Welcome To Open Bible Hour

Thank you for joining us on this Lord's Day!

Our desire is that you may grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ as we pursue an in-depth study of the gospel of Matthew.

Please move to the center of the rows so that those who come after you can find seating at the end of the rows.

If you have a prayer request, for which you would like us to pray, please fill out a prayer sheet at the back table and give to Lyle.

"We're too comfortable to be spiritual. ...We think we will be able to pursue God better without danger or hardship. And yet it works in just the opposite way. Nothing is more difficult than to grow spiritually when comfortable."

Tim Bascom

UNRESTRAINED: DESIRE TO BE WORSHIPPED AND DESIRE FOR WORLD DOMINATION

Text: Matt. 24:4-8

Matt 24:4-8

- 4 And Jesus answered and said to them, "See to it that no one misleads you.
- 5 "For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will mislead many.
- 6 "You will be hearing of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not frightened, for those things must take place, but that is not yet the end.
- 7 "For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and in various places there will be famines and earthquakes.
- 8 "But all these things are merely the beginning of birth pangs.

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Unrestrained Evil

1. Desire to be worshipped: False Messiahs (4,5)

1 John 2:18

18 Children, it is the last hour; and just as you heard that antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have appeared; from this we know that it is the last hour.

1 John 4:3

3 and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God; this is the spirit of the antichrist, of which you have heard that it is coming, and now it is already in the world.

2 John 7

7 For many deceivers have gone out into the world, those who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh.

This is the deceiver and the antichrist.

2 Cor 11:14-15

- 4 And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light.
- 15 Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness,

Rev 6:1-2

- 1 Then I saw when the Lamb broke one of the seven seals, and I heard one of the four living creatures saying as with a voice of thunder, "Come."
- 2 I looked, and behold, a white horse, and he who sat on it had a bow; and a crown was given to him, and he went out conquering and to conquer.

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2. Desire for World Domination – "Wars and rumors of wars". (6-7a)

Major players:

1. Antichrist with a revived Roman Empire.

Roman empire – those nations grouped around the Mediterranean Sea – Spain, France, Italy, Yugoslavia, Greece, Turkey, Syria, England.

(European Union, EU, formed in 1999 -Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Spain, Portugal, Greece. Need for a global, world leader (savior):

- 1. Nuclear proliferation.
- 2. Economic crises.
- 3. Israel international crises, strategic location, wealth of resources, Temple Mount.
- 4. A degree of chaos and confusion after the Church has been "caught away".

The antichrist will have the qualities needed to be a global world leader:

- 1. Political savvy.
- 2. Personal charm.
- 3. Brilliant military genius.
- 4. Ability to propose acceptable terms for world peace and progress.

Where does he come from?

1. Roman Empire.

Dan 9:26

26 "Then after the sixty-two weeks the Messiah will be cut off and have nothing, and the people of the prince who is to come will destroy the city and the sanctuary.

Dan 7:7-8

- 7 It devoured and crushed and trampled down the remainder with its feet; and it was different from all the beasts that were before it, and it had ten horns.
- 8 "While I was contemplating the horns, behold, another horn, a little one, came up among them, and three of the first horns were pulled out by the roots before it;

Rev 13:1

13 And the dragon stood on the sand of the seashore.

Then I saw a beast coming up out of the sea,

Rev 17:15-16

15 And he said to me, "The waters which you saw where the harlot sits, are peoples and multitudes and nations and tongues.

His ascent:

1. Starts as a small ruler ("little horn").

Dan 7:3

8 "While I was contemplating the horns, behold, another horn, a little one, came up among them, and three of the first horns were pulled out by the roots before it; and behold, this horn possessed eyes like the eyes of a man and a mouth uttering great boasts.

Rev 17:12-13

- 2 "The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have not yet received a kingdom, but they receive authority as kings with the beast for one hour.
- 13 "These have one purpose, and they give their power and authority to the beast.

2. First conquers 3 of the nations in Roman Empire.

Rev 6:1-2

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Dan 7:24

24 'As for the ten horns, out of this kingdom ten kings will arise; and another will arise after them, and he will be different from the previous ones and will subdue three kings.

3. He becomes king over all 10.

Rev 17:12-13

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- 13 "These have one purpose, and they give their power and authority to the beast.

2. Kings of the south (Egypt)

Will conspire with Russia to invade Israel. Initial attack will come from Egypt as a detracting action. (Ez. 38)

3. Kings of the north (Russia)

After Egypt attacks Israel, diverting the attention of the Antichrist, Russia will invade Israel. (Ez. 38)

God intervenes to bring judgment on Russia so that the Antichrist wins.

Ezek 38:18-23

- 18 "It will come about on that day, when Gog comes against the land of Israel," declares the Lord God, "that My fury will mount up in My anger.
- 19 "In My zeal and in My blazing wrath I declare that on that day there will surely be a great earthquake in the land of Israel.
- 20 "The fish of the sea, the birds of the heavens, the beasts of the field, all the creeping things that creep on the earth, and all the men who are on the face of the earth will shake at My presence; the mountains also will be thrown down, the steep pathways will collapse and every wall will fall to the ground.
- 21 "I will call for a sword against him on all My mountains," declares the Lord God. "Every man's sword will be against his brother.
- 22 "With pestilence and with blood I will enter into judgment with him; and I will rain on him and on his troops, and on the many peoples who are with him, a torrential rain, with hailstones, fire and brimstone.
- 23 "I will magnify Myself, sanctify Myself, and make Myself known in the sight of many nations; and they will know that I am the Lord."

He then finishes by overpowering Egypt and Africa.

Dan 11:42-44

- 42 "Then he will stretch out his hand against other countries, and the land of Egypt will not escape.
- 43 "But he will gain control over the hidden treasures of gold and silver and over all the precious things of Egypt; and Libyans and Ethiopians will follow at his heels.

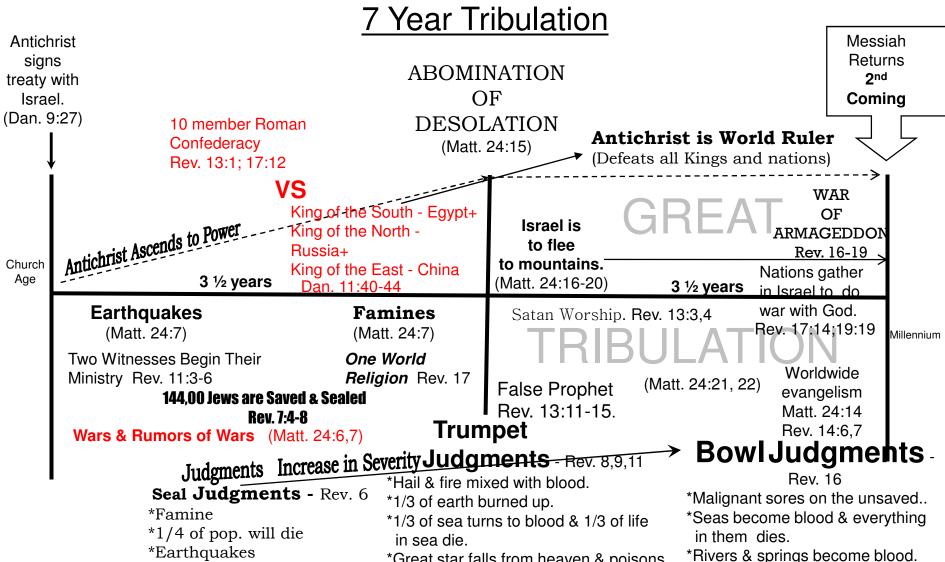
4. The king of the East. (China)

An alliance soon forms between China and Russia.

44 "But rumors from the East and from the North will disturb him, and he will go forth with great wrath to destroy and annihilate many.

The Antichrist defeats Russia and China and is now the global, leader and dictator of the world at the midpoint of the Tribulation.





- *Sun darkened, moon becomes like blood, stars fa11.
- *Mountains & islands are moved.
- *Panic & Terror

- *Great star falls from heaven & poisons waters & kills many.
- *1/3 of sun, moon, & stars are darkened - affects light & temperatures.
- *Another 1/3 of world's pop. die
- *Earthquakes.
- *Great hailstorm.

- *Sun scorches men with fire.
- *Greatest earthquake ever cities of the world destroyed.
- *Every mountain & island disappear.
- *100 pound hailstones fall on men..

The thigh bone connected to the hip bone
The hip bone connected to the backbone
The back bone connected to the shoulder bone
Now hear the word of the Lord