

TIME LINE OF END TIMES

by Denny Oberg 12-99

1. **The Rapture**...1 Thessalonians 4:13-17; 1 Corinthians 15:51-55

A. This is a signless, imminent event which involves Christ coming FOR His saints to take them Home to His Father's House (John 14:2,3).

B. Two special events will occur in Heaven after the Rapture:

1. **The Judgment Seat of Christ**...2 Corinthians 5:10; 1 Corinthians 3:13-15

2. **The Marriage Supper of the Lamb**....Revelation 19:7-9

2. **The Tribulation Period**

A. Immediately following the Rapture, the 70th week (a week being a week of years, in other words, 7 years) of Daniel's great prophecy of 70 weeks will be fulfilled (see Daniel 9:24-27). The first 69 weeks were fulfilled when the Messiah (Christ) was "cut off"(9:26) by His crucifixion. Israel was then temporarily set aside and the Church Age (from Pentecost [Acts 2] to the Rapture) fills in the gap between the 69th and 70th week (between verse 26 & 27 of Daniel chapter 9). Upon the removal of the Church from the earth, God resumes His dealings with His earthly people Israel and the prophetic time clock of Daniel's prophecy begins ticking once again. **It begins with a 7-year peace treaty being signed between the Roman Prince** (the Head of the Revived Roman Empire) **and the Jews** settled in the land of Israel (9:27).

B. This 7-year tribulation period is divided into two equal periods of 3 ½ years. The first half is referred to in Scripture as "**the beginning of sorrows**" (Matthew 24:8) and the latter half as "**the great tribulation**" (Matthew 24:21). There is an event which occurs which will end the first half and herald the latter half; this is known as "**the abomination of desolation**" (Matthew 24:15; Daniel 9:27). We will now look briefly at the two 3½ year periods, along with the event which triggers the latter half.

1. **The Beginning of Sorrows**...Matthew 24:3-14; Revelation 6:1-8:12

A. This period includes *the signs outlined by the Lord Jesus, the seven seal judgments, the first four trumpet judgments and the sealing of the 144,000 Israelites.*

2. **The Abomination of Desolation** Daniel 9:27; 12:1 1; Matthew 24:15;
2 Thessalonians 2:3,4; Revelation 13:14-18

A. After the first 3 ½ years the Roman Prince (Head of the Revived Roman Empire) will break the covenant with Israel and there will be an image of himself set up in the temple in Jerusalem by the religious Antichrist. The Antichrist will demand

worship for himself, and cause all men to worship the image of the beast (the Roman Prince) and to take his number "666" as an act of allegiance to him.

3. **The Great Tribulation** Jeremiah 30:7; Daniel 12:1 ; Matthew 24:21; Revelation 9:1-18:24

A. This period includes *the last four trumpet judgments, the two witnesses who prophesy in Jerusalem, Satan being cast to the earth and persecuting Israel, the seven vial judgments and the destruction of Babylon the Great.*

3. **The Revelation of Jesus Christ** Matthew 24:30; 25:31; 2 Thessalonians 1 :7,8; Revelation 1:7; 19:11-16

A. The Lord Jesus Christ comes to the earth to:

1. **Save His earthly people (Israel) from destruction** Daniel 12: 1 ; Matthew 24:13; Romans 11:26

2. **Judge the Living** Acts 17:31; Matthew 25:31-46; Revelation 19:17-21

3. **Set Up His Kingdom** Matthew 25:31

4. **The Millennial Kingdom** MILLENNIUM means "thousand year." The phrase "a (or 'the') thousand years" occurs 6 times in Revelation 20:2-7 and each occurrence refers to the period when Christ and His saints will reign over the earth.

A. The Millennial Kingdom in Old Testament Prophecy

1. Psalm 2:1-10; 72:1-19; Isaiah 2:1-4; 11:1-13; 42:1-4; 60:1-61:6; 65:18-25; Jeremiah 23:3-8; Ezekiel 34:11-15, 22-31; Daniel 2:31-45; 7:9-14; Zechariah 14:1-9

A. Many more verses could be added to these. They all speak of the blessed Golden Age when the Lord Jesus Christ shall reign over all the earth. Israel shall be the center of blessing for all the nations. The earth itself shall undergo a wonderful transformation and all creation shall be blessed.

B. The Millennial Kingdom in New Testament Prophecy

1. Matthew 19:28; Luke 22:14-18; Acts 3:19-25; Romans 8:19-22; Ephesians 1:10; 1 Timothy 6:14,15; 2 Timothy 4:1; Revelation 20:1-6; 21:10, 11, 23-26

5. **The Judgment of Satan** Revelation 20:7-10

6. **The Judgment of the Dead** (The Great White Throne Judgment)...Revelation 20:11-15

- A. Verse 11 Christ sits upon His Throne (John 5:22, 27) and the present earth and heaven are destroyed (see 2 Peter 3:10-12; Revelation 21:1b).
- B. Verses 12 & 13 The UNSAVED DEAD are raised and stand before Christ to be judged according to their works. Verses 5 & 6 prove they are unsaved, for only those participating in the "first resurrection" (John 5:29a; 1 Corinthians 15:50-54; 1 Thessalonians 4:16) escape the "second death." This is the "resurrection of judgment" (John 5:29b) which includes all who "died in their sins" (John 8:21, 24). Their bodies are raised from the sea and the grave; their souls and spirits are released from Hades (the unseen world) to be reunited with their bodies. They then stand before the throne of Christ. They are there because they are void of eternal life (verse 15; John 3:18, 36), but their *degree of punishment* in the Lake of Fire will be determined by their works (see Matthew 11:20-24; Luke 12:46-48; Romans 2:5, 6, 8 & 9).
- C. Verse 14 Death (the *grave*) and Hades (the *unseen world*) come to an end. All of their occupants are gone and they have served their purpose, for physical death (Hebrews 9:27; James 2:26) gives way to the permanent condition of the "second death."
- 1 . DEATH means "separation." In the case of *physical death*, it is the separation of the body from the spirit and soul (James 2:26). In the case of the *second death*, it is the separation of body, soul, and spirit from God (2 Thessalonians 1:9).
- D. Verse 15 This verse proves that it is the lack of eternal life that fits one for the Lake of Fire. If one is written in the "book of life" (the Lamb's book of life...Revelation 13:8 and 21:27), they have eternal life in the Son (1 John 5:12), will never come into judgment (John 5:24), and will participate in the "first resurrection" (John 6:40; Revelation 20:6).

7. The New Heaven and the New Earth 2 Peter 3:13; Revelation 21:1

A. Characteristics of the New Heaven and the New Earth

1. The *absence of sin*...2 Peter 3:13
2. The *absence of suffering*...Revelation 21:4
3. *Eternal COMMUNION* (with God)...Revelation 21:3
4. *Eternal CONTENTMENT*...Revelation 21:6; Psalm 16:11