

Three World Ages – Understanding God’s Creation from Beginning to End

By Steve Barwick

Have you ever wished you could see into the future or travel back into time to see the past? How would you like to better understand *why* you’re here now, *where* you’re going next and *what* it will be like when you get there?

When properly understood, your heavenly Father’s Word allows you to do just that. It unveils the ancient *past* for you, all of the way back to the time when God originally created the heavens and the earth...created animals like the great dinosaurs...and created *you* and all of His other children, too. It explains the *present*, and reveals why you’re here now. And it opens up the *future*, and shows you what’s to come so you’ll know exactly what to expect, and what path you want to be on in the meantime.

In that light, the Bible is clear that there are *three* distinct world ages. It reveals that you were originally created in the *first* one. You’re merely passing through this present *second* world age for a very brief period of time. And you’ll dwell eternally in the *third* world age, yes, right here on this earth with your heavenly Father.

In the course of this study, I’ll demonstrate all of this to you, through the Scriptures. Indeed, you’ll learn about:

- **The First World Age:** The first world age is also known as the “world that then was” as St. Peter refers to it in II Peter 3:6. In this study, you’ll discover that all of God’s children – that’s you, me and *all* of the rest -- lived with our heavenly Father in the first world age. But we dwelt in *spiritual* or angelic bodies rather than flesh bodies. And we had access to both the spiritual dimension where our heavenly Father dwells, as well as the flesh dimension where the animals dwelt. As you’ll learn in this study, it was a time of great happiness and joy for all of God’s children, until Satan rebelled, deceived one-third of God’s children and led them against God’s throne in an effort to overthrow it. At that point in time, our heavenly Father destroyed everything in that first world age, and started over with this second world age. The earth is the same. But as you’ll see later in this study, through the Scriptures, everything that had been built up in that first world age was destroyed in what the New Testament refers to as the *katabole*, or overthrow.
- **The Second World Age:** The destruction of the first world age by our heavenly Father at Satan’s rebellion led to the establishment of the second world age, which is to say, this *present* world age you now live in. It’s also referred to by some as the flesh world age, because each of God’s children must pass *one time only* out of the spiritual dimension and into the physical dimension to dwell in flesh bodies for a short while, in order to make up our minds *without remembrance of the events of the previous age*, whether we want to serve God or to serve Satan. And quite frankly, we must pass through this flesh age to experience disease, decay and death in order that we might learn to better appreciate the gift of eternal life offered by our heavenly Father.

- **The Third World Age:** And finally, there's the third world age. That's the final, *eternal* world age – also known as the eternal Kingdom of God. The third world age is still to come. And it will not be ushered in until after Christ's second advent and after the completion of the 1,000 year "millennium" teaching period known as "the Lord's day" which directly follows His second advent. Once the Lord has arrived and the millennium teaching period has been completed, and all of God's children have had a chance to be thoroughly disciplined in God's Word without interference from Satan or encumbrance from the empty religious traditions of man, then and *only* then will this second world age pass away, and the third world age – the *eternal* age – will begin.

In this study we're going to take a wide-ranging look at what the Scriptures actually say about each and every one of the three world ages and their place in the Plan of God to save His children.

You'll learn more about why the first world age ended...why we have to pass through this second world age in the flesh...how and why this second world age will end...when the third world age will begin, as well as who gets to enter into it. And finally, you'll learn what we have waiting for us in that third and final world age, which is the eternal age of God.

What's So Important About the Three World Ages?

The three world ages are a foundational Biblical issue which must be understood or the remainder of God's Word will simply *never* make complete sense to you. This is true, particularly in light of science.

When you study your Father's Word in-depth, with understanding, you'll find that with the exception of the theory of evolution, the Bible agrees more with science than it is purported to disagree. You'll learn that not only is this earth millions of years old, for example, but it's here for the duration, meaning, as you'll see later in this study, it's *never* going to end. So much for the doomsayers.

Your heavenly Father's kingdom *began* here, will *return* here, and will *remain* here for all of the eternity. After all, as the Scriptures foretell, the full Godhead is returning to this earth (Revelation 21:3). And wherever God is, there you'll find His eternal Kingdom, which is to say, the King and His Dominion. They go hand-in-hand with each other.

I'll document all of this for you throughout this study. And much more, to boot.

Part I: Science, the Bible, the Creation and the Overthrow

Many scientists turn to atheism because they're told by Biblically illiterate preachers that the Bible says this earth is only 6,000 years old. Scientists know for a fact the earth is WAY older than 6,000 years. So they reject the Bible – and sadly, in many cases, they ultimately reject God -- because they know the 6,000 years figure is bogus.

But the Bible *doesn't* say earth is only 6,000 years old. Religionists just misinterpret it. And the misinterpretations then become church *traditions* that are staunchly defended, even though they're demonstrably false.

What the Bible actually says is that earth is *eons* old. But there was a world age *before* this present one. And most of the age on this old planet is from that ancient past time. That first world age was overthrown some 14,000 years ago, as you'll see later in this study, in what can only be termed as a giant cataclysm. So this *present* world age in which flesh man dwells is only about 14,000 years old, tops. Yet the earth itself is *millions* of years old, and again, the bulk of that age occurred during the time of the *first* world age.

Now I know this information flies in the face of just about everything taught in the modern church regarding the creation. So I ask you to bear with me throughout this study and allow me to document it for you, point-by-point, through the Scriptures themselves. You might be surprised at some of the things easily found in the Scriptures that your preachers have failed to tell you about.

With that in mind, let's take a closer look at what the Bible actually says about the creation of the first world age, and its overthrow. And what better place to start than "in the beginning" at Genesis 1:1.

Gen 1:1 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

The phrase "in the beginning" is translated from the Hebrew word *reshiyth* (Strong's H-7225) meaning, "the first" in order of things

In other words, this verse doesn't say *when* our heavenly Father created the heaven and earth. It just says He did. And He did it "in the beginning," which is to say, properly translated, "at the first."

So in order to fully understand the creation, you have to know there was a *first world age* before this present second world age in which we now live. It was that first world age that God created in Genesis 1:1. If you don't understand that, you'll most certainly misunderstand the remainder of Genesis chapters one and two, and much of the rest of the Bible.

The next verse in Genesis chapter one goes on to tell us that the first world age was destroyed. It says:

Gen 1:2 And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.

Now the modern churches will try to tell you that this verse says when God created the earth in verse one, He created it "without form and void" and full of darkness. In other words, He created earth as a dark and vast wasteland. But does that really sound like our heavenly Father to you?

Once again, this is a commonly misinterpreted verse. And unfortunately, the misinterpretation is specifically designed to make the Scriptures conform to vain church traditions about the creation of this earth being only 6,000 years old, rather than believing what the Word actually says about it, which is that the earth is literally *eons* old.

Let's dig a little deeper into this verse, and learn more. And in the process you'll see what I'm talking about. The word "was" in the verse above is the Hebrew word *hayah* (Strong's H-1961), and in this context it means "to become."

H1961

הָיָה

hâyâh

haw-yaw'

A primitive root (compare [H1933](#)); to *exist*, that is, *be* or *become*, *come to pass* (always emphatic, and not a mere copula or auxiliary): - beacon, X altogether, be (-come, accomplished, committed, like), break, cause, come (to pass), continue, do, faint, fall, + follow, happen, X have, last, pertain, quit (one-) self, require, X use.

In other words, properly translated, without church tradition thrown in to muddle it up, the first sentence of this verse should read, "And the earth *became* without form, and void, and darkness was upon the face of the deep."

Indeed, in Genesis 1:2 above, the phrase "without form, and void" is translated from the Hebrew words *tohu va bohu* (Strong's H-8414 and H-922) which simply means "an empty, desolate waste."

The earth "became" (i.e., *hayah*) "an empty, desolate waste" (i.e., *tohu va bohu*) in verse two, well AFTER it had been created in verse one.

And as you'll learn in the very next part of this study, it had been created *fully inhabited* and teeming with life. But as you'll see in later parts of this study, all of that life was destroyed when Satan rebelled against God's throne and led one-third of God's children against Him.

Additional Scriptural Clues

In Isaiah 45:18, we learn that when God originally created the earth, He created it completely *inhabited*.

In other words, this verse verifies that God *didn't* create the earth as an empty, desolate wasteland. He created it full of life, i.e., trees, birds, plants and animals of all kinds. It was a lush paradise.

Isa 45:18 For thus saith the LORD that created the heavens; God himself that formed the earth and made it; he hath established it, **he created it not in vain, he formed it to be inhabited**: I am the LORD; and there is none else.

In the above Scripture, God identifies Himself as the Creator of the heavens and the One who formed and established the earth. He's the authority on it, folks. And He says He did not create the earth "in vain" (i.e., yes, this is the same Hebrew word *tohu*; the very same word used in Genesis 1:2, meaning *desolate*).

In other words, this old earth was *not* created as a desolate wasteland. But sometime after the creation, it *became* one.

The point being this: In the verse above, God Himself says "When I created this earth, I did not create it desolate. I created it to be inhabited."

So clearly, you're to understand that in Genesis 1:1, where God created the heaven and the earth, meaning the *first* world age, there were birds, fish, snakes, lizards, bugs, plants, trees, you name it, here on this inhabited earth. In fact, as you'll see very shortly in this study, there were dinosaurs and other large creatures, too.

And *we* were there too, meaning all of God's children. We were part of that original creation, though we were in *angelic* bodies at that time (as you'll see, shortly), and *not* flesh bodies.

We even had *cities* on this earth during that first world age, which you'll learn about when we take a look at Jeremiah chapter four in just a few minutes.

But first, let's take a look at the great book of Job, so we can see that God's children – that's you, me and the rest -- lived with Him in that first world age, along with the dinosaurs and all of God's other great creatures of that time.

Our Happy Life in the First World Age

Yes, even the great book of Job documents the fact that in the first world age God and *all* of His children lived happily together for millions of years, in spiritual bodies, i.e., angelic bodies.

It was basically heaven on earth. We had access to both the heavenly realm (or, perhaps better stated, the *spiritual dimension*) as well as to the earthly realm (or, *earthly dimension*) in which the dinosaurs and other flesh animals dwelt. And we populated both realms.

God spoke of this to Job, in the great book of Job:

Job 38:4 Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding.

Do *you* have understanding? You'll note that the subject of this verse is the "foundations of the earth." The phrase "foundations of the earth" in the original Hebrew language is *erets yasad* (Strong's H-776 and H-3245) meaning to "set the earth" or to "found the earth."

In other words, that's when God literally created the earth and set it in place. It's referring to the "in the beginning" spoken of in Genesis 1:1 when our heavenly Father laid the very foundations of the earth, creating it not *tohu va bohu* (i.e., without form, and void) but instead, abounding with life.

In short, our heavenly Father is speaking here of the first world age. And He's asking Job if he understands that first world age.

Job 38:5 Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? or who hath stretched the line upon it?

God wants to know if Job understands what it was like when He first measured everything out, setting the very foundations of this earth in order.

Job 38:6 Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof;

God asks Job, "Do you know how I fastened the earth in place, and what keeps it securely in its place?"

Job 38:7 When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?

There you have it. When God originally laid the very foundations of this earth, which is to say, when He created the first world age, "the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy."

That means God's children populated that age. And it was a very happy and joyous time. The "morning stars" are the ministering angels which carry forth God's Word to the rest of His children (see Revelation 1:20, where the "seven stars" are described as the "angels of the seven churches"). And "the sons of God" are the remainder of His children, the angels, of which there are literally billions.

We all shouted for joy with our heavenly Father at His creation, because everything was *perfect* in that first world age, for a long time. There was no pain, no disease, no aging, no tears, no warfare, no death, and no disruptions of any kind. Just joy and perfection and peace and life eternal. Right up to the time of the great upheaval, which we'll discuss shortly.

God further told Job about the dinosaurs He had created in that first world age, such as the "behemoth," which is the great Brontosaurus-like creature that was the largest and strongest of all of His creatures in that age. Let's take a look:

Job 40:15 Behold now behemoth, which I made with thee; he eateth grass as an ox. This Brontosaurus-like creature was not a meat eater. He was a plant eater.

Don't miss the fact stated in that verse that God made the behemoth "with thee," meaning He made this creature *at the same time He made Job*.

Now we know there were no dinosaurs in Job's time. Job lived some 1600 years before Christ's first advent, which means about 3,600 years ago.

So by deduction, God *must* be talking about the first world age. God made the behemoth in the first world age. And that's when He made all of His children, too. That means Job, me, you and all of the others.

So the dinosaurs were here on this earth, and so were all of God's children – you, me and the rest -- in the first world age.

Job 40:16 Lo now, his strength is in his loins, and his force is in the navel of his belly.

The behemoth God made in that first world age was extremely strong, due to his great size.

Job 40:17 He moveth his tail like a cedar: the sinews of his stones are wrapped together.

He had a tail as large as a cedar tree, and the huge muscles needed to move that tail connected at his groin.

Job 40:18 His bones are as strong pieces of brass; his bones are like bars of iron.

His bones were extremely strong, because they had to hold up such a large body mass.

Job 40:19 He is the chief of the ways of God: he that made him can make his sword to approach unto him.

He was the largest of God's creatures, and so great in size and strength only God Himself could approach him safely.

Job 40:20 Surely the mountains bring him forth food, where all the beasts of the field play.

Earth was a lush paradise at that time, and there were *many* different kinds of beasts in the field.

Job 40:21 He lieth under the shady trees, in the covert of the reed, and ferns.

Job 40:22 The shady trees cover him with their shadow; the willows of the brook compass him about.

The Brontosaurus-like creature preferred to dwell among the great shade trees next to the river banks and brooks.

Job 40:23 Behold, he drinketh up a river, and hasteth not: he trusteth that he can draw up Jordan into his mouth.

He was so large that when he drank water from the river, it seemed like he could drink up the entire river. And he drank at his leisure because his size left him nothing to fear, unlike smaller animals that would come down to the river to drink and would have to watch out for the larger animals.

Job 40:24 He taketh it with his eyes: his nose pierceth through snares.

If he latched onto something visually and wanted it, he just went for it, and took it; if there were any snares or traps in the way, he was so large he just busted right through them

So God's Word lets us know of that first world age, and the great creatures He had created for the physical dimension of that time. Again, flesh man was not there. All of God's children were in spiritual, or what might be better called *angelic* bodies at that time. But we had access to both the flesh dimension where the animals roamed, as well as the spiritual dimension where God dwells.

Hey, that's not too much different than today. After all, according to the Scriptures God's angels which dwell with Him in heaven still have access to this physical dimension in this second world age. Did not the Lord and three angels visit Abraham in Genesis chapter 18? Did not two angels of God visit righteous Lot in Sodom, and rescue him and his family before the great destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah? Did not the angel Gabriel visit Daniel in Daniel 8:16-27?

Did not the angel Gabriel visit Elizabeth's husband, the priest Zacharias, in Luke 1:11-19? And was not Christ's mother, Mary, visited by the angel Gabriel in Luke 1:26-38? Was not St. John visited by a great angel in Revelation 22:8?

So you see, it should not surprise you one bit that the angels had access to both the *spiritual* dimension and the *physical* dimension in that first world age, too. After all, they do in this *second* world age, as well.

If you've ever been fascinated with dinosaurs as a child (or adult), now you know *why*. You used to *walk among them* in that first world age. But you were in an angelic body that never grew old, never got sick, never wore out, never felt pain and never died.

As I've mentioned several times, we even had *cities* on this old earth at that time. And I'll document that for you, shortly, as I've promised. But first, let's learn what prompted our heavenly Father to completely overthrow that entire first world age, both heaven and earth.

So what happened to bring that idyllic life to an end? Why did we end up here in these relatively decrepit and sinful flesh bodies? Why was such a paradise of abundant life brought to a screeching halt by our heavenly Father?

Satan's Rebellion

What happened is that Satan rebelled against God's order, and His throne. Indeed, the Scriptures tell us that during that first world age, Satan grew conceited, and decided to try to usurp God's

throne. As it is written in Ezekiel chapter 28, Satan's actions were so egregious, God pronounced the death sentence upon him:

Eze 28:11 Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

This is the straight scoop, directly from your heavenly Father.

Eze 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.

The "king of Tyrus" is one of Satan's many titles. The name "Tyros" means "rock." In other words, while Christ Jesus is *the* Rock of Ages, Satan is the false rock, the imitator of Christ who lusts after the seat of Christ.

As it is written of God's wayward children in Deuteronomy 32, "*Of the Rock that begat thee thou art unmindful, and hast forgotten God that formed thee*" (Deut. 32:18).

Yes, God's children tend to forget the Lord and embrace false idols – sometimes literal false idols, and sometimes the false idols of empty church tradition that simply do not line up with the Word of God. And as we'll see later in this study, by the end of this second world age they will even embrace Satan, the false rock, thinking him to be the true Rock.

And as it is again written in that same great book of Deuteronomy to God's faithful elect, "*For their rock is not as our Rock, even our enemies themselves being judges*" (Deut. 32:31). Note the first word "rock" in this verse is uncapitalized, and the second word "Rock" is capitalized. The first one is Satan, that old "king of Tyros." And the second one is our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. In other words, God is letting us know that the false rock, Satan, wants to take the seat of judgment for himself and his fallen angels.

Satan is, in essence, the prosecuting attorney of heaven. And as we'll see in a few short verses, in the first world age he was known as the "anointed cherub that covereth." That means he stood next to God's throne – the Mercy Seat -- where our heavenly Father dispenses mercy and justice. He was one of the protective overseers of God's seat of mercy and justice. But Satan didn't just want to protect the Mercy Seat. He wanted – and still wants -- to *be* the Judge. He wants *God's job* for himself.

Note in the verse above that Satan "sealest up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty." In other words, he's one of God's wisest and most beautiful angels. But, he has a big character flaw, as we'll see.

Eze 28:13 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.

Again, so you don't miss the fact that we're talking about Satan here, note that he's described as having "been in Eden the garden of God." And of course, he *was* in the Garden of Eden. We

know that from Genesis chapter 3. He was that old serpent, the devil who seduced and deceived mother Eve in the garden, and who, as we'll see later in this study, had also deceived one-third of God's children into rebelling against Him in the first world age (Rev. 12:9).

Here's where the Scripture tells us that Satan was a protector of the Mercy Seat:

Eze 28:14 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.

The "stones of fire" are the ministering angels of God, which is to say, those angels who uphold God's Word by example for the rest of His children. As it is written of God and His ministering angels in Psalms 104:4, "*Who maketh his angels spirits; his ministers a flaming fire:*"

We learn here that Satan was not just wise and beautiful. In heaven, he had risen to the position of "the anointed cherub that covereth." That means he was one of the two powerful forms of angels that protected the Mercy Seat of God. The other protector of the Mercy Seat is said to be the archangel Michael.

In other words, Satan's job, originally, was to protect the very seat from which God dispensed mercy and justice to His children. But something happened. As you'll see, his own brightness and glory blinded him. He began thinking of himself as God.

Eze 28:15 Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee.

He was a pretty good old boy, for awhile. After all, you don't rise up that high in the ranks in God's kingdom without doing some exceptional work on behalf of your heavenly Father.

But then, "iniquity" was found in him. The word "iniquity" here is translated from the Hebrew word *evil* (Strong's H-5766), meaning evil, perverse, unjust and unrighteous. In short, pure wickedness was discovered in him.

You see, when God created His children, he gave all of us a very precious gift -- the gift of free will. Which is to say, we are each able to make up our own minds for ourselves whether or not to love and serve Father.

At some point in time during that first earth age, Satan chose to exercise his free will in the negative. He not only chose to reject Father, but to rebel against him, as you'll see.

Eze 28:16 By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned: therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God: and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire.

In the original Hebrew, this basically says that by the abundance of his trade (i.e., peddling of his merchandise), those who followed him became filled with unjust gain.

In other words, in the first world age, Satan instituted an unjust political, economic, educational and religious system. And he led God's children into participating in it. The system was designed to enrich and empower him and those who supported him, at the expense of others. (There's nothing new under the sun, friend. It's the same today. As then, *so again.*)

He led God's children completely astray. And therefore ultimately he will be cast out of the presence of God as profane (i.e., ungodly), and destroyed. In other words, he'll never exist again among the faithful children of God who rejected that evil system and who sit in God's presence.

Eze 28:17 Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee.

In the first world age, Satan grew conceited, thinking his splendor made him much more than he was. In this verse, God promises that in the end, he will be laid out before the rulers of the earth, so they can see him as he really is.

We get a good look at exactly how that verse will come to pass, in Isaiah 14:12-19. As it is written in those verses:

“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! 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: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High... (Is. 14:12-14)

Satan thought he could ascend above God, and rule and reign. He thought he was better than God, and exalted himself above God. But what did God have to say about it?

Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit. They that see thee shall narrowly look upon thee, and consider thee, saying, Is this the man that made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms; That made the world as a wilderness, and destroyed the cities thereof; that opened not the house of his prisoners? (Is. 14:15-17)

It was Satan's rebellious actions in the first world age that caused the destruction that ended that age, leaving the world as a wilderness and destroying the cities thereof. (I told you there were *cities* in that age, didn't I? We'll learn more about them in the great book of Jeremiah, shortly.)

All the kings of the nations, even all of them, lie in glory, every one in his own house. But thou art cast out of thy grave like an abominable branch, and as the raiment of those that are slain, thrust through with a sword, that go down to the stones of the pit; as a carcase trodden under feet.” (Is. 14:18-19)

At Christ's second advent, our old adversary will be cast into the pit, totally defeated, for all to see. And the rulers of this earth, as well as all of God's children will see this powerful cherub for what he really is – an evil misfit, hell bent on destruction.

As it is written in Revelation 20:1-3, at Christ's second advent the archangel Michael will have the privilege of tossing Satan into the pit so all can see him as his pomp and glory are taken away from him, "*And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.*"

Yes, Satan will be locked up in that pit for the entire 1,000 year millennium teaching period. Why? So that God's children who were deceived by him will have the opportunity to hear God's Word *taught with discipline* for 1,000 years, without any deception and without any vain church tradition to get in the way of understanding the truth. And so they can thereafter *with perfect understanding* make up their minds whether they truly want to continue to follow Satan, or follow our heavenly Father instead.

Let's go back and finish up in Ezekiel 28:

Eze 28:18 Thou hast defiled thy sanctuaries by the multitude of thine iniquities, by the iniquity of thy traffick; therefore will I bring forth a fire from the midst of thee, it shall devour thee, and I will bring thee to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all them that behold thee.

Satan turned his ministry into a great merchandising and trafficking operation. Indeed, the most important thing he trafficked in was false religion. You see this same thing today among many of the churches. It's all about the Benjamins...the almighty dollar. Pass the plate at every meeting, and have another fundraiser as soon as the previous one has finished. But in the interim, these supposed servants of the Lord always seem to forget about teaching God's Word, line-by-line, verse-by-verse, and chapter by chapter so that God's children are fed spiritually. They're too busy making money to feed the flock of God with His Word of Truth.

In the above verse, God has promised to destroy Satan with *fire* for this. He will bring Satan to ashes upon the earth, in the sight of the entire family of God. That's what God thinks of those who mislead and misguide His children, causing them to err and fall away from the Living God and His Word. Don't ever forget that, for as we'll see shortly in this study, this second world age is *also* to be judged and cleansed by fire in the end, so that the third and final world age – the *eternal* age – can be ushered in.

Are you beginning to understand what happened in that first world age, just before our heavenly Father overthrew His entire creation, and started over again with this present age?

Satan thought he had the whole thing tied up for himself in a nice, neat little bow. As the anointed cherub who stood by the throne of God – the very Mercy Seat itself -- the entire world

system was basically under his direction. But he began to corrupt God's children and pull them away from our heavenly Father, using deception to enslave them to himself, politically, economically, intellectually and yes, even spiritually. Much like today, for there is nothing new under the sun.

In short, he "slew" God's children through deception, and destroyed them, spiritually speaking, making them of no use to God. And God pulled the rug right out from under that old covering cherub, destroying the entire merchandising system consisting of the political, economic, education and religious dynasties which Satan had set up in order to take advantage of God's children.

Once again, the same thing is happening today. There's really nothing new under the sun. As it was then, so it is again. Only now Satan uses his little henchmen on this earth to bring God's children into subjection to him, using debt slavery and excessive taxation to rob them of their sustenance and independence, and the propaganda outlets entrenched within the four hidden dynasties of politics, education, economics and religion to dumb them down and keep them in line.

Have you ever noticed, for example, that the nightly TV news no longer simply reports the events of the day, but instead, tells you what to *believe* about them? In other words, they're merely propaganda outlets for the system, designed to train you to think exactly how the system wants you to think. And the churches have become so emasculated they are little more than outlets for feel good doctrine and fundraising, rather than vehicles for boldly teaching your heavenly Father's Word in truth and fullness, and bringing His children back home to Him through the Living Word. What you are living in today is just a carbon copy of the corrupt and ungodly system Satan set up in the first world age.

After all, he is the "prince of the power of the air" (think airwaves), and as it is written in Ephesians 2:2-3, his evil spirit still works in those "children of disobedience" who followed him in the first world age. As it is written in Ephesians 2:2-3, "*Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.*"

Yes, we've all been there, done that. But in coming over to God's Word, we pull out of that worldly and ungodly way of life that the "prince of the power of the air" has instituted in this age, and learn to live as our heavenly Father would have us live. As it is written in Revelation 18:4, "*Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.*"

Eze 28:19 All they that know thee among the people shall be astonished at thee: thou shalt be a terror, and never shalt thou be any more.

When Satan's downfall takes place at Christ's second advent, the children of God will be astonished at it. After all, as we'll see later in this study, most of the people of this earth at that time will be unwittingly following Satan, *honestly believing he's God*.

What's more, after the great white throne judgment of Revelation 20:11-15, which takes place at the end of the Millennium teaching period, Satan and all of those who still choose to follow him rather than turning back to heavenly Father through Christ Jesus will simply no longer exist. They will be cast into the lake of fire, never to be seen again. They will be gone for good.

As we'll see, that's when our heavenly Father will end this present flesh world age, and usher in the *third* and *final* world age – the eternal Kingdom. At that point we'll come back full circle to that time at which there will be perfection on earth -- no more tears, no more pain, no more deception, no more disruption and no more death. And best of all, our heavenly Father will be here with us on this old earth *forever*.

As it is written in Revelation 21:3-5, “*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. 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. 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.”*

In other words, Satan's system is coming down. And the question is, whose side do *you* want to be on when these events take place?

To recap: We've learned in these verses that the cause of the overthrow of the first world age was Satan's rebellion. At that time he attempted to raise himself above God and seize the judgment seat of God. And he deceived many of God's children into following him.

Our heavenly Father then overthrew that first world age, and pronounced the death sentence upon Satan. Today, Satan is, figuratively speaking, nothing more than a dead man walking. But his evil spirit continues to work in this second world age, deceiving many of God's children into making the same mistakes they made in the first world age.

Thankfully, when all is said and done, Satan's little system will be destroyed. And at the end of the Millennium teaching period, so will he. And so will anyone who at that point still chooses to reject God after they've seen the truth with their own eyes, and have been taught perfectly of the Word of God.

More About the Overthrow of the First World Age

God's Word tells us some more about the complete overthrow of that first world age in the great book of Jeremiah, where He reveals that not only did He destroy the first world age, but He plans on destroying *this* second world age, too, in order to institute His eternal kingdom, which will constitute the third and *final* world age. As it is written:

Jer 4:19 My bowels, my bowels! I am pained at my very heart; my heart maketh a noise in me; I cannot hold my peace, because thou hast heard, O my soul, the sound of the trumpet, the alarm of war.

This is at Satan's rebellion, when he thought he could lead one-third of God's children to take over God's throne (Rev. 12:3-4). This pained our heavenly Father very much, for He loves all of His children. Put yourself in His place for a moment. How would you like it if one-third of your children rebelled against you, and tried to unseat you?

Jer 4:20 Destruction upon destruction is cried; for the whole land is spoiled: suddenly are my tents spoiled, and my curtains in a moment.

God overthrew the whole thing "in a moment." Once His anger reached the boiling point, He put a stop to Satan's rebellion with great suddenness. In short, in order to start anew, God destroyed everything He had created, or had allowed His children to build, in that first world age. (And as we'll see later in this study when we visit II Peter chapter 3, He's going to do it once again, at the second advent, but in quite a different way.)

Jer 4:21 How long shall I see the standard, and hear the sound of the trumpet?

God asks, "How long should I let this rebellion go on?" The answer is, long enough to see who's on *His* side, and who's on the *adversary's* side...who will take a firm and faithful stand for Him, and who will *fail* to take a firm and faithful stand for Him.

Jer 4:22 For my people is foolish, they have not known me; they are sottish children, and they have none understanding: they are wise to do evil, but to do good they have no knowledge.

That's the perfect description of the vast majority of God's children. In the Hebrew language, the word "sottish" means "real stupid." All too many of God's children will work harder to steal a dime than to earn an honest dollar. Earning God's blessings through faithful and sincere service to Him means absolutely nothing to all too many of them.

Jer 4:23 I beheld the earth, and, lo, it was without form, and void; and the heavens, and they had no light.

You should remember that, of course, from Genesis 1:2: "*And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep.*" Yes, it's that same old Hebrew phrase I've already taught you -- *tohu va bohu* -- meaning "an empty, desolate waste." This is where our heavenly Father overthrew the whole shebang.

There's one big difference, though. In the original Hebrew, the phrase "it was" in this verse has been added by the translators. It should not have been added. The verse actually reads, "*I beheld the earth, and look!, wasted and empty; and the heavens, no light!*"

Yes, even the heavens were overthrown, for God's children had access to both the *physical* dimension and the *spiritual* dimension at that time, and our heavenly Father was not happy with their doings in *either* dimension.

In other words, our heavenly Father overthrew everything – the earth and the heavens as well -- and “put the lights out,” so to speak (i.e., “and they had no light”).

(As we'll learn later when we cover Genesis 1:3-5, the very *first* thing our heavenly Father did when He began to refurbish the earth for life in this second world age, was to *restore* that light.)

That entire first world age -- both in the earthly realm and the heavenly realm -- was overthrown in a great cataclysm. In other words, the entire system that had been built up both on earth and in heaven was destroyed. Satan's little attempt at an overthrow was thwarted. But wait, there's more.

Jer 4:24 I beheld the mountains, and, lo, they trembled, and all the hills moved lightly.

The word *lightly* in verse 24 should be translated “with ease.” Massive earthquakes replaced the peaceful tranquility of the land, to the point that the mountains and hills were moved with ease! If you've even taken a look at a globe of this old planet, *with understanding*, you'll see that the tectonic plates actually shifted, and the land mass broke apart into separate continents. It takes very little imagination, looking at a globe, to see that the continents were once all one big land mass. You can fit them together much like a jigsaw puzzle.

This is why, for example, at what's called the Nebraska Ashfalls (i.e., the Ashfall Fossil Beds of northeastern Nebraska), you'll find large numbers of fossilized *African* animals such as rhinoceros, camels, giraffe, saber-toothed tigers, zebra-like horses, giant tortoises and more.

In other words, what is today called the African continent, along with a large part of western Europe, once fit snugly against the eastern seaboard of North and South America as one big land mass. And the animals roamed that land mass. There were no “continents” at that time to separate what we now call “African” animals to Africa, or “North American” animals to North America, etc. Check it out on a globe, for yourself, if you've never noticed this.

Jer 4:25 I beheld, and, lo, there was no man, and all the birds of the heavens were fled.

The word “no” in this verse is translated from the Hebrew word *ayin* (Strong's H-369), meaning “to be nothing or not exist; a non-entity.”

In other words, *nothing* living was left upon the earth. Even the birds of the heavens were gone. *Everything* was destroyed in the upheaval, but the earth itself.

Even God's children were taken back into the spiritual dimension. Not one of them was left on this earth. And the entire system that had been corrupted by Satan and his deception was gone.

Jer 4:26 I beheld, and, lo, the fruitful place was a wilderness, and all the cities thereof were broken down at the presence of the LORD, and by his fierce anger.

Yes, there were *cities* in that first world age! I told you I'd document it for you. That means God's children were builders back then, much as they are today. But God overthrew that great false kingdom that Satan was building and duping God's children into participating in, both in the heavenly realm and in the earthly realm.

Jer 4:27 For thus hath the LORD said, The whole land shall be desolate; yet will I not make a full end.

Our heavenly Father destroyed the world *age*, but not the earth itself, i.e., "yet I will not make a full end." The earth still exists to this day, and always will. After all, our heavenly Father plans on re-establishing His eternal Kingdom here.

As it is written in Psalms 104:5, "Who laid the foundations of the earth, *that it should not be removed for ever.*" And again in Ephesians 3:21, "Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, *world without end.* Amen."

In other words, the earth is eternal. It's just that everything that had been built in that first world age was *obliterated* by our heavenly Father. Not just on earth, but in heaven too. It was over. Kaput. Nothing left of that original creation, nor of what His children had built up in the interim.

In science, we still find traces of things from the first world age to this day during archaeological digs, for example. Sometimes we even find strange things that appear to be petrified batteries that test through radio carbon dating at many tens of thousands of years old. How could that be? As the Scripture tells us, there's nothing new under the sun. As it is written in Ecclesiastes 1:9: "The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done: and there is no new thing under the sun."

In this second world age in which we now live, we're basically just *repeating* what we had accomplished in the first world age. If you want to know what that first world age looked like, take a good look around you.

And frankly, from the looks of it, we're almost to the end point, where God's anger once again will boil over, and this second world age will also be destroyed.

Jer 4:28 For this shall the earth mourn, and the heavens above be black: because I have spoken it, I have purposed it, and will not repent, neither will I turn back from it.

God says it's going to happen *again*. He destroyed it once, and he won't turn back from doing it again.

When? Well, as we'll see shortly in II Peter chapter three, it will be after Christ's second advent. Indeed, at Christ's second advent the evil elements of this earth will be destroyed by fire. That

means the false religion, the corrupt politics, the usurious debt money system, the deceptive education system, the perversion and pornography and much more will all be destroyed.

What's more, once Father's children have had a chance to go through the 1,000 year millennium teaching period without all of those stumbling blocks in the way, God is also going to destroy Satan and all who follow him, permanently. God has purposed it, and when He's purposed a thing, you'd better believe it's going to happen (Isaiah 14:24-26).

Jer 4:29 The whole city shall flee for the noise of the horsemen and bowmen; they shall go into thickets, and climb up upon the rocks: every city shall be forsaken, and not a man dwell therein.

Yes, our heavenly Father is going to do the same thing to this flesh world age that He did to the previous world age. Each person gets to come through this flesh world age one time only, in flesh bodies, for *two* specific reasons: One, to determine with a fresh slate, and with no remembrance of the past, whether he will choose to serve God, or choose to serve Satan. And two, to experience things like disease, decay and death, so that God's great gift of eternal life will finally be appreciated by those of His children who return to Him through the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Note that God says "not a man shall dwell therein." All flesh shall be done away with. As it is written in I Corinthians 15:52, anyone alive at that time will instantly return to their spiritual bodies "in the twinkling of an eye."

Jer 4:30 And when thou art spoiled, what wilt thou do? Though thou clothest thyself with crimson, though thou deckest thee with ornaments of gold, though thou rentest thy face with painting, in vain shalt thou make thyself fair; thy lovers will despise thee, they will seek thy life.

God warns that we can paint ourselves up real pretty, and play church and politics and everything that goes along with this life. But if we've ignored or even rejected His Word, it's all going to backfire on us. The ones we think of as our "lovers," which is to say, our very allies, and those we *pay* to be our allies, will in the end despise us. And seek to destroy us. Look around you, friend. It's pretty much a reality today.

Jer 4:31 For I have heard a voice as of a woman in travail, and the anguish as of her that bringeth forth her first child, the voice of the daughter of Zion, that bewaileth herself, that spreadeth her hands, saying, Woe is me now! for my soul is wearied because of murderers.

Father says the birth of a new age is coming. It's going to be a lot like a pregnant women who's getting ready to give birth in murderous times. The birth pangs begin to come faster and faster and faster, much as they are today. There's nothing that can be done to stop it.

Look around you. The birth pangs that herald the destruction of this thoroughly corrupt second world age, and the dawn of the final world age, are already starting. And when this second

world age passes away, the new and final *eternal* world age then begins. You want to be on the right side of that, my friend – your heavenly Father’s side.

Brief Re-Cap

So far we’ve learned that in the very beginning (i.e., “at the first”) God created the heavens and the earth, and He created the earth as a lush, fully inhabited paradise. But some time later, the earth became *tohu va bohu*, which is to say, “an empty, desolate waste.” Everything living on it was destroyed.

And we learned that this completely coincides with science, which for example, can tell you there was a fully inhabited age before this one, in which dinosaurs and many tens of thousands of other creatures roamed this earth, for millions of years. And unlike this current world age, the earth at that time was a lush tropical paradise all of the way from the North Pole to the South Pole.

That’s why scientists have found petrified palm trees under the ice in those cold, desolate areas. Or why the “petrified forest” exists in the hot, desolate, rocky desert of the state of Arizona. Before the great upheaval took place in the first world age, which is so fleetingly described in Genesis 1:2, and at which point the earth became *tohu va bohu*, the entire planet had been a lush tropical paradise.

Scientists argue over what happened to bring an abrupt end to that age. Some scientists say a gigantic meteor struck the earth. Others claim an ice age was somehow ushered in. And some say worldwide volcanic activity destroyed everything in a thick cloud of volcanic ash that blotted out the sun’s light for decades.

But as we’ll see from the next part of this lesson, our heavenly Father simply overthrew the world system of that time with a great flood, combined with the massive volcanic activity and mighty earthquakes that literally moved the tectonic plates and separated the land mass into what we now call *continents*, as we learned in Jeremiah chapter four above.

This took place at the very end of that first world age, after Satan turned bad and corrupted one-third of God’s children into following him instead of God. We’ll learn more about that wicked one-third of God’s children in just a few moments. But first let’s take a good look at St. Peter’s description of the three world ages in II Peter chapter 3.

Part II: The Three World Ages in the New Testament

Indeed, just as the *first* world age was destroyed after Satan deceived one-third of God’s children into following him, so this *second* world age will also be destroyed after Satan returns in his role as the false Messiah to deceive that one-third of God’s children – and more -- into following him once again. He knows their weaknesses.

St. Peter wrote of the destruction of the first world age, as well as the coming destruction of this present world age, in his second book. Let's see what we can learn from it:

2Pe 3:1 This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in both which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance:

St. Peter says he's trying to bring something to your memory. This is something you should know, as a Christian.

2Pe 3:2 That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Saviour:

He wants you to be mindful of what's been written in the Old Testament, as well as what the apostles of Christ have written in the New Testament. The word "mindful" is the Greek word *mnaomai* (Strong's G-3415), and it means to have a "fixed mental understanding." In other words, you need to get your mind right on this topic, while there's still time.

2Pe 3:3 Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts,

The scoffers abound today. Hand one of them this study, and watch them scoff at the truths revealed by our heavenly Father's Word. They will ridicule and deride you for teaching these Bible truths. Even many Christians.

By the way, "scoffers" is another interesting Greek word, *empaiktes* (Strong's G-1703) which means a "derider," and implies a *false teacher*. We've got plenty of them, beloved. They claim to teach Christ, but when His Word is taught in fullness and in truth, as in this study, they deride it and scoff at it. Though they call themselves "Christian," they prefer empty church traditions to the truth of God's Word.

2Pe 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.

The scoffers think "all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation," because they don't understand the three world ages, and the fact that just as the first world age was destroyed by our heavenly Father at Satan's rebellion, this second world is in the process of closing out, too, so that the third and final *eternal* world age can be ushered in.

2Pe 3:5 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:

St. Peter says those who reject the Scriptural reality of the three world ages are *willingly ignorant*. And he explains that it was by God's own Word that the heavens and earth of old were created.

In other words, you really have to turn your back to all of the Biblical and archaeological evidence in order to avoid accepting the fact that this old earth is literally millions of years old, and that a previous age to this present world age existed.

Peter also reveals that the earth was “standing out of the water and in the water” at that point in time. You might remember that we learned in Jeremiah 4:24 that there were great earthquakes that separated the land mass of this earth at that time into what we now call continents. Next, we’re going to learn that Father then flooded the entire earth after breaking that land mass apart.

2Pe 3:6 Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished:

Yes, the “world that then was” – which is to say, the first world age -- “perished” through an overflow of water. You might also remember Genesis 1:2, in which our heavenly Father tells us “*And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.*”

In other words, our heavenly Father used a great deluge to flood everything. Water covered the entire globe. The cities. The mountains and hills. You name it. It was “lights out in Georgia,” so to speak. Everything on earth was destroyed in this great deluge.

Quite obviously, I am not speaking of the flood of Noah. That came much later, in this *second* world age, and by comparison was decidedly much smaller in its scope and destructive reach, as you’re about to see.

The word “perished” in 2 Peter 3:6 above is translated from the Greek word *apollumi* (Strong’s G-622), and it means “to destroy fully.” Nothing left at all. Yes, Peter is speaking here of the *tohu va bohu* (“without form, and void”) of Genesis 1:2. Everything existing in the “world that then was” was fully destroyed, except the earth itself, of course.

Interestingly, this Greek word *apollumi* is a derivative of one of Satan’s titles, *Apollyon* (Strong’s G-623; *Apolluon*), meaning “the destroyer” (see Revelation 9:11). The earth perished because of Satan’s rebellion. Following him can only lead to destruction.

What’s more, it was not just the earth upon which everything perished. The word “world” in 2 Peter 3:6 above here is the Greek word *kosmos* (Strong’s G-2889), meaning the entire cosmos and not just the earth only.

In Noah’s flood, only the earth was affected. And it was not fully destroyed. Indeed, not only was Noah’s family spared, but also many animals were spared as well. And as we learn from Genesis 8:11, five months into Noah’s flood there were still trees growing on the earth, for the dove released by Noah after five months on the ark brought back a fresh twig from a budding olive tree.

But in this great cataclysm that destroyed the entire *kosmos*, the flooded earth “perished,” which is to say, it was left “without form and void,” fully destroyed. And as we’ll discover in the final section of this study, God had to start completely over in Genesis 1:3-31 *refurbishing* the entire

earth and yes, even the heavens.

The word “overflowed” in the above verse is from the Greek word *kataklyzo* (Strong’s G-2626), meaning “to dash down in a deluge.” Indeed, it’s the word from which we get our English word *cataclysm*. In short, the first world age was totally destroyed with water.

Some knowledgeable Bible teachers say that in the first world age a “water canopy” existed around the earth, which allowed the entire earth to be lit up by the sun no matter where the sun was in its rotation around the globe. This water canopy was what protected the earth from the harmful rays of the sun. It acted as a protective filter, as well as a reflective medium that brought light to the entire planet at once, so that there was no darkness even as the sun rotated around the globe.

In other words, it was always “day” no matter where you were on the planet. The water canopy also acted as a temperature regulator for the planet, so that the temperature was perfect at every spot on the planet because both the light and the sun’s heat was evenly distributed around the globe. This was our heavenly Father’s perfect kingdom. In a sense, it was like a massive global terrarium, perfectly balanced in every way.

But at Satan’s rebellion, when our heavenly Father chose to destroy that first world age, He simply *released the water canopy*, and the resulting downpour destroyed and covered up everything on this earth in a deluge. Yes, as it is written in Genesis 1:2, “And darkness was upon the face of the deep.”

2Pe 3:7 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.

Note that St. Peter continuously refers to both the heavens and the earth. In Noah’s flood, only the *earth* was affected. So don’t let anyone tell you Peter is talking about Noah’s flood in these verses. He’s not.

Here St. Peter points out that this second world age – i.e., meaning the “heavens and earth which are *now*” -- is being “reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and the perdition of ungodly men.” which you can read of in Revelation 20:11-15.

Indeed, this second world age is being reserved for judgment “by the same Word” by which it was originally created. In other words, the Living Word of God – our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ – is in charge. God brought this second world age into being through His Living Word. And by that same Living Word He’s going to bring this second world age to an unceremonious end on “the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.”

And why? So He can usher in the third and final world age – the *eternal* age – in which only the righteous will dwell.

So this second world age will *not* be destroyed by a flood, like the first world age. But instead, as we see in verse 7 above, it will be cleansed by fire. And that cleansing fire will take place on

“the day of judgment,” meaning the great white throne judgment of Revelation 20:12-15, which is also known as the lake of fire into which all ungodly men will be cast, never to exist again.

As it is written in Hebrews 12:29, “For our God is a consuming fire.” You see, if a person is not found to be “in Christ” at that time, then he or she is *outside* of Christ. And anything outside of Christ at that time will be destroyed by fire. Our heavenly Father Himself will do it, through His Living Word.

Spiritually speaking, this is the very fire that protects and warms the souls of Christians, but will utterly consume all evil from off the face of the earth just before the third and final world age – the eternal age – is ushered in. You want to be on the right side of that fire, beloved.

Who’s going to be destroyed by that fire at the end of this second world age? As it is written in Revelation 21:8, “*But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.*”

The word “fearful” here should be translated “faithless.” Our heavenly Father has promised us an eternity of joy, peace, safety and total well-being, with no disruption, perversion, tears or even death (Rev. 21:4). But it is only available to His faithful and believing children. The skeptics and scoffers and trouble-makers will all be done away with.

Indeed, just before He begins that eternal age – the third world age – He will simply remove from existence anything and *everything* that offends. We can thank Him for that, for we do not want them with us for the eternity, constantly mucking up the waters and causing trouble!

2Pe 3:8 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.

You’re about to learn a Biblical truth that will open up the Scriptures for you when we take a further look at the book of Genesis later in this study. “One day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.”

In other words, the so-called “six days of creation” described in Genesis chapter one, in which our heavenly Father completely refurbishes this old earth after the destruction of the first world age, were actually *six thousand years*.

That’s right. And He rested on the seventh day, which was another thousand years. Each day to the Lord is as 1,000 years, and 1,000 years as one day. Keep this in mind for what you’re about to learn next.

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.

The “day of the Lord” is that one thousand year teaching period commonly referred to as the “millennium.” It starts at Christ’s second advent – and it will burst onto the scene as a thief in the night, which is a euphemism meaning it will *not be expected*.

You see, Christ does not arrive to this earth until the seventh trump of the great book of Revelation. But Satan and his fallen angels arrive to this earth, pretending to be the Lord and His angels, at the *sixth* trump.

In other words, they *precede* Christ and His angels. And when they get here, they deceive the entire world into believing they are the Lord and His angels.

As it is written in Revelation 12:7-9, “*And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. 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.*”

They’re coming, beloved. And they’re coming *before* Christ and His angels arrive to this earth for the second advent. Unfortunately, contrary to the Scriptures, the entire Christian church has erroneously been taught that “Jesus can come at any minute now.” So when Satan and his fallen angels arrive, they will be perceived by the world as the Lord and His angels.

As St. Paul so clearly warns in II Thessalonians 2:1-4, Christ’s second advent simply cannot take place until after that man of sin, the son of perdition, comes to this earth and seats himself in the temple of God, pretending to be God.

As it is written in those verses: “*Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him, That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand. Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.*”

So when Christ’s second advent finally takes place, it will be completely unexpected – i.e., it will “come as a thief in the night” -- to the vast majority of the people of this earth. And why? Because just before that event takes place most of the world will once again be found wallowing at the feet of Satan himself, thinking him to be the Lord seated in His temple in Jerusalem. In other words, they’ll think they’re already on their way to entering the Kingdom of God.

Afterwards, at Christ’s second advent, Satan will be unceremoniously tossed into the pit, for the entire world to see what a decrepit lying individual he is. And as St. Peter tells us in II Peter 3:10 above, at that point the earth is cleansed by fire of all evil elements and evil works.

In other words, Christ Jesus cleanses the earth with fire at His second advent to get rid of the evil works and underpinnings that have been woven into the very fabric of our way of life, *so these*

things are not in the way during the course of the millennium teaching period to trip up God's wayward children.

For example, this sinful flesh will be done away with, for by its very nature it pulls us away from God. False doctrine will be done away with. False church tradition will be obliterated. Pornography will be gone. Perversion, burned up. Drugs, no longer in existence. Enslaving debt and usury, no longer in existence. Corrupt politics, gone. Propaganda outlets, all destroyed. All of this and much more will be gone – destroyed by fire -- so that God's children can have a fair and honest chance of hearing and understanding His Word *without outside interference*.

So during that 1,000 year “day” God's children will be taught His Word perfectly, with discipline, and without interference from the deceptive underpinnings – which is to say, the *elements* -- that exist today and that cause so many of His children to err in their ways and fail in their understanding of God and His Word.

Father is giving His wayward and rebellious children this *one last opportunity* known as the millennium, or the thousand year teaching period, to learn of Him, change their ways, and return to Him with open arms.

2Pe 3:11 Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness,

That's a good question. Let me re-phrase it: If you knew in advance that the wicked elements of the earth are going to be burned up at Christ's second advent, would you willingly participate in them? Or would you reject them and straighten up your act and fly straight, and cling to your Father's Word instead?

Well, that's exactly how it's going to happen. The filth and deceptive elements of this earth – the very underpinnings of Satan's system -- are going to be completely destroyed by fire at Christ's second advent.

So act accordingly, before it's too late. This old flesh age is getting awfully long in the tooth and gray hair on the top of its head, so to speak. If you don't have your act together yet, there's no better time than the *present* to embrace your Father's Word in its fullness and learn how this old world has been sewn up in a web of deception for a long time. And in the process, if you're one of His elect, you'll also discover the amazing destiny your heavenly Father has in store for *you!*

For as we'll see later in this study, not all of His children will be deceived. Some served him faithfully in that first world age. They are known as God's elect, and He uses them in this *second* world age to bring forth His Word and to help others understand it in more fullness.

More importantly, God's elect will take their stand against Satan and his fallen angels when they arrive to this old earth to deceive the whole world. And they'll perform magnificently against Satan and his angles, with Father's help and guidance, of course. We'll learn more about that shortly in this study.

2Pe 3:12 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

The “day of God” in the above verse is quite different from the “day of the Lord” we read of in verse 10. The day of God *starts the third world age*, which of course is the *eternal* age. It takes place at the very *end* of the “day of the Lord,” meaning at the end of that 1,000 year “millennium” teaching period.

So as you read these verses, keep that in mind. Verse 10 and 11 covered the “day of the Lord,” in which the evil elements – the perverse and deceptive rudiments or evil foundational underpinnings of this world age -- will be destroyed by fire so that God’s children can be disciplined in His Word, unhindered by Satanic interference during the millennium teaching period.

But as the Scripture notes in Revelation 20:7-15, at the *end* of the 1,000 years of teaching, Satan will be loosed from the pit and will go out *one final time* to deceive the nations. And anyone who, after receiving 1,000 years of perfect disciplined teaching from the Lord and His elect, unencumbered by deception, still chooses to follow Satan at that time will be destroyed in the lake of fire at the great white throne judgment (Rev. 20:12).

Then the “day of *God*” begins in Revelation 21:1-6, at which point God the Father Himself returns to this earth along with the holy city, New Jerusalem, to set up his eternal kingdom. He will rejuvenate this earth one last time, making all things new. In essence, He’ll be returning this old earth to the pristine, peaceful, joyous and abundant condition it was once in during the first world age before Satan’s rebellion.

The earth is always the same. But we’re going to be entering a *brand new age* on this earth in which our heavenly Father returns to live with us, for evermore. And He will in essence be bringing heaven with Him.

We’re going to take a closer look at the following verses from the book of Revelation later in this study. But here’s a sneak preview of what is written of that great “day of God” in Revelation 21:1-5:

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

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. 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.

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.”

The word “new” used throughout the above verses would be more accurately translated as “refreshed” or “rejuvenated” (see Strong’s G-2537). And there’s “no more sea,” because that water canopy that once surrounded this old earth in the first world age will be restored to its place.

Again, it’s the same old earth. But with the evil elements destroyed by fire at Christ’s second advent, and all evil people destroyed by fire at the end of the one thousand year “millennium” teaching period, God will at that point be taking this old earth back to that pristine state it once enjoyed.

Yes, both heaven and earth will be completely cleansed of Satan’s stench just before the “day of God.” All evil will be done away with. Satan and his followers will be destroyed by fire, meaning they’ll be gone forever, never to exist again. Hallelujah, and yeah and amen to that!

As I’ve stated, our heavenly Father has promised us a joyous, safe and completely peaceful eternity full of vibrant life and abundance. He will indeed provide exactly what He’s promised.

So if you’re more attached to the evil elements of this world than you are to your Father and His Word, *now* would be a good time to make a significant change in your life. There will indeed come a point one day soon when it’s too late.

2Pe 3:13 Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.

Peter confirms that this second world age will be gone for good. But the “new heavens” and “new earth” (again, the word “new” in verse 13 above should be properly translated *refreshed* or *rejuvenated*; see Strong’s G-2537), will be *eternal*. And only the righteous will dwell within it, which is to say, those who truly love our heavenly Father and His Word. This constitutes the *third* and *final* world age. It’s God’s eternal kingdom, and it will be right here on this old earth once this second world age is done away with.

Just as our heavenly Father destroyed the first world age, and started anew with a second, so He’ll destroy this wicked and sinful second world age, and start anew with the third and final world age – the eternal Kingdom in which will be found no evil whatsoever.

This second world age in which we now live is the *filtering process*, so to speak. In this second world age, all of the evil shows itself for what it really is. And it will be filtered out by fire at the end of this age.

Seeing that this entire world age is once again going to be overthrown by our heavenly Father, we are to be diligent in our study and understanding of His Word, and in our sincere and faithful service to Him as well. As it is written in Matthew 10:38, “*And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me.*”

The bottom line is that our heavenly Father destroyed the first world age at Satan's rebellion. And now He's going to do it again after Satan comes to this earth once more with his fallen angels to play "God."

Again, it's *not* heaven and earth that will be destroyed at Christ's second advent, but instead, the "elements," meaning everything evil therein – the very underpinnings of evil that this flesh world age has embraced.

This old earth stays (Psalms 104:5; Ephesians 3:21). But it will be thoroughly cleansed, and returned to its original pristine and abundant state. He's going to cleanse both the heavens and the earth of the stench of Satan as well as the stench of sin.

Indeed, it's Satan's entire kingdom that's going to be destroyed at Christ's second advent, which once again at this present time stretches from the heavens into the earth. But this time, it will be destroyed *forever*, never to be built again.

Then, after the 1,000 years of perfect teaching known as the millennium, Satan will be loosed from the pit briefly, so Father can see who will still follow that old deceiver, and who won't. And at that point all people who still reject the Lord and His Word will also be destroyed in the lake of fire.

We'll look at this topic a bit closer toward the end of this study. But once again, here's a short preview of Satan's fiery demise at the end of the millennium teaching period, as it is written of in Revelation 20:7-10, "*And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea. And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them.*"

There's that cleansing fire that sets the stage for the third and eternal world age to be ushered in. It's the "day of God" spoken of by Peter in II Peter 3:12 above.

Again, this takes place directly after the millennium teaching period. But during the millennium, our heavenly Father and His faithful servants known as the elect will again be trying to rescue as many of God's wayward children as will choose to hear, love and obey His Word.

But after the millennium teaching period is ended, Satan and all who still choose to follow him will be cast into the lake of fire, to be destroyed forevermore. They will simply cease to exist. For eternity.

And the only ones dwelling within the new and final age will be the righteous. And there will be many, indeed who will be saved. As it is written in chapter 22 of the great book of Revelation:

Rev 22:17 And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.

Salvation through Christ – the Living Word of God – is offered to any who will take the water of life freely, which is to say, embrace the Word of God wholeheartedly and choose to follow it instead of the empty religious traditions of man. That “water of life” will be offered throughout the millennium teaching period. And then the day of God starts.

Part III: The Rebellious One-Third of God’s Children

So far in this study, we’ve had a pretty good overview of the three world ages. But we haven’t yet learned much about the children of God who were deceived in that first world age, particularly the one-third of God’s children who actually joined Satan in his great rebellion against the throne of God, which led to the destruction of that entire world age.

In Part III of this study, we’re going to take a look at that rebellious one-third, as well as what happened to the other two-thirds of God’s children during the first world age. And we’ll see that there was also a small but faithful remnant of God’s children who faithfully stood by Him during the rebellion. These are known today as God’s elect. And just as they served our heavenly Father in the “world that then was,” so they serve Him today by bringing forth His Word to His wayward children.

So let’s get started: Reading through the Bible, you might come to the conclusion that our heavenly Father is obsessed with the idea of rebelliousness.

For example:

Deuteronomy 9:24 Ye have been rebellious against the LORD from the day that I knew you.

Isaiah 30:1 Woe to the rebellious children, saith the LORD, that take counsel, but not of me; and that cover with a covering, but not of my spirit, that they may add sin to sin:

Isaiah 30:9 That this is a rebellious people, lying children, children that will not hear the law of the LORD:

Jeremiah 5:23 But this people hath a revolting and a rebellious heart; they are revolted and gone.

Ezekiel 2:7 And thou shalt speak my words unto them, whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear: for they are most rebellious.

Hosea 7:14 And they have not cried unto me with their heart, when they howled upon their beds: they assemble themselves for corn and wine, and they rebel against me.

There are dozens more examples of God’s warnings about rebellion throughout the Scriptures. After all, rebellion is *exactly* what this present second world age is all about, which is to say, giving those who rebelled in the first world age an opportunity to *change their rebellious ways*

by embracing His Word wholeheartedly, and to be restored permanently to their Father's eternal kingdom as a result.

You see, as I've stated repeatedly throughout this study, the bottom line is that in the first world age, at Satan's rebellion against God and His throne, Satan deceived one-third of God's children into rejecting God altogether and accepting him as their "God" instead.

But can this be documented in the Scriptures? Indeed it can, for those with eyes to see and ears to hear. As it is written in the great book of Revelation, chapter 12:

Rev 12:3 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.

Rev 12:4 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.

That great red dragon is our adversary, Satan, the devil (Rev. 12:9). And of course, as we learned earlier in the great book of Job as well as in Revelation 1:20, the "stars of heaven" are God's children, the angels.

With his "tail" (i.e., *tale*; false doctrine spread through his propaganda outlets) our old adversary was able to draw away the "third part" (i.e., one-third) of the "stars of heaven," meaning one-third of God's children -- deceiving them into following *him* rather than God.

What About the Other Two-Thirds, and the Elect?

According to the Scriptures, not only did one-third of God's children rebel under Satan's leadership, but *the other two-thirds of His children sat on the sidelines* -- apparently with mild disinterest -- and basically waited to see who would win.

While this is not specifically written of in the Scriptures, Jesus taught, by analogy, in parable form, of *all three-thirds* of God's children in the great parable of the sower. Let's take a discerning look at this parable, and see if we can understand the hidden message He was imparting:

Mat 13:3 And he spake many things unto them in parables, saying, Behold, a sower went forth to sow;

Mat 13:4 And when he sowed, some seeds fell by the way side, and the fowls came and devoured them up:

Mat 13:5 Some fell upon stony places, where they had not much earth: and forthwith they sprung up, because they had no deepness of earth:

Mat 13:6 And when the sun was up, they were scorched; and because they had no root, they withered away.

Mat 13:7 And some fell among thorns; and the thorns sprung up, and choked them:

Mat 13:8 But other fell into good ground, and brought forth fruit, some an hundredfold, some sixtyfold, some thirtyfold.

Mat 13:9 Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.

Do *you* have ears to hear? Then open your spiritual ears and *hear with understanding* this parable taught by your Lord and Savior:

What we have here, metaphorically speaking, are the three-thirds of God's children, and what I like to call a small but productive remnant, which are actually God's elect, chosen to serve Him in the first world age because they stood by Him faithfully during Satan's rebellion, and worked to save as many of God's children as possible from Satan's deception.

We have as follows:

- the "some" that "fell by the wayside"
- the "some" that "fell upon stony places"
- the "some" that "fell among thorns"
- and last but definitely not least, the "other" that "fell into good ground"

The "some" that "fell by the wayside": The seed that fell by the wayside (vs. 4) represent what happened with the *first* one-third of God's children. The fowls (Satan and his fallen angels) "devoured" them, which is to say, consumed them with deception.

The "some" that "fell upon stony places": The seed that fell upon the stony places (vs. 5) represent the *second* one-third of God's children. They had no depth of understanding in God's Word, and therefore when Satan tried to take God's throne, they withered under the heat of spiritual battle. They wouldn't take a firm stand for their heavenly Father. They were worthless.

The "some" that "fell among thorns": The seeds that fell among the thorns represent what happened to the *final* one-third of God's children. In agriculture, when seeds fall among thorn bushes, the thorn bushes spring up and choke off their growth. Metaphorically speaking, this means the spiritual growth of this final one-third was choked off by the cares of life which spring up around us. They were too busy waxing their cars, doing their hair, and taking their kids to soccer practice, so to speak, to study God's Word. And as a result, their spiritual growth in God's Word was strangled. They too became worthless to God when Satan tried to take God's throne.

The "other" that "fell into good ground": Finally, you have God's elect. They're represented by the seed that fell into good ground and brought forth much fruit. They stand on God's side, and work to produce good fruit on His behalf by carrying forth His Word and planting it into the

minds of men, working to bring as many of God's wayward children back to Him as possible through the Word of God.

Compared to the billions of God's children, there are relatively few of these productive workers, indeed. As it is written in Luke 10:2, "*The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few...*"

The elect are that small remnant of God's children who stood firmly and faithfully by God during the great rebellion of Satan in the first world age, and who worked to help pull as many of God's children as possible out of the fire of Satanic deception and into the camp of eternal life.

For this, our heavenly Father trusts and uses His elect in this second world age for the very same purpose. They produce fruit for our Lord by planting seeds of truth into the minds of God's wayward children, hoping to draw them out of the flesh entanglements of this age, and the vain church traditions that hold them back from understanding God's Word. And in the process they seek to turn God's wayward children back to our heavenly Father's Word, where they'll ultimately find salvation.

You cannot say that these "other" are part of ANY of the three-thirds of God's children, in that they do not fit the characteristics of any of those three groups described above. They're a separate group unto themselves. A very tiny group, which again, you can simply call God's productive fruit-bearers, or God's elect.

The bottom line, as we shall continue see, is that ALL THREE-THIRDS of God's children ultimately failed Him, with the exception of that tiny and quite separate "other" group composed of the elect. But before we see what our Lord and Savior had to say about the three-thirds, and the elect, an important question first needs to be answered.

Question: During Christ's first advent, why did He speak to the multitudes in such parable form?

Answer: Our heavenly Father addressed that very question through St. Matthew in this same 13th chapter of the great book of Matthew, explaining, in verses 34-35, "*All these things spake Jesus unto the multitude in parables; and without a parable spake he not unto them: That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying, I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter things which have been kept secret from the foundation of the world."*

Wow. There you have it. Some things have been "kept secret from the foundation of the world." And you're reading about many of those things (though not all) in this very study. (See my Bible study [A Strange Thing: Mystery in the Garden](#) if you'd like to learn even more "things kept secret from the foundation of the world.")

What's important here is the word "foundation" in the final sentence of Matthew 13:35 above. It's the Greek word *katabole* (Strong's G-2602). And it means the very "founding" or "conception" of a thing.

What's more, this word is derived from another Greek word, *kataballo* (Strong's G-2598). *Kataballo* means "to throw down with violent intensity," with the prefix *kata* meaning "down" (Strong's G-2596) and the suffix *ballo* meaning "to throw (with violent intensity)".

What this means, then, is that when Christ speaks in parables such as the parable of the sower we've been studying here, He's speaking of things that have been kept secret since the very overthrow, or *downfall*, or the first world age, when our heavenly Father destroyed every living thing, which in turn led directly to the *conception* of this second world age.

That's the very *key* to understanding many of the parables of Christ. They have to do with the events of the first world age, and the establishment of this second world age.

Indeed, in Matthew 13:34-35, St. Matthew is simply quoting from Psalms 78:2, which explains that when the Messiah would arrive to this earth for His first advent, He would "utter dark sayings of old." As it is written in that great Psalm:

Psa 78:2 I will open my mouth in a parable: I will utter dark sayings of old:

The phrase "dark sayings of old" would be better translated, from the original Hebrew, as "puzzles of the antiquity" or "conundrums of the ancient times".

Psa 78:3 Which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us.

Psa 78:4 We will not hide them from their children, shewing to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and his strength, and his wonderful works that he hath done.

Yes, at His first advent the Messiah would speak these "puzzles of the antiquity" to the People. But according to Psalms 78, those of us who understand these "puzzles" or parables are to pass that understanding on to our own children, so the meaning of these parables won't be forgotten from generation to generation. They are passed on down the through ages, from umbilical cord to umbilical cord. And *you* are to do the same for your own children.

But of course, the religionists and Bible thumpers have failed miserably at this, because they simply don't understand the very Word of God they profess to teach. They prefer instead to teach vain church traditions such as "earth is only 6,000 years old." Thus, they make void the Word of God with their empty traditions.

So what's revealed to us in Matthew 13:34-35 and again in Psalm 78:2-4 which Matthew quoted, is that Christ's famous "parable of the sower" had to do with that time of old – which is to say, the time of the first world age and Satan's rebellion, in which one-third of God's children were deceived into following Satan, and the other two-thirds basically sat on the sidelines either caring not to be involved, or unsure of which side to take in the controversy.

And of course, the elect, that relatively tiny productive and faithful remnant of God's children, stood firmly by God and His Word, against Satan, and worked to help "produce fruit," which is to say, help draw as many of God's children as they could back to His Word.

Of course, this may be a mystery to most of God's children today, even to most Christians, for they do not study their Father's Word in any greater depth than reading a verse here or a verse there, from time to time. But everything will be revealed to the multitudes of God's children at Christ's second advent during the millennium teaching period. After all, as we've learned in this study, the evil elements of this earth will be destroyed at Christ's arrival so all of God's children can learn without interference or encumbrance. It will ALL be revealed at that time.

It's only God's elect who, at this time, are given the understanding of the parables, so they can pass that understanding along to future generations all of the way from the time of Christ first advent to the time of His second advent. And why? Because our heavenly Father knows He can trust them with that information. They were completely faithful to Him in the first world age, and He knows they will be faithful to Him again in this second world age when their time comes to stand against Satan during his great deception at the very end, just before Christ's second advent.

As it is written in Ephesians 1:4 of God's faithful elect, "*According as he hath chosen us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love.*"

There's that word "foundation" again, which is to say, the *katabole*, or downfall of the first world age. Yes, God's elect were chosen in Christ "*before the foundation of the world,*" which is to say, before our heavenly Father brought that first world age to a screeching halt at Satan's rebellion.

And why were the elect chosen at that time? Because they took their faithful stand for our heavenly Father, and stood against Satan when he led one-third of God's children against the throne of God, and the other two-thirds of God's children stood on the sidelines. The elect were that fruitful remnant of God's children who worked with Father to help pull as many children as possible out of the fire of satanic deception.

The bottom line is that the events of the first world age – including how so many of God's children were deceived by Satan -- are written of throughout God's Word, *if you know where to look and you can read with understanding.*

So with that firmly in mind, let's look at *Christ's* own explanation of the parable of the sower, and see what more we can learn about the three-thirds of His children, and the small band of productive servants known as the elect who bear much fruit for Him. As it is written in Mt. 13:18-23:

Mat 13:18 Hear ye therefore the parable of the sower.

Christ orders us to "hear" His explanation of the parable of the sower, which means to hear it *with understanding*. So you have to put your spiritual ears on, so to speak, and listen from your very soul.

Mat 13:19 When any one heareth the word of the kingdom, and understandeth it not, then cometh the wicked one, and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart. This is he which received seed by the way side.

Spiritually speaking, the *first* one-third of God's children heard God's Word, but didn't understand it. Like many today, it was just so much mumbo-jumbo to them. They weren't even remotely interested in paying attention. This allowed the wicked one, Satan himself, to swoop in and draw them away from our heavenly Father with his smooth talk through his many propaganda outlets. It's no different today, beloved. As I've repeatedly pointed out in this study, there's nothing new under the sun.

You see, God won't force anyone to love Him, or to embrace His Word. He doesn't want a bunch of mindless robots. He's looking for a family that sincerely loves and appreciates Him, and loves and appreciates each other, as well. Those who cause dissension or disruption, or create rebellion and refuse to play by the family rules are simply not welcome if they won't straighten up and fly right.

Mat 13:20 But he that received the seed into stony places, the same is he that heareth the word, and anon with joy receiveth it;

Mat 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.

In the verses above, the word "anon" in verse 20 and the phrase "by and by" in verse 21 are the same Greek word, *euthus* (Strong's G-2117), meaning "immediately," or "at once."

The *second* one-third of God's children heard God's Word, and immediately received it with joy. You can see a lot of these types of people in the churches today. They go to church every Sunday. They participate in the bake sales and fundraisers and the church Christmas play. But the problem is, they don't study God's Word. They just enjoy "playing church."

As a result, they don't have "roots" into the deeper truths of the God's Word. So when a little bit of trouble or persecution arises "because of the Word," they're immediately offended (i.e., stumbled).

They don't know which side to choose during controversy, or they're too afraid to take a stand, and they quickly lose faith. Their lack of "root" (i.e., their lack of solid understanding) of God's Word allows them to be quickly and easily "offended," or better stated, *stumbled* in their faith. These usually end up taking refuge within the vain religious traditions of man, because what the Word of God *actually* says about controversial matters is just too much for them to handle.

Mat 13:22 He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word; and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful.

This *final* one-third of God's children, simply put, are too busy running their businesses, or waxing their cars, or partying, or taking their kids to soccer practice, or what-have-you, to pay much attention at all to God's Word.

Over time, they end up producing no spiritual fruit at all for God because they're completely wrapped up in the things of this world. They have no balance between the worldly and the spiritual. God is not the primary focus of their lives. In fact, He's generally not even on their radar screen, except perhaps for a little bit of lip service on the rare occasion when the situation demands it, such as when someone sneezes, or when they're at a funeral.

As Christ would say in 1John 2:16, "*For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.*"

The final one-third of God's children in the first world age were simply too wrapped up in the things of the world to care much about God and His Word. Look around you, my friends. It's still the same today. There's nothing new under the sun.

Mat 13:23 But he that received seed into the good ground is he that heareth the word, and understandeth it; which also beareth fruit, and bringeth forth, some an hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.

Finally, you have God's elect, represented by the small handful of God's children who actually "get it" when they hear God's Word correctly taught, and who fall in love with it and have no fear of carrying it forth to others. They become fruitful for God, bearing fruit by bringing forth His Word to others as the opportunities permit.

Notice the four attributes of God's elect: They *hear* His Word, which means, they actually take the time to listen when it's taught. They *understand* His Word, which means they seek out its meaning through study and contemplation and prayer. They *bear fruit* for Him, which means they pass along what they've learned to others, with understanding, in order to bring truth to light. And they *bring forth*, meaning, in the original Greek language, they remain faithfully committed to Him no matter what.

In that first world age, only God's elect stood up side-by-side with God against Satan and the rebellious one-third who followed him. The elect worked to help save God's children from Satan's great deception. They are relatively small in number compared to the billions of children our heavenly Father created. But they are His most faithful servants who love His Word with all of their hearts and all of their souls.

This is why, for example, in the great book of Jeremiah, chapter one, verse five, our heavenly Father would say to the prophet Jeremiah, when He called him to carry forth His Word to the people of the kingdom of Judah, "*Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.*"

Yes, before God formed Jeremiah in his mother's belly, He already knew him. And before Jeremiah was ever born into this flesh, God knew him and sanctified him (i.e., set him apart for a

purpose and a destiny) and ordained him to carry forth His Word. How did God already know Jeremiah before he was even born? From the first world age, of course! And why did God sanctify and ordain him? Because He knew He could trust him, from his faithful actions in the first world age.

God foreknows His elect from the world that was, which is to say, from the first world age. He knows exactly who they are, and how they handled Satan's rebellion. And in this second world age, He places them where He needs them, over time opening their minds to the truth of His Word as they study it, and eventually calling them into the service of His Word. He knows He can trust them once He gets their attention, and gets them up to speed in His Word of truth.

So how are you doing? Is the truth of your Father's Word getting *your* attention? Then perhaps you have a destiny to fulfill in service to your heavenly Father in helping spread that Word of truth!

There's a lot to learn, but you should be getting a good grasp of the basics at this point. And if it's touching your heart and your soul, and opening your eyes and your ears, you may just have a destiny awaiting you that's as exciting and fulfilling as any you could have ever dreamed of.

That's because your heavenly Father will use His faithful elect in the final generation of this second world age to stand up against Satan once again. They will even be instrumental in his downfall, as we'll learn in the remainder of this study.

The bottom line is that in the first world age, when Satan rebelled against God and tried to overthrow God's throne and set up his own little kingdom, one-third of God's children outright rebelled against God, and followed Satan. The other two-thirds failed Him altogether by sitting on the sidelines, some too wrapped up in their own little worlds to care, and others too unlearned to make a faithful stand.

And finally, a tiny band of faithful and productive children stood by His side and helped face Satan down.

So how would you feel if one-third of your children rebelled against you, and the other two thirds basically looked on with mild disinterest?

Obviously, our heavenly Father was faced with a conundrum at that time: He could utterly destroy the rebellious one-third of His own children in order to restore the perfect harmony and peace of His family kingdom. But how would He deal with the other two-thirds of His children (excepting the elect) who didn't even love Him enough to take a stand for Him? Would He have to destroy them too?

That's not our Father's way. As it is written in parable form in Luke chapter 13, our heavenly Father will do what's necessary to help save His wayward children. But if they don't respond in kind to his benevolence, then frankly, after that, they're done for:

Luke 13:6 He spake also this parable; A certain man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came and sought fruit thereon, and found none.

Luke 13:7 Then said he unto the dresser of his vineyard, Behold, these three years I come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and find none: cut it down; why cumbereth it the ground?

Luke 13:8 And he answering said unto him, Lord, let it alone this year also, till I shall dig about it, and dung it:

Luke 13:9 And if it bear fruit, well: and if not, then after that thou shalt cut it down.

That's the principle our heavenly Father goes by. If something fails to produce fruit for you in a given amount of time, give it one last opportunity. "Fertilize" it *with the Word of God* so it has access to the spiritual nutrients needed to grow and become a productive member of the family household of God. Then, if it still refuses to bear fruit, cut it down.

So instead of destroying His own children at Satan's rebellion, our heavenly Father chose to completely overthrow that first world *age* (which, as we've learned, was millions of years old), and start over with this present second world age –

-- an age in which we each have to come through flesh bodies *one time only* to make up our minds *with a clean slate* whether or not we want to serve Satan or God, and also to experience flesh death so that we'll better appreciate the eternal life He has to offer us.

What's more, He was not unwilling to make the same trip through the flesh that each of His own children have to make. Indeed, after instituting this second world age, our heavenly Father then came into this world in the flesh tabernacle we call Christ Jesus, and even gave His own life for our sins, as a means of defeating the devil's own plans.

As it is written in the great book of Hebrews 2:14, "*Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil...*"

In short, He came through the flesh and suffered death as we do, to show us the way. He did it perfectly, of course. We all fall short of the mark. But by giving His life for us as a ransom for our sins, we are counted perfect when we love Him, and follow Him, and repent in His name of our personal shortcomings as they happen.

As it is written in Hosea 13:14, "*I will ransom them from the power of the grave; I will redeem them from death....*" And as it is written again in Mark 10:45, "*For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give His life a ransom for many.*"

So He has done much to "dung the tree" in hopes it will produce fruit for Him, which is to say, He has done much to give His wayward children everything they need to return to Him with open arms and be received back into the family of God.

He even institutes the millennium teaching period at the very end of this second world age, so all of His wayward children can learn of Him with discipline, unencumbered by these weak and sinful flesh bodies and the sinful elements of this world.

Indeed, as we discovered earlier in this study in II Peter chapter 3, at His second advent He immediately destroys with fire all of the evil elements of this earth – all deceptive doctrine, false church tradition, perversion, pornography, drugs, debt and usury, corrupt politics, propaganda – so there will be no stumbling blocks whatsoever to learning the truth. Even our weak and sinful flesh bodies are done away with at that time (I Corinthians 15:52).

And guess what? During that millennium teaching period, for the first time in their lives, many of God's children who have never heard their Father's Word taught with understanding and discipline will have a fair chance of hearing and understanding His Word *without outside interference*.

And that includes that rebellious one-third of God's children who turned against him in the first world age. But will they take advantage of the opportunity in this second world age to love and serve Him?

That's a question that, in large part, is still up in the air. The Scriptures foretell that just before Christ's second advent, that one-third of God's children will once again fall to Satan's deception, and will stand by his side when he arrives to "deceive the whole world" (Rev. 12:9).

As it is written:

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

In this verse, the sixth angel has sounded, meaning the sixth trumpet has been blown. And it is sometime directly after the sounding of the sixth trumpet that Satan and his fallen angels are cast out of heaven onto this old earth, exactly as it's written in Revelation 12:7-12, with Satan having only a short time to deceive the whole world into believing he is the Lord.

Of course, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ returns to this earth *afterwards*, at the sound of the *seventh* trump, to bind Satan in the pit for one thousand years so that His children can have disciplined teaching without satanic interference.

So it is during the time between the sounding of the sixth trump and the sounding of the seventh trump that the deceptive satanic activity really reaches its peak. Here's how it starts:

Rev 9:14 Saying to the sixth angel which had the trumpet, Loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates.

When those four evil angels who serve Satan are released from their bonds in the river Euphrates, things are going to change dramatically in this old world, beginning first in the Middle East and then gradually spreading around the globe.

Indeed, things already *are* heating up in the Middle East, which is the barometer of the end of this world age. So as a watchman of the Lord, you'd really better be on your toes at this stage of the game, for we are indeed in the *final generation* of this second world age – the generation of the fig tree in which all things prophesied regarding the end days are coming to pass right before your eyes (Matthew 24:32-33).

And sooner or later that sixth trumpet will begin to blow, and those four angels will be loosed. And nothing will ever be the same on this earth again. Current events in the Middle East seem to indicate it could be *soon*.

As a Christian, you're supposed to be a watchman for the Lord, so be sure to stay on the watch, particularly in regards to events in the Middle East. This is certainly no time to fall asleep on the watch.

Rev 9:15 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**.

Well, there they are: those “third part” of men, which are the one-third of God's children we've been studying. Yes, this verse verifies that one-third who fell to Satan's deception in the *first* world age are here on this earth in flesh bodies in the final days of this *second* world age.

And they must face Satan once again. They faced him once in the first world age, and fell for his deception. Now they will face him again, in this second world age. You might call it their “mid-term exam.” And after the millennium teaching period, they'll face him one *final* time before the judgment. And as we'll see later in this study, if they don't overcome Satan's deception at that time, it's “three strikes and you're out!”

Now please don't go running off into the flesh on me, here. Where it says in the above verse that the four angels are released from their bonds in the river Euphrates “for to slay the third part of men,” I have to remind you that this is not talking about *physical* slaughter.

The one-third of God's children who followed Satan in the first world age were “slain” with Satanic *deception*. This means they were slain *spiritually* – they were deceived into following Satan, who, spiritually speaking, is *death* (Heb. 2:14), rather than following God, who is Life. And in the final generation of this second world age, that one-third will once again be slain with satanic deception.

Just as God has His great sword of truth, which is His Word, so Satan and his fallen angels wield a great sword of deception – *religious* deception (Rev. 6:4; 6:8; 13:10). It's how they convince that initial one-third of God's children to get in line with Satan's policies and follow him heart and soul. And it's ultimately how they'll deceive the rest of the world, too, with the exception of God's faithful elect, who, of course, will not be deceived for they know their Father's Word and stand firm in it.

In short, the four Satanic angels loosed from their bonds in the river Euphrates at the sound of the sixth trump are released for the specific purpose of deceiving that one-third of God's children

who fell to Satan in the first world age. Those four evil angels will begin the process of religious indoctrination and deception that will once again ensnare that one-third of God's children at Satan's arrival to this old earth in his role as the false messiah.

And thanks to the activity of those four fallen angels, when Satan arrives to this earth with the remainder of his fallen angels during that time of the sixth trumpet, that one-third of God's children who fell to him in the first world age will *instantly* fall to him again, believing him to be the "messiah" they've all been waiting for.

Rev 9:16 And the number of the army of the horsemen were two hundred thousand thousand: and I heard the number of them.

The phrase "two hundred thousand thousand" means *200 million*. While that's just a tiny *fraction* of the one-third of God's children who fell to Satan's deception in the first world age (after all, our heavenly Father has literally *billions* of children), it's still quite an army of deceived people those four fallen angels from the river Euphrates will wield spiritual and political influence over right off the bat, after they're released from their chains.

You might think of this 200 million man army as Satan's religious shock troops who will be sent forth to help spread the deceptive religious doctrine that will ensnare that one-third of God's children who fell to Satan in the first world age, and ultimately the rest of the world as well (with the exception of God's elect, of course).

Indeed, in Revelation 12:7-12, we learn that Satan will ultimately "*deceiveth the whole world,*" with the expressed exception of that small band of God's elect who will stand firmly against him, and who will overcome his deception through the Word of God and through the blood of Christ.

So this 200 million man army is just the start. It's the front-line troops those four satanic angels from the river Euphrates will wield influence over as they go forth to slay (i.e., deceive) the "third part of men."

Here's something to meditate on regarding this initial 200 million man army: If you were standing right there in the Middle East today, at the banks of the Euphrates River from which the four fallen angels are to be released, and you're surveying all of the turmoil around you, and the Satanic acts of murder, mayhem, and terrorist destruction going on even today, could you make an educated guess as to what geographical region of the world might be harboring that initial 200 million man army, even now?

Call it speculation, if you will. It's just something to think about. But it makes complete sense that the initial 200 million man army deceived into following Satanic doctrine by those four fallen angels will most likely be *from that very geographic area of the world from which the four angels are loosed*. In other words, if you know where the river Euphrates is, you know where this 200 million man army will most likely come from.

I'm speaking of a people in the Middle East today who number some 360 million in total population, and comprise some 22 states and territories stretching from the Atlantic Ocean in the

west to the Arabian Sea in the east, and from the Mediterranean Sea in the north to the Indian Ocean in the southeast. You know them as the Arab nations. Again, call it speculation if you will. It's just something to think about. After all, the Arabs are the *only* people in the vicinity of the river Euphrates who have the population numbers large enough to cull this great 200 million man army from.

Rev 9:17 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.

Biblically speaking, *priests* wear breastplates. So this is an army of strikingly *religious* adherents. And the fire and smoke and brimstone issuing out of their mouths is symbolic of pure religious deception. Lies. Blasphemies. Tortured spiritual logic. Arrogant religious boastings.

The bottom line is that the four evil angels from the river Euphrates will immediately wield influence over some two hundred million men. And it is my assertion that this two hundred million man army of religious adherents will then go forth throughout the Middle East to help spread the Satanic message that will ultimately deceive the full one-third of God's children who fell in the first world age, as well as the rest of the world (again, excepting God's elect).

For as we learned earlier in this study, as it is written in II Thessalonians 2:1-4, when Satan arrives to this earth he will seat himself in the temple of God *in Jerusalem*, and pretend to be God. And the peoples of the Middle East -- "Jew," Muslim and Christian alike -- will be drawn to him. Again, call it speculation if you will, but I believe this 200 million man army of decidedly religious adherents will lead their own people to that evil one sitting in the temple of God, pretending to be God.

Now I'm not saying the Arab world constitutes the one-third of God's children who fell to Satan in the first world age. I'm just saying it all *begins* there at the river Euphrates. That's where the initial 200 million man religious army is formed by those four fallen angels who are released from their bonds at the river Euphrates.

And on the other side of the Euphrates, over in Jerusalem, is where Satan will be seated in the temple, pulling off his great deception, pretending to be the Messiah of God. So that's where you'd better be watching for the peoples of the Middle East to be drawn to. And afterwards, the *entire rest of the world* (with the exception of God's elect) will be drawn to Jerusalem as well, to worship the false messiah, thinking him to be the One promised by God.

Rev 9:18 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.

That one-third of God's children are "killed" (i.e., deceived) by the false doctrine issuing out of the mouths of that 200 million man religious army that's been primed by the four fallen angels from the great river Euphrates.

Again, I must emphasize here, be sure to move from flesh thinking to spiritual thinking. That rebellious one-third of God's children are not *physically* killed. They're slain *spiritually*, by the deceptive satanic doctrine they'll fall for.

But *never* forget: Satan does not come to this old earth in his role as the false Messiah solely to deceive that one-third of God's children he deceived in the first world age. They're just for starters. He practically already has them in his pocket, so to speak, because he had already deceived them in the first world age. But he wants *all* of God's children. In other words, all three-thirds.

After all, he knows he's under the death sentence, and the only way he can get back at God for that death sentence is to spiritually destroy as many of God's children as possible. As I've emphasized repeatedly, the Scriptures foretell in Revelation 12:7-12, that when Satan is kicked out of heaven to this earth he comes here to "deceive the *whole world*."

The one-third of God's children that Satan deceived in the first world age will just be the easy pickings. They'll be primed for him by the actions of those four evil angels who will be released from the river Euphrates, and by actions of the 200 million man army of religious adherents those four angels muster up and direct upon their release.

This is another reason our gracious heavenly Father will usher in the 1,000 year "millennium" teaching period on the "day of the Lord" at Christ's second advent. Too many of His children have simply never had a chance to learn the truth in this second world age.

Part IV: Satan's Deception

Indeed, when that final war in heaven spills over into this earth, just before Christ's second advent, the *real* test begins. Satan and his fallen angels will arrive to this earth masquerading as Christ and His angels. And all those who have never taken the time to study their Father's Word will be deceived.

Let's take a closer look at the Scriptures in Revelation chapter 12 pertaining to this event which I've repeatedly referred to in this study :

Rev 12:7 And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels,

No doubt about it, Satan is a fighter. Of course, this is *spiritual* warfare, not physical warfare. Satan is trying to take over God's kingdom through deception.

Rev 12:8 And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven.

Satan loses the battle in the heavens. And that's when it spills out onto this old earth.

Rev 12:9 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.

He will indeed deceive the *whole world* (i.e., except for God's elect) into believing that he's the Messiah the world has been waiting for and that the band of fallen angels who return with him are the angels of God. He's pretty much already got the one-third who stood with him in the first world age deceived into believing he's "God." Now he's after the rest of the world.

As St. Paul warned in II Corinthians 11:14-15, "*And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.*"

The phrase "transformed into" should more accurately be translated "masquerades as." In other words, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is the Light. And Christ's angels are His light-bearers. But Satan and his fallen angels come to this earth *masquerading* as the Lord and His angels of light. But they are fakes. It's just like in the first world age. Again, there's nothing new under the sun. As it happened then, so it will happen again.

Satan and his fallen angels will arrive to this earth knowing they've lost the war in heaven and are going to end up dying in the lake of fire. And all they want is to deceive as many of God's children as they can, so they won't have to go into that lake of fire alone.

Misery loves company, my friend. As I mentioned earlier, it's Satan's way of getting back at our heavenly Father the only way he knows how, i.e., to take as many of God's children to with him into the lake of fire as possible, through deception.

Satan knows this entire second world age was set up by our heavenly Father to *save* as many of His wayward children as possible. And he intends to do his best to derail that great plan of salvation. But Satan's downfall will end up triggering the salvation of many.

Rev 12:10 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.

As I mentioned earlier in this study, Satan is, in essence, the chief prosecuting attorney of heaven. That's why he's called "the accuser of our brethren" in the above verse. He delights in reporting your sins and mine to our heavenly Father, and demanding we be punished for them in accord with the Law. So thank your heavenly Father for providing repentance and salvation through Christ Jesus, from that Mercy Seat of old, which is His throne.

But when you see Satan and his fallen angels cast down to this earth, pretending to be the Lord and His righteous angels, you know that the show is just about over. Satan will pull off his deception. And shortly afterwards, Christ's second advent will take place.

Indeed, according to Revelation chapter 9, Satan will have only five short months to pull off his deception. As it is written in Revelation 9:4-5:

“And it was commanded them that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; but only those men which have not the seal of God in their foreheads. And to them it was given that they should not kill them, but that they should be tormented five months; and their torment was as the torment of a scorpion, when he striketh a man.”

Satan and his fallen angels cannot even touch those who have the seal of God in their foreheads. In other words, those who have the Word of God firmly ingrained into their minds through study, contemplation and prayer are immune to his deception.

What’s more, Satan and his troops cannot physically kill flesh men of *any* kind while they’re here. But they can “torment” the unlearned with spiritual deception. And their time period to pull off their great deception is *five months*.

God’s elect will stand up against Satan and his fallen angels at that time. That’s their destiny. And they’ll be delivered up for a testimony against that old adversary and his fallen angels.

Rev 12:11 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.

As it is written in Mark 13:9-11, when the elect are delivered up to give their testimony, the Holy Spirit of God will speak through them:

“But take heed to yourselves: for they shall deliver you up to councils; and in the synagogues ye shall be beaten: and ye shall be brought before rulers and kings for my sake, for a testimony against them. And the gospel must first be published among all nations.

But when they shall lead you, and deliver you up, take no thought beforehand what ye shall speak, neither do ye premeditate: but whatsoever shall be given you in that hour, that speak ye: for it is not ye that speak, but the Holy Ghost.”

Yes, as we learned earlier in this study from II Thessalonians 2:1-4, when Satan arrives to this old earth he immediately seats himself in the temple of God at Jerusalem. And from there he reaches out first to inhabitants of the Middle East – “Jew,” Muslim and Christian alike -- healing the deadly wound that takes place in that geographical region just before he arrives (Revelation 13:3) and bringing about the false peace that will deceive the world into thinking the “Messiah” has returned.

And at that time the prophesy of Zechariah 8:23 will come to pass, “*Thus saith the Lord of hosts, In those days it shall come to pass that ten men shall take hold out of all languages of the nations, even shall take hold of the skirt of him that is a Jew, saying, We will go with you: for we have heard that God is with you.*”

Yes, the chief world leaders will come to Jerusalem to bow before the false Christ, and pledge their kingdoms to his care. But the elect will not bow the knee to him (Romans 11:4), for they know they must be delivered up to the “synagogues” and “councils” to testify against not only Satan, but against these deceived rulers and kings as well.

And when the elect of God are delivered up before Satan and his synagogues and councils in Jerusalem to deliver their testimony, the Holy Spirit of God will speak through them, just as it spoke through the apostles on that first Pentecost day in Acts chapter 2. And at that point the entire world will learn they’ve been deceived. And the Gospel will go forth in fullness and truth to all nations for the first time ever, from that point forward.

Even under threat of death, God’s faithful elect will deliver that powerfully devastating testimony against Satan and his fallen angels, as God Himself speaks through them.

God’s elect are not afraid of Satan, who *is* death (Heb. 2:14). After all, he’s nothing more than a dead man, walking. And besides that, God’s elect know that God’s Word in Luke chapter 21 says “Not a hair on your head shall be harmed” at that time.

Rev 12:12 Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabitants 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.

As we’ve learned, that “short time” is five months. Many believe it’s the five month period between May and September, the so-called “locust season.” But it does not matter when Satan and his fallen angels arrive. As watchmen of God, we have to be prepared for anything, at any time.

What most Christians are totally *unprepared* for is that when the devil arrives to this old earth, he’ll look very much like the Lamb of God, but he speaks as a dragon.

In other words, he comes in *imitation* of Christ Jesus, the Passover Lamb. But the doctrine that flows forth from his mouth will be sickeningly deceptive. And why? Because he is the *dragon*, not the Lamb. And he knows he has but a “short time” to deceive the world into believing he’s the Lamb of God. So he will play the role of the “Lamb” to the hilt. He’s an actor. And having stood at the Mercy Seat of God for so long, he knows how to play the role he so jealously covets.

As it is written in Revelation 13: 11-14:

“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.

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.

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

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.”

Satan is a real miracle-working son-of-a-gun, alright. He will call fire down from heaven, and scare the world into thinking He’s God, and that the great white throne judgment is upon them.

As we learned earlier in this study, it is written in Isaiah 14:13-14 that he loves playing God: “*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: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.*”

And all he wants is the love and respect of the people he hates the most. And that’s God’s children. Indeed, he’ll use great signs and wonders – flat out miracles – to deceive God’s children into worshipping him, just as he did in the *first* world age before our heavenly Father destroyed it.

But at Christ’s second advent, which is called “the day of the Lord” in II Peter 3:10 and “the Lord’s day” in Revelation 1:10, Satan will be thrown into the pit for 1,000 years, while God’s wayward and deceived children are taught the truth, with discipline.

God’s wayward children will finally get the opportunity to hear God’s Word taught *in full*, without interference and without the contradiction of vain church traditions.

As you’ve already learned in II Peter 3:8 earlier in this study, “*...one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.*” That one thousand year “day of the Lord” – the millennium teaching period – is our Lord’s last and greatest effort at rescuing his wayward and rebellious children from Satan’s grasp.

Our heavenly Father is using it to “dung the fig tree” one last time (Luke 16:3-9), so to speak, in hopes it will finally produce fruit.

In other words, our Lord and Savior and His elect will teach, in fullness and truth for 1,000 years. And God’s children will learn unhindered by the wiles of Satan and his followers. Many will be saved.

Part V:

The “Final Exam” (Satan’s Last Stand After the Millenium)

But as the Scripture states, directly *after* the millennium teaching period, and just *before* our heavenly Father ushers in the third and eternal world age, Satan will be released from the pit for a short while. And he will go forth one final brief time to deceive the nations.

It’s his last stand. And all those who willingly embrace his lies at that time, after having been deceived in the *first* world age, and deceived again in the *second* world age, and then for a third

time at the end of one thousand years of perfect teaching under Christ and His elect, will indeed be cast into the lake of fire along with Satan, and destroyed. Quite frankly it's three strikes and you're out!

As it is written:

Rev 20:7 And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison,

After the multitudes of God's wayward children are taught the truth for one thousand years, Satan will be loosed from that pit, and will be sent forth to them one last time, for the specific purpose of trying to deceive them.

In essence, it's their *final exam*, designed to see who was listening to God's Word during the millennium teaching period, and who wasn't...who cared enough about God's Word to hear it and to grow in understanding, and who could have cared less about it.

Rev 20:8 And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea.

Many of God's children will once again be taken in by Satan's final act of deception at the end of the millennium teaching period. How many? Well, most likely the vast majority of the one-third of God's children who were deceived into trying to overthrow God's throne in the first world age, "the number of whom is as the sand of the sea."

As God's elect, we'll work to save as many of them as we can during the millennium teaching period. But when the millennium teaching period ends and God releases Satan to go forth one last time in deception, there will be no more chances. It's over for anyone who falls for his deceptive act the third time. The "fig tree" has been dinged enough. If it's not producing fruit by this time, it will be uprooted and destroyed.

Rev 20:9 And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them.

Satan convinces this great troop of people to surround God's encampment in Jerusalem, where the elect and all of those who refused to bow to Satan when he arrived to this earth will be based at that time.

Once again, at this point Satan will have convinced many of God's children to rebel against the Lord. But they won't get very far. The minute they get the place surrounded, the fire of God's wrath comes down from heaven.

That's the "second death, which means the death of the soul itself, meaning they will simply be blotted out and never exist again.

Rev 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.

As we learned earlier in the great book of Ezekiel, chapter 28, Satan will be turned to ashes from within. He'll never exist again, and neither will his followers. Indeed, the phrase "tormented day and night for ever and ever" is a Greek euphemism meaning they will never exist again.

As it is written in Revelation 14:11, "And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever..." meaning once they're exposed to the fire, all that's left is the smoke. It will be the only thing left of them. Our heavenly Father is not a sadist. It gives Him no pleasure to torture His children – not even Satan.

Rev 20:11 And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.

This is the great white throne judgment, commencing. Each of God's children will at this point be called forward to give an accounting of their actions.

There will be reward for the faithful (including eternal life). And there will be *no* reward for the unfaithful. They will be destroyed, never to exist again. Therefore, they will not enter into the eternity – the third and final world age.

Rev 20:12 And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.

If you're not found written in the book of life by this time, you haven't made it. It's that simple. You'll be judged by what's written about you in the record books kept by our heavenly Father, which hold the entire record of His children's iniquities and unfaithfulness. So be sure to remain faithful to your heavenly Father, in Christ, so that you're found written in the book of life!

Rev 20:13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.

It is our *works* that count with our heavenly Father. Were they works of faith? Or works of ungodliness, perversion, disruption, rebellion and malfeasance? It's all written in the books. Don't you ever doubt it.

That's why the gift of repentance through Christ is so precious, beloved. Don't ever denigrate it. And don't fail to use it. We're all sinners. We all fall short of the glory of God. But your heavenly Father loves a humble and repentant soul.

Rev 20:14 And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

The first death is death of the flesh. As I've mentioned throughout this study, we all basically have to go through that one, except for those who are alive at Christ's second advent, who will be changed into their new spiritual bodies "in the twinkling of an eye" (I Corinthians 15:52).

This flesh experience, which includes disease and decay and even death, is designed to teach us to value our heavenly Father's gift of eternal life in the Spirit. But the "second death" means the death of the soul. In other words, if you've followed Satan that final time, you will simply no longer exist. Body (death #1) and soul (death #2) are simply turned to ashes in the lake of fire. Gone forever more.

Rev 20:15 And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

And that's how it ends for the wicked and the unfaithful. Make sure you're not one of them.

Part VI: Full Circle To the Third World Age

At this point, everything comes back full circle to that time "when the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy" in the first world age, as described so beautifully in the great book of Job.

God will restore His peaceable kingdom in its fullness and majesty. And the only ones who will reside within it will be those who *earned* it through their faithful work on His behalf.

Make sure you're one of them. Make sure you produce good fruit for your Father, in Christ. That way, you'll be in good company for the eternity. For as it is written, while many will be cast into the lake of fire, many more will be saved:

Rev 7:9 After this I beheld, and, lo, 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;

This is the group you want to be part of, beloved, who will enter that third world age – the eternal age.

Rev 7:10 And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb.

Rev 7:11 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,

These are all of those who have chosen to follow the Living Word of God, which is to say, Christ Jesus. They have overcome Satan's deception. Many of these are God's elect. And many more of them were pulled from the fire of Satanic deception through the teaching of God's Word by

His faithful elect. And they embraced that Word wholeheartedly, and worked to become fruitful for their heavenly Father in Christ.

Rev 7:12 Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen.

They are sincerely grateful to our heavenly Father for his benevolence and His salvation. That is one of the distinguishing characteristics of the saved.

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

St. John is asked if he knows who this white-robed multitude is.

Rev 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.

When Satan was cast out of heaven to this earth (Rev. 12:7-12) to pull off his great deception, these understood the truth, embraced Father's Word and refused to follow Satan. They chose to stand by their heavenly Father and His Christ through that period of great tribulation. That time is soon coming, beloved. Which side are you on?

Rev 7:15 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.

In the third age to come, which is the age of our Father's eternal Kingdom, our heavenly Father will dwell among His faithful children for evermore, in person.

Rev 7:16 They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat.

We go back to that peaceful and joyous Kingdom we started from in the first world age, before Satan lost his mind and began pulling multitudes of God's children away from God and to his own side. But Satan will no longer be with us. Nor will any who choose to continue to follow him even after the millennium teaching period.

Rev 7:17 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.

It will be a beautiful time. No more tears. No more sorrows. No more pain. No more death. As it is further written in Revelation chapter 21:

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.

The word “first” here is the Greek word *protos* (Strong’s G-4413) and it should be translated “former.” The former heaven and the former earth will have passed away, to make way for the third and final age – the age of the eternal Kingdom of God wherein dwelleth righteousness.

What’s more, the word “new” in this verse should be translated “refreshed” or “rejuvenated” just like in II Peter 3:10-13. Our heavenly Father is restoring this old world to its original pristine state for us. There will be no more sea, because the water canopy will surround the earth once again, as it did in the first world age, before our heavenly Father loosed that great canopy and destroyed the earth with a flood that obliterated everything.

Rev 21:2 And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

Here we see our Father’s eternal headquarters, coming down from heaven to this old earth. He intends to be with us forever, at this point. It will quite literally be heaven on earth, for wherever the King is, there is His dominion, also.

Rev 21:3 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.

It’s a most wonderful time to look forward too, beloved. And it’s yours, if you want it. Your heavenly Father offers it to “whosoever will take the water of life freely,” which is to say, the Living Water, your heavenly Father’s Living Word, Jesus Christ.

Rev 21:4 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.

This mess will be over, and we’ll never have reason to sorrow again. The second world age has ended at that point, and the third world age is in full force. For the eternity. Even the memories of people you may have known, who didn’t make it to this point because they chose to follow Satan rather than God, will be washed away from your mind.

Rev 21:5 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.

Again, the word “new” should be properly translated “refreshed” or “rejuvenated.” It’s the same old earth. It’s just completely rejuvenated. It’s quite literally going to be heaven on earth. He’s doing it for us, beloved. Never forget that. And always thank Him for it.

Rev 21:6 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.

Alpha means “the beginning,” and Omega means “the end that brings about a new beginning.” That pretty much sums it up. This is why Christ said we are to dwell in Him, and He in us.

That's what gets you to the "end that brings about a new beginning." Partake freely of that water of life, which is His Word, and learn of Him.

Rev 21:7 He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.

If you want your heavenly Father to count you as one of his faithful children, you have to overcome Satan's deception. It's not that hard. While Satan claims to have much to offer, he's really just a dead man, walking. God's elect, that faithful productive remnant who have stood by God's side since the first world age find Satan and his smooth talk to be an abomination. How about you?

Rev 21:8 But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

The word "fearful" above should be translated "faithless." How can you fail to have faith in your heavenly Father, when He's spelled it all out for you in advance, so you can watch it come to pass with our own eyes, even explaining exactly how it all began and exactly how it's all going to come full circle in the end?

In the rejuvenated Kingdom to come -- the eternal Kingdom of our heavenly Father -- there will be only the faithful. There will be no unbelieving, but only those who love and obey God and His Christ. There will be no abominable, no murderers, no whoremonger (i.e., male prostitutes; debauchers), no sorcerers (i.e., drug traffickers), no idolaters and no liars.

In short, there will be nothing left to disrupt our heavenly Father's eternal Kingdom. He has promised us a safe, secure, joyous and peaceful eternity. No more pain, no more sorrow, no more disruption, no more death. Just as it once was "in the beginning," so it will be again. But only better, and *forever*.

What more could you ask for from your own Father?

Part VII: Bonus Section

A Closer Look at the Establishment of This Second World Age in Genesis Chapter 1 and 2

I promised you at the beginning of this study that I'd document for you that while this earth is literally millions of years old, this second world age in which we now live is only about 14,000 year old at the most.

To do so, I have to take you back to the very first chapter of the great book of Genesis, and pick back up at verse three where we originally left off in the beginning of this study.

We'll examine the so-called "six days of creation" in Genesis chapters one and two. And you'll see with clarity that our heavenly Father was not "creating" the earth during those six days, but

instead was simply *refurbishing* this old earth after He had destroyed that first world age when Satan led one-third of God's children in rebellion against God's throne.

As we've already learned, the creation described in Genesis 1:1 was of the *first* world age. And by Genesis 1:2 that age had become *tohu va bohu*, which is to say, "without form and void." I have to assume at this point in the study that you already have that important understanding down pat. If you don't, go back and read Part I of this study carefully before proceeding. So as you'll see in the rest of this study, *nothing* our heavenly Father brought forth in Genesis 1:3 through Genesis chapter 2 – including the plants and animals, and the various races of mankind -- could possibly have been part of that original creation at all.

After all, the entire first world age was destroyed at Genesis 1:2. And Father simply started over beginning at Genesis 1:3, *refurbishing* this old earth with everything needed for this flesh life through which we all must pass one time only in order to make up our minds whether to serve God or serve Satan.

So let's go all of the way back to Genesis chapter one, beginning at verse three, to see our heavenly Father starting over with this *second* world age.

As you'll discover once more, there are *many* things in your Father's Word that the modern church has failed to understand, or teach. So let's get started on this final segment of the study and see what more we can learn from our Father's Word.

Understanding Day #1

Gen 1:3 And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.

Gen 1:4 And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness.

Gen 1:5 And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day

In Genesis 1:3-5, on the very *first* day of this second world age, before doing anything else, our heavenly Father used His Word to bring *light* back into the world, and to separate the light from the darkness. He then called the light Day, and the darkness Night.

Why? Because as we learned in Genesis 1:2, after God destroyed that first world age, there was "darkness upon the face of the deep." In other words, He had snuffed out all life-giving light, so to speak, when He overthrew that entire age.

But what was this darkness He would call Night? And what was this light He would call Day?

You'll need to think spiritually on these verses. God won't be creating the sun and the moon and the stars until Genesis 1:14-19, as we'll see in just a few moments. So the "light" and "darkness" in these verses, as well as the "Day" and "Night," are *spiritual*, rather than physical.

As it is written in the first chapter of the great book of John, our Lord and Savior – who is the Living Word of God – is that “light.”

- Indeed, in John 1:1-5 we’re told that Christ Jesus was the Light of this world at the very *beginning* of creation, which is to say, in the first world age.
- In John 8:12, we’re told that Christ Jesus is the Light of this present world age.
- And in Revelation 21:23, we see that Christ Jesus is the Light at the very *end*, as well, when we move into the third and final world age, which is the *eternal* age.

Let’s take a quick look at those verses for documentation:

As it is written in John 1:1-5 regarding the creation of the *first* world age:

“*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.*”

Yes, this was that “light” that literally gives God’s children their life. In other words, this “light” is a *prerequisite* for life.

This is why *restoring the light* to the earth was the very *first* thing our heavenly Father did as he moved to refurbish this old earth after the overthrow of that first world age. At the overthrow, our heavenly Father had quenched that life-giving light. But He restored it as He began refurbishing this old earth in preparation for flesh mankind.

And as it is written in John 8:12 of this *second* world age:

“*Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.*”

Yes, Christ is the light and the life-giving force of this second world age, also. He is that light that was re-established on this earth by our heavenly Father in Genesis 1:3-5 above. There can be no life without His Light. Therefore, it was the very *first* thing our heavenly Father re-established.

And as it is written in Revelation 21:23, where it speaks of the heavenly city New Jerusalem after it’s set up on this earth for the eternity in the *third* world age:

“*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.*”

So what have we learned from these verses above?

We've learned that Christ – the Living Word of God, who is also the Light -- was there, “in the beginning,” meaning at the creation of the *first* world age. And “all things were made by Him, and without Him was not any thing made that was made.”

In other words, it was all His doing. He *is* the Light, and the creative force of God. And His light is what gives us all life. Life cannot exist without His light.

What's more, He was there as this second world age was brought into being by our heavenly Father, as He Himself testified when He walked this earth in a flesh tabernacle: “Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world...”

And at the very end, when we move into the eternity at Revelation 21:23, which is the third and final world age, we see He's the light there, as well. And that light is further described as “the glory of God” – a fitting title for our Lord and Savior. That “light” is indeed the Shekinah glory that gives the divine spark of life to every living being.

And that's why in Genesis 1:3-5 above, the very *first* thing our heavenly Father re-establishes is the light. Remember, He is beginning the process of *refurbishing this old earth* at that point, with the intention of establishing life, including plants, trees, animals and flesh mankind. And you simply cannot have *life* without the presence of His spiritual *light*, which is Christ Jesus. Indeed, we couldn't draw a single breath today unless we were animated with life from our heavenly Father's Word. It's His *Light* that gives us life.

And finally, we learn in Genesis 1:4 above that this light has been divided from the darkness. What darkness? The darkness that was “on the face of the deep” in Genesis 1:2. The darkness of spiritual devastation caused by Satan's rebellion. In other words, Satan and his lies are represented by the darkness, which corrupts and ultimately leads directly to spiritual death.

But as we see in John 1:1-5 above, when the light was shined into the darkness (yes, the very same darkness that “was upon the face of the deep” in Genesis 1:2), the darkness “comprehended it not,” meaning, in the original Greek language, the darkness could not *overtake* the light.

If you shine the light upon the darkness, the darkness begins to dissipate. God's Living Word – our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ -- is that Light. So stick with the Light, dear one. It will always get you where you're going. It's what Father restored for us at the beginning of this second world age.

And what is this “Day” and “Night” in Genesis 1:5? As it is written in Luke 1:78, Christ is our “Dayspring on high” -- which is to say, as the Living Word of God He provides us with the spiritual light we need to overcome the spiritual darkness, or night.

This in turn allows us to walk in the life-giving spiritual “daylight” 24 hours a day. It doesn't matter if it's dark out, or not. We're the children of the day, and thanks to the Living Word of God, it is *always* daylight for us, spiritually speaking.

As St. Paul would explain thousands of years later, in I Thessalonians 5:5, “*Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.*”

There you have that “day” and “night”, that “light” and “darkness” again from Genesis 1:4-5. It’s that simple. If you’re smart, you’ll embrace the Light through the Word of God because without it, there’s no entrance into the third world age, which is the *eternal* age. It is the Light of the eternal age, and it is *yours* to embrace even today, because your heavenly Father re-instituted that light to this old earth as His very first act in Genesis 1:3-5 above.

So the very first thing our heavenly Father did, through His Word, at the very start of this second world age, is to separate the light from the darkness, the Day from the Night, the truth from the deception, spiritual life from spiritual death.

Indeed, as God began speaking in Genesis 1:3, His Word went forth and re-established the “light” upon this earth. His Word IS that Light.

If you are one of God’s elect, you have that built-in instinct, or unction, that helps you discern between right and wrong, light and darkness, truth and deception, righteousness and unrighteousness, the things which lead to spiritual life and the things which lead to spiritual death. You’re never quite comfortable around deception and lies, are you? You prefer the life-giving light of truth. Think about it. For that is what our heavenly Father restored on the very first day of this first world age.

Understanding Day #2:

Gen 1:6 And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters.

Gen 1:7 And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament: and it was so.

Gen 1:8 And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day.

Now we see that in Genesis 1:6-8, which takes place on the *second* day of the refurbishing of this old earth, our heavenly Father created a firmament – i.e., an expanse, or boundary -- to separate the land masses from the waters.

As we learned in II Peter chapter 3, the entire earth had been *completely submerged* in a flood during the overthrow of the first world age.

As I mentioned earlier, this is why the Scripture in Genesis 1:2, speaking of the condition of the earth directly after the first world age was destroyed, states, “...and darkness was upon the face of the deep...”

The “deep” means the water. Everything was covered with water. (Again, this is not Noah’s flood, which will not take place until Genesis chapter 6. This is the cataclysmic deluge that destroyed the entire first world age.)

So in the following verses, our heavenly Father now sets boundaries of separation for what will ultimately become the land and the seas. You’ll see this more clearly in just a moment or two, when we get to the third day of His refurbishing of this old earth in verses 9-10 below.

Our heavenly Father also sets boundaries for what will be the earth and the heavens -- or perhaps better stated, He separated the *physical* dimension from the *spiritual* dimension. More on that in just a moment.

But that’s how *thorough* the destruction of the first world age was, beloved. *All* of the boundaries were obliterated, and had to be set back in place, anew. Once again, you have to think *spiritually* to understand some of this. But the bottom line is that in these verses God is simply re-instituting *boundaries of separation*.

He sets physical boundaries between the waters of this earth, and the land, much as a man setting up a large terrarium or animal habitat would plan out where the water needs to go and where the land needs to go.

In other words, water covered just about everything, and our heavenly Father began *setting boundaries* that would ultimately determine, for example, where the Pacific Ocean would be, where the Atlantic Ocean would be, where the Indian Ocean would be, where the land masses that would separate these great oceans from each other would be, and even where the lakes, rivers and streams that divide the lands would be.

He even set boundaries between the waters that would flow underground (i.e., the underground rivers and aquifers that we draw water from through wells, etc.) and the waters that would flow above ground (i.e., the great streams, rivers, lakes, etc.).

As it is written of our heavenly Father regarding this same timeframe in Psalms 104:5-9:

“Who laid the foundations of the earth, that it should not be removed for ever. Thou coveredst it with the deep as with a garment: the waters stood above the mountains.

At thy rebuke they fled; at the voice of thy thunder they hasted away. They go up by the mountains; they go down by the valleys unto the place which thou hast founded for them.

Thou hast set a bound that they may not pass over; that they turn not again to cover the earth.”

In those verses from Psalm 104 you see the destruction of that first age with water (i.e., “thou coveredst it with the deep as with a garment: the waters stood above the mountains”). And immediately afterwards you see that at your heavenly Father’s command, the waters *instantly* receded (i.e., “at thy rebuke they fled” and “hasted away”) and *boundaries* were set.

Unlike Noah's flood during which the waters receded very slowly over the five month period that Noah and his family were in the ark, it was quite different at the beginning of this second world age: the waters receded *instantaneously* at God's command.

For those who like to chew the cud and meditate a little bit deeper on God's Word, here's something else to think about regarding the subject of boundaries:

Just as there are *bodies terrestrial* and *bodies celestial* in this second world age (I Corinthians 15:54), which simply means there are earthly flesh bodies and there are heavenly spiritual bodies (I Corinthians 15:40), so in like manner there are *waters terrestrial* and *waters celestial*.

And just what are these "waters"? There's only *one* thing the Scripture describes by analogy as "waters" (besides the Living Water, which is the Word of God), and that is God's own children.

As it is written in Revelation 17:15, where the archangel Gabriel is explaining to St. John one of the visions he's seen, waters always represent *people*, spiritually speaking: "*And he saith unto me, The waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues.*"

Now that's not too hard of an analogy, is it? Spiritually speaking, *waters represent God's children*, of all races, nations and tongues.

So in Genesis 1:7 above, God also set a firmament, or boundary, that would be between His children in the *spiritual* dimension from which we all come in the first place, and His children in the *flesh* dimension through which we must all pass, one time only. And as we learned in Genesis 1:8 above, He called that firmament, or boundary between the two dimensions "Heaven."

As St. Paul would teach many years later, in 1Corinthians 15:50, "*Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.*"

In other words, the flesh cannot enter into the spiritual dimension where God dwells (i.e., heaven). There's a boundary, or firmament, between the physical and spiritual dimensions. You have to shed this flesh body through *death* to enter back into the spiritual dimension from which your soul originally came. In short, God placed a boundary, or spiritual *firmament*, between the flesh dimension and the spiritual dimension.

(For those who might read this and think about taking a short cut to return home to Father, always remember that suicide is considered by your heavenly Father to be *murder of the self*. It is not an acceptable option to your heavenly Father. While there are situations such as mental imbalances in which suicide can be forgiven, in general, you will not return to your heavenly Father in good standing after committing suicide. Indeed, the sixth commandment spells out God's prohibition against murder of any kind. The Scripture warns in Revelation 21:8 that murderers will end up in the lake of fire at the end of the second world age after the great white throne judgment. And St. John warns in I John 3:15 that "no murderer hath eternal life abiding

in him.” So a word to the wise here should be sufficient. No shortcuts home. You have to allow nature to take its course. God has a purpose for you here, a plan, and even a *destiny*, particularly if you are one of His elect. And that destiny is to stand against Satan when he arrives to this earth to pull off his great deception in the final days of this flesh earth age. That’s another study for another time. But it is the truth.)

So the *second* day of God’s refurbishing of this old earth was completed with the setting of firmaments, or *boundaries* both on earth and in heaven. Even the boundaries between the physical dimension and the spiritual dimension were set. So let’s keep moving along in the Scriptures and see what else we can learn.

Understanding Day #3:

Next, in Genesis 1:9-13, you’ll learn that on the *third* day God did two specific things: He began to bring forth the land and the seas. And He began to bring forth the perennial grass, herbs and trees upon the land.

In other words, with the firmament (i.e., boundaries) for everything having been set in place on the second day, our heavenly Father quite literally begins to *sculpt* the earth to look the way He wants it as He continues refurbishing it so that life can be brought forth once again.

So first, let’s take a look at God’s sculpting of this old earth in Genesis 1:9-10 below. Then we’ll examine His bringing forth of the grass, herbs and trees in Genesis 1:11-13. Both of which events take place on the third day.

Gen 1:9 And God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear: and it was so.

Gen 1:10 And God called the dry land Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called he Seas: and God saw that it was good.

Once again, this demonstrates the severity of the destruction in the first world age. The earth lay *tohu va bohu* after that first world age was overthrown with a cataclysm. And as we see in the verses above, our heavenly Father, in essence, re-constructed the very face of the earth exactly the way He wanted it for this second world age. The mountains and the valleys were formed the way He wanted them. And the water sources were set in their places.

Going back to Psalm 104, for a moment, where both the destruction of the first world age is described, as well as the start of this second world age, we see this in verses 10-13:

He sendeth the springs into the valleys, which run among the hills.

They give drink to every beast of the field: the wild asses quench their thirst.

By them shall the fowls of the heaven have their habitation, which sing among the branches.

He watereth the hills from his chambers: the earth is satisfied with the fruit of thy works.”

In other words, after setting the boundaries on day two, on day three our heavenly Father set up the earth’s water resources for the plants and animals. God even set the springs in their places in the valleys, so the animals He’d be creating in just a few more verses would have places to drink fresh, pure water.

Finally, it’s important to note that in Genesis 1:10 above, our heavenly Father pronounces this part of His work as being *good*. In other words, at this point in time the earth was no longer *tohu va bohu*, or without form and void.

With spiritual light brought back in on day one, the boundaries set on day two, and the sculpting of this old earth being completed on day three with everything being set in its proper place such as rivers, lakes, streams, mountains, etc., the chaotic appearance of this old earth yielded to our heavenly Father’s Word, which is His creative force. And things really began to take shape in anticipation of the living things He’s about to establish on this earth.

Next, in Genesis 1:11-13, as the third day of the refurbishing of this old earth *continues*, you’ll see that God begins bringing forth the perennial grass and herbs and trees that would reproduce themselves year after year after year by producing seed.

These would be needed by both animals and man, for food. Note God’s great *care* for His creation in each step of His refurbishing of this old earth: What you’re learning in these verses is that He set everything up for us *in advance*, so that this old earth would completely sustain flesh life.

Gen 1:11 And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself, upon the earth: and it was so.

Gen 1:12 And the earth brought forth grass, and herb yielding seed after his kind, and the tree yielding fruit, whose seed was in itself, after his kind: and God saw that it was good.

Gen 1:13 And the evening and the morning were the third day.

Note that everything was brought forth “after its kind.” That’s how our Father creates. No hybrids. No “GMO” crops. Everything was perfect *exactly the way He made it*.

Too bad man hasn’t listened to Him much since then. If you even wonder why we have so many sicknesses and diseases, one good reason is that we’ve been messing with God’s nature and changing His creation, including manipulating the genetics of the very plants God gave us for food and nutrition. And guess what? Now, when we eat them, they don’t work the same way they did when He first created them. Once again, that’s another study for another time. But it’s the truth.

Understanding Day #4:

Okay, that ends the third day and now we move on to the *fourth* day of our heavenly Father's refurbishing of this old earth.

As you'll see, He now brings forth the sun and the moon. This demonstrates that the "light" and "day," and "darkness" and "night" of Genesis 1:3-5 were not physical, but instead, *spiritual*.

Gen 1:14 And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years:

Gen 1:15 And let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth: and it was so.

Gen 1:16 And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also.

Gen 1:17 And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth,

Gen 1:18 And to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness: and God saw that it was good.

Gen 1:19 And the evening and the morning were the fourth day.

Understanding Day #5:

Moving along to the fifth day, we see that our heavenly Father began to bring forth many wild creatures including water mammals, fish and fowl. Note, these are *not* domesticated creatures, or farm animals, but instead wild creatures.

Gen 1:20 And God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life, and fowl that may fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven.

Gen 1:21 And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his kind: and God saw that it was good.

Gen 1:22 And God blessed them, saying, Be fruitful, and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let fowl multiply in the earth.

Gen 1:23 And the evening and the morning were the fifth day.

Once more, you'll note that God brought forth each of the creatures "after his kind," meaning that Father's way of creation is *kind-after-kind*. That is to say, particularly in regards to procreation, each type of cattle stick with their own kind, each type of bird sticks with their own kind, each type of fish stick with their own kind, etc.

Each “kind” is unique. That’s the way God *made* it, and that’s the way God *wants* it. It is only man who, in his ignorance of God’s ways, mixes “kinds,” creating hybrids, which is very displeasing to our heavenly Father.

Understanding Day #6:

Next, as we’ll see in Genesis 1:24-31, on the *sixth* day of the refurbishment of this old earth, our heavenly Father brings forth even more wild creatures, great and small. He creates mankind on this day, as well. Let’s first take a look at the creation of the wild creatures:

Gen 1:24 And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind: and it was so.

Gen 1:25 And God made the beast of the earth after his kind, and cattle after their kind, and every thing that creepeth upon the earth after his kind: and God saw that it was good.

Once again, these living creatures, cattle, creeping things and beasts of the earth brought forth in verses 24 and 25 above are *not* the domesticated animals of the earth, meaning farm animals.

Our heavenly Father does not bring forth farm animals until Genesis 2:19-20. Instead, these were wild animals like the wild ox, the buffalo, the deer, the elk, the gazelle, the zebra, the giraffe, the lion, the wild dogs such as the hyena, the coyote and the wolf, and everything else that could be classified as being wild and not domestic.

You’ll note our heavenly Father didn’t even consider bringing forth mankind until He had *completely refurbished* the destroyed earth with everything needed to *sustain* flesh man’s existence: plants, fish, animals, etc.

Only then, on that sixth day, did our heavenly Father create mankind, starting in Genesis 1:26. This was *not* Adam and Eve. But *mankind*, meaning all of the various races. Indeed, in Genesis 1:26, God said to the angels:

Gen 1:26 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

This is where our heavenly Father decided to create flesh mankind, and put *them* (note the plural) in charge of the earth. Note also that our heavenly Father told the angels, “*Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.*”

So if you want to know what God and the angels look like, then look in the mirror. They look like us. And why? Because we *are* those angels. Each and every one of God’s children must pass through this second world age in a flesh body that looks pretty much just like the body you had in heaven.

Only in heaven, there's no aging, no disease process, no deformities or defects, wounds or injuries, etc. There's no pain, either. Nor death. Our heavenly bodies are perfect. But we have to come through this second world age in this decrepit flesh overcoat, *one time only*, in order to experience the things of the flesh, including disease, decay and death. Otherwise we'll never appreciate what we had in the first world age, and what our heavenly Father wants us to have again, *eternally*.

Gen 1:27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

You'll note He created both male and female. This is where He created all of the various races of the earth, each after their own kind. This is commonly called the creation of "6th day man," in order to distinguish it from the very specific man, *Adam*, who would be "formed" later, on the 8th day, after God rested on the seventh day. Bear with me, and you'll see.

Gen 1:28 And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

God blessed the races of mankind, and told them to be fruitful, and multiply and "*replenish* the earth."

You caught that, didn't you? He didn't say to *plenish* the earth in that verse. He said to *replenish* the earth, documenting the fact *that the earth had been inhabited once before*, in the first world age.

Yes, these verses document that after the first world age was destroyed at Satan's rebellion (Genesis 1:2), God started over, *refurbishing* the entire earth with everything needed to sustain flesh life (Genesis 1:3-26).

And then in Genesis 1:27-28 above He created flesh mankind, making them male and female so they could procreate. And He specifically told them to *replenish* the earth.

One at a time, as each new child is conceived in the womb in this second world age, our heavenly Father puts a living soul into that child. And that living soul is one of His children from heaven. One of *us*. It's how *you* got here. And it's how *I* got here. And that soul – which is your very self – is how you'll return to our heavenly Father when we "shuffle off this mortal coil," as the poet once said.

As it is written in John 3:13, "*And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven.*"

In other words, we live in heaven with our heavenly Father. But in this second world age, each of us comes down from heaven to this earth, *one time only*, for a relatively brief period, to experience life in the flesh. Even the Son of man, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, did so.

Then, upon the death of the flesh body, we return to whence we originated, which is to say, we return to our heavenly Father to await the judgment, good or bad, depending upon our actions on this earth.

As it is written in such poetic language regarding the flesh death in Ecclesiastes 12:6-7, “*Or ever the silver cord be loosed, or the golden bowl be broken, or the pitcher be broken at the fountain, or the wheel broken at the cistern. Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it.*”

Once our flesh body ceases to function, the *spirit* body departs from it and returns unto God from whence it came. Hence the saying “He gave up the ghost,” meaning the spirit is released at the death of the flesh, to return unto God in heaven, which is to say, in the spiritual dimension. And our old flesh body goes back into the earth from whence it came. Compost. In other words, it’s re-mineralized.

Be sure to note in Genesis 1:28 above that the 6th day creation – the various races created male and female -- were to have dominion over the fish of the sea, the fowls of the air, and over every living thing that moved upon the earth.

In other words, these were the *fishers* and *hunters* of the earth. There’s no mention of domestic animals, or of animal husbandry, i.e., farming. I’ll show you why that’s important, in just a few moments.

Gen 1:29 And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat.

The 6th day creation were given all of the wild herbs and plants and trees of the earth to eat. So in addition to being hunters and fishers, they were also *gatherers* of the wild food growing upon the earth.

Gen 1:30 And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to every thing that creepeth upon the earth, wherein there is life, I have given every green herb for meat: and it was so.

The wild animals of the earth, and the birds, were also given the wild herbs and plants for food. And so it is to this very day.

Gen 1:31 And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

This, of course, puts the lie to the racists who say some races were created good and some were created bad. We all know there are good people in all races, and bad people in all races. But at the beginning of this second world age, God’s refurbishing of this old earth, including the creation of the various races of mankind, was “very good.”

By the way, the word “man” in verses 26 and 27 above is the Hebrew word *adam* (Strong’s H-120), meaning a human being, put generically for *mankind*. It wasn’t a specific man or woman, but instead, male and female couples of each race, i.e., mankind.

And the word “create” in verse 27 is the Hebrew word *bara* (Strong’s 1254), meaning something created. Mankind was *created* by God. Keep that in mind for just a moment, because I want to show you something important. There will be another “man” brought into being shortly, but this one is an individual of another race altogether. And he will be “formed” rather than “created,” and put on this earth for a very specific purpose. So bear with me and I’ll show you.

Understanding Day #7:

Scripturally, God rested on the seventh day, directly after He finished refurbishing the earth and placing mankind – all races, male and female – upon it.

Gen 2:1 Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them.

Gen 2:2 And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made.

Gen 2:3 And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made.

Gen 2:4 These are the generations of the heavens and of the earth when they were created, in the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens,

And there you have it. By the end of the sixth day our heavenly Father had completely refurbished His creation, and placed “all the host” of mankind on it, meaning males and females of each and every race. And then, on the seventh day, He rested from His work.

The phrase “all the host of them” in Genesis 2:1 above is composed of the Hebrew words *kol* (Strong’s H-3605) meaning “every,” and *tsaba* (Strong’s H-6635), meaning an “organized mass of persons.”

So this was not Adam and Eve, as the modern churches would have you believe. This was the creation of *all* races of mankind – a great host, or organized mass of people -- *except* for Adam and Eve. As you’ll see, Adam and Eve will not be brought forth until the *eighth* day, the day after God rested from His labors.

In other words, on the sixth day before God rested, each one of the various races of mankind were created in an organized manner, each kind to their own kind, and set in the various geographical regions our heavenly Father had prepared for each one.

Again, all of this done in a very organized manner, utilizing the boundaries planned and set forth on the second day, which we’ve already discussed.

Indeed, in Genesis 2:4 above, where it states, “These are the generations of the heavens and of the earth when they were created...” the word “generations” is the Hebrew word *toledah* (Strong’s H-8435), a plural word meaning “families.”

God created the various families of the earth, and then set aside the seventh day as a day of rest from His labors.

Understanding Day #8:

But then, something very interesting happened *after* God rested on that seventh day. He realized He did not have a man to “till the earth.” In other words, He had created every type of man – hunters and fishers and gatherers -- except for the *farmer*.

Gen 2:5 And every plant of the field before it was in the earth, and every herb of the field before it grew: for the LORD God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was not a man to till the ground.

Gen 2:6 But there went up a mist from the earth, and watered the whole face of the ground.

Gen 2:7 And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

Gen 2:8 And the LORD God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed.

Yes, there were already men to do other things, i.e., fish, hunt, gather herbs and fruit, etc. But until the *eighth day*, a race specifically known for farming – tilling the earth -- did not yet exist. Even the garden of Eden did not exist until the eighth day when God planted it.

This means the people of the sixth day creation were populating the various parts of the earth where God had put them. And now this eighth day man would populate that specific part of the earth “eastward of Eden,” where God “planted a garden,” meaning a place where crops would be grown and the knowledge of farming would be learned and implemented.

So God “formed” a man for that specific purpose (see verse 7 above). And as we’ll see, He named him Adam. If you check out the word “formed” in verse 7 above, you’ll see it’s the Hebrew word *yatsar* (Strong’s H-3333), meaning to form something through squeezing it into a shape, or molding it into a form.

It’s quite a different word than the one used for the creation of “mankind” in Genesis 1:27, which if you remember was the Hebrew word, *bara*, meaning simply, “to create.”

In other words, this eight day creation was specifically “formed of the “dust of the ground” *for the specific task God wanted him to handle*. He was quite literally a “man of the earth,” or a farmer.

The word “man” in verse 7 above (i.e., the eighth day “forming”) is also different from the word “man” in Genesis 1:27 (i.e., the sixth day “creation”). Here, while the word “man” is still Adam, it has the article in front of it, *eth ha Adam*, meaning “that specific man Adam,” indicating a *separate race* from the various races of mankind that were created on the sixth day.

This would be the bloodline through which Christ Jesus would come – a race of people no better than any other race. But they were specifically formed by God to produce fruit from the ground (i.e., physical farming), and ultimately to bring forth that *spiritual* fruit (the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ) Who would give His life to save all of God’s children who would believe on Him.

In other words, while Adam would “till the ground” *physically*, Christ Jesus would be brought forth through that Adamic bloodline to “till the ground” *spiritually*, which is to say, to give His life for the sins of mankind and institute Christianity so that God’s saving Word could go forth to all races, and as a result much good fruit could be produced for the kingdom of God through the process of salvation.

So next, our heavenly Father decided to make a “help mate” for Adam, so he wouldn’t be alone, and so that he too could procreate. After all, if he didn’t procreate, the Messiah could not be brought forth through his bloodline.

Of course, there were other men and women on the earth, as you’ve seen demonstrated by the Scriptures. But they were of the other races of mankind, each dwelling in their own geographical region of the earth as chosen by God, and each having their own purpose on this earth.

It was the God-given purpose of Adamic man to “till the ground” (i.e., farm), and to establish the unmarred bloodline that Messiah would come through. So Adam could not choose a mate from the other races. Remember God’s rule of creation is “kind to kind” or perhaps better stated, each kind to its own kind. So God would make a “help mate” or wife for Adam, and He would make that wife from Adam’s own body.

(As a side note, it is at this point that some people will say “Not so. For tradition states that before Eve was brought forth, Adam had a wife named Lilith.” But that is *mythology*. It’s nothing more than vain tradition, concocted by the mind of man. It is not written in the Word of God, and therefore it is not Biblical. Let’s lay aside non-Biblical traditions, and stick with the Word of God as it’s written. If you’ve not heard of this tradition of Adam being married to Lilith, don’t worry about it. It’s not worth wasting any additional space over in this study, since it’s so completely non-Biblical.)

Gen 2:18 And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.

Adam was alone. He didn’t have a wife. But before our heavenly Father brings forth a help mate for Adam, He does something else: He creates the *domestic* animals, which is to say, the farm animals, i.e., livestock, otherwise known as animals of husbandry:

Gen 2:19 And out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof.

Gen 2:20 And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him.

These are your cows and sheep and horses and chickens and turkeys and other animals necessary to any farming operation. They're basically the *domestic* animals of the earth – farm animals -- as opposed to the wild animals that were created before the sixth day. And these farm animals were put largely in Adam's care.

God then made the “help mate,” or wife for Adam, from Adam's own body:

Gen 2:21 And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof;

God conducted surgery on Adam. You couldn't ask for a better surgeon.

Gen 2:22 And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man.

The word “ribs” or “rib” in verses 21 and 22 above (Heb. *tsela*; Strong's H-6763) means “a curve”, and most likely refers to the helix curve, or DNA of Adam. In essence, God cloned Eve, from Adam, but made her female instead of male. In other words, He gave her a womb, for procreation.

By the way, contrary to religious superstition, men and women have the same number of ribs. Men don't have “one less rib” as some Biblically ignorant religionists teach.

Gen 2:23 And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.

Woman = womb man. The general word for “man” in the Hebrew is *ish*, and thus Eve was called *ishshah* – woman -- signifying that Eve was made from Adam's own genetic material, but carried a womb.

In other words, genetically speaking, Eve was made from Adam's DNA. And this pure bloodline had to remain pure all of the way to Christ's birth, in accord with God's law.

That's why the genealogies in the Bible are so important. They document a pure, *unbroken* Adamic bloodline from Adam to Christ. Again, it's another study for another time. But it's true.

Gen 2:24 Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.

That's the natural order. No matter what anyone else might say, God made man and woman to be together, for the purpose of procreation. Not man and man, or woman and woman. Man is to "cleave unto his wife" and "they shall be one flesh."

Adam the First Man?

Christians are taught in denominational churches that Adam was the "first man through which all other races are descended."

But of course when you understand the huge differences between the *sixth* day creation when the vast majority of the races were created, and the *eighth* day creation at which point Adamic man was formed of the dust of the earth and Eve was created from Adam's own body, you can see how Adamic man cannot possibly have been the "first man." He was merely the first man of his *kind*, which is to say, the farming man, the man of the earth.

Science, of course, knows that all races could not have descended from one man, because the DNA from the various races is so different. There's simply no way each race could have come from only one man. The science of DNA has to be twisted tortuously to make the idea that all races came from one man a reality.

But the Bible thumpers continue to drive scientists away from God by insisting Adam was the "first man," and that he was formed in the flesh during the creation of Genesis 1:1. This of course is also impossible, since that age was destroyed in Genesis 1:2 as we've so amply learned throughout this study.

The bottom line is that when *understood correctly*, the Bible demonstrates Adam wasn't even formed until the eighth day, while the other races of mankind were formed on the sixth day.

How Old Is This Second World Age?

You've seen in this study the difference between the creation of the races of mankind on the 6th day, and the formation of Adamic man on the 8th day. It might surprise you to learn that these two events took place *two thousand years apart!*

Can't be true, you say? Well, there were six so-called "days of creation." But how long is a day to the Lord? Well, what did we learn earlier in this study, back in 2 Peter 3:8? Let's review:

2Pe 3:8 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.

God doesn't want you ignorant of this key fact: When the Scripture speaks of the six days of refurbishing this old earth, leading up to God's resting on the seventh day, each of those "days" was 1,000 years long.

The various races of mankind were created on the sixth day, which was *the six thousandth year*. And Adamic man was not created until the eighth day, or the eight thousandth year. So there's

essentially a 2,000 year gap between the time the races of mankind were created during the sixth day, and the time Adamic man (the farming man) was formed by God from the dust of the earth during the eighth day.

So by the time Adam was formed by God on the eighth “day,” there were literally *hundreds of thousands* of people – or perhaps *millions* -- on this earth from the different races God had already created on the sixth “day,” and who He had commanded to “Go forth and multiply, and replenish the earth.”

Can you imagine the number of children that would have been born in that 2,000 years? This is why the history of other races, for example, go back multiple thousands of years before Adamic history, which is essentially Caucasian history. The other races were created long before the Adamic race through which Christ would ultimately come.

Yes, Adam’s bloodline was formed specifically for the Messiah to come through. And Adamic man was the farming man, which the Caucasian peoples of this earth still are to this very day, in large part. But Adam was most decidedly *not* the “first man.” He was just the first man *of his kind*.

- So there were six “days” (i.e., 6,000 years) of the refurbishing of this old earth by our heavenly Father through His Word, leading up to the creation of the various races of mankind on the sixth day itself.
- Then there was a seventh day for rest, which gives us a total of 7,000 years.
- Then, Adamic man was formed at the beginning of the eighth day. And *counting that “day”* (i.e., one thousand years) most serious Bible scholars agree there have been approximately 4,000 years from the time of Adam to the time of Christ. So this brings us to a total of 11,000 years up to Christ’s first advent.
- Then, there have been about 2,000 years from the time of Christ to now. So that’s some 13,000 years *all total*, that have completely passed since this second world age was established.
- And we are now in the very beginning of 14,000th year, basically, which would be the beginning of the seventh thousand years since the formation of Adam on the eighth “day.”

That’s the approximate duration of this second world age to date: We are right at the beginning of the 14,000th year since God began refurbishing this old earth in Genesis 1:3, which is the beginning of the 7,000th year since the formation of Adam in Genesis 2:7.

The bottom line is that we’re told by denominational religionists that earth is only 6,000 years old, period. And that the six thousand years started at Genesis 1:1. And that Adam was the “first man created, through which all men are descended.”

Any third grader knows better, of course. Earth is *millions* of years old, going back into the first world age. And Adam was not the “first man created, through which all men are descended.” Instead, he was formed from the dust of the earth the day *after* God had rested on the seventh day. All other races of mankind had already been created on the day *before* God rested, the sixth day.

All of this is what the Bible-thumpers miss, by misinterpreting the foundational Scriptures in Genesis chapter 1 and 2. And it’s why the Word of God seems to make no sense in light of science. The Bible thumpers completely overlook the fact that it was “in the beginning” (i.e., “in the first,” and I’ll hasten to add *world age*) that God created the heaven and the earth. And that afterward it became *tohu va bohu*, i.e., “without form, and void.” And then God *started over* with this second world age, by refurbishing the planet.

And they completely miss the fact that Adam was not created until the *eighth* day of this second world age (i.e., the eight thousandth year), while the rest of mankind – the various races – were created much earlier, on the *sixth* day (i.e., the six thousandth year).

Again, as we’ve learned over and over again throughout this study, “one day is with the Lord as a thousand years” (II Peter 3:8). So don’t let that throw you. As St. Peter states in 2 Peter 3:8, God does not want you to be ignorant of this basic foundational truth.

Simply put, anything older than 14,000 years is from the *first* world age. This is your dinosaur fossils, petrified trees, etc. And as I’ve stated repeatedly, this old earth was here for *millions* of years before this second world age was established, and before flesh mankind of any race was ever created.

Part VII: A Brief Word About Evolution

Some readers will likely jump the gun at this point, and say well, Steve, you’re teaching some weird version of evolution. But of course, nothing could be further from the truth. I’m teaching Bible, and the Bible *disclaims* evolution.

What I’m teaching, quite simply, is that Father overthrew the first world age, which was millions of years old. And He started over with the second world age – the age in which we now live. So this earth is quite literally millions of years old, but the flesh *age* in which we now live – the second world age -- is only *thirteen thousand* years old, now going on the fourteen thousandth year.

In the first world age we were “as the angels,” each of us in a spiritual body on this old earth. But in this second world age – sometimes called the flesh world age – we are each clothed in a flesh body as we pass through this earthly plane *one time only* for a temporary period – in general, seventy years or so. In this flesh dimension, these flesh bodies serve as “overcoats,” so to speak, for our soul.

And when we die in this earthly realm, our flesh body returns to the earth from which it came, and our soul returns from whence it came, which is to say, our soul returns to the spiritual dimension. In other words, your soul returns to your Father, where He resides in heaven.

What's more, in the eternal age yet to come, which is the *third* world age, our heavenly Father will be bringing heaven to this earth. And we'll live here on this old earth in the very presence of our Father.

And at that time we'll have yet even *another* type of body. As it is written in I John 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.*" Each of us will be in a supernatural spiritual body much like Christ's own body.

That is not "evolution." God is just giving us different "overcoats," so to speak, to house our souls – each to fit the situation at hand. In the *spiritual* dimension you have an angelic overcoat for your soul, and in the *physical* dimension you have a physical flesh overcoat for your soul. It's that simple.

The Evolution Fraud

The simplest proof that evolution is a complete fraud is the fact that were it to be true, there would have to be living creatures in every state of the so-called evolutionary process alive today. In other words, to this very day you'd have to have monkeys that are half-man, fish that are half-birds, worms that are half something else, toads that are half something else, and literally every step of the process in between. Yet we don't have evolving creatures that are half this and half that.

You'd also have to have creatures without eyes, creatures with partially formed eyes, and creatures with fully formed eyes, etc., because the eye could not possibly form spontaneously unless God created it. It is too complex. It would have needed to have developed over time. And therefore, you would still have eyes in various states of development even today as the evolutionary process continues and "eyeless" creatures gain eyes. Perhaps this is why it is said, "The eye is the window to the soul." It's the one part of the body that demonstrates *irrevocably* that God's creation is real, and the concept of evolution is a total fraud.

In other words, for the evolutionary process to be a reality, it would still be taking place this very day. After all, if fish turned into birds, as many evolutionists state, then where's the half-fish, half-birds today? Why aren't the fish still evolving into birds? If man came from monkeys, where's the half-monkey, half-man today (excluding certain politicians and bureaucrats, of course)? Why aren't the monkeys still evolving into man?

In short, evolution would be an ongoing process. But it's not. It doesn't exist now. And it's *never* existed.

The fact of the matter is, when you look at the fossil remains of fish from the first world age, they look just like fish from this second world age. There may be different species. And some

species that existed in that first world age may not exist in this one at all. But a fish is a fish is a fish. And when you look at the fossil remains of a monkey from the first world age, it looks just like a monkey today, more or less. Yes, there may have been different species of monkeys in the first earth age. But they were monkeys nevertheless.

In short, while it's very true that some species of animals that were alive in the first world age are no longer in existence today – dinosaurs, for example – the animals that do exist today are pretty much exactly the same as their counterparts from the first world age.

There is no viable fossil evidence of an evolutionary process at work, except in those rare cases where a fossilized dead bird lying next to a fossilized dead fish was mistaken by over-eager scientists as some kind of “fish bird.”

Indeed, if evolution were true, there should be thousands upon thousands of fossils demonstrating that there were half-this-creature and half-that-creature roaming the earth. And there would have to be abundant fossils of every increment of evolution in between. But such fossil records simply do not exist, except in pictures drawn by man out of his own imagination.

In fact, the fossil records demonstrate the exact opposite: No “evolution” whatsoever. For example, petrified clams and oysters dating 50,000 years old look exactly like clams and oysters of today.

If you've ever lived in the countryside on the eastern part of the U.S., you'd know this for a fact. As a child growing up in Jacksonville, N.C., I roamed through the forest there, and often came across heaps of petrified clams, which I remember vividly, for I was fascinated with them. Yet these petrified clams were no different from today's clams in shape or form. They were simply some of the remains of the abundant animal life from the first world age. (And what were they doing in the middle of North Carolina? Well, as we've learned in this study, a lot of what is now land became deluged with water at the overthrow of that first world age.)

You might ask, “But what about so-called “Neanderthal man”? The bottom line is that while earth is indeed millions of years old, in the first world age God's children were in *angelic* bodies, or what you might call supernatural bodies. Therefore, there is *no* “fossil record” of them because they were not flesh.

The only fossil records of “man” existing in the first world age are a few petrified bone fragments from species of large monkeys or apes that the evolutionists have found in archaeological digs, and have extrapolated to be “Neanderthal man” out of their own colorful imaginations.

Indeed, the evolutionists have never found a *full* skeleton of any so-called “Neanderthal man,” or any other kind of “man” for that matter dating back over 14,000 years old to the time of the first world age. Why? Because they simply don't exist. Any *full* skeleton found turns out to be that of a monkey or an ape upon closer examination.

What's more, in this second world age, man has been the same from the start to the finish. Man looks today exactly as he looked after God created him when He began refurbishing this broken

down earth and making it habitable again in the beginning of this second world age. There's no sign of evolution whatsoever in this second world age.

In Conclusion

As I've stated many times in this study, each of God's children must come *once* in the flesh through this second world age, in order to make up their minds without remembrance of what happened in the first world age whether they want to serve God or to serve Satan. It's their time to make up their minds, with a fresh slate, so to speak, free from the remembrance or encumbrance of the events of first world age.

In the first world age, too many of God's children did not appreciate His many blessings, including eternal life. Like Esau, who would sell out his birthright for a bowl of pottage (Hebrews 12:6), God only wants those who truly appreciate their birthright of eternal life, and value it above all things. Hopefully, this trip through the flesh will convince many of his wayward and rebellious children of the error of their ways.

In this second world age, at conception in our mother's womb, God puts our very *soul*, from heaven, into the tiny growing flesh embryo, which is what animates our flesh body and ultimately gives us our character and personality.

What's more, at birth we have no remembrance of the first world age nor of our life at that time, because it is basically wiped from our hard drive (mind) when our soul is placed in that tiny flesh embryo.

After birth, our flesh body gradually begins to grow old, and eventually begins to decay. In general, we're here for about 70 years or so, and then this flesh overcoat dies and our soul returns to the Father from whence it originally came. I know I've harped on this earlier in this study, but as it is written in John 3:13: "*And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven.*"

In other words, you can't return to heaven unless you came from there in the first place. Even the Son of man -- our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ -- had to come into this flesh life *from heaven*, and dwell for a short period of time in an earthly flesh body like us, before returning to heaven.

And again, as it is written so poetically in Ecclesiastes 12:6-7, once your flesh body dies it returns to the earth and you return to your Father in heaven: "*Or ever the silver cord be loosed, or the golden bowl be broken, or the pitcher be broken at the fountain, or the wheel broken at the cistern. Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it.*"

So you see that this second world age was basically brought into being by our heavenly Father for a singular purpose, and that was to give each of His children a chance to demonstrate, with free will, and without remembrance of the past world age, whether or not they want to serve God or to serve Satan.

That's the bottom line. And I hope I've adequately demonstrated it to you through the Holy Scriptures in this study. I know this has been a long study. But frankly, it's just an overview of the Three World Ages and the Creation. For a much more insightful look at this topic, you might want to listen to some of Pastor Arnold Murray's line-by-line, verse-by-verse Bible studies on CD.

I strongly recommend his study titled "Three World Ages" (item #30506). And I strongly recommend his study series on Genesis chapters 1-6, which covers a lot of this same material in more depth (item #30146). What's more, also in relation to this study, I strongly recommend Pastor Murray's study titled "Elect" (item #30417), and his study titled "God's Plan" (item #30519).

Pastor Murray's excellent and in-depth line-by-line Bible study tapes are available through the Shepherd's Chapel at **1-(800)-643-4645**.

-- End --

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