

WHEN WILL THE NUCLEAR DISASTER HAPPEN?

WILL YOU BE ABLE TO SEE IT?

HOW CAN YOU PREPARE FOR IT?

taken from
2 Peter 3:1-18

Buddy Dano, Pastor
Divine Viewpoint
www.divineviewpoint.com



INTRODUCTION

Fear is one of Satan's tactics to get members of the human race not to function rationally. Fear is a motivation that causes members of the human race to make decisions that are irrational. Fear is used by religious organizations whereby they get individuals to perform certain rituals and rites to give them a false sense of security, and they are afraid to not be affiliated with this or that religious organization. When you are frightened, you cannot make sound decisions. We have been bombarded with this principle of fear, where we, as individuals and as a nation, are making decisions to our destruction.

It is one grand stick up, where someone holds a gun to your head and forces you into some form of action that you would ordinarily not make if you were not being held up. That is the whole principle involved in crime, where someone sticks you up and demands this or that from you.

Now the weapons are changed, and we have a nuclear threat of disaster, and we are once again forced into a fear tactic whereby we are all running scared, and the news

media is of no help. The cry is disarm, anti-nuke fall out, what to do when there is a fall out. We are even given quizzes as to what to do when nuclear arms attack us.

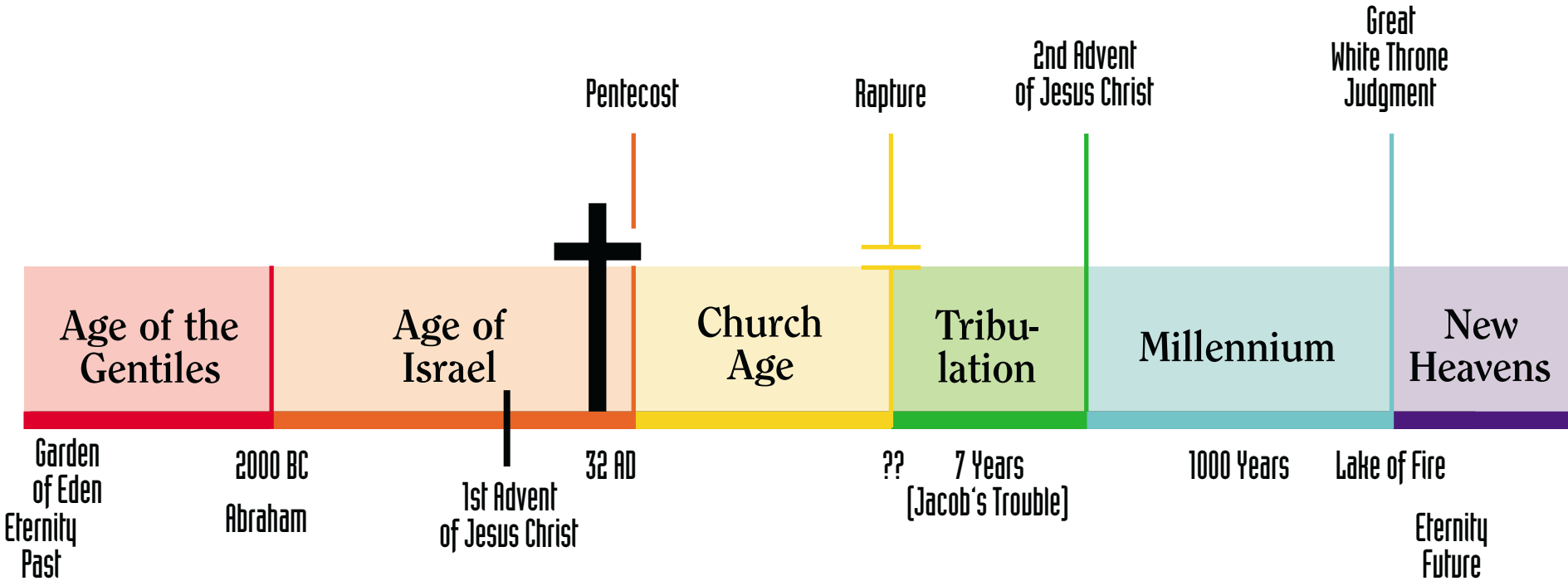
We are told in Scripture to fear only one thing, and **that is to fear not trusting in the Word of God, the Divine Viewpoint of life, and not claiming God's promises for us in time of any disaster.**

Well, what about nuclear disaster? Does the Bible have the answer? What does the Lord say about the destruction of this world, this universe? Does He mention it? Well, yes He does. Our study is designed to focus your attention on the Word of God, the mind of Christ, so that you can realize that you, as a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ, will survive the nuclear disaster.

Satan's strategy is to get you, as a believer, to fear death. **The fear of death is a great weapon of Satan's to get you to neutralize yourself,** so you can't function as the "salt of the Earth and the light of this world." Because, **as the believer in Christ functions, so functions our national entity.**

God's Plan for the Ages (aka Dispensations)

2



THE DESTRUCTION OF THE UNIVERSE

In 2 Peter 3 verses 1-4 we have the scoffers, the false teachers described, concerning the Second Advent of the Lord Jesus Christ. And Peter is putting the believers in mind that they have been taught in the past, that in the last days there will be "scoffers," and they will say and scoff at the fact of the Second Coming of Christ. Verse 4, "*Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers did sleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation.*"

This is a passage dealing with scoffers, a special corps of apostate men who will exist at the end of the Church Age. This tells us what the end of the Church Age will be like. In 2 Peter 2 we have false teachers and apostates, but in our section here, Satan has a special corps of scoffers that come under consideration at this time.

This passage is addressed to believers in the Lord Jesus Christ. We know this from the word "beloved" used in verses 1, 8, 15, and 17.

So this passage, starting with verse 1, deals with the defeat of the scoffers at the end of the Church Age. In verses 1 and 2 we have the **importance of learning the Word of God so that you are not ignorant of these times**. It is important for believers to know the Word of God in order to recall it and apply it in times like ours, of a nuclear age.

Application of the Word means remembering the Word at the right time. Remembering at the right time means **you know it so well you can't forget it**. Therefore, **we see the importance of repetition of the learning of the Word. And what you really know is what you really apply in any given crisis.**

Verse 2, "*That ye might be mindful of the words which were spoken before.*"

In verses 3 and 4 we see the attack of the scoffers. The word "scoffers" is really mockers; the Greek word is EMPAIKTES, a plural word. "Deriders" of the Word of God. **This is a satanic attack against the Word of God.** Satan always attacks the Word of God. The

scoffers attack the Scriptures at the end of this, our Church Age. Their attack is, "Where is the promise of His coming?" So, they attack the Promises of God.

In verse 5 we begin our study about the destruction of the universe. Verse 5, "*For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the Word of God the heavens were of old, and the Earth standing out of the water and in the water.*" "For this" refers back to the Divine judgments against the scoffers of Scripture. The scoffers reject the principle of Divine judgment. They not only reject the principle of Divine judgment, but they de-emphasize it.

There are two categories of Divine judgment that they reject. They reject the baptism of fire and the Great White Throne Judgment. Both of these judgments are God's judgments. They begin, one at the beginning of the Millennium, the thousand-year reign of Jesus Christ on this Earth; and one after both of them end a civilization, the Millennial reign of Christ ends, and we have the Great White Throne Judgment. The scoffers particularly ignore both of God's judgments coming in the future. This is the approach the scoffers are going to use.

The corrected translation is "*For this they habitually desire to keep on ignoring.*" "*They willingly,*" is a present, active, participle, THELO. This is a desire that comes from their **emotions**. They keep on desiring from their emotions. "*To ignore, to escape, detection.*" The word here is LANTHANOMAI. It means to hide, ignore, and escape detection. In this case they try to reject any notice of it.

"By the Word of God" is in the instrumental case of the word LOGOS. This refers to the status quo of the anti-diluvian civilization.

This brings civilizations into focus. They have something to do with God's judgment of satanic systems. Notice the words leading up to this again. "*For this they habitually desire to ignore, that by the Word of God the heavens were of old.*" The word "heavens" is the universe.

We know that the Lord Jesus Christ holds the universe together. This is found in Colossians 1:17 (*“And He is before all things, and by Him all things consist.”*)

See, Satan’s strategy is, verse 4, *“Where is the promise of His coming? Since the fathers fell asleep all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation.”* They ignore this. This escapes their notice. What? *“By the Word of God the heavens, universe, were.”* This is an imperfect, active, indicative of the word EIMI, which is absolute status quo. In other words, this tells us that the universe has a status quo given by the Lord. First of all by creation, and then the universe is held together by certain Divine laws.

The next phrase says *“of old.”* This is an adverb referring to the anti-diluvian civilization. The Earth is mentioned here specifically. This is what we are concerned about, the destruction of our Earth. The Earth is a very small part of our universe.

“The heavens were of old and the Earth.” Now we have the Earth mentioned specifically. *“Standing out of water and standing in water.”* That is our good old planet Earth. Let’s take the word *“standing.”* It’s a perfect, active, participle of the word SUNHISTEMI. HISTEMI means to cohere, to place together. And the prefix SUN means *“with.”* That means it is a part of the universe. In other words, it means to be permanently framed, to be permanently cohered, to be in orbit with the rest of the universe.

The Earth then is a part of the universe. It operates within its own area of the universe. It functions so that it will not collide with some other part of the universe. The Lord Jesus Christ guarantees all this. Colossians 1:17.

So we have the Earth *“standing out of water and standing in water.”* *“Standing out of water”* is a reference to the body of water stored beneath the Earth during the anti-diluvian civilization. The Earth no longer has this body of water. But when the Earth was restored in six days, in Genesis we have the six days of the restoration of the Earth, the Earth contained

inside of it water. As a matter of fact, this water was the primary system of watering and in fact, **it was the only system of watering the Earth had at that time.** That was simply because there was no rain in the anti-diluvian civilization, absolutely no rain of any kind.

The first thing we notice here is the Earth was *“standing out of water.”* This is the body of water that was stored beneath the Earth. The passage on that is found in Genesis 7:11. In the Hebrew it says that the water was stored beneath the Earth.

By the way, the water stored beneath the Earth was also the major contributor to the flood. In order to flood the Earth by rain, it is impossible without destroying everything, including the ark. The pressure would be too much for the ark. The ark could not have withstood the pressure. The primary source of the flood was not rain. I don’t know if you ever thought about it or not. Rain can flood a few inches, a few feet. But the type of rain necessary to flood out the entire Earth would require much more, which means you actually have to cover the Earth with about 30,000 feet of water. But the pressure from that type of rain would have destroyed the ark. The roof would cave in, which it didn’t do.

All of this is very clear in the Hebrew, that when God flooded the Earth, at the end of the anti-diluvian civilization, He actually opened the petcocks on the surface of the Earth and let all the water out that was in the Earth. That is why this is a very interesting passage, which more or less confirms the passage in Genesis 7:11, *“In the six hundredth year of Noah’s life, in the second month, the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the windows of Heaven were opened.”* The flood came primarily from **inside of the Earth, not from rain.**

So we have *“the Earth standing, having permanent consistence, out of the water.”* *“Out of the water”* means that the water was under the surface of the Earth. Then it is also said to be *“in the water.”* This is DIA plus the genitive case, which means literally, *“through the water.”* This is a reference to the body of

water stored above the Earth. Genesis 1:6, 7, *“And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters. And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament: and it was so.”*

Let’s go back and review a couple of things just briefly so that we can understand what we have here. In Genesis 1:1 we have the creation of the Earth. *“In the beginning God created the heaven and the Earth.”* It is just a statement and a principle, and that is all. Genesis 1:1 is simply a statement of principle. *“The Earth was created.”* Between Genesis 1:1 and Genesis 1:2 we have an elapse of thousands of years, hundreds of thousands of years, billions of years. We don’t know how many. But this is the period of the angelic conflict. That is when the angelic conflict reached its peak. All the angels had chosen one way or the other. There was free will in angels. The fallen angels, including Satan, were judged. It became necessary for Satan to appeal the case. **So man was created to resolve this unseen angelic conflict.** Man was put on one spot, the Earth.

The Earth was one place in the universe, which was completely packed in ice. Ice completely covered the Earth. In other words, the **Lord put the Earth out of operation.** The reason was that the Earth was one of the Devil’s favorite haunts during this angelic conflict. **Along with it, the angelic animals, the dinosaurs, etc., apparently were all put out of commission at the same time, so that nothing functioned on the Earth for an unknown period of time.**

We don’t have the Lord creating the Earth in six days. **He did it in a second!!** The six days refer to the restoration of the Earth. **In six days the Lord took the ice pack off the Earth and started things going for man with a new type of animal life.**

The anti-diluvian animal life, by the way, was different. We have an elephant, they had a mastodon. This is one of the primary differences. The Siberian ice packs

revealed something of the animal life in the anti-diluvian civilization. They were also graminivorous and this in itself explains several passages in the anti-diluvian section of the Scriptures.

So the ice pack was removed from the Earth, and God the Holy Spirit restored the Earth. But Jesus Christ created the universe in the first place and that is Genesis 1:1. The Holy Spirit accomplishes the restoration of the Earth, and it says, *“The Spirit brooded over the face of the Earth.”* Remember, now, the Earth was covered in an ice pack for an unknown period of time. And then in order to make this Earth habitable for man, the ice was removed. Then man was put on the Earth and that is your anti-diluvian civilization at its beginning. That situation continued unto God’s judgment, the flood, at which time the anti-diluvian civilization ceased to exist. **Civilizations all end with judgments by God.** Remember that, Earth.

Now you notice in our passage: *“Earth is standing out of the water.”* The preposition is EZ and then the next preposition is DIA and that is translated *“through the water.”* The Earth, during the anti-diluvian civilization, had two bodies of water. The surface of the Earth and over it God holds a store of water. This is suspended over the Earth. Then He has another body of water, which is under the Earth. So you have a body of water underneath the Earth, and you have a body of water suspended over the Earth. These are the two bodies of water described for us here. One is the preposition EZ. And the other is the preposition DIA. *“Standing out of the water and standing in the water.”*

Now let’s look at civilizations. The Bible teaches that there are civilizations and that there are dispensations. Here are the civilizations:

1. **There are four civilizations connected with man.** A civilization is a period of time of man’s history. There are four. The first is the anti-diluvian. This is from the creation of man to God’s judgment, the flood. The second is the post-diluvian

civilization, which is from the flood to the Second Advent of Christ, another of God's judgments. The third is the Millennium.

That is from the Second Advent of Christ to the end of the 1,000-year reign of Christ. At that point we have another destruction, judgment—the **destruction of the universe**.

This will be described for us twice here in 2 Peter. **Who is going to destroy the universe?** The Russians? Who? How will it happen? Nuclear blast? What will happen to us? Where will we be? Will we need a survival kit?

Then finally, the fourth civilization, the eternal civilization. Notice, anti-diluvian, post-diluvian, millennial, eternal. These are four civilizations.

Remember, again, that dispensations sometimes overlap. For example, the Millennium is also a dispensation. We have the age of the Gentiles, which is from the creation of man down to the time of Abraham. Then we have the Jews. Then we have the age of the Church, and the Church and the Jews are both in the post-diluvian civilization. And then we have the end of the Jewish Age, the Tribulation and the Millennium. Here is one place where the termini are the same. The millennial civilization and the Age of Christ are the same. So, here are four civilizations, and that is point one. There are four civilizations.

2. **Each civilization begins with believers only**, with the exception, of course, the anti-diluvian, because it begins with man in innocence. The first civilization, instead of beginning with believers, begins with mankind in innocence. That is the anti-diluvian civilization. It began with only eight believers—Noah plus seven. That is found in 2 Peter.

The next civilization is the millennial civilization. We begin with the Tribulational saints. Each civilization, and the eternal civilization also, begins with saints. Each civilization begins with believers only.

3. **Each civilization terminates with a judgment**, with exception, of course, the last eternal civilization. The anti-diluvian civilization ended with the judgment of God, which was the flood. At the end of the post-diluvian civilization the judgment of God will be the baptism of fire. This judgment takes all the believers off the face of the Earth. That is not nuclear.

At the end of the Millennial civilization there is the Great White Throne Judgment of God. This judgment takes all unbelievers out forever. It is also non-nuclear. The first three civilizations ended with God's judgment. Flood, baptism of fire, and Great White Throne.

Now the scoffers ignore these. They say, "Where is the promise of His coming?" When the Lord returns He judges. We will get into that again. That is a part of the tactics of the scoffers. "Where is the promise of His coming?"

4. **Each civilization has different weather** – different atmospheric conditions, different animals. If you are interested in animals, or flowers, there is a difference. Let's take weather, for example. We know something about the post-diluvian civilization, but **the weather of the anti-diluvian was perfect all over the Earth**. Perfect weather. It never varied. Perfect weather all over the Earth in the anti-diluvian civilization.

Post-diluvian civilization, well, we are in it. You know what kind of weather we have. It varies. In the millennial civilization there will be perfect weather again. But for a different reason.

Take animals in the anti-diluvian civilization. The best example: the mastodon. The post-diluvian civilization; the elephant. The cobra is a good illustration. He was very definitely a part of herpetology in the post-diluvian civilization. Most of them have a neuro-toxin that, in fact, is the most deadly snake in the world. It is the king cobra, Hamadryad; a small one is about 15 feet long. The king cobra is very danger-

ous. He can with three ccs of venom kill thousands of people. That is why we are using him as an illustration.

In the Millennium we will have him. He is called by the translators "cockatrice." That is your King James Version. I often wondered about that word. You see, sometimes in your King James Version you have things like dragons and cockatrices, and it is really funny because where you have "dragon" in the Bible, the Hebrew says "jackal." Now, there is a slight difference between a dragon and a jackal. But a cockatrice is a cobra.

We have a millennial passage over in Isaiah that says that you will be able to stick your hand, a child can stick his hand, in a cockatrice den. **That is a millennial passage.** So we know that in order for that to be so, animal life will be different in the Millennium from animal life in the post-diluvian civilization.

Weather will be different also. Flowers will be different. There will be no deserts during the millennial civilization. We definitely have deserts now. But there were no deserts in the anti-diluvian civilization. As you know, weather has a tremendous effect on many things. So you see, there is a change.

Here it is: Sometimes we have the same specie, but we have changes within the specie. **Mutation but no transmutation.** Before man came on Earth we had a type of animal life, in connection with the angels, which was different. That type of animal today is called extinct. All we have ever found are some bones. It was called the La Brea Pits in Los Angeles, and other areas of that sort.

We have in our particular civilization horses small and large. This is dependent upon environment and other things. So we do have changes within species. This, of course, is the big thing that someone is always trying to prove. The concept of transmutation of species. We do have

changes within species. In the Millennium the lion and the lamb will lie down side by side. Today they do not lie down side by side. The lamb will be inside the lion, but not side by side.

We have a great deal of description about animal life in the Millennium. Animals will remain in their specie, but they will lose their harmful approach, etc. The purpose of animals will be the balance in nature, etc. Animals will increase in the Tribulation. **Whenever you have massive destruction of the human population, this always seems to bring out the animal life.**

This can be illustrated by India. In India they had a civilization throughout its history, and when a civilization in India dies or declines, and usually the cities in India disappear, then you have the increase of animal life. You also have animals for sacrifice, too. We find this in Ezekiel 40-48.

Animal life has a purpose in each civilization. You can see this fantastic difference in animals. The animals in the angelic conflict are the dinosaur types, the super-animals, and yet in some ways they were superior from the standpoint of size, but they were all graminivorous.

We can trace the elephants. They were found in the Siberian ice packs. You have the mastodons. They are bigger than the elephants of today. He is bigger and has larger tusks, and he is quite a monster compared with what we have today. So we have the mastodons of the anti-diluvian civilization.

In the post-diluvian civilization we have elephants. So, the elephant has declined. The elephant of today is not nearly the elephant of a few hundred years ago. We have ways of determining things. We can tell by the way that elephants were used in warfare. The example is Hannibal. He used elephants in warfare. Alexander's generals used elephants in warfare. India always used elephants in warfare. We

have enough descriptions of elephants so that we know that the elephants are getting smaller and smaller, within its specie, but it goes up or down. Mutation.

Let's take man for another example. Man in the anti-diluvian civilization. Man was a fantastic specimen. HOMO SAPIEN was a fantastic specimen in the anti-diluvian civilization. Everything was right for him. The weather was right. The nutrition was right and that is a big factor. In the post-diluvian civilization man has been declining. Man started out being perfect, as far as his physical body was concerned, and his bone structure was concerned. Man, in the anti-diluvian civilization, lived for 800 or 900 years. When a person died at 300 years of age he died early. He didn't live very long. Now, there is a decline in the post-diluvian civilization. So, man started out being rather fantastic.

There were also clear racial definitions from the three sons of Noah. All the racial definitions have declined also. It actually reached its peak in the Middle Ages. And again we can determine something about man in those days. We can measure his armor. When we do, we find out that the average man at that time, "when knights were bold," under the so-called Romantic Period. There isn't a woman today who would go for the so-called "knight in shining armor." The tallest knight was about five feet, six inches tall. Another reason why women wouldn't go for them is because you couldn't get close to them. There was no Brut, or Arrid, or Right Guard. They rarely took a bath. Their hygienic habits were horrible.

The nutrition reached an all time low. The practice of medicine was poor. Everything was poor. We get the size of knights by measuring their armor. But, if they lived to be 30, they were considered to be old men. And a woman of 30, in those days, looked like a woman of 80 today. They had no knives, no forks, no napkins. Very few of them ever kept their teeth. This is

western Europe. If you looked at the horses in those days, they always seemed to appear as being big. But they weren't big. The knights were small. Horses are on their way up again due to scientific feeding, etc. But everywhere you look within the framework of our civilization, everything stays in its own specie. We do have decline and then recovery.

The cave man concept is very interesting and it is based upon some specimens, called the Heidelberg Man, Pithecanthropus Erectus. They are **figments of scientists who have imaginations**. The Pithecanthropus Erectus, or the Java man, was simply a discovery of the part of a bone and a part of a skull, teeth, and lower jaw. They created the ape-like creature from it. Now they claimed that they did this scientifically by measuring the bones, etc. But they have never been able to do anything really effective.

This is mostly something people want to believe and so they believe it. You know, whether it is true or not, that is not important, you just want to believe it. Someone draws a character and it is half human and half ape and people look at it and say, now that is it, and especially if they put it in a text book.

People have lived in caves. However, some of the people who lived in caves are some of the most fantastic people you will ever see. They lived in caves due to the nature of their civilization. They were driven out by other civilizations. Driven out of cities. We have some art in some caves that is absolutely fantastic. It indicates a high degree of culture. So we have some very high civilizations.

There are some caves in southern France that fall into this category. For example: The Etruscans are one of the highest of all civilizations. They were driven into caves. We have uncovered some of their pottery in caves, and some of their art, and it is very high. We also know what the Etruscans look like. They put their language in

the cave also. When they did we are thoroughly cognizant of the Etruscans and they were a very beautiful people. They didn't look anything like the apes, and baboons.

So actually, historically, and through archeology we can take some of these people who lived in caves and reproduce them geologically and they come out very well. It is only recently that we have broken down the Etruscan language. Even though they were related to the Greeks, who were the people before the Romans, the Romans had to conquer them before they could develop. But the Etruscans, for example, had a different system of calendar. What happened to be a long life was not a long life. However, the Etruscans were not in medieval times. In the time when the Etruscans lived, people lived 60 to 70 to 80 years. We know this from Elcybydes, who lived contemporary with the Etruscans.

We are able to scientifically reconstruct with a great deal of accuracy a great deal of things. The cave man, some of the people who lived in caves, were some of the most beautiful people who have ever lived in the post-diluvian civilization. They were found in caves, and more barbaric types drove out their civilization. So we have civilizations.

5. **There is no transmutation of species.**

There is a **variation** within species, and therefore, each civilization has different weather, atmospheric conditions, animals, and flowers. The history of the Mediterranean is one of the most fantastic histories. Someone ought to offer a course in the university some day, a course on Mediterranean history from ancient civilizations to modern times. You know that basically we have Spain, Italy, and Greece and off from that some is Turkey. Then we swing over to Palestine and northern Africa, and the Gates of Hercules. The weather conditions in this area had a great deal to do with its history.

This can be proved. We can prove this from the book of Acts. The apostle Paul had a sudden storm come up when he was going from Palestine to Rome by way of Malta. We have in that area high mountains, the Atlas Mountains. When you get over to northern Africa you have beautiful beaches, and then desert, and then mountains again. Mountains in Palestine, mountains in Syria, and mountains in Turkey.

Some of the most beautiful sights in the world are in the area of the Mediterranean and the Aegean Seas. Greece has mountains and Italy has mountains, the Alps. And they move into France, the Alps of France. Spain has mountains, the Perrines. All these high mountains go around the Mediterranean and set up a system where by winds and pressures go round and round.

Paul got caught in one of those things. It changed up the whole history for the Centurion who was accompanying him. And it is demonstrable from history, certain things have happened in the history of western civilization. The history of the human race is directly connected with the very topography that surrounds the Mediterranean, which causes a certain type of weather conditions in the post-diluvian civilization.

This causes certain things to happen. For example: The Mycenaean civilization was wiped out by another civilization of Greeks that came along. Then you have 200 years where you have a complete black out of history. What drove the people down? These Greeks had barbaric Greeks and they had cultured Greeks. What happened was that the Spartan-type Greeks lived way up in the north country. They were driven down by the weather, to good weather. When they came down, they moved across Greece just at the time when the weather was good, for example in Crete. And they broke up the Mycenaean civilization. So there is a great deal to

be done in the field of weather conditions. But we do know that the weather conditions in the anti-diluvian civilization were perfect. In the meantime we have Texas. Here you can have any kind of weather you want.

We started this with the verse, "*Standing in the water and out of the water,*" the Earth. Now verse 6, "*Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished.*" Literally, "through which." "Which" is DIA plus the accusative pronoun. "*Through which the world existed at that time.*" ("The world that was then" is not correct.) "That then" is one word in the Greek, TOTOE. It means "at that time." The word "was" is a present tense of EIMI, therefore, literally, existing. The word "world" is COSMOS, referring to the Earth.

This is what we are studying in context: The Earth as it was during the angelic conflict. The Earth as it was in the anti-diluvian civilization. The Earth as it is in the post-diluvian civilization, etc. "*The Earth existing at that time.*" This is reference to the anti-diluvian civilization on Earth, not the post-diluvian civilization on Earth. Be sure you make that distinction.

We are not talking about the Earth as it is today. The Earth as it is today is tilted on its axis. **The Earth as it was then stood upright. The universal flood is the cause of the tilt.** This, in itself, changes the whole weather picture.

In the study of the laws of fluids in physics, or the laws of fluids in engineering, you know that there is a mass of water covering the surface of the Earth, moving around, while the Earth is spinning. When it tilts then you have a complete change of the relationship of the Earth to the universe around it. That is when you get a north pole and a south pole. That is when you began some of your geological ice ages, to be distinguished from the geological ice age that followed one phase of the angelic conflict.

So we have some interesting things here. Verse 6, "*Through which the world existing at*

that time, being overflowed." KATAKLUSO. KLUSO means to wash, and KATA means down, to wash down. Did you ever see water go down the drain? It swirls. It makes a kind of gurgling noise. Fill the tub and then pull the plug and listen to it gurgle and tell me if it goes down clockwise or counterclockwise. KATA originally was used for down.

In the development of the Greek language, and the Koine Greek, they developed compound verbs. The verbs with which it was used were primarily any verb of thinking, any verb of motion, any verb of operation put with KATA, which indicates a norm or standard. But any verb such as this, KLUSO, to wash, goes back to its basic meaning of down.

The reason for this emphasis is this: There is quite a point here because this helps us to understand something. The Earth is round, well, not a round sphere. When the Earth is completely covered with water, it is just as if the Earth was washed down in the water. And the whole point is that the water is moving. I don't know if it is clockwise or counterclockwise, but it could be established if we go to a certain area of the Earth where the movement of the water can be determined, possibly Glacier National Park. There we may get some hint. The area between the Caspian Sea and the Black Sea would be another very excellent area; Mount Ararat, the mountains of Armenia. There are certain areas of the world, where, if you are looking for the flow of water, the law of fluids in engineering, the tremendous pressures that are built up, can tell a great deal about this flood as it occurred.

But this verb KATAKLUSO helps us a great deal, because it indicates something. We think of a flood as getting higher and higher and higher, but you must remember that water has currents, and it moves. It wasn't simply a flood where the water was standing still. That is the way we think of water. Water, for example, in a puddle. **But it was water spinning.** KATAKLUSO indicates the water was spinning. This also tells us a great deal

about that ark. **It must have been the most seaworthy thing that has ever existed.** Naval engineers say that this is so. They say it has a perfect relationship between starboard and port and aft, as it were, and beam. The relationship between the length and the beam is fantastic and perfect.

Because this water was moving around and around, this explains a lot of things. This explains how the mastodons in one part of the Earth were thrown out of one part of the Earth in Siberia and dropped there. Then the area froze and the tilt happened. The mastodons had the food still in their stomachs. The grass of that area and that era were all still there. **Apparently one of the things that stopped the moving of the water and made it possible for Noah to open up a port and send out a dove was the fact that it froze in the ice and this formed some form of stability.** As the water receded it had already frozen. As a result, it stabilized and the water was able to go down. The Earth became habitable again. That is our word KATAKLUSO.

So there is a great deal to be learned from this verb. It is an aorist, passive, participle. Of course, it means to flood, and to overflow, and indicates a water flow when it goes down. It is an aorist tense, which means it happened in a point of time. The passive voice means that the Earth received it, the anti-diluvian Earth. It is a participle, which indicates that this was God's plan. The instrument He used of judgment was water.

In our study we have water underneath the Earth. In the anti-diluvian civilization water was also suspended above the Earth. The water that was suspended over the Earth precipitated and the petcocks were opened up and the water came up out of the Earth and they joined and formed the flooding of the Earth, which had to be a mass of water, roughly 30,000 feet high. That you see when you take the law of fluids in engineering and apply it to this situation. You have a fantastic pressure, which explains a lot of things. For example: fossils of fish in the field of ichthy-

ology now. Fossils of fish have been found in the tops of mountains in Arizona. The geologists had a field day with that and came up with the weirdest things you ever heard. The universal flood here explains the whole thing.

Water was the instrument of God's judgment on the Earth. Water is in the instrumental case. I want you to remember this because God said never again, after the anti-diluvian civilization, **never again will He destroy the Earth by flood.** He didn't say that He wouldn't destroy the Earth, but that He would not use water again to destroy it.

In token of that Promise we have a rainbow to seal God's Word. And what is actually found in a rainbow? Several things. Do you know what they are? First of all, what makes a rainbow? The spectrum of light. It is the refraction of light. But, what do you have to refract the light? You must have water in the atmosphere, just a thin vapor of it. So, the Lord uses water. But He said, "*Never again will I destroy the Earth with water.*"

So we have Operation Rainbow. **God lets us see His light in the rainbow.** And God is light. So whenever you see the rainbow generally you see all colors, a spectroscope on the horizon. God used the rainbow to promise the Earth that never again would water be used for that purpose. **But He uses the water to make the Promise.** Water is now in the rainbow. This is interesting because it shows us something of the facets of God's character. He says, in essence, "I am going to show you water to show you that I will never use this water that I am showing you, to destroy the Earth again, and to bring a civilization to its termination point."

At the same time He says, "I will use the next time fire." The "next time" is the post-diluvian civilization. That is why we have the "baptism of fire" mentioned in Scripture at the Second Advent of the Lord Jesus Christ, in which all the unbelievers will be identified with fire. Then fire is used. Instead of fire we will use our modern term, which we will see later on in this passage, as thermo-nuclear. We will study that when we get to verse 10.

We will see how that the universe will be destroyed. There will be thermo-nuclear activity. We will take up a little chemistry when we get there. The point here is very simple: God says never again will the Earth be destroyed the way it was.

But in our passage we have it described as *"being overflowed with water, perished."* So with the instrumentality of water "perished." It is an aorist, middle, indicative of APOLLUMI. APO is the preposition of ultimate source. LLUMI means to destroy. So it means to destroy from **the ultimate source of God**. God is the ultimate Source of destruction. **God then is the Source of the destruction of each civilization**. God totally destroyed that civilization Himself. And only the believers survived.

This is the principle of the ultimate source of destruction:

1. This verb means to destroy from the ultimate source of self. God is the ultimate Source of destruction.
2. **The purpose of the judgment was to destroy the unbelievers of the anti-diluvian civilization before they destroyed the human race, and therefore, foul up the whole angelic conflict.**

You have to have civilizations in order to keep the angelic conflict burning. **If the anti-diluvian civilization had gone the way it was going, there would be no angelic conflict.** Satan would be declared the winner.

So, you have to have, in order to preserve God's Plan for the human race, the four Divine Institutions. **But there comes a time in history when Divine Institutions are not enough. Therefore, God must destroy an entire civilization, the entire Earth, and rid it of all the unbelievers in order to perpetuate the angelic conflict and to preserve man.** That is why we start each civilization with believers only. All the unbelievers are moved out like a cancer that will eventually destroy everything. The perfect illustration is found here.

3. This is a judgment of the unbelievers, to protect the human race.
4. Not only were unbelievers judged, and removed from the Earth, but also the NEPHALIM were removed, which were spoken of in Genesis 6. The NEPHALIM were the super-race, the half-man and half-angel. These were people like Achilles, Caster, Orpheus, and Apollos, people of this sort who are actually a part of mythology. They are all based on this principle.

This, of course, was the corruption of the human race. It was an attempt by Satan to destroy true humanity. So the anti-diluvian civilization ended in a flood judgment which destroyed not only true humanity, unbeliever types, but it also destroyed the NEPHALIM, the super-race.

5. A new civilization is begun with believers only, Noah plus seven.
6. This explains the parallel between the judgment of the flood and the judgment of the Second Advent, the baptism of fire. There is a parallel found in Matthew 24:37-41. The two judgments of God are tied together here for us. Since God judged the world by the flood, then since that is true, that supports the truth of the other, which is in the future.

This passage is very misunderstood for that same reason. Matthew 24:37 is one of the most fascinating passages in the Word of God for a number of reasons, if for no other reason than no one seems to be able to interpret it correctly. Someone always puts the Rapture of the Church in here, where it doesn't belong. We have some wonderful passages on the rapture, but one of them is **not** Matthew 24. In other words, this passage is not talking about the Church and the Rapture.

Matthew 24:37, *"But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be."* Immediately we pick up a parallel. *"The days of Noah"* speak of the anti-diluvian civilization. *"The day of the Son of*

man" is the Second Advent of Christ and **not the Rapture**. The Second Advent of Christ ends another civilization, much like in Noah's day. That is the end of the post-diluvian civilization. So immediately parallelism is established. Something is going to happen similar in each case. What is it? Well, a civilization is going to be ended.

"But as the days of Noe." The word "as" sets up an analogy. "Noe" is Noah, which is still Noah. This is a Greek word for Noah. *"As... so shall also the coming of the Son of man be."* *"For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, and marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ark."*

This is again where people get all mixed up and try to add a lot of sins here. But there aren't any here. They were marrying and giving in marriage. That is not sinful. But the point is that **they were so occupied with living, they were not interested in the Word**, and reached the point of *maximum negative volition to the Word*.

Whenever this happens it has to be headed off by a judgment, which ends a civilization. Verse 39, *"And they knew not till the flood came and took them all away."*

"So shall the coming of the Son of man be."

This is the Second Advent of Christ, and another judgment, another civilization coming to an end. *"Two shall be in the field, and one shall be taken."* That is, the unbeliever will be taken off the Earth. *"And the other left."* That is the believer, after the Second Advent of Christ.

The millennial civilization begins with believers only. So, the "one taken" is the unbeliever. He is removed from the Earth by the baptism of fire. *"Two shall be in the field and one taken and the other left."* "Taken" is the unbeliever. "Left" on the Earth is the believer going into the Millennium. We are not studying Matthew, but in this passage we have the whole principle in one point.

7. The parallel between the judgment of the flood and the judgment at the Second

Advent of Christ, the baptism of fire, is where the scoffers are attacking. *"Where is the promise of His coming? Since people have died, the prophets of old, there is still no Second Advent of Christ."* Well, what is wrong with the scoffers? **They have ignored the Plan of God.**

So, God's final veto is to protect the human race, the termination of a civilization, and therefore, **God the Son cannot return to the Earth until the human civilization is in danger of going out under the principle of the angelic conflict.**

Therefore, the Second Advent cannot occur until the Rapture, and the Second Advent of Christ cannot occur until the body of Christ is completed, until the Tribulation demonstrates that the human race is about to destroy itself, and **then the Second Advent of Christ comes to preserve and to perpetuate the angelic conflict.** At the Second Advent of Christ the angelic conflict shifts gears, and then we go into "Operation Footstool."

This is the thrust of this section, although it doesn't look like much when you read it. If you read it, it almost seems like you are in for a dull evening, but when you bring in the cave man, and the dinosaurs, and the flood, and the spitting cobra, and the super-race, and the mastodons, it picks up a little.

8. When Jesus Christ returns the unbeliever will be removed from the Earth with the baptism of fire, just as in the days of Noah with the flood.
9. This passage emphasizes another parallel. Just as God judged the world in Noah's day, so at the Second Advent of Christ, He will judge the world. In other words, in this passage it is saying "you people, you scoffers, you are asking for it."

See, these are scoffers at the end of the Church Age, and they will say where is the Second Advent? "Where is the promise of His coming?" Many generations have died and still the promise hasn't

materialized. God isn't God. There is no God. He doesn't keep His Word. Therefore who wants a God who doesn't keep His Word? **This is an attack upon the Word of God and God.**

This is what the scoffer is saying. But the scoffers are ignoring the principle of civilizations. **God will not terminate a civilization until every person who can be saved is saved and until God answers every positive volition for salvation, until what is left is so hopeless, is so cancerous, that it is going to knock out the angelic conflict.**

So in order to perpetuate the angelic conflict, and to perpetuate the human race, God moves right into a new civilization, which always means the destruction of the former one. That means that all unbelievers are wiped out. The flood in the days of Noah; and the baptism of fire at the Second Advent of Christ; and the Great White Throne Judgment, which is at the end of the Millennium.

In verse 7 we now have, as a result of this, the judgment of the scoffers. In this verse we have a second parallelism. **The Earth will be destroyed and all of the unbelievers will be assigned to the Lake of Fire ultimately at the end of the millennial civilization.** When that Lake of Fire occurs, these scoffers are going to get theirs. **Those who malign the Lord and His Word will be judged.**

Verse 7, "*But the heavens and the Earth which are now.*" This is in contrast to the previous two verses where we had the anti-diluvian Earth. In this verse we have the post-diluvian Earth/civilization. "*The heavens...*" This is in the plural because there are three different heavens, all in this section.

Verse 5, the anti-diluvian heavens.

Verse 7, the post-diluvian heavens.

Verse 13, finally we have the new heavens.

So this word "heavens" is used for the universe. As you know, there are three spheres of the universe: The strata, in which we find

ourselves. Then the universe beyond, which would be the billions of light years and all the galaxies found in them. And then beyond that the "Third Heaven," which is the throne room of God, which must be quadrillions of light years away. I don't believe anyone will make it in a space ship, or rocket or whatever.

The only way you can make that trip is by believing in Christ. And that costs the taxpayers absolutely nothing for that trip, or it shouldn't. You will never make that trip with a scientist and a countdown, or a space program. God has His own space program: "*Absent from the body and face to face with the Lord.*" Or, "*The Lord shall descend and we shall be caught up to meet the Lord in the air, and so shall we ever be with the Lord.*"

Verse 7 literally says "*the now heavens and the Earth.*" This is a reference to the post-diluvian Earth, in contrast to the anti-diluvian Earth of verse 5. In the anti-diluvian Earth great bodies of water were stored under the Earth. But now...something else is in store. Remember the Earth in the anti-diluvian time. What did it have underneath? Water. And what was suspended above? Water. What is in the core of the Earth now? Well, we will say just gas. Did you say fire? Well, fire is gas.

Verse 7 says "*But the now heavens and the Earth by the same Word.*" "*By the same Word*" of the Lord Jesus Christ referring again to Colossians 1:17. "*Are kept in store.*" This is a perfect, passive, participle of THESAURIZO. As you know, this word means to treasure, or to store, to treasure up, to store up. Or it can be to accumulate. It is a perfect tense, which means it is stored up in the past with a result that it remains there.

So, all these gases are stored in the Earth. The Earth is roughly 25,000 miles in circumference, and that means about 8,000 miles in diameter. That is a pretty big storage tank for gas. It is stored with all of these gases. Occasionally we get a crust somewhere, and we have a breakthrough of these gases. We call that a volcano.

There are a couple of interesting ones, like Mt. St. Helen's. But let's take one called Krakatoa, which was an island out in what we used to call the Dutch East Indies. It was an island about 15–20 miles long, and about 20–30 miles wide. The whole thing blew up. A lot of pressure was built up there and the thing just went sky high. Two days later 6,000 miles away they had ashes falling in London from this one place. I forgot how many hundreds of thousands of people were killed. There were tidal waves that traveled 2,000 miles. The explosion was heard in Bangkok, which, by the way, is at least 1,100 miles away. So this was a great blower. Now this happened before the ecologists and the environmentalists came into existence. They would have probably blamed it on industry. But they collected a lot of phenomena at that time. This is just one of those cases where the gases were stored there.

Every once in awhile the gases break through the crust of the Earth somewhere. The same thing happened in 70 A.D. when Vesuvius blew, and Pompeii, which was the playground for the Roman Empire, was covered in lava. You can see the results of one in Hawaii, Mauna Loa. It erupted back in 1930. It really was a mess and the lava is still hot.

Every now and then, on some part of the Earth, she blows. All that gas is stored there, treasured there. Even though we have an occasional volcano erupting, this just gives us a small idea of what is going to happen when it all blows. When the whole thing blows, don't sweat it! It is not the Russians, or the Chinese.

You, at that time, will have a resurrection body exactly like the Lord Jesus Christ. And there will be no problem to you or to Him. I can see some of you getting nervous now. But we will cover the passage soon. Don't get out your tranquilizers. If you have personally accepted Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour, you will see it. There is a very interesting passage in Hebrews 12 that says when the whole universe goes up, we will be in a stabilized form. So, our resurrection bodies apparently are detonation resistant, or anti-nuke.

Please notice Who keeps this all in store. Every now and then the Lord just scratches away a little surface of the Earth and lets it blow. You know that a lot of mountains are hollow. There are pipes that run up. There is a sort of a pipe that goes right up to the top and "there she blows." So, the Lord scratches the Earth a little and gives you a preview of coming attractions.

"But keeps it in store." This is a perfect tense which means *"with a result that it is going to stay in store."* We know that from the next verb, "reserved by fire." This is literally by means of fire. *"Reserved by means of fire."* Fire is PUR and it means gaseous substance.

It is important to notice "fire" here. This, by the way, is describing Revelation 21:1, *"against the day of judgment."* This judgment is going to terminate the universe.

Here is the answer to the scoffers. **You are going to get it.** But:

- First: the universe is going to blow.
- Second: people are going to be involved.

When the universe blows up, it creates a Lake of Fire, and unbeliever types will be involved in it.

Now here, in the middle of the verse, *"reserved by fire against the day of judgment."* That is the judgment of the Earth. *"And the perdition of ungodly men."* This is the judgment of people. "People" are the unbeliever types. "Reserved" is a present, active, participle of TEREQ. This word means to guard something, something that belongs to self. In this particular instance it is the fire. The word "fire" is referring to gases in the heart of the Earth. God actually guards these so that there is no complete cataclysm of any type.

Again we have had historically some cataclysms resulting from the gases stored inside. But even though there is gas stored inside, in apparently a volatile form, the air band around the Earth, which is also a gas, is in a stabilized form. Hydrogen, oxygen, nitrogen, and other gases exist in the air that we breathe, but they are stabilized. All you have

to do is to destabilize them and you will have quite a mess.

The whole universe is going to become unstable. That is mentioned later on and we will take it up in detail in verse 10. But in the meantime we have the principle here of judgment. Beginning with the word “reserved, kept by fire, guarded by fire.” This is the judgment of the planet Earth. It is reserved for a fire judgment. This judgment is going to fall into two categories. This judgment will come at the end of the Millennium. This is the end of the millennial civilization when the Earth and the universe are going to be destroyed. **Actually the judgment is two-fold, which will include the Earth and the entire physical universe then existent.** And it will include people.

You have topography and homo sapiens included in this judgment. When it says “*against the day of judgment,*” this, of course, refers to topography. It is a reference to the last judgment at the end of the Millennium. Inside of the Earth there is a seething mass of elements, and they are volatile. Outside of the Earth’s crust there are now non-volatile types of gases, which will become volatile. The mechanics will be given in verse 10.

In verse 7 the big thing is the last phrase, “*the day of judgment.*” This refers to the Earth and the universe. And perdition of ungodly men. The word for “perdition” refers to the judgment of people, APOLEIA. This is a word that is a genitive singular. It is a noun that means destruction. It is a technical word for the last judgment which is amplified in Revelation 20:12-15. Here it is said to refer to “ungodly men.” “Ungodly men” refers to the unbelievers. **Only unbelievers appear at the last judgment,** which is the Lake of Fire.

All right then, in verse 7 we have an outline of several things we will be covering in detail. The final judgment, as far as the human race is concerned, and therefore also the termination of the angelic conflict.

In the termination of the angelic conflict, the entire universe, which was originally the

habitation of angels, is going to be destroyed, and that means the Earth, and everything connected with the Earth. That means billions of light years of space are going to blow. There will be something comparable to fission or fusion. We will take up both of these in verse 10. **There is going to be a fantastic explosion, and as far as we know, there is only one type of air raid shelter to have in that day. And that is a resurrection body.** A resurrection body will withstand the entire thing. It is always nice to be in something that you know can withstand the pressure.

You know that submarines go down, down, down. It is always nice to know that it is built to take 1,200 fathoms, etc. The old World War II submarines could take about 400 fathoms and that was it. It is nice to know that you have something that can stand the pressure.

Here is the most encouraging point today: When the universe blows, when the Earth goes up, and it will happen at the end of the Millennium, the resurrection body will withstand all pressure. Which means that the resurrection body is absolutely fantastic, because any little detonation can blow the human body right out of the picture. It doesn’t take much to blow it up. **But there is no way that the resurrection body can be blown up!**

So we have a principle here. In this final judgment there are two categories. There is a judgment of people and there is the judgment of topography. **The universe and unbelievers will be blown up, both of them.**

Now, verses 8 and 9 deal with another principle before we get to the destruction of the universe. **The principle is that the Word of God defeats the scoffers.** You will recall that we have been studying the “scoffers.” They said, “*Where is the promise of His coming?*” Where is the judgment to come? In verses 8 and 9 we have a principle. The scoffers are a special corps of satanic force. And the principle is that all satanic forces are ultimately defeated.

Our relationship to that defeat is through the Word of God. The Word of God is for the

whole human race. The Bible is for the human race. The Bible is for mankind. The Bible contains categories of Doctrines. **Doctrine is the ultimate victory over everything in the angelic conflict.** The Word of God is the thinking of the Lord Jesus Christ. It is called the mind of Christ in 1 Corinthians 2:16, *"For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ."* **Since He is a genius in His humanity, then anything He thinks is perfect.** We have the mind of Christ.

So there is a principle here in verse 8. The first is the principle about the scoffers. **The elapse of time does not hinder the Plan of God or any Promise that God makes.** Time elapse never hinders a Divine Promise or the Plan of God.

The elapse of time may shake you. But time goes on, and you haven't caught a husband or a wife. And time goes by and you haven't made your first million. You are now 22 and you are not a millionaire and you are all shook up. You are now 22 and you are now concerned because no one has recognized you as being a success. So people have a way of getting upset over the lapse of time.

Now here is the concept. Time may elapse and the elapse of time may shake you up. But it doesn't shake God up at all. Time belongs to Him. Time is a Divine device to measure out the last area of the angelic conflict, i.e., the history of the human race.

Abraham got shook because God didn't apparently, he thought, keep a Promise. But He did. Abraham was to have a son from his own loins, and the reason why the promise wasn't materializing was because Abraham was trying everything on his own. This was to be strictly a Grace child. A child of Grace meant that there was no way that Abraham could produce this child. And he didn't. He couldn't. So **when the situation was actually hopeless, then God provided.**

Every now and then something happens to people, and they start to think about time, like a birthday. And everyone gets upset. It is

amazing how time bugs people after a certain age. Once you get past 30, from then on you want to be 30 all the time. Now people have dreams, and when the dreams do not materialize and there is no possibility of the dream materializing, and time goes on people get shook. Time waits for no one. That is a song, and if you know that songs it will outdate you and you too will be shook by time. The principle is: **that even though time elapses, time goes on and on.** It keeps right on moving. It doesn't stop for you. "Time is always in God's favor." So don't worry about time.

We have all heard that wonderful phrase, "I wish this moment would last forever." They want time to stop right there. "May this moment never pass." **If you want time to stop, then you want God's operation of Grace to stop.** But Operation Grace isn't going to stop for you. When you look at your watch, and another second goes by, do you know what that means? **That means that God's Plan is going on.**

If someone could find a way to destroy time, if the devil could find some way to destroy time, **there would be no angelic conflict and the devil would win.** Did you ever stop to think that one of the things that Satan would like to stop is time? Satan gets that same help from many so-called romantic people. Some look at time in another way. They want time to hurry up. You want this moment to pass quickly. So some look at time in a different way. People want time to stop or to hurry up, to accommodate them.

Do you know that **God doesn't pay any attention to any of that?** He doesn't pay a bit of attention to us. Sixty seconds still make a minute and 60 minutes still make an hour, and 24 hours still make a day. No matter how you slice it, no matter what.

Now, if you study calendars you can get a lot of information from calendars. You would not believe how religions have tried to change the calendar. And one of the biggest calendar changes of all times came in the French Revolution. Every time you find an atheistic organization, the people who started the

French Revolution, for example, they always try to tamper with the calendar. They are always trying to change time.

Now since the devil can't stop time, he says to himself, "God is going to keep this going, so we are going to have to find a doctrine, a system of apostasy, to attack it." To attack time, the devil is always putting out information. So he says, "Look God, Where are all these nice promises? Look, You are getting older and none of these promises are materializing. Look at this and look at that. God is not keeping His Word."

Satan likes this one, especially when you are in a jam, when do you want to get out of it? Well, a while ago. All right, so you want out. And you say, "Get me out." "Get me out of the jam," this pain. Take this and that away. And so once again the devil has this little concept. If God is really a Gracious God and He sees you in a suffering situation, He is not any God at all. Don't pay attention to him. Don't have anything to do with Him. God promises you blessings and look at you. Tomorrow it will be worse. And the next day worse. It is not going to get any better. Now what kind of a God is that? Now, **that thinking and that expression are satanic.**

In our passage we have seen that God has a timetable. In that timetable the Millennium is coming at a certain time, the Tribulation is coming at a certain time. Every time someone has a terrible disease they want the Rapture now, for some very selfish reasons. They don't want to die physically. It is just an enlargement of "Get me out of this jam, Lord." "I have a terrible disease, and I am going to die, now come and get me." "Come Lord Jesus." And then you begin to suddenly look up all the references to the Rapture. Why? Because you are trying to bully God. You are trying to dictate to God. **You try to tell God how to run His Plan.** But I don't know if you know it or not, but God is a lot smarter than we are. And His Plan is marvelous and orderly.

Do you know that He has categories for every facet of His Plan and one of the simplest categories is time? But the scoffers say,

"Where is the promise of His coming?" "Since our fathers have fallen asleep..." That is the issue here. Do you remember this point? *"There shall come in the last time scoffers."* This is the last days, the end of the Church Age. Scoffers, special satanic scoffers, at the end of the Church Age, *"walking after their own lusts"* and saying, *"Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation."* There has been no change, so they say there won't be any change. Time has elapsed, and there is no coming, no Second Advent, no judgment.

All right, let's start in now and see how the Word defeats these scoffers. God has a Plan and His Plan is delineated in His Word. **God will keep His Word.**

Verse 8, *"But beloved,"* of verse 1. "Beloved" refers to a believer in union with Christ here on this Earth. It is used in Ephesians 1:6, where we are said to be *"accepted in the Beloved."* In Colossians 3:12 we see this also, *"Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering."* Also in 1 Timothy 6:2, *"And they that have believing masters, let them not despise them, because they are brethren; but rather do them service, because they are faithful and beloved, partakers of the benefit. These things teach and exhort."* And in Hebrews 2:9, *"But we see Jesus, Who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour: that He by the Grace of God should taste death for every man."*

Notice the next phrase: *"But beloved be not ignorant."* The only thing wrong though is that this is not quite what it says. The Greek word is LANTHANO. What does that mean? It means to go unnoticed, or it means to forget. So what is the point? "Do not be ignorant" is not a good translation. This word means to go unnoticed. It is a word for application. **Do not fail to apply.** When some scoffer comes up with the idea that God is not keeping His promises, apply the Word that you know. See, all these people have died and nothing has happened. And this is a

terrible world. God isn't doing anything. If God really loved you, why does He let all these horrible things happen? If God really loves people, why on Earth does He allow the Communists to do this and that? All that kind of stuff. You hear it all the time. The threat of nuclear disaster from the Russians. It is baloney and stupid thinking.

LANTHANO says if you have some Grace guts, well **apply it**. This is not the word for ignorance. The verb for ignorance is AGNOEO. That is where we get the word "agnostic." NOEO means to think and when you put an "A" in front of it, it means not to think.

But, as you can see, this word LANTHANO is different. This word means failing to apply. **This word assumes that you know, but you are not applying it.** You understand, for example, the Doctrine of Divine Essence, and you don't apply the essence of God to the experience of the scoffers, here in context. **This means you understand the principles of Grace, but you do not apply them.** This assumes that you know the various phases of the Christian way of life on this Earth, but you do not apply them. You understand the Doctrine of civilizations, but you do not apply it. In other words, LANTHANO is talking to a believer, "beloved," who knows the Word and because he knows the Word, he should have discernment, but he doesn't have discernment.

This poses an interesting question. I don't want to get you sidetracked, but the application is important. **How is it that people can learn the Word and not apply it?** Here are five reasons why believers don't apply the Word to their experience.

1. **The first principle will shock you.** Many times people are ignorant of Doctrine, and you are ignorant of the fact that they are ignorant of the Word. In other words, you are not cognizant of the situation.

For example, you see someone who comes to Bible class regularly, and the reason they come to class is because they like the temperature, or they like to be around

people because they are shy. It doesn't cost anything to come to class. And they sit there and look around at people. They are really people watchers. And they just kind of enjoy themselves. It is sort of like a club to them. And they then get up and leave. You see them there time after time, and you bump into them in the same situation, and they have no application of the Word in that situation.

There are those who we call bird dogs and bird watchers. You say you can't understand that. So-'n-so comes to class all the time, and yet he doesn't know this or that. What is the problem?

Well, **the problem is your failure to estimate the situation.** You look at this person and you just can't help but speculate. You think that they should know a lot. **You cannot evaluate the knowledge of someone else.** Therefore, what is it really? Well, they are ignorant of the Word. And you are ignorant of the fact that they are ignorant of the Word. So consequently application is not the issue. You make an issue out of application when it isn't. You cannot determine what a person knows and what a person does not know.

2. **The second problem is failure of application.** This is where a person really has knowledge. But, while they have stored this knowledge, **they have a false criterion, such as emotions.** One of the greatest hindrances to the application of the Word of God is using your emotions falsely.

We all have emotions, and this is sometimes hard to tell, but it is true. All of us have emotions. If you live a full life, you have a well-developed emotion. **The emotion of the soul is the appreciator of the soul.** Everything that you appreciate, the area of appreciation, is the emotion of the soul. If you appreciate football then that is emotions. And that is emoting. If you appreciate some sort of music or art, that is emotion. Some people emote over camping. They like to sleep in a bag and live with the bugs and skunks, and they

really love that. And you lay back and look up at the sky and stars and your emotions kick in. Everyone has their own ideas. Whatever melts your butter. **What is it that melts your butter?**

We all have emotions, but they express themselves in different ways. The problem is that your emotions get out of whack. Everyone who is normal has a super-charger in the emotions. When it kicks into super-charge, the first thing that happens is some sort of a rosy glow. You get a stimulated feeling. You get turned on about something. As a result, you like the feeling so much that you cultivate your emotions out of their natural boundaries of appreciation, and use them, for example, like the so-called “tongues movement,” as a system of ecstasies, a spirituality by ecstasies.

The Word is there, but your emotions become your criteria. Eventually your whole evaluation of the Christian way of life is how you feel. This results in philosophical hedonism. This also keeps people from applying the Word to their experience, the misuse and distortion of the emotional pattern of the soul.

There are many types of people who fall into this category, such as: people who try to solve their problems by throwing a tantrum. You blow your cork and have a tantrum, or some other childish behavior. You are operating strictly on your emotions. That turns off the valve called application of the Word of God to your experience, wisdom. The Word just sits there and cannot be applied because you are having a tantrum. You are angry. You are falling apart. You are raving, screaming, and as a result, no application of the Word. **You can't apply the Word and at the same time be ruled by your emotions.**

One of the nicest things in the world is to be on top of your emotions, to rule them and not be ruled by them. There is where you can have fun. You drive, as it were,

and let your emotions sit in the back seat, but never let them drive. Because when your emotions rule you, when they chauffeur you around, then you become a slave to them and that destroys your appreciation of the Christian life, which means the Word can be learned and never applied.

3. **The third factor.** This has to do with carnality. This is a believer out of fellowship. **He can have a lot of knowledge of the Word of God, but if he stays out of fellowship for a prolonged period of time, he destroys his application and functioning, and ceases to work.** Not only does his application cease to work, but eventually the knowledge of the Word diminishes. So he finally gets to a minus knowledge of the Word situation. That would be the principle found in Hebrews 6. **The longer you stay out of fellowship, the more of the Word you forget.**

So this word we have here, LANTHANO, is a very excellent illustration. There are places where the word LANTHANO in the Greek language, actually refers to forgetting, to pass by unnoticed and so to forget.

4. **The fourth factor.** This fourth problem has to do with **disorganized thinking.** What do we mean? Do we mean a person who is liberal and confused? No. That may be true, but disorganized thinking is failure to categorize. I have heard good Bible teachers who can stimulate their audience for a short period of time, and give accurate information, but because they fail to categorize within the framework of their teaching, they eliminate the possibility of application. Sometimes application comes from finding a specific category, and working from that category. Like the Doctrine of Divine Essence, which is actually the structure for every Promise found in the Word of God for the Christian way of life.

You can take any Promise for time, and you can find in God's essence, God's attributes, God's character, the structure

for that Promise, and the basis on which God gave it. If you have a problem, and there is not a category, then you do not have the ability to cope with the problem. You don't have the ability to call upon the specific category.

You don't store clothes, for example, in a big bundle. You hang your clothes up so that you can pick out what you want to wear. But you just don't put everything into one big box and then dig for your tux. That is disorganized. You have to wade through a lot of clothes to get to the tux. So what happens without categories? You not only fail to apply, which is also disorganized thinking, but you are also involved in distractibility. This leads us to the final fact or problem.

5. We can go on forever on these problems. But the final one is **distractibility**. You can't apply because you are distracted. In other words, **lack of the ability to concentrate**. You see concentration requires knowledge. It requires a system of discipline. You must have category, discipline, and organized thinking.

Now, concentration today is a lost art. And yet concentration should be a by-product of Christianity. So, failure to concentrate would be another reason.

By the way, failure to concentrate comes from several sources. Maybe it is one that has been ignored. Lack of self-discipline we know is a source. But **you cannot concentrate unless you have a relaxed mental attitude**. When you are not relaxed, you cannot concentrate. **That is why mental attitude sins are so bad. They interdict between you and the Word of God. Then they interdict between you and the application of the Word of God.**

So in our passage, "*Beloved, be not LANTHANO,*" which is application, "*of this one thing, that one day.*" Don't fail to apply this, "one day." It is a 24-hour period, which means **that the believer should not be impatient and judge the Lord.**

See, here is a big problem. **The delay, or elapse of time, does not hinder the Plan of God, or the Word of God.** God knows exactly what He is doing. He has organized His time. He has organized everything in time. So the believer should not become impatient with regard to God and His timing.

Now here is the principle: **impatience always judges. Impatience never gets all the facts.** Impatience never waits for the facts. So when you find a person who is impatient, you will find a person who hangs you first and then holds a trial afterwards. Now that is impatience.

I know there are things that are pre-packaged. We have pre-packaged this and that. But there is one thing that just never works out for the human race, and that is to be pre-judged. So, impatience judges.

Verse 8, "*But beloved be not ignorant to apply of this one thing.*" "*That one day with.*" But the word "with" is not "with." It is PARA, which is a preposition of immediate source. So, it should be translated "*one day from the immediate source of the Lord.*"

This is the principle of a day, which we have studied before. Time is a part of the Divine Plan. Every time the Earth gets a day, it is from God. That is the principle of living one day at a time, Romans 14. **Every day when you wake up God has given you something the moment you wake up. And that is another day in which to serve Him, to honor Him, to represent Him, to grow in Grace, etc.** "*From the source of the Lord.*" "*From the immediate source of the Lord.*"

"*Is as a thousand years.*" In other words, if the Lord made a Promise a thousand years ago, it is as good as if it were made today. Illustration: Isaiah 41:10 says, "*Fear thou not; for I am with thee; be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee: yea, I will hold thee with the right hand of My righteousness.*" Now that Promise was made nearly 3,000 years ago. And it is good right now today. Why? Here is the principle: **God made that Promise nearly 3,000 years ago,**

and an elapse of time doesn't do anything to that Promise. Just because we have a few thousand years of history, that doesn't mean that the Promise has changed.

"Stand still and watch the deliverance of the Lord." Now there is a promise that was made over 3,000 years ago, going on to 4,000 years, and yet that promise that was made some 4,000 years ago still stands today. The elapse of time hasn't changed it. This then is what this verse is saying.

It is the same principle as *"the Word of God liveth and abideth forever."* *"One day from the immediate source of the Lord is a thousand years."* **The elapse of time does not hinder the Lord from keeping His Promise to you.** Time is no barrier in the fulfillment of the Plan of God or in the Promises of God. Remember that time belongs to God. If the Lord promised the Second Advent of Christ and judgment many centuries ago, as He did, He will keep His Word.

Now, verse 9 develops the concept of the fact that time is not **hindering** the Plan of God but **fulfilling** the Plan of God. Verse 9 *"The Lord is not slack."*

Let's take a look at that word "slack," BRADUNO. The word means to be tardy. *"The Lord is not tardy concerning His Promises."* We could take a poll and we could ask the question "How many people like to be kept waiting?" I didn't say do you like to keep people waiting. Apparently this is a part of the feminine treasure. But how do you like to be kept waiting? Did you ever meet anyone who loved to be kept waiting? Who said "Meet me at 5, but I will wait until 12." If you meet someone like that, let me know.

Now God has a record of billions of years, and **He has not been tardy once.** God has never been late. So that anything in His Plan comes exactly when He wants it to come. **God is on time.**

Let's take an illustration. Single people. You are looking forward to finding the Right Man/Right Woman in marriage. Time elapses and you start to get shook. All right, it may

take 1,000 years to get the Right Man, so stick around and wait for him. What is the principle? Here it is:

Promiscuity is so dangerous to the soul and it puts so many calluses on the soul, and causes a seared conscience. You decide that the Lord is not going to dump the Right Man in your lap. So the first thing you do is to tell your Church where to go, and then you find yourself a boyfriend, and another boyfriend, and another boyfriend, etc. And you have had it. You shoot yourself down under those circumstances. **Yet, if you will wait, you will have a wonderful time.**

Do you know that living with a man is not all that it is cracked up to be? But, if you wait for the Lord's man, you will have something wonderful. You will be saying every day "Thank you. Thank you. Thank you." Even when you fight, you will still say "Thank you, Lord." Now, when it is the Right Person, things may go right and things may go wrong, but it is still from the Lord, so it will be wonderful.

By the way, never a dull moment. Some of you by now must know you have the wrong person because you are bored to death. You know the Bible speaks of eight deaths. So, those of you who wait, and are in a position to wait, the Lord has a Right Person for you and that is a point of Doctrine.

Since He has a Right Person for you, just because all of your friends are getting married, and just because you find things difficult at home, and just because your father says "Well, daughter, it is getting a little difficult to support you," and this type of thing, **don't come up with the first person who comes along.** Don't say, "The next person who asks me to marry him, some nice-looking, clean-cut person, I will marry him." A lot of people have done that, much to their regret. In other words, **wait for the Lord. The Lord is the Provider. You do not provide for yourself.** The Lord provides for you and that is **Grace.** **And what the Lord doesn't provide for you isn't worth having.**

You are well off in whatsoever state you find yourself in. Now, this is all a part of this principle. The elapse of time does not keep the Lord from fulfilling His Word to you. The elapse of time, in any situation, where you want something, and it hasn't materialized, it doesn't mean that the Lord is unfaithful, or unfair, or that He is torturing you. That is blasphemous. That is like trying to make a patsy out of the Lord. He has everything for you. And **everything is from Him.** "He can do exceedingly abundantly above all we ever ask or think." He is therefore, actually **waiting** to bless you.

The key that unlocks the door to everything is **knowledge of the Word of God**, leading to loving the Lord. The principle is that **once you love the Lord, you will actually put the Lord first. The details of life will become secondary.** If you have ever fallen in love with a member of the human race, you will notice at that point when you are truly in love with someone, details become meaningless. Some people do not have a clue probably to what I am saying. But this is illustrating your relationship with the Lord. When you truly fall in love with the Lord through knowledge of the Word of God, the details of life are not meaningful, **but the Lord is.**

Then what does the Lord do when a relationship like that exists? Well, **then the Lord gives you the details. And then you can enjoy the details, because the Lord is first and you have the capacity for the details of life.**

The very minute the Lord isn't first, then the details will make you miserable.

Now, this is a principle found in the Word. It is a very important principle in the Word. It is being developed starting in verse 9. "The Lord is not slack." The word for "slack" is BRADUNO. "The Lord is not tardy." He is not delaying. It is a present, active, indicative. He never is tardy, and this is a reality.

"Concerning His promises, as some men count." The word "count" here is HEGEO-MAI, which means to think, thinking in terms of concluding something. It means to make a

false or a true conclusion. Here it means to make a false conclusion. The elapse of time causes some people to say that the Lord isn't keeping His Word, i.e., the Second Advent of Christ.

All right, so here is the conclusion: "The Lord is not slack, or tardy, concerning His Promises as some conclude slackness; but is longsuffering toward us." The word "but" is a conjunction of contrast. So here is what the Lord is really like. Not slack or tardy, but "longsuffering." This is MAKROTHUMEO, which means to be patient. **Isn't it wonderful that the Lord doesn't judge us as we judge others? We judge others in impatience. Judging means we don't have the facts, but we have made up our minds anyway.** I don't like you, so here goes. Now that is judging.

Patience is an attitude of love. "The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering..." Put that down in your notes. This may be the first time you have ever heard this – **patience is an attitude of love.** Patience is not restraining yourself. It is an attitude of love. Not like you would like to clobber someone, but you hold back. No. That is not patience. Patience is an attitude of love.

Listen carefully. If you have that down, then get this. **Love takes up the slack.** When you love God through knowledge of His Word, you have taken up the slack. And it no longer becomes a question of time. Like "You're tardy, Lord. You haven't provided me money. You haven't provided me success. You haven't provided me any pleasures in life: the car, home, TV, dog, cat, whatever it is that you want. But you haven't provided Lord. What is going on Lord?"

When you love the Lord, you are thinking about Him. "Hey, Lord. What about that cat or dog?" You are occupied with the Lord and not a cat. **Then when you are occupied with the Lord, then the Lord gives you something, at the right time.** When He gives it to you, you know that it is right.

Let me illustrate from the Bible. Adam was created all by himself, alone. We know

that no man is an island. Adam was. He didn't even know what a woman was. One thing about man is that it doesn't take man long to find out. So, the Lord put Adam to sleep and took a rib from him and built a woman around it. When Adam woke up, there she was. God didn't build five ribs and say, "Adam, take your pick," like multiple choices. Is that the way God works? That is **not** the way it goes. **God never changes His policy.** There was a Right Woman for Adam. How many were there? **Only one.** No there were two. Because He said to Adam and Eve, "You will leave father and mother and cleave one to another." But they had no father and no mother. But down the line He knew this would be true.

It is very interesting when you find the Right One. The little daughter doesn't care anymore about father and mother. See "love" is something we say and use all the time. It is under the "Ls" in the dictionary. But it is something we don't understand at all. When you are in love with someone, or something, **one of the characteristics of love is patience.** "Love is patient."

Suppose you men fall in love with some woman and she has a bad habit and it is a very bad habit. And she is just as obnoxious as anything you have ever seen. But, for some unknown reason, you love her. You find yourself tolerating things that you have never in all of your life tolerated. You find yourself suddenly being patient about things that would have sent you into a raving orbit around the Earth. Why? Simply because you are in love.

Love is characterized by patience. And you say, "that is OK, honey, we will get a new car." Now you see what I mean? Whereas before if someone scratched your precious car, good-bye, whoom. But when you are in love. Your car is now a pile of junk and you just sit there and laugh. Why? Because you're in love. It is that simple. Patience is love. **Patience is a mental attitude of love.**

Now, here is the point. **If you are patient with the Lord, it is because you love the**

Lord. You say, "Lord, I want it now." And He says "Ten years, if you're lucky." But because you love the Lord, and because you are occupied with Him, you keep on doing the same thing and you go right on. That horrible old job, that horrible this and that, that horrible thing, whatever it is. Why? Because you are in love with the Lord. And that is why...

God is "longsuffering." But this word means "patient." MAKROTHEUMEO. The Lord is patient. **This is simply the perpetuation of love.** The Lord perpetuates His love and therefore His attitude toward the whole human race. "*He is not willing.*" "Willing" is BOULOMAI, which is a desire from the mentality of the soul. This is a desire from the soul. The word THELO is a desire from the emotions. This desire of the soul means that the Lord planned it this way. He planned it in eternity past. "*That no one should perish.*" This ought to tell you something. If God planned it that no one should perish, and people do perish, that means that they have free will, human volition. Why free will? The extension of the angelic conflict. He willed it that no one should perish.

"*But that all,*" that is all members of the human race, "*should come.*" That isn't really what this says. CHOREO means to make room for something. It means to make room for something either by capacity or motion. It means to admit, to receive, to give mental admittance. This is the way the Greeks used it. The Greeks realized that in the relationship between man and woman, for example, that before there could be EROS, which is sexual love, there must be AGAPE love, which is mental love. **There must be a coalescence of the soul.** Consequently that is why we have the word AGAPAO. This is why we have words that go with it.

Here is a word that meant to give mental admittance. It doesn't mean, "should come." It means to give mental admittance to. "Repentance." "Repentance" looks like this noun: METANOIA. NOIA means thinking and META means change. **So it means a change of mind.** It means to admit into the mentality

of the soul. **Repentance is always mental.** It is a change of mind about Christ, the Object.

Here is our subject: The Earth is going up. We have just a few minutes here to blow up the Earth. Verse 10, *“But the Day of the Lord.”* This is a reference to a period of time, starting with the Second Advent of Christ, which the scoffers, who are the subjects of this chapter, deny as per verses 3 and 4. It includes the Second Advent, Millennium, and the end of everything. So, the “Day of the Lord” is from the Second Advent of Christ to the end of the universe. In this citing **it is the end of the universe.** When will the world be blown up? And who will do it? And how?

“The Day of the Lord will come.” Again we have the word “come” mistranslated. It is HEKO and it means to arrive. It doesn’t mean it is going to come. It means it is going to arrive. In other words, this word HEKO means a **timetable and right on time.** God is on time. You see, the subject here is that the scoffers say, “Where is the Promise of His coming? Our fathers have died generation after generation. They come and go, and no Second Advent of Christ. Where is the Promise of His coming?” Now He says the day will arrive. So it will arrive. And how will it arrive?

“As a thief.” Remember the Bible must be interpreted in the time in which it was written. In the time in which this was written, in the ancient world, the thief came suddenly. He had to take his victim by surprise. The element of surprise is here. That is the concept. *“As a thief”* is an analogy to surprise.

“In which the heavens shall pass away.” This is PARAALUO, which means to loosen or dissolve. This means to disappear or to perish. *“With a great noise.”* ROIZEZON is the word. This is an onomatopoeic word that is used as the whistling of an arrow, the hissing of a snake, or a shepherd’s pipe, or the rush of wings. It could also mean a detonation or explosion.

“The elements shall melt.” This is STOICHEIA. Let’s take a look at the word

“elements,” which is STOICHEIA. It means to set them in a row. It was used in the ancient world for the A, B, Cs, because they set the alphabet in a row. It is used for basic things. It is used for basic elements. This refers to the elements, the chemical elements of the universe. These elements are fire, air, earth, and water.

“Shall melt.” This is LUO. In this case it means to be bombarded, or shall be dissolved. *“With a fervent heat.”* This is translated like a noun, but it is a verb. It is KAUSEOMAI and this means to burn intensely. At this point we have the destruction of the physical universe. But something else is going to be destroyed simultaneously. We will get to that in a moment.

Let’s, for a minute, take up the atom. In 1910 Lord Rutherford, a British physicist, and the father of nuclear physics, in one sense, came up with the most basic element in the universe. He called it, from the Greek, “A” “TOM.” “TOM” means divided, and “A” is the alpha primitive, which means, “not divided.” He said we could get down to something in the universe, an element that cannot be divided. He called it an atom.

That was in 1910. But since then, a great deal of work has been done in this field and so we finally came up with the idea that an atom can be divided. We find that an atom has a core or nucleus, and the core is made up of two things. It is made of protons and neutrons. You say, “Well, what are protons and neutrons?” Well, they are actually an electrical charge. **A proton is a positive electrical charge and a neutron is a neutral.** The atom also has rings, which are made up of electrons. Electrons are negative electrical charges. The protons suck these electrons into a unit, and that is an atom. We have two rings with oxygen, with eight electrons, and that is an atom. So, an atom has a core, or nucleus, and it has outer rings.

So, with oxygen there is a core with eight protons and eight neutrons. It has two rings and eight electrons. Now that is an atom of oxygen.

Now, the size and the force of an atom:

1. The size of the atom in the core is one trillionth of an inch in diameter. This will give you some idea of what we are dealing with here. These electrons, which revolve around it, are like a solar system.
2. They are held in by these protons in the core. The protons hold this thing together. The electrons are sucked into the core, as it were, and they revolve around it.
3. One teaspoonful of radium (we use radium because it is fissionable) contains one million billion atoms. In other words, there is enough power in one teaspoonful of radium to destroy all of Houston.
4. The force that holds one atom together is called energy or power.
5. The force that holds one atom together is one million times more powerful than the force of the energy, which holds hydrogen and oxygen together in a molecule of water. So, here is H_2O —two atoms of hydrogen and one atom of oxygen—in a stabilized form that is water. Hydrogen two, oxygen one. Now the force that holds one atom together is one million times more powerful than the force of energy, which holds hydrogen and oxygen together in a molecule of water.
6. The force that holds a molecule of water together is a thousand times more powerful than the force that holds a bar of steel together.
7. The force that holds one atom together is equivalent to the power output of Boulder Dam for one month.

Now when you think of all this force holding together, what happens when it goes the other way? See, that is the point.

Let's take up fission. This is a simple way to handle it. What is atomic fission? Well, you have to start with Uranium 238. We call it fissionable, which means that it can be bombarded with a neutron and it starts a chain reaction. When you hit Uranium 238 with a neutron, from something else, plutonium or something,

it breaks apart. In other words, all this force which holds together one atom of uranium can be released. It can explode as it were. All you have to do to detonate it is to hit it with something like a hammer or a gun. If you take a pistol, for example, it has a firing pin, and the firing pin hits the primer of the bullet, and everything goes. You can take a neutron and bombard the core or nucleus of Uranium 238 and it is just like a firing pin hitting the primer of the bullet. It blows it apart. We need a neutron.

Now they say that plutonium is one of the best. So we hit it with plutonium. When you put one neutron of plutonium plus Uranium 238 what happens? You get several things. You get krypton and barium, plus something else. When you break it up into krypton and barium, you also get two additional neutrons. There goes the chain reaction. So the result of bombarding Uranium 238 with a neutron is krypton, barium, plus two neutrons.

If a neutron of plutonium is fired like a bullet into a nucleus of an atom such as Uranium 238, it blows apart the nucleus releasing the neutrons from the nucleus, which will in turn split more atoms. Once you have two new neutrons running loose, you split two more, each neutron splits another one and then you develop this thing and you have more neutrons splitting more, and the next thing you know, you have the end of World War III.

One pound of Uranium 238 is equal in destructive power to five million pounds of TNT. I would like to say something about the most primitive bomb we have ever used. For those of you who do not know, the decision was an excellent one to use it. There are a lot of Americans who are alive today and probably here today in Church because it was used.

The Hiroshima bomb. Let's take a look at it. It was a uranium-type bomb. It was designed to detonate at between 1,000 and 1,500 feet. In other words, this is not a bomb that drops on the ground. This is a bomb that explodes in the air, 1,000 feet from the ground. When it detonates, somewhere between 1,000

and 1,500 feet, we don't know for sure, four square miles of Hiroshima were destroyed completely. All structures were leveled up to 10 miles away. In one second 60,000 people died. In the second second, the second afterwards, you have 150,000 casualties. One second: 60,000 people happened to be right over the detonation area. Four square miles blew up, and in the second second, 150,000 casualties. Now, that is the most primitive bomb of that type we have ever had. It was very primitive.

The Hydrogen bomb is 1,000 times more powerful than the Uranium bomb. Of course, we have given this bomb to everyone in the world.

The heat of the Hydrogen bomb is hotter than the surface of the sun, which means it is over 6,000 degrees centigrade. The Hydrogen bomb puts out 6,000 degrees centigrade. Now what about the Hydrogen bomb? How does it work? You take one hydrogen atom and that is H₂ plus another hydrogen atom, and you get helium plus heat over 6,000 degrees centigrade. What happens in this case is that the heat lights, blasts, and shocks and the destruction is almost beyond human thinking.

We are talking about a S.A.C. weapon. This weapon is nothing, **absolutely nothing, compared to what we have here in our passage.** KAUSEOMAI. Take a look at it. It is fervent heat. This may tell us that the Earth is going to be destroyed by fusion rather than by fission. It could go either way. But "fervent heat" means burning intensely, and that is KAUSEOMAI. It is a present, passive, participle. This is the first thing to be destroyed: the universe. We know that a new one will be created, "*a new Heaven and a new Earth.*" And also a New Jerusalem.

You can begin to see we have a concept about the destruction of the universe, the detonation of the entire universe, for this whole thing is going up. That is quite a blast! Only the resurrection body will survive it.

I want to tell you something. Here is what is amazing to me; the rest of this verse is important and interesting: The blowing up of

the universe to me doesn't mean a thing. Hydrogen bombs, atom bombs. These are just heat, blast, shock, and destruction. The amazing thing to me is this: The end of our verse. What else is destroyed? What has top priority in destruction? Put this down in your notes: **human good! The destruction of the universe is what God thinks about human good.** "*The elements shall melt with fervent heat.*" "Shall melt" means to be dissolved with burning, intense burning. "*The Earth also.*" Now that is the destruction of the universe. After the word "also" we see "*and the works that are therein shall be burned up.*" The works that be therein refers to **human good.** But that is not exactly what the Greek says. The verb is HEURISKO and it means to be discovered, literally.

KAUSEOMAI means and is talking about the destruction of the universe. The universe burns with an intense burning. Intense burning is probably fusion.

But when you destroy the universe, what is discovered? Hidden away in this whole mess, **the greatest enemy of God, human good. The great enemy of the Grace of God, human good.** This should not be translated as it is erroneously translated. "*The works that are therein shall be burned up,*" but actually, literally, "*the works that are therein shall be discovered.*" EUREKA.

So, we have the nuclear destruction of the universe, KAUSEOMAI. And we also have the destruction of human good, HEURISKO. I think it ought to be obvious which is the most important. **God's number one enemy in life is human good. Not immorality!** Morality is necessary for the function of the entire human race so that the four Divine Institutions can continue.

Here are six Biblical reasons why God destroys the universe and human good.

1. The Divine Viewpoint of human good is Hebrews 6:1, "dead works." "*Therefore leaving the principles of the Doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection: not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead*

works, and of faith toward God.” To God human good is already dead. It just hasn’t been judged yet.

I want you to notice something: the angels, the fallen angels are spiritually dead. They have not been judged yet. They will be judged in the Lake of Fire at the end of the Millennium. Human good has not been judged yet, but it is dead right now. It will be judged with the destruction of the universe. The destruction of the universe will discover human good. **Human good is dead works right now, but not destroyed yet. Human good has not been judged, and the judgment has not been executed, but it will be executed at the destruction of the universe.**

2. The obvious conclusion from that is that **human good is not acceptable to God.** There is no place in the Plan of God for human good. Isaiah 64:6, *“But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.”*

3. **Human good will not save mankind.** Titus 3:5, *“Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us. by the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit.” You can’t be saved by human good. Ephesians 2:8, 9, *“For by Grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.”**

4. **Human good is judged by God.** The judgment of human good is described under two categories:

The believer’s human good is judged at the Rapture, the end of the Church Age. 1 Corinthians 3:11-16, *“For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; Every man’s work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man’s work of what sort it is. If any*

man’s work abide which he hath built there-upon, he shall receive a reward. If any man’s work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved: yet so as by fire. Know ye not that ye are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?”

The unbelievers’ human good is judged at the destruction of the universe, at the Great White Throne Judgment. Revelation 20:12-15, *“And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the Book of Life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. And death and hell were cast into the Lake of Fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the Lake of Fire.”* So inevitably **human good is judged by God.**

5. Human good is not the same as morality. **Morality is necessary for the function of the Divine Institutions.** Strangely enough, **human good is not.** That is what is wrong with our nation today. **We are trying to make the Divine Institutions run by human good rather than morality.** We have no morality, for example, in our foreign policy. We have no morality in our internal policy. But we have lots of human good. We are trying to give our money to the poor, and if a revolutionist is poor, he gets money, too. We have no morality in government. We have lots of human good though.

6. Human good has no place in the plan of God, and therefore, it is permanently removed. That is verse 10.

Now in verse 11. Since we have studied the destruction of the universe by the Lord and the cataclysm involved, we go from the destruction of the universe to a **challenge to the believer in the Lord Jesus Christ.** There are two passages that challenge the believer with regard to the Doctrine of the future destruction of the universe. One of them is found in Hebrews 12, where at the end of the chapter we discover that the resurrection body

is shockproof, and survives the destruction of the universe. **Here we have a challenge for the believer in time on this Earth.** Hebrews 12 challenges from the standpoint of the future. When the universe blows up we will be right in the middle of it with a resurrection body, which is not effected.

We have this chapter before us talking about our life here on this Earth in view of this destruction. The universe is going to blow up in the future. How do we apply that to us today? The answer is found in verses 11 and 12. Here is the challenge for us as believers: *"Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness." "Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?"*

Verses 13-18, *"Nevertheless we, according to His Promise, look for new Heavens and a new Earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness. Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of Him in peace, without spot, and blameless. And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you; As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other Scriptures, unto their own destruction. Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness. But grow in Grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To Him be glory both now and for ever. Amen."*

In verse 11 immediately we have a problem with the translation. *"Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness."* Actually you will notice that you have some italicized words. That is a tip off that things are not as smooth as they appear in the original language. Literally, *"All*

these in the manner being in the process of being dissolved." How dissolved? Well, that takes us right back to where we started with the destruction of the universe. *"All these"* refers to the universe. *"In this manner"* is literally, *"in this way."* It is an adverb, which refers to the destruction of the universe described in verse 10. *"Shall be dissolved."* This is a present tense, the process is going on. The passive voice says that the universe received the action of the verb, destruction. However, the believer in the Lord Jesus Christ is not destroyed with the universe.

Hebrews 12:26-29, *"Whose voice then shook the Earth: but now He hath promised, saying, Yet once more I shake not the Earth only, but also Heaven. And this word, yet once more, signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things that are made, that those things that cannot be shaken may remain. Wherefore we receiving a kingdom that cannot be moved, let us have Grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: **For our God is a consuming fire.**"* So, *"all these in this manner being in the process of being dissolved."*

Here is our application: *"What manner"* is the Greek word HOTA, which means it, is time for application. We have had in verses 1-10 a lot of Doctrine. In these 10 verses we have terminated with a doctrinal dissertation with the destruction of the universe by God. Then in Hebrews 12:26-29 we have had an application of the destruction of the universe, and that the resurrection body will survive it. But here we have an application to believers on the Earth now.

HOTA POS in the Greek refers to believers on this Earth in time. **We are protected from the future destruction of the universe by God**—a future cataclysm. We are protected as well from the Last Judgment. So what are we to do at this present time with that in view?

"Ought" means what is necessary, what is proper, and it should be trans-lasted: **"All these in this manner being in the process of being dissolved, what manner of persons it is proper for us to become?"** This is *"to begin to be."* *"To be"* is a Greek word HUPARCHO.

This means to begin to become. What sort of people are we to begin to become? Once you learn the Word, you ought to begin to become something. This is a present, active, infinitive. The present tense means we ought to be this consistently. The active voice means that we learn the Word and we ought to apply it. The infinitive says that this is God's purpose for us, to learn the Word and to apply it.

"What manner of person ought we to become in all holy conversation." Now this brings up a point. When is the last time you had a holy conversation? You might be one of those who thinks that some time in your life you had a holy conversation. What is a holy conversation? What is a holy kiss? I know what a lot of people think it is. Holy conversation to some means, "Ahmen," "Hallelujah," and a pious look and a phony front, and a few "God willings," and "if the Lord carries."

But the whole trouble is that this is not what this passage is talking about. Conversation depends on vocabulary. Suppose you had two words in your vocabulary. How can you come up with a holy conversation? Suppose those two words were curse words. I know people who get up to give their testimony and they don't have a holy conversation.

What is the word "holy conversation?" Here it is in the Greek: ANASTROPHE. It is a compound noun. ANA means again. And STROPHE means manner, literally it is manner of life. "Holy" means something that is done unto God. So this is manner of life on this Earth. And "holy" refers to the Christian way of life on this Earth. STROPHE is manner of life. So it is a **holy manner of life, a separated manner of life**. It is a life separated unto God. This comes to mean knowledge of the Word of God plus the filling of the Holy Spirit. The point here is: if you are going to have a resurrection body in stage three, eternity, which is shockproof when the universe is destroyed, we ought to be able to come up with something while we are in this body, since we have been provided unlimited Divine operating assets so that we can live the Christian way of life and have dynamics in our life.

The application is: We have a perfect resurrection body, which is shockproof, but while we are here on this Earth, we ought to be shockproof and have the dynamics of Christianity, which is a **relaxed mental attitude**. Because **if you can relax when the universe will be blown up, you can relax now**. That is what this passage is saying.

So this is the first application. If a believer can relax under conditions with which the whole universe blows up, as we have been studying, then we can relax now. We don't have a resurrection body now, but we have all the equipment with which to be relaxed. When is the last time you relaxed under pressure? What happened when you got under the last pressure? Did you fall apart? Did you lose your cool? Well, you don't have to. **You can be relaxed now**.

There are a lot of things that shock people and shock different kinds of people. The whole point here is, and this is our context now. The Plan of God is divided into three stages, Salvation, then time, and then eternity. **If you are shockproof in eternity, and you have a resurrection body in eternity, can't you be shockproof with a human body in time?** A part of having a relaxed mental attitude is being shockproof in time. What upsets you? Does finding the fallacies of others shock you? Do people shock you by the things that they do? Well, that is not a relaxed mental attitude. **No one can be stable and at the same time be constantly shocked**. Just as God has provided for you a shockproof survival system for eternity, the destruction of the universe, so He has provided for you today.

A shockproof survival system, then, is a relaxed mental attitude. God has provided for us a survival test. This survival test is the Word of God. And with the Word of God in our minds, that makes us shockproof. We will be shockproof in the future, so we ought to be shockproof today. **We cannot be shockproof and get our eyes on people**. If you do, you will never know what the Christian life is all about. We have to become shockproof. The survival kit given to every believer is found

in the Word. This survival kit includes several things that are vitally important to you. They can all be summarized very simply by saying **a relaxed mental attitude**. Believe it or not, that is found in our phrase here, “holy conversation.”

If people are left to their own interpretation and application of passages like this, you can sure mess up your life. So, “holy conversation” means a scriptural manner of life, living the **Divine Viewpoint** of life. This begins with “*the fruit of the Spirit is love,*” AGAPE, which is a relaxed mental attitude. Here in context it is a relaxed mental attitude about the destruction of the universe. The word “holy” is HAGIOS, which means separated unto God. This is talking about your life on this Earth in fellowship, the Spirit-filled life, separation in time. “Godliness” refers to the doctrine of spirituality. Godliness is the Spirit-filled life. Galatians 5:22, 23, “*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.*”

Then verse 12 continues the application. “*Look for*” is PROSDOKAO, which means to anticipate, to be expectant. It is a present, active, participle, meaning eagerly anticipating, constantly.

So here should be our attitude: We have “the manner of life,” which is the Spirit-filled life, and our attitude toward the future should be “eagerly anticipating.” This is in regard to eternity, the far look.

The next phrase is “*and hasting unto.*” Now, this is one of those passages that you ask people to explain. What do you think this means? Does it mean that you should dash forward into eternity? And does it mean to end it all and go out into eternity? No. “*Hasting unto*” is the word SPEUO and it doesn’t mean to hasten. **It means to have an earnest intense desire for someone or something.** “*Looking for and hasting unto*” is literally “*eagerly anticipating and earnestly desiring the coming of the Day of the Lord.*”

The word “coming” is literally “*the arrival*

of the Day of the Lord.” What is the Day of the Lord? Well, we have been studying it in context, the destruction of the universe. It is the Second Advent, and then the Millennium, and then the Great White Throne Judgment, and the destruction of the universe of verse 10. So we should be eagerly anticipating and earnestly desiring this particular event.

This seems kind of interesting. It is like a kid who likes to look forward to the Fourth of July and the fireworks, and actually looking forward to a big fireworks display. Because, believe me, when the universe blows up, it is going to be a fireworks. A fantastic amount of it.

The detonation, the shock, will be absolutely fantastic. It is very possible that the Lake of Fire is manufactured out of the nuclear destruction of the universe. We are to look forward to that. What should our attitude be toward the destruction of the universe? Well, here it says we can look forward to it because we have already seen that we have a shock proof body. Hebrews 12:26-29.

So we “*eagerly anticipate,*” we earnestly desire, “*the Day of God.*” “*God*” is talking about **Jesus Christ. He will destroy the universe. Not the Russians!** In fact, the Russians won’t even be on the scene by this time. They will be destroyed as a nation at the Second Advent of Christ. That would be the king of the north, and this destruction of the universe occurs after the millennial reign of the Lord Jesus Christ. We will have been in a resurrection body for at least 1,007 years at that time.

So, we “*eagerly anticipate*” and “*earnestly desire*” “*the Day of God.*” This starts off God’s Plan for eternity, which includes the destruction of the universe.

“*Wherein*” is literally “*because of which.*” “*The heavens being on fire,*” is literally, “*the heavens burning shall be dissolved.*” “*And the elements shall be made liquid with a burning intensity.*” Now, this is a repetition of verse 10, but we want to review it once more because of the necessity of the repetition of the Word here.

Verse 10, *"The Day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night."* *"And the heavens shall pass away."* Now, the heavens passing away means to disappear, to perish, to be removed. The mechanics are in verse 10. *"With a great noise."* This word used here is a whizzing sound. *"The elements shall melt with a fervent heat,"* which is literally burning intensely. The Earth also and *"the works that are therein"* is the fact that the universe blows up and human good is destroyed. So then eagerly anticipate that, and earnestly desire that.

The next phrase in verse 10 is *"shall be burned up,"* and is literally *"shall be discovered."* We saw that two things will happen here. It says, *"The works shall be discovered."* The word there is HUERISKO, and that is the discovery of all human good, and that is the destruction of human good.

Then there is another word in verse 10 that actually describes for us the destruction of the universe, and that is the word, which is repeated here in verse 12, KAUSEOMAI. We took up under this word the atoms. And we discussed this to demonstrate something of the tremendous explosion involved when you put this together and realize that the whole universe is constructed this way. The Lord Himself has the key that can blow the whole thing. And it is going to blow someday in God's Plan. It will take place exactly 1,007 years after the Rapture. When you think of billions of light years of space detonating, well, that is quite an explosion.

That is what we have here repeated for us at the end of verse 12. So we are reminded of it, once again, verses 10 and 12. Only this time it is repeated to make a personal application. Repetition for application. **We can eagerly anticipate and earnestly desire it.** Why? Because **we have previously discovered that we will have a resurrection body exactly like the Lord Jesus Christ's.** That is the reason why. All of this is within the concept of fervent heat.

Verses 13-18 are as a result of that fact. God has planned for the believer every step, the creation of the universe and the destruc-

tion of the universe. Jesus Christ is the Creator of the universe, and He also will destroy it. Billions of years ago the Lord Jesus Christ created the universe. Then we had the period of the angelic conflict. Then eventually man came into the picture. And one spot is picked out for man, a little old junky place called Earth.

It was a junk heap, but it was very famous for one thing. It was a hang out for Satan and some of his friends. It was a mess. The Hebrew says TOHU WA BOHU. What that says in Hebrew is *"became a mess."* So God the Holy Spirit cleaned it up. And Jesus Christ created new life. Then we have the beginning of human history. Human history will run its course, four civilizations, four dispensations, and at the end of time, the universe will be destroyed. Jesus Christ created it and Jesus Christ will destroy it. Why?

Simply because everything necessary for the resolving of the angelic conflict, and everything necessary for the creation of man has been fulfilled at that time. All the unbelievers will go into the Lake of Fire prepared for Satan and his angels. **All the believers in the Lord Jesus Christ will spend an eternity with God, under conditions of indescribable language.**

The universe had a beginning by the hand of the Lord Jesus Christ. The universe has an ending, and Jesus Christ holds the key. All He has to do is just touch it off, one spot, and the whole universe will go up. That is a fantastic thing. *"By Him all things consist."* *"By Him all things hold together,"* literally.

Verses 13-18 describe the **victory** of the believer in the Lord Jesus Christ. Verse 13 is **first the victory of the believer in stage three, eternity.** Verse 13, *"Nevertheless we,"* the believers, *"according to His Promise."* KATA is according to the norm or standard of His Promise. The Greek word for promise here does not mean promise. It is literally **promised blessing.** EPAGGELMA. It means **promise with blessing.** Promise with permanent blessing. *"We believers."* The destruction of the universe is in view here. At the end of

the Millennium this destruction will not harm the believer in the Lord Jesus Christ.

“According to the norm or standard of His Promise permanent blessing.”

“Look.” Again we have the word to literally anticipate. We eagerly anticipate *“the new heavens”* – this will be the dwelling place of the Church. *“The new Earth”* – this is the dwelling place of the Old Testament and Millennial saints. *“Wherein”* literally is *“in which,” “dwelleth righteousness.”*

“Dwelleth” is KATOIKEO, which means to be at home. It doesn’t mean to dwell. It is literally *“in which we are at home in righteousness,”* or *“in which righteousness is at home.”* Righteousness, here, first of all, is a **relaxed mental attitude**. This is perfect love in a perfect body and a perfect capacity to appreciate God and eternity, a perfect capacity for eternity.

Now, out of all these things righteousness can be fulfilled in part now. If eternity is going to be dynamic, the whole point is that eternity is going to be a dynamic thing, fantastic, beyond human description, but there are little shades and touches of eternity that can be manifest right now! Righteousness. What kind of righteousness? **A relaxed mental attitude**. This is a foretaste of eternity, and that is AGAPE love in time. This gives a capacity to appreciate God, and what belongs to God, like His Word. Now, these things are possible now.

So here is an application. The first application: the destruction of the universe says, “Look, we are going to be in a shockproof body. We are going to be able to appreciate everything in eternity. We are going to be in a place where righteousness is at home.”

It is one thing to dwell somewhere, but it is another thing to be at home. **Earth is not our home, but the Heaven of eternity is.** You can only be in a very few places on this Earth where you are at home and relaxed. Which all goes to prove a point. **Home isn’t home.** A house is not a home. If you were perfectly relaxed at home, **then you would stay home more.** There are lots of people who have a

home, but very few people seem to be relaxed there. But wherever you go, you can be perfectly relaxed. When you are around people that you can be perfectly relaxed with, that is KATOIKEO.

Now all of you can think of at least one person or two, maybe three, people around whom you can be completely relaxed. What do you have in common with those people? Well, that is really where your home is. What do you have with the three people you can be relaxed around? You are at home with them. **Whatever you have in common with them makes this home.** There is no bitterness, no jealousy, no vindictiveness, no implacability, no hatred, no guilt complex, just the filling of the Spirit, love, AGAPE, which is a relaxed mental attitude. And having a capacity for rapport-type love, PHILOS.

You can have this in a larger scale among believers. But this doesn’t happen too often. What then is really a friendly Church? When you find a Church where you have a maximum number of believers with a relaxed mental attitude. **That is home.** And that is a friendly Church. **It isn’t what people are doing that counts.** All of us can think of at least one person around whom you can relax. If you can’t, then you are a zombie, and people will then love you from afar, **until the Word straightens you out.** But as long as you have mental attitude sins, **people cannot relax around you, and you have no dynamics of the Christian way of life.** We are commanded to love all believers. But fortunately, it is not PHILOS. It is AGAPE love. The beautiful thing about AGAPE love is that you can love from afar, sometimes the further the better.

Let’s see these two types of love. We are commanded to love all believers under one condition. You have in the mentality of your soul AGAPE-type love. That is what you are commanded, and this is the result of a relaxed mental attitude. What is love, when it says to love all believers? What does it mean? It means **a relaxed mental attitude. It means you should not hate anyone. You should not**

be bitter toward anyone. You should not be jealous toward anyone, or vindictive, or implacable, or have a guilt complex toward anyone.

We also have another type of love, PHILOS. and that is a **total soul rapport love**. But all we are commanded to have is a **mental attitude love**, AGAPE, **toward all believers**. You are going to have a rapport-type love with a **few believers**. So, here is the word again, to be at home, KATOIKEO.

Some believers have a guilt complex because they read that it says to love everyone, and since they don't, they can't gush over everyone, and you can't find five nice things to say about everyone, therefore, some have a nervous breakdown over it. But if you are filled with the Spirit, you will love everyone. *"The fruit of the Spirit is love,"* AGAPE, a relaxed mental attitude. That means no mental attitude sins. But that still doesn't mean you have to run around and pat them on the back and say five nice things. So, we have to be clear about this. Your relaxed mental attitude, your love, your mental attitude toward all believers can be relaxed.

If you are a smart believer, there are certain kinds of believers who you will love from a long, long distance. You will put a lot of distance between you and that believer as per Romans 16:17, 18, *"Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the Doctrine which ye have learned: and avoid them. For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly: and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple."* You are commanded to stay away from some believers. This is found in 2 Thessalonians 3:6 also, *"Now we command you, brethren, in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which he received of us."* You should take this command seriously. There are some believers you should not hang around for anything in this world! You can be relaxed around them, but never at home with them. **This is talking about believers.** You

love them, you have a relaxed mental attitude about them, but you are not in striking distance. Then there are people who you can be totally and wonderfully and marvelously relaxed around.

What is the point? **The dynamics of Christianity are in the relaxed mental attitude.** Here is our point: If you cannot be shaken by the destruction of the universe, then it follows that, as a believer on this Earth in time, **God has something provided for you whereby people can't bother you. When you get to the place where people can't bother you, you have it made! Cheers!!!**

When you get to the place where you get your eyes off of people, and where you are relaxed around people, you are going to have the most dynamic life for the Lord. What characterizes it? Your life will be shockproof. **The nasty Christians in this world won't bother you because you are occupied with Christ.** People don't bother you. They don't get you down. They don't disturb you. The Russians don't cause you any fear of destruction. Because if the greatest cataclysm in the history of the universe, the destruction of the universe occurs, and if God provides for you a resurrection body which is shockproof so that everything blows up around you and you are fine, **does it not follow that He can provide for you while you are here on this Earth in time, in the devil's world, so that you can be shockproof?**

That is the whole point of the Word of God. Now you can ask yourself a question: **How are your shock absorbers?** Did you fall apart? Did certain nuclear accidents get you down? Do you have your eyes on people? The Russians? Do people upset you? Does somebody just automatically make you mad? Jealous? Bitter? You see, that is the trouble right there. You say, *"They don't know how I feel. I hide it. I keep a straight face,"* and that is true.

But the Lord sees the whole thing. Any smart unbeliever can see it, too. He can smell it. So, you are kidding yourself. **What you really are is what you think!**

We have a command *“love the brethren.”* That is impossible to do because the word “love” means a relaxed mental attitude. It doesn’t mean that you have to gush. It is the filling of the Holy Spirit. This means that you are shockproof, especially when it comes to people. People do not bother you. One reason they do not bother you is because **you mind your own business. And you give every believer priest his own privacy before the Lord.** We are not commanded to run every-one else’s life, **just our own.**

Every believer is his own priest. Every believer is his own representative before the Lord. That is a pure democracy. Since each believer priest represents himself before the Lord, this he must do: avoid sticking your nose in other people’s business. Some people are so self-righteous that they appoint themselves a guardian over some local church or group. They are totally out of line. They can’t understand what happens. Nothing seems to go right, and they never have inner happiness. But it is the simplest thing in the world. They are so busy with people that they have never gotten around to the Lord. The Word will change all of that.

“According to the permanent promise blessing.” “Anticipate the new heavens and the new Earth by which the righteousness is at home.” That is stage three, eternity. Now, let us look at stage two, the believer in time on this Earth. Verse 14.

This is the challenge to the Christian here on this Earth in the Church Age. Verse 14, *“Wherefore beloved.”* Now in verse 8 we had “beloved,” and here we see “beloved” again. **“Beloved” is a reminder that every believer is loved by God with a maximum love.** “Beloved” means that at the point of salvation, we enter into union with the Lord Jesus Christ. Christ is called the Beloved. The Father said about His Son, *“This is My beloved Son in Whom I am well pleased.”* What does “beloved” mean? It means we are the objects of the Father’s love. The Father had maximum love for the Lord Jesus Christ, and now that we are in Christ (saved) He has maxi-

imum love for every believer. The spiritual believer has this-love and the carnal believer has this love. The believer may be a baby believer or a mature believer, but regardless of the category on this Earth in time, **God loves every believer with the same amount of love that He has for the Lord Jesus Christ.** You are the object of love maximum. That will never change because of your union with the Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, this word “beloved” is used here. “Beloved” means believers, recipients of maximum love from God.

There is another application. You just pick out some unlovely believer. Well, God the Father loves him with the same amount of love that He has for you or for His Son. When you stop to think that no matter how unlovely, humanly speaking, a person may be as a believer, God the Father loves that person just as much as He loves His Son the Lord Jesus Christ.

“Wherefore beloved seeing that ye look for.” “Ye look for,” means again, eagerly anticipate. We have had it before. It is PROSKOKAO, and it means to anticipate eagerly.

“Therefore, beloved, eagerly anticipating these things.” “These things,” in context, are the things coming up in the future. We can anticipate everything that comes in stage three, eternity. It begins with *“absent from the body and face to face with the Lord.”* It means, *“No more tears, no more sorrow, no more pain, no more death, all the old things are passed away.”* We can eagerly anticipate these things: A resurrection body, shockproof under the destruction of the whole universe.

And then, *“be diligent.”* Here is the word SPOUDAZO, and it means not simply to be diligent, but to make application. **Make application.** *“Make application eagerly that ye may be found.”* Literally, *“That ye may be discovered by Him.”* Not *“of Him,”* but literally **“by Him.”** **Make application of the Word of God, so that you might be discovered by Him.**

How? Well, two ways. *“Without spot and blameless.”* Unblemished or a spot removed is

what it literally means. *"Without spot..."* You cannot be without spot unless you use 1 John 1:9. *"Blameless"* is a result, AMOMETOS, which is the filling of the Holy Spirit, which results in restoration back to fellowship. *"Without spot"* is confession of sin back in fellowship. *"Blameless"* means you can only be blameless as God the Holy Spirit controls you. So here is fellowship and the result is the filling of the Holy Spirit.

In verse 15 he recommends Paul's epistles. Peter is dying and this is the last thing he ever wrote. He recommends the epistles of Paul. Verse 15, *"And account."* This word means to think to a conclusion. HEGEMAOI is a present, active, imperative. It should be translated literally, *"keep on thinking to a conclusion."* *"Persist in your thinking."* The present tense means continually. The active voice means that you do it. And the imperative mood means this is a command, this is an order. In other words, come to a proper conclusion.

"Conclude the longsuffering of our Saviour." *"The longsuffering of our Lord is salvation,"* or deliverance. The word "longsuffering" is again "patience." Patience here is the Word that means to refuse revenge tactics. How do you refuse to use revenge tactics? **The only way to prevent revenge tactics is to be filled with the Spirit.** AGAPE love. A relaxed mental attitude. To be in fellowship. That keeps you from revenge. So once again we go back to the relaxed mental attitude.

Literally, *"Keep on thinking to the conclusion that the longsuffering, the relaxed mental attitude of the Lord, is deliverance."* This is **physical deliverance.** This is not salvation. This is not spiritual salvation, but physical deliverance for born again believers. **The deliverance in the Christian way of life depends on the filling of the Holy Spirit resulting in a relaxed mental attitude.** Deliverance from what? From shock, being shocked by people, circumstances, or even yourself. So the filling of the Holy Spirit is a part of your survival kit for your life on this Earth.

Literally, *"Conclude the longsuffering, the relaxed mental attitude, of the Lord, is deliver-*

ance, even as our beloved brother Paul," verse 15. We are going from Peter's epistle to Paul's epistles by way of recommendation. Here is the principle of teamwork, and the true concept of Christianity on this Earth.

There are many things that Peter cannot cover, but he knows that they are in the Pauline epistles. This is a very significant statement by Peter and the Holy Spirit as far as the Canon of Scripture is concerned. Peter died after Paul. The Pauline epistles had been completed. Paul is dead. But Peter recognizes them as a part of the Canon of Scripture. So there is a principle of canonicity here.

"Our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him." *"According to"* is the absolute norm or standard preposition, KATA. It is a norm or standard that indicates that the Word is divided into categories.

"The wisdom" refers to understanding the Word categorically. The word is SOPHIA. It is a classical Greek word that means insight, spiritual insight in the New Testament, insight into spiritual things through a knowledge of the Word of God.

"Given." This is an aorist, passive, participle of DIDOMAI. The aorist tense means given in a period of time, the period of time when Paul ministered. The passive voice means that Paul received every bit of information in the epistles, the principle of Grace again. The word "given," of course, indicates that God the Holy Spirit is the source of the Word of God in the Pauline epistles. This constitutes the principle of inspiration. The Holy Spirit directed the human authors of Scripture and in this case it was Paul.

"Unto him." This is dative of advantage. It was to his advantage to have them. It is to everyone's advantage to have the Word of God in writing. *"Which He hath written."* This is an aorist tense, which is in a point of time of the actual writing of the Pauline epistles. *"Unto you"* is a dative of advantage, for your own personal advantage. This was given to Paul for your advantage. Unto him, unto you.

This shows the process of the writing and the perpetuation of the Word of God.

Verse 16 is a description of the Pauline epistles. *"As also in all his epistles speaking."* Now the word *"speaking"* is not the ordinary word for speaking. It is LALEO, which means to communicate, to communicate the Word. The Pauline epistles communicate Doctrine. *"In them"* means in the Pauline epistles. *"These things"* is the Doctrine of the mystery, etc., which is the Church Age and how to orient to it.

"In which are some things hard to be understood." This is a noun. Peter had a hard time evidently understanding some of Paul's epistles. If he had a hard time then he understood that others possibly would have a hard time. The word *"hard"* is DEUS, which means hard, difficult, and the word NOEO means thinking. *"Hard"* is DEUS NOEO, hard thinking, literally, to understand Paul. Now, this ought to be of some encouragement to you. Some people have a hard time studying the Word of God. Well, just stay with it. It will come. *"Hard to be understood"* means difficult thinking.

"Which they are unlearned." This means that they are ignorant. Notice what a person is said to be here, a person who is dumb in regard to the Word. They can have a high I.Q. and still be ignorant of the Word. Which means, if you are ignorant of the Word, then that results in instability. *"And unstable."* The word here means to be unhinged as far as the understanding of the Word is concerned. They simply do not get with it. There is no positive volition, and there is no desire to learn the Word.

We have a principle here. **Ignorance of the Word of God produces instability in life.** So, what do they do in such a case? *"They wrest."* This is an Old English word. This is where we get our modern word *"wrestle."*

But that is not what it means here. Let us get the Greek and straighten it all out. The word is STREBLOO. Well, it was used in the ancient world for a rack, or an instrument of torture, at torture rack for stretching limbs,

and causing the person to become distorted. In the ancient world they had racks, and they tied their hands and their feet down, and they started to crank and crank and pretty soon you were distorted. Your body stretched, and your bones broke, etc. So they were stretched out real long, distorted, so the word actually means distortion, or to be distorted. *"Wrest"* is a present, active, indicative and it means to distort.

So the unstable ones are actually *distorting*. *"As they do other Scriptures to their own destruction."* **You cannot afford to distort the Scriptures!!** Now, that is the reason why God has given the spiritual gift of pastorship in the Church Age, to keep you from distorting the Scriptures. There are many people and organizations that have systems of just reading the Word and discussing it and asking opinions and think that this is studying the Bible. Now, that is one of the many ways you wind up in distortion. **Distortion means legalism, and legalism leads to human good.** Human good means that you are phased out as a Christian in the Christian way of life, and you will be miserable along with it. So, be careful of the distortion of the Word.

"To their own destruction," or their own ruin. Literally, the Greek word means ruin. APOLEIA means ruin. **Distorting the Scriptures ruins a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ.** Notice how this develops here. **Ignorance of the Word results in instability, which causes distortion of the Word of God and ends up in ruin.**

Verses 17 and 18 are the victory for the believer while on this Earth in time. *"Ye therefore, beloved,"* Verse 8, *"beloved."* Verse 15, *"Beloved, Paul."* Verse 17, *"beloved."* This is again addressed to believers under maximum love of the Lord. The first victory in the Christian way of life comes from the recognition that God loves you with a maximum amount of love whether you fail or succeed. **What you do in time does not determine God's love for you.** This is a problem that we have here in time. Because we try to transfer to God human love patterns. **But God's love**

for us is constant and maximum and never changes whether we fail or succeed.

"Ye therefore, beloved, seeing." The word "seeing" is not found in the original text. *"Ye therefore, beloved, know."* This doesn't mean to know, but to know before. *"Ye therefore, beloved know before."* This means that they have been exposed to the Word, and they should have already learned these things.

"Beware." Here is the command. *"Beware,"* literally, guard. *"Guard ye also that ye be not led astray with the error of the wicked."* How are you going to guard from not falling astray? There is only **one** way and that is to **learn the Word of God**, having the norm and standard of the Word of God, the **Divine Viewpoint**. *"Fall from your own steadfastness."* "Fall" is the word for fall down from your own stability. *"Steadfastness"* is stability. Stability, as we have seen, is based on the Word of God.

Verse 16. **If you are ignorant of the Word, you are unstable.** If you are unstable, then you "wrest" the Scriptures, or distort the Word. That results in your own ruin. So, we learn the Word. We study the Word. And grow in the Word, so we don't end up in ruin.

It starts with ignorance of the Word of God, leading to instability, leading to distortion, leading to ruin. See, if you don't know the Word, every time you face a difficult situation you start distorting. For example, the Russian nuclear attack. You are in a jam, and you don't know the Word of God. And so you go into some emotional activity, i.e., tongues, healing, laying on of hands. You get involved in some cult or some anti-Biblical organization like the United Nations, and you do so because they offer you some system of panacea; world peace, no nukes, ban the bomb, reduce the build-up of nuclear arms.

This verse gives us the negative side. What is the positive approach to this problem? Verse 18, *"Grow."* This is a present, active, imperative. Therefore, it means to keep on growing. It is a process that never stops. You keep on growing as long as you live on this Earth in time. The present tense means continuously.

The active voice means that you have to do this yourself. The imperative mood means this is a command, an order from God. This is His will for your life.

"In Grace," literally, *"in the sphere of Grace."* Grace is the whole system of God's Word. Grace is the title for God's Plan for you here on Earth and in eternity. *"And in the knowledge."* You cannot grow apart from knowledge, knowledge in its simplest form. The word here is GNOSIS. This is where you start, with GNOSIS. This is not full knowledge. That would be EPIGNOSIS. So, you start with simple knowledge. And you grow. And in this case it is a special kind of knowledge.

"Knowledge pertaining to our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ." **Knowledge is the greatest virtue in the Christian way of life.** "Lord" is Deity. Jesus Christ is God. *"Saviour."* There is **only one Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ.** *"There is salvation in no other. There is none other Name under Heaven given unto men whereby we must be saved."* "Jesus." This is His humanity.

Lord=Deity. Jesus=humanity,

showing that Jesus Christ is **unique**. He is the God-man, the unique Member of the universe. He is equal with God and equal with man. **Consequently the only Mediator between God and man is the man Christ Jesus.** The word "Christ" means Messiah, the Anointed One. He is the One that the Father pointed out to go to the Cross and die for the sins of the world. This means knowledge pertaining to the Lord so that you can understand Him. And it also means to know Him so that you love Him. **Your capacity for loving the Lord is dependent upon your knowledge of the Word of God.**

"To Him." This is God the Father, the Author of the Plan. *"Be glory now, and forever. Amen."* "Now" is in this life on this Earth as a believer. "Forever" is not only now, but in eternity also. He is our Saviour. That is stage one where you enter into the Plan of God the Father. "Now" is stage two, here in time on

this Earth. And “*forever*” means in eternity. This is the principle of eternal security.

It is possible to glorify God the Father in eternity because you will have a resurrection body. It is also possible to glorify God the Father in time, now, on this Earth, because of what He has provided for us in Grace here on this Earth. **He has provided His Word for time. He has provided His assets for time. He has provided His techniques of the Word for time. He has provided everything necessary to glorify Him now on this Earth in time.** We shall also be shockproof in eternity. **We can be shockproof now. We can have stability in time. We will have stability in eter-**

nity. We have love now and we have love in eternity.

What God has provided for the future, God has also provided for now. The difference between now and then is the resurrection body. Today we are in temporal bodies on this Earth with an old sin nature. But He has provided for us in this body on the Earth with an old sin nature. And He has provided for us in eternity without an old sin nature and a resurrection body. Grace is the secret **then** and Grace is the secret **now**. So we end with Peter and say, “*I believe it.*” “*Amen.*” **DO YOU?**

Buddy Dano, Pastor
Divine Viewpoint
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