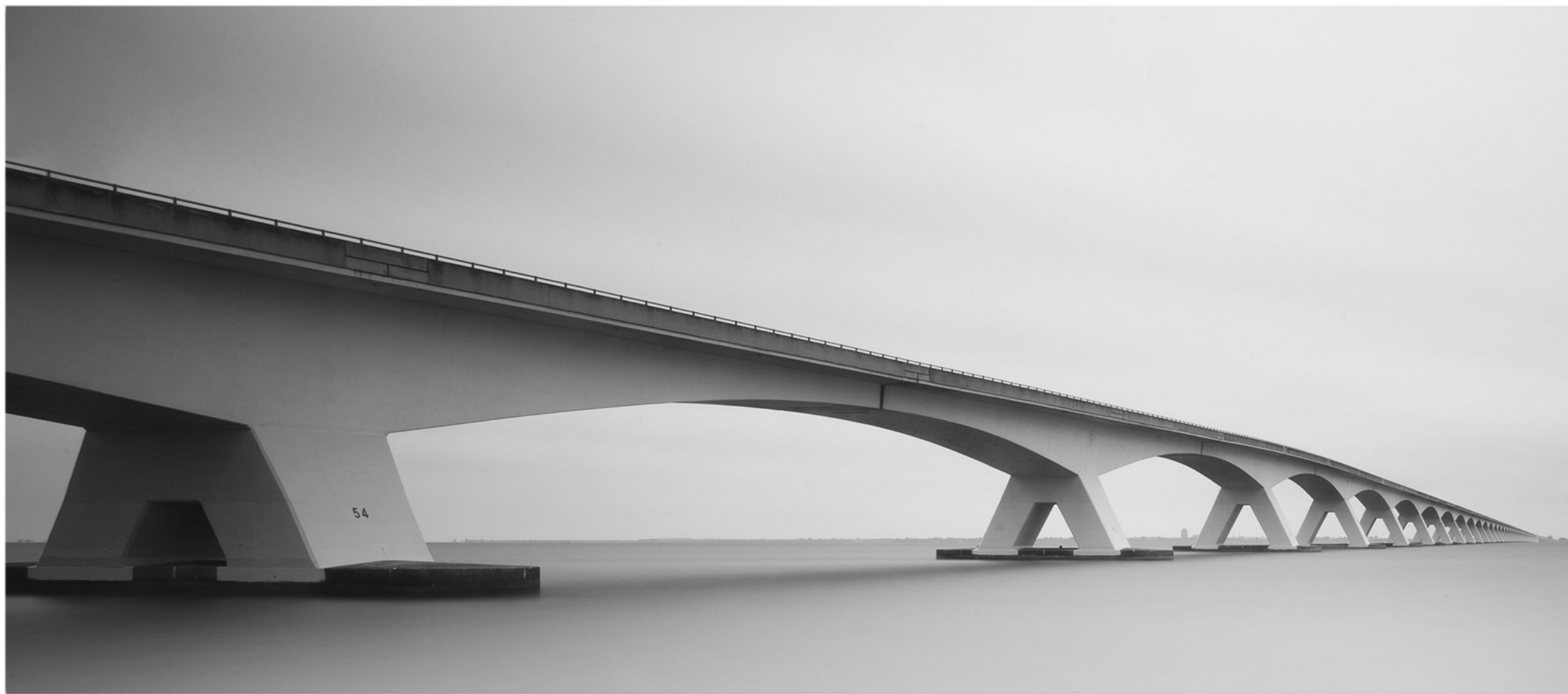


Empower Ministries Presents

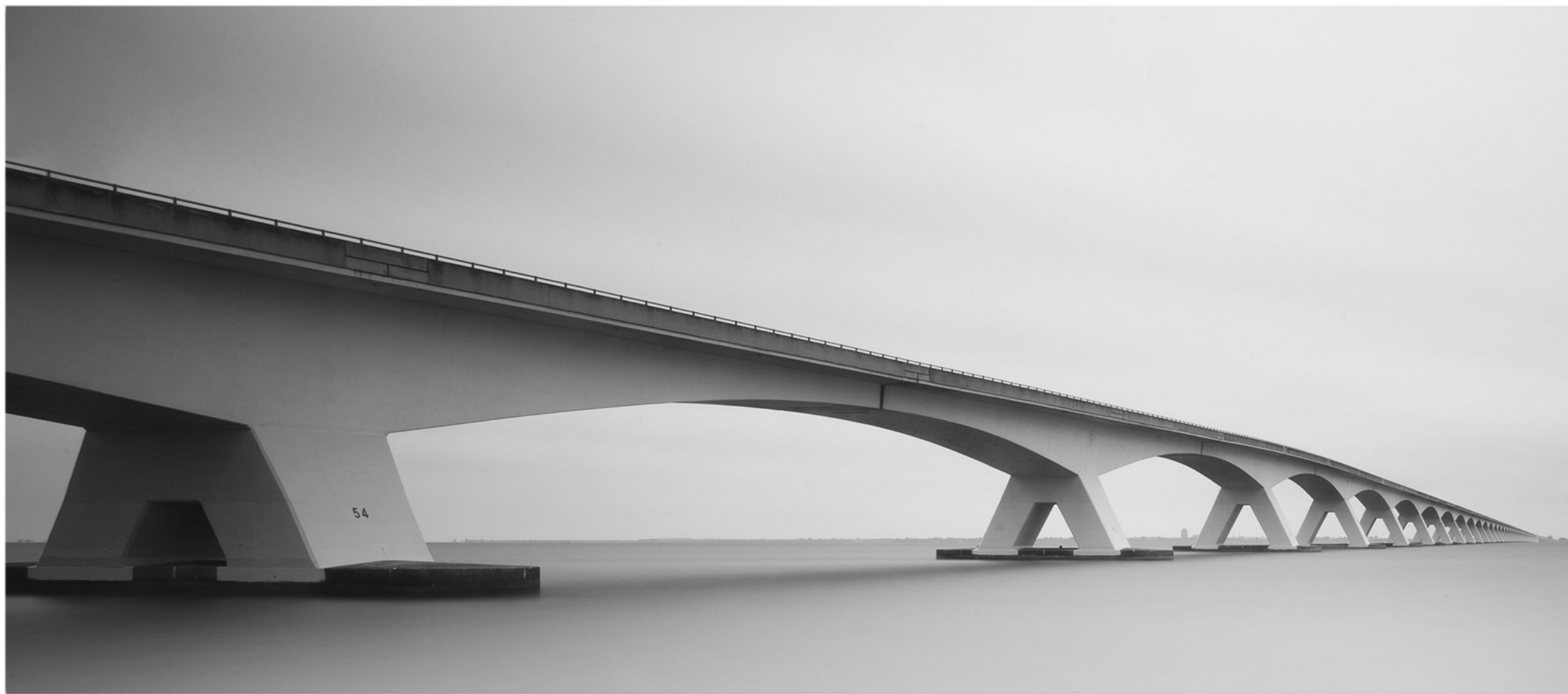
Empower Ministries Presents

Bible Study BREAKTHROUGH



Empower Ministries Presents

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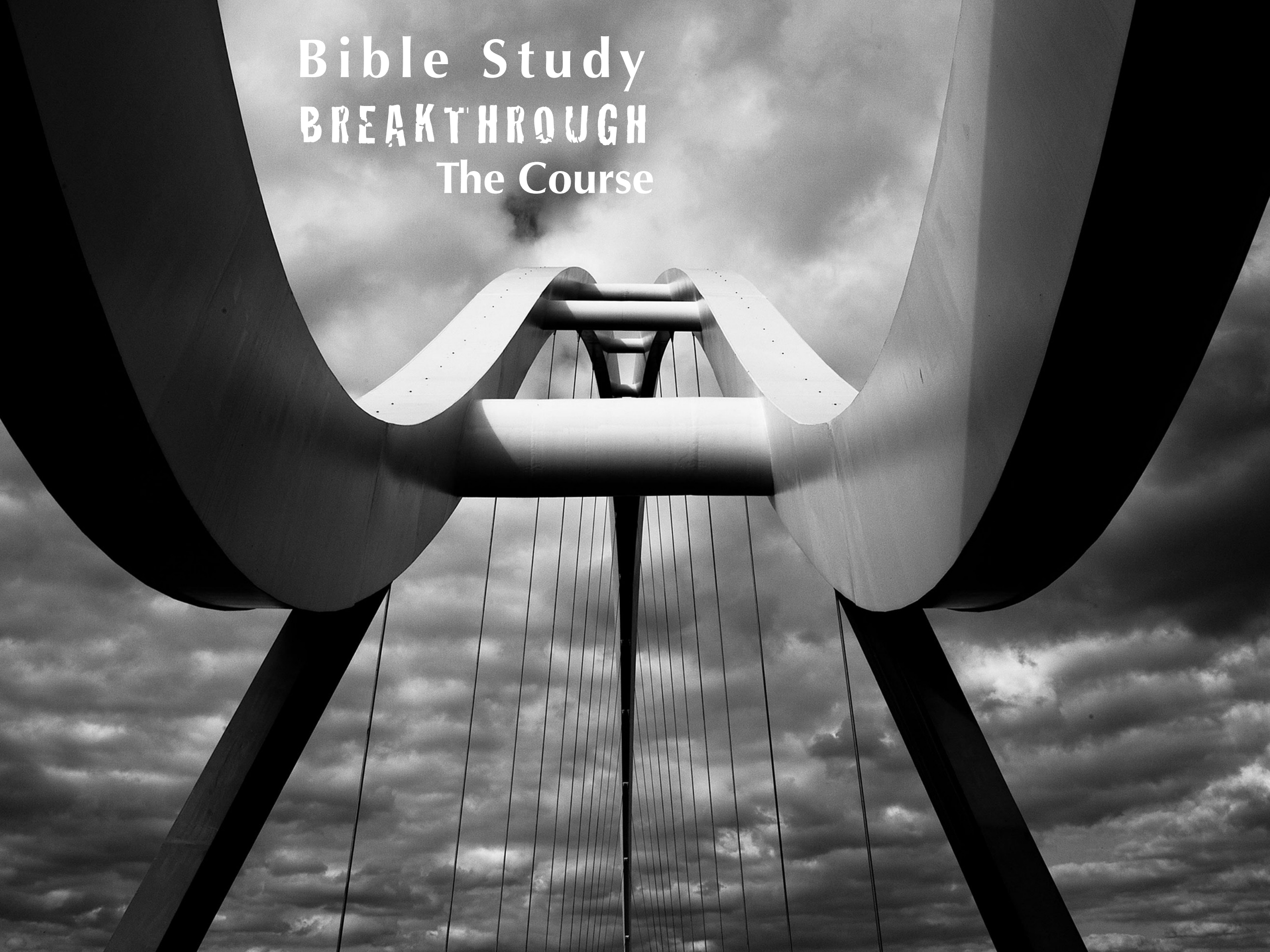
Empower Ministries Presents

Bible Study BREAKTHROUGH

The easiest way to bridge the gap
from Bible times to today



Bible Study
BREAKTHROUGH
The Course



Bible Study

BREAKTHROUGH

The Course



Bible Study BREAKTHROUGH The Course



ATTITUDE

Bible Study BREAKTHROUGH The Course



ATTITUDE
PREPARE for Study

Bible Study BREAKTHROUGH The Course



ATTITUDE
PREPARE for Study
ANALYZE the Text

Bible Study BREAKTHROUGH The Course



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SHARE THE GOODS WITH OTHERS



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Explain Discoveries



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Explain Discoveries

- Write out brief versions of each verse based on what you've learned so far



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 - **Let Christ explain the Bigger Picture**

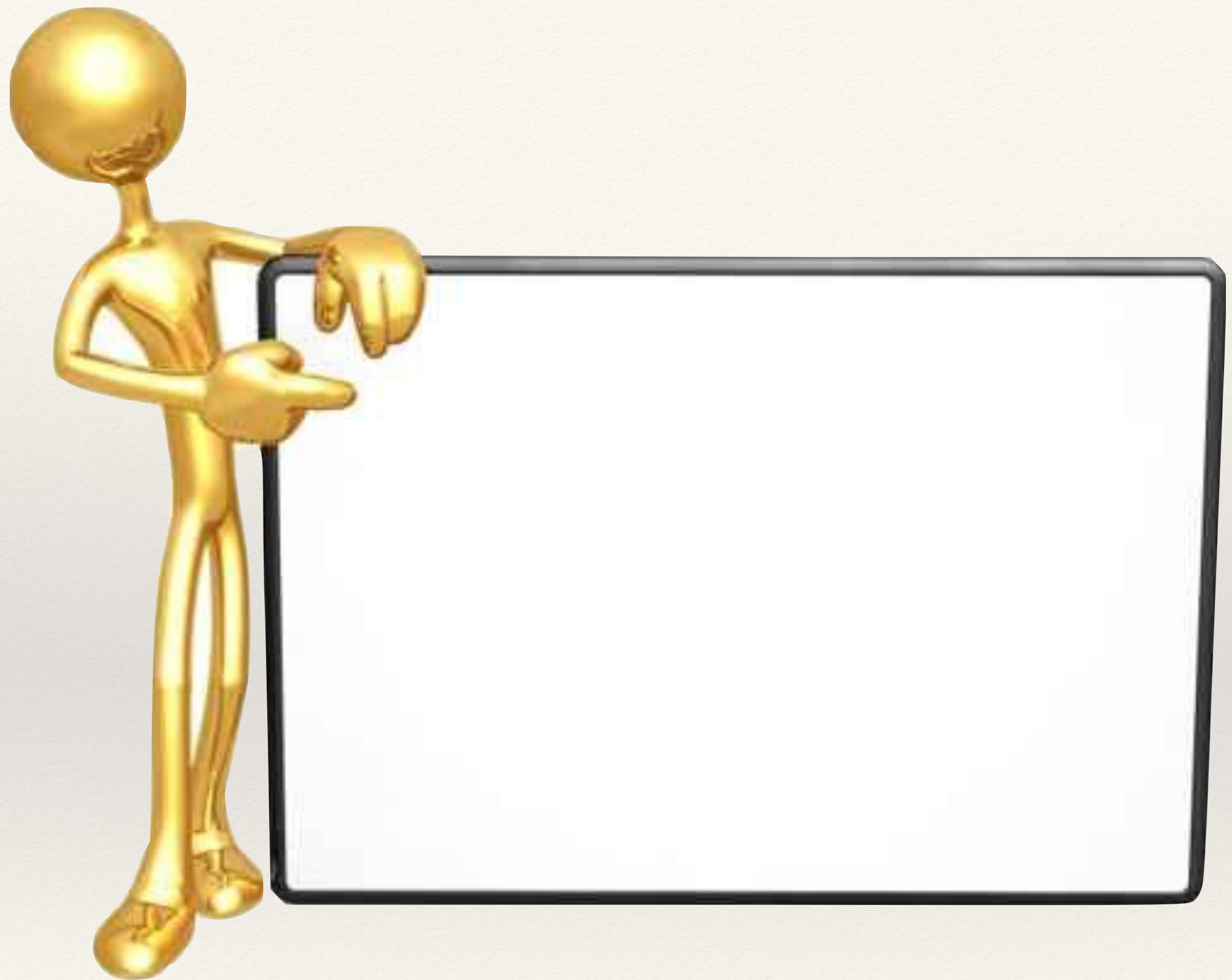


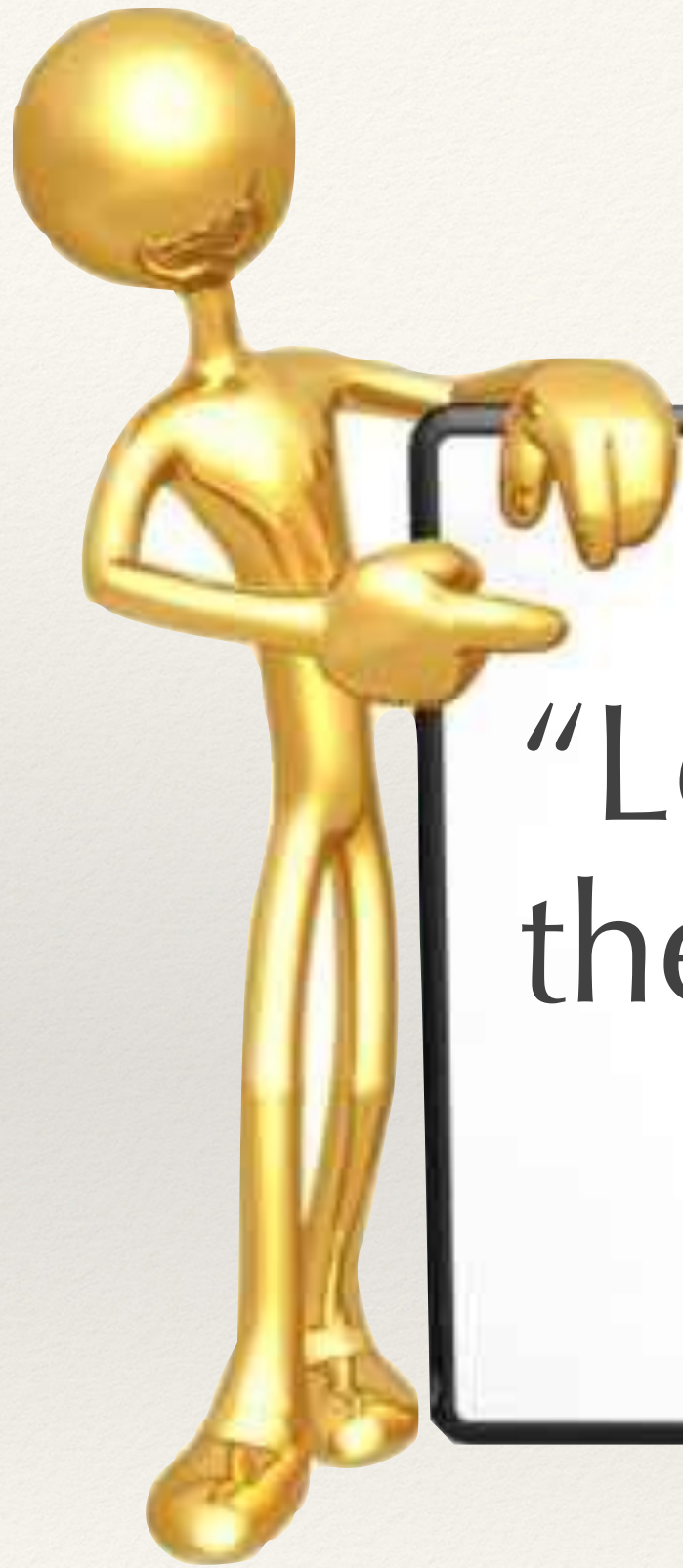
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 - Write out revised versions of each one based on what you learn

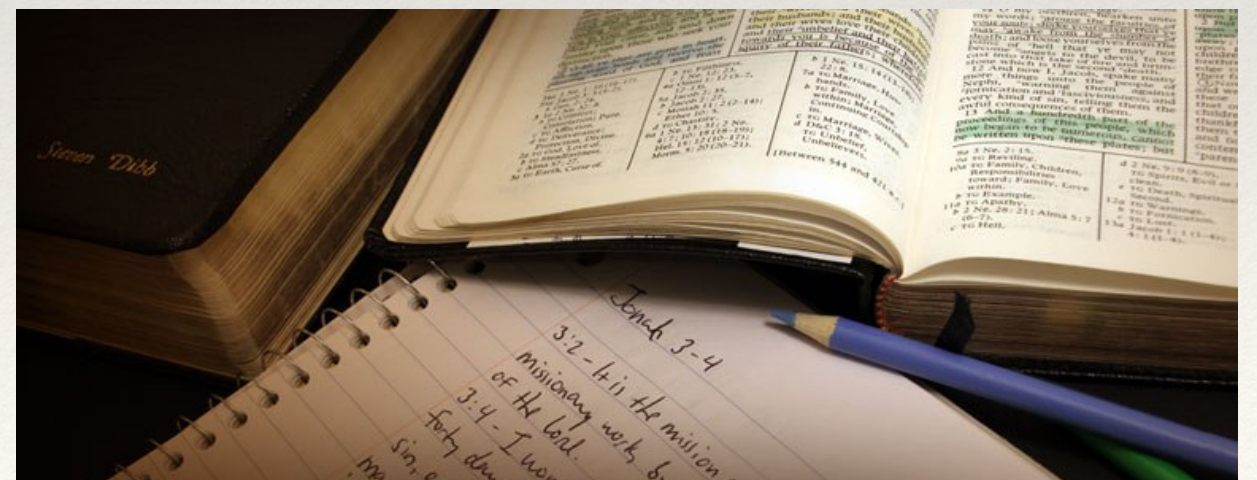






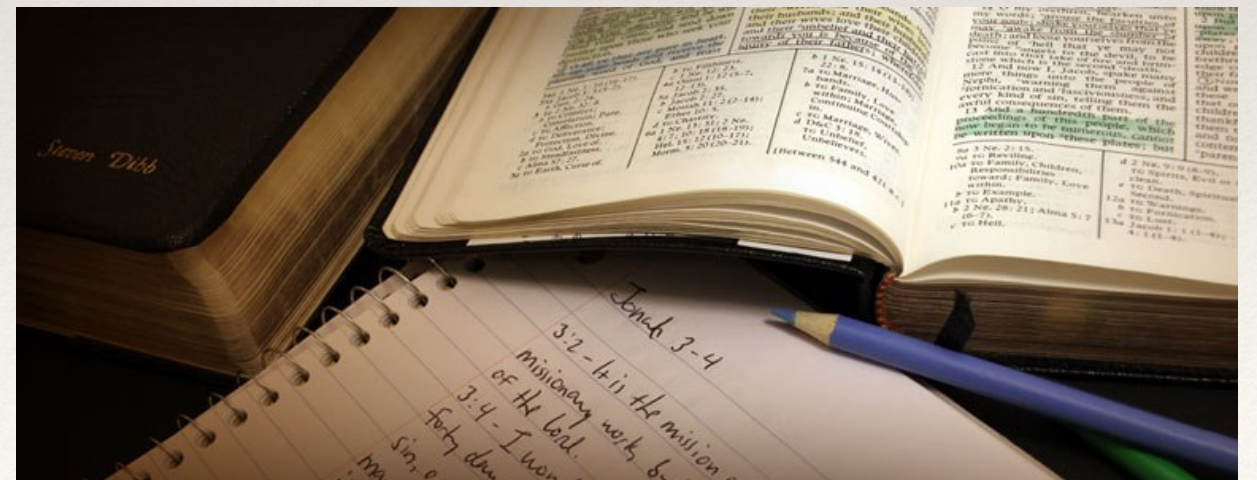
“Let Christ Explain
the Bigger Picture,
Part 2”

Let Christ Explain the Bigger Picture



Let Christ Explain the Bigger Picture

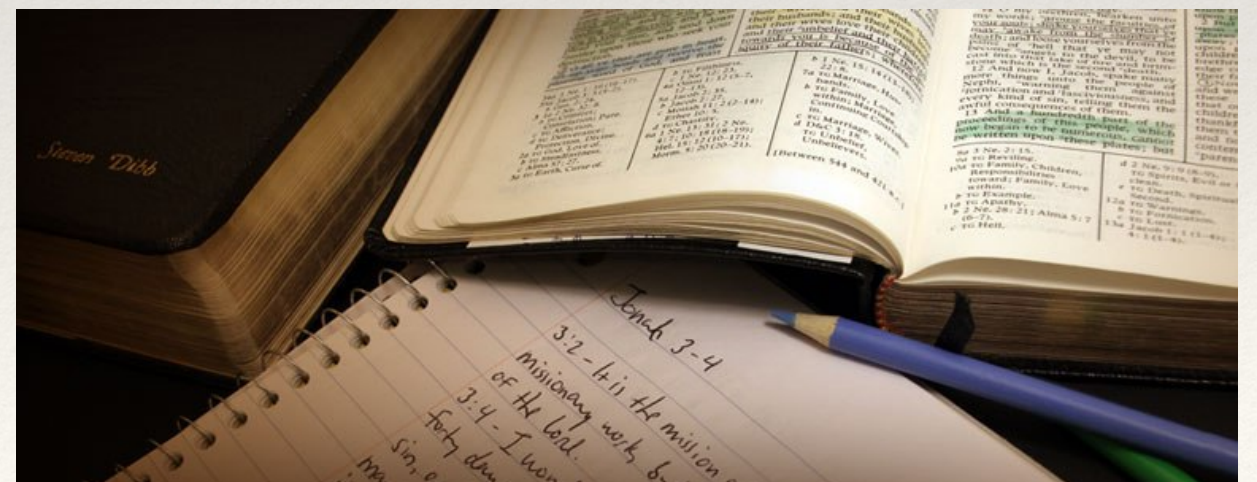
Progressive Fulfillment



Let Christ Explain the Bigger Picture

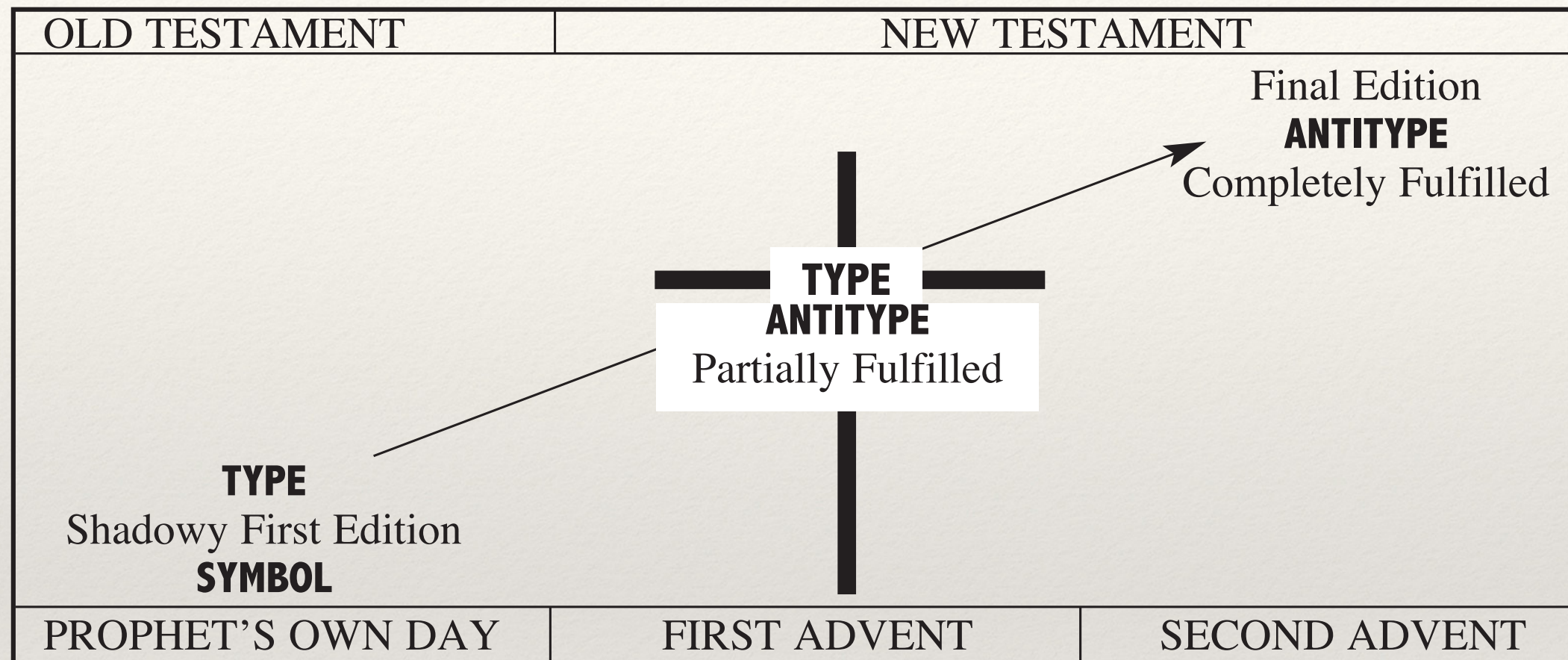
Progressive Fulfillment

The earliest Jewish Christians believed that Jesus was the promised Messiah and that they were His end-time people (see Acts 4:27; Rev. 12:17). They were equally convinced that Christ's resurrection and reign at God's right hand was the continuation of God's saving work for Israel in the past. But the types were **neither instantly fulfilled at Christ's first advent nor postponed until His second coming**. They were, instead, **in the process of being fulfilled during the New Testament era, the climactic phase in the unfolding progress of God's redemptive work**.

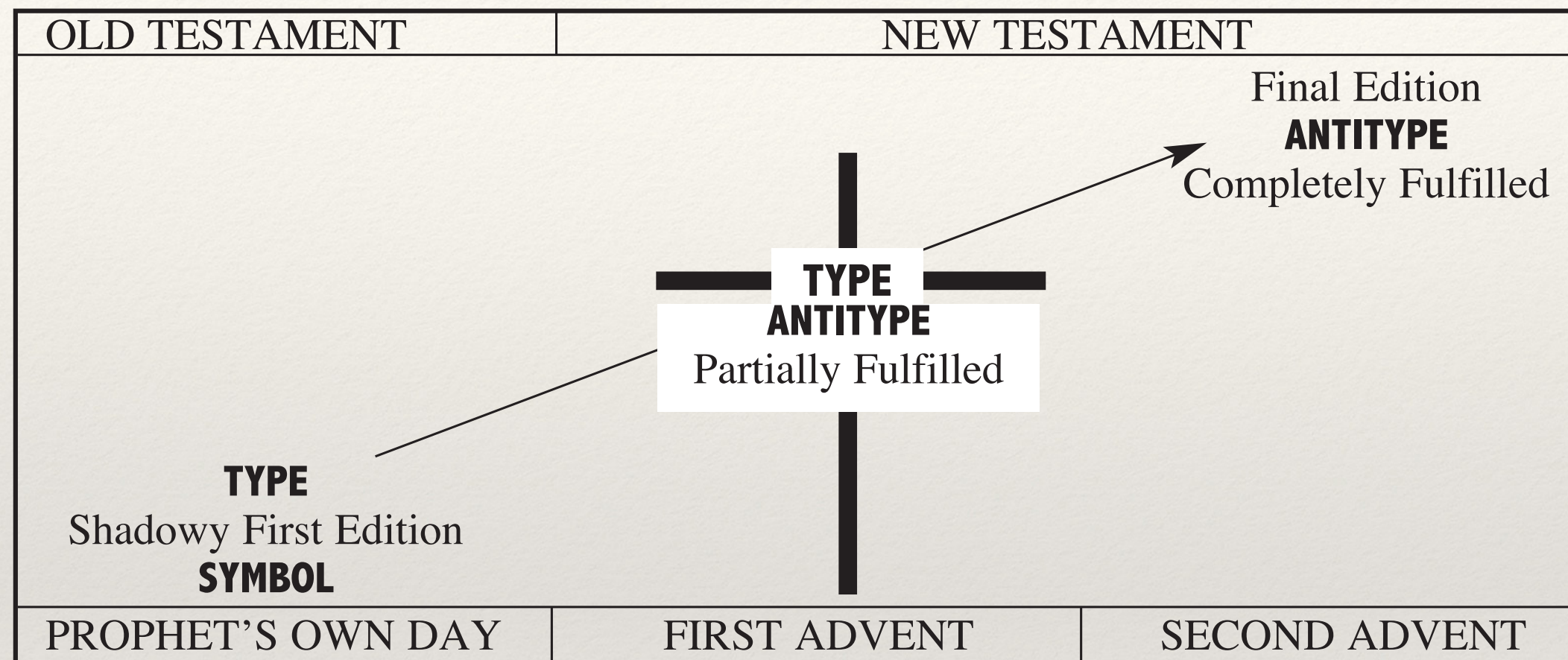


Let Christ Explain the Bigger Picture

Let Christ Explain the Bigger Picture



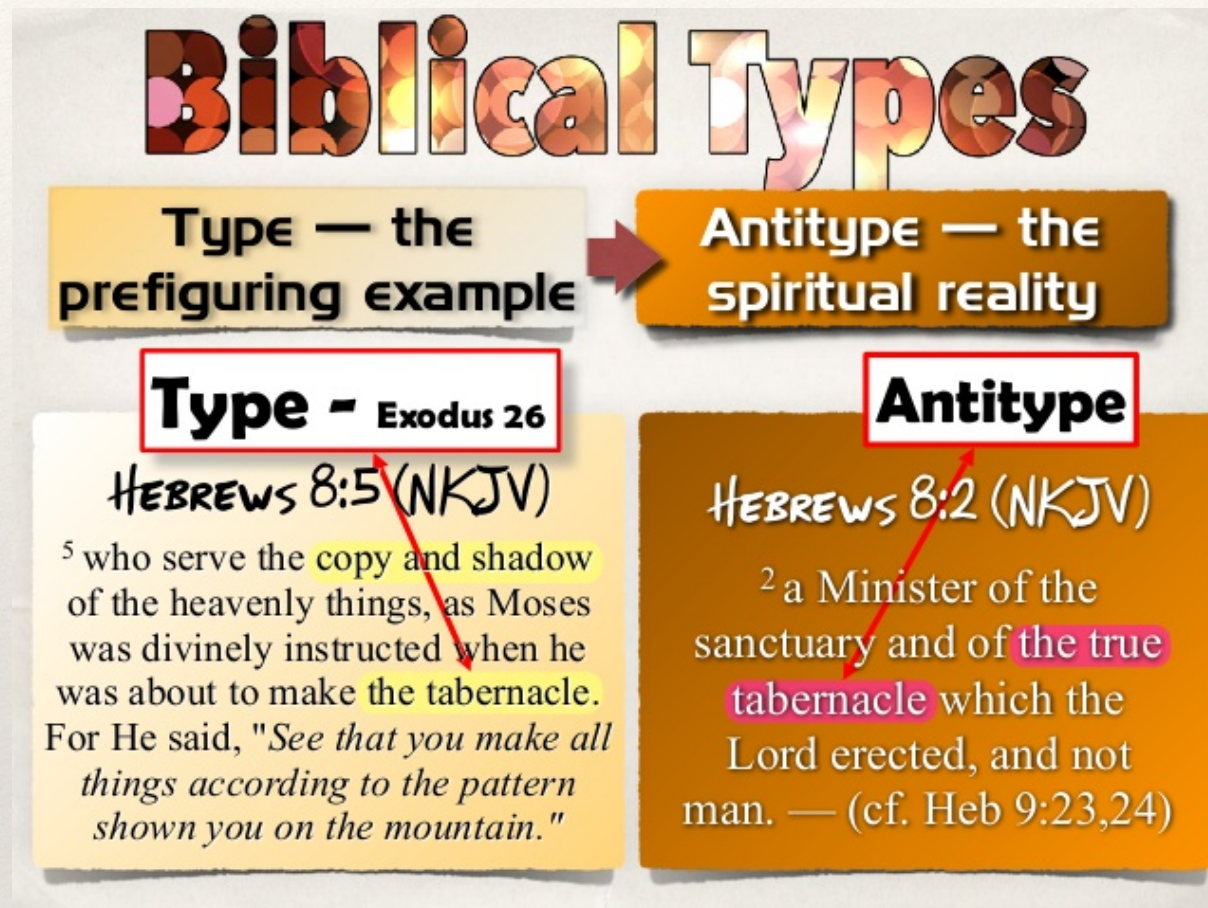
Let Christ Explain the Bigger Picture



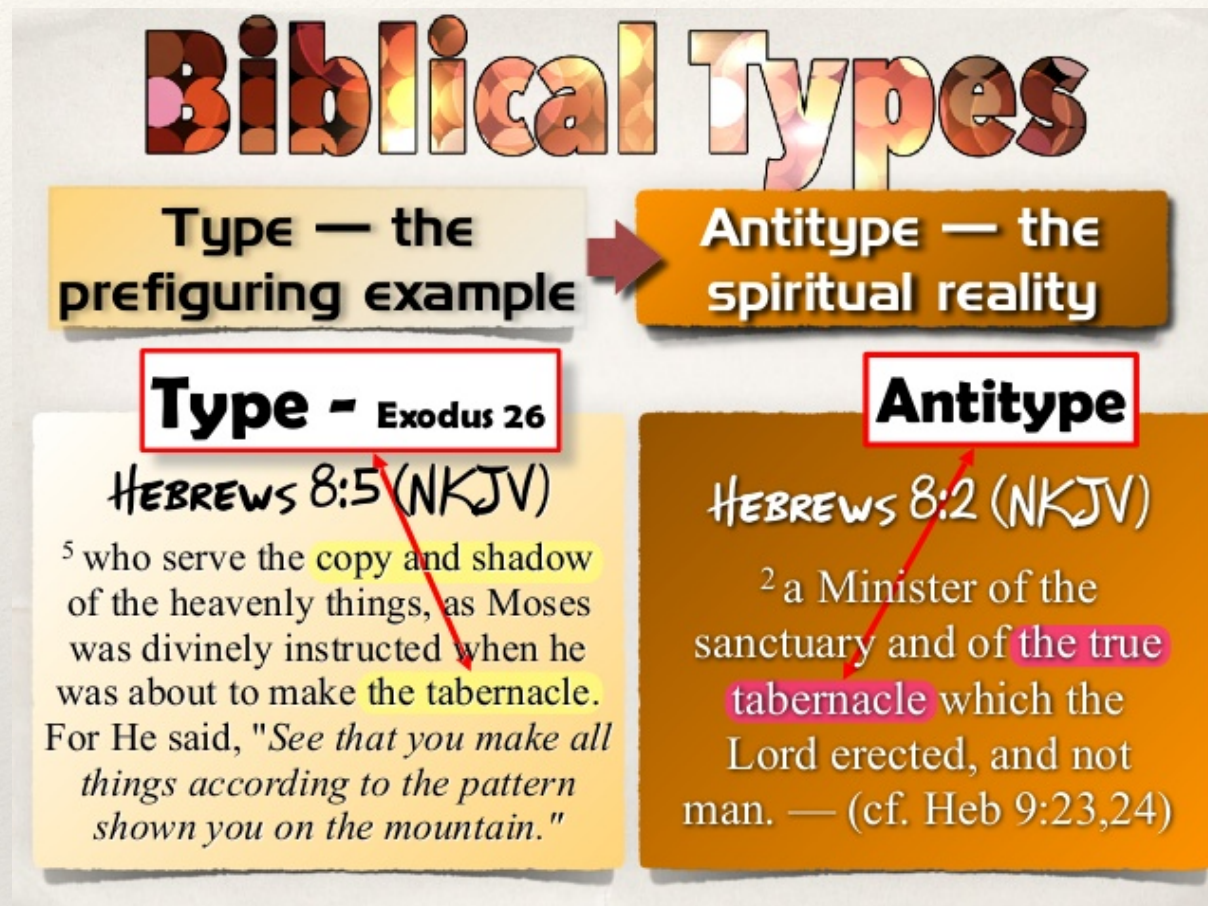
“Christ’s first advent brought a basic fulfillment of the OT eschatological expectations of the New Age. The cross is the midpoint of salvation history. In Christ the powers of the Coming Age have irrupted into the Old Age. For the church living between the two advents of Christ, it is already true that upon them ‘the end of the ages has come’ (1 Cor. 10:11). They are living in the ‘last days’ (Heb. 1:2; Acts 2:16, 17). . . . The time between the two comings of Christ is thus a period with an overlapping of the two ages. The full consummation of the OT expectations is still future, to be experienced with the glorious, ultimate dawn of the Age to Come” (*ibid.*, p. 391).

Let Christ Explain the Bigger Picture

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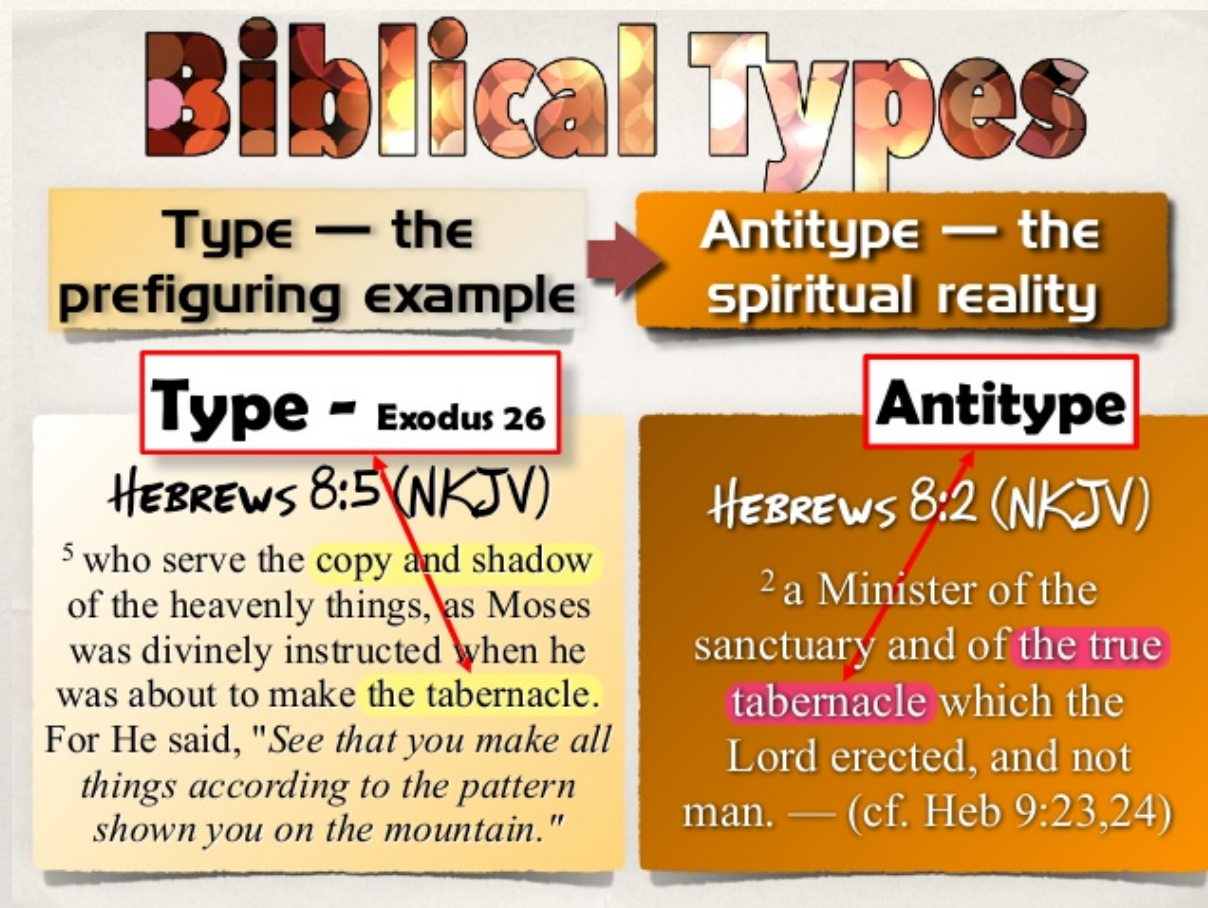


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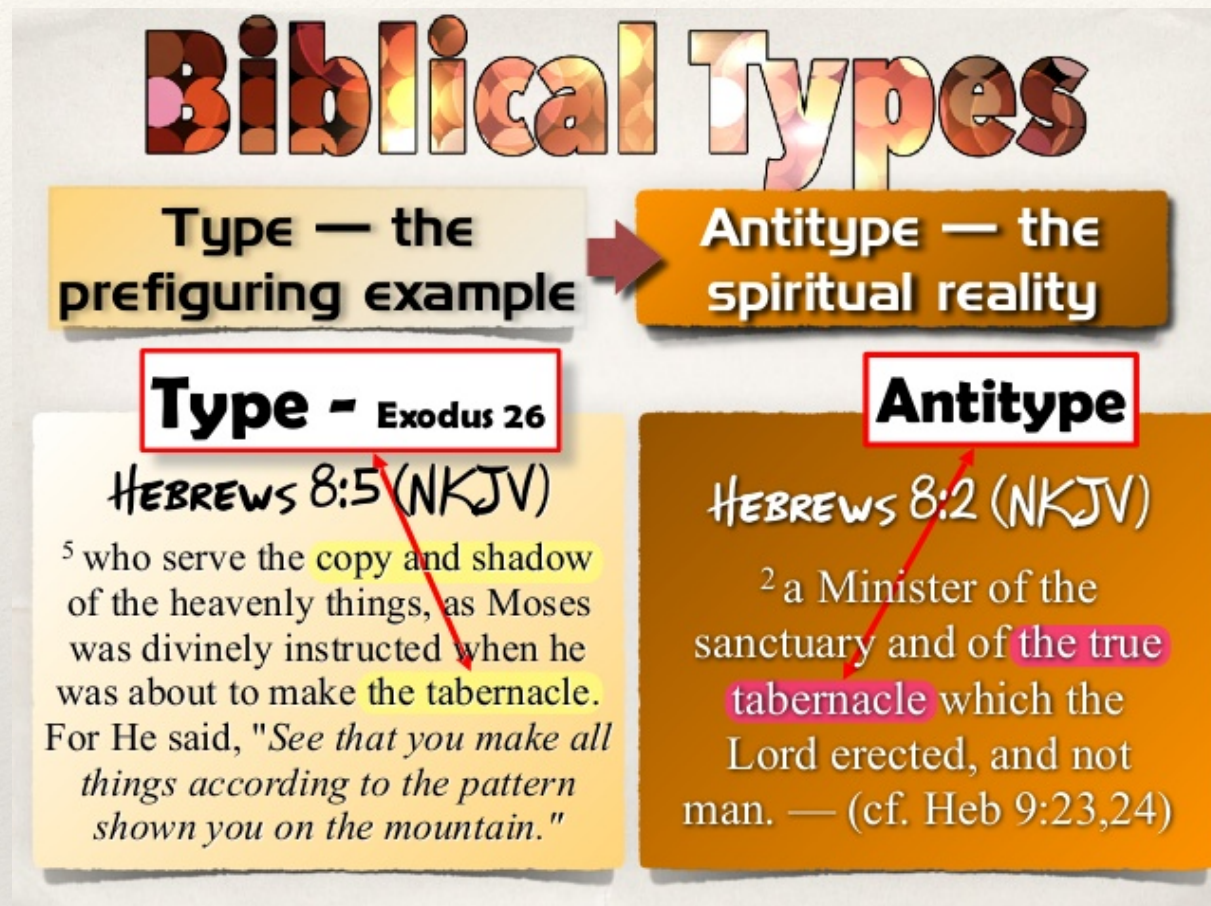
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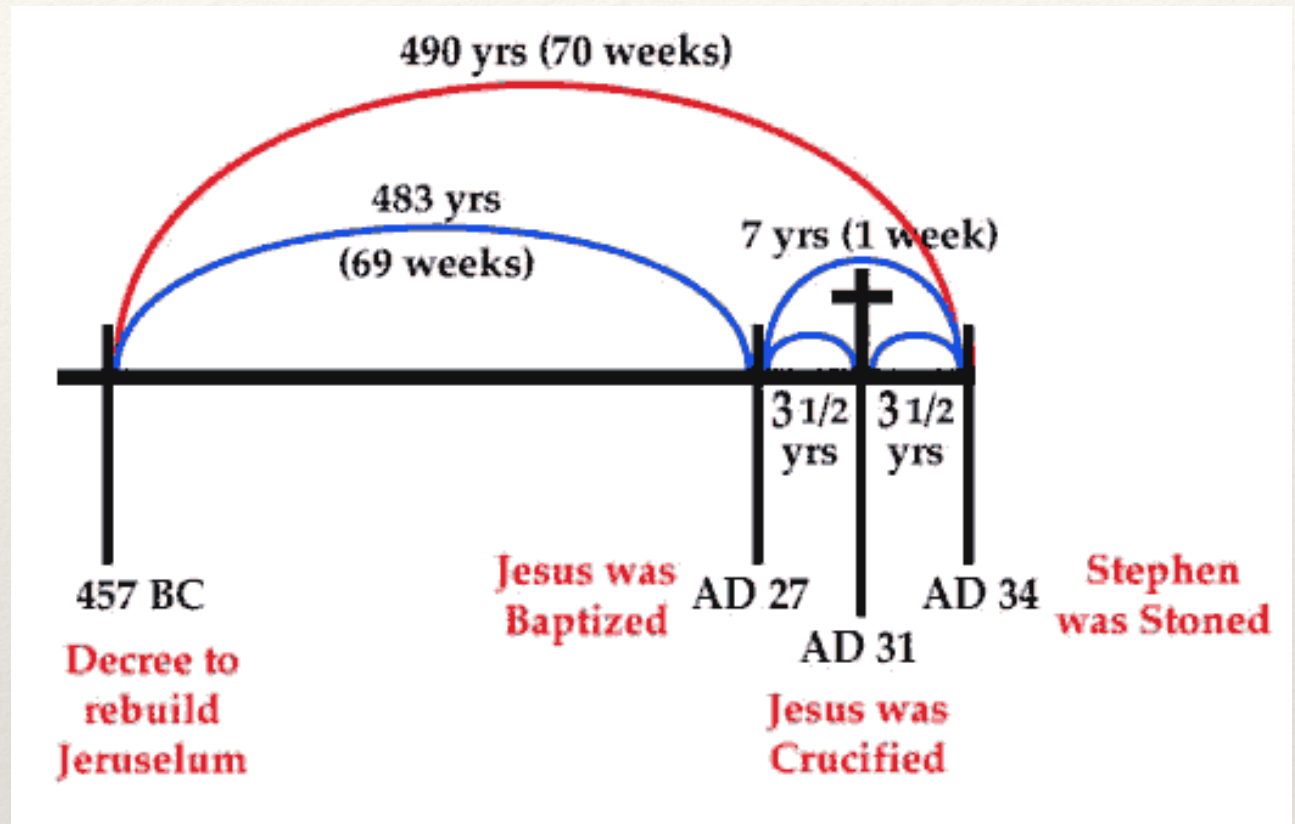


God's people have always lived between the present and future realization of His promises: "During the present age the world is under God's judgment, but the children of God already receive their Father's goodness as tokens of the glory awaiting them.

Progressive Fulfillment

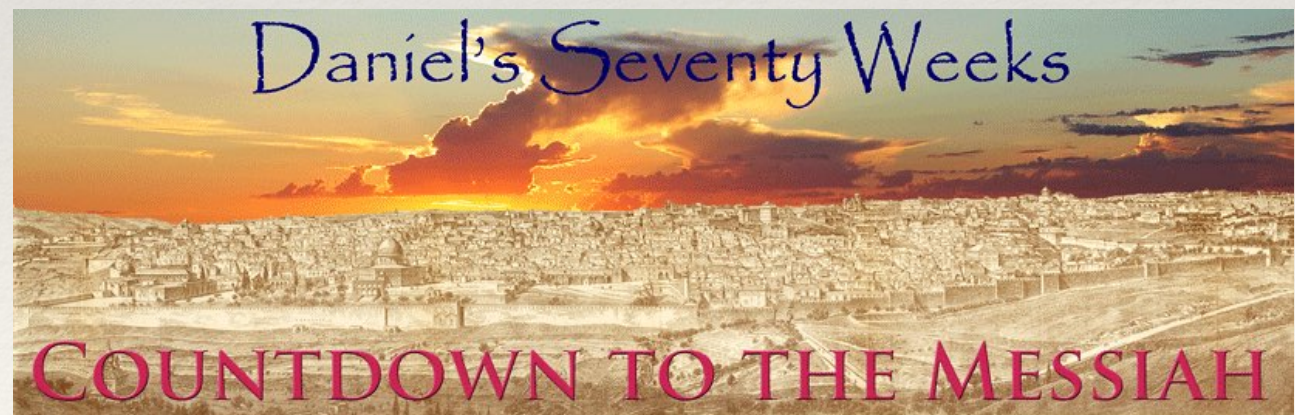
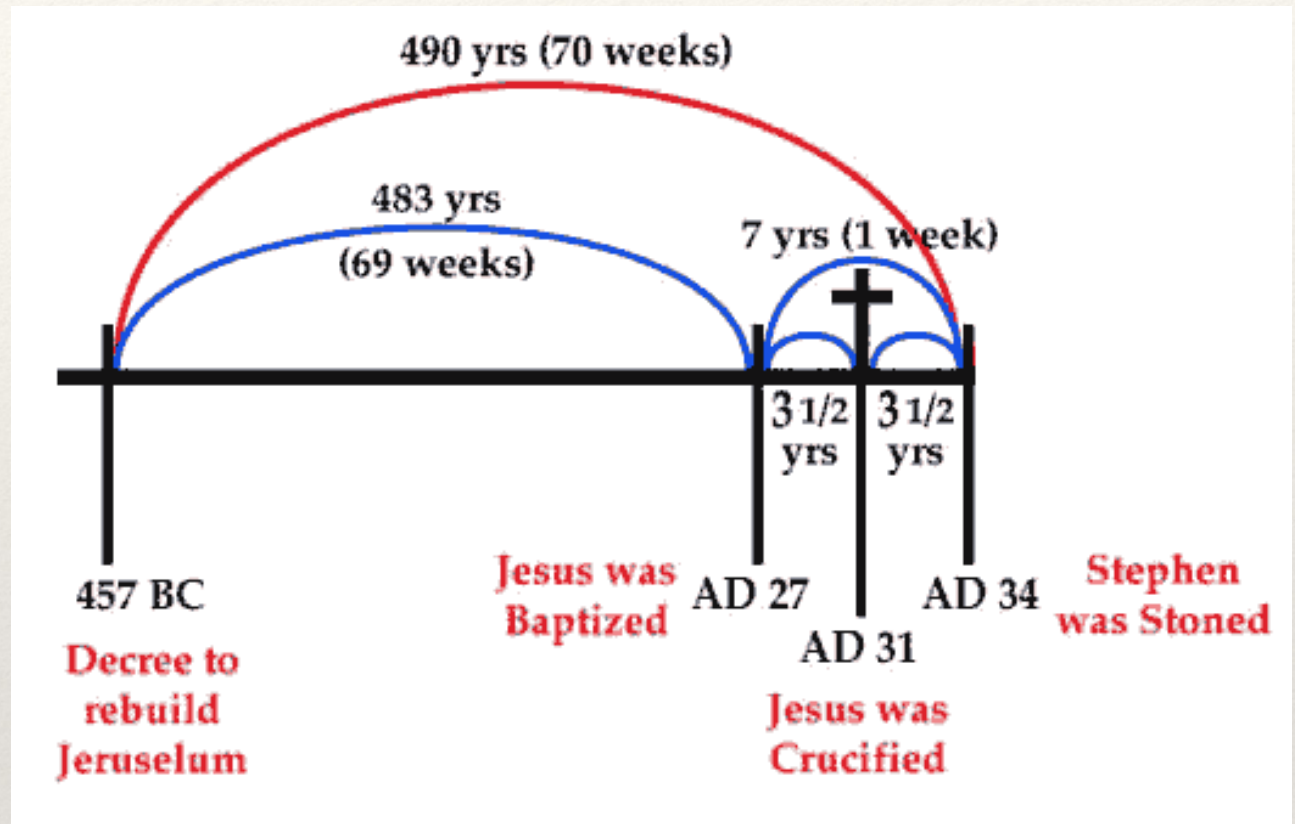
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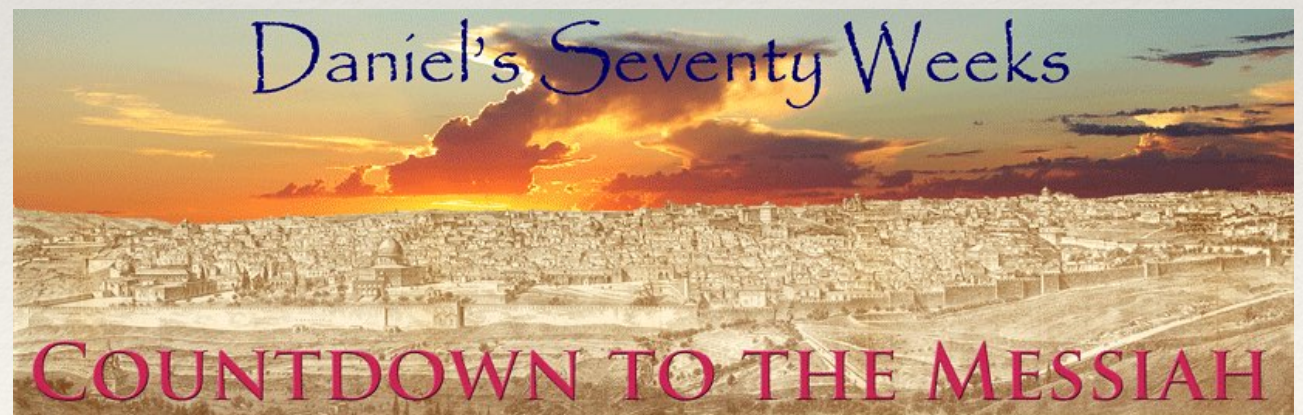
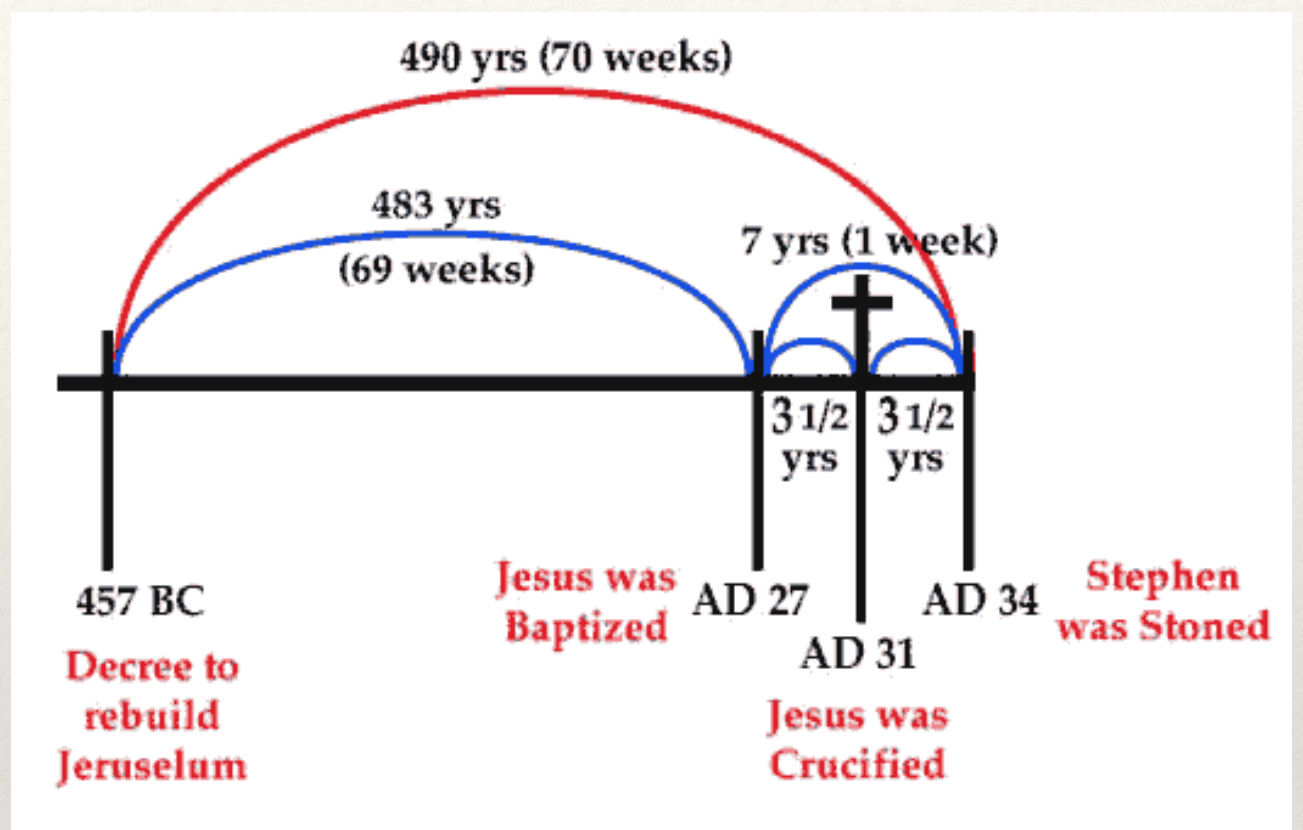
In the tension between creation and the new creation they live in faith, awaiting the fullness of salvation . . . the whole progress of redemption is *before the coming* [of Christ], that is, the era of climactic fulfillment at His second coming" (VanGemeren, pp. 90, 91).



Let Christ Explain the Bigger Picture

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God is "Israel's" King, but in the Old Testament He exercised only "a limited, patriarchal/nationalistic rule . . . incomplete and open-ended toward the future in its eschatological expectations. The coming of Christ fulfilled those Messianic/eschatological expectations" (Davidson, p. 391).



Let Christ Explain the Bigger Picture



Let Christ Explain the Bigger Picture



During OT times, future fulfillments operated in a limited way through the symbols/types that pointed to them.

Let Christ Explain the Bigger Picture



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“Under the old [pre-cross of Christ] system, the blood of goats and bulls...could cleanse people’s bodies [on the outside] from ceremonial impurity, [but could not] take away sins.” In fact, it wasn’t until *“Christ died* [that the people were set free] *from the penalty of the sins they had committed under the first covenant”* (Heb. 9:13, 15).

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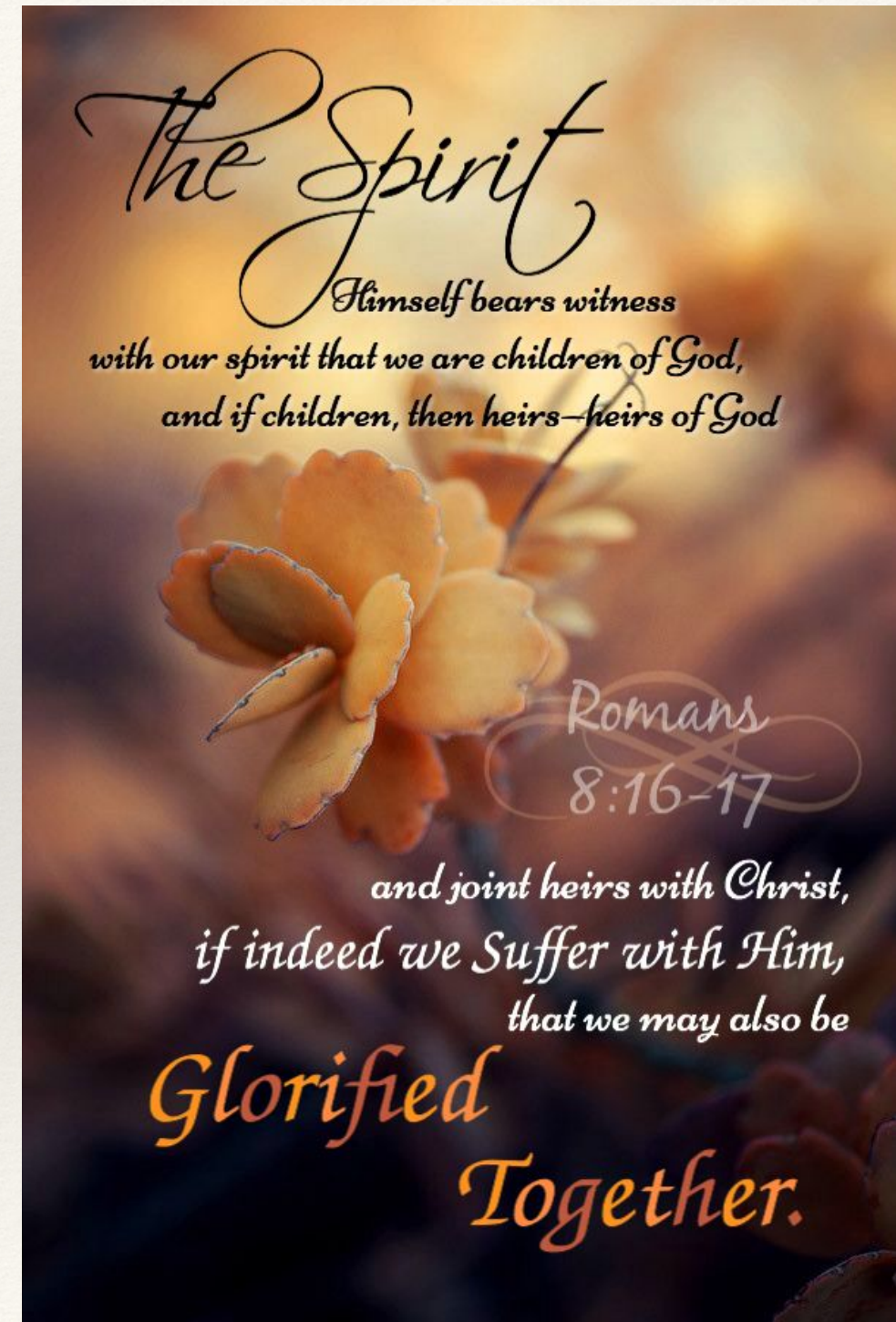


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So, Christ used the sacrifices that represented Him in advance in a *partial* way, to bring about *incomplete* and *temporary* forgiveness. In other words, OT offenders had to repeat the same offerings every time they sinned, since they could not supply lasting forgiveness.

Let Christ Explain the Bigger Picture



Let Christ Explain the Bigger Picture

But Christ only inaugurated God's eschatological kingdom at His first coming. "This kingdom of grace [not glory], already experienced (proleptically) [that is, in advance] in OT times by the promise of God, was established in actuality by the death of Christ" (*ibid.*).



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While Christ continues to reign at God's right hand, He presently rules a kingdom of grace, not glory. His subjects are mystically connected to their ascended King through the Holy Spirit (see Eph. 3:16-19), but the ultimate, promised reality awaits consummation at His second coming. Meanwhile, just as "the Old Testament people of God lived . . . between the past acts of God and the promise of future acts of God" (VanGemeran, p. 91), the New Testament people of God live in the tension between what Christ has already inaugurated and what He has yet to consummate of God's promises.



Let Christ Explain the Bigger Picture



Let Christ Explain the Bigger Picture



“The kingdom of God still awaits the final consummation. At the consummation, the kingdom of grace will become the kingdom of glory; the powers of the present, evil age will be annihilated. God’s tabernacle will be with men—the tension between the heavenly and earthly rule of Christ will be resolved by the transference of the very throne of God and of the Lamb to this earth. This kingdom of glory will therefore consist of a final, literal, universal reign, completely consummating the OT eschatological expectations” (Davidson, p. 392).

Let Christ Explain the Bigger Picture



Let Christ Explain the Bigger Picture

The Old Testament types focus on one or more of three time-related aspects of the post-incarnation phase of God's gradually-being-fulfilled kingdom: (1) The *inaugurated* aspect is called *christological* because it focuses on Christ and His accomplishments during His earthly ministry at the First Advent; (2) the *appropriated* aspect is called *ecclesiological* because it focuses on the church (Greek—*ekklesia*) living by faith under Christ's heavenly ministry between His first and second advents; and (3) the *consummated* aspect is called *eschatological* because it focuses on the final (Greek—*eschatos*) and complete realization of God's promises before, during, and after the millennium.



Let Christ Explain the Bigger Picture

SALVATION HISTORY			
OLD TESTAMENT	THE NEW TESTAMENT		
God actually rules in a limited way during the patriarchal national era	Preliminary fulfillment of the OT endtime hopes at Christ's first advent	Derived spiritual fulfillment by the church in the time of tension already/not yet	Utter fulfillment and complete ushering in of the age to come
THEOCENTRIC EXPECTATIONS	CHRISTOLOGICAL	ECCLESIOLOGICAL	ESCHATOLOGICAL
	PROGRESSIVE FULFILLMENT		
	INAUGURATION	APPROPRIATION	CONSUMMATION
TYPES	ANTITYPES		
SYMBOLS			

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Because antitypes that occur during the New Testament era are not the final realities, they are also types—types of the ultimate realities/antitypes to come at the end of the age.

Let Christ Explain the Bigger Picture

The overall redemptive-historical picture looks like this:

SALVATION HISTORY			
OLD TESTAMENT	THE NEW TESTAMENT		
God actually rules in a limited way during the patriarchal national era	Preliminary fulfillment of the OT endtime hopes at Christ's first advent	Derived spiritual fulfillment by the church in the time of tension already/not yet	Utter fulfillment and complete ushering in of the age to come
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