

Week #5

Old and New Testament Prophecies of the End Times

A 6-week Bible study on what the Bible says (and doesn't say) about this important subject.

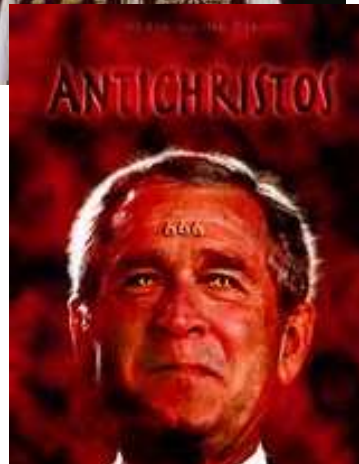
**Good Shepherd's Lutheran Church
West Allis, Wisconsin
September & October, 2017**



Do you believe there is or will be an Antichrist (as well as many antichrists)?



ANTICHRIST



Dear children, this is the last hour; and as you have heard that **the antichrist** is coming, even now **many antichrists** have come. This is how we know it is the last hour. (1 John 2:18).

Do you believe there is or will be an Antichrist (as well as many antichrists)?

- Don't let anyone deceive you in any way, for that day will not come until the rebellion occurs and **the man of lawlessness** is revealed, **the man doomed to destruction**. He will oppose and will exalt himself over everything that is called God or is worshiped, so that he sets himself up in God's temple, proclaiming himself to be God. (2 Thessalonians 2:3-4).



Do you believe in a millennium?



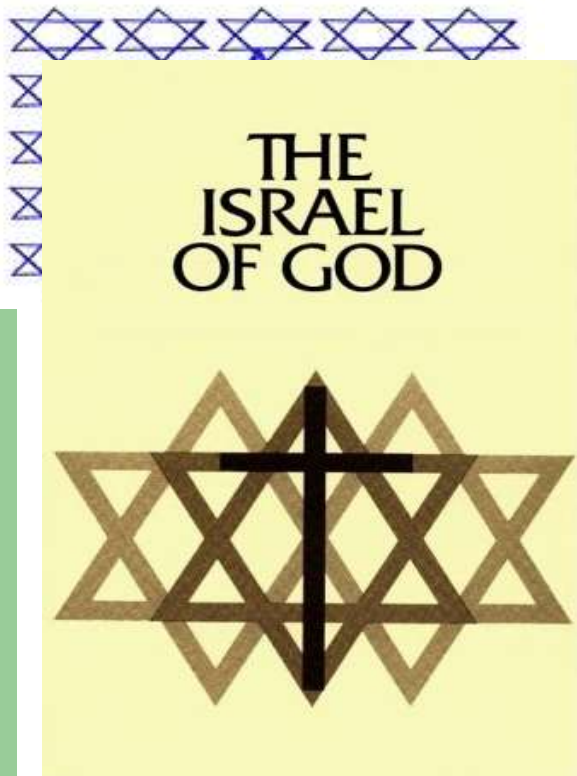
- And I saw an angel coming down out of heaven . . . He seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil, or Satan, and bound him for **a thousand years**. He threw him into the Abyss, and locked and sealed it over him, to keep him from deceiving the nations anymore until **the thousand years** were ended. After that, he must be set free for a short time. (Revelation 20:1-3).

Do you believe in a rapture?



- The Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, **we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air.** (1 Th 4:16–17)

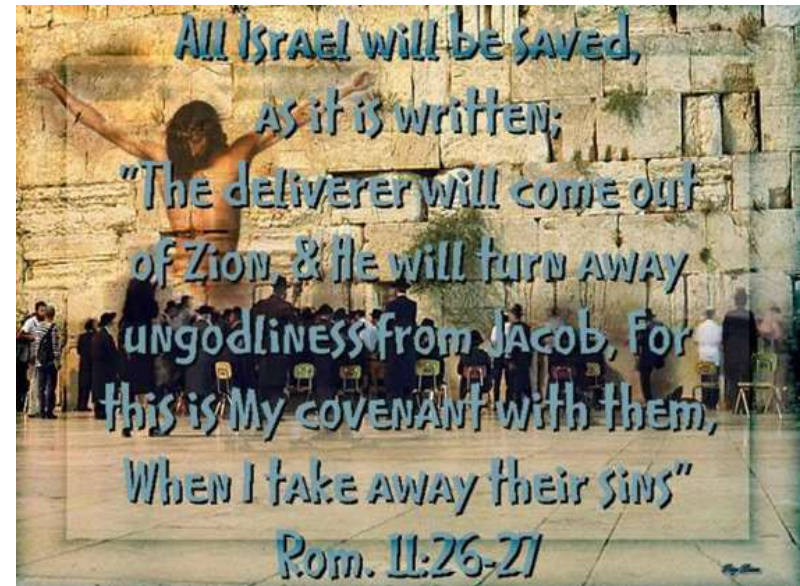
Do you believe in the gathering and salvation of Israel?



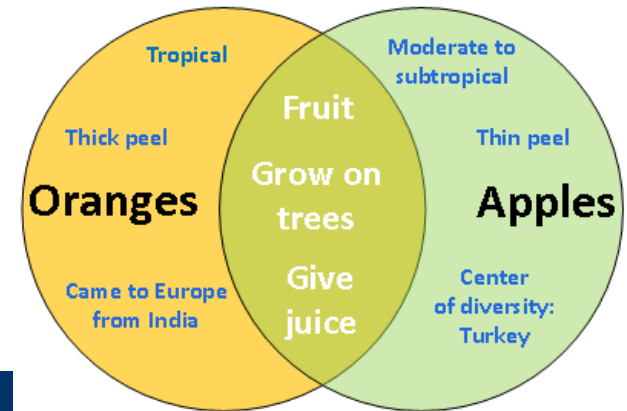
- And so **all Israel will be saved**, as it is written: “The deliverer will come from Zion; he will turn godlessness away from Jacob. (Romans 11:26)
- Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything; what counts is a new creation. 16 Peace and mercy to all who follow this rule, even to the Israel of God. (Ga 6:15–16)

And who is “Israel”?

- Not all who are descended from Israel are Israel. Nor because they are his descendants are they all Abraham’s children. . . It is not the natural children who are God’s children, but it is the children of the promise who are regarded as Abraham’s offspring. (Romans 9:6-8)



Quickie Comparisons



- What would a **futurist** believe about the Antichrist? The Millennium? The Rapture? Etc.
- How about a **historicist** or an **idealist**? (*See Glossary of Terms, page 28 of handouts*)
- What would a **dispensationalist** believe about the Antichrist, Millennium, or Rapture? Etc.
- **The point?** Starting with the same Bible doesn't always mean people will end up with the same beliefs. **Presuppositions are powerful!**

How did the Homework go for you?



- Did you review (again) the diagrams (p. 3) and the summaries of what we and dispensationalists believe (p. 4-7)?
- Did you review (again) basic principles of Bible interpretation (p. 23-24)?
- How about why dispensationalism is false and dangerous (p. 25), **the Glossary of Terms (P 27-28) and the Rise of Futurism?**
- **Did you bring questions with you?**



John 5:24-29

As you read these passages, be asking . . .

- What two different resurrections is Jesus talking about in these verses?
- How many physical resurrections will there be in the future?

John 5:24-29

- **Helpful passages:** *Do these help our understanding of the passage?*
- **What dispensationalists say:** *Can you see how they end up with their beliefs?*
- **What amillennialists say:** *Can you see how we end up with our beliefs?*

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

As you read these passages, be asking . . .

- What was the fear or concern that the believers in Thessalonica had?
- Is it accurate for us to say “we believe in the rapture”? With what clarification?

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

- **Helpful passages:** *Do these help our understanding of the passage?*
- **What dispensationalists say:** *Can you see how they end up with their beliefs?*
- **What amillennialists say:** *Can you see how we end up with our beliefs?*

Revelation 20:1-10

As you read these passages, be asking . . .

- What are reasons in the text itself that point to “1,000 years” as a figurative expression?
- How do the phrases “first resurrection” and “second resurrection” match John 5:24-29?

Revelation 20:1-10

- **Helpful passages:** *Do these help our understanding of the passage?*
- **What dispensationalists say:** *Can you see how they end up with their beliefs?*
- **What amillennialists say:** *Can you see how we end up with our beliefs?*

Homework for this week:

- **Review the material we went through today.**
- **Review the diagrams and belief statements of amillennialists and dispensationalists (p 3—7).**
- **Review Principles of Interpretation (p 23-24), reasons why dispensationalism is false & dangerous (25), the Glossary of terms (p 27-28) and the “Rise of Futurism” handout.**
- **Read pages 26-27, “What can we do about this?” and come with your ideas.**
- **Bring questions with you next week.**





Soli Deo Gloria

F. Bivens, 2017