

Overview of the End-Times

I. DAY OF THE LORD: TWO EXTREMES AT THE END-OF-THE-AGE

The day of the LORD is Great and very Terrible (Joel 2:11; Mal. 4:5)

- A. The Day of the Lord refers to the unusual End-Time events related to the Second Coming of Jesus. These events (positive and negative) will come to fullness in the final 3½ years before Jesus returns.
 - 1. It will be a Great Day for the responsive and the greatest revival in history.
 - 2. It will be a very Terrible Day to the rebellious because they will experience the most severe judgments of God in all history as well as experiencing Satan's rage against them.
- B. We will look at the positive trends, events and people of the Great Day as well as the negative trends, events and people of the very Terrible Day (they are building momentum even now).

II. THE GREAT DAY OF THE LORD: POSITIVE TRENDS

- A. The greatest revival in history with a victorious Church full of God's glory (Eph. 5:26-27; 3:19; 4:13; Mt. 16:18; 22:37; Jn. 17:21-26; Rev. 7:9; 12:11; 15:2; 19:7-8; 22:17). It will include miracles seen in the book Acts and the book of Exodus that will be combined and multiplied on a global scale. It will be the greatest outpouring of the Spirit with great power (Joel 2:28-32).
- B. The Great Ingathering of souls of probably over 1 billion (Mt. 24:14; Rev. 5:9; 7:9, 14; 14:6).
A great multitude...no one could number of all nations...out of the Tribulation... (Rev. 7:9, 14)
- C. The spirit of prophecy will rest on every believer (Acts 2:17; Jer. 31:9; 23:8-20; Dan. 11:33-35; Isa. 26:9; Rev. 11:3-6; 18:20; Mt. 17:11; Mal. 4:6; Jn. 14:12).
I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; your sons and daughters shall prophesy... (Acts 2:17)
- D. The bridal paradigm will be established in the Church resulting in believers being ravished with courageous love in encountering Jesus as the Bridegroom God (Rev. 22:17; Hos. 2:16; Mt. 25:8).
The Spirit and the Bride say, "Come!" (Rev. 22:17)
- E. The worship and prayer movement will operate in great authority (Lk. 18:7-8; Rev. 5:8; 8:3-5; 22:17, 20; Isa. 62:6-7; 24:14-16; 25:9; 26:8-9; 27:2-5, 13; 30:18-19; 42:10-13; Joel 2:12-17).
- F. Supernatural provision of food and water, etc. God will manifest His provision like He did in Exodus. God miraculously provided all the needs of His people as they journeyed through the wilderness. He caused food to fall from the sky and He brought water from a rock.
As in the days when you came out of...Egypt, I will show them wonders. (Mic. 7:15)

- G. **Supernatural guidance** by prophetic revelation (Jer. 31:9; Joel 2:28) as the Lord directs His people to safety, to provision (food, water and refuge), to reconnect in relationships, to be at the right place at the right time, to escape the earthquake, bombs, or the ambush of the enemy.
- H. **Supernatural protection** (pockets of mercy). God will seal individual saints protecting them from judgments (Rev. 7:2-3; 9:4; Ezek. 9:4-6; Ps. 91:5-7).

Do not harm the earth...or the trees till we have sealed the servants of our God... (Rev. 7:3)

Commanded not to harm the grass...but only those who do not have the seal of God... (Rev. 9:4)

1. **The Goshen Principle** (Ex. 8:22-23; 9:4-6, 26; 10:23; 11:7): God did not allow the plagues of Egypt to touch the land of Goshen, where His people lived. When God's judgment fell on Egypt, God protected Israel. For example, Israel's livestock did not die (Ex. 9:4-6), they had no hail (Ex. 9:26), no swarms of flies (Ex. 8:22) and had light (Ex. 10:23).

I will set apart the land of Goshen, in which My people dwell, that no swarms of flies shall be there...23 I will make a difference between My people and your people. (Ex. 8:22-23)

2. **Pockets of mercy** refers to geographic areas in which God's people will be protected from His wrath. Prayer can make a difference in various regions (Joel 2:13-14; 3:16).

Seek the LORD, all you meek of the earth...IT MAY BE that you will be hidden (protected) in the day of the LORD's anger (judgments) (Zeph. 2:3).

I also withheld rain from you...I made it rain on one city, I withheld rain from another city. One part was rained upon, and where it did not rain the part withered. 8 So two or three cities wandered to another city to drink water... (Amos 4:7-8)

III. THE BIBLICAL PARADIGM: JESUS' SECOND COMING AND THE MILLENNIAL KINGDOM

- A. One of the greatest and most prominent themes in Scripture is Jesus' Second Coming to establish God's Kingdom on earth as it is in heaven. We must have the right perspective (paradigm) to understand these truths. Jesus will rule the earth with the ***natural human processes not suspended, yet significantly enhanced by the supernatural dimension of the Spirit.*** We see aspects of this when Jesus appeared with His resurrected body (Jn. 20-21; Acts 1).
- B. The centerpiece of God's eternal purpose is for Jesus to come back to fully establish His Kingdom rule over all the earth as He joins the heavenly and earthly realms together.
- Having made known...the mystery (hidden plan) of His will... 10 that He might gather together in one ALL things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth.* (Eph. 1:9-10)**
- C. ***Heaven*** speaks of the supernatural realm where God's power and presence are fully manifest. ***Earth*** speaks of the material physical realm as the place where human process, emotions and physical sensation reach their fullest expression.

- D. Gentile believers usually think of worshipping Jesus as God in the supernatural conditions of heaven. We emphasize Jesus' deity as the Son of God. Whereas, the Jewish paradigm thinks of reigning with the Messianic King as a man in the natural conditions of the earth. They emphasize the Messiah's humanity as the Son of David. ***The full truth is only seen when these two paradigms are brought together.***
- E. There are ***three types of people*** on earth when Jesus appears in the sky to rapture the Church. The ***redeemed*** will be raptured. The ***reprobate*** who took the mark of the Beast will be captured and then executed. The ***resistors*** are the unsaved survivors of the Great Tribulation who refused to worship the Antichrist and take his mark. Consider how many unbelievers resisted Hitler without regard to their relationship with God. These will include both Gentiles as well as the unsaved remnant of Israel. The Scripture refers to these as “those who are “left” or “who remain.” These will have an opportunity to be converted after Jesus returns and then to populate the Millennial earth. (Isa. 4:3; 10:20; 11:11; 49:6; 65:8; 66:19; Jer. 31:2; Ezek. 20:38-42; 36:36; Dan. 12:1; Amos 9:9-10; Joel 2:32; Zech. 12:14; 13:8; 14:16).
- F. ***Jesus' 1,000 year Millennial Kingdom*** – is one of the major revelations of Scripture. It speaks of Jesus' establishing God's Kingdom on earth as it is in heaven. Jesus will rule all the governments on earth as King of kings after ***He binds Satan*** and casts him in prison (Rev. 20:1-6; Isa. 2:1-4; 9:6-9; 11:1-16; 51:1-8; 60-62; 65:17-25; Ps. 2:6-12; 110:1-7; Mt. 5:5; 6:10; 17:11; 19:28; 28:19; Acts 1:6; 3:21). The term millennium is from the Latin “mille”(a thousand), and “annus”(a year).
Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. (Matt. 6:10)
- G. At this time the Kingdom of God will be established on earth affecting every sphere of life (political, economic, spiritual, educational, agricultural, family, media, arts, technology, athletics, environment, social institutions, etc). This period will be initiated by Jesus' Second Coming.
- H. Jesus will rule in perfect righteousness, prosperity and continual peace allowing resurrected saints with glorified bodies to rule with Him over the governments of the Millennial earth. Jesus as King of Kings, will personally govern a worldwide Kingdom in ***partnership with resurrected saints*** who rule with Him in establishing a biblically based, social order (Rev. 2:26-27; 3:21; 5:10; 20:4-6; 22:5; Mt. 19:28; 20:21-23; 25:23; Lk. 19:17-19; 22:29-30; 1 Cor. 6:2-3; 2 Tim. 2:12; Rom 8:17).
They shall be priests of God....and shall reign with Him a 1,000 years. (Rev. 20:6)
- I. The Apostles will rule with Jesus on earth after the Second Coming.
Jesus said, "Assuredly I say to you, that in the regeneration (Millennial Kingdom), when the Son of Man sits on the Throne of His glory (in Millennial Jerusalem), you who have followed Me will also sit on 12 thrones, judging the 12 tribes of Israel." (Mt. 19:28)
I bestow upon you a Kingdom, just as My Father bestowed one upon Me, so that you may eat and drink at My table in My kingdom, and sit on thrones judging the 12 tribes of Israel. (Lk. 22:29-30)

- J. Jesus will rule the entire earth from Jerusalem (1 Chr. 23:25; 2 Chr. 7:16; 30:8; 33:4, 7; Ps. 2:6; Isa. 2:3; 4:2-6; 24:23; 27:13; 59:20; 60:13-14; 62:1, 7; 65:18; 66:20; Jer. 3:17; 31:12; Ezek. 37:28; 43:4, 7; Joel 3:17; Mic. 4:2; Zech. 6:12-13; 8:2-3; 14:10; Mt. 5:35)

Jerusalem shall be called the Throne of the LORD, and all the nations shall be gathered to it, to the name of the LORD, to Jerusalem. (Jeremiah 3:17)

- K. In the Millennium all the kings of the earth will be saved and worship Jesus (Ps. 72:11; 102:15; 138:4; 148:11; Isa. 62:2; Rev. 21:24) and base their national governments on the Scriptures. The result will be a 1000-year period of peace, righteousness, prosperity, and unprecedented blessing for the whole earth as Jesus restores the agriculture, atmosphere, and animal life, etc. He will restore part of this earth to the conditions of the Garden of Eden.

IV. THE SECOND COMING OF JESUS

- A. Jesus will come to earth to sit on an earthly Throne as King over all kings (Rev. 19:15-16). I refer to the many different events associated with Jesus' Second Coming as the ***"Second Coming Procession."*** The nature of the Second Coming events is a 3 stage process that includes many events instead of it being only one event that happens one afternoon.

- B. ***Stage #1: Jesus' procession across entire earth in the sky:*** to rapture the saints (Mt. 24:30-31; Rev. 1:7). Jesus will be seen by every eye of every person (believers and unbelievers), from all the tribes of the earth. This requires a global procession over every inhabited place on earth.

- C. ***Stage #2: Jesus' procession on the land:*** traveling through Jordan killing the rebellious armies that are in alliance with the Antichrist to end the Armageddon campaign (Isa. 63:1-6; Hab. 3:3-18).

- D. ***Stage #3: Jesus' procession into Jerusalem:*** on to the Mt of Olives followed by His coronation Jesus will be invited by Israel's governmental leaders to rule them (Mt. 23:39; Ps. 24:7-10; Zech. 14:4). Jesus enters Jerusalem as the King of kings using the 7 Bowls of wrath (as Moses did against Pharaoh) to destroy the armies of the Antichrist. He kills His enemies to end the Armageddon campaign with an astonishing victory at the Battle of Jerusalem (Rev. 19:11-21).

- E. Jesus descends from heaven possibly to ***Mt. Sinai*** (Mt. Horeb) which is called the ***Mountain of God*** (Ex. 3:1; 4:27). Then He will march through the wilderness (Teman, Mt. Paran, Mt. Seir) through Jordan (Edom, Bozrah, Moab) killing His enemies on His way to Jerusalem. Their blood will be sprinkled on His robes (Isa. 34:5-10; 63:1-6; Hab. 3:3-15; Zech. 9:14; Ps. 110:5-6; Rev. 19:11-16). This march will involve natural human processes enhanced with significant supernatural power.

Who is this who comes from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah (capital of Edom), this One who is glorious in His apparel, traveling in the greatness of His strength?-- "I who speak in righteousness, mighty to save." 2 Why is Your apparel red, and Your garments like one who treads in the winepress? 3 "...I have trodden them in My anger, and trampled them in My fury; their blood is sprinkled upon My garments, and I have stained all My robes. 4 For the day of vengeance is in My heart..." (Isa. 63:1-4)

- F. Jesus' coming is a procession because He comes from heaven with **all the saints** (1 Thes. 3:13) and **all the angels** (Mt. 25:31). He will travel on the clouds across the whole earth until **every individual sees Him** (Mt. 24:30). He will come with the **Father's glory** (Mt. 16:27; 24:27-31), with **great power** (Mk. 13:26) and **flaming fire** (2 Thes. 1:8) and with the brightness and energy of **lightning** (Mt. 24:27). He will be announced with a **shout**, the **voice** of an archangel and with the **trumpet** of God as He **raises the dead**. (1 Thes. 4:14-17). Jesus will come as **King of kings** and will kill the rebellious armies of the earth (Rev. 19:11-16). The **sun** will be darkened, and the **moon** will not give its light; the **stars** will fall from heaven, and the powers **of the heavens** will be shaken (Mt. 24:29).

V. THE GREAT DAY OF THE LORD: THE POSITIVE EVENTS AND PEOPLE

- A. **Jesus' Second Coming** to establish His **Millennial Kingdom** is the ultimate prophetic theme. Scripture calls His coming our blessed hope (Titus 2:13) The NT has over 300 references to this.

- B. **The Rapture of the Church** – as Jesus descends from heaven, He will rapture or “catch up” all the saints in the air from one end of the sky to the other to meet Jesus.

For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord... (1 Thes. 4:16-17)

1. The saints will be instantly changed by being given resurrected bodies that radiate His glory (1 Thes. 4:13-18; 2 Thes. 2:1; 1 Cor. 15:51-52, 41-43; Mt. 13:30, 40-43; 24:30-31).

We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed-- 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the Last Trumpet...the dead will be raised... (1 Cor. 15:51-52)

2. **The Rapture will not be a secret event**, but a dramatic event that all the people on earth will witness with their natural eye (rather than seeing Him in a mystical vision or by technology). **The Rapture will be a process that takes time to complete**. For example, the people in the Pacific islands will not see Him at the same time as those in the Mediterranean islands. Since the earth is round, it is impossible for all the people on the earth to see Him at the same time. Jesus must cover each **longitude** and **latitude** in order for each person to see Him in person as He arrives over their region. What **height** and **speed** will Jesus travel at so as to be recognizable to people on the earth with the naked eye? His procession across the sky requires that Jesus be **close enough** to be seen and the process is **slow enough** for each person (not raptured) to interpret the significance of what is happening so that they mourn.

3. **The Last Trumpet** or the 7th Trumpet initiates the Second Coming procession thus the Rapture (Rev. 11:15-18; 1 Cor. 15:50-52). The fact of the Rapture is a glorious doctrine, however, a deception today relates to its **timing** in occurring **before** the Tribulation.

- C. **The Marriage supper of the Lamb** and the rewards for each believer occurs in context to the Second Coming and the Rapture (Rev. 19:7-10). The Second Coming describes **what Jesus does** when He comes back to **earth** as the Rapture describes **what happens to the Church** when Jesus appears in the sky. The Second Coming and the Rapture occur in the same time frame.

- D. **The Two Witnesses** (prophets) will preach with great power and release God's judgments for 3½ years during the Great Tribulation. They will work miracles like Moses and Elijah (Mal. 4:5).
I will give power to my Two Witnesses, and they will prophesy 1,260 days...5 if anyone wants to harm them, fire proceeds from their mouth...6 These have power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their prophecy; and they have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to strike the earth with all plagues, as often as they desire. (Rev. 11:3-6)
- E. **The 144,000 sealed Jewish believers** (Rev. 7:4-8; 14:1-5) are prophetic singers who preach the gospel in power during last 3½ years. They will be divinely sealed or protected by the power of God in the midst of God's judgments. Other believers (Gentiles) are sealed by God for protection (Rev 9:4; Ezek 9:6). The Goshen Principle (Ex. 8:22-23; 9:4, 6, 26; Zeph. 2:3; Ps. 91).
- F. **The salvation of Israel** (Rom. 11:12-15, 25-26) occur as the Church provokes Israel to jealousy by standing with them in affliction and by operating in the power of God (Matt. 25:32-46).
- G. **Jesus' victory in the Armageddon Campaign** (continues for a 3½ year period) destroys the worldwide empire of the Antichrist and False Prophet along with their armies (Rev. 16:16; 19:11-21; Mt. 25:31-32). The final military conflict will be between Jesus and the Antichrist. Blood is spilled for over 200 miles throughout Israel (Rev. 14:20; Joel 3:2-15; Zech. 14:1-5; Zeph. 3:8).
- H. **God's judgment on the Great Harlot Babylon** (Rev. 17) – is a judgment on this worldwide demonic economic and religious network that seduces many to follow evil and to persecute the saints. God's wrath will come on Babylon in two stages. The angel proclaimed a double fall of Babylon (Rev. 14:8). Rev. 17-18 describes the two falls of Babylon. The first phrase of fall of Babylon (Rev. 17) relates to worldwide religion system of toleration and syncretism. This will fall in middle of the 7 year period at the hands of the ten kings (Rev. 17:16). The 10 kings burned the Harlot religious system and replaced it with the Antichrist's religious system that will be based in part of the city of Babylon. Babylon will be established as one of the Antichrist's headquarters. This second phase of judgment (Rev. 18) will be the collapse of the Antichrist's worldwide economic system at the end of the 7 year period at the hands of God (Rev. 18:8).

VI. VERY TERRIBLE DAY OF THE LORD: THE GREAT TRIBULATION

When you see the 'Abomination of Desolation,' spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place...21 for then there will be GREAT TRIBULATION, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. 22 And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved (physically killed); but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened. (Mt. 24:15, 21-22)

- A. The very Terrible Day will be the greatest crisis in history called the Great Tribulation (Matt. 24:21; Jer. 30:7; Dan. 12:1; Rev. 3:10) emphasizing the **negative dimensions** of the 3½ years before Jesus' return. The great trouble will be caused by the wrath of God on the rebellious by the Antichrist's reign of terror and the actions of evil people (on both believers and unbelievers) along with convulsions in nature (earthquakes, storms, etc).

- B. The Antichrist brings tribulation to the saints using his worldwide government (Rev. 13). God brings tribulation against the people in the Antichrist's empire by the 3 numbered judgment series which are three groups of judgments (7 seals, 7 trumpets, 7 bowls of wrath) as described in Rev. 6-19. They describe 21 judgments on the Antichrist that continue through the final 3½ years.
- C. There are two seasons of time, where people die unnatural deaths (totaling 50% of the population).
Behold, a pale horse. The name of him who sat on it was Death...and power was given to them over ¼ of the earth, to kill with sword, with hunger, with death, and by beasts.... (Rev. 6:8)
The four angels...were released to kill 1/3 of mankind. (Rev. 9:15)
- D. The purpose of the Great Tribulation is to purify God's people through affliction (Eph. 5:27; Rev. 19:7-8; Dan 11:35; 12:10), release the Ingathering of souls (including the salvation of Israel), vindicate the saints, expose false believers within the Church, and demonstrate God's power in protecting the saints (Rom. 9:17). It expresses God's justice in punishing sin (2 Thes. 1:6-10; Isa. 26:21), and purging the earth from sin (Isa. 24:4-6; Zech. 13:2) before the Millennial Kingdom.
- E. **The principle of judgment:** God uses the least severe means to reach the greatest number of people at the deepest level of love without violating anyone's free will in training the rulers of the earth.

VII. VERY TERRIBLE DAY OF THE LORD: FOUR NEGATIVE TRENDS

- A. Fullness of God's judgment (Rev. 14:7; 15:7) includes the 7 seals (Rev. 6), the 7 trumpets (Rev. 8:9) and the 7 bowls of wrath (Rev. 16) as judgment on the Antichrist's infrastructure.
The wrath of God which is poured out full strength (Rev. 14:10)
- B. Fullness of Satan's rage (Rev. 12:12; 9:21; Dan. 7:21, 25; Rev. 13)
Woe to the inhabitants of the earth...! For the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, because he knows that he has a short time. (Rev. 12: 12)
- C. Fullness of man's sin which comes to maturity (Rev. 9:21; 14:18; 17:5; 18:5; Dan. 8:23; 12:10).
They did not repent of their murders...sorceries...sexual immorality or their thefts. (Rev. 9:21)
1. **Murder** – the primary sin on earth (Rev. 6:9-11; 7:13-14; 9:21; 13:7, 10; 16:6; 17:6; 18:24; 19:2; 2 Tim. 3:3 (brutal); Dan. 7:21, 25; 8:24; 11:33-35; 12:7, 10; Mk. 13:12:13).
 2. **Sorceries** (occult/deception/oppression) Rev. 13:3-4, 8, 12-15; 14:11; 16:13-14; 18:23; Matt. 24:5, 11, 12, 24; 1 Tim. 4:1-3; 2 Thes. 2:3-4
 3. **Immorality** – demonized with perversion (Rev. 9:21; 16:13; 17:2; 18:3; 19:2; 2 Pet. 3:3).
 4. **Theft** – legislation (anti-Semitism, etc), persecution, mark of the Beast, etc.
- D. Fullness of Creation's groan (Rom. 8:19-24) – the land is directly related to the sin of its inhabitants.
Creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. 22 For we know that the whole creation groans... (Rom. 8:21-22)

VIII. VERY TERRIBLE DAY: NEGATIVE EVENTS AND PEOPLE

- A. **The Antichrist** (Rev. 13) – is the final world leader who wages war against God and persecutes His people. He has a political, military and economic alliance with a **ten-nation confederation**. He will have the largest army, and the most money and power (spiritual/political/military) of any man in history. He will use ***demonic miracles*** to deceive (Rev. 13:12-14) and the ***political process to kill*** resisters (Rev. 13:15) using ***economic oppression*** (Rev. 13:16-17). The Antichrist will be a cruel man without reason or mercy, like a wild beast. The Antichrist is called the “Beast” 36 times in Revelation.
- B. **A 10-nation confederation** is a political, military and economic alliance of ten nations that provides the Antichrist the with the greatest natural power base of any leader in history. **Gog (Antichrist) and Magog (revived Roman Empire)** provide the power base of this world empire (Dan. 7:1-8; Ezek. 38:2-6). The power of the unified resources of 10-nations is beyond any other empire in history (Dan. 11:36-45). The four components of the Antichrist's empire are **political authority** (10-nation confederation's power to make laws Rev. 13:1-2; 17:16), **military force** (Rev. 13:4, 7), **economic control** (commerce, monopolies, Rev. 13:2, 15-17) and **religious control** (worship movement by occult powers, miracles, Rev. 13:4, 8).
- C. **The catalytic event** – the Antichrist's dramatic head wound and healing (Rev. 13:3, 12, 14). This event will be the catalyst that launches the Antichrist into world prominence. ***The Antichrist is seemingly killed and healed*** causing the nations to worship him. **The Antichrist's death and apparent healing is an imitation of Jesus' resurrection.** He claims Jesus is an evil imposter.
- D. **The False Prophet** (Rev. 13:11-18) – the leader of the future worldwide religious network that is devoted to causing all the nations to worship Satan and the Antichrist (Rev. 13:4, 8). His three most effective strategies will be by **giving demonically empowered public speeches** that are confirmed by **great miracles to deceive** (Rev. 13:12-14), along with the **Abomination of Desolation** which is based on an idol or image that is demonically empowered to breathe and speak (Rev. 13:14-16) and the **mark of the Beast** (Rev. 13:16-17) which provides a strict way to control finances and the purchases of the necessities of life as well as being a means of daily forcing all to openly declare their loyalty or lack of loyalty to the Antichrist. He also has authority to **legislate the death penalty and economic controls** by instituting the **mark of the Beast** system.
- E. **The Abomination of Desolation** – the Antichrist will declare himself to being God by setting up an idol (which is **the abomination**) that stands in the Jerusalem Temple. This idol (image or statue) is demonically empowered so that it is seen to think, talk, breathe, and make laws (Rev. 13:14-16). This idol will be a great abomination to God that causes God's judgments to desolate the earth. Why? Because this idol is the greatest abomination of all history. It is the key that triggers the Antichrist's demand to be worshipped by all nations. This abomination is backed up by demonic signs and wonders. No one can buy nor sell without worshipping the devil. All who refuse will be sought out as a criminal of the state under a real threat of martyrdom.
1. The Antichrist sets an idol in the Temple causing the sacrifices to cease for **exactly** 1,290 days which results in the threat of **every** human being killed (Dan. 12:11; Mt. 24:15-22).

2. This is one of the most significant prophetic signs in the End-Times. John emphasized this statue ten times (Rev. 13:14, 15 [three times]; 14:9, 11; 15:2; 16:2; 19:20; 20:4). This act of abomination will occur in the middle of the last 7 years before Jesus returns. The Abomination of Desolation is God's title for this period of crisis. It is mentioned in Scripture 7 times plus 2 other descriptions (Dan. 8:13; 9:26, 27; 11:31; 12:11; Mt. 24:15; Mk. 13:14; 2 Thes. 2:3-4; Rev. 13:12-18).
3. The Abomination (defilement, pollution) is made up of two parts. First, the Antichrist's demand to be worshipped as God. Second, the people's acceptance of this. The desolation is made up of two parts. First, the desolations of the Antichrist on those who refuse his demand for worship. Second, the desolations or judgments of God on those who yield to the pressure to worship the Antichrist.

- F. **Image of the Beast** – a supernatural image or statue (that breathes and speaks) that is set up in the Jerusalem Temple and used to serve a worldwide worship movement of the Antichrist. Dan. 3.
- G. **Mark of the Beast** – a public mark used to identify the people who refuse to worship the Antichrist under the threat of economic sanctions and the death penalty. This mark forces all to regularly and publicly declare their loyalty to the Antichrist.
- H. **The Harlot Babylon** is a worldwide economic and religious network that is filled with evil to seduce many to follow them and it will persecute the saints (Rev. 17-18).
- I. **The martyrdom of Christians** – the Antichrist will make war with the saints (Dan. 7:21, 25; 8:24; 11:33-35; 12:7, 10; Rev. 6:9-11; 7:9, 14; 9:21; 11:7; 13:7, 15; 16:5-7; 17:6; 18:24; 19:2).
- J. **The falling away** from the faith which is called the apostasy (2 Thes. 2:3, 1 Tim. 4:1; Mt. 24:10-12)

IX. POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS IN THE END-TIMES

- A. ***Israel becoming a nation*** (1948) and ***governing the city of Jerusalem*** (1967).
- B. The formation of the ***European Union in alliance with a ten-nation confederation*** (outside of the European Union) with a 3-nation coalition at the core that gets uprooted early on (Dan. 7:8, 20, 24).
- C. The emergence of a ***regional political leader*** (early stages of Antichrist's career) in the Middle East or Europe that has unusual diplomacy with a 3-nation coalition working closely (Dan. 7:8, 20, 24).
- D. ***Emergence of a one-world government based in European Union*** (revived Roman Empire) with a 10 nation confederation support system (Rev. 17:12).

- E. ***A Middle East peace treaty*** that brings worldwide counterfeit peace and safety lead by one key man with unusual diplomatic ability (Dan. 9:27; 1 Thes. 5:3).
- F. ***Re-building of the ancient city of Babylon on the Euphrates*** as a new worldwide economic and religious center (Isa. 13-14; Jer. 50-51; Rev. 17-18). Babylon refers to the city on the Euphrates River in Iraq (50 miles south of Baghdad) that will be restored and will be one of the Antichrist's headquarters. Babylon will occupy a major role in four ways: geographically, nationally, spiritually, and prophetically. God's judgment will destroy this city forever (Jer. 50-51 has not happened yet).
- G. ***Rebuilding the Temple*** – the Tribulation Temple will be desecrated by the Antichrist yet shall be the context for the ministry of the Two Witnesses (Daniel 9:27; 11:36-45; Matt. 24:15; Mark 13:14; 2 Thes. 2:4; Rev. 11:1-2). Its outer court will be retained by Gentiles (Arabs). The **Millennial Temple** is not the tribulation temple that will be built by Jesus (Ezek. 43:1-7; 10:4, 18-19; 11:22-23).
- H. ***A one world religion that is enforced*** (Rev. 13, 17-18) – the rise of false prophets who help establish religious alliances between all religions including the occult, New Age, liberal “Christianity” with Muslims, Hindu, Buddhists, all with a commitment to moral tolerance that paves the way for a one-world religion. Mystery Babylon will persecute Christians during this time of counterfeit world peace and spiritual persecution (increased birth pangs) (1 Thes. 5:2-3; Mt. 24:9-14, 36-41).
- I. ***The increase of travel and knowledge*** (scientific, communication, technology).
Daniel 12:4 "Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book until the time of the end; many shall run to and for (travel), and knowledge shall increase."
- J. ***The Lord will gather all the armies of all the nations to Jerusalem*** (Zech. 12:3; 14:2; Joel 3:2; Zeph. 3:8). God wants no nation to be neutral. Therefore, He will gather all nations to make them declare what is in their hearts toward Jesus. Joel calls this the valley of decision (Joel 3:14). The nations of the earth will attack Israel and lay siege to Jerusalem (Zech. 12:1-10; 14:1-2). The Lord will gather all nations to Jerusalem (Zion) which is named prophetically by Joel, the “Valley of Jehoshaphat” (Joel 3:2, 12) or the “Valley of Decision” (Joel 3:14). This is the Valley of Berachah, where Jehoshaphat won a great battle against all odds (2 Chr. 20:26, 16).
- K. ***The three prophetic time frames*** in the End-Times all relate to the final 7-year period of history (Dan. 9:27; comparing Mt. 24 with 1 Thes. 5:2-3) First, the beginning of birth pangs (possibly starting in 1948). Second, the worldwide counterfeit peace and safety (1 Thes. 5:2; Dan. 9:27) which starts at the beginning of the final 7 years and continues 3½ years. Third, the Great Tribulation begins as the heavy birth pangs and lasts for 3½ years.

All believers can understand the book of Revelation and End-Time prophecy