



DAY OF THE LORD

Central Eschatological Theme

BIBLE PROPHECY IN GENERAL

- **Bible prophecy, with its high level chronology to its symbolic imagery, seems to have no end to its possible meanings.**
- **Some even say that we cannot know what these portions of Scripture mean.**
- **These Christians miss out on what God revealed to us about Himself and His plan for the future.**

BIBLE PROPHECY IN GENERAL

- **We need to harmonize Scripture to realize what is true. However, there are at least 20 books that contain end times prophecies.**
- **There is a major theme within Bible prophecy whose framework will help us make sense of end times teaching.**
- **This major theme is the “Day of the Lord.” Understanding this helps layout a reasonable chronological framework.**

DAY OF THE LORD DEFINITION

- **The Day of the Lord is a specific prophesied event where God will begin His judgment on the world by pouring out His wrath on the wicked.**
- **The period of divine judgment that will be poured out on the world ALMOST immediately after Jesus arrives in the clouds of the sky. It will extend from that time through the Millennial Kingdom and earth's renovation.**
- **This is when God begins His judgment on the wicked. This has nothing to do with persecution by man.**

DAY OF THE LORD — INTRODUCTION

DAY OF MAN

- ◆ During this present age God allows human evil, also known as the “mystery of lawlessness” (2Th.2:7), to run its course. This is also the evil present age.
- ◆ The culmination of 'Man's day' will be the appearance of a world leader called, “the lawless one” (2Th.2:8) who will attempt to counterfeit the Messiah and even God Himself (2Th.2:4, claiming to be God).

RIGHTEOUSNESS

- ◆ When God breaks into human history in a very direct fashion it will be to set up a new age of righteousness (Is.2:12; Jl.1:15; 2:11,31; Am.5:18; Zc.14).
- ◆ God is going to act against sin. He will have people who reflect His character.

GOD'S WRATH

- ◆ The Day of the Lord will be a future time when God will pour out His wrath upon the unbelieving world. He will directly and openly intervene in the affairs of man
- ◆ This is called the “day of reckoning” (Is.2:12), and a “day of judgment” (Is.2:13-17).

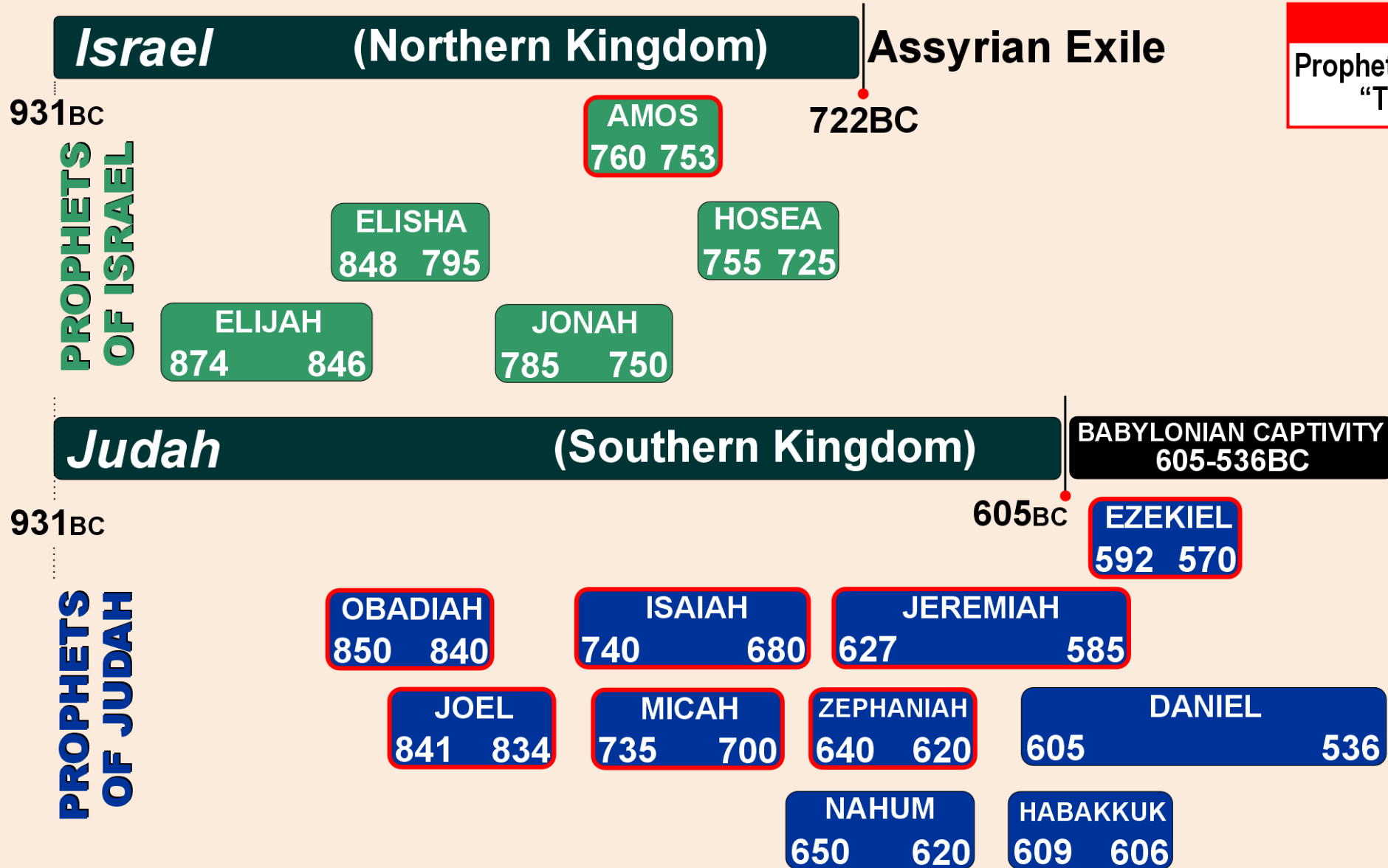
DOTL EARLY FOUNDATION

- **The Day of the Lord appears early in the writings of the prophets.**
- **As a hermeneutic principle newer revelation should be understood in light of what was previously revealed.**
- **Since the DOTL appears in Scripture before most other end-times events, we should use it as a foundational element to understanding end times prophecy.**

PROPHETS AND THE DAY OF THE LORD

LEGEND

Prophets who wrote concerning
"The Day of the Lord"



**³⁰And I will show wonders in the
heavens and in the earth: Blood
and fire and pillars of smoke. ³¹The
sun shall be turned into darkness,
And the moon into blood, Before
the coming of the great and
awesome day of the LORD.**

JOEL 2:30-31



“³⁰And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth: Blood and fire and pillars of smoke. ³¹The sun shall be turned into darkness, And the moon into blood, Before the coming of the great and awesome day of the LORD.” (Jl.2:30-31)



- Joel is one of the early writings of the Prophets (841-834BC)**
- The DOTL passages pre-date the prophecies of other end times events including the 70th Week, the Abomination of Desolation, the Great Tribulation or the rapture itself.**
- This theme can be seen in 19 different Bible books by over a dozen biblical authors and spans nearly a 1,000 years.**



BOOKS REFERENCING THE DAY OF THE LORD

1 Joel 1:15, 2:1, 3:14

2 Isaiah 2:12, 13:6,9

3 Jeremiah 30:1-17

4 Ezekiel 13:5, 30:3

5 Amos 5:18,20

6 Obadiah 15

7 Zephaniah 1:7

8 Zechariah 14:1

9 Malachi 4:5

10 Matthew 24:29

11 Mark 13:24

12 Luke 21:25

13 Acts 2:20

14 1 Corinthians 5:5

15 2 Corinthians 1:14

16 1 Thessalonians 5:2,4

17 2 Thessalonians 1:10; 2:2

18 2 Peter 3:10

19 Revelation 6:12-17

DOTL MAJOR THEME

- **All scripture is God-breathed. Therefore, everything in scripture is important.**
- **When we see something repeated many times in the Bible we should pay extra attention.**
- **God chose to convey the DOTL idea multiple times by multiple authors over a long span of time.**
- **Few Biblical doctrines get this much attention, especially concerning eschatology.**

DAY OF THE LORD EXPRESSION

- 1** Joel 2:1-2, “Darkness and gloominess”
- 2** Amos 5:18, “Darkness, and not light”
- 3** Isaiah 2:11,17, “the LORD alone shall be exalted”
- 4** Isaiah 13:6, “Destruction from the Almighty”
- 5** Jeremiah 46:10, “A day of vengeance”
- 6** 1 Thessalonians 5:2, “thief in the night”

DOTL MAJOR THEME

- **This is a day where God directly steps into human history to enact judgment on all those who are enemies of God.**
- **We see this Day described with darkness, vengeance, blood, and destruction.**
- **God directly acts upon the world so that all men will know who He is.**
- **There will be no doubt who God is and what He is doing on the Day of the Lord.**

DOTL MAJOR THEME

- **The Day of the LORD is when God declares His own name.**
- **This is the name (Yahweh) God gave to His people, and is used thousands of times in the OT.**
- **This is a Day in which God has attached His own name to.**
- **The DOTL is the time that all eschatological events revolve around.**

DOTL MAJOR THEME

- **Isaiah 13:9-10 and Joel 2:31 (later quoted by Peter, Ac.2:19-20) tell us of signs BEFORE the DOTL.**
- **These specific signs indicate the arrival of the Day of the LORD.**
- **Why are the Signs of the Sun, Moon, and Stars so important? They occur in many places in Scripture.**
- **So when we see them, we know we are talking about the Day of the Lord, even if the exact phrase is not used.**

OCCURRING BEFORE THE DOTL

- **Sun, Moon, Stars Signs (Jl.2:30-31)**
- **Elijah the Prophet (Ml.4:5)**
- **The Falling Away (2Th.2:1-3)**
- **Man of Sin Revealed (2Th.2:1-3)**
- **Man of Sin Declares To Be God (2Th.2:1-4)**
- **Peace And Safety (1Th.5:2-3)**
- **Believers Mocked For Believing The Lord's Coming (2Pe.3:3-4,9-10)**

**DAY
OF
THE
LORD**

**³⁰And I will show wonders in the
heavens and in the earth: Blood
and fire and pillars of smoke. ³¹The
sun shall be turned into darkness,
And the moon into blood, Before
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awesome day of the LORD.**

JOEL 2:30-31

JOEL 2:30-31

1

SIGNS



SUN



MOON



STARS

**SIGN That the DOTL
is About to Start**

2

DOTL

THE

DAY

OF THE

LORD

Is.13:6-10

Ek.30:3

Jl.1:15; 2:11

Am.5:18

Zc.14:1

WHAT WE LEARN FROM JOEL

- | | | |
|----------|---|---------------------------|
| 1 | Before the Day of the Lord begins there will be clear cosmic disturbances including the sun, moon, and stars | JOEL
Jl.2:30-31 |
| 2 | | MALACHI
Ml.4:5 |
| 3 | | PAUL
2Th.2:1-3 |
| 4 | | PAUL
2Th.2:1-3 |
| 5 | | PAUL
2Th.2:3-4 |
| 6 | | PAUL
1Th.5:2-3 |

**Behold, I will send you
Elijah the prophet Before
the coming of the great
and dreadful day of the
LORD**

MALACHI 4:5

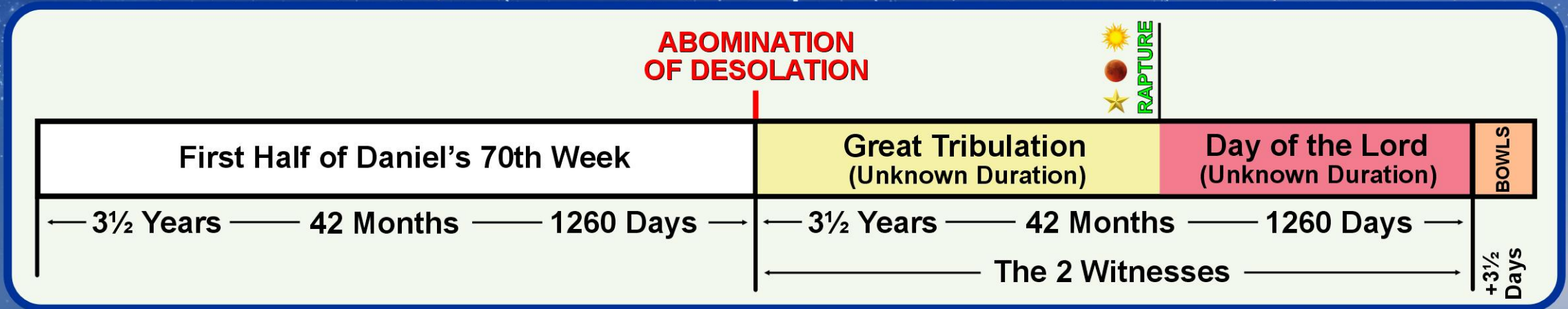


WHAT WE LEARN FROM MALACHI

- 1** Before the Day of the Lord begins there will be clear cosmic disturbances including the sun, moon, and stars **JOEL**
Jl.2:30-31
- 2** “Elijah” must come before the Day of the Lord begins. This is likely a reference to the Two Witnesses. **MALACHI**
Ml.4:5
- 3** **PAUL**
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1Th.5:2-3

TIMING — 2 WITNESSES

- The 42 months, 1260 days and 3 1/2 years all refer to the same period of time.
- It would be quite confusing if people “arbitrarily” choose different halves of the week for those designations. That is, if 1260 days in Re.11:3 meant something different from 1260 days in Re.12:6.
- This will be from the midpoint of the week until the end of the week, which will be indicated by the sounding of the 7th trumpet.
- The fact that God gives us the duration (1260 days) of their ministry, makes this more important than who they are.



¹Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, we ask you, ²not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of Christ had come. ³Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition

2 THESSALONIANS 2:1-3

WHAT WE LEARN FROM PAUL

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2Th.2:3-4
- 6** **PAUL**
1Th.5:2-3

³Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, ⁴who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.

2 THESSALONIANS 2:3-4

WHAT WE LEARN FROM PAUL

- 1** Before the Day of the Lord begins there will be clear cosmic disturbances including the sun, moon, and stars **JOEL**
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- 5** The man of sin (Antichrist) will declare himself to be God before Christ returns **PAUL**
2Th.2:3-4
- 6** **PAUL**
1Th.5:2-3

²For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. ³For when they say, "Peace and safety!" then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape.

1 THESSALONIANS 5:2-3

WHAT WE LEARN FROM PAUL

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- 5** The man of sin (Antichrist) will declared to be God before Christ returns **PAUL**
2Th.2:3-4
- 6** For those in darkness (unbelievers) they will have a sense of peace before Christ returns **PAUL**
1Th.5:2-3

JESUS DETAILED CHRONOLOGY

- **Jesus warns them of false Christs, wars, and famines.**
- **Jesus warns that in the middle of that 7 year period the 'abomination of desolation' will take place (Mt.24:15; Da.9:27).**
- **He tells His followers to flee because the abomination begins the “great tribulation.”**
- **That period of tribulation is “cut short” for the sake of the elect (Mt.24:22).**

JESUS DETAILED CHRONOLOGY

- **Tribulation is cut short because that period of tribulation ends (Mt.24:29) and then Jesus makes reference to the DOTL.**
- **The sun, moon, and stars cosmic event takes place.**
 - **Abomination of Desolation (midpoint of the 7 years)**
 - **Great Tribulation (second half of the 7 years, but cut short)**
 - **Signs of the Sun, Moon, and Stars / Day of the Lord**

JESUS DETAILED CHRONOLOGY

- **Jesus describes the onset of the DOTL with the sign of the Son of Man appearing in heaven.**
- **Here Jesus is answering the disciples' question, “What is the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?”**
- **The signs of the cosmic events and the sign of Jesus coming and gathering His elect are connected.**

MATTHEW 24:29-31

1

TRIBULATION

**Source,
Antichrist**

Mt.24:15-28

2

SIGNS

Cosmic Events



Mt.24:29-30

3

DELIVERANCE

**Sign of Son of
Man in Heaven
to Gather Elect**

Mt.24:30-31

LUKE 21:25-28

1

SIGNS



- SKY: Sun, Moon, Stars
- Earth: “fear” (v.26)

2

DELIVERANCE



- Look up...redemption draws near

3

DOTL

WRATH

- “Expectation” of wrath that is “coming” (v.26)

REVELATION 6:12-17

1

SIGNS



2

DOTL

WRATH

ORDER SURROUNDING COSMIC EVENTS

1

Tribulation

²¹For then there will be great tribulation... ²²And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened.

²⁹Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened... ³⁰then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven... ³¹angels...shall gather together his elect" (Mt.24:21-22,29-31, selected)

2

Cosmic Events



Is.13:9-10; Jl.2:30-31; Mt.24:29;
Lk.21:25-28; Rv.6:12-14

In every case in Scripture these signs are to warn the world about the wrath that is about to come on the ungodly.

3

Day of the Lord

³⁰And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke. ³¹The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the LORD come." (Jl.2:30-31)

☀ **Cosmic event will occur AFTER the Great Tribulation (Mt.24:29-31)**

☀ **Cosmic event will occur BEFORE the Day of the Lord (Jl.2:30-31)**

Cosmic event will produce polar responses (Lk.21:25-28)

Unbelievers: Faint

FEAR

Believers: Hope

JOY

POLAR RESPONSES

TRIBULATION

Tribulation is BEFORE the Cosmic Signs (Mt.24:29-31)

Tribulation Ends at the Cosmic Signs (Mt.24:21-22)

Future Anticipation (“has come”) of Soon to Come Wrath (Rv.6:17).

The Source: Satan and Man Persecution (Rv.12:12; 13:7)

The Result: Persecution Against God’s People (Rv.6:9-11; 12:12)

COSMIC SIGNS



SUN



MOON



STARS

WRATH

Day of the Lord wrath is AFTER the Cosmic Signs (Jl.2:30-31)

Day of the Lord Wrath Begins at the Cosmic Signs (Jl.2:30-31)

Past Summary Statement: Earth Dwellers “repented not” (Rv.9:20; 16:8)

The Source: God (Zp.1:14-15; 1Th.1:10; 5:9; Rv.11:18; 14:10, 19; 15:1,7; 16:1)

The Result: Judgment Against the Unbelievers Who Dwell on Earth



TWO SIDES
OF
ONE COIN



DELIVERANCE & JUDGMENT SAME DAY

	The Great Tribulation	The Rapture	The Day of the Lord
<i>Days of Noah</i> Lk.17:22,26-30 Ge.7:11-13	The corrupt generation Noah lived among is likened to the Great Tribulation.	Entering the ark can be likened to the rapture.	The flood waters from the deep and the sky can be likened to the day of the Lord.
<i>Days of Lot</i> Lk.17:22,26-30 Ge.19:20-25	The evil generation Lot lived among is likened to the Great Tribulation.	Fleeing Sodom can be likened to the rapture.	The fire and sulfur that pours out from heaven can be likened to the day of the Lord.
<i>Generation Before Jesus Returns</i> 2Th.1:6-10	The evil generation Christians will live among will be in the Great Tribulation.	Christians will be raptured. This “cuts short” (Mt.24:22) the Great Tribulation by rescuing the “elect”.	Immediately following the rapture of the church, the Day of the Lord judgment will begin.

Paul and the Day of The Lord

(1 & 2 Thessalonians)

⁶since it is a righteous thing with God to repay with tribulation those who trouble you, ⁷and to give you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, ⁸in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power, ¹⁰when He comes, in that Day, to be glorified in His saints and to be admired among all those who believe, because our testimony among you was believed.

2 THESSALONIANS 1:6-10

¹Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, we ask you, ²not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of Christ had come.

³Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition



2 THESSALONIANS 2:1-3



PAUL AND THE DAY OF THE LORD

- **Paul speaks of the same DOTL event to the Thessalonians (1Th.5:1-5; 2Th.2:1-3).**
- **Christ returns at the Day of the Lord and gathers his elect to Himself BEFORE God pours out His wrath on the wicked world (1Th.5:9).**



For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ (**1Th.5:9**).



John and the Day of The Lord

(Revelation 6:12-17)

¹²I looked when He opened the sixth seal, and behold, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became like blood. ¹³And the stars of heaven fell to the earth, as a fig tree drops its late figs when it is shaken by a mighty wind. ¹⁴Then the sky receded as a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island was moved out of its place.

REVELATION 6:12-17

**¹⁵And the kings of the earth, the great men,
the rich men, the commanders, the mighty men,
every slave and every free man, hid themselves
in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains,
¹⁶and said to the mountains and rocks, "Fall on
us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on
the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb!
¹⁷For the great day of His wrath has come, and
who is able to stand?"**

REVELATION 6:12-17



“¹²the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became like blood... ¹⁴sky receded as a scroll... ¹⁷For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand?” (Rv.6:12-17)

- You see both the same cosmic signs and the reference to the wrath of the Lamb.**
- The opening of the 6th Seal in Revelation also marks the arrival of the Day of the Lord.**
- Matthew 24 and Revelation 6 have obvious parallels, that are attached to the Day of the Lord.**
- The Day of the Lord is the most important day in humanity's future.**





“¹²the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became like blood... ¹⁴sky receded as a scroll... ¹⁷For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand?” (Rv.6:12-17)

- The Day of the Lord is the day when the Almighty, Holy God says, “Enough.”**
- God will step into His creation, rescue those who belong to Him, and enact judgment upon the wicked.**
- The prophets, the apostles, and Jesus Himself warned of us this Day.**



DAY OF THE LORD — REVELATION

- We are about to get some information from the Father about His Son (Rv.1:1)
- The Son will execute God's Day by exposing the world to the Father
- Everyone alive at that time will see and know it is God (Is.2:11,17)
- The good news is that God is going to come to this earth and remove everything that is not like Him
 - 1** He will start first with the church. He will cleanse it by taking it out (1Th.4:13-18). We will be made like Christ, holy (1Jn.3:1-3).
 - 2** He will cleanse national Israel. He will cleanse her through the trumpets. He will take out of national Israel His fruit. Two-thirds will be removed (Zc.13:8-9).
 - 3** He will cleanse the earth. He will remove all the wicked. The earth will be in bad shape after the trumpet and bowls judgments.

DOTL: CONNECT THE DOTS

- **To not connect the dots of the DOTL description of the future and Jesus' and Paul's view of the same events is a gross oversight.**
- **Some object by saying Jesus did not use the exact phrase, “The Day of the Lord.”**
- **As prominent as this “Day” (often called, “that day”) is in the OT, the disciples did not need to hear the exact phrase. They were full aware of these DOTL signs.**
- **To not see the connection shows a weakened view of the DOTL, maybe expecting some OTHER day with similar cosmic events.**

Mt.24:29-31
Lk.21:25



Rapture

To The Earth

Daniel's 70th Week

3 1/2 Years
(42 Months)
1,260 days

Tribulation

Wrath...

Blessing...

MILLENNIAL KINGDOM

GREAT WHITE THRONE



Abomination
of Desolation

Wrath Begins

DAY OF THE LORD