

Eze 38:14 "Therefore prophesy, son of man, and say to Gog, 'Thus says the Lord GOD, "On that day when My people Israel are living securely, will you not know it? (15) "You will come from your place out of the remote parts of the north, you and many peoples with you, all of them riding on horses, a great assembly and a mighty army; (16) and you will come up against My people Israel like a cloud to cover the land. It shall come about in the last days that I will bring you against My land, so that the nations may know Me when I am sanctified through you before their eyes, O Gog."

The Last Days

- What period of Time does the Bible refer to as the LAST DAYS?
- Does the Bible predict that we are now living in the LAST DAYS?
- Has God picked our generation as the last generation to live on the earth?
- Did God give signs that predict the end of the universe?

Throughout the History of Christianity – Men have looked for Signs of the End

1. A falling away from the faith
2. An abundance of false teachers
3. A decay in Morals
4. Earthquakes, wars, and famines
will be frequent

1. A falling away from the faith

1Ti 4:1-3 But the Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons, (2) by means of the hypocrisy of liars seared in their own conscience as with a branding iron, (3) men who forbid marriage and advocate abstaining from foods which God has created to be gratefully shared in by those who believe and know the truth.

2. An abundance of false teachers

Mat 24:11 "Many false prophets will arise and will mislead many.

(12) "Because lawlessness is increased, most people's love will grow cold. (13) "But the one who endures to the end, he will be saved.

3. A decay in Morals

2Ti 3:1-5 But realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come. (2) For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, (3) unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, haters of good, (4) treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, (5) holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power; Avoid such men as these.

4. Earthquakes, wars, and famines
will be frequent

Mat 24:7 "For nation will rise
against nation, and kingdom against
kingdom, and in various places there
will be famines and earthquakes.

Early Christian Writers predicted the end of the world in their day based on these verses.

Tertullian (150 A.D.) said the wars and catastrophes of his day were a sign of the end of the world

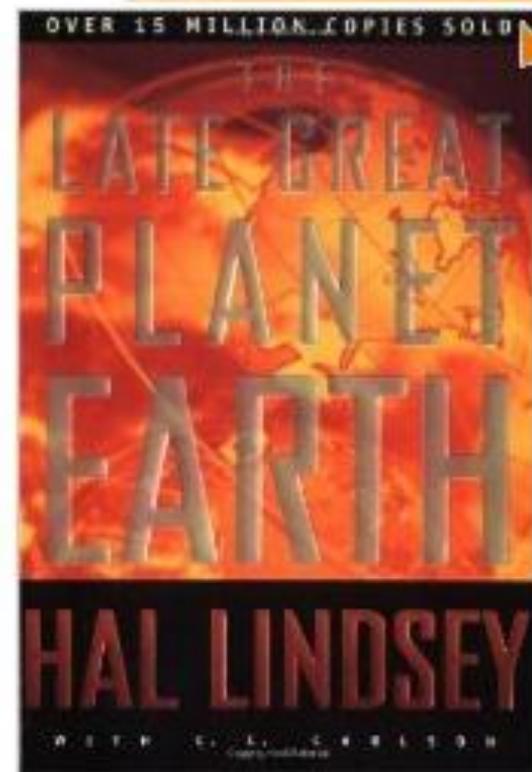
Donatus, (350 A.D.) taught that the Lord would return in his own generation and only 144,000 would be saved.

One of the first popes of Rome (650 A.D.) had this to say to the Christians of his day: ...

Of all the signs described by our Lord as coming before the end of the world, some we see already accomplished ... For now we see nation rise against nation and they press on our land like never before in history. Earthquakes overcome countless cities as we often hear from other parts of the world. Disease endures without interruption. It is true that we do not behold signs in the sun and moon and stars but these can not be far off because we already infer changes in the atmosphere (Pope Gregory, 650 A.D.)

Over 15 million copies sold.

Published in 1970, it predicted that the end would come in the 1980s in a war between the U.S.S.R. and the U.S. – Whoops, made a mistake as the USSR disappeared in 1991



ed to be October 5 (Julian) or September 29 (Gregorian) 537 B.C.E.—Ezra 1:1-4; 3:1-6.

²⁴ Here, then, very definitely established, is another milestone—the time when the seventy years of desolation of the land of Judah came to an end—about October 1, 537. (Jer. 25:11, 12; 29:10) It is now a simple formula to determine when the seventy years began. One has only to add

24. So when did the seventy years of desolation begin, and when did they end?

70 to 537 to get 607. So about October 1, 607 B.C.E., the desolating of the land of Judah and the complete emptying out of its inhabitants was fully accomplished.

²⁵ The importance of the year 607 B.C.E. in this Biblical chronology will become more apparent in the following article, as we seek an answer to the provocative question, When was Adam created?

25. The answer to what question is related to the year 607 B.C.E.?

WHY ARE YOU LOOKING FORWARD TO 1975?

WHAT about all this talk concerning the year 1975? Lively discussions, some based on speculation, have burst into flame during recent months among serious students of the Bible. Their interest has been kindled by the belief that 1975 will mark the end of 6,000 years of human history since Adam's creation. The nearness of such an important date indeed fires the imagination and presents unlimited possibilities for discussion.

¹ But wait! How do we know their calculations are correct? What basis is there for saying Adam was created nearly 5,993 years ago? Does the one Book that can be implicitly trusted for its truthful historical accuracy, namely, the Inspired Word of Jehovah, the Holy Bible, give support and credence to such a conclusion?

1. 2. (a) What has sparked special interest in the year 1975, and with what results? (b) But what questions are raised?

² In the marginal references of the Protestant *Authorized* or *King James Version*, and in the footnotes of certain editions of the Catholic *Douay* version, the date of man's creation is said to be 4004 B.C.E. This marginal date, however, is no part of the inspired text of the Holy Scriptures, since it was first suggested more than fifteen centuries after the last Bible writer died, and was not added to any edition of the Bible until 1701 C.E. It is an insertion based upon the conclusions of an Irish prelate, the Anglican Archbishop James Ussher (1581-1656). Ussher's chronology was only one of the many sincere efforts made during the past centuries to determine the time of Adam's creation. A hundred years ago when a count was taken, no less than 140 different timetables had been published by se-

3. Is the date for Adam's creation as found in many copies of the Bible part of the inspired Scriptures, and do all agree on the date?

From *The Watchtower*, a Jehovah's Witness publication. In 1968 they featured 1975 as the year in which Jesus would return.

Men have declared that the end of the world is coming from AD 150 to the present. And in each prediction, this was to occur in the present generation.

Why – because they thought that the OT prophecies were yet to be fulfilled.

Act 3:24 "And likewise, all the prophets who have spoken, from Samuel and his successors onward, also announced these days.

Luk 24:44 Now He said to them, "These are My words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things which are written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." (45) Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures,

Isa 2:1 The word which Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. (2) Now it will come about that In the last days The mountain of the house of the LORD will be established as the chief of the mountains, And will be raised above the hills; And all the nations will stream to it. (3) And many peoples will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, To the house of the God of Jacob; That He may teach us concerning His ways And that we may walk in His paths." For the law will go forth from Zion And the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

When does the NT tell us that the house of the Lord will be established and we will be taught of His ways that we may walk in His paths?

When will the law go forth from Zion and the work of the Lord from Jerusalem?

Act 2:15 "For these men are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only the third hour of the day; (16) but this is what was spoken of through the prophet Joel: (17) 'AND IT SHALL BE IN THE LAST DAYS,' God says, 'THAT I WILL POUR FORTH OF MY SPIRIT ON ALL MANKIND; AND YOUR SONS AND YOUR DAUGHTERS SHALL PROPHECY, AND YOUR YOUNG MEN SHALL SEE VISIONS, AND YOUR OLD MEN SHALL DREAM DREAMS; ... (20) 'THE SUN WILL BE TURNED INTO DARKNESS AND THE MOON INTO BLOOD, BEFORE THE GREAT AND GLORIOUS DAY OF THE LORD SHALL COME.

but this is what was spoken of through the prophet
Joel: (17) 'AND IT SHALL BE IN THE LAST DAYS,'

THIS WHAT?? The apostles were speaking in foreign languages so that those who heard could understand in their own language while those who heard another language thought they were drunk!

'THE SUN WILL BE TURNED INTO DARKNESS AND THE MOON INTO BLOOD, BEFORE THE GREAT AND GLORIOUS DAY OF THE LORD SHALL COME.

The “Last Days” began in Acts 2. Peter, guided by the Holy Spirit, said they did!

Joh 14:25 "These things I have spoken to you while abiding with you. (26)

"But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you.

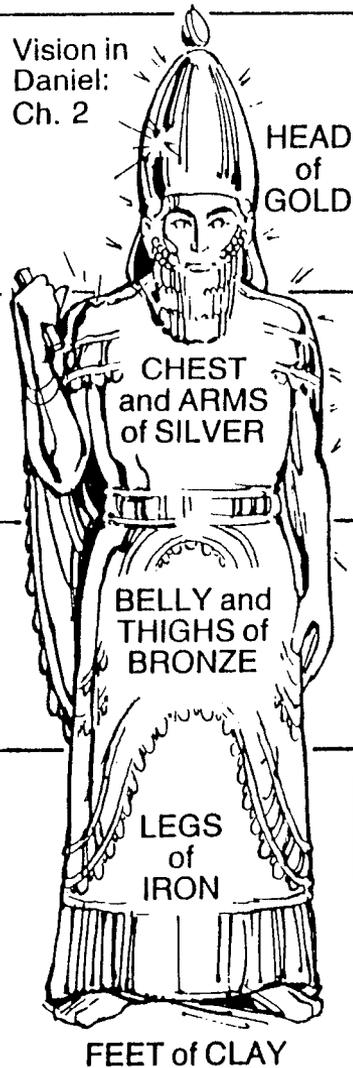
If these are the “Last Days”, how many days come after them?

None, they are the Last Days – foretold by Isaiah, David, Joel!

Thus, we are in the Last Days now
and have been since Acts 2!

Dan 2:43 "And in that you saw the iron mixed with common clay, they will combine with one another in the seed of men; but they will not adhere to one another, even as iron does not combine with pottery. (44) "In the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which will never be destroyed, and that kingdom will not be left for another people; it will crush and put an end to all these kingdoms, but it will itself endure forever.

THE FOUR KINGDOMS OF PROPHECY IN DANIEL – 606 – 536 B.C.



Vision in Daniel: Ch. 2

HEAD of GOLD

CHEST and ARMS of SILVER

BELLY and THIGHS of BRONZE

LEGS of IRON

FEET of CLAY

Vision in Ch. 7

Vision in Ch. 8

IDENTIFICATION

BABYLON 2:48

MEDO-PERSIA 8:20

GREECE 8:21

ROME

626 B.C.

BABYLONIA

539 B.C.

MEDO-PERSIA

330 B.C.

GREECE (Including Ptolemies and Seleucids)

(167 B.C. Maccabees and Hasmoneans)

63 B.C.

ROME

A.D. 70 Fall of Jerusalem

"However, there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries, and He has made known to King Nebuchadnezzar what will take place in the latter days. (Daniel 2:28 NASB)

1Pe 1:20 For He was foreknown before the foundation of the world, but has appeared in these last times for the sake of you (21) through Him are believers in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

When did Jesus appear? – in these last times

For what purpose? That we might through Him be believers in God!

Mat 16:26 "For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? (27) "For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and WILL THEN REPAY EVERY MAN ACCORDING TO HIS DEEDS. (28) "Truly I say to you, there are some of those who are standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in His kingdom."

Two things under consideration here. The judgment for the our souls based on our deeds and the coming of the kingdom. They are related by the opening of one – the kingdom – and its closure at the end of time when we shall all be judged.

Some have decided that the Last days were the days leading up to the destruction of Jerusalem and the end of the Jewish ability to function as a religious and civil government.

1Co 10:11 Now these things happened to them as an example, and they were written for our instruction, upon whom the ends of the ages have come.

Do these things happen only for those who experienced the destruction of Jerusalem? No – they were written for instruction for those living today as well!

Heb 10:25 not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near. (26)

For if we go on sinning willfully after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, (27) but a terrifying expectation of judgment and THE FURY OF A FIRE WHICH WILL CONSUME THE ADVERSARIES.

What is the day drawing near? The end of the Jewish nation and temple – NO. Why not, because there remains for us alive today, the sacrifice for sins and we await the coming judgment.

Heb 10:36 For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God, you may receive what was promised. (37) FOR YET IN A VERY LITTLE WHILE, HE WHO IS COMING WILL COME, AND WILL NOT DELAY. (38) BUT MY RIGHTEOUS ONE SHALL LIVE BY FAITH; AND IF HE SHRINKS BACK, MY SOUL HAS NO PLEASURE IN HIM. (39) But we are not of those who shrink back to destruction, but of those who have faith to the preserving of the soul.

What was lost in the destruction of Jerusalem?
The lives of those who perished. Not their souls!

How are our souls preserved?

2Pe 3:11 Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, (12) looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be destroyed by burning, and the elements will melt with intense heat! (13) But according to His promise we are looking for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells.

2Pe 3:10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up.

11 Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, (12) looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be destroyed by burning, and the elements will melt with intense heat! (13) But according to His promise we are looking for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells.

Would you preserve your soul?

Why not obey Jesus' commands?

Mat 28:19-20 "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, (20) teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

He will be with you, not just till the destruction of Jerusalem, but forever!