

GLOSSARY OF END-TIMES TERMS

Abomination of Desolation

The Antichrist will demand worship worldwide (Rev. 13). This will be the abomination that leads to great desolation. God's judgments will bring desolation, or destruction, to all who participate in this terrible abomination (Dan. 9:27; Mt. 24:15; Mk. 13:14; 2 Thes. 2:3-4). This worship system is based on the Antichrist (called the Beast) setting up an image (statue or idol) of himself in the Jerusalem temple. This image will be demonically empowered to breathe and speak (Rev. 13:14-15). The Antichrist will claim to be God when he sets up this idol in the Jerusalem temple. No one will be able to buy or sell without worshiping the Antichrist before this image (Rev. 13:16-18). All who refuse will be sought out as criminals of the state under a threat of martyrdom.

This is one of the most significant prophetic signs in the end times. John emphasized this image ten times (Rev. 13:14, 15 [3x]; 14:9, 11; 15:2; 16:2; 19:20; 20:4). The abomination is mentioned or described nine times (Dan. 8:13; 9:26, 27; 11:31; 12:11; Mt. 24:15; Mk 13:14; 2 Thes. 2:3-4; Rev. 13:12-18).

The image of the Beast and the mark of the Beast will be two components of the abomination of desolation system that will mobilize and finance the Antichrist's global worship movement (Rev. 13:13-18). The image of the Beast will mobilize Antichrist's worshipers and penalize those who resist. The mark of the Beast will provide economic support for the Antichrist's worship movement and will penalize those who resist.

Advent

Derived from the Latin word *adventus*, which means "arrival," "coming," or "presence." It is used to speak of both Jesus' first and second coming as the first and the second advent.

Angelic Explanations

This is the phrase we use for the five sections in the structure of the book of Revelation that function as a parenthesis. They put on "pause" the main storyline of the book as is seen in the chronological sections. In these passages an angel explains to John why the judgment events in the chronological sections must be so severe. They answer questions arising from the chronological sections such as: Why is God's wrath so severe? What will happen to us? Angels explain to John what happens to God's people, including what Jesus will do to help us, and what the Antichrist will do to persecute us. The five angelic explanations are Rev. 7:1-17; 10:1-11:14; 12:1-14:20; 17:1-19:10; 21:9-22:5.

Antichrist

Anti means "against" or "in place of." The Antichrist is a demonized man who will be against Christ and seek to be worshiped by the nations in place of Jesus. He will give leadership to the most powerful and most wicked worldwide empire in history. The Antichrist will be given authority to continue against Israel and the Church for 42 months. (Rev. 13:5). The Gentiles, under the Antichrist's leadership, will oppress Jerusalem for 42 months (Rev. 11:2). The two witnesses prophesy in Jerusalem for 1,260 days (Rev. 11:3).

The remnant of Israel will be hidden from the Antichrist in the wilderness for 1,260 days (Rev. 12:6), also described as time, times, and half a time (Rev. 12:14). The Antichrist will be given authority to continue against the saints for time, times, and half a time, or three and a half years (Dan. 7:25). Israel's strength will be completely shattered after three and a half years, or time, times, and half a time (Dan. 12:7). The term *time* refers to one year, *times* refers to two years, and *half a time* speaks of half a year. (2 Thes. 2:3-12; 1 Jn. 2:18, 22; Rev. 13:1-18).

Another Beast

A name for the False Prophet in Rev.13:11.

Apocalypse

Means "unveiling or revealing" and is translated as "revelation." It is another name for the book of Revelation because it unveils or reveals the glory of Jesus and His end-time battle plan to drive evil off the planet.

Apostasy

A falling away, or departure from the Christian faith (Mt. 24:9-13; 2 Thes. 2:3; 1 Tim. 4:1-2; 2 Tim. 3:1-7; 4:3-4; 2 Pet. 2:1-3). An apostate is one who has "fallen away" from the Christian faith.

Armageddon Campaign

A great military campaign that will last for the final three and a half years before Jesus returns. The conflict will end with the Battle of Jerusalem (Zech. 12:3; 14:1-2), as the nations of the earth gather together to make war against Jesus (Rev. 16:13-16). The military staging area for this campaign will be around the hill of Megiddo in the north of Israel. Armageddon is referred to by many as Harmagedon which means "the hill of Megiddo." Megiddo is an ancient city in the valley of Jezreel, or Esdraelon.

Babylon

Babylon was the chief city of the Babylonian Empire, which was in the lower valley of the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers, in what is modern-day Iraq. This refers to that literal city of Babylon in Iraq (50 miles south of Baghdad), which will be rebuilt and used as one of the headquarters for the Antichrist. It will function as the centre of worldwide, demonic religious and economic networks (Rev. 17-18). As Jerusalem suddenly came out of the ashes and was rebuilt, so Babylon (in Iraq) will be suddenly rebuilt. Many of the specific details about Babylon's sudden and permanent destruction in the judgments prophesied in Jeremiah 50-51 and Isaiah 13-14:21 have not yet fully happened. They were only partially fulfilled in history.

Beast

Term used 36 times to refer to the Antichrist (Rev. 13; 14:9-11; 17:3-17; 19:19-21; 20:4, 10).

Canonized

Biblical canon, the body of literature approved as Scripture. The 66 books in the Bible are the only books we accept as being canonized. The book of Revelation is a canonized prayer manual because it is divinely inspired and infallible. It will bring unity to the end-time prayer movement.

Chronological Sections

The phrase we use for the five sections in the structure of the book of Revelation that describe the judgment events occurring on earth in God's end-time plan. They include the 21 judgment events (seven seals, seven trumpets, and seven bowls). They happen on earth in chronological order during the Great Tribulation and the millennial kingdom. The five chronological sections are Rev. 6; Rev. 8-9; Rev. 11:15-19; Rev.15-16 and Rev. 19:11-21:8).

Daniel's 30 days

In Daniel 12:11, an angel told Daniel about a 30-day period that would extend beyond the commonly understood 1,260 days (three and a half years) in which God supernaturally provides for the remnant of Israel (Rev. 12:6, 14), the two witnesses prophesy (Rev. 11:3), and the Antichrist persecutes the saints (Rev. 13:5).

This period ends when Jesus comes in the sky at the seventh trumpet to rapture the saints (Rev. 11:17). The 1,290 days include an additional 30 days after the seventh trumpet, in which the Antichrist worship system, or the abomination of desolation, continues on earth. It ends when Jesus marches into Jerusalem to personally destroy the Antichrist (2 Thes. 2:8; Rev. 19:20).

Daniel's 70th week

The final 7-year period before Jesus' second coming is referred to as Daniel's 70th week. Daniel prophesied of 70 weeks (Dan. 9:24-27). Each week was a period of 7 days, not 7 years. Therefore, these 70 weeks of 7 years each totalled 490 years. This prophecy concerns God's prophetic time calendar in dealing with the salvation of the nation of Israel. The 70 weeks (each week is 7 years) concern God's plan for Israel from the days of Daniel to Jesus' second coming. The first 69 weeks (483 years) are from 458 BC to the time of Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem (26/27 AD). The last week is a 7-year period that will not be fulfilled until Jesus' second coming. It will begin when Israel signs a peace treaty with the Antichrist, called "the prince who will come," from the 10-nation confederation (?) (Dan. 9:26-27).

Dragon

Symbolic of Satan in the book of Revelation (Rev. 12:3, 4, 7, 9, 13, 16, 17; 13:2, 4; 16:13; 20:2).

Eschatology

A term that speaks of the study of the end times from a biblical perspective. The word *eschatology* is made up of two different Greek words: *eschaton*, meaning “end,” and *-ology*, meaning a “study of something.” The most important events predicted in the “end of the age,” the *eschaton*, are the Great Tribulation, Jesus’ second coming, and the millennial kingdom. More than one-fourth of the Scriptures (27%) relate to prophetic events foretold by the prophets.

False Prophet

The Antichrist’s minister of propaganda, who will work miracles (Rev. 16:13; 19:20; 20:10). He is called “another beast” in Revelation 13:11.

Great White Throne Judgment

The time, at the end of the millennial reign, when all unbelievers will be judged by God and then thrown into the lake of fire (Rev. 20:11-15).

Harlot Babylon

The worldwide, demonically- inspired religious and economic system based in the rebuilt city of Babylon in Iraq (Rev. 17-18; Jer. 50- 51). It will be established in the literal city of Babylon (50 miles south of Baghdad) that will be restored and used as one of the headquarters for the Antichrist. It will function as the centre of worldwide demonic religious and economic networks (Isa. 13-14:21; Jer. 50-51; Rev. 17-18). As Jerusalem suddenly came out of the ashes and was rebuilt, so Babylon will be suddenly rebuilt. The judgments prophesied in Jeremiah 50-51 that suddenly destroy Babylon forever have not yet happened.

Hermeneutics

The study of the interpretation of Scripture.

Image of the Beast

A statue (image or idol) commanded by the Antichrist that will be set up in the Jerusalem temple. This image will be demonically empowered so that it will seem to think, talk, breathe, and make laws (Rev. 13:14-16). The main idol will be set up in the Jerusalem temple and will be connected to a global network of idols. The image will be a significant prophetic sign in the end times. John emphasized this image ten times (Rev. 13:14, 15 [3x]; 14:9, 11; 15:2; 16:2; 19:20; 20:4).

Jesus’ End-Time Battle Plan

The seal, trumpet, and bowl judgments described in Rev. 6-22 that will destroy all the evil governments of the earth. They will be released by the praying Church.

Judgment Seat of Christ

The time when Jesus evaluates the life of all true believers, resulting in some receiving rewards and others suffering loss of rewards (2 Cor. 5:10; Rom. 14:10-12). This evaluation

occurs immediately after the Church has been raptured at the seventh trumpet (Rev. 11:15-18). It is also referred to as the Bema judgment, which comes from the Greek word *bema*, which means “throne.”

Lake of Fire

The final place of judgment for the Antichrist, False Prophet, Satan, demons, and all unbelievers (Rev. 20:15). Unbelievers will take part in the resurrection of condemnation (Jn. 5:29), enduring eternal torment of body and soul.

Little Horn

A term used by Daniel to refer to the Antichrist (Dan. 7:7-8; 19, 25).

Mark of the Beast

Will most likely be a form of technology like the microchip implant (Rev. 13:16-18), which the Antichrist will require everyone to have in order to buy or sell during the last three and a half years of the Tribulation.

Marriage Supper of the Lamb

A time after the rapture, when Jesus celebrates His wedding to the redeemed as His bride (Rev. 19:7-10). Some believe that it will last the entire 1,000 years of the millennial kingdom.

Messiah

Comes from the Hebrew word **meshiach**, meaning “anointed one.” It is translated as the Greek word *Christos* and the English word *Christ*. In the Old Testament, the Messiah was the coming “Anointed One,” who was to be king of Israel and lead the Jewish people to freedom from Gentile oppression.

Millennium

The Millennium is a literal 1,000-year period in which Jesus will rule the whole world from Jerusalem in righteousness and peace. The kingdom of God will be openly manifest worldwide, affecting every sphere of life (political, social, agricultural, economic, spiritual, educational, law enforcement, family, media, arts, environment, social institutions, etc).

New Jerusalem

The heavenly city where all the saints will live forever in God’s immediate presence (Heb. 11:10, 16; 12:22-24). The New Jerusalem will descend to the earth in two stages: first, at the time of Jesus’ second coming (Rev. 21:10), and then after the millennial kingdom (Rev. 21:2).

New Heavens and Earth

Are used in the context of both the Millennium and the eternal state (Isa. 65:17-25; 66:22-24; 2 Pet. 3:13; Rev. 21:1-2). The earth will continue forever (1 Chr. 23:25; 28:8; Ps. 37:29; 78:69; 104:5; 105:10-11; 125:1-2; Isa. 60:21; Ezek. 37:25; Joel 3:20).

Olivet Discourse

Jesus' famous prophecy on the end times found in Mt. 24, Mk. 13, and Lk. 21.

Parousia

A Greek word that means "presence or coming" of an important person. This word is used of Jesus' second coming (Mt. 24:3, 27, 37, 39; 1Thes. 3:13; 4:15; 5:23; 2 Thes. 2:1, 8; Jas. 5:7-8).

Posttribulation Rapture ("posttrib")

The biblical teaching that the rapture and the second coming occur at the end of the Great Tribulation period. In other words, the Church will be on earth, walking in victory through the Great Tribulation. This will be the Church's finest hour, when the power of God will be experienced in great measure, surpassing any other time in history.

Pretribulation Rapture ("pretrib")

The unbiblical teaching that says that the rapture occurs before the Great Tribulation. This popular teaching claims that Christians will not go through the Tribulation to escape God's wrath. It is based on a fundamentally wrong view of the Great Tribulation as a time when God's judgments could come on the saints if they were on earth.

Rapture

The "catching away" of God's people in the air when Jesus returns. It comes from the Latin word *raptus* which means "catching away" (1 Thes. 4:13-18). The rapture occurs at the time of the seventh trumpet, which is the last trumpet (1 Cor. 15:50-52; Rev. 11:15). In this glorious event, Christians who have died will be resurrected and rise from their graves to meet Jesus in the sky. Then, Christians alive on earth will ascend to meet Jesus in the sky.

Replacement Theology

An unbiblical teaching stating that the Jews have been rejected by God and thus replaced by the church as the "true Israel" which now inherits the national promises that God gave to the nation of Israel (Rom. 9-11).

Restrainer

The forces that restrain the Antichrist will be taken out of the way to allow him to come to a place of international political power. This restraining force refers to a combination of two forces referred to by Paul as "someone" and "something" that now restrains the Antichrist (2 Thes. 2:6-8). He described the restrainer of the Antichrist as a "what" (neuter in v. 6) and as a "He" (masculine in v. 7). Thus, the restraining force is a "what" and a "He" working together. Paul taught that the power of the state is appointed by God to restrain evil (Rom. 13:1-4). The "what" that restrains the Antichrist is the power of the state, and the "He" is God and His sovereign decree. Some wrongly teach that the Holy Spirit is the restrainer that is removed when the Church is raptured before the Great Tribulation. If that were true then no one could be saved in the Great Tribulation, because it takes the work of the Holy Spirit moving on an unbeliever's heart for them to be saved.

Second Coming of Christ

The time when Jesus will come back physically to rule permanently on the earth. He will travel across the earth in the sky so that every eye clearly sees Him in every nation (Rev. 1:7). At this time, the bodies of believers will be instantly transformed as they meet Jesus in the air. This will happen at the seventh trumpet, the last trumpet (Isa. 27:13; Zech. 9:14; Mt. 24:31; 1 Cor.15:52; 1 Thes. 4:16; Rev. 10:7; 11:15).

Second-Coming Procession

The three-stage process of the return of Jesus traveling first across the sky so that every eye sees Him (Rev.1:7), then through the land of Edom, which is modern-day Jordan (Isa. 63:1-6; Hab. 3:3-16), as He marches up to Jerusalem to the Mount of Olives (Ps. 24:7-10; Zech. 14:4 ; Rev. 19:17-21).

Seven Heads

From Dan. 2:41-42; 7:7; Rev. 12:3; 13:1; 17:3-6. Seven world empires throughout history that persecuted Israel. They are Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Persia, Greece, Rome, and the 10-nation confederation.

Ten Horns

Speaks of a future 10-nation confederation of 10 kings that rule simultaneously over their own nation. They come into an enthusiastic agreement or partnership together under the Antichrist's authority (Dan. 2:41-42; 7:7, 20, 24; 11:36-45; Rev. 12:3; 13:1; 17:3, 7, 12, 16).

Throne of Glory

Jesus will establish His throne of glory on earth in the Jerusalem temple (Mt. 25:31-32; Jer. 3:17). It will be connected to the Holy of Holies in the millennial temple (Ezek. 43:4- 7; Zech. 6:12-13). Jesus' throne will connect heaven and earth, as His one throne is also located in the New Jerusalem, which descends to the earth above earthly Jerusalem during the millennial kingdom (Rev. 22:3; Ps. 48:1-6).

Tribulation/Great Tribulation

Some refer to the Tribulation as the entire seven-year period just before Jesus returns. However, Jesus specifically referred to the last three and a half years of that seven-year period as the Great Tribulation (Mt. 24:21, 29; Mk. 13:24; Rev. 7:14). It is also referred to as the time of Jacob's trouble (Jer. 30:4-7). The main focus of the Great Tribulation is the release of God's judgments on the Antichrist. These judgments will be released through the praying Church on earth (Rev. 6-19). The saints will not come under God's judgments, but will be the ones releasing them on the Antichrist, just as Moses released God's judgments on Pharaoh (Ex. 7-12). A secondary theme of the Great Tribulation is the Antichrist's persecution of the saints.

Two Witnesses

Two prophets who will operate in the power of God in a very remarkable way during the Great Tribulation (Rev. 11:3-6). They will oppose the Antichrist and proclaim the message of the gospel. Although their actual identities are unknown, some speculate that they are Moses and Elijah, or possibly Enoch.