

Biblical Timelines

The primary scriptural key to a prophetic understanding of things to come

By Jim Sayles

Part 1: Understanding timeline terminology and God's very specific, prophetically revealed, "set times" (calendar) for the redemption of fallen mankind in Christ

The question believers are asking today is the same question His own disciples asked Him:

"Tell us, when will these things happen, and what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?"

Unfortunately, most are being taught false understandings based on various proof texts not in context with the revelatory truth in scripture or with the multitude of Biblical timelines the Father has given us in scripture.

Example 1: "Tribulation"

"Tribulation" simply means "trouble." The same word is used when Jesus instructed His disciples, saying, "In this world you will have *tribulation*," meaning everyday trouble and beast kingdom opposition.

What the Lord prophesied to His disciples as recorded in Matthew 24 was a specific time of **"tribulation"** beginning with the opening of the 4th seal, as well as a time at the opening of the 7th seal identified as **"great tribulation,"** beginning when the antichrist "man of sin" declares himself to be Jesus Christ returned to rule the world with an iron rod, and ending 3.5 years later on 10 Tishri, the feast of atonement, as the Lord returns to the earth with His saints of all time to defeat Satan and begin the millennial kingdom age.

Example 2: "former" and "latter" times

"Former times" refers to everything that happened prior to the resurrection of Jesus Christ on "Firstfruits."

"Latter times" refers to events after the resurrection of Jesus Christ and the coming of the kingdom of God to spiritual Israel, the Israel of God in Christ on Pentecost.

This is sometimes referred to as Old Testament and New Testament, but, at the same time, we must remember that Jesus was an Old Testament prophet. Yet, the New Testament as we know it includes all of the recorded words of Jesus, an Old Testament prophet.

An interesting example is found in a “former times” Old Testament prophecy concerning an event that will take place in the “latter times” of the New Testament.

“The anger of the LORD will not turn back until He has performed and carried out the purposes of His heart; In the last days ...of the latter times...you will clearly understand it.”...and experience it as a reality...Jeremiah 23:19,20 NASB (insert and emphasis are the author’s)

In context this passage is related to the storm of the Lord, the 4th-7th seals of “tribulation” and “great tribulation”, which are future events. Yet, the prophecy itself concerning the “last days” of the New Testament was given during Old Testament events with the obvious purpose being this prophecy’s inclusion in scripture for the benefit of those who would ultimately experience it.

The multitude of timelines we are given in scripture, though easy to recognize, can be misinterpreted by our intellects, especially if we approach these timelines with a bias toward some specific interpretation.

Example 3: God’s specific calendar for the seven primary events of covenant redemption in Christ

The God-appointed times and feasts (sabbaths) of the Lord first given to Israel concerning the seven primary events related to the covenant redemption of fallen mankind in Christ has been partially fulfilled, demonstrating that the remaining God-appointed times will be fulfilled on the exact days of God’s calendar and in the exact manner that the calendar specifically demonstrates.

This is no longer Israel’s calendar. It is now the calendar of God-appointed times for spiritual Israel, the “***Israel of God***” in Christ, in these “latter times.” And, yet, unlike former times Israel, we are not required by God to celebrate the rituals associated with this calendar.

We may celebrate them as we choose, but we are not required to celebrate them. And as demonstrated in this article, it is wise to at least be aware that God’s specific calendar for the God appointed times has been given to us in order that we will be prepared for these events.

Yet, the body of Christ in general is ignoring God's calendar for things to come.

Israel was required to celebrate them so that they would recognize the fulfillment of these events. Israel was then accountable for recognizing the fulfillment of Passover, Unleavened Bread, and Firstfruits by Jesus of Nazareth.

And these were judged for their **failure** to recognize the fulfillment of Passover, Unleavened Bread and Firstfruits by Jesus of Nazareth, because of non-revelatory traditions amongst the spiritual leaders of Israel concerning things to come.

This failure of Israel to recognize the signs of the times at the Lord's first advent, though they were given a specific calendar (the appointed times and feasts of the Lord), resulted in the judgment of Israel.

*For the days will come upon you when your enemies will throw up a barricade against you, and surround you and hem you in on every side, and they will level you to the ground and your children within you, and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, ... Why? ... **because you did not recognize the time of your visitation.*** ... though the Father gave them a specific, detailed calendar for the seven primary events of covenant redemption in Christ. Luke 19:43,44 NASB

This judgment was carried out completely in 70 AD when Titus, prince of Rome, sacked Jerusalem, leveled the temple, and scattered the Jewish people in diaspora among the nations.

The Roman Catholic Church, and certain organizations related to the Roman Catholic Church, persecuted the Jewish people many centuries afterwards, but those persecutions were not of God.

Those persecutions were inspired and provoked by Satan's influence in the organized church for his own purposes related to the end game when He will ultimately rule the world from Jerusalem through the antichrist "man of sin" who will call down fire from the spiritual realm and declare himself to be "Messiah" and "Lord" in the secret chambers of the third temple rebuilt by the "Temple Mount and Land of Israel Faithful" movement. (See [The Temple Mount and Land of Israel Faithful Movement](#)).

We will not be "judged" by God in this regard, but there will be serious "consequences" for those who fail to recognize the signs of the times and ultimately reject their faith in Jesus Christ because of the unexpected "trouble" (tribulation).

For this reason, I take this understanding very seriously. Yet, many of those who have been taught that it is not possible to lose our faith through the chronic hardening of our hearts against the voice of the Spirit who speaks the truth, promises, and commands of God in Christ by various means including dreams, visions, prophecies, and supernatural “guidance” in the *rhema* understanding of scripture, will, in fact, lose their faith.

But it is not the Father who strips them of their faith. They strip themselves of faith by ignoring the voice of our “counselor,” the Spirit of truth. And when they harden their hearts in this manner they no longer “hear” the Spirit of truth, and they subsequently, and unknowingly, lose their faith.

The Lord specifically prophesied that MANY of His people would lose their trust in Him and fall away from their standing with the Father in Him.

At that time...(the 4th, 5th, and 6th seals of “tribulation”)... ***many will be offended and repelled [by their association with Me] and will fall away [from the One whom they should trust] and will betray one another [handing over believers to their persecutors] and will hate one another.***
Matthew 24:10 Amplified

Some may ignore this truth because of their denominational bias, but it IS the word of the Lord. And we have been warned.

Events to come as illustrated by God’s calendar include: **1)** the ultimate event of Pentecost, which will be the firstfruits of the wheat harvest; **2)** the feast of trumpets on 1 Tishri as the saints of all time are resurrected (i.e. there is no pre-1 Tishri event identified in this calendar); **3)** the 10 Tishri “great and terrible day of the Lord” when the Lord returns to the earth with the saints of all time to rule and reign over the earth with His saints for 1000 years; **4)** and the 15 Tishri feast of tabernacles when we will inhabit the New Jerusalem on the New Earth renovated by spiritual fire.

Many believers do not recognize how dangerous it is for this generation to simply accept the opinions of the “experts” they have chosen to believe, because it is Satan’s intent over the centuries to insert His lying propaganda into accepted church doctrine in order to divide us and weaken us through a perversion of the truth.

This current Satanic strategy is focused on doctrine related to things to come so that he may defeat a significant number of Christian believers in the dangerous times immediately ahead of us.

Likewise, we are informed by the Lord Himself that it is the Spirit of truth who will “guide” us supernaturally into the correct understanding and application

of the timelines and events that He has intended for this very generation so that we might be prepared for things to come.

What He did NOT say is that only certain apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers would receive the truth spoken into their hearts (spirit-soul connection), and then they would convey that to the natural minds of the rest of the body of Christ for their intellectual consent.

But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you...(all believers)... ***into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come.*** John 16:13 NASB

1. “You” in this passage means “you,” the born-again believer.
2. Although we can discern facts without the help of the Holy Spirit, the absolute, immutable, revelatory truth of God only comes to us through the “guidance” (revelation and confirmation) of the Holy Spirit.
3. It is the Holy Spirit who causes us to understand the correct application of biblical timelines and prophecies, not our mere intellects no matter how studied.

What we also see in the worldwide *ekklēsia* of Christ today is a plethora of conflicting interpretations of biblical prophecies and related timelines demonstrating a MASSIVE disconnect from the Spirit of truth concerning things to come.

This is not the intent of the Father, and the danger for this current generation is clearly revealed in scripture.

It is, instead, the intent of Satan, unknowingly carried out by those leaders of organized Christianity in bondage to whatever lies, deceptions, or misunderstandings they have accepted without revelatory confirmation, to defeat those believers who fail to recognize the signs of the times because of the deceptions they have believed.

Yet, it is the intent of the Father that we overcome through our obedient faith responses in the ordained testing of our faith during a time of escalating trouble, and our overcoming will require us to recognize Satan’s lies and deceptions. Then we will more easily walk by faith in who we are in Christ and in what the Father has ordained for the “wise” believers who will prevail and overcome all of the assaults and deceptions of the enemy.

It is, then, clearly each believer's responsibility to seek the truth as the Spirit guides and confirms, rather than simply adopting the view of whatever denomination we belong to, whatever leader/teacher we admire most, or our own prideful intellects without the guidance and confirmation of the Spirit of truth.

As believers in covenant with the Father in Christ, we will not be judged by our false understanding or false teaching of biblical prophecies intended for our understanding and preparation for things to come.

But there will be **CONSEQUENCES** as the Lord Himself warned, and I, for one, do not want to be responsible for the consequences that will be experienced by many currently included in the body of Christ.

Yet, those who are unknowingly teaching lies will bear consequences for those whom they misled who are also bearing consequences.

*“Then...after the opening of the 3rd seal... **they will deliver you...** Christian believers... **to tribulation, and will kill you, and you will be hated by all nations because of My name...** only Christian believers have His name... **At that time many...** of My people... **will fall away...** *apostasia* (fall away from their standing with God in Christ)... **and will betray one another and hate one another. Many false prophets will arise...** from among My people... **and will mislead many...** through the lies they believe and teach... Then... **Because lawlessness...** spiritual lawlessness (absence of the influence of the Holy Spirit)... **is increased, most people's...** “agape” ... **love will grow cold. But the one who endures to the end,**... of the 6th seal... **he will be saved.** Matthew 24:9-13 NASB (inserts are the author's)*

Four truths are clearly revealed in the Lord's prophetic answer:

1. It is possible for born-again, regenerated believers, to ultimately lose their faith because of chronic non-response to the revelatory truth, promises, and commands of the Lord as these are conveyed to us by the Spirit of truth;
2. The result of losing our faith is bitter anger against God because of His supposed rejection of the believer, resulting in resentment and hatred towards those who remain in Christ;
3. The Lord's agape love (love that only the presence of the Holy Spirit manifests) will grow cold in a majority of the body of Christ at that time (4th, 5th, and 6th seals of Revelation), because they have been misled to believe that the body of Christ will **not** experience “tribulation”;

4. Those who persevere, endure, and overcome **during** tribulation until the opening of the 7th and final seal, which is the beginning of 3.5 years of “great tribulation,” will be fully redeemed and spiritually “sealed” immediately prior to the opening of the 7th seal. Thus, these will experience the 4th, 5th, and 6th seal events of “tribulation,” but they will not be harmed or hindered in any way by Satan during the 7th seal of “great tribulation.”

This is not, however, the non-event of a pre-tribulation “rapture.” This is the 7th seal redemption of the metaphorical 144,000, the firstfruits of the **wheat** harvest, on some future ultimate fulfillment of Pentecost, who remain in the earth in their spiritually “sealed” bodies for the final 3.5 years of the age (“great tribulation”) to bring in the harvest of the multitude in the face of the worst Satan can do through his beast kingdom.

These are then in perfect communion with the Lord and with one another, and Satan cannot harm them.

The old testament prophetic forerunner for this event is demonstrated by the three Israelites who refused to worship the “god” of Nebuchadnezzar’s Babylonian empire.

These were in the fire (of tribulation) but they were not destroyed by it. And these were in perfect communion with one another and with the Lord who was with them. Yet, the guards who threw them into the fire were destroyed by the fire.

This simple, straightforward answer by the Lord cannot be ignored by any who want to know the truth.

Be wise, then, because the time is short.