



THE RETURN OF THE KING

REVELATION 19

INTRODUCTION

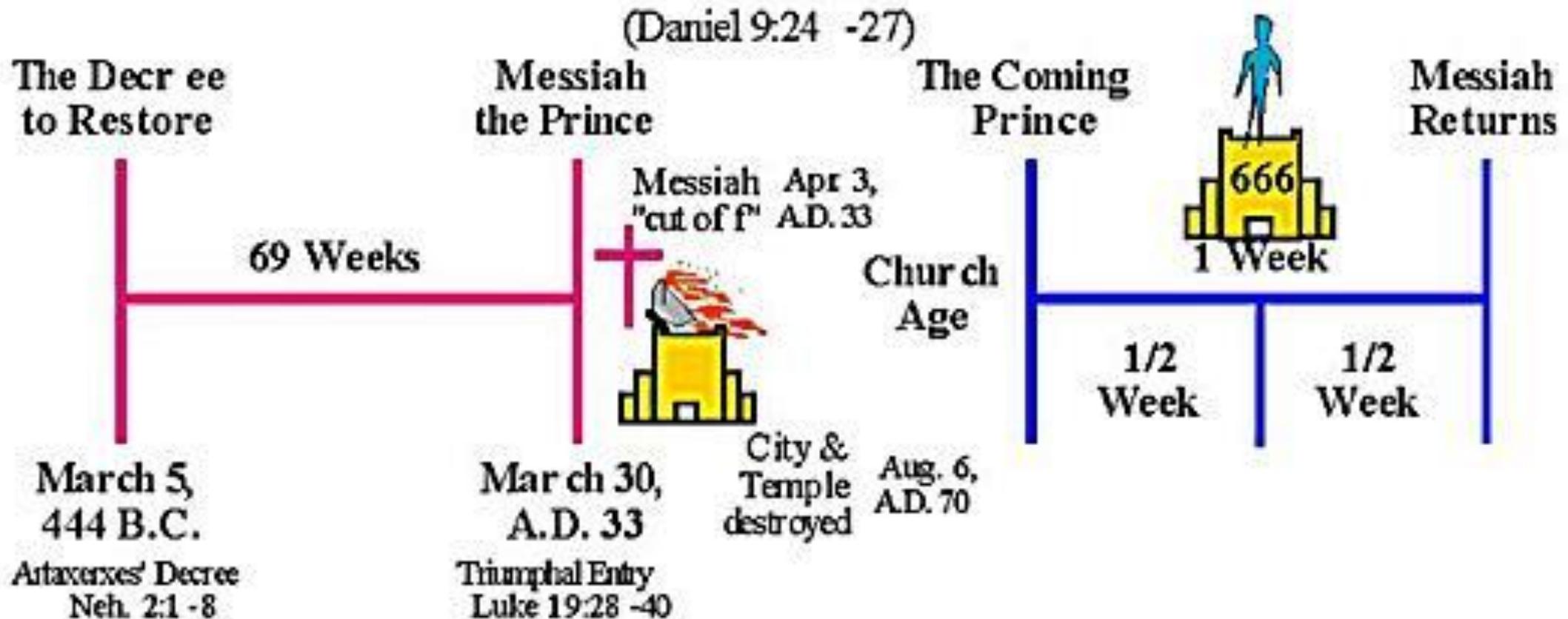
Revelation is a book about Jesus Christ and the last days (*eschatology*). In it, God moves back the curtains of time and circumstances to show the apostle John and the church the march of history and the unfolding of His plan for humanity.

There are three major movements in this play:

- Rev. 3-18: The Great Tribulation
- Rev. 19: The Return of THE KING
- Rev. 20-22: To Eternity and Beyond...

THE GREAT TRIBULATION

Daniel's Seventy Weeks

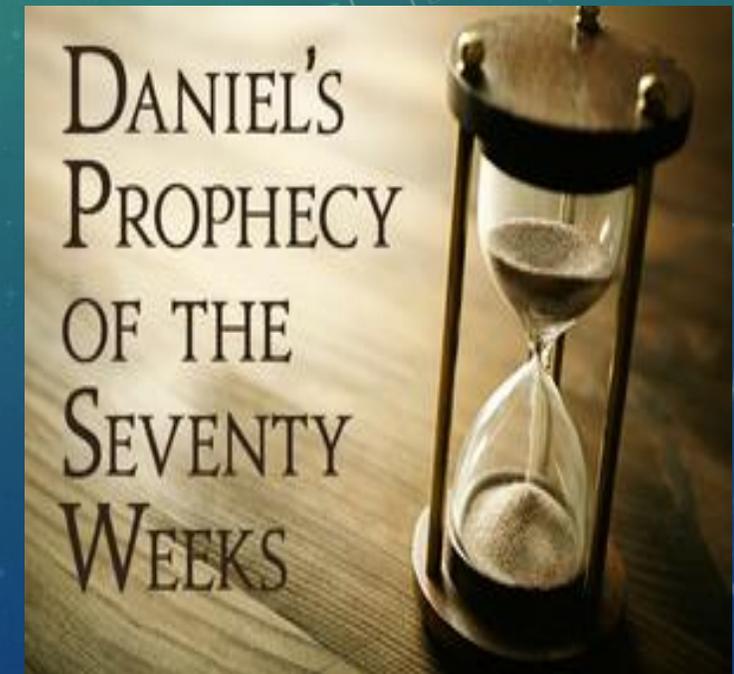


THE GREAT TRIBULATION

The Great Tribulation is a 7 year period that fulfills the 70th week of Daniel.

Daniel 9:24

“Seventy weeks are decreed about your people [Israel] and your holy city [Jerusalem], (1) to finish the transgression, (2) to put an end to sin, and (3) to atone for iniquity, (4) to bring in everlasting righteousness, (5) to seal both vision and prophet, and (6) to anoint a most holy place.”



THE GREAT TRIBULATION

The Great Tribulation deals with sin, particularly in Israel. Then, Israel will be ready to accept her Messiah.

Zachariah 12:10

“And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and pleas for mercy, so that, when they look on me, on him whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over him, as one weeps over a firstborn.”



THE GREAT TRIBULATION

The Great Tribulation concludes with the return of Jesus Christ, Israel's Messiah, the one and only true King of Earth.

Jude 14-15

¹⁴ It was also about these that Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied, saying, “**Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of his holy ones,** ¹⁵ to execute judgment on all and to convict all the ungodly of all their deeds of ungodliness that they have committed in such an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things that ungodly sinners have spoken against him.”



THE RAPTURE

The first thing that happens and triggers the Great Tribulation is the **Rapture of the Church.**

Revelation 4:1

After this I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven! And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, “**Come up here,** and I will show you what must take place after this.”

The Rapture of the Church



THE RAPTURE

1 Corinthians 15:52

in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed.

1 Thessalonians 4:16

¹⁶ For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord.

THE SEVEN SEALS

After the church is taken to heaven to celebrate the Wedding Feast of the Bride (Church) and the Groom (Jesus Christ), the 7 Seals are opened, one by one, unleashing judgment on the earth.

Revelation 6:1-2

¹ Now I watched when the Lamb opened one of the seven seals, and I heard one of the four living creatures say with a voice like thunder, "Come!"

² And I looked, and behold, a white horse! And its rider had a bow, and a crown was given to him, and he came out conquering, and to conquer.



THE WHITE RIDER AND HIS COMPANIONS

This rider on the white horse is a fake savior out to “conquer” the world. He is trying to look like Jesus, but he is the antichrist.

He is followed by war, famine, and mass deaths (1/4 of the population).



THE SEVEN TRUMPETS

In the second sequence of judgments...

- 1/3 of the earth is destroyed by fire,
- 1/3 of the sea is ruined,
- 1/3 of the water is polluted (Wormwood star),
- 1/3 of the heaven is darkened,
- locusts (demons) torment people for 5 months,
- 1/3 of population killed by plagues
- The Kingdom of God is announced!



THE SEVEN BOWLS

Then, the third sequence of judgments begin...

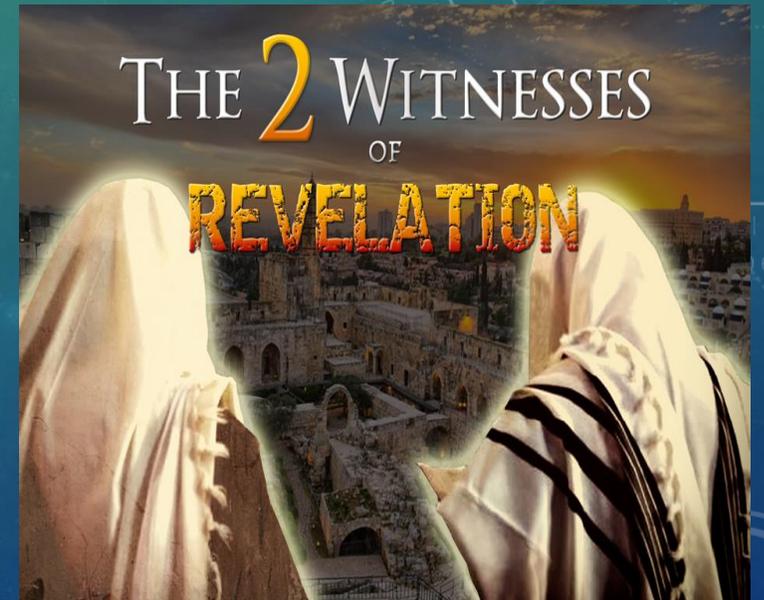
- Sores afflict those with the mark of the beast,
- Sea turns to blood and sea creatures die,
- Rivers turn to blood,
- People are scorched by the sun,
- The government of the beast is plagued,
- The Euphrates is dried up and armies gather in Armageddon,
- The whole earth is shaken.



REPENT AND BELIEVE!

The severity and the speed of the judgements increase as the seven years progress. The second half is worse, much worse, than the first 3 ½ years.

During the tribulation, the gospel will be preached by 144,000 Jews (7:4) ; 2 witnesses (11:3), and even an angel (14:6). Even now, God is still reaching out to seek and to save the lost!



THE TWO HALVES

In the first 3 ½ years of the GT, antichrist makes a covenant with Israel and brings peace to the middle east.

Daniel 9:27

“And he shall make a strong covenant with many for one week, and for half of the week he shall put an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall come one who makes desolate, until the decreed end is poured out on the desolator.”



THE TWO HALVES

Half-way through the GT, antichrist makes his final move to not only be obeyed but now also worshipped as god by the Jews.

Daniel 11:31

Forces from him shall appear and profane the temple and fortress, and shall take away the regular burnt offering. And they shall set up the abomination that makes desolate.

Daniel 12:11

And from the time that the regular burnt offering is taken away and the abomination that makes desolate is set up, there shall be 1,290 days.

THE TWO HALVES

This brings us to the second half-way through the GT, where antichrist eventually turns against spiritual Babylon. He doesn't need her anymore!

Revelation 17:16-18

¹⁶ And the ten horns that you saw, they and the beast will hate the prostitute. They will make her desolate and naked, and devour her flesh and burn her up with fire, ¹⁷ for God has put it into their hearts to carry out his purpose by being of one mind and handing over their royal power to the beast, until the words of God are fulfilled. ¹⁸ And the woman that you saw is the great city that has dominion over the kings of the earth.”

THE TWO HALVES

Revelation 17:14

¹⁴ They will make war on the Lamb, and the Lamb will conquer them, for he is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those with him are called and chosen and faithful.”

In his hubris, antichrist and his armies will surround Jerusalem to destroy Israel once and for all. This sets us up to Revelation 19: the Return of Jesus Christ!

