**Are we living in the end times?**

**Acts 1:7** *“And He said to them, “****It is not for you to know times or seasons*** *which the Father has put in His own authority.”*

**Mark 13:32-33** *“But of that day and hour* ***no one knows****, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Take heed, watch and pray; for you do not know when the time is.”*

**Ten Common Questions About The End Times**

1. **What Does Eschatology Mean?**

Eschatology comes from two greek words *eschatos*:-- last and *logos*:-- subject matter or teaching. The study of last things that are prophesied in the Bible.

1. **What Do The Seals, Trumpets and Bowls Symbolize?**

They represent three stages of a series of events foretold in Revelation. Some commentators believe that the seals , trumpets and bowls are successive and progressive events, with one set kicking off the next. Others believe that these symbols refer to a set of events that occur at the same time.

FUTURISTS -- teach that the seal, trumpets and bowls are the key events that will transpire in the tribulation period prior to Jesus’ second coming.

PAR-PRETERISTS -- believe that these events were carried out at the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 AD.

HISTORISTS -- hold that these events are being carried out progressively throughout the church age.

IDEALISTS -- teach that the seals, trumpets and bowls are all allegories of the natural disasters and social evils that have existed throughout human history.

1. **What Is The Great Tribulation?**

A short period of intense persecution of God’s people living on the earth.

FUTURISTS -- Before the return of Christ.

PAR-PRETERISTS -- At destruction of Jerusalem 70AD.

HISTORISTS -- All the plight of the Jews since the 1st century.

IDEALISTS -- Suffering of all believers throughout history.

1. **What Is The Rapture?**

The Bible never uses the word rapture. (1Thessalonians 4:17) Held by FUTURISTS. Theories of PRE, MID, and POST. High church denominations do not believe in the rapture nor most reformed theologians. It is not a theory that was taught by any of the church fathers and did not gain acceptance until the early 1900’s.

1. **Who Are The Four Horsemen Of The Apocalypse?**

The ultimate bearers of bad news and implementors of nasty events. Released when the lamb opens the four seals in Revelation 6. Various interpretations.

First -- White Horse -- rides out as a conqueror bent on conquest.

Second -- Red Horse -- rides out with power to make war.

Third -- Black Horse -- Carries scales denoting scarcity of food and goods.

Fourth -- Pale Horse -- His rider is death. Given power to kill over 25% of the world.

1. **Who Is The Antichrist?**

A term that never appears in Revelation. Often referred to as the archenemy of Jesus and the ultimate false prophet.

FUTURISTS -- The beast form the sea in Revelation 13. Some the first Horseman.

PAR-PRETERIST -- Nero

HISTORISTS -- Roman papacy.

IDEALISTS -- Symbolic of evil socio-political system.

1. **What Is The Mark Of The Beast? (666)**

Literal interpretations understand the mark to be way in which the false prophet will control the economic system.

FUTURISTS -- A way of controlling the economic system in the world during the tribulation.

PAR-PRETERISTS -- A symbolizes the economic pressure placed on christians in the first century ... associated with Nero.

HISTORISTS -- Roman Catholic church and worship in latin.

IDEALISTS -- A figurative symbol of false religion.

1. **What Is The Significance Of The Term Babylon?**

An organized entity that defies God.

FUTURISTS -- Political system that arises in the last days.

PAR-PRETERIST -- Some say Jerusalem and some say Rome.

HISTORISTS -- Catholic Church

IDEALISTS -- Figurative of human society organizing against God.

1. **What Is The Millennium?**

1000 year period that John talks about in Revelation 20:1-6.

Premillennialism -- 1000 years after Jesus’ return

Amillennialism -- Figurative term between His advent and his return. Reign through the church spiritually.

Postmillennialism -- Church age. Jesus returns after satans forces are completely stomped out.

1. **What Is The Lake Of Fire?**

Final destination of everything evil. / No where they operate from now.

-- Literal burning lake that represents eternal torture.

-- Spiritual torture of being forever separated from God.

-- Place where life ends and people cease to exist.