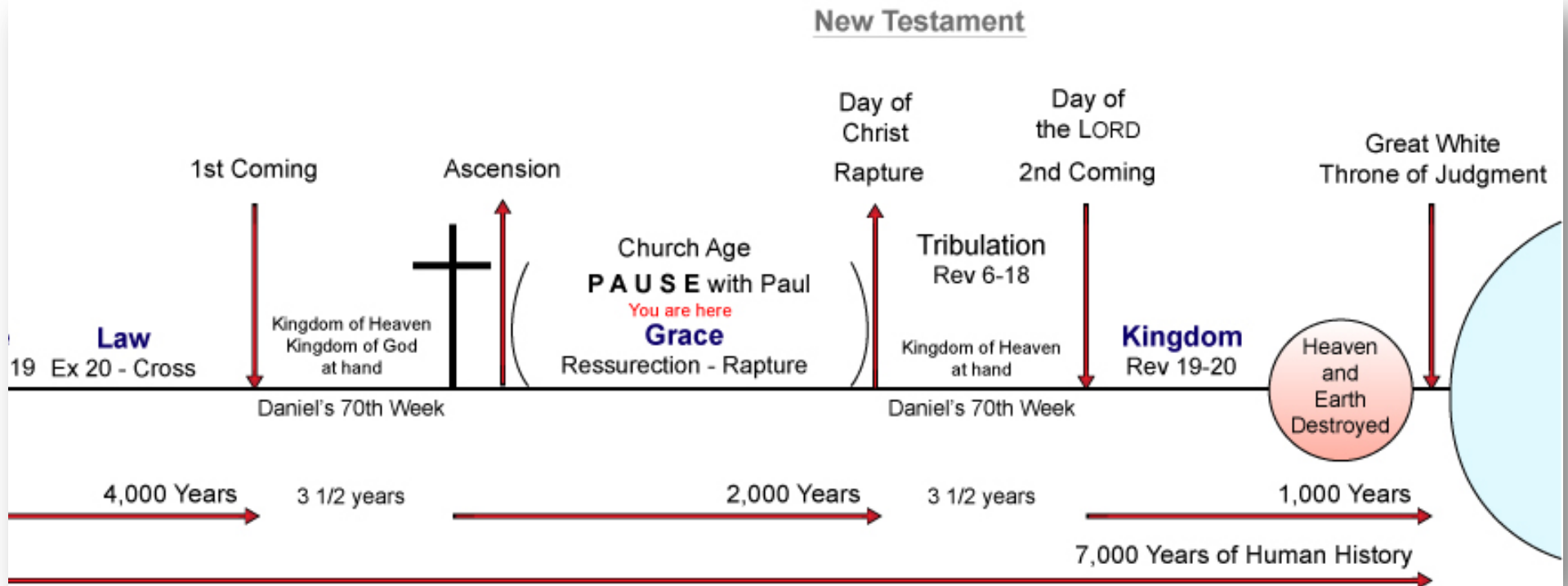


HOW WE KNOW WE ARE AT THE END

O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; but
can ye not discern the signs of the times?

- Matthew 16:3

OVERVIEW



OVERVIEW

There are numerous signs that lead up to the Second Coming of Christ, mainly talked about in the Bible as **THE DAY OF THE LORD**. There are only 2 signs given to the Church that tell us what must happen before the rapture of the church called **THE DAY OF CHRIST** in the Bible.*

We will look at the signs leading up to the rapture of the church and the day of the **LORD** tonight. We will not look at all of them, but we will like at the ones that make it clear we are real close to the end of the world.

*See the study *The Day of the LORD and the Day of Christ* to see how these two days are completely different.

THE 2 SIGNS THAT COME BEFORE THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH

Those two signs are found in 2 Thessalonians 2:1-4

- 1) The apostasy of the church
- 2) The revealing of the antichrist
 - a) There will be a rebuilt Temple in Jerusalem
 - b) Israel must be a nation in their own land

THE APOSTASY OF THE CHURCH

The Church doesn't get better over time it gets worse

False doctrine and fables permeate the church in the last days (1 Timothy 4:1-6, 2 Timothy 3:1-7, 2 Timothy 4:1-5, 2 Thessalonians 2:1-4). Jesus likened the kingdom of God unto leaven (Luke 13:20-21), which is a picture of bad doctrine (Matthew 16:6-12) and sin (1 Corinthians 5:6-8). Notice according to the parable, it starts off with a little bit of false doctrine until the whole is filled with false doctrine. That is how the church age ends.

THE APOSTASY OF THE CHURCH

The Church doesn't get better over time it gets worse

Interestingly enough, this corresponds with church history in Revelation 1-3 where it talks about a woman named Jezebel teaching false doctrines that cause a Christian to commit spiritual fornication and eat things (the mass) sacrificed to idols (Revelation 2:18-29). Jesus gave that church space to repent but they didn't repent (they kept their false doctrines) so Jesus said I will kill her children.

THE APOSTASY OF THE CHURCH

The Church doesn't get better over time it gets worse

Some honestly believe and teach the church gets better and better over time. Some go as far as to say the church brings in the kingdom (i.e. the physical earthly kingdom of heaven). Some believe that if we just preach the gospel in the whole world, then the end will come and Jesus will return. According to the Holy Ghost, the gospel of the grace of God which we preach (1 Corinthians 15) was preached to every creature under heaven in the 1st century (Colossians 1:21-23) and the end hasn't come for thousands of years. That's because the gospel that is preached during the last days is not what Paul preached nor what we preach today (Matthew 24:14).

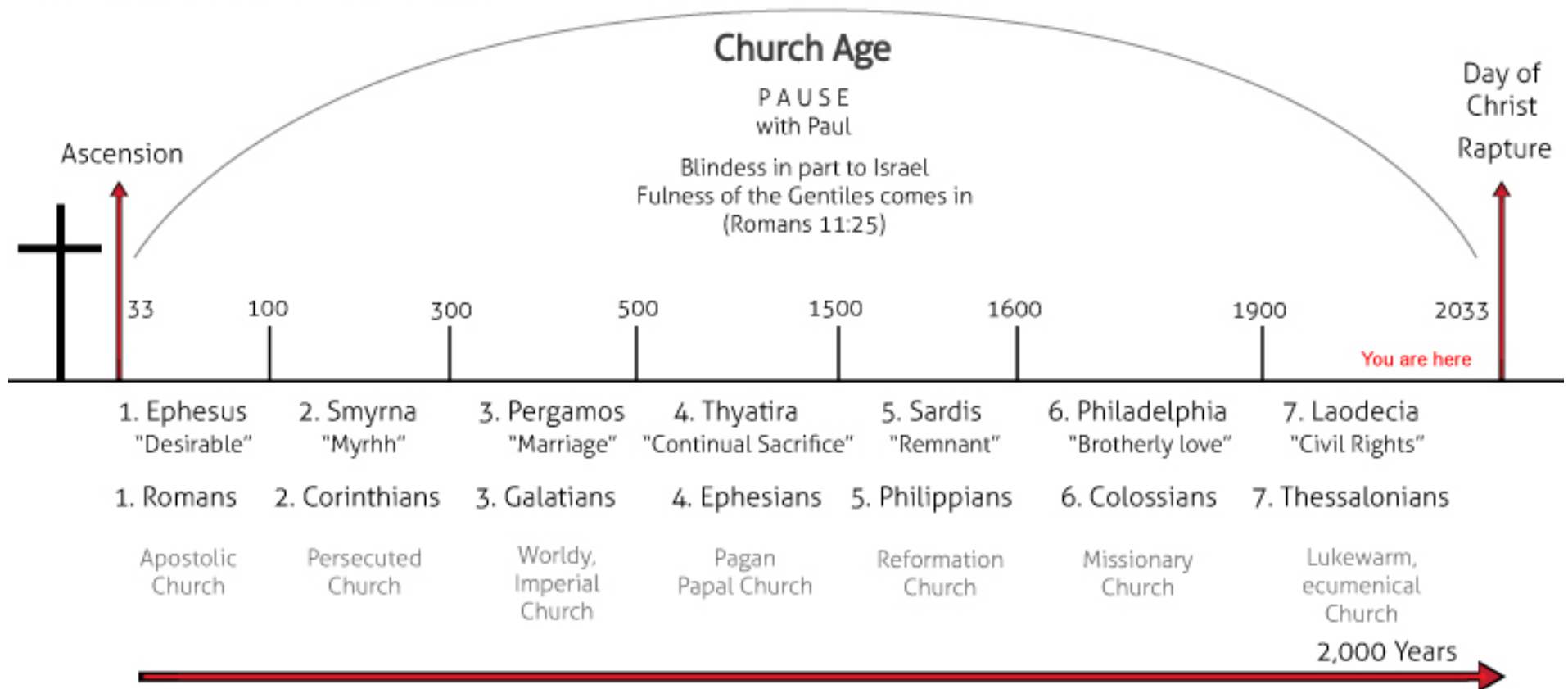
THE APOSTASY OF THE CHURCH

The Church doesn't get better over time it gets worse

The church age ends in apostasy. We are in the last church age called the Laodicean Church age (Revelation 3:14-22) The term Laodicea literally means “civil rights” or “rights of the people.” Doesn't this characterize our day and age? This church is filled with people that have no discernment. They are lukewarm Christians that make God sick to his stomach. They believe they are the greatest thing since sliced bread but are actually poor, miserable, blind and naked. Those Christians are commanded (1) to be zealous (2) and repent. This church is also too busy to fellowship with Jesus Christ. Doesn't this characterize our day?

THE APOSTASY OF THE CHURCH

History of the Church



THE APOSTASY OF THE CHURCH

Paul's words to Laodecian Christians

Paul had something to say to those in Laodemia in Colossians 4:16-18. He specifically wanted that church to read the letter he wrote to the believers in Colosse. His last words to that church that he wanted the church of Laodemia to hear were these: REMEMBER MY BONDS.

Paul said his life was a pattern to Christians (1 Timothy 1:16). We know in the book of Acts Paul was determined to go to Jerusalem and the Holy Ghost told him several times not to do so. He disobeyed God and went anyway. What happened when he got there? Read Acts 21:17-24.

THE APOSTASY OF THE CHURCH

Paul's words to Laodecian Christians

Paul COMPROMISED SOUND DOCTRINE FOR THE SAKE OF THE UNITY OF THE CHURCH, which led to him being in bonds on his way to Rome where he died.

So shall it be at the end of the world. The churches will go back under the bondage of Rome and also bring in the religions of the world under the Pope who will be the false prophet (most likely) and cause the earth to worship the antichrist who rose from the dead.

THE APOSTASY OF THE CHURCH

The Church Age is 2,000 years long

Hosea 6:1-2, 2 Peter 3:8

Also see Exodus 19:10-11, John 4:3-43, John 11:1-7,
Genesis 22-25.

Israel to abide many days without a king and without
sacrifices (Hosea 3:4-5)

Jesus would give Israel up until the latter days; in the
mean time be great with the Gentiles (Micah 5:1-6, Acts
15:13-17, Romans 11:25-27)

THE APOSTASY OF THE CHURCH

One of the great signs that we are close to the rapture and the day of the LORD is the state the church is in today. We are in the falling away that was foretold by the Holy Ghost in 2 Thessalonians 2:1-4

The church today is a lukewarm, depraved, blind, sad, false doctrine loving, fable and fairy tale loving, and truth despising and rejecting church. It has no desire to live for God and fellowship with him. This church thinks they have all they need when they are not even close.

Let's not be like this, let's be different!

THE REVEALING OF THE ANTICHRIST

2 Thessalonians 2:1-4 told us that the day of Christ (what we call the rapture) would not come until the church goes into apostasy and that man of sin be revealed. That man of sin is the antichrist.

Notice, what he will do when he comes. He will sit in the temple of God *as* God and claim to be God.

In order for the man of sin, the son of perdition to be revealed, two things must take place before these things can come to pass. And these two things are the greatest signs we are at the end.

THE REVEALING OF THE ANTICHRIST

1. Israel **MUST** be a nation dwelling in their own land
2. There **MUST** be a 3rd Temple built in Jerusalem

THE REVEALING OF THE ANTICHRIST

1. Israel MUST be a nation dwelling in their own land

There are so many verses that state Israel must be a nation before the end of the world comes (the day of the LORD). If there must be a temple for Satan to sit in, if there must be the land of Israel to be taken from the Jews and given to the Gentiles, Israel must be in their home land. This happened for the first time in nearly 2,000 years in 1948. In 1948 Israel declared their independence and became a nation again. The last time they were a nation was in 70. What does this mean? God is about done with the Gentiles and ready to go back to the Jew and finish the mystery of God.

THE REVEALING OF THE ANTICHRIST

1. Rebuilding the 3rd Temple

The Temple must be rebuilt in Jerusalem, and the sacrifices reinstated before the second coming of Christ.

See 2 Thessalonians 2:4, Daniel 8:11-14, 11:31, 11:45, 12:11, Matthew 24:15, Revelation 11:1-2

Also visit <http://www.templemountfaithful.org/>

THE REVIVED ROMAN EMPIRE

Revived Roman Empire (EU), 10 kingdoms (WEU?)

See Daniel 2:31-45, 7:2-28, Revelation 13:1-2, Revelation 17:1-9, 18

Just as Rome was in power during the first coming, so Rome will be in power during the second coming, but this time under 10 nations. Remember there are 3 stages to the final empire. The 4th kingdom is united, then divides into 2, then is made up of 10 nations at the end of time. The European Union (EU) looks like it is the revived Roman Empire prophesied of in the Holy Bible. Here is why I think that.

THE REVIVED ROMAN EMPIRE

The European Union (EU)



THE REVIVED ROMAN EMPIRE

Revived Roman Empire (EU), 10 kingdoms (WEU?)



This is the European Union Flag. Why only 12 stars, there are more members than 12 (Revelation 12:1) ?

THE REVIVED ROMAN EMPIRE

Revived Roman Empire (EU), 10 kingdoms (WEU?)



This is an EU Poster.

THE REVIVED ROMAN EMPIRE

Revived Roman Empire (EU), 10 kingdoms (WEU?)



The EU Headquarters



European Parliament: Louise Weiss building, Strasbourg

THE REVIVED ROMAN EMPIRE

Revived Roman Empire (EU), 10 kingdoms (WEU?)



The EU Headquarters



THE REVIVED ROMAN EMPIRE

Revived Roman Empire (EU), 10 kingdoms (WEU?)

**TOWER OF BABEL
BY BRUEGHEL**



**EU PARLIAMENT
STRASBOURG**



THE REVIVED ROMAN EMPIRE

“I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast...”

Revelation 17:3



TIME Magazine's United Europe!



German telephone card!



1992 German Ecu coin!



1948 German 5 mark note!



Sculpture 2000 - Outside the European Council Building in Brussels!

THE REVIVED ROMAN EMPIRE

“I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast...”

Revelation 17:3



THE REVIVED ROMAN EMPIRE

“I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast...”

Revelation 17:3



THE REVIVED ROMAN EMPIRE

“I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast...”

Revelation 17:3



THE REVIVED ROMAN EMPIRE

“I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast...”

Revelation 17:3



OTHER SIGNS WE ARE AT THE END

The technology exists today

The Mark of the Beast IN your hand or IN your forehead
(Revelation 13:16-18)

The whole world to see Moses and Elijah dead
Revelation 11:8-13

Knowledge increases in the last days
Daniel 12:4

OTHER SIGNS WE ARE AT THE END

The Days of Noah

They were eating drinking, marrying

*ends in destruction

Luke 17:26-27

The Days of Lot

An abundance of homos and fornication and an acceptance of those things

*ends in destruction

Luke 17:28-30

OTHER SIGNS WE ARE AT THE END

**Gentile Nations worried about Israel and Jerusalem;
they are against Israel**

Zechariah 12:2-3, 14:1-3

Gentiles to part the land of Israel

Joel 3:2

OTHER SIGNS WE ARE AT THE END

Wars, Natural Disasters, Famines, etc

See Matthew 24, Mark 13, Luke 21

One Religion, One Government, One Economy

Revelation 12-13

CONCLUDING THOUGHTS

In light of all these things, let's don't waste anymore time in sin and living for self – let's live for God, let's serve our Saviour Jesus Christ, and let's preach the gospel!