

Overview of Biblical Prophecy

A Journey of Faith

Sunday night – **Lesson 2**

FBC Dawsonville, GA

Feb 19, 2012

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Review of Lesson 1

- Set the context for Study
 - Discussion Question “Has God finished his work yet?”
 - Illustration of Pearl Necklace
 - God has a definite plan: Beginning point, Mid point, End point
 - Must see as “necklace”, not box of pearls
 - Beginning to understand a Biblical World view
 - Last Supper discussion
 - Situation at end of John 13 (despair, loss, death, personal failure, betrayal, and sense of “Is this all there is?”)
 - Christ’s words of Hope, encouragement, and future
- Began the Study of Biblical Prophecy and looked at definitions, class objectives, key topics
- Quick look at Sequence of Events, and beginnings on Church Age and Rapture

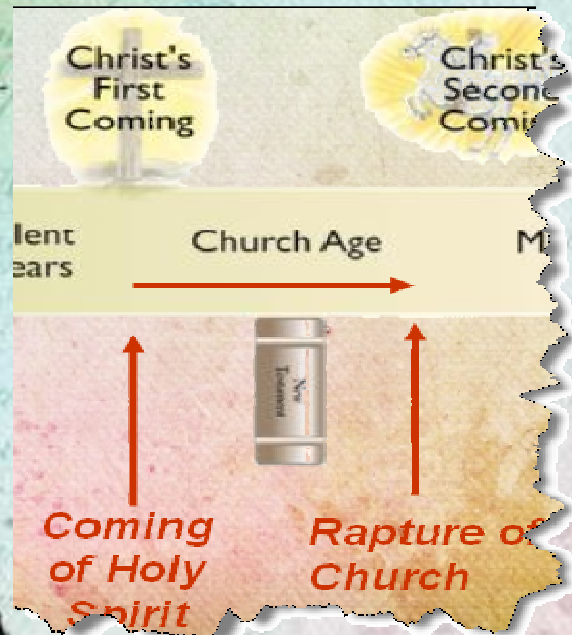
• This weeks lesson

- Complete our discussion of the Church Age and the “Rapture” of the Church
- Discuss Matthew 24 and 25
- Locate “where we are” in the sequence
- Set the stage for Lesson 3

Prophetic Timeline - 4 Pivotal Events






The Church Age



- What is the “church”?
 - *Called out ones*
 - *Congregation of true believers* not building or denomination or church roll
- Begins with coming of Holy Spirit
- Ends with “snatching away” all believers with Spirit
- What are the characteristics and stages along the way?
- Are there any signs to signal we are getting near the finish of it?

Church Age

Israel		
Promise	Law	Church Age
 Tower of Babel Gen 11:1-9	 Exodus Exod 1:1-17	 Dispersion of Israel Edk 36:16-19 Regathering of Israel Edk 36:20-24
Dwell in Canaan Gen 12:1-7	Keep the Whole Law Exod 19:3-8	Faith in Jesus, Keep Doctrine Pure Jn 1:12; Rom 8:1-4; Eph 2:8-9
Dwelt in Egypt Gen 12:10; 46:6	Broke Law 2 Kgs 17:7-20; Mt 27:1-25	Impure Doctrine Jn 5:39-40; 2 Tim 3:1-7
Egyptian Bondage Exod 1:8-14	Worldwide Dispersion Deut 28:63-66; Lk 21:20-24	Apostasy, False Doctrine 2 Ths 2:3; 2 Tim 4:3

- From the Dispensations last week we see the problem

- Responsibility
- Performance / Failure
- Judgment / Punishment

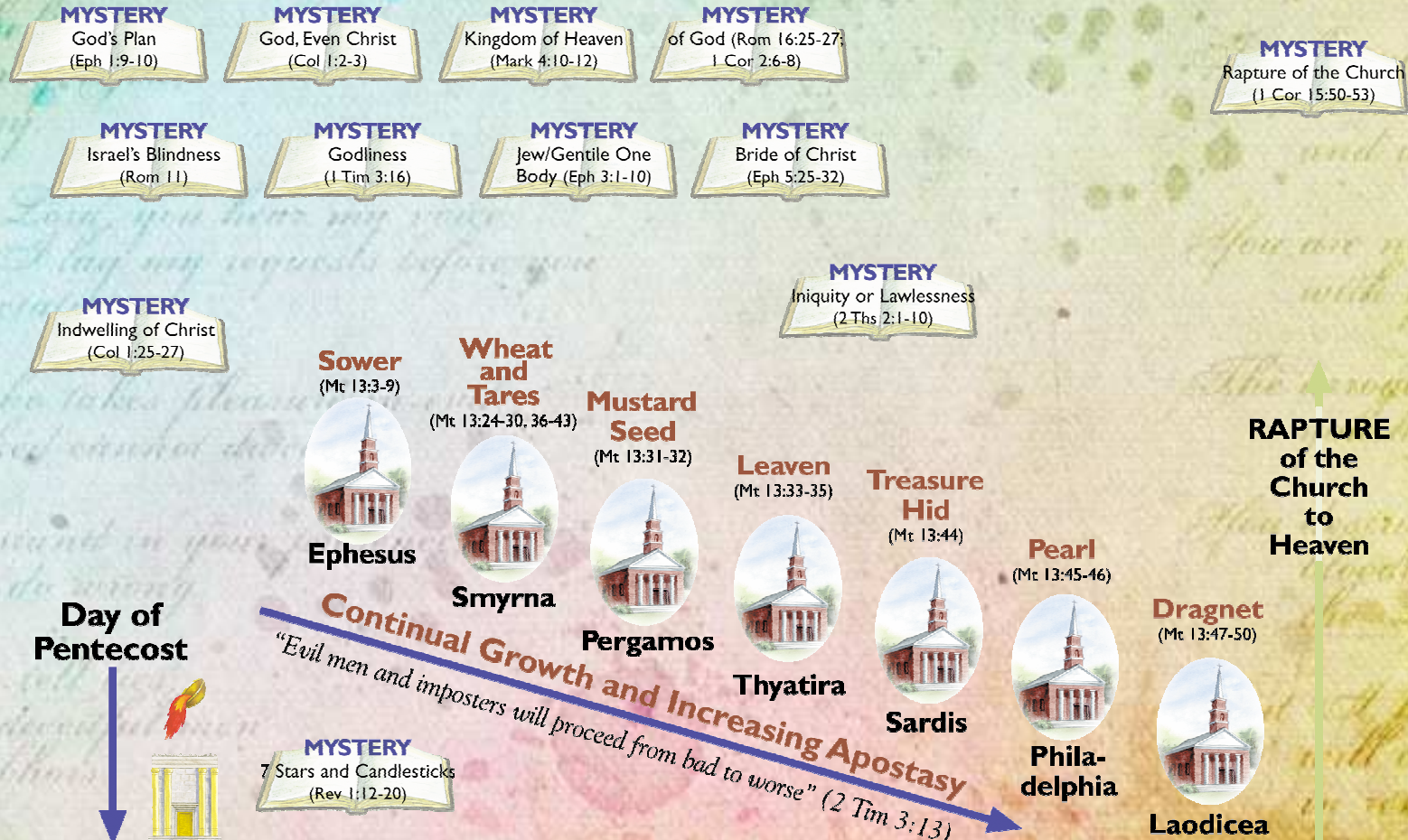
- Three Groups of people in Bible Prophecy

- Jews
- Gentiles
- Church (remember definition)



"Give none offence, neither to the Jews, nor to the Gentiles, nor to the church of God."
(1 Corinthians 10:32 kjv)

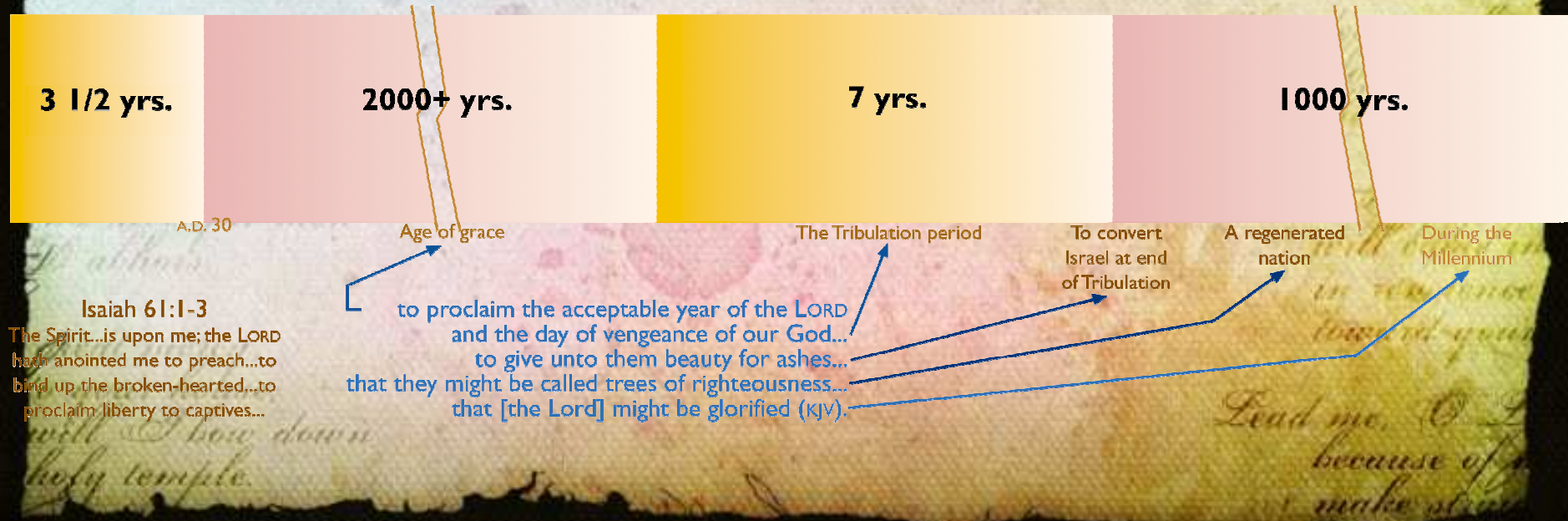
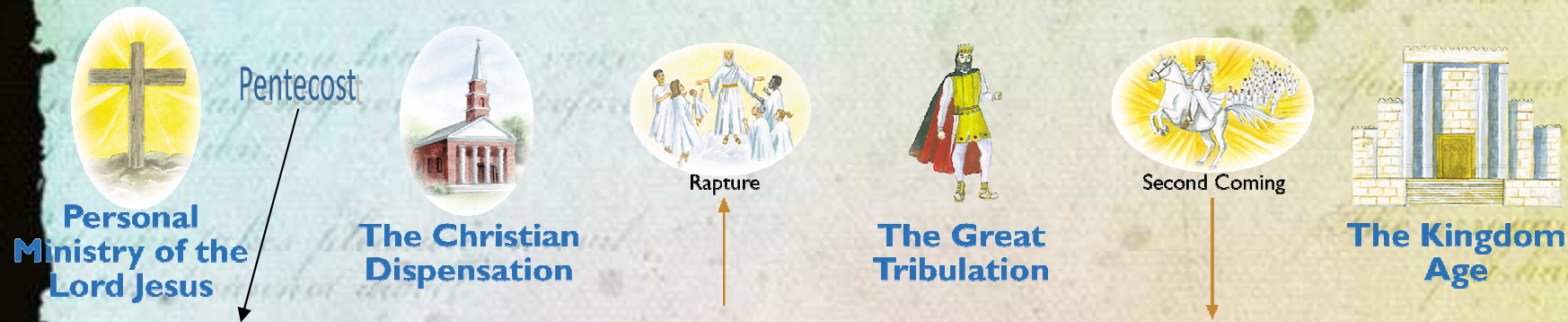
Church Age Overview



A.D. 33 A.D. 70

A.D. ?

View of Christ's Ministry on Earth



Rapture of the Church

- Rapture

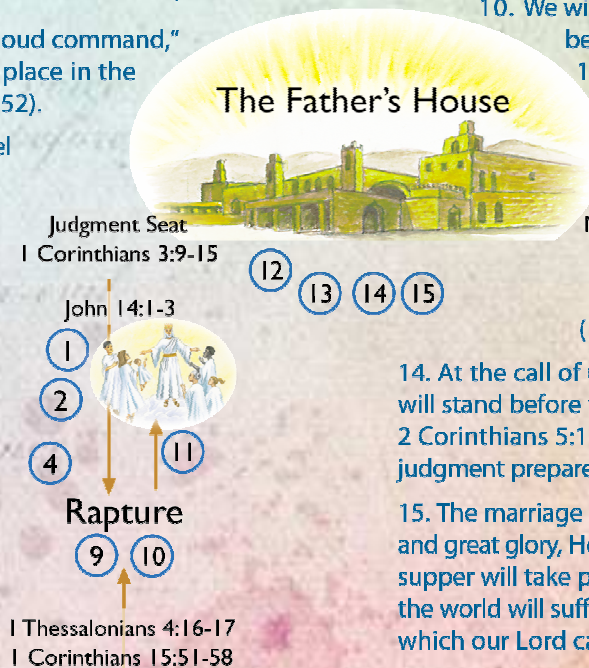
- Christ comes in the air (1 Thess 4:16-17)
- Christ comes **for** his saints (1Thess 4:16-17)
- Christ claims His bride
- Not mentioned in OT
- Imminent, no signs (1 Cor 15:52)
- Time of blessing & comfort (1 Thess 4:18)
- Believers only (John 14:1-3, 1 Cor 15:51-55)
- Twinkling of Eye (1 Cor 15:51-52)
- Only His believers see Him (1 Cor 15:51-52)
- Signals end of Church Age
- Holy Spirit withdrawn
- Tribulation begins shortly
- Christ comes as Bright Morning Star (Rev22:16)

Rapture Events

1. The Lord Himself will descend from His Father's house, where He is preparing a place for us (John 14:1-3; 1 Thessalonians 4:16).
2. He will come again to receive us to Himself (John 14:1-3).
3. He will resurrect those who have fallen asleep in Him (deceased believers whom we will not precede—1 Thessalonians 4:14-15).
4. The Lord will shout as He descends ("loud command," 1 Thessalonians 4:16 NIV). All this takes place in the "twinkling of an eye" (1 Corinthians 15:52).
5. We will hear the voice of the archangel (perhaps to lead Israel during the seven years of the Tribulation as he did in the Old Testament—1 Thessalonians 4:16).
6. We will also hear the trumpet call of God (1 Thessalonians 4:16), the last trumpet for the church. (Don't confuse this with the seventh trumpet of judgment upon the world during the Tribulation in Revelation 11:15.)



7. The dead in Christ will rise first (the corruptible ashes of their dead bodies are made incorruptible and joined together with their spirits,



- which Jesus brings with Him—1 Thessalonians 4:16-17).
8. Then we who are alive and remain will be changed (or made incorruptible by having our bodies made "immortal"—1 Corinthians 15:51,53).
9. We will be caught up (raptured) together (1 Thessalonians 4:17).
10. We will be caught up in the clouds (where dead and living believers will have a monumental reunion—1 Thessalonians 4:17).
11. We will meet the Lord in the air (1 Thessalonians 4:17).
12. Christ will receive us to Himself and take us to the Father's house "that where I am, there you may be also" (John 14:3).
13. "And so we shall always be with the Lord" (1 Thessalonians 4:17).
14. At the call of Christ for believers, He will judge all things. Christians will stand before the judgment seat of Christ (Romans 14:10; 2 Corinthians 5:10), described in detail in 1 Corinthians 3:11-15. This judgment prepares Christians for...
15. The marriage of the Lamb. Before Christ returns to earth in power and great glory, He will meet His bride, the church, and the marriage supper will take place. In the meantime, after the church is raptured, the world will suffer the unprecedented outpouring of God's wrath, which our Lord called "the great tribulation" (Matthew 24:21).

Marriage of
the Lamb

Church Age

Tribulation 7 Years

Millennium 1000 Years

Matt 24-25 (Olivet Discourse)

- Along with Daniel, and Revelation, this is the most powerful summary of Prophecy we have, and it is from Jesus to His disciples
- Two quick things before we read and discuss:
 - Jesus told this to his disciples who were all Jewish. No view of the church in these passages
 - This is a discussion of the 2nd Coming, not the Rapture, so remember this as we go through it
 - It is a discussion of Israel's future although much is applicable to the "church"

Matthew 24 and 25 discussion points

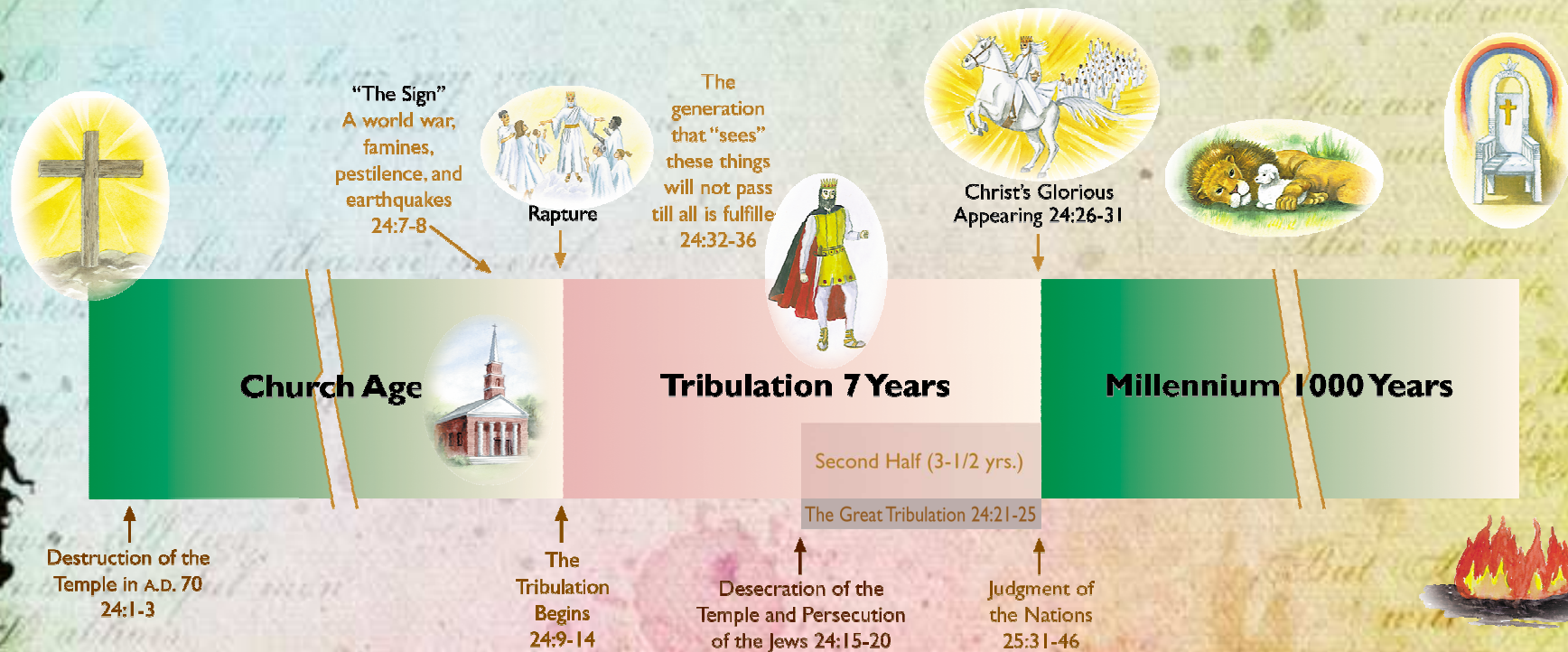
- Response to 3 questions asked by the Disciples
 - Jesus predicted destruction of temple and reminds them as they leave Jerusalem to the Mount of Olives
 - Question 1 – When will the temple be destroyed?
 - Question 2 – What will be the sign of your coming again?
 - Question 3 – What will be the sign of the end of the age?
 - Matthew concerns himself with Answers to Q1 and Q2 and Luke answers Q1 (Luke 21:20-24, see also Mark 13)

Matt 25 Parables

- ✓ Parable of 10 virgins
- Parable of the Talents
- ✓ Parable of the Sheep and Goats

I want to take the first and third and discuss them

Olivet Discourse View



Next week

- Take a look at the period we call the Tribulation
 - Purpose, who is there, length, kickoff and endpoint
- We will look at the significant pieces of Prophecy inside this timeframe including
 - Antichrist, 12th Imam, False Prophet, Beast
 - War of Gog and Magog
 - Abomination of Desolation
 - Table of Nations
 - Specific signs of the times
 - Scripture that underlies the topics
- Even though we will be Raptured out, why it is important that we know it.