

The People of the Apocalypse  
“The Coming Events”

God’s primary purpose for the 70th Week of Daniel is stated clearly:

*“Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy.” (Daniel 9:24)*

This information given to Daniel the prophet by the messenger of God, the angel Gabriel, distinctly spells out God’s plan during this heralded end of the age time period. This one verse records:

I.The Prophesied Time Period:

1. 70 Weeks
2. 490 Years

II.The Points of Focus:

1. Daniel’s People
2. Daniel’s Holy City

III.The Purpose of God:

1. To finish the transgression
2. To make an end of sin
3. To make reconciliation for iniquity
4. To bring in everlasting righteousness
5. To seal up the vision and prophecy
6. To anoint the most holy

Therefore, the remaining 70<sup>th</sup> Week of Daniel (Daniel 9:27) will be focused upon Daniel’s people the Jews, and upon Jerusalem, Daniel’s holy city, just like the first 69 weeks/483 years which are now recorded history (Daniel 9:25,26).

This unfolding of the Jews future was God’s prophetic answer to Daniel’s mighty prayer of Daniel 9:4-19 as he was praying for the present situation concerning his people and their sinful condition, past and present, and their 70 year captivity specifically mentioning his holy city Jerusalem repeatedly during this lengthy and most powerful petition.

In response he was given an immediate and precise answer concerning a much larger, more important revelation outlining 70 weeks of years [490 years] unveiling the program of the ages for the Jews and their holy city Jerusalem showing the beginning: *“from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem” (Daniel 9:25)* to the end *“even until the consummation” (Daniel 9:27)*.

First of all, in order for the 70<sup>th</sup> Week to begin, there must be a Jewish people (Daniel 9:24), or nation, who of necessity must be in the promised land (Deuteronomy 30:5) and in possession of their holy city Jerusalem (Daniel 9:24).

While the *“times of the Gentiles” (Luke 21:24)* continue *“until the fullness of the Gentiles be come in” (Romans 11:25)*, the present-day Jews:

1. Are once again a recognized people/nation
2. Dwelling in the promised land of Israel
3. Occupying their holy city Jerusalem.

Therefore the first three pre-requisites for the 70th Week of Daniel have already been put in place by the Lord

and the stage is now being set by Him for the start of this last week, or seven years, to take place. But, there are more events and conditions necessary, as described in Scripture, in order for these final seven years to begin as the following words of the Lord Jesus Christ indicate:

*“And Jesus answered and said unto them, Elijah truly shall first come, and restore all things. But I say unto you, That Elijah is come already, and they knew him not, but have done unto him whatsoever they listed. Likewise shall also the Son of man suffer of them. Then the disciples understood that he spoke unto them of John the Baptist.” (Matthew 17:11-13)*

The event He is referring to when He said *“Elijah truly shall first come, and restore all things”* is clearly recorded in the last prophecy of the Old Testament:

*“Behold I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord: And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse” (Malachi 4:5,6).*

One of the major events on God’s agenda is the sending of this last Elijah-like prophet. He will be an integral part of the Lord’s preparation of the people, both Jew and Gentile, and will be sent before the climactic and unparalleled time of judgment of the earth and its population called the Day of the Lord which begins during the last half of the 70<sup>th</sup> Week of Daniel.

His ministry will begin prior to the mid-point of the 70<sup>th</sup> Week when the *“abomination of desolation”* (Daniel 9:27; Matthew 24:15) occurs and stops the regular sacrifice which began earlier through the *“restore all things”* (Matthew 17:11; Mark 9:12) ministry of this last Elijah-like prophet.

The Lord will, once again, be sending prophets to His people the Jews. However, these prophets will not just be affecting the land of Israel as in Old Testament days. Like *“the two prophets”* of Revelation 11:3-14, this last Elijah will most likely have a worldwide ministry during his end of the age tenure as he ministers to the hearts of God’s people thereby restoring a key part of the *“things”* which have been ordained by God.

It would not have been necessary for the Lord to send this last Elijah had the Jews received John the Baptist, as the Lord Jesus Christ indicated in Matthew 11:13,14:

*“For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John [The Baptist]. And if ye will receive it, this is Elijah, which was for to come.”*

But the Jews did not receive him. If they had, the Lord would have continued with His Day of the Lord program as already spelled out in the Old Testament. Instead their rejection of John the Baptist and the Christ he was heralding has brought Jew and Gentile alike to this very time in the plan of God.

During the close of the end of the age and before the beginning of the Day of the Lord, God will surely send this last Elijah to *“restore”* those things that He requires which *“restitution [restoration]”* Peter also spoke of in his second sermon:

*“And He shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began” (Acts 3:20,21).*

Peter indicates that the return of the Lord Jesus Christ will not occur *“until the times of restitution of all things”* confirming that the Lord Jesus Christ’s second coming will occur after this last Elijah-like prophet restores all things and is ministering to the hearts of men in the process fulfilling his service to the Lord by heralding the soon return of the long awaited Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ.

This word *“restitution”*, a noun only used this one time in the New Testament, is also the root of the verb

“*restore*” that the Lord Jesus used in Matthew 17:11 meaning “to restore to its former state” indicating Elijah’s two-fold restoration ministry:

1. The spiritual revival of the hearts of God’s people (Malachi 4:5, 6)
2. The physical restoration of the “*holy covenant*” (Daniel 11:28-32; Matthew 17:11; Mark 9:12)

This same Greek root is found in the word “*shall turn again*” of Malachi 4:5:

*“And behold I will send to you Elias the Thesbite, before the great and glorious day of the Lord comes; who shall turn again the heart of the father to the son, and the heart of a man to his neighbor, lest I come and smite the earth grievously.”*

This verse is found in the Septuagint, the Greek Old Testament, a translation of the Hebrew which was the people’s Bible before and during New Testament times and is still actively used by certain orthodox Christians in eastern Europe.

Over 90% of the Old Testament quotations in the New Testament find their source in this translation, which the Lord Jesus utilized when He spoke of Elijah’s future ministry of restoration in Matthew 17:11 which will occur before the Day of the Lord begins.

While the 70th Week of Daniel has as its focus the Jews and Jerusalem, it is merely the prelude to the Day of the Lord which begins during the 70th Week and is in reality the world’s end of the age climactic ultimatum from the Lord, for the Day of the Lord deals with the entire population of planet earth, Jew and Gentile alike, and is the most prophesied event in all of Scripture.

Therefore, understanding the necessary conditions and events, which must occur before the 70th Week of Daniel, is vital. But, God’s Day of the Lord must be the primary consideration because the 70th Week provides the conditions He requires in order to begin His final end of the age judgment which the prophet Malachi calls: “*the great and dreadful day of the Lord*” (Malachi 4:5).

By utilizing the prophetic timeline given by the Lord Jesus Christ in Matthew 24:3-31, it is clear that the Day of the Lord will begin “*Immediately after the tribulation*” (Matthew 24:29a) indicated by the notable sign of the Day of the Lord/Coming of Christ:

*“The sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of heaven shall be shaken”* (Matthew 24:29b)

This sign was originally recorded in Joel 2:31:

*“The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the Lord come.”*

This event is also recorded in Revelation 6:12-17. This sign will occur the same day the Lord returns to rapture the saints before His wrathful judgment, the Day of the Lord, begins. The Lord’s teaching in Luke 17:22-37 teaches “*the same day*” rescue, then, retribution plan He has used throughout the Biblical record. His vivid account of the rapture in (Luke 17:34-36) describes this simultaneous rescuing of believers while unbelievers are left behind to face the coming judgment.

The disciples, not understanding this truth, immediately asked: “*Where, Lord*” wanting to know the specific location, so the Lord answered:

*“Wherever the body [corpse (Matthew 24:28)] is, thither will the eagles [vultures] be gathered together.”* (Luke 17:37)

The Lord is indicating not only the certainty of this event but also its worldwide scope for regardless of where a

dead body is found on the planet the vultures will most definitely be present.

He then answered the disciples question as to exactly where these events would take place by indicating the far reaching global effects of His certain, “*same day*” second coming and subsequent Day of the Lord judgment.

However, before all this, the Lord will send this last Elijah-like prophet, mentioned above, who will definitely “*restore all things*” (*Matthew 17:11*) indicating his ministry will not be unlike the first Elijah who in God’s wisdom set the stage for the coming of the second Elijah, John the Baptist, who in like manner has accomplished the same for this third and future prophet of God.

He, like the first and second Elijah, will be completely led by the Holy Spirit of God, knowing and announcing Gods plan as it unfolds. The first Elijah knew with absolute certainty exactly what, when and where God was planning in order to accomplish His will for His people as he gave the now famous ultimatum to king Ahab concerning the 3-1/2 year drought (*I Kings 17:1*)

His preparation for this notable day caused him to have earth shaking faith as he immersed himself in the Word of God thereby receiving the Holy Spirit’s understanding that the Lord was about to bring a period of drought upon the earth in response to the idolatrous conduct of His people, the Jews (*Deuteronomy 11:16,17*).

He later pronounced another great ultimatum to God’s people:

*“How long halt ye between two opinions? If the Lord be God, follow Him: but if Baal, then follow him.” (I Kings 18:21) This was followed by the renowned contest between God and Baal (I Kings 18:22-40).*

His mighty prayer is recorded near the end of this contest:

“Lord God of Abraham, Isaac, and of Israel, let it be known this day that Thou art God in Israel, and that I am Thy servant, and that I have done all these things at Thy word.  
*Hear me, O LORD, hear me, that this people may know that Thou art the LORD God, and that Thou hast turned their heart back again.” (I Kings 18:36,37)*

This brought down from heaven the all-consuming fire of God eliciting the submission and worship of the people. This Holy Spirit filled prayer by God’s servant was what it took for God to turn their hearts which in like manner is what it will take at the end of the age when the last Elijah will accomplish his service

The second Elijah, John the Baptist, as the Lord Himself came to him on the banks of Jordan the day He was made known publicly at His baptism, announced:

*“Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world” (John 1:29).*

In the three days recorded in John 1:19-36, John the Baptist would experience the culmination of his ministry when the first day he was asked by the unbelieving Jews “*Art thou Elijah?*” and the second day he saw “*Jesus coming unto him, and said, Behold the Lamb of God which takes away the sin of the world*” and the third day “*And looking upon Jesus as He walked, he said, Behold the Lamb of God!*”

John knew who Jesus was, and exactly what He came to do for all of mankind long before the Lord Jesus Christ died on the Cross of Calvary for the sins of mankind. He was completely accurate in his proclamations concerning the Christ, the Jewish Messiah, the blessed Lord Jesus Who came to save His people from their sin! His “*baptism of repentance*” served to also turn the hearts of God’s people preparing them for the Lord’s first coming as “*the Lamb of God*” to bring salvation to all people.

So, with two Elijahs now past, some conclusions can be drawn from the Biblical record concerning the third and last Elijah. This powerful Jewish prophet will come during the end of the age, before the Day of the Lord to

“*restore all things*” in the spirit and power of his two predecessors.

And, if God continues to be “*the same yesterday, today and forever*” (*Hebrews 13:8*) this prophet’s ministry will increase in a progressive manner. The scope of his ministry will grow from being strictly to the Jews in the land of Israel to include all of the saints in the existing Church worldwide.

This can be predicted with certainty for the central purpose of his ministry is to “*restore all things*” as the two Elijahs before him:

1. They Called the people of God to repentance
2. They Confronted the political leader
3. They Condemned the false religious leaders

Therefore, we can look to the Scripture with confidence and great expectation concerning this mighty prophet of God, for he too will call the people of God to repentance and revival. He also will confront the political leader of that day, the Antichrist. And, it will also be his duty, as God’s Holy Spirit filled voice, to condemn the false religious leader, the false prophet.

He will be instrumental in the restoration of the “*holy covenant*” (*Daniel 11:28-32*) and the likely leader of a great company of men who will evangelize the Jews (*Daniel 11:33, 12:3*) as “*all Israel shall be saved*” (*Romans 11:26*) when their Deliverer, the Lord Jesus Christ, will “*bring in everlasting righteousness*” (*Daniel 9:24*) at the end of the 70<sup>th</sup> Week of Daniel (*Revelation 11:15, 14:1*).

Therefore, this Elijah-like prophet will revive the people of God spiritually, turning their hearts, but, he will also be responsible to physically “*restore all things*” referring to the things of the “*holy covenant*” including temple worship (*Revelation 11:1,2*) which is also recorded in the book of Daniel:

*“Then shall he [Antichrist] return into his land with great riches; and his heart shall be against the holy covenant; and he shall do exploits, and return to his own land...he shall be grieved and return, and have indignation against the holy covenant; so shall he do; he shall even return, and have intelligence with them that forsake the holy covenant. And arms [forces] shall stand on his part, and they shall pollute the sanctuary of strength, and shall take away the daily sacrifice, and they shall place the abomination that maketh desolate. And such as do wickedly against the covenant shall he corrupt by flatteries; but the people that do know their God shall be strong and do exploits.”* (*Daniel 11:28, 30-32*)

This passage shows that there will be those Jews who fall away and forsake the restored “*holy covenant*” referring to the restored covenant God originally made with the nation of Israel at Mount Sinai (*Exodus 19:3-6*).

The Jews renewed obedience to this covenant underlies the restoration of temple worship and the offering of the daily or regular morning and evening sacrifices which are those specifically indicated here in these verses.

However, the wicked and deceitful activities of the Antichrist focusing upon his personal and progressively building contempt for the “*holy covenant*” recorded above, along with those Jews who forsake this covenant, which is the “*falling away*” of (*II Thessalonians 2:3*), occur before he has his image placed in the temple of God.

This event, the setting up of Antichrists image “*in the holy place*” (*Matthew 24:15*) marks the mid-point of the 70<sup>th</sup> Week of Daniel (*Daniel 9:27*) and the ending of “*the regular/morning and evening sacrifice*” (*Daniel 8:11-14, 9:27, 11:31, 12:11*).

The Antichrists “*intelligence with them that forsake the holy covenant*” (*Daniel 11:30*) could well be the catalyst that brings this horrific event to pass. The Lord Jesus Christ in His unfolding of the end of the age

indicated the importance of this prophecy when He said:

*“When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place (whoso reads, let him understand)” (Matthew 24:15).*

This is but one of the two Old Testament prophecies utilized by the Lord Jesus as He chronologically unfolded the end of the age which culminates with His second coming to the four disciples of His inner circle (Matthew 24:3-31).

The abomination of desolation marks the mid-point of the 70<sup>th</sup> Week of Daniel and the end of the restored “*holy covenant*” temple worship of God by the Jews. And, this is the second Old Testament prophecy He referred to:

*“Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of heaven shall be shaken.”*  
(Matthew 24:29)

This major prophetic sign and its global effects are referred to in at least fourteen different Bible passages: (Isaiah 5:30, 13:10, 24:23; Ezekiel 32:7,8; Joel 2:2, 10, 30-31; Amos 1:18; 8:9; Zephaniah 1:15; Matthew 24:29; Mark 13:24, 25; Luke 21:25; Acts 2:20; Revelation 6:12, 13).

These heavenly wonders are the sign marking three major events:

1. The End of the Great Tribulation (Matthew 24:29)
2. The Second Coming of Christ for the gathering of the elect/rapture (Matthew 24:30,31)
3. The Beginning of the Day of the Lord’s Wrath (Joel 2:30,31; Revelation 6:12-17).

Revelation 7:1-8 adds still another significant event in this series which occurs just before the second coming of Christ and that is the sealing of the 144 Thousand which occurs before the gathering of the elect/rapture (Revelation 7:9-17) in order that the testimony of the Lord Jesus Christ continue on earth throughout the Day of the Lord.

These two prophecies are the most significant time of the end passages in all of Scripture as they vividly provide the believer with the only actual timeposts unveiling the Lord’s chronological structure which He so simply and precisely communicated to His disciples during His last days on earth!

This step by step unfolding of the time of the end is indicated by the Lord’s usage of unfolding time indicating words such as:

*“The end is not yet...All these are the beginning of sorrows...Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted...And then shall many be offended...But he that shall endure unto the end...Then shall the end come...Then let them which be in Judea...For then shall be great tribulation...Then if any man shall say unto you...Immediately after the tribulation...And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man...and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn...” (Matthew 24:6-30)*

The simplicity that is in Christ Jesus is unmistakably understandable. Whether it be to the Lord’s disciples, or the newborn babe in the far reaches of Africa, or the seasoned prophecy professor of the university, the Lord gave Matthew 24:3-31 in His familiar and effective way so that all you need is the Word of God and you can grasp the truth necessary for understanding any doctrine of Scripture including His second coming and the end of the age.

Since He is the Author of all Scripture, the information given to Daniel describing “*the abomination of desolation*” provides additional insight concerning Elijah’s end of the age restoration of the Old Covenant worship of God.

The first reference to “*the abomination of desolation*” occurs in Daniel’s vision of chapter eight. The purpose of this vision focuses upon the Antichrist, his Actions and the Actual Time his actions will have effect, in (Daniel 8:1-8) The Ascertaining of His Country, (Daniel 8:9) The Ascendancy of the Antichrist, (Daniel 8:10-14) The Actual Time/Actions of the Antichrist.

The detail of (Daniel 8) is given in order to accurately pinpoint the country from which the Antichrist will rise with the choice coming from one of the “*four notable ones toward the four winds of heaven*” (Daniel 8:8). Then (Daniel 8:9): “*And out of one of them came forth a little horn*” showing the Antichrist coming from one of these “*Four kingdoms...in the latter time [end time] of their kingdoms*” (Daniel 8:22,23) as clearly interpreted by the angel.

These four countries came from the kingdom of Alexander the Great when upon his death his empire was divided into: Syria (North), Egypt (South), Turkey/Armenia (East), and Greece (West). In chapter eleven the Antichrist is identified as “*The king of the north*” (Daniel 11:6,7,11,15,40) indicating he will rise from the country of Syria.

Although the introduction of this vision includes the rise and fall of certain kingdoms from a long past era, the timeframe and emphasis of this revelation is: “*The time of the end...the last end of the indignation*” (Daniel 8:17,19) indicating exactly when these events will take place. And the major event, as indicated by the Lord in Matthew 24:15, is the Antichrist’s primary goal of ending the “holy covenant” temple worship of the true and living God!

Paul’s illuminating record of this horrendous event is the last and most powerful indication of the Antichrist’s vile intent:

*“Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day [The Day of the Lord] shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin [Antichrist] be revealed, the son of perdition; Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.” (II Thessalonians 2:3,4)*

This will bring an end to the restored temple worship of God at the mid-point of the 70<sup>th</sup> Week when the Jews will be worshipping in the temple of God as indicated by the Apostle John:

*“And there was given me a reed like a rod: and the angel stood, saying, Rise, and measure the temple of God, and the altar, and them [the Jews] that worship therein. But, the court [of the Gentiles] which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under foot forty and two months.” (Revelation 11:1, 2)*

The ending of the worship of God stands out as one of, if not the major event of the Antichrist’s tenure as it is recorded in the book of Daniel four times, underscored by the Lord Jesus Christ, and described by the apostle Paul.

The issue is worship! In a word, that defines the reason for the Antichrist’s action. The majority of the world’s inhabitants will worship this one man who is Satanically energized and given Satanic authority to rule like none other before him.

But, there are those obstinate Jews who continue to worship Jehovah in the temple of God at Jerusalem... And, those rebellious Christians who worship Jehovah who also will not take the mark of the beast... They all must be brought into submission or be eliminated!

The Antichrist’s history culminating with the ending of the regular sacrifice in God’s temple is the primary prophetic focal point of the book of Daniel for the development and progression of the visions in the book of

Daniel focus around this one major event:

1. Nebuchadnezzar's vision of four kingdoms, emphasis is the 4<sup>th</sup> kingdom

(Daniel 2)

1. Daniel's vision of four kingdoms, ten nations, little horn, emphasis is 4<sup>th</sup> kingdom (Daniel 7)
2. Daniel's vision of four kingdoms, four divisions, little horn, abomination/daily sacrifice ceasing (Daniel 8)
3. Daniel's vision of the prince that shall come, daily sacrifice ceasing/abomination of desolation (Daniel 9)
4. Daniel's last vision: kingdoms of Persia and Greece (Daniel 10)
5. Daniel's last vision (cont.) four kingdoms, four divisions, king of the north, daily sacrifice ceasing/abomination of desolation (Daniel 11)
6. Daniel's last vision (cont.) daily sacrifice taken away, abomination desolation (Daniel 12)

While numerous facts are repeated in these visions, the major repetitive emphasis shown here is the Antichrist and his implementing of "*the abomination of desolation*" clearly referred to by the Lord Jesus Christ (Matthew 24:15) in His chronological unfolding of the time of the end.

This is the only reference from the prophet Daniel given by the Lord which records the end to the restored temple worship of God. It is immediately followed by the beginning of Antichrist worship in God's temple when his image is set up in the holy place.

The Lord progressively unfolds this series of visions by giving Daniel the interpretation of Nebuchadnezzar's vision bringing to his mind the truth of the four coming kingdoms with the fourth in focus.

Five decades later, in chapter seven, the Lord expands this four-kingdom concept with the fourth emphasized including the "*ten horns*" with "*the little horn*" (Daniel 7:8) as the time of the end arch-enemy of God being the significant character.

In his chapter eight vision, similar ground is covered with "*the little horn*" (Daniel 8:9) coming out of one of the four divisions of Alexander the great's empire which four divisions are part of the previous ten horns. He, "*the little horn*" (Daniel 8:11,12), will put a stop to the regular daily sacrifice in the temple of God.

In chapter nine, having now settled in the mind of Daniel the truth of the coming of one who will oppose God and end the regular sacrifice, this "*little horn*" of chapters seven and eight "*confirms the covenant for one week*" eventually causing the daily sacrifice to cease at the mid-point of this last week or seven years which is the 70<sup>th</sup> Week of Daniel (Daniel 9:27).

The last vision given in Daniel 10-12 continues to underline what has already been revealed in the previous four visions. Only the remaining two of the previous four kingdoms are named, Persia and Greece, with the focus upon the four divisions of Alexander's empire once again supplying the source region for the Antichrist.

After mentioning this fourfold division by utilizing the words "*four winds of heaven*" (Daniel 11:4) as in (Daniel 8:8) which indicates their relative location to the holy land as North, South, East and West, the angel immediately skips over the centuries between and begins dealing with the future generations and end times rise of the last "king of the north" (Daniel 11: 21-45), the Antichrist.

This is exactly what occurred in (Daniel 8:1-8) where the four kingdoms and the four divisions "*toward the four winds of heaven*" were introduced together. And, in (Daniel 8:9-12) the "little horn" is responsible for the daily sacrifice being taken away, which is repeated in Daniel's last vision, where "*the four winds of heaven*" (Daniel 11:4). Then the introduction and generational rise of the last "*king of the north*" the Antichrist follows.

He, once again, is shown to be the one responsible for the stopping of the temple worship of God and the setting

up of the abomination of desolation when he has his own image set up in the holy place (Daniel 11:31). This interpretation, based on the repetition of a pattern in the Biblical texts of chapters eight and eleven, was developed in the 19<sup>th</sup> century by noted prophecy scholar Dr. Samuel P. Tregelles who not only dedicated himself to the study of the prophetic Scripture, but was also a recognized expert in Old Testament languages.

He has been called the greatest Biblical scholar of the nineteenth century as his writings were known worldwide and his concise scholarship was acknowledged both in Europe and America. He authored numerous works including “Heads of Hebrew Grammar” and “Hebrew Reading Lessons” for the student, and was reputed to be the recommended expert on prophecy by his contemporary, Charles Haddon Spurgeon.

His commentary on the book of Daniel “Tregelles On Daniel” is one of the most scholarly and exceedingly helpful volumes in the study of this important book of Old Testament time of the end prophecy.

His interpretation utilized above is based on the only mention of the taking away of the “daily sacrifice...the abomination that makes desolate” (Daniel 11:31) in the step by step end of the age narrative of Daniel’s last vision which Tregelles rightly decided must be the same one that occurs at the mid-point of the 70<sup>th</sup> Week of Daniel (Daniel 9:27) which is clearly referred to by the Lord Jesus Christ in Matthew 24:15.

For, if the narrative of chapter eleven is reviewed, there is no logical pause or time lapse in the text, except between Daniel 11:4 and 11:5 after the “four winds of heaven” representing the four divisions of Alexander’s kingdom appear. Then the “*king of the south...north*” have a detailed documentation of their generations and respective activities up to and including the time of the end.

His careful analysis of the Biblical text, combined with his excellent knowledge of the Hebrew and Chaldee/Aramaic provide unusual insight as he time and again proves his interpretation based upon the text and the text alone.

His alignment of Daniel 7:21-25 and Daniel 8:9-19 concerning “the little horn” compared with Daniel 11:36-41 prove that all three texts are referring to the same person, the coming Antichrist (“Tregelles on Daniel” pp.83). He held to the Biblical teaching that present-day Syria will be the country of origin for the Antichrist showing that the Assyrian of old will continue to be Israel’s great enemy at the time of the end.

His timely refutation of the false theory of the at-any-moment rapture and coming of Christ found in his short volume “The Hope of Christ’s Second Coming” is compelling to say the least. With twenty-four precise chapters, this book illuminates his Biblical position as it was written during the rise of this false theory.

Even though the majority of the Jews will follow the Antichrist in that day, the implicit obedience of certain Jews will definitely become reality when the Day of the Lord begins for the Lord will open that time with 144 Thousand Sons of Israel (Revelation 14:1; Psalm 110:3).

These young men being mature saints of God are called “the servants of our God...which were sealed” (Revelation 7:3,4) and are later described as “*following the Lamb wherever He goes*” (Revelation 14:4) underlining their full and complete obedience to the Lord!

And, “*the woman*” of Revelation 12, representing the faithful of the nation of Israel, is also made up of Israelites who obediently flee (Matthew 24:16) to a place prepared of God (Revelation 12:6). These will likely be the women, children and older men who will spend the last half of the 70<sup>th</sup> Week of Daniel in the wilderness where they will be nourished by God (Revelation 12:14).

The 144 Thousand chosen, called and faithful young men are not part of “*the woman*” for they are seen after the

mid-point of the 70<sup>th</sup> Week of Daniel, being sealed (Revelation 7:1-8) immediately after the sign of the Day of the Lord (Revelation 6:12-17).

This seal which is the signature of God physically written on their foreheads (Revelation 14:1) will provide them with protection during the Day of the Lord:

*“And it was commanded them [locusts] that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; but only those men which have not the seal of God in their foreheads.” (Revelation 9:4)*

They also appear later “with the Lamb” at the end of 70<sup>th</sup> Week of Daniel and during the Day of the Lord (Revelation 14:1, 17:14) respectively as they remain upon earth during the Day of the Lord after the gathering of the elect/rapture.

In addition, there will be the “two witnesses” of Revelation 11:3-17, who also will minister during the last half of the 70<sup>th</sup> Week of Daniel and the Day of the Lord as prophets of the judgment of God. They also will not be gathered with the elect/raptured for their ministry continues before and after the rapture occurs according to the Lord's precise timeline in Matthew 24:3-31.

This chronological timeline indicates the following sequence:

- 1.The Beginning of Sorrows (v.4-8)
- 2.The Great Tribulation (v.9-14)
- 3.The Great Tribulation Detailed (v.15-28)
- 4.The Sign of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming/Day of the Lord (v.29)
- 5.The Second Coming of Christ/Gathering of The Elect/Beginning of the Day of the Lord (v.30, 31).

The time called “the beginning of sorrows” (Matthew 24:8) although not strictly defined in years, months or days by the Lord, encompasses a lengthy period, for, the unparalleled rise of “false Christs” (Matthew 24:4,5) such as the Jehovah's [false] witnesses, Mormons/Latter Day [false] Saints, Seventh Day Adventists and the Christian Science cults all have occurred within the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

The 20<sup>th</sup> century produced the most horrendous and unparalleled display of wars [World War I, II] (Matthew 24:6), and the 21<sup>st</sup> now continuing with an increasing number of famines, pestilences and earthquakes (Matthew 24:7) revealing that we have been living within “*the beginning of sorrows*” and are presently closing in rapidly on the Lord's return!

And, as the Lord has already begun preparing the world for His Day of the Lord judgment, He has also begun preparing His earthly people, the Jews, for this time of unparalleled wrath from heaven also known as “*the time of Jacobs trouble*” (Jeremiah 30:7).

He continues to move forward as the Jews are in the promised land (Deuteronomy 30:5, Matthew 24:16) and have miraculously become a nation [Daniel's people] with Jerusalem [Daniel's holy city] (Daniel 9:24) as their capitol!

Therefore, the Lord's sending of the last Elijah-like prophet spoken of in Malachi 4:5,6; Mathew 17:11; Mark 9:12 appears to be on the very doorstep of His prophetic plan to “*restore all things*” which must occur during the beginning of sorrows (Matthew 24:8) and prior to the great tribulation (Matthew 24:21) when the faithful of the nation of Israel will be fleeing (Matthew 24:15-28; Revelation 12:6) during the Antichrist's global war with the church saints (Daniel 7:21-25; Revelation 13:1-18) while Satan's primary focus will be centered upon the Jews in the land. (Daniel 11:21-12:1; Revelation 12:1-17).

Like the successful evangelists of old and his two predecessors [Elijah and John the Baptist] whom the Lord

sent to His people, his emphasis will be upon repentance providing the Lord with the ability to turn the hearts of His earthly people the Jews and Gentiles within the church, which is the body of the Lord Jesus Christ.

For it is the church which will provide the seedbed for this powerful group of evangelists [the 144 Thousand] who will be sealed and remain as *“the servants of our God”* (Revelation 7:3) upon earth (Revelation 9:4, 14:1-5) during the *“great and dreadful day of the Lord”* (Revelation 8,9,15,16) which will begin immediately after the rapture/gathering of the elect out of the shortened great tribulation (Matthew 24:22; Revelation 7:9-17).

The 144 Thousand will be sent to evangelize and instruct during (Daniel 11:32-35), and after the great tribulation (Daniel 12:3; Revelation 14:1-5), those whom God will save when *“all Israel shall be saved”* (Romans 11:26; Isaiah 59:20) at the end of the 70<sup>th</sup> Week of Daniel.

*“For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent?”* (Romans 10:13-15)

Therefore, out of *“the saints”* mentioned in Daniel 7:18, 21, 25, 27, who comprise the global end of the age church of Jesus Christ, will come the last Elijah-like prophet (Malachi 4:5,6; Matthew 17:11), the martyrs (Revelation 6:9-11), the *“two witnesses”* (Revelation 11:3), *“the woman”* (Revelation 12:1-17a), and *“the rest of her [physical] seed which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ”* (Revelation 12:17b), from which group God will call and then eventually seal the 144 Thousand *“servants of our God”*. (Revelation 7:1-8).

In addition, there will be those Jews who hear and believe the instruction of the 144 Thousand causing the Lord to turn their hearts when *“all Israel shall be saved”* (Isaiah 59:20; Romans 11:25,26).

These Jews are the one third who remain after the Lord brings them:  
*“Through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on My name, and I will hear them: I will say, it is My people: and they shall say, The LORD is My God.”* (Zechariah 13:9)

Unfortunately, as the verses prior reveal, two thirds will die during this: *“The time of Jacob’s [Israel’s] trouble”* (Jeremiah 30:7) also known as the seven trumpet plagues which occur during the beginning of the Day of the Lord:

*“Awake, O sword, against My shepherd, and against the man that is My fellow, saith the LORD of hosts: smite the shepherd, and the sheep shall be scattered: and I will turn mine hand upon the little ones. And it shall come to pass, that in all the land, saith the LORD, two parts therein shall be cut off and die; but the third part shall be left therein.”* (Zechariah 13:7,8)

This unprecedented slaughter will cause the prior holocausts inflicted upon the Jews to pale in comparison to the horrendous and unparalleled judgment, which proceeds from the hand of God. The sixth trumpet judgment alone will claim one third of the earth’s population (Revelation 9:18) as God’s penalty upon the earth and its unrepentant inhabitants (II Peter 3:3-10; Revelation 9:20,21, 16:9-11) and Gods purification of Israel (Isaiah 1:24-28; Ezekiel 7:19,20; Amos 5:18,19; Zechariah 13:8,9; Malachi 3:1-3) continue to unfold as described in these seven trumpet judgments (Revelation 8,9,11).

The primary purpose of the Day of the Lord is the purification of God’s earthly people, the Jews, just as the primary purpose of the great tribulation will be the purification of the church of Jesus Christ in preparation for

His coming to take them home (Ephesians 5:26; Titus 3:14; I John 3:1-3; Jude 24).

He will utilize the wicked purposes of men to bring many sons unto glory having their hearts revived and purified so that during that time called the great tribulation (Matthew 24:21; Revelation 7:14), also known as Satan's "*great wrath*" (Revelation 12:12), there will be many faithful martyrs (Revelation 6:10, 11, 20:4) as they will "*love not their lives unto the death*" (Revelation 12:11).

It will be this martyrdom of His own brethren, referred to as "*fellow servants also and their brethren*" spoken to the martyrs in Revelation 6:11, that will bring the exact number to His predetermined will. These are those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life from the foundation of the world, who are called out from the "remnant [rest] of her [physical] seed" (Revelation 12:17b).

They are the ones who are the "*called and chosen and faithful*" (Revelation 17:14b) going with the Lord to battle the "ten kings" at the battle of Armageddon (Revelation 17:12-14a). This exact, predetermined number of 144 Thousand sons of Israel will go to battle spiritually and physically along with the Lamb, the Lord Jesus Christ, during the "*great and dreadful Day of the Lord*" having been sealed and protected from the devastating judgment of God (Revelation 9:4).

Here is the end of the age Israel of God! It is these prime servants of God who are selected for His spiritual and physical army during the most privileged and crucial days of time that redeemed men will ever walk the face of planet earth.

These will be those young holy priest/warriors in the Lord's army (Psalm 110:3) who have earned the honor of standing on Mount Zion with the Lamb, the Lord Jesus Christ, serving Him, the King of kings and Lord of lords with every ounce of their being.

They are seen taking part in one of the most powerful worship scenes ever recorded in the word of God as heaven and earth meet, singing in beautiful harmony the "*new song*", which is known only to those designated participants as they exalt and worship the Father before His heavenly throne (Revelation 14:1-5).

This worship scene occurs at the end of the 70<sup>th</sup> Week of Daniel, after the first three elements of God's plan for the Jews (Daniel 9:24a) are completed:

1. The transgression is finished
2. Sin is ended
3. Reconciliation for iniquity has been made.

These three negative events involving Israel's rebellion against God are over, and the last three positive elements

1. To bring in everlasting righteousness
2. To seal up the vision and prophecy
3. To anoint the most holy

are soon to be accomplished as God's marvelous plan continues to unfold. (Daniel 9:24b)

The 70<sup>th</sup> Week comes to an end at the sounding of the 7<sup>th</sup> Trumpet:

*"And the seventh angel sounded: and their were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of His Christ; and He shall reign for ever and ever.*

*And the four and twenty elders, which sat before God on their seats, fell upon their faces, and worshipped God, Saying, We give Thee thanks, O Lord God Almighty, which art, and was, and art to come; because Thou hast taken to Thee Thy great power, and hast reigned. And the nations were angry, and Thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that Thou should give reward unto Thy servants the prophets,*

*and to the saints, and them that fear Thy name, small and great; and should destroy them which destroy the earth. And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in His temple the ark of His testament: and there were voices, and thundering, and an earthquake, and great hail.” (Revelation 11:15-19).*

This significant proclamation from heaven, followed by the magnificent display of worship, signals the occurrence of a series of major events in the unfolding chronological end of the age plan of God. First of all, the 3-1/2 year ministry of the “two witnesses” comes to its conclusion (Revelation 11:3-14).

Secondly, the seventh trumpet/third woe occurs, officially ending the 70<sup>th</sup> Week of Daniel. However, the greatest event of all in this series is announced immediately by “*great voices from heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of His Christ, and He shall reign for ever and ever.*” (Revelation 11:15)

These may well be the actual lyrics of the “*new song*” being sung by the harpers in heaven and the 144 Thousand on earth in Revelation 14:1-3 for both of these events occur simultaneously to the praise and glory of God.

The eternal, earthly rule of Christ over the physical kingdoms of earth has now begun. The end of the age Israel of God, the 144 Thousand on Mount Zion (Revelation 14:1) will receive their Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ as King of the nation of Israel, not unlike the time when all of the twelve tribes of Israel received David their king as recorded in I Chronicles 12:1-40.

This event of old marks the first time all of the tribes of Israel came together in harmony for the coronation of David, God’s first anointed king from the tribe of Judah. This King-making, of the last Anointed King, “*The Lion of the Tribe of Judah*” (Revelation 5:5), will once again be accomplished as the twelve tribes gather to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as their King at the end of the 70<sup>th</sup> Week of Daniel.

This will occur when the One who has made reconciliation for the sins of Israel will be received as their King by the end of the age Israel of God, His 144 Thousand brethren, as those who “*follow the Lamb wherever He goes...and have been redeemed from among men being the first fruits unto God and the Lamb*” (Revelation 14:4).

This major prophetic event has been announced by King David:  
“*Yet have I set My King upon My holy hill of Zion*” (Psalm 2:6).

It has also been prophesied by the patriarch Jacob over 3500 years ago:  
“*The Scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet until Shiloh come, and unto Him shall the gathering of the people be.*” (Genesis 49:10).

Micah the prophet also refers to this great gathering:  
“*Therefore will He [Messiah] give them [Israel] up until the time [End of the 70<sup>th</sup> Week/End of The Time of Jacob’s Trouble] that she [Israel] which travails has brought forth [All Israel saved]: then the remnant [remainder/rest] of His brethren [the woman/faithful of Israel] shall return unto the children [sons] of Israel [the 144 Thousand].*” (Micah 5:3)

#### End of the Age Conditions in the Land of Israel

Daniel’s prophecy provides insight into how conditions will be shaped in the land of Israel prior to and during the first half of the 70<sup>th</sup> week. It is clear from Daniel 9:27 that the majority of Israelites will agree with the covenant (Daniel 9:27) confirmed by the Antichrist for the seven-year duration of this last week: “*And he shall*

*confirm the covenant with [the] many for one week.” (Daniel 9:27)*

This confirming of the covenant by the Antichrist will likely be centered upon guaranteeing Israel peace during this tumultuous time when there will be *“wars and rumors of wars” (Matthew 24:6)* throughout the earth.

*“The holy covenant”* of Daniel 11:28-32 is not referring to the Antichrist’s covenant but indicates the restored Old Covenant (Exodus 19:5,6), which appears to be accepted by the Antichrist and honored initially by the majority of Jews.

Later, the Antichrist’s heart *“shall be set against the holy covenant”* and eventually he has *“indignation against the holy covenant, so shall he do, he shall even return and have intelligence with them that forsake the holy covenant” (Daniel 11:28,30).*

These verses show the progression of the Antichrist’s actions:

1. He deceitfully confirms a covenant with the many in Israel at the beginning of the 70<sup>th</sup> Week (Daniel 9:27)
2. He accepts the restored (Matthew 17:11) *“holy covenant”* (Daniel 11:23-27)
3. He turns against the restored *“holy covenant” (Daniel 11:28)* which is the precursor to the *“abomination of desolation” (Daniel 11:31)*

The Jews who align with the Antichrist play right into his hand:

*“And such as do wickedly against the covenant shall he corrupt by flatteries: But the people that do know their God shall be strong and do exploits” (Daniel 11:32)*

Three different groups of Jews are shown within the land:

1. The first group of Jews mentioned by Daniel in this passage are those who depart from their prior allegiance to the *“holy covenant”* and choose to *“forsake the holy covenant”* which is the *“falling away”* recorded by the Apostle Paul (II Thessalonians 2:3).
2. The second group is *“the people that do know their God...they that understand among the people shall instruct many”*. In simple terms, these are Jews who remain faithful and are active in the land (Revelation 12:17b) after the mid-point of the 70<sup>th</sup> Week.
3. The third group called the *“many” (Daniel 11:33)* are Jews seeking the truth, being instructed by those *“that do know their God...they that understand among the people.”*

Just when the restoration of the *“holy covenant”* takes place is not clearly specified. However, it will be part of the ministry of *“Elijah”* to *“restore all things”* which will likely take place prior to the first 3-1/2 years of the 70<sup>th</sup> Week.

Therefore, it will be in effect before the beginning of the 70<sup>th</sup> Week as the Antichrist’s involvement with the *“daily sacrifice”* begins after he confirms a covenant with the Jews, at the beginning of the 70<sup>th</sup> Week of Daniel, and continues 2300 days or *“evenings and mornings” (Daniel 8:14).*

Just exactly what his involvement will include also is not specified, but it could be that he will preside over, possibly having a position of authority regarding the Jews temple worship shortly after confirming the covenant at the beginning of the 70<sup>th</sup> Week of Daniel.

Some apply this Daniel chapter eight vision to the history of Antiochus Epiphanes, a type of the Antichrist, who desecrated the temple during his assault upon the Jews and their worship during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Century B.C.

But Gabriel, who interpreted the vision for Daniel, states exactly when the vision will occur:

*“O son of man: for at the time of the end shall be the vision.*

*Behold I will make thee know what shall be in the last end of the indignation: for at the time appointed the end shall be.” (Daniel 8:17, 19).*

In addition to Gabriel’s specific interpretation, there are three events which occur in this vision that were not fulfilled in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Century by Antiochus Epiphanes:

1. He did not “cast down some of the host and of the stars to the ground, and stamped upon them” (Daniel 8:10).
2. He did not “magnify himself even to Prince of the host/stand up against Prince of princes (Daniel 8:25).
3. He was not: “broken without hand [human agency-NASV]” (Daniel 8:25).

However, each of these events will occur during the end of the age:

1. “And his [great red dragon/Satan] tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth” (Revelation 12:4).
2. The Antichrist will open “his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, and His tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven” (Revelation 13:6).
3. The Antichrist will “be broken without hand” (Daniel 2:34,35; Revelation 19:20).

Therefore, this passage recording the 2300 days the Antichrist is involved with the “daily sacrifice” implies that he may early on during the 70<sup>th</sup> Week of Daniel have an integral position of authority regarding the Jews worship and may preside over the “evening and morning” or “regular sacrifice”.

Daniel 8:12 gives the reason the Antichrist is given this access:

*“And on account of transgression the host will be given over to the horn along with the regular sacrifice; and it will fling truth to the ground and perform its will and prosper.”(NASV)*

This verse not only supplies the likely cause for the Antichrist’s intrusive ability to invade these sacred areas, but it also underlines the events that will occur during those days prior to the “abomination of desolation” at the mid-point of the 70<sup>th</sup> Week of Daniel:

1. The host will be given over to the horn [During the first half of 70<sup>th</sup> Week].
1. “The regular sacrifice” will also “be given over to the horn” [During the first half of the 70<sup>th</sup> Week].

Therefore, it is because of sin, transgression in particular, a word, which emphasizes the settled attitude of open and full rebellion against God. This is the same word used in Daniel 9:24: “Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and thy holy city, to finish the transgression” describing the first purpose the Lord has decreed these 70 weeks or 490 years.

The Lord Jesus Christ spoke of this last and most blatant rebellion of the Jews:

*“I [The Christ] am come in My Fathers name, and ye receive Me not: if another [the Antichrist] shall come in his own name, him ye will receive” (John 5:43).*

The majority of Jews will in fact continue to reject their Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ, in that day and instead embrace the Antichrist, just as they did their “Caesar” (John 19:15) of old. This last rejection of the Messiah, after Elijah has come, restoring all things and providing these Jews with all the outward evidence that God sent him and giving them the opportunity to worship the Lord according to the “holy covenant”, will be this blatant “transgression” as the Jews instead collaborate with and receive the Antichrist worshipping him in open

rebellion against God.

This “transgression” or rebellion by those who “forsake the holy covenant” provides the Antichrist with the ability to intervene as the host will be given over to him, along with the regular sacrifice eventually resulting in the stopping of the regular sacrifice and his image being set up in the holy place at the mid-point of the 70<sup>th</sup> Week of Daniel.

The climax of these events begins when:

*“He [Antichrist] shall be grieved, and return, and have indignation against the holy covenant: so shall he do, he shall even return, and have intelligence with them that forsake the holy covenant.”*  
(Daniel 11:30)

This is immediately followed by the fruition of his ultimate goal of world worship:

*“And arms [forces] shall stand on his part, and they shall pollute the sanctuary of strength and shall take away the daily sacrifice, and they shall place the abomination [image of Antichrist] that makes desolate”* (Daniel 11:31).

Therefore, it appears that the time leading up to the 70<sup>th</sup> Week of Daniel will be occupied by Elijah’s ministry of restoration including the revival of God’s people and the restoration of all things regarding the “*holy covenant*”. The Antichrist will rise to power during this same timeframe eventually confirming the covenant with [the] “*many*” of the nation of Israel (Daniel 9:27) at the beginning of the 70<sup>th</sup> Week.

Then, the host and regular sacrifice will be given over to the Antichrist with the culmination of his wicked influence coming at the mid-point of the 70<sup>th</sup> Week of Daniel when his forces stop the regular sacrifice and pollute the sanctuary by setting up his image in the holy place for the remaining 1260 days of the 70<sup>th</sup> Week which is the renowned “*abomination of desolation*” which is clearly indicated by the Lord (Matthew 24:15).

This major religious/political takeover by the Antichrist will also serve to bring peace in the land and across the globe to those who submit to him and take his mark during the days following the mid-point of the 70<sup>th</sup> Week of Daniel as the Antichrist grasps world rule like the Caesars of old who also were worshipped as god.

Ezekiel, a contemporary of Daniel who also ministered to the Jews in Babylon during their 70 years of captivity, provides key information on the conditions that will exist in the land during the time of the end:

*“After many days thou [Gog]: in the latter years thou shall come into the land [Israel] that is brought back from the sword, and is gathered out of many people, against the mountains of Israel, which have always been waste: but it is brought forth out of the nations, and they shall dwell safely all of them.*  
*And thou [Gog] shall say, I will go up to the land of unwalled villages [Israel]; I will go to them that are at rest that dwell safely, all of them dwelling without walls, and having neither bars nor gates”* (Ezekiel 38:8,11).

According to this passage, Israel will be living in a time of peace, without walls for protection from the enemy, as security will abound and there will be no need for barring/locking the door or having gates to keep out unwanted intruders. Later, in the same chapter, the Lord again addresses Gog:

*“In that day when My people of Israel dwells safely, shall thou not know it?”*(Ezekiel 38:14a)

There will be peace and safety in the land for the unsaved majority who will be living under the Antichrist’s oppressive rule, having taken his mark, which supplies them with the ability to buy and sell (Revelation 13:16,17).

This will not be the lot of the faithful, neither in the land nor across the globe, for the Antichrist’s world domination will bring the most intensive persecution to the saints ever as spoken by the Lord:

*“For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.” (Matthew 24:21).*

However, an unaware “Business as usual” attitude will definitely be evident during the second half of the 70<sup>th</sup> week just before the Lord’s second coming to resurrect/rescue/rapture/receive the saints and the same-day beginning of the Day of the Lord according to the Lord Jesus Christ:

*“And as it was in the days of Noah, so shall it also be in the days of the Son of man.*

*They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all. Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded; But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all. Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed.” (Luke 17:26-30.*

Paul also supplies additional information concerning this time:

*“But of the times and the seasons brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you. For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. For when they [unbelievers] shall say peace and safety; then sudden destruction comes upon them as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape” (I Thessalonians 5:1-3).*

The Lord Jesus reveals the attitude of unbelievers during the time just before His second coming/Day of the Lord while Paul supplies the reason for their unaware attitude, as it will be a time of “peace and safety” just like Ezekiel prophesied in his description of those future days in the land of Israel.

Present-day [2007] Israel is in the midst of a deadly conflict against its age-old enemies, the Islamic Fascists, building walls and strengthening its defense. However, events can and will turn quickly, by the hand of God, to bring to pass these necessary end of the age conditions clearly outlined by the Lord Jesus Christ, the prophets Daniel and Ezekiel, and the Apostle Paul.

Although those days will be filled with Satan’s “great wrath” (Revelation 12:12) also called “*the great tribulation*” (Matthew 24:21; Revelation 7:14) affecting the faithful, the majority of the world population will definitely be experiencing this outward peace under the oppressive-dictatorial rule of the Antichrist after he attains control of Jewry and its world capital Jerusalem at the mid-point of the 70<sup>th</sup> Week of Daniel. Therefore:

1. The Jews will be a people/nation (Daniel 9:24)
2. The Jews will be in their promised land  
(Deuteronomy 30:5; Matthew 24:16)
3. The Jews will occupy the holy city of Jerusalem  
(Daniel 9:24)
4. The prophet Elijah will be sent to revive/restore  
(Malachi 4:5,6; Matthew 17:11; Mark 9:12)
5. The “*holy covenant*” will be restored  
(Daniel 11:28-32)
6. The “*temple of God*” will be rebuilt  
(Daniel 11:31; II Thessalonians 2:1-4;  
Revelation 11:1,2)
7. The “*holy place*” included (Matthew 24:15)
8. The “*regular sacrifices*” will be instituted  
(Daniel 8:11,12, 9:27, 11:31, 12:11)
9. The Jews will worship in the temple  
(Revelation 11:1, 2)
10. The Sabbath will be kept (Matthew 24:20)

11. The sending of prophets will occur (Malachi 4:5,6; Revelation 11:3-14)
12. The “*twelve tribes*” of Israel will be recognized  
(Revelation 7:4-8)

The first three have taken already taken place with the remaining major events just over the Lord’s prophetic horizon. They will definitely take place as necessary prerequisites for the unfolding of His plan during the 70<sup>th</sup> Week of Daniel/time of the end. The subject of the following chapters is those people who appear in Scripture during the 70<sup>th</sup> Week/time of the end who are called:

“The People of the Apocalypse”

And, as the Bible is surveyed, at least eighteen individuals or groups are evident:

1. The Lamb of God (John 1:29; Revelation 5:6-8)
2. The Twenty-Four Elders (Revelation 4:4)
3. The Four Beasts (Revelation 4:6-8)
4. The Angels (Revelation 5:2, 11)
5. The Prophet Elijah (Malachi 4:5,6; Matthew 17:11; Mark 9:12)
6. The Martyrs (Daniel 11:33-35; Revelation 6:9-11)
7. The Saints (Daniel 7:18-27; Revelation 13:7,10)
8. The Earth Dwellers (Revelation 3:10, 6:10)
9. The Woman (Revelation 12:1-17a)
10. The Rest of the Woman’s Seed (Revelation 12:17b) Those Who Understand (Daniel 11:33)
11. The Great Multitude in Heaven (Revelation 7:9-17)
12. The Antichrist (Daniel 7-12; Revelation 13:1-10)
13. The False Prophet (Revelation 13:11-18)
14. The Two Witnesses (Revelation 11:3-14)  
(Zechariah 4:1-14)
15. The Israelites Saved (Isaiah 59:20; Romans 11:25)
16. The Gentiles Saved (Isaiah 19:18-25; Micah 7:15-17)
17. The Ten Kings (Daniel 7:7; Revelation 17:12-14)
18. The 144 Thousand (Revelation 7:1-8)

With these major prophetic truths in view, it is imperative for today’s saints to fully surrender to the Lord, discerning His plan for their lives, during these closing climactic days of this age. The Lord will definitely call out, send and mightily use: “The People of the Apocalypse” as He brings to pass His time of the end plan for His earthly people Israel and the church of the Lord Jesus Christ.

And, like Daniel the prophet who effectually and fervently prayed after he discerned in the Scripture exactly what the Lord was planning to accomplish (Daniel 9:2), the saints, likewise, must pray to the Lord in order that He might send forth laborers into His harvest who will recognize their calling and prayerfully give themselves to Him for His glory during this coming time of unprecedented privilege for those servants of God who are willing to:

*“Spend and be spent” (II Corinthians 12:15) as “living sacrifices unto God.”(Romans12:1)*