

Christian Myth Busters
Prophecy Corrections Part 2
Sunday Morning 1/13/24, 9 AM Service

Ten Prophecy Corrections

- Last night we looked at the first three prophecy corrections....
- We will Examine 4-6 this morning at the 9AM service and 7-10 at the 11 AM service

The ten are:

- #1 We were taught that the Rapture of the Church Begins the Great Tribulation**
- #2 We were taught that carnal Christians may not be raptured**
- #3 We were taught that the Holy Spirit is removed from the earth during the Tribulation**
- #4 We were taught that the two witnesses of Revelation 11:2-12 were probably Elijah and Moses or Elijah and Enoch**
- #5 We were taught that the final battle in the tribulation is called the Battle of Armageddon**
- #6 We were taught that the new heavens and earth of Isaiah 65:17 are the new eternal order of Revelation 21 and 22**
- #7 We were taught that the mark of the beast would be tied to a new universal currency**
- #8 We were taught to not allow any identification chip or tattoo to be put on our hand for that could be the Mark of the Beast**
- #9 We were taught that the army of 200 million in Revelation 9:16 are the Chinese Army**
- #10 We are often taught that the worldwide events of today, especially about Israel are leading to the Rapture**

Prophecy correction.....

- #4 We were taught that the two witnesses of Revelation 11:2-12 were probably Elijah and Moses or Elijah and Enoch**

- We do not believe this is correct!
- What do these verses say Rev. 11:2-12?

2 But leave out the court which is outside the [the 3rd] temple, and do not measure it, for it has been given to the Gentiles. And they will tread the holy city underfoot for forty-two months [or 3.5 yrs.].

3 And I will give power to my two witnesses [their 1st mention], and they will prophesy [exactly] one thousand two hundred and sixty days [or 3.5 yrs.], clothed in sackcloth."

4 These are [likened to the] the two olive trees and the two lampstands standing before the God of the earth [as pictured in Zechariah 4:1-14].

5 And if anyone wants to harm them, fire proceeds from their mouth and devours their enemies. And if anyone wants to harm them, he must be killed in this manner.

6 These have power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their prophecy [like Elijah]; and they have power over waters to turn them to blood [like Moses], and to strike the earth with all plagues, as often as they desire.

7 When they finish their testimony, the beast [God's view of the AC] that ascends out of the bottomless pit will make war against them, overcome them, and kill them.

8 And their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified [Jerusalem].

9 Then those from the peoples, tribes, tongues, and nations will see their dead bodies three-and-a-half days, and not allow their dead bodies to be put into graves.

10 And those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them, make merry, and send gifts to one another, because these two prophets tormented those who dwell on the earth.

11 Now after the three-and-a-half days [similar to Lazarus] the breath [or Spirit] of life from God entered them, and they stood on their feet, and great fear fell on those who saw them.

12 And they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, "Come up here." And they ascended to heaven in a cloud, and their enemies saw them.

13 In the same hour there was a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city fell. In the earthquake seven thousand people were killed, and the rest were afraid and gave glory to the God of heaven.

Here's what Got Questions?.org has to say about the two witnesses of Rev. 11...

-... and this is typical of what we were taught by very good dispensational men.

-“No one will be able to stop them or harm them according to v.5

-“The two witnesses in Revelation will have miraculous powers to accompany their message in v.6

-At the end of their ministry, when God is through with them,....

-.... the beast, the AC, will be allowed to kill them and the wicked world will rejoice.

-They keep the bodies of the two dead witnesses lying in the street in vs. 7–10.

-Three and a half days later, however, God's two witnesses will be resurrected....

-....in full view of their enemies, and they will ascend to heaven in verses 11–12.”

Got questions? continues.....

There are three primary theories on the identity of the two witnesses

(1) Moses and Elijah

(2) Enoch and Elijah and

(3) Two unknown Jewish believers whom God calls to be His witnesses in Jerusalem.

(1) Moses and Elijah are seen as possibilities for the two witnesses

-.... due to the specific miracles that John says the witnesses will perform.

-And the witnesses will have the power to destroy their enemies with fire in 11:5....

-.... which corresponds to an event in Elijah's life in 2 Kings chapter 1.

-The witnesses will have the power to turn water into blood according to verse 6,

-.... which duplicates a famous miracle of Moses in Exodus 7.

(2) Enoch and Elijah are also seen as possibilities to be the two witnesses

-.... because of the unique circumstances surrounding their ascension to Heaven,

-.... without experiencing physical death.

-Enoch and Elijah, as far as we know, are the only two individuals whom God has taken directly to Heaven

-Proponents of this viewpoint point to **Hebrews 9:27**, which says that all men are appointed to die once.

-.... the fact that neither Enoch nor Elijah has yet experienced death,

-.... seems to qualify them for the job of the two witnesses, who will be killed when their job is done.

-**BUT** we must keep in mind that the raptured church also will not die physically as well,

-... but all who are raptured will be changed and made fit for Heaven

(3) Two unknowns are seen as possibilities for the two witnesses because they are not identified in Revelation 11.

So who are the two witnesses of Revelation?

- The Bible does not say, nor do I believe we can put together Scripture and deduct their identity.
- Let us understand why the two witnesses cannot possibly be Enoch, Moses, or Elijah.
- The Problem is that these men cannot die as the two witnesses do in Revelation 11:7....
-Just as the members of the church who are raptured cannot die after the rapture,...
- ..Because their bodies are transformed on the way to heaven....
- and as we shall see Enoch and Elijah must be transformed as well.

There is a basic principle in 1 Corinthians 15 that would apply to any Dispensation or Age....

- whether under Moses or in the Church Age or in the Tribulation or the Millennium.

-Let's examine 1 Corinthians 15:50-54

50 Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption.

- Let's pause right there and talk about **The Kingdom of God.**

-In Matthew John the Baptist & Jesus proclaimed that the Kingdom of Heaven was at hand, here on earth

-In Mark and Luke the Kingdom at hand or present is called 'The Kingdom of God.'

-Only Matthew uses the phrase "The Kingdom of Heaven is at hand"...

-.... it is synonymous with, 'The Kingdom of God.'

-What made the Kingdom of God at hand or nearby was the presence of the King, Jesus Christ.

-When He was rejected by the Jewish people as their King He did His 'cross-work' & ascended to Heaven...

-.... and did not set up His kingdom on earth, instead we find ourselves in the gap called the Church Age.

-The Kingdom is now 'at hand' or present in Heaven.

-There are members of His kingdom, by faith in Christ Crucified, on earth,.....

-They/We are Citizens of Heaven per **Philippians 3:20**, Strangers & Pilgrims according to **1Peter 2:11**

-Again the Kingdom of God is not on earth but in Heaven.

-This is important because of what we read in 1 Corinthians 15:50-54

Again Verse 50 of 1 Corinthians

50 Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God [which is in Heaven right now]; nor does corruption inherit incorruption.

So how do we get into inherit the kingdom of God?

v.51 Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep [physical death], but we [the living and the dead] shall all be changed—

How quickly?

52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet [of gathering]. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed [and gathered together].

Why do we need to be changed?

53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.

54 So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal [has to] put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory."

-All who desire to go to Heaven must change the bodies they are wearing, before arrival.

-All must put off 'mortality' and 'corruption' and put on 'immortality' and 'incorruption'

-No exceptions.

-And with immortality comes the fact that we shall never die again.

-Enoch and Elijah were taken up into Heaven,

-What happened to their bodies?

- Paul would argue that their bodies had to change,
- all humans have to put-off mortality and corruption,....
- and put on "Everlast" bodies befitting our imputed righteousness and place of residence.
- Moses, Enoch, Elijah will never be able to die again physically....
- Because their bodies had to become immortal to enter Heaven.

So what do we read of the two witnesses in **Revelation 11:7-9?**

- They ascended, slowly, so everyone on earth could see them,
- As they ascended in their mortal, corrupt bodies they put on....
-immortality and incorruption suitable for the Kingdom of God in Heaven.

Who are the two witnesses?

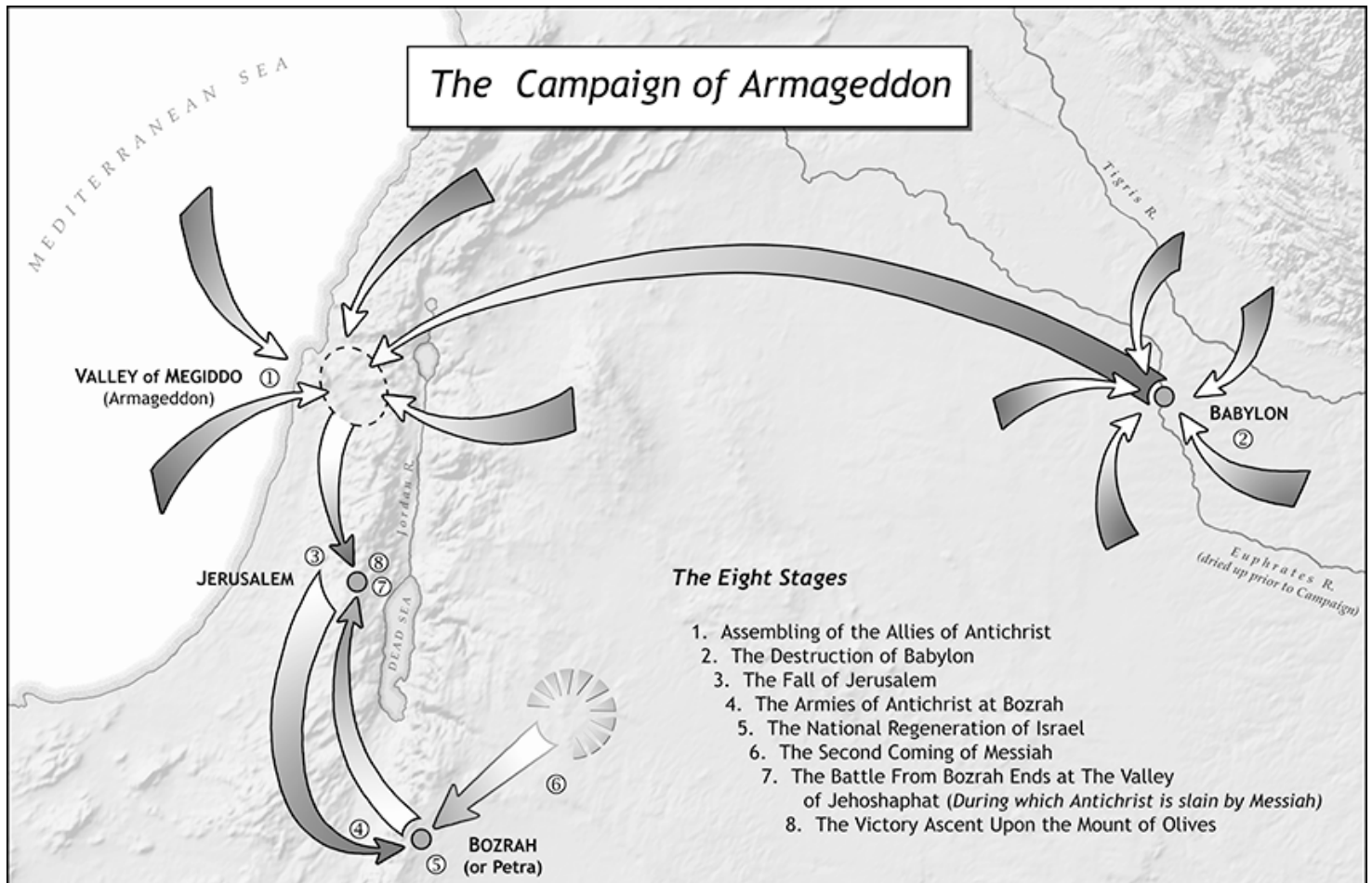
- We do not know and it does not matter.
- They will be faithful servants and God knows their names.

Prophecy correction.....

#5 We were taught that the final battle in the tribulation is called the **Battle of Armageddon**

- We believe that is misleading and wrong
- The Correct title should be **The Campaign of Armageddon** including the Second Coming of Jesus
- A shout out to Dr. Woodhead and Dr. Fruchtenbaum for this compilation of the Campaign of Armageddon.

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The Eight Stages of the Campaign

First Stage:	The Assembling of the Allies of the Antichrist
Second Stage:	The Destruction of Babylon
Third Stage:	The Fall of Jerusalem and Events Surrounding that Fall
Fourth Stage:	The Armies of the Antichrist at Bozrah
Fifth Stage:	The National Regeneration and Salvation of Israel
Sixth Stage:	The Second Coming of Messiah
Seventh Stage:	The Battle From Bozrah to the Valley of Jehoshaphat
Eighth Stage:	The Victory Ascent Up the Mount of Olives

- A considerable amount of data is given about this campaign that is scattered throughout the Scriptures.
- One of the greatest difficulties in the study of eschatology is placing the data of these events...
- ...in sequence, in order to see what exactly will happen in the Campaign of Armageddon.

The First Stage: The Assembling of the Allies of the Antichrist

- We begin The Campaign of Armageddon with the sixth Bowl Judgment in **Revelation 16:12-16**
 - 12 Then the sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up, so that the way of the kings from the east might be prepared.**
 - 13 And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs coming out of the mouth of the dragon [Satan], out of the mouth of the beast [the AC], and out of the mouth of the false prophet [all three are the counterfeit trinity].**
 - 14 For they are spirits of demons, performing signs, which [demons] go out to the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to 'the battle [or war] of that great day of God, the Almighty.**
 - 15 "Behold, I am coming as a thief. Blessed is he who watches, and keeps [guards and observes] his garments, lest he walk naked [as if he had no righteous garment] and they see his shame."**
 - 16 And they gathered them together to the place called in Hebrew, Har-Mageddon.**
- The armies of the Antichrist assemble themselves with the seven remaining allied kings in Rev. 17:10.
- The Antichrist issues the decree to the seven kings to gather at a specific location within Israel.
- Demonic spirits go out to make sure the kings perform as instructed.
- The great river Euphrates is dried up.
- The place of gathering is Har-Mageddon, the Mtn. of Megiddo, at the west end of the Valley of Jezreel.
- It is like the situation in England during WWII prior to D-Day.
- The allies staged their armies in England in preparation for the invasion of Normandy France.
- The title of this battle should be, **"The Battle of the Great God Almighty"** taken from **Revelation 16:14**.

The Second Stage: The Destruction of Babylon

- The fact is that the city of Babylon is to be rebuilt and becomes the world capital of the Antichrist,
- Not only is Babylon to become the world political capital, it is to become the world's economic capital.
- This fact is portrayed in the vision of **Zechariah 5:5-11** and **Revelation 18**-read both on your own
- But later, in the second stage of the Campaign of Armageddon, Babylon will be destroyed.
- Several passages are concerned with the future destruction of this city,
- You can read these chapters on your own: **Isaiah 13:1-14:23** and **Jeremiah chapters 50 and 51**

The Third Stage: Part 3a: The Fall of Jerusalem and Events Surrounding that Fall

- The Antichrist and all of his allied forces receive the news that his capital city has been destroyed,

- He does not move his armies to try and save his capital but is bent on fulfilling Satan's program
-the program of Jewish annihilation; the loss of Babylon will not deter him from Satan's plan.
- So instead of moving east, the Antichrist will move south against Jerusalem.
- It is Zechariah who described this third stage in two places.
- The first is **Zechariah 12:1-3** and then **Zechariah 14:1-2**, you will need to read these on your own.
- From the Valley of Jezreel the armies of the Antichrist will move south, against Jerusalem.
- The capture of Jerusalem by the forces of the Antichrist will not come easily per **Zechariah 12:3**.
- Jerusalem will become truly burdensome to the AC and his armies.
- Because of the superior numbers of the Antichrist's allies, Jerusalem eventually falls.

The Third Stage Part 3b: The Fleeing to Bozrah

- Matthew 24:15-16** tells us in general where they will flee.
"Therefore when you see the "ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION," spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place' (whoever reads [when this occurs], let him understand), 'then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains.'"
- Micah 2:10-13** describes the remnant fleeing to Bozrah in Southern Jordan. Read on your own.

The Third Stage Part 3c: The Flight of the Remnant from Jerusalem at Mid-Tribulation

- In **Revelation 12:6** we read, **"Then the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there one thousand two hundred and sixty days [3.5 yrs]."**
- 1,260 days is exactly three-and-one-half years, based on the Biblical lunar calendar.

The Third Stage Part 3d: Jerusalem Surrounded by Armies

- Luke 21:20-24** adds what Matthew does not tell us in Jesus' Olivet Discourse....
-Namely that Jerusalem will be surrounded by hostile armies at the time of the end.
- please read this passage on your own

Show this picture



The Third Stage Part 3e: Bozrah Will Not to be Conquered by Antichrist

- The route of escape for the Jewish believing remnant from Antichrist's military pursuit,....
- as he seeks to annihilate them, has been made ready by the Lord.
- This general area alone in the whole world cannot be conquered by the Antichrist per **Daniel 11:41**.
- The Fourth Stage: The Armies of the Antichrist at Bozrah**
- Since the main purpose of the Campaign of Armageddon is the annihilation of the Jews,....
- the armies of the world will move southward from Jerusalem to Bozrah per **Jeremiah 49:13-14** ...
- Read these verses on your own.

The Fifth Stage: The Regeneration and Salvation of Israel at Bozrah

- The Jews finally understand why all of this is happening....
- they had rejected their Messiah on the basis of demonic possession, this was their main transgression.
- The decrees of **Hosea 6:1-3** begins the last three days of the tribulation just before the Second Coming.
"Come and let us [repent and] return to the LORD; For He has torn, but He will heal us; He has stricken, but He will bind us up. After two [literal] days He will revive us; on the third [literal] day He will raise us up, that we may live in His sight. Let us know, Let us pursue the knowledge of the LORD. His going forth is established [just] as [certainly as] the morning; He will come to us like the rain, Like the latter and former rain to the earth."
- The first 2 days are a national confession and the third day is their regeneration and salvation.
- On the third day all of the Jews are saved by the time Christ returns to the earth at Bozrah.

The Sixth Stage: The Second Coming of the Messiah

- In the sixth stage, Jesus will return at the request of the Jewish remnant.
- The initial place of His return will NOT be the Mount of Olives, as is commonly taught,
- but the place known as Bozrah or Petra.
- Since this is new to most people
- it would be best to deal with the place of the Second Coming before discussing the manner of His return.

The Place of the Second Coming

- Several key passages pinpoint the place of the Second Coming at Bozrah.
- Read on your own **Isaiah 34:1-7**; then **Micah 2:12-13**
- And we will examine **Isaiah 63:1-6**
- While in a prophetic vision, Isaiah the Prophet was standing on some high point or mountain in Israel,
- looking eastward toward the land of Edom,.
- Suddenly Isaiah saw a magnificent, but blood-stained figure approaching him in glory and splendor.
- At that point a question and answer session ensues between Isaiah the Prophet and this marching figure.
- Isaiah initiated the conversation with the first question, in **Isaiah 63:1a**:
**1a Who is this who comes from Edom,
With dyed garments from Bozrah [in Edom],
This One who is glorious in His apparel,
Traveling in the greatness of His [own] strength?—**
- The figure approaching him is coming from the land of Edom and from the city of Bozrah.
- The answer to Isaiah's question comes in **Isaiah 63:1b**
1b "I who speak in righteousness, mighty to save."
- Only one man can answer and only one man has the power to save: Jesus the Messiah, ...
- marching toward Israel from the land of Edom, from the city of Bozrah.

Isaiah responds to this answer with a second question in **Isaiah 63:2**

**2 Why is Your apparel red,
And Your garments like one who treads in the winepress?**

This question is answered in **Isaiah 63:3-6**

3 "I have trodden the winepress alone,
 And from the peoples no one was with Me [to help with the killing].
 For I have trodden them [down] in My anger,
 And trampled them in My fury;
 Their blood is [what you see] sprinkled upon My garments,
 And I have stained all My robes.
 4 For the day of vengeance is in My heart,
 And the year of My redeemed has come.
 5 I [Isaiah] looked, but there was no one to help,
 And I wondered
 That there was no one to uphold [His arms];
 [His response]. Therefore My own arm brought salvation for Me;
 And My own fury, it sustained Me.
 6 I have trodden down the peoples [of the Antichrist] in My anger,
 Made them drunk in My fury,
 And brought down their strength to the earth."

- The staining with blood was caused by a battle fought in the land of Edom and the city of Bozrah.
- He fought alone against the Antichrist and the nations aligned with him.
- In the course of trampling the nations, their blood stained his garments.
- The main point to learn from this passage is that the battle is initiated in the land of Edom, at Bozrah.
- By the time Messiah reaches Israel His garments are already stained with blood
- However, Isaiah 63:1-6 makes it clear that those with Him will do no fighting.

The Manner of the Second Coming

..... is described in **Matthew 24:30**

Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

- Throughout the Old Testament, clouds and the Shechinah Glory are interrelated.
- In this New Testament passage, the relationship can be seen again.
- It must be noted that the angels in Acts 1:11 who M.C.'d His ascension,
- did not prophesy that Jesus would return to the same place,
- but rather in the 'same manner' in which He had left, he would come down again.
- An extended passage on the Second Coming is in **Revelation 19:1-18**. Read on your own.

The Seventh Stage: The Battle From Bozrah to the Valley of Jehoshaphat

- While the battle between Messiah versus the Antichrist, the False Prophet, and their armies
- begins at Bozrah, it will continue all the way back to the eastern walls of Jerusalem,
- which overlook a section of the Kidron Valley, also known as the Valley of Jehoshaphat.
- The key passage is **Joel 3:12-13** which you can read on your own.
- From here the armies of the Antichrist will have left for Bozrah,
- and they will be driven here as the conflict comes to an end.
- Among the very first casualties will be the Antichrist himself....
- the counterfeit son will be powerless before the True Son.

The simplicity of the defeat and capture of the Antichrist is described.....

- His capture and what will happen to the counterfeit son and the false prophet,
- are described in **Revelation 20:20-21** which you can read on your own.
- The battle that began in Bozrah will come to an end in the Valley of Jehoshaphat,
- ending the seventh stage of the Campaign of Armageddon.

The Eighth Stage: The Victory Ascent Up the Mount of Olives

-After the actual fighting is completed, there will be a victory ascent up the Mount of Olives which is described in **Zechariah 14:3-4**

3 Then the LORD will go forth

And fight against those nations,

As He fights in the day of battle.

4 And in that day His feet will stand [not come down] on the Mount of Olives,

Which faces Jerusalem on the east.

And the Mount of Olives shall be split in two,

From east to west,

Making a very large valley;

Half of the mountain shall move toward the north

And half of it toward the south.

5 Then you shall flee through My mountain valley.....

-It is only after the fighting of verse three that His feet will stand upon the Mount of Olives.

-This we were also taught that Christ would come down to the earth on the Mount of Olives.....

-..... this too I believe is wrong.

-Along with this victory ascent upon the Mount of Olives,

-..... a number of cataclysmic events will occur as the Great Tribulation comes to an end.

-These cataclysmic events will be a result of the seventh Bowl Judgment,

-They are described in **Revelation 16:17-21**, which you can read on your own.

-With the seventh bowl, a voice cries out, in v.17, "It is done",

-The Great Tribulation and the Campaign of Armageddon will come to an end with these events.

Prophecy correction.....

#6 We were taught that the new heavens and new earth of Isaiah 65:17 are the new eternal order of Revelation 21 and 22

-We believe that is wrong

-The entire Isaiah passage's in context reads as follows, **Isaiah 65:17-23**

-Look for the reasons why this could not refer to the new eternal order of Revelation 21 & 22.

17 "For behold, I create [bara] new heavens and a new earth;

And the former shall not be remembered or come to mind.

18 But be glad and rejoice forever in what I create [bara];

For behold, I create [bara] Jerusalem as a rejoicing,

And her people a joy.

19 I will rejoice in Jerusalem,

And joy in My people;

The voice of weeping shall no longer be heard in her,

Nor the voice of crying.

20 "No more shall an infant from there live but a few days,

Nor an old man who has not fulfilled his days;

For the child shall die [at] one hundred years old,

But the sinner being one hundred years old shall be accursed [for refusing to believe in Messiah].

21 They shall build houses and inhabit them;

They shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

22 They shall not build and another inhabit;

**They shall not plant and another eat;
For as the days of a tree, so shall be the [long] days of My people,
And My elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands.
23 They shall not labor in vain,
Nor bring forth children for trouble;
For they shall be the descendants of the blessed of the LORD,
And their offspring with them.**

- The difficulty with making this passage the same as Revelation 21 and 22 is twofold:
- The word create is **Bara**, it is the same word used in Genesis 1:1....
- where God created everything when there was nothing but Himself to create from.
- So the assumption is that God has destroyed the old creation in accordance to 2 Peter 3:10.
- It will be destroyed with a fervent heat...
- and that He will start over with nothing and
- create, Bara the new heavens and earth of the eternal order, that are described in Rev. chs. 21 and 22.

The word 'bara', create does not always mean to create from nothing,
-.... that happened to be the situation in Gen. 1:1..... there literally was nothing- but God!
-The emphasis of the word 'bara' is on the total supernatural necessity behind the creation.
-Sometimes it means to re-create so well that the re-creation is so new and fresh,
-.... it is as if it was created from nothing and required God's workings to make it happen.
-This was David's cry in **Psalm 51:10** after repenting of his great sins regarding Bathsheba and Uriah
-It reads: **Create [bara] in me a clean heart [not a new one], O God,
And renew a steadfast spirit within me.**
-I need you to create a clean heart in me, no one else can do what you do!

A similar usage is found in **Psalm 102:18**
-which reads: **This will be written for the generation to come,
That a people yet to be created [bara] may praise the LORD.**
-All people except Jesus come from the sinful loins of Adam.
-The people spoken of here are the Jews that enter the Kingdom Age forgiven and renewed....
-.... And they are so new it is just as if they were created new from nothing.
-They will be children of Adam but with new modifications, that only God can do.
-Read **Jeremiah 31:33-34** to discover some of their modifications.

Again 'Bara' emphasizes the supernatural that only God can do.

These new heavens and new earth in **Isaiah 65:17** are not to be confused with those of Rev. 21-22.
-The latter describes the new heavens and new earth of the eternal order,
-while the Isaiah passage describes those of the Millennial Kingdom, ...
-.... which will be a renovation of the present heavens and earth.
-The Hebrew word bara ("to create") is used to show that this renovation will be a miraculous one.
-In the New Heavens and New Earth of Isaiah 65 there will be death and sinners as we read....
-.... not so in the new heavens and earth of the eternal realm in Rev. 21-22.

At the 11 am service we will look at #7-10

#7 We were taught that the mark of the beast would be tied to a new universal currency

**#8 We were taught to not allow any identification chip or tattoo to be put on our hand for that
could be the Mark of the Beast**

**#9 We were taught that the army of 200 million coming out of the Euphrates river in Revelation
9:14 are the Chinese Army**

#10 We are often taught that the worldwide events of today, especially about Israel are leading to the Rapture

Let us Pray!