

Handout of Terms Revelation Course 2014

Below please find a brief definition of terms and events that are mentioned in Scripture but have not yet occurred. As we get to these terms and events in our study of Revelation, we will discuss them in greater detail.

The events listed in this handout are in the chronological order in which I believe they will occur. Whether or not this order is correct isn't the point. The important thing to remember is to those who interpret literally, all these events will take place as described in Scripture. Please do your own independent study of the events and ask the Holy Spirit for guidance in determining the proper order.

The Jews, the Gentiles and the Church of God (I Cor 10:32)

The three groups of people God distinguishes between on the earth. Each of these three groups have their own futures and judgments.

“Church of God” The church is composed of both Jews and Gentiles with no distinction made between the two groups. We are all seen by God as “one in Christ” (Gal 3:28; Col 3:9-11)

“Jews”- Since the founding of the church the term “Jews” is used is used to describe all the descendants of Abraham through Isaac and Jacob who are not part of the Church.

“Gentiles” (also referred to as “Greeks” or “heathen”) This term is used to refer to all other people who are not Jews and are not part of the Church.

The Resurrection of the Saints (Rapture) (I Corinthians 15:51-55; I Thessalonians 4:13-18) The instantaneous bodily resurrection of all believers both living and dead up to meet Christ in the air.

The Judgment Seat of Christ (II Cor 5:10; I Cor 3:9-15) This is a judgment of believer's works. Every believer without exception will go through this judgment.

The Tribulation (Daniel 9:27; Matthew 24:3-28; Revelation 6-19:10) A seven-year period of intense trouble world-wide in scope but centering around the Jews and Jerusalem. It's a time of God's wrath being poured out on an unbelieving world and also a time of God's great mercy when He reveals to the Jews that Jesus is the Messiah they missed.

We know from Daniel that the 7-year period begins when an evil world ruler known as the antichrist gets a treaty signed involving Israel and other nations. Halfway through the 7 year tribulation the antichrist commits what is known as the "abomination of desolation." This event ushers in the period of time known as the "great tribulation" which lasts the last three and one-half years of the seven year period. The tribulation period ends with the Second Coming of Christ at the Battle of Armageddon.

The Antichrist A yet future evil world ruler. He will be empowered by Satan and then totally possessed by Satan. The antichrist is Satan's counterfeit of Jesus and will attempt to usurp the Kingdom on earth promised to Jesus. He is also referred to as "that man of sin, the son of Perdition" (II Thessalonians 2:2-12), "The Little Horn" (Daniel 7:7-28) and "The Beast" (Revelation 13:1-10)

The Abomination of Desolation (Matthew 24:15; Daniel 9:27; II Thessalonians 2:3-4) At mid-point in the tribulation the Antichrist will go into the Temple in Jerusalem and announce he is God and demand to be worshipped in God's temple as God. This event is

known as the Abomination of Desolation and begins what is known as the Great Tribulation.

The Great Tribulation (Matthew 24:15-26) The last three and one-half years of the 7-year tribulation period. It begins with the “abomination of desolation” and ends with the Second Coming of Christ. It is going to be the worst time of trouble the world will ever experience.

Prophetic viewpoints concerning the resurrection of the saints (rapture) with regard to the Tribulation:

(1) **Pre-tribulation View-** The belief that the resurrection of saints (rapture) occurs before the tribulation.

(2) **Mid-tribulation View-** The belief that the resurrection of saints (rapture) occurs in the middle of the tribulation.

(3) **Post-tribulation View-** The belief that the resurrection of the saints (rapture) occurs at the end of the tribulation.

The Marriage of the Lamb (Rev 19:7-9; II Cor 11:2) The future celebration of the mystical union between Christ and His Church.

The Second Coming of Christ (Revelation 19:11-21; Matthew 24:27-31; Zechariah 14:1-5; I Thessalonians 3:13) Jesus literal bodily return to earth with the angels and saints at the end of the Tribulation. He will appear at the Battle of Armageddon where all the nations are gathered against Jerusalem and He will destroy those who have come to fight.

The Judgment of the Nations (Matthew 25:31-46) Follows the Second Coming of Christ to earth. He will gather all the nations before Him and will purge the evil doers from the earth and allow those who have become believers during the tribulation and are alive at the end of the tribulation to remain on the earth for the Millennium.

The Millennium Refers to the thousand year or Millennial Reign of Christ on the earth. It is also referred to as the “Day of the Lord” or “That Day” It is the same as the long awaited Kingdom associated with the Messiah spoken of all through the Old Testament (Rev 20:1-6; Isaiah 11:1-9; Micah 4:1-7; Zechariah 14)

Prophetic Views regarding the Second Coming of Christ

(1) **Pre-millennial View**- Christ comes at the beginning of the 1,000-year millennium and sets up His kingdom.

(2) **Post-millennial View**- This view holds that we are in the millennium now. It is not a literal 1,000 yr. period. The church will Christianize the world and then Christ will return after this is accomplished.

(3) **A-millennial View**- This view holds that there is no literal 1,000-year reign of Christ on the earth. The First Coming of Christ ushered in the Kingdom and the Second Coming occurs at the consummation of the Kingdom.

Note: There are many variations of beliefs within these general viewpoints.

The Final Uprising (Revelation 20:7-10) After the Millennium, Satan is loosed and deceives the nations into an uprising against Jesus and the saints who are ruling and reigning with Him on earth. Satan is immediately defeated and sent to a place of eternal torment.

The Great White Throne Judgment (Revelation 20:11-15) This judgment takes place at the end of the Millennium. It is a judgment of all who have rejected the finished work of Jesus on their behalf.

The Eternal State (Revelation 21-22) Refers to that glorious time yet future which will last forever. There will be new heavens, new earth and a new Jerusalem.