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truths

Foundational Truth #15a

The Return of Jesus

Part 1

Various Texts

Other Doctrines...

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The Trinity – Tri-Unity of God: God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit

The **Security** of the **Believer**
Living out the Christian Life
And More...

The Return of Jesus Pt. 1

Why study the Return of Jesus or prophecy?

1. The Bible talks about it. It is estimated that about 1 out of every 25 verses has to do with end times. The Second Coming is spoken of **MORE** than the first coming of Christ.

The Return of Jesus Pt. 1

Why study the Return of Jesus or prophecy?

2. Revelation promises a blessing to those who study it. **Revelation 1:3** – **Blessed** is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and **blessed** are those who hear, and who keep what is written in it, for the time is near.

The Return of Jesus Pt. 1

There is debate about end times. One reason for so many views is because there is so much in the Bible about the return of Christ, and **not every detail is given**. The basic doctrine is:

Jesus will physically, visibly and personally return to earth, and God wins!

The Return of Jesus Pt. 1

Eschatology – the study of “end times” or “last things.”

Eschatos – end or final
Ology – study of

The Return of Jesus Pt. 1

There are *varying views* accepted in Christendom, and other views are heresy.

There is **A LOT** of hype about end times, because people want to know the future and how the vents today link with the return of Christ.

The Return of Jesus Pt. 1

Many have set dates only
to find themselves wrong.

*88 Reasons Why the
Rapture Will be in 1988...*

Watch out for hype!!!

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88 REASONS Why The Rapture Will Be In 1988

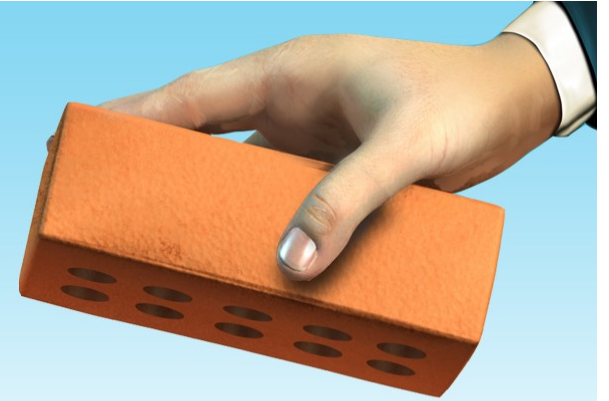
*The Feast of Trumpets (Rosh-Hash-ana)
September 11-12-13*

Edgar C. Whisenant

New Expanded Edition

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Biblical Definitions of End Times Terms



- In your Bible study, witnessing and conversations, it's important to have a **biblical definition** of terms.
- This is particularly important when it comes to the terminology used for eschatology!

The Last Days

The New Testament writers use that term to refer to the time after the resurrection of Jesus: *Acts 2:14-17a* – Peter quotes *Joel 2*.

See also *James 5:3* and *1 Peter 1:20*.

Hebrews 1:1-2a - Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but **in these last days** he has spoken to us by his Son...

The Last Days

There is still a *future* aspect:

2 Timothy 3:1 - But understand this, that **in the last days** there *will come* times of difficulty.

Daniel's 70th Week

Or, The Time of Jacob's Trouble.

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Daniel 9:24-27 (ESV)

“Seventy weeks [*this means 70 7's or 70 groups of 7's, which refers to years*] are decreed about your people and your holy city, to finish the transgression, to put an end to sin, and to atone for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal both vision and prophet, and to anoint a most holy place. Know therefore and understand that from the going out of the word to restore and build Jerusalem to the coming of an anointed one, a prince, there shall be **seven weeks**.

Daniel 9:24-27 (ESV)

Then for **sixty-two weeks** it shall be built again with squares and moat, but in a troubled time. And after the **sixty-two weeks**, an *anointed one* shall be cut off and shall have nothing. And the people of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. Its end shall come with a flood, and to the end there shall be war. Desolations are decreed. 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.

Daniel 9:24-27 (ESV)

And on the wing of abominations shall come one who makes desolate, until the decreed end is poured out on the desolator.”

70 “7’s” of years are decreed = 490 years.

7 “weeks” and 62 “weeks” = 69 “weeks” or 483 years.

There is still 1 “week” left, or a **7 year period**.

Jeremiah 30:7 (ESV)

Alas! That day [*The Day of the Lord*] is so great there is none like it; it is a time of distress [*trouble*] for Jacob; yet he shall be saved out of it.

This is where the other name comes from: *The Time of Jacob's Trouble*. This is what the Bible calls the 7 years. God's wrath is **not** poured out during the entire 7 years. The Bible *doesn't* call God's wrath the "tribulation."

Abomination of Desolation

Daniel 11:29-31 - “At the time appointed he shall return and come into the south, but it shall not be this time as it was before. For ships of Kittim [*Cyprus - Rome*] shall come against him, and he shall be afraid and withdraw, and shall turn back and be enraged and take action against the holy covenant. He shall turn back and pay attention to those who forsake the holy covenant.

Abomination of Desolation

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.**

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Abomination of Desolation

Antiochus Epiphanes
or Antiochus the IV
216-164BC

From Syria. He
travelled to Egypt in
168 BC, and was
told to stop by Rome.



Abomination of Desolation

On his way back up through Israel, he stopped in Jerusalem, slaughtered pigs and threw the blood inside Zerubbabel's Temple which defiled the Sanctuary. He set up a statue of Zeus with his face on it in the Temple and demanded worship.



Abomination of Desolation

Daniel 12:11-12 - 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. Blessed is he who waits and arrives at the 1,335 days.

Abomination of Desolation

Matthew 24:15-16 - “So when you see **the abomination of desolation** spoken of by the prophet Daniel, standing in the **holy place** (let the reader understand), then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains.”

- Some say it happened in 70AD. Even if it did, it **WILL** happen *again* before the return of Jesus.

The Great Tribulation

Matthew 24:17-30 - Let the one who is on the housetop not go down to take what is in his house, and let the one who is in the field not turn back to take his cloak. And alas for women who are pregnant and for those who are nursing infants in those days! Pray that your flight may not be in winter or on a Sabbath.

The Great Tribulation

Matthew 24:17-30 - For **then** there will be **great tribulation**, such as *has not been from the beginning of the world until now, no, and never will be*. And if **those days** had not been cut short, no human being would be saved. But for the sake of the elect **those days** will be cut short. Then if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or 'There he is!' do not believe it.

The Great Tribulation

Matthew 24:17-30 - For false christs and false prophets will arise and perform great signs and wonders, so as to lead astray, if possible, even the elect. See, I have told you beforehand. So, if they say to you, 'Look, he is in the wilderness,' do not go out. If they say, 'Look, he is in the inner rooms,' do not believe it.

The Great Tribulation

Matthew 24:17-30 - For as the lightning comes from the east and shines as far as the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. Wherever the corpse is, there the vultures will gather. Immediately **after** the **tribulation of those days** *the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken.*

The Great Tribulation

Matthew 24:17-30 - **Then** will appear in heaven the sign of the Son of Man, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

The Great Tribulation

- ½ way through Daniel's 70th Week [3.5 years], the **Antichrist** will set himself up in a Temple in Jerusalem and **demand worship!**
- **THEN** the *Great Tribulation* will begin, **NOT** God's wrath!
- Persecution is here and now for believers, and it **will** happen worldwide!

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The Antichrist

“Anti” can mean *“in place of something or someone”* or *“against something or someone,”* or in this case: **BOTH**.

This man will demand to be worshipped!!!

The Antichrist

Daniel 9:27a - And he shall make a strong covenant with many for **one week** [7 years], and for **half of the week** [3.5 years] he shall put an end to sacrifice and offering.

1 John 2:18 - Children, it is the last hour, and as you have heard that **antichrist is coming**, so now *many antichrists* have come. Therefore we know that it is the last hour.

The Antichrist

1 John 2:22 - Who is the liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This is the **antichrist**, he who denies the Father and the Son.

The Antichrist

2 Thessalonians 2:1-12 - Now concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we ask you, brothers, not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by a spirit or a spoken word, or a letter seeming to be from us, to the effect that **the day of the Lord** has come. Let no one deceive you in any way.

The Antichrist

2 Thessalonians 2:1-12 - For that day will not come, unless the rebellion comes first, and the **man of lawlessness** is revealed, the **son of destruction**, who opposes and exalts himself against every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, proclaiming himself to be God.

The Antichrist

2 Thessalonians 2:1-12 - And you know what is restraining him now so that he may be revealed in his time. For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work. Only he who now restrains it will do so until he is out of the way. And then the **lawless one** will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will kill with the breath of his mouth and bring to nothing by the appearance of his coming.

The Antichrist

2 Thessalonians 2:1-12 - The coming of the **lawless one** is by the activity of Satan with all power and false signs and wonders, and with all wicked deception for those who are perishing, because they refused to love the truth and so be saved.

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The Antichrist

2 Thessalonians 2:1-12 - Therefore God sends them a strong delusion, so that they may believe what is false, in order that all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

The Day of the Lord

- This is one of **the major themes** for end times. It is primarily a time of God's judgment or wrath on the world. It may also include a time of blessing for Israel.
- The phrase is used *19 times* in the Old Testament and *5 times* in the New Testament.
- It can be God's *immediate* or *future* judgment and can be called "**that day**" or "**the day.**"

The Day of the Lord

Joel 2:30-31 - “And I will show wonders in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and columns of smoke. The sun shall be turned to darkness, and the moon to blood, **before** the **great and awesome day of the LORD** comes.

The Day of the Lord

Amos 5:18-20 - Woe to you who desire the **day of the LORD!** Why would you have the **day of the LORD?** It is darkness, and not light, as if a man fled from a lion, and a bear met him, or went into the house and leaned his hand against the wall, and a serpent bit him. Is not the **day of the LORD** darkness, and not light, and gloom with no brightness in it?

The Millennium

Revelation 20:1-10 - Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding in his hand the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain. And he seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for **a thousand years**, and threw him into the pit, and shut it and sealed it over him, so that he might not deceive the nations any longer, until **the thousand years** were ended. After that he must be released for a little while.

The Millennium

Revelation 20:1-10 - Then I saw thrones, and seated on them were those to whom the authority to judge was committed. Also I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for the testimony of Jesus and for the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or its image and had not received its mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ for **a thousand years**. The rest of the dead did not come to life until **the thousand years** were ended.

The Millennium

Revelation 20:1-10 - This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy is the one who shares in the first resurrection! Over such the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ, and they will reign with him for **a thousand years**. And when **the thousand years are ended**, Satan will be released from his prison and will come out to deceive the nations that are at the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them for battle; their number is like the sand of the sea.

The Millennium

Revelation 20:1-10 - And they marched up over the broad plain of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city, but fire came down from heaven and consumed them, and the devil who had deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and sulfur where the beast and the false prophet were, and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

The Millennium

The 1000 years is mentioned *6 times!*

The Millennium is what often creates a distinction between end times views.

There are *3 main views* on the Millennium...