

The Church

And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.

The Glorious Church and the Remnant

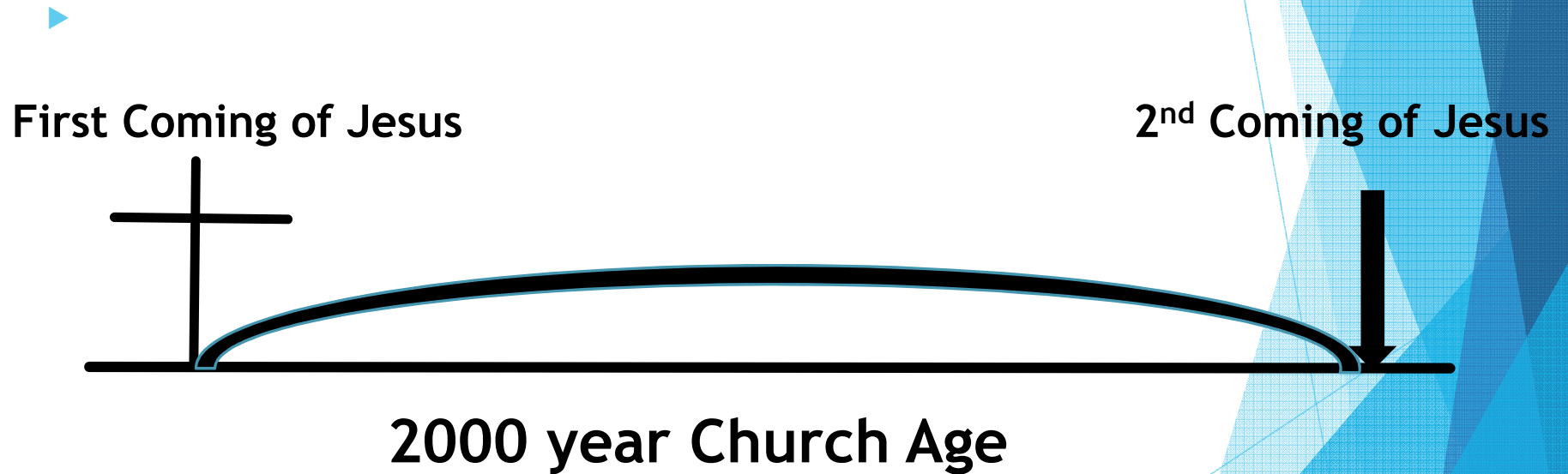
Presented by Brad Mellen

June 28, 2015

Where are we at historically in the church?

- ▶ Matthew 24 ³⁶ “But about that **day or hour** no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ⁴² Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on **what day** your Lord will come. NIV
- ▶ I Thessalonians 5:1-2 But concerning the **times and the seasons**, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you. ² For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. NKJV

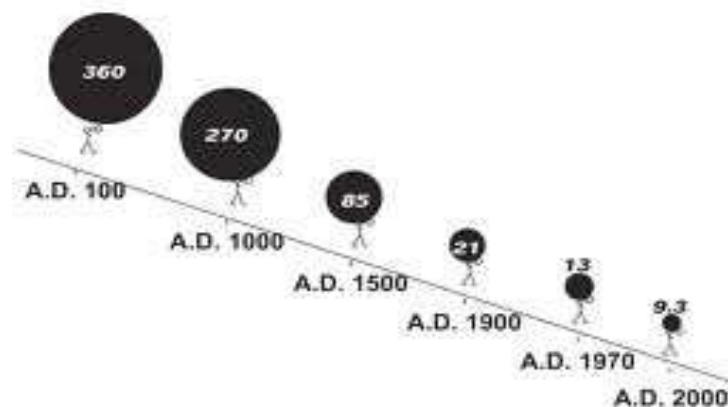
Where are we at historically in the church?



2 Peter 3:8 With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day.

At the end of the church age we look forward to world-wide revival and *in-gathering—Feast of Tabernacles fulfilled*

- ▶ Zechariah 8:20-23 *Modern English Version (MEV)*
- ▶ Thus says the LORD of Hosts: Peoples will still come, even those who live in many cities. Those who live in one city will journey to another, saying, “Let us surely go to seek the LORD of Hosts. I myself am going.” Many peoples and strong nations will seek out the LORD of Hosts in Jerusalem and to entreat the favor of the LORD.
- ▶ Thus says the LORD of Hosts: In those days ten men from every language of the nations will take hold of the garment of a Jew, saying, “Let us go with you, for we have heard that God is with you.”



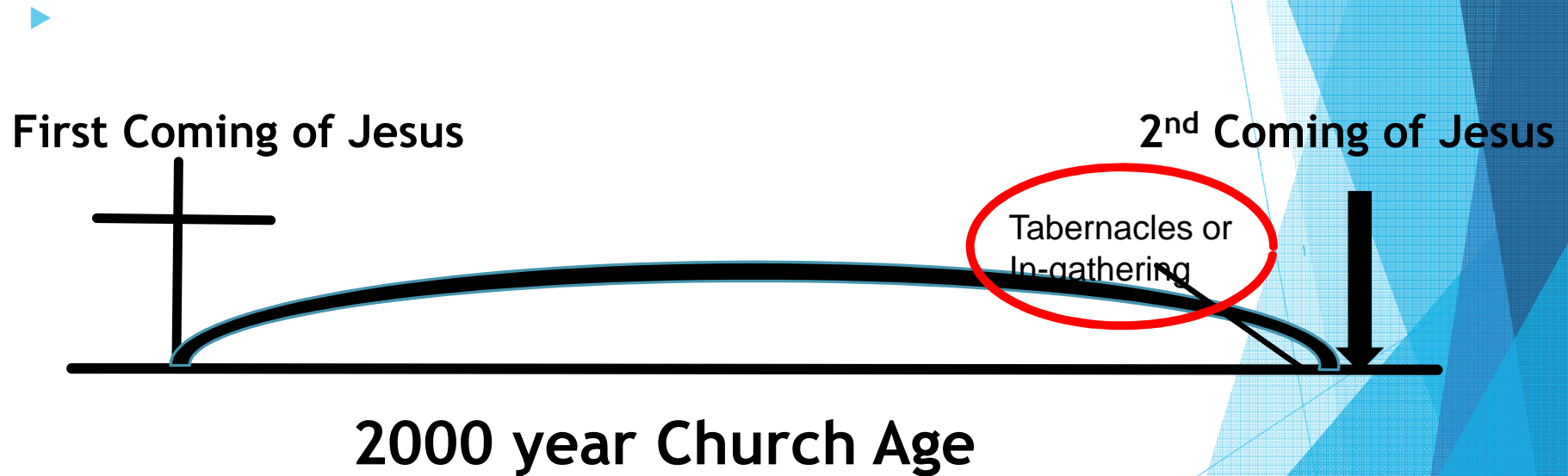
Jews and Jerusalem looking back through the cross

A person is not a Jew who is one only outwardly, nor is circumcision merely outward and physical.

No, a person is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is circumcision of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the written code. Such a person's praise is not from other people, but from God. *Romans 2:28-29 NIV*

- ▶ But you have come to Mount Zion, to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem. You have come to thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly, to the church of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven. You have come to God, the Judge of all, to the spirits of the righteous made perfect. *Hebrews 12:22*

Where are we at historically in the church?



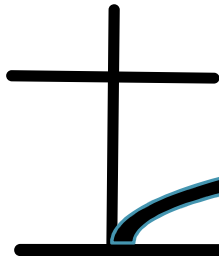
After in-gathering to the church (heavenly Jerusalem)-----What happens next?

- ▶ Don't let anyone deceive you in any way, for that day (the 2nd coming of Jesus) will not come until **the rebellion occurs (great falling away)** and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the man doomed to destruction. He will oppose and will exalt himself over everything that is called God or is worshiped, so that he sets himself up in God's temple, proclaiming himself to be God. *2 Thessalonians 2:3-4 NIV*

Where are we at historically in the church?



First Coming of Jesus



2nd Coming of Jesus

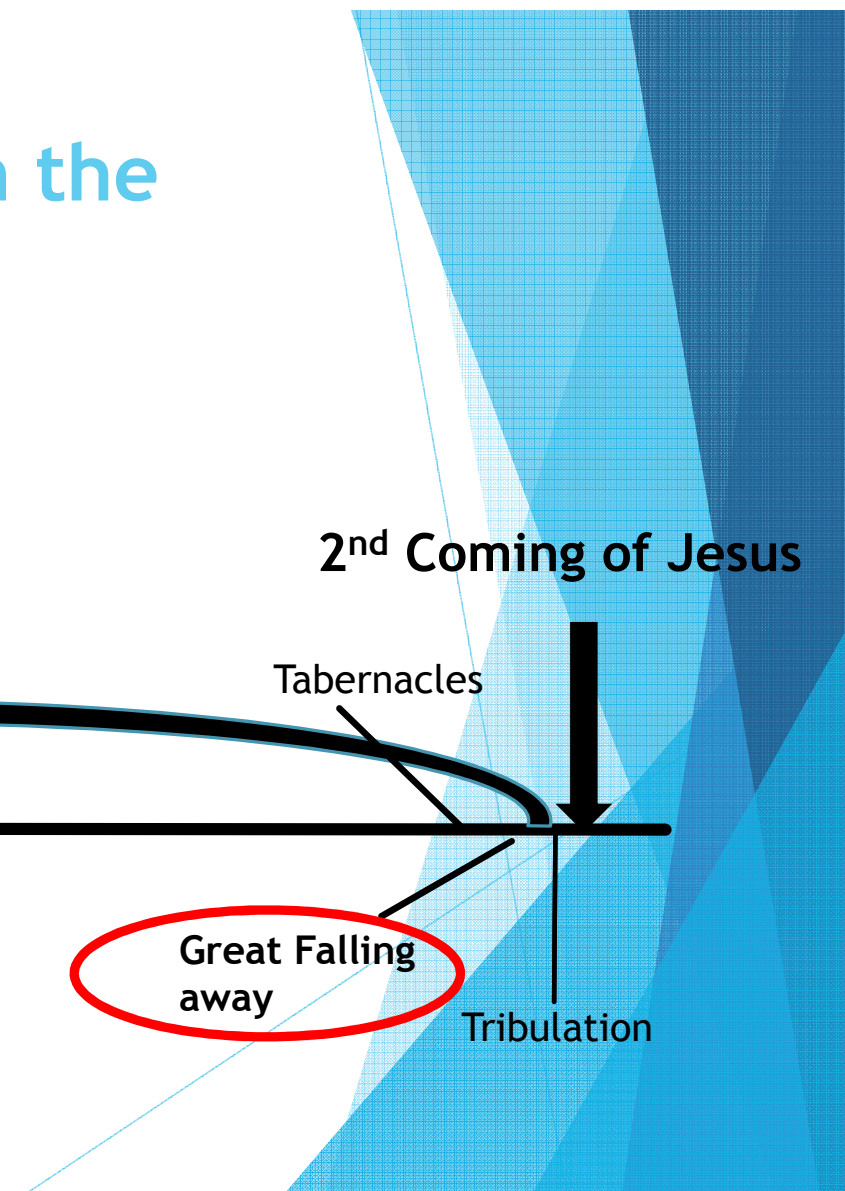


Tabernacles

2000 year Church Age

Great Falling away

Tribulation



As mature Christians not only do we prepare for in-gathering but we act like ‘Watchmen on the walls’—giving warning and encouragement to others

- ▶ This means that God’s holy people **must endure persecution patiently, obeying his commands** and maintaining their faith in Jesus.
- ▶ And I heard a voice from heaven saying, “Write this down: **Blessed are those who die in the Lord from now on. Yes, says the Spirit, they are blessed indeed, for they will rest from their hard work; for their good deeds follow them!**” *Revelation 14:12-13*

Philippians 2:5-8

- ▶ Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:
- ▶ ⁶ Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:
- ▶ ⁷ But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:
- ▶ ⁸ And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

Revelation 12:1-6 NLT

- ▶ Then I witnessed in heaven an event of great significance. I saw a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon beneath her feet, and a crown of twelve stars on her head. She was pregnant, and she cried out because of her labor pains and the agony of giving birth.
- ▶ Then I witnessed in heaven another significant event. I saw a **large red dragon** with seven heads and ten horns, with seven crowns on his heads. His tail swept away one-third of the stars in the sky, and he threw them to the earth. He stood in front of the woman as she was about to give birth, ready to devour her baby as soon as it was born. She gave birth to a son (man-child) who was to rule all nations with an iron rod. And her child was snatched away from the dragon and was caught up to God and to his throne. And the woman fled into the wilderness, where God had prepared a place to care for her for 1,260 days.

Revelation 12:7-12

- ▶ Then there was war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon and his angels. And the dragon lost the battle, and he and his angels were forced out of heaven. This great dragon—the ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, the one deceiving the whole world—was thrown down to the earth with all his angels.
- ▶ And they have **defeated him** by the blood of the Lamb and by their testimony.
And **they did not love their lives so much that they were afraid to die.**
Therefore, rejoice, O heavens!
And you who live in the heavens, rejoice!
But terror will come on the earth and the sea,
for the devil has come down to you in great anger,
knowing that he has little time.

Revelation 12:13-17 NLT

- ▶ When the dragon realized that he had been thrown down to the earth, he pursued the woman who had given birth to the male child. But she was given two wings like those of a great eagle so she could fly to the place prepared for her in the wilderness. There she would be cared for and protected from the dragon for a time, times, and half a time.
- ▶ Then the dragon tried to drown the woman with a flood of water that flowed from his mouth. But the earth helped her by opening its mouth and swallowing the river that gushed out from the mouth of the dragon. And the dragon was angry at the woman and declared war against the rest of her children- (remnant) all who keep God's commandments and maintain their testimony for Jesus.

Last days Christians: which category would you fit into?

↑
Dead in Christ:
Go to be with the Lord

↙
Those choosing to rebel against God:
Fall away



The Glorious Church (woman)

Man-child taken up to heaven



But she was given two wings like those of a great eagle so she could fly to the place prepared for her in the wilderness. There she would be cared for and protected from the dragon for a time, times, and half a time.



Remnant who keep God's commandments and maintain their testimony for Jesus.

Glorious church is mature and like Christ. This is God's eternal purpose

- ▶ For husbands, this means love your wives, just as Christ loved the church. He gave up his life for her **to make her holy and clean, washed by the cleansing of God's word.** He did this to present her to himself as a glorious church without a spot or wrinkle or any other blemish. Instead, **she will be holy and without fault.** *Ephesians 5:25-27 NLT*



Maturing of the church is currently on going

- ▶ Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ. This will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God's Son that **we will be mature in the Lord, measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ.** *Ephesians 4:11-13 NLT*
- ▶ We are carefully joined together in him, **becoming** a holy temple for the Lord. *Ephesians 2:21 NLT*

Who is this remnant of Christians who keep God's commandments and maintain their testimony (covenant) for Jesus?



- ▶ Those who accept my commandments and obey them are the ones who love me. And because they love me, my Father will love them. And I will love them and reveal myself to each of them. *John 14:21*
- ▶ This is the new covenant I will make with my people on that day, says the LORD: I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds. Then he says, I will never again remember their sins and lawless deeds. *Hebrews 10:16-17 NLT*
- ▶ If we live, it's to honor the Lord. And if we die, it's to honor the Lord. So whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord. *Romans 14:8 NLT*

The fate of the remnant

- ▶ And the dragon was angry at the woman and **declared war against the rest of her children** (remnant) –all who keep God’s commandments and maintain their testimony for Jesus. *Revelation 12:17 NLT*
- ▶ And of the ten horns that were in his head, and of the other which came up, and before whom three fell; even of that horn that had eyes, and a mouth that spake very great things, whose look was more stout than his fellows. I beheld, and the same horn **made war with the saints, and prevailed against them;** *Daniel 7:21 KJV*
- ▶ Until the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the most High; and the time came that the **saints possessed the kingdom.** *Daniel 7:22 KJV*

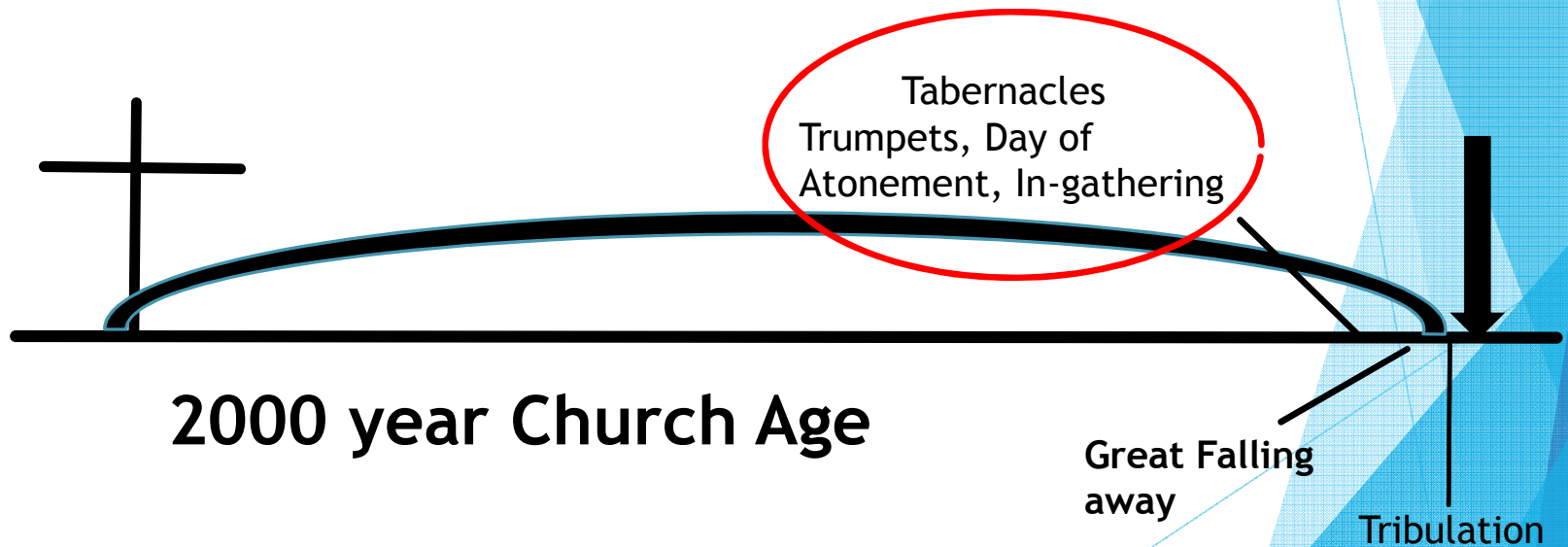
Before the appearance of this woman (Glorious church) in Rev. 12— ‘a day of measuring is coming’

- ▶ And there was given me a reed like unto a rod: and the angel stood, saying, Rise, and measure the temple of God, and the altar, and them that worship therein. But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under foot forty and two months. *Rev. 11:1-2 KJV*
- ▶ Measure the temple before the appearance of glorious church. Measure temple (character, structure and function), altar (prayer as incense), worshippers.
- ▶ Don't you realize that all of you together are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God lives in you? *1 Cor. 3:19 NLT*

Where are we at historically in the church? Holy Spirit continues his work

First Coming of Jesus

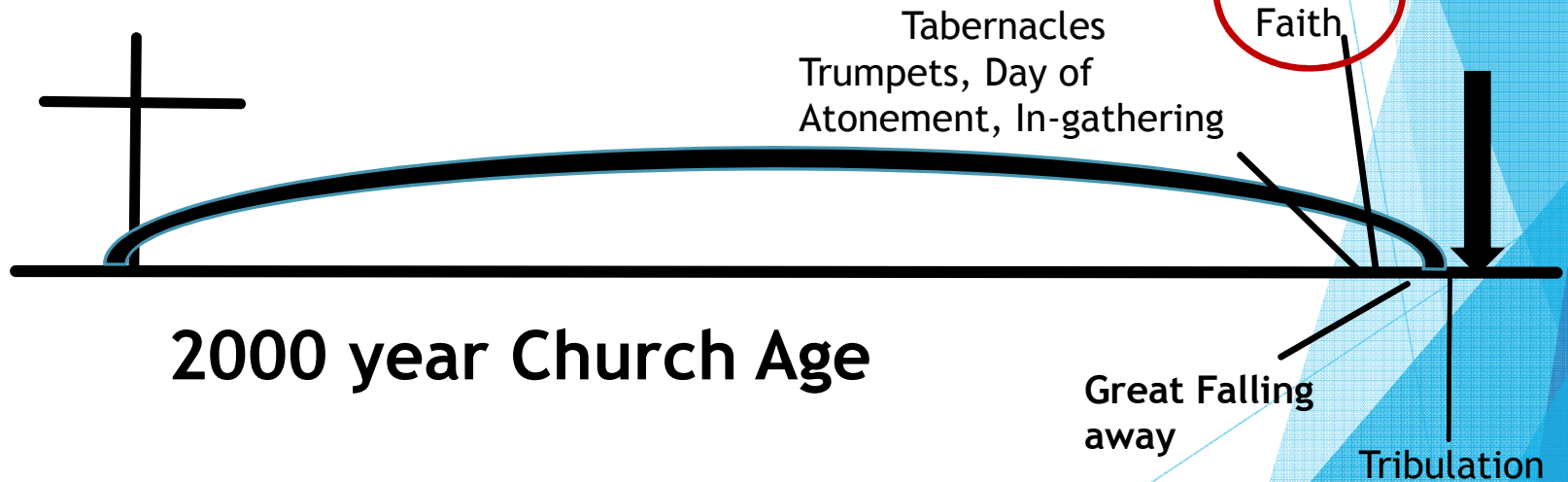
2nd Coming of Jesus



Where are we at historically in the church? Holy Spirit continues his work

First Coming of Jesus

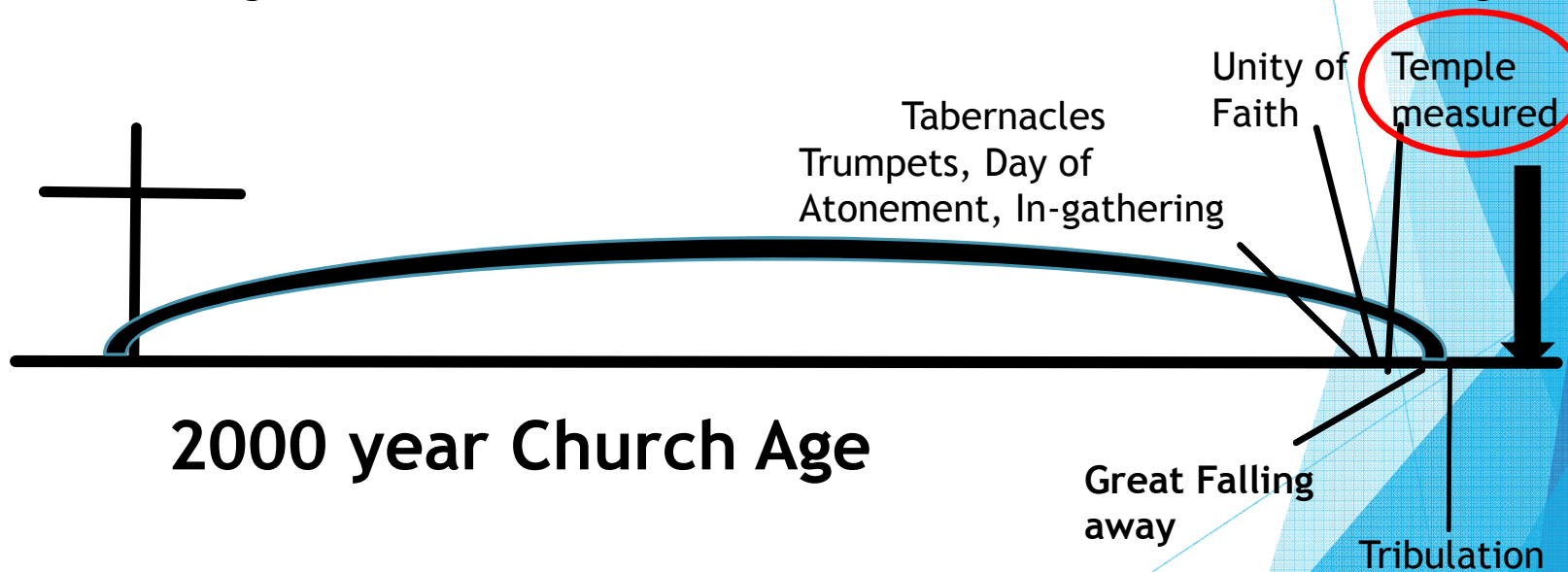
2nd Coming of Jesus



Where are we at historically in the church? Holy Spirit continues his work

First Coming of Jesus

2nd Coming of Jesus



New Testament Temple measured

Outer court

Holy
Place

Most
Holy
Place

OUTER COURT Christians (remnant) left in outer darkness) ▶

- Unfaithful, lazy, wicked or useless servants (Mt. 25:30)
- 5 Foolish Virgins (stubborn, resistant to instruction) Lack oil and spiritual intimacy with the Lord, lukewarm, immature and underdeveloped (Mt. 25, I Corinthians 3:1-4, Rev. 3:14-, 2 Pet 1)
- Little exercised faith: relying on ritual, ceremony, heritage and tradition (Mt. 8:12 Not 'pressing in' but faith 'plateaued')
- No wedding garment; lack righteousness, purity (un-confessed or secret sin) Mt 22
- Unfaithful leaders and hypocrites (Mt. 24:45-50)
- Dulled by worldliness and non-prayers (Luke 21:34-36)
- Tares (pretenders, actors) (Mt.13:41- 42)
- Bad fish (poor or no fruit) (Mt.13:48- 50)
- Salt lost saltiness (no influence or affect) (Mt. 5:12)
- Money changers/ profiteers (John 2:15)

And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' Matt. 25:30 KJV

Holy Place:
Christians
who are
'pressing in'
and 'running
the race' and
are 'moving
into
maturity'

Most Holy Place:
Christians
who have
reached
maturity like
Christ

Reactions from the remnant of believers

- ▶ Outer court Christians (Remnant) (weeping and gnashing of teeth during tribulation)
- ▶ Psalm 44:9- 26
- ▶ But now you have tossed us aside in dishonor.
You no longer lead our armies to battle.
10 You make us retreat from our enemies
and allow those who hate us to plunder our
land.
11 You have butchered us like sheep
and scattered us among the nations.
12 You sold your precious people for a pittance,
making nothing on the sale.
13 You let our neighbors mock us.
We are an object of scorn and derision to those
around us.
14 You have made us the butt of their jokes;
they shake their heads at us in scorn.
15 We can't escape the constant humiliation;
shame is written across our faces.
16 All we hear are the taunts of our mockers.
All we see are our vengeful enemies

- ▶ All this came upon us,
though we had not forgotten you;
we had not been false to your covenant.
18 Our hearts had not turned back;
our feet had not strayed from your path.
19 But you crushed us and made us a haunt for jackals;
you covered us over with deep darkness.
20 If we had forgotten the name of our God
or spread out our hands to a foreign god,
21 would not God have discovered it,
since he knows the secrets of the heart?
22 **Yet for your sake we face death all day long;
we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.**
- ▶ 23 Awake, Lord! Why do you sleep?
Rouse yourself! Do not reject us forever.
24 Why do you hide your face
and forget our misery and oppression?
- ▶ 25 We are brought down to the dust;
our bodies cling to the ground.
26 Rise up and help us;
rescue us because of your unfailing love.

Luke 21:34-36

- ▶ ³⁴ “Watch out! Don’t let your hearts be dulled by carousing and drunkenness, and by the worries of this life. Don’t let that day catch you unaware, ³⁵ like a trap. For that day will come upon everyone living on the earth. ³⁶ Keep alert at all times. And pray that you might be strong enough to escape these coming horrors and stand before the Son of Man.”

Luke 6:47-49

- ▶ I will show you what it's like when someone comes to me, **listens to my teaching, and then follows it**. It is like a person building a house who digs deep and lays the foundation on solid rock. When the floodwaters rise and break against that house, it stands firm because it is well built.
- ▶ But anyone who **hears and doesn't obey** is like a person who builds a house without a foundation. When the floods sweep down against that house, it will collapse into a heap of ruins."

Call to deepen our walk with the Lord

- ▶ A.W. Tozer: "I want to live so fully in the Spirit that...every act of my life may be an act of worship."



Let us search and try our ways

Search me, O God, and know my heart;
test me and know my anxious thoughts.
Point out anything in me that offends you,
and lead me along the path of everlasting life.

Psalm 139:23-24 NLT



Stubborn and resistant to God or moldable

- ▶ “Blessed *are* the **poor in spirit**, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven. [Matthew 5:3](#)
- ▶ The Lord *is* near to those who have a **broken heart**, And saves such as have a **contrite spirit**. [Psalm 34:18](#)
- ▶ The sacrifices of God *are* a **broken spirit**, A broken and a **contrite heart**— These, O God, You will not despise. [Psalm 51:17](#)
- ▶ For thus says the High and Lofty One Who inhabits eternity, whose name *is* Holy: “I dwell in the high and holy *place*, With him *who* has a **contrite and humble spirit**, To revive the spirit of the humble, And to revive the heart of the **contrite ones** [Isaiah 57:15](#)
- ▶ For all those *things* My hand has made, And all those *things* exist,” Says the Lord. “But on this *one* will I look: On *him who is* **poor and of a contrite spirit**, And who trembles at My word [Isaiah 66:2](#)
- ▶ Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, **for I am gentle and lowly in heart**, and you will find rest for your souls. Matthew 11 ²⁹

Outer darkness----Matthew 25:26-30 KJV

- ▶ ²⁶ His lord answered and said unto him, Thou wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where I have not strawed:
- ▶ ²⁷ Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and then at my coming I should have received mine own with usury.
- ▶ ²⁸ Take therefore the talent from him, and give it unto him which hath ten talents.
- ▶ ²⁹ For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath.
- ▶ ³⁰ And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Left outside the door Matthew 25:10-12

KJV

- ▶ ¹⁰ And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut.
- ▶ ¹¹ Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us.
- ▶ ¹² But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, I know you not.

Outer darkness Matthew 8:9-12 KJV

- ▶ ⁹ For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say to this man, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it.
- ▶ ¹⁰ When Jesus heard it, he marvelled, and said to them that followed, Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel.
- ▶ ¹¹ And I say unto you, That many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven.
- ▶ ¹² But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Outer darkness---Matthew 22:11-14 KJV

- ▶ ¹¹ And when the king came in to see the guests, he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment:
- ▶ ¹² And he saith unto him, Friend, how camest thou in hither not having a wedding garment? And he was speechless.
- ▶ ¹³ Then said the king to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness, there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.
- ▶ ¹⁴ For many are called, but few are chosen.

Leaders appointed with hypocrites— weeping and gnashing Matthew 24:45-51

- ▶ ⁴⁵ Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season?
- ▶ ⁴⁶ Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing.
- ▶ ⁴⁷ Verily I say unto you, That he shall make him ruler over all his goods.
- ▶ ⁴⁸ But and if that evil servant shall say in his heart, My lord delayeth his coming;
- ▶ ⁴⁹ And shall begin to smite his fellowservants, and to eat and drink with the drunken;
- ▶ ⁵⁰ The lord of that servant shall come in a day when he looketh not for him, and in an hour that he is not aware of,
- ▶ ⁵¹ And shall cut him asunder, and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Seperation between tares and wheat

Matthew 13:25-30

- ▶ But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way.
- ▶ ²⁶ But when the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also.
- ▶ ²⁷ So the servants of the householder came and said unto him, Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? from whence then hath it tares?
- ▶ ²⁸ He said unto them, An enemy hath done this. The servants said unto him, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up?
- ▶ ²⁹ But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them.
- ▶ ³⁰ Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.

Separation as a result of gathered but no fruit Matthew 13:47-48

- ▶ ⁴⁷ Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind:
- ▶ ⁴⁸ Which, when it was full, they drew to shore, and sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away.
- ▶ ⁴⁹ So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just,
- ▶ ⁵⁰ And shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.

Salt lost its effect MATTHEW 5:13 KJV

Trodden just as 'unmeasured' in Rev. 11

- ▶ ¹³ Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men.
- ▶ Jesus cleansed temple of moneychangers
- ▶ John 2:15 King James Version (KJV)
- ▶ ¹⁵ And when he had made a scourge of small cords, he drove them all out of the temple, and the sheep, and the oxen; and poured out the changers' money, and overthrew the tables;