

# PERFECT ENDING

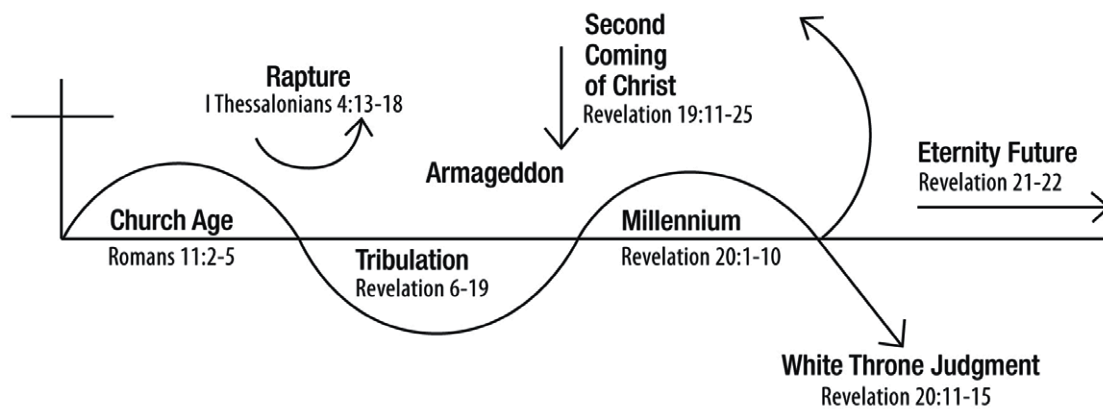
## WHY YOUR ETERNAL FUTURE MATTERS TODAY

by Dr. Robert Jeffress

WHEN ALL HELL BREAKS LOOSE Part 1

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Introduction: Today we are going to look at the final seven years of earth's history -- a period of time commonly referred to as the Great Tribulation. As the prophet/statesman Daniel revealed, this period of time is essential to complete God's purpose for Israel and the world.



I. God's Prophet: Daniel (Daniel 1-6)

II. God's Prophecy (Daniel 9:20-27)

A. The Occasion for the Prophecy (Daniel 9:20-21)

B. The Details of the Prophecy (Daniel 9:22-27)

Daniel 9:22-24 <sup>22</sup> "O Daniel, I have now come forth to give you insight with understanding. <sup>23</sup> At the beginning of your supplications the command was issued, and I have come to tell you, for you are highly esteemed; so give heed to the message and gain understanding of the vision. <sup>24</sup> Seventy weeks have been decreed for your people and your holy city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sin, to make atonement for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most holy place."

1. An overview of the 70 "weeks" (Daniel 9:24)

Gabriel announces that God will use these 490 years to:

- a. "Finish the **transgression**"
- b. "Make an end to **sin**"
- c. "Make atonement for **iniquity**"
- d. "Bring in everlasting **righteousness**"
- e. "Seal up vision and **prophecy**"
- f. "Anoint the most **holy place**"

2. The first 69 “weeks” or 483 “years” (Daniel 9:25)

### God's Stopwatch

Daniel 9:24-27

490 years



Daniel 9:25a “So that you are to know and discern that from the issuing of a decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until the Messiah the Prince there will be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks;”

3. The interval between the 69 “weeks” and the 70th “week” (Daniel 9:26)

Daniel 9:26 “Then after the sixty-two weeks [Plus seven weeks mentioned in Daniel 9:25 for a total of 69 weeks] the Messiah will be cut off and have nothing, and the people of the prince who is to come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. And its end will come with a flood; even to the end there will be war; desolations are determined.”

### DANIEL'S SEVENTY WEEKS



Romans 11:25 “For I do not want you, brethren, to be uniformed of this mystery, lest you be wise in your own estimation, that a partial hardening has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in;”

4. The final 70th “week” or seven “years” (Daniel 9:27)

Daniel 9:27 And he [The great world dictator we call Antichrist] will make a firm covenant with the many for one week, but in the middle of the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering, and on the wing of abominations will come one who makes desolate, even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate.

- III. “The Day Of The Lord” (Joel 1:15; Amos 5:18,20; Zephaniah 1:14-15; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-4)

Joel 1:15 “Alas for the day! For the day of the Lord is near, and it will come as destruction from the Almighty.”

Amos 5:18, 20 <sup>18</sup> “Alas, you who are longing for the day of the Lord, for what purpose will the day of the Lord be to you? It will be darkness and not light. <sup>20</sup> Will not the day of the Lord be darkness instead of light, even gloom with no brightness in it?”

Zephaniah 1:14-15 <sup>14</sup> “Near is the great day of the Lord, near and coming very quickly; listen, the day of the Lord! In it the warrior cries out bitterly. <sup>15</sup> A day of wrath is that day, A day of trouble and distress, A day of destruction and desolation, A day of darkness and gloom, A day of clouds and thick darkness.”

1 Thessalonians 5:1-4 <sup>1</sup> “Now as to the times and the epochs, brethren, you have no need of anything to be written to you. <sup>2</sup> For you yourselves know full well that the day of the Lord will come just like a thief in the night. <sup>3</sup> While they are saying, “Peace and safety!” then destruction will come upon them suddenly like birth pangs upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. <sup>4</sup> But you, brethren, are not in darkness, that the day should overtake you like a thief.”

- A. The Day of the Lord Follows the **Rapture** of the Church  
(1 Thessalonians 4:13-18-5:1)

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 <sup>13</sup>“But we do not want you to be uninformed, brethren, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve, as do the rest who have no hope. <sup>14</sup> For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep in Jesus. <sup>15</sup> For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, and remain until the coming of the Lord, shall not precede those who have fallen asleep. <sup>16</sup> For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet of God; and the dead in Christ shall rise first. <sup>17</sup> Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and thus we shall always be with the Lord. <sup>18</sup> Therefore comfort one another with these words.”

- B. The Day of the Lord is a Time of **Judgment** Upon **Unbelievers**  
(1 Thessalonians 5:3)

1 Thessalonians 5:3 “While they are saying, “Peace and safety!” then destruction will come upon them suddenly like birth pangs upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.”

- C. Christians Need Not **Fear** the Day of the Lord (1 Thessalonians 5:4)

1 Thessalonians 5:4 “But you, brethren, are not in darkness, that the day should overtake you like a thief;”

- IV. An Outline Of Daniel’s 70th Week (“The Day of the Lord”)

### A. Act I: The Beginning of the Tribulation

Three major events will occur:

#### 1. The rise of Antichrist

- a. He will come to power **after** Christians are removed from the earth. (2 Thessalonians 2:6-9)
- b. He most likely will be a **Gentile**. (Revelation 13:1)
- c. He will rule over a revived **Roman** empire that will apparently be in the form of a ten-nation confederacy. (Daniel 9:26-27)

Revelation 13:3 "And I saw one of his heads as if it had been slain, and his fatal wound was healed. And the whole earth was amazed and followed after the beast."

- d. He will oppose the people of God and attempt to change the **laws** of God without opposition. (Daniel 7:25)

Daniel 7:25 "And he will speak out against the Most High and wear down the saints of the Highest One, and he will intend to make alterations in times and in law; and they will be given into his hand for a time, times, and half a time."

Conclusion