### 1 A STUDY OF THE BOOK OF REVELATION

#### **LESSON 25**

#### **OPENING REMARKS**

- It seems like the world's problems can't get worse but they are and they will be.....as prophesied
- It is very difficult to explain to someone who has not received the Holy Ghost or who has not looked into God's Word
- •Our joy, peace, and contentment is from Jesus
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#### John 14:27

27 Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid

### 3 OPENING REMARKS cont.

- It doesn't matter what is happening in this world as we have that peace of God dwelling within
- •That's why the situations that happen within this world have nothing to do with our peace
- It doesn't take away the sorrow or the real sadness that we feel when we see and hear of iniquity abounding
- If we do all we can to bring God into someone's life and they receive the love of God, they will receive the love for one another then there will not be as much sorrow in the world
- •We do feel that soon will be the redemption of this old earth, not just seeing it in the Scriptures be feeling it from His Spirit too

# 4 Pope & Rabbi Graphic

### 5 AN OVERVIEW OF PROPHECY

- In previous Bible studies, Daniel, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, etc., these old prophets in the Old Testament were given the same type of insight and vision that John had here in Revelation
- The Book of Revelation is mostly dealing with the Gentiles and the bride however it does have a short portion on the Jews
- The Old Testament Scriptures bear out the same prophecies; they are dealing with the Jews
- •As we are coming closer to our time, the time of the bride as we see

here in the Book of Revelation, it is amazing to see in the middle of this prophecy God brings this out about the Jews

#### 6 AN OVERVIEW OF PROPHECY cont.

- The Jews have returned to Israel and to Jerusalem but they have not returned back to God yet
- •The Scriptures tell us that these first 3-1/2 years of tribulation is dealing with the people who are alive; those who are to be martyred
- •Then begins a time of two more 3-1/2 year periods
- •During this 7 year period there will be a lot happening with the Jews
- In the first 3-1/2 years of the 7-year period the Jews make a treaty with Antichrist
- He promises them peace and safety and they actually allow him within their temple that's rebuilt in Jerusalem

#### 7 AN OVERVIEW OF PROPHECY cont.

- In studying the entire Old Testament you could not begin to think that that could take place
- They have never allowed the Gentiles inside their temple, only true believers of Judaism
- This Judaism and Roman Catholicism accepting one another is very surprising
- •This event April 13,1986 is the first time ever in history that the Pope of Rome visited and was allowed inside and took part in this Jewish synagogue service
- The Pope is over the Roman Catholic church which was the greatest enemy to the Jews that they ever had

#### 8 THE ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION

- The Roman Catholics had, in many of their writings, stated that the Jews were the killers of Christ so therefore they were to be killed like dogs
- They never stood up for them during the terrible holocaust that took place during WWII
- Now the Roman Catholics are saying to the Jews "You are like our elder brothers"
- This reconciliation comes out strongly in the Book of Daniel
- •The prophesy of the rebuilding of the temple must be fulfilled before Antichrist will be allowed in
- Currently the Mosque of Omar sits on the site of where the temple

will be rebuilt

### 9 THE ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION cont.

- Recall the portion of this study in the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter where we studied into the Doctrine of Balaam
- The Doctrine of Balaam being that of "compromise"
- This is exactly what we see happening with the Jewish people
- These Scriptures in Daniel explain what is happening very clearly with Antichrist (prince) making a covenant with the Jews which is how he gets into the temple (Daniel 9:27)
- He does not keep his part of the covenant (he is trying to assume God's position as protector of the Jews)

### 10 THE ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION cont.

Daniel 9:25-27

25 Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem, unto the Messiah the Prince, shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times.

26 And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined.

27 And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.

# 11 THE ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION cont.

Daniel 11:29-32

- 29 At the time appointed he shall return, and come toward the south; but it shall not be as the former, or as the latter.
- 30 For the ships of Chittim shall come against him: therefore he shall be grieved, and return, and have indignation against the holy covenant: so shall he do; he shall even return, and have intelligence with them that forsake the holy covenant.
- 31 And arms shall stand on his part, and they shall pollute the sanctuary of strength, and shall take away the daily sacrifice, and they shall place the abomination that maketh desolate.

32 And such as do wickedly against the covenant shall he corrupt by flatteries: but the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits.

#### 12 THE ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION cont.

- It is not the nation of Israel as whole and not even the largest part of the nation but only a part of it that makes its covenant with Antichrist
- It is those Jews who forsake God and are corrupted by flatteries
- They give themselves over to him and allow him in the temple
- This is called the abomination of desolation (Matthew 24:15)
- The explanation of this term is found in the New Testament in chapter 2 of II Thessalonians

### 13 THE ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION cont.

II Thessalonians 2:2-4

2 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.

3 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;

4 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, showing himself that he is God.

## 14 THE ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION cont.

- This is the abomination of desolation
- This Scripture in II Thessalonians tells us exactly what the abomination to God is; that another sits in His Holy Temple saying he is God
- There the people worship him as such
- This mixing of the world religions is bringing things to the point where this will be able to happen (Antichrist in the temple)
- This study reveals how often history was written before it ever took place
- •Then to see it happen in our time is the greatest faith builder that could ever happen to us

### 15 THE SIXTH SEAL

• The sixth seal brings to a close the Dispensation of Grace mixed

with judgement

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Revelation 6:12-14

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

13 and the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind.

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

### 16 THE SIXTH SEAL cont.

Revelation 6:15-17

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

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

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

### 17 THE SIXTH SEAL cont.

- This Scripture is very revealing about mankind as they know what and who to fear and yet they don't change
- Every dispensation has ended in judgement
- •The severest of all God's judgement will be at the end of this Dispensation of Grace mixed with judgement
- Why is this the worst judgement of all as this period of time comes to an end?
- •What was offered in Grace was the most powerful and strongest incentive to mankind so the judgement would be relative to it
- This was the last chance ever for mankind to receive salvation

- Certainly in the Dispensation of Grace, from the time of Jesus Christ up to the Rapture, we are more accountable than ever
- For the first 3-1/2 year period it is still grace but mixed with judgement

- God's grace comes from the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ
- He paid the greatest price for our salvation
- The very last thing He had to give was His life, after that what else can you give?
- Then sending back to His people the same gift of power and love and mercy that He used

### 19 THE SIXTH SEAL cont.

- •We are more accountable in the dispensation in which we live than any human being that has ever lived upon this earth
- We have so much to look forward to
- The prize that He gives to us is such a great, great prize or payday we could say
- •The judgement that comes after this would certainly be the greatest
- There is Scripture in Luke where Jesus has prophesied saying the same as here in Revelation

### 20 THE SIXTH SEAL cont.

Luke 21:25-27

25 And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring;

26 men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken.

27 And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.

•This is the same prophecy as in Revelation 6:12-17

- The Greek word for perplexity, aporia (ap-or-ee'-a), means "no way out"
- Nations will not be able to find their way out of their difficulties and it will get worse
- Throughout history, mankind has had a great fear of shooting stars and unexplainable heavenly phenomena
- Nature has a mightier force that anything else known to man e.g. great earthquakes, volcanos, typhoons/hurricanes

•The nuclear bombs, while terrifying, are still no match for the forces of nature that God has created

### 22 THE SIXTH SEAL cont.

- •Under this sixth seal comes the greatest earthquake this earth will ever see until the final earthquake recorded in the 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet/vial under the 7<sup>th</sup> seal
- •We have seen what happens to the atmosphere when just a small volcano erupts how the sunlight and moonlight is blocked
- We have seen in human history when just small meteorites have hit the earth the destruction they have caused
- The rider on the white horse will superintend the preaching of the gospel (of their day) during this time
- It is no wonder that people are saved in large numbers out of every tongue, kindred, and nation
- Our world has become so small

### 23 THE SIXTH SEAL cont.

- When these things happen we become so afraid and without God there will be fear on every heart
- After the sixth seal there is no more salvation
- Up until this time is the preaching of the gospel and the supernatural happenings of God
- It is easy to see why there is a mass move of people coming to God, in fact they will give their life and refuse to take the mark, number, or name of the beast
- How easy it is today compared to whatever has been or ever will be, it is easy right now because He gives us of His own power, His own Spirit
- •He gives us this power now and He will guide us by His Word and His Spirit and then take us out of this world before these things happen according to this same Word

- For the time we live in salvation is easy
- During the tribulation there will be death, starvation, pestilences, diseases, killings, and persecutions unto death in great numbers
- During this time, only the martyred will receive salvation
- We look at the apostacy that prevails today and we see very few people saved (in a state of salvation)

- People are either bitter and fault-finding towards religion or they have become lukewarm and indifferent
- It is not just the wrath of God; it is God's mercy that by any means He can help some of them towards salvation

### 25 THE SIXTH SEAL cont.

- The purpose of these visitations and supernatural wonders that appear under the 6th seal are several fold; people's salvation and disrupting Satan's control of the world
- All people will know at that time that it is God who is almighty and in control
- The people on the earth, even the kings and the great men, are panic-stricken by the violent actions of the forces of nature
- The earth has lost its stability and the heavens seem to have gone crazy
- Satan is not able to control the world he claims to be master of

### 26 THE SIXTH SEAL cont.

- We will be in heaven when these things are happening or some of us could be doing redemption work going to and fro, heaven to earth and back and forth
- •God is showing who this world really belongs to by these happenings even as Satan is claiming to be the master and even setting himself up in the temple
- Verse 16 tells us that mankind knows who is causing all these actions and wonders
- Even though people realize where this is coming from they don't try to change but they try to hide from Him
- Sometimes these plagues have been thought of as coming from Satan; this is not the case

- These plagues are actually directed against Satan and serve to defeat him in his purpose
- They are sent from heaven as a direct administration of judgement whose primary purpose is redemption
- The plagues and instability of the earth also hinder the persecution of the tribulation saints
- The Holy Spirit will no longer hinder Satan as it does right now, it is taken from the earth at the Rapture

## 28 THE SIXTH SEAL cont.

II Thessalonians 2:6-7

6 And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time.

7 For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way.

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- Antichrist is already alive, he is already working just waiting to be revealed
- When the Holy Spirit is taken out, He who now allows these things to be, when He's taken out of the way then shall that wicked be revealed

### 29 THE SIXTH SEAL cont.

- It's not until the Holy Ghost takes the people out that he will be revealed
- Many people think that the Antichrist must be in power before the church can be taken out but he does not have to be
- It is not until the Holy Ghost takes God's people out that he will come into power
- Whether he is revealed as Antichrist before the Rapture, the Scripture really doesn't say
- We will probably know as we know what to look for as we are given all that in Daniel
- The Holy Ghost will not be here where we are reading in Revelation chapter 6

- With the Holy Spirit out of the way, it is only the forces of nature as they are controlled by God, by heaven, that are used to hinder the efforts of Satan against the struggling weak church that's left after the Rapture
- This weak and persecuted church must survive for that short 3-1/2 year period (purpose of the black horseman)
- At the end of this 3-1/2 year period there will be no one left, they will have all been martyred by then
- God protects them from complete annihilation that Satan, through Antichrist, would bring about if he could
- ·Because Satan is kept so busy with all these forces of nature and

goings on, he is not able to go after the weak saints that will have to give their lives for their salvation

### 31 THE SIXTH SEAL cont.

- It is strange that mankind can go through some of the most terrible things easier than they can some of the most simple things
- In our time it is not difficult to serve God
- You cannot serve God and your old nature; it is either one or the other, you cannot be lukewarm
- When Jesus comes back again there will not be the necessity of the gifts and callings we have today
- Love will always remain
- •These things we have read about in verses 12-17 are not symbolic
- There are no symbols in this section of Scripture

### 32 THE SIXTH SEAL cont.

- Symbols follow strict rules of interpretation; they have positive meanings
- We will see the use of symbols much more when we get to the earth's point of view in our study
- When Joel and Peter said "...wonders in heaven and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapors of smoke." they meant just that
- Guess work is never needed in the Word of God, He always tells us what He means
- •Keeping these signs in mind let's turn to Isaiah the 24th chapter

#### 33 THE DAY OF THE LORD

Isaiah 24:17-20

- 17 Fear, and the pit, and the snare, are upon thee, O inhabitant of the earth.
- 18 And it shall come to pass, that he who fleeth from the noise of the fear shall fall into the pit; and he that cometh up out of the midst of the pit shall be taken in the snare: for the windows from on high are open, and the foundations of the earth do shake.
- 19 The earth is utterly broken down, the earth is clean dissolved, the earth is moved exceedingly.
- 20 The earth shall reel to and fro like a drunkard, and shall be removed like a cottage; and the transgression thereof shall be heavy upon it; and it shall fall, and not rise again.

# 34 THE DAY OF THE LORD cont.

Isaiah 24:21-23

21 And it shall come to pass in that day, that the Lord shall punish the host of the high ones that are on high, and the kings of the earth upon the earth.

22 And they shall be gathered together, as prisoners are gathered in the pit, and shall be shut up in the prison, and after many days shall they be visited.

23 Then the moon shall be confounded, and the sun ashamed, when the Lord of hosts shall reign in mount Zion, and in Jerusalem, and before his ancients gloriously.

### 35 THE DAY OF THE LORD cont.

- Isaiah is describing the same things as in verses 1—17 in chapter 6 of Revelation, these are not symbols
- These Scriptures in Isaiah are the beginning of fulfillment of what we see in II Peter

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II Peter 3:8-9

- 8 But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.
- 9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is long-suffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

# 36 THE DAY OF THE LORD cont.

II Peter 3:10

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.

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- •We find all of these in the 7<sup>th</sup> seal that shows the earth cleansed by fire
- This is part of the process of the redemption of the earth
- •There is no such thing as the end of this world

### 37 THE DAY OF THE LORD cont.

Where this expression occurs in the Bible it should be translated as

"end of the age"

- The word "world" is used to translate a number of Greek words, some of which refer to time or conditions
- In the phrase "This is a man's world", that kind of world could come to an end
- The created world will not come to an end
- •There are a number of Scriptures that support this truth

### 38 WORLD WITHOUT END

Isaiah 45:17-18

17 But Israel shall be saved in the Lord with an everlasting salvation: ye shall not be ashamed nor confounded world without end.

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.

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Ephesians 3:21

21 unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

### 39 THE DAY OF THE LORD

- This time is The Day of the Lord as we have studied previously and will see again in the view from earth
- It has been said that the earth was destroyed by the flood (Noah's time) but the earth itself was not destroyed, just the sin and works of sin
- The expression "Day of the Lord" is used throughout the Bible always with the same meaning; a period of time less than one generation in length when God will cleanse the earth of the effects of sin
- The end of the Day of the Lord will begin the development of a new world and also a new age (the thousand year reign)

# 40 THE DAY OF THE LORD cont.

Micah 4:1-3

1 But in the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it. 2 And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to

the mountain of the Lord, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

3 And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

### 41 THE DAY OF THE LORD cont.

- This is the period of time after the judgement, that 1,000 years of peace
- This is not yet the end of Satan who is chained in the bottomless pit for these 1,000 years
- This is where God teaches them not to hate one another and He will use force from time to time if it is necessary
- We wonder what is going to happen next, what is going to take place in our time according to prophecy
- We will most likely see difficult time before we are taken out of this old world

42 Closing Graphic – 7-Sealed Book