

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

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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/destruction to all who participate in this terrible abomination (Dan 9:27; Mt. 24:15; Mk. 13:14; II Thess. 2:3-4). This worship system is based on the Antichrist (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). No one will be able to buy or sell without worshipping 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; II Thess. 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).

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 second advent.

ANGELIC OR EXPLANATORY SECTIONS – a phrase used for the first five sections in the structure of the book of Revelation that serve as a parenthesis. They put a ‘pause’ on the main story line of the book which 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? These sections explain more clearly what will happen to God’s people, including what Jesus will do to help us and what the Antichrist will do to persecute us.

ANTICHRIST – Anti means “against” or “in place of.” The Antichrist is a demonized man who will be against Christ and will seek to be worshipped 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 1260 days (Rev. 11:3). The remnant of Israel will be hidden from the Antichrist in the wilderness for 1260 days (Rev. 12:6) which is 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 3 ½ years (Dan 7:25). Israel’s strength will be completely shattered after 3 ½ years (Dan 12:7). The term “time” refers to 1 year, “times” refers to 2 years, and “half a time” speaks of half a year (II Thess. 2:3-12; I 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 the word 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; II Thess. 2:3, I Tim. 4:1-2; II Tim. 3:1-7; 4:3-4; II Pet. 2:1-3). An apostate is one who has “fallen away,” one who has turned away from the Christian faith.

ARMAGEDDON CAMPAIGN – a great military campaign that will last for the final 3 ½ 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 – historically, 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 (in a literal sense will) refer to that city of Babylon in Iraq (50 miles south of Baghdad) that will be rebuilt and used as one of the headquarters for the Antichrist. It will function as the center 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 in the judgments prophesied in Jer. 50-51 and Isa. 13-14 and 21 about Babylon’s sudden and permanent destruction 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 - literature approved as part of the Holy Scripture or the biblical canon. The sixty-six books in the Bible are the only books that we accept as being canonized. The book of Revelation is a canonized prayer manual because it is divinely inspired and infallible. Therefore, 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 (7 seals, 7 trumpets, and 7 bows) that happen on the earth in chronological order during the Great Tribulation.

DANIEL’S THIRTY DAYS – In Daniel 12:11, an angel told Daniel about a 30-day period that would extend beyond the commonly understood 1260 days (3 ½ 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 7th trumpet to rapture the saints (Rev. 11:17). The 1290 days include an additional 30 days after the 7th 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 (II Thess. 2:8; Rev. 19:20).

DISPENSATIONALISM – the belief that all time and history can be divided into distinguishable periods (dispensations) through which God deals with human beings in different ways. Each dispensation is a new time of testing for human beings that concludes/ends in judgment. Thus, each dispensation represents the complete failure of human enterprise.

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 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 (literal translation). See “Babylon.”

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 possibly be connected to a global network of idols. This image is a significant prophetic sign in the End Times. John emphasized this image ten times.

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 (II 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 that refers to the Antichrist (Dan. 7:7-8; 19, 25).

MARK OF THE BEAST – will be some type of mark on the forehead or right hand of anyone who chooses to buy or sell during the last 3 ½ years of the tribulation. Many think it will be some type of technology, something akin to a microchip buried under the skin. (See Rev. 13:16-18). The Bible refers to the mark, the name of the beast, and the number of his name, with instructions to calculate the number of the beast (666), which is the number of a man.

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 1000 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 1000 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.

NEW HEAVENS AND NEW EARTH – used in the context of both the Millennium and the eternal state (Isa. 65:17-25; 66: 22-24; II Pet. 3:13; Rev. 21:1-2). The earth will continue forever in a restored state (I 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 Matthew 24, Mark 13 and Luke 21.

PAROUSIA – a Greek word that means “presence” or “coming” of an important person. This word is used of Jesus’ second coming. It is sometimes also used for the manifested presence of God indwelling a person, as was the case with John G. Lake.

PREMILLENNIUMISM – the belief that the present age of human history will end in Christ’s thousand-year reign on earth (based on Rev. 20:1-10). Prominent in this belief is the conviction that the 1000-year reign will be heralded by the events in Revelation and Old Testament prophecies of “the end times,” e.g. preaching of the gospel to all nations, wars, famines, apostasy, and the appearance of the Antichrist. (The 1000 year reign of Christ, called the millennium, is divided into three different interpretations: postmillennial, amillennial, and premillennial. The breakdown on the differences and categorization of these views varies; however, the premillennial view makes the most of the book of Revelation and is the one defined here. *Revelation: Four Views; A Parallel Commentary* edited by Steve Gregg presents a definitive breakdown of these terms.)

POST-TRIBULATION RAPTURE (“post-trib”) - the teaching that the rapture and the Second Coming occur at the end of the Great Tribulation period, at the end of the 3 ½ years. In other words, the Church will be on earth, walking in victory as the spotless and wrinkle-free Bride through the tribulation. This will be the Church’s finest hour.

PRE-TRIBULATION RAPTURE (“pre-trib”) – the teaching that the rapture and second coming occur before the Great Tribulation. This popular teaching generally claims that Christians will not go through the tribulation in order to escape God’s wrath. This is often based on a misunderstanding of the purposes and plans of the judgments of God recorded in the book of Revelation.

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” (I Thess. 4:13-18). The rapture occurs at the time of the seventh trumpet, which is the last trumpet (I 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 ascent to meet Jesus in the sky.

REPLACEMENT OR FULLFILLMENT THEOLOGY – an unbiblical teaching stating that the Jews have been rejected by God and thus replaced by the church or fulfilled in the church as the “true Israel” which now inherits the national promises that God gave to the nation of Israel (See Romans 9-11).

SECOND COMING OF CHRIST – The time when Jesus will come back physically to rule permanently on the earth. The Bible relates that every eye will clearly see him in every nation of the earth. At that time, the bodies of believers will be instantly transformed into incorruptible and immortal bodies. This will happen at the 7th or last trumpet.

SEVEN HEADS – from Daniel 2:41-42; 7:7; Rev. 12:3; 13:1; 17:3-6. Seven world empires throughout history that persecute Israel. They are Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Persia, Greece, Rome and the revived Roman Empire.

TEN HORNS – speaks of a future ten-nation confederation of ten 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 the earth in the Jerusalem Temple (Mt 25:31-32; Jer. 3:17). His throne of glory also will be in the New Jerusalem. There is only an indication of one throne for both, creating speculation as to how this will occur.

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 3 ½ 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 and his empire (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. 11-6). They will oppose the Antichrist and proclaim the message of the gospel. Although their actual identities are unknown, some speculate they are Moses and Elijah or possibly Enoch.