

VERSES ON TRIBULATION¹

Deuteronomy 4:30-31 30 When you are in tribulation/distress/harassed (צָרָר), and all these things come upon you in the latter days (בְּאַחֲרֵי הַיָּמִים) [end times], you will return (שׁוּב) to Yahweh your God and obey his voice. 31 For Yahweh your God is a merciful God. He will not leave you, destroy you, or forget the covenant with your fathers that he swore to them.

Isaiah 2:10-22 10 Enter into the rock and hide in the dust from before the terror of Yahweh, and from the splendour of his majesty. 11 The haughty looks of man shall be brought low, and the lofty pride of men shall be humbled, and Yahweh alone will be exalted in that day. 12 For Yahweh of hosts has a day against all that is proud and lofty, against all that is lifted up—and it shall be brought low. 13 Against all the cedars of Lebanon, lofty and lifted up, and against all the oaks of Bashan. 14 Against all the lofty mountains, and against all the uplifted hills. 15 Against every high tower, and against every fortified wall. 16 Against all the ships of Tarshish, and against all the beautiful craft. 17 And the haughtiness of man shall be humbled, and the lofty pride of men shall be brought low, and Yahweh alone will be exalted in that day. 18 And the idols shall utterly pass away. 19 And people shall enter the caves of the rocks and the holes of the ground, from before the terror of Yahweh, and from the splendour of his majesty, when he rises to terrify the earth. 20 In that day mankind will cast away their idols of silver and their idols of gold, which they made for themselves to worship, to the moles and to the bats, 21 to enter the caverns of the rocks and the clefts of the cliffs, from before the terror of Yahweh, and from the splendour of his majesty, when he rises to terrify the earth. 22 Stop regarding man in whose nostrils is breath, for of what account is he?

Isaiah 13:6-13 6 Wail, for the day of Yahweh is near. As destruction from the Almighty it will come! 7 Therefore all hands will be feeble, and every human heart will melt. 8 They will be dismayed. Pangs and agony will seize them. They will be in anguish like a woman in labor. They will look aghast at one another. Their faces will be aflame. 9 Behold, the day of Yahweh comes, cruel, with wrath and fierce anger, to make the land (אֶרֶץ) a desolation and to destroy its sinners from it. 10 For the stars of the heavens and their constellations will not give their light. The sun will be dark at its rising, and the moon will not shed its light. 11 I will punish the world (תִּבְלָה) for its evil, and the wicked for their iniquity. I will put an end to the pomp of the arrogant, and lay low the pompous pride of the ruthless. 12 I will make people more rare than fine gold, and mankind than the gold of Ophir. 13 Therefore I will make the heavens tremble, and the earth will be shaken out of its place, at the wrath of Yahweh of hosts in the day of his fierce anger.

Isaiah 24:1-20 1 Behold, Yahweh will empty the earth and make it desolate, and he will twist its surface and scatter its inhabitants. 2 And it shall be, as with the people, so with the priest. As with the slave, so with his master. As with the maid, so with her mistress. As with the buyer, so with the seller. As with the lender, so with the borrower. As with the creditor, so with the debtor. 3 The earth shall be utterly empty and utterly plundered, for Yahweh has spoken this word. 4 The earth mourns and withers. The world languishes and withers. The highest people of the earth languish. 5 The earth lies defiled under its inhabitants, for they

¹ * denotes key passages.

have transgressed the laws, violated the statutes, broken the everlasting covenant. 6 Therefore a curse devours the earth, and its inhabitants suffer for their guilt. Therefore the inhabitants of the earth are scorched, and few men are left. 7 The wine mourns, the vine languishes, all the merry-hearted sigh. 8 The mirth of the tambourines is stilled, the noise of the jubilant has ceased, the mirth of the lyre is stilled. 9 No more do they drink wine with singing. Strong drink is bitter to those who drink it. 10 The wasted city is broken down. Every house is shut up so that none can enter. 11 There is an outcry in the streets for lack of wine. All joy has grown dark. The gladness of the earth is banished. 12 Desolation is left in the city. The gates are battered into ruins. 13 For thus it shall be in the midst of the earth among the nations, as when an olive tree is beaten, as at the gleaning when the grape harvest is done. ...17 Terror and the pit and the snare are upon you, O inhabitant of the earth! 18 He who flees at the sound of the terror shall fall into the pit, and he who climbs out of the pit shall be caught in the snare. For the windows of heaven are opened, and the foundations of the earth tremble. 19 The earth is utterly broken, the earth is split apart, the earth is violently shaken. 20 The earth staggers like a drunken man. It sways like a hut. Its transgression lies heavy upon it, and it falls, and will not rise again.

Isaiah 26:20-21 20 Come, my people, enter your chambers, and shut your doors behind you. Hide yourselves for a little while until the fury has passed by. 21 For behold, Yahweh is coming out from his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity, and the earth will disclose the blood shed on it, and will no more cover its slain.

Isaiah 34:1-8 1 Draw near, O nations, to hear, and give attention, O peoples! Let the earth hear, and all that fills it, the world, and all that comes from it. 2 For Yahweh is enraged against all the nations, and furious against all their host. He has devoted them to destruction, has given them over for slaughter. 3 Their slain shall be cast out, and the stench of their corpses shall rise. The mountains shall flow with their blood. 4 All the host of heaven shall rot away, and the skies roll up like a scroll. All their host shall fall, as leaves fall from the vine, like leaves falling from the fig tree. 5 For my sword has drunk its fill in the heavens. Behold, it descends for judgment upon Edom, upon the people I have devoted to destruction. 6 Yahweh has a sword. It is sated with blood. It is gorged with fat, with the blood of lambs and goats, with the fat of the kidneys of rams. For Yahweh has a sacrifice in Bozrah, a great slaughter in the land of Edom. 7 Wild oxen shall fall with them, and young steers with the mighty bulls. Their land shall drink its fill of blood, and their soil shall be gorged with fat. 8 For Yahweh has a day of vengeance, a year of recompense for the cause of Zion.

***Jeremiah 30:4-7** 4 These are the words that Yahweh spoke concerning Israel and Judah: 5 Thus says Yahweh: We have heard a cry of panic, of terror, and no peace. 6 Ask now, and see, can a man bear a child? Why then do I see every man with his hands on his stomach like a woman in labor? Why has every face turned pale? 7 Alas! That day is so great there is none like it. It is a time of distress/need/anxiety (צָרָה) for Jacob. Yet he shall be saved (יִשָּׁע) out of it.

***Daniel 7:21-26** 21 As I [Daniel] looked, this horn [Antichrist] made war with the [tribulational] saints and prevailed over them, 22 until the Ancient of Days came, and judgment was given for the saints of the Most High, and the time came when the saints

possessed the kingdom. 23 Thus [the angel] said: As for the fourth beast, there shall be a fourth kingdom [Rome] on earth, which shall be different from all the kingdoms, and it shall devour the whole earth, trample it down, and break it to pieces. 24 As for the ten horns, out of this kingdom [Rome] ten kings shall arise, and another [Antichrist] shall arise after them. He shall be different from the former ones, and shall put down three kings. 25 He shall speak words against the Most High, shall wear out the saints of the Most High, and shall think to change the times and the law. And they shall be given into his hand for a time, times, and half a time [3 1/2 years]. 26 But the court shall sit in judgment, and his dominion shall be taken away, to be consumed and destroyed to the end.

***Daniel 9:24-27 [NASB]** 24 Seventy weeks [490 years] have been decreed for your people [Israel] and your holy city [Jerusalem],² to finish the transgression, to make an end of sin, to make atonement for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy and to anoint (מִשָּׁח) the most holy.³ 25 So you are to know and discern from the issuing of a decree (דְּבַר) to restore and rebuild Jerusalem⁴ until Messiah Prince (מְשִׁיחַ נְגִיד)—seven weeks (שְׁבוּעַ) [49 years]⁵ and sixty-two weeks (שְׁבוּעַ) [434 years].⁶ It [Jerusalem] will be built again, with plaza and moat [ultimately by Herod the Great], even in times of distress/pain/trouble (צוֹק). 26 Then after the sixty-two weeks the Messiah (מְשִׁיחַ) will be cut off and have nothing, and the people of the [false] prince (נְגִיד) who is to come [Antichrist] will destroy the city [Jerusalem] and the sanctuary [temple], and its end with a flood. Even to the end there will be war. Desolations are determined. 27 And he [Antichrist] will make a firm covenant (וְהִגְבִּיר בְּרִית) with the many [Jewish majority] for one week [seven years], but in the middle/half (חֲצִי) of the week [the beginning of the great tribulation] he [Antichrist] will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering. And on the wing of abominations one who makes desolate, even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate.

***Daniel 12:1** 1 At that time shall arise Michael, the great prince who has charge of your people [Israel]. And there shall be a time of trouble/need/distress/anxiety (צָרָה), such as never

² This prophecy is concerned with the history of Israel, not the history of the church.

³ The first three things happened at Jesus' first coming. The second three things will happen at Jesus' second coming.

⁴ The fourth decree was also by Artaxerxes Longimanus, issued on March 5, 444 b.c. (Neh. 2:1–8). On that occasion Artaxerxes granted the Jews permission to rebuild Jerusalem's city walls. This decree is the one referred to in Daniel 9:25. J. Dwight Pentecost, "[Daniel](#)," in *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures*, ed. J. F. Walvoord and R. B. Zuck, vol. 1 (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1985), 1362.

⁵ This 490-year period is divided into three segments; (a) 7 "sevens" (49 years), (b) 62 "sevens" (434 years), and (c) 1 "seven" (v. 27; 7 years). The first period of 49 years may refer to the time in which the rebuilding of the city of Jerusalem, permitted by Artaxerxes' decree, was completed (444–395 b.c.). Though Nehemiah's wall construction project took only 52 days, many years may have been needed to remove the city's debris (after being desolate for many decades), to build adequate housing, and to rebuild the **streets and a trench**. J. Dwight Pentecost, "[Daniel](#)," in *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures*, ed. J. F. Walvoord and R. B. Zuck, vol. 1 (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1985), 1363.

⁶ This prophecy of the 70 sevens, then, ends not with the First Advent of Christ, as some suggest, but rather with the Second Advent and the establishing of the millennial kingdom. J. Dwight Pentecost, "[Daniel](#)," in *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures*, ed. J. F. Walvoord and R. B. Zuck, vol. 1 (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1985), 1363.

has been since there was a nation [of Israel] till that time. But at that time your people [Israel] shall be delivered, everyone whose name shall be found written in the book.

***Daniel 12:7** 7 And I heard the man clothed in linen [Jesus], who was above the waters of the stream. He raised his right hand and his left hand toward heaven and swore by him who lives forever [the Father] that it would be for a time, times, and half a time [3 1/2 years], and that when the shattering of the power of the holy people comes to an end all these things would be finished.

Daniel 12:10-12 10 Many shall purify themselves and make themselves white and be refined, but the wicked shall act wickedly. And none of the wicked shall understand, but those who are wise shall understand. 11 And from the time that the regular burnt offering is taken away and the abomination that makes desolate is set up, there shall be 1,290 days [3 1/2 years plus 30 days]. 12 Blessed is he who waits and arrives at the 1,335 days [45 more days].

Joel 2:1-2 1 Blow a trumpet in Zion. Sound an alarm on my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of Yahweh is coming. It is near, 2 a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness! Like blackness there is spread upon the mountains a great and powerful people. Their like has never been before, nor will be again after them through the years of all generations.

***Joel 2:30-3:2** 30 And I [Yahweh] will show wonders in the heavens and on the earth, blood, fire, and columns of smoke. 31 The sun shall be turned to darkness, and the moon to blood, before the great and awesome day of Yahweh comes. 32 And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls on the name of Yahweh shall be saved. For in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be those who escape, as Yahweh has said, and among the survivors shall be those whom Yahweh calls. 1 For behold, in those days and at that time, when I restore the fortunes of Judah and Jerusalem, 2 I will gather all the nations and bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat. And I will enter into judgment with them there, on behalf of my people and my heritage Israel....

Joel 3:12-16 12 Let the nations stir themselves up and come up to the Valley of Jehoshaphat, for there I [Yahweh] will sit to judge all the surrounding nations. 13 Put in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe. Go in, tread, for the winepress is full. The vats overflow, for their evil is great. 14 Multitudes, multitudes, in the valley of decision! For the day of Yahweh is near in the valley of decision. 15 The sun and the moon are darkened, and the stars withdraw their shining. 16 Yahweh roars from Zion, and utters his voice from Jerusalem, and the heavens and the earth quake. But Yahweh is a refuge to his people, a stronghold to the people of Israel.

Amos 5:18-20 18 Woe to you who desire the day of Yahweh! Why would you have the day of Yahweh? It is darkness, and not light, 19 as if a man fled from a lion, and a bear met him, or went into the house and leaned his hand against the wall, and a serpent bit him. 20 Is not the day of Yahweh darkness, and not light, and gloom with no brightness in it?

Zephaniah 1:14-18 14 The great day of Yahweh is near, near and hastening fast. The sound of the day of Yahweh is bitter. The mighty man cries aloud there. 15 A day of wrath is that day, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, 16 a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. 17 I will bring distress/fear/anxiety/worry/depression/harassment (צר) on mankind, so that they shall walk like the blind, because they have sinned against Yahweh. Their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung. 18 Neither their silver nor their gold shall be able to deliver them on the day of the wrath of Yahweh. In the fire of his jealousy, all the earth shall be consumed, for a full and sudden end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

Zechariah 14:1-3 1 Behold, a day is coming for Yahweh, when the spoil taken from you will be divided in your midst. 2 For I will gather all the nations against Jerusalem to battle, and the city shall be taken, the houses plundered, and the women raped. Half of the city shall go out into exile, but the rest of the people shall not be cut off from the city.

***Matthew 24:9-28** 9 Then [in the tribulation] they will deliver you [tribulation believers] up to tribulation (θλιψις) and put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations for my name's sake. 10 And then many will fall away, betray one another, and hate one another. 11 And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray. 12 And because the lawlessness (την ανομιαν) will be increased, the love of many will grow cold. 13 But the one who endures to the end will be saved. 14 And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come. 15 So when you see the abomination of desolation spoken of by the prophet Daniel [Da 9:27], standing in the holy place (let the reader understand), 16 then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. 17 Let the one who is on the housetop not go down to take what is in his house, 18 and let the one who is in the field not turn back to take his cloak. 19 And alas for women who are pregnant and for those who are nursing infants in those days! 20 Pray that your flight may not be in winter or on a Sabbath. 21 For then there will be great tribulation (θλιψις μεγάλη), such as has not been from the beginning of the world until now, no, and never will be. 22 And if those days had not been cut short, no human being would be saved. But for the sake of the elect [tribulation believers] those days will be cut short. 23 Then if anyone says to you, Look, here is the Messiah! or There he is! do not believe it. 24 For false messiahs and false prophets will arise and perform great signs and wonders, so as to lead astray, if possible, even the elect. 25 See, I have told you beforehand. 26 So, if they say to you, Look, he is in the wilderness, do not go out. If they say, Look, he is in the inner rooms, do not believe it.⁷ 27 For as the lightning comes from the east and shines as far as the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. 28 Wherever the corpse is, there the vultures will gather.

Mark 13:14-27 14 But when you see the abomination of desolation standing where he ought not to be (let the reader understand), then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. 15 Let the one who is on the housetop not go down, nor enter his house, to take anything out, 16 and let the one who is in the field not turn back to take his cloak. 17 And alas for women who

⁷ These are very important instructions for tribulation believers.

are pregnant and for those who are nursing infants in those days! 18 Pray that it may not happen in winter. 19 For in those days there will be such tribulation/trouble/distress/oppression/affliction (θλίψις) as has not been from the beginning of the creation that God created until now, and never will be. 20 And if the Lord [Jesus] had not cut short the days, no human being would be saved. But for the sake of the elect [tribulational believers], whom he chose, he shortened the days. 21 And then if anyone says to you, Look, here is the Messiah! or Look, there he is! do not believe it. 22 For false messiahs and false prophets will arise and perform signs and wonders, to lead astray, if possible, the elect [tribulational believers]. 23 But be on guard. I have told you all things beforehand. 24 But in those days, after that tribulation (θλίψις), the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, 25 and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. 26 And then they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. 27 And then he will send out the angels and gather his elect [all believers of all time] from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

Luke 21:5-36⁸ 5 And while some were speaking of the temple, how it was adorned with noble stones and offerings, [Jesus] said, 6 As for these things that you see, the days will come when there will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down [ad 70]. 7 And they asked him, Teacher, when will these things be, and what will be the sign when these things are about to take place? 8 And he said, See that you are not led astray. For many will come in my name saying, I am he! and, The time is at hand! Do not go after them. 9 And when you hear of wars and tumults, do not be terrified, for these things must first take place [in the church age], but the end [times] will not be at once. 10 Then he said to them, Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom [in the tribulation]. 11 There will be [in the tribulation] great earthquakes, and in various places famines and pestilences. And there will be terrors and great signs from heaven. 12 But before (πρό) all this [the tribulation] they will lay their hands on you and persecute you [in the church age], delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors for my name's sake. 13 This will be your [church age] opportunity to testify. 14 Settle it therefore in your minds not to meditate beforehand how to answer, 15 for I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which none of your adversaries will be able to withstand or contradict. 16 You will be delivered up even by parents, brothers, relatives, and friends, and some of you they will put to death. 17 You will be hated by all for my name's sake. 18 But not a hair of your head will [ultimately] perish. 19 By your endurance you will gain your lives [in the Messianic kingdom and beyond]. 20 But when [in the great tribulation] you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation has come near. 21 Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, and let those who are inside the city depart, and let not those who are out in the country enter it, 22 for these are days of vengeance/punishment/dispensing of justice/rectifying wrong (ἐκδίκησις), to fulfil all that is written. 23 Alas for women who are pregnant and for those who are nursing infants in those days! For there will be great distress/trouble/calamity/pressure (ἀνάγκη μεγάλη) upon the earth/people/region/land (γῆ) and wrath (ὀργή) against this people [Israel]. 24 They will fall by the edge of the sword and be led captive into all nations (εἰς τὰ ἔθνη πάντα), and Jerusalem will be trampled underfoot by the nations (ἔθνῶν), until the defined periods/fixed times of the nations (καιροὶ ἔθνῶν) [that

⁸ The rapture is not in view in this passage.

began in 586 bc) are fulfilled. 25 And there will be [in the tribulation] signs in sun, moon, and stars, and on the earth distress/anxiety/dismay/anguish (συνοχή) of nations (ἔθνῶν) in perplexity (ἀπορία) because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, 26 people fainting with fear and with foreboding/expectation (προσδοκία) of what is coming on the world. For the [Satanic/demonic] powers (δυνάμεις) of the heavens will be shaken [at the midpoint of the tribulation]. 27 And then [at the end of the tribulation] they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. 28 Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near. 29 And he told them a parable: Look at the fig tree, and all the trees. 30 As soon as they come out in leaf, you see for yourselves and know that the summer is already near. 31 So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the [future] kingdom of God is near (ἐγγύς). 32 Truly, I say to you, this generation/ethnicity (γενεά)⁹ [tribulational generation or ethnic Israel] will not pass away until all (πᾶς) has taken place. 33 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. 34 But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation, drunkenness, and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap. 35 For it will come upon all who dwell/stay/live/reside/settle (κάθημαι)¹⁰ on the face of the whole earth (ἐπὶ πάντας τοὺς καθημένους ἐπὶ πρόσωπον πάσης τῆς γῆς). 36 But stay awake at all times, praying that you [tribulational believers] may have strength to escape/avoid (ἐκφεύγω) all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man [Jesus].

1 Thessalonians 1:10 10 ...And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who rescues/saves/delivers/preserves (ρύομαι) us out of the coming wrath (ἐκ τῆς ὀργῆς τῆς ἐρχομένης).

1 Thessalonians 5:1-4 1 Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you have no need to have anything written to you. 2 For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. 3 While people are saying, There is peace and security, then sudden destruction will come upon them as labour pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. 4 But you are not in darkness, brothers and sisters, for that day to surprise you like a thief.

***2 Thessalonians 2:1-12** 1 Now concerning the coming (παρουσία) of our Lord Jesus Messiah and our being gathered together (ἐπισυναγωγή)¹¹ to him, we ask you, brothers and sisters, 2 not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by a spirit or a spoken word, or a letter seeming to be from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord [Jesus] has come. 3 Let no one deceive you in any way. For that day [the day of Jesus' second coming] will not come, unless the rebellion (ἀποστασία) comes first, and the man of lawlessness [Antichrist] is revealed/disclosed/brought to light (ἀποκαλύπτω), the son of destruction, 4 who opposes and exalts himself against every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat [at the midpoint of the tribulation] in the temple of God [in Jerusalem], proclaiming himself to

⁹ “Jesus looks upon the whole contemp. generation of Israel as a uniform mass confronting him” (BDAG, 191).

¹⁰ Here is the technical phrase “earth-dwellers” that we see so prominently in Revelation.

¹¹ “...[A] gathering together to or toward at some location, *meeting*, of a Christian group...the action of ἐπισυνάγεσθαι, *assembling*” (BDAG, 382).

be God. 5 Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you these things?¹² 6 And you know what [the Holy Spirit in the church] is restraining him [Antichrist] now so that he may be revealed (ἀποκαλύπτω) in his time [at the beginning of the tribulation]. 7 For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work. Only he [the Spirit in the church] who now restrains it [the Antichrist rebellion] will do so until he is out of the way. 8 And then [as the tribulation begins] the lawless one will be revealed (ἀποκαλύπτω), whom the Lord Jesus will kill [at the end of the tribulation] with the breath of his mouth and bring to nothing by the appearance of his coming (παρουσία). 9 The coming (παρουσία) of the lawless one is by the activity of Satan with all power, false signs, and wonders, 10 and with all wicked deception for those who are perishing, because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. 11 Therefore God sends them a strong delusion, so that they may believe what is false, 12 in order that all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

Revelation 3:10 10 Because you have kept my word about patient endurance, I will keep you from the hour of trial (τῆς ὥρας τοῦ πειρασμοῦ) that is coming on the whole world, to try (πειράζω) those who dwell on the earth (τοὺς κατοικοῦντας ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς).¹³

Revelation 6:12-17 12 When [Jesus] opened the sixth seal, I looked, and behold, there was a great earthquake, and the sun became black as sackcloth, the full moon became like blood, 13 and the stars of the sky fell to the earth as the fig tree sheds its winter fruit when shaken by a gale. 14 The sky vanished like a scroll that is being rolled up, and every mountain and island was removed from its place. 15 Then the kings of the earth, the great ones, the generals, the rich, and the powerful, and everyone, slave and free, hid themselves in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains, 16 calling to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us and hide us from the face of him who is seated on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb, 17 for the great day of their wrath (ἡ ἡμέρα ἡ μεγάλη τῆς ὀργῆς αὐτῶν) has come, and who can stand?

***Revelation 7:13-17** 13 Then one of the elders addressed me [John] saying, Who are these [the great multitude], clothed in white robes, and from where have they come? 14 I said to him, Sir, you know. And he said to me, These are the ones [believers] coming out of the great tribulation (τῆς θλίψεως τῆς μεγάλης). They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. 15 Therefore they are before the throne of God and serve him day and night in his temple. And he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence. 16 They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore. The sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. 17 For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.

***Revelation 11:1-7** 1 Then I [John] was given a measuring rod like a staff, and I was told, Rise and measure the temple of God, the altar, and those who worship there, 2 but do not measure the court outside the temple. Leave that out, for it is given over to the nations, and they will trample the holy city [Jerusalem] for forty-two months [3 1/2 years]. 3 And I will grant authority to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for 1,260 days [3 1/2 years],

¹² Paul taught the Thessalonians about the end times during the one month he was with them.

¹³ This is a technical phrase for tribulational unbelievers.

clothed in sackcloth. 4 These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands that stand before the Lord of the earth. 5 And if anyone would harm them, fire pours from their mouth and consumes their foes. If anyone would harm them, this is how he is doomed to be killed. 6 They have the power to shut the sky, that no rain may fall during the days of their prophesying, and they have power over the waters to turn them into blood and to strike the earth with every kind of plague, as often as they desire. 7 And when they have finished their testimony, the beast [Antichrist] that rises from the bottomless pit will make war on them, conquer them, and kill them....

***Revelation 11:15-18** 15 Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven saying, The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Messiah, and he shall reign forever and ever. 16 And the twenty-four elders who sit on their thrones before God fell on their faces and worshiped God 17 saying, We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, who is and who was, for you have taken your great power and begun to reign. 18 The nations raged, but your wrath (ἡ ὀργή σου) came, and the time for the dead to be judged, and for rewarding your servants, the prophets and saints, and those who fear your name, both small and great, and for destroying the destroyers of the earth.¹⁴

***Revelation 12:5-17** 5 She [Israel] gave birth to a male child [the church], one who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron, but her child [the church] was caught up to God and to his throne, 6 and the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, in which she is to be nourished for 1,260 days [3 1/2 years, the great tribulation]. 7 Now war arose in heaven, Michael and his angels fighting against the dragon [Satan]. And the dragon and his angels fought back, 8 but he was defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. 9 And the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him [at the midpoint of the tribulation]. 10 And I heard a loud voice in heaven saying, Now the salvation, the power, and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Messiah have come, for the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God. 11 And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death. 12 Therefore, rejoice, O heavens and you who dwell in them! But woe to you, O earth and sea, for the devil has come down to you in great wrath/displeasure/anger/rage/indignation (θυμὸν μέγαν), because he knows that his time is short (ὀλίγος)! 13 And when the dragon saw that he had been thrown down to the earth, he pursued the woman [Israel] who had given birth to the male child [the church]. 14 But the woman [Israel] was given the two wings of the great eagle so that she might fly from the serpent [Satan] into the wilderness, to the place where she is to be nourished for a time, and times, and half a time [3 1/2 years]. 15 The serpent poured water like a river out of his mouth after the woman, to sweep her away with a flood. 16 But the earth came to the help of the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed the river that the dragon had poured from his mouth. 17 Then the dragon became furious with the woman [Israel] and went off to make war on the rest of her offspring [tribulational believers], on those who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus. And he stood on the sand of the sea.

¹⁴ This is a great description of “the day of Yahweh.”

***Revelation 13** 1 And I saw a beast [Antichrist] rising out of the sea, with ten horns and seven heads, with ten diadems on its horns and blasphemous names on its heads. 2 And the beast that I saw was like a leopard. Its feet were like a bear's, and its mouth was like a lion's mouth. And to it the dragon [Satan] gave his power, his throne, and great authority. 3 One of its heads seemed to have a mortal wound, but its mortal wound was healed, and the whole earth marvelled/were extraordinarily impressed/wondered/were astonished (θαυμάζω) as they followed the beast. 4 And they worshiped (προσκυνέω)¹⁵ the dragon [Satan], for he had given his authority to the beast, and they worshiped (προσκυνέω) the beast saying, Who is like the beast, and who can fight against it? 5 And the beast was given a mouth uttering haughty and blasphemous words, and it was allowed to exercise authority for forty-two months [3 1/2 years]. 6 It opened its mouth to utter blasphemies against God, blaspheming his name and his dwelling, that is, those who dwell in heaven. 7 Also it was allowed to make war on the saints and to conquer them. And authority was given it over every tribe, people, language, and nation, 8 and all who dwell on earth will worship (προσκυνέω) it, everyone whose name has not been written before the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who was slain. 9 If anyone has an ear, let him hear: 10 If anyone is to be taken captive, to captivity he goes. If anyone is to be slain with the sword, with the sword must he be slain. Here is a call for the endurance and faith of the [tribulational] saints. 11 Then I saw another beast [False Prophet] rising out of the earth. It had two horns like a lamb and it spoke like a dragon. 12 It exercises all the authority of the first beast [Antichrist] in its presence, and makes the earth and its inhabitants worship the first beast, whose mortal wound was healed. 13 It performs great signs, even making fire come down from heaven to earth in front of people, 14 and by the signs that it is allowed to work in the presence of the beast [Antichrist] it deceives those who dwell on earth, telling them to make an image for the beast [Antichrist] that was wounded by the sword and yet lived. 15 And it was allowed to give breath to the image of the beast, so that the image of the beast [Antichrist] might even speak and might cause those who would not worship (προσκυνέω) the image of the beast [Antichrist] to be slain. 16 Also it causes all, both small and great, both rich and poor, both free and slave, to be marked on the right hand or the forehead, 17 so that no one can buy or sell unless he has the mark, that is, the name of the beast or the number of its name. 18 This calls for wisdom (σοφία). Let the one who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man, and his number is 666.

Revelation 15:1 1 Then I saw another sign in heaven, great and amazing, seven angels with seven plagues, which are the last, for with them the wrath of God (ὁ θυμὸς τοῦ θεοῦ) is finished/completed/brought to an end (τελέω, aor.).

¹⁵ “[T]o express in attitude or gesture one’s complete dependence on or submission to a high authority figure, (fall down and) worship, do obeisance to, prostrate oneself before, do reverence to, welcome respectfully...” (BDAG, 882).