

The Last Days Series

The Time of the Gentiles

This is a transcription of the message preached on

August 23, 2009

Open your Bibles and go to the Book of Revelation Chapter six. Now, before I go there, I want to remind everyone once again that this series is going to rattle some cages. As I said previously, it will come up against doctrines that have been established for hundreds of years. Whether you're a pre-trib, mid-trib or post-trib—I'm going to step on some toes; I'm going to rattle some cages. Hopefully, you just don't hear or read one message; you will stick around for the whole series and see how this is verified in God's word.

But I'm going to step on some toes, folks. I'm going to have some Christians really annoyed at me because they are stuck in traditions and doctrines that were developed (Christian Science Fiction) about 200 plus years ago. We will see in this series that these premature end time theories shouldn't have been preached. For an example, the book of Daniel could not be understood before certain events took place such as **The Time of the Gentiles**. So let's begin with **The Time of the Gentiles**. Those of you who studied prophecy or have read any books concerning prophecy, know what the general term means. It's important that you do understand when **The Time of the Gentiles** took place, and that is where I am going to rattle some cages.

“You mean we are not living in **The Time of the Gentiles** any longer?”

Nope, I almost could feel the tension out there.

“Well, how dare you!”

Stick around and you'll see why we are not living in that period any longer. It has ended.

Before I go any further, let's go to Revelation Chapter six verse ten. I was reflecting today, how Christians in the United States, Great Britain, and some areas of Western Europe view prophecy and have developed prophecy doctrines with a very myopic point of view. There is a reason for that, because most of these nations and I would include Australia in that also but mostly USA, Great Britain and some countries in western Europe geographical areas have a myopic viewpoint because they have been blessed. Not at all times; but for the most part. The country that sent out the gospel message or the two countries that sent out the gospel message more than any other countries were Britain and the USA; especially the USA.

The USA was founded because people were seeking religious freedom to

worship their Lord. Whether you agree with their viewpoint or not, they were seeking freedom, seeking the opportunity to get away from the tyranny and the persecution for their beliefs, and because we have experienced prosperity we have developed myopic viewpoints. At least half of today's world population thinks that they are experiencing what prophecy teachers have called the great tribulation. That is nothing new. The great tribulation or the tribulation viewpoint is nothing new; it began with Stephen in the Book of Acts when he was stoned and murdered just for preaching the gospel. Tribulation and persecution continued down through the centuries.

I'm going to be graphic here to make a point: Christians were thrown to the lions, boiled in oil, tortured by all means possible; all the inventions of torture that man could come up with. There was somewhere between 4 and 20 million alone during the Roman Empire that was murdered and persecuted. They were skinned alive, burned at the stake, babies smashed up against walls, pregnant woman ripped apart. There was a price to pay to be a Christian in those days and even today's era that we live in closer to our time period, millions of Jews and Christians were murdered by Nazis.

“What do you mean, Christians?”

There were Christian Jews; because of their nationality and their background Nazis murdered them. Even in our present time one million Sudanese MURDERED, BUTCHERED by Muslims because of their Christian beliefs. Burma, Cambodia, and along the Indonesian chain of islands a million plus more have been murdered. This is not ancient history; this is taking place now. It's taking place even as I speak. I've seen your messages you have written to me; Christians asking us for prayer from India as their churches were being burned down, because of their religious beliefs, burned alive. You have Nigerian Christians, who are facing persecution and being murdered. Christians in India, because they follow Christ and believe that He is the only begotten Son of the Father could have all their possessions taken from them.

Could these and others in the past be the Revelation saints who are crying out in verse ten chapter six in the Book of Revelation? Let's read it, I'm in verse ten chapter six...

“And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?” That was Abel's cry way back in the book of Genesis.

Now, I believe that even in the present era that we are living in, saints are being murdered for no cause and are still crying out. Their cries will be heard. But Christ has a set time for all things to come to pass. Some events have already happened, some are taking place now and some are still waiting to be fulfilled in the future. The problem is, we have too many manmade doctrines and traditions not based on God's word confusing scores of saints. There are books by the hundreds that have been written about last day prophecies. Especially in the last fifty years, doctrines have been developed concerning these last days' events and what to expect.

Even the apostle Paul didn't know the mystery of it. The book of Revelation was not written in Paul's lifetime but he had a glimpse of what was coming. You can see it in First Corinthians. Go there: First Corinthians chapter 15 verse 51: Paul says in verse 51, **"Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed."** Paul was expecting this to happen even in his day but it didn't. Verse 52: **"In a moment, in a twinkling of an eye, at the last trump."** I'm not going to be dealing with that tonight but I will in the future.

But underline those words: **"at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound."** There have been many different theories about when the last trump is going to blow. We will see together that it is the second to last event of the last age that will take place. **"In a moment, in a twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed."** Moving along to verse 55: **"O death, where is thy sting? O grave,"**—or literally, hell—**"where is thy victory?"** Hell will not have the victory; hell will not have victory over us that keep faithing in Jesus Christ.

But back to verse 51: **"Behold I show you a mystery."** The Greek word is *musterion*, M-U-S-T-E-R-I-O-N. Write it down; write it down in the margin of your Bible—*musterion*—that is the Greek word used here in this scripture. Much of the mysteries of God have been revealed. Paul revealed a large portion of the mysteries concerning the gospel and other areas of God's word but even Paul only knew part of the mystery.

You can read part of the mystery, which Paul understood in his letters to the Thessalonians. But for some reason Christ chose John, not Paul, to write the book of Revelation to reveal the mystery, which describes the events that

would be bringing the last approximate 2000 years to a conclusion. John, not Paul, was used.

Go to the Book of Revelation chapter one. Whose Revelation is this credited to? It is The Revelation of Jesus Christ. For 2000 years men have been trying to solve the mystery on their own but this mystery already has been solved. Most people are confused because of the lack of understanding of the book of Daniel and Revelation and their historical timelines. This series will present clear and precise timelines which points to 1948 as the beginning of this last age of time by looking back into secular and biblical history that proves God's word. This is not like most doctrines that have developed a Christian Science fiction last day's theory that just brings further confusion to the Lord's chosen. I know I am going to upset some. I can hear them now saying.

“What do you mean, they would not have the message or mystery understood before its time?”

That's exactly what I mean. Revelation chapter one verse one, **“This is the Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to show unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John:”** so events from that point on would start happening and coming to past until the time of the end.

Most perceive that the book of Revelation is only dealing with the time of the end and this is where the greatest error has taken place in Christian theology concerning prophecy. The book of Revelation according to scholars starts a timeline of its own, beginning approximately about 95AD when Jesus Christ gave this Revelation to John. We will take a closer look at that 95AD date and why I believe that it could have been sooner than 95 AD later on in this series. From that approximate point on it kick started a timeline of events, which was the first message in this series, in Matthew 24, which is a continuous timeline.

Scholars make the mistake of including all of those events that are given in that chapter by Jesus to the very last days of time. That is the greatest error that has ever happened concerning prophecy and the last days and I'll prove it to you using God's word. For 2000 years men have been trying to solve this mystery on their own. Daniel says the time of the end was to be sealed—and we will get there in a minute—the events that lead up to the time of the end were not to be sealed. We see that in Revelation chapter twenty-two

verse ten. Let's read it **“And he saith unto me Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand.”** If these events that are described in the book of Revelation were only concerned with the very last few years of history, then He would have told John to seal it up just as He did so to Daniel. If not, we have two sets of instructions, one coming from the Old Testament and one coming from the New Testament, saying two different things.

Think about it folks, use your gray matter. Use what God placed between your ears to think it through; don't complicate it. As I said, I am going to try to keep this as simple as possible, because I don't want anyone to take my words and say something that I haven't said or to be confused on the things that I am saying. This series is about clarifying what God's word says concerning these last days. John was told that the prophecies of the book, the Book of Revelation, were at hand, **“for the time is at hand.”** It was not to be sealed. So when it was proclaimed through John, the events and the timelines started, don't confuse it with Daniel and with what Daniel was instructed to do to: which was to keep the book sealed until the time of the end.

The Lord knows His timeline... if you really think about it, the Lord sees His timeline from an eternal viewpoint, not our viewpoint but His eternal viewpoint. If we can view the past, present and possibly by guessing the future we can only assume what it might be but we can't be 100% accurate. But if we could view the past, the present and the future from the Lord's perspective, you would be able to see the beginning and the end as He does, plain and simple. But we don't have that viewpoint, we are not blessed with that viewpoint. Like I said, we live in a linear timeline. We can see what the past or read what the past was like and how it went down in history. We obviously can experience what's present and we can only imagine what's in the future, but God from His eternal viewpoint sees not only the beginning but also the end. We are limited according to the laws; what we are bound to regarding time and space. The timeline that we function in can be broken into three separate parts.

Write it down: number one, the era before the flood; the first timeline is the era before the flood. The second timeline is the era between the flood and Christ's death and resurrection. The third timeline is the Christian era; some people call it the Age of Grace. That's fine, but really this is the Christian

era, which, by the way includes an additional time. This is important for you to understand as we progress in this series; you have the era before the flood, you have the era between the flood and the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and you have the Christian era which includes an additional time span which includes the end of time. Let's just call it for practicality, 3a. You have the 1st timeline, the 2nd timeline, and the 3rd timeline. We will call the end of time timeline 3a in your notes.

Now, the last era we were in and let me repeat that the last era we were in is what's known to be called **The Time of the Gentiles** in scripture and I'll get to that in a minute. **The Time of the Gentiles**: write that down. **The Time of the Gentiles** is not the present era that we are in now. Oh, I'm rattling some more cages. There is going to be those in the Christian world very upset and I will probably lose some friends over it. My response to that is so what! My concern is to rightly divide the Word of God the way it is supposed to be done, the way it should have been done and it is now time to do it.

The Time of the Gentiles, as it is known and is given to us by scripture by Jesus himself is not the present era that we are in. **The Time of the Gentiles** period controlled Jerusalem. So how do you know when **The Time of the Gentiles** was? When did it take place? When Gentiles controlled Jerusalem; that's the first key of understanding. He told his disciples what they should expect; in the era they were living in and what the remainder of **The Time of the Gentiles** would be like. This is what is known as the Olivet Discourse.

Let's go to Matthew first, Matthew 24. We see in Matthew 24:31: **“And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.”**

Most people believe that this is the pre-tribulation rapture. I'm not saying it is or it isn't at this point. What you have here in Matthew is information that was given in this Gospel that was not given in the other Gospels. When you read Mark 13:14, let's just go there:

“But when ye shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet,

standing where it ought not,” this is in Mark but not in the other two

gospels—**“standing where it ought not, then let them be in Judea flee to the mountains.”** Now, that is what’s different about Mark’s gospel in this discourse.

Now, let’s go to Luke chapter 21. Now, I am going slow for a reason; Luke chapter 21 verse 24: **“And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles,”**—circle **“shall be”**; I am going back to that —**“until the Times of the Gentiles be fulfilled.”** And this is why I am going to be rattling some cages. Some of you still... most of you still, if not all of you listening tonight... still believe that you are living in **The Time of the Gentiles** and **The Time of the Gentiles** will not be fulfilled until antichrist comes in and sacks Jerusalem or whatever your doctrine proclaims.

Without getting into those doctrines, I’m telling you—wrong, wrong, wrong, wrong. **“And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles until The Times of the Gentiles be fulfilled”** or completed.

So when was **The Time of the Gentiles**? Jerusalem had already been under the Gentile governments for about 638 years. Shortly after Jesus’ death and resurrection, Titus out of the Roman Empire destroyed Jerusalem in 70 AD. Titus burned the second temple to the ground; that’s a historical fact. You don’t even need to go to Biblical history to find out those facts. Those are facts. Jesus prophesied that this would happen. He prophesied Jerusalem’s destruction. Now, I had you circle a word, **“shall be.”** Let’s look at it, the tense of this verb here in Luke 21:24 **“shall be.”** Circle **“it shall be trodden down”** or some translations have **“led away captive.”** **“Shall be”** was a future event that Jesus here was referring to which happened to the Jews in 70 AD. From that date on they were dispersed among the nations.

Biblical and secular history fact; the Jews remained that way until the last century of the 1900s; from the 1st 2nd 3rd 4th 5th 6th 7th and so on. Century after century they were dispersed just pockets of Jews were left but most were dispersed. They no longer were a nation and furthermore they were dispersed among the nations. This continued until a certain date in time, which is a very key point that needs to be made here now in this message but needs to be clarified in future messages. The Jews did not have control of the holy city Jerusalem until 1967 AD. Yes, I know, approximately 40 years earlier they were allowed to be a nation again but a nation is not a nation

without its capital. In this case it's not just a capital, it's a holy city, the city of God and that didn't happen until 1967 AD. Gentiles ruled and controlled Jerusalem throughout the centuries. Even the crusaders were Gentiles, not Jews, controlling the city.

It was not until 1967 that the city of Jerusalem came under the control of the Jews and no longer under the control of Gentiles. Let's look again at Luke verse 24: "**Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles.**" It was not until the 6th day of the Six-day War, June 6, 1967. I'm surprised more 666 people, who have really twisted that doctrinal viewpoint haven't jump on that particular date.

"Well, are you saying what we know about 666 is wrong?"

Absolutely. Most of the Christian world doesn't even have a clue. I'll get to that also in this series.

And "**Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles,**" and they were and June 6, 1967 **The Time of the Gentiles** was fulfilled. The only people who are not Gentiles in what Jesus was referring to here are Jews. In 1967 Jews once again governed Jerusalem; 2573 years have come and gone. It went by, these 2573 years, but the Lord kept His word; He knew the timeline of **The Time of the Gentiles**. He knew how long it should be and how many years would pass by before it would be fulfilled.

God has everything under control. We are the ones out of control, there are a lot of out-of-control writers out there writing about these last days that need to stop writing and start listening and start learning not what's being taught in theological seminaries but what is being preached by people chosen to preach it at a set time. And I'm not the only one by the way. I have no grand illusions that I'm the only one out there preaching this. But this will hopefully be a starting point and mark my words, I believe it will be because others will come to an understanding what God's word has declared for us to know regarding the last days. It will start, hopefully, an explosion. It might start slow but an explosion of God's word rightly divided so you are not caught unaware.

If you're not concerned with prophetic events then you have a problem and your problem is that you're not taking your responsibility in the great commission serious enough, to understand that our time is short and we need

to get serious and we need to get busy no matter what capacity Christ has called you to participate in. Don't give me no... I almost said something I probably would have regretted.

Don't give me your passive attitude, because you're confident that you are going to meet your maker the Lord Jesus Christ when it is all said and done. I don't question that, but you need to start questioning your attitude about getting busy about the time we are in and how short of a time period we have left to accomplish what Christ has called us to do in the capacity He has called us to do it in. There is no such thing as passiveness in following Jesus Christ

Two thousand two hundred and seventy-three years had passed or did pass to the date 1967 AD, **The Times of the Gentiles** was fulfilled; it has ended and this series will prove that out and I can hear some of you are saying right now: "What about the Maccabeus and the Maccabean revolt?" Yes, the Maccabeus did have some control but not 100% control; anybody that does any serious study about the Maccabean revolt in 167 AD... For a short period of time they had self-rule but self-rule allowing them to practice religion, the sacrifices as they were instructed to do because they were still living under the law. Now, in that short period of time they were still fighting with the Syrian Greeks, being supported by the way, by a developing Roman empire that would eventually take them over in 65 AD. Some say 63AD; the figure doesn't really matter at this time. But they truly didn't have any legitimate government governing from the city of Jerusalem. They had religious freedom once again but no legitimate government. Anybody that does a serious study on the Maccabean revolt would come to understand that.

So you can't count that short period of time in **The Time of the Gentiles**. There were two thousand two hundred and seventy-three years of Gentile control. To understand how we get to 2573 years we have to go back to history again and find a starting date where the Jews lost control. The Gentile control of Jerusalem began with Nebuchadnezzar and some of you are familiar with this history. Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon, who sacked the city of Jerusalem, some say between 605 and 603 BC, and we will look at those figures later on in this series. Persians, Grecians, Romans all came and ruled at the Lord's set time, in **The Time of the Gentiles**.

Look up folks, your redemption draweth nigh, because the Jews are now in control of Jerusalem. **The Time of the Gentiles**, the control of Jerusalem is over and it has been over since 1967 AD. Gentiles will not rule Jerusalem

again and here I go to start rattling some more cages: Gentiles will not rule Jerusalem again, ever.

The Lord's focus now is on the seed of Abraham through the Jewish line that have returned and controlled the holy city, period. "If **The Time of Gentiles** is over then what time are we in right now?" I'm sure some of you are asking that question and you are anticipating my answer. Well, there is only one other time in scripture, point 3a from earlier, which comes after **The Time of the Gentiles**, only one other time that is in scripture. Daniel 12:4: go there; go to the Book of Daniel. Like I said, I'm laying down general information tonight.

Daniel 12:4; **"But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book."** What words? The words that God gave Daniel that deals with the time of the end in this chapter. But **"Daniel, shut up the words and seal the book even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro and knowledge shall be increased"**... knowledge shall be increased.

Now, I want you to circle the instruction that Daniel was given; not the instruction that John was given in the book of Revelation but Daniel: **"even to the time of the end."** Remember, I told you there are three timelines: before the flood, after the flood to the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and the Christian era and additionally I told you to put 3a, because there is one additional timeline that's included in the Christian era. That's why we are not making it number four and that timeline era is the time of the end. There is only one other timeline in scripture that comes after **The Time of the Gentiles**. It's given to us in Daniel 12:4 and also Daniel 12:9: **"And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end"**—in the book of Revelation Jesus said not to seal the book because that started a timeline of all the events in the book of Revelation until the time of the end and Daniel's specific prophecy was only going to be revealed at the time of the end. The time of the end timeline started after June 6, 1967 AD.

Daniel 12:4, 12:9; he is told to seal the book—which means, by the way, nobody would be able to understand it because it was sealed to that very last period of time. If the time of the end began in 1967 and Daniel was told to seal the book until the time of the end, then doctrines that came before could be incomplete or dead wrong.

Think about it, most of the doctrines that Christians believe to be true were

developed about 200 plus years ago. How did they get the message for their doctrines if the book was sealed? My guess is through made up visions or manmade doctrines? The only problem is, most of Christianity still is practicing and preaching doctrines that were manmade and not coming from the book of Revelation or the book of Daniel or any other books that correctly and rightly divide the word of God.

But now is the time and I won't be quiet about it. I don't care whose cages I rattle. I don't care who I upset. I don't care who calls me a lunatic. I'll prove that what I am preaching in this series comes straight out of God's word. There was a reason it was not to be revealed before it's prophetic time.

This is going to be an amazing series as we progress forward. God's word is full of riches that the Lord himself waited 2573 years to declare. Now we are there and it's time to be understood. You need to get busy and get this word out.

To be continued...

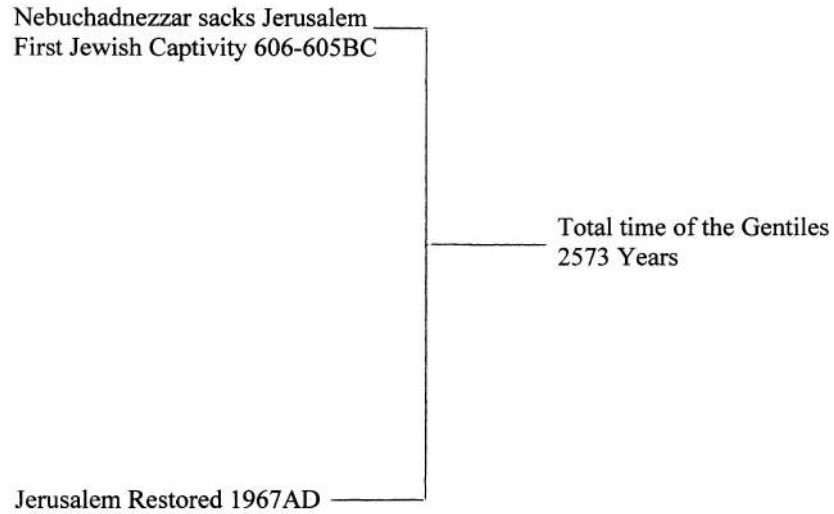
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Time of the Gentiles



Luke 21:24 "And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled."

No conversion factor necessary because this is a New Testament Prophecy looking back and to the future from an AD period perspective.