

Memory Verse

Joel 2:30-31

I will display wonders in the sky and on the earth, blood, fire and columns of smoke. The sun will be turned into darkness and the moon into blood before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes.

GRACELIFE



CHURCH

History and Prophecy Pt 5

Defining End-Times Terms...

Biblically



One of the *biggest problems, or reasons for miscommunication* and for the *numerous end times views*, is because **words or phrases are misdefined**. This can be based on tradition, assumption, experiences, misinterpreting the Bible, and false ideas handed down from *one generation to another accepted as truth*, etc.

***He can kick a can, and after his job was
in the can, he kicked the can.***

What is the main word:

*He can kick a **can**, and after his job was in the **can**, he kicked the **can**.*

What is the main word: **CAN**.

*He can kick a **can**, and after his job was in the **can**, he kicked the **can**.*

What is the main word: **CAN**.

He is **able** to kick a *metal can*. After his job was **completed**, or "*in the can*," he **died**, or kicked the **can**." In this phrase we have 1 word, "can," used **3 different ways**, in our American culture...

Imagine thousands of years ago, in a *Jewish Middle Eastern world*, where the *language, thinking, and culture* was *different*. *God moved in people to write His word in that culture!* The words and phrases were *understood by them*, but we *struggle*. This is one reason why there are *so many different views* about *eschatology* or the study of end times.

1. The Day of the Lord

Isaiah 2:10-22, Joel 1:15, 2:30-31, Amos 5:18-20, Zephaniah 1:7-14, 2:2, Haggai 2:23, Zechariah 12:8, and more...



Joel 2:30-31 - "I will display wonders in the sky and on the earth, blood, fire and columns of smoke. The sun will be turned into darkness and the moon into blood before the great and awesome **day of the LORD** comes."

Amos 5:18-19 - Alas, you who are longing for the **day of the LORD**, for what purpose *will* the **day of the LORD** be to you? *It will be* darkness and not light; as when a man flees from a lion and a bear meets him, or goes home, leans his hand against the wall and a snake bites him.

This is **THE** *major theme* for prophecy and end times. If you study the last days, you must *study this phrase*. The phrase "*Day of the Lord*" is used **19 times** in the **Old** Testament and **5 times** in the **New**. There are other references: *that day, the day, etc.* It is a *time of God's judgment*. It includes His immediate judgment on Israel or the nations, when the *prophet prophesied*.

All the past "*Days of the Lord*" picture the **final Day of the Lord** when God judges the world in His *wrath* before the return of Jesus. It lasts longer than 24 hours and will be a *worldwide event*. That will *seal the end of the world as we know it*. When does it start? Joel tells us: **AFTER** the sun, moon, and stars go dark. *Before that*, it is **not the Day of the Lord**, and **not God's wrath**.

2. The Last Days

Acts 2:14-17a (Peter quotes from Joel 2), 2 Timothy 3:1, James 5:3, Hebrews 1:1-2a, 1 Peter 1:20, 2 Peter 3:3



Hebrews 1:1-2 - God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways, in these **last days** has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world.

1 Peter 1:20-21 - For He was foreknown before the foundation of the world, but has appeared in these **last times** for the sake of you...

While we are coming closer to what we think of as the "*last days*," the New Testament writers use that term to *refer to the time after the resurrection of Jesus into the future*. So, this phrase has a **present** and **future** reference. In *Hebrews 1:1-2* "*these*" indicates in a broad sense, the "*last days*" *refer to the current Church Age*. However, the "*last days*" also refers to the 70th Week of Daniel...

3. Times of the Gentiles

Daniel 9:24-27, Luke 21:20-24



Luke 21:20-24 - “But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then recognize that her desolation is near. Then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains, and those who are in the midst of the city must leave, and those who are in the country must not enter the city; because these are days of vengeance, so that all things which are written will be

fulfilled. Woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days; for there will be great distress upon the land and wrath to this people; and they will fall by the edge of the sword, and will be led captive into all the nations; and Jerusalem will be trampled under foot by the Gentiles until the **times of the Gentiles are fulfilled."**

The root word translated "*fulfilled*" can be translated, "*to fill, fill up, make/render full,*" or "*consummate.*" This seems to be a Hebrew **figure of speech** referring to *end times* for a *period of time that was going to elapse has passed*, or to a *definite period of time at hand.*

“The times of the Gentiles” began with the Babylonian captivity in 606/605 B.C., when *no divinely appointed Jewish king of the tribe of Judah and family of David has ruled over Israel.* There was a brief respite from Gentile rule for 102 years (165-64 B.C.) during the dynasty of the Maccabees, of *priestly lineage* but had no right to rule over Israel politically...

4. Immanency



The belief that *Christ could return at any moment*. There are wonderful pastors, teachers and ministries that state this, but it is *not taught in the Bible*. The Word of God teaches “**expectancy**” – believers should live life *expecting Christ could return in our lifetime*. There **ARE** events that must take place before *Jesus returns!*

2 Thessalonians 2:1-12 state the apostasy and man of lawlessness, or Antichrist must be revealed before *God's wrath*. He won't be revealed until *half way into Daniel's 70th Week*. Christ could **not** have returned until after Peter died. Jesus told **Peter** how he would die.

Most Jews were *kicked out of Israel* in 132/135 AD. As a nation, they were *exiled for over 1800 years*. The Antichrist and false prophet **can't** set up an *image* (the *Abomination of Desolation*) in a temple structure, if *Israel is not in the land offering sacrifices*? Israel was not back as a nation until 1948.

5. The Tribulation



The belief there are **7 years of God's wrath** at the *end of history*. The Bible **never** calls the final 7 years “*the tribulation.*”

It calls it...

6. Daniel's 70th Week

Daniel 9:24-27



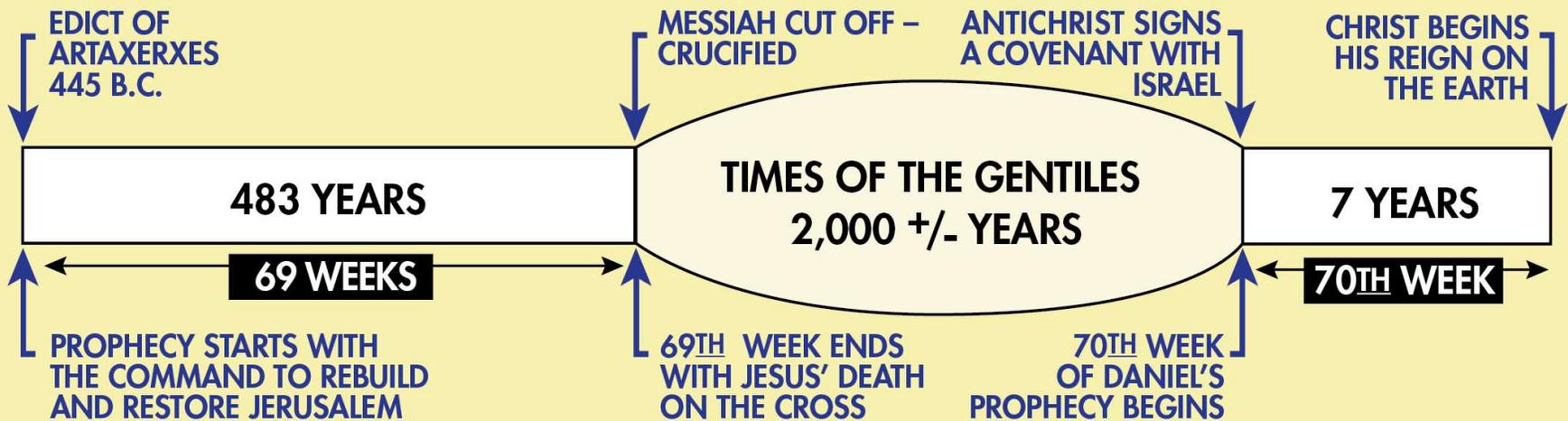
Daniel 9:24-27 - “**Seventy weeks** have been decreed for your people and your holy city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sin, to make atonement for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy and to anoint the most holy *place*. So you are to know and discern *that* from the issuing of a decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until

Messiah the Prince *there will be* **seven weeks** and **sixty-two weeks**; it will be built again, with plaza and moat, even in times of distress. Then after the **sixty-two weeks** the Messiah will be cut off and have nothing, and the people of the prince who is to come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. And its end *will come* with a flood; even to the end there will be war;

desolations are determined. And he will make a firm covenant with the many for **one week**, but in the **middle** of the **week** he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; and on the wing of abominations *will come* one who makes desolate, even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate.”

70 7's of years are decreed or **490 years**. First, is **7 weeks or 49 years**. Then **62 weeks or 434 years**. That equals **69 weeks or 483 years**. Some say the last 7 years was fulfilled, at the *crucifixion of Jesus*, by saying Jesus put an end to the sacrificial system. While He did that, *many details do not fit*.

DANIEL'S PROPHECY OF 70 WEEKS – 490 YEARS



Jesus could not be the *fulfillment of this* as many details do **not** fit.

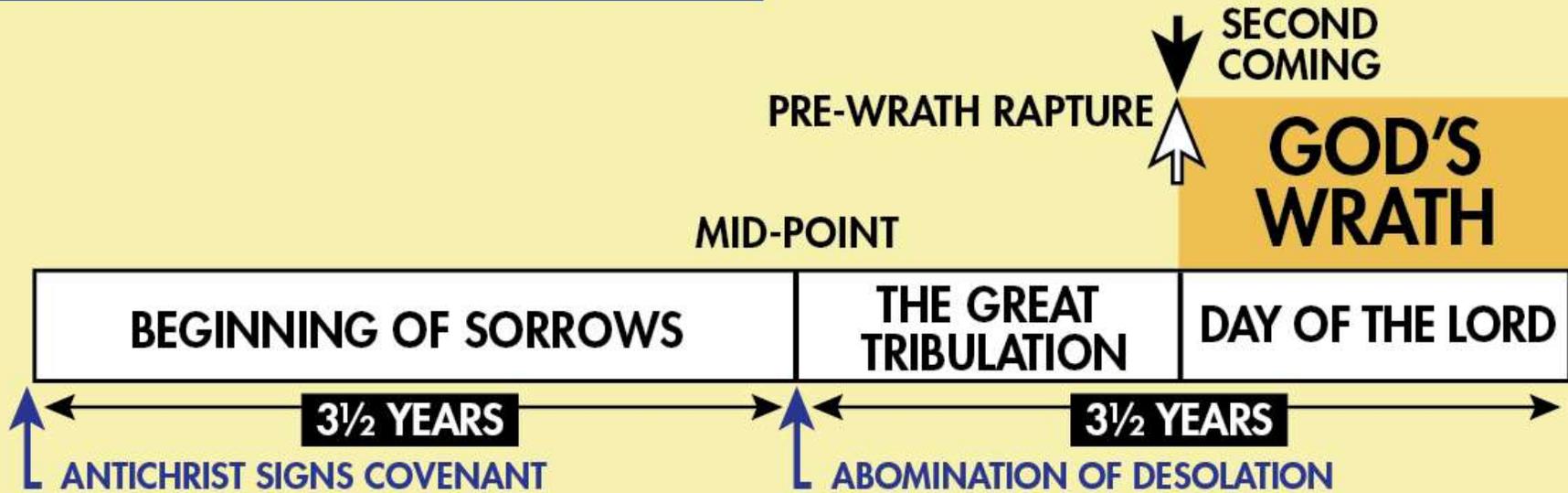
There is **1 “week,”** or **7 years yet to be fulfilled.** This is the *final seven years* of this *evil age, preceding Christ’s return to earth.*

There are three major sections of Daniel's 70th Week:

- 1. *The beginning of sorrows* (Matthew 24:8)**
- 2. *The Great Tribulation* (Matthew 24:21),**
- 3. *The Day of the Lord* (Matthew 24:30-31).**

Daniel's 70th Week is completed before the end of God's wrath, with some overlap.

PRE-WRATH RAPTURE



1

2

3

7. Abomination of Desolation

Daniel 9:27, 11:31, 12:11,
Matthew 24:15-21, 2
Thessalonians 2 (vs. 4)



Daniel 11:31 - Forces from him will arise, desecrate the sanctuary fortress, and do away with the regular sacrifice. And they will set up the **abomination of desolation**.

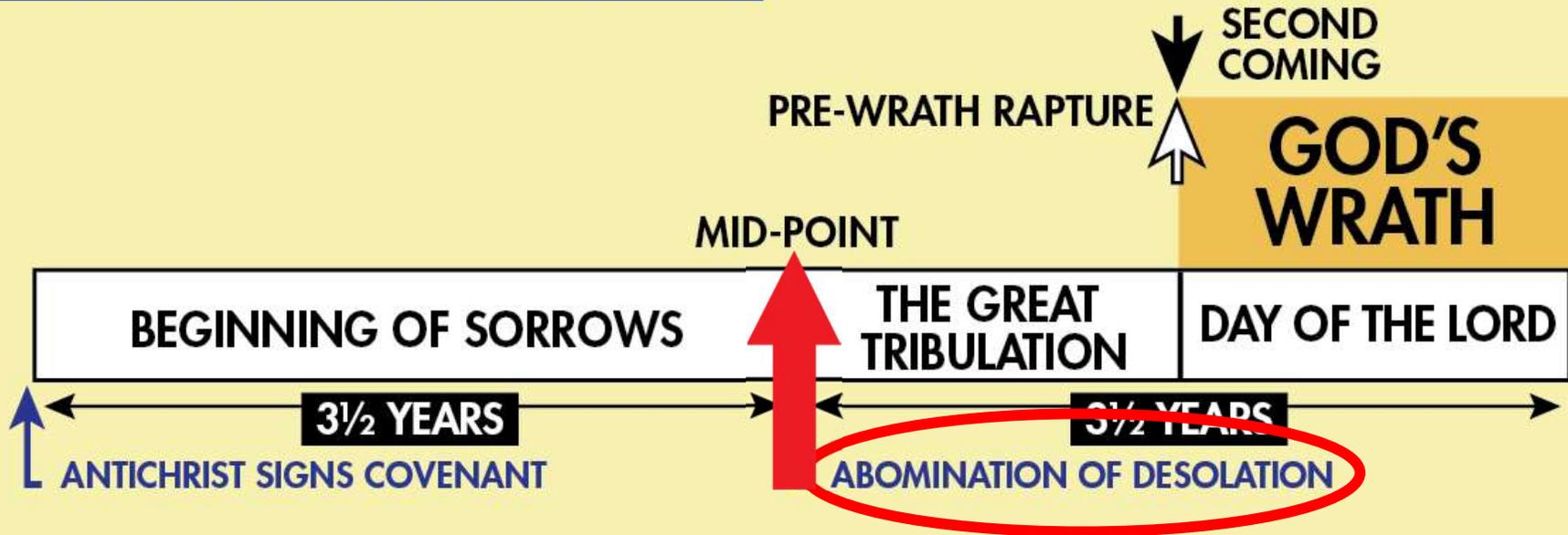
Daniel 12:11 - From the time that the regular sacrifice is abolished and the **abomination of desolation** is set up, *there will be 1,290 days*.

Matthew 24:15-16 - Therefore when you see the **ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION** which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand), then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains.

This is the ***introduction/placement of the image of a man into the temple built for God.*** In 168 B.C., Syrian ruler Antiochus Epiphanes ordered his soldiers kill a pig or pigs on the ***altar of the Temple in Jerusalem and scatter the blood.*** This ***desecrated the Temple.***

He put a statue of Zeus in the Temple with his face on it, and *demanding the Jews worship him*. To the Jewish people, this sacrifice of a ceremonially unclean animal to a heathen deity was a *great abomination*. It *occurred historically* and will occur again in the 70th Week when **Antichrist** has an image in the Temple in Jerusalem, *demanding worship*.

PRE-WRATH RAPTURE



8. The Great Tribulation

Daniel 12:1, Matthew 24:15-30,
Mark 13:24-35, Revelation 6:9-11,
7:9-14

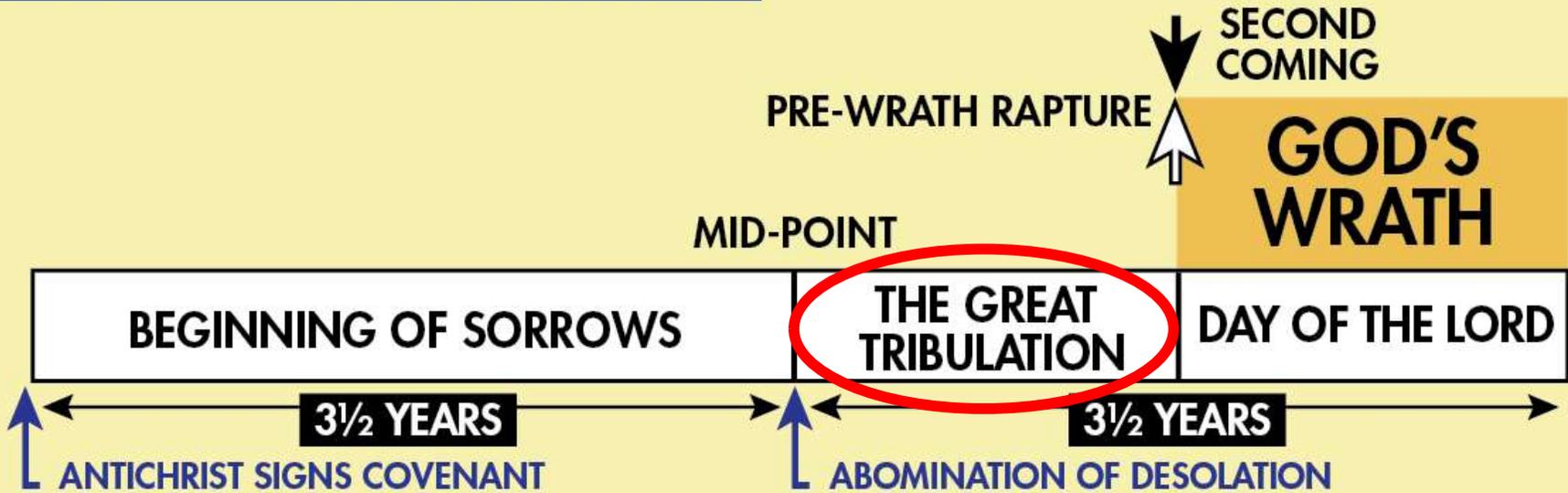


Matthew 24:15-16, 21 - Therefore when you see the **ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION** which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand), then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains... For **then** there will be a **great tribulation**, such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever will.

Some confuse this with the 7-year period. This is *sometimes referred to* as “the time of Jacob’s trouble” (*Jeremiah 30:7, Daniel 12:1, Matthew 24:21*). The **great tribulation begins** at the *middle of the Seventieth Week* and is the time when the *nation of Israel* (and Christians) will experience its greatest time of persecution.

This will *impact the world*, but will be **centered** in Israel. The Great Tribulation begins in the *middle of Daniel's 70th Week* but does **not** continue until its end. It will be cut short by *cosmic disturbance* (*Matthew 24:22, Mark 13:24-25*). This is **not** *God's wrath*. It is connected with the *5th seal of Revelation 6*, and the multitude in *Revelation 7:14...*

PRE-WRATH RAPTURE



9. The Time of Jacob's Trouble

Jeremiah 30:7, Daniel 12:1,
Luke 21:20-22



Jeremiah 30:7 - Alas! for that day is great, there is none like it; and it is the **time of Jacob's distress (*trouble*)**, but he will be saved from it.

Sometimes called "*the great tribulation*" this is a time of *distress* or *great trouble* for the Israel. *Jeremiah 30* gives the full context. It will be a *time of sorrow*, but God will *rescue and restore* them out of it. This is His chastening because of their sins (*Jeremiah 30:15*), through the Gentile nations (*30:11*)...

10. The Antichrist

Daniel 9:27a, 1 John 2:18, 22,
2 Thessalonians 2:1-12,
Revelation 13:1-10, 19:20-21,
20:10
and more...



2 Thessalonians 2:3-4 - Let no one in any way deceive you, for *it* [the Day of the Lord] *will not come* unless the apostasy comes first, and the **man of lawlessness** is revealed, the **son of destruction**, who opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, **displaying himself as being God.**

1 John 2:18 - Children, it is the last hour; and just as you heard that **antichrist** is coming, even now **many antichrists** have appeared; from this we know that it is the last hour.

John says *anyone who denies* Jesus is Messiah and denies the Father and Son is an antichrist (**1 John 2:22-23**). He also says there is a specific person coming who will **oppose** and try to **be in the place of** Jesus. He is the man of lawlessness and son of destruction (**2 Thessalonians 2:3-4**), and will have an **image** of himself set up and demand to be worshipped as God.