

## Revelation 1 “The Lord of glory” James 2:1

### Table Revelation 1:10-20<sup>1</sup>

- 10 *I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet,*
- 11 *Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamos, and unto Thyatira, and unto Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea.*
- 12 *And I turned to see the voice that spake with me. And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks;*
- 13 *And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle.*
- 14 *His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow; and his eyes were as a flame of fire;*
- 15 *And his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and his voice as the sound of many waters.*
- 16 *And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp twoedged sword: and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength.*
- 17 *And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last:*
- 18 *I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.*
- 19 *Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter;*
- 20 *The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches.*

See Dr Ruckman's studies<sup>2</sup> for more detailed comments.

1. [Revelation 1:10](#). John is testifying as Paul did that **“I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord”** 2 Corinthians 12:1 being as John is like Paul **“a man in Christ”** 2 Corinthians 12:2. Though today's believer will not directly receive **“visions and revelations of the Lord”** as John did he should fully comprehend and be able to declare the *spiritual* reality of being **“a man in Christ...in the Spirit”** as Paul sets out that reality in Romans 8:9 **“But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.”**

That said, John **“in the Spirit on the Lord's day”** is a specific translation of John *spiritually* to bear witness to End Times **“visions and revelations of the Lord”** as John sets out in Revelation 1:1-2 **“The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John: Who bare record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he saw.”**

Concerning the expression **“his angel”** see Exodus 3:2, Judges 6:12, 13:3, 21, Matthew 1:20, 2:13, 19, Luke 1:11, 22:43, Acts 7:30, 35 with respect to the Biblical interpretation of the term *angel* as an appearance.

John's translation is like that of Enoch in Hebrews 11:5 "By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God" although Enoch's translation was both bodily and spiritual. However, just as Enoch "pleased God" prior to his translation so was John "the disciple whom Jesus loved" John 21:20 and so John received his translation.

Today's believer can look forward to an equivalent *dual* translation insofar as "the Father...hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son" Colossians 1:12-13 "...in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself" Philippians 3:20-21.

Between now and then today's believer should "Occupy till I come" Luke 19:13 and aim to be as "...an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, wellpleasing to God" Philippians 4:18.

John's "visions and revelations of the Lord" focus on "the Lord's day," which is "the day of the LORD" Isaiah 2:12, 13:6, 9, 34:8, Jeremiah 46:10, Lamentations 2:22, Ezekiel 13:5, 30:3, Joel 1:15, 2:1, 11, 3:14, Amos 5:18 twice, 20, Obadiah 15, Zephaniah 1:7, 8, 14, 18, 2:2, 3, Zechariah 14:1 or "the day of the Lord" 1 Corinthians 5:5, 2 Corinthians 1:14, 1 Thessalonians 5:2, 2 Peter 3:10, 27 occurrences in all.

The scriptures that speak of "the Lord's day," which is "the day of the LORD" are dire as the following scriptures, one from "the old testament" and one from "the new testament" 2 Corinthians 3:6, 14, summarise. Note Peter's description of today's believer, whom Paul designates as "a man in Christ...in the Spirit" 2 Corinthians 12:2, Romans 8:9.

John's "visions and revelations of the Lord" with respect to "The Revelation of Jesus Christ" Revelation 1:1 prove to be no exception to the scriptures that speak of "the Lord's day," which is "the day of the LORD" insofar as John himself testifies "...we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness" 1 John 5:19.

"Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, cruel both with wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate; and he shall destroy the sinners thereof out of it...And I will punish the world for their evil, and the wicked for their iniquity; and I will cause the arrogancy of the proud to cease, and will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible" Isaiah 13:9, 11.

"But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness...Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless" 2 Peter 3:10-11, 14.

John's testimony of "...a great voice, as of a trumpet" matches that of King David that "The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty" Psalm 29:4.

Whether though in powerful and majestic mode or as "a still small voice" 1 Kings 19:12 when "the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it" the right response of "all ye his saints" Psalm 31:23 including today's believer is as John records in John 2:5 "His mother saith unto the servants, Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it" and noting the outcome as James admonishes in James 1:22, 25 "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves...whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed."

2. [Revelation 1:11](#). Noting the embedded definition of "Alpha and Omega" as "the first and the last" the expression "Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last" identifies the Speaker the Lord Jesus Christ as the Lord Whose word is first, foremost, fixed and final as King David

testifies in Psalm 119:160 “Thy word is true from the beginning; and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever” and the God Who said in Isaiah 46:9-10 “...for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, 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.”

The expression “I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last” is a description of the Lord’s excellent name according to Psalm 8:9 “O LORD our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth!” and “the name of Jesus” Philippians 2:10. See therefore the attached studies **God’s Excellent Name** and “the name of Jesus” Philippians 2:10.

Noting the truth of Exodus 18:11 “Now I know that the LORD is greater than all gods: for in the thing wherein they dealt proudly he was above them” note that the expression “What thou seest, write in a book” immediately identifies the Lord Jesus Christ as He Who said to the Prophets:

“Woe to the rebellious children, saith the LORD, that take counsel, but not of me; and that cover with a covering, but not of my spirit, that they may add sin to sin...Now go, write it before them in a table, and note it in a book, that it may be for the time to come for ever and ever” Isaiah 30:1, 8.

“Thus speaketh the LORD God of Israel, saying, Write thee all the words that I have spoken unto thee in a book” Jeremiah 30:2.

What John is commanded to “write in a book” is for today’s believer part of “that which was written in the law of the LORD” 2 Chronicles 35:26. Revelation 2, 3 reveal that writing to be explicit to widely differing church congregations and epochs within the Church Age.

The lesson for today’s believer is Hebrews 4:12-13 “For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.”

3. **Revelation 1:12.** John’s turning “to see the voice that spake with me” was the right response to “to see the voice that spake with me” as was that of King David and Paul in contrast to that of “Ornan...and his four sons.” Both John and Paul thereby received “...visions and revelations of the Lord” 2 Corinthians 12:1 and Paul testifies how the Lord commissioned him “...that I might have some fruit among you also, even as among other Gentiles” Romans 1:13.

Today’s believer has the same commission with respect to “...the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God” Acts 20:24. Note therefore the progression in that respect of these scriptures.

“And David went up at the saying of Gad, which he spake in the name of the LORD. And Ornan turned back, and saw the angel; and his four sons with him hid themselves...” 1 Chronicles 21:19-20.

“I thought on my ways, and turned my feet unto thy testimonies” Psalm 119:59.

“How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!” Isaiah 52:7 noting Paul’s particular application to the Church Age.

“And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!” Romans 10:15.

“And I said, Who art thou, Lord? And he said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutes. But rise, and stand upon thy feet: for I have appeared unto thee for this purpose...Delivering thee from the people, and from the Gentiles, unto whom now I send thee, To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness

of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me. Whereupon, O king Agrippa, I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision: But shewed first unto them of Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the coasts of Judaea, and then to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance” Acts 26:15-20.

“Yea, so have I strived to preach the gospel, not where Christ was named, lest I should build upon another man’s foundation” Romans 15:20.

“...having hope...To preach the gospel in the regions beyond you, and not to boast in another man’s line of things made ready to our hand” 2 Corinthians 10:15-16.

“Stand therefore...your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace” Ephesians 6:15. Paul describes “the preparation of the gospel of peace” as “the ministry of reconciliation” after the manner of Exodus 25:22 “And there I will meet with thee, and I will commune with thee from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubims which are upon the ark of the testimony, of all things which I will give thee in commandment unto the children of Israel” according to 2 Corinthians 5:18-20 “And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ’s stead, be ye reconciled to God.”

Concerning “the heavenly vision” Acts 26:19 that John received of “seven golden candlesticks” that vision testifies as follows to the Lord Jesus Christ “the Lord of glory” James 2:1 as “...The LORD, he is the God; the LORD, he is the God” 1 Kings 18:39 “For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily” Colossians 2:9.

Concerning “seven” the number seven in scripture in scripture is repeatedly associated with God Himself. See **References** with respect to Dr Ruckman’s studies on the number seven and see again the attached study **God’s Excellent Name** and these additional attached studies.

**Purification of “The words of the LORD” Psalm 12:6, 7 – Summary**

**“The words of the LORD...purified seven times” Psalm 12:6**

together with the more detailed companion studies<sup>3</sup>

**Seven Sevenfold Purifications of The Words of the LORD**

**Presentational Perfection of “The words of the LORD” Psalm 12:6**

**The 1611 Holy Bible versus the Non-Extant Original.**

“seven” in the context of Revelation 1:10-20 therefore denotes the Lord Jesus Christ as God Himself in that His heavenly depiction is further disclosed as John reveals in this explicit scriptural reference to the Lamb’s sevenfold receipt in Revelation 5:6, 11-12 “And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth...And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands; Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing.”

Concerning “golden” see the attached study “Behold, there came wise men” Matthew 2:1 and note this extract given that the Lord Jesus Christ is declared to be in Revelation 19:16 “KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.”

- Gold is for a king. 1 Kings 10:18 says of Solomon that “...the king made a great throne of ivory, and overlaid it with the best gold.” The Lord Jesus Christ is “the King of kings, and Lord of lords” 1 Timothy 6:15, so the “the best gold” befits Him.



Concerning “candlesticks” note the progression of the following scriptures *as they apply to today’s believer* noting again Acts 26:15-20 above.

“The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple” Psalm 119:130.

“Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house” Matthew 5:15.

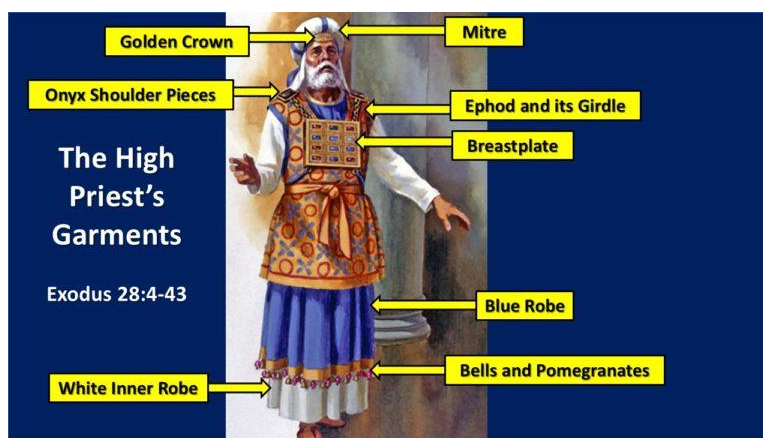
“No man, when he hath lighted a candle, covereth it with a vessel, or putteth it under a bed; but setteth it on a candlestick, that they which enter in may see the light...No man, when he hath lighted a candle, putteth it in a secret place, neither under a bushel, but on a candlestick, that they which come in may see the light” Luke 8:16, 11:33.

“Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life” John 8:12.

4. **Revelation 1:13.** John saw “in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man” because “For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them” Matthew 18:20 “And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven” John 3:13.

He is “clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle” because as Job states of the Lord Jesus Christ *in type* “I put on righteousness, and it clothed me; my judgment was as a robe and a diadem” Job 29:14 and as Isaiah testifies for “all ye his saints” Psalm 31:23 “I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels” Isaiah 61:10.

“girt about the paps with a golden girdle” is the Lord’s glorified counterpart of “...holy garments for Aaron thy brother for glory and for beauty; as the LORD commanded Moses...And the curious girdle of the ephod, which is upon it, shall be of the same, according to the work thereof; even of gold, of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen...And Aaron shall bear the names of the children of Israel in the breastplate of judgment upon



his heart, when he goeth in unto the holy place, for a memorial before the LORD continually” Exodus 28:1, 8, 29<sup>4</sup> because as Paul reveals “...consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus...this man, because he continueth ever, hath an unchangeable priesthood. Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them” Hebrews 3:1, 7:24-25.

In addition to the above scriptures today’s believer may take great comfort with respect to Romans 8:34 “...Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.”

5. **Revelation 1:14.** “His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow” because “The Father loveth the Son, and hath given all things into his hand...And hath given him authority to execute judgment also, because he is the Son of man” John 3:35, 5:27. Daniel had vision of what therefore now applies to the Lord Jesus Christ “I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire. A fiery stream

issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened...I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed" Daniel 9-10, 13-14.

Daniel's visions concerning the Lord Jesus Christ depicted according as "His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow" are fulfilled in Revelation 20:11-12 "And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened; and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works."

Today's believer should therefore be thankful that for him as John testifies "I write unto you, little children, because your sins are forgiven you for his name's sake...And this is the promise that he hath promised us, even eternal life" 1 John 2:12, 25.

Because concerning the Lord Jesus Christ "...his eyes were as a flame of fire" "Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight; but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do" Hebrews 4:13 and therefore today's believer can take comfort in 1 Peter 3:12 "For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers; but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil."

6. **Revelation 1:15.** With "...his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace" thus it shall be "...unto you that fear my name...ye shall tread down the wicked; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I shall do this, saith the LORD of hosts" Malachi 4:2-3 "When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day" 2 Thessalonians 1:10.

The expression "...his voice as the sound of many waters" immediately identifies "...our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory..." James 2:1 as He of Whom Ezekiel testifies with respect to the Second Advent "And, behold, the glory of the God of Israel came from the way of the east: and his voice was like a noise of many waters: and the earth shined with his glory" Ezekiel 43:2.

Given that Ezekiel 43:2 is of "The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John" Revelation 1:1 today's believer should consistently abide by Psalm 40:16, 70:4 "Let all those that seek thee rejoice and be glad in thee; let such as love thy salvation say continually, The LORD be magnified...and let such as love thy salvation say continually, Let God be magnified."

7. **Revelation 1:16.** See remarks on Revelation 1:20 with respect to "seven stars." Note that the expression "And he had in his right hand seven stars" immediately identifies the Lord Jesus Christ as He of Whom Amos exhorts "for all saints" Ephesians 6:18 because "When thou saidst, Seek ye my face; my heart said unto thee, Thy face, LORD, will I seek" Psalm 27:8 "Seek him that maketh the seven stars and Orion, and turneth the shadow of death into the morning, and maketh the day dark with night: that calleth for the waters of the sea, and poureth them out upon the face of the earth: The LORD is his name." Amos 5:8.

"his right hand" is therefore "the right hand of power" Matthew 26:64, Mark 14:62 with respect to "...Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God" 1 Corinthians 1:24, as revealed in creation because "...God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also" Genesis 1:16, "Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when

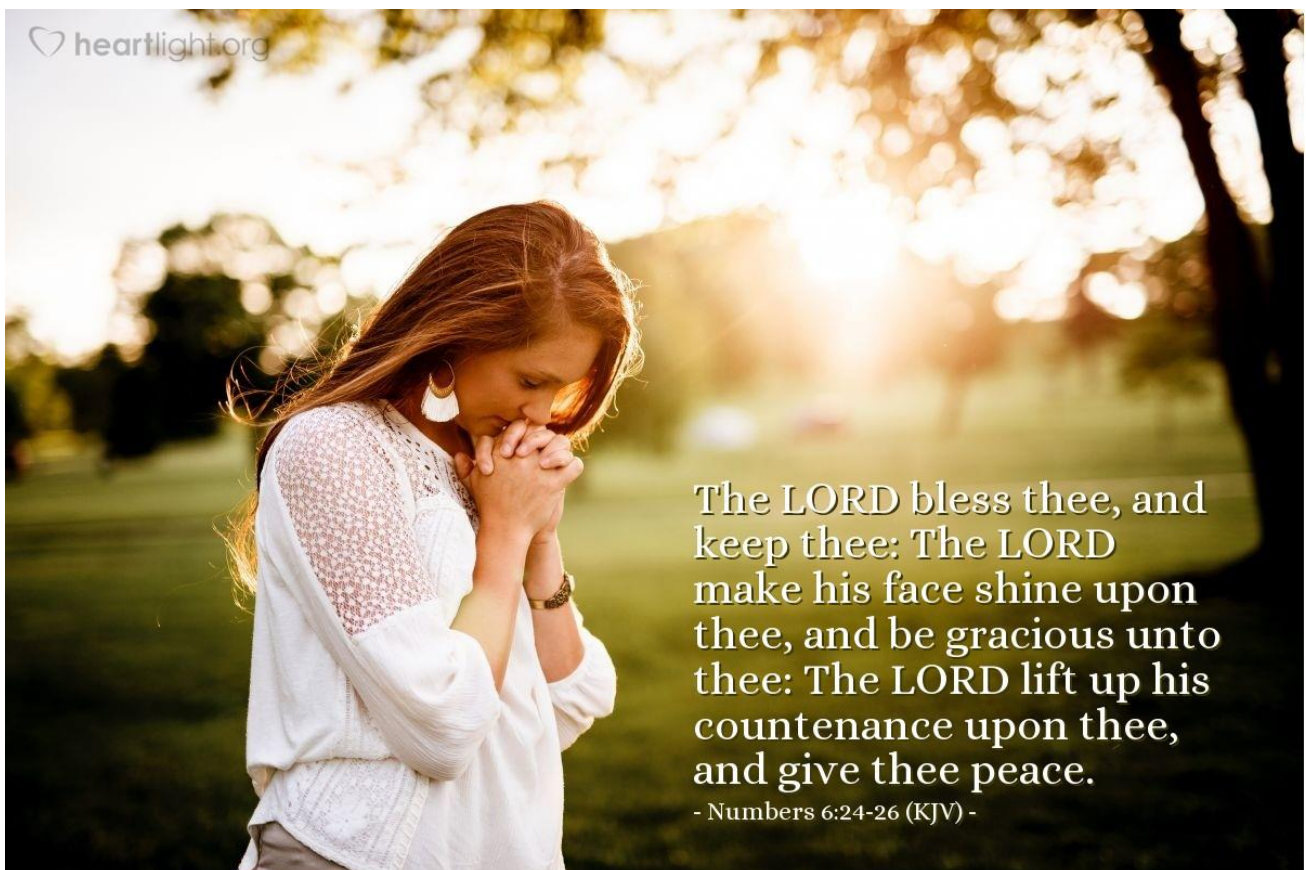
he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high” Hebrews 1:3.

The sun went out the day God died according to Luke 23:45-46 “And the sun was darkened...And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, he said, Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit; and having said thus, he gave up the ghost” because “...Jesus said unto the chief priests, and captains of the temple, and the elders, which were come to him...this is your hour, and the power of darkness” Luke 22:52-53.

For details and further information see the attached study ***The Sovereign Power of Darkness***.

However as Peter declares of the Lord Jesus Christ with respect to “Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs...Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death; because it was not possible that he should be holden of it” Acts 2:22, 24 therefore “out of his mouth went a sharp twoedged sword” because “...out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations; and he shall rule them with a rod of iron; and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God” Revelation 19:15.

John’s reaction notwithstanding, Revelation 1:17, “his countenance...as the sun shineth in his strength” is therefore a great comfort to today’s believer “For the LORD God is a sun and shield: the LORD will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly” Psalm 84:11 as the following well-known scriptures reinforce<sup>5</sup>.



8. [Revelation 1:17](#). John testifies that “And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead” because as shown in Matthew 28:2-4 “And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it. His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow: And for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead men.” However that is not all:



“And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last” because the Lord declares as these prophets testify, from which today’s believer may take consistent comfort:

“Fear thou not; for I am with thee; be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness” Isaiah 41:10.

“Then there came again and touched me one like the appearance of a man, and he strengthened me, 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” Daniel 10:18-19.

“And the LORD answered the angel that talked with me with good words and comfortable words” Zechariah 1:13.

Therefore as Paul exhorts today’s believer *and with respect to “the things of others”* Philippians 2:4 “Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort; Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God. For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also aboundeth by Christ” 2 Corinthians 1:3-5.

9. Revelation 1:18. “I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen” so that Paul, as indicated under Revelation 1:12, exhorts via the Corinthians for the sake of all his readers, saved or unsaved, with respect to his commitment as it should be for today’s believer to fulfil “...the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God” Acts 20:24 “Whereunto I also labour, striving according to his working, which worketh in me mightily” Colossians 1:29, “For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead: And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again” 2 Corinthians 5:14-15.

“And Benaiah the son of Jehoiada answered the king, and said, Amen: the LORD God of my lord the king say so too” 1 Kings 1:36.

“I...have the keys of hell and of death” because as Paul declares and from which today’s believer can derive great comfort “Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage” Hebrews 2:14-15 “Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God...For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus” Romans 8:21, Galatians 3:26.

10. Revelation 1:19. See remarks under Revelation 1:11 “What thou seest, write in a book.” The expression “Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter” identifies the Speaker the Lord Jesus Christ as the Lord Who states through Isaiah in part for the comfort of “all ye his saints” Psalm 31:23 “So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth; it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it” Isaiah 55:11.

Today’s believer should be encouraged that what John writes with respect to “The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John” Revelation 1:1 is as the Lord declares through King Solomon “The preacher sought to find out acceptable words: and that which was written was upright, even words of truth” Ecclesiastes 12:10.



11. Revelation 1:20. Noting remarks earlier on Revelation 1:12, 16 the Lord reveals “The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks” because “He revealeth the deep and secret things: he knoweth what is in the darkness, and the light dwelleth with him” Daniel 2:22.

“The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches” in that as the Lord perceives “the churches of God” 1 Corinthians 11:16, 1 Thessalonians 2:14, 2 Thessalonians 1:4 “endued with power from on high” Luke 24:49 from “the right hand of power” Matthew 26:64, Mark 14:62 with respect to “...Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God” 1 Corinthians 1:24 “...that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem” Luke 24:47 in that “he is the head of the body, the church” Colossians 1:18. Those churches therefore should be the visible embodiment of Daniel 12:3 “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.”

“...and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches” because, as Dr Ruckman<sup>6</sup> points out, as the Lord Jesus Christ states in effect of “The churches of Christ” Romans 16:16 “Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid” Matthew 5:14 and the churches’ ministry is to fulfil as King David states and as the Lord Jesus Christ reiterates with respect to Revelation 1:20:

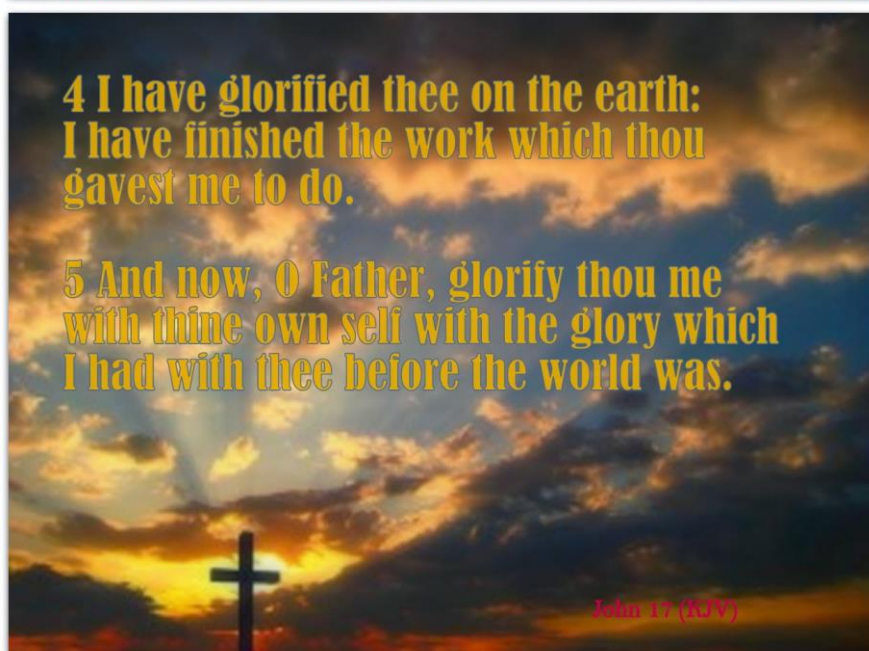
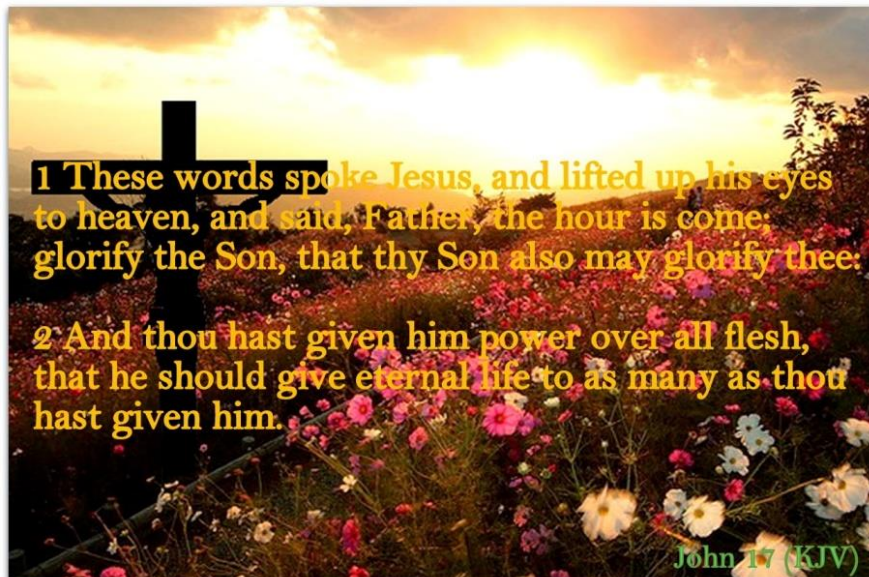
“The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple” Psalm 119:130.

“Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house” Matthew 5:15.

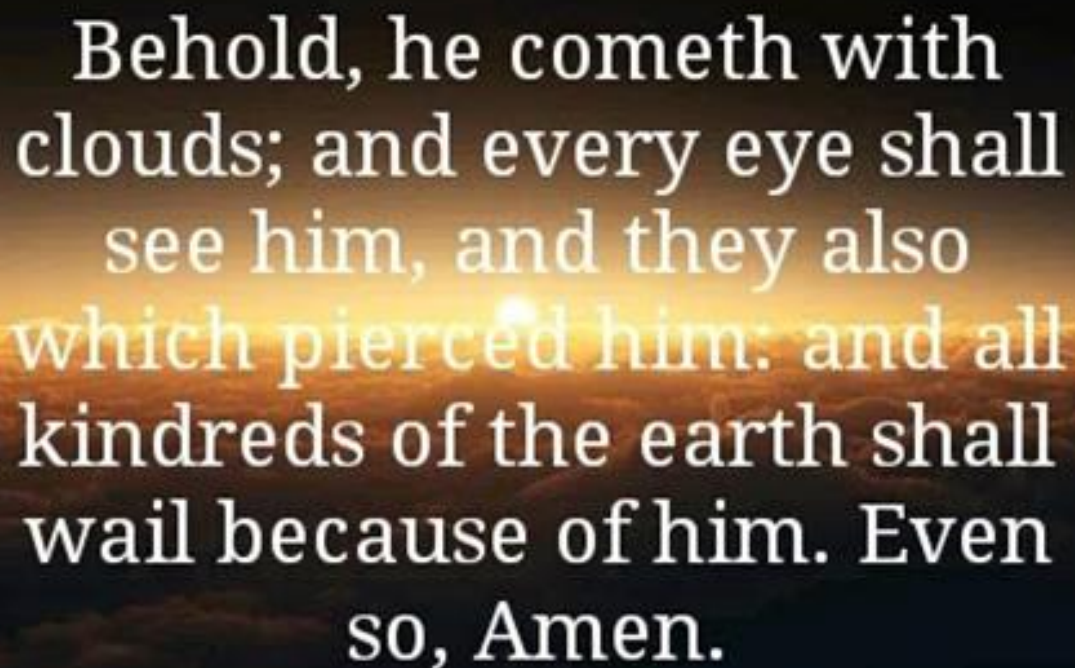
“No man, when he hath lighted a candle, covereth it with a vessel, or putteth it under a bed; but setteth it on a candlestick, that they which enter in may see the light...No man, when he hath lighted a candle, putteth it in a secret place, neither under a bushel, but on a candlestick, that they which come in may see the light” Luke 8:16, 11:33.

“Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life” John 8:12.

In sum for Revelation 1:20 as Paul exhorts for those of whom he states “For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones” Ephesians 5:30 “For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure. Do all things without murmurings and disputings: That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world; Holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain” Philippians 2:13-16.

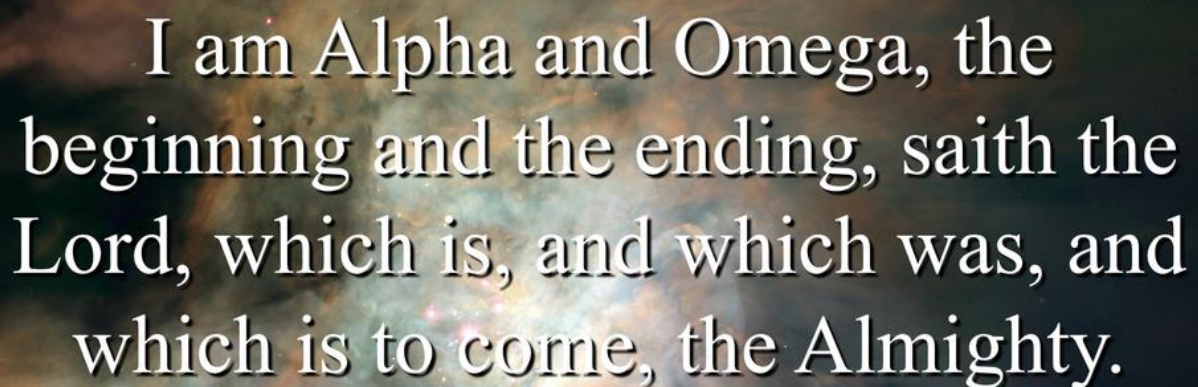






Behold, he cometh with  
clouds; and every eye shall  
see him, and they also  
which pierced him: and all  
kindreds of the earth shall  
wail because of him. Even  
so, Amen.

Revelation 1:7



I am Alpha and Omega, the  
beginning and the ending, saith the  
Lord, which is, and which was, and  
which is to come, the Almighty.

—Revelation 1:8



## God's Excellent Name<sup>8</sup>

*"LORD our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth!"* Psalm 8:1, 9

### ***JEHOVAH – God's Excellent Name***

The name of God in the Old Testament is JEHOVAH.

### ***JEHOVAH – Seven Occurrences***

The name Jehovah occurs seven times in scripture:

*"And Abraham called the name of that place Jehovahjireh: as it is said to this day, In the mount of the LORD it shall be seen"* Genesis 22:14. The Lord is my vision i.e. *"in thy light shall we see light"* Psalm 36:9.

*"And I appeared unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, by the name of God Almighty, but by my name JEHOVAH was I not known to them"* Exodus 6:3.

*"And Moses built an altar, and called the name of it Jehovahnissi: For he said, Because the LORD hath sworn that the LORD will have war with Amalek from generation to generation"* Exodus 17:15<sup>9</sup>. The Lord is my warrior i.e. *"The LORD is a man of war: the LORD is his name"* Exodus 15:3.

*"And the LORD said unto him, Peace be unto thee; fear not: thou shalt not die. Then Gideon built an altar there unto the LORD, and called it Jehovahshalom: unto this day it is yet in Ophrah of the Abiezrites"* Judges 6:23-24<sup>10</sup>. The Lord is my peace i.e. *"the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed"* Isaiah 53:5.

*"That men may know that thou, whose name alone is JEHOVAH, art the most high over all the earth"* Psalm 83:18.



*"In the mount of the LORD it shall be seen"* Genesis 22:14



*"Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the LORD JEHOVAH is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation"* Isaiah 12:2.

*"Trust ye in the LORD for ever: for in the LORD JEHOVAH is everlasting strength"* Isaiah 26:4.

### ***JEHOVAH – Seven Letters***

The name JEHOVAH has seven letters and the number seven is associated with God throughout scripture:

*"on the the seventh day God ended his work"* Genesis 2:2

*"And God blessed the seventh day"* Genesis 2:3

*"the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God"* Exodus 20:10, Deuteronomy 5:14

*"ye shall rejoice before the LORD your God seven days"* Leviticus 23:40

*"Also the children of those that had been carried away, which were come out of the captivity, offered burnt offerings unto the God of Israel...seventy and seven lambs"* Ezra

8:35

*"The LORD will have war with Amalek"* Exodus 17:15

*"what saith the answer of God unto him? I have reserved to myself seven thousand men"* Romans 11:4

*“These things saith he that hath the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars”* Revelation 3:1

*“I saw the seven angels which stood before God; and to them were given the seven trumpets”* Revelation 8:2

*“one of the four beasts gave unto the seven angels seven golden vials full of the wrath of God”* Revelation 15:7<sup>11</sup>.

### ***JEHOVAH – Three Vowels, Four Consonants***

God often associates the numbers three and four in scripture e.g. Exodus 27:1, 38:1, Psalm 90:10, Proverbs 30:15, 18, 21, 29, Song of Solomon 6:8, Jeremiah 36:23, Daniel 11:2, Amos 1:3, 6, 9, 11, 13, 2:1, 4, 6, Revelation 6:6. Note seven millennia from creation to eternity, Genesis 1-Revelation 22 with the First Advent after *four* millennia and eternity *three* millennia after the First Advent. God’s name JEHOVAH is therefore divided into *three* and *four*, with “*Jehovah*” compounded *three* times and “*JEHOVAH*” alone *four* times.

### ***JESUS and JEHOVAH – Not ‘Yahweh’!***

Dr Mrs Gail Riplinger writes<sup>12</sup> *The name of God יהוה is spelled with the Hebrew letters yod [jod], heh, vav, and heh, read from right to left and then translated into English as JHVH (called the Tetragrammaton). In the KJV Old Testament it is translated ‘JEHOVAH’ seven times (and rendered ‘LORD’ the remaining times; see New Age Bible Versions, pp. 375-383). Each of these letters of the Hebrew alphabet paints a picture [by inspection so does each of the English counterparts]. The letters in the name of God illustrate the following:*

**J** = jod = י

*It suggests a giving, extending hand...*

**H** = heh = ה

*It represents an enclosure, like heaven or a window...*

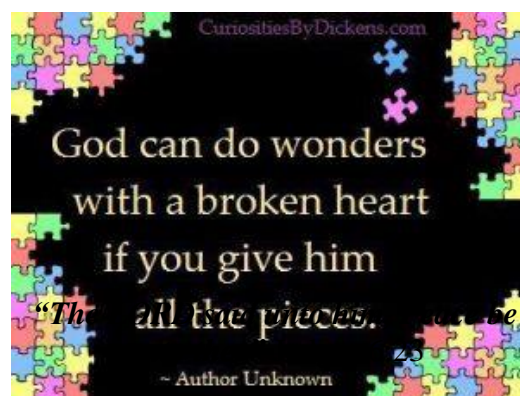
**V** = vav = ו

*It symbolizes a nail... A ‘v’ in English is a pictogram of the chiselled end of a nail.*

**H** = heh = ה

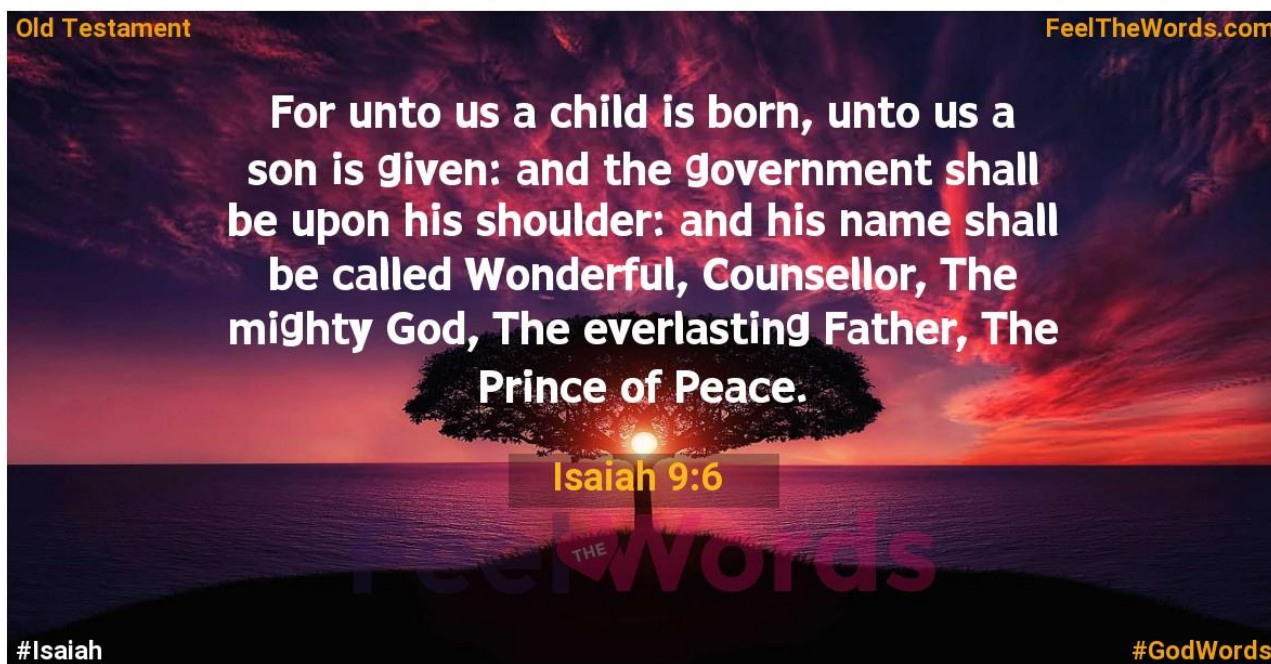
*The H is repeated at the end of the name because “Jesus was risen” and “received up into heaven” again (Mark 16:9, 19). Dr Mrs Riplinger explains that In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, as unbelieving German critics of the Bible were hammering away at the word of God, they tried to refashion God’s name JEHOVAH. They asserted that the God of Israel’s name should be pronounced Yahweh because, to them, he was nothing more than an offshoot of the pagan deity “Yaho.” Nothing could be further from the truth.*

*‘Yahweh’ is like making John and James, Matthew 4:21 Yohn and Yames and John the Baptist, Matthew 3:1 Yohn the Baptist. Unsaved modern scholars still think that JEHOVAH is grammatically impossible<sup>13</sup>. They forget Luke 1:37 “**For with God nothing shall be impossible.**” Dr Mrs Riplinger summarises, her emphases. **God reached his hand י** out of the windows of heaven ה, and we put a **nail ו** in it; having taken our punishment for sin, he has returned to heaven ה. The “nail” “pierced” “hands” of Jesus were foretold in Psalm 22:16 and Isaiah 22:23-25. Amen.*



***“the name of Jesus”*** Philippians 2:10<sup>14</sup>

Descriptors of ***“the name of Jesus”*** follow<sup>15</sup>.



### ***A Saving Name***

***“And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins”*** Matthew 1:21.

### ***A Miraculous Name***

***“But Jesus said, Forbid him not: for there is no man which shall do a miracle in my name, that can lightly speak evil of me”*** Mark 9:39.

### ***A Life-Giving Name***

***“But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name”*** John 20:31.

### ***A Promise-Fulfilling Name***

***“Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost”*** Acts 2:38.

### ***An Uplifting Name***

***“Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole”*** Acts 4:10.

### ***An Emboldening Name***

***“But Barnabas took him, and brought him to the apostles, and declared unto them how he had seen the Lord in the way, and that he had spoken to him, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus”*** Acts 9:27.

### ***A Self-Immolating Name***

***“Men that have hazarded their lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ”*** Acts 15:26.



### *A Devil-Defeating Name*

*“And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour”* Acts 16:18.

### *An Envied Name*

*“Then certain of the vagabond Jews, exorcists, took upon them to call over them which had evil spirits the name of the Lord Jesus, saying, We adjure you by Jesus whom Paul preacheth”* Acts 19:13.

### *A Magnified Name*

*“And this was known to all the Jews and Greeks also dwelling at Ephesus; and fear fell on them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was magnified”* Acts 19:17.

### *An Antagonising Name*

*“I verily thought with myself, that I ought to do many things contrary to the name of Jesus of Nazareth”* Acts 26:9.

### *A Called-Upon Name*

*“Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours”* 1 Corinthians 1:2.

### *A Unifying Name*

*“Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment”* 1 Corinthians 1:10.

### *A Cleansing Name*

*“And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God”* 1 Corinthians 6:11.

### *A Pre-Eminent Name*

*“That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth”* Philippians 2:10.

### *A Motivational Name*

*“And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him”* Colossians 3:17.

### *A Sanctifying Name*

*“Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which he received of us”* 2 Thessalonians 3:6.

### *A Love-Provoking Name*

*“And this is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment”* 1 John 3:23.

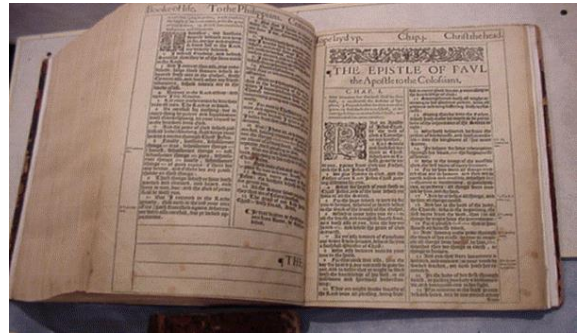
### *Conclusion*

*“Who shall not fear thee, O Lord, and glorify thy name? for thou only art holy: for all nations shall come and worship before thee; for thy judgments are made manifest”* Revelation 15:4.

## Purification of “*The words of the LORD*” Psalm 12:6, 7 – Summary<sup>16</sup>

### Introduction

Philippians 2:16 states “*Holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain.*” Inspiration must be inviolate throughout the purification process of “*the word of life*” otherwise it is no longer “*the word of life*” and Paul and the other writers of scriptures would have run and laboured in vain. However, they did not, because “*the word of the Lord endureth for ever*” 1 Peter 1:25. An overview of God’s seven-stage purification process of “*the word of life*” follows, noting the seven-stage purification *sub-processes* embedded in the overall purification process.



The Authorized 1611 King James Holy Bible

### A Seven-Stage Purification Process – Historic Bibles

Dr Vance<sup>17</sup> shows that Psalm 12:6, 7 was fulfilled in history *largely with inspired translations* Genesis 2:7, 2 Samuel 3:10, Ezekiel 37:9-11, Matthew 24:35, John 6:63, Colossians 1:13, Hebrews 11:5, 1 Peter 1:23, 25.

- A received Hebrew text, 1800 BC to 389 BC
- A received Aramaic text at the same time (Genesis, Daniel, etc.)
- A received Greek text from AD 40 to AD 90
- A received Syrian text from AD 120 to AD 200
- A received Latin text from AD 150 to AD 1500
- A received German text from AD 1500 to AD 2006
- A received English text from AD 1611 to AD 2006 (2012+)

Dr Mrs Riplinger<sup>18</sup> has this incisive observation in agreement with the priesthood of all believers, 1 Peter 2:5, 9. *The Bible appears in many forms – such as Hebrew, Hungarian, English and Polish. The “form” of the Word seemed different at various times, yet it was still Jesus (e.g. the “fiery furnace” (Dan. 3:35), the “babe wrapped in swaddling clothes” (Luke 2:12), when “She supposing him to be the gardener” (John 20:15), and when “his eyes were as a flame of fire” (Rev. 1:14)). When the Word “appeared in another form,” as Jesus did, “neither believed they them” (Mark 16:12, 13). Likewise, some still dig for words in haunted Greek graveyards.*

### A Seven-Stage Purification Process – Pre-English and English Bibles

Dr Mrs Riplinger<sup>19</sup> documents the development of the seven purifications of the English Bible from its earliest inception, in fulfilment of Psalm 12:6, 7.

- The Gothic
- The Anglo-Saxon
- The Pre-Wycliffe
- The Wycliffe
- The Tyndale/Coverdale/Great/Geneva\*
- The Bishops’
- The King James Bible

\*The progression of the 16<sup>th</sup> century English Bibles to the King James Bible exhibits a further embedded seven purifications<sup>20</sup>.

- The Tyndale 1525
- The Coverdale 1535
- The Matthew 1537
- The Great 1538
- The Geneva 1560

- The Bishops' 1568
- The King James Bible 1611

Dr Mrs Riplinger<sup>21</sup> states, her emphases “Seven” times “they purge...and purify it...” (Ezek. 43:26) – not eight. The KJV translators did **not** see their translation as one in the midst of a chain of ever evolving translations. They wanted their Bible to be one of which no one could justly say, ‘It is good, **except** this word or **that** word...’ They planned<sup>22</sup>: “...to make...out of many good ones [Wycliffe, Tyndale, Coverdale, Great, Geneva, Bishops’], one principal good one, not justly to be excepted against; that hath been our endeavor, that our mark...the same will shine as gold more brightly, being rubbed and polished...” In a sense God did inspire the King’s men to achieve their mark 2 Peter 1:21 as John Selden<sup>23</sup> notes in *Table Talk*. “The translation in King James’ time took an excellent way. That part of the Bible was given to him who was most excellent in such a tongue and then they met together, and one read the translation, the rest holding in their hands some Bible, either of the learned tongues [Greek, Hebrew, Latin], or French, Italian, Spanish &c [and other languages]. If they found any fault, they spoke; if not, he read on.”

### ***A Seven-Stage Purification Process – King James Bibles***

God has refined the 1611 Holy Bible through seven major editions<sup>24</sup>. The only changes to the KJV since 1611 are of three types:

1. **1612**: Typography (from Gothic to **Roman** type)
2. **1629 & 1638**: Correction of typographical errors
3. **1762 & 1769**: Standardization of spelling. Therefore, fulfilling Psalm 12:6, 7: Two 1611 editions = seven stages. “**For with God nothing shall be impossible**” Luke 1:37.

### ***Particular Purification Steps***

#### ***Addition of Words***

Dr Scrivener<sup>25</sup> notes textual changes to early editions e.g. the words “**of God**” first being added to 1 John 5:12 in 1638. God oversees such changes. “**Then took Jeremiah another roll, and gave it to Baruch the scribe, the son of Neriah; who wrote therein from the mouth of Jeremiah all the words of the book which Jehoiakim king of Judah had burned in the fire: and there were added besides unto them many like words**” Jeremiah 36:32.

#### ***Elimination and Alteration of Words***

The NIV adds “of Jesus” in Acts 16:7. The Geneva Bible\* has “Passover” instead of “**Easter**” in Acts 12:4. God corrects such imperfections as illustrated by John 15:2 with respect to “**the true vine**” John 15:1, which is “**the Word of life**” 1 John 1:1, like “**the word of life**,” purging being a form of purifying. “**Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.**” \*Post 1557 editions<sup>26</sup>. The 1557 Edition has “Easter.”

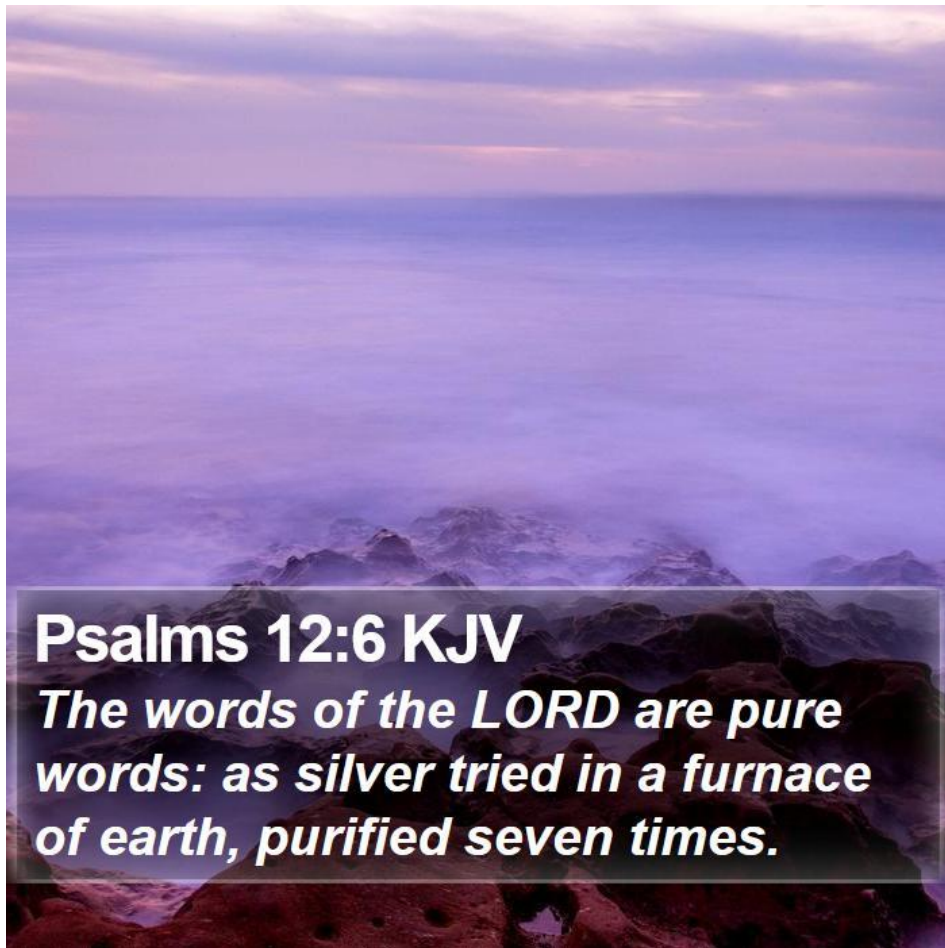
#### ***Restoration of Words***

Current editions of Wycliffe’s Bible omit some scriptures e.g. the end of Matthew 6:13. God restores such omissions as illustrated by Romans 11:20, 23, AV1611. “**Well; because of unbelief they were broken off, and thou standest by faith. Be not highminded, but fear:...And they also, if they abide not still in unbelief, shall be grafted in: for God is able to graff them in again.**”

#### ***Conclusion***

These purifications ensure that the AV1611 is “**the words of the LORD...pure words**” Psalm 12:6<sup>27</sup>.





***“The words of the LORD...purified seven times” Psalm 12:6***  
**An Oil Refining Analogy Against AV1611 Critics**



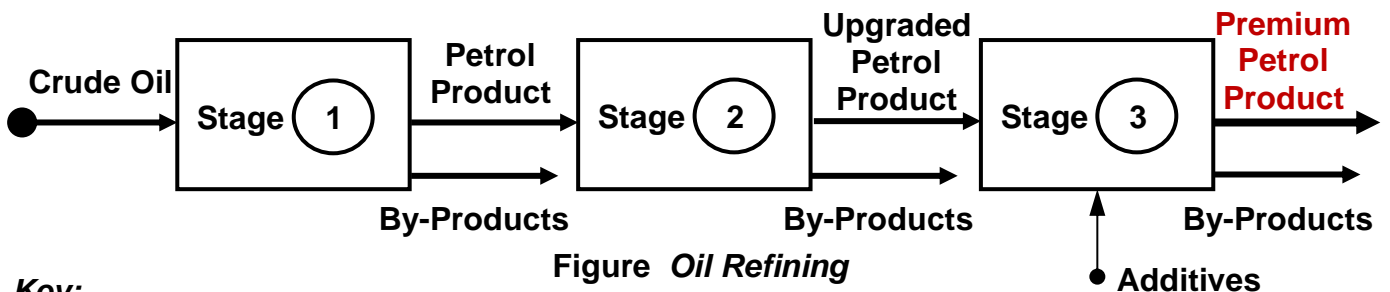
**Oil Refinery Plant**

***AV1611 Critics***

AV1611 critics deny perfection for the AV1611 by allusion to the different AV1611 Editions e.g. *“The King James Bible has gone through seven different editions...Which one can you say is “perfect”?”*<sup>28</sup> Those critics don’t understand stage-wise processes. See this analogy:

***Oil Refining – A Stage-wise Process***

Oil refining<sup>29</sup> is well-known. Its main product is premium grade petrol. Oil refining is complex<sup>30</sup> but can be summarised in three basic stage-wise steps. See **Figure**:



**Key:**

**Stage 1:** Crude oil separation into the crude petrol product and by-products

**Stage 2:** Petrol product chemical upgrading and further separation

**Stage 3:** Final separation, additives blended to yield premium petrol product

**Note:** At each stage, the intermediate petrol products are perfect for the next stage according to product specifications until the final, perfect premium product is achieved.



### **Scripture Purification – Seven-fold Stage-wise Processes**

The same principles apply to the stage-wise purifications of the Lord's words, with respect to old languages, the English language and the AV1611. Each purification is seven-fold:

**"The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times"** Psalm 12:6, *which itself uses an industrial analogy i.e. silver refining.*

#### **Old Languages and the English Language**

Drs Vance and Riplinger<sup>31</sup> have shown the seven-fold stage-wise purification of scripture:

*From Old Languages:*

- A received Hebrew text, 1800 BC to 389 BC
- A received Aramaic text at the same time (Genesis, Daniel, etc.)
- A received Greek text from AD 40 to AD 90
- A received Syrian text from AD 120 to AD 200
- A received Latin text from AD 150 to AD 1500
- A received German text from AD 1500 to AD 2006
- A received English text from AD 1611 to AD 2006 (2012+)

Note that the purification process, though with seven stages, was not strictly sequential. Dr Riplinger notes that Herman Hoskier identified 2<sup>nd</sup> century Greek-Latin-Syriac New Testaments in parallel<sup>32</sup>. Moreover, Dr Riplinger, her emphases, has stated directly to this writer and subsequently<sup>33</sup> that *In Foxe's Book of Martyrs, vol. 4, pp 671-675, Foxe quotes an old "treatise"...* **"Also the four evangelists wrote the gospel in divers languages, as Matthew in Judea, Mark in Italy, Luke in Achaia, and John in Asia. And all these wrote in the languages of the same countries..."** That is, parts of the New Testament were *first* written in *different* languages and existed in *parallel* to facilitate to the utmost **"obedience to the faith among all nations, for his name...Jesus Christ"** Romans 1:5-6.

*Through to the English Language:*

Purification of the English scriptures was also in seven stages and more directly sequential.

- The Gothic
- The Anglo-Saxon
- The Pre-Wycliffe
- The Wycliffe
- The Tyndale/Coverdale/Great/Geneva
- The Bishops'
- The King James Bible

In these purifications of scripture, as with oil refining, each intermediate was perfect for the next stage *with no loss of inspiration*. **"The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul"** Psalm 19:7. Only life begets life. *The AV1611 does that best.*

#### **The AV1611 – Seven-fold Stage-wise Purification**

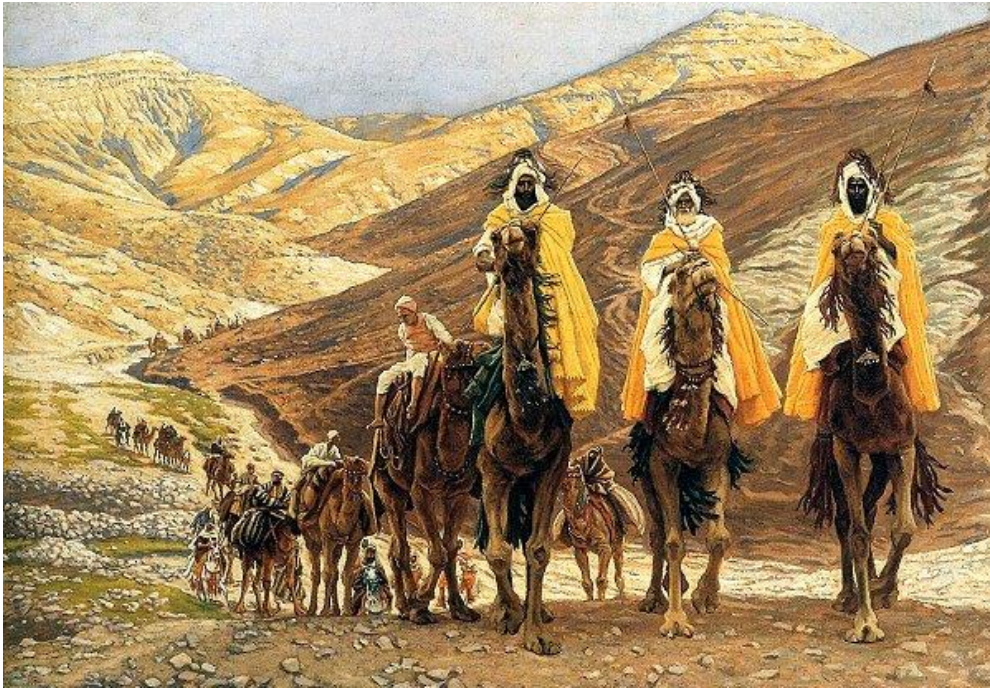
This writer believes that *God then purified the AV1611* through seven major editions<sup>34</sup>. Again, each intermediate product was perfect for the next stage through to full perfection.

1. **1612:** *Typography (from Gothic to Roman type)*
2. **1629 & 1638:** *Correction of typographical errors*
3. **1762 & 1769:** *Standardization of spelling.* Therefore, fulfilling Psalm 12:6, two 1611 Editions = seven stages in total. The critics notwithstanding therefore:

**"Thy word is very pure: therefore thy servant loveth it"** Psalm 119:140.



***“Behold, there came wise men”*** Matthew 2:1



### **Three Wise Men<sup>35</sup>**

Matthew 2:1-2<sup>36</sup> state ***“Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him.”***

Matthew 2 is the one passage on the ***“wise men from the east.”*** It does not of course say how many wise men were present, only that they brought three gifts, Matthew 2:11. ***“Comparing spiritual things with spiritual”*** 1 Corinthians 2:13, or scripture with scripture nevertheless shows that *three* wise men were present in Matthew 2. See Proverbs 18:16.

***“A man’s gift maketh room for him, and bringeth him before great men.”***

The Lord is ***“the young child”*** in Matthew 2:8, 9, 11, 13 twice, 14, 20 twice, 21, i.e. 9 times but none is greater than ***“the man Christ Jesus”*** 1 Timothy 2:5 that He became with ***“a name which is above every name”*** Philippians 2:9. Though ***“there was no room for them in the inn”*** Luke 2:7 at the Lord’s birth, Proverbs 18:16, with respect to ***“a man’s gift”*** singular, singular, confirms that *three* givers gave *three* gifts to make room for themselves in the house Matthew 2:11 to worship ***“the man Christ Jesus.”*** Note also Genesis 9:18-19 ***“And the sons of Noah, that went forth of the ark, were Shem, and Ham, and Japheth...and of them was the whole earth overspread,”*** by Shem the Oriental, Ham the African, Japheth the European. So *three* wise men *must* be present for *all* men, because ***“All men seek for thee”*** Mark 1:37.

Wise men seek the Lord for the *right* reason and so the ***“wise men from the east”*** were:

**Three Godly Pilgrims** – among the ***“strangers and pilgrims on the earth”*** Hebrews 11:13

- They trusted a *godly guide*, namely ***“his star”*** Matthew 2:1. The Lord Jesus Christ calls Himself ***“the bright and morning star”*** in Revelation 22:16 and the Lord also calls Himself ***“his angel”*** in Revelation 1:1. ***“His star”*** is therefore an *appearance* of ***“the angel of the Lord”*** as in Matthew 1:20 ***“the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream...”*** No guide is godlier than ***“the angel of the Lord.”*** Make sure He’s your guide.
- They went a *godly way*, namely ***“from the east,”*** east to west. That’s God’s way. Psalm 19:4-5 states ***“the sun...is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, and rejoiceth as a strong man to run a race.”*** The sun moves east to west and is a type of Jesus Christ Who is ***“the Sun of***

*righteousness*” Malachi 4:2. The Lord says **“Follow *thou me*”** John 21:22 so then **“let us run with patience the race that is set before us”** Hebrews 12:1.

- They had a *godly purpose*, namely **“we...are come to worship him”** Matthew 2:2. They could say with the Lord in John 4:22 **“we *know* what we worship”** and with Paul in 2 Timothy 1:12 **“I *know* whom I have *believed*.”** Make sure you know Him, so you never hear Him say **“I never knew you”** Matthew 7:23. All of us should be *godly pilgrims*.

### Three Good Gifts

The wise men gave **“their treasures...gold, and frankincense, and myrrh”** Matthew 2:11.

- Gold is for a *king*. 1 Kings 10:18 says of Solomon that **“...*the king* made a great throne of ivory, and overlaid it with the best gold.”** The Lord Jesus Christ is **“the King of kings, and Lord of lords”** 1 Timothy 6:15, so **“the best gold”** befits Him.
- Frankincense is for a *priest*. Luke 1:9 says of Zacharias that **“According to the custom of the priest’s office, his lot was to burn incense when he went into the temple of the Lord.”** The Lord Jesus Christ is **“the Apostle and High Priest of our profession”** and **“he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them”** Hebrews 3:1, 7:25. Incense goes with prayer because **“the smoke of the incense, which came with the prayers of the saints, ascended up before God”** Revelation 8:4, so frankincense befits the Lord our **“High Priest.”**
- Myrrh is for a *prophet*. 1 Kings 19:10 says of **“the children of Israel”** that they **“have slain thy prophets.”** The Lord said **“it cannot be that a prophet perish out of Jerusalem”** Luke 13:33 and for His burial **“Nicodemus...brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes”** John 19:39, so myrrh befits **“Jesus the prophet of Nazareth”** Matthew 21:11.

1 Kings 1:32 typifies the *three* offices that the Lord Jesus Christ fulfils according to the *three* gifts. **“And king David said, Call me *Zadok the priest*, and *Nathan the prophet*...”** In type, that’s also why *three* wise men must be present in Matthew 2 to personify those gifts. Note that the Lord fulfils the offices of *prophet*, *priest* and *king* in *reverse* order to that of 1 Kings 1:32 and to that in which the gifts were given, because *God* wants **“the first of all”** Mark 12:29 His Son *as King*, as in Zechariah 14:9. So should you and I. **“And the LORD shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one.”**

### Three Houses of Worship

The first house is in Matthew 2:11. Matthew 2:11 is the first time that the word **“house”** is mentioned in the New Testament. It was a place of giving to and worshipping of **“Jesus Christ, the Son of God”** Mark 1:1 by **“they that be wise”** Daniel 12:3. That’s what God wants for a house that is *a household*, a domestic **“household of God”** Ephesians 6:19.

Every house, or household, like yours or ours, should be the same, *where the Lord Jesus Christ is King*, not the DVD player or Netflix<sup>37</sup>, the television or the laptop. That is the second house.

The third house is you. **“Ye are God’s building”** Paul says in 1 Corinthians 3:9. He emphasises that in 1 Corinthians 3:16, which should be memorized. **“Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?”**

May *that* temple and *that* house especially *always* be a place of giving to and worshipping of **“Jesus Christ, the Son of God”** by **“they that be wise”** **“till he come”** 1 Corinthians 11:26, that is, Hebrews 13:21, **“Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.”**

## The Sovereign Power of Darkness



### IMAGE OF DARKNESS

Christian commentator Texe Marrs said this about the attack on the World Trade Centre, September 11<sup>th</sup> 2001.

*Where carnage, bloodshed, and destruction can be found, there you will also find Satan, aka the Devil. This mind-boggling picture is real. Printed on the web sites of The Philadelphia Inquirer newspaper, Cable News Network (CNN.com), and the pages of The Fort Worth Star-Telegram newspaper in Texas, this image was also broadcast over Fox TV News network. It clearly shows the devil's face in the fire and smoke of the explosions at the twin towers of the World Trade Center in New York City. The Associated Press confirms that this is an un-retouched photograph, a digitized close-up of the original.*

The image itself however is not the central issue<sup>38</sup>. The central issue is what it depicts as the Lord Jesus Christ said on the eve of **"the suffering and death...that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man"** Hebrews 2:9.

***"This is your hour,  
and the power of darkness"***  
Luke 22:53

### THE SOVEREIGN POWER OF DARKNESS

Why, then, the title of this piece, as above? After all, fundamentalists repeatedly use the word *sovereign* to refer to the Lord Himself, by means of such well-known phrases as *"the Sovereignty of God"* and *"God is Sovereign"* etc. How does the word *sovereign* then come to be associated with ***"the power of darkness"*** Luke 22:53? Gail Riplinger explains why.

#### THE SOVEREIGN "MAN OF SIN" 2 Thessalonians 2:3

Gail Riplinger shows<sup>39</sup>, her emphasis, that the popular NIV *using the word sovereign* is a precursor to the encroaching satanic new world order that the Lord Jesus Christ called ***"the power of darkness"*** Luke 22:53. *The NIV omits the powerful word "GOD" over 300 times<sup>40</sup>. It substitutes the weak word 'Sovereign.'* *This term was introduced into English by the French-speaking 'sovereigns' who governed England during the 12<sup>th</sup> century<sup>41</sup> [Henry I, Stephen, Henry II, Richard I]. According to the [Oxford English Dictionary's] corpus of English language, it has been used almost exclusively to indicate a mortal political leader, **not** the transcendent Almighty GOD. The recent unfortunate popularization of this word in some religious circles, no doubt owes its emphasis to John Calvin. The word 'Sovereign' capsulizes his French training for the priesthood, his denial of man's free-will and his teachings merging*



church and state. This merger looms frighteningly close as the Antichrist's shadow falls over the NIV's "Sovereign Lord," a term the OED cites as indicating a "man." Paul and John have identified that man.

**"Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition"** 2 Thessalonians 2:3.

**"Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six"** Revelation 13:18.

**"That man of sin...the son of perdition"** is known by his Sovereign Catholic Version.

#### **THE SOVEREIGN CATHOLIC VERSION<sup>42</sup>**

The first English Bible to use the term "sovereign" was the Catholic Douay-Rheims Bible 1610, revised 1749-1752. The DR uses "sovereignty" in Judges 5:11 and "sovereign" in Isaiah 3:1, 10:16, 33, 51:22, Amos 5:14, Jude 4 i.e. 7 times. Jude 4 shows the DR's influence on the 1984, 2011 NIVs:

**"For certain men are secretly entered in (who were written of long ago unto this judgment), ungodly men, turning the grace of our Lord God into riotousness and denying the only sovereign Ruler and our Lord Jesus Christ"** Jude 4 DR.

**"For certain men whose condemnation was written about long ago have secretly slipped in among you. They are godless men, who change the grace of our God into a license for immorality and deny Jesus Christ our only Sovereign and Lord"** Jude 4 1984 NIV.

**"For certain individuals whose condemnation was written about long ago have secretly slipped in among you. They are ungodly people, who pervert the grace of our God into a license for immorality and deny Jesus Christ our only Sovereign and Lord"** Jude 4 2011 NIV. Note that the DR, NIVs use "Sovereign" to erase "**Lord God**" in Jude 4 and rob "**our Lord Jesus Christ**" of His Deity to help set up the Antichrist as the AV1611 shows:

#### **"THE WORDS OF THE LORD"** Psalm 12:6

**"For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ"** Jude 4 AV1611.

#### **DIFFERENT WORD, SAME THEFT, SAME SATANIC SET-UP**

The Catholic JB, NJB, Jerusalem, New Jerusalem Bibles change "Sovereign" to the more familiar synonym "Master" but still erase "**Lord God**" to rob "**our Lord Jesus Christ**" of His Deity and promote "**that man of sin...so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God**" 2 Thessalonians 2:3-4. All modern bibles; RV, ASV, NASVs, RSV, NRSV, NIVs, NKJV footnote, CEV, ESV, GNT, HCSB, NCV, NET, NLT, NWTs, follow suit. That shows that they are from the same Catholic "**troubled fountain, and...corrupt spring**" Proverbs 25:26. Note also the gender-neutral changes in the 2011 NIV in Jude 4, to further the merging of the apostate End Times church with the satanic new world order that the Lord Jesus Christ called "**the power of darkness**" Luke 22:53.

#### **"WATCH YE, STAND FAST IN THE FAITH"** 1 Corinthians 16:13

In conclusion note that not merely 'the Sovereign Lord' but "**the Lord God omnipotent reigneth**" Revelation 19:6. "**What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?**" Romans 8:31. Therefore "**till he come**" 1 Corinthians 11:26 "**Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong**" 1 Corinthians 16:13.

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