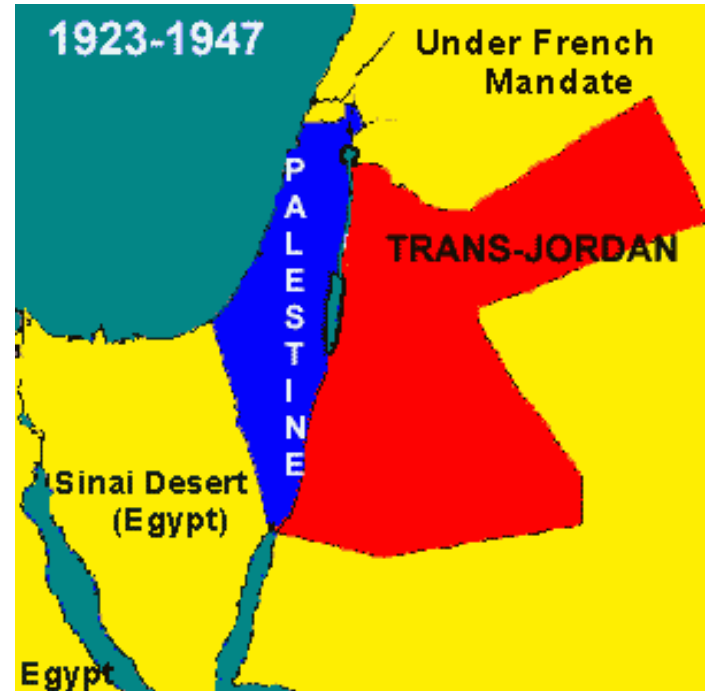


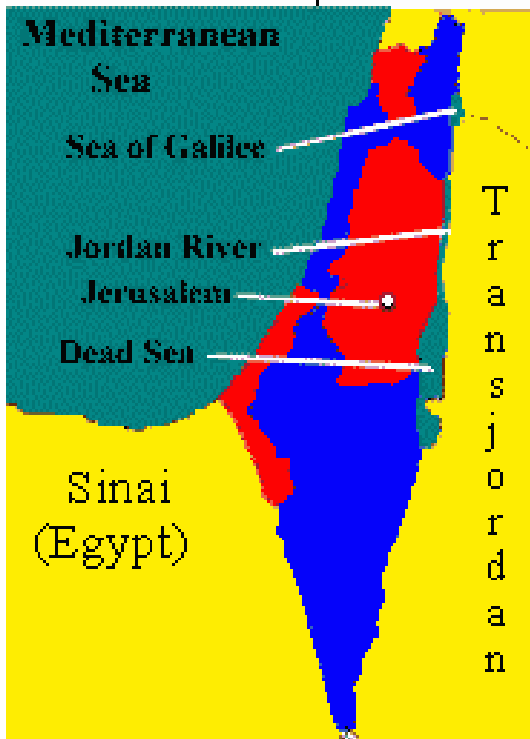
Israel's Past and Future



Jordanian Flag

Palestinian Flag

U.N. Partition Plan 181 Nov. 29, 1947

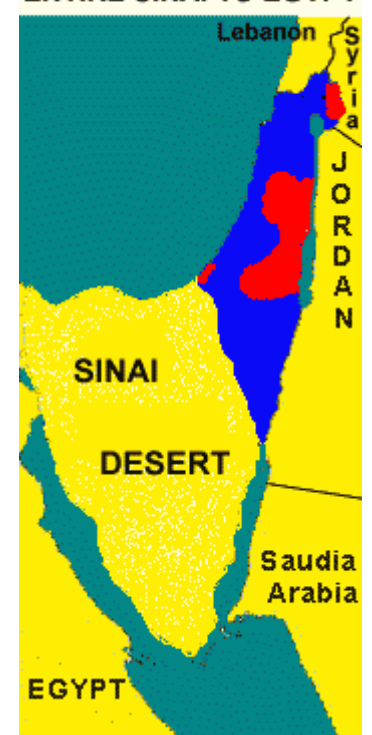


- Proposed ARAB Palestinian State
- Proposed JEWISH Palestinian State

1949 Armistice Lines following First Arab-Israeli War (1947-49)



1982: ISRAEL RETURNS ENTIRE SINAI TO EGYPT



What Will Be The “Hook” in Russia’s Jaws?

Ez 38:4

Most blessed of sons is Asher; let him be favored by his brothers, and let him bathe his feet in oil.

Rejoice, *Zebulun*, in your going out, and you, Issachar, in your tents. They will summon peoples to the mountain and there offer sacrifices of righteousness; they will feast on the abundance of the seas, on the treasures hidden in the sand.



Overview of the Book of Revelation

“Revelation” is from the Greek word *apokalupsis* which means, “a disclosure, an unveiling.” The book of Revelation is an unveiling of the character and program of God.

Author:

The author of Revelation called himself “John” (1:4, 9; 22:8). He was a prophet (22:9) and a leader who was known in the churches of Asia Minor to whom he writes (1:4). Revelation indicates a similarity with the Gospel of John, employing words that are common to both: word, lamb, witness, true, overcome, dwell, fountain of living waters and others. Most Bible students believe that the Holy Spirit used John, Christ’s beloved disciple, to give us three kinds of inspired literature: the Gospel of John, three epistles, and the book of Revelation. Warren Wiersbe has outlined the purposes of each as follows:

| Gospel of John | Epistles (1-3 John) | Revelation |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| Believe (20:31) | Fellowship (1:3) | Preparation (22:20) |
| Life received | Life revealed | Life rewarded |
| Salvation | Sanctification | Sovereignty |
| The Prophet | The Priest | The King |

The Purpose:

The stated purpose of Revelation is to reveal Jesus Christ (1:1): His person, His power and His plan for the future.

The Theme:

Central to the book is the existence, power, sovereignty, justice, wisdom and goodness of God the Father and Jesus Christ.

Date And Origin:

The traditional view for the date of Revelation is during the reign of emperor Domitian (A.D. 81-96). The early church fathers affirmed this and most scholars since have agreed. The date has been traditionally set at between A.D. 94-96 (during the final and most severe years of Domitian’s reign). It is likely that John wrote Revelation during his exile on the island of Patmos.

Key Ideas:

The book opens and closes with similar ideas and phrases, among them are the words of Jesus, “I am coming soon” (1:1-8; 22:12-21). In between, the book deals with vivid descriptions of God’s judgments on sin.

Key Verses:

[Revelation 1:7](#): “Behold, He is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him; and all the tribes of the earth will mourn over Him. So it is to be. Amen” (cf. [Revelation 19:11-16](#)).

[Revelation 1:19](#): “Therefore write the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which will take place after these things.”

Key Words:

Two key words are repeated throughout the whole letter. They are “lamb” (29 times) and “throne” (47 times). The dual ideas of sacrificial atonement and God’s sovereignty and judgment dominate the letter. Four numbers also play a significant role throughout Revelation: “seven” (55 times), “four” (29 times), “twelve” (23 times) and “ten” (9 times).

Key Note:

There are no formal quotations from the Old Testament, however there are many allusions. Bible students have found between 250-550 Old Testament allusions in the book of Revelation.

Nutshell Outline:

1. Introduction (1:1-20)
2. Letters to the seven churches in Asia (2:1-3:22)
3. Visions of the end of this age and the new heaven and earth (4:1-22:5)
4. Conclusion (22:6-21)

Importance:

1. Revelation, like all Scripture, is “profitable” ([2 Timothy 3:16](#)).
2. Revelation reveals Jesus Christ like no other book ([Revelation 1-22](#)).
3. Revelation deals with “things, which must soon take place” ([Revelation 1:1](#)).
4. Revelation is the one book that promises a blessing to all who will read it ([Revelation 1:3](#)).
5. Revelation contains unique warnings and challenges to the church ([Revelation 2:1-3:22](#)).
6. Revelation discloses conditions that will be present in the end-times ([Revelation 6:1-19:21](#)).
7. Revelation is NOT to be sealed up ([Revelation 22:10](#))

Christ In Revelation:

Since Revelation is “The Revelation of Jesus Christ” it demonstrates His glory, wisdom and power (1:1-20), and portrays His authority over the church (2:1-3:21) and His power and right to judge the world (5:1-19:21). But as the revelation of Christ, it is loaded with descriptive titles. In particular, it describes Jesus Christ (1:1) as:

- The faithful witness (1:5)
- The firstborn from the dead (1:5)
- The ruler over the kings of the earth (1:5)
- The Son of Man (1:13)
- The first and the last (1:17)
- The living One (1:18)
- The Son of God (2:18)
- He who is holy, who is true (3:7)
- The Amen (3:14)
- The Beginning of the creation of God (3:14)
- The Lion that is from the tribe of Judah (5:5)
- The Root of David (5:5)
- A Lamb (5:6)
- The Word of God (19:13)
- King of Kings and Lord of Lords (19:16)
- The Alpha and the Omega (22:13)
- The beginning and the end (22:13)
- The bright morning Star (22:16)
- The Lord Jesus (22:21).

The Purposes

1. **Revelation exalts Jesus Christ.** The prophetic portrayal of Christ in Revelation is different than that of the Gospels, which tell the wonderful story of His humiliation, including His birth, suffering, and death. It reveals Him as the Lamb of God and King of Kings who, in the consummation of His program of salvation, restores to man what was lost by the fall and much more.
2. **Revelation reveals the power and wisdom of God.** Revelation conclusively demonstrates how God continues to control the affairs of this world in spite of the great and constant opposition of both Satan and man to the purposes of God.
3. **Revelation manifests the plan and purposes of God.** Without the book of Revelation, the Scriptures would leave us hanging. Yet Revelation tells us that there will come a day when Christ will wipe away every tear. Eventually, there will be no death. Every wrong will be righted and every right will be rewarded.
4. **Revelation validates the accuracy of the Bible.** The book of Revelation has been called “The Grand Central Station of the Bible” because it’s where all the trains of thought from the whole Bible meet. It confirms and completes the other 65 books.
5. **Revelation promotes holiness.** It is no secret that we live in an unholy age. Unfortunately, much of this godlessness is found in the church. Yet the book of Revelation provides a wake-up call for all of us. Many Christians, myself included, have in a moment of temptation, thought, “Do I want to be doing this when Christ returns?” When the answer is a resounding, “NO!” it is easier to reject the temptation. Instead, we are challenged to so love that when He comes we will be found doing the things that earn His praise, “Well done, good and faithful servant,” ([Matthew 25:21](#)) rather than the rebuke that will be extended to those who are ashamed at His coming ([1 John 2:28](#)).
6. **Revelation encourages evangelism.** If time is short and hell is hot, we need to be telling others about Jesus. Revelation should motivate us to share with others the answers to life’s questions: What’s going to happen to the world? Are we in the last days? Is Jesus really coming back? Will the human race survive? Is there life after death? Are heaven and hell real?
7. **Revelation comforts believers.** When we hear of wars, rumors of wars, and natural disasters, the knowledge of Revelation can give comfort by reminding us of God’s plan and that He is still on the throne, in control, and carrying out His purposes and plans.
8. **Revelation protects believers from Satan’s counterfeits.** Jesus predicted that many “false christs and prophets will arise and will show great signs and wonders, so as to mislead, if possible, even the elect” ([Matthew 24:24](#)).⁴ Jehovah Witnesses, Mormons, David Koresh, the Heaven’s Gate cult and countless others have propagated bizarre end-times scenarios. They have also been successful at deceiving many, as a result. If a Christian doesn’t have a biblical understanding of the end times, he/she is susceptible to deception.

The Dangers

1. The danger of sensationalism ([Acts 17:21; 2 Timothy 4:3](#)). We must not become mere specialists in the unusual..
2. The danger of dogmatism ([1 Corinthians 8:1](#)). We must be careful not to become proud and divisive.
3. The danger of escapism. We must love and serve our community instead of running to the hills and forming our own Christian militia (i.e., stockpiling food, water, and guns).

4. The danger of pessimism. We must be full of joy and hope instead of buried in hopelessness and discouragement.

The Solutions

1. Major on the majors, not the minors. In essence, this book says: “Jesus is going to win!”
2. Determine to understand opposing views better and why they are held.
3. Hold beliefs and convictions in love.
4. Worship the God of Revelation. If you have all the “end-times” knowledge in the world but it hasn’t led to an increased desire to worship God, it is worthless.

The Certainties

1. Life as we know it will come to an end...and there is such a thing as life after death.
2. Jesus is coming again. More than ¼ of the Bible consists of prophecy. In the Old Testament there are over 1,800 references to the return of Christ. Of the 260 chapters in the New Testament, there are more than 300 references to the Lord’s return—one out of every 30 verses. Twenty-three of the 27 New Testament books give prominence to this subject. For every prophecy in Scripture concerning Christ’s first coming, there are eight prophecies about Christ’s second coming.
3. God will judge all people. Unbelievers at the great white throne judgment ([Revelation 20:11-15](#)) and believers at the judgment seat of Christ ([2 Corinthians 5:10](#)).
4. Believers will live forever with God. Unbelievers will suffer eternal separation from God.
5. Evil will be punished. Every wrong will be made right.
6. There will be a new heaven and a new earth. God will return the world to its ***original creation***.

It is said that Satan once called his demons and said he wanted to send one of them to earth to aid women and men in the ruination of their souls. He asked which one would want to go. One creature came forward and said, “I will go.” Satan said, “If I send you, what will you tell the children of men?” He said, “I will tell the children of men that there is no heaven.” Satan said, “They will not believe you, for there is a bit of heaven in every human heart. In the end, everyone knows that right and good must have the victory. You may not go.”

Then another came forward, darker and fouler than the first. Satan said, “If I send you, what will you tell the children of men?” He said, “I will tell them that there is no hell.” Satan looked at him and said, “Oh, no; they will not believe you, for in every human heart there’s a thing called conscience, an inner voice which testifies to the truth that not only will good be triumphant, but that evil will be defeated. You may not go.”

Then one last creature came forward, this one from the darkest place of all. Satan said to him, “And if I send you, what will you say to women and men to aid them in the destruction of their souls?” He said, “I will tell them that there is no hurry.” Satan said, “Go at once!”

Satan has successfully duped the church and the world into believing that there is really no hurry. He has robbed us of a sense of urgency. As believers we assume that we can get serious about Christ once we have grandkids and retire. Unbelievers have been led to believe that, if they need to, they will be able to trust Christ at will, when they are old and decrepit and in some rest home. What a mistake! We must realize that our day of reckoning with the Lord Jesus Christ is imminent. Final accountability is on the horizon. We must urge believers and unbelievers to prepare to face the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. There is a hurry. Revelation is relevant. Prepare for eternity TODAY.

He is Coming!

Paul- 2 Thess 2:1-4

What do the other writers say?

2:1 Concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered to him, we ask you, brothers, 2 not to become easily unsettled or alarmed by some prophecy, report or letter supposed to have come from us, saying that the day of the Lord has already come. 3 *Don't let anyone deceive you in any way, for that day will not come until the rebellion occurs and the man of lawlessness is revealed*, the man doomed to destruction. 4 He will oppose and will exalt himself over everything that is called God or is worshiped, so that he sets himself up in God's temple, proclaiming himself to be God.

?- Heb 10:35-38

35 So do not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded. 36 You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised. 37 *For in just a very little while,*

"He who is coming will come and will not delay.

38 But my righteous one will live by faith.

And if he shrinks back,

I will not be pleased with him."

James- James 5:7-9

8 You too, be patient and stand firm, *because the Lord's coming is near.* 9 Don't grumble against each other, brothers, or you will be judged. The Judge is standing at the door!

Peter 2 Peter 3:3-14

3 First of all, you must understand that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires. 4 They will say, "Where is this 'coming' he promised? Ever since our fathers died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation." 5 But they deliberately forget that long ago by God's word the heavens existed and the earth was formed out of water and by water. 6 By these waters also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed. 7 By the same word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men.

8 But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. 9 The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

10 *But the day of the Lord will come like a thief.* The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare.

11 **Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives** 12 **as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming.** That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. 13 But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness.

14 So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him.

Dan 7:2-14 Overview

7:2 Daniel said: "In my vision at night I looked, and there before me were the four winds of heaven churning up the great sea. 3 Four great beasts, each different from the others, came up out of the sea.

4 "The first was like a lion, and it had the wings of an eagle. I watched until its wings were torn off and it was lifted from the ground so that it stood on two feet like a man, and the heart of a man was given to it.

5 "And there before me was a second beast, which looked like a bear. It was raised up on one of its sides, and it had three ribs in its mouth between its teeth. It was told, 'Get up and eat your fill of flesh!'

6 "After that, I looked, and there before me was another beast, one that looked like a leopard. And on its back it had four wings like those of a bird. This beast had four heads, and it was given authority to rule.

7 "After that, in my vision at night I looked, and there before me was a fourth beast-terrifying and frightening and very powerful. It had large iron teeth; it crushed and devoured its victims and trampled underfoot whatever was left. It was different from all the former beasts, and it had ten horns.

8 "While I was thinking about the horns, there before me was another horn, a little one, which came up among them; and three of the first horns were uprooted before it.

This horn had eyes like the eyes of a man and a mouth that spoke boastfully.

9 "As I looked, "thrones were set in place, and the Ancient of Days took

Matt 24:1-14 Overview

24:1 Jesus left the temple and was walking away when his disciples came up to him to call his attention to its buildings. 2 "Do you see all these things?" he asked. "I tell you the truth, not one stone here will be left on another; every one will be thrown down."

3 As Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately. "Tell us," they said, "(1) when will this happen, and what will be the sign of (2) your coming and of the (3) end of the age?"

4 Jesus answered: "Watch out that no one deceives you. 5 For many will come in my name, claiming, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many. 6 You will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. 7 Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. 8 All these are the beginning of birth pains.

9 "Then you will be handed over to be persecuted and put to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of me. 10 At that time many will turn away from the faith and will betray and hate each other, 11 and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people. 12 Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, 13 but he who stands firm to the **end** will be saved. 14 And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the **end** will come.

Rev. 4-11 Overview

Revelation 4-11 gives an overview of the end times.

Revelation 4 opens with a throne room scene. God the father is seated on a throne surrounded by his court of elders, living creatures and angels.

Revelation 5 presents the coronation of the Lamb as executor of the Father's will.

Revelation 6 outlines the "beginning birth pangs" and the "tribulation" of the saints.

Revelation 7 highlights the deliverance of God's first fruits of unsaved national Israel and the righteous saints of the ages to heaven.

Revelation 8-9 details the beginning of God's wrath.

Revelation 10 underscores the end of Gentile dominance on earth.

Revelation 11 reports God's reclamation of the earth (God's reign begins).

his seat. His clothing was as white as snow; the hair of his head was white like wool. His throne was flaming with fire, and its wheels were all ablaze. 10 A river of fire was flowing, coming out from before him. Thousands upon thousands attended him; ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him. The court was seated, and the books were opened.

11 "Then I continued to watch because of the boastful words the horn was speaking. I kept looking until the beast was slain and its body destroyed and thrown into the blazing fire. 12 (The other beasts had been stripped of their authority, but were allowed to live for a period of time.)

13 "In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. 14 He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all peoples, nations and men of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.

Dan 7:15-25 Persecution

15 "I, Daniel, was troubled in spirit, and the visions that passed through my mind disturbed me. 16 I approached one of those standing there and asked him the true meaning of all this. "So he told me and gave me the interpretation of these things:

17 "The four great beasts are four kingdoms that will rise from the earth. 18 But the saints of the Most High will receive the kingdom and will possess it forever-yes, forever and ever." 19 "Then I wanted to know wrath against the wicked on the true meaning of the fourth beast,

Matt 24:15-21 Persecution

15 "So when you see standing in the holy place 'the abomination that causes desolation,' spoken of through the prophet Daniel-let the reader understand- 16 then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. 17 Let no one on the roof of his house go down to take anything out of the house. 18 Let no one in the field go back to get his cloak. 19 How dreadful it will be in those days for pregnant women and nursing mothers! 20 Pray that your flight will not take place in winter or on the Sabbath. 21 For then there will be great distress, unequalled from the beginning of the world until now-and never to be equaled again.

Matt 24:22-25 Beast Destroyed

22 If those days had not been cut short, no one would survive, but for the sake of the elect those days will be shortened. 23 At that time if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or, 'There he is!' do not believe it. 24 For false christs and false prophets will appear and perform great signs and miracles to deceive even the elect-if that were possible. 25 See, I have told you ahead of time.

Matt 24:26-31 Kingdom Comes

26 "So if anyone tells you, 'There he is, out in the desert,' do not go out; or, 'Here he is, in the inner rooms,' do not believe it. 27 For as lightning that comes from the east is visible even in the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. 28 Wherever there is a carcass, there the vultures will gather.

29 "Immediately after the distress of those days

Rev. 12-13 Persecution

As with both Daniel 7 and Matthew 24:4-31, after the general overview of the end times is given, a specific look at the persecution of the saints is given.

Unique to the Revelation is the most detailed presentation of the primary cause of the persecution given in Scripture. A war in heaven results in Satan's restriction to earth for a short time (Rev 12:7-17).

This is the basis of the unparalleled persecution. Death will reign on the earth during the persecution of God's saints. The three primary perpetrators of death will be the beast (Rev 13:7), the false prophet (Rev 13:12), and the image of the beast (Rev 13:15).

The target of Death will be the woman (Jews) and her offspring (the church) (Rev 12:17).

Rev. 14-19 Beast Destroyed

Chapter 14 begins this important section with the Lord and 144,000 Jews standing on Mount Zion. This is the first time the Lamb is pictured physically on the earth in the Revelation.

Three angels announce doom upon the earth. The chapter ends with a summary description of God's earth. The fifteenth and sixteenth chapters of the Revelation detail the bowl judgments against the beast, his kingdom and those who take his mark.

which was different from all the others and most terrifying, with its iron teeth and bronze claws-the beast that crushed and devoured its victims and trampled underfoot whatever was left. 20 I also wanted to know about the ten horns on its head and about the other horn that came up, before which three of them fell-the horn that looked more imposing than the others and that had eyes and a mouth that spoke boastfully. 21 As I watched, this horn was waging war against the saints and defeating them, 22 until the Ancient of Days came and pronounced judgment in favor of the saints of the Most High, and the time came when they possessed the kingdom.

23 "He gave me this explanation: 'The fourth beast is a fourth kingdom that will appear on earth. It will be different from all the other kingdoms and will devour the whole earth, trampling it down and crushing it. 24 The ten horns are ten kings who will come from this kingdom. After them another king will arise, different from the earlier ones; he will subdue three kings. 25 He will speak against the Most High and oppress his saints and try to change the set times and the laws. The saints will be handed over to him for a time, times and half a time.

Dan 7:26-28 The Beast is Destroyed / Kingdom Comes

26 "But the court will sit, and his power will be taken away and completely destroyed forever. 27 Then the sovereignty, power and greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven will be handed over to the saints, the people of the Most High. His kingdom will be an everlasting kingdom, and all rulers will worship and obey him.'

"the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from the sky, and the heavenly bodies will be shaken.'

30 "At that time the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and all the nations of the earth will mourn. They will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky, with power and great glory. 31 And he will send his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other.

32 "Now learn this lesson from the fig tree: As soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. 33 Even so, when you see all these things, you know that it is near, right at the door. 34 I tell you the truth, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. 35 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

36 "No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. 37 As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. 38 For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; 39 and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.

40 Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other left. 41 Two women will be grinding with a hand mill; one will be taken and the other left.

Revelation 17-18 highlights the destruction the beast's city.

Revelation 19 highlights the destruction of the beast's armies.

Rev. 20-21 Kingdom Comes

The final aspect of the end time sequence concerns the kingdom of the Most High God.

Revelation 20 indicates that after the destruction of the beast, the Lord Jesus will set a temporal kingdom on earth for one thousand years. All the wicked of the nations, Satan and his demons are removed from the earth. Christ and the saints reign on the earth after which the final revolt of Satan occurs and the eternal judgment ends human history as we know it.