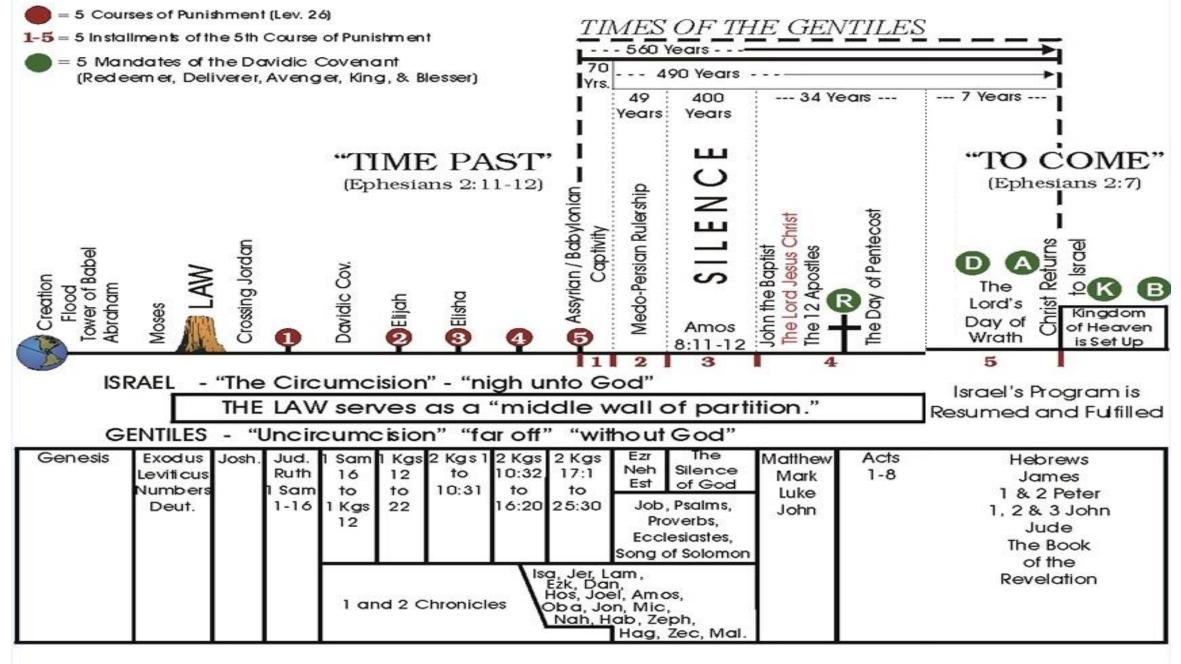


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The Lifting Up the Son of Man

Jn. 3:13-16

John 3: "Seeing" and "Entering" the physical, literal earthly Kingdom of Israel: Israel's entrance into Promised Land was a picture (Num. 27; Deut. 13-14; 34).	3:3: Born Of God Unto Eternal Life: Can "See" the King and the Kingdom (1:12- 13; 2:23—Ezek. 36a)	3:5-6: Born of Water and Spirit (by Baptism) Unto Life in Kingdom: Can "Enter" the Kingdom (1:26- 34; 3:22-36; 3:5— Ezek. 36b).	3:7-8: Now Having Been Born of Abe (flesh) and God (Spirit) and received Spirit, will participate in "Born Again" Nation of Israel in Kingdom (8:39-40; Mat. 3:7-12; Ezek. 37a).
Not believing in His Name (the 10 spies)	NO	NO	NO
Believing in His Name but not faithful in a specific way (Moses)	YES	NO	NO
Believing in His Name and being faithful in a specific way (2 spies)	YES	YES	YES

- 1. We, however,--John the Baptist and Jesus and perhaps the disciples; The Triune Godhead. (Jn. 3:11-12; Jn 1:1-2, 6-7, 33).
 - a. John the Baptist—knew what God told him and saw the Holy Spirit descend and abide on Jesus, identifying Him as the Christ, the pre-existent Son of the Living God (Jn. 1:30-34).
 - b. Jesus, pre-existed in heaven with God and being God (Jn. 1:1), saw everything there and came down to earth while remaining in heaven (Jn. 3:13).

c. But YE (you all—religious leaders as a group—all Israel as a

group) rejected us. We are offering you Israel's long-prophesied Kingdom and you are rejecting it—get with the program! Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you (Mat. 6:33). The plan He made with the Father in eternity past, He has now come to carry out.

- --They were seeking the Kingdom without the righteousness of God. It won't work.
- --Everything begins with believing God and His Word, which brings them into a right relationship with God, after which God work in and through them, accomplishing His plan.
 --Abraham believed God and God counted his faith for righteousness.

- If I have tried explaining these things using earthly terminology birth, water, wind—from the Scriptures you already have on earth, and you don't understand that, how can you understand the new heavenly things I need to reveal to you—His deity, His incarnation ministry, His glorification through death, resurrection and exaltation, 2nd Coming, etc.
- 3. They were only worried about losing their place in Rome's (and Satan's) earthly kingdom (Jn. 11:47-48; Mat. 21:43).
 - a. They should have been looking for the heavenly kingdom God promised to establish for them on the earth by starting with God's Righteousness in faith.
 - b. God through Moses promised them the days of heaven on earth—a Kingdom of God and Heaven that gets established on the earth (Deut. 11:21; Dan. 2:44; 7:13-14)

- Jn. 3:14-15As Moses lifted up the serpent that was afflicting them in the wilderness, so that all who believed God and His Word, recognizing their sin and looking at it would be healed and given <u>physical life</u>.
 - a. So too now the Lord, who is afflicting Israel in the 5th COP must be lifted up in the Person of the Son of Man whom God has sent, and all who believe God's word through Him, recognizing their sin and looking upon Him, beginning with Israel, might be healed and given <u>eternal life (Num. 21:5-9; Is. 45:17-25)</u>.

b. Is. 45:22 ultimately played out at Christ 2nd Coming:

The Order of Being Lifted Up:

- 1. Earthly Ministry (Jn. 3:13-17)
- 2. Cross/Exaltation/Glorification (Jn. 12:27, 32-36; 16:28)
- 3. 2nd Coming when all will look on Him (Mat. 24:27-31)
- c. The LORD is the One Who was afflicting them in the 5th COP trying to bring them to the end of their own means (Mat. 4:23 -25); so that they would believe and rely on Him; so that He could heal and save the Nation of Israel's from her sinful wrath-worthy predicament.
- d. That is why God sent His Son, the Son of Man, into Israel: So that they could believe God and His Word and in looking at Him be healed and receive eternal life (Jn. 3:13-15).

- Nicodemus and the religious leaders needed to realize that Jesus is the One that needed to be looked upon for Israel's salvation as well as the salvation of the whole world in accord with the Abrahamic Covenant—come on Nicodemus and all Israel get with the program, the whole world is waiting! (Jn. 3:16; Is. 45:22).
 - a. Galilee seems responsive to Him (Jn. 4:45).
 - b. Samaria seems responsive (Jn. 4:39).
 - c. But Judea is unresponsive (as represented by Nico—Jn. 3:4, 9).
 - d. And Jerusalem was down-right hostile, rejecting Him outright (Jn. 2:18-20; 4:16).