

# CHRONOLOGY OF END-TIME EVENTS

## -PART 1 OF 2-

Late one evening while departing from Reagan National Airport in Washington DC, I was gazing out the airplane window, looking at the lights of the city, at how well organized the city was, and the Lord spoke to my heart and said “you see, an overview always aids in understanding.” I knew that He was informing me of an approach in teaching the word of God which would aid His people to better grasp and understand the truth. In other words, by giving the big picture of what I was teaching in the word before sharing the details of the specific message, the hearers would be better able to understand, and relate the message to the overall plan of salvation.

Therefore this brochure is to provide you an overview of the End Time Events, (not all inclusive) in a chronological order to aid you in better understanding the book of Revelation.

First we must understand what the term “**End Times**” means. There are a number of different biblical expressions that appear to speak of the end times. In the Bible “end times” may refer to the end of the current Church Age **OR** it may refer to other times, such as the end of the Tribulation Period which is followed by the second coming of Christ. Often the 7 year Tribulation Period is called the “end times”.

**Times of the Gentiles**— God divides history into different eras. One such era is

“the Times of the Gentiles” (*Luke 21:24*), a period of time in which the leadership of the nations has no longer been in the hands of Israel but rather Gentile empires. This period began with the captivity of Judah under the Babylonian King Nebuchadnezzar (*2 Chr. 36:21*). Since that time, the world has been “trodden down of the Gentiles” and will continue to be until Christ’s return. *Luke 21:24*

**Church Age**— 7 Churches of Revelation, ending with the Laodicean church (lukewarm), typify the 7 stages of Church history.

**Spirit of Antichrist**— *1 John 4:3* lawlessness at work—an antichristian spirit that opposes everything true about Jesus Christ; attempting to pervert the gospel and corrupt the true church.

*II Thess. 2:3*—that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first. There is little agreement as to whether the Greek word “*apostesia* (“*falling away*”) refers to a physical departure (the rapture) or a metaphorical one (departure from the faith). The first SEVEN translations of the English Bible translated it “departure”. No one knows why the translators of the KING JAMES Version rendered it “falling away” or why others translate it “rebellion” A case can be made that all seven of the earliest translations of the English Bible were right in rendering it “departure” which could mean a **physical departure or rapture**. If the meaning of “departure” is the more accurate translation, this chapter would leave no doubt regarding a pre-tribulation Rapture, for it places the Rapture prior to the revelation of the man

**of sin.** However, if the more popular view of “falling away” or “rebellion” is the true meaning, *apostesia* would refer to the *career of Antichrist during the Tribulation*. The important truth here is “**that day**” the Glorious Appearing, **will not occur UNTIL** the “**son of perdition**” has been revealed (*Rev. 12-13*). The real power behind the Antichrist is Satan himself.

**Rapture of the Church**—The coming of the Lord to meet the Church in the air and His return with them to heaven. *I Thess. 4:16-17; I Cor. 15:52*. This “rapture” will unite all believers from Pentecost to the time of Christ’s coming for His Church. It will constitute everyone who has ever been in the Church or, as some call it, “the body of Christ”. There is nothing that needed to take place during Paul’s life before the Rapture, so it is today for us. **This is why the Glorious Appearing cannot occur for at least seven years, but the Rapture can occur at any moment.** There is no more comforting message in the hours of the death of a beloved believer than this rapture truth. It is both the comfort and the hope of the Church.

**Tribulation Period**—is the period of time, according to the pre-millennial interpretation of prophecy, which follows the rapture of the Church. Lasting for seven years, the 1st three and one-half years are a time of peace, which witness the rise of Antichrist and the rebuilding of the (orthodox) Jewish temple. The 2nd or last three and one-half years are a time of divine judgment known in the Old Testament as “**the time of Jacob’s trouble.**” at the end of this period, climaxed by the **Battle of Armageddon**,

Christ returns to rescue Israel and set up His **Millennial Kingdom**.

**The Two Witnesses Appear**—Two of the most colorful characters in all of biblical prophecy may be the supernatural prophets that burst on the scene during the **first half** of the Tribulation. According to the 11th chapter of Revelation, these two characters dress in sackcloth, prophesy, dispense astonishing miracles, and witness to the grace of God in the most evil culture known to mankind. God’s two powerful witnesses will prophesy *1260 days (3 & 1\2 years)*. These two witnesses with supernatural powers will warn Israel and the world, right at the temple site, that the coming judgment is about to fall upon the world. These witnesses will not only attempt to call Israel to repentance by proclaiming the gospel, they will also urge her to accept her Messiah.

There is much speculation as to the identity of the two witnesses. Though some believe Elijah and Enoch are the 2 witnesses, most Bible scholars consider them to be Moses and Elijah. Proponents of the Moses and Elijah argument point out that these 2 Old Testament characters were the most influential Hebrew men of their respective time. Moses introduced God’s written Law to Israel, while Elijah was the first of the writing prophets and even started the school of the prophets. Together with the 144,000 witnesses, the 2 witnesses of Revelation 11 will have awesome power and impact in producing the enormous soul harvest of the 1st 42 months of the Tribulation described in Rev. 7.

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## House of Praise International Church

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## CHRONOLOGY OF END-TIME EVENTS (PART 1 OF 2)

They provide the millions of Jews in the Holy Land a spiritual bridge to the Christian gospel. God will demonstrate His mighty power and existence through these 2 prophets over whom the Antichrist will have no power until the God-appointed time. Before that designated time, the 2 witnesses will be untouchable, and anyone who threatens them will be killed (Rev. 11:5). God however, will allow the Antichrist to overcome and kill the 2 witnesses once they **“finish their testimony”** (Rev. 11:7). Their bodies are left in the streets to decay. But the most incredible aspect of Rev. 11 is the story doesn't end with the death of the two witnesses. God predicted that while the world is watching, He will do a mighty miracle: He will raise the 2 prophets from the dead and take them up to heaven (Rev. 11:11-13). This event will be a loving gesture by God Almighty, not only to resurrect and take to heaven His 2 prophets, but also to make His existence and power known around the whole world.

**The False Prophet**— the beast of the earth (man). Rev. 13:11. He arises first to prepare for the coming of the Antichrist. He represents the **“apostate”** religion of the End Times. He will preside over apostate Christendom after the rapture of the TRUE believers to heaven. The Antichrist's rise to power will result from a worldwide spiritual deception, perpetrated by the False Prophet, who is empowered by Satan (Rev. 13:11,12). The False Prophets ability to perform miraculous signs will enable him to convince the public that the Antichrist is the leader for whom they have been searching. (Rev. 12 & 13).

The **religious system** he represents is called the **“great harlot”**. His goal is spiritual deception, as he encourages people to embrace the social, economic, and religious programs of the Antichrist. He prepares the world for the rise of 3 great deceivers, false prophets, new religions and spiritual darkness. (Rev. 19:20—20:10). He is cast into the lake of fire.

### **Rev. 13 - 10 identifying features of the False Prophet**

- 1. Rises out of the earth—13:11.**
- 2. He controls all religious affairs—13:11.**
- 3. He is motivated by Satan—13:11.**
- 4. He promotes the worship of the beast (Antichrist) - 13:12.**
- 5. He performs signs 7 miracles—13:13.**
- 6. He deceives the whole world—13:14.**
- 7. He empowers the image of the Beast (Antichrist) - 13:15.**
- 8. He kills all who refuses to worship—13:15.**
- 9. He controls all economic commerce—13:17.**
- 10. He controls the mark of the Beast (Antichrist) - 13:17-18**

