

Understanding Prophecy, Part I

Lesson Six Lecture

The Chronology Laid Out II

Last week we looked at Genesis chapters 2 through 5. We have seen how God uses types and antitypes to reveal prophecy. We have seen how important it is to lay things out according to the way God laid things out, so that we can begin *and continue* to understand things correctly. The whole structure of types and antitypes is God's built-in system (if you will) of checks and balances with respect to correct understanding of Scripture.

With the 6-day, 7th day foundation upon which to build all understanding of Scripture (as it is laid out in the first 34 verses of God's Word), we have seen how God begins to drop back into this foundational time-line and build details.

Genesis chapter 2 details how the man and the woman were created, with God forming the man from the dust of the ground, breathing His breath into the man, and the man became a living being. This was followed with the statement by God that it is not good for the man to be alone. He would need a helper to help him fulfill his created purpose. Then God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and as he slept, his side was opened up, and a part of his body removed, in order to be fashioned (built) into a woman — helper suitable for him. The type in Genesis chapter 2 gives us information concerning Christ and His Bride in the antitype. And of course all this happened on the 6th day!

Genesis chapter 3 then reveals the historical details of how the woman was deceived at the hand of Satan, and ate the forbidden fruit; then she gave to her husband and he also ate. God lays out the ramifications of all of this in the type, so that we can begin to understand the ramifications of all of this in the antitype — the second Man, the last Adam will also find his bride-to-be in a fallen state, and will become sin for her. A deep sleep fell upon Jesus and his side was opened up, and that which came out of His side are the elements from which the Bride for Christ will be formed, having been taken out of His Body.

We must never forget the promise of Gen. 3:15 — a promise for a Redeemer, who will redeem mankind back to the position for which he was created, that to rule in Satan's stead.

Look at what God told Satan way back in the Garden:

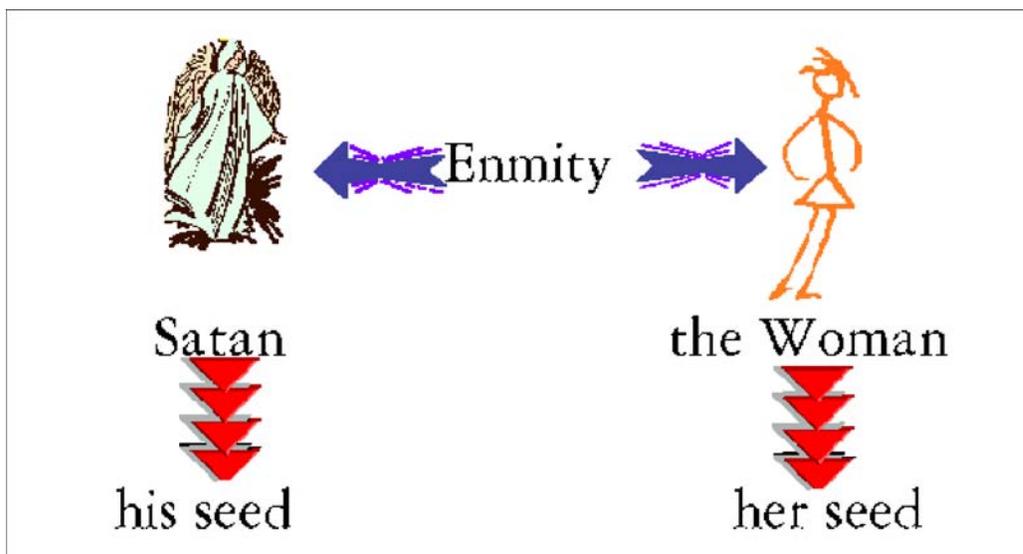
Genesis 3

15 And I will put enmity between you and the woman, And between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise you on the head, And you shall bruise him on the heel."

Let's break v. 15 down like this. God said directly to Satan:

- And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed. God is speaking directly to Satan here. Enmity means hatred, or strife, as in strife between warring tribes, if you will; a rather constant state of friction between two parties.
- He (the seed of the woman) shall bruise you (Satan) on the head, and you (Satan) shall bruise him (the Seed of the woman) on the heel.

Explain stick figures:



The Seed of the woman will bruise (lit. a fatal blow) the head of Satan, and Satan will bruise the heel of the Seed of the woman.

Today we will want to look at who the seed of the woman is, as well as who the seed of Satan is.

Hind sight reveals that this phrase — *He shall bruise you on the head, And you shall bruise him on the heel* — has to do with the redemption of mankind i.e., redeeming man back to the potential of his created position. The fulfillment of this prophecy was at the time of the first coming of Christ. The *bruising of the heel* speaks of His death being brought about through “crucifixion”.

With Jesus though, *death was not brought about by the bruise on the heel*, though His heel certainly could have been bruised in His death (in fulfillment of the prophecy in Genesis chapter fifteen). There was nothing that took Jesus’ life! He gave up His life! Once all that had been required in His death was fulfilled, He committed His spirit to the

Father and that was it. It was finished!. He *chose* to breathe His last breath, and He died. So that when the Roman soldiers deemed it time to break the legs of those being crucified that day, they broke the legs of the others, but when they came to Jesus, they saw that He was already dead, so they did not break His legs, but they pierced His side and out flowed blood and water! (We have already dealt with this type and antitype.)

In these details we can see that the last part of the prophecy in Genesis 3:15 was fulfilled: "...And you shall bruise him on the heel." But what about the first part: "He shall bruise you on the head"?

A bruise to the head (we should perhaps see it more of a crushing of the head) obviously has to do with Satan's head. Satan wears a crown on his head. A crown has to do with rulership. We know that Satan was the original ruler over the earth, for God created him for this position, and place him in this position. We'll look again at a passage in Colossians:

Colossians 1

16 For by Him all things were created, [both] in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities — all things have been created by His and for Him. ...

...20 and through Him to reconcile all things to Himself, having made peace through the blood of His cross; through Him, [I say,] whether things on earth or things in heaven.

Since Satan and his angels are the invisible rulers in the heavens, seated on the invisible thrones in the heavens, exercising dominion, power and authority in the invisible heavens (all invisible to our physical eyes, but very real none-the-less), and since these are the positions that fell into discord with God (at the point of Satan's rebellion against God), these are the invisible thrones, dominions, rulers and authorities that are reconciled (i.e., brought back into accord) to God through the blood of Jesus on the cross. And in that respect, the head of Satan is crushed! Only it will be in the fulness of time, at the end of this present age, that the crown of Satan will be taken from his head, and placed on the head of Jesus to be worn by Jesus in *the* AGE of the AGES! And at that point in time, the crowns of his angels taken and given to Jesus' co-heirs — those who will be formed into His bride, becoming His wife, and the Two will ascend the Throne as One.

In that day, Jesus will come again. And this second coming of Jesus will not be with respect to salvation from sin (that was the reason for His first coming, accomplished through the bruising of His heel when He wore a crown of thorns), but in His second coming He will wear the most beautiful of all crowns; and He will come back *for a salvation for those who eagerly await Him* (Heb. 9:28). And this has all been accomplished through the fulfillment of Genesis 3:15!

But of course we know of the 6 days (6,000 years) that must take place prior to the realization of the head of Satan receiving this fatal blow. And so while this prophecy was given at the very beginning of Man's Day, and while the blood of Jesus at the cross

reconciled Satan's positions of authority, we still await that moment when it plays out in time! Rest assured! It will play out! God will systematically bring it to pass, during which time, there *will be enmity between the woman and Satan, between her seed and his seed.*

So there will be ongoing enmity between Satan and the woman, between her seed and his seed.

Who is the woman here? Well the immediate answer would be Eve, in that she was the only woman at the time the promise was given, and Satan, from that point forward, did seek to pollute her seed, her offspring. You've studied that in your homework, and we will revisit it in a moment when we get to ch. 6. But for now, let's continue our review of these first chapters in Genesis. Perhaps we could see the events that transpired in Genesis chapter 4 as Satan displaying enmity toward the seed of the woman.

Genesis chapter four begins to prophecy in more detail *how* Gen. 3:15 is going to take place, through the use of types. Historically we saw in the type, Cain and Abel in the field together, with Cain rising up, slaying Abel, and Abel's blood crying from the ground to the Father. In the antitype, Israel, the older brother of Christ rose up and slew Christ, and Christ's blood speaks of better things than the blood of Abel.

Perhaps we could see Satan as the origin of the enmity between Cain and Abel...while both Cain and Abel are the offspring of the woman, Satan was able to use Cain as his instrument, in fulfilling enmity toward Abel. This lays the type of Cain acting as Israel acted, in fulfilling enmity toward Jesus in the antitype — killing Him while they were both in the field together.

Then, almost parenthetically, we have in Genesis chapter five a *very important and informative* genealogy. This genealogy *reveals the proper foundation for the chronology of prophecy.* **Please understand this!**

Through this chronology, we can begin to lay out our understanding of the chronological order of upcoming events. This is very important to see as the foundation for chronology for prophecy. Again...this is God's own system of checks and balances for proper understanding. We need not wonder at the order of future events! We need not guess when the Church will be Raptured! We need not rest on the wisdom of man, but our faith (that which we believe) should rest in the POWER OF GOD and His revelation! God has laid out chronology, in such a way that we do not need to wonder. He has revealed everything He is going to do to His servants, the prophets!

In this chronology we saw that *after the slaying of Abel*, in the 7th generation from Adam (a complete period of time), Enoch — one man — being taken up. The antitype to this is that *after the slaying of Christ*, the Church — one new Man — will be taken up in the Resurrection/rapture, after a complete period of time, which is the present dispensation. And this happens prior to the world-wide Flood of Noah's day! Do you see what God is revealing here in the type/antitype structure of Scripture?

Then, again, *after the slaying of Abel*, in the 10th generation from Adam (another complete period of time), Noah and his family — a household — was saved through a world-wide judgment, in order to realize a new beginning at the end of that judgment. At the end of the Flood, all things began anew. In the antitype of this, again, *after the slaying of Christ*, we have seen, and will continue to see, that Israel — the household of God — will be saved through a world-wide judgment, coming out on the other side of the destruction to begin anew in the coming age, the age of the ages!

That is Genesis chapter five, *which comes after* Genesis chapter four, *after the slaying of Abel in the field!*

And so with that review, we come to Genesis chapter six., where the record picks up again in the historical account of how Satan displayed enmity toward the seed of the woman. We see in Genesis chapter six, the record taking us all the way back to the time when man began multiplying on the face of the earth.

We are approximately 1500 years into the history of mankind now. And here are the first two verses of chapter six:

Genesis 6

1 Now it came about, when men began to multiply on the face of the land, and daughters were born to them, 2 that the sons of God saw that the daughters of men were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves, whomever they chose.

Again, this text takes us back to the time when man began multiplying on the face of the earth. It tells what was going on during that 1500 year period of time... the sons of God took wives for themselves.

From our study this week in the workbook, we have seen that the offspring of this union are called Nephilim, the meaning of which is “fallen ones”.

Nephilim: fallen ones

We have seen in our homework that this was part of the ongoing attempt (on the part of the fallen angels) to prevent Gen. 3:15 from becoming fulfilled. This was part of the ongoing attempt on Satan’s part to stop man from being placed in the position of rulership over the earth. This is another form of the enmity between the seed of the woman and the seed of Satan.

We saw his first attempt in the garden at the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, another attempt in the field with Cain and Abel, and now we see his ongoing attempt to pollute the lineage of the woman (an attempt which began when man began to multiply on the face of the earth), in order to prevent the seed of the woman from being brought forth for the redemption of mankind, i.e. the fulfillment of Gen. 3:15. All of this on Satan’s part is for the purpose of thwarting God’s plan with respect to man.

We can see in the text of Genesis 6 through 8 that God brought about destruction on the earth, to rid the earth of this type of pollution, for implicit within the text, there is the idea that all the lineage of mankind had been polluted, save the lineage of Noah, that lineage which is spelled out for us in Genesis chapter five.

And so it was Noah's line that was saved through the world-wide flood.

There is something else we must remember having to do with this type of union, that is the corruption of the picture of marriage, the institution of marriage, as it was taking place on the earth. It has to do with *the reason God established the institution of marriage in the first place* — God's stated purpose of marriage.

We will remember that God said it is not good that the man should be alone. And with respect of the purpose for man's creation, God brought a helper suitable to him from his very own body.

The marriage union was for the purpose of ruling in the kingdom of man, and this is foundationally essential. This is the way God established the pattern at the beginning, and being perfect in its establishment then, it will not be changed. A marriage union will be necessary in the new order of rulership, when the present rulers are put down and a new order established.

There must be a husband/wife relationship in the new rulership structure over the earth. That is why God took Israel as His wife prior to the OT theocracy being set up, and that is why Jesus must have a wife when the new structure of rulership will take place from the heavens in that coming day of the Lord.

Hence in the end, when all things begin anew, we see at the beginning of the 7th day, a wedding feast taking place, for the present structure of rulership will be replaced by the structure wherein a marriage relationship will be realized — between God and Israel, and Christ and His wife. (The seventh day from one respect, the third day from another...just like in the Gospel of John, the first the eight signs.)

But here in Genesis chapter six, we see a corruption of this union. When man began multiplying on the face of the earth, some of the angels left their first abode (their positions in the heavens) and came to the earth to take wives for themselves, to thwart the plan of God.

And in order to prevent the seed of the woman from coming forth, the angels sought to not only pollute the lineage of man, but also corrupt the institution of marriage!

And so, for this reason, God was about to bring a world-wide destruction upon the earth. We will reread Gen. 6:1-2 and continue:

Genesis 6

1 Now it came about, when men began to multiply on the face of the land, and daughters were born to them, 2 that the sons of God saw that the daughters of men were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves, whomever they chose. 3 Then the LORD said, "My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, because he also is flesh; nevertheless his days shall be one hundred and twenty years." 4 The Nephilim [fallen ones] were on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of men, and they bore [children] to them. Those were the mighty men who [were] of old, men of renown. 5 Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great on the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

Remember the enmity between the seed of Satan and the seed of the woman!

6 And the LORD was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart. 7 And the LORD said, "I will blot out man whom I have created from the face of the land, from man to animals to creeping things and to birds of the sky; for I am sorry that I have made them." 8 But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD.

And at the end of the Flood, with Noah and his family and all the animals coming off of the Ark we have a new beginning, picturing for us the REST that is out ahead! The rest that is at the end of the coming Tribulation, the Millennial Rest, that is yet for the people of God.

By the way, did you know that the name NOAH means REST?

But remember how God has orchestrated everything. Once we see the end, and the new beginning which follows, we still have ongoing history. And so... we see this ongoing history dropping back into the timeline, allowing us to see God-given details filling in the prophecies more and more.

And to see that the Flood did not cause Satan to cease his attempt to prevent the Seed of the Woman from coming forth, we could jump beyond the Flood, and see that the same kind of union was taking place between humans and fallen angels again in Abraham and Lot's day. Only this time, there was a worse perversion to it. Men sought relations with angels. This activity was evident when the two angels were sent by God to take Lot and his family out of the cities before judgment fell upon the cities of the plain.

And in an ongoing fashion, we can see that even after this, the fallen angels sought, continually to pollute the lineage of man, only now they constrained their efforts to the geographical location of the Promised Land, as it was spelled out to Abraham in Gen. chapter 15. As a result, the Nephilim, the fallen ones, were in the land when the spies went in to spy out the land in Moses' day, the day that God's people were to go into the take that land as their inheritance, in which God would take Israel as His wife and set up His theocracy ruling over and blessing the nations as He had promised Abraham. The Nephilim were the sons of Anak, present in the land, in Numbers chapter thirteen.

One might wonder if this would be at least part of the reason God orchestrated the descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob to go to Egypt in Jacob's day, to tuck this lineage away in a corner of Egypt, so to speak, until such a time as they had grown to a full nation undefiled by this type of progeny.

The angels have sought time and again to thwart the plan of God, and as we will see in the antitypes as these types are prophecies fulfilled, we'll see the angels coming to the earth yet another time!

We have seen in our homework what Jesus said concerning the end of this age:

Matthew 24

37 "For the coming of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah. 38 For as in those days which were before the flood they were eating and drinking, they were marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, 39 and they did not understand until the flood came and took them all away; so shall the coming of the Son of Man be.

But let's get back to Genesis chapter six and look at a few things that we can note in the types concerning the Flood, then see what we can learn in the antitypes.

In our study this week we saw that it is very clear in Scripture that God brought Noah and his family into the Ark 7 days prior to the fountains of the deep bursting forth, and the floodgates of the heavens opening up. This was a period of relative calm, wherein the people outside the Ark totally ignored the warnings that Noah, a preacher of righteousness, had given. And they had evidently ignored the message that had been preached prior to Noah, by Noah's great grandfather, Enoch.

We can remember that Enoch, in the 7th generation was taken up to God without seeing death. We will also see in a moment that he also preached a message of judgment to the people during his day. Let's look at what Scripture says about Enoch:

Genesis 5

21 And Enoch lived sixty-five years, and became the father of Methuselah. 22 Then Enoch walked with God three hundred years after he became the father of Methuselah, and he had [other] sons and daughters. 23 So all the days of Enoch were three hundred and sixty-five years. 24 And Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him.

If we could see a chart that shows the overlapping lives of people during these early years of humanity, it would depict who would have been alive on the earth during the 300 years that Enoch walked with God after Methuselah was born.

If we start counting years, at the time Adam was created, we can see that Adam was 622 years old when Enoch was born. And Adam lived until he was 930 years old. That means that for 308 years, Adam was alive during Enoch's life. In fact, Adam lived for the first 243 years after Methuselah was born, of which the Scriptures states that during the subsequent 300 years that Enoch walked with God. We can assume that Enoch began preaching his message after naming his firstborn son Methuselah. Implicit within the name of Methuselah, there is implied judgment to follow his death. And it can be seen that within the same year of Methuselah's death, the Flood came upon the earth.

If we could look at the chart of the overlapping of peoples lives in those first generations, we could also see that Seth was alive when Enoch was translated, caught up, raptured. What kind of impression did that make on the world, to think that such a young man (of only 365 years) was taken up???

The message went forth, to the inhabitants of the earth, people whose lives spanned all these generations! But the inhabitants chose to ignore the warnings. And the Flood came and wiped them all away.

Satan was not deterred! And as it was in the days of Noah, so shall it be in the days of the coming of the Son of Man.

Then once Abraham is called, and given promises for descendants, a land, and an inheritance in that land, now the woman can be seen as Abraham's descendants, Israel. Now there will be enmity between Satan and *the woman, Israel*. True enough! Satan and his seed, and Israel and her seed.

So what about the antitype to all of this? Can we see prophecy being laid out through the record of the historical events in the first 1500 years of mankind's history?

We have seen historical people and events — now let's see how God uses these to teach us through the use of types and antitypes.

Let's go back to Enoch and fill in some Scriptural details. What was Enoch's message?

The Scriptures are interestingly silent about the contents of the message until the Book of Jude, the last epistle prior to the Book of Revelation, which culminates all things. The Epistle of Jude deals with an apostate Church, who should be forth-telling the same message that Enoch told prior to his being raptured. But...alas!

Rather, Jude depicts those in the Church as false teachers, who turn the grace of God into licentiousness.

Here is what is written in Jude:

Jude 1

3 Beloved, while I was making every effort to write you about our common salvation, I felt the necessity to write to you appealing that you contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.

Notice what Jude is saying here. He thought he would write a letter concerning the common salvation — that salvation that we all possess as individuals who have put faith in the finished work of Jesus on the cross. But he felt it necessary to appeal them to contend earnestly for THE FAITH. This phrase —the faith — is used in Scripture to deal with the very thing that we have been learning, it deals with things beyond our initial salvation, and has to do with the salvation that is out ahead, the salvation of our souls! This is what Jude's epistle is all about! Keep that in mind as we work through a part of this short letter.

4 For certain persons have crept in unnoticed, those who were long beforehand marked out for this condemnation, ungodly persons who turn the grace of our God into licentiousness and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.

We have already looked at similar things to this in II Peter.

II Peter 2

1 But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will also be false teachers among you, who will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing swift destruction upon themselves.² And many will follow their sensuality, and because of them the way of the truth will be maligned; ³ and in [their] greed they will exploit you with false words....

Remember the “false” words are “molded” words!

Both texts (Jude and II Peter) deal with false teachers who malign the truth concerning judgment with respect to God's purpose being fulfilled in the coming age, when Jesus comes into His kingdom.

And Enoch, as the foundational type of the Church being raptured *prior to* the world-wide Tribulation, preached a message then, that the Church should be preaching now, just prior to the rapture! Jude specifically stated the essence of Enoch's message as Enoch referred to men who were not fulfilling the purpose God desired them to fulfill:

Jude 1

14 And about these [men who are the false teachers, as referred to in v. 4] also Enoch, [in] the seventh [generation] from Adam, prophesied, saying, "Behold, the Lord came with many thousands of His holy ones, ¹⁵ to execute judgment upon all, and to convict all the ungodly of all their ungodly deeds which they have done in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him."

16 These [men who are the false teachers, as referred to in v. 4] are grumblers, finding fault, following after their [own] lusts; they speak arrogantly, flattering people for the sake of [gaining an] advantage.

Then Jude encourages God's people who would listen to the message:

Jude 1

17 But you, beloved, ought to remember the words that were spoken beforehand by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ, 18 that they were saying to you, "In the last time there shall be mockers, following after their own ungodly lusts."

Again, this is the same message that God inspired Peter to pen in his second letter.

II Peter 3

3 Know this first of all, that in the last days mockers will come with [their] mocking, following after their own lusts, 4 and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming?"

And so we see that Enoch preached a message of God's pending judgement, to an obstinate people. And even with his rapture (something that should have been shocking to the people), they would not heed the message.

And now we see a Church — in the antitype of Enoch — who is to preach the same message of judgment, instead being so leavened (again at the hand of Satan), that those who are to preach this message have turned and now preach against it!

Needless to say, Enoch is not the only TYPE we have of the Church and the rapture thereof. He is the first, revealing the *timing* of the rapture as far as the order of future events go, and the one which is foundational upon which the remaining types need to be built, but we can grasp a larger picture of the leavened Church in adding the remaining types to the picture of the Church.

- You have the type of Lot (also a type of the Church being taken out of the cities prior to judgment falling), but look at what we can learn from this type, as we add to the overall picture of what God wants us to see with respect to the Church. Lot who was enmeshed in the politics of the Sodom and Gomorrah, and whose family members didn't even believe him when he told them judgment was coming, and his escaping only to a cave in the mountain, when Abraham stood on the top of the mountain, seeing the Angel of the Lord, face to face. There is more that we can learn about the Church as we add more of the types to the foundational type of Enoch.

Luke 17

28 "It was the same as happened in the days of Lot: they were eating, they were drinking, they were buying, they were selling, they were planting, they were building; 29 but on the

day that Lot went out from Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all. 30 It will be just the same on the day that the Son of Man is revealed.

Then you also have:

- The type of the 10 maidens who followed Abraham's servant back to Abraham's home, but only Rebekah veiled herself, the one who said, "I will go".
- You have Ruth and Orpah, one choosing to turn back, and the other choosing to go on, and only the one 'going on' gained the redemption of the inheritance.

Then in the New Testament, you have:

- The parables given by Jesus in the NT, which depicts the Church so corrupt and leavened at the end of the dispensation, that when He comes back He will not find "the faith!" And of course you have
- The seven letters to the Churches in Asia Minor, depicting a downward spiral of the character of the Church as time in the dispensation progresses to the end. So that at the end, the entire church is leavened, depicted for us as the Church at Laodicea.

And so with Enoch's message, and Noah being a preacher of righteousness, even his very actions condemned the world and allowed him to become an heir of righteousness, we see a wholesale disengagement with the signs pointing to and messages of warnings. So much so that as Noah entered the Ark with his family, and after all the animals entered the Ark, and the door was shut, and for an additional 7 days the people continued eating, an drinking and marrying, choosing to be totally oblivious to what God had warned and what He was about to do.

As it happened then, so will it happen again.

Matthew 24

37 For the coming of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah. 38 For as in those days which were before the flood they were eating and drinking, they were marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark,

39 and they did not understand until the flood came and took them all away; so shall the coming of the Son of Man be.

The Flood came and took them all away. And...

Luke 17

28 "It was the same as happened in the days of Lot: they were eating, they were drinking, they were buying, they were selling, they were planting, they were building; 29 but on the day that Lot went out from Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all. 30 It will be just the same on the day that the Son of Man is revealed.

So now we can know the way it will be at the end of this age. People will ignore the warnings.

Instead of the Church giving the message it was called to give, they will be enmeshed in the affairs of this world, of this age. And they will be taken up, and at a time and with a longing for the things of this world. **Remember Lot's wife!**

And once the Church is raptured, there will be those Israelites who will go forth with the message of impending judgment, but the world will not listen! And they will be eating and drinking and giving in marriage until the judgment comes!

More on that judgment next week! Study well, and I'll see you then.