

**The Story of God:
The Bible as Narrative**

Recap

**Act 1: Scenes 1-5
Genesis 1-11**

God has given us a single contiguous Story that:

- a) Explains Him
 - b) Explains His Desire to Relate with us
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The Narrative

Key Words:

- Kingdom
 - Covenant
 - Glory
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Act 1: Scenes 1-5 Genesis 1-11

God's Goal:

- 1) Fill the Whole Earth with His Glory
 - 2) By Reigning through His Kingdom
 - 3) With His Covenant people
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Act 1: Scenes 1-5

Act 1:

Scene 1 - Creation

Scene 2 - The Fall

Scene 3 - Cain's Sin

Scene 4 - The Flood

Scene 5 - The Tower of Babel

Genesis 1-11

Act 1: Scenes 1-5

Genesis 1-11

Act 1: Scene 1 – Creation (Genesis 1 & 2)

1st of the 6 Main Covenants
Adamic Covenant

- Genesis 1:28
 - a) Be fruitful & multiply
 - b) Fill the Earth
 - c) Subdue it & Rule
-

The Narrative

Key Threads:

- In His Image
-

Act 1: Scenes 1-5 Genesis 1-11

Act 1: Scene 2 – Fall (Genesis 3)

“I” = enter Autonomy

Act 1: Scenes 1-5

Genesis 1-11

Act 1: Scene 3 – Cain's Sin (Genesis 4)

Sin is MOVING!

Act 1: Scenes 1-5

Genesis 1-11

Act 1: Scene 4 – Flood (Genesis 6-9)

I God's Anguish

- Genesis 5:28-29, 6:5-7

II Noah enters the scene

- Genesis 6:8, 17-18

III Flood

IV God Remembers Noah

- Genesis 8:1, 20-22, 9:1-7
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Act 1: Scenes 1-5

Genesis 1-11

Act 1: Scene 4 – Flood (Genesis 6-9)

2nd of the Main Covenants
Noahic Covenant

- a) Be fruitful & multiply
- b) Fill the Earth
- c) Subdue it & Rule
- d) God pledges to never destroy again

God will preserve the Earth until His Redemption is complete!!!

Act 1: Scenes 1-5

Genesis 1-11

Act 1: Scene 5 – Tower of Babel (Genesis 11)

- Genesis 11:1-4
 - Genesis 11:5-9
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The Narrative

Key Threads:

- *In His Image*
 - **The “SINS” – from individuals to society**
-

Act 2 Building a Nation

From Genesis 12 through I Kings 20

- Includes some 11 Scenes
-

Act 2

Building a Nation

The Story gets quite Microscopic

- Creation of the planet = 10 words
 - Creation of the stars = 5 words
 - Creation of everything = 2 chapters
 - One person = 13 ½ chapters
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Act 2

Building a Nation

What was Noah's role?

Preservative

What was Abraham's role?

Redemptive

Act 2

Building a Nation

Scene 1 – The Founding Fathers

3rd of the 6 Main Covenants
Abrahamic Covenant
Genesis 12 & 15

- 1) Land
 - 2) Descendants = Nation
 - 3) Blessings
 - 4) Curse those that curse you (protection)
 - 5) Bless ALL Nations
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The Narrative

Key Threads:

- *In His Image*
 - *The “SINS” – from individuals to society*
 - **Israel AND the Nations**
-

Act 2

Building a Nation

Review

- Creation ➤ Fall ➤ Sin moving
 - “Un-creation” thru flood ➤ “Re-creation” with Noah
 - Filling the whole Earth ➤ One man
 - Beginnings of Building a Nation
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Act 2

Building a Nation

Scene 2 – The Tribal Framework

- Abraham
- Isaac
- Jacob
- 12 Sons = 12 Tribes

Genesis 12-50

Act 2

Building a Nation

Scene 2 – The Tribal Framework

Leah = Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar & Zebulun (after being barren) (Also Dinah)

Bilhah (Rachel's Maid-servant) = Dan, Naphtali

Zilpah (Leah's Maid-servant) = Gad, Asher

Rachel = Joseph, then eventually Benjamin

Act 2

Building a Nation

Scene 3 – The Formation of a People

- I. God delivering on His covenants – Chapters 1-18
- II. Torah given on Sinai – Chapters 19-31

- Exodus 1:1-20



Act 2

Building a Nation

Scene 4 – The Choosing of a Leader

- Exodus 2:23-25

“Now it came about in the course of those many days that the king of Egypt died. And the sons of Israel sighed because of the bondage, and they cried out; and their cry for help because of their bondage rose up to God. So God heard their groaning; and God remembered His covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. God saw the sons of Israel, and God took notice of them.”

Act 2

Building a Nation

Scene 5 – The Deliverance of Israel

- Exodus 6:1-5



Act 2

Building a Nation

Scene 6 – The Giving of the Torah

- Exodus 19:1-6, 7-8

Moses went up to God, and the LORD called to him from the mountain, saying, “Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob and tell the sons of Israel:

‘You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and *how* I bore you on eagles’ wings, and brought you to Myself. ‘Now then, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be My own possession among all the peoples, for all the earth is Mine; and you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’



Act 2

Building a Nation

Scene 3 – The Formation of a People

Scene 4 – The Choosing of a Leader

Scene 5 – The Deliverance of Israel

Scene 6 – The Giving of the Torah

Exodus & Leviticus

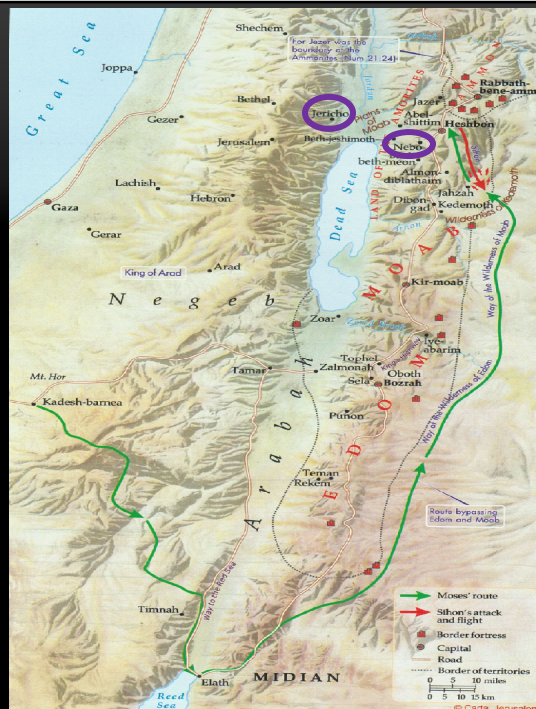
Act 2

Building a Nation

The DELAY Between Scenes 6 & 7

Numbers = Wandering

Deuteronomy = deuterio = 2nd reading / nomos = law



Act 2
Building a Nation

Scene 7 – Conquering the Land

Joshua

Act 2
Building a Nation

Scene 8 – Occupying the Land

Judges, Ruth, 1 Sam. 1-7

(Time of the Judges = roughly 350 yrs.)

Act 2

Building a Nation

Scene 8 – Occupying the Land

4 times = “And everyone did what was right in their own eyes”

- 1) 12 Tribes
 - 2) Working mostly independently
 - 3) With no real Leader
 - 4) They are dispersed
-

Act 2

Building a Nation

Timeline:

- Adam – Noah = roughly 1000 yrs.
 - Noah – Abraham = roughly 1000 yrs.
 - Abraham, Isaac, Jacob & 12 sons = roughly 250
 - Egypt = roughly 400 yrs.
 - Getting to Sinai = 3 months
 - Receiving Torah = 1 yr.
 - Edge of the Land = turn 11 days into 40 years
 - Conquering the Land = 70 yrs.
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Act 2

Building a Nation

Judges: Scene 9 – The Final Judge

- 1) Prophetic office starts
- 2) Already have High Priest
- 3) Have Land
- 4) Have the Torah

What appears to be missing that a normal Nation would have?

- 5) A King (other than God of course)

Act 2

Building a Nation

Judges: Scene 9 – The Final Judge

3 Main Accomplishments Under Samuel:

- 1) From North to South
– I Samuel 3:19-21, 7:5-6

“All Israel from Dan even to Beersheba knew that Samuel was confirmed as a prophet of the LORD.”



Act 2

Building a Nation

Judges: Scene 9 – The Final Judge

3 Main Accomplishments Under Samuel

- 1) From North to South – I Samuel 3:19-21, 7:5-6
- 2) Subdues main enemy, Philistines – Relative Peace – I Sam. 7:9, 13
- 3) Restores Worship – I Sam. 7:3-4

- I Samuel 7:15-17

Act 2

Building a Nation

Scene 9 – The Final Judge (Samuel)

Scene 10 – The Monarchy (King Saul)

Scene 11 – The Theocracy (King David)

I & II Samuel *Parts of Kings & Chronicles*

Act 3

The Divided Kingdom

The END of Building a Nation (Solomon)

Act 3 – The Divided Kingdom

- King Solomon's Sin results in:
 - Israel in the North
 - Judah in the South
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The Narrative

Key Threads:

- In His Image
 - The “SINS” – from individuals to society
 - Israel AND the Nations
 - **From Oppressed to Oppressor**
-

Act 3

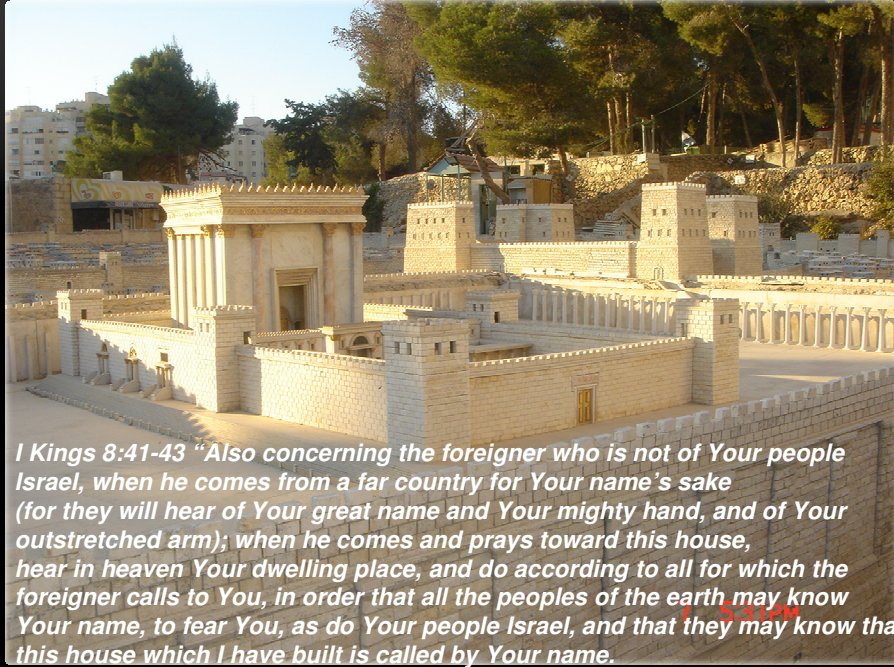
The Divided Kingdom

General Book Breakdowns:

I & II Kings - History of the Kings of Israel & Judah

I Chronicles – Genealogy from Adam & David
recap & passing baton

II Chronicles – Solomon & the Kings of Judah



1 Kings 8:41-43 "Also concerning the foreigner who is not of Your people Israel, when he comes from a far country for Your name's sake (for they will hear of Your great name and Your mighty hand, and of Your outstretched arm); when he comes and prays toward this house, hear in heaven Your dwelling place, and do according to all for which the foreigner calls to You, in order that all the peoples of the earth may know Your name, to fear You, as do Your people Israel, and that they may know that this house which I have built is called by Your name."

Act 3

The Divided Kingdom

- 1 Kings 12:25-33



Act 3

The Divided Kingdom

- Deuteronomy 28:25, 32-33, 36, 41, 46-53, 64



Act 4

Repairing the Kingdom

Act 1 – Prologue – Genesis 1-11

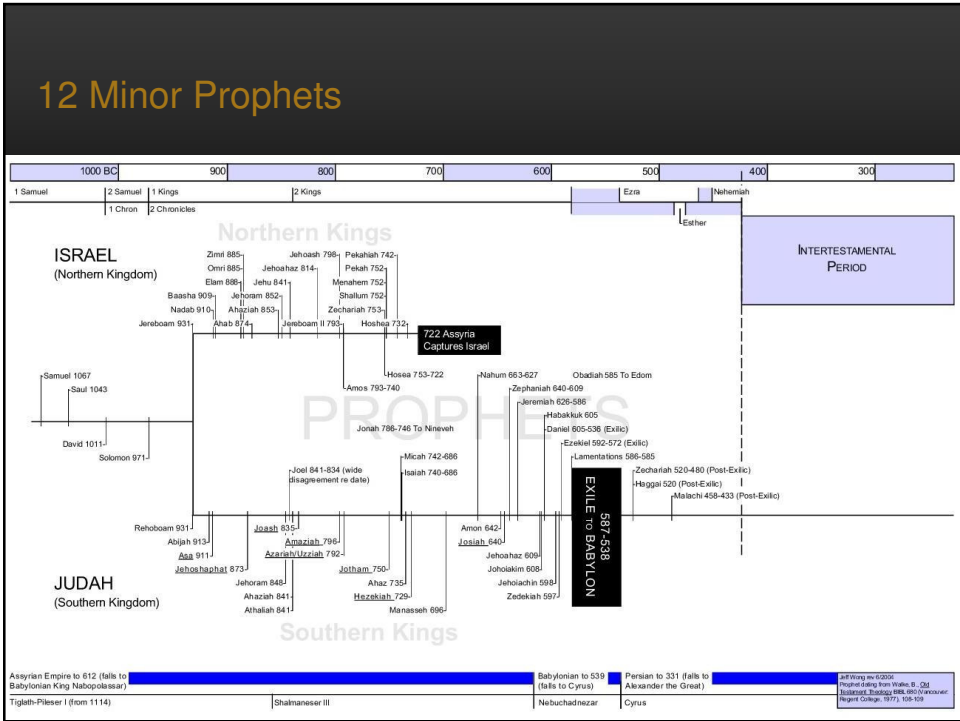
Act 2 – Building a Nation

The END of Building a Nation (Solomon)

Act 3 – The Divided Kingdom

Act 4 – Repairing the Kingdom

Date	King of Israel	Years Reigned	Reign Good/Bad	Date	King of Judah	Years Reigned	Reign Good/Bad
928-906	Jeroboam I	22	Bad	928-911	Rehoboam	17	Bad
907-905	Nadab	2	Bad	911-908	Abijam (Abijah)	3	Bad
906-882	Baasha	24	Bad	908-867	Asa	41	Mostly Good
883-881	Elah	2	Bad				
881	Zimri	7 days	Bad				
881-876	Tibni	5	Bad				
882-870	Omri	5	Very Bad				
871-851	Ahab	22	The worst	870-845	Jehoshaphat	25	Good
851-850	Ahaziah	2	Bad	851-840	Jehoram (Joram)	8	Bad
850-839	Joram (Jeheram)	12	Mostly bad	840	Ahaziah (Azariah)	8	Bad
839-811	Jehu	28	Mostly bad	839-833	Athaliah	6	Bad
812-795	Jehoahaz	17	Bad	833-794	Joash (Joziah)	40	Mostly good
797-781	Joash (Jehoash)	16	Bad	795-764	Amaziah	29	Mostly good
792-751	Jeroboam II	41	Bad	787-735	Uzziah (Azariah)	52	Good
750-749	Zechariah	6 mo.	Bad	794-733	Jotham	16	Good
749	Shallum	1 mo.	Bad				
749-739	Menahem	10	Bad				
738-736	Pekahiah	2	Bad	732-716	Ahaz	16	Very Bad
736-730	Pekah	20	Bad				
731-722	Hoshea	9	Bad	715-686	Hezekiah	29	Very
722-721	Fall of Samaria			697-642	Manasseh	55	Very Bad
718	Fall of Israel			642-640	Amon	2	Very Bad
				640-609	Josiah	31	Very Good
				609	Jehoahaz (Shallum)	3 mos.	Bad
				608-597	Jehoiakim	11	Very Bad
				597	Jehoiachin (Jeconiah)	3 mos.	Bad
				597-587	Zedekiah	11	Bad
				587	Fall of Jerusalem, Fall of Judah		
					Assassination of Gedaliah, (Jeremiah 41)		



Act 4

Repairing the Kingdom

- With Joel, maybe 130 yrs. since Solomon (?)
 - With Amos, maybe 140 yrs. since Solomon
 - With Jonah, maybe 150 yrs. since Solomon
 - With Hosea, maybe 180 yrs. since Solomon
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Act 4

Repairing the Kingdom

- With Micah, maybe 190 yrs. since Solomon
 - With Nahum, maybe 270 yrs. since Solomon
 - With Zephaniah, maybe 290 yrs. since Solomon
 - With Obadiah, maybe 350 yrs. since Solomon
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Act 4

Repairing the Kingdom

Israel in North - II Chronicles 15:3

“For many days Israel was without the true God and without a teaching priest and without law.”

Judah in South - I Chronicles 15:15

*All Judah rejoiced concerning the oath, for they had sworn with their whole heart and had sought Him earnestly, **and He let them find Him.***

Act 4

Repairing the Kingdom

Key Dates:

- 722 BC = Israel in North Falls to Assyria
 - Hosea, Amos, Isaiah, Micah, Nahum, Zephaniah, Obadiah
- 612 BC = Assyria Falls to Babylon
- 587/586 BC = Judah Falls to Babylon
 - Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Esther, Hab.
- 70 years = Babylon Falls to Persia, Remnant returns to Promised Land
 - Ezra, Nehemiah, Haggai, Zechariah, Jonah, Malachi

Act 4

Repairing the Kingdom

3 Stages with Isaiah, Jeremiah, & Ezekiel

1. Isaiah – Anticipation OF the Exile
 2. Jeremiah – Transition INTO Exile
 3. Ezekiel – Participation IN Exile
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Act 4

Repairing the Kingdom

God's Dilemma

God is asking, "How do I rescue Israel from itself while STILL doing it thru Israel?"

Act 4

Repairing the Kingdom

2nd Isaiah – Chapters 40-55

Servant

Israel

Messiah

Cyrus

Isaiah

Jeremiah

Act 4

Repairing the Kingdom

II Isaiah

I. Israel is God's servant

- *Isaiah 42:6-7*

II. But Israel is the broken reed

- *Isaiah 42:18-20, 23-25*
- *Isaiah 44:24, 28*

III. God will bring Another Servant on Israel's behalf

- *Isaiah 49:1-6*
-

Act 4

Repairing the Kingdom

II Isaiah – The Suffering Servant

- Israel is to be God's people & ultimately a Light to the Gentiles
- Israel as a Nation Fails
- Over & over Faithful Individuals try to do it FOR Israel AS AN Israelite but they cannot
- Now One is coming along to do it
To BE Faithful Israel FOR Israel and as a light to the Gentiles

Act 4

Repairing the Kingdom

Key Dates:

- 538 BC = First Return
- 516 BC = Temple Restored
- 458 BC = Ezra the Priest returns
- 445 BC = Nehemiah returns & rebuilds walls
- 432 BC = Nehemiah's reforms
- 333 BC = Greece gains control over Israel

Act 5

Preparing for Messiah

Intertestamental Period

Jews kept identity → HOW? Synagogues

Act 5

Preparing for Messiah

Beginnings of the Maccabees

Mattatias - Soldiers force Pig Sacrifice

- Mattatias Rampages
- Begins Jewish Revolt
- Takes Jerusalem

December 25 165BC Temple Rededicated

Hanukkah – Festival of Lights
Jewish Independence in less than 25 yrs.

Act 5

Preparing for Messiah

Eventually Rome takes over around 64 BC

- People are suffering & disillusioned
- Wicked foreigners have come into their country with hatred in their eyes and weapons in their hands
- Outside domination has gone on for roughly 800 years...the Assyrians, the Babylonians, the Medes and Persians, the Greeks, the Romans
- And yet behind all this there is a hope...that God is alive and that He will make good on His Story, on His promises...EXPECTANT WAITING

Act 5

Preparing for Messiah

John 1:1-5, 14, 18

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.

All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.

In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men.

The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.

And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

No one has seen God at any time; the only begotten God who is in the bosom of the Father, He has explained Him."

Act 5

Preparing for Messiah

John the Baptist – The Elijah figure

- *He would link the Great Prophet Moses with the Greater Prophet to come*
- *He would link the covenant with Abraham with the fulfillment of Messiah an Israelite on Israel's behalf*
- *He would link the Kingship of David with the TRUE INTENDED MESSIANIC KING*

Prophet, Messiah, & King

Act 6

Jesus & the Restoration of Israel

Scene 1 - Birth & Preparation

Scene 2 – Gathering & Equipping the new Israel

Scene 3 - The Passion – death, burial & resurrection

Act 6

Jesus & the Restoration of Israel

Zech. 9:9-10 Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout in triumph, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; He is just and endowed with salvation, Humble, and mounted on a donkey, Even on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim And the horse from Jerusalem; And the bow of war will be cut off. And He will speak peace to the nations; And His dominion will be from sea to sea, And from the River to the ends of the earth

*They have failed to recognize the “**HOUR
OF THEIR VISITATION**”*

The Story

Closing thoughts:

I. Existence of the Jewish People

Mark Twain:

"...If statistics are right, the Jews constitute but one percent of the human race. It suggests a nebulous dim puff of stardust lost in the blaze of the Milky way. Properly, the Jew ought hardly to be heard of, but he is heard of, has always been heard of. He is as prominent on the planet as any other people, and his commercial importance is extravagantly out of proportion to the smallness of his bulk.

The Egyptian, the Babylonian, and the Persian rose, filled the planet with sound and splendor, then faded to dream-stuff and passed away; the Greek and the Roman followed; and made a vast noise, and they are gone; other people have sprung up and held their torch high for a time, but it burned out, and they sit in twilight now, or have vanished. The Jew saw them all, beat them all, and is now what he always was, exhibiting no decadence, no infirmities of age, no weakening of his parts, no slowing of his energies, no dulling of his alert and aggressive mind. All things are mortal but the Jew; all other forces pass, but he remains. What is the secret of his immortality?"

The Story

Closing thoughts:

- I. Existence of the Jewish People*
 - II. The Faithfulness of God to His Covenant*
-

The Story

Closing thoughts:

- I. *Existence of the Jewish People*
 - II. *The Faithfulness of God to His Covenant*
 - III. *The Messianic Kingdom*
-

The Story

III. *The Messianic Kingdom*

Hebrews 9:11-12 "But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things to come, He entered through the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this creation; and not through the blood of goats and calves, but through His own blood, He entered the holy place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption."

The Story

III. The Messianic Kingdom

Hebrews 9:24-28 "For Christ did not enter a holy place made with hands, a mere copy of the true one, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us; nor was it that He would offer Himself often, as the high priest enters the holy place year by year with blood that is not his own. Otherwise, He would have needed to suffer often since the foundation of the world; but now once at the consummation of the ages *Jesus* has been manifested to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself. And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once and after this *comes* judgment, so Christ also, having been offered once to bear the sins of many..."

The Story

III. The Messianic Kingdom

Hebrews 10:19-22 Therefore, brethren, since we have confidence to enter the holy place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way which He inaugurated for us through the veil, that is, His flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water

Awaiting Act 7

Expanding the New Community

Luke 24:45-47

Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and He said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ would suffer and rise again from the dead the third day, and that repentance for forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed in His name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem.

"You are witnesses of these things.

"And behold, I am sending forth the promise of My Father upon you; but you are to stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."
