

**THE WORKS OF
JONATHAN EDWARDS**

SECTION 5

WORK OF REDEMPTION

LIST OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

PAGE

1.		PERIOD I - FROM THE FALL TO THE INCARNATION	2
	A.	FROM THE FALL TO THE FLOOD	2-3
	B.	FROM THE FLOOD TO THE CALLING OF ABRAHAM	3
	C.	FROM ABRAHAM TO MOSES	4
	D.	FROM MOSES TO DAVID	5-6
	E.	FROM DAVID TO THE BABYLONIAN CAPTIVITY	7-8
	F.	FROM CAPTIVITY TO CHRIST	9-10
	D.	IMPROVEMENTS OF THE FIRST PERIOD	11
II.		PERIOD II - FROM CHRIST'S INCARNATION TO HIS RESURRECTION.	11
	A.	OF CHRIST'S INCARNATION	11
	B.	THE PURCHASE OF REDEMPTION	12
	C.	IMPROVEMENT OF THE SECOND PERIOD	13
III.		FROM CHRIST'S RESURRECTION TO THE END OF THE WORLD.	13
		INTRODUCTION	13
	A.	TO THE DESTRUCTION OF JERUSALEM	14
	B.	TO THE TIME OF CONSTANTINE	15
	C.	TO THE RISE OF ANTI-CHRIST	15
	D.	TO THE REFORMATION	15
	E.	TO THE PRESENT TIME	16
	F.	IMPROVEMENTS OF PAST EVENTS	16
	G.	TO THE FALL OF ANTICHRIST	16
	H.	TO THE END OF TIME	16
	I.	THE GENERAL JUDGEMENT	16
	J.	IMPROVEMENT OF THE WHOLE	16

INTRODUCTION

1. Edwards begins by looking at **Isaiah 51:8** - **“For the moth will eat them up like a garment; worms will devour them like wool. But my righteousness will last forever, My salvation through all generations”**
 - a) This chapter is to comfort the Church under her sufferings and persecutions of her enemies.
 - b) God’s mercy and faithfulness towards His church is perpetual
 - c) He will continue to work salvation for her against all these assaults of her enemies, carrying her safely through the changes of the world, and finally, crowning her with victory and deliverance.
2. The work of redemption is a work that God carries on from the fall of man to the end of the world.
 - a) God carries on the work of converting the souls of fallen men through all ages.
 - b) He goes on to justify them, to blot out their sins, and to accept them as righteous in His sight, through the righteousness of Christ.
 - c) He goes on to adopt and receive them from being the children of Satan, to be His own children, to carry on the work of His grace which He has begun in them, to comfort them with the consolations of His Spirit, and to bestow upon them, when their bodies die, that eternal glory which is the fruit of Christ’s purchase (**Rom. 8:30**)
3. The main things which God designed to be accomplished:
 - a) To put all His enemies under His feet, and that His goodness may finally appear triumphant over all evil.
 - b) To restore all the ruins of the Fall - of man’s soul, man’s nature, man’s body, the world
 - c) To unite all of God’s elect one to another in one body, under one Head.
 - d) To perfect and complete the glory of all the elect.
 - e) To accomplish the glory of the Trinity.

I. PERIOD I - FROM THE FALL TO THE INCARNATION

A. FROM THE FALL TO THE FLOOD

1. As soon as man fell, Christ entered on His mediatorial work - God showed His mercy by not destroying them (as He did the angels)
2. The gospel was first revealed in **Gen.15**, “**And I will put enmity between you and the woman and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel**” - this was the first promise given, the first prediction that was ever made of the incarnation Christ.
3. The custom of sacrificing was begun soon after this - to be a standing type of the sacrifice of Christ, till He should come, and offer up Himself a sacrifice to God.
4. God soon after the Fall began actually to save the souls of men through Christ’s redemption, Adam and Eve being the first, then Abel, etc.
5. The first uncommon pouring out of the Spirit, through Christ, in the days of Enosh (**Gen. 4:26**)
6. The eminently holy life of Enoch
7. In Enoch’s time, God expressly revealed the coming of Christ than He had done before (**Jude 14-15**).
8. Enoch’s transition into heaven (**Gen 5:24**) - without dying.
9. The church survived in the family (although greatly diminished) from which Christ was to proceed during the terrible days preceding the flood
10. Although that mighty, universal deluge overthrow this building of God, the work of redemption.

B. FROM THE FLOOD TO THE CALLING OF ABRAHAM

1. The flood itself was a work of God.
 - a) It belonged to the work of redemption and intended to promote it. By it, God removed out of the way the enemies and obstacles that were ready to overthrow it.
 - b) Prior to the flood, the earth was filled with violence (chiefly against the church) - Noah’s preaching of righteousness was disregarded.

- c) Thus God took the possessions of the enemies of the church, and gave it all to His church - in agreement to that promise of the covenant of grace **(Ps. 37:9-11)**
- 2. God wonderfully preserved the family from which the Redeemer was to come.
 - a) It was also the mystical body of Christ that were saved.
 - b) The water which delivered Noah and his sons from their enemies, is a type of the blood that delivers God's church from their sins, their worst enemies.
 - c) This plentiful water (type of that blood) is sufficient for the whole world.
 - d) The Ark, the refuge, and hiding place of the church at this time, was a type of Christ, the true hiding place of the church from God's wrath.
- 3. God granted Noah a new covenant/grant of the earth immediately after the Flood
 - a) The sacrifice of Christ was represented by Noah's building an altar to the Lord, and offering a sacrifice of every clean beast and fowl.
 - b) God gives Noah a new grant of the earth, founded on that covenant of grace - God does not destroy the earth completely - He is patient with us.
- 4. God renews with Noah the covenant of grace (Gen 9:9-10) – Creation shall never be destroyed again, until the consummation of all things.
- 5. The tower of Babel
 - a) Man once again fell into corruption - into the depths of wickedness, darkness and delusion, falling into gross idolatry.
 - b) This city and tower was set up in opposition to God's "building" - the god they built it to, was their pride.
 - c) This displeased the Lord, so He baffled and confounded the design **(2 Cor.10: 4-5)**
- 6. God dispersed that nations, also to suit the great design of redemption - God's eye was on the future propagation of the gospel among the nations.
- 7. God preserved the true religion in that line from which Christ was to proceed.

C. FROM ABRAHAM TO MOSES

1. The idolatrous corruption of the world once again became general In order to uphold true religion in the world God separated a family from all the others.
 - a) God called Abraham out of his own country (Chaldea, whose chief city was Babylon, the centre of corruption, from the kindred, to the far distant country, that his posterity there might remain a people separate from all the rest of the world - to uphold true religion.
 - b) This was a new and great thing that God did towards the work of redemption - about midway between the fall of man to the coming of Christ.
 - c) By the calling of Abraham, the ancestor of Christ, a foundation was lain for upholding the church in the world, till Christ should come - the seed of the woman had to be separated from the wicked world.
 - d) This “chosen nation” would receive the types and prophecies to be given of Christ, to prepare the way for Him coming, to preserve the history of God’s great works of creation and providence, that Christ might be born of this nation, and that from it, the light of the gospel might shine forth to the rest of the world.
 - e) Abraham is represented as the father of the church, of all those that believe.
2. God reveals and confirms the covenant of grace.
 - a) That Christ should come - that He will be Abraham’s seed, all the families of the earth will be blessed by Him (**Gen. 12:5-6**)
 - b) That the Gentiles would be called
 - c) Circumcision was a seal to this covenant of grace - a sign of separation.
 - d) Melchizedek met Abraham, blessed him, confirming the covenant of grace (**Gen. 14:19-20**)
 - e) Other confirmations: the vision of the smoking furnace and burning lamp (**Gen. 15**), the birth of Isaac (**Heb.1:17-19**)
 - f) Abraham seemed to have a clear view of Christ the Redeemer, and the future things which were to be accomplished by Him (**John 8:56**)
3. God preserved the patriarchs (Abraham, Isaac, Jacob) for a very long time among the wicked inhabitants of Canaan and other enemies.
4. The destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah.
 - a) It powerfully restrained the inhabitants of the land from injuring God’s people (i.e. Lot)

- b) God exhibited the terrors of His law, to make men sensible of their need of redeeming mercy - the Law has always been used as a schoolmaster to bring men to Christ.
- 5. God again renewed and confirmed the covenant of grace to Isaac and Jacob. (**Gen 26:3-4, 27:29, 28:14, 35:10**)
- 6. God preserved the family from which Christ would come, from perishing by famine, through Joseph in Egypt.
 - a) A picture of the salvation of Christ
 - b) The children of Israel were saved by Joseph their kinsman and brother, from perishing by famine - just as He that saves the souls of the spiritual Israel from spiritual famine, Jesus is their near kinsman, and one that is not ashamed to call them "brothers"
- 7. Prophecy of Christ when Jacob blessed his son Judah (**Gen. 49:8**)
- 8. God preserved His children in Egypt, even when every male child was ordered to be drowned (Moses survived).
- 9. God preserved His invisible church - when His people were surrounded by idolatry, causing many to fall away to worship other gods.

D. FROM MOSES TO DAVID

- 1. The redemption of the church of God out of Egypt
 - a) The greatest pledge and forerunner of the future redemption by Christ.
 - b) Jesus appeared to Moses in the burning bush - sent Moses to redeem his people from the Egyptians and their gods, just as He redeemed His people from Satan (the spiritual Pharaoh).
- 2. God ordered that His people be separated to be God' peculiar people.
 - a) All other people on earth were wholly rejected and given over to heathenism.
 - b) He did this to prepare the way for Christ's coming and the great salvation He was to accomplish.
- 3. God gave the moral law on Mt Sinai
 - a) It is an instrument that the Lord uses to convince men of their sin, misery and helpless state.

- b) It convinces men of God's awful and tremendous majesty and justice as a Law giver
 - c) It makes men sensitive to their necessity of Christ as their Saviour.
- 4. God also gave the typical law (which didn't belong to the moral law)
 - a) Ceremonial - concerning Jewish worship
 - b) Judicial - political
- 5. The first written Word of God was given to the Church.
 - a) God gave this for the regulation of faith, worship and practice to the end of the world.
 - b) Over the ages it grew, was added to, until the canon of Scripture was completed by the apostle John (Revelation).
 - c) The written Word of God is the main instrument employed by Christ to carry on His work of redemption in all ages.
- 6. Their journey through the wilderness - a representation of the progress of His redeemed church through the world to their eternal inheritance.
- 7. The shortening of man's life during this period (from 900-1000 to 70-80 years) - began immediately after the flood, and was reduced to its present standard after the massacre following the report of the spies.
- 8. God preserved His people for 40 years in the wilderness (manna, meat and water)
- 9. Three predictions of Christ.
 - a) Balaam - (**Num. – 24: 17-19**)
 - b) His kingly office - (**Deut. 18:18**)
 - c) Calling of the Gentiles - (**Deut 32:21**)
- 10. A remarkable pouring out of His Spirit on the young generation - in the Wilderness - the generation with whom the covenant was renewed, who entered into the land of Canaan.
- 11. Joshua brought the people of Israel and settled them in that land where Christ was to be born - God wonderfully gave His people possession of this land, conquering its former inhabitants, as Christ conquered the devil.
- 12. God set up His stated worship among the people, as it had previously been instituted in the wilderness (Mt Sinai)
 - a) It was to make the way for the Coming of Christ.

- b) The innumerable ceremonial observances of it were typical of Him and His redemption.
- 13. From now on God preserved that males would go three times a year to where God's Ark was (leaving their possessed land at the mercy of the enemies)
- 14. God preserved His church and true religion from being wholly extinct during the time of the Judges (gross apostasy).
- 15. God preserved them from being destroyed, even though they were often subdued and brought under the dominion of their enemies.
- 16. Christ appeared repeatedly to Moses (face to face) (**Ex.34:6, 24:9-11, Num.12:8**)
- 17. The beginning of a succession of prophets - erection of a school of prophets (up to and after Samuels's time).

E. FROM DAVID TO THE BABYLONIAN CAPTIVITY

- 1. God's anointing of Christ's ancestor, King David)a particular person from whom Christ would proceed)
 - a) David was the greatest personal type of Christ in the Old Testament
 - b) This beginning of the kingdom of His church in the house of David was, as it were, a new establishing of the kingdom of Christ.
 - c) He was the root of the Branch of Righteousness.
- 2. God's preservation of David's life till Saul's death - the lion and the bear, Goliath, Saul, the Philistines at Gath, etc.
- 3. Samuel added to the Canon of Scripture - the acts of David were recorded
- 4. David was:
 - a) Inspired to write songs - to show forth Christ and His redemption. - for the use of the church, in public worship, throughout all ages.
 - b) Endued with the spirit of prophecy (**Acts. 2:29-30**) - both prophet and king (like Christ)
- 5. God exalted David to the throne of Israel - notwithstanding all the opposition to it..
- 6. God chose Jerusalem - the holy city the greatest type of the church of Christ in the Old Testament, - redeemed by David out of the hands of the Jebusites.

7. God solemnly renewed the covenant of grace with David, promising that the Messiah would be of his seed (**2 Sam. 7**) (5th solemn establishment of the covenant of grace with the Church after the Fall!)
8. God first gave His people the possession of the WHOLE promised land by David (**1 Cron.18:1**)
9. God, by David, perfected the Jewish worship, and added to it several new institutions (he finished Moses' work!)
10. Canon of Scripture was added to at or after the close of David's reign by the prophets Nathan and Gad (finished the 2 books of Samuel).
11. God continued the kingdom of His visible people in the line of Christ's legal ancestors, as long as they remained an independent kingdom.
12. The building of the temple was a great type of three things:
Of Christ, the church and heaven
13. In Solomon's reign, after the temple was finished, the Jewish church was risen to its highest external glory.
14. After this, the glory of the Jewish church gradually declined more and more till Christ came - yet the work of redemption went on. This prepared the way for Christ:
 - a) It made the way for a more glorious dispensation of the gospel.
 - b) It made the glory of God's power, in the great effects of Christ's redemption, more conspicuous.
 - c) It made the salvation of those Jews saved by Christ, more sensible and visible.
15. Additions to the canon of Scripture soon after Solomon's reign (e.g. Song of Songs, Ecclesiastes)
16. God preserved His church and true religion through this period.
17. God kept the Book of the Law from being lost. – preserved in times of great apostasy e.g. Manasseh's reign.
18. God preserved the tribes of (Judah and Benjamin) from being ruined through many dangers of this period.
19. During and after Uzziah's reign God raised up a set of eminent prophets who committed their prophecies to writing, leaving them for the use of His church in all ages - pointing to Christ and His redemption.

F. THE CAPTIVITY TO CHRIST (about 600 years)

1. There is more Scripture prophecy in this period than in any other period - Continuing the redemption story through history and prophecy.
2. There were great revolutions among the nations of the earth during the past period of the Old Testament., to make way for the kingdom of Christ.
 - a) This began with the captivity of Babylon of god's visible church
 - b) Then the Persian Empire, then the Greeks, and finally the Romans.
 - c) These monarchies are spoken of much in Daniel.
 - d) These mighty empires overthrew the world and destroyed one another, yet they could not uphold themselves - one after the other, they came to nothing.
3. The church was remarkably preserved through these 600 years - even while suffering the greatest persecution ever!
 - a) The captivity of the Jews into Babylon.
 - (i) It finally cured the nation of their idolatry
 - (ii) Many of those things of which the glory of the Jewish dispensation was made up of, were taken away e.g. the house/crown of David, the temple, the two tablets which Moses had received on Mt. Sinai, the Urim and Thummim, The Shekinah over the mercy-seat.
 - (iii) It caused the dispersion of the Jews through the greater part of the known world before the coming of Christ
 - (iv) Additions to Scripture were made during the captivity e.g. Ezekiel, Daniel.
 - (v) Destruction of Babylon by Cyrus (Persian Empire)
 - (vi) The return of the Jews to their own land, rebuilding of Jerusalem and the temple.
 - (vii) Next to the redemption out of Egypt, this return is the most remarkable of all Old Testament redemptions.
 - (viii) It is a type of the great redemption of Jesus.
 - (ix) Haggai and Zechariah prophesied the approach of the coming of Christ, soon after the captivity.
 - (x) The outpouring of the Spirit accompanied the ministry of Ezra after the captivity.
 - (xi) Ezra added to the Canon of Scripture (**Ezra and 1 and 2 Chronicles**)
 - (xii) Ezra collected all the books of which the Holy Scriptures consisted at the time, and put them in proper order.

- (xiii) The copies of the Law were greatly multiplied at this time - public reading of them in all the cities of Israel was initiated.
 - (xiv) When God's people were in danger of being destroyed by Haman, God used Esther to prevent this.
 - (xv) The Canon of Scripture was further enlarged by the books of Nehemiah and Esther.
 - (xvi) The Old Testament Canon was completed and sealed by Malachi - implying that they were to expect no more prophecies; no more written revelations till Christ should come.
 - (xvii) Soon after this the spirit of prophecy ceased until the New Testament times.
- b) The destruction of the Persian Empire by the Grecians (under Alexander the Great)
- (i) This promoted the work of Redemption in that it made - The Greek language common in the world -- a great advantage for spreading the gospel.
 - (ii) Greek was the language in which the New Testament was to be originally written (the Septuagint), resulting in it being commonly understood by the Gentiles
 - (iii) The church was greatly threatened and persecuted under the Grecian Empire e.g. Alexander himself, Antiochus Epiphanes, etc.
- c) The destruction of the Grecian, and setting up of the Roman Empire (Dan. 7:7, 19, 23)
- (i) They took over 60-70 years B.C. and continued hundreds of years afterwards.
 - (ii) The nations were united under one monarchy when Christ came.
 - (iii) General communication was opened up - aiding the swift spreading of the gospel
 - (iv) At this time learning and philosophy were at their height in the heathen world - only proving that all their "wisdom" was in vain and foolish - and the necessity of the gospel appeared.
 - (v) At the time of Christ's birth, there was peace in the Roman Empire – this universal peace, which was begun that very year in which Christ was born lasted 12 years, till the year that He disputed with the doctors in the temple.
 - (vi) The power of the heathen world (Satan's visible kingdom) was in its greatest glory for strength, wealth and learning.
 - (vii) At the same time God brought His own visible people very low, made them weak - in their weakness, Christ triumphed and conquered the heathens.

G. IMPROVEMENT OF THE FIRST PERIOD

1. From the foregoing, it is clear that Jesus of Nazareth is the son of God and Saviour of the world and that the Christian religion is the true religion.
2. We have seen the divine authority of the Old Testament.
 - a) All parts of the Old Testament, though written by so many different penmen, and in ages so distant, harmonize one with another.
 - b) All agree with one, and centre on the same event - which it was impossible for any one of them to know, but by divine revelation.
3. Some object against the Old Testament being God's Word because of the war-like histories and civil transactions - yet it is all necessary to carry on the thread/series of events by which the glorious work of redemption has been carried on.
4. God's wisdom is seen in the Old Testament in ordering every part and every book of it - no part of it can be spared, without loss to the church.
5. Christ and His redemption are the great subject of the whole bible.
6. The Old Testament is useful and excellent - never out of date! What an excellent book is this, and how far exceeding all human writings! It reveals God to us, and gives us a view of the grand design and glorious schemes of providence from the beginning of the world, either in history or prophecy.
7. We have seen how most people are to blame for their inattentive, unobservant way of reading the Scriptures - it is the most comprehensive book in the world!
8. We have seen what a great person Jesus Christ is, how great His errand into the world was - so much was done to prepare the way for His coming through all ages of the world!

II. PERIOD II - FROM CHRIST'S INCARNATION TO HIS RESURRECTION

A. OF CHRIST'S INCARNATION

1. The incarnation itself.
 - a) His conception - by the power of the Holy Spirit, in the womb of a virgin. He was the immediate son of a woman who had never known a man.

- b) His birth - was natural. Yet because his conception was supernatural, he was conceived and born without sin.
- 2. It was accomplished in the fullness of time - when all things were ready, from the fall of mankind (**Gal. 4:4**)
- 3. It was the greatest and most wonderful event ever! - the Creator Himself became a creature!
- 4. Remarkable circumstances - born of a poor virgin, in a very low condition (in a manger in a stable)
- 5. The concomitants of this great event:
 - a) The return of the Spirit - visions of Zachariah. Virgin Mary, Joseph, Elizabeth, Simeon, Anna.
 - b) Great notice was taken of it in heaven and on earth (**Job 38:7, 1 Pet.1:12**)
 - c) His circumcision
 - d) His coming to the temple as an infant (**Hagg.2:7, Mal.3:1**)
 - e) The death of Herod the Great - the departure of the scepter.

B. THE PURCHASE OF REDEMPTION

- 1. The purchase - Two things are intended:
 - a) His satisfaction
 - (i) Pays our debt
 - (ii) Came through suffering/humiliation (through all his incarnate life)
 - (iii) Answered the demands of the law on man consequent to the breach of the law.
 - (iv) He has satisfied God's justice.
 - b) His merit.
 - (i) Procures our happiness
 - (ii) Came by obedience/righteousness
 - (iii) What He did to answer the demands prior to man's breach of the law i.e. obedience.
- 2. Christ's obedience and righteousness

- a) He obeyed the laws (law of works) (**Rom 3:27**) - as a man, as a Jew and as a Mediator.
- b) This obedience was perfect - in his private and public life and ministry
- c) He entered His public ministry by baptism, following the temptation in the Wilderness.
- d) His works: Preaching, working miracles, and His calling of His disciples.
- e) He exercised every possible virtue and grace while doing His work.
- f) He finished His ministry.

3. Christ's suffering and humiliation

- a) In his infancy - the poverty into which He was born, being "on the run" from Herod
- b) In Nazareth - carpenter's son. By hard labour he earned His bread for 30 years.
- c) His public ministry - had no place to lay His head
- d) His

C. IMPROVEMENT

- 1. A reproof - against unbelief, self-righteousness, and carelessness neglect of the work of redemption.
- 2. An encouragement – to burdened souls to put their trust in Christ for Salvation.

III PERIOD III - FROM CHRIST'S RESURRECTION TO THE END OF THE WORLD.

INTRODUCTION

- 1. Scriptural representations of this period.
 - a) The latter days followed all that Christ accomplished through His suffering/humiliation.
 - b) This period is sometimes called the end of the world.
 - c) The state of things attained in this period is called a new heaven and a new earth and the kingdom of heaven/God

2. How Christ was capacitated for the purchase of redemption
 - a) His resurrection - the most joyful event ever. Christ rested from the great and difficult work of purchasing redemption and received God's testimony that it is finished.
 - b) His ascension - to God's right hand as King - glorious and joyful
3. The establishment of this success after the resurrection
 - a) Abolishment of the Jewish dispensation.
 - b) The appointment of the Christian Sabbath.
 - c) His appointment of the gospel ministry by commissioning and sending forth apostles to teach and baptize all nations.
 - d) The enduing of miraculous gifts of the Holy Spirit
 - e) The glorious doctrines were revealed, fully and plainly (which had been obscured in the Old Testament)
 - f) The appointment of office of deacons in the Christian church
 - g) The calling, qualifying and sending of the Apostle Paul
 - h) The institution of ecclesiastical councils (for deciding controversies, etc.
 - i) The committing of the New Testament to writing

A. TO THE DESTRUCTION OF JERUSALEM.

1. The success itself.
 - a) Of the gospel among the Jews.
 - b) Among the Samaritans.
 - c) Among the Gentiles.
2. The opposition to success. - accused the people at Pentecost of being drunk, stoned Stephen, killed James, sufferings of Paul.
3. God's judgment of his persecutors/Jews.
 - a) God gave them up to the judicial blindness and hardness of heart.
 - b) They were rejected from being God's visible people.
 - c) The terrible destruction of their city (about 68 A.D.) and country by the Romans.

B. TO THE TIME OF CONSTANTINE

1. The Roman Empire opposed Christianity (period of 260 years)
 - a) Used their learning philosophy and wit to oppose it
 - b) Used all means of persecution to destroy it e.g. under Nero, Domitian, Adrian, etc.
2. Success of gospel, regardless of opposition.
3. Peculiar circumstances of tribulation and distress just prior to Constantine
- the darkest time for the Christian church, just before the break of day, enemies thought they had the victory.
4. Great revolution by Constantine.
 - a) The church was delivered from persecution.
 - b) Terrible judgements by God on their enemies
 - c) Heathenism abolished throughout the Empire
 - d) Church came into a new state of peace and prosperity.

C. THE RISE OF THE ANTICHRIST.

1. The opposition.
 - a) After the destruction of the heathen Roman Empire, Satan infested the church with heresies e.g. Arians, Pelagians
 - b) Satan attempted to restore paganism e.g. Julian the Great (Constantine's nephew)
2. The success of the gospel - the heresies dwindled away, the gospel was propagated among many barbarous nations within the Empire.

D. TO THE REFORMATION

1. The darkest years of the Christian church - the work of Satan
2. Anti-Christian (Roman Catholic - in the West) and Muslin kingdom (in the East)
3. The preservation of the of the church - abhorrence of the Pope. The Waldenses (lived separate from the world), John Wycliffe (140 years before the Reformation - strongly anti-papist.

E. TO THE PRESENT TIME

1. The Reformation itself.

- a) Begun in Germany under Martin Luther - Pope's authority threatened and diminished.
- b) Opposition by Satan - the Council of Trent, secret plots and conspiracies, open wars and invasions, cruel persecutions, corrupt opinions e.g. Anabaptists enthusiasts, Socinians, Arianism, etc
- c) Success of gospel.
 - i) Reformation in doctrine and worship in Christian countries.
 - ii) Propagation of the gospel among the heathen e.g. America, Muscovy, East Indies.
 - iii) Revival of religion in the power and practice of it - power of Pope reduced, great increase in learning.

F. IMPROVEMENT OF PAST EVENTS

G. TO THE FALL OF ANTI-CHRIST

H. TO THE END OF TIME.

I. THE GENERAL JUDGEMENT.

J. IMPROVEMENT OF THE WHOLE