

At the Crossroads of a New Era: Chaos & Confusion or Revival & Awakening

(STUDY GUIDE)

With Dr. James W. Goll

“But the people who know their God will display strength and take action.”
Daniel 11:32b

I. Keys that Unlock Revelation

It has often been stated that “little keys open big doors.” We need the Keys of the Kingdom to be released and to be taken up to open the vast doors of the spiritual realm to shift atmospheres and cultures from that of chaos and confusion into one of authentic revival and awakening in Jesus’ name! Let’s take a look at some of these choices we need to make while we are at a major crossroads of history.

A. Three keys from Daniel 11:32:

1. Those who know God:
“Do you just know about God or do you really know God?”
2. Those who display strength:
“You will ultimately discover that His lasting strength is often hidden in the place of your weakness.”
3. Those who take action:
“Do you know your destiny in God?” “Do you have a plan?” “Do you have strategic steps in place to achieve the unachievable?”

B. Clear prophetic words I have received:

1. First of the New Hebrew Year:

“This will be a season where there is the open conflict of thrones resulting in chaos and confusion. It will be a time of the great divide and polarity in the land. But God will use this as a backdrop to have the final word as the enemy will overplay his hand. Eventually, everywhere there is confusion and

disorder, there will come My divine solution.”

2. First of the New Civil Year:

“We are entering a new era. This is not just a new day or a new year or even just a new decade. We are entering into an entire new era. Mark my word. This is not just a new year or even a new decade. We are entering into an entire new era.”

3. Passover – A word concerning the jealousy of God:

“I have been waiting for such a long time for My people to slow down long enough in order to hear what I have to speak. I have much that I want to speak in these days. I want to speak about the new ways for the new era. The new wineskin for the new wine. I want to talk about seedtime and harvest and those who sow in tears will be among those who will reap with great joy. Will you be like Moses, and turn aside? I am waiting there.”

4. Springtime – a word on divine creativity:

“It is the time of the global divine reset. We are building upon five words that all start with RE this year: 1) Repent, 2) Reset, 3) Recalibrate, 4) Recover, and 5) Restore.

“This is a time of a global reset. I am opening the room of divine creativity where new inventions are available, where new songs are heard, where new books are written, where disruptive technologies exist. In this time of the reset in order to recalibrate, I will shake the education mountain and the mountain of economy. But new tools will come forth and things will never return to the way they have been. Why? There are new ways for a new era!”

5. Pentecost – a word concerning the fire of God:

On the morning of Pentecost, I had a stellar dream where I saw fire drops falling on people’s heads as they waited on the Lord in prayer in worship in homes. It was not a big rushing wind and a huge flame of fire. It was a test! It was small fire drops that were falling. It was a surprising test of faithfulness in the time of a “lockdown.”

Fire drops continued to fall upon people as they waited and worshipped and

as they continued to turn their attention to the audience of one. Over time, they became saturated in the oil and fire of God, and then they became a flame of fire. In God's dream, in homes around the world one person who was a flame of fire touched another person who was a flame of fire. This continued to happen until there was "house on fire." This was the Lord's desire, that homes around the world would become houses of fire.

6. There's a heaven-sent micro-burst.

While in worship and prayer in July, I was given an open vision of a heaven-sent micro-burst of wind coming straight down on leaders coming together in agreement. I saw three apostles coming into alignment together and the keys of the Kingdom being given to them. I saw a fierce down draft coming pouring down upon these leaders and then being sent straight out from them to the Body of Christ and into the world.

It was a micro-burst of the wind of the Spirit to birth the micro-church into a place of impact and influence. The Holy Spirit kept talking to me about the power of two and three, the power of two and three. This is the church in the marketplace. This is the church in government. This is the church in education. This is the church in arts, entertainment and media. This is the church in the family. This is another part of the new wineskins for the new wine. This is new ways for the new era.

7. It is a time for the beginning of the Great Harvest.

This new era in Christendom is the beginning of the Great Harvest. (Please note: I did not say the final harvest.) But we are crossing the threshold into the Greatest Harvest we have ever known thus far. It is the time of the beginning of the "Greatest Show on Earth," of signs and wonders and open displays of God's lavish love when Jesus Christ receives the rewards for His suffering.

"Worship will break out in the streets and beaches. Worship and prayer will break out where there have been restrictions, protests and violence. Signs and wonders will happen as praise occurs in the open air. There will be no stopping of the Spirit of the Lord once He is allowed to move outside the four walls of the Church. This is the beginning of a great transformation and a redefinition of the Church. This is a shift to a new era called the Kingdom Age."

II. Decisions, Decisions, Decisions

A. The power of decision

1. From Joshua 24:15, NIV:
“But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.”
2. From Joel 3:14:
“Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! For the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision.”

B. Which option will we choose in turbulent times?

1. Shaking or glory?
2. Darkness or light?
3. Fear or faith?
4. Fatalism or victorious living?
5. Stagnation or progressive revelation?
6. Lukewarm Churchianity or passionate believers?
7. Tribulation generation or transformation generation?
8. Desolation or restoration?
9. Gloom and doom, or hope ambassadors?
10. Cessationism or power demonstrations?

C. Fear or faith — which will it be?

In today’s global society with pandemic hitting every facet of life, violence escalating, rampant shootings, protests and riots, tumultuous economic times, China’s emergence, chaos in the Middle East, and with wars and rumors of wars, we have some basic choices to make. What guides and directs me, fear or faith? Which direction will each of the nations of the earth head?

“There is no panic in heaven! God has no problems, only plans.”

Quote by Corrie Ten Boom

If the Church is pushing the panic button instead of faith and trust, prayer and confidence towards God, what do we expect the world to look like? Will we create a culture of fear or of faith? Which will it be?

III. When the Shaking and the Glory Collide

A. Lessons from Haggai 2:2-9:

“Speak now to Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and to the remnant of the people saying, ‘Who is left among you who saw this temple in its former glory? And how do you see it now? Does it not seem to you like nothing in comparison? But now take courage, Zerubbabel,’ declares the Lord, ‘take courage also, Joshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and all you people of the land take courage,’ declares the Lord, ‘and work; for I am with you,’ declares the Lord of hosts.

*‘As for the promise which I made you when you came out of Egypt, My Spirit is abiding in your midst; do not fear!’ For thus says the Lord of hosts, ‘**Once more in a little while, I am going to shake the heavens and the earth, the sea also and the dry land. I will shake all the nations; and they will come with the wealth of all nations, and I will fill this house with glory,**’ says the Lord of hosts. ‘The silver is Mine and the gold is Mine,’ declares the Lord of hosts. ‘**The latter glory of this house will be greater than the former,**’ says the Lord of hosts, ‘**and in this place I will give peace,**’ declares the Lord of hosts.”*

Here in Haggai 2 we have the historical recordings concerning the first and the second temples. The first was grand in external splendor, an architectural wonder of all the ages. After the desolation and then a time of despair, a second temple was built—but it did not compare to the earlier grandeur. But the Word of the Lord came forth in that situation declaring that the latter glory of this house will be greater than the former.

B. Lessons from the temple patterns.

There are similarities in the natural and in the spiritual temples. Let’s take a look at some of these.

1. In the natural temple:

- a. The first temple was built in grandeur.

- b. The first temple was destroyed.
 - c. The second temple was built appearing in the natural as “nothing in comparison.”
 - d. A prophetic declaration was released in the midst of disillusionment, “the glory will be greater!”
2. In the spiritual temple:
- a. The first apostolic church was birthed in glory.
 - b. The Church went into a great decline.
 - c. The second apostolic age appears on the scene in infancy and controversy.
 - d. A prophetic declaration is released in the midst of uncertain times, “the glory will be greater!”

IV. Countering the Enemy in Times of Uncertainty

A. What are Satan’s favorite tactics?

Satan and his minions exercise their malice in certain predictable ways. With their limited demonic repertoire, all they can do is to mix standard ingredients into variations on the same recipe. Here is a quick list of Satan’s favorite tactics against human beings:

1. **Delay.** To weaken you and wear you out. To make you lose your way. (See Daniel 10:2-14)
2. **Deceit.** To derail God’s purposes by making spiritual principles into legalism. To move you from the stability of truth to the instability of error. (See Revelation 12:9)
3. **Distraction.** To break your focus. To make you concentrate on a side issue. A time of great intimacy with God can turn into a time of great battle. (See Proverbs 4:27)
4. **Disappointment.** To magnify the weaknesses of others. To offend you and embitter you.

Delay, deceit, distraction and disappointment—each one of these tactics is

slow-acting. Therefore, you may not recognize them at first. Sometimes it seems that Satan is more patient than you are as he encroaches on your peace, inch by inch. He cannot derail you instantly, although it may seem abrupt when it happens. (For more on this subject, see my book and curriculum kit on **Deliverance from Darkness**.)

B. **How do I overcome these demonic tactics?**

For each of the enemy's tactics, there are distinct steps we can take in the opposite direction. Like an antidote being applied to the venom of a snake, these tactics will help you to counteract and overcome the wiles of the devil:

1. **Take action on God's promises** (a response instead of delay).

As Dr. Joseph Peck says, successful people take action quickly and change their minds slowly. While the timing of a promise is always important, you can always act on what you know to be true. Declare His promises aloud. Then act on the aspects of God's character that He wants to manifest in you. Focus on showing love (and all the fruits of the Spirit) in your interactions with others. Spend time in prayer and testify of God's goodness to those around you. These are actions that are always acceptable and stymie the effects of delay.

2. **Ground yourself daily in God's Word** (a response instead of deceit).

There is no substitute for having God's Word resident within you. This is one of the most important ways to recognize the subtle lies of the enemy. Bank tellers are effectively taught to recognize counterfeit money by studying the real thing. That way when something false comes, they instantly know the difference. Spend time in God's Word and hide it in your heart. Then the Spirit will more easily be able to quicken and alert you to the deception of the enemy.

3. **Focus on the Lord and His commands** (a response instead of distraction).

When we are waiting for a particular promise to be fulfilled, the more time that passes, the more easily we can get distracted. A helpful antidote is to focus on the Lord Himself, and then actually DO what He has already instructed you to do.

I am reminded of Jehoshaphat's petition to the Lord when the enemy was coming against him in 2 Chronicles 20:12, *"Our God, will You not judge them? For we have no power to face this vast army that is attacking us. We do not know what to do, but our eyes are on You."*

4. **Thank God for all the victories** (a response instead of disappointment).

Can't you feel the devil already starting to run as these truths take root in your heart? Don't give these antidotes just a passing thought, root them and ground them into your daily lifestyle. Take action, and you will suddenly be looking at the enemy's backside as he flees from you.

V. There are New Ways for a New Era – An Exhortation

Yes, there are new ways for a new era. There are new wineskins for the new wine. How should we live? Are we going to be casualties on the battlefield or warriors enforcing the victory of Calvary? The choice is ours! Act in the opposite spirit of the world and cultivate the culture of faith instead of fear.

A. Let's put on the full armor of God!

Paul wrote to the members of the Church in Ephesus, *"Put on the full armor of God"* (see Ephesians 6:11). His advice applies to every single member of the Body of Christ. That means each one of us must wear every piece of spiritual armor daily (see Ephesians 6:14-18).

As an important part of that full armor, well-equipped Christians carry a "shield of faith" (see verse 16). With the shield of faith, we can extinguish the fiery arrows of the evil one and shield our fellow soldiers. We must take it up and use it, but let's not just have a defensive mindset. Let's have the mindset of an overcomer.

B. Let's shine as lights in the midst of darkness.

Isaiah 60:1-3 declares, *"Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For behold, darkness will cover the earth and deep darkness the peoples, but the Lord will rise upon you and His glory will appear upon you. Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising."*

Yes, the shaking and the glory are on a collision course. But guess which force wins? Or maybe it should be stated, *“But guess who wins?”* I heard it stated years ago, *“I looked at the back of the Book, and guess what? We win!”*

In these turbulent times, at the crossroads of a new era, I personally choose to see Isaiah 60:1-3 right in front of us. I am not in denial that difficult times exist. I am in denial, though, that the enemy has the final word.

Ultimately, I declare I see a glorious eschatology where light exposes darkness and the glory of the Lord covers the earth as the waters cover the seas. Will you join me?

VI. Closing Exhortation and Prayer

Which will it be? Chaos and confusion, or revival and awakening? As for me and my house and for all those within the reach of my voice, I declare that we choose revival and awakening, in Jesus' name!

“Father, we declare that these are the days that the holy prophets of old have spoken about. These are the days when darkness covers the earth and deep darkness the people. But then a great light shines and the glory of the Lord appears and pierces this temporary present darkness. We declare that we are posturing ourselves for the greatest harvest of souls the Church has ever seen. We declare that out of chaos and confusion, an awakening will come forth and new ways for a new era will emerge. We volunteer freely to be hope solutionists for such a time as this. Amen and amen!”