

- its time is in the hand of the Father (the wisdom of the Trinity)
- it is imminent
- it is not timed by our system of timing
- it is not dependent on any aspect of life on earth
- it is not unduly delayed..the Lord is not stalling.

Be very careful with signs and fulfillments (Matthew 24, et al)...
TVT thinks most of these are relevant in the time of great trouble and not relevant in the world where you live now. Not all agree.

2. What is the time of "great trouble"?

--We define it as a time of great trial on the earth in which the nations are brought under the searching hand of God. Beyond that we say its purpose (Zechariah 12-13) is to return Israel to Jehovah, to demonstrate the idolatry and wickedness of a world that lives in defiance of God, and to prepare the way for the age of blessing. Some particular events that are associated with it....

- the rise of a wicked ruler (the antichrist)
- great wars and earth trials
- religious/economic amalgamation
- persecution of all opposition
- attempt to utterly exterminate the Jews
- judgment in a battle where God intervenes.

My own understanding is that most of Revelation 4-18 relates to this period of time.

3. What is the relationship of the Church to this time?

There are several views...I will lightly sketch them and note what I prefer...but the minutia needed to discuss any of these aspects fully is greater than what our time will allow.

4. How will the Lord's Kingdom come?

G. How do we View this Present Age

- as a time of zealous occupancy...
- counting the long suffering of the Lord as salvation
- snatching from the fire all to whom the Lord gives us access.

V. THE CHURCH AND THE NATION IN BIBLICAL PROPHECY

Matthew 16, Genesis 12

A. Some introductory thoughts

Prophets of gloom and despondency gather about these subjects as thickly as buzzards on a new carcass (you may spell it with final e if you wish and it shows you the vivid nature of the illustrative material in these discussions.)