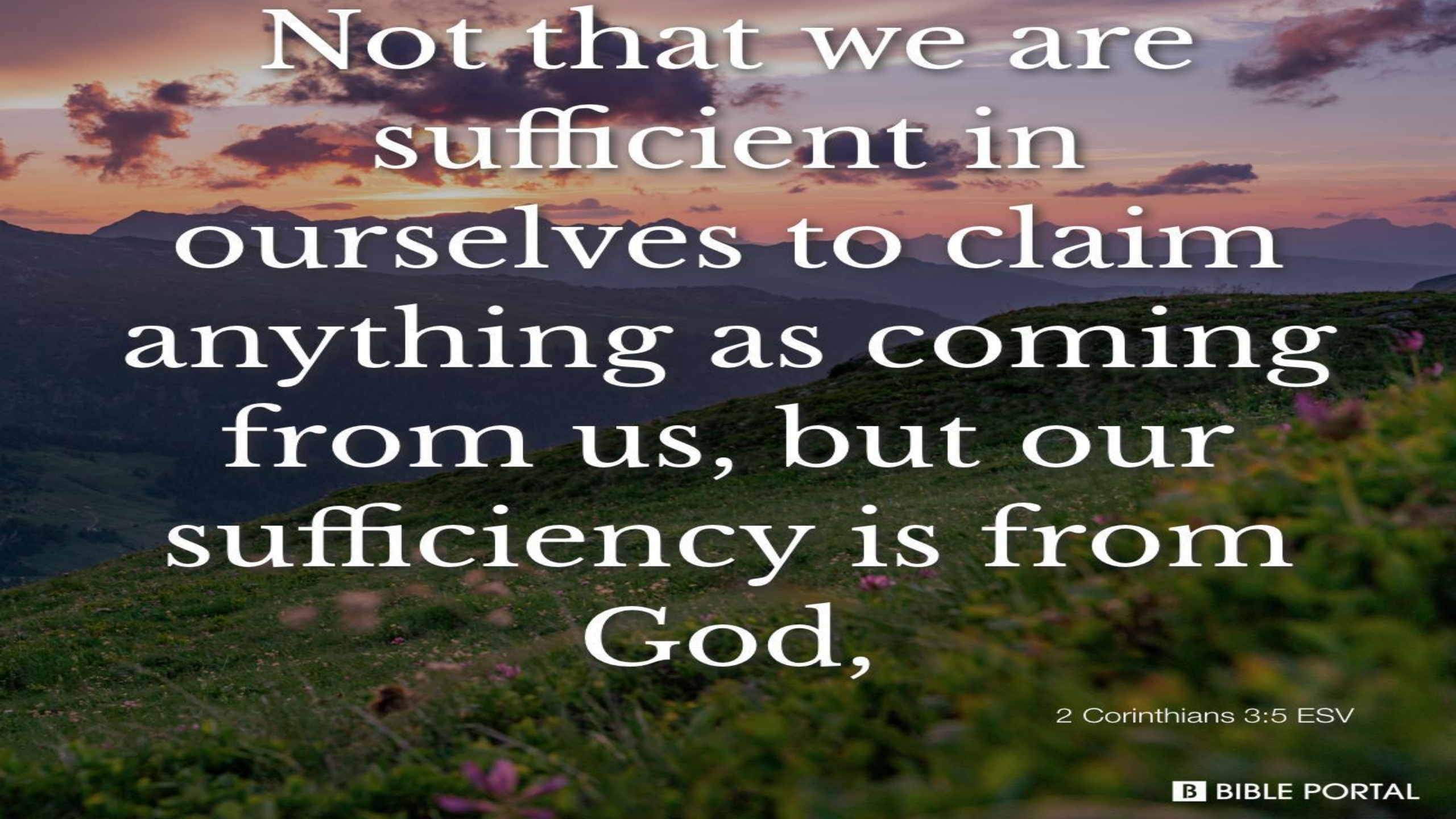


Dr. Dennis Rokser - Grace for the Race Ministries -
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1 Corinthians 15:10 But by **the grace of God** I am what I am, and **His grace** toward me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but **the grace of God** which was with me.





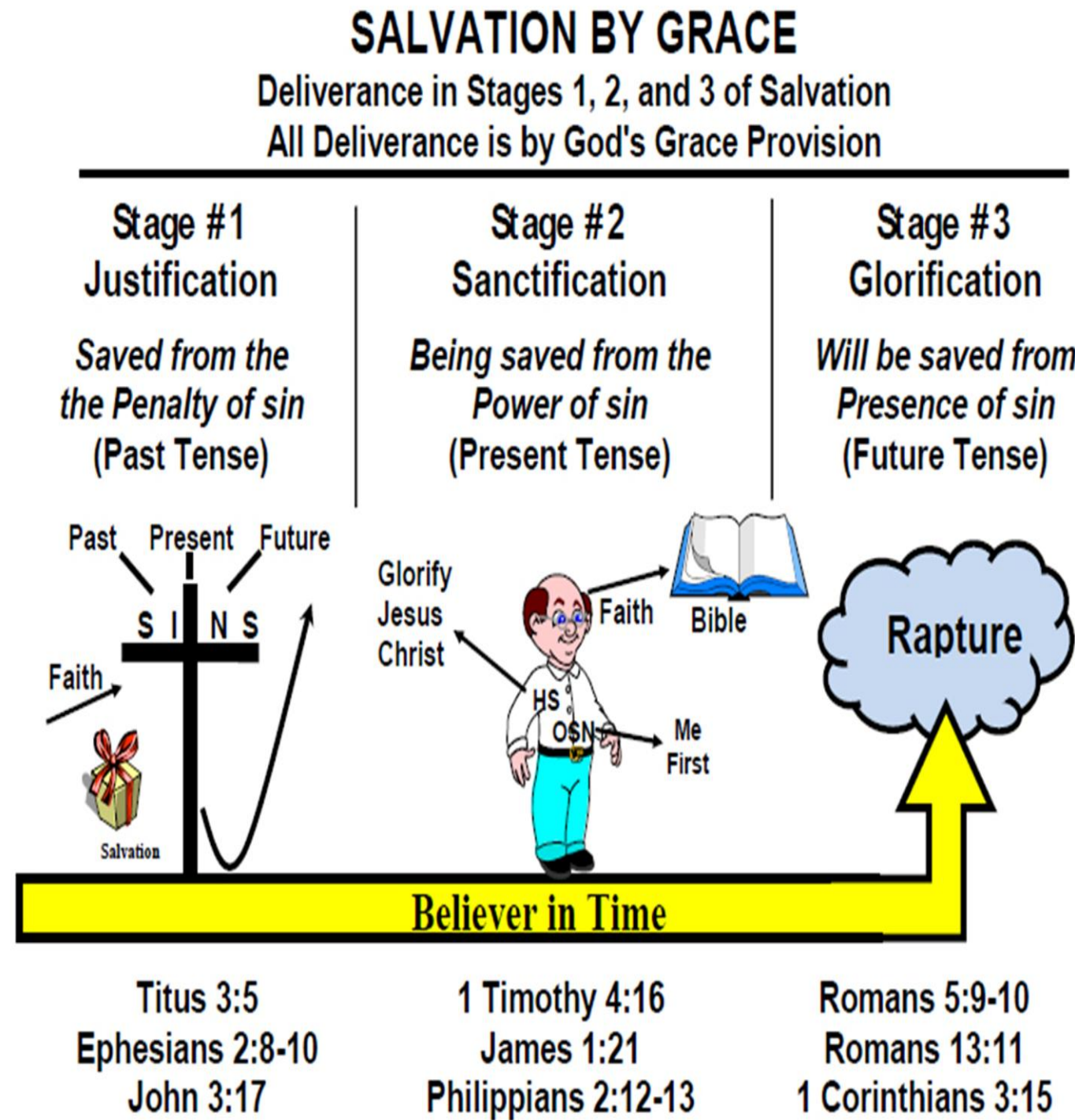
Not that we are
sufficient in
ourselves to claim
anything as coming
from us, but our
sufficiency is from
God,

2 Corinthians 3:5 ESV

Clarifying the Confusion on the 3 Tenses / Phases of Salvation

Dr Dennis Rokser
Grace for the Race
Ministries

www.gracefortheraceministries



Are You Saved?

If you have trusted in Jesus Christ alone for your eternal salvation, you should be able to answer...

I *have been saved* {past tense} from *sin's penalty* ...

I *am being saved* {present tense} from *sin's power* ...

I *will be saved* {future tense} from *sin's presence*... only by God's grace.

Titus 3:5 not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy **He saved us {PAST TENSE},**

1 Timothy 4:16 Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this **you will save both yourself and those who hear you. {IN THE PRESENT}**

Romans 13:11 And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; **for now our salvation is nearer {IN THE FUTURE}** than when we first believed.

“Study to shew thyself approved unto God,
a workman that needeth not to be ashamed,
rightly dividing the word of truth.”

~2 Timothy 2:15



**"THEY RECEIVED THE WORD WITH ALL
EAGERNESS, EXAMINING THE SCRIPTURES
DAILY TO SEE IF THESE THINGS WERE SO"**

ACTS 17:11



SALVATION BY GRACE

Deliverance in Stages 1, 2, and 3 of Salvation
All Deliverance is by God's Grace Provision

Stage #1 Justification

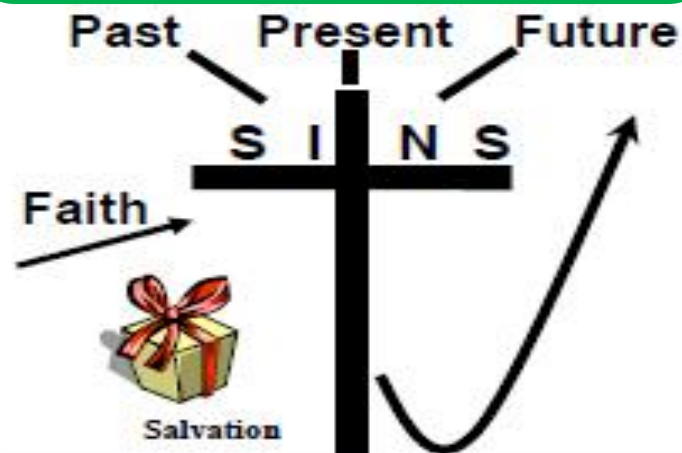
*Saved from the
the Penalty of sin
(Past Tense)*

Stage #2 Sanctification

*Being saved from the
Power of sin
(Present Tense)*

Stage #3 Glorification

*Will be saved from
Presence of sin
(Future Tense)*



Glorify
Jesus
Christ



Faith



Bible

Me
First



Believer in Time

Titus 3:5
Ephesians 2:8-10
John 3:17

1 Timothy 4:16
James 1:21
Philippians 2:12-13

Romans 5:9-10
Romans 13:11
1 Corinthians 3:15

These things I have written to
you who believe in the name of
the Son of God, so that you may
know that you have eternal life.

1 John 5:13a

A. The DEFINITION of ‘SALVATION’.

- 1. The biblical words translated “saved”, “save”, salvation”, etc. carries the idea of DELIVERANCE, SAFETY, RESCUE, PRESERVATION, RELEASE, VICTORY.**
- 2. The concept of salvation is found over 600 times in the Bible.**

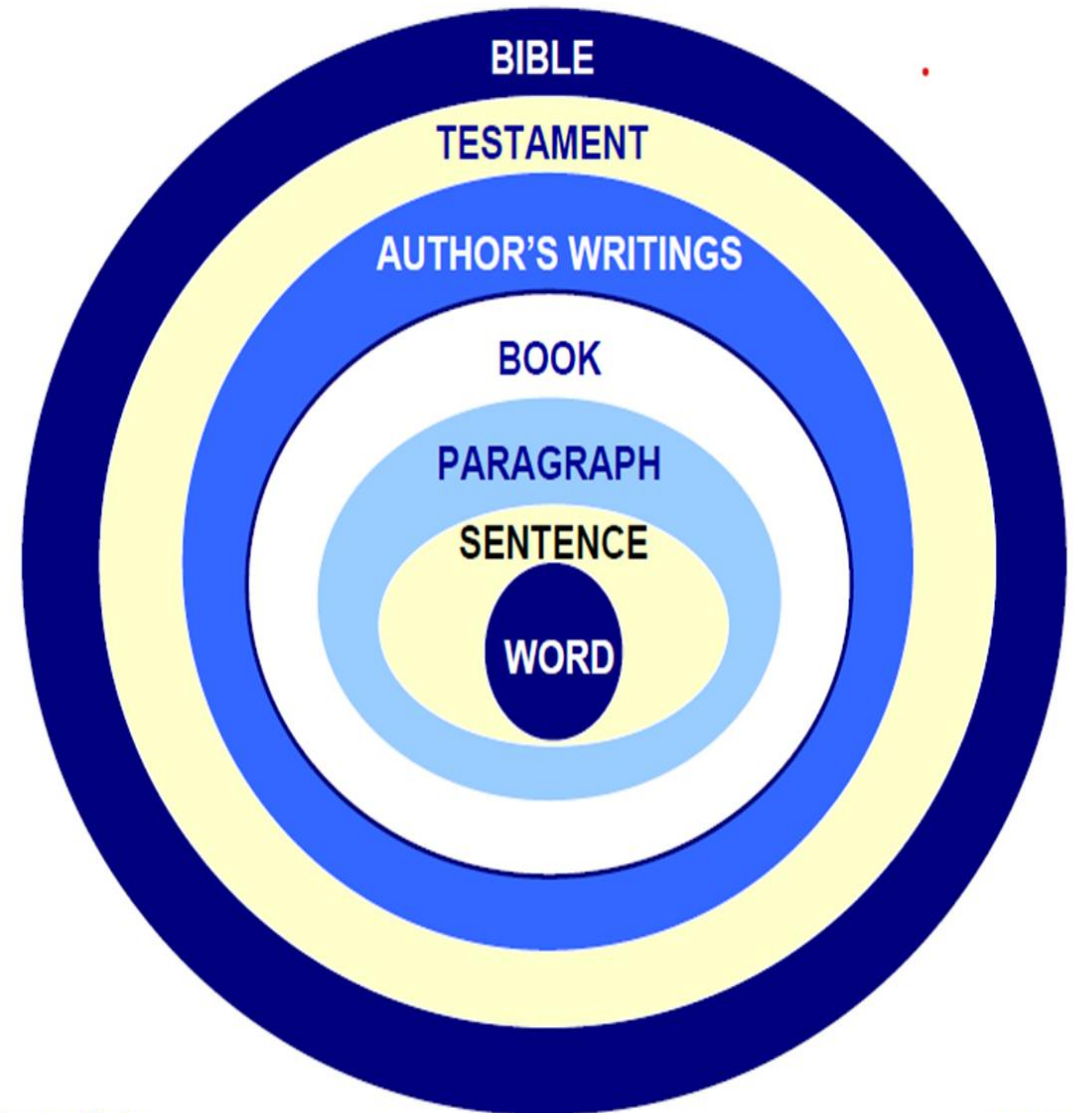


“salvation” – 162 x; “save” – 160 x; “saves” – 6 x;
“saved” – 101x; “saving” – 6x; “Savior” – 36x;
“saviors” – 1x; “rescue” – 11x; “rescued” – 4x;
“rescues” – 1x; “preserve” – 35x;
“preserved” – 16x “preserves” – 8x;
“release” – 30x; “released” – 20x
“releasing” – 3x; “safety” – 19x

- What determines the actual or nuance of meaning in each case or passage?

**CONTEXT!
CONTEXT!
CONTEXT!**

The Concentric Circles of Context



A. The DEFINITION of 'SALVATION'.

B. Two DISTINCT FORMS of 'SALVATION'.

1. In the Old Testament, the primary usage of salvation is predominately a PHYSICAL deliverance from PHYSICAL danger, one's PHYSICAL enemies, one's troubles, or even PHYSICAL death.

Genesis 45:7

"And God sent me before you **to preserve a posterity** {physically} for you in the earth, and **to save** {physically} **your lives** by a great deliverance.

Genesis 50:20

"But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, **to save** {physically} **many people alive**.

Deuteronomy 20:4

'for the LORD your God is He who goes with you, to fight for you **against your enemies, to save you** {physically} .'

Psalms 34:6 This poor man cried out, and the Lord heard him, And **saved him {physically} out of all his troubles.**

Psalms 44:7 But **You have saved us {physically} from our enemies,** And have put to shame those who hated us.

Psalms 106:10 He **saved them {physically} from the hand of him who hated them,** And redeemed them from the hand of the enemy.

Psalms 107:19 Then they cried out to the Lord in their trouble, And **He saved them out {physically} of their distresses.**

While this **emphasis** on **physical salvation** as repeatedly taught in the **Old Testament** does **not** remain in the **New Testament**, the New Testament does **at times** still employ this usage of **physical salvation** in a few places.

Matthew 8:24-25

And suddenly a great tempest arose on the sea, so that the boat was covered with the waves. But He was asleep. Then His disciples came to Him and awoke Him, saying, "**Lord, save us {physically} ! We are perishing {physically} !**"

Matthew 27:40

and saying, "You who destroy the temple and build it in three days, **save Yourself {physically} ! If You are the Son of God, come down from the cross.**"

Acts 27:31

Paul said to the centurion and the soldiers, "Unless these men **stay in the ship, you cannot be saved {physically} .**"

A. The DEFINITION of ‘SALVATION’.

B. Two DISTINCT FORMS of ‘SALVATION’.

1. In the Old Testament, the primary usage of salvation is predominately a PHYSICAL deliverance from PHYSICAL danger, one’s PHYSICAL enemies, one’s troubles, or even PHYSICAL death.
2. In the New Testament, the predominate usage of salvation has a SPIRITUAL salvation in view, especially in light of the fact that Jesus Christ came “to SEEK and to SAVE that which is LOST.”(Luke 19:10)

**Whenever you see the word
“saved”, ask yourself
3 questions:**

- 1) WHO is to be saved?**
- 2) What KIND of salvation is being addressed?**
- 3) “Saved from WHAT?”**

SALVATION BY GRACE

Deliverance in Stages 1, 2, and 3 of Salvation
All Deliverance is by God's Grace Provision

Stage #1 Justification

*Saved from the
the Penalty of sin
(Past Tense)*



Titus 3:5
Ephesians 2:8-10
John 3:17

Stage #2 Sanctification

*Being saved from the
Power of sin
(Present Tense)*



Believer in Time

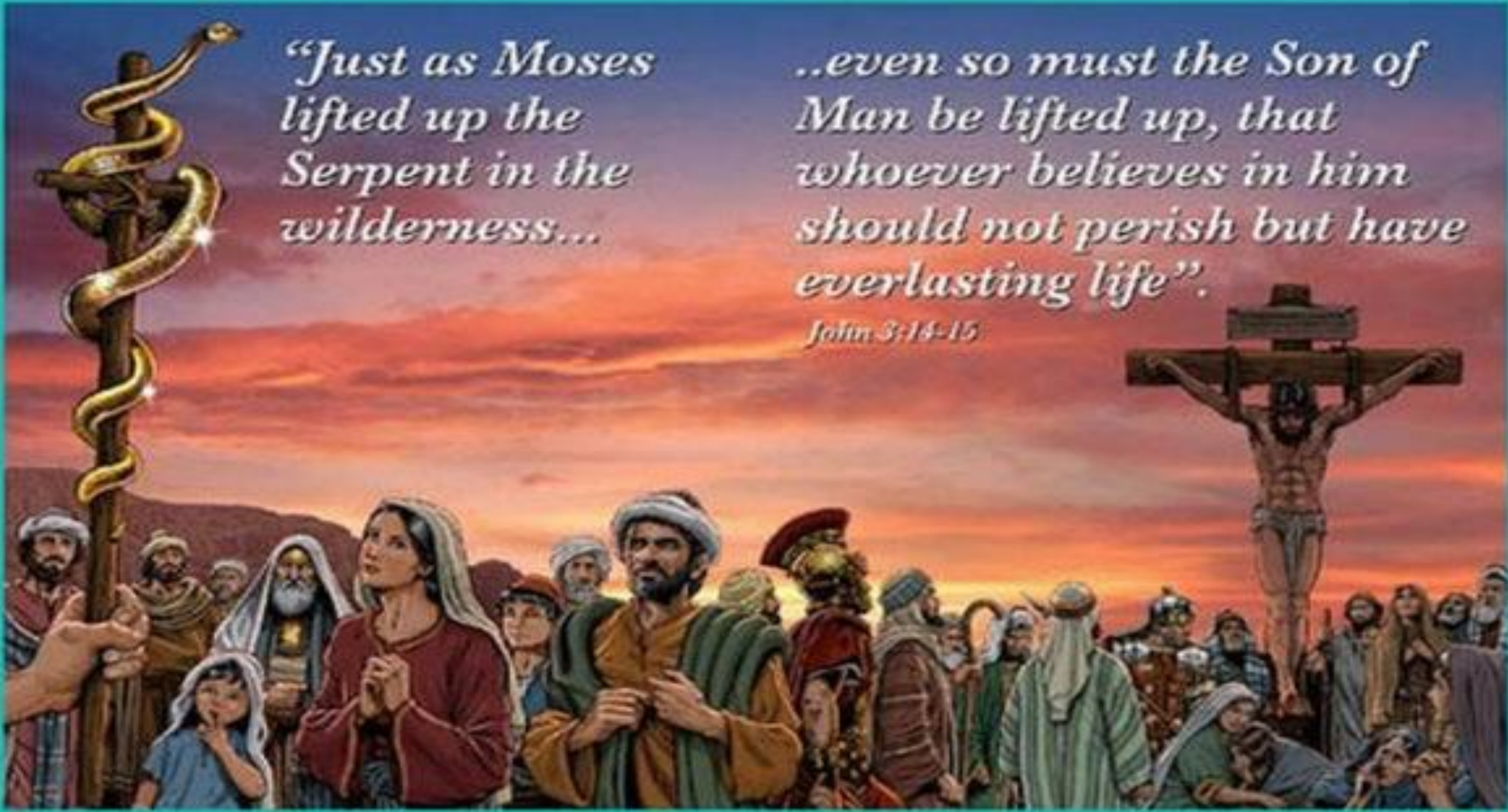
1 Timothy 4:16
James 1:21
Philippians 2:12-13

Stage #3 Glorification

*Will be saved from
Presence of sin
(Future Tense)*



Romans 5:9-10
Romans 13:11
1 Corinthians 3:15



*"Just as Moses
lifted up the
Serpent in the
wilderness..."*

*..even so must the Son of
Man be lifted up, that
whoever believes in him
should not perish but have
everlasting life".*

John 3:14-15

John 3:16-18

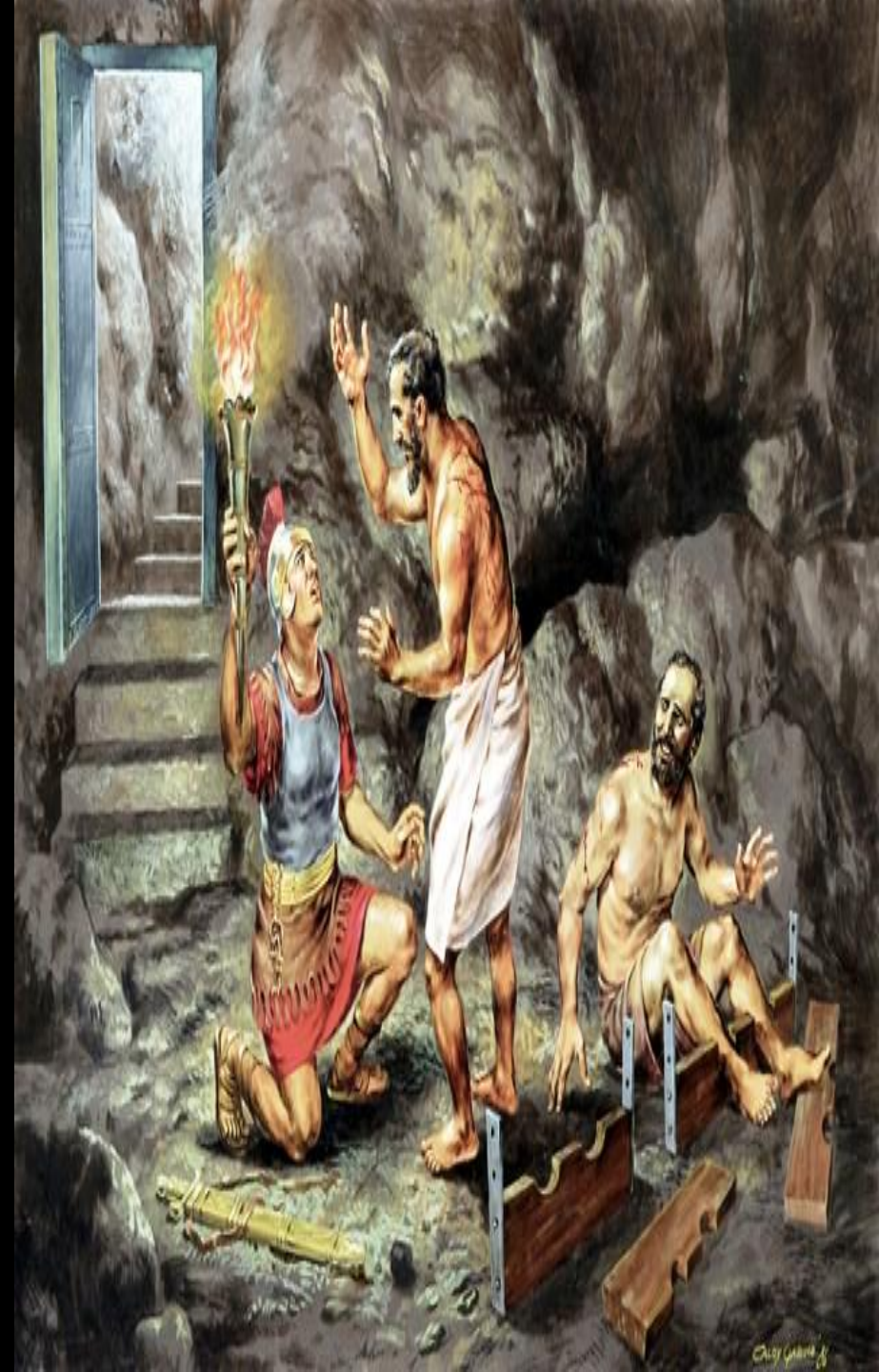
"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that **whoever believes in Him** should not perish but have everlasting life.

17 "For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, **but that the world through Him might be saved** {spiritually}.

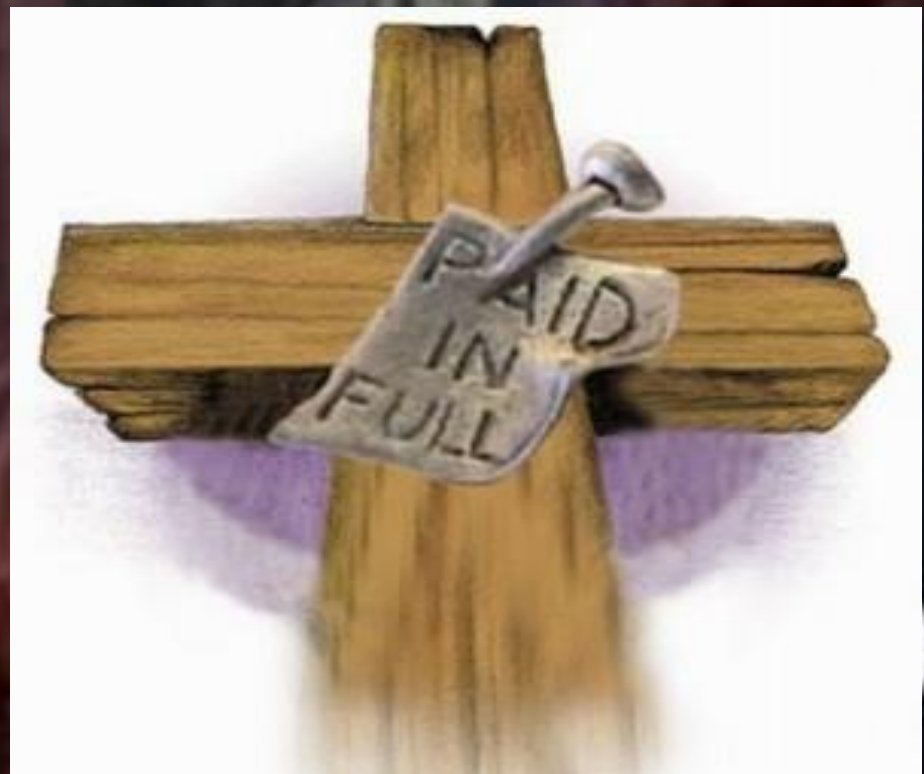
18 "He **who believes in Him** is not condemned; but **he who does not believe is condemned already**, because {WHY?} he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

Acts 16:30-32

And he brought them out and said, "Sirs, **what must I do to be saved** {spiritually}?" 31 So they said, "**Believe** {the one condition -- aorist, active, imperative of pisteuo – to choose to trust or rely on} **on** {epi – resting upon} **the Lord Jesus Christ**, {the one object of faith} **and you will be saved** {spiritually - future, passive, indicative}..." 32 Then they spoke the word of the Lord (the Gospel) to him and all who were in his house.







JOHN 19:30

Religion says...

Jesus Christ did 90%



You must
do 10%



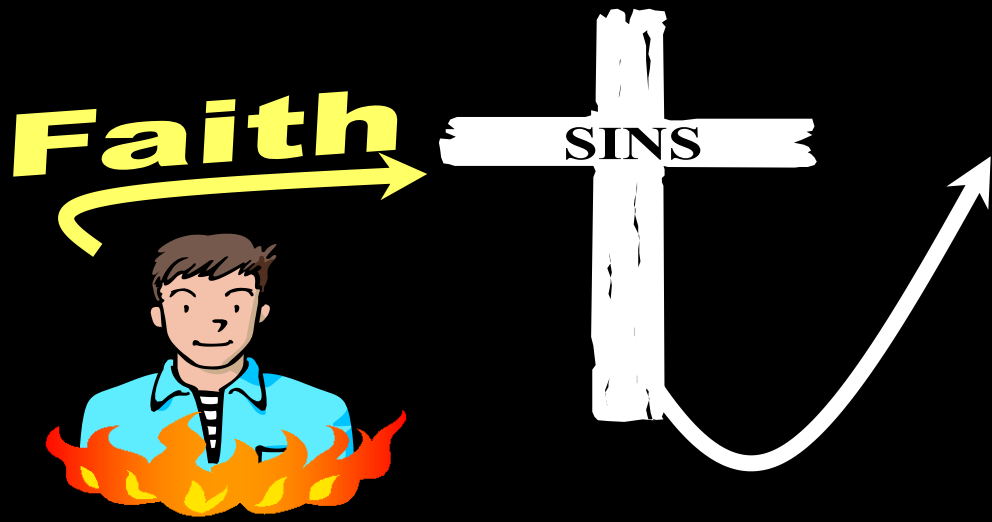
This is salvation by works.

God says...

Jesus Christ did 100%



This is salvation by God's grace.



For by grace you have been saved
through **faith**...



and that
not of yourselves...

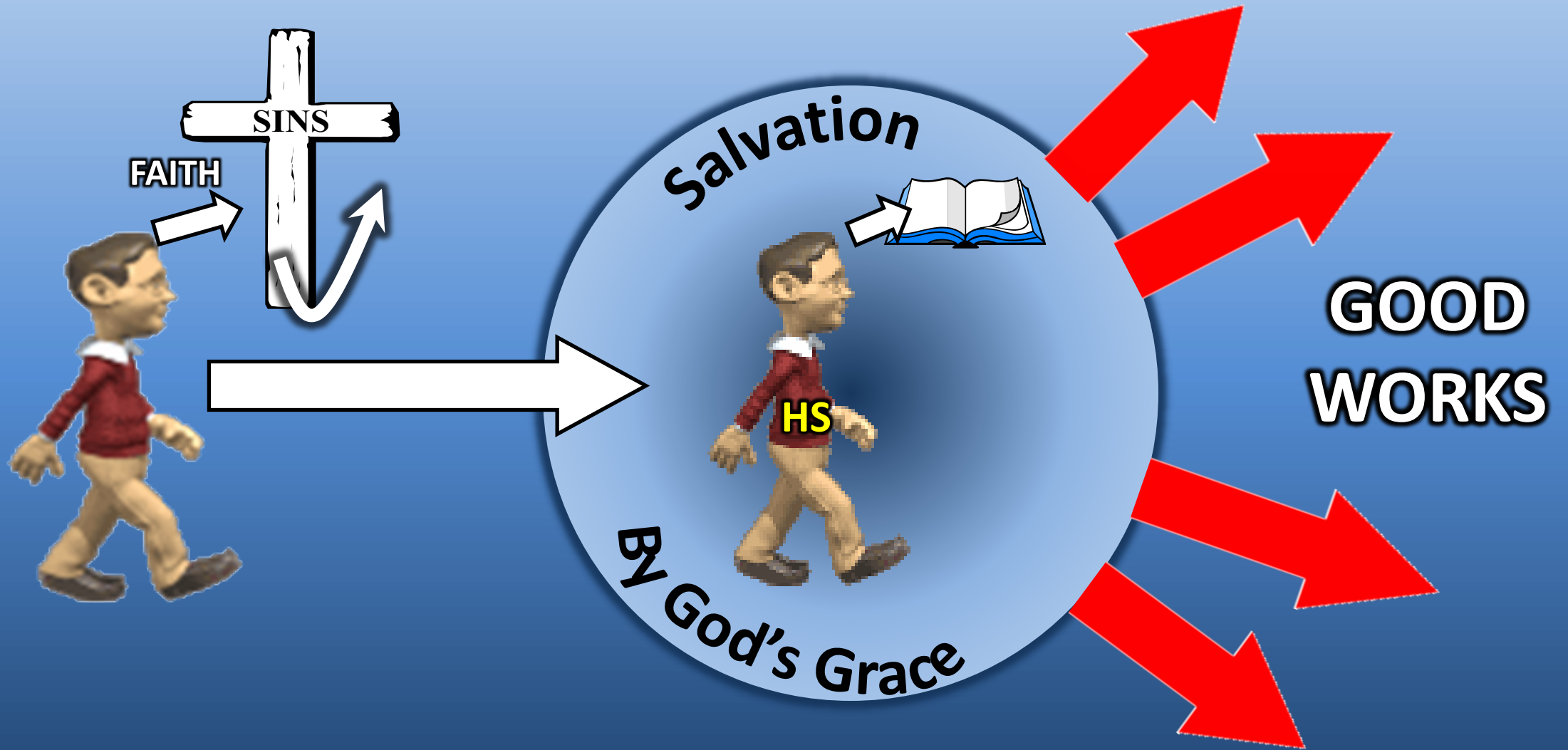


it is the **gift** of God...



not of works,
lest anyone should boast.

The Proper Place of Good Works



**For the unbeliever, salvation is always
in what tense?**

FUTURE!!!

**until they trust in Christ alone, and then
it is in the **past tense**.**

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Stage #1 Justification

*Saved from the
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Stage #2 Sanctification

*Being saved from the
Power of sin
(Present Tense)*



Stage #3 Glorification

*Will be saved from
Presence of sin
(Future Tense)*



Believer in Time

Titus 3:5
Ephesians 2:8-10
John 3:17

1 Timothy 4:16
James 1:21
Philippians 2:12-13

Romans 5:9-10
Romans 13:11
1 Corinthians 3:15

1 Timothy 4:16

Take heed to yourself {Timothy – was already a believer in Christ and saved from sin's penalty} and to the doctrine {grace doctrine from the WOG}. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save {spiritually} both yourself and those who hear you.

{“Save” from what? the *power* of sin in your life through the application of the WOG; practical sanctification}

Philippians 2:12-13

12 Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out (not “for”) your own salvation with fear and trembling; 13 for it is God who works in you both to will (new nature) and to do (the Holy Spirit) for His good pleasure.

WHO is to be saved?

What **KIND** of salvation is being addressed?

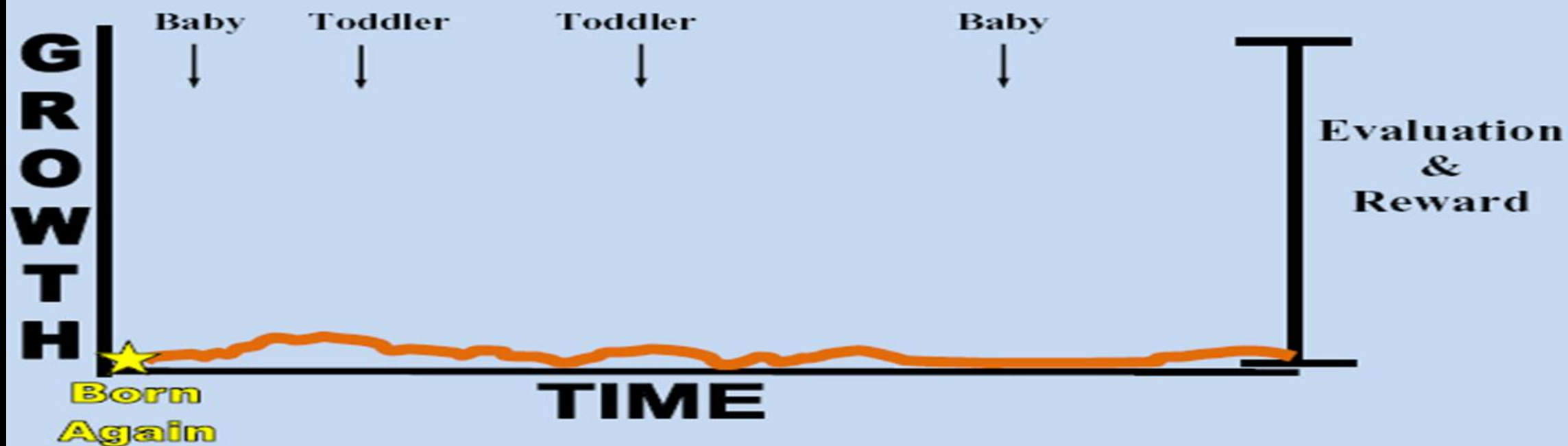
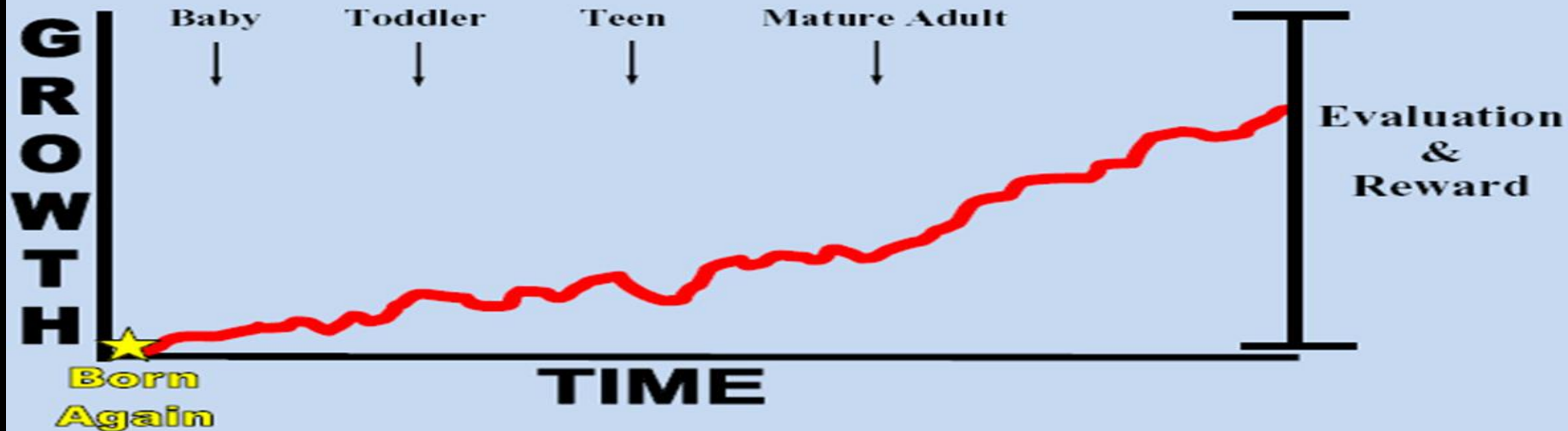
“Saved from **WHAT**?”

James 1:19-21

So then, **my beloved brethren** {WHO is to be saved?}, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath; 20 for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God. 21 Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and **receive with meekness the implanted word,** **which is able to save** {spiritually} **your souls.**

{ “Save” from what? **the power or damaging effects of sin in your life; practical sanctification!** }

And I give them eternal life, and
they shall never perish; neither
shall anyone snatch them
out of My hand

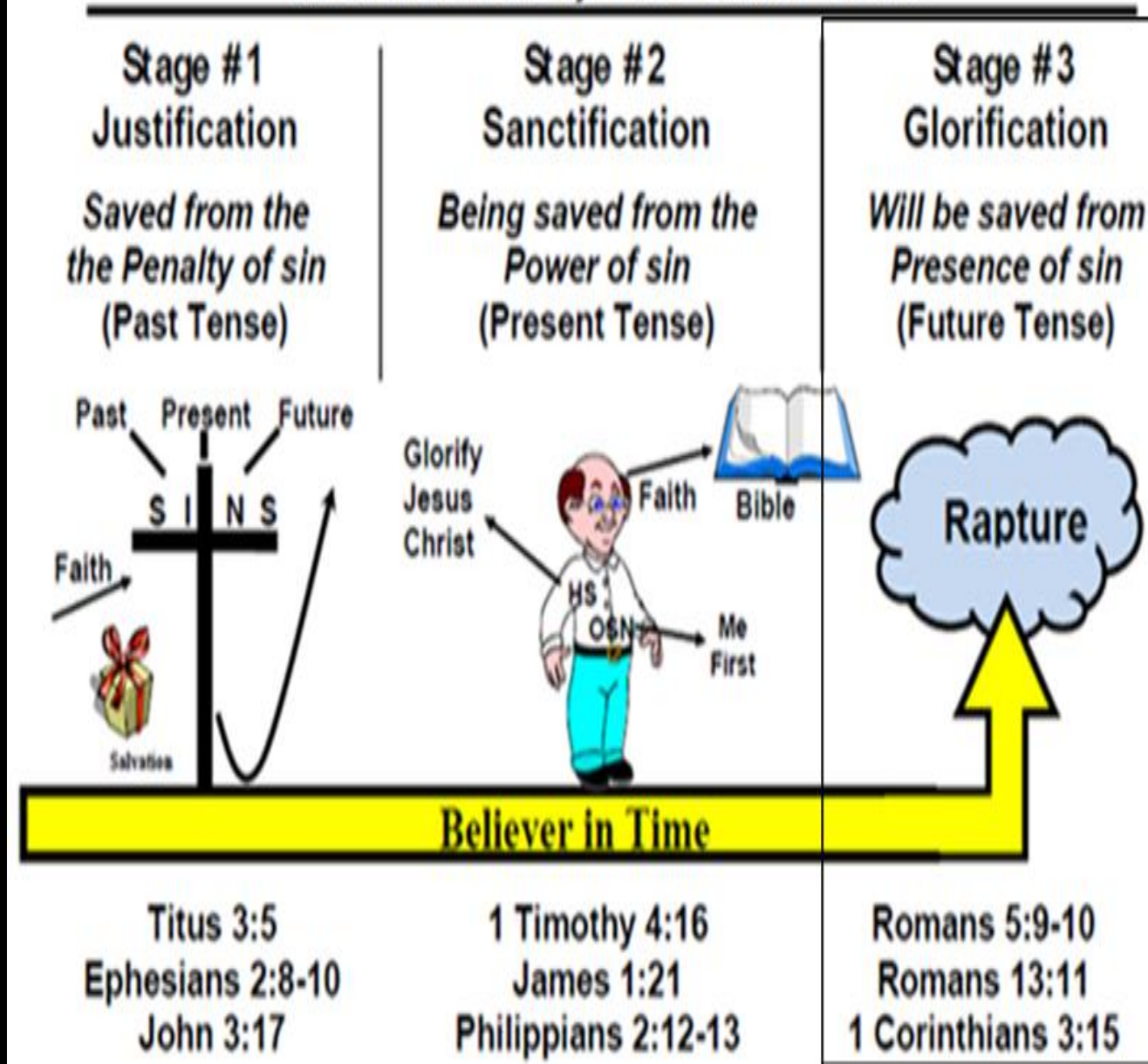


Romans 13:11

And do this {in the present}, knowing the time, that now {in the present} it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now {in the present} our {future} salvation is nearer than when we first believed {in the past}.

SALVATION BY GRACE

Deliverance in Stages 1, 2, and 3 of Salvation
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1 Cor. 3:1-4

And I, **brethren**, could not speak to you as to spiritual people but as to **carnal**, as to babes **in Christ**.

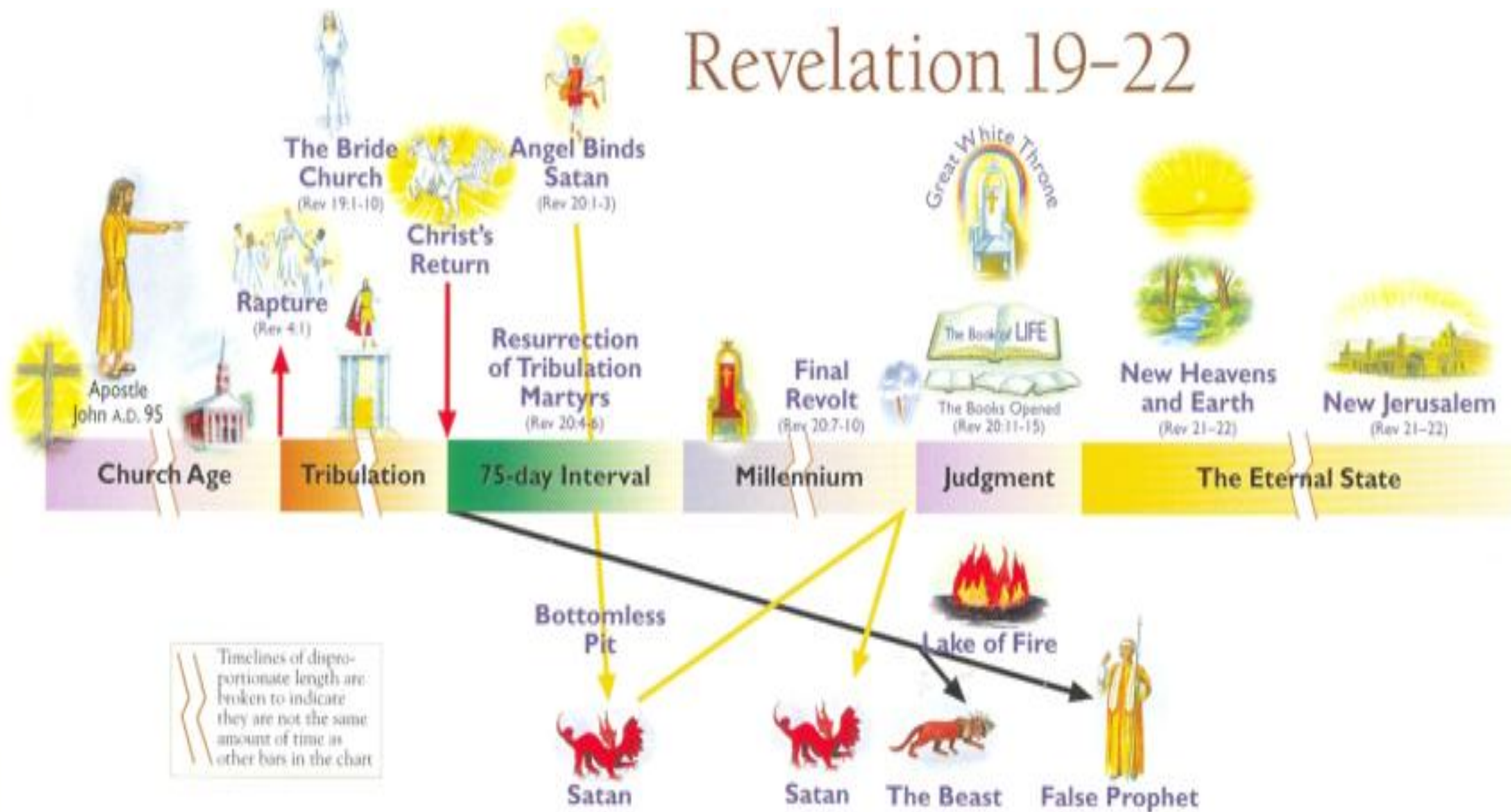
2 I fed you with milk and not with solid food; for until now you were not able to receive it, and even now you are still not able; 3 for you are still **carnal**. For where there are envy, strife, and divisions among you, are you not **carnal** and behaving like mere men? 4 For when one says, “I am of Paul,” and another, “I am of Apollos,” are you not **carnal**?

1 Corinthians 3:11-15

11 For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. 12 Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, 13 each one's {believer's} work will become clear; for the Day {of Christ – the Judgment Seat of Christ} will declare it, because it {your life work} will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort {quality} it is.

14 {Option #1} If anyone's work which he has built on it {the foundation of Jesus Christ} endures {the fire test} he will receive a reward. {Option #2} 15 If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss {of reward}; but he himself will be saved, {future, passive, indicative} yet so as through fire.

Revelation 19-22



The Judgment Seat of Christ (The Bema)

Romans 14:10

Heaven

Christ Meets
the Church

1 Ths 4:16-17



The Rapture

1 Ths 4:13-18



Gold, Silver, and
Precious Stones



Judgment of Believers
for Their Works

1 Cor 3:11-15; 2 Cor 5:10



Wood, Hay, and Stubble

The Marriage
of the Lamb

Rev 19:7-9



The Glorious
Appearing

2 Ths 1:7-10



Crown of Life

Martyr's Crown

Rev 2:10



Crown of Glory

Elder's Crown

1 Pet 5:2-4



Crown of Righteousness

For those who love His appearing

2 Tim 4:8



Titus 2:11-13

{Past} For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared {PAST TENSE} to **all men**,

{Present} teaching **us** {PRESENT TENSE} that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we **should live** soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age,

{Future} looking for the {FUTURE EVENT} blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,

Romans 5:1-2

Therefore, having been justified by faith {past tense}, we have peace {present tense} with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

2 through whom {the Lord Jesus Christ} also we have access {perfect tense} by faith into this grace in which we stand {perfect tense},

and rejoice in hope {future tense} of the glory of God.

3 TEST CASES:

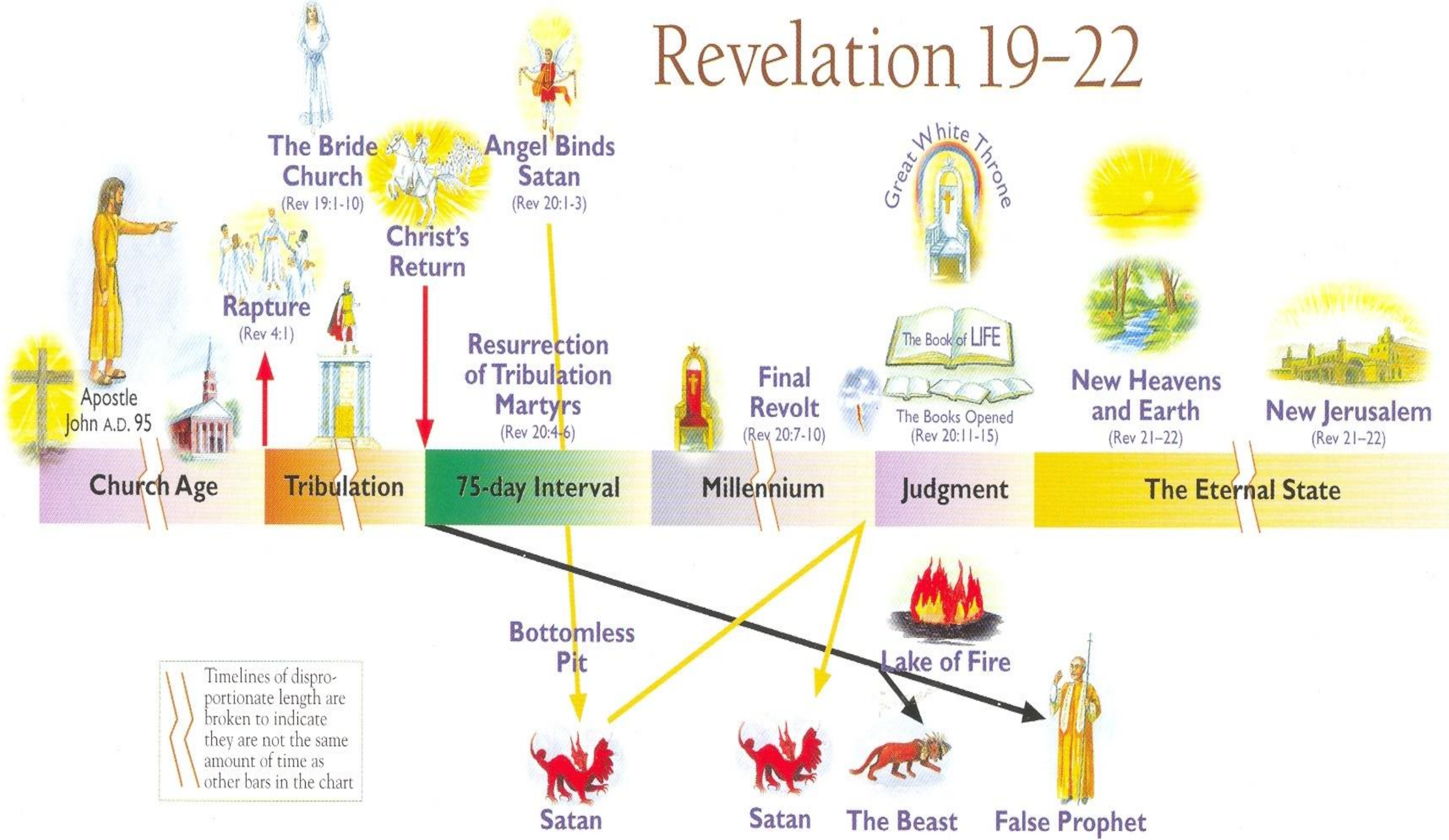
ONE OF THE MOST MISUNDERSTOOD &
MISINTERPRETED PASSAGES IN THE
NEW TESTAMENT: MATTHEW 24:13

“he that endures to the end shall be saved.”

Matthew 24:1 Then Jesus went out and departed from the temple, and His disciples came up to show Him the buildings of the temple. 2 And Jesus said to them, "Do you not see all these things? Assuredly, I say to you, not one stone shall be left here upon another, that shall not be thrown down." 3 Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, "Tell us, **when** will these things be? And **what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?**"

4 And Jesus answered and said to them: "Take heed that no one deceives you. 5 "For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many. 6 "And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, **but the end {of the age} is not yet.**

Revelation 19-22



7 "For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places {Seal Judgments - Revelation 6}. 8 **"All these are the beginning of sorrows.** {first 3.5 years of Trib.}

9 "Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name's sake. 10 "And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another. 11 "Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. 12 "And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold.

13 "But **he who endures to the end** {of what? His life? NO! the age} **shall be saved** {physically or spiritually?}.

14 And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, **and then the end will come.**

Matthew 24:15 "Therefore when you see the 'abomination of desolation,' spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place " (whoever reads, let him understand – Daniel 9:27; Rev. 12 – MID-POINT OF THE TRIBULATION),

16 "then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains.

17 "Let him who is on the housetop not go down to take anything out of his house. 18 "And let him who is in the field not go back to get his clothes. 19 "But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! 20 "And pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath.”

21 "For **then** there will be **great tribulation**, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be.

22 "And unless **those days were shortened** {to 3.5 years}, **no flesh** {no human beings} **would be saved** {spiritually or physically};

but for the elect's sake **those days will be shortened** {why? So some can physically enter the Millenium phase of the Kingdom on Earth that Jesus Christ came to set up}

ONE OF THE MOST MISUNDERSTOOD &
MISINTERPRETED PASSAGES IN THE NEW
TESTAMENT: JAMES 2

“can faith save him?” (2:14)

“faith without works is dead being alone” (2:17)

- Is the book of James written to **believers** about sanctification issues or to **unbelievers** about justification before God?

(1) James is clearly writing to **BELIEVERS** only. (1:1-4, 12, 16-18, 2:1, 5-7, 3:1,10, 5:7, 13-14, 5:19-20)

James 1:2 -3 My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing this, that the testing of your faith works patience.

- Is the book of James written to believers about sanctification issues or to unbelievers about justification before God?

(2) James is writing about salvation 2ND tense issues. (James 5:20, 1:19-21)

James 1:19-21 So then, **my beloved brethren**, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath; 20 for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God. 21 Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, **which is able to save your souls** {2nd tense}

(3) What is the issue that James is addressing in this passage? Is it good works as the proof of initial “saving faith,” **or** is it the profitable expression of an ongoing, sanctifying faith in the Christian life that manifests itself in useful & beneficial good works to other believers in need? (1:22-27; 2:14-17)

James 2:14-17

What does it profit, my brethren, if {3} someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him?

15 If {3} a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food,
16 and one of you says to them, "Depart in peace, be warmed and filled," but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it {your faith} profit?

17 Thus also faith by itself, if {3} it {faith} does not have works, is dead. {{Does this mean non-existent?}}

(4) How do we respond to the statement: “Faith alone saves but genuine faith is never alone”? (2:17)

DBY James 2:17 So also faith, if it have not works, is dead by itself.

ESV James 2:17 So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

NAS James 2:17 Even so faith, if it has no works, is dead, being by itself.

NET James 2:17 So also faith, if it does not have works, is dead being by itself.

NKJ James 2:17 Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

NKJ James 2:17 Thus also faith **by itself**, if it does not have works, is dead.

(5) Does “dead” or “death” ever mean non-existence? If not, what does it mean? **Some form of separation!** {7 deaths in Scripture}

What is James’ point in vs. 17-20? Your daily walk of faith in the Lord is separated from benefitting others when not expressing itself in good works.

(6) What is James point in vs. 19? Is it that demons have 'intellectual faith' but not 'saving faith' because it is minus good works?

James 2:18-19 But someone will say, "You have faith, and I have works." **Show me your faith** without your works, and **I will show you my faith** by my works. 19 You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe-- and tremble!

(7) Is James referring to justification before God or before men?
(2:18, 21, 25)

James 2:18 But someone will say, "You have faith, and I have works." **Show me your faith** without your works, and **I will show you my faith** by my works.

James 2:21 Was not Abraham our father **justified** {declared righteous before men} **by works** when he offered Isaac his son on the altar?

Romans 4:1-3 What then shall we say that Abraham our father has found according to the flesh? 2 For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, **but not before God**. 3 For what does the Scripture say? "**Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.**"

James 2:21-24

Was not Abraham our father justified {declared righteous - before man} by works when he offered Isaac his son on the altar?

22 Do you {a human} see that {his walk of} faith was working together with his works, and by works faith was made perfect {matured} ? 23 And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, "Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness." {Genesis 15:6} And he was called the friend of God. {Genesis 18}

24 You see then {as a human} that a man is justified {declared righteous} by works {before man}, and not by faith only.

James 2:25-26

Likewise, was not Rahab the harlot also justified {declared righteous - before man} by works when she received the messengers and sent them out another way?

26 For as the body without the spirit is dead {separated from usefulness to others}, so faith without works is dead {separated from usefulness to others} also.

Test #3: 2 Corinthians 7:10

10 For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to **salvation**, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death

WHO is to be saved? (7:1 ff)

What **KIND** of salvation? (2nd tense issues)

Saved **FROM WHAT**? (power of sin)

Are You Saved?

If you have trusted in Jesus Christ alone for your eternal salvation, you should be able to answer...

I *have been saved* {past tense} from **sin's penalty** ...

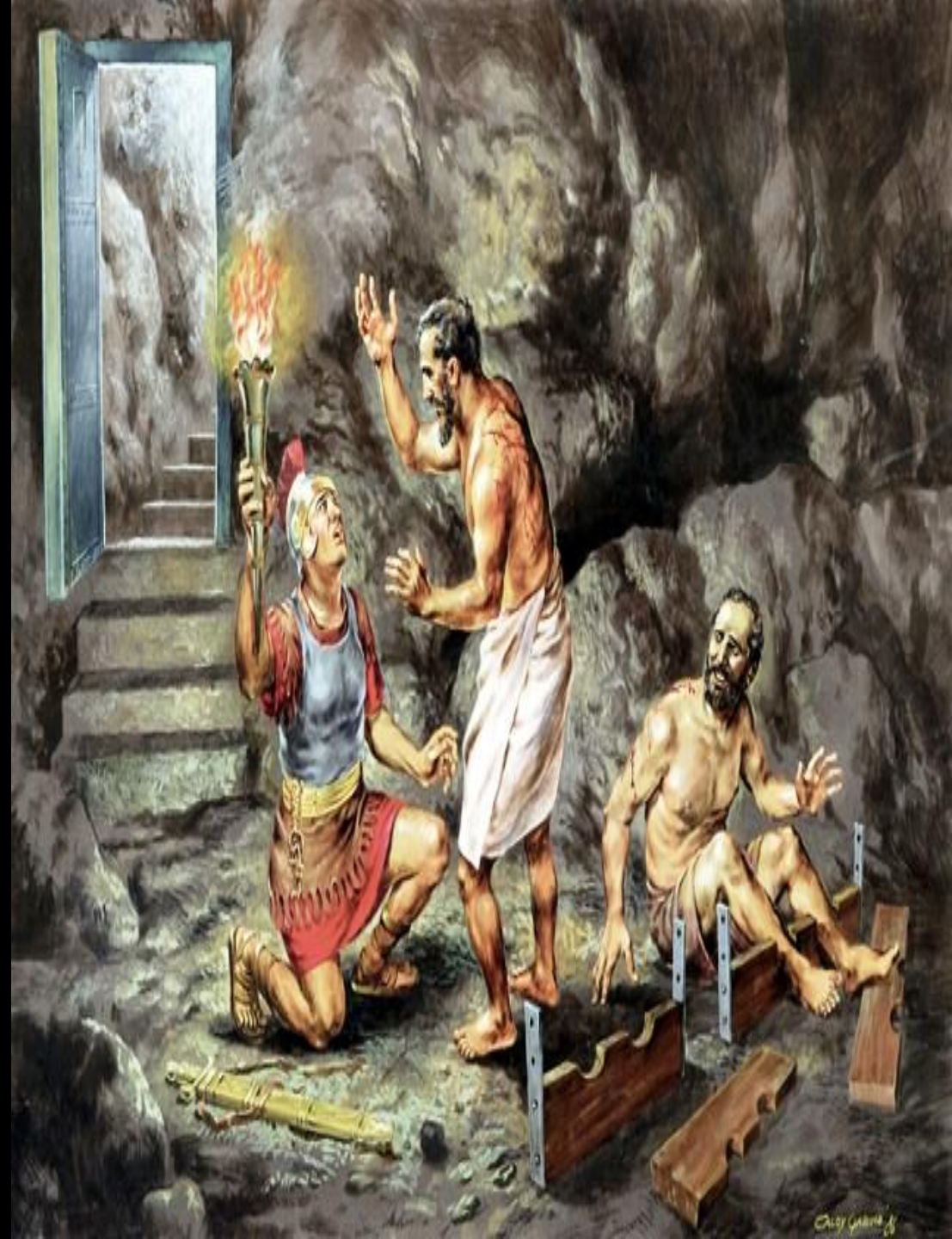
I *am being saved* {present tense} from **sin's power** ...

I *will be saved* {future tense} from **sin's presence**... only by God's grace.

Acts 16:30-31

And he brought them out and said,
"Sirs, **what must I do to be saved?**"

31 So they said,
"**Believe** {aorist, active, imperative
of pisteuo – to choose to trust or
rely on} **on** {epi – resting upon}
the Lord Jesus Christ, and
you will be saved {future, passive,
indicative}..."



A True Grace Books Publication

THE
THREE TENSES
OF SALVATION

Dennis M. Rokser

FAITH & WORKS

A Clarification of
"Faith Without Works Is Dead"

JAMES 2:14-26

DENNIS M. ROKSER

Do You Understand the
Three Tenses of Salvation?

SALVATION IN THREE TIME ZONES

PRESENT

PAST

FUTURE



Dennis M. Rokser