

## Eschatology

### Part 4

#### The Great Tribulation:

There has always been oppression of followers of Jesus. However, there will be a specific period of time called “**the Great Tribulation**” that is important in understanding the final conclusion of the era in which we live. Jesus is referencing Danial 12 as he speaks in **Matthew 24:21-22**

<sup>21</sup> For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. <sup>22</sup> And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the <sup>[a]</sup>elect’s sake those days will be shortened.

“**The elect?**” There are at least three categories of believers: The Old Testament group closed with John the Baptist (“the Law and the Prophets were until John” - **Matthew 11:11-13**); The Church period is what we are in now. Then there will be those who will be saved after the Rapture; they are known as the Tribulation saints.

Consider: the cloud of self-destruction hangs over every geopolitical decision on the earth. Over twenty countries are presently building ICBM’s (intercontinental ballistic missiles), and over a dozen have nuclear weapons. There is technology available now that could wipeout all of mankind. The Holocaust killed 1 out of 3 Jews in Europe. The prophetic Scriptures indicate that the Tribulation will wipe out 2 out of 3.

#### Zechariah 13:8-9

<sup>8</sup> And it shall come to pass in all the land, Says the LORD, “*That two-thirds in it shall be cut off and die, But one-third shall be left in it:* <sup>9</sup> I will bring the *one-third* through the fire, Will refine them as silver is refined, And test them as gold is tested. They will call on My name, And I will answer them. I will say, ‘This *is* My people’; And each one will say, ‘The LORD *is* my God.’ ”

That is why Jeremiah calls it “the time of Jacob’s trouble” **Jeremiah 30:7**

**Daniel 12:1** “At that time Michael shall stand up, The great prince who stands *watch* over the sons of your people; And there shall be a time of trouble, Such as never was since there was a nation, *Even* to that time.

And at that time your people shall be delivered, Everyone who is found written in the book.

\*God will bring them desperation in this unprecedented time of oppression, and they will then petition Jesus for his return. **Hosea 5:15** - I will return again to My place, Till they <sup>[a]</sup>acknowledge their offense.

Critical Passages: I Thessalonians 5:9 & Revelation 3:10

**Daniel 9:25-27**

<sup>25</sup> “Know therefore and understand, *That* from the going forth of the command To restore and build Jerusalem Until Messiah the Prince, *There shall be* seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; The <sup>[a]</sup>street shall be built again, and the <sup>[b]</sup>wall, Even in troublesome times.

<sup>26</sup> “And after the sixty-two weeks Messiah shall <sup>[c]</sup>be cut off, but not for Himself; And the people of the prince who is to come Shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end of it *shall be* with a flood, And till the end of the war desolations are determined.

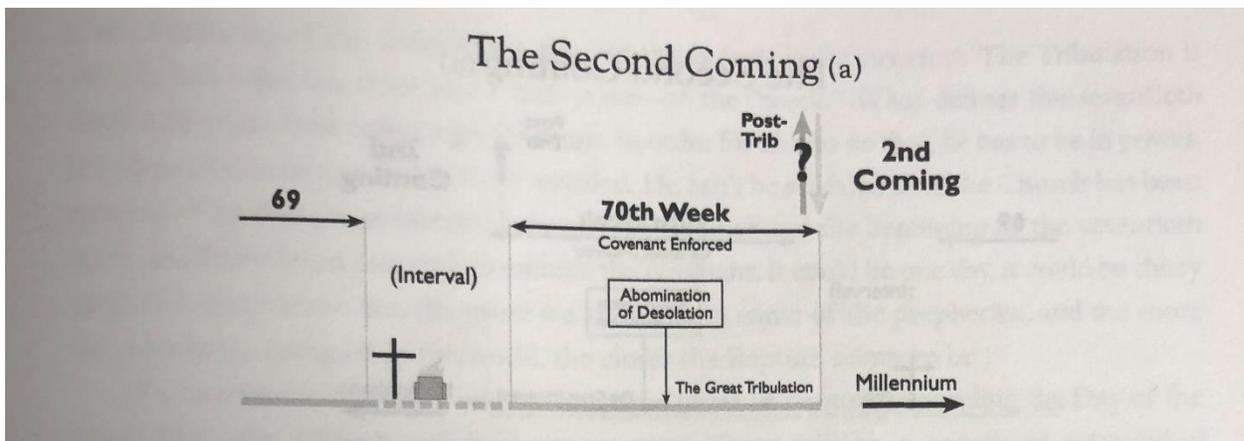
<sup>27</sup> Then he shall confirm a <sup>[d]</sup>covenant with many for one week; But in the middle of the week he shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate, Even until the consummation, which is determined, Is poured out on the <sup>[e]</sup>desolate.”

**VRS 25:** Prediction of the day the Messiah presented Himself as the Messiah the King.

**VRS 26:** The interval between the sixty-ninth and the seventieth weeks which included the Crucifixion, the destruction of the city & sanctuary. We know that this interval included thirty-eight years; we have now experienced it as having lasted two thousand years.

**VRS 27:** “The Seventieth Week of Daniel,” the final week (of years) defined by the enforcement of a covenant for seven years by a coming world leader. In the middle of the seven-year period, **he** will become so powerful that **he** will set himself up to be worshiped with an event that has a specific title: the **Abomination of Desolation**. From the middle of the week to the end is the **Tribulation**. Jesus labeled it that way.

The **Tribulation** will climax with the **Battle of Armageddon**, which will be interrupted by the **Second Coming of Jesus Christ** and the establishment of His kingdom on Earth and specific rule for one thousand years, as detailed in **Revelation 20 & Isaiah 65**.



Who is the “he” in verse 27?