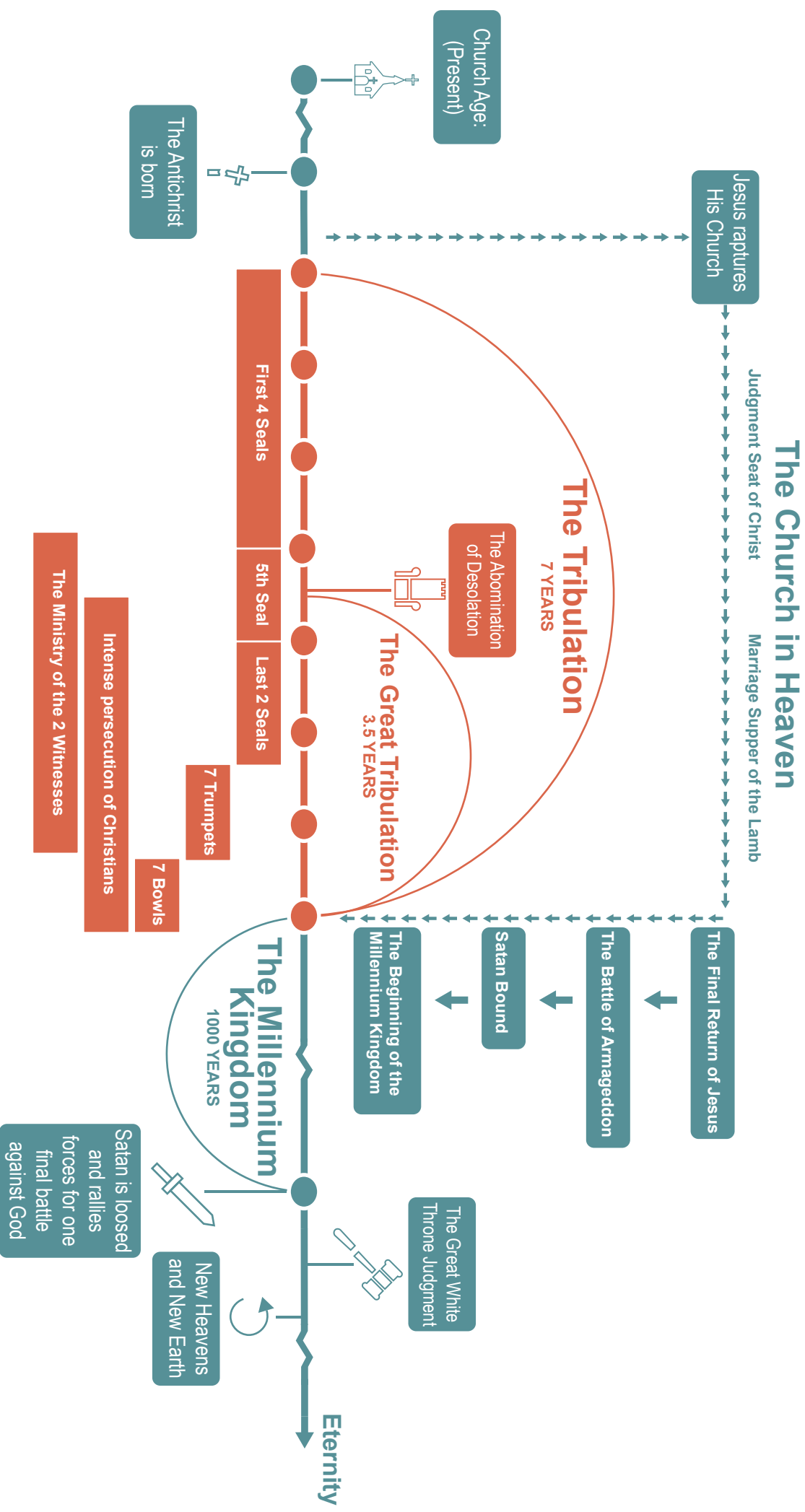




# ONE POSSIBLE TIMELINE OF THE END TIMES



The end times are confusing even for Bible scholars. This timeline is approximate and is based on the authors' interpretation of Scripture. We know these events will take place in the future, however we cannot be sure as to when they will occur.



# JESUS' RETURN

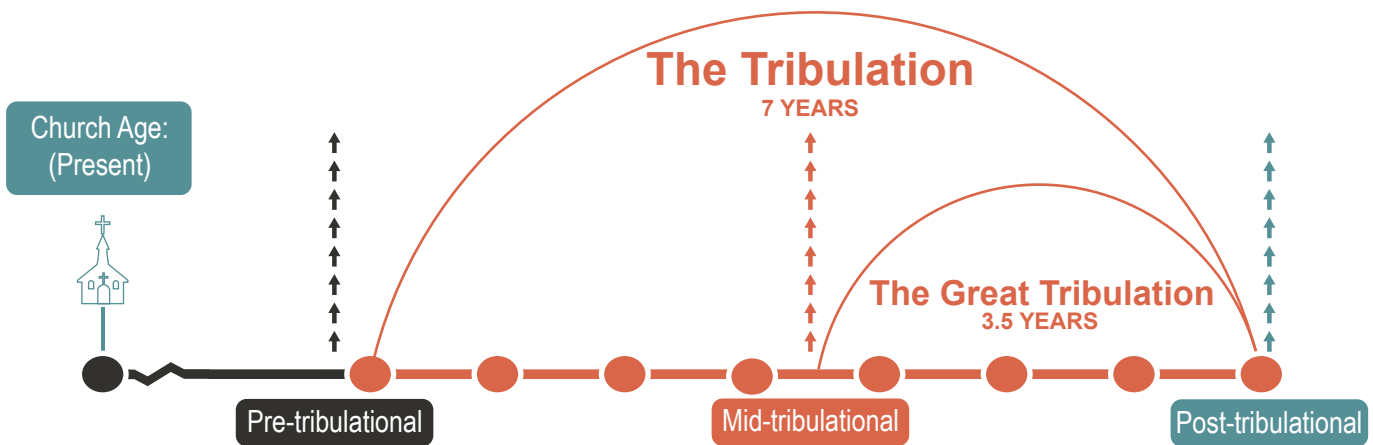
Jesus will return to the earth to carry off or “rapture” His Church.

## How will the rapture occur?

“For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever.”  
*1 Thessalonians 4:16-17*

## When will the rapture occur?

The rapture will occur suddenly (1 Corinthians 15:52) and without warning (Matthew 24:42), not even the incarnate Jesus knew when the rapture would occur (Matthew 24:36). Believers usually speculate when the rapture will occur in relation to the tribulation. Some believe that Jesus will rapture His Church prior to the tribulation, others believe the rapture will be in the middle of the tribulation, and others believe it will be at the very end of the tribulation, but we cannot know for sure.



	Support	Objections
PRE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revelation 3:10 and 1 Thessalonians 5:9 says that Christ will deliver us from God’s wrath</li> <li>• The rapture will occur suddenly, without notice</li> <li>• The tribulation focuses on Israel and not the Church</li> <li>• The purpose of the tribulation is for God to pour out His wrath on sinful humanity and to give His creation one final chance to repent, it seems pointless for the Church to be present for this</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These verses are taken out of context and do not apply to the Church as a whole</li> <li>• The rapture can still occur suddenly regardless of when, in relation to the tribulation, it occurs</li> <li>• While it seems trivial for the Church to be present, that is not enough to prove Jesus will remove us</li> <li>• The tribulation will involve mass persecution of Christians, how will this be possible if Jesus raptures them prior to this period?</li> </ul>
MID	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Daniel describes a break at the middle of the tribulation (9:27)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Although Daniel does describe this break, there is no indication or evidence that the rapture will occur at this time</li> </ul>
POST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Bible never states that the Church will not be a part of the tribulation</li> <li>• There is no evidence that Jesus will return twice</li> <li>• The “loud trumpet call” which is used to rapture the Church and usher in the Millennium Kingdom seem to be the same event</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Church is not mentioned in the End Times, therefore it is unlikely that we’ll be present during it</li> <li>• The “loud trumpet call” could be used twice, once to rapture the Church and again to usher in the Millennium Kingdom</li> </ul>










# THE TRIBULATION: JUDGMENT

During the tribulation, God will send judgment onto the earth.








Humanity's corruption and evilness will be unparalleled during these days and they will receive the wrath of God as punishment and to lead them to repentance. Even with all the signs and warnings, mankind will continue to worship the Antichrist and curse God. In the book of Revelation, God's wrath is illustrated by:

## **7 seals, 7 trumpets, and 7 bowls**








### **7 seals**

-  white horse - the false promise of peace
-  red horse - the world will undergo intense warfare
-  black horse - the world will experience intense famine
-  pale horse - 1/4 of the global population will die
-  the Christian martyrs will seek divine judgment
-  there will be a great earthquake
-  the angels will be given the 7 trumpets

### **7 trumpets**

-  hail and fire mixed with blood
-  a huge mountain will be thrown into the sea
-  a great star will fall on 1/3 of the fresh water
-  a third of the sun, moon, and stars will turn dark
-  creatures will attack humanity and will cause great agony
-  100,000,000 soldiers that will kill 1/3 of mankind
-  God's temple in heaven will be opened

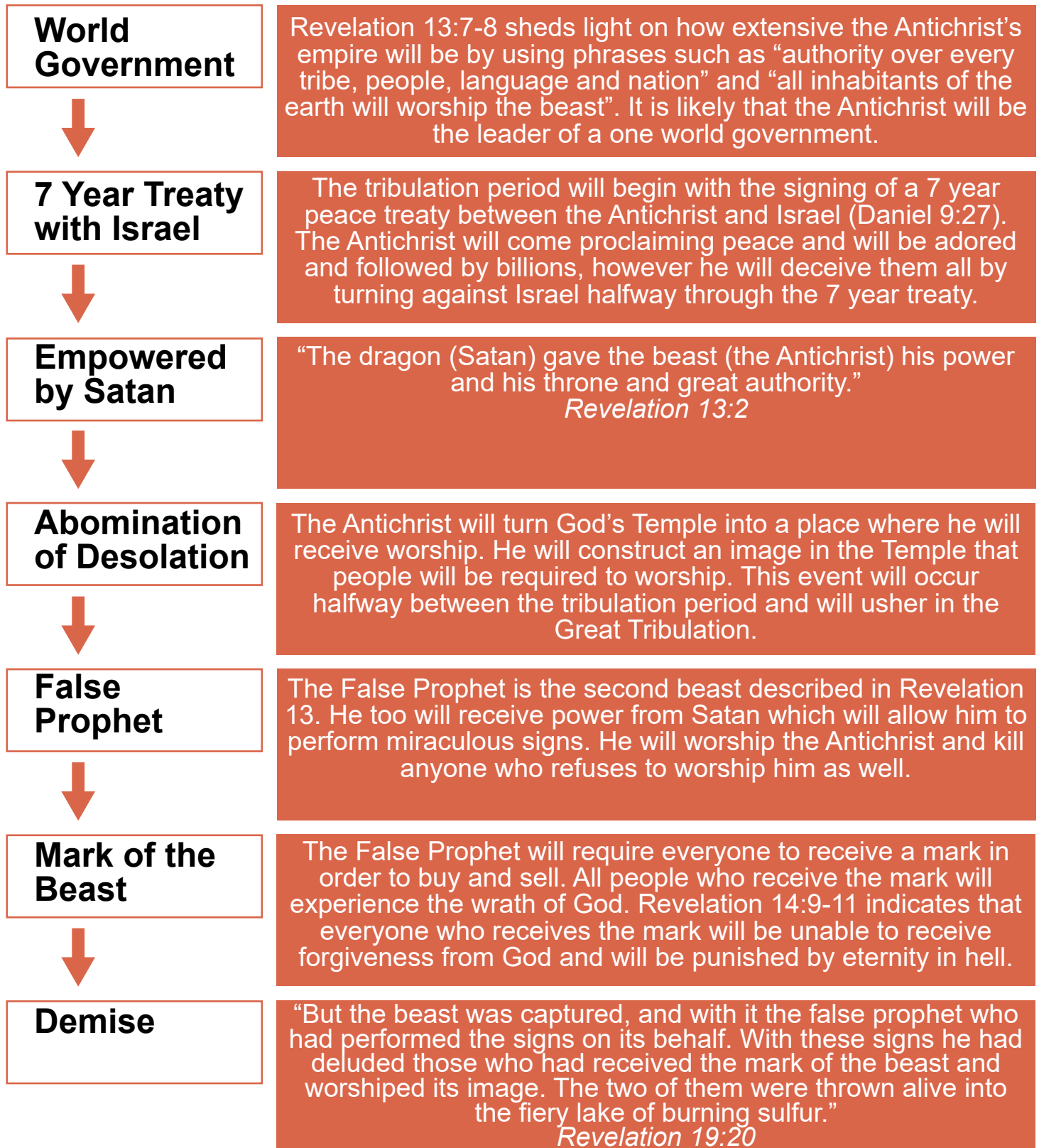
### **7 bowls**

-  sores will cover all who have the mark of the beast
-  the sea will turn to blood and kill all sea animals
-  the rivers and streams will turn to blood
-  the sun will scorch people with fire
-  the beast's kingdom will be plunged in darkness
-  demonic spirits will gather forces against God
-  Jerusalem will be split into 3 sections



# THE TRIBULATION: THE ANTICHRIST

*The Antichrist will rise to power before the tribulation period and reign during the tribulation. He will be empowered by Satan and cause mass persecution of Christians and Jews.*





# THE TRIBULATION: JESUS' FINAL RETURN

## Jesus Returns

1

At the end of the tribulation, Jesus will appear in the sky as a conquering king. He will be riding a white horse and will be wearing a robe that is dipped in blood. The armies of heaven will accompany Him.



## Armageddon

2

The Antichrist and the False Prophet will gather the people of the world to fight against Jesus, but they will be quickly defeated. The Antichrist and the False Prophet will then be thrown into the lake of burning sulfur.



## Satan is bound

3

Satan will be bound for 1000 years and placed in the Abyss. He will be released once more after the Millennium Kingdom in order to try to lead mankind in one final act of defiance against God, but he and his followers will be quickly defeated.



## Millennium

4

The Millennium Kingdom is a 1000 year period where Jesus will reign as King of the Earth. There is much speculation as to who will be present during this reign, but one thing is certain: Jesus will finally reign as King!



# THE MILLENNIUM KINGDOM



## Jesus' Reign

“...he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.”  
*Jeremiah 23:5*



## Christians

Christians will reign with Christ in the Millennium Kingdom with bodies that do not decay or die (Revelation 20:4-6).



## The Rest of Humanity

There will be unbelievers in the Millennium Kingdom. They will be able to reproduce, marry, and die. They can also receive salvation during this time.

### Amillennialism

This view holds that the Millennium Kingdom is not a literal 1000 year period. Proponents of this view believe that the Church Age is the Kingdom described in Revelation 20. This view fails to explain the chronological events in Revelation which places the Millennium after the tribulation in addition to the clear imagery of Jesus reigning on earth in bodily form during this period (Jeremiah 23:5-8).

### Postmillennialism

This view states that the 1000 year Millennium is not a literal 1000 year period but rather a long period of time. Proponents of this view believe that Jesus will return after a period of prosperity experienced by the Church. They also believe that people will become more and more righteous over time until Christianity is practiced by nearly all. This view goes against Biblical end times prophecy.

### Premillennialism

This view is the most common among Christians. Proponents of this view believe in a literal 1000 year period that occurs immediately after Jesus returns to put an end to the tribulation. This is the most literal interpretation of the passages regarding the Millennium Kingdom.



# THE FINAL JUDGMENT



## Satan is Loosed

“When the thousand years are over, Satan will be released from his prison.”

*Revelation 20:7*



## Satan Leads a Rebellion

“and will go out to deceive the nations in the four corners of the earth—Gog and Magog—and to gather them for battle. In number they are like the sand on the seashore.”

*Revelation 20:8*



## Satan is Defeated for Good

“And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever.”

*Revelation 20:10*



## The Great White Throne Judgment

“Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. The earth and the heavens fled from his presence, and there was no place for them. And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books. The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and each person was judged according to what they had done. Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death. Anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the lake of fire.”

*Revelation 20:11-15*



# THE RESTORATION OF CREATION

“Then I saw “a new heaven and a new earth,” for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. ‘He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death’ or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.”

*Revelation 21:1-4*



God’s original creation combined the Heavenly dimension and the Earthly dimension. These 2 dimensions were separated (and still are) as a result of sin. When God restores creation, He will reunite the 2 separate dimensions of Heaven and Earth. Eden will be restored and He will dwell among us again.

“In Genesis, God plants the Garden on Earth; in Revelation, he brings down the New Jerusalem, with a garden at its center, to the New Earth. In Eden, there’s no sin, death, or Curse; on the New Earth, there’s no *more* sin, death, or Curse. In Genesis, the Redeemer is promised; in Revelation, the Redeemer returns. Genesis tells the story of Paradise lost; Revelation tells the story of Paradise regained. In Genesis, humanity’s stewardship is squandered; in Revelation, humanity’s stewardship is triumphant, empowered by the human and divine King Jesus.”

*Randy Alcorn<sup>1</sup>*



# THE RESTORATION OF CREATION



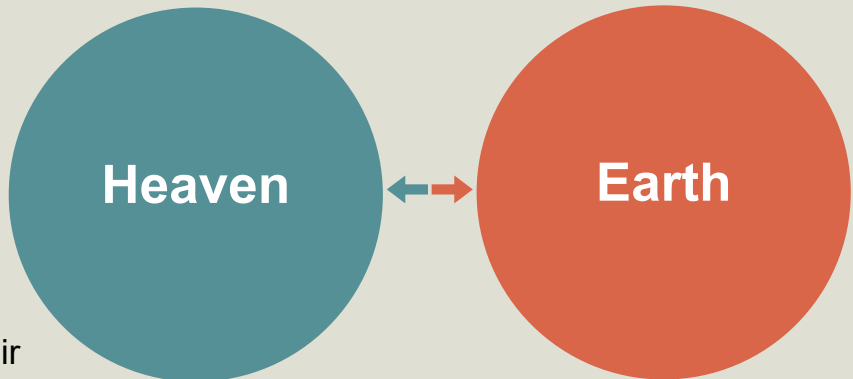
## Original Creation

Heaven and Earth are two dimensions which can overlap. Originally, in the Garden of Eden, Heaven and Earth overlapped which allowed God and man to have a close relationship.



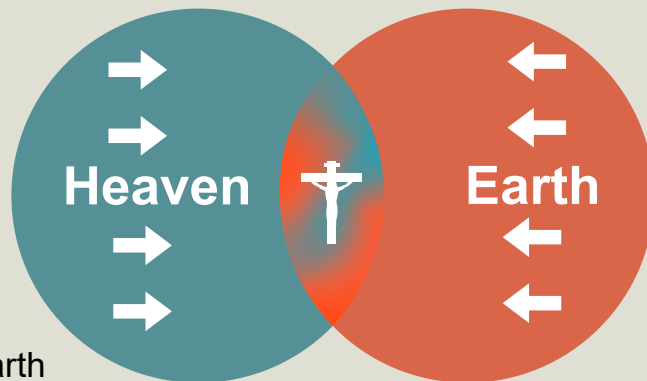
## After Sin

Sinful humanity on Earth was separated from God in Heaven. God still wanted to have a relationship with us, so He set up a system where people performed sacrifices in order to be temporarily covered from their sin and able to connect with God.



## After Jesus

God eventually sent Jesus to pay the penalty for our sins and to make us permanently covered from our sin and in constant relationship with God. Jesus' death allows us to connect with God while on Earth. The wheels were set in motion to reunite Heaven and Earth



## Eternity

At the end of the Millennium Kingdom, God will reconnect Heaven and Earth one final time. He will restore His creation and He will dwell among mankind for all eternity in the New Heaven and the New Earth!





# ETERNITY: FOR BELIEVERS AND UNBELIEVERS

- Eternal (Matthew 25:46)
- A real place (Luke 23:43)
- Free of pain and suffering (Revelation 21:4)
- Jesus will be the source of light in Heaven, not the sun, moon, or stars (Revelation 22:5)
- God and man will be reunited (1 John 3:2)
- Only through trusting in Jesus for salvation and repenting of our sins can we experience Heaven (Romans 10:13)
- There will be a holy city in Heaven (Revelation 21:10)



- Eternal (Jude 1:7)
- A real place (2 Peter 2:4)
- Punishment for rebelling against God (Revelation 20:15)
- The default eternal destination of humanity - *everyone* deserves to go to hell (Romans 3:23)
- Eternal fire (Mark 9:48)
- A place of torment and shame (Luke 16:23)
- Inescapable (Luke 16:26)
- Away from the presence of God (2 Thessalonians 1:9)