# Quick Facts and Terminology Related to the End Times

1. Three views of the Millennium
	1. The Millennium is a literal 1,000-year period in which Jesus will return to the earth to rule the whole world from Jerusalem in righteousness, peace, and prosperity as the King of kings.
	The term ***millennium*** is from the Latin mille(a thousand) and annus(a year).

4They lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years…6…they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years. (Rev. 20:4-6)

* 1. ***Postmillennialism***: Jesus will return ***after*** (post-) His 1,000-year millennial rule. This view says that the Church establishes the Millennium by ***fully Christianizing the world before He returns***. Postmillennialism is an overly optimistic eschatology. It was most popular in 1700–1900 when the Spirit was restoring the truths of social action and human rights. At that time, many believers thought things would get better and better until Jesus returned. The two world wars in the 20th century caused postmillennialism to fall out of favor because its optimism was seen as wrong.
	2. ***Amillennialism***: This means ***no Millennium.*** This view teaches that Jesus’ 1,000-year reign is not a literal earthly reign, but merely a ***spiritual victory over sin in the heart*** of the believer.
		1. This view interprets most end-time prophecy as symbolic and embraces ***replacement theology***,which teaches that the Church “replaces” Israel as the heir to Israel’s promises.
		2. ***Preterism:*** Most amillennialists and postmillennialists have a preterist view of the end times. *Preterit* is a verb tense that describes a past action. Preterism teaches that end-time prophecy has already been completely fulfilled in the past—in 70 AD, when Jerusalem was destroyed by Rome. It sees the Tribulation and the Antichrist as fulfilled in 70 AD.
	3. ***Premillennialism***: Jesus will return ***before*** (pre-) His 1,000-year millennial rule on the earth.
	This is the only view that ***interprets end-time prophecy in a literal way*** and teaches the salvation of Israel and her primary leadership role in the nations during the Millennium (Isa. 2:2-4).
	4. There are two main types of premillennialism:

	1. ***Historic premillennialism***: Teaches***post-tribulation rapture—***Jesus returns ***after*** the
	 Great Tribulation. IHOPKC teaches historic premillennialism, with a victorious praying church.

2. ***Dispensational premillennialism***: Teaches ***pre-tribulation rapture—***Jesus returns ***before***  the Great Tribulation. This is a new theology that was first systematized in England in the
 1830s by John N. Darby, then made popular in America by the Scofield Bible.
 It is called *dispensational* because it teaches that God relates differently to people in
 seven dispensations (or seasons) of history. It includes: 1) two covenants of salvation
 (one for Israel and one for the Church); 2) a literal interpretation of Scripture;
 3) premillennialism; 4) pretribulation rapture; 5) imminency—Jesus may return at any moment.

1. overview of the book of Daniel
	1. ***The first section is historical*** (Dan. 1-6): Highlights six episodes in Daniel’s life
	***Daniel 1***:Dedication of youth, refuses to compromise, embraces a fasted lifestyle in Babylon
	***Daniel 2***:Nebuchadnezzar’s first dream – receiving the word of Lord in crisis
	***Daniel 3***:Being a faithful witness (Rev. 13); deliverance from the fiery furnace
	***Daniel 4***: Nebuchadnezzar’s second dream – calling leaders to righteousness
	***Daniel 5***: Belshazzar’s feast – the sudden downfall of governments (fall of Babylon)
	***Daniel 6***: Daniel in the lion’s den – supernatural deliverance of believers in persecution
	2. ***The second section is prophetic*** (Dan. 7-12): Four visions that each relate to Israel’s destiny and conflict with the nations and how God plans to transition the earth to the age to come.
	***Daniel 7***: 1st vision is of four world empires in history and the little horn (Antichrist)
	***Daniel 8***: 2nd vision is of a ram, goat, and little horn (Antiochus/Antichrist) persecuting Israel
	***Daniel 9***: 3rd vision is of Gabriel and the 70-weeks prophecy of Israel’s trouble and salvation
	***Daniel 10-12***: 4th vision is of Israel’s persecution (Antiochus/Antichrist) and final restoration
	3. God determined that it would take “70 weeks” (490 years) to prepare Israel for world leadership. A *week* in ancient Israel was a period of seven days or seven years. Most agree that a week here refers to a “week of years” (seven years) not a “week of days” (seven days). Thus, 70 weeks or “70 units of 7 years” totals 490 years. Most scholars agree that a week in this passage refers to seven years, since interpreting it as days does not have a historical application.

24“Seventy weeks are determined for…your holy city [Jerusalem]…” (Dan. 9:24)

* 1. One view is that the “prophetic clock of the 490 years” only goes forward when Israel is in the promised land and living in a restored Jerusalem (as her capital), with a functioning temple.

|  |
| --- |
| **Seventy Weeks** |
| 7 weeks | 49 years |
| 62 weeks | 434 years |
| 69 weeks | 483 years |
| 70 weeks | 490 years |

w

1. Timeline (\* *dates are approximate, since the precise date is unknown*)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 750 BC\*  |  | Isaiah prophesied that Cyrus would release Israel to return to Jerusalem (Isa. 44:28) |
| 721 BC |  | Assyria exiles Israel under Sennacherib |
| 626–539 BC |  | Babylonian Empire |
| 606 BC  |  | The first deportation of Jewish captives to Babylon, **Daniel taken to Babylon** |
| 606–536 BC |  | 70 years in which the Jewish captives were in Babylon |
| 600 BC\*  |  | Jeremiah prophesied that the captivity in Babylon would last for 70 years (Jer. 29:10-14) |
| 603 BC |  | Daniel chapter 2 vision (Nebuchadnezzar) |
| 597 BC  |  | The second deportation of Jewish captives to Babylon, including Ezekiel |
| **586 BC**  |  | **Jerusalem and the temple destroyed** (by Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon)  |
| 586 BC  |  | The third deportation of Jewish captives to Babylon |
| 553–539 BC |  | Belshazzar’s reign |
| 553 BC  |  | Daniel received his 1st vision - **Daniel 7** |
| 551 BC  |  | Daniel received his 2nd vision - **Daniel 8** |
| 539–331 BC |  | Persian Empire |
| 539 BC  |  | King Cyrus of Persia conquered Babylon |
| 538 BC |  | First year of Darius the Mede |
| 538 BC  |  | King Cyrus’ decree issued, allowing the exiles to return to Israel |
| 538 BC  |  | Daniel received his 3rd vision (while reading Jer. 29) - **Daniel 9** (70-weeks prophecy) |
| 536 BC  |  | Daniel received his 4th vision - **Daniel 10-12** |
| **536 BC**  |  | **The Jewish exiles arrived in Jerusalem** (to build the temple with Zerubbabel |
| 520 BC  |  | The Jerusalem temple was restarted (after a 16-year delay) - Haggai and Zechariah |
| 516 BC  |  | The Jerusalem temple construction was completed |
| 458 BC  |  | King Artaxerxes’ decree to Ezra starts the 70 weeks (Ezra 4:12, 21; 7:12-26).  |
| 445 BC |  | Artaxerxes’ decree to Nehemiah |
| 409 BC |  | Ezra and Nehemiah finish initial rebuilding Jerusalem |
| 407 BC |  | New governor of Judah takes over from Nehemiah (from “The Elephantine Papyri”) |
| 331–146 BC |  | Greek Empire |
| 323 BC |  | Death of Alexander the Great, 32 years old |
| 175–164 BC |  | Reign of Antiochus Epiphanes (desecrated the temple, foreshadows the Antichrist) |
| 167–160 BC |  | Maccabean Revolt |
| 146 BC–1453 AD |  | Roman Empire - east and west |
| 146 BC–476 AD |  | Roman Empire - western division |
| 330–1453 AD |  | Roman Empire - eastern division |
| 26/27 AD |  | Start of Jesus’ ministry |
| 29/30 AD |  | Crucifixion of Jesus |
| 66–73 AD |  | Jewish-Roman war |
| 70 AD |  | Destruction of Second Temple and Jerusalem by Rome (Titus) |