

On Apocalypse and Eras

The Apocalypse is a concept visited upon extensively throughout our text, and while certainly Christian Foundational Writings explores the topic in great detail, particularly with the book of Revelations, it is present across many writings. The various Hebrew books seem to detail it as an entirely Earthly thing, a great scathing of the world that leaves but a few righteous left. Yet Christian writings continually uphold it as a reality shattering event, including the resurrection of every human, the skies going dark, and even the fading of both Heaven and Earth, according to Jesus. Yet one image remains consistent: purification of the world and humanity, through whatever means that entails.

The Pentateuch: Is there an apocalypse?

-No clear and direct references to an apocalypse.

-Cataclysms occur with some regularity (The Flood, Sodom and Gomorrah, Plagues of Egypt, Etc.).

-Why do these occur?: Usually as a means of purging the unclean and unrighteous.

-God's Unilateral Covenant with Noah:

“I will never again curse the ground because of humankind, for the inclination of the heart is evil from youth; nor will I ever again destroy every living creature as I have done. As long as Earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease.” (Genesis 9, 21-22).

-God won't destroy Earth on account of humanity, but this promise does not account for other factors. Not every living creature will be destroyed, but it leaves open the avenue to destroy many and leave a few.

Isaiah 24 - 27: An earthly cleansing.

“Now the Lord is about to lay waste the earth and make it desolate, and he will twist its surface and scatter its inhabitants.” (Isaiah 24, 1).

-Bear in mind this is during the periods of social unrest surrounding the prophets.

“For the Lord comes out from his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity.” (Isaiah 26, 21).

-Leads into the remnant who return to rebuild, who are ostensibly among the righteous.

Christian Foundational Writings

-Yet again, a time of unrest due to Roman oppression and corruption, which could be cleaned up.

-Direct statements regarding an apocalypse and what follows after.

-In the end, the good are saved while the evil are cast down.

“The Kingdom of Heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets, but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire,” (Matthew 13, 47-50).

-There will be portents heralding the apocalypse

“For nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be famines and earthquakes in various places: all this is but the beginning of the birth pangs” (Matthew 24, 7-8).

“Immediately after the suffering of those days the sun will be darkened and the moon will not give its light; the star will fall from heaven, and the powers of heaven will be shaken. The sign of the son of man shall appear in heaven... and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.” (Matthew 24, 29-30.)

What time does the Apocalypse start Jesus?

-Every century there's one claim or another to Apocalypse, some large, some small.

-Jesus claims of the Apocalypse that of “that day and that hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.” (Matthew 24, 36.)

-Yet also claims a few lines previously that “Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place.” (Matthew 24, 34.)

-He's proving his own point, unless there was an Apocalypse we have no clue about, Jesus too was wrong about the day and the hour, because that generation did indeed pass away before those things happened.

-And so the Apocalypse is rendered down to a date of Soon(TM)

-Keep in mind it took generations for God to get the descendents of Abraham into the Land, and thus, there's no telling when an apocalypse could come.