

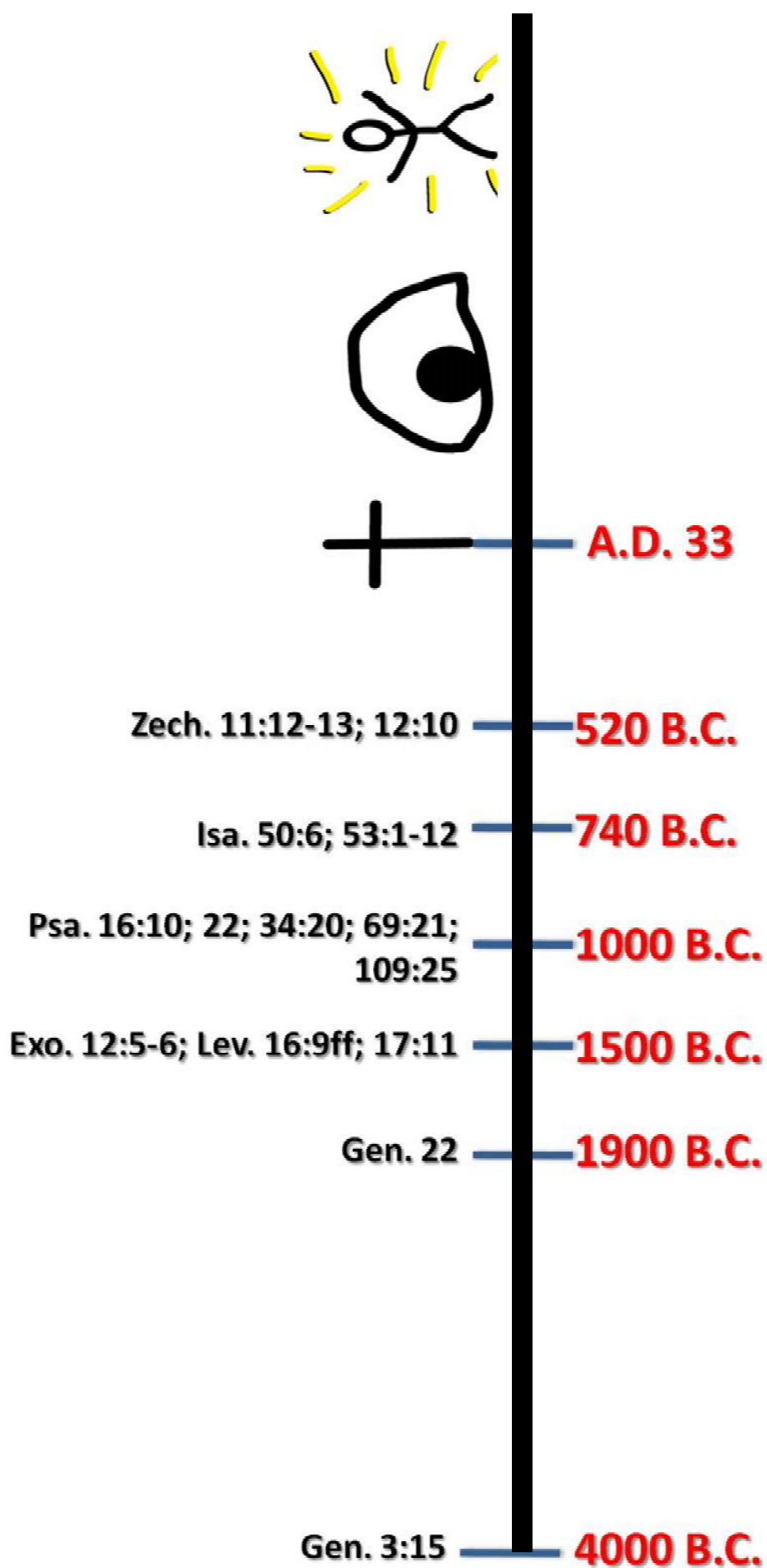
Obeying the Gospel

Jason Hilburn

God warns men that they must *obey* the Gospel (not just believe it): “...when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power” (2 Thess. 1:7-9; cf. Rom. 10:16; 1 Pet. 4:17). Paul wrote that when he delivered the Gospel, he delivered the message of the death, burial and resurrection of Christ (1 Cor. 15:1-4). Knowing that one must *obey* the Gospel to go to Heaven, and that the Gospel involves the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ, how can one obey the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ? Must all men today be crucified on a cross and buried in a tomb to go to Heaven? Paul explained very clearly how to obey the Gospel: “...How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life” (Rom. 6:2-4). In the same chapter Paul explained that after the Romans had obeyed the delivered Gospel through baptism, they were free from sin: “...ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness...” (Rom. 6:17-18; cf. 10:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16).

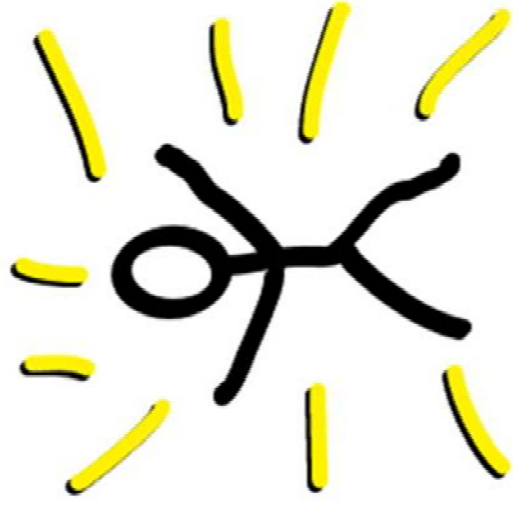
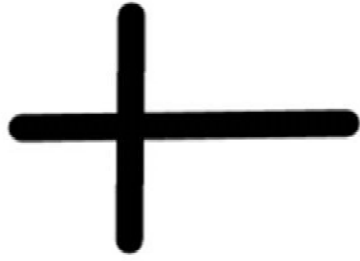
Throughout history God foretold the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ (Gen. 3:15; Gen. 22; Psa. 16:10; 22:16; Isa. 53, etc.). This shows how important it is to God, and how important it should be to us. Realizing the importance of the Gospel, perhaps one can also begin to understand the importance of *obeying the Gospel* through baptism. Scriptural baptism (burial in water for the forgiveness of sins, preceded by belief, repentance, and confession of faith in Christ) is what God has commanded men to do to be saved from Hell (Mk. 16:15-16; Acts 2:38; 8:35-39; 22:16; Rom. 5:8-9; Rom. 6; Col. 2:11-13; 1 Pet. 3:20-21, etc.).

Please notice the illustrations below:



Throughout history God foretold Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection. Now we must obey it! (Romans 6).

CHRIST

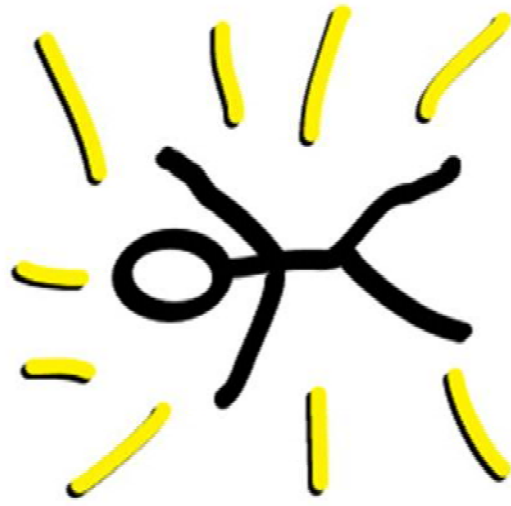
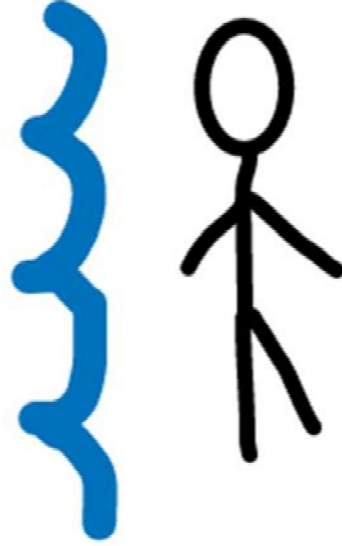


Death

Burial

Resurrection

US



Die to sin (Rom. 6:2)

Be buried (Rom. 6:3-4)

New life! (Rom. 6:4; 2 Cor. 5:17)