Thursology 106: Confused About the Rapture and Millennial Views? Making the Timing…Simple!!!

(Thursology-12/7/2023)

--**The Tribulation—The Last Seven Years…in a *Verse* (Daniel 9:27)**:

--Daniel 9:27: 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."

--How it will unfold:

1. The "covenant": The "prince" is the _____ who will establish a peace treaty between the renewed _____ Empire and Israel
2. This covenant will allow the Jews to begin to *sacrifice* in the _____ again
3. The "peace treaty" will be _____ at the *middle* of the seven years
4. Daniel calls the mid-point of the 7 years the "_____ of Desolation
5. At the _____ of the seven years…the evil prince will be _____

--**The Tribulation—The Last Seven Years…in a *Chapter* (Matthew 24)**:

--The start: The Tribulation _____

--Matt 24:9: Then they will deliver you to *tribulation*, and will kill you, and you will be hated by all nations because of My name.

--The middle: According to Jesus, the _____ of Desolation begins the "_____ Tribulation"

--Vv. 15-16, 21: Therefore when you see the *abomination of desolation* which was spoken of *through Daniel* the prophet, standing in the holy place…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.

--The end: At the _____ of the seven-year Tribulation…Christ _____

--Vv. 29-31: But immediately after the *tribulation* of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will fall from the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. And then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and *they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky with power and great glory*. And He will send forth His angels with a great trumpet and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other.

--**The Tribulation—The Last Seven Years…in a *Book* (Revelation)**:

--6:1-2: The Tribulation begins with the _____ Peace Treaty and the seven _____ Judgments

--Then I saw when *the Lamb broke one of the seven seals*, and I heard one of the four living creatures saying as with a voice of thunder, "Come." I looked, and behold, a white horse, and he who sat on it had *a bow*; and a crown was given to him, and he *went out conquering and to conquer*.

--**The Mid-Point of the Tribulation**:

--13:2-5, 15-16: At the mid-point of the Tribulation, the Antichrist is _____, he breaks the _____, declares himself _____, and the _____ Tribulation begins.

--And the dragon gave him his power and his throne and great authority…And the whole earth was amazed and followed after the beast…and they *worshiped* the beast, saying, "Who is like the beast, and who is able to wage war with him?"…and…authority to act for *forty-two months* was given to him…And it was given to him to give breath to the

image of the beast, so that the image of the beast would even speak and *cause as many as do not worship the image of the beast to be killed*. And he causes all, the small and the great, and the rich and the poor, and the free men and the slaves, to be *given a mark* on their right hand or on their forehead…

--The End of the Tribulation: The Completion of Daniel's 70th "Seven"

--Rev 19:11, 15-16, 19-20: The Tribulation ends with the *Second Coming of Christ*…when He comes in power to _____ Israel and _____ the Antichrist and his armies at the Battle of Armageddon

--And I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse, and He who sat on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and wages war…From His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He may strike down the nations…And on His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, "KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS."…And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and *their armies assembled to make war against Him* who sat on the horse and against His army…And the beast was seized, and with him the false prophet…these two were *thrown alive into the lake of fire* which burns with brimstone.

--The Three Classical Teachings About the Millennium:

--_____-millennialism

2nd Coming Final Judgment

The world is on the brink of annihilation → ←_____→ → Eternity begins

Christ reigns on earth

--_____-millennialism

2nd Coming

Final Judgment

Church evangelizes the world → ←_____→ → Eternity begins

World "Christianized"

--___millennialism

2nd Coming

Final Judgment

Church evangelizes the world (___ Millennium) → → Eternity begins

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--Comparing the Major Millennial Views to the Text of Revelation:

--20:1-2: An angel *binds* Satan for _____ years

--Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding the key of the abyss and a great chain in his hand. And he took hold of the dragon, the serpent of old, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a *thousand* years…

--20:4: The Tribulation saints who were *beheaded* for not taking the Mark are *resurrected*…and they *reign* with Christ for _____ years

--Then I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was given to them. And I saw the souls of those who had been *beheaded because of their testimony of Jesus and because of the word of God*, and those who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and *had not received the mark* on their foreheads and on their hands; and they came to life and *reigned with Christ for a thousand years*.

--20:5a: The *unbelieving* dead remain in the grave for _____ years
--The rest of the dead did not come to life until the *thousand* years were completed.

--20:5b-6: The "first resurrection" occurs at the beginning of the Millenium and Christ will _____ on the *earth* for _____ years
--This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ, and will *reign with Him for a thousand years*.

--20:7-8: At the *end* of the _____ years…Satan is released to *deceive* the nations
--When the *thousand* years are completed, *Satan will be released from his prison, and will come out to deceive the nations*…

--**The Rapture Timing**:

--I Thess 4:14-17: For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep in Jesus. For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the *voice* of the archangel and with the *trumpet* of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain will *be caught* up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be *with the Lord*.

--Rev 4:1-2: The *Revelation* picture of the _____-Tribulational Rapture
--After these things I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven, and the first *voice* which I had heard, like the sound of a *trumpet* speaking with me, said, "*Come up here*, and I will show you what must take place after these things." Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, a throne was standing *in heaven*, and One sitting on the throne.
--According to the Pre-Trib view: This describes the Rapture at the end of the _____ Age (Ch. 2, 3)…and _____ the Tribulation begins (Ch. 6).

--Rev 11: 2-3, 7, 11-12: The *Revelation* picture of the _____-Tribulational Rapture
--Leave out the court which is outside the *temple* and do not measure it, for it has been given to the nations; and they will *tread under foot the holy city for forty-two months*. And I will grant authority to *My two witnesses*, and they will prophesy for twelve hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth…When they have finished their testimony, the *beast* that comes up out of the abyss will make war with them, and overcome them and *kill them*…But after the three and a half days, *the breath of life from God came into them*, and they stood on their feet; and great fear fell upon those who were watching them. And they heard a loud *voice* from heaven saying to them, "*Come up here*." Then *they went up into heaven in the cloud*…

--Matt 24:29-31: The *Matthew* picture of the _____-Tribulational Rapture
--"But *immediately after the tribulation* of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will fall from the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. And then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see *the Son of Man coming* on the clouds of the sky with power and great glory. And He will send forth His angels with a great *trumpet* and they *will gather together His elect from the four winds*, from one end of the sky to the other.

--Mental Check about the Millennium versus the Rapture: When someone is talking about "Pre-*something*"…or Post-*something*"…make sure you listen carefully to whether the "*something*" is "_____"…or…"_____"*!!!*

--Key Concept #1: The clear, simple, explicit phrase, "…_____ years…" is used _____ times in Revelation chapter 20.

--Key Concept #2: The _____-millennial view flows ***directly*** out of the Revelation chronology and depends upon no _____ of the text…or theological _____…for its support.

--APPLICATION #1: Revelation isn't hard to _____…it's hard to _____

--The words from Revelation: _____ English…telling a _____ story…that usually interprets _____…in words that are relatively _____ to comprehend!!!

--APPLICATION #2: A Perineal Question: _____ will there even _____ a Millennium…what is its _____???

--Two primary purposes of the Millennium:

--John 3:16-17: For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish, but have eternal life. For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but so that the world might be saved through Him.

--Vv. 18-19: The one who believes in Him is not judged; the one who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the Light has come into the world, and *people loved the darkness rather than the Light*; for their deeds were evil.

--Purpose #1: To reveal…once and for all…that humans aren't _____ *misunderstood*…or *mistreated*…or *misguided*…but rather…humans are truly _____

--Rev 20:7-9: When the *thousand years* are completed, Satan will be released from his prison, and will come out to *deceive the nations* which are in the four corners of the earth…to gather them together for the war; the number of them is like the sand of the seashore. And they came up on the broad plain of the earth and *surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city*, and fire came down from heaven and devoured them.

--Key Concept: The *Millennium* will be the *Great* _____ *Exposer*!!!

--Purpose #2: To affirm the _____ of God…and to show that He *keeps* His _____

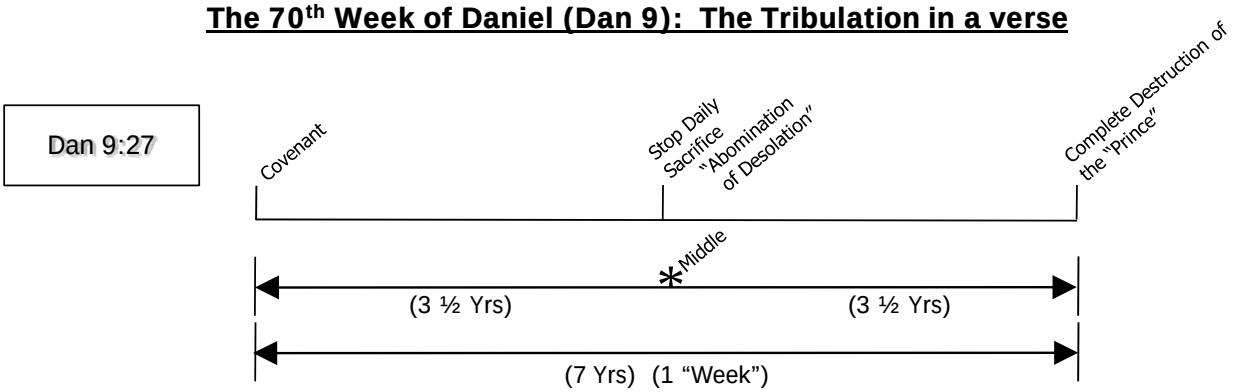
--Isaiah 11:1, 4: Then a shoot will spring from the stem of Jesse…but *with righteousness He will judge* the poor, and decide with fairness for the humble of the earth; and He will *strike the earth with the rod* of His mouth, and with the breath of His lips *He will slay the wicked*.

--Vv. 6, 8-9: And the wolf will dwell with the lamb, and the leopard will lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the young lion and the fattened steer will be together; and a little boy will lead them…The nursing child will play by the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child will put his hand on the viper's den…for *the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea*.

--Rom 8:35-39: Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will tribulation, or trouble, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?...But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

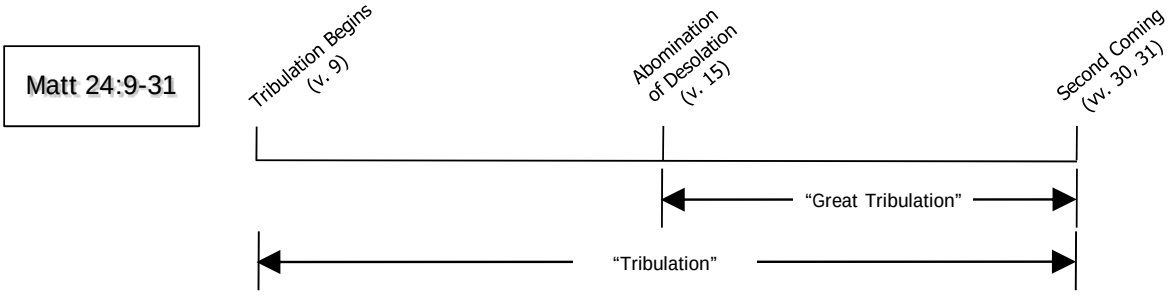
Putting It All Together: The Last Seven Years

The 70th Week of Daniel (Dan 9): The Tribulation in a verse

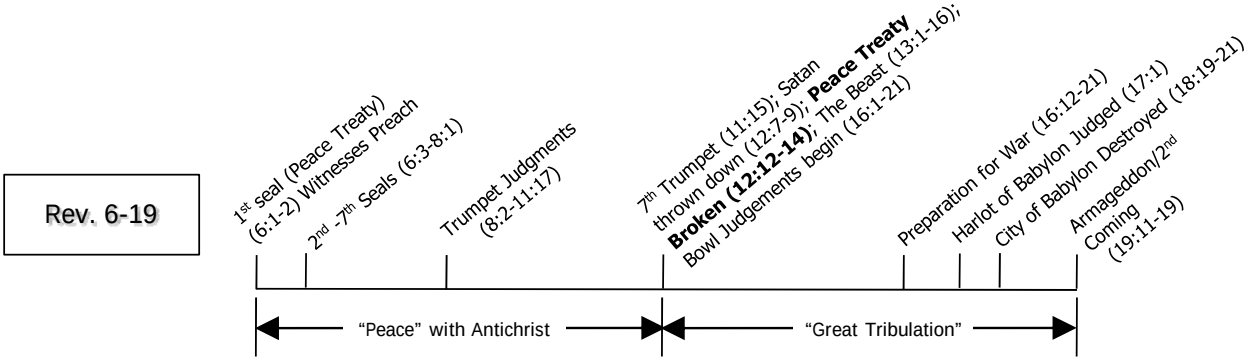


Compare: Dan 2:40-42; 7:1-8, 11, 19-26

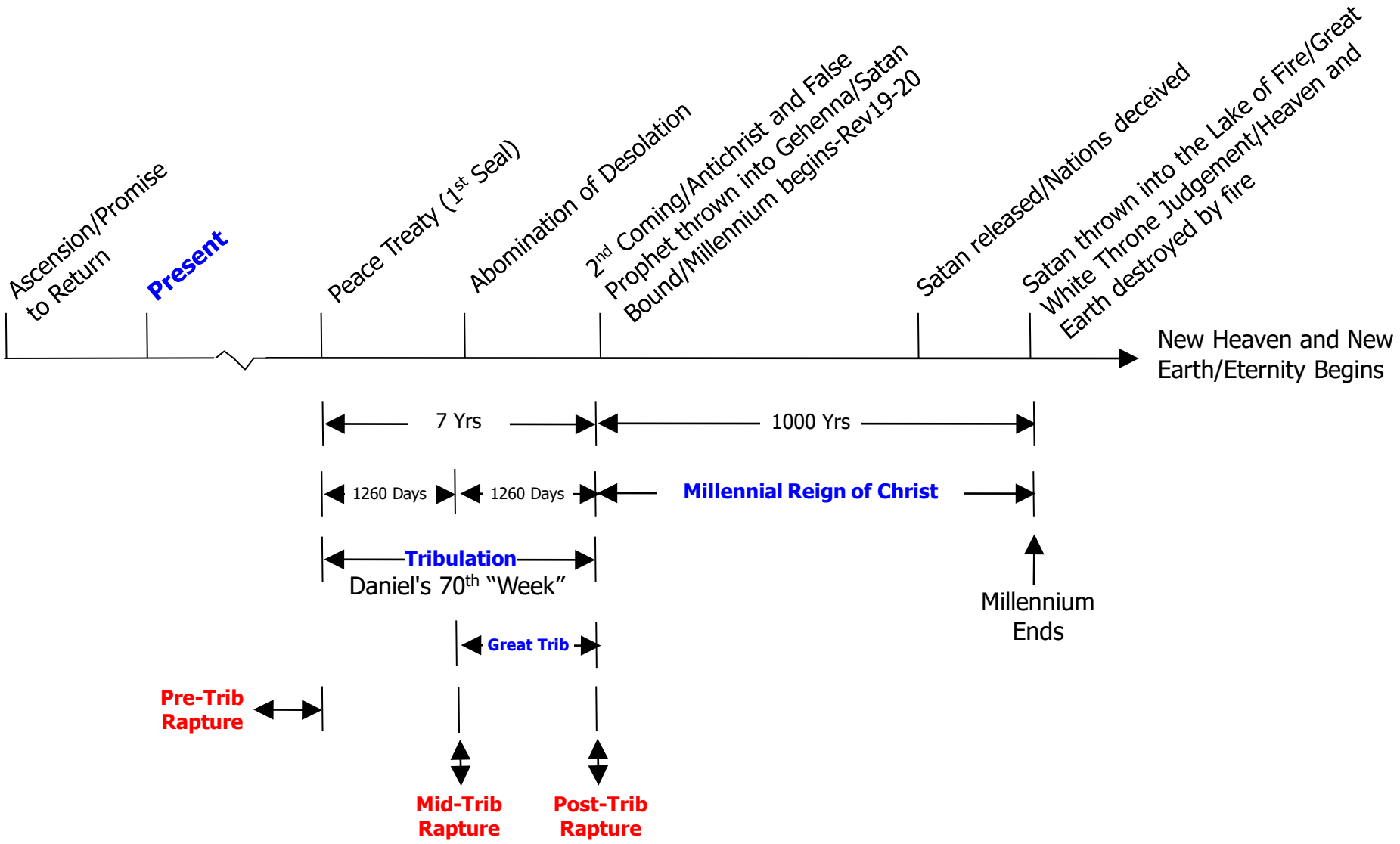
The Olivet Discourse (Matt 24): The Tribulation in a chapter



The Revelation Account (Rev 6-19): The Tribulation in a book



The Revelation Timetable of the Future



Thursology 105: Israel on the Brink—The Huge Wars of the Last Days

(Thursology-11/2/2023)

--**Introduction**:

--Historical Fact: Israel didn't exist as a **NATION**…from 606 BC until 1948…when they were restored to **NATIONAL** status in the Land promised to Abraham.

--Before 1948, there were two schools of thought:

1. Israel has been **REPLACED** by the Church…and is **IRRELEVANT** to biblical prophecy.
2. Israel will be **RESTORED** as a nation…in a historic **MIRACLE**…and is **CENTRAL** to biblical prophecy.

--A Pervasive Prophetic Principle: The only way to understand what will happen in the Last Days…is to understand God's promises to **ISRAEL**…and how the **JEWISH** People fit into God's plan for the **END** of the world*!!!*

--Three themes within many End Times passages:

1) They frequently describe **MASSIVE** wars
2) In the Last Days…at the center of **EVERY** war is…**ISRAEL**
3) These passages seem to describe more than **ONE** great war

--War #1: The Battle of ARMAGEDDON

--Revelation 16:12-14, 16: The sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river, the Euphrates; and its water was dried up, so that the way would be prepared for the kings from the east. And I saw coming out of the mouth of the dragon and out of the mouth of the beast and out of the mouth of the false prophet, three unclean spirits like frogs; for they are spirits of demons, performing signs, which go out to the kings of the whole world, to gather them together for *the war of the great day of God, the Almighty*…And they gathered them together to the place which in Hebrew is called *Har-Magedon*.

--19:11-16, 19-21: And I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse, and He who sat on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and wages war. His eyes are a flame of fire, and on His head are many diadems; and He has a name written on Him which no one knows except Himself. He is clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. And the armies which are in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, were following Him on white horses. From His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He may strike down the nations, and He will rule them with a rod of iron; and He treads the wine press of the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty. And on His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, "KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS."…And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies assembled to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army. And the beast was seized, and with him the false prophet who performed the signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image; these two were thrown alive into the lake of fire which burns with brimstone. And the rest were killed with the sword which came from the mouth of Him who sat on the horse, and all the birds were filled with their flesh.

--Zechariah 14:1-5, 9: Behold, a day is coming for the Lord when…*I will gather all the nations against Jerusalem to battle*…Then *the Lord will go forth and fight against those nations, as when He fights on a day of battle*. In that day *His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives*, which is *in front of Jerusalem* on the east; and the Mount of Olives will be split in its middle from east to west by a very large valley…And you will flee by the valley of My mountains…Then the Lord, my God, will come, and all the holy ones with Him! And *the Lord will be king over all the earth; in that day*…

--Characteristics of Armageddon:

1. In the midst of this war…God **PHYSICALLY** comes **TO** Israel
2. He sets up His **KINGDOM** *on* **EARTH**
3. There is no mention of **FIRE**
4. This war occurs at a time when Israel is living amidst **CALAMITY**, **THREATS**, and **BROKEN** peace treaties
5. The largest army in this battle comes from the **EAST**

--When it occurs: Armageddon occurs **AT** the time of the *Second Coming* of Christ…and right **BEFORE** the Millennium begins

--Rev 19:19; 20:1-2: And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies assembled to make war against *Him who sat on the horse and against His army*…Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding the key of the abyss and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold of the dragon, the serpent of old, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for *a thousand years*…

--**War #2**: The Battle of **GOG** and **MAGOG**

--Ezekiel 38:1-2, 7-9, 14-16 → 39:6: And the word of the Lord came to me saying, "Son of man, set your face toward *Gog of the land of Magog*, the prince of Rosh, Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him…"After many days you will be summoned; *in the latter years* you will come into the land that is restored from the sword, whose inhabitants have been gathered from many nations to the mountains of *Israel* which had been a continual waste; but *its people were brought out from the nations*, and they are *living securely*, all of them. You will go up, you will come like a storm…you and all your troops"…"Therefore…say to *Gog*, 'Thus says the Lord God, "On that day *when My people Israel are living securely*…You will come from your place *out of the remote parts of the north*…a great assembly and a mighty army; and you will come up against My people *Israel*…and it shall come about *in the last days* that I will bring you against *My land*…And I will send *fire upon Magog*…"

--Major differences between Armageddon…and Gog/Magog:

--Difference #1: The principal **DIRECTION** of the invading armies is different

--Ezek 38:1-2, 14-15; 39:2: And the word of the Lord came to me saying, "Son of man, set your face toward *Gog of the land of Magog*…and prophesy against him…Thus says the Lord God, On *that day* when My people *Israel* are *living securely*…You will come from your place *out of the remote parts of the north*…a great assembly and a mighty army…and *I will turn you around*, drive you on, take you up from the *remotest parts of the north* and bring you against the mountains of *Israel*.

--What direction does Gog come from? Far **NORTH**

--Where does the largest army come from in Armageddon? The **EAST**

--Difference #2: While Armageddon occurs at the **BEGINNING** of the Millennium…the Battle of Gog and Magog occurs at the **END** of Millennium

A. When this war begins…Israel is living **SECURELY** in **PEACE**

--Ezekiel 38:14: "Therefore prophesy, son of man, and say to Gog, 'Thus says the Lord God, "On *that day* when My people *Israel* are *living securely*…

--Matt 24:15-16, 21, 29-30: Therefore when you see the abomination of desolation which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place, 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.

--But *immediately after the tribulation*…the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky with power and great glory.

--Ezek 38:10-11: 'Thus says the Lord God, "It will come about on that day…that you will say, 'I will go up against the land of unwalled villages. I will go against those who are at rest, that live securely, all of them living without walls and having no bars or gates…"

B. The Battle of Gog and Magog ends with the **FIRE** falling…and the **DESTRUCTION** of the world

--Ezek 38:18, 22; 39:6: It will come about on that day, when Gog come against the land of Israel," declares the Lord God, "that…I will enter into judgment with him; and *I will rain on him and on his troops*…a torrential rain, with hailstones, *fire and brimstone*…"And *I will send fire* upon Magog…"

--20:1-2, 7, 9: Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding the key of the abyss and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold of the dragon, the serpent of old, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him *for a thousand years*…*And when the thousand years are completed*, Satan will be released from his prison, and will come out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, *Gog and Magog, to gather them together for the war*…and *fire came down from heaven and devoured them*.

--Rev 21:1-2: Then I saw *a new heaven and a new earth*; for *the first heaven and the first earth passed away*…And I saw the holy city, *new* Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God…"

--Application #1: God has a PLAN…and it will unfold EXACTLY as the Scripture says…and no theological manipulation can ALTER it*!!!*

--Some facts about Israel:

--Fact #1: It's **IMPOSSIBLE** that Israel is **BACK** in their Land…*but there they are*!!!

--Fact #2: Both the Old and New Testaments **REPEATEDLY** promised that Israel would **RETURN** to their Land in the Last Days…*and there they are*!!!

--Fact #3: The "scholars" who have tried to *allegorize away* the biblical prophecies about the **FUTURE** of Israel…have been…*repeatedly*…proven **WRONG**!!!

--Application #2: It's *possible* that the events happening in the world right now are *headed toward* conditions that could ultimately make Israel DESPERATE enough to enter into a peace agreement with a "SAVIOR"

--What must take place to prepare for The Tribulation (Daniel's 70th "Week"):

--Prerequisite #1: The Jewish Messiah must be "**CUT OFF**" (Dan 9:27) → (32 AD)

--Prerequisite #2: The Jewish **TEMPLE** must be destroyed (Dan 9:27) → (70 AD)

--Prerequisite #3: The Jewish **CITY** must be destroyed (Dan 9:27) → (130 AD)

--Prerequisite #4: Israel must **RESTORED** as a *people*…and must **RETURN** to the *Land* that was promised to Abraham (Jeremiah, Isaiah, Ezekeil, Daniel, Zechariah, Matthew, Mark, Luke, Revelation, Romans) → (1948)

--Prerequisite #5: Israel must have **HUGE** surrounding populations intent on its **DESTRUCTION** (Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Zechariah, Revelation) → (Since 1948)

--Prerequisite #6: Israel must be a **BURDEN** to the **NATIONS** (Zechariah 12)

> --Zechariah 12:1-3: The burden of the word of the Lord concerning *Israel*. Thus declares the Lord…"Behold, I am going to make *Jerusalem* a cup that *causes reeling to all the peoples* around…It will come about *in that day* that I will make *Jerusalem* a *heavy stone for all the peoples*…And *all the nations of the earth will be gathered against it*.

--Application #3: Whether this conflict with Israel ends up being the "BIG One" or not…don't let your eschatology have you WAITING for something to happen BEFORE Jesus comes back*!!!*

> --Matt 24:36, 40-44: "But of that day and hour *no one knows*, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but *the Father alone*…Then there will be two men in the field; *one will be taken and one will be left*. Two women will be grinding at the mill; *one will be taken and one will be left*. Therefore *be on the alert*, for *you do not know* which day your Lord is coming. But be sure of this, that if the head of the house had known at *what time of the night the thief was coming*, he would have been *on the alert* and would not have allowed his house to be broken into. 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*."