

Introduction

This study covers the end times, meaning the events beginning with the rapture and continuing to the eternal state, in chronological order. Bible references are italicized to draw attention to them as separate from my comments. May the Lord strengthen you as you study this important subject. Compare *Revelation 19:10b* with *Revelation 1:1a*.

Why study the End Times?

1. The Lord has told us in His Word about the future. Therefore, He wants us to know about it.
2. There is a blessing for those who read, hear, and keep the words of this prophecy. (*Revelation 1:3*)
3. Knowing that our time here is temporary should motivate us to not lay up treasures on earth. (*Matthew 6:19-20*)
4. Believing this truth will motivate us to live holy lives. (*2 Peter 3:11-14*).
5. Revelation is not just for private study, but should be studied in our assemblies. (*Revelation 22:16a*)

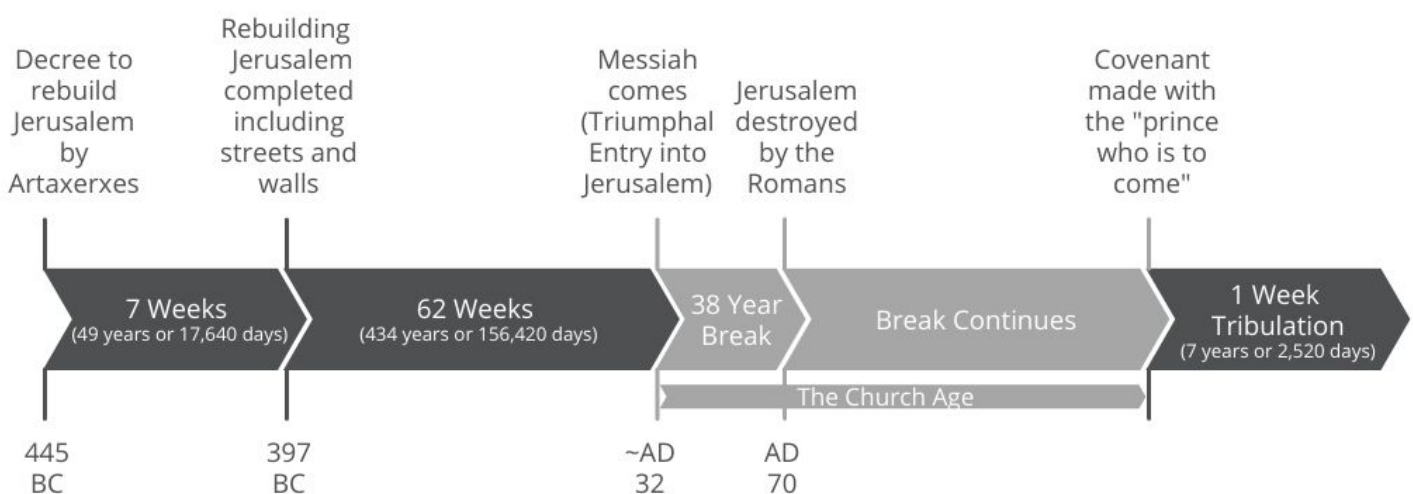
General Division of Revelation

1. *Revelation 1:19*. "Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter."
 - A. "The things which thou hast seen"—chapter 1
 - B. "The things which are"—chapters 2 & 3
 - C. "The things which shall be hereafter"—chapters 4-22
2. It takes discernment from the Lord to properly understand the book of Revelation. It is important to understand the organization of the book and look within the Word of God for explanations of difficult verses. It can be difficult to discern when things are literal or figurative, but it is important to look for clues from the passage itself as well as elsewhere in the Word.

The Backbone of Prophecy—Daniel 9:24-27

1. These verses are called the backbone of prophecy because the whole body of revealed prophecy comes out from the principles described here. Daniel was a prophet (*Matthew 24:15*) who lived from 620-538 B.C.
2. 70 weeks where each week is 7 years (as in *Genesis 29:25-28*) = 490 years. Each year appears to be 360 days. *Daniel 7:25* and *Revelation 12:14* speak of 3.5 years. The same 3.5 years are 1,260 days in *Revelation 11:3* and *12:6*. $1,260 \div 3.5 = 360$.

Daniel's 70 Weeks



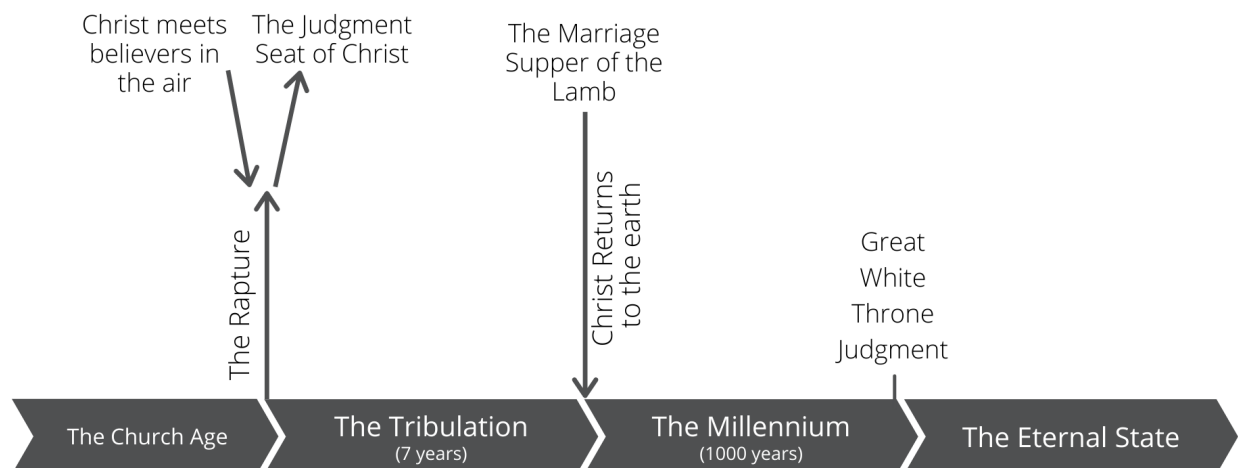
- A. The commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem is found in *Nehemiah 2:1-8* and occurred in 445 B.C.
- B. Even though the wall was finished in 52 days (*Nehemiah 6:15*), it took seven weeks of years, or 49 years, to rebuild the entire city of Jerusalem, including its streets and its wall.

- C. Then another 62 weeks of years, or 434 years will pass until Messiah comes. So after 69 total weeks Messiah will be cut off and shall have nothing. That is, He will have nothing that was rightfully His. Christ was rejected by men (*John 1:11, Isaiah 53:3, John 19:15*).
- D. “The prince who is to come” in *Daniel 9:26* is the Beast out of the sea from *Revelation 13:1*, the political ruler based in Rome during the Tribulation. He will be the head of the Revived Roman Empire with 10 nations under his control. At this time it is not the prince who comes but “*the people of the prince*,” the Romans. This was fulfilled by Titus in 70 A.D. when he came with his army and destroyed Jerusalem as predicted by Jesus in *Mark 13:2*.
- E. There are 35-40 years between Messiah being cut off and the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 A.D, showing that there is a break of at least that long before that final week of 7 years. Actually, the whole church age falls between the 69th and 70th week. This is the time period we are currently living in, when God is reaching out to all mankind with the gospel of God’s grace and urging them to be saved. Those who repent of their sins and trust in the Lord Jesus Christ as their Savior are given the Holy Spirit to indwell them and placed into the body of Christ, of which Christ is the Head. Some parts of Daniel are written in Aramaic, a Gentile language. However, this part of Daniel was written in Hebrew, which indicates that this portion was a message to the Jews, not the combination of Jews and Gentiles who make up the church. The church age was not mentioned in Daniel because it was God’s will for it to be revealed by the Apostle Paul (*Ephesians 3:5-10*).
- F. The final week in *Daniel 9:27* is the Tribulation, but first comes the Church Age, rapture, and Judgment Seat of Christ.

Division of Revelation 2-22

1. Chapters 2 & 3— The Church Age
2. Chapters 4 & 5—The Scene In Heaven After The Rapture
3. Chapters 6-11—The Tribulation (Daniel’s 70th Week, Jacob’s Trouble): what was written on one side of the scroll. *Revelation 5:1 “And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the backside, sealed with seven seals.”*
4. Chapters 12-19—The Tribulation: the scroll turned over to “*the backside*” (*Revelation 5:1*); John prophesied again to the same people but included more details, which is indicated in *Revelation 10:11. “And they said to me, ‘You must prophesy again concerning many peoples and nations and tongues and kings’” (NASB).*
5. Chapter 20:1-6—The Millenium
6. Chapter 20:7-15—Post Millennial Judgments
7. Chapter 21:1-8—The Eternal State
8. Chapter 21:9-22:7—The New Jerusalem
9. Chapter 22:8-21—Closing Message

The End Times



The Church Age

Four messages in chapters 2 & 3

1. Messages to these specific churches in the 1st century A.D.
2. Messages to all churches in all parts of the Church Age.
3. Messages to each individual—“*He that hath an ear*” (*Revelation 2:7, 11, 17, 29; 3:6, 13, 22*) and “*him that overcometh*” (*Revelation 2:7, 11, 17, 26; 3:5, 12, 21*)
4. Prophetic history of the church age—Revelation is a book of prophecy (*Revelation 1:3*). Revelation also contains signs and symbols (*Revelation 1:1*). Chapters 2 & 3 symbolize different time periods during the Church Age. The rapture is symbolized in *Revelation 4:1* with the statement “*Come up hither.*” This indicates that the history of the Church Age is described in the preceding two chapters. More detailed commentary on *Revelation 2 & 3* can be found in “The Prophetic History of the Church” by F. W. Grant, “Lectures on the Addresses to the Seven Churches” by J.N. Darby, and “The Prophetic History of Christendom” by R. K. Campbell.

It is possible to enter into, enjoy, and apply chapters 2 & 3 in all four ways.

The Rapture - Revelation 4:1

1. At the end of the Church age, Christ will return for all believers (*John 14:1-3, 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17, Philippians 3:20-21, 1 Corinthians 15:51-53*).
2. This is symbolized in Revelation 4:1 with the statement “*Come up hither.*”
3. The rapture occurs before the Tribulation
 - A. A letter to the assembly of believers at Philadelphia promises believers that they will be kept “*from the hour of the testing which is about to come on the whole world*” (*Revelation 3:10*), which is talking about the 7 year Tribulation.
 - B. Also, “He who now restrains” the evil in *2 Thessalonians 2:7-8* is the Holy Spirit indwelling believers. The Holy Spirit is currently on the earth, as sent by our Lord, to indwell every believer in Christ (*Romans 8:9*). The Holy Spirit is part of the triune God and restrains the full manifestation of evil in this world. The lawless one (also called the antichrist and false prophet) will not be revealed until the Holy Spirit who indwells believers is removed from the earth at the rapture.
 - C. Let us pause for a moment and consider those who may be reading this who have not yet trusted in Christ. We read in *2 Corinthians 6:2*, “*now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.*” We urge you to admit to God that you are a sinner and place your faith in the finished work of Christ on the cross for your sins. “*Repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ*” (*Acts 20:21*) is the only way of salvation from eternal judgment in the lake of fire. God loves you so much that He sent His only son to die on the cross so that you would have the opportunity to escape the judgment that is coming. Please trust Christ today and know the joy of a relationship with Christ and the certainty of a future in heaven.
4. There is no second chance after the rapture for unbelievers who have rejected the gospel
 - A. Those who choose not to believe the truth will believe the lies of the Antichrist (*2 Thessalonians 2:9-12*). The Lord Jesus Christ is the judge of all the earth (*John 5:22, Acts 17:30-31*). He judges them fairly and will make sure that everyone has an opportunity to be saved (*Genesis 18:25*).
 - B. Many people will be saved during the Tribulation (*Revelation 6:9-11; 7:1-17*), including 144,000 Jews as well as innumerable Gentiles who will be saved during the Tribulation.
 - C. God’s desire is for everyone to be saved, but many people reject His offer of salvation (*1 Timothy 2:4*).

The Judgment Seat of Christ

- A. The Judgment Seat of Christ is a judgment of believers’ works (*2 Corinthians 5:10*) and is not a judgment of souls that determines if they will go to heaven or hell (*John 5:24, 1 Corinthians 3:12-15*).
- B. The Judgment Seat of Christ will occur immediately after the rapture (*Revelation 22:12*).

The Scene in Heaven After the Rapture and Before the Tribulation—Rev. 4 & 5

- A. The 24 elders symbolize the Old and New Testament saints. There are 12 tribes of Israel and 12 apostles, which adds up to 24.
- B. The four beasts (KJV) are better translated “living ones” and their descriptions correlate with the four gospels. They are like a lion (Matthew depicting Christ as King), calf (Mark depicting Christ as the perfect Servant), having a face of a man (Luke depicting Christ as the Son of Man), and like a flying eagle (John depicting Christ as the Son of God). They are created beings since they worship God, as we read in verses 8 and 9. They appear to be angelic beings when we compare some other Scriptures.
 - 1. The faces of the four living ones are similar to the four faces of the cherubim in *Ezekiel 1:1,5,10*. Also, the four living ones and the cherubim are both called living creatures in *Ezekiel 10:15*.
 - 2. The four living ones are similar to the seraphim in *Isaiah 6:1-3*.
- C. The sealed book is the title deed to the world (compare to Jeremiah 32). Jesus, the Lamb, is the rightful heir and owner and is worthy to take possession of the world (Ironsides *Lecture on Revelation 89-92*).

The Tribulation (Daniel’s 70th week - Revelation 6-19)

- 1. *Revelation 6-19* describe events that occur during the Tribulation, but it is not all chronological. For example, the beast isn’t mentioned until *Revelation 11* and the false prophet until *Revelation 13*. However, *Daniel 9:27* and *2 Thessalonians 2:7-8* show that both the beast and the false prophet are active during the entire 7 years.
- 2. The scroll in *Revelation 5:1* is written on both sides.
 - A. *Revelation 6-11*: what was written on one side of the scroll.
 - B. *Revelation 12-19*: what was written on the backside of the scroll. John is told to “*prophesy again*” in *Revelation 10:11*. These chapters are the same message with more details not mentioned in chapters 6-11.
- 3. The Seven Seals - *Revelation 6:1-8:1*

| Seal Number | Reference | Subject | Description |
|-------------|-----------------------|--------------------|--|
| One | <i>Rev. 6:1-2</i> | Antichrist | The antichrist on a white horse, imitating Christ (compare <i>19:11</i>), having a bow but no arrows picturing the threat of war. |
| Two | <i>Rev. 6:3-4</i> | Warfare | The red horse speaks of bloody warfare. The sword symbolizes hand-to-hand combat. |
| Three | <i>Rev. 6:5-6</i> | Famine | The black horse symbolizes the scarcity on the earth that often follows war. |
| Four | <i>Rev. 6:7-8</i> | Death | There is a pale horse whose rider is Death with Hades following. One quarter of the earth’s population will die due to war, famine, pestilence, and wild beasts. |
| Five | <i>Rev. 6:9-11</i> | Martyrs | The first martyrs of the Tribulation period are killed. The Lord prophesied this in <i>Matthew 24:9</i> . |
| Six | <i>Rev. 6:12-17</i> | Natural disasters | There is an earthquake and cosmic disturbances. |
| Parenthesis | <i>Revelation 7</i> | Saved Remnant | Some Jews and Gentiles will be saved during the Tribulation. |
| Seven | <i>Revelation 8:1</i> | The Seven Trumpets | The seventh seal is not its own judgment, but rather an introduction to the seven trumpet judgments. There is silence in heaven for half an hour. |

- 4. The Seven Trumpets - *Revelation 8-11*

| Trumpet Number | Reference | Subject | Description |
|----------------|-----------------|------------|--|
| One | <i>Rev. 8:7</i> | Vegetation | A third of the earth and trees will be burned up. All the green grass will be burned up. This is a calamity in places where the world gets most of its food. |

| | | | |
|-------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Two | <i>Rev. 8:8-9</i> | Oceans | A third of marine life dies and a third of ships transporting food and supplies will be destroyed. It is possible that verses 8-9 are describing underwater volcanic activity (“ <i>mountain burning with fire</i> ”) which causes tidal waves that destroy a third of the ships. |
| Three | <i>Rev. 8:10-11</i> | Fresh Water | A third of the fresh water supply will be made bitter and poisonous at its sources. |
| Four | <i>Rev. 8:12-13</i> | Sun, Moon, Stars | The sun, moon, and stars will only give a third of their light. This resembles the plague of darkness in Egypt. |
| Five | <i>Rev. 9:1-12</i> | Locusts | <u>The first woe.</u> Locusts will come out of smoke that ascended from the bottomless pit. They will sting unbelievers like a scorpion, causing torment for five months. Satan (Abaddon/Apollyon) is their king. |
| Six | <i>Rev. 9:13-21</i> | Horsemen | <u>The second woe.</u> Four angels kill a third of mankind with an army of 200 million horsemen. The horses had fire, smoke, and brimstone coming out of their mouths. The fire, smoke, and brimstone symbolize three plagues. |
| Parenthesis | <i>Rev. 10:1-11:14</i> | John eats Book Two Witnesses | John takes a little book (the coming judgments) from a mighty angel and eats it (meditates on it). The book was sweet to meditate on God’s victory over evil. However, it is bitter to consider judgment because it is bitter to think of the eternal doom of all those who reject the Lord Jesus Christ. <i>Revelation 11:1-14</i> will be discussed later. |
| Seven | <i>Rev. 11:15-19</i> | Christ reigns | <u>The third woe.</u> The sound of the seventh trumpet announces that the Tribulation is over and the reign of Christ has commenced. This is a woe to unbelievers because Christ will reign over this earth and all people will be subject to Him. |

5. The Seven Vials or Bowls

This is in the second message of *Revelation 12-19* that includes more details not mentioned in *Revelation 6-11*. These judgments take place near the end of the Tribulation. The bowls are similar to the trumpet judgments but are more severe.

| Bowl Number | Reference | Subject | Description |
|-------------|----------------------|---------------------------|---|
| One | <i>Rev. 16:1-2</i> | Sores | Evil and hurtful sores will break out on those who had the mark of the beast and worshipped the beast and his image. |
| Two | <i>Rev. 16:3</i> | Oceans | The sea will turn to blood. Every living creature in the sea will die. |
| Three | <i>Rev. 16:4-7</i> | Fresh Water | Sources of fresh water will become blood.* |
| Four | <i>Rev. 16:8-9</i> | Sun burns | Men will be scorched with great heat. |
| Five | <i>Rev. 16:10-11</i> | Pain and Darkness | The kingdom of the beast will have pain and darkness. |
| Six | <i>Rev. 16:12</i> | Eastern Armies | The Euphrates River will dry up, allowing the armies of the east to march toward Israel. |
| Parenthesis | <i>Rev. 16:13-16</i> | Armageddon Preparation | The evil trinity of Satan, the beast, and the false prophet will deceive kings and nations to bring them to the battle of Armageddon. |

| | | | |
|-------|----------------------|------------------|--|
| Seven | <i>Rev. 16:17-21</i> | Final Judgment** | There is the worst earthquake. Babylon is judged. The land (islands and mountains) change. There are 100 pound hailstones. |
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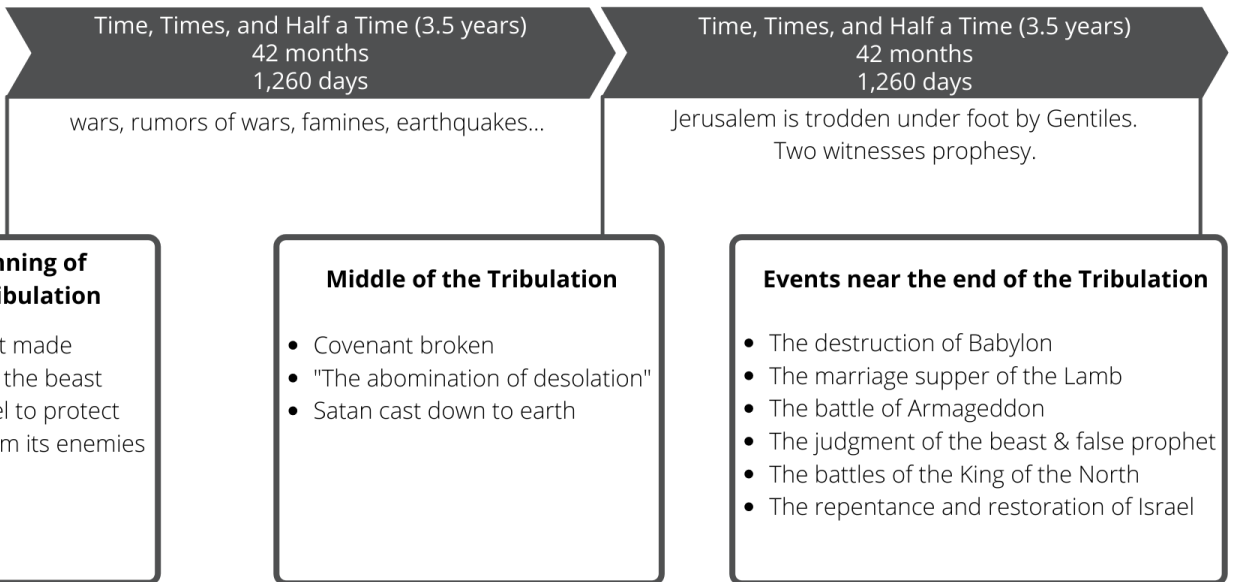
*The altar in *Revelation 16:7* may symbolize the souls of martyred saints (*Revelation 6:9*). The martyrs had been waiting for their persecutors to be punished (*Revelation 6:10*)

**“It is done” in verse 17 is God’s declaration that the bowl judgments have been completed. This reminds us of *John 19:30* when the Lord Jesus said “*It is finished*” when He completed the work on the cross.

The Tribulation - Daniel's 70th Week

Before the tribulation

- 1. The Rapture of the Church
- 2. The Judgment Seat of Christ



The Beginning of the Tribulation

1. Two Beasts
 - A. The political ruler (the head of the revived Roman empire) is also known as:
 1. The “prince who is to come” in *Daniel 9:26*
 2. The “beast out of the sea” in *Revelation 13:1*
 3. The little horn in *Daniel 7:8*
 4. The beast in *Revelation 19:20*.
 - B. The religious ruler is also known as:
 1. False prophet in *Revelation 19:20*
 2. Antichrist in *1 John 2:18*
 3. Foolish Shepherd in *Zechariah 11:15-16*
 4. Idol shepherd in *Zechariah 11:17*
 5. The willful king in *Daniel 11:36-37*
 6. The man of sin (“*man of lawlessness*”—NASB) and the son of perdition (“*son of destruction*”—NASB) in *2 Thessalonians 2:3*
 7. That Wicked (“*Lawless one*”—NASB) in *2 Thessalonians 2:8*
 8. The one who comes in his own name in *John 5:43*
 - C. The political leader will be active during the entire Tribulation (*Daniel 9:27*). The false prophet will be active during the entire Tribulation (*2 Thessalonians 2:3-12*).

2. Covenant with the Prince - The Roman prince of *Daniel 9:27* (the political ruler) will confirm the covenant with many for one week (7 years). The purpose of the covenant is to protect Israel from their enemies, but the beast will not keep his covenant (*Isaiah 28:14-19*).
3. The First Half of the Tribulation - From Matthew 24:3-14, the first half of the Tribulation will have wars, famine, and earthquakes just as our current age. During this time, people will hate those that follow Jesus. There will also be false prophets and lawlessness. The gospel will be preached to the whole earth (Matthew 24:14). Compare with Revelation 14:6-7.

The Middle of the Tribulation - The Abomination of Desolation

1. The beast will break the covenant with Israel (*Daniel 9:27; Matthew 24:15-26*).
2. The beast will put a stop to the temple sacrifices and the false prophet will instead erect an image of the beast in the temple. On the penalty of death, the false prophet demands that everyone worship an image of the beast set up in the temple (*Revelation 13:15*).

The Second Half of the Tribulation

1. The Gentiles will trod Jerusalem under foot for 42 months (3.5 years) (Revelation 11).
 - A. The Times of the Gentiles (when Jerusalem is under control of the Gentiles) began when Jerusalem was conquered by Nebuchadnezzar and the Babylonians in *2 Chronicles 36:1-21* in approximately B.C. 586.
 - B. *Revelation 11:2* shows that the Times of the Gentiles dominating Jerusalem will end at the end of the Tribulation. After those 42 months, Christ will set up His kingdom. Jerusalem will no longer be trodden down by Gentiles.
2. Two witnesses will prophesy for 1260 days (3.5 years) (Revelation 11).
 - A. Two witnesses will prophesy for 1260 days (*Revelation 11:3-13*). They will be protected during that time and there will be a drought.
 - B. After the 1260 days, the beast will kill them.
 - C. After three and a half more days, they will be resurrected and ascend to heaven.
 - D. Compare the olive trees and lampstands in *Revelation 11:4* with *Zechariah 4:11-14*.
3. War in heaven: Michael and his angels vs. Satan and his angels (Revelation 12).
 - A. In *Revelation 12:1-17*, the woman is Israel and the man child is Christ. The great red dragon is Satan.
 - B. After a war in heaven between Michael and his angels and Satan and his angels, Satan and his angels are cast out of heaven and onto the earth.
 - C. Satan has great wrath, knowing his time is short, and persecutes Israel. However, God cares for Israel in the wilderness for 1260 days (3 1/2 years).

Events near the End of the Tribulation

1. Babylon the Great is destroyed (Revelation 17-18).

Babylon

 - A. In *Revelation 17*, Babylon is professing Christendom, which is compared to a prostitute and contrasted with the true church (a "chaste virgin" in *2 Corinthians 11:2*).
 - B. Calling the city Babylon means that it is idolatrous like the ancient city of Babylon (*Jeremiah 50:1,38*).
 - C. Her headquarters are in Rome (the city of 7 hills) and pictures the apostate (false professing) church; Babylon the Great can be thought of as the Antichurch like there will be an Antichrist (*Revelation 17:9*).
 - D. Babylon the Great sits on waters, which indicates that she dominates vast segments of the population (*Revelation 17:15*).

The Beast (the head of the revived Roman Empire) and Babylon

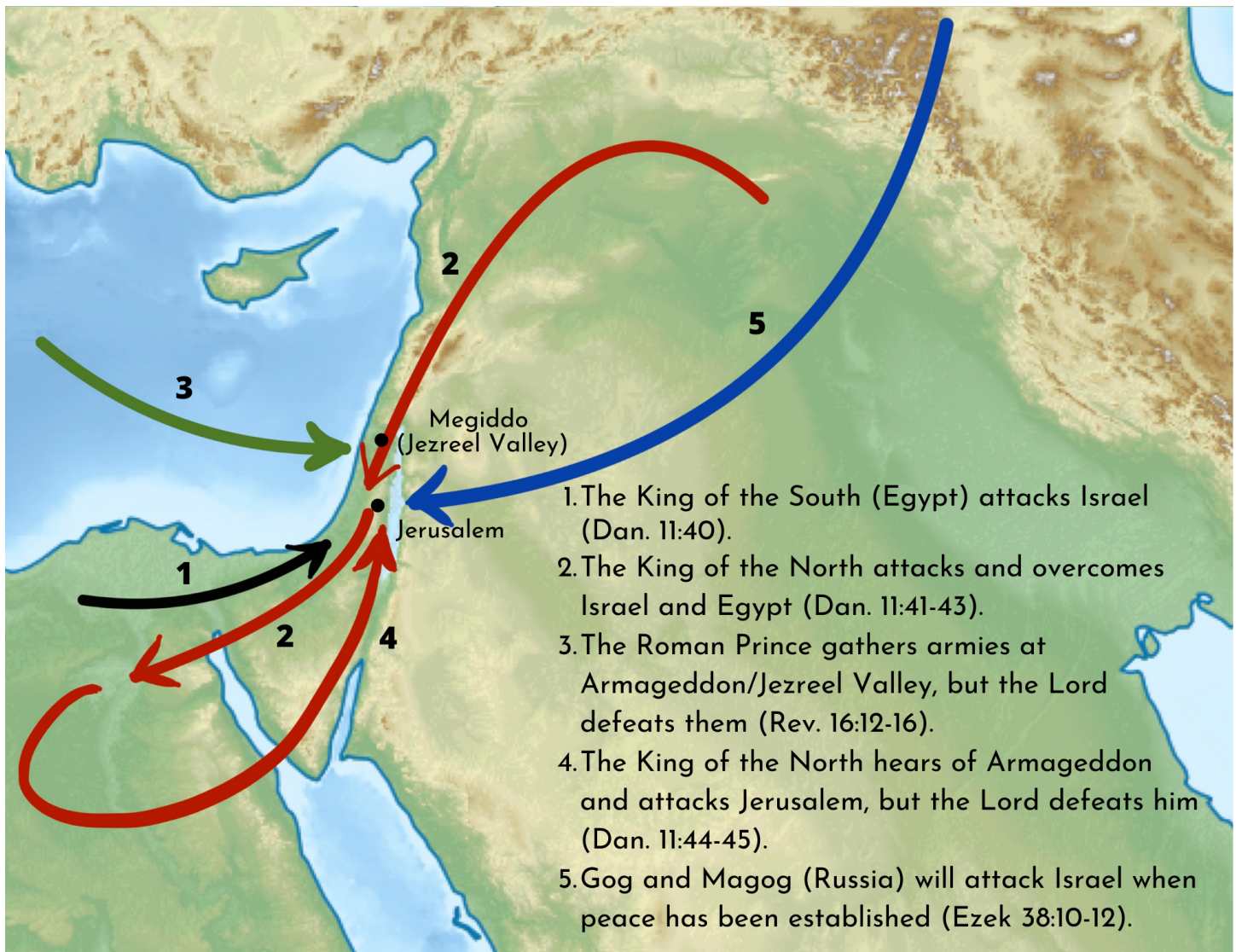
- A. Ten kings under the authority of the beast (political ruler) (*Revelation 17:12-13*).
- B. The Beast with its 7 heads (successive forms of government) and 10 horns (10 kingdoms) will allow itself to be controlled or at least influenced by Babylon the Great for a while (*Revelation 17:3*).
- C. The ten horns and the beast will hate the harlot and "shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire" (*Revelation 17:16*).

The Fall of Babylon (Revelation 18)

- A. An angel announces the fall of Babylon (*Revelation 18:1-3*).
- B. Another voice from heaven warns believers to come out of her (*Revelation 18:4-8*).

C. Kings of the earth mourn the loss of commercial Babylon (*Revelation 18:9-19*).

2. The saints rejoice in heaven that Babylon was judged. The false church/false bride had to be judged before the Lamb could marry the true bride (*Revelation 19:1-6*).
3. The marriage of the Lamb to His bride, the Church (*Revelation 19:7-9*). The O.T. saints and Tribulation saints are invited (*John 3:29*).
4. Christ returns to earth (*Revelation 19:11-16*) and believers will be with Him.
5. The Battle of Armageddon (*Revelation 19:17-21*): 80 miles north of Jerusalem in the valley of Megiddo (the Jezreel Valley). The beast and the kings of the earth and their armies make war against Christ (*Revelation 19:19*).
6. The beast and false prophet will be cast alive into the lake of fire (*Revelation 19:20*). The judgment of the beast is also described in *Daniel 7:24-27*. The judgment of the false prophet is also seen in *2 Thessalonians 2:8*.



7. The King of the North's Conquests and His Destruction

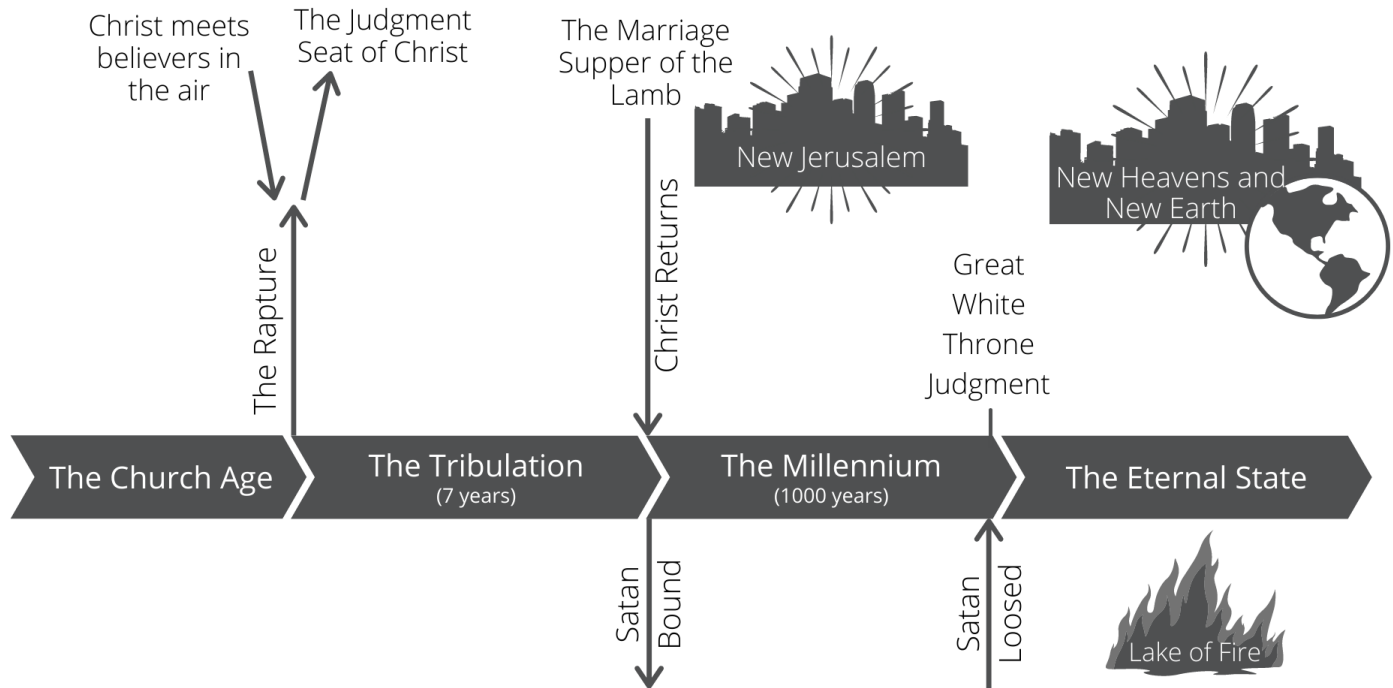
- A. The desolator will come after the abominations done by the Beast (*Daniel 9:27*).
- B. The willful king, also known as the false prophet and Antichrist, will be the religious ruler in Jerusalem. He is honoring the beast or political ruler. People will be rewarded who acknowledge that he is "above all" (*Daniel 11:36-39*). The King of the North (Assyria) and the King of the South (Egypt) fight against the Antichrist (*Daniel 11:40*).

- C. The king of the North is the same as the “king of fierce countenance” in Daniel 8:23-25. Assyria/Syria is being supported by another nation. Syria, to the present day, is backed by Russia (“not by his own power” in *Daniel 8:24*).
 - D. Israel is not spared from the overflowing scourge. Israel will proudly boast of their alliance with the beast, the political ruler in Rome who they thought would protect them (*Isaiah 28:15*). However, they will not be protected from the “overflowing scourge” of the king of the North (*Isaiah 28:17-18*). The false prophet or Antichrist will not help Israel either (*John 10:13; Zechariah 11:17*). The king of the North and his armies will attack Jerusalem (*Zechariah 14:1-2; Daniel 11:41*). In Daniel 11:41, “the glorious land” is the land of Israel. The king of the North will overthrow many countries, but Edom, Moab, and the chief of the children of Ammon will escape out of his hand. God reserved the judgment of those three nations to be accomplished by Israel (*Isaiah 11:12-14*).
 - E. The king of the North will move on to Africa. After sweeping through Jerusalem, he moves on to Egypt and Africa (*Daniel 11:42-43*). Then there comes news from the East and the North that cause the king of the North to change his plans (*Daniel 11:44*). Tidings out of the East are found in *Revelation 16:12*. Tidings out of the North are found in *Revelation 19:19*. Tidings out of the East and the North appear to be the gathering of the armies to the battle of Armageddon.
 - F. The king of the North will return to Jerusalem. The king of the North will pitch his tents between the Mediterranean and Dead Seas in Jerusalem (*Daniel 11:45*). This is 80 miles south of Armageddon. The Valley of Jehoshaphat (*Joel 3:12-16*) lies between the Mount of Olives and the walls of Jerusalem. This is where the king of the North will come to his end (*Daniel 8:23-25; Daniel 9:27; Isaiah 14:24-25; Isaiah 30:31-32*).
 - G. The King of the North is judged. The lake of fire (Tophet in *Isaiah 30:33*) will be the eternal dwelling place of doom for the king of the North and the false prophet. Some commentators state that the king in *verse 33* is talking about the false prophet and that the context is talking about the king of the North. They remark that *verse 33* is saying that both the king of the North and the false prophet will be in the lake of fire. The king of the North and other nations that come to Jerusalem will be destroyed by the Lord Himself (*Zechariah 14:3-5*).
8. The Repentance of Israel and Restoration to the Lord
- A. When the Lord comes to Jerusalem and defeats their enemies, Israel will sincerely repent of their rejection of Him (*Zechariah 12:9-10*).
 - B. Israel will be fully restored to the LORD as the once rejected but now reunited wife of Jehovah. The LORD promises to never reject Israel again (*Isaiah 54:1-10, Ezekiel 39:24-29*).
9. Judgment on Gog and Magog
- A. In *Ezekiel 38 & 39*, Rosh is Russia, Meshech is Moscow, and Tubal is Tobolsk. In addition to the name Rosh, another support that Rosh is Russia is repeated references to it being in the far north (*Ezekiel 38:6, 15 and Ezekiel 39:2*). Gog is the prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal. Magog is the collective name of the land from which Gog comes. Russia leads an attack on Israel when Israel is dwelling in peace (*Ezekiel 38:8, 10, 14*) and is defeated by the Lord.
 - B. A comparison of *Ezekiel 39:29* and *Zechariah 12:10* shows that the destruction of Gog and Magog occurs after the Lord returns at the Mount of Olives. Therefore, *Ezekiel 38* and *39* occur at the very beginning of the Millennium. *Zechariah 12:10* says that the Spirit will be poured out on Israel at the Lord’s return. *Ezekiel 39:29* says that the Spirit will have already been poured out on Israel before the destruction of Gog and Magog.
 - C. *Ezekiel 38:23* and *Ezekiel 39:7* show that the destruction of Gog and Magog are a message from the Lord to the nations that He is the Lord of all the earth.

The Millennium

- 1. General information about the Millennium
 - A. The length of the kingdom is described in *Revelation 20:1-6*. The first sentence of *verse 5* should be thought of as a parenthesis.
 - B. Satan will be bound in the bottomless pit during the Millennium. Christ will reign over the earth for one thousand years.
 - C. The first resurrection is not a single event but the resurrection of all the righteous at various times. It includes the resurrection of Christ (*1 Corinthians 15:23*), the believers at the rapture (*1 Thessalonians 4:13-18*), the resurrection of the two witnesses (*Revelation 11:11*), and the resurrection of tribulation saints (see also *Daniel 12:2a*).

The End Times



- D. Those who are part of the believers who are raised to life (the first resurrection) will not be cast into the lake of fire (the second death), but will reign with Christ (*Revelation 20:6*).
- E. Christ will reign for 1,000 years. Some events separate the Millennial reign from Christ's eternal reign. After these events, He will reign for ever (*Revelation 11:15; 2 Samuel 7:12-16; Isaiah 9:6-7; Luke 1:30-33; Hebrews 1:8*).

2. Characteristics of Christ's Rule

- A. Christ's kingdom covers the whole earth (*Daniel 2:34-35*).
- B. The Lord will reign from Jerusalem (*Micah 4:7*) in righteousness (*Isaiah 32:1*).
- C. The seven-fold ministry of the Spirit characterizes Christ's reign (*Isaiah 11:2-3, Revelation 1:4*).
- D. Wicked acts will be judged every morning (*Psalms 101:8*).
- E. Saints will rule over the earth during the Millennium (*Revelation 3:21; Revelation 5:10; Luke 19:17; 2 Timothy 2:12*). Two groups will reign with Christ: the saints of the Church Age (those that sat on the thrones in *Revelation 20:4*) and the tribulation saints (the souls who were beheaded in *Revelation 20:4*).
- F. Princes will rule as well (*Isaiah 32:1*).
- G. At the return of Christ, all nations will be judged by how they treated Israel, which indicates if they are saved or not (*Matthew 25:31-46*). "My brethren" in these verses are the Jewish remnant. At the start of the Millennium, everyone will be saved. However, not all of their descendants who are born during the Millennium will get saved. There will be many people born during the Millennium (*Ezekiel 47:22; Zechariah 8:1-5; Isaiah 65:20-25*).

3. Worship during the Millennium

- A. Christ's name will be recognized as the name above every name (*Isaiah 52:13; Isaiah 11:10; Isaiah 45:17-25*).
- B. The earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord (*Numbers 14:21; Psalm 72:18-19; Isaiah 11:9; Habakkuk 2:14*).
- C. The Millennial temple is described in *Ezekiel 40-42* with additional information about the Millennium in *Ezekiel 43-48*. *Ezekiel 43* describes the glory of the Lord filling the temple.
- D. Idols shall pass away (*Isaiah 2:17-18*).

4. Israel during the Millennium

- A. Israel will be the head of the nations (*Isaiah 55:5; Isaiah 49:3; Isaiah 60:1-3*).
- B. The land of Israel will be blessed with an early and latter rain (*Jeremiah 5:24; Hosea 6:3; Joel 2:23*).
- C. The city and its gates is described in *Ezekiel 48:30-35*. In Verse 35, the name of the city shall be "The Lord is there."

5. The Nations during the Millennium
 - A. Christ will judge the nations (*Micah 4:3*) with righteousness (*Isaiah 11:4*).
 - B. The Gentiles will seek Christ (*Isaiah 11:10*).
 - C. Nations shall join themselves to Jehovah (*Zechariah 2:11*).
 - D. Many nations will go to the temple to learn God's ways (*Micah 4:2*).
 - E. Those who refuse to come to Jerusalem each year to worship the King will have no rain and suffer from a plague (*Zechariah 14:16-21*).
6. Peace and Prosperity during the Millennium
 - A. There will be military peace (*Isaiah 2:1-5; Micah 4:4*).
 - B. People will live very long lives like before the flood (*Isaiah 65:20; Zechariah 8:4*).
 - C. There will be wonderful fertility and abundance (*Psalms 65:11-13; Zechariah 8:12*).
 - D. The animal kingdom will be peaceful (*Isaiah 11:6*).
 - E. There will be joy, praise, and singing (*Isaiah 12:3-5*).
7. The New Jerusalem during the Millennium and beyond
 - A. The New Jerusalem will descend out of heaven during the Millennium and be a satellite city over the earth (*Revelation 21:10*). Different comments in Revelation 21 and 22 indicate that the city will be present during both the Millennium and the Eternal State.
 - B. The city's presence during the Millennium is brought out in the existence of "kings of the earth" in *Revelation 21:24* and the need for "healing of the nations" in *Revelation 22:2*.
 - C. The city's presence during the Eternal State is brought out in the lack of any curse in *Revelation 22:3*. Death is part of the curse (*Genesis 3:14-19*) and there will be death during the Millennium (*Isaiah 65:20*). A lack of any curse will only exist during the eternal state. We also know that the New Jerusalem will exist during the eternal state since it is mentioned in *Revelation 21:2*. This is part of a section of verses (*Revelation 21:1-5*) that clearly describe the eternal state. For example, in *Revelation 21:4* we read that "there shall be no more death" and that will only be true during the eternal state.

Post Millennial Judgments

1. Satan will be loosed from the bottomless pit. He will deceive the nations, including Gog and Magog, and will gather them together to battle at Jerusalem. Fire will come down from heaven and devour them. The devil will be cast into the lake of fire. (*Revelation 20:7-10*)
2. The fallen angels will be judged (*Jude 1:6; 2 Peter 2:4,9*). We are not told when this judgment will occur.
3. At the Great White Throne Judgment all unbelievers will be cast into the lake of fire (*Revelation 20:11-15*).
4. The Son will deliver the kingdom to His Father that God may be all in all (*1 Corinthians 15:24-28*).

The Eternal State

1. The earth will be destroyed; there will be a new heaven and a new earth (*Psalms 102:25-27; 2 Peter 3:10-12*).
2. The New Jerusalem will exist during the eternal state (*Revelation 21:2*)
3. A description of the eternal state is found in *Revelation 21:1-5* and *Psalms 16:11*
4. Things that will abide forever:
 - A. God's Word abides for ever (*Isaiah 40:8; 1 Peter 1:22-23*).
 - B. Hell is forever (*2 Thessalonians 1:9*).
 - C. Eternal life in heaven is forever (*John 3:16; John 5:24; Romans 6:23*).
 - D. The King is eternal (*1 Timothy 1:17*).
 - E. Our redemption is eternal (*Hebrews 9:12*).
 - F. Our inheritance in Christ is eternal (*Hebrews 9:15*).
 - G. God is eternal (*Psalms 90:2; Deuteronomy 33:27*).
 - H. The Holy Spirit is eternal (*Hebrews 9:14*).
 - I. The Father is eternal (*1 Chronicles 29:10; 2 Corinthians 11:31*).

- J. The Son is eternal (*Isaiah 9:6; John 8:35; John 8:58; Colossians 1:17; Psalm 90:1-2* compared with *Hebrews 1:8; Hebrews 7:3; Hebrews 7:24; Hebrews 7:28; Hebrews 13:8; Revelation 1:8; Revelation 1:18*).

Closing Message (Revelation 22:6-21)

These verses revisit themes from the rest of Revelation and other parts of the Bible as far back as Genesis.

vs. 6 - The sayings are true and faithful (*Revelation 21:5; 22:6*) because they come from the Faithful and True One (*Revelation 3:14; 19:11*). God sent His angel to show to His servants (believers in the seven churches) the “*things which must shortly be done*” (Compare *Revelation 1:1*).

vs. 7, 10, 12, and 20 speak of Christ’s imminent return at the rapture.

vs. 8-9 - “I, John” emphasizes that this is first person testimony (*Revelation 1:9; 21:2*). John saw and heard, heard and saw - this emphasizes that he was an eyewitness to these things. The worship of angels is rebuked (Compare *Revelation 19:10*).

vs. 11 - This verse speaks of the permanence of accepting or rejecting Christ.

vs. 13 - “*Alpha and Omega*” (*Revelation 1:8, 1:11, 21:6*). Alphabets are used to express words that communicate wisdom and knowledge. In Christ “*are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge*” (*Colossians 2:3*). “*The beginning and the end*” (*Revelation 21:6, Isaiah 46:9-10*). “*The first and the last*” (*Revelation 1:11, 1:17, 2:8*).

vs. 14 - “*Blessed are they that do His commandments*” (*1 John 2:3, 3:22, John 13:17*). “*The tree of life*” (*Revelation 22:2* compared with *Genesis 2:9* and *3:22-24*). “*Right to the tree of life*” (*John 3:16, Colossians 1:12 NASB*). “*Enter in through the gates into the city*” New Jerusalem (*Revelation 21:13*).

vs. 16 - “*I Jesus*” (our Savior speaks in the first person!) sent His angel “*to testify unto you*” (reaches every reader) “*these things in the churches*.” End times should be taught and discussed in our assemblies! “*I am the root*” (Jesus is the eternal Son of God—*Psalm 90:1-2*) “*and the offspring of David*” (*Romans 1:3*—Christ is fully man). “*The bright and morning star*”—Christ will come for believers at the rapture before He comes to set up His kingdom as “*the Sun of Righteousness*” (*Malachi 4:2*).

vs. 17 - “*The Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come.*” The Spirit and the bride (who is indwelt by the Spirit) are saying to the Lord to come back to the earth at the rapture. “*Let him that is athirst come*” to Christ for salvation (*John 4:13-14*). “*Whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely*” (*Romans 5:18*).

vs. 18-19 - Plagues will be added to those who add to this book. If anyone takes away words from this book, God will take away their part out of the book of life.

vs. 21 - “*The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.*” We need His grace more than ever during these last, dark days. May we “*grow in grace*” (*2 Peter 3:18*), show much grace to others, and find that His “*grace is sufficient*” (*2 Corinthians 12:9*) for all of the trials of our lives.

Closing Remarks

If anyone is reading this who has not yet trusted in Christ as your Savior, I urge you to do so today. Thinking of all of the judgments that will fall on this world, how important it is to repent of your sins, place your trust in Christ, and be safe from God’s future dealings with sinful man. As we read in *John 5:24*, “*Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life*” (NASB). Are you safe from the “*wrath to come*” (*1 Thessalonians 1:10*)?

For believers who have read this article, I pray that you have been spiritually blessed through this study of the end times in the Scriptures. May you be strengthened and encouraged and may the Lord use it for His honor and glory.