

THE LAST SEVEN YEARS CHART : PART 1

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Below is an updated version of a chart which I originally made on December 24, 2000 entitled the "Last Seven Years Chart". I have made it larger, clearer, and I have added a few more notations to the chart, in order to enhance your understanding regarding what the Prophet Daniel was writing about over two and a half millennia ago. While the original version of this chart had been available on my website for a little more than sixteen years, I'd never taken the time to actually write a full article to accompany it. That is, until I wrote this three-part series in 2017.

Furthermore, it was really not my intention to write this series. At that time in 2017, I was spending a lot of time making some major improvements to the Bill's Bible Basics

website. Most of these improvements were behind-the-scenes in the HTML and CSS code; but it is also observed in better paragraph formatting in my articles, and much more flexible web pages which will display better on a variety of devices from desktop computers, to laptops, to tablets, and also to cell phones.

At any rate, when it came time for me to look at the Last Seven Years chart itself, that is when I realized that it was also time to give it a good update, because the one I created so many years earlier was lacking, and my graphic skills had improved considerably since that time. Thus, I worked on the image. But then I also decided that I really needed to offer some kind of an explanation for the chart, for those people who may be clueless regarding what it is about. Thus, this three-part series came into being.

As many Bible-knowledgeable Christians will already know, the Last Seven Years -- or Seventieth Week -- is a part of the overall "Seventy Weeks" prophecy. This was a series of astounding, precise time prophecies which were given to the Prophet Daniel by the Angelic Messengers. This "Last Seven Years Chart" reflects my understanding of the Seventieth Week prophecy at this current time. It is based entirely on verses we find in the Book of Daniel, as well as in the Book of Revelation. It may be updated at some point in the future as my understanding of Daniel's prophecies becomes even more clear, Lord willing.

More precisely, the phrase Seventieth Week pertains to the final seven-year period of Daniel's 490-year prophecy, and certain prophetic events which the Angels said would occur in Israel, Jerusalem and the temple, and which would lead up to the glorious return of Jesus Christ towards the very end of that 490-year prophetic age. For those of you who may not fully understand how we arrive at a total of four hundred and ninety years, based on a prophecy that seemingly only covers a period of seventy weeks, it comes down to understanding the original Hebrew words which are used in Daniel's prophecy.

As I point out in articles such as "Jesus Christ's Return: Have We Been Deceived?", the Hebrew word in this prophecy which is translated into English as "weeks", is the word "shabuwa", or "shabua". This word does not mean "week" in a literal sense; it actually means "seven". In other words, in Hebrew, the phrase really means "seventy sevens", or a total of four hundred and ninety. I explain this more in a

few other articles, which I again encourage you to take the time to read.

Suffice it to say that if we read everything in context that is written in the Book of Daniel, as well as compare it with other verses and events which are described in the Bible, we come to understand that the "seventy weeks" are not actually referring to seventy seven-day periods. Rather, they really mean seventy seven-year periods, or a total of four hundred and ninety years. As I mentioned earlier, this is a very exact, very precise, very focused time prophecy. Furthermore, Daniel's prophecy is describing a prophetic age which began over four hundred years before Christ was even born.

In actuality, I have become increasingly convinced by the Scriptures in more recent years -- beginning in about 2011 to 2012 -- that the final events of Daniel's prophetic age occurred during the last half of the First Century, exactly as Jesus had warned His followers about forty years earlier, while He was still with them in human flesh. While I will be discussing these events to a limited degree in this current series, please refer to the series and articles which are listed at the end of this same series for a more in-depth, Scripture-based examination of this amazing subject. You may possibly be amazed!

[Last Seven Years Chart Goes Here]

At first glance, the above chart may seem rather confusing to some of you, due to the many time periods which I have included on it. It was a little confusing to me too when I first decided to work out Daniel's prophecies in a graphic form over twenty-four years ago. However, if you take your time and really study the chart carefully, you will get the gist of it. The reason why I added so many different details to this chart, is so that my readers can properly understand the relationships between the different points in time, no matter which part of the chart you look at.

To give you an easy point of reference, and to help you to understand the foundational elements and key moments of the prophecy, I have marked three locations on the chart with the letters A, B and C. These three letters correspond to the following events and points in time:

A = The beginning of the final 7-year period, or Seventieth Week. The start of this period is marked by an alliance,

pact, agreement, or a Holy Covenant, which is confirmed between the different parties who are mentioned in the Book of Daniel.

B = The middle -- or midst -- of the 7-year period, when the Jewish Daily Sacrifice and Oblation are abruptly halted.

C = The end of the 7-year period when Jesus Christ returns to the Earth, following the Great Tribulation, and takes the Elect -- that is to say, the Bride of Christ -- to be with Him forever in His Kingdom. Please note that amongst Christians, there's considerable debate regarding exactly when the Great Tribulation begins, as well as how long it lasts. Likewise, the precise point of Christ's return is also hotly debated.

Below is the original prophecy which was given to the Prophet Daniel by the Angel, and upon which the above chart is based in large part. Please note that the first sixty-nine weeks of this Seventy Weeks prophecy are explained in more detail in some of the articles and series which are listed at the end of this current article:

"Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy. Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times. And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined. And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate."

Daniel 9:24-27, KJV

While they are not mentioned in the above main prophecy, in other prophecies which were also given to Daniel, there are

two additional time periods of thirty days and forty-five days -- or a total seventy-five day period -- which seem to occur after Jesus has returned at the end of the 70th Week of the Seventy Weeks prophecy. Again, exactly when each of these events occurs is highly debated.

To better understand how I arrived at these conclusions regarding the specific time intervals which are shown in the chart, please invest some time in slowly reading the Books of Daniel and Revelation in their entirety. All of the time frames shown above are mentioned in them. It simply requires a little bit of work to compare the different verses which are found in each chapter, in order for a clear picture to form regarding when each period begins and ends.

As I mentioned earlier, in Daniel and the Book of Revelation, we are told that the Beast -- who is a foreign political and military leader who invades the land of Israel -- causes the Daily Sacrifice and Oblation to cease in the temple compound. While these verses seem to indicate that it is the Beast who does this, let me interject here that as I explain in another series entitled "Vespasian, Titus and the Fall of Jerusalem", it is also true that even before the temple had been burned down, the extremely violent and ungodly Zealots, Sicarii and other ungodly thugs had already stopped the Daily Sacrifice. To really learn about their wickedness and depravity, please refer to that series.

The Beast likewise sets up something called the Abomination of Desolation, which I fully explain in my separate series entitled "Abomination of Desolation: Explained!". This vile Beast also rages and blasphemes against God continually, and he also persecutes the Saints of the Most High for a period of three and a half Jewish years. That is to say, during the final Seventieth Week of Daniel's prophecy. This period of intense, terrible affliction is commonly referred to as the Great Tribulation. Again, you will find it amply discussed in my six-part series called "The Great Tribulation and the Rapture". This three and a half year period is mentioned in these prophetic books in the following manners:

1. "forty-two months"
2. "1,260 days"
3. "time and times and the dividing of time" (3 1/2)
4. "time, times, and an half" (3 1/2)

As I briefly mentioned earlier, Prophet Daniel also mentions

a 1,290-day period, as well as a 1,335-day period. The latter time span is the same as 44.4 Jewish months at thirty days each, while the 1,290 days equals exactly forty-three Jewish months. Following are the specific verses where these time spans are mentioned in the Books of Daniel and Revelation. I have added a few words in brackets in order to clarify what is being said:

"And he [the Beast] shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time."
Daniel 7:25, KJV

"And I heard the man clothed in linen, which was upon the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand unto heaven, and swore by him that liveth for ever that it shall be for a time, times, and an half; and when he [the Beast] shall have accomplished to scatter the power of the holy people, all these things shall be finished."
Daniel 12:7, KJV

"And from the time that the daily sacrifice shall be taken away, and the abomination that maketh desolate set up, there shall be a thousand two hundred and ninety days. Blessed is he that waiteth, and cometh to the thousand three hundred and five and thirty days."
Daniel 12:11-12, KJV

"But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under foot forty and two months. And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth."
Revelation 11:2-3, KJV

"And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days."
Revelation 12:6, KJV

"And there was given unto him [the Beast] a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months. And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven. And it was given

unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations."

Revelation 13:5-7, KJV

Now, concerning the main Seventy Weeks prophecy -- that is to say, Daniel 9:24-27 -- as I point out in some of the series which I list at the end of this series, at this current time, I lean towards the following understanding regarding some of the words and phrases which are included in it:

- The phrase "the people of the prince that shall come" is a direct reference to General Titus and his Roman legions, and their allies, which included King Herod Agrippa II and his army, the Arabians, some of the Seleucids, etc. These points are all described in detail in the aforementioned "Fall of Jerusalem" series.
- The phrase "destroy the city and the sanctuary" obviously refers to the destruction of Jerusalem and the temple in the year 70 AD by General Titus -- who was the eldest son of the emperor, Vespasian -- and his legions and allies. In fact, the First Jewish-Roman War was actually begun by Vespasian, who had been sent by Emperor Nero to quell the rebellion in Judea. However, after Nero committed suicide, Vespasian had to return to Rome in order to become the new emperor, while his son Titus carried on the war campaign in Judea.
- The phrase "with a flood" refers to a wave of Roman armies or legions, as well as local allies who join forces with the Beast -- that is to say, General Titus -- in order to subdue and conquer Israel, and more specifically, to totally crush the city of Jerusalem, which had become a political hotbed, and a very serious thorn in the side of Rome, due to the fact that three radical factions had taken control of the city.
- The phrase "unto the end of the war" is referring to the First Jewish-Roman War. As I point out in the aforementioned articles, this was a seven-year war which began in 66 AD, and concluded in 73 AD. It was right in the middle of those seven years -- that is to say, "in the midst of the week", exactly as Daniel's prophecy says -- in 70 AD when Jerusalem and the temple were destroyed. Are you beginning to see how Biblical prophecy and secular history fit together like a hand in a glove? It is very interesting, isn't it?

At any rate, Herod the Great's Jewish fortress of Masada was

one of the final places to fall to Roman conquest during that seven-year war. By that time, the fortress had become one of the final strongholds of the knife-wielding Jewish rebels who were known as the Sicarii. It is recorded in the historical annals that 960 people chose to commit suicide there, rather than submit to Roman authority. I discuss this subject more at length in the article entitled "The Fall of Masada".

- The phrase "desolations are determined" refers to the great destruction which was wrought by the Romans, which ultimately resulted in both the Temple Mount and Jerusalem being left in ruins and barren, and much of Israel being left bereft of a significant Jewish population for a substantial period of time. Many other villages and cities were also burned to the ground, and their populace slain, if they refused to submit to the Romans. In fact, in recent years, and contrary to the Futurist point of view, I have been leaning more towards the belief that the temple won't ever be built again. My reasons are explained in my twelve-part series called "Who is Babylon the Great?".

- The phrase "the week" refers to the 70th week, or the final seven-year period of that 490-year prophetic age, which the Prophet Daniel describes in his "Seventy Weeks" prophecy. To reiterate, I believe that "week" lasted from 66 AD to 73 AD, and constituted the events of the First Jewish-Roman War.

- As I explained earlier, the phrase "midst of the week" is referring to the middle of that final seven-year period. That is to say, right at the middle of the First Jewish-Roman War when the temple was burned down and the stone blocks totally dismantled, exactly as Jesus had warned would happen.

- The phrase "cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease" obviously refers to the temple sacrifices and oblations being put to an end in the middle of this seven-year period. Given that the historical record indicates that Jerusalem and the temple were destroyed by Titus and the Romans in 70 AD, this would seem to be when the sacrifice and the oblation ceased. However, as I mentioned earlier, the ungodly, despicable men who had taken over the temple compound also caused the daily sacrifices to cease, although that may have been temporary. Furthermore, they removed the real high priests, and they put some of their own men in those positions. That, along with their extreme violence and bloodshed, resulted in the temple compound being polluted and defiled.

- The phrase "the covenant" is one item I am not so certain about. Based upon a few other verses, my current leaning is that it may refer to an agreement that General Titus may have possibly made with Herod Agrippa II and other of his allies, regarding the invasion of Jerusalem. As I briefly mentioned before, this Herod actually sided with Titus after failing to convince the Jewish seditionists in Jerusalem to surrender to Titus. Thus, Herod's armies fought right along side of Titus' legions. In fact, to prove what a traitor he was, following Jerusalem's fall, both Herod and his sister Bernice went to live in Rome. Again, this is a historical fact which you can easily confirm for yourself.

Another very strong reason why I tend to believe that this covenant may have been some kind of military agreement or alliance, is because we are told by Daniel that this leader secretly works against the covenant after it is made. This leads me to believe that it was just a Roman ploy all along. Consider the following verses which may possibly be related to the covenant that is mentioned in Daniel 9:27:

"And both these kings' hearts shall be to do mischief, and they shall speak lies at one table; but it shall not prosper: for yet the end shall be at the time appointed. Then shall he return into his land with great riches; and his heart shall be against the holy covenant; and he shall do exploits, and return to his own land. At the time appointed he shall return, and come toward the south; but it shall not be as the former, or as the latter. For the ships of Chittim shall come against him: therefore he shall be grieved, and return, and have indignation against the holy covenant: so shall he do; he shall even return, and have intelligence with them that forsake the holy covenant. And arms shall stand on his part, and they shall pollute the sanctuary of strength, and shall take away the daily sacrifice, and they shall place the abomination that maketh desolate. And such as do wickedly against the covenant shall he corrupt by flatteries: but the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits."

Daniel 11:27-32, KJV

In my opinion, what further adds weight to the possibility of this being a military treaty of some sort is the fact that in the Book of Revelation, we are told by John that Ten Horns -- that is to say, ten kings or possibly military leaders -- side with the Beast as a result of their mutual hatred of Babylon the Great. Their ultimate goal is of course to utterly destroy

the mysterious Babylon -- by fire, no less -- as we see by the following verses:

"And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and TEN HORNS, and seven crowns upon his heads."

Revelation 12:3, KJV

"And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and TEN HORNS, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy."

Revelation 13:1, KJV

"So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and TEN HORNS . . . And the angel said unto me, Wherefore didst thou marvel? I will tell thee the mystery of the woman, and of the beast that carrieth her, which hath the seven heads and TEN HORNS . . . And the TEN HORNS which thou sawest are TEN KINGS, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast . . . And the TEN HORNS which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire."

Revelation 17:3, 7, 12, 16, KJV

As I said, my understanding regarding the nature of the Holy Covenant is rather iffy, even after so many years of trying to decipher those verses. For the record, I have considered other possibilities which I haven't fully fleshed out yet. One is that the covenant may have had something to do with Antiochus IV Epiphanes who earlier polluted the temple at the time of the Maccabean Revolt. I have also considered it might have something to do with John of Giscala, who was a vile deceiver and flatterer who led one of the factions in the city during the Roman siege. They indeed polluted the temple due to their foul deeds.

So there you have it; some background information regarding how I currently understand some of these ancient prophecies, and how I came up with the time frames that you see in this Last Seven Years Chart. Of course, I won't dare claim that I fully understand it all, or that I have it all correct. I am sure that I don't. Bible prophecy is a very deep, difficult subject to grasp, and spotty historical records do not help

us in our quest to understand what is stated in God's Word. However, I do believe that there is enough found in secular records to confirm much of what I've stated in this series.

While I could conclude this series here and now, and just leave it a very short article, I would like to personally address some of my Christian friends. In particular, I want to address my Futurist-leaning friends. As many of you will know, and as I amply explain in the series "Jesus Christ's Return: Have We Been Deceived?", for over forty years of my life, I fully and totally embraced the Futurist perspective. For those of my readers who do not understand what I mean by this, it means that I was utterly convinced, and diligently taught, and publicly preached in four locations around the globe no less, that Jesus would hopefully return during our lifetimes, or perhaps sometime after our earthly lives have concluded. After all, some of us are getting rather old now.

I also clung to the firm belief that many of the events which I discuss here, were future events, and not past, fulfilled events. Like so many of you, I looked forward to a seven-year Holy Covenant; a new temple standing on Mount Moriah in East Jerusalem; the arrival of the Antichrist who would sit in the temple and declare himself "God"; the Great Tribulation; the Mark of the Beast and the Rapture. So as you can see, I was a very solid Futurist. I was just like so many of you still are today. "So what changed?" some of you are probably no doubt asking yourselves. "What could possibly cause you to abandon such long-held beliefs, and make such a u-turn in your belief system?" Well, I already explain it quite fully in the series "Jesus Christ's Return: Have We Been Deceived?", but I will tell you again here.

As I said, this belief in the future Return of Jesus Christ was a very powerful, driving force in my personal life, and I endured persecution, and sometimes engaged in arguments -- which I will no longer do -- because of it. That is just how convinced I was. However, after so many years of embracing the Futurist theological perspective, fourteen years ago in 2011, I began a more thorough examination of the Scriptures on my own, unhindered by outside voices, so as to determine if what I had begun to sense was truly from the Lord or not. As it turns out, what I discovered is that contrary to what I had long believed, I had not embraced what is truly written in the Scriptures. I had in fact been long deceived by the doctrines of men. I had fallen under the spell of Futurism, which has been popular for the past fifty plus years.

This powerful, personal deception began over fifty years ago when I was still a young Christian man, and at a time when I had not yet acquired a very strong foundation in the Bible, or any degree of Wisdom and Spiritual Discernment. Just like so many other young people of that era -- and millions of folks since then -- I became an easy prey for this misguided doctrine regarding the Lord's return to the Earth.

Sadly, this false doctrine still has a very strong grip on millions of modern Christians. In fact, it continues to be the dominant belief system of Western Christians today, who very anxiously -- but misguidedly, in my view -- wait for the so-called "Second Coming" of Christ, at which time they expect to be Raptured to Heaven. In fact, I would dare say that it is this false doctrine which quite possibly may be keeping organized religion alive today. After all, they need to give their sheep hope, and a reason to continue attending their church buildings, and putting money in their coffers.

So what caused me to suddenly change my views and make such an unprecedented about-face in my personal beliefs? Well, I can tell you this. It didn't result from listening to some fancy TV or radio preacher; or from reading someone's latest book; or by listening to some preacher in a huge stadium; or by watching questionable YouTube videos all day. It also was not just some sudden impulse that I had. My abandoning the doctrine of Futurism was in fact due to a gradual change in my understanding, as I will be explaining a bit more in upcoming parts of this series.

In actuality, I already told you what happened, and why I had to forsake my misguided ideas. The simple truth is that I stopped listening to men, and instead, I looked directly to the Word of God, led by the guidance of the Holy Spirit; which is what we should all be doing anyway, shouldn't we? This truth is very evident in verses such as the following, which advise us to confirm all things with God's Word, and to be led by the Holy Spirit in our understanding:

"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

2 Timothy 2:15, KJV

"And the brethren immediately sent away Paul and Silas by night unto Berea: who coming thither went into the synagogue

of the Jews. These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so."

Acts 17:10-11, KJV

"Prove [test, examine] all things; hold fast that which is good."

1 Thessalonians 5:21, KJV

"Then said he unto them, Therefore every scribe which is instructed unto the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which bringeth forth out of his treasure things new and old."

Matthew 13:52, KJV

"Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me."

John 5:39, KJV

"Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world."

1 John 4:1, KJV

"But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you."

John 14:26, KJV

"Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come."

John 16:13, KJV

Please go to part two for the continuation of this series.

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THE LAST SEVEN YEARS CHART : PART 2

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False Doctrines, False Prophets, False Brethren, Deceivers, Liars And Antichrists Abound, My "Deception Super List" KJV Bible Verse List, God Will Send Strong Delusion And Lying Spirits To Deceive Us If We Reject The Truth Of His Word, God May Give Us What We Want But Send Leanness To Our Soul, Micaiah The True Prophet Of God vs. Israel's False Prophets, Fulfilled Prophecy Is The Mark Of A True Prophet Of God, False Prophets Who Purposely "Prophecy" In Gray Areas, New Age Deceivers, God Never Lies And Always Fulfills His Word, God Alone Calls Appoints And Anoints His Chosen Prophets, Social Networks False Prophets, The Example Of Young Samuel

Regarding why we should closely examine and compare to the Scriptures everything that we read and hear, my own example of former strong deception should make it rather obvious to you. There are a lot of false prophets, false brethren, and deceivers, liars and antichrists in the world who will make every effort to gobble you up with their false doctrines if you do not keep God's Word close to your heart, and compare everything to it. I should mention here that some of these false prophets are well-meaning individuals. Nevertheless, they are deceived, and oft times they don't even know it or realize it themselves. Thus, as the Apostle Paul writes in one of the verses which I share below, they are in fact deceived, and deceiving others with their own deception at the very same time.

Please consider the following verses, and be warned. Together with the previous set of verses that I shared at the end of part one, I refer to this rather extensive group of verses as my "Deception Super List" of KJV Bible verses. It is actually a compilation of seven of the hundreds of KJV Bible verse lists which I have personally compiled over the past fourteen plus years. You will also find it listed in the "KJV Bible Verse Lists" section of my website. We begin the list with Moses explaining to the Children of Israel how to recognize a false prophet:

"But the prophet, which shall presume to speak a word in my name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or that shall speak in the name of other gods, even that prophet shall die. And if thou say in thine heart, How shall we know the word which the LORD hath not spoken? When a prophet speaketh in the name of the LORD, if the thing follow not, nor come to pass, that is the thing which the LORD hath not spoken, but the prophet hath spoken it presumptuously: thou shalt not be afraid of him."

Deuteronomy 18:20-22, KJV

"These six things doth the LORD hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: A proud look, A LYING TONGUE, and hands that shed innocent blood, An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief, A false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren."

Proverbs 6:16-19, KJV

"The prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests bear rule by heir means; and my people love to have it so: and what will e do in the end thereof?"

Jeremiah 5:31, KJV

"For they prophesy falsely unto you in my name: I have not sent them, saith the LORD."

Jeremiah 29:9, KJV

"Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them."

Matthew 7:15-20, KJV

"Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field: But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way."

Matthew 13:24-25, KJV

"Then understood they how that he bade them not beware of the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees

and of the Sadducees."

Matthew 16:12, KJV

"And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican."

Matthew 18:17, KJV

"And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many . . . For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect."

Matthew 24:11, 24, KJV

"For false Christs and false prophets shall rise, and shall shew signs and wonders, to seduce, if it were possible, even the elect."

Mark 13:22, KJV

"Go your ways: behold, I send you forth as lambs among wolves."

Luke 10:3, KJV

"But there was a certain man, called Simon, which beforetime in the same city used sorcery, and bewitched the people of Samaria, giving out that himself was some great one: To whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, This man is the great power of God. And to him they had regard, because that of long time he had bewitched them with sorceries. But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. Then Simon himself believed also: and when he was baptized, he continued with Philip, and wondered, beholding the miracles and signs which were done . . . And when Simon saw that through laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given, he offered them money, Saying, Give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay hands, he may receive the Holy Ghost. But Peter said unto him, Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money. Thou hast neither part nor lot in this matter: for thy heart is not right in the sight of God. Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee. For I perceive that thou art in the gall of bitterness, and in the bond of iniquity. Then answered Simon, and said, Pray ye

to the Lord for me, that none of these things which ye have spoken come upon me."

Acts 8:9-13, 18-24, KJV

"And when they had gone through the isle unto Paphos, they found a certain sorcerer, a false prophet, a Jew, whose name was Barjesus: Which was with the deputy of the country, Sergius Paulus, a prudent man; who called for Barnabas and Saul, and desired to hear the word of God. But Elymas the sorcerer (for so is his name by interpretation) withstood them, seeking to turn away the deputy from the faith. Then Saul, (who also is called Paul,) filled with the Holy Ghost, set his eyes on him, And said, O full of all subtilty and all mischief, thou child of the devil, thou enemy of all righteousness, wilt thou not cease to pervert the right ways of the Lord? And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon thee, and thou shalt be blind, not seeing the sun for a season. And immediately there fell on him a mist and a darkness; and he went about seeking some to lead him by the hand."

Acts 13:6-11, KJV

"Then certain of the vagabond Jews, exorcists, took upon them to call over them which had evil spirits the name of the Lord Jesus, saying, We adjure you by Jesus whom Paul preacheth. And there were seven sons of one Sceva, a Jew, and chief of the priests, which did so. And the evil spirit answered and said, Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are ye? And the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, and overcame them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded."

Acts 19:13-16, KJV

"Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood. For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them."

Acts 20:28-30, KJV

"Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them."

Romans 16:17, KJV

"But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him . . . For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works."
2 Corinthians 11:3-4, 13-15, KJV

"I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed."
Galatians 1:6-9, KJV

"And that because of false brethren unawares brought in, who came in privily to spy out our liberty which we have in Christ Jesus, that they might bring us into bondage:"
Galatians 2:4, KJV

"That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:"
Ephesians 4:14-15, KJV

"Beware of dogs, beware of evil workers, beware of the concision."
Philippians 3:2, KJV

"Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition . . . And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: Even him, whose coming is after

the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness."

2 Thessalonians 2:3, 8-12, KJV

"As I besought thee to abide still at Ephesus, when I went into Macedonia, that thou mightest charge some that they teach no other doctrine, Neither give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which minister questions, rather than godly edifying which is in faith: so do."

1 Timothy 1:3-4, KJV

"Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;"

1 Timothy 4:1-2, KJV

"If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness; He is proud, knowing nothing, but doting about questions and strifes of words, whereof cometh envy, strife, railings, evil surmisings, Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness: from such withdraw thyself."

1 Timothy 6:3-5, KJV

"Now as Jannes and Jambres withstood Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the faith. But they shall proceed no further: for their folly shall be manifest unto all men, as theirs also was . . . But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived."

2 Timothy 3:8-9, 13, KJV

"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;"

2 Timothy 4:3, KJV

"But avoid foolish questions, and genealogies, and contentions, and strivings about the law; for they are

unprofitable and vain. A man that is an heretick after the first and second admonition reject; Knowing that he that is such is subverted, and sinneth, being condemned of himself." Titus 3:9-11, KJV

"Be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines. For it is a good thing that the heart be established with grace; not with meats, which have not profited them that have been occupied therein." Hebrews 13:9, KJV

"But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of." 2 Peter 2:1-2, KJV

"Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time. They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us . . . Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son." 1 John 2:18-19, 22 KJV

"And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world." 1 John 4:3, KJV

"For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist . . . Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son. If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed: For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds." 2 John 1:7, 9-11, KJV

What I find particularly interesting about all of this, is that the Scriptures clearly inform us that God Himself will purposely send strong delusion and lying spirits in order to deceive people, if that is truly what they want. In short, if we continually rebel against Him, and reject the truth of His Word, then He will basically say, "Okay, if you want to be deceived, well, then here you go. Be deceived." And He will send them a strong delusion, which they will readily accept, as you will see in a moment.

This is somewhat similar to how the Lord dealt with the rebellious and ever-complaining Israelites in the Pentateuch, or Torah. They complained about the heat. They complained about the lack of food and water. They complained that they missed their lives in Egypt. They complained about the giants who dwelt in Canaan. In the case of food and water, God sent them so much of it, that they grew loath to eat it. Thus, in the Book of Psalms we find the following interesting verse. I have included a few more below it, being as they concern this very same subject:

"And he gave them their request; but sent leanness into their soul."

Psalms 106:15, KJV

"Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts."

James 4:3, KJV

"Wherefore (as the Holy Ghost saith, To day if ye will hear his voice, Harden not your hearts, as in the provocation, in the day of temptation in the wilderness: When your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my works forty years . . . Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God . . . While it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts, as in the provocation."

Hebrews 3:7-9, 12, 15, KJV

But as I was saying, God Himself will send strong delusion if we insist on rejecting the truth of His Word. If you doubt that this is so, consider the following verses:

"I also will choose their delusions, and will bring their fears upon them; because when I called, none did answer; when I spake, they did not hear: but they did evil before mine eyes, and chose that in which I delighted not."

Isaiah 66:4, KJV

". . . because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie:"

2 Thessalonians 2:10-11, KJV

"And the messenger that was gone to call Micaiah spake unto him, saying, Behold now, the words of the prophets declare good unto the king with one mouth: let thy word, I pray thee, be like the word of one of them, and speak that which is good. And Micaiah said, As the LORD liveth, what the LORD saith unto me, that will I speak. So he came to the king. And the king said unto him, Micaiah, shall we go against Ramothgilead to battle, or shall we forbear? And he answered him, Go, and prosper: for the LORD shall deliver it into the hand of the king. And the king said unto him, How many times shall I adjure thee that thou tell me nothing but that which is true in the name of the LORD? And he said, I saw all Israel scattered upon the hills, as sheep that have not a shepherd: and the LORD said, These have no master: let them return every man to his house in peace. And the king of Israel said unto Jehoshaphat, Did I not tell thee that he would prophesy no good concerning me, but evil? And he said, Hear thou therefore the word of the LORD: I saw the LORD sitting on his throne, and all the host of heaven standing by him on his right hand and on his left. And the LORD said, Who shall persuade Ahab, that he may go up and fall at Ramothgilead? And one said on this manner, and another said on that manner. And there came forth a spirit, and stood before the LORD, and said, I will persuade him. And the LORD said unto him, Wherewith? And he said, I will go forth, and I will be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets. And he said, Thou shalt persuade him, and prevail also: go forth, and do so. Now therefore, behold, the LORD hath put a lying spirit in the mouth of all these thy prophets, and the LORD hath spoken evil concerning thee. But Zedekiah the son of Chenaanah went near, and smote Micaiah on the cheek, and said, Which way went the Spirit of the LORD from me to speak unto thee? And Micaiah said, Behold, thou shalt see in that day, when thou shalt go into an inner chamber to hide thyself. And the king of Israel said, Take Micaiah, and carry him back unto Amon the governor of the city, and to Joash the king's son; And say, Thus saith the king, Put this fellow in the prison, and feed him with bread of affliction and with water of affliction, until I come in peace."

1 Kings 22:13-27, KJV

Concerning the last group of verses and the account of God's true Prophet, Micaiah, this very same story is likewise found in 2 Chronicles 18:12-26.

As I explain in the article called "The Office of Prophets and Teachers", on the opposite end of the spiritual spectrum from all of the liars and deceivers, we have the true Prophets of the Lord, who not only really hear from God, and who truly prophesy, teach and preach correctly in agreement with God's Word, but their prophecies come to pass as well. Thus, God's Prophet Ezekiel tells us the following:

"And when this cometh to pass, (lo, it will come,) then shall they know that a prophet hath been among them."
Ezekiel 33:33, KJV

Thus, fulfilled prophecy is the mark -- or fruit -- of a true Spirit-inspired and Spirit-led Prophet of God. There is no "iffyness" about them whatsoever. As Jesus said, the good fruit -- or proof we could say -- that they hold a divinely appointed position, and aren't just self-proclaimed "wannabe prophets, is in the fact that their prophecies are accurately fulfilled. Let me share that set of verses with you again for emphasis:

"Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them."
Matthew 7:15-20, KJV

So God's true Prophets, such as Daniel, Micaiah, and all of the other Prophets of God who we find in both the Old and the New Testaments were certainly not like these modern "wannabe prophets" who say things which can be interpreted in many different ways. It is almost as if these people purposely leave gray areas in their "prophecies", in order to hedge their bets, and so that they never appear to be wrong. Tarot card readers, so-called modern psychics, palm readers, etc., do the very same thing. They are all a very deceptive lot who are listening to familiar spirits, and yet

so many foolish, deceived people are willing to spend their hard-earned money on these charlatans.

To reiterate my previous point, when a Prophet is truly inspired by God's Spirit, and hearing from the Lord, what he says will be clear and accurate, and it will be fulfilled to the letter. Why? Because God never lies, and He always keeps His Word, as we can easily determine by the following set of verses:

"God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?"
Numbers 23:19, KJV

"Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure:"
Isaiah 46:9-10, KJV

"And when this cometh to pass, (lo, it will come,) then shall they know that a prophet hath been among them."
Ezekiel 33:33, KJV

"I know that, whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ever: nothing can be put to it, nor any thing taken from it: and God doeth it, that men should fear before him. That which hath been is now; and that which is to be hath already been; and God requireth that which is past."
Ecclesiastes 3:14-15, KJV

"God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar; as it is written, That thou mightest be justified in thy sayings, and mightest overcome when thou art judged."
Romans 3:4, KJV

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:"
2 Timothy 3:16, KJV

"In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began;"
Titus 1:2, KJV

"We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts . . . For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost."

2 Peter 1:19, 21, KJV

"I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name."

Psalms 138:2, KJV

". . . For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven . . . Thou art my hiding place and my shield: I hope in thy word . . . Thy word is true from the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever."

Psalms 119:89, 14, 160, KJV

If there is one important lesson which I hope you draw from this particular part of this series, it is that it is only God who calls, appoints and anoints His chosen Prophets, and not man. Sadly, as I have mentioned to my online friends and readers many times before, I have seen way too many false, self-proclaimed "wannabe prophets" online, sharing all kinds of misguided nonsense on the social networks. Some of them have even said that their pastor told them that they were a prophet or prophetess of God. Therefore, they must be . . . at least so they believe. I have in fact made a few graphics about this subject because it irks me so much.

My friends, as I just said, as far as I know, that is not how it works. According to the Scriptures, God calls His own Prophets, just as we are likewise informed, that it is He who draws us to Jesus Christ. A prime example of this is the Prophet Samuel. Consider the following story, and how old Eli reacts when he realizes that God is in the process of calling young Samuel to be an upcoming Prophet in Israel:

"And ere the lamp of God went out in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was, and Samuel was laid down to sleep; That the LORD called Samuel: and he answered, Here am I. And he ran unto Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou calledst me. And he said, I called not; lie down again. And he went and lay down. And the LORD called yet again, Samuel. And Samuel arose and went to Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou didst call me. And he answered, I called not, my son; lie down

again. Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, neither was the word of the LORD yet revealed unto him. And the LORD called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou didst call me. And Eli perceived that the LORD had called the child. Therefore Eli said unto Samuel, Go, lie down: and it shall be, if he call thee, that thou shalt say, Speak, LORD; for thy servant heareth. So Samuel went and lay down in his place. And the LORD came, and stood, and called as at other times, Samuel, Samuel. Then Samuel answered, Speak; for thy servant heareth."

1 Samuel 3:3-10, KJV

Please go to part three for the conclusion of this series.

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THE LAST SEVEN YEARS CHART : PART 3

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The Example Of Young Jeremiah, I Was Unable To Resist Plain Truth Of The Scriptures, Connecting The Prophetic Dots And Seeing The True Picture, First Century Apostles Were Aware Of Daniel's Prophecies, Longing For Liberation From Rome, Apostles Did Not Fully Understand Daniel's Prophecies, Jews Erroneously Waited For The Physical Restoration Of Israel, Jesus Came And Suffered So As To Invite Us Into A Spiritual Kingdom, Apostles Asked Jesus About End Of The Age And Not End Of The World, Jesus Mentions Daniel And Abomination Of Desolation, How Futurists May Possibly React To The Primary Message Of This Series, My Personal Challenge To Futurists To Read "Christ's Return: Have We Been Deceived?" Series, Futility Of Doctrinal Debates, Suggested Reading Resources

So you see, my friends, that is how true Prophets of God are

called, according to the Scriptures. In fact, we see a very similar thing occurring with the young Prophet Jeremiah. In his case, we are even told that God called him, and ordained him a Prophet, before Jeremiah was ever even born, as we can easily determine by the following group of verses:

"Then the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations. Then said I, Ah, Lord GOD! behold, I cannot speak: for I am a child. But the LORD said unto me, Say not, I am a child: for thou shalt go to all that I shall send thee, and whatsoever I command thee thou shalt speak. Be not afraid of their faces: for I am with thee to deliver thee, saith the LORD. Then the LORD put forth his hand, and touched my mouth. And the LORD said unto me, Behold, I have put my words in thy mouth. See, I have this day set thee over the nations and over the kingdoms, to root out, and to pull down, and to destroy, and to throw down, to build, and to plant."
Jeremiah 1:4-10, KJV

At any rate, getting back to my own personal situation, my friends, there was simply no way that I could possibly resist what was becoming so very plain to me in the Holy Scriptures. There was no way that I could harden my heart, dismiss what I was reading, and say "No, that cannot possibly be." I knew it was the truth, because God had been slowly showing me a few verses here and there over the previous few years, which in fact challenged what I had believed for so long. As a result, I already knew where it was heading in my heart. Up until that time, I just hadn't taken the plunge yet by undertaking what I would call a full-scale, serious re-examination of the Scriptures.

Now, if I would have outright rejected what I was now seeing in those particular verses -- which are all discussed quite thoroughly in the aforementioned series -- then I would have intentionally remained deceived, as I had been for so many years prior to that time. However, the more I read, and the deeper I studied, the more the verses connected together to form a true pattern and picture regarding what Jesus and all of the Prophets of old were really saying regarding the end of that particular Prophetic Age -- that is, the conclusion of the Seventy Weeks prophecy that was given to Daniel -- and Jesus Christ's Return to the Earth during the latter part of the First Century.

As I explain in the aforementioned series, what you may find interesting is the fact that the First Century Apostles and Disciples were quite aware of these ancient prophecies. One reason why this was so, is because as we have already seen, at that time, Israel was seriously oppressed, and under the iron-fisted domination of the Roman Empire. As a result, the Israelites were longing for liberation from their enemies; and as so often happens -- including even today -- they were looking to their Prophets and Holy Scriptures -- that being just the Old Testament at the time -- and questioning when God would intervene, send His chosen Messiah, and restore the Kingdom of Israel to the throne of David.

As we discover in Matthew 24, Mark 13 and Luke 21, Jesus' followers did not yet fully understand these matters. And, of course, neither did the rest of the common people, or even the religious order of the day. In fact, that is why the Scribes and the Pharisees, the Sadducees, the Zealots, and the Sicarii did not fully embrace Jesus, and in fact in large part rejected Him. They were looking for a leader who would physically restore Israel, but that is not why Jesus even came to the Earth. As He tells us in His own words, He came to offer us all entrance into a spiritual Kingdom which is not of this Earth. Consider these sample verses:

". . . My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence."

John 18:36b, KJV

"Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

Matthew 6:19-21, KJV

"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the

will of God abideth for ever."

1 John 2:15-17, KJV

"These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country. And truly, if they had been mindful of that country from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned. But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city."

Hebrews 11:13-16, KJV

But the main point I wish to make here is this: Because the Apostles were desirous to know when Herod's Temple would be destroyed, when Jesus would return, and when the prophecies of Daniel would be fulfilled, they asked Him a three-sided question in the aforementioned three chapters. What was part of their question? Was it "When will the world end?" As I clearly explain in the aforementioned series, that is exactly what many modern Christians have been led to believe by their Futurist-leaning priests, ministers and pastors, by famous preachers, by famous Christian book authors, and even by some movie makers.

However, if you take the time to thoroughly read "Christ's Return: Have We Been Deceived?", and accept the plain truth of the many Scriptures which I share in it, one thing you will learn is that what the Apostles actually asked the Lord, was not when the entire world would end, but rather, when that particular Prophetic Age would come to its conclusion; that is, Daniel's Prophetic Age of 490 years. In other words, that age -- which is described in the Seventy Weeks prophecy, and in other verses which are found in Daniel, in the Book of Revelation, in the Gospels and elsewhere -- was still ongoing at the time. It was on its final laps, but it was not quite through yet, because some very major prophetic events had not occurred yet, and would not occur until about forty years later, as we have already seen.

In fact, as many of my knowledgeable readers will recall, the Lord specifically mentioned Daniel's prophecy in His famous Olivet Discourse, in two of the three chapters that I shared with you earlier. Consider these two verses:

"When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:)"

Matthew 24:15, KJV

"But when ye shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing where it ought not, (let him that readeth understand,) then let them that be in Judaea flee to the mountains:"

Mark 13:14, KJV

As I mentioned earlier in this series, the topic of the Abomination of Desolation is thoroughly discussed in its own series, so I encourage you to take the time to read it. Now, please ask yourself a simple question: Why would Jesus even mention Daniel's prophecy in His response to the Apostles, if said prophetic events were not even going to occur until some two thousand years in the future, as modern Futurist-leaning Christians have been led to believe? The answer seems rather obvious to me. The reason Jesus mentioned it, is because that is precisely what the Apostles were asking Him about. As I already said, among other things, they wanted to know when Daniel's Prophetic Age -- and not the end of the world -- would come to a conclusion, heralding Jesus' own Return. It is just that simple.

My friends, I realize that I have shared a lot of information in this series which for many of you will be very difficult to accept. I am, of course, referring to my Futurist-leaning friends. Trust me; I understand exactly where your heads and hearts are at in a doctrinal sense, because as I have already thoroughly explained, I was in that very same place for many years of my Christian life. I would dare say that I was just as convinced -- and perhaps even more so -- of the things that you continue to believe regarding Bible prophecy, and more specifically, concerning Christ's Return, and everything that has become associated with it.

Because I know how many of you think and believe, if you have even made it this far in this series -- without just briefly skimming through it, that is -- I have a good idea regarding what you may be thinking about me, and the doctrinal position which I have expressed here, as well as in some of my other more recent articles and series. Perhaps you think that I am sincere in my beliefs, but nevertheless, sincerely deceived. If you even more staunchly embrace your current positions, you may even consider me to be a dangerous false prophet who

is spreading lies; even though I have never once referred to myself as a Prophet of God in any way. I have made it quite clear in my writings, as well as in my graphics, that I don't like religious titles of any kind. They are a trap which only serve to feed men's pride and ego, and to give them excuse to lord over God's children.

If you are thinking and feeling anything negative towards me because of what I have stated in this series, I have just one request to make of you. Before you just wave your hand and dismiss what I have written here, I ask you, no, I challenge you, to read "Christ's Return: Have We Been Deceived?", along with some of the other articles and series which are linked at the end of that series. Again, please do not just quickly browse through it, so that you can then tell me "Okay, I read it, but I still think that you are wrong."

Really take the time to very carefully, and very prayerfully, read every word I have written in it, and every verse that I have included in it. Consider my explanations of each verse. Pause and take some time after you have completed reading the series, to reflect on what you have just read. Let it sink in for at least a few days, before you form any clear opinions concerning it. Let God speak to your heart about it. Now, if after doing that, you still remain convinced that I am wrong, or deceived or whatever you may think, then I suppose we will just have to leave it at this:

". . . Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind."
Romans 14:5, KJV

As I have stated publicly many times, I learned a long time ago that engaging in doctrinal debates is just an exercise in futility, and changed minds and hearts rarely ever result from such encounters. Why? Because in most cases, both sides are already quite entrenched in their own position, and only want to convince the other person of their views. I discuss this issue more thoroughly in the article entitled "Should Christians Engage in Doctrinal Debates?". My point is this: If you still disagree with my position after studying the aforementioned series, please don't expect me to engage in a lengthy doctrinal debate with you somewhere online, or via email, because I just won't do it. My time is precious to me, and I have a lot to get done here each and every day.

With these thoughts, I will bring this article to a close. It is my hope that you've found it informative and enlightening,

and I pray that it has been a blessing in your life as well. If you have an account with Facebook, Twitter, Tumblr or with any other social network, I would really appreciate if you'd take the time to click or tap on the corresponding link that is found on this page. Thanks so much, and may God bless you abundantly!

For additional information and further study, you may want to refer to the list of reading resources below which were either mentioned in this article, or which contain topics which are related to this article. All of these articles are likewise located on the Bill's Bible Basics web server. To read these articles, simply click or tap on any link you see below.

Jesus Christ's Return: Have We Been Deceived?

In the Ages to Come

Abomination of Desolation: Explained!

Tradition or Truth? Old Wine or New Wine?

When Was Satan Cast Out of Heaven?

Who Hindered the Antichrist

Age of Deception, Age of Delusion

Humility in Our Understanding of God's Word

Should Christians Engage in Doctrinal Debates?

The Office of Prophets and Teachers

Lying Wonders of the Endtime

Modern False Prophets and Worldly Ecumenism

Psalms 83 War False Doctrine Exposed!

Who is Babylon the Great?

Rightly Dividing the Word of Truth

Sorry . . . Jesus Is Not Coming At Any Moment

The Great Tribulation and the Rapture

The Misguided End of the World Predictions of Harold Camping

The Wisdom of God Versus the Philosophy of Men

Who is Who?: Defining Important Prophecy Terms

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