

A dramatic painting depicting a volcanic landscape. In the center, a large, glowing orange and red lava flow cascades down a dark, rocky slope. The sky is filled with dark, swirling clouds and bright, fiery light emanating from the volcano. In the foreground, several figures are visible, some appearing to be in a state of distress or panic, looking up at the lava. The overall scene is one of intense natural power and impending doom.

Making sense of the end of the world

Revd Dr Ian Paul

www.psephizo.com

Using Zoom well

- Computer rather than tablet or phone
- Backlighting; video; add your name
- Gallery v speaker view
- Ask questions using the chat function
- When we have a break, take a break!
- Are you sitting comfortably?
- Ethos of conversation

Why The World Will End Surely on 29 July 2016 ? Sh...



ARMAGEDDON
NEWS



1:13 / 17:39



Why The World Will End Surely on 31 October 2016 ? Shocking Facts



Why The World Will End Surely on 31 October 2016 ? **Shocking Facts**



Shawn Caldwell

@LibraJustice11

This just gave me chills!

OMI

OMNI

OMEGA

GREEK FOR (End)

CRON

CHRON

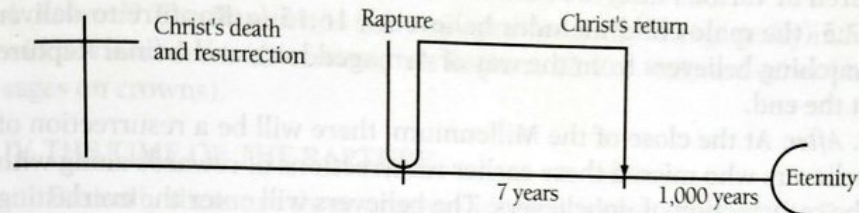
CHRONOS

GREEK FOR (Time)

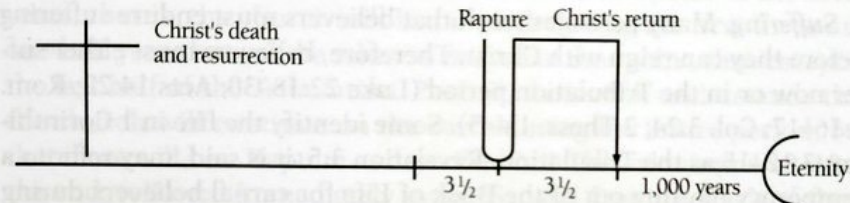
OMICRON IS THE "END TIME"
VIRUS. GET RIGHT WITH GOD.
THE DEVIL IS ABOUT TO MAKE
HIS FINAL MOVE.

11:02 PM · 30 Nov 21 · [Twitter Web App](#)

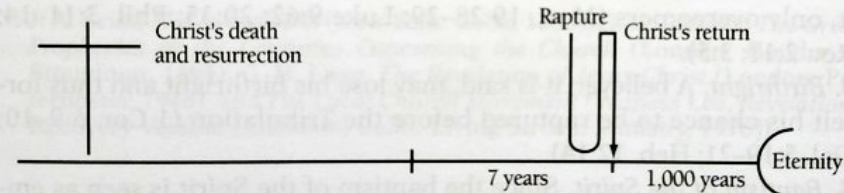
PRETRIBULATIONISM



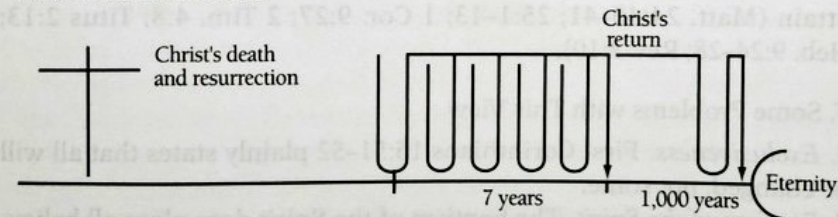
MIDTRIBULATIONISM



POSTTRIBULATIONISM



PARTIAL RAPTURE



How do we read Scripture?

Do we look for a 'simple' reading
giving a very complex result

or

A more complex process of reading
that offers a simple result

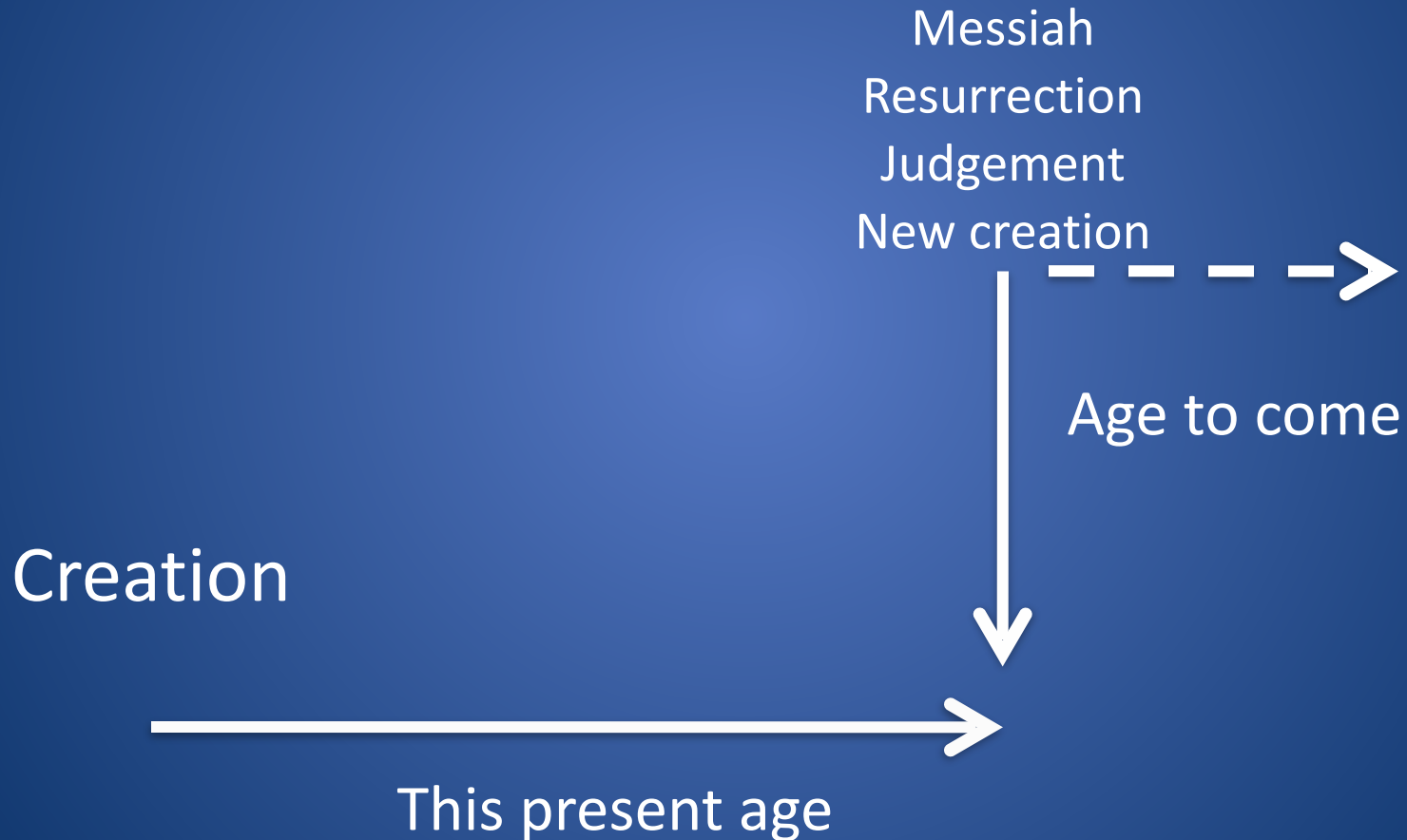
The language of two ages: origins

- Ex 3.7–8 ‘I have heard the cry of my people...so I have come down to rescue them...’
- Judges 6 ‘The people did evil...God gave them into the hands of...they cried to the LORD...God sent...’
- Jer 30.1 ‘The days are coming...’
- Is 65.17 ‘I will make a new heavens and new earth...’

The language of two ages

- Matt 12.32 'not be forgiven either in this age or in the age to come'
- Mark 10.30 'in this time...and in the age to come'
- Luke 16.8 'the sons of this age...sons of light'
- Luke 20.34 'sons of this age marry...that age and the resurrection'
- Fourth gospel 'eternal life' = life of the age [to come]
- Rom 12.1 'do not be conformed to this age'
- Gal 1.4 'to rescue us from the present evil age'
- 1 Cor 2.6 'rulers of this age who are passing away'
- 1 Cor 3.18 'the standards of this age'
- 2 Cor 4.4 'the god of this age'
- Eph 1.21 'not only in the present age but in the age to come'

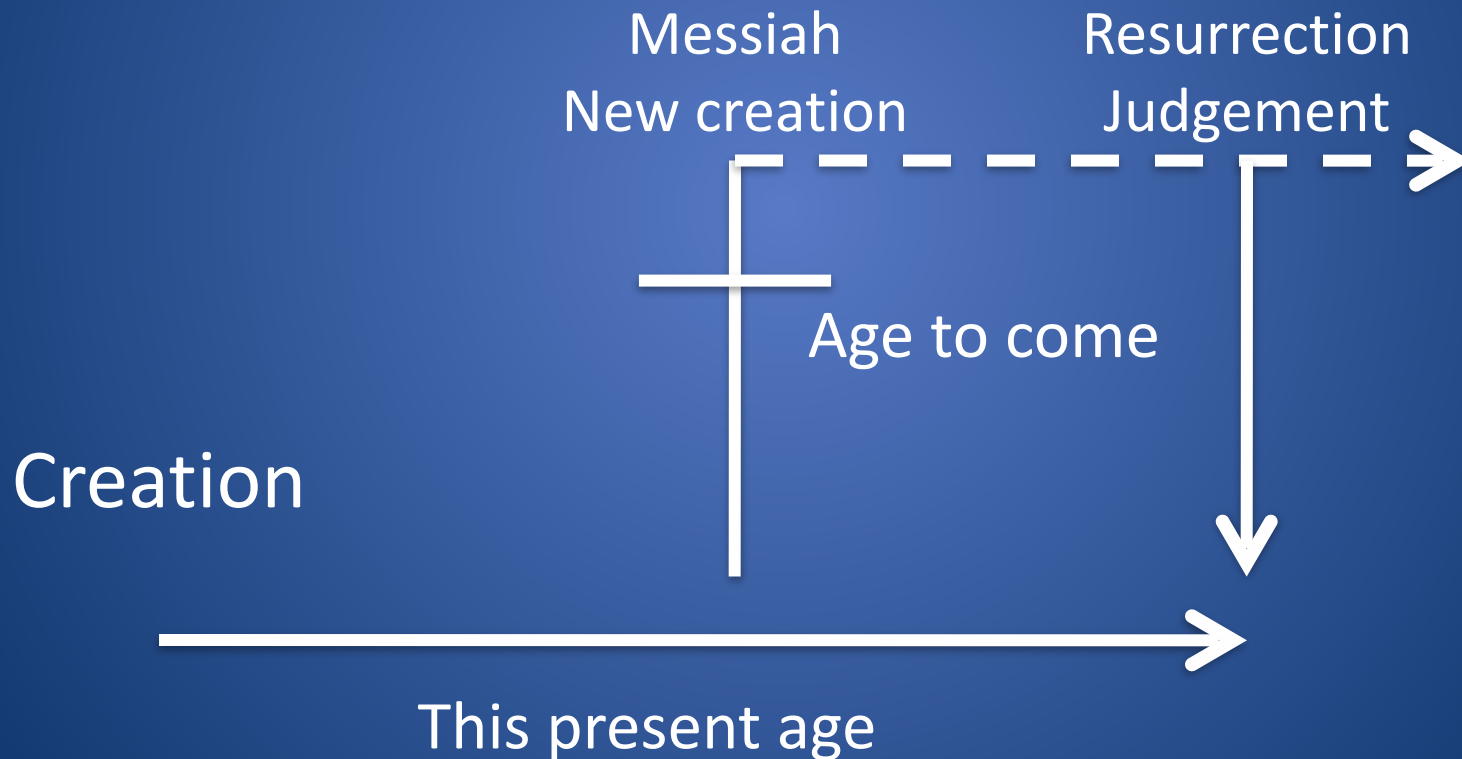
Relation of the two ages



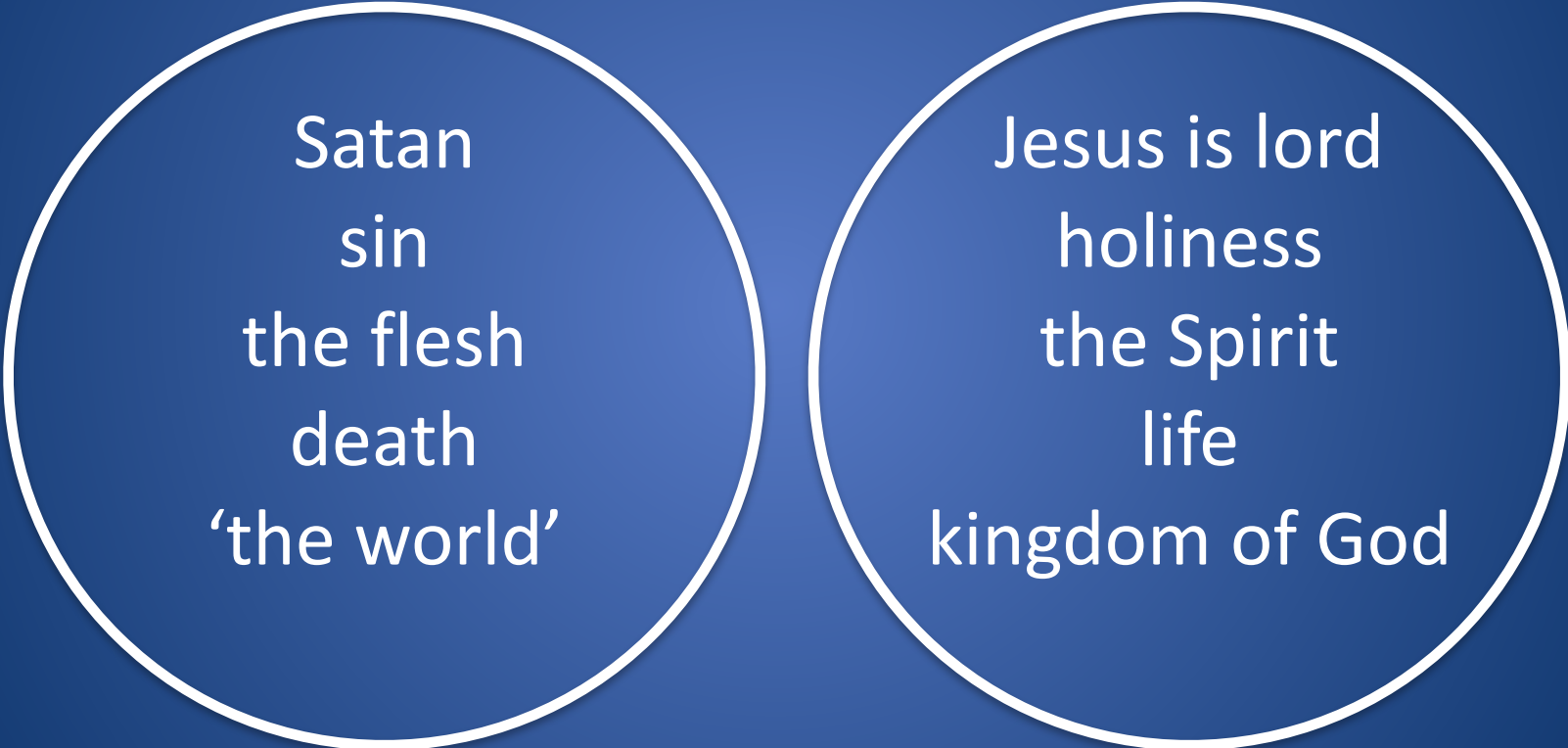
Hope of the age to come

- return from exile to the land
- the coming of the new age
- resurrection of the dead
- the restoration of the Temple
- the renewal of the covenant
- the giving of the Spirit
- the keeping of Law
- there being no king but God
- the coming of God's anointed agent (Heb *messiach*, Greek *christos*)

Relation of the two ages



Relation between the two ages



Satan
sin
the flesh
death
'the world'

Jesus is lord
holiness
the Spirit
life
kingdom of God

Present and future in the two ages

Salvation now...

- Rom 8.24 'in this hope we were saved'
- Eph 2.8 'by grace you have been saved'
- Rom 6.4 'walk in newness of life'
- 2 Cor 2.16 'aroma of life'

...and not yet

- Rom 13.11 'salvation nearer now...'
- 1 Cor 3.15 'he himself will be saved'
- Rom 2.7 'he will give eternal life'
- Rom 5.21 'to bring eternal life'



Subject	Matthew 24–25	Mark 13
Prediction of destruction of the temple	1–3	1–4
Wars and rumours of wars	4–8	5–8
Opposition and preaching the gospel	9–14	9–13
The ‘abomination of desolation’	15–22	14–20
Ignore false Christs	23–28	21–23
Sun darkened, gathering the elect	29–31	24–27
Lesson of the fig tree	32–33	28–29
This generation will not pass away...	34–35	30–31
The hour unknown	36	32–37
One taken and one left	37–42	
Thief and householder	43–44	
Faithful and wise servants	45–51	
Parable of ten virgins	25.1–13	
Parable of the ‘talents’	14–30	(34–35)
Parable of sheep and goats	31–46	

What is Matthew 24 all about?

- Single question in Mark 13.4 becomes a double question in Matt 24.3:

‘When will this happen, **and**
what will be the sign of your *parousia* and of the end
of the age?’

- Term *parousia* occurs in Matt 24.3, 27, 37, 39.
- Critical verse is Matt 24.34:

**‘Amen I tell you, this generation will certainly not
pass away until all these things have happened’**

What is Matthew 24 all about?

Acts 2.20: The sun will be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood
before the coming of the great and
glorious day of the Lord.

21 And everyone who calls
on the name of the Lord will be saved.

Dan 7.13 I saw in the night visions,
and behold, with the clouds of heaven
there came one like a son of man,
and he came to the Ancient of Days
and was presented before him.

14 And to him was given dominion
and glory and a kingdom,
that all peoples, nations, and languages
should serve him...

Zech 12.12: the land shall mourn, and every
tribe by itself

Matt 24.29 Immediately after the distress of
those days

“the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light;
the stars will fall from the sky,
and the heavenly bodies will be shaken.’^c

Matt 24.30 they will see the Son of Man coming
on the clouds of heaven with power and great
glory

...and all the tribes of the land shall mourn

What is Matthew 24 all about?

- The 'tribulation' is the suffering of 66–70
- The cosmic signs are the political and religious upheaval
- The tribes mourning is the grief of the Jewish people
- The 'coming of the Son of Man' τὸν υἱὸν τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ἐρχόμενον is Jesus' ascension, not *parousia*
- The angels are messengers proclaiming the gospel
- The gathering of the elect is the gentile mission (Rev 7.9)
- All this will happen in the lifetime of those listening to Jesus.

Will you be left behind?

- Until Matt 24.35 look for signs—then no signs
- How will it be in days of the *parousia* of the SoM?
 - **As it was in the days of Noah**
- In the days of Noah, who gets ‘taken away’?
 - **The wicked**
- So in the days of the *parousia*, who will get taken away...?
- Compare 1 Thess 4.13–18: ‘always with the Lord’ where?
- ‘They will reign on earth forever’ (Rev 5.10, 22.5)

Tribulation

- when **tribulation** or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away (Matt 13.21)
- In the world you will have **tribulation** (John 16.33)
- Now those who were scattered because of the **tribulation** that arose... (Acts 11.19)
- through many **tribulations** we must enter the kingdom of God (Acts 14.22)
- Not only that, but we rejoice in our **tribulations** (Rom 5.3)
- ...who comforts us in all our **tribulation** (2 Cor 1.4)
- I, John, your brother and partner in the **tribulation** and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus (Rev 1.9)

Israel

- Jesus is the temple presence of God (John 1.14, 2.19)
- Those incorporated into Jesus are part of that temple (1 Cor 3.16, 1 Peter 2.5)
- This is the meaning of us as 144,000 (Rev 7) and the New Jerusalem as a cube of 12,000 stadia
- Gentiles have been grafted in to become part of Israel (Rom 11. Eph 2 Gal 6.12)
- In the OT, the blessings and obligations of being 'in the land' are now those 'in Christ')
- Rom 11.26 '*in this way* all Israel will be saved'
- There is no expectation of ethnic Israel returning to the physical land anywhere in the New Testament!

Numbers

‘Let the one who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is a human number, its number is 666’ (Rev 13.18)

Numbers

a = 1

b = 2

c = 3

d = 4

e = 5

f = 6

g = 7

h = 8

i = 9

j = 10

k = 20

l = 30

m = 40

n = 50

o = 60

p = 70

q = 80

r = 90

s = 100

t = 200

u = 300

v = 400

w = 500

x = 600

y = 700

z = 800

Numbers

‘I love her whose number is 545’

The Messiah will have number 888

‘A new calculation:

‘Nero killed his own mother’

‘The branch of David will be Menachem’

Numbers

θ η ρ ι ο ν

th e r i o n

ת ר י ו נ

400 + 200 + 10 + 6 + 50

N e r o n C a e s a r

N ε ρ ω ν K α ι σ α ρ

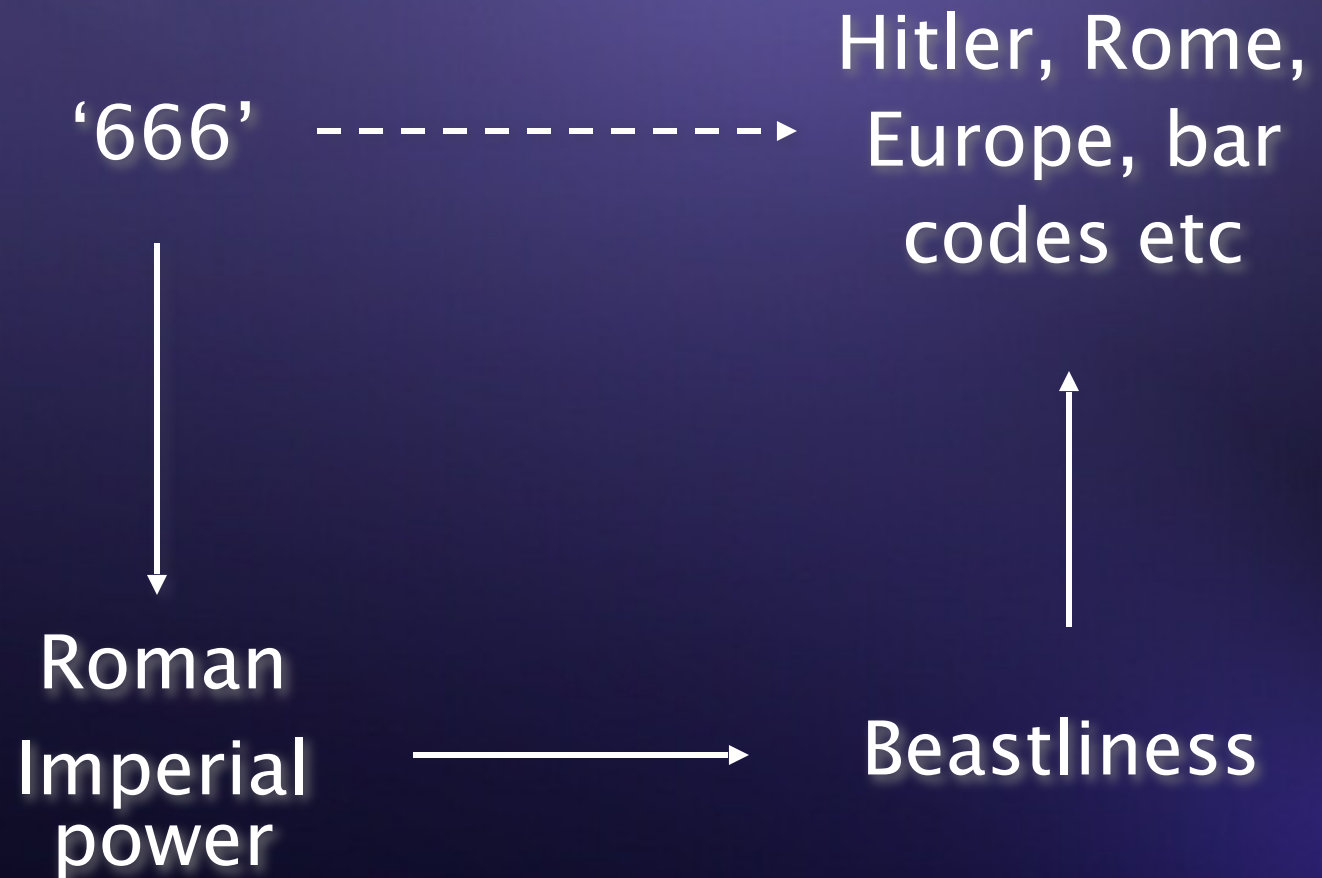
נ ר ו נ ק ד ר

50 + 200 + 6 + 50 + 100 + 60 + 200

Connecting with today

'666' → Hitler, Rome,
Europe, bar
codes etc

Connecting with today



Why does this all matter?

- End times speculation
- Israel and the land
- Suffering, healing and answers to prayer
- Social reform and transhumanism
- Death and post-mortem destiny