

Ecclesiology

The Greek word for church is *ecclesia*. *Ecclesia + ology becomes ecclesiology*.

Ecclesia means “a called out assembly” or simply “assembly.” This word occurs 118 times in the New Testament. It is translated “church” 115 times and “assembly” 3 times.

The use of the word *ecclesia*

- 1 – Local assembly – 1 Thess. 1:1
- 2 – Local assemblies – Galatians 1:1-3
- 3 – Local believers – Galatians 1:13
- 4 – The complete body of Christ – Eph. 5:25

What the church is not

- 1 – The church is not Israel – 1 Cor. 10:32, Gal. 3:27-29
- 2 – The church is not the kingdom – The church was never the subject of prophecy. The kingdom is promised to Israel. Note Acts 1:3, 6.

What the church is

- 1 – A mystery – Eph. 3:1-10
- 2 – The body of Christ – 1 Cor. 12:12, 27
- 3 – A building – Eph. 2:19-22
- 4 – The bride of Christ – Eph. 5:25-32, Rev. 19:7-8

The local church

-Officers

- Elders – Titus 1:5-7. Elders are not chosen but appointed.
- Deacons – 1 Timothy 3:8-13. Deacons are chosen by the assembly to minister.

-Ordinances

- Baptism – A public testimony of previous faith in Christ. It is an outward demonstration of an inward act.
- The Lord's Supper – A fellowship meal for family members. We reflect, examine, and look forward.

Eschatology

The Greek word for “last or last state” is *eschatos*. *Eschatos + ology = Eschatology*.

Three major views:

- 1- Postmillennialism – The world will get better until the whole world is saved. This will
a. bring in the kingdom.
- 2 – Amillennialism – There will be no literal millennium. Christ currently rules in our hearts.
- 3 – Premillennialism – Christ will come again and set up His kingdom on earth for 1000 years.

God's purpose for Israel

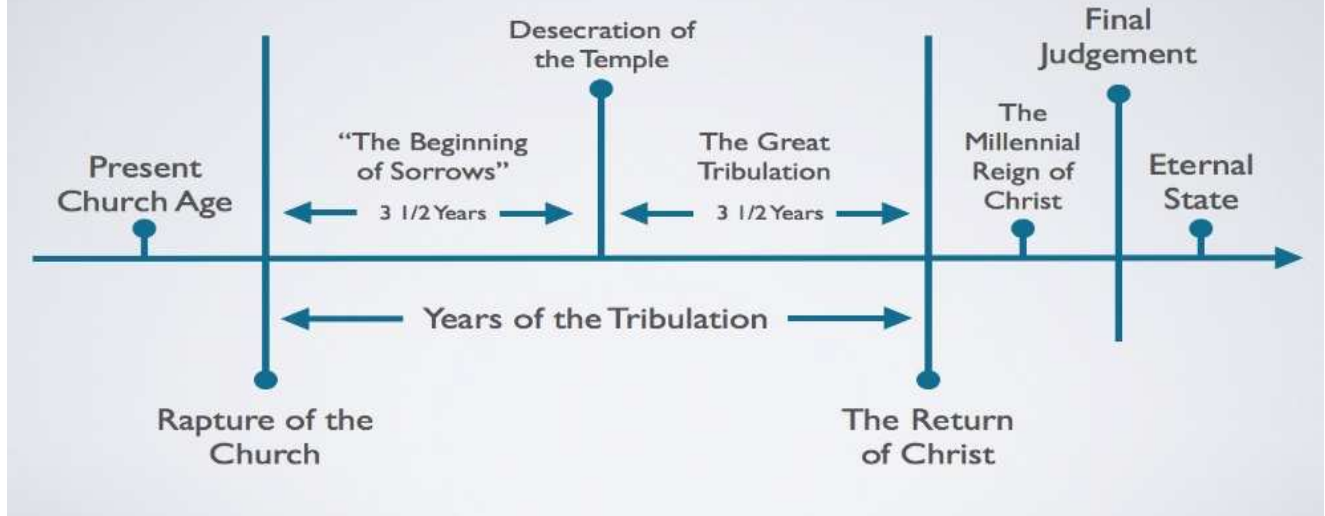
Israel's four unconditional covenants:

- 1 – Abrahamic – Genesis 12:1-3
- 2 – Palestinian – Deuteronomy 20:15
- 3 – Davidic – 2 Samuel 7:12-16
- 4 – New – Jeremiah 31:31-40

Israel's future is foretold in Daniel 9:24-29

- Verse 24 – “your people”, “your holy city”
- Seventy weeks determine Israel's history (490 years)
- Messiah is “cut off” after 69 weeks, one week remains

Timeline of the End Times



Our commission as we wait for Jesus' return – Acts 1:8:

But you but you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses, both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."