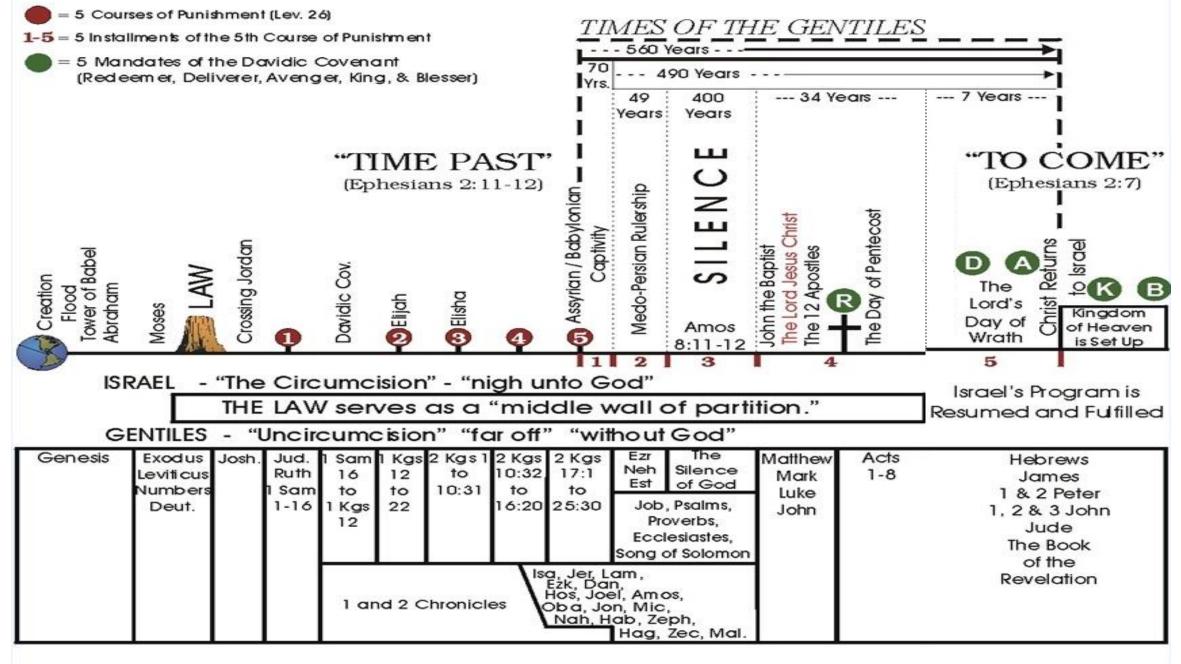


5/5/2020



Purpose of Signs Pt. 3

Jn. 5-11

Summary of the Signs so far:

- a. They are primarily for believers in God (those already participating in individual salvation) to show them who they should believe in as God's Sent One and follow as the One who will lead them into the Kingdom (to participate in Israel's national salvation).
- b. To truly "see" the signs, one needs spiritual eyes that come from being the children of God.
- c. The signs are always intended to soften hearts in faith, but the unintended consequence is that when rejected in unbelief they hardens hearts.

- The signs divide, revealing whether a person or group is lying or telling the truth when they claim to believe in and belong to the Father. They say they won't believe in Jesus as God's sent One without signs. But when they are given the signs, do they believe? Cp. Jn. 4:48 and 12:37.
 - --Those "doing the truth" (Jn. 3:21) will see the sign and believe in God's sent One (Jn. 2:11).
 - --Those who are lying (Jn. 8:38-47) won't "see" the sign and won't receive and believe in God's sent One (Jn. 5:38-47)
 - --In other words, the signs don't so much get unbelievers to become believers—it is not primarily a tool of evangelism. Rather the signs discern who really are or are not true believers in God.

- 2. Summary of the Signs:
- a. They are primarily for believers in God (those already participating in individual salvation) to show them who they should believe in as God's Sent One and follow as the One who will lead them into the Kingdom (to participate in Israel's national salvation).
- b. To truly "see" the signs, one needs spiritual eyes that come from being the children of God.
- c. The signs are always intended to soften hearts in faith, but the unintended consequence is that when rejected in unbelief they hardens hearts.

- d. Signs manifests and divide apart those who do and do not belong to God, those who are lying about believing in God and those who are not (Lk. 12:52-53; Jn. 5:38-47).
- e. Signs in accordance with God's Word authenticate that Prophet as sent from God who must be received, believed, welcomed and abode with just as Abraham received the pre-incarnate Christ (Jn. 8:37-47, 56-59). All those who don't will be destroyed (Acts 3:23).

- 3. Jesus Christ comes with signs not so much to generate belief in God, but belief in Jesus; that He was God's sent One and spokesman, the Christ, the Son of God—the Greater Prophet Like Moses, who should be heard, believed and received—who could lead them into the Kingdom (Deut. 13:1-5; 18:15-22; Acts 3:22-23).
 - a. Those who had rejected God's Word would also reject God's sign (Jn. 2:18; 3:19; 6:29-30, 44-45; 10:3-4 12:37; 14:1; 17:9; 18:37).
 - b. Rather the signs displayed to those who believed God and His Word that Jesus is God's GREATER appointed and true worker and spokesman, who would lead believing Israel not just into physical life in the Land of Canaan (like Moses) but into everlasting life in the everlasting Kingdom of righteousness and peace (Israel's national salvation).