

~LAST DAYS (716)

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- In Bible prophecy, last days or comparable expressions such as final part of the days were used to designate a time when events of history culminate.
- After many days you will be given attention. In the **final part of the years** you will come to the land of people brought back from the sword, collected together out of many peoples, onto the mountains of Israel, that have proved to be a constantly devastated place, even a land that has been brought forth from the peoples, where they have dwelt in security, all of them. (**Ezekiel 38:8**)
- And you will be bound to come up against my people Israel, like clouds to cover the land. In the **final part of the days** it will occur, and I shall certainly bring you against my land, for the purpose that the nations may know me when I sanctify myself in you before their eyes, O Gog. (**Ezekiel 38:16**)
- And I have come to cause you to discern what will befall your people in the **final part of the days**, because it is a vision yet for the days to come. (**Daniel 10:14**)
- The content of the prophecy fixes the starting point of the **final part of the days** when the foretold events would begin to occur. Those living at the time of the prophecy's fulfillment could therefore be spoken of as living in the **last days** or the **final part of the days**.
- Depending upon the nature of the prophecy, this may be a period covering just a few years or many and can apply to widely separated time periods.

- Jacob's Deathbed Prophecy

- When Jacob said to his sons, Gather yourselves together that I may tell you what will happen to you in the **final part of the days** or **in days to come**, **AT**, he meant in that future time when his words would begin undergoing fulfillment.
- Later on Jacob called his sons and said; Gather yourselves together that I may tell you what will happen to you in the final part of the days. (**Genesis 49:1**)
- Over two centuries earlier Yehowah had stated to Jacob's grandfather Abram, Abraham, that his offspring would suffer affliction for 400 years.
- And he began to say to Abram; You may know for sure that your seed will become an alien resident in a land not theirs, and they will have to serve them, and these will certainly afflict them for four hundred years. (**Genesis 15:13**)
- Therefore, in this case, the future time referred to by Jacob as **the final part of the days** could not begin until after the 400 years of affliction ended. For details on (**Genesis Chapter 49**), see the articles on the sons of Jacob under their respective names. A later application of the prophecy that would involve the spiritual Israel of God could also be expected.
- And all those who will walk orderly by this rule of conduct, upon them be peace and mercy, even upon the Israel of God. (**Galatians 6:16**)
- However, it is not as though the word of God had failed. For not all who spring from Israel are really Israel. (**Romans 9:6**)

·· **Balaam's Prophecy**

- It was before the Israelites entered the Promised Land that the prophet Balaam said to Moab's King Balak; Do come, let me advise you what this people Israel will do to your people afterward in the end of the days. A star will certainly step forth out of Jacob, and a scepter will indeed rise out of Israel. And he will certainly break apart the temples of Moab's head and the cranium of all the sons of tumult of war.
- And now here I am going away to my people. Do come, let me advise you what this people will do to your people afterward in the end of the days. (**Numbers 24:14**)

- So he took up his proverbial utterance and said; The utterance of Balaam the son of Beor, and the utterance of the able-bodied man with the eye unsealed. (**Numbers 24:15**)
- The utterance of the one hearing the sayings of God, and the one knowing the knowledge of the Most High. A vision of the Almighty he got to see while falling down with the eyes uncovered: (**Numbers 24:16**)
- I shall see him, but not now; I shall behold him, but not near. A star will certainly step forth out of Jacob, and a scepter will indeed rise out of Israel. And he will certainly break apart the temples of Moab's head and the cranium of all the sons of tumult of war. (**Numbers 24:17**)
- In the initial fulfillment of this prophecy, the **star** proved to be **King David**, the subduer of the Moabites.
- And he went on to strike down the Moabites and measure them with a line, making them lie down on the earth, that he might measure two lines to put them to death, and a full line to preserve them alive, and the Moabites came to be David's servants to carry tribute. (**2 Samuel 8:2**)
- Evidently, therefore, in that fulfillment of this particular prophecy, **the end of the days** began with David's becoming king. Since David foreshadowed Jesus as Messianic King, the prophecy would also apply to Jesus at the time when he subdues his enemies.
- To the abundance of the princely rule and to peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and upon his kingdom in order to establish it firmly and to sustain it by means of justice and by means of righteousness, from now on and to time indefinite. The very zeal of Yehowah of armies will do this. (**Isaiah 9:7**)
- Ask of me, that I may give nations as your inheritance and the ends of the earth as your own possession. (**Psalms 2:8**)
- You will break them with an iron scepter, as though a potter's vessel you will dash them to pieces. (**Psalms 2:9**)

•• The Prophecy Of Isaiah And Micah

- And it must occur in the **final part of the days** that the mountain of the house of Yehowah will become firmly established above the top of the mountains, and it will certainly be lifted up above the hills, and to it all the nations must stream. (**Isaiah 2:2**)
- And it must occur in the **final part of the days** that the mountain of the house of Yehowah will become firmly established above the top of the mountains, and it will certainly be lifted up above the hills, and to it peoples must stream. (**Micah 4:1**)
- The words, **final part of the days**, introduce a prophecy about the time when people from all nations would stream to the mountain of the house of Yehowah.
- In a typical fulfillment, between **29 C.E. and 70 C.E.**, during the **final part of the days** of the Jewish system of things, Yehowah's worship was exalted above the lofty elevation that pagan nations gave to their false gods. The King, Jesus Christ, made a breakthrough in elevating true worship, and he was followed, first by a remnant of the nation of Israel, and then by people from all nations.
- And it must occur in **the final part of the days** that the mountain of the house of Yehowah will become firmly established above the top of the mountains, and it will certainly be lifted up above the hills, and to it all the nations must stream. (**Isaiah 2:2**)
- The one making a breakthrough will certainly come up before them: they will actually break through. And they will pass through a gate, and they will go out by it. And their king will pass through before them, with Yehowah at the head of them. (**Micah 2:13**)
- At this Peter opened his mouth and said; For a certainty I perceive that God is not partial. (**Acts of Apostles 10:34**)
- But in every nation the man that fears him and works righteousness is acceptable to him. (**Acts of Apostles 10:35**)
- In an antitypical fulfillment, in the **final part of the days** of this system of things, Yehowah's worship has been elevated heaven high. The King, Jesus Christ, has led the remnant of Spiritual Israel to pure worship, and they have been followed by a great crowd out of all nations.

- After these things I saw, and, look! A great crowd, which no man was able to number, out of all nations and tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, dressed in white robes, and there were palm branches in their hands. ([Revelation 7:9](#))

·· Last Days Of The Jewish System Of Things

- Less than three and a half years before the non-Jews became part of the Christian congregation, God's spirit was poured out on faithful Jewish disciples of Jesus Christ.
- At that time Peter explained that this was in fulfillment of Joel's prophecy, saying; And in the **last days**, God says, I shall pour out some of my spirit upon every sort of flesh. And I will give portents in heaven above and signs on earth below, blood and fire and smoke mist, the sun will be turned into darkness and the moon into blood before the great and illustrious day of Yehowah arrives.
- On the contrary, this is what was said through the prophet Joel. ([Acts of Apostles 2:16](#))
- And in the **last** days, God says, I shall pour out some of my spirit upon every sort of flesh, and your sons and your daughters will prophesy and your young men will see visions and your old men will dream dreams. ([Acts of Apostles 2:17](#))
- And even upon my men slaves and upon my women slaves I will pour out some of my spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. ([Acts of Apostles 2:18](#))
- And I will give portents in heaven above and signs on earth below, blood and fire and smoke mist. ([Acts of Apostles 2:19](#))
- The sun will be turned into darkness and the moon into blood before the great and illustrious day of Yehowah arrives. ([Acts of Apostles 2:20](#))
- In this case **the last days** preceded the great and illustrious day of Yehowah, which **day** apparently brought **the last days** to their conclusion.
- The **great day of Yehowah** is near. It is near, and there is a hurrying of it very much. The sound of the day of Yehowah is

bitter. There a mighty man is letting out a cry. (**Zephaniah 1:14**)

- That day is a day of fury, a day of distress and of anguish, a day of storm and of desolation, a day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick gloom. (**Zephaniah 1:15**)
- A day of horn and of alarm signal, against the fortified cities and against the high corner towers. (**Zephaniah 1:16**)
- And I will cause distress to mankind, and they will certainly walk like blind men, because it is against Yehowah that they have sinned. And their blood will actually be poured out like dust, and their bowels like the dung. (**Zephaniah 1:17**)
- Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to deliver them in the day of Yehowah's fury, but by the fire of his zeal the whole earth will be devoured, because he will make an extermination, indeed a terrible one, of all the inhabitants of the earth. (**Zephaniah 1:18**)
- Look! I am sending to you people Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and fear-inspiring day of Yehowah. (**Malachi 4:5**)
- For all, the Prophets and the Law, prophesied until John. (**Matthew 11:13**)
- And if you want to accept it, He himself is Elijah who is destined to come. (**Matthew 11:14**)
- Since Peter addressed natural Jews and Jewish proselytes, his words must have had particular reference to them and evidently indicated that they were living in **the last days** of the then-existing Jewish system of things with its center of worship at Jerusalem. Earlier, Christ Jesus himself had foretold the destruction of Jerusalem and its temple.
- And when he got nearby, he viewed the city and wept over it. (**Luke 19:41**)
- Saying; If you, even you, had discerned in this day the things having to do with peace, but now they have been hid from your eyes. (**Luke 19:42**)

- **Because the days will come upon you when your enemies will build around you a fortification with pointed stakes and will encircle you and distress you from every side. (Luke 19:43)**
- **And they will dash you and your children within you to the ground, and they will not leave a stone upon a stone in you, because you did not discern the time of your being inspected. (Luke 19:44)**
- **Later, as certain ones were speaking concerning the temple, how it was adorned with fine stones and dedicated things. (Luke 21:5)**
- **He said; As for these things that you are beholding, the days will come in which not a stone upon a stone will be left here and not be thrown down. (Luke 21:6)**
- **Which occurred in 70 C.E.**

See Also DAY OF Yehowah

- **It must have been also with reference to the end of the Jewish system of things that Christ Jesus was spoken of as appearing and carrying on his activity **at the end of the times** or **at the end of these days**.**
- **True, he was foreknown before the founding of the world, but he was made manifest at the end of the times for the sake of you (1 Peter 1:20)**
- **Who through him are believers in God, the one who raised him up from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope might be in God. (1 Peter 1:21)**
- **God, who long ago spoke on many occasions and in many ways to our forefathers by means of the prophets. (Hebrews 1:1)**
- **Has at the end of these days spoken to us by means of a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the systems of things. (Hebrews 1:2)**
- **This is confirmed by the words of;**
- **Otherwise, he would have to suffer often from the founding of**

the world. But now he has manifested himself once for all time at the conclusion of the systems of things to put sin away through the sacrifice of himself. (**Hebrews 9:26**)

- But now he Jesus has manifested himself once for all time at the conclusion of the systems of things to put sin away through the sacrifice of himself.

•• Last Days Associated With The Apostasy

- The words **last days** or comparable expressions are sometimes used in connection with the **apostasy** that was to be experienced within the Christian congregation.
- Wrote the apostle Paul to Timothy; The inspired utterance says definitely that in later periods of time some **will fall away from the faith, paying attention to misleading inspired utterances and teachings of demons.**
- However, the inspired utterance says definitely that in later periods of time some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to misleading inspired utterances and teachings of demons. (**1 Timothy 4:1**)
- I know that after my going away oppressive wolves will enter in among you and will not treat the flock with tenderness. (**Acts of Apostles 20:29**)
- And from among you yourselves men will rise and speak twisted things to draw away the disciples after themselves. (**Acts of Apostles 20:30**)
- In a later letter to Timothy, Paul again discussed this point and spoke of future **last days**. Because of the abandonment of right conduct by people then, these were to be, critical times hard to deal with or, more literally, **fierce appointed times.** Int
- After describing in detail the wayward course and perverted attitudes to prevail among persons living at that time, Paul continued,
- But know this, that in the **last** days critical times hard to deal with will be here. (**2 Timothy 3:1**)
- For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, self-

- assuming, haughty, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, disloyal. (2 Timothy 3:2)
- Having no natural affection, not open to any agreement, slanderers, without self-control, fierce, without love of goodness. (2 Timothy 3:3)
 - Betrayers, headstrong, puffed up with pride, lovers of pleasures rather than lovers of God. (2 Timothy 3:4)
 - Having a form of godly devotion but proving false to its power, and from these turn away. (2 Timothy 3:5)
 - For from these arise those men who slyly work their way into households and lead as their captives weak women loaded down with sins, led by various desires. (2 Timothy 3:6)
 - Always learning and yet never able to come to an accurate knowledge of truth. (2 Timothy 3:7)
 - **Next Paul contrasted such corrupt persons with Timothy, who had closely followed the apostles teaching, and encouraged him to continue in the things that he had learned and been persuaded to believe.**
 - Now in the way that Jannes and Jambres resisted Moses, so these also go on resisting the truth, men completely corrupted in mind, disapproved as regards the faith. (2 Timothy 3:8)
 - Nevertheless, they will make no further progress, for their madness will be very plain to all, even as the madness of those two men became. (2 Timothy 3:9)
 - But you have closely followed my teaching, my course of life, my purpose, my faith, my long-suffering, my love, my endurance. (2 Timothy 3:10)
 - My persecutions, my sufferings, the sort of things that happened to me in Antioch, in Iconium, in Lystra, the sort of persecutions I have borne, and yet out of them all the Lord delivered me. (2 Timothy 3:11)
 - In fact, all those desiring to live with godly devotion in association with Christ Jesus will also be persecuted. (2 Timothy

3:12)

- **But wicked men and impostors will advance from bad to worse, misleading and being misled. (2 Timothy 3:13)**
- **You, however, continue in the things that you learned and were persuaded to believe, knowing from what persons you learned them. (2 Timothy 3:14)**
- **And that from infancy you have known the holy writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through the faith in connection with Christ Jesus. (2 Timothy 3:15)**
- **All Scripture is inspired of God and beneficial for teaching, for reproving, for setting things straight, for disciplining in righteousness. (2 Timothy 3:16)**
- **That the man of God may be fully competent, completely equipped for every good work. (2 Timothy 3:17)**
- **For there will be a period of time when they will not put up with the healthful teaching, but, in accord with their own desires, they will accumulate teachers for themselves to have their ears tickled. (2 Timothy 4:3)**
- **And they will turn their ears away from the truth, whereas they will be turned aside to false stories. (2 Timothy 4:4)**
- **You, though, keep your senses in all things, suffer evil, do the work of an evangelizer, fully accomplish your ministry. (2 Timothy 4:5)**
- **Thus from the context it is clear that the apostle was informing Timothy well in advance about future developments among professed Christians and describing what fruitage such apostasy would finally yield.**
- **Similarly, the apostle Peter provided advance knowledge to fellow Christians about pressures from within the congregation; **There will also be false teachers among you.****
- **These very ones will quietly bring in destructive sects and will disown even the owner that bought them, bringing speedy destruction**

upon themselves. Furthermore, many will follow their acts of loose conduct.

- However, there also came to be false prophets among the people, as there will also be false teachers among you. These very ones will quietly bring in destructive sects and will disown even the owner that bought them, bringing **speedy destruction upon themselves**. (2 Peter 2:1)
- Furthermore, **many will follow their acts of loose conduct**, and on account of these the way of the truth will be spoken of abusively. (2 Peter 2:2)
- This same warning is echoed in Jude's words encouraging Christians to put up a hard fight for the faith.
- Beloved ones, though I was making every effort to write you about the salvation we hold in common, I found it necessary to write you to exhort you to put up a hard fight for the faith that was once for all time delivered to the holy ones. (Jude 1:3)
- As for you, beloved ones, call to mind the sayings that have been previously spoken by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ. (Jude 1:17)
- How they used to say to you; In the **last** time there will be ridiculers, proceeding according to their own desires for ungodly things. (Jude 1:18)
- Toward the close of the **First Century C.E**, **apostate** elements were clearly in evidence. In our day the full fruitage of such apostasy is clearly evident, the **last days** to which Paul referred have arrived.

· The Conclusion Of The System Of Things

- However, as Jesus Christ had foretold, the **apostasy** did not take in the entire body of Christians, the true, loyal ones were to be as **wheat** associated with **weeds**.
- After Christ's presence begins, unobserved, like a thief and **during the conclusion of the system of things** then existing, a clear separation and demarcation was to be made evident.

- The **weeds**, the sons of the wicked one, were to be collected out of the kingdom of the Son of man. This cleaning out of the true Christian congregation would leave a field of clean wheat, the false, imitation Christians would be outside the true Christian congregation.
- Whereas the weedlike ones would finally be pitched into the fiery furnace, the wheat like ones would shine as brightly as the sun in the kingdom of their Father.
- Another illustration he set before them, saying; The kingdom of the heavens has become like a man that sowed fine seed in his field. (**Matthew 13:24**)
- While men were sleeping, his enemy came and oversowed weeds in among the wheat, and left. (**Matthew 13:25**)
- When the blade sprouted and produced fruit, then the weeds appeared also. (**Matthew 13:26**)
- So the slaves of the householder came up and said to him, Master, did you not sow fine seed in your field? How, then, does it come to have weeds? (**Matthew 13:27**)
- He said to them; An enemy, a man, did this. They said to him, Do you want us, then, to go out and collect them? (**Matthew 13:28**)
- He said; No, that by no chance, while collecting the weeds, you uproot the wheat with them. (**Matthew 13:29**)
- Let both grow together until the harvest, and in the harvest season I will tell the reapers, First collect the weeds and bind them in bundles to burn them up, then go to gathering the wheat into my storehouse. (**Matthew 13:30**)
- In response he said; The sower of the fine seed is the Son of man. (**Matthew 13:37**)
- The field is the world, as for the fine seed, these are the sons of the kingdom, but the weeds are the sons of the wicked one. (**Matthew 13:38**)
- And the enemy that sowed them is the Devil. The harvest is a conclusion of a system of things, and the reapers are angels.

(Matthew 13:39)

- Therefore, just as the weeds are collected and burned with fire, so it will be in the conclusion of the system of things. **(Matthew 13:40)**
- The Son of man will send forth his angels, and they will collect out from his kingdom all things that cause stumbling and persons who are doing lawlessness. **(Matthew 13:41)**
- And they will pitch them into the fiery furnace. There is where their weeping and the gnashing of their teeth will be. **(Matthew 13:42)**
- At that time the righteous ones will shine as brightly as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let him that has ears listen. **(Matthew 13:43)**
- This definitely pointed to the concluding portion of the system of things under Satan's wicked rule, preceding its destruction.
- Furthermore, the illustration suggested that the apostasy would bear its full fruitage of wickedness during **the conclusion of the system of things** under Satan's control.
- Reasonably, therefore, at that time the conditions described by the writers of the **Christian Greek Scriptures** as marking **the last days** would be in evidence on a large scale among professed Christians.
- There would be increasing lawlessness and disobedience to parents. Persons would be lovers of pleasures rather than lovers of God, having a form of godly devotion but proving false to its power.
- For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, self-assuming, haughty, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, disloyal. **(2 Timothy 3:2)**
- Having no natural affection, not open to any agreement, slanderers, without self-control, fierce, without love of goodness. **(2 Timothy 3:3)**
- Betrayers, headstrong, puffed up with pride, lovers of pleasures rather than lovers of God. **(2 Timothy 3:4)**

- Having a form of godly devotion but proving false to its power, and from these turn away. ([2 Timothy 3:5](#))
- Also, there would be ridiculers with their ridicule, proceeding according to their own desires and saying; Where is this promised presence of his? Why, from the day our forefathers fell asleep in death, all things are continuing exactly as from creations beginning.
- For you know this first, that in the **last** days there will come ridiculers with their ridicule, proceeding according to their own desires. ([2 Peter 3:3](#))
- And saying; Where is this promised presence of his? Why, from the day our forefathers fell asleep in death, all things are continuing exactly as from creations beginning. ([2 Peter 3:4](#))
- The prophetic illustration of Jesus also showed that time had to pass before the weedlike ones would become fully manifest, finally to be destroyed.
- Since the apostles knew this, their use of **last days** and like expressions in connection with the apostasy did not mean that they expected Jesus presence and the subsequent destruction of the ungodly right away.
- As Paul pointed out to the Thessalonians,
- However, brothers, respecting the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we request of you ([2 Thessalonians 2:1](#))
- Not to be quickly shaken from your reason nor to be excited either through an inspired expression or through a verbal message or through a letter as though from us, to the effect that the day of Yehowah is here. ([2 Thessalonians 2:2](#))
- Let no one seduce you in any manner, because it will not come unless the apostasy comes first and the man of lawlessness gets revealed, the son of destruction. ([2 Thessalonians 2:3](#))

·· Last Day

- The Bible also refers to a **last day**, during which the resurrection of the dead is to take place.

- This is the will of him that sent me, that I should lose nothing out of all that he has given me but that I should resurrect it at the **last day**. (John 6:39)
- For this is the will of my Father, that everyone that beholds the Son and exercises faith in him should have everlasting life, and I will resurrect him at **the last day**. (John 6:40)
- No man can come to me unless the Father, who sent me, draws him, and I will resurrect him in the **last day**. (John 6:44)
- Martha said to him; I know he will rise in the resurrection on the **last day**. (John 11:24)
- And as for you yourself, go toward the end, and you will rest, but you will stand up for your lot at the **end of the days**. (Daniel 12:13)
- He that disregards me and does not receive my sayings has one to judge him. The word that I have spoken is what will judge him in the **last day**. (John 12:48)
- This **last day** is **associated with a time of judgment**. Obviously, therefore, it denotes a time of a far more distant future than the end of the apostolic period.
- For this is what we tell you by Yehowah's word, that we the living who survive to the presence of the Lord shall in no way precede those who have fallen asleep in death. (1 Thessalonians 4:15)
- Because the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a commanding call, with an archangel's voice and with God's trumpet, and those who are dead in union with Christ will rise first. (1 Thessalonians 4:16)
- Afterward we the living who are surviving will, together with them, be caught away in clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and thus we shall always be with the Lord. (1 Thessalonians 4:17)
- However, brothers, respecting the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we request of you (2 Thessalonians 2:1)

- **Not to be quickly shaken from your reason nor to be excited either through an inspired expression or through a verbal message or through a letter as though from us, to the effect that the day of Yehowah is here. (2 Thessalonians 2:2)**
- **Let no one seduce you in any manner, because it will not come unless the apostasy comes first and the man of lawlessness gets revealed, the son of destruction. (2 Thessalonians 2:3)**
- **And I saw thrones, and there were those who sat down on them, and power of judging was given them. Yes, I saw the souls of those executed with the ax for the witness they bore to Jesus and for speaking about God, and those who had worshiped neither the wild beast nor its image and who had not received the mark upon their forehead and upon their hand. And they came to life and ruled as kings with the Christ for a thousand years. (Revelation 20:4)**
- **The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended. This is the first resurrection. (Revelation 20:5)**
- **Happy and holy is anyone having part in the first resurrection, over these the second death has no authority, but they will be priests of God and of the Christ, and will rule as kings with him for the thousand years. (Revelation 20:6)**
- **And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and scrolls were opened. But another scroll was opened, it is the scroll of life. And the dead were judged out of those things written in the scrolls according to their deeds. (Revelation 20:12)**