

## ***Asia in End-Time Prophecy (Rev. 16:12; Dan. 11:44; Isa. 49:12; 59:19)***

### **I. LAYING A FOUNDATION OF UNDERSTANDING ABOUT THE END TIMES**

- A. The centerpiece of God's eternal purpose is for Jesus to come back to establish His kingdom over all the earth as He joins the heavenly and earthly realms together. This is the interpretive key to understanding the end times. Without this foundational revelation, confusion is inevitable.  
***<sup>9</sup> Made known to us the mystery of His will...<sup>10</sup> that He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth. (Eph. 1:9-10)***
- B. ***Heaven*** speaks of the spiritual realm where God's power and presence is openly manifest. Heaven is the place believers have gone for the last 2,000 years (the cross to the second coming) before receiving a resurrected body at the second coming to reign on earth (Rev. 5:10).
- C. ***Earth*** speaks of the physical realm where human process, emotions and physical sensation reach their fullest expression. We see aspects of the natural and the supernatural dimensions operating together when Jesus appeared in His resurrected body to teach the apostles (Jn. 20-21; Acts 1:3).
- D. God's purpose has always been for His people to live together with Him in this way forever.  
***<sup>3</sup> Behold, the Tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them... (Rev. 21:3)***
- E. There will be 3 types of people when Jesus appears in the sky to rapture the Church.  
1) The ***redeemed*** who will be raptured during Jesus' procession across the sky.  
2) The ***reprobate*** who took the mark of the Beast will be judged and then killed.  
3) The ***resisters*** are the unsaved survivors of the tribulation who refused to worship the Antichrist called "those who are left" or "who remain." (Isa. 4:3; 10:20; 11:11; 49:6; 65:8; 66:19; Jer. 31:2; Ezek. 20:38-42; 36:36; Dan. 12:1; Amos 9:9-10; Joel 2:32; Zech. 12:14; 13:8; 14:16).
- F. Jesus' coming will be in context to a military conflict. He will travel through the city of Bozrah in Edom (Jordan) crushing the armies of the Antichrist on His way to liberate Jerusalem in the Battle of Jerusalem which ends the Armageddon Campaign (which lasts for 3½ years).  
***<sup>1</sup> Who is this who comes from Edom [modern day Jordan], with dyed garments from Bozrah [capital of Edom], this One [Jesus] who is...traveling [marching] in the greatness of His strength?...<sup>2</sup> Why is Your apparel red, and Your garments like one who treads in the winepress?...<sup>3</sup> I have trodden the winepress...I have trodden them in My anger, and trampled them in My fury; their blood is sprinkled upon My garments, I have stained all My robes.  
<sup>4</sup> The day of vengeance is in My heart...the year of My redeemed has come. (Is. 63:1-4)***  
***<sup>11</sup> Behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him...in righteousness He judges and makes war...<sup>13</sup> He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood...<sup>14</sup> And the armies in heaven...followed Him on white horses. <sup>15</sup> Out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations...He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God...  
<sup>16</sup> On His robe... is written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS. (Rev. 19:11-16)***

## II. JESUS' SECOND COMING: HIS ROYAL PROCESSION

- A. When Jesus returns to earth, He will make a royal procession to His throne in Jerusalem. This will involve a **3-stage process** which will include many events occurring over a 30 day period.
- B. **Stage 1:** Jesus' royal procession **across the sky** to rapture the Church and to be seen by every person on the earth (Mt. 24:30; Rev. 1:7). Every eye will see Jesus as His kingship is proclaimed with authority over each nation. This requires a global procession over every inhabited place.  
*<sup>7</sup> He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him...all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him... (Rev. 1:7)*
- C. Every unbeliever will see Jesus clearly enough to have a deep emotional response of mourning. He will travel **close enough** to the earth and **slowly enough** across the sky for every unbeliever to see Him **clearly enough** to understand what is happening and to mourn over rejecting Him.  
*<sup>30</sup> The Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds...with power and great glory. (Mt. 24:30)*
- D. **Stage 2:** Jesus' royal procession **on the land** as He travels or marches through Edom or modern-day Jordan warring against the Antichrist's armies on His way to Jerusalem (Isa. 63:1-6; Hab. 3:12; Ps. 110:5-6; 45:3-5). He will set foot on the earth (somewhere in the Middle East) and then march through Bozrah in Edom (Jordan) on His way to liberate Jerusalem (Rev. 19:11-21).  
*<sup>12</sup> You marched through the land in indignation; You trampled the nations... (Hab. 3:12)*
- E. **Stage 3:** Jesus' triumphal entry **into Jerusalem** through the Mount of Olives to be crowned king (Ps. 24:7-10; Jer. 3:17; Zech. 14:3-5; Rev. 19:11-21). Jesus will be celebrated as the Son of David in a coronation parade in Jerusalem and will be crowned King (Zech. 6:13; 14:9). The gates of Jerusalem will be opened to receive Jesus as their messianic King (Mt. 23:39).  
*<sup>7</sup> Lift up your heads, O you gates [of Jerusalem]! The King of glory shall come in. <sup>8</sup> Who is this King...? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle [Armageddon]. (Ps. 24:7-8)*
- F. Jesus will lead a royal procession into Jerusalem as David did when he brought the ark into Jerusalem (2 Sam. 6). David merged the account of his procession into Jerusalem with the ark with a prophecy of Jesus' procession into Jerusalem at His second coming (Ps. 68:24-33).  
*<sup>24</sup> They have seen Your procession, O God, the procession of my God, my King, into the sanctuary... <sup>29</sup> Because of Your Temple at Jerusalem, kings will bring presents to You...till everyone submits himself...scatter the peoples [nations] who delight in war...<sup>32</sup> Sing to God, you kingdoms of the earth...<sup>33</sup> To Him who rides on the heaven of heavens... (Ps. 68:24-33)*
- G. Jesus' royal procession will **begin in the sky** at the seventh trumpet (1 Cor. 15:52; Rev. 11:15) with the rapture and will **end in Jerusalem**. I refer to these events as Jesus' royal procession because He will come in great glory and flaming fire and trumpet blasts. He comes with billions of angels and saints as He travels on clouds across the earth for all to see the overwhelming power of His kingship (Mt. 16:27; 24:29-31; 25:31; 1 Thes. 3:13; 4:14-16; 2 Thes. 1:8).

III. **THE KINGS OF THE EAST IN END-TIME PROPHECY: WHAT ARE THE IMPLICATIONS?**

- A. As Jesus marches up to Jerusalem, He will release the bowl judgments on the Antichrist.
- <sup>12</sup> *The sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up, so that the way of the kings from the east [Asia] might be prepared. <sup>13</sup> I saw three unclean spirits like frogs coming out of the mouth of the dragon [Satan], out of the mouth of the beast [Antichrist], and...the false prophet. <sup>14</sup> They are spirits of demons, performing signs, which go out to the kings of the earth...to gather them to the battle of that great day of God...<sup>16</sup> And they gathered them together to the place called in Hebrew, Armageddon. (Rev. 16:12-16)*
- B. The sixth bowl is negative in that the kings of the east or Asia will be deceived by Satan. It is positive in that they do not yield to the Antichrist until the final weeks before his destruction. They stand against the Antichrist for the years leading up to the very last weeks of this age.
- C. The Antichrist will hear troubling news from the Asian kings of the east who persistently resisted his financial seductions, refused his demonic miracles and stood against his threats. Three sections in Dan. 11:36-12:3: first, the Antichrist's religious attitudes (v. 36-39); second, the Antichrist's military activities (v. 40-45); third, Antichrist's ultimate defeat (12:1-3)
- <sup>44</sup> *But news from the east and the north shall trouble him [Antichrist]; therefore he shall go out with great fury to destroy and annihilate many. (Dan. 11:44)*
- D. Jesus will liberate Jewish prisoners related to His second coming activities (Isa. 49:9-11). For more on Jews held captive in the end-times see Ps. 102:20; Isa. 11:11-12, 16; 27:13; 42:7, 22; 49:9, 21, 24-26; 61:1; Jer 30:3, 8, 10, 17; 31:16, 23; Ezek. 39:23-29; Joel 3:1-2; Hos. 11:11; Amos 9:14; Mic 4:6; 5:6; Zeph. 3:19-20; Zech. 9:11-12; 13:8; 14:2; Mt. 25:43; Lk. 21:24.
- <sup>9</sup> *You [Jesus] may say to the prisoners, 'Go forth,' to those who are in darkness, 'Show yourselves.' "They [Jewish refugees] shall feed along the roads...<sup>10</sup> They shall neither hunger nor thirst, neither heat nor sun shall strike them; for He who has mercy on them will lead them, even by the springs of water He will guide them. <sup>11</sup> I will make each of My mountains a road...<sup>12</sup> Surely these [Jewish refugees] shall come from afar; Look! Those from the north and the west, and these from the land of Sinim [China]" (Isa. 49:9-12)*
- E. Those given refuge in Sinim (China) will return to Jerusalem. The land is "far off" (v. 11) so it cannot refer to an area near Israel. Many modern scholars favor the identification of Sinae with China. Sinae was the name of the Chinese traders from Thinae, in western China (now Thsiu or Tin in the province of Schensi). In the third century BC, the dynasty of Tsin, (from whence came "China") became supreme over the empire (From Fausset's Bible Dictionary).
- F. In the end-times, believers in Asia will have great reverence for Jesus' glory.
- <sup>18</sup> *Accordingly He will repay, fury to His adversaries, recompense to His enemies; the coastlands He will fully repay. <sup>19</sup> So shall they fear [have reverence for] the name of the LORD from the west, and His glory from the rising of the sun [Asia]; when the enemy comes in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD will lift up a standard against him. <sup>20</sup> "The Redeemer*

*will come [second coming] to Zion, and to those who turn from transgression in Jacob." (Isa. 59:18-20)*

#### IV. APPENDIX: JESUS' 30-DAYS ROYAL PROCESSION AT HIS SECOND COMING

- A. Jesus' coming involves a **royal procession** in 3-stages that will include many events occurring over a **30-day period**. This period is seen by comparing the **1,260 day** time frame (Rev. 11:2-3; 12:6, 14; 13:5; Dan. 7:25; 9:27; 12:7) with the **1,290 days** of Daniel 12:11. These 30 days are **after** the rapture, yet **before** His triumphant entry into Jerusalem (Rev. 19:11-21; Zech. 14:1-5).
- B. This period will extend 30 days beyond the commonly understood 3½ years (1,260 days) associated with the Great Tribulation. These 30 days will be a dynamic transitional period that will usher in the Millennium (Jesus' 1000-year reign).
- C. In Daniel 12:11, an angel told Daniel about a period of time at the end of the age. It will last for 1,290 days after the daily sacrifice in the temple is taken away to establish the abomination of desolation (the main feature to be used by the Antichrist to seduce the nations to worship him).
- <sup>11</sup> And from the time that the daily sacrifice is taken away, and the abomination of desolation is set up, there shall be 1,290 days. (Dan. 12:11)*
1. The daily sacrifice will be established then later taken away. Unsaved Jewish religious leaders will rebuild the temple and then reinstate the Old Testament animal sacrifices. They will do this based on the false idea that God will accept these sacrifices. The blood of Jesus is the only blood sacrifice that God accepts for our forgiveness (Heb. 10).
  2. The Antichrist will force Israel to stop offering daily sacrifices to God. He will require them to worship him as he "sets up" the abomination of desolation worship system.
- D. What we learn from Daniel 12:11 is that God will allow the Antichrist's worship system, called the abomination of desolation, to continue functioning for 30 days **after** the Church is raptured.
- E. Paul prophesied of this abomination adding more insight, namely that the Antichrist himself will sit in the temple presenting himself as God. The Antichrist will cause an image of himself to "stand" in the holy place of the temple (Mt. 24:15) as he claims to be God (2 Thes. 2:4). He will then demand all nations to worship him with the threat of death (Rev. 13:14-18).
- <sup>15</sup> When you see the abomination of desolation spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place...then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. (Mt. 24:15-16)*
- <sup>4</sup> So that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God. (2 Thes. 2:4)*
- F. The Antichrist's actions of sitting in the temple to declare himself as God and the setting up of his image will facilitate his demonic worldwide worship system. This will be an abomination that will so deeply offend God that He will release His judgments that bring desolation on or destruction of all who participate in it.

- G. This Antichrist worship system will continue for **1,290 days** or for 30 days **after** the Church is raptured (Dan. 12:2). The rapture will occur **1,260 days** after the abomination of desolation is **initially** set up (Dan. 12:6-8, 11). One of the most surprising facts about Jesus' end-time plan is that He will allow the Antichrist to continue to live **after** the rapture of the Church. This is precisely the point the angel was making when he told Daniel that the abomination of desolation will continue for 1,290 days, that is, another 30 days after Jesus' return Dan. 12:2, 6-8, 11).
- H. **Note:** Daniel referred to the **1,260 days**, this is the same time frame as **42 months** and **time, times and half a time** (Dan. 7:25; 12:7). **Time** speaks of one year, **times** refers to two years and **half a time** to one half of a year. The OT saints were not sure how long time, times and half a time was until John made it absolutely clear. John spoke of this 3½ year time frame on five occasions. He mentioned 1,260 days twice (Rev. 11:3; 12:6) and 42 months twice (Rev. 11:2; 13:5), and time, times, and half a time once (Rev. 12:14). He strategically tied them all together.
- I. Daniel makes clear that God's plan for His people is completed after 3½ years (time, times, and half a time) when the rapture occurs (Dan. 12:2, 7). John refers to Daniel's insight (Rev. 10:7).
- J. Paul taught that the rapture will occur at the last trumpet (1 Cor. 15:52). It is the last in the series of 7 numbered trumpets in Revelation (Rev. 8-9; 10:7; 11:15). At this time, the mystery of God or His plan for the Bride to be ready to rule the earth with Jesus will be complete (Rev. 10:7).
- K. **Summary:** This period of 1,260 days will end when Jesus comes in the sky at the seventh trumpet to rapture the Church (Rev. 11:15). The 1,290 days speak of an additional 30 days after the seventh trumpet in which the Antichrist's worship system or the abomination of desolation continues on earth. It ends when Jesus marches into Jerusalem to destroy the Antichrist (2 Thes. 2:8; Rev. 19:20). The saints will participate with Jesus as He marches into Jerusalem (Zech. 14:5). Some may be in the air while others will be on the ground, but all will witness the dramatic events that unfold.
- L. John emphasizes three unique activities pertaining to God's people that begin on that **very day** that the abomination of desolation is set up and will continue for 1,260 days or 42 months. These three unique activities will stop simultaneously on exactly the 1,260th day because the Church will be raptured on that day. It will be 1,260 days after the abomination of desolation is set up.
1. **Prophecy:** The two witnesses will prophesy for exactly 1,260 days (Rev. 11:3).
  2. **Provision:** God will make supernatural provision for the remnant of Israel in the wilderness for exactly 1,260 days (Rev. 12:6, 14).
  3. **Persecution:** The Antichrist will war against the saints (Rev. 13:5, 7; Dan. 7:25) and dominate Jerusalem for (Rev. 11:2; Dan. 12:7) 42 months or time, times, and half a time which is exactly 1,260 days.

- M. The Bible gives us three different descriptions of the rapture and events related to it at the last trumpet. They show us different facets of the one great diamond of Jesus' return.
1. First, Jesus gave us a **cosmic view** of His coming by emphasizing His glory that will be seen **in the sky** in Matthew 24:29-31.
  2. Second, Paul gave us a **pastoral view** of Jesus' coming by emphasizing its effect **on the saints** by transforming our physical bodies and bringing us all together forever (1 Cor. 15:50-52; 1 Thes. 4-5).
  3. Third, John gave us a **political view** of Jesus' coming by emphasizing what will happen **in the nations** as it impacts world governments when He takes over all the kingdoms of this world (Rev. 11:15).
    - a. John highlighted the political view since the theme of the book of Revelation is Jesus coming back to earth to reign as the King of kings over all nations (Rev. 1:7; 19:16).
    - b. When Jesus comes back, He will replace all the evil governments on earth with His new government. This will be a hostile takeover because the nations will be angry at Jesus and will resist His right to rule their nation (Rev. 11:18; Ps. 2:1-3).