

GOD'S PROPHETIC CALENDAR OF END-TIME EVENTS

COREY STARK

God's Prophetic Calendar of End-Time Events (Mt. 24)

I. THREE PROPHETIC TIME FRAMES IN GOD'S END-TIME PLAN

A. There is almost a universal belief among *pre-millennial* scholars that natural human history will end with a unique 7-year period of time, as described in the book of Daniel (Dan. 9:24-27). Scripture describes **three distinct prophetic time frames** related to this final 7-year period of natural human history, which are compared to the **"labor pangs"** that a woman experiences just prior to the birth of her child (Isa. 13:6-8; Mt. 24:8; 1 Thes. 5:2). This is a prophetic picture of the growing trauma that the earth will endure just prior to Jesus' return, resulting in a "new world order" being birthed at the Millennium (Isa. 66:8).

Isa. 66:8 Who has heard such a thing? Who has seen such things? Shall the earth be made to give birth in one day [MK]? Or shall a nation [Israel] be born at once? (Zech. 12:10; 13:1, 6-9; Rom. 11:26-27)

B. In Matthew 24, when questioned by His closest disciples concerning the end of the age, Jesus describes **three distinct time frames** in the **final generation** of natural human history, using language analogous to giving birth. They are the **"beginning of birth pangs"**, which are the preceding years leading up to the final seven, **"increased labor pangs"**, which is the **first 3½ year** period within the final seven, and finally **"hard labor pangs"**, which are the **final 3½ years** of natural human history, also called the **"Great Tribulation"**.

Mt. 24:1 Then Jesus... departed from the temple, and His disciples came up to show Him the buildings of the temple. 2 And Jesus said, "Do you not see all these things? Assuredly, I say to you, not one stone shall be left here upon another, that shall not be thrown down." 3 Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples [Peter, James, John, Andrew Mk. 13:3] came to Him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things be? And what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?" (Mk. 13:3-4; Lk. 21:7)

1. Beginning of birth pangs: The first prophetic timeframe is characterized by **"increased turmoil"** in the nations that is discernible, simultaneous and universal. Jesus gave **18 major trends** to be seen as prophetic "signs" to help the Church prepare for the coming years (Mt. 24:4-8; Mk. 13:5-8, Lk. 21:7-18).

Mt. 24:4 Jesus said... "Take heed no one deceives you. 5 For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many. 6 And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end [of age] is not yet. 7 Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom [ethnos] against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. 8 All these are the beginning of sorrows [birth pangs]."

2. Increased labor pangs: The second prophetic timeframe is characterized by **"deception and persecution"**, such as the rise of Harlot Babylon, counterfeit world peace, the great falling away (offense, fear, anger, confusion), relational betrayal, increased lawlessness, martyrdom of the saints and Kingdom witness to all nations. During this time the global infrastructures for the Antichrist to dominate the nations will be established - political, economic, military and religious. This occurs during the **first 3½ year** period of the final 7-years of natural human history (Mt. 24:9-14; Mk. 13:9-13; 1 Thes. 5:2-3).

Mt. 24:9 "Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name's sake. 10 And many will be offended, betray one another and hate one another. 11 Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. 12 And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. 13 But he who endures to the end shall be saved. 14 And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all nations, and then the end will come."

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3. *Hard labor pangs*: The third prophetic timeframe is initiated by the breaking of a covenant between the Antichrist and the Middle East, including Israel (Dan. 9:27), and the establishment of the “*Abomination of Desolation*” (Mt. 24:15; 2 Thes. 2:3-4), thus revealing with certainty the true identity of the Antichrist. This occurs at the beginning of the last 3½ year period of the final 7-years of natural human history, called the “*Great Tribulation*” (Jer. 30:5-7; Mt. 24:15-31; Mk 13:14-27, Lk. 21:25-28). It is characterized by the “*fullness*” of creations groan (Rom. 8:22), man’s sin (Dan. 8:23), Satan’s rage (Rev. 12:12) and God’s zeal, displayed in a 7-fold shaking (Hag. 2:6-9) of both wrath (Rev. 15:1) and glory (Acts 2:17-19). It will be greatest time of pressure the world has ever experienced (Mt. 24:21; Dan. 12:1) and “*catalyst*” to transition the earth into the age-to-come, called the Millennium (Isa. 66:8).

Mt. 24:15 “Therefore when you see the ‘abomination of desolation,’ spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place... 16 then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. 17 Let him who is on the housetop not go down to take anything out of his house. 18 And let him who is in the field not go back to get his clothes... 21 For then there will be GREAT TRIBULATION, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. 22 And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect’s sake those days will be shortened.

II. THE BEGINNING OF BIRTH PANGS

Mt. 24:4 Jesus said... “Take heed that no one deceives you... 7 For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom [ethnos]. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. 8 All these are the beginning of sorrows [birth pangs]”. (Mt. 24:4-8; Mk. 13:3-8; Lk. 21:7-24)

A. The “*beginning of birth pangs*” speaks of the escalating turmoil in the nations that is discernible, simultaneous and universal. Jesus gave **18 major trends** that are to be discerned and received as prophetic “signs” to help the Church prepare for the coming years (Mt. 24:4-8; Mk. 13:5-8, Lk. 21:7-18).

B. Jesus gave **18 global trends** [13 international and 5 within the Church] that combined with **prophetic people** and **sign events**, signal the generation in which He will return (Mt. 24:4-8; Mk. 13:5-8, Lk. 21:7-19). They are false christ’s, national and international warfare, rumors of war, ethnic conflict, economic warfare, famines, pestilences, great earthquakes, troubles, commotions, fearful sights, great heavenly signs, anti-Semitism, Christian persecution, supernatural proclamation, relational betrayal, martyrdom and increased maturity. Matthew gives eight major trends, Mark adds “trouble” and Luke describes nine more.

1. Some see these as occurring for 2000 years, but they require an “acceleration” that is discernable in the decades leading up to the final 7 years. Each trend has occurred individually for 2000 years, but not as “signs” for 2,000 years. It is the discernable escalation of these 18 signs occurring in a simultaneous and universal way in the same generation that gives us confidence that a “*new season*” has begun.

2. A woman doesn’t experience “birth pangs” her entire life, but just prior to the birth of the baby. Therefore, the “birth pangs” must be recognizable “signs” that cause the Church to know that Jesus’ coming is near and to cause us to “*watch*” for it, meaning to pray and observe carefully.

Mt. 24:33 So you, when you see ALL these things, know that it is near--at the doors! 34 Assuredly... this generation will by no means pass away till ALL these things take place... 42 Watch...

3. The Church is to pay close attention to their marked increase, giving us confident assurance we are in the final generation. They are meant to awaken us to action by creating urgency that His return is near.

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C. Note on the ratio: The time of the beginning of “birth-pangs” should correspond to the 3½ years of the heavy labor, called the Great Tribulation. After the water breaks and the active labor phase begins (which can be referred to as the beginning of birth pangs) the average ratio is approximately 12 hours of labor until the final phase of heavy labor, which lasts on average 1 hour. That’s a **12/1 ratio**. In years, the 12 to 1 ratio translates to about 42 years to 3½ years or 84 years to 7 years. In other words, if Jesus was using physical labor as an analogy to help believers understand what was to take place when they began to see the “contractions”, a ratio of 2,000 years to 3½ years is not an adequate parallel.

D. I believe that the “birth pangs” began in either **1948**, when Israel became a nation or in **1967**, during the “Six Day War” when the city of Jerusalem came under Israel’s rule. There are multiple references in the Scriptures that focus on the Jewish people once again inhabiting the land of Israel forever.

Amos 9:15 *I will plant them in their land, and no longer shall they be pulled up from the land I have given them,” says the LORD your God. (Isa. 14:1; Ezek. 36:16-38)*

1. Even 100 years ago, it seemed impossible that Israel would become a nation. The Jewish people were weak and scattered throughout the nations (Ezek. 36:19-21). Then suddenly, out of the burning ashes of the Holocaust, Israel became a nation (Ezek 36:24). No nation has ever retained their national identity for over 40 years without a homeland, let alone regaining their homeland after 2000 years.

2. Over 5 million Israelites are back in their ancient land, making this the largest movement of people to return to Israel in history, far surpassing the Exodus from Egypt over 3500 years ago (5M in USA).

E. The nation of Israel has always been the primary “timing indicator” for God’s prophetic calendar (Dan. 9:24-27; Mt. 24:15; Lk. 21:20), giving us the reference point for understanding God’s redemptive program throughout history (past and future) and His end-time plans. The entire end-time scenario in Scripture is given in context to events related to the nation of Israel and the Jewish people. The 3 most significant prophetic dates before the “Great Tribulation” are **1948** re-birth of the nation of Israel, **1967** recapturing of Jerusalem and **20__** ? Antichrist’s peace treaty with Israel and the Middle East (Dan. 9:27).

Lk. 21:20 *But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation is near.*

III. THE FINAL SEVEN YEARS OF NATURAL HUMAN HISTORY (DAN. 9:27)

Dan. 9:27 *Then he [Antichrist] shall confirm a covenant with many for one week [7 years]; 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 makes desolate, even until the consummation, which is determined, is poured out on the desolate.*

A. The final 7-year period has 2 parts, each lasting 3½ years each. The final 7 years begins when the Antichrist makes a covenant that will “guarantee” Israel political, economic and spiritual prosperity, along with military protection (Ps. 55:20; Isa. 28:14-15, 16-22; Dan. 9:27; 11:23, 28, 30; 1 Thes. 5:3). This final 7-year period begins with the Antichrist establishing counterfeit peace, prosperity and security, lasting approximately 3½ years (Ezek 38:8, 11, 14). This counterfeit peace will seem to change the world for good.

Dan. 11:21 *And in his place shall arise a vile person [Antichrist]... he shall come in peaceably, and seize the kingdom by intrigue... 23 And after the league [agreement] is made with him he shall act deceitfully... 28 While returning to his land with great riches, his heart shall be moved against the holy covenant; so he shall do damage... 30 and return in rage against the holy covenant, and do damage. So he shall return and show regard for those who forsake the holy covenant.*

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B. In the middle of this 7-year period (3½ years) the Antichrist will break his covenant, beginning the “Great Tribulation” period, which lasts for an additional 3½ years, 42 months or 1,260 days.

1 Thes. 5:2 When they [nations] say, “Peace and safety!” then sudden destruction [Great Tribulation] comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape. (Isa. 13:6-8)

Ps. 55:20 He has put forth his hands against those who were at peace with him; he has broken his covenant.²¹ The words of his mouth were smoother than butter, but war was in his heart; his words were softer than oil, yet they were drawn swords.

C. Isaiah describes Israel’s covenant with Antichrist as being in league with Death and Hell itself.

Isa. 28:14 Therefore hear the word of the LORD, you scornful men [leaders], who rule this people who are in Jerusalem, 15 Because you have said, “We have made a covenant with death, and with Sheol we are in agreement. When the overflowing scourge passes through, it will not come to us, for we have made lies our refuge, and under falsehood we have hidden ourselves.” (Rev. 6:7-8)

IV. INCREASED LABOR PANGS - FIRST 3½ YEARS

Mt. 24:9 Then [after Mt. 24:4-8] they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name’s sake. 10 And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another. 11 Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. 12 And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. 13 But he who endures to the end shall be saved. 14 And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.

A. The first 3½ year period of the final 7 years of natural human history is characterized by “**deception and persecution**”, such as the rise of Harlot Babylon, counterfeit world peace, the great falling away (offense, fear, anger, confusion), relational betrayal, increased lawlessness, martyrdom of the faithful and the Kingdom witness to all nations. During this time the global infrastructures for the Antichrist to dominate the nations will be set up - political, economic, military and religious (Mt. 24:9-14; Mk. 13:9-13; 1 Thes. 5:2-3).

B. Three main activities are **counterfeit world peace** (1 Thes. 5:3), the **Harlot Babylon** worldwide religion that persecutes the true Church (Rev. 17:2-6) and leads to a **great falling away** from the faith (1 Tim. 4:1).

1. Counterfeit World Peace: The current “birth pang” troubles of ethnic hostility, religious intolerance, terrorism and economic crisis are leading the nations to the imminent global “solution” of a one-world government that unifies the political, military, economic and religious systems of the world, thus establishing peace, prosperity and security that is both temporary and false.

1 Thes. 5:2 When they [nations] say, “Peace and safety!” then sudden destruction [Great Tribulation] comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape. (Isa. 13:6-8)

Ezek. 13:10 “Because, indeed, because they have seduced My people, saying, ‘Peace!’ when there is no peace... 13 Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: “I will cause a stormy wind to break forth in My fury; and there shall be a flooding rain in My anger, and great hailstones in fury to consume it... 15 “Thus will I accomplish My wrath... on 16 the prophets of Israel who prophesy concerning Jerusalem, and who see visions of peace for her when there is no peace,” says the Lord GOD.

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2. Harlot Babylon Religion: The Harlot Babylon one-world religion will prosper, while persecuting the saints (Rev. 17:1-6; Mt. 24:9-14). It will champion diversity, affirmation and toleration without moral absolutes. The Harlot will sift false believers from the church, judge those who didn't receive a love for truth, and be the context in which sin will reach fullness by way of opportunity (ease, speed, privacy), variety and volume (Rev. 18:12-14). It will be a counterfeit "justice" movement that will masquerade as an answer to the ills of the world. It will allure multitudes by feeding the poor, meeting humanitarian needs, loving peace, and emphasizing the dignity of humanity and the happiness of man.

Rev. 17:1 "I will show you... the great harlot who sits on many waters, 2 with whom the kings of the earth committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth were made drunk with the wine of her fornication." 5 And on her forehead a name was written: MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH. 6 I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. 15 Then he said to me, "The waters which you saw, where the harlot sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues.

3. Great Falling Away: Many in the Church will "fall away from the faith", because of the seduction and persecution of the Harlot (Mt. 24:9-13; 2 Thes. 2:3; 1 Tim. 4:1-3; 2 Tim. 3:1-9; 4:3-4; 2 Pet. 2:1-3). To "depart from the faith" implies that you must first have faith (1 Tim. 4:1-3). The "once saved, always saved" doctrine is not consistent with Scriptural truth (Rom. 11:17-24; Heb. 6:4; 2 Pet. 2:20-22).

1 Tim. 4:1 Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, 2 speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron, 3 forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from foods...

2 Tim. 4:3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; 4 and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.

Heb. 6:4 For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted the heavenly gift, and have become partakers of the Holy Spirit, 5 and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, 6 if they fall away, to renew them again to repentance, since they crucify again for themselves the Son of God, and put Him to an open shame.

2 Pet. 2:1 But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction. 2 And many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed. 3 By covetousness they will exploit you with deceptive words; for a long time their judgment has not been idle, and their destruction does not slumber... 18 For when they speak great swelling words of emptiness, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through lewdness, the ones who have actually escaped from those who live in error. 19 While they promise them liberty, they themselves are slaves of corruption; for by whom a person is overcome, by him also he is brought into bondage. 20 For if, after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the latter end is worse for them than the beginning. 21 For it would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered to them. 22 But it has happened to them according to the true proverb: "A dog returns to his own vomit," and, "a sow, having washed, to her wallowing in the mire."

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V. HARD LABOR PANGS - FINAL 3½ YEARS "THE GREAT TRIBULATION"

Mt. 24:15 *Therefore when you see the 'abomination of desolation,' spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place" (whoever reads, let him understand)... 21 For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. 22 And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened. (Mk. 13:14-20; Rev. 7:13-14)*

A. The third prophetic timeframe is initiated by the breaking of a covenant between the Antichrist and the Middle East, including Israel (Dan. 9:27), and the establishment of the "**Abomination of Desolation**" (Mt. 24:15; 2 Thes. 2:3-4), thus revealing with certainty the true identity of the Antichrist. This initiates the last 3½ year period of the final 7-years of natural human history, called the "**Great Tribulation**" (Jer. 30:5-7; Mt. 24:15-31; Mk 13:14-27, Lk. 21:25-28). It will be greatest time of pressure the world has ever experienced (Mt. 24:21; Dan. 12:1) and the "**catalyst**" to transition the earth into the Millennium (Isa. 66:8).

Dan. 12:1 *At that time Michael shall stand up, the great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people; and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation, even to that time.*

B. The "**Abomination of Desolation**" is the catalytic event initiating the "**Great Tribulation**" and has many significant implications and ramifications related to it (Dan. 8:13; 9:26, 27; 11:31, 36-39; 12:11; Mt. 24:15; Mk. 13:14; 2 Thes. 2:4; Rev. 13:14, 15 - Dan. 3:1-30; Ezek. 8:1-6).

Dan. 11:29 *At the appointed time he [Antichrist] shall... 30 return in rage against the holy covenant, and do damage... 31 And forces shall be mustered by him, and they shall defile the sanctuary fortress; then they shall take away the daily sacrifices, and place there the abomination of desolation... 36 Then the king shall do according to his own will: he shall exalt and magnify himself above every god, shall speak blasphemies against the God of gods, and shall prosper... for what has been determined shall be done.*

C. The Abomination of Desolation occurs when the Antichrist declares himself to be God. Central to the Abomination of Desolation is the "**image of the Beast**", which will be a statue or "idol" that is demonically empowered so that it will appear to think, talk, breathe, and make laws (Rev. 13:14-16). The image is the "abomination" in the temple (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). This 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).

Rev. 13:14 *And he deceives those who dwell on the earth by those signs which he was granted to do in the sight of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who was wounded by the sword and lived. 15 He was granted power to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed.*

D. This image will be the greatest "**abomination**" to God in history for three reasons. First, because a man called the Antichrist will say, "I am God." Second, he'll demand to be worshipped. Third, millions will say yes to this! The Abomination of Desolation will be confirmed by demonic miracles and will end sacrifices in the Tribulation Temple, which will be reinstated in the future (Dan. 9:27; 11:31; 12:11; 2 Thes. 2:4). Animal activists in the global community will emphatically resist the Jews reinstating animal sacrifices.

Dan. 9:27 *Then he [Antichrist] shall confirm a covenant with many for one week [7 years]; but in the middle of the week he shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering. (Dan. 11:31)*

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E. The “*desolation*” will occur in two different ways. First, the *Antichrist will desolate* or seek to destroy in persecution any who refuse to worship him (Rev. 13:15). Second, *God will desolate* or destroy in judgment all those who yield to the pressure of worshiping the Antichrist (Rev. 14:9-11). The A.O.D. is referred to 7 times in Scripture, Daniel 5x (Dan. 8:13; 9:26, 27; 11:31; 12:11) and Jesus 2x (Mt. 24:15; Mk. 13:14).

F. The *Antichrist* is “anti-christ” not only because he opposes Jesus, but attempts to replace Him. He will mimic the resurrection of Jesus after receiving a mortal head wound by a sword and apparently dying before being raised from the dead (Rev. 13:3, 12, 14), causing many in the world to literally “marvel” and to worship him (Rev. 13:4, 8). Satan enters the Antichrist like Judas (Lk. 22:3; Jn 13:27) when he is cast from heaven and the Antichrist receives a deadly wound (Rev. 12:7-12; 17:8 [2x], 11). The Abomination of Desolation releases the key piece of legislation that begins the Antichrists aggressive plan to rule the whole earth as God. This act of abomination will occur in the middle of the final 7 years just prior to Jesus’ return.

G. The “*Great Tribulation*” is characterized by the “fullness” of creations groan (Rom. 8:22), man’s sin (Dan. 8:23), Satan’s rage (Rev. 12:12) and God’s zeal, displayed in a 7-fold shaking (Hag. 2:6-9) of both wrath (Rev. 15:1) and glory (Acts 2:17-19).

H. The final 3½ year period of natural human history is the most referred to time period in Scripture, listed as the great tribulation (Mt. 24:21; Rev. 7:14), time of Jacob’s trouble (Jer. 30:7), time of trouble (Dan. 12:1), half a week (Dan. 9:27), a time and times and half a time (Dan. 7:25; 12:7; Rev. 12:14), forty-two months (Rev. 11:2; 13:5), 1,260 days (Rev. 11:3; 12:6) and a short time (Rev. 12:12; 17:10).

VI. DANIEL’S 30 DAYS - IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE FINAL 3½ YEARS

Dan. 12:11 And from the time that the daily sacrifice is taken away, and the abomination of desolation is set up [middle of week Dan. 9:27], there shall be one thousand two hundred and ninety days [1,290].

A. Jesus’ coming is a “*royal procession*”, involving many events within a 30-day period, following the 1,260 days of the Great Tribulation (Dan. 12:11) in the days of the sounding of the 7th trumpet (Rev. 10:7).

B. We know the 30-day period by comparing Dan. 12:11 (1,290 days) with Rev. 11:3; 12:6 (1,260 days) or Dan. 9:27 (1/2 week), Dan. 7:25; 12:7; Rev. 12:14 (a time, times, ½ time), Rev. 11:2; 13:5 (42 months).

C. The saints will prophesy (Rev. 11:3), receive supernatural provision (Rev. 12:6) and endure persecution for 1,260 days (Rev. 13:5-7). However, the Antichrist will operate his worldwide worship system, called the “*abomination of desolation*” for an additional 30 days until it’s destroyed at 1,290 days (Dan. 12:11). In other words, they stop prophesying, receiving provision and enduring persecution when they are raptured.

Dan. 12:11 And from the time that the daily sacrifice is taken away, and the abomination of desolation is set up [middle of week Dan. 9:27], there shall be one thousand two hundred and ninety days [1,290].

Rev. 11:3 I will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy 1,260 days...

Rev. 12:6 Then the woman fled into the wilderness... where they should feed her there 1,260 days.

Rev. 13:6 And he was given authority to continue for 42 months [1,260 days]... 7 It was granted to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them. Authority was given him over every tribe... and nation.

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VII. THE FIRST 3½ DAYS OF DANIEL'S 30 DAYS (REV. 11:9, 11)

Rev. 11:3 I will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy 1,260 days, clothed in sackcloth... 7 When they finish their testimony [end of 1,260 days], the Beast [Antichrist] that ascends out of the bottomless pit will make war against them, overcome them, and kill them... 9 Then those from... nations will see their dead bodies 3½ days, and not allow their dead bodies to be put into graves... 11 Now after the 3½ days the breath of life from God entered them, and they stood on their feet, and great fear fell on those who saw them. 12 And they heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Come up here." And they ascended to heaven in a cloud... 13 In the same hour there was a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city fell. In the earthquake seven thousand people were killed, and the rest were afraid and gave glory to the God of heaven.

A. When considering the timing surrounding these events we know that the Two Witnesses prophesy for exactly 1,260 days or 3½ years (Rev. 11:3). We know that they are then killed and their bodies are seen lying in the street and not allowed to be buried for exactly 3½ days. Lastly, we know that sometime after 3½ days, but within the 30, they are resurrected from the dead and ascend to heaven in a cloud (Rev. 11:11-14).

B. During this 3½ day period, although after the 1,260 days of the Great Tribulation, we know that "**Jesus' second coming procession**" and "**rapture of the saints**" has not yet occurred, because...

1. The nations are rejoicing, making merry and sending gifts (Rev. 11:10), whereas at Jesus' return at the seventh trumpet all the tribes of the earth will "mourn" because of Him (Rev. 1:7).

Rev. 11:9 The peoples, tribes, tongues, and nations will see their dead bodies 3½ days... 10 And those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them, make merry, and send gifts to one another...

Rev. 1:7 Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him. Even so, Amen.

2. They hear a "loud voice from heaven" saying to them, "Come up here!" (Rev. 11:12). It's no accident that the Holy Spirit had John record the exact phrase being used, as this is none other than the Lord Jesus Christ who said "Come up here" to John, calling him up to heaven the same way (Rev. 4:1). If Jesus had already returned to earth at His second coming, He wouldn't still be in heaven saying, "Come up here".

Rev. 11:12a And they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, "Come up here."

Rev. 4:1 And the first voice which I heard was like a trumpet speaking with me, saying, "Come up here, and I will show you things which must take place after this."

3. These two men will be raised from the dead before all nations and ascend to heaven in a cloud (Rev. 11:12). At Jesus' return, He will be coming on clouds from heaven to earth with "all the saints" (Zech. 14:5; 1 Thes. 3:13). Therefore, if Jesus' second coming and the rapture of the saints had already taken place, these would be the only two saints in heaven at this time, which is highly unlikely.

Rev. 11:12b And they ascended to heaven in a cloud, and their enemies saw them.

1 Thes. 3:13 that He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints.

4. In vs. 13 there's an "earthquake" following their ascent. Could this be the same one that accompanies Jesus' second coming with "lightnings, noises, thunderings, an earthquake and great hail" (Rev. 11:19)?

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C. The “*mystery of God*” is finished, as the full number of martyrs is complete and the Bride is made ready (Rev. 6:11). This occurs when the angel is “*about to sound*” the 7th trumpet (Rev. 10:7). The final martyrs killed, completing the full number are the two witnesses martyred just prior to the sounding of the 7th trumpet, thus the phrase “*when he is about to sound*”, signaling the coming of Jesus with all the saints (1 Thes. 3:13). The Two Witnesses are the last two martyrs in the closing moments of natural human history and the first two resurrected from the dead, thus bearing witness the “*last shall be first*” (Mk. 10:31).

Rev. 10:7 but in the days of the sounding of the seventh angel, when he is about to sound, the mystery of God would be finished, as He declared to His servants the prophets.

Mk. 10:31 But many who are first will be last, and the last first.”

D. These two have been uniquely sustained with natural bodies in the presence of the Lord for over 2,000 years, much in the same way as Moses did in God’s presence upon Mt. Sinai for eighty days (Ex. 24:18; 34:28). They were chosen by God to receive the final martyrs crowns and the first resurrected bodies (1 Thes. 4:13-18; 1 Cor. 15:52). Their ascent occurs when Jesus descends from heaven with a “shout, the voice of an archangel and the trumpet of God” (1 Thes. 4:16), saying with a loud voice “come up here” (Rev. 11:12) at the sounding of the seventh trumpet (Rev. 10:7), thus beginning Jesus’ second coming procession and the release of the 7 bowls of wrath, which occur over the next 26½ days, culminating with the 7th bowl and the destruction of the Antichrist armies at the battle of Jerusalem to end the Armageddon campaign (Zech. 14:1-15; Rev. 16:17-21; 19:11-21).

VIII. REMAINING DAYS OF DANIELS 30 DAYS

A. Jesus “*royal procession*” begins in the sky at the 7th trumpet and ends on the ground at the 7th bowl.
1. Jesus travels across the sky on clouds to rapture the saints being seen by every eye (Rev. 1:7).
2. Jesus marches up through the land delivering the captives and destroying His enemies (Isa. 63:1-6).
3. Jesus triumphantly enters Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives to be crowned “King” (Zech. 14:1-9).

B. Jesus will release eight judgments (7th trumpet, 1-7 bowls of wrath) from the 7th trumpet to 7th bowl, winning the battle for Jerusalem, thus ending the Armageddon campaign (Rev. 19:11-21).

C. The Antichrist and the False prophet will be cast alive into Lake of Fire (Rev. 19:20).

D. Jesus commands the armies gathered around Jerusalem to be executed and sent to Hell (Lk. 19:11-27; Rev. 19:20-21), much in the same way Elijah executed all the false prophets at Mt. Carmel (1 Kgs. 18:40).

Rev. 19:20 Then the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet... These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone. 21 And the rest were killed with the sword which proceeded from the mouth of Him who sat on the horse.

E. The “great supper” of our God will begin, calling for all the birds of the air to eat the flesh and drink the blood of the Antichrist armies (Ezek. 39:17-20; Mt. 24; Mk. 13; Rev. 19:17-18, 21).

Ezek. 39:17 Speak to every sort of bird and to every beast of the field: “Assemble yourselves and come; gather together from all sides to My sacrificial meal which I am sacrificing for you, a great sacrificial meal on the mountains of Israel, that you may eat flesh and drink blood. 18 You shall eat the flesh of the mighty, drink the blood of the princes of the earth...”

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IX. DANIEL'S 45 DAYS - IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE 30 DAYS

Dan. 12:12 Blessed is he who waits, and comes to the one thousand three hundred thirty-five days [1,335].

A. Immediately following the 7th bowl judgment and destruction of the Antichrist armies, Jesus initiates the following events to establish His Millennial Kingdom and Throne of Glory in the city of Jerusalem.

B. At Jesus' second coming (Rev. 15:2), the New Jerusalem descends, being positioned above Millennial Jerusalem (Rev. 21:10), where it will remain until the earth is completely purged of sin and rinsed by God's consuming fire (2 Pet. 3:10-13; Rev. 20:9).

Rev. 21:10 And he... showed me the great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, 11 having the glory of God. Her light was like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, clear as crystal.

C. Satan along with all his fallen angels will be bound and imprisoned in bottomless pit for 1000 years.

Rev. 20:2 He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a 1000 years; 3 and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, so that he should deceive the nations no more till the 1000 years were finished...

D. Jesus will gather all of the nations before Him and evaluate their response to the Jewish peoples plight during the Great Tribulation (Mt. 25:31-46).

Mt. 25:31 "When the Son of Man comes in His glory... then He will sit on the throne of His glory. 32 All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another... 41 Then He will say to those on the left, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire... 42 for I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink; 43 I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me... 45 Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these [My brethren], you did not do it to Me.'

E. All the reprobate survivors that have scattered throughout the nations will be rounded up and executed. Angels will be employed in the gathering process (Isa. 13:3; Joel 3:11; Mt. 13:24-30, 36-43; Rev. 14:17-20).

Lk. 19:27 Bring those enemies of mine, who did not want me to reign over them and slay them before me.

F. Jesus establishes His governmental infrastructures, delegating authority to the saints over nations and cities (Dan. 7:18, 22, 27; Mt. 19:28; Lk. 19:11-27). Jesus restoration plan is "rolled out" to the resurrected kings.

Mt. 19:28 Assuredly I say to you, that in the regeneration, when the Son of Man sits on the throne of His glory, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

G. Saints will evaluate and judge angels and humans (1 Cor. 6:2-3; Rev. 20:4)

Rev. 20:4 And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a 1000 years.

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H. Jesus will literally direct the building of the Millennial temple (Mt. 26:61; 27:40; Mk. 14:58; 15:29; Jn. 2:19-20; Zech. 6:12). Could He raise it up in three days? (Mt. 26:61; 27:40; Mk. 14:58; 15:29; Jn. 2:19-20)

Zech. 6:12 Then speak to him, saying, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts, saying: "Behold, the Man whose name is the BRANCH! From His place He shall branch out, and He shall build the temple of the LORD; 13 Yes, He shall build the temple of the LORD. He shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule on His throne; so He shall be a priest on His throne, and the counsel of peace shall be between them both."

Jn. 2:19 Jesus answered and said to them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." 20 Then the Jews said, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will You raise it up in three days?" 21 But He was speaking of the temple of His body [could He also be speaking Millennial temple?].

I. Israel will experience national repentance and in one day the entire remnant of Israel that has survived the Great Tribulation judgments in Jerusalem gets saved (Zech. 12:10-14; 13:1, 6; Rom. 11:26-27).

Zech. 12:10 I will pour on the house of David and... Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as for a firstborn. 11 In that day there shall be a great mourning in Jerusalem...

J. The marriage supper of the Lamb will begin (Rev. 19:6-9).

Rev. 19:7 Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready."

K. Search parties will cleanse the entire land of Israel, searching for the next 7 months (Ezek. 39:11-16) and burning the weapons of war for the next 7 years (Ezek 39:9-10).

Ezek. 39:9 Then those who dwell in the cities of Israel will go out and set on fire and burn the weapons... and they will make fires with them for seven years. 10 They will not take wood from the field nor cut down any from the forests, because they will make fires with the weapons... says the Lord GOD.

Ezek. 39:12 For seven months the house of Israel will be burying them, in order to cleanse the land... 14 They will set apart men regularly employed... to pass through the land and bury those bodies remaining on the ground, in order to cleanse it. At the end of seven months... 15 The search party will pass through the land; and when anyone sees a man's bone, he shall set up a marker by it...

L. Those with natural bodies will be declared "blessed", as they now have an opportunity to earn eternal rewards in their natural bodies for up to 1000 years, before receiving their resurrected bodies!

Dan. 12:12 Blessed is he who waits, and comes to the one thousand three hundred thirty-five days [1,335].

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X. THE MILLENNIAL KINGDOM - 1000 YEARS

Rev. 20:4 *And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a 1000 years. 5 But the rest of the dead did not live again until the 1000 years were finished. This is the first resurrection. 6 Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a 1000 years.*

A. Satan and all his fallen angels have been cast into prison (Isa. 24:21-22; Rev. 20:2-3).

Rev. 20:2 *He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a 1000 years; 3 and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, so that he should deceive the nations no more till the 1000 years were finished...*

Isa. 24:21 *In that day that the LORD will punish on high the host of exalted ones [principalities Eph. 6], and on the earth the kings of the earth. 22 They will be gathered together, as prisoners are gathered in the pit, and will be shut up in the prison; after many days [1000 years] they will be punished.*

B. The saints rebuild the cities and national infrastructures of the earth (Isa. 61:4; Ezek. 36:10, 33, 35, 38).

Isa. 61:4 *And they shall rebuild the old ruins, they shall raise up the former desolations, and they shall repair the ruined cities, the desolations of many generations.*

C. The resurrected saints will continue to disciple the nations (Isa. 66:18-20; Mt. 28:18-19).

Isa. 66:18 *I will gather all nations... and see My glory... 19 Among them who escape I will send to the nations... who have not heard My fame nor seen My glory. And they shall declare My glory among the Gentiles. 20 Then they shall bring all your brethren for an offering to the LORD out of all nations...*

Mt. 28:18 *Jesus spoke, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations... 20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you..."*

D. The kings of the earth and the people will learn directly from Jesus (Isa. 2:1-4; Ps. 48:1-8; Rev. 21:24).

Isa. 2:3 *Many people shall come and say, "Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the House of the God of Jacob; He [Jesus] will teach us His ways, and we shall walk in His paths." Out of Zion shall go forth the law [word of God]... the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.*

E. The earth will be progressively restored (atmosphere, agriculture, animals) to some of the conditions seen in the Garden of Eden (Rev. 20:1-6; Isa. 2:1-4; 9:6-9; 11:1-16; 51:1-8; 60-62; 65:17-25; Ps. 2:6-12; 110:1-7; Deut. 8; 28; Mt. 5:5; 6:10; 17:11; 19:28; 28:19; Acts 1:6; 3:21).

Ezek. 36:35 *They will say, 'This land that was desolate has become like the garden of Eden... 36 Then the nations... shall know that I, the LORD, have rebuilt the ruined places and planted what was desolate.*

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F. Natural human life spans will revert back to the days of Noah (Isa. 65:20, 22).

Isa. 65:20 No more shall an infant from there live but a few days, nor an old man who has not fulfilled his days; for the child shall die one hundred years old, but the sinner being one hundred years old shall be accursed... 22 For as the days of a tree, so shall be the days of My people...

G. Jesus prepares the earth with the saints for the Father's permanent coming (1 Cor. 15:24-28; Rev. 22:4).

1 Cor. 15:24 Then comes the end, when He delivers the kingdom to the Father, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power. 25 For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet.

XI. TRANSITION TO ETERNAL STATE AND FINAL REVOLT

Rev. 20:7 Now when the 1000 years have expired, Satan will be released from his prison 8 and will go out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle, whose number is as the sand of the sea. 9 They went up on the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city. And fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them. 10 The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

A. Satan and the hordes of hell released for a "little while" (Rev. 20:3, 5, 7).

Rev. 20:3 But after these things [Satan bound for 1000 years] he must be released for a little while... 5 The rest of the dead did not live again until the 1000 years were finished.

B. The final battle of "Gog and Magog" between the Satanic hordes and God (Rev. 20:7-10).

Rev. 20:7 When the 1000 years have expired, Satan will be released from his prison 8 and will go out to deceive the nations... in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle, whose number is as the sand of the sea. 9 They went up on the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city. And fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them.

C. God cleanses and renovates this present earth with fire (2 Pet. 3:10-13; Rev. 20:9).

2 Pet. 3:10 The day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up... 12 the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat. 13 Nevertheless we... look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

D. Great white throne judgment of all the wicked dead at 2nd resurrection (Rev. 20:11-15).

Rev. 20:11 Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. 12 And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books. 13 The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works.

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E. All evil to be cast into the Lake of Fire - Satan, demons, hell, death, wicked (Rev. 20:10, 14-15).

Rev. 20:10 The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever... 14 Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.[d] 15 And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.

F. Jesus delivers the kingdom to the Father (1 Cor. 15:24-28).

1 Cor. 15:24 Then comes the end [Millennium], when He [Jesus] delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power [unsubmitted]. 25 For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet. 26 The last enemy that will be destroyed is death. 27 For "He has put all things under His feet." But when He says "all things are put under Him," it is evident that He who put all things under Him is excepted. 28 Now when all things are made subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under Him, that God may be all in all.

XII. NEW HEAVENS AND NEW EARTH - ETERNAL AGE

Rev. 21:1 Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. 2 Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. 4 And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away." 5 Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And He said to me, "Write, for these words are true and faithful." 6 And He said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts. 7 He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son. 8 But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."

2 Pet. 3:10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. 11 Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, 12 looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat? 13 Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

Isa. 65:17 "For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; and the former shall not be remembered or come to mind. 18 But be glad and rejoice forever in what I create; for behold, I create Jerusalem as a rejoicing, and her people a joy. 19 I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in My people; the voice of weeping shall no longer be heard in her, nor the voice of crying."

Isa. 66:22 "As the new heavens and new earth which I will make shall remain before Me," says the LORD, "So shall your descendants and your name remain. 23 And it shall come to pass that from one New Moon to another, and from one Sabbath to another, all flesh shall come to worship before Me," says the LORD.