

**COMMENTARY ON  
THE  
BOOK OF REVELATION**

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# Interpretation of Scripture

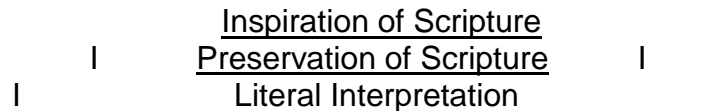
Everything must have a proper foundation. The Book of Revelation is a prophetic book. In order to understand it, you must interpret the Bible correctly or you will end up with a symbolic mess that does not flow with the rest of Scripture.

## The Foundation for Truth:

Literal Interpretation founded upon

Preservation of Scripture founded upon

Inspiration of Scripture



How one interprets the Scriptures will greatly determine what they believe about the Book of Revelation. Many see the four horsemen, the beast, the dragon, and conclude that the Book of Revelation is a symbolic book and must be interpreted differently than the rest of the Bible. There is no basis for this argument. Revelation must be interpreted the same way any other portion of Scripture is interpreted.

**25% of the Bible is prophecy.** Hence how we interpret prophecy will directly affect our Biblical studies.

## There are 4 ways to interpret Scripture:

### 1) Allegorical

Those who believe in allegorical interpretation leave the literal sense and seek a 'deeper' meaning. They will say things such as:

"What the Bible says is this, but what it really means is..."

"The literal sense is a vehicle for a secondary, more spiritual sense."

This method of interpretation puts the mind of the interpreter as the authority.

This opens the door to speculation and imagination. God takes a back-seat to the fanciful ideas of the one who is stating the meaning of the verse.

### 2) Tradition

Those who believe this consider the tradition of the church is above the authority of the Scripture.

### 3) Literal Interpretation – except for future prophecy

This group will interpret all Scripture literally but will say that Revelation is symbolic. They will spiritualize prophecy and interpret it different than other parts of the Bible.

### 4) Literal Interpretation

This is the method that elevates the Bible to a position of authority. If the literal sense makes sense, seek no other sense. One must:

Take the very word at its primary, ordinary, usual literal meaning unless the facts of the context indicate otherwise.

This allows the Bible – to be the Authority on what the Bible means. It means what it says.

The literal interpretation allows for verses that are symbolic to be interpreted as such.

The only way to know how God will fulfill prophecy in the future is to see how He fulfilled it in the past. If the 1<sup>st</sup> coming of Christ is fulfilled literally, the 2<sup>nd</sup> coming must also be literal.

Compare Isaiah chapter 2 and Isaiah chapter 53. Both are prophecies at the time of their writings. Isaiah chapter 53 is a prophecy concerning Christ's first coming. It was written near 700 B.C. and was fulfilled literally. Isaiah chapter 2 is a prophecy concerning Christ's second coming. It was written near 700 B.C. also. There is no reason to interpret these two passages differently. Christ's second coming will be interpreted literal just as His first coming was.

There is no reason to be intimidated by symbolism. If the Scripture does not make sense literally, then often a symbolic meaning must be found. This is not an exhaustive study on hermeneutics, but most times, the interpretation of prophecy is as simple as following common sense as we note in the following exercise.

### Symbolic or Literal?

- 1) Days of creation are literal

Gen. 1:5,8,13,19,23,31,2:2 are the seven days described. Moses tells us that they are literal!

Exodus 20:11 For *in* six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them *is*, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it.

- 2) Adam & Eve are two literal people

Gen. 1:27, 2:21-22

Romans 5:12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world...

- 3) The 7 churches in Rev. ch 1-3 are 7 literal churches in 7 literal cities.

- 4) The 144,000 in Rev. 7 are 144,000 literal people from the 12 literal tribes of Israel. There is no reason to not believe these are literal.

- 5) The 4 horsemen of chapter 6 are symbolic. This is explained in the context.

- 6) The 'woman' and the 'dragon' of Rev. 12 are symbolic:

Revelation 12:1 And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a **woman** clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars: 2 And she being with child cried, travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered. 3 And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red **dragon**, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads. 4 And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the **dragon** stood before the **woman** which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born. 5 And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and *to* his throne. 6 And the **woman** fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred *and* threescore days. 7 And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the **dragon**; and the **dragon** fought and his angels, 8 And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. 9 And the great **dragon** was cast out, **that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan**, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.... 13 And when the **dragon** saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the **woman** which brought forth the man *child*. 14 And to the **woman** were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent. 15 And the **serpent** cast out of his mouth water as a flood after the **woman**, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood. 16 And the earth helped the **woman**, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the **dragon** cast out of his mouth. 17 And the

**dragon** was wroth with the **woman**, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

Verse 9 tells us who the 'dragon' is. He is the serpent; the devil; Satan – all one and the same.

This is consistent with other Scriptures:

2 Corinthians 11:3 But I fear, lest by any means, as the **serpent** beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

Revelation 20:2 And he laid hold on the **dragon**, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years,

Genesis 3:1 Now the **serpent** was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?

Genesis 3:14-15 And the LORD God said unto the **serpent**... And I will put enmity between thee and the **woman**, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

As we study the book of Revelation, it is to be interpreted literally. If the literal sense does not make sense, or if the Bible plainly states that something is symbolic; only then should we seek a symbolic meaning.

Read Matthew ch 24. It is a great chapter on future prophecy. Literal interpretation is throughout this chapter.

This Book of Revelation is a wonderful book. John was told, "What thou seest, write in a book" (Rev. 1:11). Then John states, "I saw..." Rev. 1:12, 5:1, 6:1, 7:1, 8:2, 9:1, 10:1, 13:1, 14:6, 15:1, 16:13, 17:3, 18:1, 19:11, 20:1, 21:1, and 22:8.

Note the word "and" in the book of Revelation. "And" appears 1174 times. This is a fast paced book. "And" begins the following verses: Rev. 5:1, 6:1, 7:1, 8:1, 9:1, 10:1, 11:1, 12:1, 13:1, 14:1, 15:1, 16:1, 17:1, 18:1, 19:1, 20:1, 21:1, and 22:1 (among many others).

The word "great" appears 72 times.

The book of Revelation contains many references from the rest of the Bible. "Of the 404 verses of the Book, not fewer than 280 contain references to the Jewish Scriptures."<sup>1</sup>

Let's get an overview before we study verse by verse.

## Primary Purposes of Revelation

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<sup>1</sup> Scroggie, Graham The Unfolding Drama of Redemption, Vol. III, p.364

John tells us why he wrote the Gospel of St. John (John 20:31); why he wrote I John (I Jn. 5:13); why he wrote II John (II Jn 12); why he wrote III John (III Jn 13-14); and now he tells us why he wrote the Book of Revelation:

Revelation 1:1 The (1) **Revelation of Jesus Christ**, which God gave unto him, **(2) to shew** unto his servants **things which must shortly come to pass**; and he sent and signified *it* by his angel unto his servant John:

### **Three primary purposes of the Book of Revelation:**

#### **1) Revelation of Jesus Christ - the unveiling of Jesus Christ**

Revelation - Greek word ' Apokaluyij ' (Apocaluptis) - meaning 'to unveil.' - like an artist unveiling a picture as he removes the blanket that covers the canvas. Jesus is unveiled to us!

#### **2) To shew** (unto his servants – that's you & me)

**things which must shortly come to pass.** Prophecy is explained!

#### **3) To take back that which was lost in the Garden of Eden to Satan**

The key thought of this book as a whole is that Jesus is coming back to set up His kingdom!

**Key Thought:** Christ is coming to set up His kingdom.

He opens the 7 sealed book – the title deed to the earth (Rev. 5)

His kingdom to come / The earth is to be taken back (Rev. 10:5-7)

**Key Verse** Rev. 11:15 The 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet is the key time for this to occur

## **Capstone of the Bible**

### **I) The Book of Revelation -- The Capstone of the Bible**

If it weren't for the book of Revelation, there would be much of the entire Bible that would be incomplete. Revelation completes the Bible; it is a capstone.

The following events are only known because we have the book of Revelation:

God holds the 7 sealed book in His right hand

Jesus holds the 7 angels (pastors) in His right hand

7 seal, 7 trumpet, & 7 vial judgments

144,000 witnesses / 2 witnesses

1/3 of the angels fell with Lucifer / Israel goes into hiding for 1260 days

False resurrection of Antichrist

The False Prophet / Mark of the Beast

Mystery Babylon / How the city of Babylon will be destroyed

Jesus returning on a white horse / Marriage Supper of the Lamb

1000 year reign of Christ (Only place the time frame is given)

The final battle of Gog and Magog / Satan is bound for 1000 years

Great White Throne Judgment / New Jerusalem

Hence, the Book of Revelation is a "Completer" to the entire Bible

### **II) Chapter by Chapter division**

Ch 1 Jesus as High Priest in midst of church

Ch 2-3	Jesus commends, condemns & counsels churches
Ch 4-5	Around the Throne after the Rapture
Ch 6	7 seals
Ch 7	144,000 witnesses
Ch 8-10	7 Trumpets
Ch 11	Temple on Earth & 2 Witnesses
Ch 12	Israel
Ch 13	Antichrist
Ch 14	Angels & Harvest
Ch 15	Temple in Heaven
Ch 16	7 Vials
Ch 17	False Church
Ch 18	Babylon rebuilt
Ch 19	Marriage Supper & 2nd Coming
Ch 20	Judgment
Ch 21	New Jerusalem
Ch 22	For ever and ever

### III) Timeframe of Events

The book of Revelation has timeframes within it. Notice the key words, phrases, and verses that give us time and timeframes within the twenty-two chapters.

There are two great thoughts concerning *time*, and then a timeframe breakdown is given in the first chapter.

A) **Christ transcends time.** This is given in both chapter 1 and 22.

Revelation 1:8 I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

Revelation 22:13 I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.

B) **Time is brief.** *Quickly* and *Shortly* refer to more than nineteen hundred years. Time is brief compared to eternity.

Revelation 1:1 The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified *it* by his angel unto his servant John:

Revelation 22:7 Behold, I come quickly: blessed *is* he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book.

Revelation 22:12 And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward *is* with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.

Revelation 22:20 He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus.

C) A **timeframe** breakdown **is given**.

Revelation 1:19 Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter...

#### 1) The Church Age

The church age is addressed in chapters one through three. Chapter four tells of things which occur after the rapture.

Revelation 4:1 After this I looked, and, behold, a door was opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, Come up hither, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter.

## 2) The Tribulation Period

A) The tribulation period is referred to as the *day of wrath* and the *day of God*.

Revelation 6:17 For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?

Revelation 16:14 For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, *which* go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.

B) The tribulation period starts with the opening of the first seal.

Revelation 6:1 And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, Come and see.  
It starts with the signing of peace treaty by Antichrist. (Dan. 9:24-27)

C) The two witnesses appear in the first half of the tribulation.

Revelation 11:3 And I will give *power* unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth.

D) The last half of the tribulation contains the following events:

- Jerusalem is trodden down:

Revelation 11:2 But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under foot forty and two months.

- Israel goes into hiding:

Revelation 12:6 And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days.

Revelation 12:14 And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent.

- Antichrist becomes the Beast:

Revelation 13:4-5 And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who *is* like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him? And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months.

- The seventh trumpet is inclusive of the last half of the tribulation. It continues until the 'mystery of God is finished.'

Revelation 10:6-7 And sware by him that liveth for ever and ever, who created heaven, and the things that therein are, and the earth, and the things that therein are, and the sea, and the things which are therein, that there should be time no longer: But in the days of the voice of the

seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets.

E) The end of the tribulation concludes with Armageddon.

Revelation 16:16-17 And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon. And the seventh angel poured out his vial into the air; and there came a great voice out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, It is done.

F) Armageddon interrupted by Jesus returning on a white horse.

Revelation 19:11 And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.

### 3) The Millennial Reign of Christ

The only place in the Bible that states that the reign of Christ is one thousand years is in chapter twenty.

Revelation 20:2 And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years,<sup>3</sup> And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.<sup>4</sup> And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and *I saw* the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received *his* mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.<sup>5</sup> But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This *is* the first resurrection.<sup>6</sup> Blessed and holy *is* he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.<sup>7</sup> And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison,<sup>8</sup> And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom *is* as the sand of the sea.

### 4) Christ's Everlasting Kingdom

Christ's everlasting kingdom begins as eternity has arrived and time is no longer a factor. This is the ultimate plan and purpose of God. *Revelation* ends with eternity beginning.

Revelation 11:15 And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become *the kingdoms of our Lord*, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

Revelation 21:4 And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.<sup>5</sup> And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.<sup>6</sup> And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.

Revelation 22:5 And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever.



# Timeframe Keys Within the Book of Revelation

## 1. Division of Chapters

Revelation 1:19 Write the things which thou hast seen (Ch 1), and the things which are (Ch 2-3), and the things which shall be hereafter (Ch 4-22)

## 2. The Timing of the Rapture

2 Thessalonians 2:6 And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time. <sup>7</sup> For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth *will let*, until he be taken out of the way. <sup>8</sup> And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming.

The rapture occurs first, and then Antichrist is revealed. This is a key, as the tribulation opens up with Antichrist signing a covenant. Hence, the tribulation is a time for Israel, not the church.

### Why the Rapture *must* occur **before** the Tribulation Period

The work and ministry of the Holy Spirit necessitates that the rapture occurs before the tribulation period. The book of Thessalonians is a doctrinal book with much emphasis on the return of the Lord. It is here (II Thessalonians) where it is emphatically taught that the Holy Spirit will take all believers to heaven before the Antichrist is revealed.

### **The indwelling of the Holy Spirit is a gift for all believers in the N.T.:**

Acts 2:38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Romans 8:9 But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.

### **This indwelling will be forever:**

John 14:16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever...

### **The ministry of the Holy Spirit down to earth started after Jesus was glorified:**

John 7:37 In the last day, that great *day* of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. <sup>38</sup> He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. <sup>39</sup> (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)

The ministry of the Holy Spirit leaving earth will occur just before the Antichrist is revealed:

2 Thessalonians 2:3 Let no man deceive you by any means: for *that day shall not come*, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; <sup>4</sup> Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God. <sup>5</sup> Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things? <sup>6</sup> And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time. <sup>7</sup> For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth *will let*, until he be taken out of the way. <sup>8</sup> And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: <sup>9</sup> *Even him*, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders...

“**He** who now letteth *will let*, until **he** be taken out of the way.” Who is this “he?” It is the Holy Spirit. He hinders the work of iniquity (through believers as the salt of the earth) – until he be taken out of the way – and then that Wicked (the wicked one / the lawless one) be revealed.

If the Holy Spirit leaves the earth, those whom He indwells forever must also leave.

And then shall that Wicked be revealed:

- That man of sin
- The son of perdition
- Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped;
- So that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God
- Whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming
- Whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders,

Rapture 1<sup>st</sup>  
II The. 2:6-7  
Rev. 4:1

And Then

Antichrist  
II The. 2:8  
Rev. 6:1-2

The Tribulation period starts when:

**In Heaven** – when Jesus opens the 1<sup>st</sup> seal, then the Antichrist is revealed:

Revelation 6:1 And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, Come and see. <sup>2</sup> And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer.

**On Earth** – when Antichrist signs a one week covenant, the tribulation period begins:

Daniel 9:27 And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make *it* desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.

Conclusion:

The Holy Spirit leaves the earth and all believers go up with Him --  
Then the Antichrist is revealed.

The Tribulation period begins when Antichrist signs a 7 year covenant.

Therefore, the Rapture is 1<sup>st</sup> – then the Tribulation period begins with the Antichrist signing a covenant. Thus, we will not know who the Antichrist is.

### 3. 70<sup>th</sup> Week of Daniel

Daniel 9:24 Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city...

Alas! for that day *is* great, so that none *is* like it: it *is* even the time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it (Jer. 30:7).

The tribulation is a continuation of the first sixty-nine weeks of Daniel. God is dealing with Israel. Their temple will be rebuilt in Jerusalem.

#### 4. Title Deed to the Earth

God will take back that which was given to Adam and lost to Satan. (Gen. 1:26-28, John 12:31,14,30, 16:11, Eph. 2:2, Matt. 4:8-9, Rom.8:19-23).

Revelation 5:1 And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the backside, sealed with seven seals.

Revelation 5:5 And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof.

Revelation 5:7 And he came and took the book out of the right hand of him that sat upon the throne.

Revelation 6:1 And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, Come and see.

#### 5. 7<sup>th</sup> Trumpet

Revelation 10:7 But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets.

Revelation 11:15 And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become *the kingdoms* of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

This trumpet is inclusive of all events from Rev. 11:15 to 20:3.

#### 6. Charts in Relation to 70<sup>th</sup> Week of Daniel and the Judgments

Charts to be handed out \*\*\*\*

### IV) Division of Revelation as a Whole

Many divide the Book of Revelation by the following:

Revelation 1:19 Write the things which thou hast seen (Chapter 1), and the things which are (Chapter 2-3), and the things which shall be hereafter (Chapter 4-22). This sounds good but the Book of Revelation is: *The Revelation of Jesus Christ*. It is a book about the Lord Jesus Christ and the *unveiling of Him!*

Hence, the Book of Revelation ought to be divided as follows:

#### 1) Revelation of Jesus Christ - the unveiling of Jesus Christ

He is unveiled as:

Ch 1-3	The High Priest in Midst of Church
Ch 4-5	Lamb Worthy of Praise
Ch 6-18	Wrath of the Lamb Poured Out
Ch 19:1-9	Marriage Supper of Lamb
Ch19:10-21	Coming King and Judge of All the Earth
Ch 20	1000 Year Reign
Ch 21-22	Lamb is the Light thereof

It is also a book of prophecy. Hence, the following:

#### 2) To shew ... things which must shortly come to pass

Ch 4-5	Post Rapture Scene in Heaven
Ch 6, 8-10	Judgments
Ch 7	144,000 Witnesses
Ch 11	2 Witnesses

Ch 12	Israel in the Tribulation
Ch 13	Antichrist & False Prophet
Ch 14	Harvest
Ch 17	False Church
Ch 18	Babylon Rebuilt
Ch 19	Marriage Supper / 2nd coming
Ch 20	1000 Year Reign / 1000 year Binding of Satan
Ch 21-22	All Things New

Finally, to understand the context of the Book of Revelation, one must realize God's intended purposes of the Tribulation Period.

### 3 Purposes of the Tribulation:

- 1) God's wrath poured out (Rev. 6:17)
- 2) Souls are saved (as God is pouring out His wrath)  
 Habakkuk 3:2 O LORD, I have heard thy speech, *and* was afraid: O LORD, revive thy work in the midst of the years, in the midst of the years make known; **in wrath remember mercy.**
- 3) Purge Israel to receive Christ as Messiah Zech. 13:8-9, 12:10

## IV) Concluding Remarks in Revelation

As the Book of Revelation concludes, there are four distinct reminders found in Rev. 22:

### I) Jesus is coming back soon

"And, behold, I come quickly..." Rev. 22:12a

### II) Rewards will be given

"...And my reward *is* with me, to give every man according as his work shall be."  
 Rev. 22:12b

### III) Invitation to Come to Christ

"And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely." Rev. 22:17

### IV) Warning against corrupting the Bible

"For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and *from* the things which are written in this book." Revelation 22:18-19

## ***The Book of Revelation is the Capstone to the entire Bible!!!***

Note as you read through Revelation:

- 7 Seal / 7 Trumpet / 7 Vial Judgments
- The 7 Sealed Book is the Title Deed to the Earth
- The Lamb opens the first seal – (in God's time)
- The 7<sup>th</sup> seal opens the 7 Trumpet judgments
- The 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet encompasses the rest of the book, including the 7 vial (bowl) judgments.
- The 7<sup>th</sup> Seal encompasses all the trumpet and vial judgments.
- The 7<sup>th</sup> Seal opens up at the half-way point of the Tribulation.

# Main Players in the Tribulation

**Lord Jesus Christ** – Christ comes for His saints at the *rapture* just before the Tribulation. He comes with His saints as He returns on a white horse. In the meantime, He pours out His wrath on the earth during the Tribulation, saves the repentant, and returns at the end of the 7 years to save Israel. At His 2<sup>nd</sup> coming, he also destroys the wicked and sets up His kingdom.

**Israel** – They sign a covenant with the Antichrist and rebuild their Temple as Moses and Elijah help them. Half-way into the 7 years, the Antichrist breaks the covenant and sits in the Temple as god. Israel goes into hiding for 1260 days and are supernaturally preserved and fed by God. As all nations gather to destroy them at Armageddon, they look up to Christ and receive Him as their Messiah as He is coming to earth on a white horse.

**Devil** – He gives his power to Antichrist to help him rule the earth. Halfway into the Tribulation, the devil is cast out of heaven and is cast down to earth. He takes his fury out on Israel, but God helps Israel. The devil is bound for 1000 years and is then loosed for a little season for one final rebellion. He is then cast into the lake of fire.

**Antichrist** – He signs a covenant (probably with Israel and the Muslims and solves the Middle East crisis). He is a peacemaker. Half-way into the Tribulation, he ‘rises from the dead’ and turns into the Beast. He sets himself up as god in the Temple. He rules the earth as the false Christ. He is destroyed when Christ comes to earth.

**False Prophet** – He is a religious leader that does great signs and wonders. He points people to worship the Antichrist. Half-way into the Tribulation, he demands that all receive the mark of the Beast to buy or sell. He is destroyed when Jesus returns.

**False Church** – The Antichrist rides the false church as he rises to power. The false church is headed up by Rome, however, the Charsimatics (TV church) will join in.

**God’s Preachers** – God uses the 144,000 Jews to preach the gospel to the whole world. These preachers will speak in tongues as the world will hear the gospel in their own language. An angel preaches in chapter 14, as all the 144,000 have been killed.

**Saved** – Those that get saved in the Tribulation will be martyred. Very few will be saved in the second half of the Tribulation.

**One World Society** – Antichrist will control politics (government), economy (mark of the Beast), and the religion (false church). The city of Babylon will be rebuilt as the economic center of the world.

**Church** – The believers of the church age will be raptured out before God pours out His wrath. They will take part in the Judgment Seat of Christ and the Marriage Supper of the Lamb while the Tribulation Period occurs.

**Holy Spirit** – He was given as a gift to indwell believers after Jesus was glorified. He is taken out just before the Antichrist is revealed and so all believers arise with Him. He works in the Tribulation the same way He did in the Old Testament. The Tribulation is the 70<sup>th</sup> week of Daniel and therefore a continuation of the dispensation of the first 69 weeks.

## I) Introduction

### Rev. 1:1-10

Revelation 1:1 The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John:

God gave to (his servant John)  
God sent it and signified it by His angel.

Revelation 22:16 I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, *and* the bright and morning star.

Revelation 1:2 Who bare record (1) of the word of God,  
and (2) of the testimony of Jesus Christ,  
and (3) of all things that he saw.

“Who bare record” – a human declaration of ascertainable facts based on first-hand knowledge.

John lists three things that ‘he bare record’ of. John puts ‘of all things that he saw’ on equal grounds with the Word of God and testimony of Christ.

Revelation 1:3 Blessed is he that readeth,  
and they that hear the words of this prophecy,  
and keep those things which are written therein:  
for the time *is* at hand.

You will be blessed to read / to read aloud and hear the book of Revelation.

You will be blessed if you keep those things which are written.

Revelation 22:7 Behold, I come quickly: *blessed is* he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book.

You will be cursed if you add or take away from the words of this prophecy:

Revelation 22:18-19 For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and *from* the things which are written in this book.

“The neglect (of the Book of Revelation) is an affront to God, because it implies either that the Book is not worth studying, or that it is impossible to know what it means. Yet it is sadly and widely neglected.”<sup>2</sup>

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Revelation 1:4-6

John

To: (the seven churches which are in Asia)

Grace *be* unto you, and peace,

From:

Him which is, and which was, and which is to come;

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<sup>2</sup> Scroggie, Graham The Unfolding Drama of Redemption, Vol. III, p.392

(and from) the seven Spirits which are before his throne;  
 (And from) Jesus Christ, *who is*  
 the faithful witness, *and*  
 (Who the first begotten of the dead, and  
 He is) the prince of the kings of the earth. (Unto him) that  
 -----  
 loved us, and  
 (What washed us from our sins in his own blood, And hath  
 He did) made us kings and priests unto God and his Father;  
 to him *be* glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

Revelation 1:7-8 **Behold,**  
 he cometh with clouds; (Acts 1:9-11) and  
 every eye shall see him, (Matt. 24:27) and  
 they *also* which pierced him (Jews): and all kindreds (Gentiles) of the earth shall wail  
 because of him. Even so, Amen.

I am:  
 Alpha and Omega, the  
 beginning and the ending, saith  
 the Lord,  
 which is, and which was, and which is to come,  
 the Almighty.

In the Book of Revelation, Jesus is *The Alpha and Omega, The First and The Last, The Beginning and The End, The First Begotten of the Dead, The Prince of the Kings of the Earth, The Lamb, The Lion, The Root and Offspring of David, and The Morning Star.*

God is eternal – this speaks of duration both of antiquity and futurity!  
 We are living in the midst of eternal past and eternity future – in “time.”  
 We are everlasting creatures – either in heaven or hell. The difference is the Lamb.  
 “Lamb” is found 26 times referring to Christ in the book of Revelation.

Rev. 1 9-10

John was companion in tribulation. (was pastor at Ephesus)  
 He was exiled to Patmos (10 miles long, 6 miles wide)  
 This was during Roman persecution under Domitian. It is said that after his death, John was  
 allowed to return to Ephesus when the Emperor Nerva ruled.

The Lord’s day – some think this refers to John foreseeing the “Day of the Lord.”  
 I think this just means that John was “having church” on Sunday – the Lord’s Day.

He heard a voice, as of a trumpet. (Rev. 1:15...“Revelation 1:15 ...and his voice as the sound of  
 many waters.”)

Note words such as; ‘as of’, ‘like as’, ‘like’  
 are words that describe something that is hard to define or are symbolic.

## II) High Priest in the Midst of the Church

Rev. 1:11-3:20 Jesus in midst of the churches.

Rev. 1:11

What thou seest

Write in a book

Send it to the 7 churches.

Write the (Rev.1:19)

Things which thou hast seen (ch 1)

Things which are (ch 2-3)

Things which shall be hereafter (ch 4-22)

Rev. 1:12-18 describes Jesus as the High Priest.

*Clothed with a garment down to the foot* tells of his official dignity.

*Girt about the paps with a golden girdle* speaks of the high priest in his Magisterial Office.

*His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow*

Similar description of God:

Daniel 7:9 I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire.

*His eyes were as a flame of fire* – penetrating discernment of Christ.

*His feet like unto fine brass* – speaks of judgment.

*Voice as the sound of many waters* – speaks of power and authority!

*Out of his mouth went a sharp two-edged sword* – the Word of God (Heb. 4:12).

*Countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength* – the churches are the lamps, the ministers are the stars, and the Lord is the sun.

Matthew 17:2 And was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light.

Rev. 1:20 unfolds the mystery of the stars and candlesticks:

The 7 stars are the 7 angels (7 angels are in His right hand).

The 7 candlesticks are the 7 churches (Jesus is walking in midst of them).

The 7 angels are the pastors – in the right hand of Jesus.

An angel is a messenger – usually a heavenly angel – but can mean a messenger.

The seven letters are addresses to them – no sense in addressing a letter to an angel –

It makes sense to address it to the pastor.

(The word for ‘angel’ is used to speak of an angel from heaven or a messenger.

Examples of the word used as a messenger are:

Luke 7:24 And when the messengers of John were departed, he began to speak unto the people concerning John, What went ye out into the wilderness for to see? A reed shaken with the wind? (vs. 27) This is *he*, of whom it is written, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee.

Luke 9:52 And sent messengers before his face: and they went, and entered into a village of the Samaritans, to make ready for him.

Hebrews 2:2 For if the word spoken by angels was stedfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompence of reward...)

The 7 churches Rev. 2-3

The 7 seals

Rev. 6 & 8:1

The 7 trumpets Rev. 8-10

The 7 vials

Rev. 15-16

The Seven letters to the 7 churches.



It may be that these 7 literal letters to 7 literal churches also represent church history:

Ephesus	(Desirable)	Apostolic era	30-100 A.D.
Smyrna	(Myrhh)	Persecuted era	100-312 A.D.
Pergamus	(Married)	Indulged era	312-606 A.D.
Thyatira	(Continual sacrifice)	Pagan era	606-1500 A.D.
Sardis	(Escaping ones)	Dead era	1500-1750 A.D.
Philadelphia	(Brotherly love)	Beloved	1750-1950
Laodicea	(Rule of the people)	Lukewarm	1950- present

The Characteristic of each Church:

Ephesus	Spiritual Decline
Smyrna	Brave Endurance
Pergamus	False Toleration
Thyatira	Worldly Compromise
Sardis	Religiosity
Philadelphia	True Fidelity
Laodicea	Fatal Indifference

The Seven Letters:

The typical order of each of the letters - Jesus commends, condemns and counsels.

Ch 2-3 Each letter ends with an admonition to those who are overcomers.

**Q) Who are these overcomers?**

A) They are the saved in the church age – that’s you and me:

**1 John 2:13** I write unto you, fathers, because ye have known him *that is* from the beginning. I write unto you, young men, because ye have overcome the wicked one. I write unto you, little children, because ye have known the Father.

**1 John 2:14** I have written unto you, fathers, because ye have known him *that is* from the beginning. I have written unto you, young men, because ye are strong, and the word of God abideth in you, and ye have overcome the wicked one.

**1 John 4:4** Ye are **of God**, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.

(Those born of God – John 3:3, 1:11-12)

**1 John 5:4** For whatsoever is **born of God overcometh** the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, *even* our faith.

**1 John 5:5** **Who is he that overcometh the world**, but **he that believeth** that Jesus is the Son of God?

**Revelation 21:7** He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.

**Q) What is promised to those who are overcomers?**

A) Seven different promises to individuals who are overcomers:

1) Eat from the tree of life (Rev. 2:7)

Gen. 3:22-24, Rev. 22:2

Eat from this tree you will live forever in the state that you are in.

2) Not hurt by the second death (Rev. 2:11)

Second death - Rev. 21:8, 20:11-15

Revelation 21:7-8 He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son. But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

1<sup>st</sup> death may hurt – but the second death is the one to be worried about.

- 3) Eat hidden manna &  
White stone engrave (Rev. 2:17)  
Hidden manna – daily provision that world cannot see.  
White stone – In court of law:
  - White stone – acquittal
  - Black stone – condemnationActs 26:10b 'I cast my voice against them'  
'I cast down my pebble'  
Paul as member of Sanhedrin condemned ones that will receive a white stone.  
God wrote – engraved in stones two tables of law  
Will engrave in white stone a new name written – no one knows but one that receives it  
– personal / intimate relationship (Rev. 19:12)
- 4) Rule & Reign with Him (Rev. 2:26-28)  
Only one with a contingency upon it.... And keepeth to the end. (Faithfulness)
  - A) Power and authority over nations
  - B) Rule with rod of iron (Rev. 19:15, Ps 2:8-9)
  - C) Give him Morning Star (Rev. 22:16, I Pet. 1:19)
- 5) Clothed with white robes (Rev. 3:5)  
Not blot name out of book of life  
Jesus will confess name before Father and angels!!
- 6) Pillar in Temple of God (Rev. 3:12)  
I Ki 7:15-22 2 pillars – Jachin (He shall establish)  
Boaz (He is my strength)  
These pillars are not for support, but bare witness to power and faithfulness of God  
Write upon him:
  - A) Name of my God Rev. 14:1
  - B) Name of city of my God – New Jerusalem
  - C) My New Name Rev. 19:12, 22:4
- 7) As Jesus is seated at right hand of Father – place of authority – we will be seated with Christ to rule and reign with Him. (Rev. 3:21)  
Matt. 19:28, II Tim. 2:11-12, Lk. 22:29-30  
Our position is by the blood – Rev. 1:5-6, 20:6b

## Rev. 2 :1-7 To Church at Ephesus

Revelation 2:1 Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write; These things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks;

The word *angel* can mean a heavenly angel or a messenger. The majority of the time - it means a heavenly angel. But, we find it to mean messenger in the following instances:

Luke 7:24 And when the messengers of John were departed, he began to speak unto the people concerning John, What went ye out into the wilderness for to see? A reed shaken with the wind?

Luke 7:27 This is *he*, of whom it is written, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee.

Luke 9:52 And sent messengers before his face: and they went, and entered into a village of the Samaritans, to make ready for him.

Hebrews 2:2 For if the word spoken by angels was steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense of reward;

Note in Friberg's Greek dictionary - he believes the angel to be the minister:

a;ggeloi, as one sent to tell or bring a message *messenger*; (1) of persons *messenger, envoy, one sent* (MK 1.2); (2) of divine messengers and agents of God *angel* (LU 1.26); (3) of demonic powers as Satan's messengers (*evil*) *angel* (MT 25.41); (4) specifically in RV 1.20; 2.1, 8, 12, 18; 3.1, 7, 14 probably *minister, one overseeing a group of believers under Jesus' supervision, messenger.*

Rev. 2:1 reminds us that Jesus is walking in the midst of the church. He holds the pastor in His right hand. He (Jesus) is the high priest who writes to condemn and commend the churches.

### **Commendation:**

Revelation 2:2-3 I know:

thy works, and  
thy labour, and (I The. 1:3)  
thy patience, and how  
thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou  
hast tried them which say they are apostles,  
and are not, and  
hast found them liars: And  
hast borne, and  
hast patience, and  
for my name's sake  
hast laboured, and  
hast not fainted.

Revelation 2:6 But this thou hast, that  
thou hatest the deeds of the Nicolaitans,  
which I also hate.

A) Jesus knows and will reward:

Matthew 10:42 And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold *water* only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward.

Hebrews 6:10 For God *is* not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister.

Revelation 22:12 And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward *is* with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.

B) The true apostles. There is the 'office' of apostle & then there are 'sent ones.'

The office of apostle:

1) Called by Jesus

Matthew 10:1 And when he had called unto *him* his twelve disciples, he gave them power *against* unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease. 2 Now the names of the twelve apostles are these...

2) Set by God in church

1 Corinthians 12:28 And God hath set some in the church, first apostles,

3) A gift of the Spirit to the church

Ephesians 4:11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; 12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

4) There are only 12 apostles (office of apostleship)

Revelation 21:14 And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

These claimed to be apostles – were liars! Paul warned them some 30 years before:  
Acts 20:17 And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus, and called the elders of the church.  
Acts 20:29 For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you,  
not sparing the flock. 30 Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to  
draw away disciples after them.

These are tares among wheat / wolves among sheep / false prophets / deceitful workers.

C) They expose and hate the Nicolaitians – nikao ‘to conquer’ laos ‘people’  
These Nicloiatians divided the clergy from the laity. They took away the freedom of the  
people – ‘let the clergy decide for you.’ This goes against Jesus’ teaching  
Ministers are to serve, not lord over: Matt. 10:37-45 and John 13:1- 17.  
Each believer can let the Holy Spirit guide them into all truth: Jn. 16:13, I Jn. 2:27

### **Condemnation:**

Revelation 2:4 Nevertheless  
I have *somewhat* against thee,  
because  
thou hast left thy first love.

If one does not love God firstly, he / she will automatically love something in His place.  
Money (I Tim. 6:10, Matt. 6:24)  
World (I Jn. 2:15-17)

They have left their fervency, depth, first love.

### **Counsel:**

Revelation 2:5 Remember  
therefore from whence thou art fallen, and  
repent, and  
do the first works;  
or else  
I will come unto thee quickly, and  
will remove thy candlestick out of his place,  
except thou repent.

To leave your first love – to be a little backslidden –  
to have apathy for things of God is **sin**.

The solution – **Repent!**

Proverbs 23:26 My son, give me thine heart...

John 21:15-17 So when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, *son* of Jonas,  
lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee.  
He saith unto him, Feed my lambs. He saith to him again the second time, Simon, *son* of Jonas,  
lovest thou me? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him,  
Feed my sheep. He saith unto him the third time, Simon, *son* of Jonas, lovest thou me? Peter  
was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him,  
Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my  
sheep.

1 Corinthians 13:3 And though I bestow all my goods to feed *the poor*, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.

Luke 10:38-42 Now it came to pass, as they went, that he entered into a certain village: and a certain woman named Martha received him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, which also sat at Jesus' feet, and heard his word. But Martha was cumbered about much serving, and came to him, and said, Lord, dost thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone? bid her therefore that she help me. And Jesus answered and said unto her, Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things: But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her.

Proverbs 23:26 My son, give me thine heart...

Does God have your heart? Is He still your first love?  
How do I know? – What you spend money on / what you think about.

If you have lost your first love – repent of this sin.

*Lovest thou me more than these?*

### **Rev. 2:8-11 To Church at Smyrna**

Revelation 2:8 And unto the angel of the church in Smyrna write; These things saith the first and the last, which was dead, and is alive;

Jesus here quotes Rev. 1:17-18. Reference is made to time and eternity / death and life. Christ became subject to rejection and persecution, but He has the victory. The church at Smyrna had suffered great persecution.

#### **Commendation:**

- 1) I know thy poverty – great poverty!  
But thou art rich

Typical of Christians in history:

James 2:5 Hearken, my beloved brethren, Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him?

2 Corinthians 6:10 As sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things.

Testimony of Jesus:

Luke 9:58 And Jesus said unto him, Foxes have holes, and birds of the air *have* nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay *his* head.

2 Corinthians 8:9 For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.

Polycarp was their pastor (69-155 A.D.). As he was being burned at the stake, he stated, "Fourscore and six years have I served Him, and He hath done me no wrong. How then can I speak evil of my King, who saved me."

Smyrna was a wealthy city. But the Christians were extremely poor. This was probably due to their persecution.

They may be tried 10 days (vs.10). This probably refers to a 'short time.'

Genesis 24:55 And her brother and her mother said, Let the damsel abide with us *a few days*, at the least ten; after that she shall go.

Daniel 1:12 Prove thy servants, I beseech thee, ten days; and let them give us pulse to eat, and water to drink.

Romans 8:18 For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time *are not worthy to be compared* with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

2) They exposed those of the synagogue of Satan.  
Religion is usually a greater opposition than immorality, drugs.... (Eph. 6:10-12)

Not everyone that professes to be saved is a possessor of salvation.

1 Corinthians 5:11 But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat.

**Condemnation & Counsel:**

None

**Rev. 2:12-17 Church at Pergamos**

Pergamos was a place filled with idolatry.

It is 'where Satan's seat is. Satan operates on earth today. He is control of many areas, cities and individuals.

He is the god of this world, the prince of this world and the prince and power of the air:

John 12:31 Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out.

John 14:30 Hereafter I will not talk much with you: for the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me.

John 16:11 Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged.

2 Corinthians 4:4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

Ephesians 2:2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

**Commendation:**

- 1) I Know thy works
- 2) Holdest fast the name of Christ

**Condemnation:**

Hast them that hold

- 1) Doctrine of Balaam and
- 2) Doctrine of Nicolaitanes

Balaam tried for filthy lucre' sake to prophecy a curse against Israel. His ministry led to inter-marrying with the heathen.

1 Corinthians 5:6 Your glorying *is* not good. Know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump?

The answer is to preach and teach the Word of God. Note Jesus addressed this church in vs.12 as the One with the Word of God. Truly Jesus, the living Word (I Jn. 5:7) and the written Word go together. --- Heb. 4:12-13.

II Tim 4:2 "Preach the Word..."

II Tim 3:16 All scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

**Counsel:**

Repent or else...

**Rev. 2:18-29 Church at Thyatira**

Thyatira was location that Lydia got saved. (Acts 16:14-15) She was the first convert on European soil. This may have been the start of this church.

To: the angel of the church in Thyatira

From: Son of God, who hath

his eyes like unto a flame of fire, and

his feet *are* like fine brass...

Eyes like unto flaming fire -

- 1) Piercing
- 2) Everything yields to it (fire)
- 3) Consumes all
- 4) Invincible power

Hebrews 4:12-13 For the word of God *is* quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and *is* a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things *are* naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.

Feet are like fine brass - brass speaks of judgment of God.

**Commendation:**

Revelation 2:19 I know:

thy works, and  
charity, and ( love - I Jn. 4:8&16)  
service, and (deeds motivated by love)  
faith, and thy  
patience, and thy  
works;

and the last (works) *to be* more than the first (works).

Increased in works – II Cor. 8:7

**Condemnation:**

They allow 'that woman' Jezebel (calls herself a prophetess)

To teach

To seduce

**My** Servants (Christ's servants)

I & II Timothy are pastoral epistles.

The bishop (pastor) is a man. I Tim. 3:1-2 & 5)

Deacons are to be men. (I Tim. 3:10-11)

Teachers of the Word are to be men. II Tim. 2:2, I Tim. 2:11-12)

Everyone – men and women are called to prophecy – tell others of the good news.

Only men are called to prophecy – preach and teach in an office the Word of God.

Jezebel – calls herself a prophetess. A prophetess cannot be a lady preacher or the above verses would contradict themselves. In the old Greek, a prophetess was a woman who interprets writings. A woman may be a prophetess – but this Jezebel is not.

Jezebel – in the O.T. was the princess of Tyre. Her family was devoted to Baal and Astarte. Her father, Eth-baal was a priest of Baal. He murdered the reigning monarch and became king. Jezebel married Ahab, the king of Israel. She united idolatry with Judaism. She killed the prophets of the Lord and introduced licentious worship of Baal. (I KI 16:29-33)

This Jezebel – probably has the same demonic spirit – teaches and seduces the men to commit fornication and eat things offered unto idols.

Dr. Barnhouse states, “Every sanctuary in a sacred wood was at the same time an asylum of debauchery and adultery, institutions of male and female sexual practices. The priests of Baal were wicked sex perverts.”

We are reminded of the multitude of child molestation cases in the Catholic Church.

They contradict scripture by forbidding priests to marry:

1 Corinthians 7:1 Now concerning the things whereof ye wrote unto me: *It is good for a man not to touch a woman.* 2 Nevertheless, to avoid fornication, let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband.

1 Timothy 4:1 Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; 2 Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron; 3 Forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth.

To have a priest molest a child is something that is beyond the control of the Catholic Church. However, the real crime committed by the Catholic Church is the covering up of the criminal acts by moving priests around from church to church to avoid prosecution.

This is collusion.

Collusion is the charge against the Cardinal Bernard Law in Boston He acknowledged that a priest who had molested 130 different boys was dealt with in the customary manner of the church; He was repeatedly caught, briefly counseled, then reassigned to a new parish to victimize more children.

“The church’s current excuse for generations of tragically incorrect judgments: They were ‘made in good faith and in reliance upon psychiatric assessments and medical opinions’ of the time.” (What about the law of the land?)

As with Jezebel, false religion and sexual immorality go together.

Spiritual adultery and physical adultery are often together.

God in his mercy gave this Jezebel space to repent. (vs. 21)

God in his judgment (refusal to repent on her part – Rev. 2:22-23):

Behold, I will cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into great tribulation, except they repent of their deeds.

And I will kill her children with death (probably the second death); and (all the churches shall know that I am he which searcheth the reins and hearts: and I will give unto every one of you according to your works.)

There is nothing that escapes the all seeing and all knowing God.



**Counsel:**

Revelation 2:25 But that which ye have *already* hold fast till I come.

**Rev. 3:1-6 Church at Sardis**

**Commendation:**

I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest,

**Condemnation:**

and art dead...

The church was alive – had programs – people in the area thought it was a going church-

But God stated that it was dead. The life-blood of the Holy Spirit in the services was missing. Dead because they were not carrying out God's purpose for existence.

1 Samuel 16:7 But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for *the LORD seeth* not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.

**Counsel:**

Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain,  
that are ready to die: for I have not found thy works perfect before God. (Rev. 3:2)

Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent.  
If therefore thou shalt not watch,  
I will come on thee as a thief, and  
thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee. (Rev. 3:3)

There was some hope still – a few names not defiled (vs.4) - they shall be clothed in white raiment. Heaven: white horse, white throne, white robes, white cloud (14:14)

**Rev. 3:7-13 Church at Philadelphia**

Philadelphia means 'brotherly love.' It is a good church.

Revelation 3:7

These things saith  
he that is holy,  
he that is true,  
he that hath the key of David,  
he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and  
shutteth, and no man openeth;

Christ is holy:

Luke 1:46-49 And Mary said, My soul doth magnify the Lord, And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.... For he that is mighty hath done to me great things; and holy is his name.

Christ is true:

John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

Christ has all authority:

Having the key of David is from Isa. 22:15-25 – speaks of authority.

Isaiah 9:6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. 7 Of the increase of *his* government and peace *there shall be* no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

Luke 1:32 He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: 33 And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

**Commendation:**

I know thy works

I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it:

‘If God be for us, who can be against us.’

‘The gates of hell shall not prevail against it.’

Thou hast a little strength, and

Hast kept my word, and

Hast not denied my name.

The Name of God and the Word of God go together!

Christ describes Himself (vs. 7) as holy, true, and all authority – so is His Word.

You cannot know God without His Word:

God is eternal – His Word is eternal

Psalm 119:89 LAMED. For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven.

1 Peter 1:23 Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.

Matthew 24:35 Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.

God is holy – His Words are holy

2 Timothy 3:15 And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

God is truth – His Word is truth

John 17:17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

God is incorruptible – His Word is incorruptible

1 Peter 1:23 Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.

God is pure – His Word is pure

Proverbs 30:5 Every word of God *is* pure: he *is* a shield unto them that put their trust in him.

Jesus’ name is the Word of God:

John 1:1-2 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God.

1 John 5:7 For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, **the Word**, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.

Revelation 19:11-13 And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was **called Faithful and True**, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war....And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and **his name is called The Word of God.**

God puts a high value on His Word:

Psalm 138:2 I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name.

**Condemnation:**

None

**Counsel:**

To them that 'hast a little strength –

- 1) Rev. 3:11 Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.

Faithfulness and rewards go hand in hand. Jesus tells them to 'hold fast.' A cold heart, discouragement, tares among wheat can steal our joy.

Mark 4:19 And the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful.

- 2) Rev. 3:10 I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.

God will keep them out of the tribulation.

- 3) Revelation 3:9 Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee.

Bowing before their feet is not worship – but an homage – as in:

Isaiah 45:14 Thus saith the LORD, The labour of Egypt, and merchandise of Ethiopia and of the Sabeans, men of stature, shall come over unto thee, and they shall be thine: they shall come after thee; in chains they shall come over, and they shall fall down unto thee, they shall make supplication unto thee, *saying*, Surely God *is* in thee; and *there is* none else, *there is* no God.

Isaiah 60:14 The sons also of them that afflicted thee shall come bending unto thee; and all they that despised thee shall bow themselves down at the soles of thy feet; and they shall call thee, The city of the LORD, The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.

(Like Jacob's dream of Gen. 37)

God rewards faithfulness.

God rewards those who stand by His Name and His Word.

We must seek to please Him only.

Rev. 3:9 '...and to know that I have loved thee'

Rev. 3:12 Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him

the name of my God, and the  
name of the city of my God, *which is* new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of  
heaven from my God: and *I will write upon him*  
my new name.

Stay true to the Word of God – KJV

Rev. 3:11 Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.

### **Rev. 3:14-22 Church at Laodicea**

Laodicea was a wealthy city. In 62 A.D., an earthquake destroyed the city. The wealthy citizens rebuilt it without the help from the state.

They were noted for 'raven black woolen' garments and two kinds of medicine – one an ointment for sore ears and an eye powder for sore eyes.

#### **Commendation:**

I know thy works - but none is listed!

#### **Condemnation:**

Their condition:

Christ says – Lukewarm

Make God vomit

They say - Rich & increased with goods

Need of nothing

Christ states they do not know that they are-

Wretched, miserable, poor,

Blind & naked

What makes God vomit?

What would make God state: "I will spue thee out of my mouth."

Worldliness!

1 John 2:15 Love not the world, neither the things *that are* in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that *is* in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. 17 And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

1 Timothy 6:10 For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

Matthew 6:24 No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

James 4:4 Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.

#### **Counsel:**

Revelation 3:18

I counsel thee to

**buy** of me

gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and  
white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed,

and *that* the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and  
**annoint** thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.

## Buy

Jesus tells these people who have money - to buy!!  
Buy something money cannot buy – “buy of Me.”

Gold and White raiment – these are given at Judgment Seat of Christ.

2 Corinthians 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things *done* in *his* body, according to that he hath done, whether *it be* good or bad.

Revelation 3:18 I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich...

1 Corinthians 3:10 According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. 11 For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. 12 Now if any man build upon this foundation **gold**, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; 13 Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. 14 If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. 15 If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.

Our works will be tried by fire – to determine if they will be rewarded.

White raiment – that thou mayest be clothed.  
This also refers to our rewards in heaven:

Revelation 19:8

And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in  
fine linen, clean and white:

for the fine linen is the  
righteousness (righteous deeds / acts) of saints.

## Annoint

Annoint thine eyes – that thou mayest see.

The need is for illuminated eyes – opened to see things as God sees them.

1 Corinthians 2:14 But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned.

Luke 24:31 And their eyes were opened, and they knew him; and he vanished out of their sight.  
32 And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?

Though Christ is standing on the outside of the church  
Revelation 3:20 Behold, I stand at the door, and knock...

He still loves them

Revelation 3:19 As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.

It is a love for each individual:

Chastens whom he loves (Heb. 12:5-6)

Invites fellowship to each one (Rev. 3:20)

The church is comprised of individuals – the reason Christ is on the outside –

Individuals have become lukewarm, thus the church is lukewarm.

If you want to change the church – change yourself!

Each individual needs to be serving God fervently.

## II) The Lamb Worthy of Praise

Rev. 4-5

### Rev. 4 The Throne

**Revelation 4:1** After this I looked, and, behold, a door was opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, Come up hither, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter.

**A) A door is opened in heaven**  
and John is invited to come up.

The Bible tells us:

What heaven is like / what hell is like / how to get to either place / what God is like /  
Who God is / how we got here / where we are going /

Other places in the Bible that we get a glimpse into heaven:

Job Ch 1-2 The Lord and Satan have a dialog that we are allowed to 'get in on.'

We are able to see events transpire on earth during this discussion.

Isa. 6:1-13 We are able to get a glimpse at the throne of God.

Isaiah 6:1 In the year that king Uzziah died I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple. 2 Above it stood the seraphims: each one had six wings; with twain he covered his face, and with twain he covered his feet, and with twain he did fly. 3 And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, *is* the LORD of hosts: the whole earth *is* full of his glory. 4 And the posts of the door moved at the voice of him that cried, and the house was filled with smoke.

Isaiah hears the voice of God:

Isaiah 6:8 Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here *am* I; send me.

Eze. Ch 1-2

Ezekiel 1:1 Now it came to pass in the thirtieth year, in the fourth *month*, in the fifth *day* of the month, as I was among the captives by the river of Chebar, *that* the heavens were opened, and I saw visions of God.

Acts 7:54-60 Stephen sees Jesus standing on the right hand of God.

Rev. Ch 4-22 John sees events transpire in heaven

Rev. 19:1-8 John hears a voice from heaven speaking.

Rev. 19:11 Jesus returns on white horse

Revelation 19:11 And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.

Places 'windows of heaven are opened:'

Gen. 7:11-12 - it rained for 40 days and nights

Mal. 3:8-10 - will pour out a blessing that there shall not be room enough to receive it

## B) Transitional Verse

Revelation 4:1 After this (after what? after church age)

I looked, and, behold, a door was opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, Come up hither, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter (hereafter – in tribulation)

Literally what happened:

John is invited up to heaven – his spirit leaves his body and he is taken up to heaven to witness the events he describes in the Book of the Revelation.

But there is a latent teaching of the rapture at this time.

This is the transition from the church age to the tribulation period.

The rapture occurs here in Rev. 4:1.

“Come up hither” is in Rev. 11:12 as the witnesses are raptured to heaven.

### What is the Rapture?

It is a mystery unveiled by Paul:

1 Corinthians 15:50 Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption. 51 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, 52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. 53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal *must* put on immortality.

How fast will it happen? - In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye (34/100 of second).

Sleep is death to the Christian. We shall not all sleep...

What shall happen? - this corruptible must put on incorruption (dead in Christ), and this mortal *must* put on immortality (alive Christians).

### How will the Rapture occur?

1 Thessalonians 4:13-17 But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.

For the (1) Lord himself shall descend from heaven

with a shout,

with the voice of the archangel, and

with the trump of God: and the

(2) dead in Christ shall rise first: Then

(3) we which are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

This is the same order as in I Cor. 15:53-54. The dead in Christ (For this corruptible must put on incorruption), and then we which are alive (this mortal *must* put on immortality).

I Cor. 15:54: “So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption (dead in Christ), and this mortal shall have put on immortality (we which are alive), then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.”

### Who is the Rapture for?

God’s people – the saved. “The Lord knoweth them that are His.”



**When will the Rapture occur? AT THE TIME THAT:**

- 1) The Lamb opens one of the seals (Rev. 6:1)
- 2) The Antichrist confirms a covenant for one week (7 years)

The Holy Spirit will be taken away first, and then shall that Wicked (One) be revealed.

2 Thessalonians 2:6-8 And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time. For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth *will let*, until he be taken out of the way. And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:

Rev. 4:1 is rapture, Rev. 6:1 is antichrist on the scene.

**(We do not base the rapture on Rev. 4:1, It is based on II The. 2:6-8 and supported by Rev. 4:1 & 6:1)**

**Other reasons that the rapture occurs before the tribulation:**

The tribulation (70<sup>th</sup> week of Daniel) is God dealing with the Jews.

I.E. The 144,000 are God's witnesses because the church is gone.

The church is not mentioned between Ch 6 & 21.

God will not pour out His wrath on His people. (Ex. Ch 3-12 / Gen. 19:22 / Rev. 6:17)

God has not appointed us to wrath... I The. 5:9

Like Noah, Israel goes through the wrath of God,

Like Lot, worldly Christians are delivered out of the wrath of God.

Luke 17:26-30: And as it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man. They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all. Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded; But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed *them* all. Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed.

**Rev. 4:2-11**

That which catches John's eye – the center point in heaven --- (and BEHOLD a throne)  
Throne of God and  
He that sat upon it.

Around and before the throne are:

A rainbow, 24 elders, 7 Spirits of God, sea of glass, and 4 beasts.

**Throne of God** - Signifying God as Sovereign Ruler of the universe.

All are subject to the dominion of the omnipotent God.

Isaiah 6:1-3 In the year that king Uzziah died I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple. Above it stood the seraphims: each one had six wings; with twain he covered his face, and with twain he covered his feet, and with twain he did fly. And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, *is* the LORD of hosts: the whole earth *is* full of his glory.

Ezekiel 1:26-28 And above the firmament that was over their heads was the likeness of a throne, as the appearance of a sapphire stone: and upon the likeness of the throne was the

likeness as the appearance of a man above upon it. And I saw as the colour of amber, as the appearance of fire round about within it, from the appearance of his loins even upward, and from the appearance of his loins even downward, I saw as it were the appearance of fire, and it had brightness round about. As the appearance of the bow that is in the cloud in the day of rain, so was the appearance of the brightness round about. This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the LORD. And when I saw *it*, I fell upon my face, and I heard a voice of one that spake.

Jeremiah 17:12 A glorious high throne from the beginning *is* the place of our sanctuary.

Revelation 22:1-3 And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, *was there* the tree of life, which bare twelve *manner of* fruits, *and* yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree *were* for the healing of the nations. And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him:

### **He that sat upon it**

Revelation 6:16 And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb:

Revelation 7:10 And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb.

Daniel 7:9 I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment *was* white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne *was like* the fiery flame, *and* his wheels *as* burning fire. 10 A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened. 11 I beheld then because of the voice of the great words which the horn spake: I beheld *even* till the beast was slain, and his body destroyed, and given to the burning flame. 12 As concerning the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away: yet their lives were prolonged for a season and time. 13 I saw in the night visions, and, behold, *one* like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. 14 And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion *is* an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom *that* which shall not be destroyed.

Hebrews 8:1 Now of the things which we have spoken *this is* the sum: We have such an high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens;

He was like a jasper and a sardine stone

This is the first and last stones of the High Priest's stones in his breastplate. Ex. 28:17-21

Jasper represented Reuben which means 'behold a son'

Sardine represented Benjamin which means 'son of my right hand' emerald

Rainbow round about the throne like an emerald (green in color)

In Gen. 9:12-17, the rainbow was a covenant between God and man that He would not destroy the earth with a flood. Probably this rainbow was shaped like a halo rather than ½ half of a rainbow.

### **24 Elders**

Representative of humanity -

In I Chr. 24, King David chose 24 elders to represent the entire priesthood.  
These 24 elders are representatives for all of humanity.  
(Compare these verses with Rev. 5:8-10)

These elders are:

Saved - white raiment – also Rev. 5:9a

Rewarded - crowns (Judgment Seat of Christ has taken place)

24 – 3 races, 8 sub-races (see Rev. 5:9b)

### **And out of the throne proceeded lightnings and thunderings and voices**

See Rev. 8:5, 10:3, 11:19, 16:18

Judgment of God is upon the earth – the tribulation period is God's wrath

The throne of God is a throne of grace (by blood), or a throne of judgment.

Mercy is found in the blood of Christ:

1 John 2:2 And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for *the sins of the whole world.*

Hebrews 10:11-12 And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins: But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;

### **7 Spirits of God**

(See Rev. 1:4, 3:1, 5:6)

At Pentecost, the Spirit is evidenced by 'cloven tongues like as of fire.'

At Jesus' baptism, a 'dove descending' evidences the Spirit.

Here, 'seven lamps of fire burning' evidence the Spirit.

The Seven Spirits of God:

Isaiah 11:1-3 And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots: And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD; And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears:

### **Sea of glass**

The tabernacle and temple had a laver – for washing the defiled bodies of the priests before they could do service in the sanctuary. In heaven, there is no need for water – for washing and cleansing - hence, the sea of glass is not a liquid form.

### **Four Beasts**

The tabernacle system:

Numbers 2:2 Every man of the children of Israel shall pitch by his own standard, with the ensign of their father's house: far off about the tabernacle of the congregation shall they pitch.

Hence:

Judah was represented by a lion; Ephraim was represented by an ox; Reuben was represented by a man; and Dan was represented by an eagle

These four beasts are four Seraphim:

Isaiah 6:1-8 "...I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple. Above it stood the seraphims: each one had six wings; with twain he covered his face, and with twain he covered his feet, and with twain he did fly. And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, *is* the LORD of hosts: the whole earth *is* full of his glory... Then flew

one of the seraphims unto me, having a live coal in his hand, *which* he had taken with the tongs from off the altar: And he laid *it* upon my mouth, and said, Lo, this hath touched thy lips; and thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged.”

### **Worship**

The 4 beasts were created to worship God

They give God glory, honor, and thanks.

The 24 elders chime in and agree as they say:

Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created. (Rev. 4:11)

The 24 elders cast their crowns before the throne:

All that we do for Christ – He gets all the honor and glory. After we are rewarded for our service on earth, we then cast our crowns at the feet of Jesus.

## **The Book Rev. 5:1-14**

The importance of this chapter cannot be over-emphasized. It contains the key to understanding the rest of the book.

Review:

Ch 1-3 Church age

Ch 4-5 Scene in heaven

Ch 6 + Scene on earth

Scene in heaven:

Ch 4 The central focus is the **Throne** and **He** that sat upon it.

Ch 5 The central focus is the **Lamb** and the **Book** with seven seals.

Ch 4 The event – The Judgment Seat of Christ

Ch 5 The event – The Lamb Taking the Book from Him (that sat upon the throne)

Lord Jesus Christ – The church is the bride of Christ, hence, the Judgment Seat of Christ

- In His right hand are the 7 pastors (1:16 &20).

God the Father – Israel is Jehovah’s wife, hence, the coming kingdom – Throne of David

- In His (God’s) right hand is this seven sealed book (5:1).

- The Root of David is to open the book

### **The Book**

It is a scroll that is written on both sides (Rev. 5:1).

It is sealed with seven seals. (Roman law requires a will to be sealed 7 times)

It is in the right hand of God (5:1).

No man in heaven (nor earth, nor under the earth) was worthy to open this book – nor to loose the seven seals – nor to look upon it – nor to read it! (5:3)

When it is not opened, John weeps much (5:4). Hence, there is something great about this book.

What makes this book so important? It is the title deed to the earth.

The title deed to the earth was given to Adam:

Genesis 1:26-28 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. So God created man in his *own* image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth,

and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

Not only was man corrupted, but also all of creation was corrupted and cursed.

Thorns and weeds are a result of this cursing.

Animals' aggressiveness and ferociousness comes with this curse.

The wind howls in a minor key.

This dominion was lost at the fall of man. The devil gained this dominion.

He is now the prince of this world:

John 12:31 Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out.

John 14:30 Hereafter I will not talk much with you: for the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me.

John 16:11 Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged.

2 Corinthians 4:4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

Ephesians 2:2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

Matthew 4:8-9 Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me.

Christ is going to redeem the earth. We have been redeemed (soul and spirit), but our redemption (body) is a future event. The earth will also be redeemed:

Luke 21:28 And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh.

Ephesians 1:13-14 In whom ye also *trusted*, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.

Romans 8:19-23 For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God. For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected *the same* in hope, 21 Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now. And not only *they*, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, *to wit*, the redemption of our body.

In the O.T., three things could be redeemed (a servant, a wife, land):

- 1) A man could sell himself into servitude. A near kin could redeem him. The one who redeemed him was called a kinsman-redeemer. (Lev.25:47-55)
- 2) If a woman's husband died, and he left no brother to marry her, the nearest kin could marry her. This man was also a kinsman-redeemer. (Deut.25:5-10)
- 3) If a man lost his land, a near kin could buy it back – redeem it, thereby keeping it in the family. (Lev. 25:25)

A kinsman-redeemer was a man. "No man... was able to open the book... (Rev. 5:3).

Here, in Rev.5:1-14, the servants and bride of Christ have been redeemed. But the earth and the creatures in the earth are still under the curse and domain of the devil. Christ's redemption will be a final and complete redemption.

### **The Lamb**

The theme in chapter four and five is: "He is worthy." (4:11, 5:2, 5:9-12).

The Lamb is slain, yet standing! This agrees with Stephen's testimony (Acts 7:56).

The Lamb has seven horns (power) and seven eyes (Spirit of God). (5:6)

The Lamb hath prevailed – conquered – and is worthy to open the book and to loose the seven seals (5:5).

The Lamb takes the book out of God's hand (5:7).

### When He takes the Book:

All of heaven worships the Lamb – Who is worthy! (Rev. 5:9-11)

4 Beasts

24 Elders (us)

We sing a new song – 'Thou art worthy...'

Angels join in

Total in heaven is innumerable!

With a loud voice – 'Worthy is the Lamb'

Every creature (those in heaven, earth, under the earth, in the sea) joins in

Saying 'Blessing... unto the Lamb...'

4 Beasts

Say 'Amen'

24 Elders (These elders represent us)

Fall down and worship Him

Him that liveth for ever and ever!

### When He opens the Book:

When the first seal is opened, the tribulation period starts (Rev. 6:1). When the seventh seal is opened, the entire scroll is opened to for all in heaven to see. At this point, there is 30 minutes of silence in heaven (Rev. 8:1)!

What makes Him the Lamb? (Rev. 5:9-10)

He was slain.

He redeemed us (every kindred) to God by His blood

He has made us kings and priests!

We shall reign on the earth with Him!

Have you been redeemed? There is only one way – the blood of the Lamb.

For the saved, there is a future redemption – our body!

For creation, there is a future redemption – the curse lifted.

## IV) Wrath of the Lamb Poured Out

Rev. 6-18

### The Tribulation Period

Revelation 6:1-2 And I saw **when** the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, Come and see. And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer.

#### What?

What event is taking place here? It is the tribulation – a time of God's wrath.

'...and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder...'

Revelation 6:16-17 And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?

Christians will miss the wrath of God.

1 Thessalonians 5:9 For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ...

1 Thessalonians 1:10 And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, *even* Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come.

#### Who?

The Antichrist is the one riding the white horse. He is an imitator of Christ.

Christ – crown is a diadem (ruling authority)

Antichrist – crown is a stephanos (victor's crown)

Christ – white horse with a Sword

Antichrist – white horse with a bow

White speaks of righteousness. But not all that claim to be 'white' are.

2 Thessalonians 2:11 And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie:

Matthew 23:27 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead *men's* bones, and of all uncleanness.

Purpose: 'He went forth conquering, and to conquer...'

Method: 'Had a bow; and a crown was given unto him...'

He has a bow – but no arrows. Thus, he is coming to rule with peace.

Daniel 11:21 And in his estate shall stand up a vile person, to whom they shall not give the honour of the kingdom: but he shall come in peaceably, and obtain the kingdom by flatteries.

#### When?

God is in control – when the Lamb opened!

God starts the tribulation period in His time.

This tribulation period begins when:

A) The Lamb opens the first seal

B) Antichrist signs a covenant with many (Dan. 9:24-27)

#### Why?

God is longsuffering, but the day of His wrath has come. God judges when sin is too 'full.' (Sodom, Noah's day, Ninevah, Judah & Israel)

Revelation 6:17 For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?  
When God has had His 'fill of sin,' He will pour out His wrath.

Genesis 15:13-16 And he said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land *that is* not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years...  
But in the fourth generation they shall come hither again: for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet full.

### **Where?**

This scene is on the earth

### **How?**

How does the Antichrist appear?

From Syria (as a perfect anti-type of Antiochus Epiphenes)

- A) God has a man prepared OR
- B) He is waiting to appear, but is presently in the bottomless pit.

The Antichrist comes on the scene peaceably. The peace he brings will probably bring peace between the Israelites and the Arab nations. It will probably be a covenant allowing the Israelites to rebuild the temple. It will probably be signed just after the war of Ezekiel chapter 38 & 39 is over. The war of Ezekiel may be over the fact that Israel has a fresh oil supply (Gen. 49:25, Deut. 33:24), and the oil wells that have been pumping for over 30 years in the Saudi region have run dry.

He is not mentioned again until the 3 ½ year mark of the tribulation. At that point, he is called the Beast. The beast comes from the bottomless pit.

Revelation 11:7 And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, and kill them.

Revelation 17:8 The beast that thou sawest was, and is not; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition...

Either the Antichrist comes out of the bottomless after his 'resurrection' or he is from there at the very start.

### **How Long?**

He is allowed to reign for 7 years. The tribulation period will last exactly 7 years. From the time Antichrist signs the covenant to the Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ will be 7 years, 84 months, or 2,520 days (See notes on 70<sup>th</sup> week of Daniel).

- A) He starts out as a peacemaker. 6:1-2... (Dan. 11:21)
- B) The last 3 ½ years, he reigns as 'the Beast.'
- C) His reign ends as the Lord Jesus Christ destroys him.

Revelation 19:19-20 And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army. And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.

2 Thessalonians 2:8 And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:

We won't know who he is.

2 Thessalonians 2:6-8 And now ye know what withholdeth that he (antichrist) might be revealed in his time. For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth *will let*, until he (Holy Spirit) be taken out of the way (Rapture). And then shall that Wicked be revealed



(Antichrist), whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:

### **70th Week of Daniel (See Chart)**

Daniel 9:24 Seventy weeks are determined (70 weeks = 70 x 7's which totals 490 – in this case 490 years<sup>3</sup>)

upon thy people and upon thy holy city, (Jews and Jerusalem) to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins (For Israel – Rom. 11:26) and to make reconciliation for iniquity (The sin of Israel's rejection of Messiah) and to bring in everlasting righteousness (King Jesus reigns in righteousness) and to seal up the vision and prophecy (End of need for vision & prophecy) and to anoint the most Holy (Most Holy Place in Millennial Temple)

Dan.9:25 Know therefore and understand, that from

the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem **unto** the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks (69 weeks or 69 x 7 = 483 years)

the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times.

Dan.9:26 And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off (This has happened – thus the 69 weeks have been already fulfilled), but not for himself: and

the people (Rome) of the prince that shall come (Antichrist) shall destroy the city and the sanctuary (this happened in 70 A.D.) and the end thereof *shall be* with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined.

Dan.9:27 And he (Antichrist) shall confirm the covenant with many for **one week** (This is the last week – the 70<sup>th</sup> week – one week of years = 7 years): and in the midst of the week (3 ½ year mark) he (Antichrist) shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease (in the Jewish Temple), and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make *it* desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.

## **Purposes of the Tribulation**

### **Introduction:**

It is a time of God's wrath.

Revelation 6:16 And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb:

It is a time of God's mercy.

Habakkuk 3:2 O LORD, I have heard thy speech, *and* was afraid: O LORD, revive thy work in the midst of the years, in the midst of the years make known; in wrath remember mercy.

It is a time of Jacob's trouble.

Jeremiah 30:1 The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying, 2 Thus speaketh the LORD God of Israel, saying, Write thee all the words that I have spoken unto thee in a book. 3 For, lo, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will bring again the captivity of my people Israel and Judah, saith the LORD: and I will cause them to return to the land that I gave to their fathers, and they shall possess it. 4 And these *are* the words that the LORD spake concerning Israel and concerning Judah. 5 For thus saith the LORD; We have heard a voice of trembling, of fear, and not of peace. 6 Ask ye now, and see whether a man doth travail with child? wherefore

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<sup>3</sup> Weeks could have been weeks of days, weeks of weeks, weeks of weeks of weeks or weeks of years.

do I see every man with his hands on his loins, as a woman in travail, and all faces are turned into paleness? 7 Alas! for that day *is* great, so that none *is* like it: it *is* even the time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it.

There will never be a time like it.

Matthew 24:21-22 For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened.

### **3 Purposes of the Tribulation:**

#### **1) God will pour out His wrath.**

See Rev. 6:17, 8:13, 9:2-12

This is just a preview of eternal damnation. (Rev. 14:9-11) (Jude 7)

The saved will miss the tribulation.

Like Lot – Gen.19:15-24 (vs. 22)

Our future missing of the tribulation is a done deal:

1 Thessalonians 1:10 And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, *even* Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come.

This tribulation is the 70<sup>th</sup> week of Daniel – for the Jews (church is gone)

#### **2) God will save souls.**

Habakkuk 3:2 O LORD, I have heard thy speech, *and* was afraid: O LORD, revive thy work in the midst of the years, in the midst of the years make known; in wrath remember mercy.

Matthew 24:14 And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.

Many will get saved during the tribulation – but they will be martyred.

See Rev. 6:9-11, 7:13-16, 11:7, 13:7, 14:1, 16:6, 18:24, 20:4

How are they saved? Same way anyone gets their sins forgiven – blood of Christ (Heb. 9:22).

Most of these that get saved will be in first half of the tribulation period.

Who will preach if the church is gone?

The 144,000 Rev. 7:1-9

Angels Rev. 14:6-11

#### **3) God will purge Israel to receive Christ as their Messiah.**

As God preserved Noah through the wrath of God, so shall He preserve Israel also.

Zechariah 13:8 And it shall come to pass, *that* in all the land, saith the LORD, two parts therein shall be cut off *and* die; but the third shall be left therein. 9 And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It *is* my people: and they shall say, The LORD *is* my God.

Revelation 12:6 And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred *and* threescore days... 14 And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her

place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent.

Israel will go into hiding at the 3 ½ year mark.

Matthew 24:15 When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:) 16 Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains:

Near end of the 7 year time frame, Israel will head to Armageddon. Why?

Revelation 16:16 And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon.

Joel 3:2 I will also gather all nations, and will bring them down into the valley of Jehoshaphat, and will plead with them there for my people and *for* my heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations, and parted my land.

Zechariah 14:2 For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city.

As Israel is surrounded by nations, she has nowhere else to turn but to their Messiah. As Jesus comes down, Israel looks up.

Zechariah 12:10 And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for *his* only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for *his* firstborn.

Romans 11:26 And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob:

Jeremiah 30:7 Alas! for that day *is* great, so that none *is* like it: it *is* even the time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it.

How do we know this will happen?

Matthew 24:34 Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled. 35 Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.

## The Four Horsemen Rev. 6:1-8

The Four Horsemen:

White Horseman – Antichrist

Red Horseman – War

Black Horseman – Famine

Pale Horseman – Death & Hell

The 4 Beasts (Rev. 4:7) And the first beast was like a lion, and the second beast like a calf, and the third beast had a face as a man, and fourth beast was like a flying eagle.

The First Four Seals:

First Seal - White Horse & he that sat upon it Rev. 6:1-2

Second Seal – Red Horse he that sat upon it Rev. 6:3-4

Third Seal - Black Horse & he that sat upon it Rev. 6:5-6

Fourth Seal – Pale Horse & he that sat upon it Rev. 6:7-8

The Lamb is the One who opens the seals. The Lord Jesus Christ is Sovereign. After the opening of the seal, one of the four beasts (in order) says, “Come & see.”

**White horse** - Antichrist brings a false peace (6:1-2)

Antichrist comes as a peacemaker. He will conquer by peace at first – later by war (Rev. 13:4).

How do we know that he brings peace?

He is typified by Antiochus Epiphanes (Dan. 11:21).

He has bow with no arrows.

Peace is taken in 6:4, hence there must have been peace.

1 Thessalonians 5:3 For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. <sup>4</sup> But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. <sup>5</sup> Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.

**Red Horse** – Peace Taken (6:3-4)

By killing one another

A great sword indicates war (red is ‘blood-red’)

**Black Horse** – Famine (6:5-6)

Pair of Balances in his hand (rationing of food)

Wheat / barley for a penny (penny = day’s wages – Matt. 20:2)

Famine often follows war (after WW I – had rationing)

Black is the color of the skin of famished people:

Lamentations 4:8 Their visage is blacker than a coal; they are not known in the streets: their skin cleaveth to their bones; it is withered, it is become like a stick. <sup>9</sup>

They that be slain with the sword are better than they that be slain with hunger:

for these pine away, stricken through for *want* of the fruits of the field.

Lamentations 5:10 Our skin was black like an oven because of the terrible famine.

**Pale Horse** – Death & Hell (6:7-8)

Revelation 6:8 And I looked, and behold a pale horse: and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell (hades) followed with him. And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with **sword**, and with **hunger**, and with

**death**, (figure of speech meaning deadly disease or **pestilence**) and with the **beasts** of the earth.

These judgments have occurred before – but they were not as wide-reaching:

Ezekiel 14:12 The word of the LORD came again to me, saying, <sup>13</sup> Son of man, when the land sinneth against me by trespassing grievously, then will I stretch out mine hand upon it, and will break the staff of the bread thereof, and will send **famine** upon it, and will cut off man and beast from it: <sup>14</sup> Though these three men, Noah, Daniel, and Job, were in it, they should deliver *but* their own souls by their righteousness, saith the Lord GOD. <sup>15</sup> If I cause **noisome beasts** to pass through the land, and they spoil it, so that it be desolate, that no man may pass through because of the beasts: <sup>16</sup> *Though* these three men *were* in it, as I live, saith the Lord GOD, they shall deliver neither sons nor daughters; they only shall be delivered, but the land shall be desolate. <sup>17</sup> Or *if* I bring a **sword** upon that land, and say, Sword, go through the land; so that I cut off man and beast from it: <sup>18</sup> Though these three men *were* in it, as I live, saith the Lord GOD, they shall deliver neither sons nor daughters, but they only shall be delivered themselves. <sup>19</sup> Or *if* I send a **pestilence** into that land, and pour out my fury upon it in blood, to cut off from it man and beast: <sup>20</sup> Though Noah, Daniel, and Job, *were* in it, as I live, saith the Lord GOD, they shall deliver neither son nor daughter; they shall *but* deliver their own souls by their righteousness. <sup>21</sup> For thus saith the Lord GOD; How much more when I send my **four sore judgments** upon Jerusalem, the **sword**, and the **famine**, and the **noisome beast**, and the **pestilence**, to cut off from it man and beast?

Jesus talked of these judgments:

Matthew 24:6 And ye shall hear of **wars** and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all *these things* must come to pass, but the end is not yet. <sup>7</sup> For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be **famines**, and **pestilences**, and earthquakes, in divers places. <sup>8</sup> All these are the beginning of sorrows. (This is the start of the tribulation!)

The name of the rider of the fourth horse is given. His name is Death. Hell follows him – death and hell go hand in hand. These are all unsaved people who die. These four sore judgments are over ¼ of the earth.

Today, this would be more than 1,500,000,000 people (1.5 Billion).

If the tsunami killed 175,000 people, this would be 8,000 times more devastating.

This would be 5 times the population of the U.S.

Note: As the moon controls the tides of the ocean, it keeps everything on the earth in sync. The moon is a celestial object that reflects the sun, which is a celestial object. If the moon were to be taken away, the result would be chaos.

The Holy Spirit reflects the Son (Sun of Righteousness). When He is taken away – the result is chaos on this earth. This chaos has just started.

As 1.5 Billion people die, hell has to enlarge itself:

Isaiah 5:11 **Woe** unto them that rise up early in the morning, *that* they may follow strong drink; that continue until night, *till* wine inflame them! <sup>12</sup> And the harp, and the viol, the tabret, and pipe, and wine, are in their feasts: but they regard not the work of the LORD, neither consider the operation of his hands. <sup>13</sup> Therefore my people are gone into captivity, because *they have* no knowledge: and their honourable men *are* famished, and their multitude dried up with thirst. <sup>14</sup> Therefore **hell hath enlarged herself, and opened her mouth** without measure: and their glory, and their multitude, and their pomp, and he that rejoiceth, shall descend into it. <sup>15</sup> And the mean man shall be brought down, and the mighty man shall be humbled, and the eyes of the lofty shall be humbled: <sup>16</sup> But the LORD of hosts shall be exalted in judgment, and God that is holy shall be sanctified in righteousness.

Remember – the main purpose of the tribulation is that Israel is purged so that they will receive Jesus as their Messiah and be saved. With this in mind, note:

Revelation 6:6 **And I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say**, A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny; and see thou **hurt not the oil and the wine.**

Who says, “Hurt not the oil and the wine?” It is the Lord Jesus Christ:

Rev. 5:6 And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst...of the four beasts...a Lamb

Rev. 6:6 And I heard a **voice** in the midst of the four beasts say...hurt not the oil and the wine.

The Bible speaks of food supply as: Corn, bread, barley, wheat, wine & oil...

In the process of sending a famine, it would be natural to hurt the corn, barley, wheat, wine and oil. But the oil and the wine are needed by the Israelites for temple worship.

This is why Jesus commands them to leave the oil and wine alone.

### **In the Temple:**

1) Oil and wine are needed for anointing:

The school of Shammai saith, ‘He holds sweet oil in his right hand, and a cup of wine in his left. He says grace first over the oil, and then over the wine.

The school of Hillel saith, ‘Oil in his right hand and wine in his left. He blesseth the sweet oil, and anoints the head of him that serves: but if the waiter be a disciple of the wise, he anoints the wall; for it is a shame for a disciple of the wise to smell of perfumes.’<sup>4</sup>

2) Oil and wine were used in the Temple for drink & meat offerings:

‘When presenting a meat-offering, the priest first brought it in the golden or silver dish in which it had been prepared, and then transferred it to a holy vessel, putting oil and frankincense upon it. Taking his stand at the south-eastern corner of the altar, he next took the handful that was actually to be burnt, put it in another vessel, laid some of the frankincense on it, carried it to the top of the altar, salted it, and then placed it on the fire. The rest of the meat-offering belonged to the priest. Every meat-offering was accompanied by a drink offering of wine, which was poured at the base of the altar.’<sup>5</sup>

‘The wine for use in the Temple was brought exclusively from Judea, not only because it was better, but because the transport through Samaria would have rendered it defiled. Indeed, the Mishnah mentions the names of the five towns whence it was obtained. Similarly, the oil used was derived either from Judaea, or, if from Peraea, the olives only were brought, to be crushed in Jerusalem.’<sup>6</sup>

## **The 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Seals Rev. 6:9-17**

Matt. 24:5	‘I am Christ’	Rev. 6:1-2
Matt. 24:6	Wars	Rev. 6:3-4
Matt. 24:7	Famines	Rev. 6:5-6
Matt. 24:7	Pestilences	Rev. 6:8
Matt. 24:9	Martyrdom	Rev. 6:9
Matt 24:14	Gospel Preached	Rev. 7:1-9

<sup>4</sup> Commentary on the N.T. from the Talmud and Hebraica, John Lightfoot

<sup>5</sup> The Temple: Its Ministry and Services, Alfred Edersheim

<sup>6</sup> Sketches of Jewish Life, Alfred Edersheim

Matt. 24 is Jesus' answer to:

Matthew 24:3 And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, **when** shall these things be? and **what shall be** the (1)sign of thy coming, and of (2) the end of the world?

Matt. 24 is not for the church age. There are no signs for the rapture. The signs Jesus gave are for the Second Coming of Christ. If these signs are prevalent now – how much more closely are we to His return?

### **The 5<sup>th</sup> Seal 6:9-11**

Here are the souls of those saved in the tribulation. These are ones that have not heard the plan of salvation (II The. 2:9-12). They have been witnessed to by either the 144,000, the two witnesses, or someone who got saved as a result of these two groups. Note the 1.5 Billion people who die in the 4<sup>th</sup> seal have Hades follow them. These that die in the 5<sup>th</sup> seal have white robes given (6:11).

They are slain for:

- 1) Word of God
- 2) Testimony which they held

Revelation 1:2 Who bare record of the **word of God**, and of the **testimony** of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he saw.

Revelation 1:9 I John, who also am your brother, and companion in tribulation, and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was in the isle that is called Patmos, for the **word of God**, and for the **testimony** of Jesus Christ.

Revelation 12:11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their **testimony**; and they loved not their lives unto the death.

Revelation 19:10 And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See *thou do it* not: I am thy fellowservant, and **of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus**: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy. <sup>11</sup> And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him *was* called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. <sup>12</sup> His eyes *were* as a flame of fire, and on his head *were* many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. <sup>13</sup> And he *was* clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and **his name is called The Word of God**.

These souls are 'under the altar.' Their lives were offered as a 'sacrifice.'

The blood of the sacrifice in the O.T. was poured out under the altar:

Exodus 29:12 And thou shalt take of the blood of the bullock, and put *it* upon the horns of the altar with thy finger, and pour all the blood beside the bottom of the altar.

Leviticus 4:7 And the priest shall put *some* of the blood upon the horns of the altar of sweet incense before the LORD, which *is* in the tabernacle of the congregation; and shall pour all the blood of the bullock at the bottom of the altar of the burnt offering, which *is at* the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.

They ask God, "How long?" They are told to wait, as others will be martyred also. They are given white robes. See Rev. 7:13-14.

### **The 6<sup>th</sup> Seal 6:12-17**

A Great Earthquake (Rev. 8:5, 11:13&19, 16:18-19)

Sun became black / Moon as blood / Stars fall /

Heaven is departed / Every Mountain & Island moved!

Volcanic ash can make the moon appear red (as blood). Meteors falling could be vs. 13. Heaven – the second heaven - departed – it is no longer visible to people on earth. This is a fulfillment of the signs in the heavens.

Joel 2:30 And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke. <sup>31</sup> The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the LORD come.

Isaiah 13:9 Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, cruel both with wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate: and he shall destroy the sinners thereof out of it. <sup>10</sup> For the stars of heaven and the constellations thereof shall not give their light: the sun shall be darkened in his going forth, and the moon shall not cause her light to shine.

Isaiah 34:2 For the indignation of the LORD *is* upon all nations, and *his* fury upon all their armies: he hath utterly destroyed them, he hath delivered them to the slaughter. <sup>3</sup> Their slain also shall be cast out, and their stink shall come up out of their carcasses, and the mountains shall be melted with their blood. <sup>4</sup> And all the host of heaven shall be dissolved, and the heavens shall be rolled together as a scroll: and all their host shall fall down, as the leaf falleth off from the vine, and as a falling *fig* from the fig tree.

Matthew 24:29 Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken:

Mark 13:24 But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, <sup>25</sup> And the stars of heaven shall fall, and the powers that are in heaven shall be shaken.

Luke 21:25 And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; <sup>26</sup> Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken.

This is a wake-up call.

All (vs. 15) hide themselves and pray for death. They know Who is pouring out His wrath. Yet their response should be repentance, not hiding. See Rev. 9:21

The Tribulation is a time of:

Wrath (Rev. 6:16-17, 11:18, 14:19, 15:1, 16:1&19, I The. 1:9-10, 5:9)

Judgment (Rev. 14:7, 15:4, 16:5-7, 19:2)

Indignation (Isa. 26:20-21, 34:1-3)

Hour of Trial (Rev. 3:10)

Darkness (Joel 2:2, Zeph. 1:14-18, Amos 5:18)

Punishment (Isa. 24:20-21)

Hour of Trouble (Jer. 30:7)

Destruction (Joel 1:15)

## **The 144,000 Rev. 7:1-9**

Time Frame of this chapter is probably between first seal and second seal (6:3).

Thus: Antichrist is on scene to start 'peaceful' time 6:1-2

144,000 sealed 7:1-8

Angels allowed to 'hurt the earth.' 7:3, then the 2<sup>nd</sup> seal is poured out

Martyrs of 7:9 correspond with 5<sup>th</sup> seal in 6:9-10

This would put the preaching of the 144,000 in conjunction with the war, famine, death, pestilence and earthquake!

Chapter 6:1-17 then 8:1 for chronology. Chapter 7 is a parenthesis - time frame not given.

Angels and the wind vs. 1-3

Wind does not blow – thus not hurting the earth.



Wait till the foreheads are sealed ... then can blow and hurt the earth.  
The loosing of the wind probably causes the famine in 6:5-6. (The wheat and barley supply are low – and 'hurt not the oil & wine' – but food supply is hurt)  
The 4 corners of earth means the whole earth.

#### Sealing of the 144,000

Who: 12,000 of 12 tribes 7:4-8  
Virgin men 14:4  
Firstfruits – 1<sup>st</sup> saved in the tribulation 14:4  
How: Have Father's name sealed in their forehead 14:1  
Mark seals their fate (14:1, 14:9-10)  
What: Seal gives Possession, Protection & Preservation  
The seal of Eastern kings was stamped in a signet ring and worn by the one in the place of authority. It was used to identify personal property as well as to preserve and protect it. (See Gen. 41:42, Esther 3:10, 8:2)  
Today we are sealed with the Holy Spirit! (Eph. 1:13, 4:30)

#### The 12 tribes:

The twelve tribes are listed 27 times in the Bible. There are variations as to who is included. In this chapter Joseph and Manasseh replace Dan and Ephraim. There may be some reason for this.

A) Antichrist will probably come from Dan. (Gen. 49:17, Jer. 8:16)

B) Dan and Ephraim went into idolatry:

1 Kings 12:25 Then Jeroboam built Shechem in mount Ephraim, and dwelt therein; and went out from thence, and built Penuel. <sup>26</sup> And Jeroboam said in his heart, Now shall the kingdom return to the house of David: <sup>27</sup> If this people go up to do sacrifice in the house of the LORD at Jerusalem, then shall the heart of this people turn again unto their lord, *even* unto Rehoboam king of Judah, and they shall kill me, and go again to Rehoboam king of Judah. <sup>28</sup> Whereupon the king took counsel, and made two calves of gold, and said unto them, It is too much for you to go up to Jerusalem: behold thy gods, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt. <sup>29</sup> And he set the one in Bethel (Ephraim), and the other put he in Dan. <sup>30</sup> And this thing became a sin: for the people went *to worship* before the one, *even* unto Dan.

#### God had warned them:

Deuteronomy 29:18 Lest there should be among you man, or woman, or family, or tribe, whose heart turneth away this day from the LORD our God, to go *and* serve the gods of these nations; lest there should be among you a root that beareth gall and wormwood; <sup>19</sup> And it come to pass, when he heareth the words of this curse, that he bless himself in his heart, saying, I shall have peace, though I walk in the imagination of mine heart, to add drunkenness to thirst: <sup>20</sup> The LORD will not spare him, but then the anger of the LORD and his jealousy shall smoke against that man, and all the curses that are written in this book shall lie upon him, and the LORD shall blot out his name from under heaven. <sup>21</sup> And the LORD shall separate him unto evil out of all the tribes of Israel, according to all the curses of the covenant that are written in this book of the law:

#### Idolatry of Dan:

Judges 18:30 And the children of Dan set up the graven image: and Jonathan, the son of Gershom, the son of Manasseh, he and his sons were priests to the tribe of Dan until the day of the captivity of the land. <sup>31</sup> And they set them up Micah's graven image, which he made, all the time that the house of God was in Shiloh.

#### Idolatry of Ephraim:

Hosea 4:17 Ephraim *is* joined to idols: let him alone.

Revelation 7:9 After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands.

These 144,000 preach and multitudes get saved. This is the fulfillment of Joel 2:28-32. Acts 2:1-21 was only a minor fulfillment. Acts 2:16 tells us it was the fulfillment of Joel. But Acts 2:19-20 was not fulfilled! Thus, the major fulfillment is yet to come. It (the major fulfillment) will be just like the minor fulfillment.

The Minor fulfillment:

They spoke in tongues and everyone heard in their own language (Acts 2:6,8,11).

The Major fulfillment:

They will speak in tongues and everyone will hear the gospel in their own language and people will be saved in the tribulation from every tongue!

Imagine the gospel reaching every nation, kindred, people and tongue. 144,000 Jews will do this as the Spirit is poured out upon all flesh.

When God sent the flood, his Spirit stopped striving with man (Gen. 6:3). In the tribulation, the Holy Spirit will actively be at work to save those that will repent and believe.

Rev. 7:9 They have 'palms in their hands.' Only other place in the N.T. where 'palms' is mentioned is just before Jesus offers Himself as King to Israel in John 12.

John 12:12 On the next day much people that were come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, <sup>13</sup> Took branches of palm trees, and went forth to meet him, and cried, Hosanna: Blessed is the King of Israel that cometh in the name of the Lord. <sup>14</sup> And Jesus, when he had found a young ass, sat thereon; as it is written, <sup>15</sup> Fear not, daughter of Sion: behold, thy King cometh, sitting on an ass's colt.

Perhaps the palms in Rev. 7:9 are in preparation for King Jesus to offer Himself as Israel's Messiah for the 2<sup>nd</sup> time.

## **The Great Multitude Rev. 7:9-17**

This great multitude, which no man could number, comes from:

**all nations**, and **kindreds**, and **people**, and **tongues**. (Rev. 7:9)

There are martyrs in the 5<sup>th</sup> seal (6:9-11). This could be the same crowd or perhaps this is a later crowd.

They cry with a loud voice... "Salvation to God & the Lamb." (Rev. 7:10)

The throne is the central focal point in heaven. All the angels stood around the throne!

The 24 elders (represents the church) and 4 beasts fall down before the throne.

(See Rev. 4:10, 5:14, 11:16, 19:4)

After God is praised for salvation (7:10), he is worshipped and there is rejoicing (7:11-12).

Luke 15:7 I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance.

Luke 15:10 Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth.

They praise God saying: "Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, *be* unto our God for ever and ever. Amen."

(Amen means truly - used with 'saying' to emphasize that what is being said is a solemn declaration of what is true (JN 1.51);

Literally – the blessing, the glory, the wisdom, the thanksgiving, the honor, the power, the might...

One of elders asks a question (7:13).

- 1) Who are these?
- 2) Whence came they?
- 1) They have washed their robes and made them white in blood of Lamb.
- 2) These are they came out of great tribulation.

Note: Salvation is only in the person and work of the Lord Jesus Christ. Salvation is found in Him. No matter what dispensation – salvation is in a person – the Lord Jesus Christ:

Ex 12	The Passover looked forward to Calvary
Matt. 3:7-11	Look to the coming Messiah
Acts 19:4-5	Look forward to coming Christ
Today	Look backward to Calvary
Trib.	Some look back to blood of Lamb
Trib.	Some look to coming Messiah (Zech. 12:10)
Mill.	Look to the present King Jesus (Jer. 31:34)

White Things (Represent purity and holiness):

Christ's white hair and head Rev. 1:14

White stone given to believer Rev. 2:17

White Clothing for saints Rev. 3:4-5,18, 4:4, 6:11, 7:9, 19:14

Jesus sits on white cloud Rev. 14:14

White horse for Christ and we have white horses also Rev. 19:11&14

Great white throne Rev. 20:11

What do these tribulation saints do in heaven? Rev. 7:15

They will serve God – in the temple (There is a temple in heaven Rev. 11:19, 15:5-8, 16:1)– God dwells among them.

Revelation 22:3 And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him...

Revelation 21:3 And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God *is* with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.

We will rule and reign with Him.

Heaven will be a place to serve God.

We will be busy.

These tribulation saints will be delivered from trials:

No more: Hunger, thirst, heat from sun, nor any heat (burned at stake?) Rev. 7:16

No more: Tears Rev. 7:17 – for God shall wipe them away.

Isaiah 49:10 They shall not hunger nor thirst; neither shall the heat nor sun smite them: for he that hath mercy on them shall lead them, even by the springs of water shall he guide them.

There is coming a day where no heartaches shall come –

No more clouds in the sky, no more tears to dim the eye,  
All is peace forever-more on that happy golden shore,  
What a day, glorious day that will be.

There'll be no sorrow there, no more burdens to bear,  
No more sickness, no pain, no more parting over there,  
And forever I will be with the One who died for me,  
What a day, glorious day that will be.

What a day that will be when my Jesus I shall see,  
And I look upon His face – the One who saved me by His grace,  
When He takes me by the hand and leads me thro' the promised land,  
What a day, glorious day that will be!

## **Trumpet Judgments # 1-4 Rev. 8:1-12**

Only the Lamb was worthy to take the seven-sealed book and to open it. When He opened the first seal, the Antichrist came on the scene and the tribulation period started. Now, He is to open the seventh seal.

The 7<sup>th</sup> seal opens up the seven trumpet judgments as the seven angels before God are given seven trumpets. As each one sounds, a judgment is poured out.

“We must not forget that the ‘Seventh Seal’ includes all that happens during the sounding of the ‘Trumpets,’ and the pouring out of the ‘Vials,’ and so extends down to the ushering in of the Millennium. To illustrate, a rocket fired into the air may burst into ‘seven stars,’ and one of these stars into ‘seven other stars,’ and one of the second group of stars into a third group of ‘seven stars.’ So the ‘Seventh’ seal includes the ‘Seven Trumpets,’ and the ‘Seventh’ Trumpet includes the ‘Seven Vials.’”<sup>7</sup>

There is silence in heaven for approximately thirty minutes. This is not a long time when something is happening. It is a long time when there is complete silence. This is a silent preparation for upcoming judgments.

Another angel comes and offers up incense along with the prayers of the saints at the golden altar of incense. When these prayers are come before God, the presumed answer is the sounding of the first trumpet. Angels have a part in bringing our prayers before the throne of God and they have a part in answering our prayers (Dan. 10:12-14). They are servants to the saints (Heb. 1:14).

Perhaps this account (8:3-6) is in response to Rev. 6:9-11.

The prayer in Rev. 6:9-11 is for God to avenge the blood of the martyrs. They were told to wait as others are yet to be saved. The silence for about thirty minutes means that no-one is getting saved (Lk. 15:7&10). Perhaps the ‘early rain’ salvation of the tribulation period is over and now God is answering this prayer.

### **The First Trumpet - Hail and Fire Mingled with Blood 8:7**

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<sup>7</sup> Larkin, Clarence The Book of Revelation, p.68

Jude 1:15 To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard *speeches* which ungodly sinners have spoken against him.

These judgments are literal. Five of the nine plagues in Egypt are repeated in the tribulation period. They were literal then and there is no reason to believe they are symbolic. Note: Exodus 9:22 And the LORD said unto Moses, Stretch forth thine hand toward heaven, that there may be **hail** in all the land of Egypt, upon man, and upon beast, and upon every herb of the field, throughout the land of Egypt. <sup>23</sup> And Moses stretched forth his rod toward heaven: and the LORD sent thunder and **hail, and the fire** ran along upon the ground; and the LORD rained hail upon the land of Egypt. <sup>24</sup> So there was **hail, and fire mingled with the hail**, very grievous, such as there was none like it in all the land of Egypt since it became a nation.

The result of the 1<sup>st</sup> Trumpet – 1/3 trees and greenery burnt up

### **The Second Trumpet - Great Burning Mountain Cast Into Sea 8:8-9**

Notice it says, "As it were a great mountain...." This is symbolic. It is probably a meteorite.

The result of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Trumpet – 1/3 of sea turns to blood  
1/3 of sea creatures die  
1/3 of ships destroyed

### **The Third Trumpet - Great Star Falls From Heaven 8:10-11**

The name of this star is 'Wormwood.' Ps 147:4

Wormwood meaning 'bitterness.'

Proverbs 5:4 But her end is bitter as wormwood, sharp as a two edged sword.

Jeremiah 9:15 Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will feed them, *even* this people, with wormwood, and give them water of gall to drink.

The result of this 3<sup>rd</sup> Trumpet - 1/3 of water supply made bitter and many die from this

### **The Fourth Trumpet - Sun, Moon & Stars Darkened 8:12**

Jesus foretold of these signs:

Luke 21:11 And great earthquakes shall be in divers places, and famines, and pestilences; and fearful sights and great signs shall there be from heaven.

Luke 21:25 And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; <sup>26</sup> Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken.

Notice other passages:

Isaiah 13:10 For the stars of heaven and the constellations thereof shall not give their light: the sun shall be darkened in his going forth, and the moon shall not cause her light to shine.

Joel 2:10 The earth shall quake before them; the heavens shall tremble: the sun and the moon shall be dark, and the stars shall withdraw their shining: <sup>11</sup> And the LORD shall utter his voice before his army: for his camp *is* very great: for *he is* strong that executeth his word: for the day of the LORD *is* great and very terrible; and who can abide it?

Joel 2:30 And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke. <sup>31</sup> The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the LORD come.

Amos 8:9 And it shall come to pass in that day, saith the Lord GOD, that I will cause the sun to go down at noon, and I will darken the earth in the clear day:

Revelation 6:12 And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal...and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood; <sup>13</sup> And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth...<sup>14</sup> And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.

Revelation 16:8 And the fourth angel poured out his vial upon the sun; and power was given unto him to scorch men with fire.

The result of the 4<sup>th</sup> Trumpet – 1/3 of sun, moon, stars do not shine for  
1/3 of day and 1/3 of night

There is more to come! Woe speaks of judgment.

Revelation 8:13 And I beheld, and heard an angel flying through the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, **Woe, woe, woe**, to the inhabitants of the earth by reason of the other voices of the trumpet of the three angels, which are yet to sound!

Make sure that you are saved. Escape this great day of wrath by salvation. You do not know when the tribulation period will begin. Salvation is the only guarantee for escape.

1 Thessalonians 5:9 For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Thessalonians 1:10 And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, *even* Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come.

Hebrews 2:3 How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation...

2 Peter 3:3 Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, <sup>4</sup> And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as *they were* from the beginning of the creation.

## **The Fifth Trumpet** **Rev. 9:1-12**

Revelation 8:13 And I beheld, and heard an angel flying through the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, **Woe, woe, woe, to the inhabitants of the earth by reason of the other voices of the trumpet of the three angels**, which are yet to sound!

The three *Woes* suggest the seriousness and solemnness of these judgments to follow.

- Woe 5<sup>th</sup> Trumpet (9:1-12)
- Woe 6<sup>th</sup> Trumpet (9:13-11:14)
- Woe 7<sup>th</sup> Trumpet (11:15-16:1)

*Inhabiters* refers to: "Earth dwellers are persons who, in their utter rejection of Jesus Christ, live for this life on earth only, caring not at all about Heaven and the life to come. It is to all such that the judgments issuing from the sounding of the fifth and sixth trumpets are directed."<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>8</sup> Strauss, Lehman The Book of Revelation, p.187

The star in 9:1 is a personality. "He" is given a key. This is the same person found in Rev. 20:1. The verb *fallen* is the "Perfect active participle of *piptô*,"<sup>9</sup> which means he is already down. Hence, he is not a fallen angel, but an angel that has come down to earth.

This *star* is given the key to the bottomless pit and he opens up this pit. Out comes a smoke that darkens the sun and a host of creatures that have a scorpion-like sting. These are demons. It is probable that the entrance to the *Bottomless Pit* is the Bermuda Triangle. (See notes on Hell & Bottomless Pit – P. 54-57)

"Out of the darkness from the pit of the abyss come demons to do their fearful work of tormenting the souls and bodies of those who have willfully rejected the Son of God. The plague of darkness that God sent to Egypt, 'even darkness which may be felt' (Ex. 10:21-22), and which lasted only three days, was mild compared with the darkness of hell let loose on the earth during the time of the Great Tribulation. Because men are sinners by nature they hate the light and prefer the darkness of superstition, error, and ignorance (John 3:19). Not until they feel the darkness of hell itself will they have any desire to flee from it, but by that time it will be too late."<sup>10</sup>

These locusts are demons. Like locusts, they last five months (May to September). "Locusts have no king, yet go they forth all of them by bands (Prov. 30:27). These locusts have a king – Apollyon – which means *destroyer*. Hence, they are an organized army.

Locusts destroy vegetation, but these 'locusts' hurt not the grass, trees or vegetation. They hurt only those who have not the seal of God in their forehead. They have a scorpion-like sting to torment men for these five months. This word for torment is also used in Rev. 12:2, 14:10, 20:10.

"It has been said that the sting of a scorpion, though seldom fatal, is one of the most painful stings known. The venom seems to set the veins and nervous system on fire, and the effects lasts for several days. By contrast, the effects of this sting will extend five months."<sup>11</sup>

Men will seek death, but it will flee from them! Joel describes this horrific event.

Joel 2:1-11 "Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for the day of the LORD cometh, for *it is* nigh at hand; A day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness, as the morning spread upon the mountains: a great people and a strong; there hath not been ever the like, neither shall be any more after it, *even* to the years of many generations. A fire devoureth before them; and behind them a flame burneth: the land *is* as the garden of Eden before them, and behind them a desolate wilderness; yea, and nothing shall escape them. The appearance of them *is* as the appearance of horses; and as horsemen, so shall they run. Like the noise of chariots on the tops of mountains shall they leap, like the noise of a flame of fire that devoureth the stubble, as a strong people set in battle array. Before their face the people shall be much pained: all faces shall gather blackness. They shall run like mighty men; they shall climb the wall like men of war; and they shall march every one on his ways, and they shall not break their ranks: Neither shall one thrust another; they shall walk every one in his path: and *when* they fall upon the sword, they shall not be wounded. They shall run to and fro in the city; they shall run upon the wall, they shall climb up upon the houses; they shall enter in at the windows like a thief. The earth shall quake before them; the heavens shall tremble: the sun and the moon shall be dark, and the stars shall withdraw their shining: And the LORD shall utter his voice before his army: for his

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<sup>9</sup> BibleWorks 4.0 A.T. Robertson's Word Pictures

<sup>10</sup> Strauss, Lehman The Book of Revelation p.190

<sup>11</sup> LaHaye, Tim Revelation, Illustrated and Made Plain, p.137

camp *is* very great: for *he is* strong that executeth his word: for the day of the LORD *is* great and very terrible; and who can abide it?

These demons are described as:

- Horses prepared for battle
- Faces like men
- Crowns of gold on their head
- Hair of women
- Teeth as a lion
- Breastplate of iron
- Wings that sound like chariots going to battle
- Tails with stingers like a scorpion

This is a combination of horses, men, women, lions and scorpions. Hell is let loose on earth.

“And in those days shall men seek death, and shall not find it; and shall desire to die, and death shall flee from them.” Death would be a relief, but it is unattainable.

Hell & Bottomless Pit

O.T. Words

**Sheol** Can mean the grave - ‘death’ or can mean ‘hell.’ Depends on the context.

**R)**

1) sheol, underworld, grave, hell, pit 1a) the underworld 1b) Sheol - the OT designation for the abode of the dead 1b1) place of no return 1b2) without praise of God 1b3) wicked sent there for punishment 1b4) righteous not abandoned to it 1b5) of the place of exile (fig) 1b6) of extreme degradation in sin

**Usage:** AV - grave 31, hell 31, pit 3; 65

Numbers 16:30-33 But if the LORD make a new thing, and the earth open her mouth, and swallow them up, with all that *appertain* unto them, and they go down quick into the pit...And the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed them up, and their houses, and all the men that *appertained* unto Korah, and all *their* goods... They, and all that *appertained* to them, went down alive into the pit, and the earth closed upon them: and they perished from among the congregation.

***There are four possible places where a created being may dwell:***

Rev. 5:3 And no man **in heaven, nor in earth, neither under the earth**, was able to open the book, neither to look thereon.

Rev. 5:13 And every creature which is **in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea**, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, *be* unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever.

Places that men may dwell:

Heaven, earth & under the earth

Place that creatures dwell:

Heaven, earth, under the earth & the sea

N.T. Words



**Hades** Located in the center of the earth - there is a great gulf fixed between Paradise side and the side of torments.

**a** [ | d h j , ou , o ` Hades (literally *unseen place*); (1) the place of the dead *underworld* (AC 2.27); (2) usually in the NT as the temporary underworld prison where the souls of the ungodly await the judgment (LU 16.23); (3) personified as following along after Death (RV 6.8)

**Meaning:** 1) name Hades or Pluto, the god of the lower regions 2) Orcus, the nether world, the realm of the dead 3) later use of this word: the grave, death, hell

Matthew 11:23 And thou, Capernaum, which art exalted unto heaven, shalt be brought down to hell: for if the mighty works, which have been done in thee, had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day.

Matthew 16:18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

Luke 10:15 And thou, Capernaum, which art exalted to heaven, shalt be thrust down to hell.

Luke 16:23 And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.

Acts 2:27 Because thou wilt not leave my soul in hell, neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.

Acts 2:31 He seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell, neither his flesh did see corruption.

1 Corinthians 15:55 O death, where *is* thy sting? O grave, where *is* thy victory?

Revelation 1:18 I *am* he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.

Revelation 6:8 And I looked, and behold a pale horse: and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed with him. And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth.

Revelation 20:13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.

Revelation 20:14 And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

### **Zophos -- Thick, darkness of underworld**

**zo**, f o j , ou , o ` gloom, darkness (HE 12.18); as a designation for the underworld *thick darkness, gloomy hell* (2P 2.17)

Jude 1:6 And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day. {first estate: or, principality}

### **Ghenna Eternal Lake of Fire (Rev. 19:20, 20:10,14,15)**

**ge**, enna , h j , h ` (also Ge,enna) Gehenna; literally *valley of Hinnom*, a ravine south of Jerusalem where fires were kept burning to consume the dead bodies of animals, criminals, and refuse; figuratively in the Gospels and James for *hell*, a fiery place of eternal punishment for the ungodly dead (MT 5.22)

**Meaning:** 1) Hell is the place of the future punishment call "Gehenna" or "Gehenna of fire". This was originally the valley of Hinnom, south of Jerusalem, where the filth and dead animals of the city were cast out and burned; a fit symbol of the wicked and their future destruction.

Matthew 5:22 But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire.

Matthew 5:29 And if thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast *it* from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not *that* thy whole body should be cast into hell. <sup>30</sup> And if thy right hand offend thee, cut it off, and cast *it* from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not *that* thy whole body should be cast into hell.

Matthew 10:28 And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy **both soul and body** in hell.

Matthew 18:9 And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast *it* from thee: it is better for thee to enter into life with one eye, rather than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire.

Matthew 23:15 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye compass sea and land to make one proselyte, and when he is made, ye make him twofold more the child of hell than yourselves.

Matthew 23:33 Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell?

Mark 9:43 And if thy hand offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: <sup>44</sup> Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched. <sup>45</sup> And if thy foot offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter halt into life, than having two feet to be cast into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: <sup>46</sup> Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched. <sup>47</sup> And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out: it is better for thee to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire:

Luke 12:5 But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: Fear him, which after he hath killed hath power to cast into hell; yea, I say unto you, Fear him.

James 3:6 And the tongue *is* a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell.

### **Tartarus** "Hell" for angels - located below Hades

**tartaro,w** 1aor. **evtarta,rwsa**; strictly *hurl into Tartarus*, regarded by the Greeks as a place of torment and punishment below Hades; probably so regarded in Jewish apocalyptic literature also; *consign to Tartarus, throw into hell* (2P 2.4)

**tartaro,w** tartaroo {tar-tar-o'-o}

**Meaning:** 1) the name of the subterranean region, doleful and dark, regarded by the ancient Greeks as the abode of the wicked dead, where they suffer punishment for their evil deeds; it answers to Gehenna of the Jews 2) to thrust down to Tartarus, to hold captive in Tartarus

**Origin:** from Tartaros (the deepest abyss of Hades)

**Usage:** AV - cast down to hell 1

2 Peter 2:4 For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast *them* down to hell, and delivered *them* into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment;

### **The Abyss - Bottomless Pit**

**a;bussoj**, ou, h` literally *bottomless pit*, transliterated into English as *abyss*; (1) as the place where dead people go *depths, underworld* (RO 10.7); (2) as a place for shutting away the devil and evil spirits *abyss, bottomless pit, very deep and large hole* (LU 8.31; RV 20.3)

**a;bussoj** abussos {ab'-us-sos}

**Meaning:** 1) bottomless 2) unbounded 3) the abyss 3a) the pit 3b) the immeasurable depth 3c) of Orcus, a very deep gulf or chasm in the lowest parts of the earth used as the common receptacle of the dead and especially as the abode of demons

Luke 8:31 And they besought him that he would not command them to go out into the deep.

Romans 10:7 Or, Who shall descend into the deep? (that is, to bring up Christ again from the dead.) (Here it may just refer to the underworld in a generic sense)

Revelation 9:1 And the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit.

Revelation 9:2 And he **opened** the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit.

Revelation 9:11 And they had a king over them, *which is* the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in the Hebrew tongue *is* Abaddon, but in the Greek tongue hath *his* name Apollyon.

Revelation 11:7 And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast that **ascendeth out** of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, and kill them.

Revelation 17:8 The beast that thou sawest was, and is not; and shall **ascend out** of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition: and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is.

Revelation 20:1 And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.

Revelation 20:3 And cast him into the bottomless pit, and **shut him up**, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must **be loosed** a little season.

There is an entrance to this bottomless pit. It is not the same as Hades. Beings may come and go from this pit (Demons, The Beast & Antichrist). I believe the entrance is probably the Bermuda Triangle.

## **The Sixth Trumpet / The 2<sup>nd</sup> Woe** **Rev. 9:13-21**

One woe is past; *and*, behold, there come two woes more hereafter. (Rev. 9:12)

This 6<sup>th</sup> trumpet is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Woe.

Notice the use of the word *and* in the book of Revelation (10:1 to 13:18).

A **Voice** from the **golden altar** speaks to let the 4 angels loose.

“The high priest burned incense on the golden altar from morning until evening. This incense represented our prayers to heaven in the power of the blood.”<sup>12</sup>

The golden altar is the altar of prayer:

Psalm 141:2 Let my prayer be set forth before thee *as* incense; *and* the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

Revelation 5:8 And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four *and* twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints.

Revelation 8:3 And another angel came and stood at the altar, having a golden censer; and there was given unto him much incense, that he should offer *it* with the prayers of all saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne.

Perhaps this *Voice* is an answer to Rev. 6:9-11.

The **4 angels** that were bound are **loosed**.

Bound angels are fallen angels:

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<sup>12</sup> Rodgers, Adrian Unveiling the end Times in Our Time, p.116

Jude 1:6 And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day.

2 Peter 2:4 For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast *them* down to hell, and delivered *them* into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment;

Revelation 20:1 And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. <sup>2</sup> And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years,

They are loosed **to slay 1/3 of men** (vs. 15&18).

¼ of men die in Rev. 6:8 (1.5 Billion)

Now 1/3 die (Another 1.5 Billion)

The hour has come (vs. 15) – Events are in the hands of a Sovereign God.

The angels are loosed **near the Euphrates River** (Syria / Iraq area). “The region of the Euphrates is that place where human sin began and also Satan’s empire over man; where the first murder was committed; where the first war confederacy was made (Gen. 14); and back of this it is where Nimrod began to be ‘a mighty one in the earth,’ and where the vast system of Babylonian idolatry, with its trinity evil – ‘father, mother and son’ originated, to deceive the whole world by the Satanic fable of ‘the queen of heaven.’ Here, moreover, as we saw in Zechariah 5, iniquity is to have its last stage on earth (see Rev. 18 also).”<sup>13</sup>

The result of the loosing of these four angels is an **army of 200,000,000**. John heard that number – hence this is not “an innumerable” army, but a specific number. This army consists of horses and horsemen.

Horses – Heads like heads of lions  
Out of their mouth **fire**, smoke and **brimstone**  
Which kills 1/3 of men on earth  
Tails like snakes that had heads  
Tails also hurt them

Horsemen - Breastplate of **fire**, jacinth and **brimstone**

Note – the fire and brimstone is literal:

Genesis 19:24 Then the LORD rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah **brimstone and fire** from the LORD out of heaven;

Revelation 14:10 The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with **fire and brimstone** in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: <sup>11</sup> And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name.

Revelation 20:10 And the devil that deceived them was cast into **the lake of fire and brimstone**, where the beast and the false prophet *are*, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

The Scripture is to be interpreted literally. If the Bible uses words such as *like as, as, like unto...* then it is symbolic. Note the symbolism in Rev. 9:7-10. Note what parts of Rev. 9:16-19 are literal and which are symbolic.

These horses and horsemen probably come out of the bottomless pit as the *locusts* did in the fifth trumpet. There is a remote possibility that these are a demonic product of modern-day cloning gone badly. Either way, it will be exactly as the Bible records it.

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<sup>13</sup> Newell, William R. The Book of The Revelation, p.133

## The Response

Of the men remaining (1/2 of world killed)

They repented not of:

Idolatry & Demon worship

Sins of vs. 21 – like sins of today:

Murder (abortion)

sorceries (drug use)

fornication (immorality)

thefts (dishonesty)

Sorcery: *farmakei*, a *pharmakeia* (pharmakeia)

Meaning: 1) the **use or the administering of drugs** 2) poisoning 3) sorcery, magical arts, often found in connection with idolatry and fostered by it 4) metaph. the deceptions and seductions of idolatry

Usage: AV - sorcery 2, witchcraft 1; 3

The reason they do not repent – man is a rebellious creature. The judgment of God only makes unrepentant man hate God more. Remember Pharaoh's heart only got harder with each miraculous judgment.

“Do you know what people are doing in hell? Jesus said that they are gnashing their teeth (Matt. 13:42). Do you know what it means to gnash your teeth? It means to snarl. They are snarling against God. They are not asking God for mercy. They are still participating in their wicked course of demons, astrology and Satan worship.”<sup>14</sup>

The 6<sup>th</sup> Trumpet includes:

<b>200,000,000 army</b>	<b>9:13-21</b>
<b>Mighty Angel &amp; Little Book</b>	<b>10:1-11</b>
<b>Measuring the Temple</b>	<b>11:1-2</b>
<b>The Two Witnesses</b>	<b>11:3-14</b>

## Mighty Angel & Little Book Rev. 10:1-11

This mighty angel is none other than the Lord Jesus Christ. He refers to “my two witnesses” in Rev. 11:3. Thus, this mighty angel is Christ. (Ex. 3:2, Isa 63:9)

I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven,  
clothed with a cloud: and a  
rainbow was upon his head, and his (Eze. 1:28)  
face was as it were the sun, and his (Matt. 17:2, Acts 9:3)  
feet as pillars of fire.

Compare this description to Rev. 1:13-17:

“And in the midst of the seven candlesticks *one* like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle. His head and *his* hairs *were* white like wool, as white as snow; and his eyes *were* as a flame of fire; And his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and his voice as the sound of many waters. And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp twoedged sword: and

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<sup>14</sup> Rodgers, Adrian Unveiling the end Times in Our Time, p.123

his countenance *was* as the sun shineth in his strength. And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last.”

The Lord Jesus Christ holds a little book in his left hand; has his right foot on the sea and his left foot on the earth; he roars like a lion and swears by Himself that the mystery of God should be finished.

“In Bible times, when a conqueror overthrew a nation and occupied a piece of land that had a shoreline, he would put one foot in the water and another foot on the land and raise his hand in victory. This gesture meant that he had conquered the area. This gesture by the mighty angel Jesus Christ symbolized that every drop of water and every grain of sand belongs to Him. It is all His. People ask, ‘What is the world coming to?’ It is coming to Jesus. It was all made by Him and for Him, and it is coming to Him. Colossians 1:16 states: “For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether *they be* thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him.”<sup>15</sup>

He will put all things under His feet. (Ps. 8:6, Heb. 2:8, Dan. 7:14)

The Lord Jesus Christ *roars* like a lion:

Jeremiah 25:30-31 Therefore prophesy thou against them all these words, and say unto them, The LORD shall roar from on high, and utter his voice from his holy habitation; he shall mightily roar upon his habitation; he shall give a shout, as they that tread *the grapes*, against all the inhabitants of the earth. A noise shall come *even* to the ends of the earth; for the LORD hath a controversy with the nations, he will plead with all flesh; he will give them *that are* wicked to the sword, saith the LORD.

Hosea 11:9-11 I will not execute the fierceness of mine anger, I will not return to destroy Ephraim: for I *am* God, and not man; the Holy One in the midst of thee: and I will not enter into the city. They shall walk after the LORD: he shall roar like a lion: when he shall roar, then the children shall tremble from the west. They shall tremble as a bird out of Egypt, and as a dove out of the land of Assyria: and I will place them in their houses, saith the LORD.

Joel 3:15-16 The sun and the moon shall be darkened, and the stars shall withdraw their shining. The LORD also shall roar out of Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the heavens and the earth shall shake: but the LORD *will be* the hope of his people, and the strength of the children of Israel.

When He roars, the seven thunders utter their voices. This probably refers to the voice of the Lord:

Psalms 29:3-10 The voice of the LORD *is* upon the waters: the God of glory thundereth: the LORD *is* upon many waters. The voice of the LORD *is* powerful; the voice of the LORD *is* full of majesty. The voice of the LORD breaketh the cedars...The voice of the LORD divideth the flames of fire. The voice of the LORD shaketh the wilderness; the LORD shaketh the wilderness of Kadesh. The voice of the LORD maketh the hinds to calve, and discovereth the forests: and in his temple doth every one speak of *his* glory. The LORD sitteth upon the flood; yea, the LORD sitteth King for ever.

God the Son (vs.6) swears by Himself that time (delay) should be no longer. God has done this before: For when God made promise to Abraham, because he could swear by no greater, he swore by himself, <sup>14</sup> Saying, Surely blessing I will bless thee, and multiplying I will multiply thee (Heb. 6:13-14).

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<sup>15</sup> Rodgers, Adrian Unveiling the end Times in Our Time, p.128

“This expression concerning time (*chronos*) has sometimes been misunderstood to mean that time will cease. The expression here, however, means that time has run out, that is, that there will be no further delay. The end is now to be consummated.”<sup>16</sup>

Friberg gives the following definition for this word in this verse:

**cro,noj**, ou, o` time; as time taken or allowed for something *respite, delay, opportunity* (RV 2.21; 10.6)<sup>17</sup>

Revelation 10:7 But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets. This is the crux of what is going on. As the 7<sup>th</sup> angel prepares to sounds, the Lord Jesus Christ – with one foot on sea, one foot on land; with his right hand raised to heaven as He swears by Himself that He is going to take back the title deed (see notes on Ch. 5) of the earth and the mystery of God should be finished! This is the great event that we have been waiting for.

Romans 8:21 Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. <sup>22</sup> For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now. <sup>23</sup> And not only *they*, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, *to wit*, the redemption of our body.

Remember – this is a continuation of the 6<sup>th</sup> trumpet, which is an answer to the voices of the martyrs crying, “How long...” This answer comes from the golden altar in Rev. 9:13 and *now* it is revealed.

The mystery of God:

Why God allowed Satan to be god of this world.

Why sin is permitted to wreck this world.

Why evil prospers.

Why did God allow the Dark Ages.

The sayings of the seven thunders is sealed up. This reminds us of the writings of Daniel: Daniel 7:13-16 I saw in the night visions, and, behold, *one* like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion *is* an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom *that* which shall not be destroyed. I Daniel was grieved in my spirit in the midst of *my* body, and the visions of my head troubled me. I came near unto one of them that stood by, and asked him the truth of all this. So he told me, and made me know the interpretation of the things.

Daniel 7:22 Until the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom... <sup>27</sup> And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, whose kingdom *is* an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him. <sup>28</sup> Hitherto *is* the end of the matter. As for me Daniel, my cogitations much troubled me, and my countenance changed in me: but I kept the matter in my heart.

Daniel 12:5 Then I Daniel looked, and, behold, there stood other two, the one on this side of the bank of the river, and the other on that side of the bank of the river. <sup>6</sup> And *one* said to the man

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<sup>16</sup>Walvoord, John The Revelation of Jesus Christ, p.171

<sup>17</sup> Bible Works 4.0

clothed in linen, which was upon the waters of the river, How long *shall it be* to the end of these wonders? <sup>7</sup> And I heard the man clothed in linen, which was upon the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand unto heaven, and swore by him that liveth for ever that *it shall be* for a time, times, and an half; and when he shall have accomplished to scatter the power of the holy people, all these *things* shall be finished. <sup>8</sup> And I heard, but I understood not: then said I, O my Lord, what *shall be* the end of these *things*? <sup>9</sup> And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end.

The Little Book that Daniel is told to eat may be the *Book of Daniel*. (vs. 8-10)  
It was sweet as honey – that Christ is to set up His kingdom,  
but it was bitter – as the events leading up to this are horrific.

## **The Temple The Two Witnesses Rev. 11:1-14**

### **The Temple 11:1-2**

John is given a reed (10' long) to measure the temple. The temple will be rebuilt in Jerusalem in the tribulation period. Titus and the Romans destroyed the temple in 70 A.D.. Not one stone was left upon another – just as Jesus had said in Matt. 24:1-2.

“This Scripture says that the temple will be rebuilt. And the Jews believe this will happen. Today, rabbinic schools are training young Jewish priests (descendants of Levi) to offer sacrifices in the temple. I (Adrian Rodgers) have been to the Temple Institute, where seamstresses are weaving clothing for the priests to wear, artisans are making vessels of silver and gold for temple worship, and carpenters are fashioning musical instruments to replicate the worship in the Bible. They are getting ready to rebuild the temple!

The Hasmonean Tunnel that was discovered and excavated several years ago is located at the foot of the perimeter of the temple mount. It is also called the Rabbi Tunnel; it served as an aqueduct in the Hasmonean period or Maccabbean era. There is a sign on the wall of that tunnel that suggests this spot is closest to the Holy of Holies. If you ask a Hasidic Jew what he is praying for at that Western Wall, he will tell you that he is praying for Messiah to come and for the temple to be rebuilt.”<sup>18</sup>

The only place that the Jews will rebuild the temple is on the temple mount. The *Mosque of Omar* (Dome of the Rock) is located there now. It would seem that the Jewish temple will be right next to this as John states: “But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles.” The Antichrist shall “confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease (Dan. 9:27). This covenant infers that it will allow the sacrificial system and temple worship to be restored. Thus, Antichrist “solves” the Middle-East peace crisis as the Jews and Arabs co-exist on the temple mount! Of course, Antichrist sets himself up as god (II The. 2:4) in the temple (at the 3 ½ year mark of the tribulation), and then Jerusalem is trodden under foot for forty-two months.

### **The Two Witnesses 11:3-14**

John mentions the two witnesses at this time. They are allowed to witness for 1260 days. This coincides with the forty-two months of temple worship. They are called the two olive trees and the two candlesticks. In the fourth chapter of Zechariah, the two olive trees were Joshua and

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<sup>18</sup> Rodgers, Adrian *Unveiling the end Times in Our Time*, p.134



Zerubbabel. They were God's appointed men in the rebuilding of the temple. Hence, these **two witnesses are given to guide Israel in temple worship**.

They preach in sackcloth. Apparently they do not read the contemporary Christian literature or follow the new-evangelical teachings. They must be like *Baptists*.

These two witnesses are Moses and Elijah. Here is why:

I) Elijah will come:

Mal. 4:5 Behold, **I will send you Elijah** the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD:

II) Why Elijah & Moses?

Elijah represents the *prophets* - Moses represents the *law*.

The law & the prophets are representative of the Old Testament and the tribulation period is a time for Israel.

A) The *law & prophets* are mentioned often in same text:

Matthew 7:12 Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets.

Matthew 22:40 On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

Luke 16:16 The law and the prophets were until John: since that time the kingdom of God is preached, and every man presseth into it.

John 1:45 Philip findeth Nathanael, and saith unto him, We have found him, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.

Acts 13:15 And after the reading of the law and the prophets the rulers of the synagogue sent unto them, saying, Ye men *and* brethren, if ye have any word of exhortation for the people, say on.

Romans 3:21 But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets;

B) *Moses & Elijah, or Moses and the prophets* are often mentioned in the same text:

Mal. 4:4-6 Remember ye the law of **Moses** my servant, which I commanded unto him in Horeb for all Israel, *with* the statutes and judgments. Behold, I will send you **Elijah** the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD: And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.

Matthew 17:3 And, behold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elias talking with him.

Luke 16:29 Abraham saith unto him, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.

Luke 16:31 And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead.

Luke 24:27 And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.

Luke 24:44 And he said unto them, These *are* the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and *in* the prophets, and *in* the psalms, concerning me.

John 1:45 Philip findeth Nathanael, and saith unto him, We have found him, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.

Acts 26:22 Having therefore obtained help of God, I continue unto this day, witnessing both to small and great, saying none other things than those which the prophets and Moses did say should come:

Acts 28:23 And when they had appointed him a day, there came many to him into *his* lodging; to whom he expounded and testified the kingdom of God, persuading them concerning Jesus, both out of the law of Moses, and *out of the prophets*, from morning till evening.

Some say this is Elijah and Enoch – because they did not die.

Heb. 9:27 is a general statement – not everyone will die.

Those at the rapture do not die (I Cor. 15:51 – we shall not all sleep).

The antichrist and the false prophet do not die. (Rev. 19:20)

Lazarus died twice.

C) They do the same miracles as Moses & Elijah.

Rev 11:6 These have power to shut heaven, that it rain not in the days of their prophecy (Elijah did this): and have power over waters to turn them to blood (Moses did this), and to smite the earth with all plagues (Moses did this), as often as they will.

III) Their Ministry

And if any man will hurt them, fire proceedeth out of their mouth, and in this manner be killed (Rev. 11:5).

The Timing of these events:

Comparing Rev. 10:4-6 and Dan. 12:4-9 suggests that the timing of Christ standing with one foot on the earth and one foot on the sea is near the 3 ½ year mark. Daniel tells us in Dan. 12:7 that it will be *time, times and half a times* (3 ½ years). Thus, this sixth trumpet of the 200,000,000 army, the taking back of the earth by Christ and now these events of chapter eleven are just before the 3 ½ year mark. Rev. 11:2&3 both give us a time frame of 42 months / 1260 days.

What happens at this 42 month / 1260 day time?

- 1) Antichrist sits in the temple as god. (II The. 2:4, Dan. 9:27)
- 2) Moses and Elijah are zealous for the temple.
  - a. They are the two olive trees – to oversee the rebuilding of the temple
  - b. Probably Moses and Elijah have a *spiritual battle* with the Antichrist and the False Prophet. As Antichrist sets himself up as god, these two witnesses contest his claim. Remember Moses had a battle with Jannes and Jambres (Ex. 7:11), and Elijah had a battle with the prophets of Baal (I Ki 18).

A likely scenario would be –

- 1) Elijah calls fire from heaven; The False Prophet calls fire from heaven (Rev. 13:13).
- 2) Elijah kills the Antichrist with a sword (I Ki 18:40, 19:1, Rev. 13:14)
- 3) The Antichrist is dead and the False Prophet raises him from the dead as Antichrist comes up out of the bottomless pit. (Rev. 11:7, 13:3, 13:12-14)
- 4) Antichrist now turns on Moses and Elijah and kills them (Rev. 11:7)

John Phillips states:

“While the text does not actually say so, it is not at all unlikely that God’s two witnesses execute the Beast who is promptly brought back to life again (as he ascends out of the bottomless pit) by the false prophet. (The Beast is called the ‘beast whose deadly wound was healed’). The Beast executes the two witnesses and wins the gratitude as well as the awe of mankind.”<sup>19</sup>

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<sup>19</sup> Phillips, John Exploring Revelation, p.144

This may account for the concluding statement that is underlined: “And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast. And they worshipped the dragon, which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him? (Rev. 13:3-4)

The world rejoices over their death and sends gifts on this occasion. This is similar to the concept of Santa Claus.

The Lord gets the final victory as the two witnesses rise from the dead and ascend to heaven. They hear a great voice from heaven: *Come up hither*. They arise from the dead after lying in the streets of Jerusalem for 3 ½ days. At this time, this same hour, a great earthquake wipes out one-tenth of Jerusalem, 7,000 die and the rest give God the glory. Perhaps God uses this to awaken the Jews to reject Antichrist and flee with the other Jewish remnant.

The events of the 6<sup>th</sup> trumpet occur just before the 3 ½ year mark and carry us 3 ½ days into the last 3 ½ years of the tribulation. Jesus spoke of this time:

Matthew 24:15-21:

(Antichrist enters the temple to be worshipped as god)

When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:)

(Jews flee into hiding as they reject Antichrist as god)

Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains: Let him which is on the housetop not come down to take any thing out of his house: Neither let him which is in the field return back to take his clothes. And woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck in those days! But pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the sabbath day:

(The great tribulation begins – last 3 ½ years)

For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.

This concludes the 6<sup>th</sup> trumpet, which is the second woe.

Revelation 11:14 The second woe is past; *and*, behold, the third woe cometh quickly.

## **The 7<sup>th</sup> Trumpet** **Rev. 11:15**

Revelation 11:15 And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become *the kingdoms* of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

This 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet sounds and sets in motion the *Great Tribulation* – the last 3 ½ years when Antichrist will rule and demand worship as god.

“The sounding of the *seventh trumpet* includes all that happens down to chapter 20:3. When it sounded John heard *Great Voices* in heaven saying – ‘the kingdoms of this world are become *the kingdoms* of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.’ This is the announcement that the time had come for Christ to take *The Kingdom*, though *The Kingdom* does not fully come into His possession for 3 ½ years. The whole of this passage is forward to the Resurrections and Judgments of chapter 20.”<sup>20</sup>

The voices heard are probably the same voices of God as in:

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<sup>20</sup> Larkin, Clarence The Book of Revelation, p.88

Revelation 10:3 And cried with a loud voice, as *when* a lion roareth: and when he had cried, seven thunders uttered their voices.

<sup>16</sup> And the four and twenty elders, which sat before God on their seats, fell upon their faces, and worshipped God, <sup>17</sup> Saying, We give thee thanks, O Lord God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned.

Heaven rejoices and worships God as Christ is setting up His Kingdom. The phrase, *and hast reigned* literally means "Didst begin to reign."<sup>21</sup>

"The language might sound as though the prophecy was already fulfilled as soon as the seventh trumpet sounds. Concerning this, Seiss says, 'The tense of the expression is that peculiar to prophetic language, which fixes upon a result yet future, or only beginning to be, as if already accomplished.' Actually the change of rule, with Christ as King over all the earth, does not occur until the events recorded in chapters 12-18 have been fulfilled."<sup>22</sup>

Thus, the 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet is inclusive of Israel (ch 12), the Beast and False Prophet (ch 13), the 144,000 alive in heaven and the angels preaching (ch 14), the seven vial judgments (ch 16), the judgment of the Great Whore (ch 17) and Babylon (ch 18), the coming King of Kings (ch 19), and the millennial reign of Christ (ch 20).

<sup>18</sup> And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth.

Heaven rejoices and the nations are angry. God's wrath is come – the judgments of the third woe include reaping the harvest (14:19-20), the seven vials (ch 16), and the judgment of the Great Whore and Babylon (ch 17-18).

God's judgment will reward the saints and destroy the inhabitants of the earth.

<sup>19</sup> And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail.

There is rhyme and reason as to the location of verses in the Bible. The temple on earth is mentioned at the beginning of chapter eleven. It coincides with the ministry of the two witnesses and also the Antichrist setting himself up as god. Here, in Rev. 11:15, the temple *in heaven* is opened and the ark of his testament is seen. Why would God include this?

1. God looks at the ark in heaven with the blood on the mercy seat and he looks down to earth and sees Antichrist sitting as god in the temple. (Antichrist is the antitype to the sow offered by Antiochus Epiphenes).
2. This scenario causes: lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail.
3. The phrase 'ark of *his* testament reminds us of God's everlasting covenant with Israel. The following chapter deals with God's supernatural protection and provision for Israel.

"The opening of the temple displays the Ark that in the Old Testament times was always concealed, thus signifying that God is about to act on behalf of beleaguered Israel. In the Old Testament, the Ark was connected with the Tabernacle and Moses, the land and Joshua, the

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<sup>21</sup> A.T. Robertson's Word Pictures

<sup>22</sup> Strauss, Lehman The Book of Revelation p.222

kingdom and David, the Temple and Solomon. It thus stood connected with Israel's law, Israel's land, Israel's Lord, and Israel's light."<sup>23</sup>

"Suffice to say that the ark, which speaks of God's covenant with Israel, is in the midst of a judgment scene described in terms of '*lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail.*' The judgment is coming, but Israel will be saved."<sup>24</sup>

Antichrist is a covenant-breaking god:

Daniel 9:27 And he shall **confirm the covenant** with many for one week: and in the midst of the week **he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease**, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make *it* desolate.

God is a covenant keeping God:

Romans 11:26 And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: <sup>27</sup> For this *is my covenant* unto them, when I shall take away their sins.

The *Great Tribulation* (last 3 ½ years) begins with:

Revelation 11:19 And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail.

And ends with:

Revelation 16:18-21 And there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, *and* so great... And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. And there fell upon men a great hail out of heaven....

## **The Woman and The Dragon Rev. 12**

The following events – all take place at the 3 ½ year mark of the tribulation:

The Temple worship is ceased

Revelation 11:2 But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under foot **forty and two months.**

The Two witnesses are killed

Revelation 11:3 And I will give *power* unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a **thousand two hundred and threescore days**, clothed in sackcloth.

Israel flees into the wilderness

Revelation 12:6 And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a **thousand two hundred and threescore days.**

The Beast reigns

Revelation 13:5 And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue **forty and two months.**

Thus, the False Prophet raises Antichrist from the dead. He kills the two witnesses, sets himself up in the Temple as god and demands people to receive the Mark of the Beast to buy or sell.

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<sup>23</sup> Phillips, John Exploring Revelation, p.153

<sup>24</sup> Strauss, Lehman The Book of Revelation p.226

Israel then flees into hiding for 1260 days. The dragon is cast out of heaven and attacks Israel, but God helps her.

We are reminded that this is included in the process of Jesus setting up His kingdom: Revelation 12:10 And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God. (Also Rev. 10:5-6, 11:15)

## The Two Wonders

### The Woman vs. 1-2

Identity of the woman – Israel (Isa 54:5-6, 66:7-8)

1. She has twelve stars (Gen. 37:9-11)
2. Israel brought forth is the man-child, the Lord Jesus Christ
3. Abraham's seed is likened to stars (Gen. 15:5)

The man-child is the Lord Jesus Christ:

Romans 9:4 Who are Israelites; to whom *pertaineth* the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service of God, and the promises; <sup>5</sup> Whose are the fathers, and of whom as concerning the flesh Christ *came*, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen.

Revelation 12:5 And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and to his throne.

“This verse contains a remarkable summary of three significant events in Christ's life, namely His Incarnation, Ascension, and Second Coming to earth to rule. No other person in history fits into the details here.”<sup>25</sup>

The Woman flees into the wilderness.

Israel has a place prepared of God where He supernaturally feeds them.

Revelation 12:14 And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished...

1. A place is prepared – notice the word *there* – perhaps Petra (Larkin p.101-02)
2. Israel is supernaturally fed:
  - *Nourished* is same word in Matt. 6:26, Lk. 12:24, Rev. 12:6
  - “Wings of an eagle” speak of supernatural provision:  
Exodus 19:4 Ye have seen what I did unto the Egyptians, and *how* I bare you on eagles' wings (supernatural help), and brought you unto myself.
  - Scriptures that refer to this divine feeding:  
Hosea 2:21 And it shall come to pass in that day, I will hear, saith the LORD, I will hear the heavens, and they shall hear the earth; <sup>22</sup> And the earth shall hear the corn, and the wine, and the oil; and they shall hear Jezreel.  
Joel 2:18 Then will the LORD be jealous for his land, and pity his people. <sup>19</sup> Yea, the LORD will answer and say unto his people, Behold, I will send you corn, and wine, and oil, and ye shall be satisfied therewith: and I will no more make you a reproach among the heathen:  
Micah 7:14-15 Feed thy people with thy rod, the flock of thine heritage, which dwell solitarily *in* the wood, in the midst of Carmel: let them feed *in* Bashan and Gilead, as in the days of old. According to the days of thy coming out of the land of Egypt will I shew unto him marvellous *things*.
  - Other Bible verses that refer to this event:  
Isaiah 26:20- 27:1 Come, my people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee: hide thyself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation

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<sup>25</sup> Strauss, Lehman The Book of Revelation p.232

be overpast. For, behold, the LORD cometh out of his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity: the earth also shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain. In that day the LORD with his sore and great and strong sword shall punish leviathan the piercing serpent, even leviathan that crooked serpent; and he shall slay the dragon that *is* in the sea.

Matthew 24:15 When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:) <sup>16</sup> Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains: <sup>17</sup> Let him which is on the housetop not come down to take any thing out of his house: <sup>18</sup> Neither let him which is in the field return back to take his clothes. <sup>19</sup> And woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck in those days! <sup>20</sup> But pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the sabbath day: <sup>21</sup> For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. <sup>22</sup> And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened.

### The Dragon vs. 3-6

Identity of the dragon:

Rev. 12:9 The **great dragon** was cast out, that **old serpent**, called the **Devil**, and **Satan**...

1. He has taken 1/3 of angels with him
2. The conflict describes fulfills Gen. 3:15
3. He stands before woman to devour her child. The word 'stood' is in the imperfect tense – which means that it is a continuing event.

Matthew 2:13-16 And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph in a dream, saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will **seek the young child to destroy him**... Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked of the wise men, was exceeding wrath, and sent forth, and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem, and in all the coasts thereof, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had diligently enquired of the wise men.

Luke 4:28-30 And all they in the synagogue, when they heard these things, were filled with wrath, And rose up, and thrust him out of the city, and led him unto the brow of the hill whereon their city was built, that they might cast him down headlong. But he passing through the midst of them went his way,

### The Two Wars

#### The War in Heaven vs. 7-12

Michael appears.

Daniel 12:1 And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation *even* to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.

The Dragon and his angels war against Michael and his angels. The Dragon loses!

He is cast out of heaven. No more accusing the brethren is allowed. He is cast out to the earth.

The end result:

Rejoicing in heaven

Woe to the inhabters of the earth.

The devil knows that he has but a short time --- only 3 ½ years and a 'little season' at end of Millennium.

## The War on Earth vs. 13-17

Comparing vs. 14 with vs. 6, we learn that *time, and times, and half a time* is the same as 1260 days.

We are reminded that the devil is anti-Christ, anti-Semitic, and anti-Church.

The devil opens his mouth – pours out a flood

The earth opens her mouth – swallows up the flood

Revelation 12:17 And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

Perhaps this verse refers to: Revelation 13:7 And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them...

Perhaps this verse refers to the battle of Armageddon??

## Antichrist Rev. 13:1-10

The False Trinity:

12:3-17	Dragon	<b>Satan</b>	
13:1-10	1 <sup>st</sup> Beast	<b>Antichrist</b>	Satan gives power & authority
13:11-18	2 <sup>nd</sup> Beast	<b>False Prophet</b>	Leads people to worship Antichrist

Revelation 16:13 And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs *come* out of the mouth of the **dragon**, and out of the mouth of the **beast**, and out of the mouth of the **false prophet**.

Satan & Antichrist are 'like father, like son.'

"When Jesus was on earth, He said, 'He that hath seen Me hath seen the Father' (John 14:9).

When the devil enters Antichrist, the Antichrist will be able to say, 'The one who has seen me has seen my father.' All the attributes of Satan will be in this man of sin. He will be a consummate liar like his father and will perform the works of his father."<sup>26</sup>

### Satan:

Revelation 12:3 And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red **dragon**, having **seven heads** and **ten horns**, and **seven crowns upon his heads**.

### Antichrist:

Revelation 13:1 And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a **beast** rise up out of the sea, having **seven heads** and **ten horns**, and **upon his horns ten crowns**, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy.

Revelation 17:9 And here *is* the mind which hath wisdom. The **seven heads are seven mountains**, on which the woman sitteth.

- Has 'name of blasphemy' on his heads (Rev. 13:1)  
Vicar – "a substitute in office" (Websters 1828) – thus  
Vicar of Christ – a substitute of Christ

Revelation 17:12 And the **ten horns** which thou sawest **are ten kings**, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast.

- Seven mountains – Rome

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<sup>26</sup> Rodgers, Adrian Unveiling the End Times in our Time, p.154-55



- Ten kings – Revived Roman Empire

### **False Prophet:**

Revelation 13:11 And I beheld **another beast** coming up out of the earth; and he had **two horns** like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon.

Satan is cast down (Rev. 12:9-12), Antichrist arises out of sea / bottomless pit (Rev.11:7, 17:8), and the False Prophet rises out of the earth (Rev.13:11). It is likely that the Antichrist rises from the dead after going into the bottomless pit and that the False Prophet rises from the dead after going to the grave.

The Beast rules the Revived Roman Empire. This kingdom will encompass all that the four previous kingdoms possessed.

Revelation 13:2 And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as *the feet* of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion...

“To understand this, we need to look at Daniel 7, where Daniel described the four great empires of the world as beasts. The first empire the world has ever known was the Babylonian Empire. Daniel described it as a lion (Dan. 7:4). The lion is the royal king of beasts with a ravenous appetite and incredible strength. He is able to terrify every other animal in the kingdom.

The next world empire was Medo-Persia, and Daniel described it as a bear (Dan. 7:5). The bear has massive strength and powerful claws to crush its victims – a fitting symbol to describe the way the Medo-Persian kings ruled the world at that time. Next, Daniel characterized the Greek Empire as a leopard because of its rapid movement to conquer the world (Dan. 7:6). Alexander the Great led the charge and wept because there was no more worlds to conquer.

When the Antichrist comes, he will come from this lineage of empires. He will have the royalty of Babylon, the strength of Medo-Persia, and the sophisticated wisdom of Greece. He will be a combination of Alexander the Great, Napoleon, Caesar, Charlemagne, Hitler, and more. This is his family legacy.”<sup>27</sup>

### **The Beast (Antichrist):**

- Has a deadly wound (by a sword) but he is restored. Rev. 13:3, 12&14.  
Perhaps his head is cut off & put back on as Jesus did with an ear.
- Speaks great things and blasphemies – he is a real orator  
Daniel 7:8 I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn *were* eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things.  
Daniel 7:20 And of the ten horns that *were* in his head, and *of* the other which came up, and before whom three fell; even *of* that horn that had eyes, and a mouth that spake very great things, whose look *was* more stout than his fellows.  
Daniel 7:25 And he shall speak *great* words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.
- Blaspheme (Rev. 13:6):
  1. Name of God
  2. God’s tabernacle
  3. Them that dwell in heaven (saints, angels, trinity)
- 1. Continues for 42 months – 3 ½ years  
Satan’s reign is for God’s purposes! (Gen. 50:20):

<sup>27</sup> Rodgers, Adrian Unveiling the End Times in our Time, p.155

1. Beast kills saints (Rev.12: 17, 13:7&10) – they go to heaven
2. Beast sits in Temple as God – this drives Israel into the wilderness to purge them to receive Jesus as Messiah!
2. Beast kills with the sword – he will be killed by a sword. (Reap what you sow)

Revelation 13:10 He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity: **he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword.** Here is the patience and the faith of the saints.

2 Thessalonians 2:8 And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the **Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth**, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:

Revelation 19:15 And **out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword**, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

**The Unsaved** (Rev. 13:8):

3. Wonder after the Beast (Rev. 13:3)
4. Worships the Beast & his image (Rev. 13:15)  
They worship the Beast & Satan (Rev. 13:4)
5. Receives his mark (Rev. 13:16-18)

John 5:43 I am come in my Father's name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive.

## **The False Prophet & Mark of the Beast Rev. 13:11-18**

God has all the authority and power. Why does he allow the false trinity (Rev. 16:13) to reign for 3 ½ years?

1. For **Israel** to flee into the wilderness  
To purge them to receive Jesus as Messiah
2. To bring in **Christ's kingdom**

The devil has been cast out of heaven (ch 12) and allowed by God to be given authority and power over the earth. The devil is a tool in the hand of a Sovereign God. An example is the gathering of peoples to the Battle of Armageddon.

The false trinity gathers them to this battle:

Revelation 16:13 And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs *come* out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. <sup>14</sup> For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, *which* go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.

God gathers them to this battle:

Revelation 16:15 Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed *is* he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame. <sup>16</sup> And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon.

Joel 3:2 I will also gather all nations, and will bring them down into the valley of Jehoshaphat, and will plead with them there for my people and *for* my heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations, and parted my land.

Zephaniah 3:8 Therefore wait ye upon me, saith the LORD, until the day that I rise up to the prey: for my determination *is* to gather the nations, that I may assemble the kingdoms, to pour upon them mine indignation, *even* all my fierce anger: for all the earth shall be devoured with the fire of my jealousy.

Zechariah 14:2 For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city.

How do we reconcile these two statements? God uses the devil to gather them!!  
God carries out His divine purpose by using the devil.

The Dragon – Antichrist:

- Gives power to Antichrist 13:2
- Gives authority to Antichrist 13:4-5
- Given to him to make war w/ the saints 13:7
- Given authority over all nations 13:7
- Given power to do miracles II The. 2:8-9

2 Thessalonians 2:8 And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: <sup>9</sup> *Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders,*

False Prophet:

1. Religious Person

His name indicates that he is a 'pseudo prophet.' (II Cor. 11:13-15)

2. Has two horns like a lamb 13:11

The horns are probably two kings (Rev.17:12) that are peaceful.

3. Signs & Wonders

Given him to do miracles 13:14, 16:14

The word for *miracle* is the word for *sign*(50 times), *miracle*(23), or *wonder*(3).

He does all the power of the 1<sup>st</sup> Beast (13:12, 19:12)

Matthew 24:24 For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if *it were* possible, they shall deceive the very elect.

He is able to call fire down from heaven (Job. 1:16)

4. Deceives people by miracles (Rev. 13:14, 19:20)

To give life to image (probably a statute) of the beast 13:15

"*Breath* translates *pneuma*, not *zoe* or *bios*, the Greek words normally translated *life*. The false prophet will animate the image of Antichrist so that it gives the appearance of being alive."<sup>28</sup>

5. Spake as a dragon 13:11 (This may be "the lie" referred to in II The 2:10-11).

"In the False Prophet we have the 'Anti-Spirit,' who proceeds from the 'Dragon-Father' and 'Dragon-Son,' and whose speech is like the Dragon's. The Dragon then will be the 'Anti-God,' the Beast will be the 'Anti-Christ,' and the False Prophet will be the 'Anti-Spirit,' and the fact that all three are cast **alive** into the 'Lake of Fire' (Rev.19:20, 20:10) is proof that they together form a 'Triumvirate' which we may well call – **The Satanic Trinity.**"<sup>29</sup>

Note: Signs are on the earth and wonders come from above:

Acts 2:19 And I will shew wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke.

<sup>28</sup> MacArthur, John The MacArthur N.T. Commentary – Rev. 12-22, p.62

<sup>29</sup> Larkin, Clarence The Book of Revelation, p.126

1. Causeth:

Worship the Beast 13:12

Worship the image of the Beast (or be killed) 13:15

Receive the mark of the Beast (or not be able to buy/sell) 13:16-18

False Prophet Rev. 16:13, 19:20, 20:10

Image of the Beast Rev. 13:15, 14:9&11, 15:2, 16:2, 19:20, 20:4

**Mark of the Beast**

**Rev. 13:16-18, 14:9&11, 15:2, 16:2, 19:20, 20:4**

ⲪⲚⲤ

God has His name written in the foreheads of the saved:

Revelation 3:12 Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I **will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem**, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and *I will write upon him* my new name.

Revelation 7:3 Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have **sealed** the servants of our God **in their foreheads**.

Revelation 9:4 And it was commanded them that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; but only those men which have not the **seal of God in their foreheads**.

Revelation 14:1 And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty *and* four thousand, having his **Father's name written in their foreheads**.

Revelation 22:4 And they shall see his face; and **his name shall be in their foreheads**.

Antichrist's name written in the forehead or right hand of unsaved:

Revelation 13:16 And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads:

Revelation 14:9 And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive *his* mark in his forehead, or in his hand,

**This mark is referred to in four different ways.**

**Mark:**

Revelation 13:17 And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. (See also Rev. 14:9, 16:2, 19:20, 20:4)

**Name of the beast :**

Revelation 13:17 And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

**Mark of his name:**

Revelation 14:11 And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name.

**Number of his name**

Revelation 15:2 And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire: and them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, *and* over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God.

Revelation 13:17 And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

1) Worshipping the Beast, 2) Having the mark of the Beast and 3) Eternal Damnation all go together:

Revelation 14:9 And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive *his* mark in his forehead, or in his hand, <sup>10</sup>The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: <sup>11</sup> And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name.

Revelation 19:20 And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.

### **The Mark, the Name of Beast and the Number of his name are all one and the same:**

Revelation 13:17 And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the **mark**, or the **name** of the beast, or the number of his **name**.

A.T. Robertson: (Rev 13:17)

**“Even the name** (*to onoma*). No "even," just apposition with *charagma* (the mark). **Or the number** (*ê ton arithmon*). The stamp (the mark) may bear either the name or the number of the beast. The name and the number are one and the same. They could write the name in numerals, for numbers were given by letters.”<sup>30</sup>

### **The value is 666:**

‘Here is wisdom.’ Albert Barnes comments on this: “Much skill in determining its meaning...peculiar wisdom would be required in deciphering its meaning. That which is required is like the solution of a riddle. However, it is implied that it can be understood.”<sup>31</sup>

The one having understanding count / calculate up the number of the beast.

It is the number of a man.

It is his number.

These are both in the nominative (subject of the sentence.)

### **The KJV says that the mark will be “in” the right hand or “in” the forehead:**

- KJV is translated from the Textus Receptus
- The T.R. was accepted as the Bible by Christians
- KJV is only Bible translated exclusively from T.R.
- KJV is only Bible with “in” for the mark

The Greek word for ‘in’ usually means ‘on’ (90% of time), but can mean in

The Greek word for ‘mark’ (*charagma*) means etched in

Mark - **ca,ragma** noun accusative neuter singular

[Fri] **ca, ragma**, *atoj, to*, (1) *mark* or *stamp*, made by engraving, etching, imprinting, branding (RV 13.16); (2) by metonymy

Why did the translators of the King James Version use the word *in*? There must have been a reason that they chose this word.

**There are two reasons.** One is the use of the letter *stigma* and the other is the use of relationship of *chargma* to its other Greek words.

### **Stigma:**

<sup>30</sup> Robertson, A.T. Robertson’s Word Pictures – Bible Works 4.0

<sup>31</sup> Barnes, Albert Barnes Notes on the New Testament, p.1671-72

The Greek usage for the mark is:

χξς

- It is a three letter anagram
- Its value is 666 (See notes on Greek letters)
- The third letter is the obsolete letter “stigma”

        c x j  
        600 60 6  
      chi xee st  
      “k” xee st

Stigma [Fri] **sti,gma**, atoj, to, literally, what is pricked in or branded as a mark of ownership on the body of a soldier, servant, religious devotee, etc. *mark, brand, tattoo*; figuratively, probably the wounds and scars received in service and identifying a faithful servant of Jesus

- Stigma is a letter for ‘st’ that was replaced by ‘s’ and ‘t’
- Stigma - the origin of stigma is: “a pointed instrument used to cut or burn marks into the flesh of people who were to be avoided.”
- The implantable chip will be used to contain the mark of the beast in the database. The chip is installed with a pointed instrument (Needle) into the flesh.
- The mark will be “stigmatized” into (KJV - “in”) the right hand or forehead.

Applied Digital Solutions has an implantable chip the size of a grain of rice that can be used as Veri-pay. You may buy and sell with this RFID device. This chip is not evil – it is just the technology that will be used for the implementation for the Mark of the Beast.

There are other authors who also consider this as the means for the mark of the Beast:

“The mark may even be used as it appears in the Greek, Chi, Xi, Sigma χξς . The middle letter even resembles a serpent, as Seiss pointed out in his book, *The Apocalypse....*”<sup>32</sup>

“It is my well-researched opinion that the Mark of the Beast, as related in scripture, is *absolutely literal*. Soon, all people on earth will be coerced into accepting a Mark in their right hand or forehead. I am convinced that it will be an injectable passive RFID transponder with a computer chip — a *literal* injection with a *literal* electronic biochip ‘mark’. . . I believe that such an implanted identification mark literally will become Satan’s Mark of the Beast, as we will discuss further in this chapter.”<sup>33</sup>

“A tiny computer chip painlessly and quickly implanted just under the skin in hand or forehead will likely become the means of fulfilling this prophecy.”<sup>34</sup>

### **Charagma: Chagma**

I talked to an expert in the Greek language. He stated that Greek words are based off of the root which is a verb. He stated that you can get a fuller meaning / an added meaning to a word by its *cousin* words. The word *caragma* is a noun meaning ‘mark.’ It comes from the root word *carax.*, which is a verb meaning ‘to cut something in the middle – like a loaf of bread.’ The word *caragma*, has a *cousin* word *caraka* which means ‘to stake in by synecdoche. (Synecdoche means that several parts produce one outcome – male and female = one flesh / spring, summer, fall, winter = one year)

<sup>32</sup> Agee, M.J. Revelations 2000, 1998, p. 325

<sup>33</sup> Cook, Terry The Mark of the New World Order, p.587

<sup>34</sup> Hunt, Dave How Close Are We?, p.261

The implantable chip will be staked in by synecdoche. It will have the chip, a reader, a database and internet access to that database.

I believe we learn some very fundamental lessons from the use of the words *in the forehead*.

- Accuracy of Bible - in, just under the skin, not drilled into
- Literal interpretation - the mark is exactly what the Bible said is was 1900 years ago.
- God fulfilled prophecy using modern technology!!!

        c x j  
       600 60 6  
      chi xee st  
      "k" xee st

Name of the beast Rev. 13:17

Pronounced "Keyst"

Egypt had its Pharaoh, Rome had its Caesar, and the Revived Roman Empire will have its Keyst.

This name fits the Mark, the Name of the beast, the Mark of his name and the **Number of his name.**

## **Angels & The Harvest Rev. 14**

Review Chronology of Book of Revelation:

Ch 1-3       Church Age  
Ch 4         Rapture – scene in heaven  
Ch 5         Lamb opens the 7 sealed book  
Ch 6         7 Seal Judgments  
Ch 7         144,000 Preach  
Ch 8-10     7 Trumpet Judgments  
Ch 11       Temple     (11:2) 1<sup>st</sup> 42 Months  
              2 Witnesses (11:3) 1<sup>st</sup> 1260 Days

### **The 7<sup>th</sup> Trumpet \*\*\*\*\***

Ch 12 Israel (12:6) Last 1260 Days  
Ch 13 Beast (13:5) Last 42 Months  
Ch 14 144,000 & Angels – Last 3 ½ Years

The Lamb opens the seven-sealed book. As the seventh seal is opened, seven trumpets start (8:1-2). Notice above the seventh trumpet occurs at the midway point of the seven year tribulation.

Key Verse for time frame is:

Revelation 11:15 And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become *the kingdoms* of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

Hence, as chapter 11,12, and 13 address a 3 ½ year period, I believe that chapter 14 also gives an overview of the last 3 ½ year period.

## **The First-fruits - The 144,000 Rev. 14:1-5**

**He sees:** Lamb on Mt. Sion (in heaven Heb. 12:22-23) - with Him - 144,000.

These 144,000 have been God's great witnessing tool. "No other age has produced a company like this, a veritable army of militant believers marching unscathed through every form of danger. It has been theirs to defy the dragon, to bait the Beast, and to give the lie to the false prophet. Their calling has been to preach the gospel from the housetops when even to name the name of Christ called for the most dreadful penalties. They have been surrounded, these latter-day-saints Jobs, with impenetrable hedges, able to laugh to scorn all the grand inquisitors of hell. They have walked the streets in broad daylight, careless of the teeth-gnashing rage of their would-be torturers and assassins, true witnesses of Jehovah in the most terrible era of the history of mankind. The devil knows about this company band of conquerors, and writhes already in an agony of anticipation."<sup>35</sup>

**He hears:** Voice      A) From heaven

As many waters / great thunder Rev.1:10&15

C) Harpers harping on their harps

Instruments in heaven

Satan – musical instrument (Eze. 28:13)

Human being – vocal instrument

### **The 144,000 sing as it were a new song:**

Church age – saved sing a new song Rev. 5:8-9

Only 144,000 sing a new song Rev. 14:3

Trib. Saints sing song of Moses Rev. 15:2-3

### **The 144,000 are virgins.**

They are not defiled with women. The literal sense would seem to be followed. The last days will be like the days of Noah and the days of Lot. Both times were noted for immorality. "Despite the rampant sexual sin that surrounds them, they will not be defiled with women, but will keep themselves chaste. That the specific sin that they will avoid involves women indicates that sexual purity is in view here, not detachment from the corrupt world system."<sup>36</sup>

"They are *virgins* in the sense that they kept themselves clean of the crowning sin of that day – Fornication. For the crowning sin of the Tribulation Period will be fornication (Rev. 9:21, 14:8), or looseness and laxity of the marriage tie, of which 'free-love,' and the doctrine of 'affinities,' and multiplied divorce in these days are but the opening wedge to the looseness of morals of those Anti-Christian times."<sup>37</sup>

### **The 144,000 are first-fruits.**

"It is possible to view the 144,000 as first-fruits in the sense that they represent the first of many others who will be saved. Paul used the term in that sense when he noted that 'the household of Stephanus...were the first fruits of Achaia'

(I Cor. 16:15). The 144,000 may legitimately be viewed as the first fruits of redeemed Israel, foreshadowing the nation's salvation when Christ returns."<sup>38</sup>

**The 144,000 are blameless.** (Rev. 14:5)

## **Angels**

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<sup>35</sup> Phillips, John Exploring Revelation, p.179-180

<sup>36</sup> MacArthur, John Revelation 12-22, p.77

<sup>37</sup> Larkin, Clarence The Book of Revelation, p.131

<sup>38</sup> MacArthur, John Revelation 12-22, p.79



## The angels warn for the coming harvest.

### Another Angel Preaching the Everlasting Gospel (vs.6-7)

John says "I saw another angel..." Another angel like Rev. 1:1, 7:2, 8:3&13, and 10:1.

Angel preaches:

- A) The everlasting gospel
- B) Fear God (hour of judgment is come)
- C) Give glory of Him – Creator (in contrast to worshipping the Beast)

### Another Angel Announcing Fall of Babylon (vs.8)

Babylon – that great city is fallen (See ch 18)

### Third Angel Warns of Damnation to Worshipers of the Beast (vs. 9-11)

Worship the Beast / worship his image / receive his mark = Wrath of God

It is poured out without mixture (full strength).

Tormented with fire and brimstone:

Genesis 19:24 Then the LORD rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the LORD out of heaven;

Luke 17:29 But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed *them* all.

Revelation 19:20 And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.

Revelation 20:10 And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet *are*, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

Revelation 21:8 But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

Revelation 14:11 And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night....

"After the resurrection, sleep belongs neither to the lost nor to the saved. The saved will not need it; for the body of weakness is shaken off. The lost may not enjoy it. How strange the sinner's infatuation, that after all this solemn warning of the eternity of hell-torments, he will still go on coolly provoking God to cut him down and cast him into the fire."<sup>39</sup>

### Pronouncement of Blessing to Saved which Die (vs.12-13)

To the saved – they may rest from their labors and their works do follow them.

The choice is at hand – worship the Beast and be tormented forever or hear the gospel and 'die in the Lord.'

### Harvest 14:14-20

There are two different harvests. The Son of Man reaps the first harvest, while the angel reaps the second harvest. Some think that the first harvest is a grain harvest and the second is a vintage.

John Phillips writes: "The harvest has to do with Christendom – or what is left of it, for the sphere of the harvest is religious. The vintage has to do with the world, and mention of it makes it clear that the time of God's vengeance has come. The harvest depicts the final separation of the false from the true; the vintage describes the final subjugation of the foes of the truth. The

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<sup>39</sup> Strauss, Lehman The Book of Revelation, p.269

vintage pictures the Lord stepping down into the arena of Armageddon to trample down the Beast and all those gathered to his standards in this final conflict of the age."<sup>40</sup>

Clarence Larkin states: "The difference between the 'Harvest and the Vintage' is, that the 'harvest' in the natural world precedes the 'vintage,' but often, as in this case, continues until they become one."<sup>41</sup>

### **Christ Sitting on Cloud – to Reap with Sharp Sickle (vs. 14-16)**

Jesus is the Son of Man. "There is no note here of the marvelous display of glory which our Lord always emphasized as attending His return as Son of man (Matt. 24:30, Mk. 8:38)."<sup>42</sup>

In the church age, Jesus has the seven stars in His right hand (Rev. 1:16&20); at the end of the tribulation period, He has a sharp sickle.

Another Angel Cries to Christ to Reap (vs.15).

Deuteronomy 23:25 When thou comest into the standing corn of thy neighbour, then thou mayest pluck the ears with thine hand; but thou shalt not move a sickle unto thy neighbour's standing corn.

According to the law, one could only reap that which he owned / had authority over. The Lord Jesus Christ is reaping that which is rightfully His.

### **Another Angel Comes with Sharp Sickle – to Reap (vs. 17-20)**

Another Angel Cries to Angel to Reap (vs. 18)

This reaping consists of casting the 'vine of the earth' into the great winepress of the wrath of God. This 'vine of the earth' is the Antichrist and all who belong to him – the group from Rev. 14:9-11.

The winepress is trodden without the city – Jerusalem (vs. 19-20). The blood flows to the horses' bridle – 4' high and it flows for 1600 furlongs – about 200 miles. "From Dan to Beersheba was sixteen hundred furlongs. Flowing from Armageddon, a deep crimson tide of human blood is seen. Outside the city where He was crucified, down there in the valley of Jehoshaphat, the valley of judgment, the Lord will complete the trampling down of His foes. What is signified is a vast destruction of human life, a slaughter beyond anything the world has known, a slaughter that begins at Armageddon and that continues on the end of the judgment of the living nations spoken of in Matthew 25:31-46."<sup>43</sup>

This scene is described in other passages:

Isaiah 63:1-6 Who *is* this that cometh from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah? This *that is* glorious in his apparel, traveling in the greatness of his strength? I that speak in righteousness, mighty to save. Wherefore *art thou* red in thine apparel, and thy garments like him that treadeth in the winefat? I have trodden the winepress alone; and of the people *there was* none with me: for I will tread them in mine anger, and trample them in my fury; and their blood shall be sprinkled upon my garments, and I will stain all my raiment. For the day of vengeance *is* in mine heart, and the year of my redeemed is come...And I will tread down the people in mine anger, and make them drunk in my fury, and I will bring down their strength to the earth.

Joel 3:11-16 Assemble yourselves, and come, all ye heathen, and gather yourselves together round about: thither cause thy mighty ones to come down, O LORD. Let the heathen be wakened, and come up to the valley of Jehoshaphat: for there will I sit to judge all the heathen round about. Put ye in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe: come, get you down; for the press is full, the fats overflow; for their wickedness *is* great. Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision: for the day of the LORD *is* near in the valley of decision. The sun and the moon shall be darkened, and the stars shall withdraw their shining. The LORD also shall roar out of Zion,

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<sup>40</sup> Phillips, John Exploring Revelation, p.186

<sup>41</sup> Larkin, Clarence The Book of Revelation, p.137

<sup>42</sup> Newell, William R. The Book of the Revelation, p.228

<sup>43</sup> Phillips, John Exploring Revelation, p.186

and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the heavens and the earth shall shake: but the LORD *will be* the hope of his people, and the strength of the children of Israel.

Zechariah 14:12 And this shall be the plague wherewith the LORD will smite all the people that have fought against Jerusalem; Their flesh shall consume away while they stand upon their feet, and their eyes shall consume away in their holes, and their tongue shall consume away in their mouth.

Revelation 19:15-18 And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations... and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God... And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all *men, both* free and bond, both small and great.

“In the Old Testament, harvest and vintage preceded the Feast of Tabernacles, that great annual feast of jubilation and joy. It is the same here. The golden age is soon to come, the long-awaited millennial reign of Christ; but first the ripened harvest must be reaped, and the reddened vintage must be trod.”<sup>44</sup>

In the Old Testament, there was:

First-fruits (Small offering gathered and brought to the house of God)

Harvest (Largest part)

Gleanings (Remnant)

We have witnessed the first-fruits (Rev. 14:4).

Warning of coming harvest (14:6-11)

The harvest is come (14:16-20)

It would seem that the angel reaps the harvest for Antichrist and all those who have taken the mark. The reaping of the Lord Jesus Christ would be for those who have not taken the mark of the Beast. This would include Israel – who will get saved – and those who have endured to the end who are judged by their treatment of Israel (Matt. 24:13, 25:31-46).

“In concluding this chapter, we must stress that the prediction that Christ will bring judgment on the earth comes only after three angelic warnings: (1) in the preaching of the everlasting Gospel; (2) in the warning that the Babylon... will be destroyed; and (3) in the assurance that worshippers of Antichrist will be judged in this life and the life to come. We can only conclude that those who are thus harvested and pressed into the winepress of the wrath of God are the incorrigibles who stumble over all kinds of divine warning against following Antichrist.

This tragic picture of the culmination of all things is another indication of the depravity of the human heart. With such supernatural warnings one would think that ungodly men would fall down and worship Jesus Christ, but nothing could be further from the truth. This is another reminder to us that when men reject the Lord, their problem is one of the will.”<sup>45</sup>

## **Temple in Heaven Rev. 15**

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<sup>44</sup> Phillips, John Exploring Revelation, p.184

<sup>45</sup> LaHaye, Tim Revelation, p.202-203

We need to go back to Rev. 11:15 as the 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet sounds. At this time, God is taking back the earth. He is set in motion that which it takes for Him to set up His kingdom.

Read Rev. 11:17-19. In vs. 19, the temple in heaven is opened. This is the timeframe of Rev.

15. Recall, the temple is opened, then the

1<sup>st</sup> sign (wonder) is the woman (Israel) – 12:1, then the

2<sup>nd</sup> sign (wonder) is the dragon – 12:3, and now another sign, a

3<sup>rd</sup> sign is the 7 angels with the 7 last plagues – 15:1.

These three signs are connected as John describes them.

In order to put chapters 11 through 15 in perspective, one must be reminded that it all centers around the temple on earth and what has occurred there.

Ch 11 The temple has been rebuilt and the 2 witnesses lead Israel in temple worship

Antichrist has set himself up as god and killed the 2 witnesses

God is taking back the earth to set up His kingdom

The temple in heaven is opened

Ch 12 Israel goes into hiding – as they reject Antichrist as god in their temple

(The temple has been desecrated)

Ch 13 The Antichrist reigns as False Prophet demands the taking of his mark

Ch 14 The angels warn of coming damnation if they take the mark

Ch 15 The temple in heaven is opened. As God looks upon the temple on earth and the Abomination in His temple, the Antichrist reigning, and the multitudes taking the mark of the Beast has stirred up His indignation. As His glory / holiness fills the temple in heaven, He will now pour out His wrath on earth. In these '7 last plagues' is filled up the wrath of God.

The Last Half Tribulation Saints Vs.2-4

The Opened Temple in Heaven Vs.5-8

The Tribulation Saints:

Many are saved in first-half of tribulation as a result of the 144,000 (Rev. 7:9)

The 144,000 have been saved, are God's witnesses and are killed (Rev. 14:1-5)

Some are saved in this last half of the tribulation (Rev. 15:2-4)

Israel is saved when Jesus returns (Rom. 11:26, Zech 12:10)

Few gentiles are saved when Jesus returns

Matthew 24:13 But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.

Matthew 25:31 When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: <sup>32</sup> And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth *his* sheep from the goats: <sup>33</sup> And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. <sup>34</sup> Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

Zechariah 14:16 And it shall come to pass, *that* every one that is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles.

Isaiah 4:3 And it shall come to pass, *that he that is* left in Zion, and *he that* remaineth in Jerusalem, shall be called holy, *even* every one that is written among the living in Jerusalem:

Isaiah 11:11 And it shall come to pass in that day, *that* the Lord shall set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people, which shall be left, from Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Cush, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the islands of the sea.

Isaiah 27:13 And it shall come to pass in that day, *that* the great trumpet shall be blown, and they shall come which were ready to perish in the land of Assyria, and the outcasts in the land of Egypt, and shall worship the LORD in the holy mount at Jerusalem.

## The Last Half Tribulation Saints Vs.2-4

They are in heaven – ‘sea of glass’ (Rev. 4:6)

They have gotten victory over the mark of the Beast – hence, these are after the 3 ½ year mark. They sing the song of Moses. The song of Moses was a song of deliverance from Pharaoh and his co-horts. Note the parallels:

Exodus 15:1 Then sang Moses and the children of Israel this song unto the LORD, and spake, saying, I will sing unto the LORD, for he hath triumphed gloriously: the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea.

Exodus 15:4 Pharaoh's chariots and his host hath he cast into the sea: his chosen captains also are drowned in the Red sea.

Exodus 15:6 Thy right hand, O LORD, is become glorious in power: thy right hand, O LORD, hath dashed in pieces the enemy.

Exodus 15:9 The enemy said, I will pursue, I will overtake, I will divide the spoil; my lust shall be satisfied upon them; I will draw my sword, my hand shall destroy them.

Exodus 15:11 Who *is* like unto thee, O LORD, among the gods? who *is* like thee, glorious in holiness, fearful *in* praises, doing wonders?

Exodus 15:13 Thou in thy mercy hast led forth the people *which* thou hast redeemed: thou hast guided *them* in thy strength unto thy holy habitation.

Compare Ex. 15:11 to Rev. 14:7 and 15:4. The ones who have heeded the call of the angel of Rev. 14:7 are these same ones singing this song in 15:4. John Phillips states:

“It is a two-fold song, the song of Moses and the song of the Lamb. The song of Moses was sung at the Red Sea, the song of the Lamb is sung at the crystal sea; the song of Moses was a song of triumph over Egypt, the song of the Lamb is a song of triumph over Babylon; the song of Moses told how God brought His people out, the song of the Lamb tell how God brings His people in; the song of Moses was the first song in Scripture, the song of the Lamb is the last; the song of Moses commemorated the execution of the foe, the expectation of the saints, and the exultation of the Lord; the song of the Lamb deals with the same three themes.”<sup>46</sup>

## The Opened Temple in Heaven Vs.5-8

‘The temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven’ refers to the Holy of Holies.

The 7 angels having the 7 last plagues come out of the temple. “They come out from His presence to face a world that has reached the climax of its wickedness, a wickedness made all the worse by sordid contrast with the heavenly Temple’s holiest shrine.”<sup>47</sup>

One of the four beasts gives them the 7 golden vials full of the wrath of God. “The word *vial* denotes a bowl. The word contains the idea of a rapid and final emptying of its contents. How significant! We know that these bowls disclose the final series of judgments in which the wrath of God is to be poured out. In that day there will not be a single scientific or psychological means of pacifying the fears of men. Scientists and psychiatrists themselves will be totally helpless in those days. Men who have refused to drink the cup of God’s salvation must drink from the bowls of His wrath. Which cup will you choose? Remember that judgment, just like salvation, comes from the presence of God.”<sup>48</sup>

Revelation 15:8 “And the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God, and from his power; and no man was able to enter into the temple, till the seven plagues of the seven angels were fulfilled.” “In other words, from the middle of the Tribulation Period neither angels nor man

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<sup>46</sup> Phillips, John Exploring Revelation, p.187

<sup>47</sup> Phillips, John Exploring Revelation, p.188

<sup>48</sup> Strauss, Lehman Revelation, p.281

will have access to the presence of God at His throne until the end of the Tribulation, for He will not be dealing with men in mercy, as is His usual custom. During the latter three-and-a-half years of the Tribulation, He will deal with men in judgment.”<sup>49</sup>

God’s glory / holiness fills his temple as He pours out His wrath. At this same time on earth, Antichrist, the antitype of Antiochus Epiphenes’ sow, has filled its’ temple. When the Tabernacle was finished by Moses, and when the Solomon finished the Temple, there was a cloud, the Shekinah Glory, but no smoke. The *cloud* means *grace*, the *smoke* means *judgment*. This is illustrated in Exodus 19:18: “And mount Sinai was altogether on a smoke, because the LORD descended upon it in fire: and the smoke thereof ascended as the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mount quaked greatly.”

Psalm 76:7 Thou, *even* thou, *art* to be feared: and who may stand in thy sight when once thou art angry?

## The 7 Vials Rev. 16

Explain vials – bowl

This implies that these plagues as they are poured out are quickly delivered.

“The seven angels to whom were given the seven plagues symbolized in the seven vials are now commanded to pour out their divine judgment upon the earth. The voice is undoubtedly the voice of God which is described as coming out of the Temple and as being a *great* (Gr. Megales) voice, a word which occurs frequently in this chapter. The word *great* is mentioned again in connection with the great voice (vs. 17), great heat (vs. 9), the great river Euphrates (vs. 12), that great day of God Almighty (vs. 14), a great earthquake, ‘so mighty an earthquake, and so great’ (vs. 18), the great city (vs. 19), great Babylon (vs. 19), a great hail (vs. 21), and the ‘exceeding great’ plague (vs. 21). As J. B. Smith expresses it, “This is the *great* chapter of the Bible.”<sup>50</sup>

These plagues encompass the entire earth. (In them is filled up the wrath of God - Rev. 15:1). The vials are poured out upon the earth, sea, water supply, sun, seat of the Beast, the river Euphrates, and the air. These correspond with the seven vials.

**The 1<sup>st</sup> vial is poured out upon the earth.** Those who receive the Mark of the Beast receive a grievous sore. This sore is like an ulcerated sore or an abscess. How ironic that this Mark turns into a putrefying and incurable ulcer. Receiving the Mark of the Beast also means that they worship his image. We are reminded of the following Scriptures:

Exodus 20:3 Thou shalt have no other gods before me. <sup>4</sup>Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of *any thing* that *is* in heaven above, or that *is* in the earth beneath, or that *is* in the water under the earth: <sup>5</sup>Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God *am* a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth *generation* of them that hate me...

This first vial is the start of the fulfillment of Rev. 14:9-10:  
...If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive *his* mark...

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<sup>49</sup> Lahaye, Tim Revelation Illustrated and Made Plain, p.209

<sup>50</sup> Walvoord, John The Revelation of Jesus Christ, p.231

The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation (The 7 vials); and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb (Eternal Hell)...

**The 2<sup>nd</sup> vial is poured out upon the sea.** The sea became **as** the blood of a dead man. Hence, every living soul in the sea died! Adrian Rodgers describes one way this may occur: "Occasionally the ocean is infected with something called the *red tide*. This is caused by microorganisms called dinoflagellates or *Karenia brevis*. By some strange alchemy, this one-celled organism turns the water red, poisons the sea life, and produces potent chemical neurotoxins. These toxins cause extensive fish kills, contaminate shellfish, and create severe respiratory irritation to human beings along the shore. As the organisms approach the shoreline, you can begin to see and feel the obvious effects: dead fish, the characteristic burning sensation of the eyes and nose, and a dry, choking cough."<sup>51</sup>

**The 3<sup>rd</sup> vial is poured out upon the rivers and springs.**

This affects all the fresh water supply of the earth.

The 'Angel of waters' justifies God in so doing. The Lord – which art, wast and shall be (Rev. 1:4, 1:8, 4:8) is righteous, for the inhabitants of the earth are reaping what they have sown.

The inhabitants of the earth have shed (poured out) the blood of the saints and prophets (Rev. 6:9-10, 7:13-14, 11:7, 12:17, 13:7, 13:15, 14:1-3, 15:1-3, 20:4).

Now, they are given blood to drink. The Bible states 'for they are worthy.' Friberg gives us the meaning of this concept:

**a;xiō,n evstin** (strictly *bringing up the other beam of the scales*), *equivalent; it is proper, fitting, worthwhile*, in a bad sense *deserving of, worthy of* (LU 12.48)<sup>52</sup>

Deuteronomy 32:40 For I lift up my hand to heaven, and say, I live for ever. <sup>41</sup> If I whet my glittering sword, and mine hand take hold on judgment; I will render vengeance to mine enemies, and will reward them that hate me. <sup>42</sup> I will make mine arrows drunk with blood, and my sword shall devour flesh; *and that* with the blood of the slain and of the captives, from the beginning of revenges upon the enemy. <sup>43</sup> Rejoice, O ye nations, *with* his people: for he will avenge the blood of his servants, and will render vengeance to his adversaries, and will be merciful unto his land, *and* to his people.

**The 4<sup>th</sup> vial is poured out upon the sun**

Malachi 4:1 For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the LORD of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch. <sup>2</sup> But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall.

"The sun, in its normal state, pours out a continuous stream of high-energy particles that race toward the earth at a peak speed of 3 million miles an hour. The earth is surrounded by a field of radiation, the magnetosphere, which protects it from full exposure to this deadly assault. The solar radiation that penetrates the magnetosphere is trapped in turn by the Van Allen belts. Should anything happen to the magnetosphere, the earth would be bombarded by these highly dangerous particles. Some scientists believe that, from time to time, the earth's magnetic field reverses itself. The changeover is thought to take place about every five thousand years, at the midpoint of which the magnetosphere is reduced to a mere five percent of its normal strength. During such a change, the cosmic rays, normally trapped by the magnetosphere, bombard the earth in full force, producing death or drastic mutation to all life forms. Such a change has not taken place during man's tenure of the earth, but there are signs that it could be happening

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<sup>51</sup> Rodgers, Adrian, Unveiling the End Times in our Time, p.187

<sup>52</sup> Friberg's Dictionary, Bible Works 4.0

again. Since the year 1670, the earth's magnetic field is thought to have been reduced by fully 15 percent and, at the present rate of decrease, will have almost completely disappeared by the year 3990.<sup>53</sup>

As the sun's heat intensifies, the polar caps will melt. The resulting rise in the ocean's water level will inundate the coastal regions with these toxic 'blood-like' waters. The stench and filth upon land will be unbearable.

Yet, with all this, men will still not repent. "The wishful thinking of some that men would repent if they only knew the power and righteous judgment of God is shattered by frequent mention in this chapter of the hardness of the human heart in the face of the most stringent and evident divine discipline."<sup>54</sup> These plagues seem to harden the heart just as did the plagues of Egypt harden the heart of Pharaoh.

### **The 5<sup>th</sup> vial is poured out upon the seat of the Beast**

His kingdom became full of darkness and they gnawed their tongues for pain. They also proceed to blaspheme God of heaven because of their pains and their sores. The antichrist will not sit in the Temple of God as god, to be worshipped as god, to have men worship the image of him and not have God respond severely.

The sores, intense heat, and outer darkness are just a foretaste of hell which is to follow. Luke 16:23 ...in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments...

2 Peter 2:4 ...cast *them* down to hell, and delivered *them* into chains of darkness...

Revelation 20:10 ...cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet *are*, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

Matthew 8:11 ...cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Five times it is recorded that Jesus spoke of 'weeping and gnashing of teeth.'  
(Matt. 8:12, 22:13, 24:51, 25:30, Lk. 13:28)

Revelation 19:20 And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.

### **The 6<sup>th</sup> vial is poured out upon the Great River Euphrates**

The River Euphrates is approximately 1800 miles long, 3600 feet wide and 30 feet deep. This great river will be overflowing from the blazing heat (associated with the fourth bowl) that will melt the snow and ice cap on Mount Ararat. Thus the River Euphrates will be overflowing at its banks. This drying up of this river is so the kings of the east may make their way to Armageddon. These kings of the east are probably the oriental nations.

The unclean spirits that proceed from the mouth of the False Trinity unites the nations against Israel and against Christ as they are gathered to Armageddon.

Revelation 16:16 And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon.

Verse fourteen stated that the demonic spirits gathered them, and now verse sixteen states that God gathered them. Which is it? The answer is that God in His sovereignty uses these demonic spirits to accomplish His will.

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<sup>53</sup> Phillips, John Exploring Revelation, p.192

<sup>54</sup> Walvoord, John The Revelation of Jesus Christ, p.234-35



Armageddon means 'Mount Megiddo.' Megiddo is located on the west mount and Jezreel is located on the eastern mount. Between these two mounts is the valley of Jezreel, also called the Esdraelon valley.

Napoleon Bonaparte is said to have stated with deep emotion after his first sight of the valley of Jezreel, "This is the ideal battleground for all the armies of the world."

This battle may extend as far north as Megiddo (Zech. 12:11, Rev. 16:16), as far south as Edom (Isa. 63:1, 34:5-6), as far west as the Mediterranean Sea, and as far east as Moab. This covers an area 200 miles (north to south) by 100 miles (west to east).

Verse fifteen is a reminder to be ready.

Matthew 24:42 Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. <sup>43</sup> But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up. <sup>44</sup> Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.

Matthew 25:13 Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.

### **The 7<sup>th</sup> vial is poured out upon the air (atmosphere)**

This voice from the temple in heaven – from the throne states, "It is done." What is done? All of the wrath of God (Rev. 15:1 "...The seven last plagues; for in them is filled up the wrath of God) is done. The sixth and seventh vial would seem to take place together as the battle of Armageddon is prepared.

The battle of Armageddon is never finished. It is cut short by the return of Christ.

Matthew 24:22 "And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened."

The seventh vial teaches us that when Jesus comes back; there will be a (1) great earthquake and (2) great hail.

### **The Great Earthquake (vs. 18-20)**

- It is the result of the Lord Jesus Christ setting His foot on Mt. Olives.  
Zechariah 14:4 And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which *is* before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, *and there shall be* a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south. <sup>5</sup> And ye shall flee *to* the valley of the mountains; for the valley of the mountains shall reach unto Azal: yea, ye shall flee, like as ye fled from before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah: and the LORD my God shall come, *and* all the saints with thee.
- Never will be one like it – so great / so mighty.
- It will transform the topography of the earth. Jerusalem (the great city of Rev. 11:8 & 16:19) will be divided into three parts. This may leave Jerusalem as the highest point making it a fitting throne for Christ's reign on earth (Zech. 14:4, Isa. 2:1-3, Jer. 3:17).
- Cities will be destroyed.
- Babylon will be destroyed.
- Islands will disappear and mountains will be flattened.
- Perhaps the earth will be put back on its axis for an earth prepared for the reign of Christ.

### **The Great Hail (vs. 21)**

These hail stones about the weight of a talent would be about 100 pounds. This would calculate to be a hailstone 17 ½" in diameter. "Here we have a repetition of the 'Seventh Egyptian Plague'

(Ex. 9:13-35). Hail has been one of God's engines of destruction. He used it to discomfort the enemies of Israel at Beth-horon in the days of Joshua (Josh. 10:11). The 'Law' required that the 'Blasphemer' should be 'Stoned to Death' (Lev. 24:16), and here these Blasphemers of the 'End Time' shall be Stoned From Heaven."<sup>55</sup>

When Jesus comes back on a white horse:

Revelation 19:11 And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.

We (the saved) come back with him. We are referred to as his armies!

Revelation 19:14 And the armies *which were* in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.

Perhaps our weapon as a part of this army will be these hailstones as they are flung as missiles toward the enemy armies gathered at Armageddon.

## **Mystery, Babylon the Great, Mother of Harlots and Abominations of the Earth Rev. 17**

Babylon is mentioned in chapter 17 and 18. Some believe that these refer to the same place. Some believe that they are symbolic. Although there are some similarities, I believe the correct interpretation is that Babylon of chapter 17 is the false church and that Babylon of chapter 18 is the literal ancient city of Babylon rebuilt.

These two 'Babylons' are not referred to as the same place:

Woman (Ch 17)	City (Ch 18)
Destroyed by the 10 kings (17:16) 16:18-19)	Destroyed by earthquake & fire (18:8&18, 10 kings lament over her (18:8-9)
Announced by an angel (17:1) (Chronologically before Ch 18)	Announced by another angel (18:1) 'After these things...' (18:1)
Destroyed near 3 ½ year mark	Destroyed near end of tribulation

These two Babylons are intertwined through marriage. Rome and Babylon form a 'church-state' union. The wife always takes the name of the husband. Thus she is referred to as 'Mystery, Babylon the Great...'

### **The Woman (Mystery, Babylon the Great) is Rome:**

Revelation 17:9 And here *is* the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth.

Revelation 17:18 And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth.

The Beast carries her – He uses Rome for his purposes:

Revelation 17:7 And the angel said unto me, Wherefore didst thou marvel? I will tell thee the mystery of the woman, and of the beast that carrieth her, which hath the seven heads and ten horns.

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<sup>55</sup> Larkin, Clarence The Book of Revelation, p.147

Rome's waters are symbolic:

Revelation 17:15 And he saith unto me, The waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues.

Babylon's waters are literal:

Revelation 18:17 For in one hour so great riches is come to nought. And every shipmaster, and all the company in ships, and sailors, and as many as trade by sea, stood afar off,

Rome is arrayed with goodly things:

Revelation 17:4 And the woman was **arrayed** in purple and scarlet colour, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication:

Babylon sells goodly things:

Revelation 18:12 The **merchandise** of gold, and silver, and precious stones, and of pearls, and fine linen, and purple, and silk, and scarlet, and all thyine wood, and all manner vessels of ivory, and all manner vessels of most precious wood, and of brass, and iron, and marble,

Rome is destroyed by the 10 kings:

Revelation 17:16 And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire.

The kings lament over Babylon's destruction:

Revelation 18:9 And the kings of the earth, who have committed fornication and lived deliciously with her, shall bewail her, and lament for her, when they shall see the smoke of her burning,

### **Destruction of Babylon:**

Revelation 14:8 And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.

Revelation 18:2 And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird.

Thus, the statement, 'Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen,' is a double fall. Babylon (Rome) is fallen, and Babylon (literal rebuilt Babylon) is fallen.

### **Rome (Great whore) & Babylon (city) have a marriage of church / state. Here are the similarities from this union:**

They are One Flesh:

Revelation 17:5 And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT... (wife takes husband's name)

Revelation 18:2 And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen...

Their sensual lives are similar:

Revelation 17:2 With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication.

Revelation 18:3 For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies.

They both kill Christians:

Revelation 17:6 And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus:

Revelation 18:24 And in her was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth.

**The Great Whore** – the false religious system (Vs. 1):

Sitteth on many waters (vs.1)

Worldwide influence

Kings of earth have committed fornication with her (vs.2)

Union of church & state is really a union of the church & the world

People of earth drunken with wine of her fornication (vs.3)

Doctrines & tradition have intoxicating affect on earth

Sits on the beast (vs.3)

However, the beast carries her (vs.7). The beast helps her and he uses her for his benefit.

Arrayed in purple and scarlet (vs.4)

These are the colors of the papacy.

Decked with gold and precious stones and pearls (vs.4)

“The total wealth of the Catholic Church is estimated to be 70 billion dollars.”<sup>56</sup>

Malachi Martin estimates its worth at 300 billion dollars.

Golden cup in her right hand full of abominations (vs.4)

Perhaps speaking of transubstantiation

Name written upon her forehead (vs.5):

Babylon the Great, Mother of Harlots and Abominations of the Earth

Drunken with the blood of the saints (vs.6)

Rome makes her own saints, but these killed by her are God’s saints.

John wonders with great astonishment (vs.6)

The Bride of Christ is ‘the holy Jerusalem’ (Rev.21:2 & 9-10), whereas the Harlot church, the bride of Antichrist, is called the great whore (17:1).’

The true church, the bride of Christ, is called a chaste virgin (II Cor. 11:1-3), whereas the false church is a whore that has committed fornication with the kings of the earth (Rev. 17:2).

Revelation 17:7 And the angel said unto me, Wherefore didst thou marvel? I will tell thee the mystery of the woman, and of the beast that carrieth her, which hath the seven heads and ten horns.

### **The Beast**

Has 7 heads and 10 horns (vs.3) (Rev. 13:1)

Was, and is not, and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit – then into perdition (vs.8)

(Rev. 11:7, 13:3-4, 19:20, 20:10)

Unsaved shall wonder after his resurrection (vs.8) (Rev. 13:3-4)

He is the 7<sup>th</sup> king, even of the 8<sup>th</sup> (vs.10-11). Jack Van Impe states:

“As John receives this vision of the seven kings, five have already fallen. They were (1) Julius Caesar, (2) Tiberius, (3) Caligula, (4) Claudius, and (5) Nero. Number 6 – Domitian is at the time John receives this revelation, alive and on the throne. Number 7 is yet to come. He, of course, is Antichrist whose reign will last briefly, or a short space.”<sup>57</sup>

<sup>56</sup> Phillips, John Exploring Revelation, p.204

<sup>57</sup> <http://www.shalomjerusalem.com/bible/bible9.htm>

We may disagree on whom God thinks are the five kings, but since the Beast is the 7<sup>th</sup> king, the other kings must be people who also ruled the Roman Empire (where the seven hills are).

### **The 10 Horns**

These are 10 kings (vs.12)

They receive their authority for '1 hour' with beast (vs.12)

This infers their authority is directly from the reign of the beast

They give their united power and authority to the beast (vs.13)

They hate the whore and destroy her (vs.16)

At Armageddon, they turn to fight against Christ (vs.14)

### **The Woman**

She sits on the 7 heads which are 7 mountains (vs.9) (She is Rome)

She is that great city that reigns over kings (Rome) (vs.18)

She has worldwide influence – many waters are many peoples (vs.1&15)

She will be destroyed by the ten kings (vs.16)

The Dragon (Satan) gives the beast his power and great authority (Rev.13:2).

The 10 kings give the beast their united power and authority (Rev. 13:16).

The Dragon, the False Prophet, the Beast, the 10 kings, Babylon and the Great Whore are all intertwined.

The three great influences on the world are religion, economy and politics. The Beast has control of all three of these.

Religion - False Church

Economy - Mark of the Beast

Politics - 10 Nation Confederacy

## **What's In A Name?**

### **Name of the Great Whore – Mystery, Babylon the Great, Mother of Harlots / Mother of Abominations of the Earth**

#### **Mystery**

A mystery in the Scriptures is always a mystery that is being revealed. Here the mystery of the woman and the beast are revealed.

#### **Babylon the Great**

Rome is referred to as 'Babylon the Great' because she is rooted in ancient Babylon and also because she will be closely tied to future Babylon.

"In Genesis 10 and 11, it is recorded that Nimrod was the founder of Babel, later called Babylon. In chapter 11 is recorded the rebellion of men against God in attempting to make a city and a tower that would reach to heaven. The history of the ancient world reveals that it was a common practice to build huge mounds (ziggurats) of sun-dried bricks of which the most ancient illustration has been discovered at Erech, a place mentioned in Gen. 10:10 and dated more than 3,000 years before Christ. The tower of Babel was apparently a forerunner of later towers dedicated to various heathen deities."<sup>58</sup>

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<sup>58</sup> Walvoord, John The Revelation of Jesus Christ, p.246-247

“Babel, or Babylon ... was the seat of the first great Apostasy. Here the ‘Babylonian Cult’ was invented, a system claiming to possess the highest wisdom and to reveal the divinest (sic) secrets. Before a member could be initiated he had to ‘confess’ to the Priest. The Priest then had him in his power. This is the secret of the power of the Priests of the Roman Catholic Church today.

Once admitted into this order men were no longer Babylonians, Assyrians, or Egyptians, but members of a ‘Mystical Brotherhood,’ over whom was placed a Pontiff or ‘High Priest,’ whose word was law. The city of Babylon continued to be the seat of Satan until the fall of the Babylonian and Medo-Persian Empires, when he shifted his Capital to Pergamos in Asia Minor, where it was in John’s day (Rev. 2:12-13).

When Attalus, the Pontiff and King of Pergamos died in 133 B.C., he bequeathed the Headship of the ‘Babylonian Priesthood’ to Rome. When the Etruscans came to Italy from Lydia (the region of Pergamos), they brought with them the Babylonian religion and rites. They set up a Pontiff who was head of the Priesthood. Later the Romans accepted this Pontiff as their civil ruler. Julius Caesar was made Pontiff of the Etruscan Order in 74 B.C.. In 63 B.C. he was made ‘Supreme Pontiff’ of the ‘Babylonian Order,’ thus becoming heir to the rights and titles of Attalus, Pontiff of Pergamos, who had made Rome his heir by will. Thus the first Roman Emperor became the Head of the ‘Babylonian Priesthood,’ and Rome the successor of Babylon. The Emperors of Rome continued to exercise the office of ‘Supreme Pontiff’ until 376 A.D., when the Emperor Gratian, for Christian reasons, refused it. The Bishop of the Church at Rome, Damasus, was elected to the position. He had been Bishop 12 years, having been made Bishop in 366 A.D., through the influence of the monks of Mt. Carmel, a college of Babylonian religion originally founded by the priests of Jezebel. So in 378 A.D. the Head of the ‘Babylonian Order’ became the Ruler of the ‘Roman Church.’ Thus Satan united Rome and Babylon In One Religious System.”<sup>59</sup>

“The name ‘Mystery, Babylon’ reveals that the idolatrous system, now associated with the city of the seven hills, is very ancient indeed. It has been traced back to Nimrod and the building of the tower of Babel. Nimrod is described in Scripture as a mighty hunter. He was the world’s first empire builder and the founder of great and lasting cities. He taught men to throw off their fears of God. Upon his death he was deified and worshipped under various names. At first that worship was secret, and only selected ones were initiated into its mysteries. The religious systems of Egypt, Greece, and Phoenicia all stemmed from Babylon as did all the false religious systems of antiquity. The chief priest of the old Babylonian religion was known as the ‘ponifex maximus.’ All knowledge and learning was concentrated into the hands of the priestly hierarchy. The Babylonians taught that Nimrod had reappeared as a posthumous son, supernaturally born by his widow. The worship of Nimrod very quickly became the worship of the mother and the child, the mother being known as the Queen of Heaven. Traces of this system of religion are discernable in all parts of the globe even to this day.”<sup>60</sup>

This baby born to the widow of Nimrod (Semiramis) was given the name Tammuz. He was considered a savior of his people and was, in effect, a false messiah. “The Babylonians, in their popular religion, supremely worshipped a Goddess Mother and a Son, who was represented in pictures and in images as an infant or child in his mother’s arms. From Babylon, this worship of the Mother and the Child spread to the ends of the earth. In Egypt, the Mother and the Child were worshipped under the names of Isis and Osiris. In India, even to this day as Isi and Iswara; in Asia, as Cybele and Deouis; in Pagan Rome, as Fortuna and Jupiter-puer, or Jupiter, the boy; in Greece, as Ceres, the Great Mother, with the babe at her breast, or as Irene, the goddess of Peace, with the boy Plutus in her arms; and even in Thibet, in China, and Japan, the Jesuit

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<sup>59</sup> Larkin, Clarence, Dispensational Truth, p.140

<sup>60</sup> Phillips, John Exploring Revelation, p.205-206

missionaries were astonished to find the counterpart of Madonna and her child as devoutly worshipped as in Papal Rome itself; Shing Moo, the Holy Mother in China, being represented with a child in her arms, and a glory around her, exactly as if a Roman Catholic artist had been employed to set her up.”<sup>61</sup>

Even the papacy is rooted in Babylon. “The College of Cardinal, with the Pope at its head, is just the counterpart of the Pagan College of Pontiffs, with its ‘Pontifex Maximus,’ or ‘Sovereign Pontiff,’ which had existed in Rome from the earliest times, and which is known to have been framed on the model of the grand original Council of Pontiffs at Babylon.... The Sovereign Pontiff was believed to be ‘Incapable Of Error,’ and, in consequence, there was ‘the greatest respect for the sanctity of old edicts;’ and hence, no doubt, also the origin of the custom that ‘the laws of the Medes and Persians could not be altered.’ Does the Pope receive the adorations of the Cardinals? The king of Babylon, as Sovereign Pontiff, was adored in like manner.

Are kings and ambassadors required to kiss the Pope’s slipper? This, too, is copied from the same pattern; for, says Professor Gaussen, quoting Strabo and Herodotus, ‘the kings of Chaldea wore on their feet slippers which the kings they conquered used to kiss.’ In kind, is the Pope addressed by the title of ‘Your Holiness?’ So also was the Pagan Pontiff of Rome. The title seems to have been common to all Pontiffs. Symmachus, the last Pagan representative of the Roman Emperor, as Sovereign Pontiff, addressing one of his colleagues or fellow-pontiffs, on a step of promotion he was about to obtain, says, ‘I hear that Your Holiness is to be called out by the sacred letters.’<sup>62</sup>

### **Mother of Harlots**

Harlotry in the Bible is associated with spiritual idolatry.

(Judges 2:17, 8:27&33, I Chr. 5:25, IIChr. 21:11, Jer. 3:6-9, Eze. 16:30-36)

Rome, the great whore, has committed whoredoms by uniting church and state. She has done this in the past and she will hook up with the city of Babylon in the future. Her children from the Protestant Reformation have also become state-churches. Thus, she is the ‘Mother of Harlots.’

(Look up state-churches – from Missions’ notes)

### **Mother of Abominations of the Earth**

Each of the following abominations have been instituted by the Catholic Church. Each event is in direct conflict with the Scriptures given.

<b>Time</b>	<b>Event</b>
709 A.D.	Kissing the Pope’s feet Revelation 19:10 And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, <i>See thou do it</i> not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.
786 A.D.	Worshipping of images and relics Exodus 20:1 And God spake all these words, saying, <sup>2</sup> I <i>am</i> the LORD thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. <sup>3</sup> Thou shalt have no other gods before me. <sup>4</sup> Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of <i>any thing</i> that <i>is</i> in heaven above, or that <i>is</i> in the earth beneath, or that <i>is</i> in the water under the earth: <sup>5</sup> Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve

<sup>61</sup> <http://www.biblebelievers.com/babylon/sect75.htm>

<sup>62</sup> <http://www.biblebelievers.com/babylon/sect75.htm>

them: for I the LORD thy God *am* a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth *generation* of them that hate me...

998 A.D. Fasting on Fridays and during Lent

1 Timothy 4:1 Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; <sup>2</sup> Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron; <sup>3</sup> Forbidding to marry, *and commanding* to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth.

1079 A.D. Celibacy of the Priesthood

1 Timothy 4:1 Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; <sup>2</sup> Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron; <sup>3</sup> Forbidding to marry, *and commanding* to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth.

1184 A.D. The Inquisition

Exodus 20:13 Thou shalt not kill.

1 John 3:15 Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him.

1190 A.D. Sale of Indulgences

Ephesians 2:8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God: <sup>9</sup> Not of works, lest any man should boast.

1215 A.D. Transubstantiation

Hebrews 9:11 But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; <sup>12</sup> Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption *for us*.

Hebrews 10:10 By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once *for all*.

1229 A.D. Bible forbidden to laymen

1 Peter 2:2 As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby...

1439 A.D. Doctrine of Purgatory

Matthew 25:46 And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.

1870 A.D. Infallibility of the Pope

Romans 3:23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God...

Confessing Sins to a Priest

1 Timothy 2:5 For *there is* one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus...

**She is drunken with the blood of the saints.**



Some may state that the Catholic Church is a mild institution. Lecky, the historian, has aptly summed up this church; "In the minority, a lamb; in equality, a fox; in power, a tiger."<sup>63</sup> Today, she is an ecumenical force wooing others to her. When the tribulation period occurs, she will revert to her past history of ruling kings and killing Christians.

### **History (past)**

Martyrs mirrors / Foxes book / B.H. Carroll

### **Tribulation Period (future)**

Saints slain early part – slain in city of Babylon

## **Babylon Rev. 18**

### **Babylon – the literal city:**

Babylon must be rebuilt and destroyed to fulfill two passages of Scriptures.

1) Isaiah 13:19 And Babylon, the glory of kingdoms, the beauty of the Chaldees' excellency, shall be as when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah. <sup>20</sup> It shall never be inhabited, neither shall it be dwelt in from generation to generation: neither shall the Arabian pitch tent there; neither shall the shepherds make their fold there. (The timing of this passage is 'the Day of the Lord')

Isaiah's prophecy lines up with the following verse:

Revelation 18:21 And a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone, and cast *it* into the sea, saying, Thus with violence shall that great city Babylon be thrown down, and shall be found no more at all.

Historically, Babylon has been inhabited and thus, the prophecy of Isaiah concerning the destruction of Babylon necessitates the rebuilding of it.

"In 331 B.C., Alexander the Great approached the city which was then so powerful and flourishing that he made preparation for bringing all his forces into action in case it (Babylon) should offer resistance.... In 917 A.D., Ibu Hankel mentions Babylon as an insignificant village, but still in existence."<sup>64</sup>

2) Jeremiah 51:24 And I will render unto Babylon and to all the inhabitants of Chaldea all their evil that they have done in Zion in your sight, saith the LORD. <sup>25</sup> Behold, I *am* against thee, O destroying mountain, saith the LORD, which destroyest all the earth: and I will stretch out mine hand upon thee, and roll thee down from the rocks, and will make thee a burnt mountain. <sup>26</sup> And they shall not take of thee a stone for a corner, nor a stone for foundations; but thou shalt be desolate for ever, saith the LORD.

"It is reliably reported that at least six cities bear the marks of having used parts of ancient Babylon in their building, including Seleucia, built by the Greeks; Ctesiphon, by the Parthians; Almaden, by the Persians; and Kufa, by the Caliphs. Hillah, just a twenty-minute walk from the Babylonian ruins, was built almost entirely from the ruins of Babylon. The builders of Bagdad, fifty miles north of Babylon, also used materials from the ancient city."<sup>65</sup>

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<sup>63</sup> Phillips, John Exploring Revelation, p.202

<sup>64</sup> Larkin, Clarence The Book of Revelation, p.157

<sup>65</sup> LaHaye, Tim Revelation Illustrated and Made Plain, p. 240

Since these two passages of prophecy have not been fulfilled literally, it is a necessity that the literal city of Babylon be rebuilt.

### **I) The Scene**

Another angel (vs.1):

Earth lightened with her glory (perhaps from the Temple of God)

Declaration:

- 1) Babylon the great is fallen is fallen
- 2) It is become the abode of devils...
- 3) Nations drunk of wine of her fornication  
Kings committed fornication with her  
Merchants made rich by her

Another voice from heaven (vs.4)

“Come out of her”

### **II) Babylon**

Her sins have reached to heaven (vs.5)

Gen. 11:1-6 unity of religion & politics

Babylon the great whore (religion) & Babylon the great city (politics) has united.

Gen. 10-11 / Isa 12-14 / Jer 50-52

She will receive double / double punishment (vs.6)

Ex. 22:4-9, Isa 40:2, 61:7, Jer 16:18, 17:18, Zech 9:12

Cup – Rev. 14:10, 16:19, 17:2-4

She hath glorified herself – pride / arrogance / luxury / sensuality (vs.7)

Babylon possessed (vs.12-14 / 22-24):

Costly goods – gold, silver, pearls, silk, beautiful vessels, fragrances, gourmet foods, animals, vehicles (chariots), slaves & souls (perhaps selling of cloned body parts).

Place of music, crafts & craftsmanship, weddings, and drugs (sorceries - farmakeia, pharmakeia).

Place of killing of saints & others (vs.24). Perhaps the others that were killed are a result of the ‘world court’ being held in Babylon.

In one day – burned with fire from judgment of God (vs.9 &17)

Destroyed with fire (vs. 8)

Destroyed in one hour (vs. 10, 17, 19)

Destroyed with violence (vs. 21)

Destroyed by judgment of God (vs. 8, 20)

“It would appear that as Sodom and Gomorrah were first set on fire and then swallowed up by and earthquake, that the rebuilt city of Babylon will be set on fire, and as the site of ancient Babylon is underlaid with Bitumen (asphalt), that an earthquake will break up the crust of the earth, and precipitate the burning city into a ‘lake of fire,’ and the city like a ‘millstone’ sink below the surface of the earth as into the sea, and be swallowed up so that it will be impossible to ever take of her stones for building purposes, and the land shall become a ‘wilderness’ where no man shall ever dwell.”<sup>66</sup>

Jude 7

### **III) Kings (Vs. 9-10)**

See the smoke of her burning (vs.9)

Lament & weep over her (vs.9)

They had lived deliciously – luxuriously / sensually (18:7&9)

They stand afar off in disbelief (vs.10)

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<sup>66</sup> Larkin, Clarence Dispensational Truth, p.143

They marvel that in one hour judgment has come.

**IV) Merchants (Vs.11-16)**

Weep & mourn (vs.11) – due to financial loss

All is gone (vs. 14)

**V) Sailors / Sea-men (Vs.17-19)**

See the smoke of her burning (vs.18)

Weep & wailing (vs.19)

**VI) Heaven / Prophets (Vs.20)**

Heaven & prophets rejoice.

World-lovers lament (vs. 9-11, 15-19).

## V) Marriage Supper of the Lamb

### The Marriage Supper of the Lamb Rev. 19:1-8

2 Great events for the church age (all the saved):

- All saved (I The. 2) go up to heaven at the Rapture Rev. 4:1
- Then the Wicked One is revealed Rev. 6:1-2
- 7 yr. Tribulation – then Christ's Return Rev. 19:11-20

#### 1. Judgment Seat of Christ – Rev. 4 / I Cor. 3:11-15, II Cor. 5:10

Crowns will be given (Rev. 4:4)

Crowns will be cast at Jesus' feet (Rev. 4:10)

Incorruptible Crown (I Cor. 9:25-27 / Crown of Life (Rev. 2:10)

Crown of Glory (I Pet. 5:2-4) / Crown of Righteousness (II Tim. 4:8)

Crown of Rejoicing (I The. 2:19-20)

See Rev. 22:12

#### 2. Marriage Supper of the Lamb – Rev. 19

Occurs just after rejoicing over destruction of the great whore and just before the 2<sup>nd</sup> coming of Christ.

Rejoicing over destruction of the great whore. Rev. 19:2-4

Time for 'The Lord God omnipotent reigneth' Rev. 19:6

It would seem that the bride consists of all in the N.T. age.

The wife hath made herself ready – saved by the grace of God. (imputed righteousness)

She is arrayed in fine linen – which is the righteousness of saints. (acts of righteousness)

The word for 'righteousness' is a plural word – which would indicate that it is the 'righteous acts' with which will make up our fine linen.

Revelation 3:17 Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: <sup>18</sup> I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and *that* the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.

The gold speaks of the Judgment Seat of Christ. The white raiment may correspond to the *fine linen, which is the righteousness of the saints*.

It is the marriage supper of the Lamb. Most weddings are about the 'bride.' The attention is on her. But at this wedding, the focal point is the Lamb. Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb.

This supper after the wedding is eaten – just before another supper will be called on the earth (Rev. 19:17).

"What happens after the marriage supper? The guests make merry among themselves. Often there is music and dancing, and then the Bridegroom and the Bride change their wedding garments for a traveling dress and steal away on their wedding trip. Generally this is to some

pleasure resort or place that they have never seen. Often it is a trip across the ocean to some distant land. Sometimes it is a visit to the old home of the Bridegroom or the Bride. So after the 'Marriage of the Lamb,' the Heavenly Bridegroom will take His Bride on a wedding trip, and to what more suitable place can they go than back to the old home of the Bride, this earth. The place where the Bridegroom suffered and died to purchase her redemption with His own precious blood. The place where her people rejected Him, and despised His Royal claims. Then He will show them that He was no imposter, that He was what He claimed to be, the Son of God. He will then set up His Earthly Kingdom, and the Lord God shall give Him the 'Throne of David,' and His Bride shall reign with Him for a thousand years. Oh what a sweet and delightful 'Honey-moon' that will be, when, during that long Millennial Reign the earth shall be blessed with the presence of the King of Kings and His Consort – The Church."<sup>67</sup>

What a day that will be – glorious day – to unite as one with the Lord Jesus Christ. We shall rule and reign with Him.

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<sup>67</sup> Larkin, Clarence The Book of Revelation, p.170

## VI) Coming King & Judge of All The Earth

### The 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming of Jesus Christ Rev. 19:11-21

#### His Names

Called 'Faithful and True' (19:11)

Name written that no man knew (19:12)

(Will be on His forehead – Rev. 3;12, 14:1, 14:9, 14:11, 17:5, 20:4, 22:4)

Word of God (19:13)

King of Kings and Lord of Lords (19:14)

(Written on His thigh – eye level with inhabitants of the earth)

#### The War – The Lord is a man of war!

His weapon is a sword (vs.15) and His armies are with Him (vs.14).

Exodus 15:1 ...I will sing unto the LORD, for he hath triumphed gloriously ...The LORD *is* a man of war: the LORD *is* his name.

Zechariah 14:1 Behold, the day of the LORD cometh...For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle... Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle.

2 Thessalonians 1:7 ...when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels,<sup>8</sup> In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:

Rev. 19:12-21 His eyes *were* as a flame of fire... And he *was* clothed with a vesture dipped in blood...And the armies *which were* in heaven followed him...And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations...And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army. And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which *sword* proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh.

#### Chronology of events of Christ's second coming:

"The wicked will be plotting dark deeds; and the unbelieving will be proving to their own satisfaction that there is no God, no heaven, no hell, no coming judgment, when suddenly there will be a change. In the distant heaven there will be a POINT OF LIGHT outshining the sun. It will be seen descending toward the earth. As it descends it will assume the form of a bright cloud, out of which shall stream dazzling beams of light, and flashes of lightning. It will descend apace as if on the wings of the whirlwind, and when it reaches its destination over the brow of the Mt. Of Olives, it will stop and unfold itself to the terrified and awestricken beholders, and there will be revealed to them Jesus seated on a white horse and accompanied with His saints and the armies of heaven."<sup>68</sup>

#### A) The sun & moon will be darkened

**Joel 2:10** The earth shall quake before them; the heavens shall tremble: the sun and the moon shall be dark, and the stars shall withdraw their shining: 11 And the LORD shall utter his voice before his army: for his camp *is* very great: for *he is* strong that executeth his word: for the day of the LORD *is* great and very terrible; and who can abide it?

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<sup>68</sup> Larkin, Clarence The Second Coming of Christ, p.27

**Joel 2:30-31** And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke. 31 The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the LORD come.

**Joel 3:15** The sun and the moon shall be darkened, and the stars shall withdraw their shining.

**Isaiah 13:9-13:** Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, cruel both with wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate: and he shall destroy the sinners thereof out of it. 10 For the stars of heaven and the constellations thereof shall not give their light: the sun shall be darkened in his going forth, and the moon shall not cause her light to shine....Therefore I will shake the heavens, and the earth shall remove out of her place, in the wrath of the LORD of hosts, and in the day of his fierce anger.

**Matthew 24:29** Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken:

**Mark 13:24-27** But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, And the stars of heaven shall fall, and the powers that are in heaven shall be shaken. And then shall they see the Son of man coming in the clouds with great power and glory.

**Luke 21:25-27** And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken. And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.

## B) The Lord shall roar

**Jeremiah 25:30-33:** ...The LORD shall roar from on high, and utter his voice from his holy habitation; he shall mightily roar upon his habitation; he shall give a shout, as they that tread *the grapes*, against all the inhabitants of the earth. A noise shall come *even* to the ends of the earth; for the LORD hath a controversy with the nations, he will plead with all flesh; he will give them *that are* wicked to the sword, saith the LORD.... And the slain of the LORD shall be at that day from *one* end of the earth even unto the *other* end of the earth: they shall not be lamented, neither gathered, nor buried; they shall be dung upon the ground.

**Hosea 11:9-10:** I will not execute the fierceness of mine anger, I will not return to destroy Ephraim: for I *am* God, and not man; the Holy One in the midst of thee: and I will not enter into the city. They shall walk after the LORD: he shall roar like a lion: when he shall roar, then the children shall tremble from the west.

**Joel 3:15-16:** The sun and the moon shall be darkened, and the stars shall withdraw their shining. The LORD also shall roar out of Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the heavens and the earth shall shake: but the LORD *will be* the hope of his people, and the strength of the children of Israel.

**Amos 1:2** And he said, The LORD will roar from Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the habitations of the shepherds shall mourn, and the top of Carmel shall wither.

## C) Jesus returns with all His saints

**Zechariah 14:5** And ye shall flee *to* the valley of the mountains; for the valley of the mountains shall reach unto Azal: yea, ye shall flee, like as ye fled from before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah: and the LORD my God shall come, *and* all the saints with thee.

**Jude 1:14-15** And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, 15 To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which

they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard *speeches* which ungodly sinners have spoken against him.

**1 Thessalonians 3:13** To the end he may stablish your hearts unblameable in holiness before God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints.

**D) The Lord comes in all His glory**

**Matthew 24:30** And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

**Mark 13:26** And then shall they see the Son of man coming in the clouds with great power and glory.

**E) Jesus returns on a white horse**

**Revelation 19:11-16** And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him *was* called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. His eyes *were* as a flame of fire, and on his head *were* many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. And he *was* clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. And the armies *which were* in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And he hath on *his* vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.

(Many crowns – diadems – on His head proclaims His authority over all the kingdoms of the earth.)

**Revelation 1:7** Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they *also* which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.

**F) He travels through Petra and Bozrah - two chief cities of Edom (probably stops at Petra to save Israel??)**

**Isaiah 34:1-11** Come near, ye nations, to hear; and hearken, ye people: let the earth hear, and all that is therein; the world, and all things that come forth of it. For the indignation of the LORD *is* upon all nations, and *his* fury upon all their armies: he hath utterly destroyed them, he hath delivered them to the slaughter. Their slain also shall be cast out, and their stink shall come up out of their carcasses, and the mountains shall be melted with their blood. And all the host of heaven shall be dissolved, and the heavens shall be rolled together as a scroll: and all their host shall fall down, as the leaf falleth off from the vine, and as a falling *fig* from the fig tree. For my sword shall be bathed in heaven: behold, it shall come down upon Idumea, and upon the people of my curse, to judgment. The sword of the LORD is filled with blood, it is made fat with fatness, *and* with the blood of lambs and goats, with the fat of the kidneys of rams: for the LORD hath a sacrifice in Bozrah, and a great slaughter in the land of Idumea. And the unicorns shall come down with them, and the bullocks with the bulls; and their land shall be soaked with blood, and their dust made fat with fatness. For *it is* the day of the LORD'S vengeance, *and* the year of recompences for the controversy of Zion. And the streams thereof shall be turned into pitch, and the dust thereof into brimstone, and the land thereof shall become burning pitch. It shall not be quenched night nor day; the smoke thereof shall go up for ever: from generation to generation it shall lie waste; none shall pass through it for ever and ever. But the cormorant and the bittern shall possess it; the owl also and the raven shall dwell in it: and he shall stretch out upon it the line of confusion, and the stones of emptiness.

**Isaiah 63:1-8** Who *is* this that cometh from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah? this *that is* glorious in his apparel, travelling in the greatness of his strength? I that speak



in righteousness, mighty to save. Wherefore *art thou* red in thine apparel, and thy garments like him that treadeth in the winefat? I have trodden the winepress alone; and of the people *there was* none with me: for I will tread them in mine anger, and trample them in my fury; and their blood shall be sprinkled upon my garments, and I will stain all my raiment. For the day of vengeance *is* in mine heart, and the year of my redeemed is come. And I looked, and *there was* none to help; and I wondered that *there was* none to uphold: therefore mine own arm brought salvation unto me; and my fury, it upheld me. And I will tread down the people in mine anger, and make them drunk in my fury, and I will bring down their strength to the earth. I will mention the lovingkindnesses of the LORD, *and* the praises of the LORD, according to all that the LORD hath bestowed on us, and the great goodness toward the house of Israel, which he hath bestowed on them according to his mercies, and according to the multitude of his lovingkindnesses. For he said, Surely they *are* my people, children *that* will not lie: so he was their Saviour.

**G) Israel is Saved**

**Zechariah 12:10** And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for *his* only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for *his* firstborn.

**Romans 11:26** And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob:

**H) On His way down, He defeats the enemy armies**

**Revelation 19:19** And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army.

**Zechariah 14:3** Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle.

**Zechariah 14:12** And this shall be the plague wherewith the LORD will smite all the people that have fought against Jerusalem; Their flesh shall consume away while they stand upon their feet, and their eyes shall consume away in their holes, and their tongue shall consume away in their mouth.

**I) He will trample them in His wrath**

**Revelation 14:18-20:** And another angel came out from the altar, which had power over fire; and cried with a loud cry to him that had the sharp sickle, saying, Thrust in thy sharp sickle, and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth; for her grapes are fully ripe. 19 And the angel thrust in his sickle into the earth, and gathered the vine of the earth, and cast *it* into the great winepress of the wrath of God. 20 And the winepress was trodden without the city, and blood came out of the winepress, even unto the horse bridles, by the space of a thousand *and* six hundred furlongs.

**Revelation 19:13** And he *was* clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God.

**Isaiah 63:1-4:** Who *is* this that cometh from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah? this *that is* glorious in his apparel, travelling in the greatness of his strength? I that speak in righteousness, mighty to save. 2 Wherefore *art thou* red in thine apparel, and thy garments like him that treadeth in the winefat? 3 I have trodden the winepress alone; and of the people *there was* none with me: for I will tread them in mine anger, and trample them in my fury; and their blood shall be sprinkled upon my garments, and I will stain all my raiment. 4 For the day of vengeance *is* in mine heart, and the year of my redeemed is come.

**Isaiah 34:5-8:** For my sword shall be bathed in heaven: behold, it shall come down upon Idumea, and upon the people of my curse, to judgment. 6 The sword of the LORD is filled with blood, it is made fat with fatness, *and* with the blood of lambs and goats, with the fat of the kidneys of rams: for the LORD hath a sacrifice in Bozrah, and a great

slaughter in the land of Idumea. 7 And the unicorns shall come down with them, and the bullocks with the bulls; and their land shall be soaked with blood, and their dust made fat with fatness. 8 For *it is* the day of the LORD'S vengeance, *and* the year of recompences for the controversy of Zion.

**J) Jesus steps His foot on Mt. Olives**

Zechariah 14:1 Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, and thy spoil shall be divided in the midst of thee. 2 For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city. 3 Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle. 4 And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which *is* before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, *and there shall be* a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south.

**Causing a great earthquake:**

5 And ye shall flee *to* the valley of the mountains; for the valley of the mountains shall reach unto Azal: yea, ye shall flee, like as ye fled from before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah: and the LORD my God shall come, *and* all the saints with thee. {the mountains: or, my mountains} {for the...: or, when he shall touch the valley of the mountains to the place he separated}

**K) Shortly thereafter, a supper is called**

**Revelation 19:17-18:** And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; 18 That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all *men*, both free and bond, both small and great.

“To have one’s unburied body left as food for birds is the ultimate indignity, especially for proud kings and the mighty military commanders. That same ignominious fate awaits all the proud, God-hating rebels everywhere in the world.”<sup>69</sup>

**L) Jesus will judge in the valley of Jehoshaphat**

**Joel 3:2** I will also gather all nations, and will bring them down into the valley of Jehoshaphat, and will plead with them there for my people and *for* my heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations, and parted my land.

**Joel 3:12** Let the heathen be wakened, and come up to the valley of Jehoshaphat: for there will I sit to judge all the heathen round about.

2 Thessalonians 1:7-10 And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, {his...: Gr. the angels of his power} 8 In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: {taking: or, yielding} 9 Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;

**M) The False Prophet and Antichrist (do not die) are cast into the lake of fire.**

Revelation 19:19 And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army. 20 And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.

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<sup>69</sup> MacArthur, John The MacArthur N.T. Commentary – Rev. 12-22, p.223

“This is the first mention in Scripture of the lake of fire, the final hell, the ultimate destination of Satan, his angels, and the unredeemed. Isaiah described it as the place where ‘their worm shall not die and their fire shall not be quenched,’ a description echoed by the Lord Jesus Christ in Mark 9:48 and Matt. 13:42. Jesus added that it will be a place where ‘there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ Rev. 14:11 says of those who suffer there, ‘the smoke of their torment goes up forever and ever; they have no rest day and night.’ Apparently, these two don’t die, but are transformed miraculously into eternal fire to burn in hell. They are the first of millions of men and angels to arrive in the lake of fire.”<sup>70</sup>

**N) Devil is Bound for 1000 years**

Revelation 20:1 And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. 2 And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, 3 And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.

**O) The millennium starts with King Jesus.**

The following prophecy is fulfilled:

Revelation 11:15 And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become *the kingdoms* of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

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<sup>70</sup> MacArthur, John The MacArthur N.T. Commentary – Rev. 12-22, p.224

## VII) 1000 Year Reign of King Jesus

### The Millennium Rev. 20:1-10

Revelation 20:1-6 And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season. And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received *his* mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This *is* the first resurrection. Blessed and holy *is* he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

Vs 10 And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet *are*, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

#### Devil –

Satan, dragon, old serpent

Laid hold upon / bound him / cast him into abyss

Shut him up, set seal upon him / deceive no more /

Loosed little season / cast into lake of fire and brimstone / tormented for ever

#### Saints –

We shall rule and reign with Christ

And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them...

The First Resurrection occurs

The first resurrection includes the rapture, the tribulation saints, and perhaps the O.T. saints. Psalms 50 gives us a picture of this.

Psalm 50:1 The mighty God, *even* the LORD, hath spoken, and called the earth from the rising of the sun unto the going down thereof. <sup>2</sup> Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God hath shined. <sup>3</sup> Our God shall come, and shall not keep silence: a fire shall devour before him, and it shall be very tempestuous round about him. <sup>4</sup> He shall call to the heavens from above, and to the earth, that he may judge his people. <sup>5</sup> Gather my saints together unto me; those that have made a covenant with me by sacrifice. <sup>6</sup> And the heavens shall declare his righteousness: for God *is* judge himself. Selah.

“In Ps. 50:1-6 we find the Lord above the earth but below the heaven (vs.4) looking back up to heaven and down to earth, calling His saints to Him. This would indicate that He will rapture the tribulation saints still living and the tribulation saints whose souls are under the altar (Rev. 6). This may include the O.T. saints, whose resurrection may wait until the end of the Tribulation.”<sup>71</sup>

There is no resurrection in the Millennium. Saints will live until the end of it.

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<sup>71</sup> LaHaye, Tim Revelation Illustrated and Made Plain, p.260

Satan is loosed, a multitude of unsaved people that lived in a perfect environment – Jesus as King – ruling in righteousness, and the devil bound, will rebel against God, His saints, and Jerusalem. God quenches this uprising with fire.

I believe Ps. 2 describes this sinful passive rebellion in the millennium.

Psalm 2:1 Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? <sup>2</sup> The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed, *saying*, <sup>3</sup> Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us. <sup>4</sup> He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision. <sup>5</sup> Then shall he speak unto them in his wrath, and vex them in his sore displeasure. <sup>6</sup> Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion. <sup>7</sup> I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou *art* my Son; this day have I begotten thee. <sup>8</sup> Ask of me, and I shall give *thee* the heathen *for* thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth *for* thy possession. <sup>9</sup> Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel. <sup>10</sup> Be wise now therefore, O ye kings: be instructed, ye judges of the earth. <sup>11</sup> Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling. <sup>12</sup> Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish *from* the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed *are* all they that put their trust in him.

### **Destiny of the False Trinity 20:10**

Cast into the lake of fire and brimstone...  
and shall be tormented day and night  
for ever and ever.”

**Praise the Lord God Almighty.**

## **Great White Throne Judgment Rev. 20:11-15**

Revelation 20:5 But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished.

Lehman Strauss states, “It is but wishful thinking on the part of the unbeliever who says there is no resurrection. Recently I read of a remarkable discovery. A vase, closely sealed, was found in a mummy pit in Egypt. In it were a few peas, old, wrinkled, and hard as stone. The peas were removed from the vase and planted carefully under a glass. At the end of thirty days they sprang into life after having lain dormant in the dust of the tomb for almost 3,000 years. Here is a faint illustration of the mortal body which shall put on immortality.”<sup>72</sup>

The Great White Throne Judgment includes all the dead from Adam to the Revelation of Jesus Christ. It also will include all the unsaved during the millennial reign of Christ. It will probably include the saved that have died in the millennium. These saved will of course go to heaven. There is no other Bible explanation for the saved at the end of the millennium. God is remarkably silent concerning those who are saved during the millennial reign of Christ.

From God’s viewpoint, Calvary is the most horrific day ever. From man’s viewpoint, this judgment day described is the most horrific day. Saved from all ages will witness unsaved loved ones as one by one they are judged and then cast into the lake of fire. There will be a need for God to wipe away the many tears (Rev. 21:4).

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<sup>72</sup> Strauss, Lehman The Book of Revelation, p.343-344

It is a Great White Throne Judgment. White speaks of God in all His purity, holiness and perfection. All are accountable to the Judge of all the earth.

Daniel 7:9 I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment *was* white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne *was like* the fiery flame, *and* his wheels as burning fire. <sup>10</sup> A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened.

Here is the order of events:

The sea and death give up the dead (unsaved bodies)  
Hades gives up the dead (unsaved souls)  
One by one, they stand before God  
The Books are opened (66 books of Bible & Lamb's book of life)  
They are judged by those books  
Their works are judged  
Death (body) and hell (soul) are cast into the lake of fire

All sin will be exposed:

Ecclesiastes 12:14 For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether *it be* good, or whether *it be* evil.

Romans 2:16 In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.

Matthew 12:36 But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. <sup>37</sup> For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.

Luke 12:2 For there is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; neither hid, that shall not be known.

Hebrews 4:13 Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things *are* naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.

There are different degrees of punishment:

Luke 12:47 And that servant, which knew his lord's will, and prepared not *himself*, neither did according to his will, shall be beaten with many *stripes*. <sup>48</sup> But he that knew not, and did commit things worthy of stripes, shall be beaten with few *stripes*. For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more.

Matthew 11:22 But I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon at the day of judgment, than for you. <sup>23</sup> And thou, Capernaum, which art exalted unto heaven, shalt be brought down to hell: for if the mighty works, which have been done in thee, had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day. <sup>24</sup> But I say unto you, That it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment, than for thee.

The Courtroom is set. The Judge of all the earth gives the charge. The defendant is charged with spurning the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Hebrews 10:26-31 "For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins (*Reject salvation provided*), But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries.

(*In the O. T.*) He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses:  
(*Now – after Calvary*) Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, (*Spurn the blood of Christ*) and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?

For we know him that hath said, Vengeance *belongeth* unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again, The Lord shall judge his people. *It is* a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.”

Hebrews 2:3 How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard *him*...

The prosecution calls the witnesses – the books – they testify against the defendant.

The defendant is speechless.

Matthew 22:12 And he saith unto him, Friend, how camest thou in hither not having a wedding garment? And he was speechless. <sup>13</sup> Then said the king to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast *him* into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

The evidence is weighed.

“...that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God.”  
(Romans 3:19)

“...the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works...(Rev. 20:12)

“...and they were judged every man according to their works...(Rev. 20:13)

The verdict is handed down – Rev. 20:15

“And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.”

Who will be these defendants?

- 1) Wicked Sinners
- 2) Self-Righteous
- 3) Procrastinators
- 4) Unsaved Church Members
- 5) Those who have never heard the gospel

What about those ungodly people who trusted the Lord Jesus Christ as their Savior?

Romans 8:1 *There is* therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. <sup>2</sup> For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

## VIII) Lamb is Light Thereof

### All Things New Rev. 21:1-8

#### New Heaven & New Earth

Matthew 24:35 Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.

Psalms 119:89 LAMED. For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven.

Isaiah 66:22 For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, saith the LORD, so shall your seed and your name remain.

2 Peter 3:7 But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. <sup>8</sup> But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day *is* with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. <sup>9</sup> The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. <sup>10</sup> But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. <sup>11</sup> *Seeing* then *that* all these things shall be dissolved, what manner *of persons* ought ye to be in *all* holy conversation and godliness, <sup>12</sup> Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?

The heaven referred to is the atmosphere that has been the domain of Satan. (Eph. 2:1-2, 6:12). It has been defiled by the demonic activity. The heaven and earth will *pass away*. There are two possibilities here: annihilation or renovation. It would seem that it would be renovated.

1) The same word for *pass away* is found in 2 Cor. 5:17, "Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." At salvation we are not annihilated, but renovated.

2) Psalm 102:25 Of old hast thou laid the foundation of the earth: and the heavens *are* the work of thy hands. <sup>26</sup> They shall perish, but thou shalt endure: yea, all of them shall wax old like a garment; as a vesture shalt thou change them, and they shall be changed.

#### New Jerusalem

Here comes the bride of Rev. 19. This city is the capital city of heaven.

#### God Dwells With Men

We do not know what this will be like, but eternity will be incomparable.

1 Corinthians 2:9 But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

#### All Things New

What a glorious day this will be.

There will be no more: sorrow, tears, pain, crying, death, heartache.

#### Choose Ye This Day

Revelation 21:6 And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.



“*Thirst* is not an unpleasant sensation when it can be instantly, completely, and refreshingly satisfied. It is the raging of unsatisfied thirst that we dread, the awful lot of the damned. The saints in glory will thirst after God and will be satisfied.”<sup>73</sup>

The vast differences of the two categories of people are once again shown.

Revelation 21:7 He that overcometh shall:

(1) inherit all things; and (2) I will be his God, and (3) he shall be my son.

Revelation 21:8 But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall:

(1) have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

Ephesians 2:7 That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in *his* kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.

## **New Jerusalem Rev. 21:9-27**

Composition of New Jerusalem Rev. 19:7-9

Betrothal

Descending of New Jerusalem Rev. 21:2

Consummation (21:3)

Description of New Jerusalem Rev. 21:9-27

### **New Jerusalem**

- The Bride, the Lamb's wife vs.9
- Elevated on a high mountain vs.10
- Literal City vs.10 (Heb. 11:9-10)
- Descends from heaven to earth vs.10
- Glory of God in it vs.11
- No temple – vs.22
- Beauty beyond the imagination vs.11
- Great wall vs.12
- Twelve gates vs. 12-13
- Twelve foundations vs.14

12 gates have the names of the 12 tribes of Israel  
like the millennial city (Eze. 48:30-35)

12 foundations have the names of the 12 apostles  
Israel and the Church become 'One fold.'

John 10:14 I am the good shepherd, and know my *sheep*, and am known of mine. <sup>15</sup> As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep.  
<sup>16</sup> And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, *and* one shepherd.

A reed is given to measure (1) the city, (2) the gates, and (3) the walls.

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<sup>73</sup> Phillips, John Exploring Revelation, p.250

## **The City**

The breadth, length and depth are all the same. It is 12,000 furlongs or 1,500 miles.

It may be a cube (like the Holiest Place – I KI 6:20) or a pyramid (with walls).

No need for the sun or moon – vs.23

The glory of God and the Lamb is sufficient.

## **The Walls**

It is 144 cubits, or 216' (vs.17). This may be the thickness of it (cubed city) or the height (city shaped like a pyramid).

The beauty of this wall - (vs.18)

The beauty of the foundation – (vs.19-20)

## **The Gates**

The beauty of it – vs.21

The street is made of pure gold.

Matthew 6:20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: <sup>21</sup> For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

The gates stay open – vs.25 / no night there / 12 angels keep the gates open - vs.12

## **The Inhabitants**

Saved nations / kings of earth / those in Lamb's book of life - vs.24

None that worketh abomination – vs.27

This is a reminder of the comparison of the Bride of Christ to the Great Whore

Revelation 21:9 And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb's wife.

Revelation 17:1 And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither; I will shew unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters...

## **New Things Rev. 22:1-17**

Water of Life (clear) proceeds out of the throne (22:1)

In the Mill. River flows from the temple Eze. 47:1-2

In eternity, water flows from the throne

Food – tree of life (22:2)

(Gen. 2:9, 3:22-24)

Rev. 22:3-5:

And there shall be no more curse

The throne of God and of the Lamb

His servants shall serve him

They shall see his face

His name *shall be* in their foreheads

The Lord God giveth them light

They shall reign for ever and ever

Perfect Sinlessness

Perfect Government

Perfect Service

Perfect Vision

Perfect Likeness

Perfect Illumination

Perfect Blessedness

No more curse (22:3)  
His name written in forehead (22:4)  
    Personal Possession  
    Testimony to Others  
This will occur soon (22:6) see vs.7,12,13, 1:1, James 4:14  
“I come quickly”  
    What – To Reward  
    Who – (vs.13)

### **Saved or Unserved**

Response 22:14-15  
Invite 22:17

Invite 21:6  
Response 21:7-8

There will come a time that one will be forever fixed 22:11  
The Spirit and the Bride invite – drink of water of life

## **Final Warning Rev. 22:18-22**

Word of God – Faithful & True (Rev 21:5, 22:6)  
Jesus – Faithful & True (Rev. 3:14, 19:11)

Your response to the Word of God = your response to God.  
If you add to / take away from – God will work against you  
    Deut 4:2 / Prov. 30:5-6

Examples of adding to Word of God  
I Pet. 2:2 / Ps. 12:6-7

Examples of taking away from the Word of God  
Matt. 5:22 / Matt.17:21 / Mark 16:9-20 / John 7:53-8:11 / Acts 8:37 / I Jn. 5:7  
I Tim. 3:16 / Luke 2:33 / Acts 9:5-6 / Col. 1:14

Two Schools of Higher Learning:

### **Antioch, Syria**

First called Christians  
Majority Text  
Literal Interpretation  
Early Church  
King James Line  
Bibles were read & destroyed when old

### **Alexandria, Egypt**

Egypt is type of world  
Minority Text  
Allegorical Interpretation  
Origen, the heretic  
Other Versions Line  
Bibles preserved by non-use &  
Dry-arid region of Egypt

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