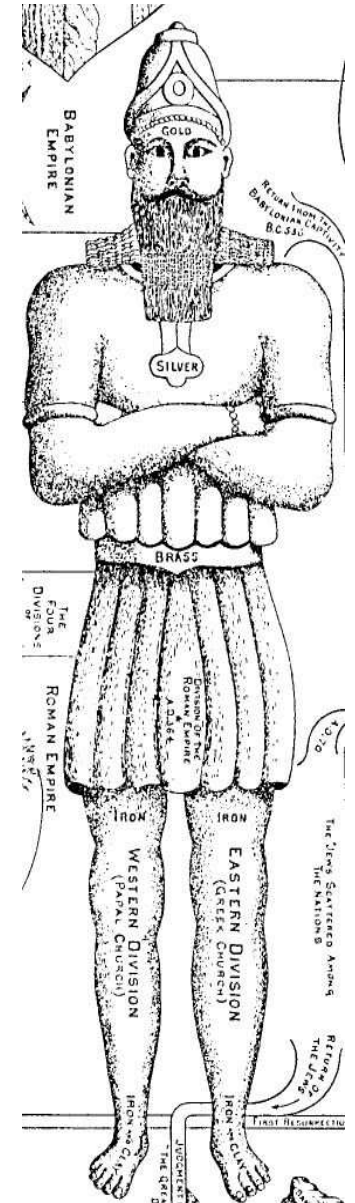


Introduction to Biblical Eschatology

II Tim 2:15

- Eschatology (The Doctrine of Things to Come) is one of the seven generally recognized heads of Systematic Theology...
- Systematic Theology is a formal, systematic approach to Scriptural understanding. It gathers from all sixty-six books the Scripture dealing with specific (usually seven) subjects...
- Bible Survey is another method of study based on the outlining of Books, Chapters and Verses. It is a contextual approach. The Christian should be aware of and use both methods, as each approach has it's inherent strengths and weaknesses...
- II Tim 2:15 Study to show thyself approved...



Study

II Tim 2:15-21

- A Modest Proposal: Why study the Bible at all? Aren't the teaching Elders supposed to spoon-feed us this stuff? It is just sooo hard... VS 15; Study = "to exert one's self, to endeavor, to give diligence"
- Why is it said that the Christian army is the only one to shoot it's wounded? (Perhaps better said that it is the only one to eat it's children)...
- The greatest spiritual vulnerability the Christian faces is lack of Bible knowledge; It should be remembered that temporal vulnerabilities end with this "vapour of smoke" but spiritual failure follows us home...
- Hos 4:1-7 Sounds like America? Are the believer Priests of today so ignorant of the Word that they fail to impact the culture? We are here to plunder the kosmos, not to settle into comfortable "churchianity"
- Knowledge truly is power... Better used to lead souls to Christ than to engage in insider trading...

Study

II Tim 2:15-21

- Profane babblings: The **obvious**; scientology, “christian” science, mormonism, jw’s; **Subtler**; Galatianism and it’s stepchildren ; Arminianism, Calvinism, Holiness, “word of faith” Charismatic error, ect ; Have they increased unto more ungodliness??? (I speak as a fool)...
- VS 21 The true Vessels of Honor ; I Cor 3:11-23 Can an ignoramus artfully use the plumb and the square? Can the spiritually deaf and blind discern the enemy destroying the superstructure he is attempting to build upon the true foundation?
- VS 23 Most “religious arguments” arise out of spiritual ignorance; A true workman knows how to get to the heart of his Priestly duties; Jn 4:5-26 ; Jn 19:16-22 , sidestepping the “foolish and unlearned” objections encountered...

Study; The Greatest Reason

Fellowship with our Father and with our Lord Jesus Christ

Jn 15:15

- In sorrow Jn 16:20
- In persecution Jn 15:20
- In knowledge of coming judgment Gen 18:17-22, Rev 4-20:15
- In Knowing the Will of God Eph 1:9-20, Eph 3:2-12
- In the Mysteries Ps 25:14 , Mt 13:10-17, Lu 10:17-24, Col 1:25-28
- In the very Mind of Christ I Cor 2:9-16, Php 2:5-11

Study; A Great Reason

- Mk 5:1-20 Is the study of Prophecy to be used only for personal reasons?

Faith

The Essential Element

- All human endeavor requires some degree of faith; From the autonomic nervous system to rocket science, faith is foundational
- What is faith?
- From Webster: *belief and trust in and loyalty to God , firm belief in something **for which there is no proof (2)**: complete trust* From Harper : from L. ***fides*** "trust, belief," from root of ***fidere*** "to trust,"
- From Easton's Bible Dictionary: Faith is in general **the persuasion of the mind** that a certain statement is true. Its primary idea is trust. A thing is true, and therefore worthy of trust. It admits of many degrees up to full assurance of faith, **in accordance with the evidence on which it rests**. Faith is the result of teaching. Knowledge is an essential element in all faith, and is sometimes spoken of as an equivalent to faith. Yet the two are distinguished in this respect, that faith includes in it assent, which is an act of the will in addition to the act of the understanding. Assent to the truth is of the essence of faith, and the ultimate ground on which our assent to any revealed truth rests is the veracity of God.

Biblical Faith

- From Easton's Bible Dictionary we saw: Faith is in general **the persuasion of the mind** that a certain statement is true, and, **in accordance with the evidence on which it rests**
- Biblical Faith rests upon demonstrable evidence. It has been said that the existence of God cannot be proven... Perhaps, given the biased rules of evidence used by His enemies, but even given those rules His existence is very strongly implied (Hence the fierce opposition by those unwilling to consider the evidence, to the teaching of “Intelligent Design” in the public school system)
- There are many kinds of evidence of the existence of God: The inner witness of the heart, The universal need of man to worship, The design and order of the material creation, The design and order of the Word of God
- For the purposes of the study at hand, we shall consider at length the witness of Prophecy