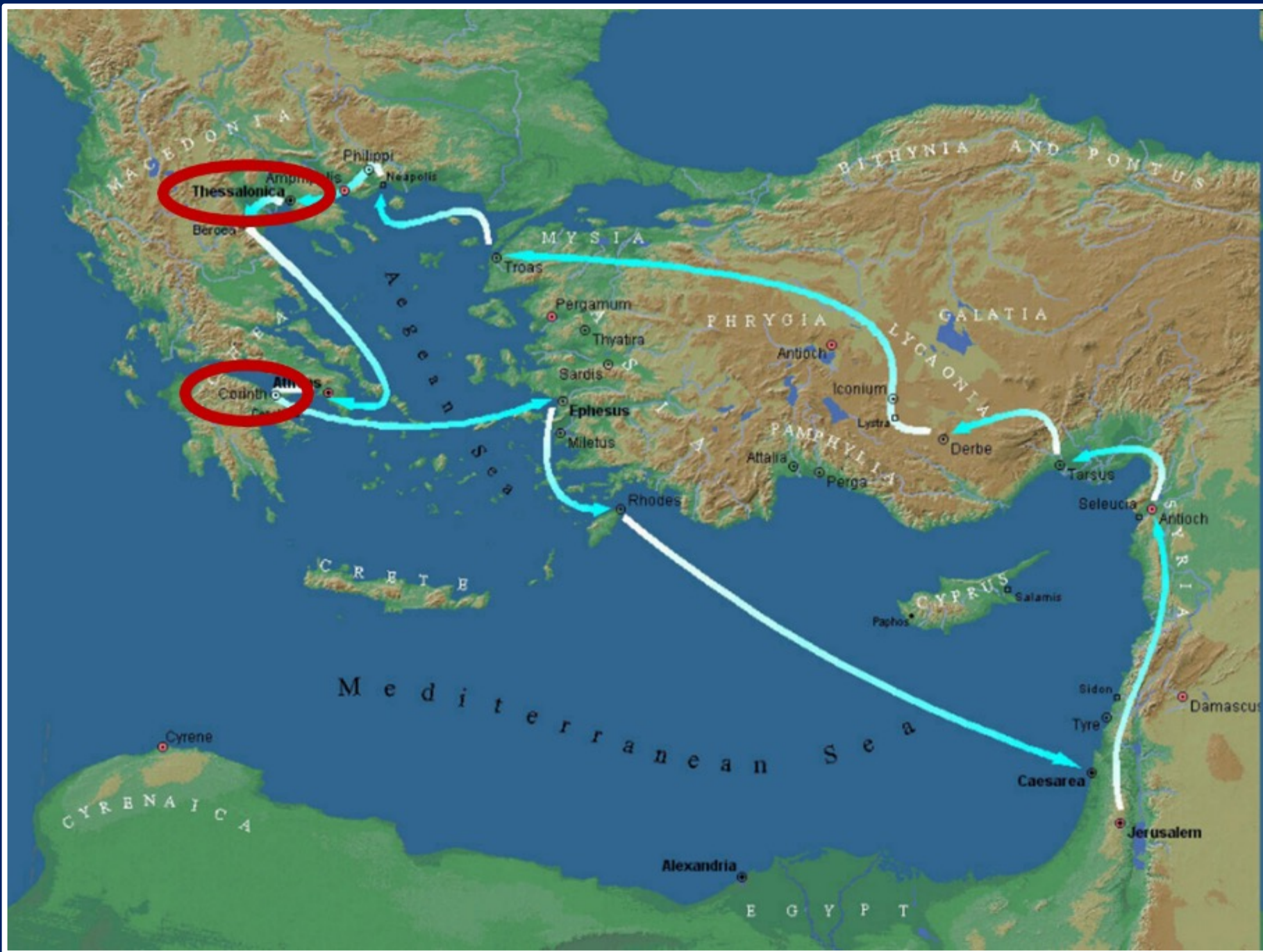


Dr. Andy Woods

Senior Pastor – Sugar Land Bible Church
President – Chafer Theological Seminary



2 Thessalonians 2:1-12

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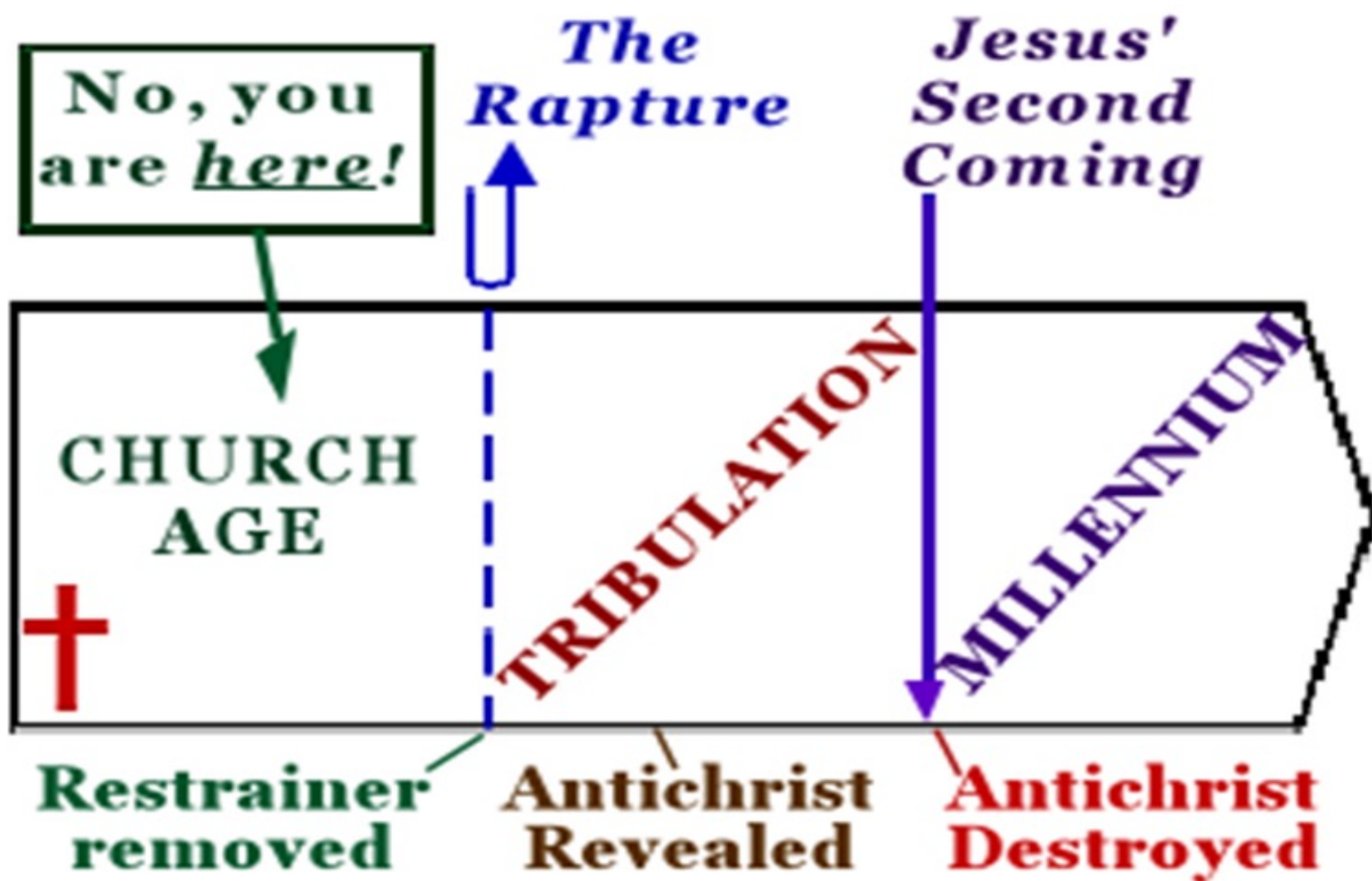


2 Thessalonians 2:2

“that you not be quickly shaken from your composure or be disturbed either by a spirit or a message or a letter as if from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord [the Tribulation] has come.”



Paul's Correction of their Error



The Thessalonians' False Idea



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2 Thessalonians 2:6-7

⁶And you know what restrains [τὸ κατέχον; neuter] him now, so that in his time he will be revealed. ⁷For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only he who now restrains [ὁ κατέχων; masculine] will do so until he is taken out of the way.



Restrainer? (2:6-7)

- Rome?
- Satan?
- Government?
- Michael?
- Spirit?



Trinity

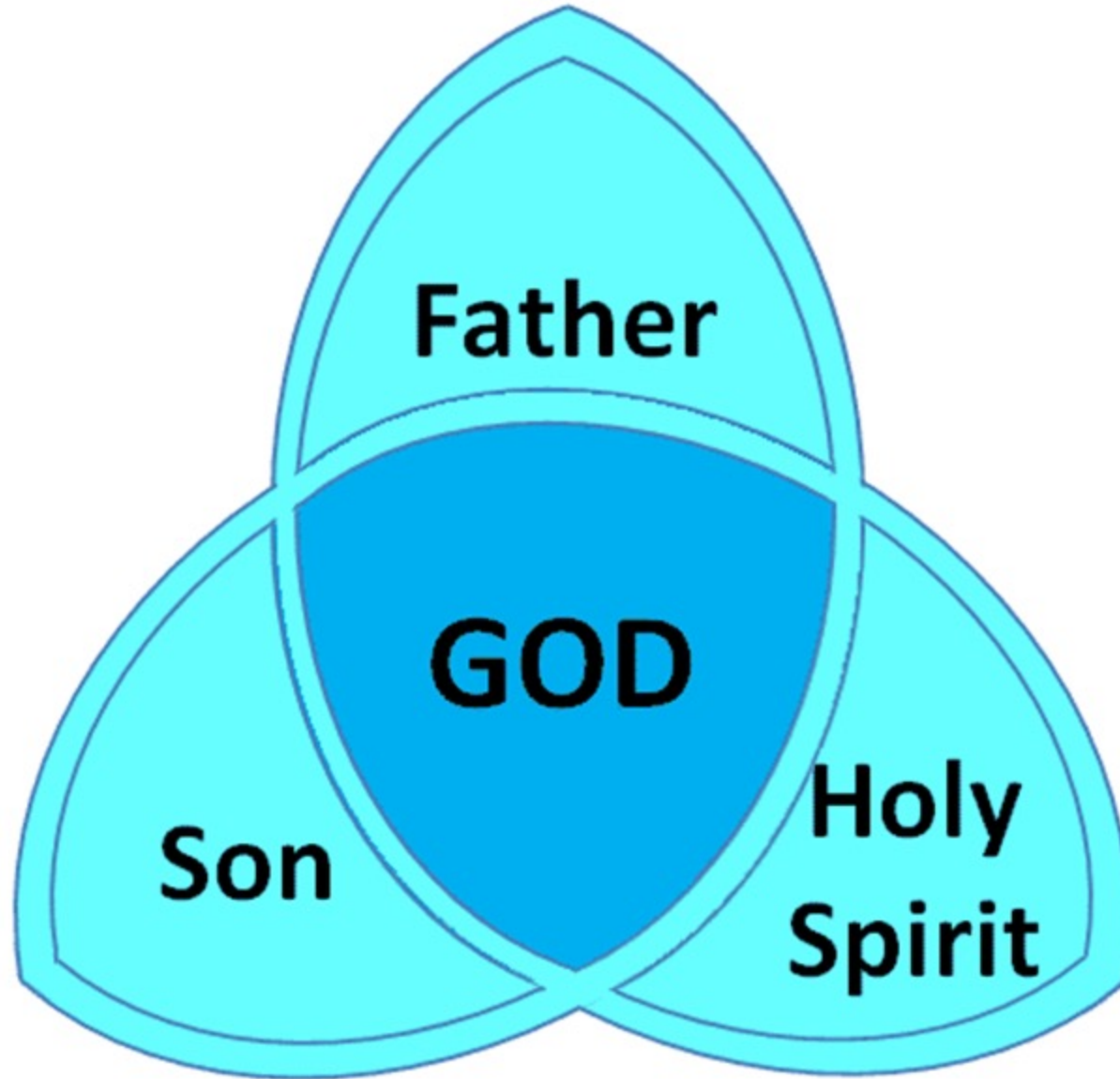
Father

Son

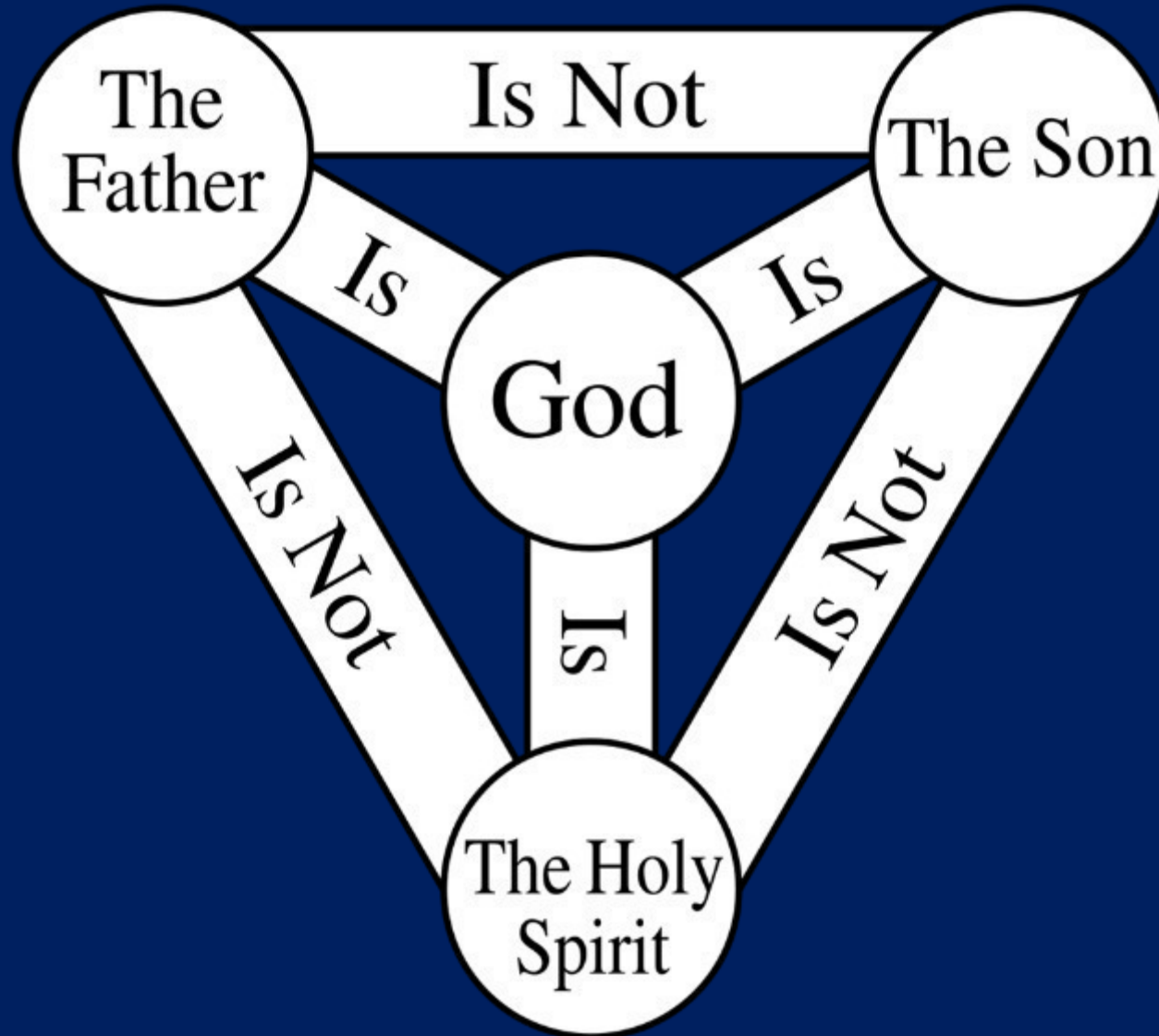
Holy
Spirit



TRINITY



Trinity



3 Reasons Why the Restrainer is the Holy Spirit

(2 Thessalonians 2:6-7)

- The Holy Spirit is omnipotent (2 Thess. 2:9)
- The Holy Spirit is active in the world (Gen. 6:3; John 16:7-11)
- The Holy Spirit view handles well the switch in gender from the neuter (vs. 6) to the masculine (vs. 7)



Romans 8:5-6

⁵ “For those who are according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who are according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. ⁶ For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace.”



2 Thessalonians 2:5

“Do you not remember that while I was still with you, I was telling you these things?”



Restrainer Must First be Removed

- Restrainer holds back the Antichrist (2 Thess 2:6-7)
- Restrainer = the omnipotent Holy Spirit (2 Thess 2:9)
- Holy Spirit permanently indwells all Christians (John 14:16; Rom 8:9)
- Spirit indwelt Christians must first be removed prior to the Antichrist's advent



Remaining Questions

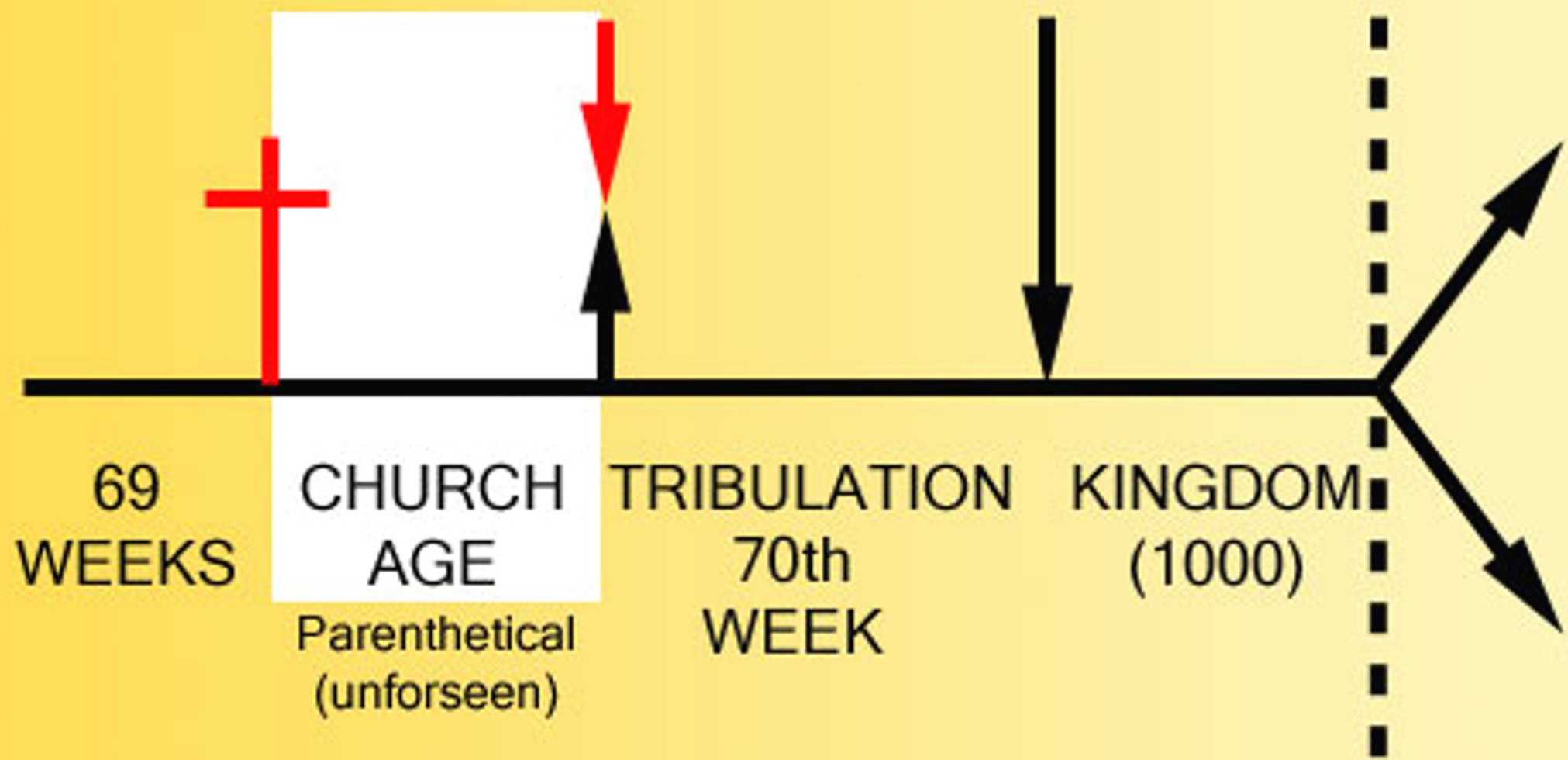
- Will the Holy Spirit be active during the Tribulation period? – YES
- Should believers be politically active today? – YES
- Can we identify the Antichrist today? – NO
- Has Satan selected an Antichrist for every generation? – YES
- Will an Antichrist one day arise? – YES



Ezekiel 28:13–15

¹³ “You were in Eden, the garden of God; Every precious stone was your covering: The ruby, the topaz and the diamond; The beryl, the onyx and the jasper; The lapis lazuli, the turquoise and the emerald; And the gold, the workmanship of your settings and sockets, Was in you. On the day that you were **created** They were prepared....¹⁵ “You were blameless in your ways From the day you were **created** Until unrighteousness was found in you.





2 Thessalonians 2:3, 7

“...the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction...For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only he who now restrains *will do so* until he is taken out of the way.”



1 John 4:3

“and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God; this is the *spirit of the antichrist*, of which you have heard that it is coming, and now it is already in the world.”



1 John 2:18

“Children, it is the last hour; and just as you heard that antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have appeared; from this we know that it is the last hour.”



Remaining Questions

- Will the Holy Spirit be active during the Tribulation period? – YES
- Should believers be politically active today? – YES
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Revelation 13:16-18

¹⁶ And he causes all, the small and the great, and the rich and the poor, and the free men and the slaves, to be given a mark on their right hand or on their forehead, ¹⁷ and *he provides* that no one will be able to buy or to sell, except the one who has the mark, *either* the name of the beast or the number of his name. ¹⁸ Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for the number is that of a man; and his number is six hundred and sixty-six.



TABLE OF ALPHABETIC NOTATION OF NUMERALS

	Hebrew	Greek		Hebrew	Greek
1	א	α	50	ה	ν
2	ב	β	60	ו	ξ
3	ג	γ	70	ז	ο
4	ד	δ	80	ח	π
5	ה	ε	90	ט	φ
6	ו	ς	100	י	ρ
7	ז	σ	200	כ	β
8	ח	τ	300	ל	δ
9	ט	θ	400	מ	τ
10	י	ι	500	נ	υ
20	כ	κ	600	ס	φ
30	ל	λ	700	ע	χ
40	מ	μ	800	פ	ψ
				צ	ω

2 Thessalonians 2:1-12

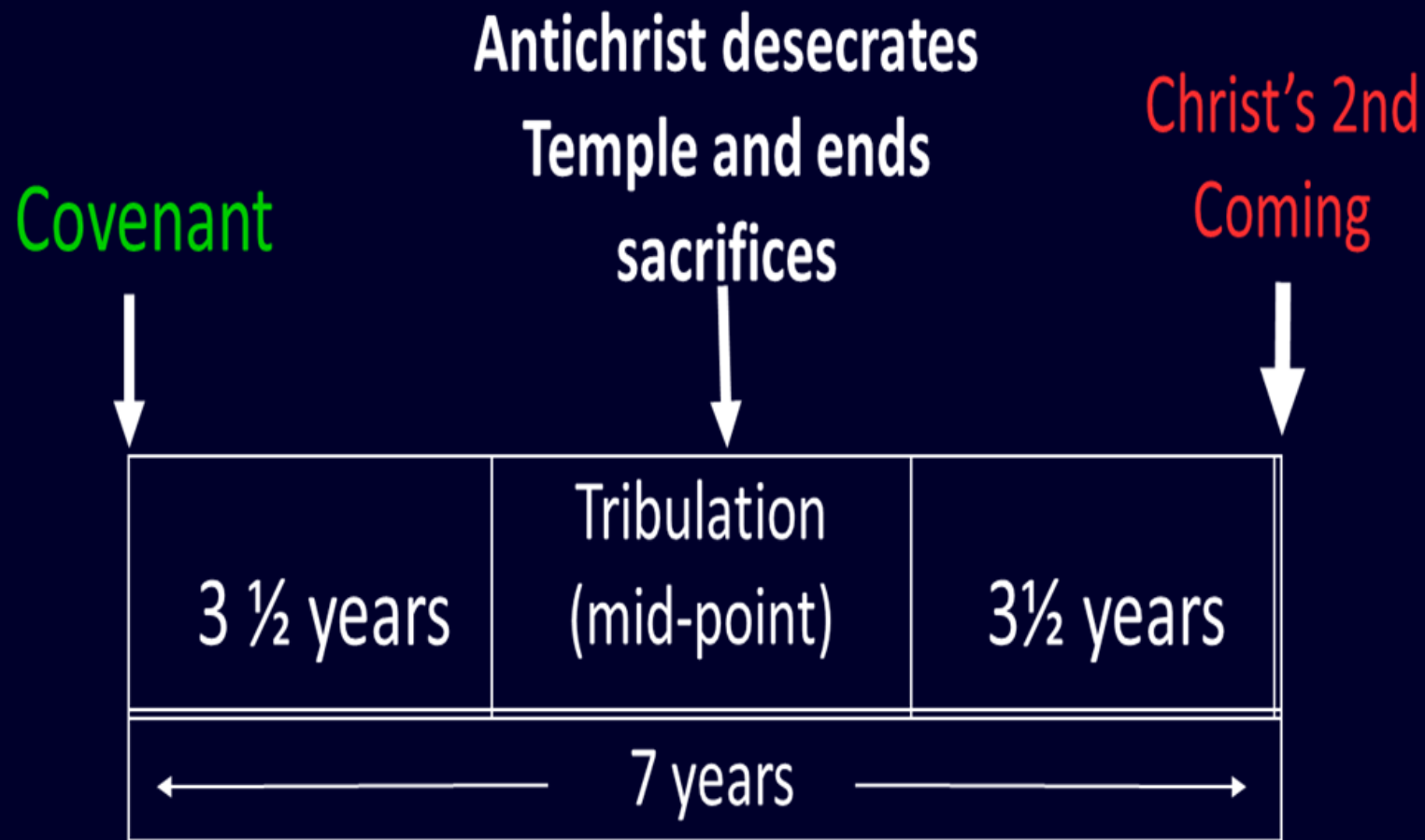
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Daniel 9:27

And he will make a firm covenant with the many for one week, but in the middle of the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; and on the wing of abominations will come one who makes desolate, even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate.

DAN 9:27 OVERVIEW OF TRIBULATION PERIOD



Revelation 13:5

“There was given to him a mouth speaking arrogant words and blasphemies, and authority to act for forty-two months was given to him.”



Revelation 18:8

“For this reason in one day her plagues will come, pestilence and mourning and famine, and she will be burned up with fire; for the Lord God who judges her is strong.



Revelation 18:10

“standing at a distance because of the fear of her torment, saying, ‘Woe, woe, the great city, Babylon, the strong city! For in one hour your judgment has come.’”

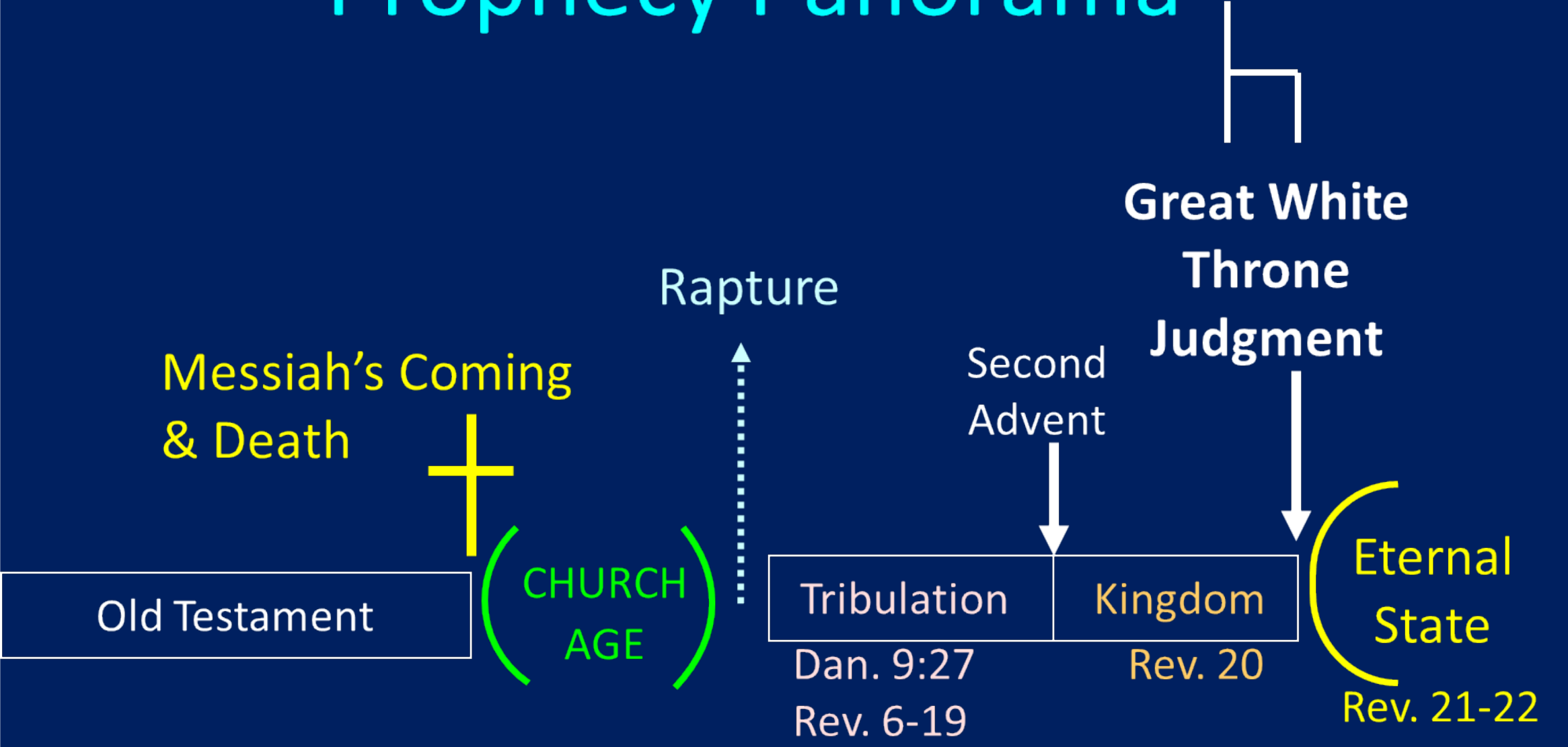


Isaiah 9:6-7

⁶ For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; And the government will rest on His shoulders; And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.⁷ There will be no end to the increase of His government or of peace, On the throne of David and over his kingdom, To establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness From then on and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will accomplish this.



Prophecy Panorama



Isaiah 11:4

But with righteousness He will judge the poor, And decide with fairness for the afflicted of the earth; And He will strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, And with the breath of His lips He will slay the wicked.



Revelation 19:15

From His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He may strike down the nations, and He will rule them with a rod of iron; and He treads the wine press of the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty.



Hebrew 4:12

For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.



2 Thessalonians 2:9

“that is, the one whose coming is in accord with the activity of Satan, with all power and signs and false wonders.”





Ezekiel 28:13, 15

“¹³ You were in Eden, the garden of God; Every precious stone was your covering: The ruby, the topaz and the diamond; The beryl, the onyx and the jasper; The lapis lazuli, the turquoise and the emerald; And the gold, the workmanship of your settings and sockets, Was in you. On the day that you were created They were prepared... ¹⁵ You were blameless in your ways From the day you were created Until unrighteousness was found in you.”



Antichrist's Satanic Miracles

(2 Thessalonians 2:9)

MIRACLE	GREEK	CHRIST'S MINISTRY
Powers	<i>Dynamis</i>	Matt. 11:20
Signs	<i>Sēmeion</i>	John 20:30
Wonders	<i>Teras</i>	Acts 2:22

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Matthew 11:20

Then He began to denounce the cities in which most of His miracles [*dynamis*] were done, because they did not repent.



Acts 2:22

“Men of Israel, listen to these words: Jesus the Nazarene, a man attested to you by God with miracles [*dynamis*] and wonders [*teras*] and signs [*sēmeion*] which God performed through Him in your midst, just as you yourselves know.”



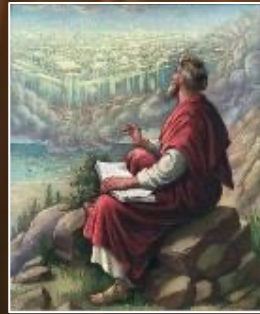
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John 20:30-31

“³⁰ Therefore many other signs [sēmeion] Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹ but these have been written so that you may believe (*pisteuō eis*) that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name.”



“SEVEN SIGNS” in Gospel of John



1. Changing Water into Wine

2:11

2. Healing official's son

4:46-54



3. Healing an invalid at the Pool of Bethesda

5:1-18

4. Feeding the 5,000

6:5-14

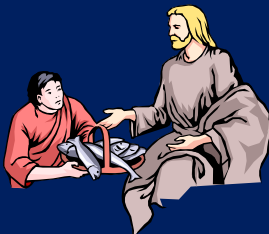


5. Walking on water

6:16-21

6. Healing a blind man

9:1-7



7. Raising dead Lazarus


11:1-45



John 3:2

“this man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, “Rabbi, we know that You have come from God as a teacher; for no one can do these signs [*sēmeion*] that You do unless God is with him.”

“SEVEN SIGNS” in Gospel of John

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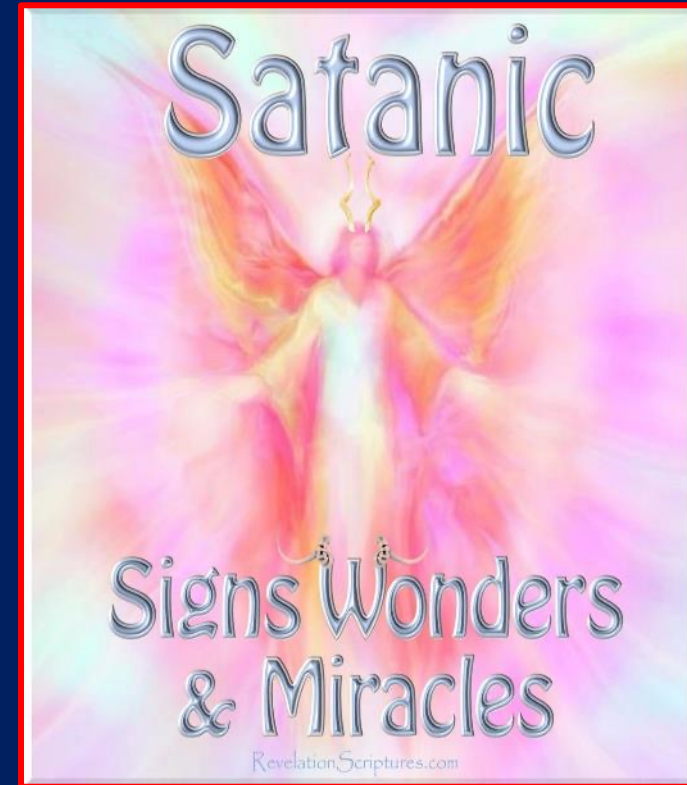
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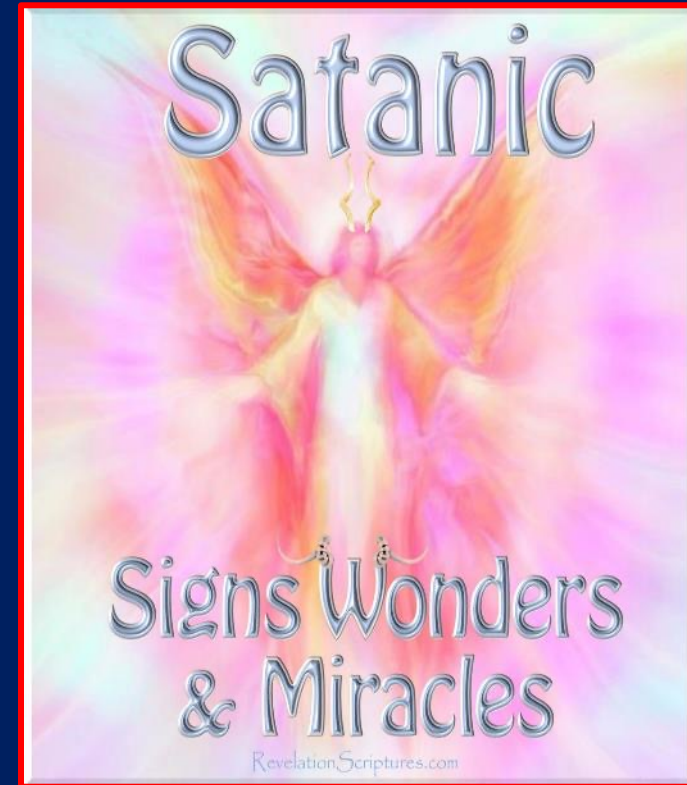
Satanic/Demonic Miracles

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2. Deut. 13:1-3
3. Job 1:12-19; 2:7-8
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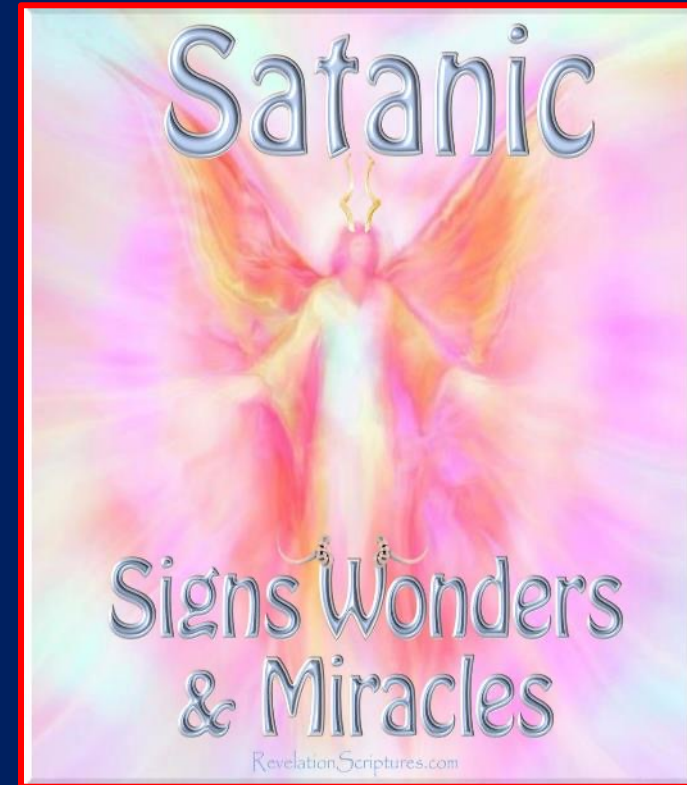


The Plagues of Egypt

NO.	DESCRIPTION	SCRIPTURE	IMITATION?
1.	Water to Blood	Exod. 7:14-25	Yes
2.	Frogs	Exod. 8:1-15	Yes
3.	Gnats	Exod. 8:16-19	No
4.	Flies	Exod. 8:20-32	No
5.	Disease on Cattle	Exod. 9:1-7	No
6.	Boils	Exod. 9:8-12	No
7.	Hail	Exod. 9:13-35	No
8.	Locusts	Exod. 10:1-20	No
9.	Darkness	Exod. 10:21-29	No
10.	Death of the First Born	Exod. 12:29-36	No

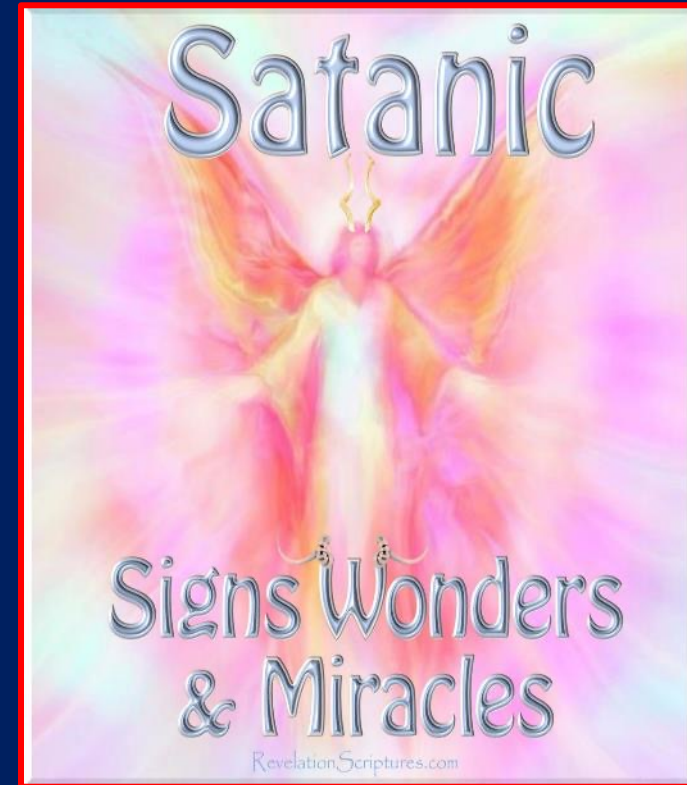
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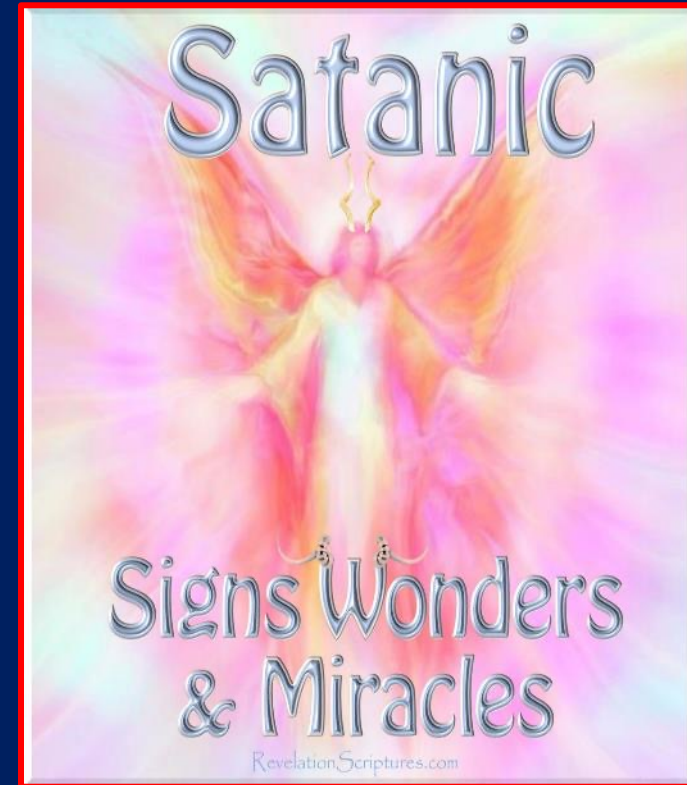
Galatians 1:6–9

⁶ I am amazed that you are so quickly deserting Him who called you by the grace of Christ, for a different gospel; ⁷ which is *really* not another; only there are some who are disturbing you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. ⁸ But even if we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, he is to be accursed! ⁹ As we have said before, so I say again now, if any man is preaching to you a gospel contrary to what you received, he is to be accursed!



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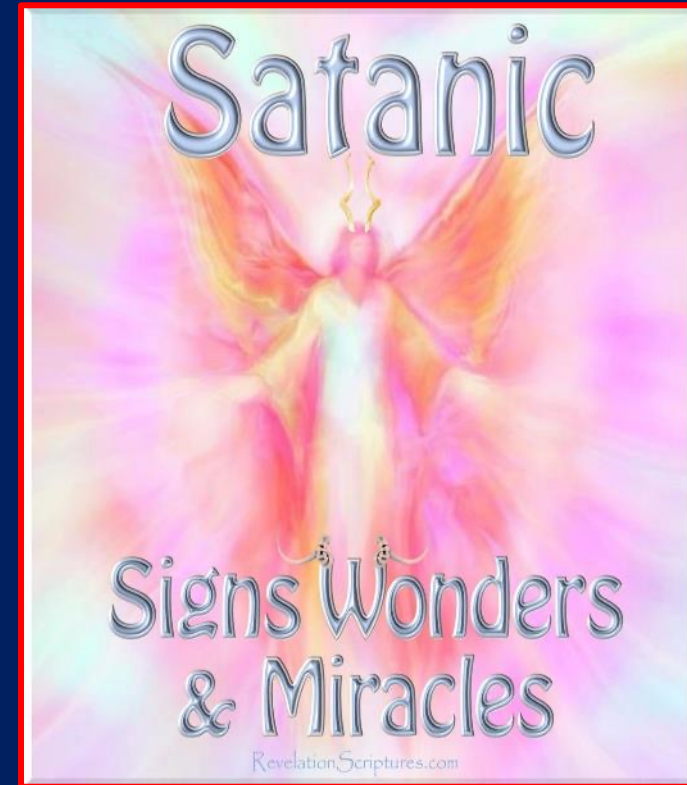
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