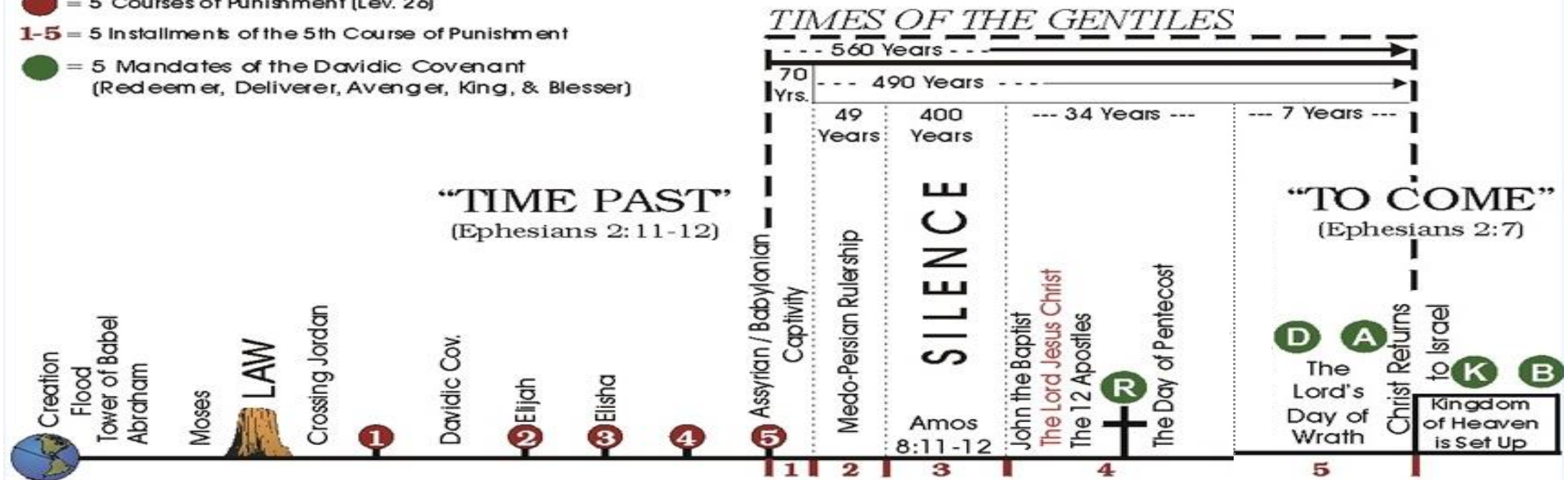


- = 5 Courses of Punishment (Lev. 26)
- 1-5 = 5 Installments of the 5th Course of Punishment
- = 5 Mandates of the Davidic Covenant (Redeemer, Deliverer, Avenger, King, & Blessor)



ISRAEL - "The Circumcision" - "nigh unto God"

THE LAW serves as a "middle wall of partition."

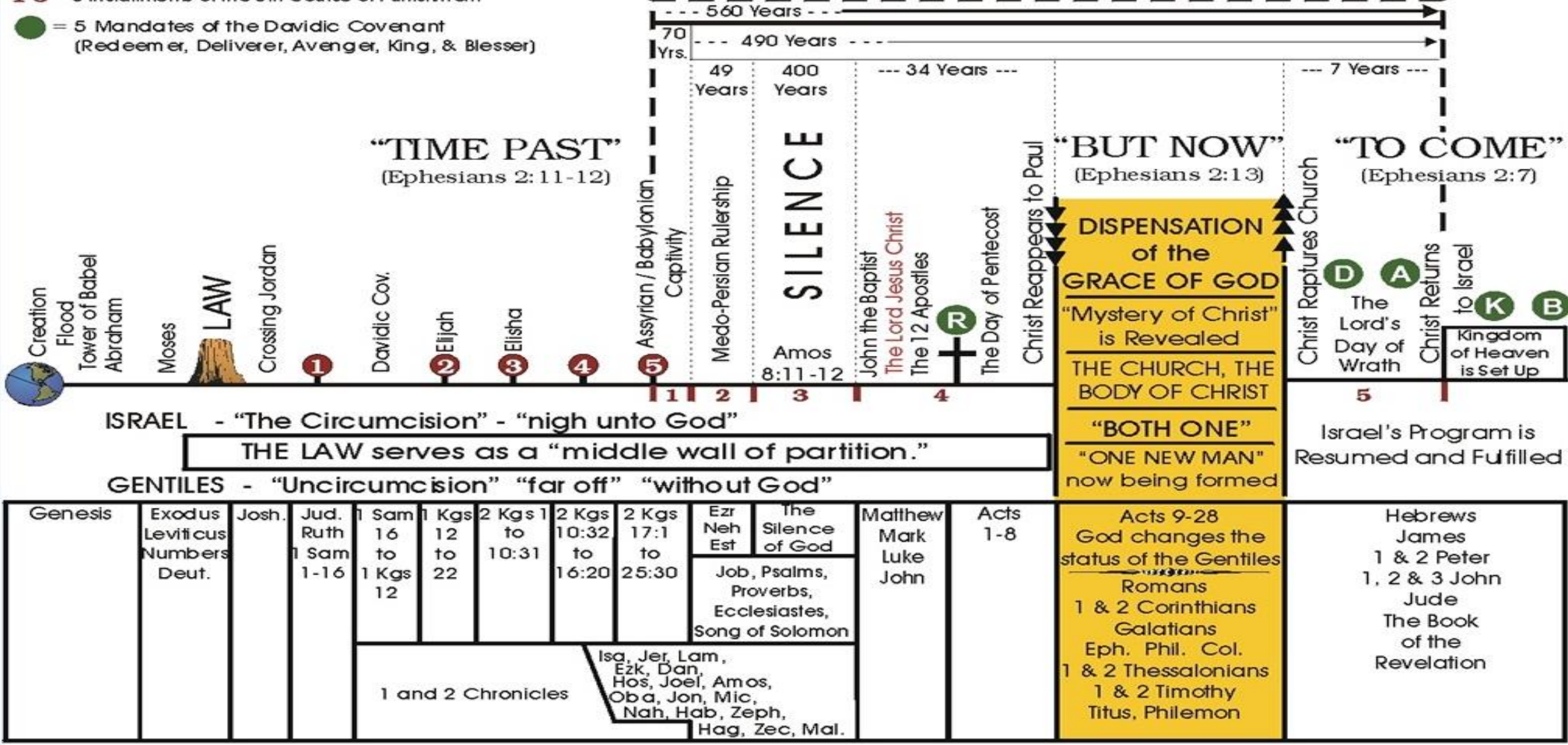
Israel's Program is Resumed and Fulfilled

GENTILES - "Uncircumcision" "far off" "without God"

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------|---|-------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|--|-------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------|--|
| Genesis | Exodus Leviticus Numbers Deut. | Josh. | Jud. Ruth 1 Sam 1-16 | 1 Sam 16 to 1 Kgs 12 | 1 Kgs 12 to 22 | 2 Kgs 1 to 10:31 | 2 Kgs 10:32 to 16:20 | 2 Kgs 17:1 to 25:30 | Ezr Neh Est | The Silence of God | Matthew Mark Luke John | Acts 1-8 | Hebrews James 1 & 2 Peter 1, 2 & 3 John Jude The Book of the Revelation |
| | | | | 1 and 2 Chronicles | | | | Isa, Jer, Lam, Ezk, Dan, Hos, Joel, Amos, Oba, Jon, Mic, Nah, Hab, Zeph, Hag, Zec, Mal. | | | | | |

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TIMES OF THE GENTILES



Is the Gospel Separate From The Mystery?

Ephesians 1:8-10

1. At the Cross, after His battle in the spiritual realm, Christ spoiled principalities and powers—vanquishing Satan’s armies, taking away his people and reclaiming his territory, and assuring them of their certain ultimate demise; and gives them to His Own new humanity redeemed from enslavement to Satan, Sin and Death! (Col. 2:15; Eph. 1:20-23; 2:4-7).
 - a. Christ’s exaltation provided the victory parade that announced the re-organization of the universe around Christ (1 Cor. 1-2).
 - b. He shares with the Body of Christ the spoils.
 - c. And it is all made possible through the “foolishness of God” that is wiser than the wisdom of the world—the preaching of the Good News (Gospel) of Christ crucified (1 Cor. 1:18-2:8) and raised again from the dead (1 Cor. 15), the Wisdom of God in the Mystery (Rom. 11:33-36; 1 Cor. 2:6-8).

2. God's Mystery Program manifests how God is going to complete His restoration of the universe by creating a new secret group of IN-CHRIST redeemed humanity, called the Body of Christ through whom He will re-establish His Glory in the Heavens (Eph. 1:10).
 - a. In doing this, it manifests how God was able to reclaim fallen humanity by justifying any sinner who believed going all the way back to Adam based.
 - It answers the age-old question: How can God declare right, wrong people, declare innocent those who are, in fact, guilty, while at the same time remaining a Just Judge, nay, while remaining God (Job 25:4-5)?

- b. The Mystery manifests the Righteousness of God in saving His enemies by grace through faith based on the Cross of Christ. In short, it explains the way God has always provided individual, personal salvation to enemy sinners.
- It was always known that justification before God was by faith in Him and His Word. Moses states this explicitly of Abraham for all to see (Gen. 15:6) some 2,000 years before Paul. And this is what Israel was continually rebuked for not having. The whole Law based everything on responses to God from hearts of faith.
 - What wasn't known, however, was HOW this could be? How can a sinner be justified with God just by believing? HOW can God justify ungodly enemies by faith?
 - The Bible began with this question (Job. 25:4), and it wasn't answered until God revealed it to and through the Apostle Paul.

3. The answer God gave to Paul is because of the Faith of Christ (Rom. 3:22). Justification before God and His tribunal isn't based on who the sinner is and what he has done. It is based on who the Lord Jesus Christ is and what He has done for sinners on the Cross.
 - There, He took all their sins and death, wrath and condemnation, everything that was against them, onto Himself and dealt with them perfectly and completely, removing them forevermore, and offering the results of that work to sinners now freely by grace, a free gift that is received by faith.

RIGHTLY-DIVIDING GOD'S WORD

Scriptures

NON-Pauline

Pauline

Purpose Manifested

Earthly

Heavenly

Program Manifested

Prophetic

Mystery

People Manifested

Nation of Israel

Body of Christ

**Righteousness of
God Manifested**

**Saving Friends
Destroying
Enemies**

**Saving Enemies
Because Has No
Friends**

**Salvation
Manifested**

**Israel's NATIONAL
Salvation: Faith
PLUS Works**

**INDIVIDUAL
SALVATION:
FAITH W/O WORKS**

4. It couldn't be manifested before Paul for 2 reasons:
 - a. It is based on the Cross of Christ, so it couldn't be manifested, until after the Cross of Christ.
 - b. Because it manifests how God saves His enemies, it couldn't be proclaimed by a friend of God (such as Peter and the 12) but by an enemy of God, Saul, the Apostle Paul, the chief persecutor of Christ and His people.

5. Some separate “the Gospel” from the “Mystery,” but I think that would be a mistake. The biggest most fundamental errors of historic Christianity from the days of Paul himself was separating the 2.

--Rom. 16:25—the Gospel that consists of and flows out of the Mystery.

--Eph. 6:19—The Mystery that consists of and flows out of the Gospel.

--The Gospel, God’s Good News for today, is the preaching of Jesus Christ according to the revelation of the Mystery, one important manifestation of which is justification of enemy sinners based on the Crosswork of Christ. Or, perhaps more succinctly—the preaching of the Cross in the context of the Mystery (1 Cor. 1-2).

6. Some support separating the two by referring to 1 Cor. 2:6. But is Paul stating here that he preached the “Gospel” (evidently the preaching of the Cross) to everyone but the “Mystery” (the reclamation of the Heavens to God’s Glory) to just a select few who were mature.

--This interpretation of this 1 verse is contradicted by many verses that indicate he preached the Mystery to everyone everywhere (Eph. 3:9; Rom. 11:25; 16:25; 1 Cor. 4:17).

c. When Paul says he spoke wisdom among the perfect (1 Cor. 2:6), he is talking about those who have the Spirit, believers who are positionally perfect in Christ in contrast with the unbelieving natural person without the Spirit (1 Cor. 2:14). Those with the Spirit at least potentially have the Mind of Christ (2:16).

--Paul uses the word perfect in 2 ways: 1. Experiential-Maturity 2. Positional—status before God in and through Christ.

--Phil. 3:12 and 15 give example of both uses in 1 passage. He is not yet perfect (3:12) yet he is perfect (3:15).