

The Letter to
God's Elect



II Peter

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The Three Kinds of Books in the New Testament

Historical

Matthew
Mark
Luke
John
Acts

Pauline

TO CHURCHES:

Romans
1 Corinthians
2 Corinthians
Galatians
Ephesians
Philippians
Colossians
1 Thessalonians
2 Thessalonians

TO INDIVIDUALS:

1 Timothy
2 Timothy
Titus
Philemon

General

Hebrews
James
1 Peter
2 Peter
1 John
2 John
3 John
Jude
Revelation

TIME LINE OF THE NEW TESTAMENT

Historical Books

Gospel-Acts						post-Acts		
A.D. 0	A.D. 30	A.D. 48	A.D. 50	A.D. 53	A.D. 60	A.D. 62	A.D. 67	A.D. 95

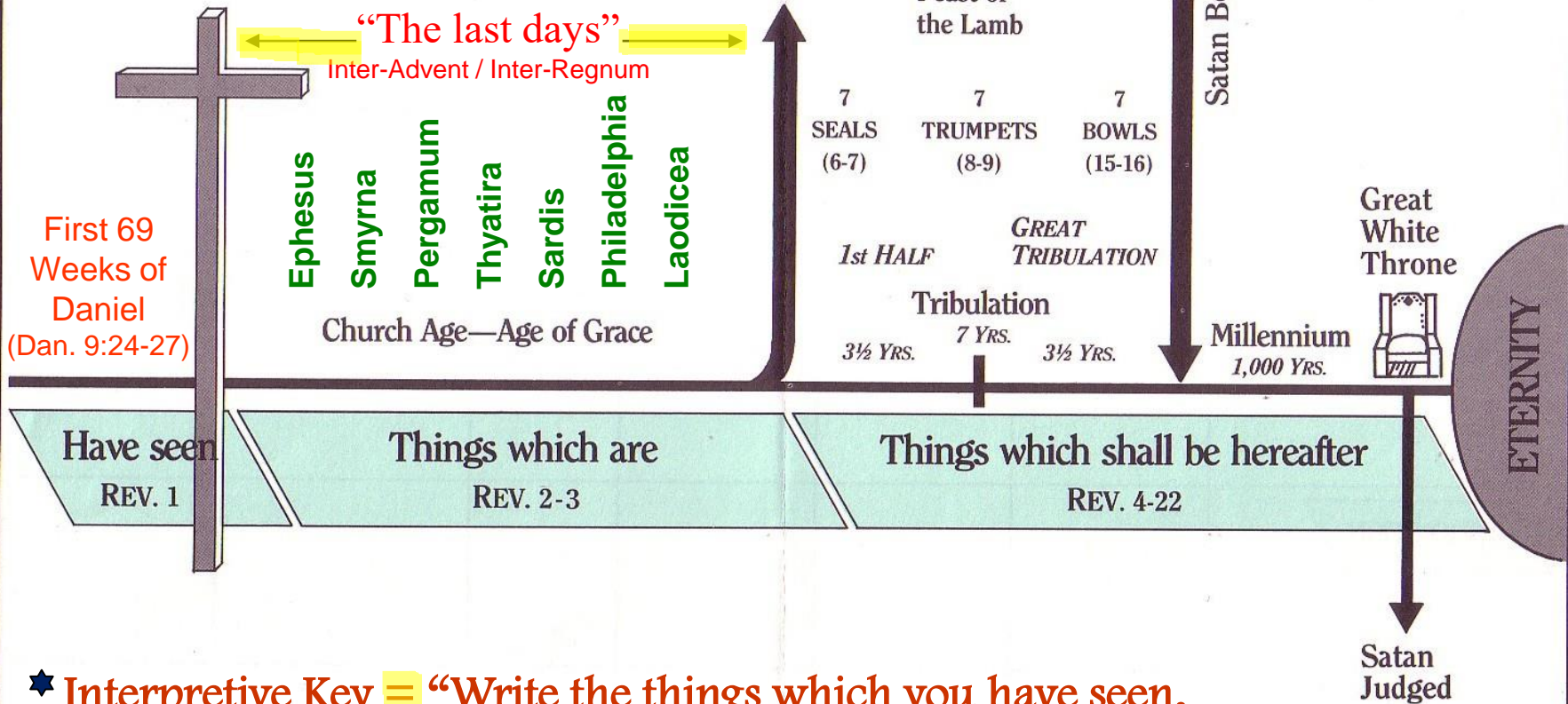
Pauline Epistles

		Galatians	1 Thessalonians 2 Thessalonians	1 Corinthians 2 Corinthians Romans	Ephesians Colossians Philemon Philippians	1 Timothy Titus	2 Timothy	
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General Epistles

		James				1 Peter 2 Peter	Hebrews Jude	1 John 2 John 3 John Revelation
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“In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, **but in these last days** he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe.” - Hebrews 1:1-2



★ Interpretive Key = “Write the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which will take place after these things.” (Revelation 1:19, NASV)



What are the “last days”?



NIV Study Bible – Comment on 2 Peter 3:2

last days - An expression that refers to the whole period introduced by Christ's first coming. These days are last in comparison to OT days, which were preliminary and preparatory. Also, the Christian era is the time of the beginnings of prophetic fulfillment.



What are the “last days”?



NIV Study Bible - Comment on Acts 2:17

In the last days (Acts 2:17) – In the passage quoted from Joel the Hebrews has “afterward” and the Septuagint “after these things”. Peter interprets the passage as referring specifically to the latter days of the new covenant (see Jer. 31:33-34; Eze 36:26-27; 39:29) in contrast to the former days of the old covenant. The age of Messianic fulfillment has arrived.



What are the “last days”?



NIV Study Bible - Comment on 1 Tim. 4:1

In latter times – The time beginning with the first coming of Christ. That Paul is not referring only to the time immediately prior to Christ’s second coming is obvious from his assumption in vss. 3-4, 7 that the false teachings were already present at the time of his writing.



What are the “last days”?



NIV Study Bible - Comment on 2 Tim. 3:1

in the last days – The Messianic era, the time beginning with Christ’s first coming. That “the last days” in this passage does not refer only to the time just prior to Christ’s return is apparent from Paul’s command to Timothy to have nothing to do with the unbelieving and unfaithful people who characterize this time (vs. 5).



What are the “last days”?



NIV Study Bible - Comment on Heb. 1:1-2

in the past (vs. 1) = prior to Christ’s coming, in contrast to *in these last days (vs. 2)* = the Messianic era inaugurated by the incarnation.



What are the “last days”?



NIV Study Bible - Comment on 1 Peter 1:20

“He was chosen before the creation of the world but was revealed *in these last times* for your sake. Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God.”



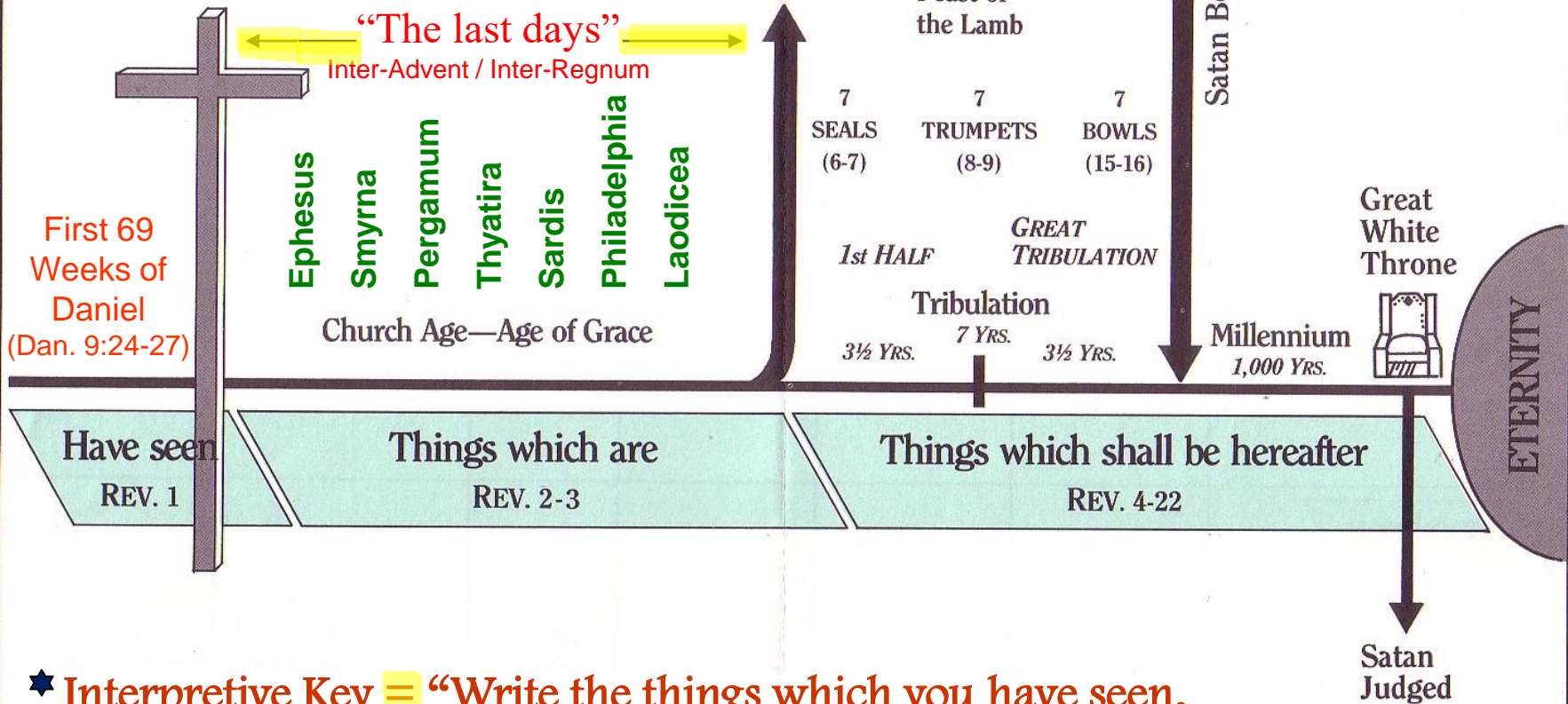
What are the “last days”?



NIV Study Bible - Comment on 1 John 2:18

this is the last hour – With other NT writers, John viewed the whole period beginning with Christ’s first coming as the last days. *They understood this to be the “last” of the days because neither former prophecy nor new revelation concerning the history of salvation indicated the coming of another era before the return of Christ.* The word “last” in “last days”, “last times”, “last hour” also expresses a sense of urgency and imminence. The Christian is to be alert, waiting for the return of Christ (Matt. 25:1-13).

“In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, **but in these last days** he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe.” - Hebrews 1:1-2



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Dr. Kenneth Hanna, From the Gospels to Glory, (2015)

Second Peter is the last testament of Simon Peter (1:12-15). Peter *is conscious* that his martyrdom is rapidly approaching; Second Peter *is reminiscent* of Paul's second letter to Timothy. The church is *facing assault* from a hostile world, but it is also *being infiltrated* by false teachers (2:1-22). The church is *at risk of being infected* by the growing indifference to Christ's return and the judgment to follow (3:1-16). Second Peter might well have been written today at the dawning of a third millennium. Like a mirror, it reflects the pagan culture of our times and the prevailing condition of the church. 2nd Peter is greatly needed, yet it is *little known* and is *lightly regarded* in our time.



"Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to God's
elect, strangers in the world, scattered through-
out Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bith-
ynia, who have been chosen according to the
foreknowledge of God the Father, through the
sanctifying work of the Spirit, for obedience to
Jesus Christ and sprinkling by his blood: Grace
and peace be yours in abundance."

1 PETER 1:1-2

NIV 1984

THE PROVINCES OF ASIA MINOR 1ST CENTURY A.D.

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First-Century Lands



BITHYNIA

PONTUS

ASIA

GALATIA

CAPPADOCIA

Mediterranean Sea

Troas

Heraclea

Chalcedon

Gordion

Ancyra

Pergamum

Thyatira

Sardis

Smyrna

Philadelphia

Hierapolis

Ephesus

Laodicea

Colosse

Miletus

Antioch in Pisidia

Iconium

Lystra

Derbe



Asia Minor
 Roman provinces and client states in the 1st century BC – first half of the 1st century AD

100 km
 500 stadia



Dr. Kenneth Hanna, From the Gospels to Glory, (2015)

Each of the Petrine epistles presents a timely message. In 1 Peter the emphasis is on Christian suffering inflicted by a hostile world; in 2 Peter the stress is on the dangers arising from apostasy within the church. The first is an exhortation to endurance and loyalty to Christ amid undeserved opposition; the second is an appeal for loyalty to Christ in the midst of subtle heresy. First Peter instructs believers how to react to their external enemies, while the second epistle strengthens believers to resist the internal adversaries of the truth. The first encourages hope amid suffering; the second accentuates the need for full knowledge as the safeguard against vicious error. Thus, the pertinent message of 1 Peter to persecuted believers is supplemented by the equally apt warning against prevalent apostasy in 2 Peter.



2 PETER 3:17-18

2 PETER

“Therefore, dear friends, since you already know this, be on your **guard** so that you may not be carried away by the error of lawless men and fall from your secure position. But **grow** in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.”

γνῶσις

gnōsis

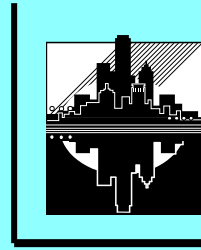
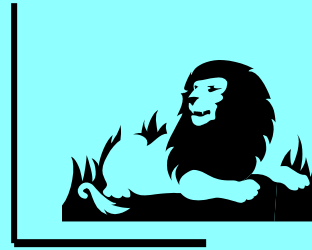
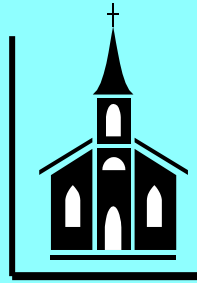
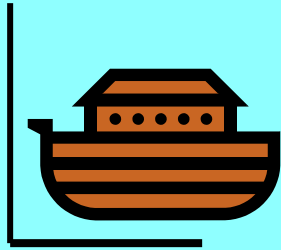
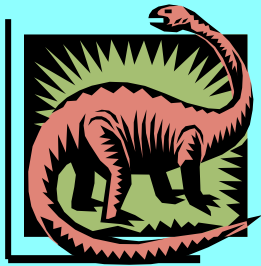
knowledge

ἐπίγνωσις

epignōsis
knowledge

THE FIVE WORLDS

of History, Science & Prophecy



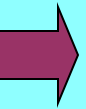
Less than
one month?

1,656 Years

Flood to
Second
Coming

1,000 Years

Forever



“Very Good”
World
Before
The Fall
Genesis 1-2;
cf. 1:31

“The world
of that
time”
Before The
Flood
2 Peter 3:6

“Present
Heavens
& Earth”
2 Peter
3:7

Millennial
Kingdom
Following
Christ’s
Return
Rev. 20

New Heaven
New Earth
Eternity
Future
2 Peter 3:13
Rev. 21-22

SURVEY OF 2 PETER

Purpose: To warn against false teaching, moral compromise, and doctrinal error in the last days.

Date: A.D. 66–67

Key Words: Know, Diligence, Remember / Remind, Corruption

Tone: Urgency, Intensity

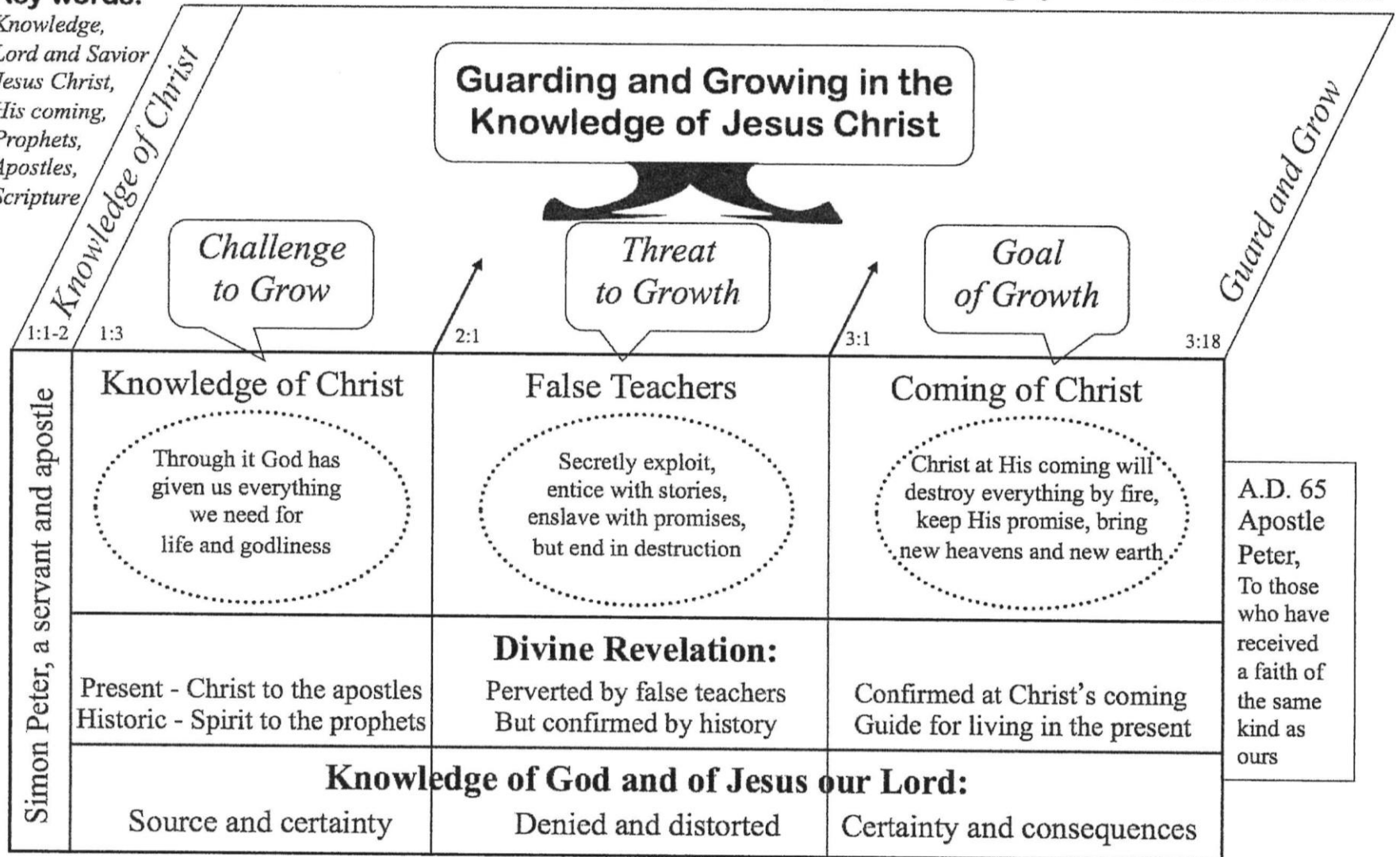
	Moral Corruption	Doctrinal Compromise	Prophetic Concern	
Introduction	<i>Answers Question:</i>	<i>Answers Question:</i>	<i>Answers Question:</i>	Conclusion
	How can I escape defilement?	What shall I expect from “prophets”?	Where will all this end?	
1:1–3	Chapter 1	Chapter 2	Chapter 3	3:18
<i>Warning</i>	Be Pure! (v. 4)	Be Aware! (vv. 1–3)	Be Strong! (v. 14)	
<i>Reminder</i>	Verses 12–13	Verses 21–22	Verses 1–2	
<i>Promise</i>	“You will never stumble” (v. 10)	“God will rescue you” (v. 9)	“We look for new hope” (v. 13)	
<i>Perspective</i>	Looking within	Looking back	Looking ahead	

2 PETER: Guard the Truth by Growing in the Knowledge of Christ

Key words:

Knowledge,
Lord and Savior
Jesus Christ,
His coming,
Prophets,
Apostles,
Scripture

Key verses: 3:17-18 *Therefore, be on your guard ... grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.*



A.D. 65
Apostle Peter,
To those who have received a faith of the same kind as ours

Isaiah's Place in Israel's History

Patriarch Era

2166-1876 BC

Exodus Era

1876-1406 BC

United Kingdom

Divided Kingdom
(931 BC)

Conquest & Judges Eras

1406-1050 BC

Kingdom Era

1050-586 BC

Kingdom Era

1050-586 BC

- United Kingdom (1050-930 BC)

- Divided Kingdom (930-586 BC)

Northern Kingdom of Israel

Divided

Divided

Southern Kingdom of Judah

Death of Uzziah
(739 BC)

Assyrian Invasion
(722 BC)

Death of Sennacherib
(681 BC)

Babylonian
Invasion
(586 BC)

EXILE

Daniel

Isaiah's
Ministry

1000 BC

900

800

700

600

500 BC

HEAD OF GOLD
KINGDOM OF BABYLON

**CHEST & ARMS
OF SILVER**
KINGDOM OF MEDES
& PERSIANS

**BELLY & THIGHS
OF BRONZE**
KINGDOM OF
ANCIENT GREECE

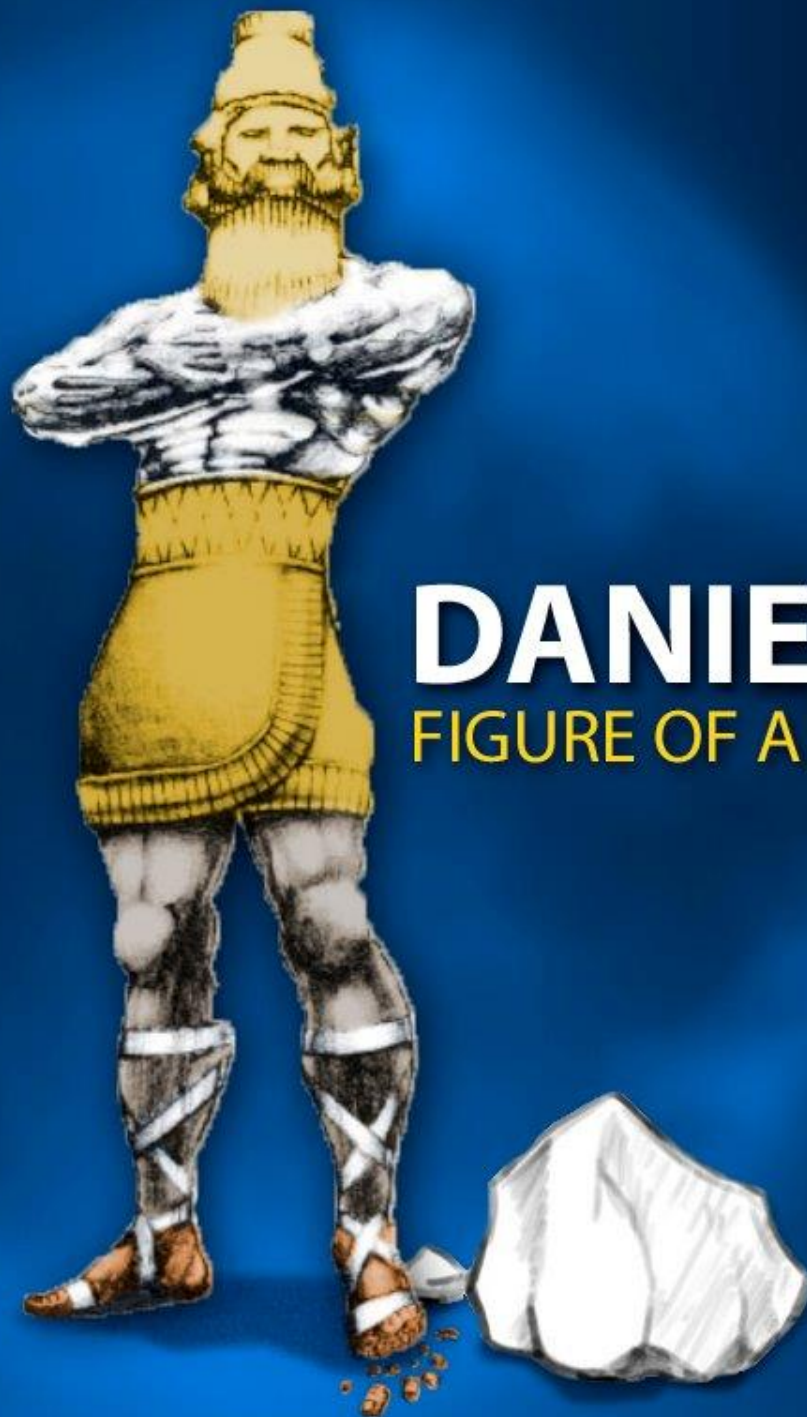
LEGS OF IRON
KINGDOM OF
ANCIENT ROME

**FEET OF IRON
& CLAY**
KINGDOM OF
RESTORED ROME

CRUSHING ROCK
KINGDOM OF GOD

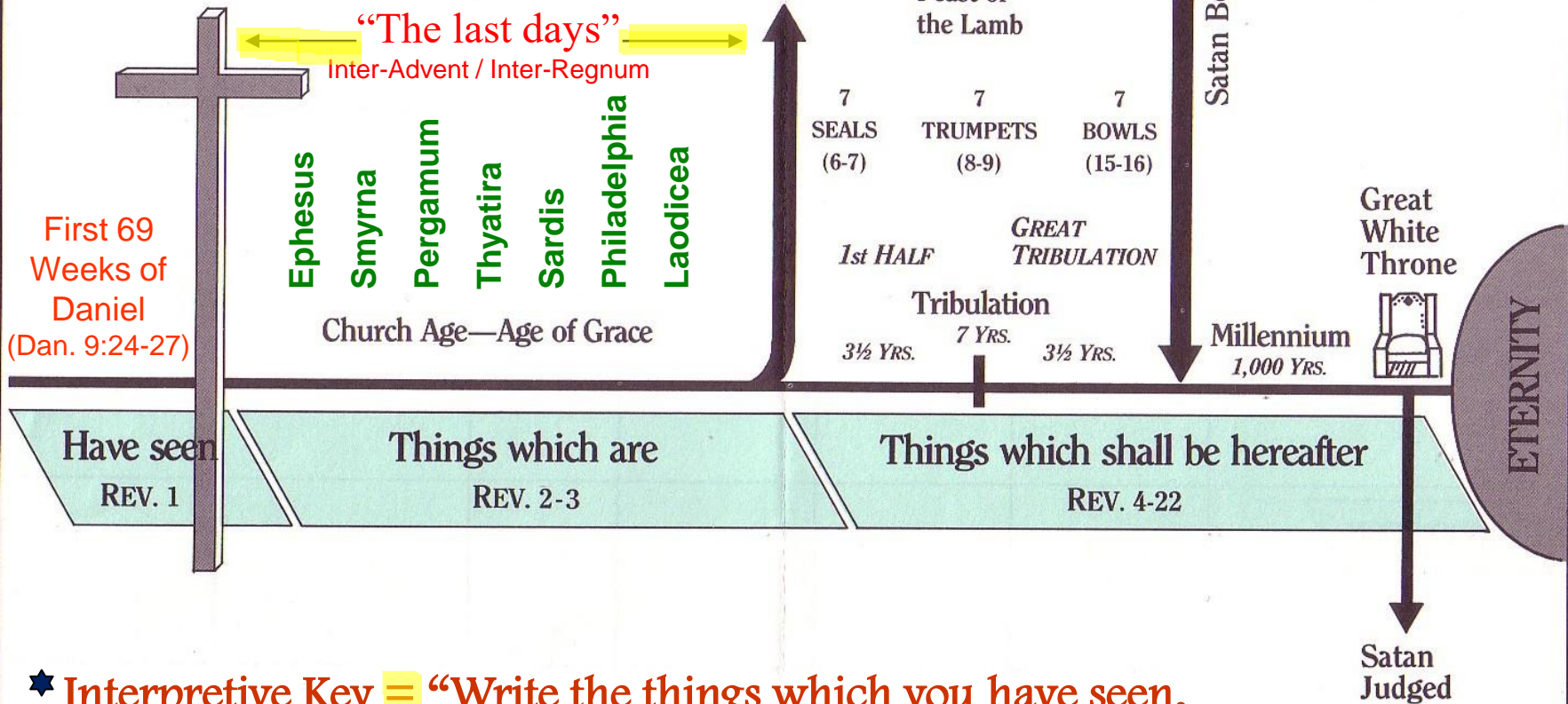
Initial
Strong
Phase

Revived,
Restored
Weaker
Phase



DANIEL 2
FIGURE OF A MAN

“In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, **but in these last days** he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe.” - Hebrews 1:1-2



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