GLOSSARY of the Apocalypse

1. **Abomination of Desolation** - When the Antichrist sits down in the rebuilt (Third) Jewish Temple & declares himself to be God, stopping all animal sacrifices. The great tribulation of 42 months (3.5 years, 1260 days) then begins. This act defiles or 'makes desolate' the Temple. At the occurrence of this event, the Jews living in Judea are commanded to flee into the wilderness. All tribulation saints will know, from that day on, they must now wait 1260 days before the LORD returns. See **DAN 9:27; MAT 24:15-19; MAR 13:14, 2TH 2:1-5.** This event occurs in the middle of Daniel's 70th week.
2. **Amillennialism** - (Latin = millennium) A theological view that Christ and His saints will **not** reign personally upon the earth for a thousand years after His Second Coming. The 1,000 years of Revelation Chapter 20 are not a literal 1,000 year period of time but represent the Church Age from the time of Christ until His second coming. Amillennialists generally believe that Israel has been permanently set aside for all time and that God's current plan of salvation involves only the Church, so that God's promises in the OT are fulfilled spiritually in the church rather than literally in a physical earthly kingdom.
3. **Antichrist** - **(The Beast, man of lawlessness, man of sin, son of perdition, little horn, etc.)** The one-world leader who arises to power out of the fourth beast kingdom as prophesied in Daniel 7. The antichrist will sign & reconfirm a seven-year covenant of peace with Israel, apparently allowing them to rebuild a Third Temple on Mount Moriah. (**DAN 9:27**). At the midpoint of the Tribulation, he desecrates the Temple & proclaims himself as god. He will receive power from Satan to deceive the world & greatly persecute the people of God during the Great Tribulation. Antichrist is defeated at Armageddon by Jesus at His second coming & will spend eternity in the lake of fire. **1JO 2:18; 2TH 2:1-9; DAN 8:23; DAN 11:37; REV 13:1-8**
4. **Apocalypse** - from Gk *apokalupsis* = **revelation**; The Book of Revelation. Any of a number of anonymous Jewish or Christian texts from around the second century B.C. to the second century A.D. containing prophetic or symbolic visions, especially of the imminent destruction of the world and the salvation of the righteous. Great or total devastation; doom: *the apocalypse of nuclear war*. A prophetic disclosure; a revelation. *Referring to the belief that the end of the world, as we know it, is imminent.*
5. **Apostasy, The** - During the end times the Bible predicts a falling away or departure from the faith. Because we have experienced a number of generations where people have rebelled against God, the one that takes place during the tribulation will likely surpass prior apostasies. **2TH 2:3; MAT 24:11-13**
6. **Armageddon** - (Heb for **mountain of Megiddo**) The military campaign at the end of the tribulation in which the Antichrist's global army is assembled in Israel and defeated by Jesus Christ at His Second Coming. This ancient fortress is located in northern Israel, across the Plain of Esdraelon from Nazareth. **DAN 11:40-45; Joel 3:9-17; ZEC 14:1-3; REV 16:14-16; 19:11-21**
7. **Book of Life** - The Lamb's Book of Life – A book which retains the names of all who have eternal life. **PHI 4:3; REV 3:5; 13:8; 17:8; 20:12-15; 21:27; 22:19**
8. **Babylon the Great** - **Mystery Babylon the Great** A powerful city-state or superpower at the end of the age, which will hold a position of great influence over the world until it is destroyed by the fourth beast kingdom. **REV 17 -18**
9. **Beast, The** - The Antichrist, man of lawlessness. This is the world leader of the fourth beast kingdom. This incredibly successful world leader will receive power from Satan and attempt to destroy the people of God. **REV 13**
10. **Beast Kingdom, The Fourth** - The fourth beast kingdom, led by the Antichrist, which will rise to power during the last days and rule over the whole world. This kingdom will initially have ten kings, then another king will arise among the ten and overthrow three of the kings. Then the kingdom will have seven heads and ten horns. **REV 13**
11. **Believers** - Saints, chosen, elect, servants of God, followers of Christ, etc. Various names for God's people.
12. **Chiliasm** - The belief that Jesus Christ will reign personally on the earth for one thousand years. (**REV 20:1-10**). Derived from the Greek word for one thousand (**chilioi**).
13. **Church Age** - The church age began on the day of Pentecost and will end at with rapture of believers at the end of the tribulation. Many dispensationalists believe the Church is the reason why there is a gap between Daniel's 69th and 70th weeks. **DAN 9:24-27**
14. **Day of the Lord** - **Day of Wrath, Day of Salvation, Day of Redemption** - The day when Jesus Christ returns to gather His elect, punish the unbelieving world and establish the Kingdom of God on earth. The **Day of the Lord** is a very significant event in God's prophetic plan. It is referred to by name 24 times in Scripture and written about so often that the prophets abbreviated its name by referring to it as '*the day' or 'that day'*. Several times in Scripture it is called '*the great and dreadful day*' because it will be both the day of deliverance and a day of judgment. **ISA 2:12-21; ISA 13:6-13; JER 46:10; ZEP 1:14-17; 1TH 5:4-6; 2PE 3:10-12; 2TH 1:7-10; LUK 17:29-30; MAT 24:29-30; REV 6:12-17; ZEC 12-14**
15. **Daniel** - The book of Daniel, the most famous of the Jewish apocalypses, and the source of many of the ideas & symbols in Revelation. In Daniel, one sees many of the elements of the apocalyptic world view coming together for the first time in a single work. In it, God's chosen rise up and overthrow their oppressors, thus inheriting 'the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven.'
16. **Daniel's 70th Week** - **The Tribulation** - This non-biblical term refers to the last seven years of Daniel's 490-year prophecy. To date 483 years of the 490 years have been completely fulfilled. One seven-year period is still outstanding and will be fulfilled during the end times. This seven-year period begins with a covenant confirmed with Israel by the Antichrist.

17. **Dispensationalism** - A belief, developed in the 19th century by English theologian John Nelson Darby, that God relates to human beings via different covenants in different periods (dispensations). It includes a distinct separation in God's plan of salvation between Israel & the Church, distinct historical ways & means of salvation, a literal interpretation of the OT and an apocalyptic one of the NT that yields a pre-tribulation rapture of the Church. Israel is left on earth at the rapture then to suffer the wrath of Antichrist during the Tribulation.
18. **Dragon** - The dragon is the symbolic name given to represent the devil or Satan. Satan is also described as 'that old serpent', who deceives the whole world. **REV 12:1-17; 13:2-4; 20:2**
19. **Elect** - The chosen of God. Can be used of God's chosen people - Israel, the Church or saints of any dispensation. **MAT 24:22-24, MAR 13:20-22; ROM 11:7; COL 3:12; 1TI 5:21; etc**.
20. **End of the Age** – the last day, the Day of the Lord, the Second Coming of Christ. One of the terms Jesus used to refer to the time of the harvest and His return when He gathers His elect and judges the world. **MAT 13:36-43; 13:47-50; 24:3; 24:20**
21. **End Times - the last days** - The period of time leading up to and including Daniel's 70th Week, i.e. the Tribulation Period and the Second Coming of Christ. **2TI 3:1-5; JAM 5:3-8; 2PE 3:1-13**
22. **Eschatology** - (Gk 'study of last things'). The study of things relating to the end of the age, the final judgment and the life and age to come. The events leading up to the end of human government and the beginning of Theocracy on earth. The events leading to and consummation of the final conflict between good and evil. **Eschaton** = 'the end'.
23. **False Church** - During the first part of the tribulation the Antichrist's rise to world power will be aided by a religious system which will include most if not all of the world's major religions. During the second half of the tribulation the Antichrist will destroy this false church. The book of Revelation describes the false churches as the great whore. **REV 17:1-5**
24. **False Prophet** - A member of the unholy trinity (Satan, Antichrist & False Prophet). This trinity dominates the earth during the Great Tribulation. The **False Prophet** is the second beast of Revelation who comes out of the earth (**REV 13:11**), performs false signs & wonders, and sets up the system that uses the Mark of the Beast. He will administrate the workings of the one-world church. The False Prophet's primary mission will be to cause the world to worship the Antichrist. **REV 13:11-14; 16:13; 19:20; 20:10**
25. **Feast of Trumpets** - Another name for Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish new year, so called because trumpets were traditionally sounded on this day. This is a favorite date for the Second Coming and the Rapture, because of the Biblical reference to the '**last trumpet**' that is to signal this Day. **1CO 15:52**
26. **Gog & Magog** - Most prophetic scholars agree that Gog & Magag were people that lived in the lands which are now modern Russia. In the End Times, Russia & various Middle Eastern countries will launch a military attack against Israel. All but one sixth of the Gog army will be destroyed upon the mountains of Israel. **EZE 38 – 39, REV 20:8**
27. **Great Week** - The doctrine that the seven days of Creation correspond to seven 1000-year periods of human history, and that Christ's thousand-year reign is to take place during the millennial Sabbath -- the seventh millennium since the Creation. Also known as the *millennial week*, *6-day* or *6000-year* theory.
28. **Harlot** - The woman who rides the Beast and who is the 'mother of harlots and of the abominations of the earth' **REV 17:5**
29. **Harvest, The** - The resurrection of the righteous, First Resurrection, the resurrection of believers The gathering of the saints at the end of the age.
30. **Historicism** - Historicism relates the timing of the current church age through the day/year theory. The day/year theory takes numbers such as the 2,300 days (**DAN 8:14**) and 1,290 days (**DAN 12:11**) and declares them to be years. They also relate the seal, trumpet, and bowl judgments to major historical events that have occurred throughout the past 2,000 years. For example, the fifth seal in Revelation 6 may be identified as the martyrdom under Roman Emperor Diocletian (A.D. 284-304). The Pope is commonly looked at as being the Antichrist. Historicism is the view held by the Mormons, the Seventh-day Adventists, and the Jehovah Witnesses.
31. **Imminency** - (Latin for any moment). A term used by Pre-Trib Rapture teachers to emphasize that this event could happen at any moment, without prior signs or warning or fulfillment of prophecy. Scripture does not support this concept.
32. **Jacob's Trouble** - Also called **The Great Tribulation**. Called by Jeremiah as 'the time of Jacob's trouble' and by Daniel as 'the time of distress such as has never occurred', this event will take place during the 3 1/2 year reign of Antichrist. A time of great suffering on earth, brought on by the actions of the Antichrist and by the judgments of God poured out on a sinful world. **JER 30:7**
33. **Judgment, Great White Throne** - This judgment is for the unsaved. It is here where all those that are not found written in the book of life are cast into the lake of fire. **REV 20:11-15**
34. **Judgment Seat Of Christ** - At the Second Coming, the church will receive rewards according to what they have done on earth, whether it be good or bad. The Judgment Seat of Christ is for believers only. It is also called the Bema judgment (Gk bema = throne) **2CO 5:10; ROM 14:10-12; REV 11:15-18**
35. **Kingdom of God, The Kingdom of Heaven, 'The Kingdom'** - A term used throughout the Bible to refer to the time when Jesus the Messiah will return to earth and reign from Jerusalem for a thousand years. It is equivalent to the Millennium. The final and everlasting earthly Kingdom, which will be ruled by Christ and His followers.
36. **Lake Of Fire** - The lake of fire is the final abode for all the lost, the Devil and all of his coworkers. Everyone that's condemned to this fiery inferno will suffer unrelenting eternal torment. **REV 20:15**
37. **Little Horn** - One of many titles of Antichrist. The little horn comes up among the ten horns of the fourth beast in Daniel's night vision. Corresponds to John's description of the beast in **REV 13**. **DAN 7:7-8; DAN 7:19-25**

38. **Mark Of The Beast** - 'He causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a **mark** in their right hand, or in their foreheads: And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.' **REV 13:16-18.** The Mark of the Beast will most likely be a microchip implant that will be the centerpiece of a cashless society.
39. **Michael the Archangel** - The archangel who protects the people of God and restrains the secret power of lawlessness.
40. **Millennial Kingdom** - The thousand-year reign of Christ on earth, centered at Jerusalem. Also called the **Messianic Kingdom** because the Messiah will rule as King over the earth during this time.
41. **Millennial Temple** - The Fourth Temple which will stand in Jerusalem on Mount Moriah during the Millennial Kingdom and from which Jesus will rule over the earth. This Temple is built by Messiah. **EZE 40-48**
42. **Millennium** - Derived from the Latin **mille**, 'a thousand' and **annus**, 'a year' (Revelation 20). Millennialism teaches that there will be a 1000-year visible kingdom of God on earth beginning after the Tribulation and at His Second Coming. It is also called **chiliasm** from the Greek word **chilia**, 'a thousand'. **REV 20:3-4**
43. **New World Order** - A phrase first used by Mikhail Gorbachev on December 7, 1988 in an address to the United Nations. The phrase was relatively unknown in popular culture until George Bush used it during a speech to Congress on September 11, 1990. All nations are currently being shaped and prepared for a One-World Government and Political System, a One World Economic System, and a One-World Religious System. The World will be divided into 10 regions, eventually headed by a single leader, the Antichrist. The Latin phrase *Novus Ordo Seclorum* as seen on the dollar bill actually means '**a new order of the ages**'.
44. **Nicolaitinism** - From Gk '**nikao**' = victory or to overcome; '**laos**' = the people, the laity. A practice in many churches that places humanly ordained clergy or priesthood in **rulership** over the laity. God desires to ordain those in the ministry by Spiritual gifting to **serve** the people. **MAT 20:25:28; LUK 22:24-27; 1PE 5:1-4**
45. **Postmillennialism** - (Latin: 'after millennium') The belief that the second coming of Christ follows the Millennium. Before Christ's return, the Church will have converted a majority of the world to Christ, resulting in the righteous rule of believers throughout the world. This view started with the rapid expansion during the Industrial Age and fell into disrepute after WWI. In extreme forms, postmillennial beliefs have given rise to violent theocracies, such as that of Thomas Muntzer in 16th century Germany. But a more typical example is the milder postmillennialism of most New England Puritans, who believed they were building just such a righteous society, a 'city on a hill.' This type of apocalyptic expectation has gone hand-in-hand with social reform movements, and has contributed to the notion of divinely ordained progress, which has played an important role in American history.
46. **Premillennialism** - The belief that God's millennial kingdom will not come until Christ returns to save a sinful humanity and defeat the forces of Satan. Specific interpretations vary as to the exact timing of the Second Coming -- at the beginning, middle, or end of the Tribulation period. Premillennialists tend to be highly pessimistic about the present state of the world, yet anxiously await a perfect world in the near future.
47. **Preterism** - **(Latin 'preter' = past)** The belief that nearly all prophetic events have already occurred. The year 70 AD is a popular date where Preterists claim that the book of Revelation was fulfilled. preterism holds that all the prophecies of Revelation are already fulfilled, that we are currently living spiritually in the 'new heavens and earth' and denies a future bodily return of Jesus.
48. **Rapture** - This refers to the events described in **1TH 4:14-17** when believers will be 'raptured' or 'caught up' into the clouds in the air to meet Christ at His coming. (**Latin**: **rapiemur**). The '**pre-tribulational rapture**' view holds that the rapture will occur before a seven-year tribulation; the '**mid-tribulational rapture**' view places the rapture in the middle of a seven-year tribulation; the '**post-tribulational**' view holds that the rapture will occur after the tribulation. There are other variations of this concept. **1TH 4:15** For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming (*parousia*) of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. 16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up (*harpazo*) together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. 18 Therefore comfort one another with these words. **JOH 14:1-3; 1CO 15:51-52**
49. **Revelation** - The book of Revelation, also known as 'The Revelation to John' and 'St. John's Apocalypse,' is the primary source of inspiration for Christian prophecy believers. The last book and only apocalypse in the New Testament, it was likely written in the last decade of the first century, during a period of great turmoil after the destruction of the second Jewish Temple by the Romans in 70 A.D. The Apostle John was its author.
50. **Red Heifer** - The Bible predicts that a third Jewish Temple will be rebuilt in Jerusalem. Since destruction of Herod's Temple in 70 AD, one major roadblock to the reconstruction of the Temple is the fact that the Temple Mount area has been defiled by warfare and pagan use. In order to cleanse the tribulation Temple Mount for worship, the Jews will need the ashes of a pure red heifer. Numbers chapter 19 describes how King Solomon cleansed the first Temple with the ashes of a specially prepared red heifer. The birth of a Red Heifer in Israel is considered a **Messianic Sign**.
51. **Replacement Theology** - The view that Israel, having rejected her Messiah Jesus, has been permanently cast aside by God in favor of the Church. The Church is now seen as spiritual Israel and spiritual Jerusalem. This teaching claims that all the promises and blessings, in fact Israel's entire inheritance, now belongs to the Church. However, all is not lost for Israel; it gets to keep all the curses. New Testament passages which describe *the Israel of God* (**GAL 6:16**) and *all Israel* (**ROM 9:6**) are interpreted as describing the Church. Those who espouse this view disavow any distinct ethnic future for the Jewish people in connection with the biblical covenants, believing that their only spiritual destiny is either to perish or become a part of the Christian Church. This view is unscriptural. **ROM 11:1** I say then, has God cast away His people? Certainly not! For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin. (NKJV)

52. **Restrainer, The** - From **2TH 6:6-8**. Michael, the archangel is the '**restrainer**'. See **2TH 2:1-7 & DAN 12:1-2, DAN 10:13-21, REV 12:7-10**. Interpreted by some to be the Holy Spirit, which is taken from the earth at a pre-tribulation rapture.
53. **Resurrection, First - The Harvest, resurrection of believers -** The gathering and change that will take place in all believers at the return of Christ. The First Resurrection includes the living and the dead in Christ.
54. **Resurrection, Second** - A non-biblical term for the raising of the unbelievers at the end of the thousand-year reign of Christ on earth.
55. **Rosh Hashanah (Feast of Trumpets) -** The Jewish festival of the civil New Year celebrated on the first & second days of the month Tishri. During this holiday trumpets are blown as a call for repentance. Rosh Hashanah is the probable time for the rapture. This holiday occurs at a time on which 'no man knoweth the day or the hour', since the new moon had to be sighted before the holiday could be declared. The Last Trump or Tekia HaGodolah is sounded at this time. **NUM 10:1-10; 1CO 15:52**
56. **Sabbatical Millennialism** - The belief that after 6 millennial 'days' (**PSA 90, 2PE 2:3**), i.e., in the year 6000 **Annus Mundi**, the Sabbath millennium of peace will begin. Prominent in the first Christian millennium, now popular among those using Ussher's dating (AD 1 = ca.4000 Annus Mundi).
57. **Second Coming, Second Advent** - The physical, bodily return of Jesus Christ to earth at the end of the seven year tribulation period. This occurs in conjunction with the rapture. At this time Christ will defeat the Antichrist, and set up his 1000-year kingdom on earth. Some teach that the rapture is **NOT** the same as the Second Coming, but occurs before the tribulation, 7 years prior to the Second Coming. Scripture does not support this concept.
58. **Signs of the times** - Phenomena occurring that supposedly signal that the end is near. These include self-proclaimed Messiahs, wars and rumors of war, nation rising against nation, famines and earthquakes. **MAT 24**
59. **Tribulation** - A period of world upheaval, seven years in length, during which Satan will exert control over the earth through the antichrist in a One-World Government, Economic System and Religious System. This period apparently begins at the signing of a Covenant of Peace with Israel, allowing them to rebuild a Temple in Jerusalem. The Tribulation is Daniel's '70th week' from **DAN 19:2-27**. In the middle of the week, the covenant is broken & Antichrist declares himself to be God. This begins **the Great Tribulation** of 3 1/2 years duration, during which God's people are greatly persecuted. All but a small remnant of Christian faithful -- perhaps 144,000 -- will die as a result of wars, plagues, and famine. The Tribulation will end with Christ's defeat of the antichrist at Armageddon, ushering God's millennial kingdom on earth. Amillennialists see the tribulation as a persecution of unknown duration against the church through the church age. **DAN 9:27; MAT 24:21**;
60. **Tribulation, The Great - Time of Jacob's Trouble -** The 3 1/2 year period of unparalleled persecution and suffering of God's people brought on by Satan through the Antichrist and False Prophet. This is the most documented period of time recorded in Scripture being referred to as: 42 months, 1,260 days, and a time, times and half a time. This period begins with the abomination that causes desolation and ends with the return of Christ on the Day of the Lord. DAN 9:24-27
61. **Tribulation Temple -** The Third Temple which will be constructed on the Temple Mount of Moriah in Jerusalem during the Tribulation period.
62. **Trumpet, The Last** - The seventh trumpet of **REV 11:15**, which will signal the resurrection of the living and the dead in Christ.
63. **Wedding Feast, Banquet, or Supper of the Lamb, The** - The celebration of the union between Jesus Christ and the Bride of Christ (all true believers). It will take place on Mount Zion in Jerusalem, as described in ISA 25:6.
64. **Witnesses, Two** - During the tribulation, two men will prophesy in the streets of Jerusalem. These two witnesses of God will have the power to prevent it from raining on the earth, to call fire down from heaven, to turn bodies of water into blood, and to command a number of other plagues. After they preach for 42 months, the Antichrist will be allowed to kill them. Three and 1/2 days later they will be resurrected and raptured up to heaven. Some scholars say the two men could be Elijah and Enoch; or Moses and Elijah. **REV 11:3-13; MAL 4:5-6**
65. **Wrath of God - Day of the Lord** - God's judgment and punishment on the unbelieving and disobedient world, which will be poured out on the Day of the Lord. Commonly used in reference to the bowl judgments of the Great Tribulation, as laid out in the book of Revelation. **REV 14:9-11, 19; 15:1, 7; 16:1; JOH 3:36; ROM 1:18; EPH 5:6; COL 3:6; 1TH 1:9-10; 5:9**
66. **10 Nation Confederation - 10 Toes; 10 Horns; 10 Kings** - Out of the area and countries that once was the Roman Empire, ten leaders will arise. The only purpose these 10 leaders will have is to give their power to the Antichrist. **DAN 2:41-44; DAN 7:20; REV 17:12; REV 17:17**
67. **144,000 Jewish Saints** - Before the Antichrist administers his mark, God will send an angel to mark the foreheads of 144,000 Jews - 12,000 from each of the 12 tribes. The 144,000 will apparently be commissioned to be a witness to the gentiles during the tribulation. **REV 7:2-8**
68. **666** - The number of the Beast, as mentioned in **REV 13:18**. The Beast is thought to represent the Antichrist.
69. **70th Week** - The final seven years of Gentile domination of the nation of Israel and the city of Jerusalem; the last week of the seventy weeks of years (490 years) of Daniel's prophecy which will begin after the long interval. **DAN 8:27**