

Latter Days, Later Days  
When is the End?

**OLD TESTAMENT**

- 1) **The Law** [both are a translation of *acharith yom*]
  - a) Deut. 4:30—the *latter* days
  - b) Deut. 31:29—the *latter* days
  
- 2) **The Latter Prophets**
  - a) Days [all are a translation of *acharith yom*]
    - i) Is. 2:2—the *last* days
    - ii) Jer. 23:20—the *last* days
    - iii) Jer. 30:24—the *latter* days
    - iv) Jer. 48:47—the *latter* days
    - v) Jer. 49:39—the *last* days
    - vi) Ezek. 38:16—the *last* days
    - vii) Hos. 3:5—the *last* days
    - viii) Micah 4:1—*last* days
  - b) Day of the LORD [*yom Yahweh*]
    - i) Is. 13:6, 9
    - ii) Ezek. 30:3
    - iii) Joel 2:1, 11, 31
    - iv) Joel 3:14
    - v) Amos 5:18 (2x), 20
    - vi) Obad. 1:15
    - vii) Zeph. 1:7, 8, 14 (2x)
    - viii) Mal. 4:5
  - c) Day of the LORD’S anger [*‘aph*]
    - i) Zeph. 2:2, 3
  - d) Day of the LORD’S wrath [*ebrah*]
    - i) Zeph. 1:18
  - e) Years
    - i) Ezek. 38:8—the *latter* years [*acharith shanah*]
  
- 3) **The Writings**
  - a) Dan. 2:28—the *latter* days [*acharith yom*]
  - b) Dan. 10:14—the *latter* days [*acharith yom*]
  - c) Dan. 11:35, 40—the *time of the end* [*be’eth kets*]
  - d) Dan. 12:9—the *end time* [*be’eth kets*]

**NEW TESTAMENT**

**1) Gospels**

- a) The Last Day [all are a translation of *eschatos hemera*]
  - Curiously singular; probably a future Resurrection Day
  - i) John 6:39, 40, 44, 54—the *last day*
  - ii) John 11:24—the *last day*
  - iii) John 12:48—the *last day*
- b) The End [all are a translation of *telos*]
  - i) Matt. 10:22—the *end*
  - ii) Matt. 24:6, 13, 14—the *end* (of the Tribulation)
  - iii) Mk. 13:7, 13—the *end*
  - iv) Lk. 21:9—the *end*
- c) The End [all are a translation of *sunteleia aion*]
  - i) Matt. 13:30, 40, 49—the *end of the age*
  - ii) Heb. 9:26—the *consummation of the ages*

**2) Acts**

- a) Acts 2:17 (cf. Joel 2:28-32)—the *last days* [*eschatos hemera*]
- b) Acts 2:20—the *day of the Lord* [*hemera kurios*]

**3) Epistles**

- a) The End [all are a translation of *telos*]
  - i) First Cor. 1:8—*end*
  - ii) First Cor. 10:11—the *ends of the ages* [*aion*]
  - iii) First Cor. 15:24—the *end*
  - iv) Heb. 3:14—*end*
  - v) Heb. 6:11—*end*
  - vi) First Pet. 4:7—the *end* of all things
  - vii) Rev. 2:26—*end*
- b) Last Days [all are a translation of *eschatos hemera*]
  - i) Second Tim. 3:1—*last days*
  - ii) Heb. 1:2—these *last days*
  - iii) James 5:3—*last days*
  - iv) Second Pet. 3:3—the *last days*
- c) Later Times
  - i) First Tim. 4:1—*later times* [*husteros kairos*] (emphasis on period of opportunity, a season)
- d) The Last Time
  - i) First Pet. 1:5—the last time [*eschatos kairos*]
  - ii) Jude 1:18—the last time [*eschatos chronos*] (emphasis on succession of measured periods)
- e) The Last Times
  - i) First Pet. 1:20—the last times [*eschatos chronos*]

- f) The Last Hour
  - i) First John 2:18 (2x)—*last hour* [*eschatos ora*]
- g) The Day of the Lord [all are a translation of *hemera kurios*]
  - i) First Cor. 1:8—*the day of our Lord Jesus Christ*
  - ii) First Cor. 5:5—*the day of the Lord Jesus*
  - iii) First Thess. 5:2—*the day of the Lord*
  - iv) Second Thess. 2:2—*the day of the Lord* (some MSS read *Christ*)
- h) The Day of Christ [all are a translation of *hemera christos*]
  - i) Phil. 1:6—*the day of Christ Jesus*
  - ii) Phil. 1:10—*the day of Christ*
  - iii) Phil. 2:16—*the day of Christ*

<b>OBSERVATIONS</b>
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- 1) There is consistency in the use of the phrase.
- 2) There was some familiarity with the phrase “the last day” in Jesus’ time.
  - a) Cf. Martha’s statement in John 11:24
- 3) Differing interpretations:
  - a) Some would argue that the latter/last days begin with Israel’s world-wide dispersion, the succession of Gentile world kingdoms displaced by the earthly messianic kingdom, and Israel’s restoration to king blessing. (Henry Holloman)
  - b) Some would argue that the latter/last days appear to begin with the first coming of Christ and will conclude with His second coming and the eventual dissolution of the earth. (R. McCune)
- 4) We are said to currently be in the last hour. (1 John 2:18)
- 5) Other: