**Terms & Definitions: Understanding the End Times**

1. **Eschatology:** The study of things relating to the end of the world, the final judgement and the life of the world to come.
2. **Prophecy (*KJV Dictionary*):** A foretelling; prediction; a declaration of something to come. As God only knows future events with certainty, no being but God or some person informed by Him can utter a real prophecy.

Note: Prophecy is a spiritual gift *(1 Corinthians 12:10)*

1. **End of the Age:** The study of the end times whether it’s the end of an individual life or the end of the world.
2. **Second Coming or Second Advent**: The rapture, being the return of Jesus Christ in the air *(1Thessalonians 4:13-17)*. Also meaning the return of Christ to the earth, which according to Zechariah 14:4 will be in Jerusalem.
3. **Rapture:** The Greek word is “harpazo”, which means to seize, catching away. *(1Corinthians 15:51-52; 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17)*
4. **Antichrist:** One who opposes Jesus Christ. This term only appears in 1 John 2:18-22, 1 John 4:3 and 2 John verse 7.
5. **False prophets:** Those who oppose Jesus Christ. They are:
   1. Self-deceived *(Jeremiah 23:4-11)*
   2. Liars *(1 John 2:22)*
   3. Heretics: Preaching false doctrine. *(1 John 2:19 and 2 Peter 2:1-12)*
   4. Scoffers: They reject the truth *(2 Peter 3:3, 2 Timothy 3:2 & Jude 16)*
   5. Blasphemers: They speak evil of Christ, the Holy Spirit and God’s people. *(Jude verses 8 - 13)*
   6. Seducers: According to Webster’s Dictionary, to entice to evil; to lead astray *(Mark 13:22)*
   7. Reprobates: Disapproved, depraved or rejected *(Romans 1:28-30)*
6. **Tribulation:** According to biblical prophets, this is a period of time when Israel as a nation will experience distress as part of the “Day of the Lord”. This is the time known as ‘Messianic birth pangs”, prior to the coming of Jesus Christ.
7. **Pre-Tribulation:** Events which occur before the beginning of a seven-year tribulation period. Those who hold this view describe the Rapture as Jesus Christ coming for the church.
8. **Mid-tribulation or Pre-Millennialism:** Believes that the rapture will occur some time during the middle of the tribulation period.
9. **Post tribulation:** Believes that the rapture of Christians and the Second Coming occur together after the tribulation.

1. **Premillennialism *(Latin, before millennium)*:** The theological view that Christ and His saints will reign on earth for 1000 years after His final return.
2. **Post Millennialism *(Latin, after the millennium)*:** The theological view that Christ and His saints will reign on earth before the final return.
3. **Amillennialism *(Latin, no millennium)*:** The theological view that Christ and His saints will not reign for 1000 years in connection with His final return.
4. **Armageddon:** The Hebrew translation is Har-Megiddo meaning “Mount of Megiddo”. The place where the armies of the world will gather for one final battle at the end of the Tribulation Period. *(Revelation 16:16)*
5. **Gog:** The leader of the Russian Confederacy. *(Ezekiel 38:1-2)*
6. **Magog:** The name of present-day Russia. (This is Noah’s grandson.)
7. **Apostasy:** A falling away from God’s truth. *(1 Timothy 4:1)*
8. **666:** This the number which identifies the antichrist. *(Revelation 13:16-18 NLT)*
9. **Two witnesses:** Two individuals who are raised up by God during the tribulation to proclaim the gospel for 1260 days. They will have a supernatural ministry directed towards Jerusalem and Israel during the first part of the Tribulation. *(Revelation chapter 13)*
10. **Revelation:** An uncovering of something hidden.
11. **Latter Days/Last Days**: A biblical term that can indicate a final period of history climaxed by severe judgement. Latter days or final days of history prior to the end time or end of days.
12. **The day of the Lord**: This phase is used in the bible to emphasize special interventions of God into human history. *(Joel 2:28-32)*
13. **Messiah:** The Hebrew meaning is “The Anointed One”. The Greek meaning is equivalent to the word “Christ”.
14. **Covenant:** An agreement between two parties that bound them together with common interest and responsibilities.

Sources:

1. The Rapture Debate | 2021 Bible.org
2. The Popular Encyclopedia of Bible Prophecy by Tim LaHaye and Ed Hinson
3. Jerusalem in Prophecy by Randall Price
4. Understanding End Times Prophecy by Paul N. Benware
5. King James Version (KJV): Thomas Nelson Publishers
6. New Living Translation (NLT): Tyndale House Publishers