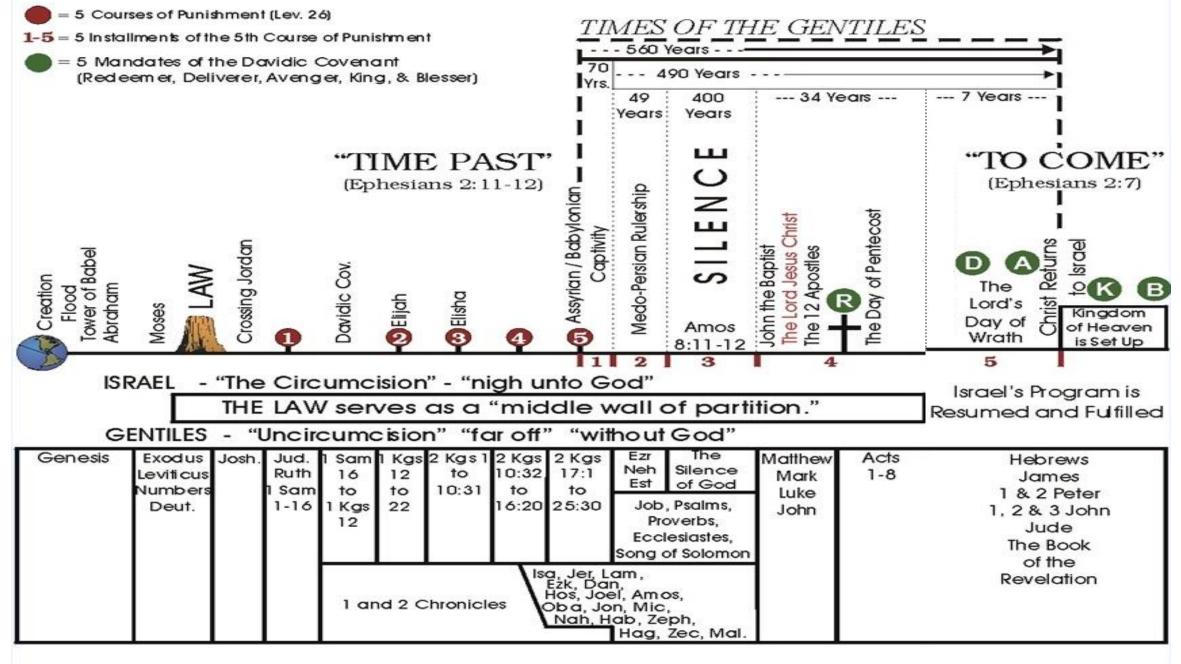
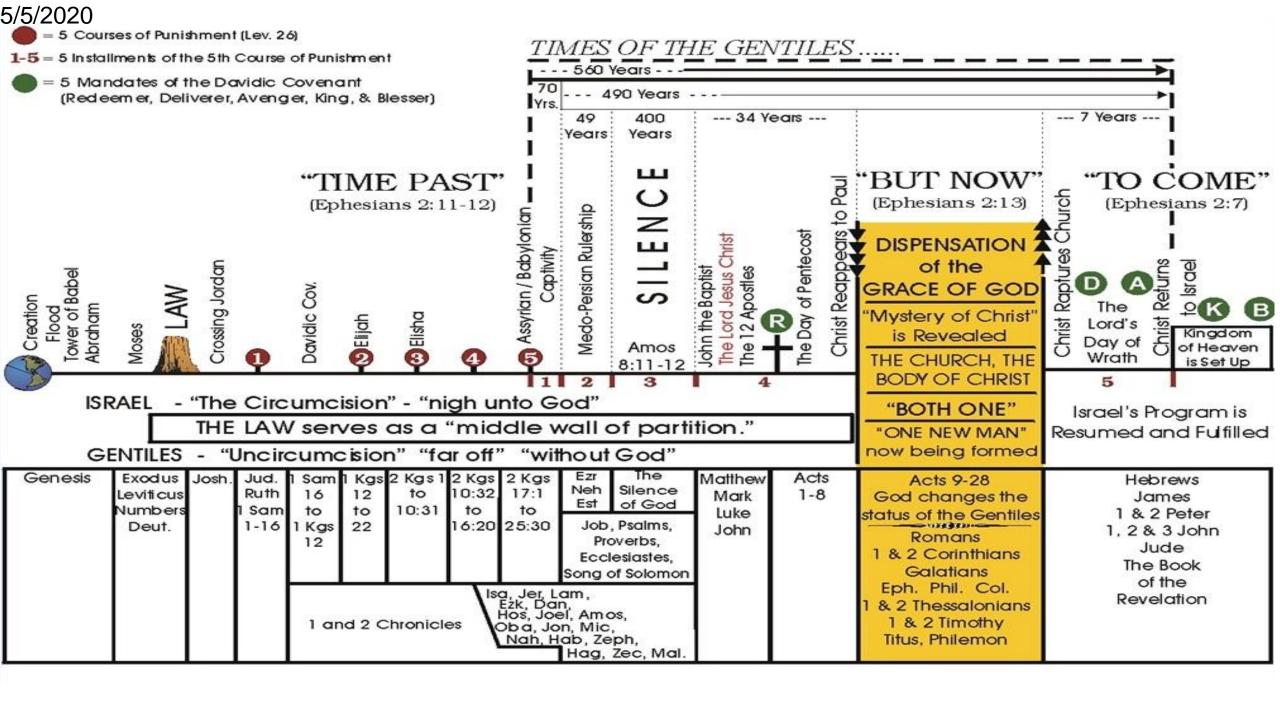
#### 5/5/2020





My hope is built on nothing less Than Jesus' blood and righteousness I dare not trust the sweetest frame But wholly lean on Jesus' name

When darkness seems to hide His face I rest on His unchanging grace In every high and stormy gale My anchor holds within the vale

His oath, His covenant, His blood Support me in the whelming flood When all around my soul gives way He then is all my hope and stay

When He shall come with trumpet sound Oh, may I then in Him be found Dressed in His righteousness alone Faultless to stand before the throne!

# Centered In Christ: NOW

Pt. 3

**Ephesians 1:10** 

- 1. Eph. 1:8-11:
  - a. Mystery doctrine
  - b. Creation doctrine
  - c. Eschatological (future events) doctrine
  - d. IN-CHRIST doctrine
- 2. We are already a new creation IN-CHRIST (2 Cor. 5:17).
  - a. We already have been placed in a new organizational structure with new power and informational inputs—the whole Triune Godhead is working in and through us.
  - b. We can already begin to operate in our experience centered in Christ, radiating God's Glory, reflecting His Light, by proclaiming His Grace and Wisdom: Right Now.

- 3. While not usually appreciated in this way, now we have the opportunity to serve God on enemy territory in the realm of sin and death, under adverse conditions, in difficult and evil times as Christ's ambassadors away from our home country: IS A GREAT PRIVELEGE.
  - -- For if we know what it is like to serve God under adverse conditions, we will better appreciate serving Him under optimum conditions in the presence of Christ, ministering grace and mercy to others through the everlasting future.

- 4. Our Apostle Paul illustrates this in Phil. 3:1-14 how once he knew Christ, it turned the ledger book of his life upside-down and inside-out.
  - All the thing he considered valuable before—his fleshly inheritances and advantages-- that had been in the gain/asset/credit column instantly shifted to the debit/loss/dung column.
  - b. And what had been in the loss/dung column—namely, Christ and His people—moved to the gain column. In fact, they were the only things in that column!
  - c. And that's what Ephesians is trying to get us to do as well.

- 5. Phil. 3 comes after Phil. 1 and 2:
  - a. Phil. 1—Rejoice because NOTHING—no circumstance, no people—hinder you from participating in God's things.
    - --circumstances and people can only hinder you from accomplishing your things.
    - --For Paul, God's things were so much greater than his things that even when he couldn't accomplish his things, He could still accomplish God's things, and for that he rejoiced!
  - b. Phil. 2: Paul's Love Chapter: THE MIND OF CHRIST
    - --Loving service to God doesn't consider one's own things but the things of others.
    - --Operatic dance—led by Christ, proclaimed by Paul and participated by regular, everyday saints like Timothy, Epaphroditus and the Philippians.

- 6. Phil. 3:1-11:
  - v. 1—Paul never tires of reminding them to REJOICE IN THE LORD (don't boast/trust in the flesh) because it is only by doing that that they will remain safe and secure in their experience, unmoved from and anchored to Christ and His Love (Phil 2).

#### 7. Phil. 4:4-9: The victorious Christian life in a nutshell:

#### a. vv. 4-6a: Right Living: Commands

--Rejoice in the Lord, and again I say rejoice (attitude toward God).

--Let your moderation (gentle forbearance) be seen (toward others). --Be careful (anxious) for nothing (toward self).

#### HOW AM I GOING TO DO THAT?

 b. vv. 6b-7: Right Prayer: In everything, let praiseful prayer and thankful supplications make your requests known to God —Peace of God guarding hearts and minds.

BUT HOW DO I KNOW WHAT TO TALK TO GOD ABOUT

c. vv. 8-9: **Right Thinking**: Minds renewed with PGMT that tells us what God's things are today conforms us to Christ (Phil. 1-3; esp. Phil. 3:4-10)!—God of Peace with you.

## PRAISE HIM! PRAISE HIM!

Praise Him! Praise Him! Jesus our blessed Redeemer Sing, O Earth His wonderful love proclaim Hail Him! Hail Him! highest archangels in glory Strength and honor give to His holy name Like a shepherd, Jesus will guard His children In His arms He carries them all day long

Chorus: Praise Him! Praise Him! tell of His excellent greatness Praise Him! Praise Him! ever in joyful song!

## PRAISE HIM! PRAISE HIM!

Praise Him! Praise Him! Jesus our blessed Redeemer For our sins He suffered and bled and died He our Rock, our hope of eternal salvation Hail Him! Hail Him! Jesus the crucified Sound His praises, Jesus who bore our sorrows Love unbounded, wonderful, deep and strong Chorus: Praise Him! Praise Him! tell of His excellent greatness Praise Him! Praise Him! ever in joyful song!

## PRAISE HIM! PRAISE HIM!

Praise Him! Praise Him! Jesus our blessed Redeemer Heav'nly portals loud with hosannas ring Jesus, Savior, reigneth forever and ever Crown Him! Crown Him! Prophet and priest and King Christ is coming, over the world victorious Pow'r and glory unto the Lord belong

Chorus: Praise Him! Praise Him! tell of His excellent greatness Praise Him! Praise Him! ever in joyful song!