

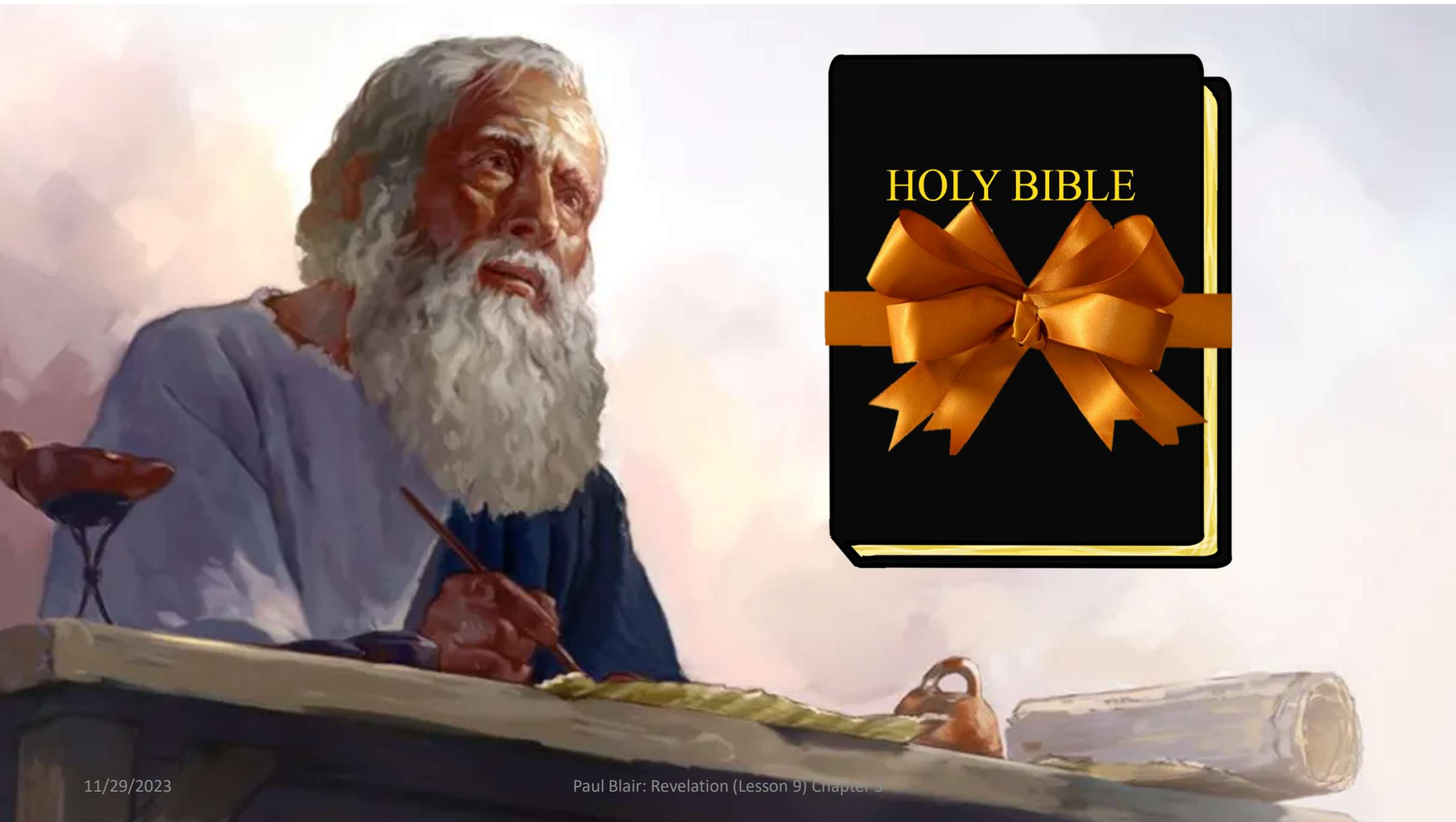


The **Revelation** of Jesus Christ

Lesson 9: Chapter 3

11/29/2023

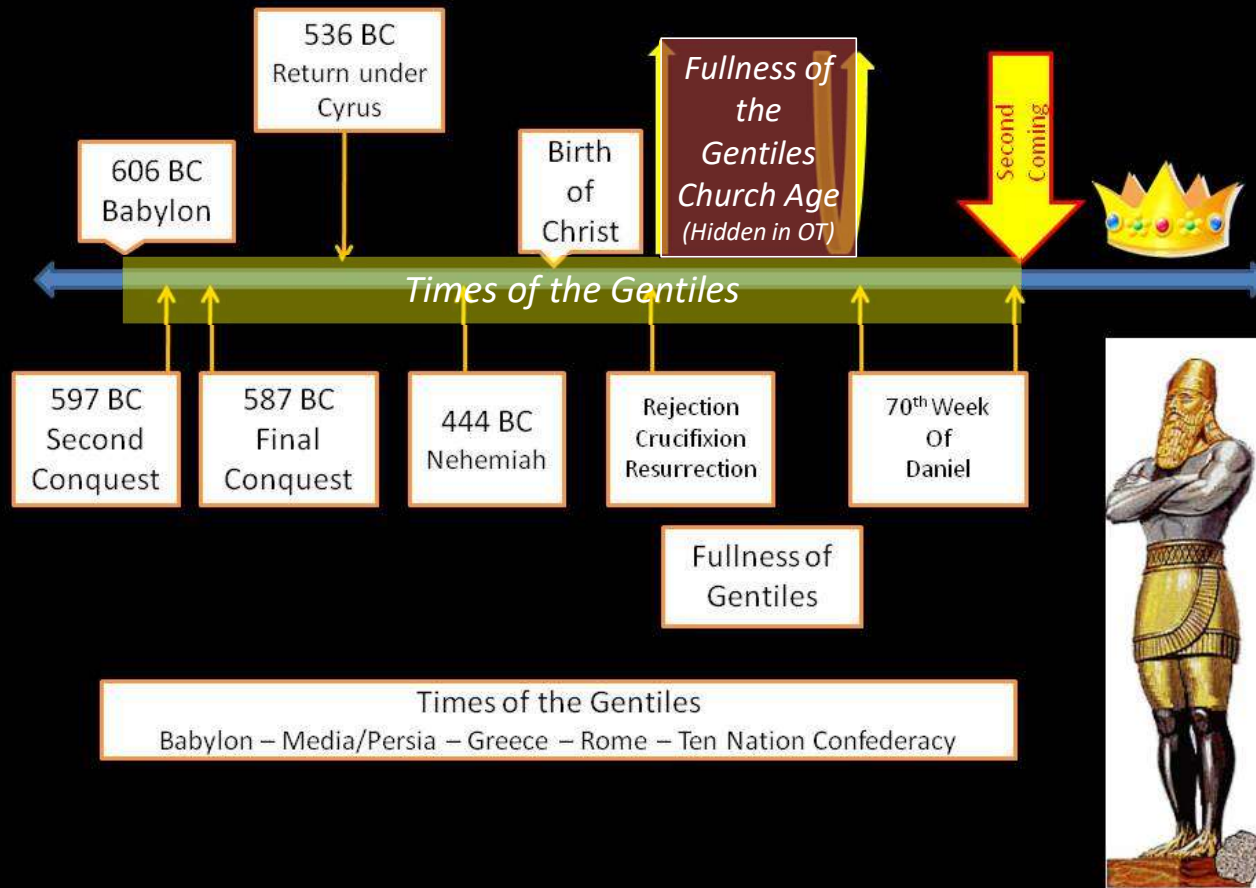
Paul Blair: Revelation (Lesson 9) Chapter 3



11/29/2023

Paul Blair: Revelation (Lesson 9) Chapter 3

Times of the Gentiles v Fullness of the Gentiles



When was Revelation written?

Preterist – Written prior to 70 AD describing the fall of Jerusalem.

Futurist – Written around 90-95 AD describing the 70th Week of Daniel

Britannica

Home > Politics, Law & Government > World Leaders > Emperors & Empresses

Domitian

Roman emperor


Alternate titles: Caesar Domitianus Augustus, Titus Flavius Domitianus

Print Cite Share More

By Guy Edward Farquhar Chilver • Edit History

Domitian, Latin in full **Caesar Domitianus Augustus**, original name (until AD 81) **Titus Flavius Domitianus**, (born Oct. 24, AD 81 – died Sept. 18, AD 96), Roman emperor (AD 81–96), known chiefly for the reign of terror in which prominent members of the Senate lived during his last years.

11/29/2023



Domitian

Paul Blair: Revelation (Lesson 9) Chapter 1

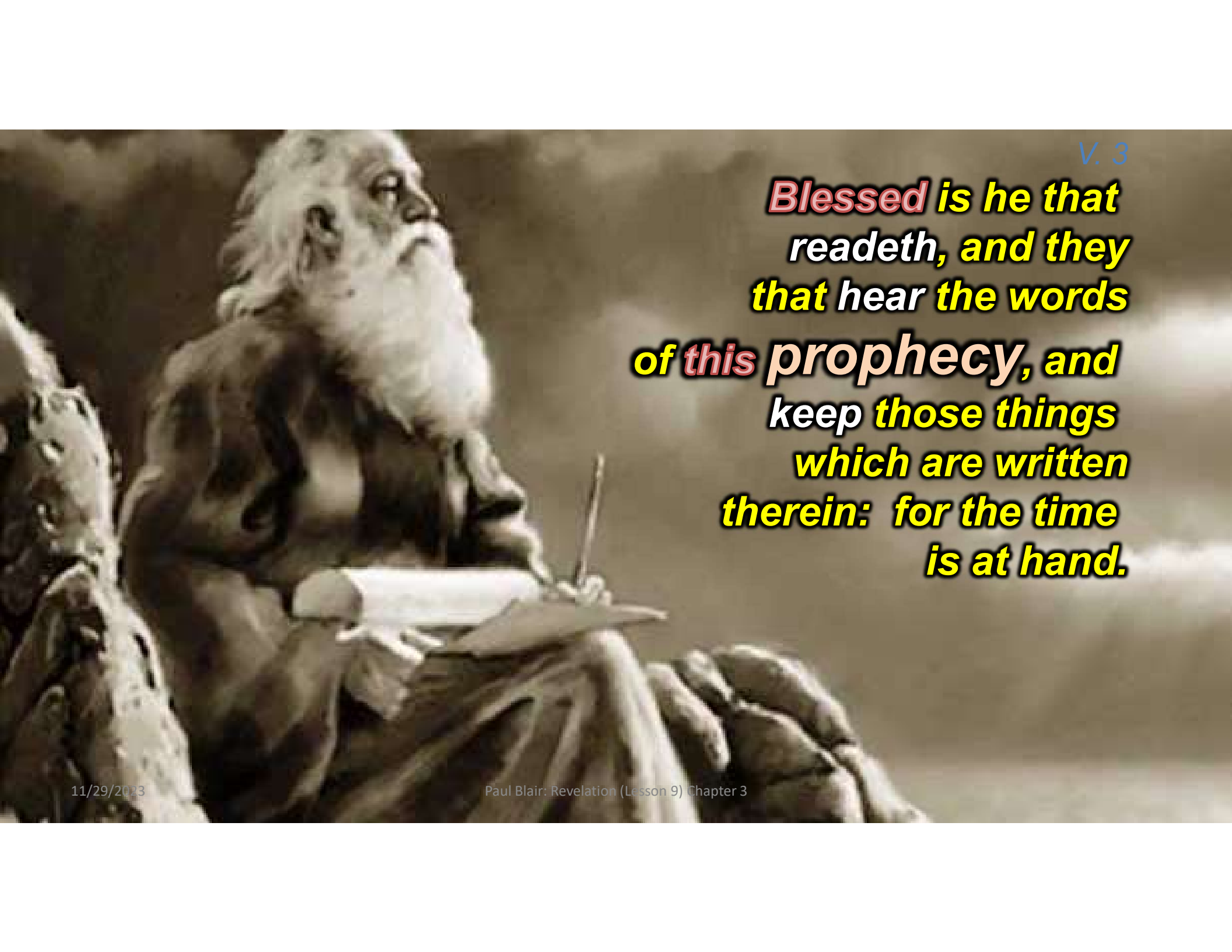
Against Heresies (A.D. 180-199), Book V, Chapter 30:

We will not, however, incur the risk of pronouncing positively as to the name of Antichrist; for if it were necessary that his name should be distinctly revealed in this present time, it would have been announced by him who beheld the apocalyptic vision. For that was seen no very long time since, but almost in our day, towards the end of Domitian's reign.

Polycarp



Irenaeus



V. 3

***Blessed is he that
readeth, and they
that hear the words
of this prophecy, and
keep those things
which are written
therein: for the time
is at hand.***



*I was in the Spirit
on the Lord's day ...*

**“I came to be, in the
Spirit, on the Day of
the Lord”**

Complete Jewish Version

Revelation is written chronologically

Rev 1:19

Write the things *which thou hast seen*, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter;

- 1. Hast seen – Chapter 1 (*Vision of Christ*)**

Revelation is written chronologically

Rev 1:19

Write the things *which thou hast seen*, **and** the things which are, **and the things which shall be hereafter**;

1. Hast seen – Chapter 1 (*Vision of Christ*)
2. Which Are – Chapters 2-3 (*The Church*)

Revelation is written chronologically

Rev 1:19

Write the things *which thou hast seen*, **and** *the things which are*, **and** *the things which shall be hereafter*;

1. Hast seen – Chapter 1 (***Vision of Christ***)
2. Which Are – Chapters 2-3 (***The Church***)
3. Chapters 4-22 – things hereafter (***“meta tauta”***)

Rev 4:1 - **After this** I looked, and, behold, a door was opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, Come up hither, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter.

Jewish Hermeneutics

PRDS – “Paradise or garden”

1. P’shat – the plain, literal story in the text

- Ex: Daniel 3 – Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego

2. Remez – hint. An application made from the story.

- We can be right in the middle of God’s will and still find ourselves in a fiery furnace. However, Jesus is with us in the midst.

3. Derash – search. A Prophetic Application.

- Furnace heated 7 times, faithful brought through, Daniel absent.

4. Sod – secret. Equidistant lettering, etc.

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Example of a Prophetic Application

Hosea 11:1

When Israel was a child,
then I loved him, and
*called my son out of
Egypt.*

Matthew 2:14-15

When he arose, he took the
young child and his mother by
night, and departed into Egypt:
And was there until the death
of Herod: *that it might be
fulfilled which was spoken of
the Lord by the prophet,
saying, Out of Egypt have I
called my son.*

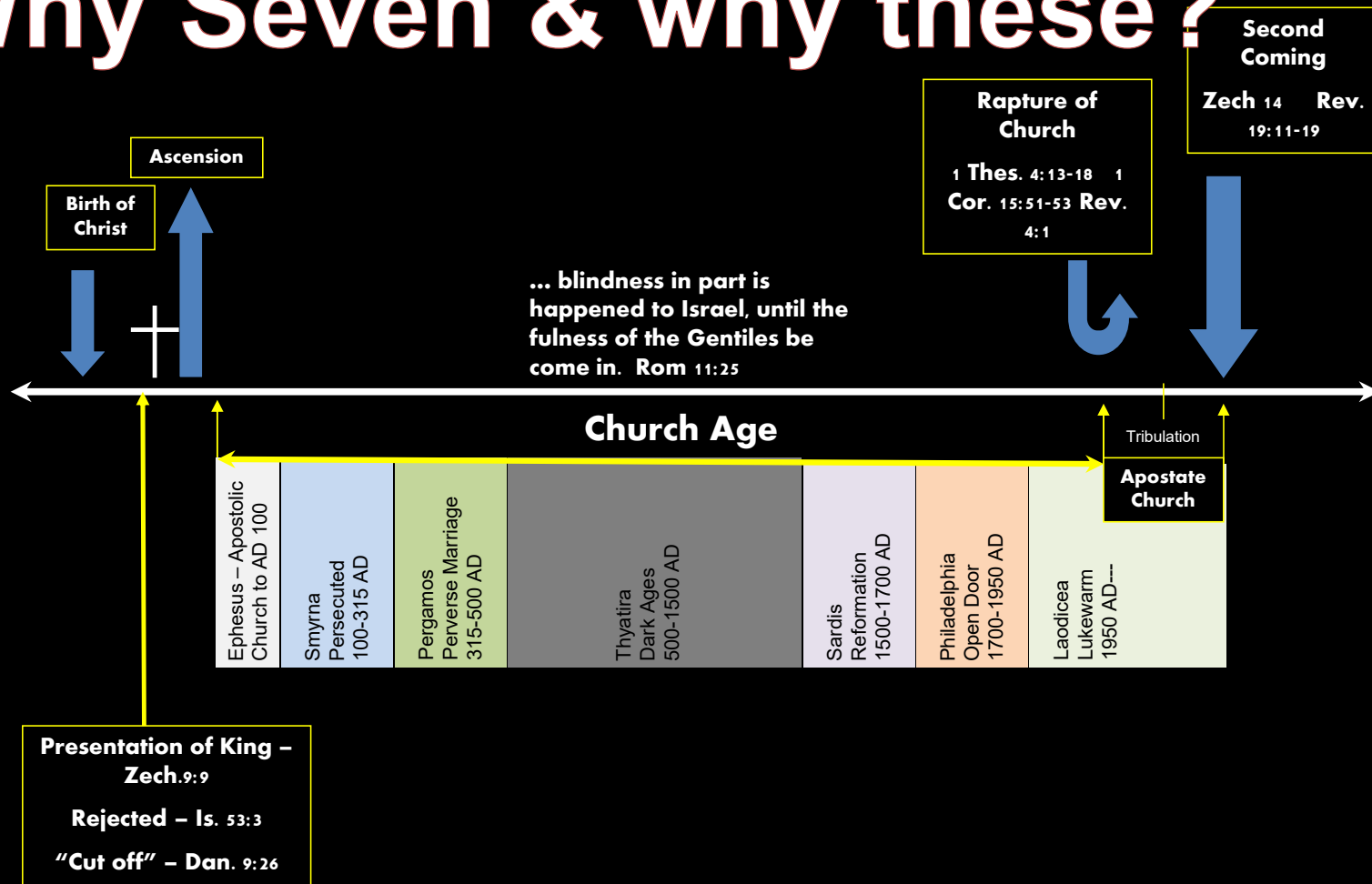
2. Which Are – Chapters 2-3 *(The Church)*

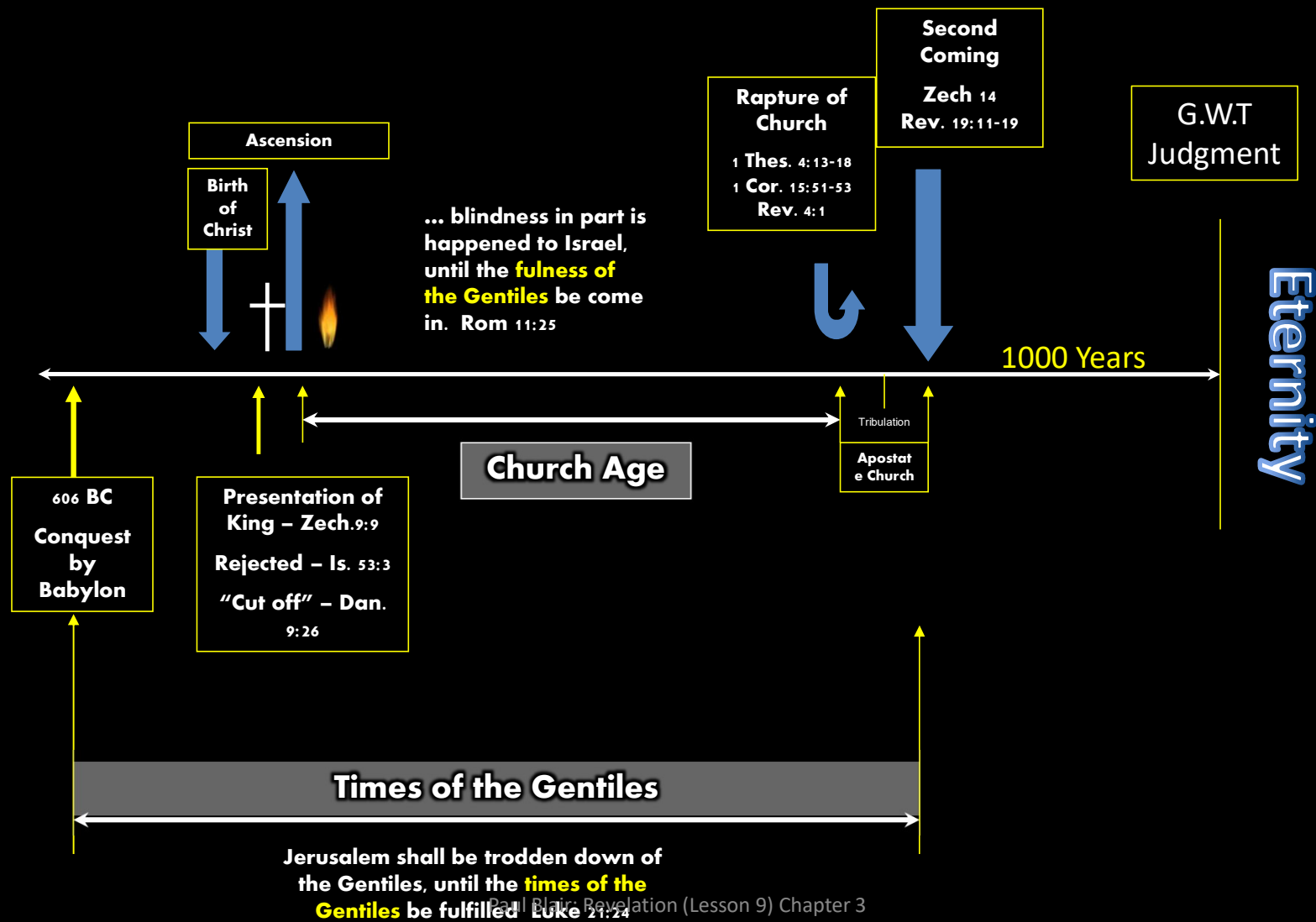
Seven Churches of Asia



1. Ephesus - *Desirable One*
2. Smyrna – *Myrrh, bitter, crushed*
3. Pergamos - *Perverse Marriage*
4. Thyatira – *continual sacrifice*
5. **Sardis** – *remnant*
6. Philadelphia – *brotherly love*
7. Laodicea – *rule the people*

Why Seven & why these?







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in the*

*Yesterday I went through
the south side of the river
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direction in a direction of
the Hopie who is a resident
Superintendent of the line,
and can't make things of
boat which I can
when I return
bridge. Heley got
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it got a street
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and fitted to travel
we reached to visit
Franklin
the Depot was a
the*

Santa Fe
EDMOND MUSEUM
2011
Booklet design by Nina Hager

EDMOND BURDICK

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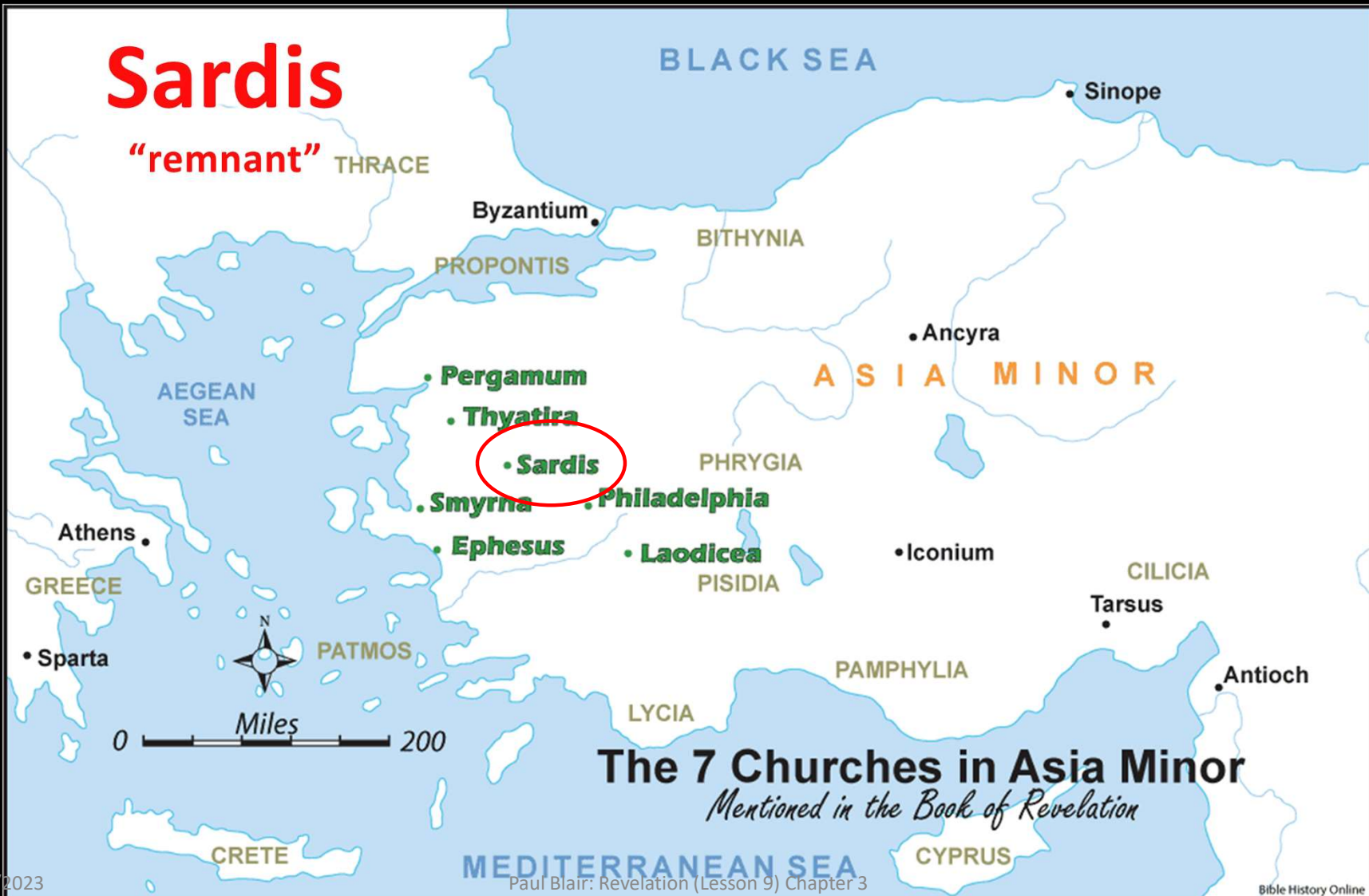
RAILROAD AGENT

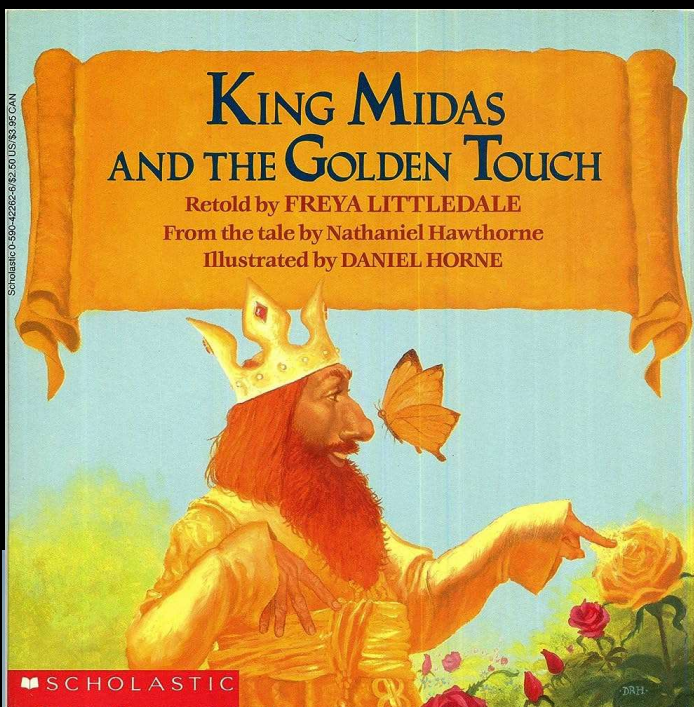
Santa Fe

Nina W. Hager

Sardis

"remnant" THRACE





Sardis

Upper city and lower city (as the city expanded).

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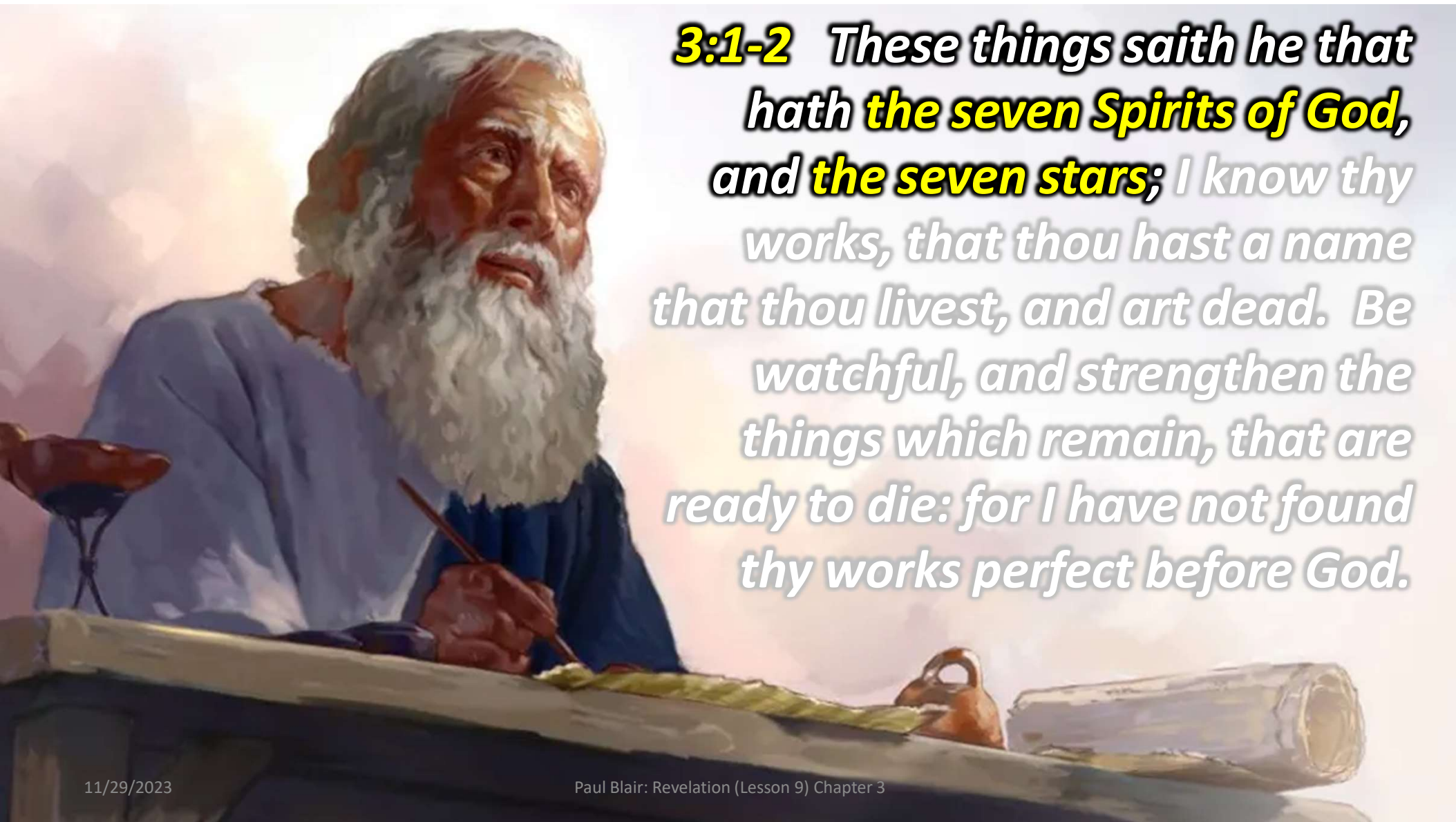
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Big Reputation, Little Substance

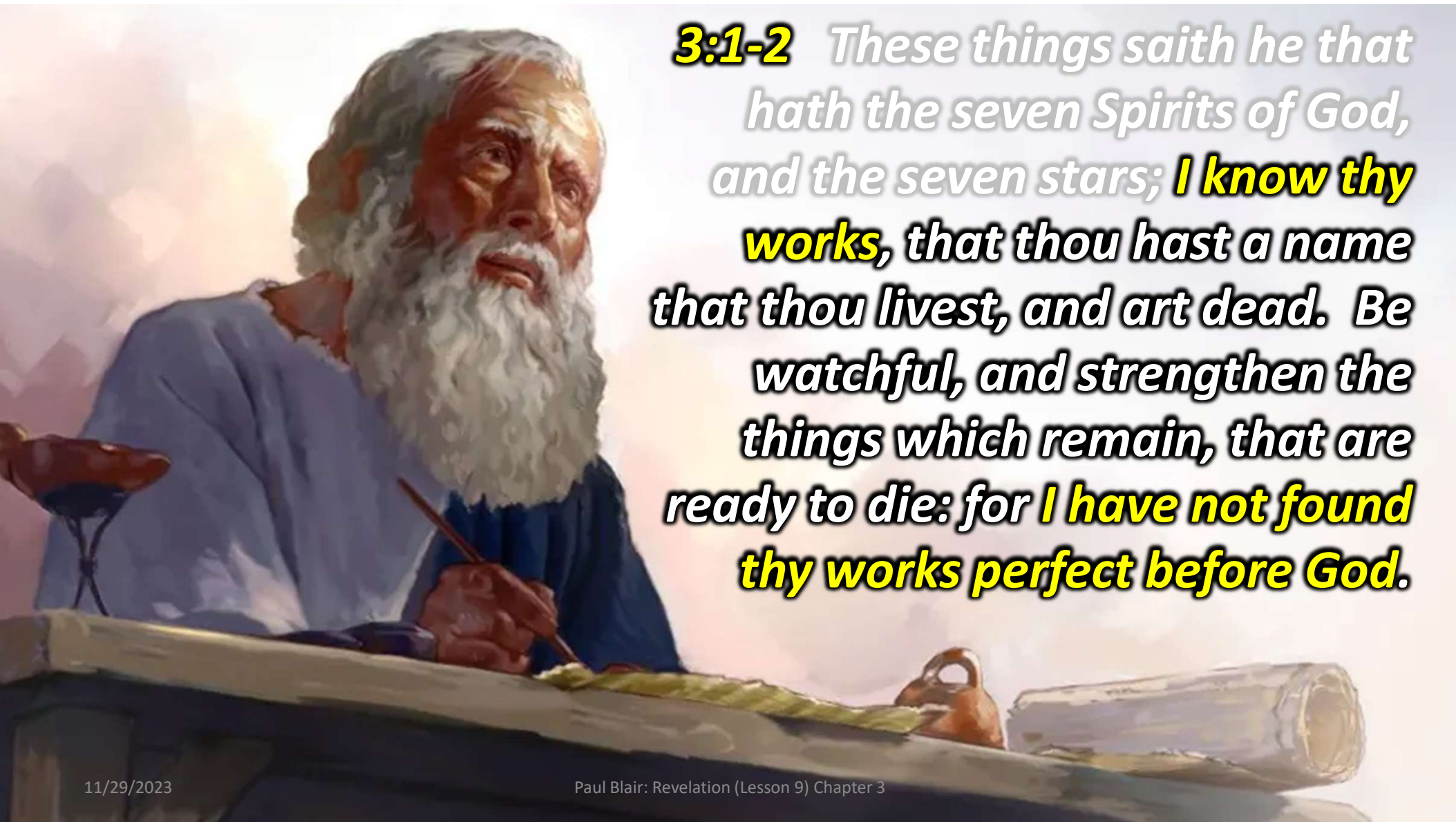


- 549 B.C. Fell to the Persians.
- 501 B.C. Burned by the Ionians.
- 334 B.C. Surrendered to Alexander the Great.
- 322 B.C. Taken by Antigonos.
- 214 B.C. Fell to the Seleucids.

“The name Sardis became synonymous with: pretensions unjustified; promise without performance; appearance without reality; and, false confidence that heralded ruin.”



3:1-2 *These things saith he that hath **the seven Spirits of God**, and **the seven stars**; I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead. Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die: for I have not found thy works perfect before God.*



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Sardis

"remnant" THRACE

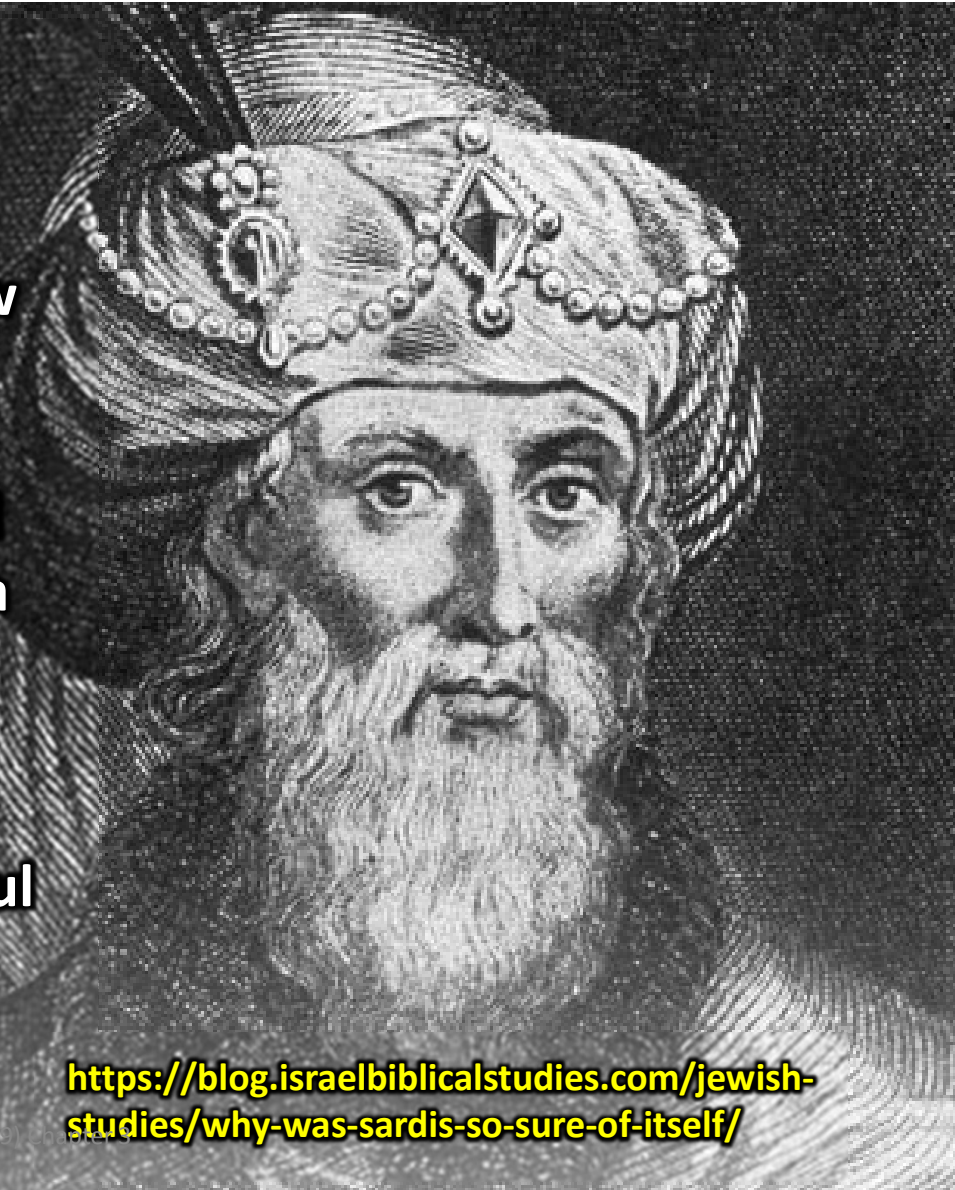


that
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God.

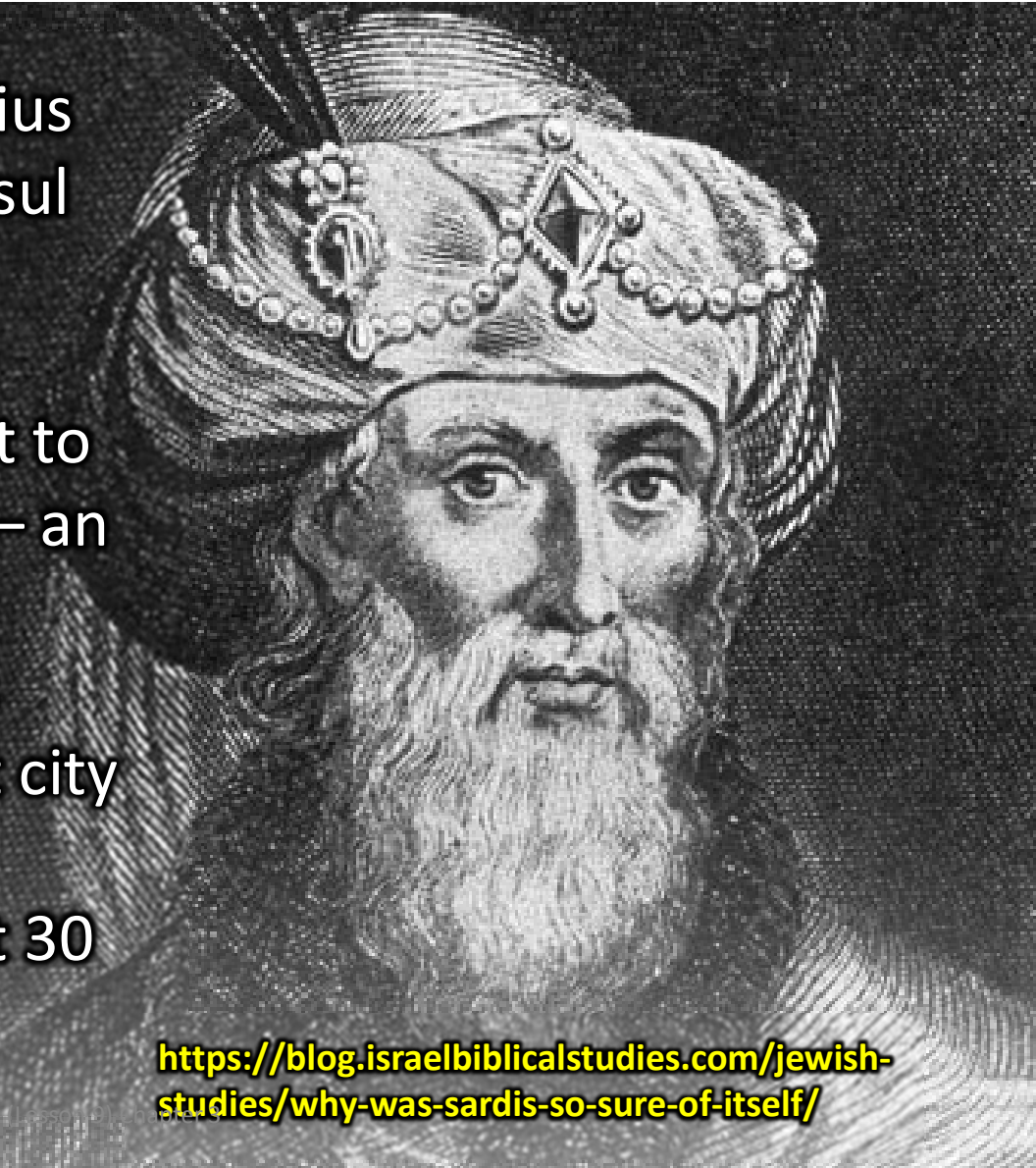
Josephus Flavius wrote of a decree from Lucius Antonius, a Roman politician (50-49 BCE):

“Lucius Antonius...to [the Sardinian people], sends greetings. Those Jews, who are fellow citizens of Rome, came to me, and showed that they had an assembly of their own, according to their ancestral laws. [They had this assembly] from the beginning, as also a place of their own, wherein they determined their suits and controversies with one another. Therefore, upon their petition to me, so that these might be lawful for them, I ordered that their privileges be preserved, and they be permitted to do accordingly.” (Josephus, Ant., 16.10, 17).

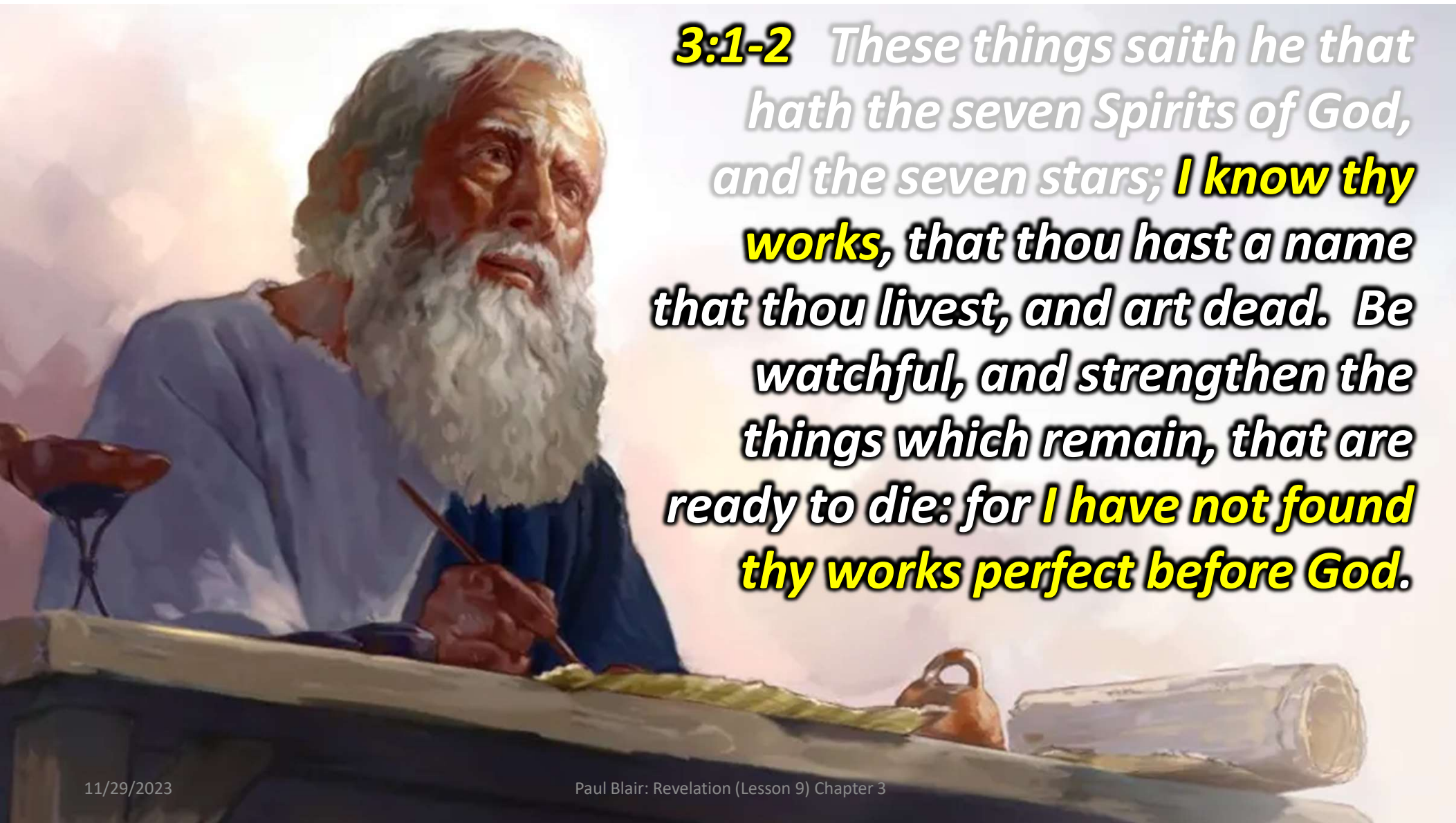
<https://blog.israelbiblicalstudies.com/jewish-studies/why-was-sardis-so-sure-of-itself/>



Josephus Flavius also noted that Caius Norbanus Flaccus, a Roman proconsul at the end of the 1st century BCE, upheld the rights of Sardis Jews to practice Judaism, including the right to donate to the Temple in Jerusalem – an extra-ordinary privilege indeed. (Josephus, Ant. 16.6, 6). During this time, Sardis remained an important city and was the principal center of a judicial district that included almost 30 Lydian and Phrygian settlements.



<https://blog.israelbiblicalstudies.com/jewish-studies/why-was-sardis-so-sure-of-itself/>



3:1-2 *These things saith he that hath the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars; **I know thy works**, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead. Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die: for **I have not found thy works perfect before God.***

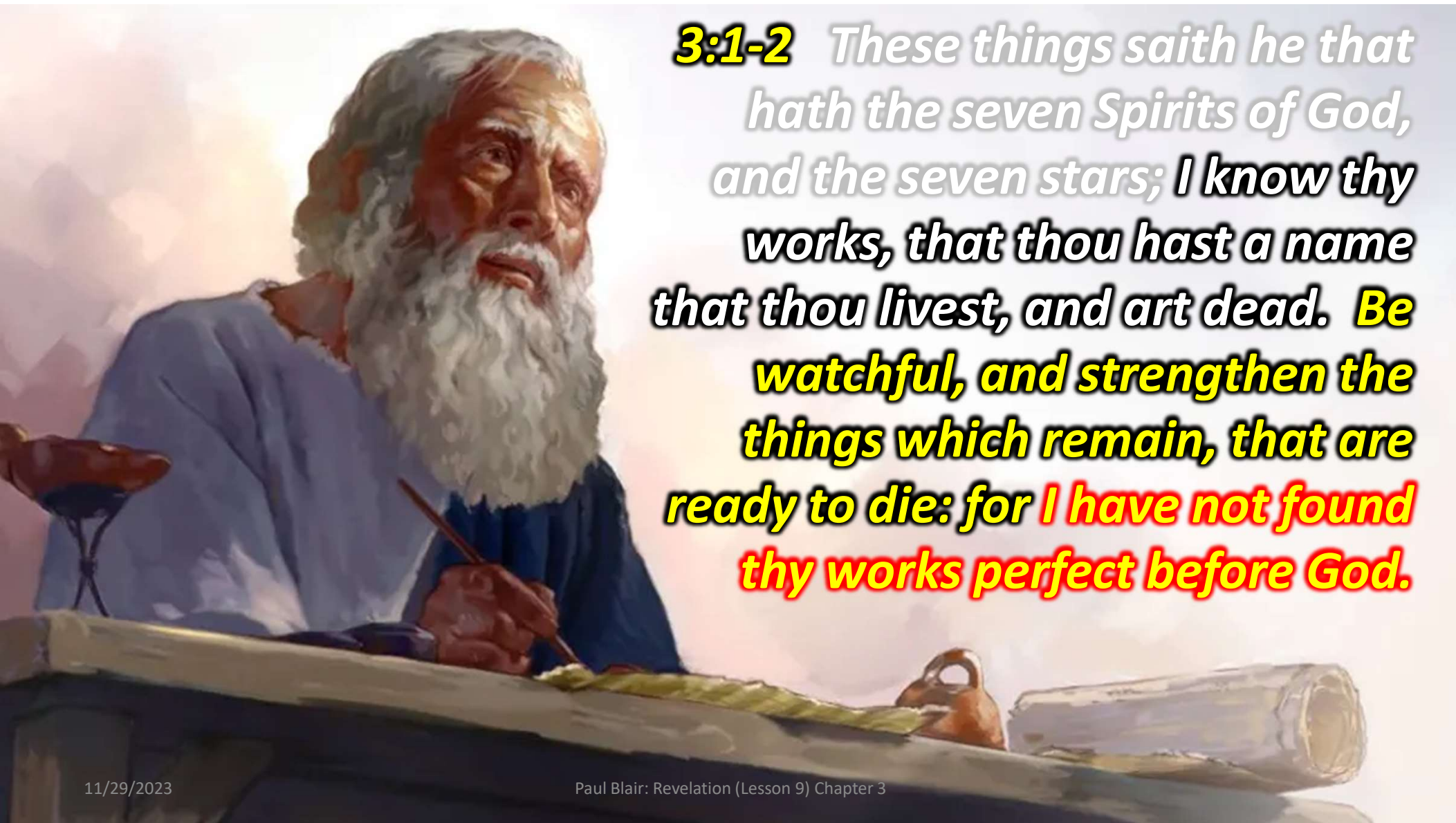


Dr. Warren Wiersbe

11/29/2023

“The impression is that the assembly in Sardis was not aggressive in its witness to the city. There was no persecution because there was no invasion into the enemy’s territory. No friction usually means no movement. The unsaved in Sardis saw the church as a respectable group of people who were neither dangerous nor desirable. They were decent people with a dying witness and a decaying ministry.”

Bible Exposition Commentary – Dr. Warren Wiersbe
Paul Blair: Revelation (Lesson 9) Chapter 3



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The Reformation



- John Wycliffe
- John Hus
- Johannes Gutenberg
- Martin Luther
- John Calvin
- John Knox
- William Tyndale

Established State Churches



"Sola Scriptura"

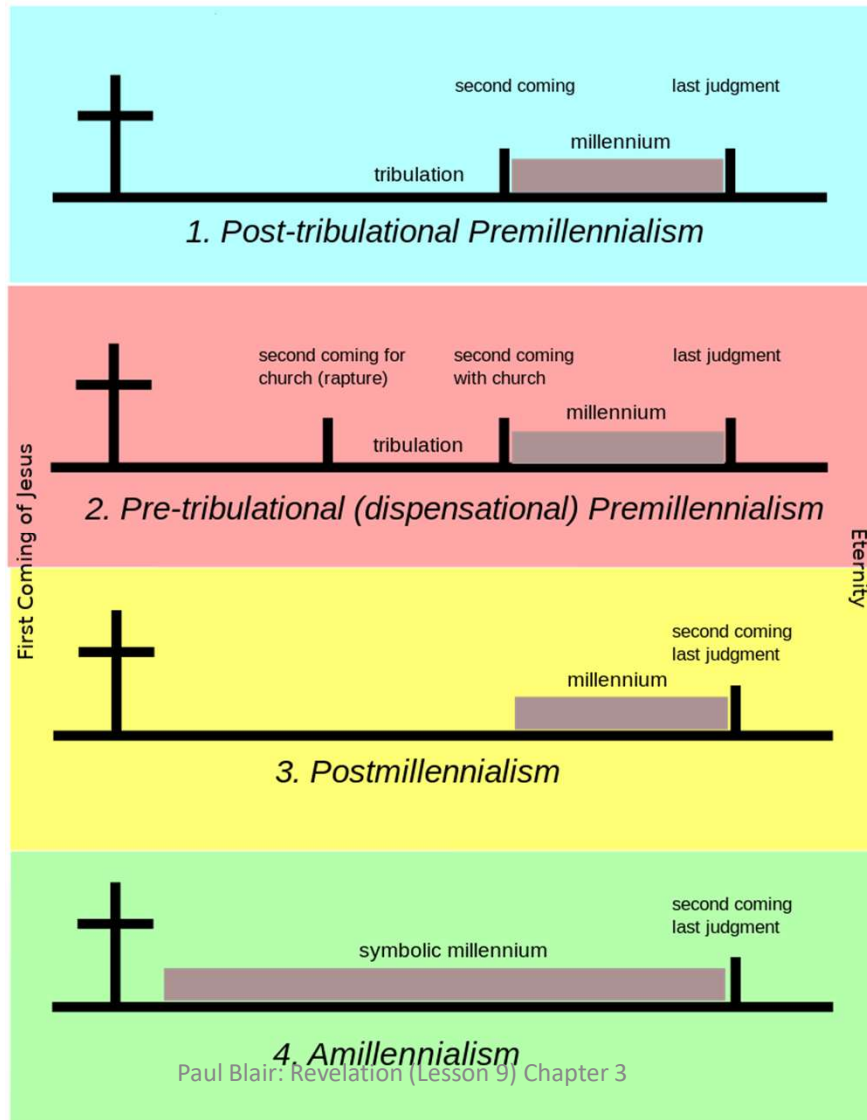
All things in Scripture are not alike plain in themselves, nor alike clear unto all; yet those things which are necessary to be known, believed, and observed for salvation, are so clearly propounded and opened in some place of Scripture or other, that not only the learned, but the unlearned, in a due use of the ordinary means, may attain unto a sufficient understanding of them.

Westminster Confession

Incomplete Reformation

- Infant Baptism & Automatic Membership
- Established Churches
- Retained Catholic Traditions: Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter
- Retained the Catholic Eschatological Theory called Amillennialism
 - & Rejection of the Rapture & a literal Millennial Reign

Comparison of Christian millennial teachings



One Thousand Years of Shabbat

By: Mois Navon

R. Katina said, "Six thousand years the world will exist and one [thousand, the seventh], it shall be desolate (*haruv*), as it is written, 'And the Lord **alone** shall be exalted in that day' (Isa. 2:11).¹ ... R. Katina also taught, "Just as the seventh year is one year of release (*mushmetet*) in seven, so too does the world have one thousand years out of seven that are fallow (*mushmat*), as it is written, 'And the Lord **alone** shall be exalted in that day' (Isa. 2:11); and further it is written, 'A psalm and song for the Shabbat day' (Ps. 92:1) – meaning the day that is altogether Shabbat – and also it is said, 'For a thousand years in Thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past' (Ps. 90:4)."²

*Sanhedrin 97a*³

Replacement Theology become the position of the Church during the time of Augustine (A.D. 354-430), who popularized it in his book *The City of God*. Initially Augustine claimed that he was a Chiliast, the belief in the literal thousand year reign of Christ on the earth, the basic view of Premillennialism today. Having come to the conclusion that this view was "inferior" and "carnal," he adopted the position that the reign of Christ should be much more "spiritual" and it would occur during this present Church Age. His spiritualizing method, of course, eliminated true Israel and the losing of all the promises God made to the Jewish nation, which he viewed as now being fulfilled within the Church.

What Did The Apostolic Church Believe?

Almost all students of the early church agree that Premillennialism, or Chiliasm, was the most widely held view of the apostolic church. Philip Schaff, the noted authority on church history writes,

"The most striking point in the eschatology of the ante-Nicene Age [A.D. 100-325] is the prominent chiliasm, or millenarianism, . . . a widely current opinion of distinguished teachers, such as Barnabas, Papias, Justin Martyr, Irenaeus, Tertullian, Methodius, and Lactantius" (Philip Schaff, *History of the Christian Church*. New York: Scribner, 1884, Vol. 2, p. 614).

Premillennialism began to die out in the established Catholic Church during the time of Augustine, though it has always survived as a Church doctrine.

chil•i•asm ('kɪl i, æz əm)

n.

the doctrine of Christ's expected return to reign on earth for 1000 years; millennialism.

[1600–10; < Greek *chiliasmós*=*chili*(oi) 1000 + *-asmos*, variant of *-ismos* **-ism** before stems ending in *-i*]

chil'i•ast (-, æst) *n.*

chil'i•as'tic, *adj.*

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chiliasm

the belief that Christ will return to earth in visible form and establish a kingdom to last 1000 years, after which the world will come to an end. Also called **millenarianism**. — **chiliast**, *n.* — **chiliastic**, *adj.*

See also: **Theology**

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See also: **End of the World**

the doctrine that Christ will return to the world in a visible form and set up a kingdom to last 1000 years, after which the world will come to an end. — **chiliast**, *n.* — **chiliastic**, *adj.*

See also: **Christ**

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Replacement Theology to the City of God. Initially Augustinian view of Premillennialism, the reign of Christ should be eliminated true Israel and the Church.

What Did The Apostolic Church Believe?
Almost all students of the apostolic church, the noted scholar Philip Schaff, the noted scholar

"The new chiliasm of Papia, Christ

Premillennialism began to be a Church doctrine.

and it in his book The earth, the basic position that the world, of course, fulfilled within the

apostolic church.

atm

survived as a

Incomplete Reformation

Jesus

- (0-33 AD)

John

- (10?-100 AD)

Polycarp

- (69-155 AD)

Irenaeus

- (130-202 AD)

Irenaeus, Against Heresies 5.29:

“Those nations however, who did not of themselves raise up their eyes unto heaven, nor returned thanks to their Maker, nor wished to behold the light of truth, but who were like blind mice concealed in the depths of ignorance, the word justly reckons “as waste water from a sink, and as the turning-weight of a balance — in fact, as nothing;”(1) so far useful and serviceable to the just, as stubble conduces towards the growth of the wheat, and its straw, by means of combustion, serves for working gold. And therefore, when in the end the Church shall be suddenly caught up from this, it is said, “There shall be tribulation such as has not been since the beginning, neither shall be.”(2) For this is the last contest of the righteous, in which, when they overcome they are crowned with incorruption.”

Early church [edit]

Premillennialism [edit]

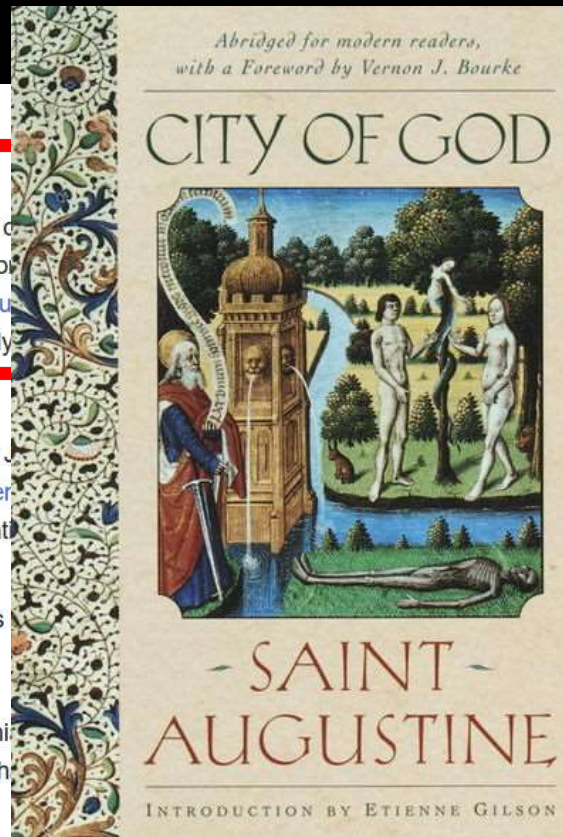
During the first centuries after Christ, various forms of premillennialism are called "historic premillennialism",^[6] and it was supported by [Methodius](#), [Lactantius](#),^[12] [Commodianus](#),^[13] [Theophilus of Antioch](#),^[14] [Irenaeus of Lyons](#),^[15] [Justin Martyr](#),^[8] [Tertullian](#),^[9] [Polycarp](#),^[10] [Pseudo-Barnabas](#),^[11] [Clement of Alexandria](#),^[16]^[17] [Nepos](#), [Julius Africanus](#), [Tatian](#)^[18] and [Montanus](#).^[19] However, the premillennial views of [Montanus](#) probably

Amillennialism [edit]

In the 2nd century, the [Alogi](#) (those who rejected all of the Old Testament) were amillennial.^[20] With the influence of [Platonism](#), [Clement of Alexandria](#),^[21] [Dionysius of Alexandria](#) (died 264) argued that Revelation was amillennial.^[22]

[Justin Martyr](#) (died 165), who had chiliastic tendencies, was amillennial.^[23] [Jew](#), chapter 80:^[23]

"I and many others are of this opinion [premillennialism] that the world is to be renewed; but, on the other hand, I signified to you that the world is to be renewed. Christians, think otherwise."^[23]



both East and West.^[5] Premillennialism held by the Early Church was held by [Justin Martyr](#),^[8] [Tertullian](#),^[9] [Polycarp](#),^[10] [Pseudo-Barnabas](#),^[11] [Clement of Alexandria](#),^[16]^[17] [Nepos](#), [Julius Africanus](#), [Tatian](#)^[18] and [Montanus](#).^[19] However, the premillennial views of [Montanus](#) probably were not held by the Church, as [Montanism](#) was seen as a heresy.^[18]

Christian eschatology

Contrasting beliefs	[show]
The Millennium	[show]
Biblical texts	[show]
Pseudepigrapha	[show]
Key terms	[show]

[Christianity portal](#)

V · T · E

[Augustine](#) in his early days affirmed [premillennialism](#), but later changed to amillennialism, causing the view to become popularized together with [Pope Gregory the Great](#).^[24]^[25] The *[Catholic Encyclopedia](#)* notes that the 2nd century proponents of various [Gnostic](#) beliefs (themselves considered heresies) also rejected millenarianism.^[26]

Early church [edit]

Premillennialism [edit]

During the first centuries after Christ, various forms of chiliasm (millennialism) were to be found in the Church, both [East](#) and [West](#).^[5] Premillennialism held by the Early Church is called "[historic premillennialism](#)",^[6] and it was supported in the early church by [Papias](#),^[7] [Irenaeus](#), [Justin Martyr](#),^[8] [Tertullian](#),^[9] [Polycarp](#),^[10] [Pseudo-Barnabas](#),^[11] [Methodius](#), [Lactantius](#),^[12] [Commodianus](#),^[13] [Theophilus](#),^[14] [Melito](#),^[15] [Hippolytus of Rome](#), [Victorinus of Pettau](#),^[16]^[17] [Nepos](#), [Julius Africanus](#), [Tatian](#)^[18] and [Montanus](#).^[19] However, the premillennial views of Montanus probably affected the later rejection of premillennialism in the Church, as [Montanism](#) was seen as a heresy.^[18]

Amillennialism [edit]

In the 2nd century, the [Alogi](#) (those who rejected all of John's writings) were [amillennial](#), as was [Calus](#) in the first quarter of the 3rd century.^[20] With the influence of [Platonism](#), [Clement of Alexandria](#) and [Origen](#) denied premillennialism.^[21] Likewise, [Dionysius of Alexandria](#) (died 264) argued that Revelation was not written by John and could not be interpreted literally; he was amillennial.^[22]

[Justin Martyr](#) (died 165), who had chiliastic tendencies in his theology, mentions differing views in his *[Dialogue with Trypho the Jew](#)*, chapter 80:^[23]

"I and many others are of this opinion [premillennialism], and [believe] that such will take place, as you assuredly are aware; but, on the other hand, I signified to you that many who belong to the pure and pious faith, and are true Christians, think otherwise."^[23]

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Christian eschatology

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[Christianity portal](#)

V • T • E

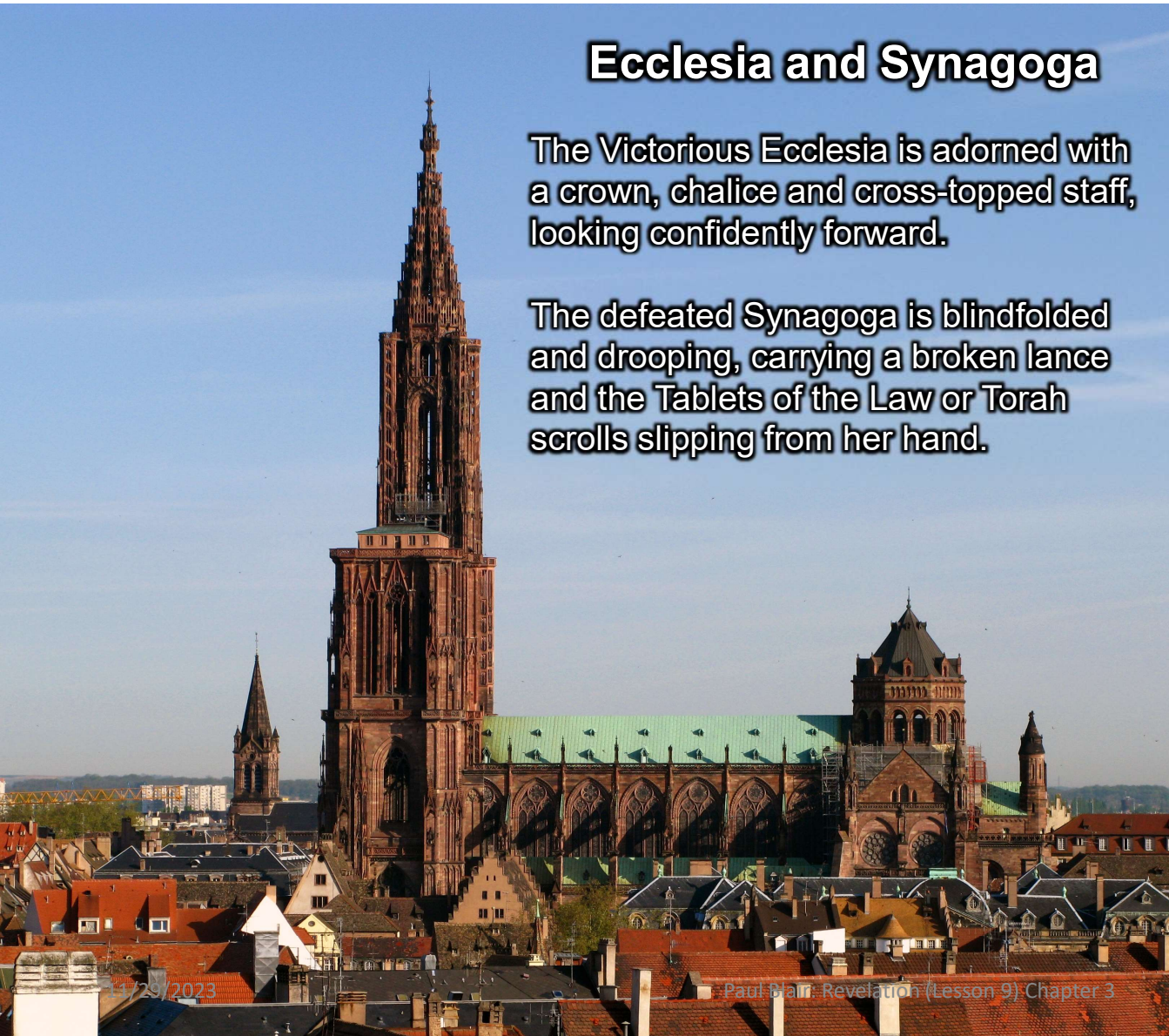
Incomplete Reformation

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 - & Rejection of the Rapture & a literal Millennial Reign
 - Replacement Theology and an accompanying Hatred for the Jews

Ecclesia and Synagoga

The Victorious Ecclesia is adorned with a crown, chalice and cross-topped staff, looking confidently forward.

The defeated Synagoga is blindfolded and drooping, carrying a broken lance and the Tablets of the Law or Torah scrolls slipping from her hand.





What shall we Christians do with this rejected and condemned people, the Jews? Since they live among us, we dare not tolerate their conduct, now that we are aware of their lying and reviling and blaspheming...I shall give you my sincere advice:



First to set fire to their synagogues or schools and to bury and cover with dirt whatever will not burn, so that no man will ever again see a stone or cinder of them. This is to be done in honor of our Lord and of Christendom, so that God might see that we are Christians, and do not condone or knowingly tolerate such public lying, cursing, and blaspheming of his Son and of his Christians.



For whatever we tolerated in the past unknowingly and I myself was unaware of it will be pardoned by God. But if we, now that we are informed, were to protect and shield such a house for the Jews, existing right before our very nose, in which they lie about, blaspheme, curse, vilify, and defame Christ and us (as was heard above), it would be the same as if we were doing all this and even worse ourselves, as we very well know.



Second, I advise that their houses also be razed and destroyed. For they pursue in them the same aims as in their synagogues. Instead they might be lodged under a roof or in a barn, like the gypsies. This will bring home to them that they are not masters in our country, as they boast, but that they are living in exile and in captivity, as they incessantly wail and lament about us before God.



Third, *I advise that all their prayer books and Talmudic writings, in which such idolatry, lies, cursing and blasphemy are taught, be taken from them.*

Fourth, *I advise that their rabbis be forbidden to teach henceforth on pain of loss of life and limb...*



Fifth, I advise that safeconduct on the highways be abolished completely for the Jews. For they have no business in the countryside, since they are not lords, officials, tradesmen, or the like. Let they stay at home.



Sixth, I advise that usury be prohibited to them, and that all cash and treasure of silver and gold be taken from them and put aside for safekeeping. The reason for such a measure is that, as said above, they have no other means of earning a livelihood than usury, and by it they have stolen and robbed from us all they possess...



Martin Luther,
"On the Jews and their Lies"

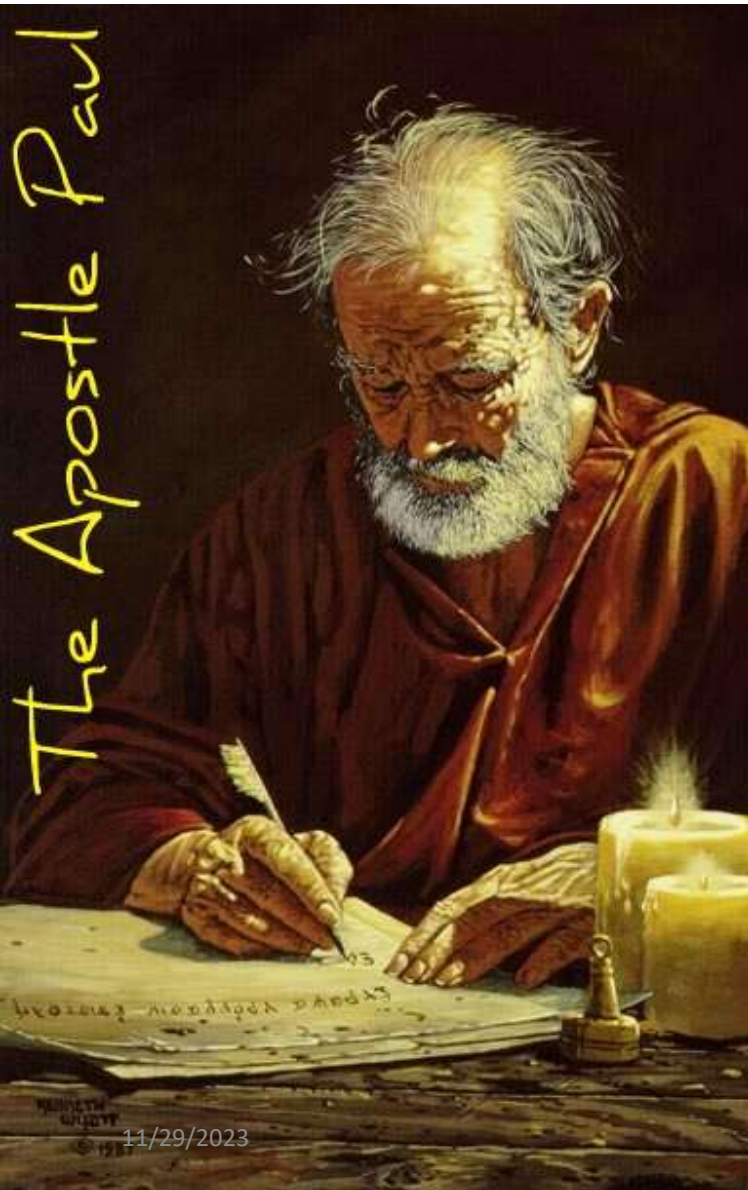
...Such money should now be used in no other way than the following: Whenever a Jew is sincerely converted, he should be handed one hundred, two hundred, or three hundred florins, as personal circumstances may suggest. With this he could set himself up in some occupation for the support of his poor wife and children, and the maintenance of the old or feeble. For such evil gains are cursed if they are not put to use with God's blessing in a good and worthy cause.



Martin Luther,
"On the Jews and their Lies"

Seventh, I commend putting a flail, an ax, a hoe, a spade, a distaff, or a spindle into the hands of young, strong Jews and Jewesses and letting them earn their bread in the sweat of their brow, as was imposed on the children of Adam (Gen 3[:19]). For it is not fitting that they should let us accursed Goyim toil in the sweat of our faces while they, the holy people, idle away their time behind the stove, feasting and f**rting, and on top of all, boasting blasphemously of their lordship over the Christians by means of our sweat. No. One should toss out these lazy rogues by the seat of their pants.

The Apostle Paul



Rom 10:1 Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved.

Rom 10:19 First Moses saith, I will provoke you to jealousy by them that are no people, and by a foolish nation I will anger you.

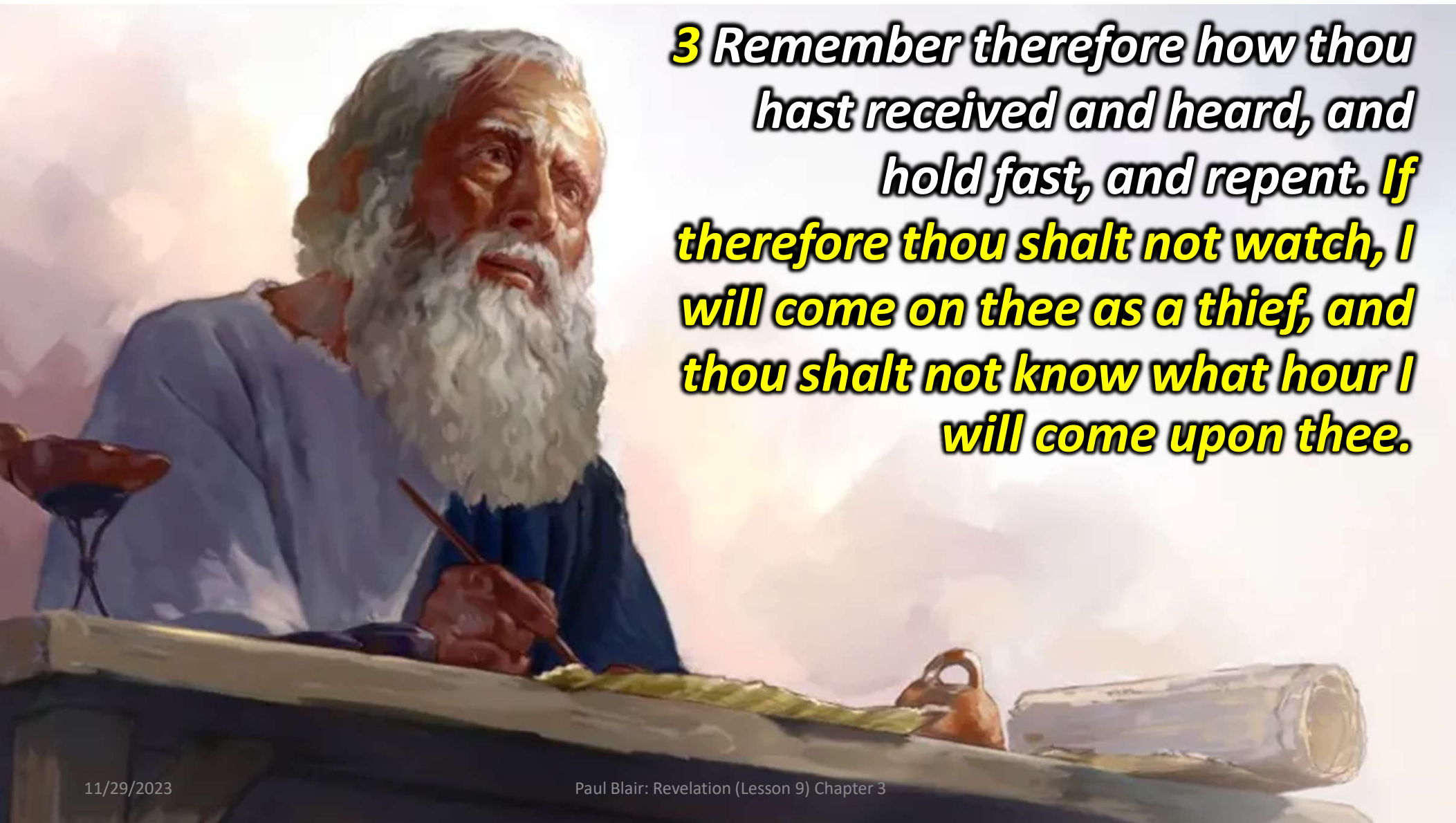
Rom 11:1 I say then, Hath God cast away his people? God forbid.

Rom 11:25-29 For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in. And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: For this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins. As concerning the gospel, they are enemies for your sakes: but as touching the election, they are beloved for the fathers' sakes. For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance.

This Period was Hidden in the O.T.

- Matt 13:11 He answered and said unto them, Because it is given unto you to know the **mysteries of the kingdom of heaven**, but to them it is not given. (13:33-35) Another parable spake he unto them...All these things spake Jesus unto the multitude in parables; and without a parable spake he not unto them: That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying, I will open my mouth in parables; **I will utter things which have been kept secret from the foundation of the world.**
- Eph 3:3-9 How that by revelation he made known unto me **the mystery**; (as I wrote afore in few words, Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ) **Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men**, as it is now revealed unto his **holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit**; **That the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel**...I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ; And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, **which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God**, who created all things by Jesus Christ:

- **Titus 2:13** Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;
- **1 Cor 1:7** ...waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ:
- **Phil 3:20** For our conversation is 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,
- **2 Tim 4:8** Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.
- **1 Thess 1:9-10** ..how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God; And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, even Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come.
- **1 Thess 4:16-18** For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words.



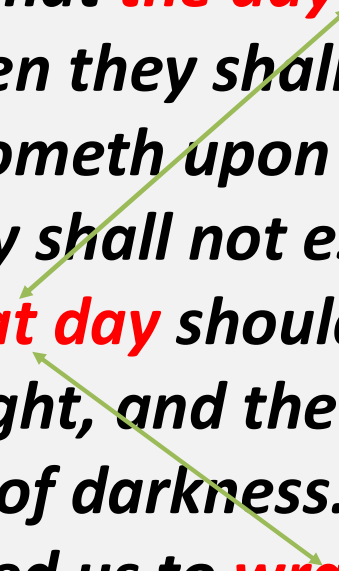
3 Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent. *If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee.*

“If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief...” Revelation 3:3

Compare to

1 Thes 5:2-5

For yourselves no perfectly that **the day of the Lord** so cometh as thief in the night. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that **that day** should overtake you as a thief. Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness...(9) For God hath not appointed us to **wrath...**”



1 Thess 1:6-10

6 And ye became followers of us, and of the Lord, having received the word in much **affliction**, with joy of the Holy Ghost:

7 So that ye were ensamples to all that believe in Macedonia and Achaia.

8 For from you sounded out the word of the Lord not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith to God-ward is spread abroad; so that we need not to speak any thing.

9 For they themselves shew of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God;

10 And *to wait for his Son from heaven*, whom he raised from the dead, even Jesus, *which delivered us from the wrath* to come.



A white lion and a white lamb are depicted on a bed of white, fluffy clouds against a bright blue sky. The lion is on the left, looking directly at the viewer with a calm expression. The lamb is on the right, partially obscured by the lion's mane and the clouds, looking towards the lion.

The **Revelation** of Jesus Christ

Sardis

Lesson 9: Chapter 3

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Paul Blair: Revelation (Lesson 9) Chapter 3