



Visualized Bible Study Part 5a The Lord's Reign.

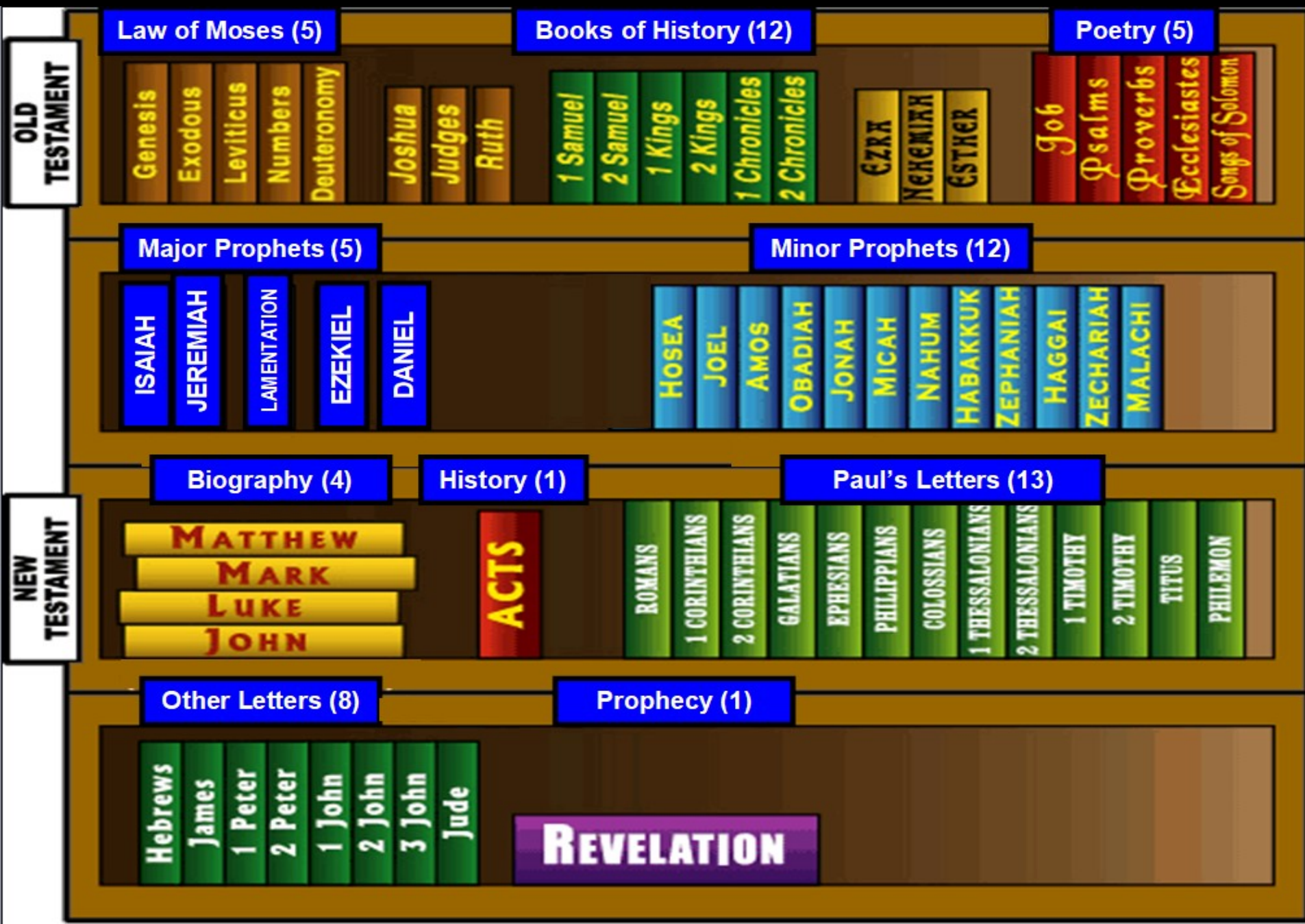
*History of
The Lord's Church*

Updated by
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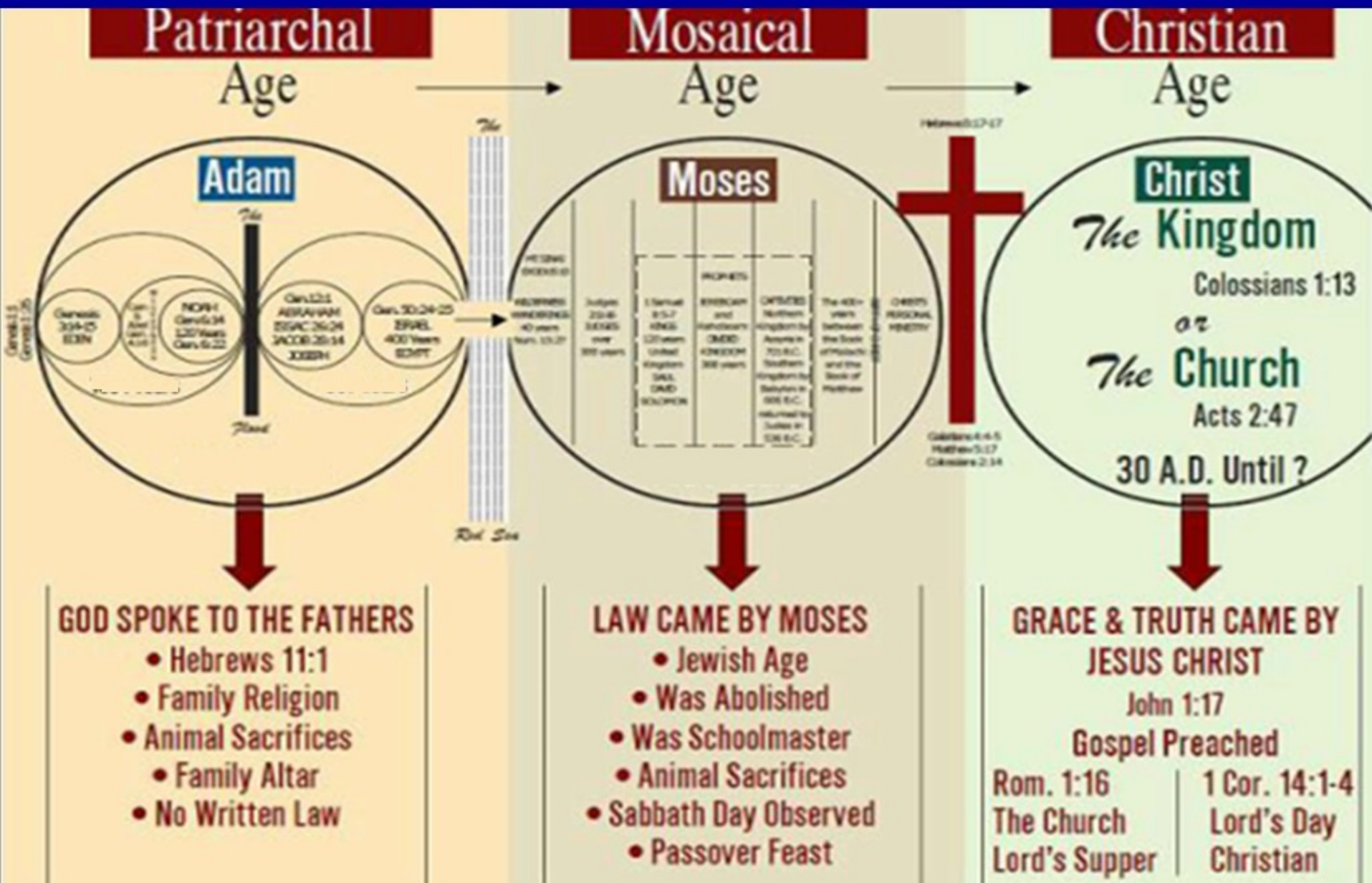
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Remember The BIBLE is a LIBRARY of 66 Books.



REMEMBER THAT ALL TOGETHER THERE ARE THREE PERIODS of BIBLE HISTORY:



Patriarchal Age
ADAM



Mosaic Age
MOSES



Christian Age
CHRIST



**God Spoke to the
Fathers Heb 1:1-3;**

**Law Came by
Moses John 1:17;**

**Gospel came by
Christ Rom 1:16;**

PURPOSE OF THIS LESSON.

To give a brief summary of mankind from the very creation, showing how men have continually left God and His divine will and in doing so have brought upon themselves misery and heartaches.

To show also how men in our Christian Era left God's New Testament truth which has resulted in the doctrines of men and religious strife and divisions.

PURPOSE OF THIS LESSON.

**To assure the believer that religious unity
is possible through the Grace of God.**

**The grace of God is demonstrated through
the death burial and resurrection of Jesus.**

**As we respond to the grace of God by our
faithful obedience to the gospel of Jesus.
1 Cor 15:1-6; Matt 28:19-20; Acts 2:36-38;**

**God adds us to His family, Christ's body,
the church, the kingdom of God.**

**Which is founded upon
Christ and His Holy Word. Eph 4:1-6;**

SYNOPSIS.

**Beginning with Adam and Eve
in the Garden of Eden, the story
of man's departures from God is revealed.**

***When Jesus established His church,
we see the same principle involved
for some Christians departed from the faith.***

**This resulted in the gradual development
of the Roman State Church or Catholicism
in the Sixth Century and later, divided into
Protestantism in the Sixteenth Century.**

Our lesson ends with the plea
to **return to the family of God**
(all those called out by God through the gospel)
as revealed in the first century.

A plea for all throughout the world
to **return to God's Way**
as revealed in the New Testament.
In this way all may be one in Christ Jesus.

**Many weary hours could be spent
in investigating the numerous
denominations, sects, philosophies and isms
which are offered in the name of Christianity.**

**Some suggest that there are as many
as 20 thousand different groups
all claiming to be the one true Church.**

**Numerous differing religious systems
are offered in the NAME of Christianity.**

**The more people search, the more confused
they become. Haven't you found it
totally refreshing just to study the Bible itself?
It is the only divinely inspired source of God's truth.**

**Many conflicting answers have been given by men
to the question. “What must I do to be saved?”**
*But the one and only sure answer to this question
is revealed by Jesus in the New Testament.*

Jesus has said.

“no man comes unto the Father but by me.”
(John 14:6;) Acts 4:12;

**Comparing one religious group with another
will not tell us about CHRIST'S CHURCH
but instead will cause
only confusion and misunderstanding.**

**Since all of today's religious groups came into
existence centuries after Jesus established HIS
CHURCH, when and how did they come into being?**

**This interesting lesson
will help answer some of these questions.**

In **part four** in this series we saw:-

"God's Plan for Redeeming Man."

This showed that for man to pass from the sentence of spiritual death to eternal life.

God has provided and revealed His way
to redeem man from sin
through the sacrifice of Jesus.

**Without this Sacrifice the whole world
would be lost without hope.**

**Since the Supreme Sacrifice to save mankind
has been made,** everyone who remains lost can
only blame themselves. Acts 4:11; Hebrews 2:3;

PART 5a

“History of the Lord's New Covenant People.”

**THE SPIRITUAL BODY OF CHRIST began on
the first Jewish Day of Pentecost after the cross.**

PART 5a

**The History Leading up to
The Lord's Reign over His New Family
From Adam to Pentecost.**

**Through succeeding centuries various religious
movements have arisen within the context
of THE CHURCH and her influence.**

This lesson presents an overview of these events.

The Church, the Family, The Kingdom.

Church historians
must take into account the fact
that man often departs from God's way.

Men
often
depart
from
God's way



**From the very beginning of time,
the history of religion
has demonstrated over and over:-**

**That only a small minority
Remain faithful to God's way.**

**It was not very long after
Adam and Eve were created before
they departed from God's way.**



The heavenly Father had **appointed Adam** to rule over the earth and all living creatures.

God had placed the first pair in the **Garden of Eden** where they could have enjoyed its beauty and provisions forever.

But **Adam and Eve left God's way** by **choosing to listen to the Devil** and **eat the one fruit that God had forbidden.**

Genesis 2:8; to 3:27;

ADAM AND EVE could not hide
their disobedience from **God.**



**Since they chose to sin,
they forfeited their home in the garden
And access to the tree of life
and began to die physically.**

**But worst of all,
being separated from God,
Having lost their relationship
they died spiritually.**

**It is important to remember
that Adam and Eve lost
these precious blessing
because they departed from God's way.**

Genesis 3:8-11; Isaiah 59:1-2;

IN HIS BOUNDLESS LOVE God soon provided ***avenues of worship*** through which man, now separated from God, ***could draw near to Him again.***

But Cain, a son of Adam and Eve,
again demonstrated that **man**
often departs from God's way.



**In the Book of Hebrews
“By faith, Abel offered God
a better sacrifice than Cain did.
Abel was a good man, through faith.
God was pleased with his gifts.**

**Cain offered a sacrifice
which was displeasing to God.**

**As the earth became more populated,
most of the people
followed the way of Cain.**

**They continued to disregard God
and His Word.
Genesis 4:3-8;**

BY THE TIME OF NOAH practically all the world had strayed from God's way.

Mankind had become **so corrupt** that God determined to destroy them by bringing **a flood of water** upon the earth.



**God revealed His plan to Noah
and told him how to construct
a huge boat that would
deliver the faithful from the flood.**

**In all that generation,
only Noah and his family found grace
in the eyes of the Lord
because they walked in God's way.**

Genesis 6:14 to 7:20;

THOSE WHO PERISHED IN THE FLOOD
had been warned by the Lord
through the preaching of Noah.



**But they had refused
to repent and turn to God's way.
When they rejected God,
they sealed their own doom.**
Genesis 7:21-23

NOAH AND HIS FAMILY
(eight souls) later stepped out
of the boat into **a fresh world**
washed clean of wickedness.

Faithful to God,
they were saved
through their trust and obedience.

**God then provided that
Noah and his descendants
were to repopulate the earth.
Genesis 8:16-22;**



BEFORE LONG, HOWEVER
the descendants of Noah
decided that their way
was better than God's way.

God had told them to multiply
and replenish the earth.

Instead, they began building
the **Tower of Babel** in token
of their resolve
to **band together in one place**
and **rely on their own strength**.



*To defeat this rebellious purpose,
God caused them to begin speaking
in different languages.*

Because they could not understand
one another, they could no longer
build the tower.

Mankind was soon scattered
across the face of the earth
but they still continued
to depart from God's way.

Genesis 11:1-9;

JUST AS IN THE DAYS OF NOAH once again **God chose** from among a wicked generation **a man of faith and obedience.**



God brings hope to mankind by selecting Abraham to begin a line of descendants through whom Jesus, the Saviour, would come to bless all mankind.

Note that these promises were given to a man who was willing to walk in God's way.

The descendants of Abraham, a few generations later, were delivered from Egyptian slavery by Moses. Genesis 12:1-3;

**MOSES IS ANOTHER GOOD EXAMPLE
of a man willing to walk in God's way.**

**When Abraham's descendants.
the Israelites, were slaves in Egypt,
they grew into a mighty nation.**

**God chose Moses
who led them to freedom.**

Then on the top of **Mount Sinai**
faithful **Moses** received
God's Law for His people.

Returning from the mountain
Moses found that **God's people**
again were forsaking **God's way**.

**Ignoring the plain commands of God,
they had prepared a golden calf
to worship and actually ascribed
to the calf the glory of delivering them
from Egyptian slavery.**



**MOSES PLEADED WITH GOD
on behalf of those who repented.**

**The Second Commandment
of God's Law condemned the making
or use of images in worship.**



“You shall not make unto yourselves
any **graven image**, or any likeness
of anything that is in heaven above
or that is in the earth beneath
you shall not bow down to them.”

(Exodus 20:4-5; 32:31-35;)

WHILE MOSES WAS ON THE MOUNTAIN
God also gave him detailed plans
for the construction of the Jewish
place of worship, the Tabernacle.



**Following God's way,
Moses built the Tabernacle
exactly as God had commanded.**

**God also gave His people
complete instructions for worship.**

**So detailed were the instructions
that God even told them
where to get the fire
to be used in certain offerings.**

Exodus 35:1 to 40:38;

BUT DESPITE GOD'S INSTRUCTIONS,
two priests, Nadab and Abihu,
left God's way by using fire
from a different source
than the one ordained of God.



As an example to the whole nation of Israel, God sent fire from heaven and destroyed these disobedient priests.

Leviticus 10:1-4;

DURING THE FORTY YEARS

Moses led the Israelites in the wilderness he had seen them ignore God time after time.



**Before Moses died
he solemnly charged the Israelites
to keep God's Law
that they might be blessed.**



**God's Law is authoritative
and must be respected.**

**Moses also warned them
of the dire consequences
of departing from God's Word.**

**God has always designed laws
for the personal happiness
of those who will keep them.**

**God knows a man's needs
far better than man himself.**

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 5-9; Isaiah 55:8-9;

AFTER THE DEATH OF MOSES

God gave the Israelites
the land of Canaan,
the promised land of milk and honey.

They possessed cities
already surrounded by walls,
vineyards they had not planted,
and fields they had not cleared.



**As long as they served God,
they enjoyed God's bountiful blessings
and protection from their enemies.**

Joshua 3:1-12; 24:13;



HOWEVER IT WASN'T LONG
until they turned away from God again
by worshiping images.



The nation turns back to idolatry.

**This is another of the numerous
examples which show that
Regardless of God's many blessings,
man has never
remained faithful to Him for very long.**

**Because God loved His people,
He sent His prophets
to warn them of their doom,
but the people refused to change.
Joshua 24:20-23;**

AFTER A LONG HISTORY OF DEPARTURES from God's way

**His people were dragged from
their homes in the land of Palestine
to serve as slaves of their enemies
in foreign lands.**



Their **land** was laid waste
and their **temple** destroyed.

God had been merciful and patient.

**The people could
blame only themselves
for their woeful plight.**

2 Kings 17:7-23;

BUT GOD STILL CARED
For His people and sent preachers
or prophets, like Ezekiel,
to turn them back to His way.



While some listened,
many still ignored the pleading of God
through His prophets.

Therefore, they continued
to **serve in slavery** for many years.

2 Kings 25:8-21;

**WHILE GOD`S PEOPLE WERE
IN SLAVERY** in a foreign land, **Daniel**,
another **prophet**, prayed that **they**
might return to God and be restored
to their homes in the Promised Land.



**With the passing of time,
the people did repent.**

**Through His providence
God brought a nation into power
which allowed His people
to return to their homes.**

Daniel 9:1-19;

GOD FINALLY SENT
His only begotten Son
to lead the whole world back to Him.



**Christ came first to the Jews
who so often before had rejected God.**

**Surely they would listen
to God's own Son!**

**John the Baptist pointed the Jews
to Jesus, “Behold the lamb of God,
who takes away the sin of the world.”
(John 1:29;)**

**Again the Jews departed from God.
They refused to receive Jesus
as the Messiah, the Son of God.**



**Ultimately they caused Jesus
to be crucified by the Roman soldiers,
thinking this would silence Him
and His followers forever.**

**BUT EVEN DEATH
COULD NOT OVERPOWER
THE SON OF GOD!**



Jesus conquers the power of death.

**God miraculously raised Him
from the dead, proving beyond
any doubt that He is God's Son.**

**Instead of ending
Jesus' life and His teachings
as the Jews had hoped:-**

**Jesus brutal death
was the occasion
for His triumphant resurrection.**

**This ultimately brought about
the beginning of the reign of Christ
and the establishment
of His new covenant people,
His new kingdom family.**

**Christ's body the assembly
and the spread of Christianity
throughout the world.**

Matthew 16:18; Acts 2;

Visualized Bible Study

Part 5a

The Lord's Reign.

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Next - Part 5b The Lord's Reign