

GOD'S REMNANT

Cristopher V. Luaya, MAR

Theology Instructor, Northern Luzon Adventist College

Pastor, NLAC Church



“Never should the Bible be studied without prayer. Before opening its pages we should ask for the enlightenment of the Holy Spirit, and it will be given” (Steps to Christ, 91).





GOD'S REMNANT

“Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another; and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching”
(Heb 10:25)

The Right Church



- ❑ **Chances are, you've been going to church for years.**
- ❑ **Every week you and your family dress up, pick up your Bibles, and head to church.**

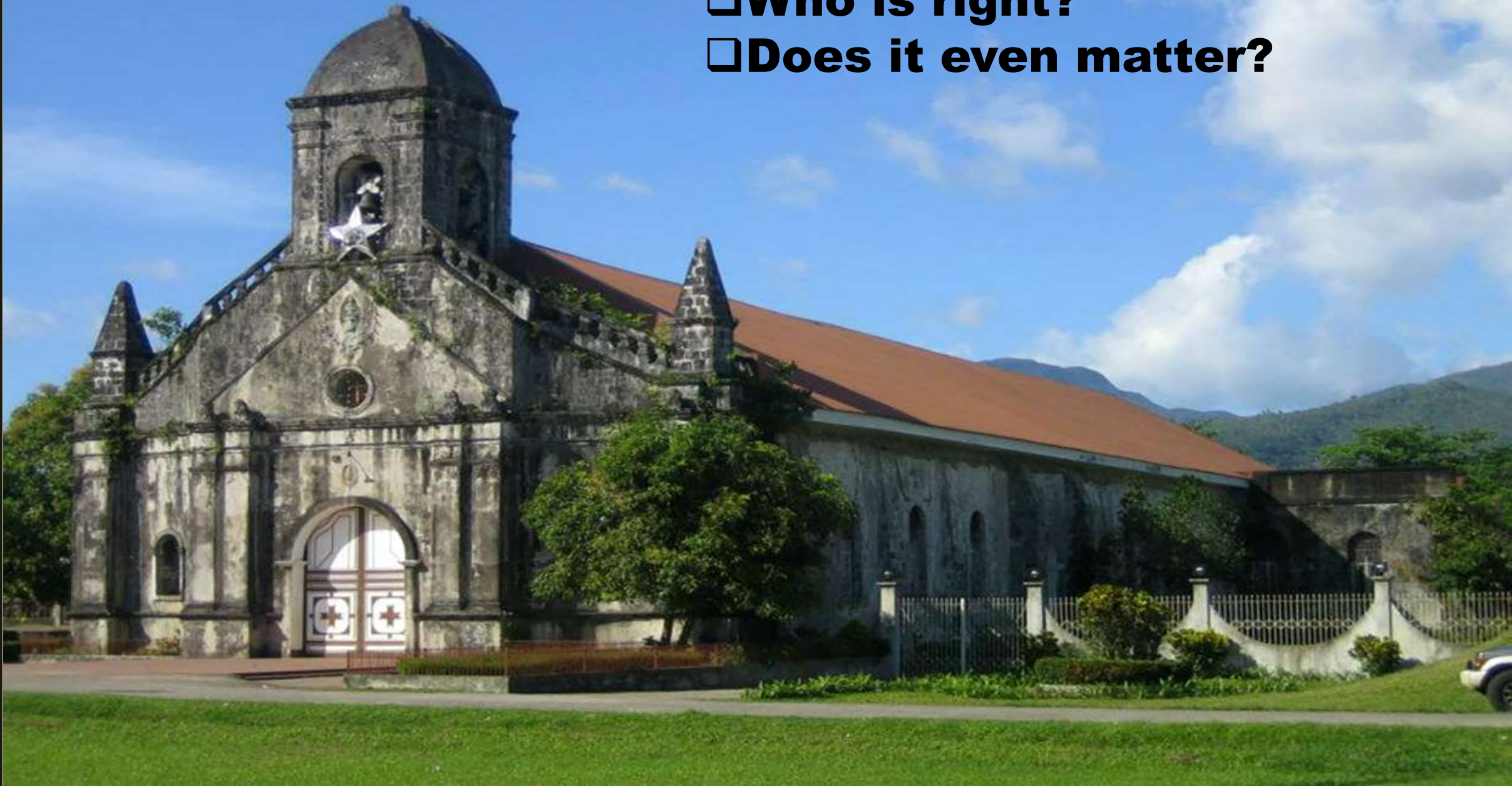
- ❑ **It's good to go to church.**
- ❑ **A group of believers is safer from Satan's attacks than those who worship alone.**
- ❑ **Fellowship is especially important for us at the end of time.**
- ❑ **This is why Paul said we should not forsake the assembling of ourselves together.**
- ❑ **We should be exhorting one another; and so much the more" as the day of Christ's coming is approaching (Heb 10:25).**





- ❖ **You probably believe that you belong to the right church or the true church.**
- ❖ **But the believer of many other faiths believe their church is the right one!**

- Who is right?**
- Does it even matter?**



- ❑ **These questions should be answered—and we can expect God to show us, because He has promised to instruct and teach us the way we should go He even offers to guide us with His eye (Ps 32:8).**



- ❑ **This includes how to find God's church.**
- ❑ **Jesus describes His church in such detail that we can possibly identify it.**



Beautiful Bride

- ❑ **Jesus uses a special symbol to represent His true church.**
- ❑ **We see it in Rev 19:7-8, which tells of the marriage of Jesus, the Lamb.**
- ❑ **This could happen because His wife made herself ready, and her wedding clothes were of fine linen, clean and bright white.**
- ❑ **The white line is a symbol of the righteousness of the saints.**



**Jesus compares
His church to a
lovely bride in
pure, bright
garments!**



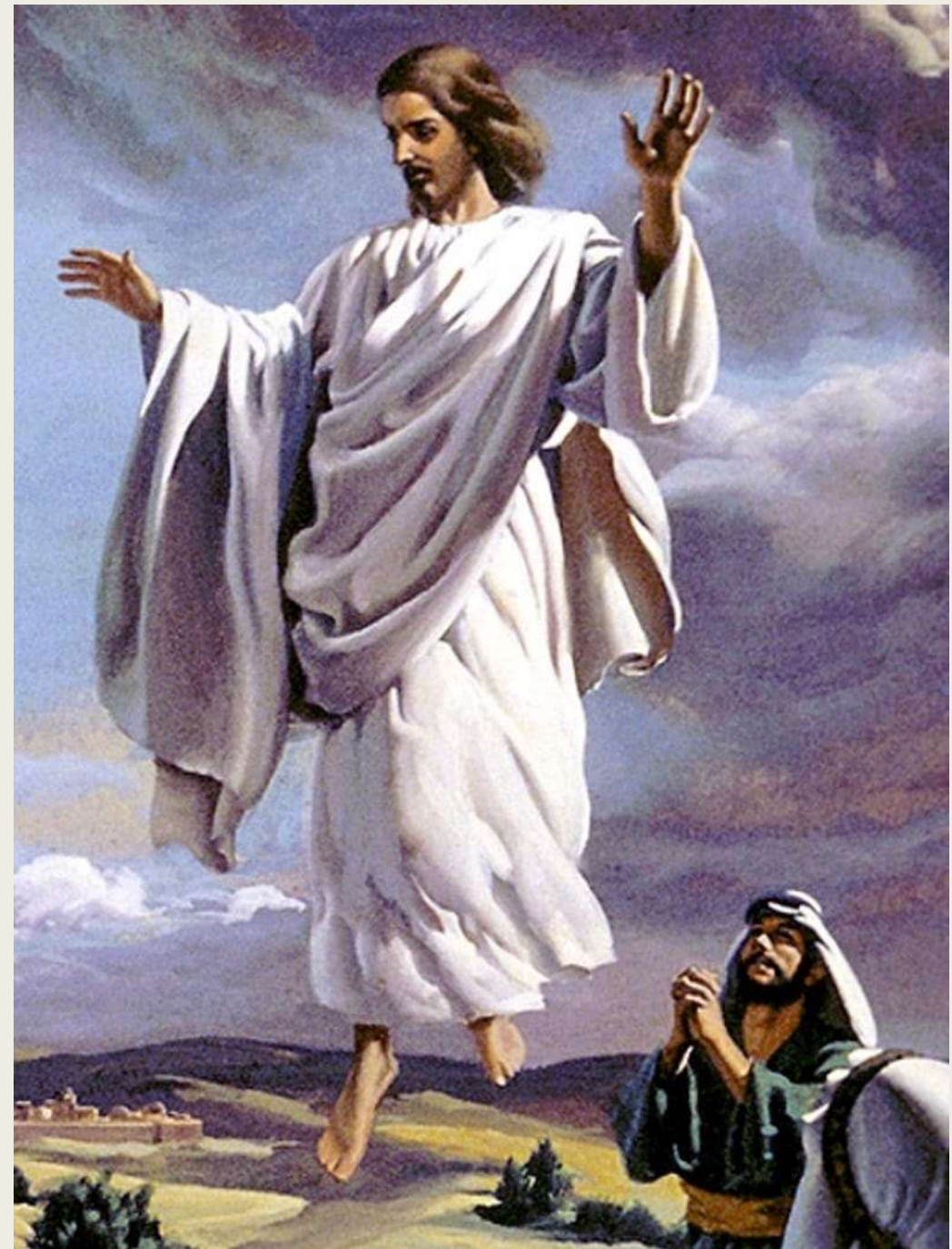


- ❑ In Rev 12, this woman is clothed with the sun (v. 1).
- ❑ She was about to give birth to a child, and cried out with labor pains (v. 2).
- ❑ She delivered a man (male) child, “who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron.”
- ❑ This child was later caught up to God and His throne (v. 5).

- ❑ In Rev 19:3-16, we see Him again.
- ❑ Now He is a triumphant King ruling with a rod of iron.
- ❑ He is called the Word of God (verse 13).
- ❑ He is Jesus, who took on flesh and blood, like us, and dwelt among us (John 1:1, 14).



Jesus was caught up to God after His resurrection, when He was taken up into heaven (Acts 1:9-11).



Great Red Dragon



Rev 12:3-4 tells us of a great red dragon who tries to destroy the woman's child when it is born.

- ❑ **This dragon is Satan (v. 9).**
- ❑ **He worked through King Herod to try to kill baby Jesus (Matt 2:16).**



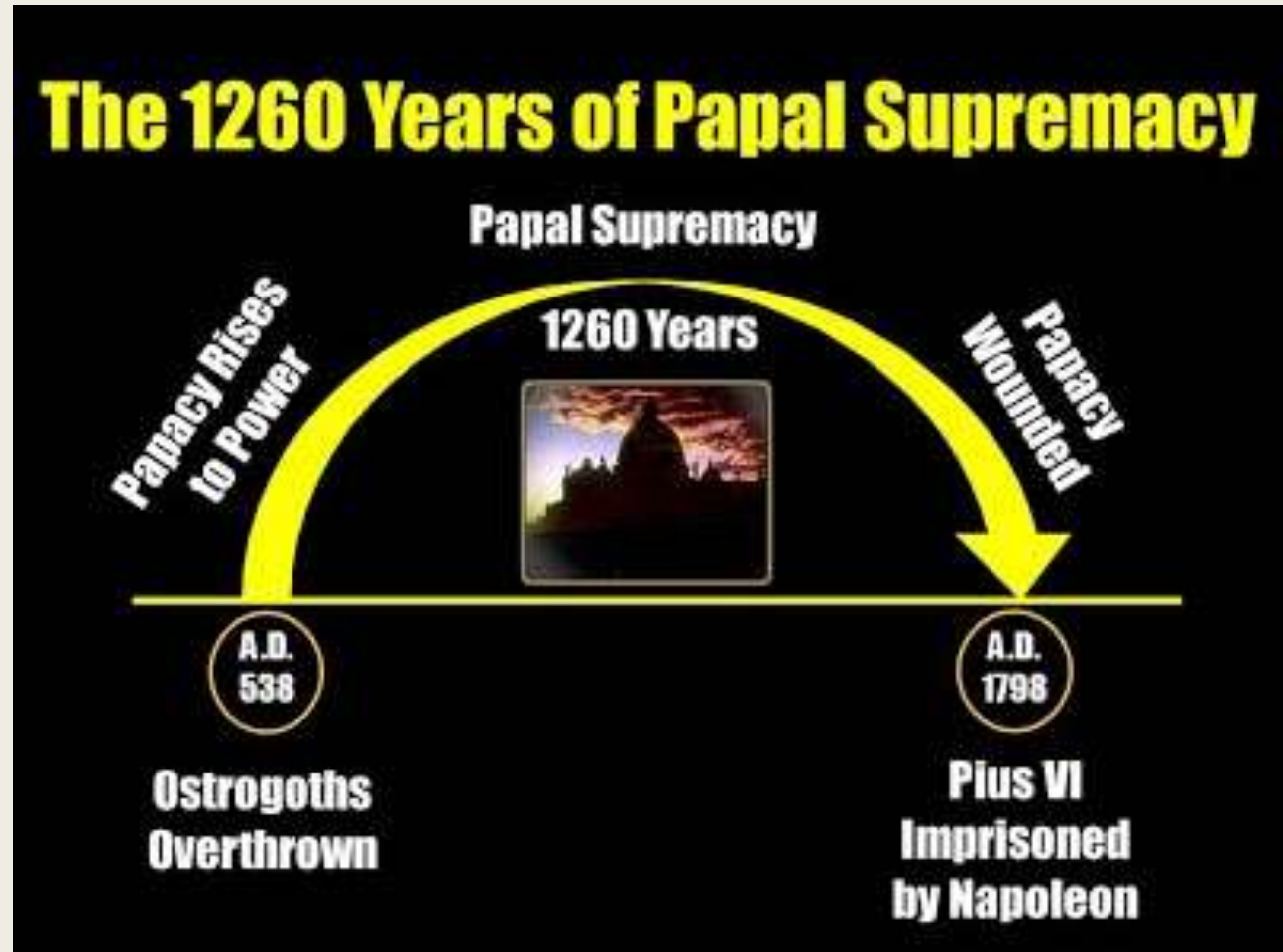
- ❑ **When the devil could not destroy Jesus, he persecuted the woman who had given birth to the man (male) child (Rev 12:13).**
- ❑ **He turned on Christ's church.**



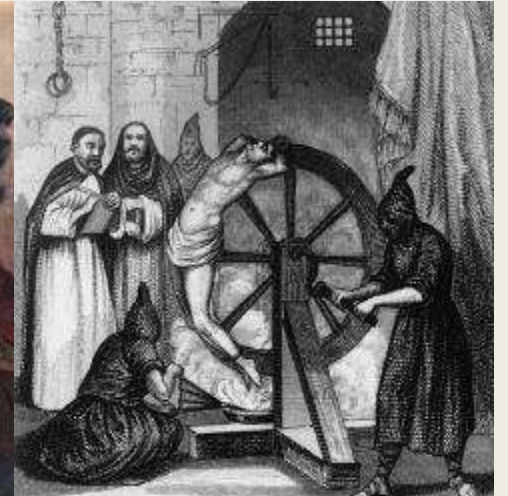
- **“The woman fled into the wilderness,” to a place God had prepared for her.**
- **She was there for 1,260 days (v. 6).**
- **In v. 14, this time period is called “a time, and times, a half a time.”**



- ❑ **One day represents a year (Ezek 4:6).**
- ❑ **God's faithful church was in hiding for 1,260 years.**
- ❑ **This was from AD 538 when the papacy gained control of the Roman Empire, until 1798, when Napoleon's army took the pope captive.**



During this time, God's people were stoned, sawed in two, tempted, and were slain.



- ❖ **They wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and it dens and caves of the earth (Heb 11:37-38).**
- ❖ **This describes the Waldenses, Albigenses, Huguenots, Lollards, Hussites, and other faithful Christians during the years of persecution.**
- ❖ **At least, 50 million Christians died for their faith during this time.**



The Remnant



- ❑ **Although millions stayed true to Jesus even when facing death, Satan could not totally destroy Christ's followers.**
- ❑ **Still, he did not give up. At the end of the 1,260 years, he cast water out of his mouth like a flood after the woman (the church), hoping she would be carried away by the flood (Rev 12:15).**

- ❑ In prophecy, *water* represents people and nations (Rev 17:15.)
- ❑ Great armies under the banner of the papacy went out, trying to destroy God's church.





- ❑ **In this time of crisis, “the earth helped the woman,” and swallowed the flood that the dragon had cast out of his mouth (Rev 12:16).**
- ❑ ***Earth*, the opposite of water, stands for a place with few people.**

- ❑ **Around the end of the 1700s, many people fled to **America, a place where few live**, to escape the persecution and to worship God as the pleased.**



- ❑ **Satan did not give up.**
- ❑ **He was angry with the woman, and went to make war with the rest of her seed, or children (v. 17).**



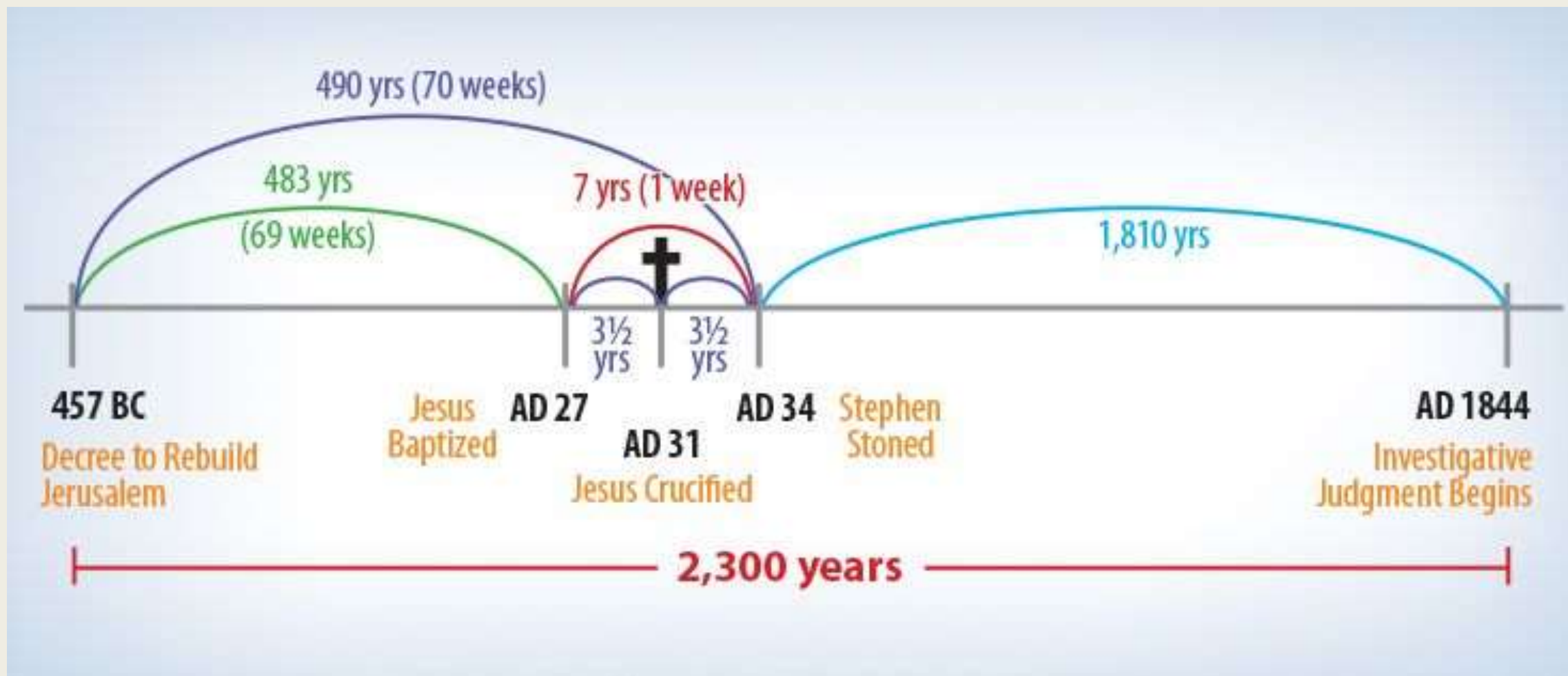


- ❑ **In spite of all of Satan's attacks, God still had faithful people in his true church.**
- ❑ **Just like the first apostles, these people keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ (v. 17).**

- ❑ **What is the testimony of Jesus?**
- ❑ **The Bible says it is the spirit of prophecy (Rev 19:10).**
- ❑ **What an exciting thought.**
- ❑ **God blesses His remnant church with the gift of prophecy!**



Bittersweet Experience





“And I took the little book out of the angel’s hand, and ate it up; and it was in my mouth sweet as honey: and as soon as I had eaten it, my belly was bitter” (Rev 10:10, KJV).

- ❑ **After this great disappointment, God gave Hiram Edson a vision of the heavenly sanctuary.**
- ❑ **It showed that 1844 marked the cleansing of the heavenly sanctuary.**
- ❑ **This was the beginning of the time of judgment described in Rev 14:7.**



❖ **Now the believers saw that they should teach and preach the messages of the three angels in Rev 14, because after these messages had been given to the world, Jesus would return to Earth on a white cloud (v. 14).**



- ❑ **Acts 2:17: God will pour out His Spirit upon all flesh, and sons and daughters will prophecy.**
- ❑ **In 1844, God raised up a prophet for the little flock of believers.**
- ❑ **He chose a young girl name Ellen Harmon (later White).**
- ❑ **She was weak and timid, but Jesus filled her with His Holy Spirit.**
- ❑ **God gave her many vision and messages, which are written in over 100 books!**

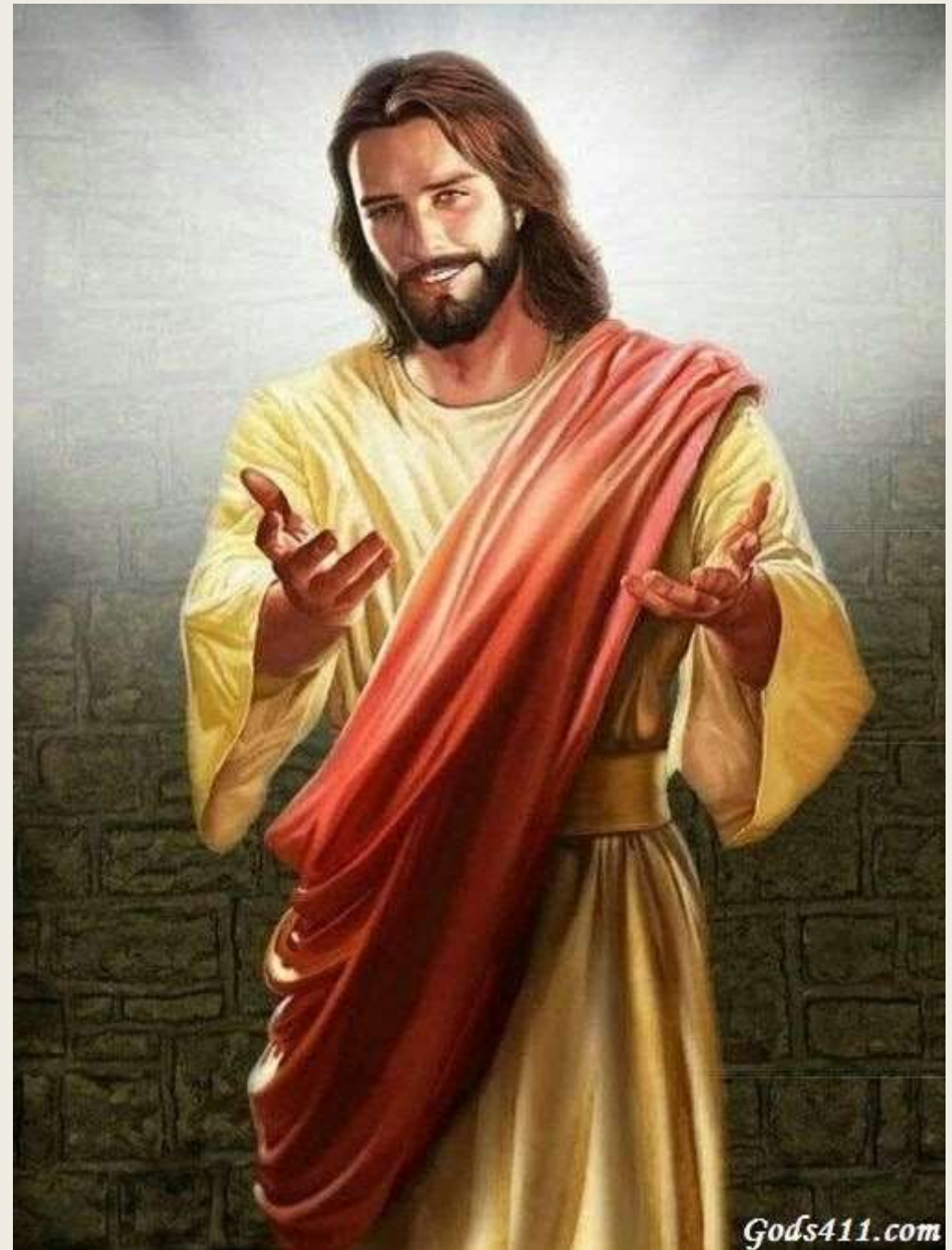




- ❑ **EGW's messages agree with the Law and the Testimony (Isa 8:20).**
- ❑ **Truly she had the spirit of prophecy!**

Bittersweet Experience

- ❑ **God's true church is not based on man's ideas and traditions.**
- ❑ **Instead, its foundation is Jesus Christ (1 Cor 3:11).**
- ❑ **He is the head of His church (Col 1:18).**



Jesus promises that if we seek, we will find (Matt 7:7). We can count on Him to help find such a church.

- ❖ *His church keep's God's commandments (Rev 14:12).*
- ❖ *It has the gift of prophecy (Rev 12:17; 19:10).*
- ❖ *It gives the everlasting gospel to to the world (Rev 14:6).*
- ❖ *It comes out of the errors of Babylon (Revelation 14:8; 18:4).*
- ❖ *It does not worship the beast power of Rev 14:9).*
- ❖ *It looks forward to Christ's soon coming (Rev 14:14).*



The SDA Church
meets all these
requirements!



- **Before God destroyed the earth with a flood, He invited all to come into the ark (Gen 7:1).**
- **Only a few—a remnant—was willing.**





- ❑ **Today, before Jesus returns to Earth, He offers a similar invitation to each of us.**
- ❑ **He invites us to come out of the errors of Babylon and to be safe for eternity if His truth.**



- ❑ As a symbol of our commitment, He invites us to join His remnant church.
- ❑ Will you heed His call? _____.