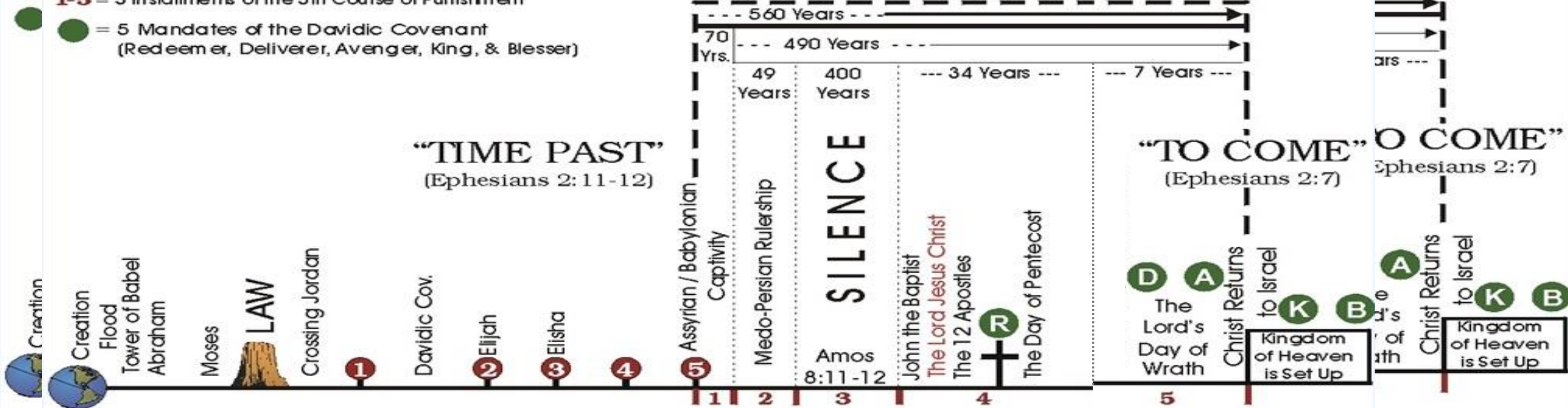


- = 5 Courses of Punishment (Lev. 26)
- 1-5 = 5 Installments of the 5th Course of Punishment
- = 5 Mandates of the Davidic Covenant (Redeemer, Deliverer, Avenger, King, & Blessor)

TIMES OF THE GENTILES



ISRAEL - "The Circumcision" - "nigh unto God"
 THE LAW serves as a "middle wall of partition."

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

Israel's Program is Resumed and Fulfilled
 Israel's Program is Resumed and Fulfilled

Genesis	Exodus Leviticus Numbers Deut.	Josh.	Jud. Ruth 1 Sam 1-16	1 Sam 16 to 1 Kgs 12	1 Kgs 12 to 2 Kgs 22	2 Kgs 10:31 to 10:32	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	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.		Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon						

IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL

When peace like a river attendeth my way
When sorrows like sea billows roll
Whatever my lot Thou hast taught me to say
It is well, it is well with my soul

Chorus:

It is well (it is well),
With my soul (with my soul)
It is well, it is well, with my soul

IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL

Tho' Satan should buffet

Tho' trials should come

Let this blessed assurance control

That Christ has regarded my helpless estate

And hath shed His own blood for my soul

Chorus:

It is well (it is well),

With my soul (with my soul)

It is well, it is well, with my soul

IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL

My sin, oh, the bliss of this glorious thought
My sin not in part but the whole
Is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord O my soul!

Chorus (2X):

It is well (it is well),
With my soul (with my soul)
It is well, it is well, with my soul

IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL

And Lord haste the day
When the faith shall be sight
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll
The trump shall resound
And the Lord shall descend
“Even so,” it is well with my soul

Chorus (2X):
It is well (it is well),
With my soul (with my soul)
It is well, it is well, with my soul

FAITH And God's Word:

(Agape) Love (Pt. 2)

(Rom. 14:13-15:3)

THE TRANSITION PERIOD (CIRCA 35 TO 64 AD) (Also called Acts Period)

Paul
Wrote
Romans
60 AD

Transition
Period
Over by Col. 1
Circa 64 AD



**Peter
And
The
12**

God's Prophetic Program
With the Nation of Israel:
DIMINISHING

Night of Israel's
Prophecy under
Gentile Darkness is
Far Spent. Rom. 13

Israel's
Prophetic
Program
Set Aside

God's Mystery Program
With the Body of Christ:
INCREASING

Salvation
Is nearer.
Day is at
Hand.
Rom. 13

Body of
Christ
Salvation
And Day
Are here

**P
A
U
L**

1. Rom. 14:13b: Following Paul: While we may have the right answer, we must not use it wrongly.
 - a. Rom. 14:13b: **What we must NOT do is put a stumbling block in the way of a fellow believer**, esp. those with a strong Jewish background (the weak in the faith) lest, like their nation, they stumble over what God is doing today through Christ as revealed in Paul's apostleship in the world, esp. the Gentiles, by relying on the works of the Law for a right standing before God rather than solely on the work of Christ for them.
 - b. Israel stumbled over Christ because of using the works of the Law to attain righteousness before God (Rom. 9:32). The strong were not to let that happen again with the weak in Rome. They must protect and preserve them

2. Rom. 14:14a: The way they could do this is by following another strong in the faith believer, the Apostle Paul. If the Lord was able to persuade Paul, a Pharisee of the Pharisees, a leader of the apostate Israel and Peter the leader of the Believing Remnant of Israel (Acts 10) that in the Dispensation of Grace God is now carrying out a work in the world, especially the Gentiles, that is apart from Israel, through her FALL and without the works of the Law:

--Then if they are responsive, He will be able to persuade those with a Jewish background in Rome of the same thing.

3. But the key factor is that as ones who have an adult sonship position before God, this right answer must not be implemented by the strong enforcing it upon the weak in the faith—ridiculing and despising them—but by the persuasion by the Lord. Agreement with the right answer must be voluntary based on faith in God's Pauline Grace Mystery Truth, not least of which being Paul's Letter to the Romans.

--Paul is giving them the benefit of the doubt not universal truth. This will all change once they get this Letter to them. If they reject it in unbelief thereby closing the door to the persuading work of the Lord, they will fall under the displeasure of the Lord (1 Tim.4:1-4; Col. 3:16) that will result in the assembly dividing and going further and further away from the Lord.

4. Rom. 14:14b: Those who, operating according to God's Word through Moses in faith, think that in eating unclean foods they become unclean in relation to God.
 - a. How do you lead someone who is embracing the wrong answer to embrace the right answer?
 - b. To force him to eat by using flesh responses--ridiculing, despising, treating as unimportant, being unwelcoming, encouraging him to do something that he thinks displeases God--would bring just sorrow and distress to those for whom God desires to give only joy and peace (Rom. 14:14, 17) and he would be eating with offence, thinking he is offending and displeasing God (14:20).
 - c. Doing this takes God's Good Plan and makes something evil of it (14:16).

5. So, what does following Paul entail (Rom. 14:13-14)?
 - a. We must walk in the Love of God displayed at the Cross of Christ where Christ died for the weak believer (Rom. 14:15-16).
 - b. We must walk in Love in the context of Pauline Grace Mystery Truth (PGMT), esp. as presented here in the Book of Romans (Rom. 14:17-21).
 - c. We must walk in Love in the context of PGMT, holding our faith in the presence of God (Rom. 14:22-15:3).
 - d. We must walk in Love in the context of PGMT, holding our faith in the presence of God, prayerfully serving others selflessly with the goal of building them up unto edification, helping them become strong in the faith believers by teaching them how to rightly-divide the Scriptures (Rom. 15:4-20).

6. Rom. 14:14b-16: **Following Paul means we operate in accord with the Love of God displayed at the Cross of Christ**, who gave up everything and died for the weak when they were His enemies. The principle of Agape Love is that like Christ, we do not consider our own things but the things of others unto their edification (Phil 2:1-5). We must place the interests and concerns of others above our own interests and concerns (1 Thess. 2:2, 6-12).
- a. To use flesh responses—being unwelcoming, despising—to force a fellow believer to do what he genuinely believes to be contrary to God’s will and displeasing to Him is NOT the right way to handle the problem.
 - b. Causing grief over food brings the weak to grief because it forces them to chose between pleasing you and pleasing God—a horrible place to put them in!

- c. Doing this, you would not be walking in Love but fleshly self-interest, tearing down others rather than building them up, which works contrary to the Love God displayed when Christ died for us when we were His enemies! You are unconcerned about someone Christ was concerned enough about to die for!
- d. And this places your participation in God's Good Plan as something bad, bringing what God is doing among the Gentiles into disrepute, thereby inserting a stumbling block.

7. Rom. 14:17-21: **Following Paul means we do everything within the context of Pauline Grace Mystery Truth (PGMT),** esp. as presented here in the Book of Romans. The Body of Christ is under the Lordship of God under the Headship of Christ and that rulership consists of:
- a. Righteousness: Rom. 1-4; Peace/Reconciliation: Rom. 5-6; Joy in the Holy Spirit: Rom. 7-8.
 - b. Eating and drinking certain foods, therefore, has no effect on our participation in this spiritual kingdom. Therefore, giving them up doesn't diminish our participation in Righteousness, Peace and Joy! It increases it.
 - c. Serving God in accord with God's working, therefore, is always acceptable to God and beneficial to others. That is God working in and through us!

8. Rom. 14:22-23: **Following Paul means that everything must be done out of faith held in the presence of God**
Forcing someone to do something that they are convinced will displease God, brings condemnation on self for sinning and causes the other to sin, choosing to please you rather than God.

9. The strong were not to force the weak to do something outside of faith—that would be sin.
 - a. The strong needed to share in Love with the weak what they needed for a proper faith response.
 - b. And this is exactly what God and Paul go on to do in Rom. 15.

AMAZING GRACE

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now am found
Was blind but now I see

Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far
And grace will lead me home

AMAZING GRACE

When we've been there ten thousand years
Bright shining as the sun
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we first begun
Than when we first begun