

FUTURE EVENTS YOU NEVER HEARD OF 1/2014

If and when one begins to take an interest in reading the Bible, for some real understanding, it may seem impossible. It seems there are so many contradictions, mistranslations, and mysteries to struggle through. So, most people, after finding it almost impossible to understand, decide to attend a church and let the more learned “ministry” explain the Bible to them. In time we discover almost no church teaches the same thing, but all churches seem to indicate their church is the only one with the truth. So you may go from church to church trying to find the one you think is the closest to following the teachings in the Bible. This study is about getting started in studying the bible and surprises you might find.

At first you may settle in a church and adopt their teachings for a long time, or you may become so discouraged you give up and decide not to bother with religion at all. But some few may decide they really want to know the truth and decide to get serious about studying the Bible to compare what the churches teach and what the Bible teaches. When we begin reading the Bible we may start at the beginning and read through it from beginning to end, (recommended) but most will start in the New Testament because it is what most churches teach from; we are more familiar with it. We may have been taught that the Old Testament was done away with when Jesus came on the scene, anyway. We discover that Jesus and the apostles taught out of the Old Testament because there was no New Testament at that time. We may have difficulty grasping the real meaning because we still have some old preconceived beliefs that don't agree with the bible. It is normal to discover more questions than answers.

We read about a God who loves us, then about a God who judges us; do some go to heaven and some to hell? Almost every religion teaches “God the father” demands obedience and “Jesus the son” is more accepting, merciful and forgiving. Yet Jesus says “I and my Father are one and the same” and that he didn't come to destroy his father's laws. (Mat 5:17-19). What laws is he referring to? (Ja 2:11, 1Jn 3:4-9) He said he came to preach the good news of the kingdom of God, but only to certain people. (Lu. 8:10, Gal.3:22)

What did he mean by “many are called” but “few are chosen”. Who are called but not chosen; called to what, chosen to what? (Mat.22:14 25:1-? And Mat 13:24-40) Jesus explains in parables). See (Rev.7:9, 7:13-17).

And, of course we wonder why bad things are allowed to happen to good people. (1Cor 10:15 note: should be “test”) Most bad things happen is because we suffer the consequences of our, and sometimes other's, bad choices). We may blame God for what we think is his cruelty to us but is that true? (Gal

6:6--8, 1Jn 4:16, Jn 3:16) We read through the books of Mat, Mrk, Lu. and Jn. to get the story of how God came in a body of flesh to introduce himself to us, how he made it possible for our sins to be forgiven and to receive eternal life.

When we get to the book of Acts we see that many tribes of Israel had come from all over other countries to observe the holy day, called feast of Pentecost, where only followers of Jesus received the holy spirit. Others asked, "what do we have to do to receive the holy spirit?" (Acts:2:38) Peter explained how. What is the holy spirit? (Is 53:10-11, Lu 11:14, Eph 1:13,4:30) Is it not the awesome power of God? How do we "repent?" (Mrk 1:15, Mt 21:13) We find there are other things that will keep us from making it into God's kingdom. (Lu 8:12-18)

Then we go to the teachings of Paul, the chosen apostle to the Gentiles. We read how he built seven churches and sent letters to them. We may ask, "What's the difference between Gentiles and Israelites? To get the answers to many questions one has to do individual studies on the topic.

Ans: a physical Israelite must be born from one of the twelve sons of Jacob (Israel). Every one else is Gentile.

What is a "spiritual" Israelite? Is there a difference between "the house of Judah" and "the house of Israel"? To find the answers to many of these "meaty" subjects requires separate studies on each topic.

We read about Israel being blinded (to spiritual understanding); what's that all about? (Rom. 10 and 11) Paul explains why. Then we start to question deeper subjects that require their own lengthy studies such as what is meant by "the fullness of the Gentiles?" What does Paul mean by "ages past" (plural (2). "this present age (1) and ("future ages" (2)? That's at least 5 ages; are there more, seven perhaps? See (Eph. 2:7, 3:5, and 21. Col. 1:21). The Bible uses the number seven throughout; watch for it. Look for Paul instructing his new converts on how to pay tithes; you won't find it.

Now we go to the book of Revelation and to the letters from Jesus Christ to these same seven Gentile churches. Each church can be an individual study. If you have a bible program you can use a word study on your subjects or a topic study, or both. Using your Strong's Concordance you can find the meaning of original Hebrew or Greek words to check for mistranslations. We may have been told by some that the book of Revelation is complicated and not in chronological order. But when we study we will find seven seals that spans the time from the beginning of Gentile church history to the last luke warm one, called Laodicea, that is destined to go through the seven vials of God's wrath at the end of this age, ending with the battle of Armageddon and the resurrection of the righteous saints and those who refused to take the mark of the beast.

Once we put the proper events in the right seal we find the book of Revelation, except for detailed history inserts, definitely is in chronological order. Look for the notice at the end of each seal that identifies the beginning of the next one. In the last seal begins seven trumpets. In the fifth trumpet one of three woes is introduced. In the sixth trumpet the second woe is introduced. Each of the seven events tells when the next one will be added.

In the seventh and last trumpet the third woe is introduced.

Within this woe are the seven vials (time periods) of God's wrath. By now we have covered most of the New Testament that deals with our present age, (all seven seals) referred to as "the age of grace." As we study these events we realize our world is going from bad to worse with each seal. Most of the saints have been martyred, those who refused to take the mark of the beast will be martyred by Satan's powerful world leader. Wicked nations will fight against Christ and his angelic army during the battle of Armageddon. Guess who wins? Rev.16:16-21, 19:11-21 our world ends with the earth nearly destroyed and it's people near distinction.

As we near the end of Revelation we see an awesome list of changes taking place as a new world emerges. We see a resurrection of the saints, who are given eternal life; they will rule this new age, with Jesus. We are caught by the statement, "the rest of the dead lived not again until after the thousand years are ended." (Rev 20:1-9) We now see there will not be anyone else resurrected from their sleep of death (no, they are not in hell nor in heaven), for a thousand years; then they also will be resurrected, but not to eternal life. This is an extremely important verse to remember when studying prophecy.

We read of the imprisoning of Satan for one thousand years, and his release after the thousand years (Rev. 20:1-3). Under the guidance of Christ and his saints the rebuilding of the earth and a new Gentile society will develop which only lasts for a determined time of one thousand years at which time the fullness of the Gentiles ends when God resurrects the whole house of Israel (Eze 37). After the end of the thousand years Satan will be released for a limited time; God uses him to test the nations again. At this point we may become confused if we try to fit other prophecies into our age, or into the thousand year time, when they belong in future times. This is not taught in religions because, as has been shown, most religious leaders stop offering any information after the resurrection of the whole house of Israel, spoken of in Ezekiel 37 because they haven't been shown this mystery of God. This is exciting because God is beginning to open up additional information understanding to those who are sincerely willing to accept it.

Remember "the rest of the dead did not live until after the thousand years?" There are zillions of dead people, what happens to them? We are beginning to, at least, ask the question.

Finally, after much digging, we find prophecies that make sense only if put in their correct time slots. For instance, the battle of Armageddon is not a battle between nations, but nations against the King of Kings. Another major attack battle is against the nation of resurrected Israel, referred to as Gog and Magog, along with many other Gentile nations (Eze 38). If we pay close attention to the words of these prophecies we will see they occur after Satan is released, after the millennium reign. John, in Rev 20, mentioned this battle but left the details to the prophet Ezekiel who had already written the details of this future time.

When we get into prophecy we find that God ushered in drastic changes down through the course of history that affected the whole world that ended and started whole new civilizations, such as:

(1) When the first sin caused mankind's sentence of eternal death, a great worldwide flood, and the destruction of all humanity, except one family, that started a new civilization.

(2) The calling of a special nation, Israel, to receive his laws, his new moons, and his holy days, to share them with the rest of the world (Lev 32). But Israel rejected God and his laws, and choose death instead of life. So he blinded them so they would not understand spiritual things. He turned to the Gentiles as Paul explained in Rom. 10 and 11.

(3) This new change is the introduction of forgiveness and eternal life through "grace". This is a special offer to the whole world, a time of accepting God's special gift of eternal life through accepting the holy spirit and believing his word (Acts 2:38). The mystery of God is revealed (Rom 11:25, 16:25). We, in America, and other nations, are living in this period of time.

(4) The near total destruction of our own world and the start of a new era called the millennium will be next, while completing the fullness of the Gentiles, while Satan is chained. Just having Satan out of their lives will be a drastic change to the then developing world of Gentile nations. Satan's leaders will have been destroyed and Christ will receive his saints to rule with him during the thousand years. The main goal of this society will to restore the world to its former state. They will be taught how to live righteously, looking forward to a great resurrection of peoples in the future. But what happens next is the starting of another and very different world. We will see later, a large amount only of Gentile nations that have appeared out of this thousand year period. We will have to rely on the great resurrection (of Eze. 37) to find Israelites.

(5) Then we read about the great miracle happening: God raises a great multitude of Israelites that have been dead for hundreds of years. A resurrection that fills a large part of the restored earth emerges. But there's a big catch, Satan has been released from his place of confinement. Why? Because Israel is going to be un-blinded, and the Gentile nations, that have not had Satan in their lives, need testing. Christ goes back to heaven so Satan can rule again for a short time. These Gentiles have never known having to share their world with a huge nation of Israelites nor in a world with Satan's influence.

Notice there is no mention of Gentile nations being resurrected here (Eze 37), only the nations that developed during the thousand years. We see that resurrected Israel will have time to become wealthy, living in safety (Eze 38:8-17, 39:1-4). In time both Gentiles and Israelites are influenced by Satan to go back into idolatry, which is an abomination to God. The Israelite's punishment begins by their enslavement by their Gentile enemies (Eze 38:17-23). This is a very long age, the beginning of the judgment for all peoples, Israelites and Gentiles, both dead and alive (Eze 36:17-21).

(6) Then we read about Israel repenting and God destroying their enemies, rescuing them out of captivity and forgiving them, replacing them according to their tribes, into their land, again, fulfilling the promises he made to their forefathers (Eze 36:21-22, 24-27,31).

To look into the rest of the story read the last eight chapters of Ezekiel which gives us a picture of how the end of this different world changing time will be fulfilled. I will give you a hint: after the Temple is built Christ makes another appearance to dwell among his people. There is no more information of a world changing event for many, many years. But there is one more period that makes another fantastic world changing time.

(7) Lastly we go forward to the last three chapters of Revelation where we read about a huge city of gold, no more suffering, no more death and all things being made new. If you have read this entire study and read all the scriptures you have gone through the outline of the Bible and the whole plan of God for our kind. This is what God promises if we will let him open our eyes and accept it. All things will be made new, (and started all over again?).

There are so many details that have been left out in between the outline of events of the Bible, that it would take an enormous amount of time to include them in this study. As it is now, if you read all the scriptures given, it will take a long time, but I assure you that if you honestly desire to understand, when you finish this study, you will never tire of studying God's word. The Bible is the most interesting book ever written and it will lead us to an eternal life that we can only imagine the wonder of it all.