

Welcome to NEXT

NEXT

“NEXT” is a series of messages that explain what is going to happen next. Our God has revealed His future plan. Our study will center on the Book of Revelation and while Jesus made it clear that we cannot know the day or time of His return, we do however know the order of the events that lead to His undeniable victory in the last days, a victory we will share. Followers of Jesus can celebrate the Book of Revelation. It shouts a message of hope and victory and even promises a blessing to those who read it.

Revelation Vocabulary

The following is a list of terms that we will address often during our study through the book of Revelation.

1. **The Rapture** is the sudden departure of all Christ-followers worldwide for all time to meet Christ in the air (see 1Thessalonians 4:15-17; John 14:1-3; 1Corinthians 15:50-54). The Rapture is the next big event in biblical prophecy. There are no remaining biblical prophecies that need fulfillment before the Rapture takes place. That means it could happen at any moment.
2. **The Great Tribulation** is a 7-year period of intense, unprecedented suffering on earth. **The Great Tribulation** is also referenced in the NT as “The Day of the Lord” (see Mark 13:14-19). **NOTE:** Some refer to the first 3½ years as the “Tribulation” and the last 3½ years as the “Great Tribulation.” John describes the catastrophic events on earth during the tribulation as “Seal, Trumpet, and Bowl Judgments” (see Revelation 6-11; 16).
3. **The Antichrist** embodies evil and is the key agent of Satan's (the Dragon) resistance to the plan of God in the last days (see 2Thessalonians 2:1-4). In Revelation, Antichrist is called “the Beast” (see 13:1). According to vv.4-5, during the first “42 months” (3 ½ years) the antichrist will rise to power. At the midway point of the Tribulation the “abomination” will occur and he will set himself up as an object to be worshipped (see Mark 13:14 and Daniel 9:27). He will be destroyed after the seven years by Jesus.
4. **The Judgment Seat of Christ** is the place where all followers of Jesus will receive their reward for the quality of their lives on earth (see 1Corinthians 3:10-15; 2Corinthians 5:10). A judgment not of faith, but of works, is coming for every believer following the Rapture. 2Timothy 4:6-8, 1Peter 5:1-4, and James 1:12 describe some of the crowns of reward at the Judgment Seat.
5. **The Second Advent** (sometimes called “The Second Coming”) is the return of Christ to the earth following the Rapture and the Great Tribulation (see Acts 1:6-11; Revelation 1:7). The Second Advent is the term used to describe the visible, personal return of Christ to set up His Millennial Kingdom on earth.
6. **The Millennium** (or, “The Millennial Kingdom”) refers to a period of time when Christ reigns in righteousness (see Revelation 20:1-6; Psalm 2:1-6). The Millennium is the one-thousand-year reign of Jesus Christ as King. This reign of peace ends with one last uprising from the enemy.
7. **The Great White Throne Judgment** is the place where all who have rejected God will receive eternal punishment for their unbelief and their deeds on earth (see Revelation 20:11-12, 15). This judgment is reserved for the unbelievers of all time. This judgment will be followed by everlasting conscious blessedness for the followers of Christ and everlasting separation from God and suffering for those who rejected Him.