

Session 12

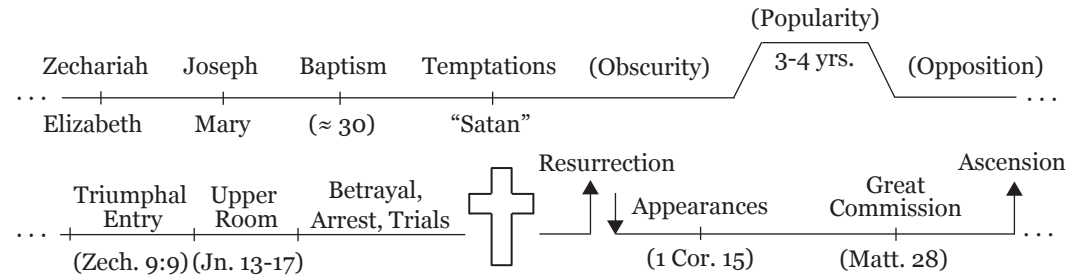
I. PRAYER/REVIEW

A. Movements of Panorama

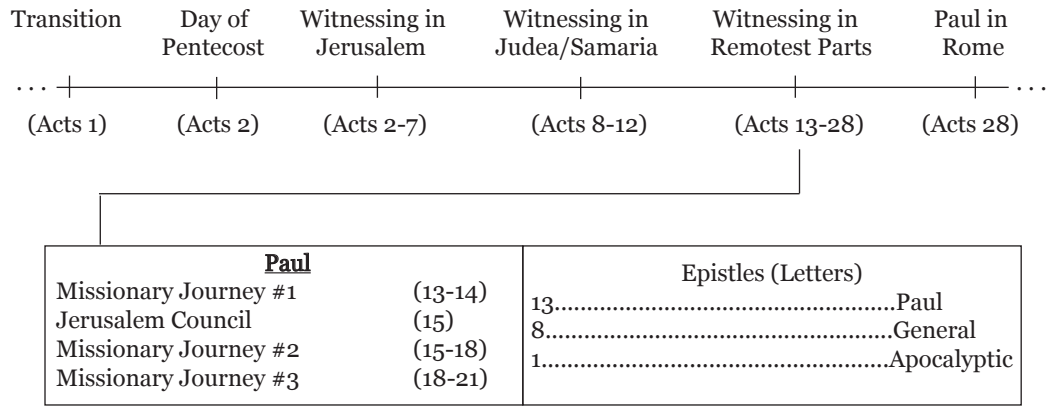
- Movements #1-9 Old Testament/
400 Silent Years
- Movements #10-12 New Testament

B. Timelines: (New Testament)

1. Movement #10: “Life of Christ”



2. Movement #11: “Church Age”



II. OVERVIEW TO BOOK OF REVELATION

A. Four Interpretive Approaches (to “Revelation”)

1. Preterist (Past)

- a. Defined: All prophecies of Revelation have been fulfilled in the early history of the church (leading to and surrounding the events of 70 AD).
- b. Proponents: R.C. Sproul, Gary DeMar, William Barclay, H.B. Swete, Ray Summers

2. Historical (Present)

- a. Defined: Prophecies of Revelation give a panoramic view of church history from the apostles until the Second Coming.
- b. Proponents: The Reformers (Luther, Calvin), Henry Alford, E.B. Elliott

3. Idealist (Timeless)

- a. Defined: Revelation describes in graphic “imagery” the great principle of struggles and conflict throughout the church age (allegorical approach).
- b. Proponents: Augustine (influenced by Origen and Clement), William Hendriksen, W. Milligan, P.S. Minear, G. Beale

4. Futurist (Future)

- a. Defined: Prophecies of Revelation (chapters 4-22) are yet future and unfulfilled (literal hermeneutical approach; advocates might be historic pre-millennialists or dispensational pre-millennialists).
- b. Proponents: G.R. Beasley-Murray, F. F. Bruce, George E. Ladd, Leon Morris (historic); John Walvoord, Charles Ryrie, Darrell Bock (dispensational).

N.B. This study will follow the “Futurist” view to the interpretation of Revelation. Further, the dispensational view will be preferred.

B. Three (3) Views of the Millennium

1. Definition of millennium: The term (millennium) is derived from a Latin word meaning “thousand.” It refers to the thousand-year reign of Christ from Revelation 20. (Also during which Satan is bound - Rev. 20:1-3)

2. Basic Text:

Revelation 20:4-6

*Then I saw thrones, and seated on them were those to whom the authority to judge was committed. Also I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for the testimony of Jesus and for the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or its image and had not received its mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ for **a thousand years**.⁵ The rest of the dead did not come to life until **the thousand years** were ended. This is the first resurrection.⁶ Blessed and holy is the one who shares in the first resurrection! Over such the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ, and they will reign with him for **a thousand years**.*

3. Theological debate (on the “millennium”):
 - a. Amillennial: no literal, future, earthly thousand-year reign of Christ on earth (the Kingdom is spiritual only).
 - b. Post-Millennial: Christ returns “after” (post) the millennium; the kingdom is not a literal thousand years, but rather a golden age ushered in by the preaching of the gospel.
 - c. Pre-millennial: Christ will return to earth in His Second Coming to establish and rule over the thousand-year millennial (Davidic or Messianic) kingdom.
4. Pre-millennial debate (on the “Rapture”):
 - a. Pre-tribulational: the rapture of the church occurs before (“pre”) the seven-year Tribulation.
 - b. Mid-tribulational: the rapture occurs at the mid-point of the seven-year Tribulation.
 - c. Post-tribulational: the rapture occurs after (“post”) the seven-year Tribulation and in conjunction with the Second Coming.

COMPARISONS				
	PRETERIST	HISTORICAL	IDEALIST	FUTURIST
MILLENNIAL VIEW	Amillennial or Postmillennial	Any of Three Views	Amillennial or Postmillennial	Pre-millennial
RAPTURE VIEW	Partial preterists are Post-Trib (full preterists deny a future coming of Christ).	Post-Trib	Post-Trib	Any of the Three Views
* Taken from Mark Hitchcock, <u>The End</u> , 45				

C. Unique Features of Revelation

1. Contains three genres (types of literary form): epistle (letter), prophecy, apocalyptic
2. Contains direct speech of Jesus (unique outside of the Four Gospels and Acts)
3. Companion apocalyptic book to Daniel (also portions of Ezekiel and Zechariah)
4. Concludes the Bible like a bookend (Genesis 1-2 starts in a Garden; Revelation 21-22 concludes in a new Garden – new heavens and earth)

IV. BIBLICAL EXPOSITION OF “REVELATION”

A. Outline of the Book

Revelation 1:19 (NIV)

Write, therefore, what you have seen, what is now and what will take place later.

B. “What You Have Seen” (Rev. 1)

1. The Superscription

Revelation 1:1-3

The revelation from Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants what must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, ² who testifies to everything he saw—that is, the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ. ³ Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it, because the time is near.

2. The Instructions

Revelation 1:9-11

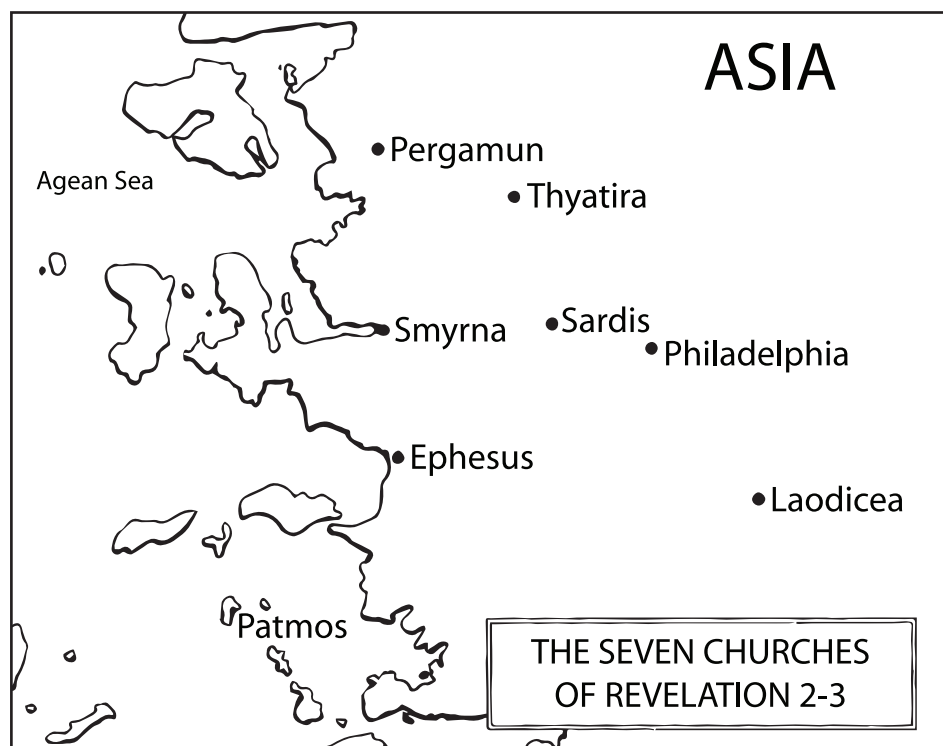
I, John, your brother and companion in the suffering and kingdom and patient endurance that are ours in Jesus, was on the island of Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. ¹⁰ On the Lord’s Day I was in the Spirit, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet, ¹¹ which said: “Write on a scroll what you see and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia and Laodicea.”

Revelation 1:17-18

When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, “Fear not, I am the first and the last, ¹⁸ and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.

C. "What is Now" (Rev. 2-3)

1. Content: seven letters to seven churches



(From *Ryrie NIV Study Bible*, 1972)

2. Context: significance of the seven churches

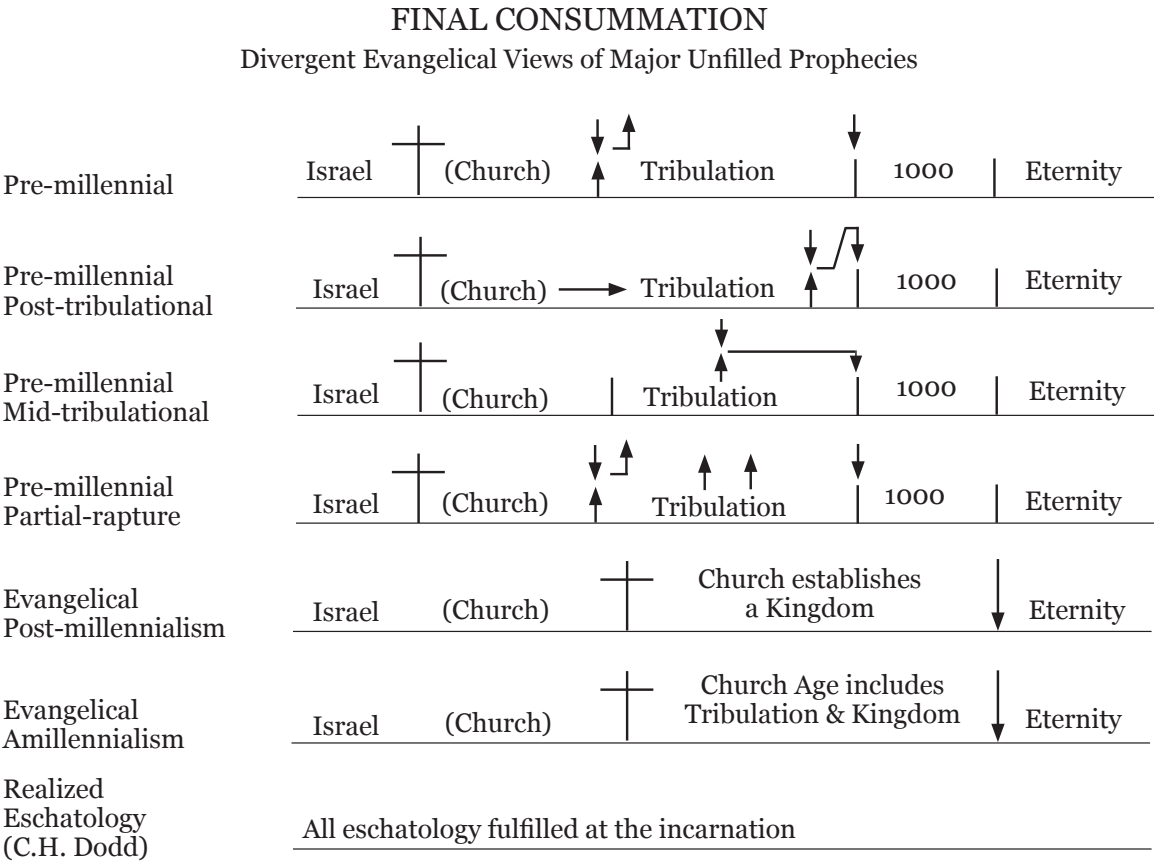
- a. Historical churches
- b. Representative churches
- c. Prophetic churches (depicting "eras" of church age) (?)

3. Analysis: messages to the seven churches

The Seven Letters to the Seven Churches			
Church	Topic	Theme	Key Question (Church Family, Personal Family, Personal Life)
Ephesus	A church that SLIDES	Leaving our first love	Is Christ central in my life?
Smyrna	A church that SUFFERS	Suffering for our faith	Would I be faithful... even to the point of death?
Pergamum	A church that STRAYS	Struggling to understand	Do I know the basics of the Christian faith?
Thyatira	A church that SINS	Tolerating false teachings and false morality	Am I pure in my faith and conduct?
Sardis	A church that SLEEPS	Living on the glory of the past	Is my faith fresh? current? awake & alive?
Philadelphia	A church that SEIZES (the opportunity)	Taking advantage of the open door of ministry opportunity	Do I have a sense of spiritual urgency?
Laodicea	A church that STAGNATES	Staying lukewarm in the Kingdom battle for the souls of men	Am I open, useful, and available for God's use?

D. “WHAT WILL TAKE PLACE LATER”

1. Review “Four Interpretive Approaches (to ‘Revelation’)”, p. 209.
2. Interpreting Chapters 4-22 (of Revelation)



'This chart is a summarization of key material found in Robert P. Lightner, Prophecy in the Ring, pp. 32-58. The ideas of this section have been modified in chart form.

V. PRE-TRIBULATIONAL, PRE-MILLENNIAL VIEW

(the viewpoint of the writer; see previous discussion for other views in broad stroke)

A. The Rapture

1. Timing: after Revelation 2-3 (i.e. Church age)
2. Viewpoints: pre-tribulational, mid-tribulational, post-tribulational, partial, pre-wrath (mid-point of last half of tribulation), and no rapture.
3. Pre-tribulational key passages

a. 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 (NIV)

Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. ¹⁴ For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him. ¹⁵ According to the Lord's word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁶ For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. ¹⁸ Therefore encourage one another with these words.

b. 1 Corinthians 15:51-52 (NIV)

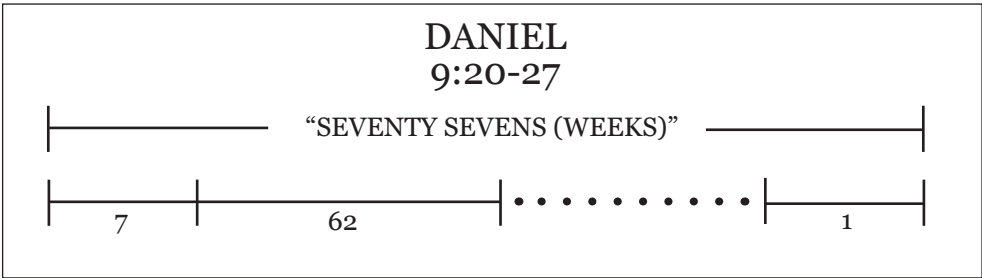
Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed— ⁵² in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.

c. John 14:1-3 (NIV)

Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. ² My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.

4. Correlation to Daniel 9 (“seventy sevens”)

- a Refer to Session 9 and discussion on Daniel 9 and the “Seventy Sevens.”



- b. Theological question: Are there specific, prophetic “signs” of the coming Rapture?

Will there be a countdown before liftoff? The Scriptural evidence is that there will not be. The rapture could occur at any moment as far as unfulfilled prophecy is concerned... God has decreed a decisive, climactic moment when he will seize the reins of world affairs, bring wickedness to a head for judgment, and establish righteousness in the earth... Before this rapturous liftoff event, however, there will be no countdown or forewarning. As far as prophetic preparations for that ascent are concerned, “all systems are go.” He could be raising his trumpet now.

(Stanley Ellisen, *Biography of a Great Planet*, 128-129)

B. Tribulation and Second Coming

1. Key passages

a. Daniel 9:24-27 (NIV)

Seventy 'sevens' are decreed for your people and your holy city to finish transgression, to put an end to sin, to atone for wickedness, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy and to anoint the Most Holy Place.

²⁵ *"Know and understand this: From the time the word goes out to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until the Anointed One, the ruler, comes, there will be seven 'sevens,' and sixty-two 'sevens.' It will be rebuilt with streets and a trench, but in times of trouble. ²⁶ After the sixty-two 'sevens,' the Anointed One will be put to death and will have nothing. The people of the ruler who will come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end will come like a flood: War will continue until the end, and desolations have been decreed. ²⁷ He will confirm a covenant with many for one 'seven.' In the middle of the 'seven' he will put an end to sacrifice and offering. And at the temple he will set up an abomination that causes desolation, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him."*

b. Matthew 24:21 (NIV)

For then there will be great distress, unequaled from the beginning of the world until now—and never to be equaled again.

c. Revelation 6:15-17 (NIV)

Then the kings of the earth, the princes, the generals, the rich, the mighty, and everyone else, both slave and free, hid in caves and among the rocks of the mountains. ¹⁶ They called to the mountains and the rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb!" ¹⁷ For the great day of their wrath has come, and who can withstand it?"

d. Jeremiah 30:7 (NIV)

How awful that day will be!

No other will be like it.

*It will be a time of trouble for Jacob,
but he will be saved out of it.*

2. Key purposes of Tribulation

- a. Bring repentance for national Israel (Jer. 30:7)
- b. Try and test earth dwellers (Rev. 3:10)
- c. Answer the theological question of “who has the right to rule”
(not Anti-christ; Rev. 16:2 with 15:3-4)
- d. Bring to completion the “times of the Gentiles” (Lk. 21:24)

3. Key chapters for the Tribulation (in “Revelation”)

a. Revelation 6-19

b. Events:

- (1) Seal judgments (6)
- (2) 144,000 (7)
- (3) Trumpet judgments (8-9)
- (4) Two witnesses (11)
- (5) Warfare (12)
- (6) Beast and his prophet (13)
- (7) Bowl judgments (16)
- (8) Babylon (17-18)
- (9) Second Coming (19)
- (10) Armageddon (19)

4. Second Coming

a. Matthew 24:30 (NIV)

Then will appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven. And then all the peoples of the earth will mourn when they see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven, with power and great glory.

b. Revelation 1:7 (NIV)

*“Look, he is coming with the clouds,” and “every eye will see him, even those who pierced him”; and all peoples on earth “will mourn because of him.”
So shall it be! Amen.*

c. Luke 17:24 (NIV)

For the Son of Man in his day will be like the lightning, which flashes and lights up the sky from one end to the other.

d. Zechariah 14:4,9 (NIV)

On that day his feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, east of Jerusalem, and the Mount of Olives will be split in two from east to west, forming a great valley, with half of the mountain moving north and half moving south...

⁹The Lord will be king over the whole earth. On that day there will be one Lord, and his name the only name.

Insight: Characteristics of the Second Coming

1. Sudden and Unexpected (Matt. 24:42)
2. Personal (Acts 1:9-11)
3. Visible (Rev. 1:7)

5. Second Coming: consequences

- a. End of Tribulation
- b. Resurrections
- c. Judgments
- d. Reign begins (Millennial Kingdom on earth)
- e. Binding of Satan

C. Millennium

a. Isaiah 9:6-7 (NIV)

*For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷ Of the greatness of his **government and peace there will be no end**. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with **justice and righteousness** from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.*

b. Luke 1:32-33 (NIV)

*"He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the **throne of his father David**, ³³ and he will **reign** over Jacob's descendants forever; his **kingdom** will never end."*

c. Revelation 20:4-6 (NIV)

*I saw thrones on which were seated those who had been given authority to judge. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony about Jesus and because of the word of God. They had not worshiped the beast or its image and had not received its mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and **reigned with Christ a thousand years**. ⁵ (The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended.) This is the first resurrection. ⁶ Blessed and holy are those who share in the first resurrection. The second death has no power over them, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and **will reign with him for a thousand years**.*

Insight: Key Texts on the Millennium	
1. Isaiah 2:1-5	6. Jeremiah 31:1-40
2. Isaiah 11:1-16	7. Jeremiah 33:1-26
3. Isaiah 32:1-20	8. Ezekiel 37:14-28
4. Isaiah 35:1-10	9. Amos 9:11-15
5. Isaiah 60:1-22	10. Zechariah 14:6-21
(from Mark Hitchcock, <u>The End</u> , 400)	

D. Great White Throne Judgment

1. Key passage

Revelation 20:11-15

Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. From his presence earth and sky fled away, and no place was found for them. ¹² And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Then another book was opened, which is the book of life. And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done. ¹³ And the sea gave up the dead who were in it, Death and Hades gave up the dead who were in them, and they were judged, each one of them, according to what they had done. ¹⁴ Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. ¹⁵ And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

2. Purpose: righteous judgment of the unbelieving dead

- Contrast to judgment of believers' works at the "Bēma" judgment seat (2 Cor. 5:9-10).

E. New Heavens and New Earth

1. Key Passage: Revelation 21-22
2. Key Contrast:
 - a. Humanity begins in a new world, a new Garden (Gen. 1-2).
 - b. Humanity ends in a new world, a new place (Rev. 21-22).
3. Key Answer:
 - a. Question: “Who has the right to rule?”
 - b. Answer:

Revelation 22:12-13

Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay each one for what he has done. ¹³ I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.

PSALM 150 (NLT)

- ¹ Praise the Lord!
Praise God in his sanctuary;
Praise him in his mighty heaven!
- ² Praise him for his mighty works;
Praise his unequalled greatness!
- ³ Praise him with a blast of the ram’s horn;
Praise him with the lyre and harp!
- ⁴ Praise him with the tambourine and dancing;
Praise him with strings and flutes!
- ⁵ Praise him with a clash of cymbals;
Praise him with loud clanging cymbals.
- ⁶ Let everything that breathes sing praises to the Lord!

VI. CONCLUSION

- A. Can You Name the “Twelve Movements” of Panorama of the Bible?
- B. Can You Draw the Panorama Timeline for the Movements?
- C. For Further Study: “Panorama Plus” (extended study for each Movement)

PANORAMA OF THE BIBLE

Panorama is a 12-session broad overview of the whole of Scripture (Genesis-Revelation). It is one of the “Baseline” training experiences. This unique study is built upon the Panorama Timeline which links in chronological order the major events, persons, places, and dates in the Scriptures.

PANORAMA “PLUS”

Panorama of the Bible is a core training experience within the leadership development tool called “Baseline.”

Panorama Plus is an elective (not a required part of Baseline). It is an expansion of each of the twelve movements that capture the broad, comprehensive framework of Panorama. Each of the *Panorama Plus* studies will expand one of the twelve movements in a six-session study in order to probe “deeper.”

The Training Center

The Training Center is a ministry of Fellowship Bible Church of Northwest Arkansas. The Training Center is the tangible expression of one of the three guiding metaphors that best describes the vision and mission of Fellowship; namely, that Fellowship is a “greenhouse,” a “training center,” and a “launching pad.” The necessary link between the greenhouse and launching pad is the Training Center where people are **prepared** and **equipped** for leadership in life and ministry.



CORE TRAINING

Core Training is a training track of ten training experiences for everyone at Fellowship. These ten trainings are meant to provide a starting point for engaging life at Fellowship and growing into a prepared and equipped spiritual leader. Whether you are new to Fellowship or have been around for decades, The Training Center is the place to start growing and developing.

BIBLE AND THEOLOGY

Panorama of the Bible

We Believe or Our Faith

Personal Bible Study

MISSION AND MINISTRY

Perspectives/GO Primer (coming 2019)

Leadership Lab

Great Commission: Evangelism & Discipleship (coming 2020)

LIFE AND GROWTH

Align Your Finances with the Heart of God

Re I Frame Family: Marriage and Parenting

Great Commandment: Worship, Prayer, and Spiritual Growth (coming 2021)

DISCOVER

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