
SCRIPTURES FULFILLED WITH THE DESTRUCTION OF JERUSALEM

"...There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down" (Mt. 24:2)

-Titus burned the Temple down in August, AD 70

(Josephus, *The War of the Jews*, Book 6, Chapters 4-5)

- Over the next three years the Temple stones were dismantled and leveled to the ground after which the area was plowed over

(Josephus, *The War of the Jews*, Book 7, Chapter 1)

- "Titus forced his way into the city [of Jerusalem], breaking through the three north walls in August, AD 70, and his army burned the Temple, eventually leveling it"

(*The Zondervan Pictorial Encyclopedia of the Bible*, Page 486)

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"And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many"
(Mt. 24:4-5).

- In AD 36, under the procuratorship of Pontius Pilate, one such false Christ appeared in Samaria, by the name of Dositheus the Samaritan, who boldly claimed that he was the Messiah of whom Moses had prophesied. This scoundrel is reported to have deluded great multitudes.
- In AD 39, another Samaritan impostor declared he would show the people the sacred utensils said to have been given to Moses at Mount Gerizim. An armed group assembled under this impostor but Pilate defeated the group and killed their leader.
- Another appeared under the procuratorship of Cuspius Fadus in AD 45 whose name was Theudas. This impostor gathered a great multitude who took their possessions and followed him to the Jordan where he said the river would divide at his command. Fadus pursued the group dispersing them and killing Theudas.

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"And ye shall hear of wars and rumors of wars! See that ye not be troubled: for all these must come to pass, but the end is not yet" (Mt. 24:6)

- During the period of AD 60-69, skirmishes between the Jews and the Romans began to break out. Many false Christs appeared among the Jews. Wars and rumors of wars were rampant.

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"And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come" (Mt.24:14).

- In a hyperbolic way, and in the context of the Jewish world view, *"every nation under heaven"* was present on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2:5).
- The Apostle Paul stated that the gospel was producing fruit and growing *"...in all the world..."* (Col. 1:6).
- Paul further states that the gospel had been preached to *"...every creature which is under heaven..."* (Col. 1:23).
- Paul also reported that the faith of the church at Rome was being spoken about *"...throughout the whole world"* (Rom. 1:8).
- *"But I say, Have they not heard? [the gospel - see verse fifteen] Yes, verily, their sound went into all the earth and their words unto the ends of the world"* (Rom. 10:18).
- *"But now is made manifest, [the gospel - see verse twenty-five] and by the scriptures of the prophets according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith"* (Rom. 16:26).
- *"For we have found this man [Paul - see verse one] a pestilent fellow, and a mover of sedition among all the Jews throughout the world, and a ringleader of the sect of the Nazarenes"* (Acts 24:15).

A few years after the above words were recorded; the end came in AD 70!

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"When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation...

(Mt. 24:15-21).

- Early in the period of AD 60-69, an unqualified Jew whom Josephus identifies as "Phannias" was appointed to the position of high priest. (*Josephus Wars of the Jews*, Book 4, Chapter 3, Paragraph 8, Lines 155-157)
- Josephus writes that "by casting lots, Phannias was chosen for the high priesthood who was not only unworthy of the high priesthood, but that did not well know what the high priesthood was." The high priest was normally selected by succession of family not by casting lots. (*Josephus Wars of the Jews*, Book 4, Chapter 3, Paragraph 7, Line 153)
- This high priest and his staff of priests failed to properly perform the daily sacrifices and other required Temple duties making a mockery of the holy ordinances.
- In AD 66, priests and Zealots fought each other in the Temple courts. Josephus reports the floors swam with the blood of more than 8,000 who stabbed each other.
- Many atrocities [abominations] between the Zealots and other Jewish factions occurred in the holy place between AD 66-70.

A PROPER VIEW OF MATTHEW 24:34

"...This generation [the generation Jesus was speaking to] shall not pass [would not all die] till all these things [which Jesus had just finished talking about] be fulfilled.

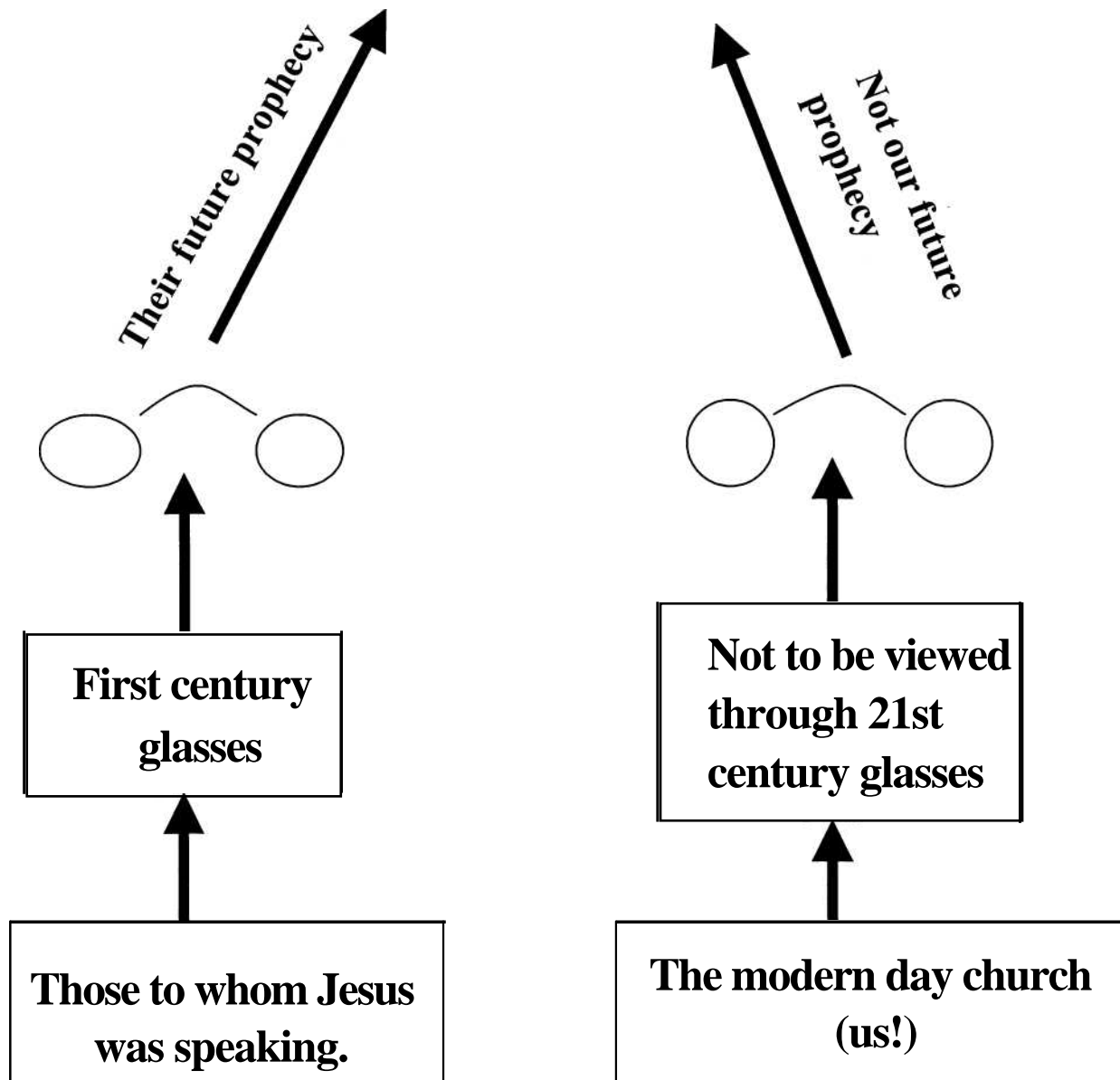


Figure 32

THE TWO-AGE JEWISH VIEW OF TIME

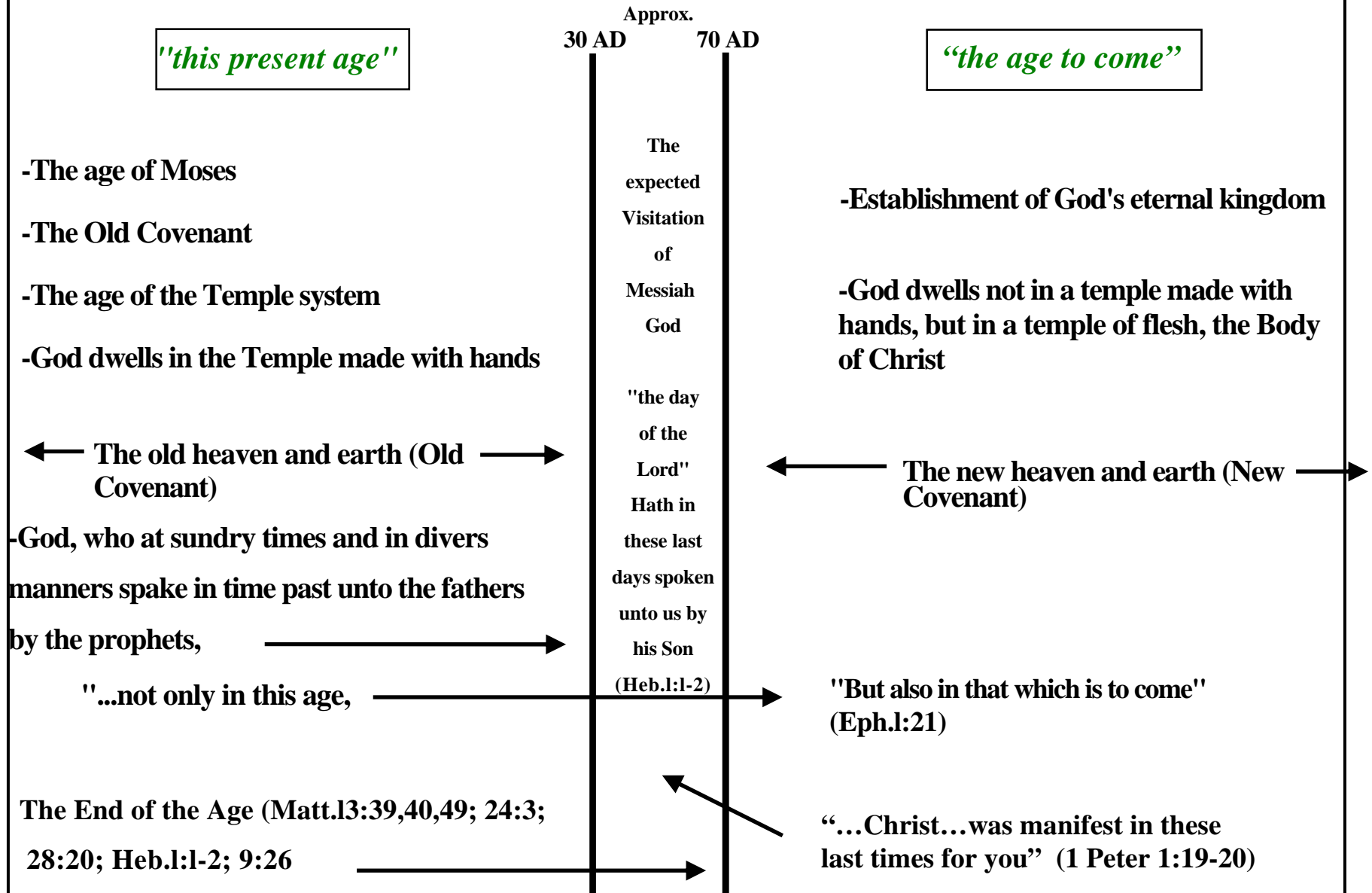


Figure 1

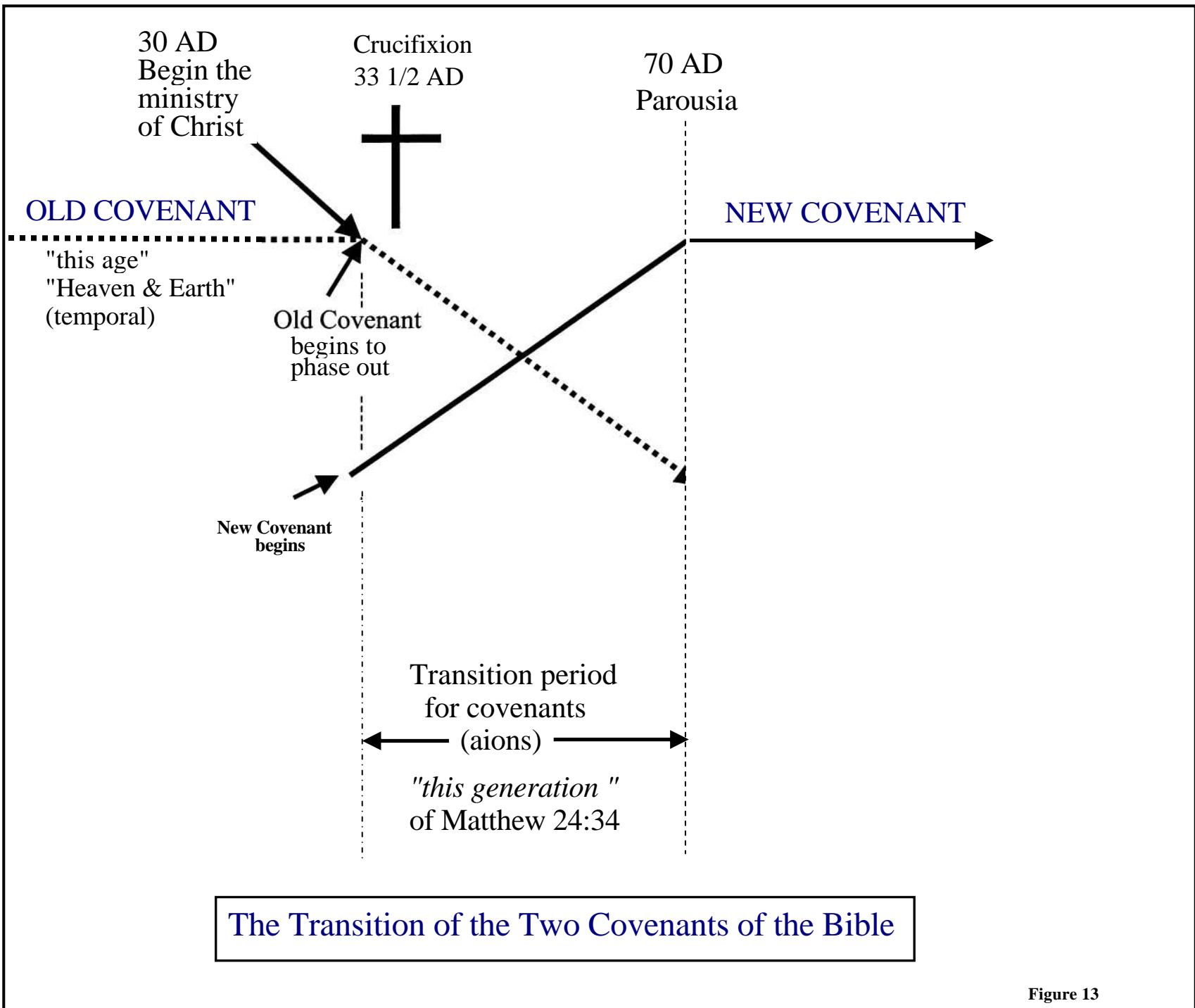


Figure 13

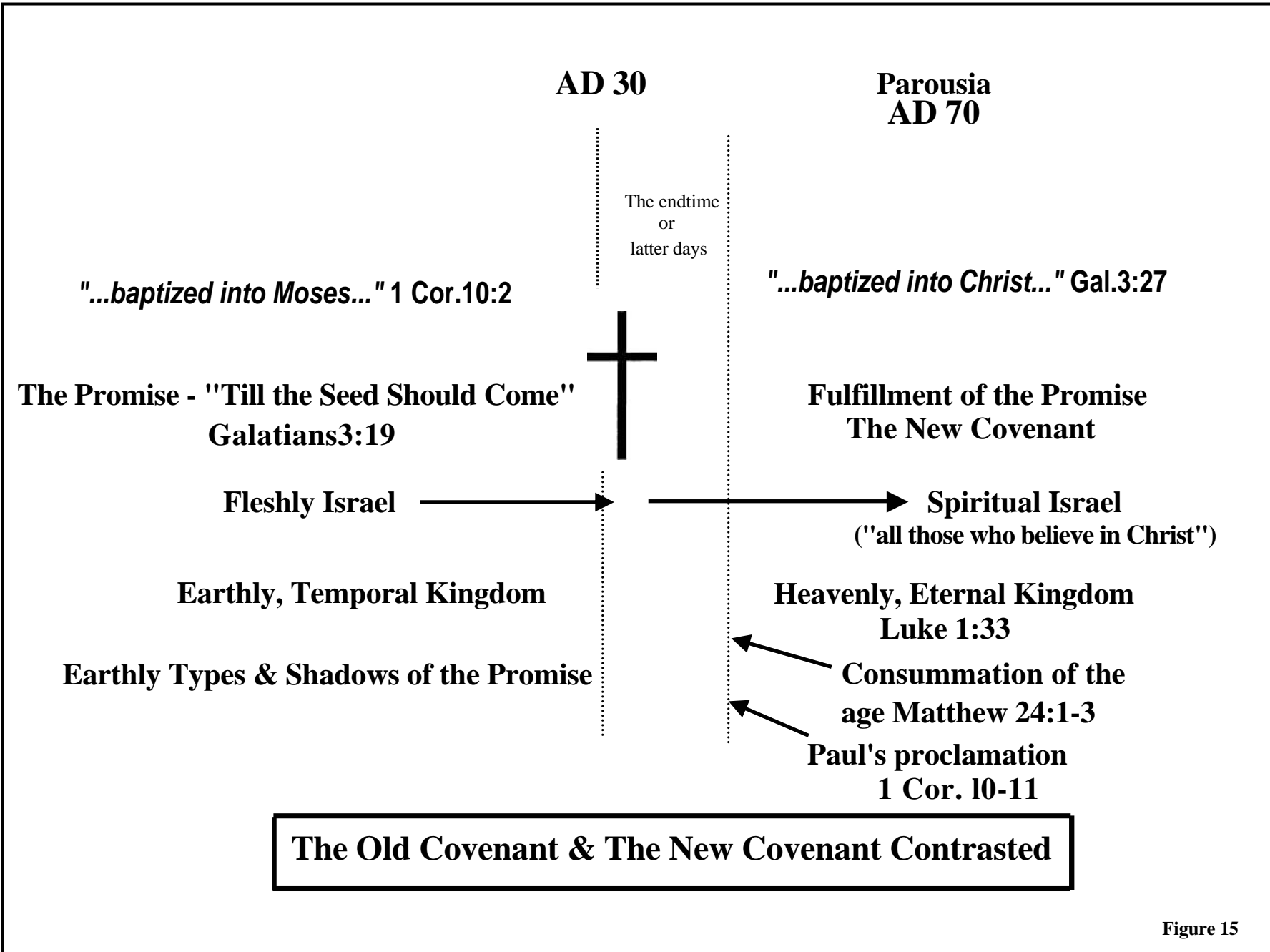


Figure 15

THE TWO AGES (COVENANTS)

...in this world [age] “
Eph. 1:21

...the world [age] *to come*
[that is about to be]
Heb. 2:5

Law → Gospel of Grace

Moses → Christ

Narrow, exclusive system
embracing a single people,
Israel

Embraces the entire family
of man with no Jew nor
Gentile, circumcised or
uncircumcised.

Symbols, ceremonies
where religion equated
to spiritual service.

Every place is a temple,
every believer is a priest.

WHEN WILL THE EARTH BE DESTROYED?

"Who laid the foundations of the earthy that it should not be removed for ever" (Ps. 104:5).

"One generation passeth away, and another generation cometh: but the earth abideth for ever" (Ecc. 1:4).

"And he built his sanctuary like high palaces, like the earth which he hath established for ever" (Ps. 78:69).

*"Now all these things happened unto them for examples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world [Greek: *aion* = ages] are come" (1 Cor. 10:11).*

*"...it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this world [Greek: *aion* = age] neither in the world [Greek: *aion* = age] to come" (Mt. 12:32).*

*"The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world [Greek: *aion* = age]: and the reapers are the angels" (Mt. 13:39).*

*"As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world [Greek: *aion* = age]" (Mt. 13:40).*

*"So shall it be at the end of the world [Greek: *aion* = age]: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just" (Mt. 13:49).*

Review Mt.13:38-40 (*kosmos*)

WHEN WILL THE EARTH BE DESTROYED?

"...and what shall be the sign of thy coming [parousia] and the end of the world [Greek: aion = age]? (Mt. 24:3).

"...and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world [Greek: aion = age] . Amen." (Mt. 28:20).

"...and in the world [Greek: aion = age] to come eternal life" (Mk. 10:30).

In Luke 20:34-35 the word "world" appears twice and in each case it should be translated "age."

In 1 Corinthians 2:6-8 the word "world" appears four times and in each case it should be translated "age."

"...not only in this world [Greek: aion = age], but also in that [age] which is to come" (Eph. 1:21).

"...the powers of the world [Greek: aion = age] to come" (Heb. 6:5).

"...but now once in the end of the world [Greek: aion = age] hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself⁹ (Heb. 9:26).

CONCLUSION: When does the world end? NEVER!