Confirmed by Christ unto the End During the *Tribulation the Great*

<u>1Co 1:8 Who shall also confirm you unto the end, that ye may be</u> blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Mt 24:13 But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.

Mr 13:13 And ye shall be hated of all *men* for my name's sake: but he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.

The Coming Final Great Tribulation

God's little children have endured tribulations since the fall of Adam and Eve. They have differed from each other in length and severity, but all those who live Godly in Christ Jesus have and shall suffer tribulation. Some have come by Satan alone directly as in the case of Job while others have come by Satan using means and ways such as the Jews and Romans upon the early Christians. God is the ordainer of all such for *He has made all things for Himself, yea even the wicked for the day of evil.* Proverbs 16:4.

2 Thess. 1:3 We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is meet, because that your faith groweth exceedingly, and the charity of every one of you all toward each other aboundeth;

4 So that we ourselves glory in you in the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that ye endure:

5 *Which is* a manifest token of the righteous judgment of God, that ye may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which ye also suffer:

6 Seeing *it is* a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them that trouble you;

7 And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, {his...: Gr. the angels of his power}

8 In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: {taking: or, yielding}

9 Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;

10 When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day.

11 Wherefore also we pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of *this* calling, and fulfil all the good pleasure of *his* goodness, and the work of faith with power: {count: or, vouchsafe}

12 That the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and ye in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

However, in the last days of this present evil world there will come a Great Tribulation that will be the final Tribulation and if the Lord does not come and take His own unto

Himself none of His elect will survive.

Destruction of Jerusalem a Type

The Destruction of Jerusalem from AD 69-70 was a frightful picture of the great tribulation of the last days, but the final tribulation will be even more dreadful and frightening because it will include all nations world-wide.

Persecutions from Civil Rome upon Christians a Type

Re 2:10 Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast *some* of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.

For a good account of these persecutions and tribulations upon the early Christians please consult Eusebius' Martyrs of Palestine. These times were horrible, but were not to be compared with the Great Tribulation yet to come.

Persecutions from the Catholics and Protestants During and After the Dark Ages a Type

Beyond all doubt the Christians who lived during the cruel rule and reign of the Papists and Protestants when they had the civil sword to murder all dissenters endured a terrible time of trial and persecution. It is difficult for us to imagine a time of such sufferings for 1,260 years, but it happened. The coming final Tribulation, though only for 1,260 days or 42 months will exceed it, not necessarily in suffering, but in its universal scope and thoroughness.

Mt 24:22 And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the <u>elect's sake</u> those days shall be shortened.

Mr 13: 19 For *in* those days shall be affliction, such as was not from the beginning of the creation which God created unto this time, neither shall be.

20 And except that the Lord had shortened those days, no flesh should be saved: but for the elect's sake, whom he hath chosen, he hath shortened the days.

21 And then if any man shall say to you, Lo, here *is* Christ; or, lo, *he is* there; believe *him* not:

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

23 But take ye heed: behold, I have foretold you all things.

24 But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light,

25 And the stars of heaven shall fall, and the powers that are in heaven shall be shaken.

26 And then shall they see the Son of man coming in the clouds with great power and glory.

27 And then shall he send his angels, and shall gather together his elect

from the four winds, from the uttermost part of the earth to the uttermost part of heaven.

28 Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When her branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is near:

29 So ye in like manner, when ye shall see these things come to pass, know that it is nigh, even at the doors.

30 Verily I say unto you, that this generation shall not pass, till all these things be done.

31 Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away.32 But of that day and that hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father.

Since the best interpreter of prophecy seems to be fulfillment, we cannot say with much certainty when this is going to be fulfilled. However, it seems like we are already well into the terrible events described in the Book of Revelation.

Highly Controversial Points

I am not able to speak much with any certainty about these future events, but if I may venture this much, please consider that these points are highly controversial and much liberty must be granted to all who differ.

This Present Evil World's Final 7 Years

I would say that the final great period of this present evil world will cover 7 years, not Daniel's last week, but much like it.

These final 7 years shall be divided *into two eras of 42 months each*. The first will be the time of *great tribulation* when the Beast, Antichrist, and False Prophet will each join together in government over the totality of the earth. These three, the natural Gentile systems or Rome Revived following the Papacy, shall join hands with the Zionists, the final form of the antichrist system, and the false prophet, apostate Christianity headed up by America and the modern American type of Arminian, TV-evangelistic churches.

This time of great tribulation will cover the entire earth and all nations shall support this terrible government because the *mark of the beast* will govern all financial exchanges. This will perhaps be a final *smart credit card*, at first, and then it will give way to a mark tattooed upon the hand or the forehead, or chip placed just below the skin.

Rev. 13:1 And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy. {name: or, names}

2 And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as *the feet* of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority.

3 And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was

healed: and all the world wondered after the beast. {wounded: Gr. slain} (The revived Roman Empire including the Papacy, REP).

4 And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who *is* like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?

5 And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty *and* two months. {to continue: or, to make war}

6 And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, (the gospel church and ministry, REP) and them that dwell in heaven.

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

8 And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

9 If any man have an ear, let him hear. (See Dan. 7 with this also, REP)

10 He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity: he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints.

11 And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon.

12 And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed.

13 And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men,

14 And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by *the means of* those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live.

15 And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed. {life: Gr. breath} (America the enforcer with its computerized policing forces, REP)

16 And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: {to receive: Gr. to give them}

17 And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

18 Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number *is* Six hundred threescore *and* six.

The final days will be controlled by a computerized policing system and will include the killer satellites that have been in place since the 1970s. However, the Leo satellites and others like them are being updated constantly.

Loss of All Privacy and Natural Rights

Since the Clinton administration natural human rights and privacy have been steadily

vanishing away into government policing forces world-wide. The peoples of the world will gladly receive these loses for protection from all the supposed evils that the Christians will supposedly bring on mankind. I can now download computer programs that will allow me to zoom in to any address on the earth. The governments can listen to any conversations and even read the strips in our paper money from satellites and other means.

Terrorism and Civil Unrest

The evil tri-unity shall bring in supposed and pretended Christian misbehavior and by this seek to prejudice all peoples against the true Bible and true Christians. There will be other forms of terrorism, but in the end this will all lead to the attempted banishment of the true Christians and the true gospel churches. There may also be bounties placed upon true Christians and their meeting places. Races shall be against races, or nations against nations, and there will continue to be wars and rumors of wars, but the end is not yet. This has happened many times before, and the Lord has protected His own and shall again.

Environmental Pollutions and Terrible Climate Malfunctions

The Book of Revelation speaks in such a way as to suggest that there will be great changes in the climate and the insect population. Perhaps there will be mutant insects with extraordinary growth due to the terrible environmental pollutions and climate changes. Global warming shall certainly play an import part in all these evils. However, even with global warming and the almost universal pollution of the world's water and food sources, and the coming great physical changes, still, nothing shall go beyond God's appointed bounds.

Pr 8:26 While as yet he had not made the earth, nor the fields, nor the highest part of the dust of the world. {fields: or, open places} {the highest...: or, the chief part}

27 When he prepared the heavens, I *was* there: when he set a compass upon the face of the depth: {a compass: or, a circle}

28 When he established the clouds above: when he strengthened the fountains of the deep:

29 When he gave to the sea his decree, that the waters should not pass his commandment: when he appointed the foundations of the earth:

30 Then I was by him, as one brought up with him: and I was daily his delight, rejoicing always before him;

31 Rejoicing in the habitable part of his earth; and my delights *were* with the sons of men. (The elect in eternal, vital union with Him, REP)

Resting in Christ Jesus

Mt 11:28 Come unto me, all *y*e that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Mt 11:29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

Heb 4:1 Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left *us* of entering into his rest, any

of you should seem to come short of it.

Heb 4:3 For we which have believed do enter into rest, as he said, As I have sworn in my wrath, if they shall enter into my rest: although the works were finished from the foundation of the world.

God's little ones can continue to rest in their faith in Christ Jesus Who upholds all things and governs for the good of His church and people. Nothing shall happen but what Christ allows and has ordained to happen. Our Redeemer shall carry His own through all this coming tribulation and we are to be of good cheer for He has overcome the world, and has already bruised Satan under His heel.

Ro 16:20 And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with you. Amen.

Heb 1:3 Who being the brightness of *his* glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;

Col. 1:12 Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light:

13 Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated *us* into the kingdom of his dear Son:

14 In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:

15 Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature:

16 For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: 17 And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

Speaking of the present Rule of Christ over this earth, the First London Confession stated:

.19.

Touching His Kingdom, Christ being risen from the dead, ascended into heaven, sat on the right hand of God the Father, having all power in heaven and earth, given unto Him, He does spiritually govern His Church, exercising His power over all Angels and Men, good and bad, to the preservation and salvation of the elect, to the overruling and destruction of His enemies, which are the Reprobates, communicating and applying the benefits, virtue, and fruit of His Prophecy and Priesthood to His elect, namely, to the subduing and taking away of their sins, to their justification and adoption of Sons, regeneration, sanctification, preservation and strengthening in all their conflicts against Satan, the World, the Flesh, and the temptations of them, continually dwelling in, governing and keeping their hearts in faith and filial fear by His Spirit, which having given it, He never takes away from them, but by It still begets and nourishes in them faith, repentance, love, joy, hope, and all heavenly light in the soul unto immortality, notwithstanding through our own unbelief, and temptations of Satan, the sensible sight of this light and love be clouded and overwhelmed for the time. And on the contrary, ruling in the world over His enemies, Satan, and all the vessels of wrath, limiting, using, restraining them by His mighty power, as seems good in His divine wisdom & justice to the execution of His determinate counsel, delivering them up to a reprobate mind, to be kept through their own deserts, in darkness and sensuality unto judgment. I Cor. 15:4; I Pet. 3:21,22; Mat. 28:18,19,20; Luke 24:51; Acts 1:II & 5:30,31; John 19:36; Rom. 14:17. Mark 1:27; Heb. 1:14; Jn. 16:7,15. John 5:26,27; Rom. 5:6, 7, 8 & 14:17. Gal. 5:22,23. John 1:4,13. John 13:1 &

10:28,29, & 14:16,17; Rom. 11:29; Psa. 51:10,11; Job 33:29,30; 2 Cor. 12:7,9. Job 1 and 2; Rom. 1:21 & 2:4,5,6, & 9:17,18. Eph. 4:17,18. 2 Pet. 3 chap.

.20.

This Kingdom shall be then fully perfected when He shall the second time come in glory to reign amongst His Saints, and to be admired of all them which do believe, when He shall put down all rule and authority under His feet, that the glory of the Father may be full and perfectly manifested in His Son, and the glory of the Father and the Son in all His members. I Cor. 15:24,28; Math. 9:28; I Thess. 1:9,10; 1 Thess. 4:15,16,17; Jn. 17: 21,26, Edition of 1644.

Attempted and Short Lived Peace

After the tri-unity of evil has destroyed as much as it concludes is necessary to bring about the mass surrender of mankind under its protection, then the leaders and the masses of reprobates *shall pretend to enjoy a short period of peace and safety*. They shall pretend that they are the great gods of this present evil world and have finally brought forth the golden age of utopia.

They shall be sadly mistaken, for this will then open up the 7th trump of God, and is, in my opinion the time of the out gathering from the earth of God's little children. This is the mid trib gathering out that shall then usher in the final 42 months of this present evil world. This will begin the WRATH OF GOD!

I Thess. 5:1 But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you.

2 For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.

3 For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.

4 But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.

5 Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.

6 Therefore let us not sleep, as *do* others; but let us watch and be sober.

7 For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night.

8 But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.

9 For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,

10 Who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him.

11 Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do.

Distinguishing Between the Great Tribulation and the Wrath of God

The Wrath of God shall be distinguished from the Great Tribulation in these ways:

- 1. None of God's little ones shall be on the earth, but shall all be delivered from the wrath to come by Jesus Christ;
- 2. The Great Tribulation comes from the tri-unity of Satan while the Wrath of God comes from our Lord Jesus Christ and His Father.

2 Thess. 1 Paul, and Silvanus, and Timotheus, unto the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

2 Grace unto you, and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

3 We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is meet, because that your faith groweth exceedingly, and the charity of every one of you all toward each other aboundeth;

4 So that we ourselves glory in you in the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that ye endure:

5 *Which is* a manifest token of the righteous judgment of God, that ye may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which ye also suffer:

6 Seeing *it is* a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them that trouble you;

7 And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, {his...: Gr. the angels of his power}

8 In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: {taking: or, yielding}

9 Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;

10 When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day.

11 Wherefore also we pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of *this* calling, and fulfil all the good pleasure of *his* goodness, and the work of faith with power: {count: or, vouchsafe}

12 That the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and ye in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Rev. 11:1 And there was given me a reed like unto a rod: and the angel stood, saying, Rise, and measure the temple of God, and the altar, and them that worship therein. (The gospel church and its ministers, ordinances and worship, REP)

2 But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under foot forty *and* two months. {leave out: Gr. cast out}

3 And I will give *power* unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred *and* threescore days, clothed in sackcloth. {I will give...: or, I will give unto my two witnesses that they may prophesy}

4 These are the two olive trees, and the two candlesticks standing before the God of the earth.

5 And if any man will hurt them, fire proceedeth out of their mouth, and devoureth their enemies: and if any man will hurt them, he must in this manner be killed.

6 These have power to shut heaven, that it rain not in the days of their prophecy: and have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to smite the earth with all plagues,

as often as they will.

7 And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, and kill them.

8 And their dead bodies *shall lie* in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified.

9 And they of the people and kindreds and tongues and nations shall see their dead bodies three days and an half, and shall not suffer their dead bodies to be put in graves.

10 And they that dwell upon the earth shall rejoice over them, and make merry, and shall send gifts one to another; because these two prophets tormented them that dwelt on the earth.

The Taking Out of the Lord's True Ministers and Churches,

At this time there will not be any Gentile elect left on the earth.

11 And after three days and an half the Spirit of life from God entered into them, and they stood upon their feet; and great fear fell upon them which saw them.

12 And they heard a great voice from heaven saying unto them, Come up hither. And they ascended up to heaven in a cloud; <u>and their enemies</u> <u>beheld them.</u>

13 And the same hour was there a great earthquake, and the tenth part of the city fell, and in the earthquake were slain of men seven thousand: and the remnant were affrighted, and gave glory to the God of heaven. (Perhaps a mass-worldwide revival, that is the final part of this grand event, that may lead to the conversion of many Hebrews; REP)

14 The second woe is past; *and*, behold, the third woe cometh quickly.

The Judgment Seat of Christ and the Visible Presence of the Lamb and God in the Heavens

15 And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

16 And the four and twenty elders, which sat before God on their seats, fell upon their faces, and worshipped God,

17 Saying, We give thee thanks, O Lord God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned.

18 And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the

earth. {destroy the earth: or, corrupt the earth}

19 And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail.

The Meaning of the Two Witnesses

Many of our older Particular Baptist writers from the First London Confession era understood these witnesses to refer to the gospel church and ministry. I agree in principle with them. For example please read King's Way to Sion on this and Knollys Commentary on the Book of Revelation, all in the Old Faith Baptist Library that brother David maintains.

Please note that the two witnesses become two olive trees and two candlesticks. These are the ministering saints of both covenants, or Kings and Priests united together in the gospel church.

In my weak opinion the two witnesses, being two olive trees, denoting Hebrews converts, and two candlesticks, denote Gentile Gospel Churches making the mystical number of four. It seems that during these terrible days God will engraft the Hebrew elect back into manifest gospel union with the Gentile elect.

Ro 11:17 And if some of the branches be broken off, and thou, being a wild olive tree, wert graffed in among them, and with them partakest of the root and fatness of the olive tree; {among them: or, for them}

Ro 11:19 Thou wilt say then, The branches were broken off, that I might be graffed in.

Ro 11:23 And they also, if they abide not still in unbelief, shall be graffed in: for God is able to graff them in again.

Ro 11:24 For if thou wert cut out of the olive tree which is wild by nature, and wert graffed contrary to nature into a good olive tree: how much more shall these, which be the natural *branches*, be graffed into their own olive tree?

John 15:1 I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman.

2 Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every *branch* that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.

3 Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.

4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.

5 I am the vine, ye *are* the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. {without me: or, severed from me}

6 If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast *them* into the fire, and they are burned.

7 If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

8 Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples.

The Attempted Extermination of the Manifest Elect

The evil Tri-unity of Satan will seek to exterminate all the manifest elect of God and except the Lord provide a wilderness existence for His own manifest elect, they would succeed, but the Lord will take care of His own people. He has always taken care of His own, but in these coming final days He will seem to do this in a very special way.

Rev. 12:1 And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars: {wonder: or, sign}

2 And she being with child cried, travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered.

3 And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads. {wonder: or, sign}

4 And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born.

5 And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and *t*o his throne.

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

7 And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels,

8 And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven.

9 And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

10 And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night.

11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.

12 Therefore rejoice, *y*e heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabiters of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time.

13 And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man *child*.

14 And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent.

15 And the serpent cast out of his mouth water as a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood.

16 And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth.

17 And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with

the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

Mid Trib Position

My position would be classified as that of the Mid-Trib view. There are many others who feel Christ will gather His own off the earth even before the Tribulation begins, pre-trib concept, and others who feel they will be on the earth until it is finished, the post-trib view. Much love and liberty should be granted on these points. For several years many have made these points tests of fellowship and condemned with an intolerant and legalistic spirit all who differed from them. I feel this is evil and not of the Lord.

Sometime during these final days it seems that the Lord will convert His Hebrew elect and there will be a great revival in the coming last days. They shall look upon Him Whom they have pierced just as some of the Hebrews did when they murdered Christ on the Cross. At that time a nation shall be born in a day.

Dan. 12:1 And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation *even* to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.

2 And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame *and* everlasting contempt.

3 And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever. {wise: or, teachers}

4 But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, *even* to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.

5 Then I Daniel looked, and, behold, there stood other two, the one on this side of the bank of the river, and the other on that side of the bank of the river. {bank: Heb. lip} {bank: Heb. lip}

6 And *one* said to the man clothed in linen, which *was* upon the waters of the river, How long *shall it be to* the end of these wonders? {upon...: or, from above}

7 And I heard the man clothed in linen, which *was* upon the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand unto heaven, and sware by him that liveth for ever that *it shall* be for a time, times, and an half; and when he shall have accomplished to scatter the power of the holy people, all these *things* shall be finished. {a time...: or, part}

8 And I heard, but I understood not: then said I, O my Lord, what *shall* be the end of these *things*?

9 And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for the words *are* closed up and sealed till the time of the end.

10 Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried; but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand.

11 And from the time *that* the daily *sacrifice* shall be taken away, and the abomination that maketh desolate set up, *there shall be* a thousand two hundred and ninety days. {the abomination: Heb. to set up the abomination} {maketh...: or, astonisheth}

12 Blessed *is* he that waiteth, and cometh to the thousand three hundred and five and thirty days.

13 But go thou thy way till the end *be*: for thou shalt rest, and stand in thy lot at the end of the days.

Please take the time to read Isaiah chapter 66. How much of this refers to the First Advent of Christ and the destruction of Jerusalem in AD 70 and how much relates to the end of this present evil world is hard to understand. I feel both judgments are presented and will not attempt to note the distinctions because I am not able.

Confirmed by Christ unto the End During the *Tribulation the Great*

<u>1Co 1:8 Who shall also confirm you unto the end, that ye may be</u> blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Mt 24:13 But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.

<u>Mr 13:13</u> And ye shall be hated of all *men* for my name's sake: but he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.

The Coming Final Great Tribulation

God's little children have endured tribulations since the fall of Adam and Eve. They have differed from each other in length and severity, but all those who live Godly in

Christ Jesus have and shall suffer tribulation. Some have come by Satan alone directly as in the case of Job while others have come by Satan using means and ways such as the Jews and Romans upon the early Christians. God is the ordainer of all such for *He has made all things for Himself, yea even the wicked for the day of evil.* Proverbs 16:4.

2 Thess. 1:3 We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is meet, because that your faith groweth exceedingly, and the charity of every one of you all toward each other aboundeth;

4 So that we ourselves glory in you in the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that ye endure:

5 *Which is* a manifest token of the righteous judgment of God, that ye may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which ye also suffer:

6 Seeing *it is* a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them that trouble you;

7 And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, {his...: Gr. the angels of his power}

8 In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: {taking: or, yielding}

9 Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;

10 When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day.

11 Wherefore also we pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of *this* calling, and fulfil all the good pleasure of *his* goodness, and the work of faith with power: {count: or, vouchsafe}

12 That the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and ye in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

However, in the last days of this present evil world there will come a Great Tribulation that will be the final Tribulation and if the Lord does not come and take His own unto Himself none of His elect will survive.

Destruction of Jerusalem a Type

The Destruction of Jerusalem from AD 69-70 was a frightful picture of the great tribulation of the last days, but the final tribulation will be even more dreadful and frightening because it will include all nations world-wide.

Persecutions from Civil Rome upon Christians a Type

Re 2:10 Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast *some* of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.

For a good account of these persecutions and tribulations upon the early Christians please consult Eusebius' Martyrs of Palestine. These times were horrible, but were not to be compared with the Great Tribulation yet to come.

Persecutions from the Catholics and Protestants During and After the Dark Ages a Type

Beyond all doubt the Christians who lived during the cruel rule and reign of the Papists and Protestants when they had the civil sword to murder all dissenters endured a terrible time of trial and persecution. It is difficult for us to imagine a time of such sufferings for 1,260 years, but it happened. The coming final Tribulation, though only for 1,260 days or 42 months will exceed it, not necessarily in suffering, but in its universal scope and thoroughness.

Mt 24:22 And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the <u>elect's sake</u> those days shall be shortened.

Mr 13: 19 For *in* those days shall be affliction, such as was not from the beginning of the creation which God created unto this time, neither shall be.

20 And except that the Lord had shortened those days, no flesh should be saved: but for the elect's sake, whom he hath chosen, he hath shortened the days.

21 And then if any man shall say to you, Lo, here *is* Christ; or, lo, *he is* there; believe *him* not:

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

23 But take ye heed: behold, I have foretold you all things.

24 But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light,

25 And the stars of heaven shall fall, and the powers that are in heaven shall be shaken.

26 And then shall they see the Son of man coming in the clouds with great power and glory.

27 And then shall he send his angels, and shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from the uttermost part of the earth to the uttermost part of heaven.

28 Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When her branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is near:

29 So ye in like manner, when ye shall see these things come to pass, know that it is nigh, even at the doors.

30 Verily I say unto you, that this generation shall not pass, till all these things be done.

31 Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away.

32 But of that day and that hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father.

Since the best interpreter of prophecy seems to be fulfillment, we cannot say with much certainty when this is going to be fulfilled. However, it seems like we are already well into the terrible events described in the Book of Revelation.

Highly Controversial Points

I am not able to speak much with any certainty about these future events, but if I may venture this much, please consider that these points are highly controversial and much liberty must be granted to all who differ.

This Present Evil World's Final 7 Years

I would say that the final great period of this present evil world will cover 7 years, not Daniel's last week, but much like it.

These final 7 years shall be divided *into two eras of 42 months each*. The first will be the time of *great tribulation* when the Beast, Antichrist, and False Prophet will each join together in government over the totality of the earth. These three, the natural Gentile systems or Rome Revived following the Papacy, shall join hands with the Zionists, the final form of the antichrist system, and the false prophet, apostate Christianity headed up by America and the modern American type of Arminian, TV-evangelistic churches.

This time of great tribulation will cover the entire earth and all nations shall support this terrible government because the *mark of the beast* will govern all financial exchanges. This will perhaps be a final *smart credit card*, at first, and then it will give way to a mark tattooed upon the hand or the forehead, or chip placed just below the skin.

Rev. 13:1 And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy. {name: or, names}

2 And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as *the feet* of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority.

3 And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast. {wounded: Gr. slain} (The revived Roman Empire including the Papacy, REP).

4 And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who *is* like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?

5 And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty *and* two months. {to continue: or, to make war}

6 And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, (the gospel church and ministry, REP) and them that dwell in heaven.

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

8 And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

9 If any man have an ear, let him hear. (See Dan. 7 with this also, REP)

10 He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity: he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints.

11 And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon.

12 And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed.

13 And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men,

14 And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by *the means of* those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live.

15 And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed. {life: Gr. breath} (America the enforcer with its computerized policing forces, REP)

16 And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: {to receive: Gr. to give them}

17 And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

18 Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number *is* Six hundred threescore *and* six.

The final days will be controlled by a computerized policing system and will include the killer satellites that have been in place since the 1970s. However, the Leo satellites and others like them are being updated constantly.

Loss of All Privacy and Natural Rights

Since the Clinton administration natural human rights and privacy have been steadily vanishing away into government policing forces world-wide. The peoples of the world will gladly receive these loses for protection from all the supposed evils that the Christians will supposedly bring on mankind. I can now download computer programs that will allow me to zoom in to any address on the earth. The governments can listen to any conversations and even read the strips in our paper money from satellites and other means.

Terrorism and Civil Unrest

The evil tri-unity shall bring in supposed and pretended Christian misbehavior and by this seek to prejudice all peoples against the true Bible and true Christians. There will be other forms of terrorism, but in the end this will all lead to the attempted banishment of the true Christians and the true gospel churches. There may also be bounties placed upon true Christians and their meeting places. Races shall be against races, or nations against nations, and there will continue to be wars and rumors of wars, but the end is not yet. This has happened many times before, and the Lord has protected His own and shall again.

Environmental Pollutions and Terrible Climate Malfunctions

The Book of Revelation speaks in such a way as to suggest that there will be great changes in the climate and the insect population. Perhaps there will be mutant insects with extraordinary growth due to the terrible environmental pollutions and climate changes. Global warming shall certainly play an import part in all these evils. However, even with global warming and the almost universal pollution of the world's water and food sources, and the coming great physical changes, still, nothing shall go beyond God's appointed bounds.

Pr 8:26 While as yet he had not made the earth, nor the fields, nor the highest part of the dust of the world. {fields: or, open places} {the highest...: or, the chief part}

27 When he prepared the heavens, I *was* there: when he set a compass upon the face of the depth: {a compass: or, a circle}

28 When he established the clouds above: when he strengthened the fountains of the deep:

29 When he gave to the sea his decree, that the waters should not pass his commandment: when he appointed the foundations of the earth:

30 Then I was by him, as one brought up *with him*: and I was daily *his* delight, rejoicing always before him;

31 Rejoicing in the habitable part of his earth; and my delights *were* with the sons of men. (The elect in eternal, vital union with Him, REP)

Resting in Christ Jesus

Mt 11:28 Come unto me, all *y*e that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Mt 11:29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

Heb 4:1 Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left *us* of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it.

Heb 4:3 For we which have believed do enter into rest, as he said, As I have sworn in my wrath, if they shall enter into my rest: although the works were finished from the foundation of the world.

God's little ones can continue to rest in their faith in Christ Jesus Who upholds all things and governs for the good of His church and people. Nothing shall happen but what Christ allows and has ordained to happen. Our Redeemer shall carry His own through all this coming tribulation and we are to be of good cheer for He has overcome the world, and has already bruised Satan under His heel.

Ro 16:20 And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with you. Amen.

Heb 1:3 Who being the brightness of *his* glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;

Col. 1:12 Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light:

13 Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated *us* into the kingdom of his dear Son:

14 In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:

15 Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: 16 For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: 17 And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

Speaking of the present Rule of Christ over this earth, the First London Confession stated:

.19.

Touching His Kingdom, Christ being risen from the dead, ascended into heaven, sat on the right hand of God the Father, having all power in heaven and earth, given unto Him, He does spiritually govern His Church, exercising His power over all Angels and Men, good and bad, to the preservation and salvation of the elect, to the overruling and destruction of His enemies, which are the Reprobates, communicating and applying the benefits, virtue, and fruit of His Prophecy and Priesthood to His elect, namely, to the subduing and taking away of their sins, to their justification and adoption of Sons, regeneration, sanctification, preservation and strengthening in all their conflicts against Satan, the World, the Flesh, and the temptations of them, continually dwelling in, governing and keeping their hearts in faith and filial fear by His Spirit, which having given it. He never takes away from them, but by It still begets and nourishes in them faith, repentance, love, joy, hope, and all heavenly light in the soul unto immortality, notwithstanding through our own unbelief, and temptations of Satan, the sensible sight of this light and love be clouded and overwhelmed for the time. And on the contrary, ruling in the world over His enemies, Satan, and all the vessels of wrath, limiting, using, restraining them by His mighty power, as seems good in His divine wisdom & justice to the execution of His determinate counsel, delivering them up to a reprobate mind, to be kept through their own deserts, in darkness and sensuality unto judgment. I Cor. 15:4; I Pet. 3:21,22; Mat. 28:18,19,20; Luke 24:51; Acts 1:II & 5:30,31; John 19:36; Rom. 14:17. Mark 1:27; Heb. 1:14; Jn. 16:7,15. John 5:26,27; Rom. 5:6, 7, 8 & 14:17. Gal. 5:22,23. John 1:4,13. John 13:1 & 10:28,29, & 14:16,17; Rom. 11:29; Psa. 51:10,11; Job 33:29,30; 2 Cor. 12:7,9. Job 1 and 2; Rom. 1:21 & 2:4,5,6, & 9:17,18. Eph. 4:17,18. 2 Pet. 3 chap.

.20.

This Kingdom shall be then fully perfected when He shall the second time come in glory to reign amongst His Saints, and to be admired of all them which do believe, when He shall put down all rule and authority under His feet, that the glory of the Father may be full and perfectly manifested in His Son, and the glory of the Father and the Son in all His members. I Cor. 15:24,28; Math. 9:28; I Thess. 1:9,10; 1 Thess. 4:15,16,17; Jn. 17: 21,26, Edition of 1644.

Attempted and Short Lived Peace

After the tri-unity of evil has destroyed as much as it concludes is necessary to bring about the mass surrender of mankind under its protection, then the leaders and the masses of reprobates *shall pretend to enjoy a short period of peace and safety.* They shall pretend that they are the great gods of this present evil world and have finally brought forth the golden age of utopia.

They shall be sadly mistaken, for this will then open up the 7th trump of God, and is, in

my opinion the time of the out gathering from the earth of God's little children. This is the mid trib gathering out that shall then usher in the final 42 months of this present evil world. This will begin the WRATH OF GOD!

I Thess. 5:1 But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you.

2 For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.

3 For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.

4 But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.

5 Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.

6 Therefore let us not sleep, as *do* others; but let us watch and be sober.

7 For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night.

8 But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.

9 For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,

10 Who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him.

11 Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do.

Distinguishing Between the Great Tribulation and the Wrath of God

The Wrath of God shall be distinguished from the Great Tribulation in these ways:

- 3. None of God's little ones shall be on the earth, but shall all be delivered from the wrath to come by Jesus Christ;
- 4. The Great Tribulation comes from the tri-unity of Satan while the Wrath of God comes from our Lord Jesus Christ and His Father.

2 Thess. 1 Paul, and Silvanus, and Timotheus, unto the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

2 Grace unto you, and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

3 We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is meet, because that your faith groweth exceedingly, and the charity of every one of you all toward each other aboundeth;

4 So that we ourselves glory in you in the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that ye endure:

5 *Which is* a manifest token of the righteous judgment of God, that ye may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which ye also suffer:

6 Seeing *it is* a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them that

trouble you;

7 And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, {his...: Gr. the angels of his power}

8 In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: {taking: or, yielding}

9 Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;

10 When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day.

11 Wherefore also we pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of *this* calling, and fulfil all the good pleasure of *his* goodness, and the work of faith with power: {count: or, vouchsafe}

12 That the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and ye in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Rev. 11:1 And there was given me a reed like unto a rod: and the angel stood, saying, Rise, and measure the temple of God, and the altar, and them that worship therein. (The gospel church and its ministers, ordinances and worship, REP)

2 But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under foot forty *and* two months. {leave out: Gr. cast out}

3 And I will give *power* unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred *and* threescore days, clothed in sackcloth. {I will give...: or, I will give unto my two witnesses that they may prophesy}

4 These are the two olive trees, and the two candlesticks standing before the God of the earth.

5 And if any man will hurt them, fire proceedeth out of their mouth, and devoureth their enemies: and if any man will hurt them, he must in this manner be killed.

6 These have power to shut heaven, that it rain not in the days of their prophecy: and have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to smite the earth with all plagues, as often as they will.

7 And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, and kill them.

8 And their dead bodies *shall lie* in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified.

9 And they of the people and kindreds and tongues and nations shall see their dead bodies three days and an half, and shall not suffer their dead bodies to be put in graves.

10 And they that dwell upon the earth shall rejoice over them, and make merry, and shall send gifts one to another; because these two prophets tormented them that dwelt on the earth.

STARTHERE

The Taking Out of the Lord's True Ministers and Churches,

At this time there will not be any Gentile elect left on the earth.

11 And after three days and an half the Spirit of life from God entered into them, and they stood upon their feet; and great fear fell upon them which saw them.

12 And they heard a great voice from heaven saying unto them, Come up hither. And they ascended up to heaven in a cloud; *and their enemies beheld them.*

13 And the same hour was there a great earthquake, and the tenth part of the city fell, and in the earthquake were slain of men seven thousand: and the remnant were affrighted, and gave glory to the God of heaven. (Perhaps a mass-worldwide revival, that is the final part of this grand event, that may lead to the conversion of many Hebrews; REP)

14 The second woe is past; *and*, behold, the third woe cometh quickly.

The Judgment Seat of Christ and the Visible Presence of the Lamb and God in the Heavens

15 And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

16 And the four and twenty elders, which sat before God on their seats, fell upon their faces, and worshipped God,

17 Saying, We give thee thanks, O Lord God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned.

18 And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth. {destroy the earth: or, corrupt the earth}

19 And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail.

The Meaning of the Two Witnesses

Many of our older Particular Baptist writers from the First London Confession era understood these witnesses to refer to the gospel church and ministry. I agree in principle with them. For example please read King's Way to Sion on this and Knollys Commentary on the Book of Revelation, all in the Old Faith Baptist Library that brother David maintains.

Please note that the two witnesses become two olive trees and two candlesticks. These are the ministering saints of both covenants, or Kings and Priests united together in the gospel church. In my weak opinion the two witnesses, being two olive trees, denoting Hebrews converts, and two candlesticks, denote Gentile Gospel Churches making the mystical number of four. It seems that during these terrible days God will engraft the Hebrew elect back into manifest gospel union with the Gentile elect.

Ro 11:17 And if some of the branches be broken off, and thou, being a wild olive tree, wert graffed in among them, and with them partakest of the root and fatness of the olive tree; {among them: or, for them}

Ro 11:19 Thou wilt say then, The branches were broken off, that I might be graffed in.

Ro 11:23 And they also, if they abide not still in unbelief, shall be graffed in: for God is able to graff them in again.

Ro 11:24 For if thou wert cut out of the olive tree which is wild by nature, and wert graffed contrary to nature into a good olive tree: how much more shall these, which be the natural *branches*, be graffed into their own olive tree?

John 15:1 I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman.

2 Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every *branch* that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.

3 Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.

4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.

5 I am the vine, ye *ar*e the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. {without me: or, severed from me}

6 If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast *them* into the fire, and they are burned.

7 If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

8 Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples.

The Attempted Extermination of the Manifest Elect

The evil Tri-unity of Satan will seek to exterminate all the manifest elect of God and except the Lord provide a wilderness existence for His own manifest elect, they would succeed, but the Lord will take care of His own people. He has always taken care of His own, but in these coming final days He will seem to do this in a very special way.

Rev. 12:1 And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars: {wonder: or, sign}

2 And she being with child cried, travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered.

3 And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads. {wonder: or, sign}

4 And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth:

and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born.

5 And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and *to* his throne.

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

7 And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels,

8 And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven.

9 And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

10 And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night.

11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.

12 Therefore rejoice, *ye* heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabiters of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time.

13 And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man *child*.

14 And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent.

15 And the serpent cast out of his mouth water as a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood.

16 And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth.

17 And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

Mid Trib Position

My position would be classified as that of the Mid-Trib view. There are many others who feel Christ will gather His own off the earth even before the Tribulation begins, pre-trib concept, and others who feel they will be on the earth until it is finished, the post-trib view. Much love and liberty should be granted on these points. For several years many have made these points tests of fellowship and condemned with an intolerant and legalistic spirit all who differed from them. I feel this is evil and not of the Lord.

Sometime during these final days it seems that the Lord will convert His Hebrew elect and there will be a great revival in the coming last days. They shall look upon Him Whom they have pierced just as some of the Hebrews did when they murdered Christ on the Cross. At that time a nation shall be born in a day. Dan. 12:1 And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation *even* to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.

2 And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame *and* everlasting contempt.

3 And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever. {wise: or, teachers}

4 But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, *even* to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.

5 Then I Daniel looked, and, behold, there stood other two, the one on this side of the bank of the river, and the other on that side of the bank of the river. {bank: Heb. lip} {bank: Heb. lip}

6 And *one* said to the man clothed in linen, which *was* upon the waters of the river, How long *shall it be to* the end of these wonders? {upon...: or, from above}

7 And I heard the man clothed in linen, which *was* upon the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand unto heaven, and sware by him that liveth for ever that *it shall* be for a time, times, and an half; and when he shall have accomplished to scatter the power of the holy people, all these *things* shall be finished. {a time...: or, part}

8 And I heard, but I understood not: then said I, O my Lord, what *shall* be the end of these *things*?

9 And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for the words *are* closed up and sealed till the time of the end.

10 Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried; but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand.

11 And from the time *that* the daily *sacrifice* shall be taken away, and the abomination that maketh desolate set up, *there shall be* a thousand two hundred and ninety days. {the abomination: Heb. to set up the abomination} {maketh...: or, astonisheth}

12 Blessed *is* he that waiteth, and cometh to the thousand three hundred and five and thirty days.

13 But go thou thy way till the end *be*: for thou shalt rest, and stand in thy lot at the end of the days.

Please take the time to read Isaiah chapter 66. How much of this refers to the First Advent of Christ and the destruction of Jerusalem in AD 70 and how much relates to the end of this present evil world is hard to understand. I feel both judgments are presented and will not attempt to note the distinctions because I am not able.

The Grace of Endurance

Just as Obedience is a work and performance of grace, so also is endurance.

During the last days of the present evil world the earth's most difficult times will occur. How shall it be that the manifest elect shall hold onto their way in the Lord and persevere unto the end? Is this perseverance from the elect or from Jesus Christ? It is from Jesus Christ. These few comments and several Scriptures are designed to show that the Lord will confirm His own unto the end. The manifest elect shall endure unto the end because Christ will give them the grace of endurance.

By *the end* I mean either the end of their lives or the end of the age.

Phil. 2:1 If *there be* therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies,

2 Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, *being* of one accord, of one mind.

3 *Let* nothing *be done* through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.

4 Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.

5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:

6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:

7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. {fashion: or habit}

9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:

10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of *things* in heaven, and *things* in earth, and *things* under the earth;

11 And *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

12 <u>Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my</u> presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.

<u>13 For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.</u>

14 Do all things without murmurings and disputings:

15 That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world;

Heb 3:6 But Christ as a son over his own house; whose house are we, if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end.

<u>1Co 1:8 Who shall also confirm you unto the end, that ye may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.</u>

Heb 3:14 For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence stedfast unto the end;

<u>1Co 1:8 Who shall also confirm you unto the end, that ye may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.</u>

Heb 6:11 And we desire that every one of you do shew the same diligence to the full assurance of hope unto the end:

<u>1Co 1:8 Who shall also confirm you unto the end, that ye may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.</u>

Re 2:26 And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations:

<u>1Co 1:8 Who shall also confirm you unto the end, that ye may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.</u>

I Cor. 1:1 Paul, called *to be* an apostle of Jesus Christ through the will of God, and Sosthenes *our* brother,

2 Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called *to be* saints, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours:

3 Grace *be* unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and *from* the Lord Jesus Christ.

4 I thank my God always on your behalf, for the grace of God which is given you by Jesus Christ;

5 That in every thing ye are enriched by him, in all utterance, and *in* all knowledge;

6 Even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you:

7 So that ye come behind in no gift; waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ: {coming: Gr. revelation}

8 Who shall also confirm you unto the end, that ye may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

9 God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Jude 20 But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,

21 Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

22 And of some have compassion, making a difference:

23 And others save with fear, pulling *them* out of the fire; hating even the garment

spotted by the flesh.

24 Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,

25 To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.

Rev. 11:15 And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become *the kingdoms* of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

16 And the four and twenty elders, which sat before God on their seats, fell upon their faces, and worshipped God,

17 Saying, We give thee thanks, O Lord God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned.

18 And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth. {destroy the earth: or, corrupt the earth}

19 And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail.

Mt 13:21 Yet hath he not root in himself, but dureth for a while: for when tribulation or persecution ariseth because of the word, by and by he is offended. {offended: he relapseth, or, falleth into sin}

Mt 24:21 For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.

Mt 24:29 Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken:

Mr 13:24 But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light,

Joh 16:33 These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

Ac 14:22 Confirming the souls of the disciples, *and* exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.

Re 2:9 I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich) and *I know* the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but *are* the synagogue of Satan.

Re 2:10 Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast *some* of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.

Mt 24:21 For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.

Re 2:22 Behold, I will cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into great tribulation, except they repent of their deeds.

Re 7:14 And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

9 After this I beheld, and, Io, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands;

10 And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb.

11 And all the angels stood round about the throne, and *about* the elders and the four beasts, and fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God,

12 Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, *be* unto our God for ever and ever. Amen.

13 And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they?

14 And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

15 Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them.

16 They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat.

17 For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.

8 Who shall also confirm you unto the end, that ye may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

9 God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Confirmed by Christ and Kept from the Battle of Armageddon

I shall introduce this chapter with a long quote from D'Anvers, *The City of God, London*; 1672, Volume 2, our edition; please go to the back of the book and you can find the reading.

Rule

That the Israelites, after the Captivity, had a return, and were in conjunction with the Jews, under one head, David their Prince, to the fulfilling of many of the Prophets, and that as well in a Literal as a Mystical sense.

As First, under Hezekiah, especially in the keeping of that Passover whereto many of the Tribes came, viz., Ephriam, Ashar, Manasseh, Issacher, Zebulon (that it is said had escaped out of the hands of the Kings of Assyria) came up to Jerusalem to keep the Passover, and to pay their Tithes, offerings sand frist-fruits, 2 Chron. 30. So that there was great joy in Jerusalem, for since the time of Solomon, there was not that like in Jerusalem; 26. The separation between Israel and Judah having continued, during all the Kings in Israel for the space of 250 years.

Secondly, In the days of Josiah, a hundred years after, who in his eighth year reformed all the Tribes, breaking down altars, groves, images, taking away all the abominations out of all the Countries that pertained to the Children of Israel, and made all who were present in Israel to serve, even to serve the Lord their God, And all his days they departed not from following the Lord God of their Fathers, 2 Chron. 34:4-6. And they kept such a Passover, that there was none like to it kept in Israel, from the days of Samuel the Prophet; neither did all the Kings of Israel keep such a Passover as Josiah kept, and the Priests and the Levites, and all Judah and Israel who were present, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

Thirdly, in Zerubabell's time under him, when by the proclamation of Cyrus, whom the spirit of the Lord stirred up, all the Jews or Israelites within his Territories, the 130 provinces, including the place where Israel was carried, all Assyria had liberty to return; which was in these words: *That whosoever was amongst them of all his People, let him go up to Jerusalem which is in Judeah, to build the house of the Lord; and whosoever remains of anyplace where he sojourned, let the men of his place help him with Silver and with God, and with Goods, ect., And who accordingly came up by degrees, and did under one Prince in their own Land, partake of their Legal right and privileges together.*

Fourthly, In the Apostle's days, it is said, Acts 26:7, unto which promise our 12 Tribes instantly serving God day and night hope to come, and James directs his Epistle to the 12 Tribes, and Peter, I Peter 1, to them also, by all which is it not manifest, that

whatever the received opinion has been, that since Israel's captivity, they were never heard of, that there was a return in Hezekiah's time of many of the Tribes and in Josiah's time a hundred years after, many more of them inhabiting their own land, under one King, and in Zerbabells' and the Machabees' time afterwards all of David's line, as Matthew 1 and Luke 3, and in the Apostle's time there were Jews, devout men of every nation under heaven, dwelling at Jerusalem, and the 12 Tribes were then known as Paul, James and Peter discovers.

Fifthly, Mystically did the believing Jews and Israelites, whereof there were great numbers, gather under David their King, the Lord Jesus, in conjunction with the believing Gentiles in His New Testament, Rule, Government and Sovereignty, which in express terms is said by the Apostle James to be the restoring of the fallen Tabernacle of David, Acts 15. And a fulfilling of that blessed prophecy of Amos, and which is expected more amply to be fulfilled in the great Conversion and Conjunction of Jews and Gentiles, that is foretold in the latter days.

Therefore, whether for any to assert, because the Prophets so often speak of a Conjunction of Israel and Judah, and a return into their own Land, to the building of a City and Temple, and enjoyment of legal rites and ceremonies under one King, that therefore, those prophecies are to be yet fulfilled in the Letter, is not an absolute mistake and such a sense, that necessarily offers violence to the principles of the Gospel, and not to be reconciled with the first Rule before mentioned, and not only hardens the deluded Jews in their expectation of a Temporary Messiah or whom they have had already so many Impostors, but teaches the Gentile believers to Judaize also, of which there have been so many in these latter days, though in a mystical and spiritual sense, all those prophecies may admit of a larger and further accomplishment, as before, and which with the consideration of what is fulfilled in the letter as before may reconcile all.

4.

Rule

That the great conversions of the Jews to Jesus Christ is not to be till the fullness of the Gentiles be come in, Luke 21:24, Romans 11:25, Matthew 23:38.

Which fullness is not to be till Babylon's fall and preaching of the everlasting gospel, and the erecting of the Kingdom of Jesus Christ, for they are contemporary and it is clear that the Gentile Saints, who have born the heat of the day under Antichrist, and who have kept the Commandments of God and the testimony of Jesus, but be the special instruments thereof, not the Jews who have been such blasphemers of Christ, and all by His appointments all that done, But then will they so receive the Gospel that they will bless those who come in the name of the Lord, Matthew 23:38. And so in those great conversions that will be effected in that day of the Lord, amongst Jews and Gentiles, all Israel, viz., the whole body of the elect, the whole seed of Abraham spiritual, shall be saved; which is true only in that sense, for all Israel in a natural sense shall not be saved, as Wollebius well observes upon Romans 11. Re 16:15 Behold, *I come as a thief*. Blessed *is* he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame.

Re 3:4 Thou hast a few names even in Sardis which have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with me in white: for they are worthy.

Re 3:5 He that overcometh, the same shall be *clothed in white raiment*; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels.

Re 3:18 I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; *and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed,* and *that* the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.

Re 4:4 And round about the throne *were* four and twenty seats: and upon the seats I saw four and twenty elders sitting, *clothed in white raiment*; and they had on their heads crowns of gold.

Re 6:11 And *white robes* were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellowservants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they *were*, should be fulfilled.

Re 7:9 After this I beheld, and, Io, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, *clothed with white robes,* and palms in their hands;

Re 7:13 And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in *white robes*? and whence came they?

Re 7:14 And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and *made them white* in the blood of the Lamb.

Re 15:6 And the seven angels came out of the temple, having the seven plagues, *clothed in pure and white linen*, and having their breasts girded with golden girdles.

Re 19:8 And to her (The Bride) was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.

Re 19:11 And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him *was* called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.

Re 19:14 And the armies *which were* in heaven followed him upon white horses, *clothed in fine linen, white and clean.*

Rev. 16:1 And I heard a great voice out of the temple saying to the seven angels, Go your ways, and pour out the vials of the wrath of God upon the earth.

(Here begins the wrath of God poured out upon the earth. By this time all of God's little children shall be off the earth. This applies to those already manifest and those called out of Babylon just before God destroys her. You will note that the Battle of Armageddon is not yet, but is being prepared and about to occure. REP)

2 And the first went, and poured out his vial upon the earth; and there fell a noisome and grievous sore upon the men which had the mark of the beast, and upon them which worshipped his image.

(This verse settles the question of when the Mark of the Beast is given, it is given before the Battle of Armageddon, REP)

3 And the second angel poured out his vial upon the sea; and it became as the blood of a dead man: and every living soul died in the sea.

4 And the third angel poured out his vial upon *the rivers and fountains of waters;* and they became blood.

5 And I heard the angel of the waters say, Thou art righteous, O Lord, which art, and wast, and shalt be, because thou hast judged thus.

6 For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, and thou hast given them blood to drink; for they are worthy.

7 And I heard another out of the altar say, Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous *are* thy judgments.

8 And the fourth angel poured out his vial upon the sun; and power was given unto him to scorch men with fire.

9 And men were scorched with great heat, and blasphemed the name of God, which hath power over these plagues: and they repented not to give him glory. {scorched: or, burned}

10 And the fifth angel *poured out his vial upon the seat of the beast; and his kingdom was full of darkness;* and they gnawed their tongues for pain,
11 And blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and repented not of their deeds.

12 And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east (Zionists REP) might be prepared.

(Here is the judgment of God upon the nations that will come to the Battle of

Armageddon, the River Euphrates is the boundary of the empire of Persia, or Iraq. REP)

13 And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet.

14 For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.

15 Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame.

16 And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon.

(Here the Battle of Armageddon is set, nations favoring Zionism, Islam, and then America or the Protestants, false Baptists and the Papacy, both East and West. REP)

17 And the seventh angel poured *out his vial into the air*; and there came a great voice out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, **It is done**.

18 And there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, *and* so great.

19 And the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell: and great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath.

The City of Babylon shall be divided and each part shall be against the other parts during these times. Our forefathers have understood the *cities of the nations* to be false churches.

Here are Knollys' remarks taken from his chapter on Rev. 16, while we do not agree with each point, on the whole we do agree:

The Temple of heaven

is the Church of God. {Jer 17:12} A glorious high throne from the beginning is the place of our sanctuary. {Eph 2:19-21}

Saying, it is done;

that is, there shall be time no longer to the beast, to the Turk, to mystery Babylon, nor

to their dominions; for the mystery of God is finished. {Re 10:6-7 11:15-16 21:5-6} And all the kingdoms of the world shall then become the kingdom of Christ, and of his saints. {Da 7:27 Re 11:15}

Re 16:18-19 And there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, and so great. 19 And the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell: and great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath.

Like unto this was the effect of the mystical resurrection of the witnesses of Christ. See the exposition of Re 11:13. See KNOLLYS on "Rev 11:13" In that earthquake the tenth part of the city fell; so by this great earthquake,

the great city was divided into three parts. And the cities of the nations fell.

By this great city, we are to understand the great whore, that woman whose name is mystery Babylon the great, {Re 17:1-18} which in John's time reigned over the kings of the earth. By

the cities of the nations,

we may understand all national churches: As the great whore is called

the great city,

the mother of harlots, so all national churches, her daughters are here called

the cities of the nations

who shall fall with her; that is, all the three parts of mystical Babylon, namely, the national churches of the papists, of the Lord Bishops, and of the Presbyterians; these three sorts only are for national churches. *An Exposition upon the Book of Revelation, London; 1688.*

20 And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found.

21 And there fell upon men a great hail out of heaven, *every stone* about the weight of a talent: and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail; for the plague thereof was exceeding great.

The first and perhaps most important point to note is that the *Battle of Armageddon* shall occur AFTER THE LORD has taken His own off the earth. God shall preserve His own during all the terrible events leading up to the final battle. *However, the end is not yet.* Dan. 7 shows that the leading Beast, the Revived Roman Empire, under first the Pope and then the Zionists, shall be destroyed, but the supporting cast of Beasts shall have their lives prolonged for a short time.

Dan. 7: 11 I beheld then because of the voice of the great words which the horn spake: I beheld *even* till the beast was slain, and his body destroyed, and given to the burning flame.

12 As concerning the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away: yet their lives were prolonged for a season and time.

John says:

Re 19:20 And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.

Re 20:10 And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet *are*, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

The Unholy Tri-Unity and the Last Judgment

I find it interesting that the unholy tri-unity does not stand before the Great White Throne for judgment, but they are progressively cast into the lake of fire. First the Beast and False Prophet are cast into the fire and a 1,000 years later (whatever this time period represents), then the devil is cast into the lake of fire and brimstone.

Next we note that after the Zionists and apostate American churches have overcome successfully the Moslem empire, then these conquers shall pretend that they have ushered in world wide peace, *it will be short lived*.

The mark of the beast has already be given. This shall continue the world wide surrender of all peoples, except the elect, after the Moslem empire is gone, the forces of antichrist will not allow any further threats to its goals, See Rev. 13.

It appears to me that all of God's Gentile people shall be taken off the earth before this Battle either by Christ's gathering them unto Himself or by persecution unto death. These times will be filled with terrible events designed to destroy all the manifest followers of Christ, both Jews and Gentiles. Dan. 7:9 I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment *was* white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne *was like* the fiery flame, *and* his wheels *as* burning fire.

10 A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened.

11 I beheld then because of the voice of the great words which the horn spake: I beheld *even* till the beast was slain, and his body destroyed, and given to the burning flame.

12 As concerning the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away: yet their lives were prolonged for a season and time. {their lives...: Chaldee, a prolonging in life was given them}

13 I saw in the night visions, and, behold, *one* like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him.

14 And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion *is* an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom *that* which shall not be destroyed.

17 These great beasts, which are four, *are* four kings, *which* shall arise out of the earth.

18 But the saints of the most High shall take the kingdom, and possess the kingdom for ever, even for ever and ever.

20 And of the ten horns that *were* in his head, and *of* the other which came up, and before whom three fell; even *of* that horn that had eyes, and a mouth that spake very great things, whose look *was* more stout than his fellows.

21 I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them;

22 Until the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom.

23 Thus he said, The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces.

24 And the ten horns out of this kingdom *are* ten kings *that* shall arise: and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings.

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

26 But the judgment shall sit, and they shall take away his dominion, to consume and to destroy *it* unto the end.

27 And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, whose kingdom *is* an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him. {dominions: or, rulers}

28 Hitherto *is* the end of the matter. As for me Daniel, my cogitations much troubled me, and my countenance changed in me: but I kept the matter in my heart.

Overcoming the Gentile Saints unto the End

It also appears to me that the forces of evil shall overcome the Gentile saints in particular until the time of the end is come and then the Kingdom shall be given to the saints, Dan. 7. Certainly this can refer to the united testimony of both the converted natural Hebrews and the Gentile saints as well.

However, even before this time there will be terrible laws and changes designed to eliminate manifested followers of Christ from existence. These laws and changes shall all go into the final form of the Beast and his system as presented in Rev. 13 and Dan. 7.

It seems to me that the setting in Revelation 13 speaks of those events leading up to the Battle of Armageddon.

Christ's Confirming His People Unto the End

Christ shall preserve and confirm His people through all this unto the end. Most may have to suffer death at the hands of evil in connection with the Lord's return, but if so, He shall give them grace.

Rev. 2:8 And unto the angel of the church in Smyrna write; These things saith the first and the last, which was dead, and is alive;

9 I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich) and *I know* the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but *are* the synagogue of Satan.

10 Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast *some* of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.

11 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death.

I Thess. 5:1 But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you.

2 For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.

3 For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.

4 But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.

5 Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.

6 Therefore let us not sleep, as *do* others; but let us watch and be sober.

7 For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the

night.

8 But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.

9 For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,

10 Who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him.

Re 3:3 Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent. If therefore thou shalt not watch, *I will come on thee as a thief*, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee.

1Th 5:2 For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.

2Pe 3:10 But the day of the Lord will come *as a thief in the night*; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

Summation to this Chapter

I have entered into the study of end times, not because I know so much about the end times, for I do not, but rather to show that whatever comes upon the Lord's little ones, *He shall take care of them.* It is not within the elect to endure or continue unto the end. They have not the ability within themselves to overcome and reject the mark of the beast and the other terrible changes that the antichrist system shall bring upon the world during the end times. The Lord has this ability and He has already overcome all things. He will confirm His brothers and sisters unto the end.

I Cor. 1:4 I thank my God always on your behalf, *for the grace of God which is* given you by Jesus Christ;

5 That in every thing ye are enriched by him, in all utterance, and in all knowledge;

<u>6 Even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you:</u>

7 So that ye come behind in no gift; waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ: {coming: Gr. revelation}

8 Who shall also confirm you unto the end, that ye may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

9 God *is* faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Eternal Home

Where is our eternal home but upon the New Earth, under the New Heavens? The Scriptures says about our eternal home.

Isa. 66:22 For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, saith the LORD, so shall your seed and your name remain.

23 And it shall come to pass, *that* from one new moon to another, and from one sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before me, saith the LORD.

24 And they shall go forth, and look upon the carcases of the men that have transgressed against me: for their worm shall not die, neither shall their fire be quenched; and they shall be an abhorring unto all flesh.

2 Peter 3:4 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 the creation.

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: {standing: Gr. consisting}

6 Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished:

7 But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.

8 But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day *is* with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.

9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

11 Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness,

12 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? {hasting...: or, hasting the coming}

13 Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.

Rev. 21: 1 And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.

2 And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

3 And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God *is* with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, *and be* their God.

4 And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

5 And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.

God Will No Longer Dwell in His Heavenly Temple

The Scriptures seem to indicate that God has dwelt in a Heavenly Temple since the casting down of the world. The casting down referred to the original fall of Lucifer. Lucifer was indeed cast down out of heaven.

Ezek. 28:12 Son of man, take up a lamentation upon the king of Tyrus, and say unto him, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty.

13 Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone *was* thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created.

14 Thou *art* the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee *so*: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire.

15 Thou *wast* perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee.

Isa. 14: 12 How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! *how* art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! {O Lucifer: or, O day star}

13 For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north:

14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.

15 Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.

Rev. 11:7 And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels,

8 And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven.

9 And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

10 And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: *for the accuser of our*

brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night. 11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.

12 Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabiters of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time.

13 And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man *child*.

Adam and Eve fell, but they were not cast down. The Lord did uphold them in His redemption by His mighty hand.

Psa. 37:23 The steps of a *good* man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way. {ordered: or, established}

24 Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the LORD upholdeth *him with* his hand.

God Dwelling in His Heavenly Temple

God has dwelt upon His Throne in His Holy Temple in heaven since the casting down of the world. During the course of this present evil world God administers His affairs from His Throne in His Heavenly Temple.

Ps 9:7 But the LORD shall endure for ever: *he hath prepared his throne for judgment.*

Ac 17:31 Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by *that* man whom he hath ordained; *whereof* he hath given assurance unto all *men*, in that he hath raised him from the dead.

The Temple of God contains many of the heavenly objects that have been pictured on this earth. The heavenly angels are constantly entering and exiting it as they go their ways to carry out the will of God.

Heb. 9:23 *It was* therefore necessary that the patterns of things in the heavens should be purified with these; but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these.

24 For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, *which are* the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us: 25 Nor yet that he should offer himself often, as the high priest entereth into the holy place every year with blood of others;

26 For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.

27 And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:

28 So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.

Re 11:19 And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail.

Re 14:17 And another angel came out of the temple which is in heaven, he also having a sharp sickle.

Re 15:5 And after that I looked, and, behold, the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven was opened:

Re 15:6 And the seven angels came out of the temple, having the seven plagues, clothed in pure and white linen, and having their breasts girded with golden girdles.

Re 15:8 And the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God, and from his power; and no man was able to enter into the temple, till the seven plagues of the seven angels were fulfilled.

Re 16:1 And I heard a great voice out of the temple saying to the seven angels, Go your ways, and pour out the vials of the wrath of God upon the earth.

Re 16:17 And the seventh angel poured out his vial into the air; and there came a great voice out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, **It is done**.

Re 21:22 And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it.

The Golden Altar

There is a golden altar in God's presence in connection with the Heavenly Temple of God.

Re 6:9 And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held:

10 And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?

11 And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellowservants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they *were*, should be fulfilled.

12 And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood;

13 And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely

figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind. {untimely figs: or, green figs}

14 And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.

15 And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains;

16 And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb:

17 For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?

Re 8:3 And another angel came and stood at the altar, having a golden censer; and there was given unto him much incense, that he should offer *it* with the prayers of all saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne.

Re 8:5 And the angel took the censer, and filled it with fire of the altar, and cast *it* into the earth: and there were voices, and thunderings, and lightnings, and an earthquake. {into: or, upon}

Re 9: 13 And the sixth angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God,

14 Saying to the sixth angel which had the trumpet, Loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates. (The Moslem empire REP)

15 And the four angels were loosed, which were prepared for an hour, and a day, and a month, and a year, for to slay the third part of men. {for an hour: or, at an hour}

16 And the number of the army of the horsemen *were* two hundred thousand thousand: and I heard the number of them.

17 And thus I saw the horses in the vision, and them that sat on them, having breastplates of fire, and of jacinth, and brimstone: and the heads of the horses *were* as the heads of lions; and out of their mouths issued fire and smoke and brimstone.

18 By these three was the third part of men killed, by the fire, and by the smoke, and by the brimstone, which issued out of their mouths.

19 For their power is in their mouth, and in their tails: for their tails *were* like unto serpents, and had heads, and with them they do hurt.

20 And the rest of the men which were not killed by these plagues yet repented not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship devils, and idols of gold, and silver, and brass, and stone, and of wood: which neither can see, nor hear, nor walk:

21 Neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts.

When the course of this present evil world is finished and God has judged all the wicked and cast them all, including Satan, into the Lake of Fire and Brimstone, then this present creation shall vanish away in the baptism of universal fire.

With the vanishing away of this sinful world and the reprobates, demons, fallen angels and Satan or Lucifer, God shall no longer dwell in His Heavenly Temple.

Re 21:22 And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it.

God Will Dwell Within the New Jerusalem on the New Earth

One of the wonderful promised blessings from our Lord Jesus is that the pure in heart shall see God. God's little ones have looked upon the Father mediatorially, through Jesus Christ. A change is coming when God dwells within the New Jerusalem on the New Earth.

Rev. 21:1 And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.

2 And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

3 And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God *is* with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, *and be* their God.

4 And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

5 And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.

6 And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.

7 He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.

22 And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it.

23 And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb *is* the light thereof.

24 And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it.

25 And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there.

26 And they shall bring the glory and honour of the nations into it.

27 And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither *whatsoever* worketh abomination, or *maketh* a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Rev. 22:1 And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of *the throne of God and of the Lamb.*

2 In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, *was there* the tree of life, which bare twelve *manner of* fruits, *and* yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

3 And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him:

4 And they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads.

5 And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever

and ever.

Christ shall Totally Perfect His Brothers and Sisters

When God's little ones are with Him on the New Earth there will be a complete glorification in us from the Mediatorial Work of Jesus Christ. <u>He will then perfect His</u> <u>brothers and sisters so fully that they too, with Him, shall behold the face of God</u> <u>directly</u>. This change that Christ shall make in His brothers and sisters shall come at the end of this present evil world and shall make them like Him.

I Cor. 15: 22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

23 But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming.

24 Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power.

25 For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet.

26 The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death.

27 For he hath put all things under his feet. But when he saith all things are put under *him, it is* manifest that he is excepted, which did put all things under him.

28 And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God may be all in all.

1Jo 3:2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

The Lamb will Dwell Therein with God

During this era the Lord Jesus, pictured as the Lamb of God, or one like unto the Son of Man, as Daniel said, shall be in close union with God, in His sacred manhood, as the Lamb of God who was slain from the casting down of the world, that *They both shall always be seen together. This further manifests the union of the Father and the Son in all they do.*

Joh 10:30 I and my Father are one.

Joh 17:22 And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one:

Re 6:16 And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb:

Re 22:1 And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb.

Re 22:3 And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him:

Please also note that both God the Father, God, and the Lamb *both shall be seen*. This further shows that there is not just one Being, but God is a Tri-Unity of Divine Beings. *God's little children see God and the Lamb.* In the first part of the Book of Revelation the Holy Spirit is seen as set forth as the seven spirits of God.

Re 1:4 John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace *be* unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne;

Re 3:1 And unto the angel of the church in Sardis write; These things saith he that hath the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars; I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead.

Re 4:5 And out of the throne proceeded lightnings and thunderings and voices: and *there were* seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God.

Re 5:6 And I beheld, and, Io, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth.

The Distinction Between The Grace Bride and the Saved Nations

Rev. 21:9 And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, *I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb's wife.*

10 And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God,

11 Having the glory of God:

22 And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it.

23 And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb *is* the light thereof.

24 And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it.

25 And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there. 26 And they shall bring the glory and honour of the nations into it.

27 And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither *whatsoever* worketh abomination, or *maketh* a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Let me note again that I do not believe that the Scriptures teach that any of God's little children earn any bridal standing with Christ Jesus. All God's blessings are grace blessings and come to us only by and through Jesus Christ and what He has earned. What is commonly known as the Baptist Bride position I do not hold. But I do hold that

the *manifest elect of this age are now in the Bridal relationship*. I do hold that in the New World there will continue to be a distinction between the saved nations and the Bride. This relationship is to show the union between Christ and the manifest elect in their walk in the true gospel faith, order, worship and works. Christ has chosen us in this distinction and it is not of ourselves or our faithfulness, nor from our ability, if indeed we are a part that the Bride of Christ.

The Scriptures reach us that there is a distinction between the bride, the New Jerusalem, and the saved nations.

The Bible further teaches us that the saved nations shall walk in the light of the New Jerusalem.

23 And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb *is* the light thereof.

24 And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it.

The Place of the Grace Bride

John 15:16 Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and *that* your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.

Not only did Christ choose out and call unto Himself His Bride, but He also died for her and does even more, He makes her clean so that He may present the Bride to Himself as a Glorious Church!

Christ chooses His bride, Christ died for His Bride, and the rest of the elect, see Boaz' taking Ruth to wife for a type of this, and Christ cleanses His Bride and will present Her unto Himself as a GLORIOUS CHURCH. He does all this. We do not help Him in any way. We are the passive objects of Christ love, choice, and actions and our part is that of manifest purposes. The honor and glory belongs unto the Lord not unto men.

Eph. 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and *gave himself for it;*

26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,

27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

There is a Bride in this Present, Evil World

Joh 3:29 He that hath the bride is the bridegroom: but the friend of the bridegroom, which standeth and heareth him, rejoiceth greatly because of the bridegroom's voice: this my joy therefore is fulfilled.

Please note that when John spoke this Christ had already called unto Himself some of His disciples. These made up the beginning members of the Gospel Church at Jerusalem. These were disciples indeed, manifesting their obedience to Gospel Order as they understood it.

John said that *Christ then had the bride*. John Identified Christ as the Bridegroom and himself as the friend of the bridegroom. John did not place Himself in the Bride. If this shall be overturned or not in the New Word is hard to say, but during Christ's personal ministry He then had the Bride and John was not a part of it.

The Gospel Church is Espoused unto Christ

2 Cor. 11:1 Would to God ye could bear with me a little in *my* folly: and indeed bear with me. {indeed bear...: or, indeed ye do bear with me}

2 For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present *you as* a chaste virgin to Christ.

3 But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

Paul said this to the Gospel Church at Corinth. I conclude that what was true at Corinth is true of all Gospel Church, this was not the only Gospel Church that gospel ministers espoused unto Christ. Each Gospel Church stands as being espoused unto Christ.

Gospel Begetting

This is also known as Gospel Begetting. The Gospel minister stands in type as a natural Father presenting His daughter to the bridegroom. Each time a gospel church is formed the gospel minister who is used to bring manifest faith and obedience is in this relationship.

May Cease to Be in the Bridal State

There is no place for carnal security in the service of the Lord. Paul had a well grounded fear that the Gospel Church at Corinth might *cease to be espoused as a chaste virgin to Christ.* This can happen and has happened all too often.

Re 2:5 Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.

Foreordained to Depart

What all this involves I am not able to go into as the differences and causes of the removal of the candlestick may be different in each case. This is also of the Lord as well. This simply manifests that they who depart from the faith have been, from before of old, ordained to such.

Jude 1 Jude, the servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, to them that are sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ, *and* called: 2 Mercy unto you, and peace, and love, be multiplied.

3 Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort *you* that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.

4 For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.

5 I will therefore put you in remembrance, though ye once knew this, how that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed them that believed not.

The departure from the faith *may manifest* that they were not of the elect or in Christ in the first place. If they are in Christ then He will find them and bring them back. Christ will confirm them unto the end.

I Cor. 1:8 Who shall also confirm you unto the end, *that ye may be* blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

9 God *is* faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Mt 26:41 Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed *is* willing, but the flesh *is* weak.

Ro 14:1 Him that is weak in the faith receive ye, *but* not to doubtful disputations. {not...: or, not to judge his doubtful thoughts}

Ro 14:2 For one believeth that he may eat all things: another, who is weak, eateth herbs.

Ro 14:21 *It is* good neither to eat flesh, nor to drink wine, nor *any thing* whereby thy brother stumbleth, or is offended, or is made weak.

Ro 15:1 We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves.

It is possible to be weak at times, we all are, see Peter and John Mark.

Ac 15:24 Forasmuch as we have heard, that certain which went out from us have troubled you with words, subverting your souls, saying, *Ye must* be circumcised, and keep the law: to whom we gave no *such* commandment:

1Jo 2:19 They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, <u>they would no doubt have continued with us</u>: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us.

The Type of Boaz and Ruth

Ruth 1:1 Then went Boaz up to the gate, and sat him down there: and, behold, the kinsman of whom Boaz spake came by; unto whom he said, Ho, such a one! turn aside,

sit down here. And he turned aside, and sat down.

2 And he took ten men of the elders of the city, and said, Sit ye down here. And they sat down.

3 And he said unto the kinsman, Naomi, that is come again out of the country of Moab, selleth a parcel of land, which *was* our brother Elimelech's:

4 And I thought to advertise thee, saying, Buy *it* before the inhabitants, and before the elders of my people. If thou wilt redeem *it*, redeem *it*: but if thou wilt not redeem *it*, *then* tell me, that I may know: for *there is* none to redeem *it* beside thee; and I *am* after thee. And he said, I will redeem *it*.

5 Then said Boaz, What day thou buyest the field of the hand of Naomi, thou must buy *it* also of Ruth the Moabitess, the wife of the dead, to raise up the name of the dead upon his inheritance.

6 And the kinsman said, I cannot redeem *it* for myself, lest I mar mine own inheritance: redeem thou my right to thyself; for I cannot redeem *it*.

7 Now this *was the manner* in former time in Israel concerning redeeming and concerning changing, for to confirm all things; a man plucked off his shoe, and gave *it* to his neighbour: and this *was* a testimony in Israel.

8 Therefore the kinsman said unto Boaz, Buy *it* for thee. So he drew off his shoe.

9 And Boaz said unto the elders, and *unto* all the people, Ye *are* witnesses this day, that I have bought all that *was* Elimelech's, and all that *was* Chilion's and Mahlon's, of the hand of Naomi.

10 Moreover Ruth the Moabitess, the wife of Mahlon, have I purchased to be my wife, to raise up the name of the dead upon his inheritance, that the name of the dead be not cut off from among his brethren, and from the gate of his place: ye *are* witnesses this day.

11 And all the people that *were* in the gate, and the elders, said, *We are* witnesses. The LORD make the woman that is come into thine house like Rachel and like Leah, which two did build the house of Israel: and do thou worthily in Ephratah, and be famous in Bethlehem: {do thou...: or, get thee riches, or, power} {be famous: Heb. proclaim thy name}

12 And let thy house be like the house of Pharez, whom Tamar bare unto Judah, of the seed which the LORD shall give thee of this young woman.

13 So Boaz took Ruth, and she was his wife: and when he went in unto her, the LORD gave her conception, and she bare a son.

14 And the women said unto Naomi, Blessed *be* the LORD, which hath not left thee this day without a kinsman, that his name may be famous in Israel. {left...: Heb. caused to cease unto thee} {kinsman: or, redeemer}

15 And he shall be unto thee a restorer of *thy* life, and a nourisher of thine old age: for thy daughter in law, which loveth thee, which is better to thee than seven sons, hath born him. {a nourisher of: Heb. to nourish} {thine...: Heb. thy gray hairs}

16 And Naomi took the child, and laid it in her bosom, and became nurse unto it.

17 And the women her neighbours gave it a name, saying, There is a son born to Naomi; and they called his name Obed: he *is* the father of Jesse, the father of David.

In this wonderful and loving account of love and courtship, it is very evident that the Lord worked on all the parties involved to bring about His own purpose. The love within each of these persons and their obedience is sweet indeed to behold.

Eph. 3:9 And to make all *men* see what *is* the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ:
10 To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly *places* might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God,

11 According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord:

12 In whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of him.

I want to show here that in addition to the general purchase of all the entitled land, *Boaz bought Ruth in a special sense to be his wife.* This is a part of the purchase. In this we find the creation bought back unto the Lord and Ruth in a special sense to be His wife. Of course by creation, I do not mean the reprobates or the devil and his angels or any of the demons.

Even so our Lord purchased the Kosmos, or world. This does not include the reprobates, Satan, fallen angels, and demons. In His redemptive possession our Lord has the elect angles, the saved nations, and His Bride, the manifest elect in gospel faith, order, worship, and works. The Gospel Church is the visible manifestation of His Bride in this present evil world. How this may be different in the world to come, I am unable to know or say.

The Saved Nations

Rev. 21:1 And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.

2 And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

3 And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God *is* with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, *and be* their God.

4 And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

5 And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.

6 And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.

7 He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.

23 And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb *is* the light thereof.

24 And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honor into it.

Rev. 22: 5 And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever.

There is no distinction between the saved nations and the sheep nations. The judgment of the nations describes one of several different events occurring when the Lord returns the Second Time. *This kingdom has been prepared for them from the foundation of the world.*

Matthew 25:31 When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:

32 And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth *his* sheep from the goats:

33 And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.

34 Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

35 For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in:

36 Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.

37 Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed *thee*? or thirsty, and gave *thee* drink?

38 When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee?

39 Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee?

40 And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done *it* unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done *it* unto me.

41 Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:

42 For I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink:

43 I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not.

44 Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee?

45 Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did *it* not to one of the least of these, ye did *it* not to me.

46 And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.

Please note that the saved nations receive a kingdom prepared for them from the casting down or foundation of the world. It was not prepared for any others, but for these. Therefore their existences, conversions, and obediences were and are just as secure as the kingdom.

Can it be imagined that one of the saved nations was not included in the final end because they did not exercised their collective wills and receive Christ and be faithful unto Him? If this were left up to their collective wills that could happen, but it shall not because it has all been foreordained by God in Christ and therefore secure and we can rest assured that what has been determined shall be done.

The Bride Sends Forth Light That the Saved Nations Walk In

23 And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof.
24 And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honor into it.

The Enlightment of the New Jerusalem and the Saved Nations

The New Jerusalem is enlightened by the Lord Jesus Christ and the Father. Christ Jesus, in His manhood, continues to reflect the Father's essential light. This light the New Jerusalem sends forth and the saved nations walk in it. What is this light from the New Jerusalem but both physical and spiritual light?

The Spiritual light that enables the saved nations to walk correctly is teaching and presenting the full council of God

Lu 7:30 But the Pharisees and lawyers rejected the counsel of God against themselves, being not baptized of him.

Ac 20:27 For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God.

The coming glory of the Lord as manifested in the Ordinances of the Everlasting Covenant shall be displayed in the eternal ages. The ordinances that show forth our Lord's redemptive work shall be experienced during *this time* by all the elect, just as they have been experienced by the union of the Father and the Son.

The Elect Shall Then All Be One Just as the Father and Son Are

This is when all the elect shall experience the same Oneness of the Father and the Son. Christ Jesus and the Father experienced this Oneness of glory from before creation.

John 17:1 These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee:

2 As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him.

3 And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.

4 I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do.

5 And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.

6 I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word.

9 I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine.

10 And all mine are thine, and thine are mine; and I am glorified in them.

11 And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, *keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are.*

All the Elect Experiencing Oneness

The Father has and will continue to answer the Son's prayers and all the elect shall indeed be one even as the Father and Son are, *not one in Being, but one in experiencing the manifest glory of the whole counsel of God, during the endless rule and reign of Christ and His people during the eternal ages to come.*

Eph. 3:21 Unto him [be] glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

Eph. 2:5 Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) {by...: or, by whose grace}

6 And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:

7 That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.

8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.

10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

The Future Oneness of all the Elect in the Glory of Christ

The manifest elect are NOW *sitting together in union with Christ in heavenly places.* They are now made into Kings and Priests, in union with Christ, His Melchisedec priesthood, so that in the world to come they will show forth the exceeding riches of God's grace to others, teaching them and administering the gospel ordinances of the everlasting covenant to those who were not so blessed with this experience in this present evil world and the age of the Law and the Prophets.

The Place of the Elect Nation of Israel

De 32:8 When the most High divided to the nations their inheritance, when he separated the sons of Adam, he set the bounds of the people according to the number of the children of Israel.

This verse teaches us *national separation*, not international union. *The Lord God established and brought forth nations*. The Lord God did separate the sons of Adam. The Lord God did set the limitations and bounds of the people or nations according to the coming number of the children of Israel. This speaks of Old Testament natural existences. This is a type and picture of the eternal ages when the saved Nation of Israel along with the entire group of the Sheep Nations are walking in the Counsel of

God displayed in the New and Everlasting Covenant with its ordinances and teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Eze 36:22 Therefore say unto the house of Israel, Thus saith the Lord GOD; I do not *this* for your sakes, O house of Israel, but for mine holy name's sake, which ye have profaned among the heathen, whither ye went.

23 And I will sanctify my great name, which was profaned among the heathen, which ye have profaned in the midst of them; and the heathen shall know that I *am* the LORD, saith the Lord GOD, when I shall be sanctified in you before their eyes. {their: or, your}

24 For I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land.

25 Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you.

26 A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.

27 And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do *them*.

Eze 36:33 Thus saith the Lord GOD; In the day that I shall have cleansed you from all your iniquities I will also cause *you* to dwell in the cities, and the wastes shall be builded.

Eze 37:12 Therefore prophesy and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, O my people, I will open your graves, and cause you to come up out of your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel.

Additional Notes from Isaiah 66

Isaiah 66 is so enlightening when we consider end time events and expectations that I shall present it from both the ancient Greek LXX as a commentary, and from the King James Version, the present received text of our Christian people.

Isa. 66: 1 Thus saith the Lord, {1} Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool: what kind of a house will ye build me? and of what kind *is to be* the place of my rest? {1) Ac 7:49, 50}

1 Thus saith the LORD, The heaven *is* my throne, and the earth *is* my footstool: where *is* the house that ye build unto me? and where *is* the place of my rest?

2 For all these things are mine, saith the Lord: and to whom will I have respect, but to the humble and meek, and the *man* that trembles *at* my words?

2 For all those *things* hath mine hand made, and all those *things* have been, saith the LORD: but to this *man* will I look, *even* to *him that is* poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word.

3 But the transgressor that sacrifices a calf to me, is as he that kills a dog; and he that offers fine flour, as *one that offers* swine's blood; he that gives frankincense for a memorial, is as a blasphemer. Yet they have chosen their own ways, and their soul has delighted in their abominations.

3 He that killeth an ox *is as if* he slew a man; he that sacrificeth a lamb, *as if* he cut off a dog's neck; he that offereth an oblation, *as if he offered* swine's blood; he that

burneth incense, *as if* he blessed an idol. Yea, they have chosen their own ways, and their soul delighteth in their abominations. {lamb: or, kid} {burneth: Heb. maketh a memorial of}

4 I also will choose their mockeries, and will recompense their sins upon them; because I called them, and they did not hearken to me; I spoke, and they heard not: and they did evil before me, and chose the things wherein I delighted not.

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

5 Hear the words of the Lord, ye that tremble at his word; speak ye, {1} our brethren, to them that hate you and abominate you, that the name of the Lord may be glorified, and may appear {2} their joy; but they shall be ashamed. {1) Alex. *hmwn*, but Heb. and Vat. 'your' 2) Or, your}

5 Hear the word of the LORD, ye that tremble at his word; Your brethren that hated you, that cast you out for my name's sake, said, Let the LORD be glorified: but he shall appear to your joy, and they shall be ashamed.

6 A voice of a cry from the city, a voice from the temple, a voice of the Lord rendering recompence to *his* adversaries.

6 A voice of noise from the city, a voice from the temple, a voice of the LORD that rendereth recompence to his enemies.

7 Before she that travailed brought forth, before the travail-pain came on, she escaped *it* and brought forth a male.

7 Before she travailed, she brought forth; before her pain came, she was delivered of a man child.

8 Who has heard such a thing? and who has seen after this manner? Has the earth travailed in one day? or has even a nation been born at once, that Sion has travailed, and brought forth her children?

8 Who hath heard such a thing? who hath seen such things? Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day? *or* shall a nation be born at once? for as soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her children.

9 But I have raised this expectation, yet thou hast not remembered me, saith the Lord: behold, have not I made the bearing and barren woman? saith thy God.

9 Shall I bring to the birth, and not cause to bring forth? saith the LORD: shall I cause to bring forth, and shut *the womb*? saith thy God. {not...: or, not beget?}

10 Rejoice, O Jerusalem, and all ye that love her hold in her a general assembly: rejoice greatly with her, all that *now* mourn over her:

10 Rejoice ye with Jerusalem, and be glad with her, all ye that love her: rejoice for joy with her, all ye that mourn for her:

11 that ye may suck, and be satisfied with the breast of her consolation; that ye may milk out, and delight yourselves with the influx of her glory.

11 That ye may suck, and be satisfied with the breasts of her consolations; that ye

may milk out, and be delighted with the abundance of her glory. {abundance: or, brightness}

12 For thus saith the Lord, Behold, I {1} turn toward them as a river of peace, and as a torrent bringing upon them in a flood the glory of the Gentiles: their children shall be borne upon the shoulders, and comforted on the knees. {1) i. e. turn myself}

12 For thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will extend peace to her like a river, and the glory of the Gentiles like a flowing stream: then shall ye suck, ye shall be borne upon *her* sides, and be dandled upon *her* knees.

13 As if his mother should comfort one, so will I also comfort you; and ye shall be comforted in Jerusalem.

13 As one whom his mother comforteth, so will I comfort you; and ye shall be comforted in Jerusalem.

14 And ye shall see, and your heart shall rejoice, and your bones shall {1} thrive like grass: and the hand of the Lord shall be known to them that fear him, and he shall threaten the disobedient. {1) Gr. spring up}

14 And when ye see *this*, your heart shall rejoice, and your bones shall flourish like an herb: and the hand of the LORD shall be known toward his servants, and *his* indignation toward his enemies.

15 For, behold, the Lord will come as fire, and his chariots as a storm, to render his vengeance with wrath, and his rebuke with a flame of fire.

15 For, behold, the LORD will come with fire, and with his chariots like a whirlwind, to render his anger with fury, and his rebuke with flames of fire.

16 For with the fire of the Lord all the earth shall be judged, and all flesh with his sword: many shall be slain by the Lord.

16 For by fire and by his sword will the LORD plead with all flesh: and the slain of the LORD shall be many.

17 They that sanctify themselves and purify themselves in the gardens, and eat swine's flesh in the porches, and the abominations, and the mouse, shall be consumed together, saith the Lord.

17 They that sanctify themselves, and purify themselves in the gardens behind one *tree* in the midst, eating swine's flesh, and the abomination, and the mouse, shall be consumed together, saith the LORD. {behind...: or, one after another}

18 And I *know* their works and their imagination. I am going to gather all nations and tongues; and they shall come, and see my glory.

18 For I *know* their works and their thoughts: it shall come, that I will gather all nations and tongues; and they shall come, and see my glory.

19 And I will leave a sign upon them, and I will send forth them that have escaped of them to the nations, to Tharsis, and Phud, and Lud, and Mosoch, and to Thobel, and to Greece, and to the isles afar off, to those who have not heard my name, nor seen my glory; and they shall declare my glory among the Gentiles.

19 And I will set a sign among them, and I will send those that escape of them unto the

nations, *to* Tarshish, Pul, and Lud, that draw the bow, *to* Tubal, and Javan, *to* the isles afar off, that have not heard my fame, neither have seen my glory; and they shall declare my glory among the Gentiles.

20 And they shall bring your brethren out of all nations for a gift to the Lord with horses, and chariots, in litters *drawn by* mules with awnings, to the holy city Jerusalem, said the Lord, as though the children of Israel should bring their sacrifices to me with psalms into the house of the Lord.

20 And they shall bring all your brethren *for* an offering unto the LORD out of all nations upon horses, and in chariots, and in litters, and upon mules, and upon swift beasts, to my holy mountain Jerusalem, saith the LORD, as the children of Israel bring an offering in a clean vessel into the house of the LORD. {litters: or, coaches}

21 And I will take of them priests and Levites, saith the Lord.

21 And I will also take of them for priests and for Levites, saith the LORD.

22 For as the new heaven and the new earth, which I make, remain before me, saith the Lord, so shall your seed and your name continue.

22 For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, saith the LORD, so shall your seed and your name remain.

23 And it shall come to pass from month to month, and from sabbath to sabbath, *that* all flesh shall come to worship before me in Jerusalem, saith the Lord.

23 And it shall come to pass, *that* from one new moon to another, and from one sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before me, saith the LORD. {from one new...: Heb. from new moon to his new moon, and from sabbath to his sabbath}

24 And they shall go forth, and see the carcasses of the men that have transgressed against me: for their worm shall not die, and their fire shall not be quenched; and they shall be a spectacle to all flesh.

24 And they shall go forth, and look upon the carcases of the men that have transgressed against me: for their worm shall not die, neither shall their fire be quenched; and they shall be an abhorring unto all flesh.

Before going further let me state that in my weak opinion Isaiah 66 is a dual prophecy, it deals with events surrounding both advents of Jesus Christ with the conversion of the Gentiles, or the church age, being included.

Further Considerations from Isaiah 66

Isa. 66 from the KJ and the Complete Jewish Bible is present below. Please note that this Jewish Translation follows the corrupted Pharisee's translation and does not place Jehovah in the Text but incorrectly places ADONAI in the text. I use the additional versions only as commentary helps. See this in Dr. Bullinger's Notes in his excellent work, The Companion Bible.

http://www.biblestudytools.com/ParallelBible/bible.cgi

The King James Version (Authorized)	The Complete Jewish Bible
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Isa 66

Isa 66

66:1

66:1

66:2

Thus saith the LORD, The heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool: where is the house that ye build unto me? and where is the place of my rest?

66:2

For all those things hath mine hand made, and all those things have been, saith the LORD: but to this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word.

66:3

66:3

66:4

66:5

He that killeth an ox is as if he slew a man; he that sacrificeth a lamb, F284 as if he cut off a dog's neck; he that offereth an oblation, as if he offered swine's blood; he that burneth incense, as if he blessed an idol. Yea, they have chosen their own ways, and their soul delighteth in their abominations.

66:4

I also will choose their delusions, **F285** and will bring their fears upon them; because when I called, none did answer; when I spake, they did not hear: but they did evil before mine eyes, and chose that in which I delighted not.

66:5

Hear the word of the LORD, ye that tremble at his word; Your brethren that hated you, that cast you out for my name's sake, said, Let the LORD be glorified: but he shall appear to your joy, and they shall be ashamed.

66:6

A voice of noise from the city, a voice from the temple, a voice of LORD that rendereth the recompence to his enemies.

66:7

Before she travailed, she brought forth; before her pain came, she was delivered of a man child.

66:8

Who hath heard such a thing? who hath seen such things? Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one

"Heaven is my throne," says ADONAI, "and the earth is my footstool. What kind of house could you build for me? What sort of place could you devise for my rest?

Didn't I myself make all these things? This is how they all came to be," says ADONAI. "The kind of person on whom I look with favor is one with a poor and humble spirit, who trembles at my word.

Those others might as well kill a person as an ox, as well break a dog's neck as sacrifice a lamb, as well offer pig's blood as offer a grain offering, as well bless an idol as burn incense. Just as these have chosen their ways and enjoy their disgusting practices,

so I will enjoy making fools of them, and bring on them the very things they fear. For when I called, no one answered; when I spoke, they did not hear. Instead they did what was evil in my sight and chose what did not please me."

Hear the word of ADONAI, you who tremble at his word: "Your brothers, who hate you and reject you because of my name, have said: 'Let ADONAI be glorified, so we can see your joy.' But they will be put to shame."

That uproar in the city, that sound from the temple, is the sound of ADONAI repaying his foes what they deserve.

Before going into labor, she gave birth; before her pains came, she delivered a male child.

Who ever heard of such a thing? Who has ever seen such things? Is a country born in one day? Is a nation

66:8

<u>66:6</u>

66:7

day? or shall a nation be born at once? for as soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her children.

66:9

Shall I bring to the birth, and not cause to bring forth? saith the LORD: shall I cause to bring forth, and shut the womb? saith thy God.

66:10

Rejoice ye with Jerusalem, and be glad with her, all ye that love her: rejoice for joy with her, all ye that mourn for her:

66:11

That ye may suck, and be satisfied with the breasts of her consolations; that ye may milk out, and be delighted with the abundance **F286** of her glory.

66:12

For thus saith the LORD. Behold, I will extend peace to her like a river, and the glory of the Gentiles like a flowing stream: then shall ye suck, ye shall be borne upon her sides, and be dandled upon her knees.

66:13

As one whom his mother comforteth, so will I comfort you; and ye shall be comforted in Jerusalem.

66:14

And when ye see this, your heart shall rejoice, and your bones shall flourish like an herb: and the hand of the LORD shall be known toward his servants, and his indignation toward his enemies.

66:15

For, behold, the LORD will come with fire, and with his chariots like a whirlwind, to render his anger with fury, and his rebuke with flames of fire.

66:16

For by fire and by his sword will the LORD plead with all flesh: and the slain of the LORD shall be many.

66:17

They that sanctify themselves, and purify themselves in the gardens behind **F287** one tree in the midst,

brought forth all at once? For as soon as Tziyon went into labor, she brought forth her children.

66:9

66:10

"Would I let the baby break through and not be born?" asks ADONAI. "Would I, who cause the birth, shut the womb?" asks your God.

Rejoice with Yerushalayim! Be glad with her, all you who love her! Rejoice, rejoice with her, all of you who mourned for her;

66:11

so that you nurse and are satisfied by her comforting breast. drinkina deeply and delighting in the overflow of her glory.

66:12

For ADONAI says, "I will spread shalom over her like a river, and the wealth of nations like a flooding stream; you will nurse and be carried in her arm and cuddled in her lap.

Like someone comforted by his mother, I will comfort you; in Yerushalayim you will be comforted."

66:14

Your heart will rejoice at the sight, your bodies will flourish like newly sprouted grass. It will be known that the hand of ADONAI is with his servants; but with his enemies, his fury.

66:15

For - look! - ADONAI will come in fire, and his chariots will be like the whirlwind, to render his anger furiously, his rebuke with blazing fire.

66:16

66:17

For ADONAI will judge all humanity with fire and with the sword, and those slain by ADONAI will be many.

"Those who consecrate and purify themselves in order to enter the gardens, then follow the one who was

66:13

eating swine's flesh, and the abomination, and the mouse, shall be consumed together, saith the LORD.

<u>66:18</u>

For I know their works and their thoughts: it shall come, that I will gather all nations and tongues; and they shall come, and see my glory.

<u>66:19</u>

And I will set a sign among them, and I will send those that escape of them unto the nations, to Tarshish, Pul, and Lud, that draw the bow, to Tubal, and Javan, to the isles afar off, that have not heard my fame, neither have seen my glory; and they shall declare my glory among the Gentiles.

<u>66:20</u>

And they shall bring all your brethren for an offering unto the LORD out of all nations upon horses, and in chariots, and in litters, ^{E288} and upon mules, and upon swift beasts, to my holy mountain Jerusalem, saith the LORD, as the children of Israel bring an offering in a clean vessel into the house of the LORD.

<u>66:21</u>

And I will also take of them for priests and for Levites, saith the LORD.

<u>66:22</u>

For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, saith the LORD, so shall your seed and your name remain.

<u>66:23</u>

And it shall come to pass, that from one new moon to another, and from one sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before me, saith the LORD.

<u>66:24</u>

And they shall go forth, and look upon the carcases of the men that have transgressed against me: for their worm shall not die, neither shall their fire be quenched; and already there, eating pig meat, reptiles and mice, will all be destroyed together," says ADONAI.

<u>66:18</u>

66:19

"For I [know] their deeds and their thoughts. "[The time] is coming when I will gather together all nations and languages. They will come and see my glory,

and I will give them a sign. I will send some of their survivors to the nations of Tarshish, Pul, Lud (these are archers), Tuval, Greece and more distant coasts, where they have neither heard of my fame nor seen my glory. They will proclaim my glory in these nations;

<u>66:20</u>

and they will bring all your kinsmen out of all the nations as an offering to ADONAI - on horses, in chariots, in wagons, on mules, on camels - to my holy mountain Yerushalayim," says ADONAI, "just as the people of Isra'el themselves bring their offerings in clean vessels to the house of ADONAI.

<u>66:21</u>

I will also take cohanim and L'vi'im from them," says ADONAI.

<u>66:22</u>

"For just as the new heavens and the new earth that I am making will continue in my presence," says ADONAI, "so will your descendants and your name continue.

<u>66:23</u>

66:24

"Every month on Rosh-Hodesh and every week on Shabbat, everyone living will come to worship in my presence," says ADONAI.

"As they leave, they will look on the corpses of the people who rebelled against me. For their worm will never die, and their fire will never be quenched; but they will be abhorrent they shall be an abhorring unto all flesh.

to all humanity." ["Every month on Rosh-Hodesh and every week on Shabbat, everyone living will come to worship in my presence," says ADONAI.]

FOOTNOTES: F284: lamb: or, kid F285: delusions: or, devices F286: abundance: or, brightness F287: behind...: or, one after another F288: litters: or, coaches

When I study Jewish Bibles, even the Masoretic Text, I am stricken and vexed by the lack of love, compassion, and gentleness in their writings and translations. This is very evident in the above translation.

Here are Dr. Bullinger's Notes for Isaiah 66:

66. 1 Thus saith the LORD. See Ap. 82.

the LORD. Heb. Jehovah. Ap. 4. II.

The heaven, &c. Quoted in Acts 7. 49. Cp. 1 Kings 8, 27. 2 Chron. 6, 18.

the this. Heb. zeh.

ye: i.e. the future builders of the house.

the place of My rest: i.e. rest in satisfaction. The Temple was for sacrifice and atonement (2 Chron. 2. e), not for dwelling. Cp. Acts 7. 48.

2 saith the LORD = [is] Jehovah's oracle. poor - wretched, or lowly. Heb. 'anī. See note on "poverty", Prov. 6. 11. spirit. Heb. rūach.

Ap. 9.

trembleth at = careth anxiously for. Cp. v. 5.

3 man. Heb. 'ish. Ap. 14. II.

cut off=breaketh.

oblation = gift, or meal offering. Heb. minchah. Ap. 43. II. iii.

swine's blood. Ref. to Pent. (Deut. 14. s. Lev. 11. 7). See Ap. 92. Cp. 65. 4.

burneth incense = maketh a memorial of frankincense. Ref. to Pent. (Lev. 2. 2). Ap. 92.

chosen. See note on 1. 29.

their soul = they. Heb. nephesh. Ap. 13.

Note the Introversion beginning with the last clause of v. 3, and including v. 4 :---

3, 4 | n | -3. They delight, &c.

o | 4-. I also will choose, &c. } The sin.

p | -4-. When I called, &c. } The reason for p | -4-. When I spake, &c. } the judgment. o | -4-. They chose, &c. } the sin.

n |-4-. I delighted not.

4 did = have done.

evil = the evil. Heb. rā'a'. Ap. 44. viii. 6 A voice, &c. Cp. Zech. 12. 3-6; 14. 3. Cp. 42. 14.

rendereth recompence. Cp. 65. 6. 7 she brought forth. This is the birth of the new nation. These are the "birth pangs" (or "sorrows") of Matt. 24. s. In Rev. 12. 1, 2 we have one part of the type in the person of Messiah. Here is the other part of the type.

a man child = a male, as in Rev. 12. 5.

8 who. Some codices, with four early printed editions, Sept., and Vulg., read "and who".

a nation: i.e. the righteous nation of 26. 2. Referred to in v. 7. Matt. 21. 43.

at once = at a stroke. children - sons.

9 saith thy God. See note on 1. 11. God. Heb. Elohim. Ap. 4. I.

10 Rejoice ye with Jerusalem. The promises, of 1. 27; 2. 1-5, are now at length to be fulfilled.

mourn. As for one lost, or dead. See note on 3. 26. 12 Behold. Fig. Asterismos (Ap. 6), to introduce the

Fig. Syncrisis (Ap. 6), to increase the emphasis.

peace = prosperity. Gentiles = nations.

then shall ye suck. The promises of 49. 22 and 60. 4 are again renewed.

13 one = a man. Heb. 'ish. Ap. 14. II. in Jerusalem. Not in the Church. Cp. 1. 1.

14 when ye see this - as soon as ye see this.

16 all flesh. Put by Fig. Synecdoche (of the Part), Ap. 6, for all mankind.

17 gardens. Cp. 1. 29; 40. 5, and 65. 3.

one tree: i.e. the Asherah. See Ap. 42.

and. The Mugah Codex (quoted in the Massorah) and other codices, omit this "and".

abomination. Heb. shakaz. Ref. to Pent. (Deut. 7. 26). Occurs in Isaiah only here; Leviticus thirteen times (7. 21; 11. 10, 11, 11, 12, 13, 13, 20, 23, 41, 42, 43; 20. 25); and Ezek. 8, 10. Not the same word as in 65. 4. Ap. 92. mouse. Ref. to Pent., where it is forbidden (Lev. 11. 29). Ap. 92. Elsewhere, only in 1 Sam. 6. 4, 5, 11, 18. be consumed = come to an end. 18 thoughts = devices. I will gather. Cp Joel 3. 2. Zeph. 3. s. 19 sign. See note on 7. 11. send: as missionaries. those that escape : i.e. the remnant of saved Israel. Tarshish. Put for the far west. Pul . . . Lud = Phut . . . Lud, put for African peoples. They are mentioned together, as serving in the Egyptian armies (Ezek. 30, 5). Tubal=the Scythian tribes, Javan. Put for the Greeks settled in Asia Minor. isles = maritime countries. See note on 11, 11. 20 shall bring. Not into the Church, but back to the Holy Land. an offering = a gift offering. Heb. minchah. Ap. 43. II. iii. swift beasts: carriages, as required by the Structure of v. 20 :---20 q upon horses. r | in chariots and litters. q | upon mules. r in earriages. "Swift beasts" is Heb. kirkaroth, from karar, to move in a circle; hence, may mean (like English car) any vehicle on wheels. It is never used of animals. There is nothing to suggest "swaying furnaces", as suggested by some, to mean "locomotives". holy. See note on Ex. 3. 5. as - according as. children=sons. bring an offering, &c. Ref. to Pent. (Lev. 2, &c.). Ap. 92. 21 them, i.e. Israel. priests and for Levites. Ref. to Pent. (Deut. 17, 9). See notes on Ezek. 43. 19; 44. 10, 13, 15. Ap. 92. priests. Thus completing the fulfilment of Ex. 19.6. and. Some codices, with Aram., Sept., Syr., and Vulg., read this "and" in the text. 22 new heavens, &c. See note on 65. 17. 22 new heavens, &c. See note on 65. 17. 23 new moon . . . sabbath. Ref. to Pent. and the law concerning them (Num. 10, 10; 28, 11-15). Ap. 92.

Cp. PS. 81.3, 4. before Me. Ref. to Pent., implying centralised worship, as in Ex. 20.3, 8. Deut. 26. 3, 5. Ap. 92. Cp. 1. 12. **24** men. Heb. pl. of '*ënösh*. Ap. 14. III. transgressed. Heb. p*āsha*⁴. Ap. 44. ix. their worm. Quoted in Mark 9. 44. Referred by our Lord to Gehenna, of which the fires in the valley of Hinnom were an illustration. Heb. $t\delta l\delta^{2}$, the maggot bred from putrid substances. See Ex. 16. 20. Deut. 28. 39. Job 25. 6 (second word). Ps. 22. 6. Isa. 14. 11 (second word); 41. 14; 66. 24; and Jonah 4. 7, which are all the occurrences of $t\delta l\delta^{4}$ in O.T. In the synagogue use, v. 23 is repeated after v. 24, so that the book may end with comfort. Cp. end of Lamentations, Ecclesiastes, and Malachi. an abhorring. The Heb. occurs only here.

Commenting upon Chapter 65, Dr. Bullinger stated:

17 new heavens, &c. : i. e. new, in respect to the old. Not the "new" of 2 Pet. 8. 13, or Rev. 21. 1. Note the contrast of this with Rev. 21 :---Isa. 65. Rev. 21. Name, Jerusalem (Hephzi-New Jerusalem (v. 2); "great", "holy" (v. 10). bah, v. 18). Position, on mountain (v.25). out of heaven (v. 2). Privileges, vv. 18-20. 2. 4. Character, sinners there no sinners (v. 27). (0. 20). prayer (v. 24). no temple (v. 22). Employment, labour, plant- already built by God (vo. 12ing, building (v. 21). 25; 22.3-5). the former = viz. those which were, and are now. 18 for ever. Chald. Targum renders it "in the world of worlds": i.e. the most glorious world. 19 no more heard. Therefore not the restoration of Ezra-Nehemiah, or the Church of God now. 20 There. Some codices read "And there". of days: i.e. of a few days. child shall die - youth may die : i.e. neither early death, nor premature decay. accursed = cut off. Cp. Ps. 101. 8. 21 they shall build, &c. Ref. to Pent. (Lev. 26. 16. Deut. 28. 41). Note the Alternation in vv. 21, 22 :-21 | 1 | 21-, Houses. Build. m | -21. Houses. Build. m | -21. Vineyards. Plant. } Positive. l | 22-, Houses. Not build. m | -22-, Vineyard. Not plant. } Negative. 22 22 elect = chosen. 23 They shall not labour in vain. Ref. to Pent. (Deut. 28. 41, reversed). Cp. Lev. 26. 16. Ap. 92. 24 before they call, &c. A reference to 30. 19. The blessing of Messiah (Ps. 21. 3) now extended to the new Israel. 25 wolf, &c. As in 11. 6, 7, 9, which is Millennial, not eternal. together = as one. Heb. 'echad. Same word as " one " in Deut. 6.4 : i.e. one of others. Occurs in former part of Isaiah (4.1; 5.10; 6.2,6; 9.14; 10.17; 19.18; 23.15; 27. 12; 30. 17, 17; 34. 16; 36. 9); and, in the latter part (47.9; 51.2; 65.25; 66.8, 8, 17). See Ap. 79. II. dust. Never was the serpent's food. It is used as a powerful Fig. of Speech, or Idiom, as in Ps. 72. 9.

Cp. Prov. 20. 17. the serpent's, &c. = as for the serpent, dust shall be his food : i.e. the Old Serpent (Rev. 20. 2), who brought in all the sin and misery to the world and to Israel, will then be bound (Rev. 20. 1-3), and he will lick the dust, the symbol of his humiliation, disappointment, and defeat. Referring to the Figs. used in Gen. 3. 14. See Ap. 19. in all My holy mountain. See note on 11. 9.

Our eternal home is certainly upon the New Earth. During this time the saved or sheep nations shall dwell forever and ever in the boundaries of land that the Lord has appointed for them before the world began.

It is further evident that all these wonderful states and blessings for God's people have existed in Christ Jesus from before creation. The Lord Jesus Christ as the God-Man Mediator contains all the promises of God. All the plans and purposes of God for His people are in Christ Jesus and exist for the elect by union and execution in Christ Jesus. In this manner they certainly did exist before the creation and casting down of the kosmos. There is one more topic to consider, *The Place of the Nation of Israel and the New Jerusalem in the New World.*