

Christ in Prophecy
Prophecy 2: “Charting Bible Prophecy, Part 2”
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Opening

Dr. Reagan: Have you ever wondered how all the end-time Bible prophecy events relate to each other? Events like the Rapture, the Tribulation, the Second Coming, and the Millennium? If so, stay tuned for a dynamic, illustrated presentation that you will never forget.

Part 1

Dr. Reagan: Greetings in the name of Jesus our blessed hope. I'm Dave Reagan, Founder and Director of Lamb & Lion Ministries, and I am pleased to announce that I have in the studio with me again this week, one of my colleagues, Don Perkins. Don is the founder and director of According to Prophecy Ministries, located in San Diego, California. Don, welcome back to God's country here in Texas.

Don Perkins: I'm glad to be in God's country.

Dr. Reagan: Folks, last week Don and I introduced you to the fascinating world of Bible prophecy charts. We showed you simple charts, complex charts, small charts, and giant charts.

Don Perkins: We emphasized that charts are essential to the study of Bible prophecy because nowhere in the Bible can you find detailed listings of all end-time events and how they relate to each other. Instead, when it comes to end-time prophecy, the Bible is like a jigsaw puzzle that must fit together to see the big picture.

Dr. Reagan: Last week we showed you some giant Bible prophecy charts that were used by traveling evangelists back in the 1920's and 30's and we pointed out that these were very common visual props before the days of slide projectors and digital projectors. I also mentioned last week that Don still uses such charts very effectively in his teaching and preaching. And Don, this week I want to give our viewers an opportunity for them to see you in action as you are working with one of these giant charts of your own.

Don Perkins: Yes.

Dr. Reagan: But tell us first, how in the world did you come to design the chart that you are going to be showing to us.

Don Perkins: Well, it happened as a result of my studies. As I was studying the Word of God, and I used charts, I looked at Larkin's charts, I looked at different other Bible prophecy teachers charts and I found out that those charts really helped me to be able to communicate more effectively the teaching of Bible prophecy. You know, as I talked about the Second Coming, I

could take them to the chart and show them that. As I talked about the Rapture, I can take them to the Rapture, you know, so the chart, I saw a need for it.

Dr. Reagan: Yeah.

Don Perkins: And we designed a user-friendly chart that was able to...

Dr. Reagan: Well it is a user-friendly chart...

Don Perkins: Yes.

Dr. Reagan: I've seen you use it brother, and you really know how to do it. And you know Don, it's just, what it does, is it reinforces what you're teaching. I mean experts on education will tell you that when you use a visual, it really doubles the amount of retention on the part of the audience.

Don Perkins: Yes.

Dr. Reagan: So you have, well folks, I just want you to see what I am talking about. We're going to turn Don loose to give us a teaching about Bible prophecy using his overview chart.

Part 2

Don Perkins: I want to take you through our Bible prophecy chart, and we actually call this chart, Bible Prophecy: God's Order of Events. And what I'm going to do, I'm going to actually take you through from the present age all the way through to the eternal state. And again, I just want to give you some understanding about this chart. Everything you see on this line will be things that will take place on planet Earth. Everything beneath it will be things in the underworld, or Hell. Everything above will be things that will take place in the heavenlies. And what I'm going to do, I'm going to take you through I'll give you a general overview of Bible prophecy, and also show you how this chart is quite effective to help you understand Bible prophecy.

I want to start here with the present age, and again, we know that Adam was created in a beautiful world, it was a perfect world, but the Word of God tells us because of sin, the Bible says that sin entered into the Earth. And therefore the beautiful world that God created became thorn infested and sin entered into man, death entered into planet Earth. But one thing I thank God for, because God in His foreknowledge and plan, the Bible says He had already had a plan, He had crucified His Son in His mind. Christ was already crucified in the mind of God, in order to redeem man in case Adam made a mistake. Well we know Adam made that mistake and sin entered into man and the Word of God tells us that God, you know, with His foreknowledge and plans, He created, not created, but He had a plan to bring in His Son Jesus.

What I like about this part of the chart is that in this section we study Christ in prophecy this was God's remedy to bring man into eternal life. And we look at Christ in prophecy from the Old Testament, different aspects of the prophecies that led Him to the cross, Him going into Jerusalem, Him dying between two thieves, every aspect of His life was divinely ordered of God.

But because of what He has done, and I thank God so much for it, because of what He has done, He has brought in eternal life for mankind.

As a result of our Lord going to the cross, the Church was birthed, we have here the book of Acts and in the book of Acts, you know, the Church Age began. The Bible says that the apostles turned the world upside down, and now we are presently in what is known as the Church Age or the dispensation known as the Church Age. This is a wonderful time where Christ is using the Church, the body of Christ.

And we are here today, waiting for the next major prophetic event that's going to come on the horizon. And that event is known as the Rapture of the Church. Now I do teach and believe that the Rapture is a Pre-Tribulational Rapture, so I believe that the Church will be raptured prior to the Great Tribulation Period. And it's going to be a wonderful event because every Christian who is born again today will be taken up. The Bible says we will be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye. We will be caught up, and we will be changed from mortal to immortality. And I really love it because the saints will be caught up. The Bible says we will obtain glorified bodies like our Lord. So this is one event that I am truly waiting on here, to be caught up to be with my Lord. And the Bible says those of us that are raptured, "So shall we ever be with the Lord."

Now what I want to do here, I want to take it just a little bit further here since we are being caught up here in the Rapture, we will be caught up for a reason, for a purpose. We are going to also see that as the Church is taken up, we will go before what is known as the Judgment Seat of Christ, or the Bema Seat of Christ, and this is where Christ will judge every believer, every Christian for their labors and services as a Christian upon planet Earth. There at the judgment seat of Christ, the Christian can obtain five rewards, five different crowns. And then there'll be other rewards too. I also believe that here at the Judgment Seat, Christians will obtain rewards for their leadership in regards to the Millennial Kingdom. I believe that Christ will give us rewards for the Millennial Kingdom, but here Christians will actually be there to be judged by Christ. One thing that is exciting though, even though a Christian may lose rewards at the Judgment Seat of Christ, he won't be cast aside, this is not a judgment for condemnation, although some Christians will lose rewards. Now again, this is an event that will take place in the heavenlies. Now, what we're also going to see too, that the Bible also tells us of another event that will actually transpire in the heavens, and that event is known as the Marriage Supper of the Lamb. And I'll explain a little bit more about that as we come to this part of the chart.

But I want to go back here and I want to show you something here, the Church will be raptured and caught up and as we are taken up, there will be another event that will take place upon planet Earth. The Bible tells us about this seven years of tribulation. There will be three and a half years and three and a half years, totaling seven years of the judgment of God upon planet Earth. There will be 21 judgments that will enter the Great Tribulation Period and on top of that, the Antichrist, and many people here will find themselves in this Tribulation season. It will be a different time, a different time frame for mankind. Even our Lord has told us, He said that the Tribulation, this will be a time the world has never seen nor never ever will see again. Jeremiah calls it the time of Israel's trouble. And what's going to happen, God will allow this season of

Great Tribulation to come in, and again, the main purpose of this tribulation will be, God is going after a Jewish remnant of the House of Israel. You know, today there is a spirit of slumber that's covered the house of Israel, but that spirit of slumber will actually be lifted and Israel will cry out for the true Messiah. It's going to be exciting. Christ will, He will come back and He will actually deliver Israel, but the season of Tribulation is forecast in the Scriptures and it is going to be a time that this world has never, never seen, nor never, ever will see again.

Again, 21 judgments upon mankind, we see there are many things that will take place, the seven seal judgments, the seven trumpet judgments and the seven vial judgments that will come upon man. God's going to do supernatural things in the Tribulation Season. We also have here at the midpoint of the Tribulation, the Bible talks about the two witnesses, you find that in Revelation chapter 11, but what we are going to see here is that this is a time and a season that mankind don't want to be a part of, I will say that today. You know, you want to be born again during the time of the Church Age because anybody gets saved during this time, it's going to be very hard for them to live and exist. The Antichrist will be here, he will institute the mark of the beast, the time of, you know, men not being able to buy or sell unless they have that mark. And we will continue as we go a little further. Satan will be cast down to planet Earth at this time, and the Bible says that as Satan realizes that he has, "but a short time" he's going to really focus his attention against the Children of God or even against Israel during this time. But he will be cast down here, the Bible says he will be cast to the earth from his, the lower kingdom and then from this point on he's going closer and closer to his end-time judgment.

Part 2

Don Perkins: I want to pick up here, we first talked about the Rapture of the Church, the time of the Church Age, and then we moved on into the time of the Great Tribulation. And again, one main purpose of the Great Tribulation is that God is going after the nation of Israel. He's going after a Jewish remnant. The Bible says, even the 144,000, they are considered during this time in the Tribulation, as the first fruit offering unto God. The main purpose of this Tribulation is going to bring salvation to the house of Israel. Now what I like about this too, especially using this chart, because we're going to see that at the close of the Tribulation, one more thing I want to say to you, that the majority of the book of Revelation is actually found in this part of the chart here. Starting at chapter six where the beginning of the Tribulation takes place, and it goes all the way to chapter 19 we find a lot of content in the book of Revelation here. But I want to take you back up to the heavenlies and then we're going to come back down to the chart.

I shared earlier that we talked about this wonderful event known as the Marriage Supper of the Lamb. This will be a great banquet spread in Heaven the Bride has made herself ready. The Word of God says that, "Blessed are those who are called to this Marriage Supper." And you know, I can't wait, I mean, when I found out that there'll be food in Heaven, I got real excited. So we're going to see that this is a wonderful time for every believer. Revelation chapter 19, verses 7 through 9, actually talks about the Marriage Supper.

But the Scripture goes on in chapter 19 because it's going to tell us about another event known as the Second Coming of Christ. Now this will be the literal, physical return of our Lord as He

comes back to planet Earth to deliver the nation of Israel from the oppression of the Antichrist. Also in this Second Coming of Christ, the Bible tells us here that Jesus is coming back with a mighty army, and that army will actually comprise us, the saints of God, those of us that were raptured and caught up, will actually come back with Christ. But I want to pause for a second and just share one other thing. This is one reason why I do like this chart, because we can see that there's a difference in the Rapture and the Second Coming teachings. Here, the Second Coming, Christ is coming back to planet Earth, He will physically touch planet Earth. The Bible says in Zechariah, "His feet shall stand in that day upon the Mount of Olives." But if you notice, when we look at the Rapture, I Thessalonians, the Bible says we will meet Christ in the air. And I want you to notice too that both of these events are two distinct events in prophecy. Here Christ is coming to take up the Church here He is coming back with the Church, or with the saints. We will come back with Him, comprising the armies of heaven.

What we're also going to do, the Second Coming of Christ will bring us close to the time of Tribulation at this point Jesus will dethrone the Antichrist. You look at Revelation 19, at the close of the Tribulation; the Bible says that the Antichrist will be cast alive into the Lake of Fire. Christ is coming back at that time to judge the Antichrist and his forces. The Antichrist and False Prophet will be cast alive there. The Second Coming of Christ will produce the event known as the Battle of Armageddon. You know, a lot of times today when you hear news clips on TV and you hear the term Armageddon, the first thing they say, that we've, you know, that we've reached the end of the world because the bombs have exploded. Well I tell people all the time, I say, "You need to understand Bible prophecy, Armageddon will not take place until Christ literally comes back to planet Earth. When Jesus comes back, then Armageddon will take place."

Now I want to take you a little bit further, as Christ comes back in the Second Coming, which will produce the Battle of Armageddon, as He judges the Antichrist, we are coming back with Christ to go into His government. The Bible let's us know that Christ, He's coming back to fulfill physical prophecies upon His life. The Bible tells us here that there will be one thousand years of Christ's ruling and reigning upon planet Earth, and what I love so well is that the saints are coming back with Him to go into that time of government. The Bible says that, "if you suffer with Him, you shall reign with Him." Jesus said if you overcome, He said, I will grant you to be in charge over many cities. Here in the Millennial Kingdom we will come back with Christ to help Him rule and reign in this world. The Bible tells us that this will be a time of government, a theocratic government ruled by Christ. Jesus here, the Bible says, will actually rule planet Earth for 1,000 years. And again, it's going to be a wonderful season, but I want to share one other thing.

Prior to this thousand-year beginning, Revelation chapter 20, the Bible says that Satan will be bound in the bottomless pit. The Scripture tells us that Satan will be bound in this bottomless pit for one thousand years so he will have no influence inside of the Millennial season, even though Satan won't be here, nor his influences, man will even sin in this Millennial Kingdom. Here man cannot blame the Devil on his sins, because the sin nature will still be there and many will sin, not the glorified who will be coming back with Christ, but those sheep nations that are allowed to come out of the Tribulation into the Millennial Kingdom.

One other thing I like about the Millennium, the Bible tells us that Christ, He's going to basically change the nature of the beasts. The lion will not eat flesh in the Millennial Kingdom. He will eat straw like the ox the Bible says. A child can play on the den of the most poisonous snake, and that child will not be harmed. The whole Earth will be filled with the peace of God. It's going to be exciting. I cannot wait to be there, to be in some capacity to help Christ rule. You know, I heard a man say something that really blessed me. He said, "When Christ comes back in the Second Coming, He's coming with His administration." We that have been raptured will come back with Him, again, to be in those key positions of rule.

Now the Bible also tells us in Revelation 20, verse 7, that Satan will be loosed out of that prison. Now as he's released out of that 1,000 year prison, the Bible lets us know that he will have influence again in the Earth. And I believe that this is God's last purging of the unredeemed. Those people that can come under Satan's influence will actually surrender their influence to him; they will actually try to come against Christ, and God's going to judge them. But one verse I'm really excited about is Revelation chapter 20:10 because it tells us here that Satan will be cast into the Lake of Fire. The Bible says he will be there forever and ever. Satan is going to Hell. The Bible tells us that he will go there, but that will take place at the end of this 1,000 reign of Christ.

And again, Christ will rule, it will be a time of peace, this world will experience peace that it has never, ever experienced. When Christ came the first time, He did not physically sit on the throne of His father David, but the Bible tells us that He will. And again, what's so exciting, those of us that are born again, we will actually be with Him to rule and to reign. You know, we'll be there to report for duty, to be with our Lord. And again, I'm excited what Bible prophecy reveals in regards to this 1,000 year season of our Lord.

Part 3

Don Perkins: For those of you tuning in now, we're actually taking you through our Bible prophecy chart. We started with the Church Age, we moved on to the Great Tribulation, then we moved on to the Millennial Kingdom. Now what I want to do, I want to take you a step further, we're going to look at the Great White Throne, the compartments of Hell, and then the eternal state.

As we closed, we dealt with Satan being bound, I mean being bound in the millennium, being released and then cast into the Lake of Fire. The Bible tells us in Revelation chapter 20 though, that there will be another event in the heavens. This is Revelation, chapter 20:11-15, and this event is known as the Great White Throne Judgment. This will be the judgment of the unredeemed. Every man or woman that appears here will be eternally lost. You wonder, "Why would God even do this judgment?" Well, one reason He's going to have this judgment is because at this time, man will be resurrected from Hades and Sheol, his spirit and soul will be resurrected to reunite with his physical body, he will stand before God to give an account in his flesh, for the deeds done in his body. Here God will show man everything He did to save them. Men will understand of a surety that God tried, God did everything that He could do to redeem

them. But they will notice, I mean, they will see here that they have rejected Him. Here, every man, woman will be judged here, God will vindicate His judgment on the unredeemed and sad to say, those people will be judged. The Bible says that God does not have pleasure in the death of the wicked. It hurts the heart of God for anyone to die outside of God's eternal love, but some will because of their rejection of Christ, and they will actually be cast alive into the Lake of Fire. And again, this is an eternal judgment.

But since I'm down here, I want to take you over just a little bit further here, and the Bible actually tells us a lot about Hell. What we can see in the Scriptures is that there are five different compartments of Hell, if you want to call it that, but it is all the term Hell, but let me explain what the Scriptures teach. Here we have here, this first compartment, known as Paradise of Old, or Abraham's Bosom. And if you notice on the chart here, this compartment here is actually before the cross of Christ. This took place, this was a place where the redeemed would go, those who were covered by the atoning blood of the Lamb. When they died, their bodies were buried, their bodies were buried, but their spirit and soul went to Abraham's bosom. This compartment is no longer here today because today when a Christian dies, he is "absent from the body, he is present with the Lord." But at this time, because God, because Christ hadn't died yet, God had to have a place in order for the redeemed to go. And they went to this compartment. After Christ's resurrection this compartment was delivered, He "led captivity captive."

The next compartment we have here is Hell or Hades and Sheol, which is the Greek and Hebrew form of the word Hell. This is the compartment where the spirit and soul of the unredeemed go and they are there awaiting the time of judgment. I like to call Hades and Sheol, like "Central lockup." This is a place where they are until they go before the Judge, and then they will go to the eternal Hell, which we will cover in a few seconds.

The Bible also tells us about another part of Hell known as Tartarus. This is where those angels that cohabitated with men, God judged them. Satan sent these angels on assignment and they overstepped their bounds and God judged them immediately, immediately, and the Bible says that they are there today "reserved unto the judgment," and these are certain angels that Satan sent on assignment that God judged, and again, you will find that in 2 Peter, chapter 2, verse 4.

Another compartment, which I lightly touched earlier, was during the time of the Millennial Kingdom. This compartment is known as the bottomless pit, or the abyss, and this is where Satan will be bound for 1,000 years during the time of Tribulation. Also, in this Tribulation season here, when the fifth seal, and the fifth trumpet is blown, locusts will come from the bottomless pit upon Earth to torment men for five months. So they are actually coming from the bottomless pit here.

Then we are going to look at this last compartment, which is the eternal Hell. As a matter of fact the Bible says Hell shall be cast into Gehenna or the Lake of Fire. Another name for it is called the second death, and this is the eternal judgment, this is where Satan will be bound, I mean, not bound, he will be judged here, and fallen man will actually go there also.

But I want to close on a happy note, because I really like this. We are going to end up here in the eternal state, or the eternal World. Revelation 21:22 actually gives us a beautiful panoramic picture of eternity. The Bible says we will spend eternity upon a brand new World, wherein dwells righteousness. What I like also, Revelation 22:3, it tells us that there will be no more curse. You know, the beautiful rose bush, had not Adam sinned, would never have had a thorn? But because of Adam's sin, sin entered into the Earth and the beautiful rose bush became thorn infested. It was a part of the curse. God judged the Earth. Well, in the new World, this new World will have no more curse, and because of that I believe every rose bush will be – there will be no thorns on it, we will actually live in a beautiful World. The Bible tells us that God's going to cause the New Jerusalem, the Tabernacle of God, to come upon the New Earth. The Bible says every righteous, born again believer will be here in the eternal World. The Bible says God will come down, and He would reside here, and Jesus will reside there and we will be there for all eternity.

Now think about this if Adam had never sinned, mankind would forever spend eternity upon planet Earth. Well, you know, that was always the will of God. Well, were going to have a tangible, touchable, feelable, eternity, and I am so excited about it. I am looking forward to going into this eternal world. Now what God is going to do prior to the New Earth coming, God is going to renovate it. In other words, all of the contaminates of man and sin will actually be burned and dealt with, and then when the smoke clears, and the dust settles, we'll have a brand new World. I mean what we need to understand is that when we step into the eternal World, it's going to be an awesome World, because there will be no more Devil, no more sin, no more sickness, no more curse. The Bible says God shall wipe away all tears from our eyes, and it's going to be exciting. I'm looking forward to this.

Another thing that I'm really excited about, the Bible talks about the Tree of Life. The Tree of Life that Adam and Eve, after they sinned they could no longer eat of that tree, they ate of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil and God banned them from eating of the Tree of Life. Well, the Tree of Life will be on planet Earth, and the Bible says every believer can eat of the Tree of Life. It's going to bear 12 manner of fruits and yield a different fruit every month. What is your eternal destiny? Are you a candidate for the eternal world, or the Lake of Fire? The choice is yours. The Word of God commands that every man must be born again. Simply, the Bible says, "Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord, they shall be saved." You know, the choice is yours. God said, "I've set before you life and death." He said, "But I tell you, 'Choose life.'" And that life is eternal life with Jesus Christ.

Closing

Dr. Reagan: Well folks, you have just witnessed a highly abbreviated version of Don's presentation about end-time Bible prophecy using his great chart to illustrate his points. To get the detailed version, I urge you to call and order a copy of his DVD entitled, "Bible Prophecy, God's Order of Events." Don, in the short time that we have remaining, would you tell people how they can get on your mailing list?

Don Perkins: It's very simple. You can go to our website, it's www.according2prophecy.org.

Dr. Reagan: Well folks, that's our time for this week. I hope this program has been a blessing to you and I hope you will be back with us next week. Until then, this is Dave Reagan Speaking for Lamb and Lion Ministries, SAYING, "Look up, be watchful, for our redemption is drawing near."

End of Program