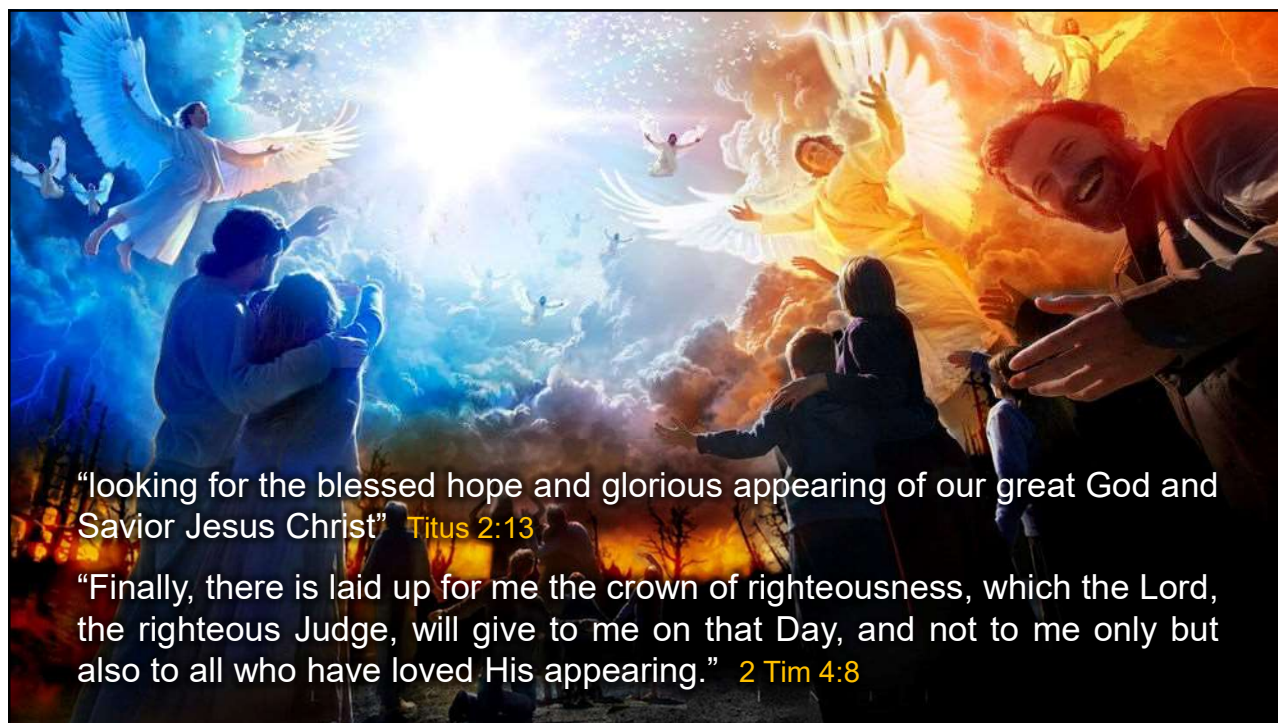


Does it matter what you believe  
about end time prophecy?

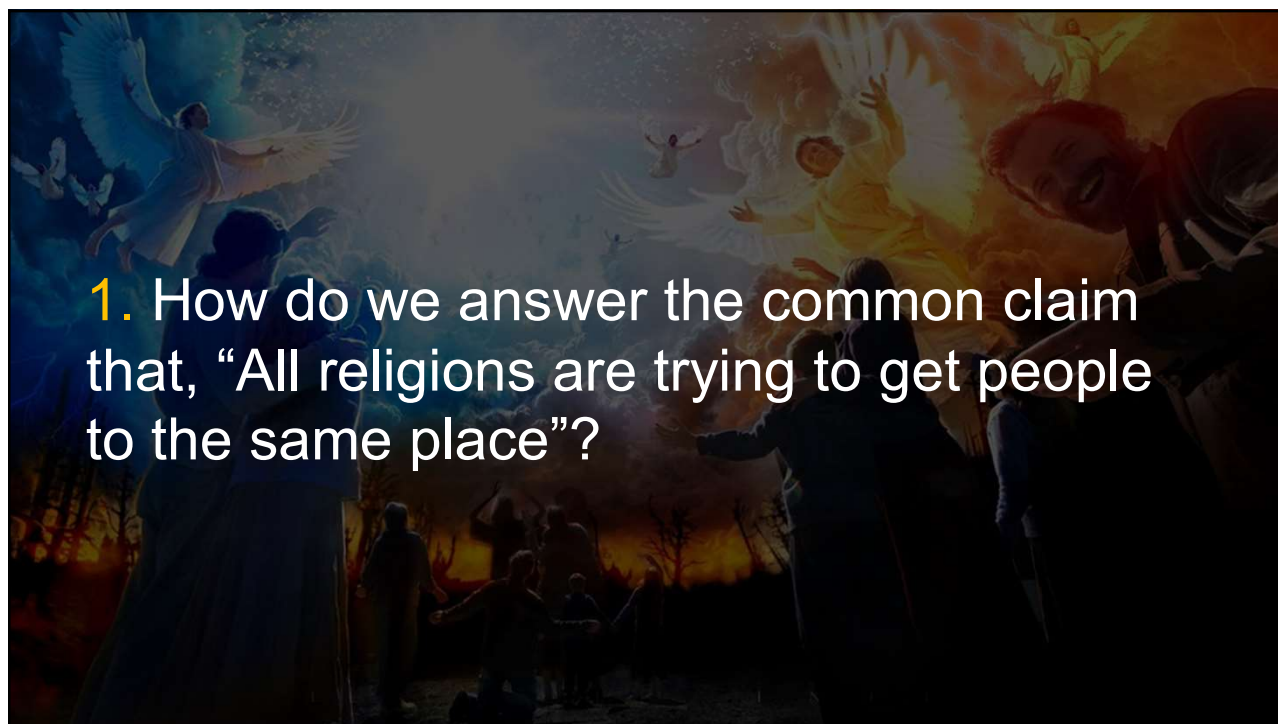
1



“looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and  
Savior Jesus Christ” **Titus 2:13**

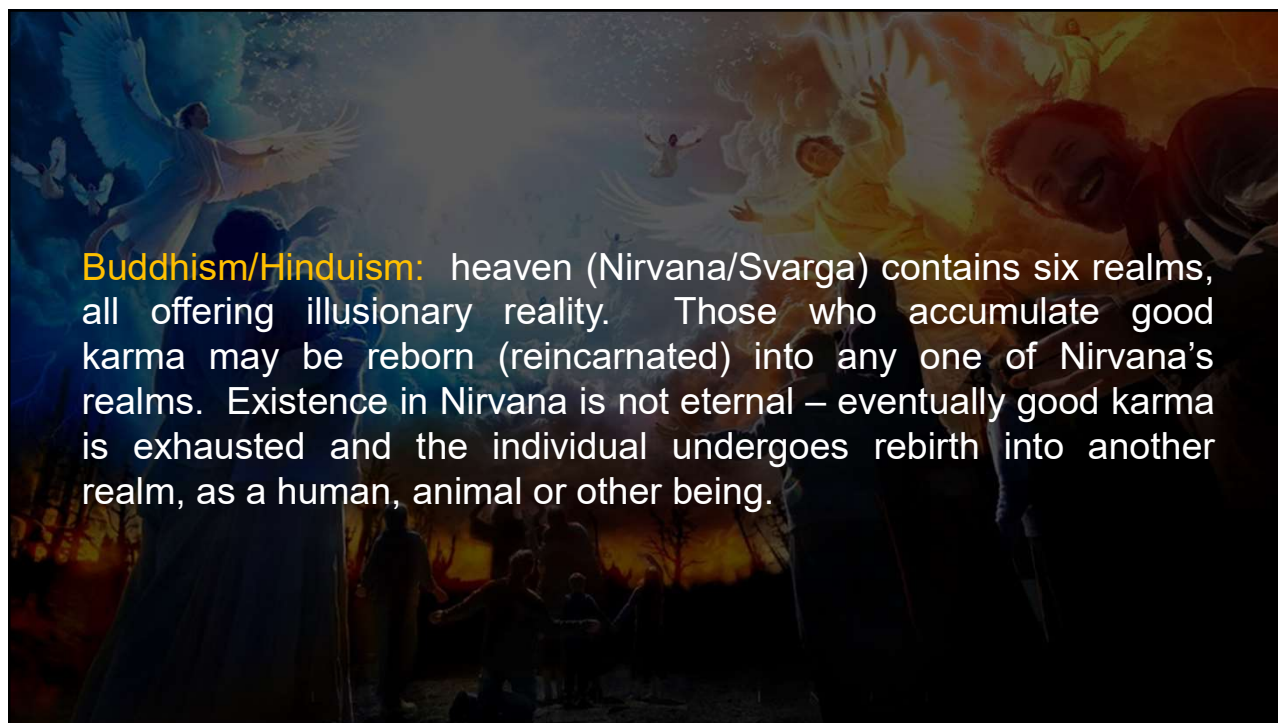
“Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord,  
the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but  
also to all who have loved His appearing.” **2 Tim 4:8**

2



1. How do we answer the common claim that, “All religions are trying to get people to the same place”?

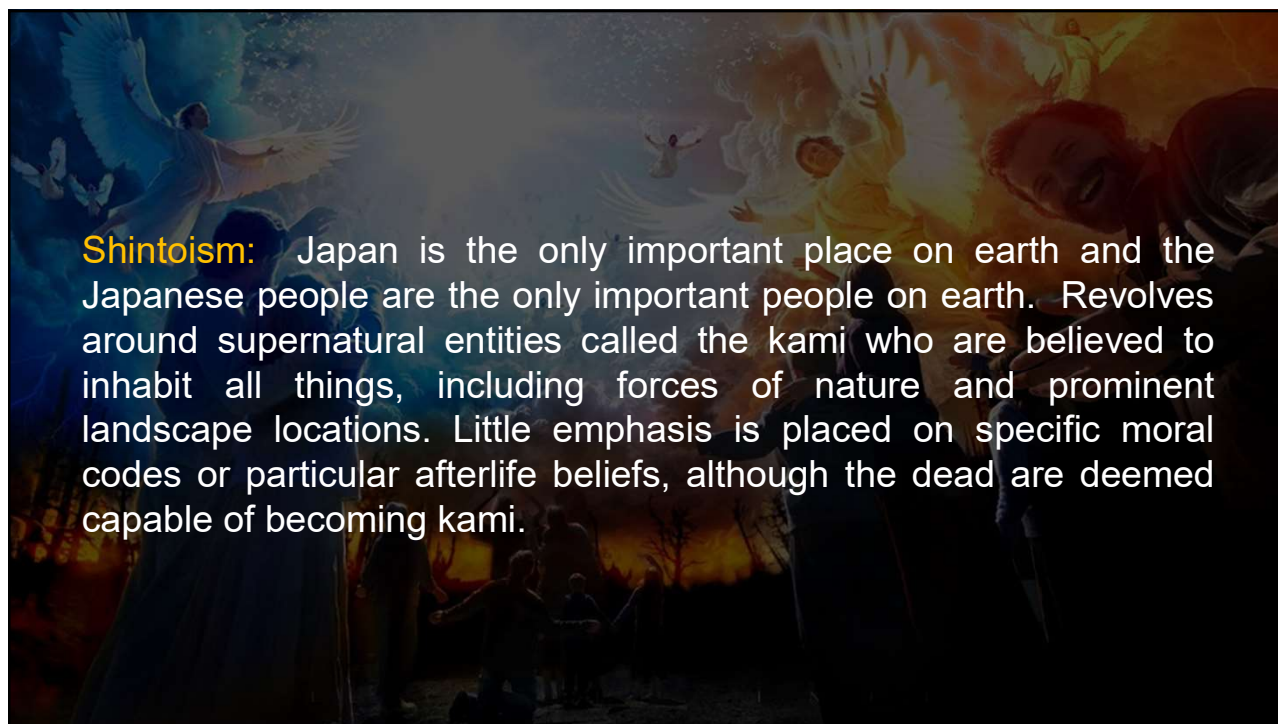
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**Buddhism/Hinduism:** heaven (Nirvana/Svarga) contains six realms, all offering illusory reality. Those who accumulate good karma may be reborn (reincarnated) into any one of Nirvana's realms. Existence in Nirvana is not eternal – eventually good karma is exhausted and the individual undergoes rebirth into another realm, as a human, animal or other being.

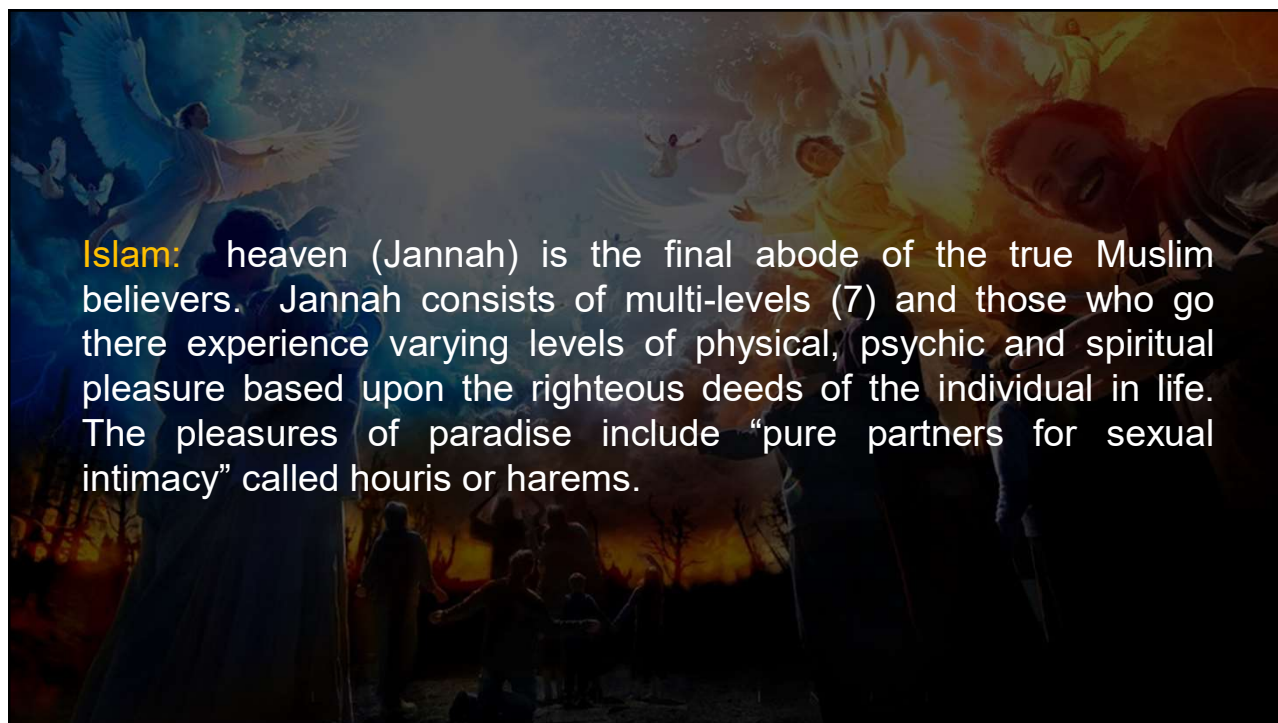
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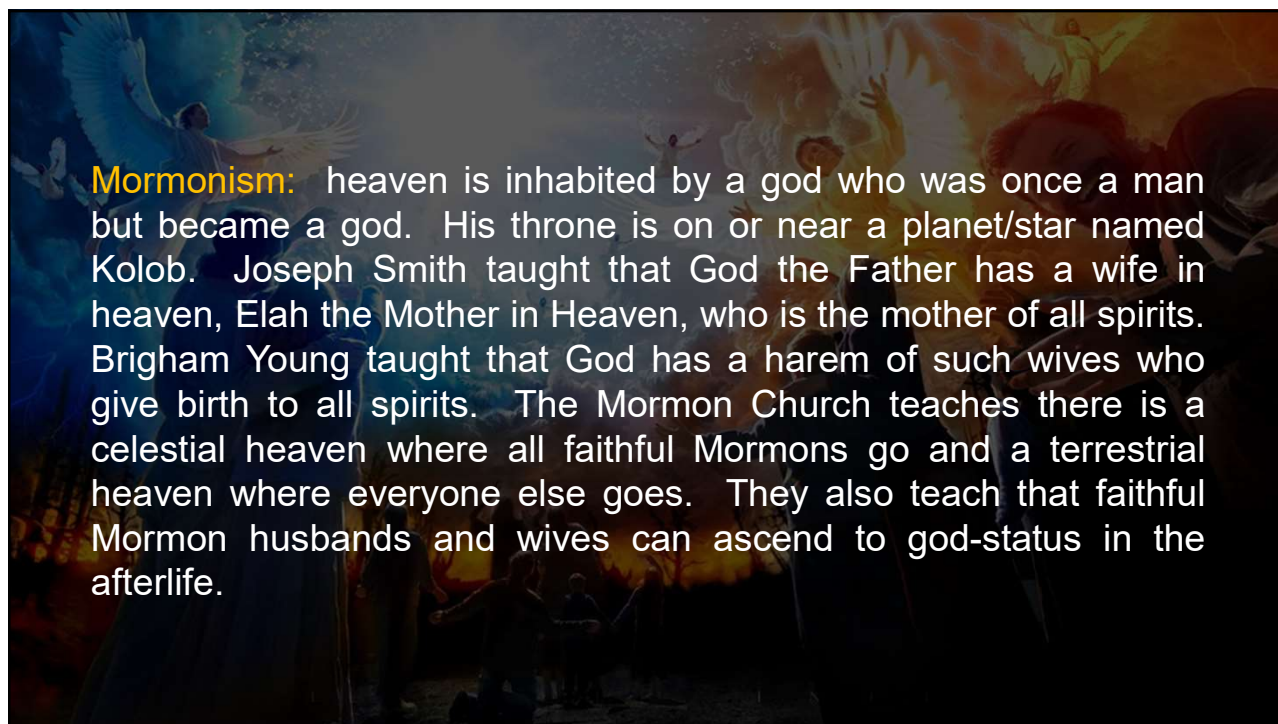
**Shintoism:** Japan is the only important place on earth and the Japanese people are the only important people on earth. Revolves around supernatural entities called the kami who are believed to inhabit all things, including forces of nature and prominent landscape locations. Little emphasis is placed on specific moral codes or particular afterlife beliefs, although the dead are deemed capable of becoming kami.

5



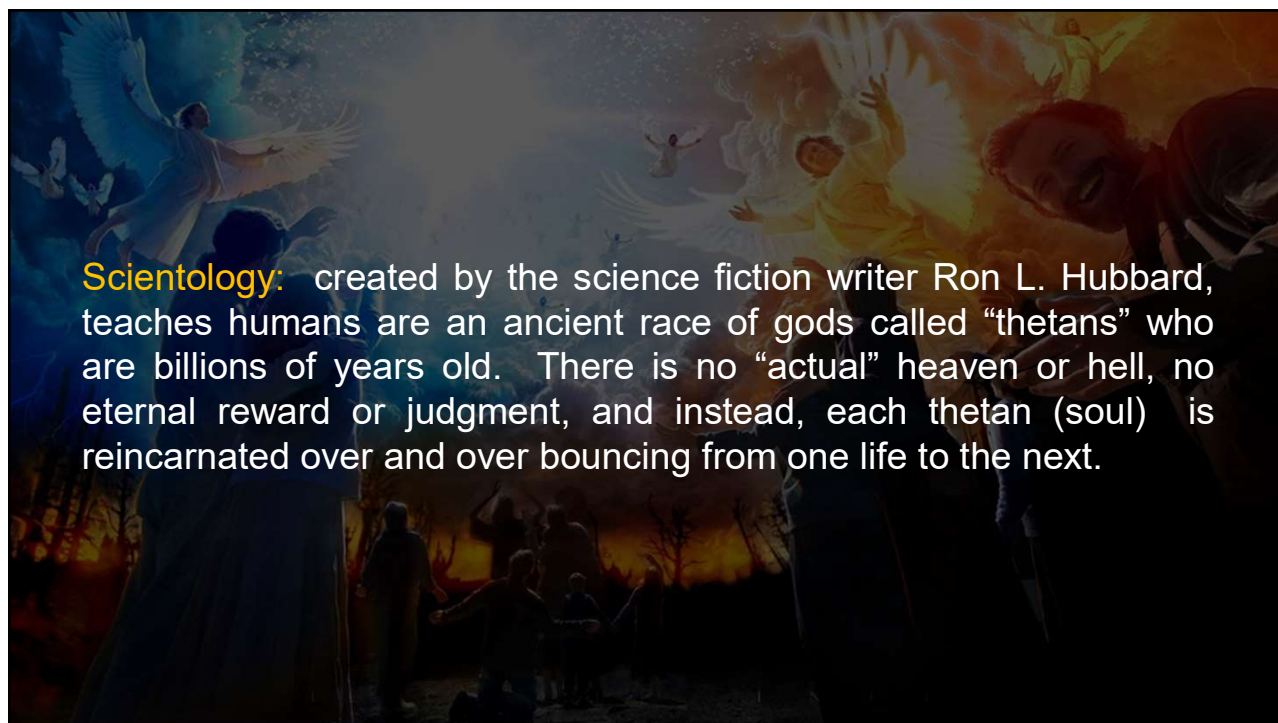
**Islam:** heaven (Jannah) is the final abode of the true Muslim believers. Jannah consists of multi-levels (7) and those who go there experience varying levels of physical, psychic and spiritual pleasure based upon the righteous deeds of the individual in life. The pleasures of paradise include “pure partners for sexual intimacy” called houris or harems.

6



**Mormonism:** heaven is inhabited by a god who was once a man but became a god. His throne is on or near a planet/star named Kolob. Joseph Smith taught that God the Father has a wife in heaven, Elah the Mother in Heaven, who is the mother of all spirits. Brigham Young taught that God has a harem of such wives who give birth to all spirits. The Mormon Church teaches there is a celestial heaven where all faithful Mormons go and a terrestrial heaven where everyone else goes. They also teach that faithful Mormon husbands and wives can ascend to god-status in the afterlife.

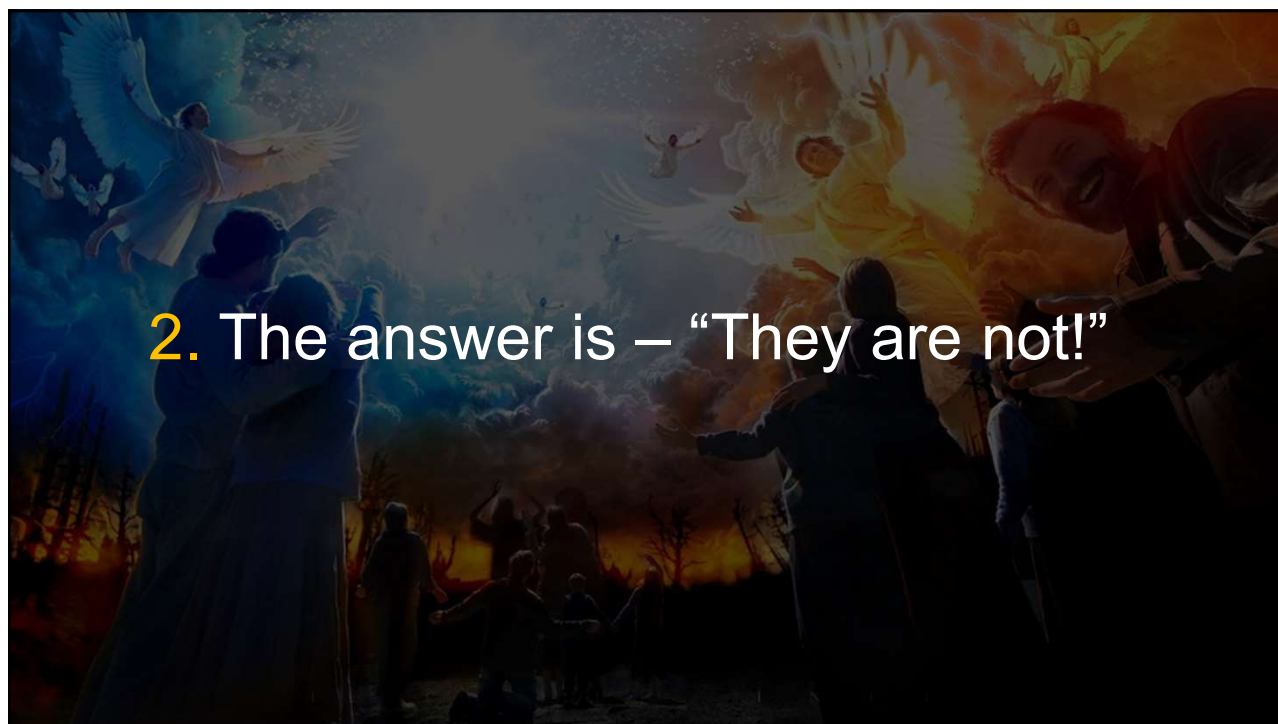
7



**Scientology:** created by the science fiction writer Ron L. Hubbard, teaches humans are an ancient race of gods called “thetans” who are billions of years old. There is no “actual” heaven or hell, no eternal reward or judgment, and instead, each thetan (soul) is reincarnated over and over bouncing from one life to the next.

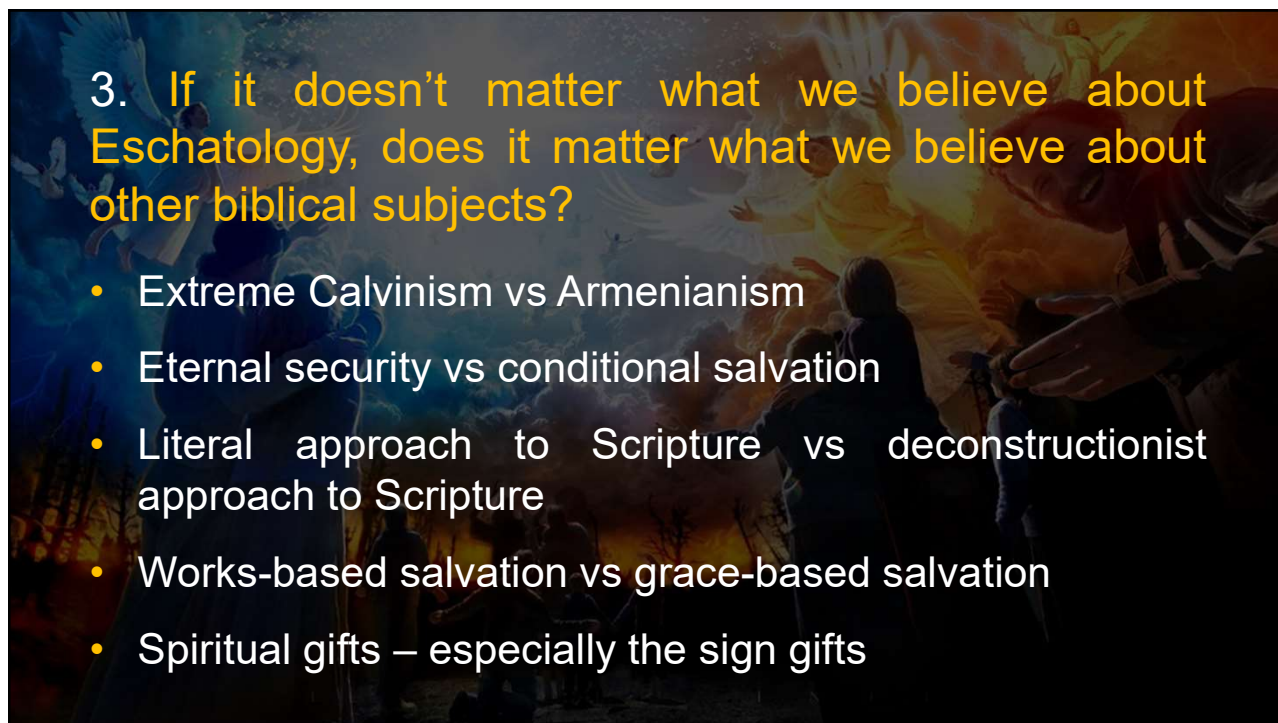
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2. The answer is – “They are not!”

9



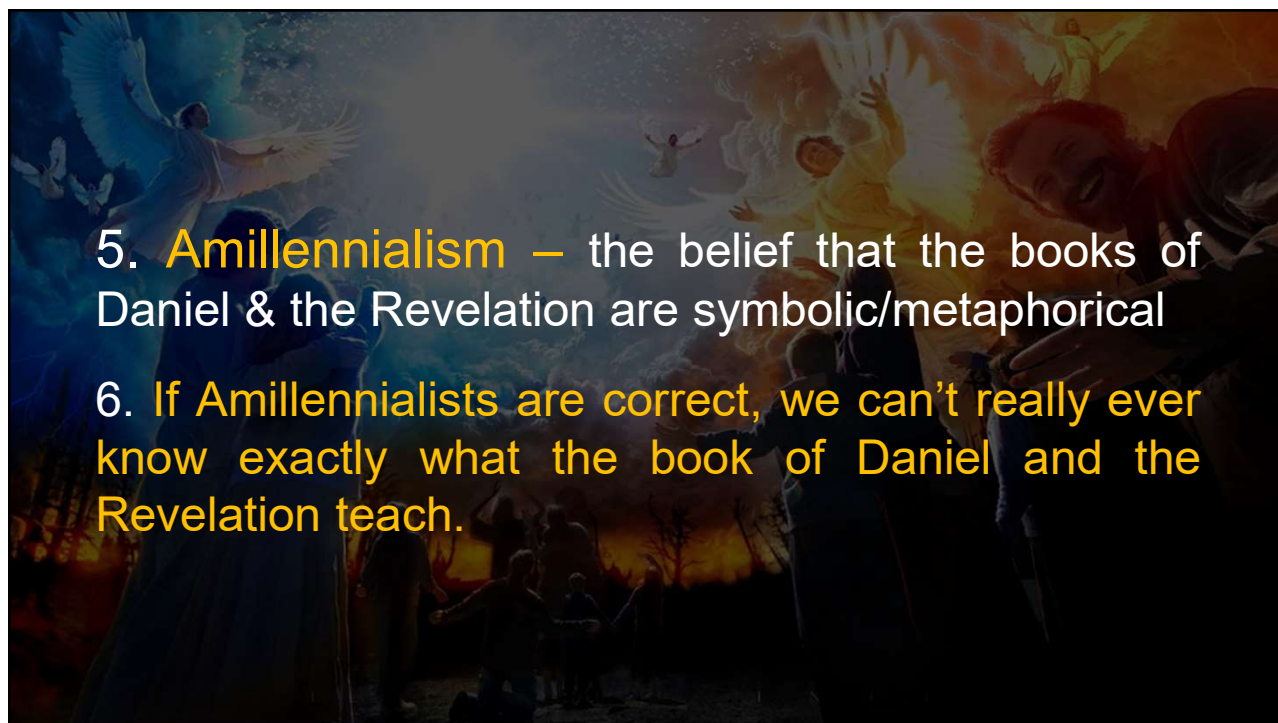
3. If it doesn't matter what we believe about Eschatology, does it matter what we believe about other biblical subjects?

- Extreme Calvinism vs Armenianism
- Eternal security vs conditional salvation
- Literal approach to Scripture vs deconstructionist approach to Scripture
- Works-based salvation vs grace-based salvation
- Spiritual gifts – especially the sign gifts

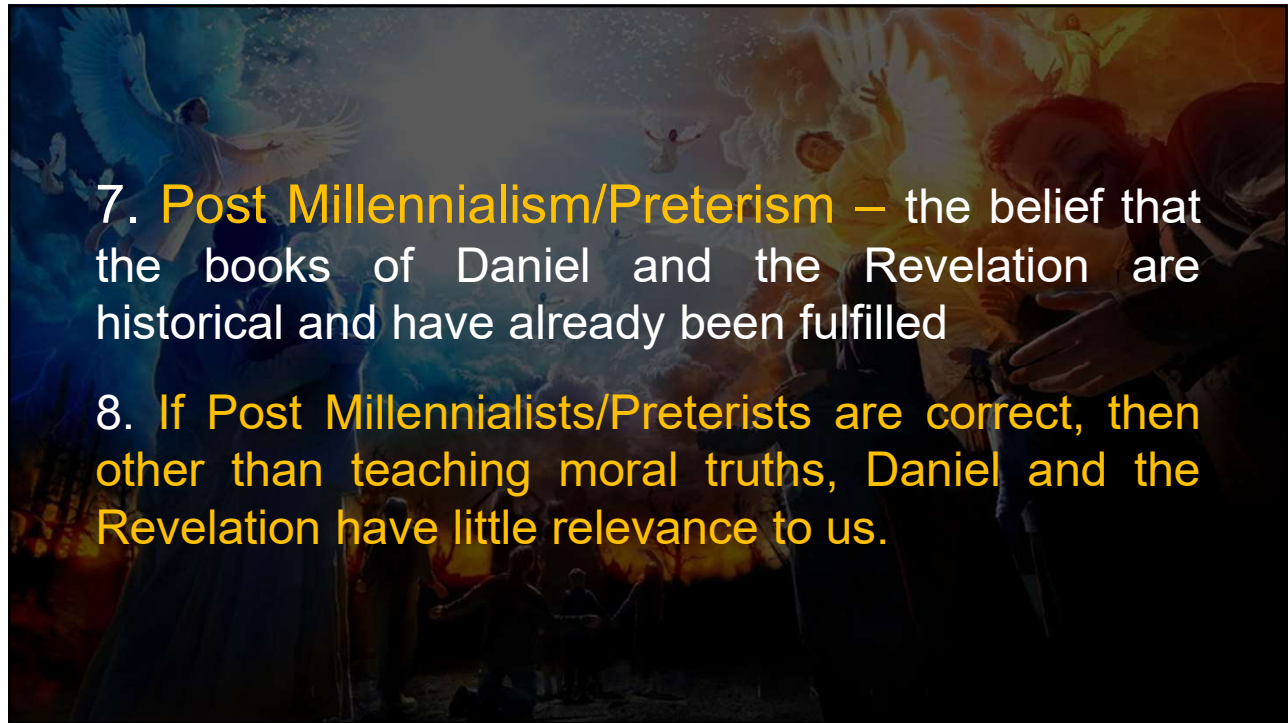
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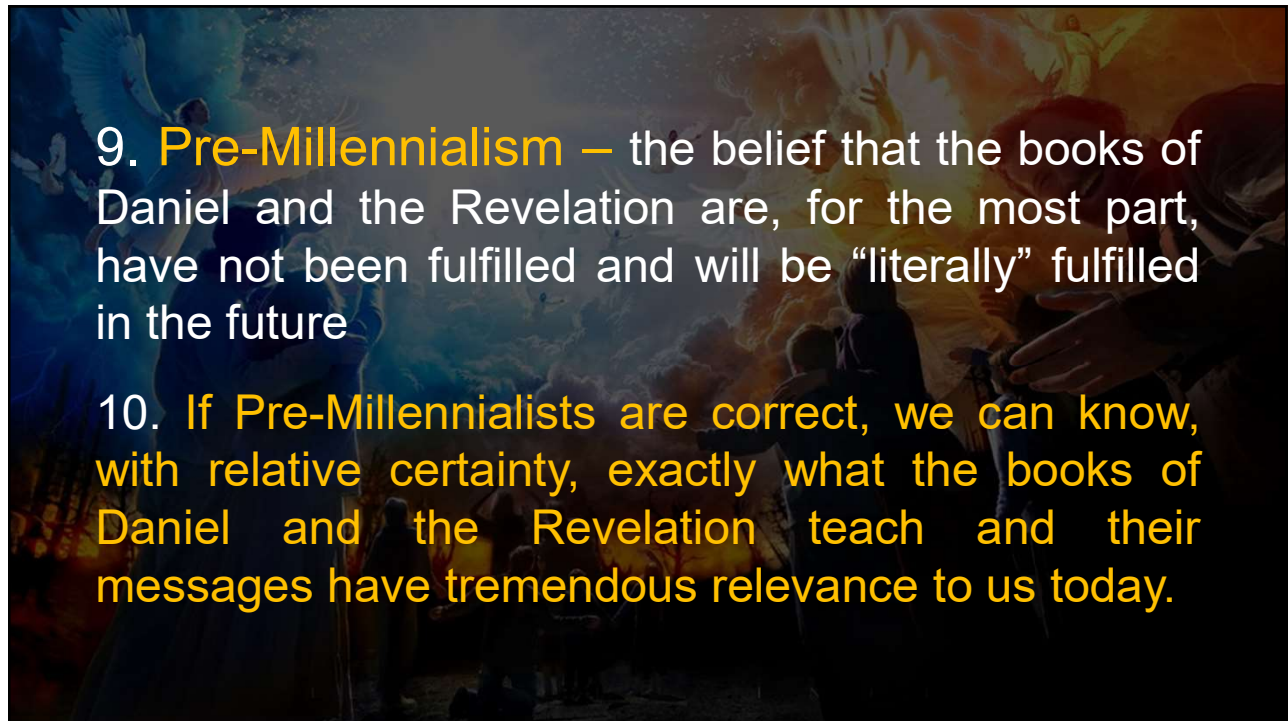
12



7. **Post Millennialism/Preterism** – the belief that the books of Daniel and the Revelation are historical and have already been fulfilled

8. **If Post Millennialists/Preterists are correct, then other than teaching moral truths, Daniel and the Revelation have little relevance to us.**

13

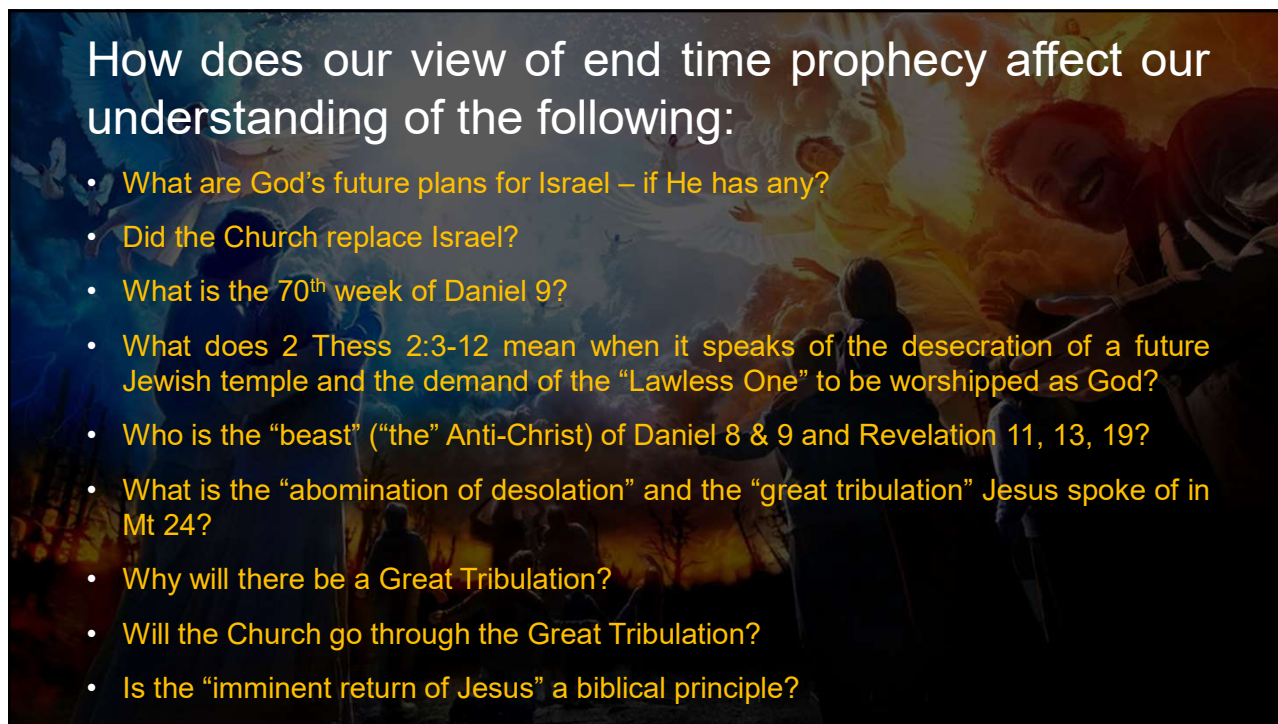


9. **Pre-Millennialism** – the belief that the books of Daniel and the Revelation are, for the most part, have not been fulfilled and will be “literally” fulfilled in the future

10. **If Pre-Millennialists are correct, we can know, with relative certainty, exactly what the books of Daniel and the Revelation teach and their messages have tremendous relevance to us today.**

14

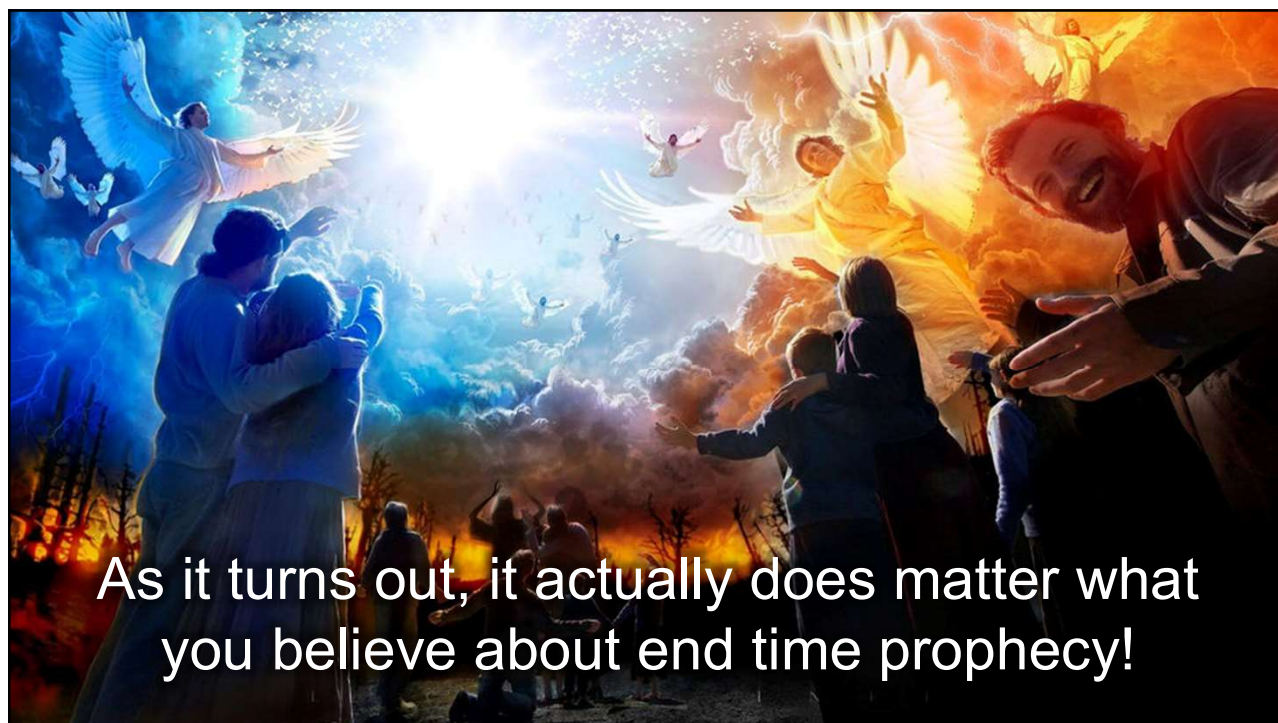




How does our view of end time prophecy affect our understanding of the following:

- What are God's future plans for Israel – if He has any?
- Did the Church replace Israel?
- What is the 70<sup>th</sup> week of Daniel 9?
- What does 2 Thess 2:3-12 mean when it speaks of the desecration of a future Jewish temple and the demand of the "Lawless One" to be worshipped as God?
- Who is the "beast" ("the" Anti-Christ) of Daniel 8 & 9 and Revelation 11, 13, 19?
- What is the "abomination of desolation" and the "great tribulation" Jesus spoke of in Mt 24?
- Why will there be a Great Tribulation?
- Will the Church go through the Great Tribulation?
- Is the "imminent return of Jesus" a biblical principle?

15



As it turns out, it actually does matter what you believe about end time prophecy!

16