# MARCH 18, 2025 HOW SHOULD BIBLE PROPHECY BE INTERPRETED?

Good Afternoon, Everyone!

LET'S PRAY! Father YAHWEH, please let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be always acceptable in thy sight O LORD, my Strength and my Redeemer! AMEN!

Today, we are going to talk about how we should interpret Bible Prophecy with regard to Bible Prophecy in general, but especially with regard to the last Book of the Bible: The Revelation of Jesus Christ.

According to Steve Gregg, author of Revelation: Four Views, Revised and Updated, there are four major approaches to the Book of Revelation and Bible Prophecy in general:

## 1. The Futurist Approach:

This asserts that the majority of the prophecies of Revelation have never yet been fulfilled and await future fulfillment. Futurist interpreters usually apply everything after Chapter 4 to a relatively brief period before the return of Christ.

#### 2. The Historicist Approach:

This is the classical Protestant interpretation of the Book of Revelation, sees the Book of Revelation as a pre-written record of the course of history from the time of John to the end of the world. Fulfillment is thus considered to be in progress at present and has been unfolding for nearly two thousand years.

### 3. The Preterist Approach:

approach views the fulfillment This of Revelation's prophecies as having occurred already, in what is now the ancient past, not long after the author's own time. Thus, the fulfillment was future from the point of view of the inspired author, but it is past from our vantage point in history. Some Preterists believe that the final Chapters of Revelation look forward to the Second Coming of Christ. Others think that everything in the Book reaches its culmination in the past (70 A.D.).

#### 4. The Idealist Approach:

approach does not attempt to find This individual fulfillments of the visions but takes revelation to be a great drama depicting transcendent spiritual realities, such as the perennial conflict between Christ and Satan, between the saints and the anti-Christian world powers, the heavenly vindication of the martyrs and the final victory of Christ and His Saints. Fulfillment is seen either as entirely spiritual or as recurrent, finding representative expression in various historical events throughout the age, rather than in one-time, specific fulfillments. The prophecy is thus rendered applicable to Christians in any age.

#### **The Futurist Approach**

According to the **Futurist Approach**, everything from Chapters 4 to 22 is yet future, with John representing the Rapture of the church in Revelation Chapter 4, Verse 1. **Futurism** is further divided by their belief in the millennium and the timing of the Rapture. There are three views about the return of YAHSHUA Jesus the Christ:

- 1. Premillennial
- 2. Postmillennial
- 3. Amillennial

According to Robert G. Clouse, **Premillennialism** affirms that the Lord's return will be followed by a period of peace and righteousness before the end of the world, during which Christ will reign as King in person. Usually, Premillennialists have been taught that the Return of Christ will be preceded by certain signs such as the regathering of Israel to their ancient homeland, the preaching of the Gospel to all nations, a great apostasy, wars, famine, earthquakes, the appearance of the Antichrist, and a Great Tribulation. Details concerning this tribulation are sought in the middle Chapters of Revelation.

According to Robert G. Clouse, **Postmillennialism** is the belief that the Kingdom of God is extended through Christian preaching and teaching as a result of which the world will be Christianized and will enjoy a long period of peace and righteousness. The new age will not be essentially different from the present, and it emerges gradually as an ever-larger share as the world's population is converted to Christianity. During this age, the Church assumes greater importance, and many social, economic, and educational problems are solved. The period closes with the Second Coming of Christ, the resurrection of the dead, and the final judgment.

Finally, according to Robert G. Clouse, **Amillennialism** believes that the Bible does not predict a period of universal peace and righteousness before the end of the world. Instead, good and evil will coexist until the Second Coming of Christ when the dead will be raised, and the last judgment held. The so-called Millennium is seen as a symbol of the present age of the Church.

This is concurred by John Noe, president of the Prophecy Reformation Institute, in his article entitled "A Preterist-Idealist Understanding of Revelation." Noe states, "Dispensational Premillennialism is known for its insistence that the words of prophecy be interpreted literally whenever this does not lead to absurdity." Therefore, they maintain a "Futuristic interpretation of Revelation." But Historic Premillennialists "combine the Futurist and Preterist views, stipulating that it had a message for John's own day and that it also represents the consummation of redemptive history." Since most Premillennialists date the writing of the Book of Revelation to 95 to 96 A.D., "they believe its focus is not on a contemporary fulfillment at all, but on the last period(s) of world history" and "speaks of the personal return of Christ to earth." They state that this view "best accords with the principle of literal interpretation."

Revelation Chapter 1, Verse 19 states, "Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter," hence, they trifurcate the prophecy as the past vision of the Glorified Christ in Chapter 1, especially Verses 11–18; the present condition of the churches in Chapters 2 and 3; and the future happenings in Chapters 4 through 22. This is the Premillennial View of Futurism.

With regard to the Rapture, according to Don Stewart of Calvary Chapel in his YouTube presentation "The Rapture of the Church," there are eight views of the Rapture:

 There is no such thing as the Rapture in the Bible; it is only symbolic of something.

- There is a Partial Rapture Theory from the 19<sup>TH</sup> Century in which only "mature believers" are Raptured.
- There is a before, during, and after theory of the Seventieth Week of Daniel.
- 4. There is the **Pre-Tribulation View**, usually noted in Revelation Chapter 4, Verse 1.
- 5. There is the **Mid-Tribulation View**, which happens at the 3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>-year point.
- 6. There is the **Pre-Wrath View**, which states that the Rapture will occur before the "wrath of God" in Revelation Chapter 16 at the 5½-year point.

- 7. There is the **Post-Tribulation View**, which occurs at the 7-year point.
- 8. There is a Rapture, but we do not know enough about it as to the timing.

Stewart ends his presentation with this: "The church age started suddenly and dramatically on Pentecost, and it will end suddenly and dramatically in the very near future." Most Futurists, like Don Stewart, hold to the Pretribulation View of the Rapture.

According to "Who's Who in Bible Prophecy," **Futurism** is widely held by many respected and influential modern-day teachers, such as J. R. Church, Kevin Clarkson, David Cloud, Jimmy DeYoung, Lambert Dolphin, Daymond Duck, Arnold

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Fruchtenbaum, John Hagee, David Hamblin, Ed Hindson, Mark Hitchcock, Dave Hunt, Thomas Ice, Terry James, Jerry B. Jenkins, Tim LaHaye, Clarence Larkin, Greg Laurie, Hal Lindsey, Chuck Missler, J. Dwight Pentecost, J. Randall Price, Bill Salus, Chuck Smith, Gary Stearman, Paul Lee Tan, and John F. Walvoord. (This list is not all-inclusive.)

According to Steve Gregg, these teachers were trained in **Futurism**, by teachers from denominations who officially held this doctrine, and they were taught by teachers from denominations who were trained in it by teachers who officially held this doctrine called Dispensationalism, and that view arose in 1830.

According to Thomas Ice, **Dispensationalism** is a system of theology (not a hermeneutical approach) that

believes the Bible teaches God's single plan for history is accomplished through Israel and the church for the purpose of His Glorification. This theology arises from a consistent use of grammatical-historical hermeneutic, also known as literal interpretation.

According to Steve Gregg, the downside of **Futurism** is that pastors build their whole ministry on this view, but what if they are wrong? How many people become disillusioned and leave Christianity? These pastors keep getting it wrong! They do not understand that whatever happens will happen!

However, where did this view come from and why? Well, all throughout Church History, the Reformers held to the traditional view of **Historicism**, wherein the Pope/Papacy was the Antichrist system, which was the Protestant view for so long. Why was this called the Protestant view? Because the **Historicist View** taught/teaches that the Papacy was the Beast of Revelation Chapter 13. Because all of the Reformers were **Historicists** and that they all taught that the Papacy/Pope was/is the Beast, this made the Pope look really bad.

Enter the Counter-Reformation movement by the Pope. On August 15, 1534, Ignatius Loyola founded a secretive Catholic order called the Society of Jesus, also known as the Jesuits. The Jesuits definitely had a dark history of intrigue and sedition, and that was why they were expelled from:

- 1. Portugal in 1759,
- 2. France in 1764,

- 3. Spain in 1767,
- 4. Naples in 1767, and
- 5. Russia in 1820.

However, Jesuit priests had been known throughout history as the most wicked political arm of the Roman Catholic Church. In 1545, at the Council of Trent, the Catholic Church gave the Jesuits the specific assignment of destroying Protestantism and bringing people back to the Mother Church. This was to be done not only through the Inquisition and through torture, but also through theology.

The Jesuits were also commissioned by the Pope to develop a new interpretation of Scripture that would counteract the Protestant application of the

# Bible's Antichrist prophecies to the Roman Catholic Church.

Enter Spanish Jesuit priest Francisco de Ribera, SJ (1537–1591), and Italian cardinal Robert Bellarmine, SJ (1542–1621). In 1585, de Ribera published a lengthy commentary on the Book of Revelation entitled In beati Ioannis Apostoli, and evangelistiae sacrum Apocalypsin commentarij, in which he claimed that the first few Chapters of the book applied to ancient pagan Rome and that the rest of Revelation would take place sometime in the far future, during the final three and a half literal years immediately before the final coming of YAHSHUA Jesus the Christ to this earth. At about the same time, Italian cardinal Robert Bellarmine, SJ, published a book with similar claims (Disputationes de

controversiis Christianae fidei or Polemic Lectures Concerning the Disputed Points of the Christian Belief against the Heretics of This Time). This was the beginning of the **Futurist Approach**. However, no Protestant would touch this **View** for 200 to 300 years because they knew it was invented to protect the Pope and the Papacy.

#### So, how did **Futurism** spread?

In 1826, Dr. Samuel Roffey Maitland (1792–1866), the librarian to the archbishop of Canterbury (the archbishop of Canterbury is to the Church of England what the Pope is to the Roman Catholic Church) read Francisco de Ribera's book and published a widely read book attacking the Reformation and supporting de Ribera's idea of a future one-man Antichrist. So, after Dr. Maitland's book became a hit, came James H. Todd, a professor of Hebrew at the University of Dublin, who accepted the Futuristic ideas of Maitland, publishing his own supportive pamphlets and books.

Steve Wohlberg in his article, Left Behind by the Jesuits, states:

The much-respected Scottish Presbyterian minister, Edward Irving (1792–1834), the acknowledged forerunner of both the Pentecostal and Charismatic Movements, turned to the prophecies and eventually accepted the one-man Antichrist idea of Maitland, Bellarmine, and Ribera, yet he went a step further. Somewhere around 1830, Edward Irving began to teach the unique idea of a two-phase being a secret Rapture prior to the rise of the Antichrist. Where he got this idea is a matter of much dispute.

Steve Gregg stated that John Nelson Darby (1800– 1882) of the Plymouth Brethren, the Father of Modern Dispensationalism in 1830, incorporated this view as part of his Dispensational system, which was then carried throughout England and into America initially, and then wherever American missionaries went.

Once this view reached America, Cyrus Ingerson Scofield (1843–1921) incorporated this into his famous Scofield Reference Bible in 1909.

Wohlberg states:

This Bible became so popular in American Protestant Bible schools that it was necessary to

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print literally millions of copies. This, combined with the Moody Bible Institute and the Dallas Theological Seminary strong support of the teachings of John Nelson Darby, have also continued to fuel **Futurism's** growth.

Because of the link between de Ribera, Bellarmine, Maitland, Todd, Irving, Darby, and Scofield, **Futurism** is now the most dominant, popular view of the Book of Revelation. This is a fact based on Babylonian church history. This is not controversial; it is universally known.

Steve Gregg states the following disadvantages with

## **Futurism**:

 It makes the Book of Revelation 90% irrelevant to Christians. IF Christians are going to be Raptured in Revelation 4:1, THEN the rest of the Book you might as well not worry about. It is irrelevant to us!

- 2. It makes it irrelevant to the original readers. Why write an Epistle to First Century Christians who are suffering now about things thousands of years into the future?
- 3. It does not adequately recognize the symbolic character of Apocalyptic literature.

**Futurists** have a really bad time with the following statements:

### 1. **Revelation 1:1:**

"The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto Him, to shew unto His servant **things**  which must shortly come to pass; and He sent and signified it by His angel unto His servant John."

## 2. **Revelation 1:3:**

"Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written herein: **for the time is at hand**."

## 3. **Revelation 1:19:**

"Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and **the things which shall be hereafter.**"

#### 4. **Revelation 22:10:**

"And he saith unto me, Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand."

This is in contrast to Daniel 12:4 which states, "As for thee, Daniel, shut up these words and seal the Book till the time of accomplishment; until many be taught and knowledge abound." John is told not to seal the Book of Revelation because it is for your generation; whereas Daniel is told to seal his Book because it is not for his generation. With regard to John's prophecy, it's coming NOW; it's HERE! There is urgency in the Book of Revelation.

The **Historicist Approach** states that the Book of Revelation covers **all of church history** from John's Day to the Second Coming of YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ. This view holds to the principle of a year for a day (i.e., the number of days equals the number of years). So, where is this theory in the Bible?

#### Numbers Chapter 13, Verse 25 states:

"They [the children of Israel (i.e., the spies)] returned from searching the land [Canaan] after **forty days**." Because the children of Israel ultimately rebelled against Father YAHWEH, according to Numbers Chapter 14, Verses 33 and 34 state that Father YAHWEH decreed:

"And your children shall wander in the wilderness forty years, and bear your whoredoms, until your carcasses be wasted in the wilderness. After the number of the days in which ye searched the land, even forty days, <u>each day for a year</u>, shall ye bear your iniquities, even forty years, and ye shall know my breach of promise."

#### **Ezekiel Chapter 4, Verses 4 through 8 states:**

Father YAHWEH told Ezekiel to "lie thou also upon thy left side and lay the iniquity of the House of Israel upon it: according to the number of the days that thou shalt lie upon it thou shalt bear their iniquity. For I have laid upon thee the years of their iniquity, according to the number of days, three hundred and ninety days: so shalt thou bear the iniquity of the House of Israel. And when thou hast accomplished them, lie again on thy right side, and thou shalt bear the iniquity of the House of Judah forty days: <u>I have appointed thee each day</u> for a year. Therefore, thou shalt set thy face toward the

siege of Jerusalem, and thine arm shall be uncovered, and thou shalt prophesy against it. And behold, I will lay bands upon thee, and thou shalt not turn thee from one side to another, till thou hast ended the days of thy siege."

YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, in Luke Chapter 13, Verses 32 and 33 confirmed this day for a year principle by describing his three-year ministry as "today, tomorrow, and the third day."

Also, if we compare Revelation Chapter 12, Verse 6 with Revelation Chapter 12, Verse 14, we find that "a thousand two hundred and three score days" are the same as "a time, and times, and half a time," showing that "three and a half times" equals "1,260 days." Thus, each time must be 360 days based on Father YAHWEH's Calendar.

Furthermore, Revelation Chapter 13, Verse 5 speaks of "forty and two months," which also adds up to 1,260 days or three and a half years when we use thirty-day months. Revelation Chapter 13, Verse 5 can be compared to Daniel Chapter 7, Verse 25, which also states 1,260 days as, "time and times and the dividing of time." Thus, we know that the Seven Times Punishment decreed by Father YAHWEH for Israel in Leviticus Chapter 26, Verses 18, 21, 24, 28, and 33, equals seven times 360 or 2,520 days.

Also, the Hebrew Aramaic weight system that was used in Neo-Babylon in Daniel Chapter 5, Verses 25 through 28, define the same amount of punishment: According to Exodus Chapter 30, Verse 12 and Numbers Chapter 3, Verse 47, a Shekel was twenty Gerahs, and Gerahs were the least common multiple of Menes, which were 1,000 Gerahs each; Tekels or Shekels were 20 Gerahs each; and Upharsins or Peres were 500 Gerahs each.

So, according to Daniel Chapter 5, Verses 25 through 28, the words "Mene, Mene, Tekel, Upharsin," equaled 1,000, 1,000, 20, and 500, which meant "numbered, numbered, weighed, and divided," thus, a total of 2,520 Gerahs of punishment when the Kingdom of Israel was divided into two Houses.

Father YAHWEH decreed a day for a year prophetically for **the House of Israel, the House of Judah, as well as for Babylon**. But there was something added to the day for a year. Father YAHWEH would judge His people, Israel, and her enemies, **seven times**.

#### Leviticus Chapter 26, Verse 18 states:

Father YAHWEH stated, "And <u>if</u> ye [Israel] will not yet for all this hearken unto Me, <u>then</u> I will punish you seven times more for your sins."

### Leviticus Chapter 26, Verse 21 states:

Father YAHWEH stated, "And <u>if</u> ye will walk contrary unto Me, and will not hearken unto me; **I will bring seven times more plagues upon you according to your sins**."

#### Leviticus Chapter 26, Verse 24 states:

Father YAHWEH stated, "Then will I also walk contrary unto you, and **will punish you yet seven times for your sins**."

#### Leviticus Chapter 26, Verse 28 states:

Father YAHWEH stated, "Then I will walk contrary to you also in fury; and I, even I, **will chastise you seven times for your sins**."

Leviticus Chapter 26, Verse 33 states: Father YAHWEH stated, "And I will scatter you among the heathen [goy = nations], and your land shall be desolate, and your cities waste."

Jeremiah Chapter 25, Verses 12 through 14 state: Father YAHWEH stated, "And it shall come to pass, when seventy years are accomplished, that <u>I will punish</u> <u>the king of Babylon, and that nation</u> saith the Lord, for their iniquity, and the land of the Chaldeans, and will make it perpetual desolations. And I will bring upon that land all my words which I have pronounced **against it, even all that is written in this Book, which Jeremiah hath prophesied against all the nations**. For many nations and great kings shall serve themselves of them also: and I will recompense them according to their deeds, and according to the works of their own hands."

So, instead of <u>seven times</u> being <u>seven years of</u> <u>punishment</u>, we have <u>2,520 years punishment of</u> <u>Israel</u>. So, let's count Israel's seven times' punishment, which coincides with Luke Chapter 21, Verse 24's "the times of the Gentiles," when Wild Beast Gentile Nations ruled the world. By the way, when crossing from B.C. to A.D. dates, it is necessary to add a year to the figure since there is no year 0.

According to First Kings Chapter 12, Verses 25 through 29, in about 931 B.C., King Jeroboam, who is a

type of Antichrist, instituted idol worship statewide in Israel, separated from the House of David, and established the worship of the golden calves. Now 2,520 years from 931 B.C. brings us to 1589 A.D. plus oneyear equals the year **1590**. The defeat of the Spanish Armada in 1588 began the decline of Catholicism's idol worship. The Puritans fled from Britain to Holland in 1593.

In 745 B.C., Tiglath-Pileser (called Put in the Bible in Second Kings Chapter 15, Verses 19 and 20, and First Chronicles Chapter 5, Verse 26, the king of Assyria, began the first invasion against Israel in the reign of Menahem. Tiglath-Pileser III of Assyria (745 B.C. to 727 B.C.) forced Menahem in 744 B.C. and Pekahiah in 738 B.C. to pay tribute.

From 745 B.C., we add **2,520 years** to get to 1775 plus 1 equals the year **1776**, the very year that the American Declaration of Independence was signed, and Americans no longer paid tribute.

According to Second Kings Chapter 15, Verse 20, in 740 B.C., Tiglath-Pileser began the second invasion against Israel in the reign of Pekah. According to Second Kings Chapter 15, Verse 29, he invaded the northern region of the land of Naphtali and Galilee, coming down south to the level of the Sea of Galilee, where he turned eastward and invaded the eastern portion of Israel, known as Transjordan, which reached southward nearly to the level of the Dead Sea. According to First Chronicles Chapter 5, Verse 26, "The Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half-tribe of Manasseh" were brought "unto Hala, and Habor, and Hara, and to the River Gozan, unto this day." Obviously, they did not return to Palestine after the 70 years of the Captivity of Judah since First Chronicles was written after that event.

From 740 B.C., we add **2,520 years** to get to 1780 plus 1 equals the year **1781**. This was the year that the Articles of Confederation were ratified and adopted by the original thirteen states, making the first Constitution of the United States. Americans (Manasseh) were now united. They had been divided into exactly **2,520 years** before. Cornwallis surrendered at Yorktown on October 19, 1781, also, which rapidly brought the war to a close soon thereafter.

According to Isaiah Chapter 9, Verse 1, these first two invasions of Israel were fulfilled: "At the first, he lightly afflicted the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali [the first invasion] and afterwards, he did more grievously afflict her by the way of the sea, beyond Jordan, in Galilee of the nations [the second invasion].

According to Second Kings Chapter 17, Verses 3 through 5, from 721 to 718 B.C., Shalmaneser, whose commander in chief was Sargon, besieged the reign of Hoshea. Second Kings Chapter 17, Verse 6 states, "In the ninth year of Hoshea the king of Assyria took Samaria, and carried Israel away into Assyria, and placed them in Halah and Habor by the river of Gozan, in the cities of the Medes." This invasion terminated the Kingdom of Israel. According to Sargon's Assyrian Inscription, twenty-seven thousand two hundred and eighty Israelites were led away captive. But Sargon did not remove the entire nation of Israelites. Please see Second Kings Chapter 18, Verses 9 through 12; Second Chronicles Chapters 30 through 31 and 34; cp. Hosea Chapter 1, Verses 4 through 6.

From 721 B.C., we add **2,520 years** to get to 1799 plus 1 equals the year **1800**. Samaria, the capital city of the Northern Kingdom, was destroyed in 721 B.C. and **2,520 years** later saw the building of Washington DC in 1800.

Also, on **October 1, 1800**, Spain gave France the Louisiana Territory. The United States under President

Thomas Jefferson purchased this territory in **1803** (718 B.C. plus **2,520 years**) from Napoleon. Thomas Jefferson bought 827,987 square miles of land from France for about \$15 million. That was just under four cents per acre. Israel's land had been lost to Assyria exactly **2,520 years** before. Just as Reuben anciently lost the birthright, so again in **1803**, he sold to Joseph the birthright of rich farmland.

This very year, **1800**, was also when England, Scotland, and Ireland united to become "Great Britain." These Ephraimites and Judahites had been divided in 721 B.C. because the Assyrians left the Kingdom of Judah alone and only invaded the Kingdom of Israel. Except for "gleaning grapes" from the ten tribes, there was none left, but the Tribe [Kingdom] of Judah only. The Act of Union of Great Britain and Ireland occurred on **January 1, 1801**, to become the United Kingdom, ruled over by a descendant of King David. England's war ended with France in 1801 after General Abercrombie defeated the French Army at Alexandria.

From 721 to 718 B.C., Israel was besieged by Shalmaneser of Assyria and taken captive. Ezekiel, over a century later in 593 B.C. (Ezekiel 1:2), prophesied that this captivity would last 390 years (Ezekiel 4:3-5), which brought us to 331 B.C., when Medo-Persia was conquered by Alexander the Great, who defeated Darius first at Issus and then at Arbela and Gaugamela, all in the same year. The House of Israel gained its freedom as a Scythian nation after **390 years** of slavery to successive gentile powers and started migrating to Scotland.

According to Second Kings Chapter 18, Verse 13, we read that "Sennacherib, King of Assyria" came "up against all the fenced cities of Judah and took them." There were forty-six fortified cities from which 200,150 Judahites were taken captive in around 700 B.C. Now if we added 2,520 years to 700 B.C., we would come to 1820 plus 1 equals the year 1821, when there was a fiscal union and amalgamation of the currencies of Great Britain and Ireland. Scotland and Northern Ireland, which were partly Judahite. Also, Jutes had settled in Kent and the Isle of Wright together with adjacent parts of Hampshire.

According to Second Kings Chapter 17, Verse 24, in 677 B.C., Esarhaddon, the son of Sennacherib, invaded Judah and the remnant of Israel when they were ruled by

Assyrian and replaced them with governor an Samaritans. The fulfillment for Judah came in 1844, when the sultan of Turkey was forced by the powers to give religious liberty to the Judahites 2,520 years from the overthrow of Judah. For Israel, this invasion fulfilled Hosea 1:6 that stated, "I will no more have mercy upon the House of Israel, but I will utterly take them away." As Isaiah 7:8 stated, "Within three score and five years shall Ephraim be broken that it be not a people." This was uttered about 742 B.C., making 677 B.C. 65 years later as prophesied by Hosea in Chapter 1, Verse 4. According to Isaiah Chapter 10, Verse 14, there was left in the nest "none that moved the wing, or opened the mouth, or peeped."

From 677 B.C., we add **2,520 years** to get 1843 plus 1 equals the year 1844. One year later, in 1845, the United States annexed the Texas territory, which included large parts of New Mexico, Colorado, Kansas, and Oklahoma, as well as what would be known as Texas today. In 1846, the Pacific Northwest was given to the United States by Great Britain via treaty. In 1848, the acquired California, Nevada, Utah, United States Arizona, and more from Mexico through cession. In 1853, the United States bought a relatively small slice of land known as the Gadsden Purchase. Then in 1867, Alaska was purchased from Russia for \$7.2 million, which was two cents per acre. In 1898, Hawaii was annexed. Just as 677 B.C. started a slow, snowballing, cumulative collapse of Israel, which took some time to

accomplish, so the United States began a slow rise to great wealth beginning in **1844**. In ancient times, it took years to besiege cities, transport armies and populations, and plunder and remove booty and take possession of the land.

In summation, a biblical year is 360 days, a day for a year, seven times' judgment by Father YAHWEH:

360 days x 7 = 2,520 years Sound familiar?
360 days x 3.5 = 1,260 years Sound familiar?
From a Historicist viewpoint, prophecy is always
viewed in years, not days. So, let us see what happens:

The House of Israel was taken captive by the Assyrians from 745 to 721 B.C.

If we add 2,520 years to 745 B.C., then we would

come to 1775 plus 1 equals the year 1776.

What happened in **1776**?

The birth of the United States of America (Manasseh).

If we add 2,520 years to 721 B.C., then we would

come to 1799 plus 1 equals the year **1800**.

What happened in **1800**?

## The birth of Great Britain (Ephraim).

The House of Judah was taken captive by the Babylonians in 604 B.C.

If we add 2,520 years to 604 B.C., then we would

come to 1916 plus 1 equals the year 1917.

What happened in **1917**?

On November 2, 1917, the Balfour Declaration was issued to Lord Rothschild.

On December 30, 1917, General Allenby took Jerusalem, which came under British (Ephraim) mandate.

The Kingdom of Babylon took the House of Judah captive in 604 B.C.

If we add **2,520 years** to 604 B.C., then we would come to 1916 plus 1 equals the year **1917**.

What happened in **1917**?

Mystery Babylon came on the scene.

The Jewish Bolshevik Revolution took over Christian Russia, killing over sixty-six million Christians during their revolution. So far, which Eschatological Approach do you think should be followed? Obviously, the Historicist Approach comes the closest to proving Bible Prophecy as His Story Unfolds!

## **The Preterist Approach**

The word *Preterist* means "fulfilled in the past." Most **Preterists** argue that Bible prophecy was fulfilled with the destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple in 70 A.D., while some have applied it to the Fall of the Western Roman Empire in 476 A.D.

It is said that the **Preterist View** had a similar beginning as the **Future View**. Spanish Jesuit Priest Luis de Alcasar (1554–1613) published a Book titled, *Vestigatio Arcani Sensus in Apocalypsi*, in which he proposed that all of the Book of Revelation applies to the era of Pagan Rome and to the first six centuries of Christianity.

According to Pastor W. J. Mencarow:

"The question becomes, why would two Jesuit priests put forth two different eschatological views, when both had to receive permission from the Pope himself to write their Books. Well, the answer is that the Pope did not care that the Books he authorized directly contradicted each other. All he cared about was the one thing they had in common: The divine supremacy of the Papal office. Here is the key: IF the Book of Revelation is about events during ancient Roman rule (as taught by Preterist De Alcazar) or events at the very end of time (as taught by the Futurists De Ribera and Bellarmine), then its

cannon, as the Protestant Reformers said, teach that the Beast of Revelation is the Roman Catholic Church and the Antichrist is the Papacy.

So, there are two interpretations of the Book of Revelation that have been put forth by the Jesuits. Are they correct, and can anyone trust them? No, because they are **the fruit of a very bad tree**.

## **The Idealistic Approach**

The Idealistic Approach, a.k.a. the Spiritual View, uses the allegorical method to interpret the Book of Revelation, which has been introduced by Origen (AD 185–254) and made prominent by Augustine (AD 354– 420). According to this approach, the events of the Book of Revelation are not tied to specific historical events. The other views try to assign a time of fulfillment of the prophecies either in the future or in the past or spread out over the whole age of the church era.

In conclusion, each approach, and combinations thereof, are held by Christians everywhere. All the approaches have been around for quite some time now, and all of them have smart, Godly people who hold them. For example, in America, the most popular approach is the Futuristic Approach, while in Canada and England, the most popular view is the Idealistic Approach. I have personally found that **Ecclesias** outside the Western world hold to the **Historicist Approach**.

With all that being said, there is more than enough proof that Father YAHWEH works using multiple fulfillments with regard to Bible prophecy in general. Of course, there are specific prophecies that have been or will be fulfilled; but we, as His creation, cannot put the Creator in the box. **He is outside of time.** 

It is my honest opinion that the correct view of Prophetic Interpretation overall is the Historicist **Approach**. However, with that being said, even though the Jesuits have come up with the Preterist and Futurist Views and Origen and Augustine have spiritualized the Bible, I can see their points of view as well. Remember, the House of Israel, the House of Judah, and the Kingdom of Babylon have been judged from a Historicist Eschatological Viewpoint. Will Father YAHWEH yet judge them again seven times in days (2,520/1,260)?

Or rather, are we at the end?

According to S. Douglas Woodward's book, **Rebooting the Bible:** 

The King James Version was created using the Masoretic Text (MT), and therefore, was corrupted long before today. It happened nineteen centuries ago. This corruption was intentional. It was carried out by those rabbis who survived the destruction of Herod's Temple. Roman authorities granted them permission to create an academy in the town of Jamnia (Javneh), on the coast near Tel Aviv. There, changes were made to the original Old Testament, that focused on two areas: First, the Messianic passages of the Old Testament; and secondly, two chronologies in Genesis, Chapter 5 and 11 . . . The rabbis, headed by Rabbi Akiba ben Yosef, sought to

recreate Judaism while at the same time quashing the rival cult known as Christianity. Rabbinic authorities decided to obscure specific passages that supported Christian evangelists who preached Jesus of Nazareth was the promised Messiah.

Woodward continues:

At Jamnia, these rabbis created an alternate Vorlage, or original scripture, from which a new Greek translation would be created that contradicted the Greek Septuagint, hoping to replace this Greek Bible used by Christian apostles and teachers, especially for the Jewish communities globally. After three centuries had elapsed, and with some help from the Christian patrons Origen and later Jerome, the rabbis ultimately succeeded, at least to a meaningful extent. This would lead to one Latin and three new Greek versions based upon this Vorlage. The "revised" Vorlage differed from the original Bible, compiled (so tradition tells us) by Ezra and then safeguarded by Nehemiah and the other courageous Jews (Judahites) that returned from the Babylonian Empire in the Fifth Century B.C. (circa 445 B.C.) This new rabbinic (corrupted) Hebrew Vorlage was created about 100 A.D., while the later Greek versions were originated before the end of the Second Century A.D., and the Latin Vulgate, 400 A.D. The Septuagint's approximately Pentateuch was finished 380 years before the Rabbinic Vorlage and 680 years before the Vulgate.

You see, the Septuagint had been translated in Alexandria, Egypt, from the authentic Hebrew Vorlage brought from Jerusalem for the translation. Why did the Hebrew Vorlage differ? For the rabbis, the prophecies concerning the Messiah as translated in the Septuagint easily applied to Jesus. They rejected Jesus as the Messiah. Nevertheless, Christians believed it was obvious that Jesus had fulfilled the prophecies of Moses, David, Isaiah, and the other ancient prophets. additionally, because the tradition of the Jews held that the Messiah would arrive near the time Jesus appeared on the scene, the timing of the Messiah's arrival had to be altered so that Jesus would not be identified as the Christ. Thus, over one thousand five hundred

years (1,500) were cut from the original Genesis genealogies and chronologies. And another 130 years or so were deleted by the rabbis in the timing laid out in Daniel's prophecy of the 70 Weeks of Years. Their efforts amount to a conspiracy to disqualify Jesus as the Christ. To accomplish this, Rabbi Akiva and his disciples at Jamnia obscured the Messianic prophecies and the chronology of Genesis from Adam to Abraham. Given the New Testament authors used the Septuagint 90% of the time when quoting the Old Testament, perhaps ironically, Christianity preserved the meaning of the original Hebrew in these specific passages.

If this is the case, then where are we in the timeline when it comes to Bible prophecy? Are we closer to the Gog/Magog War of Ezekiel 38 and 39 than we think? Some scholars put it at the end of the millennium, when **Satan is loosed for a season**. And what does **Satan** really mean? Who is **our adversary** today?

The sixth seal has not happened yet, but the other five seals have been occurring since the Crucifixion and increasing in numbers and magnitudes. When one does a word study on unripened figs, one can find out the timing of the Sixth Seal. We are getting very close; just ask any seismologist noncorrupt and volcanist. Father YAHWEH did not leave us out in the cold. Let us use our time wisely with the great electronic tools that we have today and find out the literal meaning of Father YAHWEH's Word instead of spiritualizing it. That way, we will be prepared as Father YAHWEH wants us to be.

## **LET'S PRAY!**

We thank You Father YAHWEH for the Bread of Life that we have received today! We also thank You for opening up our ears to hear and our eyes to see Your Word! I pray for all of our brothers and sisters and their families Whom You have brought here today, as well as those watching online! May Your Name be Blessed Among All the Nations! I pray all this in the Name of Our Lord and Savior, YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ! AMEN! **Please receive the Benediction:** 

May the peace of God which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of His Son Jesus Christ our Lord: and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you and remain with you always! AMEN!