

The Closing days
of GRACE



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THE DEAD DO
TELL TALES AT
VESUVIUS 57

A PRAYER
FOR POZZUOLI 68

KRILL: UNTAPPED
BOUNTY FROM
THE SEA? 65

WASHINGTON'S
OLYMPIC
PENINSULA 64

BRAZIL'S
KAYAPO, CURSED
BY GOLD 675

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PENTECOST

“This is that.”

Peter does not say, “This is somewhat similar to what Joel prophesied.” Peter states very plainly, “This is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel,” that what Joel had prophesied about Israel’s “last days” had begun.

PENTECOST

Peter did not say these were the signs of the *first days* of the Church, the Body of Christ, but signs of the “*last days*” for Israel.

THE ETERNAL PURPOSE OF GOD

PROPHECY

PROPHECY

The Unchanging Character of God — Hebrews 13:8

All-Powerful
Rev. 19:6

All-Knowing
Psa. 147:5

Ever-Present
Jer. 23:24

Holy
Isa. 6:3

Goodness
Ex. 34:6

Truth
John 14:6

Love
I John 4:8

Righteousness
Rev. 16:5

Justice
Rev. 15:3

Eternal
Rom. 1:20

Time Past
(Eph. 2:11,12)

Time Future

Eph.
2:7

CHANNEL OF BLESSING

AGES TO COME

LAW AND THE PROPHETS

EARTHLY MINISTRY OF CHRIST
(Christ is King) John 1:49

PENTECOSTAL PERIOD

DAY OF THE LORD

SECOND COMING OF CHRIST TO THE EARTH
Rev. 19:11-21

Atonement - Covered Sins

Forgiveness Promised
(Jer. 31:34; Ezek. 36:24-33)

Forgiveness Promised
(Acts 3:19 cf. Rom. 11:26,27)

Forgiveness Promised
(I John 1:9)

Redemption of Creation
(Isa. 35:1-10)

KINGDOM PROMISED
(David)
II Sam. 7:8-17

KINGDOM AT HAND
(Christ)
Mark 1:14,15

KINGDOM OFFERED
(Apostle Peter)
Acts 3:19-21

TRIBULATION 7 YEARS
Jacob's Trouble
Jer. 30:7
Zeph. 1:14-18

KINGDOM ESTABLISHED
(Apostle John)
Rev. 20:1-6

GREAT WHITE THRONE JUDGMENT
Rev. 20:11-15

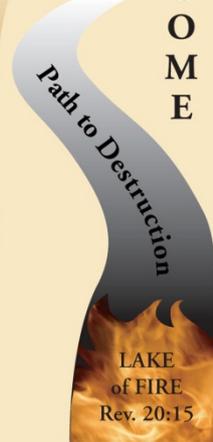
GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM PROCLAIMED
Matt. 4:23

GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM REJECTED BY ISRAEL
Acts 5:29-33; 7:51-60

GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM RESUMED
Matt. 24:14

Israel will be regathered and restored
Ezek. 36:24

TERMS OF SALVATION
Repent - Mark 1:15; Luke 3:7-15
Believe - John 20:31
Water Baptism - Mark 16:16
(Water Baptism Required - Luke 7:29,30)



Creation Week
6 Days
Gen. 1:31
Ex. 20:11



ISRAEL

ISRAEL

ACTS

GENESIS - 4 GOSPELS

JAMES - REVELATION

PENTECOST

THE GIFT OF THE SPIRIT



According to Joel's prophecy, the signs of Pentecost were to be followed by signs both in heaven and on earth, and the pouring out of the Spirit was to be followed by the pouring out of God's wrath.



PENTECOST

THE GIFT OF THE SPIRIT



We see in Acts 2 that the Spirit was poured out upon God's own, but the predicted wrath being poured out upon the world never came. Instead, it was interrupted.



THE ETERNAL PURPOSE OF GOD IS TWO-FOLD

PROPHECY

MYSTERY

PROPHECY

The Unchanging Character of God — Hebrews 13:8

All-Powerful Rev. 19:6
 All-Knowing Psa. 147:5
 Ever-Present Jer. 23:24
 Holy Isa. 6:3
 Goodness Ex. 34:6
 Truth John 14:6
 Love I John 4:8

Longsuffering Rom. 2:4
 Grace Titus 2:11
 Mercy Eph. 2:4
 Peace Phil. 4:7

Righteousness Rev. 16:5
 Justice Rev. 15:3
 Eternal Rom. 1:20

Time Past
(Eph. 2:11,12)

Time Present
GRACE

Time Future

LAW AND THE PROPHETS

EARTHLY MINISTRY OF CHRIST
(Christ is King) John 1:49

PENTECOSTAL PERIOD

HEAVENLY MINISTRY OF CHRIST
(Christ is Head) Col. 1:18

DAY OF THE LORD

Second Coming of Christ to the Earth
Rev. 19:11-21

Atonement - Covered Sins

Forgiveness Promised
(Jer. 31:34; Ezek. 36:24-33)

Forgiveness Promised
(Acts 3:19 cf. Rom. 11:26,27)

Redemption — FORGIVENESS RECEIVED - Eph. 1:7

Forgiveness Promised
(I John 1:9)

Redemption of Creation
(Isa. 35:1-10)

KINGDOM PROMISED
(David)
II Sam. 7:8-17

KINGDOM AT HAND
(Christ)
Mark 1:14,15

KINGDOM OFFERED
(Apostle Peter)
Acts 3:19-21

KINGDOM TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED
Paul is the Apostle of the Gentiles
Rom. 11:13

TRIBULATION 7 YEARS
Jacob's Trouble Jer. 30:7
Zeph. 1:14-18

KINGDOM ESTABLISHED
(Apostle John)
Rev. 20:1-6

GREAT WHITE THRONE JUDGMENT
Rev. 20:11-15

GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM PROCLAIMED
Matt. 4:23

GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM REJECTED BY ISRAEL
Acts 5:29-33; 7:51-60

GOSPEL OF THE GRACE OF GOD PROCLAIMED TO THE GENTILES
Acts 20:24; Rom. 15:15,16

GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM RESUMED
Matt. 24:14

Israel will be regathered and restored
Ezek. 36:24

TERMS OF SALVATION
Repent - Mark 1:15; Luke 3:7-15
Believe - John 20:31
Water Baptism - Mark 16:16
(Water Baptism Required - Luke 7:29,30)

TERMS OF SALVATION
Believe Christ died for our sins was buried and rose again the third day
I Cor. 15:1-4
(To him that worketh not - Rom. 4:5)

TERMS OF SALVATION
Repent
Believe
Water Baptism



CHANNEL OF BLESSING

Creation Week 6 Days
Gen. 1:31
Ex. 20:11



ISRAEL

BODY OF CHRIST

ISRAEL

GENESIS - 4 GOSPELS

ACTS

ROMANS - PHILEMON

HEBREWS

JAMES - REVELATION

AGES TO COME

LAKE of FIRE
Rev. 20:15



The last days for Israel already began in the past, but were interrupted by “the dispensation of grace.” And now this dispensation has its own last days. So there are **two last days** now because God has two programs to finish up!



Grace



The “last days” of Israel

Pentecost (Acts 2)

“This is that”

Signs, Times

Pouring out of the Spirit

Temporarily interrupted

The “last days” of the Dispensation of Grace

**1 Timothy 4:1-3;
2 Timothy 3:1-12**

**“Perilous times
shall come”**

Trends

**Rapture of the
Body of Christ**

The “last days” of Israel

Isa. 2:2-4; Jer. 30; Zech. 14; Matt. 24; Revelation

Signs, Times

Tribulation, 2nd Coming, Millennial Kingdom

Israel’s Last Days resume



II Peter

“The Lord is not slack concerning His promise... but is longsuffering...not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance... the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him” (II Pet. 3:9,15).

SALVATION



MIKE LUCKNICH
DRAWING BY MIKE LUCKNICH



TURN OUT, IT
ACTUALLY PREDICTS
THE END OF
TWINKIES...



I only had enough room to
go up to 2012.

Ha! That'll
freak somebody
out someday.

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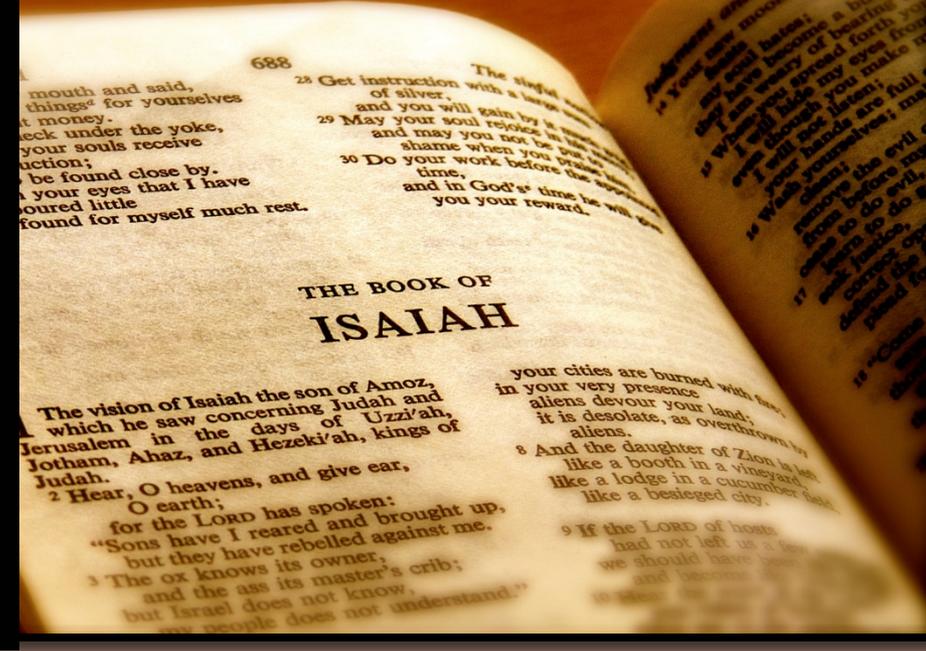
2 TIMOTHY 3:1-5

THIS KNOW ALSO, THAT IN THE LAST DAYS PERILOUS TIMES SHALL COME. FOR MEN SHALL BE LOVERS OF THEIR OWN SELVES, COVETOUS, BOASTERS, PROUD, BLASPHEMERS, DISOBEDIENT TO PARENTS, UNTHANKFUL, UNHOLY, WITHOUT NATURAL AFFECTION, TRUCEBREAKERS, FALSE ACCUSERS, INCONTINENT, FIERCE, DESPISERS OF THOSE THAT ARE GOOD, TRAITORS, HEADY, HIGHMINDED, LOVERS OF PLEASURES MORE THAN LOVERS OF GOD; HAVING A FORM OF GODLINESS, BUT DENYING THE POWER THEREOF: FROM SUCH TURN AWAY.

LINKSTER ART BIBLE VERSES



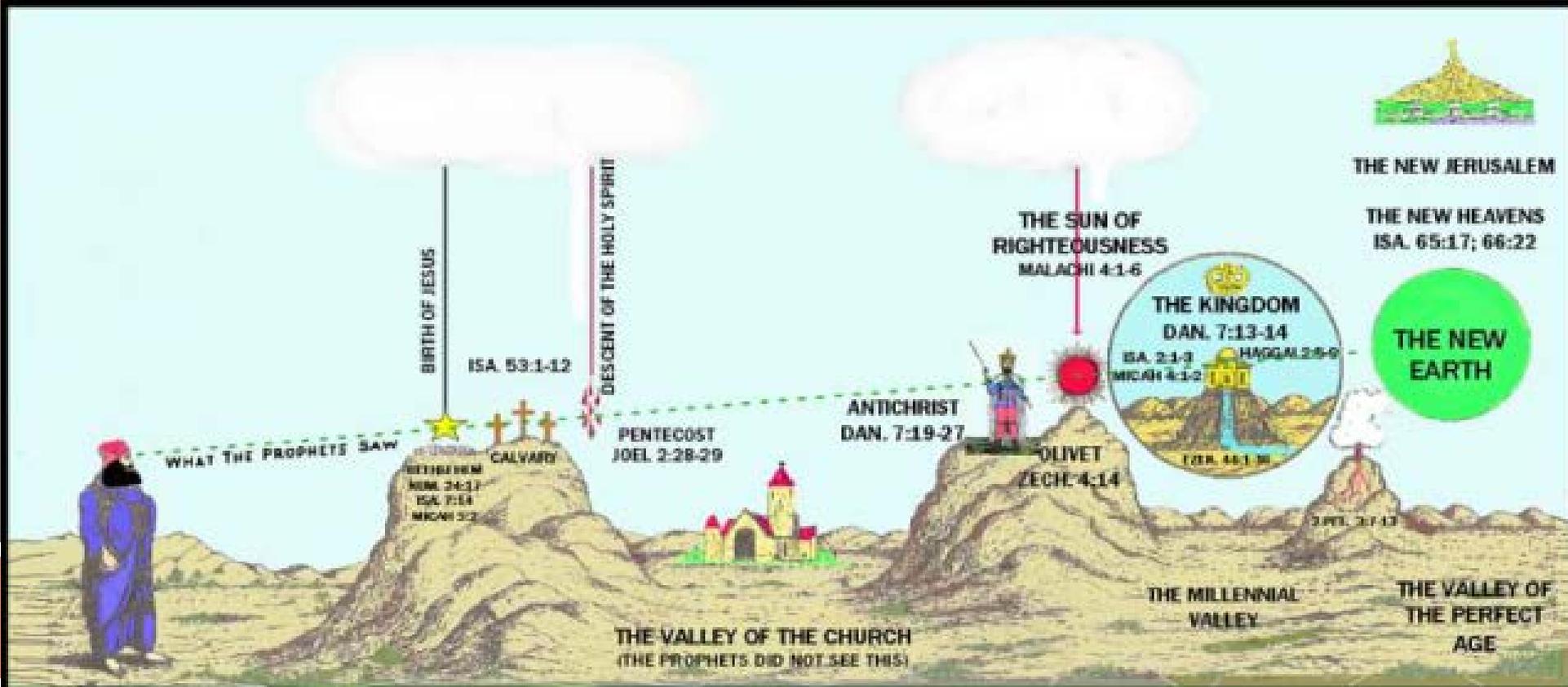
When Paul speaks of “last days” and “latter times” (II Tim. 4:1), he is speaking of the closing days of the dispensation of grace. When the “last days” are mentioned outside of Paul’s letters, it’s speaking of the last days for Israel and the end times of the world.



“It shall come to pass in the **last days**, that the mountain of the Lord’s house shall be established...and shall be exalted above the hills, and all nations shall flow unto it” (Isa. 2:2).

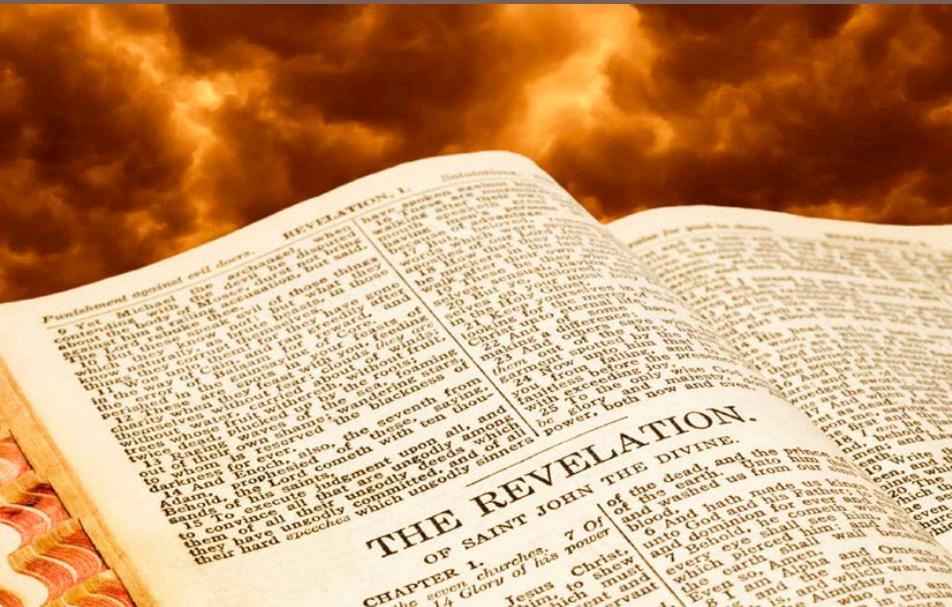
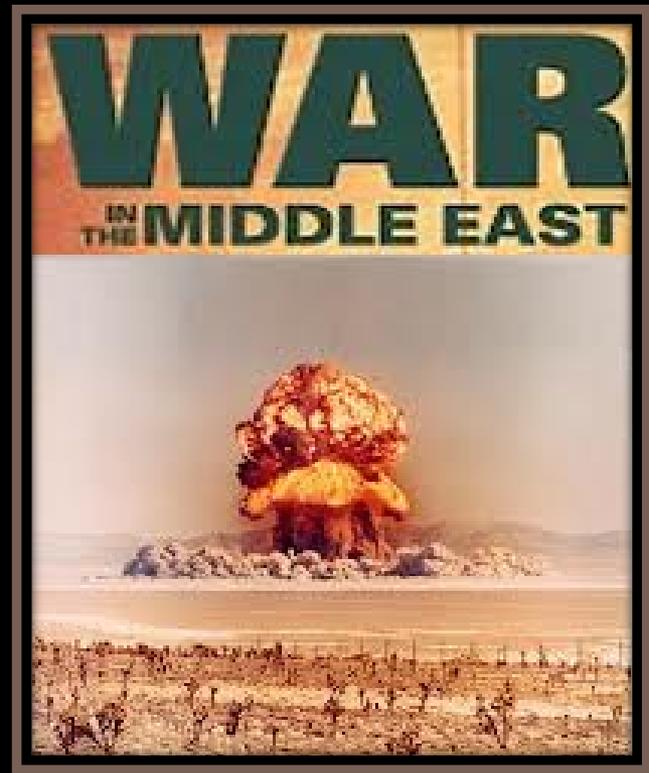


The last days for Israel were all prophesied, but the dispensation of grace is an unprophesied time, unrevealed to the prophets, unseen in the past.



No current event was ever foretold in the Old Testament and nothing today is a fulfillment of anything that is in the book of Revelation.

Revelation is *all* future; it will all take place after the Body of Christ has been taken to heaven.



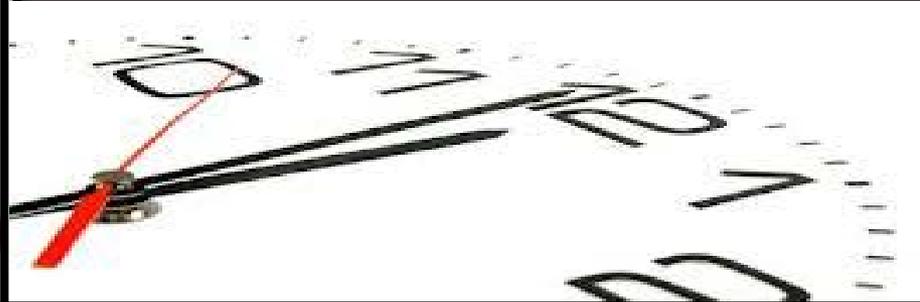
And any natural disaster, tsunami, earthquake, tornado, hurricane, and any war, terror attack, or strife between nations is not any fulfillment of a Bible prophecy today under grace, but just a result of living in a sin-cursed world.





“And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads, for your redemption draweth nigh” (Luke 21:28).

trends



The dispensation of grace is *timeless and signless* in character. Nothing whatever is said as to how long it will last, or when it will be brought to a close. Every day is a day of pure grace; every day we need to be Rapture ready!

When Paul speaks of the last days of the present dispensation of grace, he speaks of *trends* rather than of specific signs or events that will precede its end when Christ comes at the Rapture.

Rapture Ready



Paul's teaching leaves the coming of Christ at the Rapture always imminent and this in turn leaves the evangelization and salvation of the lost to be always urgent because we just don't know when the dispensation of grace will end, and judgment will begin.



The Greek word for “perilous” is used one other time in the New Testament: to describe two demonized men living in the caves near Gadara in Matthew 8. They were possessed by demons and empowered by evil, and were wild, uncontrollable men, who broke the chains that bound them and terrorized the region with extreme violence, and were “exceeding fierce” (8:28) it says.



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LINKSTER ART BIBLE VERSES



Sounds like this morning's news!



THE NARCISSIST TEST

STEP 1: TAKE A
MOMENT TO THINK
ABOUT YOURSELF.

STEP 2: IF YOU
MADE IT TO STEP 2,
YOU ARE NOT A
NARCISSIST.



“For men shall be lovers of their own selves.”



the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil

“Covetous” or literally “lovers of money.”

Boaster: Definition

•One who boasts; a braggart.



PRIDE



**Disobedient
to Parents**



U N H O L Y



“Without natural affection”



2 TIMOTHY 3:1-5

THIS KNOW ALSO, THAT IN THE LAST DAYS PERILOUS TIMES SHALL COME. FOR MEN SHALL BE LOVERS OF THEIR OWN SELVES, COVETOUS, BOASTERS, PROUD, BLASPHEMERS, DISOBEDIENT TO PARENTS, UNTHANKFUL, UNHOLY, WITHOUT NATURAL AFFECTION, TRUCEBREAKERS, FALSE ACCUSERS, INCONTINENT, FIERCE, DESPISERS OF THOSE THAT ARE GOOD, TRAITORS, HEADY, HIGHMINDED, LOVERS OF PLEASURES MORE THAN LOVERS OF GOD; HAVING A FORM OF GODLINESS, BUT DENYING THE POWER THEREOF: FROM SUCH TURN AWAY.