

The Signs of Christ's Return

B. The Beginning of the Tribulation

1. The Deception of False Messiahs
(vv. 4-5)
2. The Disputes among the Nations
(vv. 6-7a)

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3. The Devastation upon the Earth
(vv. 7b-8)
4. The Deliverance of True Believers
(v. 9)
5. The Defection of False Believers
(vv. 10-12)

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6. The Determination of God's Elect
(v. 13)

7. The Declaration of the Gospel to the
World (v. 14)

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C. The Middle of the Tribulation

Daniel 7:23-24

“Thus he said: ‘The fourth beast will be a fourth kingdom on the earth, which will be different from the previous ones and will subdue three kings. He will speak out against the Most High and will 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.’”

Leviticus 18:22

“You shall not lie with a male as one lies with a female; it is an abomination.”

Deuteronomy 27:15

“Cursed is the man who makes an idol or a molten image, an abomination to the LORD.”

Isaiah 1:13

“Bring your worthless offerings no longer, incense is an abomination to Me. New moon and Sabbath, the calling of assemblies – I cannot endure iniquity and the solemn assembly.”

Revelation 21:22-24

“I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. And the city has no need of the sun or of the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God has illumined it, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it.”

Revelation 21:25-27

“In the daytime (for there will be no night there) its gates will never be closed; and they will bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it; and nothing unclean, and no one who practices abomination and lying, shall ever come into it, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb’s book of life.”

Hebrew “week”

1 week = 7 years

70 weeks = 70×7

490 years

490 Years

- 1) Seven weeks (49 years) – the rebuilding of Jerusalem and reestablishment of worship
- 2) Sixty-two weeks (434 years) – the coming of the Messiah who dies for the sins of His people

$7 \text{ (weeks)} + 62 \text{ (weeks)} = 483 \text{ years}$

Nehemiah 2:4-5

“I (Nehemiah) said to the king, ‘If it please the king (Artaxerxes), and if your servant has found favor before you, send me to Judah, to the city of my fathers’ tombs, that I may rebuild it.’ Then the king said to me, the queen sitting beside him, ‘How long will your journey be, and when will you return?’ So it pleased the king to send me, and I gave him a definite time.”

490 Years

- 1) Seven weeks (49 years) – the rebuilding of Jerusalem and reestablishment of worship
- 2) Sixty-two weeks (434 years) – the coming of the Messiah who dies for the sins of His people
- 3) One week (7 years) – the prince makes an agreement with the Jews to protect them from their enemies

“let the reader understand”

- 1) The Tribulation has begun
- 2) The Tribulation is halfway over
- 3) Biblical prophecy is being fulfilled

“let the reader understand”

- 4) The Wrath of God from Heaven is about to be unleashed upon the earth
- 5) The Second Coming of Christ is drawing near

I Thessalonians 5:2-3

“For you yourselves know full well that the day of the Lord will come just like a thief in the night. While they are saying, ‘Peace and safety!’ then destruction will come upon them suddenly *like labor pains upon a woman with child*, and they will not escape.”