

Lesson 47

Can You Hear Me Now?

End of Ancient Israel

- An Omega history like ours
- The Pax Romana
- O Why did Christ come then?

• The Protestant Reformation

- A reformation like ours
- The Printing press
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- Truth and Error

Since the beginning, humans have been communicating. God gave us brains and mouths to talk to Him and others. In order to spread the truth, we have to communicate with others. There have been times though, that communication was difficult. In this lesson, we'll look at some histories when it was difficult to communicate, then communication was opened up. We'll see what the effect of that communication was and then we'll look at what communication opened up prior to the 144,000's line.

End of Ancient Israel

An Omega history like ours

We can line up the end of Ancient Israel with our history. They are both omega histories- one of Ancient Israel, one of Modern Israel. But in the time of Ancient Israel, why did Christ come then? What made that time the right time to come? Luke 2:1 says, "And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed." Christ came to Earth during the reign of Augustus Caesar.

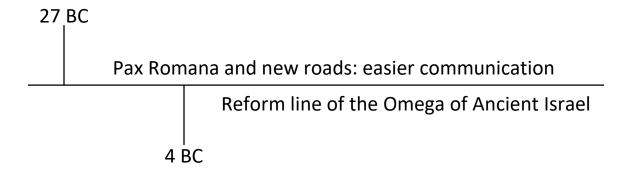
The Pax Romana

There was a time in the history of the Roman empire where there was relative peace. That time is called the Pax Romana or the Roman peace. It began when Augustus became Caesar in 27 BC. It lasted for more than 200 years until AD 180. In AD 180, Marcus Aurelius died, he was the last of the five "Good emperors"; his son Commodus, who became emperor after him, was a cruel dictator. In the Pax Romana there were some bad emperors but most followed Augustus Caesar's example. Augustus enlarged the army, imposed taxes, stabilized the economy, and strengthened the city of Rome. During the Pax Romana the Romans built sturdy roads (around 50,000 miles or 80,500 kilometers of them) to connect their vast empire. The Romans also made many advances in architecture and the arts. They cleared the sea of pirates, so they imported many goods from the East, which added to the economy. Inside the empire itself there weren't many uprisings and the ones that did happen were quickly stopped by the army. The empire got so big that it rivaled the empire of Alexander the Great. During the Pax Romana the empire of Rome was peaceful and flourishing.

Why did Christ come then?

Christ came in 4 BC because of the Pax Romana. Augustus Caesar did great things for Rome. He ended war and established peace that lasted over 100 years! Augustus built many roads that allowed people to travel easier. So why did Christ come in 4 BC? He chose that year because of the 490, but He also wanted to come around the beginning of the Pax Romana. He wanted to come then because there was peace. If the truth was going to spread, there needed to be good communication, and in a time with no phones, the only way to send a message was "horse and buggy". Since Augustus made roads, travel was easier, and thus truth could be spread easier. It wasn't just the roads that made Christ come though. Augustus destroyed enemies and

pirates. There was no worry of an enemy attacking Jerusalem or pirates to keep the truth from spreading over the seas. So the reason Christ came and began the Christian church when he did, was because Augustus destroyed enemies and laid roads- opening up communication which allowed the truth to spread like never before.



The Protestant Reformation

A reformation like ours

This Movement understands time periods such as the 126, 220, and the 490. Four hundred and ninety years before 2019 was 1529. In 1529, the Protestants got their name- they were officially called Protestants. We applied that and said in 2019 this Movement would get a name. But the 490 years to 1529 also has another point. It shows that we can compare the history of the Protestant Reformation with our own. We can line up that history with the history of the 144,000 to learn more about our own history.

The Printing press

In the 1260- the Dark Ages- something was invented that made spreading information much easier than it had been. The Chinese invented the Printing press, the oldest known printed book is from AD 868. They also invented movable type (individual letters that could be moved around and reused). But it wasn't until the 1400s that that invention reached Europe. Between 1440 and 1450 a German goldsmith named Johannes Gutenburg invented a Printing press in Europe. He also made metal movable type and an oil based ink to print with. He used the idea of a screw press that had been used for a long time to do different things like press oil from olives. The Printing press used something like a screw to apply pressure to paper or parchment that was to be printed on. That paper was on top of the movable type that had been evenly coated with ink. The Printing press made making books and pamphlets easy and fast. One of the first things Gutenberg printed was a Bible (called the Gutenberg Bible) in 1452; he made around 180 copies and some still exist today. The Printing press quickly spread aroung Europe in the second half of the 1400s. The Catholic church began to fear it and tried to hinder printings from being made, because they thought that some of the printings would be against what they taught. But the Printing press continued to spread and people began to be exposed to new ideas.

Why did the reformation start then?

The Protestant Reformation began because of the Printing press. Today, if we want a Bible, we can buy one from a store, or online easily. This is because printers make producing Bibles a breeze. In the 1400s, there were no electric printers; if someone wanted a copy of the Bible, they had to write the whole Bible out or go to a scribe and hope they had one written out. These situations made communicating the truth difficult, because Bibles weren't common like they are now. Soon though, we saw that in 1450 the Printing press was invented. This was revolutionary because then, if you wanted five Bibles to give out, only one set of type needed to be made, then the Bibles could be printed. This is why the reformation began in the early-1500s. The Bible was more accessible and thus communication of its truths were more wide spread.



Beginning of Modern Israel

The Alpha is the omega

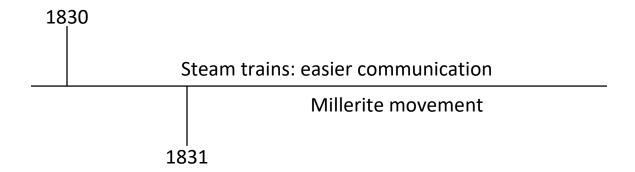
There are two main parts to the history of Modern Israel. First, is the history of the Millerites which was from 1798 to 1863. Second, is the history of the 144,000 which is from 1989 to the Second Advent of Christ. The Millerite history is the first history of Modern Israel and the 144,000 history is the last. The Millerites are the alpha and the 144,000 are the omega. The Millerites are the beginning and the 144,000 are the end. Isaiah 46:10 says, "Declaring the end from the beginning...". God explains the end from the beginning. He explains our history from the Millerite history.

The steam train

In the 1800s another useful form of transportation was invented. There were many steps leading up to this invention. First, before the 1800s (around 1600) railroads were invented in England and horses would pull wagons of materials like coal on them. Next, steam engines were invented and impoved between the late 1600s and the 1700s. In the early 1800s the steam engine train was invented, but it was only used for carrying goods. In 1807, the first horse drawn passenger train was made, in Wales; in 1825, in England, the first steam powered passenger train was operated. In that same year a steam train was also made in the United States. A few years later, in 1828, companies in the United States (one being the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad) began laying lots of railroad tracks. Then in 1830 railroad companies in the United States (the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad), England, and France opened. That same year the company (Baltimore & Ohio Railroad) in the United States began experimenting with a steam engine train to transport people in (people were then being transported by horse drawn carriages along the railroad). In 1831, a steam powered passenger train began to operate in New York. After 1830 a lot of track was laid; the track and the stream trains connected different parts of the United States together and made travel and communication much easier.

Why did the Millerite movement start then?

The Millerite movement began because of the steam train. The invention of the steam train was a breakthrough. Previously, if you wanted to travel, you had to go in horseback. Communication was possible, but it would take time. In 1818, William Miller finished studying Daniel, but he didn't have the guts to preach the truth he'd discovered. In 1830, the steam train was invented. Thousands of miles of track were afterwards laid down. The next year Miller got his credentials to preach, and he began to spread the message. The message spread quickly because there was good communication. And that communication is thanks to the steam train that took believers all over the country faster than any horse could. Of course, the trains ran on burning things, usually coal, which wrecks the planet but they didn't know that. So we know that Millerite history began in 1798, but people only began hearing about the message in 1831. The message, however, wouldn't have spread like it did if it wasn't for the steam train. That's why the Millerite message began to spread in 1831- people were able to communicate faster because of the trains.



End of Modern Israel

Why did our line start then?

As we saw in the previous histories, just before God opened a message up, He opened a way for that message to be spread. It is the same in our history. Just before God opened up a message to this Movement, He had to have opened a way for us to be able to communicate and spread it.

1969

The internet is a worldwide connection of computer networks. Computer networks are basically just groups of computers that can communicate (the groups can be big or small). The internet is a network of networks and it follows a set of rules called the Internet protocol suite (TCP/IP). Computer networks or individual computers have to follow those rules in order to be able to communicate together. There are many things that can be done on the internet, one of those things is using the World Wide Web (which we will look at next). There were many steps that led to the creation of the internet. One was the invention of "packet switching" which was an efficient way of sending data between computers- in things called "packets". The first form of the internet was ARPANET which was made in the 1960s for scientific and military research. On October 29, 1969 the first two computers connected on ARPANET, both in colleges in California. The first message sent from one computer to another was "login"- but only "lo" made it. ARPANET got better after that; in 1983 it adopted the Internet protocol suite, which had also been developing. The internet of today came from ARPANET, and how ARPANET worked is still the basis of how our internet works.

1989

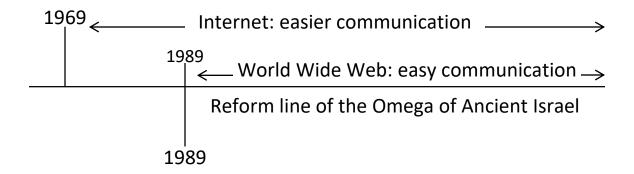
World Wide Web was invented in 1989. The inventor was Tim Berners-Lee. He was trying to find a way for scientists studying nuclear physics at CERN to digitally share their data. There was different information on different computers, and for scientists to share or access information, they had to switch from computer to computer. The internet was already connecting computers and Tim Berners-Lee wanted to expand it. The idea was to create a "web" of information that anyone connected by the internet could access. On March 12, 1989, Tim submitted a memorandum called *Information Management: A Proposal* to the boss of CERN. In it, he proposed his ideas of a web of files connected by links that was accesible for anyone with internet. The proposal was rejected, but Tim Berners-Lee kept working on his ideas. Therefore, in 1989 the World Wide Web was invented.

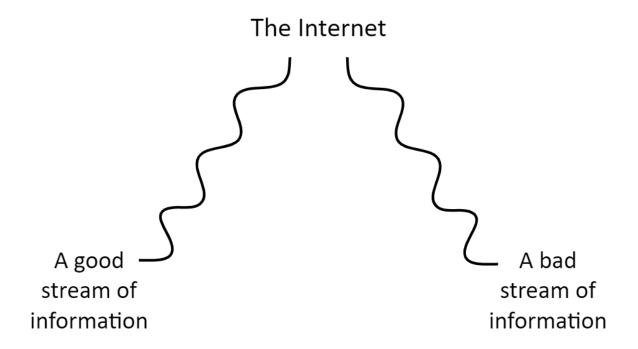
1990

The form of communication that was opened up just before this message began to be spread was the World Wide Web: www. The World Wide Web is an information system on the internet where documents and other web resources are identified by Uniform Resource Locators (more commonly known as URLs), which may be interlinked by hypertext (more commonly known as links). The first web browser was released in 1990. It was called the WorldWideWeb. Do not confuse this with the World Wide Web (www). The WorldWideWeb ran on the World Wide Web.

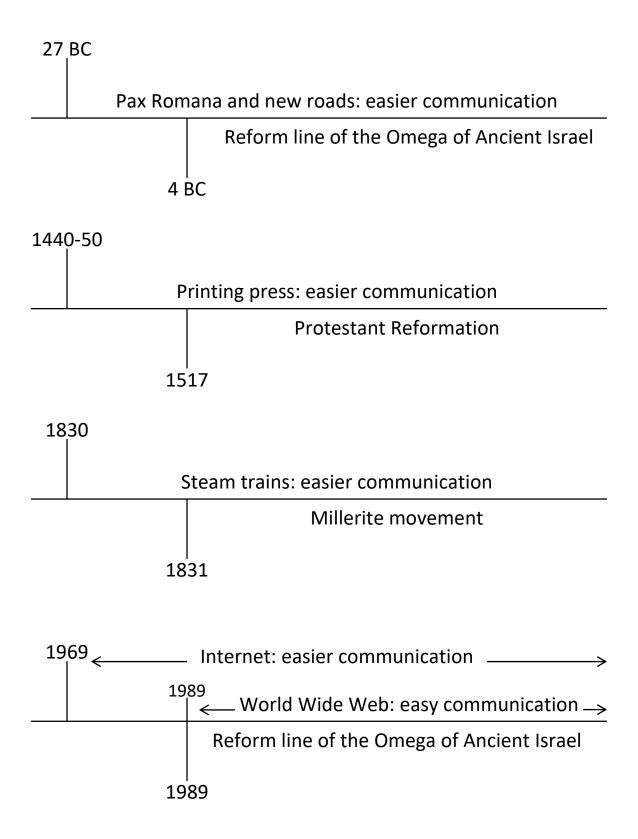
Truth and Error

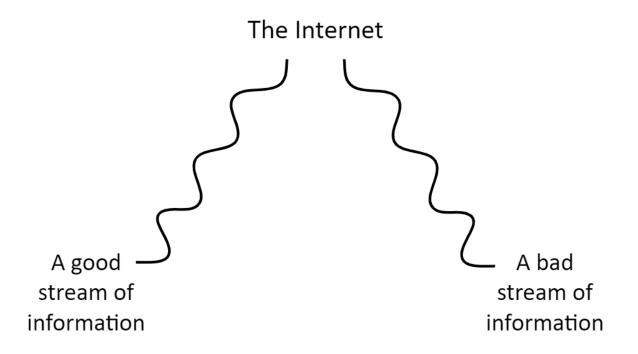
Because of the World Wide Web information can be spread quickly and broadly. It is a very efficient form of communication. God opened it up so that this Movement can spread His message. But truth isn't the only thing on the internet- there is also error. Satan can use the World Wide Web just as easily as God can. He can, and he does, spread disinformation and misinformation through people. We must be careful with the information we find on the World Wide Web, we can't just trust everything we see. The World Wide Web holds true information and false information. Yet it is what God has opened up to help spread His message around the world in our time.





In Summary:





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