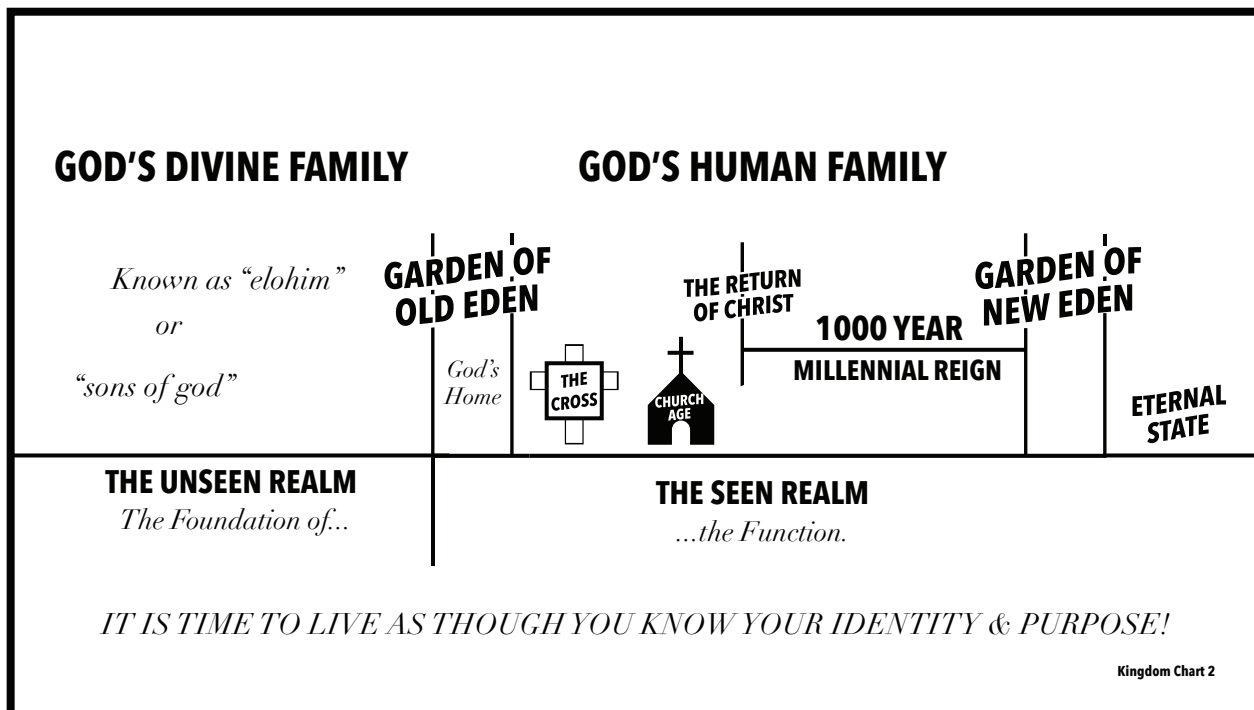
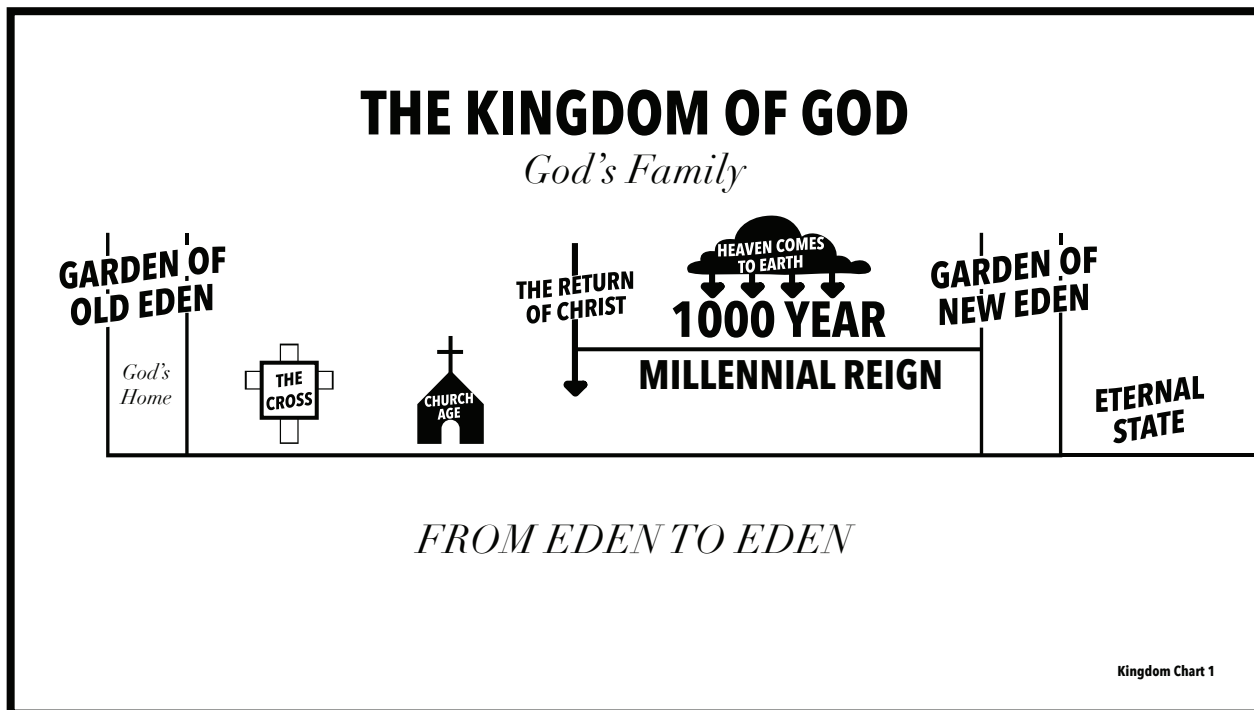
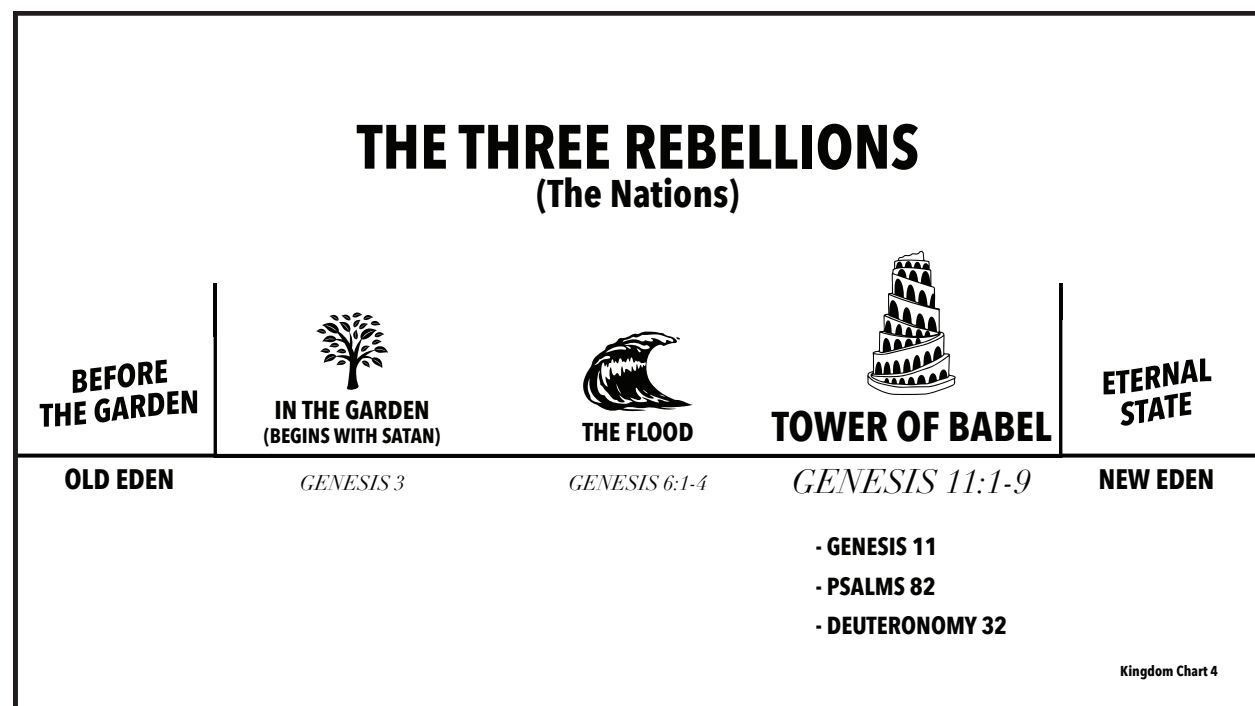
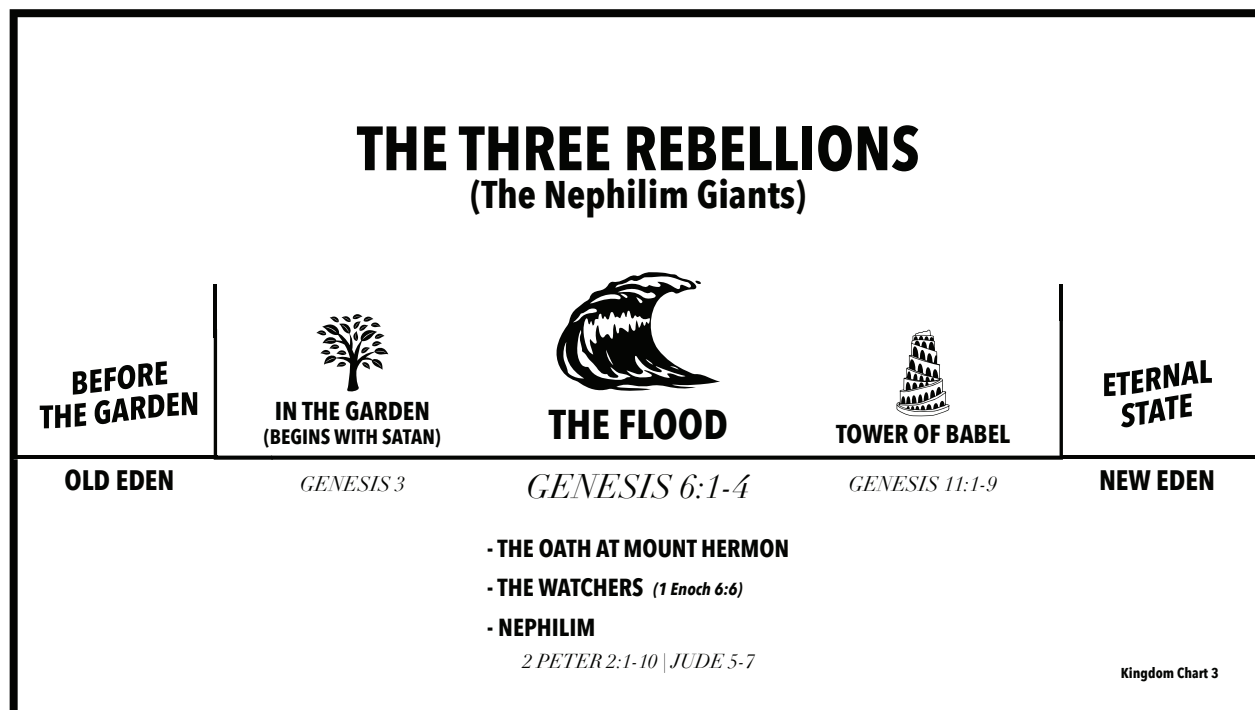


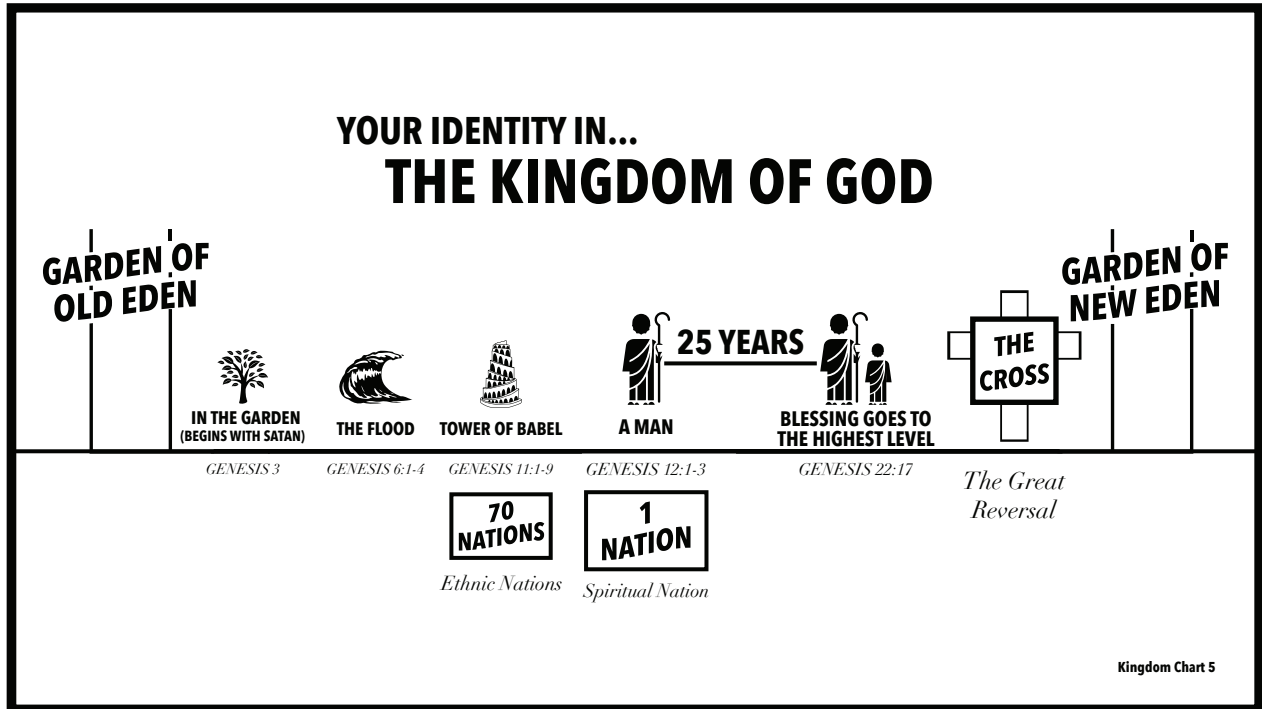
THE GATHERING- Pastor Gene Wolfenbarger
Series—God’s Family Charts



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“Understanding Your Identity” - Glossary

Garden of Eden – The actual physical/geographical/personal dwelling place of God on planet Earth. Shared with Adam & Eve before the Fall. To be fully restored to its original perfection & purpose at the close of the 1,000-year reign of Christ.

God’s Divine Family – The created spiritual beings who have existed in the spirit realm from eternity past with--but not equal to--the Triune God (Father, Son, Holy Spirit). Referred to in various scriptures as *elohim*, the sons of God, angels, Watchers, morning stars, elders. Function as a Heavenly council to God at His invitation and to fulfill assignments on His behalf in the unseen realm and on the earth. The divine family serves as a template for how the human family should operate in alignment with the plans and purposes of God.

God’s Human Family – Created and placed in the Garden to serve as God’s image-bearers in the earth. Unique hybrid beings comprised of spirit, soul, and flesh. Designed to mirror the identity and function of the divine family in Heaven. Exiled by a free-will choice of disobedience, sacrificing their sonship, and causing a transfer of world dominion from man to Satan. Redeemed and restored to their position in the family by the sacrificial atonement of Jesus. Called to active partnership in the ongoing Kingdom mission to return the planet to its perfect, eternal Garden state.

Book of Enoch – Ancient Hebrew text which does not appear in the Bible, but parallels Bible history. Traditionally attributed to Enoch, the great-grandfather of Noah. This book was certain to have been a familiar influence on writers of the Old and New Testaments. Heavily focused on the spirit realm, including more detailed accounts of the Watchers and the Nephilim than those found in the Bible. Should be read from a historical and theological perspective only. May be regarded as anointed but not endowed with the same divine authority as the Word.

Watchers – Spirit beings assigned to watch over and guard the affairs of men. Some developed a lustful attraction to the physical beauty of women and violated their assignment, supernaturally mating with them. These unholy unions produced a race of giants called the Nephilim who would torment the inhabitants of the earth. Introduced mankind to dark arts and technologies such as weaponry, cosmetics, mirrors, and sorcery. Other of the Watchers did not join the traitors and remained faithful to their assignment.

Nephilim – Offspring of the sexual union between a group of rebellious sons of God with the daughters of men in the age before the Great Flood of Noah’s day. Traditionally characterized in Hebrew and Greek literature as physical giants. The Flood may have been a direct response to the threat of the rampaging Nephilim eventually wiping out mankind. A generation of post-Flood Nephilim inhabited the pagan nations of the Promised Land and discouraged the Israelites from entering for forty years before Joshua’s conquest ultimately destroyed their bloodline.

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Church Age – Also known as the End Times. The present age in which we live between the successful completion of Jesus’ earthly ministry and his future return to establish his throne in Jerusalem. The Church is now functioning as the anointed, Spirit-filled body of Christ, actively partnering with Heaven as Kingdom ambassadors on assignment to prepare for the Second Coming and the Millennial Reign.

Return of Christ – The end-times event when Jesus will physically return from Heaven to Earth in his resurrected body. The Return is a singular, unique event set to occur according to Bible prophecy at the end of a seven-year period of unprecedented global upheaval known as the Great Tribulation. (The popular modern concept of a preemptive secret return dubbed “the Rapture” does not align with sound interpretation of the Word or with the centuries of theological insight preceding it.)

Millennial Reign – The 1,000 years between Christ’s return to Earth and the final judgment and abolition of Satan and his rebel forces to eternal imprisonment. During this extended period of peace across the globe, Jesus will rule his Kingdom government from the rebuilt temple in Jerusalem with the help of a merging of God’s divine and human families. Ordinary humans of flesh & blood will co-exist in daily life with the glorified Church in their resurrection bodies. The seen and unseen realms will work in unity toward the common goal of restoring the Garden of Eden worldwide.

Eternal State – Heaven literally relocates to Earth and becomes God’s permanent home on the New Earth. Just as Adam walked and talked with God in the Garden of Eden at the dawn of time, the residents of the New Earth will commune with the Father in the eternal Garden, face to face. The council of the elohim will include the reborn sons of God out of his earthly family. The “already, but not yet” Kingdom gives way to the Now and Forever Kingdom. Shalom peace, joy, love, and righteousness will finally be experienced in the fullness Abba intended in the beginning.

Additional Resources for Deeper Study

Books by Dr. Michael Heiser (available on Amazon)

“*Supernatural*” (2015)

“*The Unseen Realm*” (2019)

“*Demons*” (2020)

You can find related videos on our website with each teaching in this series!