

Last Days

A Biblical Survey of the End of Time.

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But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed. Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. - 2 Peter 3:10-13, ESV



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A Review of the Major Events in the Last Days

Review of the Last Days

REVIEW

Major Events in the Last Days

1. “Birth Pains” (Now)

- A. We are seeing a time of apostasy—a falling away from God’s Word.
- B. We are seeing a time of anarchy—sin, wars, earthquakes, epidemics, etc.
- C. We are seeing a time of apathy—inside and outside the church.
- D. We are seeing a time of affliction—persecution, church will be hated, etc.
- E. We are seeing a time of accomplishment—the gospel shared and received.

Matthew 24:6-8, NLT - *“And you will hear of wars and threats of wars, but don’t panic. Yes, these things must take place, but the end won’t follow immediately. Nation will go to war against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in many parts of the world. But all this is only the first of the birth pains, with more to come.”*

2. The Rapture

- A. The word “rapture” comes from the Greek word, *harpozo*, meaning “to rescue, snatch up, to be caught up quickly by force.”
- B. The Bible clearly teaches a future “rapture of the church.”
- C. Pastor Joe believes in a pretribulation rapture: *Here’s why....*
 - i. A pretribulation rapture is built on the promises of Scripture.
 - ii. The church is conspicuously absent from Rev. 5-19.
 - iii. The ‘known day’ (Rapture) vs. the ‘unknown day’ (Second Coming)
 - iv. There are stark differences between the rapture vs. second coming.

At the rapture....

The saints meet Christ in the air
The Mt. of Olives is untouched
Living saints are “changed”
The saint’s body goes to Heaven
Christ comes for the saints

At the second coming...

Christ returns to the earth with the saints
The Mt. of Olives is touched
Saints are not changed
The Saint’s body comes to Earth
Christ comes with the saints

- v. There is no reason for Christians to be on earth during the tribulation.

The tribulation has three purposes:

1. To bring the Nation of Israel to repentance.
2. To reach gentiles open to the gospel.
3. To bring judgment to those not-open to the gospel.

- vi. The Christian’s judgment was at calvary (not in the tribulation).

D. We don’t know when the Rapture will come (but it will be soon).

Nobody knows the time, so don’t waste the time trying to figure out the time, but be ready all the time, because Jesus could come at any time. – Dr. Ed Hindson

E. We must be ready for this.

3. The Seven Year Tribulation

A. The First 3 ½ years

- i. It begins shortly after the rapture of the church.
- ii. The Antichrist will establish a 7-year treaty with Israel.
- iii. The Two witnesses begin their ministry of prophecy.

B. The Jewish Temple will be rebuilt and the 'sacrificial system' restored.

C. The Seven Seals of Judgment begin.

Seal 1: The Rider on the White Horse—deception by a false Christ.
Seal 2: The Rider on the Red Horse—Destruction by War.
Seal 3: The Rider of the Black Horse—Devastation by Famine.
Seal 4: The Rider on the Pale Horse—Devastation by Death.
Seal 5: The Martyred Tribulation Saints—Devastation by Persecution.
Seal 6: A Great Earthquake—Devastation by Terror.
Seal 7: Beginning of the Trumpet Judgment.

D. The Seven Trumpet Judgments begin.

Trumpet 1: One-third of the vegetation is destroyed.
Trumpet 2: One-third of the sea will turn into blood.
Trumpet 3: One-third of the waters are contaminated.
Trumpet 4: One-third of the sky is darkened.
Trumpet 5: The 'first woe'—locust plague the earth.
Trumpet 6: The 'second woe'—an army of 200k destroy 1/3 of earth.
Trumpet 7: The 'third woe'—beginning of seven bowl judgments.

E. Midway point: Antichrist and the devil begin a 42 month cartel, the two witnesses are killed and resurrected, the Antichrist declares himself to be God, Israel flees, the false prophet joins forces with the Antichrist, mark of the beast (666) will be implemented and the 144,000 witnesses are commissioned.

F. The Second 3½ Years

- i. One world religion and one world order are implemented.
- ii. The 144,000 begin their ministry
- iii. Half of the world's population will die during these 7 years.
- iv. Six Bowl Judgments (God's Super Bowls)
 - First Bowl – "Contaminated Seas"
 - Second Bowl – "Corrupted Streams"
 - Third Bowl – "Consuming Sun"
 - Fourth Bowl – "Consuming Sun"
 - Fifth Bowl – "Confounded Sinners"
 - Sixth Bowl – "Controlling Spirits"
 - Seventh Bowl – "Catalytic Shaking"

Two words describe God's Wrath: *Unspeakable* (Matt. 24:21-22) and *Unnecessary* (2 Peter 3:9-13)

For then there will be a great tribulation, such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever will.²² "Unless those days had been cut short, no life would have been saved; but for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short.

- Matthew 24:21-22, NASB95

G. The Very End of the Tribulation.

- i. The Battle of Armageddon will take place against Israel.
- ii. God will intervene, and Satan will be bound for 1,000 years.

4. The Marriage Supper of the Lamb

(at the same time the 7-year Tribulation is happening on earth, the Marriage Supper of the Lamb is happening in heaven.)

A. Similar to the Jewish Wedding Customs of old, the Church will be presented to Christ—*formally*—in Heaven.

B. Magnificent Music will be heard—*Hallelujah!*

C. The Beautiful Bride, the church, will be presented—*Hallelujah!*

D. The Glorified Groom, Jesus Christ, will be presented—*Hallelujah!*"

"And after these things, I heard a great voice of many people in Heaven, saying, salvation and glory, and honor, and power unto the Lord our God...and He shall reign forever and ever, Hallelujah!" (cf., Rev. 19)

E. At the End of the Supper Celebration, the saints will witness the rescue of Israel.

5. The Battle of Armageddon

A. Gog (Russia+) and Magog (it's leader) will invade Israel during the 7-year trib.

B. Nations will rise up against Israel.

C. The Antichrist will develop a coalition of nations to battle against Israel.

D. The Angels of Heaven intervene; the Saints of Heaven get to see it all.

E. Jesus Christ will come to the earth, a second time, to lead in this battle to save His Chosen Children (Israel)—*once and for all.*

6. The Second Coming of Christ

A. We looked at the Certainty of His coming—He's coming.

B. We looked at the Manner of His coming—*Harpozo!*

Visible • Sudden • Triumphant • Sovereign (to both comfort and confront)

C. Timing of His Coming—we still don't know when He is coming!

D. Our attitude toward His Second Coming—be ready, working and holy.

E. The Events of the Second Coming: Christ will touch down on the Mt. of Olives, enter the Eastern Gate, Destroy His enemies, gather and bless His people, reign as King of Kings and confine the Devil and the Antichrist for 1,000 years.

F. He will establish His earthly Kingdom for a literal one-thousand years.

G. Earth will be as God intended it to be (like in the Garden of Eden)

7. The Millennial Reign

A. The purpose of the Millennial reign is so God can keep His promises to Israel, His Son, Believers, and Creation.

B. Satan will be bound.

. There will be a new fruitful earth.

D. The ferocious nature of animals and their instincts will be changed.

E. There will be no more war.

F. These will be a longer lifespan for unbelievers who lived through the 7-year Tribulation—and their Children.

G. The Saints will reign with Christ over the nations of Earth.

H. Jerusalem shall be the center for Worship of Christ.

I. Our physical bodies will be perfect.

J. It will be life on Earth—just as God intended it to be. (It will be perfect and glorious.)

8. The Great White Throne Judgment

A. This is a final judgment of all unbelievers.

B. The scene is a courtroom

Great White Throne, the judge-Jesus Christ, the accused (lost), The Evidence (as recorded in the Book of Deeds), there will be no defense. There will be a verdict and a sentence. It will not go well for those who have rejected Christ as Lord.

C. Satan will be bound.

D. Hell, in a formal sense, will begin

- i. Hell is an actual place of horrendous suffering that lasts forever.
- ii. God will allow people to choose hell—if they want. (He is holy, sin is black, and God has many attributes besides love—like ‘holiness.’)

9. Heaven

A. Heaven, also called “the eternal state,” is real, perfect, and is filled with God, Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit, all believers and the angels.

B. Heaven will NOT be filled with the following: There will be no more sea (nothing to separate us); **tears** (nothing to sadden us); **death** (nothing to take our lives away); **mourning** (nothing to grieve us); **crying** (nothing to break our hearts); **PAIN** (nothing to hurt us); **Thirst** (nothing to long for); **wickedness** (nothing to defile us); **no temple, for God is its temple** (no more wondering where God is); **no more night** (nothing to scare us); **closed gates** (nothing to distance us from God/family); **and no more curse** (to keep us from what God intended)—**this will never change!**

For 1000 years, Jesus will place everything good in the world and keep everything bad out of it. It will be life on earth as God meant it to be. Our bodies—perfect. Our world—perfect. Our hearts and minds—perfect. Our worship—perfect. Our fellowship with God—perfect. What our sciences could not do, He will do; what our theologians and preachers could not do, He will do; what our parliaments and governments could not do, He will do; what OUR medical systems could not do, He will do; what our educational systems could not do, He will do; what our armies could not do, He will do... That glorious day...will be the watcher's looked-for day; the purchaser's redemption day; the builder's completion day; the farmer's harvest day, the servant's reckoning day, the Master's payday, the Son's manifestation day; the bride's wedding day and the King's coronation day. Oh, friend, I BEG YOU....DON'T MISS THAT GLORIOUS DAY! - The Late Baptist Preacher Dr. R. G. Lee (In his Sermon: "Jesus is Coming to Earth Again," March 27, 1977)

A Review of the Major Events in the Last Days Part One

The Rapture

How Will We Decide the Questions of Life and Death?

Hebrews 2:1, NLT - ¹ So we must listen very carefully to the truth we have heard, or we may drift away from it. [A mariner's term....pic of a boat]

2 Peter 1:16–21, NASB - ¹⁶ For we did not follow cleverly devised tales when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of His majesty. ¹⁷ For when He received honor and glory from God the Father, such an utterance as this was made to Him by the Majestic Glory, “This is My beloved Son with whom I am well-pleased”— ¹⁸ and we ourselves heard this utterance made from heaven when we were with Him on the holy mountain. ¹⁹ So we have the prophetic word made more sure, to which you do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star arises in your hearts. ²⁰ But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, ²¹ for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

2 Timothy 3:16–17, NLT - ¹⁶ All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. ¹⁷ God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.

May God's Holy Word be the book that guides our lives, convictions and decisions. May we live with it, may we live by it and may we seek to die for its sacred principles. – Pastor Joe

A. THE RAPTURE

1. Where does the word “Rapture” come from?

The word, “rapture,” comes from the Greek word, “Harpooēzo” (and the Latin word, “rapturo”) and means “snatched up, caught up quickly by force.”

2. Why should we believe in a rapture of the church?

Answer: It is clearly taught in the Scriptures.

- 1 Thess. 4:13-18 teaches the resurrection of the dead and rapture of the church.
- 1 Cor. 15:51-54 teaches the resurrection of the dead and rapture of the church.
- John 14:1-6 teaches the resurrection of the dead and rapture of the church.
- Also cf., Matthew 24:36-42; Luke 17:20-37, 21:36; 1 Thess. 5:9 and Rev. 3:10.

3. Why should we believe in a pretribulation rapture?

A. A pretribulation rapture is built on the promises of Scripture.

- 1 Thess. 5:9 teaches the church will be spared from the tribulation.
- Rev. 3:10-13 teaches the church will be spared from the tribulation.

B. The Church is conspicuously absent from Revelations 5 through 19.

C. “The Known Day” vs. “The Unknown Day”

- Matthew 25:13, Jesus says to the church, He will return at an unknown time.
- Rev. 12:6, the Jews will have to wait a known 1,260 days for the Lord to return.

D. There are stark differences between and rapture and the second coming.

At the Rapture...	At the Second Coming...
The saints meet Christ in the air	Christ returns to earth with the saints.
The Mt. of Olives is untouched	The Mt. of Olives is touched
Living saints are “changed”	No saints are “changed”
The saint’s body goes to Heaven	The saint’s body comes to Earth
Christ comes for the saints	Christ comes with the saints
World is not judged/sin gets worse	World is judged/ sin is dealt with.
It is NOT preceded by detailed signs/warnings	It IS preceded by specific detailed signs.
Only concerns the saved	Concerns both the saved and the lost

E. There is no reason for Christians to be on Earth during the Tribulation.

- The Tribulation has three purposes:
 - A. To bring the Nation of Israel to repentance (cf., Rom. 9-11; Rev. 7:1-8).
 - B. To reach gentiles open to the gospel (cf., Rev. 7:8-9).
 - C. To bring judgement to gentiles not open to the gospel (cf., Rev. 8-19).

F. The Christian’s Judgment was at Calvary.

- John 3:36 teaches the believer’s judgement was taken upon the cross.
- 1 Thess. 5:9-11 teaches the believer’s judgement was taken upon the cross.

4. When will the rapture come?

- We don’t know the day (cf., Mark 13:32; Matt. 24:36, 25:13, 24:44; 2 Pet. 3:10).
- We are told we can know the season (cf., Matt. 24:37ff; Luke 17:26ff).

5. How can we be ready for the Rapture?

You must receive Jesus Christ has your personal Lord and Savior as the rapture is specifically a rescue, by God, for all believers (cf., Rom. 3:23, 6:23, 5:8, 10:9-10, 10:13).

A Review of the Major Events in the Last Days Part Two

The 7 Year Tribulation

“There will be a great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be” - Matthew 24:21

A. OVERVIEW (VERY BIG PICTURE)

Through various prophetic passages found in the Bible, we learn that **‘The 7 Year Tribulation’** will be:

- A time of **judgment** for those who reject the Savior.
- A time of **conclusion** for those who rebel against God.
- A time of **decision** for those who will be forced to choose between Christ and the Antichrist.
- A time of **chaos** designed to shake mankind’s false sense of security.
- A time of unprecedented **revival**, resulting in the greatest soul harvest in history.

C. THE RAPTURE (DETAILED OUTLINE)

A. The First 3½ Years of the ‘The 7 Year Tribulation’ (1,260 Days or 42 Months)

1. It begins shortly after the Rapture of the Church.
2. The Antichrist will establish a 7-year season of peace with Israel. This treaty marks the formal beginning of the 7 Year Tribulation (Dan 9:27ff)
3. 144,000 “witnesses” begin to prophesy for exactly 1,260 days. 12,000 from each of the 12 tribes of Israel. (Rev. 11:3ff)
4. The “Two Witnesses” begin to prophesy for exactly 1,260 days (Rev. 7:3)
5. The Jewish Temple will be rebuilt and the ‘sacrificial system’ restored (Dan. 9:27)
6. The Seven Seals of Judgment Begin (Rev. 6:1-7, Rev. 8:1-2)

Revelation 6:1, NIV - ¹ I watched as the Lamb opened the first of the seven seals...

The four Horsemen of the Apocalypse:

Seal 1: The Rider on the White Horse—Deception by a false-christ (6:1-2)

Seal 2: The Rider on the Red Horse—Destruction by War (6:3-4)

Seal 3: The Rider on the Black Horse—Destitution by Famine (6:5-6)

Seal 4: The Rider on the Pale Horse—Devastation by Death (6:7-8)

Seal 5: The Martyred Tribulation Saints—Persecution/Martyrdom (6:9-11)

Seal 6: A Great Earthquake—Devastation by Terror (6:12-17)

Seal 7: Silence in Heaven—Beginning of Trumpet Judgments (Rev. 8:1-2)

“We see God’s mercy in the midst of wrath.” – Pastor Joe

Uppermost in the mind of God is the Salvation of souls...Revelation 7:9 indicates that during the first part of the tribulation, the greatest harvest of souls in all history will take place. In fact, it is this writer's belief that more people will accept Christ during the early months of the tribulation, before the Antichrist really has a chance to consolidate his one world government and set up his one world religion, than have been converted in nearly 2000 years of the church age. – Dr. Tim LaHaye, *Revelation Unveiled*, p. 153.

Revelation 7:9, NASB -⁹ *After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could count, from every nation and all tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, and palm branches were in their hands....*

7. The 7 Trumpet Judgments Begin (Rev. 8, 9, 16 and 19)

Revelation 8:7, NIV -⁷ *The first angel sounded his trumpet, and there came hail and fire mixed with blood, and it was hurled down on the earth. A third of the earth was burned up, a third of the trees were burned up, and all the green grass was burned up.*

Trumpet 1: One-third of the vegetation is destroyed. (8:7)

Trumpet 2: One-third of the sea will be turned into blood. (8:8-9)

Trumpet 3: One-third of the waters are contaminated. (8:10-11)

Trumpet 4: One-third of the sky is darkened. (8:12)

Trumpet 5: The “first woe”: locust-like creatures plague the earth. (9:1-12)

Trumpet 6: The “second woe”: An army of 200,000,000 men from the east will destroy one-third of all people. (9:13-21)

Trumpet 7: The “third woe”: Beginning of the seven bowl judgments. (9:22ff)

B. Midway through ‘The 7 Year Tribulation’

1. The Devil/demons are unrestrained on Earth (Rev 12:9, 12-13)

2. The Antichrist and devil begin a 42-month cartel (Rev. 12)

3. The “Two Witnesses” are killed and resurrected (11:7-12)

Revelation 11:7-12, NLT -⁷ *When they (2 witnesses) complete their testimony, the beast that comes up out of the bottomless pit will declare war against them, and he will conquer them and kill them.* ⁸ *And their bodies will lie in the main street of Jerusalem, the city that is figuratively called “Sodom” and “Egypt,” the city where their Lord was crucified.* ⁹ *And for three and a half days, all peoples, tribes, languages, and nations will stare at their bodies. No one will be allowed to bury them.* ¹⁰ *All the people who belong to this world will gloat over them and give presents to each other to celebrate the death of the two prophets who had tormented them.* ¹¹ *But after three and a half days, God breathed life into them, and they stood up! Terror struck all who were staring at them.* ¹² *Then a loud voice from heaven called to the two prophets, “Come up here!” And they rose **GK: Har-poz-o** to heaven in a cloud as their enemies watched. Me too?*

4. The Antichrist stands and declares himself to be god. (Dan. 7:27, Matt. 24:15, 2 Thess. 2:4 and Rev. 13)

5. Israel flees into the wilderness for 3½ years (Rev. 12:14ff)

6. The False Prophet joins forces with the antichrist (Rev. 13:11-15)

7. The Seven Bowl Judgements.

C. Immediately after the midway point in ‘The 7 Year Tribulation’

1. The Antichrist establishes the ‘mark of the beast’ (666) (Rev. 13:16)

2. Christ appears to the 144,000 witnesses (Rev. 14:1)

3. The 144,000 witnesses are commissioned (Rev. 14:1-11)

D. The Second 3½ years of ‘The 7 Year Tribulation’ (1,260 Days or 42 Months)

(This time period is also called “The Great Tribulation”)

1. The Antichrist begins his reign of terror (Dan 7:25; Rev. 13:5ff)

2. The Mark of the Beast (666) will be enforced (Rev. 13:14-18)

Revelation 13:16–18, NIV - ¹⁶ [The antichrist]...forced all people, great and small, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hands or on their foreheads, ¹⁷ so that they could not buy or sell unless they had the mark, which is the name of the beast or the number of its name. ¹⁸ This calls for wisdom. Let the person who has insight calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man. That number is 666.

“We now have a one-world order and a one-world religion”

3. The 144,000 witnesses are commissioned (Rev. 14:1-11; Note: a massive harvest of souls will be gathered for God’s glory.)

4. The Seven Bowl Judgments (God’s Super Bowls)

- First Bowl – “Contaminated Seas”
- Second Bowl – “Corrupted Streams”
- Third Bowl – “Consuming Sun”
- Fourth Bowl – “Consuming Sun”
- Fifth Bowl – “Confounded Sinners”
- Sixth Bowl – “Controlling Spirits”
- Seventh Bowl – “Catalytic Shaking”

Two words describe God’s Wrath: *Unspeakable* (Matt. 24:21-22) and *Unnecessary* (2 Peter 3:9-13)

4. Half of the World’s Population will die during the Great Tribulation (Rev. 6:8)

- 2 ½ million people will die every single day for 42 months
- Illustration: In the Jewish concentration camp, *Auschwitz*, 2 ½ million people died there. The camp opened the doors of its gas chambers September 3, 1941—those murders lasted exactly 3 ½ years (1,260 days or 42 months). [SOURCE: YAD VASHEM Magazine, Vol. 80., June 1916 (YV WHRC Archive)]
- In the Tribulation, time stops, life ends, nothing is the same.
- **The believer in Christ will not be here for any of the 7 Year Tribulation.**

F. On the last day of ‘The 7 Year Tribulation’

1. The antichrist and the false prophet will begin a final war to defeat Israel, but as they begin, the forces of Heaven will intervene, and the antichrist and the false-prophet will be defeated and cast into the last of fire. (Rev. 14:1; Rev. 13:5, Rev. 16:12-16, Rev. 19:11-21)

2. This final battle, called “The Battle of Armageddon” will begin by a command of the Antichrist but will end by a command by Christ—Himself.

3. The devil will be bound for 1,000 years and Jesus Christ will begin His Millennial Kingdom.

4. The unbeliever will be here for this horrible event called the 7 Year Tribulation.

5. There is still time for the unbeliever to act: You must receive Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior as the rapture is specifically a rescue, by God, for all believe, BUT it happens.

A Review of the Major Events in the Last Days

The Battle of Armageddon

Part Three
and The Evil Antichrist

Then they gathered the kings of the world together to the place that in Hebrew is called Armageddon.”

- Revelation 16:16 (“Armageddon” is used only here in the NT and six times in the OT)

I. OVERVIEW OF THE BATTLE OF ARMAGEDDON (VERY BIG PICTURE)

1. The word “Armageddon” comes from a Hebrew word ‘*Har-Magedone*’ (*Har* is “hill,” *Megiddo* is a city 60 miles north of Jerusalem, ...*one* ending means “in front of.” (ie., ‘The Land in front of Megiddo’ or “The Valley of Armageddon.”)
2. Armageddon is the future battle in which God will intervene and destroy the armies of the Antichrist, as predicted in biblical prophecy. (Rev. 14, 16 and 20)
3. Armageddon will not be the ‘end of the world,’ Armageddon will actually save the world (as we know it). (Ps. 37:29; 96:10; Eccl. 1:4; Rev. 7:9)
4. Armageddon will take place at the very end of the 7 Year Tribulation (Matt. 24:21, 36; Rev. 16:16;)
5. Armageddon will literally encompass the entire earth—but will culminate in Israel. (Jer. 25:32-24; Ez. 39:17-20)
6. The biblical books of Revelation and Daniel provide most of the foundational truths that make up any study of the end times.
7. The key players in this time period are the Antichrist and Jesus Christ.
8. Jesus Christ will lead a heavenly army of angels to victory over God’s enemies during this brief, but very intense, Battle of Armageddon. (Rev. 19:11-16 and Rev. 19-21)

II. THE BATTLE OF ARMAGEDDON AND THE ANTICHRIST (DETAILED OUTLINE)

A. One must understand the Old Testament Prophecies of Armageddon.

“The Old Testament books of Daniel and Ezekiel provide key insights to understanding of end-time prophecies!”

1. Daniel 2

God's plan for the Gentile nations begins with King Nebuchadnezzar and follows the historical sequence of human governments from him, to a ten-nation confederacy during the end times, which occupies the area of the old Roman Empire. The Antichrist will gain control of these nations, and after guaranteeing Israel's peace and security, will break that treaty 3 ½ years later and launch an attack against Israel.

2. Daniel 9

God's plan of 490 years for Israel's redemption predicts to the very year, 30 AD, when the Messiah (ie., Jesus Christ) would enter Jerusalem on “Palm Sunday.” This time period begins with the decree from Persia to rebuild and restore Jerusalem. This time period lasts for 483 years. Hence, there is one seven year-time-period left that

is (for now) unaccounted for. At Calvary, when Christ was crucified, God stopped the prophetic clock with seven years to go. The clock will restart when the Antichrist makes his peace treaty with Israel.

NOTE: The NT teaches that following the rapture of the church, the first 3 ½ years are peaceful between the ten-nation coalition in Israel. Although, during this time, Israel will be under attack from “Rosh”—a nation that lies due north of Jerusalem. The Antichrist breaks the treaty after 3 ½ years and then all hell breaks loose with what is called the time of Great Tribulation.

3. Ezekiel 37

The Vision of the Valley of Dry Bones coming together is ‘predictive’ of the people of Israel coming together, again, as a nation. This happened May 14, 1948. (NOTE: Matthew 24:32-35 tells the parable of the fig tree—which represents Israel becoming a nation and this nation being the last generation.)

B. Four Insights to Understand about Armageddon.

1. The Gog and Magog Invasion into Palestine/Israel.

Cf., Ezekiel 38:1–4: Magog, Meshech and Tubal were all sons of Japheth—the son of Noah, who migrated to the area of modern-day Russia (Gen. 10:2-3). Magog means ‘Chief Prince of Rosh’ (a title to a nation.) ‘Rosh(a)’ is the old root word for Russia. Meshech means *capital* (ie., Moscow). “Gog” means “the leader/person of a nation.” **We are talking about Russia attacking Israel.** [This land of “Rosh” lies north of Israel. (Ezekiel 38:2-3; Rev. 20)]

This will pave the way for the Antichrist to attack Israel at *The Battle of Armageddon*. (NOTE: It’s two separate wars against Israel—Russia starts it and is destroyed, then Antichrist seeks to join in the battle, but God ends it.)

Cf., Ezekiel 38:14-16: This passage indicates that Russia will seek war against Israel during the first half of the Tribulation.

Cf., Ezekiel 38:5-6: These verses identify the rest of the participants of the Battle of Armageddon. *Persia* is a reference to modern-day **Iran** which changed its name in 1935. *Cush* describes present day **Ethiopia** and the black nations of Central Africa. *Put* is **Libya**, located in northern Africa. *Gomer* are the people who settled in **Germany**. *Beth Togarmah* is **Asia Minor and Turkey** (and possibly **Russia**, but Pastor Joe believes Russia and all of these nations, mentioned above, will be destroyed before Armageddon (Ez. 38-39)). **Ezekiel 38-3** seems to eerily describe a nuclear holocaust that destroys all of these nations.

2. Nations that will be part of Armageddon

The Antichrist uses this move by Russia against Israel to set up the Abomination of Desolation (ie., A small statue, placed in the temple that declares the Antichrist to be God) and move his forces into Israel. The nations which comprise the land area of the old Roman Empire (cf., Daniel 2) include England, Scotland, Ireland, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Tunisia, Greece, Macedonia, Belgium, and the Netherlands, among others. (Rev. 9 and 16; Daniel 11)

3. The Rise of the Antichrist

Cf., Daniel 11:36-45: During the second half of the tribulation, the Antichrist places a small statue—of himself—in the temple and compels Israel to worship Him. Revelation 16 describes the Antichrist harnessing the armies of the world to spread out along the entire length and breadth of Israel, with the greatest concentration poised for the fiercest and final battle on the plains of Armageddon. (cf., 1 & 2 John are critical books to grasp)

Insights about the Antichrist:

- A. He will be wanted—not rejected (Rev. 6:2; John 1:10)
- B. He will be appealing—not repulsive (2 Cor. 11:14-15; Isaiah 53:2)
- C. He will be Gentile—not Jewish (Daniel 8; Rev. 131ff. In both passages, the Antichrist rises from the 'great sea' which is always a reference to Gentiles.)
- D. Satan will possess the Antichrist and will give him his power (Rev. 13:2; John 17:21)
- E. The Antichrist will fake a resurrection (Rev. 13:13; Matt. 28:6)
- F. He will subdue the nations by deceit, force, and manipulation (Dan. 7:19-25; Rev. 17:12-13; Matt. 24:15-16)
- G. He will demand to be worshipped (Rev. 16:2; Matt. 28:9; Phil. 2:5-11)
- H. Ultimately, the Antichrist will be cast into The Lake of Fire (Rev. 19:20ff)

4. The Climax of the Battle of Armageddon

Cf., Revelation 14:15-20; 16:16-21: Some feel these verses are poetic (ie., metaphorical) but Pastor Joe believes they are literal. Islands flee, mountains will not be found, the great cities of the world will be leveled via the earthquake; the earth is completely rearranged (which would be in keeping with 2 Peter 3:10). This would indicate a complete renovation of the earth.

IMPORTANT: **Jesus Christ will lead a heavenly army of angels to victory over God's enemies during this brief battle.** (Rev. 19:11-16 and Rev. 19-21)

C. The “two great statements” **EVERYONE** must face.

Revelation 16:17, NLT [During The 7 Year Tribulation] - ¹⁷ Then the seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air. And a mighty shout came from the throne in the Temple, saying, “It is finished!” ¹⁸ Then the thunder crashed and rolled, and lightning flashed. And a great earthquake struck—the worst since people were placed on the earth.

John 19:30, NLT [On the cross] - ³⁰ When Jesus had tasted [the drink], he said, “It is finished!” Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

Every man, woman and student will put their faith in one of these “It is finished” statements. If you put your faith in the “It is finished” of Calvary, you will not hear the “it is finished” at the end of Armageddon. But, if you reject the “It is finished” of Calvary, you have chosen, for yourself, the “it is finished” of Armageddon—where God’s wrath will be poured out on you.

A Review of the Major Events in the Last Days

The Second Coming of Jesus Christ

Part
Four

I. OVERVIEW OF THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST (VERY BIG PICTURE)

1. The *second coming* of Jesus Christ is the blessed hope of believers that know that God is in control of all things and is faithful to the promises and prophecies in His Word.
2. In His first coming, Jesus was the *Suffering Servant (Bethlehem)*. In His second coming (Jerusalem), Jesus will be the *Conquering King*.
3. When He comes, He will be the judge of those who rejected Him and the rewarder of those who have surrendered their life to Him.
4. Christ's second coming will appear in two distinct phases: **(A) Rapture**—it happens in the air and is a “catching up.” **(B) Return**—it happens on the Earth and is a “coming down.” There are two distinct phases of the second coming of Christ.
5. Before Christ returns, the church will see these “labor pains” on the earth: **(A) Apostasy** (Matt. 24:4-5; 2 Tim. 4:3); **(B) Anarchy** (Matt. 24:6-8); **(C) Apathy** (Matt. 24:12-13); and **(D) Affliction** (Matt. 24:9-10).
6. His second coming will be a literal, visible and glorious event.
7. We are to “look forward” to the Second Coming of Christ. (cf., 2 Peter 3:3-14)

Nobody knows the time so don't waste time trying to figure out the time but be ready all the time because Jesus could come at any time.”

- Dr. Ed Hindson

II. FOUR IMPORTANT STATEMENTS ABOUT THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

1. The Certainty of His Second Coming

John 14:3, NASB - ³ “If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also.”

1 Thessalonians 4:15–17, NASB - ¹⁵ For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁶ For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord.

2. The Manner of His Second Coming

Visible - Acts 1:11, NASB - ¹¹ They also said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in just the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven.”

Sudden - 2 Peter 3:10, NASB - ¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come like a thief....

Triumphant - Titus 2:13, PME - ¹³ looking for the triumphant, blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus....

Sovereign - 2 Thessalonians 1:7–9, NASB95 - ⁷ and to give relief to you who are afflicted and to us as well when the Lord Jesus will be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire, ⁸ dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. ⁹ These will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power....

- He will come to comfort the believer.
- He will come to confront the unbeliever.

3. The Timing of His Second Coming.

Matthew 24:36, NASB95 - ³⁶ "But of that day and hour no one knows....

4. Our Attitude toward His Second Coming.

2 Peter 3:11, NASB – [Following a long discourse about the second coming of Christ] ¹¹ Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness,

Be Ready - Matthew 24:44, NASB - ⁴⁴ "For this reason you also must be ready; for the Son of Man is coming at an hour when you do not think He will.

Be Working - Luke 19:13, NLT – [To His disciples He said] ¹³ 'Do my business with this until I come back.'

2 Peter 3:9, NASB - ⁹ The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance.

Be Holy - Titus 2:11–13, NASB - ¹¹ For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men, ¹² instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age, ¹³ **looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of** the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus....

III. OVERVIEW OF THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST (DETAILED)

1. Remember the differences between the Rapture and the Second Coming:

At the Rapture...	At the Second Coming...
The saints meet Christ in the air	Christ returns to earth with the saints
The Mt of Olives is untouched	The Mt of Olives is touched
Living saints are "changed"	No saints are changed
The saint's body goes to Heaven	The saint's body comes to earth
Christ comes for the saints	Christ comes with the saints
The world is not judged / sin gets worse	The world is judged / sin is dealt with
It is NOT preceded by detailed signs/warnings	It IS preceded by specific detailed signs
Is focused on saints being "caught up"	Is focuses on saints "coming down"

2. The Events of the Second Coming:

A. His 'Second Coming' will be a glorious appearing!

Revelation 1:7, NASB95 - ⁷ Behold, He is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him; and all the tribes of the earth will mourn over Him. So it is to be. Amen.

Matthew 24:27, NASB95 - ²⁷ "For just as the lightning comes from the east and flashes even to the west, so will the coming of the Son of Man be. (Also cf., vv. 28ff)

Mark 14:61–62, NLT - ⁶¹ But Jesus was silent and made no reply. Then the high priest asked him, “Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?” ⁶² Jesus said, “I Am. And you will see the Son of Man seated in the place of power at God’s right hand and coming on the clouds of heaven.”

B. He will touch down on the Mt. of Olives in Jerusalem.

Zechariah 14:4, NLT - ⁴ On that day his feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, east of Jerusalem. And the Mount of Olives will split apart, making a wide valley running from east to west. Half the mountain will move toward the north and half toward the south ⁸ On that day life-giving waters will flow out from Jerusalem, half toward the Dead Sea and half toward the Mediterranean, flowing continuously in both summer and winter.

C. He will enter through the Eastern (Golden) Gate.

Ezekiel 44:1–3, NIV84 - ¹ Then the [angel] brought me back to the outer gate of the sanctuary, the one facing east, and it was shut. ² The Lord said to me, “This gate is to remain shut. It must not be opened; no one may enter through it. It is to remain shut because the Lord, the God of Israel, [will] entered through it. ³ The prince Himself is the only one who may [come inside the gateway to eat in the presence of the Lord. He is to enter by way of...the Golden gate.

Also cf., Ps. 24:7-10; Ez. 43:1-4; Ps. 24:7-10.

D. He will destroy His enemies. (Zechariah 12:1-9.)

E. He will gather and bless His people. (Zechariah 12:10ff)

F. He will reign as King of Kings. (Isaiah 11, 1 Timothy 6:14-16)

Revelation 19:16, ESV - ¹⁶ On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords.

G. He throws the Antichrist and Satan in “the pit (of Hell)” for 1,000 years.

Revelation 20:1–4ff, NASB - ¹ Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding the key of the abyss and a great chain in his hand. ² And he laid hold of the dragon, the serpent of old, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; ³ and he threw him into the abyss, and shut it and sealed it over him, so that he would not deceive the nations any longer, until the thousand years were completed; after these things he must be released for a short time.

H. Christ establishes His kingdom for 1,000 years. (Revelation 20:4-6)

I. Heaven (as we think of it) will begin and never end. (Revelation 21 & 22)



Truly, truly, I say to you, an hour is coming and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live.¹ John 5:25, NASB

But when these things begin to take place, straighten up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.” ² Luke 21:28, NASB

A Review of the Major Events in the Last Days

The Millennial Reign

of Christ on the Earth

PART
FIVE

I. IMPORTANT STATEMENTS ABOUT THE MILLENNIAL REIGN OF CHRIST ON EARTH

1. The literal Millennial Reign of Christ on the Earth, when Christ will reign over the whole Earth—that's now remade, will be just as God intended it to be. This one-thousand-year reign of Christ happens between the Battle of Armageddon and the Great White Throne Judgement (i.e., the final judgement of all unbelievers).
2. The purpose of the thousand-year reign is to allow for the fulfillment of several literal, unilateral (one-sided), covenant-promises God made with Israel, Jesus, all Gentile believers throughout antiquity and even the creation itself.
3. To not believe in a literal one-thousand-year reign of Christ (i.e., amillennialism) is to not take God's Word literally, or to spiritualize actual, literal and physical events in biblical prophecy, or to simply concede that God will not keep His covenant-promises.

II. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE MILLENNIAL REIGN OF CHRIST ON EARTH?

The purpose of the thousand-year reign is to allow for the fulfillment of several promises God made with the following entities:

1. Israel

- A. **The Land Covenant** - Genesis 15:18-20 and Numbers 34:1-12 outlines the exact borders Israel is to possess on earth; the nation of Israel has yet to encompass these specific boundaries.
- B. **The Davidic Covenant** - 2 Sam. 7ff - We have the promise that God made to David, that David's heir would sit on the throne of Israel forever. Jesus is that heir, but He has yet to take His physical, political birthright that is clearly described in scripture.
- C. **The New Covenant** - Jeremiah 31:31-34 outlines the promise that Israel as a nation will return to God and worship Her Messiah. It is restated in Romans 9-11. Jesus is the Messiah to all people—guided by two separate covenants. The Church and Israel both have separate covenant-promises that God made to each of them. If God will not keep promises to His own children—Israel—why would we think He would keep His promises to us as Gentiles?

2. Jesus

In Psalm 110, David records the promises that God ("The LORD" printed in all caps, Heb. **יהוָה** Yahweh=God) made to Jesus ("my Lord" printed in lower case, Heb. **אֲדֹנָי** Adonai=Lord). God invites Jesus to sit at His right hand until God makes Jesus' enemies a footstool. Jesus will rule over, judge, and shatter His enemies while His people worship Him freely. This combination of judging enemies and being worshipped by the faithful cannot happen simultaneously in the eternal heaven, because in heaven there will be no sin or rebellion to judge. Similarly, in Daniel 7:11-14, Jesus is given dominion over all the people, nations, and languages before His enemies are permanently destroyed.

3. Gentile Believers (that includes us)

The promise in Daniel 7:11-14 refers to Gentiles, as well. It says that Jesus will be given dominion over all the nations. The whole world will know God according to Isaiah 11:9. In addition to Jesus' rule over the Gentiles, His faithful followers will be given positions of authority according to Luke 19:12-27; Revelation 5:10; 1 Corinthians 6:2.

4. Creation

Jesus' sovereignty will extend beyond human political systems and into all of creation. The curse will be lifted (Romans 8:18-23). Animals will live in peace again (Isaiah 11:6-9, 35:9, 65:25). Fields will be productive and freed from the curse of weeds (Isaiah 32:13-15). And the mortals who survived the Tribulation and populate the 1000-year reign will be freed from disease (Isaiah 33:24, 35:5-6, 61:1-2; Ezekiel 34:16).

Each of these covenants will be fulfilled during the 1000-year reign.

III. IS THE MILLENNIAL REIGN LITERAL OR FIGURATIVE?

Revelation 20:1-7, NASB -¹ Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding the key of the abyss and a great chain in his hand. ² And he laid hold of the dragon, the serpent of old, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for **a thousand years**; ³ and he threw him into the abyss, and shut it and sealed it over him, so that he would not deceive the nations any longer, until the **thousand years** were completed; after these things he must be released for a short time. ⁴ Then I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was given to them. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony of Jesus and because of the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received the mark on their forehead and on their hand; and they came to life and reigned with Christ for **a thousand years**. ⁵ The rest of the dead did not come to life until **the thousand years** were completed. This is the first resurrection. ⁶ Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for **a thousand years**. ⁷ When **the thousand years** are completed, Satan will be released from his prison...[to deceive the nations].

Read these verses very carefully. Not one thing mentioned in these verses—not one—is a metaphor for anything. Everything mentioned here is literal and will be fulfilled literally, actually and physically in the future one-thousand-year millennial reign.

IV. WHAT HAPPENS DURING THE MILLENNIAL REIGN? (DETAILED)

1. Satan is bound, and Jesus reigns. ("That describes the millennial reign in just six words." -JKT)

Jeremiah 23:5, NLT -⁵ "For the time is coming," says the LORD, "when I will raise up a righteous descendant from King David's line [Jesus]. He will be a King who rules the Earth with wisdom. He will do what is just and right throughout the land. [Also see Isaiah 32:1ff; Rev. 19:12,15,16; Zech. 14:9; Zech. 6:12, 13; Isa 24:23; Zech. 9:10; Ps 72:11; Dan. 7:13-27; Luke 1:32-33; Acts 2:30.]

2. There will be a new and fruitful earth.

Ezekiel 36:34-35, NLT -³⁴ The fields that used to lie empty and desolate in plain view of everyone will again be farmed. ³⁵ And when I bring you back, people will say, 'This former wasteland is now like the Garden of Eden!.... [Also see Isa. 35:1-2ff; Amos 9:13]

3. The ferocious nature of animals and their instincts will be changed.

Isaiah 11:6-8, NLT -⁶ In that day the wolf and the lamb will live together; the leopard will lie down with the baby goat. The calf and the yearling will be safe with the lion, and a little child will lead them all. ⁷ The cow will graze near the bear. The cub and the calf will lie down together. The lion will eat hay like a cow. ⁸ The baby will play safely near the hole of a cobra. Yes, a little child will put its hand in a nest of deadly snakes without harm.

Isaiah 11:6, Old KJV/AV (1611) -⁶ ... the lion will lie down with the lamb." [Also see Isa. 9:6-7; 65:25; Ezek. 34:25]

4. There will be no more war.

Isaiah 2:4, NLT -⁴ The Lord will mediate between nations and will settle international disputes. They will hammer their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will no longer fight against nation, nor train for war anymore. [Also see Ezek. 34:25; Micah 4:4]

5. There will be a longer life span (for the unbeliever).

Isaiah 65:20, NLT -²⁰ "No longer will babies die when only a few days old. No longer will adults die before they have lived a full life. No longer will people be considered old at one hundred! Only the cursed will die that young!" [Also see Heb 8:11; Hab. 2:14; NOTE: It's important to understand that those who survive the seven year tribulation—though they are lost—will be alive in the millennial; cf., Is. 33:24; 35:5-6, 61:1-2; Ezekiel 34:16ff; Christians will live forever—lost people won't.]

6. The saints will reign with Christ.

Revelation 20:4, NLT -⁴ Then I saw thrones, and the people sitting on them had been given the authority to judge. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their testimony about Jesus and for proclaiming the word of God. They had not worshiped the beast or his statue, nor accepted his mark on their forehead or their hands. They all came to life again, and they reigned with Christ for a thousand years. [Also see I Cor. 6:2ff; II Tim. 2:2ff; Rev. 20:4ff]

7. Jerusalem shall be the center of the worship of Christ.

Zechariah 8:22, NLT -²² Many peoples and powerful nations will come to Jerusalem to seek the Lord of Heaven's Armies and to ask for his blessing...and worship Him there. [Also see Zech. 8:20-23; Micah 4:1-2]

8. Our physical bodies will be perfect.

Philippians 3:21, NLT -²¹ He will take our weak mortal bodies and change them into glorious bodies like his own, using the same power with which he will bring everything under his control.

1 Corinthians 15:50-53, NLT -⁵⁰ What I am saying, dear brothers and sisters, is that our physical bodies cannot inherit the Kingdom of God. These dying bodies cannot inherit what will last forever. ⁵¹ But let me reveal to you a wonderful secret. We will not all die, but we will all be transformed! ⁵² It will happen in a moment, in the blink of an eye, when the last trumpet is blown. For when the trumpet sounds, those who have died will be raised to live forever. And we who are living will also be transformed. ⁵³ For our dying bodies must be transformed into bodies that will never die; our mortal bodies must be transformed into immortal bodies. [Also see 1 John 3:2ff; 1 Cor. 15:42-44ff]

9. It will be life on Earth—just as God intended it to be.

John 14:1-3, NLT -¹ "Don't let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in me. ² There is more than enough room in my Father's home. If this were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? ³ When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with me where I am.

10. A Final Quote:

For 1000 years, Jesus will place everything good in the world and keep everything bad out of it. It will be life on earth as God meant it to be. Our bodies—perfect. Our world—perfect. Our hearts and minds—perfect. Our worship—perfect. Our fellowship with God—perfect. What our sciences could not do, He will do; what our theologians and preachers could not do, He will do; what our parliaments and governments could not do, He will do; what OUR medical systems could not do, He will do; what our educational systems could not do, He will do; what our armies could not do, He will do... That glorious day...will be the watcher's looked-for day; the purchaser's redemption day; the builder's completion day; the farmer's harvest day, the servant's reckoning day, the Master's payday, the Son's manifestation day; the bride's wedding day and the King's coronation day.

Oh, friend, I BEG YOU....DON'T MISS THAT GLORIOUS DAY!

The Marriage Supper of the Lamb

You must be divorced from your sin or you cannot be married to Christ!

- C.H. Spurgeon

I. JEWISH WEDDING HISTORY

1. There were three major parts to the Jewish Wedding Feast

A. The Wedding Contract (Betrothal) - Wedding customs, in the time of Christ, included a document signed by the parents of the bride and the bridegroom. Additionally, this contract was signed by the parents of the bridegroom and the bridegroom himself would pay a dowry (down payment) to the bride, or her parents, for the cost of getting the bride ready for the wedding (as the bride was the groom's responsibility at betrothal). The betrothal period in Jewish History would today be called the engagement. The groom would go and prepare a home for the new couple to live in, and then return for his bride.

B. The Parade - The bridegroom, accompanied by his male friends, went to the house of the bride at night, once two things were done: (1) The home would be readied; (2) The Father of the Bride would set the wedding date. This parade would be by torchlight through the streets. Such a parade might be surprise to the bride. She would only know approximately when the parade would come, but not the exact time. She would be ready with her maidens for this 'coming.' They would then all join the parade and end up at the bridegroom's home and then on to the temple area for the wedding vows. (Such a custom is the basis of the Parable of the Ten Virgins in Matthew 25:1-13. Insight: We have to be ready for the coming of the bridegroom.) Interestingly, once the wedding took place, the couple would go to the marriage chamber and consummate the relationship. They would then have no contact with the parents for one year (unless there was a death of a parent) to focus on their relationship with God.

C. The Marriage Supper Itself - During the time of Jesus, the marriage supper itself would go on for days as illustrated by the wedding at Cana in John 2:1-2. The events described by Jesus in Revelation 19:7-10 describe this third phase of the wedding feast, called The Marriage Supper of the Lamb. John hasn't skipped the first two phases of the wedding feast customs as they have already happened. The first phase was completed on earth, when each individual Christian placed his or her faith in Jesus Christ. The dowry, in this case, was paid by the bridegroom's parent (God the Father) because of the blood of Jesus Christ, shed on the Bride's behalf. The Church is betrothed to Christ much the same way as the wise virgin in the parable of Matthew 25:1ff. All Christians should be watching and waiting for the appearance of the Bridegroom, the Lord Jesus (2 Timothy 4:8). The second phase pictures Christ coming to claim His bride and take the Church to the Father's house—think rapture. The Marriage Supper follows as the third and final step and is a glorious celebration of all who are in Christ Jesus.

2. The Schedule – The Marriage Supper of the Lamb follows the Judgement Seat of Christ, where believers are rewarded for the good deeds they did that affected eternity. (While all hell is breaking loose on Earth, during The Seven Year Tribulation, the saved from all time will be at the Marriage Supper of the Lamb.)

3. The Invitation - As the angel told John to write, "Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb" (Revelation 19:9). The marriage supper of the Lamb is a glorious celebration of all who are in Christ—*only they are invited!*

II. THE MARRIAGE SUPPER OF THE LAMB

Revelation 19:7–10, NASB - ⁷ “Let us rejoice and be glad and give the glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come and His bride has made herself ready.” ⁸ It was given to her to clothe herself in fine linen, bright and clean; for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints. ⁹ Then he said to me, “Write, ‘Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.’” And he [the angel speaking on behalf of God] said to me, “These are true words of God.” ¹⁰ Then I fell at his [the angel's] feet to worship him. But he said to me, “Do not do that; I am a fellow servant of yours and your brethren who hold the testimony of Jesus; worship God. For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.”

What Happens at The Marriage Supper of the Lamb?

1. Magnificent Music is Heard.

Revelation 19:1–6, NIV - After these things, I heard a loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying, “Alleluia! Salvation and glory and honor and power belong to the Lord our God! For true and righteous are His judgments...Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns!

G. F. Handel used this chapter as the basis for “The Hallelujah Chorus.” There will be a new “Hallelujah Chorus.” John the Apostle says Alleluia! (“Hallelujah”) four times in verses 1-6. *Halle* means ‘praise.’ *Lu* means ‘Let us.’ *Jah* means ‘Jehovah.’ Every time you say, “Hallelujah,” you’re saying, “Praise the Lord.” It could literally be translated, “Let us praise the name of Jehovah.” “Hallelujah” is used many times in the OT but only here in the NT. It’s as if God saved it just for this event.

(SEE NEXT SECTION)

2. The Beautiful Bride—The Church—is presented. (Brides are always beautiful....)

Revelation 19:7–10, NASB - ⁷ “Let us rejoice and be glad and give the glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come and His bride has made herself ready.”

How has the Bride been ‘made ready?’

Redemption – At the moment of salvation when God saved you. (Betrothal)

Rapture – When God came for and changed you—eternally. (Marriage)

Reward – At the Judgment Seat of Christ (Consummation), just before the Marriage Supper of the Lamb, we receive rewards according to the deeds of righteousness we’ve done. Our white linen garments represent the righteous acts of the saints. Now, our reward—*being with God forever!* (Consummation—all of this leading to celebration!)

3. The Glorified Groom—Jesus Christ—is worshipped.

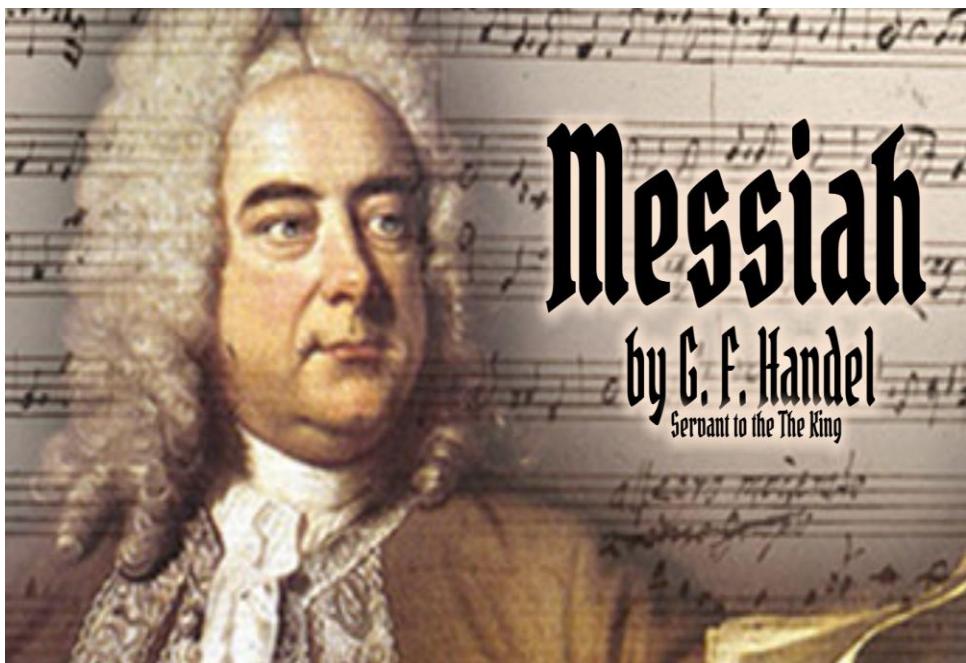
Revelation 19:6–7, NLT - ⁶ Then I heard again what sounded like the shout of a vast crowd or the roar of mighty ocean waves or the crash of loud thunder: “Praise the Lord! For the Lord our God, the Almighty, reigns.” ⁷ Let us be glad and rejoice, and let us give honor to him. For the time has come for the wedding feast of the Lamb, and his bride has prepared herself for Him.

This wedding doesn’t center around the bride, as it does in our culture. Here, the wedding centers around the Groom, the Lord Jesus. When an angel directs John the Apostle to write all of this down for us, the angel is so glorious, so radiant and majestic, John makes a mistake: “And I fell at his feet to worship him” (v. 10). The angel corrects John: “Only one is to be worshipped.”



2 Timothy 4:5–8, NIV - ⁵ But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry. ⁶ For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time for my departure is near. ⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸ Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

Matthew 22:2–3, NIV - ² “The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son. ³ He sent his servants to those who had been invited to the banquet to tell them to come, but they refused to come.



The Hallelujah Chorus

We know the Hallelujah Chorus well, but it actually has four stanzas:

All the words are based on scriptures from Revelation 11:15 and Revelation 19:6, 16.

Stanza 1—Redemption of the Saints: “And after these things I heard a great voice of much people in Heaven, saying, ‘Hallelujah; salvation and glory, and honor, and power unto the Lord our God’...for He shall reign forever and ever, Hallelujah!”

That which was begun at Calvary now comes to full consummation.

Stanza 2—Retribution upon the Sinner: “For true and righteous are His judgments...”

The saints praise God for making all things right. His justice has prevailed for the persecuted church. He has taken vengeance upon those who've persecuted believers throughout the ages. If you look for judgment in this world, you'll not find it. But one day we will say, *"Hallelujah—God has made it right"*—the retribution of God over Satan, Christ over Antichrist, the Holy Spirit over the false prophet.

Stanza 3—Relationship of the Saved: “And the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God who sat on the throne, saying, ‘Amen! Alleluia!’”

What is our relationship to Him? He is *our* God. Not "the" God, but "*The LORD is my Shepherd, I shall not want.*" Not "a good shepherd" or "a great shepherd." He is, but He is *my* shepherd. I am His and He is mine.

Stanza 4—Reign of the Savior: *“And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude.... ‘Alleluia! For the Lord God omnipotent reigns.’”*

And with these words, *The Marriage Supper of the Lamb* begins. It begins when a roar from this multitude crescendos like the tumultuous sound of rushing water combined with “mighty thundering’s.” It will be like standing under Niagara Falls in a powerful thunderstorm. Jesus, once despised, rejected, spat upon, now reigns—King of kings and Lord of lords. Every knee shall bow; every tongue will confess and proclaim that He is Lord of all—these shouts of praise reverberate throughout the earth, Hell and Heaven.

Source: Adapted from the Message by the late, Dr. Adrian Rogers, titled, *"Are you ready for the Marriage Supper?"* and Handel's Messiah.

A Review of the Major Events in the Last Days

PART SEVEN

The Great White Throne Judgment

and a Theological Review on the Doctrine of Hell

I. SATAN'S RELEASE AT THE END OF THE MILLENNIAL REIGN

Revelation 20:7-9, NASB - ⁷ When the thousand years are completed, Satan will be released from his prison, ⁸ and will come out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together for the war; the number of them is like the sand of the seashore. ⁹ And they came up on the broad plain of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city, and fire came down from heaven and devoured them.

1. **In the Millennium, all believers—from all of time (Rev. 19:17-21); some who lived through the Tribulation (Is. 65:20, Heb. 8:11ff; Hab. 2:14f); and those born during the Millennium (from ‘mortals’), who may or may not receive the Lord (Rev. 20:7), will be alive.**
2. **All those who are born during the Millennium will enjoy the benefits and blessings of Christ’s reign on a perfect earth, but they will still be born needing to repent and receive Jesus Christ as Lord—some will, and some won’t.**
3. **Don’t miss the parallels between Rev. 20 and Gen. 2 (The Garden of Eden).**
4. **God’s direction in both passages comes with a stern warning. Choose carefully whether to obey or disobey Him and His Holy Word.**

Lessons about People: We still don’t like being told what to do; we are terribly sinful.

Lessons about God: His power displayed; His attributes of holiness and grace.

Lessons about Satan: He will always be the enemy to humanity; his hatred; the deceiver; all he promises is death and destruction; and Satan’s ultimate defeat and judgment.

Satan is the “god of this world” (2 Cor. 4:4); ...Adversary (1 Peter. 5:8); ruler of this world (Jn. 12:31), & Deceiver (Eph. 2:2).

Other Scriptures to consider about Satan’s release: Rev. 20:7-8; Ezek. 38:2; Job 1:7; Matt. 4:1-11; Luke 4:1-13; 1 Cor. 10:13; 2 Cor. 4:1-7; James 4:6-8; 1 John 2:15-29; 1 John 4:1-3; and Rev. 16:12 (to name a few)

II. THE GREAT WHITE THRONE JUDGMENT (FINAL JUDGMENT OF ALL UNBELIEVERS)

Revelation 20:11-15, NASB - ¹¹ Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat upon it, from whose presence earth and heaven fled away, and no place was found for them. ¹² And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened; and another book was opened, which is the book of life; and the dead were judged from the things which were written in the books, according to their deeds. ¹³ And the sea gave up the dead which were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead which were in them; and they were judged, every one of them according to their deeds. ¹⁴ Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. ¹⁵ And if anyone’s name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

1. The Courtroom - ^{11a} I saw a Great white throne ...

- GREAT speaks of power **dignity, size, extent of judgment**
- WHITE speaks of purity **holiness and righteousness of God**
- THRONE speaks of the Potentate **sovereign, majestic, final auth.**

2. The Judge - ^{11b} ...and Him who sat upon it...

Who is this Judge? (It’s not God the father!)

John 5:22, NIV - ²² ...The Father judges no one, but has entrusted all judgment to the Son!

- The Lamb has become the Lion of the Tribe of Judah!
- The Redeemer is now the Ruler!
- The Savior is now the Sovereign!

3. The Accused – ^{12a} *And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne....*

- The Sinners (who rejected the Savior)
- The Self-righteous (who thought they didn't need a Savior)
- The Slow deciders (who put off receiving the Savior)
- The Sunday church goers (who assumed they had the Savior)

4. The Evidence – ^{12b} *...and books were opened; and another book was opened, which is the book of life; and the dead were judged from the things which were written in the books, according to their deeds.*

- The Bible—God's standard for all matters
- The Book of Deeds—God's record of every good and bad deed
The Saved will be rewarded for their good deeds; the Lost, judged for the bad deeds.
- The Book of Life—God's record of every saved person's name

Other Scriptures to Consider: Ps. 139:1-2; Ezek. 11:5; 2 Peter 2:14; Ps. 139:4; 2 Chron. 16:9; Heb. 4:13; Matt. 12:36; Luke 12:2-3; Jer. 17:10; Matt. 15:19; Eccl. 12:14; Rom. 2:16; Jn. 12:48; Rev. 21:27; Rev. 20:15.

At the judgment of the unbelievers, there is The Book of the law (the Bible—that speaks of the *requirements*), there is The Book of The Lost (that speaks of the *response* or lack thereof) and The Book of the Lamb (that guarantees the believer's *redemption*.)

- Dr. R. G. Lee

5. The Defense

[There is none!]

6. The Verdict – ¹³ *And the sea gave up the dead which were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead which were in them; and they were judged, every one of them according to their deeds.*

Hebrews 9:27, ESV – ²⁷ *...it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment.*

7. The Sentence – ¹⁴ *Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire.*

Guilty! The Lost will hear these words...

Matthew 25:41-46, NIV – ⁴¹ *Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels...' ⁴⁶ "Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life.*

"Born once—die twice; born twice—die once." -Source Unknown

[Insight: If you are only physically born without being spiritually reborn, you will die physically and spiritually. If you are born physically and reborn (born again) spiritually, you will only die physically.]

8. What's absent at the Great White Throne Judgement of the unbelievers –

- There will be no blowing of the trumpet fanfare
- There will be no archangel proclaiming the rescue of God
- There will be no white robes of the saints saved by God's grace
- There will be no comforting of each other—none

The surest road to hell is the gradual one—the gentle slope, soft underfoot, without sudden turnings, without milestones, without signposts...the long, dull, monotonous years of middle-aged prosperity and adventure are excellent campaigning weather—FOR THE DEVIL!

— Dr. Charles Swindoll, *Living Above the Level of Mediocrity*, p. 187.

A Theological Review on the Doctrine of “Hell”

1. What does the Bible teach about Hell?

There are 188 passages in the Bible that speak about Hell

(more than twice as many passages that speak about Heaven.)

- **Hell is an actual place.**

Revelation 20:15, NIV –¹⁵ Anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the lake of fire. [Also see Rev. 21:8, Matt. 25:46, Ps. 9:17, Acts 2:27, Prov. 15:24, Matt. 13:42, Rev. 19:20]

- **Hell is a place of horrendous suffering.**

Matthew 22:13, NIV –¹³ ... into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. [Also see Matt. 13:50, Mark 9:43, Jude 1:7, Prov. 15:11, 2 Peter 2:4, Matt. 10:28]

- **Hell is forever.**

Revelation 20:10, NIV –¹⁰ And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever. [Also see 2 Thess. 1:9, Matt. 25:41, Rev. 14:11, Luke 16:19-31]

2. Response to, “God is too loving to send people to hell...right?”

- **Don’t assume that God is just as tolerant of sin as our society is—He isn’t!**

Psalm 50:21, NIV –²¹ When you did these things and I kept silent, you thought I was exactly like you. But I now arraign you and set my accusations before you.

- **Don’t assume that God’s only attribute is “love”—it isn’t!**

Habakkuk 1:13, NIV –¹³ Your [God’s] eyes are too pure to look on evil; you [God] cannot tolerate wrongdoing.

- **Don’t assume that “we” are not really that bad—we are!**

Romans 3:23, NIV –²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

- **Thought: If there really was no hell, then what was the cross all about?**

John 3:16, NIV –¹⁶ For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.

3. “Is there any consolation for us regarding those already in hell?”

- **Their hell will never veto our heaven!**

- **There may be “levels of punishment” in hell.**

Matthew 10:15, NIV –¹⁵ Truly I tell you, it will be more bearable for Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town.

Matthew 25:41, NASB –⁴¹ ...the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels....

Matthew 8:12, NCV –¹² But those people who should be in the kingdom will be thrown in the outside into the darkness, where people will cry and grind their teeth with pain. [Also see Rev. 20:12-13, 2 Thess. 1:8-10]

- **Our God is just and can be trusted to do what is right.**

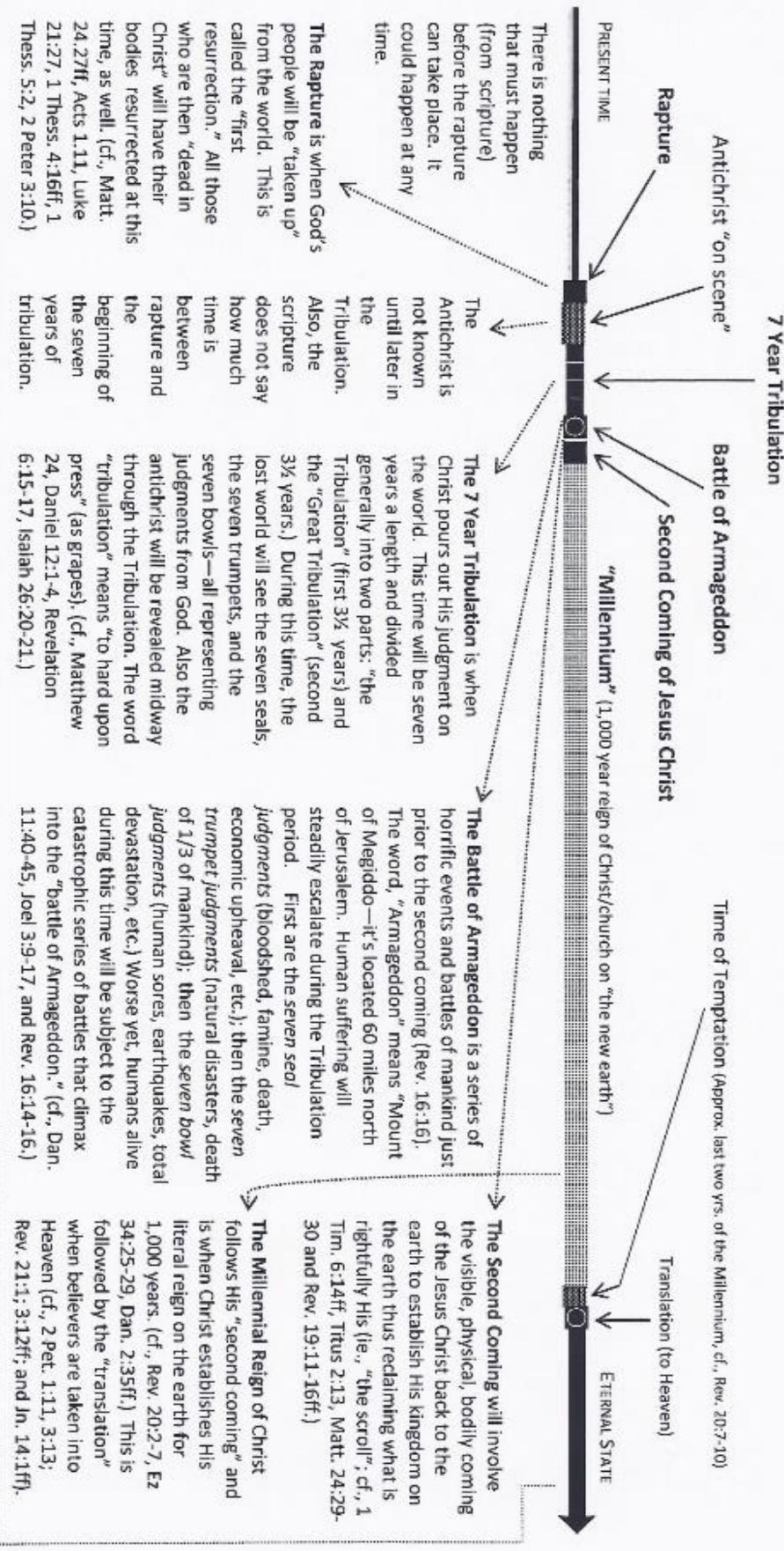
Romans 9:14, NAS –¹⁴ ...There is no injustice with God.

“I NEVER want ANYONE to experience the Great White Throne Judgment or Hell!”

– Pastor Joe

Chart of the End Times

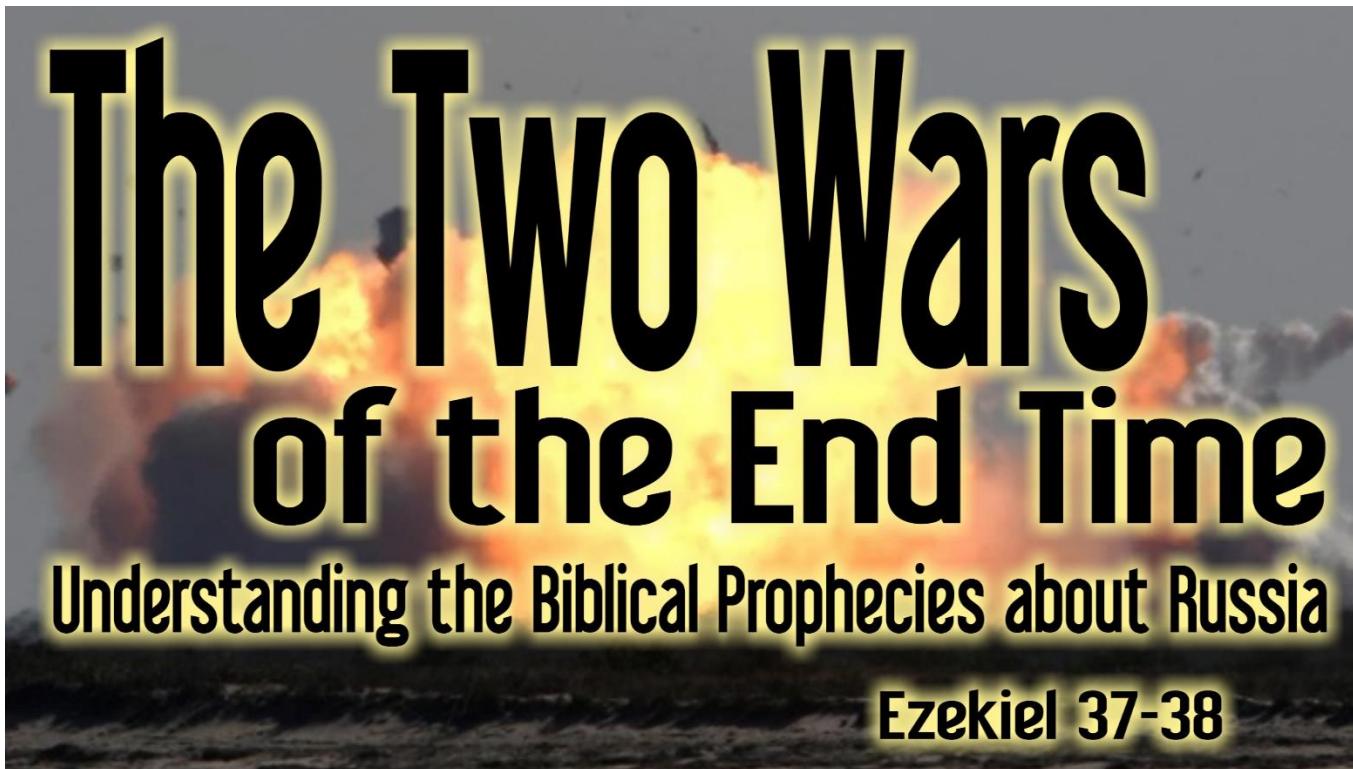
This "Chart on the End Times" was developed by Dr. Joe K. Taylor



The Eternal State will be a time of unspeakable joy, reward and fellowship for the believer (cf., Revelation 21:1-8) and a time of judgment for the unbeliever (cf., Revelation 20:11-15). (NOTE: When a believer in Christ dies, their body goes into the grave and their soul goes immediately to be with God in Heaven (cf., 2 Cor. 5:8). At the rapture, the old body will be resurrected and "made perfect" and reunited with their soul in what the bible and theologians call the *glorified state*. Cf., 1 Thess. 13:18 and 1 Cor. 15:42-49.)

"Then as I looked, I saw a door standing open in heaven, and the same voice I had heard before spoke to me like a trumpet blast.

The voice said, "Come up here, and I will show you what must happen after this." - Rev. 4:1, NLT



The picture above shows the very initial blast of a 'vacuum bomb' Russia purportedly dropped on Ukraine in early August 2022.

DR. JOE K. TAYLOR, SENIOR PASTOR, SOUTH RENO BAPTIST CHURCH, RENO, NEVADA • MARCH 6, 2022.

• All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted.

• God's Word will be printed in regular faced text with Pastor Joe's commentary in the smaller faced text.

• Biblical words, underlined with dots, are explained in the brackets. • Pastor Joe's email is Joe@southreno.com.

1. The Aim

- A. Ezekiel 37 (The Story of the Dry Bones Coming back to Life) is the premier biblical prophecy predicting Israel being back in her land.
- B. Israel is the "Super-sign of the end times."
- C. All biblical prophecy hinges on Israel being back in her land.
- D. In 70 AD., Israel was scattered from its land to 70 different countries. On May 14, 1948, Israel was brought back to her land.

2. The Alliances

- A. Ezekiel 38:1-7
- B. **Gog** means "high" or "exalted" (Gog is a person/a leader.)
- C. *Could Vladimir Putin be Gog?* ("For me, it's too soon to say." – JKT)
- D. President Putin is certainly *Gog-esque*.
- E. **Magog** is the 'Coalition of Nations' that will be involved in the first war mentioned in the book of Ezekiel.

The Magog Coalition		
Name in Ezk.	Location Today	Note
Magog	Central Asia ('stans)	"Underbelly of the old USSR"
Rosh	Russia / Belarus / Ukraine	Wow! Rosh is building its coalition.
Meshech	Turkey	It has become a strong ally of Russia and in recent days has taken a strong turn against Israel.
Tubal		
Persia	East Africa/Arabia/Ethiopia	There's so much religious and political upheaval in this area today.
Cush		
Put	Libya	It has totally descended into chaos.
Gomer	Southern Russia	Seems to focus on building the coalition.
Togarmah	Iran	Goal: "Death to Israel"
<i>"...many peoples will come with you (Magog)" to attack Israel. - v. 6</i>		

3. The Attacks

A. Magog attacking Israel (Ex. 38:1-18)

Ezekiel 38:14–16, NASB - ¹⁴ “Therefore prophesy, son of man, and say to Gog, ‘Thus says the Lord God, “On that day when My people Israel are living securely, will you not know it? ¹⁵ “You will come from your place out of the remote parts of the north, you and many peoples with you, all of them riding on horses, a great assembly and a mighty army; ¹⁶ and you will come up against My people Israel like a cloud to cover the land. It shall come about in the last days that I will bring you against My land, so that the nations may know Me when I am sanctified through you before their eyes, O Gog.”

B. God attacking Magog (Ez. 38:19-33; ch.39)

- i. God will come and supernaturally destroy Israel's enemies.
- ii. “My (God's) fury will come against them” - Ez. 38:18

Ezekiel 38:18, 23 NASB - ¹⁸ “It will come about on that day, when Gog comes against the land of Israel,” declares the Lord God, “that My fury will mount up in My anger... ²³ “I will magnify Myself, sanctify Myself, and make Myself known in the sight of many nations; and they will know that I am the Lord.””

4. The Application

A. You can trust the Bible.

B. These prophecies spoken of today will come true in the future—and may very well be coming true, right now.

C. God is sovereign and in control.

D. We must keep in mind how this ends for the people of faith (Heaven).

E. Jesus is coming soon for those who came to Him.

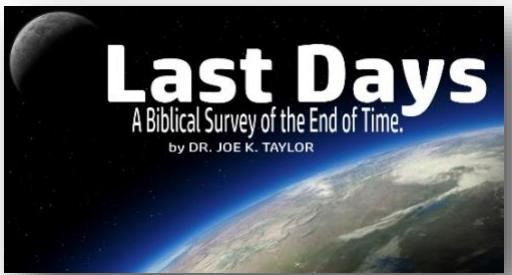
APPENDIX A

Maps to Help Survey the End Times



SOMETHING EXTRA: Top Ten ways to know if you are obsessed with bible prophecy:

10. You use the "Left Behind" Books as devotional reading.
9. You get goose bumps every time you hear a trumpet.
8. You believe the term "church fathers" belong to Hal Lindsey and Tim LaHaye
7. You believe there is an original Greek and Hebrew text in the Schofield Study Bible.
6. You can name more signs of the times than you can commandments.
5. You refuse a tax refund check before the total come to \$666.00
4. Barcode scanners make you nervous.
3. You think every president you don't like is the antichrist.
2. You never buy green bananas—because Jesus could come at any time.
1. You always leave the top down on your convertible because...**THE RAPTURE MIGHT COME!!**



ADDENDUM

BOWL JUDGMENTS, FUTURE OF THE MIDDLE EAST, AND THE RISE OF ANTISEMITISM

1. THE BOWL JUDGMENTS: [This section should replace the “Seven Bowl Judgments” (Page 8, #4).]

First Bowl – Sores on mankind: A plague targeting followers of the antichrist—not tribulation saint. (Rev. 16:2).

Second Bowl – Sea turn into blood: Everything in the sea will now be dead (Rev. 16:3).

Third Bowl – Rivers turn into blood: Rivers and freshwater spring (Rev. 16:4-5).

Fourth Bowl – Sun Scorches mankind: Even with this judgment, people refuse to repent (Rev. 16:8-9).

Fifth Bowl – Sun goes dark: Pain, suffering, and wickedness increases (Rev. 16:10-11).

Sixth Bowl – Euphrates River dries up: The nations now make their want to Armageddon (Rev. 16:12-16).

Seventh Bowl – Lightening, Earthquakes and Hailstones: Unspeakable destruction (Rev. 16:17-21).

2. THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE OF THE MIDDLE EAST:

“Four Stage Strategy” by Grand Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Husseini Khamenei of Iran

(JNS quoting Al Jazeera: <https://www.jns.org/the-ayatollahs-plan-for-israel-and-palestine/>)

Stage One: Hamas Attack Israel

Stage Two: Bog Israel down in ground/underground fighting in Gaza and the Gaza Metro.

Stage Three: Hezbollah (Syria/Lebanon to the North)—a greater military force than Hamas—will attack Israel.

Stage Four: Exploit this mess so Iran can complete the development of three Nuclear Bombs to destroy Israel.

3. THE DISHEARTENING RISE OF ANTISEMITISM:

And in that day will I make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all people... ” - Zechariah 12:3

Two Big Lies (and a brief response):

Lie #1: Israel is an “occupying colonizer” who stole its land from its rightful Palestinian owners.

- The original owners of the land were Canaanites from whom Jews conquered the region under Joshua. Their descendants now live in Lebanon and bear no genealogical relationship to the Palestinians. God gave them the Promise Land under Joshua.
- Present-day Palestinians are descendants of the Arabs who first conquered the land in AD 640, not the Philistines for whom the region is named. These Arab Muslims took the land from the Jews and Christians who lived there prior to their conquest.
- Since the time of Joshua, there has always been a Jewish presence in the land; Jews repopulated it alongside Arab Palestinians in recent centuries.
- An autonomous nation called Palestine would have been created by the United Nations in 1947, but Arab leaders rejected it. The United Nations then voted in 1948 to partition the land giving each side (Israel/Arabs) a part but the Arabs rejected this plan. In a series of three wars (Six Day War, War of Independence, and the Yom Kippur War), when attacked, Israel gained more and more land.

Lie #2: Israel is “oppressing the people of Gaza” via with its military response to Hamas.

Hamas is using the Palestinian population as human shields, hiding its soldiers and weapons in tunnels beneath hospitals, schools, and mosques. In addition to all the atrocities discovered, Hamas continues to steal fuel, medical supplies, and provisions intended for the civilian population. Remember, Hamas started this and continues marketing many lies! It also maintains its attack and maintains its goal to “...wipe Israel of the face of the earth.” A significant battlefield is on social media and is NOT based on facts.





ISRAEL and...

The Arab World



If you notice, Israel (in blue) is very small compared to the Muslim land that surrounds it. Israel occupies just under 9000 square miles for its entire land mass. One third of Israel is occupied by Muslims. (Ironically, they still want more land.)

It is said in Israel that "All Israel is controlled by Israel but some of Israel is occupied by non-Jewish people groups."

Example: The Temple Mount is "Israeli controlled, but Muslim occupied."

All the countries in yellow, all Arab/Muslim countries, have a land mass of just over 5 million square miles.

It is truly ironic to think that these countries, printed in yellow, think that having a third of Israel occupied by Islamic people groups are still not sufficient. A third of these countries printed in yellow would like to wipe Israel off the face of map.



Believers in Christ much remember this important verse about Israel:

And I will bless those who bless you (Israel), And the one who curses you I will curse.

- Genesis 12:3, NASB95

APPENDIX A

Quotes:

“The return of Christ is imminent; therefore, the spreading of the Gospel is imperative.”

You, your family, your friends, and the nations of the world must be made ready now because the Lord is coming very, very soon!

- Pastor Joe.

O Church Arise

Oh, church arise, and put your armor on,
Our call to war, to love the captive soul,
but to rage against the captor,

and with the sword that makes the wounded whole,
we will fight with faith and valor.

When faced with trials on every side,
we know the outcome is secure.

And Christ will have the prize for which he died,
an inheritance of nations.

- v. 2, O Church Arise, by Keith Getty and Stuart Townsend.