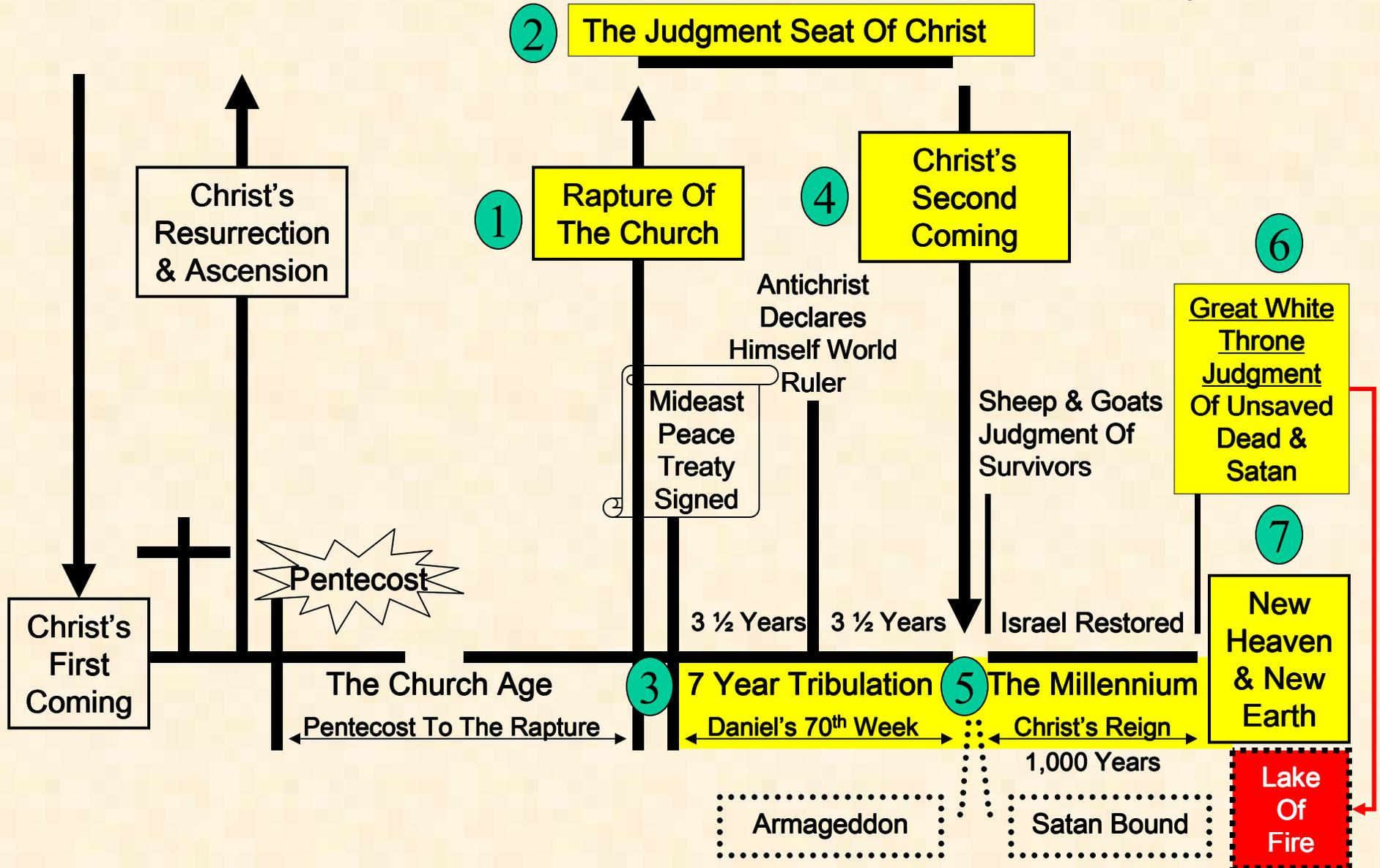


Order Of Events In Bible Prophecy



The Judgment Seat Of Christ

- ILL: Farmer
- Scripture reveals that all people, whether believers or unbelievers, are accountable to God.
- There is a time of judgment for every person. However, there is no “Great Judgment Day.”
- A number of different judgments will take place at different times in the future.

The Judgment Seat Of Christ

THE ONE WHO JUDGES

- All judgment has been given to the Son of God, and all those who do not come to Him will have to face Him as their judge.
- John 5:22 (NKJV) **For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son, that all should honor the Son just as they honor the Father.**
- John 5:26-27 (NKJV) **For as the Father has life in Himself, so He has granted the Son to have life in Himself, and has given Him authority to execute judgment also, because He is the Son of Man.**

The Judgment Seat Of Christ

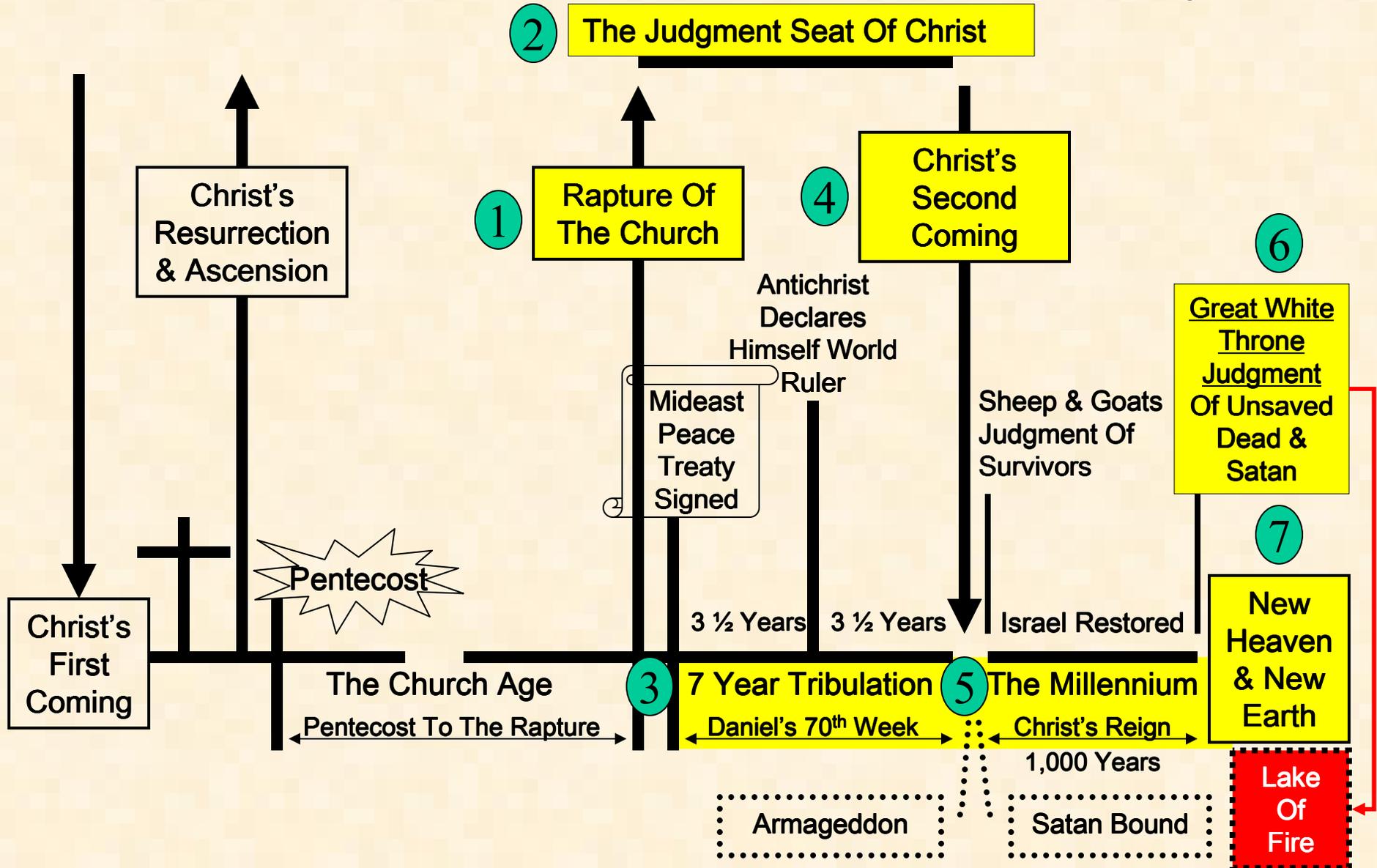
THE ONE WHO JUDGES

- His judgments will be just and fair.
- John 5:30 (NKJV) **I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me.**
- When people stand before Him, they will not be able to manipulate, deceive or bribe Him.
- When a person stands before the Lord, it is not to determine that person's eternal destiny. That is settled during that person's life.

The Judgment Seat Of Christ

- There will actually be three groups of judgments:
 1. The judgment at the rapture
 2. The judgments at the 2nd Coming
 3. Judgments after the millennial kingdom
- Tonight, we are going to be looking at the judgment at the rapture.
- Immediately after the church is removed from the world at the Rapture, the “judgment seat of Christ” will take place.

Order Of Events In Bible Prophecy



The Judgment Seat Of Christ

- Key passages on the Judgment Seat of Christ
- 2 Corinthians 5:9-10
- 1 Corinthians 3:10-4:5
- Romans 14:10-12

The Judgment Seat Of Christ

WHAT IS THIS JUDGMENT SEAT?

- **2 Corinthians 5:9-10 (NKJV)** Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him. **For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ**, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

The Judgment Seat Of Christ

WHAT IS THIS JUDGMENT SEAT?

- The Greek word *bema* was a seat or raised platform where a judge sat as he made his decision regarding a case. The word was also used in connection with the platform on which the umpire or referee sat during the Olympic or Isthmian games at Corinth. This was a place where the winners of the various events received their rewards.
- Paul seems to have this idea of reward in mind as he speaks of the “*bema seat of Christ.*” It is actually a place of rewarding and not punishing.

The Judgment Seat Of Christ

WHEN WILL THIS JUDGMENT OCCUR?

- The fact that the Lord rewards His servants in connection with His coming indicates that the judgment will take place shortly after the Rapture.
- **1 Corinthians 4:5 (NKJV)** Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord comes, who will both bring to light the hidden things of darkness and reveal the counsels of the hearts. Then each one's praise will come from God.
- **Revelation 22:12 (NKJV)** “And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work.

The Judgment Seat Of Christ

WHEN WILL THIS JUDGMENT OCCUR?

- The Lord taught that rewarding takes place at the time of resurrection, which is an important part of the Rapture.
- Luke 14:13-14 (NKJV) **But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you; for you shall be repaid at the resurrection of the just.**”

The Judgment Seat Of Christ

WHEN WILL THIS JUDGMENT OCCUR?

- Also, when the Lord returns to the earth at His second coming with His bride, the church, the bride is already rewarded.
- **Revelation 19:7-8 (NKJV)** Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, **for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready.” And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.**
- This places the rewarding in the heavenlies after the Rapture, but before the 2nd Coming.

The Judgment Seat Of Christ

WHO WILL BE PRESENT AT THIS JUDGMENT?

- This judgment involves the same people who were involved in the Rapture, namely, believers from the Church Age.
- In contexts where the judgment seat of Christ is discussed, it is believers who are being encouraged and exhorted.

The Judgment Seat Of Christ

WHO WILL BE PRESENT AT THIS JUDGMENT?

- **Romans 14:10-12 (NKJV)** But why do you judge **your brother**? Or why do you show contempt for **your brother**? For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ. For it is written: “As I live, says the Lord, Every knee shall bow to Me, And every tongue shall confess to God.” **So then each of us shall give account of himself to God.**

The Judgment Seat Of Christ

WHO WILL BE PRESENT AT THIS JUDGMENT?

- **2 Corinthians 5:9-10 (NKJV)** Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

The Judgment Seat Of Christ

WHO WILL BE PRESENT AT THIS JUDGMENT?

- **1 Corinthians 3:10-14 (NKJV)** According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder **I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it.** For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. **If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward.**

The Judgment Seat Of Christ

WHO WILL BE PRESENT AT THIS JUDGMENT?

- It is those who have built on the foundation of Jesus Christ who will be participants in the “judgment seat of Christ.” This clearly is a reference to Church Age believers.
- This would mean that unsaved people are not a part of this judgment AND that OT saints will not participate.

The Judgment Seat Of Christ

WHAT IS THE BASIS FOR EVALUATION?

- The believer's works will be examined by the Lord Jesus to determine if rewards will be given.
- **1 Corinthians 3:10-15 (NKJV)** According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.

The Judgment Seat Of Christ

WHAT IS THE BASIS FOR EVALUATION?

- His evaluation will be based on several factors:
- **FIRST** – How well have our lives and ministry lined up with the Word of God. He will not evaluate us on the basis of our experiences or traditions, but on His revealed truth.
- **SECOND** – How faithful we have been as stewards of all that He has entrusted to us.

1 Corinthians 4:2 (NKJV) Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful.

The Judgment Seat Of Christ

WHAT IS THE BASIS FOR EVALUATION?

- **THIRD** – Our motives.

1 Corinthians 4:3-5 (NKJV) But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by a human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself. For I know of nothing against myself, yet I am not justified by this; but He who judges me is the Lord. Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord comes, who will both bring to light the hidden things of darkness and reveal the counsels of the hearts. Then each one's praise will come from God.

The Judgment Seat Of Christ

WHAT IS THE RESULT OF THE REWARDING?

- Negatively, there will be a loss of reward AND a sense of shame.
- **1 Corinthians 3:15 (NKJV)** If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.
- **1 John 2:28 (NKJV)** And now, little children, abide in Him, that when He appears, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming.

The Judgment Seat Of Christ

WHAT IS THE RESULT OF THE REWARDING?

- There are many positive results.
- Divine commendation and opportunity to serve Christ in greater ways in His future kingdom.

Matthew 25:20-21 (NKJV) “So he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, ‘Lord, you delivered to me five talents; look, I have gained five more talents besides them.’ His lord said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.’ (likewise, the one who received two talents)

The Judgment Seat Of Christ

WHAT IS THE RESULT OF THE REWARDING?

- Obtain a variety of crowns. The NT speaks of five crowns.
- 1. The Crown of LIFE – this is the martyr’s crown, and it is mentioned twice.

James 1:12 (NKJV) Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.

Revelation 2:10 (NKJV) Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.

The Judgment Seat Of Christ

WHAT IS THE RESULT OF THE REWARDING?

- **2. The Crown of GLORY** – This is the Elder's or Pastor's crown, given by the Chief Shepherd when He appears.

1 Peter 5:2-4 (NKJV) Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock; and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away.

The Judgment Seat Of Christ

WHAT IS THE RESULT OF THE REWARDING?

- **3. The Crown of REJOICING** – This is the soul winner’s crown. Those brought to Jesus by us will be our “crown of rejoicing” at His coming.

1 Thessalonians 2:19-20 (NKJV) For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Is it not even you in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming? For you are our glory and joy.

Philippians 4:1 (NKJV) Therefore, my beloved and longed-for brethren, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, beloved.

The Judgment Seat Of Christ

WHAT IS THE RESULT OF THE REWARDING?

- 4. The Crown of RIGHTEOUSNESS – This is the crown of those who “love His appearing” and will be given in “that day” – i.e., the Day of His Appearing.
2 Timothy 4:8 (NKJV) Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.

The Judgment Seat Of Christ

WHAT IS THE RESULT OF THE REWARDING?

- **5. The Crown IMPERISHABLE** – This is the victor's crown and is for those who do not yield to their fleshly lusts; who do not permit themselves to be diverted from the Master's work by worldly amusements and pleasure.

The Judgment Seat Of Christ

WHAT IS THE RESULT OF THE REWARDING?

- **1 Corinthians 9:24-27 (NKJV)** Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it. And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown. Therefore I run thus: not with uncertainty. Thus I fight: not as one who beats the air. But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified.

The Judgment Seat Of Christ

WHAT IS THE RESULT OF THE REWARDING?

- These crowns will be used to worship the Lord.
- **Revelation 4:9-11 (NKJV)** *Whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne and worship Him who lives forever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying: “You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were created.”*

The Judgment Seat Of Christ

WHAT PLACE DOES SIN HAVE?

- Jesus' death fully paid the penalty of sin so that we will NEVER face the judgment of God that results in banishment forever from His presence.
- **Romans 8:1 (NKJV)** There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus!
- **John 5:24 (NASB95)** “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life.

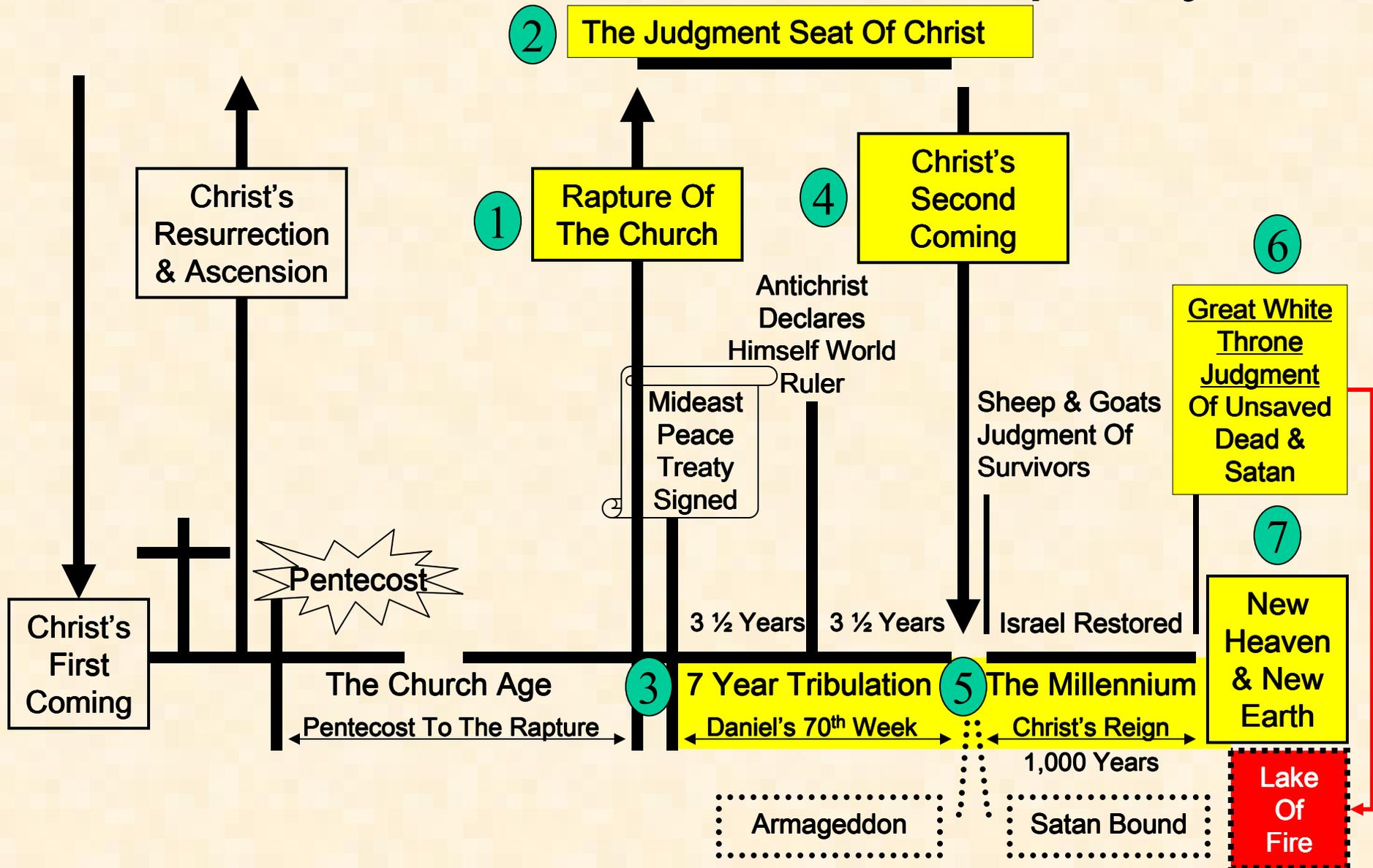
The Marriage Of The Lamb

- The marriage of the Lamb comes after “His wife has made herself ready” – surely a reference to the judgment seat of Christ.
- **Revelation 19:6-8 (NKJV)** *And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunderings, saying, “Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns! Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready.”* And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.

The Marriage Of The Lamb

- **Revelation 19:9-10 (NKJV)** Then he said to me, “Write: ‘Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!’” And he said to me, “These are the true sayings of God.” And I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, “See that you do not do that! I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren who have the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.”

Order Of Events In Bible Prophecy



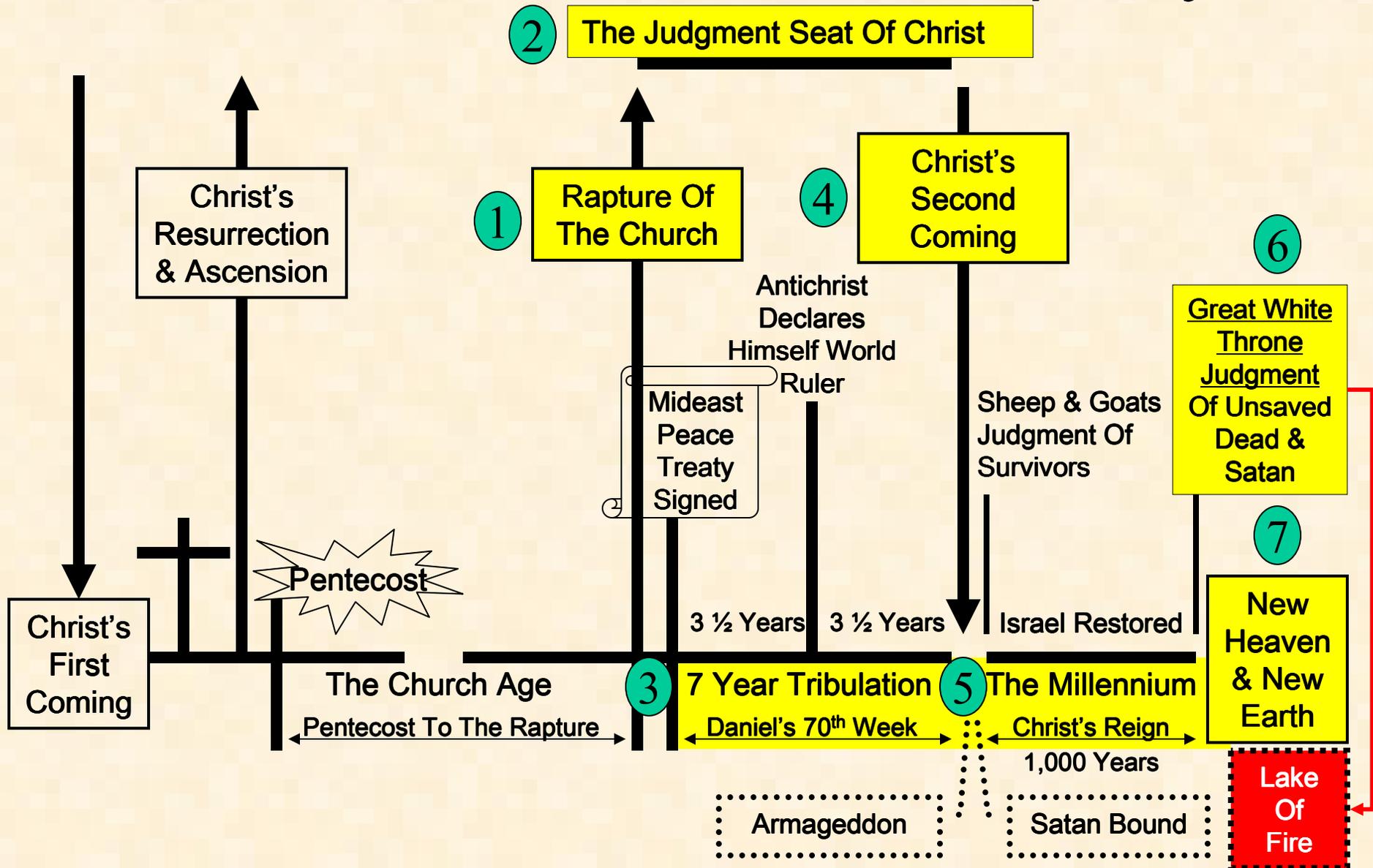
The 2nd Coming Of Christ

- **Revelation 19:11-14 (NKJV)** 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. 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. He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses.

The 2nd Coming Of Christ

- **Revelation 19:15-16 (NKJV)** 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. And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

Order Of Events In Bible Prophecy



Application To Our Life

- If you are a believer in Christ . . .
- What kind of materials are you using to build your life on the foundation of Christ?

1 Corinthians 3:9-10 (NKJV) For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, you are God's building. According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it.

Application To Our Life

- **1 Corinthians 3:12-15 (NKJV)** Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.
- Are you building with wood, hay and straw?
- Are you building with gold, silver and precious stones?

Application To Our Life

- What crowns will you have to worship the Lord with?
- **The Crown of Life** – the martyr's crown
- **The Crown of Glory** – the Elder's crown
- **The Crown of Rejoicing** – the soul winner's crown
- **The Crown of Righteousness** – the crown for those who love His appearing
- **The Crown Imperishable** – the victor's crown for those who do not yield to fleshly lusts
- What measure of responsibilities will you have during the Millennial reign of Christ?

Application To Our Life

How are you using the
time, talents, temple, treasuries and truth
that God has entrusted to you?

REMEMBER

As a believer, you will come before
THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST

Are you ready for the rapture?