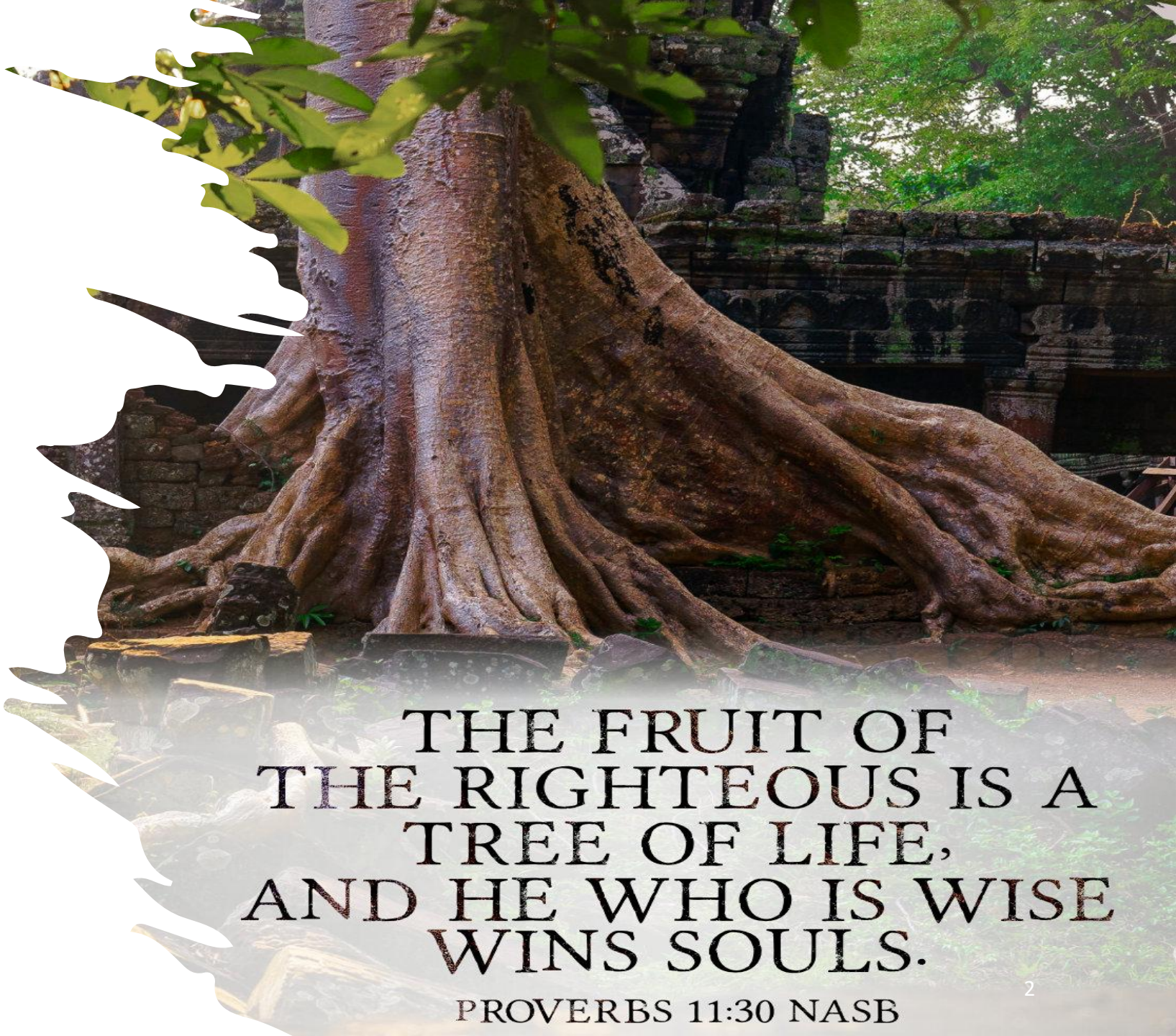
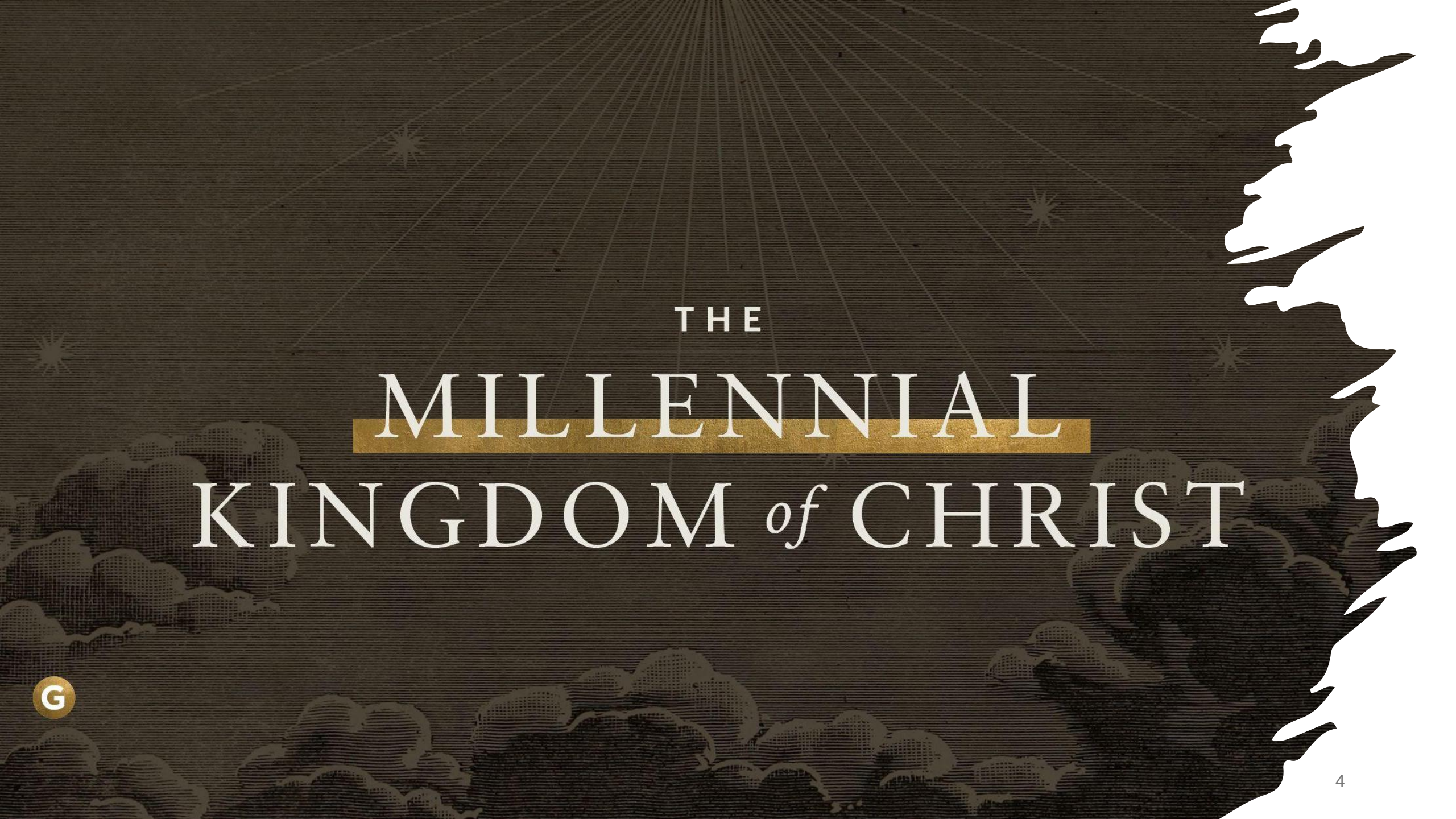
A PRELUDE TO *BIBLICAL* EVANGELISM




THE FRUIT OF
THE RIGHTEOUS IS A
TREE OF LIFE,
AND HE WHO IS WISE
WINS SOULS.
PROVERBS 11:30 NASB

PRINCIPLES FOR BIBLICAL *EVANGELISM* FOUND IN JOHN 4, "THE WOMAN AT THE WELL."

- TAKE
  - *TAKE* THE INITIATIVE! JN. 4:6-9
- OFFER
  - *OFFER* GOD'S MERCY! JN. 4:10-14
- IDENTIFY
  - *IDENTIFY* SPIRITUAL NEEDS! JN. 4:9-10
- CONFRONT
  - *CONFRONT* SIN JN! 4:16-18
- REJECT
  - *REJECT* FALSE WORSHIP! JN. 4:19-24
- REVEAL
  - *REVEAL* CHRIST! JN. 4:25-26


THE
MILLENNIAL
KINGDOM of CHRIST

THE *MILLENNIAL* KINGDOM

- ***THE MILLENNIAL KINGDOM*** is called by many names in Scripture.
- In **(MATT. 19:28)** ***JESUS*** calls it ***"THE REGENERATION."***
- **(ACTS 3:19)** describes the kingdom as ***"TIMES OF REFRESHING,"*** while **verse 21** of that chapter calls it ***"THE PERIOD OF RESTORATION OF ALL THINGS."***
- The apostle ***PAUL*** refers to it in **(EPH. 1:10)** as ***"AN ADMINISTRATION SUITABLE TO THE FULLNESS OF THE TIMES."***
- But the Bible's teaching on the kingdom is not confined to the New Testament. ***THE KINGDOM IS AN IMPORTANT THEME THROUGHOUT SCRIPTURE***; it is the goal toward which ***ALL OF REDEMPTIVE HISTORY PROGRESSES.***

THIS IS *WHERE* WE'VE BEEN

- **THE 3 MAJOR VIEWS OF THE *MILLENNIAL* KINGDOM.**

PREMILLENNIALISM, AMILLENNIALISM, POSTMILLENNIALISM.

- **THE *REMOVAL* OF *SATAN.***
- **THE *BINDING* OF *SATAN.***
- **THE *DURATION* OF THE *INCARCERATION***
- **THE *CHRONOLOGY* OF THE *KINGDOM***

THE *REIGN* OF THE *SAINTS*

SATAN'S work in the world is evident in how he influences unbelievers **(EPH. 2:2; 2 TIM. 2:26)** and blinds them from understanding the truth of the gospel **(2 COR. 4:4)**. But that manipulation—and all his other schemes—will be completely halted ***BEFORE*** the ***MILLENNIAL KINGDOM*** **(REV. 20:1–3).**

Yet this great ***ARREST OF SATAN*** and his malignity merely sets the stage for the kingdom, where ***CHRIST WILL REIGN ON EARTH WITH HIS SAINTS.*** This is described in **(REV. 20:4–6)** :

"THEN I SAW THRONES, AND THEY SAT ON THEM, AND JUDGMENT WAS GIVEN TO THEM. AND I SAW THE SOULS OF THOSE WHO HAD BEEN BEHEADED BECAUSE OF THEIR TESTIMONY OF JESUS AND BECAUSE OF THE WORD OF GOD…"

- *AND THOSE WHO HAD NOT WORSHIPED THE BEAST OR HIS IMAGE AND HAD NOT RECEIVED THE MARK ON THEIR FOREHEAD AND ON THEIR HAND; AND THEY CAME TO LIFE AND REIGNED WITH CHRIST FOR A THOUSAND YEARS.* **5,** *THE REST OF THE DEAD DID NOT COME TO LIFE UNTIL THE THOUSAND YEARS WERE COMPLETED. THIS IS THE FIRST RESURRECTION.* **6,** *BLESSED AND HOLY IS THE ONE WHO HAS A PART IN THE FIRST RESURRECTION; OVER THESE THE SECOND DEATH HAS NO POWER, BUT THEY WILL BE PRIESTS OF GOD AND OF CHRIST AND WILL REIGN WITH HIM FOR A THOUSAND YEARS.”*

- ***WITH SATAN, HIS DEMON HOSTS, AND ALL GOD-REJECTING SINNERS OUT OF THE WAY, THE MILLENNIAL KINGDOM OF PEACE AND RIGHTEOUSNESS WILL BE ESTABLISHED.***
- The supreme ruler in that kingdom will be, of course, the ***LORD JESUS CHRIST***. He alone is ***"KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS"*** **(19:16),** and ***"THE LORD GOD WILL GIVE HIM [ALONE] THE THRONE OF HIS FATHER DAVID"*** **(LK 1:32).**
- Yet ***HE (JESUS) HAS GRACIOUSLY PROMISED THAT HIS SAINTS WILL REIGN WITH HIM***.
- They will rule subordinately over every aspect of life in the kingdom, and, ***BEING GLORIFIED AND PERFECTED, THEY WILL PERFECTLY CARRY OUT HIS WILL.***

- In this vision, ***JOHN*** sees the panorama of God's people ***RESURRECTED***, ***REWARDED***, and ***REIGNING*** with Christ.
- He ***"SAW THRONES"*** **(REV. 20:4),** symbolizing both ***JUDICIAL AND REGAL AUTHORITY***, and God's people ***"SAT ON THEM, AND JUDGMENT WAS GIVEN TO THEM."*** **THE GLORIFIED SAINTS** will both enforce god's will and adjudicate disputes.
- Several ***SUGGESTIONS*** have been offered concerning the ***IDENTITY OF THE SAINTS ON THE THRONES***, but they can best be identified by determining who ***GOD PROMISED WOULD REIGN***.

- **(DAN. 7:27)** promises that the ***OLD TEST. SAINTS WILL REIGN IN THE MILLENNIAL KINGDOM:***

"THEN THE SOVEREIGNTY, THE DOMINION AND THE GREATNESS OF ALL THE KINGDOMS UNDER THE WHOLE HEAVEN WILL BE GIVEN TO THE PEOPLE OF THE SAINTS OF THE HIGHEST ONE; HIS KINGDOM WILL BE AN EVERLASTING KINGDOM, AND ALL THE DOMINIONS WILL SERVE AND OBEY HIM."

- ***JESUS PROMISED THE APOSTLES*** that:

"YOU WHO HAVE FOLLOWED ME, IN THE REGENERATION WHEN THE SON OF MAN WILL SIT ON HIS GLORIOUS THRONE, YOU ALSO SHALL SIT UPON TWELVE THRONES, JUDGING THE TWELVE TRIBES OF ISRAEL" **(MATT. 19:28).**

- ***NEW TEST. BELIEVERS*** are also promised that ***THEY WILL REIGN WITH CHRIST***. In **(1 COR. 6:2)** ***PAUL*** wrote, ***"DO YOU NOT KNOW THAT THE SAINTS WILL JUDGE THE WORLD?"*** while **(2 TIM. 2:12)** declares, ***"IF WE ENDURE, WE WILL ALSO REIGN WITH HIM"*** **(ALSO REV. 2:26; 3:21; 5:10).**
- The next passage introduces the last group of **saints who will reign with Christ** in His kingdom. As his vision continued, **JOHN** ***"SAW THE SOULS OF THOSE WHO HAD BEEN BEHEADED BECAUSE OF THEIR TESTIMONY OF JESUS AND BECAUSE OF THE WORD OF GOD, AND THOSE WHO HAD NOT WORSHIPED THE BEAST OR HIS IMAGE AND HAD NOT RECEIVED THE MARK ON THEIR FOREHEAD AND ON THEIR HAND"*** **(REV. 20:4).**
- These are the ***MARTYRED BELIEVERS*** from the **Tribulation (6:9; 7:9–17; 12:11).** The Greek term for ***"BEHEADED"*** literally means ***"TO CUT OFF WITH AN AXE"*** and is a figure of speech meaning ***"TO PUT TO DEATH"*** or ***"TO EXECUTE."***

The empire of ***ANTICHRIST*** exterminated ***TRIBULATION SAINTS*** because of their ***TESTIMONY OF JESUS.*** **(cf. 1:9; 12:17; 19:10),** because they:

1. ***FAITHFULLY PROCLAIMED THE WORD OF GOD***.
2. ***THEY HAD NOT WORSHIPED THE BEAST OR HIS IMAGE.***
3. ***HAD NOT RECEIVED THE MARK ON THEIR FOREHEAD AND ON THEIR HAND***.

THE *FIRST* RESURRECTION

- Because the ***TRIBULATION SAINTS*** were faithful to death, evidencing their true salvation **(CF. MATT. 24:13; HEB. 3:14),** ***JOHN*** saw them also ***"[COME] TO LIFE AND [REIGN] WITH CHRIST FOR A THOUSAND YEARS"*** **(REV. 20:4).** The Greek word ***EZĒSAN*** **("THEY CAME TO LIFE")** cannot refer to a ***spiritual resurrection*** **(REGENERATION** OR **THE NEW BIRTH),** since the Tribulation martyrs were already **spiritually** alive.
- When used in connection with physical death, the root form of ***EZĒSAN*** is used throughout the New Testament to describe ***PHYSICAL, BODILY RESURRECTION*** **(CF. 1:18; 2:8; 13:14; 20:5; MATT. 9:18; JN. 11:25).**

- Then ***JOHN*** adds the ***parenthetical*** footnote that ***"THE REST OF THE DEAD DID NOT COME TO LIFE UNTIL THE THOUSAND YEARS WERE COMPLETED"*** **(REV. 20:5).**
- These are the ***UNBELIEVING DEAD OF ALL AGES***, whose resurrection to judgment and damnation is described in **VERSES 11–15**.
- ***JOHN*** calls the ***RESURRECTION OF THE SAINTS*** from all ages ***"THE FIRST RESURRECTION."***
- Scripture also calls that resurrection the ***"RESURRECTION OF THE RIGHTEOUS"*** **(LK. 14:14; ACTS. 24:15),** the ***"RESURRECTION OF LIFE"*** **(JN. 5:29)**,
- The resurrection of ***"THOSE WHO ARE CHRIST'S AT HIS COMING"*** **(1 COR. 15:23),** and
- The ***"BETTER RESURRECTION"*** **(HEB. 11:35).**

- The use of ***ANASTASIS*** here for ***"RESURRECTION"*** offers further evidence that **VERSE 4** refers to a ***PHYSICAL RESURRECTION***. That word is used **42** times in the New Testament, always of a physical resurrection **(except in LK. 2:34, where the context clearly demands another meaning).**
- The phrase ***"BLESSED AND HOLY IS THE ONE WHO HAS A PART IN THE FIRST RESURRECTION"*** **(REV. 20:6)** introduces the ***FIFTH*** of ***SEVEN BEATITUDES*** in Revelation **(cf. 1:3; 14:13; 16:15; 19:9; 22:7, 14).**
- Those who have a part in the ***FIRST RESURRECTION*** are blessed first of all because ***"THE SECOND DEATH HAS NO POWER [OVER THEM]."***
- Remember, ***"THE SECOND DEATH,"*** identified in **VERSE 14** as ***"THE LAKE OF FIRE,"*** is ***ETERNAL HELL***.

- ***THE COMFORTING TRUTH*** is that ***NO GENUINE CHILD OF GOD*** will ever face His eternal wrath. ***"HAVING NOW BEEN JUSTIFIED BY HIS BLOOD,"*** ***PAUL*** wrote, ***"WE SHALL BE SAVED FROM THE WRATH OF GOD THROUGH HIM"*** **(ROM. 5:9).**
- Those who participate in the ***FIRST RESURRECTION*** are also blessed because ***"THEY WILL BE PRIESTS OF GOD AND OF CHRIST"*** **(REV. 20:6; CF. 1:6; 5:10).**
- ***BELIEVERS ARE ALREADY "A ROYAL PRIESTHOOD,"*** called to ***"PROCLAIM THE EXCELLENCIES OF HIM WHO HAS CALLED [THEM] OUT OF DARKNESS INTO HIS MARVELOUS LIGHT"*** **(1 PET. 2:9).**

BELIEVERS NOW SERVE AS PRIESTS BY WORSHIPING GOD AND LEADING OTHERS TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF HIM AND WILL CONTINUE IN THAT CAPACITY DURING THE MILLENNIAL KINGDOM.

- A final blessing for the participants in the ***FIRST RESURRECTION*** is that they ***"WILL REIGN WITH [THE LORD JESUS CHRIST] FOR A THOUSAND YEARS"*** **(REV. 20:6),** along ***WITH BELIEVERS WHO SURVIVE THE TRIBULATION***.
- ***POLITICALLY*** and ***SOCIALLY***, the rule of Christ and His saints will be ***UNIVERSAL*** **(PSA. 2:6–8; DAN. 2:35),** ***ABSOLUTE*** **(PSA. 2:9; ISA. 11:4),** and ***RIGHTEOUS*** **(ISA. 11:3–5).**
- ***SPIRITUALLY***, their rule will be a time when the ***BELIEVING REMNANT OF ISRAEL IS CONVERTED*** **(JER. 31:2–8; ROM. 11:26)** and the nation is restored to the land ***GOD PROMISED TO ABRAHAM*** **(GEN. 13:14–15; 15:18).**

- It will be a time when the ***GENTILE NATIONS*** also will worship ***THE KING*** **(ISA. 11:9; MIC. 4:2; ZECH. 14:16).**
- The ***MILLENNIAL RULE OF CHRIST AND THE SAINTS*** will also be marked by the presence of ***RIGHTEOUSNESS, PEACE*** **(ISA. 32:17)**, and ***JOY*** **(ISA. 12:3–4; 61:3, 7).**
- ***PHYSICALLY***, it will be a time when the ***CURSE IS LIFTED*** **(ISA. 11:7–9; 30:23–24; 35:1–2, 7),** when ***FOOD*** will be plentiful **(JOEL 2:21–27),** and when there will be ***PHYSICAL HEALTH*** and well-being **(ISA. 33:24; 35:5–6)**, leading to ***LONG LIFE*** **(ISA. 65:20).**

TEMPORARY RESURRECTIONS LISTED IN SCRIPTURE

- **RESURRECTION OF THE WIDOW'S SON IN ZAREPHATH (1 KGS 17:17–22)**
- **RESURRECTION OF THE SHUNAMMITE'S SON (2 KGS 4:18–37)**
- **RESURRECTION OF THE MAN THROWN INTO ELISHA'S GRAVE (2 KGS 13:20)**
- **RESURRECTION OF JAIRUS' DAUGHTER (MARK 5:41)**
- **RESURRECTION OF THE YOUNG MAN AT NAIN (LUKE 7:14)**

- **RESURRECTION OF LAZARUS (JOHN 11:38–44)**
- **RESURRECTION OF UNKNOWN SAINTS DURING THE CRUCIFIXION (MATT 27:52–53)**
- **RESURRECTION OF TABITHA/DORCAS (ACTS 9:36–42).**
- **RESURRECTION OF EUTYCHUS (ACTS 20:7–12).**
- **RESURRECTION OF THE TWO WITNESSES (REV 11:7–11).**

3 RESURRECTIONS NOT SUPPORTED IN *SCRIPTURE*

1. **JONAH AND THE FISH (JONAH 1–2).**

THE CONNECTION IS THE TIME SPENT IN THE FISH.

2. **PAUL IN THE CITY OF LYSTRA (ACTS 14:19–20).**

THE TEXT SEEMS TO GO OUT OF THE WAY TO TELL US THAT PAUL'S ENEMIES LEFT HIM *"SUPPOSING THAT HE WAS DEAD."*

3. **THE BEAST/HEAD OF THE BEAST (REV 13:3).**

THE *"MORTAL WOUND"* IS NOT SPOKEN OF IN ABSOLUTE FINALITY, BUT *"AS IF"* IT HAD RECEIVED A MORTAL WOUND.

ETERNAL RESSURECTIONS LISTED IN SCRIPTURE

1. RESURRECTION OF CHRIST (MATT. 28:1-6).
2. RESURRECTION OF THE CHURCH (I.E., *RAPTURE*, 1 THESS. 4:13-18; 1 COR. 15:23).
3. RESURRECTION OF OT SAINTS AND MARTYRS OF TRIB. (REV. 20:4)
4. RESURRECTION OF THE WICKED (REV. 20:5)