WHERE ARE WE IN THE ENDTIME TIMETABLE?



THE COMING MARK and THE BEAST

Basic and common-sense commentaries on current events and prophecy.

by Gaetan

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The last five years have been a *"time of trouble"* for many people around the world, and there is no need to convince anyone that our day to day lives have changed.

It's not just the recent pandemic; globalization, economic shifts, new technologies, gender issues, warfare, and natural disasters are all contributing to a rapidly changing landscape. As Bob Dylan famously sang during the troubled 1960s, "The Times They Are a-Changin."

Indeed, change is occurring daily, bringing us closer to Christ's Return.

HOW LONG, O LORD, HOW LONG?

--BEFORE THE END?

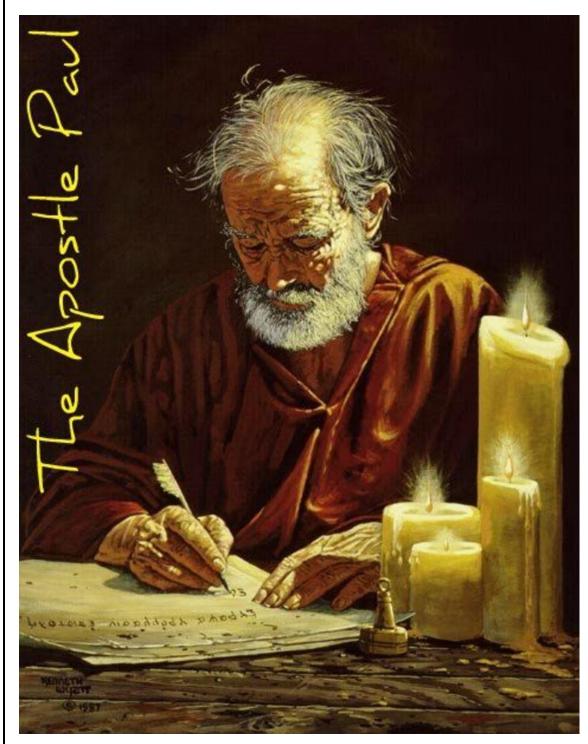
We Christians seek to understand the significance of current events as they relate to the prophetic timetable for Christ's Second Coming. In this study, we will explore where we are in the End of the Age schedule.

Christ informed His disciples that the signs indicating the nearness of the End would include a combination of wars, earthquakes, famines, and plagues *(Matthew 24:6-8)*. We have witnessed

these general signs ever since Jesus was on Earth, for the past 2,000 years. He stated that these are only the beginning. While they are just the start, they have certainly progressed and intensified, much like the labor pains experienced by a woman giving birth. The early Christians believed that Jesus would return soon, that is, possibly within their own lifetime. The Apostle Paul had to write to the



churches to clarify that certain events needed to occur first, as outlined in the following verses:



2 Thessalonians 2:1-4, 8-9 (NKJV)

¹Now, brethren, concerning the COMING OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST and our gathering together to Him, we ask you, ²not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of Christ had come. ³Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come

- unless the FALLING AWAY comes first,
- and the MAN OF SIN is REVEALED, the son of perdition,

⁴who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.

⁸And then the lawless one (the Antichrist) will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming.

⁹The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders...

The apostle Paul assured believers that the coming of the Lord wouldn't happen unless there was a falling away first AND that the man of sin was revealed, known also as the Antichrist (AC for short). This evil man will oppose and exalt himself above God, will sit in God's temple and pretend to be God himself.

We can confidently say that we are currently witnessing a decline in faith in God, particularly in the Western, materialistic, and secular world. However, this "man of sin" has not yet emerged on the world stage (as of February 2025). Although he has not yet been revealed, he may already be scheming and planning his rise to power behind the scenes. Paul explained:

2 Thessalonians 2:6-8 You'll also remember that I told you the 'Antichrist' is being held back until just the right time. That doesn't mean that the spirit of anarchy is not now at work. It is, secretly and underground. But the time will come when the 'Antichrist' will no longer be held back, but will be let loose. (The Message Bible)



According to scriptures in the books of Daniel, Thessalonians and Revelation, the AC needs to appear first before the Second Coming can happen. Let's look at Revelation 13 for a description of his characteristics:

Revelation 13:1-8

¹And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea...

²...and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority.

³...and all the world wondered after the beast.

⁴And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?

⁵And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months.

⁶And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name...

⁷And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations.

⁸And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him...



According to those verses, ...



• the dragon, Satan, would give the AC power to establish a worldwide empire

• all that dwell upon the earth would wonder after the Beast and worship him

• the AC would have a big mouth, speaking blasphemy against God for 42 months

• the AC would persecute people of faith

As of now, in 2025, there is no established one-world government or prominent world leader. It hasn't happened yet, but we will discuss this more later on.

During the pandemic, amid the global and unrelenting push for vaccination, some interpreted that it could be related to the Mark of the Beast, even though the Beast itself was not yet present or visible. Let's examine what the Scriptures say regarding the Mark:

Revelation 13:11-18

¹¹Then I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth... And he spoke as a dragon.

¹²And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast...

¹⁴And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should

make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live...

¹⁵And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed.

¹⁶And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads:

¹⁷And that no man might buy or sell, save



he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

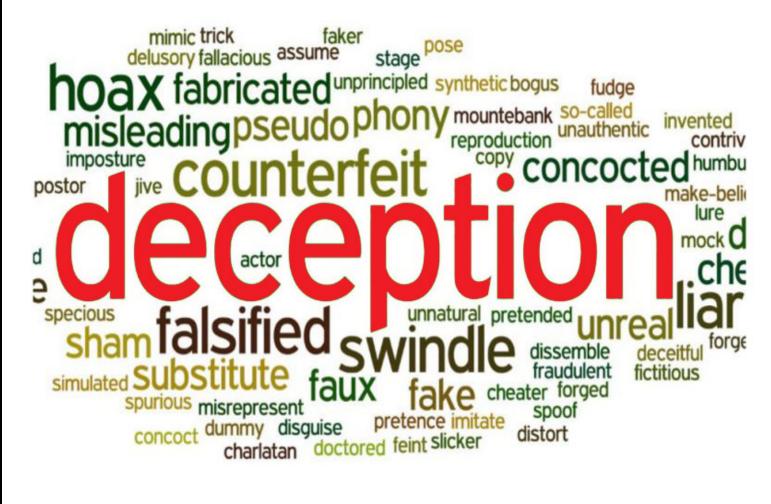
¹⁸Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six.

According to these verses there is a second beast, the False Prophet, who promotes the AC:

- he is inspired by the dragon, Satan
- he causes the earth to worship the first Beast via his image
- he is a deceiver and performs miracles
- he causes those who would not worship the image of the Beast to be killed
- he causes all to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads



According to Scripture, the Mark of the Beast is associated with the acceptance and worship of the Beast. Since there is currently no individual who fits the description of the Beast or the False Prophet, along with the image of the Beast, we can safely conclude that the Mark is not yet present. Some are wondering if the False Prophet could initiate the Mark of the Beast before the appearance of the Antichrist. After all, the Bible clearly states that both are master deceivers. We might speculate that, before revealing themselves to the public, they and their followers are preparing and making plans *"in the shadows,"* secretly. This is a possibility.



2 Thessalonians 2:9-10 Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders,

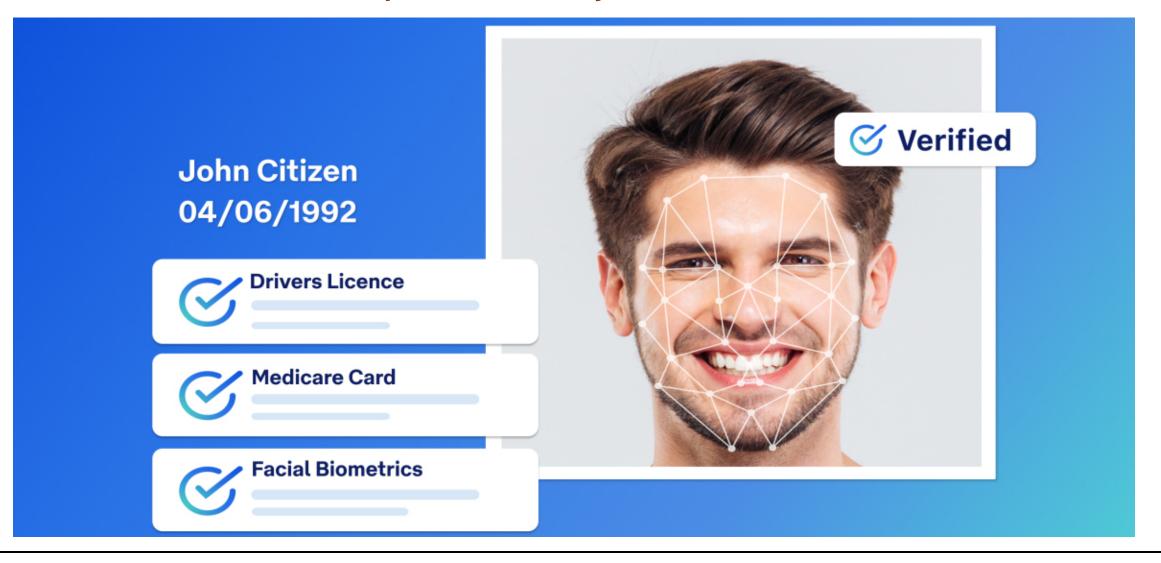
And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

Revelation 19:20 And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. Most likely, there cannot be a Mark of the Beast without the presence of the Beast and the False Prophet. This is still a future event. While it is not yet clear what form the Mark will take, it will become easier to discern as the time approaches.



I believe that the persistent and relentless push for the injections during the pandemic, carried out in a seemingly gradual and coordinated manner, was likely a precursor and preparation for the infamous Mark of the Beast. It certainly provided us with a glimpse of things to come. We observed many countries implementing health passes or passports that significantly restricted certain freedoms for those who refused to comply.

Politicians and the media exerted considerable pressure on people to accept the shots. Historically, totalitarian regimes have always used fear as a tool for control, and the Beast and his False Prophet will likely do the same. If implemented internationally, a global digital ID that includes not only personal information but also access to bank accounts—especially as cash is phased out in favor of a global digital currency—would significantly advance the AC's plan for control and lay the groundwork for the Mark of the Beast. The European Union recently passed into law the EU Digital Identity Wallets and India, China and many other countries are testing and going that direction. In my opinion, it is just a matter of time before it is imposed universally.



In light of today's global upheavals and confusion, it is natural to ask, "Is this the beginning of the end as prophesied in the Bible?" However, as Christians, we need not be uncertain or surprised; we understand from Scripture that the state of the world will not improve but will worsen until the return of Jesus Christ.



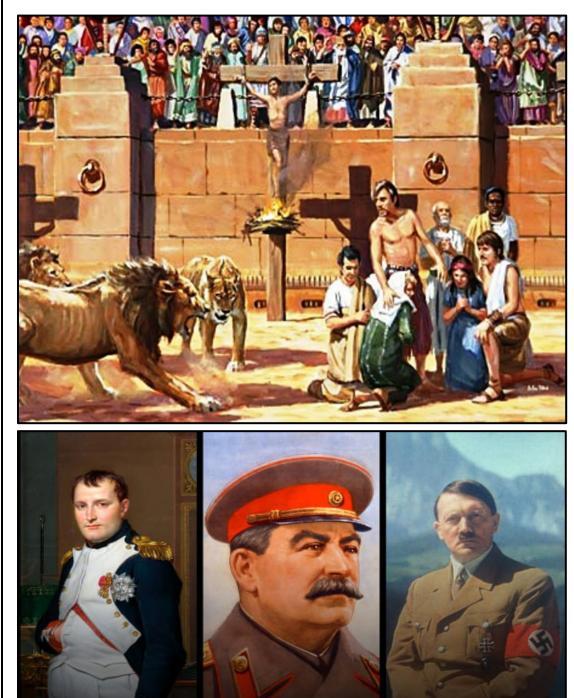
Matthew 24:12 And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.

Matthew 24:24 For there shall arise... false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.

2 Timothy 3:1 This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.

2 Timothy 3:13 But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.

It is important to acknowledge that each generation has faced its own distinct challenges, struggles, and growing pains. Let us examine history and some of the significant events of the past when it may have seemed to believers that the end was near:



If we examine history and some of the major events of the past, we can identify many instances when the world and/or Christianity faced significant challenges.

In the first few centuries following Christ's arrival (approximately 60 to 300 AD), there were ten major Roman persecutions against Christians. In the 7th century, the invading Islamic army spread rapidly, conquering a large part of the world and appearing unstoppable, threatening even Europe.

Later, some popes during the Middle Ages became worldly and cruel leaders, waging several persecutions against groups of genuine believers. Additionally, figures such as Genghis Khan, Napoleon, Hitler, Stalin, Mao Zedong, and others threatened to conquer the world during their respective eras and some even tried to wipe out religious faith altogether.

Believers living during those times must have believed that the Great Tribulation period had surely begun, that the end was near, or that some of those emperors and dictators were the very Antichrist prophesied in Scripture. One might ask, "If there have always been terrible wars, persecutions, and dictators throughout history, why should we believe that today's global crises are any different, or that they could lead to the coming of the Antichrist and the end of the world?" Let us examine how the present state of

the world differs from past global crises. We have today:

• The tremendous power of the official media in the hands of a few, working closely with their governments, <u>daily</u> molding and influencing minds.

• The growing trend toward globalization under the United Nations and its official partners, promoting their goals such as the Great Reset, the 4th Industrial Revolution, Agenda 2030, Transhumanism, 15 minutes cities etc., etc.



• The push for digital ID and digital currency for a cashless society – powerful tools for global control and implementation of the Mark of the Beast.

• Tremendous new technologies and infrastructure to make it all possible such as the recent development of AI and the soon coming 6G connectivity.



Many of the above factors are unique to our era; they were not present in the past. The old **Roman Empire, the Muslim** Empire, the medieval popes, and leaders like Napoleon, Hitler, and Stalin all governed limited geographic areas. Without the technological tools available today, they could only exert control over parts of the world. The capacity for global control is a distinctive characteristic of modern times.

When we consider this in relation to biblical prophecies about the coming Antichrist and his worldwide rule, it should resonate with all believers. Never before have the conditions of the world been so conducive to the rise of a totalitarian global leader. Once again, the combination of a global digital ID and a global digital currency creates the potential for complete surveillance of every individual on the planet, allowing for the monitoring of their movements, actions, activities, transactions, interactions with others, and more—effectively eliminating any privacy and leaving nowhere to hide. Never before in human history have all the necessary tools for true global control been as readily available as they are today.

So where are we in the End of the Age Timetable?



I believe that we are currently witnessing, at this point in history, the process of deception, conditioning, and preparation necessary for the emergence of a one-world government and the

revelation of a supreme leader, the End Time Beast, the Antichrist.

If we examine history, we can see that significant changes on the world stage have often been preceded by major crises, such as Pearl Harbor, the Gulf of Tonkin incident, 9/11, and October 7, to name just a few. These crises were pivotal in prompting the United States to enter World War II, the Vietnam War, and the Iraq War, as well as in Israel's actions in Gaza.

In my opinion, some form of crisis will likely be used to accelerate the complete implementation of a digital ID, the elimination of cash, and the introduction of digital currency, along with a social credit system, all



of which would greatly facilitate the likelihood of the Mark of the Beast, when

"...no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark". Revelation 13:16-18



The strategy seems to be one of problem, reaction, and solution. The phrases "Never let a good crisis go to waste" and "Out of chaos, order" reflect how unscrupulous individuals and governments often exploit crises to achieve their goals, and the Antichrist will likely employ similar tactics.

Jesus scolded the religious leaders of His day for not knowing the signs of the prophetic 'times' in which they were living.

"Ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky and of the earth; but how is it that ye do not discern this time?" Luke 12:56

Because of their failing in this matter, they missed the foretold coming of their own Messiah. Therefore, we believe it is essential for God's people to remain vigilant regarding current world events, so they can accurately align them with the appropriate prophetic interpretations. This awareness will enable them to understand the direction in which things are heading and to be prepared for the future, both spiritually and practically. As Paul said: "But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. Therefore, let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober." 1Thessalonians 5:4-6

At the same time, we, as followers of Jesus, should stay focused on reaching the lost, feeding His sheep, and strengthening ourselves and others. Freely we have received much truth, freely we must also share it with others. The Lord is undoubtedly using this uneasy time to bring others to Him, reminding people of the shortness and fragility of life, and causing them to seek answers. Now more than ever is the time to keep on loving God and others, to share the Gospel and teach others how to live the teachings of Jesus. If we are



faithful to do these things, we will be prepared for whatever comes.



If you haven't done so yet, please pray this simple prayer:

"Jesus, please forgive all my faults and sins. I believe that You are the Son of God and that You died for me. I invite You into my heart and life. Thank you for your gift of eternal life and please fill me with Your Holy Spirit so I can change my ways and make a difference for good in others' lives. And help me to read and understand Your Word as I want to know You better and follow You more closely. Amen."

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