

Alignment of Major Bible End Times Prophecies

For relevance of the scripture passages used, see Note 1

Key timing clues are identified in red (**timing**)

“What will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?” (Matt. 24:3)

Beginning of Birth Pains

childbirth analogy: contractions; increasing frequency & severity

Jews return to Israel (began prior to or during Beginning of Birth Pains)

Gathering from worldwide dispersion begins (Jer. 30:3; Ezek. 34:13; 36:24; 37:21; 39:27; Amos 9:14-15)

Israel united, not separate kingdoms (Ezek. 37:21-22)

Deception

Deception, false Christs (Matt. 24:4-5; Mark 13:5-6; Luke 21:8)

Fearful events

Fearful events & great signs from heaven (Luke 21:11)

Hail & fire, 1/3 earth burned (Rev. 8:7, Trumpet #1); causes crop failures & famine?

Blazing mountain into sea, 1/3 oceans polluted (Rev. 8:8-9, Trumpet #2)

Blazing star on rivers & springs, 1/3 polluted (Rev. 8:10-11, Trumpet #3)

1/3 sky darkened (Rev. 8:12, Trumpet #4)

Smoke from Abyss, locusts torment people, 5 months (Rev. 9:1-11, Trumpet #5)

Wars, violence

White horse (religion), bow (warfare), crown (victorious), conquest (goal: world domination) (Rev. 6:1-2, Seal #1)

White horses go toward west (Zech. 6:6); i.e., west of Israel

Wars, violence; ethnic (racial, religious, geographical) & national (Matt. 24:6-7; Mark 13:7; Luke 21:9-10)

Red horse, sword, takes peace from earth (Rev. 6:3-4, Seal #2)

Red horses go throughout earth (Zech. 6:7)

200 million troops near Euphrates River, 1/3 mankind dies (Rev. 9:13-19, Trumpet #6)

Israel's enemies attack – first war (Ps. 83), second war (Ezek. 38-39; Joel 1:1-2:11)

Worldwide revival begins

Timing: begins sometime after northern army invades Israel (Joel 2:20, 28)

Timing: Elijah comes before Day of the Lord, restores family relationships (Mal. 4:5)

God pours his Spirit out on all people (Joel 2:28-29)

Gospel preached to all nations (Matt. 24:14)

Famines, earthquakes

Famines, earthquakes in various places (Matt. 24:7; Mark 13:8; Luke 21:11)

Black horse, scales, food shortages, hyperinflation (Rev. 6:5-6, Seal #3)

Black horses go toward north (Zech. 6:6); i.e., north of Israel

Plagues

Plagues in various places (Luke 21:11)

Pale/ashen/green horse, 1/4 of earth killed by sword, famine, plague, beasts (Rev. 6:7-8, Seal #4)

Dappled horses go toward south (Zech. 6:6); i.e., south of Israel

Lawless one revealed

Timing: revealed before Day of the Lord (2 Thess. 2:2-3)

3½ years before abomination set up in temple (Dan. 9:27)

Great Distress/Tribulation

childbirth analogy: labor pains; most severe distress in human history

Abomination in the Temple (Dan. 9:27; 11:31; 12:11; Matt. 24:15)

Timing: distress begins when abomination is set up (Dan. 9:27, middle of 7 years; Matt. 24:15, 21; Mark 13:14-19)
Lawless one in God's temple, exalts himself above all gods, declares self to be God (Dan. 7:8, 11, 25; 11:36-37; 2 Thess. 2:3-4; Rev. 13:5-6)
False religion (Dan. 11:38-39)

Lasts 3½ years

Distress, oppression of saints 3½ years (Dan. 7:25; 12:1, 7)
Jerusalem trampled 42 months, 2 witnesses prophesy 1,260 days (Luke 21:24; Rev. 11:2-3)
Beast given worldwide authority 42 months (Rev. 13:5)

Worldwide, Oppressive Kingdom

Crushes, smashes, devours, tramples whole earth (Dan. 2:40; 7:23; Rev. 13:4?)
Divided, mixed kingdom; 2 "feet," one part stronger than the other, not strongly united (Dan. 2:33, 41)
10 rulers: "toes" (Dan. 2:42), same mixture as the "feet" (Dan. 2:42-43); "horns" (Dan. 7:7, 24; Rev. 13:1?)
Its people have same mixture, won't remain united (Dan. 2: 43)
Different from all other kingdoms (Dan. 7:7, 23)

Unequaled distress (Jer. 30:5-7; Dan. 7:25; 12:1; Matt. 24:15-21; Mark 13:14-19; Luke 21:20-24)

Deception, the lawless one, the beast

Overthrows 3 of 10 kingdom rulers (Dan. 7:8, 24)
Deception, false Christs, great signs & miracles (Matt. 24:23-24, 26)
Beast with power, throne, authority (Rev. 13:1-4)
Beast & image worshiped, death to all who refuse (Rev. 13:4, 8, 14-15)
Lawless one, counterfeit miracles, signs, wonders, evil, deception (2 Thess. 2:9-10; Rev. 13:13-14)
Mark of the beast required to buy or sell (Rev. 13:16-17)

Land of Israel divided (Dan. 11:39; Joel 3:2)

Israel isolated & devastated

All nations against Israel (Zech. 12:3)
All Israel's allies abandon her (Jer. 30:14)
Jerusalem a cup of reeling for surrounding nations; Judah & Jerusalem besieged (Zech. 12:2)
Jerusalem & Israel devastated (Zech. 14:2; Matt. 24:16-22)
Israel punished, wrath (Luke 21:22-24); Satan's/man's wrath, vengeance (see Note 7)
Slaughter in Israel (Dan. 11:33; Zech. 13:8)
Israelis killed or taken prisoners to all nations (Zech. 14:2; Luke 21:24)

Persecution

Believers betrayed even by family, hated by everyone (Matt. 24:10; Mark 13:12-13; Luke 21:16-17)
Believers arrested, killed (Matt. 24:9; Mark 13:9, 11, 12; Luke 21:12, 16)
Christian martyrs; more will die (Rev. 6:9-11, Seal #5); beheaded (Rev. 20:4)
War against saints, conquered (Dan. 7:21, 25; Rev. 13:7, 10, 15)
Saints need patient endurance (Rev. 13:10; 14:12)

Apostasy, wickedness

Timing: rebellion occurs before Day of the Lord (2 Thess. 2:2-3)
Many abandon the faith – rebellion, apostasy (Matt. 24:10; 2 Thess. 2:3; 1 Tim. 4:1)
Wickedness increases, love of most turns cold (Matt. 24:12; 2 Tim. 3:1-5, 13)

Worldwide Revival ends

Timing: ends before the cosmic disturbance & day of the Lord (Joel 2:20, 28, 31)

Elect, remnant of Israel will survive (Jer. 30:7-9; Dan. 12:11-12; Zech. 12:3-9; 13:8-9; 14:2-5; Matt. 24:22; Mark 13:20; Rom. 9:27-29)

The end of the age

Timing: after the gospel has been preached to all nations (Matt. 24:3, 14)
Times of the Gentiles are fulfilled (Luke 21:24)

Cosmic Disturbance

childbirth analogy: birth, delivery: transition to Jesus' kingdom on earth

Timing: immediately after the distress/tribulation (Matt. 24:29; Mark 13:24-25)

Timing: before the Day of the Lord (Joel 2:30-31)

Wonders in heavens & on earth: blood, fire, smoke; includes volcanic eruptions? (Ezek. 39:16; Joel 2:30; Acts 2:19)

Earth shaken from its place; earth impact? (Isa. 2:19, 21; 13:13; 24:18-20)

Sun & moon darkened, stars fall, heavenly bodies shaken; earth impact, cosmic dust cloud? (Matt. 24:29; Mark 13:24-25; Luke 21:25-26)

Sea roaring & tossing; earth impact? (Luke 21:25)

Severe earthquake, sun black, moon blood red, stars fall, terrain changes; earth impact? (Joel 2:31; Rev. 6:12-15, Seal #6; Rev. 11:13)

People hide in caves, terrorized (Isa. 2:10, 19, 21; Luke 21:26)

Effects last 30 days? (see Note 6)

Day of the Lord, Initial Events

childbirth analogy: new arrival; Jesus returns to earth as King of kings

Will know Day of the Lord is near

Timing: after lawless one is revealed (2 Thess. 2:3)

Know redemption is near (Matt. 24:33; Mark 13:29; Luke 21:28, 31)

Won't know exact time (Matt. 24:42; Mark 13:32; Luke 21:28-31)

Saints not to be surprised by Day of the Lord (1 Thess. 5:4)

Seventh Trumpet (Rev. 11:15-19)

Jesus visible

Son of Man visible with power & great glory (Matt. 24:30; Mark 13:26; Luke 21:27)

Lord comes from heaven, loud command, archangel, trumpet call (1 Thess. 4:16)

Lord revealed from heaven, blazing fire, powerful angels (2 Thess. 1:7)

Jesus visible, Israel & nations mourn (Zech. 12:10; Matt. 24:30; Rev. 1:7)

Jesus begins to reign

Timing: sets up his kingdom on earth during the time of the final world kingdom (Dan. 2:44)

World belongs to Christ (Rev. 11:15, Trumpet #7)

Christ begins to reign ; i.e., takes control (Dan. 7:13-14; Rev. 11:15, 17)

Son of Man, gold crown (Rev. 14:14)

Lord reigns, glory & power (Rev. 19:1, 6)

144,000 sealed from Israel (Rev. 7:3-4)

Timing: before Jesus gathers the elect (Rev. 7:3-4, 9, 14)

Seventh Trumpet (continued)

Gathering of the Elect (the “Rapture” of the church)

Timing: during day of the Lord, after rebellion/apostasy occurs & man of lawlessness is revealed (2 Thess. 2:1-3)

Timing: after sun & moon darkened; cosmic disturbance (Matt. 24:29-31)

Timing: believers in heaven came out of great distress/tribulation (Rev. 7:9, 14)

Timing: believers in heaven after “beast” persecuted them (Rev. 15:2)

Timing: before God’s wrath (Rev. 14:14-19)

Timing: Feast of Trumpets (see Note 8)

Loud trumpet call (Matt. 24:31; 1 Cor. 15:52, “last trumpet”; 1 Thess. 4:16; Rev. 11:15, trumpet #7)

Elect gathered (Matt. 24:31; Mark 13:27; see Note 2 for explanation of “the elect”)

Bodies of the dead will rise from the dust/grave, shout for joy (Isa. 26:19; Ezek. 37:12; Dan. 12:2; Hos. 13:14)

Believers rise to meet Lord in the air (1 Thess. 4:16-17)

Mystery of God accomplished (Rev. 10:7; Eph. 3:4-6)

Harvest of earth (Rev. 14:15-16)

Multitude in heaven, first resurrection (Rev. 20:4-6)

Temple in heaven opened (Rev. 11:19; 15:5)

God’s wrath imminent

Wrath seen coming (Rev. 6:16-17), is announced (Rev. 11:18), is imminent (Rev. 15:1)

Judgment seat of Christ

Timing: Day of the Lord, after Jesus’ appearance (Rev. 11:18; 22:12)

Timing: at the resurrection (Luke 14:13-14)

Location: in heaven (Luke 6:23)

All saints there (2 Cor. 5:10)

Saints rewarded (Luke 14:14; Rev. 11:18)

Rewards proportional to good works (Matt. 16:27; 1 Cor. 3:8; Eph. 6:8; Rev. 22:12)

Wedding supper of the Lamb (Rev. 19:7-9)

Temporary calm

Calm after cosmic disturbance, Lord returning, people disappearing? (1 Thess. 5:3)

Silence in heaven ½ hour (Rev. 8:1, Seal #7)

God’s Wrath

Timing: after cosmic disturbance (Rev. 6:12-17)

Timing: after elect gathered (Isa. 26:19-21)

Angels with God’s wrath (Rev. 15:6)

Jews protected on earth during God’s wrath (Isa. 26:19-21)

No one can enter temple until after God’s wrath ; no salvation? (Rev. 15:8)

Sudden destruction while people saying “peace & safety” (1 Thess. 5:3)

God’s wrath (Rev. 16:2-14, Bowls #1 - #6)

Winepress of God’s wrath (see under “Armageddon,” below)

Jesus returns to earth (Second Coming)

Timing: before Bowl #7, “I come like a thief” (Rev. 16:1, 15, 17)

Jesus conqueror on white horse, armies of heaven (Rev. 19:11-16); angels (Matt. 16:27; 25:31; 2 Thess. 1:7); saints (Rev. 17:14), holy ones (1 Thess. 3:13)

Jesus returns to Mount of Olives with all the holy ones, mountain splits, protects Jews (Zech. 14:4-5; also Acts 1:10-12)

144,000 standing with the Lamb on Mt. Zion (Rev. 14:1-5)

God's Wrath (continued)

Armageddon

Timing: after Jesus returns to earth (Rev. 16:15-16; 19:11-21)

World's armies gather at Armageddon, prepare for attack on Jerusalem (Rev. 16:16)

Winepress of God's wrath (Isa. 63:2-6; Rev. 14:17-20; 19:15)

Jesus destroys world's armies attacking Jerusalem (Zech. 12:9; 14:4, 12-15; Joel 3:2, 9-17; Rev. 19:17-21)

Plague destroys armies; flesh, eyes, tongues rot suddenly (Zech. 14:12, 15)

Enemy soldiers panic, kill each other (Zech. 14:13)

"It is done!" God's wrath completed (Rev. 16:17, Bowl #7)

Lightning, rumblings, thunder (Rev. 11:19; 16:18)

Worst earthquake ever, world's terrain changes

Earthquake (Rev. 11:19)

Worst earthquake ever, cities collapse (Rev. 16:18-19)

Every mountain & island disappears (Rev. 16:20)

Babylon receives God's wrath (Rev. 16:19)

Babylon destroyed, never again inhabited (Isa. 13:19-22; Rev. 18 - 19:3)

Great hailstorm (Rev. 11:19)

Huge hail, 100 lbs each (Rev. 16:21)

Jesus destroys satanic trinity

Jesus overthrows & destroys lawless one (2 Thess. 2:8)

Beast & false prophet thrown into lake of fire (Rev. 19:20)

Satan/devil thrown into Abyss for 1,000 years (Rev. 20:2-3)

Day of the Lord, Continued (1,000 years)

life in Jesus' kingdom

Jesus dwells in Jerusalem (Joel 3:17, 21; Zech. 8:3)

Timing: begins 45 days after cosmic disturbance? (See Note 6)

Timing: Feast of Tabernacles (7-day feast, see Note 8)

Lord will live among his people (Ezek. 37:27; Zech. 2:10-11)

Lord's glory within Jerusalem (Zech. 8:5)

Reign of peace, justice, righteousness begins (Isa. 9:7)

Jesus (son of David) reigns over Israel & whole earth (Isa. 2:3-4; 11:1-5; Jer. 23:5-6; 30:9; Ezek. 37:24; Mic. 4:3; Zech. 14:9)

Jesus reigns from Jerusalem (Mic. 4:2-3)

Saints possess kingdom (Dan. 7:22, 27)

Jesus & believers reign over whole earth 1,000 years (Rev. 20:4, 6)

National Israel included in new covenant (regarding when this occurs, see Note 4)

New covenant (Jer. 31:31)

New covenant of peace (Ezek. 34:25; 37:26)

Israel is God's people, Lord is their God (Jer. 30:22; 31:1; Zech. 13:9)

Israel forgiven

Cleansed from sin & impurity (Jer. 31:34; Ezek. 36:25; Joel 3:21; Zech. 3:9; 13:1-2)

In a single day (Zech. 3:9)

New heart, new spirit; God's Spirit in them, poured out on them (Ezek. 36:26-27; 39:29)

Israel's righteousness seen by nations (Isa. 62:2)

Israel at peace

Peace with nations & wildlife (Isa. 2:4; 11:6-9; 60:18; 65:25; Jer. 30:10; Ezek. 34:25, 27-28; Mic. 4:3)
Jerusalem secure, never again invaded or destroyed (Jer. 31:40; Joel 3:17; Zech. 14:11)

Israel's land transformed

Land around Jerusalem transformed (Zech. 14:10)
Jerusalem raised up (Isa. 2:2; Zech. 14:10; Mic. 4:1)
River flows from Jerusalem to Dead Sea & Mediterranean Sea (Ezek. 47:1-5; Zech. 14:8)
River changes Dead Sea to freshwater (Ezek. 47:8-10)
Fruit trees of all kinds line the river, for food & healing (Ezek. 47:7, 12)

Israel's cities & ruins rebuilt

Jerusalem rebuilt (Jer. 30:18)
Towns inhabited, ruins rebuilt (Ezek. 36:10, 33, 35; Isa. 61:4)
Foreigners rebuild walls (Isa. 60:10)

Israel prosperous, productive

Trees & crops productive, land like the garden of Eden (Ezek. 34:27, 29; 36:29-30, 35)
Bounty of the Lord: grain, wine, oil, flocks, herds (Jer. 31:12, 14)
Every man has vine & fig tree (Zech. 3:10; Mic. 4:4)
Wealth of nations brought to Israel (Isa. 60:5-6, 11; 61:6)
People build houses, plant vineyards, enjoy the work of their hands (Isa. 65:21-22; Jer. 31:5, see Note 3)

Jewish exiles return

Remaining Jewish exiles return to Israel (Jer. 23:3, 8; 30:19; 31:8, 10; Zech. 2:6; 8:7-8)
As king of Israel, Lord gathers exiles from nations (Isa. 11:10-16)
Lord beckons Gentiles to bring Jews back to the land (Isa. 49:22; 60:3-4, 9)
Land is full of people, too small (Isa. 49:19-21; Ezek. 36:37-38)

Healthy human life

Extended life span (Isa. 65:20, see Note 3)
People bear children (Isa. 65:20, 23; see Note 3)

Nations come to Israel

Lord reigns, settles disputes for nations, teaches his ways (Mic. 4:2-3, 8)
All nations go to Jerusalem to celebrate Feast of Tabernacles; else, no rain (Zech. 14:16-19)
People of all nations come to Israel (Isa. 60:2-3)
People from many nations come to Jerusalem to ask for Lord's blessing (Zech. 8:20-22)
Government leaders of nations care for Jewish children (Isa. 49:22-23)
Foreigners shepherd the flocks, work the fields & vineyards (Isa. 61:5)

Satan/devil

Released after 1,000 years, gathers world's armies against God's people, God defeats them (Rev. 20:7-9)
Thrown into lake of fire (Rev. 20:10)

End of 1,000 years

Existing heaven & earth disappear (Rev. 20:11; 21:1)
Heavens & elements destroyed by fire/heat (2 Pet. 3:10, 12)

Final Judgment

Great white throne, second resurrection (Rev. 20:11-13)
People judged according to what they had done (Rev. 20:12-13): (1) all unrighteous throughout history; (2) righteous and unrighteous who lived under Jesus' kingdom in millennium
People thrown into lake of fire if their names aren't in the book of life (2 Thess. 1:8-9; Rev. 20:15; 21:8)

Death & realm of the dead destroyed (Rev. 20:14)

Eternity

New creation

New heaven, new earth; new Jerusalem descends from heaven (Isa. 65:17-18; 66:22; 2 Pet. 3:13; Rev. 3:12; 21:1-27)

New Jerusalem

Now God dwells among his people, Israel (Ezek. 37:27-28; 48:35; Rev. 21:3)

No temple in the city because God Almighty & Lamb are its temple (Rev. 21:22)

Light of sun & moon not needed, glory of God gives the city light (Rev. 21:23; 22:5)

The nations walk by that light, their glory & honor brought into it (Rev. 21:24, 26)

City gates will never be shut (Rev. 21:25)

Only those whose names are in the Lamb's book of life may enter the city, have access to the tree of life; all others must stay outside (Rev. 21:27; 22:14-15)

Within the city, river of water of life flows from God's throne, lined with tree of life bearing fruit monthly, its leaves for healing of nations (Ezek. 47:1, 7, 12; Rev. 22:1-2)

Old order has passed away

No more mourning, crying (Isa. 65:19; Rev. 21:4)

No more death, pain (Rev. 21:4)

No more curse (Rev. 22:3)

People born in eternity

Population will increase under everlasting covenant, when God's throne is on earth (Ezek. 37:26-27)

There will be "impure" people on earth (Rev. 21:27; 22:15; also, see Note 5)

Believers reign with Christ

Forever in eternity in Jerusalem (Rev. 22:5)

Believers judge angels & the world/cosmos/universe (1 Cor. 6:2; Rev. 2:26-27)

Notes

Note 1: Passages included and their relevance to the end times:

- Isaiah 2
 - v 1, the last days
 - v 3, nations come to Jerusalem to learn God's ways & law
 - v 4, no more war
 - vv 19 & 21, people hide from dread of the Lord
- Isaiah 11
 - vv 1-5, descendant of Jesse rules, believed to be Jesus
 - vv 6-9, animals no longer dangerous, feed together
 - v 12, exiles gathered from four quarters of the earth
- Isaiah 13
 - v 9, day of the Lord
- Isaiah 24
 - vv 18-23, worldwide devastation when Lord begins to reign
- Isaiah 49
 - v 6, refers to Jesus, who will restore Israel & be a light for the Gentiles
- Isaiah 60
 - vv 1-2, Lord's glory over Israel
 - v 4, people gathered
 - v 7, God will adorn his glorious temple
 - vv 19-20, light of sun & moon not needed, Lord is everlasting light
- Isaiah 61
 - vv 1-2a, Jesus applied these verses to himself during earthly life, will fulfill remainder when he returns

- Isaiah 62
 - v 1, Jerusalem's righteousness & salvation will exist only when Lord returns
- Isaiah 63
 - vv 2-3, parallels Rev. 14:19-20; 19:13 & 15
- Jeremiah 23
 - v 3, Israel gathered from the nations
 - vv 5-6, "The Lord Our Righteousness" reigns over land of Israel
- Jeremiah 30
 - v 3, Israel gathered from the nations
 - v 9, David their king
- Jeremiah 31
 - v 8, Israel gathered from the nations
 - v 31, new covenant
 - v 40, Jerusalem never again destroyed
- Ezekiel 34
 - v 13, Israel gathered from the nations
 - v 25, covenant of peace
 - v 28, safety from nations & wild animals
- Ezekiel 36
 - v 24, Israel gathered from nations
 - vv 25 & 33, cleansed from impurities & sins
 - v 26-27, new heart & new spirit; God's Spirit in them
- Ezekiel 37
 - v 21, Israel gathered from the nations
 - v 22, united as a single nation
 - v 26, everlasting covenant of peace
 - v 27, God will dwell among them
- Ezekiel 47
 - vv 1-12, describes river from the temple, restoration of the land and Dead Sea that will only be possible after Lord returns
- Daniel 2
 - vv 44-45, God sets up eternal kingdom during time of 10 kings (vv 41-43)
- Daniel 7
 - vv 25-28, everlasting kingdom handed over to the saints after leader of 10 kings oppresses saints 3½ years
- Daniel 9
 - vv 27, one who causes desolation places abominations in temple
- Daniel 11
 - v 31, abomination that causes desolation
- Daniel 12
 - v 1, time of distress more severe than any other
 - v 2, resurrection of the dead
 - v 11, abomination that causes desolation
- Micah 4
 - vv 1-2, Lord present on earth, mountain of Lord highest of all mountains
 - v 3, Lord will settle world's disputes; no more war
- Zechariah 2
 - vv 10-11, Lord will live among his people
 - v 6, Jews gathered from worldwide dispersion
- Zechariah 3
 - v 9, Israel's sin removed in a single day
- Zechariah 6
 - vv 1-8, horses and chariots match the four horsemen of Revelation 6:1-8

- Zechariah 8
 - v 3, Lord will dwell in Jerusalem
 - vv 20 -22, people from other nations will come to Jerusalem to ask the Lord for blessing
- Zechariah 12
 - vv 2-3, Jerusalem causes surrounding people to reel or stagger as if drunk; all nations gathered against the city
 - v 9, Lord destroys all nations that attack Jerusalem
 - vv 10-14, Israel see Jesus, mourn for him
- Zechariah 13
 - v 1, Israel cleansed from sin & impurity
- Zechariah 14
 - v 2, all nations attack Jerusalem
 - v 3, Lord fights against those nations
 - v 4, Lord stands on Mount of Olives
 - v 8, river of living water flows from Jerusalem
 - v 9, Lord king over whole earth
 - v 10, land of Israel transformed
 - v 11, Jerusalem secure, never destroyed again
- Matthew 24; Mark 13; Luke 21
 - Jesus' discourse on the last days
- 1 Thessalonians 4
 - vv 16-17, Lord returns, resurrection of dead believers, all believers caught up to be with him
- 1 Thessalonians 5
 - v 2, day of the Lord
- 2 Thessalonians 1
 - v 7, Jesus revealed from heaven, blazing fire, powerful angels
 - vv 8-9, punishment on those who reject gospel
- 2 Thessalonians 2
 - v 1, Lord's return & gathering of believers
- Revelation 6-8:1
 - Seals
- Revelation 8-11
 - Trumpets
- Revelation 13-14
 - Beast's kingdom
- Revelation 15-16
 - Bowls
- Revelation 19-22
 - God's kingdom

Note 2: Who are the elect or chosen ones in Matthew 24?

- Matt. 24:15-25 centers on Jerusalem/temple (v 15), Judea (v 16), the Jews (Sabbath, v 20)
- Two references to "the elect" (Matt. 24:22, 24); also, "this people" (Luke 21:23), "the elect" (Mark 13:20)
- Gentile believers are God's chosen people (1 Pet. 2:9-10) with the Jews (Eph. 2:12-19; Rom. 11:11-12, 17-26)
- Very significant: 144,000 Israelis sealed (Rev. 7:34) *before* the elect are gathered
- Conclusion: the elect are Jewish & Gentile believers in Jesus the Messiah/Christ

Note 3: Does Isaiah 65:17-25 describe the millennium or eternity? [speculation]

- Isa. 65:17 refers to the new heavens & new earth, implying the following verses relate to eternity after existing heavens & earth are destroyed by fire (2 Pet. 3:10, 12; Rev. 10:11; 21:1)
- Isa. 65:20 states anyone who dies at age 100 will be thought a mere youth; also, anyone who misses (fails to reach) 100 will be considered accursed
- However, death & realm of the dead will be destroyed, thrown into the lake of fire (Rev. 20:14) before appearance of the new heaven & new earth (Rev. 21:1), so there will be no death on the new earth (Rev. 21:4)
- Radical changes make existing heavens & earth "new"

- Conclusion: references to “new heavens and new earth” in Isa. 65:17 and 66:22 seem to do two things: (1) show the ultimate fulfillment of conditions during the millennium, just as Pentecost ushered in the “last days” nearly 2000 years later, and (2) show figuratively that the world under Jesus’ reign during the millennium will be like a “new heavens and new earth” compared to the old world order it replaced.

Note 4: When does God include national Israel in the new covenant? [speculation]

- Ezek. 37:24, 26 indicates God will make a covenant of peace with Israel after [Son of] David rules over Israel; may refer to beginning of millennial reign
- Ezek. 39:21-22 indicates Israel will know the Lord is their God when he displays his glory & punishes the nations; may refer to Jesus appearing in the sky to gather the saints, or at Armageddon
- Zech. 12:10 & 13:1 suggest God will pour out his Spirit on house of David & inhabitants of Jerusalem when they look at the one they pierced & mourn for him, which is before the elect are gathered & before God’s wrath; “on that day” likely refers to the Day of the Lord (1,000 years long), not a 24-hour day
- Conclusion: references to “new heavens and new earth” in Isa. 65:17 and 66:22 seem to do two things: (1) show the ultimate fulfillment of conditions during the millennium, just as Pentecost ushered in the “last days” nearly 2,000 years later, and (2) show figuratively that the world under Jesus’ reign during the millennium will be like a “new heavens and new earth” compared to the old world order it replaced.

Note 5: How can there be “impure” people on earth in eternity? [speculation]

- The book of life (Rev. 20:15, relevant during millennium) isn’t the same as the Lamb’s book of life (Rev. 21:27, relevant during eternity)
- Anyone whose name wasn’t in the book of life was thrown into the lake of fire at the end of Jesus’ millennial reign, before the new heavens and earth; i.e., before world population enters eternity (Rev. 20:15-21:1)
- Those who are added to the Lamb’s book of life “wash their robes” in eternity by appropriating Jesus’ death for their sin, accepting Jesus as their Savior (Rev. 22:14; see 7:14)
 - They live a blessed life, can enter New Jerusalem and receive healing from the tree of life (Rev. 22:14)
- Those who don’t “wash their robes” choose to live impure lives (Rev. 21:27; 22:15)
 - Their names aren’t included in the Lamb’s book of life, so they cannot enter New Jerusalem or receive healing from the tree of life (Rev. 21:27; 22:15)
 - They won’t die for their sin because the curse of death has been abolished (Rev. 20:14; 22:3) and they will always be free to “wash their robes” if they choose to do so
- Conclusion: those who “wash their robes” or choose not to must be born in eternity, after the old earth is destroyed and the unrighteous are thrown into the lake of fire

Note 6: How long will the cosmic disturbance last and when will people begin to live under Jesus’ rule?

[speculation]

- Dan. 12:1-7: 3½ years or 1260 days (30-day months) of great distress after abomination is set up
- Dan. 12:11: 1290 days will occur after abomination is set up
 - Suggests end of current world system and beginning of Day of the Lord after 1290 days
 - Cosmic disturbance follows Great Distress/Tribulation and precedes Day of the Lord
 - Conclusion: cosmic disturbance will last 30 days (1290 minus 1260 days)
- Dan. 12:12: people who reach 1335 days will be blessed
 - Assume people blessed because they begin experiencing the blessings of Jesus’ kingdom
 - Conclusion: 45 days (1335 minus 1290 days) during Day of the Lord for gathering of the elect, God’s wrath; then Jesus returns to earth to dwell in Jerusalem and reign

Note 7: Who is the source of vengeance and wrath against Israel during the Great Distress?

- Luke 21:22: time of “punishment/vengeance” (context: Jerusalem & Judea)
 - Greek word *ekdikesis* is translated “vengeance” or “punishment” in the New Testament
 - God as the source: Luke 18:7-8; Heb. 10:30
 - Jesus as the source: 2 Thess. 1:8
 - People as the source: Acts 7:24; Rom. 12:19; 1 Pet. 2:14
 - Source not specified: Luke 21:22; 2 Cor. 7:11

- Luke 21:23: time of “wrath” against Israel
 - Greek word *orge* is translated “anger,” “wrath” or “punishment” in the New Testament
 - God as the source: Matt. 3:7; John 3:36; Rom. 1:18; 2:5, 8 (context); 3:5; 4:15 (Mosaic law); 5:9; 9:22; 12:19; Eph. 2:3 (context); 5:6; Col. 3:6; 1 Thess. 1:10 (context); 2:16; 5:9 (context); Heb. 3:11; 4:3; Rev. 6:17; 11:18; 14:10; 16:19; 19:15
 - Jesus as the source: Mark 3:5; Luke 3:7; Rev. 6:16, 17
 - People as the source: Rom. 13:4-5; Eph. 4:31; Col. 3:8; 1 Tim. 2:8; James 1:19, 20; Rev. 11:18
 - Source not specified: Luke 21:23
- Conclusions
 - Scripture frequently attributes both vengeance and anger/wrath to people; sometimes acting as Satan’s agents. Because the sources of the vengeance in Luke 21:22 and the anger/wrath in Luke 21:23 are not specified, automatically attributing them to God is not justified. Scripture clearly shows that Satan will fiercely attack Christians in the end times, so it is reasonable to conclude he also will fiercely attack Israel; current worldwide anti-Semitism supports that conclusion.
 - The belief that God pours out his wrath on Israel during the Great Distress/Tribulation likely was based originally on anti-Semitism. That interpretation also violates the clear sequence of end-time periods – Great Distress, Cosmic Disturbance, then Day of the Lord – by forcing the Great Distress to be part of the Day of the Lord, when God pours his wrath out on the world. This in turn leads to the widely-held erroneous belief in a pre-tribulation rapture. Such interpretation seems to force scripture to conform to pre-existing beliefs.

Note 8: When will the “rapture” of the church and Jesus’ return to earth occur?

- Jesus said we won’t know the day or hour of his return (Matt. 24:36); however, he provided indisputable signs of the “end of the age,” the time or era of his return (e.g., Matt. 24:3-35)
 - The following outlines the feasts of the Lord (Lev. 23:2, 44) or Jewish feasts, their prophetic significance and fulfillment
- God fulfilled the Spring feasts with Jesus’ first coming, fulfilling each holiday on the precise date it occurred that year
 - Jesus fulfilled the Feast of Passover on the day of Passover
 - Passover represents redemption – shedding of blood, liberation from bondage in Egypt, receiving the promised homeland
 - Jesus died at the time Passover lambs were sacrificed (Matt. 27:46, 50; Mark 15:34, 37, 9th hour; see 1 Cor. 5:7); also, Josephus, *Wars of the Jews*, 6.9.3, sacrifice from 9th hour to 11th hour; i.e., 3:00-5:00 pm; when the sun goes down (Deut. 16:6)
 - Jesus fulfilled the Feast of Unleavened Bread during the first days of that feast
 - Feast of Unleavened Bread begins the day after Passover, lasts 7 days
 - Leaven or yeast represents sin, evil, decay, decomposition
 - Jesus’ body didn’t decompose in the grave, was in the tomb only 3 days & 3 nights (Ps. 16:9-10; Matt. 12:40; Mark 9:31)
 - Jesus fulfilled the Feast of Firstfruits on the day of Firstfruits
 - Firstfruits occurs during Feast of Unleavened Bread, after the Sabbath; i.e., on Sunday (Lev. 23:11)
 - Jesus rose from the dead on Sunday (Matt. 28:1, 5-6; Mark 16:1-6)
 - Jesus was the firstfruits (1 Cor. 15:20)
 - Holy Spirit fulfilled the Feast of Weeks (Shavuot, Pentecost) on the day of Pentecost
 - On the day of Pentecost, Holy Spirit filled the believers who were waiting for the baptism and power Jesus promised (Acts 1:5, 8; 2:1-4)
- God will fulfill the major Fall events with Jesus’ second coming, fulfilling each Jewish holiday on the precise date it will occur that year
 - Feast of Trumpets, Day of Atonement, Feast of Tabernacles all occur in 7th month of the Jewish year: Tishri (begins near end of September or early October)
 - Feast of Trumpets
 - This is a sacred assembly commemorated with trumpet blasts (Lev. 23:23-24)
 - After specific trumpet blasts throughout the day, the celebration climaxes with “the Great Blowing”
 - Rosh Hashanah (civil New Year’s Day) is not the Feast of Trumpets (religious festival), although they occur on the same day (1st of Tishri)

- The last of the seven trumpets – the “last trumpet” – in the Book of Revelation announces the beginning of Jesus’ reign on earth (Rev. 11:15)
- One of the first major events after that is the “gathering of the elect,” or “rapture” of the church, which will be announced by a loud trumpet call (Matt. 24:31; 1 Thess. 4:16), called the last trumpet (1 Cor. 15:51-52)
- Trumpets in Jewish history had 2 primary purposes, identified by the type of blast; one type of trumpet blast summoned people to sacred assemblies, the other type of trumpet blast called them to war
- The 7th or “last” trumpet will fulfill both purposes: it will call the saints together for a sacred assembly in Heaven and announce a declaration of war on God’s enemies
- The Day of Atonement
 - The days between the Feast of Trumpets (1st of Tishri) to the Day of Atonement (10th of Tishri) traditionally are called “days of awe,” and are marked by acknowledgment and great repentance for sins of previous year
 - When the inhabitants of Jerusalem see Jesus on the Feast of Trumpets, they will mourn and grieve bitterly for him (Zech. 12:10-14)
 - Anyone who violates it will be cut off from his people and destroyed (Lev. 23:29-30)
 - This likely will be when God pours his wrath on the rest of the world, which he’ll do between Jesus’ appearing to gather the saints (Feast of Trumpets) and his return to reign on earth (Feast of Tabernacles)
- Feast of Tabernacles
 - This is 7 days of celebration, when people live in temporary shelters (“tabernacles”) in commemoration of the dwellings the Israelites had in route from Egypt to the Promised Land
 - Israelis will celebrate because Jesus’ kingdom of peace, justice, righteousness has begun; their Messiah defeats their enemies and begins to reign from Jerusalem
 - The “tabernacles” represent dwelling and the Son of God will “dwell” in Israel
 - The 7-day period may include events from Jesus’ second coming to his dwelling in Jerusalem
 - After Jesus’ return to earth, the nations of the world will be required to send representatives to Jerusalem to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles; any nation not represented during the feast will experience drought (Zech. 14:16-17)
 - Why? because that feast will be a major anniversary of Jesus’ return to earth and the beginning of his kingdom; Israel will no longer be threatened by the nations, but honored by them; and Christians will serve as kings and priests of God
 - Jesus was transfigured, likely during the Feast of Tabernacles, based on Peter’s offer to put up shelters (Matt. 17:1-4), which Jews do during this feast (Lev. 23:34, 40-43). Jesus’ glory was displayed on earth then, as it will be when he returns to earth during Tabernacles (see Matt. 24:30, et al)
- Conclusions
 - Jesus will gather the church (“the rapture”) during the Feast of Trumpets
 - God will release his wrath on the world for its sins between the Feast of Trumpets and the Feast of Tabernacles
 - Jesus will return to earth with the saints (“the second coming”) during the Feast of Tabernacles

Developed by Larry Fox (web: foxven.com); Revised: February 2020