

# Glossary

## **Glossary of Pre-Tribulation Rapture Terms**

## Abomination of Desolation:

When the Antichrist sits down in the rebuilt Jewish Temple and declares himself to be God, the great tribulation of 42 months will then begin. At the occurrence of this event, the Jews living in Israel are commanded to flee into the wilderness. All tribulation saints will know, from that day on, they must now wait 1260 days before the Lord returns. (Dan 9:27), (Mat 24:15-19)

#### Amillennialism:

(prefix "a," "no"). The belief that there is no literal 1000-year reign of Christ. Thus Revelation 20 is taken symbolically, not literally, by adherents of this view. Amillennialists generally believe that Israel has been permanently set aside for all time and that God's current plan of salvation involves only the Church.

#### Antichrist:

Often described as the most evil man that will ever live. He will arrive on the world scene and appear to be the world's savior, but everyone on earth will soon learn his real mission will be one of destruction. Also called the man of lawlessness (or sin), Gog, the son of destruction (or perdition) (1 John 2:18) , (Rev 13:1-8)

#### Apostacy, The:

In the end times, the Bible predicts a great falling away or departure from the faith. Because we have experienced a number of generations where people have rebelled against God, the one that occurs leading up to the tribulation will likely surpass prior apostasies. The Greek word apostasy was originally used to describe a revolt staged by a military commander.(2 Thes 2:3), (Mat 24:11-13)

## Armageddon:

Armageddon comes from the Hebrew word meaning "the Mount of Megiddo." This ancient fortress is located in northern Israel, across the Plain of Esdraelon from Nazareth. Armageddon will be the gathering place for the final great battle, which bears its name.

(Rev 16:16)

## Church Age:

The "Church Age" began on the day of Pentecost and will end at with rapture of the church before the beginning of the tribulation. Many dispensationalists believe the Church is the reason why there is a gap between Daniel's 69th and 70th week.

(Dan 9:24-27)

## Damascus:

The city of Damascus has been around for thousands of years and it has never been destroyed in battle. The Prophet Isaiah predicted that someday this city would be destroyed. Isaiah 17:1 The burden of Damascus. Behold, Damascus is taken away from [being] a city, and it shall be a ruinous heap.

## Dispensationalism:

The view that believes God's dealings with men have proceeded through well-defined time periods, in each of which God reveals a particular purpose to be accomplished in that period, to which men respond in faith or unbelief.

## Dragon:

The dragon is the symbolic name given to representative the devil. Satan is also described as "that old serpent."

(Rev 20:2)

## Eastern Gate:

The Eastern Gate has a very important prophet role to play. It is the only gate that is currently blocked. The book of Ezekiel foretold that it would be shut and the only one who will open it will be the "Prince" Jesus (Ezek 44:1-3)

#### Eschatology:

The study of things that relate to the end times. That which relates to the final events in the history of mankind, which is a big word to impress your friends.

## False Church:

During the first part of the tribulation, the Antichrist's rise to power will be aided by a religious system, which will include most, if not all, of the world's major religions. During the second half of the tribulation the Antichrist will destroy this false church. The book of Revelation describes the false churches as the great whore.

(Rev 17:1-5)

## **False Prophet:**

He will administrate the workings of the one-world church. The False Prophet's primary mission will be to cause the world to worship the Antichrist. (Rev 13:11-14)

## Gog And Magog:

Most prophetic scholars agree that Gog and Magog were the people that lived in the lands, which are now modern Russia. Someday Russia and a horde of Middle East countries will launch a surprise attack against Israel. All but one sixth of the Gog army will be destroyed upon the mountains of Israel. (Ezek 38 and 39)

## Historicism:

Historicism relates the timing of the current church age through the day/year theory. The day/year theory takes numbers such as the 2,300 days (Dan 8:14) and 1,290 days (Dan 12:11) and declares them to be years. They also relate the seal, trumpet, and bowl judgments to major historical events that have occurred throughout the past 2,000 years. For example, the fifth seal in Revelation 6 may be identified as the martyrdom under Roman Emperor Diocletian (A.D. 284-304). The Pope is commonly looked at as being the Antichrist. Historicism is the view held by the Mormons, the Seventh-day Adventists, and the Jehovah's Witnesses.

## Jacob's Trouble:

Called by Jeremiah as "the time of Jacob's trouble" and by Daniel as "the time of distress such as never occurred," this event will take place during the 3 1/2 year reign of antichrist. The time of Jacob's trouble will be a time of great suffering on earth. The suffering will be brought on by the actions of the Antichrist and by the wrath of God being poured out on a sinful world. (Jer 30:7)

## Judgment, Great White Throne:

This judgment is predominately for the unsaved. It is also believed to be a more stern judgment than the Judgment seat of Christ. It is here where all those that are not found written in the book of life are cast into the lake of fire. (Rev 20:11-15)

## Judgment Seat Of Christ:

Immediately after the rapture, the church will receive rewards according to what they have done on earth, whether it be good or bad. The Judgment seat of Christ is for believers only. (2 Cor 5:10), (Rom 14:10-12), (Rev 11:15-18)

#### Kings of the East:

And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared. I believe the kings of the east will likely be or will largely include the nation of China. (Rev 16:12)

#### Lake of Fire:

The lake of fire is the final abode for all the lost, the Devil and all of his co-workers. Everyone that's condemned to this fiery inferno will suffer unrelenting eternal torment. (Rev 20:15)

## Little Horn:

Daniel the prophet described seeing a little horn rising out from among ten other horns. The little horn is clearly another representation of the antichrist, because Daniel's accounting aligns with the apostle John's Revelation 13 description of the Antichrist.

(Dan 7:7-8), (Dan 7:19-25)

## Mark of The Beast:

"He causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name." The Mark of the Beast will likely be a microchip implant that operates like an ATM or credit card. Remember, everyone who receives the Mark of the Beast will be cast into hell, so don't take the mark!

(Rev 13:16-18)

## Millennium:

After the tribulation, Jesus Christ will set up an earthly Kingdom where he will rule for 1000 years. (Rev 20:3-4)

## Preterism:

The belief that nearly all prophetic events have already occurred. The year 70 AD is a popular date where Preterists claim that the book of Revelation was fulfilled. Under preterism you are basically left to just waiting for Jesus to return.

## Progressive Dispensationalism:

A recent form of dispensationalism, which emphasizes the present spiritual reign of Christ on David's throne.

## Rapture:

At an unknown hour and day the Lord Jesus will descend from heaven, while remaining in the air, he will snatch his Bride, the Church, out from among this sinful world. Christ then takes the Church to heaven for the 7 year wedding feast. The earthly reason for the removal of the Church is to make way for the rise of Antichrist and to fulfill Daniel's final 70th week.

(Mat 25:13), (1 Thes 4:16-18), (1 Cor 15:51-54)

## Red Heifer:

The Bible predicts that the Jewish Temple will be rebuilt in Jerusalem. Ever since the 70 AD destruction, one major roadblock barring the reconstruction of the Temple is the fact that the Temple Mount area has been defiled by warfare. In order to cleanse the tribulation Temple Mount for worship, the Jews will need the ashes of a pure red heifer. Numbers chapter 19 describes how King Solomon cleansed the first Temple with the ashes of a specially prepared red heifer.

(Num 19:2-9)

## Replacementism

Replacement theology is the view that Israel, having failed God, has been replaced by the Church around 70 AD. The Church is now seen as spiritual Israel and spiritual Jerusalem. This teaching claims that all the

promises and blessings, in fact Israel's entire inheritance, now belongs to the Church. However, all is not lost for Israel; it gets to keep all the curses.

## Restrainer, The:

The presence of the Holy Spirit on earth currently is what restrains the forces of evil. The Holy Spirit resides in the lives of all believers, which is why Christians are called the "salt of the earth." When the Church is removed at the rapture, most of the restraining power of the Holy Spirit will be removed as well. (2 Thes 2:7), (Mat 5:13)

## Rosh Hashanah:

The Jewish festival of the civil New Year celebrated on the first and second days of the month Tishri. During this holiday trumpets are blown as a call for repentance. Many Christians look towards Rosh Hashanah as a possible time for the rapture.

(Num 10:1-10)

#### Second Coming:

This is the time when Jesus Christ will return, defeat the Antichrist, and set up his 1000 year kingdom on earth. The second coming is not the rapture. The rapture takes place approximately 7 years prior to the second coming. Another important difference between the two is that the rapture will occur at an unknown time while the second coming will take place 42 months after the Antichrist declares himself to be God. (Rev 13:5), (Mat 25:13)

#### Tribulation:

A period of time lasting 7 years, the first 3 1/2 years will be relatively peaceful as the antichrist rises to power. The second 3 1/2 years will bring the greatest suffering in human history as the wrath of God and the Antichrist is poured out on earth. (Dan 9:27), (Mat 24:21)

Witnesses, Two:

During the tribulation, two men will prophesy in the streets of Jerusalem. These two witnesses of God will have the power to prevent it from raining on the earth, to call fire down from heaven, to turn bodies of water into blood, and to command a number of other plagues. After they preach for 42 months, the Antichrist will be allowed to kill them. Three and 1/2 days later they will be resurrected and raptured up to heaven. Some scholars say the two men could be Elijah and Enoch or Moses and Elijah. (Rev 11:3-13), (Mal 4:5-6)

#### Wrath of God, The:

The Wrath of God is poured out on man at the midpoint of the tribulation. The people of earth will come under God's wrath because they refuse to turn from their wicked ways. Those that receive the Antichrist Mark will not only come under God's wrath, but will be lost forever. (1 Thes 1:10),(1 Thes 5:9), (Rev 14:9-11)

## 10 Nation Confederation – Toes; Horns; Kings:

Out of the area that once was the Roman Empire, ten leaders will arise. The only purpose these 10 leaders will have is to give their power to the Antichrist. (Dan 2:41-44), (Dan 7:20), (Rev 17:12), (Rev 17:17)

(Rev 17:17)

## 70th Week:

The final seven years of Gentile domination of the nation of Israel and the city of Jerusalem; the last week of the seventy weeks of years (490 years) of Daniel's prophecy which will begin after the long interval. (Dan 9:27)

## 144,000 Jewish Saints:

Before the Antichrist administers his mark, God will send an angel to mark the foreheads of 144,000 Jews – 12,000 from each of the 12 tribes. The 144,000 sealed Jews will apparently be commissioned to be a witness to the Gentiles during the tribulation.

(Rev 7:2-8)

## 200 Million Man Army, The:

During the latter part of the tribulation an Oriental army of some 200 million strong, will move into the Middle East, crossing over the dried up Euphrates River. This army, guided by four demonic angels, will kill one third of mankind.

(Rev 9:14-16), (Rev 16:12)

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