LESSON 7 LIFE - CHANGING POWER

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Life-Changing Power



1. Chapters 1-3: <u>Doctrine</u> Concerning the Church The doctrinal basis for believers' unity "in Christ".

The new LIFE which God has given us "in Christ" (1:3-2:10)

The new SOCIETY which God created "in Christ" (2:11-3:21)

2. Chapters 4-6: <u>Duties</u> of the Church (Practical) What life "in Christ" looks like personally as well as interpersonally in the church, workplace, and home.

The new **STANDARDS** which God expects of his new society – *unity* and *purity* (4:1-5:21).

The new **RELATIONSHIPS** into which God has brought us — *harmony* in the home and *hostility* to the devil (5:21-6:24).

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Mystery Revealed



3:6 together . . . together . . . together. The repetition of this word indicates the unique aspect of the mystery that was not previously known; namely, the equality & mutuality that Gentiles had with Jews in the church, the one body. That Gentiles would turn to the God of Israel and be saved was prophesied in the O.T. (see Romans 15:9-12); that they would come into an organic unity with believing Jews on an equal footing was unexpected.

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Rooted in Love

What would you list as effects of being rooted in love?

Secure faith. Love for others. Confidence in hardships. Seek the best for others. Desire to please God. Friendly demeanor.



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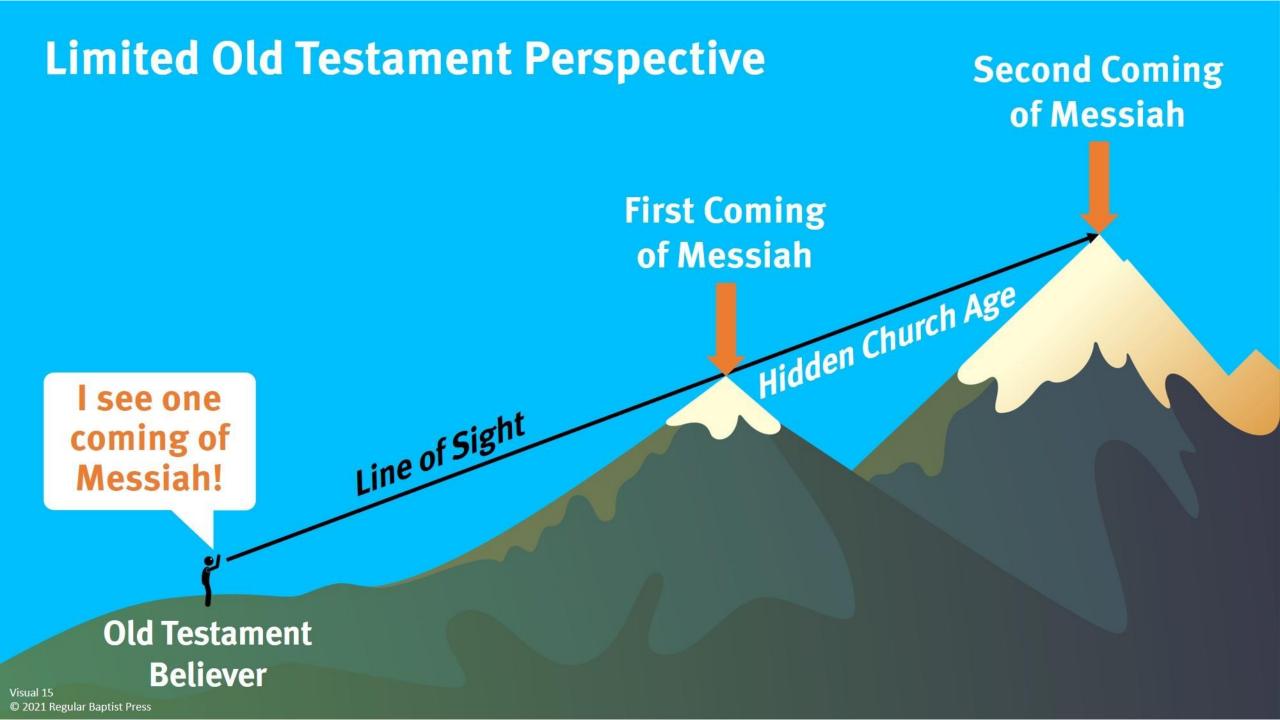
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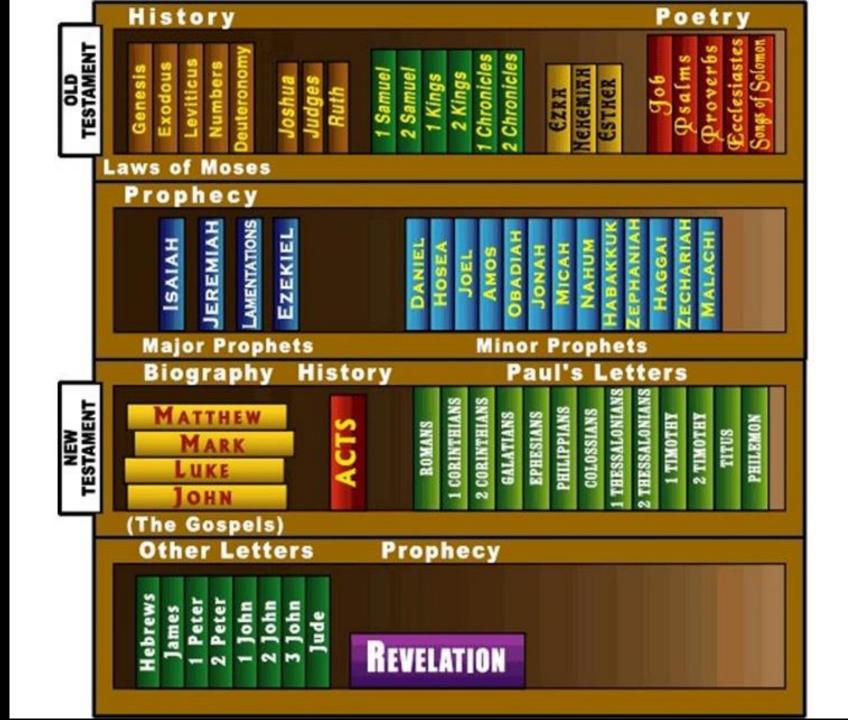
κατοικέω

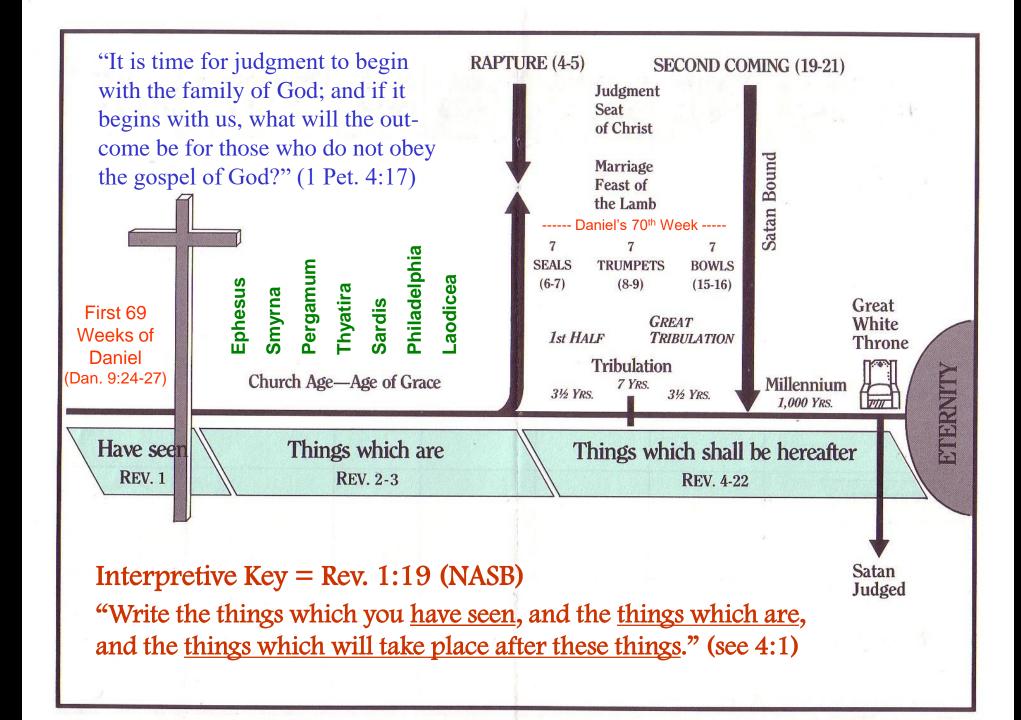
katoikeō live; dwell; to settle down & be at home.

οίκονομία

oikonomia stewardship; administration; dispensation







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Building Unity in Christ



"Ephesians is today the most contemporary book in the Bible, since it promises community in a world of disunity, reconciliation in place of alienation, and peace instead of war."

John R. W. Stott. <u>The Message of Ephesians (</u>1979). *The Bible Speaks Today (BST)* series.