

101 Answers to the Most Asked Questions about the End Times (End Times Answers)

Hitchcock, Mark

Section 1: General Questions about Prophecy and the End Times

Location 105

prophecy calls us to live our lives in conformity with God's Word.

Note - Location 106

Reason for prophecy.

Location 121

27 percent of the Bible is prophecy,

Location 129

In order to accurately predict the future, one must either be omniscient (know everything), omnipresent (be present everywhere), and omnipotent (possess all power)—or have a direct connection with the One who does meet those requirements.

Note - Location 131

Requirements in order to accurately predict the future 100%.

Location 156

and there are differing views on numerous subjects in the Bible. We should not allow this to scare

Location 173

there are three main theories of the end times: amillennialism, premillennialism, and postmillennialism.

Note - Location 174

3 millennial positions.

Location 182

Two of these points of agreement are essential: 1. All three of these views believe that Jesus Christ is King of kings and Lord of lords and that He rules or will rule over a glorious kingdom. 2. All three of these views hold that Jesus

Christ will one day return to this world literally, physically, visibly, and gloriously as the judge of all the earth.

Location 197

The difference between these views revolves around three key issues: 1. When will Jesus reign? (the timing of His reign) 2. How will Jesus reign? (the nature of His reign) 3. Where will Jesus reign? (the place of His reign)

Location 203

Amillennium literally means “no millennium.”

Location 204

Amillennialists do believe in a period in which Christ reigns, just not a literal thousand-year kingdom.

Location 205

amillennial position is the dominant view of modern

Location 206

held by the Roman Catholic church, the Greek Orthodox church, and a large portion of Protestantism.

Location 207

view of reformers John Calvin and Martin Luther.

Location 209

Amillennialists believe that the kingdom of Christ is happening now: between Jesus' first and second comings.

Location 209

not a literal period of one thousand years, but is symbolic of a “long period of time.”

Location 215

Amillennialists do not hold to either a literal seven-year period of tribulation before the second coming of Christ or a literal thousand-year period of reign after His second coming.

Location 225

Premillennialists hold that the millennial kingdom will be a physical, earthly kingdom of one thousand literal years in which Jesus Christ will rule and reign over the earth from His earthly throne in Jerusalem.

Location 227

Premillennialism was the view of the early church.

Location 227

held by such early church fathers as Papias, Clement of Rome, Barnabas, Ignatius, Polycarp, and Justin Martyr. After the third century, it began to wane and was replaced by amillennialism as the prevailing view.

Location 229

currently a popular way of understanding the last days.

Location 230

Hal Lindsey, John MacArthur, Tim LaHaye, and Charles Swindoll.

Location 234

He will return at the end of a literal seven-year period of terrible judgment (the Tribulation).

Location 244

FUTURE EVENTS ACCORDING TO THE PREMILLENNIAL SYSTEM 1. Increase of religious apostasy (turning away from the truth) as the church age draws to a close. 2. The rapture of the church (resurrection of dead saints/translation of living saints). 3. Seven-year tribulation period on earth. 4. The second coming of Christ to earth. 5. The campaign of Armageddon. 6. The millennial reign of Christ on earth. 7. The Great White Throne Judgment. 8. The creation of a new heaven and new earth. 9. Eternity.

Location 254

Postmillennialism is very similar to amillennialism in that both of these systems maintain that the Millennium is the period between the first and second comings of Christ and is not a literal one thousand years.

Location 256

Postmillennialists believe that the church will “Christianize” the world during this present kingdom age, thus paving the way for the return of Christ.

Location 259

the prevailing millennial view of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

Location 261

However, the outbreak of World War I, followed closely by World War II, dealt postmillennialism a blow from which it has never fully recovered.

Location 264

the Millennium is the entire period of time between the first and second comings of Christ.

Location 265

For postmillennialists, Jesus' reign is spiritual and political.

Location 266

golden age that will be ushered in by the church

Location 304

Whichever of these systems you hold to determines how you will interpret hundreds of passages in the Bible.

Location 313

PREMIL: • Promises of God; • Resurrection in Revelation 20: 4–6; • Earliest View; • Most Natural Reading of Revelation 20: 1–6; • Imprisonment of Satan; • Literal One Thousand Years in Revelation 20:

Note - Location 316

Reasons why Pre-Mil is best view.

Location 319

Premillennialism is the only one of these systems that allows for the literal fulfillment of God's promises or covenants with Abraham and David.

Location 334

Christ must literally sit on David's throne on earth and rule over David's kingdom, the nation of Israel, in order for this covenant to be fulfilled.

Location 352

Amillennialists and postmillennialists argue that this resurrection refers to spiritual resurrection or conversion. However, of the forty-two times the Greek word used here for resurrection (anastasis) is used in the New Testament, forty-one times it refers to bodily resurrection. It stands to reason that this is what it means here as well.

Location 391

All the prophecies of Christ's first coming were fulfilled literally in the person and work of our Savior. It makes sense to believe that the prophecies of Christ's second coming will also be fulfilled literally.

Location 423

Tarshish was the farthest western region in the known world. It corresponds to the modern nation of Spain.

Location 433

America is not mentioned in Bible prophecy.

Location 448

the Scriptural evidence is sufficient to conclude that America in that day will not be a major power and apparently does not figure largely in either the political, economic, or religious aspects of the world. 4

Location 456

America will become a third-rate nation overnight at the Rapture. The Rapture will be God's judgment on America.

Note - Location 456

The rapture will cause the US to be 3rd rate nation overnight.

Location 459

Millions of home mortgages would go unpaid, the stock market would crash, and millions of productive workers would be suddenly removed from the workforce.

Location 461

will not be a key player on her own but rather only a part of the Antichrist's Western confederacy of nations.

Location 475

When the Rapture occurs and the U.S. is reduced to a third-rate power, she will find her place with the other nations of the reunited Roman Empire in Antichrist's kingdom.

Location 485

Israel would be regathered and restored

Note - Location 485

#1 sign for the end times is that Israel would be restored.

Location 487

began in 1948

Location 488

Israel must exist as a sovereign nation for many prophecies in Scripture to be fulfilled.

Location 505

Now that the Jews are back in their land, the hammer of the endtimes' gun has been cocked.

Location 509

reuniting of the Roman Empire.

Location 510

ten-kingdom confederation of nations reunited from the old Roman Empire and ruled over by Antichrist. It will be "Rome II."

Location 511

Daniel 2 and 7,

Location 548

three key points that prove that this fifth great empire will be ruling the world when Christ returns.

Location 550

iron and clay are an extension of the iron legs,

Location 550

ten horns and the little horn (Antichrist) are on the head of the fourth beast,

Location 552

stone that strikes the statue, destroying the ten toes, is considered by most Bible scholars to represent Jesus' return.

Location 555

little horn in Daniel 7: 8, which is usually understood to be the Antichrist, rules over the ten horns on the fourth beast.

Location 558

European Union seems to be a direct fulfillment of Daniel's prophecy.

Location 569

"Back Together Again." When had the nations of Europe ever been together? Only during the days of the Roman Empire.

Location 575

All that remains is for ten of the nations in the mix to rise to the top and form a consolidated common government.

Location 577

this event and the regathering and rebirth of Israel are the two key signs of the end times.

Location 598

Nevertheless, however one interprets those passages, the Bible is clear that the world will not be destroyed by man or any man-made disaster.

Location 605

it is God Himself who will “push the button” to destroy this world, not some Middle Eastern madman. The God who created this world is in total control of His creation. There’s not a maverick molecule in this vast universe. No man will ever destroy this earth. God has reserved that right for Himself.

Location 612

Isaac Newton predicted that the day would come when the volume of knowledge would be so increased that man would be able to travel at speeds of up to fifty miles per hour. In response to this suggestion, the atheist Voltaire cast great ridicule on Newton and the Bible.

Note - Location 614

Voltaire criticizing Newton.

Location 618

90 percent of all the scientists who have ever lived are alive today.

Location 619

Fifty percent of the world’s inventions have been created in the last ten years.

Location 619

Internet is currently doubling in size every seven months.

Location 630

I do not believe this increase in general knowledge is a sign of the end times.

Location 630

Daniel 12: 4 does not describe a last days explosion of knowledge in general, but an increase of a particular kind of knowledge: knowledge of God’s plan for the end.

Location 633

Daniel 12: 4 is talking about men who, in the last days, will run to and fro studying the book of Daniel and other prophetic books in the Bible to find answers about what in the world is going on.

Location 638

For the final generation during the Tribulation period, the end-time prophecies of Scripture will read like the daily newspaper.

Location 644

The temple mount in Jerusalem is the most sacred thirty-five-acre piece of land in the world. Three major world religions—Judaism, Islam, and Christianity—claim it as one of their most holy sites.

Location 646

four Jewish temples that have stood or will stand in the future on this sacred site:

Location 655

the Antichrist will make a seven-year covenant (one week of years) with Israel, allowing the Jewish people to offer sacrifices in the temple. Then, after three and a half years, he will rescind the covenant. If sacrifices and offerings are to be offered by the Jewish people, it seems clear that there must be a rebuilt temple in Jerusalem.

Location 677

But how will the Jews ever be able to rebuild their temple with the Dome of the Rock on the same piece of real estate without triggering World War III? To me, this is one of the thorniest problems in all of Bible prophecy.

Location 679

First, some believe that it may be possible to rebuild the temple without disturbing the Dome of the Rock. The Jewish temple and Muslim Dome of the Rock could stand side by side on the temple mount.

Location 683

second solution that has been proposed is that God will send some great disaster such as an earthquake that will destroy the Muslim structures on the temple mount.

Location 685

the Antichrist comes to power, he will broker a peace treaty between Israel and the Arabs. Part of that plan would include giving Israeli sovereignty over the temple mount area.

Location 689

This may, in fact, be the event that catapults him onto the international political scene as the world's messiah.

Location 690

fourth possibility is that the annihilation of Russia and her Muslim allies (as detailed in Ezekiel 38–39) will eliminate the Muslim threat to the Jews, thus allowing them to tear down the Dome of the Rock and Al-Aqsa Mosque and rebuild their temple without fear of reprisal.

Location 715

These teachers claim that the alleged codes in the Hebrew text of the Old Testament can be discovered by using computers to search for the letters of specific words that occur at a specific interval or spacing. The process is referred to as equidistant letter sequencing

Location 721

the whole notion of Bible codes should be approached with great caution.

Location 723

incredible separation in the letters makes this whole process suspect.

Location 726

it seems you can find whatever you want to find.

Location 726

the uniqueness of these codes to the Scripture is yet to be proven.

Location 735

Fourth, there is absolutely no biblical support for this practice.

Location 736

Fifth, even if these hidden codes can be proven to be valid, they still will not provide any information about the last days.

Location 738

We already know all of the information that has been revealed in these codes.

Location 739

The only way these codes can possibly be validated is after the fact,

Location 741

Sixth, the Bible is full of straightforward prophecies.

Location 742

much better off to turn to these passages and study their clear meaning

Location 753

Most of the passages in the New Testament that discuss the moral and spiritual trends in the last days focus on the spiritual apostasy that will occur in the church, not in society in general.

Location 755

familiar passage in 2 Timothy 3: 1–9 that lists the kinds of behavior that will characterize “the last days” is primarily describing apostasy or falling away that will take place within the church

Location 756

Apostasy (departure from the faith) within the church is a clear sign of the last days

Location 757

we can safely assume that spiritual apostasy in the church will translate into moral decline in society as a whole.

Location 758

The only passage that specifically mentions the increase of lawlessness in society as a whole as a sign of the last days is Matthew 24:

Note - Location 759

Only passage that speaks of lawlessness as a whole.

Location 760

sinfulness of man will reach a fever pitch,

Location 762

It is difficult to quantify the sinfulness of man.

Location 765

What we should do is recognize that as the end draws near, sin will run rampant in society, and love of people for one another will grow cold.

Location 769

destroy one-third of all the people on earth.

Location 771

200 million is viewed as parallel with the kings from the east in Revelation 16:

Location 772

China could amass an army

Location 773

weapons used by this army is similar to a scene of modern warfare;

Location 780

describing all the armies of the world invading Israel at Armageddon

Location 788

an armada of demonic invaders that assault the earth during the Tribulation.

Location 791

Because the fifth trumpet judgment is clearly a demonic invasion of earth, it would stand to reason that the sixth trumpet judgment would imply a demonic army, too.

Location 793

Since the leaders are four fallen angels, it makes sense that the troops they are leading are also demons (Revelation 9:

Location 795

The fearsome description in Revelation 9: 17–19 would better apply to supernatural beings than to modern warfare.

Location 796

Bible has other examples of supernatural cavalry.

Location 799

weapons that are mentioned—fire, brimstone, and smoke—are always supernatural weapons in the Bible.

Location 803

overrun with demons who afflict men with great pain (Revelation 9: 10) and ultimately slay one-third of the people on earth (9: 15, 18).

Note - Location 804

Daemons overrun earth during tribulation and kill 1/3 of mankind.

Location 814

Putting these clues together reveals that Babylon will be the great religious, economic capital of the Antichrist's kingdom in the last days.

Location 822

Geographical locations throughout Revelation seem to be literal

Location 830

Babylon is the second most mentioned city in the Bible (behind Jerusalem).

Location 831

Babylon is depicted as the epitome of evil and rebellion against God.

Location 833

capital city of the first world ruler, Nimrod

Location 836

Since Babylon is pictured throughout Scripture as Satan's capital on earth, it makes sense that in the end times he will once again raise up this city as the capital of the final world ruler.

Location 842

Babylon fits the criteria as described in Revelation 17–

Location 851

Zechariah records an incredible vision

Location 873

since the city of Babylon was never destroyed suddenly and completely as predicted in Isaiah 13 and Jeremiah 50–51, these passages must refer to a future city of Babylon, one that will be totally destroyed in the Day of the Lord.

Location 893

The city of Babylon will be rebuilt in the last days to serve as the religious and commercial capital for the Antichrist's empire.

Location 903

The leader of this offensive is called Gog, who is identified as the prince of Rosh.

Location 914

the weight of evidence favors taking rosh as a proper name.

Location 1028

Greek word apokalupsis, which means to uncover, to unveil, or to take the lid off something. In other words, the purpose of this book is not to hide the truth from us or make it confusing, but for Jesus Christ to take the lid off the future so we can know about the end times.

Location 1043

main theme of the book is the second coming of Jesus Christ and the events that immediately precede and follow it.

Location 1051

book in three sections:

Location 1056

most of what is in the book is not really new information.

Location 1057

Revelation is the Grand Central Station of the Bible because it's where all the trains of thought from the whole Bible meet.

Location 1060

Revelation therefore is not so much giving us new information as it is putting all the scattered pieces from the Old Testament into a comprehensive sequence of events.

Location 1063

fifth and final key to understanding Revelation is to correctly interpret the symbols in the book.

Location 1071

The infallible guide to the meaning of these symbols is God's Word.

Location 1073

the Bible itself will explain what these symbols mean either by direct statement or through a comparison of the usage of the symbol elsewhere in the Scriptures.

Location 1075

Bible does use symbols, it is consistent in the usage of symbols.

Location 1081

Believers in the early church were consistently told to be on the lookout for the coming of Christ.

Location 1095

we are to be sober-minded, clearheaded, and mentally alert for the purpose of prayer.

Location 1098

The badge of Christianity is love

Location 1099

deep was used in ancient times of a horse at full gallop when its muscles were stretched to the limit.

Location 1107

As this world becomes a colder and more isolated place, we are to keep our homes open and show the warmth of Christ to strangers.

Location 1112

As we see the curtain about to rise on the final act of history, we hear the Lord calling us to keep our hands busy, using for His service the gifts He has given us.

Section 2: The Rapture

1212

We get the word rapture from Latin. In 1 Thessalonians 4: 17, the Greek word harpazo (which means to snatch, to seize, or to take away) was translated in the Latin versions of Scripture with the word rapturo, which was brought over to English as rapture.

Location 1222

there are three passages that most fully describe the Rapture of the church: John 14: 1–3; 1 Corinthians 15: 50–57; and 1 Thessalonians 4:

Location 1246

In the New Testament, a mystery is a truth that is being revealed by God for the first time.

Location 1247

mystery of the Rapture is that some people will go to heaven and receive new, glorified bodies without ever dying.

Location 1284

None of the key New Testament passages that deal with the Tribulation mention the presence of the church.

Location 1297

now live is described as the age of restraint.

Location 1318

the restrainer should be understood as God's Holy Spirit working in and through the church.

Location 1318

It's not just the Holy Spirit and not just the church. It's both,

Location 1331

For when the church is removed at the rapture, the Holy Spirit goes with the church insofar as His restraining power is concerned.

Location 1336

At the Rapture, the Spirit-indwelt church and its restraining influence will be removed.

Location 1336

way will be cleared for Satan to put his plan into full swing by bringing his man onto center stage to take control of the world.

Location 1339

The Bible promises that God's people are exempt from the coming wrath of the tribulation period (1 Thessalonians 1: 9–10; 5: 9; Revelation 3:

Location 1346

it is against God's character to destroy the righteous with the wicked when He pours out His judgment.

Location 1349

“Because you have kept the word of My perseverance, I also will keep you from the hour of testing, that hour which is about to come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth. I am coming quickly.” (Revelation 3: 10–11a)

Location 1358

twelve references

Location 1359

The fact that they are mentioned twelve times makes them key players in Bible prophecy.

Location 1361

church,

Location 1361

Eight clues in Revelation

Location 1361

twenty-four elders represent the raptured church.

Location 1368

these twenty-four elders represent the glorified church in heaven.

Location 1372

Christians are called a holy priesthood (1 Peter 2: 5). I believe that the twenty-four elders of Revelation represent the larger group of priests—the whole church of Jesus Christ.

Location 1376

cannot be angels because angels are never pictured in Scripture as wearing crowns.

Location 1400

Rapture is presented in the New Testament as an event that from man's viewpoint could occur at any moment,

Location 1402

Only the pretrib position allows for an imminent, any moment, signless coming of Christ for His own.

Location 1406

Bible indicates that the any moment coming of Christ should fill believers with hope, anticipation, and motivation for godly living. Any day might be the day. Only pretrib believers can experience this joy, since they are the only group for whom the Rapture is imminent.

Location 1415

blessed hope of the Rapture is that Jesus will come and take us to be with Him—before the time of worldwide devastation is unleashed. And what a comfort and blessing it is!

Location 1449

Byzantine leader Pseudo-Ephraem entitled *On the Last Times, the Antichrist, and the End of the World* or *Sermon on the End of the World* includes a concept very similar to the pretrib rapture, though it was delivered more than one thousand years before the writings of John Nelson Darby.

Location 1461

the pretrib rapture position is not a recent view, after all. It was held and preached possibly as early as A.D. 373.

Location 1464

The Bible limits the participants in the Rapture to church-age believers, that is, those who have trusted in Christ as their Savior between the Day of Pentecost and the day of the Rapture. This is why the Rapture is often more specifically called “the rapture of the church.”

Location 1473

Old Testament saints as well. They will be resurrected at the end of the tribulation period.

Location 1492

everlasting contempt.” (Daniel 12: 1–2) Once again, the dead will arise,

Location 1500

Scripture that addresses this subject. Nevertheless, I believe we can find an answer that is both biblically sound and satisfying for loving

Location 1512

all young children go to heaven when they die even if they have never put saving faith in Christ, many

Location 1532

when God sends cataclysmic judgment, He rescues both the believer and his children but allows unbelievers and their children to face judgment.

Location 1534

during the Tribulation the young children of unbelievers will have the opportunity to believe in Christ as they come of age. Those who die during the Tribulation before they are old enough to understand the claims of the gospel will be taken to heaven to be with Christ.

Location 1538

precious in His sight. THIRTY IS IT EVER RIGHT TO SET A DATE FOR THE RAPTURE? The following personal ad appeared in a newspaper: “Yesterday in this space I predicted that the world would come to an end. It did not, however. I regret any inconvenience this may have caused.” Unfortunately, setting specific dates for events in the end times often does more than cause inconvenience. When the predicted date comes and goes—which so far has happened every time—people discredit the Bible and lead others to become more disillusioned with its teachings. The Bible strictly prohibits date setting

for the coming of Christ: • “Therefore be on the alert, for you do not know which day your Lord is coming” (Matthew 24: 42). • “For this reason you also must be ready; for the Son of Man is coming at an hour when you do not think He will” (Matthew 24: 44). • “Be on the alert then, for you do not know the day nor the hour” (Matthew 25: 13). • “It is not for you to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority” (Acts 1: 7). The book of Revelation, which is our most complete source of information for the last days, never mentions any specific date for Christ’s coming or any other event. All Jesus tells us in the last book of the Bible about the timing of His coming is that it will occur “quickly” (Revelation 1: 1, 3; 3: 11; 22: 7, 12, 20). Jesus claimed during His earthly ministry that even He did not know the day of His coming: “But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone” (Matthew 24: 36). Anyone who claims to know the specific time of Christ’s coming is claiming to know something that the Father didn’t even tell the Son while He was on earth nor the angels who are in His presence. This is the height of arrogance and folly. If you hear someone setting a date for the Rapture, you can know two things right away: He

Location 1561

the Rapture is both signless and imminent.

Note - Location 1561

Rapture doesn't have signs before it happens.

Location 1563

None of the key rapture passages in the New Testament mention any signs that must occur before the Rapture.

Location 1564

It is true that there are many signs listed in Scripture: in the books of Daniel, Matthew, and Revelation, for instance. But all of these relate to the second coming of Christ to earth, not the Rapture. This is a very important distinction.

Note - Location 1566

Signs are not about rapture but about second coming of Christ.

Location 1566

we must remember that these are the signs not of the imminent Rapture but of the approaching Tribulation and second coming of Christ to establish His kingdom.

Location 1588

when we get to heaven, we will be primarily consumed with worshiping the Lamb on the throne, not watching the Tribulation on earth.

Location 1595

natural explanation and a supernatural explanation.

Location 1601

Some New Age groups might explain the Rapture as a “cleansing” of the earth as Mother Gaia purifies herself from the toxins of all those narrow-minded religious fanatics.

Location 1603

The Rapture may turn out to be the greatest evangelistic event of all time.

Location 1605

While the so-called experts crow their theories, people by the thousands will realize what has happened and will humbly bow their knees to Christ.

Location 1616

the salvation of the lost seems to be one of the chief purposes of the tribulation period:

Location 1625

massive revival during the great Tribulation.

Location 1626

However, there are many respected students of Bible prophecy who contend that anyone who openly rejects the gospel and is left behind at the Rapture will be prevented by God from being saved during the Tribulation.

Location 1635

referring to people who reject the truth before the Rapture, but rather those who reject the truth and receive the Antichrist after the Rapture.

Location 1636

describing what happens during the tribulation period

Location 1641

God will use the horror of the tribulation period to bring millions of sinners to faith in His Son.

Location 1645

Every key passage on the Rapture contains a practical application.

Location 1646

prophecy is intended to change our attitudes and actions to be more in line with God's Word and character.

Location 1653

1. THE RAPTURE HAS A CONVERTING INFLUENCE ON SEEKING HEARTS

Location 1669

2. THE RAPTURE HAS A CARING INFLUENCE ON SOUL WINNING HEARTS

Location 1676

redouble our efforts to plead with a perishing world.

Location 1677

3. THE RAPTURE HAS A CLEANSING INFLUENCE ON SINNING HEARTS

Location 1680

produce a life of holiness and purity.

Location 1684

It is one thing for us to hold right doctrine about Christ's coming. It is another thing for the doctrine to hold us!

Location 1700

4. THE RAPTURE HAS A CALMING INFLUENCE ON SCARED HEARTS

Location 1711

5. THE RAPTURE HAS A COMFORTING INFLUENCE ON SORROWING HEARTS

Location 1724

6. THE RAPTURE HAS A CONTROLLING INFLUENCE ON SERVING HEARTS

Section 3: The Antichrist

Location 1767

The word Antichrist (antichristos) is found only five times in the New Testament, all in the epistles of John (1 John 2: 18, 22; 4: 3; 2 John 7).

Location 1778

He will be the Lord Jesus' ultimate opponent. He will also be a "mirror Christ," a demonic "savior" whose origin, nature, and purpose are diametrically opposed to Christ's.

Location 1831

"Satan is seeking to give the world a ruler in place of Christ who will also be in opposition to Christ so that he can rule over the world, instead of Christ."

Location 1858

He will assume power under the stealth of diplomacy.

Location 1865

He will be the CEO of the world's economy.

Location 1866

everything will be nationalized—

Location 1869

At the midpoint of the Tribulation, the mask will come off, and the beast will replace the olive branch with the sword.

Location 1876

unite the world in worship.

Location 1895

Those who hold to a supernatural origin for the Antichrist say that Genesis 3: 15 is the first prophecy of the coming Antichrist.

Location 1896

While the supernatural origin of the Antichrist is certainly possible, it seems better to view the Antichrist not as Satan's literal son but as a man who is totally controlled by Satan. The Antichrist is consistently presented in the Bible as a man.

Location 1901

Antichrist is able to do what he can do not because he is Satan's offspring but because Satan energizes and empowers him as his chosen human instrument for world rule. A

Location 1903

approximately A.D. 950 called Letter on the Origin and Life of the Antichrist. In this work he counters the view held by many in his day that the Antichrist will

be born from a virgin and contends that he will be born from the union of a human father and mother. However, "he will be conceived wholly

Location 1909

Antichrist will be fully human, yet totally possessed by Satan.

Location 1929

Bible clearly teaches that the coming Antichrist will be a Gentile.

Location 1939

Antichrist is presented in the Scripture as the final ruler of Gentile world power.

Location 1940

on the throne over the final world empire that will

Location 1942

one of the primary activities of the Antichrist will be his violence against the Jews.

Location 1952

the Antichrist will be of Roman origin. I believe he will arise from the reunited Roman Empire (by which I mean Western Europe).

Location 1969

His rise to power will come through peace programs (Revelation 6: 2). He will make a covenant of peace with Israel (Daniel 9: 27). This event will signal the beginning of the seven-year Tribulation. He will break that covenant at its midpoint.

Location 2003

It is certainly possible that the Antichrist will be a homosexual. It would be in character for what may be the most corrupt of men. Yet the passage in Daniel seems to be intending to say that he will be so enraptured with the god of military might, conquest, and political power that this obsession will eclipse his normal desire for women.

Location 2008

the Antichrist will be Satan's complete counterfeit of the true Christ.

Location 2009

Satan's masterful trickery will be to parody the greatest event of Christianity: the death and resurrection of Christ

Location 2033

he will be a future individual who will be violently killed (probably assassinated) and miraculously raised from the dead during the Tribulation.

Location 2035

experience a healing that will inevitably be compared to the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Location 2042

This will be the greatest event in history as far as the people of this world are concerned.

Location 2049

this great event that will catapult the Antichrist to worldwide rule.

Location 2051

during this time in the bottomless pit that he is completely energized by Satan.

Location 2057

the words used in Revelation 13: 3 to describe the “death” of the Antichrist are always used in other places to describe a violent death. In Revelation 5: 6, for instance, the same word is used of the death of Jesus Christ. Moreover, Revelation 17: 8 says that after the Antichrist is killed he will go to the abyss for a time before reappearing on earth. This doesn't seem to be describing someone who is faking his death.

Location 2061

God will permit Satan to perform this marvelous feat

Location 2076

The Antichrist will reign for three and a half years, the second half of the seven-year-long tribulation period.

Location 2084

The New Testament teaches that believers will not know who the Antichrist is before we are raptured to heaven.

Location 2089

Day of the Lord (which I believe begins with the tribulation period).

Location 2091

Day of the Lord can't come until two things happen: a great apostasy or rebellion and the revelation of the Antichrist or man of lawlessness.

Location 2092

Antichrist will be revealed at the beginning of the Day of the Lord (tribulation period) and the church will be raptured before this time, it doesn't appear that Christians will know the identity of the Antichrist before we are taken to heaven.

Location 2097

Satan's superman will be unveiled at the beginning of the Day of the Lord after the church has been translated to glory, not before.

Location 2102

"There's been a lot of sick, sick, sick about 666."

Location 2103

another name for the Antichrist is the beast out of the sea.

Location 2113

Since six is one short of seven, a number associated with God, six could just be a designation for God's greatest creation: man.

Location 2135

All such foolish speculation should be avoided. The Antichrist will not be exposed until after the Rapture. At that time those who come to know Christ after the Rapture will be able to determine who he is as he comes on the scene because the number of his name will be 666.

Location 2139

When the beast seizes power at the middle of the Tribulation, every person on earth will be faced with a monumental decision: Will I take the mark of the beast?

Location 2148

The mark is something like an etching or a tattoo which, once inscribed, cannot be removed, providing a permanent (possibly eternal) identification as a follower of the beast and the dragon. 33

Location 2150

The issue for each person alive during the Tribulation will be this: Will I swear allegiance to the man who claims to be god?

Location 2152

The Antichrist's economic policy will be very simple: Take my mark and worship me, or starve.

Location 2154

By receiving that mark, a person forfeits eternal life.

Location 2156

“If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives a mark on his forehead or on his hand, he also will drink of the wine of the wrath of God,

Location 2162

One of Satan’s chief methods of operation is to corrupt the true message of God through his false messengers.

Location 2163

the end times Satan will increase this strategy dramatically.

Location 2164

in the last days there will be many false prophets who will perform great signs and wonders and spew out deceiving lies (Matthew 24:

Location 2166

He is the second beast of Revelation (see 13:

Location 2171

the false prophet’s chief ministry will be to glorify the Antichrist and lead people to worship him.

Location 2181

He will be a kind of “Satanic John the Baptist” preparing the way for the coming of the Antichrist.

Location 2181

will be the beast’s chief propagandist, right-hand man, and closest colleague and companion.

Location 2192

He has the appearance of a lamb. He looks gentle, mild, and harmless. And he has the voice of a dragon.

Location 2195

The role of the false prophet will be to make the new religion appealing and palatable to men.

Location 2203

His deadly appeal will lie in the fact that what he says will sound so right, so sensible, so exactly what unregenerate men have always wanted to hear. 34

Location 2207

will be empowered by Satan himself.

Location 2227

Just as the Holy Spirit urges believers to worship Jesus Christ, so the false prophet will compel people to worship the Antichrist.

Location 2253

There have been many men in history who have been “types” or pictures of what the coming Antichrist will be like. These seven provide the clearest parallels with the coming man of sin.

Location 2325

the devil doesn't know when the coming of Christ will occur any more than you or I do. So he has prepared an elaborate contingency plan that can be put into effect at a moment's notice (in the blink of an eye, you might say). I believe that Satan has a man ready in every generation—a satanically prepared vessel just waiting to take center stage and rule the world as the Antichrist. Satan has always had a Nimrod, a Pharaoh, a Nebuchadnezzar, an Alexander the Great, an Antiochus, a Caesar, a Napoleon, or a Hitler ready. Rest assured that someone alive today is Satan's candidate for the Antichrist should the Rapture happen now.

Location 2334

When the Antichrist appears, most people will still refuse to accept Christ

Location 2341

the Lord Jesus will destroy the power of the Antichrist simply by His spoken word.

Location 2349

All He will have to do to destroy all of man's military might is simply say, “Drop dead,” and the armies of the world will melt before him like wax.

Location 2351

They will be “thrown alive into the lake of fire which burns with brimstone,” where they will be joined one thousand years later by the devil,

Section 4: The Tribulation

Location 2377

God's Word declares that a time of unparalleled devastation is coming on all the earth in the future, a time the Bible calls the Tribulation.

Location 2384

The Tribulation begins when Antichrist and Israel sign a covenant with each other (Daniel 9: 27) and ends at the Second Coming.

Location 2396

The Tribulation will be the darkest hour in human history.

Location 2402

The seven seals will be opened during the first half of the Tribulation. The seven trumpets will be blown during the second half of the tribulation. And the seven bowls will be poured out in a very brief period of time just before Christ returns.

Location 2416

As bad as the trumpet judgments will be, the seven bowls clearly signal the darkest chapter in the history of mankind.

Location 2422

These twenty-one judgments are staggering. The earth, its environment, and its population will be totally devastated by its Maker.

Location 2424

At the pinnacle of the bowl judgments we see the unbelievable response of sinful man: "They blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores; and they did not repent of their deeds" (Revelation 16: 11). What a picture of the human heart!

Location 2432

because God's Word teaches it.

Location 2435

learn a great deal about the nature of man, God, and Satan.

Location 2435

man is sinful, rebellious, and easily deceived.

Location 2436

He is gracious and will save millions of people even in earth's darkest hour

Location 2438

Satan is unmasked and we see his ultimate intentions and purposes.

Location 2440

we note that during the Tribulation, Satan uses religion in a false and deceptive way. This stands as a warning for us today.

Location 2442

signs of the coming Tribulation developing before our eyes, it fills us with hope and expectation that the Lord's coming is near.

Location 2443

the rise of the European Union, the current trend toward globalism, the available technology for the mark of the beast, and the universal yearning for a Middle East peace plan all point to the imminent fulfillment of the biblical prophecies about the coming Tribulation.

Location 2446

the Lord loves to take His own people into His confidence and tell them what is going to happen even if it doesn't directly affect their own lives.

Location 2454

Why would God judge with such severity the world He created? Why is such a time of unspeakable trouble necessary?

Location 2458

purge the Jewish people.

Location 2459

The rebellious nation will be refined by the fires of tribulation.

Location 2469

many of the Jewish people will cry out to God for salvation.

Location 2478

punish the Gentile nations and all unbelievers. They will be castigated for their evil in general, for rejecting Jesus Christ, and for persecuting God's people

Location 2485

In a similar show of bravado the Antichrist will deny the true God and declare himself to be god. God will once again pour out His plagues to prove His power and vindicate His reputation—only this time it will be on a worldwide scale. The tribulation will prove to a rebellious world that He alone is God.

Location 2489

to unmask Satan.

Location 2490

Realizing that his time is short, Satan will pour out his venom with force and violence.

Location 2498

drive men to Himself in repentance and trust. He will harvest more souls during this time than anyone can count.

Location 2505

Behind every movement of this massive symphony of judgment, there will be God orchestrating it all to His purposes and glory.

Location 2554

they are not the church.

Location 2560

144,000 are a group of Jewish men, 12,000 from each of the twelve tribes

Location 2563

Dan was the first of the tribes to go into idolatry (Judges 18: 2, 30–31; 1 Kings 11: 26; 12: 28–30). Deuteronomy 29: 18–21 required that the name of anyone who introduced idolatry was to be blotted out.

Location 2569

They have been bought with a price. They belong to the Lord as His special possessions.

Location 2576

During this same time, the Lord will place His identifying mark—His seal of ownership—on the forehead of the 144,000.

Location 2579

sets them apart and prepares them for God's service.

Location 2592

God's seal not only prepares the 144,000 for service, but also acts as God's pledge of security.

Location 2594

The 144,000 will be exempt from the wrath of God and Satan during the Tribulation (9:

Location 2595

John sees the 144,000 at the end of the Tribulation standing triumphantly on Mt. Zion (the city of Jerusalem).

Location 2599

chaste men

Location 2601

these servants of God are male, celibate servants of God.

Location 2601

In light of the demands of the Tribulation period, they are called by God to abstain from a normal marital life and to devote themselves totally to the Lord's service

Location 2604

persistent in their life and service for the Lord even under the most dire circumstances.

Location 2607

primary ministry of these Jewish servants is to fearlessly proclaim the gospel of Christ during the Tribulation.

Location 2608

greatest evangelists the world has ever seen.

Location 2609

relationship in Revelation 7 between the 144,000 in verses 1–8 and the innumerable crowd of believers in verses 9–

Location 2611

The chief importance of the 144,000 is that they reveal the heart of God to save people even in the midst of the unspeakable judgment of the Tribulation.

Location 2617

God will also raise up two special witnesses who will minister on His behalf in the midst of the darkness and devastation (Revelation 11).

Location 2618

Many early Christian leaders, such as Tertullian, Irenaeus, and Hippolytus, believed the two witnesses would be Enoch and Elijah. Others over the years have held that Moses will be one of the two witnesses along with either Enoch or Elijah.

Location 2622

Enoch never died.

Location 2624

Enoch was a prophet of judgment in the days before the Flood who announced the coming of the Lord

Location 2628

turn rivers to blood and bring plagues on the earth (Revelation 11: 6). This is precisely what Moses did in Egypt

Location 2629

on the Mount of Transfiguration,

Location 2630

was a prophet.

Location 2632

he never tasted physical death

Location 2632

present at the Transfiguration.

Location 2632

Scriptures predict that Elijah will come before “the great and terrible day of the Lord”

Location 2633

God used him to prevent rain

Location 2634

prophet.

Location 2640

Moses and Elijah would be the best. The

Location 2642

The fact is that, since the Lord doesn't tell us who they are, we really can't know for sure.

Location 2643

it seems best to view the two witnesses as two men who have never lived before, men whom God will raise up as His special witnesses in the Tribulation.

Location 2659

The term tribulation in Matthew 24: 9 seems to encompass the entire seven-year period. It is an excellent word to describe the overall nature of the final seven years of this age and is frequently used that way by most students of Bible prophecy.

Location 2663

“great tribulation” is used to describe the intensification of God’s wrath during the final three and a half years of the total seven-year tribulation period.

Location 2678

the Tribulation—the Day of the Lord—cannot come until two things happen: a great, worldwide rebellion against God, and the unveiling of the Antichrist.

Location 2683

As many as two-thirds of the world’s Jewish population will be slain during Antichrist’s reign of terror

Location 2690

the elect mentioned here are all the Jewish people who will be saved during the Tribulation.

Location 2693

These encouraging words simply mean that there will be a termination of this period of time—that is, the Lord will not allow it to go on indefinitely. He will end it at the divinely appointed time. This is another way of saying that if the Tribulation were allowed to go on indefinitely, no one would survive. The Lord ends the Tribulation when He does for the sake of those who have been saved during this time and are undergoing terrible suffering.

Section 5: Armageddon

Location 2710

The word Armageddon is found only one time in the Bible:

Location 2716

rendezvous point for the armies gathering to descend upon Israel

Location 2718

Like Gettysburg, Armageddon is both a place and an event.

Location 2732

it is important to discuss what it is not. First, Armageddon is not a battle. Second, it's not the same as the battle of Gog and Magog in Ezekiel. And third, Armageddon is not the final war on earth.

Location 2735

technically speaking, Armageddon will be a war or campaign involving a series of battles in the land of Israel.

Location 2738

Ezekiel 38–39 records an invasion that many have understood to be synonymous with Armageddon. I do not believe this is so.

Location 2751

It's the final revolt of Satan. I believe it occurs one thousand years after the war of Armageddon is over.

Location 2759

The War of Armageddon is the climactic event of the great Tribulation.

Location 2759

all the armies of the earth gather to come against Israel and attempt once and for all to eradicate the Jewish people

Location 2763

be spread out over the entire land of Israel

Location 2770

plain 20 miles long and 14 miles wide

Location 2770

that lies at the foot of Mt. Megiddo or Armageddon.

Location 2774

Bozrah is east of the Jordan river in the modern nation of Jordan. It is near the rock city of Petra.

Location 2777

At the midpoint of the Tribulation, the Antichrist will break his covenant of peace with Israel

Location 2781

Scripture seems to indicate that this end-times hiding place for the Jews will be the city of Petra in southern Jordan.

Location 2823

the armies

Location 2846

we can confidently say that the United States will participate in Armageddon.

Location 2849

it does mean that representatives from the nations, including the United States in whatever form it has taken at that time, will invade Israel with the rest of the world at Armageddon.

Location 2850

Today, America is Israel's chief ally and protector. But in the end times even America will follow Antichrist in turning against Israel and the Jewish people.

Location 2871

The War of Armageddon will be the climactic event of the great Tribulation. The armies of the world will gather in Israel and be destroyed by the returning King of kings.

Section 6: The Second Coming

Location 2889

The Second Coming is not the same thing as the Rapture, though those are often confused.

Location 2889

Rapture is an event that from the human perspective could occur at any moment. It is the moment when Jesus comes for His saints before the seven-year tribulation period begins. The Second Coming, on the other hand, is the event at the end of the seven-year Tribulation, when Jesus comes back to earth with His saints.

Location 2897

Jesus' return is explicitly referred to 1,845 times in the Bible—1,527 times in the OT and 318 times

Location 2902

Enoch, who lived only seven generations after Adam and is considered the first prophet of the Bible,

Location 2903

the first prophecy of the Bible concerns the Second Coming.

Location 2976

Jesus will return to earth from the same place He left: the Mount of Olives.

Location 3010

CHRIST WILL DEFEAT THE ANTICHRIST AND HIS ARMIES

Location 3016

When the Lord Jesus returns, the Antichrist and all the other Christ-rejecting rulers will be

Location 3016

destroyed by the God they had scorned.

Location 3017

CHRIST WILL REGATHER AND RESTORE FAITHFUL ISRAEL

Location 3019

the most frequently mentioned promise in the Old Testament is God's vow that He would one day regather and restore the nation of Israel

Location 3021

The regathering of Israel began in 1948 when the modern state of Israel was born, and it continues today.

Location 3022

During the Tribulation, Israel will be scattered for the final time

Location 3023

then at the Second Coming, Christ will gather the believing Jews together and restore them as His people

Location 3030

CHRIST WILL JUDGE THE LIVING

Location 3031

all Gentiles alive on the earth who survived the Tribulation will appear before him

Location 3033

will also gather all living Jews in the wilderness to determine who can enter the kingdom

Location 3034

CHRIST WILL RESURRECT THE DEAD

Location 3036

resurrection of Old Testament believers and Tribulation believers.

Location 3040

CHRIST WILL BIND THE DEVIL

Location 3042

A mighty angel will seize him and cast him into the bottomless pit for one thousand years,

Section 7: The Millennium

Section 8: The Afterlife

A Proposed Chronology of the End Times