

1 Peter Series

Lesson #128

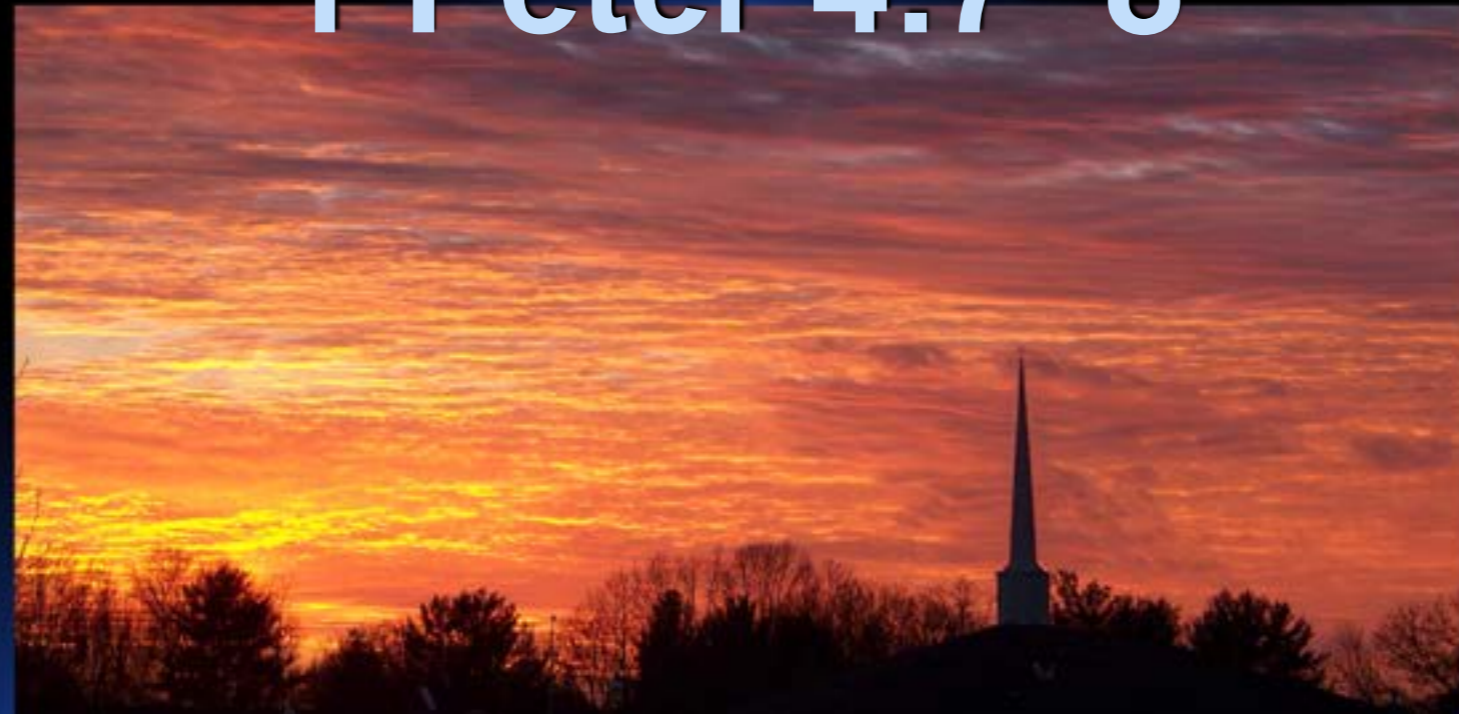
May 3, 2018

Dean Bible Ministries

[www.deanbibleministries.org](http://www.deanbibleministries.org)

Dr. Robert L. Dean, Jr.

**Fervent Love**  
**1 Peter 4:7–8**



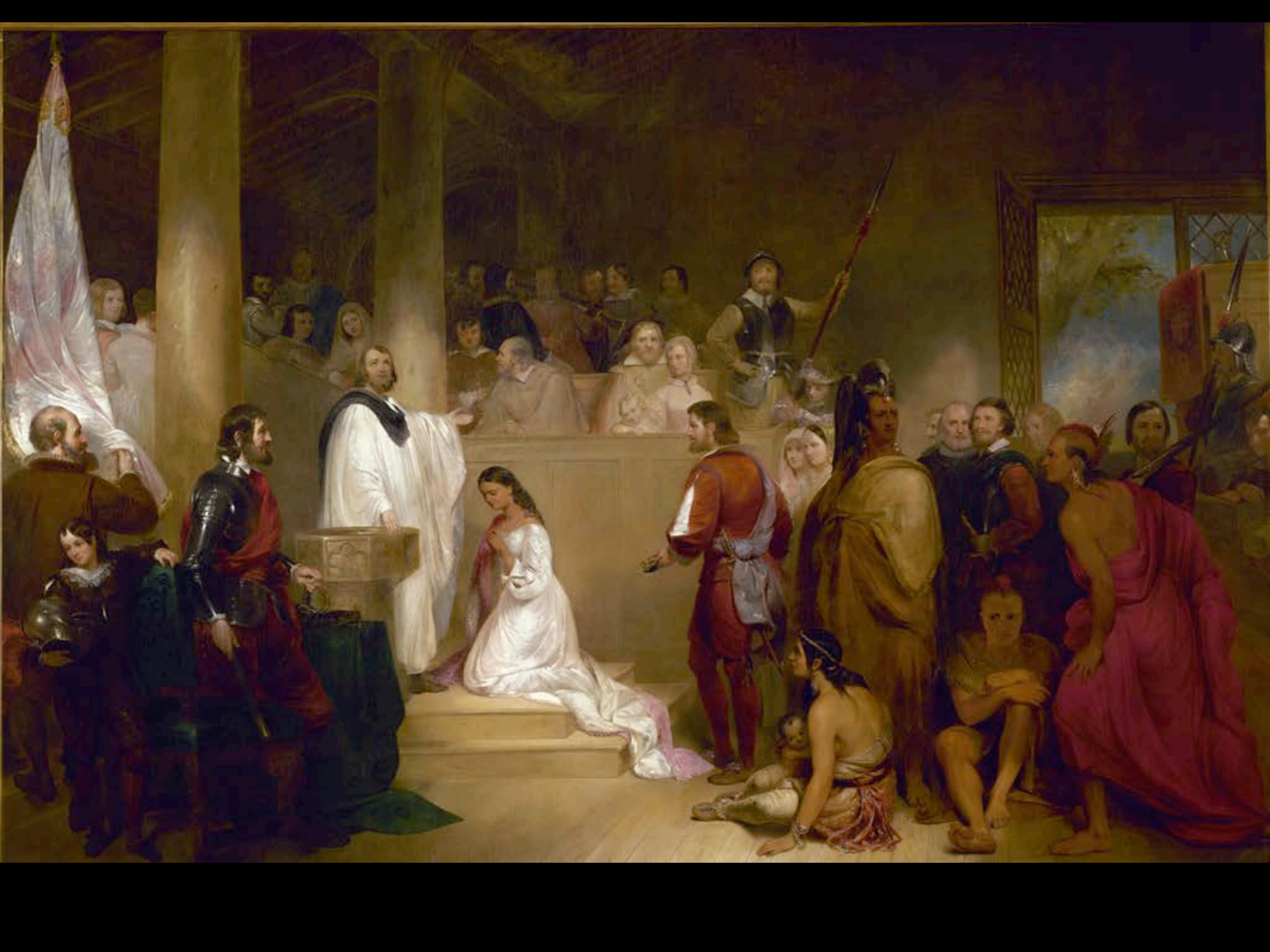
**1<sup>ST</sup> PETER**

**LIVING IN LIGHT  
OF ETERNITY**









**1 Pet. 4:6, “For this reason the gospel was preached also to those who are dead, that they might be judged according to men in the flesh, but live according to God in the spirit.**

**1 Pet. 4:7, “But the end of all things is at hand; therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers.”**

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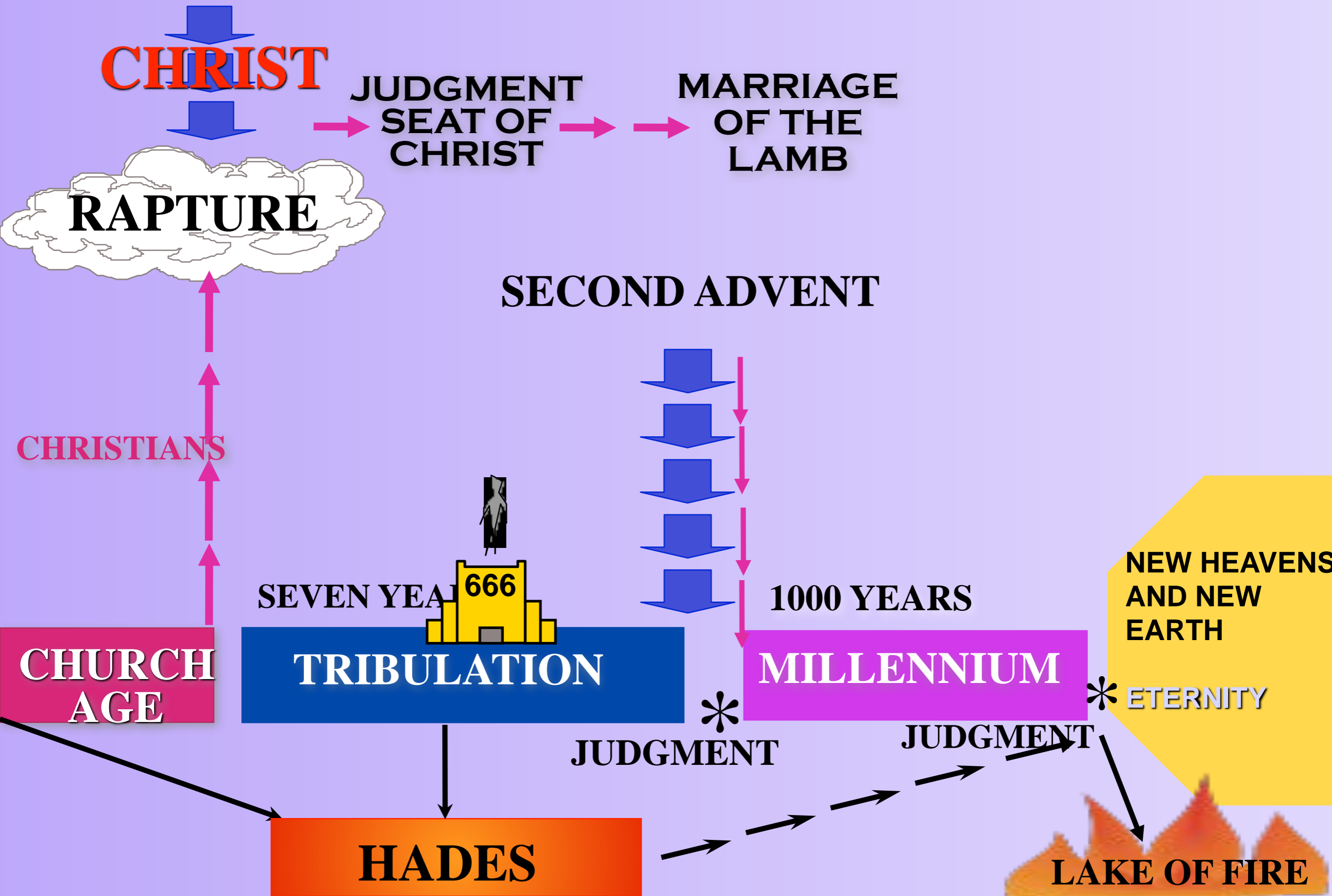


**1 Pet. 4:7, “But the end of all things is at hand; therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers.”**

**τὸ τέλος *to telos* “the end”**

**ἤγγικεν *enniken*, from *engizo* “to be near”**

# PROPHETIC PANORAMA



**1 Pet. 4:7, “But the end of all things is at hand; therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers.”**

**σωφρονέω *sōphroneō* aor act impera 2 plur “to be in a right mind”**

**νήφω *nēphō* aor act impera 2 plur “to be sober, self-controlled”**

**σωφρονέω *sōphroneō* “to be in a right  
mind; clear thinking, thinking  
objectively.”**

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clear thinking, thinking objectively.”**

**The meaning is given in Od., 23, 10-14, where *sōphrosynē*, prudence, self-control, is an antonym of ignorance and frivolity and has a corresponding positive sense. The eudaemonism which pervades these early ethical ideas—happiness is the greatest good—is consolidated in Plato into the doctrine of the four cardinal virtues (cf. F. Ueberweg, *History of Philosophy*, I, 1888, 128): wisdom (*sophia*), courage (*andreia*), prudence (*sōphrosynē*), and justice.**

**prudent adjective 1. careful, cautious, circumspect, discerning, discreet, judicious, politic, sensible, shrewd, vigilant, wary, wise; adjective 2. canny, careful, economical, far-sighted, frugal, provident, sparing, thrifty**

**Antonyms (sense 1) careless, heedless, impolitic, inconsiderate, indiscreet, injudicious, irrational, rash, thoughtless, unwise, careless, extravagant, improvident, imprudent, wasteful**

**Rom. 12:3, “For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.”**

**2 Cor. 5:13, “For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; or if we are of sound mind, it is for you.”**

**Titus 2:6, “Likewise, exhort the young men to be sober-minded,”**

**1 Pet. 4:7, “But the end of all things is at hand; therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers.”**



**νήφω *nēphō* aor act impera 2 plur to be  
sober, self-controlled**

**1 Pet. 1:13, “Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest your hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;”**

**1 Pet. 4:7, “But the end of all things is at hand; therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers.”**

**1 Pet. 5:8, “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.”**

**1 Thess. 5:6, “Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober.”**

**1 Thess. 5:8, “But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet the hope of salvation.”**

**2 Tim. 4:5, “But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.”**

**1 Pet. 4:7, “But the end of all things is at hand; therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers.” (for the purpose of prayer)**

**1 Pet. 4:8, “And above all things have fervent love for one another, for ‘love will cover [hide, conceal] a multitude of sins.’ ”**

**1 Pet. 4:8, “And above all things have fervent love for one another, for ‘love will cover [hide, conceal] a multitude of sins.’ ”**

**ἐκτενής; *ektenēs, ektenes (ekteinō)*,  
properly, *stretched out*; figuratively,  
*resolute, tenacious, unflinching,*  
*unwavering, earnest, passionate* (an  
intense enthusiasm for something, not  
passionate in the sense of an outburst  
of emotion), with integrity cf., 1 Pet. 1:22**

**1 Pet. 1:22, “Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart”  
(with integrity of soul),**

**John 13:34, “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another.**

**John 13:35, “By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”**

**John 15:12, “This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.”**

**John 15:17, “These things I command you, that you love one another.”**



# What the Bible Teaches About Christian Love



# **1. Jesus' command to love, in the upper room.**

**John 13:34, “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another.”**

**1 John 2:7, “Beloved, I am not writing a new commandment to you, but an old commandment which you have had from the beginning; the old commandment is the word which you have heard.”**

**“in the beginning” is from the beginning of  
the Church Age, i.e., John 13:34–35**

**2. The old commandment is that which was instantiated in the Old Covenant or the Mosaic Law.**

**Lev. 19:18, “You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the sons of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself; I am the LORD.”**

**Gal. 5:14, “For the whole Law is fulfilled in one word, in the statement, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ ”**

**James 2:8, “If, however, you are fulfilling the royal law, according to the Scripture, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself,’ you are doing well.”**

**3. The commandment of Lev. 19:18, as part of the Mosaic Law, was addressed to both believers and unbelievers.**

**4. In the Old Covenant the object of love was “neighbor,” i.e., anyone, believer or unbeliever.**

**5. “Neighbor” is further defined by our Lord in the parable of the Good Samaritan, as anyone that comes in your periphery, whether you know them or not, whether they are attractive to you or not, whether you have a relationship with them or not.**

**\*Love is proactive, not passive.**