

Sunday January 25th 2015
From Here To Eternity
Part Fifteen

1). 2Ch 7:13 *"When I shut up heaven and there is no rain, or command the locusts to devour the land, or send pestilence among My people, 14 "if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.*

a). Before the glory of the Lord filled Solomon's temple the Lord appeared to Solomon 'by night' to make to him a conditional promise that is prophetic in nature.

b). In v13 we see a type of God's judgment upon His people containing the very poignant picture of heaven being 'shut up' – and then in v14 we see God's promise to 'hear from heaven', to 'forgive their sin and heal their land' conditioned upon the Children of Israel humbling themselves and praying, seeking God's face and turning from their wicked ways – all of which pictures Israel crying out to the God of their fathers in repentance.

c). Now keeping this in mind let's remember that Solomon's temple forms a type of the Millennial Temple and that Solomon's reign forms a type of the Millennial Kingdom – and so what we see in the sequencing of events here in 2 Chronicles is a picture of God's judgment, followed by the necessity of a repentant cry that will lead God to act followed by a picture of the Millennial reign of Christ.

d). And this is exactly the sequence of events that we have found laid out for us in the Book of Revelation – we have seen the judgment of God upon Israel, because of the nation's harlotry, brought about through persecution at the hands of Israel's 'lovers' - Re 17:16 *"And the ten horns which you saw on the beast, these will hate the harlot, make her desolate and naked, eat her flesh and burn her with fire. 17 "For God has put it into their hearts to fulfill His purpose, to be of one mind, and to give their kingdom to the beast, until the words of God are fulfilled. 18 "And the woman whom you saw is that great city which reigns over the kings of the earth."*

e). And as a result of this judgment we see Israel crying out to the God of their fathers' in repentance - Re 19:1 ¶ *After these things I heard a loud voice of*

a great multitude in heaven, saying, "Alleluia! Salvation and glory and honor and power belong to the Lord our God! 2 "For true and righteous are His judgments, because He has judged the great harlot who corrupted the earth with her fornication; and He has avenged on her the blood of His servants shed by her." 3 Again they said, "Alleluia! Her smoke rises up forever and ever!"

And this repentant cry causes God to act on Israel's behalf by sending a Deliverer to them, to deliver them from the Gentile nations amongst whom they have been scattered in order to return them to the land covenanted to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in order to walk in the fullness of the rights of the firstborn during the Millennial Kingdom - Jer 31:31 *"Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah- 32 "not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, though I was a husband to them, says the LORD. 33 "But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. 34 "No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more."*

2). This sequence, set out in its basic foundational type, can be found in Genesis - Ge 14:8 *And the king of Sodom, the king of Gomorrah, the king of Admah, the king of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela (that is, Zoar) went out and joined together in battle in the Valley of Siddim 9 against Chedorlaomer king of Elam, Tidal king of nations, Amraphel king of Shinar, and Arioch king of Ellasar- four kings against five.....11 Then they took all the goods of Sodom and Gomorrah, and all their provisions, and went their way. 12 They also took Lot, Abram's brother's son who dwelt in Sodom, and his goods, and departed.....14 Now when Abram heard that his brother was taken captive, he armed his three hundred and eighteen trained servants who were born in his own house, and went in pursuit as far as Dan. 15 He divided his forces against them by night, and he and his servants attacked them and pursued them as far as Hobah, which is north of Damascus.*

a). We see then Abraham's nephew Lot taken into captivity and then Abraham defeating the kings who had taken Lot captive – picturing for us the future

time of Israel's captivity amongst the nations and Christ's return to deliver them and the overthrow of Gentile world power.

3). And we had seen last week how this same sequencing of events had also been set out for us in a foundational type seen in the Book of Exodus - And that which is presented in the type must of course be fulfilled in the antitype - so, as we had seen in Exodus, in response to Israel's cry God sends Moses to them to deliver them from the hands of the Egyptians - *Ex 3:7 ¶ And the LORD said: "I have surely seen the oppression of My people who are in Egypt, and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters, for I know their sorrows. 8 "So I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up from that land to a good and large land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Amorites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites. 9 "Now therefore, behold, the cry of the children of Israel has come to Me, and I have also seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them. 10 "Come now, therefore, and I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring My people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt."*

a). And what is particularly interesting to note is that the the whole of Exodus Chapter 3 provides us with the skeletal outline for the events to take place prior to Moses return and following Moses return which, by extension, also give us the skeletal outline for the events to take place prior to Christ's return and following Christ's return in the antitype.

b). So what do we see? - Well the sequence begins with Israel amidst persecution, first pictured through Lot in captivity - *Ex 3:2 And the Angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire from the midst of a bush. So he looked, and behold, the bush was burning with fire, but the bush was not consumed. 3 Then Moses said, "I will now turn aside and see this great sight, why the bush does not burn."*

Here the burning bush pictures Israel, a nation persecuted but not destroyed and we might remember from Revelation 17:6 that the persecution of Israel is described as burning her with fire.

c). This is followed by God acknowledging the cry of His people and His commission of Moses to return to deliver them as we have seen from our previous verses from Exodus Chapter 3, verses 7-10 and originally pictured through Abraham's pursuit of Lot.

d). As we continue we see events surrounding Moses being made known to the Children of Israel upon his return and the nation being shown that this is the hand of God on their behalf - *Ex 3:13 Then Moses said to God, "Indeed,*

when I come to the children of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they say to me, 'What is His name?' what shall I say to them?" 14 And God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And He said, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.'" 15 Moreover God said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel: 'The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. This is My name forever, and this is My memorial to all generations.'

e). And so, having made God's purpose known to the Children of Israel Moses is then to confront Pharaoh to demand Israel's release – Ex 3:16 ¶ *"Go and gather the elders of Israel together, and say to them, 'The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob, appeared to me, saying, "I have surely visited you and seen what is done to you in Egypt; 17 "and I have said I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt to the land of the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Amorites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites, to a land flowing with milk and honey.'" 18 "Then they will heed your voice; and you shall come, you and the elders of Israel, to the king of Egypt; and you shall say to him, 'The LORD God of the Hebrews has met with us; and now, please, let us go three days' journey into the wilderness, that we may sacrifice to the LORD our God.'*

f). This is then followed by Pharaoh's refusal to hear and the promise of God's hand stretched out against him as a result, that which we eventually see through the 10 plagues, and the certainty of Israel's deliverance – Ex 3:19 *"But I am sure that the king of Egypt will not let you go, no, not even by a mighty hand. 20 "So I will stretch out My hand and strike Egypt with all My wonders which I will do in its midst; and after that he will let you go.*

g). And finally we see the promise of the wealth of Egypt coming to the Children of Israel, something which of itself points to Israel's firstborn status and the total collapse of Egypt - Ex 3:21 *"And I will give this people favor in the sight of the Egyptians; and it shall be, when you go, that you shall not go empty-handed. 22 "But every woman shall ask of her neighbor, namely, of her who dwells near her house, articles of silver, articles of gold, and clothing; and you shall put them on your sons and on your daughters. So you shall plunder the Egyptians."*

h). This skeleton is then fleshed out, so to speak, in the Chapters of Exodus that follow – and this might remind us of how the events of the Tribulation are given to us through the opening of the first 6 seals on the scroll with the Chapters that follow providing the detail.

i). But what we must know for certain as we look at this skeleton in Exodus Chapter 3 is that this same sequence of events will be fulfilled after the same fashion with respect to Christ and Israel yet future.

4). So then, to return to where we began this morning, we have Israel's repentant cry brought about by the intensity of her persecution, and as we had seen last week and as we have seen from our type in Exodus today, God will respond by sending the One greater than Moses to deliver His people from the persecution of Gentile world power under the Antichrist, who is the antitype of the Assyrian Pharaoh in the days of Moses - *Re 19:11 ¶ Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. 12 His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. 13 He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. 14 And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. 15 Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. 16 And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.*

a). We will note though, because of what we see through the type in foundation in Exodus, that Christ's return to the earth comes before we see the complete devastation of the kingdom of the Antichrist.

b). In Exodus this complete devastation is seen through the 10 plagues brought to pass on the land of Egypt after Moses has returned and in the Book of Revelation this same total devastation, this time on Antichrist's worldwide kingdom, is seen through the final climactic phase of God's judgment which comes from the opening of the 7th seal, with the 7 trumpets and the 7 bowls – and so, following the type, we see Christ's return to the earth is to take place before that seen through the opening of the 7th seal and therefore before the conclusion of the Tribulation, preceding the 75 days that we find at the end of Daniel Chapter 12.

c). We noted last week that the description of Christ in Revelation Chapter 19 shows clearly that the Kingdom is now His and He is returning to claim that which belongs to Him by right – What we see then in the final climactic events that come with the opening of the 7th seal are the enforcement of that right, resulting in the total destruction of Gentile world power for all time.

d). And this is certainly what we see in the type in Exodus – we will remember that in Exodus Chapter 4 God makes the declaration concerning Israel being His firstborn son - *Ex 4:22 "Then you shall say to Pharaoh, 'Thus says the LORD: "Israel is My son, My firstborn. 23 "So I say to you, let My son go that he may serve Me. But if you refuse to let him go, indeed I will kill your son, your firstborn."'"*

From God's perspective then Israel now holds the right to rulership, even though they are still slaves within Egypt and have not gone into the land, when this declaration is made. And that which is then said in v23 can be seen as directed to the god of this world rather than just Pharaoh.

e). Within the present system of rulership Pharaoh can be seen as Satan's 'firstborn', in the sense that he holds the right to rulership under Satan and in effect what God is saying here is that either Satan will acknowledge Israel, thereby relinquishing his control of the earth or God will destroy the power of Egypt.

f). And given what we have seen today with respect to the type in Exodus we must see this incident that is introduced in Chapter 4 as foreshadowing Christ's appearance before Satan and his son, making the same declaration following Christ's return to the earth – and on the occasion of this future encounter there must be the same response with the same outcome, with the difference being that in the future the Lord will destroy Gentile world power and remove Satan as the present ruler of the earth for all time.

g). And I think we can see an allusion to this future encounter in the words that God speaks to Moses in - *Ex 7:1 ¶ So the LORD said to Moses: "See, I have made you as God to Pharaoh, and Aaron your brother shall be your prophet.*

In that future encounter the Lord Jesus Christ is God and Moses will be His prophet – remembering of course from our study of Malachi – that both Moses and Elijah return to the earth with the Lord at the time seen in Revelation Chapter 19.

h). This then will explain to us why we see Christ declared to be King in association with the sounding of the 7th trumpet in - *Re 11:15 Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!"*

With the same thing being seen from a slightly different perspective with the pouring out of the 7th bowl recorded in – *Re 16:17 ¶ Then the seventh angel*

poured out his bowl into the air, and a loud voice came out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, "It is done!"

i). In Exodus Israel is declared to have the right to rule and this happens before the 10 plagues that destroy Pharaoh's kingdom and before the nation entering the land and in Revelation Christ is seen as King of kings and Lord of lords before the final events pictured in the opening of the 7th seal along with the 7 trumpets and 7 bowls that describe the opening of the 7th seal while Israel is still in captivity, not having yet returned to the land.

j). But it is with the opening of the 7th seal that God's plans and purposes will be brought to completion and Gentile world power destroyed.

5). And interestingly enough what we see here at this point in Revelation and the events that lie just beyond it are pictured for us in another of the types that foreshadow the events concerning the destruction of Gentile world power that we find recorded in - *Jos 6:1 ¶ Now Jericho was securely shut up because of the children of Israel; none went out, and none came in. 2 And the LORD said to Joshua: "See! I have given Jericho into your hand, its king, and the mighty men of valor. 3 "You shall march around the city, all you men of war; you shall go all around the city once. This you shall do six days. 4 "And seven priests shall bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark. But the seventh day you shall march around the city seven times, and the priests shall blow the trumpets. 5 "It shall come to pass, when they make a long blast with the ram's horn, and when you hear the sound of the trumpet, that all the people shall shout with a great shout; then the wall of the city will fall down flat. And the people shall go up every man straight before him." 16 And the seventh time it happened, when the priests blew the trumpets, that Joshua said to the people: "Shout, for the LORD has given you the city! 17 ¶ "Now the city shall be doomed by the LORD to destruction, it and all who are in it. Only Rahab the harlot shall live, she and all who are with her in the house, because she hid the messengers that we sent. 18 "And you, by all means abstain from the accursed things, lest you become accursed when you take of the accursed things, and make the camp of Israel a curse, and trouble it. 19 "But all the silver and gold, and vessels of bronze and iron, are consecrated to the LORD; they shall come into the treasury of the LORD." 20 So the people shouted when the priests blew the trumpets. And it happened when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat. Then the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they took the city. 21 And they*

utterly destroyed all that was in the city, both man and woman, young and old, ox and sheep and donkey, with the edge of the sword.

a). The destruction of Jericho is another of the types that show us the destruction of Gentile world power – and the overthrow of Jericho as we see here is associated with 3 sets of 7 – we have 7 days, 7 priests and 7 trumpets.

b). And that seen in the numerical significance of the 3 sets of 7 is the same as that seen in the 7 seals, 7 trumpets and 7 bowls.

c). And it is not coincidental of course that the detail of the collapse of the walls of Jericho with the sounding of the 7 trumpets on the 7th day by the 7 priests corresponds to that which begins in Revelation when the 7th trumpet is sounded.

d). And again, following the original type in Exodus, we see the wealth of Jericho, picturing the wealth of the Gentile nations, passing into ‘the treasury of the Lord’, into the hands of His firstborn son, just as it will in that future day as we have seen prophesied in - *Isa 60:5 Then you shall see and become radiant, And your heart shall swell with joy; Because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you, The wealth of the Gentiles shall come to you.*

e). And again, following the type in Exodus - *Ex 14:27 And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and when the morning appeared, the sea returned to its full depth, while the Egyptians were fleeing into it. So the LORD overthrew the Egyptians in the midst of the sea. 28 Then the waters returned and covered the chariots, the horsemen, and all the army of Pharaoh that came into the sea after them. Not so much as one of them remained.*

We see Jericho utterly destroyed - *21 And they utterly destroyed all that was in the city, both man and woman, young and old, ox and sheep and donkey, with the edge of the sword.*

All looking prophetically to that future day when Gentile world power will be utterly destroyed for all time at what we have come to call the battle of Armageddon - *Re 14:19 So the angel thrust his sickle into the earth and gathered the vine of the earth, and threw it into the great winepress of the wrath of God. 20 And the winepress was trampled outside the city, and blood came out of the winepress, up to the horses' bridles, for one thousand six hundred furlongs.*

f). So then, we can see the complete overthrow of Gentile world power as a progressive event which sees the Gentile kingdom firstly devastated as a result of the pouring out of the judgment of God as seen in the 10 plagues on

Egypt and the opening of the 7th seal with regards to the kingdom of Antichrist and then the total eradication of that kingdom from the face of the earth as a continuation of that judgment, seen in Egypt's destruction in the Red Sea and the destruction of Jericho, fulfilled at Armageddon.

6). Now as we consider this we will realize that there are events that we need to deal with that are to take place beyond that pictured through the 10 plagues but before that pictured through Egypt's destruction in the Red Sea.

a). In the Book of Exodus we find the beginning of this in Chapter 12 – *Ex 12:5 'Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats. 6 'Now you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of the same month. Then the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it at twilight. 7 'And they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and on the lintel of the houses where they eat it.*

It is of course the nation's Passover that takes place before Israel leaves Egypt and therefore before the Red Sea passage.

b). And there is then additional detail added to that in Exodus as recorded in - *Jos 5:2 At that time the LORD said to Joshua, "Make flint knives for yourself, and circumcise the sons of Israel again the second time." 3 So Joshua made flint knives for himself, and circumcised the sons of Israel at the hill of the foreskins. 4 And this is the reason why Joshua circumcised them: All the people who came out of Egypt who were males, all the men of war, had died in the wilderness on the way, after they had come out of Egypt. 5 For all the people who came out had been circumcised, but all the people born in the wilderness, on the way as they came out of Egypt, had not been circumcised. 6 For the children of Israel walked forty years in the wilderness, till all the people who were men of war, who came out of Egypt, were consumed, because they did not obey the voice of the LORD-to whom the LORD swore that He would not show them the land which the LORD had sworn to their fathers that He would give us, "a land flowing with milk and honey." 7 Then Joshua circumcised their sons whom He raised up in their place; for they were uncircumcised, because they had not been circumcised on the way. 8 So it was, when they had finished circumcising all the people, that they stayed in their places in the camp till they were healed. 9 Then the LORD said to Joshua, "This day I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from you." Therefore the name of the place is called Gilgal to this day. 10 ¶ Now the children of Israel camped in Gilgal, and kept the Passover on the fourteenth day of the month at twilight on the plains of Jericho.*

c). But this will have to wait until next time – if the Lord is willing.

