

# WELCOME TO THE FUTURE -NOW-

[PART 26]

THE HISTORICIST CAMP  
VS THE FUTURIST CAMP

Reading: **2 Kings 4:38 - 41**

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## Introduction

- ***"It is important church that you should have clear knowledge on the subject of Bible prophecy especially regarding the 'end times.'"***
- Why is there a lot of confusion on the matter of **'end times?'**

## 1 There Are Three Different Camps

- **Praeterist:** the contents of the book of Revelation were only to do with 1st century church.
- **Historicist:** Until the mid 1800's this was the only view believed and accepted by protestant churches.
  - : There has already been a chronological fulfilment over the centuries of many of Revelation's prophecies.
  - : Revelation 1 - 19 are to do with this church age.
  - : Advocates include Wycliff, Luther, Tyndale, John Wesley, C.H. Spurgeon etc.
- **Futurist** : This would be the majority view of today's evangelical church.
  - : It claims Revelation 4 - 22 is nothing to do with the church age and is **ALL** future.
  - : That Christ's coming is a two stage coming, each coming separated by 7 years.
  - : This imagined 7 year period is considered to be **'Daniel's 70th week.'**
  - : This arrangement implies 3 comings for Christ (the manger, the Rapture and then with the church.)
  - : Advocates include J.N. Darby, Hal Lindsey, Tim LayHaye/Barry Jenkins, John MacArthur.

## 2 The Founders/Fathers Of Futurism

- For over 1000 years Catholicism had kept the people in darkness and deprived of Scriptural light, they were fed godless superstition.
- On Wednesday 31st October 1517 God used a catholic priest to begin to **'turn the lights on.'**
- Through reading the Bible the **'Reformers'** made two earth shaking discoveries:
  - That salvation something that was **'received'** by faith alone and **NOT 'achieved'** by human efforts.
  - That the dynasty or succession of popes fulfilled the criteria of the Bible's **'man of sin'** mentioned in the book of Revelation.
- Subsequently multitudes **'came out'** of Catholicism forming new **'protesting churches.'**
- To stop the haemorrhaging of its people Rome launched its **'counter Reformation'** headed by the Jesuits.
- Jesuits priests (Francisco Ribera, Cardinal Robert Bellarmine and Manuel Lacunza) formulated **'Futurism.'**
- That all the prophecies in Revelation (including with regard to the antichrist) would only be fulfilled after the end of the church age thus letting papacy of the hook.
- **NB.** Up until 1830 this was a RC doctrine alien to Protestant and Evangelical churches.
- How did this Jesuit deception worm its way into the heart of evangelical church today?
- Lacunza's book **'The Coming Of The Messiah In Glory And Majesty'** found its way into the library of the archbishop of Canterbury.
- The librarian (Samuel Roffey Maitland) was impressed by its ideas and began to publish tracts on it in church of England.
- A curate called John N. Darby was won over and he founded the **'Plymouth Brethren'** churches.
- He preached the notion throughout USA.
- He also persuaded C.I. Scofield to include the ideas in the study notes of the **'Scofield Reference Bible.'**
- Inadvertently they have gathered a wild and poisonous gourd and mixed it in the pot of healthy Christian food.

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