

**Comments**  
**by**  
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**on**  
**The Book of**  
**Revelation**  
**by**  
**Clarence Larkin**  
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The Lord's Day .....	3
The Seven Stars .....	6
The Two-Edged Sword .....	8
The Seven Messages to the Churches .....	10
To Ephesus .....	10
To Smyrna.....	13
To Pergamos .....	13
To Thyatira .....	16
To Sardis .....	17
To Philadelphia .....	19
The 24 Elders.....	22
The Mighty Angel.....	25
Calculation of the 70 Weeks.....	27
The First Seal.....	28
The Second Seal .....	32
The Fifth Seal .....	33
Twelve Tribes in Revelation 7 .....	35
The Seventh Seal .....	38
Notes on Revelation, Chapter 12 .....	42
The Image of the Beast.....	44
The Mysterious and Terrible Personage.....	46
The Assyrian .....	46
The King of Babylon.....	50
The King of Tyrus.....	52
Lucifer .....	54
The Little Horn.....	55
A King of Fierce Countenance .....	55
The Prince That Shall Come.....	56
The Wilful King.....	57
Division of the Roman Empire .....	59
Mystery Babylon .....	60
The Marriage of the Lamb .....	65
Russian Invasion of Israel .....	70
The Second Death .....	73
The Millennium .....	75
Prophecy Will Cease .....	76

## The Lord's Day

On page 6 of the pdf of The Book of Revelation, by Clarence Larkin, he writes, "He tells us that he was "in the Spirit on the LORD'S DAY." There has been much confusion as to what is meant here by the "Lord's Day." Some hold that the "First Day of the Week" or the Christian Sabbath is meant, others that John meant the "Day of the Lord."

He refers to **Revelation 1 (KJV):9** I John, who also am your brother, and companion in tribulation, and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was in the isle that is called Patmos, for the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ. 10 I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet, 11 Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamos, and unto Thyatira, and unto Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea.

Larkin continues, "Both the Old and the New Testament speak of the "Day of the Lord." Isa. 2:12, Joel 1:15, 2:1, 3:14, Ezek. 13:5, Malachi 4:5, Acts 2:20, 2. Cor. 1:14, 1. Thess. 5:2, 2. Pet. 3:10. The term applies to the "Day of the Lord's Return" and includes both the Tribulation and the Millennium. See the Chart on the Prophetic Days of Scripture. The Christian Sabbath was never called the "LORD'S DAY" until after the Book of Revelation was written and got its name from that source. It is always called in the Gospels and Epistles the "First Day of the Week.""

He refers to **Isaiah 2 (KJV):12** For the day of the Lord of hosts shall be upon every one that is proud and lofty, and upon every one that is lifted up; and he shall be brought low:

And to **Joel 1 (KJV):15** Alas for the day! for the day of the Lord is at hand, and as a destruction from the Almighty shall it come.

And to **Joel 2 (KJV):1** Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for the day of the Lord cometh, for it is nigh at hand;

And to **Joel 3 (KJV):14** Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision: for the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision.

And to **Ezekiel 13 (KJV):5** Ye have not gone up into the gaps, neither made up the hedge for the house of Israel to stand in the battle in the day of the Lord.

And to **Malachi 4 (KJV):5** Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord:

And to **Acts 2 (KJV):20** The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and notable day of the Lord come:

And to **2 Corinthians 1 (KJV):14** As also ye have acknowledged us in part, that we are your rejoicing, even as ye also are ours in the day of the Lord Jesus.

And to **1 Thessalonians 5 (KJV):2** For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.

And to **2 Peter 3 (KJV):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.

It is interesting how he refers to the "Christian Sabbath", as he says above, "The

Christian Sabbath was never called the “LORD’S DAY”.

Larkin continues, “It is hardly likely that John could have been caught up as Paul was into the Third Heaven and seen and heard all that he describes in the Book of Revelation on one Sabbath Day, and as the Book from chapter 5 is a description of the things that are to come to pass in the “DAY OF THE LORD,” what better understanding of the “LORD’S DAY” can we have than that John was projected by the Holy Spirit across the centuries into the “DAY OF THE LORD” and had visualized to him the things that shall come to pass in that day. This is the rational solution of the question. See the Chart, John’s Patmos Vision.”

But the apostle John certainly knew of the “DAY OF THE LORD.” So if that is what he meant here, he could have just said, “DAY OF THE LORD”, but he didn’t. He simply said, “I was in the Spirit on the Lord’s day...” in Revelation 1:10. In verse 9, he says he was “in the isle that is called Patmos”. He simply told us where he was, and when he had the vision.

It is true that the early Christians, many of whom were Jews, thought that they had to keep the Sabbath according to the ten commandments. It took time for the apostles to teach the new believers that we are no longer under the law but under grace, as we read in **Romans 6 (KJV):14** For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace. 15 What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid.

So the keeping of the Sabbath day at the end of the week according to the law is no longer required, as we read in **Colossians 2 (KJV):14** Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross; 15 And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it. 16 Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days: 17 Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body is of Christ.

Now the “Lord’s day”, or the day after the Sabbath when Jesus rose from the dead, is a day of victory, and a day of triumph. It is a day of celebration. The Christian is now celebrating, having entered His rest, as we read in **Hebrews 4 (KJV):1** Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it. 2 For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it. 3 For we which have believed do enter into rest, as he said, As I have sworn in my wrath, if they shall enter into my rest: although the works were finished from the foundation of the world.

And Jesus taught about this rest of faith in **Matthew 11 (KJV):28** Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. 30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

In verse 28 Jesus speaks of the rest of salvation. In verses 29 to 30 He speaks of the rest of service. Now we continue to read in **Hebrews 4 (NASB):4** For He has said somewhere concerning the seventh day: “And God rested on the seventh day from all His works”; 5 and again in this passage, “They certainly shall not enter My rest.”6 Therefore, since it remains for some to enter it, and those who previously had good news preached to them failed to enter because of disobedience, 7 He again sets a certain day, “Today,” saying through David after so

long a time just as has been said before, “Today if you hear His voice, Do not harden your hearts.” 8 For if Joshua had given them rest, He would not have spoken of another day after that. 9 Consequently, there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God. 10 For the one who has entered His rest has himself also rested from his works, as God did from His. 11 Therefore let’s make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one will fall by following the same example of disobedience.

We read in verse 9, “There remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God”. This is a continual rest, not of a day, but of a lifetime for the believer. This is the rest of the inheritance of the believer.

The final rest of four, which are the believer’s, is the rest of perfection. This we read of in **1 John 3 (KJV):**1 Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. 2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

So the first day of the week, or the Lord’s day, is a day to celebrate, but believers have a continual Sabbath rest as we rest from our own works, and allow Him to work through us. Having a clear understanding of the believer’s rests is a source of joy for all who are Christ’s.

Now Larkin is correct when he says that the book of Revelation from chapter 5 onward is about the “Day of the Lord”, and in a sense it is the Lord’s day because He will again be victorious in that day.

## The Seven Stars

On page 9 of the pdf of The Book of Revelation by Clarence Larkin, he writes:  
5. HIS HAND.

“In His Right Hand SEVEN STARS.”

We are told in verse 20, that the “Seven Stars” stand for the “ANGELS” of the “Seven Churches.” These “Angels” are not angelic beings but the Messengers or Ministers of the churches. What a beautiful and solemn lesson is taught here. It is that the ministers of Christ derive their power and office from Him, and that He holds them in His hand. If they are false to Him, no one can deliver them from His power, and if they are true and loyal, no one can touch or molest, or do them harm.”

Larkin is referring to **Revelation 1 (KJV):20** The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches.

The word “angels” in the Greek is ἄγγελος (pronounced ang'-el-os), from ἀγγέλλω aggellō (probably derived from G71; compare G34) (to bring tidings); a messenger; especially an "angel"; by implication, a pastor:—angel, messenger.

<https://www.blueletterbible.org/lexicon/g32/kjv/tr/0-1/>

The word “mystery” in the Greek is μυστήριον (pronounced moos-tay'-ree-on), from a derivative of μύω mýō (to shut the mouth); a secret or "mystery" (through the idea of silence imposed by initiation into religious rites):—mystery.

<https://www.blueletterbible.org/lexicon/g3466/kjv/tr/0-1/>

In the Scriptures, we read that angels are ministers to those who believe, as we read in **Hebrews 1 (KJV):13** But to which of the angels said he at any time, Sit on my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool? **14** Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?

And Jesus speaks of guardian angels in **Matthew 18 (KJV):10** Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven.

And apparently angels come to our meetings, as we read in **1 Corinthians 11 (NASB):10** Therefore the woman should have *a symbol of authority* on her head, because of the angels.

And we read in **Psalms 34 (KJV):7** The angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them.

And that the angels are referred to as “stars”, we read in **Job 38 (KJV):4** Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding. **5** Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? or who hath stretched the line upon it? **6** Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof; **7** When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?

There is just no other Biblical reference to support Larkin’s assertion that, “These “Angels” are not angelic beings but the Messengers or Ministers of the churches.” Tradition in the Church has held very strongly to this, but there is good reason to believe that angels are what is meant as guardians of the churches in Revelation 1:20. And the reason is because the

angels of the seven churches would not let their guard down through the age. We can be confident that these seven angels will keep the messages to the churches until the end.

The tradition that the reference to angels means to pastors is in part based on the tradition that the pastor is the minister, and the members of the church are the laity, as Larkin says, “It is that the ministers of Christ derive their power and office from Him, and that He holds them in His hand.” But the Scriptures teach that all are members of the body of Christ and all have a function, that is, a ministry that they are to perform, related to their place in the body where God has set them, as we read in **1 Corinthians 12 (KJV)**: 17 If the whole body were an eye, where were the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where were the smelling? 18 But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him. 19 And if they were all one member, where were the body? 20 But now are they many members, yet but one body. 21 And the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee: nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you. 22 Nay, much more those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble, are necessary:

And let us remember that He holds us all in His hand, as we read in **John 10 (KJV)**: 27 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: 28 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. 29 My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand. 30 I and my Father are one.

## The Two-Edged Sword

We read in **Revelation 1 (KJV):16** And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp two-edged sword: and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength.

On page 9 of the pdf of The Book of Revelation by Clarence Larkin, Larkin comments on this verse, and says, ““Out of His Mouth went a SHARP TWO-EDGED SWORD.” While the “Sword of the Spirit” is the “Word of God” (Eph. 6:17), and the “Word of God” is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any TWO-EDGED SWORD, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow (the body), (Heb. 4:12), that is not the sword meant here.”

He refers to **Ephesians 6 (KJV):17** And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:

And to **Hebrews 4 (KJV):12** For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Larkin continues, “The “Sword of the Spirit” is the Holy Spirit’s SWORD, and He alone wields it. The sword meant here is the Sword of the Son of Man (Christ), and it is the “SWORD OF JUSTICE,” for the Son of Man, out of whose mouth this sword comes, is the “White Horse Rider” of Rev. 19:11-15, “out of whose mouth goeth a SHARP SWORD, that with it He should smite the nations.” And that sword, like the “Sword of the Spirit” will be TWO-EDGED also, for the protection of His people, and the destruction of His enemies. This is still further proof that John’s vision of Christ was as He shall appear in the “DAY OF THE LORD.”

He refers to **Revelation 19 (KJV):11** And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. 12 His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. 13 And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. 14 And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. 15 And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

It is interesting what Jesus says of His words, as we read in **John 6 (KJV):63** It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.

And in **John 14 (KJV):10** Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? The words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works.

And notice what the Lord says in **Psalms 33 (KJV):6** By the word of the Lord were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth. 7 He gathereth the waters of the sea together as an heap: he layeth up the depth in storehouses. 8 Let all the earth fear the Lord: let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him. 9 For he spake, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast.



And Jesus speaks to the seven churches, beginning in **Revelation 2 (KJV)**: 1 Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write; These things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks; 2 I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars: 3 And hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name's sake hast laboured, and hast not fainted. 4 Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love. 5 Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent. 6 But this thou hast, that thou hatest the deeds of the Nicolaitanes, which I also hate. 7 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.

The Spirit of God spoke through Jesus, and Jesus spoke by the Spirit of God. The word of God is the sword of the Spirit, and when Jesus speaks, He speaks the word of God, so out of His mouth goes a “sharp two-edged sword”.

# The Seven Messages to the Churches

## To Ephesus

On page 16 of the pdf of The Book of Revelation by Clarence Larkin, concerning the church at Ephesus Larkin says, “The complaint that Christ makes against this Church is that it “had left its First Love.” Its character is seen in its very name, for Ephesus means to “let go,” “to relax.” It had become a Backslidden Church. Paul, who founded it, warned it of what should happen, in his parting message.

“I know this, that after my departing shall grievous ‘wolves’ enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, ‘speaking perverse things,’ to draw away disciples after them.” Acts 20:29, 30.

The significance of this warning is seen in the commendation of the Message, vs. 6 –“But this thou hast, that thou ‘hatest’ the deeds of the Nicolaitanes which I also hate.” Here Paul’s “wolves” are called Nicolaitanes. They were not a sect, but a party in the Church who were trying to establish a “Priestly Order.” Probably trying to model the Church after the Old Testament order of Priests, Levites, and common people. This is seen in the meaning of the word, which is from “Niko” to conquer, to overthrow, and “Laos” the people or laity. The object was to establish a “Holy Order of Men,” and place them over the laity, which was foreign to the New Testament plan, and call them not pastors, but –Clergy, Bishops, Archbishops, Cardinals, Popes. Here we have the origin of the dogma of “Apostolic Succession,” and the separation of the Clergy from the Laity, a thing that God “hates.” The Church at Ephesus was not deceived, but recognized them as false apostles and liars.

The character of the Church at Ephesus is a fair outline of the Church Period from A. D. 70 to A. D. 170.”

Irenaeus was bishop of Lyons in France, and he wrote **Adversus Heresies** (Against Heresies) between 177 and 192 A.D. Irenaeus gives us a telescopic view into the church in his time. In **Book 4: Chapter VIII., paragraph 3** of **Adversus Heresies** (Against Heresies), he says, “And all the apostles of the Lord are priests, who do inherit here neither lands nor houses, but serve God and the altar continually.” Irenaeus reasoned that the apostles had been handed down the Levitical priesthood, as he says, “To His disciples He said, who had a priesthood of the Lord, **3893 Literally, “the Lord’s Levitical substance”—*Domini Leviticam substantiam*.** to whom it was lawful when hungry to eat the ears of corn, “For the workman is worthy of his meat,” referring to Matthew 10:9-10.

However, the law gave the Levitical priesthood to Aaron and his sons exclusively as we see in **Numbers 18 (KJV):1** And the LORD said unto Aaron, Thou and thy sons and thy father's house with thee shall bear the iniquity of the sanctuary: and thou and thy sons with thee shall bear the iniquity of your priesthood. 2 And thy brethren also of the tribe of Levi, the tribe of thy father, bring thou with thee, that they may be joined unto thee, and minister unto thee: but thou and thy sons with thee shall minister before the tabernacle of witness. 3 And they shall keep thy charge, and the charge of all the tabernacle: only they shall not come nigh the vessels of the sanctuary and the altar, that neither they, nor ye also, die. 4 And they shall be joined unto thee, and keep the charge of the tabernacle of the congregation, for all the service of the

tabernacle: and a stranger shall not come nigh unto you. 5 And ye shall keep the charge of the sanctuary, and the charge of the altar: that there be no wrath any more upon the children of Israel. 6 And I, behold, I have taken your brethren the Levites from among the children of Israel: to you they are given as a gift for the LORD, to do the service of the tabernacle of the congregation. 7 Therefore thou and thy sons with thee shall keep your priest's office for everything of the altar, and within the veil; and ye shall serve: I have given your priest's office unto you as a service of gift: and the stranger that cometh nigh shall be put to death.

If those Levites who were not sons of Aaron, but of the tribe of Levi, came near to “the furnishings of the sanctuary and the altar,” both they and Aaron and his sons would die. Aaron and his sons were to “bear the guilt in connection with” their priesthood. The Levitical priesthood was therefore not given to all the Levites but only to the sons of Aaron. And the Levitical priesthood was under the law. With the death and resurrection of Jesus, there has been a change in the priesthood, as we read in **Hebrews 7 (KJV):** 11 If therefore perfection were by the Levitical priesthood, (for under it the people received the law,) what further need was there that another priest should rise after the order of Melchisedec, and not be called after the order of Aaron? 12 For the priesthood being changed, there is made of necessity a change also of the law. 13 For he of whom these things are spoken pertaineth to another tribe, of which no man gave attendance at the altar. 14 For it is evident that our Lord sprang out of Juda; of which tribe Moses spake nothing concerning priesthood. 15 And it is yet far more evident: for that after the similitude of Melchisedec there ariseth another priest, 16 Who is made, not after the law of a carnal commandment, but after the power of an endless life. 17 For he testifieth, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec. 18 For there is verily a disannulling of the commandment going before for the weakness and unprofitableness thereof. 19 For the law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope did; by the which we draw nigh unto God.

Now there was a tradition very early in the Church that the bishops took the place of the apostles. Ireneus says in **Book 3: Chapter III., paragraph 1, of Adversus Heresies (Against Heresies)**, “It is within the power of all, therefore, in every Church, who may wish to see the truth, to contemplate clearly the tradition of the apostles manifested throughout the whole world; and we are in a position to reckon up those who were by the apostles instituted bishops in the Churches, and [to demonstrate] the succession of these men to our own times; those who neither taught nor knew of anything like what these [heretics] rave about. For if the apostles had known hidden mysteries, which they were in the habit of imparting to “the perfect” apart and privily from the rest, they would have delivered them especially to those to whom they were also committing the Churches themselves. For they were desirous that these men should be very perfect and blameless in all things, whom also they were leaving behind as their successors, delivering up their own place of government to these men; which men, if they discharged their functions honestly, would be a great boon [to the Church], but if they should fall away, the direst calamity.”

And he then gives “preeminent authority” to the church of Rome, as he says in paragraph 2, “Since, however, it would be very tedious, in such a volume as this, to reckon up the successions of all the Churches, we do put to confusion all those who, in whatever manner, whether by an evil self-pleasing, by vainglory, or by blindness and perverse opinion, assemble

in unauthorized meetings; [we do this, I say,] by indicating that tradition derived from the apostles, of the very great, the very ancient, and universally known Church founded and organized at Rome by the two most glorious apostles, Peter and Paul; as also [by pointing out] the faith preached to men, which comes has the conjunction, which is rejected by the Benedictine editors. down to our time by means of the successions of the bishops. For it is a matter of necessity that every Church should agree with this Church, on account of its preeminent authority, that is, the faithful everywhere, inasmuch as the apostolical tradition has been preserved continuously by those [faithful men] who exist everywhere.”

He bases his assertion that the apostles “were leaving behind as their successors”, the bishops, on Paul’s words to the elders of Ephesus in **Acts 20 (KJV):17** And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus, and called the elders of the church.

And in **Acts 20 (KJV):25** And now, behold, I know that ye all, among whom I have gone preaching the kingdom of God, shall see my face no more. 26 Wherefore I take you to record this day, that I am pure from the blood of all men. 27 For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God. 28 Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood. 29 For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. 30 Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them. 31 Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears. 32 And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.

But Paul did not give his authority as an apostle to the overseers, the bishops, as if he was elevating them to the ministry of apostle. He simply committed them “to God, and to the word of his grace”. He knew that he himself would seem them no more. But the ministry of the apostle is to last until we all come in the unity of the faith, just as prophets, evangelists, and pastors and teachers, as we read in **Ephesians 4 (KJV):11** And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; 12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: 13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:

To summarize, Irenaeus is seeking to establish a stable government in the Church in his time, while he was fighting the Gnostic heresy which did not believe Jesus to be divine. Since he believed the apostles handed their authority to the bishops, he saw a transition from apostolic government to government by bishops. He saw this government maintaining its validity when the bishop is appointed by a church that can show apostolic succession. Clearly, Irenaeus thinks it is an impossible task to try to validate every church’s list of episcopal succession. Therefore, he sees the Church of Rome as the Church who should carry the authority of apostolic succession, since it has maintained a list of bishops from the beginning and was founded by the “two most glorious apostles, Peter and Paul.” Therefore, the Church of Rome is in a position to mediate and settle all questions of doctrine. Interestingly, Irenaeus does not mention Matthew 16:18 in all his writing. It is this Scripture that was misinterpreted by the early Church leaders

that finally lead to the establishment of the Church of Rome's preeminent authority beyond all doubt. But this was not part of Irenaeus' teaching. It came at a later time.

And it is interesting that every message to the seven churches mention, "He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches".

This is also mentioned in **Ezekiel 12 (KJV):2** Son of man, thou dwellest in the midst of a rebellious house, which have eyes to see, and see not; they have ears to hear, and hear not: for they are a rebellious house.

And we read in **Zechariah 7 (KJV):11** But they refused to hearken, and pulled away the shoulder, and stopped their ears, that they should not hear.

And Jesus said this in **Matthew 11 (KJV):15** He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.

And Jesus repeated this a total of 8 times in the Gospels.

## To Smyrna

On page 17 of the pdf of The Book of Revelation by Clarence Larkin, he says, "THE EXHORTATION –"Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold the Devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have TRIBULATION ten days: be thou faithful UNTO death, and I will give thee a CROWN OF LIFE."

And he adds, "They were told that the "author" of their suffering would be the Devil, and its duration would be "ten days," which was doubtless a prophetic reference to the "Ten Great Persecutions" under the Roman Emperors, beginning with Nero, A. D. 64, and ending with Diocletian in A. D. 310. Seven of these "Great Persecutions" occurred during this "Smyrna Period" of Church History. Or it may refer to the 10 years of the last and fiercest persecution under Diocletian. This Period extended from A. D. 170 to Constantine A. D. 312."

In fact, there were ten great persecutions of the early Church:

1st Under Nero A.D. 54-68

2nd Under Domition A.D. 81- 96

3rd Under Trajan A.D. 98-117

4th Under Antoninus Pius and Marcus Aurelius Antoninus A.D. 138-180

5th Under Severus A.D. 193 – 211

6th Under Maximus A.D. 235-238

7th Under Decius A.D. 249-251

8th Under Valerian A.D. 253-260

9th Under Aurelian A.D. 274-287

10th Under Diocletian A.D. 292-304

## To Pergamos

On page 18 of the pdf of The Book of Revelation by Clarence Larkin, he says, "The "Doctrine of Balaam" is disclosed in the story of Balaam found in the Book of Numbers, chapters 22 to 25 inclusive. When the Children of Israel on their way to Canaan had reached the land of Moab, Balak the king of Moab sent for Balaam the Son of Beor, who lived at Pethor on

the river Euphrates, to come and curse them. When the Lord would not permit Balaam to curse Israel, he suggested to Balak that he invite them to the licentious feasts of “Baal-Peor,” and thus cause Israel to fall into a snare that would so anger the Lord that he would Himself destroy them. This Balak did, and the result was that when the men of Israel went to those sensual feasts and saw the “daughters of Moab” they committed whoredoms with them, which so kindled God’s anger that He sent a plague that destroyed 42,000 of them. Now the word “Pergamos” means “Marriage,” and when the Church entered into a union with the State it was guilty of “Spiritual Fornication” or “Balaamism.””

Nothing is mentioned in Numbers, chapters 22 to 25, of Balaam’s counsel to Balak to invite Israel to “the licentious feasts of “Baal-Peor””, but there is a divine commentary about this in **Numbers 31 (KJV):16** Behold, these caused the children of Israel, through the counsel of Balaam, to commit trespass against the Lord in the matter of Peor, and there was a plague among the congregation of the Lord.

And that Israel did “commit trespass” is recorded in **Numbers 25 (KJV):1** And Israel abode in Shittim, and the people began to commit whoredom with the daughters of Moab. **2** And they called the people unto the sacrifices of their gods: and the people did eat, and bowed down to their gods. **3** And Israel joined himself unto Baalpeor: and the anger of the Lord was kindled against Israel.

But the number that died in the plague was not 42,000 but 24,000 as we read in **Numbers 25 (KJV):9** And those that died in the plague were twenty and four thousand.

It is true that the union of the Church with the State was the beginning of an acceptance by the State without persecution, although it was not the complete end of persecution. But it was also the beginning of an acceptance by the Church of some pagan influences that caused the Church to be guilty of “Spiritual Fornication” or “Balaamism.”

Then on page 19 of the pdf of The Book of Revelation by Clarence Larkin, he says, “It was at this time that

### “Post-Millennial Views”

had their origin. As the Church had become rich and powerful, it was suggested that by the union of Church and State a condition of affairs would develop that would usher in the Millennium without the return of Christ, and since some scriptural support was needed for such a doctrine, it was claimed that the Jews had been cast off “forever,” and that all the prophecies of Israel’s future glory were intended for the Church. This “Period” extends from the accession of Constantine A.D. 312 to A.D. 606, when Boniface III was crowned “Universal Bishop.””

Augustine lived from A.D. 354 to A.D. 430, and was converted and baptized in A.D. 386, and in 391, he was chosen presbyter against his will, by the voice of the people.

Augustine actually thought that the Church was in the millennium. In **Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Volume 7, Augustine Ten Homilies, The Epistle of St. John, Homily I. 1 John I. 1–II. 11, paragraph 13**, page 467- 468, he wrote, “What so blind as these who hate their brethren? For that ye may know that they are blind, they have stumbled at a Mountain. I say the same things often, that they may not slip out of your memory. The Stone which was “cut out of the Mountain without hands,” is it not Christ, who came of the kingdom of the Jews, without the work of man? (Daniel 2:34-35) Has not that Stone broken in pieces all the

kingdoms of the earth, that is, all the dominations of idols and demons? Has not that Stone grown, and become a great mountain, and filled the whole earth?"

He refers to **Daniel 2 (KJV):34** Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces. 35 Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth.

Let us read more of his thinking in **Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Volume 7, Augustine Tractate IV. Chapter I. 19–33, paragraph 4**, page 26-27, he said, ““And they asked him, What then? Art thou Elias?” For they knew that Elias was to precede Christ. For to no Jew was the name of Christ unknown. They did not think that he was the Christ; but they did not think that Christ would not come at all. When they were hoping that He would come, they were offended at Him when He was present, and stumbled at Him as on a low stone. For He was as yet a small stone, already indeed cut out of the mountain without hands; as saith Daniel the prophet, that he saw a stone cut out of the mountain without hands. But what follows? “And that stone,” saith he, “grew and became a great mountain and filled the whole face of the earth.” (Daniel 2:34-35) Mark then, my beloved brethren, what I say: Christ, before the Jews, was already cut out from the mountain. The prophet wishes that by the mountain should be understood the Jewish kingdom. But the kingdom of the Jews had not filled the whole face of the earth. The stone was cut out from thence, because from thence was the Lord born on His advent among men. And wherefore without hands? Because without the cooperation of man did the Virgin bear Christ. Now then was that stone cut out without hands before the eyes of the Jews; but it was humble. Not without reason; because not yet had that stone increased and filled the whole earth: that He showed in His kingdom, which is the Church, with which He has filled the whole face of the earth.”

The Church was now united with the Roman empire, and so Augustine thought that this proved they were in the millennium.

And it is clear that Augustine believed that, at “the present time...the saints are reigning with their King a thousand years”, but they shall still be glorified in the future, as we read in **Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Volume 2, The City of God Book XX, Chapter 17**, page 436-437, he said, ““And I saw,” he says, “a great city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice from the throne, saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself shall be with them. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, but neither shall there be any more pain: because the former things have passed away. And He that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new.” (Revelation 21:2-5) This city is said to come down out of heaven, because the grace with which God formed it is of heaven. Wherefore He says to it by Isaiah, “I am the Lord that formed thee.” (Isaiah 45:8) It is indeed descended from heaven from its commencement, since its citizens during the course of this world grow by the grace of God, which cometh down from above through the laver of regeneration in the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven. But by God’s final judgment, which shall be administered by

His Son Jesus Christ, there shall by God's grace be manifested a glory so pervading and so new, that no vestige of what is old shall remain; for even our bodies shall pass from their old corruption and mortality to new incorruption and immortality. For to refer this promise to the present time, in which the saints are reigning with their King a thousand years, seems to me excessively barefaced, when it is most distinctly said, "God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, but there shall be no more pain." And who is so absurd, and blinded by contentious opinionativeness, as to be audacious enough to affirm that in the midst of the calamities of this mortal state, God's people, or even one single saint, does live, or has ever lived, or shall ever live, without tears or pain,—the fact being that the holier a man is, and the fuller of holy desire, so much the more abundant is the tearfulness of his supplication?"

Now Augustine did believe that the Kingdom had passed from the Jews to the Church, as we read in **Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Volume 8, Augustine On the Psalms, Psalm XLV, paragraph 15, page 150**, he said, "'Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever" (ver. 6). Because God has "blessed Thee' for ever," on account of the "grace poured over Thy lips." Now the throne of the Jewish Kingdom was a temporal one; belonging to those who were under the Law, not to those who were under "grace:" He came to "redeem those who were under the Law," and to place them under "Grace." His "Throne is for ever and ever." Why? for that first throne of the Kingdom was but a temporal one: whence then have we a "throne for ever and ever"? Because it is God's throne. O divine Attribute of Eternity! for God could not have a temporal throne. "Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever—a sceptre of direction is the sceptre of Thy Kingdom." "The sceptre of direction" is that which directs mankind: they were before crooked, distorted; they sought to reign for themselves: they loved themselves, loved their own evil deeds: they submitted not their own will to God; but would fain have bent God's will to conformity with their own lusts."

Then we read that the "Christian people then is rather Israel" in **Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Volume 8, Augustine On the Psalms, Psalm CXIV, paragraphs 3 and 6, page 550-551**, he said, "The Christian people then is rather Israel, and the same is preferably the house of Jacob; for Israel and Jacob are the same. But that multitude of Jews, which was deservedly reprobated for its perfidy, for the pleasures of the flesh sold their birthright, so that they belonged not to Jacob, but rather to Esau. For ye know that it was said with this hidden meaning, "That the elder shall serve the younger." (Genesis 25:33,23)

And we also read in **Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Volume 8, Augustine On the Psalms, Psalm CXXXII, paragraph 14, page 620**, he said, "For the Lord hath chosen Sion to be an habitation for Himself" (ver. 13). Sion is the Church Herself; She is also that Jerusalem unto whose peace we are running, who is in pilgrimage not in the Angels, but in us, who in her better part waiteth for the part that will return; whence letters have come unto us, which are every day read. This city is that very Sion, whom the Lord hath chosen."

## To Thyatira

Then on page 20 of the pdf of The Book of Revelation by Clarence Larkin, he says, "A careful study of the "Papal System" from A. D. 606 to the Reformation A. D. 1520, with its



institution of the “Sacrifice of the Mass” and other Pagan rites, reveals in it the sway of “Jezebelism.” It was also a period of “Jezebelistic Persecution,” as seen in the wars of the Crusades, and the rise of the Inquisition. A careful comparison of this “Message” with the Parable of “The Leaven” will reveal the wonderful correspondence between the two, the “Jezebel” of the Church of Thyatira, being the “Woman” of the Parable, who inserted the “Leaven” of “False Doctrine” into the Meal of the Gospel. This Period extended from A. D. 606 to the Reformation A. D. 1520.”

The parable He refers to is **Matthew 13 (KJV):33** Another parable spake he unto them; The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a woman took, and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened.

Leaven in the parables of Jesus has to do with false doctrine, as we read in **Matthew 16 (KJV):6** Then Jesus said unto them, Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees. 7 And they reasoned among themselves, saying, It is because we have taken no bread. 8 Which when Jesus perceived, he said unto them, O ye of little faith, why reason ye among yourselves, because ye have brought no bread? 9 Do ye not yet understand, neither remember the five loaves of the five thousand, and how many baskets ye took up? 10 Neither the seven loaves of the four thousand, and how many baskets ye took up? 11 How is it that ye do not understand that I spake it not to you concerning bread, that ye should beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees? 12 Then understood they how that he bade them not beware of the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees.

## To Sardis

On page 20 of the pdf of The Book of Revelation by Clarence Larkin, he says, “THE SALUTATION – “And unto the Angel of the Church in Sardis write: these things saith He that hath the Seven Spirits of God, and the Seven Stars.”

He refers to **Revelation 3 (KJV):1** And unto the angel of the church in Sardis write; These things saith he that hath the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars; I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead.

Larkin does not explain what is meant by “the seven Spirits of God”. But we read of this also in context in **Revelation 1 (KJV):4** John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace be unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne; 5 And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, 6 And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen. 7 Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen. 8 I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

Concerning verse 4, Larkin writes on page 4 of the pdf of The Book of Revelation by Clarence Larkin, “In the Benediction – “Grace be unto you, and peace, from Him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the Seven Spirits which are before His Throne; and

from Jesus Christ, who is the Faithful Witness, etc.,” we behold the Trinity. Here Jesus is distinguished from –“HIM (the Father) which Is, and which Was, and which Is To Come,” but in verse 8, He claims the same Title, which only proves that Jesus was God manifest in the flesh, and that He and the Father are one.

Again, Larkin does not explain in verse 4 what is meant by “the seven Spirits of God”. This phrase is also mentioned in **Revelation 4 (KJV):5** And out of the throne proceeded lightnings and thunderings and voices: and there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God.

And in **Revelation 5 (KJV):6** And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth.

Now we notice that the King James Version capitalizes the word “Spirits” in each of these verses, as does the New King James Version. But the New American Standard Bible does not capitalize it, and has a Footnote that says, “Possibly a symbolic reference to the Holy Spirit in His fullness, or to seven key angels”.

But we have an explanation of this phrase in **Psalms 104 (KJV):4** Who maketh his angels spirits; his ministers a flaming fire:

And in **Hebrews 1 (KJV):7** And of the angels he saith, Who maketh his angels spirits, and his ministers a flame of fire. 8 But unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom.

Let us always remember there is one Spirit, as we read in **Ephesians 4 (KJV):3** Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. 4 There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; 5 One Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

And in **Ephesians 2 (KJV):18** For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father.

And in **1 Corinthians 12 (KJV):11** But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.

And in **1 Corinthians 12 (KJV):13** For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.

And on the same page 20 in the pdf, Larkin notes, “Thou hast a few names even in Sardis which have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with me in white: for they are worthy. He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in WHITE RAIMENT; and I will not blot out his name out of the Book of Life, but I will confess his name before My Father, and before His angels. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the Churches.”

He refers to **Revelation 3 (KJV):4** Thou hast a few names even in Sardis which have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with me in white: for they are worthy. 5 He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels. 6 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

The “WHITE RAIMENT” speaks of garments that are not defiled. That is, these are clothed with the righteousness of God, even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus

Christ, as we read in **Romans 3 (KJV):21** But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; 22 Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference: 23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; 24 Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:

We will need to keep this in mind as we progress through the book of Revelation.

## To Philadelphia

Then on page 22 of the pdf of The Book of Revelation by Clarence Larkin, he says, “It was to be kept from the “Hour of Temptation” (TRIBULATION), that shall come upon ALL THE WORLD, and as there has never as yet been a WORLDWIDE Tribulation, this “Hour of Tribulation” must still be future and refers doubtless to the “Great Tribulation” that is to come upon the “whole world,” just before the return of the Lord to set up His Millennial Kingdom, and as the promise is that the “Philadelphia Church” shall not pass through the Tribulation, is not this additional proof that the Church shall be “caught out” before the Tribulation?”

The reason the Church shall be “caught out” before the Tribulation is first of all because of **Daniel 9 (KJV):24** Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy. 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.

So 69 of the weeks determined upon Daniel’s people, Israel were completed when Jesus died on the cross. There remains one more week.

Then Jesus tells us of the wrath upon Israel, as we read in **Luke 21 (KJV):20** And when ye shall see Jerusalem compassed with armies, then know that the desolation thereof is nigh. 21 Then let them which are in Judaea flee to the mountains; and let them which are in the midst of it depart out; and let not them that are in the countries enter thereinto. 22 For these be the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled. 23 But woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck, in those days! for there shall be great distress in the land, and wrath upon this people. 24 And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled.

The wrath upon Israel will last “until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled”.

Then we read in **Romans 11 (KJV):25** For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is

happened to Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles be come in. 26 And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: 27 For this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins. 28 As concerning the gospel, they are enemies for your sakes: but as touching the election, they are beloved for the father's sakes. 29 For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance.

Now we are told by Paul that the “day of the Lord” will not come until after the Antichrist is revealed, as we read in **2 Thessalonians 2 (NASB)**: 1 Now we ask you, brothers and sisters, regarding the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, 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 has come. 3 No one is to deceive you in any way! For it will not come unless the apostasy comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction, 4 who opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, displaying himself as being God. 5 Do you not remember that while I was still with you, I was telling you these things? 6 And you know what restrains him now, so that he will be revealed in his time. 7 For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains will do so until He is removed. 8 Then that lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will eliminate with the breath of His mouth and bring to an end by the appearance of His coming; 9 that is, the one whose coming is in accord with the activity of Satan, with all power and false signs and wonders, 10 and with all the deception of wickedness for those who perish, because they did not accept the love of the truth so as to be saved. 11 For this reason God will send upon them a deluding influence so that they will believe what is false, 12 in order that they all may be judged who did not believe the truth, but took pleasure in wickedness.

And the Antichrist will not be revealed until “He who now restrains” is “removed”, as in verse 7 above. Now the one who “now restrains” is the Holy Spirit in the Church. So if the Holy Spirit is removed, the Church will have to go as well. And so we read in **1 Thessalonians 4 (KJV)**: 13 But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. 15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. 16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: 17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. 18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

The Greek word translated “caught up” in verse 17 is **ἁρπάζω** (pronounced harpadzo), from a derivative of G138; to seize (in various applications):—catch (away, up), pluck, pull, take (by force). <https://www.blueletterbible.org/lexicon/g726/kjv/tr/0-1/>

When the Church has been caught up to “meet the Lord in the air”, the Tribulation week of seven years, the remainder of Daniel’s 70 weeks, will begin for Israel who will be saved out of it, as we read in **Jeremiah 30 (KJV)**: 4 And these are the words that the Lord spake concerning Israel and concerning Judah. 5 For thus saith the Lord; We have heard a voice of

trembling, of fear, and not of peace. 6 Ask ye now, and see whether a man doth travail with child? wherefore do I see every man with his hands on his loins, as a woman in travail, and all faces are turned into paleness? 7 Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob's trouble, but he shall be saved out of it.

## The 24 Elders

On page 31 of the pdf of The Book of Revelation by Clarence Larkin, Larkin refers to **Revelation 4 (KJV):4** And round about the throne were four and twenty seats: and upon the seats I saw four and twenty elders sitting, clothed in white raiment; and they had on their heads crowns of gold.

He then says, “Who are these “Elders” and what do they represent? They are not a heavenly and unfallen order of beings, like the angels or “Living Creatures” that surround the Throne, they are the representatives of redeemed mankind. The name Elder is never applied to angels, neither do angels have “crowns” and sit on “thrones.” Only redeemed MEN are promised “Thrones” and Crowns.” Matt. 19:28. Rev. 3:21. Rev. 20:4. Rev. 2.10. 1. Pet. 5:2-4. 2. Tim. 4:8. These “Elders” then must be representatives of the Old and New Testament Saints, that have been redeemed by the BLOOD OF CHRIST. This will be made more clear as we consider their position, dress, and song.”

And Larkin adds on page 31 of the pdf of The Book of Revelation by Clarence Larkin, “That these “Elders” were REDEEMED MEN is further evidenced by the “Song” they sung.”

He refers in context to **Revelation 5 (KJV):8** And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four and twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints. 9 And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; 10 And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.

Now Larkin says on page 33 of the pdf of The Book of Revelation by Clarence Larkin, “While the “Elders” sit on Thrones and wear Crowns, they are not dressed in royal robes but in “white raiment,” the garment of a Priest.”

In regards to “white raiment”, we read in **Revelation 3 (NKJV):18** I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments, that you may be clothed, *that* the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see.

The “white raiment” is symbolic of the righteousness we receive when God justifies us when we believe in Jesus Christ. When we believe, God justifies us, that is, He puts His righteousness down to our account, as we read in **Romans 3 (KJV):20** Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin. 21 But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; 22 Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference: 23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; 24 Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:

Then we will be rewarded for our “righteous acts”, as we read in **Revelation 19 (NKJV):8** And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.

The Greek word translated “righteous acts” is **δικαιώματα** (pronounced dikaiōmata), from [G1344](#); an equitable deed; by implication, a statute or decision:—judgment, justification,

ordinance, righteousness. <https://www.blueletterbible.org/lexicon/g1345/kjv/tr/0-1/>

The Greek word is in the plural, so “righteous acts” is a correct translation in the New King James Version. So it is clear that the elders and all the saints in the rapture have been rewarded at this point, as Larkin has said. The “fine linen” will be in addition to the “white garments” that God will give us when we are justified.

Now Larkin also says on page 33 of the pdf of The Book of Revelation by Clarence Larkin, “As the “Elders” are representative of both the Old and New Testament Saints, and the Old Testament Saints are represented by the Twelve Tribes of Israel, and the New Testament Saints’ by the Twelve Apostles of the Lamb, they together make up 24 representative characters. This distinction is clearly brought out in the description of the New Jerusalem, where the 12 Foundation Stones are named after the Twelve Apostles of the Lamb, and the 12 Gates after the Twelve Tribes of Israel. Rev. 21:10-14.”

And he refers in context to **Revelation 21 (KJV):9** And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb's wife. 10 And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, 11 Having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal; 12 And had a wall great and high, and had twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and names written thereon, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel: 13 On the east three gates; on the north three gates; on the south three gates; and on the west three gates. 14 And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

So we see that the “Lamb’s wife”, mentioned in verse 9 above, is represented by “the holy Jerusalem”, which is composed of twelve gates with “names written thereon, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel”, and “twelve foundations”, which have “the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb”.

However, Larkin continues as he says, “While the Four and Twenty Elders are representative of the Old and New Testament Saints, they do not, as a whole, represent the Church, for the Church is composed only of New Testament Saints. The Old Testament saints are merely the Friends of the Bridegroom. But the fact that the New Testament Saints, as represented by the Twelve Apostles, are required to make up the 24 representative characters (Elders), is additional evidence that the Rapture of the Church takes place before the Tribulation.”

His logic seems a little circular here. He makes a good case for the elders representing both the Old Testament saints and the New Testament saints. But then he says, “they do not, as a whole, represent the Church, for the Church is composed only of New Testament Saints”. Well that is a given. Somehow he seems to feel that the 24 elders must symbolize the Church so that there “is additional evidence that the Rapture of the Church takes place before the Tribulation.” But this is not necessary. The timing of the rapture is a given by the Scripture when we consider that the Antichrist will not be revealed until the Holy Spirit is taken out of the way, as we shall see shortly.

The “Lamb’s wife” in Revelation 21:9 above is represented by the twelve tribes and the twelve apostles of the Lamb. If we see the Four and Twenty Elders as representative of all

believers, from both the Old Testament and the New Testament, then the marriage supper of the Lamb is a marriage of the Lamb and all believers, as we read in **Revelation 19 (KJV):7** Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. 8 And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.

The wife has made herself ready because of what Jesus has done for all believers. That is, sin has been forgiven for all, and has been done away with. All believers are now ready for the marriage of the Lamb.

It is not necessary that the marriage supper of the Lamb be of the Lamb and only the Church in order to prove that the Church is raptured before the tribulation. That is understood by the reference in **Revelation 3 (KJV):10** Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.

And it is understood by the fact that the Holy Spirit will be removed so that the lawless one may “be revealed in his time”, as we read in **2 Thessalonians 2 (NASB):6** And you know what restrains him now, so that he will be revealed in his time. 7 For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains will do so until He is removed. 8 Then that lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will eliminate with the breath of His mouth and bring to an end by the appearance of His coming; 9 that is, the one whose coming is in accord with the activity of Satan, with all power and false signs and wonders, 10 and with all the deception of wickedness for those who perish, because they did not accept the love of the truth so as to be saved.

And we know that 70 weeks are determined on Israel, and only one week remains. That will be the time of the tribulation. So the Church must be raptured before the tribulation begins in order that God may again deal with Israel in the 70th week.

And Israel will again be married to the Lord, as we read in **Hosea 2 (KJV):14** Therefore, behold, I will allure her, and bring her into the wilderness, and speak comfortably unto her. 15 And I will give her her vineyards from thence, and the valley of Achor for a door of hope: and she shall sing there, as in the days of her youth, and as in the day when she came up out of the land of Egypt. 16 And it shall be at that day, saith the Lord, that thou shalt call me Ishi; and shalt call me no more Baali. 17 For I will take away the names of Baalim out of her mouth, and they shall no more be remembered by their name. 18 And in that day will I make a covenant for them with the beasts of the field and with the fowls of heaven, and with the creeping things of the ground: and I will break the bow and the sword and the battle out of the earth, and will make them to lie down safely. 19 And I will betroth thee unto me for ever; yea, I will betroth thee unto me in righteousness, and in judgment, and in lovingkindness, and in mercies. 20 I will even betroth thee unto me in faithfulness: and thou shalt know the Lord. 21 And it shall come to pass in that day, I will hear, saith the Lord, I will hear the heavens, and they shall hear the earth; 22 And the earth shall hear the corn, and the wine, and the oil; and they shall hear Jezreel. 23 And I will sow her unto me in the earth; and I will have mercy upon her that had not obtained mercy; and I will say to them which were not my people, Thou art my people; and they shall say, Thou art my God.



## The Mighty Angel

On page 38 of the pdf of The Book of Revelation by Clarence Larkin, Larkin says, “The contents of the “Book” are not disclosed. We are simply told, as the “Seals” are broken, that certain things happened. They doubtless were preliminary to the Lamb’s taking possession of the Purchased Possession. It is not until chapter 10:1-6, that Christ, as the “MIGHTY ANGEL,” puts His right foot upon the sea, and His left foot on the earth, and cries – “There shall be time no longer,” that is “NO LONGER DELAY,” that He takes formal possession, but as the claim is disputed further steps, as we shall see, are necessary to secure possession.

The “Book” he refers to is the seven sealed book in **Revelation 5 (KJV)**:1 And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the backside, sealed with seven seals. 2 And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, Who is worthy to open the book, and to loose the seals thereof?

But is Christ the “MIGHTY ANGEL,” who “puts His right foot upon the sea, and His left foot on the earth”?

Let us read the Scripture in **Revelation 10 (KJV)**:1 And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow was upon his head, and his face was as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire: 2 And he had in his hand a little book open: and he set his right foot upon the sea, and his left foot on the earth, 3 And cried with a loud voice, as when a lion roareth: and when he had cried, seven thunders uttered their voices. 4 And when the seven thunders had uttered their voices, I was about to write: and I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered, and write them not. 5 And the angel which I saw stand upon the sea and upon the earth lifted up his hand to heaven, 6 And swore by him that liveth for ever and ever, who created heaven, and the things that therein are, and the earth, and the things that therein are, and the sea, and the things which are therein, that there should be time no longer:

Then on page 68 of the pdf of The Book of Revelation by Clarence Larkin, Larkin says, “Who this “MIGHTY ANGEL” is we do not know unless he be Christ Himself. In the Old Testament the Son of God was called the “ANGEL OF THE LORD” (Ex. 3:2-18), and as we are now in that part of the Book of Revelation that deals mainly with Israel it is nothing less than what we should expect to hear, Christ spoken of as a “MIGHTY ANGEL.” Then the description of this “MIGHTY ANGEL” seems to point to the same Person that John saw standing amid the “Lampstands” in chapter 1:12-16, or Christ Himself. The “ANGEL” was clothed in a CLOUD, there was a RAINBOW upon His head, His face was as it were the SUN, and His feet as PILLARS OF FIRE. No mere angel was ever before or since described in the Scriptures as appearing like that.

Then He is described as crying with a loud voice, as a lion roareth, and Christ is spoken of in this Book (Rev. 5:5) as “THE LION OF THE TRIBE OF JUDAH”; and in the chapter that follows this the same “MIGHTY ANGEL” speaks of the “Two Witnesses,” as “MY WITNESSES,” which is further indisputable evidence that this “MIGHTY ANGEL” is no other than Christ Himself. This interpretation makes clear what follows. For when this “MIGHTY ANGEL” places His right foot upon the sea, and His left foot on the earth, and swears that there shall be “TIME NO LONGER,” or “NO LONGER DELAY” (margin), it is Christ taking

formal possession of the Earth and Sea, and declaring that there shall be no longer delay in dispossessing the false claimant Satan.”

Actually, “the Son of God” was not “called the “ANGEL OF THE LORD” in Exodus 3:2-18, as we read in context in **Exodus 3 (KJV):**1 Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father in law, the priest of Midian: and he led the flock to the backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of God, even to Horeb. 2 And the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed. 3 And Moses said, I will now turn aside, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt. 4 And when the Lord saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said, Moses, Moses. And he said, Here am I. 5 And he said, Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground. 6 Moreover he said, I am the God of thy father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. And Moses hid his face; for he was afraid to look upon God.

God simply used an angel to speak to Moses. Then in Revelation, chapter 1, we read of “one like unto the Son of man”, as in **Revelation 1 (KJV):**12 And I turned to see the voice that spake with me. And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks; 13 And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle. 14 His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow; and his eyes were as a flame of fire; 15 And his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and his voice as the sound of many waters. 16 And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp twoedged sword: and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength.

There is no mention of an angel in these verses. And there is no mention of a “Son of man” in Revelation 10:1-6 above. There is just the mention of “another mighty angel” in Revelation 10:1. And in Revelation, chapter 11, God speaks through the angel, as we read in **Revelation 11 (KJV):**1 And there was given me a reed like unto a rod: and the angel stood, saying, Rise, and measure the temple of God, and the altar, and them that worship therein. 2 But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under foot forty and two months. 3 And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth.

## Calculation of the 70 Weeks

On page 42 of the pdf of The Book of Revelation by Clarence Larkin, he says, “The “Seventy Weeks” are divided into “THREE PERIODS” of 7 Weeks, and 62 Weeks, and 1 Week. They cover the time from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem, which was the 14th day of the month Nisan (March) B. C. 445, to the Second Stage (The Revelation) of the Second Coming of Christ. The “First Period,” 7 WEEKS, refers to the time required to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem, which was 49 years, thus giving us the “Key” to the meaning of the word “WEEK,” for if 7 WEEKS are equal to 49 YEARS, then 1 WEEK is equal to 7 YEARS.

Now we are told that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and rebuild Jerusalem (B. C. 445) unto the “MESSIAH THE PRINCE,” shall be 7 WEEKS, and THREESCORE AND TWO WEEKS, or 69 WEEKS, or, if 1 WEEK is equal to 7 YEARS, 7 x 69 or 483 YEARS. Now Jesus, as “MESSIAH THE PRINCE,” rode in triumph into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, April 2, A. D. 30. The difference in time between B. C. 445 and A. D. 30 is 475 years, but, as we have seen, 69 WEEKS equal 483 years, a difference of 8 years. How are we to explain this difference?

The 475 years between B. C. 445 and A. D. 30, are Julian or Astronomical years of 365 1/2 days each, but when we reduce them to Calendar years of 360 days each, the year used in the Scriptures, we find that we have exactly 483 years of 360 days each.”

The 365 1/2 is a typo in the pdf, and it should read as in the hardcover, 365 1/4. So he would have calculated as follows:

483 years of 360 days each equals 173,880 days

subtract days up to March 14, B.C. 445 = 74 (January = 30 plus February = 30 plus March = 14)

subtract days after April 2, A.D. 30 = 268 (April to December = 9 months = 270 days – 2 days  
= 268 days)

173,880

- 74

- 268

173,538

173,538 / 365.5 = 474.80 years

173,538 / 365.25 = 475.12 years

If we understand that every four years is a leap year, making 366 days in that year, then there are actually 365 1/4 days in a year.

## The First Seal

On page 45 of the pdf of The Book of Revelation by Clarence Larkin, he says, “This “Rider” has a “bow,” no arrow is mentioned, and he is not crowned at first, but a crown will be given to him later, the “Stephanos” or “Victor’s Crown,” as a reward for his victories which are prolonged and bloodless. This is the picture of a brilliant, strategical, and irresistible conqueror, whose victories will dazzle the world, and elevate him to a leadership that will place him at the Head of the Ten Federated Kingdoms of the revived Roman Empire. As a subaltern, like Napoleon I, he will rise from the ranks until a crown will be given him. His triumphs will be due to his skillful diplomacy. Like Antiochus Epiphanes, his prototype, he “will come in peaceably, and obtain the Kingdom by flatteries.” Dan. 11:21. As the “Tool of Satan” he will be endowed with wonder working powers, and when he comes, he will find the world ready to receive him, for God will send upon its inhabitants a “strong delusion” that they will believe a LIE, or “THE LIE,” for that is what he will be. 2 Thess. 2:9-11.

The “Rider” he refers to is the one on the “white horse” in **Revelation 6 (KJV):1** And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, Come and see. 2 And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer.

And he says that this “Rider” is “Like Antiochus Epiphanes, his prototype”, referring in context to **Daniel 11 (KJV):20** Then shall stand up in his estate a raiser of taxes in the glory of the kingdom: but within few days he shall be destroyed, neither in anger, nor in battle. 21 And in his estate shall stand up a vile person, to whom they shall not give the honour of the kingdom: but he shall come in peaceably, and obtain the kingdom by flatteries.

And this “Tool of Satan” is mentioned in context in **2 Thessalonians 2 (KJV):8** And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: 9 Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, 10 And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. 11 And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie:

In Larkin’s writing in The Book of Daniel, he interprets Daniel 11:21-32 as referring to Antiochus Epiphanes, and then he interprets Daniel 11:36-45 as referring to the Antichrist. But here on page 45 of the pdf of The Book of Revelation, he now says, “Like Antiochus Epiphanes, his prototype, he “will come in peaceably, and obtain the Kingdom by flatteries.”” So he attributes the exact same Scripture to the Antichrist. But in our study on the Book of Daniel, we found that the king mentioned in Daniel 11:21-32 does not pass away until Daniel 11:45. So the Scripture in Daniel 11:21-45 is referring to the Antichrist. According to Larkin’s interpretation, there were two “abominations of desolation”, Antiochus Epiphanes in Daniel 11:31, and the Antichrist in Daniel 12:11. But the correct interpretation of the king in Daniel 11:21 is that there is only one “abomination of desolation”, and that is the Antichrist.

Then on page 45 of the pdf of The Book of Revelation by Clarence Larkin, he says, “In other words this White Horse Rider is the ANTICHRIST. He is the “PRINCE WHO IS TO

COME” of Daniel’s Vision of the “Seventy Weeks,” and who will confirm the Covenant for “ONE WEEK,” the last or “Seventieth Week,” with Daniel’s people the Jews. Dan. 9:27.

And he is correct. The “White Horse Rider is the ANTICHRIST”. Now he refers to **Daniel 9 (KJV):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.

Then he continues on page 45 to 46 of the pdf of The Book of Revelation by Clarence Larkin, and says, “This Covenant will probably be the privilege to return to Palestine and rebuild the Temple and reestablish their sacrificial form of worship, and national existence, in exchange for the financial assistance of the Jewish bankers of the world in his schemes of establishing world wide commerce, and the formation of a gigantic corporation, with its commercial center in the rebuilt city of Babylon, so that no one can buy or sell unless they have his “MARK,” (the “Mark of the Beast,” Rev. 13:16-17), for we are told in Dan. 8:23-25, that “through his policy also he shall cause CRAFT (manufactories) to prosper in his hand.””

We must remember that Larkin was writing in the early 1900’s, so he was not aware of Israel becoming a nation in 1948, since he passed away in 1924. So the “national existence” of Israel will have nothing to do with the covenant the Antichrist will make with Israel.

But he mentions here the “rebuilt city of Babylon”. In his writing on The Book of Daniel, he mentions that the city of Babylon will be literally rebuilt. But in our study of that book we saw that he ignored **Revelation 17 (KJV):18** And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth.

And the identification of this city is made in **Revelation 17 (KJV):9** And here is the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth.

From its founding, centuries before John’s writing, the city of Rome was known as the “city on seven hills”. Now Larkin also refers to **Revelation 13 (KJV):16** And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: 17 And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

This shall happen in the second half of the tribulation period, and not at the beginning of the tribulation week of seven years. So it has nothing to do with the covenant in the beginning of the week.

He then also refers to **Daniel 8 (KJV):23** And in the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors are come to the full, a king of fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up. 24 And his power shall be mighty, but not by his own power: and he shall destroy wonderfully, and shall prosper, and practice, and shall destroy the mighty and the holy people. 25 And through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand; and he shall magnify himself in his heart, and by peace shall destroy many: he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without hand.

The word “craft” in Hebrew is מְרִמָּה *meer-maw'*; from H7411 in the sense of deceiving; fraud:—craft, deceit(-ful, -fully), false, feigned, guile, subtilly, treachery.

<https://www.blueletterbible.org/lexicon/h4820/kjv/wlc/0-1/>

And this is how the Antichrist will operate to bring together the ten kingdom confederacy. Most likely, as he rides forth “conquering, and to conquer” in Revelation 6:2, he will try to bring about the unity of all the world’s religions with the center of this unity in Rome which is Mystery Babylon the Great, the mother of harlots and abominations of the earth, of whom we read of in **Revelation 17 (KJV)**:3 So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns. 4 And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet colour, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication: 5 And upon her forehead was a name written, Mystery, Babylon The Great, The Mother Of Harlots And Abominations Of The Earth. 6 And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus: and when I saw her, I wondered with great admiration.

Then when he has achieved his purpose, in the middle of the week the Antichrist will “cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate”. That is, he will set himself up as God in the temple, as we read in **2 Thessalonians 2 (KJV)**: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, shewing himself that he is God.

And this is also mentioned in **Revelation 13 (KJV)**:1 And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy. 2 And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority. 3 And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast. 4 And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him? 5 And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months. 6 And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven. 7 And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations.

Then the ten horns upon the beast shall hate the whore, and burn her with fire, as we read in **Revelation 17 (KJV)**:16 And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire.

The second half of the tribulation week will then be a time of great tribulation. And Jesus warns the Jewish remnant in that time, as we read in **Matthew 24 (KJV)**:15 When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:) 16 Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains: 17 Let him which is on the housetop not come down to take any thing out of his house: 18 Neither let him which is in the field return back to take his clothes. 19 And woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck in those days! 20 But pray ye that your

flight be not in the winter, neither on the sabbath day: 21 For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. 22 And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened.

## The Second Seal

On page 46 to 47 of the pdf of The Book of Revelation by Clarence Larkin, he says, “There is no need to tarry long with this SEAL. When it was broken John heard the second, or “Calf-like Living Creature” say, “Come,” and a “RED HORSE” appeared and went forth, whose Rider was given a “GREAT SWORD,” and who had power to take peace from the earth, and cause men to kill one another. The symbolism is very clear. Red, the color of the Horse, is a symbol of BLOOD, and the Sword is a symbol of WAR. The time is clearly that prophesied by Christ – “And ye shall hear of wars and rumors of wars . . . for nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom.” Matt. 24:6-7. This seems to imply that the Antichrist will not have everything his own way, and that his Autocratic methods will lead to insubordination and civil wars among the nations under some great leader represented by the Rider of the Red Horse, whose “Great Sword” is symbolical of the awful destruction of human life that will follow.”

He refers to **Revelation 6 (KJV):3** And when he had opened the second seal, I heard the second beast say, Come and see. 4 And there went out another horse that was red: and power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword.

And in context to **Matthew 24 (KJV):1** And Jesus went out, and departed from the temple: and his disciples came to him for to shew him the buildings of the temple. 2 And Jesus said unto them, See ye not all these things? verily I say unto you, There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down. 3 And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world? 4 And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you. 5 For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many. 6 And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. 7 For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. 8 All these are the beginning of sorrows.

Jesus here speaks of the general conditions of the age that shall precede His coming. But the wars brought about by the red horse in Revelation 6:3-4 are the result of the Antichrist riding forth “conquering and to conquer” in Revelation 6:1-2. And as Larkin says, the “Great Sword” mentioned in Revelation 6:4 “is symbolical of the awful destruction of human life that will follow.”



## The Fifth Seal

On page 49 of the pdf of The Book of Revelation by Clarence Larkin, he refers to **Revelation 6 (KJV):9** And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held: 10 And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth? 11 And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellow servants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled.

And on page 49 of the pdf of The Book of Revelation by Clarence Larkin, he says, "According to Christ (Matt. 24:9-14), a persecution will be brought about by the preaching of the "GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM." When the Church is caught out the preaching of the "GOSPEL OF THE GRACE OF GOD" (Acts 20:24), which is being preached now, will cease, and the preaching of the "GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM" will be revived. It is the Gospel that John the Baptist preached, "Repent ye: for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand." Matt. 3:1-2, and that Elijah the Prophet when he returns will preach. Malachi 4:5-6. It is to be preached in all the world for a witness; and then shall the "End," the End of this Dispensation, come. It will be preached by the Jews, and will be the announcement that Christ is coming back to set up His Earthly Kingdom, and rule over the affairs of men. This will be exceedingly distasteful to the Kings of the Earth, particularly to Antichrist and the Kings of the Ten Federated Kingdoms, and the outcome will be a "Great Persecution" of those who preach and accept such a Gospel, and the "SOULS" that John saw under the "Sacrificial Altar," are the souls of those who shall perish during that time of persecution."

He refers to **Acts 20 (KJV):24** But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.

And to **Matthew 3 (KJV):1** In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, 2 And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

And to **Malachi 4 (KJV):5** Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord: 6 And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.

But did he never read **Acts 19 (KJV):1** And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples, 2 He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost. 3 And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism. 4 Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. 5 When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. 6 And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied. 7 And all the men were about twelve.

John's baptism was "the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they

should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus.” Are those in the tribulation to preach that people should repent and believe that God is going to set up His kingdom in order to be saved, without believing on Christ Jesus? I think not, for there is only one name given among men whereby we must be saved, as we read in **Acts 4 (KJV):10** Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole. 11 This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner. 12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

The gospel will not change, but how it will be presented will be dependent on who is listening. Those who are saved during the tribulation will be saved by the same gospel of the grace of God to be received by all who believe in Jesus Christ.

## Twelve Tribes in Revelation 7

### Sons of Jacob - Genesis 46

- 1) Reuben, Jacob's firstborn.
- 2) And the sons of Simeon;
- 3) And the sons of Levi;
- 4) And the sons of Judah;
- 5) And the sons of Issachar;
- 6) And the sons of Zebulun;
- 7) And the sons of Gad;
- 8) And the sons of Asher;
- 9) And unto Joseph in the land of Egypt were born Manasseh and Ephraim,
- 10)       And the sons of Benjamin
- 11)       And the sons of Dan;
- 12)       And the sons of Naphtali;

### 144,000 sealed - Revelation 7

- 1) Of the tribe of Juda were sealed twelve thousand.
- 2) Of the tribe of Reuben were sealed twelve thousand.
- 3) Of the tribe of Gad were sealed twelve thousand.
- 4) Of the tribe of Aser were sealed twelve thousand.
- 5) Of the tribe of Nephthalim were sealed twelve thousand.
- 6) Of the tribe of Manasses were sealed twelve thousand. (substitute for Dan)
- 7) Of the tribe of Simeon were sealed twelve thousand.
- 8) Of the tribe of Levi were sealed twelve thousand.
- 9) Of the tribe of Issachar were sealed twelve thousand.
- 10)       Of the tribe of Zabulon were sealed twelve thousand.
- 11)       Of the tribe of Joseph were sealed twelve thousand. (Joseph is father of Ephraim)
- 12)       Of the tribe of Benjamin were sealed twelve thousand.

### Israel to be divided by tribes (Joseph gets 2 portions)

**Ezekiel 48 (KJV):29** This is the land which ye shall divide by lot unto the tribes of Israel for inheritance, and these are their portions, saith the Lord God.

- 1) a portion for Dan (Ezekiel 48:1)
- 2) a portion for Asher (Ezekiel 48:2)
- 3) a portion for Naphtali (Ezekiel 48:3)
- 4) a portion for Manasseh (Ezekiel 48:4, son of Joseph)
- 5) a portion for Ephraim (Ezekiel 48:5, son of Joseph)
- 6) a portion for Reuben (Ezekiel 48:6)
- 7) a portion for Judah (Ezekiel 48:7)

- 8) Levi (Ezekiel 48:8-14)
- 9) Benjamin shall have a portion (Ezekiel 48:23)
- 10) Simeon shall have a portion (Ezekiel 48:24)
- 11) Issachar a portion (Ezekiel 48:25)
- 12) Zebulun a portion (Ezekiel 48:26)
- 13) Gad a portion (Ezekiel 48:27)

### **Gates of the City (Ezekiel 48:31-35)**

Three gates of the city on the north side:

Reuben  
Judah  
Levi

Three gates of the city on the east side:

Joseph  
Benjamin  
Dan

Three gates of the city on the south side:

Simeon  
Issachar  
Zebulun

Three gates of the city on the west side:

Gad  
Asher  
Naphtali

The reason that the tribes of Dan and Manasseh were omitted in the list of Revelation 7 is because of idolatry, as we read in **Deuteronomy 29 (KJV):18** Lest there should be among you man, or woman, or family, or tribe, whose heart turneth away this day from the Lord our God, to go and serve the gods of these nations; lest there should be among you a root that beareth gall and wormwood; 19 And it come to pass, when he heareth the words of this curse, that he bless himself in his heart, saying, I shall have peace, though I walk in the imagination of mine heart, to add drunkenness to thirst: 20 The Lord will not spare him, but then the anger of the Lord and his jealousy shall smoke against that man, and all the curses that are written in this book shall lie upon him, and the Lord shall blot out his name from under heaven. 21 And the Lord shall separate him unto evil out of all the tribes of Israel, according to all the curses of the covenant that are written in this book of the law:

Larkin said on page 56 of the pdf, “This is just what the Tribes of Dan and Ephraim were guilty of when they permitted Jeroboam to set up “Golden Calves” to be worshipped, one at Dan in the “Tribe of Dan,” and the other at Bethel in the “Tribe of Ephraim.” He refers to **1 Kings 12 (KJV):25** Then Jeroboam built Shechem in mount Ephraim, and dwelt therein; and went out from thence, and built Penuel. 26 And Jeroboam said in his heart, Now shall the kingdom return to the house of David: 27 If this people go up to do sacrifice in the house of

the Lord at Jerusalem, then shall the heart of this people turn again unto their lord, even unto Rehoboam king of Judah, and they shall kill me, and go again to Rehoboam king of Judah. 28 Whereupon the king took counsel, and made two calves of gold, and said unto them, It is too much for you to go up to Jerusalem: behold thy gods, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt. 29 And he set the one in Bethel, and the other put he in Dan. 30 And this thing became a sin: for the people went to worship before the one, even unto Dan. 31 And he made an house of high places, and made priests of the lowest of the people, which were not of the sons of Levi.

## The Seventh Seal

In the Foreword on page vi of the pdf of The Book of Revelation by Clarence Larkin, Larkin says, “The Book of Revelation is interpreted from the Futurist Standpoint. Chapters two and three cover the present Church Dispensation. From chapter four until the end of the Book all is future. The writer’s purpose is to show that the Book of Revelation is to be taken literally, and that it is written in chronological order.”

And he says on page 59 of the pdf of The Book of Revelation by Clarence Larkin, “But before the Trumpets were sounded John saw ANOTHER ANGEL with a “GOLDEN CENSER” in his hand come and stand before the “Golden Incense Altar.” The name of this “Angel Priest” is not given, and it is useless to speculate as to who he was. Some claim it was Christ, because He is our “Great High Priest,” but that is immaterial. We are told that he was given much incense, and that he offered with it the prayers of the “ALL SAINTS.” These Saints were the Saints of the Tribulation period, and their prayers were for deliverance from their enemies.”

Larkin then continues, “This will account for the remarkable act of the “Angel Priest” of filling the Censer with FIRE FROM OFF THE ALTAR, and casting it on to the earth, the effect of which was seen in the VOICES and THUNDERINGS, that broke the SILENCE of Heaven, and the LIGHTNINGS and EARTHQUAKE on the Earth. As the same four things happen when the “Seventh Trumpet” sounds (Rev. 11:19), and the “Seventh Vial” is poured out, it is clear that the “Seventh Seal,” the “Seventh Trumpet,” and the “Seventh Vial,” all end alike, and synchronize as to their ending, that is, all end at the same time, the “end of the Week.” The Judgments that follow on the Earth as the Trumpets sound, and the Vials are poured out, are the answers to the prayers of the Saints for vengeance on their enemies.”

Larkin first refers to the opening of the seventh seal, which we read of in **Revelation 8 (KJV)**: 1 And when he had opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven about the space of half an hour. 2 And I saw the seven angels which stood before God; and to them were given seven trumpets. 3 And another angel came and stood at the altar, having a golden censer; and there was given unto him much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne. 4 And the smoke of the incense, which came with the prayers of the saints, ascended up before God out of the angel's hand. 5 And the angel took the censer, and filled it with fire of the altar, and cast it into the earth: and there were voices, and thunderings, and lightnings, and an earthquake.

So there were “voices, and thunderings, and lightnings, and an earthquake” when this seal was opened.

Then we read of the seventh trumpet sounding in **Revelation 11 (KJV)**: 15 And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever. 16 And the four and twenty elders, which sat before God on their seats, fell upon their faces, and worshipped God, 17 Saying, We give thee thanks, O Lord God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned. 18 And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy

the earth. 19 And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail.

So when the seventh trumpet sounded, there were “lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail”. But there was no “hail” when the seventh seal opened, as there was when the seventh trumpet sounded.

Then we read of the seventh vial being poured out in **Revelation 16 (KJV):17** And the seventh angel poured out his vial into the air; and there came a great voice out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, It is done. 18 And there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, and so great. 19 And the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell: and great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath. 20 And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. 21 And there fell upon men a great hail out of heaven, every stone about the weight of a talent: and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail; for the plague thereof was exceeding great.

So when the seventh angel poured out his vial, in verse 18 there were “voices, and thunders, and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, and so great”. And in verse 21, there “fell upon men a great hail out of heaven, every stone about the weight of a talent”. No stone was mentioned in the hail of the seventh trumpet.

We see little differences in the opening of the seventh seal, the sounding of the seventh trumpet, and the pouring out of the seventh vial, so it is difficult to know exactly what Larkin means when he says that they all “synchronize as to their ending, that is, all end at the same time, the “end of the Week.”” The “end of the Week” will be in the second half of the tribulation week. But it is clear from the Scriptures that these events are chronological. The opening of the seventh seal was the beginning of the sounding of seven trumpets, as we read in **Revelation 8 (KJV):1** And when he had opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven about the space of half an hour. 2 And I saw the seven angels which stood before God; and to them were given seven trumpets.

Then we read of the seventh angel sounding his trumpet in **Revelation 11 (KJV):15** And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

And then seven angels having the seven last plagues appear in **Revelation 15 (KJV):1** And I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvelous, seven angels having the seven last plagues; for in them is filled up the wrath of God.

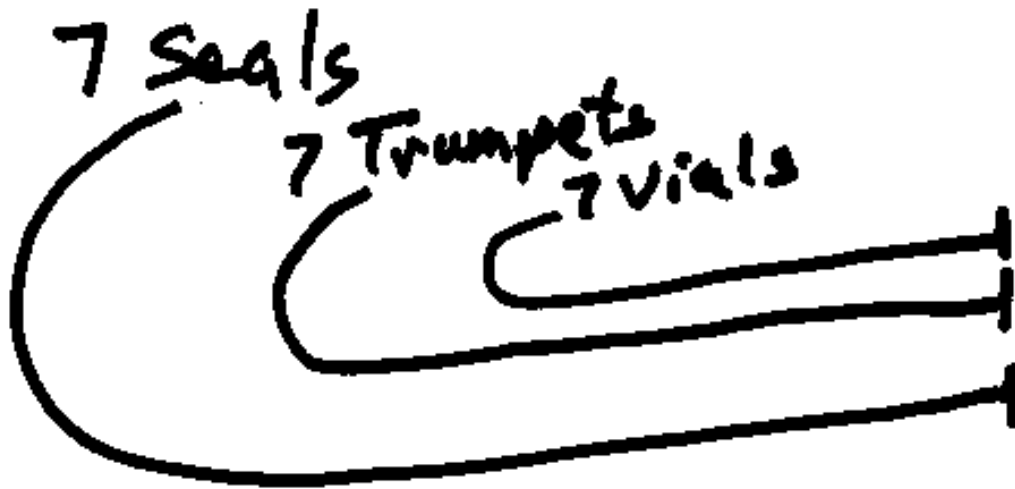
And these are given seven vials full of the wrath of God in **Revelation 15 (KJV):6** And the seven angels came out of the temple, having the seven plagues, clothed in pure and white linen, and having their breasts girded with golden girdles. 7 And one of the four beasts gave unto the seven angels seven golden vials full of the wrath of God, who liveth for ever and ever.

That these events are chronological is also evident when we read in **Revelation 10 (KJV):7** But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets.

And the middle of the week does not happen until Revelation, chapter 12.

But Larkin does have a chart entitled THE SEVEN SEALS. On the chart he says, “This chart is drawn to show that the seals, trumpets, and vials, are not recurrent, that is, the trumpets and vials are not repetitions of the seals or of each other. They follow one another in order as shown, and the fact that what happens at the end of the seventh seal, the seventh trumpet, and the seventh vial is the same, shows that the seventh seal includes the seven trumpets and seven vials, and the seventh trumpet includes the seven vials.”

And we can agree with Larkin here. The events of the seals, the trumpets, and the vials follow each other and are not the same, and they “follow one another in order”. What Larkin is actually saying is that the seventh seal includes the seven trumpets, and the seventh trumpet includes the seven vials. So the seventh seal ends with the seventh vial because the seventh trumpet doesn’t end until the seventh vial ends. We can see this in the following draft.



What Larkin seems to miss is that the seventh seal opens with the same four things, VOICES and THUNDERINGS, and the LIGHTNINGS and EARTHQUAKE, and this makes way for the first trumpet to sound. The seventh trumpet sounds with the same four things, and this makes way for the seven vials. And the seventh vial was poured out as in **Revelation 16 (KJV):17** And the seventh angel poured out his vial into the air; and there came a great voice out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, It is done. 18 And there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, and so great.

But the seventh vial did not end this way. It began this way. This vial includes a



great hail as we read in **Revelation 16 (KJV):**19 And the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell: and great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath. 20 And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. 21 And there fell upon men a great hail out of heaven, every stone about the weight of a talent: and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail; for the plague thereof was exceeding great.

To see this another way, let's look at another graph as below.

**7 Seals – Revelation 5:1 And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book written... sealed with seven seals.**

**Seventh Seal – Revelation 8:1 And when he had opened the seventh seal...5...and there were voices, and thunderings, and lightnings, and an earthquake.**

**7 Trumpets – Revelation 8:6 And the seven angels which had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound.**

**Seventh Trumpet – Revelation 11:15 And the seventh angel sounded;...19 and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail.**

**7 Vials – Revelation 15:1 And I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvellous, seven angels having the seven last plagues; for in them is filled up the wrath of God...7 And one of the four beasts gave unto the seven angels seven golden vials full of the wrath of God, who liveth for ever and ever. 8 And the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God, and from his power; and no man was able to enter into the temple, till the seven plagues of the seven angels were fulfilled.**

**Revelation 16:1 And I heard a great voice out of the temple saying to the seven angels, Go your ways, and pour out the vials of the wrath of God upon the earth.**

**Revelation 16:17 And the seventh angel poured out his vial into the air;...18 And there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, and so great.**

## Notes on Revelation, Chapter 12

On page 78 of the pdf of The Book of Revelation, by Clarence Larkin, Larkin says, “Those who claim that Christ and the Church together constitute the “Man-Child,” because in the Message to the Church at Thyatira, the promise to the “Overcomers” is, that they shall rule the Nations with a “ROD OF IRON,” forget that this promise is not to the Church as a whole, but only to the “Overcomers” of the “Thyatiran Church Period,” A. D. 606-1520. In other words the “Overcomers” of the “Thyatiran Church Period” shall hold some prominent “Ruling Power” with Christ in the Millennial Kingdom.”

He refers in context to **Revelation 2 (KJV):18** And unto the angel of the church in Thyatira write; These things saith the Son of God, who hath his eyes like unto a flame of fire, and his feet are like fine brass; 19 I know thy works, and charity, and service, and faith, and thy patience, and thy works; and the last to be more than the first. 20 Notwithstanding I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed unto idols. 21 And I gave her space to repent of her fornication; and she repented not. 22 Behold, I will cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into great tribulation, except they repent of their deeds. 23 And I will kill her children with death; and all the churches shall know that I am he which searcheth the reins and hearts: and I will give unto every one of you according to your works. 24 But unto you I say, and unto the rest in Thyatira, as many as have not this doctrine, and which have not known the depths of Satan, as they speak; I will put upon you none other burden. 25 But that which ye have already hold fast till I come. 26 And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations: 27 And he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of my Father. 28 And I will give him the morning star. 29 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

The apostle John defines who an overcomer is as we read in **1 John 5 (KJV):4** For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith. 5 Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?

But Revelation 2:26 above is speaking of the one who “overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end”. The one who overcomes is the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God. The one who also keeps His works to the end will receive a reward in addition to salvation. And so we read in **2 Timothy 2 (KJV):11** It is a faithful saying: For if we be dead with him, we shall also live with him: 12 If we suffer, we shall also reign with him: if we deny him, he also will deny us: 13 If we believe not, yet he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself.

And in **1 Corinthians 3 (KJV):12** Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; 13 Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. 14 If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. 15 If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.

And all believers in the first resurrection will reign with Christ, as we read in **Revelation 20 (KJV):6** Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

## The Image of the Beast

On page 83 of the pdf of The Book of Revelation, by Clarence Larkin, Larkin says in context, “A careful comparison of these two passages will reveal their difference. Luke refers to the “Destruction of Jerusalem” by Titus, A. D. 70, at which time Jerusalem was compassed by the Roman Army, and the sufferings of the inhabitants of the city were so great that mothers cooked and ate their own children. This is past. And verse 24 has been fulfilled for the Jews have been “led away captive into ALL NATIONS,” where they still remain, and Jerusalem has since then been “TRODDEN DOWN OF THE GENTILES,” and will continue to be until the “TIMES OF THE GENTILES” shall be fulfilled. But the “flight” that Matthew speaks about is still future. He locates it at the time of the “Great Tribulation,” which he says is to be preceded by the setting up of the “ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION,” spoken of by Daniel the Prophet. The gods, or idols of the heathen, are spoken of as “ABOMINATIONS.” Milcom, or Molech, was the “abomination” of the Ammonites; Chemosh, the “abomination” of Moab. 1. Kings 11:5-7. This interprets the “ABOMINATION” spoken of by Daniel, as nothing other than an “IDOL” or “FALSE GOD.” In the “Middle of the Week,” a “DESOLATOR” (Antichrist) will appear and cause the sacrifices and oblations to cease, and set up in the “Holy Place” of the Temple an “IDOL,” and that “Idol” will be an “IMAGE OF THE BEAST.” Rev. 13:14-15.”

Now Larkin refers to a comparison of the time that Jesus refers to in Matthew 24:15-22 with the time that Jesus refers to in Luke 21:20-24. And he is correct, as he says above, “Luke refers to the “Destruction of Jerusalem” by Titus, A. D. 70, at which time Jerusalem was compassed by the Roman Army, and the sufferings of the inhabitants of the city were so great that mothers cooked and ate their own children. This is past.”

Then Larkin also says correctly, “But the “flight” that Matthew speaks about is still future. He locates it at the time of the “Great Tribulation,” which he says is to be preceded by the setting up of the “ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION,” spoken of by Daniel the Prophet.”

But Larkin then refers to **1 Kings 11 (KJV):5** For Solomon went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Zidonians, and after Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites. 6 And Solomon did evil in the sight of the Lord, and went not fully after the Lord, as did David his father. 7 Then did Solomon build an high place for Chemosh, the abomination of Moab, in the hill that is before Jerusalem, and for Molech, the abomination of the children of Ammon.

And he asserts that, “This interprets the “ABOMINATION” spoken of by Daniel, as nothing other than an “IDOL” or “FALSE GOD.””

And so he concludes, “In the “Middle of the Week,” a “DESOLATOR” (Antichrist) will appear and cause the sacrifices and oblations to cease, and set up in the “Holy Place” of the Temple an “IDOL,” and that “Idol” will be an “IMAGE OF THE BEAST.” Rev. 13:14-15.””

He is referring to **Revelation 13 (KJV):14** And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live. 15 And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed.

But nothing is said in the Scriptures about where the False Prophet will set up this image he will make. And Jesus spoke as in **Matthew 24 (KJV):15** When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:) 16 Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains:

Jesus speaks of someone standing in the holy place. Now we read of this one in **2 Thessalonians 2 (KJV):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, shewing himself that he is God.

The other gods of the Zidonians and Ammonites were abominations. But there is only one “abomination of desolation” who will exalt himself “above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God”, as in verse 4 above.

## The Mysterious and Terrible Personage

On page 86-87 of the pdf of The Book of Revelation, by Clarence Larkin, Larkin says, “His prophecy is mainly concerned with the things that shall befall his people, the Jews, in the “LATTER DAYS” (Dan. 10:14), and as we are now dealing with the things that shall come to pass in the “Last” or “Seventieth Week,” of Daniel’s “Seventy Weeks,” we necessarily must turn back to the Book of Daniel for an explanation of this symbol of the “BEAST.” But before we take that up it is important to note that both the Old and New Testaments speak of a

### “MYSTERIOUS AND TERRIBLE PERSONAGE”

who shall be revealed in the “Last Times.” He is called by various names.

#### In The Old Testament

“The Assyrian.”– Isaiah 10:5-6; 30:27-33.

“King of Babylon.”– Isaiah 14:4.

“Lucifer.”– Isaiah 14:12.

“The Little Horn.”– Daniel 7:8; 8:9-12.

“A King Of Fierce Countenance.”– Dan. 8:23.

“The Prince That Shall Come.”– Dan. 9:26.

“The Wilful King.”– Dan. 11:36.

#### In The New Testament

“The Man Of Sin.”– 2. Thess. 2:3-8.

“Son Of Perdition.”– 2. Thess. 2:3-8.

“That Wicked.”– 2. Thess. 2:3-8.

“Antichrist.”– 1. John 2:18.

“The Beast.”– Rev. 13:1-2.

Let us begin by reading in **Daniel 10 (KJV):14** Now I am come to make thee understand what shall befall thy people in the latter days: for yet the vision is for many days.

The Mysterious and Terrible Personage Larkin has in mind is the Antichrist, of whom we read in **1 John 2 (KJV):18** Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time.

## The Assyrian

Larkin believed that Isaiah prophesied of the Antichrist when he referred to the “Assyrian” in **Isaiah 10 (KJV):5** O Assyrian, the rod of mine anger, and the staff in their hand is mine indignation. 6 I will send him against an hypocritical nation, and against the people of my wrath will I give him a charge, to take the spoil, and to take the prey, and to tread them down like the mire of the streets.

To get the context, let us read further in **Isaiah 10 (KJV):12** Wherefore it shall come to pass, that when the Lord hath performed his whole work upon mount Zion and on Jerusalem, I will punish the fruit of the stout heart of the king of Assyria, and the glory of his high looks. 13 For he saith, By the strength of my hand I have done it, and by my wisdom; for I am

prudent: and I have removed the bounds of the people, and have robbed their treasures, and I have put down the inhabitants like a valiant man: 14 And my hand hath found as a nest the riches of the people: and as one gathereth eggs that are left, have I gathered all the earth; and there was none that moved the wing, or opened the mouth, or peeped. 15 Shall the axe boast itself against him that heweth therewith? or shall the saw magnify itself against him that shaketh it? as if the rod should shake itself against them that lift it up, or as if the staff should lift up itself, as if it were no wood. 16 Therefore shall the Lord, the Lord of hosts, send among his fat ones leanness; and under his glory he shall kindle a burning like the burning of a fire. 17 And the light of Israel shall be for a fire, and his Holy One for a flame: and it shall burn and devour his thorns and his briers in one day;

And we continue in **Isaiah 10 (KJV):**24 Therefore thus saith the Lord God of hosts, O my people that dwellest in Zion, be not afraid of the Assyrian: he shall smite thee with a rod, and shall lift up his staff against thee, after the manner of Egypt. 25 For yet a very little while, and the indignation shall cease, and mine anger in their destruction. 26 And the Lord of hosts shall stir up a scourge for him according to the slaughter of Midian at the rock of Oreb: and as his rod was upon the sea, so shall he lift it up after the manner of Egypt. 27 And it shall come to pass in that day, that his burden shall be taken away from off thy shoulder, and his yoke from off thy neck, and the yoke shall be destroyed because of the anointing.

Isaiah prophesied from A.D. 740 to A.D. 673. The Kingdom of Israel in the north was invaded by Assyria, and the inhabitants were deported to Assyria, as we read in **2 Kings 15 (KJV):**29 In the days of Pekah king of Israel came Tiglathpileser king of Assyria, and took Ijon, and Abelbethmaachah, and Janoah, and Kedesh, and Hazor, and Gilead, and Galilee, all the land of Naphtali, and carried them captive to Assyria.

The Assyrians invaded the northern ten tribes of Israel in B.C. 727, and resettled people from other lands in Israel who became known as Samaritans. But the Lord promised in verse 25 above that in “a very little while, and the indignation shall cease”, and his anger would be “in their destruction”.

So is there a hidden reference to the Antichrist here? It doesn't seem to fit. But to support his assertion, Larkin also adds the verses in **Isaiah 30 (KJV):**27 Behold, the name of the Lord cometh from far, burning with his anger, and the burden thereof is heavy: his lips are full of indignation, and his tongue as a devouring fire: 28 And his breath, as an overflowing stream, shall reach to the midst of the neck, to sift the nations with the sieve of vanity: and there shall be a bridle in the jaws of the people, causing them to err. 29 Ye shall have a song, as in the night when a holy solemnity is kept; and gladness of heart, as when one goeth with a pipe to come into the mountain of the Lord, to the mighty One of Israel. 30 And the Lord shall cause his glorious voice to be heard, and shall shew the lighting down of his arm, with the indignation of his anger, and with the flame of a devouring fire, with scattering, and tempest, and hailstones. 31 For through the voice of the Lord shall the Assyrian be beaten down, which smote with a rod. 32 And in every place where the grounded staff shall pass, which the Lord shall lay upon him, it shall be with tabrets and harps: and in battles of shaking will he fight with it. 33 For Tophet is ordained of old; yea, for the king it is prepared; he hath made it deep and large: the pile thereof is fire and much wood; the breath of the Lord, like a stream of brimstone, doth kindle it.

In Wikipedia, we read, “**Assyria** (/əˈsɪriə/), also called the **Assyrian Empire**, was a Mesopotamian kingdom and empire of the Ancient Near East that existed as a state from perhaps as early as the 25th century BC (in the form of the Assur city-state) until its collapse between 612 BC and 609 BC; thereby spanning the periods of the Early to Middle Bronze Age through to the late Iron Age. This vast span of time is divided into the Early Period (2500–2025 BC), Old Assyrian Empire (2025–1378 BC), Middle Assyrian Empire (1392–934 BC) and Neo-Assyrian Empire (911–609 BC).”

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Assyria#Expansion,\\_911–627\\_BC](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Assyria#Expansion,_911–627_BC)

So the Assyrian Empire ended about 609 BC.

Now on page 94 of the pdf of The Book of Revelation, by Clarence Larkin, Larkin says, “Daniel understood that they referred to one and the same Person, and as the “WILFUL KING” would be the “King of the NORTH,” that is, of Syria, Daniel saw that the “LITTLE HORN” was to rise on the “SYRIAN HORN” of the “He-Goat,” in other words that the “LITTLE HORN,” or “Antichrist,” shall come out of SYRIA, and as Syria included Assyria that the “LITTLE HORN” of Daniel is the same as the “Assyrian” of Isaiah. “When the Lord hath performed His whole work upon Mount Zion and on Jerusalem (which will not be until Christ comes back), I will punish the fruit of the stout heart of the KING OF ASSYRIA (Antichrist) and the glory of his high looks.” Isa. 10:12. I will break the ASSYRIAN (Antichrist) in My Land (Palestine), and upon My mountains tread him under foot; then shall his yoke depart from off them (Israel), and his burden from off their shoulders.” Isa. 14:25.”

Larkin again refers to **Isaiah 10 (KJV):12** Wherefore it shall come to pass, that when the Lord hath performed his whole work upon mount Zion and on Jerusalem, I will punish the fruit of the stout heart of the king of Assyria, and the glory of his high looks.

And to **Isaiah 14 (KJV):25** That I will break the Assyrian in my land, and upon my mountains tread him under foot: then shall his yoke depart from off them, and his burden depart from off their shoulders.

Larkin then continues, “The context shows that this prophecy is connected with the restoration of Israel to their own land, not after the Babylonian Captivity, but a restoration that is still future, for the Assyrian Empire had been swallowed up by the Babylonian when the Prophet wrote and the ASSYRIAN King here mentioned must be some future Assyrian King, for he is to be brought to Palestine and destroyed there.”

The “Assyrian Empire” did not end until B.C. 609, so it was not “swallowed up by the Babylonian” until way after the death of Isaiah who died approximately in B.C. 673.

We read in Wikipedia, “The Assyrian Empire was severely crippled following the death of Ashurbanipal in 627 BC, the nation and its empire descending into a prolonged and brutal series of civil wars involving three rival kings, Ashur-etil-ilani, Sin-shumu-lishirand Sin-shar-ishkun. Egypt's 26th Dynasty, which had been installed by the Assyrians as vassals, quietly detached itself from Assyria, although it was careful to retain friendly relations.

Assyria's Babylonian relations rebelled circa 625 BC, under the leadership of Nabopolassar who was believed to be from the migrant Chaldean people settled in the far south east of Mesopotamia. By 620 BC Nabopolassar was in possession of much of Babylonia, bar some pro Assyrian cities such as Nippur. Attempts to invade Assyria itself met with failure and an Assyrian counter attack saw bitter fighting ensue in Babylonia.”



Babylon was under Assyrian reign until Nabopolassar. Nabopolassar was the father of Nebuchadnezzar, who invaded Israel in B.C. 606.

And we continue in Wikipedia here, “Despite the sorely depleted state of Assyria, bitter fighting ensued; throughout 614 BC the Medes continued to gradually make hard fought inroads into Assyria itself, scoring a decisive and devastating victory over the Assyrian forces at the battle of Assur. In 613 BC, however, the Assyrians scored a number of counterattacking victories over the Medes-Persians, Babylonians-Chaldeans and Scythians-Cimmerians. This led to the unification of the forces ranged against Assyria who launched a massive combined attack, finally besieging and entering Nineveh in late 612 BC, with Sin-shar-ishkun being slain in the bitter street by street fighting. Despite the loss of almost all of its major cities, and in the face of overwhelming odds, Assyrian resistance continued under Ashur-uballit II (612–609 BC), who fought his way out of Nineveh and coalesced Assyrian forces around Harran which finally fell in 609 BC. The same year, Ashur-uballit II besieged Harran with the help of the Egyptian army, but this failed too, and this last defeat ended the Assyrian Empire.”

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Assyria#Downfall,\\_626–609\\_BC](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Assyria#Downfall,_626–609_BC)

Now Isaiah begins his prophecy, as we read in **Isaiah 1 (KJV):1** The vision of Isaiah the son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.

The **International Standard Bible Encyclopaedia** says in **Volume 3**, on page 1406, “According to the title of his book (1:1), Isaiah prophesied during the reigns of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah. He dates his inaugural vision (6:1) in Uzziah’s death-year, which was approximately 740 BC. This marks, therefore, the beginning of his prophetic ministry. And we know that he was still active as late as the siege of Jerus by Sennacherib in 701 BC. Hence the minimum period of his activity as a prophet was from 740 to 701 BC.”

So Isaiah’s first vision is as in **Isaiah 6 (KJV):1** In the year that king Uzziah died I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple.

And on the same page in **Volume 3** we read, “Hezekiah succeeded Ahaz, beginning to rule at the age of 25 and reigning 29 years (727-699 BC). Isaiah was at least 15 years his senior.”

This leaves us with no doubt that Isaiah did not prophesy when Babylon had swallowed up Assyria, for Babylon only came under their own power in 620 BC when Nabopolassar rebelled.

So let us read again what Larkin concludes, as he says, “I will break the ASSYRIAN (Antichrist) in My Land (Palestine), and upon My mountains tread him under foot; then shall his yoke depart from off them (Israel), and his burden from off their shoulders.” Isa. 14:25. The context shows that this prophecy is connected with the restoration of Israel to their own land, not after the Babylonian Captivity, but a restoration that is still future, for the Assyrian Empire had been swallowed up by the Babylonian when the Prophet wrote and the ASSYRIAN King here mentioned must be some future Assyrian King, for he is to be brought to Palestine and destroyed there.”

He is referring to **Isaiah 14 (KJV):24** The Lord of hosts hath sworn, saying, Surely as I have thought, so shall it come to pass; and as I have purposed, so shall it stand: 25 That I will break the Assyrian in my land, and upon my mountains tread him under foot: then shall his

yoke depart from off them, and his burden depart from off their shoulders. 26 This is the purpose that is purposed upon the whole earth: and this is the hand that is stretched out upon all the nations. 27 For the Lord of hosts hath purposed, and who shall disannul it? and his hand is stretched out, and who shall turn it back? 28 In the year that king Ahaz died was this burden. 29 Rejoice not thou, whole Palestina, because the rod of him that smote thee is broken: for out of the serpent's root shall come forth a cockatrice, and his fruit shall be a fiery flying serpent. 30 And the firstborn of the poor shall feed, and the needy shall lie down in safety: and I will kill thy root with famine, and he shall slay thy remnant. 31 Howl, O gate; cry, O city; thou, whole Palestina, art dissolved: for there shall come from the north a smoke, and none shall be alone in his appointed times. 32 What shall one then answer the messengers of the nation? That the Lord hath founded Zion, and the poor of his people shall trust in it.

The word “Palestina” is a Latin word, as Wikipedia notes, “The term “Palestine” (in Latin, *Palæstina*) is thought to have been a term coined by the Ancient Greeks for the area of land occupied by the Philistines, although there are other explanations.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/State\\_of\\_Palestine](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/State_of_Palestine)

The Hebrew word translated “Palestina” by the King James Version is פְּלִשְׁתִּים (pronounced pe-leh'-sheth), which comes from פָּלַשׁ (pronounced paw-lash'), a primitive root; to roll (in dust):—roll (wallow) self.

Most current Bible translations translate this word “Philistia”, as in **Isaiah 14 (NASB):29** “Do not rejoice, **Philistia**, all of you, Because the rod that struck you is broken; For from the serpent’s root a viper will come out, And its fruit will be a winged serpent. 30 Those who are most helpless will eat, And the poor will lie down in security; I will kill your root with famine, And it will kill your survivors. 31 Wail, you gate; cry, you city; Melt away, Philistia, all of you! For smoke comes from the north, And there is no straggler in his ranks.

The King James Version even translates the same Hebrew word this way in **Psalms 60 (KJV):8** Moab *is* my washpot; over Edom will I cast out my shoe: **Philistia**, triumph thou because of me.

And in **Psalms 87 (KJV):4** I will make mention of Rahab and Babylon to them that know me: behold **Philistia**, and Tyre, with Ethiopia; this *man* was born there.

And in **Psalms 108 (KJV):9** Moab *is* my washpot; over Edom will I cast out my shoe; over **Philistia** will I triumph.

The point is that Assyria was still reigning over the land of Israel when Isaiah prophesied that the Assyrian reign would be broken. So these Scriptures do not primarily relate to the Antichrist, but to the impending judgment on these empires at the time of Isaiah’s prophecy. Nevertheless, Israel shall be restored to their own land just as God has promised in the Scriptures.

## The King of Babylon

Now on page 86 of the pdf, Larkin then lists the reference to the “King of Babylon” in Isaiah 14:4 as another reference to the Antichrist. We begin reading in context in **Isaiah 14 (KJV):1** For the Lord will have mercy on Jacob, and will yet choose Israel, and set them in their own land: and the strangers shall be joined with them, and they shall cleave to the house of

Jacob. 2 And the people shall take them, and bring them to their place: and the house of Israel shall possess them in the land of the Lord for servants and handmaids: and they shall take them captives, whose captives they were; and they shall rule over their oppressors. 3 And it shall come to pass in the day that the Lord shall give thee rest from thy sorrow, and from thy fear, and from the hard bondage wherein thou wast made to serve, 4 That thou shalt take up this proverb against the king of Babylon, and say, How hath the oppressor ceased! the golden city ceased! 5 The Lord hath broken the staff of the wicked, and the scepter of the rulers. 6 He who smote the people in wrath with a continual stroke, he that ruled the nations in anger, is persecuted, and none hindereth. 7 The whole earth is at rest, and is quiet: they break forth into singing. 8 Yea, the fir trees rejoice at thee, and the cedars of Lebanon, saying, Since thou art laid down, no feller is come up against us. 9 Hell from beneath is moved for thee to meet thee at thy coming: it stirreth up the dead for thee, even all the chief ones of the earth; it hath raised up from their thrones all the kings of the nations. 10 All they shall speak and say unto thee, Art thou also become weak as we? art thou become like unto us? 11 Thy pomp is brought down to the grave, and the noise of thy viols: the worm is spread under thee, and the worms cover thee.

This is simply a prophecy of the Lord by Isaiah to Israel that their captivity in Babylon would end, and that they would be set free to return to their own land.

However, on page 87 of the pdf of *The Book of Revelation*, by Clarence Larkin, Larkin says, “In Isa. 14:4-17 there is a description of a “King of Babylon” who shall smite the people in his wrath, and rule the nations in anger. He is called “LUCIFER, Son of the Morning,” and his fall is described. He is cast down to Hell, where his coming creates a great stir among the kings of the earth that have preceded him, and who exclaim when they see him – “Art thou also become weak as we? Art thou become like unto us? . . . Is this the man that made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms; that made the world as a wilderness and destroyed the cities thereof; that opened not the house of his prisoners?” There has never as yet been such a King of Babylon as is here described. It must therefore refer to some future King of Babylon, when Babylon shall be rebuilt, as we shall see it is to be. Verses 12 to 14 evidently refer to Satan, and are descriptive of him before his fall, but as he is to incarnate himself in the Antichrist, who is to be a future King of Babylon, it explains the source of the pride and presumption of Antichrist, which will lead to his downfall, as it did to Satan’s.”

Larkin asserts that Babylon will be rebuilt and that the Antichrist will be the king of Babylon. Now let us continue to read in **Isaiah 14 (KJV)**:12 How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! 13 For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: 14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.

Evidently Lucifer was on earth, for he said in his heart, “I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God” in verse 13, and he said, “I will ascend above the heights of the clouds” in verse 14.

Larkin will only assign verses 12 to 14 to Satan. But on page 80 of the pdf of *The Book of Revelation*, by Clarence Larkin, he says, “That the DRAGON (Satan) and his angels were not cast out of Heaven at the time of his “Rebellion” (which antedates the present earth), and confined in some “prison house,” is clear, for he was at liberty to visit the Garden of Eden and

tempt Adam and Eve, and he had access to God in Heaven in the days of Job, 2000 years before Christ (Job 1:1; 2:8), and he was free to visit the earth in Christ's day and tempt Him in the Wilderness, and later to sift Peter."

So Larkin acknowledged that Satan had fallen prior to Isaiah's prophecy. And on page 63 of the pdf of The Book of Revelation, by Clarence Larkin, he says that the "BOTTOMLESS PIT" is "the place of confinement of the DEMONS, who are not Satan's Angels but a class of "disembodied Spirits," supposed by many to be the "disembodied spirits" of the inhabitants of the Pre-Adamite Earth, who, as they have liberty and opportunity, as in the days of Christ, try to re-embody themselves again in human bodies."

Lucifer had a throne, which means that he had people under him. His sin drew his people into sin, and caused the fall of the pre-Adamic race, which explains where the demons came from. God's promise then to Lucifer is that he will be judged, as we continue in **Isaiah 14 (KJV):**15 Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit. 16 They that see thee shall narrowly look upon thee, and consider thee, saying, Is this the man that made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms; 17 That made the world as a wilderness, and destroyed the cities thereof; that opened not the house of his prisoners? 18 All the kings of the nations, even all of them, lie in glory, every one in his own house. 19 But thou art cast out of thy grave like an abominable branch, and as the raiment of those that are slain, thrust through with a sword, that go down to the stones of the pit; as a carcass trodden under feet. 20 Thou shalt not be joined with them in burial, because thou hast destroyed thy land, and slain thy people: the seed of evildoers shall never be renowned.

Now the prophecy of Isaiah returns to the judgment on the king of Babylon, as we continue in **Isaiah 14 (KJV):**21 Prepare slaughter for his children for the iniquity of their fathers; that they do not rise, nor possess the land, nor fill the face of the world with cities. 22 For I will rise up against them, saith the Lord of hosts, and cut off from Babylon the name, and remnant, and son, and nephew, saith the Lord. 23 I will also make it a possession for the bittern, and pools of water: and I will sweep it with the besom of destruction, saith the Lord of hosts. 24 The Lord of hosts hath sworn, saying, Surely as I have thought, so shall it come to pass; and as I have purposed, so shall it stand:

"The Lord of hosts hath sworn", and the prophecy of Isaiah continues with the judgment of Assyria, as we continue in **Isaiah 14 (KJV):**25 That I will break the Assyrian in my land, and upon my mountains tread him under foot: then shall his yoke depart from off them, and his burden depart from off their shoulders. 26 This is the purpose that is purposed upon the whole earth: and this is the hand that is stretched out upon all the nations. 27 For the Lord of hosts hath purposed, and who shall disannul it? and his hand is stretched out, and who shall turn it back?

So not only will judgment fall on the king of Babylon, but also on the Assyrian empire. This prophecy gave hope to Israel in their captivity, both when they were held captive by the Assyrian Empire, and when they would be held captive by the Babylonian Empire, that it was not to last forever.

## The King of Tyrus

Now, although Larkin does not list the King of Tyrus in his list of names of the “Mysterious Personage”, he does say that the King of Tyrus is the King of Babylon, as we shall read on page 80 of the pdf of The Book of Revelation, by Clarence Larkin. He begins, speaking of the origin of Satan, as he says, “His origin is more or less shrouded in mystery, but one thing is certain, he is a “created being,” and that of the most exalted type. He was before his rebellion “The Anointed Cherub That Covereth.” That is, he was the guardian or protector of the “Throne of God.” He was perfect in all his ways from the day that he was created until iniquity was found in him. In him was the “fullness of wisdom,” and the “perfection of beauty,” but it was his “beauty” that caused the pride (1. Tim. 3:6) that was his downfall.”

He refers to **1 Timothy 3 (KJV):6** Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil.

Larkin continues, “He was clothed in a garment that was covered with the most rare and precious gems, the sardius, topaz, diamond, beryl, onyx, jasper, sapphire, emerald, carbuncle, all woven in with gold. He dwelt in Eden, the Garden of God. This probably refers not to the earthly Eden, but to the “Paradise of God” on high, for Satan dwelt on the “Holy Mount of God.” All this we learn from Ezek. 28:11-19, where the Prophet has a “foreview” of the Antichrist under the title of the “King of Tyrus,” and as Antichrist when he becomes the “Beast” is to be an incarnation of Satan, the Prophet here describes Satan’s original glory from which he fell, for there has never as yet been such a King of Tyrus as here described.”

He refers to **Ezekiel 28 (KJV):11** Moreover the word of the Lord came unto me, saying, 12 Son of man, take up a lamentation upon the king of Tyrus, and say unto him, Thus saith the Lord God; Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty. 13 Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created. 14 Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. 15 Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee. 16 By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned: therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God: and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire. 17 Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee. 18 Thou hast defiled thy sanctuaries by the multitude of thine iniquities, by the iniquity of thy traffick; therefore will I bring forth a fire from the midst of thee, it shall devour thee, and I will bring thee to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all them that behold thee. 19 All they that know thee among the people shall be astonished at thee: thou shalt be a terror, and never shalt thou be any more.

Again, we note that Larkin believed that the Eden referred to in verse 13 above, “probably refers not to the earthly Eden, but to the “Paradise of God” on high, for Satan dwelt on the “Holy Mount of God”, as we read in Larkin’s quote above.

But Larkin continues, and then says, “The cause of Satan’s rebellion, or fall, is given in Isa. 14:12-20. He is there called “LUCIFER, SON OF THE MORNING.” This was his glorious

title when he was created, and this world of ours was made, at which time – “The ‘Morning Stars’ (probably other glorious created ruling beings like himself), sang together, and all the ‘Sons of God’ (angels) shouted for joy.” Job 38:7.”

He refers in context to **Job 38 (KJV):4** Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding. 5 Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? or who hath stretched the line upon it? 6 Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof; 7 When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?

The “sons of God” refer to angels who were evidently created before God “laid the foundations of the earth”.

Now if “Satan’s rebellion, or fall, is given in Isa. 14:12-20”, as Larkin says, then we know that Lucifer’s throne, that is, Satan’s throne, was on earth, as we read again in **Isaiah 14 (KJV):12** How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! 13 For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: 14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.

Therefore, the Eden referred to in Ezekiel 28:13 must have been on the Pre-Adamic earth. Now as we continue to read on page 80 of the pdf of The Book of Revelation, by Clarence Larkin, he says, “It is well to note that the one here called “LUCIFER,” is in verse four (Isa. 14:4), also called the “King of Babylon.” As there never has been a King of Babylon like the one here described, the description must be that of a future King of Babylon. And as “Antichrist” is to have for his Capital City Babylon rebuilt, this is probably a “foreview” by the Prophet of Antichrist as indwelt by “LUCIFER” (Satan) in that day when he shall be King of Babylon, and also King of Tyrus.”

Larkin believed that the city of Babylon would be rebuilt, and so he sees “a “foreview” by the Prophet of Antichrist as indwelt by “LUCIFER” (Satan) in that day when he shall be King of Babylon, and also King of Tyrus.” But it is also possible to show that the prophecy by Isaiah is simply prophesying of the doom of Babylon and of Tyrus (Tyre), and that the city of Babylon will not be rebuilt, as we shall see, as we progress in our study.

## Lucifer

The next name in Larkin’s list of names by which the “MYSTERIOUS AND TERRIBLE PERSONAGE” is called in The Old Testament is Lucifer, who is referred to in **Isaiah 14 (KJV):12** How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!

Lucifer is the ““Prince of the Powers of the Air,” and the “God of This Age””, as Larkin notes on page 2 of the pdf of The Book of Revelation, by Clarence Larkin. As such, he is behind all of the idolatry of the kingdoms of this world.

And we read in **Ephesians 2 (KJV):1** And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins; 2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world,

according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

And in **2 Corinthians 4 (KJV):4** In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

And in **Luke 4 (KJV):5** And the devil, taking him up into an high mountain, shewed unto him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. 6 And the devil said unto him, All this power will I give thee, and the glory of them: for that is delivered unto me; and to whomsoever I will I give it. 7 If thou therefore wilt worship me, all shall be thine.

And on page 76 of the pdf of The Book of Revelation, by Clarence Larkin, Larkin says, “As such Jesus did not dispute his claim when in the Wilderness Temptation he offered Him the “Kingdoms of this World” and the glory of them. Luke 4:5-7.”

But Lucifer is not the Antichrist. He will empower the Antichrist, and indwell him, but he is not the Antichrist. But Larkin asserts in his list names of a “**MYSTERIOUS AND TERRIBLE PERSONAGE**” who shall be revealed in the “Last Times””, that Lucifer is one of the names by which the Antichrist is called.

Larkin said that “He is called by various names”, and one of the names on his list is Lucifer. But Lucifer is Satan who will indwell the Antichrist.

## The Little Horn

The next name in Larkin’s list of names by which the “**MYSTERIOUS AND TERRIBLE PERSONAGE**” is called in The Old Testament is the “Little Horn”, of whom we read of in **Daniel 7 (KJV):8** I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things.

And in **Daniel 8 (KJV):9** And out of one of them came forth a little horn, which waxed exceeding great, toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the pleasant land. 10 And it waxed great, even to the host of heaven; and it cast down some of the host and of the stars to the ground, and stamped upon them. 11 Yea, he magnified himself even to the prince of the host, and by him the daily sacrifice was taken away, and the place of the sanctuary was cast down. 12 And an host was given him against the daily sacrifice by reason of transgression, and it cast down the truth to the ground; and it practiced, and prospered.

And this does of course refer to the Antichrist.

## A King of Fierce Countenance

The next name in Larkin’s list of names by which the “**MYSTERIOUS AND TERRIBLE PERSONAGE**” is called in The Old Testament is “A King of Fierce Countenance”, of whom we read of, in context, in **Daniel 8 (KJV):23** And in the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors are come to the full, a king of fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up. 24 And his power shall be mighty, but not by his own power: and he

shall destroy wonderfully, and shall prosper, and practice, and shall destroy the mighty and the holy people. 25 And through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand; and he shall magnify himself in his heart, and by peace shall destroy many: he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without hand.

And this also refers to the Antichrist.

## **The Prince That Shall Come**

The next name in Larkin's list of names by which the "MYSTERIOUS AND TERRIBLE PERSONAGE" is called in The Old Testament is the "the prince that shall come", of whom we read of in context in **Daniel 9 (KJV):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.

The "people of the prince that shall come" were the Romans who destroyed "the city and the sanctuary" in A.D. 70 under Titus, the Roman general. The "prince that shall come" shall commit the abomination of desolation, for he will be the Antichrist.



## The Wilful King

The next name in Larkin's list of names by which the "MYSTERIOUS AND TERRIBLE PERSONAGE" is called in The Old Testament is "the willful king", of whom we read of in context in **Daniel 11 (KJV):36** And the king shall do according to his will; and he shall exalt himself, and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak marvelous things against the God of gods, and shall prosper till the indignation be accomplished: for that that is determined shall be done. 37 Neither shall he regard the God of his fathers, nor the desire of women, nor regard any god: for he shall magnify himself above all.

This Scripture does refer to the Antichrist, but there were two other kings mentioned in Daniel who were "willful". The first is mentioned in **Daniel 11 (KJV):3** And a mighty king shall stand up, that shall rule with great dominion, and **do according to his will**. 4 And when he shall stand up, his kingdom shall be broken, and shall be divided toward the four winds of heaven; and not to his posterity, nor according to his dominion which he ruled: for his kingdom shall be plucked up, even for others beside those.

This king was Alexander the Great, the king of Greece, who died suddenly and his kingdom was divided up between four of his generals.

The second "willful king" is mentioned in **Daniel 11 (KJV):15** So the king of the north shall come, and cast up a mount, and take the most fenced cities: and the arms of the south shall not withstand, neither his chosen people, neither shall there be any strength to withstand. 16 But he that cometh against him shall **do according to his own will**, and none shall stand before him: and he shall stand in the glorious land, which by his hand shall be consumed. 17 He shall also set his face to enter with the strength of his whole kingdom, and upright ones with him; thus shall he do: and he shall give him the daughter of women, corrupting her: but she shall not stand on his side, neither be for him. 18 After this shall he turn his face unto the isles, and shall take many: but a prince for his own behalf shall cause the reproach offered by him to cease; without his own reproach he shall cause it to turn upon him. 19 Then he shall turn his face toward the fort of his own land: but he shall stumble and fall, and not be found.

So these two "willful" kings passed away. Then we notice that the narrative in Daniel 11 of the "willful" king mentioned in Daniel 11:36 really begins in **Daniel 11 (KJV):21** And in his estate shall stand up a vile person, to whom they shall not give the honour of the kingdom: but he shall come in peaceably, and obtain the kingdom by flatteries. 22 And with the arms of a flood shall they be overflowed from before him, and shall be broken; yea, also the prince of the covenant. 23 And after the league made with him he shall work deceitfully: for he shall come up, and shall become strong with a small people. 24 He shall enter peaceably even upon the fattest places of the province; and he shall do that which his fathers have not done, nor his fathers' fathers; he shall scatter among them the prey, and spoil, and riches: yea, and he shall forecast his devices against the strong holds, even for a time. 25 And he shall stir up his power and his courage against the king of the south with a great army; and the king of the south shall be stirred up to battle with a very great and mighty army; but he shall not stand: for they shall forecast devices against him. 26 Yea, they that feed of the portion of his meat shall destroy him, and his army shall overflow: and many shall fall down slain. 27 And both of these kings' hearts shall be to do mischief, and they shall speak lies at one table; but it shall not prosper: for yet the

end shall be at the time appointed. 28 Then shall he return into his land with great riches; and his heart shall be against the holy covenant; and he shall do exploits, and return to his own land. 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.

As this “willful” king is to commit the “abomination that maketh desolate”, he is the Antichrist, who will “do according to his will; and he shall exalt himself, and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak marvelous things against the God of gods”, as we continue in **Daniel 11 (KJV):**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. 33 And they that understand among the people shall instruct many: yet they shall fall by the sword, and by flame, by captivity, and by spoil, many days. 34 Now when they shall fall, they shall be holpen with a little help: but many shall cleave to them with flatteries. 35 And some of them of understanding shall fall, to try them, and to purge, and to make them white, even to the time of the end: because it is yet for a time appointed. 36 And the king shall do according to his will; and he shall exalt himself, and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak marvellous things against the God of gods, and shall prosper till the indignation be accomplished: for that that is determined shall be done. 37 Neither shall he regard the God of his fathers, nor the desire of women, nor regard any god: for he shall magnify himself above all.

Every king before this king mentioned in Daniel 11:21 is noted in the Scripture to have passed away, that is, to have died. But the king who began to reign in Daniel 11:21 is not noted to have passed away, that is, to have died, until **Daniel 11 (KJV):**45 And he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him.

The tribulation shall be a time of great trial, and many believers shall “fall by the sword, and by flame, by captivity, and by spoil, many days”, as we read in verse 33 above. This is referred to in **Revelation 7 (KJV):**9 After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; 10 And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb. 11 And all the angels stood round about the throne, and about the elders and the four beasts, and fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God, 12 Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen. 13 And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they? 14 And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

“All nations” would include Israel.

## Division of the Roman Empire

On page 99 of the pdf of The Book of Revelation, by Clarence Larkin, Larkin says, “Daniel’s “Fourth Wild Beast” as we have seen, represents the Roman Empire as it existed from B. C. 30, until as a nation it shall cease to exist. While it was divided in A. D. 364, as the result of an ecclesiastical schism, into its Eastern and Western Divisions, and lost its national life as a world power, yet it has never lost its religious existence or influence as seen in the continuance of the Greek and Roman Churches, and Roman Law is still a controlling power in our laws. In this sense the Roman Empire in its influence has never ceased to exist. We are now to consider it in its last stage as outlined in John’s “Beast.”

In Wikipedia we read, “Diocletian's reign stabilized the empire and marks the end of the Crisis of the Third Century. He appointed fellow officer Maximian as Augustus, co-emperor, in 286. Diocletian reigned in the Eastern Empire, and Maximian reigned in the Western Empire. Diocletian delegated further on 1 March 293, appointing Galerius and Constantius as junior co-emperors (each with the title Caesar), under himself and Maximian respectively. Under the Tetrarchy, or "rule of four", each emperor would rule over a quarter-division of the empire. Diocletian secured the empire's borders and purged it of all threats to his power.”

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Diocletian>

And in Wikipedia we also read, “Flavius Valens (328 – 9 August 378) was Roman emperor from 364 to 378. He was the younger brother of the emperor Valentinian I, who gave Valens the eastern half of the Roman Empire to rule. Before 364, Valens had a largely unremarkable military career. In 378, Valens was defeated and killed at the Battle of Adrianople against the invading Goths, which astonished contemporaries and marked the beginning of barbarian encroachment into Roman territory.”

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Valens>

There is no doubt that the assertion by the church in Rome that their apostolic succession was from Peter, who therefore was their chief bishop, played a significant role in the division of the Roman Catholic Church and the Eastern Orthodox Church. And this certainly impacted the unity of the Roman Empire.

## Mystery Babylon

On page 126 of the pdf of The Book of Revelation, by Clarence Larkin, Larkin says, “The eighteenth chapter speaks of a **“City”**, a **literal city**, called **“Babylon the Great.”** That the **“Woman”** and the **“City”** do not symbolize the same thing is clear, for what is said of the **“Woman”** does not apply to a city, and what is said of the **“City”** does not apply to a woman. The **“Woman”** is destroyed by the **“Ten Kings,”** while the **“Kings of the Earth”** in the next chapter, **“bewail and lament”** the destruction of the **“City,”** which is not destroyed by them, but by a mighty earthquake and fire. Again the **“Woman”** is destroyed **Three and a Half Years BEFORE THE CITY;** and the fact that the first verse of chapter eighteen says—**“after these things,”** that is after the destruction of the **“Woman,”** what happens to the **“City”** occurs, shows that the **“Woman”** and the **“City”** are not one and the same.”

Now let us itemize the above, point by point, and give objections.

**Point 1:** That the **“Woman”** and the **“City”** do not symbolize the same thing is clear, for what is said of the **“Woman”** does not apply to a city, and what is said of the **“City”** does not apply to a woman.

**Objection:** But the **“Woman”** is the **“City”**, as we read in **Revelation 17 (KJV):18** And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth.

This “great city” would have been Rome in the time of John’s writing.

**Point 2:** The **“Woman”** is destroyed by the **“Ten Kings,”** while the **“Kings of the Earth”** in the next chapter, **“bewail and lament”** the destruction of the **“City,”** which is not destroyed by them, but by a mighty earthquake and fire.

**Objection:** Larkin is basing this assertion on **Revelation 16 (KJV):17** And the seventh angel poured out his vial into the air; and there came a great voice out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, It is done. 18 And there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, and so great. 19 And the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell: and great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath.

Larkin assumes that the **“Woman”** is not the **“City”**, and so he assumes that the “great city” in verse 19 above is literally the city of “great Babylon”. But in Revelation chapter 17 we understand that the prophecy is about “Mystery, Babylon the Great, the Mother of Harlots and Abominations of the Earth”. This was the name on the woman’s forehead in Revelation 17:5, and the woman is said to be the “great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth” in Revelation 17:18, the same chapter.

**Point 3:** Again the **“Woman”** is destroyed **Three and a Half Years BEFORE THE CITY;** and the fact that the first verse of chapter eighteen says—**“after these things,”**

that is after the destruction of the “**Woman**,” what happens to the “**City**” occurs, shows that the “**Woman**” and the “**City**” are not one and the same.”

**Objection:** The “**Woman**” is destroyed in the middle of the tribulation. The reason that we know this is because it is at this time when the Antichrist will set himself up in the temple and declare himself to be God, as Paul prophesied in **2 Thessalonians 2 (KJV):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, shewing himself that he is God.

This will be in fulfillment of **Daniel 9 (KJV):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.

Because of this, the Antichrist will not allow any other forms of worship than of himself. This is why the ten kings “shall hate the whore” and burn her with fire, as we read in **Revelation 17 (KJV):16** And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire. 17 For God hath put in their hearts to fulfill his will, and to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled. 18 And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth.

Now on page 130 of the pdf of The Book of Revelation, by Clarence Larkin, Larkin says, “If “Mystical Babylon” was destroyed in the previous chapter then she cannot appear in this chapter, and the “City” here described must be a literal city called Babylon, and as there is no city of that name on the earth today, nor has been since the ancient city of Babylon was destroyed, it must refer to some future city of Babylon. That the two chapters refer to different things is further verified by the fact that they are announced by different angels. The events of chapter seventeen are announced by one of the “Vial” Angels, while those of the eighteenth are announced by “another” angel; probably the “Second Angel Messenger,” who by way of anticipation, announced in chapter 14:8, the “Fall of Babylon,” that is there called – “That Great City.”

He refers to **Revelation 14 (KJV):8** And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.

And to **Revelation 17 (KJV):1** And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither; I will shew unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters:

And to **Revelation 18 (KJV):1** And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory. 2 And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the

habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird.

As far as there are different angels mentioned in these verses, there are different events. But the context in Revelation, chapter 18, shows us that chapter 18 is a lament for what happened in Revelation 17:16-18. And so we read as in **Revelation 18 (KJV):**9 And the kings of the earth, who have committed fornication and lived deliciously with her, shall bewail her, and lament for her, when they shall see the smoke of her burning, 10 Standing afar off for the fear of her torment, saying, Alas, alas that great city Babylon, that mighty city! for in one hour is thy judgment come. 11 And the merchants of the earth shall weep and mourn over her; for no man buyeth their merchandise any more: 12 The merchandise of gold, and silver, and precious stones, and of pearls, and fine linen, and purple, and silk, and scarlet, and all thyine wood, and all manner vessels of ivory, and all manner vessels of most precious wood, and of brass, and iron, and marble, 13 And cinnamon, and odours, and ointments, and frankincense, and wine, and oil, and fine flour, and wheat, and beasts, and sheep, and horses, and chariots, and slaves, and souls of men. 14 And the fruits that thy soul lusted after are departed from thee, and all things which were dainty and goodly are departed from thee, and thou shalt find them no more at all. 15 The merchants of these things, which were made rich by her, shall stand afar off for the fear of her torment, weeping and wailing, 16 And saying, Alas, alas that great city, that was clothed in fine linen, and purple, and scarlet, and decked with gold, and precious stones, and pearls! 17 For in one hour so great riches is come to nought. And every shipmaster, and all the company in ships, and sailors, and as many as trade by sea, stood afar off, 18 And cried when they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, What city is like unto this great city! 19 And they cast dust on their heads, and cried, weeping and wailing, saying, Alas, alas that great city, wherein were made rich all that had ships in the sea by reason of her costliness! for in one hour is she made desolate.

The kings of the earth “lament for her” in verse 9. And “the merchants of the earth shall weep and mourn over her” in verse 11, and they were “weeping and wailing” in verse 15, and “every shipmaster” cried and was “weeping and wailing” in verse 17 to 19. The reason was because of their loss of riches, for their trade was with the city.

The burning was of the city, which was the “**Woman**”, which was the means of their trade, as we read again in **Revelation 17 (KJV):**16 And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire. 17 For God hath put in their hearts to fulfill his will, and to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled. 18 And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth.

The center of their trade was gone when the “**Woman**” burned. This is why they are wailing.

And on page 131 of the pdf of The Book of Revelation, by Clarence Larkin, Larkin says, “That the ancient city of Babylon was destroyed there can be no question, but when we affirm that it is to be rebuilt and again destroyed we are met with two objections.

1. That all the Old Testament prophecies in reference to its destruction have been literally fulfilled, and that it cannot be rebuilt.

2. As there is no city of Babylon now in existence the references in the Book of Revelation to the destruction of such a city must be symbolical and not refer to a literal city.”

In rebuttal to these objections, Larkin refers in context to **Isaiah 13 (KJV):19** And Babylon, the glory of kingdoms, the beauty of the Chaldees' excellency, shall be as when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah. 20 It shall never be inhabited, neither shall it be dwelt in from generation to generation: neither shall the Arabian pitch tent there; neither shall the shepherds make their fold there.

And in context to **Jeremiah 51 (KJV):42** The sea is come up upon Babylon: she is covered with the multitude of the waves thereof. 43 Her cities are a desolation, a dry land, and a wilderness, a land wherein no man dwelleth, neither doth any son of man pass thereby. 44 And I will punish Bel in Babylon, and I will bring forth out of his mouth that which he hath swallowed up: and the nations shall not flow together any more unto him: yea, the wall of Babylon shall fall.

And in context to **Jeremiah 51 (KJV):24** And I will render unto Babylon and to all the inhabitants of Chaldea all their evil that they have done in Zion in your sight, saith the Lord. 25 Behold, I am against thee, O destroying mountain, saith the Lord, which destroyest all the earth: and I will stretch out mine hand upon thee, and roll thee down from the rocks, and will make thee a burnt mountain. 26 And they shall not take of thee a stone for a corner, nor a stone for foundations; but thou shalt be desolate for ever, saith the Lord.

And this was in part fulfilled by the Medes and the Persians, as we continue in **Jeremiah 51 (KJV):27** Set ye up a standard in the land, blow the trumpet among the nations, prepare the nations against her, call together against her the kingdoms of Ararat, Minni, and Ashchenaz; appoint a captain against her; cause the horses to come up as the rough caterpillers. 28 Prepare against her the nations with the kings of the Medes, the captains thereof, and all the rulers thereof, and all the land of his dominion. 29 And the land shall tremble and sorrow: for every purpose of the Lord shall be performed against Babylon, to make the land of Babylon a desolation without an inhabitant.

But the main objection to Babylon not being rebuilt is the right interpretation of Revelation, chapters 17 and 18. The “**Woman**” is the “**City**”, and the “**City**” is Rome, which is now “Mystery, Babylon the Great, the Mother of Harlots and Abominations of the Earth”.

When the Antichrist sets himself up in the temple in Jerusalem and declares himself God, and the ten kings burn Rome, the center of the reign of Antichrist will change.

Then on page 136 of the pdf of The Book of Revelation, by Clarence Larkin, he says, “But I hear a protest. How you say can we be expecting Jesus to come at “any moment,” if the city of Babylon must be rebuilt before He can come? There is not a word in Scripture that says that Jesus cannot come and take away His Church until Babylon is rebuilt. The Church may be taken out of the world 25 or even 50 years before that.”

But there is a Scripture that says that, when He that restrains is taken out of the way, the “lawless one will be revealed”, as we read in **2 Thessalonians 2 (KJV):6** And you know what restrains him now, so that he will be revealed in his time. 7 For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains will do so until He is removed. 8 Then that lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will eliminate with the breath of His mouth and bring to an end by the appearance of His coming; 9 that is, the one whose coming is in accord with the

activity of Satan, with all power and false signs and wonders, 10 and with all the deception of wickedness for those who perish, because they did not accept the love of the truth so as to be saved.

The Scripture does not allow for “25 or even 50 years” for the “lawless one” to “be revealed” after the Church is raptured. In fact, the tribulation week of seven years will begin after the Church is raptured, for it is then that God will again deal with Israel. So it is very unlikely that Babylon will be rebuilt, or that it needs to be rebuilt to fulfill the Scriptures.

All of the prophecies concerning Babylon will be fulfilled, if not by the literal city itself, then by Mystery Babylon the Great, the Mother of Harlots and Abominations of the Earth.



## The Marriage of the Lamb

On page 141 of the pdf of The Book of Revelation, by Clarence Larkin, he says, “We must not forget that there are “Two Brides” mentioned in the Scriptures. One in the Old Testament, and the other in the New. The one in the Old Testament is Israel, the Bride of Jehovah; the one in the New Testament is the Church, the Bride of Christ. Of Israel it is said – “Thy Maker is Thine husband.” Isa. 54:5-8. Because of her Whoredoms, Israel is a cast off WIFE, but God, her husband, promises to take her back when she ceases from her adulteries. Jer. 3:1-18; Ez. 16:1-63; Hosea 2:1-23; 3:1-5. She will not be taken back as a Virgin, but as a WIFE. But it is a VIRGIN that the Lamb (Christ) is to marry. So the Wife (Israel) of the Old Testament cannot be the BRIDE (Virgin) of the New Testament. Again the Wife (Israel) is to reside in the earthly Jerusalem during the Millennium, while the BRIDE (the Church) will reside in the New Jerusalem. These distinctions make it clear that Israel cannot be the “Bride” of Christ. We must remember that John did not call the bride – WIFE, until Rev. 21:9, which was after the marriage, when she was no longer Bride but WIFE.

And Larkin adds, “Many assume that the “Bride” is composed of all the saints from Abel down to the time of the taking out of the Church, but this cannot be so, for the Church did not exist until the Day of Pentecost, and only those who live and die in Christ between Pentecost and the taking out of the Church belong to the Church.”

Paul speaks of a “great mystery” concerning “Christ and the church”, as we read in context in **Ephesians 5 (KJV):**22 Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. 23 For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body. 24 Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing. 25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; 26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, 27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish. 28 So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself. 29 For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church: 30 For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones. 31 For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. 32 This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church. 33 Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband.

We know that Christ died for all, and that there is only one way into the Kingdom, and that is by faith in Jesus Christ. This is true for all, whether our faith was in the Old Testament or the New Testament. We must “all appear before the judgment seat of Christ”, as we read in **2 Corinthians 5 (KJV):**10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.

All believers will receive a reward according to what we have done.

Now we read again what Larkin concludes on page 141 of the pdf, “Again the Wife (Israel) is to reside in the earthly Jerusalem during the Millennium, while the BRIDE (the

Church) will reside in the New Jerusalem. These distinctions make it clear that Israel cannot be the “Bride” of Christ. We must remember that John did not call the bride – WIFE, until Rev. 21:9, which was after the marriage, when she was no longer Bride but WIFE.”

He refers here to “the BRIDE (the Church)”, so in context, to the “marriage of the Lamb” in **Revelation 19 (KJV):7** Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. 8 And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. 9 And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God.

Then he refers to the “Millennium”, as we read in context in **Revelation 20 (KJV):4** And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. 5 But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. 6 Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

All who have “part in the first resurrection” shall “be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years”.

Then he refers to “the New Jerusalem”, which is not mentioned in the Scripture until we read in context in **Revelation 21 (KJV):9** And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb's wife. 10 And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, 11 Having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal; 12 And had a wall great and high, and had twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and names written thereon, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel: 13 On the east three gates; on the north three gates; on the south three gates; and on the west three gates. 14 And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

Larkin does not say how he knows that the church will reside in the New Jerusalem during the millennium. However, we read the words of Jesus in **Matthew 19 (KJV):28** And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

Jesus will sit on the “throne of his glory” when He comes to judge the nations, and to decide who will enter the kingdom during the millennium, as we read in **Matthew 25 (KJV):31** When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: 32 And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: 33 And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.

His judgment will be based on how the nations treated the Jews during the tribulation period, as we continue in **Matthew 25 (KJV):34** Then shall the King say unto them on his right

hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: 35 For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: 36 Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. 37 Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? 38 When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? 39 Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? 40 And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me. 41 Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels: 42 For I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink: 43 I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not. 44 Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee? 45 Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me. 46 And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.

Now the Scripture is not saying that all who entered the millennial kingdom were saved, since the judgment was only based on how they treated the Jews, and not on their faith in Christ. Satan will be bound for a thousand years, but at the end of the thousand years he will be loosed, and gather a great multitude for one final battle, as we read in **Revelation 20 (KJV):7** And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, 8 And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog, and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea. 9 And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them. 10 And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

The apostles will be judging the twelve tribes of Israel during the millennium, so the church will be reigning with Christ on earth during the millennium. And Jesus will reign from Jerusalem, as we read in **Luke 1 (KJV):32** He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David:

And in **Psalms 2 (KJV):7** I will declare the decree: the Lord hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee. 8 Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession. 9 Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel. 10 Be wise now therefore, O ye kings: be instructed, ye judges of the earth. 11 Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling. 12 Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish from the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they that put their trust in him.

And in **Isaiah 2 (KJV):1** The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. 2 And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. 3 And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to

the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. 4 And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

During the millennium, Jesus will rule with a “rod of iron”, as we read in **Revelation 19 (KJV):15** And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

Now we must understand that, the term, “wife” as it relates to the Lord, is only symbolic of the intimacy that we will all share with Him. It simply describes our oneness in the Lord. We read again of the Lamb’s wife in **Revelation 21 (KJV):9** And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb's wife.

He is speaking of a city, as we continue in **Revelation 21 (KJV):10** And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, 11 Having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal; 12 And had a wall great and high, and had twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and names written thereon, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel: 13 On the east three gates; on the north three gates; on the south three gates; and on the west three gates. 14 And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

So there were twelve gates to this city, and there were “names written thereon, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel”. And there were twelve foundations, “and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb”. This seems to indicate that all believers will be included in this city, which is the “Lamb’s wife”.

Now on page 143 of the pdf of The Book of Revelation, by Clarence Larkin, he summarizes his thoughts, as he says, “So after the “Marriage of the Lamb” the Heavenly Bridegroom will take His Bride on a wedding trip, and to what more suitable place can they go than back to the old home of the Bride, this earth. The place where the Bridegroom suffered and died to purchase her redemption with His own precious blood. The place where her people rejected Him, and despised His Royal claims. Then He will show them that He was no imposter, that He was what He claimed to be, the Son of God. He will then set up His Earthly Kingdom, and the Lord God shall give unto Him the “THRONE OF DAVID,” and His Bride (The Church) shall reign with Him for a THOUSAND YEARS. Oh what a sweet and delightful “HONEY-MOON” that will be, when, during that long “Millennial Reign” the earth shall be blessed with the presence of the King of Kings and His Consort – THE CHURCH. But that long “Honey-Moon” will end, not for the Bridegroom and the Bride, but for the Earth, by the return of the Bridegroom and the Bride to the Father’s House. Then after the Earth has had its “Baptism of Fire,” they will return with the descent of the “Holy City” to abide on the “New Earth” forever.”

Larkin is clear here that the CHURCH will be on “a sweet and delightful “HONEY-MOON” that will be, when, during that long “Millennial Reign” the earth shall be blessed with the presence of the King of Kings and His Consort – THE CHURCH.”

Now we read again what Larkin concludes on page 168, “Again the Wife (Israel) is to reside in the earthly Jerusalem during the Millennium, while the BRIDE (the Church) will reside in the New Jerusalem. These distinctions make it clear that Israel cannot be the “Bride” of Christ. We must remember that John did not call the bride – WIFE, until Rev. 21:9, which was after the marriage, when she was no longer Bride but WIFE.”

He seems to contradict himself here. But the Scripture is clear. The Church will be reigning with Christ on earth during the millennium. And since the New Jerusalem is represented by the names of the twelve tribes of Israel and the twelve apostles, it seems clear that all believers will be welcome in the New Jerusalem.

## Russian Invasion of Israel

On page 146-147 of the pdf of The Book of Revelation, by Clarence Larkin, Larkin refers to the supper of the great God in **Revelation 19 (KJV):**17 And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; 18 That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great. 19 And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army. 20 And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone. 21 And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh.

And Larkin says, "This "Feast" is described in the Old Testament.

"And, thou son of man, thus saith the Lord God, Speak unto every feathered fowl, and to every beast of the field, Assemble yourselves, and come, gather yourselves on every side to My Sacrifice, that I do sacrifice for you, even a great sacrifice upon the Mountains of Israel, that ye may eat flesh, and drink blood. Ye shall eat the flesh of the Mighty, and drink the blood of the Princes of the Earth, of rams, of lambs, and of goats, of bullocks, all of them fatlings of Bashan. And ye shall eat fat till ye be full, and drink blood till ye be drunken. . . . Thus ye shall be filled 'at My Table,' with horses and chariots (their occupants), with Mighty Men, and with all Men of War, said the Lord God." Ez. 39:1-22."

However, Dr. Albert Grimes says, "In the past, the chapters of Ezekiel 38 and 39 have been placed with the chapters of Revelation 14 and 19. It has been suggested that they all describe the same event, the battle of Armageddon. However a close study of Ezekiel 38 and 39 and Revelation 14 and 19 reveals the fact that two different periods of time are dealt with, and that the events are absolutely different.

For instance in Ezekiel 38:1-6, it distinctly gives details regarding an invasion from the North, and mentions the land of Russia and its dictator. It also gives a list of Russian allies. "Son of Man, set thy face against Gog, the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal." The word "Gog" means "prince or dictator". The word "Magog" means "the Land of the North". The names "Meshech and Tubal" refer to two provinces which joined together north of the Black Sea.

The list of Russian allies are mentioned in Ezekiel 38:5,6, "Persia, Ethiopia and Libya with them; and all of them with shields and helmets. 6 Gomer and all his bands; the house of Togarmah, of the north quarters and all his bands; and many people with thee."

Revelation 16:14 is different, "For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty."

Here we have a battle where the armies of the whole world are involved, and the same thought is brought out in Revelation 19:19, "And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and

their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his armies."

Then the Kings of the East are also mentioned in Revelation 16:12, "... that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared". All these references in Revelation refer to the Battle of Armageddon.

These nations are destroyed by the armies of Christ as stated in Revelation 19:14,15, "...he should smite the nations..." But in Ezekiel 38:22, it states, "And I will plead against him with pestilence and with blood; and I will rain upon him, and upon his lands, and upon the many people that are with him, an overflowing rain, and great hailstones, fire and brimstone." This is the way God destroys the hosts that come against Israel.

It is quite evident that in the battle of Armageddon, all the nations of the world are involved. But in the invasion upon the State of Israel, only Russia and her allies are involved. Then a close study of the conditions in regards to the invasion of the northern nations upon the State of Israel reveals conditions that are different from those found in the Battle of Armageddon.

Before the northern invasion takes place, the conditions existing in the State of Israel are, as pointed out in Ezekiel 38:8, "...in the latter years thou shalt come into a land that is brought back from the sword...", referring to the wars which Israel is now having with the Arabs, in order to gain back the State of Israel. "...And they shall dwell safely all of them." After they have taken the land, or brought it back by the sword, Israel will dwell safely in the land. The building of towns and villages will be so rapid that neither walls nor gates will be built around them as Ezekiel 38:11 states, "And thou shalt say I will go up to the land of unwalled villages, I will go to them that are at rest, that dwell safely all of them dwelling without walls, and having neither bars nor gates." These are the conditions that will exist in the State of Israel at the time of the invasion.

However when we study the conditions existing in the world just before the Battle of Armageddon, we find from Revelation 13 and 15 that the world is under the domination of the Antichrist and the False Prophet.

In Revelation chapter 16 records the seven vials of the wrath of God being poured upon the earth, and it is while these vials of wrath are being poured out that the Dragon and the Beast and the False Prophet gather the kings of the world to battle, against the Coming Christ. For Revelation 16:13,14 states, "And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. 14 For they are the spirits of devils working miracles, which go forth, unto the kings of the earth, and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty." Thus the conditions are altogether different.

Then these battles take place in different places as pointed out in scripture. The invasion of Russia upon the State of Israel will take place from the north of Israel as Ezekiel 38:15 relates, "And thou shalt come from thy place out of the north parts, thou and many people with thee, all of them riding upon horses, a great company and a mighty army."

This invasion will take place in the northern part of Israel, whereas the Battle of Armageddon will take place in the valley called Armageddon which would be located southeast of Mt. Carmel. As already stated, these armies will come from all over the world as Revelation

16:14 states, "These are the spirits of devils working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty." The evidence from scripture points out that these two events have to do with two different battles. It is also evident that the Battle of Armageddon will take place at the end of the tribulation period, at the Revelation of Christ, for it is the armies of the Satanic Trinity and the armies of Christ that are in conflict.

But the invasion of the State of Israel by the Russians is stated as taking place in the latter years, as Ezekiel 38:8 records, "After many days thou shalt be visited in the latter years..." The term "latter years" is related to the time when Israel will be at rest in their own land as stated in Ezekiel 38:8,11, "...they shall dwell safely all of them...11...I will go to them that are at rest, that dwell safely..."

This could be referring to conditions existing in the State of Israel in the near future, and it is possible that we might see this invasion before the rapture of the Saints takes place.

**Dr. Albert Grimes, Book 10, Part 1, Future Events According to the Scriptures, pages 8-9.**



## The Second Death

On page 151 of the pdf of The Book of Revelation, by Clarence Larkin, Larkin says, “We read – “Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the ‘FIRST Resurrection’; on such the ‘SECOND DEATH’ hath no power.””

He refers to **Revelation 20 (KJV):6** Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

Larkin continues, “What is the “SECOND DEATH”? First, what is DEATH? It is the separation of the “soul” and “spirit” from the “body.” That is the “FIRST DEATH.” At the Resurrection the “soul” and “spirit” are reunited to the “body.” This is true of both the Righteous and the Wicked.”

Actually, physical death is the separation of the “soul” and “spirit” from the “body”. But we must understand that there is spiritual death also, and this is the separation of our spirit from God. When a believer is born again, their spirit is given eternal life by the Spirit of God who gives birth to their spirit. He or she is then joined to the Lord, as we read in **1 Corinthians 6 (KJV):17** But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit.

The soul will then undergo a progressive sanctification until physical death, which is the separation of the soul and spirit from the body. But if one is not a believer, and has not been born again, they will remain in spiritual death when they die physically. Their bodies will be resurrected at the White Throne judgment, as we read in **Revelation 20 (KJV):11** And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. **12** And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. **13** And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. **14** And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. **15** And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

Jesus describes such death in **Matthew 10 (KJV):28** And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

The soul and body are not annihilated in hell. The sense of the word “destroy” in this verse is “rendered useless”. Now we read of the parable of the rich man and Lazarus in **Luke 16 (KJV):19** There was a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day: **20** And there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, which was laid at his gate, full of sores, **21** And desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table: moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. **22** And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried; **23** And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. **24** And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented

in this flame. 25 But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented. 26 And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that would come from thence. 27 Then he said, I pray thee therefore, father, that thou wouldest send him to my father's house: 28 For I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment. 29 Abraham saith unto him, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them. 30 And he said, Nay, father Abraham: but if one went unto them from the dead, they will repent. 31 And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead.

In verse 24, the rich man wanted Abraham to “dip the tip of his finger in water”, and cool his “tongue”. The body is not annihilated in Hell, but rendered useless, and tormented. The beast and the false prophet were cast alive into the lake of fire, as we read in **Revelation 20 (KJV):**20 And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.

That is, both their soul and spirit, and body, were cast into the lake of fire. This will most likely be the fate of all the unrighteous dead.

Larkin continues, “But the Wicked after they have been raised are to be Judged at the Great White Throne Judgment, and because their names are not found written in the “Book of Life,” they are sentenced to die again, that is, their “soul” and “spirit” are again separated from their “body,” and they go to the “LAKE OF FIRE” without a material body, and as “soul” and “spirit” are incombustible they can remain in the flames of a literal fire for all eternity without being consumed. This is the doom of the Wicked dead. The Rich Man in Hell (Luke 16:19-31) was conscious and tormented in the flame after his death, and he shall remain so until his body shall be raised from the dead at the Resurrection of the Wicked, and when he shall be Judged and condemned at the Great White Throne Judgment, and sentenced to die again, his “soul” and “spirit” will descend to the “Lake of Fire” (the Final Hell), where they will exist in a conscious state and in torment for all eternity. But the “Second Death” has no terror for the Righteous, for the promise is that it shall have no power over them.”

The rich man had a “tongue” in hell. And he was in torment. We can understand the “Second Death” as final separation of the body, soul, and spirit from God. And so we read in **Mark 9 (KJV):**43 And if thy hand offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: 44 Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched. 45 And if thy foot offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter halt into life, than having two feet to be cast into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: 46 Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched. 47 And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out: it is better for thee to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire: 48 Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.

## The Millennium

On page 154 of the pdf of The Book of Revelation, by Clarence Larkin, he says, “The promise that Jesus made to His Disciples that

“In the Regeneration when the Son of Man shall sit on the Throne of His Glory, ye also shall sit upon Twelve Thrones, Judging the Twelve Tribes of Israel.” Matt. 19:28.

in all probability does not refer to the “Millennial Age,” but to the “Perfect Age,” the “Age” that is to follow the renovation of the Earth by fire. The use of the word “regeneration” suggests this, as it refers to the time when the present earth is to be “re-created” and made “new.” It has occurred to the writer that we have not as yet the proper perspective as to all the Old Testament prophecies, and that we are putting in the “Millennial Age” some things that belong to the “Perfect Age.” The one just mentioned for example.

But let us read in context what Jesus said in **Matthew 19 (KJV):23** Then said Jesus unto his disciples, Verily I say unto you, That a rich man shall hardly enter into the kingdom of heaven. 24 And again I say unto you, It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God. 25 When his disciples heard it, they were exceedingly amazed, saying, Who then can be saved? 26 But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible. 27 Then answered Peter and said unto him, Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed thee; what shall we have therefore? 28 And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. 29 And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life. 30 But many that are first shall be last; and the last shall be first.

We must understand that when the “stone” kingdom is set up at the second coming of Christ, there will be changes in the earth, as we read in **Isaiah 35 (KJV):1** The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose. 2 It shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice even with joy and singing: the glory of Lebanon shall be given unto it, the excellency of Carmel and Sharon, they shall see the glory of the Lord, and the excellency of our God.

And in **Isaiah 55 (KJV):13** Instead of the thorn shall come up the fir tree, and instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle tree: and it shall be to the Lord for a name, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

And in **Psalms 67 (KJV):6** Then shall the earth yield her increase; and God, even our own God, shall bless us.

The “creature”, that is, the creation, shall be lifted from the bondage of corruption, as we read in **Romans 8 (KJV):19** For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God. 20 For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope, 21 Because the creature itself also

shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. 22 For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now. 23 And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body. 24 For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for? 25 But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it.

The “redemption of our body” is referring to our resurrection. When we see Him we will be like Him, as we read in **1 John 3 (KJV):2** Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

Then the animal life will be changed in the kingdom, as we read in **Isaiah 11 (KJV):6** The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. 7 And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. 8 And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den. 9 They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea. 10 And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious.

So this change that will take place in the earth's condition when Christ comes is called in scripture “the regeneration”. It is not the perfect earth, but it will be in the time of the millennium.

So the apostles shall have a place of authority in Israel, as we read again in **Matthew 19 (KJV):28** And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

The age of human life will be restored to what it was in the time before the flood, as we read in **Isaiah 65 (KJV):20** There shall be no more thence an infant of days, nor an old man that hath not filled his days: for the child shall die an hundred years old; but the sinner being an hundred years old shall be accursed.

## Prophecy Will Cease

On page 42 of the pdf of The Book of Revelation, by Clarence Larkin, he says, “When the “Transgression of ISRAEL” has ceased and they have uninterrupted communion with God, there will no longer be any need for “Vision” or “Prophet.” It is a noteworthy fact that “Vision” and “Prophecy” has been confined to the Jewish race.”

He refers to **Daniel 9 (KJV):24** Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy.

And we read in **Zechariah 13 (KJV):1** In that day there shall be a fountain opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness. 2 And it

shall come to pass in that day, saith the Lord of hosts, that I will cut off the names of the idols out of the land, and they shall no more be remembered: and also I will cause the prophets and the unclean spirit to pass out of the land. 3 And it shall come to pass, that when any shall yet prophesy, then his father and his mother that begat him shall say unto him, Thou shalt not live; for thou speakest lies in the name of the Lord: and his father and his mother that begat him shall thrust him through when he prophesieth. 4 And it shall come to pass in that day, that the prophets shall be ashamed every one of his vision, when he hath prophesied; neither shall they wear a rough garment to deceive: 5 But he shall say, I am no prophet, I am an husbandman; for man taught me to keep cattle from my youth.

And we read in **1 Corinthians 13 (KJV):**8 Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away. 9 For we know in part, and we prophesy in part. 10 But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away. 11 When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things. 12 For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.

When He appears, we shall be like Him, as we read in **1 John 3 (KJV):**1 Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. 2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

There will be no need for prophecy when the perfect is come.