

# Eschatology

What is yet to come!



Randall J. Hillebrand



# Introduction

Dr. Hugh Ross reports that there are approximately 2,500 prophecies in the Bible of which about 2,000 have already been fulfilled<sup>1</sup>. Other sources say that about one-third of the Bible consists of prophecy.

When considering the great prophetic books which contain the majority of the approximate 500 yet unfulfilled prophecies -- Isaiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Zechariah and Revelation -- I find it amazing when Christians say that Bible prophecy is not important.

Why is Bible prophecy important? Because it gives the followers of Jesus Christ hope, hope in:

- A victorious Savior!
- A glorious future!
- The end of unrighteousness!
- The just judgement of the wicked!
- Eternal life with no more pain, sorrow, or death!

Hope therefore is vital, especially as we get closer to the end of our age as times get darker and more evil!

Bible prophecy can also:

- Prepare us for what is coming
- Allow us to warn others
- Purify us as we realize that the rapture is imminent! (cf. 2 Pet. 3:11-14)
- Give us peace as we see the progression of evil happening around us, knowing God is in control and is working out His plan

God gave us approximately 2,500 prophecies in the Bible because they are important. This is why He concludes the Bible with the greatest book of end-time prophecy, the book of Revelation. This is also why He says at the beginning and end of that book:

- “Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of the prophecy, and heed the things which are written in it; for the time is near.” (Rev. 1:3)
- “And behold, I am coming quickly. Blessed is he who heeds the words of the prophecy of this book.” (Rev. 22:7)

<sup>1</sup> (<http://www.reasons.org/articles/articles/fulfilled-prophecy-evidence-for-the-reliability-of-the-bible>).

# Introduction Continued...

When studying prophecy it is common for people to want the answers to many questions for which there are no answers. Looking at commentaries on prophecy which were written not that long ago, the Roman Catholic Church was its focus. Many then and still today view it as the Whore of Babylon. Yet, as one looks at the world events taking place today, the spread of Islam is obvious. Therefore, the focus is shifting from Rome and the Roman Catholic Church to the Middle Eastern countries and to Islam.

When one considers the flood of refugees from Middle Eastern and North African countries (Syria, Afghanistan, Eritrea, Iraq, Nigeria) which are Islamic or have high Muslim populations, the spread of Islam is alarming to many. These refugees are being absorbed into the European Union, Armenia, Bulgaria, Romania, Macedonia, Russia, America, Canada, Australia, Venezuela, Chile, Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay and Columbia. This significance of this influx of Muslims will eventually be seen as new mosques are established in these countries.

These events are also significant when, as reported on CNN (Sept. 11, 2015), Ali Khamenei, Iran's Supreme Leader, prophesied that Israel will no longer be in existence in 25 years. Though the serious student of the Bible understands that this is the desire of Iran and other Islamic countries, this prophecy is ludicrous. Nonetheless, this along with the growing antisemitism in the world, the growing worldwide acceptance of homosexuality and other forms of immorality, that all of these things are pointing to the last days and the imminent return of Christ. The world is becoming more like Sodom and Gomorrah every day, affluent and immoral (Ezek. 16:49-50).

It is also interesting to note that many Muslims today are awaiting the reappearance of Mahdi, the twelfth imam whom they claim was hidden by Allah in 874 A.D. He is to return a few years before Jesus Christ to fight against evil with a righteous army and then to rule the world with a perfect government.<sup>1</sup> Israel and her allies would of course be the target of such a war and their destruction paramount. Though Islam may very well play a role in the Tribulation Period, Babylon and its whore will probably be much greater than Islam.

<sup>1</sup>[http://www.inplainsite.org/html/imam\\_mahdi.html](http://www.inplainsite.org/html/imam_mahdi.html)

# Introduction Continued...

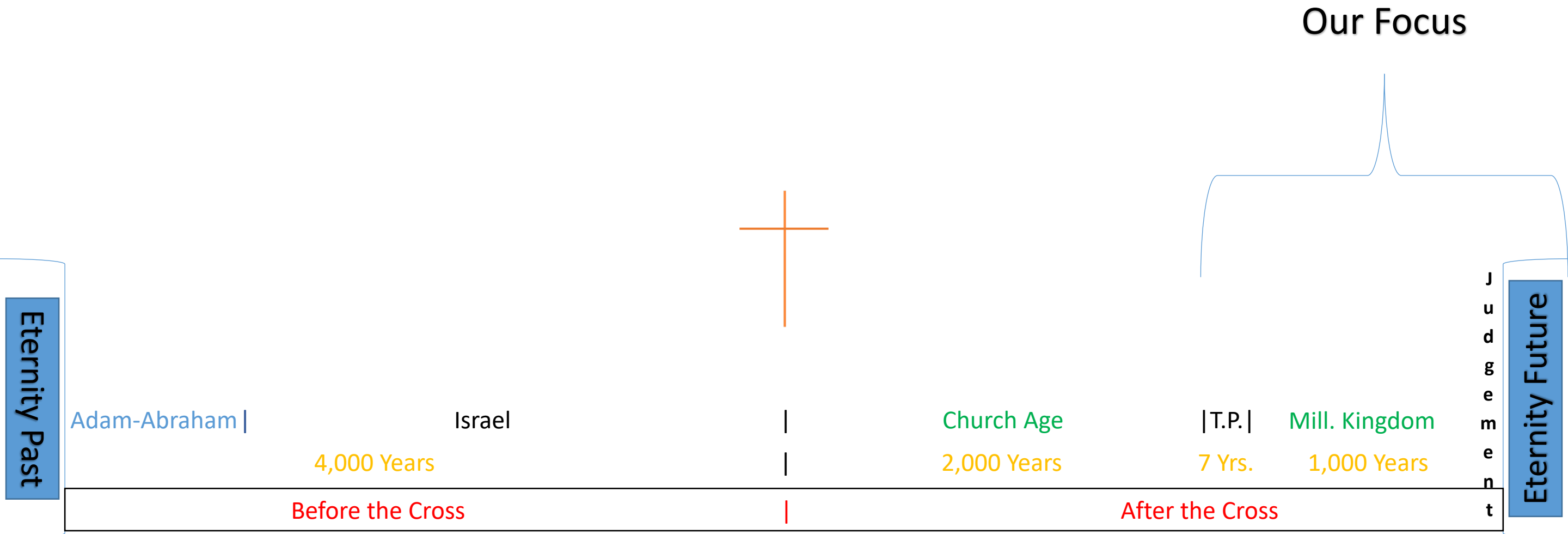
## The Response of the Church

What should be the response of the Church to such world events in light of the escalating end-time scenarios? Simply to:

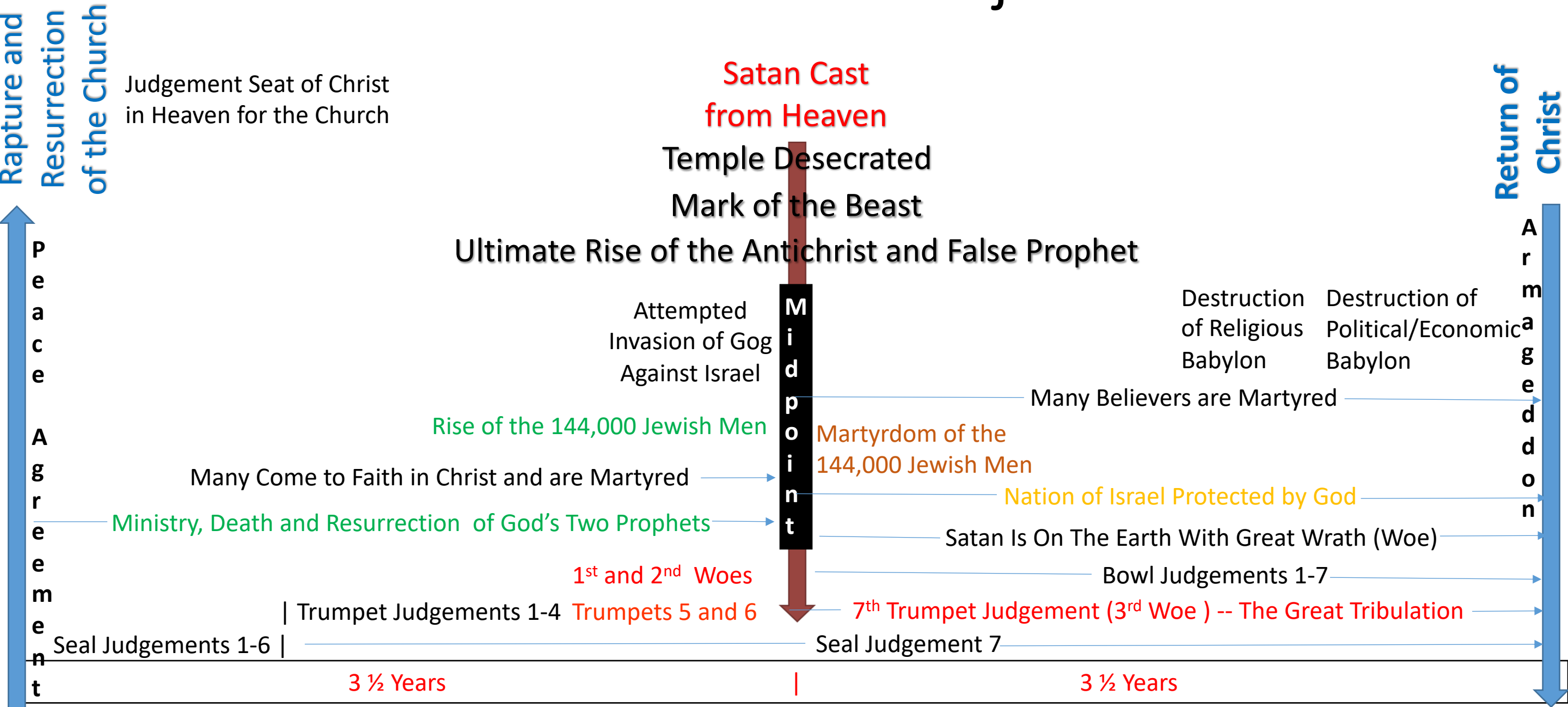
- focus on the work God has given us to accomplish
- love people and reach them with the gospel no matter who they are or where they are from
- live as if Christ will return today while working and planning as if we will live to be 100 years old

None of us knows the time of His coming (Mark 13:32), so let's just be faithful in what we do know, taking advantage of the opportunities He gives us.

# Biblical Historical Timeline



# Tribulation Period – Major Events



# The Tribulation Period

## Its Purpose

The purpose of the Tribulation is fivefold. It is to:

1. Bring an end to the rule of man upon earth
2. Establish Christ's reign on earth
3. Gather Israel to her God
4. Establish Israel's promised kingdom
5. Bring judgement upon the Gentile nations

Though there are those who incorrectly teach that there is no longer a future for Israel and that the Church has taken over Israel's place and blessings, it will become evident through this study that this is not correct. The regathering of Israel into the Millennial Kingdom is mentioned many times in the Old Testament prophets as well as in the New Testament. Israel has a future. Jeremiah the prophet makes this clear when he wrote:

**Jeremiah 31:35–37**

- 35 "Thus says the LORD,  
Who gives the sun for light by day  
And the fixed order of the moon and the stars for light by night,  
Who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar;  
The LORD of hosts is His name:
- 36 "If this fixed order departs  
From before Me," declares the LORD,  
"Then the offspring of Israel also will cease  
From being a nation before Me forever."
- 37 Thus says the LORD,  
"If the heavens above can be measured  
And the foundations of the earth searched out below,  
Then I will also cast off all the offspring of Israel  
For all that they have done," declares the LORD."

Also see Jeremiah 33:19-26 and Romans 11.

# The Tribulation Period

## The Time of God's Wrath – Revelation 5-19

### Tribulation Period References in the Old Testament Prophets

**Isa.** 2:12-22; 24; 26:20-27:1; 34:1-4; 61:2b; 63:1-6; 66:15-16; **Jer.** 25:30-38; 30:1-7,23-24; 50:3-5,13-16; 51:45-51; **Ezek.** 20:33-38; 38:1-39:24; **Dan.** 2:31-43; 7-8; 9:24-27; 12:1,11-12; **Joel** 2:1-17,30-32; 3:1-3,9-17; **Mic.** 4:11-13; 5:5b-6; **Zeph.** 1:2-3,14-2:3; 2:9-11; 3:8; **Hag.** 2:20-22; **Zech.** 2:8-9; 9:10; 10:2-5; 12; 13:8; 14:1-7,12-15; **Mal.** 3:1b-4; 4:1-3

### Tribulation Period References in Other New Testament Passages

Mat. 24:1-31; Mark 13:3-27; Luke 21:5-28; 1 Thes. 5:1-11; 2 Thes. 2:1-12

### The Day of the Lord

The Day of the Lord is a period of time which extends from the beginning of the Tribulation Period through the destruction of the current heavens and earth, encompassing the Millennial Kingdom (2 Peter 3:10). The Tribulation Period is what most people think of when hearing the phrase, "Day of the Lord," and not the Millennial Kingdom. One reason for this is that most passages which speak about the Day of the Lord focus on judgement and destruction (cf. Zeph. 1:14-2:3).

Passages which discuss the Day of the Lord in reference to the Tribulation Period: Isa. 13:6-16; Joel 2:1,11,30-31; 3:1-17; Ob. 1:15; Zeph. 1:14-2:3; Mal. 3:1b-4; 4:1-3; 2 Pet. 3:10-12; Rev. 6:12-17

### The Time of Jacob's Trouble

The Tribulation Period is also called the time of Jacob's Trouble. Jeremiah 30:7 says of the Tribulation Period:

'Alas! for that day is great, There is none like it; And it is the time of Jacob's distress, But he will be saved from it.'

See Jeremiah 30:4-7 and Daniel 12:1.

### The Time of God's Wrath

1 Thes. 5:9; Rev. 6:16-17; 11:18; 15:1; 14:10; 15:7; 16:1,19; 19:15



# The 70<sup>th</sup> Week of Daniel

## Daniel 9:24

“Seventy weeks have been decreed for your people and your holy city,

- to **finish** the transgression
- to **make an end** of sin
- to **make atonement** for iniquity
- to **bring in** everlasting righteousness
- to **seal up** vision and prophecy and
- to **anoint** the most holy place.”

By the end of this seventy-week period of time (490 years), the following will occur for Israel and Jerusalem when Christ will:

- bring their disobedience **to an end**, causing it to cease when the believing remnant receives a new heart (Jer. 31:31-34; Zech. 12:10; cf. 1 John 3:4-10), thus following and living for Jesus after His second coming (Isa. 62:10-12)
- **consume, destroy, seal up** their sin that was accomplished at the cross, but which will be realized for Israel at Christ’s second coming (cf. Ezek. 36:26-29)
- **reconcile, propitiate, cleanse and forgive** Israel’s sin that was accomplished at the cross, but which will be realized at Christ’s second coming (Ezek. 37:23)
- **establish** an age of righteousness (Isa. 60:21; Jer. 23:5-6; cf. Rev. 12:5)
- **completely fulfill** the Law and the prophets (Mat. 5:17)
- **consecrate, thus dedicate** the new millennial temple (Ezek. 41-46)

# The 70<sup>th</sup> Week of Daniel

## Daniel 9:25-26

- 25 “So you are to know and discern that from the issuing of a decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince there will be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; it will be built again, with plaza and moat, even in times of distress.
- 26 “Then after the sixty-two weeks the Messiah will be cut off and have nothing, and the people of **the prince who is to come will destroy the city and the sanctuary.** And its end will come with a flood; even to the end there will be war; desolations are determined.”

This decree was made by King Artaxerxes (Neh. 2:10-18) on March 5, 444 B.C. Within the next seven years after the decree was made, Jerusalem was rebuilt.

Sixty-two weeks after that the Messiah was cut off, killed. This occurred on March 30, 33 A.D. This completes the first sixty-nine weeks.

Then there is an interval called the Church Age. At the end of the Church Age the seventieth week of Daniel will begin, during which time the Antichrist – **“the prince who will come” – will destroy Jerusalem and the temple** (cf. Zech. 14:1-2).

NOTE: This is not talking about the destruction of Jerusalem and the temple in A.D. 70, because it says in verse 26, “And its end will come with a flood; even to the end there will be war; desolations are determined.” This has not been Israel’s history, continual war since the destruction of the temple. Thus, this is referring to the Tribulation Period.

# The 70<sup>th</sup> Week of Daniel

## Daniel 9:27

“And he will make a firm covenant with the many for one week,

but in the middle of the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; and on the wing of abominations will come one who makes desolate,

even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate.”

The Antichrist will make a covenant with the nation of Israel which is to last seven years.

Yet at the midpoint of this seventieth week the Antichrist will break this covenant, stop the sacrifices in the Jewish temple and desecrate it when his false prophet sets up a statue of the Antichrist for all to worship (Rev. 13:14-15) in the Holy of Holies (Mat. 24:15) when he will be declared as God (2 Thes. 2:4; Rev. 13:8).

This destruction will come when the Antichrist (along with his false prophet) will be cast alive into the lake of fire (Rev. 19:20).

NOTE: The Tribulation Period reverts to the Old Testament economy. Since the Holy Spirit will be removed from the earth with the Church at the rapture (2 Thes. 2:1,7), He will no longer indwell people as He does now in the Church Age. He will come upon people and leave them as He wills like in the Old Testament (cf. Psalms 51:11; Jud. 16:20; 1 Sam. 16:14).

## **The Statue – Daniel 2:32-35**

- 32 “The head of that statue was made of fine gold, its breast and its arms of silver, its belly and its thighs of bronze,  
33 its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay.  
34 “You continued looking until a stone was cut out without hands, and it struck the statue on its feet of iron and clay and crushed them.  
35 “Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver and the gold were crushed all at the same time and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them away so that not a trace of them was found. But the stone that struck the statue became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.”

### **Head of Gold**

Babylon

vss. 32, 35-38

### **Chest & Arms of Silver**

Medo-Persia

vss. 32,39

### **Belly & Thighs of Bronze**

Greece

vss. 32,39

### **Legs of Iron**

Rome

vss. 33,40

### **Feet of Iron & clay**

Revived Babylon

vss. 33,41-43

# Daniel's Vision

## Daniel 2



### **Crushing Rock**

Millennial Kingdom of Christ

vss. 34-35,44-45





# The Statue's Feet

## Daniel 2

- 32 “The head of that statue was made of fine gold, its breast and its arms of silver, its belly and its thighs of bronze,  
33 **its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay.”**

- 42 “As the toes of the feet *were* partly of iron and partly of pottery, *so* some of the kingdom will be strong and part of it will be brittle.  
43 “And in that you saw the iron mixed with common clay, **they will combine with one another in the seed of men; but they will not adhere to one another, even as iron does not combine with pottery.**

The reason that the end-time alliance of world powers will be fragile as clay is because of mankind (Dan. 2:43). Though many today desire world peace and unity among the races and nations, it will not happen even though it will seem to be a reality at the beginning of the Tribulation Period (1 Thes. 5:3). Up until the second coming of Jesus, nations and people groups will have their own agendas. Only in the Millennial Kingdom will there be peace when Christ reigns (Isa. 9:7; Ezek. 37:26). Yet even during His rule people will not always obey (cf. Zech. 14:16-19) though He will rule with an iron rod (Rev. 12:5; 19:15). Even at the end of the Millennial Kingdom many of the children born during His reign will not believe in Him. They will rise up against Jesus to overthrow Him once Satan is loosened from the abyss to their own destruction (Rev. 20:1-3,7-9).

## The Four Beasts – Daniel 7:3-8

- 2 “Daniel said, ‘I was looking in my vision by night, and behold, the four winds of heaven were stirring up the great sea.
- 3 “And four great beasts were coming up from the sea, different from one another.
- 4 “The first was like a lion and had the wings of an eagle. I kept looking until its wings were plucked, and it was lifted up from the ground and made to stand on two feet like a man; a human mind also was given to it.
- 5 “And behold, another beast, a second one, resembling a bear. And it was raised up on one side, and three ribs were in its mouth between its teeth; and thus they said to it, ‘Arise, devour much meat!’
- 6 “After this I kept looking, and behold, another one, like a leopard, which had on its back four wings of a bird; the beast also had four heads, and dominion was given to it.
- 7 “After this I kept looking in the night visions, and behold, a fourth beast, dreadful and terrifying and extremely strong; and it had large iron teeth. It devoured and crushed and trampled down the remainder with its feet; and it was different from all the beasts that were before it, and it had ten horns.
- 8 “While I was contemplating the horns, behold, another horn, a little one, came up among them, and three of the first horns were pulled out by the roots before it; and behold, this horn possessed eyes like the eyes of a man and a mouth uttering great boasts.”

## Daniel's Visions



Babylon  
vs. 4

Medo-Persia  
vs. 5

Greece  
vs. 6

Revived  
Babylon  
vss. 7-8,19-25

Christ's Kingdom will have ultimate victory  
and reign!  
vss. 26-27

## Daniel 2

Gold

Silver

Bronze

Iron

Iron & clay



Babylon  
2:32,35-38

Medo-Persia  
2:32,39

Greece  
2:32,39

Rome  
2:33,40

Revived Babylon  
2:33, 41-43

## Daniel 7



7:4

7:5

7:6

Rome is not mentioned in  
the book of Daniel again

## Revelation 13



7: 7-8,19-26; 11:36-  
12:1

Rev. 13:1-3; cf. 12:3

## Daniel 8 & 11



8:3,20;  
11:2-4

8:5,21;  
11:5-35

# Daniel Chapters 2, 7 & 8 Compared

**Crushing Rock**  
Millennial Kingdom of  
Christ  
Dan. 2:44-45; 7:19,27;  
12:2-3



# The Rapture and Peace Agreement

Rapture and  
Resurrection  
of the Church

Peace  
Agreement

## Peace Agreement

**“And he will make a firm covenant with the many for one week,** but in the middle of the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; and on the wing of abominations will come one who makes desolate, even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate.” (Dan. 9:27)

The Antichrist will make a seven-year peace agreement with Israel which probably will occur immediately after the rapture (cf. 2 Thes. 2:1-3).

## Pretribulational Rapture

Rapture passages – John 14:3; 1 Cor. 15:50-53; Php. 3:20; 1 Thes. 4:13-18; 2 Thes. 2:1

### Arguments for a Pretribulational Rapture

1. His imminent return
  - a. He is coming quickly -- Rev. 3:11; 22:7,12,20
  - b. We wait eagerly for His imminent return – Rom. 8:19,23,25; Php. 3:20-21; Titus 2:13
2. The rapture is presented first before the Day of the Lord -- 1 Thes. 4:13 - 5:1ff
3. The personal pronouns used when speaking about the rapture (“you,” “we”) versus the Tribulation Period (“they,” “them”) – 1 Thes. 4:13-5:3

4. The Holy Spirit (“restrainer”) will be removed from the earth before the Antichrist is revealed, therefore the Church must go with Him – 2 Thes. 2:6-8
5. The Thessalonians thought they had missed the rapture because they were facing persecution -- 2 Thes. 2:1-2,5 (cf. 1 Thes. 4:13 - 5:1ff)
6. The church of Philadelphia will be kept from the Tribulation Period -- Rev. 3:10,13
7. The Church is not mentioned in Revelation 4-18, being mentioned only before the Tribulation begins and at the return of Christ.
8. The focus of the Tribulation Period is not on the Church, but on Israel and the Gentile nations -- Dan. 9:24-27; Rev. 12; Mat. 24:22,24,31; 25:32; Rev. 6:15-17; 11:18; 16:19; 18:3,23; 19:15



# The Rapture Continued

## One more Pretribulational Rapture Argument

The bride of Christ is the focus of Christ's love, not His wrath – cf. Eph. 5:22-32

### The Church will not Experience God's Wrath

God's wrath can be expressed in judgement. His wrath will be poured out on unbelievers:

- at death -- John 3:36; Rom. 1:18
- during the Tribulation Period – Rev. 6:16-17
- at the Great White Throne Judgement – Rev. 20:11-15; 11:18

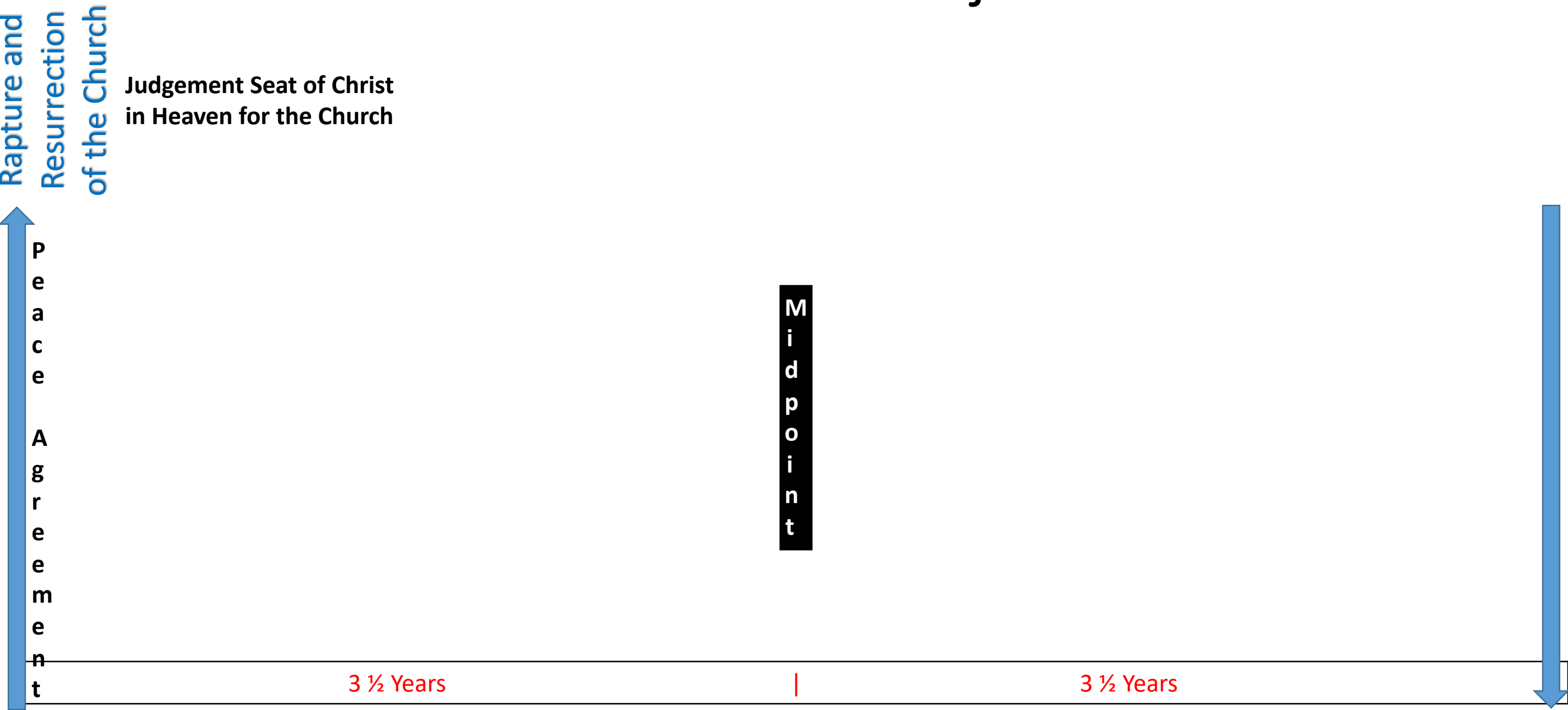
However, the Church is not destined to face God's wrath (1 Thes. 1:10; 5:9-11; Rev. 6:16-17) as the bride of His Son. Only God and Jesus' love will be poured out on His beloved bride. As Ephesians 5:25–27 says:

“Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her, so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless.”

## O.T. Types of a Pretribulational Rapture

1. Righteous Noah and his family were spared from the flood, the ark rising up above God's judgement – Gen. 7:1-24
2. Righteous Lot and his family were spared from the destruction, being removed from Sodom before the judgement – Gen. 18:22-19:25

# Tribulation Period – Major Events



# Judgement Seat of Christ in Heaven for the Church

2 Corinthians 5:10

“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.”

Romans 14:12

“So then each one of us will give an account of himself to God.”

2 Timothy 4:8

“in the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing.”

Luke 14:14

“and you will be blessed, since they do not have the means to repay you; for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

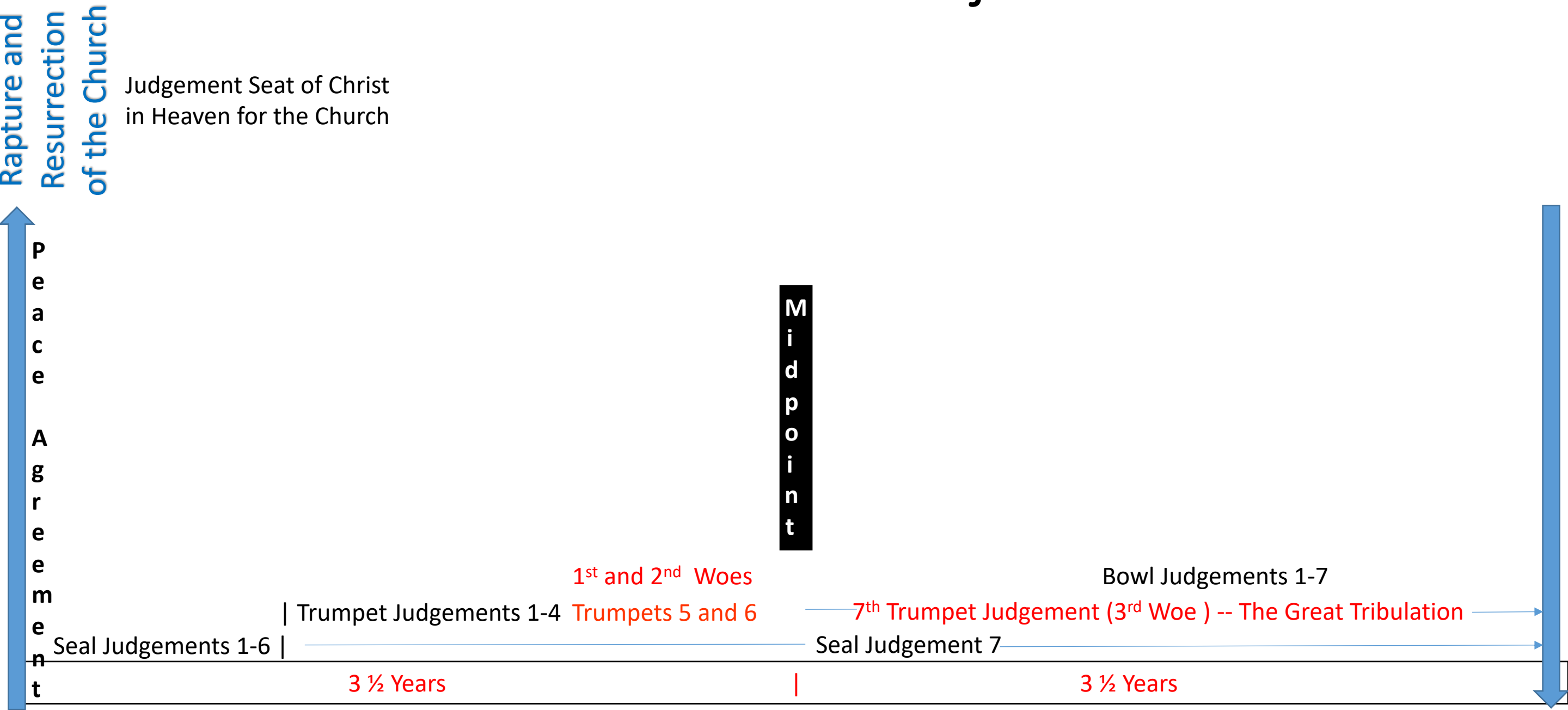
Revelation 19:7–8

“Let us rejoice and be glad and give the glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come and His bride has made herself ready. It was given to her to clothe herself in fine linen, bright and clean; for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.”

The timing of this judgement seems to occur in heaven immediately after the resurrection and rapture of the Church. The bride of Christ at the second coming will be clothed in white linen which would seem to be the result of her judgement. At this judgement all believers from the Church Age will give an account to Jesus for their deeds done in the flesh, from the time of their salvation until their death or rapture. This is not a judgement of sin but of works where rewards will be bestowed (cf. 1 Cor. 3:10-15).

See Mat. 24:45-47; 25:21-23; Acts 10:42; 17:31; 1 Cor. 3:8,10-17; Rev. 2:10

# Tribulation Period – Major Events





# The Seal, Trumpet and Bowl Judgements Overview

Rapture and  
Resurrection  
of the Church

Peace  
Agreement  
End  
t

From this point the intensity of judgements increase. This is why they are called the "Three Woes."

Rev.  
12-13  
Midpoint

5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>  
Trumpets are the  
**1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> WOES**  
(Rev. 9:12; 11:14)

1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Trumpet Judgements  
(Rev. 8:1-9:19)

1<sup>st</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> Seal Judgements (Rev. 6)

The Great Tribulation (Mat. 24:21)

1<sup>st</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> Bowl Judgements (**3<sup>rd</sup> WOE**) (Rev. 11:14; Rev. 16:1-21)

7<sup>th</sup> Trumpet Judgement (**3<sup>rd</sup> WOE**) (Rev. 11:15-17)

7<sup>th</sup> Seal Judgment (Rev. 8:1-2,5-6; 11:15-17)

3 ½ Years

3 ½ Years

# The 7<sup>th</sup> Seal and 7<sup>th</sup> Trumpet Judgements

## The 7th Seal Judgement

Revelation 8:1–2,5-6

- 1 **“When the Lamb broke the seventh seal**, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour.
- 2 **And I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and seven trumpets were given to them.**
- 5 Then the angel took the censer and filled it with the fire of the altar, and threw it to the earth; and there followed peals of thunder and sounds and flashes of lightning and an earthquake.
- 6 **And the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound them.”**

The 7<sup>th</sup> Seal Judgement encompasses the seven Trumpet Judgements.

## The 7<sup>th</sup> Trumpet Judgement (3<sup>rd</sup> Woe)

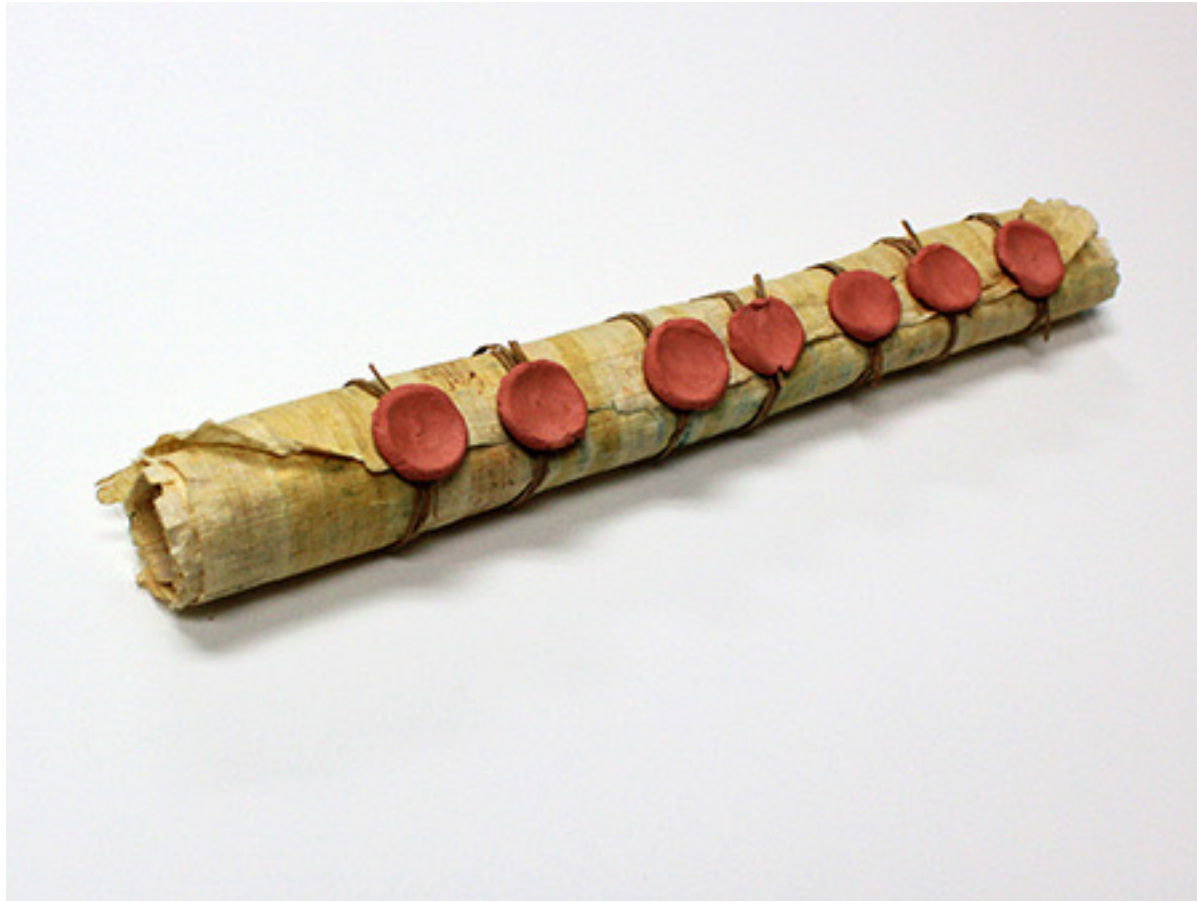
Revelation 11:14–18

- 14 “The second woe is past; behold, the third woe is coming quickly.
- 15 **Then the seventh angel sounded**; and there were loud voices in heaven, **saying, ‘The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ; and He will reign forever and ever.’**
- 16 And the twenty-four elders, who sit on their thrones before God, fell on their faces and worshiped God,
- 17 saying, ‘We give You thanks, O Lord God, the Almighty, who are and who were, **because You have taken Your great power and have begun to reign.’**

The 7<sup>th</sup> Trumpet Judgement which takes place at the midpoint of the Tribulation Period, pictures Christ beginning to reign on the earth at the end of the Tribulation Period. Therefore it covers the entire second half of the Tribulation Period. It also is the third woe, containing the seven severest judgements, the bowl judgements.

# Seal Judgements

(common, familiar types of judgements)

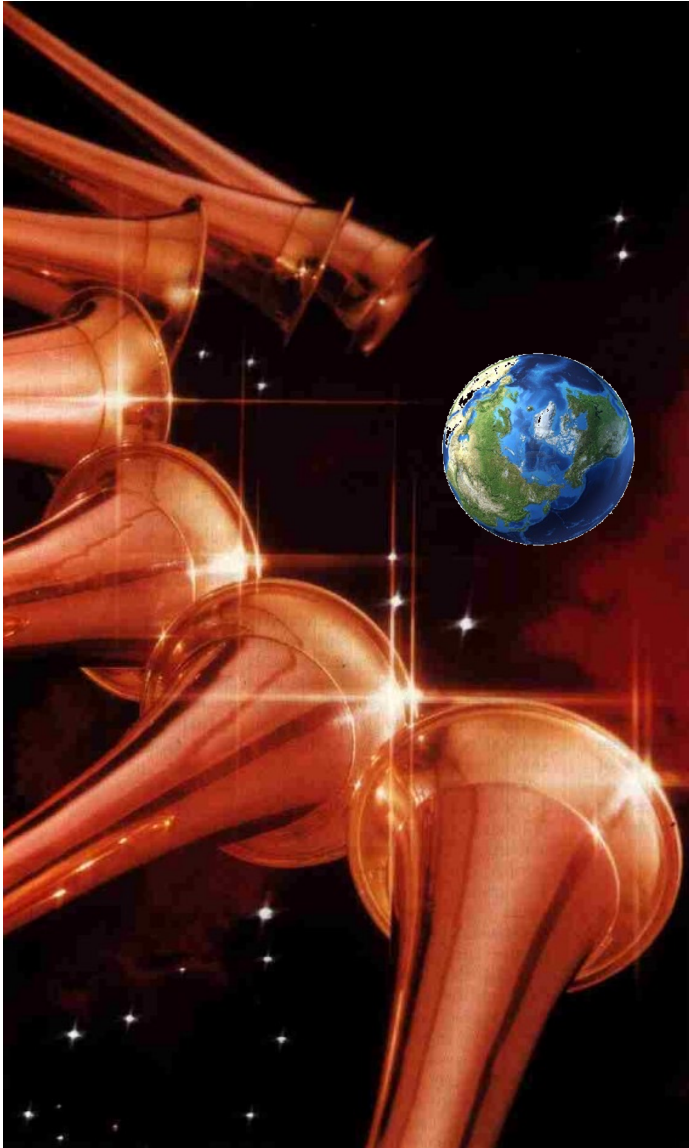


- 1<sup>st</sup> The rise of the Antichrist – Rev. 6:2; cf. Mat. 24:4-5
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Wars begin – Rev. 6:3-4; cf. Mat. 24:6-7a-b
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Famine occurs – Rev. 6:4-5; cf. Mat. 24:7c
- 4<sup>th</sup> Death occurs for one-fourth of the world's population – Rev. 6:7-8; cf. Mat. 24:7c
- 5<sup>th</sup> Many new followers of Jesus who believe after the rapture will be martyred for their faith (the Christian holocaust begins) – Rev. 6:9-11; cf. Rev. 7:9-17; 12:17; 13:15; 14:1-5; 20:4; Mat. 24:9-10
- 6<sup>th</sup> A great worldwide earthquake will occur which will move islands and mountains out of their places while meteorites fall to the earth, the sun becomes black and the moon turns the color of blood– Rev. 6:12-13; cf. Mat. 24:7d-8
- 7<sup>th</sup> The Seven Trumpet Judgements – Rev. 8:1-2,5-6

The people of the earth will know by the sixth seal judgement that that these judgements are from God and that His wrath has come (Rev. 6:15-17). They can still repent however.

# Trumpet Judgements

(limited judgements – 1/3 of the earth)



- 1<sup>st</sup> Hail, fire and blood will be thrown to the earth which will result in **one third** of the earth and trees and all the green grass being burned up – Rev. 8:7
- 2<sup>nd</sup> **One third** of the sea will become blood, **one third** of its sea life will die, and **one third** of its ships will be destroyed – Rev. 8:8-9
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Wormwood: **One third** of the world's drinking water will be made bitter – Rev. 8:10-11
- 4<sup>th</sup> **One third** of the sun, moon and stars will be darkened -- Rev. 8:12
- 5<sup>th</sup> FIRST WOE: Demons released from the abyss upon the earth to torment man for **five months** – Rev. 9:1-12
- 6<sup>th</sup> SECOND WOE: Armies numbering 200 million from the area of the Euphrates Rives (probably Islamic countries) kills **one third** of mankind – Rev. 9:13-19
- 7<sup>th</sup> THIRD WOE: The seven Bowl Judgements – Rev. 11:15-17

The judgements have increased in severity, yet God has again shown mercy by only affecting a third of mankind. Knowing that these judgements are from God, unbelievers can still repent.



# Bowl Judgements

(worldwide judgements)



- 1<sup>st</sup> **All who have the mark of the beast** will receive loathsome and malignant sores, though believers will be exempt from this judgement (cf. Exo. 9:9-11) -- Rev. 16:2
- 2<sup>nd</sup> **All of the sea** will be turned to blood and everything in it will die – Rev. 16:3
- 3<sup>rd</sup> **All drinking water** (rivers and springs) will be turned to blood – Rev. 16:4-7
- 4<sup>th</sup> **People throughout the world** will experience fierce, scorching heat – Rev. 16:8-9
- 5<sup>th</sup> **All of the earth** will be darkened and accompanied with great pain for those who follow the Antichrist – Rev. 16:10-11
- 6<sup>th</sup> **All the kings of the earth** will gather together for the great battle of Armageddon – Rev. 16:12-16
- 7<sup>th</sup> **All the cities** of the nations will fall, **all islands and mountains** will be obliterated and Jerusalem will be split into three parts, all due to a great earthquake; and men will be bombarded with 100-pound hailstones accompanied by lightning and peals of thunder – Rev. 16:17-21

By the time these judgements begin after the midpoint of the Tribulation Period, people will be forced to take the mark of the beast, knowingly taking a stand against God (cf. Rev. 6:15-17; 16:9,11), which is the reason why these judgements will be so severe. All unbelievers by this time will be worshiping the Antichrist (Rev. 13:8) and therefore will take the mark of the beast, thus sealing their fate and forfeiting the opportunity to be saved (Rev. 14:9-10). This is why God will have an angel proclaim to the people of the earth a gospel of judgement (Rev. 14:6-7, cf. 8-20). By this point all people will be either following Christ or the Antichrist, except for the Jews who will be protected.

# INTERLUDE: Understanding Matthew 24 (Chronology)

## (Verses 1-15)

### Introduction

1. Jesus speaks to His disciples about the destruction of the temple in A.D. 70 -- vss. 1-2
2. Jesus' disciples wanted clarification about the temple, His coming and the end of the age -- vs. 3
3. Jesus told them about the end of the age and His coming -- vss. 4-31

NOTE: Matthew did not record Jesus' response about the temple's destruction, which is recorded by Luke (Luke 21:20-24).

### Jesus describes the first half of the Tribulation Period -- vss. 4-14

Some understand verses 4-14 as the time in which we are now living -- as a precursor to the Tribulation Period. This is a misinterpretation as these verses are a description of the first half of the Tribulation Period (Mat. 24:8; 1 Thes. 5:3), even though there are similarities to the days in which we now live. This is because the seal judgements which Jesus describes are more common, familiar types of judgements which are experienced today.

- First seal judgment (false Christ) -- vss. 4-5 (cf. Rev. 6:2, Mark 13:6; Luke 21:8)
- Second seal judgment (war) -- vss. 6-7a-b (Rev. 6:3-4; Mark 13:7; Luke 21:9-10)

- Third seal judgment (famine) -- vs. 7c (Rev. 6:4-5; Mark 13:8; Luke 21:11)
- Fourth seal judgment (death) -- vs. 7c (cf. Rev. 6:7-8; Luke 21:11)
- Fifth seal judgment (martyrs) -- vss. 9-10 (cf. Rev. 6:9-11; Mark 13:12; Luke 21:12)
- Sixth seal judgment (earthquake) -- vs. 7d-8 (Rev. 6:12a; Mark 13:8; Luke 21:11)

### Other events during the first half of the Tribulation Period

- Many false prophets will arise -- vs. 11
- Lawlessness will increase -- vs. 12
- The ones that endure to the end will be saved -- vs. 13
- The gospel will be preached to the whole world -- vs. 14 (Rev. 7:9,14; Mark 13:10)

# INTERLUDE: Understanding Matthew 24 (Chronology)

(Verses 16-31)

**Jesus describes the second half of the Tribulation Period -- vss. 15-31**

- 1. Desolation of the temple and its results -- vss. 15-22 (Dan. 9:27; Rev. 13:11-18)
- 2. Many false Christs will arise -- vss. 23-26
- 3. His second coming -- vss. 27-28
- 4. The events of His coming -- vss. 29-31
  - a. Cosmic events take place -- vs. 29 (cf. Isa. 13:9-13; Mark 13:24-25; Luke 21:25-26)
  - b. Son of Man will come in the sky -- vs. 30 (Zech. 14:3-4; Rev. 19:11-19)
  - c. Israel ("elect") will be gathered -- vs. 31 (Isa. 66:18-20)

## Parallels Between Matthew 24 and Revelation

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>MATTHEW 24</u>	<u>REVELATION</u>
First seal (false Christ)	4-5	6:2
Second seal (war)	6-7a-b	6:3-4
Third seal (famine)	7c	6:5-6
Fourth seal (death)	7c	6:7-8
Fifth seal (martyrs)	9-10	6:9-11
Sixth seal (earthquake)	7d-8	6:12a
Gospel preached to the whole world (results in many saved)	14	7:9,13-14
Desolation of temple	15-22	13:11-18
Christ's second coming	30	19:11-19

**Therefore Matthew 24, verses 4-31 is an overview of the tribulation period in a shortened form.**

# INTERLUDE: Understanding Matthew's Parables – Focus on Israel

## (24:32-25:30)

These parables, though they are applicable to all believers, specifically target those who will go through the Tribulation Period, for Jesus said in the first parable, “when you see all these things, recognize that He is near, right at the door” (Mat. 24:33). Those who see these things, their “generation will not pass away until all these things take place” (Mat. 24:34).

### **Parable of the fig tree – 24:32-44 (Mark 13:28-32; Luke 21:29-33)**

- The time of Christ's second coming is near and associated with judgement.
  - Recognize that the time is near -- vss. 32-35
  - Only the Father knows when this will occur -- vs. 36
  - His second coming will be like in the days of Noah when people were taken in judgement -- vss. 37-44 (cf. Mat. 13:24-30, 36-43; 47-50)

### **Parable of the slaves – 24:45-51 (cf. Mark 13:33-37)**

- Blessed are those who look forward to and are prepared for Christ's second coming.
  - The faithful slave who awaits Christ's return will be blessed -- vss. 45-47
  - The evil slave will be punished -- vss. 48-51

### **Parable of the ten virgins -- 25:1-13**

- People must be prepared by knowing Jesus (vs. 12) so that when He returns to earth with His bride and enters His kingdom (vs. 1), they may enter and attend the marriage supper (cf. Rev. 19:7-9).
  - Five foolish virgins were not prepared to enter-- vss. 1-9
  - Five prudent virgins were prepared and entered the wedding feast -- vs. 10
  - One must be ready -- vss. 11-13

### **Parable of the talents -- 25:14-30**

- People need to serve Jesus faithfully while He is away, for they will one day have to give an account.
  - Three slaves were given responsibility by their master before he left on a journey -- vss. 14-15
  - Two slaves were faithful and one was not while he was away -- vss. 16-18
  - Two slaves were rewarded upon his return and one was not -- vss. 19-30

# INTERLUDE: Understanding 2 Thessalonians 2

## Verses 1-12

- 1 “Now we request you, brethren, with regard to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and **our gathering together to Him,**
- 2 that you **not be quickly shaken** from your composure or be disturbed either by a spirit or a message or a letter as if from us, **to the effect that the day of the Lord has come.**
- 3 Let no one in any way deceive you, for it will not come unless the **apostasy comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction,**
- 4 **who opposes and exalts himself** above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, **displaying himself as being God.**
- 5 Do you not remember that while I was still with you, I was telling you these things?
- 6 And **you know what restrains him now,** so that in his time he will be revealed.
- 7 For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; **only he who now restrains will do so until he is taken out of the way.**
- 8 **Then that lawless one will be revealed** whom the Lord will slay with the breath of His mouth and bring to an end by the appearance of His coming;
- 9 that is, the one whose coming is in accord with the activity of Satan, with all power and signs and false wonders,
- 10 and with all the deception of wickedness for those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth so as to be saved.
- 11 For this reason **God will send upon them a deluding influence so that they will believe what is false,**
- 12 **in order that they all may be judged who did not believe the truth, but took pleasure in wickedness.**

### COMMENTARY

**1:** Rapture

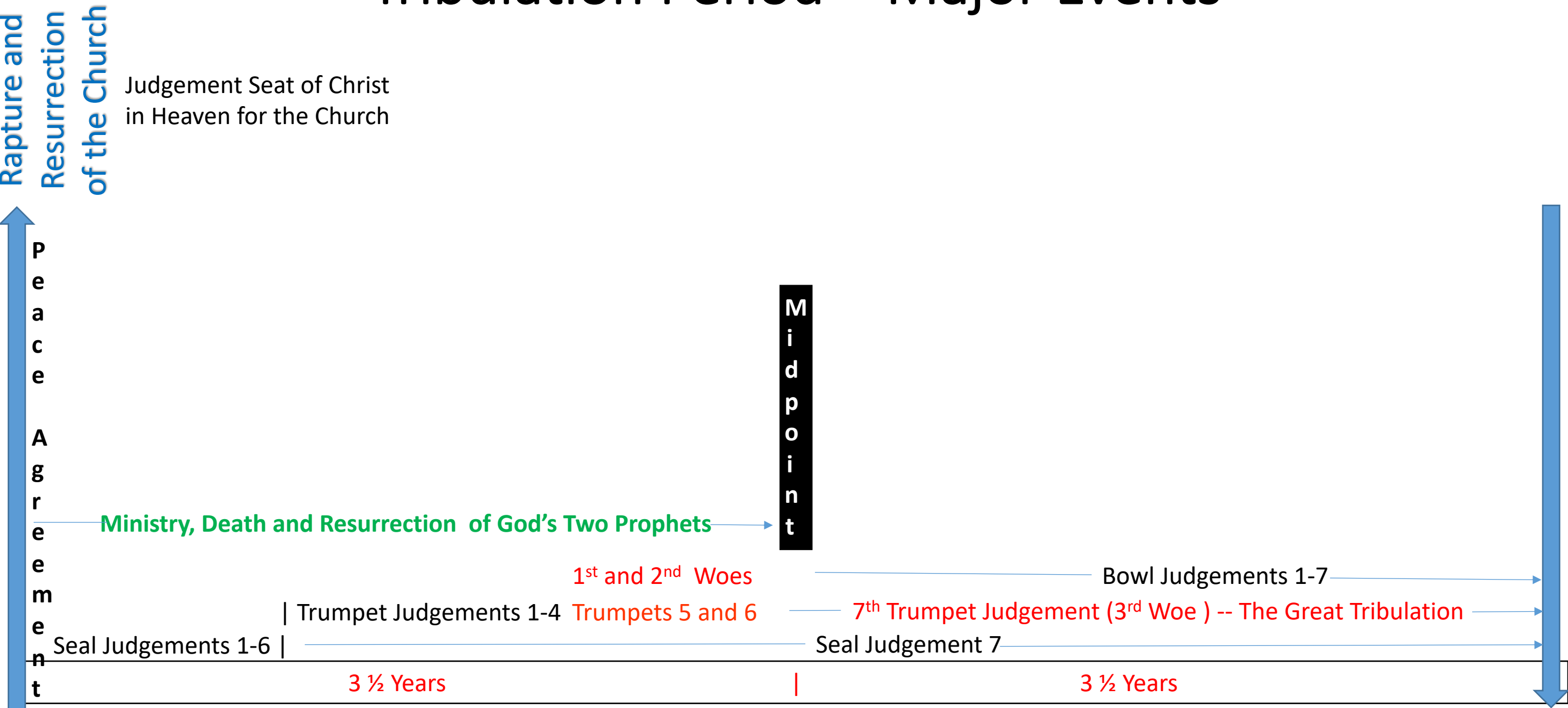
**2:** Thought they missed the rapture

**3-4:** Apostasy of Israel (peace agreement) and rise of Antichrist (Dan. 9:27)

**6-10:** The Holy Spirit restrains until the rapture, then the Antichrist will be revealed

**11-12:** God will send a deluding influence on the world to judge it

# Tribulation Period – Major Events

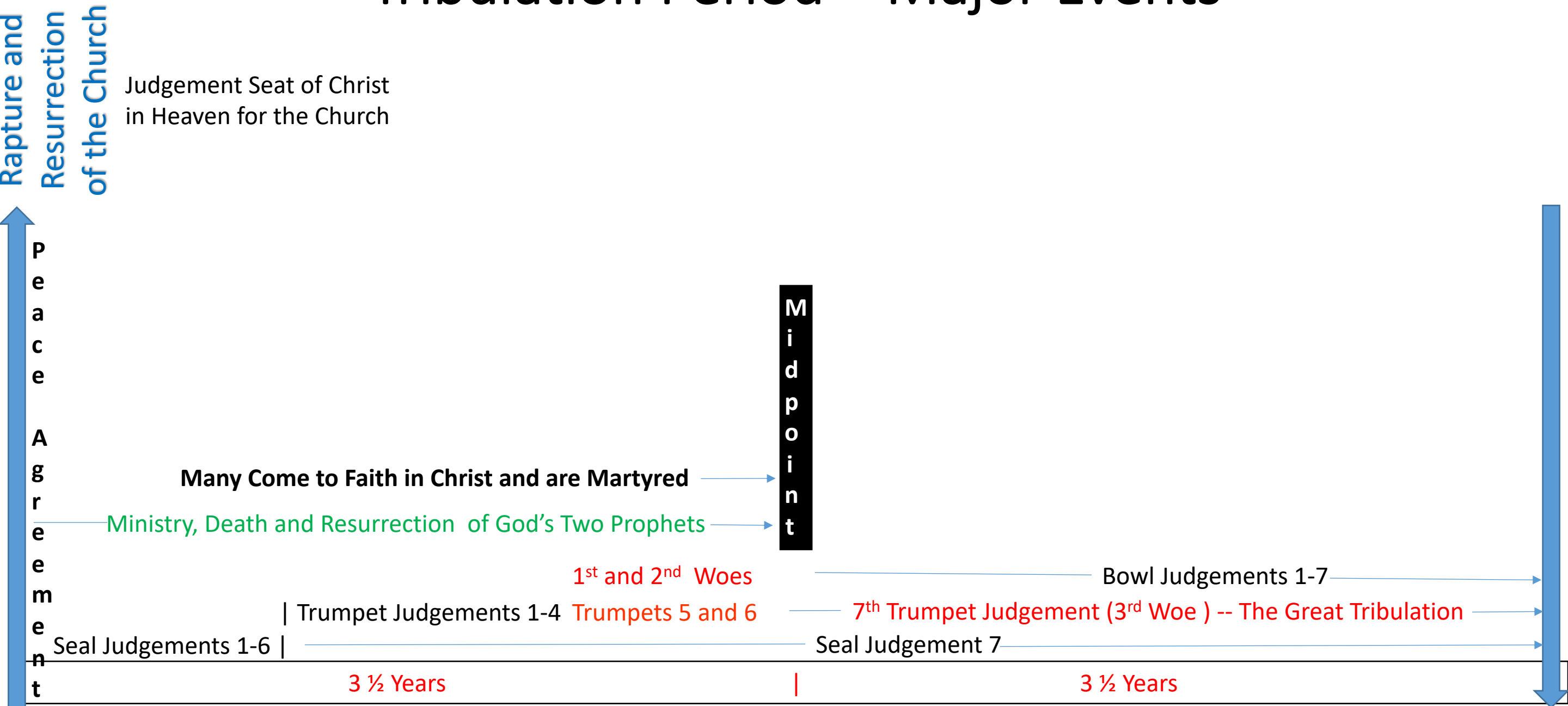




# 1<sup>st</sup> HALF: Rise, Ministry, Death and Resurrection of God's Two Prophets – Rev. 11 (cf. Rev. 11:14)

- 3 “And I will grant authority to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for twelve hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth.” (NOTE: 3.5 years)
- 4 These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands that stand before the Lord of the earth. (NOTE: They will be the anointed ones who shine light.)
- 5 And if anyone wants to harm them, fire flows out of their mouth and devours their enemies; so if anyone wants to harm them, he must be killed in this way.
- 6 These have the power to shut up the sky, so that rain will not fall during the days of their prophesying; and they have power over the waters to turn them into blood, and to strike the earth with every plague, as often as they desire.
- 7 When they have finished their testimony, the beast that comes up out of the abyss will make war with them, and overcome them and kill them.
- 8 And their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city which mystically is called Sodom and Egypt, where also their Lord was crucified.
- 9 Those from the peoples and tribes and tongues and nations will look at their dead bodies for three and a half days, and will not permit their dead bodies to be laid in a tomb. (NOTE: Their deaths will be observed on media devices by people around the world. They are not Moses and Elijah. These men have human bodies that die.)
- 10 And those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them and celebrate; and they will send gifts to one another, because these two prophets tormented those who dwell on the earth.
- 11 But after the three and a half days, the breath of life from God came into them, and they stood on their feet; and great fear fell upon those who were watching them.
- 12 And they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, “Come up here.” Then they went up into heaven in the cloud, and their enemies watched them. (NOTE: When they resurrect and enter heaven they will receive their resurrected bodies.)
- 13 And in that hour there was a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city fell; seven thousand people were killed in the earthquake, and the rest were terrified and gave glory to the God of heaven.
- 14 The second woe is past; behold, the third woe is coming quickly.” (NOTE: The two witnesses will die at the end of the first half of the Tribulation Period, by the 6<sup>th</sup> trumpet, which is the second woe.)

# Tribulation Period – Major Events



# 1<sup>st</sup> HALF: Many Come to Faith and Are Martyred

Revelation 7:9-17 (cf. Mat. 24:14)

(The Christian holocaust continues – Rev. 6:9-11; cf. Rev. 7:9-17; 12:17; 13:15; 14:1-5; 20:4; Mat. 24:9-10)

Matthew 24:14

“This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come.”

Revelation 6:9–11

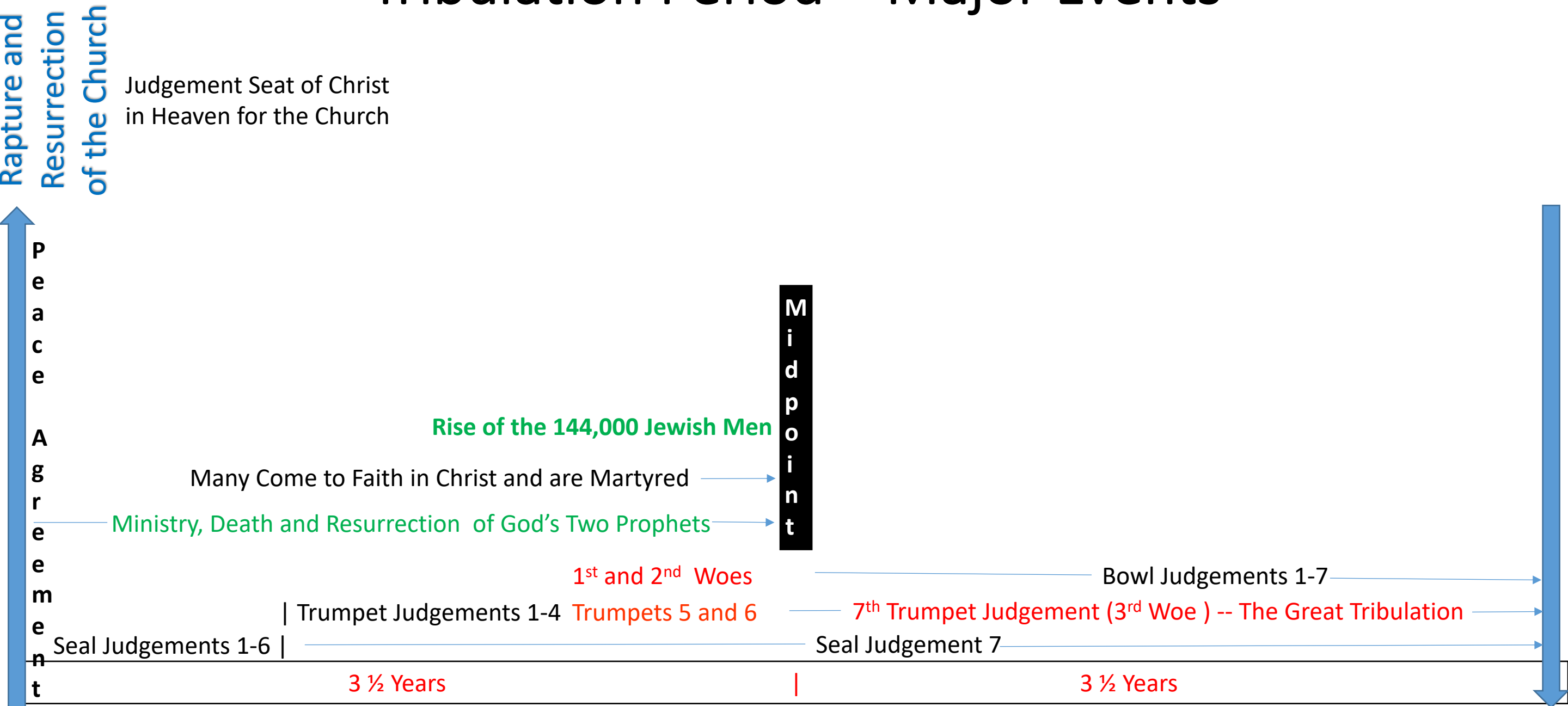
- 9 “When the Lamb broke the fifth seal, I saw underneath the altar the souls of those who had been slain because of the word of God, and because of the testimony which they had maintained;  
10 and they cried out with a loud voice, saying, “How long, O Lord, holy and true, will You refrain from judging and avenging our blood on those who dwell on the earth?”  
11 And there was given to each of them a white robe; and they were told that they should rest for a little while longer, until the number of their fellow servants and their brethren who were to be killed even as they had been, would be completed also.”

Revelation 7:9,13-14

- 9 “After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could count, from every nation and all tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, and palm branches were in their hands;  
13 Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, “These who are clothed in the white robes, who are they, and where have they come from?”  
14 I said to him, “My lord, you know.” And he said to me, “These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.”

Even during the Tribulation Period the gospel will be preached, and God in His great mercy will save many who will be martyred for their faith.

# Tribulation Period – Major Events



# 1<sup>st</sup> HALF: Rise Of the 144,000 Jewish Men

## Revelation 7:1-8

**Twelve thousand are sealed from the following tribes of Israel:**

1. Judah
2. Reuben
3. Gad
4. Asher
5. Naphtali
6. Manasseh
7. Simeon
8. Levi
9. Issachar
10. Zebulun
11. Joseph
12. Benjamin

### **Their Character -- Revelation 14:4–5**

- 4 “These are the ones who have not been defiled with women, for they have kept themselves chaste. These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes. These have been purchased from among men as first fruits to God and to the Lamb.
- 5 And no lie was found in their mouth; they are blameless.”

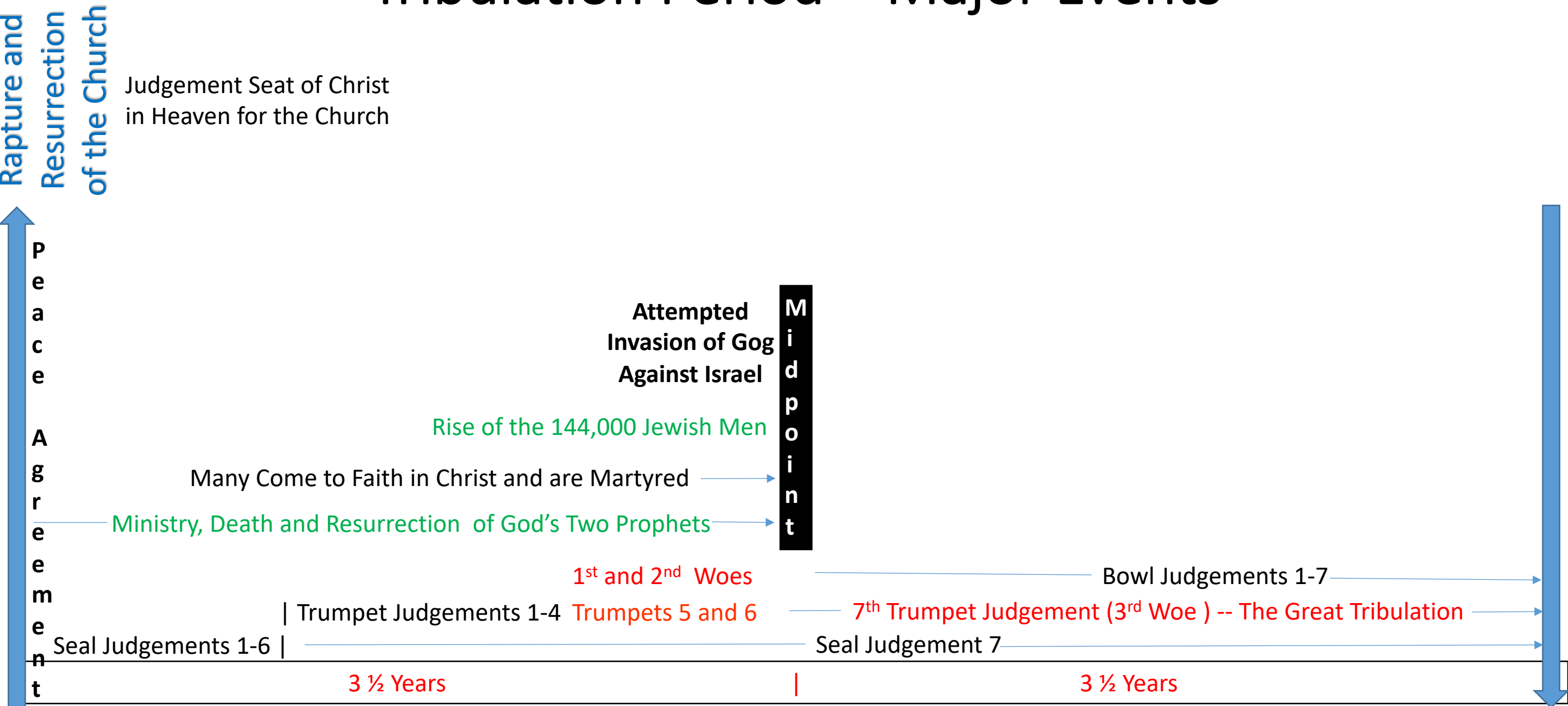
### **Their Function**

The Scriptures do not tell us. Some believe that they will be chosen to go out and spread the gospel, this being the reason they will be martyred (cf. Rev. 17:6). At the midpoint of the Tribulation Period, after God protects Israel from Satan, Satan will go after the 144,000 (Rev. 12:17) and kill them (Rev. 14:1-5). They may simply be killed for their moral purity and their testimony for Jesus.

**NOTE:** Ephraim and Dan are not listed. In their place are Levi and Joseph. Levi was never numbered with the twelve tribes since Levi is the priestly tribe (Num. 1:47-54). Joseph, being the father of Ephraim and Manasseh, is possibly listed in the place of Ephraim. However, both Ephraim and Dan will receive land in the Millennial Kingdom (Ezek. 48:2,6).



# Tribulation Period – Major Events



# 1<sup>st</sup> HALF: Attempted Invasion of Gog/Magog Against Israel

## (Ezekiel 38-39)

1. When will this attempted invasion take place?  
Israel will be living in peace in the land (38:10-16; 39:1-2). Of the four earthquakes spoken of in the book of Revelation (6:12; 8:5; 11:13; 16:18), only one of them occurs in Israel, and only one occurs in the first half of the Tribulation Period. That earthquake will take place after the death and resurrection of the two prophets, just before the seventh trumpet sounds (Rev. 11:13). This however could be a separate event not mentioned in the book of Revelation.
2. How do we know that this is not the same battle mentioned in Rev. 20:7-10?  
After God destroys this coalition (39:3-8), the people of Israel will be burning their enemies' weapons for seven years (39:9-10); and they will be burying their bodies in Israel for seven months (39:11-16). After the battle of Gog/Magog in the book of Revelation, the world immediately ends, Satan is judged, and the Great White Throne Judgement takes place (Rev. 20:11). Therefore this cannot be the same battle.
3. Which countries are involved in this coalition that will attack Israel?
  - Gog was the "Prince of Rosh," which means the "head" or "chief" prince" (38:2; 39:1). He was over the lands of Magog, Meshech and Tubal (38:2). These three lands were named after three of seven brothers (Gen. 10:2).
  - Magog , Meshech and Tubal (38:2), Gomer (a fourth brother) and Beth-togarmah (Togarmah the son of Gomer, 38:6) -- Modern-day Turkey
  - Persia (38:5) – Modern-day Iran
  - Ethiopia (38:5) – Modern-day Sudan, northern Ethiopia, and southern Egypt
  - Put (38:5) – Modern-day Libya

Therefore, the coalition will be a Muslim-led alliance by Turkey, including Iran, Sudan and Libya, which will be supernaturally destroyed by God.

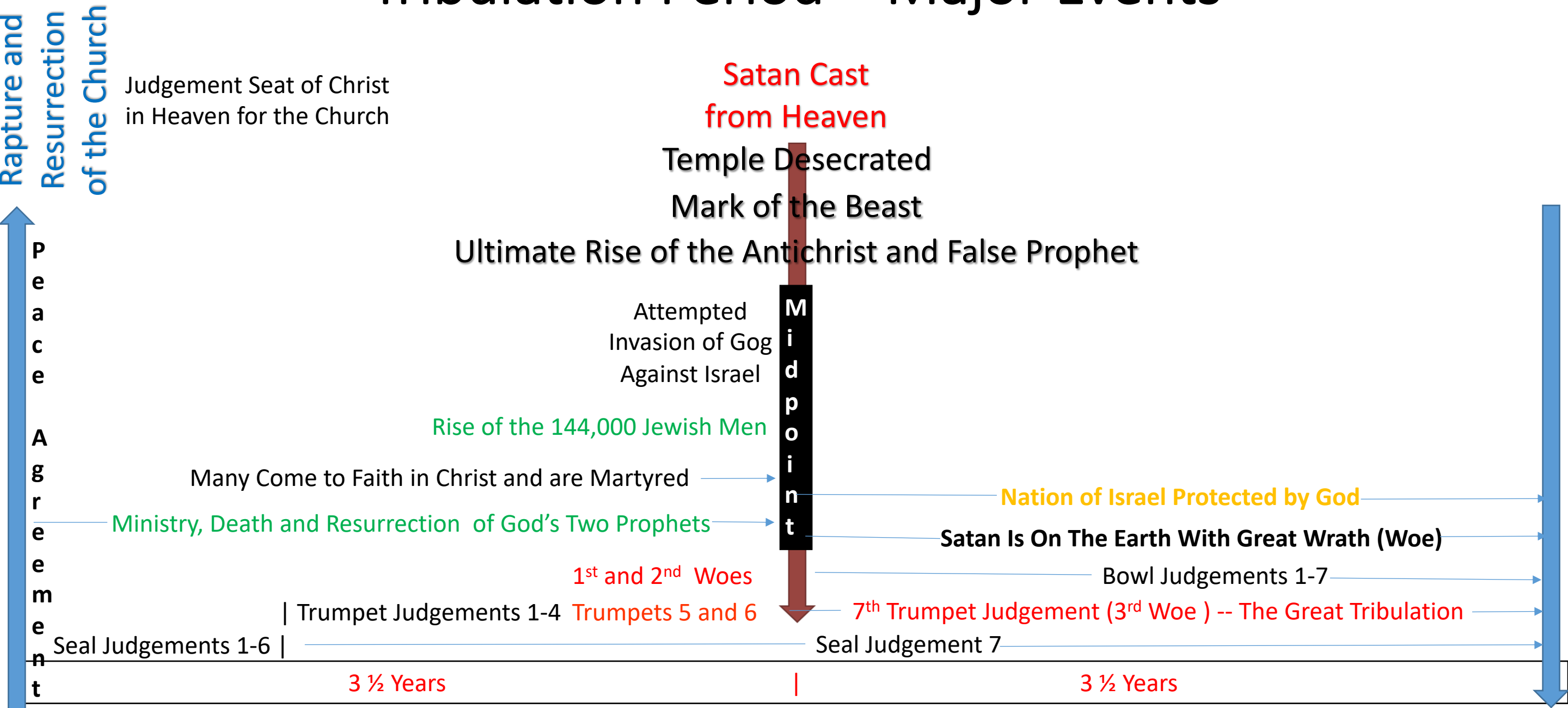
# 1<sup>st</sup> HALF: Attempted Invasion of Gog/Magog Against Israel

(Ezekiel 38-39)



These people groups and their locations  
were known to the Jews when this  
prophecy was made.

# Tribulation Period – Major Events



# Midpoint of the Tribulation Period

## Revelation 12-13

- Satan is cast out of heaven, no longer having access there – 12:7-12; cf. Job 1:6-7; 2:1-2; Zech. 3:1-2
- Satan is on the earth causing great wrath, knowing his time is short (another woe) – 12:12
- Satan attempts to persecute Israel and begins to kill the 144,000 Jews – 12:13,15,17; cf. 14:1-5
- Many Jews living in Israel are protected by God in the desert when Satan tries to kill them – 12:6,13-16
- The Antichrist is killed and rises from the dead – 13:3,14
- The Antichrist comes to full power – 13:1-2; cf. 2 Thes. 2:7-8
- A deluding influence will be sent upon the people of the world to believe what is false so they may be judged – 13:3-4; 2 Thes. 2:11-12
- The Antichrist is followed by the world – 13:4-6,8
- The Antichrist is given authority to wage war against followers of Jesus and to prevail – 13:7
- The False Prophet arises to deceive the people of the world – 13:11-15; 2 Thes. 2:9-10
- The Antichrist sets himself up as God in the Jewish Temple – 13:8; 2 Thes. 2:4
- The False Prophet desecrates the temple with a statue of the Antichrist to which he gives life and speech for all to worship – 13:14–15; cf. Dan. 9:27; 12:11; Mat. 24:15-16; Mark 13:14; 2 Thes. 2:4
- The False Prophet kills all who do not worship the image on behalf of the Antichrist – 13:15; cf. 13:7
- The False Prophet causes all people to take the mark of the beast, and those who refuse will not be able to buy or sell – 13:16-18

NOTE: After this point there will be three groups of people on the earth: 1) those with the mark, 2) those who refuse the mark, and 3) Jews who may or may not be followers of Jesus (cf. Ezek. 20:33-38) who do not have the mark. These are Jews who will either be protected by Christ in the desert (Rev. 12:13-14), scattered among the nations who will be cared for and/or will be protected by believers (Mat. 25:35-40) or Jews still living in Jerusalem (Zech. 14:1-4,14).



# 2<sup>ND</sup> HALF: The Antichrist Comes to Full Power

Revelation 13:1-8

He is described as:

- a beast coming up out of the sea (He will be a Gentile as Rev. 17:15 defines “waters” as the people of the world.)
- having ten horns, and on his horns are ten diadems (ten kings without kingdoms, 17:12)
- having seven heads, and on his heads are blasphemous names (these are seven kings all of whom have already lived and died, 17:10)
- being like a leopard (Greece, Dan. 7:6); his feet like those of a bear (Medo-Persia, Dan. 7:5); his mouth like the mouth of a lion (Babylon, Dan. 7:4)
- the one to whom the dragon gives his power, throne and great authority
- the one who has a head that has been slain, and his fatal wound healed
- the one whom the whole earth is amazed at and follows after
- the reason for which the whole earth worships the dragon, because the dragon will give his authority to the beast
- the one whom the whole world will worship, saying, “Who is like the beast, and who is able to wage war with him?”
- the one to whom is given a mouth speaking arrogant words and blasphemies (Dan. 7:8,11)
- the one to whom authority to act for forty-two months is given
- the one who will open his mouth in blasphemies against God (Dan. 11:36), to blaspheme His name and His tabernacle (those who dwell in heaven in whom He dwells, Eph. 2:21-22)
- the one to whom it will be given to make war with the saints and to overcome them
- the one to whom authority over every tribe and people and tongue and nation will be given
- the one to whom all who dwell on the earth will worship, everyone whose name has not been written from the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who has been slain

# 2<sup>ND</sup> HALF: Nation of Israel Protected by God

## Revelation 12:13-17

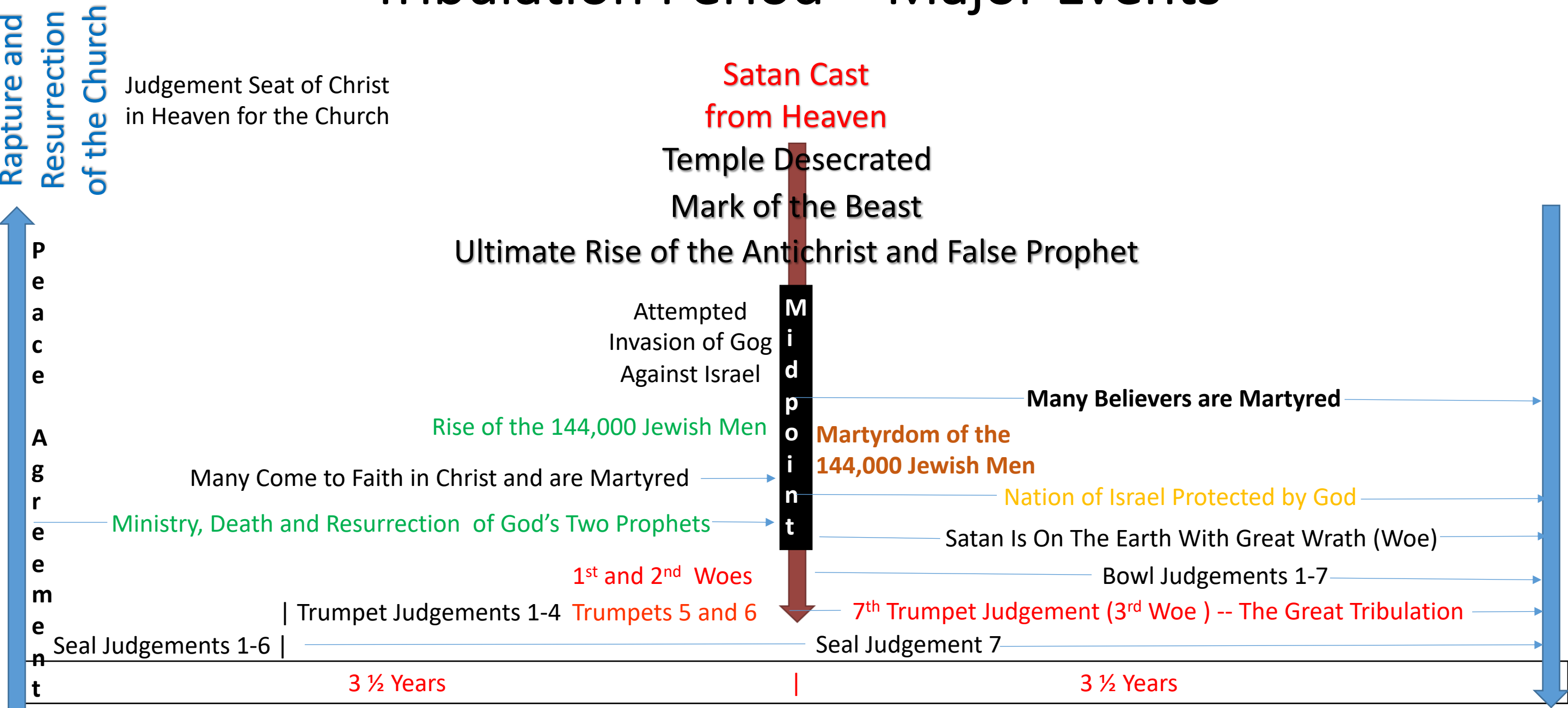
- 13 “And when the dragon saw that he was thrown down to the earth, he persecuted the woman who gave birth to the male child.  
14 But the two wings of the great eagle were given to the woman, so that she could fly into the wilderness to her place, where she was nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent.  
15 And the serpent poured water like a river out of his mouth after the woman, so that he might cause her to be swept away with the flood.  
16 But the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and drank up the river which the dragon poured out of his mouth.  
17 So the dragon was enraged with the woman, and went off to make war with the rest of her children, who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus.”

After being thrown down to the earth, Satan will attempt to destroy Israel, probably by sending troops after her (“water” can represent people in the Bible, Rev. 17:15; Isa. 8:7-8; Jer. 51:55c-56a; Dan. 7:2-3). This will take place immediately when the temple is desecrated, as Matthew 24:15–20 says:

“Therefore when you see the ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand), then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains. “Whoever is on the housetop must not go down to get the things out that are in his house. “Whoever is in the field must not turn back to get his cloak. “But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! “But pray that your flight will not be in the winter, or on a Sabbath.”

God will protect Israel by immediately and quickly moving the majority of the Jews into the desert where they will be protected for the second half of the Tribulation Period. God also will destroy the troops which will pursue her.

# Tribulation Period – Major Events



# 2<sup>ND</sup> HALF: Martyrdom of the 144,000 Jewish Men -- Revelation 14:1-5

(The Christian holocaust continues – Rev. 6:9-11; cf. Rev. 7:9-17; 12:17; 13:15; 20:4; Mat. 24:9-10)

## Revelation 12:17

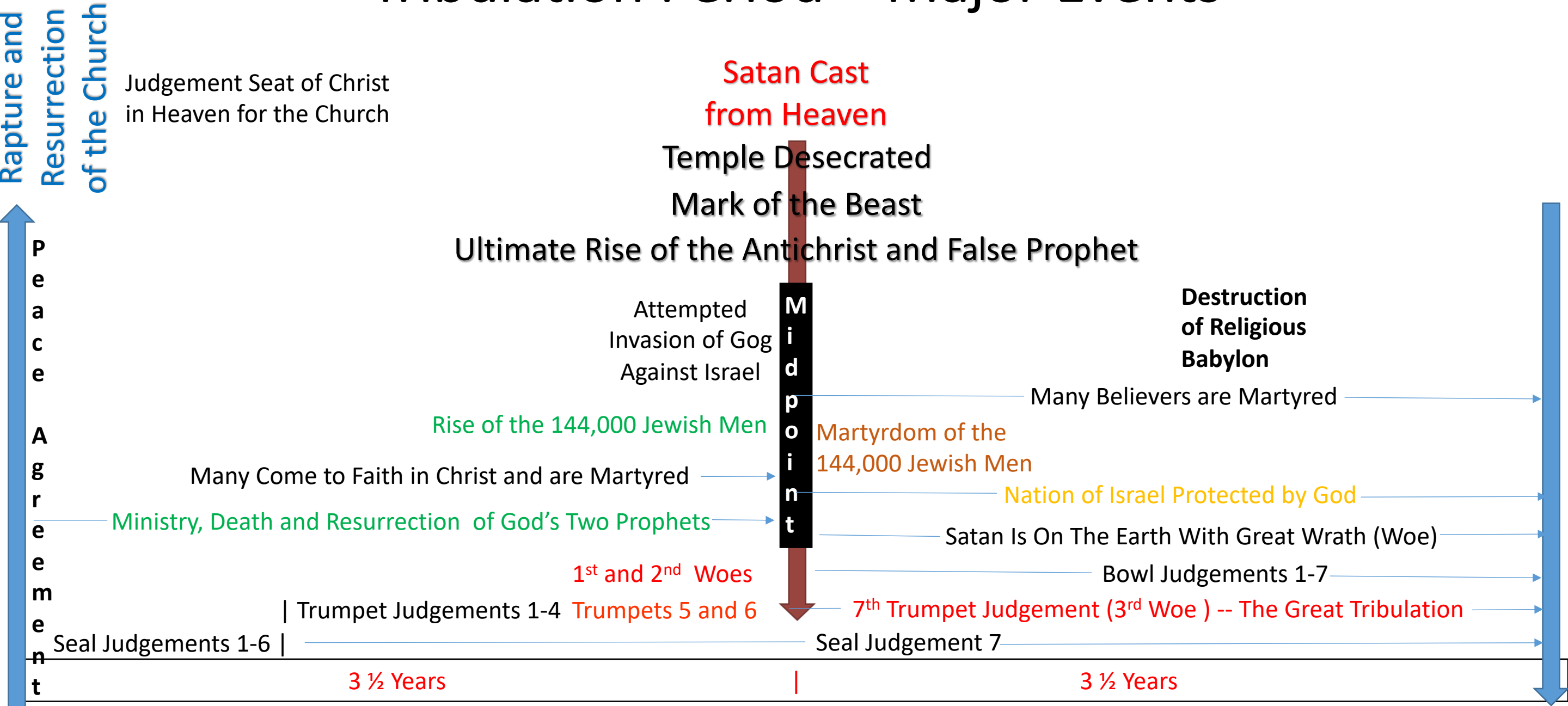
“So the dragon was enraged with the woman, and went off to make war with the rest of her children, who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus.”

## Revelation 14:1–5

- 1 “Then I looked, and behold, the Lamb was standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, having His name and the name of His Father written on their foreheads.
- 2 And I heard a voice from heaven, like the sound of many waters and like the sound of loud thunder, and the voice which I heard was like the sound of harpists playing on their harps.
- 3 And they sang a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and the elders; and no one could learn the song except the one hundred and forty-four thousand who had been purchased from the earth.
- 4 These are the ones who have not been defiled with women, for they have kept themselves chaste. These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes. These have been purchased from among men as first fruits to God and to the Lamb.
- 5 And no lie was found in their mouth; they are blameless.”

Shortly after Satan is thrown down to the earth he will kill the 144,000 Jewish men. We see them standing before the throne in heaven, before the four living creatures and the elders, as those “who had been purchased from the earth,” “the first fruits to God and to the Lamb.” In other words, they are the first ones of Israel to give their lives to and for the Lamb during the Tribulation Period. Many will be martyred during this time (Rev. 13:7,15).

# Tribulation Period – Major Events





# 2<sup>ND</sup> HALF: Identifying Babylon in Revelation 17

## Religious Babylon – One World Religion

- 1 “Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and spoke with me, saying, “Come here, I will show you the judgment of the great harlot who sits on many waters...
- 4 The woman was clothed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, having in her hand a gold cup full of abominations and of the unclean things of her immorality,
- 5 and on her forehead a name was written, a mystery, “BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.”
- 6 And I saw the woman drunk with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the witnesses of Jesus. When I saw her, I wondered greatly.
- 7 And the angel said to me, “Why do you wonder? I will tell you the mystery of the woman and of the beast that carries her, which has the seven heads and the ten horns.”

The word “harlot” is used 95 times in the Bible, two-thirds in regards to spiritual idolatry, and one-third in regards physical, sexual harlotry. In context, Revelation 17 is speaking about spiritual idolatry and abominations, therefore the judgement spoken of is against the religious portion of Babylon -- the one-world religion of the Antichrist which he will propagate, support and maintain (“carries,” vs. 7).

The great harlot is the source of those who defile and of the foul, detestable things throughout the earth. Her title in verse 5 expresses that this one-world religion is the culmination of, as well as the origin of, every false religion beginning at the Tower of Babel (Gen. 11); thus she is the mother of spiritual harlotry. It was then that Nimrod, the founder of Babylon, married a woman named Semiramis who began a mystery religion of Babylon. She claimed to have had a virgin birth and that her son who was killed later resurrected. She was known as the Queen of Heaven (Jer. 7:18; 44:17). It is this religion which is the consummation of the world’s evil and wickedness toward, and hatred of, God; being completely contrary and opposed to Him.

# 2<sup>ND</sup> HALF: Purpose of Religious Babylon

## Revelation 17

- 1 “Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and spoke with me, saying, “Come here, I will show you the judgment of the great harlot who sits on many waters,
- 2 with whom the kings of the earth committed acts of immorality, and those who dwell on the earth were made drunk with the wine of her immorality.”
- 7 “And the angel said to me, “Why do you wonder? I will tell you the mystery of the woman and of the beast that carries her, which has the seven heads and the ten horns.”

- 16 “And the ten horns which you saw, and the beast, these will hate the harlot and will make her desolate and naked, and will eat her flesh and will burn her up with fire.
- 17 “For God has put it in their hearts to execute His purpose by having a common purpose, and by giving their kingdom to the beast, until the words of God will be fulfilled.

The Harlot will be carried (supported by) the Antichrist and ultimately by Satan (cf. Rev. 12:3). She – this one-world religion (cf. Rev. 17:15) – will unite world leaders and unbelievers. This will be accomplished by the False Prophet who will cause the people of the world to worship the Antichrist and the living statue of him in the Jewish temple in Jerusalem (Rev. 13:11-15). He will also implement the mark of the beast that all must take (Rev. 13:16-17).

Eventually though the Antichrist, along with the ten world leaders, will destroy this one-world religion once he has accomplished his purposes (uniting of the world to himself), this destruction is initiated by God.

# 2<sup>ND</sup> HALF: Principal City of Religious Babylon -- Revelation 17

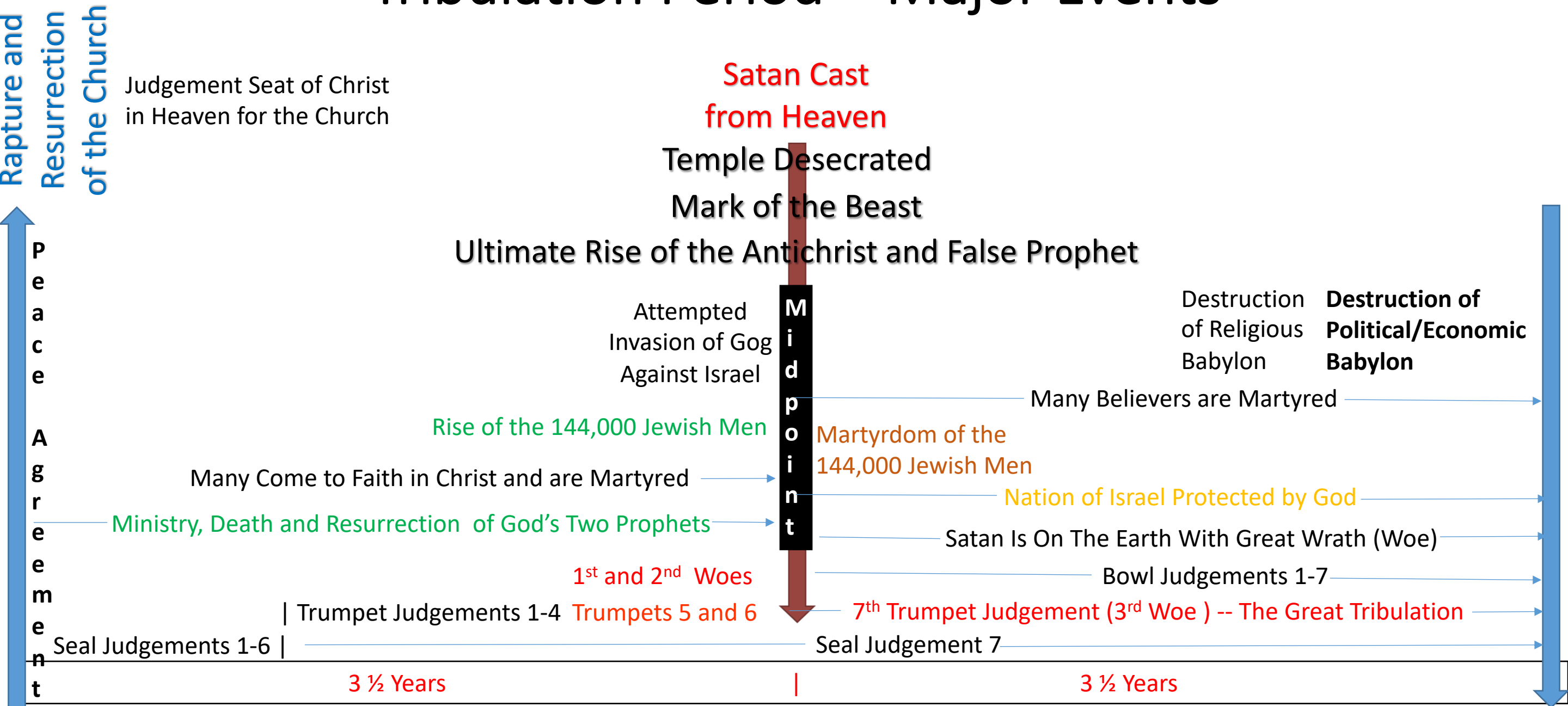
- 18 “The woman whom you saw is [the great city](#), which reigns over the kings of the earth.”
- 6 “And I saw the woman drunk with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the witnesses of Jesus. When I saw her, I wondered greatly.

Which city will this be? Some think:

- The ancient city of Babylon rebuilt
- Rome (seat of the Roman Catholic Church)
- Dubai (which contains the tallest building in the world, to some representing the ancient Tower of Babel. It is called, “Burj Khalifa.” A Khalifa is a civil and religious leader who represents Allah on earth and is seen by some as the one who will unite all Muslims and their lands and will conquer and subjugate the rest of the world, a goal of Islam. It is the goal of Dubai to become a world economic center.)
- Jerusalem (called “The Great City,” Rev. 11:8)
- No one knows at this time!

It seems that Jerusalem might be the city of Religious Babylon as it will probably be the religious center of the world. Not only is it already considered the holiest city in the world, but during the Tribulation Period the Antichrist will be worshipped in its Jewish temple (Rev. 13:15). In its history, Jerusalem was responsible for the deaths of many believers – O.T. prophets, James the Apostle, Stephen, Jesus and other believers (2 Chr. 24:20-22; Mat. 23:30,37; Acts 7:52,59-6:1; 9:1,13,21; 12:2; 22:4; 26:10) – and in her will take place the killing of the two prophets at the end of the first half of the Tribulation Period (Rev. 11:7-10). Jerusalem is also called “the great city which mystically is called Sodom and Egypt, where also their Lord was crucified” (Rev. 11:8). Sodom establishes Jerusalem’s wickedness (Gen. 18:20; 19:1-11) and Egypt its idolatry and false religions (Josh. 24:14; Isa. 19:1-3; Jer. 43:13).

# Tribulation Period – Major Events



# 2<sup>ND</sup> HALF: Identifying Babylon in Revelation 18

## Political/Economic Babylon – One World Government (cf. Jer. 51; Ezek. 27)

- 1 “After these things I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was illumined with his glory.
- 2 And he cried out with a mighty voice, saying, “Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great! She has become a dwelling place of demons and a prison of every unclean spirit, and a prison of every unclean and hateful bird.
- 3 “For all the nations have drunk of the wine of the passion of her immorality, and the kings of the earth have committed acts of immorality with her, and the merchants of the earth have become rich by the wealth of her sensuality.”
- 9 “And the kings of the earth, who committed acts of immorality and lived sensuously with her, will weep and lament over her when they see the smoke of her burning,
- 10 standing at a distance because of the fear of her torment, saying, ‘Woe, woe, the great city, Babylon, the strong city! For in one hour your judgment has come.’
- 11 “And the merchants of the earth weep and mourn over her, because no one buys their cargoes any more”

- Another angel comes to proclaim judgement against Babylon, this time the focus being on her political and economic aspects. Because another angel comes, this would signify that this is a separate judgement and a different city from the one in Revelation 17.
- Babylon is judged both spiritually and physically (“demons” and “birds”)
- Involved in her sins will be: 1) all the nations, 2) all the world leaders, and 3) all the merchants of the earth.
- At her destruction all of the world leaders, merchants, those who make their living by the sea and the passengers of the ships (vss. 17-19) will weep and mourn over her destruction as the world economy will be completely destroyed.

# 2<sup>ND</sup> HALF: Principal City of Political/Economic Babylon

## Revelation 18

- 19 “And they threw dust on their heads and were crying out, weeping and mourning, saying, ‘Woe, woe, the great city, in which all who had ships at sea became rich by her wealth, for in one hour she has been laid waste!’
- 20 “Rejoice over her, O heaven, and you saints and apostles and prophets, because God has pronounced judgment for you against her.”
- 21 Then a strong angel took up a stone like a great millstone and threw it into the sea, saying, “**So will Babylon, the great city**, be thrown down with violence, and will not be found any longer.
- 24 “And in her was found the blood of prophets and of saints and of all who have been slain on the earth.”

This city will be a luxuriant city with a port which will be responsible for the death of God’s people. Which city will this be? Some think:

- The ancient city of Babylon rebuilt
- New York City (home of the UN, a world financial center, located on the Atlantic Ocean)
- Dubai (contains the tallest building in the world, to some representing the ancient Tower of Babel, located on the Persian Gulf. Dubai desires to be a world economic center.)
- Every city (representing the world system; 1 John 2:15)
- Brussels, Belgium (capital of the European Union and its parliament. The EU Parliament has 751 seats in two locations -- Brussels and Strasbourg, France. Brussels is also located near the North Sea (about 70 kilometers away, Antwerp being a port city).
- No one knows at this time!

The reason Political/Economic Babylon cannot be Jerusalem is because this city will be destroyed and will have no future (Rev. 18:21-23), whereas Jerusalem does have a future (Rev. 20:6-9). Its destruction will take place at the end of the seventh bowl judgement (Rev. 16:17-21) at the end of the Tribulation Period.



# 2<sup>ND</sup> HALF: Political/Economic Babylon

Revelation 18

COULD THE EUROPEAN UNION BE THE LOCATION OF POLITICAL/ECONOMIC BABYLON?

1. Austria
2. Belgium
3. Bulgaria
4. Croatia
5. Cyprus
6. Czech Republic
7. Denmark
8. Estonia
9. England
10. France
11. Germany
12. Greece
13. Hungary
14. Ireland

These are the countries which currently make up the membership of the European Parliament as of September, 2015, many more than ten.

NOTE:

As of June, 2015, Andrea Bocskor who was elected in Hungary also has dual citizenship with Ukraine. She became the first elected Ukrainian in the European Parliament. She lives in Berehove, Ukraine.

15. Italy
16. Latvia
17. Lithuania
18. Luxembourg
19. Malta
20. The Netherlands
21. Poland
22. Portugal
23. Romania
24. Slovakia
25. Slovenia
26. Spain
27. Sweden
28. United Kingdom

# 2<sup>ND</sup> HALF: Political/Economic Babylon

Daniel 2 (cf. Revelation 18)

## COULD THE EUROPEAN UNION BE THE LOCATION OF POLITICAL/ECONOMIC BABYLON?

In Nebuchadnezzar's vision of the statue, though the feet of the statue are attached to the legs, this does not mean that the feet represent a revived Roman empire. The thighs – the upper portion of the legs with the belly – represent Greece. Though the thighs are a part of the legs, the empires of Greece and Rome were separate. This being the case, there is no indication that the feet must be a continuation of the former Roman Empire. This empire of the feet, I believe, should be called, "The Revived Babylonian Empire." As with the Babylonian Empire of King Nebuchadnezzar, this empire represented by the statue's feet will have worldwide dominion as King Nebuchadnezzar's kingdom was described (2:38; 4:21-22; 5:19). Though the empire of the Medo-Persians was twice as expansive, Nebuchadnezzar's empire was strong and feared, and established by God (2:36). It was a greater and more feared kingdom than the Medo-Persian, Greek and Roman empires. Also, when looking at the description of the Antichrist's empire symbolized as feet, it is described as a separate empire and is not described as an extension of the Roman Empire ("In that you saw the feet and toes, partly of potter's clay and partly of iron, it will be a divided kingdom...", 2:41).

Since the feet are the foundation of the statue, they represent that this last kingdom will crush and trample under foot the empires which came before (Dan. 7:7). These peoples remain, though their dominion was taken away (Dan. 7:12). It will not be until the empire of the feet is crushed that all aspects of the four previous empires will be gone and not a trace of them will exist any longer (2:35,44). Also, the fact that Babylon is portrayed in two parts – religious and political/economic – could be another reason that two feet were chosen to represent the final empire. The iron and clay were chosen to represent that this kingdom will be divided due to its eclectic nature.

# 2<sup>ND</sup> HALF: Similarities of Religious versus Political/Economic Babylon

## Revelation 17

- 5 “BABYLON THE GREAT”
- 18 “the great city”
- 4 “clothed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls”
- 4 “having in her hand a gold cup”
- 2 “the kings of the earth committed acts of immorality, and those who dwell on the earth were made drunk with the wine of her immorality.”
- 6 “drunk with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the witnesses of Jesus.” (cf. 11:1-14)
- 11 “The beast...**he goes to destruction.**” [The beast in this verse represents the government of the Antichrist.]
- 16 “burn her up with fire.”

## Revelation 18

- 2 “Babylon the great!”
- 10 “the great city”
- 16 “clothed in fine linen and purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls”
- 6 “in the cup which she has mixed”
- 3 “For all the nations have drunk of the wine of the passion of her immorality, and the kings of the earth have committed acts of immorality with her”
- 24 “found the blood of prophets and of saints”
- 21 “Then a strong angel took up a stone like a great millstone and threw it into the sea, saying, ‘So will Babylon, the great city, be thrown down with violence, and will not be found any longer. 2 She has become a dwelling place of demons and a prison of every unclean spirit, and a prison of every unclean and hateful bird.’”
- 8 “she will be burned up with fire”

# 2<sup>ND</sup> HALF: Differences of Religious versus Political/Economic Babylon

## Revelation 17

- 1 “Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls”
- 7 “the beast that carries her, which has the seven heads and the ten horns.”
- 16 “And the ten horns which you saw, and the beast, these will hate the harlot and will make her desolate and naked, and **will eat her flesh and will burn her up with fire.**”
- 17 “For God has put it **in their hearts** to execute His purpose”

[True believers will not participate in the worship of the Antichrist so this warning is not given in Revelation 17 (Rev. 14:9-10).]

## Revelation 18

- 1 “I saw another angel”
- [Political/Economic Babylon is the beast which carries Religious Babylon.]
- 8 “For this reason in one day her plagues will come, pestilence and mourning and famine, and she will be burned up with fire; **for the Lord God who judges her is strong.**”
- 4 “Come out of her, my people, so that you will not participate in her sins and receive of her plagues”

# 2<sup>ND</sup> HALF: Summary of Religious versus Political/Economic Babylon

Similarities Expected! Differences are Important!

## Similarities

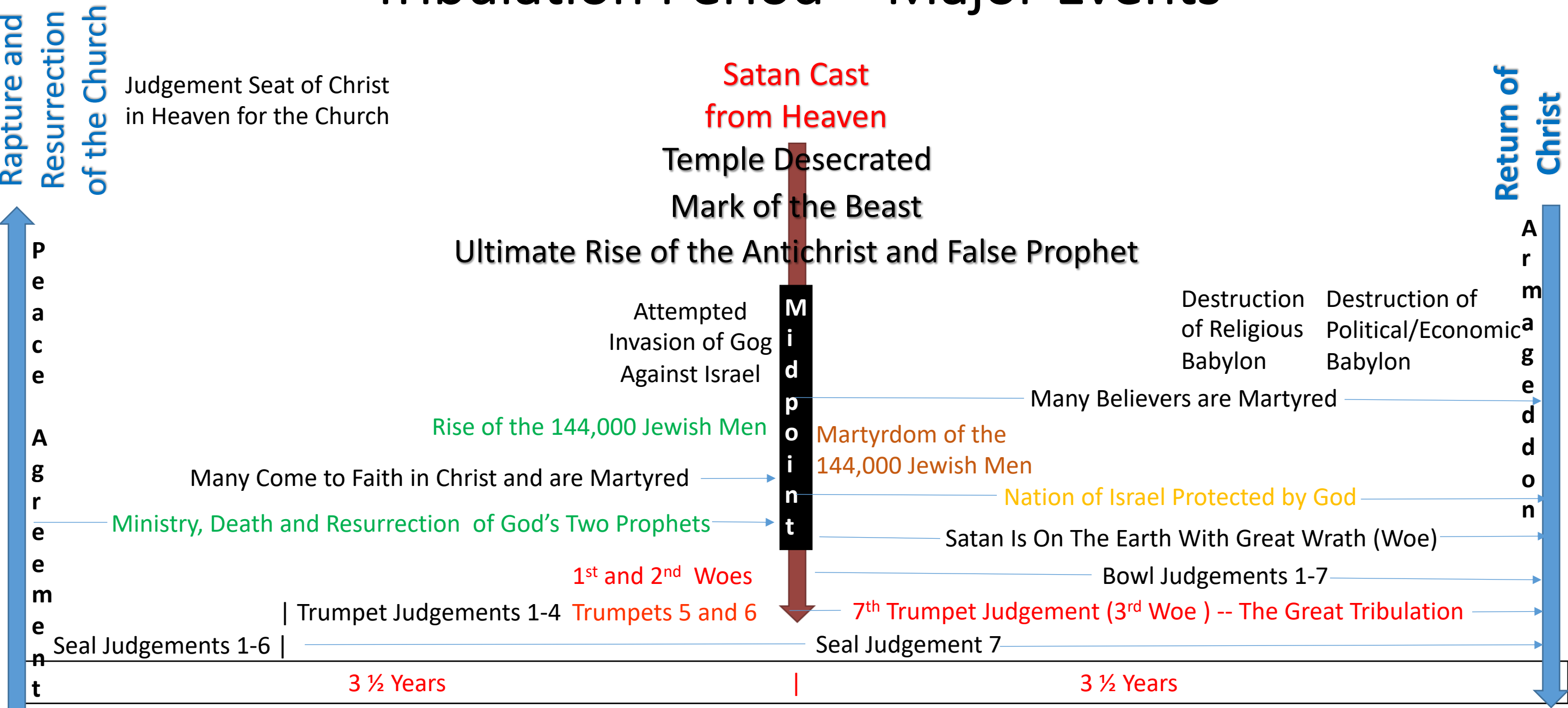
One would expect to see similarities between Religious Babylon and Political/Economic Babylon. They both are Babylon, making up two distinct parts of one evil, end-time entity.

Though Religious Babylon and Political/Economic Babylon are similar, the differences between them are also important.

## Differences

- ❖ Whereas the angel who announced the destruction of Religious Babylon was one of the angels who had one of the 7 bowls;
- ❖ It was a different angel who announced the destruction of Economic/Political Babylon
- ❖ Whereas Religious Babylon will be destroyed by the 10 kings prompted by God;
- ❖ Political/Economic Babylon will be destroyed by God directly
- ❖ Whereas Political/Economic Babylon will be destroyed and never inhabited again except by demons and detestable birds;
- ❖ Religious Babylon is not spoken about in this way
- ❖ Whereas believers are told to come out of Political/Economic Babylon and not participate in her sins;
- ❖ Believers are not told this in Religious Babylon because they will not do this. If they would, then they would not be true believers (Rev. 14:9-10).

# Tribulation Period – Major Events





# 2<sup>ND</sup> HALF: Return of Christ -- Revelation 19

- An invitation is made to the marriage supper of the Lamb which will take place at the beginning of the Millennial Kingdom -- Rev. 19:7-10; Mat. 22:1-14; 25:1-13; Luke 14:16-24
- Jerusalem will be attacked by the armies of the world – Zech. 12:1-3; 14:1-2
- Jesus will return on horseback with the resurrected believers from the Church Age along with the angels to the Battle of Armageddon -- Rev. 19:7-8,11-18; Mat. 16:27; 25:31; Mark 8:38; 1 Thes. 3:13; 2 Thes. 1:6-10; Jude 14-15
- The Battle of Armageddon will take place when:
  - The kings of the earth come to battle against Jerusalem – Zech. 14:2
  - Jesus will return unexpectedly to fight for Jerusalem and Judah -- Rev. 14:17-20; 16:13-16; 17:14; 19:19; Jude 14-16; Jer. 25:30-38; Dan. 7:25-26; Zeph. 12:4-9; 14:3,12
- The Antichrist and False Prophet will be thrown alive into the lake of fire -- Rev. 19:20-21
- Jesus will enter Jerusalem to set up His kingdom -- Zech. 14:4-7; Mat. 24:27-30
- **INTREVAL BETWEEN THE TRIBULATION PERIOD AND MILLENNIAL KINGDOM:** Thirty days to prepare for the kingdom and regather Israel (accounting for the extra 30 days, 1290 versus 1260), and 45 days of judgement (c.f. 1,335 days) – Dan. 12:10-11
- Satan will be bound for 1,000 years -- Rev. 20:1-3
- Regathering of Israel will take place –Deut. 30:4; Isa. 11:11-12; 43:5-7; 66:18-20; Jer. 30:11; 32:37; Ezek. 20:34,41-42; 36:24; 37:21; 39:27; Hosea 1:11; Mic. 2:12a; 5:3; Zech. 8:7-8; 10:6-12; Mat. 24:31; Mark 13:27
- Judgement of the Gentiles will take place -- Mic. 7:13,16-17; Mat. 13:41-43,49-50; 25:31-46
- Judgement of Israel will take place – Isa. 66:17; Jer. 30: 11; Ezek. 20:34-38; 34:17-22; Zech. 13:8-9; Mal. 3:5-6
- Israel's remnant will receive a new heart (the New Covenant) – Jer. 31:31-34; 32:38-40; Ezek. 36:25-27; Zech. 12:10
- Resurrection of tribulation saints will occur -- (conclusion of the Christian holocaust (Rev. 6:9-11; cf. Rev. 7:9-17; 12:17; 13:15; 14:1-5; Mat. 24:9-10) -- Rev. 20:4-6
- Resurrection of believing Israel and other believers from the Old Testament period will occur -- Ezek. 37:1-14; Dan. 12:1-3; Mal. 3:17-19; Mat. 8:11

# Interval: The Sheep/Goat and Israeli Judgements

Matthew 25:31-46; Zech. 13; Ezek. 20:33-38

## The Sheep/Goat Judgement of the Gentiles

Jesus speaks about the sheep/goat judgment of the “Gentiles” at His second coming. (NOTE: The word, “Gentiles,” is a better translation of the Greek word, “ethnos” translated as “nations” in the NASB and as “peoples” in the Russian Synodal Version.)

Upon entering Jerusalem and establishing His reign on earth, Jesus will send forth His angels to gather the unbelievers from around the world for judgement (Mat. 13:24-30,36-43,47-50; 24:36-41). Their judgement will be based upon their treatment of the Jews during the Tribulation Period (Mat. 25:40,45). He will then:

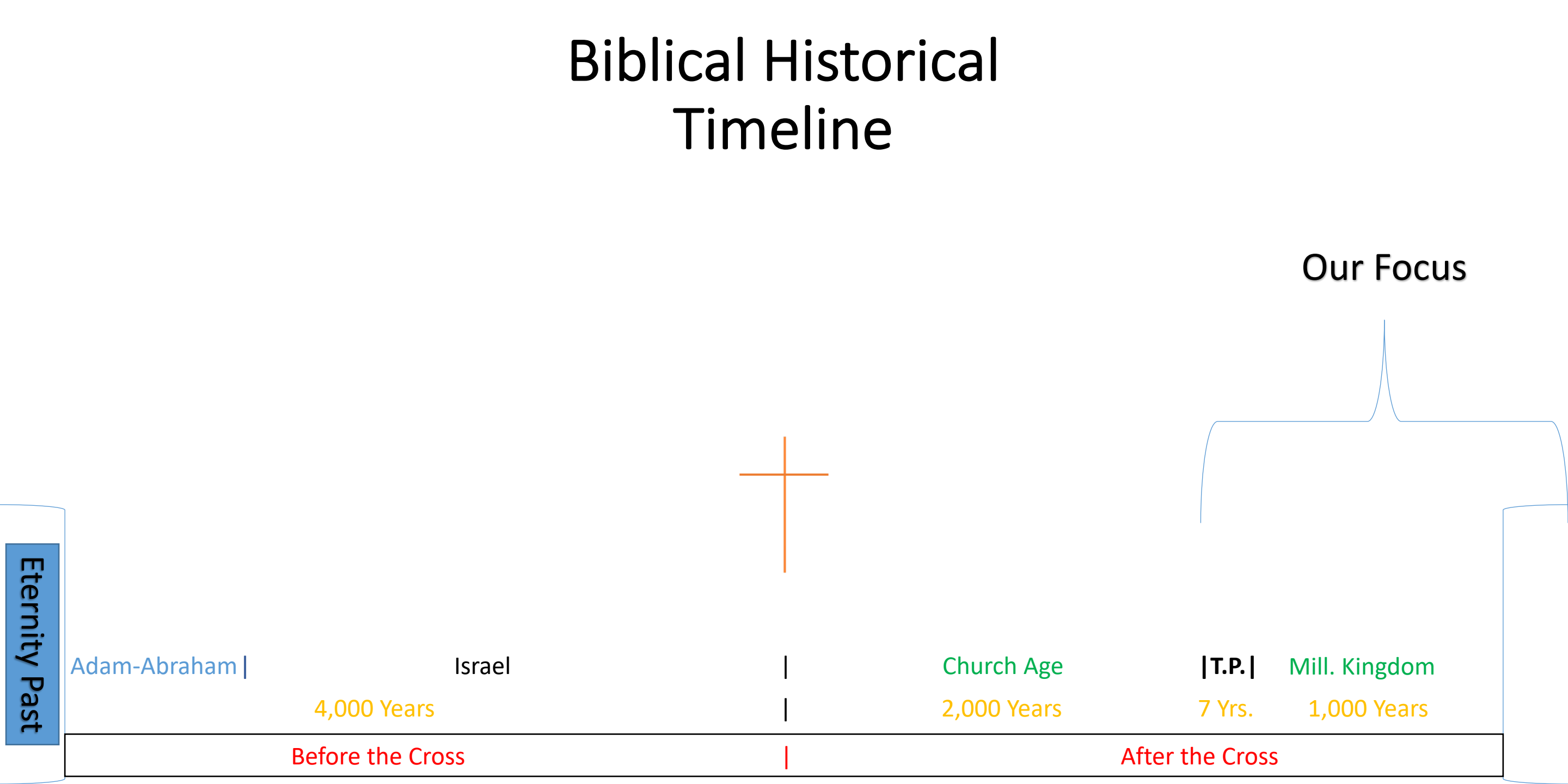
- separate the believers from the unbelievers -- vss. 31-33
- reward the believers with life in the Millennial Kingdom -- vss. 34-40
- Send the unbelievers into eternal punishment -- vss. 41-46

## The Nation of Israel Judged

During the Tribulation Period, though much of Israel is protected in the desert (Rev. 12:6,13-17), there will be those who remain in Jerusalem, half of which will be exiled (Zech. 14:2). It is obvious as well that other Jews will be scattered throughout the nations of the world, for they will later be gathered after the Tribulation Period (Ezek. 20:33-34). Of those who are not protected by God in the desert, two-thirds will be killed (Zech. 13:8) and one-third will live (Zech. 13:9). After the Tribulation Period ends, when Jesus gathers the Jews from the nations of the world, they along with those who were protected by God, will be judged in the desert by Jesus (Ezek. 20:33-38; 34:17-22). Those who are believers will be given a new heart (regeneration, cf. Titus 3:5) (Jer. 31:31-34; Zech. 12:10). They will then enter into Christ’s Millennial Kingdom (Ezek. 20:38).

**As a result of these two judgements, only believers will enter the Millennial Kingdom.**

# Biblical Historical Timeline



# Millennial Kingdom

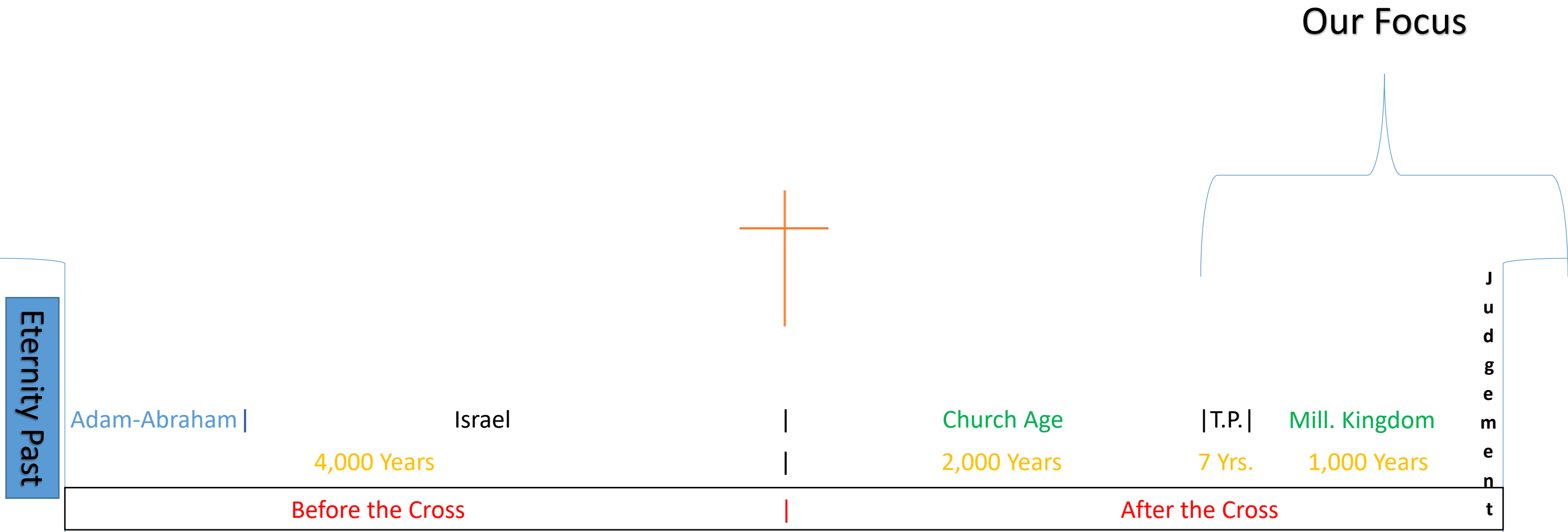
## Revelation 20

### Millennial Kingdom References in the Old Testament Prophets

**Isa.** 2:1-4; 4:2-6; 11-12; 19:16-25; 25:1-26:19; 27:2-6,12-13; 30:18-26; 32:1-8; 33:17-24; 35; 40:3-11; 44:1-5; 49:8-26; 51:3-5; 52:1-2,6-10; 52:6-10,13-15; 54:1-56:8; 61:3-9; 62; 65:19-25; 66:7-14,18-24; **Jer.** 3:15-19; 23:3-8; 30:8-31:40; 32:37-44; 33:6-18; 46:27-28; 50:19-20,39-40; **Ezek.** 11:17-20; 16:53-55,60-63; 17:22-24; 20:33,39-44; 28:25-26; 34:11-16,23-30; 36:8-15,25-38; 37; 39:25-48:35; **Dan.** 2:44-45; 7:27; **Hosea** 1:10-2:1; 2:14-23; 3:5; 11:9-11; 14:4-7; **Joel** 2:18-29; 3:17-21; **Amos** 9:11-15; **Ob.** 15-21; **Mic.** 2:12b-13; 4:1-8; 5:4-5 (cf. vss. 2-3),7-15; 7:11-12,15-17; **Zeph.** 2:7,11; 3:9-20; **Hag.** 2:6-9,23; **Zech.** 2:1-5,10-12; 3:8-10; 6:9-15; 8:1-8,20-23; 9:5-12; 10:1,6-12; 12:10-13:6; 14:8-11,16-21; **Mal.** 1:11

- Christ's earthly kingdom will be 1,000 years in length -- Rev. 20:5-6
- An invitation is made for the marriage supper of the Lamb before Christ's second coming – Rev. 19:7-9
- Guests will be present for the marriage of the Lamb (resurrected Israel and other Old Testament believers, resurrected tribulation believers, believers (Jews and Gentiles) who lived through the Tribulation Period]) and the angels – Rev. 19:9; cf. Dan. 12:1-2; Mat. 16:27; 20:4; Luke 13:28-29
- Marriage supper of the Lamb will occur when Christ marries His bride, the Church -- Rev. 19:7-9; cf. Mat. 22:1-14; 25:1-13; Luke 14:16-24; Eph. 5:22-33
- The Millennial Temple will be built – Ezek. 40-48; Hag. 2:20-22; Zech. 6:11-13; cf. Isa. 2:2-4; 56:6-7; Mic. 4:1–2
- King David will be the Prince during the Millennial Kingdom -- Ezek. 34:23-24
- In Israel there will be abundant rain and food, no harmful beasts; Israel will live securely and no longer be insulted by the nations – Ezek. 34:25-29; cf. Isa. 61:5-9
- Israel will be restored like the Garden of Eden – Isa. 35:1-7; 51:3; Ezek. 36:35
- There will be longevity -- Isa. 65:20
- The animals will not harm humans nor one another – Isa. 11:6-8; Zech. 14:9; cf. Isa. 35:8-9
- Resurrected saints from the Church Age and Tribulation Period will reign with Christ during the Millennial Kingdom -- 2 Tim. 2:12; Rev. 2:26-27; 3:21, 5:6-10; 19:8,14; 20:4
- Satan will be loosened at the end of the Millennial Kingdom and will deceive the unbelievers to rise up against Christ to their own destruction -- Rev. 20:7-10

# Biblical Historical Timeline



# Great White Throne Judgement

## Revelation 20:11-15

There are two types of resurrections, the resurrection of the righteous and the resurrection of the unrighteous (John 5:28-29). At the Great White Throne Judgement the final resurrection takes place. Up until this point the following resurrections have taken place:

1. Resurrection of the Church at the time of the rapture – 1 Thes. 4:13-18
2. Resurrection of the two witnesses at the midpoint of the Tribulation Period – Rev. 11:11-12
3. Resurrection of tribulation saints after the Tribulation Period, who will reign with Christ during the Millennial Kingdom -- Rev. 20:4-6
4. Resurrection of believing Israel and other believers from the Old Testament period after the Tribulation Period, who will live in the Millennial Kingdom -- Dan. 12:1-3; Ezek. 37:1-14; Mat. 8:11

One may ask, “When will the resurrection of believers who die during the Millennial Kingdom be? Or is it possible that they never die?”

Isaiah 65:20 indicates that they will die:

“No longer will there be in it an infant who lives but a few days,  
**Or an old man who does not live out his days;**  
For the youth will die at the age of one hundred  
And the one who does not reach the age of one hundred  
Will be thought accursed.”

When comparing Revelation 20:5-6 with Revelation 20:11-15 (specifically vss. 6 and 14), it seems that the Great White Throne Judgement is just for the unrighteous from the beginning of time. Please note however that the book of life will be used at this judgement, therefore its use may be because this is when the Millennial Kingdom believers who die will also be judged. In addition, those believers who are still alive at the end of the Millennial Kingdom will need to receive their new bodies and stand for judgement as well. Therefore it seems that their judgement will be at the Great White Throne Judgement.



# Great White Throne Judgement continued...

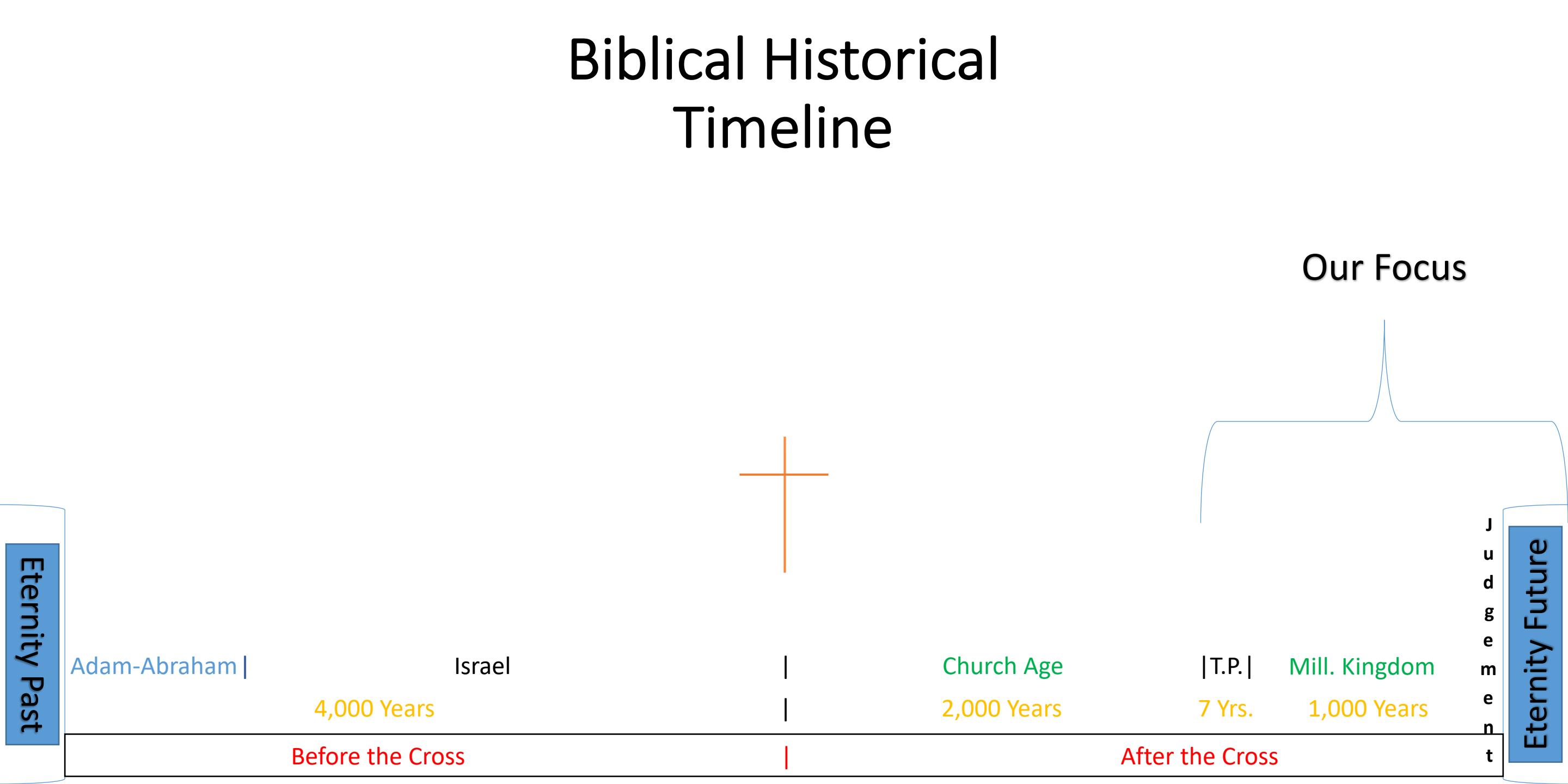
Revelation 20:11-15

At the Great White Throne Judgement Jesus will sit as Judge (John 5:22; cf. Acts 10:42; 17:31) and the following will occur:

- The heavens and earth will flee away, being destroyed by fire (2 Pet. 3:10-12) – vs. 11; Isa. 51:6; cf. Psa. 102:25-26
- All the dead (the unrighteous from the beginning of time and probably the righteous from the Millennial Kingdom) and those still alive at the end of the Millennial Kingdom will stand before Christ for judgement – vss. 12,13

If a person's name is found in the book of life, he will enter eternity with Jesus. If his name is not found in the book of life, he will be judged according to his deeds, thus signifying that some will suffer more than others (Mat. 16:27; Rev. 2:23). Then they will all be cast alive into the lake of fire for all eternity (Rev. 20:12-15).

# Biblical Historical Timeline



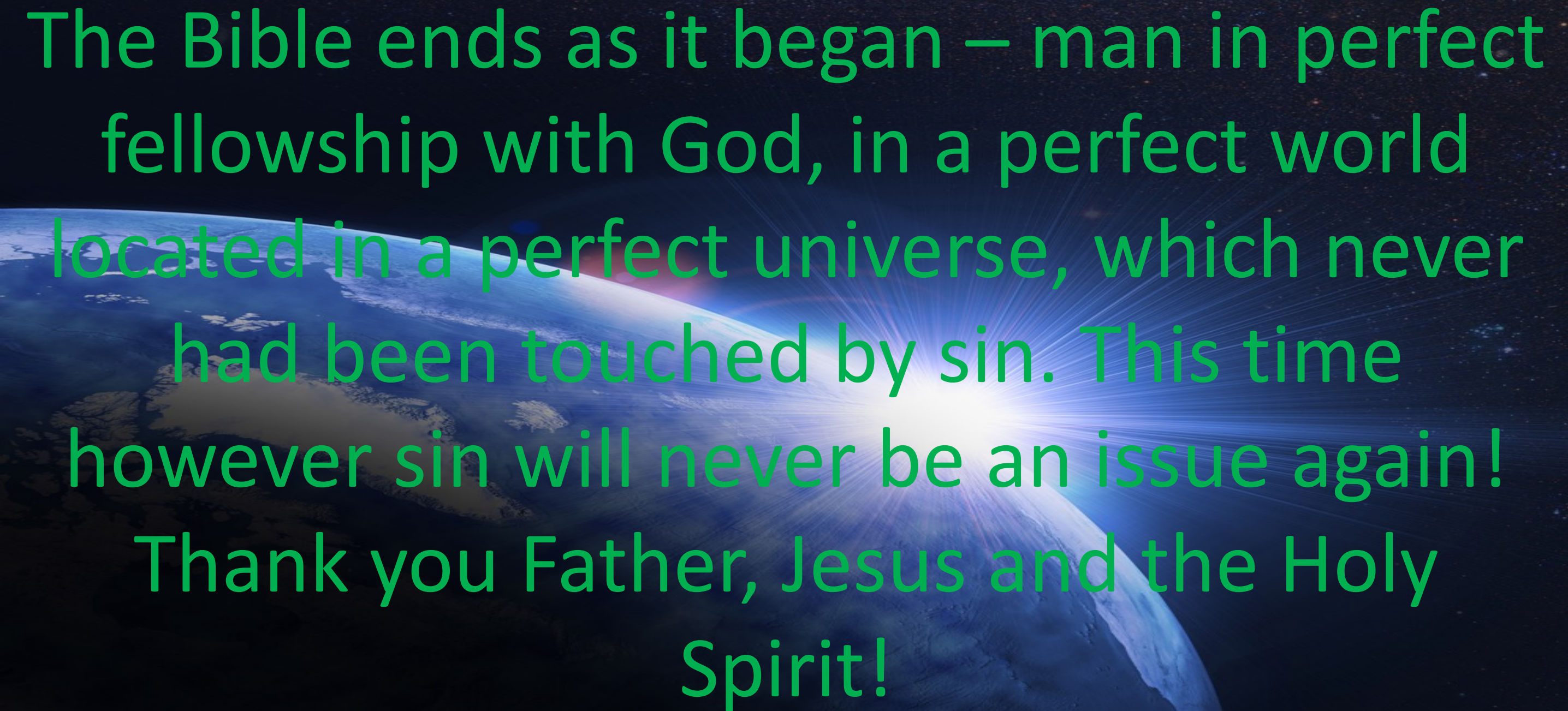
# Eternity – The New Heavens and Earth

Revelation 21-22 (Isa. 65:17-18; 66:22; 2 Pet. 3:13)

- 1 “Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and there is no longer any sea.
- 2 And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride adorned for her husband.
- 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, “Behold, the tabernacle of God is among men, and He will dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself will be among them,
- 4 and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away.”
- 5 And He who sits on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.” And He said, “Write, for these words are faithful and true.”
- 6 Then He said to me, “It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give to the one who thirsts from the spring of the water of life without cost.
- 7 “He who overcomes will inherit these things, and I will be his God and he will be My son.
- 8 “But for the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and immoral persons and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars, their part will be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.”

The new heavens and earth along with the new Jerusalem will be created for all believers from all time in which to live with God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit. It will be a fabulous place! The new Jerusalem will have the following characteristics:

- It will be 1,500 miles (2,414 kilometers) wide, long and high – 21:15-16
- It will have twelve gates made of pearls – 21:12,21
- It will have twelve foundation stones made of precious stones – 21:14,19-20
- The walls will be made of jasper – 21:18
- The city will be of pure gold – 21:18
- There will be a river in it but no sea – 21:1; 22:1-2
- There will be no temple because God and Jesus will dwell there – 21:22
- There will be no sun or moon, nights, lamps or lights because God and Jesus will dwell there – 21:23; 22:5



The Bible ends as it began – man in perfect fellowship with God, in a perfect world located in a perfect universe, which never had been touched by sin. This time however sin will never be an issue again!

Thank you Father, Jesus and the Holy Spirit!



# In conclusion, we have a few words from Jesus and the Apostle John

Jesus says:

“Behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward *is* with Me, to render to every man according to what he has done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.”

Revelation 22:12–13

John says:

“The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all. Amen.”

Revelation 22:21