



The Solomon Concept

"The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done: and there is no new thing under the sun" (Eccl 1:9)!

What are the major events prophesied to take place at the end of the Church Age just prior to the return of Jesus Christ?

Perhaps the most significant event that believers anticipate is the great catching away. Also known as – The Rapture of the Church!

The Apostle Paul best describes the particulars of this unusual event, “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” (1 Thess 4:16-17). Even though the details of this event are little known, most Christians curiously await the “rapture!” But, can we be certain that these things will take place exactly as we have previously envisioned? Let’s take another look at several Bible passages that reveal the final mysterious events just prior to Jesus’ return to earth.

Our generation has had the unique opportunity to observe things upon which previous generations have only speculated. We have literally observed the rebirth of the nation of Israel during our time. We are familiar with the power of atomic warfare and its ability to destroy great masses of humanity. Our generation has witnessed the fulfillment of revelation like no other generation of the past such as the gospel being preached in all the world. We have seen how revelation is progressive or step-by-step in nature! Perhaps the Apostle Paul best describes the concept of progressive revelation, “***How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery . . . 5 Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed*” (Eph 3:3-5). Revelation unfolds as time passes.**

Peter added that prophesy is much like the dawning of a day, “We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, ***until the day dawn***, and ***the day star arise*** in your hearts” (2 Peter 1:19). Peter taught, “ye do well to ***take heed***” how the light of the dawning day increases illumination of things that were previously not clearly perceived.

There are at least three major keys that we can use to unlock the doors that conceal significant revelations regarding future events. In this Bible Study we will use each of the following keys and then focus our attention most specifically on the third:

1st Key – We need to realize that God reveals future events by speaking them into being! Whatever God utters comes to pass in its season, “***Declaring the end from the beginning***, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure” (Is 46:10). God brings about the future by pronouncing during the beginning stages what will take place at the end of the matter;



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2nd Key – God rested at the end of the sixth day of creation because he was finished! He did not rest because he was tired. Likewise, after 6,000 years God will establish “rest”

upon planet earth as the Second Adam and His bride resumes rightful dominion over the earth! Peter taught, “But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that **one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day**” (2 Peter 3:8); by associating Peter’s explanation with the Genesis account of creation, we realize that God has pre-established a specific period of 6,000 years of elapsed time before God’s “rest!” Through his explanation, Peter essentially described the overall, “elapsed time” that God has established for mankind in general. There are other shorter prophetic clocks that God has established specifically for the nation of Israel. The Prophet Daniel received a very important prophecy concerning seventy weeks, “**Seventy weeks** are determined **upon thy people** and upon thy holy city” (Dan 9:24). Many modern scholars claim that Daniel’s Seventy Weeks prophecy is the central prophecy that should be used to identify the events of the end-time. Daniel’s Seventy Weeks prophesy identifies that “seven sevens” are determined for the people of Israel. In Hebrew the word translated as “sevens” is the plural form of the word “shabua” (שָׁבֻעַ), which literally means a week of years. “Shabua” is used much like the English word for “decade.” We first observe the term in the scripture when Jacob completed a “shabua;” “Fulfil her **week** (*shabua*), and we will give thee this also for the service which thou shalt serve with me yet **seven other years**. And Jacob did so, and **fulfilled her week** (*shabua*): and he gave him Rachel his daughter to wife also.” (Gen 29:27-28). Jacob fulfilled a week of seven years (*shabua*)! The principle of a day for a year is established by the prophet Ezekiel, “I have appointed thee **each day for a year**” (Ezek 4:6). Sixty-nine of Daniel’s seventy weeks took place prior to the crucifixion of Jesus; however, the Seventieth week is still yet to come. The period in between (*the Church Age*) is essentially a timeout for Israel prior to the 70th Week!

This Bible study is not intended to fully explain Daniel’s Seventy Weeks prophecy; if you would like to know more about Daniel’s seventieth week, we suggest that you order the **Rivkah Ministries**, Book entitled, “**Rush to Judgment**” for more information. You may order the book from [Http://www.Rivkah.org](http://www.Rivkah.org).

Reference to Daniel’s Seventy Weeks was made in order to explain that prophecy in general may be viewed somewhat like a football game. An actual football game may last several hours of elapsed time to a spectator; nevertheless, there are only 60 minutes of actually playing time on the field. Predictable time delays such as time-outs cause the game to extend well beyond the one-hour limit of playing time. We need to realize that God too has established some time delays over the earth. Daniel’s 70th week, which will take place during the tribulation period, is a week of years (*shabua*)! From the time that Jesus rode into Jerusalem on the back of a donkey until the time of the future tribulation, God’s prophetic clock for Israel has been on hold. No matter how we count time, we can be sure that the end of God’s established time is getting ever closer because like the 60 minutes of actual playing time, there will only be 6,000 total years of elapsed time in which fallen humanity has the rule over this planet;

3rd Key – There is a repeating or cyclical nature of events that transpires in the record of mankind. As far as I know, Charles Capps, first labeled this repeating nature of historical events as, “the Solomon Concept.” In order to begin to appreciate the implications of the



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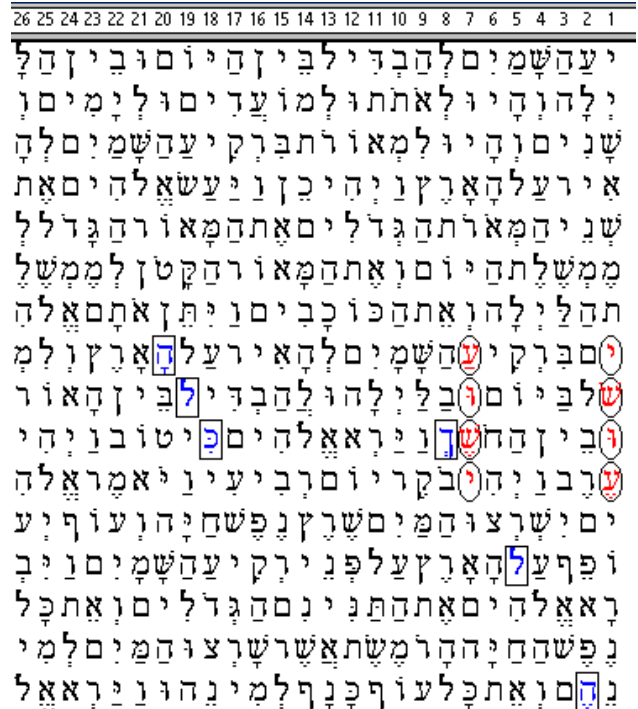
“The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done: and there is no new thing under the sun” (Eccl 1:9)!

Count	Heb Char.	Hebrew Name	Heb. Value	Hebrew Literal Meaning	Hebrew Symbolic Meaning	Hebraic Rabinical Meaning	Rough English Equiv.
10	y	Yod	10	<u>Closed hand, Right Hand</u>	Deed, Work, to Make	Creation and Metaphysical Yod is Hebrew for Hand Ten Generations, Ten Utterances of Creation	I
21	C	Shin	300	<u>teeth</u>	consume, destroy	Divine Power and Provision Mezusa on the Gates Heb Sheker(falsehood and corruption) rejected by God	S/Sh
6	e	Vav	6	<u>Nail</u>	“and,” add, secure, hook or connection to link	Number of Man, Completion and Redemption. A conjunction between man and God. Serpent created on day 6 also!	U/O
16	U	Ayin	70	<u>Eve</u>	See, know, experience	Sight and Insight or “the tempted eye” “All seeing eye” of modern Babylon—Gen 11:5	O

The Hebrew word (uocy) actually occurs twice in the passage! Notice carefully in the graphic (at right) how the text has the name of Jesus (see O) written once in each direction.

(h1b) is the Hebrew word for “bride;” that word also occurs twice in those same verses and is likewise written in both directions! (see □)

The sun and the moon are the two major objects of the passage; the amazing thing about that short passage is the number of hidden ELS words that occur exactly two times as follows: “assignment;” “beam;” “brighten;” “differentiate;” “illumination;” “illumine;” “irradiate;” “lighten;” and “separate.” The point is that the Creator used two luminous orbs set in “the firmament of heaven to give light upon the earth.” In the same fashion, when Jesus appeared, the **SUN** of Righteousness came into the world, “That was *the true Light*, which *lighteth every man* that cometh into the world” (John 1:9)! In other words, the **SUN** had arisen, “The people which sat in darkness *saw*





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*great light; and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death **light is sprung up**" (Matt 4:16). After 4,000 years, great light came into the earth!*

Now let's continue with the elements behind the Solomon Concept, "The wind goeth toward the south, and turneth about unto the north; it whirleth about continually, and the wind returneth again according to *his circuits*. 7 All the rivers run into the sea; yet the sea is not full; unto the place from whence the rivers come, *thither they return again*" (Eccl 1:6-7). This indicates that the earth is cyclical in nature. We naturally observe that everything that goes around eventually comes back around; the only thing that is different is a later timeframe. The water that falls to the earth runs to the sea and evaporates into a cloud and rains and falls again upon the earth! The only thing altered is a new timeframe!

Next, we must understand a key from verse nine, "The thing that *hath been*, it is that which *shall be*; and *that which is done* is *that which shall be done*: and there is no new thing under the sun" (Eccl 1:9). Solomon continues, "Is there any thing whereof it may be said, See, this is new? it hath been already of old time, which was before us" (Eccl 1:10). The Holy Spirit must lead us to appreciate the cyclical nature of revelation through Scripture!

The Bible reveals the future in a very unique way, "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*" (Col 2:16-17). The symbols used here such as the "holiday," the "new moon," and the "Sabbath days" are all cyclical events. Since they are cyclical and as Paul says, "*a shadow of things to come*," they are also prophetic and therefore associated with the Solomon's Concept! In this passage Paul talks about things, which are obvious cyclical events! Since these events are prophetic, let's look to what the Prophet Isaiah reveals concerning the **SUN** and the moon, "Moreover *the light of the moon shall be as the light of the sun*, and *the light of the sun shall be sevenfold*, as the light of seven days, *in the day that the LORD bindeth up the breach of his people*, and healeth the stroke of their wound" (Isa 30:26). If the **SUN** represents Jesus and the Moon represents the Church, then when the light of the moon becomes as the light of the **SUN**, the Church will one day be able to minister in the same way that Christ ministered. This means that God is going to significantly turn up the power! Things are being revealed to this generation that never have been understood! We should anticipate Solomon's predicted pattern, "The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be" (Eccl 1:9).

God reveals the future through what has already been. Watching prophecy unfold is very much like awakening long before the light of a new day; as the night gives way to dawn we naturally begin to more clearly perceive those things that earlier were mere shadows, "For now *we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face*" (1 Cor 13:12).

As the Scripture advises, let's look back to the days of creation, "**Remember the days of old**, consider the years of many generations" (Deut 32:7). This particular passage comes from what is known as the "Song of Moses." The Jewish rabbis comment that these "days" of old refer specifically to the six days of the Genesis creation account! Take note below how God obviously expresses His satisfaction in the phrase, "**God saw that it was good.**" Notice His powerful statement at the end of the sixth day; compare it to the first five days of creation:



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<i>Day of Creation</i>	<i>Blessing Given?</i>	<i>Main Product</i>	<i>Description of Verse</i>
1	Yes 1	Light	“ God saw the light, that it was <u>good</u> . . . And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the <u>first day</u> ” (Gen 1:4 & 5).
2	No! 0	Separation of waters from waters	“God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament: and it was so. 8 And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the <u>second day</u> ” (Gen 1:7-8).
3	Double! 2	Land Seed (Kind after Kind)	“God called the dry land Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called he Seas: and God saw that it was <u>good</u> ” (Gen 1:10). “whose seed was in itself, after his kind: and God saw that it was <u>good</u> . 13 And the evening and the morning were the <u>third day</u> ” (Gen 1:12-13).
4	Yes 1	SUN Moon & Stars	“God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth, 18 And to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness: and God saw that it was <u>good</u> . 19 And the evening and the morning were the <u>fourth day</u> ” (Gen 1:17-19).
5	Yes 1	Water Creatures	“God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his kind: and God saw that it was <u>good</u> . . . And the evening and the morning were the <u>fifth day</u> ” (Gen 1:21 & 23).
6	Special 1	Humanity and all creation	“And God said, Let us make man in our image , after our likeness: and let them have dominion . . . And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was <u>very good</u> . And the evening and the morning were the <u>sixth day</u> ” (Gen 1:26 & 31).
Six Days	Six Total Blessings!		

After six days of Creation, “behold, **it was very good!**” Realize that God had just finished creating His children; likewise, after six thousand years of human rule over the earth the manifestation of Sons will be completed and He will view this crowning event of His creation as very good! His Sons will be manifest and they will be fashioned in the same condition as was Adam; not only will the Church be manifest as Sons of God we will be like Jesus! “Remember the days of old,” at the end of the sixth day was the only time that God saw that “**it was very good!**” It was finished! It is going to be very good for the Body of Christ and the Church at the end of the 6,000 years of God’s established time!

Now let’s go further into the Solomon Concept, “The thing that ***hath been***, it is that which ***shall be***; and ***that which is done*** is ***that which shall be done!***” Notice how the Genesis account starts out, “***These are the generations*** (Meaning that all generations of humanity or 6000 years of time are supposed to be pictured by this passage! Remember also, that the seventh day is a day of rest!) of the heavens and of the earth when they were created, in the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens” (Gen 2:4). Now let’s skip



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forward to chapter six, "And the LORD said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be **an hundred and twenty years**" (Gen

6:3). This not only signifies that man was to have 120 years until the flood; there are several other hidden meanings in this passage. One such meaning is that **120 X 50 = 6,000**. It appears that man's days are appointed and limited, "Is there not **an appointed time to man upon earth?** are not his days also like the days of an hireling?" (Job 7:1). There are 120 jubilees given to man in which he can operate in the flesh; notice that **120 X 50 (a jubilee) = 6,000!** After the passage of 6,000 years, sons of the Kingdom of God take over. Job continues, "Seeing **his days are determined**, the number of his months are with thee, **thou hast appointed his bounds** that he cannot pass; 6 Turn from him, that he may rest, till he shall accomplish, as an hireling, his day" (Job 14:5-6). Next we learn even more information from verse 14, "If a man die, shall he live again? all the days of my appointed time will I wait, till my change come. (*here is the resurrection!*) 15 Thou shalt call, and I will answer thee: thou wilt have a desire to the work of thine hands" (Job 14:14-15). Essentially, Job is predicting that at the end of man's appointed time there will come a resurrection for the righteous in God!

It seems clear that mankind has 6,000 years of rule while under the influence of satan the devil; but how long is the Church age supposed to last? How long until the Church takes over? Let's learn from the Solomon Concept, "And the LORD said unto Moses, Go unto the people, and **sanctify them to day and to morrow**, (*This is equivalent of 2 days; or 2,000 years! Here is a profile of 2,000 years for the age to follow!*) and let them wash their clothes" (Ex 19:10). This is just one of many other cryptic prophecies concerning two prophetic days. The Lord prophesied as follows, "And on the morrow when he departed, **he took out two pence**, (*It is important to understand that one pence was one days wages!*) **and gave them to the host**, and said unto him, Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, **when I come again**, (*This is prophetic of His return.*) I will repay thee" (Luke 10:35). Here the Good Samaritan gave two days wages to the host. This is yet another indication that the Lord will return after 2,000 years!

Jesus met the woman at the well; notice what follows, "So when the Samaritans were come unto him, they besought him that he would tarry with them: and **he abode there two days**" (John 4:40). Here we find Jesus after He left Israel, abiding two days with the Samaritans. This two-day lodging is a prophetic period symbolic of a 2,000-year season! In this context, the Samaritans (*Those rejected by the Jews!*) were symbolic of the church!

Going back to Exodus 19, let's notice what happens after two prophetic days, "And **be ready against the third day**: for **the third day the LORD will come down in the sight of all the people** upon mount Sinai" (Ex 19:11). How will the rapture take place? Paul writes, "Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: (*in Greek, this specific word for "air" means from ground level to the top of a mountain*) and so shall we ever be with the Lord" (1 Thess 4:17). Now let's apply the Solomon concept here; at the very first Pentecost or 50 days after the children of Israel left Egypt, they met at the foot of a mountain on the third day after they were consecrated, and the Lord came down in the sight of the people **after two days**, "be ready against the **third day**: for the **third day** the LORD will come down" (Ex 19:11)!



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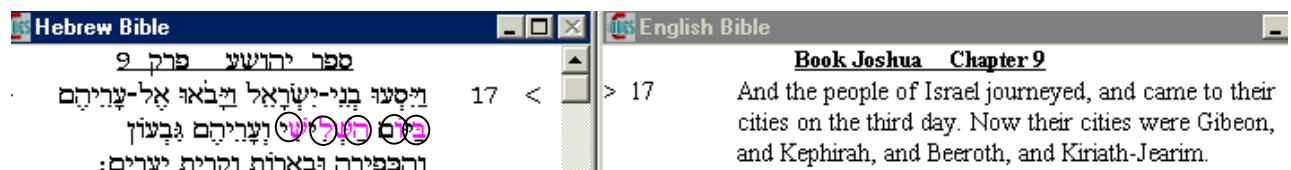
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Remember that on the next significant Pentecost (*Which means fifty days!*) that there were 120 disciples in the upper room during the first Pentecost of the Church era! With

that "Church" centered Pentecost in mind, let's carefully examine the first Pentecost in the wilderness on **the third day**, "And it came to pass **on the third day in the morning**, that there were thunders and lightnings, and a thick cloud upon the mount, and **the voice of the trumpet** exceeding loud; so that all the people that was in the camp trembled. 17 And Moses brought forth the people out of the camp to meet with God" (Ex 19:16-17). Now notice verse 19, "And when **the voice of the trumpet sounded long, and waxed louder and louder**, Moses spake, and God answered him by a voice. 20 And **the LORD came down** upon mount Sinai, on the top of the mount: and **the LORD called Moses up to the top of the mount**; and **Moses went up**" (Ex 19:19-20). Here, Moses as he ascended to the top of the mountain is symbolic of the Church in the rapture! We need to remember that Moses lived exactly 120 years, "And he said unto them, **I am an hundred and twenty years old this day**" (Deut 31:2). Moses died exactly 120 years later the exact same day upon which he was born! In so doing he became a composite of all of the righteous dead of 120 jubilees; he is a representation of the righteous dead such as Job who lived during the last 6,000 years but have died! Notice in the Book of Romans that we discover an interesting and revealing Biblical fact; it says that "death reigned **from Adam to Moses**" (Rom 5:14). What does that mean? Paul may certainly be referring to the fact that Moses represents all of the righteous dead who will have died during the first 6,000 years! After the 120 jubilees death can never again hold them!

Let's pick up the story from the Book of Joshua, "And it came to pass **after three days**, that the officers went through the host; 3 And they commanded the people, saying, When ye see **the ark** of the covenant of the LORD your God (*The ark is a symbol of Jesus*), and the priests the Levites bearing it, then ye shall remove from your place, and go after it. 4 Yet **there shall be a space between you and it, about two thousand cubits** by measure: come not near unto it, that ye may know the way by which ye must go" (Josh 3:2-4). This is a prophecy that the people will follow Jesus across the river (*Crossing a river is an idiom for passing beyond death!*) 2,000 years after the Lord! When the people passed over the Jordan, the waters stood up in a heap; the waters stopped but notice how far back the waters were stopped up, "And as they that bare the ark were come unto Jordan, and the feet of the priests that bare the ark were dipped in the brim of the water, (for Jordan overfloweth all his banks all the time of harvest,) 16 That the waters which came down from above stood and rose up upon an heap very far **from the city Adam**" (*all the way back to Adam*) (Josh 3:15-16). At the other end of the river the waters dried up all the way down to the "Dead Sea!" This is symbolic of Paul's statement, "death reigned **from Adam to Moses**" (Rom 5:14)!

The Hebrew word for "rapture" is, (בּוֹחַל צַדִּיק); notice how that word is embedded in reverse order in Joshua 9:17 in reference to third day as shown below:





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The word for "rapture" is also embedded in the passage from Joshua 3:17 which talk about crossing over the Jordan.

There is another associated Solomon Concept about the morning of the third day. The intriguing part is that a Hebrew day starts at the evening of the previous day, not in the morning. Therefore some kind of a time delay is implied in our passage. Notice as Joshua is about to win an important battle, the *SUN* is going down (*Meaning the end of the Church Age*). Now let's observe Joshua, "Then spake Joshua to the LORD in the day when the LORD delivered up the Amorites before the children of Israel, and he said in the sight of Israel, ***Sun, stand thou still*** upon Gibeon; and thou, Moon, in the valley of Ajalon. 13 ***And the sun stood still, and the moon stayed, until the people had avenged themselves upon their enemies.*** Is not this written in the book of Jasher? So the sun stood still in the midst of heaven, and ***hasted not to go down about a whole day*** (*This could very well represent a whole day or even perhaps one year!*). 14 And there was no day like that before it or after it, that ***the LORD hearkened unto the voice of a man***: for the LORD fought for Israel" (Josh 10:12-14). Here we find the LORD hearkening to the voice of a man and the result is a great miracle! If the Solomon Concept holds true, this passage is an indication that there are going to be some remarkable things taking place before the righteous evacuate this planet! Notice what Daniel says about the very end of days, "the people that do know their God shall ***be strong, and do exploits***" (Dan 11:32); these words mean "to seize, to be strong; to bind, to restrain, and to conquer! Just a chapter earlier Daniel himself four different times described being made strong as, "Then there came again and touched me ***one like the appearance of a man***, and he ***strengthened me***, 19 And said, O man greatly beloved, fear not: peace be unto thee, ***be strong***, yea, ***be strong***. And when he had spoken unto me, ***I was strengthened***, and said, Let my lord speak; for ***thou hast strengthened me***" (Dan 10:18-19).

Now let's research one of the Lord's parables concerning sowing, "Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field: 25 But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way. 26 But when the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also. 27 So the servants of the householder came and said unto him, ***Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in thy field?*** from whence then hath it tares? 28 He said unto them, An enemy hath done this. The servants said unto him, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up? 29 But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them. 30 ***Let both grow together until the harvest*** (*It is getting very close to the harvest!*) and in the time of harvest I will say ***to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them*** in bundles to burn them: (*Notice! At this point the tares are merely bound; they are not yet burned. They are bound so that the harvest will not be hindered by their presence!*) ***but gather the wheat into my barn***" (Matt 13:24-30). The Scripture reveals, "the reapers are the angels" (Matt 13:39). Obviously, Angels bind the tares!

Once the earth lease of 6,000 years expires, wicked men will lose their authority. However, we do not lose our authority because the Sons of God will once again be ruling over the earth! Is there any kind of a signpost or marker which identifies the specific time? Remember that we have been discussing, "Moreover ***the light of the moon shall be as the light of the sun***, and ***the light of the sun shall be sevenfold***, as the light of seven days, in



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the day that the LORD bindeth up the breach of his people, and healeth the stroke of their wound" (Isa 30:26). When will these sons of God who are like the moon begin to

shine like the **Sun**? Back-up just one verse and notice a **possible** answer, "And there shall be upon every high mountain, and upon every high hill, rivers and streams of waters in the day of the great slaughter, **when the towers fall**" (Isa 30:25). Is this a Solomon Concept signpost? Now this certainly does not have a specific reference to the Twin towers in New York. This is talking about towers where false gods were worshipped up on the high mountains. Nevertheless, the World Trade Center was actually what some post 9-11 observers have called, "a cathedral" that was symbolic of our human ability to accumulate material wealth! Is it possible that three thousand years ago a prophet hinted at events regarding our very time?

God makes things plain, "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth" (John 16:13). Jesus had just told His disciple, "I have yet many things to say unto you, **but ye cannot bear them now**" (John 16:12). There are things that are perceptible only by the Spirit of God. Secondly, through the passage of time, Biblical mysteries become clearer to the individual than they had been in the past. The Holy Spirit definitely will reveal the future, "he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and **he will shew you things to come**" (John 16:13).

Notice the first Pentecost in the wilderness, "it came to pass **on the third day in the morning**" (Ex 19:16). There was a piercing sound, "the voice of the trumpet exceeding loud; so that all the people that was in the camp trembled" (Ex 19:16). On the next great Pentecost when the dead rise and the Church is changed, we will hear the same piercing sound of the trump of God.

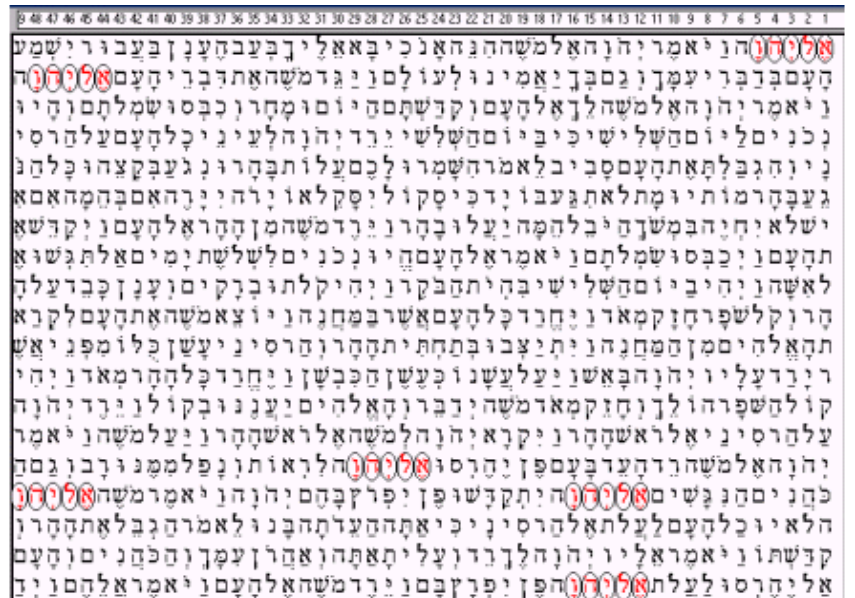
The name of Elijah comes from the repeated phrases "**unto the LORD**" & "**to the LORD**" as found in

Ex 19:8 the words of the people **unto the LORD**.
 Ex 19:9 the words of the people **unto the LORD**.
 Ex 19:21 lest they break through **unto the LORD** to
 Ex 19:22 which come near **to the LORD**, sanctify
 Ex 19:23 And Moses said **unto the LORD**, The
 Ex 19:24 through to come up **unto the LORD**, lest he

Exodus Chapter 19. The Hebrew characters which make-up this phrase form the name Elijah (**whyah**).

The word is encoded six times behind the text. Remember what Jesus said concerning Elijah, "**Elias truly shall first come**" (Matt 17:11). Notice how Elijah is encoded six different times in Exodus 19; these events took place on Pentecost, the morning of the third day.

Other than Jesus Christ,





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Elijah is the only person in the Bible where the scripture literally describes the events of his going up into heaven in a rapture-like experience, "it came to pass, as they still went on, and talked, that, behold, there appeared a chariot of fire, and horses of fire, and parted them both asunder; and **Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven**" (2 Kings 2:11). The other important fact that we need to realize is that on the day when Elijah was raptured into heaven, many of the prophets knew the exact day that it was going to take place, "And the sons of the prophets that were at Bethel came forth to Elisha, and said unto him, **Knowest thou that the LORD will take away thy master from thy head to day? And he said, Yea, I know it;** hold ye your peace" (2 Kings 2:3). Other than Elijah, we also know that Paul discussed in the third person how that, "he was caught up into paradise, and heard unspeakable words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter" (2 Cor 12:4). Even though we have only the description of Elijah's rapture, we should consider both of these experiences to have been rapture-like. The important point that we need to consider with regard to Paul is that he experienced a rapture-like event and even after that experience he still continued to perform his great commission upon the earth!

Where does the Solomon Concept regarding the rapture show-up in the New Testament account? Matthew records an amazing event that we have come to know as the transfiguration, "Verily I say unto you, There be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they *see* the Son of man coming in his kingdom" (Matt 16:28). This passage does not say that "the Son of man" would actually come in his kingdom during that event. Instead it says, "till they *see (as in a vision)* the Son of man coming in his kingdom!" Essentially, some of these disciples saw (*as in a vision*) that exact event. Is it coincidence that Jesus waited for six days before that event? Notice that, "after six days (*The day for a thousand years principle would suggest that this event shadows future events which are to take place after 6,000 years.*) Jesus taketh Peter, James, and John his brother, and bringeth them up into an high mountain apart, 2 And **was transfigured before them:** and **his face did shine as the sun**, and his raiment was white as the light. 3 And, behold, there appeared unto them **Moses** and **Elias** talking with him" (Matt 17:1-3).

Now some may protest, "This cannot be symbolic of the rapture of the Church because only three of the twelve disciples participated in the vision!" The fact that only three show up actually becomes a powerful clue for us! Peter, James and John were the only disciples that Jesus took with him when he raised the dead (*Here is a hint of the resurrection*), "While he yet spake, there came from the ruler of the synagogue's house certain which said, **Thy daughter is dead:** why troublest thou the Master any further? 36 As soon as Jesus heard the word that was spoken, he saith unto the ruler of the synagogue, Be not afraid, only believe. 37 And **he suffered no man to follow him, save Peter, and James, and John** the brother of James. 38 And he cometh to the house of the ruler of the synagogue, and seeth the tumult, and them that wept and wailed greatly. 39 And when he was come in, he saith unto them, Why make ye this ado, and weep? the damsel is not dead, but sleepeth. 40 And they laughed him to scorn. But when he had put them all out, he taketh the father and the mother of the damsel, and **them that were with him**, and entereth in where the damsel was lying. 41 And he took the damsel by the hand, and said unto her, Talitha cumi; which is, being interpreted, Damsel, I say unto thee, arise. 42 And **straightway the damsel arose**" (Mark 5:35-42).



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Back to the transfiguration; notice what Peter, James, and John actually saw in their vision, "And, behold, there **appeared** unto them **Moses** and **Elias** talking with him"

(Matt 17:3). What are Moses and Elijah doing here? We have earlier learned that Moses is representative of all of the righteous dead (*He is illustrative of the whole 120 congregation of the righteous dead!*); likewise, Elijah is representative of the living Church. It was Elijah who was taken into heaven before his natural time of death.

Now back to the New Testament, "And when the day of Pentecost was fully come" (Acts 2:1); remember that Pentecost means fifty and there were 120 disciples. When these numbers are multiplied together the product is 6,000. This is yet another passage where a time factor is suggested beneath the text, "And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: 21 **Whom the heaven must receive until the times** (*note that this word is plural*) **of restitution of all things**, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began" (Acts 3:20-21). What exactly does this mean? What is supposed to be restored? We get a hint from the book of Proverbs, "**the righteous shall be recompensed** (*Repaid for their loss.*) **in the earth**: much more the wicked and the sinner" (Prov 11:31). The church is not going to be taken out in some kind of a sneaky defeat! They will be recompensed (*repaid*)! We are going to go out in a blaze of glory! Jesus said, "and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father" (John 14:12).

Jesus performed many miracles upon unbelievers; however, after He arose from the dead Scripture does not reveal that He again performed another miracle upon an unbeliever! Why? Because Christians are the Body of Christ, "Now **ye are the body of Christ**" (1 Cor 12:27). Jesus taught, "It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come **unto you**; but if I depart, I will send him **unto you**" (John 16:7). Jesus was planning to come back to the earth in the power of the Holy Spirit. This is why Jesus wants us filled with the Holy Spirit, "if any man have not **the Spirit of Christ**, he is none of his" (Rom 8:9)! We human beings are to provide the body and Jesus provides the anointing of the Holy Spirit! With Him in us we will perform great works on this earth! We are going to do all of the same works that Jesus performed, "God anointed Jesus of Nazareth **with the Holy Ghost and with power**: who went about **doing good, and healing** all that were oppressed of the devil; for **God was with him**" (Acts 10:38). God will once again work in this same fashion through the body of Jesus Christ during the time of the end prior to His return!

The disciples were gathered together on a mountain and Jesus said, "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. 19 **Go ye therefore**, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world" (Matt 28:18-20). One could honestly think to themselves, "Why does God want me to go? After all, He has all of the power!" The answer is simple Jesus has the power; but, we have the body that Christ wants to use! Until the 6,000-year lease expires for mankind only physical human beings have the authority to make things happen on this earth!

Let's notice how the Solomon Concept shows up in our Lord. When he was raptured, "he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, **being seen of them forty**



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days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God" (Acts 1:3). The disciples asked him at this time, "Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to

Israel? 7 And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which **the Father hath put in his own power**. 8 But **ye shall receive power**, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth" (Acts 1:6-8). The Father put in his own power (*authority*) the exact information concerning when we will receive that added supernatural power! Immediately after this conversation, "And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, **he was taken up**; and a cloud received him **out of their sight**" (Acts 1:9). Let's concentrate on Jesus' rapture.

In the same fashion that the Lord was raised incorruptible on the third day, so too must the Church be changed! Paul discusses this concept through his explanation of the five-fold ministry, "For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ" (Eph 4:12). So the point is that the Body of Christ needs to be built up. But how long does this building process last? When will it be complete, "Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, **unto a perfect man**, (*this means that at some future time we will become perfect! How many perfect Christians do you see now?*) unto **the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ**" (Eph 4:13). It sure does appear in those words that the Apostle Paul expects every member of the Body of Christ to reach full maturity. When? When will the dead rise incorruptible and the church become "perfect?"

Let's notice specific information that the Apostle Paul expressed concerning this marvelous change that is coming upon the Church! Paul penned the passage of which we have all become so familiar; the only problem is that we may have been making some false assumptions that simply are not in the text. Lets take a closer, more critical look, "Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; **neither doth corruption inherit incorruption**. Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but **we shall all be changed**, 52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, (*Most of us have pointed to this instant in time as the exact moment of the Rapture. But is that the actual message that is being conveyed?*) at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and **we shall be changed**" (1 Cor 15:50-52). We have simply lumped this scripture with ". . . 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" (1 Thess 4:15-17). So there is definitely going to be a catching up into heaven. However, we do not want to jump to the conclusion regarding when that happens. Notice how the Book of Revelation describes Israel with reference to this exact subject, "she (*Israel*) brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was **caught up unto God**" (Rev 12:5). Obviously many years and events filled the gap between the time when the man child was, "brought forth," and the time that He was, "caught up unto God!" Likewise, the Church may well experience a "change" prior to the general "rapture!" Let's notice how this may take place.



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But doesn't this idea come into conflict with what First Thessalonians clearly teaches about the time of the rapture? That is a fair question let's look at the passage

which says, "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" (1 Thess 4:16-17). Actually, it is First Corinthians that gives us clearer information! Notice, what it does say, "Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, 52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed" (1 Cor 15:51-52). However, this passage says nothing of being "caught up" at this exact moment in time! Thessalonians only speaks concerning the time of the trump of God, "and **the dead in Christ shall rise first.**" This time of the dead rising is also the time of the change for the living Church! Thessalonians says, "**Then** we which are alive and remain shall be **caught up together** with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air" (1 Thess 4:17). That word together is very important! To help understand its significance, notice how the American Standard Version renders this same passage, "**then** we that are alive, that are left, **shall together with them** (*Them means those who previously had been resurrected at the same time that the Church was changed!*) **be caught up** (*this seems to indicate that both the resurrected dead and the previously living Christians shall be caught up together*) in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord" (1 Thess 4:17) ASV. We have already observed that in the case of Jesus, many years and events filled the gap between when He was, "brought forth," and the time that He was, "caught up unto God!" See (Rev 12:5).

Notice very carefully, Paul does not mention the catching up event in first Corinthians! Instead, the passage reads as follows, "Behold, I shew you a mystery; we shall not all sleep, but **we shall all be changed.**" (*This expresses that there is a change coming! But it does not say that they are caught up at this exact moment!*) The passage continues, "52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and **we shall be changed**" (1 Cor 15:50-52). There is nothing spoken here about being caught up! This passage only refers to a resurrection and a change. It says that the dead rise and that the living are changed! Further, Jesus' own experience ought to become a pattern that we may consider. What does that mean? Notice His example to us, "To whom also **he shewed himself alive after his passion** by many infallible proofs, **being seen of them forty days**, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God" (Acts 1:3). After He was raised incorruptible he remained on this earth for forty days; only then did His rapture take place, "And when he had spoken these things, **while they beheld**, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight" (Acts 1:9). Our change is to take place in the twinkling of an eye, "**we shall all be changed.** In a moment, in the **twinkling** of an eye." In great contrast, the rapture of Jesus was an observable event, "**while they beheld**, he was **taken up**; and a cloud received him **out of their sight**;" in exactly the same fashion, when Elijah was "caught up" he was likewise observed, "and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven. 12 And **Elisha saw it**" (2 Kings 2:11-12).



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We have always **assumed** that as soon as we are changed that we are "caught up" in that exact same instant!

However, the scripture does not exactly convey this idea.

There is going to be a major change which takes place in the Church (*body of Christ*) before the rapture, "he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: 21 Whom the heaven must receive until the times of *restitution of all things*, (*Jesus will not come UNTIL the restitution of all things!*) which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began" (Acts 3:20-21). Those representative of the 120 righteous are identified through Moses just as the prophet Elijah identifies those "who are alive and remain." Both of these two groups must be restored prior to the coming of the Lord! Some unknown period after they have been restored "changed," will they be raptured into heaven, "and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book. 2 And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake . . . And *they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament*; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever" (Dan 12:1-3).

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