

# Tribulation



Moses' Trial before Pharaoh  
by Benjamin West

Deuteronomy 4:30-31  
“<sup>30</sup>When you are in **tribulation**, and all these things are come on you, even in the latter days, if you turn to the LORD your God, and shall be obedient to his voice; <sup>31</sup>(For the LORD your God is a merciful God;) he will not forsake you, neither destroy you, nor forget the covenant of your fathers which he swore to them.”

# Prophetic Scripture



Isaiah 61:1-2 “<sup>1</sup>The Spirit of the Lord GOD is on me; because the LORD has anointed me to preach good tidings to the meek; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, **and recovering of sight to the blind**, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; <sup>2</sup>To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, **and the day of vengeance of our God**; to comfort all that mourn;”

(inserted by Jesus from Isaiah 42:7 and stopped prior to when quoted by Jesus in Luke 4:18-19)

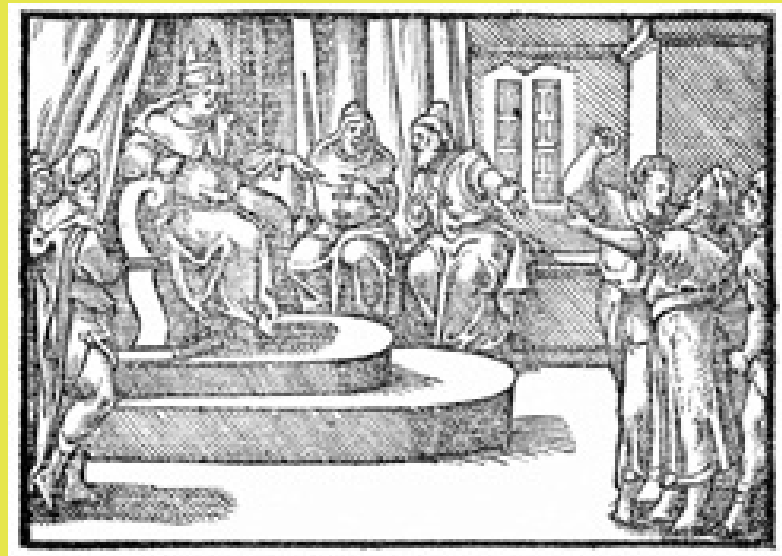
# Lesson Overview

- Definitions of Tribulation
- Jesus' parables of heaven
- Overview of Matthew 24 & 25
- Temple's desolation
  - Comparison with Luke
- Building a timeline of events
  - Birth pangs
  - Apostasy
  - Michael, the archangel
  - Like Noah's flood

# Definitions of The Tribulation

Tribulation is *tsar* in Hebrew, meaning a *tight* place; adversary, affliction, anguish, distress, sorrow, and trouble.

Tribulation is *thlipsis* in Greek, meaning *pressure*: afflicted, affliction, anguish, burdened, persecution, and trouble.



# Disciples go through tribulation

Acts 14:19-22 “<sup>19</sup>And there came thither certain Jews from Antioch and Iconium, who persuaded the people, and having stoned Paul, drew him out of the city, supposing he had been dead. <sup>20</sup>However, as the disciples stood round about him, he rose up, and came into the city: and the next day he departed with Barnabas to Derbe. <sup>21</sup>And when they had preached the gospel to that city, and had taught many, they returned again to Lystra, and to Iconium, and Antioch, <sup>22</sup>Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation  
To enter into the kingdom of God.”

2 Timothy 3:11-13 “<sup>11</sup>Persecutions, afflictions, which came to me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra; what persecutions I endured: but out of them all the Lord delivered me. <sup>12</sup>Yes, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution. <sup>13</sup>But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.”

# Jesus lays out the basic plan

Luke 9:22-27 “<sup>22</sup>Saying, The Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be slain, and be raised the third day. <sup>23</sup>And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me. <sup>24</sup>For whoever will save his life shall lose it: but whoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it. <sup>25</sup>For what is a man advantaged, if he gain the whole world, and lose himself, or be cast away? <sup>26</sup>For whoever shall be ashamed of me and of my words, of him shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he shall come in his own glory, and in his Father's, and of the holy angels. <sup>27</sup>But I tell you of a truth, there be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see.”

# Kingdom of Heaven Parables

## Matthew 13

v3-9 The Sower

v18-23 (Sower explained)

v24-30 The Wheat & Tares

v31-32 Mustard Seed

v33 The Hidden Leaven

v36-43 (Wheat & Tares explained)

v44 The Treasure in the Field

v45-46 The Pearl of Great Price

v47-50 The Dragnet

v52 The Householder w/ Treasure

## Matthew

18:1-20 The Little Child and the  
Lost Lamb

18:21-35 King's Accounts -  
forgiveness

19:13-15 Little Children

19:16-30 Riches now and later

20:1-16 Vineyard first and last

[20:20-28 places in kingdom]

21 Vineyard Owner (2 parables)

v28-32 Two sons

v33-46 Faithless Tenants

22:1-14 The Wedding Invitation

# Kingdom of Heaven Ins and Outs

| <b>In</b>                          | <b>Matthew</b>                                  | <b>Out</b>              |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Understands Word & bears its fruit | 13:3-23 The Sower                               | Rootless & Fruitless    |
| Good & just                        | 13:47-50 The Dragnet                            | Bad & wicked            |
| Receives children                  | 18:1-20 The Little Child and the Lost Lamb      | Offends children        |
| Forgiving                          | 18:21-35 King's Accounts - debts/transgressions | Unforgiving             |
| Like a child                       | 19:13-15 Little Children                        | Unlike a child          |
| Give up possessions                | 19:16-30 Riches now and later                   | Possessed by things     |
| Grateful for God's grace           | Vineyard Owner<br>20:1-16 Laborers first & last | Critical of God's grace |
| Obedient                           | 21:28-32 Two sons                               | Disobedient             |
| Accept the Son                     | 21:33-46 Faithless Tenants                      | Reject the Son          |
| Clothed w/ Christ                  | 22:1-14 The Wedding Invitation                  | Clothed w/ self         |

# Kingdom of Heaven Prophecies

## Matthew 13

## Meaning

24-30, 36-43 The Wheat & Tares

“<sup>41</sup>The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; <sup>42</sup>And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.”

31-32 The Mustard Seed

Begins small, then fills the earth.

33 The Hidden Leaven

Little leaven saturates and raises up.

44 The Treasure in the Field &

God gives all to redeem believers.

45-46 The Pearl of Great Price

“Then said he to them, Therefore every scribe which is instructed to the kingdom of heaven is like to a man that is an householder, which brings forth out of his treasure things new and old.”

52 The Householder w/ Treasure

# Jesus comes with angels; fire for wicked

2 Thessalonians 1:4-10 “<sup>4</sup>So that we ourselves glory in you in the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that you endure: <sup>5</sup>Which is a manifest token of the righteous judgment of God, that you may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you also suffer: <sup>6</sup>Seeing it is a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them that trouble you; <sup>7</sup>And to you who are troubled rest with us, **when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels,** <sup>8</sup>**In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: <sup>9</sup>Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power; <sup>10</sup>When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day.”**

# Overview of End Times in Matthew

24:1-2 (temple stones)

24:3 (disciples' questions)

24:4-5 (deception warning)

24:6-8 (prelude to great trib.)

24:9-10 (persecution)

24:12-13 (deception + iniquity)

24:14 (gospel to world, then end)

24:15-20 (temple abomination)

24:21-22 (Great Tribulation)

24:24-28 (deception warning)

24:29 (sky signs)

24:30 (2<sup>nd</sup> coming)

24:31 (1<sup>st</sup> resurrection)

24:32-36 (fig tree, generation)

24:37-41 (like before flood)

24:42-44 (watch for His coming)

24:45-51 (remain faithful)

25:1-13 (parable groom coming)

25:14-30 (parable of talents)

25:31-46 (judge nations)

# Jesus prophecies **His coming**

Matthew 23:37-39 “<sup>36</sup>Truly I say to you, All these things shall come **on this generation**. <sup>37</sup>O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you that kill the prophets, and stone them which are sent to you, how often would I have gathered your children together, even as a hen gathers her chickens under her wings, and you would not! <sup>38</sup>Behold, your house is left to you desolate. <sup>39</sup>For I say to you, **You shall not see me from now on, till you shall say, Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord.**”

Matthew 26:63b-64 “<sup>63</sup>And the high priest answered and said to him, I adjure you by the living God, that you tell us whether you be the Christ, the Son of God. <sup>64</sup>Jesus said to him, [as] You have said: nevertheless I say to you, **Hereafter shall you see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven.**”

# Jesus foretells the destruction of Solomon's Temple

Matthew 24:1-2 “<sup>1</sup>And Jesus went out, and departed from the temple: and his disciples came to him for to show him the buildings of the temple. <sup>2</sup>And Jesus said to them, **See you not all these things? truly I say to you, There shall not be left here one stone on another, that shall not be thrown down.**”

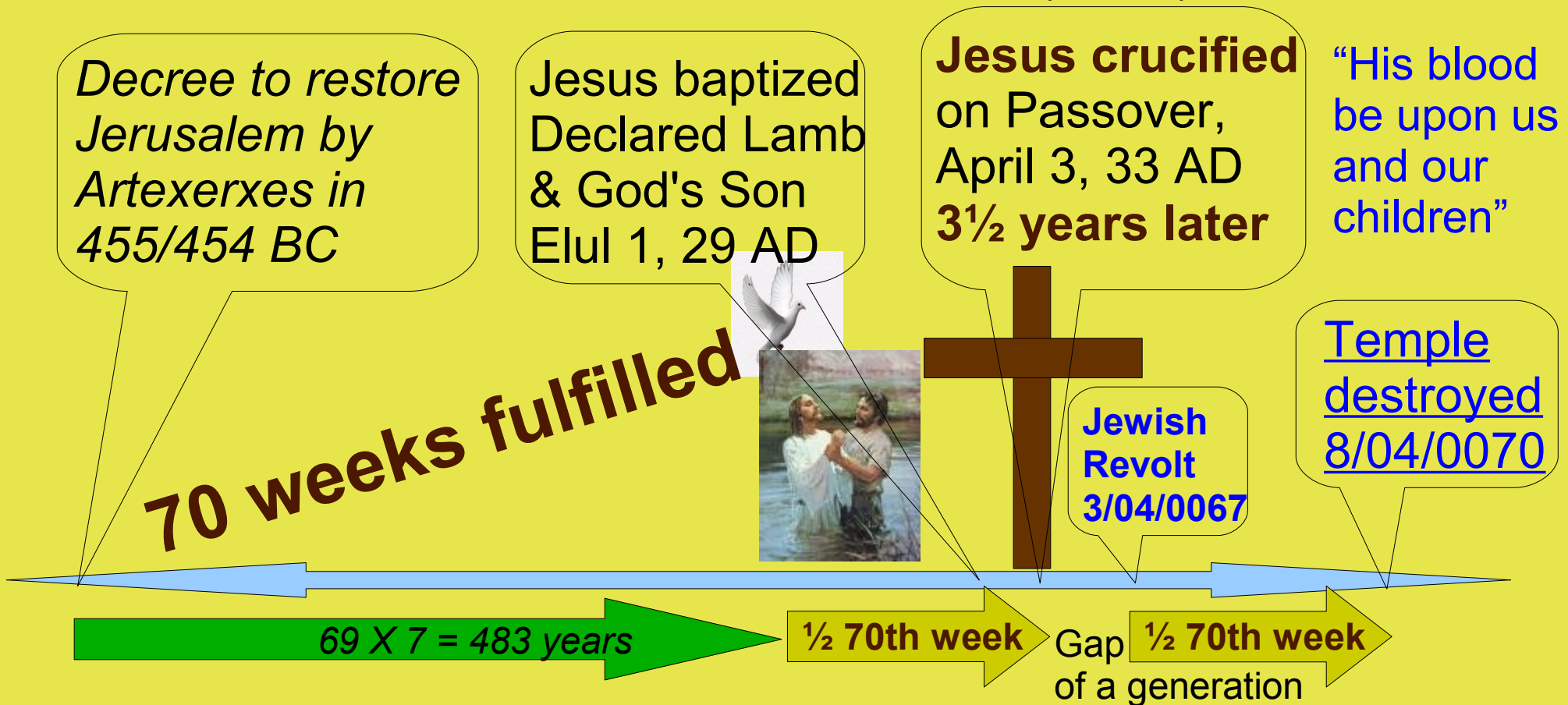
Matthew 24:32-35 “<sup>32</sup>Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When his branch is yet tender, and puts forth leaves, you know that summer is near: <sup>33</sup>So likewise you, **when you shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors.** <sup>34</sup>Truly I say to you, **This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled.** <sup>35</sup>Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.”

# “Desolations are determined”

Leviticus 26:21-22, 31-35, 43 “<sup>21</sup>And if you walk contrary to me, and will not listen to me; I will bring **seven** times more plagues on you according to your sins. <sup>22</sup>I will also send wild beasts among you, which shall rob you of your children, and destroy your cattle, and make you few in number; and your high ways shall be **desolate**”. “<sup>31</sup>And I will make your cities waste, and bring your sanctuaries to **desolation**, and I will not smell the smell of your sweet odors. <sup>32</sup>And I will bring the land into **desolation**: and your enemies which dwell therein shall be astonished at it. <sup>33</sup>And I will scatter you among the heathen, and will draw out a sword after you: and your land shall be **desolate**, and your cities waste. <sup>34</sup>Then shall the land enjoy her sabbaths, as long as it lies **desolate**, and you be in your enemies' land; even then shall the land rest, and enjoy her sabbaths. <sup>35</sup>As long as it lies **desolate** it shall rest; because it did not rest in your sabbaths, when you dwelled on it.” “<sup>43</sup>The land also shall be left of them, and shall enjoy her sabbaths, while she lies **desolate** without them: and they shall accept of the punishment of their iniquity: because, even because they despised my judgments, and because their soul abhorred my statutes.”

# Seventy Weeks and Messiah

Daniel 9:24-27 " <sup>24</sup>Seventy weeks are determined on your people and on your holy city . . . *that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem to the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and three score and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times. <sup>26</sup>And after [seven,] three score and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and to the end of the war desolations are determined.* And he shall confirm the covenant with many for **one week**: and in the **midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease**, and for the **overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate**, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate."



# Luke's temple destruction includes a different prophecy from Daniel.

Luke 21:20-24 “<sup>20</sup>And when ye shall see **Jerusalem** compassed with armies, then know that the desolation thereof is nigh. <sup>21</sup>Then let them which are in Judaea flee to the mountains; and let them which are in the midst of it depart out; and let not them that are in the countries enter thereinto. <sup>22</sup>For these be the days of **vengeance**, that all things which are written may be fulfilled. <sup>23</sup>But woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck, in those days! for there shall be great distress in the land, and wrath upon this people. <sup>24</sup>And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled.”

# Matthew 24

v1-2 (temple stones)

v3 (disciples' questions)

v4-5 (deception warning)

v6-8 (prelude to tribulation)

v9-10 (persecution)

v12-13 (deception + iniquity)

v14 (gospel to world, then end)

v15-20 (temple abomination)

v21-22 (Great Tribulation)

v24-28 (deception warning)

v29 (sky signs)

v30 (2<sup>nd</sup> coming)

v31 (1<sup>st</sup> resurrection)

v32-34 (this generation)

# Luke 21

v5-6 (temple stones)

v7 (disciples' questions)

v8 (deception warning)

v9-11 (prelude to tribulation)

v12-19 (persecution)

v20-24 (temple destroyed)

v25-26 (sky signs + fear)

v27 (2<sup>nd</sup> coming)

v28 (1<sup>st</sup> resurrection)

v29-32 (this generation)

# Heavenly transition before Christ comes

Matthew 24:27,29-31 “ <sup>27</sup>For as the lightning comes out of the east, and shines even to the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. <sup>29</sup>Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken: <sup>30</sup>And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. <sup>31</sup>And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.”

# Tribulation



3 ½  
years

GREAT

Sky signs: sun & moon dark, stars fall, heavens shake, lightning  
Jesus' 2<sup>nd</sup> coming; 1<sup>st</sup> resurrection

# False Christs and false prophets

Matthew 24:4-5 “<sup>4</sup>And Jesus answered and said to them, Take heed that no man deceive you. <sup>5</sup>For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.”

Matthew 24:11 “<sup>11</sup>And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.”

Matthew 24:23-28 “<sup>23</sup>Then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here *is* Christ, or there; believe *it* not. <sup>24</sup>For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if *it were* possible, they shall deceive the very elect. <sup>25</sup>Behold, I have told you before. <sup>26</sup>Wherefore if they shall say unto you, Behold, he is in the desert; go not forth: behold, *he is* in the secret chambers; believe *it* not.”

# Birth Pangs

Matthew 24:6-8 “<sup>6</sup>And you shall hear of wars and rumors of wars: see that you be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but **the end** is not yet. <sup>7</sup>For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. <sup>8</sup>All these are the beginning of **sorrows**.”

1 Thessalonians 5:3-4 “<sup>3</sup>For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction comes on them, as **travail** on a woman with child; and they shall not escape. <sup>4</sup>But you, brothers, are not in darkness, that **that day** should overtake you as a thief.”

# Global Birth Pangs



September 11, 2001; Continued Muslim Attacks; Sept. 29, 2008; ¼ world Muslim

# Tribulation

False prophets and false Christs deceive many  
Wars and rumors of wars (first two horses/seals)  
Famines & pestilences (last two horses) and earthquakes  
“Peace and safety” then sudden destruction

3 ½  
years

GREAT

**Sky signs: sun & moon dark, stars fall, heavens shake, lightning**  
**Jesus' 2<sup>nd</sup> coming; 1<sup>st</sup> resurrection**

# Martyrdom, hatred, little love

Matthew 24:9-14 “<sup>9</sup>Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and you shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake. <sup>10</sup>And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another. <sup>11</sup>And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many. <sup>12</sup>And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. <sup>13</sup>But he that shall endure to **the end**, the same shall be saved. <sup>14</sup>And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness to all nations; and then shall **the end** come.

Matthew 24:21-22 “<sup>21</sup>For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. <sup>22</sup>And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened.”

# Apostasy prior to Temple proclamation

2 Thessalonians 2:1-5 “<sup>1</sup>Now we beseech you, brothers, **by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together to him,** <sup>2</sup>That you be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, **as that the day of Christ is at hand.** <sup>3</sup>Let no man deceive you by any means: for **that day** shall not come, except there come a **falling away first**, and **that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;** <sup>4</sup>Who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sits in the temple of God, **showing himself that he is God.** <sup>5</sup>Remember you not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things? ”

Matthew 24:12-15 “<sup>12</sup>And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. <sup>13</sup>But he that shall endure **to the end**, the same shall be saved. <sup>14</sup>And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness to all nations; and **then shall the end come.** <sup>15</sup>**When you therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoever reads, let him understand:)**”

# That Wicked Antichrist Revealed

2 Thessalonians 2:7-13 “<sup>7</sup>For the mystery of iniquity does already work: only he who now lets will let, until he be taken out of the way. <sup>8</sup>And then shall **that Wicked be revealed**, whom **the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:** <sup>9</sup>**Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders,** <sup>10</sup>And with all delusion of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. <sup>11</sup>And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: <sup>12</sup>That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness. <sup>13</sup>But we are bound to give thanks always to God for you, brothers beloved of the Lord, because God has from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth.”

# Tribulation

False prophets and false Christs deceive many

Wars and rumors of wars (first two horses)

Famines & pestilences (last two horses) and earthquakes

“Peace and safety” then sudden destruction

Martyrdom, hatred, little love

Apostasy: “falling away” from Christ, truth, and righteousness

Antichrist proclaims himself god in a temple (shrine)

Sky signs: sun & moon dark, stars fall, heavens shake, lightning

Jesus' 2<sup>nd</sup> coming; 1<sup>st</sup> resurrection

3 ½

years

GREAT

# Michael “holds down” iniquity

Daniel 12:1 “<sup>1</sup>And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which stands for the children of your people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time your people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.”

2 Thessalonians 2:5-10 “<sup>3</sup>Let no man deceive you by any means: for **that day** shall not come, except there come a **falling away first**, and **that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; <sup>4</sup>Who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sits in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God. <sup>5</sup>Remember you not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things? <sup>6</sup>And now you know what withholds that **he** might be revealed in **his** time. <sup>7</sup>For the **mystery of iniquity does already work**: only he who now lets will let, until he be taken out of the way. <sup>8</sup>And then shall that **Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: <sup>9</sup>Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, <sup>10</sup>And with all delusion of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.**”**

# Michael begins and ends **Great Trib.**

“<sup>7</sup>And there was war in heaven: **Michael** and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, <sup>8</sup>And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. <sup>9</sup>And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and **Satan**, which deceives the whole world: he was **cast out into the earth**, and his angels were cast out with him.”

Revelation 12:7-9

1 Thess. 4:16-17 “<sup>16</sup>For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the **archangel**, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: <sup>17</sup>Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.”

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3 ½ years  
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**Jesus' 2<sup>nd</sup> coming; 1<sup>st</sup> resurrection**



# More signs of the last days

2 Timothy 3:1-9 “<sup>1</sup>This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. <sup>2</sup>For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, <sup>3</sup>Without natural affection, truce breakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, <sup>4</sup>Traitors, heady, high minded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; <sup>5</sup>Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away. <sup>6</sup>For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts, <sup>7</sup>Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. <sup>8</sup>Now as Jannes and Jambres withstood Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the faith. <sup>9</sup>But they shall proceed no further: for their folly shall be manifest to all men, as their's also was.”

# Scoffers deny creation and flood

2 Peter 3:3-10 “<sup>3</sup>Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, <sup>4</sup>And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation. <sup>5</sup>For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: <sup>6</sup>Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished: <sup>7</sup>But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved to fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. <sup>8</sup>But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. <sup>9</sup>The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is long-suffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. <sup>10</sup>But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.”

# Signs Prior to Great Tribulation

- Scoffers who deny creation and the flood (2 Peter 3:3-9)
- False prophets/teachers heresies (2 Peter 2:1-2) giving true Christianity a bad name (1 Tim. 4:1)
- Treasure and pleasure at others' expense (James 5:1-8)
- Perilous times due to selfishness (2 Tim. 3:1)
- Religious but lacking love of God and power (2 Tim. 3:4-5)
- Apostasy (“falling away”) Those who once knew Jesus return to life of sin, and anti-christ revealed (2 Thess. 2:3)

# Tribulation

False prophets and false Christs deceive many  
Wars and rumors of wars (first two horses/seals)  
Famines & pestilences (last two horses) and earthquakes  
“Peace and safety” then sudden destruction  
Martyrdom, hatred, little love  
Scoffers deny creation and flood (*Principles of Geology*, 1830)  
Treasure and pleasure at others' expense  
Apostasy: “having a form of godliness,” but denying its power  
Apostasy: “falling away” from Christ, truth, and righteousness  
Antichrist proclaims himself god in a temple (shrine)

3 ½ years  
GREAT  
Sky signs: sun & moon dark, stars fall, heavens shake,  
**Jesus' 2<sup>nd</sup> coming; 1<sup>st</sup> resurrection**



# Noah's flood: a sign of Christ's Coming

Matthew 24:36-44 “<sup>36</sup>But of that day and hour knows no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only. <sup>37</sup>But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. <sup>38</sup>**For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, <sup>39</sup>And knew not until the flood came, and **took them all away;** so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. <sup>40</sup>Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be **taken**, and the other left. <sup>41</sup>Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be **taken**, and the other left. <sup>42</sup>Watch therefore: for you know not what hour your Lord does come. <sup>43</sup>But know this, that if the manager of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up. <sup>44</sup>Therefore be you also ready: for in such an hour as you think not the Son of man comes.”**

# Noah's world was wicked and corrupt

Genesis 6:5, 11-14 “<sup>5</sup>And God saw that the **wickedness** of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was **only evil continually**. <sup>11</sup>The earth also was **corrupt** before God, and the earth was filled with **violence**. <sup>12</sup>And God looked on the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way on the earth. <sup>13</sup>And God said to Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for *the earth is filled with violence through them*; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth.”

2 Peter 2:4-5 “<sup>4</sup>For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved to judgment; <sup>5</sup>And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood on the world of the **ungodly**;”

# Tribulation

False prophets and false Christs deceive many  
Wars and rumors of wars (first two horses/seals)  
Famines & pestilences (last two horses) and earthquakes  
“Peace and safety” then sudden destruction

Martyrdom, hatred, little love

Scoffers deny creation and flood

Treasure and pleasure at others' expense

Apostasy: “having a form of godliness,” but denying its power

Apostasy: “falling away” from Christ, truth, and righteousness

Antichrist proclaims himself god in a temple (shrine)

Wickedness, corruption, violence; thinking evil continually  
eating, drinking, and marrying, until the day

Sky signs: sun & moon dark, stars fall, heavens shake,

Jesus' 2<sup>nd</sup> coming; 1<sup>st</sup> resurrection



3 1/2  
years

GREAT



# Tribulation



Moses' Trial before Pharaoh  
by Benjamin West

Deuteronomy 4:30-31  
“<sup>30</sup>When you are in **tribulation**, and all these things are come on you, even in the latter days, if you turn to the LORD your God, and shall be obedient to his voice; <sup>31</sup>(For the LORD your God is a merciful God;) he will not forsake you, neither destroy you, nor forget the covenant of your fathers which he swore to them.”

A study by Eve Clarity ©2008

Jesus said, “<sup>33</sup>These things I have spoken to you, that in me you might have peace. In the world you shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.” (John 16:33)

Romans 5:3 “<sup>3</sup>And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation works patience;”

But tonight our focus is not on the common tribulations of life, we are interested in The Tribulation of the last days.

I featured a quote from prophet Moses because he lived through ten plagues until his people were delivered and they saw their enemies destroyed. I believe the Great Tribulation will be similar with God making a distinction between believers and unbelievers.

## Prophetic Scripture



Isaiah 61:1-2 “<sup>1</sup>The Spirit of the Lord GOD is on me; because the LORD has anointed me to preach good tidings to the meek; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, **and recovering of sight to the blind**, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; <sup>2</sup>To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, **and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn;**”

(inserted by Jesus from Isaiah 42:7 and stopped prior to when quoted by Jesus in Luke 4:18-19)

2

Just as Jews had difficulty separating prophecies regarding Jesus' first and second comings as Redeemer than King, so we have difficulty compartmentalizing prophecies.

“The Day of Vengeance of our God” is also called The Day of God's Wrath, The Day of God's Judgment, The Great and Dreadful Day, The Day of the Lord; and it is abbreviate to just “That Day” or “The Day” it is referred to so often. It will end the great Tribulation. It is the day when King Jesus returns to earth with His saints to conquer those who have attacked Israel, and to rule the nations with an iron scepter from Jerusalem. Until then, Israel and the Church will continue to go through tribulation.

# Lesson Overview

- Definitions of Tribulation
- Jesus' parables of heaven
- Overview of Matthew 24 & 25
- Temple's desolation
  - Comparison with Luke
- Building a timeline of events
  - Birth pangs
  - Apostasy
  - Michael, the archangel
  - Like Noah's flood

## Definitions of The Tribulation

Tribulation is *tsar* in Hebrew, meaning a *tight* place; adversary, affliction, anguish, distress, sorrow, and trouble.

Tribulation is *thlipsis* in Greek, meaning *pressure*: afflicted, affliction, anguish, burdened, persecution, and trouble.



4

Before Christ died, the tribulation and persecution of the believers in Messiah had already begun. 'Persecution' in Greek is *diogmos*, from a root *dioko* which means "to *flee*; to *pursue* (literally or figuratively); given to suffer.

Though Jesus refers to the birth pangs [*thlipsis*] of the Tribulation. There is another word used for a woman's travail [*tikto*] which means to produce offspring, as in

John 16:21 "A woman when she is in travail has sorrow, because her hour is come: but as soon as she is delivered of the child, she remembers no more the anguish, for joy that a man is born into the world."

Tribulation produces Christ in us, and at the end of the Great Tribulation, Jesus Christ will rule as King on earth.

Art:woodcut 1573 of Paul on Trial

## Disciples go through tribulation

Acts 14:19-22 “<sup>19</sup>And there came thither certain Jews from Antioch and Iconium, who persuaded the people, and having stoned Paul, drew him out of the city, supposing he had been dead. <sup>20</sup>However, as the disciples stood round about him, he rose up, and came into the city: and the next day he departed with Barnabas to Derbe. <sup>21</sup>And when they had preached the gospel to that city, and had taught many, they returned again to Lystra, and to Iconium, and Antioch, <sup>22</sup>Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation  
To enter into the kingdom of God.”

2 Timothy 3:11-13 “<sup>11</sup>Persecutions, afflictions, which came to me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra; what persecutions I endured: but out of them all the Lord delivered me. <sup>12</sup>Yes, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution. <sup>13</sup>But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.”

5

'Delivered' is *rhuomai* in Greek, having the meaning of being rescued out of the current: Lifesaver.

Psalms 91 “<sup>1</sup>He that dwells in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. <sup>2</sup>I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust. <sup>3</sup>Surely he shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence. <sup>4</sup>He shall cover you with his feathers, and under his wings shall you trust: his truth shall be your shield and buckler. <sup>5</sup>You shall not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flies by day; <sup>6</sup>Nor for the pestilence that walks in darkness; nor for the destruction that wastes at noonday. <sup>7</sup>A thousand shall fall at your side, and ten thousand at your right hand; but it shall not come near you. <sup>8</sup>Only with your eyes shall you behold and see the reward of the wicked. <sup>9</sup>Because you have made the LORD, which is my refuge, even the most High, your habitation; <sup>10</sup>There shall no evil befall you, neither shall any plague come near your dwelling. <sup>11</sup>For he shall give his angels charge over you, to keep you in all your ways. <sup>12</sup>They shall bear you up in their hands, lest you dash your foot against a stone. <sup>13</sup>You shall tread on the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shall you trample under feet. <sup>14</sup>Because he has set his love on me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he has known my name. <sup>15</sup>He shall call on me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honor him. <sup>16</sup>With long life will I satisfy him, and show him my salvation.”

## Jesus lays out the basic plan

Luke 9:22-27 “<sup>22</sup>Saying, The Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be slain, and be raised the third day. <sup>23</sup>And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me. <sup>24</sup>For whoever will save his life shall lose it: but whoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it. <sup>25</sup>For what is a man advantaged, if he gain the whole world, and lose himself, or be cast away? <sup>26</sup>For whoever shall be ashamed of me and of my words, of him shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he shall come in his own glory, and in his Father's, and of the holy angels. <sup>27</sup>But I tell you of a truth, there be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see.”

6

Jesus tells His disciples He must suffer and die and be resurrected the third day. Jesus tells them He will come in glory with holy angels. He said some of them would see the kingdom of God before they died; and soon after this He took Peter, James, and John up a mountain and was transfigured by His glory before them.

# Kingdom of Heaven Parables

## Matthew 13

v3-9 The Sower

v18-23 (Sower explained)

v24-30 The Wheat & Tares

v31-32 Mustard Seed

v33 The Hidden Leaven

v36-43 (Wheat & Tares explained)

v44 The Treasure in the Field

v45-46 The Pearl of Great Price

v47-50 The Dragnet

v52 The Householder w/ Treasure

## Matthew

18:1-20 The Little Child and the Lost Lamb

18:21-35 King's Accounts - forgiveness

19:13-15 Little Children

19:16-30 Riches now and later

20:1-16 Vineyard first and last

[20:20-28 places in kingdom]

21 Vineyard Owner (2 parables)

v28-32 Two sons

v33-46 Faithless Tenants

22:1-14 The Wedding Invitation

7

Matthew 13:35 “<sup>35</sup>That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying, I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter things which have been kept secret from the foundation of the world.”

Some of these parables describe God's role and point of view, and others describe man's. Some describe the effects of God's kingdom on earth. Some describe duties or requirements for entrance into the kingdom of heaven.

## Kingdom of Heaven Ins and Outs

| In                                 | Matthew                                         | Out                                                  |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| Understands Word & bears its fruit | 13:3-23 The Sower                               | Rootless & Fruitless                                 |
| Good & just                        | 13:47-50 The Dragnet                            | Bad & wicked                                         |
| Receives children                  | 18:1-20 The Little Child and the Lost Lamb      | Offends children                                     |
| Forgiving                          | 18:21-35 King's Accounts - debts/transgressions | Unforgiving                                          |
| Like a child                       | 19:13-15 Little Children                        | Unlike a child                                       |
| Give up possessions                | 19:16-30 Riches now and later                   | Possessed by things                                  |
| Grateful for God's grace           | Vineyard Owner<br>20:1-16 Laborers first & last | Critical of God's grace                              |
| Obedient                           | 21:28-32 Two sons                               | Disobedient                                          |
| Accept the Son                     | 21:33-46 Faithless Tenants                      | Reject the Son                                       |
| Clothed w/ Christ                  | 22:1-14 The Wedding Invitation                  | Clothed w/ self <span style="float: right;">8</span> |

The ending to several of these parables for those who do not make it is “cast him into outer darkness, there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” or “cast into hell”. The Jews believed in a literal hell, and understood clearly from these parables that they would go there if they did not accept Jesus as Messiah.

# Kingdom of Heaven Prophecies

## Matthew 13

## Meaning

24-30, 36-43 The Wheat & Tares

**“<sup>41</sup>The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; <sup>42</sup>And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.”**

31-32 The Mustard Seed

Begins small, then fills the earth.

33 The Hidden Leaven

Little leaven saturates and raises up.

**44** The Treasure in the Field &

**God gives all to redeem believers.**

**45-46** The Pearl of Great Price

52 The Householder w/ Treasure

“Then said he to them, Therefore every scribe which is instructed to the kingdom of heaven is like to a man that is an householder, which brings forth out of his <sup>9</sup> treasure things new and old.”

The parable of the wheat and tares answers the question of why there is evil in the world, “An enemy has done this.”(v28) and

**“<sup>30</sup>Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather you together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.”**

This is in accordance with Matthew 24:40

**“<sup>40</sup>Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left. <sup>41</sup>Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left.”** Those that are taken are bundled in the hell for the lake of fire.

## Jesus comes with angels; fire for wicked

2 Thessalonians 1:4-10 “<sup>4</sup>So that we ourselves glory in you in the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that you endure: <sup>5</sup>Which is a manifest token of the righteous judgment of God, that you may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you also suffer: <sup>6</sup>Seeing it is a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them that trouble you; <sup>7</sup>And to you who are troubled rest with us, **when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, <sup>8</sup>In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: <sup>9</sup>Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power; <sup>10</sup>When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day.”**

10

1 Peter 4:12-13 “<sup>12</sup>Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you: <sup>13</sup>But rejoice, inasmuch as you are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, you may be glad also with exceeding joy.” Tribulation --> Jesus' coming in glory

Revelation 14:14-20 “<sup>14</sup>And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and on the cloud one sat like to the Son of man, having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle. <sup>15</sup>And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in your sickle, and reap: for the time is come for you to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe. <sup>16</sup>And he that sat on the cloud thrust in his sickle on the earth; and the earth was reaped. <sup>17</sup>And another angel came out of the temple which is in heaven, he also having a sharp sickle. <sup>18</sup>And another angel came out from the altar, **which had power over fire**; and cried with a loud cry to him that had the sharp sickle, saying, Thrust in your sharp sickle, and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth; for her grapes are fully ripe. <sup>19</sup>And the angel thrust in his sickle into the earth, and gathered the vine of the earth, and cast it into the great wine press of the wrath of God. <sup>20</sup>And the wine press was trodden without the city, and blood came out of the wine press, even to the horse bridles, by the space of a thousand and six hundred furlongs.”

## Overview of End Times in Matthew

|                                      |                                 |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 24:1-2 (temple stones)               | 24:32-36 (fig tree, generation) |
| 24:3 (disciples' questions)          | 24:37-41 (like before flood)    |
| 24:4-5 (deception warning)           | 24:42-44 (watch for His coming) |
| 24:6-8 (prelude to great trib.)      | 24:45-51 (remain faithful)      |
| 24:9-10 (persecution)                | 25:1-13 (parable groom coming)  |
| 24:12-13 (deception + iniquity)      | 25:14-30 (parable of talents)   |
| 24:14 (gospel to world, then end)    | 25:31-46 (judge nations)        |
| 24:15-20 (temple abomination)        |                                 |
| 24:21-22 (Great Tribulation)         |                                 |
| 24:24-28 (deception warning)         |                                 |
| 24:29 (sky signs)                    |                                 |
| 24:30 (2 <sup>nd</sup> coming)       |                                 |
| 24:31 (1 <sup>st</sup> resurrection) |                                 |

11

Jesus prophecy (highlighted in blue) of the Temple stones being thrown down, and not one left upon another within that generation was fulfilled in 70 A.D.

Destruction of the Temple is in bright blue. Tribulation events are in brown. The 2<sup>nd</sup> coming and 1<sup>st</sup> resurrection are in green. Christ's judgment of the wicked is in red.

## Jesus prophecies **His coming**

Matthew 23:37-39 “<sup>36</sup>Truly I say to you, All these things shall come **on this generation**. <sup>37</sup>O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you that kill the prophets, and stone them which are sent to you, how often would I have gathered your children together, even as a hen gathers her chickens under her wings, and you would not! <sup>38</sup>**Behold, your house is left to you desolate.** <sup>39</sup>For I say to you, **You shall not see me from now on, till you shall say, Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord.**”

Matthew 26:63b-64 “<sup>63</sup>And the high priest answered and said to him, I adjure you by the living God, that you tell us whether you be the Christ, the Son of God. <sup>64</sup>Jesus said to him, [as] You have said: nevertheless I say to you, **Hereafter shall you see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven.**”

12

Jesus as the expected, mighty Prophet prophesies to Jerusalem that their generation is to be held accountable for all the righteous blood of the prophets which has been shed upon the earth.

Matthew 23:30-35 “<sup>30</sup>And say, If we had been in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partakers with them in the blood of the prophets. <sup>31</sup>Why you be witnesses to yourselves, that you are the children of them which killed the prophets. <sup>32</sup>Fill you up then the measure of your fathers. <sup>33</sup>You serpents, you generation of vipers, how can you escape the damnation of hell? <sup>34</sup>Why, behold, I send to you prophets, and wise men, and scribes: and some of them you shall kill and crucify; and some of them shall you whip in your synagogues, and persecute them from city to city: <sup>35</sup>That on you may come all the righteous blood shed on the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zacharias son of Barachias, whom you slew between the temple and the altar.”

Jesus uses a code phrase “all these things” to which He will again make reference in the next chapter as to the specifics.

## Jesus foretells the destruction of Solomon's Temple

Matthew 24:1-2 “<sup>1</sup>And Jesus went out, and departed from the temple: and his disciples came to him for to show him the buildings of the temple. <sup>2</sup>And Jesus said to them, See you not [all these things](#)? truly I say to you, There shall not be left here one stone on another, that shall not be thrown down.”

Matthew 24:32-35 “<sup>32</sup>Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When his branch is yet tender, and puts forth leaves, you know that summer is near: <sup>33</sup>So likewise you, when you shall see [all these things](#), know that it is near, even at the doors. <sup>34</sup>Truly I say to you, This generation shall not pass, till [all these things](#) be fulfilled. <sup>35</sup>Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.”

13

Herod made some extensive additions to Solomon's Temple and called it Herod's temple.

## “Desolations are determined”

Leviticus 26:21-22, 31-35, 43 “<sup>21</sup>And if you walk contrary to me, and will not listen to me; I will bring **seven** times more plagues on you according to your sins. <sup>22</sup>I will also send wild beasts among you, which shall rob you of your children, and destroy your cattle, and make you few in number; and your high ways shall be **desolate**”. “<sup>31</sup>And I will make your cities waste, and bring your sanctuaries to **desolation**, and I will not smell the smell of your sweet odors. <sup>32</sup>And I will bring the land into **desolation**: and your enemies which dwell therein shall be astonished at it. <sup>33</sup>And I will scatter you among the heathen, and will draw out a sword after you: and your land shall be **desolate**, and your cities waste. <sup>34</sup>Then shall the land enjoy her sabbaths, as long as it lies **desolate**, and you be in your enemies' land; even then shall the land rest, and enjoy her sabbaths. <sup>35</sup>As long as it lies **desolate** it shall rest; because it did not rest in your sabbaths, when you dwelled on it.” “<sup>43</sup>The land also shall be left of them, and shall enjoy her sabbaths, while she lies **desolate** without them: and they shall accept of the punishment of their iniquity: because, even because they despised my judgments, and because their soul abhorred my statutes.”

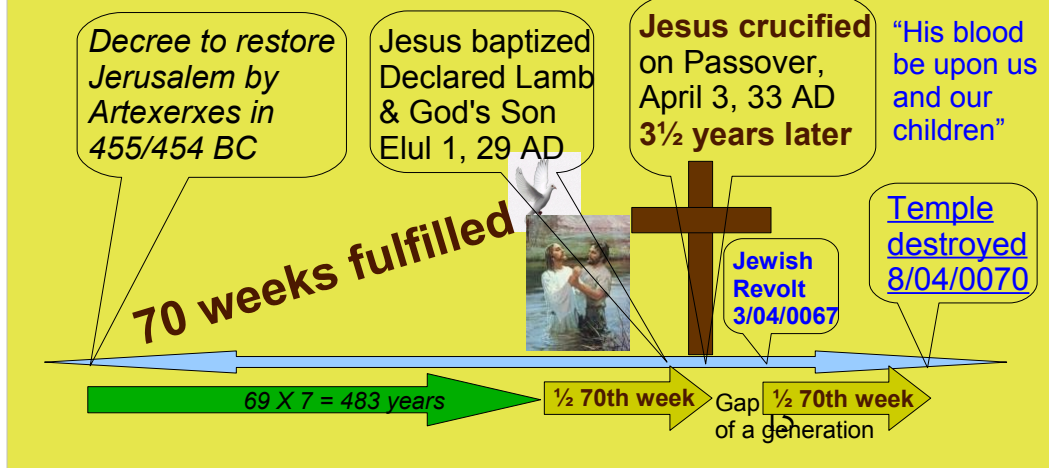
14

Seven is used as a period of punishment, and the word desolate/desolation appears 7 times in this chapter.

Chapter 9 of Daniel contains the famous 70 weeks prophecy regarding the coming of Messiah, but at the beginning of that chapter Daniel refers to his revelation stemming from his study of the Law of Moses. Because the Hebrews refused to enter the Promised Land when God commanded them, God prophesied to them about the future punishments which would come upon them. When Messiah came, it was to complete their punishment and desolations, and then be “cut off” for their salvation.

# Seventy Weeks and Messiah

Daniel 9:24-27 " <sup>24</sup>Seventy weeks are determined on your people and on your holy city . . . *that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem to the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and three score and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times.* <sup>26</sup>And after [seven,] three score and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the **end thereof shall be with a flood, and to the end of the war desolations are determined.** And he shall confirm the covenant with many for **one week**: and in the **midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate**, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate."



“Desolations are determined” by Jesus that the Temple be utterly destroyed. These desolations were brought upon Jerusalem because of the 'overspreading' of THEIR 'abominations'.

The Jewish revolt actually began in August of 66 when Jews took the garrison at Masada. Then in November, Jews in Jerusalem routed the men of Gallus who dropped their weapons and ran. But it was Vespasian and his son Titus who began fighting the Jews in the north who were to bring destruction upon the Jews and Jerusalem. I date the start of the last 3 ½ years of Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup> week from Vespasian's battles in Palestine.

## Luke's temple destruction includes a different prophecy from Daniel.

Luke 21:20-24 “<sup>20</sup>And when ye shall see **Jerusalem compassed with armies**, then know that the desolation thereof is nigh. <sup>21</sup>Then let them which are in Judaea flee to the mountains; and let them which are in the midst of it depart out; and let not them that are in the countries enter thereinto. <sup>22</sup>For these be the days of **vengeance**, that all things which are written may be fulfilled. <sup>23</sup>But woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck, in those days! for there shall be great distress in the land, and wrath upon this people. <sup>24</sup>And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled.”

16

Psalm 49:5 “Why should I fear in the days of evil, when the iniquity of my heels (supplanters or enemies) shall compass me about?”

Isaiah 63:18 “The people of your holiness have possessed it but a little while: our adversaries [tsar – tribulation] have trodden down your sanctuary.”

Daniel 8:13-14 “<sup>13</sup>Then I heard one saint speaking, and another saint said to that certain saint which spoke, How long shall be the vision concerning the daily sacrifice, and the transgression of desolation, to give both the **sanctuary** and the host to be trodden under foot? <sup>14</sup>And he said to me, To two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed.”

Vengeance is *ekdikesis* in Greek, meaning *vindication, retribution and punishment*. Same word as in 2 Thess. 1:8.

## Matthew 24

v1-2 (temple stones)  
v3 (disciples' questions)  
v4-5 (deception warning)  
v6-8 (prelude to tribulation)  
v9-10 (persecution)  
v12-13 (deception + iniquity)  
v14 (gospel to world, then end)  
v15-20 (temple abomination)  
v21-22 (Great Tribulation)  
v24-28 (deception warning)  
v29 (sky signs)  
v30 (2<sup>nd</sup> coming)  
v31 (1<sup>st</sup> resurrection)  
v32-34 (this generation)

## Luke 21

v5-6 (temple stones)  
v7 (disciples' questions)  
v8 (deception warning)  
v9-11 (prelude to tribulation)  
v12-19 (persecution)  
v20-24 (temple destroyed)  
v25-26 (sky signs + fear)  
v27 (2<sup>nd</sup> coming)  
v28 (1<sup>st</sup> resurrection)  
v29-32 (this generation)

17

In Luke, there's no mention of Daniel's abomination which is set up and makes desolate. But Luke does include another of Daniel's prophecy from 8:13-14 “<sup>13</sup>Then I heard one saint speaking, and another saint said to that certain saint which spoke, How long shall be the vision concerning the daily sacrifice, and the transgression of desolation, to give both the sanctuary and the host to be trodden under foot? <sup>14</sup>And he said to me, To two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed.”

Luke also omits the “great tribulation” from Matthew's account: “<sup>21</sup>For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. <sup>22</sup>And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened.”

## Heavenly transition before Christ comes

Matthew 24:27,29-31 “<sup>27</sup>For as the lightning comes out of the east, and shines even to the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. <sup>29</sup>Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken: <sup>30</sup>And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. <sup>31</sup>And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.”

18

To begin our tribulation timeline, we will start with the end, the glorious return of our Lord Jesus Christ. That day will be in dark green, and the signs leading up to that day will be in lighter green. Tribulation events will remain in brown.

## Tribulation



"Tribulation worketh patience; and patience, experience; and experience, hope."—Rom. v. 3, 4.

3 ½  
years

GREAT

Sky signs: sun & moon dark, stars fall, heavens shake, lightning  
Jesus' 2<sup>nd</sup> coming; 1<sup>st</sup> resurrection

19

From our last lesson on Abomination and Rapture, we know the tribulation ends with Jesus' 2<sup>nd</sup> coming. Both Matthew and Luke refer to signs in the sky immediately prior to it.\* From Luke 21:24b we know the 3 ½ year Great Tribulation is equivalent to 42 months of the Temple Mount and Jerusalem being trodden by Gentiles.\*

## False Christs and false prophets

Matthew 24:4-5 “<sup>4</sup>And Jesus answered and said to them, Take heed that no man deceive you. <sup>5</sup>For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.”

Matthew 24:11 “<sup>11</sup>And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.”

Matthew 24:23-28 “<sup>23</sup>Then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here *is* Christ, or there; believe *it* not. <sup>24</sup>For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if *it were* possible, they shall deceive the very elect. <sup>25</sup>Behold, I have told you before. <sup>26</sup>Wherefore if they shall say unto you, Behold, he is in the desert; go not forth: behold, *he is* in the secret chambers; believe *it* not.”

## Birth Pangs

Matthew 24:6-8 “<sup>6</sup>And you shall hear of wars and rumors of wars: see that you be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but **the end** is not yet. <sup>7</sup>For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. <sup>8</sup>All these are the beginning of **sorrows**.”

1 Thessalonians 5:3-4 “<sup>3</sup>For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction comes on them, as **travail** on a woman with child; and they shall not escape. <sup>4</sup>But you, brothers, are not in darkness, that **that day** should overtake you as a thief.”

21

Sorrows and Travail are both *odin* in Greek, meaning “a *pang* or *throe*, especially of childbirth: pain and sorrow.”

## Global Birth Pangs



September 11, 2001; Continued Muslim Attacks; Sept. 29, 2008; ¼ world Muslim  
22

By Victor Vanestov 1887

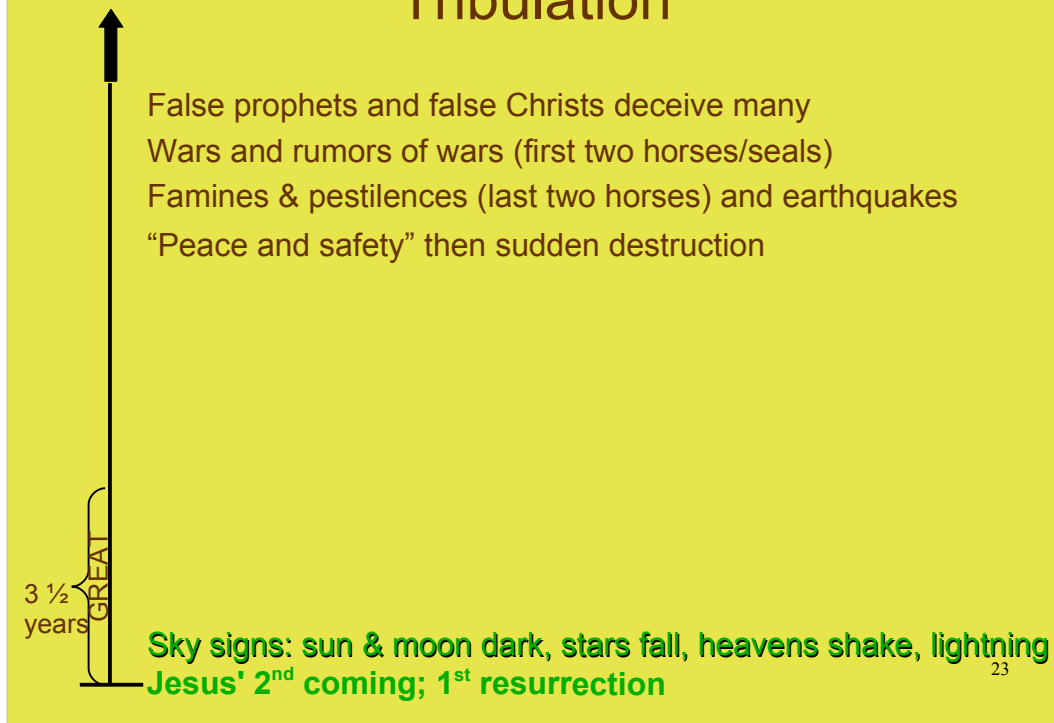
Though there have always been conquerors bent on taking over the world, and wars, and economic problems and death in various places of the globe; the 4 horsemen are felt by the whole world at the same time, and they are the first four seals Christ opens before He comes again.

I place them before the 3 ½ year Great Tribulation since several of them correlate with the “birth pangs” described by Jesus as occurring prior to the Great Tribulation. Their first two horses deal with war, and the last two horses deal with famine, pestilence, and death.

Currently Islam has a majority in one fourth of the world.

[<http://abuusamah.wordpress.com/2008/01/18/world-muslim-population/>] Russia still has a large Muslim population even after all the “-istan” secessions. Current Muslim world population is estimated between 21% [<http://www.geocities.com/richleebruce/b/islam.html>] and 27% [<http://www.islamicpopulation.com/>]. And in those parts of the world in which Islam has power, it is killing through war and famine. All this chaos before the 3 1/2 year clock of the Great Tribulation even begins.

## Tribulation



Rev. 6:1-8 “<sup>1</sup>And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, Come and see. <sup>2</sup>And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given to him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer. <sup>3</sup>And when he had opened the second seal, I heard the second beast say, Come and see. <sup>4</sup>And there went out another horse that was red: and power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another: and there was given to him a great sword. <sup>5</sup>And when he had opened the third seal, I heard the third beast say, Come and see. And I beheld, and see a black horse; and he that sat on him had a pair of balances in his hand. <sup>6</sup>And I heard a voice in the middle of the four beasts say, A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny; and see you hurt not the oil and the wine. <sup>7</sup>And when he had opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth beast say, Come and see. <sup>8</sup>And I looked, and behold a pale horse: and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed with him. And power was given to them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth.”

## Martyrdom, hatred, little love

Matthew 24:9-14 “<sup>9</sup>Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and you shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake. <sup>10</sup>And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another. <sup>11</sup>And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many. <sup>12</sup>And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. <sup>13</sup>But he that shall endure to **the end**, the same shall be saved. <sup>14</sup>And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness to all nations; and then shall **the end** come.

Matthew 24:21-22 “<sup>21</sup>For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. <sup>22</sup>And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened.”

24

Several of the apostles were martyred prior to the destruction of Jerusalem. Paul wrote in Romans 10 during his last missionary trip (about 57AD) that the gospel of the kingdom has been preached to the world then known (Roman empire)

Rev. 2:1- “<sup>1</sup>To the angel of the church of Ephesus write; These things said he that holds the seven stars in his right hand, who walks in the middle of the seven golden candlesticks; <sup>2</sup>I know your works, and your labor, and your patience, and how you can not bear them which are evil: and you have tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and have found them liars: <sup>3</sup>And have borne, and have patience, and for my name's sake have labored, and have not fainted. <sup>4</sup>Nevertheless I have somewhat against you, because you have left your first love. <sup>5</sup>Remember therefore from where you are fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come to you quickly, and will remove your candlestick out of his place, except you repent.

Muslims have slaughtered many Christians. See [www.thereligionofpeace.com](http://www.thereligionofpeace.com).

## Apostasy prior to Temple proclamation

2 Thessalonians 2:1-5 “<sup>1</sup>Now we beseech you, brothers, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together to him, <sup>2</sup>That you be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand. <sup>3</sup>Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; <sup>4</sup>Who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sits in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God. <sup>5</sup>Remember you not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things? ”

Matthew 24:12-15 “<sup>12</sup>And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. <sup>13</sup>But he that shall endure to the end, the same shall be saved. <sup>14</sup>And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness to all nations; and then shall the end come. <sup>15</sup>When you therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoever reads, let him understand:)”

25

Christ's 2<sup>nd</sup> coming and the resurrection and gathering of saints are often linked.

“falling away” is *apostasia*, or great apostasy. Real Christians will abandon the truth in droves for lies.

The “son of perdition” will sit in a temple (*naos*, also used for pagan shrines) of god (*theos*, also used for pagan gods). That Wicked one will most likely proclaim himself god on the temple mount in the Dome of the Rock.

Jesus will destroy the antichrist with the *brightness* (epiphaneia) of His coming.

## That Wicked Antichrist Revealed

2 Thessalonians 2:7-13 “7For the mystery of iniquity does already work: only he who now lets will let, until he be taken out of the way.

8And then shall **that Wicked be revealed**, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the *brightness* of his coming: 9**Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders**, 10And with all delusion of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. 11And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: 12That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness. 13But we are bound to give thanks always to God for you, brothers beloved of the Lord, because God has from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth.”

26

That Wicked Antichrist will be empowered by Satan to perform false signs and lying wonders to deceive those who have no love of the truth.

# Tribulation



False prophets and false Christs deceive many  
Wars and rumors of wars (first two horses)  
Famines & pestilences (last two horses) and earthquakes  
“Peace and safety” then sudden destruction  
Martyrdom, hatred, little love

Apostasy: “falling away” from Christ, truth, and righteousness  
Antichrist proclaims himself god in a temple (shrine)

3 ½  
years  
GREAT

Sky signs: sun & moon dark, stars fall, heavens shake, lightning  
Jesus' 2<sup>nd</sup> coming; 1<sup>st</sup> resurrection

## Michael “holds down” iniquity

Daniel 12:1 “<sup>1</sup>And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which stands for the children of your people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time your people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.”

2 Thessalonians 2:5-10 “<sup>3</sup>Let no man deceive you by any means: for **that day** shall not come, except there come a **falling away first**, and **that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; <sup>4</sup>Who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sits in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.** <sup>5</sup>Remember you not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things? <sup>6</sup>And now you know what withholds that **he** might be revealed in **his** time. <sup>7</sup>For the **mystery of iniquity does already work: only he who now lets will let, until he be taken out of the way.** <sup>8</sup>And then shall that **Wicked be revealed, whom** the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: <sup>9</sup>Even **him**, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, <sup>10</sup>And with all delusion of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of <sup>28</sup>the truth, that they might be saved.”

Stands is *amad*, meaning abide (behind), appoint, arise, cease, confirm, continue, dwell, be employed, endure, establish, leave, make, ordain, be [over], place, (be) present (self), raise up, remain, repair,

*Withholds* and *Let* are *katecho*, lit. 'hold down'.

“taken out of the way” way is *mesos* meaning middle or midst

Michael has stood up for Israel, and has held back their enemies, but he will be removed from service temporarily. But Michael will return with Jesus to establish Israel as the kingdom of God with Christ ruling from Jerusalem.

## Michael begins and ends **Great Trib.**

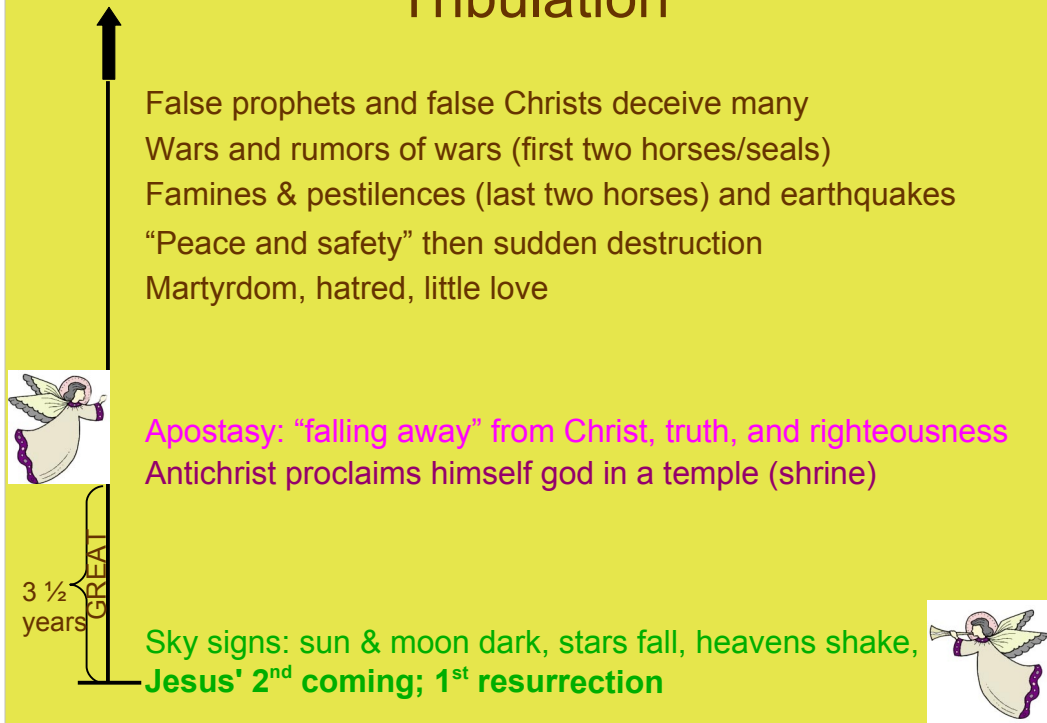
<sup>7</sup>And there was war in heaven: **Michael** and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, <sup>8</sup>And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. <sup>9</sup>And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and **Satan**, which deceives the whole world: he was **cast out into the earth**, and his angels were cast out with him.”  
Revelation 12:7-9

1 Thess. 4:16-17 “<sup>16</sup>For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the **archangel**, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: <sup>17</sup>Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.”

29

Revelation 12 continues(10b-12) “for the accuser of our brothers is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night. <sup>11</sup>And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives to the death. <sup>12</sup>Therefore rejoice, you heavens, and you that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down to you, having great wrath, because he knows that he has but a short time.”

# Tribulation



Michael throws Satan down to earth, and he possesses the Antichrist.\*

Later, Michael blows the last trumpet to call the faithful to Jesus.\*

## More signs of the last days

2 Timothy 3:1-9 “<sup>1</sup>This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. <sup>2</sup>For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, <sup>3</sup>Without natural affection, truce breakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, <sup>4</sup>Traitors, heady, high minded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; <sup>5</sup>Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away. <sup>6</sup>For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts, <sup>7</sup>Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. <sup>8</sup>Now as Jannes and Jambres withstood Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the faith. <sup>9</sup>But they shall proceed no further: for their folly shall be manifest to all men, as their's also was.”

## Scoffers deny creation and flood

2 Peter 3:3-10 “<sup>3</sup>Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, <sup>4</sup>And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation. <sup>5</sup>For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: <sup>6</sup>Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished: <sup>7</sup>But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved to fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. <sup>8</sup>But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. <sup>9</sup>The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is long-suffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. <sup>10</sup>But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.”

32

The world was content with the accounts of Creation and world-wide flood in Genesis until 1830 when Charles Lyell's *Principles of Geology* was published. He theorized that "the present is the key to the past", and geological remains should be explained by reference to present geological processes. Lyell discounted a young earth and Noah's flood, and interpreted geologic change due to minute changes over enormously long spans of time: uniformitarianism.

Charles Darwin was influenced by his book, taking the first volume with him on the SS Beagle to the Galapagos.

## Signs Prior to Great Tribulation

- Scoffers who deny creation and the flood (2 Peter 3:3-9)
- False prophets/teachers heresies (2 Peter 2:1-2) giving true Christianity a bad name (1 Tim. 4:1)
- Treasure and pleasure at others' expense (James 5:1-8)
- Perilous times due to selfishness (2 Tim. 3:1)
- Religious but lacking love of God and power (2 Tim. 3:4-5)
- Apostasy ("falling away") Those who once knew Jesus return to life of sin, and anti-christ revealed (2 Thess. 2:3)

# Tribulation



False prophets and false Christs deceive many  
Wars and rumors of wars (first two horses/seals)  
Famines & pestilences (last two horses) and earthquakes  
“Peace and safety” then sudden destruction  
Martyrdom, hatred, little love  
Scoffers deny creation and flood (*Principles of Geology*, 1830)  
Treasure and pleasure at others' expense  
Apostasy: “having a form of godliness,” but denying its power  
Apostasy: “falling away” from Christ, truth, and righteousness  
Antichrist proclaims himself god in a temple (shrine)



3 ½  
years



Sky signs: sun & moon dark, stars fall, heavens shake,  
**Jesus' 2<sup>nd</sup> coming; 1<sup>st</sup> resurrection**



## Noah's flood: a sign of Christ's Coming

Matthew 24:36-44 “<sup>36</sup>But of that day and hour knows no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only. <sup>37</sup>But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. <sup>38</sup>For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, <sup>39</sup>And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. <sup>40</sup>Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be **taken**, and the other left. <sup>41</sup>Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be **taken**, and the other left. <sup>42</sup>Watch therefore: for you know not what hour your Lord does come. <sup>43</sup>But know this, that if the manager of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up. <sup>44</sup>Therefore be you also ready: for in such an hour as you think not the Son of man comes.”

35

Noah's world was acting as if everything was normal.

When Noah's flood “took” the wicked away, that word is *airo*, and means to take or put away. But the following word for “taken” when two are together is the word

**Taken** is *Paralambano* meaning “to receive near, associate with oneself (in any familiar or intimate act or relation); receive, take unto, take with.” The same Greek word is used by Jesus and translated “receive” in

John 14:3 “And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and **receive** you to myself; that where I am, there you may be also.”

## Noah's world was wicked and corrupt

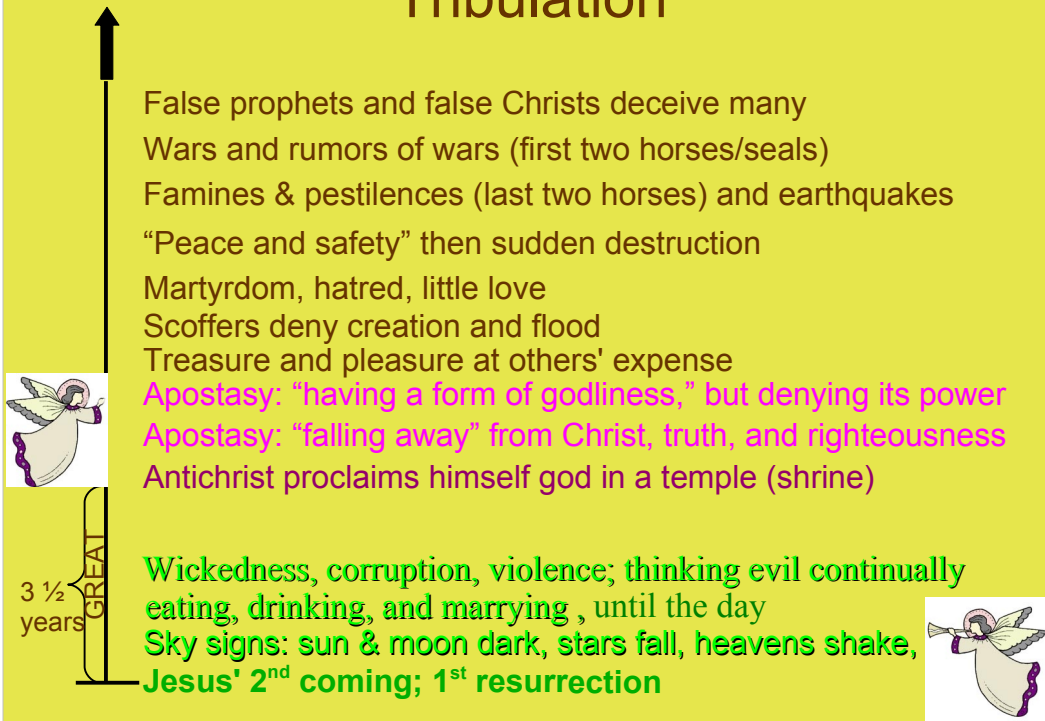
Genesis 6:5, 11-14 “<sup>5</sup>And God saw that the **wickedness** of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was **only evil continually**. <sup>11</sup>The earth also was **corrupt** before God, and the earth was filled with **violence**. <sup>12</sup>And God looked on the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way on the earth. <sup>13</sup>And God said to Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for *the earth is filled with violence through them*; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth.”

2 Peter 2:4-5 “<sup>4</sup>For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved to judgment; <sup>5</sup>And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood on the world of the **ungodly**;”

36

Jude 1:6-7 “<sup>6</sup>And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness to the judgment of the great day. <sup>7</sup>Even as Sodom and Gomorrha, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.”

# Tribulation



That completes our lesson on the Tribulation.  
Next time we will continue Jesus teaching in Matthew  
with the rest of the End Times scenario.