

REDEMPTION - RESOLVED

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (ESV)



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IMMANUEL BIBLE CHURCH

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What We Teach - Future

We believe that Jesus Christ will physically return in the air to take the church out of the world to be with Him forever. Scripture tells us to be ready always for His coming. At that moment, the dead in Christ and living believers will be given their eternal bodies. Jesus Christ will then bring a seven-year period of wrath upon the earth known as the tribulation. At the end of this period of judgment, He will return bodily with the church to set up a kingdom to rule in righteousness the entire earth for a thousand years.

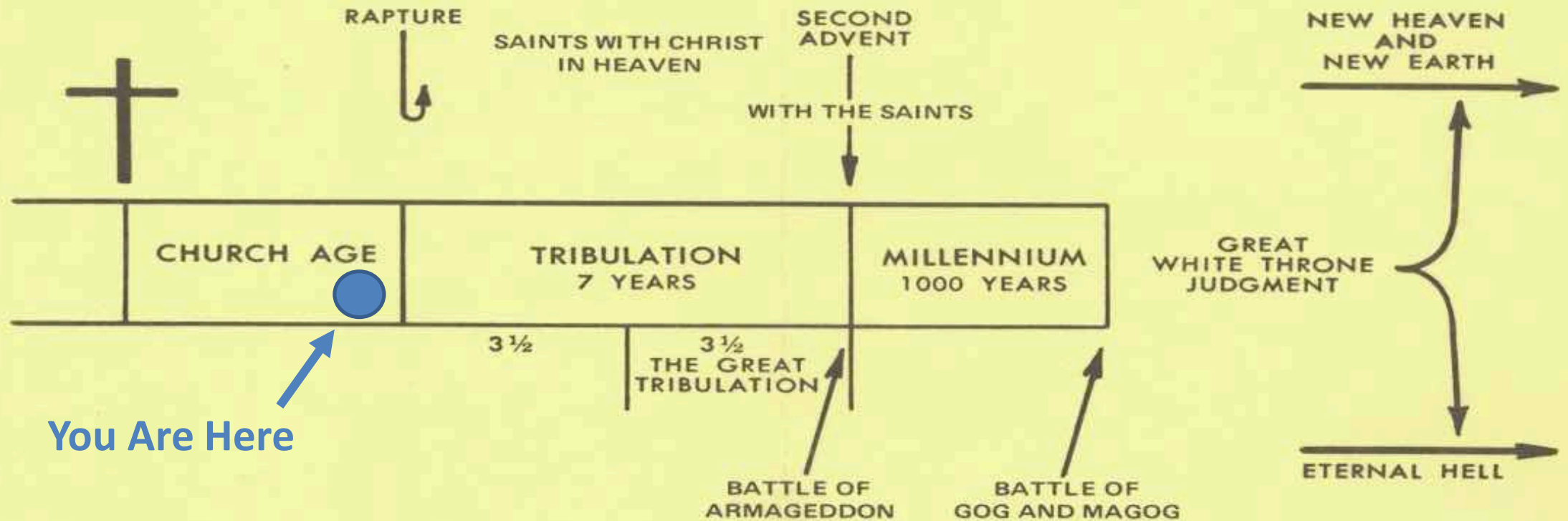
The kingdom will end in rebellion against Christ and His people, but the rebellion will fail in the face of Christ's victory over Satan and all who oppose Him. The unbelieving dead of all time will then be raised and given eternal bodies to face God in final judgment, after which they will be thrown into the lake of fire to eternal torment. Believers will enter a new heaven and new earth prepared for them to enjoy perfect, everlasting fellowship with God.

What We Teach - Future

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FUTURE TIMELINE



Why?



Why bother studying about the end times?

- God has given us the entirety of His Word.
- He has told us how everything began and He has told us how it ends.
- Much of His Word is prophecy – much of it yet to be fulfilled.
- As believers, we look forward to eternity with our Savior.
- We should "think eternally".

What We Teach - Future

Millennial Kingdom	Revelation 20:1-6
Rebellion	Revelation 20:7-10
Final Judgment	Revelation 20:11-14
Judgment Verdict	Revelation 20:15
New Heaven and New Earth	Revelation 22:1-22:6



The Return of the King

Tribulation Ends – Kingdom Begins

SoF - At the end of this period of judgment, He will return bodily (Acts 1:9-11; Zechariah 14:4-8) with the church to set up a kingdom to rule in righteousness the entire earth for a thousand years. (Revelation 19:1-20:6; Matthew 13:31-43)

And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.” Acts 1:9-11



The Return of the King

Tribulation Ends – Kingdom Begins

Behold, a day is coming for the Lord, when the spoil taken from you will be divided in your midst. For I will gather all the nations against Jerusalem to battle, and the city shall be taken and the houses plundered and the women raped. Half of the city shall go out into exile, but the rest of the people shall not be cut off from the city. Then the Lord will go out and fight against those nations as when he fights on a day of battle. On that day his feet shall stand on the Mount of Olives that lies before Jerusalem on the east, and the Mount of Olives shall be split in two from east to west by a very wide valley, so that one half of the Mount shall move northward, and the other half southward. And you shall flee to the valley of my mountains, for the valley of the mountains shall reach to Azal.



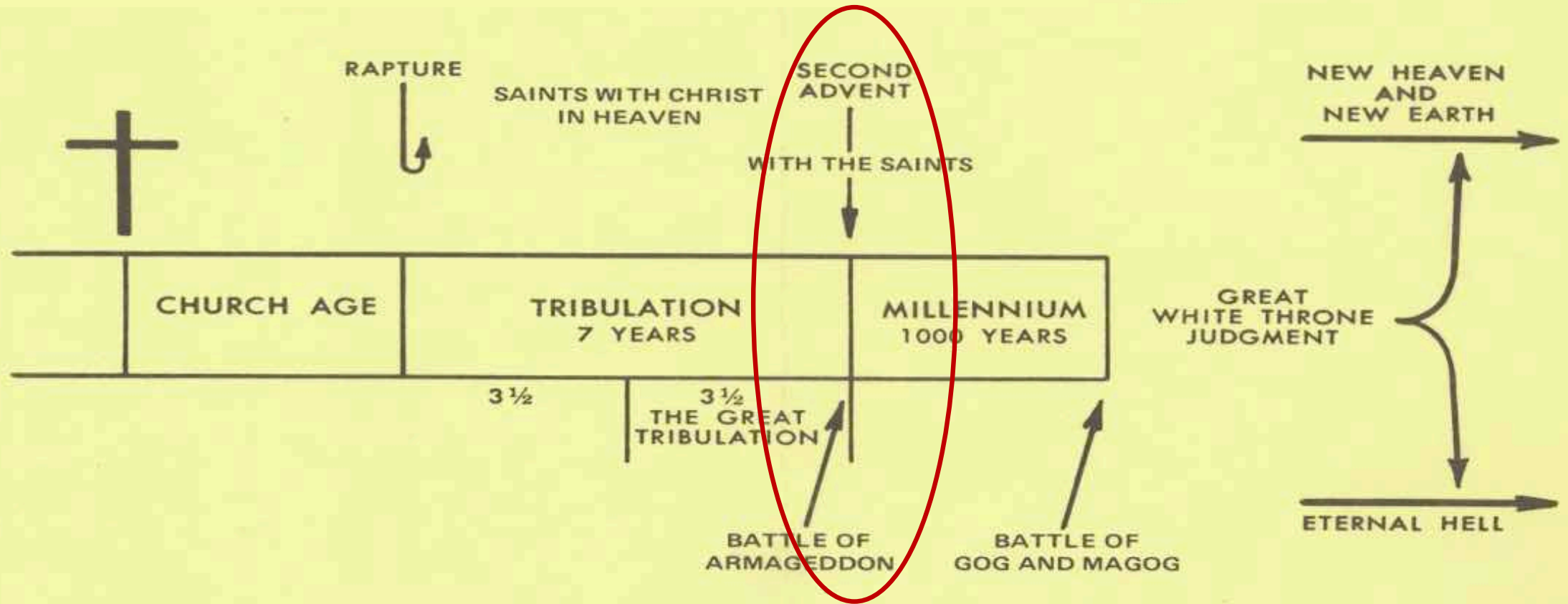
The Return of the King

Tribulation Ends – Kingdom Begins

And you shall flee as you fled from the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah. Then the Lord my God will come, and all the holy ones with him. On that day there shall be no light, cold, or frost. And there shall be a unique day, which is known to the Lord, neither day nor night, but at evening time there shall be light. On that day living waters shall flow out from Jerusalem, half of them to the eastern sea and half of them to the western sea. It shall continue in summer as in winter. And the Lord will be king over all the earth. On that day the Lord will be one and his name one.

Zechariah 14:1-9

FUTURE TIMELINE



The Return of the King

Battle of Armageddon

Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war. His eyes are like a flame of fire, and on his head are many diadems, and he has a name written that no one knows but himself. He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called is The Word of God. And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white horses. From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty. On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords. ... And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth with their armies gathered to make war against him who was sitting on the horse and against his army. And the beast was captured, and with it the false prophet who in its presence had done the signs by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped its image. These two were thrown alive into the lake of fire that burns with sulfur. And the rest were slain by the sword that came from the mouth of him who was sitting on the horse, and all the birds were gorged with their flesh. Revelation 19:11-16; 19-21

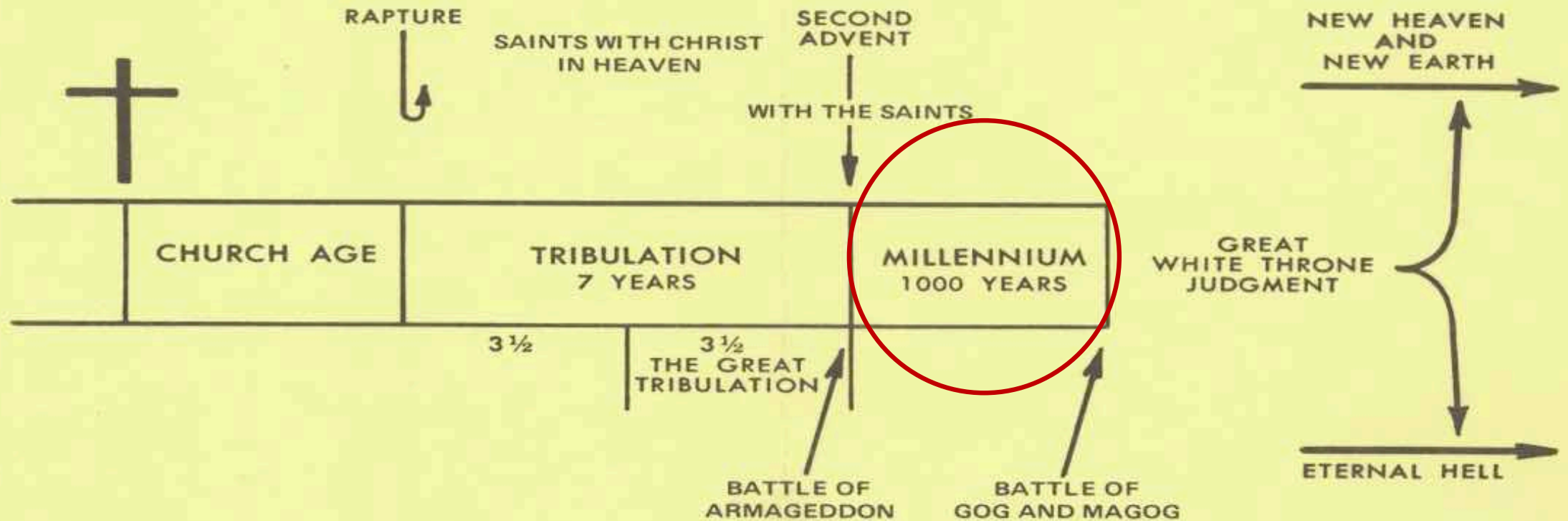
The Return of the King

Thousand Year Reign

Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding in his hand the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain. And he seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for ***a thousand years***, and threw him into the pit, and shut it and sealed it over him, so that he might not deceive the nations any longer, until ***the thousand years*** were ended. After that he must be released for a little while. Then I saw thrones, and seated on them were those to whom the authority to judge was committed. Also I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for the testimony of Jesus and for the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or its image and had not received its mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ for ***a thousand years***. The rest of the dead did not come to life until ***the thousand years*** were ended. This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy is the one who shares in the first resurrection! Over such the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ, and they will reign with him for ***a thousand years***.

Revelation 20:1-6

FUTURE TIMELINE



What Will It Be Like?

A Time of Peace

He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide disputes for many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, **neither shall they learn war anymore.** Isaiah 2:4

For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire. For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, **Prince of Peace.** Of the increase of his government and of **peace** there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this. Isaiah 9:4-7

What Will It Be Like?

A Time of Peace

The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den. They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. Isaiah 11:6-9

What Will It Be Like?

A Time of Joy

With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. And you will say in that day: “Give thanks to the Lord, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the peoples, proclaim that his name is exalted. “Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously; let this be made known in all the earth. Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.”

Isaiah 12:3-6

What Will It Be Like?

A Time of Justice and Righteousness

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, but with **righteousness** he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. **Righteousness** shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

Isaiah 11:1-5

What Will It Be Like?

Absence of Sickness and Deformity

No more shall there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not fill out his days, for the young man shall die a hundred years old, and the sinner a hundred years old shall be accursed. Isaiah 65:20

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.

Isaiah 35:5-6

What Will It Be Like?

Presence of God

I will make a covenant of peace with them. It shall be an everlasting covenant with them. And I will set them in their land and multiply them, and will set my sanctuary in their midst forevermore. My dwelling place shall be with them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Then the nations will know that I am the Lord who sanctifies Israel, when my sanctuary is in their midst forevermore.”

Ezekiel 37:26-28

Viewpoints

When and How Will Christ Reign?

Summary of the Three Millennial Views

	<i>When Will Christ Reign?</i>	<i>How Will Christ Reign?</i>
Amillennial	Between the first and second comings (present reign)	Christ rules over a spiritual Kingdom in the hearts of believers on earth and over the souls of the redeemed in heaven (spiritual reign)
Premillennial	Immediately after the Second Coming (future reign)	Christ will rule personally over a literal, physical, earthly kingdom with Satan bound and the Curse reversed (earthly reign).
Postmillennial	Between the first and second comings, but arriving by degrees (present reign)	Christ rules in the hearts of believers as the church brings in the Kingdom by the triumph of the gospel in this world (spiritual reign)

Premillennial View

Key Points to Consider

- Promises of God
 - Covenants made and referenced throughout the Old Testament
- Most natural reading of Revelation 20:1-6
 - Sequence of events and literal use of numbers
- Imprisonment of Satan

The End of the Millennium

Final Rebellion

SoF - The kingdom will end in rebellion against Christ and His people (Revelation 20:7-9), but the rebellion will fail in the face of Christ's victory over Satan and all who oppose Him (Revelation 20:9-10).

And when the thousand years are ended, Satan will be released from his prison and will come out to deceive the nations that are at the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them for battle; their number is like the sand of the sea. And they marched up over the broad plain of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city, but fire came down from heaven and consumed them, and the devil who had deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and sulfur where the beast and the false prophet were, and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever. Revelation 20:7-10

The End of the Millennium

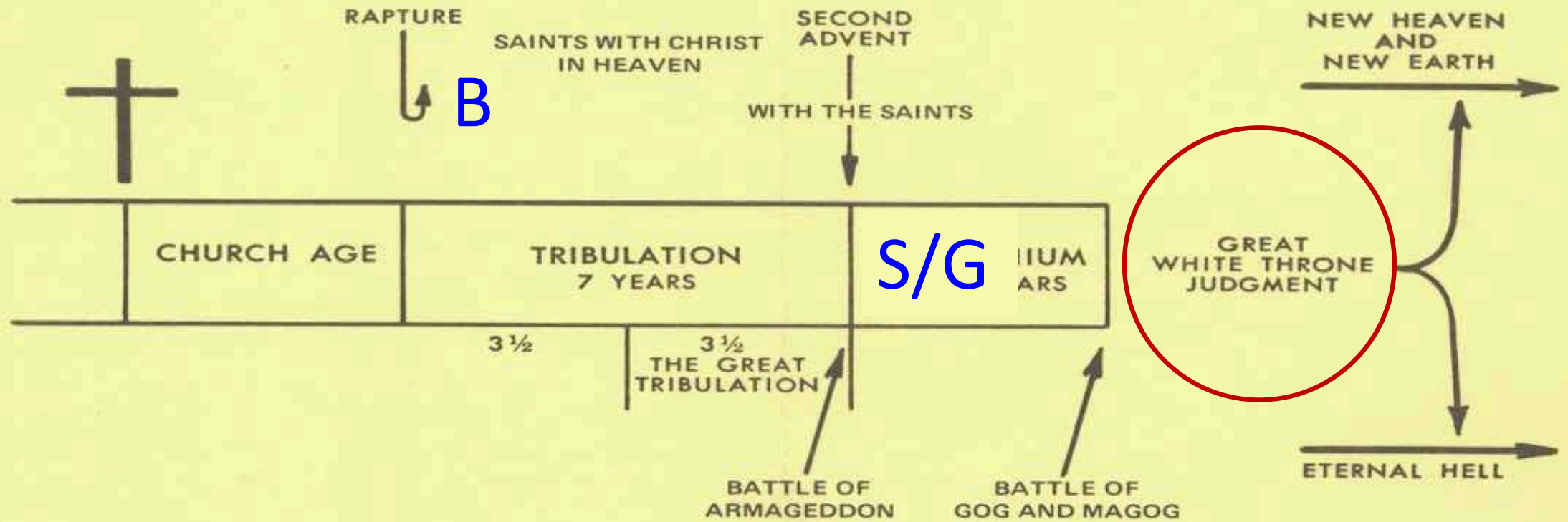
Final Judgment

SoF - The unbelieving dead of all time will then be raised and given eternal bodies to face God in final judgment (Revelation 20:11), after which they will be thrown into the lake of fire to eternal torment (Revelation 20:15).

Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. From his presence earth and sky fled away, and no place was found for them. And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Then another book was opened, which is the book of life. And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done. And the sea gave up the dead who were in it, Death and Hades gave up the dead who were in them, and they were judged, each one of them, according to what they had done. Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

Revelation 20:11-15

FUTURE TIMELINE





All Things New

New Heaven and New Earth

SoF - Believers will enter a new heaven and new earth (Revelation 21:1-22:6) prepared for them to enjoy perfect, everlasting fellowship with God.

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”



All Things New

New Heaven and New Earth

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And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.” And he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son. But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the detestable, as for murderers, the sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars, their portion will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death.”

Revelation 21:1-8

All Things New

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Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city; also, on either side of the river, the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. No longer will there be anything accursed, but the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him. They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And night will be no more. They will need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

Revelation 22:1-5



All Things New

New Heaven and New Earth

Genesis	Revelation
Heavens and earth created	New heaven and earth
Sun created	No sun
Night established	No night
Seas created	No seas
Rivers in the Garden of Eden	River in the new Jerusalem
Curse announced	No curse
Death enters	Death exits
Man denied access to the tree of life	Access to the tree of life restored

Conclusion

- “Why does the way of the wicked prosper?” (Jeremiah)
 - Judgment is coming
- One of two eternal states awaits every soul!
- Praise Him and tell of His goodness --

How great is the goodness you have stored up for those who fear you. You lavish it on those who come to you for protection, blessing them before the watching world.

Psalm 31:19

Conclusion

Heaven should rest at the center of our worldview and should motivate us to live for the Lamb of glory who dwells in unapproachable light yet made a way for us to dwell with Him forever by shedding His blood on the cross and rising from the dead.

Hitchcock, Mark. *The End: A Complete Overview of Bible Prophecy and the End of Days* (p. 457)

