

Grace Evangelical Free Church  
Issues & Answers: America and Biblical End-Times Prophecy

All major nations will be a part of the “one-world order” of the End Times. If the United States still exists at that time, it would be included in the prophecies of the future global economy, one-world government and one-world religion.

However, there are no definite prophecies in the Bible specifically addressing the United States per se. In none of the prophecies of the end times, including that of the Battle of Gog and Magog in **Ezekiel 38-39**, and the Battle of Armageddon predicted in the **Book of Revelation**, do we find the United States listed specifically. Thus, we deduce the United States is not a major factor in the end-times prophetic scenario. So, the question we must ask is “Why?”

Various groups try to find the United States in prophecy, and some of their interpretations show great creativity. Some see the United States as the second beast that rises from the earth in **Revelation 13**. Others see the “**people tall and smooth-skinned, . . . feared far and wide**” in **Isaiah 18:2** as a reference to Americans, although the context is an oracle against Cush (**v. 1**). Still others point to **Ezekiel 38:13**, which, in describing the Battle of Gog and Magog, refers to “**the merchants of Tarshish and all her villages**”: according to this theory, “**Tarshish**” is Britain, and the “**villages**” are the English-speaking colonies such as the United States of America. And then there’s the reference to the “**great eagle**” that protects the woman/Israel in **Revelation 12:14**—another reference to the United States’ role in the end times, according to some.

The problem is that the above interpretations require a good amount of speculation and seem to come from an Anglo-centric (or at least an America-centric) perspective. The fact remains that the United States of America is not clearly specified in any end-times prophecy in the Bible. We assume that general prophecies that pertain to all the nations of the world will include the United States: if the U.S. is still in existence in the end times, it will be one of the “**all nations**” judged by God (**Isaiah 34:2-3**; **Haggai 2:7**; **Joel 3:2**) and one of the “**all nations**” that flow to Zion to worship the True King (**Isaiah 2:2**).

One of the reasons no clear reference may be simply because the United States did not exist in Biblical times, so God did not lead the Biblical authors to write about a nation that was not to be founded for thousands of years in the future. That is a possibility. Yet, as powerful and influential as our nation is, we must explore other possibilities as well. For instance, by the time last-days prophecies are fulfilled:

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- The United States may have been physically destroyed and eliminated by an act of war or terrorism.
- The United States may have declined into a second-rate nation and no longer a major power player in the end times – possibly because of war; very possibly due to financial decline crippling the culture, creditors becoming tormentors (**Matthew 18:34**) including debt held by other global powers.
- The United States may be led by someone in the last days who refuses to come to the aid of the nation of Israel in her most desperate hour, consequently relegated by God as defenseless and useless with respect to a role in the world’s prophetic end.
- The United States, no longer able to “go it alone” on the world scene, may be compelled to join forces with the Antichrist and become a part of his revived Roman Empire, surrendering its identity unable to be Biblically referenced or recognized.

One important factor worth considering, especially in relation to that last point, is the effect of the rapture of the Church. If there really are literally millions of genuinely born-again Christians in America, the effect of the rapture of the Church would be to immediately force the United States into second-rate status among the nations of the world, if not collapsing entirely.

The loss of millions of people in America would have a catastrophic effect on the world economy, and on the balance of military and political power in the world. The world would be left in chaos. There would be an immediate cry for someone to lead America and the world out of confusion and despair and back to peace and prosperity. The Bible tells us that such a call will be answered by the Antichrist who most likely will strip away nationalities.

This is not to say that the rapture would not impact other nations around the world. Certainly, it would, because the Church, the Body of Christ, exists in every nation. But in America particular, the loss of just several million people would place the nation in political, economic and military chaos and confusion.

So, after the rapture, and the Lord calls the Church home to be with Him, we can certainly understand how a great world leader could come on the scene and become a world dictator, working to stabilize the global economy and bring peace, change and stability for the future. In such a scenario, if still in existence physically or otherwise, the United States would become a follower rather than a leader. Thus, any prophecies concerning the Antichrist and his kingdom also become pertinent to America as this nation comes under his umbrella, so to speak, in the end times.