

God's Prophetic Plan

Bible prophecy deals with three classes of People: the Jew; the Gentile; and the Church of God. To Abraham, the father of the Jewish people, and to his descendants after him, God gave all the land from the river Euphrates to the river of Egypt for an "everlasting possession" (1Cor.10:32; Gen.15:18-21;17:1-8).



Later God confirmed these promises to Moses and appointed Jerusalem be the place where His name would be worshipped (Deut.12:5,11,14,18,26).

About 500 years later God promised King David that his house and kingdom would be "established for ever", and that there would always be one of his descendants to sit upon the throne of Israel. This line can be traced to both Mary the mother of Jesus Christ, and to Joseph the husband of Mary, thus making Jesus Christ the son of David and heir to the throne (2Sam.7:12-16; Luke1:30-33).

When Jesus Christ came in fulfilment of many Old Testament prophecies, Israel rejected her Messiah; and in fulfilment of Jesus' own words Jerusalem was destroyed in AD70, after which the nation was scattered around the world (Luke 21:20-24).

The Rapture of the Church

Following Christ's resurrection and ascension God turned to the Gentiles, and through the Church, the Body of Christ, He has made His Truth known for nearly 2,000 years (Eph.3:1-11; Rom.16:25,26).

Sadly, Christendom has apostatized, as Jesus said it would, and the Bible teaches that this "Church Age" will conclude with the Rapture, the "catching away" of all saved individuals. The Rapture will be sudden and unexpected. It will not be seen by the world. Those Christians who have died will be raised first, then those still living will be caught up together with them, in a moment, to meet the Lord "in the air" (1Thess.4:13-18; 1Cor.15:51; Luke17:26-37).

The Coming Great Tribulation

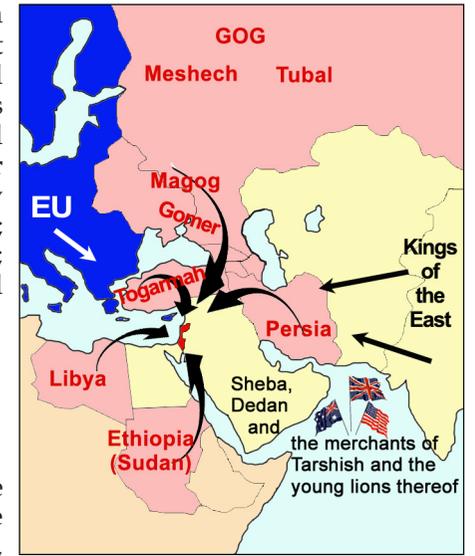
Immediately after the Rapture Antichrist will appear from the Revived Roman Empire (EU) and "confirm a covenant with many for one week (7 years), but in the midst of the week he will cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease" (Dan9:27). The Jewish Temple will have been rebuilt next to the Mosque of Omar, and halfway through the 7 years of the Tribulation Antichrist will proclaim his own deity. This will be the Great Tribulation during which Israel will turn to the Lord and again become God's witness on earth. The re-establishment of the nation of Israel in 1948, and its

the Kingdom throughout the world; and many Gentiles will be saved through their testimony (1Thess.5:1-9; Dan.9:24-27; Jer.30:7 and Rev.7:1-14).

Invasion of Israel and Israel's Conversion

During the first half of the Tribulation, Russia will lead Iran, Turkey (Togarmah), Libya and Sudan (Ethiopia of ancient times), in a massive attack to liquidate Israel (Ezek.38 and 39; Joel 2). However, it will be this attack and the preaching of 144,000 Jewish witnesses that bring Israel to cry out to the Lord. As Israel repents, God will intervene and destroy these armies, and

"So the house of Israel shall know that I am the LORD their God from that day and forward" (Ezek.39:22; Joel 2:12-32; Rom.11:25-31;2Cor.3:16; Acts15:16).

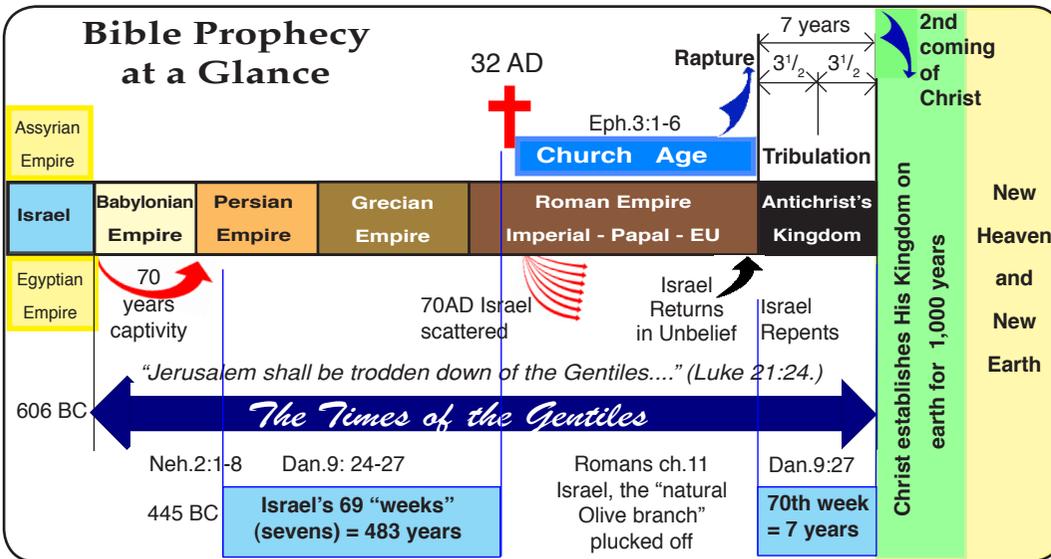


Armageddon

With the Russian/Muslim Alliance destroyed and Antichrist in firm control of the Middle East, a signal will be sent to the millions of Asia. An army of 200 million raised by the 'Kings of the East' will cross the Euphrates for the Battle of Armageddon. God says, "I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and...THEN shall the LORD go forth and fight against those nations ...and His feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the East" (Zech.14:1-4; Rev.9:13-21; Rev.16:12-16).

The Second Coming of Christ

Immediately after the Great Tribulation, Christ will come with His saints in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory, and "Every eye shall see Him, and they also who pierced Him (Israel): and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of Him" (Rev 1:7).



subsequent growth to 6.2 million population in the land by 2001, indicates that this time is drawing near (Ezek.36:16-38).

The Great Tribulation period is referred to as "The DAY of the LORD"; "The Time of Jacob's (Israel's) Trouble"; and the "70th week" (the last 7 years) of Israel's prophetic history before Messiah returns. During this time there will be 144,000 Jews, from the 12 tribes of Israel, who will preach the Gospel of

Judgment of the Living Nations

All nations that survive the Tribulation will be gathered before Christ's Throne of Glory at Jerusalem and divided, the sheep from the goats, depending on their attitude toward Israel, now God's repentant people. The Sheep (the saved nations) go alive into Christ's Millennial Kingdom, and the Goats (the unsaved nations) will be consigned to "everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels" (Matt.24:29,30; 25:31-46).

The Millennial Kingdom

The Millennial Kingdom will last for 1,000 years, and during this time the world which survives the Great Tribulation and the judgment of the nations will experience incredible blessing (Rev.20:1-7).

The Lord Jesus Christ will reign from the Throne of David in Jerusalem, and Israel will administer the Law of the Lord from a glorious Temple where the light of God's presence will continually shine (Isa.2:1-5; 60:19-22; 66:18-21; Ezek.43:7-9).

The Gentile nations that survive the Tribulation will go up to the Temple in Jerusalem to hear God's Word and to worship the LORD of HOSTS (Ps.72:8-11; Rev.20:1-7; Zech.14:16-21).

New Heavens and New Earth

After the Millennium, Satan will be released from the Bottomless Pit to test the nations. He will stir up a revolt against Christ, and Jerusalem will again be surrounded. Those nations will be judged and Satan cast into the Lake of Fire for ever.

The Second Resurrection, the "resurrection of the unjust", will follow, when the unsaved of all time will finally be banished from God's presence at the Great White Throne.

"Death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them... and whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire"(Rev 20:15).

Finally, there will be the eternal state; a New Heaven and New Earth. The Church will be with Christ in the New Jerusalem, Israel around its walls, and the Gentile nations of "them that are saved" will dwell in the New Earth (Rev.21:9,10,12, and 24).

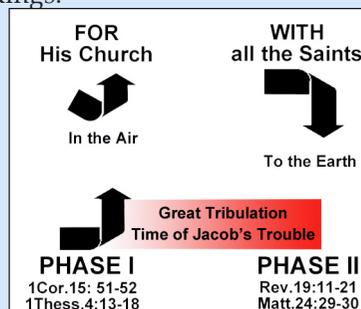
Two Phases

The Second Coming of Christ is in two phases.

PHASE I: Christ will come "to the air" to rapture His Church and thus conclude this present age of Gentile testimony.

PHASE II. After seven years of Great Tribulation, Christ will return "to the earth" to establish His Millennial Kingdom and reign on the throne of David as King of Kings.

Christ's coming is therefore **imminent, personal, pre-tribulation (for His Church), and pre-millennial (with His saints).**



Be Prepared

There is no doubt we are living in the Last Days. Israel is back in the land, Russia is aligning with the Muslim nations, Europe is coming together to provide a kingdom for Antichrist, and Asia has awakened. Other signs such as disease, wars, famine, a world population explosion, men "running to and fro", increased knowledge, apostasy in the Churches, and spiritism abounding all over the world — are all predicted in the Word of God! The question remains, "Are you ready to meet God?"

If you are willing right now to turn from your sin, and put your trust in the Lord Jesus Christ who bore the full punishment for your sin on the cross, you can know God's forgiveness, and receive the gift of eternal life. If Christ came today, you would be caught up with all the saved to meet the Lord in the air.

"As many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God" (John1:12).

"Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved"(Rom.10:13).

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast" (Eph.2:8,9).

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Prepared by

John R Ecob D.D.

for

The Herald of Hope Inc.

P.O.Box 4216

Marayong, N.S.W. 2148

Australia

Complimentary copies of *The Herald of Hope* magazine and of the book entitled, *The Basics of Bible Prophecy* are available on request