

calvary  
chapel  
portsmouth



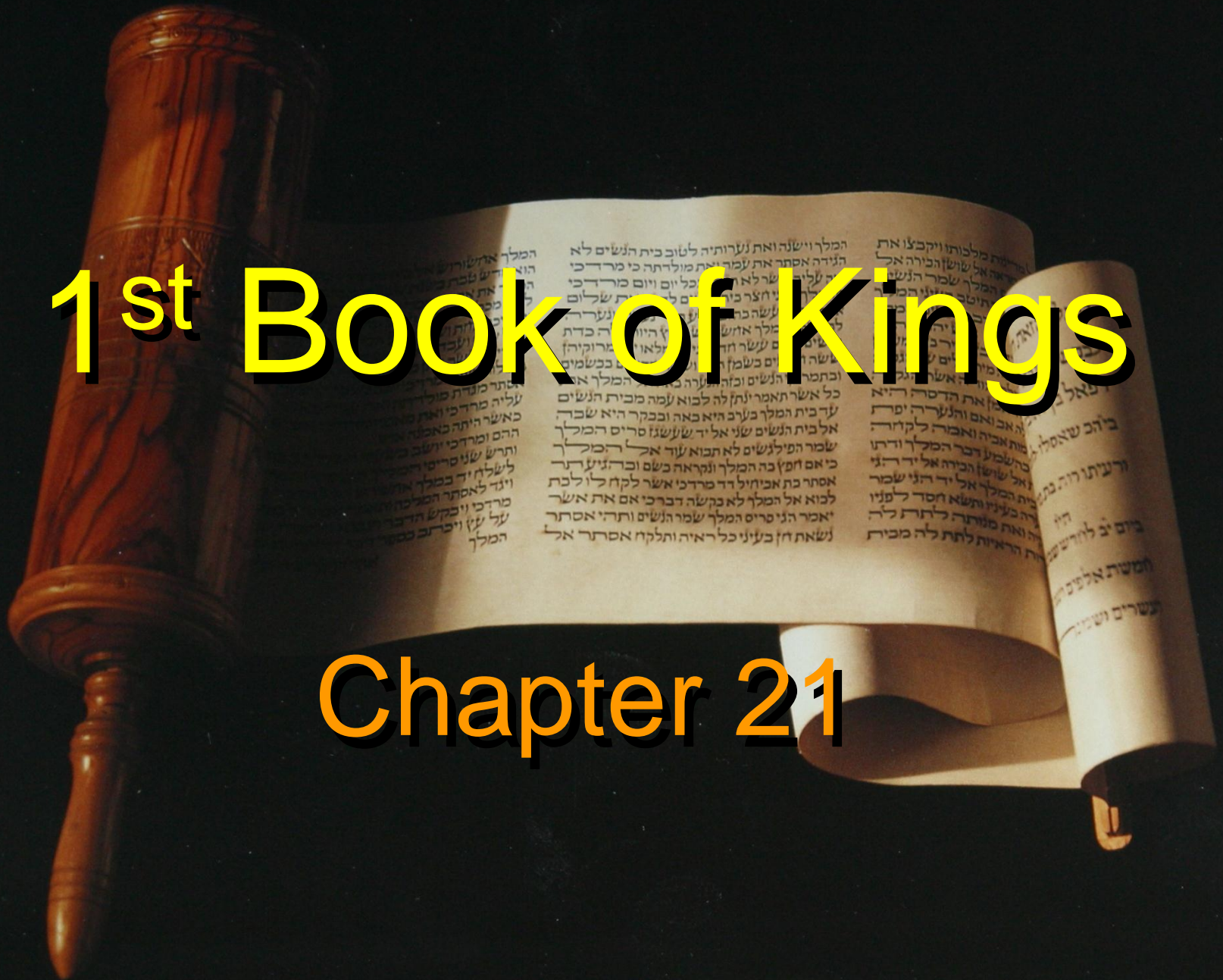
# 1<sup>st</sup> Book of Kings

*Simply teaching the Word simply*



# 1<sup>st</sup> Book of Kings

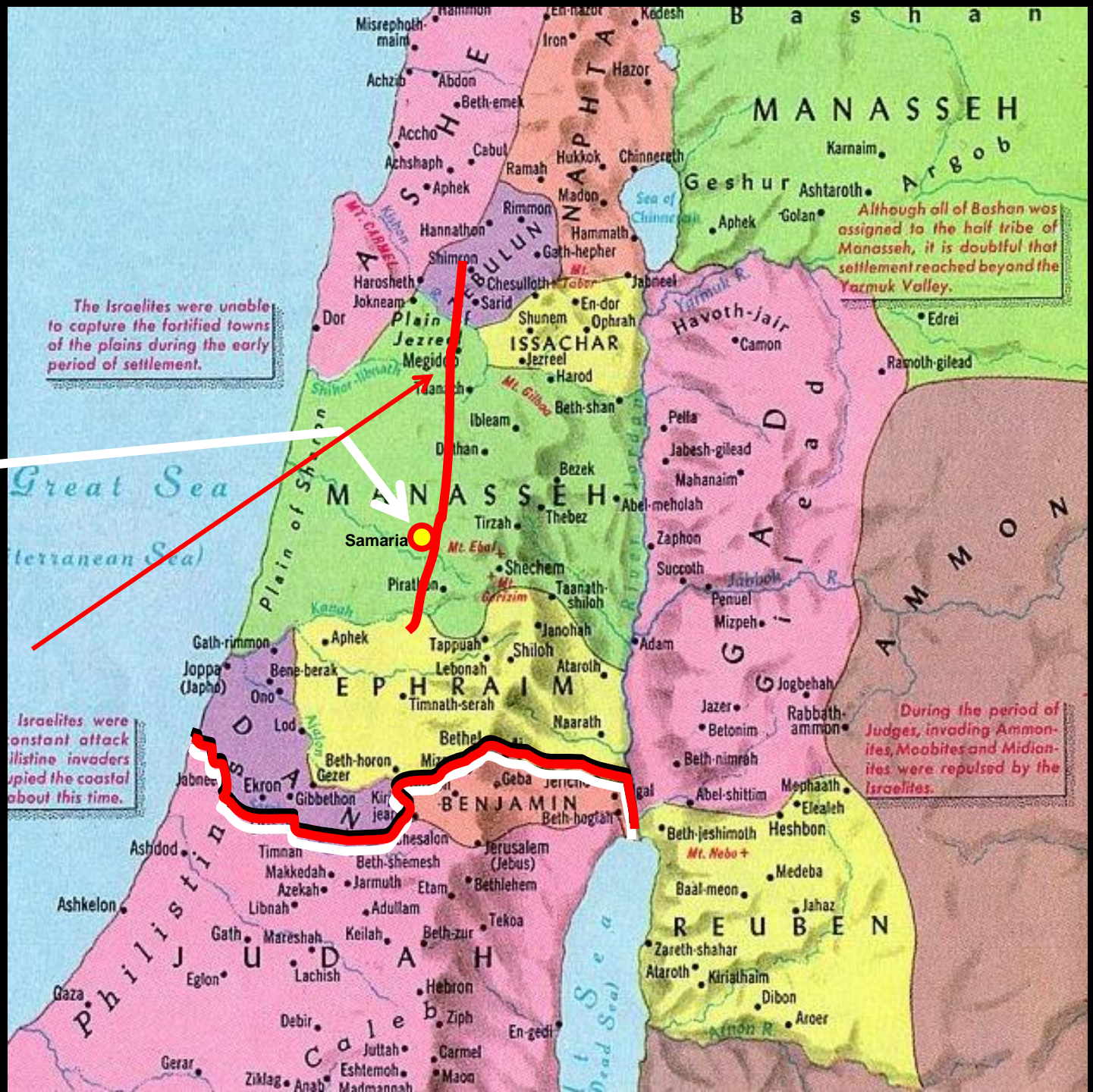
## Chapter 21



*I And it came to pass after these things, that Naboth the Jezreelite had a vineyard, which was in Jezreel, hard by the palace of Ahab king of Samaria.*

**1 Kings 21:1**





Samaria

Jezreal



<sup>2</sup> And Ahab spake unto Naboth, saying, Give me thy vineyard, that I may have it for a garden of herbs, because it is near unto my house: and I will give thee for it a better vineyard than it; or, if it seem good to thee, I will give thee the worth of it in money.

**1 Kings 21:2**

- A reasonable offer?
- Not to a Godly Jew!



<sup>3</sup> And Naboth said to Ahab, The LORD forbid it me, that I should give the inheritance of my fathers unto thee.

1 Kings 21:3

- The selling of land was prohibited in Torah:
- Numbers 36:7
  - So shall not the inheritance of the children of Israel remove from tribe to tribe: for every one of the children of Israel shall keep himself to the inheritance of the tribe of his fathers.
- Leviticus 25:23-28
  - The land shall not be sold for ever: for the land is mine; for ye are strangers and sojourners with me.



*4 And Ahab came into his house heavy and displeased because of the word which Naboth the Jezreelite had spoken to him: for he had said, I will not give thee the inheritance of my fathers. And he laid him down upon his bed, and turned away his face, and would eat no bread.*

**1 Kings 21:4**

- Hebrew: Sulking!
- With God, whatever your state, you have everything
- Without God, whatever your state, you have nothing



**5** But Jezebel his wife came to him, and said unto him, Why is thy spirit so sad, that thou eatest no bread?

**6** And he said unto her, Because I spake unto Naboth the Jezreelite, and said unto him, Give me thy vineyard for money; or else, if it please thee, I will give thee another vineyard for it: and he answered, I will not give thee my vineyard.

**7** And Jezebel his wife said unto him, Dost thou now govern the kingdom of Israel? arise, and eat bread, and let thine heart be merry: I will give thee the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite.

*<sup>8</sup> So she wrote letters in Ahab's name, and sealed them with his seal, and sent the letters unto the elders and to the nobles that were in his city, dwelling with Naboth.*

**1 Kings 21:8**

- In almost any other culture this would be considered an act of treason worthy of death!
- The arrogance and presumption to use the king's name without his express permission!



*9 And she wrote in the letters, saying, Proclaim a fast, and set Naboth on high among the people:*

*10 And set two men, sons of Belial, before him, to bear witness against him, saying, Thou didst blaspheme God and the king. And then carry him out, and stone him, that he may die.*

**1 Kings 21:9-10**

**II** And the men of his city, even the elders and the nobles who were the inhabitants in his city, did as Jezebel had sent unto them, and as it was written in the letters which she had sent unto them.

**I2** They proclaimed a fast, and set Naboth on high among the people.

**1 Kings 21:11-12**



**13** And there came in two men, children of Belial, and sat before him: and the men of Belial witnessed against him, even against Naboth, in the presence of the people, saying, Naboth did blaspheme God and the king. Then they carried him forth out of the city, and stoned him with stones, that he died.

**14** Then they sent to Jezebel, saying, Naboth is stoned, and is dead.

**1 Kings 21:13-14**

**15** And it came to pass, when Jezebel heard that Naboth was stoned, and was dead, that Jezebel said to Ahab, Arise, take possession of the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, which he refused to give thee for money: for Naboth is not alive, but dead.

**16** And it came to pass, when Ahab heard that Naboth was dead, that Ahab rose up to go down to the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, to take possession of it.

**1 Kings 21:15-16**



# The Book of Revelation

## Chapters 2&3

## Letters to the Churches

# Divine Outline

*<sup>19</sup> Write the things which....*

*1) thou hast seen, ➤ Ch 1*

*2) and the things which are, ➤ Ch 2-3*

*3) and the things which shall be hereafter; ➤ Ch 4-22*

**Revelation 1:19**

- We are given a divinely inspired outline for the book
- Ch 2-3 address the present Church Age



# Letters to the Churches

*Four levels of meaning*

# Letters to the Churches

*Four levels of meaning*

- Local

# Letters to the Churches

*Four levels of meaning*

- Local

1:11

“write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches”



# Letters to the Churches

*Four levels of meaning*

- Local
- Personal

# Letters to the Churches

*Four levels of meaning*

- Local
- Personal

Rev 2:7

He that hath an ear.....,

# Letters to the Churches

*Four levels of meaning*

- Local
- Personal
- Message to all Churches



# Letters to the Churches

*Four levels of meaning*

- Local
- Personal
- Message to all Churches

Rev 2:7

“let him hear what the Spirit says unto the churches”

# Letters to the Churches

*Four levels of meaning*

- Local
- Personal
- Message to all Churches
- Prophetic – 7 church ages

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*Four levels of meaning*

- Local
- Personal
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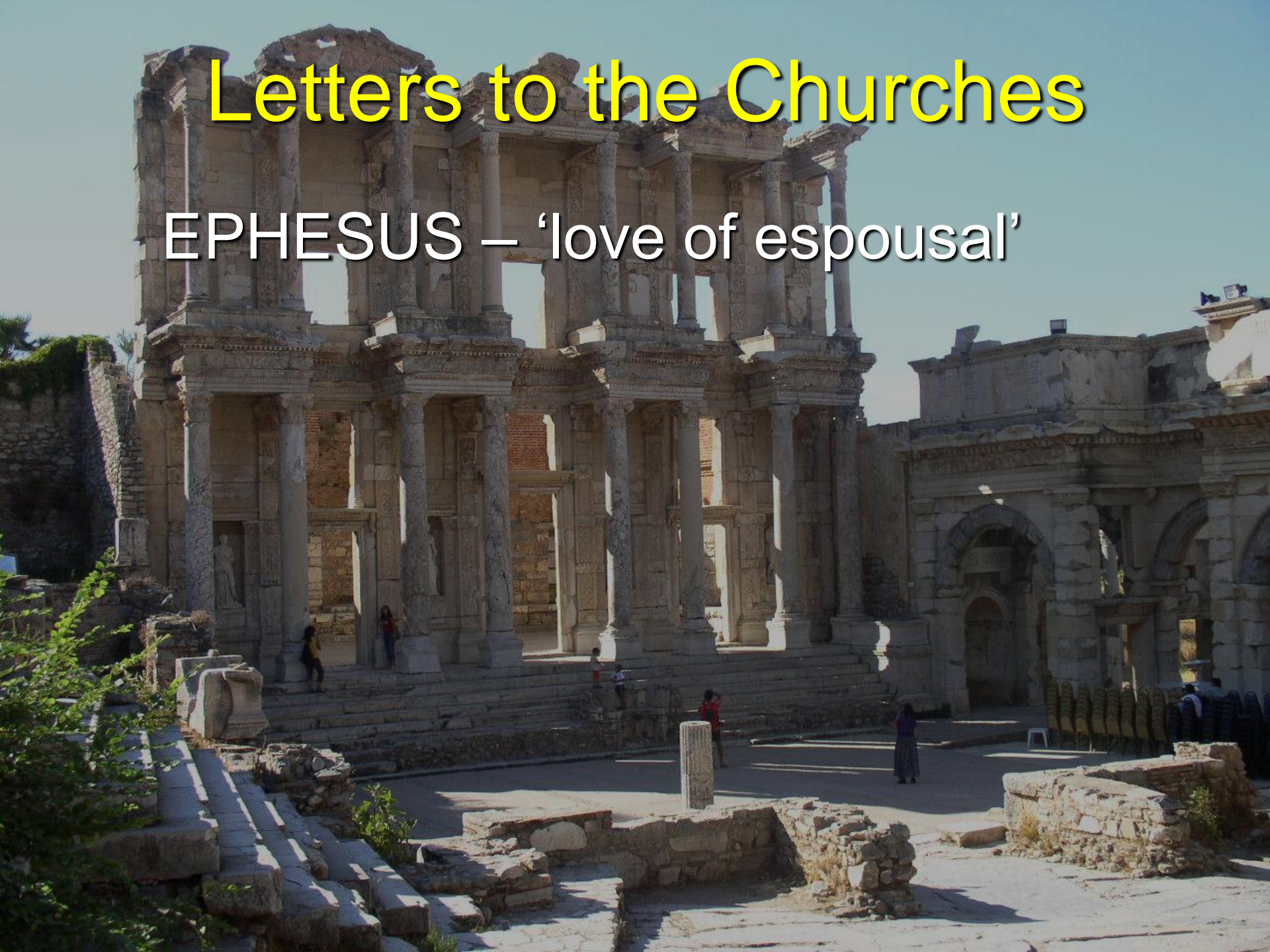
Rev 1:3

“.....the words of this prophecy”



# Letters to the Churches

EPHESUS – ‘love of espousal’

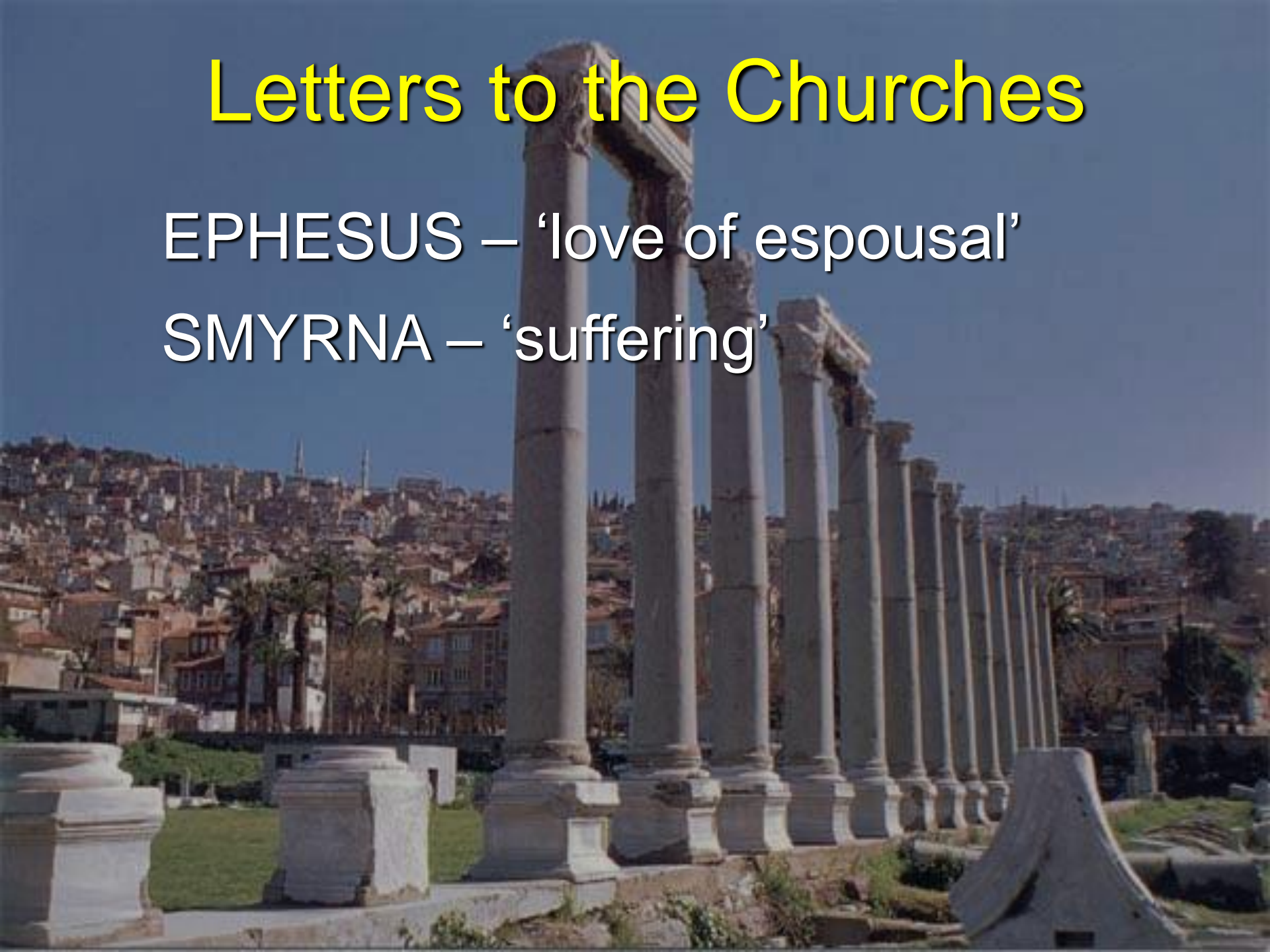




# Letters to the Churches

EPHESUS – ‘love of espousal’

SMYRNA – ‘suffering’





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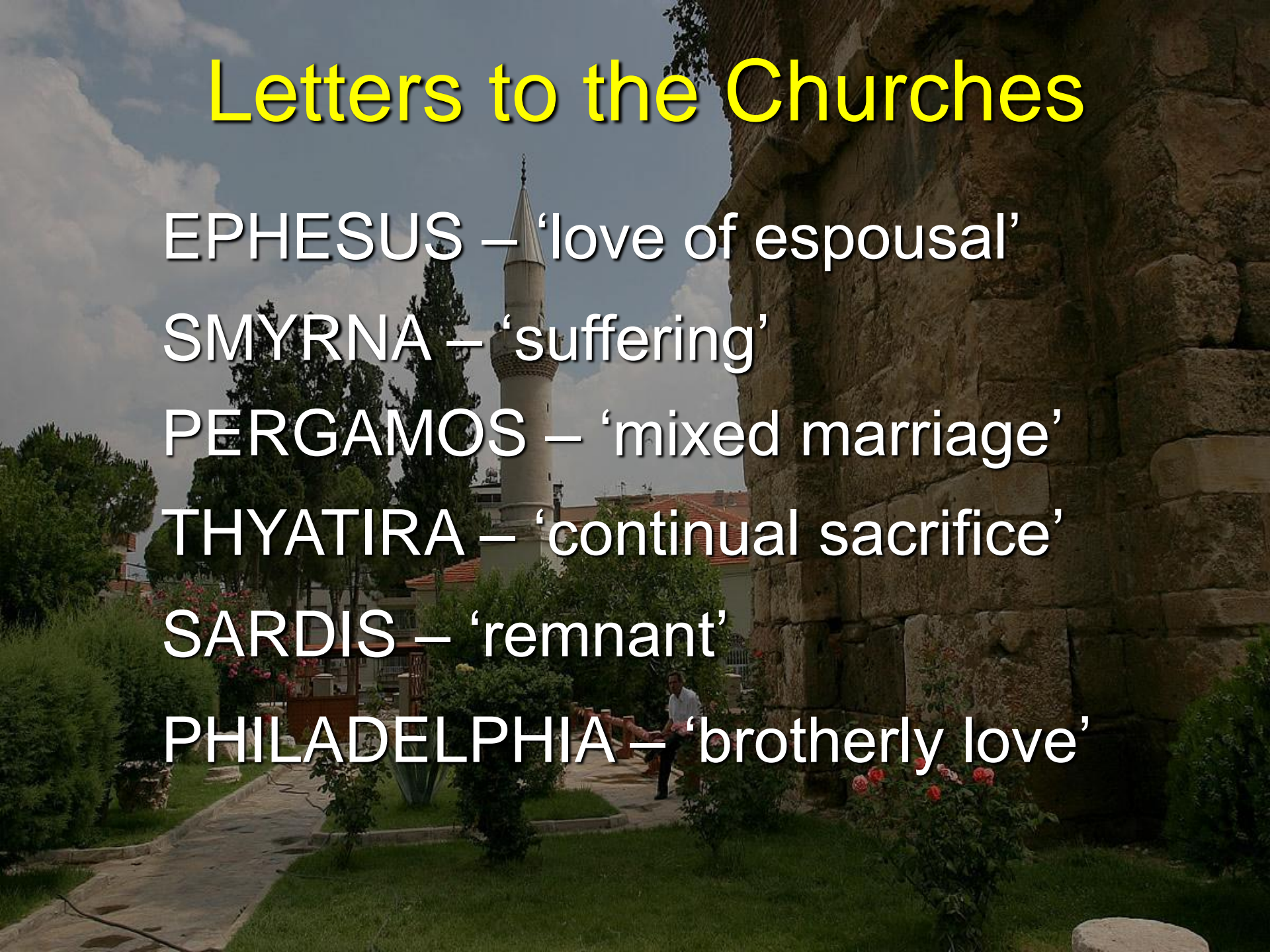
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PHILADELPHIA – ‘brotherly love’





# Letters to the Churches

EPHESUS – ‘love of espousal’

SMYRNA – ‘suffering’

PERGAMOS – ‘mixed marriage’

THYATIRA – ‘continual sacrifice’

SARDIS – ‘remnant’

PHILADELPHIA – ‘brotherly love’

LAODICEA – ‘the rule of the people’



# The Prophetic History of The Church

EPHESUS  
'love of espousal'

1<sup>st</sup> Church Age

The early Church

32AD – 100AD

'The Seed is Sown'

(Cf: Matt 13:3-9)

"Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come to thee quickly, and will remove thy candle stick out of his place"

Rev 2:5



# The Prophetic History of The Church

SMYRNA  
'suffering'

2<sup>nd</sup> Church Age

The persecuted Church

100 AD - 313 AD

'Tares sown among the wheat'

(Cf: Matt 13:24-30 / Jude / Acts 20:29-30)

"Be faithful unto death"

Rev 2:10



# The Prophetic History of The Church

PERGAMOS  
'mixed marriage'

3<sup>rd</sup> Church Age - The 'Constantine Church'  
313 AD - 590 AD

'Mustard Seed'

(Cf: Matt 13:31-32)

"Repent; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will  
fight against them with the sword of my mouth"

Rev 2:16

# The Prophetic History of The Church

THYATIRA  
'continual sacrifice'

4<sup>th</sup> Church Age - Roman Catholic Church  
590 AD - Tribulation

'The Woman & The Leaven'

(Cf: Matt 13:33)

"And I gave her space to repent of her fornication; and she repented not. Behold I will cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into great tribulation"

Rev 2:21-22



# The Prophetic History of The Church

SARDIS  
'remnant'

5<sup>th</sup> Church Age - The Reformation Church  
1517 AD - Tribulation

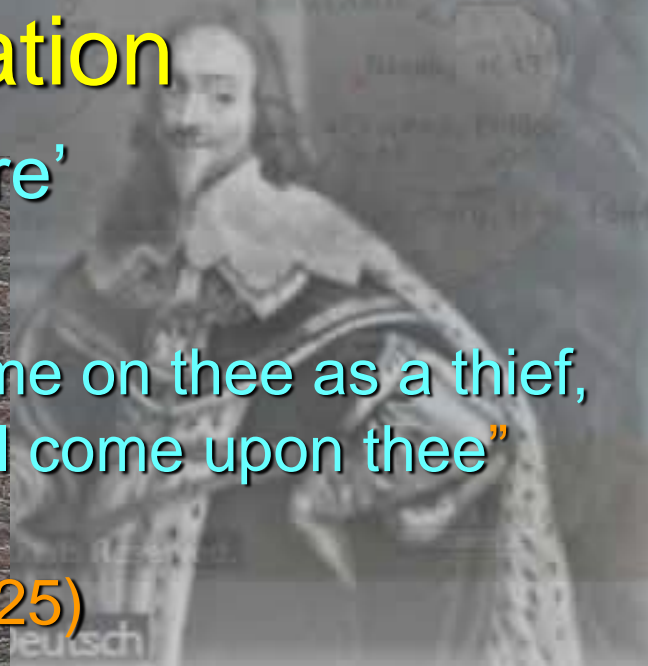
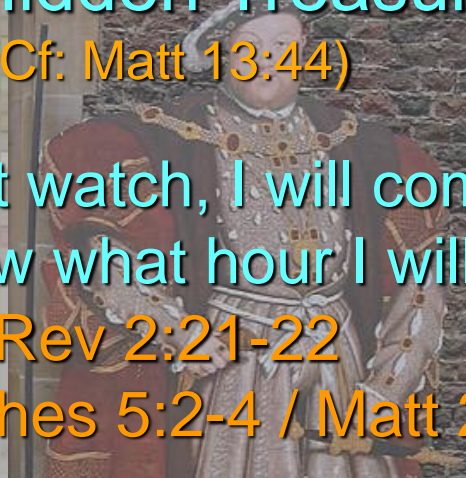
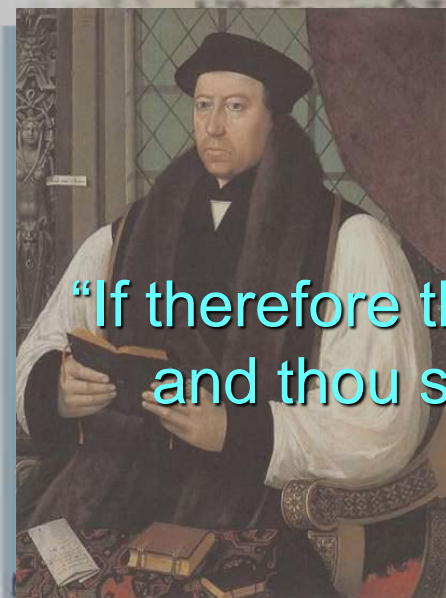
'The Hidden Treasure'

(Cf: Matt 13:44)

"If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief,  
and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee"

Rev 2:21-22

(Cf: 1 Thes 5:2-4 / Matt 25)





MEN OF FAITH  
Oswald  
Chambers

David W. Lambert  
*The man and the message behind My Utmost for His Highest*

# The Prophetic History of The Church

PHILADELPHIA  
'brotherly love'

The 6<sup>th</sup> Church Age - The faithful Church  
1750 AD - Rapture

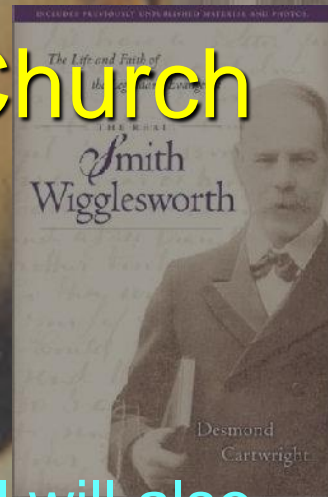
'The Pearl of Great Price'

(Cf: Matt 13:45-46)

"Because thou hast kept the word of my patience. I will also  
keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon  
all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth"

Rev 3:10

(Cf: 1 Thes 1:10 / Luke 21:36)





RICK WARREN

THE  
PURPOSE  
DRIVEN<sup>®</sup>  
*Life*

# The Prophetic History of The Church

LAODICEA

‘the rule of the people’

The 7<sup>th</sup> Church Age - The apostate church  
1900 AD - Tribulation

‘The Dragnet’

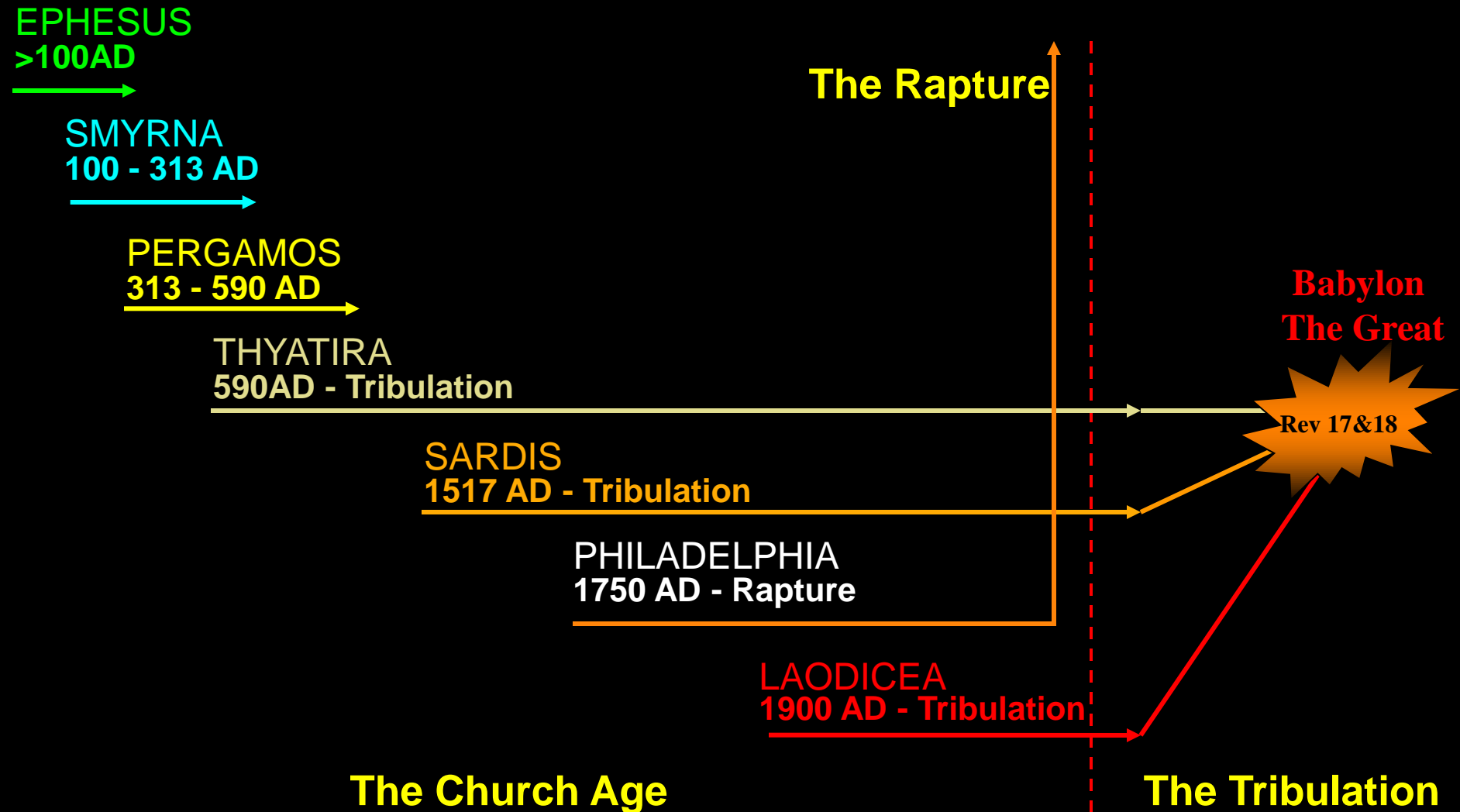
(Cf: Matt 13:47-50)

“....I will spue thee out of my mouth....Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing, and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked”

Rev 3:16-17

Robert Schi

# Prophetic view of the Churches



# Thyatira

**18** And unto the angel of the church in Thyatira write; These things saith the Son of God, who hath his eyes like unto a flame of fire, and his feet are like fine brass;

**19** I know thy works, and charity, and service, and faith, and thy patience, and thy works; and the last to be more than the first.

**Revelation 2:18-23**



# Thyatira

**20** Notwithstanding I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed unto idols.

**21** And I gave her space to repent of her fornication; and she repented not.

**Revelation 2:18-23**



# Thyatira

**22** Behold, I will cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into great tribulation, except they repent of their deeds.

**23** And I will kill her children with death; and all the churches shall know that I am he which searcheth the reins and hearts: and I will give unto every one of you according to your works.

**Revelation 2:18-23**

# The Sins of Jezebel

- The church of Thyatira is rebuked because it allowed a woman called Jezebel to conduct her sins in its midst
- What were the sins of Ahab's Jezebel?
  - Idolatry (worshipping a female deity)
  - Fornication (unlawful intimate indulgence)
  - Bringing false accusations to condemn an innocent individual with the express purpose of obtaining land for the 'state'
- These are the sins of the RC Church!

# The Sins of Jezebel

- *“The Roman Catholic Church merged pagan rituals and idolatry with true Christianity, was full of fornication and was also responsible for the famous ‘Inquisition’, where people were burned alive, tortured and their lands given to the ‘church’.”*



# The Inquisition

- *“The Roman Catholic Church is by far the wealthiest institution on earth.....The value of innumerable sculptures by such masters as Michelangelo, paintings by the world’s greatest artists, and countless other art treasures which Rome possesses (not only at the Vatican but in cathedrals around the world) is beyond calculation”*

*‘A Woman Rides the Beast’ Page 76*

# The Inquisition

- “At Lourdes in France it has been reported that, in that one location alone, 59 solid gold chalices, rings, crucifixes, statues, heavy gold brooches – many incrustated with precious stones; the crown of Notre Dame de Lourdes that was made by a Paris goldsmith in 1876 and is studded with diamonds, were found. These items are of inestimable value.

# The Inquisition

- One of the despicable ways that she obtained her great wealth was through the inquisition of the middle ages.
- During this time people were falsely accused, tortured and eventually killed, their property and positions being confiscated by the Roman Catholic church – and all in the name of Christ.



# The Inquisition

According to one historian:

*“The punishment of the Inquisition did not cease when the victim was burned to ashes, or immured for life in the Inquisition dungeons. His relatives were reduced to beggary by the law that all his possessions were forfeited.”*

‘A Woman Rides the Beast’ P75

# The Inquisition

- *“Try to imagine being suddenly arrested in the middle of the night and taken to and unknown location kept secret from family and friends.*
- *You are not told the charges against you or the identity of your accusers, who remain unknown and thus immune from any examination to discover whether they are telling the truth.*

# The Inquisition

- *“Whatever the accusation, it is accepted as fact and you are guilty without trial. The only “trial” will be by the most ingeniously painful torture that continues until you confess to that unnamed crime or heresy of which you have been accused.*



# The Inquisition

- *“Imagine the torment of dislocated joints, torn and seared flesh, internal injuries, broken bones on the rack and other devices, mended by doctors so they could be torn asunder again by fresh torture.*

# The Inquisition

- *“Eventually you would confess to anything to end the torment, but no matter what you confess it never fits the secret accusation, so the torture continues until at last you expire from the unbearable trauma.*

# The Inquisition

- *“Such was the fate of millions. These were real people: mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters, sons, and daughters – all with hopes and dreams, with passions and feelings, and many with a faith that could not be broken by torture or fire.*



# The Inquisition

- *“Remember that this terror, this evil of such proportions that it is unimaginable today, was carried on for centuries in the name of Christ by the command of those who claimed to be the vicars of Christ.*
- *They are still honoured with that title by this Church, which has never admitted that the Inquisitions were wrong.*

# The Inquisition

- *“She has not repented or apologized, and she dares to pose even today as the supreme teacher and example of morals and truth. Remember also that the doctrines which supported the Inquisitions remain in force within the Roman Catholic Church even at the present time.”*

*‘A Woman Rides the Beast’ P250*

**17** And the word of the LORD came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying,

**18** Arise, go down to meet Ahab king of Israel, which is in Samaria: behold, he is in the vineyard of Naboth, whither he is gone down to possess it.

**19** And thou shalt speak unto him, saying, Thus saith the LORD, Hast thou killed, and also taken possession? And thou shalt speak unto him, saying, Thus saith the LORD, In the place where dogs licked the blood of Naboth shall dogs lick thy blood, even thine.

**1 Kings 21:17-19**



**16** If a false witness rise up against any man to testify against him that which is wrong;

**17** Then both the men, between whom the controversy is, shall stand before the LORD, before the priests and the judges, which shall be in those days;

**18** And the judges shall make diligent inquisition: and, behold, if the witness be a false witness, and hath testified falsely against his brother;

**19** Then shall ye do unto him, as he had thought to have done unto his brother: so shalt thou put the evil away from among you.

**20** And Ahab said to Elijah, Hast thou found me, O mine enemy? And he answered, I have found thee: because thou hast sold thyself to work evil in the sight of the LORD.

**21** Behold, I will bring evil upon thee, and will take away thy posterity, and will cut off from Ahab him that pisseth against the wall, and him that is shut up and left in Israel,

**1 Kings 21:20-21**

**22** And will make thine house like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and like the house of Baasha the son of Abijah, for the provocation wherewith thou hast provoked me to anger, and made Israel to sin.

**23** And of Jezebel also spake the LORD, saying, The dogs shall eat Jezebel by the wall of Jezreel.

**24** Him that dieth of Ahab in the city the dogs shall eat; and him that dieth in the field shall the fowls of the air eat.



# Ahab's Obituary

<sup>25</sup> But there was none like unto Ahab, which did sell himself to work wickedness in the sight of the LORD, whom Jezebel his wife stirred up.

<sup>26</sup> And he did very abominably in following idols, according to all things as did the Amorites, whom the LORD cast out before the children of Israel.

1 Kings 21:25-27

*27 And it came to pass, when Ahab heard those words, that he rent his clothes, and put sackcloth upon his flesh, and fasted, and lay in sackcloth, and went softly.*

*28 And the word of the LORD came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying,*

*29 Seest thou how Ahab humbleth himself before me? because he humbleth himself before me, I will not bring the evil in his days: but in his son's days will I bring the evil upon his house.*

**1 Kings 21:27-29**

## Additional Comments:

- Does this take you by surprise?
- Are you slightly disappointed that God doesn't just judge Ahab there and then? After all, surely he has been given enough chances?
- How can someone this wicked now be just forgiven and judgment averted?
- Consider this: Have you ever just made it across an amber traffic light, justifying to yourself that you were right to go for it? Only then to notice in your mirror that the car behind you also made it across, and you find yourself thinking "that was dangerous!"
- It is true, that our sins look worse on others!



## Additional Comments:

- I've often seen someone make it onto a crowded train, grateful that the people already on the train let them on, only to then try to form a confederacy with others already on the train to try to prevent others from getting on or it will become too full!
- We are so grateful of God's amazing grace when we are the beneficiaries! But how do we react when someone less deserving than ourselves is granted the same grace?
- Of course this is simply deceiving ourselves, for none of us are deserving of grace! We all deserve God's wrath.

## Additional Comments:

- To boast that someone standing is closer to the Sun than someone sitting is absurd! We are all so far away as to remove any such pointless boasting!
- And so it is with our salvation!
- None of us is any more or less deserving than Ahab!
- We stand by His amazing grace alone, and not by anything, I repeat, anything we have done.
- What an amazing God that saved a wretch like me!

*<sup>23</sup> Have I any pleasure at all that the wicked should die? saith the Lord GOD: and not that he should return from his ways, and live?*

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*<sup>27</sup> Again, when the wicked man turneth away from his wickedness that he hath committed, and doeth that which is lawful and right, he shall save his soul alive.*

**Ezekiel 18:23,27**

# Another Vineyard

<sup>1</sup> For the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which went out early in the morning to hire labourers into his vineyard.

<sup>2</sup> And when he had agreed with the labourers for a penny a day, he sent them into his vineyard.

**Matthew 20:1-16**



# Another Vineyard

*3 And he went out about the third hour, and saw others standing idle in the marketplace,*

*4 And said unto them; Go ye also into the vineyard, and whatsoever is right I will give you. And they went their way.*

**Matthew 20:1-16**

# Another Vineyard

<sup>5</sup> Again he went out about the sixth and ninth hour, and did likewise.

<sup>6</sup> And about the eleventh hour he went out, and found others standing idle, and saith unto them, Why stand ye here all the day idle?

<sup>7</sup> They say unto him, Because no man hath hired us. He saith unto them, Go ye also into the vineyard; and whatsoever is right, that shall ye receive.

**Matthew 20:1-16**

# Another Vineyard

*8 So when even was come, the lord of the vineyard saith unto his steward, Call the labourers, and give them their hire, beginning from the last unto the first.*

*9 And when they came that were hired about the eleventh hour, they received every man a penny.*

**Matthew 20:1-16**

# Another Vineyard

**10** But when the first came, they supposed that they should have received more; and they likewise received every man a penny.

**11** And when they had received it, they murmured against the goodman of the house,

**12** Saying, These last have wrought but one hour, and thou hast made them equal unto us, which have borne the burden and heat of the day.

**Matthew 20:1-16**



# Another Vineyard

**13** But he answered one of them, and said, Friend, I do thee no wrong: didst not thou agree with me for a penny?

**14** Take that thine is, and go thy way: I will give unto this last, even as unto thee.

**15** Is it not lawful for me to do what I will with mine own? Is thine eye evil, because I am good?

**16** So the last shall be first, and the first last: for many be called, but few chosen.

**Matthew 20:1-16**

## Additional Closing Comments:

- Building on the teaching in this parable...
- For those who have been Christians longer, are we willing to move over and let others take up rolls of ministry that we have occupied?
  - We will soon see Elijah willing to do this!
- Do you see your ministry as your right because you have toiled in the heat of the day?

# Additional Closing Comments:

- Building on the teaching in this parable...
- Do you think you should receive the recognition for your years of labor? And what if you were to pass the baton now so that someone much less experienced receive the recognition?
  - But as G.D. Watson comments;
    - The Lord may let others be honoured and keep you hidden and unappreciated because He wants to produce some choice, fragrant fruit for His coming glory, which can only be produced in the shade. He may let others do a work for Him and get the credit for it, but He will make you work on and on without others knowing how much you are doing; and then, to make your work still more precious, He may let others get the credit for the work which you have done, and thus make your reward ten times greater when Jesus comes.

## Additional Closing Comments:

- Building on the teaching in this parable...
- In the heat of the day you have sown, now another comes along at the end of the day and waters (a much easier task?), and then God gives the increase – do you feel cheated?
- What are you doing to train up the next generation?
- You do not stand because of the length of your labor, or how hard you have toiled. You, just as those who come in at the 11<sup>th</sup> hour, only stand by His amazing grace alone!





calvary  
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