

**NB.** Many **'futurists'** say that God's prophetic clock stopped ticking at Calvary and won't start ticking again until the Rapture.

- It alleges that during the church age nothing in the book of Revelation was fulfilled.
- Futurism alleges a **'secret coming'** of Jesus for His church to take them to heaven for 7 years.
- The Holy Spirit also withdrawn at the same time.
- At the end of the 7 years Jesus comes to earth visibly with His church to set up His Kingdom.
- Then the millennium and the **'eternal state'** much the same as the Historicist view.

### **3 Futurists 7 Year Period** (Indicated as **YELLOW** on the 2nd graph)

- Many Jews converted who evangelise the world. (144,000 Jewish Billy Grahams)
- The Jerusalem temple rebuilt and animal sacrifice for sin revived.
- The emergence of **'the antichrist.'** ( the future Führer).
- Antichrist sitting in the temple to be worshipped.
- Terrible tribulation unleashed on those who refuse to worship him.
- Unlike the historicist position all this is yet future and nothing to do with the current church age.

### **4 Will The Jews Convert Half The World?**

- How can it happen if the Holy Spirit has been withdrawn from the world as the futurist claims?
- Consider [1 Corinthinans 12:3].
- Will the Jews do more without the Holy Spirit in 7 years than the entire Christian church has done with the Holy Spirit in 2000 years?
- This gives a false hope that salvation can be obtained after the rapture.
- Next time we will see that **'futurism'** is also mistaken with regard to the identity of antichrist and the time and duration of the tribulation.

## **Teaching Biblically • Thinking Biblically • Living Biblically**

**Whitewell Metropolitan Tabernacle** 837-869 Shore Road Belfast BT15 4HS  
Tel: 028 9077 7074 Email: info@whitewell.church  
[www.whitewell.church](http://www.whitewell.church)



Reading: **Revelation 1: 1 - 3**

### **Introduction**

- There are 2 opposing camps on how Bible prophecy is understood. The **'Historicist'** camp and the **'Dispensational Futurist'** camp.

### **1 The HISTORICIST position** (Shown on the first diagram)

- The **'church age'** began on day of Pentecost with the coming of the Holy Spirit and will conclude with the return of Christ and the **'rapture'** of His church.
- On the isle of Patmos God gave the apostle John a panoramic preview of the church age called **'the book of Revelation.'**
- It was given to show **"things which must shortly come to pass,"** NOT things that still haven't been fulfilled 2000 years later.
- Revelation is the story of what Christ's church would face and go through in the church age.
- Persecution by **'pagan Rome'** and then for centuries, **'papal Rome.'**

**NB.** The church age is **ORANGE** in colour, the Millennium is **PINK** in colour and the eternal state is **BLUE** in colour.

### **2 The FUTURIST position** (Shown on the second diagram)

- Up until the coming of the Holy Spirit to the church at Pentecost things are fairly similar to the Historicists.

## HISTORIST TIMELINE OF BIBLE PROPHECY



## DISPENSATIONAL FUTURIST TIMELINE OF BIBLE PROPHECY

