

LOOKING AT THE SECOND RESURRECTION 2

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Phoenix Arizona
Sunday December 14th 2025
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This morning I'd like to continue with the message we were on last Sunday.

When we look at the Word of God, everything has to fit together. And if we are a servant in the sense of having a ministry, then we are obligated to – how can I say this? – to *not* impose our own ideas but if we see something, it has to align and fit with the Word of God.

Paul says: *we compare spiritual with spiritual*. [1Corinthians 2:13] He also says: *we move from faith to faith*. [Romans 1:17] In other words, what God has already given us *leads us to and supports* what He would give us *new*.

We are certainly living in a time when we have to be *vigilant* and we have *to discern* what we hear, whether it be *Truth or not*.

That's why I've said before: I'm standing in front of the very best in Phoenix, not because of what I say or anything of my own, but you are *a people who desires Truth*. And whether it be convenient or inconvenient for the flesh, *we know: it's always convenient for the Spirit*.

I thank God there is a people I can be a part of *who loves and desires Truth*. Praise the Lord. A people who puts *that* above the number.

If we think that the number in a congregation is where it's at, then we need to go back to the Catholic Church because they have the biggest number. But it's *not* the number. Even though we would love to see more people here, above all is: *the quality of our spiritual walk*. Praise the Lord.

So we have to *discern*: which ministry are we going to follow?

There are many ministers we've come to know through the years but unfortunately, not all are preaching the same thing.

We have to understand: the *Lord's ministry* is not a ministry that's going to be causing confusion, it's not a ministry that's going to be putting in their own ideas, but it's a ministry that's going to *follow the Word* as best as they are able. According to *the calling* that is on them, they're going to *stay in the Word*. Praise the Lord.

I hope I said that right because when I said *as best as they are able*, I didn't mean: well if they're not able, then they just stray. The point is: we have our *different callings* [Ephesians 4:11] and we have to learn to *stay in that calling*. Praise the Lord.

As we said last time, there are certain ministers who are basically preaching that all babies go to heaven, that they all have eternal life. And not just babies, but even all the children that die before coming to the age of accountability.

From a natural human perspective, especially for parents who may have lost a child in pregnancy or maybe they gave birth and then the baby died, or the child may even have lived a few years and then died, from the natural human feeling, that's exactly what we would want: that one day we will see them in heaven.

But at the same time we have to see: God does not have anything written to really tell what He does in that case. And we *can't* just say: well, it's comforting to say that they all go to heaven. Because we'll find out: this really even *contradicts* what we already know.

Now, as far as an individual case, we have to leave that in God's hands and know that *God is a just God*. Do we believe that this morning?

I will say: if we're thinking that all the young ones that die go to heaven, this even *contradicts* that *God is just*. We're going to see that this morning.

I know we mentioned this last time but I'd like us to read it again this morning if we could go to Romans 9. And we'll start in verse 9.

Paul says here:

Romans 9:9

For this is the word of promise, At this time will I come, and Sarah shall have a son.

Now, *God already knew that Sarah would have a son.*

First of all, we have to ask ourselves: do we believe in *predestination* or not? I hope and pray that we do because Paul taught it. *Predestination* is a truth of the Word of God. God knows *every individual* who is ever born. *He knew* that Sarah was going to have a son.

And in verse 10, he says:

Romans 9:10

And not only this; but when Rebecca also had conceived by one, even by our father Isaac;

Romans 9:11

(For the children being not yet born,

Let's think about that for a second: they were still in the womb.

Romans 9:11

neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth;)

Romans 9:12

It was said unto her, The elder shall serve the younger. [Genesis 25:23]

Romans 9:13

As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated. [Malachi 1:2-3]

Romans 9:14

What shall we say then? Is there unrighteousness with God? God forbid.

Now, the natural mind would say: God is unrighteous because – we would say – Esau didn't have a chance. It says that *God loved Jacob and hated Esau*.

We hear people today say: oh God loves everybody. Well, the Word says: *He loved Jacob and He hated Esau*. Right? *Even before they were born*. And yes, we would say: that's wasn't fair for Esau.

The thing is: Esau had every opportunity to do right. It was *in his hands* to do right. But when the test came, Esau *of his own will* chose the evil way. God *knew* that Esau would do that. *He knew the nature of Esau*. That's the thing we have to see: God knows us better than we know ourselves.

We may have family or friends, we may think we know them very well. I have to say: God knows them far better than we do, and He knew them better than we do *before they were even born*.

Now, is this something just for Jacob and Esau? We have to know: it's the same for every human being. *God knew us before we were born*. Praise the Lord.

Let's go to Ephesians 1. We'll start in verse 3.

Paul says here:

Ephesians 1:3

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:

Ephesians 1:4

According as he hath chosen us in him

In who? *In Christ*.

Ephesians 1:4

before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:

Ephesians 1:5

Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,

So, you and I were *chosen before the foundation of the world, chosen in Christ.*

There are a lot of Christians today who believe that Jesus Christ has a pre-existence with the Father. I have to say: if he did, then you and I did too. Because Paul says that *we were chosen in Christ before the foundation of the world.*

But if I ask: how many remember being there, way back before the foundation of the world, when we were all *up there, chosen in Christ?* We know that we have no such memory because *as people, we were not here yet. This was in the mind of God.*

And every individual, when they hear the Gospel, and some – we can say – when they *accept the Gospel*, please do not think that the Lord says: that's wonderful! Now I'll write their name in the Book of Life. God doesn't think: well, I didn't expect *that one* to come in, but they did! So I'll write down their name.

I know I'm looking at it from the human side but that's the way a lot of people look at it. They want to go out and win the world to Christ, and they think *their efforts* are going to bring more in.

I have to say: God knew *each one* from before the foundation of the world. He already knew *every name*. There is *not one* by whom He has been surprised that they accepted the Gospel. And there is *not one* about whom He said: well, I thought *they would*, but *they didn't*.

If we were to look at it from that perspective, we would be bringing God down to our level and we wouldn't really believe that He is *omniscient: all knowing*.

I have to say: if He could anoint the prophets to tell what would be *hundreds and even thousands of years beforehand*, why would we think that He can't know what choice you and I are going to make? I have to say: *He does know*.

Again: the babies that have died, if they had lived to accountability, *God knows* whether they would have accepted the Gospel or not. *He knows that*.

And just using common sense: looking at the world today, how many truly receive the Gospel message? We know it's *very few*. Amen? It's *very few*.

So the great majority are *not* going to receive the Gospel. We would *like* for them to receive it, but we have to understand that there is *an enemy* that has been at work since God put man on this earth.

The enemy has wanted to get at that *nature* of whether we would *believe* the Word of God or whether we would *not believe* the Word of God. That's why he inspired the serpent *to speak a lie to Eve*. He said: *thou shall not surely die*. [Genesis 3:4] He *changed* the Word of God and he *deceived* Eve.

Now, even though Eve was deceived, she still had a nature in her that when God dealt with the situation, she was able to see it and accept it.

But she had *a son* who had that *seed of the serpent*. That's something the religious world doesn't want to hear anything about. We know his name was *Cain*. [Genesis 4:1]

I was listening to Christian Radio the other day and there is a so-called Christian music group who have named themselves – their group – *Cain*. And I wondered: what are they thinking? We don't read anything good about Cain. Even if somebody doesn't understand *serpent seed*, *Cain killed his brother Abel* and he was *disrespectful toward God*. For a Christian group to name themselves *Cain*, I just don't understand.

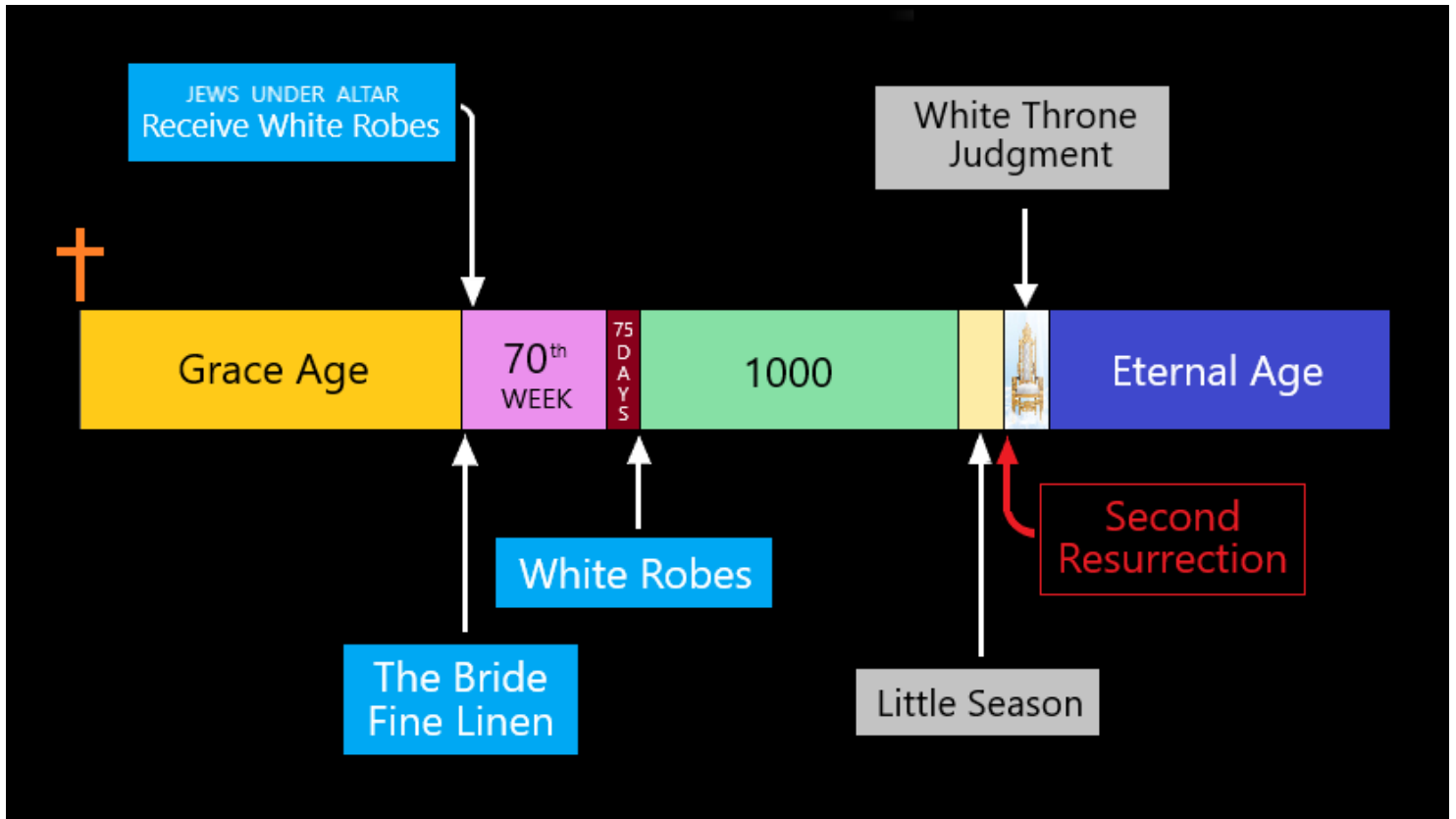
Let's go to Genesis 6.

So what was the plan of the devil? He wanted to *change the nature of man*. The devil does not want any person to have eternal life. He knows his days are numbered and it torments him to think that even *one person* would have eternal life.

One day, *Satan is going be punished in the lake of fire* for who-knows-how-long [Revelation 20:10] and in the end, not only will he be destroyed, but even all memory of him will be gone. There will come a day when you and I will not even remember that there was a devil. And it's going to be the same for all of the wicked.

I'm trying to think of a name that nobody knows anyone with that name. [Laugh] Maybe I'll say: *Guillermo*. If you know somebody named *Guillermo*, I'm not talking about him.

But let's say there is a man named *Guillermo* and he never accepts the Gospel. We read last Sunday about the *judgement for the wicked* which is the *second resurrection*. [Revelation 20:13]



Remember: the *second resurrection* will take place after the Millennium. The purpose of it will not be for people to live on, but that *each one can stand as a complete man or woman before God and be judged*. [Revelation 20:12] Then they will be *thrown into the lake of fire*. [Revelation 20:14]

Once they are consumed, they will *lose all their identity*, they will *lose their consciousness*. Even the memory that you and I had of *Guillermo* will be taken from our conscience. It will be as though they had never existed.

If you ask people today: where's the one place they don't want to die? Everybody says: they don't want to die way out in the depth of the ocean. Nobody wants to be halfway across the ocean and the plane crashes or the boat sinks. Humanly, that seems like it would be the most terrifying kind of death because the body would be lost, not that it really matters but just from the natural standpoint, there is a certain fear about that.

Well, just imagine: not the body being lost but *all of humanity who knew you* no longer remembering that you existed. That is the dread and the reality of *the great white throne judgement*. [Revelation 20:11]

I have to say: everybody should be aware of the gravity of this.

So the devil, of course, came at this from the route of *the genes* because that's what determines our nature.

It says here in verse 1:

Genesis 6:1

And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them,

Genesis 6:2

That the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair;

First of all, we see – and really, we have to understand – that there were *more daughters* born in the *lineage of men*. It wasn't 50/50, but the devil was behind this.

Now when I say that, I'm not speaking against women or sisters, but the devil was going to use this. And we even see how *in Cain's line*, very soon *one had taken two wives*. [Genesis 4:19] Again, why? Because – we can say – there were *more daughters being born than sons*.

And as time continued, we all know the story: how even the *sons of God* eventually began to *take wives of the daughters of men*. That's what we're reading here. [Genesis 6:2]

So what was the devil accomplishing with this? He was *contaminating the seed*. Amen.

The *sons of God* had a nature *to follow the Lord*. They could *receive the Word*. They could be *revelated*. But when they got to the point of having that *serpent seed*, it began to *contaminate the spiritual nature*. The devil couldn't care less about the physical part, but what he was after was *our nature: how we think*.

We'll continue to read, verse 4. I'm jumping over verse 3.

Genesis 6:4

There were giants in the earth in those days;

Why *giants*? Cain was not a giant. Abel was not a giant. The serpent was not a giant. But there is a phenomenon in genetics when a certain *clash of the genes* happens, we can see some characteristics that are exaggerated.

The *line of Cain* had been multiplying on its own, and the *sons of God* had also been multiplying on their own, but once there became *a cross of those two bloodlines*, there were some who were *giants*.

Genesis 6:4

and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare children to them, the same became mighty men which were of old, men of renown.

These *men of renown* [Genesis 6:4] to put that in modern terms, they were *the professionals*, they were *the experts*: very intellectually strong.

Genesis 6:5

And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

Genesis 6:6

And it repented the LORD that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart.

Genesis 6:7

And the LORD said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth;

Let's jump down to verse 8.

Genesis 6:8

But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.

Again, I have to ask: as people who have *heard the message* that was brought by Brother Branham and continued with Brother Jackson – and I will stop there just to appease those who are in the Jackson movement – do we believe the doctrine of Serpent Seed? I hope we do.

But when somebody says that the millions of babies that will be destroyed in the Day of Judgement will all be going to heaven, I have to say, it calls into question: do they even believe the doctrine of Serpent Seed? Do they even believe Predestination?

I have to say: it looks like *they don't* because their statement and those Bible doctrines *don't go together*.

We have to see: the devil was at work here. Amen? What was his goal? He wanted mankind to get to a point where *nobody would believe the Word of God*, and everybody would become *so wicked* that there would be no hope left for humanity.

And he got close to being able to do it.

If God had not intervened, the sons of Shem, the sons of Japheth, and the sons of Ham would also have been marrying into the mess that was out there in the world. And their lineage would have become more and more contaminated until it no longer would have mattered who married who: their offspring would never have the nature to be able to receive the Word of God.

But what did God do? He found a man, it says: *Noah found grace in the eyes of God*. Amen.

And for those who say that Noah was a pure seed, I have to say: there is so much wrong with that because it had almost gotten to the point that there was no hope for anybody.

Remember: *God basically destroyed the entire human race.* [Genesis 7:21] Amen.

And later, God told Abraham: *if there are ten righteous people in Sodom and Gomorrah, I won't destroy the place for the ten righteous' sake.* [Genesis 18:32] But God did not even find *ten* in those cities.

There were only *eight* on the ark. [1Peter 3:20]

First of all: if Noah had been a pure seed, there would still have been his brothers, his sisters, there would've been somebody else – even if they weren't pure – somebody else would've been close enough, they would've been on the ark as well.

Remember: Noah still had a *portion* of that *serpent seed* but he was pure enough, *he found grace in the eyes of God.* [Genesis 6:8]

And God had to *preserve that bloodline.* Knowing that the sons of Shem, Japheth, and Ham would have married wives in that world, it was getting very close to where there would never anymore be *a desire to hear the Word of God.*

But we see: the sons of Japheth, the sons of Shem, and the sons of Ham had to marry among the daughters of Shem, Japheth, and Ham as well.

Since that time, there has not been any other gene come in from the outside, but do we not think that the devil has been at work? *He still puts thoughts in the minds of people.*

We see how even today, one of the greatest things the devil uses as far as sin is *fornication.* Do we not think that he tries to inspire people? Has he not been doing that from the beginning?

When he was *defeated at the flood,* he got *right back to work.* That *serpent seed,* or especially what we would call today *the tare nature,* has always been *populating faster.* It's still the devil's desire *today* to take humanity to the point where there is just a bunch of unbelievers. The goal he had *before the flood* is what he wants to do *today* as well.

Again, we see that the true children of God are *very few.* We can see that with our natural eyes. And the devil is rejoicing because: more and more, mankind is tending toward a world of unbelief and sin.

The population of the world is exploding today. I was looking at history: there was a time when there were more people who desired the Word of God, there was a greater fervor. Yes, of course, there was still *the wicked element* but the churches were fuller and they believed more in-line with the Word than they do today.

But today, if we were to try to find 200 people who are *walking in the light of Truth*, we would have a hard time. We would really have to look and I don't know if we could do it.

Well, what does the devil want? He wants to get it to the point where *everyone born has no desire to follow the things of God*.

Now, we thank God that He is still in control of it all. And where He has a plan, He only lets the enemy get so far and then He says: stop right there!

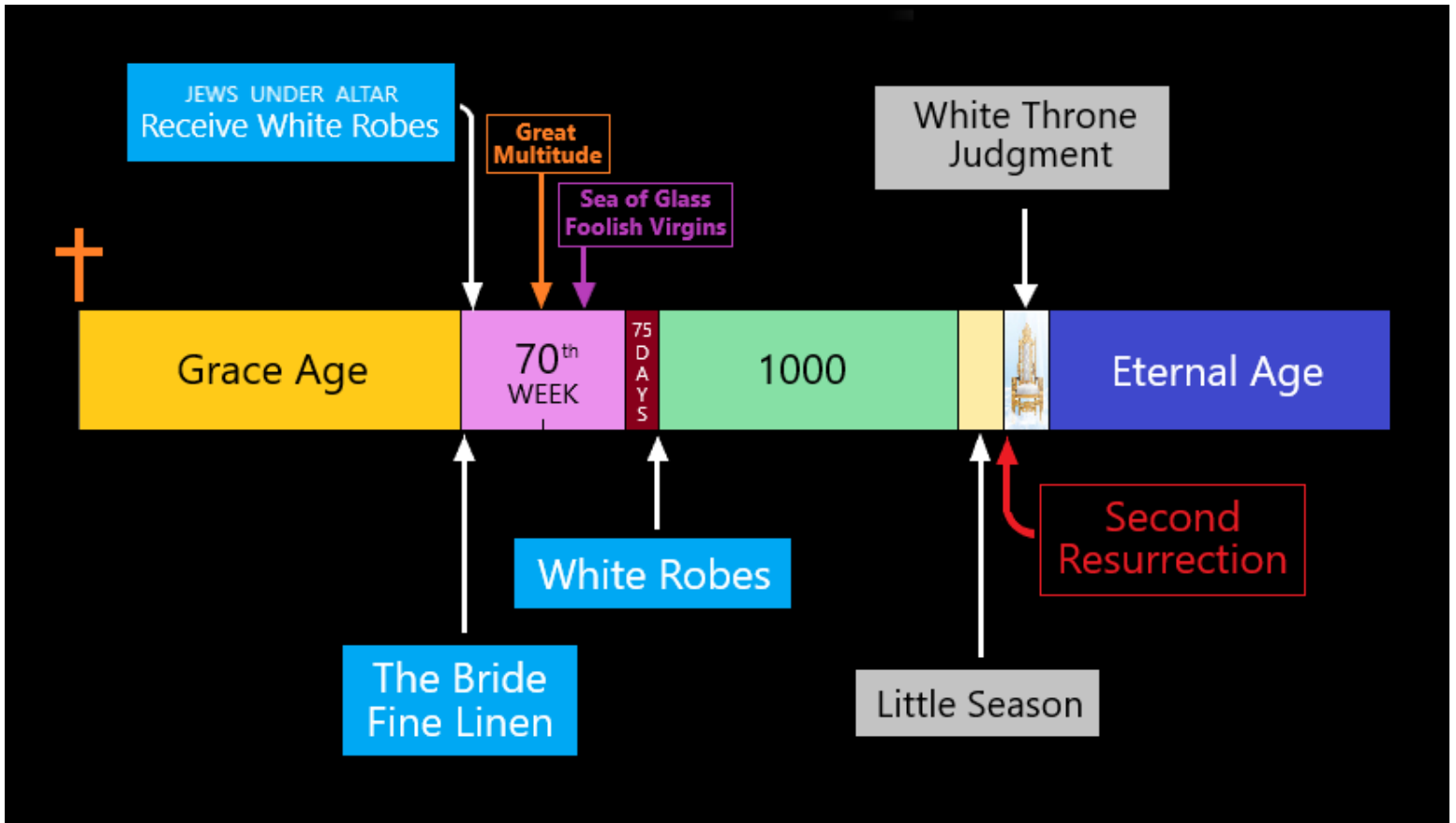
We know there is going to be an element of Jews: God has watched over every marriage, every child, and He has them *reserved to Himself*.

Just like Elijah said: *I'm the only one left!* [1Kings 19:14] And God said: *no, I have 7000 reserved.* [1Kings 19:18] He said: *I have them reserved.*

We know there is an element of Jews who are going to receive the Gospel. God has watched over that.

But when we look at the world in general, the devil would love it to all go back to *pure serpent seed*. That's his desire. And again: thank God, He's going to come on the scene when it's time.

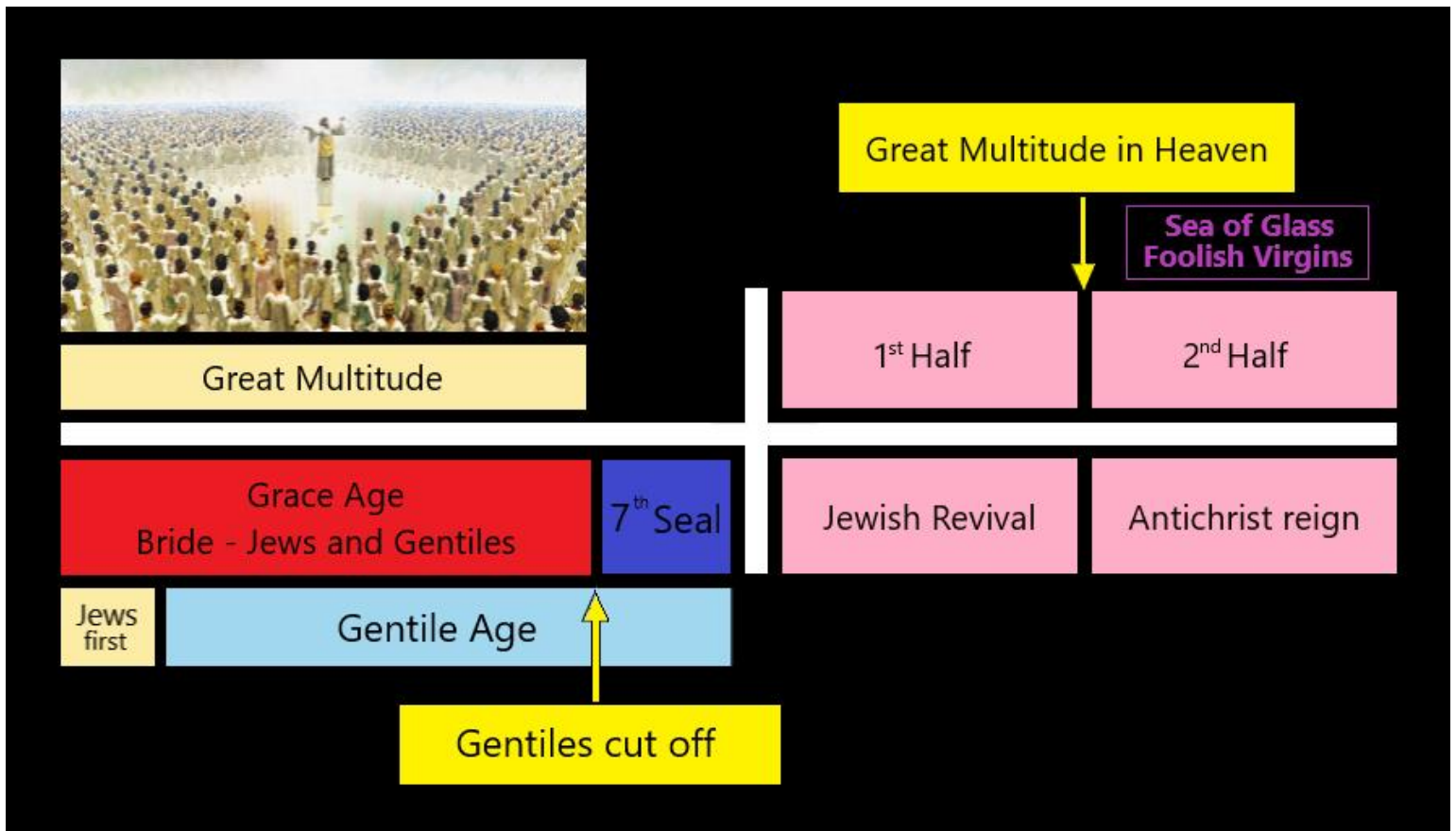
Let's go back to this slide:



If we look here at the 70th Week, the *Bride* will be gone. Amen.

In the 70th Week, nobody else is going to be saved to be part of the great multitude. [Revelation 7:9]

And nobody else will be saved to become a *foolish virgin* either. [Matthew 25:3]
[Revelation 15:2]



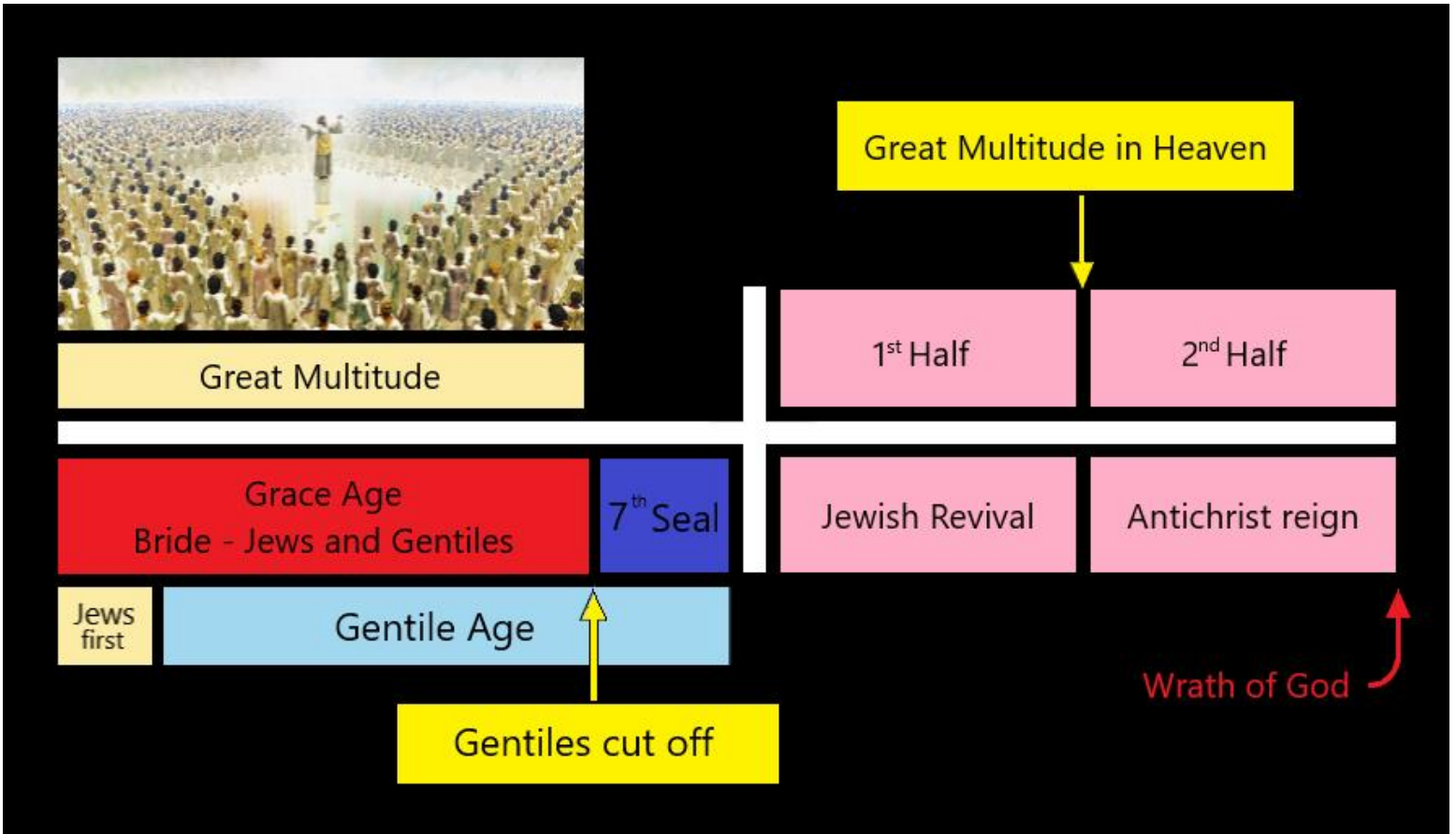
In fact, once we get to the time when the 7th Seal is broken, *the Gentiles* are going to be *cut-off*.

If somebody is going to be in that *great multitude* [Revelation 7:9] if somebody is a *foolish virgin* [Matthew 25:3][Revelation 15:2] and if somebody is *Bride*, they will *already be saved before the time the Grace Age is over*.

Somebody might say: I thought there were going to be *foolish virgins* in the 70th Week.

Yes of course because they are saved during the Grace Age and they will *continue to live*. The 7th Seal Time Factor will be a short time, and the *first half* of the Week is going to be 3½ years. That won't be a long time.

So *yes*, there will be *foolish virgins* in the *last half* of the Week, but they were *saved during the Grace Age*.



Now, when the *wrath of God* comes on the 8 billion people on earth, they will all be sent to hell. I'm talking about *all the wicked* which we know will be almost the entire population because those who *do remain* will just be *a remnant*. The *remnant* is not going to be the great portion of humanity.

All the adults, *billions and billions of them*, are going to be *slain by the wrath of God* and go into hell.

But if we think that *their children*, millions of them, will be saved and go to heaven because they won't – this is man's thinking – they won't have the opportunity to do wrong and to reject the Word, therefore they can't be sent to hell so they'll go to heaven, I have to say: if that were the case, they would just be lucky to be *children*.

Let's go to the book of John chapter 3 and read probably the most well-known verse of the Bible, verse 16.

John 3:16

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

He says: *whosoever believeth*. [John 3:16] Amen? Not: who dieth young. But: *who believeth*.

And *God knows each one* of those young ones: if they were to live, *would they believe?* We know that the great majority of them *would not*. If they would, *God would have extended time*.

Does He not say Himself that *He watches over time?* That *He keeps His wrath from coming so that everyone who is elect can come in?* [2Peter 3:7-9] He's the One Who watches over that. He has His purpose.

If *millions* were to come in, He would *stay His wrath*. He would let them come in *first*, and then He would pour out His wrath.

We know that *millions will be going to hell*, but according to what some are preaching: *their children* will be going to heaven. Again, *if we believe that*, then we don't really believe Serpent Seed and we don't really believe Predestination.

Remember: for those who accepted the Lord *after their death* – the Old Testament Saints – God has given us an understanding that there was *a place* where they went. It was called: *Abraham's bosom*. [Luke 16:22] It was full of people. Then one day, Jesus went down there and preached to them. He said: *I am the one you are waiting for*. And *they believed on him*.

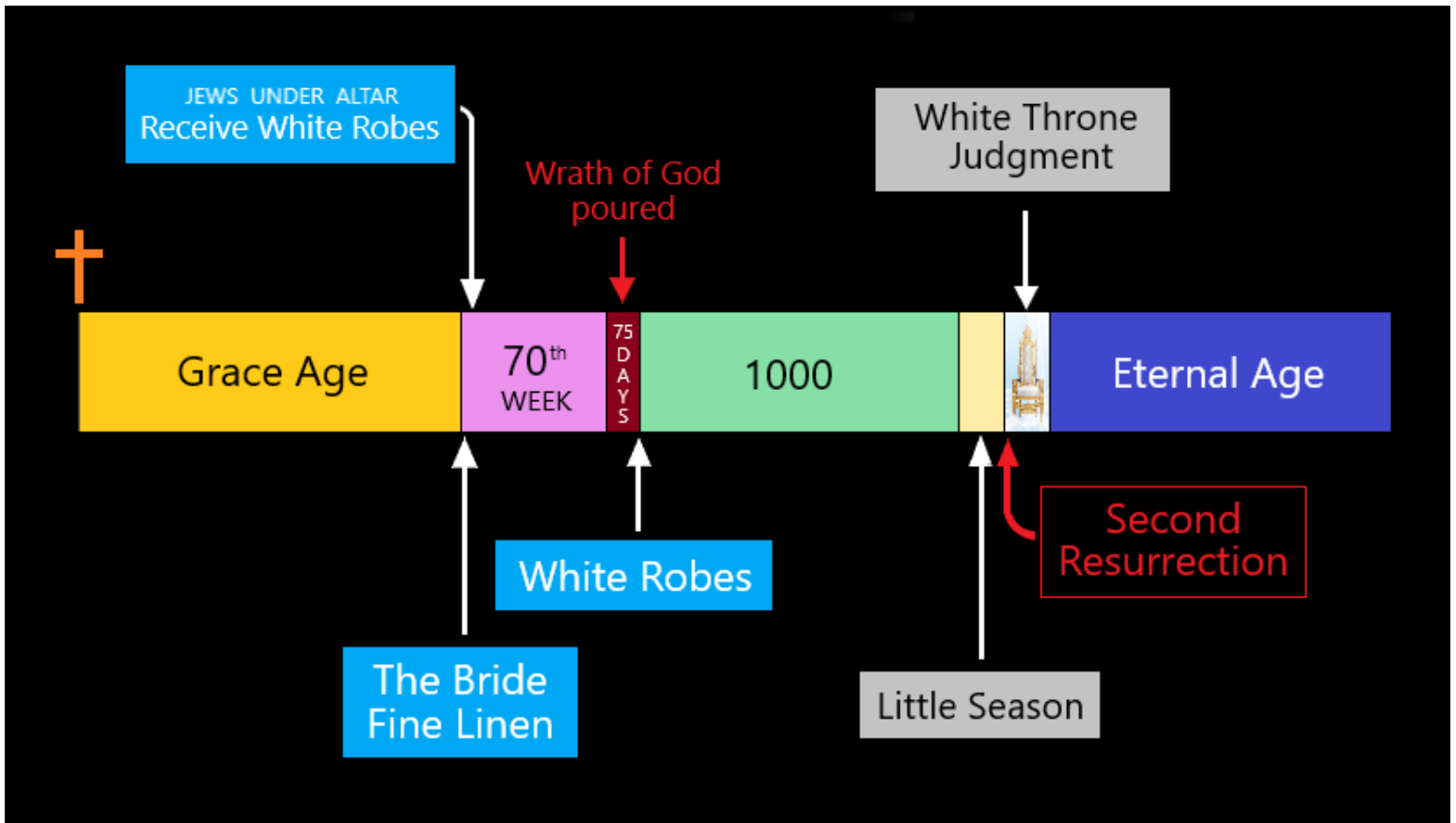
There *wasn't one person in Abraham's bosom* who said: well, I don't know, I'm not convinced.

The Lord never had to say: oh, I guess we'll take you out of *Abraham's bosom* and put you in *torment*, in *Gehenna*, because I was wrong about how you would respond. But *God knew every one*. Praise the Lord.

When we look at the Jews who died during the Age of Grace – those who did the best they knew to serve the Lord – God has a place for them. It's called: *under the altar*.

John said: *I saw the souls of them that were under the altar*. And how *they cried out*. [Revelation 6:9-10]

So when God *has a place reserved for the people who die*, He has let us know about it.



We know at the end of the Week of Daniel, *millions of people* are going to die when the *wrath of God* is poured out.

Now to make this simple, I'll just say: all those who will die under the age of fifteen. I know that's oversimplifying. But if they were to be saved and resurrected in the *second resurrection*, even though we don't read anything about it – there's nothing written to say that all the babies and young ones are going to come up separately – but if they were, then my question is: where do they go? Throughout the Millennium, where will they be?

On top of that: why wouldn't they be resurrected at the *beginning of the Millennium*? But they're out-of-sight until the end of the Millennium. Even from a logical perspective, that makes no sense.

Let's go back to Revelation 20. We'll just go ahead and read verse 4.

Revelation 20:4

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,

Revelation 20:4

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.

Revelation 20:5

But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection.

Revelation 20:6

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.

At the beginning of this verse, it says: *blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection*. All those who are *saved* come up in the *first resurrection*. There are *three stages* to it. This will be the *last stage*.

All the *righteous dead* who did not come up at the time of Jesus and who were not Bride Saints will all come up at the *beginning of the Millennium*.

So there has to come a point that we can leave this in God's hands knowing: *God is a just God*.

Again, I'm *not* saying He's going to send them to hell for things they *haven't done*. But the human mind says: oh well, if they don't go to hell, they have to go to heaven.

I will say this: let's let *God be God*.

In my mind, I can think of two or three other ways that God could deal with this. And that's just my finite human mind. Somebody might say: why don't you tell us? Because, again, that's *my* thought. Until the Lord confirms it, I'm *not* going to say: well, I think it's *this*.

But I can say one thing: the *billions of people* who are basically *serpent seed* are *not* going to have *children* who all happen to be righteous.

Now somebody will say: but Brother Jason, Brother Branham had a vision of his baby.

Yes, I think her name was Sharon Rose – I don't know the Branham family well enough, it may have been a different daughter – but she died as a baby. He had a vision and he saw her, I don't think it was even a year after she died. He had a vision that he was in heaven and she came running up to him. He didn't even recognize her. Why? Because she was a beautiful young women. She was already – we could say – *grown*.

You say: what about that?

Well again, if God knew what choice she would make and He decided to give her the opportunity to make that choice after she died, then *that's in God's hands*.

His perfect will would probably have been for her to live here on earth and one day, for her to come to the Lord. But her death was also something God used to kind of *shake* Brother Branham. There were certain things he learned from that experience which kept him on – we can say – *the right track*.

Again, when we look at individuals, could there be *one here* and *one there*? Well, that's in the hands of God.

We look at *Enoch* [Genesis 5:24] and *Elijah*. [2Kings 2:11] These two men were *translated* – right? – before the Lord Jesus Christ even came. Why were they *translated*? It was really to show you and me certain things about *the rapture* because it was: *a type of the rapture*.

But it *wasn't* that God loved them so much – more than everybody else – and they just got salvation before Jesus even came.

I have to say: yes Enoch and Elijah were taken up into heaven, but still, the day came when the Lord Jesus Christ gave his life and somewhere up there in heaven, they came to that knowledge and they accepted his sacrifice.

What's my point? They did not have eternal life the moment they were translated even though they were taken up into heaven. But they were held up there and once Jesus Christ had paid the price, then they could accept what he did and they were granted eternal life.

Nobody had a white robe until the Lord Jesus Christ came and shed his blood. He had to pay the sacrifice and then the people could accept it.

So I'll go ahead and close with that this morning.