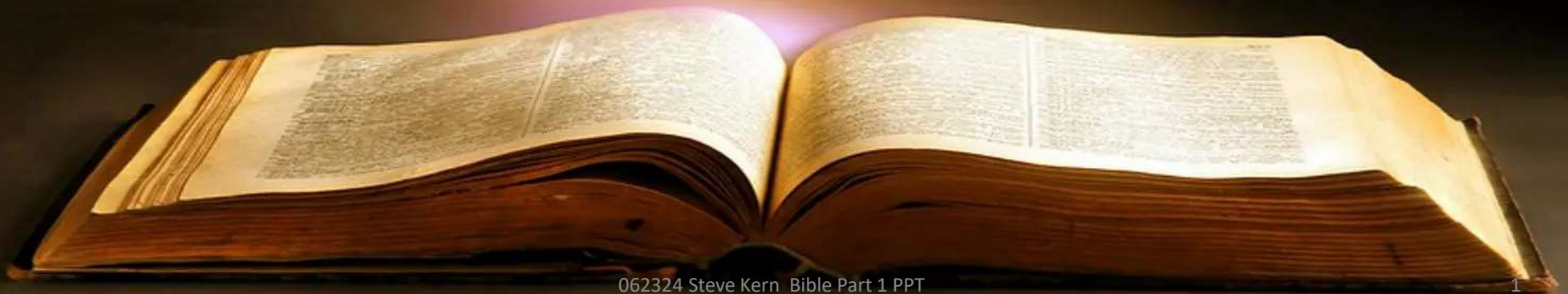


# THE BIBLE

THE MIRACULOUS WORD OF GOD



# **The Basic Assumption**

- **The Bible, is a library of 66 books written over a period of 4,000 years by 40 different men, in different countries. It contains many prophetic pictures in the beginning that become themes that can be traced through the Old and New Testaments.**
- **These prophetic pictures find their fulfillment in the last book, Revelation.**

- **This fact can only be explained by the existence of an eternal being Who exists outside of the limits of time and knows the end from the beginning.**
- **He inspired its progressive development with a purpose: To establish an eternal kingdom based on a love relationship through a choice based on trust.**

# **The Biblical Context**

- **“Remember the former things from the past, for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is no one like Me, declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things which have not been done, saying, ‘My purpose will be established, and I will accomplish all My good pleasure.’” Isaiah 46:9-10**
- **Only the God of Judaism and Christianity can make this claim.**



# **Seven Major Biblical Themes That Make this Point**

- **Light and Dark**
- **Coverings**
- **Weddings**
- **Miracles**
- **Prophecies**
- **Messiah**
- **Redemption**

# The First and the Last

- Revelation 22:13. “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the **FIRST** and the **LAST**, the beginning and the end.”
- Isaiah 44:6, “Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts: ‘I am the **FIRST** and I am the **LAST**, and there is no God besides Me.’”
- Each theme will begin with a first and a last scripture.

- **All scripture is about Jesus: John 5:39, “You search the scriptures, because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is these that bear witness of Me...”**
- **Moses began with Genesis: “For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me; for he wrote of Me.”**
- **Genesis, the first, is about Jesus and Revelation, the last, is about Jesus. Genesis gives prophetic pictures about Jesus. Revelation fulfills those prophetic pictures.**

# **Light and Dark**

*Light*

*Darkness*

- **The First: Genesis 1:1-4, “Then God said, ‘Let there be light’; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness.”**
- **The Last: Revelation 22:5, “And there shall no longer be any night; and they shall not need of the light of a lamp nor the light of the sun, because the Lord God shall illumine them...”**



# **The Theme Principle**

- **God is light and so light is eternal. Darkness is the absence of light and so darkness was created when God separated the light from the dark. To live in the light is to live in the presence of God. To live in the dark is to live in separation from God.**

# Old Testament Verses That Develop This Theme

- **Exodus 13:21: The pillar of smoke in the day and of fire by night during the exodus;**
- **Nehemiah 9:12, “And with a pillar of cloud thou didst lead them by day, and with a pillar of fire Thou didst lead them by night to light for them the way in which they were to go.”**

# Old Testament Verses That Develop This Theme

- **Exodus 25:31-40: the lamp stand with six branches continually lighted the holy place shining on the table of showbread in the tabernacle; the only light in the darkness. 2 Samuel 2:29, “For Thou art my lamp, Oh Lord, and the Lord illumines my darkness.”**

- **Isaiah 9:2, “The people who walk in darkness will see a great light ; those who live in a dark land, the light will shine on them.”**
- **Isaiah 60:20, “Your sun will set no more, neither will your moon wane; for you will have the Lord for an everlasting light, and the days of your mourning will be finished.”**
- **Daniel 2:22, “It is He who reveals the profound and hidden things; He knows what is in the darkness, and the light dwells with Him.”**



# **New Testament Verses that Develop this Theme**

- **1 John 1:5, “And this is the message that we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all.”**
- **James 1:17, “...the Father of lights,...”**

- **John 8:12,”...Jesus therefore spoke to them saying, ‘I am the light of the world; he who follows Me shall not walk in the darkness, but shall have the light of life’”**
- **Paul’s call by Jesus: Acts 26:18, “I am sending you, to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the dominion of Satan to God...”**



- **Paul in 2 Corinthians 6:14, “Do not be bound together with unbelievers; for what partnership has righteousness (Jesus) and lawlessness (Satan), or what fellowship has light with darkness?”**
- **Peter in 1 Peter 2:9, “but you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God’s own possession, that you may proclaim the excellence of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light...”**



- **Jesus describes Hell: Matthew 8:12, “... but the sons of the kingdom (of Satan) shall be cast out into outer darkness, in that place there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”**
- **Final separation: Revelation 20:15, “And if anyone’s name was not found written in the book of life, was thrown into the lake of fire.”**
- **Revelation 21:23, “And the city has no need of the sun or of the moon to shine upon it, for the glory of God has illumined it. And its lamp is the Lamb.”**



# Coverings

- **The First: Genesis 1:7, "And God made the expanse, and separated the waters which were below the expanse from the waters which were above the expanse and it was so."**
- **The Last: Revelation 5:9, "And they sang a new song, saying, 'Worthy art Thou to take the book, and to break its seals for Thou wast slain, and didst purchase for God with Thy blood men from every tribe and tongue and people and nation.'"**

- **Revelation 7:9, “After these things I looked and behold a great multitude which none could count, from every nation and all the tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, and clothed (covered) in white robes, and palm branches were in their hands.”**

# **The Theme Principle**

- **God always provides a covering for those who are under His protective grace and mercy.**

# **The Old Testament Verses that Develop this Theme**

- **Genesis 1:7** The water canopy covering
- **Genesis 3:21**, “And the Lord God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife, and clothed them.
- **Genesis 6:14**, “Make yourself an ark of gopher wood; you shall make the ark with rooms, and shall cover it inside and out with pitch.”

- **Leviticus 16:30, “...for it is on this day (7/10) that atonement (covering) shall be made for you to cleanse you; you shall be clean from all your sins before the Lord.”**



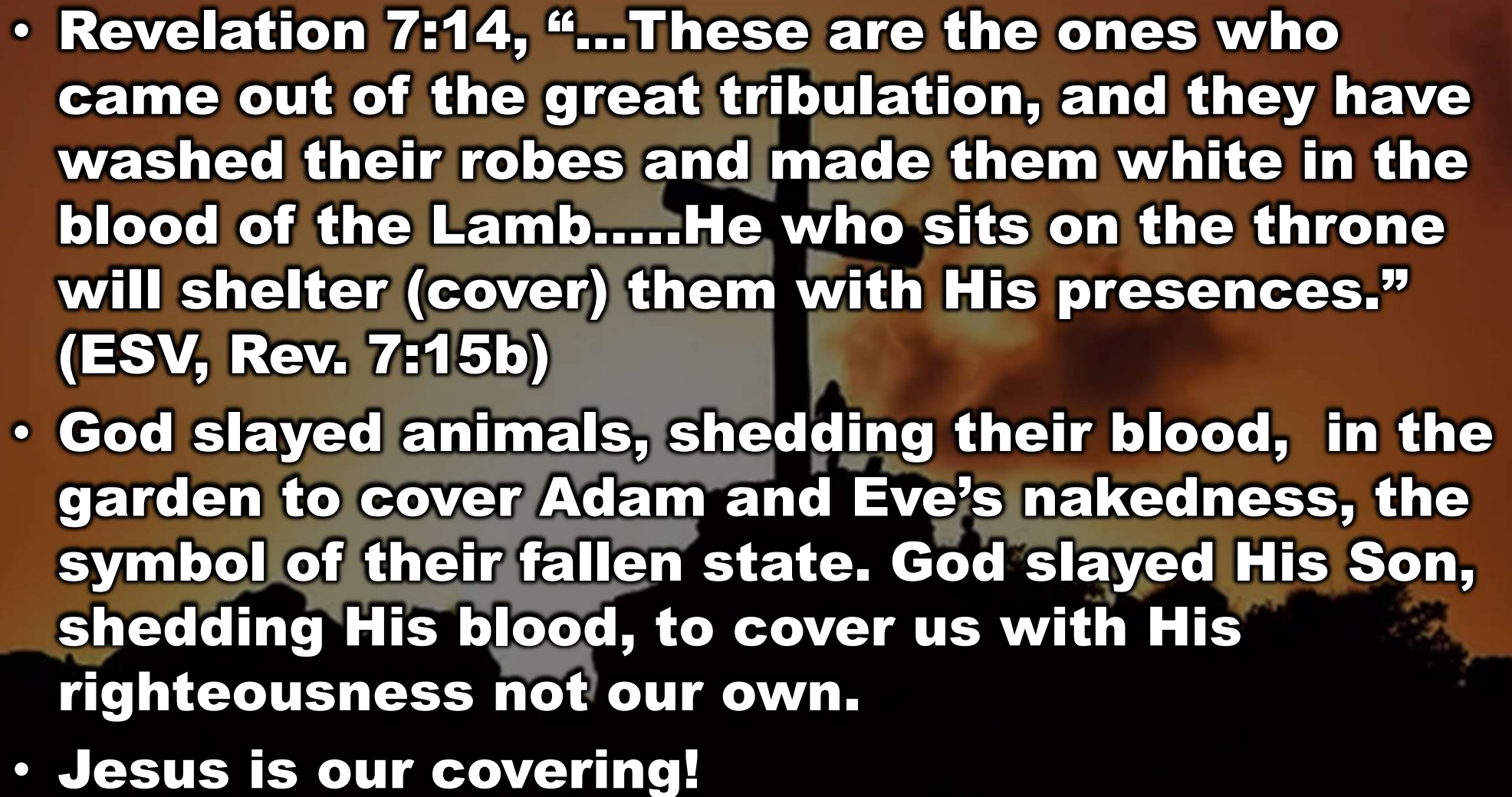
# **The New Testament Verses that Develop this Theme**

- **1 Peter 3:18-21, “For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, in order that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit; in which also He went and made proclamation to the spirits now in prison, who once were disobedient, when the patience of God kept waiting in the days of Noah, during the construction of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through the water. And corresponding to that, baptism now saves you-not the removal of dirt from the flesh, but an appeal to God for a good conscience-through the resurrection of Jesus Christ...”**



- **Romans 6:3, “Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death?”**
- **Colossians 2:10, “... and in Him you have been made complete...”**



- 
- **Revelation 7:14, “...These are the ones who came out of the great tribulation, and they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.....He who sits on the throne will shelter (cover) them with His presences.” (ESV, Rev. 7:15b)**
  - **God slayed animals, shedding their blood, in the garden to cover Adam and Eve’s nakedness, the symbol of their fallen state. God slayed His Son, shedding His blood, to cover us with His righteousness not our own.**
  - **Jesus is our covering!**



# Weddings

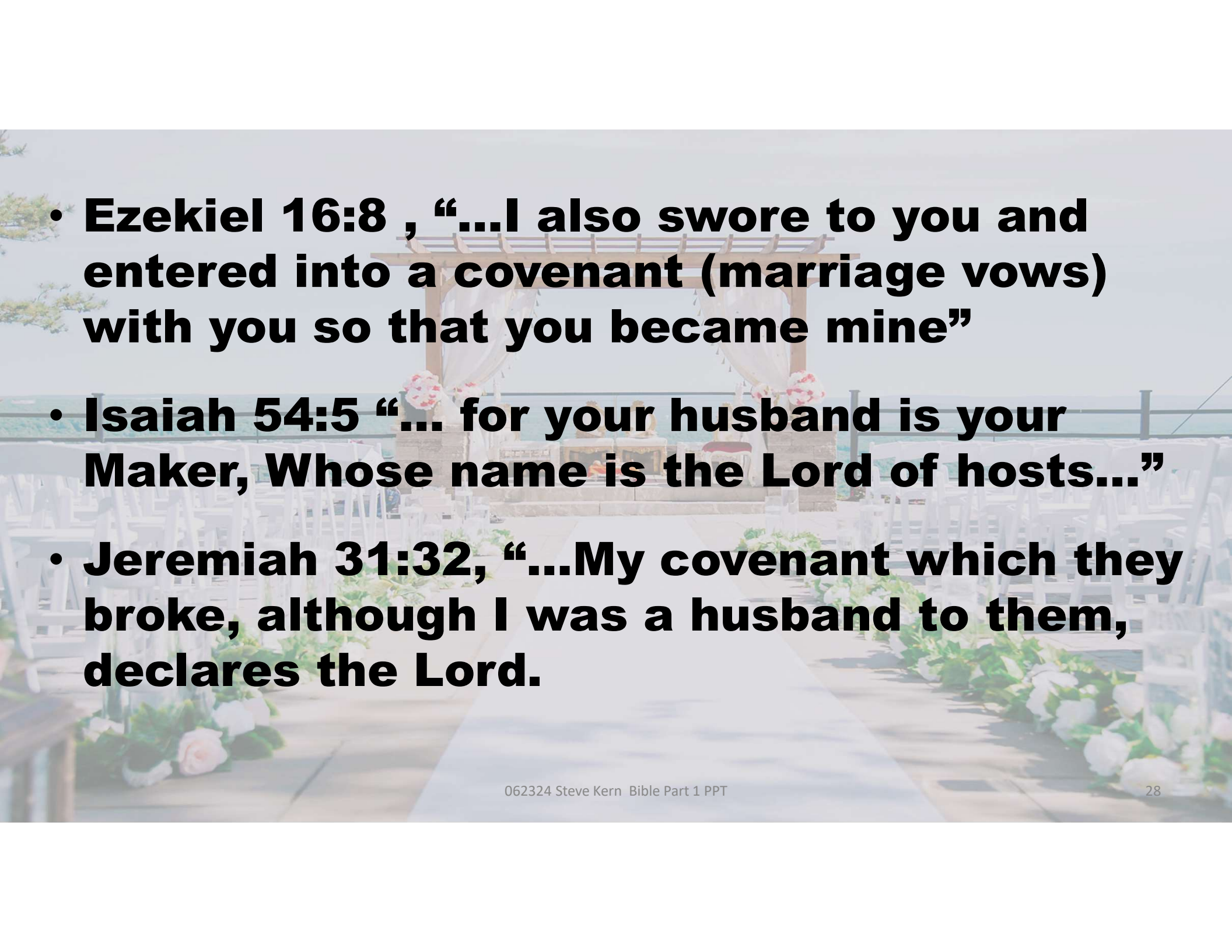
- **The First: Genesis 2:24, “For this cause a man shall leave his father and mother, and cleave to his wife; and the two shall become one flesh.”**
- **The Last: Revelation 19:7, “Let us rejoice and be glad and give glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come and His bride has made herself ready.**

# **The Theme Principle**

- **God's ultimate purpose for creating was to have one big happy family in His eternal kingdom. His family is to be made up of the Father, His Son, and His Bride filled with His Holy Spirit; made up of all true believers in the fact that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.**

# **The Old Testament Verses that Develop this Theme**

- **The first wedding: Genesis 2:24, “for this cause a man shall leave his father and mother, and cleave to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.**
- **Israel’s betrothal to God: Egypt slavery and the Exodus.**
- **The wedding at Mount Sinai: I covenant between Israel and God: “All that the Lord has spoken we will do.” Exodus 19:8**

- 
- **Ezekiel 16:8 , “...I also swore to you and entered into a covenant (marriage vows) with you so that you became mine”**
  - **Isaiah 54:5 “... for your husband is your Maker, Whose name is the Lord of hosts...”**
  - **Jeremiah 31:32, “...My covenant which they broke, although I was a husband to them, declares the Lord.**

- **The Son produced by this marriage: “And she gave birth to a Son, a male child, who is to rule the nations with a rod of iron; and her child was caught up to God and His throne. Revelation 12:5**
- **The Son in Psalms 2:7-9: “I will surely tell of the decree of the Lord: He said to Me, ‘Thou art My Son, today I have begotten Thee. Ask of Me and I will surely give the nations as Thy inheritance, and the very ends of the earth as thy possession...”**

# **New Testament Verses that Develop this Theme**

**God begins each new phase of His  
redemptive plan with a wedding:**

- ➔ Adam and Eve**
- ➔ Israel as God's chosen people**
- ➔ The first recorded miracle of Jesus' ministry in John 2:1-11**
- ➔ Marriage supper of the Lamb before the millennium in Revelation 19:7.**

- **Jesus used weddings to illustrate parts of His message about the coming kingdom.**
- **John 14:1-3, “... I go to prepare a place for you..” A promise of a betrothed husband to return for his bride after preparing a place in his father’s house.**
- **Jesus is in heaven preparing a place for His bride. The Holy Spirit is on earth preparing the bride for the grooms return.**

# Miracles

- **The First: “ In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth... And by the seventh day God completed His work which He had done...” Genesis 1:1 and 2:2.**
- **The Last: “And He who sets on the throne said, ‘Behold, I am making all things new...’” Revelation 21:5**



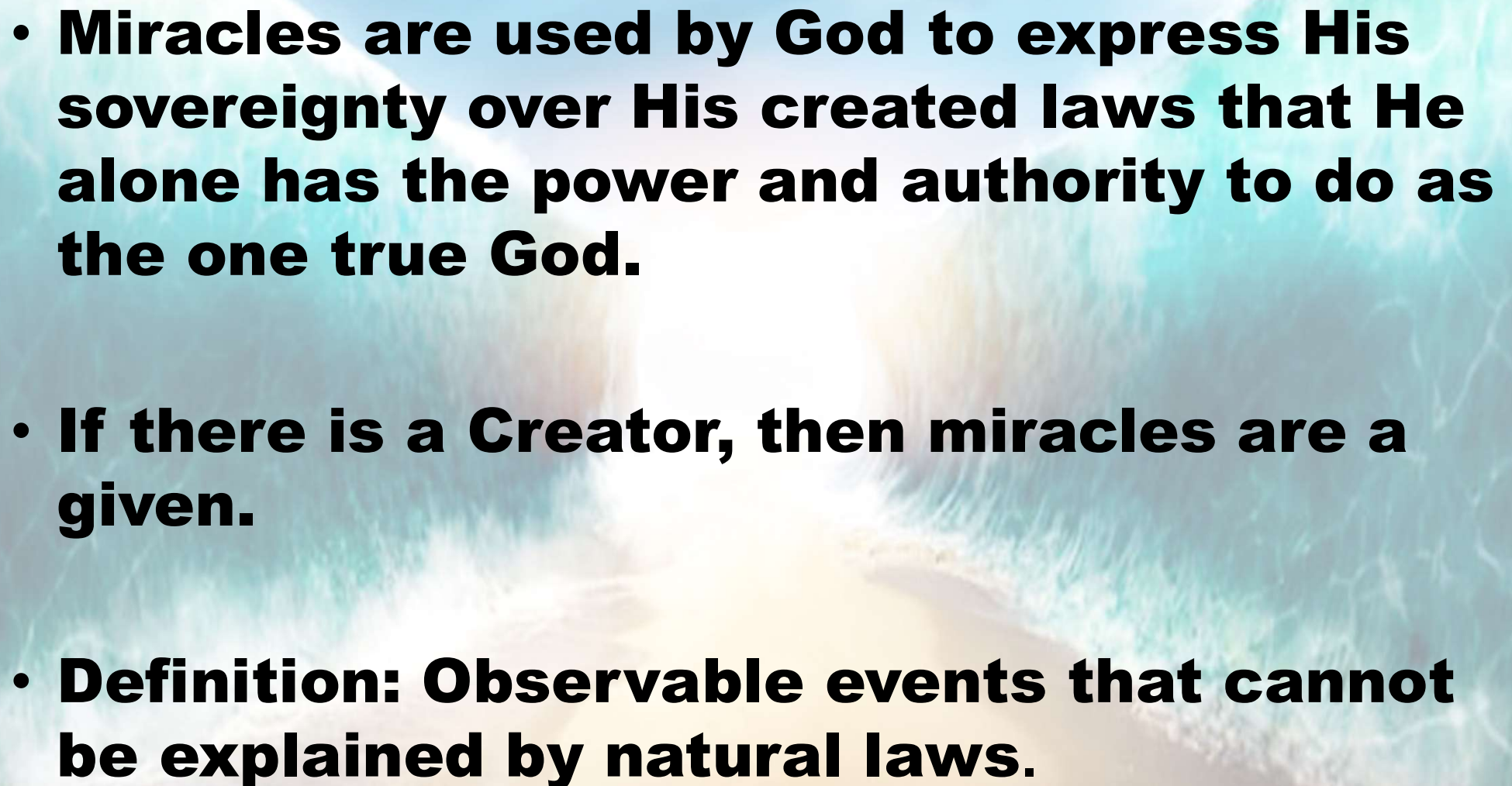
# **The Theme Principle**

**God as Creator established three levels of Law: Natural, Ceremonial, Moral.**

**Natural law includes all the laws that govern the created physical universe.**

**Ceremonial law governs the laws of Israel in relationship with God.**

**Moral law governs the expression of the character of God in His creation.**

- 
- **Miracles are used by God to express His sovereignty over His created laws that He alone has the power and authority to do as the one true God.**
  - **If there is a Creator, then miracles are a given.**
  - **Definition: Observable events that cannot be explained by natural laws.**

# Old Testament Verses that Develop this Theme

- No miracles except the creation and Enoch being taken before the flood.
- From Abraham to the Exodus through Judges.
- Done by prophets repeated by Jesus

A hand is shown reaching upwards from the bottom left towards the top right, set against a background of a bright, cloudy sky. The hand is open, with fingers slightly spread. The sky is filled with soft, white clouds, and a bright light source, likely the sun, is visible in the upper right quadrant, creating a hazy, golden glow.

**Feeding 100 prophets: 2 Kings 4:42-44**

**Floating ax head: 2 Kings 6:5-6**

**Naaman healed of leprosy**

**Jonah and the fish**

**Sons raised from the dead, Etc.**

# **New Testament Verses that Develop this Theme**

- **John 10:37-38: “If I do not do the works of My Father, do not believe Me; but if I do them, though you do not believe Me, believe the works; that you may know and understand that the Father is in Me, and I am in the Father.”**

A hand is shown reaching upwards from the bottom left towards the top right, set against a background of a bright, cloudy sky. The hand is in a gesture of reaching or blessing. The text is overlaid on this image.

- **Creation works of the Father done by Jesus:**

**The withered tree**

**The blind man and spittle**

**Healing withered hands and paralyzed bodies**

**Water into wine,**

**Raising the dead (Adam was dead before God  
breathed life into him).**

**His own resurrection and second coming.**

- **Revelation 21:1, “Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away...”**

## *Revelation*

- **Revelation 21:5, “And He who was seated on the throne said, ‘Behold I am making all things new.’”**

# Prophecy

- **The First: “Then God said, let there be..., and It was so.” Genesis 1 prophetic foreshadowing , what God declares must take place.**
- **The Last: “And I fell to my feet to worship. And he said to me, ‘Do not do that; I am a fellow servant of you and your brethren who hold the testimony of Jesus; worship God. For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.” Revelation 19:10**



# **The Theme Principle**

- **Each of the seven themes are about prophetic pictures that are prophecies. Prophecy sets apart the Bible from all other religions. They establish the fact that God had a plan from the beginning and continued to reveal that plan through prophecy in a process of progressive revelation until His plan will be brought to completion. God is in control of the whole process.**
- **“...for no prophecy was made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.” 2 Peter 1:21**

# Old Testament Verses that Develop this Theme

- **The Flood: “And the lord said, ‘I will blot out man whom I have created from the face of the land, from man to animals to creeping things and to birds of the sky, for I am sorry that I have made them.’ Genesis 6:7**
- **Abraham Chosen: “And I will make you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great; and so you shall be a blessing.....in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”**

- **Judah Blessing:** “The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor the ruler’s staff from between his feet, until Shiloh comes, and to him shall be the obedience of the people.”
- **David’s Descendent:** “When your days are complete and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your descendent after you, who will come forth from you, and I will establish his kingdom.” 2 Samuel 7:12

- **Isaiah 52:13- 53:12 The suffering servant.**
- **John the Baptist Promised: “Behold I am going to send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and terrible day of the Lord.” Malachi 4:5**

# **The New Testament Verses that Develop this Theme**

- **Jesus uses the flood in a prophecy: “For the coming of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah.” Matthew 24:37**
- **Paul refers to Abraham’s blessing as fulfilled: “And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, ‘All the nations shall be blessed in you.’” Galatians 3:8**

- **Jesus declares Himself to be Shiloh (peace): “Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives, do I give to you...”John 14:27**
- **Jesus is the Son of David: “Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.” Matthew 1:1**

- **Jesus had to suffer: “And He said to them, ‘Oh foolish men and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! Was it not necessary for the Christ to suffer these things and to enter His glory.’” Luke 24:25-26**
- **Jesus declared John the Baptist to be Elijah: “For all the prophets and the Law prophesied until John. And if you care to accept it, he himself is Elijah, who was to come.” Matthew 11:13-14**

- **Revelation 22:18-19, “I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book : if any one adds to them, God shall add to him the plagues which are written in this book; and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the tree of life and from the holy city, which are written in this book.**





# Messiah

- **The First: God declared to the serpent, “And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise you on the head, and you shall bruise him on the heel.” Genesis 3:15**
- **The Last: “And the devil who deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are also; and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.” Revelation 20:10**

# The Theme Principle

- **Jesus of Nazareth, Son of David, Son of Man, Son of God, fulfilled all the prophecies concerning the Messiah (Anointed One) in the Old Testament. The Messiah is the Central theme of the Bible.**

- **John the Baptist, cousin of Jesus, wanted to make sure Jesus was the One knowing his days of ministry to prepare the way of the Messiah were over. He wanted to be sure he got it right. “And summoning two of his disciples, John sent them to the Lord, saying, ‘are You the One who is coming, or do we look for someone else.’”**

# **Old Testament Verses that Develop this Theme**

- **Messiah Themes or references:**
- **Seed: Genesis 3:15, Genesis 17:10, 2 Samuel 7:12**
- **Branch: Isaiah 11:1, Jeremiah 1:11, 23:5 & 33:15, Zechariah 2:8 & 6:12**
- **Son of Man: Ezekiel 2:1 & 47:6, Daniel 3:25, 7:13, 8:17**
- **The prophet: Deuteronomy 18:15-18**
- **The Lamb: Genesis 4:4, Exodus 12:3, Exodus 29:38-39, Ezekiel 46:13**

# **New Testament Verses that Develop this Theme**

- **Messiah Themes or references:**
- **Seed: Matthew 1:1-17, Luke 3:23-38, Revelation 5:5**
- **Branch: Luke 23:3, Revelation 19:16 ; 20:4**
- **Son of Man: Jesus used title 80 times in Gospels, Mark 14:62 refers to Daniel 7:13-14**
- **The Prophet: John 1:25-27, Act 3:22 & 7:37, Matthew 21:11,**
- **The Lamb: John 1:36, Revelation 5:6; 22:1-3**

# **Redemption**

- **The First: Genesis 3:15 Satan gained dominion of earth through Adam and Eve's disobedience. God promised to undo their failure through the seed of the woman.**
- **The Last Revelation 5:9, "Worthy art Thou to take the book, and to break its seals; for Thou wast slain, and did purchase (redeem) for God with Thy blood men from every tribe and tongue and people and nation." Jesus is the Lamb who redeemed mankind through His shed blood.**

# **The Theme Principle**

- **Redemption is the process of buying back or winning back something that has been lost or taken away. You sell a valuable item to a pawn shop then go back and buy it back for more than the amount you were given for it. God created all of creation, then gave it as a free gift to Adam and Eve to have dominion over it. They lost that dominion to Satan when they disobeyed God and sinned. God bought back all that Adam and Eve lost with the price of the shed blood of His Son.**

# **The Old Testament Verses that Develop This Theme**

- **First Promise: Genesis 3:15**
- **The Exodus Picture: God claims his people out of slavery Exodus 15:13, Leviticus 17:11 He will claim believers out of slavery to sin. Leviticus 25 & 27**
- **The Story of Ruth: Boaz Redeems Ruth.**
- **Isaiah 59:20, Psalms 74:2, Psalms 78:35,**

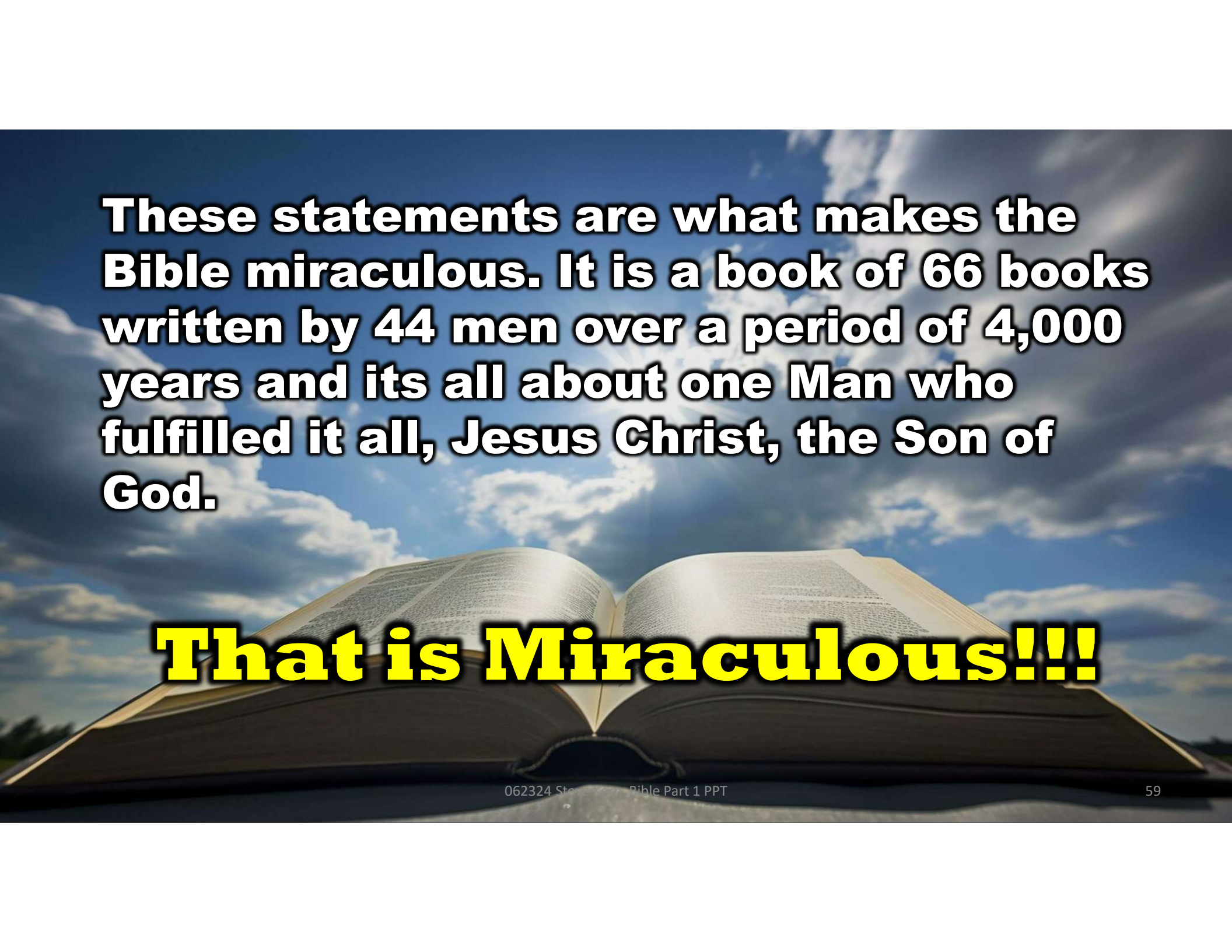


# **The New Testament Verses that Develop this Theme**

- **Zacharias: Luke 1:68**
  - **Jesus: Luke 21:28**
  - **Paul: Galatians 3:13**
  - **Peter: 1 Peter 1:18**
  - **Revelation 5:9**

# Conclusion

- **Jesus is the center focus and fulfillment of every one of these themes. That is why He could say in John 5:39, “You search the Scriptures, because you think that in them you have eternal life, and it is these that bear witness of Me.”**
- **He also said in Luke 24:44, “...These are My words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things which are written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.”!**

An open Bible is shown from a low angle, with its pages fanned out. The background is a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds. The text is overlaid on the upper portion of the image.

**These statements are what makes the Bible miraculous. It is a book of 66 books written by 44 men over a period of 4,000 years and its all about one Man who fulfilled it all, Jesus Christ, the Son of God.**

**That is Miraculous!!!**