God’s War Plan for the Last Days

Seven stages • Based on the article’s interpretive framework • Sequence schematic, not to scale

Goal: Reconcile all things, subdue God’s enemies, destroy death, and present the kingdom to the Father.

1 Conquer the Underworld

Christ’s first coming • Complete

Christ’s death and resurrection remedy humanity’s sin and enemy status.

Underworld secured → Death and Hades captured → Faithful captives liberated

Strategy and references

- Jesus enters the realm of the dead and takes dominion.
- Death and Hades serve His purposes until their final destruction.
- People of faith follow Christ into heaven as His spoils of war.

Romans 5:6; Ephesians 4:7–10; Revelation 5:5–6; 2 Corinthians 5:18–19

2 Recruit and Train Believers

Church age • Ongoing for over 2,000 years, as described in the article

The gospel and Holy Spirit prepare faithful believers for royal service.

Qualified stewards ready to replace fallen rulers

Stage 2 continues into Stage 3; preparation and placement overlap.

Strategy and references

- Identify, choose, and train believers for vacated or newly created positions.
- Faithfulness and character formation qualify believers for honorable service.
- Daniel and his companions illustrate preparation for royal administration.

Daniel 1:3–7; John 14:2ff.; 2 Peter 1:10; 2 Timothy 2:20–21

3 Reclaim Heaven and Prepare Earth

Future in the article • Approximately 4 years

Evict fallen powers from heaven, preserve Israel, and overthrow the Beast's kingdom.

Heaven secured → Hostile powers judged → Satan bound

Strategy and sequence

- Michael's armies cast Satan and fallen angels to earth.
- Fallen groups gather on earth; resurrected believers fill vacated positions in stages.
- Israel is protected while the Dragon and Beast claim Jerusalem.
- Apparent retreat gives way to Christ's surprise attack before the Beast's allotted 42 months expire.
- Israel receives its Messiah; fallen enemies are judged and consigned to the Lake of Fire.
- Satan is excepted from this final judgment and imprisoned for 1,000 years.

Revelation 12:7–8; Revelation 19:20; Matthew 25:31ff.; Jude 6

4 Christ Rules on Earth

Millennium • 1,000 years

Christ reigns from Jerusalem, assisted by believers; the earth is renovated.

Israel prepared for stewardship → Believers prepared for inheritance

Purpose of the reign

- Peace and prosperity follow the removal of hostile spiritual influences.
- Christ rules with a rod of iron because human sin remains.
- Faithful Israel learns obedience and prepares to replace believers on the Divine Council.
- Believers prepare to receive their own inheritance after faithful service.

5 The Final Test

After the Millennium • Duration unknown

Satan is released; rebellion is exposed and Israel's faithfulness tested.

Rebels destroyed by fire from heaven → Earth secured

Strategy and sequence

- Christ and His church return to heaven; Israel remains His representative on earth.
- Satan works through Gog and gathers a human army against Jerusalem.
- Israel remains loyal; fire from heaven destroys the exposed rebels.

6 Mop Up Operation

Final judgment • Duration unspecified

The present heavens and earth dissolve; the remaining dead are raised and judged.

Satan, Death, and Hades removed → Kingdom presented to the Father

Final dispositions

- Satan, Death, Hades, and human rebels are delivered to the Lake of Fire.
- The remainder of the dead are judged according to their works and assigned their places.
- Christ presents the kingdom to the Father: conquest complete.

Overarching passage: 1 Corinthians 15:20–28

7 A New Creation Emerges

Eternity

New Heaven and New Earth; New Jerusalem descends to earth.

Death no more → All assigned their places → Heirs receive their inheritance

Completion of the plan

- The Underworld is no longer needed.
- Every person and entity occupies an assigned place following judgment.
- The Spirit and the Bride invite earth's inhabitants to the wedding supper.

Foundation: Hebrews 1:1–2; Hebrews 2:5–8; Matthew 28:18; Colossians 1:15–16; Ephesians 3:9–10; 1 Corinthians 15:20–28.