

## I. Introduction and Review

Last time we were in Psalms 28, we looked at a number of things that deal with God and the nation of Israel, and how Israel looked at God as their rock and then their protection from those in the Tribulation who would try to harm them. We know from Luke 12:53 and other places in the New Testament that when the Antichrist shows up, he turns family against family and friends against friends. The person that was your friend yesterday may not be your friend today and may turn you in to the Antichrist and his forces. These will be people, as we talked about at that time, who regard not the works of the Lord, nor the operation of his hands. They do not see what God is doing; they are caught up in the time, the moment, the circumstances, their current events, and they turn on the nation of Israel.

I also showed you that this will not only take place with the nation of Israel, but also today with us in the ministry as we deal with people. You are going to find that these things continue in the Church Age. I talked about the Lord being your strength, and not only your strength, but the great phrase, “our saving strength.” That is a picture of the preserving hand of God in our lives—that God takes you, grows you, preserves you, and brings you through to accomplish with your life what He wants to accomplish, in spite of the opposition and the people who regard not the work of the Lord, nor the operation of His hands.

If you remember, I ended it by giving you four key principles that were good for understanding your spiritual growth.

1. The first thing we looked at was ***save thy people***. We talked about how God saved us for a purpose, for His purpose. He has something that He wants us to accomplish.
2. The second thing we looked at was ***and bless thine inheritance***, understanding our millennial reward. I gave you a little example of a thousand years for 70 out of Psalms 90:10, and we talked about that.
3. The third thing was ***feed them also***; God feeding His people. We saw this through our study of John chapter 6 with the feeding of the 5,000, and Exodus chapter 16 when He brought the manna from Heaven. Knowing that in our world, in our life, God is going to feed us with His manna from Heaven, which is the Word of God.
4. The fourth thing was ***and lift them up for ever***; God lifting us up forever, moving up the level of spiritual growth.

I know and I fully understand that the bulk of responsibility for your spiritual growth lies with you. One of the great principles that we use in dealing with people is that you cannot make somebody do right who doesn't want to do right. You cannot make somebody be spiritual that does not want to be spiritual. So I do understand that the bulk of that responsibility falls on the individual. But having said that, every church and every pastor needs to be the motivation for people to grow in the Word of God. God never intended for you to get saved and then sit there and sprout like a tree or a bush and grow. The job of the New Testament local church is to help

you do that. I have always looked for ways to help you grow spiritually. I understand the seven levels of spiritual growth. I have watched all of you come through it and went through it myself, so I understand what my job is. I understand that my job is to continually try to motivate you and find ways to help you grow and get to where God wants you to be, that God is the only way, that He is going to lift you up forever. That is why, as we come out of the conference and look at this next year or a couple of years, I am reevaluating everything I can do to get you there as quickly as I can. I will do my part; you will have to do your part. I will work with you; I will have people help you. I am not under the illusion that everybody wants to do that. I understand, and that is okay. But I know that many of you do, and no matter how old you are, where you are at, whatever level you are at, you can submit yourself to God lifting you up forever. You do your part, I will do my part, and together we will get you to the point where you have, which you hear me say all the time, a working knowledge of the Word of God.

## II. Psalms 29: Going Down Deep

Having said that, today we are going to come to Psalms 29. I will just tell you right now, we are going to go down deep today. We are going to have a Bible study and a half today. Psalms 29 will be one of the great teaching Psalms found within the Book of Psalms and probably one of the great ones in the whole Bible. **You are going to find that as you come through the books of the Bible, underneath the surface, God has hid treasure for you.** If you find treasure, it is usually not laying on top of the ground. Some of it may be, but **if you really want the treasure, you have got to dig for it.** This is why, when I lay this out for you today, I want you to understand that as we come through the books of the Bible and our Bible time together and our book club together, it is things like this that I will lay out for you and show you the treasures. I am not interested in just giving you the breakdown of the book, though you need to know that. I want to take you underneath the surface. I want us to not get a shovel; I want us to get a backhoe. When I used to live in Ohio, Ohio was a coal state. Down south, they had strip mining coal, and they had one machine with a huge shovel on the front. It was known all across the country; people would come to see it. What made it so special was the fact that in the big bucket that scooped up stuff, you could put 10 cars side by side. This thing was huge. You put a guy alongside it, and he looked like a little stick figure compared to this behemoth. It was known all over the world. When that thing took a chunk out of the earth, you went down deep. I want you to be like that shovel. I want you to be able to take a chunk out of it and go down deep. Today you are going to get an understanding of what I mean, and maybe I can entice you to know that when we come through the books of the Bible, this is the kind of stuff that I want to be able to give you. I do not want to leave any stones unturned, but at the same time, obviously, I cannot get it all done. But I am going to give you enough that then you can build on it from that point on and do your own little digs.

**Psalms 29 will most definitely be a Tribulation Psalm.** It is places like Psalms 29 that will give you not only a understanding of what God is doing, but how He is going to do it. It is incredible. The whole chapter will deal with what God is doing in the Tribulation on Earth during the judgment on Earth, like we saw in Ezekiel the other night in the first 24 chapters and throughout the whole book. So let us begin to read it. Psalms 29, we will read verses 1 through 11.

*Psalms 29:1-11*

1. Give unto the LORD, O ye mighty, give unto the LORD glory and strength.
2. Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name; worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.
3. The voice of the LORD [is] upon the waters: the God of glory thundereth: the LORD [is] upon many waters.
4. The voice of the LORD [is] powerful; the voice of the LORD [is] full of majesty.
5. The voice of the LORD breaketh the cedars; yea, the LORD breaketh the cedars of Lebanon.
6. He maketh them also to skip like a calf; Lebanon and Sirion; like a young unicorn.
7. The voice of the LORD divideth the flames of fire.
8. The voice of the LORD shaketh the wilderness; the LORD shaketh the wilderness of Kadesh.
9. The voice of the LORD maketh the hinds to calve, and discovereth the forests: and in his temple doth every one speak of his glory.
10. The LORD sitteth upon the flood; yea, the LORD sitteth King for ever.
11. The LORD will give strength unto his people; the LORD will bless his people with peace.

### III. The Voice of God and the Seven Thunders

This will be a key passage for us understanding the voice of God. Along with this, I want you to turn to Revelation chapter 10. I want to show you here—and I have heard people say before that when you get to the Book of Revelation, that the Book of Revelation is the hardest book of the Bible—and that simply is not true. It may be hard for somebody who does not know anything about it, but if you understand the Book of Revelation, how God lays it out, it will be the easiest book in the Bible for you. But when you come to chapter 10, here is what you've got. **I want to show you how you take a passage that you find in Revelation and then go to another passage in the Old Testament where God explains it.** You will do this all the time in your Bible. When we come through our Bible book club, this is how I am going to show you in every aspect, taking you back and showing you how you do this.

*Revelation 10:1-7. And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven (now this is the last half of the tribulation period), clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow [was] upon his head, and his face [was] as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire:*

2. *And he had in his hand a little book open: and he set his right foot upon the sea, and [his] left [foot] on the earth,*
3. *And cried with a loud voice, as [when] a lion roareth: and when he had cried, **seven thunders uttered their voices.***

4. And when the seven thunders had uttered their voices, I was about to write: and I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, **Seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered, and write them not.**

5. And the angel which I saw stand upon the sea and upon the earth lifted up his hand to heaven,

6. And swore by him that liveth for ever and ever, who created heaven, and the things that therein are, and the earth, and the things that therein are, and the sea, and the things which are therein, that there should be time no longer.

7. But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets.

Now, in verses 3 and 4 here, you have seven thunders, and yet those seven thunders, when he writes this down, John is told to seal those up and not say what they are. We know that there are judgments on the earth in the last three and a half years, but they are sealed up, and John is told not to write what they said. **These seven thunders here in Revelation 10 are the seven thunders you will find in Psalms chapter 29**, and I want to show you how this thing goes together and how this thing works. This is one of the greatest Bible studies you will ever take. This is depth personified.

#### ➤ God's Voice is Thunder

The first key you find is that God's voice is thunder. We know that two of the great words in your Bible that help you understand the Bible are the words "as" and "like." We know that. But here it is not that His voice is like thunder or as thunder, but really a crack of real thunder that God speaks through, but that only certain people can hear. John heard it and the voice that was in it. Keep in mind, John is a type of the church. When you begin to study the Book of Revelation, if you do not study it through John as a type of the church and what God gave him that we should know, then that is where you are going to get off track. John heard it and the voice that was in it. So if John is a type of the church, then we too can get that understanding.

#### **In Psalms 29, let me lay out for you the seven thunders:**

1. Verse 3: ***The voice of the LORD is upon the waters: the God of glory thundereth: the LORD is upon many waters.***
2. Verse 4: ***The voice of the LORD is powerful;***
3. Verse 4: ***The voice of the LORD is full of majesty.***
4. Verse 5: ***The voice of the LORD breaketh the cedars; yea, the LORD breaketh the cedars of Lebanon.***
5. Verse 7: ***The voice of the LORD divideth the flames of fire.***
6. Verse 8: ***The voice of the LORD shaketh the wilderness; the LORD shaketh the wilderness of Kadesh.***
7. Verse 9: ***The voice of the LORD maketh the hinds to calve, and discovereth the forests: and in his temple doth every one speak of his glory.***

He keeps making a reference not only to thunder but to mighty water—things that are very powerful. I don't know how many of you have been to Niagara Falls. They regulate it now, but back in the 1800s, you could hear the thunder of the falls 30 miles away. Even today, if you stand by the falls, it's deafening. The power and the majesty of it, and it sounds like roaring thunder; therefore, he uses that illustration.

#### ➤ John is Told to Seal up Those Things Which the Seven Thunders Uttered and Write Them Not

All this will take place in the Tribulation period between Revelation chapter 6 and Revelation chapter 19. I laid out the order for you a couple of weeks ago. Each one deals with some aspect of the Tribulation in reference to the Second Coming of Christ that we are not told about. Revelation 10:4 says it is sealed up.

In these thunders, John is told not to write what they uttered, and there are things here that nobody can explain. And please do not call me this afternoon and tell me you have got it figured out. You will interrupt my nap, and I will really be upset. I will be dreaming of chili. And what after chili? Apple pie! God is going to bless you for that.

But anyway, he says “many waters.” We could take that a number of ways because in the Book of Revelation, potentially big bodies of water are like unto people. So you do not really know what to do with that. He says, “majesty and power.” That pretty much speaks for itself, but there is probably something hidden that we do not get. He says, “breaking the cedars of Lebanon.” Now that is a tough one because the cedars of Lebanon represent different things in the Bible. Then he says, “the flames of fire.” I have no idea what that is dealing with. Then he says, “shake the wilderness.” Well, I know the Jew goes into the wilderness during the Tribulation period, but I never find any place where the wilderness gets shaken. Something dealing with the Second Coming, and then it “discovers the forest.” I know that back in the Old Testament, it talks about demonic beasts that live in the forest. I have no idea.

But what I am about to do is lay out for you one of the greatest studies you will find in your Bible dealing with the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ back to this earth, the inner details. This is what I want you to learn about the Bible. This is really my goal in our Bible book study together, which is to get you the inside look at things and help you better understand how to put it all together.

But then if you look at Psalms 29:10-11, clearly we are out of the Tribulation now, into the Second Coming and into the Millennium. Now *the LORD sitteth King for ever*—that will be the millennium, and now *the LORD will give strength unto his people*—that will be the nation of Israel.

## IV. Understanding Spiritual Truth Through Creation

A familiar verse we have talked about many times is Romans chapter 1, verse 20. It's really one of the greatest key verses in the Bible, it says:

*Romans 1:20. For **the invisible things** of him from the creation of the world **are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made**, [even] his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse.*

That is a billion-dollar verse. It will open more things for you. It certainly will open up where we are at today. He is saying that if you want to understand something spiritually, then look at what God made physically, because everything God made physically is a picture of something that God made spiritually. You want to understand this, understand that. I will show you what I mean today. When I talk about depth in your understanding of the scriptures, this is what I am talking about. This is going way beyond the surface. This is being able to get into your Bible and dig and come up with the right answer by following the protocol that God has taught us, that will open up the Bible to us, and things like this in your Bible will be all through the Bible. But we are looking at Psalm 29 today.

**We are going to look at thunder in your Bible as it pertains to God's voice, dealing with the Second Coming of Christ.** Let me give you some verses here.

*Job 37:1-5. At this also my heart trembleth, and is moved out of his place.*

- 2. Hear attentively **the noise of his voice, and the sound [that] goeth out of his mouth** (that's thunder).*
- 3. He directeth it under the whole heaven, and his **lightning** unto the ends of the earth.*
- 4. After it **a voice roareth**: he **thundereth with the voice** of his excellency; and he will not stay them when his voice is heard.*
- 5. God **thundereth marvellously with his voice**; great things doeth he, which we cannot comprehend.*

I do not know if you picked it up or not, but verse 4 is the Tribulation Rapture at the Second Coming of Christ. Did you see it? He is going to thunder with His voice, and somebody is not going to stay. They are going to go up. That is Revelation chapter 11.

*Psalms 77:16-20. The waters saw thee, O God, the waters saw thee; they were afraid: the depths also were troubled.*

- 17. The **clouds** poured out water: the skies sent out a **sound** (thunder): **thine arrows** (lightening) also went abroad.*
- 18. The voice of thy **thunder** was in the heaven: the **lightnings** lightened the world: the earth trembled and shook.*
- 19. Thy way [is] in the sea, and thy path in the **great waters** (that's the fourth watch like I gave you in Mark 15 walking on the water), and thy footsteps are not known.*
- 20. Thou leddest thy people like a flock by the hand of Moses and Aaron.*

*Isaiah 66:5-6. **Hear** the word of the LORD, ye that tremble at his word; Your brethren that hated you, that cast you out for my name's sake, said, Let the LORD be glorified: but he shall appear to your joy, and they shall be ashamed (that's the second coming of Christ; His appearing to Israel's joy).*

*6. A **voice of noise** from the city, a **voice** from the temple, a **voice** of the LORD that rendereth recompence to his enemies.*

All of these will be in the context of the Tribulation moving into the Second Coming, and then God's voice as thunder, and somebody going up.

## V. The Rainstorm and the Second Coming

Now that we have that, let us put our thunder into a context within the Tribulation and the Second Coming. The context for thunder, and everybody will understand this one—thunder happens in a rainstorm. So we have got to now back up a little bit, take the thunder, back up, and look at the thunder within the rainstorm. For this one, we want to turn over to Job chapter 36.

**You notice how many of these are in the Book of Job because Job is a picture of the Jew in the Tribulation period**, and the ones I have given you in Psalms or these places are Tribulation Psalms. Now here is another key passage.

*Job 36:22-33. Behold, God exalteth by his power: who teacheth like him?*

*23. Who hath enjoined him his way? or who can say, Thou hast wrought iniquity?*

*24. Remember that thou magnify his work, which men behold.*

*25. Every man may see it; he may behold [it] afar off.*

*26. Behold, God is great, and we know [him] not, neither can the number of his years be searched out.*

*27. **For he maketh small the drops of water:** (here comes the rain) **they pour down rain according to the vapour thereof:***

*28. Which **the clouds do drop [and] distil upon man abundantly.***

*29. Also can [any] understand the **spreadings of the clouds**, [or] **the noise of his tabernacle** (there's the thunder)?*

*30. Behold, he spreadeth his light upon it, and covereth the bottom of the sea.*

*31. For by them judgeth he the people; he giveth meat in abundance.*

*32. **With clouds** he covereth the light; and commandeth it [not to shine] by [**the cloud**] that cometh betwixt.*

*33. The noise thereof sheweth concerning it, the cattle also concerning **the vapour.***

**Now you can see that the Second Coming of Christ and the thunder of God's voice will be connected to a rainstorm, Job 36: 27, 28, and 29.** Today you will find, and I have told you this before, that most Christians, and unfortunately most pastors, will believe the Second Coming of Christ; they believe it the way the Bible says it, the Day of the Lord, that day, the day. But very few could explain the details of how it really plays out because they have no depth. They understand the terminology. It's like a lot of things in the Bible. You will find modern-day Christianity will understand and believe terms about things, but not the action that brings about the events.

I tell you all the time, and I say it again, there are people who will know things about the Bible, but there will be some people who know the Bible. You will see this same phenomenon connected with salvation. Everybody knows the terms: you were born again, you were saved, you were washed in the blood, you were redeemed. But you will find very few of God's people and pastors, unfortunately, that can actually sit down with you and explain to you exactly what happened to you the instant you got saved. What changed about you inside that made the change outside? What happened between your body, your soul, and your spirit in that split-second instant when Christ came into your life and saved you, and you were born again? Everybody knows the terms. I will bet you could not find five pastors in this city who could sit down with you and show you the process—what really happened inside your body the second you trusted Christ as your own personal Savior. It is just the way that it is today. In fact, almost every major doctrine in the Bible is completely lost to the body of Christ today.

When you talk about the Millennium, years ago, there was a guy by the name of John Wolvoord. I think he is dead now. But he wrote a book on the Millennium. That book was used in every fundamental Bible college in this country in their Bible college classes on the Millennium. I got one of his books. I don't know if I still have it, but it was the most worthless book you ever saw in your life. He was typical of the Baptist mindset that knew the concept of the Millennium. But if you would ask him why they're still giving sacrifices in the Millennium when Christ died on the cross, and it was supposed to be the finished sacrifice. When you ask him why there is a Tree of Life in the Millennium when it was taken out of the garden. If you ask him how a person got saved in the Millennium, he had no clue and never touched it in his book. You know why? He knew a lot of things about the Bible, but he didn't know the Bible. These are the kind of guys who teach in Bible colleges. This is the tragedy.

When you get to Ezekiel chapter 40 through 48, you have everything you need to understand all of those things that I just mentioned. I mean, there are four or five people groups that go into the Millennium. They have no clue. Unfortunately, the people that they teach, the pastors, they come out, they have no clue. It is the same way with the Rapture. It is. You find that is why we talked about the other week, somebody believing that the church goes through the first half of the Tribulation period, goes up in the middle of it. They have no clue. It is like the Kingdom of God, the Kingdom of Heaven. No clue. No clue.

I want you, my people, and I cannot speak for everybody, because some of you are probably sitting out there saying, "I wish you would be done so I could go eat." I want you to have some depth in your life. I want you to be able to carry on with the Word of God on a level that most

people cannot carry it on with today. I do not know how much time we have left. Probably not a lot. But I know that we are told to occupy till He comes, and you need to be about your Father's business, digging into it, and getting to every level that He continually lifts you up.

## VI. Elements of a Rainstorm and Their Spiritual Meaning

Let us look at, for a moment, the inner workings of a rainstorm, and see how Romans 1:20 really teaches us what we need to know. God will teach us a lesson in His Second Coming by something that He created: a rainstorm.

In a rainstorm, you have four elements. Those four elements are defined for you in the Word of God. That is where we need to start. You see, the key to depth is allowing God to define things that take you down deep. The deeper you go, the more God lifts you up. That is the key. You need to learn that when you have something in the Bible that you want to study, the first thing you do, once you establish the context, is then you see how God defines the pieces of that. **In a rainstorm, the Bible defines four components for you: clouds, lightning, thunder, and rain.** Let us examine them.

Keep in mind, Romans chapter 1:20. What makes a rainstorm? What brings on the thunder, the lightning, which we are told now that every time it happens that it is a picture given to us of the Second Coming of Christ? What happens that makes a rainstorm? Two opposites: cold air and warm air. Two opposites colliding together, producing a storm. You know what the Second Coming of Christ, why it is likened to a rainstorm? Two opposites: God and the devil colliding. See? That is how you start. Romans 1:20 will be the greatest single thing you ever got into in your life.

### ➤ Clouds

Now let us look at clouds. **Clouds in your Bible will always represent the Second Coming of Christ.** Turn over to Ezekiel chapter 1:4. I gave you this Thursday night, but I will give it to you again. Ezekiel 1:4 is a great definitive verse on the Second Coming of Christ. You have five key words here that wherever you find them in your Bible, the context most likely is going to be the Second Coming.

*Ezekiel 1:4. And I looked, and, behold, a **whirlwind** came out of the **north**, a great **cloud**, and a **fire** infolding itself, and a **brightness** [was] about it, and out of the midst thereof as the colour of amber, out of the midst of the fire.*

He says right in the middle of this, “a great cloud.” Now let us go back to Joel chapter 2...

*Joel 2:1-2. Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for the day of the LORD cometh, for [it is] nigh at hand (2<sup>nd</sup> coming);*

*2. A day of **darkness** and of **gloominess**, a day of **clouds** and of **thick darkness**, as the morning spread upon the mountains: a great people and a strong; there hath not been ever the like, neither shall be any more after it, [even] to the years of many generations.*

Go back to Exodus now. Here is another great one. Boy, is this a study and a half.

*Exodus 19:14-16. And Moses went down from the mount unto the people, and sanctified the people; and they washed their clothes.*

*15. And he said unto the people, Be ready against the third day: come not at [your] wives.*

*16. And it came to pass on the third day in the morning, that there were **thunders and lightnings**, and a **thick cloud** upon the mount, and the **voice of the trumpet** exceeding loud; so that all the people that [was] in the camp trembled.*

You want depth in the Bible? Okay, hang out with me. I will get you there. I promise you I will give you everything I know and I have learned in the last 50 years of my life to try to get as much crammed into you as I can before I cannot do it anymore.

What you have here is a picture of the Second Coming of Christ. Now notice how this, and this is depth now, notice how this dives into the Book of Revelation. Notice it says in verse 14 that “they washed their clothes.” Now you are just reading that, and you are saying, “Must have been wash day.” No. In the Tribulation, the Tribulation saints are told in Revelation chapter 7:14 that they have to wash their own clothes. See? Then in verse 15, He tells them about “the third day.” I have given you that a million times, how that is a Second Coming. Then it says, “come not at your wives.” What really? What is that all about? Cannot have any physical relationship with your wife on that third day? Why is that? Because Revelation 14:4 says that the 144,000 are to be virgins. See? Then it says “the third day in the morning,” there is your fourth watch, Luke chapter 15, “thunder, and lightning, and clouds, and the voice of a trumpet.” You can tie all that together. In other words, most of the stuff you find in Revelation that you want insight to and depth to, you have got to go back to the Old Testament.

**Now let me give you the definitive passage.** I could give you more, but we do not have the time. Here Christ is getting ready to go back to heaven.

*Acts 1:9-11. And when he had spoken these things, **while they beheld, he was taken up**; and a **cloud** (there it is) received him out of their sight.*

*10. And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel;*

*11. Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, **shall so come in like manner [as] ye have seen him go into heaven.***

He went up in a cloud, Acts 1 and is coming back in a cloud, Revelation 19. So there is your cloud defined for you.

### ➤ Lightning

Now let’s look at lightning. When it comes to lightning, you will have two things you need to see and understand. Watch this.

*Matthew 24:27. For as the **lightning** cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.*

That is showing you that Christ comes back in a storm at the Second Coming of Christ like lightning coming to the ground. Now look at this. Go a little farther in Luke chapter 10 and watch this.

*Luke 10:18. And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as **lightning** fall from heaven.*

➤ The Devil is the Greatest Imitator of the Lord Jesus Christ

You see that? You see what you've got there? **When Christ comes back at the Second Coming, it is like lightning. When the Antichrist shows up on this earth before that to fool the world that he is the real Christ, he also comes as lightning.** The greatest imitator of the Lord Jesus Christ the world has ever seen is the devil himself. The devil imitates Christ in every way to deceive the world. When that deception takes place, 2 Thessalonians 2:11-12 tells us that God is going to send the people after the Rapture, a delusion that they will believe a lie that they might all be damned.

The greatest counterfeiter of God and the greatest imitator of God the world has ever seen will be the devil. If Jesus Christ walked in this door and the devil walked in here and stood up here, you couldn't tell them apart. You say, "Well, I would look at the nail scars in his hand." Are you kidding me? The devil fakes those down in Mexico. They even bleed on Easter in the statues. You say, "I'd know by the way he looked." They look the same. **There is only one way you could tell which one is Jesus Christ and which one is the devil: what comes out of their mouth.** Now that is how you get fooled with the wrong Bible right there.

God has a church, Book of Ephesians. The devil has a church, Revelation 17 and 18, imitator. Christ has a city that is a bride, Revelation 21. The devil has a city that is a bride, Revelation 18. Deuteronomy 32, there are two rocks. Our rock is not their rock. John 8, God is light. 2 Corinthians 11, the devil is light. Revelation 19:16, Christ is a King. Job 41:34, the devil is also a king. Isaiah 9:6, Christ is a Prince. John chapter 14, verse 30, the devil is a prince. In John chapter 20, Christ is God. In 2 Corinthians 4:4, the devil is called god. In Revelation 5:5, Christ is a lion. In 1 Peter 5:8, the devil is a lion. When Christ comes back, Revelation 19, He is on a white horse. When the Antichrist shows up, the first fake lightning that comes down, Revelation 6, he is on a white horse. Christ has a crown, Revelation chapter 19. The devil has a crown, Revelation chapter 6. Christ comes down like lightning. Before that happens, when the false Christ comes down to fool the world, he comes down as lightning. Christ is called the Lord's Anointed. The devil is called the Lord's Anointed. Do not miss this one, because the devil did not. **God has a Bible, and the devil has a Bible.** That is your lightning.

➤ Thunder

Then we have thunder. I will not spend a lot of time with this because I already gave you Job 37, Psalm 77, Isaiah 66, and Job 36. It is all within the text of Psalms 29 today. God's voice in the

midst of a storm, where God will speak through the thunder. The seven thunders in Revelation chapter 10 are sealed up, but they are defined in Psalms 29.

### ➤ Rain

Then we have the final component, and that is the rain. Now let us look at the rain in the context of the Bible. The definitive passage on what rain means in the Word of God will be a passage that we use all the time. Turn over to Isaiah chapter 55.

*Isaiah 55:8-13. For my thoughts [are] not your thoughts, neither [are] your ways my ways, saith the LORD.*

*9. For [as] the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.*

*10. For **as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater:***

*11. So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper [in the thing] whereto I sent it.*

*12. For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all **the trees of the field shall clap [their] hands.***

*13. Instead of the thorn shall come up the fir tree, and instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle tree: and it shall be to the LORD for a name, for an everlasting sign [that] shall not be cut off.*

He says in verse 11, “So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth.” There is Revelation chapter 19, when a sharp two-edged sword goes out of His mouth, and it is the Word of God.

He says in verse 12, “and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.” You say, “How do trees have hands?” They have limbs. When the Lord comes back, you are going to get a revelation about God's creation that you have never figured out. You know when He comes back, the trees clap their hands? You know when He comes back, the rocks cry out? Right now, they are mute. Trees just drop their leaves all over the yard laughing at you because you have got to rake them up—not me. God made them fall. God will rot them in the ground. It makes my grass greener.

You see, that is the thing. God's creation obeys Him. There is only one thing in God's creation that does not obey Him, and that is you and me. Trees clapping their hands. “So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it. For ye shall go out with joy.” Here comes the Millennium, “and be led forth with peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing.” How about that? Mount of Everest, what song is she going to sing? Well, boy, I bet she has got a voice. If she is a woman, that is one big woman. “And all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.”

Now, you hear me use two of these principles all the time. Verses 8 and 9—that His thoughts are not our thoughts, and His ways are not ours. You have heard me use that a thousand times. In verse 11, we all like to talk about the fact that the Word of God never returns void. Boy, we use that all the time. **But the real context of these verses is a rain and a rainstorm at the Second Coming of Christ that ushers in the Millennium. The rain is a type of the Word of God.** The context is the Second Coming going into the Millennium out of a rainstorm. The rain comes down, waters the earth, makes it clean, clear, bright, things get greener, things bud, things come forth. Then He says in verse 11, that is what the Word of God is going to do when it comes out of His mouth. **So the Second Coming of Christ going into the Millennium is a rainstorm, and in that rainstorm is lightning, thunder, and clouds.**

## VII. The Former and Latter Rain

Now, let me put it together for you. This rain we are talking about here will be called in the Bible the former and the latter rain. You will find that in Joel 2, Job 37, 2 Chronicles 6, 2 Chronicles 7, Proverbs 16, Psalms 68, Revelation 11, 2 Samuel 23, Hosea 10, Jeremiah 14, Isaiah 5, all through the Bible. But the best place to see and understand it is not found in the Old Testament. It is found in the New Testament in the Book of James—James chapter 5. You know we have taught it before that James is a Tribulation book written unto the 12 tribes that are scattered, chapter 1, verse 1. In chapter 5, verse 7, he is saying this about our study on rain. This is the Jew in the Tribulation. He is telling that Jew in the Tribulation:

*James 5:7-8. Be patient therefore, brethren, unto **the coming of the Lord** (2<sup>nd</sup> coming). Behold, **the husbandman** waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, **until he receive the early and latter rain.***

*8. Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.*

What he is saying there is **the Husbandman is Christ, and He is not coming back until the former and the latter rain have played out their cycle.** The former and the latter rain is defined even farther in James 5:17-18.

*James 5:17-18. **Elias** (Elijah) was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he **prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months.***

*18. And he **prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit.***

You see that? Now let me explain this to you. The Tribulation is seven years, split in the middle at the three-and-a-half-year mark. The first half is peace and safety. When the Abomination of Desolation takes place, which is in the last half, three and a half years, Moses and Elijah show up. The nation of Israel, the Jew, runs into the wilderness. The Antichrist hunts them down and tries to kill them. God protects them in the wilderness like He did in Exodus. He sends them two of the greatest men in the Old Testament to represent the nation of Israel.

➤ The Latter Rain is the Thunderstorm, the Lightening, the Rain, the Clouds That Ushers in the Second Coming of Christ

Moses is sent because he represents the law. Elijah is sent because he represents the prophets. When you go back to the Book and study them in the Old Testament, Moses is up against Pharaoh. Pharaoh is a type of the Antichrist in Egypt. Elijah, in 1 Kings 17, goes up against Ahab and Jezebel, a type of the Antichrist and the Roman Catholic Church. Both do works. Moses does all the plagues. But you know what Elijah did in the Old Testament? He shuts up Heaven for three and a half years. It doesn't rain on earth for three and a half years. **So when Elijah comes down in the last half of the Tribulation period, it rains for the last time, former, and does not rain for three and a half years. Then at the end of that three and a half years, the Husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit, but He waits for the latter rain. That latter rain is the thunderstorm, the lightning, the rain, the clouds that bring in the Second Coming that brings in the Millennium.** See how easy that is? Not complicated.

➤ The Only One Stopping You from Learning the Bible is You

Let me tell you something. Don't kid me, guys, when it comes to you learning your Bible. There is not a person here that is not smarter than I am. You are younger, for the most part. Your brains are fresher. Most of you have not blown them out with drugs and alcohol and all that stuff that clouds it. You are still clear. You are smart. You are young. You have more of an understanding of technical things than I could ever have. Hey, I was in the sixth grade so long the kids brought me the apple. They thought I was the teacher. There is no excuse for you not to learn that Bible. You have got somebody that will give you everything that you need. You have to be the one that says, "I want it." Do not tell me you do not have the brain to do it. I do not believe that. You have got plenty of brains to do it. The problem is not your brain. **The problem is your desire to do it.**

So he shuts up Heaven at the beginning of the last three and a half years. It does not rain for three and a half years. Then the latter rains come, and that ushers in the Second Coming of Christ.

## VIII. Putting it All Together

Now, watch how all this works. Clouds. The clouds will gather first. I am not stretching it too far to say this. Right now, if you know anything about your Bible, you can see the clouds gathering on the horizon. Clouds come in. The first thing is the lightning. That will be the Antichrist coming down first, to imitate Christ. That will be the first three and a half years. Then as we move into the second three and a half years, we have the seven thunders, the judgments of God. They utter their voice, Psalms 29. Some of it is sealed up. Judgement on this world during the last three and a half years, Book of Ezekiel. Then at the end of the three and a half years, in the middle of that thunderous cloudy day, the rain starts, the latter rain, and brother, it comes down. It brings in the lightning and the thunder of God's voice. The rain cleans out all the filth of the Antichrist and takes us into the Millennium.

Now, you want something really deep? I do not know the answer to this. But brother, here it is. Next time you are in a cloudy day or night that there is a storm coming and you see a flash of

lightning, count 1001, 1002, 1003, 1004, 1005. Kerboom! When you see the lightning, the five seconds that you count before the thunder hits tells you it is one mile away. If it is 10 seconds, it's two miles away. If it is 15 seconds before the thunder hits, it's three miles away. Now, I do not have all of those pieces, but there is the key. I will tell you something else. Romans chapter 1, verse 20. When that thunder and lightning come down, the Second Coming of Christ, the Tribulation saints go up. Revelation chapter 11. Do you know... Today, in any rainstorm that you see, scientists will tell you when lightning comes down, something goes up in that lightning. Oh, yeah, man. Oh, yeah. Oh, yeah. I would break out in a hallelujah chorus, but I do not want people to think I am a Mormon!

➤ After this Rainstorm that brings in the Second Coming of Christ, there is a Rainbow in the Sky

Now, you want to go a little deeper? Are you drowned out right now? I mean, I can stop right now and sing something and we can go home. You want to go a little deeper? You want some depth, do you? We will see. Join Bible Bob's Book Club. You want to see a little depth? Revelation chapter 10, verse 1. After this rainstorm that brings in the Second Coming of Christ, there is a rainbow in the sky. **You know you only find rainbows two times in your Bible. One of them is Revelation chapter 10, verse 1, end of the Tribulation. The other one is Genesis chapter 9, verse 13, at the end of Noah's flood when he comes out of that ark.** So that tells me that when it rained for 40 days and 40 nights on earth, it was God's judgment. That will be a picture of the Tribulation. Noah is a type of the nation of Israel who goes into the ark. The ark is a type of Christ that protects them during the judgment falling on the earth. If that was not enough. Isaiah chapter 54, verse 9 tells you that the time that Noah was in that ark has the time connected to God dealing with Israel in the Tribulation period. That is depth. That is depth.

➤ When the Rapture Takes Place, the Unsaved World Hears a Crack of Thunder, but we Hear the Voice of a Trumpet Saying *Come up Hither*

Now, do you want to go deeper still? You had enough? You want to go down one more level? Take a big breath; get your lungs full. Ready? I will take you as deep as you want to go. But you have to swim back up to the top yourself. I am not going to carry you out.

Let us look at the Rapture, shall we? Turn to John chapter 12. You will remember, and I gave you this the other night, John is a type of the church. John writes the five wisdom books in the New Testament. Multiple guys write the five wisdom books in the Old Testament, and I explained to you why. I told you the reason why John, a single individual, writes all five of the New Testament wisdom books is because he is the picture of the church, and they represent for you and for me what we ought to know as Christians. The Gospel of John—salvation, first Coming of Christ. First John, back in the Epistle, what you need to know about your fellowship. Second and Third John is God dealing with the nation of Israel. Revelation, the capstone of everything that God is doing. In other words, John is the model for you and for me. You want depth. You want to learn your Bible. Do you want to get to that place in your life? I am going to get some of you there. You could go someplace sometime, and somebody says, "Hey, our speaker did not show up. Boy, he was going to teach the Book of Deuteronomy. We do not have anybody. Do you

think you could fill in for him?" "Absolutely." "How much time do you need?" On that book, just go. That is confidence with the Word of God. Some of you can have that. I will tell you right now, there will be no real understanding of the Book of Revelation until you put the whole order of John's books together and see how they flow.

*John 12:28-29. Father, glorify thy name. Then came there **a voice from heaven**, [saying], I have both glorified [it], and will glorify [it] again.*

*29. The people therefore, that stood by, and heard [it], said that it **thundered**: others said, An angel spake to him.*

John, the type of the church. This is not an Old Testament passage dealing with the nation of Israel. This is a New Testament passage dealing with a man who is a type of the New Testament church who gets raptured out in Revelation chapter 4, verse 1.

There is your Rapture. So now the lightning comes down, somebody goes up, and when the Rapture takes place, the world, the unsaved world, hears a crack of thunder. The believer hears the voice of a trumpet, Revelation 4:1, the trump of God, 1 Corinthians 15:51. It says, *Come up hither*, Revelation 4, and that is what you hear in a rainstorm with thunder.

Your weatherman says, "Wow, it was a great rainstorm last night. Half of our people did not show up to work today, but we are trying to do the best we can in giving you a weather report." Yeah, within that thunder that all the unsaved world heard, I am going to hear, "Come up hither," and I am out of here, man. I am out of here. I mean, come on, folks, show me any book that can match that. Not one of the new translations of the Bible could ever come close to laying any of that out like this. You can see and now understand how Psalms 29 and other places like Psalms 29 will unlock some of the greatest teachings and doctrines that are found in your Bible.

➤ **Jesus Rejoiced that the Holy Spirit Hid the Secret Things of the Word of God from the Highly Educated Bible Scholars and Gave it unto Babes**

As I told you, and I am done here, you will find people who know some things about the Bible, and you will find some people who know their Bibles. Places that take you deep inside the Bible and reveal the key aspects of God's Word. My goal through Bible Bob's Book Club is to give you depth. Take whatever time it takes for you to understand not only every book of the Bible, but how to teach every book of the Bible. Do you ever see in your Bible what they rejoice over? In your Bible, there are seven things that up in Heaven they rejoice over. In Luke 10: 21, it is the only place in your Bible where it says Jesus rejoices over something. There is only one place in your Bible that says He rejoices. I mean, out of 31,171 verses, this is the only time. The others are rejoicing about this or that. Jesus only rejoices to His Father about one thing out of 31,171 verses, and it is found in Luke 10:21. Let us look at it.

*Luke 10:21. In that hour Jesus **rejoiced** in spirit, and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that **thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes**: even so, Father; for so it seemed good in thy sight.*

He rejoiced over the fact that the Holy Spirit of God hid the secret things of the Word of God from the highly educated Bible scholars who think they know about God, and gives it to you and to me, the babies. That Bible is filled book by book, chapter by chapter, with everything like we saw today from Genesis, when we go through Exodus, when we go through Leviticus, Deuteronomy, Jude, Joshua, minor prophets, the major prophets, all the hidden in those great books, **the secret treasures that are found only in the depth.**

*Deuteronomy 29:29. The **secret** [things belong] unto the LORD our God: but those [things which are] **revealed** [belong] unto us and to our children for ever; that [we] may do all the **words** of this law.*

## IX. Conclusion

When you get down into the depth of the Bible, that is where you find the secret things. But I want you to notice at the end of Deuteronomy 29:29, it did not say that you may do all the **works** of this law. It said that you may all do the **words** of this law. **It all comes back to the Book.** My goal before I go home to be with the Lord is to give you everything I can to get you continually lifted up, give you the depth. I mean, we have talked about it, we have dinked around with it, but this year everything is different. We get those kids coming up from down south, get those 30 kids here that we can invest in their lives and God is investing what He has done in your life out of the Bible conference. These things are the fragments that I told you we would eat on throughout the year. It is time to get those of you who want to up to that level, but to whom much is given, much is required, and we will go to work.