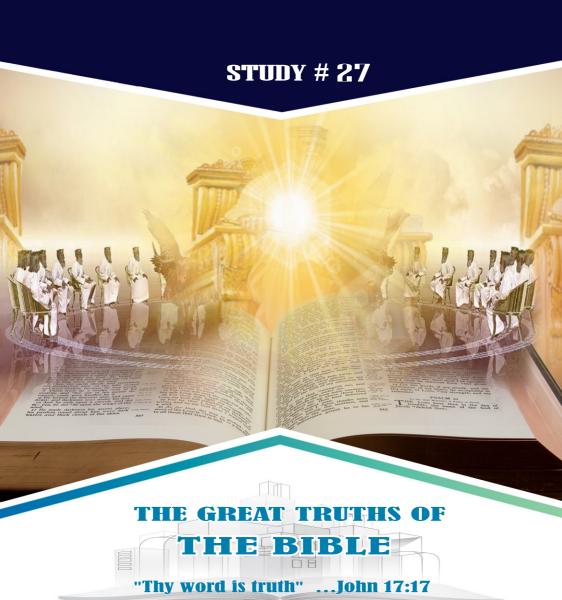
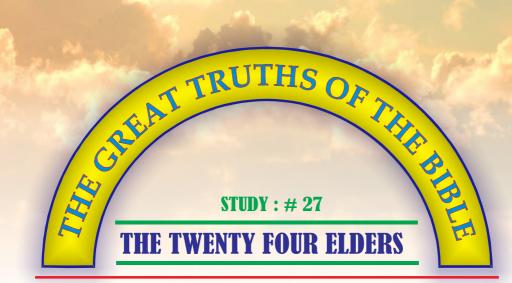
# The Twenty Four Elders





PLEASE NOTE: Kindly refer to your Bibles for every scripture reference and read thoroughly.

MOST SCRIPTURE PASSAGES ARE QUOTED FROM THE AUTHORISED KING JAMES VERSION (KJV)

Today we take up the study of a matter that we see in the Book of Revelation!

#### YES! THE TWENTY FOUR ELDERS!

Let us read about them in -

#### **Revelation 4:4**

"And round about the throne were four and twenty seats; and upon the seats I saw four and twenty elders sitting, clothed in white raiment; and they had on their heads crowns of gold."



# WHAT does this scripture mean?

WHO are these "twenty four elders"?

WHY do they sit around the throne?

# ARE THESE LITERAL BEINGS, WHO ARE ALWAYS SITTING ON THRONES?

Yes! Some are of the opinion that these **TWENTY**FOUR ELDERS are -





#### IS THIS TRUE?

Do you think that these 24 persons are **LITERALLY** and **CONTINUALLY**...... sitting around the throne of God in Heaven??

Ah! Firstly let us always keep in mind that the Book of Revelation is <u>NOT</u> a book of simple literal language as we very clearly read in **Revelation 1:1 -( Refer KJV)** 

"....and he sent and <u>SIGNIFIED it by His angel</u>unto His servant John."

Yes! It is a book of "symbols" and SIGNIFIED LANGUAGE
- using "signs" or SYMBOLS.

Besides in this 4th chapter we have already studied **vs 6 & 7** and seen the **SYMBOLIC REPRESENTATION** of the Heavenly Father and <u>His Divine Attributes of character</u>.



So too this scripture of the "twenty four elders" in vs 4 must .....ALSO BE IN SYMBOLIC LANGUAGE!

HAVING UNDERSTOOD THIS, THE QUESTION IS WHAT DO THEY SYMBOLISE ?

Let us see by looking at the symbol used!

We see the "elders" are seated "round about the throne" of God - as ALSO seen in vs-6 of the "four beasts" or "four living creatures" who are said to be "round about the throne."

So the meaning of these SYMBOLS of "elders" must be something RELATED to God himself!

What do they represent?

Just as the four "living creatures" represent.....the FOUR **DIVINE CHARACTER ATTRIBUTES** of God, these "twenty four elders" too must be representing something of God.

Knowing now that this is a SYMBOL the word "elder" means -SOMETHING OLD or whose origin is DATING BACK MANY YEARS AGO.



WHAT ARE THESE THINGS OF GOD THAT HAVE SUCH AN OLD ORIGIN?



#### WHAT COULD THESE BE ?

Ah! We read of the answer in -

Acts 3:21

".....which God hath spoken by the mouth of all His Holy prophets since the world began!"



Yes! It is..... HIS WORDS!

......HIS PROPHETIC WORDS spoken through the "mouth" of His Holy prophets!!

There | These then are the "elders" |

They are the WORDS OF PROPHECY of God or the WORDS OF TESTIMONY of God which God SPOKE through the prophets of the Old Testament and these words date back since the very beginning of the world - a very LONG TIME AGO!

Truly the suitable symbol is.... "Elders"



Now why do we read that there are TWENTY FOUR elders?

It is because THESE OLD TESTAMENT PROPHETS

NUMBER 24 in all and it is through their "mouths" or through their INSTRUMENTALITY that God revealed these "WORDS" of old.



# WORDS OF PROPHECIES



THESE "WORDS" OF GOD HAVING AN ANCIENT ORIGIN ARE THE ELDERS.

Here it must be noted that the "elders" are <u>the</u>
<u>PROPHECIES</u> and <u>NOT</u> the prophets themselves !!

What do these divinely revealed "words" of God or **PROPHECIES** relate to, one may ask?

The answer to this is found in the fact that these "elders" were seated "round about the throne".

Yes! These "words" represent IN TOTAL GOD'S
PRINCIPAL PROMISE



....THE SALVATION OF THE WORLD AND ITS BLESSINGS IN THE KINGDOM OF GOD .

#### YES! THE GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM!

THESE ARE THE PROPHECIES THAT GUARANTEE....AND SHOW FORTH GOD'S GREAT DIVINE PLAN OF SALVATION FOR ALL MANKIND!



Before we "meet" these twenty four elders let us now see the SYMBOLS of description. You may be wondering how WORDS can be symbolized as "sitting on thrones" and having "crowns of gold" on their heads!



#### IT ALMOST DOES NOT SEEM POSSIBLE!

But let us now look into the matter now and understand -



## "The seats" (thrones)

This symbol represents the **DIVINE AUTHORITY** of these words of prophecy as a throne is a representation of AUTHORITY in the Bible as we read in -Rev 5:13.



#### "Clothed in white raiment"

This symbol represents the **HOLINESS** of these words of prophecy - for they are the spoken words of God Himself!



This symbol represents a **STATE OF WAITING** for their fulfillment over a period of time.

Yes! ALL of these prophecies still await their FULLEST & COMPLETE FULFILLMENT.



"On their heads crowns of gold"

This represents the **DIVINE GLORY** to be manifest through the fulfillment of these prophecies!

A crown is always a representation of GLORY!



"Round about the throne"

This represents the **DIVINE ORIGIN** of all these prophecies and that God is.....ALWAYS IN REMEMBERANCE OF these testimonies and they will ALL be FULFILLED FOR SURE in due time !

Ah! How wonderful are the words of God and the symbols He uses!

Now let us "meet" these twenty four "elders" -

# ELDER#1

We read of this elder surprisingly in the **NEW** Testament in -

**Jude:14,15** 

"And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam prophesied of these, saying, Behold the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints,

to execute judgement upon all, <u>and to convince all that are ungodly</u>
<u>among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly</u>
<u>committed</u>, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have

spoken against him."



Yes! This is the FIRST and the oldest of these "elders" and dates back to the pre-flood FIRST WORLD days!!

These are the words spoken by the "mouth" of ENOCH - THE WORLD'S FIRST PROPHET OF GOD.

It speaks of the testimony of the **SECOND COMING** of Our Lord Jesus Christ with.....His church at the time of.....the judgement of this world.

Please note that it does not speak of **DESTROYING** sinners but of......"convincing" them and thus allowing them.....to

REPENT and be....TRANSFORMED.

# ELDER#2

We read of this elder in -

**Genesis 49:10** 

"The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be."



Yes! This is the "elder" or prophecy which speaks of the coming of - "SHILOH" - which means - "prince of peace" (Isaiah 9:6)

.....a title that belongs to Jesus and speaks of His kingdom reign.

These words were spoken by the mouth of **JACOB**.

Yes! In a world torn up by troubles and sorrows and where there is **NO PEACE** to be found at all, the answer to **REAL** and **LASTING** peace is promised by God through

#### "Shiloh" - OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST !!

.....AT HIS SECOND COMING when he establishes God's kingdom on this earth in answer to that prayer -

"Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven"Matthew 6:10

.....and completely subdues Satan and the powers of EVIL and EDUCATES mankind on the principles of RIGHTEOUSNESS.

IT IS THEN ONLY that we read that <u>true and everlasting</u>
peace will come as we read in -

#### Isaiah 14:7

"The whole earth is at rest, and quiet; they break forth into singing."

Yes! Then "Shiloh" would have completed His blessed work!

# ELDER#3

These are the words of God spoken through the "mouth" of MOSES in -

**Deuteronomy 18:15, 18-19** 

"The LORD thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; unto him ye shall hearken."

"I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee, and will put my words in his mouth; and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him. And it shall come to pass, that whosoever will not hearken unto my words which he shall speak in my name, I will require it of him." Yes! These are the "words" spoken by the "mouth" of MOSES testifying about a coming prophet who he describes as -





# WHOM WAS HE REFERRING TO?

Muslims are of the opinion that Moses here was speaking of Mohammed, their prophet!

#### IS IT SO?

The key is in the words of Moses - "like unto me" The coming prophet would be like Moses in TWO aspects -

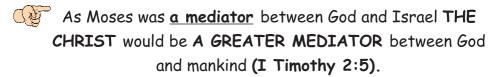


# A MEDIATOR and...... A DELIVERER.

Yes! The prophet that Moses was referring to was Jesus at His second Coming with His Body the Church in glory -







As Moses was a **DELIVERER** of Israel from the bondage of Egypt, the Christ will be **A GREATER DELIVERER** of all mankind from the bondage of sin and death!

# ELDER #4

These are the words of God spoken through the "mouth" of the prophet **NATHAN** in -

#### 2 Samuel 7:13

"He shall build an house for my name, and I will stablish the throne of his kingdom forever."

These are the words spoken by the "mouth" of NATHAN about the building of the "house" of God!

Many Jews thought these prophetic words referred to the building of a "house" for God out of LITERAL STONES!

# THUS, THE GREAT TEMPLE WAS BUILT IN JERUSALEM!

But the fact that it was destroyed many times shows that was **NOT** what God meant at all !!

The "house" God spoke of is <u>under construction</u> as we read in -

#### **I Timothy 3:15**

"....to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the Church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth."



Yes! The TRUE "house of God" is......THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST ......which is being built of "living stones" as we read in the words of Apostle Peter in -

#### I Peter 2:5

"Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house...."

# ELDER#5

These are the "words" of God spoken through the "mouth" of JOB in -

#### Job 19:25,26

"For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God:"

Yes! These are the words spoken by
the "mouth" of JOB about the
"earthly" resurrection of the dead made alive again in the same general
condition (though made WHOLE
but.... NOT PERFECT) of BODY and
MIND as they had died as we read -

"whom I shall see for myself and mine eyes shall behold and not another" - vs 27

Yes! All will be easily able to recognize oneself perfectly

.....a "marvel" for all as Jesus told us in -

#### John 5:28

"Marvel NOT at this: for the hour is coming in the which all that are in the graves shall hear His voice."

Yes! The DAY of RESURRECTION will be A WONDER TO ALL!

# ELDER#6

These are the "words" of GOD spoken through the "mouth" of DAVID in -

#### **Psalm 30:5**

"For his anger endureth but a moment; in his favour is life: weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning."

These are the words spoken by the "mouth" of DAVID respecting God's mercy and love in HIS DIVINE PLAN -

a "night" period of ..... weeping, to be followed by

"joy in the morning" in God's kingdom with.....its

BLESSINGS OF LIFE and THE RESTITUTION OF ALL

THINGS (Acts 3:21)



Yes! A very clear scripture of God's plan to RENEW and RESTORE the earth and ALL MANKIND to life as Jesus Himself spoke of the matter in -

#### **Matthew 19:28**

"And Jesus said unto them, verily I say unto you that ye which have followed me in the <u>regeneration</u> when the son of man shall sit in the throne of His glory...."

And again we read of KING JESUS telling us the same in -

#### **Revelation 21:5**

"And he that sat upon the throne said, <u>Behold, I make all things new.</u>
And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful."

DID YOU SEE THAT? ISN'T IT VERY CLEAR?

# ELDER#7

These are "words" of the GOD spoken through the "mouth" of SOLOMON in -

#### **Proverbs 8:22-30**

"The LORD possessed me in the beginning of his way, before his work of old. I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning, or ever the earth was when there were no depths, I was brought forth; when there were no fountains abounding with water. Before the mountains were settled, before the hills was I brought forth while as yet he had not made the earth, nor fields, nor the highest part of the dust of the world. When he prepared the heavens, I was there: when he set a compass upon the face of the depth: when he established the clouds above: when he strengthened the fountains of the deep: when he gave

to the sea his decree, that the waters should not pass his commandment: when he appointed the fountains of the earth; then I was by him as one brought up with him: and I was daily his delight, rejoicing always before him;"

These are the words spoken by the "mouth" of SOLOMON about the ORIGIN or the beginning of "wisdom". (Vs.12).

Here "wisdom" cannot be the **CHARACTER ATTRIBUTE** of God as God <u>has no beginning</u>!!

This "wisdom" has..... A BEGINNING!



WHO OR ..... WHAT IS THIS "WISDOM"?

We read of the answer very clearly in -

I Corinthians 1:30

"But of Him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is MADE UNTO US WISDOM..."



Yes! God's wisdom **PERSONIFIED** is Jesus!

And here is recorded His beginning

(HIS BEING THE FIRST CREATION OF GOD in Revelation 3:14/ Colossians 1:15 and His unique existence and relationship with God.)

Yes! This knowledge of Jesus and WHO HE REALLY IS and...HIS VERY SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP with God as - "the Only Begotten"

......and the CO-CREATOR of "all things" is a MYSTERY to the world

......and to a great and <u>VAST MAJORITY of Christian</u>
themselves !!!!!

# ELDER#8

These are the "words" of GOD spoken by the "mouth" of ISAIAH in -

#### Isaiah 35:8-10

"And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it: but it shall be for those: the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein. No lion shall be there, nor any ravenous beast shall go up thereon, it shall not be found there; but the redeemed shall walk there: and the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away."

These are the words spoken by the "mouth" of ISAIAH about the THIRD WAY.



What a great surprise it is to many to read of God's plan for all the world of mankind who lived and died

# .....<u>NEVER KNOWING AND....UNDERSTANDING</u> THE TRUTH OF GOD !!

THIS IS THE SALVATION that is to follow the Christian salvation of this present Gospel Age and is well confirmed in the Word of God in -

#### Isaiah 11:10,11

"And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people, to it shall the gentiles seek, and His rest shall be glorious. And it shall come to pass in that day that the Lord shall set His hand again the second time to recover the remnant of His people..."

Yes! THE SECOND SALVATION OF ..... ALL MANKIND!



# ELDER#9

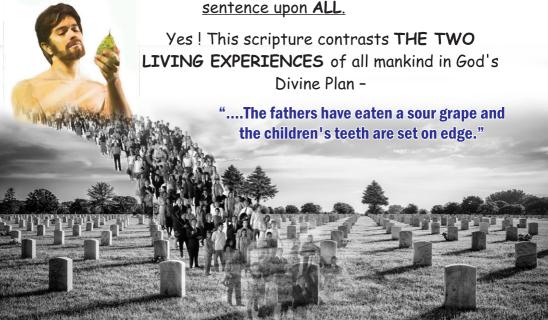
These are the "words" of GOD spoken by the "mouth" of JEREMIAH in -

Jeremiah 31:29-30

"In those days they shall say no more. The fathers have eaten a sour grape, and the children's teeth are set on edge. But every one shall die for his own iniquity: every man that eateth the sour grape, his teeth shall be set on edge."

These are the words spoken by the "mouth" of JEREMIAH about INDIVIDUAL JUDGEMENT and the opportunity of attaining to ETERNAL LIFE during the 1000 years of God's kingdom

.....very unlike the present condition of the ADAMIC DEATH
sentence upon ALL.



This is the period when ALL inherit the DEATH

CONDEMNATION that came on Father Adam thus fulfilling

the scripture -

"as in Adam all die..." - (I Corinthians 15:22)

But then will come the <u>SECOND LIVING EXPERIENCE</u> as seen in -

"Every man that eateth the sour grape, his teeth shall be set on edge."

Yes! In the AWAKENING FROM THE DEAD of all mankind there will be the deliverance from this <u>COMMON</u> DEATH CONDEMNATION and then "every man" or each INDIVIDUAL will die only for his <u>OWN SIN!</u>

The "sour grape" here is a symbol of.....SIN and ......."set on edge" represents the result of sin......DEATH

(Romans 6:23)

### **ELDER** # 10

These are the "words" of GOD spoken by the "mouth" of EZEKIEL in -

#### **Ezekiel 21:26,27**

"Thus saith the Lord God; remove the diadem, and take off the crown: this shall not be the same: exalt him that is low, and abase him that is high. I will overturn, overturn it: and it shall be no more until He come whose right it is; and I will give it Him."

Yes! These are the "words" spoken by the "mouth" of

**EZEKIEL** about the expiry of God's favour to.....the TYPICAL KINGDOM OF GOD in Israel (for the kings of Israel were said to be sitting

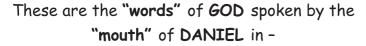
"on the throne of the Lord" - I Chronicles 29:23)

The prophecy goes on to say that the POWER and AUTHORITY (throne) would be given to -

"He.....whose right it is....."

Yes! This is the prophecy that speaks of the **REMOVAL** of the TYPICAL KINGDOM OF GOD in Israel and the GIVING of that POWER AND KINGDOM to Jesus at HIS SECOND COMING!

# ELDER#11



#### **Daniel 12:12**

"Blessed is he that waiteth, and cometh to the thousand three hundred and five and thirty days."

These are the "words" spoken by the "mouth" of DANIEL about.....



#### A PROPHETIC DATE.

It is also said to be a "blessed" date. We will be studying this matter in detail in the future classes

Right now we cannot go into the meaning of it because of what we read in -

John 16:12

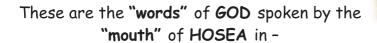
"I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear then now."

Yes! It is **PREMATURE** to speak of this prophecy meaning NOW!

➡ We will meet with this **"elder"** in the future lessons! It is sufficient to say that this prophecy relates to

......THE SECOND COMING OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST.

# **ELDER** # 12



#### Hosea 7:8,11

"Ephraim, he hath mixed himself among the people; Ephraim is a cake not turned."

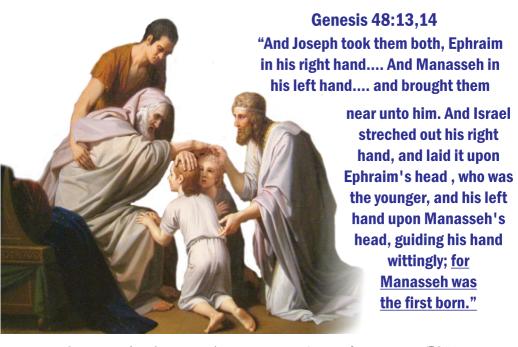
"Ephraim also is like a silly dove without heart: they call to Egypt, they go to Assyria."

These are the "words" spoken by the "mouth" of HOSEA about Ephraim!



## WHO IS EPHRAIM AND.....WHAT DOES THIS PROPHECY MEAN?

Ephraim was the second of two sons of Joseph as we read in -



But surely this prophecy cannot be referring to **EPHRAIM** as an individual!

#### NO!

Joseph's two children represent the "two classes" of

.....THE CHOSEN STAGE AMONG CHRISTIANS!

Let us see how -

\_\_\_\_......Manasseh the "first born" typifies the LITTLE FLOCK
as we read in Revelation 7:6

—— ......Ephraim must then typify THE GREAT COMPANY CLASS.

Thus this is a prophecy ABOUT THE GREAT COMPANY CLASS and its IMMATURITY and IMPROPER SPIRITUAL GROWTH symbolized by -



This class is further described in vs. 11 as - "a silly dove"

......symbolizing that though this class are "VIRGINS" (consecrated to the truth) they are the "foolish virgins" of



And again we read of this class in 
Hosea 13:13

"The sorrows of a travailing woman shall come upon him; he is an unwise son;...."

Yes! This speaks of **THE GREAT TRIBULATION** that this class must go through for its cleansing from its defilements with the world.

Thus this "elder" or prophecy spoken through the mouth of HOSEA depicts the final condition of......THE GREAT MULTITUDE CLASS!

And by the way, <u>this is</u> the very same "elder" that speaks to John in -

#### Revelation 7:13,14

"And <u>one of the elders answered, saying unto me</u>...these are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb."

Yes! .....Explaining the prophecy of the GREAT MULTITUDE class!

## ELDER#13

These are the "words" of GOD spoken by the "mouth" of JOEL in -

#### **Joel 2:28**

"And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions."

These are the "words" spoken by the "mouth" of JOEL and speaks of the great OUTPOURING OF GOD'S HOLY SPIRIT OF TRUTH (John 15:26) upon ALL in the millennium (The 1000 years).

This greatly differs from vs.29 which speaks of the pouring on -

"the servants and upon the handmaids"

......The consecrated CHURCH class in this Gospel age.

This outpouring of God's Holy Spirit in TWO AGES separately IS BEAUTIFULLY ILLUSTRATED in -

#### **Judges 6:37-40**

"The dew be on the fleece only and it be dry upon all the earth beside. ....Let it be dry upon the fleece and upon all the ground let there be dew."

Yes! These are the two requests OF VISIBLE SIGNS made by Gideon to God to confirm God's favor upon him.



But it has GREAT LESSONS WITHIN FOR US to learn!

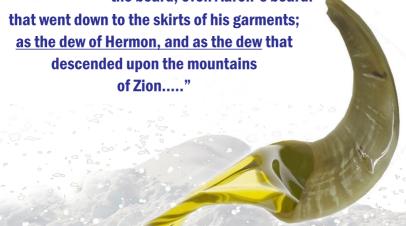
Let us look into that now -



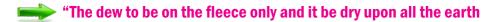
Here the dew is a picture of God's HOLY SPIRIT as is confirmed in -

Psalms 133:2,3

"It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard:



Yes! The "dew" here REPRESENTS THE HOLY SPIRIT! Thus the two signs represent THE TWO OUTPOURINGS of the HOLY SPIRIT in God's DIVINE PLAN -



This represents the pouring of God's HOLY SPIRIT in the Gospel age only on a small class - THE CHURCH.

"upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days..."

(Joel 2:29)



This represents the pouring of God's HOLY SPIRIT on.....ALL FLESH in the coming MILLENNIAL AGE.

The "dry" fleece here represents the FEW of all mankind who will

..........WILFULLY RESIST receiving God's Holy Spirit and will become WILFULLY wicked as we read of this class in -

#### Isaiah 26:10

"Let favour be shewed to the wicked <u>yet will he not learn</u>
<u>righteousness;</u> in the land of uprightness will he deal unjustly, and will
not behold the majesty of the LORD."



Yes! These are the class who then go to the **SECOND DEATH**.

## **ELDER** # 14

These are the "words" of GOD spoken by the "mouth" of the prophet AMOS in -

#### **Amos 9:13**

"Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that the plowman shall overtake the reaper, and the treader of grapes him that soweth seed; and the mountains shall drop sweet wine, and all the hills shall melt."

#### WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

The "reaper" is a symbol that represents.....the

HARVEST WORK of the Gospel Age



The "plowman" is a symbol that represents the work of the preparation of the "field" which in turn represents......THE WHOLE WORLD as we read in -



Matthew 13:38 - "the field is the world..."

This "ploughing" or PREPARATION of the world's hearts to receive the seed of God's word is "the great time of trouble" described by Jesus in -

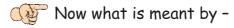
#### **Matthew 24:21**

"For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time...."



#### DID YOU SEE THAT ?!

Yes! The "plowman" OVERTAKING the "reaper" represents how in GOD"S DIVINE PLAN one WORK FOLLOWS the other ...... WITHOUT ANY DELAY !!



- "the mountains shall drop sweet wine..."

We read this in NIV described as - "...new wine."

This represents how in that period of time TRUTHS on **VARIOUS SUBJECTS** of science, nature, technology, chemistry, etc will become MANIFEST GRADUALLY ("drop/drip") in the "mountains" which in turn represents.....THE VARIOUS NATIONS OF THE WORLD.

# **ELDER** # 15

These are the "words" of GOD spoken by the "mouth" of the prophet OBADIAH in -

Obadiah:21

"And saviours shall come upon mount Zion to judge the mount of Esau; and the kingdom shall be the LORD'S."

Here the prophet OBADIAH speaks of -



"saviours shall come upon mount Zion."



WHAT DOES THIS REPRESENT?

This represents the CLEAR and VISIBLE ESTABLISHMENT of God's kingdom with Jesus and His church in glory -THE SAVIOURS!

Yes! MOUNT ZION is the name for the "heavenly phase" of that kingdom government.

> ...... "The new heavens wherein dwelleth righteousness" (II Peter 3:13).

The "saviours" in PLURAL is a reference to the Christ - both HEAD and the BODY MEMBERS of

1,44,000

which will **THEN** be made **MANIFEST IN GREAT GLORY!** 

## **ELDER** # 16

These are the "words" of GOD spoken by the "mouth" of JONAH in -

Jonah 4:10,11

"Then said the LORD, thou hast had pity on the ground, for the which thou hast not labored, neither madest it grow; which came in a night, and perished in a night: and should not I spare Nineveh, that great city, wherein are more than six score thousand persons that cannot discern between their right hand and their left hand; and also much cattle?"

These are the "words" spoken by the "mouth" of JONAH about God's mercy upon the city of "Nineveh".

# WHAT DOES THIS INCIDENT ABOUT "NINEVEH" REPRESENT ?

Let us understand the matter from the words spoken of the condition of this city of Nineveh -

"....that cannot discern between their right hand and their left hand."

Ah! Here "right hand" represents.....TRUTH and the "left hand" represents.....UNTRUTH.

Who does this condition of not knowing TRUTH from UNTRUTH remind us of?

YES! IT IS THE CONDITION OF THE WORLD OF MANKIND!



We read of the world's condition in -

#### Isaiah 60:2

"For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people..."

Yes! Truly the world is in the condition of great darkness -NOT knowing the LIGHT or the truth of God.

This has been the work of Satan as we read in -

II Corinthians 4:4 - "the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not...."



#### HOW HAS SATAN DONE THIS?

We read of the answer in -

#### Isaiah 5:20

"Woe unto them that call evil good and good evil; that puts darkness for light and light for darkness..."

Yes! Satan has BLINDED the world with CONFUSION and made them think UNTRUTH as TRUTH and.....TRUTH as UNTRUTH!

But as God speaks here of "Nineveh" so too He has a MERCIFUL, PLAN OF SALVATION for ALL the world of mankind in due time

# **ELDER** # 17

These are the "words" of GOD spoken by the "mouth" of MICAH in -

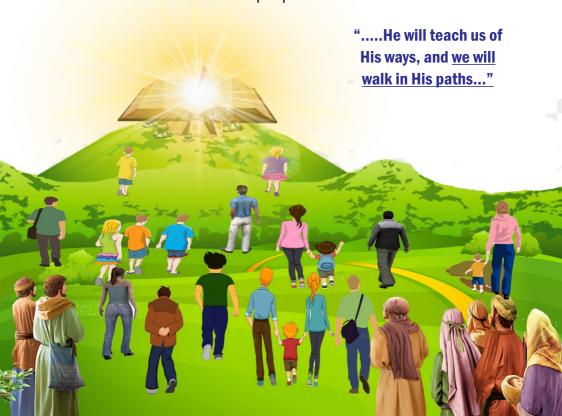
Micah 4:1,2

"But in the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain

of the house of the Lord shall be established in the top of the mountains and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it. And many nations shall come, and say, come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, and to the house of the God of Jacob: and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem."

These are the "words" spoken by the "mouth" of MICAH about the KINGDOM IN GLORY and the nations themselves VOLUNTARILY coming and saying - "Come let us go up to the mountain (kingdom) of the Lord...."

It also speaks of the WILLINGNESS and the ......VOLUNTARY OBEDIENCE OF THE NATIONS and the people of the world.



# **ELDER** # 18

These are the "words" of GOD spoken by the "mouth" of NAHUM in -

#### **Nahum 1:15**

"Behold upon the mountains the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace! O Judah, keep thy solemn feasts, perform thy vows: for the wicked shall no more pass through thee; he is utterly cut off."

These are the "words" spoken by the "mouth" of NAHUM about "the feet of Him."

WHAT IS MEANT BY ...... "the feet of Him."?

The "Him" here is the Lord Jesus Christ and "the feet of Him." refer to HIS BODY MEMBERS - specifically referring to the LAST and CONCLUDING members of His "church" and......A SPECIAL WORK that they will do for the proclamation of the TRUTH in the last days.

They will be on every "mountain" or <u>NATION OF THE</u>

<u>WORLD</u> proclaiming "the gospel of the kingdom" 
......"the good tidings"!

# **ELDER # 19**

These are the "words" of GOD spoken by the "mouth" of HABAKKUK in -

### Habakkuk 2:14 "For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea."



These are the words spoken by the "mouth" of HABAKKUK about the FILLING OF THE EARTH completely with the

"knowledge of the glory of the Lord".

This is a clear reference that Bible knowledge.....SHALL FILL THE WHOLE EARTH.



But there is A FURTHER AND DEEPER MEANING to these words -

"the knowledge of the glory of the Lord."

WHAT IS MEANT BY "the glory of the LORD."

Let us read of that answer in -

**Exodus 33:18,22** 

"And he said, I beseech thee, shew me thy glory...."

"And it shall come to pass, while my glory passeth by, that I will put thee in a clift of the rock, and will cover thee with my hand while I pass by:"

Yes! Moses beheld the "glory of the LORD" or rather the "back" of Him.

MUCH LATER others too beheld "the glory of the LORD" like

Moses as we read in -

#### John 1:14

"And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,)
full of grace and truth."

Yes! The "glory of the LORD" that Moses saw was JESUS
CHRIST OUR LORD!!

Thus the world will **FIRST** be filled with the **TRUE** knowledge of Jesus, who being the "way" to the Father **WILL**THEN LEAD THE WORLD TO -

- "the only true God."

For it is only through Jesus THAT ONE CAN COME TO KNOW GOD as we read in -

John 1:18

"No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten which is in

### the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him."



We are seeing those **MEDIA** right before our very eyes today -

- TELEVISION, RADIO, MOTION PICTURES, BOOKS, MAGAZINES, INTERNET, DVD's, VCD's, HOARDINGS, etc.

Yes! Indeed **WE ARE VERY CLOSE** to......those blessed days!

# **ELDER # 20**

These are the "words" of GOD spoken by the "mouth" of the prophet ZEPHANIAH in -

### Zephaniah 3:8,9

"Therefore wait ye upon me, saith the LORD, until the day that I rise up to the prey: for my determination is to gather the nations, that I may assemble the kingdoms, to pour upon them mine indignation, even all my fierce anger: For all the earth shall be devoured with the fire of my jealousy. For then will I turn to the people a pure language, that they may call upon the name of the LORD, to serve him with one consent."

These are the "words" spoken by the "mouth" of ZEPHANIAH about God's "vengeance" (wrath) and JUDGEMENT on the "day of

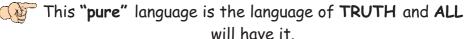
wrath" which will "devour all the earth" or in other words bring

.....A <u>DESTRUCTIVE END</u> to ALL present SYSTEMS.

This is to be followed by God's kingdom of TRUTH and blessings as we read in -

"For then will I turn to the people a <u>PURE language</u>, that they may <u>all call upon the name of the Lord..."</u>







Fome are of the opinion that the "pure language" mentioned here is a reference to......a SINGLE WORLD LANGUAGE like was the condition before the Tower of Babel!

#### IS THIS TRUE?

The scriptures don't teach this to be true as we read very clearly in -

### Zephaniah 2:11

"The LORD will be terrible unto them: for he will famish all the gods of the earth and men shall worship him, everyone from his place, even all the isles of the heathen."

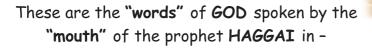
### THERE IT IS ! ISN'T IT VERY CLEAR ?!

The thought is that the languages will remain and all will WORSHIP God in their "own place" and in their OWN TONGUES!



HOW BEAUTIFUL AND WONDERFUL IT WILL BE!

# **ELDER** # 21



### **Haggai 2:6,7**

"For thus saith the LORD of hosts; Yet once, it is a little while, and I will shake the heavens, and the earth, and the sea, and dry land; and I will shake all nations, and the desire of all nations shall come: and I will fill this house with glory, saith the Lord of hosts."

These are the "words" spoken by the "mouth" of HAGGAI -

.....this testimony and prophecy speaks about a "shaking" which refers to



THE RIGHTEOUS JUDGEMENTS when

TRUTH BEGINS to destroy ERROR and....LIGHT to disperse DARKNESS!!

This "shaking" will be upon as we read in -



A symbol of the invisible spiritual rulership OF SATAN and his angels.



### "Earth"

A symbol of the visible earthly rulership UNDER SATAN and his principles.



### "Sea"

A symbol of the uncivilized society - MASSES!

( But the wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt. -Isaiah 57: 20)



# "Dryland"

A symbol of the civilized society - CLASSES!

And this end will be followed by the coming of

"the desire of all nations"

Yes! Jesus and His kingdom of.....SALVATION, HAPPINESS, JOY and PEACE!

The desire of all nations is this but they..... DO NOT KNOW that the NAME OF THE ONE who...brings this

### EVERLASTINGLY is the LORD JESUS CHRIST!

In time they will...... ALL KNOW!

# **ELDER # 22**

These are the "words" of GOD spoken by the "mouth" of the prophet ZECHARIAH in -

**Zechariah 6:12,13** 

"And speak unto him, saying ,thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, behold the man whose name is the BRANCH; and he shall grow up out of his place and he shall build the temple of the LORD: even he shall build the temple of the LORD; and he shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon his throne, and he shall be a priest upon his throne: and the counsel of peace shall be between them both."

WHAT IS MEANT here by the word .....?



"The branch"

We find the answer to that in -

### Isaiah 11:1

"And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots."

Yes! This is a reference to Our Lord Jesus Christ!

But why is Jesus referred to as.....

"the BRANCH"

The reference here is to "the man Christ Jesus" (I Timothy 2:5)



who has become THE NEW LIFE GIVER TO THE HUMAN RACE. Jesus became a man and thus has brought....LIFE to the dying race.

Yes! He is that **LIFE GIVING "branch"** who will give to the race the "sap" of life!

The prophecy goes on to describe the glory of Jesus as.....BOTH

A KING and....PRIEST upon His throne.

This glorious position of Jesus in the kingdom was typified by the Old Testament character king Melchizedek who Abraham met and <u>GAVE TITHES TO</u> and....<u>RECEIVED</u>

<u>BLESSINGS FROM</u> as we read in -

Genesis 14:18 - "And Melchizedek King of Salem brought forth bread and wine: and he was the priest of the Most High God."

# **ELDER** # 23

These are the "words" of GOD spoken by the "mouth" of the prophet MALACHI in -

#### Malachi 3:17

"And they shall be mine, saith the LORD of hosts, in the day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him."

These are the "words" spoken by the "mouth" of MALACHI about the gathering of the "precious jewels" .....the SAINTS of God

.....the 1,44,000 - the very ELECT class .....the "called, chosen and faithful" members of the
Body of Christ



### ....THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST IN GLORY!

The prophecy goes on to say "...I will spare them"

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?



It is a reference to the FAITHFUL church class members the last members in the flesh ESCAPING the "great time of tribulation"

(Matthew 24:21) that is to come on all the earth.

This matter is confirmed in -

**Luke 21:36** 

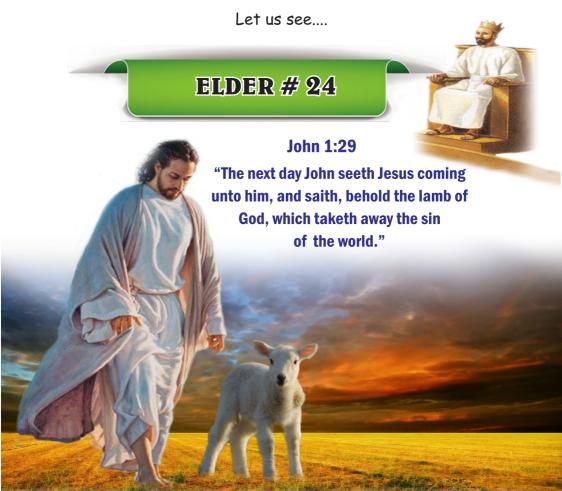
"Watch ye therefore and pray always, that ye may be accounted

worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man."

Yes! The **FAITHFUL ONES** will be accounted as.....worthy to escape!

We have reached the END of the OLD TESTAMENT and yet there is ONE more "elder" and prophecy left of the "twenty four"!

WHO IS THE LAST PROPHET WITH THE LAST PROPHECY OF GOD ?



These are the "words" spoken by the "mouth" of JOHN THE BAPTIST ....the LAST PROPHET OF GOD (Matthew 11:13) and it is about Jesus becoming THE SACRIFICE for the sins of the whole world.

He was the "LAMB OF GOD" - the exchange price for Adam and the whole race.

The death **CONDEMNATION ON ALL** that came with sin was destroyed And **A NEW HOPE OF LIFE** has come to the world as we read in -

"even so in Christ shall all be made alive again..."
(I Corinthians 15:22)

THESE THEN ARE THE "ELDERS" TOTALLY....TWENTY FOUR IN ALL.

They will find **FULFILLMENT** and be more **RECOGNIZED** in God's kingdom to God's glory!

All these Old Testament prophecies will <u>shine their light</u> in the kingdom time This we read of in -

Isaiah 30:26

"Moreover the light of the moon shall be as the light of the sun, and the light of the sun shall be seven-fold, as the light of seven days, in the day that the LORD bindeth up the breach of his people, and healeth the stroke of their wound."

"In that day (the MILLENNIUM) the light (TRUTH) of the moon (THE OLD TESTAMENT) will shine (be manifest) like the sun" (the GOSPEL LIGHT)

Yes! Indeed **THE TIME IS COMING** when these "elders" will be made manifest to all the world!

Having "met" these elders we can now EVEN RECOGNIZE

A FEW who "speak" in the Book of Revelation.

Let us turn to -

#### **Revelation 5:5**

"And one of the elders saith unto me, weep not: behold, the lion of the tribe of Judah, the root of David, hath prevailed to open the book and to loose the seven seals thereof."

This "elder" here is the prophetic WORDS SPOKEN BY

JACOB - FLDER # 2

And then again in -

#### **Revelation 7:13**

"And <u>one of the elders answered, saying unto me</u>...these are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb."

This "elder" here is the prophetic WORDS SPOKEN BY
HOSEA - ELDER # 12

Now let us **NOTE ANOTHER MATTER** of these twenty four elders as recorded in the book of Revelation in -

#### **Revelation 5:14**

"And the four beasts said, amen. And the four and twenty elders fell down and worshipped him that liveth for ever and ever."



Here the symbolic representation speaks of THE CONCLUSION of God's Divine Plan at the end of the

1000 years and how these prophecies when they are fulfilled.... WILL GLORIFY GOD as we read in -

#### **Revelation 4:10**

"The <u>four and twenty elders fall down before him</u> that sat on the throne, and worship him that liveth forever and ever <u>and cast their crowns before the throne, saying."</u>

Yes! Here the "crowns" represent.......GLORY and notice <u>ALL</u> the glory is offered to GOD THE FATHER who....
"liveth forever".

Before concluding let us see another matter about these "elders" in -

#### **Revelation 5:8**

"And when He had taken the book the four beasts <u>and four and twenty</u> elders fell down before the lamb."

This is a reference to the fact that THE FULFILLMENT of the prophecies will not only glorify GOD but also.... THE EXECUTOR of the Divine Plan -

.....the LORD JESUS CHRIST because this is the will of God as we read in -

#### John 5:23

"That all men should honor the son, even as they honor the Father He that honoreth not the son honoreth not the father which hath sent Him."

Yes! THAT is God's DESIGN and....WILL!!

FINALLY... let us conclude this subject with a matter in -

#### **Revelation 4:8**

"And the four beasts <u>had each of them six wings about him;</u> and they were full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night,..."

We have already learnt that the "four beasts" or "four living creatures" (NIV) represent in symbol.....the FOUR CHARACTER ATTRIBUTES OF GOD.

# NOW WHAT COULD THE "SIX WINGS" ON EACH REPRESENT?

Just as wings are used for **movement** here these "wings" symbolize the **ATTRIBUTES** of God and how they will be....

MADE MANIFEST through the ....MOVING and....
OUTWORKING DIVINE PLAN OF GOD

Now if one counts ..... THE TOTAL of the wings it is -

# 6 MULTIPLIED BY 4 = 24

Is there ANY SPECIAL MEANING to these 24 wings?

YES! They represent the DIVINE PLAN of God as revealed through.....HIS WORDS... - the TWENTY FOUR ELDERS!

Thus this picture would symbolize that the **DIVINE PLAN** and... its **FULFILLMENT** (The fulfillment of those 24 prophecies or "elders") or.... **THE FLAPPING OF THOSE TWENTY FOUR "WINGS"**.... is the means by

# which the character attributes of God ARE MADE MANIFEST.

The SIX "wings" on each of the "beasts" or character attributes would suggest that the TWENTY FOUR prophecies are further divided into..... SIX EACH according to the four attributes of God as hereunder -

JUSTICE 🗪



six "elders" or prophecies showing forth THE JUSTICE of GOD.

**POWER** 



six "elders" or prophecies showing forth THE POWER of GOD

LOVE



six "elders" or prophecies showing forth THE LOVE of GOD.

WISDOM |

six "elders" or prophecies showing forth THE WISDOM of GOD.



WHICH EXACTLY ARE THEY?

THAT IS FOR YOU TO STUDY AND RESEARCH INTO, DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS!



