- 1. I believe the "fig tree" (Israel) budded in 1948 but "put forth shoots" in 1967 when the divided city of Jerusalem was brought fully under Israel's control as their united capital.
- 2. I believe the biblical generation referred to is 70 years. When you add 70 years to 1967, you get 2037.
- 3. I believe the rapture and tribulation can happen at any time between now and @2037.
- 4. I believe no man knows the day and God is not on any man's time schedule. The Lord has given us detailed prophecy and scripture and told us to discern the times and seasons.

Matthew 24:32-34

#### V. The Birth Pains Jesus Mentioned in Scripture

- 1. Spiritual Deception
- 2. Antichrists or false christs
- 3. Wars
- 4. Famines
- 5. Pestilences
- 6. Shaking of air, land, and sea
- 7. Persecution of Christians (increased hatred)
- 8. Apostasy (decreased love)

Matthew 24; Mark 13; Luke 21

# SURVEY OF BIBLICAL END TIME EVENTS LESSON TWO "BIRTH PAINS INTENSIFY"

## I. Spiritual Deception

Spiritual Deception started in the Garden of Eden and has continued unabated through the centuries until present day. However, there has never been a time when Spiritual Deception was more rampant than today. Falsifications of the Christian faith are increasing in the last days in preparation of the coming false Christ and false prophet who will deceive the world on a never before seen scale.

Matthew 24:4-5, 18; Mark 13:5-6; Luke 21:8

The three main Spiritual Deceptions are:

- False Saviors I John 2:22-23
- False Spirits I John 4:1
- False Scriptures (Gospel) Galatians 1:6-8; II Corinthians 11:2-4

#### II. False Christs

False Christs can be unbiblical presentations of the Jesus Christ of the Bible. Many religions claim to be Christian and believe in the Jesus Christ of the Bible but have in fact fabricated a false Christ that has similarities with the real Jesus. False Christs can also be alternative Saviors (religious leaders) that present themselves as being superior to or in place of the biblical Savior, Jesus Christ.

Matthew 24:5, 23-25; Mark 13:6; Luke 21:8

Since the year 1900 over 1,000 false Christs have made public statements claiming divinity. The New Age Movement's main teaching is that the Spirit of Christ (God) is in all people.

#### III. Wars

War has been a part of human history since the beginning of mankind. However, the number of wars being fought and the intensity and destruction with which they are being waged has increased greatly. The threat of war has also increased. At least nine nations now have nuclear weapons and as many as 35 have weapons of mass destruction.

Matthew 24:6-7; Mark 13:7-8; Luke 21:9-10

List of Civil Wars since 1948:

Greek Civil War, Paraguayan Civil War, Palestinian Civil War, Cost Rican Civil War, La Viotencia, Korean War, Laotian Civil War, Vietnamese Civil War, Guatemalan Civil War, Congo Civil War, North Yemen Civil War, Dominican Civil War, Rhodesian Bush Civil War, Cypriot Civil War, Nigerian Civil War, Cambodian Civil War, Pakistani Civil War, Lebanese Civil War, Mozambican Civil War, Salvadoran Civil War, Peruvian Civil War, Second Sudanese Civil War, Sri Lankan Civil War, First Liberian Civil War, Rwanda Civil War, Casamance Conflict, Georgian Civil War, Sierra Leone Civil War, Algerian Civil War, Tajikistan Civil War, Burundi Civil War, Yemen Civil War, First Chechen Civil War, Iraqi Kurdish Civil War, First Congo Civil War, Republic of Congo Civil War, Nepalese Civil War, Albania Civil War, Second Congo Civil War, Guiena-Bissov Civil War, Kosovo, Second Liberian Civil War, Second Chechen Civil War, Ivorian Civil War, Darfur, Haitian Rebellion, Fatah-Hamas Palestinian Civil War, Libyan Civil War, Chad Civil War, Iraq Civil War, Burma Conflict, Sudan Civil War.

Since 1948 there have also been around 50 wars between countries in which a thousand or more people died.

#### IV. Famines

Food shortages in a population can be caused by many factors including: drought, population explosion, climate changes, natural disasters, war, and difficulties with distribution of food to name a few. During the 20<sup>th</sup> century an estimated 70 million people died from famines across the world. A 2007 government report estimated approximately 40% of the world's agricultural land is in a seriously degraded condition. The UN suggests if current trends of soil degradation continue in Africa, the continent might be able to feed just 25% of its population by 2025. The UN estimates that two billion people are undernourished, malnourished, or starving in the world. Around 40,000 people die daily in the world from starvation or the effects of malnourishment and around 15,000 of those are children.

Matthew 24:7; Mark 13:8; Luke 21:11

#### V. Pestilences

The Greek word, *loimos*, can refer to pestilence, plague, or pandemic.

Until around 1900 epidemics did not affect the population of the entire world. The Black Plague for example devastated Europe, but not every population center on earth. Since 1900, well over 750 million people have died from the top 10 infectious diseases alone. AIDS has already killed over 25 million people since 1970 and an estimated 70 million more could die in the next 15 years. AIDS also has no cure. Infectious diseases like AIDS, Cholera, Influenza, Typhus, Smallpox, Measles, Tuberculosis, Leprosy, Malaria, Yellow Fever, SARS, and Avian Flu are threatening

to kill millions in the years to come. Many infectious diseases thought eradicated are coming back and drug resitant diseases are becoming more rampant.

Matthew 24:7; Luke 21:11

#### VI. <u>Earthquakes</u>

The US Geological Survey National Earthquake Information Center releases yearly detailed reports about the number and size of all earthquakes around the world.

The following list is the total number of earthquakes by year in the world since 1990.

1990 – 16,590	2001 - 23,534
1991 – 16,484	2002 - 27,454
1992 – 19, 524	2003 - 31,419
1993 – 21, 476	2004 - 31,194
1994 – 19,371	2005 - 30,478
1995 - 21,007	$2006 - 29{,}685$
1996 – 19,938	2007 - 29,685
1997 – 19,872	2008 - 31,777
1998 – 21,688	2009 - 24,825
1999 - 20,832	2010 - 31,546
2000 - 22,256	

In 2010 there were 320,129 people killed by earthquakes in the world. In the five year period before 2010 there were 185,121 people killed from earthquakes in the world. Statistics prove earthquakes are increasing in number and severity.

Matthew 24:7; Mark 13:8; Luke 21:11

#### VII. Persecution of Christians

Assist News Service reported in 2001 that more Christians were killed for their faith in the 20<sup>th</sup> century than have been martyred in the rest of church history. Professor Thomas Schirrmacher, Director of the Religious Liberty Commission, estimates 105,000 Christians a year were killed for religious reasons. While secular news agencies continue to run reports about the imaginary rise of Islamophobia, they are almost silent about the unprecedented increase in hatred toward Christians and the Christian faith. Islam is the fastest growing religion with 1.5 billion adherents and a growth rate of 1.84%. The Koran commands Muslims to persecute and kill Christians and convert them by force. It is illegal in most Muslim countries to convert to Christianity or evangelize Muslims. Christians in these countries are persecuted and relegated by laws to be second class citizens. In a world that has made tolerance the new world religion, Christians are about the only group that it is politically correct to persecute.

## VIII. Apostasy

Apostasy is a willful departing or desertion from one's religion, faith, or principles. Apostasy is the rejection of Christ by one who has claimed to be a follower of Christ (II Thess. 2:3). Never in the history of the world has the average Christian's faith been colder. Studies show 88% of college students raised in the Christian faith are leaving the church. As late as 1991, 50% of Americans claimed to attend religious services regularly. By 2010 the average had dropped to around 35% and is trending lower every year.

Matthew 24:12

# SURVEY OF BIBLICAL END TIME EVENTS LESSON THREE "THE RAPTURE"

#### I. What is the Rapture?

Rapture is a term that refers to an event just prior to the Seven Year Tribulation period that will take Christians both alive and dead to heaven. While the word, "Rapture," is not used in the Bible, the event is described in great detail. In I Thessalonians 4:17, the Greek text uses the word *harpagesometha* to describe the rapture. The Greek word literally means, "we shall be caught up" or "taken away," with the connotation that this is a sudden event. *The Latin Vulgate* translated the Greek word as *rapiemur* which means, "to catch up" or "take away suddenly." We derive our English word "Rapture" from the Latin word, *rapiemur*.

I Thessalonians 4:16 – 18; I Corinthians 15:51-53

#### II. <u>Is the Rapture the same event as the Second Coming of Jesus Christ?</u>

No! The New Testament describes in detail the Rapture of the church prior to the Tribulation period and the Second Coming of Jesus Christ after the Tribulation. The Rapture and Second Coming are separate events that take place at different times and in different ways. While there are many differences between these events, they are often confused. The main differences are timing and purpose. The Rapture happens just prior to the Tribulation and calls Christians up to be with Christ. The Second Coming happens at the end of the Tribulation and Christians are pictured coming back with Christ to earth.

John 14:1-3; I Thessalonians 4:14-17

#### III. <u>Biblical Characteristics of the Rapture</u>

A. It will happen suddenly.

I Corinthians 15:52

B. Christians will be taken; the lost will be left behind.

Matthew 24:41; Luke 17:36; I Thessalonians 4:13-18

C. The Lord will come from heaven to the sky with a shout and trumpet blast.

I Thessalonians 4:16; I Corinthians 15:52

D. The dead in Christ will rise first then the living Christians.

I Corinthians 15:52; I Thessalonians 4:13-17

E. We will be called up to meet the Lord in the air.

I Thessalonians 4:17

F. The Rapture can take place at any time.

Revelation 3:3; I Thessalonians 5:4-6

### IV. Why does the Rapture happen?

A. So Christians do not have to endure the wrath of the Seven Year Tribulation.

I Thessalonians 5:9; Titus 2:13; I Thessalonians 4:18

B. So Christians can receive their new resurrected bodies.

I Thessalonians 4:14–16; I Corinthians 15:50-54

C. So the church can be presented as the bride of Jesus Christ.

II Corinthians 11:2; Revelation 19:6-9

D. So we can attend the Marriage Supper of the Lamb.

Revelation 19:5-9

# SURVEY OF BIBLICAL END TIME EVENTS LESSON FOUR

#### "First Half of Seven Year Tribulation"

#### I. The Great Seven Year Tribulation Defined

The Great Tribulation refers to a seven year period of time beginning after the rapture of the church, where anyone who failed to accept Jesus Christ as Savior is left behind on earth to experience worldwide hardships, disasters, pain, war, famine, and sufferings that will wipe out over 75% of all life on earth before the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. The Antichrist will also arise during this period first bringing 3 ½ years of false peace then breaking the peace agreement and ushering in 3 ½ years of accelerating tribulation and evil. The Great Tribulation is spoken of by Daniel in the O. T. and Jesus and John the Revelator in the N. T.

Daniel 9:24-27

#### II. How do we know the tribulation period will be seven years?

The 70 weeks mentioned in the book of Daniel are widely considered by biblical scholars to be 70 weeks of years. 70 weeks would be 490 years and one week would be seven years. Daniel spoke of seven weeks or 49 years until the rebuilding of Jerusalem, 62 more weeks or 434 years until the Messiah would come to be killed which leaves one week left unfulfilled. This seven year period will be fulfilled in the time known as the Great Tribulation also called the time of Jacob's trouble.

Daniel 9:24-27; Daniel 12:1

# III. What are some of the major events that will take place during the first 3 ½ years of the tribulation?

A. A great time of distress and confusion that will put the world in panic.

Matthew 24:40-41

B. The revived Roman Empire made up of a 10 league federation of nations that come out of the ancient Roman Empire.

Daniel 7:4-11

C. The rise of the antichrist over this revived federation of nations.

Daniel 7:8; Daniel 9:26; II Thessalonians 2:3; Revelation 13:3

1. The antichrist will make a seven year peace deal with Israel.

Daniel 9:27

2. Deceive many with false peace.

Revelation 6:2

3. Magnify himself

Daniel 8:11, 25; 11:36-37; II Thessalonians 2:4

4. Speak against God

Daniel 7:8, 20, 25; Revelation 13:5-6

5. Receive his power from Satan

Revelation 13:5

6. Will break the peace agreement

Daniel 9:27

IV. The false prophet will rise over the religious system that is left on earth after the rapture. He will give allegiance to the antichrist.

Revelation 13

V. The salvation of 144,000 Jews who will trust Christ during the tribulation.

Revelation 7:4-ff

VI. God will send two witnesses to prophesy in Jerusalem. These two men may be Elijah and Enoch of the O. T.

Revelation 11:3-ff

VII. The seven seals of Revelation are opened.

Revelation 6-8

VIII. The seven trumpets of Revelation are blown.

Revelation 8-11

# SURVEY OF BIBLICAL END TIME EVENTS LESSON FIVE

# "Second Half of Seven Year Tribulation"

- I. The antichrist in the last half of the tribulation
  - A. Antichrist stops Jewish sacrifices.

Daniel 9:27; 12:11

B. Antichrist breaks peace agreement with Israel

Daniel 9:27; Revelation 12

C. Antichrist sits in temple and claims to be god and requires worship.

II Thessalonians 2:3-4

D. Antichrist institutes the mark of the beast.

Revelation 13:13-18

- II. Major Events in the last half of seven year tribulation
  - A. The devil is cast down to earth and can no longer accuse the brethren.

Revelation 12:7ff

- B. God warns humanity one last time by sending three angels.
  - 1. The first angel proclaims the everlasting gospel. Revelation 14:6-7
  - 2. The second angel warns about the coming destruction of "Babylon." Revelation 14:8
  - 3. The third angel warns humanity to reject the mark of the beast and not to worship his image. Revelation 14:9-11

C. Seven vials poured out upon the earth.

#### Revelation 16

1. Bad sores on those with mark of beast. Revelation 16:2

2. Blood in seas kills everything. Revelation 16:3

3. Rivers and other waters become blood. Revelation 16:4

4. Men killed with fire. Revelation 16:8-9

5. Darkness brings emotional pain. Revelation 16:10-11

6. Euphrates River dries up. Revelation 16:12

7. Largest earthquake in the history of the world. Revelation 16:17-21

D. The great harlot destroyed and one world religion replaced with Satan worship.

Revelation 17-18

E. The Lord Jesus Christ returns to earth to destroy the armies of the antichrist.

Revelation 19:11ff

F. Antichrist and false prophet are thrown into the lake of fire.

Revelation 19:20

# SURVEY OF BIBLICAL END TIME EVENTS LESSON SIX

# "Battle of Armageddon"

#### I. What is The Battle of Armageddon?

The term "Armageddon" is used to describe the final battle on earth at the end of the Seven Year Tribulation. The military armies of the nations of the world will gather for one last great conflict. This most destructive of all wars will signal the end of this age and the beginning of the kingdom of Jesus Christ on earth.

Revelation 16:12 - 16

#### II. Where will The Battle of Armageddon be fought?

The name "Armageddon" is from the Hebrew name, *Megiddo*. *Megiddo* is a very important biblical place positioned on the southern Plain of Esdraelon. Many great historic battles have been fought at this location. In the Old Testament, Barak defeated the Canaanites and Gideon defeated the Midianites on this same battlefield. *Megiddo* overlooks the Jezreel Valley and the Valley of Megiddo. Most biblical scholars believe these valleys of Megiddo will be the place of the Battle of Armageddon.

# III. Why does The Battle of Armageddon take place?

There are Three Biblical Reasons

A. The Antichrist will lead the nations of the world to destroy Israel and Jerusalem once and for all.

Zechariah 14:1-2

B. The Antichrist will lead the nations into battle against God Himself to destroy the Lord Himself.

Daniel 8:23-25, Psalm 2:1-4, Revelation 19:19

C. God will use the Antichrist's plans against him by using the Battle of Armageddon as a final judgment of those that have opposed God and His people.

Zephaniah 3:8, Revelation 19:11-18

# IV. Who will be involved in The Battle of Armageddon?

A. All the nations of the world.

Zechariah 14:1-2, Ezekiel 38, Revelation 19:19

B. The beast, false prophet, and antichrist.

Revelation 19:19-20, Daniel 8:25

C. The nation of Israel, the Jews that remain in the tribulation.

Zechariah 14:3, Revelation 19:11-16

D. The Lord Jesus Christ.

Zechariah 14:3, Revelation 19:11 - 16

E. All the saved people from all of history.

Revelation 19:14

#### V. Who will win The Battle of Armageddon?

#### **JESUS CHRIST!**

Revelation 19:15, 20-21; Zechariah 14:3-4, 9, 11-12

# SURVEY OF BIBLICAL END TIME EVENTS LESSON SEVEN

# "The Second Coming"

## I. What is The Second Coming?

In Christian doctrine the Second Coming refers to the return of Jesus Christ to earth to establish His earthly kingdom. The first coming was at His birth and his Second Coming will be at the conclusion of the Seven Year Tribulation. Some denominations refer to the Second Coming as the Second Advent.

Acts 1:9 – 11, Colossians 3:4, Zechariah 14:4-5

#### II. <u>Is The Second Coming the same event as the Rapture?</u>

No! The New Testament describes in detail the Second Coming of Jesus Christ at the end of the Seven Year Tribulation period. The Rapture is described in detail as occurring just prior to the Seven Year Tribulation beginning. While there are many differences between these events they are often confused. The main differences are timing and purpose. The Rapture happens just prior to the Tribulation and calls Christians up to be with Jesus Christ. The Second Coming happens at the end of the Tribulation and Christians are pictured coming back with Christ to earth.



#### III. Biblical Characteristics of the Second Coming

A. People will see the Lord returning.

Revelation 1:7. Matthew 24:29-31

B. The wicked are taken and the righteous remain on earth.

Matthew 13:28 - 30

C. Angels are sent to gather people for judgment.

D. Christians will return with Jesus in already resurrected bodies riding on white horses.

Revelation 
$$19:11-21$$

E. Jesus returns to earth on a white horse

Revelation 19:11

# IV. Why Does the Second Coming Happen?

A. So Jesus Christ can execute judgment on the devil and the remaining living lost people that have rejected Christ.

B. The Lord will return to establish His kingdom on earth.

## SURVEY OF BIBLICAL END TIME EVENTS LESSON EIGHT

# "The Millennial Reign of Jesus Christ"

I. What is The Millennial Reign of Christ?

The word, millennial, comes from the Latin word, *millennium*, and the Greek word, *chiliasm*, which means "thousand years." The Millennial Reign of Christ is a literal 1,000 year period in which Jesus Christ will establish His kingdom on earth, his throne in Jerusalem, and rule as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. The Millennial Reign will begin immediately after the Second Coming of Jesus Christ after the Seven Year Tribulation. The Millennial Reign will be a time of paradise on earth with everything like it was in the Garden of Eden.

Revelation 20:1-6

II. What is the Purpose of the Millennial Reign of Christ?

This 1,000 year period has a threefold purpose

A. It is a time when God will prove that he has not forgotten His covenant with Israel.

Zechariah 14:8-11

B. It will be a time when Jesus restores the earth to the way He intended it to be from the beginning of creation.

Zechariah 14:9

C. It will be a time to prepare the earth and people for the coming of eternity and the entrance of a new heaven and a new earth.

Zechariah 14:16-21

#### III. Characteristics of the Millennial Reign of Christ

A. There will be an end to war.

Micah 4:3-4; Isaiah 2:4; Jeremiah 23:5-6

B. Jesus will rule from His throne in Jerusalem.

Revelation 19:15; Isaiah 1:26; Zechariah 8:20-23

C. Animals will become peaceful, and will only eat vegetation.

Isaiah 11:6-9; Genesis 1:29-30

D. Life spans will be increased like they were after creation.

Isaiah 65:20-25

E. There will be peace on earth.

I Corinthians 15:24-25; Isaiah 9:6; Isaiah 2:3-4

F. Resurrected saints will rule and reign with Christ.

Matthew 25:21; Isaiah 2:3-4; Revelation 20:4, 6

G. A new river will emerge from Jerusalem that will have sustaining power and life.

Zechariah 14:8-9; Ezekiel 47:8-11

H. The feast of Tabernacles will be reestablished for everyone.

Zechariah 14:16-19, Leviticus 23:33-44, Deuteronomy 31:10-13; Jeremiah 16:14-15

I. The whole earth will be full of the knowledge of God.

Isaiah 11:9

# SURVEY OF BIBLICAL END TIME EVENTS LESSON NINE

# "The Judgments of God Part 1"

- I. The Bible reveals three distinct judgments of God
  - A. The Judgment Seat of God
    - 1. The judgment seat of God is a judgment just for saved people. Every saved person from the beginning of human history through the tribulation will appear at this judgment.
    - 2. The judgment for Christians will take place after the rapture and before the end of the tribulation.
    - 3. Christians will give an account to God for everything they have done in their Christian lives.

Romans 14:10-13; II Corinthians 5:10; I Corinthians 3:11-15; I Peer 1:17

- B. The Judgment of the Nations
  - 1. The judgment of the nations is for the nations of the world.
  - 2. The judgment of the nations will take place after the tribulation and early on in the millennial reign of Jesus Christ.
  - 3. Nations will be judged for how they have treated the nation of Israel.

Matthew 25:31-46; Revelation 19:11-21; Joel 3:2; Zechariah 14:6

- C. The Great White Throne Judgment
  - 1. The Great White Throne Judgment will be for every person that has rejected Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord since human history began.
  - 2. The judgment will take place after the millennial reign of Christ is over.
  - 3. The Lord will provide evidence of the losts' rejection of Jesus Christ and they will be banished to hell for eternity as punishment.

I Corinthians 15:24-28; Revelation 20:11-15; Revelation 21:7-8

# SURVEY OF BIBLICAL END TIME EVENTS

# LESSON TEN

# "The Bema Judgment"

#### I. The Judgment Seat of Christ or *Bema* Seat Judgment

"Judgment Seat" is the translation of one Greek word, *bema*. The word, *bema*, was used in the gospels to refer to the raised platform used by a Roman magistrate or ruler to make decisions or pass sentence on someone.

Matthew 27:19; John 19:13

The word, *bema*, was originally taken from Isthmian games where contestants would compete for a prize. The victor of an event who played by the rules was led by the judge to a platform called the *bema* to receive his reward. Typically during that time period a wreath would be placed on his head as a symbol of victory.

I Corinthians 9:24-25; II Timothy 2:5

#### II. What is the purpose of the Judgment Seat of Christ or *Bema* Seat Judgment?

The primary purpose of the *Bema* Seat Judgment is to reward Christians that have lived the Christian life in a Christ like way. Christians that have failed to live the Christian life in obedience to Christ will suffer the loss of rewards.

I Corinthians 4:5; Revelation 22:12; I Corinthians 3:13-15

#### III. Jesus Christ is our judge at the *Bema* Seat Judgment

The Bible clearly describes Jesus Christ as the judge of all people. We will stand before the resurrected, living Lord Jesus Christ on judgment day.

II Corinthians 5:10; I Corinthians 4:5; Romans 14:10

#### IV. What are the rewards that can be received or lost at the *Bema* Seat Judgment?

A. The Crown of Righteousness – this crown is given for faithfulness in using our spiritual gifts and opportunities in the service of the Lord and for being ready and anticipating His return.

II Timothy 4:8

B. The Crown of Life – this crown is reserved for Christians that endure testings, trials, and temptations and remain faithful to the Lord. Faithful Christian martyrs will receive this crown.

James 1:2; Revelation 2:10

C. The Crown of Glory – this crown is promised to Elders for faithful service and discharge of their responsibilities in shepherding God's people.

I Peter 5:2-4

D. The Crown of Rejoicing – this crown is a reward given to Christians that have been faithful in witnessing and leading others into relationship with Jesus Christ.

I Thessalonians 2:19; Philippians 4:1; Daniel 12:3

E. The Incorruptible Crown – a crown given to Christians that faithfully live the Christian life, exercising self-control.

I Corinthians 9:25 - 27

V. What will we do with our rewards?

We will lay them down at the feet of Jesus Christ as an offering of worship. We will acknowledge that He and He alone is worthy of all honor and glory. We will acknowledge that it is only because of His salvation and working in and through our lives that we were able to accomplish anything worthy of reward.

Revelation 4:10-11

# SURVEY OF BIBLICAL END TIME EVENTS LESSON ELEVEN

# "The Great White Throne Judgment"

#### I. The Great White Throne Judgment

The Great White Throne Judgment is the time when Jesus Christ will judge every unsaved person that ever lived. Every person that ever lived on earth that failed to repent of their sins and place saving faith in Jesus Christ will appear before this judgment seat.

The vast majority of people that have lived on earth will appear at The Great White Throne Judgment. This will include atheists, agnostics, skeptics, mockers, religious people, cult followers, and members of every Christian denomination. There will probably be more religious people at this judgment than non-religious. There will be millions of people at this judgment that believed they were Christians. Every unrepentant, faithless, unregenerate, non-born-again person that has lived will be at this judgment. No Christian will appear at the Great White Throne Judgment.

Revelation 20:11-15; John 3:17-18; John 3:35-36

#### II. Where are Unsaved People that are waiting for The Great White Throne Judgment?

Every unsaved person that dies goes immediately to hell.

Revelation 20:13; Luke 16:19-23; II Peter 3:7; Revelation 20:5

### III. What Evidence will be used at The Great White Throne Judgment?

The Book of Life will be opened to prove their names were never recorded because they never accepted Jesus Christ as Savior. Other books will be opened that have a record of the unsaved person's sin.

Revelation 20:12, 15; Luke 12:9; Titus 1:6; Luke 8:17; Ecclesiastes 12:14; Matthew 12:36-37; Matthew 7:22-23

# IV. The Bible Indicates that there will be Degrees of Judgment and Punishment Given at The Great White Throne Judgment

There is not enough scriptural evidence to understand the details of how God will judge individuals on the basis of their sins and opportunities to hear the gospel. However, there is sufficient scriptural evidence to prove that there will be a difference in the level of judgment and punishment. All will go to hell but the level of punishment will not be the same for every lost person.

Revelation 20:12; Matthew 11:21-24; Luke 12:47-48; Luke 20:46-47; Romans 2:5-6

# V. The Final Sentence for All People at The Great White Throne Judgment will be Banishment to Hell for Eternity

The Word of God is replete with Scripture that teaches the Lord Jesus Christ will punish the unsaved with eternity in hell. There will be no mercy extended at The Great White Throne Judgment, only justice.

Revelation 20:14-15; Isaiah1:28; Mark 9:44-48; John 15:6; Matthew 3:10; Matthew 8:12; Revelation 21:8; Jude 10:13; James 2:13

### VI. <u>Jesus will be the Judge at The Great White Throne Judgment</u>

Many people that profess to be Christians do not accept that Jesus Christ will judge the lost and punish them in hell. However, Scripture is clear that Jesus Christ will be the judge of all people and that He will judge on that day without mercy.

Revelation 20:11; Acts 10:42; Acts 17:31; Romans 2:16; Matthew 7:22-23; James 2:13

# SURVEY OF BIBLICAL END TIME EVENTS LESSON TWELVE

# "New Heaven and New Earth"

#### I. What is the new heaven and new earth?

It is a reference to a time after the Great White Throne Judgment when Jesus Christ will cause the Kingdom of God to be fully consummated after the last enemy of death has been fully and completely destroyed. The new heaven and earth are about the full restoration of God's people and Christ's Kingdom, completing its subjugation of all authorities and powers. The new heaven and earth are about a supernatural restoration by God of His physical creation.

I Corinthians 15:25-26; Revelation 21:1-8

#### II. Does the Bible teach that God will make a new heaven and earth?

The Bible teaches in both the Old and New Testaments that the Lord will make a new heaven and earth.

Isaiah 65:17, 66:22; II Peter 3:13; Revelation 21:1

# III. How are we to interpret the word "new" in the teaching of new heaven and new earth?

In the New Testament Greek there are two Greek words that are translated as "new" in the English Bible.

- 1. Neos means new in time and unfamiliar.
- 2. *Kainos* means new in nature and better.

Example: In II Corinthians 5:17, Paul uses the word *kainos*. *Kainos* obviously should not be interpreted as something totally unfamiliar. *Kainos* denotes the idea of a total renovation that makes things better.

I believe we should understand the word, "new" as a complete and supernatural renovation. Just as Christians' physical bodies are raised to newness of life and glorified. I believe the Lord Jesus Christ will resurrect and restore His physical creation.

Romans 8:20-22; Acts 3:19-21

#### IV. The Bible is filled with verses that refer to the current heaven and earth passing away

Psalm 102:25-26; Hebrews 1:10-12; Isaiah 51:6; II Peter 3:10-12; Psalm 75:3; Matthew 24:35; Mark 13:31-32; Luke 21:33; Matthew 5:18

# V. The new heaven and earth are pictured in Scripture as Merging

The new earth will be restored to perfection like the Garden of Eden. The new heaven will descend to the earth.

Revelation 21:2, 10

# SURVEY OF BIBLICAL END TIME EVENTS LESSON THIRTEEN

#### "Heaven"

#### I. What is heaven?

Heaven is the eternal reward and place of abode for those that have been saved through repentance and faith in Jesus Christ. Heaven is the place where Christ rules from His throne and all other eternal created beings like angels live and worship Christ. Heaven is a perfect place, ruled by a perfect God, and inhabited by sinners that have been made perfect by the blood of Jesus Christ.

Revelation 21; 22:1-5

### II. Who made heaven?

Jesus Christ is the architect and builder of heaven. Christ has promised to prepare an eternal home for those He has saved.

Revelation 21:2, 5; I Corinthians 2:9; John 14:1-3

# III. What is the best thing about heaven?

The best thing about heaven is that God dwells there and we will dwell with Him in His presence forever.

Revelation 21:3, 7; Revelation 22:3-5; I Corinthians 13:12; I John 3:2

#### IV. What will heaven be like?

- 1. It will be a perfect place. Revelation 21:1-2, 10-11
- 2. It will be a place of perfect peace. Revelation 21:4
- 3. It will be a place of eternal reward. Revelation 21:7
- 4. It will be a place of eternal light. Revelation 21:11, 23; 22:5
- 5. It is a walled place. Revelation 21:12, 14, 17-19

6. It is a gated place.

Revelation 21:12-13, 15, 21, 25

7. It is a beautifully decorated place.

Revelation 21:12, 14, 18-21

8. It is a very large place.

Revelation 21:15-17

9. It is a place of worship and service.

Revelation 21:22, 24, 26; 22:3

10. It is a place with water.

Revelation 22:1-2

11. It is a place where the tree of life is made available to mankind.

Revelation 22:2