

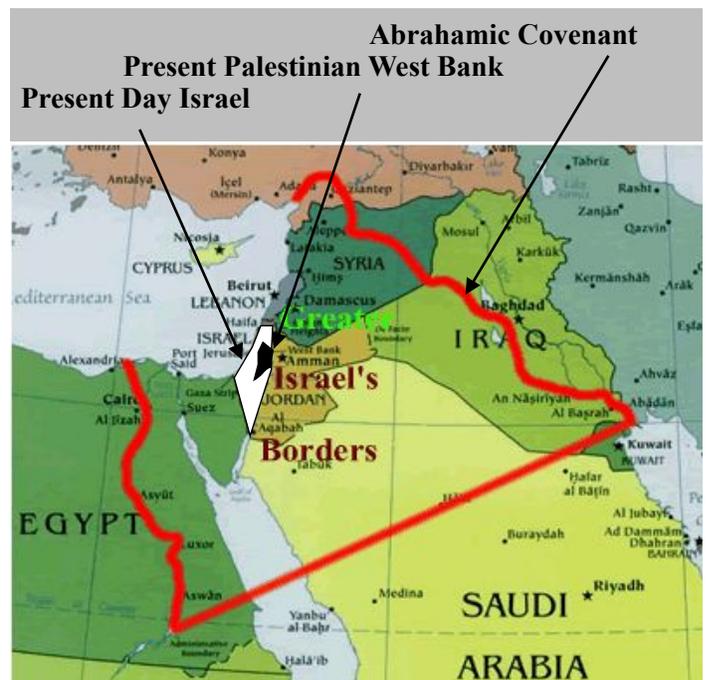
Key Bible Prophecies in Our Times

God's promise to Abraham and his descendants

"I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you." (Gen. 12:2-3).

On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram and said, to your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the Euphrates. (Gen. 15:18).

When Abram was 90 years old, the LORD appeared to him and said...I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you... The whole land of Canaan...I will give as an everlasting possession. (Gen. 17:1-8).



Mosaic Covenant with Israel

If you obey – *"If you fully obey the LORD your God and carefully follow all his commands I give you today, the LORD your God will set you high above all the nations on earth. (Deut. 28:1). The LORD will establish you as his holy people, as he promised you on oath, if you keep the commands of the LORD your God and walk in his ways. Then all the peoples on earth will see that you are called by the name of the LORD, and they will fear you." (Deut. 28:9-10).*

If you disobey – *If you do not carefully follow all the words of this law, which are written in this book, and do not revere this glorious and awesome name; the LORD your God, (Deut. 28:58). Just as it pleased the LORD to make you prosper and increase in number, so it will please him to ruin and destroy you. You will be uprooted from the land you are entering to possess. Then the LORD will scatter you among all nations, from one end of the earth to the other. (Deut. 28:63-64).*

Eventual return to the land – *the LORD your God will restore your fortunes and have compassion on you and gather you again from all the nations where he scattered you. Even if you have been banished to the most distant land under the heavens, from there the LORD your God will gather you and bring you back. He will bring you to the land that belonged to your fathers, and you will take possession of it. (Deut. 30:3-5).*

Israel was blessed in the land for nearly 1500 years. But they routinely disobeyed and then their disobedience culminated when Jesus was crucified in 33 AD. The Jews refused to recognize prophecies concerning their Messiah such as Isa. 7:14, Isa. 53, Mic. 5:2, and Zech. 9:9. Jesus predicted that the temple would be torn down stone by stone (Mat. 24:1-2). In 70 AD, the Romans overthrew Jerusalem, killed 500,000 Jews and took the rest of them captive. The captives

were sold as slaves and scattered all over the world exactly as it was promised in Deut. 30:64. The temple was torn down stone by stone to recover several billion dollars in gold plating. Today Jews have returned to Israel from 110 countries of the world. On May 14, 1948, Israel was recognized as a nation by the UN thus fulfilling the rest of the promises given by Moses.

Jesus' prophecies concerning the End-times

Jesus said – the times of the Gentiles will be ending when Jerusalem belongs to Israel

“...There will be great distress in the land and wrath against this people. They will fall by the sword and will be taken as prisoners to all the nations. Jerusalem will be trampled on by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.” (Luke 21:24).

In June 1967, Israel captured East Jerusalem and the temple mount in the six-day war. The Jews have been praying toward Jerusalem for nearly 1900 years and finally they now have temple grounds the center of Jewish worship. Peace negotiations that have been underway for the last several decades have demanded that East Jerusalem and the temple mount be given up by Israel and returned to the Palestinians for their capitol city.

Jesus said – the generation that sees “these things” begin to happen will see them brought to completion including His 2nd coming –

When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.” He told them this parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees. When they sprout leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is near. Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that the kingdom of God is near: “I tell you the truth, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away. (Luke 21:28-33).

So when did the generation that Jesus spoke about get underway? Most conservative Bible scholars think it started when Israel returned to the land in 1948. So how long is a generation? In Psa. 90 it says – “*The length of our days is seventy years — or eighty, if we have the strength...*” Go figure. Remember the 7-year tribulation must be subtracted from these times because the 2nd coming is at the end of the tribulation and Jesus said all these things will happen within this generation.

Jesus said – the greatest distress the world has ever seen will come in the End-times –

For then there will be great distress, unequaled from the beginning of the world until now — and never to be equaled again. If those days had not been cut short, no one would survive, but for the sake of the elect those days will be shortened. (Matt. 24:21-22).

Jesus said – there will be those who escape the End-time judgment –

Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man.” (Luke 21:36).

Other Scriptures confirming that God's people will not suffer “God's wrath”

“...and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead — Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.” (1 Thes. 1:10).



Son of man, set your face against Gog, of the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal; prophesy against him and say: 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: I am against you, O Gog, chief prince of Meshech and Tubal...Persia, Cush and Put will be with them, all with shields and helmets, also Gomer with all its troops, and Beth Togarmah from the far north with all its troops — the many nations with you. (Ezek. 38:2-6).

For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Thes. 5:9).

“Since you have kept my command to endure patiently, I will also keep you from (Grk. ek or “out of”) the hour of trial that is going to come upon the whole world to test those who live on the earth. I am coming soon. Hold on to what you have, so that no one will take your crown. Him who overcomes I will make a pillar in the temple of my God. Never again will he leave it. I will write on him the name of my God and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem, which is coming down out of heaven from my God; and I will also write on him my new name.” (Rev. 3:10-12).

Remember that Jesus said we will have tribulation as long as we are on this earth. Tribulation is different from “God’s wrath”. God poured His wrath out upon His Son on the cross in our behalf. Therefore, He will not pour it out upon us again because Jesus already took the judgment that was due to us. So we don’t know how much tribulation we must endure before the 7-year tribulation begins. However it’s obvious that there isn’t much time left before this terrible time begins.

What's on the horizon in Bible prophecy?

The Damascus War – *“An oracle concerning Damascus: “See, Damascus will no longer be a city but will become a heap of ruins. The cities of Aroer will be deserted and left to flocks, which will lie down, with no one to make them afraid.” (Isa. 17:1-2).*

Damascus is the oldest continuously inhabited city in the world. It has endured some wars but has never been destroyed before. Damascus is 50 miles north of Israel's border. What was known as ancient Aroer covered most of southern Jordan. Present day Jordan borders Israel on the east at the Jordan river valley and the Dead Sea.

The Gog-Magog War – *“After many days you (Gog-MaGog) will be called to arms. In future years you will invade a land that has recovered from war, whose people were gathered from many nations to the mountains of Israel, which had long been desolate. They had been brought out from the nations, and now all of them live in safety. You and all your troops and the many nations with you will go up, advancing like a storm; you will be like a cloud covering the land.” (Ezek. 38:8-9).*

“...I will bring you from the far north (Moscow is directly north of Jerusalem) and send you against the mountains of Israel...On the mountains of Israel you will fall, you and all your troops and the nations with you. I will give you as food to all kinds of carrion birds and to the wild animals.... ‘I will make known my holy name among my people Israel. I will no longer let my holy name be profaned, and the nations will know that I the LORD am the Holy One in Israel.’ (Ezek. 39:2-7).

“For seven months the house of Israel will be burying them in order to cleanse the land. All the people of the land will bury them, and the day I am glorified will be a memorable day for them, declares the Sovereign LORD. “Men will be regularly employed to cleanse the land. Some will go throughout the land and, in addition to them, others will bury those that remain on the ground. (Ezek. 39:12-14).

All the nations that are aligned with Russia (Magog) are modern-day Muslim countries who hate Israel. Gog is the political head honcho that leads Magog and allies. It is not certain when the Gog-Magog war occurs but it is no doubt in the near future. Russia has armed many of these countries. The most likely time for this war will be explained after the section on building of the third temple.

Psalm 83 War – This war must be close to or part of the Gog-Magog war because it involves many of the same countries.

Building of the Third Temple –

He (Antichrist) will confirm a covenant with many for one ‘seven.’ In the middle of the ‘seven’ he will put an end to sacrifice and offering. And on a wing [of the temple] he will set up an abomination that causes desolation, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him.” (Dan. 9:27).

Daniel wrote this prophecy in 538 BC and it is one of the key Scriptures to unlocking Biblical prophecy. He says that the antichrist will “confirm” an existing agreement between Israel and many other nations probably the United Nations. He has the charisma coupled with miraculous powers to finally forge an agreement in the Middle East. This covenant will last for 7 years exactly the same time frame given in Revelation. He will break the agreement after 3.5 years and put an end to Jewish temple worship. He then sets himself up as god on a wing of the temple. He is known as the abomination of desolation spoken about in the NT. This verse

assumes that a temple will exist sometime in the first 3.5 years of the 7-year tribulation.

So when you see standing in the holy place 'the abomination that causes desolation,' spoken of through the prophet Daniel...then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. (Matt. 24:15-16).

Jesus referred to this passage in Daniel and told the Jews that they should head for the hills when they see the Antichrist standing in the temple. He tells the Jews that this will be the worst time the world has ever known.

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. 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. (2 Thes. 2:3-4).

Paul says that the Antichrist will be revealed and claim to be God after he sets himself up in the temple. All these verses state that there must be a temple on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem during the first half of the 7-year tribulation so the Antichrist can claim to be God.

When the Antichrist confirms the treaty with Israel, they no doubt think they have found peace at last. So they lay down their arms as shown in Ezek. 38:8 & 14, then Gog comes against them. This would suggest that the Gog-Magog war starts shortly after the beginning of the 7-year tribulation.

The Temple Institute in Jerusalem has made all the necessary plans so the temple can be built on the Temple Mount in a moment's notice. The architectural plans are completed and all of the many temple vessels and musical instruments are in existence. The High Priest's garment with its 12 breast stones has been made along with all the garments for the Levite priests. A mock temple made of wood has been constructed outside of Jerusalem and hundreds of Levites are being trained in temple service. They say that the new temple will be prefabricated off site and can be built in 12-15 months.



The Menorah made from 100 lbs. of pure gold overlooking the Temple Mount.

The Rapture –

For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage each other with these words. (1 Thes. 4:16-18).

Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed — in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. (1 Cor. 15:51-52).

The Lord himself will descend from heaven and call us with the trumpet call of God (not to be

confused with the 7 trumpets blown by angels in Revelation). Peace is taken from the earth very early in Revelation at the 2nd seal, so if we are to be delivered from God's wrath, we must be raptured before the 7-year tribulation begins.

“And now you know what is holding him back, so that he (Antichrist) may be revealed at the proper time. For the secret power of lawlessness is already at work; but the one who now holds it back will continue to do so till he is taken out of the way. And then the lawless one will be revealed...” (2 Thes. 2:6-8).

Only the Lord through the Holy Spirit is able to hold back the Antichrist (Jude 9) who is indwelt by Satan. The Holy Spirit who indwells born-again believers is taken out of the way and then the Antichrist is revealed. The Antichrist cannot be revealed until we are gone!

After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. “Men of Galilee,” they said, “why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.” (Acts 1:9-11).

Jesus was taken up from His disciples into a cloud that hid Him from them. The angels said that He will come back in the same way. This apparently speaks of the rapture because at Jesus' 2nd coming “the sign of the Son of Man will be seen by all nations” (Matt. 24:30).

No one knows about that day or hour; not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. (Matt. 24:36).

No one knows the day nor hour when the rapture will occur but we know that His 2nd coming will be exactly 7 years after the treaty is confirmed by the Antichrist. Only the Father knows the day and hour when He will send His Son to get His Bride. This conforms to the Jewish wedding ceremony where the son and father visit the prospective bride and she agrees to marry the son. Then the Son goes back with his father to the father's house. The son builds a house next to the father's house. When the father is sure that the son is ready for his bride, he sends the son to get his bride. They then return to the father's house where the wedding ceremony is held. The Lamb is married to His Bride during the 7-year tribulation.

In my Father's house are many rooms... I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. (John 14:2-3).

Perilous Times –

But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. (2 Tim. 3:1).

Paul lists in verses 2 & 3 many of the character traits that mark our corrupt, immoral society.

War of Armageddon – comes at the end of the 7-year tribulation.

“In those days and at that time, when I restore the fortunes of Judah and Jerusalem, I will gather all nations and bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat. There I will enter into judgment against them concerning my inheritance, my people Israel, for they scattered my people among the nations and divided up my land. (Joel 3:1-2).

Joel gives two reasons why the Lord will judge the nations that come against Israel in the last days. First, although Moses predicted Israel would be scattered throughout the world if they sinned, God still holds those who scattered Israel responsible. Second, the land of Israel has been divided several times in the last century and negotiators still demand that East Jerusalem with the temple mount go to the Palestinians.

Preparing for the End-times –

Jesus said –

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. (Matt. 11:28)

Then Jesus said to his disciples: “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear. Life is more than food, and the body more than clothes. Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable you are than birds! Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life? Since you cannot do this very little thing, why do you worry about the rest? “Consider how the lilies grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today, and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, how much more will he clothe you, O you of little faith! And do not set your heart on what you will eat or drink; do not worry about it. For the pagan world runs after all such things, and your Father knows that you need them. But seek his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well. (Luke 12:22-31)

“Be dressed ready for service and keep your lamps burning, like men waiting for their master to return from a wedding banquet, so that when he comes and knocks they can immediately open the door for him. It will be good for those servants whose master finds them watching when he comes. I tell you the truth, he will dress himself to serve, will have them recline at the table and will come and wait on them. It will be good for those servants whose master finds them ready, even if he comes in the second or third watch of the night. But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.” (Luke 12:35-40)

Seeking, finding, and belonging to God’s Family –

He (Jesus) was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God — children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband’s will, but born of God. The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. (John 1:10-14)

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son.” (John 3:16-18)

The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, “Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! (John 1:29)

For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross. (Col. 1:19-20)

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:8-9)

Jesus is the Son of God, was born of a virgin, died as a sacrifice to pay for our sins, and rose again where He is seated at the right hand of God the Father. He pleads with us to receive Him as Lord and Savior.