

The Millennium, Resurrection, Rapture & Judgment

By Ed Stevens

30 AD

c. 4175 BC
Creation &
Fall of Adam

26 AD
Beg. of Jesus'
Ministry

The
Cross

Christ's
Resurrection

Christ's
Ascension

Day of
Pentecost

62 AD
Beg. of
Tribulation

66 AD
Beg. of
War

70 AD
Jerusalem
Destroyed

Death Reigned & Hades Held Man Captive in a conscious waiting state just like the parable in Luke 16:19-31 teaches.
Cf. Jude 6; 2 Pet. 2:4,9

Jesus binds the strong man Mt. 12:29; Lk. 10:18; 22:31; Rev. 12:9; 20:2

Jesus tells folks in Hades what He is doing – Lk. 23:43; Acts 2:27, 31; 1 Pet. 3:18; 4:6; Jn. 5:25; Eph. 4:8-10

Jesus appears to his disciples over 40 days to tell them what He is doing— building the Church

Christ in heaven beginning millennial reign with his martyrs & raised saints 1 Cor. 15:25; Rev. 6,7,20

Christ reigns & gosp. preached; Satan to be crushed soon— Rom. 16:20; Transition Period (millennium)

Satan Released to deceive Nero into persecuting the saints. The Great Tribulation – Mt 24:21; Zealots prep. for War with Rome

Wrath poured out on Fleshly Israel – 1 Thes. 1:10; Saints present with Christ to judge their enemies & be rewarded.

Adam lost access to two things:
Life (justification/immortality) & **Fellowship** with God in His presence

Two Results:
Death (condemnation/ mortality) and **Hades** (separation from God's fellowship and presence)

God promised a seed of woman who would crush Satan and restore spiritual life and fellowship with God in His Presence (Gen. 3:15).

Those who believed began receiving the right to inherit eternal life, but did not have that life in the presence of God yet. It was still a promise, a down-payment through the Spirit. Martyrs during the Transition Period went to the outer courts in heaven to await the resurrection and judgment.

Jesus goes to Hades (the strong man's house) and preaches to the righteous being held captive there. Thief on cross promised to be in paradise (Hades) with Christ on that very day. John 5, 11 Jesus goes to Hades and announced His intention to redeem them.

Christ is the firstfruit of resurrection – First Resur. Rev 20; cf. Dan. 12:2. Made alive in the Spirit – 1 Pet. 3:18. Jesus came out of Hades. Death couldn't hold Him there. Others were raised as firstfruits at the time of Christ's resurrection (Matt. 27:52f).

Lk. 19:11-27 Dan. 7:13f Eph. 4:8-10 Jesus ascends & took captivity captive. Saints martyred during the transition period went to outer courts of heaven. cf. Phil. 1:23; 2 Cor. 5:6-8; They lived & reigned. Rev. 6, 7, 20 Rest of dead not released from Hades until AD 70.

The Life-giving Spirit of Christ was poured out as a seal, pledge, earnest or down-payment of their full inheritance. cf. 2 Cor. 5:5; They had life in a provisional sense – waiting for the consummation – but not in the Holy of Holies until after AD 70

Satan loosed to deceive the nations to go to war against the church: The Neronic persecution (AD 64-66) was the great tribulation (Rev 20:7) - Satan was like a roaring lion (1Pet 5:8) James and "some of his companions" were arrested (Josephus); John sent to Patmos. Paul was still in prison in Rome.

Christ's Parousia Began (extended visit to reward His saints and judge His enemies. Saints were judged and rewarded first (1Pet 4:17). Saints raised, the Living were changed and raptured (1Cor 15:52; 1Th 4:14ff). Yom Kippur atonement typology was fulfilled by Jesus (our High Priest) at his "second appearance" – See Heb 9:1-7, 23-28.

Rest of the Dead were raised (Rev 20:5,11). Hades was emptied and cast into the Lake of Fire. Paradise and the Presence of God Restored. Eternal Life in Heaven now available. Eternal Kingdom (1Cor 15:24f) New Jerusalem and New Temple arrived. Healing of nations begins (Rev 21-22) Temple Typology fulfilled.

The Millennium (AD 26-66) – Forty Year Generation