

THE COMING KINGDOM



What Is the Kingdom and
How Is Kingdom Now Theology
Changing the Focus of the Church?

Andrew M. Woods

Foreword by Thomas Ice

The Coming Kingdom

Chapter 6



Dr. Andy Woods

Senior Pastor – Sugar Land Bible Church
Adjunct Professor of Bible & Theology – College of Biblical Studies

Kingdom Study Outline



1. What does the Bible Say About the Kingdom?
2. The Main Problem with Kingdom Now NT interpretations
3. Why do some believe that we are in the kingdom now?
4. Why does it matter?



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3. Why do some believe that we are in the kingdom now?
4. Why does it matter?



1. Kingdom Throughout the Bible

1. Eden

2. Abrahamic Covenant

3. Mosaic Covenant

4. Divided Kingdom

5. Times of the Gentiles

6. Old Testament Prophets

7. Post exile

8. Offer of the King / Kingdom

9. Rejection of the Offer

10. Interim Age



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2 Peter 1:19

“So we have the prophetic word *made more sure*, to which you do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star arises in your hearts.”



OT PROPHETS DESCRIBE THE KINGDOM



- Kingdom Characteristics
- Is. 2:1-4; 11:6-9; 65:17-25
 - ◆ Jerusalem = center of world spiritual and political authority
 - ◆ Perfect justice
 - ◆ World peace
 - ◆ Peace in the animal kingdom
 - ◆ Universal spiritual knowledge.

OT PROPHETS DESCRIBE THE KINGDOM

1. Established by God (Dan. 2:44)
2. Eternal (Dan. 7:27)
3. Christ's direct rule (Zech. 9:9-10)
4. Earthly (Zech. 14:9)
5. Land promises realized (Gen. 15:18-21)
6. Israel's preeminence (Isa. 49:22-23)
7. Millennial Temple (Ezek. 40–46)



OT PROPHETS DESCRIBE THE KINGDOM

8. Millennial David (Jer. 30:9)

9. Righteousness (Isa. 9:6-7)

10. Curse curtailed (Isa. 65:20, 22)

11. Peace (Isa. 2:4)

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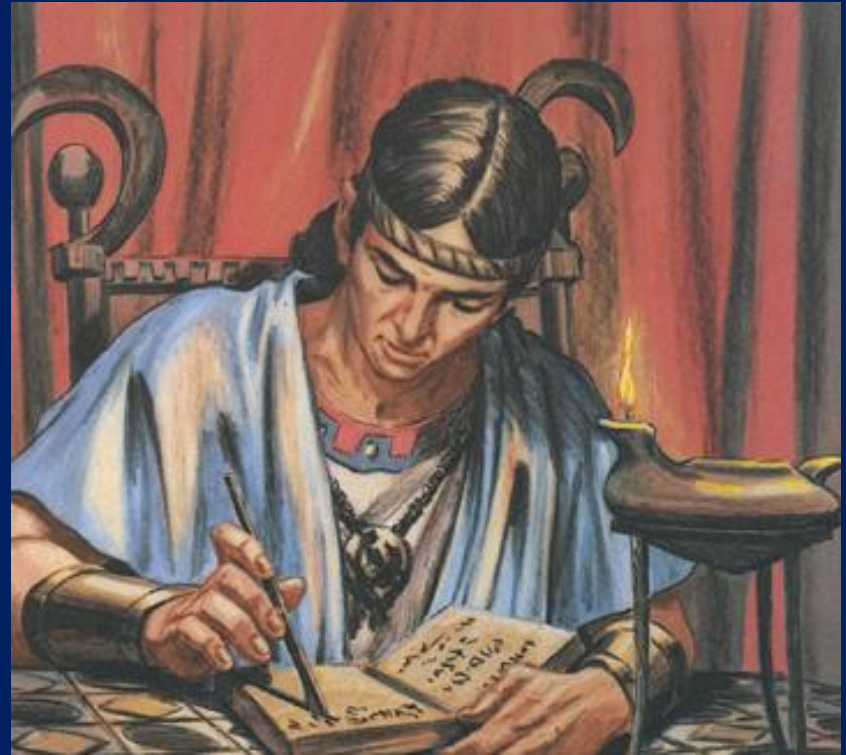
Jeremiah 30:9 (NASB)

“But they shall serve the LORD
their God and David their king,
whom I will raise up for them.”

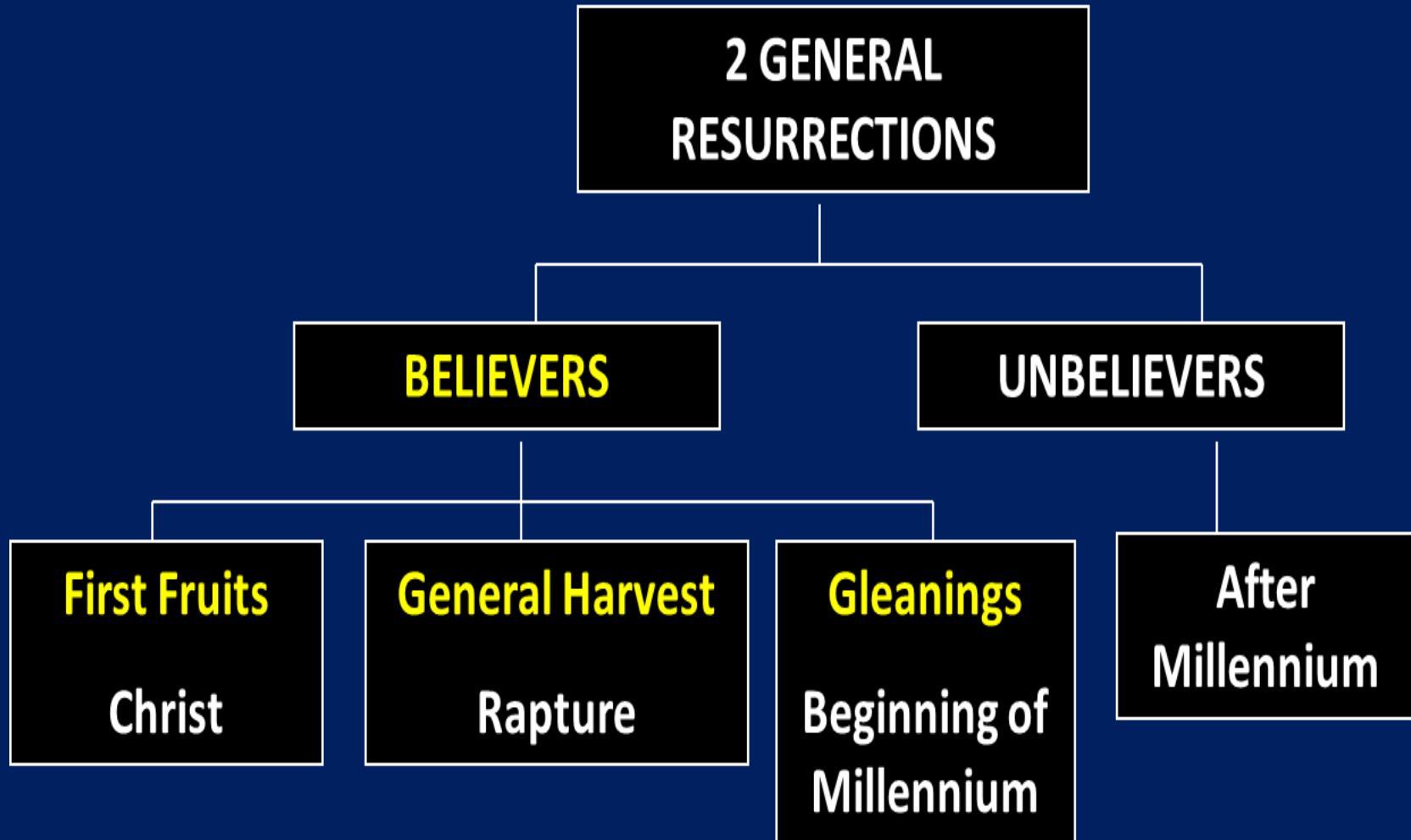


The Millennial David

- Root of Jesse
- Branch of David
- Son of David
- Seed of David



God's Resurrection Program

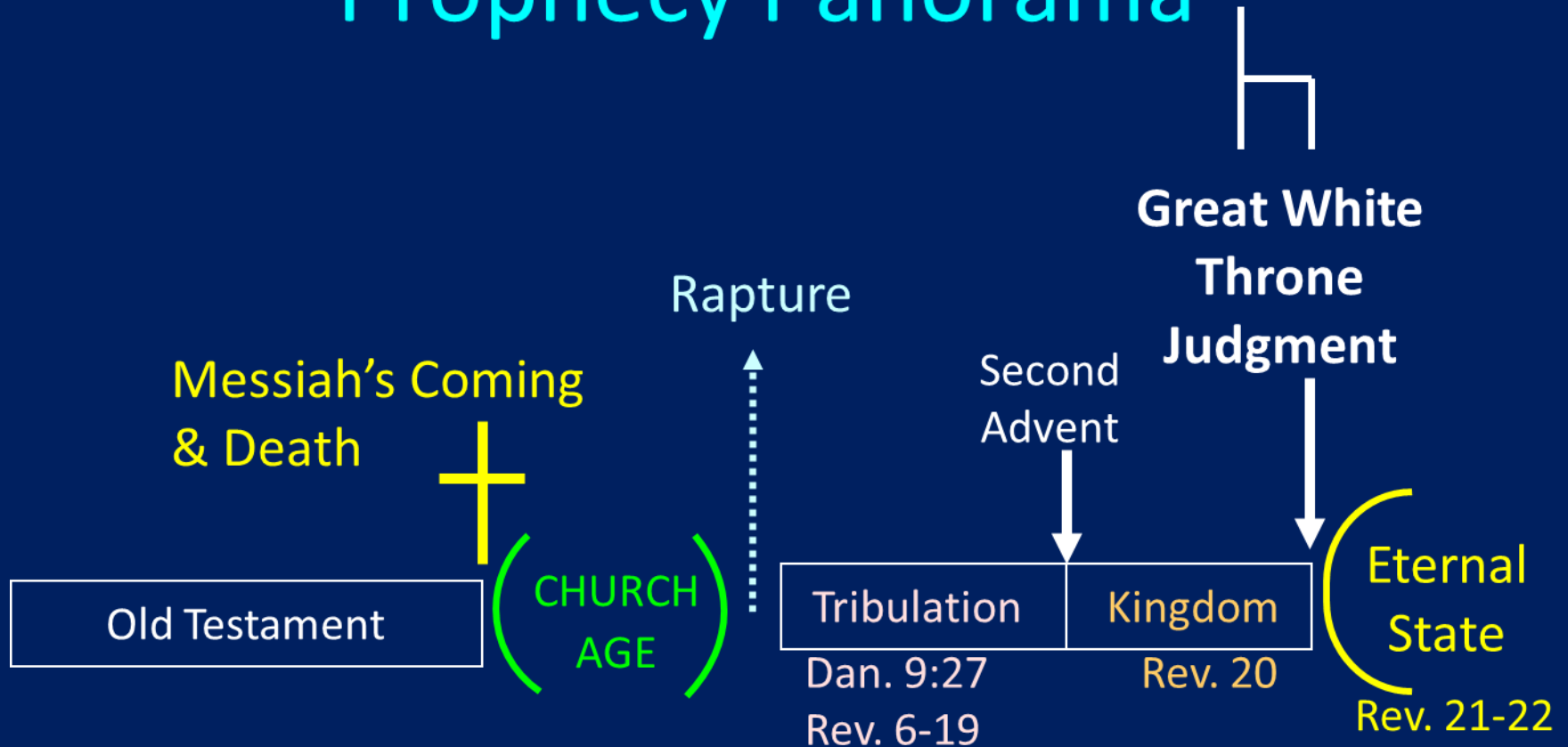


Order or Tagma (1 Cor. 15:23)

- General: Christ's resurrection (1 Cor 15:23)
- Officer: Rapture (1 Thess 4:13-18)
- Soldiers: OT saints & Tribulation martyrs (Rev 20:4)
- Captives: Unsaved of all ages (Rev 20:5)



Prophecy Panorama



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Isaiah 9:6-7 (NASB)

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



9. Righteousness (Isa. 9:6-7)



- a. New Covenant (Jer. 31:31-34)
- b. Knowledge of the Lord (Isa. 11:9)
- c. Resurrection of OT saints (Dan. 12:2)
- d. Kingdom begins only with surviving believers (Ezek. 20:33-38)
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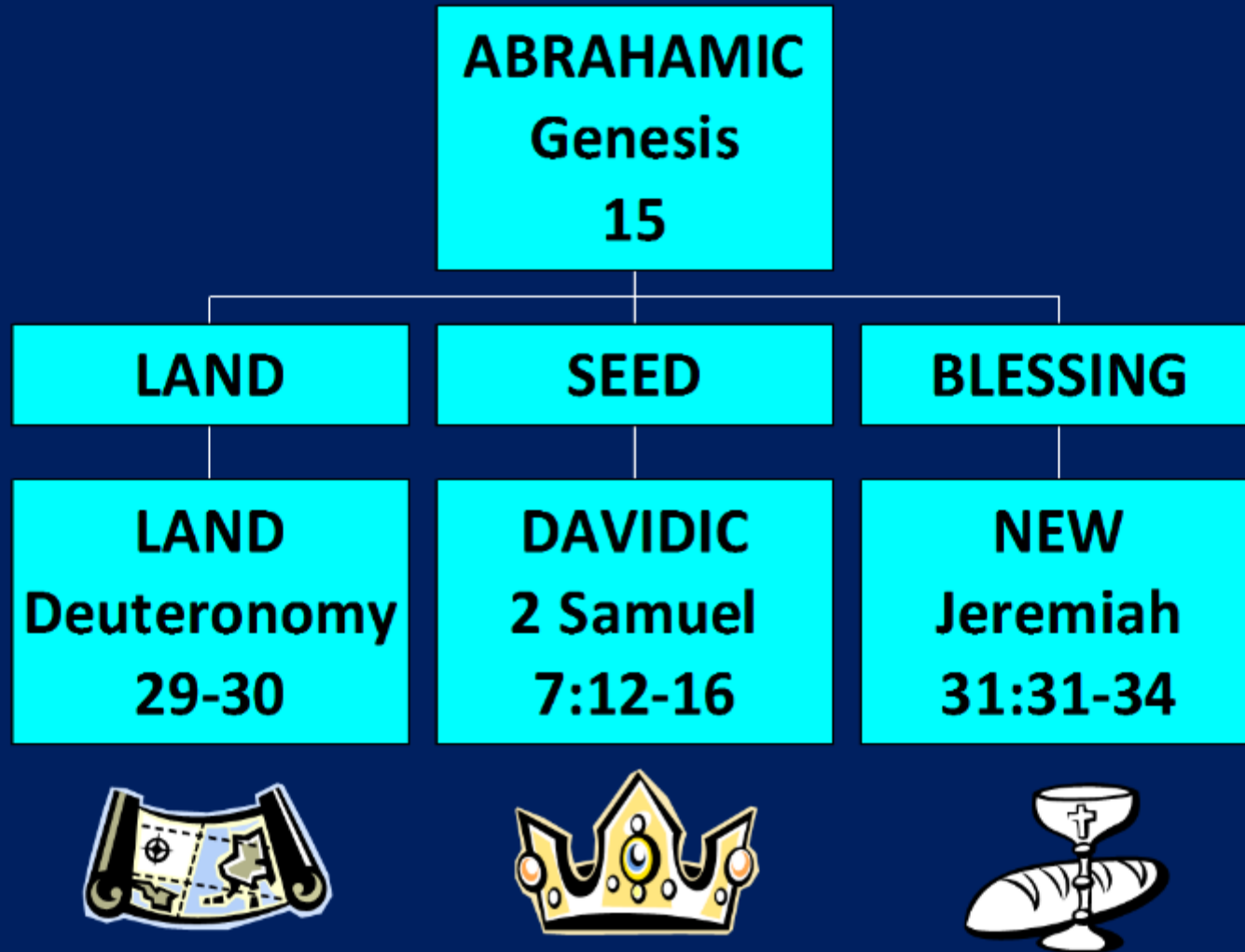
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Abrahamic Covenant



Unconditional covenant with a conditional blessing (Deut. 28; Lev. 26)



Jeremiah 31:31-34

“Behold, days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah,³² not like the covenant which I made with their fathers in the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, although I was a husband to them,” declares the LORD.³³ “But this is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel after those days,” declares the LORD, “I will put My law within them and on their heart I will write it; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.³⁴ They will not teach again, each man his neighbor and each man his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they will all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them,” declares the LORD, “for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more.”

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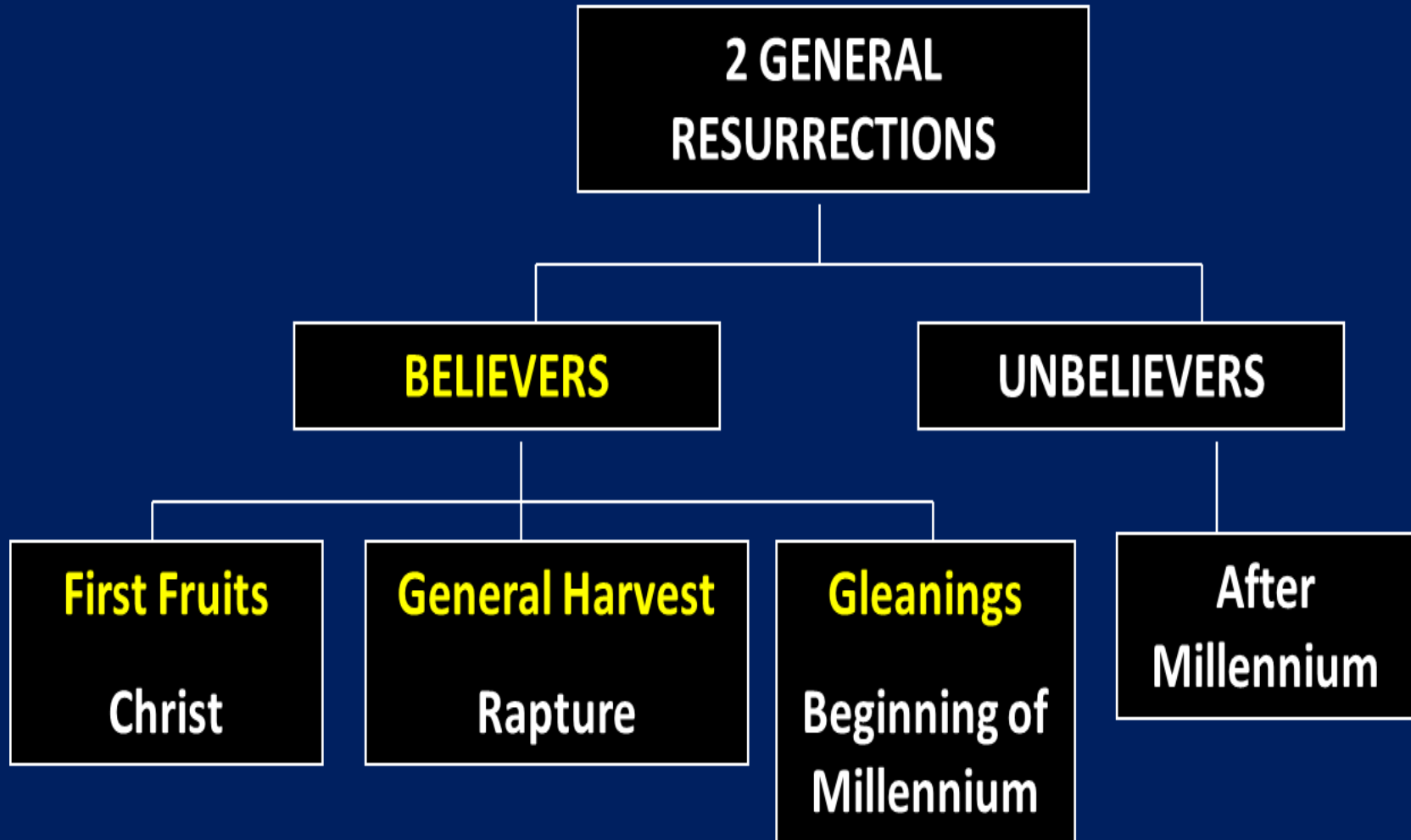
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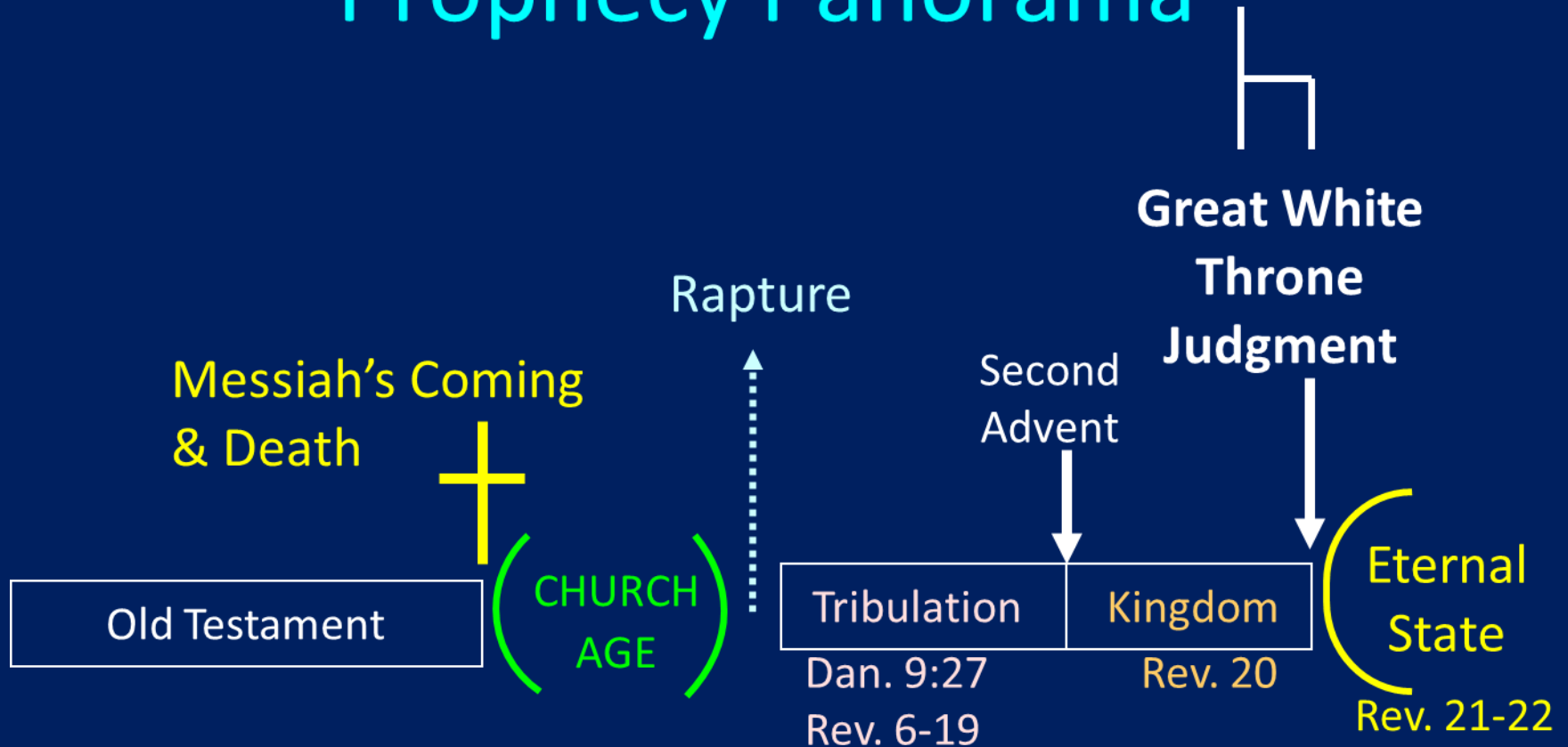


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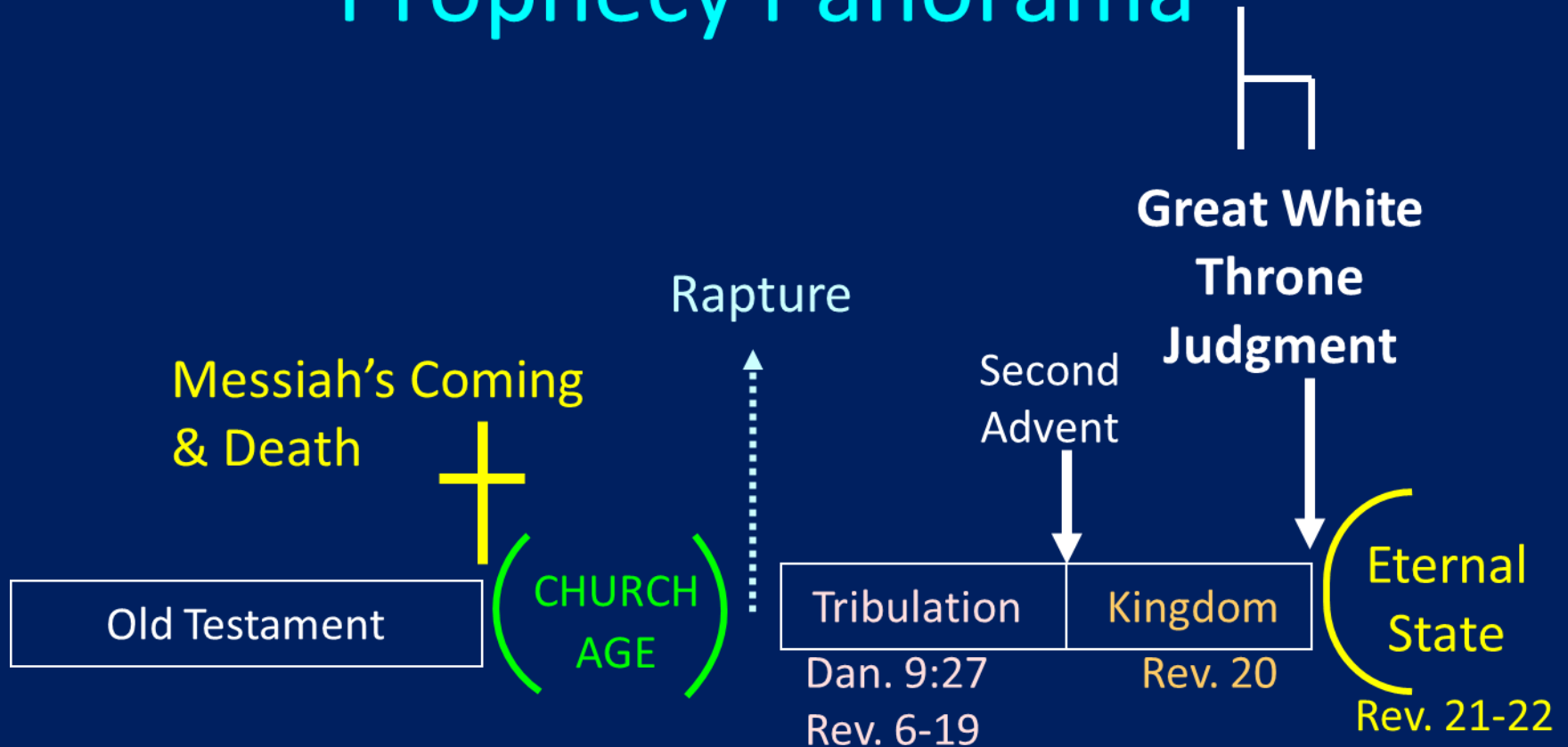
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Genesis 3 Structure

- 3:1-5 – Temptation by the serpent
- 3:6 – Sin of Adam and Eve
- 3:7-13 – Results of the sin
- 3:14-19 – Imposition of divine judgments
- 3:20-24 – God's provision in spite of the sin



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Divine Judgments (3:14-19)

- Serpent (3:14-15)
- Woman (3:16)
- Man (3:17-19)



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Serpent (3:14-15)

- Serpent's body (3:14)
- Protevangelium (3:15)



Genesis 3:15

“And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise you on the head, and you shall bruise him on the heel.” (NASB)



Divine Judgments (3:14-19)

- Serpent (3:14-15)
- Woman (3:16)
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Woman (3:16)

- Painful child birth (3:16a)
- Relational conflict (3:16b)



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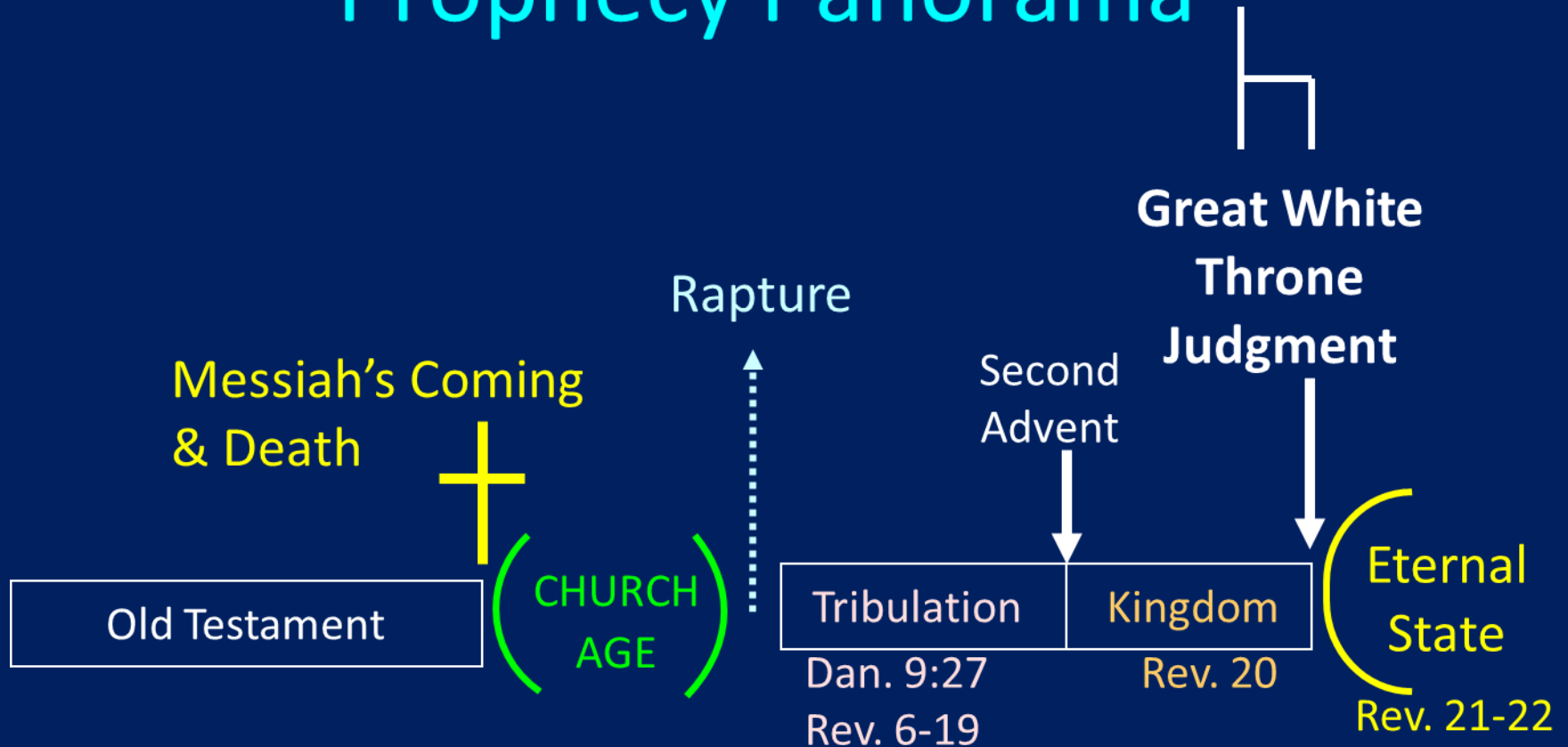


Man (3:17-19)

- Painful labor (3:17-19a)
- Death (3:19b)



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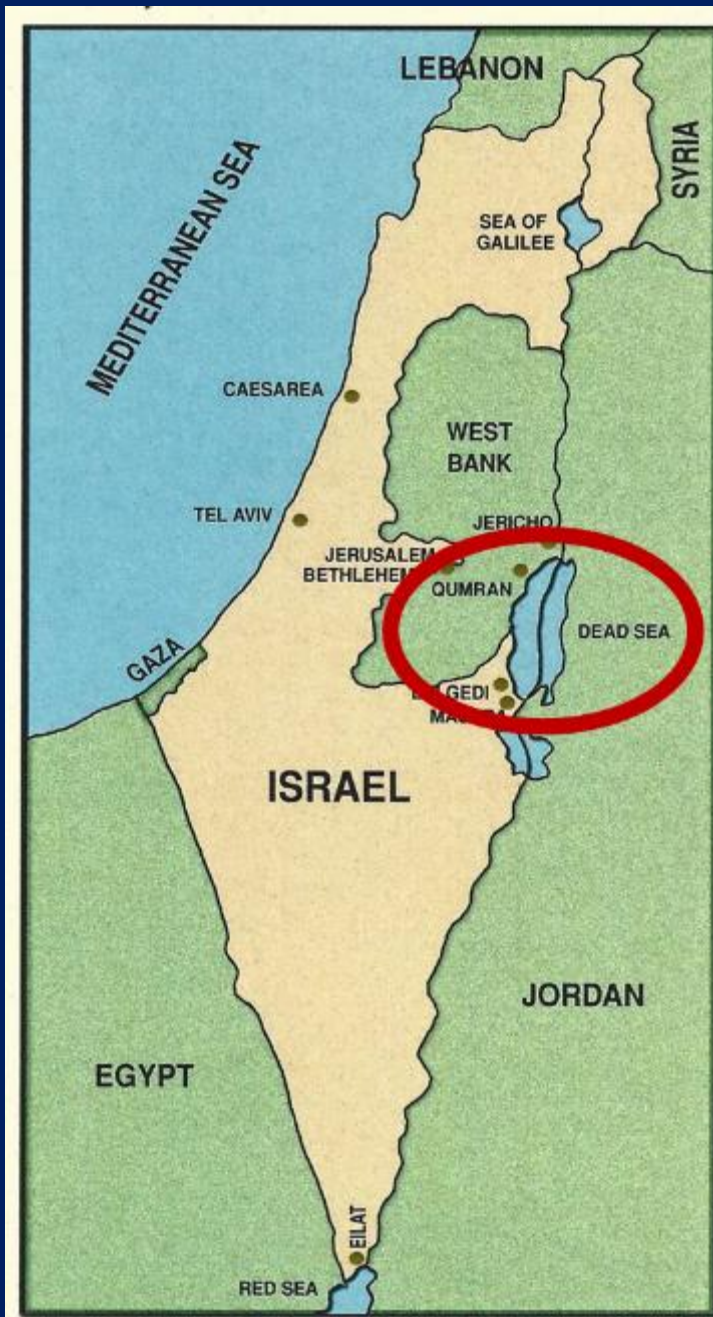


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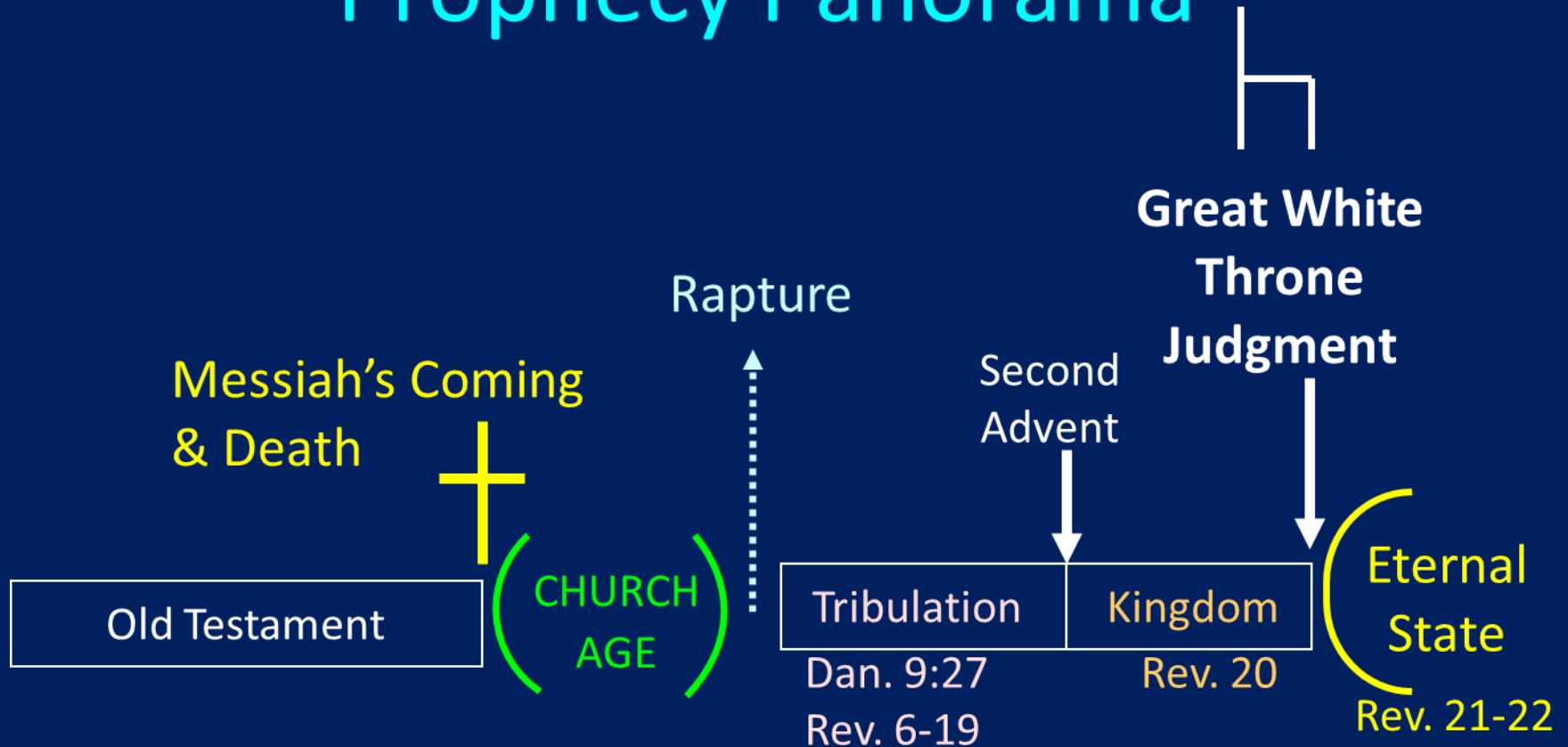








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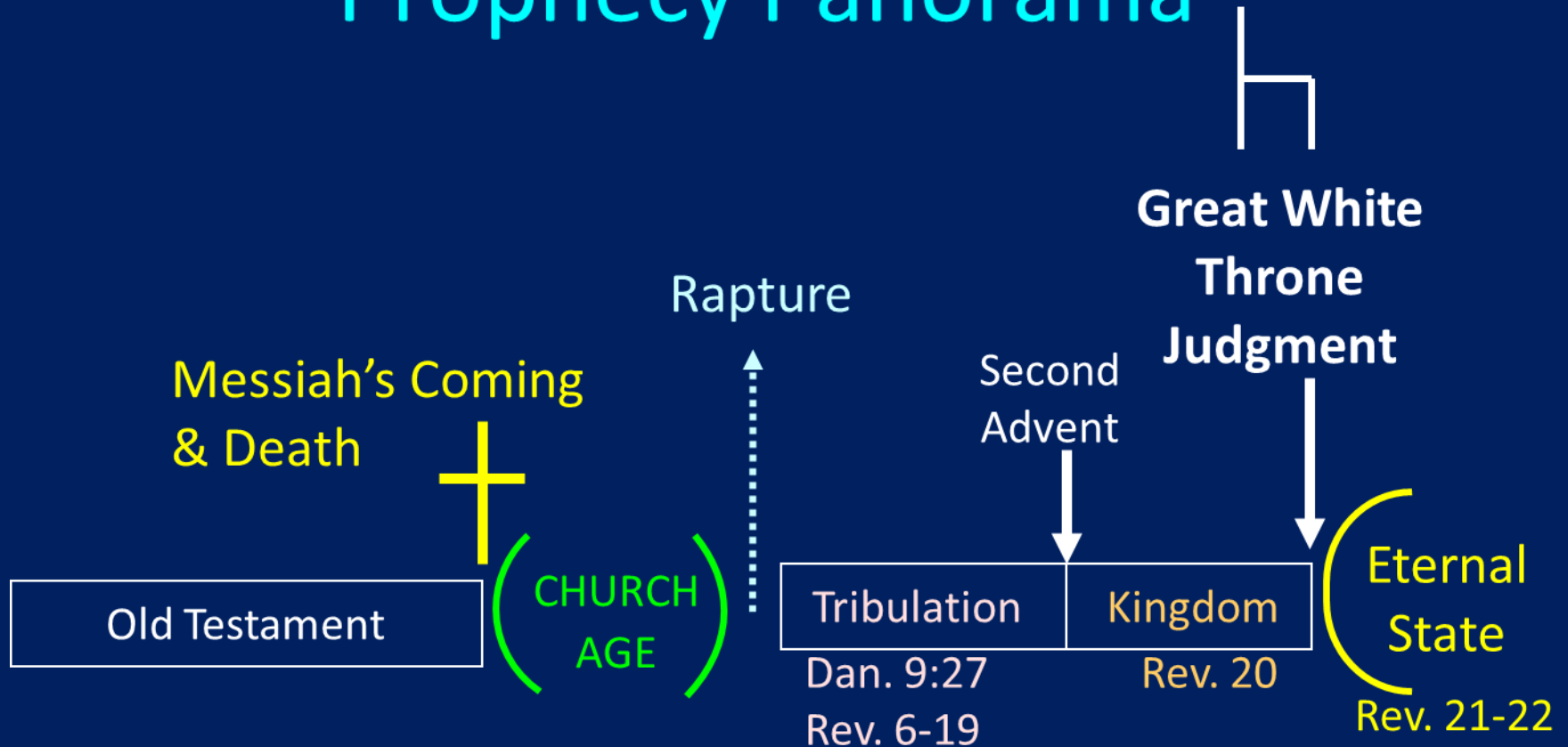
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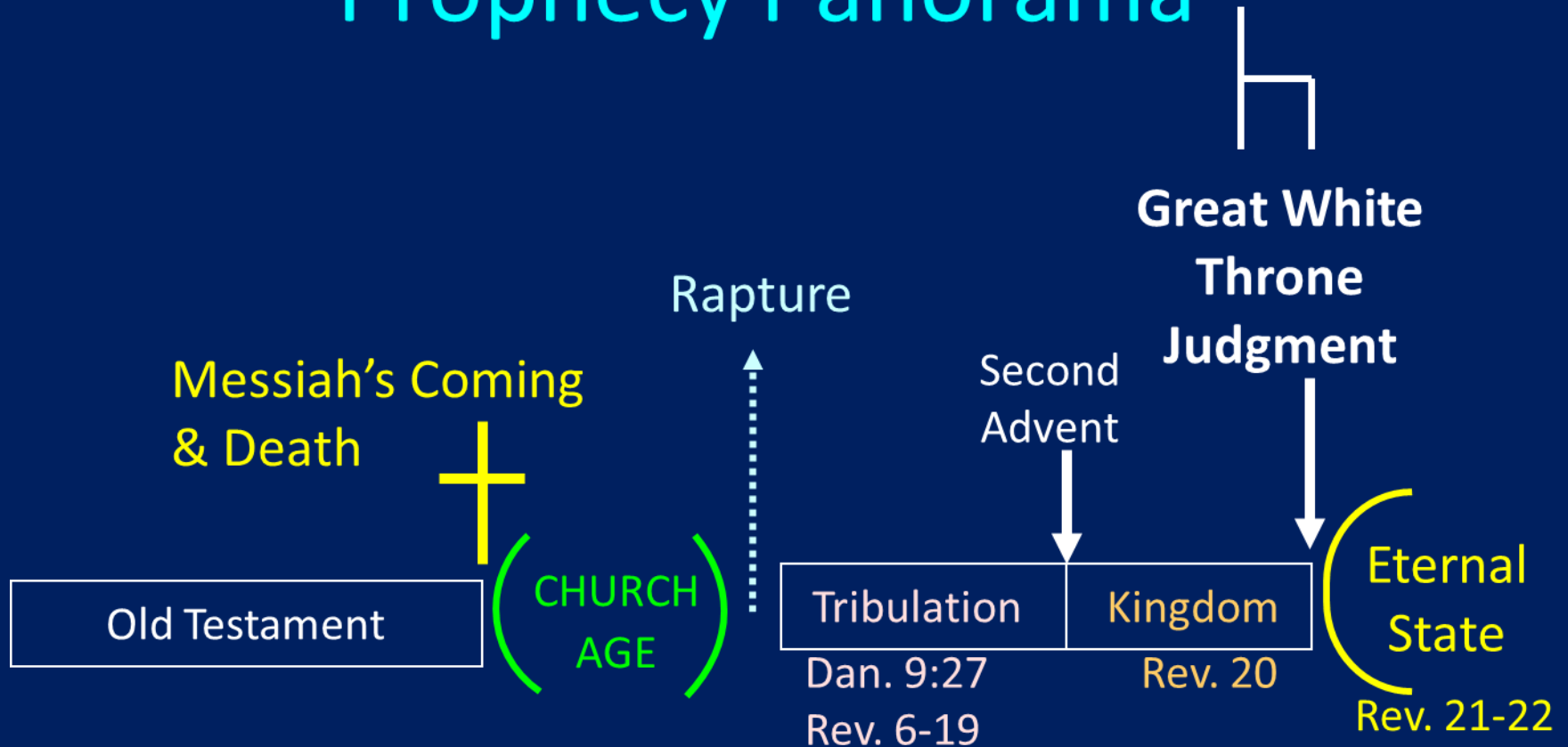


Genesis 8:22

“While the earth remains, Seedtime and harvest, And cold and heat, And summer and winter, And day and night Shall not cease.”



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Premillennialism: A One-Text Theology?



"The only scriptural basis for this theory [i.e.' premillennialism] is Revelation 20:1-6, after an Old Testament content has been poured into it."

Louis Berkhof, *Systematic Theology: With a Complete Textual Index*, 4th and rev. ed. (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1932; reprint, Grand Rapids: Baker, 1996), 715.

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"The one millennial occurrence in the New Testament (and in the whole Bible) makes mention of none of the earthly characteristics so arbitrarily placed within that thousand years (Revelation 20)."

Premillennialism: A One-Text Theology?

The a-millennial theologian Archibald Hughes once directed a lady to study the New Testament for information on the millennial kingdom. According to the report of Hughes, this is what transpired: “Many months later this lady came to me and said she had followed my advice but could not find a single reference to any millennium. I said, ‘well, have you learned something.’ She replied, ‘I have learned nothing!’ I said, ‘you have learned something, for you know now that the New Testament has nothing to say about a millennium.’”

2 Peter 1:19

“So we have the prophetic word *made* more sure, to which you do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star arises in your hearts.”



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