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The Church by Eras:

- Mat. 16:18- I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.
- Mat. 25:1-13- Parable of the Ten Virgins: the Church spiritually asleep.
- Mat. 24:14- The Gospel preached to all the world, and published (Mark 13:10).
- Mat. 28:18-20- Commission to the Church (10:2-6- The commission of the Twelve).

*Paul sent to Greeks, where Work prospered, so New Testament could be preserved through Dark Ages -- thence to Britain by way of Spain.
*Peter remained at Jerusalem, head of Work among Jews, until Roman-Jewish strife forced his transfer to Babylon -- thence to Britain-- not at Rome, no church there at all late as 56 (Simon Magus arrived there 45).

*(Barnabas to Cyprus and Egypt)

*Andrew (Peter's brother) had Upper (non-Greek) Galatia, Bithynia, Scythia.

*Simon the Zealot to Egypt, North Africa, Britain.

*James (of Alphaeus) to Spain, Britain, Ireland.

*Thomas to Parthian Empire, N.W. India.

*Bartholomew to Parthians, Upper Asia Minor.

*Jude to Parthia, Assyria, Mesopotamia.

*Philip to Scythia, Upper Asia Minor.

*Matthew to Parthia, Asiatic Ethiopia (India).

*Matthias to Dacia (Romania) and Macedonia.

*John to Gaul.

(All spent first twelve years, 31-48, in Syro-Palestinian area)

EPHESUS (Rev. 2:1-7) 31-135 A.D.: "The Age of Shadows" - "Nazarenes"

* 31 A.D. - Church founded, Sunday of June - Pentecost

* 32 A.D. - Stephen martyred - lay members scatter from Jerusalem.

* 35 A.D. - Saul converted.

* 42 A.D. - James (brother of John) martyred - Antioch Church founded.

45 A.D. - Simon Magus appears in Rome.

* 49 A.D. - First church council in Jerusalem.

50 A.D. - Paul goes to Europe - 2nd 19 year time cycle begins.

59 A.D. - Paul arrives prisoner in Rome (released 61).

* 62 A.D. - James (brother of Jesus) martyred - Simeon son of Cleopas becomes Headquarters elder.

* 64 A.D. - First government persecution begun by Nero (burning of Rome).

66 A.D. - Jewish Rebellion begins.

68 A.D. - Peter and Paul martyred.

* 69 A.D. - Church flees to Pella, east of Jordan -- ended all united power of church to spread the Gospel -- Headquarters then removed to Antioch -- John the only living apostle -- assumed leadership of the apostasy (end of Apostolic Church after two 19 year time cycles).

- *70 A.D. - Temple destroyed.
- 90 A.D. - John exiled by Emperor Domitian to Patmos -- wrote Gospel, Epistles, Revelation -- died 98 A.D. after canonization of New Testament. (second imperial persecution)
- 98 A.D. - Church leadership assumed by Polycarp and Polycrates (trained by John at Ephesus after release from Patmos).
- 107 A.D.- Simeon son of Cleopas crucified in reign of Emperor Trajan at age 120.
- *132 A.D.- Second Jewish Rebellion -- complete destruction of Jerusalem.
- 135 A.D.- Majority of Pella congregation apostatizes -- Ephesus era closes (Pella congregation elected Gentile leader, Marcus, who disfellowshipped those few clinging to the truth -- apostatizers returned to Jerusalem, joined "synagogue of Satan."

SMYRNA (Rev. 2:8-11) 135-325 A.D. "The Ebionites" - "Bitter" times
 135 A.D.- Era begins with end of Ephesian Era following second Jewish War.

- Polycarp headquartered at Smyrna -- following example of Peter, Paul, John.
- 150 A.D.- Polycarp travels to Rome, contends with Anicetus over Passover controversy -- no reconciliation -- (Quartodeciman) (Anicetus claimed to be human head of "Catholic" Church of God).
- 155 A.D.- Polycarp burned to death by mob in Smyrna.
- 190-198 - Polycrates, Headquarters at Ephesus, took over leadership, resisting pagan pretences of Victor of Rome (claimed authority of excommunication) -- "Synagogue of Satan," Jewish-professing Gentiles became dominant.
- People of this era termed Ebionites, "the poor" -- three branches:
 1. The true Church
 2. A splinter group, antagonistic to Paul for equalizing Gentiles, used only Gospel of Matthew.
 3. Third group accepted Gnostic doctrines, mish-mash of Christianity and paganism (similar to ~~Egyptian~~ mithraism). Persian.
- 200 A.D.- Theodotion of Ephesus revises early Old Testament translations into Greek (also done by Symmachus who followed--both Ebionites).
- *303 A.D.- Third imperial persecution, by Diocletian, begins--lasted for ten years (Rev. 2:10) in Eastern Empire--continuing famine, pestilence, war.
- *325 A.D.- Council of Nicea--Catholicism established as state religion by Constantine--all others anathematized--Sylvester, "bishop" of Rome, became head of all "christendom"--*Smyrna Era ends with flight from persecution (into N.E. Asia Minor--Armenia and Cappadocia).

PERGAMOS (Rev 2:12-16) 325-1100 "1260 years in the wilderness"

The "Paulicians"

"Satan's seat": original site of Roman civil government in W. Asia Minor. Also site of major college of Chaldean mysteries.

- 378 A.D.- Emperor Gratian confers title Pontifex Maximus (highest priest of the world) on Damasus, bishop (pope) of Rome--persecuted church through political and religious arms.
- *476 A.D.- Fall of Western Roman Empire.
Remnant of church located mainly in Armenia--civilized.
- *554 A.D.- Imperial Restoration under Justinian--Catholic Church amalgamated with civil government--but relatively safe for centuries. R.C.C. "rides the Beast."
- 654 A.D.- Constantine of Mananali begins to teach, train evangelists, and converts many. (Silvanus)
- 681 A.D.- Constantine martyred by Simeon (sent from Constantinople to shake Church loose from those who held doctrine of Balaam (Hebrew: "conqueror of the people"): commit sin whenever profitable or pleasant, and teach others so (Ancient Headquarters at Pethor, here in Armenia).
- 684 A.D.- Simeon converted by conduct of Church--continues work begun by Constantine. (Titus)
- 687 A.D.- Simeon martyred by Byzantine Emperor Justinian II. (Nicolaitanes were "modern" Balaamites, claiming to be Christian).
- 702 A.D.- Paul "the Armenian" assumes leadership.
- 717-746 - Gegnesius, Paul's son and successor, takes name of Timothy--defended Paulicians before Emperor Leo III (his son Zachariah rejected by Paulicians in favor of Joseph). (Timothy)
- 746-782 - Joseph becomes leader, evangelizes all of Phrygia (Epaphroditus)
- 801-835 - Sergius, most renowned of Paulician leaders, comes from humble background as carpenter and continues the Work 34 years, condemning militancy of professing Paulicians. (Tychicus)
- 813-820 - Leo V promulgates new persecution in Cappadocia--provokes military resistance among perverted Paulicians.
- 829-867 - Persecution continued by Empress Theodora--Paulicians became renowned as warrior people--many removed to Europe--Sambat reorganized remnant of Church in Armenia.
- 870 A.D.- Paulicians spread their doctrine to Bulgarians in the Balkans (became the "Bogomils," Slavic for "friends of God") (Cathers, "puritans," Paulicians apostatizers). Saracen wars wreaked havoc in Asia Minor--these and later Turkish wars in Balkans forced Paulicians and Bogomils into central and northwestern Europe, as the tolerance of the doctrine of Balaam brought holocaust to the Paulicians.
- 9-1000 - Paulician "transplants" in Europe prepare the people for the successive era of the Work (Burning instituted as punishment for heresy, Ravenna, Italy, c. 1000).

In 99% of its history, true Church called "heretic."

Paulician Church Government:

- 1) Apostles and prophets
- 2) Synecdemi (evangelists)
- 3) Poimenes (pastors)
- 4) Notarii (teachers and scribes)

* (Key of Truth, translated from Armenian by Fred C. Conybeare, the only extant Paulician writing)

- THYATIRA (Rev. 2:18-29) 1104-1585 "Sweet savor of contrition" *
- * 1104 A.D.- Peter du Bruys (of Dauphiny) preaching in opposition to Catholicism. "Petrobrusians"
- 1124 A.D.- Peter burned, his Disciple, Henry, continues the Work "Henricians".
- 1129 A.D.- Henry dies in prison after moving Headquarters to Albi--Toulouse area.
"First works" of the era (Rev. 2:19) cut short.
- * 1161 A.D.- "Lux lucet in tenebris" a light shines in darkness. Peter Waldo begins preaching, having divested himself of all wealth save that spent on Bible translation (into Provencal).
Coworkers designated "Poor Men of Lyons".
Shortly moved to Picardy, northern France, hence "Picards".
- * 1176 A.D.- Bishop of Lyons forbids "Poor Men" to preach, but they persist and are cited to appear before Pope Alexander III. Great conference in Albi--hence term "Albigenses".
- 1178 A.D.- Waldo goes to Rome to plead cause--pushed translation, kept doctrine in background--decision left to Lateran Council.
- 1179 A.D.- Lateran Council forbids "Poor Men" to preach unless asked by local priest--but they persisted, Headquarters transferred to Italy.
- * 1184 A.D.- Archbishop of Lyons elicits new edict from new pope (Lucius III) anathematizing Waldo and followers, but they had long since removed to Picardy.
At same Council, the "Humiliated", dissenters within Catholic Church, sought right to preach in Lombardy, Italy--being denied, they sought Waldo as their leader and he established a second branch of Waldenses in Italy.
Established College in Angrogna Valley of Cathian Alps, and elementary schools (first in Lombardy)--evangelized foreign countries, translated Bibles--kept Holy Days, including Feast of Tabernacles (malilosa ff Hebrew melilah, "harvested grain" versus Biblical title "Feast of Ingathering").
Arnold Hot dispatched by Waldo to Albi; Joseph and Esperon to Dauphiny and Provence--all anathematized by Pope Lucius' bull of 1184.
- 1194 A.D.- Alphonse, King of Aragon, Barcelona, Provence forced all Waldenses from his dominion--successor in 1197 made the penalty death by burning.

- 1207 A.D.- Arnold Hot; now chief spokesman of Albigenses, expounds anti-Catholic theses--burned at stake not many years hence.
- * 1208 A.D.- Albigensian Crusade begun by Pope Innocent III, with all northern France arrayed against the south--southern area completely devastated by 20 years of war.
- 1209 A.D.- Innocent III authorized counterfeit "Waldensian" movement headed by Durand de Huesca, an ex-Waldense--similar arm of "Poor Catholics" begun by Bernard Primo, ex-Waldense, in Lombardy--these machinations began to perform the work of "Jezebel" (Rev. 2:20) on the Church: a Gentile church having the same ancient pagan religion while calling herself "Christian".
- 1210 A.D.- Lombard Waldenses reject Waldo because of his commanded dissolution of labor associations by which former Catholic practices infiltrated the Church--chose to themselves Giovanni di Ronco.
- * 1215 A.D.- Lateran Council IV forbids reading of Bible in vernacular, closing door on evangelistic work--Pope institutes Franciscans (preaching) and Dominicans (minor friars) to oppose Lombard "Humiliated" and "Poor Men of Lyons" respectively--later given charge of Inquisition. 1233
- * 1217 A.D.- Waldo has died, work becomes ineffective.
- 1218 A.D.- ^{Inquisition given to Franciscans} Representatives from Lyons and the Lombards meet in Bergamo--no agreement reached due to lack of leadership.
- 1229 A.D.- Inquisition initiated by Council at Toulouse.
- 1231 A.D.- New papal edict against Waldenses.
- 1238 A.D.- ^{Inquisition given to Franciscans} The school destroyed, persecution crosses Alps into France, Thyatira's Work is through.
- 1300's - Waldenses flee before persecution to European hinter-lands (1310-30, 1375)--Waldenses in Netherlands became "Lollards" (speak softly, mumble: 1315, Walter "the Lollard" and brother Raymond carry Gospel to England, burned in Cologne, Germany, 1322--term soon applied to all "heretics").
- 1384 A.D.- John Wycliffe differed with Catholic Church, had Bible translated into English--Wycliffites absorbed Lollards though mainly secular.
- 1401 A.D.- Statute "De Heretico Comburendo", against all Lollards, forbade preaching, teaching new doctrines--persecution scattered remnant all over England and Scotland, constantly hunted.
Prepared area for Protestant Reformation, gave direct rise to Puritanism (attempted reconciliation of commandments without obedience).
- * 1450 A.D.- Printing invented in Germany--the Gospel spreads profusely. Sabbath-keepers known throughout Europe.
- * 1517 A.D.- Protestant Reformation led by Luther, Zwingli, Calvin--even these persecuted disbelievers, especially Anabaptists (re-baptizers).

1585 A.D.- "1260 years in the Wilderness" end, and with it the Thyatira era, whose major labor was to translate, copy, and spread the Scriptures.

SARDIS (Rev. 3:1-6) 1585-1934 "you have a name... and are dead"
1587 A.D.- Execution of Mary, Queen of Scots, leaves Britain forever Protestant.

- *1588 A.D.- Defeat of Spanish Armada, reducing world's major Catholic power to second-rate status.
Andreas Eossi, rich Hungarian nobleman, picks up work begun by Francis David (ex-Catholic priest --their history recorded in Sabbatarians in Transylvania by Samuel Kohn.
- 1600 A.D.- Sabbatarians compile hymnbook--new attempt at suppression results in burning of many books and writings.
Eossi dies; his son Simon Pechi becomes leader, while retaining status as Unitarian, public government offices.
- 1616 A.D.- John Traske ordains four evangelists in England (the "Mill Yard" church).
- 1618 A.D.- Unitarians excommunicate all Sabbath keepers--30 Years War begins.
- 1619 A.D.- Pechi forced to accompany army to war in Austria--suddenly imprisoned for 3½ years--great influx of Sephardic (Spanish and Portugese) Jews, mixing with Sabbatarians (Traske in England recants).
- 1628-32 - Former Puritan minister Theophilus Grabourne advocates Sabbath--credited with initiating Sabbatarian movement in England.
- 1629 A.D.- Pechi resumes leadership of association.
- 1638 A.D.- The four "official" religions condemn Sabbatarians, Pechi recants--church goes underground, many fleeing to Holland.
- 1642 A.D.- James Ochford writes book defending Sabbath--Church now termed "Anabaptist".
- 1668 A.D.- Several congregations in England by this time (Christ working through the Stennett and Bampfield families).
Francis Bampfield driven from Church of England pastorate by Act of Conformity (1662), later raised up congregation in Dorchester jail, and another in London which persisted for a century, Edward Stennett becoming pastor at Bampfield's death--the Churches began to slip into error, associating with Protestant congregations and ministers--almost no true members remaining by 1800--Apostatizers dubbed Seventh-Day Baptists.
- *1664 A.D.- Stephen Mumford sent from Church of God in London to Newport, Rhode Island--first congregation (7 members) raised up 1671--became "Mother Church" in U.S.
- 1705 A.D.- Piscataway, Jew Jersey, congregation founded.
- 1708 A.D.- Newport congregation becomes officially two at Feast of Tabernacles--"Westerly" or "Hophinton" site became Headquarters location (site of Feast).

- 1713 A.D.- Other Seventh-Day congregations developing--William David, former Quaker and Baptist, ordained by Newport church, introduced much error (Trinity, immortality) at odds with true doctrine.
- 1818 A.D.- "Seventh Day Baptists" organized from varying congregations embracing Protestant doctrine.
- 1838 A.D.- Adventist movement begins among Sunday churches, based on William Miller's false interpretation of the 2300 days of Dan. 8:14, expecting Christ's return in 1844.
- * 1844 A.D.- Expectations shattered, Adventists split--major group refuses to acknowledge error, stating rather that God's throne in heaven needed cleansing at this time. Ellen White (Seventh Day Baptists) introduces Adventists to Sabbath.
- 1846 A.D.- Major Adventist segment accepts Sabbath, but rejects Seventh Day Baptists in favor of alliance with remnant of Church of God.
- 1860 A.D.- Adventists reject title Church of God, become officially Seventh Day Adventists, take over Church's printing plant and magazine--the faithful (mostly in Ohio, Iowa, and Missouri) refuse to go along.
- 1861 A.D.- Church begins new monthly paper The Remnant of Israel, then changed to Sabbath Advocate, finally Bible Advocate.
- 1870-1900- Church organizes into various state conferences, mainly in Missouri, Oklahoma, Oregon--begin evangelizing many South American countries.
- * 1927 A.D.- Mr. Armstrong encounters church in Oregon
- 1931 A.D.- Mr. Armstrong ordained by Oregon conference.
- * 1933 A.D.- November 4, Salem, West Virginia: reorganization meeting held, Herbert W. Armstrong selected fortieth of 70 elders (40 signifying the completion of testing). The Sardis Era was finished.

PHILADELPHIA (Rev. 3:7-13) 1934-? "Brotherly love"

- * 1934 A.D.- World Tomorrow broadcast begins. Jan. 7, 1934; Feb. 1934- First PT
- * 1947 A.D.- Ambassador College founded
- 1953 A.D.- Work expands to Europe
- 1972 A.D.- Work continues in the manner of Elijah--schools for training--will be taken to place of safety--Goal of the Church: ultimate salvation of all mankind.

(1974?-
LAODICEA (Rev. 3:14-22) ?-? "Self-righteous people"
 Spiritually lukewarm--self-confident--lacking in faith and zeal--must prove themselves through Great Tribulation.