

FIVE Key Principles

- **No sin is unknown by the omniscience of God**
- **No sin is overlooked by the justice of God**
- **No sin is too bad for the grace of God**
- **No sin is too strong for the omnipotence of God**
- **No sin is too harsh not to be overcome by the love of God**

Hebrews 6:7, “For the earth which drinks in the rain that often comes upon it, and bears herbs useful for those by whom it is cultivated, receives blessing from God;

Hebrews 6:8, “but if it bears thorns and briars, *it is* rejected and near to being cursed, whose end *is* to be burned.”

Symbols in Heb. 6:7, 8

Earth = the believer

Rain = the provision of God (WoG + Holy Spirit)

Herbs = production of good fruit (DG)

Thorns and Thistles = production of evil, sin, hg

Cultivator = God (e.g., the vinedresser in John 15)

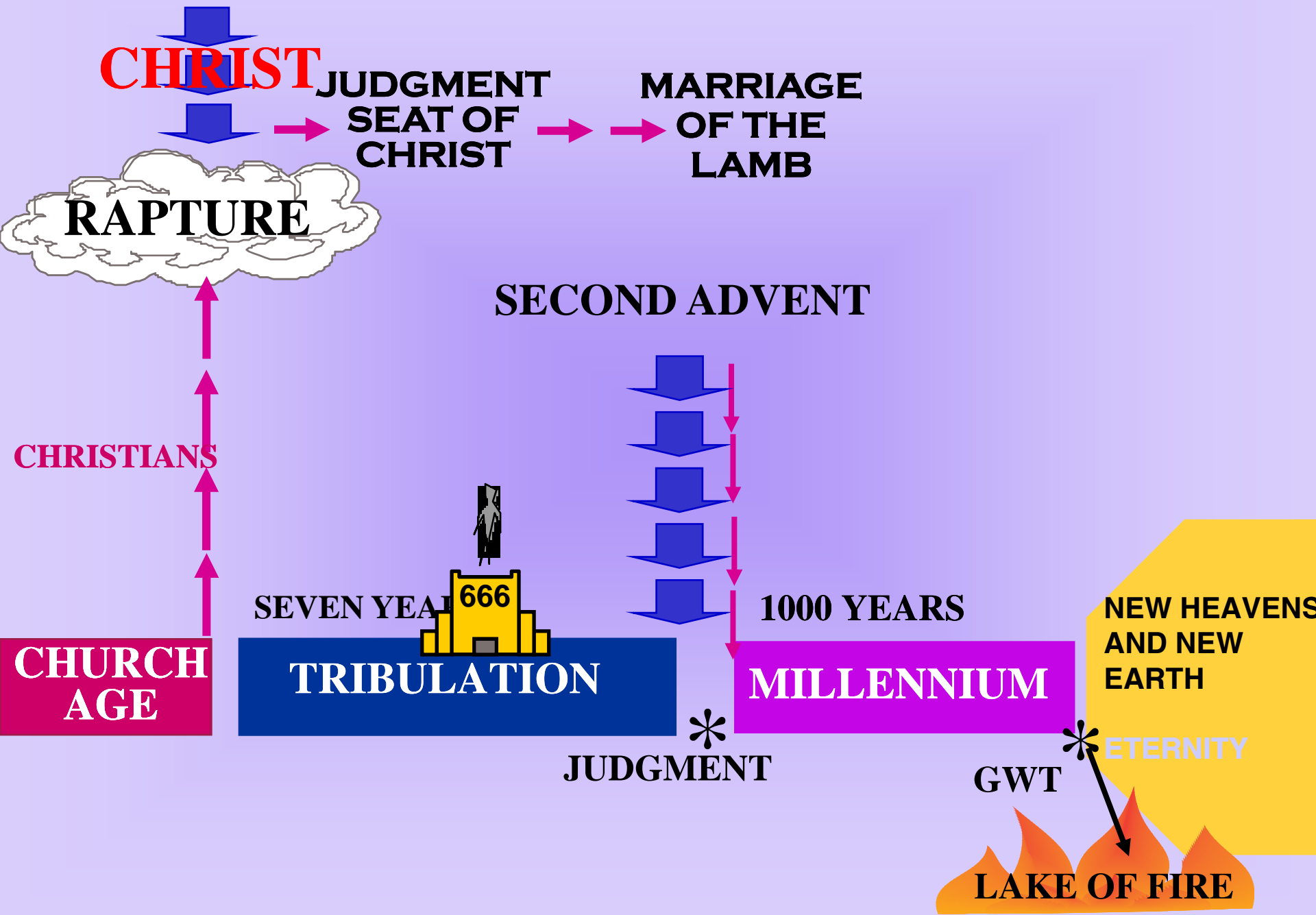
**1. This illustration relates to judgment,
but which one?**

GWT

Tribulation

Bema

PROPHETIC PANORAMA



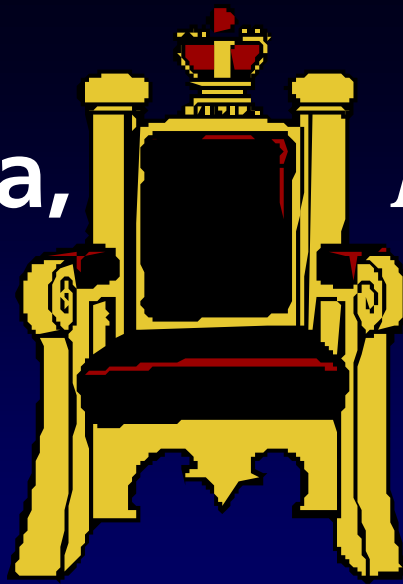
Hebrews 6:7, “For the earth which drinks in the rain that often comes upon it, and bears herbs useful for those by whom it is cultivated, receives blessing from God;

Hebrews 6:8, “but if it bears thorns and briars, *it is rejected* and near to being cursed, whose end *is* to be burned.”

ἀδόκιμος *adókimos*; Unapproved, unqualified, unworthy, spurious, worthless. In a pass. sense meaning disapproved, **discredited**, rejected, cast away (1 Cor. 9:27; 2 Cor. 13:5–7; Heb. 6:8 [cf. 2 Tim. 3:8; Titus 1:16])

bh`ma,

Bema,



**the raised or elevated seat where
the magistrate or tribunal would sit.
In judicial settings this was the seat
of the judge or tribunal.**

1 Corinthians 9:24, “Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win.”

καταλαμβάνω *hina katalambano*; aorist active subjunctive 2nd person plural;

“to win, attain; to gain control of someone through pursuit, catch up with, seize.”

1 Corinthians 9:25, “Everyone who competes in the games exercises self-control in all things. They then do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable.”

στέφανος, *stephanos*; a wreath made of foliage and worn by one of high status or held in high regard, wreath, crown; that which serves as adornment or source of pride, adornment, pride; award or prize for exceptional service or conduct, prize, reward.”

1 Corinthians 9:25, “Everyone who competes in the games exercises self-control in all things. They then do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable.”

στέφανος, *stephanos*; a wreath made of foliage and worn by one of high status or held in high regard, wreath, crown; that which serves as adornment or source of pride, adornment, pride; award or prize for exceptional service or conduct, prize, reward.

1 Corinthians 9:27, “But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become **disqualified**.”

ἀδόκιμος, *adokimos*;
“‘not standing the test’, then unqualified, worthless, disqualified from an athletic competition.”

nai, aorist middle
person singular;
being through
th or natural
e born, be produced;
existence, be made,
e manufactured, be

2 Corinthians 5:10, “For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.”

bh`ma, *Bema,*

**the raised or elevated seat where the
magistrate or tribunal would sit. In
judicial settings this was the seat of the
judge or tribunal.**







John 15:1, “I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser.

John 15:2, “Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He lifts up; and every *branch* that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit.”

John 15:3, “You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you.

John 15:4, “Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.”

John 15:5, “I am the vine, you *are* the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.

John 15:6, “If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw *them* into the fire, and they are burned.”

4. There are three types of branches in this passage:

the non-fruitbearing branch (v. 2a)

the fruitbearing branch (v. 2b)

the nonabiding branch which is discarded into the fire (v. 6)

John 15:1, “I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser.”

John 15:2, “Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit, He prunes it, that it may bear more fruit.”

Major Interpretive Problem

Option #1: Unfruitful means a professing but not a true believer, so they are taken away because they are not “genuinely” saved. This is the Lordship Salvation position; the position of many Calvinists, who hold to a view of Perseverance of the Saints.

John 2:23, “Now when He was in Jerusalem at the Passover, during the feast, many believed in His name when they saw the signs which He did.”

ἐπίστευσαν εἰς τὸ ὄνομα

episteusan eis to onoma

John 2:24, “But Jesus did not commit Himself to them, because He knew all *men,*”

John 3:18, “He who **believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.”**

John 3:18, “He who **believes in Him** is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.”

ὁ πιστεύων εἰς αὐτὸν
ho pisteuon eis auton

Option #2:

Believers “taken away” lose salvation

Option #3:

Unfruitful Christians will experience divine discipline in time and lose rewards in eternity.

ἐν ἐμοὶ *En emoi*

Used 16x in the New Testament; when the figure involves persons in the Godhead it always speaks of a true and genuine relationship, i.e., **fellowship, not merely positional reality.**

**ETERNAL
REALITIES**

**TEMPORAL
REALITIES**

ACTS 16:31

IN CHRIST

**Baptism by the
Holy Spirit**

**FILLED BY
THE
HOLY SPIRIT**

**“Walking by the
Holy Spirit”**



**ETERNAL
REALITIES**

**TEMPORAL
REALITIES**

ACTS 16:31

IN CHRIST

**Baptism by the
Holy Spirit**

INDWELT

**FILLED BY
THE
HOLY SPIRIT**

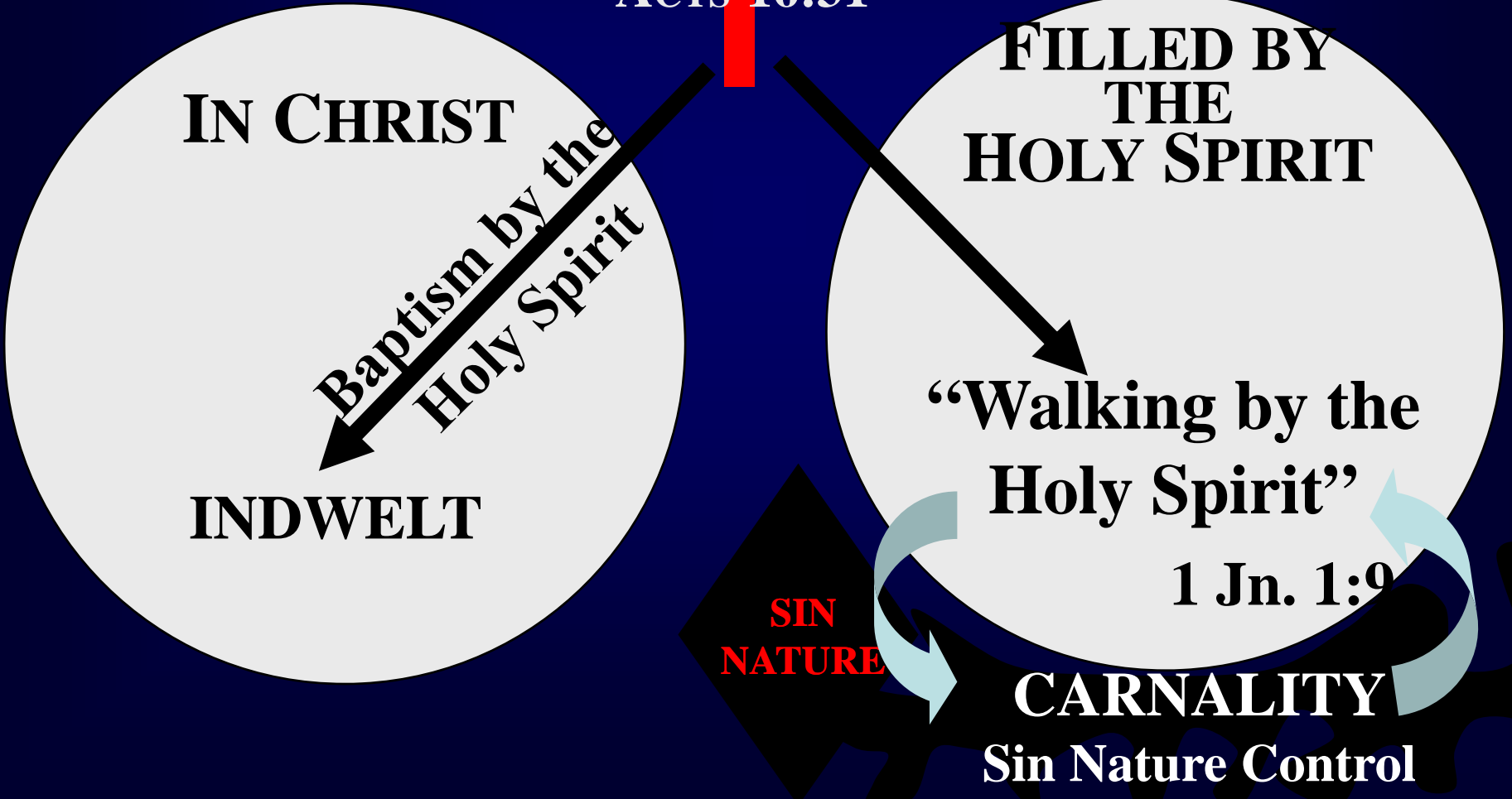
**“Walking by the
Holy Spirit”**

1 Jn. 1:9

**SIN
NATURE**

CARNALITY

Sin Nature Control



John 10:38, “but if I do them, though you do not believe Me, believe the works, that you may know and understand that the Father is in Me, and I in the Father.”

John 16:33, “These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world.”

John 17:21, “that they may all be one; even as Thou, Father, art in Me, and I in Thee, that they also may be in Us; that the world may believe that Thou didst send Me.

John 17:22, “And the glory which Thou hast given Me I have given to them; that they may be one, just as We are one;”

John 17:23, “I in them, and Thou in Me, that they may be perfected in unity, that the world may know that Thou didst send Me, and didst love them, even as Thou didst love Me.”