Eschatology Course Content

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SPECIAL NOTE

This course serves as a comprehensive introduction to the subject of the end times. We will touch on the salient scriptures and events associated with this subject. It will not however be possible to study every scripture that deals with the subject as they are to numerous. At the completion of the course you will have a good foundation of all major end time events.

David Nathan - Hebron Church

Eschatology – A Study of the End Times

1. What is Eschatology

Eschatology is the study of Scripture that pertains to

- the period on earth prior to the Lord's return
- the rapture of the church
- the Antichrist and his kingdom
- God's judgement on unsaved man
- the millennium reign of Christ
- the final destruction of Satan
- the white throne judgement

On this course we will study what the Scriptures teach on these subjects and, were applicable, show from currant world affairs how prophecy is being fulfilled.

The motivation for this course and its sole purpose is to prepare the Church for these last days that we may stand in Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit, and having done all...to stand firm.

2. Introduction to Eschatology

Romans 8:19-22 (Read)

This present creation has become corrupt and perverse because of the fall of man. Scripture clearly teaches that God will destroy this current creation and recreate the heavens and the earth (**Revelation 21:1; Isaiah 65:17**).

Satan, who became the god of this world through the fall (2 Corinthians 4:4; John 14:30) knows that he has a short time left to rule before he is cast into the Lake of Fire for eternity. His desire is to drag as many souls into hell with him as he can. He will lead one final revolt against God through a man whom the bible calls the Antichrist. The implementation of this revolt has slowly been put into place over the last 5000 years.

God who is omniscient (all knowing) has foretold these events through his prophets in both the Old and New Testaments. The Lord has often intervened and frustrated Satan's plans because He too has an agenda. In His grace, He has given man an opportunity to be saved from His judgement through faith in the cross of Jesus. But God has given mankind a predetermined time span to either accept or reject Him and this time span is just about up.

We will cover a lot of Scripture on this course. At first it may seem disjointed but as we progress all will fall into place and you will be left with a solid foundational knowledge of end time events.

3. God's Time Table for Man

Daniel 9:24-27

"²⁴ Seventy weeks are determined for your people and for your holy city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the Most Holy.

²⁵ Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the command to restore and to build Jerusalem, until Messiah the Prince there shall be seven weeks, and sixty-two weeks. The street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublesome times.

²⁶ And after the sixty-two weeks Messiah shall be cut off, but not for Himself. And the people of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end of it shall be with a flood, and till the end of the war desolations are determined.

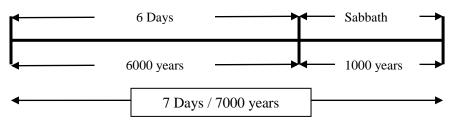
²⁷ Then he shall confirm a covenant with many for one week. But in the middle of the week he shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering, and on the wing of abominations shall be one who make desolate, even until the consummation (end), which is determined, is poured out on the desolate (desolator)."

The above Scripture prophetically summarizes both the allotted time for man on earth and end time events. Gabriel tells Daniels that seventy weeks are determined for your people. Both Jewish and Christian theologians agree that the term week is used prophetically to denote a period of seven years. God has given Israel (your people) a period of 70 years to,

- *to finish the transgression*
- to make an end of sin
- to make reconciliation for iniquity
- to bring in everlasting righteousness
- to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the Most Holy

To understand biblical prophecy, Christians must understand that God's covenants with Israel are still enforce. They are still His chosen people despite their rebellion against Him. Although they must be saved by faith like the gentiles, God will turn His attention back to Israel when the dispensation of grace comes to an end with the rapture of the Church. (Romans 11:26; Daniel 12:1; Zechariah 8:23)

Some bible scholars believe that the period of seventy weeks has a duel meaning in that it also refers to a period of 7000 years. **2 Peter 3:8** teaches that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. Therefore they conclude that this creation is only 7000 years in duration or a week in the sight of God. Man rules for 6 days then comes the Sabbath or the millennium reign of Christ.



The seventy weeks are divided up into a period of seven weeks together with a period of sixty two weeks. After that time the Messiah (Jesus) would *be cut off* (killed **Isaiah 53**).

The Messiah would come 69 weeks or 69 x 7 years from the time that of the command to restore and to build Jerusalem is issued. That command was given by King Artaxerxes (**Nehemiah 2:1-8**) in the twentieth year of his reign which was around 444 BC.

 $69 \times 7 \text{ (years)} = 483 \text{ years}$

Jewish religious calendar has 354 days to a year

 $483 \text{ years} \quad x \quad 354 \text{ days} = 170982 \text{ days}$

Gregorian calendar has 365 days to a year

 $170982 \div 365 = 468 \text{ years}$

Command 444 BC - 468 years = 24 AD

Jesus was born between 5 and 6 BC during the reign of Herod the Great who died in 4 BC.

In 24 AD Jesus was ... about thirty years of age (Luke 3:23)

When Israel as a nation rejected the Messiah, *the people of the prince* who is to come [shall] destroy-ed the city and the sanctuary. The Roman general and later Emperor, Titus, destroyed Jerusalem and the Temple ushering in the dispensation of grace or the Church Age.

Read Romans 11:25 and Luke 21:24

When Israel became a sovereign nation again in 1948, Ezekiel's prophecy of the dry bones was fulfilled (**Ezekiel Chapter 37**). When Jerusalem was captured by Israeli forces in 1967, **Luke 21:24** was fulfilled. We can conclude that we are living in the last days.

A few years before the Rapture of the Church the Antichrist will make a covenant/treaty with many nations including the majority in Israel. The signing of this treaty will begin the final week or seven years of Daniels prophecy. This seven year period is accurately named the 70th week. Some theologians refer to it as the Tribulation Period but this, as you will learn later, is not biblically sound.

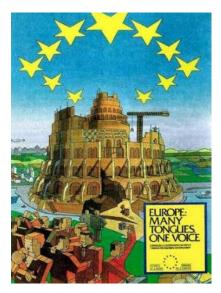
4. Nation's and Empires

Throughout human history Satan has sought to unite mankind together against God. His most notorious attempt is recorded in **Genesis 11:1-9** Under Satan's influence man united by a common language and purpose tried to build a tower to reach the heavens. God stopped their endeavours by giving them different languages so that they could not work in unity. Many doubt the validity of this biblical account and relegate it to myth and legend. But today some 4500 years later, the desire to unite against God simmers in the heart of fallen man.

Below are pictures that speak volumes about Satan's influence over the unsaved.



Painting done in 1563 of the Tower of Babel, by Pieter Brueghel, a Flemish Renaissance Painter.



Above is a poster produced by the European Union symbolically depicting their mission. It combines the 12 stars of the EU flag with the rebuilding of the tower of Babel with the motto **Europe: Many Tongues One Voice**. Note also that the stars are shown as inverted pentagrams, an occult symbol of Satan worship.

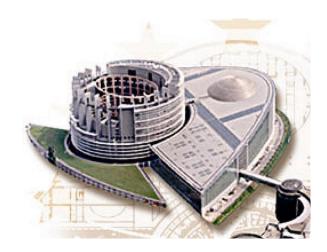
Below is the "normal" European flag. Compare the position of the stars with those in the poster (above right). Now compare the inverted stars to the satanic pentagram (below right).





The Louise Weiss Building (**below**), the European Parliament in Strasbourg France, which includes a tower that appears to be unfinished.





Both the Bible and History record that there have been six great world empires since the dawn of man. The only difference between the two records is that history recorded them after they were established, but the bible foretold of their existence, and in a certain instance even the name of one of their rulers (**Isaiah 44:28**), hundreds of years before they came into existence.

All these empires had three things in common.

- 1. They expanded through wars and conquest
- 2. They united people under a common law and government
- 3. Their emperors were worshipped as god's

Below is a table showing the eight world empires. Six have been the other two will be revealed soon.

Empire	Rev. 17:9-13	Daniel 2:31-45	Daniel 7:1-28	Daniel 8
Egyptian	1			
Assyrian	2			
Babylonian	3	Gold	Lion	
Medo-Persian	4	Silver	Bear	Ram
Greek including Seleucids & Ptolemis	5	Bronze	Leopard	Goat
Roman	6	Iron & Clay	Terrible Beast	
One World	7		10	
Government (10 Kings)			Horns	
Antichrist	8		Little Horn	

Can we confirm that the bible is accurate in foretelling a future world empire from which the Antichrist will arise?

Since the 1700's a number of secret organisations have been formed to work towards establishing a one world government ruled by the elite. On May 1, 1776, in Bavaria, Dr. Adam Weishaupt, a professor of Canon Law at Ingolstadt University and a former Jesuit, formed a secret society called the Order of the Illuminati within the existing Masonic lodges of Germany. Since Masonry is itself a secret society, the Illuminati was a secret society within a secret society, a mystery inside a mystery, so to say. In 1785 the Illuminati were suppressed by the Bavarian government for allegedly plotting to overthrow all the kings in Europe as well as the Pope. The Illuminati through the years have appointed kings and governments, sponsored wars, manipulated the financial world and caused governments to lose their sovereignty through massive un-payable debt. Today this organisation is still very active and with its links and infiltration of the Trilateral Commission, Council for Foreign Relations (CFR), The Club of Rome, The Bilderbergers, Freemason's and the United Nations are bringing about a one world government.

"We are grateful to *The Washington* Post, The New York Times, Time Magazine and other great publications whose directors have attended our meetings and respected their promises of discretion for almost forty years. It would have been impossible for us to develop our plan for the world if we had been subject to the bright lights of publicity during those years. But, the work is now much more sophisticated and prepared to march towards a world government. The supranational sovereignty of an intellectual elite and world bankers is surely preferable to the national auto determination practiced in past centuries." - David Rockefeller, founder of the Trilateral Commission, in an address to a meeting of The Trilateral Commission, in June, 1991.

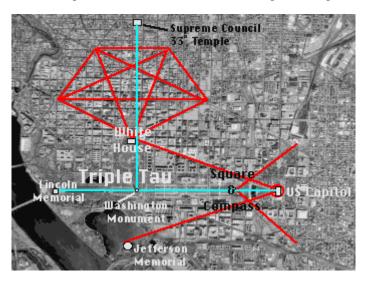
"We are not going to achieve a New World Order without paying for it in blood as well as in words and money." - Arthur Schlesinger Jr., 'The CFR Journal Foreign Affairs', August 1975.

"New World Order Needed for Peace: State Sovereignty Must Go, Declares Notre Dame Professor"-Title of article in *The Tablet* (Brooklyn) (March 1942)

Notes	•	 	

Freemasonry is the religion of the proponents of a one world government. Freemason's only discover after the 32nd degree that Lucifer is the object of their worship. Below are some quotes from Mason literature.

- Masonry is of divine origin" (J. Blanchard, Scottish Rite Masonry Illustrated)
- Every Masonic Lodge is a temple of religion; and its teachings are instructions in religion...reward is the knowledge of the True God...Masonry is a worship...It is the universal, eternal immutable religion, such as God planted it in the heart of universal humanity" (Liturgy of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States, Part Two, pp. 167, 198-99).
- "The prevailing Masonic opinion is that the Bible is only a symbol of Divine Will, Law, or Revelation, and not that its contents are Divine Law, inspired, or revealed. So far, no responsible authority has held that a Freemason must believe the Bible or any part of it" (Henry Wilson Coil, Coil's Masonic Encyclopedia, p. 520)
- There he stands without our portals, on the threshold of his new Masonic life, in darkness, helplessness and ignorance. Having been wandering amid the errors and covered over with the pollutions of the outer and profane world, he comes inquiringly to our door, seeking the new birth, and asking a withdrawal of the veil which conceals divine truth from his uninitiated sight." --Albert G. Mackey, Masonic Ritualist, p22-23
- "You have entered a new world. Symbolically and spiritually you have been reborn. This started the moment you were prepared to become a Mason... The lodge becomes a symbol of the new world to which you have been reborn... You learn that your entrance is not a mere opening of a door. It is accomplished by forms, ceremonies, actions and words designed to impress upon you mind wise and serious truths. You know that this is not a frivolous event, but one of spiritual impressiveness." --Allen E. Roberts, The Craft and Its symbols, p3, 14-15
- In deifying Jesus, the whole humanity is bereft of Christos as an eternal potency within every human soul, a latent (embryonic) Christ in every man. In thus deifying one man, they have orphaned the whole humanity of its divinity" (R. Swineburne Clymer, The Mysticism of Masonry, p. 47)
- These [aspects and teachings of Masonry] were practiced from remote ages, in ancient temples of many nations....The most learned among Masonic scholars...conclude that Masonry is of very ancient origin, and is, in some aspects, the modern successor of, and heir to, the sublime Mysteries of the Temple of Solomon, and of the Temples of India, Chaldea, Egypt, Greece, and Rome, as well as the basic doctrine of the Essenes, Gnostics and other mystic Orders.³³
- every candidate for the Mysteries of Masonry, at the proper time and in an appropriate manner, should be taught the truth that the *rite of Initiation* means much more than a formal ceremonial progress through the Degrees....*Initiation* is to be attained only after real labor, deep study, profound meditation, extensive research and a constant practice of those virtues which will open a true path to moral, intellectual, and spiritual illumination.³⁴



In 1791, Pierre Charles L'Enfante (the designer, who was a Freemason), laid out Government Centre of Washington, D.C

How powerful are the Mason's? Look at the street map of Washington D.C. The streets are laid out to form two symbols. The satanic pentagram and the Mason's callipers. Mason's have sublimely dedicated the world's most powerful nation to Satan.

But they have less subtle symbolism. Note the picture of the American one Dollar bill (**below**). Observe the following,

- 1. The pyramid with the eye of Lucifer.
- 2. Above the eagle the stars form the Star of David a pagan symbol. (Amos 5:26)
- 3. The snake skin pattern around the border of the note.
- 4. Most importantly the Latin words *ANNUIT COEPTIS* "He has favoured our undertakings. *NOVUS ORDO SECLORUM* "A new order of the ages,"



Mason's have shaped and influenced America's government and

capital city. Through their political arms they have shaped America's domestic and foreign policies. Which god do they put their trust in? If it were the God of the Bible they would never have placed ancient pagan symbols on their currency.



George Bush Senior first declared, internationally, the beginning of the new world order in 1991 during and

after "Dessert Storm". His son George W. Bush continues to further that which his father and many others have been trying to accomplish – A new empire to rule the world.

It is not our aim on this course to expose the architects of Satan's New World Order but rather to acknowledge that they exist. The Scriptures foretold it would come to pass. We must now strive to understand what will happen and how it will affect the Church and the unsaved in order for us to maintain our witness through trying times.

5. The Antichrist

Read (Daniel Chapter 7)

Daniel's vision can be dated around 553 BC and accurately foretells future events. Some of these events have occurred and are historically verifiable. The Lion represents Babylon and the wings that were plucked off speaks of the humbling of Nebuchadnezzar (**Daniel ch. 4**).

"To achieve world government, it is necessary to remove from the minds of men their individualism, loyalty to family traditions, national patriotism, and religious dogmas." - Brock Adams, Director UN Health Organization

"The Trilateral Commission is intended to be the vehicle for multinational consolidation of the commercial and banking interests by seizing control of the political government of the United States. The Trilateral Commission represents a skillful, coordinated effort to seize control and consolidate the four centers of power political, monetary, intellectual and ecclesiastical. What the Trilateral Commission intends is to create a worldwide economic power superior to the political governments of the nationstates involved. As managers and creators of the system ,they will rule the future."- U.S. Senator Barry Goldwater in his 1964 book: With No Apologies

The bear represents the Medo-Persian Empire and the three ribs in its mouth are symbolic of the three major conquests of this empire. Namely, Lydia (546 BC), Babylon (539 BC) and Egypt (525 BC).

The Leopard with four heads speaks of the Greek Empire under Alexander the Great. At his death (323 BC) his empire was divided between his generals into four parts.

Thrace and Asia Minor - under Lysimachus
Macedonia and Greece - under Antipater
Syria - under Seleucus I
Israel and Egypt - under Ptolomy I

The fourth beast with ten horns is the Roman Empire which history records as the greatest and most powerful empire the world has ever known.

Verse 8 foretells that out of a restored "Roman Empire" (EU?) symbolized by the ten horns, a leader will emerge after destroying or usurping three prominent leaders. This man the Bible calls the Antichrist. According to Daniel's vision he will;

- Ascend to power through violence (7:11 & 23-24)
- Persecute and martyr Christians for 3½ years (7:21-25)
- Blaspheme God, seek to change established laws, attempt to introduce a new date/time system (**verse 25**)
- Be judged and destroyed in the Lake of Fire. (7:11 & 26-27)

Antiochus a type of the Antichrist Daniel Chapters 8 and 11

Antiochus IV Epiphanes was the ruler of the Seleucids, a remnant of the splintered Greek Empire. He was hindered from attacking the Ptolemaic ruled nation of Egypt by the Roman Empire (**Daniel 8:30**). Returning via Israel to Syria he sought to incorporate it into his kingdom (**Daniel 11:29**). In order to do this he,

- Sought to Hellenise the Jews (**Daniel 11:30 & 32**)
- Those refusing he murdered (**Daniel 8:10**)
- He placed a statue of Zeus with his own face on it in the Temple and stopped the Mosaic sacrifices (**Daniel 11:32**)

Antiochus was defeated by the Jewish resistance under the leadership of Judas Maccabeus in 165BC (**Daniel 11:32 & 33**). Antiochus is a type of the Antichrist who will appear at the end of the age. He will mimic the wickedness and cruelty of Antiochus except to a much larger scale.

The Antichrist

We have briefly looked at some scripture regarding the Antichrist. We continue, for now, with the book of Revelation.

Revelation 13:1- 18 & 17:1-18

In Revelation thirteen we see the counterfeit of the Holy Trinity. The spirit of antichrist seeks to substitute the wicked for the divine. The world will no longer acknowledge the God of the Bible but rather worship the dragon who is Satan as well as the Antichrist (**Revelation**

13:14; 2 Thessalonians 2:4)

The beast represents the Antichrist - a counterfeit of Jesus
The dragon represents Satan - a counterfeit of the Father
Second beast represents the false prophet - a counterfeit of the Holy
Spirit

"No one will enter the New World Order unless he or she will make a pledge to worship Lucifer. No one will enter the New Age unless he will take a Luciferian Initiation." - David Spangler, Director of Planetary Initiative, United Nations

In the next century, nations as we know it will be obsolete; all states will recognize a single, global authority. National sovereignty wasn't such a great idea after all."-Strobe Talbot, President Clinton's Deputy Secretary of State, as quoted in *Time*, July 20th, 1992.

"We shall have world government whether or not you like it, by conquest or consent."- Statement by Council on Foreign Relations (CFR) member James Warburg to The Senate Foreign Relations Committee on February 17th, 1950

"The world is governed by very different personages from what is imagined by those who are not behind the scenes."- Benjamin Disraeli, first Prime Minister of England, in a novel he published in 1844 called "Coningsby", the New Generation

Note	es:-			

Summary of the Antichrist

Unlike Jesus who rejected Satan's offer to rule the kingdoms of this world Revelation 13:2 & 4 (Luke 4:5-8), the Antichrist will be empowered with Satanic power and 2 Thessalonians 2:9-10 ability

As a counterfeit he will die but come back to life like Jesus

Revelation 13:3 Revelation 17:8

The unopposed reign of the Antichrist is limited to 42 months or 3½ years

Revelation 13:5 Daniel 7:25

It is important to note that the Antichrist does not suddenly go from obscurity to world ruler. He ascends to power through a series of wars and political intrigue and deception

Revelation 6:1-4; 2 Thessalonians 2:9-10: **Daniel 7:24 Daniel 11:40-45**

He will wage war against Christians and many will be put to death. The Bible teaches that he is given power over the saints. The western church has forgotten the millions of martyr's that have gone before. This denial has caused the western church to embrace either "kingdom now" theology or a pre-tribulation rapture stance.

Revelation 13:7 Revelation 6:9-11 **Daniel 7:21** Matthew 24:9 Mark 13:12

Summary of the False Prophet

The relationship between the Antichrist and the false prophet is symbiotic. They both acknowledge and promote the other's positions.

Revelation 17:1-10 Revelation 13:11-18

In **Revelation 17:1-10** the false prophet is referred to as a harlot who has shed the blood of the saints. She also sits on seven hills which speaks of Rome. The woman either represents the Catholic Church or the spirit of the Roman Empire, or both.

The false prophet will perform supernatural signs and wonders by Satan's enabling.

Revelation 13:13 - 15 Matthew 24:24 Mark 13:22

He causes the nations of the world to worship the Antichrist.

Revelation 13:12 & 15

He makes a statue of the Antichrist, places it in the rebuilt Temple in Jerusalem and gives it demonic life. Those who will not worship this image will be killed. Many Jews will then realise that they have been deceived.

Revelation 13:14-15 Daniel 12:11 Matthew 24:15

He causes all men to take the mark of the beast as a sign of allegiance. Without the mark it is impossible to buy or sell. The number of the mark is 666

Revelation 13:17-18

The Mark of the Beast

"And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads:" Revelation 13:16 (KJV)

In order to control each individual on earth and to force their allegiance the false prophet forces all to take a mark in either their right hand or forehead. Imbedded microchip technology has been used for well over 15

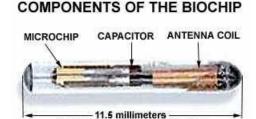
years in animals. Human tests are being conducted in thousands of With advances in people worldwide. computing more powerful micro microchips capable of storing large amounts of data are currently being tested in Japan, Malaysia and America. These microchip implants are also capable of emitting a signal which can be tracked for surveillance purposes.



X-Ray of imbedded microchip

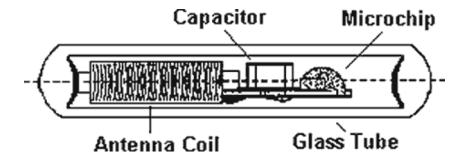
The aim of the microchip is to control humanity.

Hand Scanner



Size of an uncooked grain of rice





The Rapture

"51 Behold, I tell you a mystery: 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. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed." 1 Corinthians 15:51-52 "And then He will send His angels, and gather together His elect from the four winds, from the farthest part of earth to the farthest part of heaven" Mark 13:27.

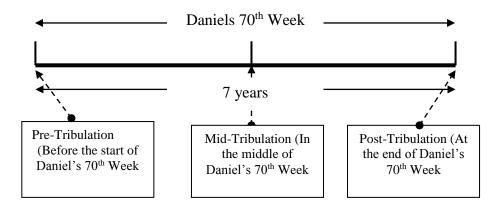
Although term "the Rapture" is not found in the Bible, Christians all agree that scripture speaks of an event were believers will be instantly translated from earth to meet the Lord. In an instant our mortal bodies will be transformed into immortal bodies like the Lord's (**Philippians 3:20-21**). The purpose of the Rapture is to spare the saints of God (true committed, God-fearing Christians) from God's wrath which will be

Note	es:		

poured out on the unsaved.

Jesus taught this by comparing the Rapture with two similar events from the Old Testament (**Matthew 24:36-42 & Luke 17:26-30**). There are various views as to the timing of the Rapture. Although no-one can know the exact time it will happen. "³⁶ But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only... ⁴² "Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming" (**Matthew 24:36 & 42**).

Below are three of the most published views regarding the timing of the Rapture. However, as you will soon appreciate none of these views stand up to scriptural scrutiny.



The reason that many get their theology wrong regarding the timing of the Rapture is due to a misunderstanding of Daniel's 70th Week (**Daniel 9:27**). Many believe that the entire seven year period is the Tribulation period. However, there is no passage of scripture that refers to it as seven years of tribulation. In contrast, the scripture does divide this period of seven years into three distinct periods.

1. The beginning of sorrows – Matthew 24:5-8

The beginning of sorrows is a phrase the Lord Jesus used to describe the period leading up to the *great tribulation*. This period sees the Antichrist ascending to power using both political and military vehicles. This is clearly seen in **Revelation 6:1-4**. **Daniel 9:27** says that the Antichrist will break his covenant in the middle of the seven year period (after 3½ years).

2. The Great Tribulation – Matthew 24:21

The great tribulation begins immediately the Antichrist breaks his covenant after 3½ years. The great tribulation period is shortened by God. "21For 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; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened. Matthew 24:21-22.

Read 2 Thessalonians 2:1-12 & Daniel 12:1

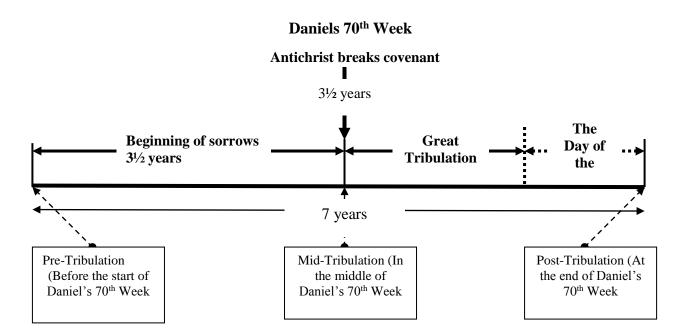
"6And now you know what is restraining, that he may be revealed in his own time." **2 Thessalonians 2:6** Who is it that is restraining the Antichrist? Many believe that it is the church that restrains. Yet the Antichrist will war against the church and prevail. The Holy Spirit has allowed tens of thousands of Christians to be martyred as a testimony. Neither the Church nor the Holy Spirit is the "restrainer."

To understand who is restraining the Antichrist we must look at **Daniel 12:1**. The Bible says that *Michael shall stand up* and *there shall be a time of trouble such as never was...*" Michael is the archangel who wars on behalf of Israel (**Daniel 10:13 & 21**). Since 1948, the nation of Israel has miraculously survived 4 major wars against vastly superior and a more numerous enemy. Michael has defended the reborn nation of Israel yet in **Daniel 12:1** he *stands up* only to see Israel go through great tribulation. The word *stand up* is "amad" and can also be translated as stand aside. In this light one can see how the Antichrist can war against Israel and prevail. Ultimately it is the Holy Spirit who is restraining the Antichrist with Michael acting on His instructions as per **Psalms 103:20-21**

3. The Day of the Lord – Revelation 6:17

Although seldom spoken of, *the day of the Lord* is spoken of in many scriptures in both the Old and New Testament. This *day* begins when God pours out His judgment and wrath on the unsaved. The following are just a few of the many references to *the day of the Lord*. **Joel 1:13-20; 2:1-17; 3:14-15**. **Isaiah 2:10-21; 13:6-13**. **Ezekiel 30:1-4**. **Amos 5:18-20**. **Obadiah verse 15**. **Zephaniah 1:7-18**. **Zechariah 14:1-15**. **Malachi**

4:5. 1 Thessalonians 5:2-4. 2 Peter 3:9-10.



From the above diagram we can see the sequence of events that we have discussed this far. How does this show fault with the common views regarding the Rapture?

Pre-tribulation Rapture

"26And as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man:27They ate, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all.28Likewise as it was also in the days of Lot: They ate, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they built; 29 but on the day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all.30 Even so will it be in the day when the Son of Man is revealed." (Luke 17:27-30)

"26But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; 25the stars of heaven will fall, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. 26 Then they will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory. 27 And then He will send His angels, and gather together His elect from the four winds, from the farthest part of earth to the farthest part of heaven. (Mark 13:25-27) According to scripture, the Rapture is immediately followed by God's wrath from which the church is spared.

- If the church is raptured at the beginning of the Week then God's wrath must fall then also. But we have already learnt that God's wrath is poured out after the Great Tribulation which commences 3½ years into the Week.
- In Mark, Jesus teaches that the Rapture takes place after the Great Tribulation.
- In both the parables of the foolish virgins (**Matthew 25:1-13**) and the wedding feast (**Matthew 22:1-14**) Jesus teaches that we have only one chance to make the Rapture. After that the door to Heaven is shut.
- **2 Thessalonians 2:1-4** teaches that the Rapture can only take place after the Antichrist is revealed. Seeing as though his identity will only be made known after he signs the covenant (**Daniel 9:27**), at the beginning of the Week, it is impossible therefore for the Rapture to take place pre-tribulation or pre-70th Week.

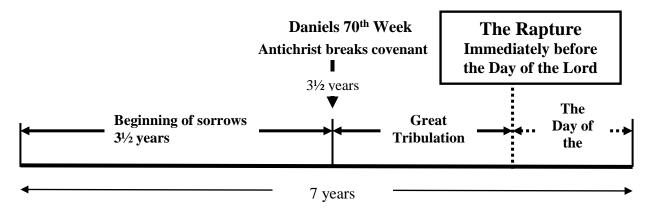
Mid-tribulation Rapture

Those who believe in a mid tribulation Rapture err on this account. Firstly as we have learnt, the Rapture takes place after the Great Tribulation, and that the Great Tribulation only begins in the middle of the Week. Therefore the Rapture must take place after this time and not at this time.

Post-tribulation Rapture

We now know that the Rapture takes place just before God's wrath and judgement are poured out on the unsaved. The Bible teaches that we are saved from this wrath (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 to 5:1-9). If we are then Raptured before the *Day of the Lord* and the *Day of the Lord* takes place in the second half of the Week, we can then conclude that a post-tribulation theology is impossible. The above is a fraction of the evidence against these three popular stances. As we continue with the book of Revelation and others, these arguments

will become even stronger and clearer. In summary Jesus taught, and the apostles confirmed in their writings, the following.



7. Sequence of End Time Events

The Seven Seals

Read Revelation Chapter 6 – Chapter 8:1-6 and compare with Matthew 24:1-31

The above two portions of scripture concern themselves with the same events. These events culminate with the Rapture and the Day of the Lord. Below is a table highlighting these events and the parallel scriptures pertaining to them.

SEAL	REVELATION Chapters 6 & 8	EVENT	EXPLANATION	ASSOCIATED SCRIPTURES
1	Versus 1 & 2	Rider on White Horse conquering through deception and political intrigue	The Anti-Christ begins his rise to power through peaceful political and religious means	Matthew 24:5 Mark 13:6 Daniel 9:27
2	Versus 3 & 4	Rider on Red Horse conquering through war	The Anti-Christ now turns to war to subdue those who resist his rise to world power	Matthew 24:6 & 7 Mark 13:7 & 8 Daniel 7:24 Daniel 11:40–44
3	Versus 5 & 6	Rider on Black Horse brings severe famine on the Earth	As a result of the Anti- Christ's wars and political campaigns, famine spreads over the earth.	Matthew 24:7 Mark 13:8
4	Versus 7 & 8	Rider on Pale Horse – Death & Hades	As a result of the Anti- Christ's wars, famine and pestilence will be rampant. A quarter of the earth will be subject to death	Matthew 24:7 Matthew 24:21–22 Mark 13:8
5	Versus 9 – 11	Martyrs slain for the word of God	Christians and anyone else who refuse to take the mark of the beast will be persecuted and many killed	Daniel 7:21 & 25 Matthew 24:9 Luke 21:16 Revelation 20:4
6	Versus 12 - 17	Cosmic disturbances and great earthquake signalling The Day of God's wrath	The Day of the Lord heralding God's wrath is about to be poured out on the unsaved. The Church has been spared through the Rapture. (Rev 7:9-17)	Matthew 24:29 1 Thessalonians 5:2-4 2 Peter 3:9-10 Isaiah 2:10-21 Zephaniah 1:7-18

Between the 6th and 7th seal two important events take place. Firstly, the 144 000 Jews who will proclaim the word of God to Israel are sealed (*Sphragize* – to stamp for security or preservation). These will witness to the Jews after the church is Raptured. No one can be born again after the Rapture. Those believing the 144 000 will most probably be spared from death by fleeing from the Antichrist (**Revelation 12:6**; **Matthew 24:15-21**).

The second event is the Rapture itself. In chapter 7, after the first 6 seals are opened and before the 7th is opened, the Rapture takes place (**Revelation 7:9-17**). This again supports the doctrine of a pre-Day of the Lord Rapture; or to quote Marvin Rosenthal, Pre-Wrath Rapture of the Church.

SEAL	REVELATION Chapters 6 & 8	EVENT	EXPLANATION	ASSOCIATED SCRIPTURES
7	Chapter 8: 1-6	The seven angels receive the seven trumpets ushering in the Day of the Lord	The Rapture is over and immediately God's wrath is poured out on the unsaved in judgment for their wickedness and unbelief. The 7 th seal represents this event	Joel 1:13-20 Joel 2:1-17 Joel 3:14-15 Isaiah 13:6-13

The Seven Trumpets – The Day of the Lord Read Revelation Chapter 8:7 – Chapter 11:19

The table below summarizes the trumpet judgements. The seven trumpets signify the beginning of God's judgement upon the earth. It is vital to note that the seals represent the consequences of mans sinfulness and submission to evil whereas the trumpets represent God's wrath.

TRUMPET	REVELATION Chapter 8	EVENT	EXPLANATION	ASSOCIATED SCRIPTURES
1	Verse 7	¹ / ₃ of all the trees and green grass is consumed by fire	With the destruction of trees and grass, many will be without food for themselves and their livestock. Trees in- turn provide oxygen. A lack of oxygen will have disastrous effects.	Joel 1:15-20 Isaiah 2:10-16
2	Verse 8 – 9	1/3 of the sea turned to blood 1/3 of all marine life destroyed 1/3 of all ships destroyed	God's wrath turns to the oceans a source of food for many. The destruction of a ½ of the ships will lead to a shortage of food and medical imports amongst others.	Isaiah 2:16
3	Verse 10 – 11	1/3 of all fresh water turned to wormwood and many die from the poisoned water	Water the source of life and often an object of worship (Neptune, Poseidon) is poisoned causing many deaths.	
4	Verse 12 – 13	1/3 of the stars, moon and sun struck	With a ½ of the sun's light gone, a large amount of the remaining vegetation will be destroyed. Temperatures will drop drastically resulting in blizzards and death to many.	Joel 2:2
5	Chapter 9 Verse 1 – 11	Mankind tormented with excruciating pain for 5 months	All but the 144 000 will be subject to physical torment. The pain will be so severe that many will desire to die but be unable too for 5 months	Zephaniah 1:7- 18 Joel 2:3-11

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TRUMPET	REVELATION Chapter 8	EVENT	EXPLANATION	ASSOCIATED SCRIPTURES
6	Verse 13 – 21	An army of 200 million spirit beings unleashed upon the earth	1/3 of mankind are killed by this supernatural army. Yet those who survive do not repent of their sins.	Joel 2:3-11 Isaiah 13:12

As with the seals, there is a pause between the 6th and 7th trumpet judgements. **Revelation 11:1-14** speaks of two witnesses who will testify against the Antichrist for 1260 days or 3½ years. They are given power to withhold rain and turn water into blood. Many believe that these two could be Moses and Elijah. **Malachi 4:5-6** teaches that God will send Elijah before the Day of the Lord. The two witnesses are then killed in Jerusalem but are resurrected after 3½ days. Before the 7th trumpet is sounded the scripture introduces the theme of the woman, the child and the dragon.

The Woman, the Child and the Dragon Revelation 12:1-17

The woman represents Israel. The symbolism of the sun, moon and the twelve stars are taken from **Genesis 37:9**. Satan tried to destroy her child, namely Jesus. Satan will try to destroy Israel and the Jewish people with greater violence than Hitler's "final solution" (**Zechariah 13:8-9; Zechariah 14:1-2; Daniel 12:1; Matthew 24:21-22**).

Many millions of Jews will be killed and if God did not cut those days short, all Israel will perish. Many Jews will heed the warning of the 144 000 and be kept safe as they seek refuge for $3\frac{1}{2}$ years. At the end of this time God pours out His final wrath upon the earth and especially on the army of the Antichrist (**Zechariah 14:1-15**).

TRUMPET	REVELATION Chapter 8	EVENT	EXPLANATION	ASSOCIATED SCRIPTURES
	Chapter o			
		Jesus takes lordship over	At the end of the 6 th trumpet,	Isaiah 29:6
		the kingdoms of this	Jesus will be established as	Zechariah 14:3-15
		world. God's final wrath	Lord of all nations. He will	
7	Chapter 11	is poured out over the	come to avenge Israel and war	
/	Verse 15- 19	earth and on the army of	on her behalf. The seventh	
		the Antichrist in the	trumpet ushers in the 7 bowls	
		form of the bowl	which will be poured out	
		judgements.	quickly on the earth	

The Bowl Judgements **Revelation 15 to Rev 16:1-21**

BOWL	REVELATION Chapter 16	EVENT	EXPLANATION	ASSOCIATED SCRIPTURES
1	Verse 2	Severe and malignant sores fester on those who have the mark of the beast and who worshipped his image	As with the plagues of Egypt. God begins to punish men for rejecting Him	
2	Verse 3	The sea turns to blood	Unlike the trumpet judgement, here all the oceans are turned to blood killing all marine life.	
3	Verse 4-7	All rivers and springs turn to blood	All the rivers and springs of fresh water turn to blood killing all life within them and depriving men of life giving water	
4	Verse 8-9	The sun scorches men	Great heat scorches the earth but instead of humbling themselves, men blaspheme God	Isaiah 24:6
5	Verse 10-11	Darkness envelops the kingdom of the Antichrist	Like the darkness of the plague in Egypt, the kingdom of the Antichrist suffers under darkness that is accompanied by excruciating pain.	
6	Verse 12-16	The river Euphrates is dried up	The river Euphrates dries up enabling the army of the Antichrist to quickly assemble to attempt to destroy Israel. Jesus destroys this army and the Antichrist and false prophet with it.	Revelation 19:17-21 Zephaniah 3:8 Joel 2:18-20 Isaiah 34:2-3
7	Verse 17-21	A violent earthquake destroys the earth. Large hailstones fall from heaven	The most violent earthquake in human history destroys every city on earth. It levels the mountains and the seas. Hailstones weighing about 34kg fall from heaven killing many. Despite this judgement men still blaspheme God	Psalm 18:12-13 Ezekiel 38:22

The Antichrist Defeated

Revelation Chapter 19

The Antichrist and the false prophet are defeated by Jesus and are cast into hell. Their army will be killed by a plague that causes their flesh to dissolve (**Zechariah12:12-15**). Satan is bound up and cast into the bottomless pit for 1000 years.

The Millennium Reign of Christ

Revelation 20:4-10

Together with the remnant of Israel, there will also be a remnant of people who survive God's wrath and judgement. These will live on earth and be ruled over by the Lord. The saints will rule with Jesus for a 1000 years.

The Lord will gather the Jews from the nations and bring them to the land of Israel (**Isaiah 11:1-16; Isaiah 14:1-2; Jeremiah 31:1-14; Ezekiel 34:11-31**) at the beginning of the millennium reign. Once more God will favour Israel for the sake of His covenant that He made with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob (**Zechariah 8:23**). The Lord will rule from Jerusalem (**Isaiah 2:3-4: Micah 4:2**).

At the end of a 1000 years Satan will be released and will deceive the nations once more. He will gather an enormous army to war against Jesus and the saints (**Ezekiel chapters 38 & 39**). Satan will be defeated in an instant and cast for eternity into the Lake of Fire.

The Great White Throne Judgement

Revelation 20:11-15

After Satan's defeat, the heavens and the earth will be destroyed. The Lord Jesus will bring the souls of all men before Him and judge them (**Matthew 25:31-46**). The saints whose names are written in the Lambs Book of Life are not judged as they *have passed from judgement into life* through faith in Jesus. The unsaved will be cast into the Lake of Fire, which currently is uninhabited, for eternity.

8. A New Heaven and Earth

Revelation 21:1-27 & Revelation 22:1-5

This present creation has been brought under a curse and eagerly awaits its redemption and recreation (**Romans 8:19-23**). God will recreate both planet Earth and the heavens (**Isaiah 34:4**). The new Earth will be very different from our current planet. The city of Heaven, measuring some 2200km³, will ascend onto the Earth and God will dwell with us for eternity.

- ¹² "And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work. ¹³I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last. ¹⁴ Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city.
- ¹⁵ But outside are dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie.
- ¹⁶ I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star. ¹⁷ And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely.

Revelation 22:12-17