

A View of The Last Days

An Eight Week Survey

Lesson Outlines and Charts

*Note: A full narrative for each lesson can be found on our church website under “Resources” and “Bible Studies”.
You are encouraged to make a copy and use it in class*

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Unless Otherwise Noted all Scripture Quotes Come from the New King James Version

A View of The Last Days

An Eight Week Survey

Week 1

Introduction and God's Timeline

“6. You will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come.”

(Matthew 24:6)

Week 1 - Introduction

Outline

- Why Study the Last Days?
 - There is a lot of misunderstanding amongst Christians
 - Wars, rumors of wars, natural disasters, political movements
 - All result in questions, confusion and fear
 - With each event many believers wonder – “*Is this it?*”
 - We're going to try to clear that up
 - And give you confidence and knowledge, not fear and confusion.
- Setting the Stage – What does the “Last Days” mean?
 - Also called the “End Times”
 - Generally considered to be the period of time just before the Rapture
 - The current Age of Grace
 - But an expanded view would include the Rapture, Tribulation, Second Coming, the Millennial Kingdom and the final Great White Throne Judgment
 - Basically everything from now until Eternity
 - The next event on the prophetic timeline is the Rapture
 - We don't know when the Rapture will occur
 - The Bible indicates no other events must happen first
 - But current world events point to it growing closer each day
 - We can't say for sure, but we may be living near the end of the Last Days
 - So we must be ready and sharing the gospel
 - The Last Days can be confusing, but we must not fear it

- Why are the Last Days Important?
 - When discussing the Last Days Jesus tells us, “...**whoever reads, let him understand...**” (Matthew 24:15).
 - The Last Days are a key part of God’s plan
 - They include specific events He recorded throughout His word
 - We need to understand what these events are so we don’t fear
 - Understanding God’s future plan is part of being a fully equipped believer
 - Understanding brings clarity and connectivity between Old Testament and New Testament prophecy
 - We also need to understand the critical role of Israel in God’s future plan

- How will we study the Last Days?
 - We will apply a literal meaning of scripture.
 - The time allotted for this study only allows for a very high level survey
 - We will focus on key topics that seem to be the most confusing or cause the most fear
 - Each lesson will include an Outline and a Narrative
 - The narrative is intended to give you more information than will be provided in class
 - Lots of scripture references are provided to guide you
 - A more detailed understanding can be gained by reviewing “*Our Journey Through the Book of Revelation*” on our church website under “Resources” and “Bible Study”

- How will we address controversial topics?
 - We will provide a fair explanation of each major viewpoint
 - Then we will tell you which option we believe the Bible supports
 - We would suggest you avoid social media feeds related to the Last Days
 - They are often sensationalized and unBiblical

- Key Discussion Topics:
 - Week 1 - Introduction and Setting the Stage
 - Week 2 - The Difference Between the Rapture and the Second Coming
 - Week 3 - What is the Tribulation – And has it Begun?
 - Week 4 - Who, What and When is the antichrist?
 - Week 5 - When is the Ezekiel War?
 - Week 6 - What is the Millennial Kingdom?
 - Week 7 - Understanding Israel's Current and Future Role
 - Week 8 - A View of Eternity - The New Heaven, the New Earth and the New Jerusalem

Week 1 - Introduction Continued

Setting the Stage

So what is meant by the term “Last Days”? Some consider it the time just prior to the Rapture, but for our study we’ll expand that definition to include the total period of time from the cross until the beginning of Eternity. In other words, we’ll look at the Last Days, also called the “End Times”, as the time remaining for mankind to exist on earth. Unfortunately, the Lord doesn’t tell us exactly when these events will occur which means there is often a sense of dread for those who are not students of Bible prophecy. They want to know what does “Last” really mean? When will it happen? How will it impact my family? How do I know if I’m ready? All of these, and many other questions can be answered by a thorough study of the overall sequence of events from the Rapture, through the Tribulation, to the Second Coming of Christ, the Millennial Kingdom and into Eternity.

*But whatever our level of understanding may be, we shouldn’t fear any of this. Nearly a third of God’s word focuses on End Times prophecy. Not to frighten us, but to equip us to be prepared and alert. As Jesus explains in Matthew 24:6, **“6. You will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come.”** In other words, we should not be **“...alarmed...”** by the Last Days. Instead, we need to be alert, patient and eagerly awaiting for our Lord’s return. But how long will we have to wait? We simply don’t know but it draws closer every day. As Dr. David Jeremiah says, **“We may not be at the end of the world, but we surely are at the world of the end.”** In other words, what we see happening around us today indicates time is drawing to a close.*

*At the very end of the Bible Jesus declares, **“20. He who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming quickly.”** (Revelation 22:20). But **“...quickly...”** doesn’t mean He’s coming soon from a timing perspective. It means He’s coming without warning, and that means it could happen at any moment. It also means we should be eager and ready for His return no matter how long we have to wait. But how long do we have to wait? Only the Lord knows. At the Ascension of Jesus the Apostles assumed Jesus would return immediately, **“10. And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, 11. who also said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven.”** (Acts 1:10-11). Likewise, the Apostle Paul, when speaking to the Thessalonians, seems to indicate he felt the Lord’s return was imminent, **“17. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with***

the Lord. 18. Therefore comfort one another with these words.” (1 Thessalonians 4:17-18). But now, over two thousand years later we still wait patiently for our Lord's return at the Rapture.

But that's okay, because even though we don't know when these events will occur the Lord tells us to be alert and ready, **“44. Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”** (Matthew 24:44). That means we are to be prepared, but not afraid, because when we are alert and prepared we grow closer to the Lord. Plus, as we wait for the Lord's return we have to remember God doesn't measure time like we do. To our Lord, **“...one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day...”** (2 Peter 3:8b), so Jesus is not slow in delaying His return. He is simply giving His lost creation every opportunity to repent, **“9. The Lord is not slack [slow] concerning His promise [to return], as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.”** (2 Peter 3:9).

All that said, current world events indicate we may be living near the end of the Last Days. Just look around at our society and you'll see many signs. Chaos, confusion, political posturing and progressive agendas seek to legitimize sinful actions not even considered plausible by prior generations. But most disturbing is the global rise in violent and open antisemitism. A phenomenon our post-holocaust society emphatically proclaimed “Never again” after World War II. But as students of God's word, and specifically End Times prophecy, none of this should come as a surprise. In fact, what we are witnessing today is simply a precursor to what the Bible says is yet to come. This includes the unprecedented focus on globalization, multinational currency systems, a world health organization and the recent and significant rise in worldwide antisemitism. Couple this with political unrest in America, the rise of Islam in Western Europe, Biblical illiteracy, the global reaction to the Covid pandemic, Iran's emerging nuclear presence, the alignment of Russia and China, events in Israel and even the progressive climate agenda, all point to the type of alignment that must occur to usher in the end of humanity described in God's prophetic word. Is this a doomsday prediction or fear mongering? Not at all. It is simply being aware of what the Bible says and alert to what we see happening around us.

The next prophetic event to occur will be the Rapture. But we don't know when the Rapture will occur but indications are no other Biblical prophecies that need to be fulfilled first. Key to this is the fact Israel is back in her land, she is prospering, and surrounded by her enemies. This condition sets the stage for events to occur during the Tribulation which are focused primarily on Israel. But as the Rapture draws near we need to remember, although God's timing is not like our timing, the outcome is predictable because the Lord has already given us clues to follow.

After the Rapture the antichrist will rise and usher in satan's plan for world dominance. He will initially emerge as a peacemaker who establishes a seven year treaty with Israel. But in the middle of the seven years, the antichrist will violate the treaty and seek to destroy them as a nation and turn on anyone else who chooses to follow Jesus, **"7. It was granted to him [the antichrist] to make war with the saints and to overcome them. And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation. 8. All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world."** (Revelation 13:7-8). We need to pay close attention to the beginning of verse 8 which says, **"...All who dwell on the earth will worship him..."**. The term **"...All..."** indicates that during the Tribulation all people, all nations, and all governments will not only follow the antichrist but **"...will worship him..."**. That means between now and the emergence of the antichrist the whole world will need to be in the right mindset in order to worship him and agree to his platform for the destruction of Israel and followers of Jesus. But getting the world in that mindset will take time. It will require a globalist agenda, progressive thinking, extreme antisemitism, corrupt officials at every level, and a total mindset change for society to be anti-God. This is the path mankind must be on in order to get to the point they accept the antichrist as their leader, and it is the glideslope we see materializing today as our society grows darker and more deviant. It is also the glideslope currently drawing millions away from the true gospel of Jesus to the lies of satan. But this has to happen too as Paul tells us In 2 Thessalonians 2:3, **"3. Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin (the antichrist) is revealed, the son of perdition."** As part of this glideslope a **"...falling away..."** must occur first. This is not a falling away of the lost. They have already fallen. It will be a falling away of those who claim to be Christians but do not truly know Jesus as their Savior (see Matthew 7:21-23). We see this happening today as aberrant and heretical "gospels" draw well-meaning people to a self-focused "feel good" platform rather than Christ focused salvation through the blood of the Lamb. It may also represent a falling away from accepted and Biblically based moral standards to a point when things like abortion or gender fluidity are viewed as "normal". The catalyst for this spiritual and moral decline is found in today's progressive agendas and a mindset that seeks to, **"...call evil good, and good evil..."** (Isaiah 5:20).

So what does all that mean to the followers of Jesus? What we see happening in the world today is the moral glideslope mankind must be on to eventually fall to a place where they will accept the antichrist. How long will that take? We simply don't know. But indications are more clear every day that the world is headed in that direction at a fever pitch. But more importantly, as the church, we have been warned. Prophecies related to the Last Days are found throughout the Bible and point to a terrible time in the future when satan will make a last ditch effort to supplant God and rule the world. Of course he will fail, but not before dragging most of the world to hell with him.

The good thing is most of this will happen after the Rapture of the church, when we will be taken home to be with the Lord. The Lord confirms this in Revelation 3:10-11 when speaking to the faithful church, **"10. Because you have kept My command to persevere, I also will keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth."** Paul further clarifies this in 1 Thessalonians 5:9, when he tells us, **"For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ."** As followers of Jesus we will not suffer God's wrath, because our wrath was paid for on the cross.

Because of that promise we should not be afraid of what we see. Jesus has given us clear indications of what is to come so we can be prepared. He does this through God's revealed word which tells us about the events that will occur in the future, **"...See, I have told you beforehand."** (Matthew 24:25). Unfortunately, we don't know exactly when that will be, but we know for certain it will happen. That's why we should be encouraged by what we see happening around us. But don't misunderstand. The fall of our society into immorality is tragic and heartbreaking, but it follows a pattern we see in God's word. In other words, it's part of His plan, so it doesn't take Him by surprise and it is required before Jesus will return. That fact shouldn't depress us or scare us. Instead, it should energize us because we see God's hand in this and can see prophecy being fulfilled. That means there is no greater time to be deeply in God's word and seeking His wisdom than today. It is only through being in the word and in prayer that we will, **"Take heed that no one deceives you..."**. (Matthew 24:4b).

It's certainly difficult to watch society fall apart and not be concerned. That's understandable. But we should not fear what is coming. When Jesus told His disciples about the Last Days He warned them of mankind's future fall, **"But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only. But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be."** (Matthew 24:36-37). Here Jesus warns us the Last Days will be, **"...as the days of Noah were..."**. But what does that really mean? The word tells us in Genesis 6:5, **"5. Then the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually."** Note what this verse says. In Noah's time, **"...every intent of the thoughts of his [man's] heart was only evil continually..."**. Taking that and applying it to what Jesus said of the future means the core thoughts of man will be **"...evil..."** all the time. That means a time is coming when even the innermost **"...thoughts..."** of man will be **"...evil continually..."**. This is a recipe for continuous and unrepentant sin. Our society is not there yet, but we can certainly see it headed that way.

So where is Southside in all of this? Frankly, we're the point of the spear. Every day we see clear evidence of the **"...falling away..."** as mankind and the self-proclaimed

“church” slide down the glideslope of sin and tolerance as it teeters on the edge of destruction. As we watch, mankind is falling into sin and the “church” is right behind them as they seek to be relevant. But we, the faithful Bride, who follow our King Jesus, who seek to preach God’s word and the true gospel, who seek to understand and follow solid Biblical doctrine, who are alert to what God has already told us and are patiently waiting for His return. We are the faithful who will prevail.

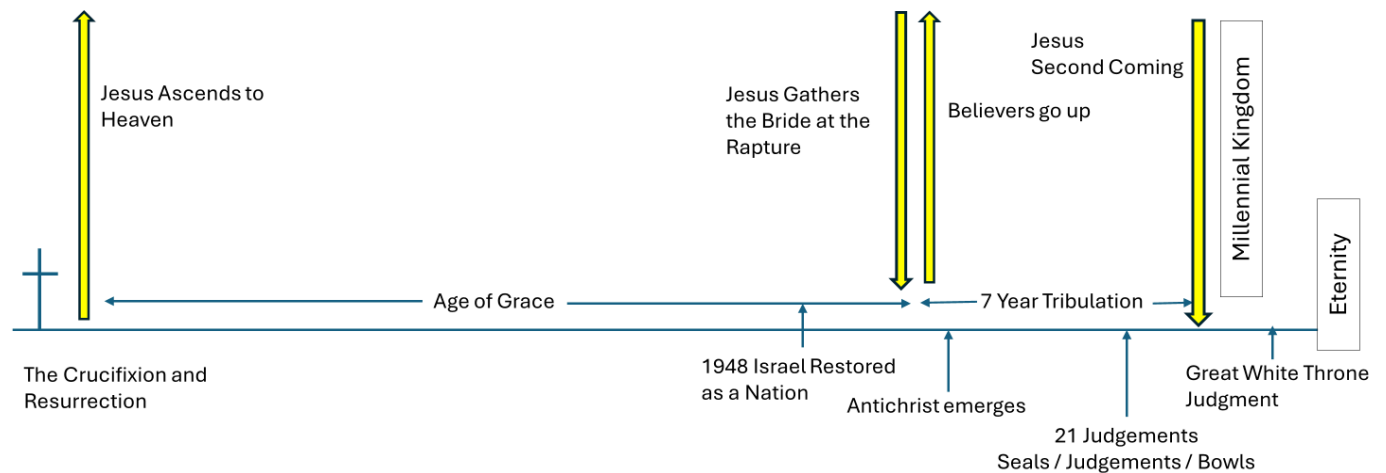
*And in the meantime, “...**but see to it that you are not alarmed...**”. (Matthew 27:6b)*

God's Prophetic Timeline

Note: In the Appendix you will find a more detailed timeline of Biblical events, but for the purpose of this survey the chart below focuses on the major events associated with the Last Days from the Cross to Eternity

A View of the End Times

God's Timeline of Prophetic Events From the Cross to Eternity



Brief Explanation of Timeline Events

- The Cross
 - The death and resurrection of Jesus (John chapters 19-20)
- The Ascension
 - Jesus returns to heaven (Acts chapter 1)
 - After the Ascension the Holy Spirit indwelt believers and began the “*Age of Grace*”, also called the “*Church Age*”. (Acts chapter 2)
- 1948
 - Israel reestablished as a nation (Deuteronomy 30:1-10)
 - This is critical to End Times prophecy
- The Rapture
 - When Jesus will return in the air to gather His bride (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18)
- The antichrist emerges
 - At some point after the Rapture the antichrist will emerge and establish a seven year treaty with Israel (Daniel 9:24-27 / Revelation 6:1-2).
 - This signifies the start of the Tribulation.
 - The antichrist will then create a worldwide empire of sin (Revelation 13:1-10)
- The Tribulation
 - A seven year period when God seeks to draw Israel to the Messiah Jesus and brings judgment on the whole earth. (Daniel 9:20-24 / Revelation chapters 6-19)
- The Second Coming
 - The physical return of Jesus to the earth as the Warrior King (Zecharia chapter 12 / Revelation 19:11)
- The Millennial Kingdom
 - A one-thousand year period when Jesus will reign on earth (Revelation 20:4-6)
- The Great White Throne Judgment
 - The final sentencing of lost mankind to hell (Revelation 20:11-15)
- Eternity
 - When all believers will dwell with God forever in the New Heaven, New Earth and New Jerusalem (Revelation chapters 21-22)

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Week 2

The Difference Between the Rapture and the Second Coming

The Rapture

1 Thessalonians 4:16-17

“16. For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever.”

The Second Coming

Revelation 19:11

“11. I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and wages war.”

Week 2 - Outline

- Let's clarify something Right Upfront
 - The Rapture and the Second Coming are not the same event
 - They are different events, at different times and for different reasons
- What is the Rapture?
 - The return of Jesus in the clouds to gather His bride (the Church / the Body of Christ)
 - 1Thessalonians 4:16-17
 - Who is the Rapture for?
 - What will happen?
 - When will it occur?
- What is the Second Coming?
 - The return of Jesus to earth for final judgment
 - Revelation 19:11
 - Who is the Second Coming for?
 - What will happen?
 - When will it occur?
- The major difference between the Rapture and the Second Coming is seen in their Proximity and Purpose:

- The Rapture
 - Proximity - Jesus returns in the clouds
 - Purpose - To gather His bride
- The Second Coming
 - Proximity - Jesus returns and stands on the earth
 - Purpose - To destroy satan and the remnant of mankind who refuse to accept Christ
- Why is this difference important?
 - They are two separate events for two completely different purposes
 - But they are often confused
- What are the most commonly held views about when the Rapture will occur relative to the Tribulation Period?
 - Pre-Tribulation Rapture (or "Pre-Trib.")
 - The church is removed before the Tribulation begins.
 - Mid-Tribulation Rapture (or "Mid-Trib.")
 - The church is removed at the 3-1/2 year mid-point of the Tribulation.
 - Pre-Wrath Rapture (or "Pre-Wrath")
 - The church is removed after the 3-1/2 year mid-point but just prior to God's final wrath
 - Post Tribulation Rapture (or "Post-Trib.")
 - The church is removed at the end of the Tribulation
- Which option do we believe the Bible teaches?
 - Pre-Tribulation Rapture
 - The church is removed before the Tribulation begins
 - Supported by Revelation 3:10 and 1 Thessalonians 5:9
- What do we see happening to indicate the Rapture is near?
 - Israel is back in her land
 - Israel is prospering
 - Israel is surrounded by her enemies
 - Wide spread and open antisemitism
 - Mankind on the glideslope of immorality
 - All of these are precursors to the Tribulation
- How do we prepare?

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Week 3

What is the Tribulation – And has it Begun?

“21. For then there will be great distress, unequaled from the beginning of the world until now—and never to be equaled again.”

(Matthew 24:21)

Week 3 - Outline

- What is the Tribulation?
 - A seven year period when God will bring final judgment on the earth
 - The final offer of God's grace
 - The Tribulation is a future event
 - Primarily described in Revelation
 - But also in many Old Testament and New Testament References
 - The Tribulation did not happen in the past
 - It is not happening now
- Why will there be a Tribulation?
 - To draw Israel back into obedience
 - When they will finally recognize Jesus as the Messiah (Zechariah 12:10)
 - To rid the world of satan and his followers
 - But also, to give mankind multiple opportunities to repent
- When will it occur?
 - At a point in the future
 - After the Rapture
 - Prior to the Millennial Kingdom
- What will happen?
 - Emergence of the antichrist
 - A one world government, economy and religion
 - Twenty-one judgment actions by God
 - The Second Coming of Jesus
 - The destruction of satan and the current heavens and earth

- What needs to happen first?
 - The Rapture
- How will it start?
 - Jesus will release the first “Seal” judgment
 - And the antichrist will emerge
 - The Seal judgments will be followed by "Trumpets” and “Bowls”
 - For twenty-one total judgements
- How will it end?
 - Jesus will return as the Warrior King and Judge
 - The Battle of Armageddon
 - Then Jesus will then usher in the Millennial Kingdom

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Week 4

Who, What and When is the antichrist?

“2. I looked, and there before me was a white horse! Its rider held a bow, and he was given a crown, and he rode out as a conqueror bent on conquest.”

(Revelation 6:2)

“4. So they worshiped the dragon who gave authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, “Who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?” 5. And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for forty-two months. 6. Then he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven. 7 It was granted to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them. And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation. 8. All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.” (Revelation 13:4-8)

Week 4 - Outline

- Introduction and Context
- "What is an antichrist?"
 - A human
 - A puppet of Satan
 - The leader of a worldwide government, economy and religion
 - The most vile and sinful human to ever live
- Why is there an antichrist?
 - God allows the antichrist to emerge to bring about the destruction of the world
 - The antichrist will attempt to take the place of the Messiah

- Who is the antichrist?
 - The Bible doesn't say
 - Probably a well-known charismatic leader
 - The antichrist is not a past historical figure
- What will the antichrist do?
 - Set-up a one world government, economy and religion
 - Make a false treaty with Israel
 - Reestablish the temple and sacrificial system
 - Then destroy both and declare himself to be god
 - But he will fail

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Week 5

When is the Ezekiel War?

“8. After many days you will be called to arms. In future years you will invade a land that has recovered from war, whose people were gathered from many nations to the mountains of Israel, which had long been desolate. They had been brought out from the nations, and now all of them live in safety. 9. You and all your troops and the many nations with you will go up, advancing like a storm; you will be like a cloud covering the land.” (Ezekiel 38:8-9)

Week 5 - Outline

- What is the Ezekiel War?
 - A future war against Israel
 - Not the war in Revelation chapter 6
 - Not the Battle of Armageddon in Revelation 19
 - Not the war in Revelation 20
 - A multinational force will come against Israel to destroy and plunder
 - Does the United States play a role?
- When will it occur?
 - When Israel is at peace
 - Two primary options to consider
 - Pre-Rapture or Post-Rapture?
- Why will it occur?
 - Geopolitical
 - Economic
 - Biblical
 - It is part of God's plan
- Who is Gog and Magog?
 - The leader of a northern multinational army
 - Not the same Gog in Genesis or Revelation
- How will it end?
 - God will destroy Gog and his army

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Week 6

What is the Millennial Kingdom?

“20. “Thus says the Lord of hosts: ‘Peoples shall yet come, Inhabitants of many cities; “21 The inhabitants of one city shall go to another, saying, “Let us continue to go and pray before the Lord, And seek the Lord of hosts. I myself will go also.” 22. Yes, many peoples and strong nations Shall come to seek the Lord of hosts in Jerusalem, And to pray before the Lord.” (Zechariah 8:20-22)

“4. I saw thrones on which were seated those who had been given authority to judge. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony about Jesus and because of the word of God. They had not worshiped the beast or its image and had not received its mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ a thousand years.”
(Revelation 20:4)

Week 6 - Outline

- What is the Millennial Kingdom?
 - The one thousand year reign of Christ on Earth
 - A time when satan is bound
- When is the Millennial Kingdom?
 - Immediately after the Tribulation
 - Just before the Great White Throne Judgment
- What will happen during the Millennial Kingdom?
 - Jesus will reign from Jerusalem
 - Israel will play a prominent role
 - Near the end satan will be released
 - satan will form an army against Jesus and attack Jerusalem
 - satan and his army will be destroyed
 - satan will be cast into hell
- What happens after the Millennial Kingdom?
 - The earth and universe will be destroyed
 - The Great White Throne Judgment (sentencing)

- Creation of the New Heavens, New Earth and New Jerusalem
- Start of Eternity

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Week 7

Understanding Israel's Current and Future Role

“17. “Therefore say: ‘This is what the Sovereign Lord says: I will gather you from the nations and bring you back from the countries where you have been scattered, and I will give you back the land of Israel again.’”.

(Ezekiel 11:17)

Week 7 - Outline

- Let's look at Israel in the past
 - God's selection of Israel
 - God's plan for Israel
 - God's warning to Israel
- Let's look at Israel today
 - God's forgiveness and regathering of Israel
- Let's look at Israel in the future
 - God's future plan for Israel
 - God's plan for Israel's eternal presence
- Why is Israel so important for Christians today?
 - They are still God's chosen nation
 - They are critical to God's End Times plan
 - They must be a key focus of all Christians

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Week 8

A View of Eternity - The New Heaven, The New Earth and The New Jerusalem

“1. Then I saw “a new heaven and a new earth,” for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. 2. I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.” (Revelation 21:1)

Week 8 - Outline

- Why will God destroy His current creation?
 - How will it happen?
 - Through a series of judgment actions
 - When will it happen?
 - After the Great White Throne Judgment
- What is a New Heaven and a New Earth?
 - What will it be like?
 - Perfection. Like Eden
 - Where will it be?
 - Everywhere
- What is a New Jerusalem?
 - Why is it called Jerusalem?
 - After the earthly city that is so important to the Lord
 - Jerusalem is mentioned over 800 times in the Bible.
 - Where God called Abraham to go (Genesis 14:18).
 - Where David reigned as king (2 Samuel 5:6-7).
 - Where Solomon built the temple (1 Chronicles 28:1).
 - Where Jesus was crucified (Matthew 20:18).
 - Where Jesus was resurrected (Luke 24:8).
 - Where Jesus will return at His Second Coming (Zechariah 14:4)
 - The site of our Lord's Millennial Kingdom (Zechariah 14:9)
 - Where will it be?
 - On earth
 - What will it look like?
 - What does it mean to us?

Conclusion

***“20. He who testifies to these things says, “Yes, I am coming soon.”
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.”***

(Revelation 22:20)

World events indicate we are probably living in the Last Days. Unfortunately, we don't know how long that will be. The Lord is in no hurry because He already knows exactly when He will come to gather His bride and begin the seven years of Tribulation. Until then, we are to do as Paul tells Titus, ***“11. For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, 12. teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, 13. looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ.”*** (Titus 2:11-13). We should be eagerly anticipating the return of Jesus, not fearing what we see happening around us. Why? ***“20. For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.”*** (Philippians 3:20). We must eagerly await for the Lord's return, with the understanding that each day He delays presents another opportunity to lead someone to Christ and change their eternity.

So don't fear what you see happening in the world. God knows what is happening and in some way it is part of His grand plan. So with that understanding you can walk confidently knowing our God is in control.

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Appendix God's Prophetic Timeline

Timeline Overview:

The timelines shown here are fairly self-explanatory. They begin with Genesis and end at the beginning of eternity in God's New Heaven, New Earth and New Jerusalem. Between those bookends are many scriptural references and events that in one way or another provide a connection between End Times prophecy and its fulfillment.

Chart 1 - Creation Through Silence

This chart covers several thousand years from the time of God's initial creation through the end of the "*Intertestamental Period*" between the Old Testament and New Testament. It starts with our first view of Jesus in Genesis 1:1-2 (see also John 1:1-14). From there it highlights scripture related to key events or Biblical prophecy. The beginning of the chart shows the emergence of sin and the curses that followed (on satan, on man, on the earth). We will see reference to this all through the Bible culminating in the completion of the curses in the Book of Revelation. The top half of the chart tracks the emergence of Israel, the Law, the first blood atonement and the Prophets. The bottom half highlights events such as the flood and the critically important prophecy of Daniel. This page ends at the 400 years of silence between the ministry of Malachi and the arrival of John the Baptist.

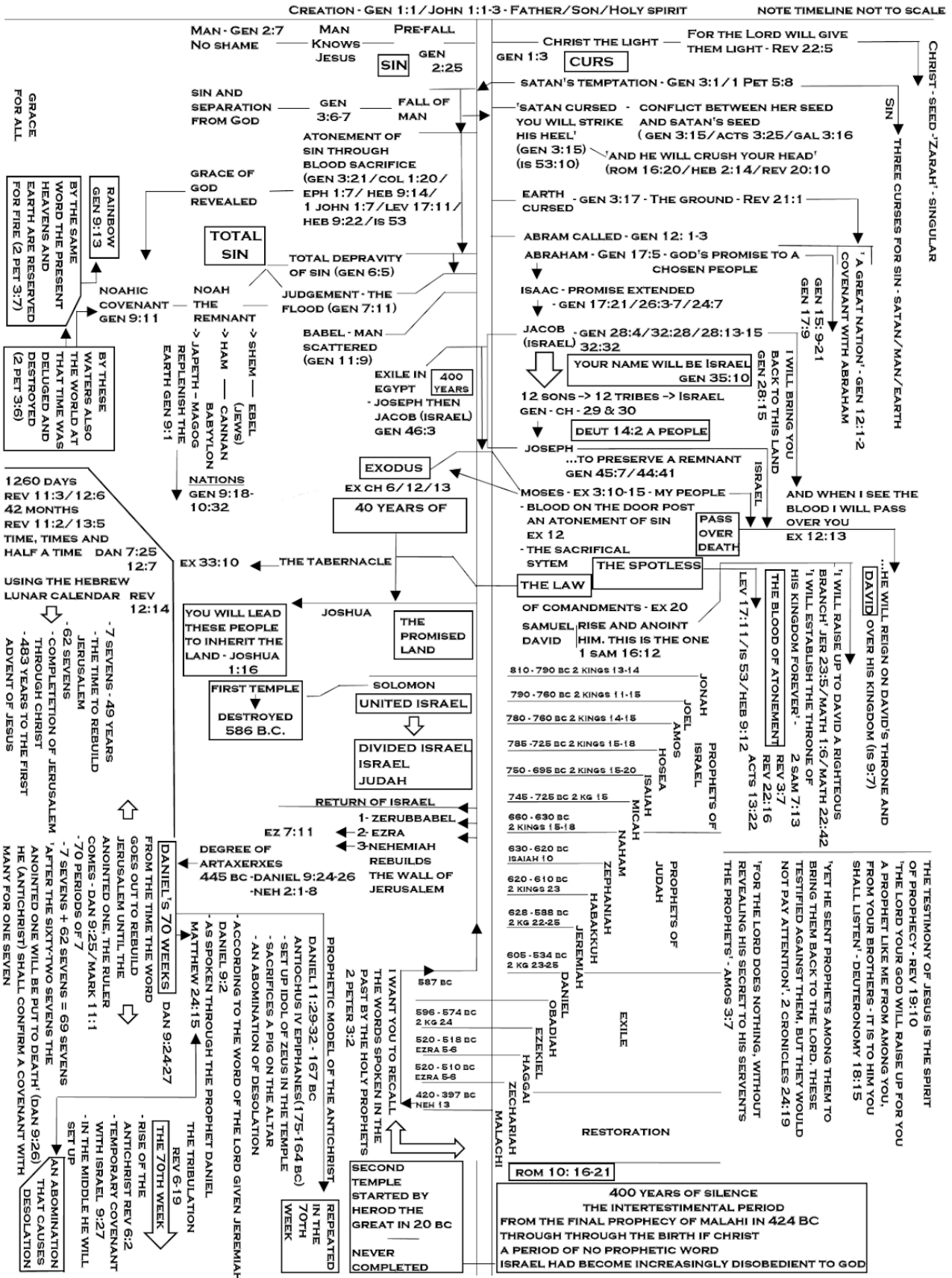


Chart 2 - The Prophet John Through the Rapture

The Bible doesn't tell us how long this time period will last because it covers the time from John the Baptist (the last Messianic Prophet) announcing the arrival of the Messiah, through the current Age of Grace and then to the future Rapture. Certainly, events seem to be lining up for the Rapture to occur soon but the exact timing is up to God. This chart covers the life of Jesus which was the fulfillment of over 300 prophecies in the Old Testament related to the earthly life of Christ.

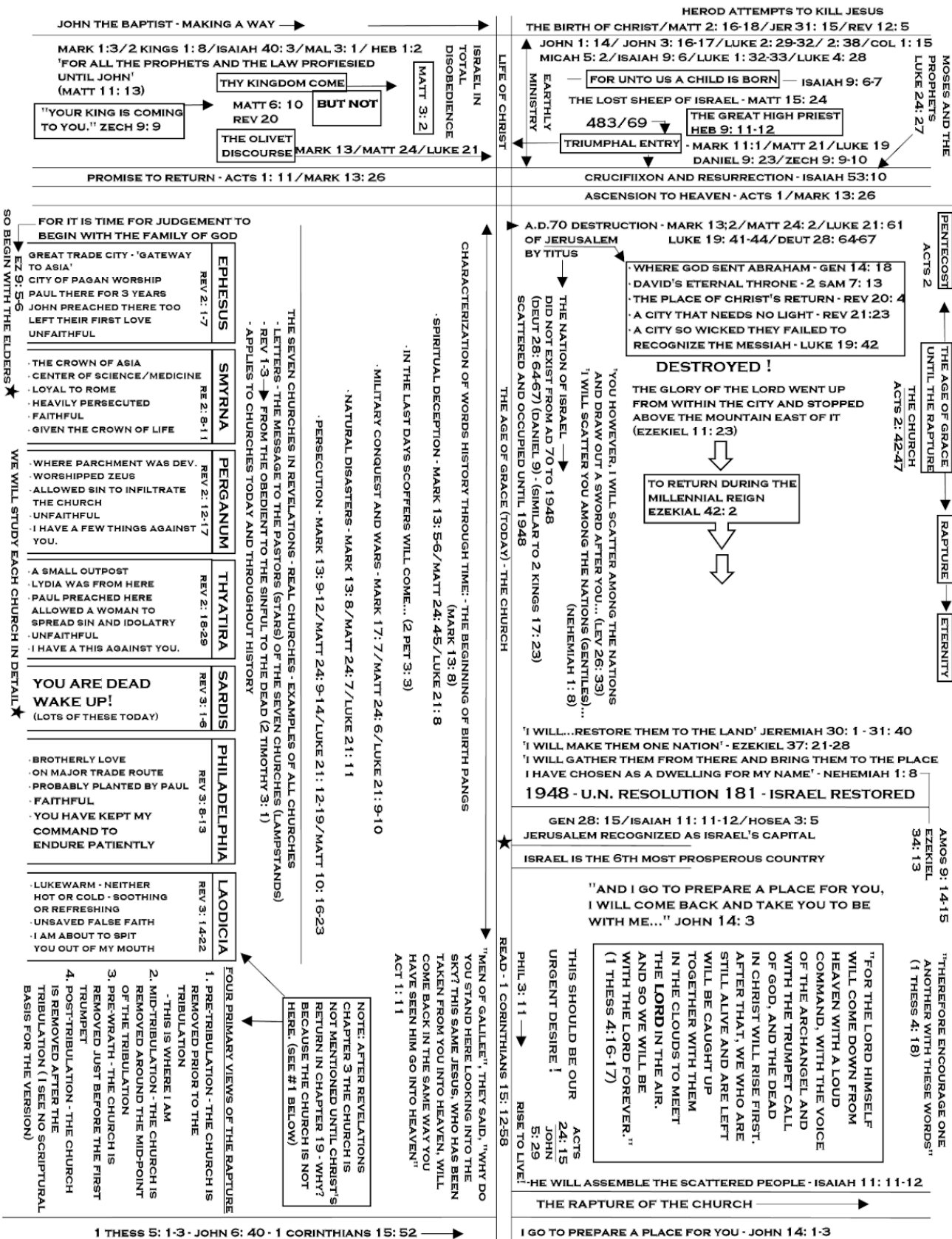


Chart 3 - The Beginning of the Tribulation

This chart covers the first half of the seven year Tribulation Period. From the emergence of the antichrist to the period just before the great Abomination of Desolation.

CONTINUATION OF HISTORICAL JUDGEMENT BUT NOW MORE SEVERE

THE BEGINNING OF BIRTH PANGS - MARK 13: 8 →

3 1/2 YEARS BIRTH PANGS GROW MORE INTENSE →

SATANIC FORCES → DECEPTION

WAR

FAMINE

DEATH

REV 6: 1-2 - GREAT SPIRITUAL DECEPTION

→ INCREASING LEVELS OF DESTRUCTION AND FEAR →

FIRST SEAL/WHITE HORSE

REV 6: 3 - MILITARY CONQUEST

SECOND SEAL/RED HORSE

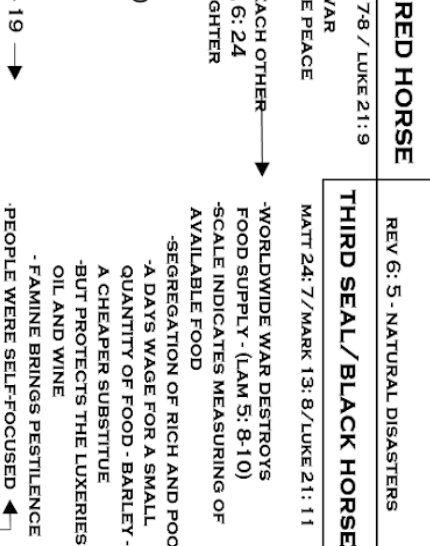
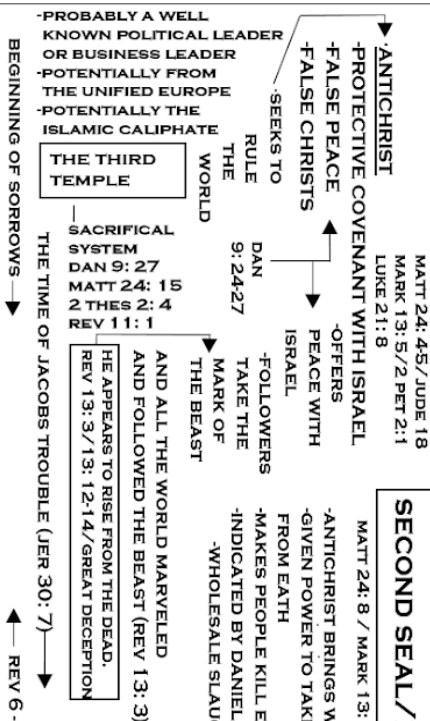
REV 6: 5 - NATURAL DISASTERS

THIRD SEAL/BLACK HORSE

REV 6: 7 - FEAR/DEATH

FORTH SEAL/PALE HORSE

REV 6: 2 ANTICHRIST APPEARS AS A PEACEMAKER
- WITH BOW BUT NO ARROWS



THE TRIBULATION - 7 YEARS - THE 70TH WEEK OF DANIEL

EX: CHURCH
AT LAODICIA

REBUILDING
JERUSALEM
TRIUMPHAL
ENTRY
TILL
CRUCIFIXION
'CUT OFF'
(DAN 9: 25)

TRIBULATION

7 + 62 = 69 → 1 = 7 - WEEKS

- EACH WEEK IS 7 YEARS
- 70 WEEKS IS 490 YEARS
- THE JEWISH CALENDAR WAS DIVIDED INTO 7 YEAR PERIODS WITH THE LAST BEING A SABBATH REST
LEV 25: 39

THE 70TH WEEK OF DANIEL (THE 7 YEARS OF THE TRIBULATION)

- 3 1/2 YEARS + 3 1/2 YEARS = 7 TOTAL YEARS
- DIVIDED BY THE ABOMINATION THAT CAUSES DESOLATION
- FOLLOWED BY 3 1/2 YEARS (2ND HALF) OF INTENSE JUDGEMENTS

- THE DAY OF THE LORD
- 42 MONTHS (REV 11: 2)

- 1260 DAYS (REV 11: 3 - DAN 12: 11 (1290 + 45 MORE) DAN 12: 12)

- TIME + TIMES + HALF A TIME - 1 + 2 + 1/2 = 3 1/2 (REV 12: 14)

70 WEEKS OF ISRAEL

NOT THE CHURCH

THE CHURCH DID NOT EXIST (ACTS 2) UNTIL THE END OF THE FIRST 69 WEEKS.

GEN 49: 8-12 ISAIAH 11: 1-10
REV 5: 5 - THE LAMB OF JUDAH/THE ROOT OF DAVID
JOHN 1: 29 → REV 5: 1 - JESUS - THE LAMB ON THE THRONE

"HE IS ABLE TO OPEN THE SCROLL AND IT'S SEVEN SEALS"

- LAMB SLAIN
- REV 5: 6
- ISAIAH 53: 7
- THE SCROLL IS THE DEED TO CREATION
- REVEALS LEVELS OF JUDGEMENT
- 7 HORNS - COMPLETE AND PERFECT POWER (REV 4: 5)
- 7 EYES - COMPLETELY OMNISCIENT
- 4 LIVING CREATURES - ANGELIC BEINGS WITH SPECIFIC ROLES (PS 80: 1/99: 1/EZ 10: 15)
- 24 ELDERS - THE CHURCH - REV 4: 4
- HOLDING THE PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE (5: 8)

'NOW LEARN THIS LESSON' - MARK 13: 28
'LET THE READER UNDERSTAND...' - MARK 13: 14/MATT 24: 15
'THEREFORE KEEP WATCH...' - MARK 13: 35

Chart 4 - The Abomination Through the Second Coming

This chart may be the most difficult to understand but it may also be the most exciting. Here we see a view of Jesus we don't normally see in the rest of the Bible. The last three Seals, culminating in the seven Trumpet judgments and seven Bowl judgments span the most evil period in history just prior to the glorious return of our Warrior King and His vengeance on satan and his followers.

BIRTH PANGS GROW CLOSER AND MORE SEVERE →

PRAYERS OF THE SAINTS

ISRAEL FLEE!

THE TIMES OF JACOB'S TROUBLES
(JER 30: 7)

BELIEVERS IN ISRAEL FLEE
REV 12: 6/MARK 13: 15/MATT 24: 16/LK 21: 21

THE LORD WILL ALWAYS HAVE A WITNESS

MATT 24: 14 →

WITNESSES
REV 11

GOD'S GRACE

REV 6: 9 - PRAYERS OF THE SAINTS

GREAT COSMIC DISTURBANCE
OVER POWERING FEAR FROM A

FIFTH SEAL/MARTYRED

MATT 24: 9/MARK 13: 9-13/LK 21: 12-19
- THE PRAYERS OF MARTYRS;
- CALLING FOR JUDGEMENT
- UNDER THE ALTAR - (EX 40: 5)
- INCENSE, "WHICH ARE THE PRAYERS
OF GOD'S PEOPLE" (GEN 5: 8)
- CLOTHED IN WHITE - WORTHY -
(REV 3: 4)

SIXTH SEAL - THE END DRAWS NEAR
REV 6: 12 - GREAT COSMIC DISTURBANCE

SEVENTH SEAL - THE END COMES QUICKLY
ONCE THE SEVENTH SEAL IS BROKEN
TRUMPET AND BOWL JUDGEMENTS
- BLASTED AND POURED OUT ON ALL CREATION

HE SETS HIMSELF UP IN THE TEMPLE
PROCLAIMING HIMSELF TO BE GOD (2 THESS 2: 4)

- VII - GOD KNOWS THE NUMBER WHO WILL BE KILLED - ATMOSPHERE AFFECTED, SKY REMOVED.

THE GREAT TRIBULATION

THE FINAL 3 1/2 YEARS OF DANIEL'S 70TH WEEK →

LUKE 21: 12

- SYNAGOGUE GOES - JEWISH PERSECUTION
- KINGS/GOVERNORS - GENTILE PERSECUTION

REV 6: 16 EARTH'S INHABITANTS
WILL NOW REALIZE THE SOURCE
OF THESE EVENTS

"FALL ON US AND HIDE US FROM
THE FACE OF HIM WHO SITS ON
THE THRONE AND FROM THE
WRATH OF THE LAMB! FOR
THE GREAT DAY OF THEIR
WRATH HAS COME, AND WHO CAN
WITHSTAND IT?" (REV 6: 16-17)

DANIEL 9: 27 - THE ANTICHRIST WILL MAKE A
FALSE COVENANT (TREATY) WITH ISRAEL
FOR ONE 'SEVEN' (THE 70TH WEEK) THEN
HE WILL TURN ON ISRAEL AFTER 3 1/2 YEARS.
- WILL ABOLISH SACRIFICE AND OFFERING
- WILL SET UP AN IDOL OF HIMSELF IN
THE 3RD TEMPLE AND DEMAND ISRAEL'S
WORSHIP (DANIEL 11: 31)
- THE IMAGE WILL BE "STANDING WHERE IT
DOES NOT BELONG" (MARK 13: 14)
- STANDING IN THE HOLY PLACE MATT 24: 15
(IN THE TEMPLE)
- THE MAN OF LAWLESSNESS
IS REVEALED (2 THESS 2: 3)
- ... FOR A TIME AND TIMES
AND HALF TIME (DAN 7: 25)

"LET THE READER UNDERSTAND"
(MARK 13: 14)

ISRAEL'S TRUE BELIEVERS WILL FLEE
TO THE MOUNTAINS (MARK 13: 14-19) (MATT 24: 15-21)

"SPOKEN OF THROUGH THE PROPHET DANIEL" (MATT 24: 15)

A GREAT AND
LAST REVIVAL
(ACTS 2: 17-
21)
GOD'S

REV 7: 1-8 - REV 7: 14 - EZ 9: 3-4
144,000 JEWISH EVANGELISTS SEALED (PROTECTED)
TO SPREAD THE GOSPEL ONE LAST TIME
- 12,000 FROM EACH OF 12 TRIBES
- SEALED WITH THE NAME OF GOD ON THEIR FOREHEADS
(REV 14: 1) (ZEC 12: 10)
- THEY WILL CONVERT BOTH JEW AND GENTILE (REV 7: 9)

REV 8: 1 - THE GREAT
MULTITUDE FROM EVERY
TRIBE, NATION, TONGUE (ISAIAH 11: 10)
TIME OF GREAT REVIVAL AND REDEMPTION

THE DAY OF THE LORD

JOEL 2: 31
ZEC 14: 3-5 & 8
ISAIAH

WHEN THE LORD
JESUS IS
REVEALED
FROM HEAVEN
IN BLAZING
FIRE...
1 THESS 7
NOTE
SEALS, TRUMPETS AND
BOWLS ARE NOT TO
SCALE
THE DAY OF THE
LORD IS COMING
(ISAIAH 13: 9 →)

"HE IS PATIENT WITH YOU, NOT WANTING ANYONE TO PERISH"
SPREADING THE GOSPEL FOR 3 1/2 YEARS (2 PET 3: 9)

REV 8: 1 - SILENCE -

"SILENCE IN HEAVEN FOR ABOUT HALF AN HOUR"
- AS HEAVEN WAITS FOR THE FINAL JUDGEMENT
OF ALL CREATION
ZEP 1: 7 "BE SILENT BEFORE THE SOVEREIGN LORD,
FOR THE DAY OF THE LORD IS NEAR"

THE FINAL SEAL OPENED - TRUMPETS AND BOWLS
ARE RAPID - FIRE JUDGEMENTS

ISAIAH 52: 8-9

REV 8: 3-5 THE GREAT CENSER HURLED
UPON THE EARTH BRINGS
GREAT DESTRUCTION

1 REV 8: 7
2 REV 8: 8
3 REV 8: 10
4 REV 8: 12
5 REV 9: 1
6 REV 9: 13
7 REV 9: 15

TRUMPETS
REV 8: 1-11

CHAPTER 10-11: 14
BETWEEN THE 6TH AND 7TH
TRUMPETS

WAIL, FOR THE DAY OF THE
LORD IS NEAR; IT WILL
COME LIKE DESTRUCTION
FROM THE ALMIGHTY

POURED
UPON THE
EARTH
ISAIAH 13: 6-13
ZEP 1: 14-18
WRATH

I WILL MAKE
JERUSALEM
AN IMMOVABLE
ROCK - JER 12: 3

THE BATTLE OF ARMAGEDDON

ZEC 12/EZ 38-39/DAN 11/12/REV 6-18

THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST (REV 19: 11)

"... A WHITE HORSE WHO'S RIDER IS CALLED FAITHFUL AND TRUE..."

THE ARMIES OF HEAVEN WERE FOLLOWING HIM. (REV 19: 14)

THE CHURCH 7: 13

OT JUDE 14
BELIEVERS

ANGELS MATT
25: 31

THE ANTICHRIST AND FALSE
PROPHET THROWN INTO HELL
FOREVER 19: 20/20: 10

THE
ARMY
OF
SATAN
DESTROYED

SATAN
CAPTURED
AND
THROWN
IN THE
ABYSS
FOR
1,000
YEARS

MAL
CH 3 & 4

Chart 5 - The Millennial Kingdom Through Eternity

The final chart is one of victory. First for our victorious King and then for us, His faithful followers. Following the Tribulation and destruction of the antichrist, Jesus will establish His reign on earth for a thousand years. At the conclusion He will destroy satan and the remnant of all who follow him and will then usher us into our final eternity in the New Heaven, New Earth and New Jerusalem.

Thank you Lord.

