

the 21 Judgments of The



Book of Revelation

And into



The Glorious Future



Rev. Steven Kennard

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The Olivet Discourse, The 21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation and the Glorious Future
By Rev. Steven G. Kennard

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Table of Contents

Part 1 The Olivet Discourse



The Olivet Discourse & the signs of His coming1

The Three Questions

What are the Signs

The Convergence of Signs

The Sign of Noah

The Returning of the Days of Noah and Lot

The Sign of the Times of Noah and Lot

Homosexuality, the Sin of Lot's Day

Part 2 The Judgments of God21

The 21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation

The Things which shall be Hereafter

Where is the Church?

The New Jerusalem

General Observations





SEAL JUDGMENTS



The Seven Seal Judgments (Revelation 6;1-17; 8:1)

The **First** Seal – The Rider on the White Horse (Antichrist)

- * The Two White Horses of Revelation
- * Daniel 8
- * The Rider who is called "Faithful and True"

The **Second** Seal – The Rider of the **Red Horse** (War)

The **Third** Seal – The Rider of the **Black Horse** (Famine)

The Forth Seal – The Rider of the Black Horse (Death & Hell)

The **Fifth** Seal – The Martyrs

The **Sixth** Seal – Physical Changes

The **Seventh** Seal – Silence in Heaven



TRUMPET JUDGMENTS



The First Trumpet – Hail – Fire - Blood

The **Second** Trumpet – The Burning Mountain

The **Third** Trumpet – The Star called Wormwood

The **Fourth** Trumpet – The Sun, Moon and Stars

The **Fifth** Trumpet – A Plague of Locusts

The **Sixth** Trumpet – The Second Woe, Plague of Horsemen

The **Seventh** Trumpet – **The Third Woe**



BOWL JUDGMENTS



The **First** Bowl Judgment – Foul & Loathsome Sores

The **Second** Bowl Judgment – **Blood on the Sea**

The **Third** Bowl Judgment – **Blood on the Rivers**

The **Fourth** Bowl Judgment – Great Heat

The **Fifth** Bowl Judgment – Darkness

The **Sixth** Bowl Judgment – Euphrates River Dries up

The **Seventh** Bowl Judgment – Great Hail

Part 3 The Glorious Future85



The King of Kings takes a Bride

The Glorious Future the Seven New Things

The New Heaven

The New Earth

The New City

The New Nations

The New River

The New Tree of Life

The New Throne

John's Final Testimony and Warnings96

The Benediction

A Closing Comment



The Olivet Discourse and The Signs of His Coming

The Olivet Discourse is a monumental passage for the Doctrine of Eschatology

The Olivet Discourse



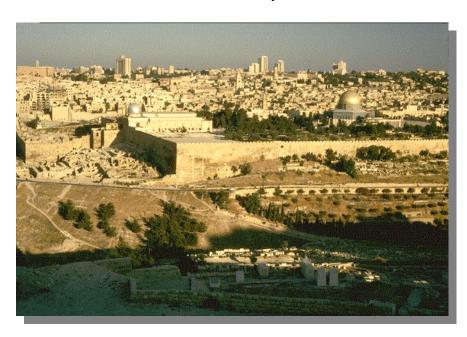
he completion of God's program for the Church is the Rapture, which is not found in the Olivet Discourse (John 14:1-4; 1 Corinthians 15:51-52; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18). Jesus' teaching here was for His people the Jews, as foretold by the prophet Daniel

Dan.9:24, "Seventy weeks have been decreed for your people and your holy city ..."

Jesus' teaching on the Mount of Olives was an answer to the disciple's questions as to when these things shall be and as to the sign of His coming.

The Olivet Discourse





View of the Temple Mount from the Mount of Olives, where Jesus gave His Olivet Discourse

Matthew 24:1-3 "¹Then Jesus went out and departed from the temple, and His disciples came up to show Him the buildings of the temple. ²And Jesus said to them, "Do you not see all these things? Assuredly, I say to you, not one stone shall be left here upon another, that shall not be thrown down." ³Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him

privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things be? And what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?"

he answers to these three questions from the disciples have become forever known as the Olivet Discourse. The response Jesus gave is an orderly and extended teaching on end-time events. This teaching is recorded in Matthew 24:1-25:46. Parallel passages are found in Mark 13:1-37 and Luke 21:5-36.

Because the discourse is more extensive in the book of Matthew I will focus in on the account given there.



The response Jesus gave to the disciples has a direct reference to Daniel 9:24-27 and the seventy-week prophecy.

Daniel 9:24, "Seventy weeks have been decreed for your people and your holy city, ..."

The Olivet discourse serves as a reinforcement of Daniels prophecy and since it is in itself prophecy, it finds its fulfillment in Revelation beginning in chapter six. It is important to note that the answer Jesus gives is not directed at the church, it is meant for Israel, just as the prophecy in Daniel is directed towards modern day Israel.

Three Questions

The disciples were eager to show Jesus more of the temple complex, when Jesus turned to them and said "Assuredly, I say to you, not one stone shall be left here upon another, that shall not be thrown down." The disciples must have been very surprised because the temple mount facility was a very large complex made of heavy stone some weighing over a ton. They left the temple area and headed to the Mount of Olives not far out of the Eastern gate.

The Olivet Discourse

The disciples all sat down on the grassy slope and asked Jesus three questions. The first question had to do with his comment of the temple being torn down to the point of not one stone would be left one another stone.

- 1. When will these things be? (speaking of the destruction of the temple)
- 2. What will be the sign of Your coming?
- 3. What will be the sign of the end of the age?

And with those three questions the stage is set for Jesus' Olivet Discourse.

1. "When will these things be?"

Beginning in verse four Jesus starts to answer the disciple's questions. The temple Jesus said would be torn down not leaving one stone on top of another was fulfilled in 70 A.D. Under the Roman General Titus, Roman troops destroyed Jerusalem and burnt the temple to get to its gold.

The troops that were used in the attack on Jerusalem were not necessarily Roman, but rather troops from the area who were forced into the Roman army. In this case the troops were mainly Muslim, however when they learned who was to be attacked (the Jews and Jerusalem) they were more than happy to help the Romans.

It should be noted that it wasn't Rome's intent to burn down the temple. General Titus had lost control over the Muslim troops. When he found out that they were in the temple murdering the priest and looting the temple he and his generals ran to the temple mount in an effort to stop its destruction. He was too late and found the fires blazing and the gold was melting and running down the walls and into the cracks. The temple was destroyed and the troops knocked over each stone as they scrapped the gold off of it, just as Jesus had foretold. The answer to the disciples question is found in history as 70 A.D.

From this point on what Jesus told them becomes for them and for us today as SIGNS of His second coming. These signs are signs of His return and not of the rapture of the church.

2. "What will be the sign of your coming?"

Matthew 24:4-8 (NASB), ⁴ And Jesus answered and said to them, "See to it that no one misleads you. ⁵ For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will mislead many. ⁶ You will be hearing of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not frightened, for those things must take place, but that is not yet the end. ⁷ For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and in various places there will be famines and earthquakes. ⁸ But all these things are merely the beginning of birth pains.

At one time or another in history these events have taken place. Within the church age we can certainly find these events. So why is Jesus referring to them now?

May I remind you of scripture, that the generation that sees Israel return to her ancient home land will not pass away till all these things come to pass.¹

Matthew 24:34 (NASB), Truly I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place.

The church will certainly at least see the "birth pains" begin ... the signs leading up to the tribulation have already begun.

Jesus' teaching to this point (v4-8) finds its fulfillment in Revelation 6 and the first four seal judgments (Four Horsemen), to which Jesus adds "All these are the beginning of sorrows," or the beginning of the birth pains. The birth pains are the precursor to His return. Matthew 24:9-14 finds it's fulfilled in the fifth seal judgment (The Martyrs).

Matthew 24:9-14 (NASB), ⁹ "Then they will deliver you to tribulation, and will kill you, and you will be hated by all nations because of My name. ¹⁰ At that time many will fall away and will betray one another and hate one another. ¹¹ Many false prophets will arise and will mislead many. ¹² Because lawlessness is increased, most people's love will grow cold. ¹³ But the one who endures to the end, he will be saved. ¹⁴ This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come.

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¹ https://gracethrufaith.com/end-times-prophecy/why-the-rebirth-of-israel-is-a-sign-of-the-end/

The Olivet Discourse

The Beginning of the Great Tribulation foretold

Matthew 24:15-16 (NASB), ¹⁵"Therefore when you see the ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand), ¹⁶ then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains.

In the above scripture, Jesus refers to Daniels prophecy of the abomination of desolation in the temple. Who is Jesus talking to here? Not the church, but to those who are in Jerusalem (the Jews). He tells them "To Flee to the mountains," to leave immediately, do not even go back into your houses to get anything. This would suggest that the enemy is near, even in your backyard, Jerusalem is being attacked and over run.

Zechariah 14:1-5 (NASB), Behold, a day is coming for the LORD when the spoil taken from you will be divided among you. ² For I will gather all the nations against Jerusalem to battle, and the city will be captured, the houses plundered, the women ravished and half of the city exiled, but the rest of the people will not be cut off from the city. ³ Then the LORD will go forth and fight against those nations, as when He fights on a day of battle. ⁴ In that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which is in front of Jerusalem on the east; and the Mount of Olives will be split in its middle from east to west by a very large valley, so that half of the mountain will move toward the north and the other half toward the south. ⁵ You will flee by the valley of My mountains, for the valley of the mountains will reach to Azel; yes, you will flee just as you fled before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah. Then the LORD, my God, will come, *and* all the holy ones with Him!

Luke 21:20-24 (NASB), ²⁰ "But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then recognize that her desolation is near. ²¹ Then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains, and those who are in the midst of the city must leave, and those who are in the country must not enter the city; ²² because these are days of vengeance, so that all things which are written will be fulfilled. ²³ Woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days; for there will be great distress upon

The Olivet Discourse

the land and wrath to this people; ²⁴ and they will fall by the edge of the sword, and will be led captive into all the nations; and Jerusalem will be trampled under foot by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled. (emphasis added)

There is a definite since of urgency in Jesus' teaching. We find the fulfillment of this in Revelation 12-13 it is called the "Middle of the Week." It is chapter 13 of Revelation that starts the "Great Tribulation" and its sign is when Satan defiles the Holy of Holies in the Jewish temple in Jerusalem, by putting himself in the place of God and demanding to be worshiped as God. This is the Abomination of Desolation spoken of in scripture. The term abomination is a religious term meaning that which causes disgust, or hatred, that which is unacceptable to God. The term desolation is referring to the physical destruction of the Jewish temple by the armies of the antichrist. At this point the end is now 1260 days to the Messiah Jesus returns. (1260 = 3.5yrs, 42 months).²

Additional Scripture:

- Revelation 11:2 (NASB), ² "... and they will tread underfoot the holy city for forty-two months.
- Revelation 12:6, (the woman Israel is protected for 1,260 days)
- Revelation 12:14, (the woman Israel protected for a time, times, and half a time)
- Revelation 13:5, antichrist exercise his authority for 42 months
- Daniel 7:25, saints are handed over to the antichrist or "a-time, times and half-a-time".
- Daniel 11:36, the king will do as he pleases ... and he will exalt and magnify himself
 ... speak monstrous things against God ... he will prosper until the indignation is
 finished. ...

3. What will be the sign of the End of the Age"

An "AGE," is defined as a change in the earth, such as what happened during the Lucifer flood. Scripture tells us that just before Jesus returns the last judgment, the seventh bowl judgment causes a change in the earth.

Revelation 16:17-20, ¹⁷ Then the seventh *angel* poured out his bowl upon the air, and a loud voice came out of the temple from the throne,

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² http://ichthys.com/mail-antichrist7or3and-a-half.htm

The Olivet Discourse

saying, "It is done." And there were flashes of lightning and sounds and peals of thunder; and there was a great earthquake, such as there had not been since man came to be upon the earth, so great an earthquake was it, and so mighty. The great city was split into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. Babylon the great was remembered before God, to give her the cup of the wine of His fierce wrath. And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. And huge hailstones, about one hundred pounds each, *came down from heaven upon men; and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail, because its plague *was extremely severe.

The return of Jesus Christ is marked by an earthquake that splits Jerusalem into three parts and the Mount of Olives splits in two parts, again a change in the earth, the end of one age and the beginning of another. Revelation 16:17-20 and Zechariah 14:4 could be speaking the same time frame and the same event. The return of Jesus to this earth as King of Kings.

Zechariah 14:4 (NASB), In that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which is in front of Jerusalem on the east; and the Mount of Olives will be split in its middle from east to west by a very large valley, so that half of the mountain will move toward the north and the other half toward the south.

Zechariah tells us that the day Jesus returns (on that day) Jesus will come down and stand on the Mount of Olives, "That day" is a reference to the "Day of the Lord," spoken of in scripture and the One who stands on the mountain is the Lord Himself.

Jesus continues His teaching on this theme through verse 26. He then describes His second coming and the Battle of Armageddon. This is fulfilled in Revelation 19 in sequence. The end of the age is the age of man's rule and governorship of the earth and the beginning of the rule of the Son of God. A Theocracy is a government ruled by a deity from which all authority is derived. The reign of Jesus Christ will last for one thousand years.

Revelation 20:4-6 (NASB), ⁴ Then I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was given to them. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony of Jesus and because of the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and

The Olivet Discourse

had not received the mark on their forehead and on their hand; and they came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. ⁵ The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were completed. This is the first resurrection. ⁶ Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years.

What are the SIGNS?

What is the number one prophetic sign? What sign more than any other, points to the soon return of Jesus Christ? While any number of signs are present, I believe one stands out above all others. In fact, Jesus Himself told us what it is.

Matthew 24:33,"When you see all these things, you can know my return is near. I'm right at the door."

He also said, "When all these things begin to happen, look up for your salvation is near!" (Luke 21:28). This means the number one sign of Jesus' return is all the signs appearing together.

Both Jesus and the prophets told us what signs to look for, and the appearance of just one is reason enough to take notice. This convergence of the signs is the number one prophetic sign - the number one reason to believe Jesus is right at the door.

The Convergence of Signs

(Biggest Sign)

The Bible tells us a number of events will take place just prior to the return of Jesus. Generations of Christians lived and died without witnessing one of these signs. Yet our generation is witness to all of them.

Signs we see happening today:

³ http://www.prophecynewswatch.com/article.cfm?recent_news_id=1164

• Arrival of the Exponential Curve – The acceleration of the signs. Jesus said a variety of global signs will come before His return and the end of the age. These signs will be spiritual, natural, societal, and political in nature. And He said they would appear in a distinct way – acceleration equals frequency like "birth pains" (Matthew 24:3-8).

This means the frequency and intensity of these signs will increase as we near His return. Our generation has seen the exponential increase in war and famine just as Jesus said. In the 20th Century alone, more people died from war and famine than lived on the earth when Jesus spoke these words.

• <u>Israel's Exceedingly Great Army</u> - Ezekiel said, in the end times, Israel will field "an exceedingly great army" (Ezekiel 37:10). Zechariah said Israel will be like a fire among sheaves of grain, burning up the neighboring nations (Zechariah 12:6) and even the weakest Israeli soldier will be like David (Zechariah 12:8).

Since 1948, Israel has fought no less than four conventional wars against its neighbors. Despite being outnumbered more than 50 to 1, Israel has achieved overwhelming victory every time.

- <u>Israel Back in the Land</u> God promised to bring the Jewish people back into the land of Israel before He returned (Jeremiah 23:7-8). He said He would call them from "among the nations" (Ezekiel 39:28), from "the farthest corners of the earth" (Isaiah 11:12), and from "north, south, east, and west" (Psalm 107:3). He promised to welcome them home from the lands where they were scattered (Ezekiel 20:34). When they did, He promised to return and establish His everlasting kingdom (Isaiah 11:11-12).
- The Jews Back in Jerusalem Jesus said armies would surround Jerusalem, destroy the city, and enslaves its citizens. This happened in A.D. 70 when the Roman legions did exactly that. Jesus then said people other than the Jews would control Jerusalem for a time, then the Jewish people would once again control Jerusalem. When they did, Jesus promised to return (Luke 21:24-28). Since 1967, the Jewish people have been in possession of Jerusalem and will be celebrating their 50 year reunification this June.

• An Increase in Travel and Knowledge - Six hundred years before Jesus, an angel gave Daniel a special message.

Daniel 12:4: (NASB), "But as for you, Daniel, conceal these words and seal up the book until the end of time; many will go back and forth, and knowledge will increase."

For centuries of human history, dramatic gains in travel and knowledge did NOT take place. Yet the last two hundred years we have seen explosions in the speed and frequency of travel as well as the amount and availability of knowledge.

From the time of Adam to Abraham knowledge doubled, a span of some 2000 years. From Abraham to Jesus knowledge doubled again, another span of some 2000 years. From the time of Jesus until 1750 knowledge doubled again, from 1750 to 1900 knowledge doubled again and now it seems that there has been an explosion of knowledge in the world so much so that every ten years it would take over a mile of bookshelves to contain the material written of the knowledge gained.

• The Gospel Preached Throughout the World - When asked about the end of the age and the signs of His coming, Jesus said to look for a very specific sign. He said the gospel will be preached throughout the entire world. Every nation will hear it. And then? And then, the end will come (Matthew 24:14). For centuries after the crucifixion, the gospel was confined to a small area surrounding the Mediterranean Sea.

In the past two centuries, Christians have brought the gospel to every nation in the world. Today, missionaries are in every nation. The Bible is translated in hundreds of languages, and the message of Jesus is sent around the world by radio, TV, satellite, and the Internet. Our generation is literally on the verge of spreading the gospel to every last person on earth.

• <u>Denial of the Signs</u> - Almost two thousand years ago, Peter issued a warning. He said in the last days people will mock the idea of Jesus returning. They will make fun of those who believe in the Second Coming and say exactly what we hear today - things like, "I thought Jesus was coming back?

The Olivet Discourse

What happened to His promise? Generation after generation has said He's coming. Yet, since the beginning of the world, everything has remained the same!" (2 Peter 3:3-4).

Prophetic Signs to come (Great Tribulation)

• The Rise of Global Government - The Bible says a single government will rule the world politically (Revelation 13:7), religiously (Revelation 13:8), and economically (Revelation 13:16-17) in the last days.

It will rule over "all people, tribes, and languages" on the face of the earth (Revelation 13:7). Its authority will be so complete no one will be able to buy or sell anything without its permission (Revelation 13:16-17). For centuries, a true global government was impossible. Today, world leaders openly discuss it.

• Rise of the Gog of Magog Alliance - The Bible says a military alliance that includes Russia, Iran, Turkey, and a number of Muslim nations will attack Israel "in the latter days" (Ezekiel 38:8) when God brings His people home from among the enemy nations (Ezekiel 39:27). Today, we see those very nations coming together - an alliance that has never existed in world history.

The last sign:

• <u>Israel Surrounded by Enemies</u> - The Bible says that the enemies of Israel will surround them in the end times. Their goal is to totally destroy Israel as a nation and take the land for themselves. God tells His people to flee into the wilderness mountains.

Luke 21:20-24 (NASB), ²⁰ "But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then recognize that her desolation is near. ²¹ Then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains, and those who are in the midst of the city must leave, and those who are in the country must not enter the city; ²² because these are days of vengeance, so that all things which are written will be fulfilled. ²³ Woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days; for there will be great distress upon the land and wrath to this people; ²⁴ and they will fall by the edge of the sword, and will be led captive into all the nations; and Jerusalem will

be trampled under foot by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.

Matthew 24:17 (NASB), "Whoever is on the housetop must not go down to get the things out that are in his house."

Mark 13:14-20 (NASB), "¹⁴ "But when you see the ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION standing where it should not be (let the reader understand), then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains. ¹⁵ The one who is on the housetop must not go down, or go in to get anything out of his house; ¹⁶ and the one who is in the field must not turn back to get his coat. ¹⁷ But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! ¹⁸ But pray that it may not happen in the winter. ¹⁹ For those days will be a *time of* tribulation such as has not occurred since the beginning of the creation which God created until now, and never will. ²⁰ Unless the Lord had shortened *those* days, no life would have been saved; but for the sake of the elect, whom He chose, He shortened the days.

v14 Jesus gives the reader the time frame of this destruction of Jerusalem.

Psalm 83:4 (NASB), "They have said, "Come, and let us wipe them out as a nation, That the name of Israel be remembered no more."

Psalm 83:12 (NASB), "Who said, "Let us possess for ourselves The pastures of God."

During the tribulation Israel's Muslim neighbors claim the land of Israel for themselves, and they have no regard for the God of Israel.

Despite the naysayers, Jesus is coming, and the signs indicate that ours is the generation that will witness His return.

Matthew 24:32-34 (NASB), ³² "Now learn the parable from the fig tree: when its branch has already become tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near; ³³ so, you too, when you see all these things, recognize that He is near, *right* at the door. ³⁴ Truly I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place.

The Olivet Discourse

The convergence of all these signs confirms what Jesus Himself said, to look for these signs, and when you see them know His return is near. He's right at the door. In fact, He said the generation witnessing these signs will not pass away before He returns.

These signs were present yesterday, and these same signs will be present right up until the rapture. But keep this in mind - for 1,878 years of Christianity (A.D. 70 - A.D. 1948), none of these signs were present. Today, all of them are.

Too many people are asleep when it comes to the signs of the Second Coming. Sadly, many of these people are Christians. If you're one of them, it's time to wake up. Jesus warned us not to be caught sleeping when He returns (Mark 13:36). He commanded us to watch. Today, the signs of His return are all around us. Jesus is coming, and it can't be said enough... Now is the season of His return.

Additional Signs in our lifetime:⁴

- Israel recapture of old Jerusalem (1967)
- The rise of Islamic nations as a major power
- The rise of China as a world class power
- The rise of the EU (European Union) & Rebirth of the Ottoman Empire
- The simultaneous increase in frequency and magnitude of wars, earthquakes, plagues, famines, super storms, global warming and global weather pattern changes.
- Religious deception (Jesus warns the church not to be deceived Mt.24:24)
- Let us look at some of these peculiar signs. Christ declared that the Great Tribulation would involve dangers to life unlike anything ever known. So horrendous, in fact, would the weapons be, that "except those days be shortened, there should no flesh be saved." That statement seemed outrageous for more than 1900 years.

There were no weapons capable of wiping out all life on this planet. None, that is until our generation came along. Not only the nuclear arsenals which are now common knowledge fall into that category, but other secret weapons equally deadly have been developed. A major deterrent to the use of these star wars weapons has been the fear that a disaster of cosmic proportions could be unleashed which would make any kind of life on this planet possible.

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⁴ http://www.discoverrevelation.com/23.html

The Olivet Discourse

• The sign of Noah

The great sins of the tribulation, all of which man will not repent of (Rev. 9:20-21). They are alive and in the world we live in today.

- 1. Devil worship (witchcraft and the occult)
- 2. Worship of Idols of gold, silver, brass, stone and of wood (Idolatry)
- 3. Murder
- 4. Sorcery
- 5. Fornication
- 6. Theft

The Sign of Noah

The sign given in Matthew 24 of His coming:

Matthew 24:37-41 (NASB), ³⁷ For the coming of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah. ³⁸ For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and they did not understand until the flood came and took them all away; so will the coming of the Son of Man be. ⁴⁰ Then there will be two men in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴¹ Two women *will be* grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one will be left.

Genesis 6:11-12 (NASB), ¹¹ "Now the earth was corrupt in the sight of God, and the earth was filled with violence. ¹² God looked on the earth, and behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way upon the earth."

When you look at the state of our nation, men "marrying" men, babies being killed in their own mother's womb (Proverbs 6:16-19), sexual immorality, violence, and outright lawlessness against God's commands, what do we expect? Do we expect the Lord to sit idly by as men knowingly and willfully break his Law? (The Ten Commandments – Exodus 20)

This world as well as America has dared the justice of God time and time again. America was once a nation that used to be aflame with righteousness and the fear of God, has now turned into a nation that has, for the most part, turned its back on God.

The Returning of the Days of Noah and Lot

In the Olivet Discourse of Matthew 24 Jesus spoke of conditions that existed in Noah's day and how those same conditions would be in the world just before He returns. Jesus said that they ate, they drank and they married up until the very day Noah entered the ark.

Likewise as it was also in the days of Lot; they ate, they drank, they bought and sold, they planted and built. However, on the same day Lot and his family went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all (Luke 17:26-30).

In both of these cases the people were so sinful that God destroyed them from the face of the earth. In Noah's day it was the whole world that sinned; in Lot's day it was the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah.

It is instructive that Jesus chose to use the moral climate in which these ancient people lived as a warning about the lifestyles of men and women just before His return. We are already living in the moral climate of the days of Noah and of Lot. And so we know we are living in the Time of the End, the Last Days just before Jesus comes back to put an end to all of man's wickedness.

The Sign of the Times of Noah and Lot⁵

Even a casual reading of Gen. 6:1-9 shows that the people of Noah's day were sexually obsessed. In this case the sons of God were cohabiting with the "daughters of men" and "producing giants - mighty men, men of renown." Renown no doubt for their wickedness. The most important lesson we can learn from this passage is that their wicked lifestyle caused God to unleash the flood. Their lifestyle included three specific sins.

- Sexual perversion.
- The thoughts of their hearts were evil continually.
- Routine living with disregard to the consequences of impending judgment.

Page 16

⁵ http://www.discoverrevelation.com/23.html

These people were "eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage." Everything seemed normal to them while they willingly mocked and laughed at and ignored the preaching of Noah for 120 years. They violated the known law of God as if there were no accounting to come.

Present world conditions could very well be as bad as or worse than those that existed in the days before the Flood and in the days of Lot. The most common sins of our day are sexual, from fornication to adultery to homosexuality. That is evidenced worldwide by the 50 million or more abortions perpetrated annually and the rampant sexually transmitted diseases, for STD's to AIDS - all diseases that, for the most part, do not afflict those who follow the sexual laws of God. In the past generation, due to the increase in pornography via magazines, movies, TV and videos and the internet, there has been an acceleration of sexual promiscuity and an ever lowering of the age of first sexual activity.

Pornography has caused the minds of both men and women to be obsessed with sex, or as the Bible predicted, "every imagination of the thoughts of his (man's) heart was only evil continually" (Gen. 6:5) Hollywood has polluted the most powerful communications vehicle the human mind ever invented, film, which has the ability to affect the mind, emotions, and will.

Homosexuality, the Sin of Lot's Day

The sexual sins of Sodom and Gomorrah in Lot's time were so gross that men were driven with a passion not only for their own sex, but even became disrespectful to the angels who visited Lot. It is almost unbelievable in our day how those who reject the sexual laws of God have succeeded in making one of the vilest of sexual sins, sodomy, respectable and even acceptable.

A few years ago Hollywood stars kept their personal sex lives in the closet. Today homosexuals are "out" and demanding their "rights". What rights do they demand? The right to marry, the right to cohabit with the same sex, the right to teach school, where they could influence young minds, the right to adopt children, the right to serve in the military - and the list goes on.

Today you can pick up most any newspaper and you will see the violence that fills the earth today. Our nation's morality has sunk to the place where Ruth Graham once said, "If God doesn't judge America, He will need to apologize to Sodom and Gomorrah!"

⁶ http://sonsoflibertymedia.com/if-god-doesnt-punish-america-hell-have-to-apologize-to-sodom-and-gomorrah/

The Olivet Discourse

When we see these signs then know that the return of Jesus Christ to this world as its King is close at hand, actually seven years to the day of the signing of the peace treaty (covenant) of Israel and the man of perdition (antichrist). Do not think for one minute that man's sin is overlooked because of God's love for man, or by His Grace. Judgment is coming

The Missing Church

For those who trust in God they have the assurance that they should not experience the wrath of God. The tribulation period is a time to turn men's heart towards God, to cause men to repent of their sins. Therefore if the church of Jesus Christ, otherwise referred to as His bride has already turn to Jesus in repentance, then it does no good and makes no since that they also shall be persecuted along with the unbelieving world.

As it is written, soon there shall be the blast of the trumpet and the dead in Christ shall rise up out of their graves and then those who are alive she join them and we, the church of Jesus Christ shall meet Him in the clouds.

Jesus the Son of God has come for His bride.

Revelation 4:1 (NASB), "After these things I looked, and behold, a door *standing* open in heaven, and the first voice which I had heard, like *the sound* of a trumpet speaking with me, said, "Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after these things."

"The Things which shall be Hereafter" Rev. 1:19

n Revelation 1:19 Jesus revealed to John the Key to understanding the book He was about to show him. The book can be divided up into three divisions, "The things you have seen" (chap. 1), "The "things which are" (Chap. 2-3), "The things which shall be hereafter" (Chap. 4-22). From this point forward the study focuses on the third division of the things which shall be hereafter.

There is a chronological sequence of the events that shall come this earth just prior to the return of Jesus Christ. While most of the judgments (trumpet and bowl judgments) have a starting and an ending point, however there are a few judgments that start and run throughout the rest of the tribulation period. There is one seal judgment (6th) that is mentioned with the rest of the seal judgments, but actually happens (I believe) at the end of the tribulation when Jesus is sitting on the thrown, I will explain this when we get to that particular judgment.

Where is the church?

There is only one word that so beautifully answers this question.







The completion of God's program for the Church is the Rapture

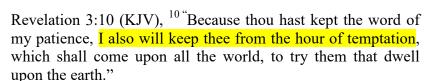


he New Testament Church was promised that they were not appointed unto wrath, and why should they? The wrath of God is meant to turn men's hearts towards God through repentance. The Church of Jesus Christ already believes, why pour out your wrath onto your bride

just before the wedding? Consider the following verses:

1 Thessalonians 5:9 (NASB), "For God has not destined us for wrath, but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus

Christ,"





The open door of Revelation 4:1 is considered the time of the event, the time that the literal church of Jesus Christ is taken out of this world. The next mention of the church is found in the words of the multitudes before the throne of God, Look at the words that are spoken. Only the church of Jesus Christ can say these things. Consider these verses:

Revelation 5:8-12 (KJV), 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 odors, which are the prayers of saints. ⁹ And they sung a new song, saying, You are worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for you were slain, and have redeemed us to God by your blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and

nation; ¹⁰ And has made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth. ¹¹ And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands; ¹² Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honor, and glory, and blessing.

The voices that cry out in the above verses are none other than the church. Together with those who have preceded them in death. They stand before the throne of God and give praises to Jesus the Lamb of God that was slain for them. They are the only ones who can claim this, truly Jesus died for their sins.

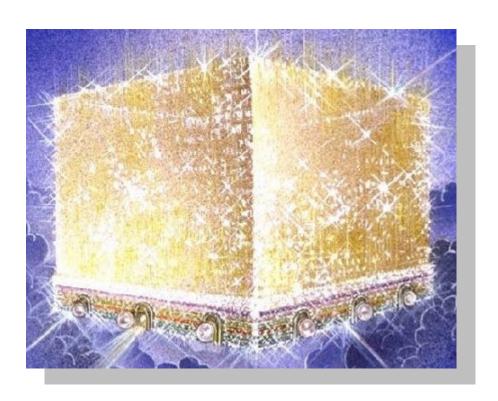
The church (the Bride of Christ) is not mentioned again until chapters 19:7-9 at the Marriage of the Lamb (Jesus takes a Bride). In chapter 21:9. The church can be found in the Holy city that Jesus went away to prepare for them, called the New Jerusalem. It is not heaven for it comes down out of heaven and will hover over the earthly city of Jerusalem.

The New Jerusalem

(The Holy City)

Revelation 21:9, ⁹"Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and spoke with me, saying, "Come here, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb." ¹⁰ And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, ¹¹ having the glory of God. Her brilliance was like a very costly stone, as a stone of crystal-clear jasper. ¹² It had a great and high wall, with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels; and names were written on them, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the sons of Israel. ¹³ There were three gates on the east and three gates on the north and three gates on the south and three gates on the west. ¹⁴ And the wall of the city had twelve foundation stones, and on them were the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb."

Part 1
The Olivet Discourse



The Judgments of God



1. Seal Judgments
Revelation 6:1-17; 8:1

2. Trumpet Judgments
Revelation 8:7-9:21;11:15-19





3. Bowl Judgments
Revelation 16:1-21



21 Judgments of The Book of Revelation

Revelation 6-19

Chapters 6-19 Also known ...

To Daniel, as the "70th week" (Daniel 9:27)

To Jeremiah, as the "Time of Jacob's Trouble" (Jeremiah 30:7)

To Joel, as the "Great and Terrible Day of the Lord" (Joel 2:31)

To Jesus, as "Great Tribulation" (Matthew 24:21)

To Paul, as the "day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God" (Romans 2:5)



21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation

SEAL JUDGMENTS – Rev.6:2-8, 8:1



- 1. 1. Rev.6:2, White Horse Antichrist
- 2. 2. Rev.6:4, Red Horse **W**ar
- 3. 3. Rev.6:5, Black Horse Famine
- 4. 4. Rev.6:7, Pale Horse Death & Hell
- 5. 5. Rev.6:9, Martyrs
- **6.** 6. Rev.6:12-17, Great Earthquake Physical Changes
- 7. Rev.8:1, Silence in Heaven



TRUMPET JUDGMENTS – Judgment of thirds – Rev. 8:6 – 11:15-19



- 8. 1. Rev.8:6-7, Hail Fire Blood (1/3 trees and grass burned up)
- 9. 2. Rev.8:8-9, Burning Mountain (1/3 Sea to Blood, 1/3 creatures die, 1/3 ships destroyed)



- **10.** 3. Rev.8:10-11, Star Wormwood (1/3 Rivers become bitter)
- 11. 4. Rev.8:12, 1/3 of the Sun, Moon and Stars darkened
- 12. 5. Rev.9:1-12, Plague of Locust
- 13. 6. Rev.9:13-21, Plague of Horsemen (1/3 of mankind killed)
- 14. 7. Rev.11:15-19, The sounding of the Third Woe



Second Woe

BOWL JUDGMENTS (Vial) – Rev. 16-21



- **15.** 1. Rev.16:1-2, Loathsome Sores
- **16.** 2. Rev.16:3, **Blood on the Sea**
- **17.** 3. Rev.16;4-7, **Blood on the Rivers**
- **18.** 4. Rev. 16:8-9, Great Heat
- 19. 5. Rev.16:10-11, Darkness
- **20.** 6. Rev.16:12, River Euphrates Dries Up
- **21.** 7. Rev.16:17-21, Great Hail



21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation

General Observations



The first four Seal Judgments come as a result of Jesus breaking each seal from off of the scroll He holds in His hand.

Revelation 6:1-2, ¹"Then I saw when the Lamb broke one of the seven seals, and I heard one of the four living creatures saying as with a voice of thunder, 'Come.' ² I looked, and behold, a white horse, and he who sat on it had a bow; and a crown was given to him, and he went out conquering and to conquer."

Many look at the Four Horsemen as the wrath of Satan who is a liar and his mission is told to us as to conquer. However he is still unleashed by Jesus breaking the seal that allows him to come onto the world scene. Therefore all that happens is a result of the seal breaking. Each seal then becomes a part of the larger picture of the overall wrath of God.



In Revelation 6:8 we are also told something that almost everyone has missed.

Revelation 6:8, "I looked, and behold, an ashen horse; and he who sat on it had the name Death; and Hades was following with him. Authority was given to them over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword and with famine and with pestilence and by the wild beasts of the earth."

Amazing, but there it is. The Four Horsemen are given authority over a FORTH (1/4) of the earth not the entire earth at that time. It is then a regional war, regional famine and pestilence. The scriptures tell us that this is just the beginning of sorrows, because the Trumpet Judgments are coming.

Remember the Wrath of God is definable by two signs. First the judgment it is a global event. Notice in your reading that the trumpet and bowls judgments are global affairs. Second, the angels are involved in the judgments.

The Seal Judgments are considered judgments, but the first four cover a fourth of the earth.



The Seven Seal Judgments

(Revelation 6:1-17; 8:1)

As it was in the days of Noah

Genesis 6:5, "And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually."

Romans 1:18, "For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;"

Revelation 9:20-21, ²⁰ The rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands, so as not to worship demons, and the idols of gold and of silver and of brass and of stone and of wood, which can neither see nor hear nor walk; ²¹ and they did not repent of their murders nor of their sorceries nor of their immorality nor of their thefts.

... The Beginning of Sorrows (Matthew 24:8)



The First Seal The False Christ



The White Horse and the Rise of the Antichrist

(Dan.7:8, 23-26; 8:8-10, 20-25; 11:35-45; II Th. 2:1-12; Rev. 13:1-18, 17:10-16)



The Olivet Discourse corresponding prophecy:

Matthew 24:4-5 "And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many."

Another sign of the times that in the last days there shall come a strong spirit of deceit and of lying spirits. Jesus' constant warning is to watch and be not deceived.

The Two White Horses of Revelation

(Rev.6:2)



Revelation 6:2 "And I looked, and behold, a white horse. He who sat on it had a bow; and a crown was given to him, and he went out conquering and to conquer."

The symbolic "White Horse" and its rider. Who is this rider with his bow and now is given a crown. Notice the crown is not on his head, it is simply given to him. The scriptures does not reveal to us his name except that it gives us pictures of who he is and what he has come upon the earth to do.

The bow he carries in his hand is symbolic with pictures of evil and conquest (Ps.7:12, 11:2, 37:14, 46:9, 58:7; Jer. 49:35). The Antichrist is the only person predicted in scriptures as going forth conquering and to conquer at this particular time. (Dan. 7:7-8, 20-21, 23-24; 8:23-25; 9:27; 11:36-45; Rev. 6:1). The bow is symbolic of his strength and his ability, but he has no arrows, this tells us that the peace he brings will come about through diplomacy as a king, hence the crown that is handed to him. He will negotiate a peace treaty and will be the one who breaks it.

Daniel 9:27 (NASB), "And he will make a firm covenant with the many for one week, but in the middle of the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; and on the wing of abominations will come one who makes desolate, even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate."

This rider will cause the wars, famines, pestilences, death, and hell from the following 3 seals (6:3-8). This rider will confirm (negotiate) a peace covenant for one week with Daniel's people the Jews. This covenant is for seven years. In Daniel 9:27, the word weeks is translated from the Hebrew word "Shabua" #7620 (shaw-boo'-ah) conveying the idea of a period of seven (days, years). Greek it is "Heptad" meaning week. In this

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation

case scripture is speaking of in weeks of years, that there will be 70 of these weeks of years. (70 weeks x 7 years each = 490 years).

The ultimate reason for the peach treaty with Israel is not because of any great love for the Jewish people, but to get the temple built so that he (antichrist) can defile it and sit in it. This is the time that this rider of this white horse, the antichrist declares to the entire world that he is God, and demands to be worshiped. This is something Satan has been wanting since he first rebelled against God.

This rider can only be the antichrist, and he makes his appearance only after Christ, the Lamb of God breaks the first seal. This rider comes on a white horse imitating the deeds of Christ in order to deceive the world.

As to where this rider (the antichrist) comes from, he is described as the little horn that grew out of one the four horns on the head of the "he goat" of Daniel 8.

DANIEL 8

¹In the third year of the reign of king Belshazzar a vision appeared unto me, even unto me Daniel, after that which appeared unto me at the first. ² And I saw in a vision; and it came to pass, when I saw, that I was at Shushan in the palace, which is in the province of Elam; and I saw in a vision, and I was by the river of Ulai.³ Then I lifted up mine eyes, and saw, and, behold, there stood before the river a ram [Persia] which had two horns: and the two horns were high; but one was higher than the other, and the higher came up last. ⁴I saw the ram pushing westward, and Northward, and southward; [Babylon, Syria, Thrace and Macedonia, Libya and Egypt] also that no beasts might stand before him, neither was there any that could deliver out of his hand; but he did according to his will, and became great.⁵ And as I was considering, behold, an he goat came from the west [Greece] on the face of the whole earth, and touched not the ground: and the goat had a notable horn between his eyes. ⁶ And he came to the ram that had two horns, which I had seen standing before the river, and ran unto him in the fury of his power. ⁷ And I saw him come close unto the ram, and he was moved with choler against him, and smote the ram, and brake his two horns: and there was no power in the ram to stand before him, but he cast him down to the ground, and stamped upon him: and there was none that could deliver the ram out of his hand.

V:2 - The Palace of Shushan is in the modern day city of Susa in Iran



Ref. Dan.9:27. The daily sacrifice was about the temple which Antichrist defiles. Ref. Rev. 13



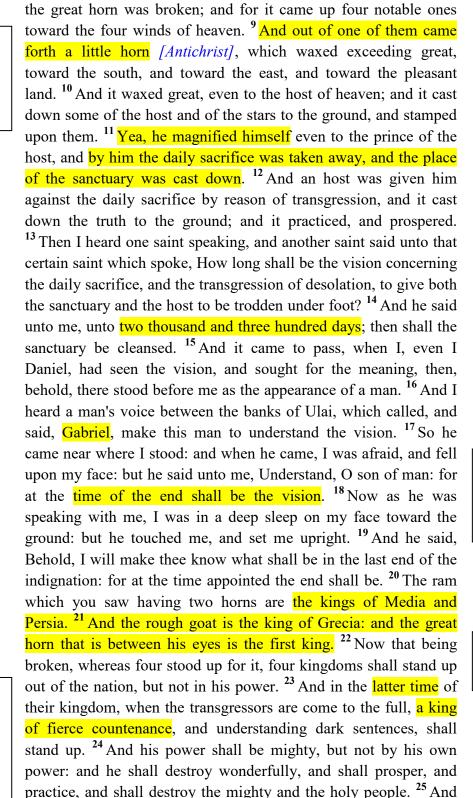




V:7 - "Choler," Anger; irritability in

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation

Four Kingdoms
V:8,22
Cassandrian Dynasty
Lysimachean Dynasty
Seleucid Dynasty
Ptolemy Dynasty



⁸ Therefore the he goat waxed very great: and when he was strong,

The Time of the End, V:17b Dan.12:40 The Laodicea Church age. (the end of an age)



Media and Persia Medo-Persian Empire the two horns



King of fierce countenance (Antichrist) V:23-25





Greece v:8,21 Alexander the Great The Great Horn

His Four Generals divided into four Kingdoms V:22

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation

Battle of Armageddon V:25b through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand; and he shall magnify himself in his heart, and by peace shall destroy many: he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without hand. ²⁶ And the vision of the evening and the morning which was told is true: wherefore shut thou up the vision; for it shall be for many days. ²⁷ And I Daniel fainted, and was sick certain days; afterward I rose up, and did the king's business; and I was astonished at the vision, but none understood it.

Antichrist breaks the peace treaty V:25a



Recap:

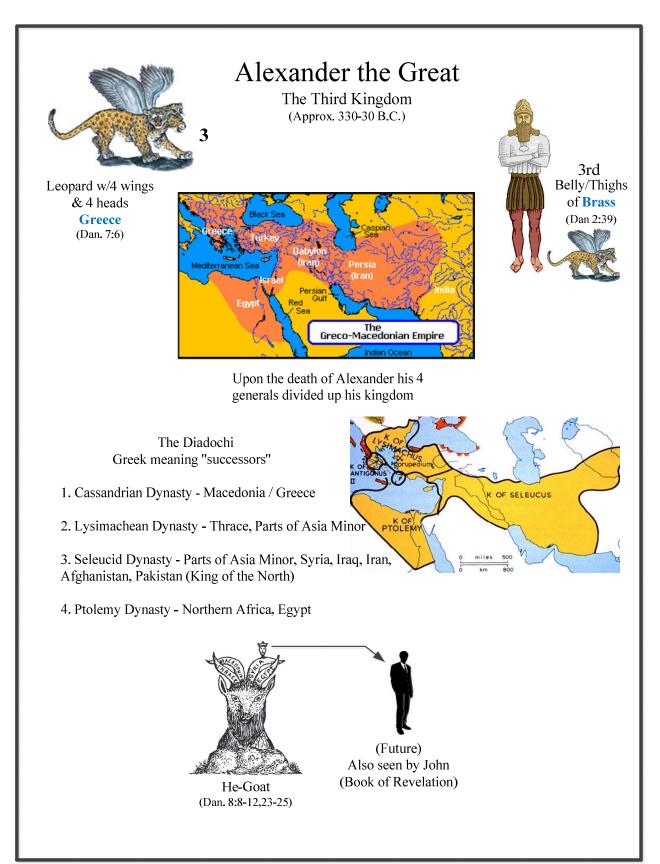
In the above scripture Daniel is shown an overview of the rise of the antichrist and of his coming to power and of his ultimate defeat at the hand of the "Prince of Princes and without hands (v25).

We are given a short history lesson of the Persian Empire pictured as a ram with two horns. The Persian Empire established by Cyrus the Great in the 6th century B.C., only lasted approximately 200 years until the death of Darius III in 330 B.C., following his defeat by Alexander the Great (The He Goat with the notable horn that broke). Alexander in just 10 short years had done what no other army could do before him and that was to conquer the Persian Empire. At age 32 Alexander died in Babylon and his kingdom divided up by his four generals, which is represented by the four horns of the He goat (The He Goat being Alexander).



The prophecy goes on to say that out of one of those horns (Kingdoms/Dynasties) came forth a "little horn." Out of Assyria, which is modern day Turkey this little horn shall rise up in the "latter days" and be the King of fierce countenance, which we call the Antichrist.

This is the spirit of the rider on the white horse of Revelation 6:2.



The Rider Who Is Called

"Faithful and True"

(Rev.19:11-21)



Revelation 19:11-16 ¹¹"Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. ¹² His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. ¹³He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. ¹⁴And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. ¹⁵Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. ¹⁶And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS."

Christ is always symbolized with having a sword not a bow in his hand (Rev. 1:6, 19:15, 21). The rider of this white horse:

- 1. Comes to make war also. The difference between this rider and the first is that the war is a result of or part of His judgment.
- 2. On His head are many crowns, the first rider was given only one
- 3. His robe was dipped in blood, representing either His own blood that was shed for us, or the blood of His saints under persecution, or the blood that was about to be spilt.
- 4. This rider is identified to us as "The Word of God."
- 5. This ride is not alone, but comes WITH his saints⁷ (Zech.14:5; Dan. 12:1; Jer. 30:7; 1 Thess. 2:19, 3:13; Rev.19;14) to stop man from destroying himself and the earth.

Page 34

⁷ https://rightwordtruth.com/will-christ-return-with-saints-or-with-angels/



2

The Second Seal War



The **Red Horse**War Caused by the Antichrist

(Dan. 7:23-24; 8:9, 23; Mt. 24:6-7)

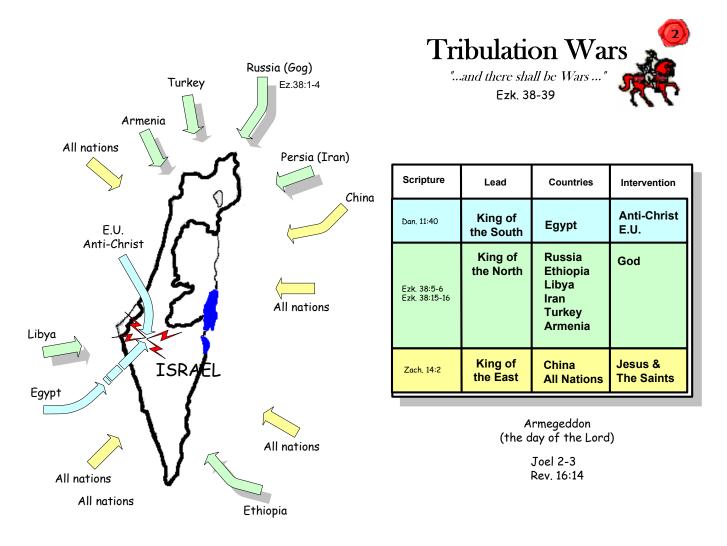


The Olivet Discourse corresponding prophecy:

Matthew 24:6-7 "And you shall hear of wars and rumors of wars: see that you be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: ..."

Revelation 6:3-4 - "And when He had opened the second seal, I heard the second beast say, Come and see. And there went out another horse that was red: and power was given to him that sat there on to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword."

The Red Horse is a clear symbol of war. This is a natural outcome of the rider of the White Horse going out to conquer and conquering. This horseman will have the power to take the peace from the earth. The world's leaders will appeal to their weapons of mass destruction, and entangled themselves in war. Recent advances such as the modern police state and intercontinental ballistic missiles carrying nuclear weapons will enable the sword of war carried by this blood-colored Horseman to bring the systematic persecution of all of the truly faithful and a judgment of a desolating worldwide war as men are set upon the task of killing one another.





3

The Third Seal Famines



The Black Horse
Famine Comes Riding
(Matthew 24:7)



The Olivet Discourse corresponding prophecy:

Matthew 24: 7 "...and there shall be famines"

Revelation 6:5-6 "And when He had opened the third seal, I heard the third beast say, Come and see. And I beheld, and he that sat on him had a set of balances in his hand. And I heard a voice in the mist of the four beast say, A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measure of barley for a penny; and see you hurt not the oil and wine".

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation

The Black Horse represents famine, which is the result of the conquest and the wars of the first two seals. The bread by "measure and weight" signifies scarcity of food (Ezek. 4:10-17). A measure was about 1 quart, a slave's daily ration, an amount usually purchased for about 2 cents. One could usually buy 8 measures of wheat or 24 measures of barley for a penny, but during this future famine only 1 measure of wheat or 3 measures of barley can be purchased for a penny. This will make food 8 times higher than in normal times.

Special Note: The Denarius was a distinctively Roman silver coin is nearly equivalent to the Greek Drachma. learn in Matthew 20 that it was a typical daily wage for a but the owner of the vineyard in the parable of Matt. 20,



we laborer, chose to

be more generous. The Denarius was also a day's pay for a Roman soldier and the coin required for the Roman tax. The Good Samaritan gave the innkeeper two of them to care for the robbery victim. In other Biblical references the word "Denarius" is used in terms of many such coins. Different debtors owed 50, 100, and 500 denarii. The 5000 men plus their families could not have been fed with 200 denarii worth of food. The perfume that anointed Jesus at Bethany could have been sold for over 300 denarii.







4

The Forth Seal Pestilence and Death



The Pale Horse

Death and Hell

(Matthew 24:6-7)



The Olivet discourse corresponding prophecy:

Matthew 24:7-8, "... and pestilences, and earthquakes in divers places. All these are the beginning of sorrows."

Revelation 6:7-8, "And when He had opened the forth seal, I heard the voice of the forth beast say, Come and see. 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 the **sword**, and with **hunger**, and with death, and with the **beast** of the field.

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation

It is worthy to note that the riders of the first three horses are not named but here they are.

Notice Hell follows behind Death for they are inseparable companions. Death here no doubt refers to a great pestilence following the wars, famines and plagues of the first three seals. One fourth of the earth, over which the pestilence shall sweep will leave so great a death toll that the beast of the field will gather to eat them (Mt 24:28, Lk.17:34-37, Rev. 17:17, Ezek. 39:17-21), Hell will have to enlarge its self and open her mouth without measure as it did in Isaiah. 5:13-16.

The word used to describe the color of the "pale" horse is the Greek word "chloros" or green. It is meant to convey the sickly green tinge of the deathly ill or recently dead. Since the literal translation "green" does not carry these connotations in English the word was rendered "pale" in most English translations.

...All these are the beginning of sorrows...

The Four Horsemen Summary

Horses and their riders

In summary, the horses and their riders as described in the Bible are as follows:

Horse	Horse Represents	Rider	Power	Rider Represents
White	False peace/God's war	Carries bow; wears crown	Conquers	Antichrist, The False Christ, False Religion/Christ
Red	Blood spilt on the battlefield	Carries sword	Brings war	War, Destruction
Black	Black, barren fields	Carries scales	Scarcity of food	Famine, Unfair Trade
Pale	Paleness of skin in death, decay	Death	Kills by war, hunger, etc.	Death

Again as a reminder, that according to Revelation 6:8, these riders were given authority over only $(\frac{1}{4})$ a fourth of the earth, not all the earth. That is coming.



5

The Fifth Seal Martyrdoms

The Martyrs

(Mt. 24:9-13, Rev. 7:9-1; 15:2-4; 20:4)



Revelation 6:9-11 "And when He had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the alter the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held: And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, will you not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth? And white robes were given to every one of them; and it was said unto them that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellow servants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled."



The Olivet discourse corresponding prophecy

Matthew 24:9-13 "Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and you shall be hated of all nations for my names sake. And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another. And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many. And

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation

because iniquity shall abound the love of many shall wax cold. But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved."

These saints are those who were saved after, or as a result of the rapture of the church. They will be killed for the same two reasons John was exiled to the island of Patmos, for the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ (Rev. 1:9).

The fact that their souls were under the Sacrificial Alter is proof that they were offered as a sacrifice and that is why they are Martyrs. Notice they are given White Robes to wear. This agrees with Rev 4:4, the Four and Twenty Elders which representative of the church is also wearing White Robes. When the Martyrs ask how long before God avenges their death, they are told to just rest a little while longer (till the end of the Tribulation) until all there brethren from this period should join them, this is fulfilled in Rev. 20:4-6.

Revelation 20:4-6 (NASB), ⁴ Then I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was given to them. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony of Jesus and because of the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received the mark on their forehead and on their hand; and they came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. ⁵ The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were completed. This is the first resurrection. ⁶ Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years.



6

The Sixth Seal Physical Changes



Physical Changes

(Rev. 8:1-9,21; 11:15,18; 15:1,7; 16:1-21; 18:1-24)

Revelation 6:12-17 "And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood; And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casts her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind. And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sits 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?

I believe that this seal is not broken unto the end of the tribulation and Jesus is sitting on the throne. Notice the great and powerful men of the world hid themselves from "the face of him that sits on the throne." That can be no one else but Jesus. They are trying to hide from Jesus and his great wrath. Let's look a little closer at what this one judgment entails.

Isaiah 2:17-22 (NASB), ¹⁷ "The pride of man will be humbled and the loftiness of men will be abased; and the LORD alone will be exalted in that day, ¹⁸ But the idols will completely vanish. ¹⁹ Men will go into caves of the rocks and into holes of the ground before the terror of the LORD and the splendor of His majesty, when He arises to make the earth tremble. ²⁰ In that day men will cast away to the moles and the bats their idols of silver and their idols of gold, which they made for themselves to worship, ²¹ In order to go into the caverns of the rocks and the clefts of the cliffs before the terror of the LORD and the splendor of His majesty, when He arises to make the earth tremble. ²² Stop regarding man, whose breath of life is in his nostrils; for why should he be esteemed?

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

The first four of these events deal with the earth and the heavens. The last three deal with either His return (#5) or the results of His return (#6, #7)

Charateristics of this 6th Seal Judgment

- 1. Great earthquake
- 2. Sun black as sackcloth
- Moon becomes as blood
- 4. Stars of heaven fall onto the earth
- 5. Heavens separate like a scroll being rolled up
- 6. Every mountian and island moved out of their place
- 7. Men hide themselves in fear of the one sitting on the throne and His wrath.

1. Earth Quakes, Heaven Shakes: The seal opens with "a great earthquake", 8 a common indicator of God appearing, working out His purpose, 10 and/or striking out in displeasure and judgment. In terms of anger and punishment, God caused an earthquake to open the ground in the wilderness and swallow Korah and his fellow rebels. 11 In Psalm 18:7, David writes, "Then the earth shook and trembled; the foundations of the hills also

Page 44

⁸ Revelation 6:12 ⁹ Judges 5:4; Psalm 68:8; 77:18; 97:4; Habakkuk 3:10; Haggai 2:6-7 ¹⁰ Exodus 19:18; Matthew 27:51-54; 28:2; Acts 16:26

¹¹ Numbers 16:31-32

quaked and were shaken, because He was angry."¹² God prophesies in Isaiah 13:11, 13, "I will punish the world for its evil, and the wicked for their iniquity. . . . Therefore I will shake the heavens, and the earth will move out of her place, in the wrath of the Lord of hosts, and in the day of His fierce anger."

Certainly, the heavenly signs that occur in tandem with the great earthquake are astounding, especially if all of them should occur within a short span of time. Joel 2:30-31(above) describes the same event: "And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth: blood and fire and pillars of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the coming of the great and terrible day of the Lord." In the Olivet Prophecy, Jesus repeats the warning: "Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken." Luke's rendition adds a few details:

Luke 21:25-27, "And there will be signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars; and on the earth distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring; men's hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. ²⁷ Then they will see THE SON OF MAN COMING IN A CLOUD with power and great glory. ²⁸ But when these things begin to take place, straighten up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

- **2. The Sun Darkened:** John describes the darkness of the sun as "black as sackcloth of hair" (Rev. 6:12), comparing it to the black goat hair used to make sackcloth and tents in his day. This may depict a solar eclipse or possibly a massive dust storm caused by a volcanic explosion. The Ninth Plague covered Egypt with a "darkness which may even be felt," a "thick darkness" (Ex. 10:21-22), and perhaps God will repeat it on an even grander scale. Whatever the case, visibility will be severely limited, even during the daylight hours.
- **3. The Moon like Blood:** This chilling sight signals calamity and death, particularly in war, as in the color of the second horse (Rev.6:4). Sometimes lunar discoloration occurs naturally when unusual amounts of dust are suspended in the atmosphere, particularly after a volcanic eruption or an earthquake. Incidentally, many manuscripts read "full moon" rather than simply "moon."

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¹² Isaiah 5:25; Nahum 1:2-5

¹³ Matthew 24:29; Mark 13:24-25

- **4.** The Stars Fall: This seems most likely to predict a meteor shower of immense proportions, possibly containing larger-than-normal meteorites, thus increasing the effect and making it seem as if the stars themselves are falling.
- **5.** The Sky Recedes: Of the events of this verse this one is the most puzzling (Rev.6:14). The apostle compares the heavens to a scroll rolling up.

Revelation 19:11 "Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, ..."

Luke tells us (Luke 21:25-27), that when all these events happen then they will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds (Jesus returns).

6. The Mountains and Islands Move: As a result of the great convulsion of the earth, massive land transformations occur, shifting mountains on land and undersea. Obviously, such a violent shaking will create unprecedented destruction and loss of life. As the conclusion of the sixth seal's disturbances, this displacement of *terra firma* is the calamity that most terrifies earth's inhabitants. Suddenly, nothing is stable—not even the earth under their feet! Finally, God has their attention!

When Jesus comes back and sets his feet on the Mount of Olives, it will split in two. This will create an enormous valley. Since none of this has taken place yet, the prophecy points to a future time.

¹⁴The earthquake in Revelation could very well speak of the event described in Zechariah¹⁵ when the Mount of Olives splits in two. Jesus the Messiah will cause an earthquake at His second coming that will serve as part of the destruction of God's enemies. The outcome of this battle is never in doubt: Christ will be the victor, Israel's enemies will be destroyed, and the beast (Antichrist) and false prophet will be thrown into the lake of fire (Revelation 19:11-21).

This event also parallels the seventh Bowl Judgment of Revelation 16:18-21,

¹⁸ And there were flashes of lightning and sounds and peals of thunder; and there was a great earthquake, such as there had not been since man came to be upon the earth, so great an earthquake *was it, and* so mighty. ¹⁹ The great city was split into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. Babylon the great was remembered before God, to give her the cup of the wine of His fierce wrath. ²⁰ And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. ²¹ And huge hailstones, about one

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¹⁴ https://www.gotquestions.org/Zechariah-14-4-second-coming.html

¹⁵ Zechariah 14:4

hundred pounds each, *came down from heaven upon men; and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail, because its plague *was extremely severe.

7. Fall on Us!: The effect of these cosmic signs from God is to produce terror in earth's populace, triggering humanity's strong drive to preserve itself. Despite mountains moving, men and women of every origin, status, and creed—from king to slave—flee for the caves under the mountains in a vain attempt to hide themselves from God (Revelation 6:15). This is reminiscent of Isaiah 2:19, a prophecy of the Day of the Lord: "They shall go into the holes of the rocks, and into the caves of the earth, from the terror of the Lord and the glory of His majesty, when He arises to shake the earth mightily."

John sees these fearful people speaking to the mountains and rocks, commanding them to hide them from the sight of God the Father and from the "wrath of the Lamb" (verse 16). Their cry, "Fall on us!" is not a death wish or a suicidal means to avoid God's judgment but a hope that the mountains will cover and conceal them. "Fall on us and hide us" is typical Hebrew parallelism, as can be seen from an Old Testament parallel in which Israelites "shall say to the mountains, 'Cover us!' and to the hills, 'Fall on us!'" (Hosea 10:8).

It is somewhat startling that earth's sinners correctly identify these catastrophic events as evidences of God's wrath. We are used to them being termed "natural disasters" and in no way a result of God's intervention in humanity's affairs. Yet, this time, these cataclysmic signs are indeed "acts of God," and men know it. Such a succession of disturbances can be nothing other than divine anger.

"Who Is Able To Stand?": The sixth seal announces in unmistakable fashion that "the great day of the Lord is near; it is near and hastens quickly" (Zephaniah 1:14).

The prophet Joel describes it:

Joel 2:1-2, 10-11, ¹Blow the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in My holy mountain! Let all of the inhabitants of the land tremble; for the day of the Lord is coming, for it is at hand: ²A day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness, like the morning clouds spread over the mountains. . . . ¹⁰The earth quakes before them, the heavens tremble; the sun and moon grow dark, and the stars diminish their brightness. ¹¹The Lord gives voice before His army, for His camp is very great; for strong is the One who executes His word. For the day of the Lord is great and very terrible; who can endure it?

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation

This is the question: Who will survive it? Who will pass God's judgment? The answer seems to be, "No one." But there is hope, as Joel 2:12-14 instructs:

¹²"Now, therefore," says the Lord, "turn to Me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning." ¹³So rend your heart, and not your garments; return to the Lord your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness; and He relents from doing harm. ¹⁴Who knows if He will turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind Him . . .?

Jesus gives us His answer in the book of Luke:

Luke 21:36: "Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man."

We must be alert and prepared for what may come, and the most important part of our preparation is the strengthening of our relationships with the Father and the Son through prayer, study, meditation, and obedience to His instructions. This is the only means to escape God's wrath.



The Olivet discourse corresponding prophecy:

Matthew 24:29 "Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken."

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation



Silence in Heaven

Revelation 8:1 "And when He had opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour"

The "Silence" that follows the breaking of the seventh seal, is in anticipation for what is to follow in the sounding of the "Trumpets" and the pouring out of the "Bowl Judgments." This silence is through out all of Heaven, for the Twenty-Four Elders stop their harp playing; the angels hushed their voices, the Cherubim and Seraphim and all the host of Heaven are silent. So great was the silence that all of Heaven was awed by it. Why the period of half an hour? It is the period of silent preparation for the awful judgments that were to burst forth onto the earth under the "Trumpet" and "Bowl" judgments.

Since there are no judgments described with the opening of the seventh seal as with the previous six, and since the seven trumpet judgments follow immediately (8:1-6), it seems evident that the seventh seal consists of the coming seven trumpet judgments.



(Revelation 8:7-9:21;11:15-19)

The Judgment of Thirds



21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation



1/3 of the Trees burned up

Joel 2:30-32, "And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and terrible day of the Lord come."

Fulfillment:

Revelation 8:6-7 "And the seven angels which had the seven trumpets prepared themselves. The first angel sounded, and there followed Hail and Fire mingled with Blood, and they were cast upon the earth: and the **third** part of the trees was burnt up, and all green grass was burnt up."

Here is the literal fulfillment of the prophet Joel, (Joel 2:30-31) that the Lord says, He will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth before the "great and terrible day of the Lord comes." This is the time when the Lord will take vengeance on His enemies.

I believe that God will literally bring about a worldwide hailstorm or possibly volcanic hot fiery debris from the eruption of many volcanos around the world. This debris will be unlike any that man has encountered. These will be hailstones, or volcanic rocks of fire and will bombard the earth unmercifully destroying one third of the trees and cover the ground like freshly fallen snow burning up all. The loss of the green grass will cause a mammoth food shortage and many animals and livestock (not to mention people) will die of starvation. Trees act as a giant air filter for the world, continuously cleaning and recleaning the air. With one third less trees the air will barely be consumable.

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation

The Lord is going to repeat no less than 5 of the 9 plagues of Egypt. The plagues of Egypt were literal and so the trumpet and bowl judgments will be literal. This first trumpet judgment is the same as the seventh Egyptian plague (Exodus 9:22-26).



The difference in the plague of Egypt and the first trumpet plague is that the situation will be reversed. Then the children of Israel escaped the plague this time they are included in the plague. Another difference is that in Egypt both man and beast suffered with the vegetation, while only the trees and the green grass will suffer when the first trumpet sounds and that the hail and fire will be mingled with blood. In Egypt the hail ruined every herb in the field and broke every tree, but in the first trumpet plague only one-third of the trees will be burnt up.



The Second Trumpet The Burning Mountain





1/3 of the Sea turns to blood, 1/3 of the Creatures in the sea die and 1/3 of the Ships are destroyed.

Revelation 8:8-9 "And the second angel sounded, and as it were a great mountain burning with fire was cast into the sea: and the **third** part of the sea became blood; and the **third** part of the creatures which were in the sea, and had life, died; and the **third** part of the ships were destroyed."

In this passage John describes what looked like to him as what looked like a mountain burning with fire falling into the sea. John did not say it was a mountain or a volcano simply that it looked like a mountain. This would certainly fit into the category of an asteroid or meteor. Certainly a meteor the size of a mountain would cause the type of destruction John tells about. One-third of the creatures in the sea are killed causing one-third of the sea to turn to blood and destroying one-third of the ships that are at sea, possible by the resulting tidal wave or by the direct impact of the meteor.

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation



Some believe that this judgment will be a local judgment as opposed to a global one because only one-third of the fish, sea and shipping is affected. A meteor this size would cause more destruction had in hit and open body of water such as the Pacific or Atlantic Oceans. Some believe this meteor will strike the Mediterranean Sea, therefore limiting it's destruction to that area.



A portion of this judgment is a return to the plagues of ancient Egypt, look at Ex. 7:19-21. The differences being, that in the judgment of Egypt all the fish died in all the rivers, enough that it caused such a smell that the Egyptians could not drink the water. In this repeat judgment one-third of the fish die and one-third of the oceans are affected.



10

The Third Trumpet The Star called Wormwood



1/3 of the Rivers become bitter (Wormwood)

Revelation 8:10-11 "And the third angel sounded, and there fell a great star from heaven, burning as it were a lamp, and it fell upon the **third** part of the rivers, and upon the fountains of waters; And the name of the star is called Wormwood: and the **third** part of the waters became wormwood; and many men died of the waters, because they were made bitter."



The name of the star is called Wormwood, this is a unique phrase. There is no historical evidence that a star by this name existed in the ancient world. *Wormwood* is a medicinal herb of antiquity used to dispel worms from the intestines. It is very bitter. The fact that many men will die from the water is the natural result of fresh water made bitter. Wormwood is known for its bitterness; however, death is not normally associated with this herb but because they were made bitter indicates the reason for the death of many people. Dehydration is not the cause of death, it is drinking the water that kills people.

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation

The world's worst ever nuclear meltdown occurred in 1986 at Chernobyl in Ukraine, at that time one of the states of the Soviet Union. Incredibly, Chernobyl is the Russian word for wormwood! There are some who want to see this event as the fulfillment of this third Trumpet judgment. However this judgment happens well into the tribulation week and though similar, can not be a fulfillment of the prophecy but rather a prelude to what is coming.

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation



11

The Fourth Trumpet
The Sun, Moon and Stars



1/3 of the Sun, Moon and Stars are Stricken

Revelation 8:12, "Then the fourth angel sounded: And a **third** of the sun was struck, a **third** of the moon, and a **third** of the stars, so that a **third** of them were darkened. A **third** of the day did not shine, and likewise the night."

These signs are very similar to the events of the sixth seal judgment, and are spoken of by Jesus in Luke 21:25-28. "There shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars, and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity."

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation



12

The Fifth Trumpet The First Woe







A Plague of Locusts

(Rev. 9:1-12)



Revelation 9:1-12, "Then the fifth angel sounded: And I saw a star fallen from heaven to the earth. To him was given the key to the bottomless pit. 2 And he opened the bottomless pit, and smoke arose out of the pit like the smoke of a great furnace. So the sun and the air were darkened because of the smoke of the pit. 3 Then out of the smoke locusts came upon the earth. And to them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power. 4 They were commanded not to harm the grass of the earth, or any green thing, or any tree, but only those men who do not have the seal of God on their foreheads. 5 And they were not given authority to kill them, but to torment them for five months. Their torment was like the torment of a scorpion when it strikes a man. 6 In those days men will seek death and will not find it; they will desire to die, and death will flee from them. 7 The shape of the locusts was like horses prepared for battle. On their heads were crowns of something like gold, and their faces [were] like the faces of men. 8 They had hair like women's hair, and their teeth were like lions' teeth. 9 And they had breastplates like breastplates of iron, and the sound of their wings was like the sound of chariots with many horses running into battle. 10 They had tails like scorpions, and there were stings in their tails. Their power was to hurt men five months. 11 And they had as king over them the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in Hebrew is



21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation

Abaddon, but in Greek he has the name Apollyon. 12 One woe is past. Behold, still two more woes are coming after these things."





John said he saw a star fall from heaven to the earth. This is not a literal star because in the next chapter a star is spoken of as being a person. Also in the Old Testament angels were called "stars" (Job 38:7). This does not imply that the angel was a fallen angel or Satan. John simply meant that he saw the descent of this "star" or "angel" was so rapid that it appeared to be falling. And it was given to this angel a key to the bottomless pit.

The Bottomless Pit

The Bottomless Pit is not Hell or Hades, or the Lake of Fire. It is the place of confinement for the Demons who are wicked, unclean, vicious and have power to derange both mind and body. Matt. 12:22, 15:22, Luke 4:35, 8:26-36, 9:42. They are the "Familiar Spirits" of the Old Testament and the "Seducing Spirits" of which Paul warned Timothy about in I Timothy 4:1.



Similar to the eighth Egyptian plaque (Ex. 10:3-20) the angel opens the Bottomless Pit and a plague of locust is unleashed upon the earth. Unlike the locus of the ancient Egypt these locus are described as a combination of horse, man, woman, lion and the scorpion. The sound of their wings was like the sound of many chariots and horses running into battle. Unlike a normal locust that eats vegetation, these were forbidden to harm the grass or the trees or any green thing.

Their mission is to torment men for a period of five months. With a tail of a scorpion and the sting of a scorpion they with inflict great pain upon all those who do not carry God's seal in their foreheads. The pain will be so great and excruciating that men will seek death but will be unable to die. This plague will last for a period of five months. These events seem to be foretold by the prophet Joel in Joel 2:3-10.



13

The Sixth Trumpet

The Second Woe

1/3 of Mankind Killed







A Plague of Horsemen (Rev. 9:13-21)

Revelation 9:13-21, "Then the sixth angel sounded: And I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God, 14 saying to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, "Release the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates." ¹⁵ So the four angels, who had been prepared for the hour and day and month and year, were released to kill a third of mankind. ¹⁶ Now the number of the army of the horsemen was two hundred million; I heard the number of them. ¹⁷ And thus I saw the horses in the vision: those who sat on them had breastplates of fiery red, hyacinth blue, and sulfur yellow; and the heads of the horses were like the heads of lions; and out of their mouths came fire, smoke, and brimstone. ¹⁸ By these three plagues a third of mankind was killed -- by the fire and the smoke and the brimstone which came out of their mouths. ¹⁹ For their power is in their mouth and in their tails; for their tails are like serpents, having heads; and with them they do harm. ²⁰ But the rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands, that they should not worship demons, and idols of gold, silver, brass, stone, and wood, which can neither see nor hear nor walk. ²¹ And they did not repent of their murders or their sorceries or their sexual immorality or their thefts."



In ancient times the seat of Satan's power was in the area of the Euphrates River close to where Babylon is located. Now four of Satan's angels that were once bound, are now standing in that same spot at the Euphrates River. They are the commanders of an army numbering 200,000,000 horsemen in a supernatural army. We know this army is supernatural because of the shear number of the army it's self. Next the horses are part horse with the head of a lion. The tails of the creatures were like a serpent, and at the end of the tail was the head of a serpent, the sting of the tail would kill anyone it touched. The horse also had sulphurous smoke and fire coming out of its mouth. The riders of these creatures had "breastplates of fire, jacinth and brimstone."

These "Infernal Cavalrymen" are unleashed on the earth and kill one third of all mankind. Currently the estimated population of the world is around the 7 billion plus mark, and the estimated Christian population is conservatively put at 866,244,000. If you subtract the Christians that are taken out at the rapture it would still leave at least 6,133,756,000 people. This supernatural army will then kill an estimated 2,044,585,333 people, one third of the projected population of the earth at that time.

We are also told of the two fold reason for this destruction, to punish the idolatry and demon worship of men, and their sins of murder, sorcery, fornication, and theft. However from verse 20 and 21 there seems to be still some who were not killed, but still refuse to heed the message and turn from their sins. These will be left for later judgments.



Revelation 9:20-21 NASB), ²⁰ But the rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands, that they should not worship demons, and idols of gold, silver, brass, stone, and wood, which can neither see nor hear nor walk. ²¹ And they did not repent of their murders or their sorceries or their sexual immorality or their thefts."

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation

The passage we just reviewed, Revelation 9:20-21, lists the top seven sins of the Tribulation:

- 1. Rebellion against God ("they did not repent")
- 2. Worship of demons
- 3. Idolatry
- 4. Murders
- 5. Sorceries (drugs)
- 6. Sexual immorality
- 7. Thefts

It is interesting to compare this list with the one given by the apostle Paul in Colossians 3:5-6, which mentions sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. Paul then reminds his readers, because of these, the wrath of God is coming. All of these sins are currently being practiced in the world today.

We contend that even though these seven sins of the Tribulation will become rampant after the church has been raptured, already they are among the most dominant sins of our society.

REBELLION AGAINST GOD:

Rebellion is a way of life today, both nationally and individually. Government, media, and education policy is relentlessly removing every vestige of our nation's heritage that relates to God, prayer, the Bible, and Christian values.

WORSHIP OF DEMONS:

Twenty years ago Satan worship was scarcely heard of; today it is rampant. Satan worshipers are frequently on the evening news because of some satanic ritual that killed or maimed someone. Witchcraft, too, is becoming rampant, even respectable.

IDOLATRY:

Unredeemed man always resists worshiping God by faith but demands aids to worshipthings made with human hands, from pictures to images to relics and icons. No wonder Vladimir Lenin concluded that man is incurably religious.

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation

MURDERS:

One of the major social problems of our day is the rise in the murder rate. Many of the younger generation have no respect for human life; witness the increasing number of murders aged ten to eleven years old. The current violent crime rate-almost twenty-five thousand murders each year in America-is making this once Christian nation the murder capital of the world.

DRUGS:

From the Greek word translated sorceries in the King James Bible we get the word pharmacy. Unfettered drug use will be common during the Tribulation. But even today, drug and alcohol use is skyrocketing out of control.

SEXUAL IMMORALITY:

From the White House to the movie theater, it is accepted policy today to disregard sexual purity before marriage and sexual fidelity afterward. Many educators have all but abandoned teaching virtue; instead they have made a virtue out of homosexuality and lesbianism, which for centuries were called perversions and in the Bible are called an abomination and unnatural.

THEFTS:

Gated communities and security systems are becoming a way of life today. The main reason is because of the rise in theft. I can remember the day when I never locked my doors and could leave my keys in my car.

The book of Revelation tells us of God's "End-time" dealing with mankind in an effort to bring man back to God through repentance. With each sounding of each trumpet (Chapter 8-9) another judgment is unleashed upon the world in an effort to cause all men to repent. Finally in chapter 8 verse 18 one third of all mankind dies and we are told in verse 20 that they who are alive still did not repent of their sin.

What does it take for a man to see his own sin and to stop it? A lie is whispered into your thoughts, a choice is made and like Lucifer of old you suddenly choose yourself over God. In your thought life is where all sin begins, which brings us to a reality of truth. As it has been said,

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation

"Sow a thought, you reap ant act. Sow and act, you reap a habit. Sow a habit, you reap a character. Sow a character, you reap a destiny." ¹⁶

Colossians 3:5-6 (NASB) ⁵ Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry. ⁶ For it is because of these things that the wrath of God will come upon the sons of disobedience,"

 16 "The Quest for Character" by Chuck Swindoll, pg.48 $\,$

Quest for Character" by Chuck Swindoll, pg.48

Page 64



The Seventh Trumpet The Third Woe

(Covers the rest of the Week)



Revelation 11: 15-19, "Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!" 16 And the twenty-four elders who sat before God on their thrones fell on their faces and worshiped God, 17 saying: "We give You thanks, O Lord God Almighty, The One who is and who was and who is to come, Because You have taken Your great power and reigned. 18 The nations were angry, and Your wrath has come, And the time of the dead, that they should be judged, And that You should reward Your servants the prophets and the saints, And those who fear Your name, small and great, And should destroy those who destroy the earth." 19 Then the temple of God was opened in heaven, and the ark of His covenant was seen in His temple. And there were lightning's, noises, thundering, an earthquake, and great hail."

The seventh and final trumpet judgment seems to be describing events that will take place at the end of the tribulation period causing great anger and rebellion on the part of the unbelieving world. Only the results of the seventh trumpet are being described, the event to which it refers is called the "judgment of the nations" which comes at the end of the tribulation as Christ sets up His Millennial kingdom.

The seventh trumpet sounding includes all that happens down to chapter 20:3, including the seven bowl judgments. The voices in heaven proclaim "The kingdoms of this world has become the kingdom of our Lord, and of His Christ; and He shall reign for ever and forever." It is at this point in scripture that many believe we are reading of the end of the tribulation period. There are to different interpretations of this passage.

1. Forward Looking

The more common thought is that this announcement (11:15-19) is more anticipative because Christ will not take the kingdom for another 3 ½ years. The whole passage is looking forward to the resurrections and judgments of chapter 20. It is assumed that chapter 11 ends at the middle of the week because the imagery of chapter 12 signifies the mid-point of the tribulation.

2. End of the Tribulation

Because of the wording of these passages it is believed that we are reading of the events that signify the end of the tribulation. The reason is in the wording of the text, "The kingdoms of this world **have become** the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!" Notice the voices say "the kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord." This event does not happen until the Millennial rule of Christ, until then the kingdoms of this world are ruled by the antichrist.

Next the twenty-four elders in their praise to the Lord say "You have taken Your great power and reigned" again, a reference to the millennial reign of Christ. They are not talking future tense, but present tense. What they are alluding to is that Christ HAS TAKEN the kingdoms of this world and is now ruling. "The nations were angry, and Your wrath has come," This text is clearly speaking about the judgment of the nations at the beginning of the Millennium when Christ will judge the nations as to their treatment of His "kinsmen brethren" the Jews. They will be separated into the "sheep" and "goat" nations. The rest of the passage is speaking to this same time period.

There are no contradictions in scripture, if Rev.11:15-19 has taken us the end of the tribulation period, then what about chapters 12 thru 19. Chapters 6-11 the Apostle John tells us of the Seal and Trumpet judgments which mostly run throughout the tribulation week. He then comes back to the middle of the week, which is chapter 12 and reminds us of the age old battle between God and Satan which was the very first prophecy given back in Genesis.

Genesis 3:15, "And I will put enmity between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel."

The imagery given in chapter twelve (the woman, dragon, man-child) speaks to this ancient prophecy. Satan has tried to ruin God's plan throughout the ages, first in the Garden (Gen.3:4-6), second in the days of Noah (Gen.6:1-8), third the birth of Jesus Christ (Mt.2:13-18). The imagery of chapter twelve depicts this struggle.

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation

Chapter thirteen adds greater detail to the last 3 ½ yrs which is called "The Great Tribulation" and includes the two witnesses and the seven bowl judgments.

We are told when the first and second woe's end (9:12, 11:14), but not the "Third Woe" (or seventh trumpet judgment) which begins in chapter 11:15. We can therefore conclude that the "Bowl" judgments and all others down to chapter 20:3 are included in the third woe. Look at chapter 10:7, here we are given a hint as to the length of the seventh trumpet judgment. "The days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound." This would imply that the blast or blasts of the seventh trumpet shall be extended over the whole of the last half of the week.



Seven Bowl Judgments

(Revelation 16:1-21)

Also called "Vial" Judgments

The pouring out of the accumulated "Wrath of God"



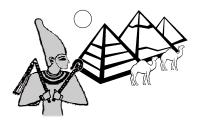
Revelation 15:1, "Then I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvelous: seven angels having the seven **last** plagues, for in them the wrath of God is complete."

There is a great deal of similarity in the judgments of the **trumpets** and **bowls**. In both, the **first** series deals with the earth (cf. 8:7 with 16:2), the **second** series deals with the sea (cf. 8:8-9 with 16:3), the **third** series deals with the rivers and fountains of water (cf. 8:10-11 with 16:4), the **fourth** series deals with the sun (cf. 8:12 with 16:8), the **fifth** series deals with darkness (cf. 8:12 with 16:10), the **sixth** series deals with the Euphrates (cf. 9:13-14 with 16:12), and the **seventh** series deals with lightning's, thunders, and earthquakes (cf. 11:19b with 16:17-21)

However, a careful study of these two sections will reveal some striking differences:

- 1. The first four Seal judgments deal with only one-fourth of the earth while the bowl judgments are universal in scope. (Rev.6:9)
- 2. The bowls are also much greater in intensity as well as in degree of coverage and effect.
- 3. They fall quickly as a liquid poured out of a bowl and in rapid succession—like trip hammer blows. It is best, therefore, to see the bowl judgments as different from the trumpet judgments.

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation



The Egyptian Plagues re-visited

We know that in the days of Moses, God brought His people out of the land of Egypt by means of ten plagues. These plagues are historical, factual and documented and some of them are going to be repeated. This then becomes our key to the literalness of this coming event in that many of the Bowl judgments have happened before and therefore are not figurative but literial.

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation



15

The First Bowl Judgment



Rev 16:1-2, "Then I heard a loud voice from the temple saying to the seven angels, "Go and pour out the bowls of the wrath of God on the earth." So the first went and poured out his bowl upon the earth, and a **foul and loathsome sore** came upon the men who had the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image."



This plague is a "Noisome and Grievous sore" that shall fall on all men who have taken the mark of the beast and who worship his image. This is a fulfillment of Rev. 14:9-11.



Egyptian Plague #6:

Exodus.9:9, "And it will become fine dust in all the land of Egypt, and it will cause boils that break out in sores on man and beast throughout all the land of Egypt."

This judgment is a repetition of the sixth plague God brought upon Egypt. The effect of it caused the Egyptians to harden their hearts against the Hebrews and so the scriptures tell us in Rev.16:9 & Rev.9:20-21 that men will also blaspheme God and refuse to repent. From this we can see that suffering alone does not cause repentance.

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation



16

The Second Bowl Judgment

(Blood on the Sea)





Revelation 16:3, "Then the second angel poured out his bowl on the sea, and it became blood as of a dead man; and every living creature in the sea died."

In Rev. 8:8-9 it tells us that 1/3 of the sea became blood and 1/3 of the creatures in the sea died and 1/3 of the ships were destroyed (judgment of thirds). However here we find that the whole of the sea is affected. This is not clear as to the oceans of the world or only the Sea of Galilee, or the Mediterranean Sea. It is unlikely that the creatures in the waters die due to their own blood or the blood of men but because the water became AS BLOOD of a dead man.

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation



The Third Bowl Judgment

(Blood on the Rivers)



Revelation 16:4-7, "Then the third angel poured out his bowl on the rivers and springs of water, and they became blood. 5 And I heard the angel of the waters saying: "You are righteous, O Lord, The One who is and who was and who is to be, Because You have judged these things. 6 For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, And You have given them blood to drink. For it is their just due." 7 And I heard another from the altar saying, "Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous are Your judgments."



Here nothing is said of the inhabitants except that they have shed the blood of the saints and the prophets and that God has given them blood to drink because they deserve it. Confirmation of God's righteous judgment can be heard from the alter in heaven, "true and righteous are Your judgments."



Egyptian Plague #1

Exodus 7:17, "Thus says the LORD: "By this you shall know that I am the LORD. Behold, I will strike the waters which are in the river with the rod that is in my hand, and they shall be turned to blood."

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation



The Fourth Bowl Judgment

(Great Heat)





Revelation 16:8-9, "Then the fourth angel poured out his bowl on the sun, and power was given to him to scorch men with fire. And men were scorched with great heat, and they blasphemed the name of God who has power over these plagues; and they did not repent* and give Him glory."

* Also Rev.9:20-21

Here the heat of the sun is intensified and so much so that men are scorched by it. This is the time spoken of by Malachi the prophet,

Prophecy:

Malachi 4:1-2, "For behold, the day is coming, Burning like an oven, And all the proud, yes, all who do wickedly will be stubble. And the day which is coming shall burn them up," Says the LORD of hosts, that will leave them neither root nor branch But to you who fear My name The Sun of Righteousness shall arise With healing in His wings; And you shall go out And grow fat like stall-fed calves."

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation



19

The Fifth Bowl Judgment

(Darkness)





Revelation 16:10-11, "Then the fifth angel poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and his kingdom became full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues because of the pain. They blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and did not repent of their deeds."

Since this plague immediately follows the "Scourging Heart" plagues it would seem as though God is having some mercy on man would find the great heat too much to bear on the boils that he has received. The effect of the darkness was to make men "gnaw their tongues in pain and for their sores." This tells us that at least the last few plagues overlap by some time or followed in such rapped order that they did not have time to recover from one before the next one came. This would suggest a time period of about a few months and not years. Another feature to notice is that their sufferings brought no repentance, but caused them to blaspheme God still future.

Prophecy:

Joel 2:1-2, ¹"This is that which was spoken of by the prophet Joel, "Blow 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 is coming, for it is at hand: ²A day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness, like the morning clouds spread over the mountains. A people come, great and strong, the like of whom has never been; Nor will there ever be any such after them, even for many successive generations."

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation

This is the same plague as the ninth plague in Egypt and like the Egyptians, they also will not repent.



Egyptian Plague #9:

Exodus 10:22, "So Moses stretched out his hand toward heaven, and there was thick darkness in all the land of Egypt three days. They did not see one another; nor did anyone rise from his place for three days. But all the children of Israel had light in their dwellings."

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation



20

The Sixth Bowl Judgment (The Euphrates River Dries Up)





Revelation 16:12, "Then the sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up, so that the way of the kings from the east might be prepared."

This literally means what it says, the great river Euphrates which runs through Iraq today will be dried up so that the armies of the Kings of the East can pass over on dry ground. There is only one guess where this army from the East is headed; they have an appointment in the valley of Armageddon.

Prophecy:

Isaiah 11:15-16, "The LORD will utterly destroy the tongue of the Sea of Egypt; With His mighty wind He will shake His fist over the River, And strike it in the seven streams, And make men cross over dry-shod. There will be a highway for the remnant of His people who will be left from Assyria, As it was for Israel In the day that he came up from the land of Egypt."

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation



21

The Seventh Bowl Judgment

(Great Hail)



Revelation 16:17-21, ¹⁷"Then the seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air, and a loud voice came out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, "It is done!" ¹⁸ And there were noises and thundering's and lightning's; and there was a great earthquake, such a mighty and great earthquake as had not occurred since men were on the earth. ¹⁹ Now the great city* was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. And great Babylon was remembered before God, to give her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of His wrath. ²⁰ Then every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. ²¹And great hail from heaven fell upon men, each hailstone about the weight of a talent.** Men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail, since that plague was exceedingly great."



- * That great city Jerusalem
- ** A talent = about 100lbs



Egyptian Plague #7:

Exodus 9:18, "Behold, tomorrow about this time I will cause very heavy hail to rain down, such as has not been in Egypt since its founding until now."

As we approch the end of the Tribulation week we come to the last of the judgments, the seventh Bowl. With this last judgment is accociated with it hail and a mighty earthquake greater then what has ever been seen in the history of the world. We are told that Jerusalem will be split into three parts and many of the cities of the world were destroyed, this tells us that the earthquake is world wide, even many Islands will disapear

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation

under the sea and mountian ranges will collapes. This earthquake will suddenly alter the earth's terrine unlike anything that has been seen since the flood of Noah.

This judgment seems to align its self with Christ second return when He actually puts His feet on the mount of Olives and causes a great earthquake.

Prophecy:

Zechariah 14:4-5, "And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, Which faces Jerusalem on the east. And the Mount of Olives shall be split in two, from east to west, making a very large valley; half of the mountain shall move toward the north and half of it toward the south. Then you shall flee through My mountain valley, For the mountain valley shall reach to Azal. Yes, you shall flee as you fled from the earthquake in the days of Uzziah King of Judah. Thus the LORD my God will come, and *all the saints with You.""

*Ref. Rev. 19:14

The speculation here is that the hail spoken about in all probably will not come unto Christ and His armies come to do battle with the antichrist (Rev.19:14) many believe that the armies that is spoken of is made up of the saints of all the ages, Old Testament, New Testament Bride, and Tribulation Saint. At that time the hailstones all weighing about one talent (about 100 lbs.), more then likely will be the missles used by the Armies of Heaven.

At this point it sould be mentioned that in the sounding of the seventh Trumpet judgment and with the pouring out of the seventh Bowl judgment, both are occuring at the same time. All the thundering, voices, great lightings and great earthquakes all are discriptions of the same event and they occur at the end of the Tribulation week. Therefore many of the judgments overlap each other and are occuring simultaneously yet culminating at the same time.

With the outpouring of the seventh Bowl Judgment it is heard from the throne of God the words "IT IS DONE." Remember just before Christ died on the cross He cried out "IT IS FINISHED," (Jn.19:30) that is the plan of salvation was finished with His death. This voice out of the throne of God may be announceing the end of the "wrath of God." When Christ finished His work on the cross there was a huge earthquake so is it here, the earthquake that follows will be the greatest the world has ever seen.

As the pouring out of the "Seventh Bowl Judgment" finishes the wrath of God, it is in harmony with the purpose of the Book of Revelation, to foretell what happens to the enemies of God. What happens to the followers of the antichrist can be summerized in what is called the "Seven Dooms."

What's Next?

We have just covered the Twenty-one Judgments of God. We have read the few judgments that speak of their fulfillment at the end of the tribulation and at a time when Jesus is sitting on his thrown. As a quick and short review these would be;

The **Sixth Seal** judgment, Rev. 6:12-17 - Physical Changes on the earth.



Revelation 6:12-17 "And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood; And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casts her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind. And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sits 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?

The **Seventh Trumpet** judgment, Rev. 11:15-19 - The Third Woe



Revelation 11: 15-19, "Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!" 16 And the twenty-four elders who sat before God on their thrones fell on their faces and worshiped God, 17 saying: "We give You thanks, O Lord God Almighty, The One who is and who was and who is to come, Because You have taken Your great power and reigned. 18 The nations were angry, and Your wrath has come, And the time of the dead, that they should be judged, And that You should reward Your servants the prophets and the saints, And those who fear Your name, small and great, And should destroy those who destroy the earth." 19 Then the temple of God was opened in heaven, and the ark of His covenant was seen in His temple. And there were lightning's, noises, thundering, an earthquake, and great hail."

The content of these scriptures actually tell us that Christ is already sitting on the thrown. So, the second coming of the Messiah has occurred at the time of this

seventh trumpet judgment being poured out. We are being given a glimpse of what is coming.

The **Seventh Bowl** Judgment, Revelation 16:17-21 – Great Hail



Revelation 16:17-21, ¹⁷"Then the seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air, and a loud voice came out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, "It is done!" ¹⁸ And there were noises and thunderings and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such a mighty and great earthquake as had not occurred since men were on the earth. ¹⁹ Now the great city* was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. And great Babylon was remembered before God, to give her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of His wrath. ²⁰ Then every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. ²¹And great hail from heaven fell upon men, each hailstone about the weight of a talent.** Men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail, since that plague was exceedingly great."

Characteristics these judgments have in common

- 1. Mountain's and Islands moved out of their places, fled away, not found (6th Seal & 7th Bowl judgments)
- 2. Great earthquake that ie: greatest earthquake that has ever happened to this earth. Jerusalem is divided into 3 parts and the Mount of Olives is split in two halves. (6th Seal & 7th Bowl judgment)
- 3. Sun becomes dark and Moon as blood, and stars of heaven fall to earth. (6th Seal)
- 4. Thundering's and Lightning's (7th Trumpet & 7th Bowl)
- 5. The Throne room of God, the Temple of heaven, Jesus on His throne, the kingdoms of this world becoming the kingdoms of the Lord, He who sits on the throne. (6th Seal & 7th Trumpet & 7th Bowl)

These three judgments are referencing and/or eye witness to the events surrounding the Second Coming of Jesus Christ as told to us beginning in Revelation 19:11-21. All the talk of the earthquakes are speaking of the same earthquake which is caused when Jesus gets off and stands of the Mount of Olives.

Luke 21:25-27, "And there will be signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars; and on the earth distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring; men's hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. ²⁷ Then they will see THE SON OF MAN COMING IN A CLOUD with power and great glory. ²⁸ But when these things begin to take place, straighten up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

The Son of Man coming in a cloud with great glory and with power and behind him are the armies of heaven (Rev.19:14). This army is none other than His bride, the Church for which He died.

So let's back up for a moment and look at this wedding.



The King of Kings Takes a Bride

he long awaited hope and dreams of two thousand years of the Church of Jesus Christ are now finally happening. The Son of God is about to fulfill His promise to the Church. She will make a glorious bride for she has made herself ready and been washed in the blood of the Lamb and declared righteous before God. For the first time in all of eternity past and present there is going to be a wedding, and all of heaven is looking forward to it. Jesus is about to take a bride.

Revelation 19:7-10 (NASB), ⁷ Let us rejoice and be glad and give the glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come and His bride has made herself ready." ⁸ It was given to her to clothe herself in fine linen, bright *and* clean; for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints. ⁹ Then he *said to me, "Write, 'Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb." And he *said to me, "These are true words of God." ¹⁰ Then I fell at his feet to worship him. But he *said to me, "Do not do that; I am a fellow servant of yours and your brethren who hold the testimony of Jesus; worship God. For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."



While Jesus was on earth He made His future bride a promise:

John 14:1-3 (KJV), "Let not your heart be troubled: you believe in God, believe also in me. ² In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there you may be also."

Jesus has been gone now approximately 2000 years preparing that place for His bride it is called the New Jerusalem. One of the angels who poured out one of the bowl judgments onto the earth came to John to show him the bride, the Lamb's wife. John was taken to a high mountain so that he could look down inside of the glorious city of gold shinning brighter than the sun.

Revelation 21:9-10 (NASB), 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 you the bride, the Lamb's wife. ¹⁰ And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God,"

Here is the church of Jesus, now called the Lamb's wife. She is home in that place Jesus said He would prepare just for her.





The size of the New Jerusalem is found in Revelation 21:15-16. In todays measuments it would measure 1500 miles wide by 1500 miles long and 1500 miles tall. Basically that would be the entire length of the eastern seaboad of the United States and as far in land as Texas, not to mention standing taller and reaching well outside of earth's atmosphere.

The Church of Jesus Christ, the Lamb's wife is alive and well and eternally blessed in her new home.

With the church now gone from the earth the stage is set for the prophet Daniel's final week prophecy of the seventy weeks (Daniel 9) to be fulfilled.

With the return of Jesus Christ to this earth and the setting up of His Kingdom, the world shall enter into a new AGE, the Kingdom Age. This will last for one thousand years and men will never know war ever again.



he Judgments of God do not last forever, actually only seven years and the worst of them are reserved for the last three and a half years. Jesus Christ comes back with His saint as He and the disciples and the prophets of old said He would. Jesus reigns on the earth for one thousand years.

The One Thousand Year Reign of Jesus

The Coming Peace and Prosperity of Zion

Zechariah 8:1-8 (NASB), Then the word of the LORD of hosts came, saying, ² "Thus says the LORD of hosts, 'I am exceedingly jealous for Zion, yes, with great wrath I am jealous for her.' ³ Thus says the LORD, 'I will return to Zion and will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem. Then Jerusalem will be called the City of Truth, and the mountain of the LORD of hosts will be called the Holy Mountain. ⁴ Thus says the LORD of hosts, 'Old men and old women will again sit in the streets of Jerusalem, each man with his staff in his hand because of age. 5 And the streets of the city will be filled with boys and girls playing in its streets.' Thus says the LORD of hosts, 'If it is too difficult in the sight of the remnant of this people in those days, will it also be too difficult in My sight?' declares the LORD of hosts. ⁷ Thus says the LORD of hosts, 'Behold, I am going to save My people from the land of the east and from the land of the west; 8 and I will bring them back and they will live in the midst of Jerusalem; and they shall be My people, and I will be their God in truth and righteousness.'

Here in Zechariah 8 we find the Lord reveals to the prophet that He will return to Zion (Second Coming of Christ). He then gives us a small glimpse as to its

character v4-5. The city of the King has another name then as He tells us "it shall be called the City of Truth. This city sits on the "Holy Mountain," because Jesus is there, it is Holy.

¹⁷The Millennium is a time of peace and harmony on the earth when Jesus and the saints will rule in righteousness. It is a time when all wrongs will be put right and all evils will be cleansed from the earth. Isaiah 65:20-25 contains a fuller description of the wonder and harmony that will characterize this time.

Isaiah 65:20-25 (NASB), ²⁰ "No longer will there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not live out his days; For the youth will die at the age of one hundred And the one who does not reach the age of one hundred Will be thought cursed. ²¹ "They will build houses and inhabit them; they will also plant vineyards and eat their fruit. ²² "They will not build and another inhabit, They will not plant and another eat; For as the lifetime of a tree, so will be the days of My people, And My chosen ones will wear out the work of their hands. ²³ "They will not labor in vain, or bear children for calamity; For they are the offspring of those blessed by the LORD, And their descendants with them.

Nobody will exploit another, nobody will steal or murder. The entire earth will be ruled by Christ, His bride and the martyrs (Revelation 20:4).

Revelation 20:4 (NASB), Then I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was given to them. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony of Jesus and because of the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received the mark on their forehead and on their hand; and they came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.

And their governance will be fair and exactly according to God's laws. It will be how God always intended the earth to be. A haven of peace and righteousness and joy. A creation in complete harmony with its Creator.

People will live much longer lives than they do now Isaiah 65:20 (see above). Even the animals will stop from killing one another for food and all of them will turn to eating grass and plants Isaiah 65:25 (see above).

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¹⁷ http://activechristianity.org/what-does-the-bible-say-about-the-millennium?

Will there be sin during the Millennium?

In spite of all of this the sinful nature that is inherent in all of mankind will not have changed. People will still be born with a flesh in which dwells no good thing. (Romans 7:18) The possibility for people to choose to sin will still be there.

But because Satan is bound during this time (Revelation 20:2) he will not be able to exert his outer influence on people. It will be much easier for people to choose to serve God and live a righteous life when they are surrounded by that same righteousness on all fronts. When there is equality and justice and mercy and patience and humility all around instead of war and famine and tyranny and injustice.

Those who nevertheless choose to live a sinful life and give in to their own pride and selfishness during this time will die early. (Isaiah 65:20) God's laws still apply and nobody will be able to get away with sinning unnoticed.

Jesus, the bride, and the martyrs

Jesus and His bride, along with the martyrs killed during the Great Tribulation will be ruling the earth. These are God's most trusted servants. Jesus, who was tried in all points yet without sin, has absolute authority over all sin and unrighteousness. He is one hundred percent united with God's will.

Those who are in the bride of Christ have also conquered sin in their lives. They too have authority to judge and rule in righteousness because they have let God teach them this righteousness throughout their time on earth. God has tested them and they have been purified by fire, in the same way as Jesus. Jesus and His bride will dry away the tears and bring joy and peace to people. But they have no tears of their own to dry away because they are already filled with God's goodness and joy.

The martyrs of the Great Tribulation have also been tested and will also be along in ruling during the Millennium for they have also given their lives to God, albeit in a different way than the bride. (Revelation 20:4-6) The glory and the responsibility of the bride of Christ will be much greater than that of the martyrs, because their sacrifice was also greater.

All of these will work together to ensure that the world grows in peace, harmony, righteousness, and godliness during the Millennium.

At the end of the Millennial reign of Christ all people dead and alive will be called up to the Great White Thrown Judgment of God, where the wicked (not the righteous) shall give an account of their lives and the works of their hands. While this is happening the earth and the heaves shall all be made new (Rev.21-22).

And so those who loved God shall forever be with God in His Glorious Future.



Part 3

The Glorious Future



A King shall Reign in Righteousness

For those who have trusted in Jesus as their Savior they will see a truly glorious future. In the twenty-first chapter of Revelation we are told of seven things God makes new. For those who come through the millennial reign of Jesus on the earth will be wondering "Can it ever be any better than this." Well it does … Welcome to the Glorious Future.

The Glorious Future

The Seven New Things

Revelation 21:1 "Now I saw a new^{[A]18} heaven and a new^[A] earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away^[B]. Also there was no more sea."

At the conclusion of the Great White Throne Judgment, the heavens and the earth pass away. After reconsidering the meaning of this phrase, "pass away" and the reference to "new" found in Rev. 21:1, I now believe the Heaven (earths atmosphere) and the earth will either be completely destroyed, or so "renovated" as to be considered new.

It has even been suggested that God will enlarge this earth many times over for all the saints of all time (past, present, future) shall be here, even God will change His address and His temple will be here on earth (Rev.21:3). This is a fulfillment of the words of Jesus:

Matthew 24:35 "Heaven and earth will pass away^[B], but My words will by no means pass away."

2 Peter 3:7, 10-13 "7 But the heavens and the earth which are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. ... 10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. 11 Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved,

¹⁸ [New - #G2537- meaning never used, recently made, fresh]. [B] [Pass Away - #G3928 – meaning to perish, cease to be]. The "G" indicates this Strong's definition number is according to the Greek. An "H" indicates the Hebrew concordance.

The Glorious Future

what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, 12 looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire,

and the elements will melt with fervent heat? 13 Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells." (Fulfilled in Rev.21-22)

It is directly after the Great White Throne Judgment that the old heaven and earth pass away (renovated by fire) and we enter a new age, the ...

Perfect Age

in the Dispensation of Righteousness

Revelation 21:3 (NASB), "And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is among men, and He will dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself will be among them,"

Revelation 21:4 (NASB), ⁴ and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be *any* death; there will no longer be *any* mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away."

Isaiah 11:6-9 (NASB), ⁶ "And the wolf will dwell with the lamb, and the leopard will lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little boy will lead them. ⁷ Also the cow and the bear will graze, their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox. ⁸ The nursing child will play by the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child will put his hand on the viper's den. ⁹ They will not hurt or destroy in all My holy mountain, For the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD As the waters cover the sea."

The Perfect Age comes after the Great White Throne Judgment of God. Heaven and Earth pass away, and all things become new. Revelation 21 gives us a list of seven things God makes new. This is the age of Dispensation of Righteousness and it will see the fullness of time. It ushers in the Age of the Ages (Ages to come

The Glorious Future

Eph.2:7) and Eternity to Come, called the Omega Age (Reference chart Ages, Dispensations and Covenants of Blood).

The Seven New Things

- 1. The New Heaven Rev. 21:1, "Now I saw a new heaven ..." In this verse John uses the word heaven as opposed to heavens. In the Greek this is "Ouranos" {oo-ran-os'}(Strongs #G3772). This is used in the singular form meaning the sky, air or heavenly things above us. The new heaven could very well be as it was in the beginning (Gen.1:1). God will restore the heaven back to its original condition before the fall of Lucifer and ultimately the sin of Adam.
- 2. The New Earth Rev. 21:1, "Now I saw... a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. This clearly limits this creative act to our own planet rather than the whole of heaven and the stars (2 Peter 3:7-13). This also is a fulfillment of Isaiah 66.

Isaiah 66:22, "For as the new heavens and the new earth which I will make shall remain before Me," says the LORD, "So shall your descendants and your name remain."

The "New Earth" shall be restored to its Edenic beauty and glory. There shall no longer be thorns and thistles, no parasites or destructive insects and any labor that you would do shall be a delight. No savage beasts to lie in ambush to destroy and devour. The curse (Gen.3:16-19) will be removed finally.

The meek shall inherit the earth, and from the North to the South and from the East to the West the earth shall blossom like the rose and be clothed with the glory of Paradise Restored.

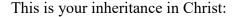
The Glorious Future

3. The New City

Revelation 21:2, "Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband"

A fulfillment of the words of Jesus:

John 14:1, "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. 2 "In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 3 "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.



Colossians 3:24, "knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ."



1 Peter 1:4, "to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,"

God Changes His Address

Ezekiel 37:27 (NASB), "My dwelling place also will be with them; and I will be their God, and they will be My people.



The Tabernacle of God has always been the place where God dwelt among His people. The first one was built by Moses in the desert wilderness. It was eventually replaced by a more permanent structure. By the end of the tribulation period, there will have been three Jewish Temples built and destroyed (Moses, Solomon, Herod).

At this point in time all sin has been done away with, there is no more unrighteousness, no pain, no sorrow, no tears, for Jesus Christ will wipe away every tear from every eye. There will be no more death, for the former things are passed away and behold all things have been made new.

The Glorious Future

It will be a time of eternal righteousness. It is at this time that God will move His heavenly Tabernacle from heaven to earth.

Revelation 21:3, "And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God."

What a glorious time this will be when the glory of heaven comes down to earth. There will be no difference between Jew or Gentile, for we all will be "His People" and He will dwell among us and be our God. At this point the New City, called the New Jerusalem, also comes down from heaven and comes to rest somewhere above the actual city of Jerusalem. This is the abode of the saints of God, and they will go back and forth from it to earth as they have need or the desire to do. This is a final fulfillment of Jacob's Dream.

Genesis 28:12, "Then he dreamed, and behold, a ladder was set up on the earth, and its top reached to heaven; and there the angels of God were ascending and descending on it.

With the Kingdom of God in perfect order and all restored to its original perfect condition, He who sits on the throne finally declares, "It is done!" He then identifies Himself as the Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End. He is Jesus Christ, the Finisher of all things.

Revelation 21:5-6, ⁵"Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And He said to me, "Write, for these words are true and faithful." ⁶And He said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts."

This is the third time we find in Scripture where Jesus Christ has said "It is done" or" finished".

John 19:30, "So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit."

Revelation 16:17-21, ¹⁷ Then the seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air, and a loud voice came out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, "It is done!"

Jesus had finished His redemptive work on the cross when He said "it is finished." Now God's will for the ages has been accomplished through His Son and again He says, "It is done." In these verses we find the fulfillment of another Scripture. Jesus is at the well of Jacob when a woman of Samaria comes to the well to get water. They have a short conversation. Then Jesus tells her:

John 4:13-14, Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, ¹⁴"but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life."



We find the fulfillment of that statement in Rev.21:6 (above). Jesus Himself will give the water of life freely as He has told the woman at the well so many years ago.

The New Jerusalem

Rev.21:9-27



Then John says one of the angels that had one of the seven bowls of judgment of the tribulation period came to him. He carried John away in the spirit to a high mountain overlooking that great city. John called the Holy Jerusalem. The angel told John he would show him the "Bride" (of Rev.19:7-9), the Lamb's wife.

This would certainly indicate that the church, the "Bride of Christ," has been in heaven and has already received her reward, her inheritance. John tells us that the city descended out of heaven and had the glory of God as her light. John goes on to describe three main characteristics of this magnificent city which are:

3.1 The brilliance of the city, verses 9-14

- Its light was bright from the glory of God and likened unto a jasper stone that is clear as crystal.
- Twelve gates it has, three on each of its four walls, with the names of the twelve tribes of Israel on them.
- Each wall had twelve foundations, and in them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. Each foundation layer was garnished with all types of precious stones.

The Glorious Future

- There was no sun for light, for the glory of God and the Lamb gave the city its light. (ref. John 1:4-5)
- The nations of the earth and the kings of the earth will bring their glory and honor into the city.

3.2 The size of the city, verses 15-17

• The angel measures the city and finds it to be 12,000 furlongs deep, wide and tall, a perfect cube. When converted into miles, we find the city is 1500 miles long by 1500 miles wide by 1500 miles tall. If it were laid alongside the United States, it would stretch from Maine to Florida and from the Eastern seaboard to six hundred miles west of the Mississippi River, covering more then half of the United States. It would then rise up 1500 miles out into space.

3.3 The beauty of the city, verses 18-21

- The walls themselves were of Jasper and the city of pure gold and as clear as glass.
- Each of the twelve gates are made of one solid pearl
- The streets were made of pure gold like transparent glass
- There is no temple in the city, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb were the temple of it.

4. The New Nations

Rev.21:24-27, ²⁴"And the nations of those who are saved shall walk in its light, and the kings of the earth bring their glory and honor into it. ²⁵Its gates shall not be shut at all by day (there shall be no night there). ²⁶And they shall bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it. ²⁷But there shall by no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life."

Notice in the above verses the references to the nations and the kings of the earth. Even when speaking of Lucifer there were mentions of kingdoms (in the dateless past), in the world today we still have kingdoms and kings. It is the order of things and it will continue for eternity. It is amazing that in God's great scheme of things there is always order never chaos.

The Glorious Future

Who will be these Kings be, who will rule over the Kingdom's in that time? I have a suggestion from a parable Jesus told.

The Parable of the Talents: Matthew 25:14-25;30; Luke 19:12-19:27

A quick look at the parable, Jesus likened the Kingdom of Heaven to a man who was of traveling, but before he goes he calls in three of his servants and gives each different amounts of money to invest for him while he was gone. While he was gone two of the servants invested the money and made handsome returns on the money, but the third servant took the little amount of money he was given and buried it until his master returned, then he would give it back safe and sound.

When the Master returned the two servants who had done what their Master had asked of them were given their reward for their obedience.

In the Gospel of Luke the disciple tells the parable, but with added detail "Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord." Luke is telling us that the Master (Jesus) gave them ruler ship over cities. This then would be that time that those who have done what God has laid before them will reap the reward for their faith in Him.

This will also be the time that this world and the Kingdom of Heaven will enter into the "Ages of Ages", in the "Ages to come" (Eph.2:7) known as the Omega Age, eternity future.

Ephesians 2:7 (NASB), "So that in the ages to come He might show the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus."

One of the key components of this time is that RIGHTEOUSNESS will reign. The Lord will take from our memories all remembrance of the old life, of old pain and sorrow and of loved one lost. There shall be no more sickness or death for we are eternal beings and we shall be perfect as He is perfect. The earth and the entire Kingdom of Heaven will be perfect and righteousness is all we will know. Consider this verse:

Isaiah 32:1, "Behold, a king will reign righteously And princes will rule justly."

If you have ever read the 1st and 2nd Book of Adam and Eve (a third party historical account of the events of Adam and Eve, author unknown) there is a

The Glorious Future

place in the story where the Word promises Adam that after seven thousand years he could back into the garden that he and Eve were kicked out of.

Is it possible that God will restore this earth to that condition again of perfect completeness as He created it in Genesis 1:1? It was Eden, the Garden of God (Ezekiel 28:13). I believe God will restore this earth to the state it was in before sin entered into the world. This time there will be no evil, no Satan and man will know what God had planned for him from the beginning, eternity with his maker in the fruitful place.

Paradise Restored

The River and the Tree of Life

5. The New River

Revelation 22:1 "And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb."

At one time the rivers of the earth may have been clear, and perhaps there may be still some mountaintop stream that is unpolluted, but for the most part the rivers of the earth are not clear but contain pollutants. One of the fastest growing industries in the world is now clear, healthy (hopefully) bottled water.

Here John tells us of a new river that flows from the Throne of God, its water as clear as crystal and life giving. It is called the "Water of Life" because of its life-giving properties. Earthly rivers have their source from a mountain spring, but the "River of Life" has its source from the "Throne of God."

This is the water that Jesus referred to when He encountered the Samarian woman at the well. Jesus told her what He tells us today, John 4: 10, ... "If you had asked Him He would have given you living water. ... v14, whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall never thirst; but the water that I will give him will become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life."

6. The New Tree of Life

The Glorious Future

Revelation 22:2 "In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, was the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits, each tree yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations."

The streets are to be lined with trees, as are also the banks of a wonderful river. These trees are not mere shade trees, but beautiful fruit trees, called the "Tree of Life," that bear twelve kinds of fruit, a different kind each month. The fruit of these trees is for "Overcomers Only."

Revelation 2:7 "... To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God."

The leaves of the trees are for the healing of the nations that shall occupy the new earth. Not that there will be any sickness, but to preserve them in health, as Adam would have been preserved in health if he had eaten of the Tree of Life in the Garden of Eden (Gen.3:22-24).

7. The New Throne

Revelation 22:3-5 "³And 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. ⁴ They shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads. There shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever."

• The Curse, Reference Genesis 3:17-19, 1000 yr. reign also referenced in Zech. 14:11

The Jewish people have always sought after a temple, a place to go to and worship God. By this time in history there will have been three temples (Solomon, Herold, and from the treaty with the antichrist). The thing about the New Jerusalem is that there is no temple. Why need a temple when the object of worship is present, for "The Lord God Almighty and the Lamb Are the Temple of it." In fact the whole city itself will be a temple.

The Glorious Future

HEAVEN (Temple which will be in the New Jerusalem) shall come down to EARTH, and this earth will become the **RESIDENCE OF GOD**. Therefore God will dwell among His people, which have always been His desire since Mt. Sini (Exodus 45:45-46)

John's Final Testimony and Warnings

Revelation 22:6-15 "⁶ Then he said to me, "These words are faithful and true." And the Lord God of the holy prophets sent His angel to show His servants the things which must shortly take place. ⁷ "Behold, I am coming quickly! Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book." ⁸ Now I, John, saw and heard these things. And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel who showed me these things. ⁹ Then he said to me, "See that you do not do that. For I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren the prophets, and of those who keep the words of this book. Worship God."

Verse seven reminds me of something the Lord said to John at the opening of the book:

Revelation 1:3 "Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is near."

Now, he is being told again

Revelation 22:7 "Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book."

This message is repeated in verse twelve.

Revelation 22:12 "I come quickly and my reward is with me to give to every man according to his works".

It seems the Lord wanted the message to be clear and understood, that He is coming quickly and His reward (the blessings of verse 1:3; 22:7) is with Him. We should live our lives knowing that His return is imminent. Once you see the prophecies begin to happen, then look up, for our redemption draws nigh. This means that once the prophecies begin, their fulfillment will come faster and more frequent until His return happens. He likened this scenario of events to a woman who is about to give birth. We know the event is near by her labor pains when

The Glorious Future

they become more intense and closer together. So it will be just before the return of the Messiah. This then is for us the number one sign we should be looking for.

Once you have heard and know the prophecies, you must decide what you shall do. Blessed are you if you keep God's Word and the sayings that are in this book. Time and time again throughout the Book, the reader is told, "Blessed are you who keep the words, or do the things which are written in the Book." Once a believer has accepted Christ as Savior, it is not enough to simply "do nothing." You will be known by your "works" and by what kind they are. Keeping the Word and doing the Word are words of action and of good works.

Revelation 22:8, "Now I, John, saw and heard these things. And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel who showed me these things."

For the second time in the Book of Revelation, John makes the same mistake: He falls down and worships the angel. In chapter 19:10 John worships the angel, but is quickly rebuked. Now John is rebuked again. The angel reminds him that he is also a fellow servant of the Lord and that he ought to worship God. A good word of advice for us all: we do not worship angels, or objects, or anything made with hands, or other people. As the angel told John "we ought to worship God."

In the book of Daniel the Lord tells Daniel:

Daniel 12:4, "But you, Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book until the time of the end; many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase."

The prophetic word was to be "shut up" or hidden from men until the "time of the end." This was not the end of the world (for the world will never end), but rather the "end of the age," a "time" (or the season) when "knowledge shall increase" and men shall "run to and fro" over the earth.

Revelation 22:10 "And he said to me, "Do not seal the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is at hand."

Unlike the angel told Daniel in Daniel 12:4 (above), to seal up the book until the time of the end; John is being told not to seal these words of prophecy of the book. "The time is at hand," its message is for the churches and today as we are now in the "Time of the End" according to Daniel.

The Glorious Future

In Rev.22:10 above the prophetic word is now to be revealed as Jesus told John "not to seal the words of the prophecy." This means that with study (2 Tim.2:15) the prophecies of this book can and will be revealed to you. We can know and understand the book of Revelation. It will be revealed to those who seek its knowledge and earnestly desire its correct interpretation.

In this verse the word "time" is the Greek word "kairos" meaning "season, opportunity, in due time." The Lord is telling us that NOW is the season for the revealing of Himself through this last book of the Bible. The opportunity to understand is upon us; the prophecies of this book are to be made known and not sealed up. Now is the time to make ourselves ready and strengthen ourselves for "such a time as this," the time of the "end of the age." God has revealed His plan through His Word and it will be revealed to those who earnestly seek it. Surely the time is at hand.

Revelation 22:11, "He who is unjust, let him be unjust still; he who is filthy, let him be filthy still; he who is righteous, let him be righteous still; he who is holy, let him be holy still."

After hearing the Word preached and the prophecies revealed, there will be those who still choose to reject Christ, mocking His message of love. Hence verse eleven states, "Let him be unjust still, he who is filthy, let him be filthy still." For the hardness of their hearts God will let them have their own way.

Psalms 81:12, "So I gave them over to their own stubborn heart, to walk in their own counsels."

"Let him who is righteous let him be righteous still," a statement to believers, "do not be weary in well doing" (Gal.6:9; 2 Thess.3:13). Keep the faith even through troublesome times. For those who are righteous and holy ... "be righteous and holy still."

In Rev.22:13 the speaker identifies himself as the same speaker from Rev.1:10 and 21:6. He declares:

Revelation 22:13 "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last."

Jesus Christ the Messiah (Yehovah Yeshua Ha Machiyach), the same Jesus that we found in the fourth word of the Bible. He is the "Alpha Tav," or in the English, "Alpha and Omega," the First and the Last. He identifies Himself as the

The Glorious Future

beginning of all things (creator) and the last, or ending of all things (judge). This is the constant theme that permeates Scripture.

Hebrews 12:2, "looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God."

In verse 14 Jesus reminds us that:

Revelation 22:14, "Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city."

Note, in many translations this phrase is rendered

"Blessed are they that wash their robes (in the blood of the Lamb), that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city."

One translation suggests that the way to the tree of life is through keeping His commandments, while the second rendition speaks towards the work of Jesus on the cross and faith in the blood of Christ shed for them. Our works are a product of our faith. Keeping His commandments is a sign of our love for Him, for Jesus Himself said, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments" Jn.14:15.

Revelation 22:16, "I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star."

Jesus is now talking to John in the present tense, telling him that these things are to be told to the Churches (His Bride). In Rev.1:19 Jesus tells John to write down the things he sees and the things that are, then the things which must be hereafter. Now, John is told that these things are to be testified of in the churches. It is a clear mandate to teach the book of Revelation to the church, the Bride of Christ so that we may not be caught unaware.

Revelation 22:17, "And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely."

The Glorious Future

A last passionate plea from a God that so loves the world, "the Spirit and the bride say, Come!" The Spirit of God is how man is drawn to God; the bride (church) proclaims the message. The message is, "Come," come to Christ, come to God for He loves you so much. For those who thirst and desire God, knowledge, faith, and salvation, let him come. Let him take of the water of life freely, for it is "the gift of God" (Jn.4:10; Ro.6:23; Eph 2:8)

As He did with His messages to the seven churches, Jesus gives one last reminder or warning.



Revelation 22:18-19, "For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book."

Exodus 32: 32-33 (NASB), ³²But now, if You will, forgive their sin—and if not, please blot me out from Your book which You have written!" ³³The LORD said to Moses, "Whoever has sinned against Me, I will blot him out of My book.

Psalm 69:28 (NASB), May they be blotted out of the book of life And may they not be recorded with the righteous.

Revelation 3:5 (NASB), ⁵ He who overcomes will thus be clothed in white garments; and I will not erase his name from the book of life, and I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.

The strongest warning given in Scripture is this one. Jesus Christ makes it perfectly clear that this Book is not to be added to or taken away from.

Proverbs 30:6 (NASB), "Do not add to His words, Or He will reprove you, and you will be proved a liar.

The Glorious Future

It is HIS message and not to be taken lightly. For those who do not heed the warning the message is clear. God will take away his part from the Book of Life, from the Holy City (New Jerusalem) and from the things that are written in the book. Let me remind you of Rev. 20:15:

Revelation 20:15, "And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire."

God can and will remove your name from the book of life. If God did not withhold His judgment on His own people (the Jews), then how can we expect God to excuse us, who have been given so much light? We have no excuse and can expect the same judgment. (Ex.32:32-33; Ps.69:28; Rev.3:5)

Revelation 22:20, He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming quickly." Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus! The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

In His closing remarks Jesus identifies Himself as "He who testifies to these things" and His message is "Surely I am coming quickly." When we see the signs begin to happen, then "look up for our redemption draws near" (Lu.21:28) and Jesus will come quickly and all His people said "Amen" meaning "so be it" (Jer.11:5). It is a message of hope for those who have trusted in Him and long for His return, and a message of doom for those who have rejected Him and His love. The saints of all the ages cry out, "Even so, come, Lord Jesus! This is the last and final message to His church that He is coming back again. What a wonderful message and hope that Yeshua Jesus, our Messiah, has left for us, that He is coming back and that there shall be peace at last.

The Benediction

Revelation 22:21, "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen."

John closes the book with a reminder to us of God's grace. From Genesis to Revelation the Bible is a picture of the grace of God. It started in the Garden of Eden and will last for eternity. God's love will never end.

John reminds us of grace and therefore of love, for love is the greatest thing. To know love is to know the Father, for He is love. The Holy Scriptures were given to reveal the Creator to His creation. In the Old Testament God revealed to man

The Glorious Future

His law through the covenants. In the New Testament God the Son came as a servant, to seal the New Covenant (Jer.31:31-34) on the cross and to show man how to live in it. The Creator came into the world, but the world knew Him not. The Book of Revelation is the revealing of God the Son, this time as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. The book reveals to man God's ultimate plan, the end of sin and a time of eternal righteousness.

Yes, as John reminds us, may we never forget God's grace. It is by His grace we are saved, by His grace He will carry us through and by His grace we will see Him one day.

John 3:16 (NASB), ¹⁶ "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.

Grace to You my friend, and remember who you are in Christ Jesus.

Number 6:24-26 (NASB)

"May the Lord (Jehovah) bless you and keep you May the Lord (Jehovah) make His face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you. May the Lord (Jehovah) lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace." 1 Thess. 4:16-18, "¹⁶For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. ¹⁸Therefore comfort one another with these words."



A Closing Comment

The Blessing of the Book of Revelation, I believe, is the knowledge of the plan of God, to reward those who serve Him and to punish those who reject His Son. That good will ultimately triumph over evil, that there is a greater purpose in the universe other than ourselves and that Jesus Christ is the head of it and in control of it. The book tells us that there is a day coming when we shall be like Him, for we will be transformed into His image and we shall see Him as He is. Then face to face we will know, for our hearts will declare what our eyes are seeing, that we have come home at last. WELCOME HOME!



Welcome Home



the 21 Judgments of The



Book of Revelation

And into



The Glorious Future



Rev. Steven Kennard

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The Olivet Discourse, The 21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation and the Glorious Future
By Rev. Steven G. Kennard

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Table of Contents

Part 1 The Olivet Discourse



The Olivet Discourse & the signs of His coming1

The Three Questions

What are the Signs

The Convergence of Signs

The Sign of Noah

The Returning of the Days of Noah and Lot

The Sign of the Times of Noah and Lot

Homosexuality, the Sin of Lot's Day

Part 2 The Judgments of God21

The 21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation

The Things which shall be Hereafter

Where is the Church?

The New Jerusalem

General Observations





SEAL JUDGMENTS



The Seven Seal Judgments (Revelation 6;1-17; 8:1)

The **First** Seal – The Rider on the White Horse (Antichrist)

- * The Two White Horses of Revelation
- * Daniel 8
- * The Rider who is called "Faithful and True"

The **Second** Seal – The Rider of the **Red Horse** (War)

The **Third** Seal – The Rider of the **Black Horse** (Famine)

The Forth Seal – The Rider of the Black Horse (Death & Hell)

The **Fifth** Seal – The Martyrs

The **Sixth** Seal – Physical Changes

The **Seventh** Seal – Silence in Heaven



TRUMPET JUDGMENTS



The First Trumpet – Hail – Fire - Blood

The **Second** Trumpet – The Burning Mountain

The **Third** Trumpet – The Star called Wormwood

The **Fourth** Trumpet – The Sun, Moon and Stars

The **Fifth** Trumpet – A Plague of Locusts

The **Sixth** Trumpet – The Second Woe, Plague of Horsemen

The **Seventh** Trumpet – **The Third Woe**



BOWL JUDGMENTS



The **First** Bowl Judgment – Foul & Loathsome Sores

The **Second** Bowl Judgment – **Blood on the Sea**

The **Third** Bowl Judgment – **Blood on the Rivers**

The **Fourth** Bowl Judgment – Great Heat

The **Fifth** Bowl Judgment – Darkness

The **Sixth** Bowl Judgment – Euphrates River Dries up

The **Seventh** Bowl Judgment – Great Hail

Part 3 The Glorious Future85



The King of Kings takes a Bride

The Glorious Future the Seven New Things

The New Heaven

The New Earth

The New City

The New Nations

The New River

The New Tree of Life

The New Throne

John's Final Testimony and Warnings96

The Benediction

A Closing Comment



The Olivet Discourse and The Signs of His Coming

The Olivet Discourse is a monumental passage for the Doctrine of Eschatology

The Olivet Discourse



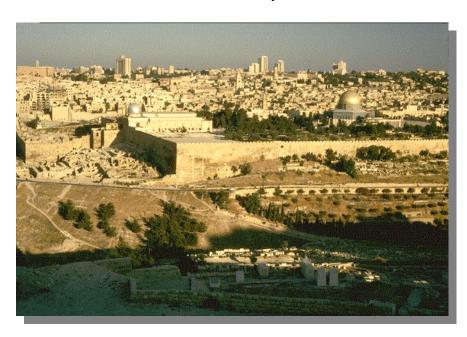
he completion of God's program for the Church is the Rapture, which is not found in the Olivet Discourse (John 14:1-4; 1 Corinthians 15:51-52; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18). Jesus' teaching here was for His people the Jews, as foretold by the prophet Daniel

Dan.9:24, "Seventy weeks have been decreed for your people and your holy city ..."

Jesus' teaching on the Mount of Olives was an answer to the disciple's questions as to when these things shall be and as to the sign of His coming.

The Olivet Discourse





View of the Temple Mount from the Mount of Olives, where Jesus gave His Olivet Discourse

Matthew 24:1-3 "¹Then Jesus went out and departed from the temple, and His disciples came up to show Him the buildings of the temple. ²And Jesus said to them, "Do you not see all these things? Assuredly, I say to you, not one stone shall be left here upon another, that shall not be thrown down." ³Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him

privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things be? And what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?"

he answers to these three questions from the disciples have become forever known as the Olivet Discourse. The response Jesus gave is an orderly and extended teaching on end-time events. This teaching is recorded in Matthew 24:1-25:46. Parallel passages are found in Mark 13:1-37 and Luke 21:5-36.

Because the discourse is more extensive in the book of Matthew I will focus in on the account given there.



The response Jesus gave to the disciples has a direct reference to Daniel 9:24-27 and the seventy-week prophecy.

Daniel 9:24, "Seventy weeks have been decreed for your people and your holy city, ..."

The Olivet discourse serves as a reinforcement of Daniels prophecy and since it is in itself prophecy, it finds its fulfillment in Revelation beginning in chapter six. It is important to note that the answer Jesus gives is not directed at the church, it is meant for Israel, just as the prophecy in Daniel is directed towards modern day Israel.

Three Questions

The disciples were eager to show Jesus more of the temple complex, when Jesus turned to them and said "Assuredly, I say to you, not one stone shall be left here upon another, that shall not be thrown down." The disciples must have been very surprised because the temple mount facility was a very large complex made of heavy stone some weighing over a ton. They left the temple area and headed to the Mount of Olives not far out of the Eastern gate.

The Olivet Discourse

The disciples all sat down on the grassy slope and asked Jesus three questions. The first question had to do with his comment of the temple being torn down to the point of not one stone would be left one another stone.

- 1. When will these things be? (speaking of the destruction of the temple)
- 2. What will be the sign of Your coming?
- 3. What will be the sign of the end of the age?

And with those three questions the stage is set for Jesus' Olivet Discourse.

1. "When will these things be?"

Beginning in verse four Jesus starts to answer the disciple's questions. The temple Jesus said would be torn down not leaving one stone on top of another was fulfilled in 70 A.D. Under the Roman General Titus, Roman troops destroyed Jerusalem and burnt the temple to get to its gold.

The troops that were used in the attack on Jerusalem were not necessarily Roman, but rather troops from the area who were forced into the Roman army. In this case the troops were mainly Muslim, however when they learned who was to be attacked (the Jews and Jerusalem) they were more than happy to help the Romans.

It should be noted that it wasn't Rome's intent to burn down the temple. General Titus had lost control over the Muslim troops. When he found out that they were in the temple murdering the priest and looting the temple he and his generals ran to the temple mount in an effort to stop its destruction. He was too late and found the fires blazing and the gold was melting and running down the walls and into the cracks. The temple was destroyed and the troops knocked over each stone as they scrapped the gold off of it, just as Jesus had foretold. The answer to the disciples question is found in history as 70 A.D.

From this point on what Jesus told them becomes for them and for us today as SIGNS of His second coming. These signs are signs of His return and not of the rapture of the church.

2. "What will be the sign of your coming?"

Matthew 24:4-8 (NASB), ⁴ And Jesus answered and said to them, "See to it that no one misleads you. ⁵ For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will mislead many. ⁶ You will be hearing of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not frightened, for those things must take place, but that is not yet the end. ⁷ For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and in various places there will be famines and earthquakes. ⁸ But all these things are merely the beginning of birth pains.

At one time or another in history these events have taken place. Within the church age we can certainly find these events. So why is Jesus referring to them now?

May I remind you of scripture, that the generation that sees Israel return to her ancient home land will not pass away till all these things come to pass.¹

Matthew 24:34 (NASB), Truly I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place.

The church will certainly at least see the "birth pains" begin ... the signs leading up to the tribulation have already begun.

Jesus' teaching to this point (v4-8) finds its fulfillment in Revelation 6 and the first four seal judgments (Four Horsemen), to which Jesus adds "All these are the beginning of sorrows," or the beginning of the birth pains. The birth pains are the precursor to His return. Matthew 24:9-14 finds it's fulfilled in the fifth seal judgment (The Martyrs).

Matthew 24:9-14 (NASB), ⁹ "Then they will deliver you to tribulation, and will kill you, and you will be hated by all nations because of My name. ¹⁰ At that time many will fall away and will betray one another and hate one another. ¹¹ Many false prophets will arise and will mislead many. ¹² Because lawlessness is increased, most people's love will grow cold. ¹³ But the one who endures to the end, he will be saved. ¹⁴ This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come.

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¹ https://gracethrufaith.com/end-times-prophecy/why-the-rebirth-of-israel-is-a-sign-of-the-end/

The Olivet Discourse

The Beginning of the Great Tribulation foretold

Matthew 24:15-16 (NASB), ¹⁵"Therefore when you see the ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand), ¹⁶ then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains.

In the above scripture, Jesus refers to Daniels prophecy of the abomination of desolation in the temple. Who is Jesus talking to here? Not the church, but to those who are in Jerusalem (the Jews). He tells them "To Flee to the mountains," to leave immediately, do not even go back into your houses to get anything. This would suggest that the enemy is near, even in your backyard, Jerusalem is being attacked and over run.

Zechariah 14:1-5 (NASB), Behold, a day is coming for the LORD when the spoil taken from you will be divided among you. ² For I will gather all the nations against Jerusalem to battle, and the city will be captured, the houses plundered, the women ravished and half of the city exiled, but the rest of the people will not be cut off from the city. ³ Then the LORD will go forth and fight against those nations, as when He fights on a day of battle. ⁴ In that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which is in front of Jerusalem on the east; and the Mount of Olives will be split in its middle from east to west by a very large valley, so that half of the mountain will move toward the north and the other half toward the south. ⁵ You will flee by the valley of My mountains, for the valley of the mountains will reach to Azel; yes, you will flee just as you fled before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah. Then the LORD, my God, will come, *and* all the holy ones with Him!

Luke 21:20-24 (NASB), ²⁰ "But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then recognize that her desolation is near. ²¹ Then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains, and those who are in the midst of the city must leave, and those who are in the country must not enter the city; ²² because these are days of vengeance, so that all things which are written will be fulfilled. ²³ Woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days; for there will be great distress upon

The Olivet Discourse

the land and wrath to this people; ²⁴ and they will fall by the edge of the sword, and will be led captive into all the nations; and Jerusalem will be trampled under foot by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled. (emphasis added)

There is a definite since of urgency in Jesus' teaching. We find the fulfillment of this in Revelation 12-13 it is called the "Middle of the Week." It is chapter 13 of Revelation that starts the "Great Tribulation" and its sign is when Satan defiles the Holy of Holies in the Jewish temple in Jerusalem, by putting himself in the place of God and demanding to be worshiped as God. This is the Abomination of Desolation spoken of in scripture. The term abomination is a religious term meaning that which causes disgust, or hatred, that which is unacceptable to God. The term desolation is referring to the physical destruction of the Jewish temple by the armies of the antichrist. At this point the end is now 1260 days to the Messiah Jesus returns. (1260 = 3.5yrs, 42 months).²

Additional Scripture:

- Revelation 11:2 (NASB), ² "... and they will tread underfoot the holy city for forty-two months.
- Revelation 12:6, (the woman Israel is protected for 1,260 days)
- Revelation 12:14, (the woman Israel protected for a time, times, and half a time)
- Revelation 13:5, antichrist exercise his authority for 42 months
- Daniel 7:25, saints are handed over to the antichrist or "a-time, times and half-a-time".
- Daniel 11:36, the king will do as he pleases ... and he will exalt and magnify himself
 ... speak monstrous things against God ... he will prosper until the indignation is
 finished. ...

3. What will be the sign of the End of the Age"

An "AGE," is defined as a change in the earth, such as what happened during the Lucifer flood. Scripture tells us that just before Jesus returns the last judgment, the seventh bowl judgment causes a change in the earth.

Revelation 16:17-20, ¹⁷ Then the seventh *angel* poured out his bowl upon the air, and a loud voice came out of the temple from the throne,

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² http://ichthys.com/mail-antichrist7or3and-a-half.htm

The Olivet Discourse

saying, "It is done." And there were flashes of lightning and sounds and peals of thunder; and there was a great earthquake, such as there had not been since man came to be upon the earth, so great an earthquake was it, and so mighty. The great city was split into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. Babylon the great was remembered before God, to give her the cup of the wine of His fierce wrath. And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. And huge hailstones, about one hundred pounds each, *came down from heaven upon men; and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail, because its plague *was extremely severe.

The return of Jesus Christ is marked by an earthquake that splits Jerusalem into three parts and the Mount of Olives splits in two parts, again a change in the earth, the end of one age and the beginning of another. Revelation 16:17-20 and Zechariah 14:4 could be speaking the same time frame and the same event. The return of Jesus to this earth as King of Kings.

Zechariah 14:4 (NASB), In that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which is in front of Jerusalem on the east; and the Mount of Olives will be split in its middle from east to west by a very large valley, so that half of the mountain will move toward the north and the other half toward the south.

Zechariah tells us that the day Jesus returns (on that day) Jesus will come down and stand on the Mount of Olives, "That day" is a reference to the "Day of the Lord," spoken of in scripture and the One who stands on the mountain is the Lord Himself.

Jesus continues His teaching on this theme through verse 26. He then describes His second coming and the Battle of Armageddon. This is fulfilled in Revelation 19 in sequence. The end of the age is the age of man's rule and governorship of the earth and the beginning of the rule of the Son of God. A Theocracy is a government ruled by a deity from which all authority is derived. The reign of Jesus Christ will last for one thousand years.

Revelation 20:4-6 (NASB), ⁴ Then I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was given to them. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony of Jesus and because of the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and

The Olivet Discourse

had not received the mark on their forehead and on their hand; and they came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. ⁵ The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were completed. This is the first resurrection. ⁶ Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years.

What are the SIGNS?

What is the number one prophetic sign? What sign more than any other, points to the soon return of Jesus Christ? While any number of signs are present, I believe one stands out above all others. In fact, Jesus Himself told us what it is.

Matthew 24:33,"When you see all these things, you can know my return is near. I'm right at the door."

He also said, "When all these things begin to happen, look up for your salvation is near!" (Luke 21:28). This means the number one sign of Jesus' return is all the signs appearing together.

Both Jesus and the prophets told us what signs to look for, and the appearance of just one is reason enough to take notice. This convergence of the signs is the number one prophetic sign - the number one reason to believe Jesus is right at the door.

The Convergence of Signs

(Biggest Sign)

The Bible tells us a number of events will take place just prior to the return of Jesus. Generations of Christians lived and died without witnessing one of these signs. Yet our generation is witness to all of them.

Signs we see happening today:

³ http://www.prophecynewswatch.com/article.cfm?recent_news_id=1164

• Arrival of the Exponential Curve – The acceleration of the signs. Jesus said a variety of global signs will come before His return and the end of the age. These signs will be spiritual, natural, societal, and political in nature. And He said they would appear in a distinct way – acceleration equals frequency like "birth pains" (Matthew 24:3-8).

This means the frequency and intensity of these signs will increase as we near His return. Our generation has seen the exponential increase in war and famine just as Jesus said. In the 20th Century alone, more people died from war and famine than lived on the earth when Jesus spoke these words.

• <u>Israel's Exceedingly Great Army</u> - Ezekiel said, in the end times, Israel will field "an exceedingly great army" (Ezekiel 37:10). Zechariah said Israel will be like a fire among sheaves of grain, burning up the neighboring nations (Zechariah 12:6) and even the weakest Israeli soldier will be like David (Zechariah 12:8).

Since 1948, Israel has fought no less than four conventional wars against its neighbors. Despite being outnumbered more than 50 to 1, Israel has achieved overwhelming victory every time.

- <u>Israel Back in the Land</u> God promised to bring the Jewish people back into the land of Israel before He returned (Jeremiah 23:7-8). He said He would call them from "among the nations" (Ezekiel 39:28), from "the farthest corners of the earth" (Isaiah 11:12), and from "north, south, east, and west" (Psalm 107:3). He promised to welcome them home from the lands where they were scattered (Ezekiel 20:34). When they did, He promised to return and establish His everlasting kingdom (Isaiah 11:11-12).
- The Jews Back in Jerusalem Jesus said armies would surround Jerusalem, destroy the city, and enslaves its citizens. This happened in A.D. 70 when the Roman legions did exactly that. Jesus then said people other than the Jews would control Jerusalem for a time, then the Jewish people would once again control Jerusalem. When they did, Jesus promised to return (Luke 21:24-28). Since 1967, the Jewish people have been in possession of Jerusalem and will be celebrating their 50 year reunification this June.

• An Increase in Travel and Knowledge - Six hundred years before Jesus, an angel gave Daniel a special message.

Daniel 12:4: (NASB), "But as for you, Daniel, conceal these words and seal up the book until the end of time; many will go back and forth, and knowledge will increase."

For centuries of human history, dramatic gains in travel and knowledge did NOT take place. Yet the last two hundred years we have seen explosions in the speed and frequency of travel as well as the amount and availability of knowledge.

From the time of Adam to Abraham knowledge doubled, a span of some 2000 years. From Abraham to Jesus knowledge doubled again, another span of some 2000 years. From the time of Jesus until 1750 knowledge doubled again, from 1750 to 1900 knowledge doubled again and now it seems that there has been an explosion of knowledge in the world so much so that every ten years it would take over a mile of bookshelves to contain the material written of the knowledge gained.

• The Gospel Preached Throughout the World - When asked about the end of the age and the signs of His coming, Jesus said to look for a very specific sign. He said the gospel will be preached throughout the entire world. Every nation will hear it. And then? And then, the end will come (Matthew 24:14). For centuries after the crucifixion, the gospel was confined to a small area surrounding the Mediterranean Sea.

In the past two centuries, Christians have brought the gospel to every nation in the world. Today, missionaries are in every nation. The Bible is translated in hundreds of languages, and the message of Jesus is sent around the world by radio, TV, satellite, and the Internet. Our generation is literally on the verge of spreading the gospel to every last person on earth.

• <u>Denial of the Signs</u> - Almost two thousand years ago, Peter issued a warning. He said in the last days people will mock the idea of Jesus returning. They will make fun of those who believe in the Second Coming and say exactly what we hear today - things like, "I thought Jesus was coming back?

The Olivet Discourse

What happened to His promise? Generation after generation has said He's coming. Yet, since the beginning of the world, everything has remained the same!" (2 Peter 3:3-4).

Prophetic Signs to come (Great Tribulation)

• The Rise of Global Government - The Bible says a single government will rule the world politically (Revelation 13:7), religiously (Revelation 13:8), and economically (Revelation 13:16-17) in the last days.

It will rule over "all people, tribes, and languages" on the face of the earth (Revelation 13:7). Its authority will be so complete no one will be able to buy or sell anything without its permission (Revelation 13:16-17). For centuries, a true global government was impossible. Today, world leaders openly discuss it.

• Rise of the Gog of Magog Alliance - The Bible says a military alliance that includes Russia, Iran, Turkey, and a number of Muslim nations will attack Israel "in the latter days" (Ezekiel 38:8) when God brings His people home from among the enemy nations (Ezekiel 39:27). Today, we see those very nations coming together - an alliance that has never existed in world history.

The last sign:

• <u>Israel Surrounded by Enemies</u> - The Bible says that the enemies of Israel will surround them in the end times. Their goal is to totally destroy Israel as a nation and take the land for themselves. God tells His people to flee into the wilderness mountains.

Luke 21:20-24 (NASB), ²⁰ "But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then recognize that her desolation is near. ²¹ Then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains, and those who are in the midst of the city must leave, and those who are in the country must not enter the city; ²² because these are days of vengeance, so that all things which are written will be fulfilled. ²³ Woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days; for there will be great distress upon the land and wrath to this people; ²⁴ and they will fall by the edge of the sword, and will be led captive into all the nations; and Jerusalem will

be trampled under foot by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.

Matthew 24:17 (NASB), "Whoever is on the housetop must not go down to get the things out that are in his house."

Mark 13:14-20 (NASB), "¹⁴ "But when you see the ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION standing where it should not be (let the reader understand), then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains. ¹⁵ The one who is on the housetop must not go down, or go in to get anything out of his house; ¹⁶ and the one who is in the field must not turn back to get his coat. ¹⁷ But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! ¹⁸ But pray that it may not happen in the winter. ¹⁹ For those days will be a *time of* tribulation such as has not occurred since the beginning of the creation which God created until now, and never will. ²⁰ Unless the Lord had shortened *those* days, no life would have been saved; but for the sake of the elect, whom He chose, He shortened the days.

v14 Jesus gives the reader the time frame of this destruction of Jerusalem.

Psalm 83:4 (NASB), "They have said, "Come, and let us wipe them out as a nation, That the name of Israel be remembered no more."

Psalm 83:12 (NASB), "Who said, "Let us possess for ourselves The pastures of God."

During the tribulation Israel's Muslim neighbors claim the land of Israel for themselves, and they have no regard for the God of Israel.

Despite the naysayers, Jesus is coming, and the signs indicate that ours is the generation that will witness His return.

Matthew 24:32-34 (NASB), ³² "Now learn the parable from the fig tree: when its branch has already become tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near; ³³ so, you too, when you see all these things, recognize that He is near, *right* at the door. ³⁴ Truly I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place.

The Olivet Discourse

The convergence of all these signs confirms what Jesus Himself said, to look for these signs, and when you see them know His return is near. He's right at the door. In fact, He said the generation witnessing these signs will not pass away before He returns.

These signs were present yesterday, and these same signs will be present right up until the rapture. But keep this in mind - for 1,878 years of Christianity (A.D. 70 - A.D. 1948), none of these signs were present. Today, all of them are.

Too many people are asleep when it comes to the signs of the Second Coming. Sadly, many of these people are Christians. If you're one of them, it's time to wake up. Jesus warned us not to be caught sleeping when He returns (Mark 13:36). He commanded us to watch. Today, the signs of His return are all around us. Jesus is coming, and it can't be said enough... Now is the season of His return.

Additional Signs in our lifetime:⁴

- Israel recapture of old Jerusalem (1967)
- The rise of Islamic nations as a major power
- The rise of China as a world class power
- The rise of the EU (European Union) & Rebirth of the Ottoman Empire
- The simultaneous increase in frequency and magnitude of wars, earthquakes, plagues, famines, super storms, global warming and global weather pattern changes.
- Religious deception (Jesus warns the church not to be deceived Mt.24:24)
- Let us look at some of these peculiar signs. Christ declared that the Great Tribulation would involve dangers to life unlike anything ever known. So horrendous, in fact, would the weapons be, that "except those days be shortened, there should no flesh be saved." That statement seemed outrageous for more than 1900 years.

There were no weapons capable of wiping out all life on this planet. None, that is until our generation came along. Not only the nuclear arsenals which are now common knowledge fall into that category, but other secret weapons equally deadly have been developed. A major deterrent to the use of these star wars weapons has been the fear that a disaster of cosmic proportions could be unleashed which would make any kind of life on this planet possible.

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⁴ http://www.discoverrevelation.com/23.html

The Olivet Discourse

• The sign of Noah

The great sins of the tribulation, all of which man will not repent of (Rev. 9:20-21). They are alive and in the world we live in today.

- 1. Devil worship (witchcraft and the occult)
- 2. Worship of Idols of gold, silver, brass, stone and of wood (Idolatry)
- 3. Murder
- 4. Sorcery
- 5. Fornication
- 6. Theft

The Sign of Noah

The sign given in Matthew 24 of His coming:

Matthew 24:37-41 (NASB), ³⁷ For the coming of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah. ³⁸ For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and they did not understand until the flood came and took them all away; so will the coming of the Son of Man be. ⁴⁰ Then there will be two men in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴¹ Two women *will be* grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one will be left.

Genesis 6:11-12 (NASB), ¹¹ "Now the earth was corrupt in the sight of God, and the earth was filled with violence. ¹² God looked on the earth, and behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way upon the earth."

When you look at the state of our nation, men "marrying" men, babies being killed in their own mother's womb (Proverbs 6:16-19), sexual immorality, violence, and outright lawlessness against God's commands, what do we expect? Do we expect the Lord to sit idly by as men knowingly and willfully break his Law? (The Ten Commandments – Exodus 20)

This world as well as America has dared the justice of God time and time again. America was once a nation that used to be aflame with righteousness and the fear of God, has now turned into a nation that has, for the most part, turned its back on God.

The Returning of the Days of Noah and Lot

In the Olivet Discourse of Matthew 24 Jesus spoke of conditions that existed in Noah's day and how those same conditions would be in the world just before He returns. Jesus said that they ate, they drank and they married up until the very day Noah entered the ark.

Likewise as it was also in the days of Lot; they ate, they drank, they bought and sold, they planted and built. However, on the same day Lot and his family went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all (Luke 17:26-30).

In both of these cases the people were so sinful that God destroyed them from the face of the earth. In Noah's day it was the whole world that sinned; in Lot's day it was the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah.

It is instructive that Jesus chose to use the moral climate in which these ancient people lived as a warning about the lifestyles of men and women just before His return. We are already living in the moral climate of the days of Noah and of Lot. And so we know we are living in the Time of the End, the Last Days just before Jesus comes back to put an end to all of man's wickedness.

The Sign of the Times of Noah and Lot⁵

Even a casual reading of Gen. 6:1-9 shows that the people of Noah's day were sexually obsessed. In this case the sons of God were cohabiting with the "daughters of men" and "producing giants - mighty men, men of renown." Renown no doubt for their wickedness. The most important lesson we can learn from this passage is that their wicked lifestyle caused God to unleash the flood. Their lifestyle included three specific sins.

- Sexual perversion.
- The thoughts of their hearts were evil continually.
- Routine living with disregard to the consequences of impending judgment.

Page 16

⁵ http://www.discoverrevelation.com/23.html

These people were "eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage." Everything seemed normal to them while they willingly mocked and laughed at and ignored the preaching of Noah for 120 years. They violated the known law of God as if there were no accounting to come.

Present world conditions could very well be as bad as or worse than those that existed in the days before the Flood and in the days of Lot. The most common sins of our day are sexual, from fornication to adultery to homosexuality. That is evidenced worldwide by the 50 million or more abortions perpetrated annually and the rampant sexually transmitted diseases, for STD's to AIDS - all diseases that, for the most part, do not afflict those who follow the sexual laws of God. In the past generation, due to the increase in pornography via magazines, movies, TV and videos and the internet, there has been an acceleration of sexual promiscuity and an ever lowering of the age of first sexual activity.

Pornography has caused the minds of both men and women to be obsessed with sex, or as the Bible predicted, "every imagination of the thoughts of his (man's) heart was only evil continually" (Gen. 6:5) Hollywood has polluted the most powerful communications vehicle the human mind ever invented, film, which has the ability to affect the mind, emotions, and will.

Homosexuality, the Sin of Lot's Day

The sexual sins of Sodom and Gomorrah in Lot's time were so gross that men were driven with a passion not only for their own sex, but even became disrespectful to the angels who visited Lot. It is almost unbelievable in our day how those who reject the sexual laws of God have succeeded in making one of the vilest of sexual sins, sodomy, respectable and even acceptable.

A few years ago Hollywood stars kept their personal sex lives in the closet. Today homosexuals are "out" and demanding their "rights". What rights do they demand? The right to marry, the right to cohabit with the same sex, the right to teach school, where they could influence young minds, the right to adopt children, the right to serve in the military - and the list goes on.

Today you can pick up most any newspaper and you will see the violence that fills the earth today. Our nation's morality has sunk to the place where Ruth Graham once said, "If God doesn't judge America, He will need to apologize to Sodom and Gomorrah!"

⁶ http://sonsoflibertymedia.com/if-god-doesnt-punish-america-hell-have-to-apologize-to-sodom-and-gomorrah/

The Olivet Discourse

When we see these signs then know that the return of Jesus Christ to this world as its King is close at hand, actually seven years to the day of the signing of the peace treaty (covenant) of Israel and the man of perdition (antichrist). Do not think for one minute that man's sin is overlooked because of God's love for man, or by His Grace. Judgment is coming

The Missing Church

For those who trust in God they have the assurance that they should not experience the wrath of God. The tribulation period is a time to turn men's heart towards God, to cause men to repent of their sins. Therefore if the church of Jesus Christ, otherwise referred to as His bride has already turn to Jesus in repentance, then it does no good and makes no since that they also shall be persecuted along with the unbelieving world.

As it is written, soon there shall be the blast of the trumpet and the dead in Christ shall rise up out of their graves and then those who are alive she join them and we, the church of Jesus Christ shall meet Him in the clouds.

Jesus the Son of God has come for His bride.

Revelation 4:1 (NASB), "After these things I looked, and behold, a door *standing* open in heaven, and the first voice which I had heard, like *the sound* of a trumpet speaking with me, said, "Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after these things."

"The Things which shall be Hereafter" Rev. 1:19

n Revelation 1:19 Jesus revealed to John the Key to understanding the book He was about to show him. The book can be divided up into three divisions, "The things you have seen" (chap. 1), "The "things which are" (Chap. 2-3), "The things which shall be hereafter" (Chap. 4-22). From this point forward the study focuses on the third division of the things which shall be hereafter.

There is a chronological sequence of the events that shall come this earth just prior to the return of Jesus Christ. While most of the judgments (trumpet and bowl judgments) have a starting and an ending point, however there are a few judgments that start and run throughout the rest of the tribulation period. There is one seal judgment (6th) that is mentioned with the rest of the seal judgments, but actually happens (I believe) at the end of the tribulation when Jesus is sitting on the thrown, I will explain this when we get to that particular judgment.

Where is the church?

There is only one word that so beautifully answers this question.







The completion of God's program for the Church is the Rapture

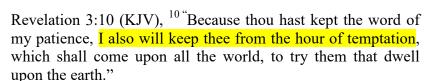


he New Testament Church was promised that they were not appointed unto wrath, and why should they? The wrath of God is meant to turn men's hearts towards God through repentance. The Church of Jesus Christ already believes, why pour out your wrath onto your bride

just before the wedding? Consider the following verses:

1 Thessalonians 5:9 (NASB), "For God has not destined us for wrath, but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus

Christ,"





The open door of Revelation 4:1 is considered the time of the event, the time that the literal church of Jesus Christ is taken out of this world. The next mention of the church is found in the words of the multitudes before the throne of God, Look at the words that are spoken. Only the church of Jesus Christ can say these things. Consider these verses:

Revelation 5:8-12 (KJV), 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 odors, which are the prayers of saints. ⁹ And they sung a new song, saying, You are worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for you were slain, and have redeemed us to God by your blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and

nation; ¹⁰ And has made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth. ¹¹ And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands; ¹² Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honor, and glory, and blessing.

The voices that cry out in the above verses are none other than the church. Together with those who have preceded them in death. They stand before the throne of God and give praises to Jesus the Lamb of God that was slain for them. They are the only ones who can claim this, truly Jesus died for their sins.

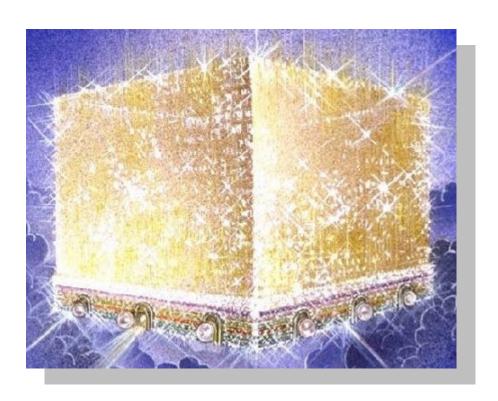
The church (the Bride of Christ) is not mentioned again until chapters 19:7-9 at the Marriage of the Lamb (Jesus takes a Bride). In chapter 21:9. The church can be found in the Holy city that Jesus went away to prepare for them, called the New Jerusalem. It is not heaven for it comes down out of heaven and will hover over the earthly city of Jerusalem.

The New Jerusalem

(The Holy City)

Revelation 21:9, ⁹"Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and spoke with me, saying, "Come here, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb." ¹⁰ And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, ¹¹ having the glory of God. Her brilliance was like a very costly stone, as a stone of crystal-clear jasper. ¹² It had a great and high wall, with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels; and names were written on them, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the sons of Israel. ¹³ There were three gates on the east and three gates on the north and three gates on the south and three gates on the west. ¹⁴ And the wall of the city had twelve foundation stones, and on them were the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb."

Part 1
The Olivet Discourse



The Judgments of God



1. Seal Judgments
Revelation 6:1-17; 8:1

2. Trumpet Judgments
Revelation 8:7-9:21;11:15-19





3. Bowl Judgments
Revelation 16:1-21



21 Judgments of The Book of Revelation

Revelation 6-19

Chapters 6-19 Also known ...

To Daniel, as the "70th week" (Daniel 9:27)

To Jeremiah, as the "Time of Jacob's Trouble" (Jeremiah 30:7)

To Joel, as the "Great and Terrible Day of the Lord" (Joel 2:31)

To Jesus, as "Great Tribulation" (Matthew 24:21)

To Paul, as the "day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God" (Romans 2:5)



21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation

SEAL JUDGMENTS – Rev.6:2-8, 8:1



- 1. 1. Rev.6:2, White Horse Antichrist
- 2. 2. Rev.6:4, Red Horse **W**ar
- 3. 3. Rev.6:5, Black Horse Famine
- 4. 4. Rev.6:7, Pale Horse Death & Hell
- 5. 5. Rev.6:9, Martyrs
- **6.** 6. Rev.6:12-17, Great Earthquake Physical Changes
- 7. Rev.8:1, Silence in Heaven



TRUMPET JUDGMENTS – Judgment of thirds – Rev. 8:6 – 11:15-19



- 8. 1. Rev.8:6-7, Hail Fire Blood (1/3 trees and grass burned up)
- 9. 2. Rev.8:8-9, Burning Mountain (1/3 Sea to Blood, 1/3 creatures die, 1/3 ships destroyed)



- 10. 3. Rev.8:10-11, Star Wormwood (1/3 Rivers become bitter)
- 11. 4. Rev.8:12, 1/3 of the Sun, Moon and Stars darkened
- 12. 5. Rev.9:1-12, Plague of Locust
- 13. 6. Rev.9:13-21, Plague of Horsemen (1/3 of mankind killed)
- 14. 7. Rev.11:15-19, The sounding of the Third Woe



Second Woe

BOWL JUDGMENTS (Vial) – Rev. 16-21



- **15.** 1. Rev.16:1-2, Loathsome Sores
- **16.** 2. Rev.16:3, **Blood on the Sea**
- **17.** 3. Rev.16;4-7, **Blood on the Rivers**
- **18.** 4. Rev. 16:8-9, Great Heat
- 19. 5. Rev.16:10-11, Darkness
- **20.** 6. Rev.16:12, River Euphrates Dries Up
- **21.** 7. Rev.16:17-21, Great Hail



21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation

General Observations



The first four Seal Judgments come as a result of Jesus breaking each seal from off of the scroll He holds in His hand.

Revelation 6:1-2, ¹"Then I saw when the Lamb broke one of the seven seals, and I heard one of the four living creatures saying as with a voice of thunder, 'Come.' ² I looked, and behold, a white horse, and he who sat on it had a bow; and a crown was given to him, and he went out conquering and to conquer."

Many look at the Four Horsemen as the wrath of Satan who is a liar and his mission is told to us as to conquer. However he is still unleashed by Jesus breaking the seal that allows him to come onto the world scene. Therefore all that happens is a result of the seal breaking. Each seal then becomes a part of the larger picture of the overall wrath of God.



In Revelation 6:8 we are also told something that almost everyone has missed.

Revelation 6:8, "I looked, and behold, an ashen horse; and he who sat on it had the name Death; and Hades was following with him. Authority was given to them over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword and with famine and with pestilence and by the wild beasts of the earth."

Amazing, but there it is. The Four Horsemen are given authority over a FORTH (1/4) of the earth not the entire earth at that time. It is then a regional war, regional famine and pestilence. The scriptures tell us that this is just the beginning of sorrows, because the Trumpet Judgments are coming.

Remember the Wrath of God is definable by two signs. First the judgment it is a global event. Notice in your reading that the trumpet and bowls judgments are global affairs. Second, the angels are involved in the judgments.

The Seal Judgments are considered judgments, but the first four cover a fourth of the earth.



The Seven Seal Judgments

(Revelation 6:1-17; 8:1)

As it was in the days of Noah

Genesis 6:5, "And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually."

Romans 1:18, "For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;"

Revelation 9:20-21, ²⁰ The rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands, so as not to worship demons, and the idols of gold and of silver and of brass and of stone and of wood, which can neither see nor hear nor walk; ²¹ and they did not repent of their murders nor of their sorceries nor of their immorality nor of their thefts.

... The Beginning of Sorrows (Matthew 24:8)



The First Seal The False Christ



The White Horse and the Rise of the Antichrist

(Dan.7:8, 23-26; 8:8-10, 20-25; 11:35-45; II Th. 2:1-12; Rev. 13:1-18, 17:10-16)



The Olivet Discourse corresponding prophecy:

Matthew 24:4-5 "And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many."

Another sign of the times that in the last days there shall come a strong spirit of deceit and of lying spirits. Jesus' constant warning is to watch and be not deceived.

The Two White Horses of Revelation

(Rev.6:2)



Revelation 6:2 "And I looked, and behold, a white horse. He who sat on it had a bow; and a crown was given to him, and he went out conquering and to conquer."

The symbolic "White Horse" and its rider. Who is this rider with his bow and now is given a crown. Notice the crown is not on his head, it is simply given to him. The scriptures does not reveal to us his name except that it gives us pictures of who he is and what he has come upon the earth to do.

The bow he carries in his hand is symbolic with pictures of evil and conquest (Ps.7:12, 11:2, 37:14, 46:9, 58:7; Jer. 49:35). The Antichrist is the only person predicted in scriptures as going forth conquering and to conquer at this particular time. (Dan. 7:7-8, 20-21, 23-24; 8:23-25; 9:27; 11:36-45; Rev. 6:1). The bow is symbolic of his strength and his ability, but he has no arrows, this tells us that the peace he brings will come about through diplomacy as a king, hence the crown that is handed to him. He will negotiate a peace treaty and will be the one who breaks it.

Daniel 9:27 (NASB), "And he will make a firm covenant with the many for one week, but in the middle of the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; and on the wing of abominations will come one who makes desolate, even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate."

This rider will cause the wars, famines, pestilences, death, and hell from the following 3 seals (6:3-8). This rider will confirm (negotiate) a peace covenant for one week with Daniel's people the Jews. This covenant is for seven years. In Daniel 9:27, the word weeks is translated from the Hebrew word "Shabua" #7620 (shaw-boo'-ah) conveying the idea of a period of seven (days, years). Greek it is "Heptad" meaning week. In this

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation

case scripture is speaking of in weeks of years, that there will be 70 of these weeks of years. (70 weeks x 7 years each = 490 years).

The ultimate reason for the peach treaty with Israel is not because of any great love for the Jewish people, but to get the temple built so that he (antichrist) can defile it and sit in it. This is the time that this rider of this white horse, the antichrist declares to the entire world that he is God, and demands to be worshiped. This is something Satan has been wanting since he first rebelled against God.

This rider can only be the antichrist, and he makes his appearance only after Christ, the Lamb of God breaks the first seal. This rider comes on a white horse imitating the deeds of Christ in order to deceive the world.

As to where this rider (the antichrist) comes from, he is described as the little horn that grew out of one the four horns on the head of the "he goat" of Daniel 8.

DANIEL 8

¹In the third year of the reign of king Belshazzar a vision appeared unto me, even unto me Daniel, after that which appeared unto me at the first. ² And I saw in a vision; and it came to pass, when I saw, that I was at Shushan in the palace, which is in the province of Elam; and I saw in a vision, and I was by the river of Ulai.³ Then I lifted up mine eyes, and saw, and, behold, there stood before the river a ram [Persia] which had two horns: and the two horns were high; but one was higher than the other, and the higher came up last. ⁴I saw the ram pushing westward, and Northward, and southward; [Babylon, Syria, Thrace and Macedonia, Libya and Egypt] also that no beasts might stand before him, neither was there any that could deliver out of his hand; but he did according to his will, and became great.⁵ And as I was considering, behold, an he goat came from the west [Greece] on the face of the whole earth, and touched not the ground: and the goat had a notable horn between his eyes. ⁶ And he came to the ram that had two horns, which I had seen standing before the river, and ran unto him in the fury of his power. ⁷ And I saw him come close unto the ram, and he was moved with choler against him, and smote the ram, and brake his two horns: and there was no power in the ram to stand before him, but he cast him down to the ground, and stamped upon him: and there was none that could deliver the ram out of his hand.

V:2 - The Palace of Shushan is in the modern day city of Susa in Iran



Ref. Dan.9:27. The daily sacrifice was about the temple which Antichrist defiles. Ref. Rev. 13







V:7 - "Choler," Anger; irritability in

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation

Four Kingdoms
V:8,22
Cassandrian Dynasty
Lysimachean Dynasty
Seleucid Dynasty
Ptolemy Dynasty

⁸ Therefore the he goat waxed very great: and when he was strong, the great horn was broken; and for it came up four notable ones toward the four winds of heaven. ⁹ And out of one of them came forth a little horn [Antichrist], which waxed exceeding great, toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the pleasant land. 10 And it waxed great, even to the host of heaven; and it cast down some of the host and of the stars to the ground, and stamped upon them. ¹¹Yea, he magnified himself even to the prince of the host, and by him the daily sacrifice was taken away, and the place of the sanctuary was cast down. 12 And an host was given him against the daily sacrifice by reason of transgression, and it cast down the truth to the ground; and it practiced, and prospered. ¹³ Then I heard one saint speaking, and another saint said unto that certain saint which spoke, How long shall be the vision concerning the daily sacrifice, and the transgression of desolation, to give both the sanctuary and the host to be trodden under foot? ¹⁴ And he said unto me, unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed. ¹⁵ And it came to pass, when I, even I Daniel, had seen the vision, and sought for the meaning, then, behold, there stood before me as the appearance of a man. ¹⁶ And I heard a man's voice between the banks of Ulai, which called, and said, Gabriel, make this man to understand the vision. ¹⁷ So he came near where I stood: and when he came, I was afraid, and fell upon my face: but he said unto me, Understand, O son of man: for at the time of the end shall be the vision. ¹⁸ Now as he was speaking with me, I was in a deep sleep on my face toward the ground: but he touched me, and set me upright. ¹⁹ And he said, Behold, I will make thee know what shall be in the last end of the indignation: for at the time appointed the end shall be. ²⁰ The ram which you saw having two horns are the kings of Media and Persia. ²¹ And the rough goat is the king of Grecia: and the great horn that is between his eyes is the first king. ²² Now that being broken, whereas four stood up for it, four kingdoms shall stand up out of the nation, but not in his power. ²³ And in the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors are come to the full, a king of fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up. ²⁴ And his power shall be mighty, but not by his own power: and he shall destroy wonderfully, and shall prosper, and practice, and shall destroy the mighty and the holy people. ²⁵ And

The Time of the End, V:17b Dan.12:40 The Laodicea Church age. (the end of an age)



Media and Persia Medo-Persian Empire the two horns



King of fierce countenance (Antichrist) V:23-25





Greece v:8,21 Alexander the Great The Great Horn

His Four Generals divided into four Kingdoms V:22

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation

Battle of Armageddon V:25b through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand; and he shall magnify himself in his heart, and by peace shall destroy many: he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without hand. ²⁶ And the vision of the evening and the morning which was told is true: wherefore shut thou up the vision; for it shall be for many days. ²⁷ And I Daniel fainted, and was sick certain days; afterward I rose up, and did the king's business; and I was astonished at the vision, but none understood it.

Antichrist breaks the peace treaty V:25a



Recap:

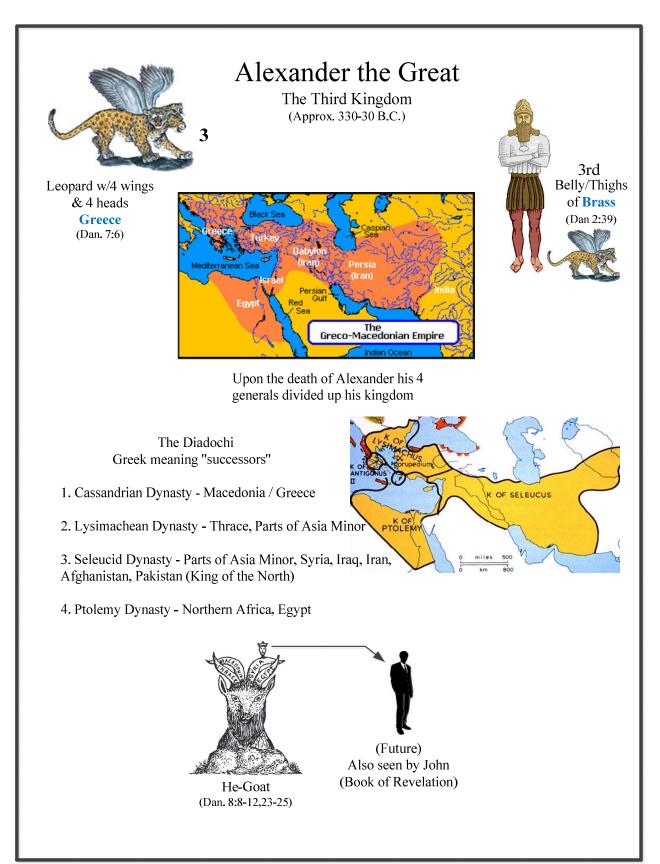
In the above scripture Daniel is shown an overview of the rise of the antichrist and of his coming to power and of his ultimate defeat at the hand of the "Prince of Princes and without hands (v25).

We are given a short history lesson of the Persian Empire pictured as a ram with two horns. The Persian Empire established by Cyrus the Great in the 6th century B.C., only lasted approximately 200 years until the death of Darius III in 330 B.C., following his defeat by Alexander the Great (The He Goat with the notable horn that broke). Alexander in just 10 short years had done what no other army could do before him and that was to conquer the Persian Empire. At age 32 Alexander died in Babylon and his kingdom divided up by his four generals, which is represented by the four horns of the He goat (The He Goat being Alexander).



The prophecy goes on to say that out of one of those horns (Kingdoms/Dynasties) came forth a "little horn." Out of Assyria, which is modern day Turkey this little horn shall rise up in the "latter days" and be the King of fierce countenance, which we call the Antichrist.

This is the spirit of the rider on the white horse of Revelation 6:2.



The Rider Who Is Called

"Faithful and True"

(Rev.19:11-21)



Revelation 19:11-16 ¹¹"Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. ¹² His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. ¹³He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. ¹⁴And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. ¹⁵Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. ¹⁶And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS."

Christ is always symbolized with having a sword not a bow in his hand (Rev. 1:6, 19:15, 21). The rider of this white horse:

- 1. Comes to make war also. The difference between this rider and the first is that the war is a result of or part of His judgment.
- 2. On His head are many crowns, the first rider was given only one
- 3. His robe was dipped in blood, representing either His own blood that was shed for us, or the blood of His saints under persecution, or the blood that was about to be spilt.
- 4. This rider is identified to us as "The Word of God."
- 5. This ride is not alone, but comes WITH his saints⁷ (Zech.14:5; Dan. 12:1; Jer. 30:7; 1 Thess. 2:19, 3:13; Rev.19;14) to stop man from destroying himself and the earth.

Page 34

⁷ https://rightwordtruth.com/will-christ-return-with-saints-or-with-angels/



2

The Second Seal War



The **Red Horse**War Caused by the Antichrist

(Dan. 7:23-24; 8:9, 23; Mt. 24:6-7)

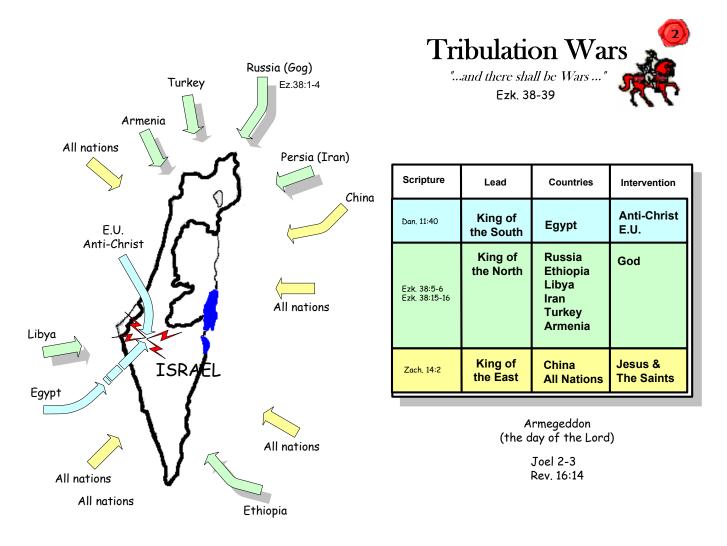


The Olivet Discourse corresponding prophecy:

Matthew 24:6-7 "And you shall hear of wars and rumors of wars: see that you be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: ..."

Revelation 6:3-4 - "And when He had opened the second seal, I heard the second beast say, Come and see. And there went out another horse that was red: and power was given to him that sat there on to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword."

The Red Horse is a clear symbol of war. This is a natural outcome of the rider of the White Horse going out to conquer and conquering. This horseman will have the power to take the peace from the earth. The world's leaders will appeal to their weapons of mass destruction, and entangled themselves in war. Recent advances such as the modern police state and intercontinental ballistic missiles carrying nuclear weapons will enable the sword of war carried by this blood-colored Horseman to bring the systematic persecution of all of the truly faithful and a judgment of a desolating worldwide war as men are set upon the task of killing one another.





3

The Third Seal Famines



The Black Horse
Famine Comes Riding
(Matthew 24:7)



The Olivet Discourse corresponding prophecy:

Matthew 24: 7 "...and there shall be famines"

Revelation 6:5-6 "And when He had opened the third seal, I heard the third beast say, Come and see. And I beheld, and he that sat on him had a set of balances in his hand. And I heard a voice in the mist of the four beast say, A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measure of barley for a penny; and see you hurt not the oil and wine".

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation

The Black Horse represents famine, which is the result of the conquest and the wars of the first two seals. The bread by "measure and weight" signifies scarcity of food (Ezek. 4:10-17). A measure was about 1 quart, a slave's daily ration, an amount usually purchased for about 2 cents. One could usually buy 8 measures of wheat or 24 measures of barley for a penny, but during this future famine only 1 measure of wheat or 3 measures of barley can be purchased for a penny. This will make food 8 times higher than in normal times.

Special Note: The Denarius was a distinctively Roman silver coin is nearly equivalent to the Greek Drachma. learn in Matthew 20 that it was a typical daily wage for a but the owner of the vineyard in the parable of Matt. 20,



we laborer, chose to

be more generous. The Denarius was also a day's pay for a Roman soldier and the coin required for the Roman tax. The Good Samaritan gave the innkeeper two of them to care for the robbery victim. In other Biblical references the word "Denarius" is used in terms of many such coins. Different debtors owed 50, 100, and 500 denarii. The 5000 men plus their families could not have been fed with 200 denarii worth of food. The perfume that anointed Jesus at Bethany could have been sold for over 300 denarii.







4

The Forth Seal Pestilence and Death



The Pale Horse

Death and Hell

(Matthew 24:6-7)



The Olivet discourse corresponding prophecy:

Matthew 24:7-8, "... and pestilences, and earthquakes in divers places. All these are the beginning of sorrows."

Revelation 6:7-8, "And when He had opened the forth seal, I heard the voice of the forth beast say, Come and see. 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 the **sword**, and with **hunger**, and with death, and with the **beast** of the field.

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation

It is worthy to note that the riders of the first three horses are not named but here they are.

Notice Hell follows behind Death for they are inseparable companions. Death here no doubt refers to a great pestilence following the wars, famines and plagues of the first three seals. One fourth of the earth, over which the pestilence shall sweep will leave so great a death toll that the beast of the field will gather to eat them (Mt 24:28, Lk.17:34-37, Rev. 17:17, Ezek. 39:17-21), Hell will have to enlarge its self and open her mouth without measure as it did in Isaiah. 5:13-16.

The word used to describe the color of the "pale" horse is the Greek word "chloros" or green. It is meant to convey the sickly green tinge of the deathly ill or recently dead. Since the literal translation "green" does not carry these connotations in English the word was rendered "pale" in most English translations.

...All these are the beginning of sorrows...

The Four Horsemen Summary

Horses and their riders

In summary, the horses and their riders as described in the Bible are as follows:

Horse	Horse Represents	Rider	Power	Rider Represents
White	False peace/God's war	Carries bow; wears crown	Conquers	Antichrist, The False Christ, False Religion/Christ
Red	Blood spilt on the battlefield	Carries sword	Brings war	War, Destruction
Black	Black, barren fields	Carries scales	Scarcity of food	Famine, Unfair Trade
Pale	Paleness of skin in death, decay	Death	Kills by war, hunger, etc.	Death

Again as a reminder, that according to Revelation 6:8, these riders were given authority over only $(\frac{1}{4})$ a fourth of the earth, not all the earth. That is coming.



5

The Fifth Seal Martyrdoms

The Martyrs

(Mt. 24:9-13, Rev. 7:9-1; 15:2-4; 20:4)



Revelation 6:9-11 "And when He had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the alter the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held: And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, will you not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth? And white robes were given to every one of them; and it was said unto them that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellow servants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled."



The Olivet discourse corresponding prophecy

Matthew 24:9-13 "Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and you shall be hated of all nations for my names sake. And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another. And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many. And

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation

because iniquity shall abound the love of many shall wax cold. But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved."

These saints are those who were saved after, or as a result of the rapture of the church. They will be killed for the same two reasons John was exiled to the island of Patmos, for the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ (Rev. 1:9).

The fact that their souls were under the Sacrificial Alter is proof that they were offered as a sacrifice and that is why they are Martyrs. Notice they are given White Robes to wear. This agrees with Rev 4:4, the Four and Twenty Elders which representative of the church is also wearing White Robes. When the Martyrs ask how long before God avenges their death, they are told to just rest a little while longer (till the end of the Tribulation) until all there brethren from this period should join them, this is fulfilled in Rev. 20:4-6.

Revelation 20:4-6 (NASB), ⁴ Then I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was given to them. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony of Jesus and because of the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received the mark on their forehead and on their hand; and they came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. ⁵ The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were completed. This is the first resurrection. ⁶ Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years.



6

The Sixth Seal Physical Changes



Physical Changes

(Rev. 8:1-9,21; 11:15,18; 15:1,7; 16:1-21; 18:1-24)

Revelation 6:12-17 "And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood; And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casts her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind. And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sits 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?

I believe that this seal is not broken unto the end of the tribulation and Jesus is sitting on the throne. Notice the great and powerful men of the world hid themselves from "the face of him that sits on the throne." That can be no one else but Jesus. They are trying to hide from Jesus and his great wrath. Let's look a little closer at what this one judgment entails.

Isaiah 2:17-22 (NASB), ¹⁷ "The pride of man will be humbled and the loftiness of men will be abased; and the LORD alone will be exalted in that day, ¹⁸ But the idols will completely vanish. ¹⁹ Men will go into caves of the rocks and into holes of the ground before the terror of the LORD and the splendor of His majesty, when He arises to make the earth tremble. ²⁰ In that day men will cast away to the moles and the bats their idols of silver and their idols of gold, which they made for themselves to worship, ²¹ In order to go into the caverns of the rocks and the clefts of the cliffs before the terror of the LORD and the splendor of His majesty, when He arises to make the earth tremble. ²² Stop regarding man, whose breath of life is in his nostrils; for why should he be esteemed?

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

The first four of these events deal with the earth and the heavens. The last three deal with either His return (#5) or the results of His return (#6, #7)

Charateristics of this 6th Seal Judgment

- 1. Great earthquake
- 2. Sun black as sackcloth
- Moon becomes as blood
- 4. Stars of heaven fall onto the earth
- 5. Heavens separate like a scroll being rolled up
- 6. Every mountian and island moved out of their place
- 7. Men hide themselves in fear of the one sitting on the throne and His wrath.

1. Earth Quakes, Heaven Shakes: The seal opens with "a great earthquake", 8 a common indicator of God appearing, working out His purpose, 10 and/or striking out in displeasure and judgment. In terms of anger and punishment, God caused an earthquake to open the ground in the wilderness and swallow Korah and his fellow rebels. 11 In Psalm 18:7, David writes, "Then the earth shook and trembled; the foundations of the hills also

Page 44

⁸ Revelation 6:12 ⁹ Judges 5:4; Psalm 68:8; 77:18; 97:4; Habakkuk 3:10; Haggai 2:6-7 ¹⁰ Exodus 19:18; Matthew 27:51-54; 28:2; Acts 16:26

¹¹ Numbers 16:31-32

quaked and were shaken, because He was angry."¹² God prophesies in Isaiah 13:11, 13, "I will punish the world for its evil, and the wicked for their iniquity. . . . Therefore I will shake the heavens, and the earth will move out of her place, in the wrath of the Lord of hosts, and in the day of His fierce anger."

Certainly, the heavenly signs that occur in tandem with the great earthquake are astounding, especially if all of them should occur within a short span of time. Joel 2:30-31(above) describes the same event: "And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth: blood and fire and pillars of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the coming of the great and terrible day of the Lord." In the Olivet Prophecy, Jesus repeats the warning: "Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken." Luke's rendition adds a few details:

Luke 21:25-27, "And there will be signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars; and on the earth distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring; men's hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. ²⁷ Then they will see THE SON OF MAN COMING IN A CLOUD with power and great glory. ²⁸ But when these things begin to take place, straighten up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

- **2. The Sun Darkened:** John describes the darkness of the sun as "black as sackcloth of hair" (Rev. 6:12), comparing it to the black goat hair used to make sackcloth and tents in his day. This may depict a solar eclipse or possibly a massive dust storm caused by a volcanic explosion. The Ninth Plague covered Egypt with a "darkness which may even be felt," a "thick darkness" (Ex. 10:21-22), and perhaps God will repeat it on an even grander scale. Whatever the case, visibility will be severely limited, even during the daylight hours.
- **3. The Moon like Blood:** This chilling sight signals calamity and death, particularly in war, as in the color of the second horse (Rev.6:4). Sometimes lunar discoloration occurs naturally when unusual amounts of dust are suspended in the atmosphere, particularly after a volcanic eruption or an earthquake. Incidentally, many manuscripts read "full moon" rather than simply "moon."

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¹² Isaiah 5:25; Nahum 1:2-5

¹³ Matthew 24:29; Mark 13:24-25

- **4.** The Stars Fall: This seems most likely to predict a meteor shower of immense proportions, possibly containing larger-than-normal meteorites, thus increasing the effect and making it seem as if the stars themselves are falling.
- **5.** The Sky Recedes: Of the events of this verse this one is the most puzzling (Rev.6:14). The apostle compares the heavens to a scroll rolling up.

Revelation 19:11 "Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, ..."

Luke tells us (Luke 21:25-27), that when all these events happen then they will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds (Jesus returns).

6. The Mountains and Islands Move: As a result of the great convulsion of the earth, massive land transformations occur, shifting mountains on land and undersea. Obviously, such a violent shaking will create unprecedented destruction and loss of life. As the conclusion of the sixth seal's disturbances, this displacement of *terra firma* is the calamity that most terrifies earth's inhabitants. Suddenly, nothing is stable—not even the earth under their feet! Finally, God has their attention!

When Jesus comes back and sets his feet on the Mount of Olives, it will split in two. This will create an enormous valley. Since none of this has taken place yet, the prophecy points to a future time.

¹⁴The earthquake in Revelation could very well speak of the event described in Zechariah¹⁵ when the Mount of Olives splits in two. Jesus the Messiah will cause an earthquake at His second coming that will serve as part of the destruction of God's enemies. The outcome of this battle is never in doubt: Christ will be the victor, Israel's enemies will be destroyed, and the beast (Antichrist) and false prophet will be thrown into the lake of fire (Revelation 19:11-21).

This event also parallels the seventh Bowl Judgment of Revelation 16:18-21,

¹⁸ And there were flashes of lightning and sounds and peals of thunder; and there was a great earthquake, such as there had not been since man came to be upon the earth, so great an earthquake *was it, and* so mighty. ¹⁹ The great city was split into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. Babylon the great was remembered before God, to give her the cup of the wine of His fierce wrath. ²⁰ And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. ²¹ And huge hailstones, about one

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¹⁴ https://www.gotquestions.org/Zechariah-14-4-second-coming.html

¹⁵ Zechariah 14:4

hundred pounds each, *came down from heaven upon men; and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail, because its plague *was extremely severe.

7. Fall on Us!: The effect of these cosmic signs from God is to produce terror in earth's populace, triggering humanity's strong drive to preserve itself. Despite mountains moving, men and women of every origin, status, and creed—from king to slave—flee for the caves under the mountains in a vain attempt to hide themselves from God (Revelation 6:15). This is reminiscent of Isaiah 2:19, a prophecy of the Day of the Lord: "They shall go into the holes of the rocks, and into the caves of the earth, from the terror of the Lord and the glory of His majesty, when He arises to shake the earth mightily."

John sees these fearful people speaking to the mountains and rocks, commanding them to hide them from the sight of God the Father and from the "wrath of the Lamb" (verse 16). Their cry, "Fall on us!" is not a death wish or a suicidal means to avoid God's judgment but a hope that the mountains will cover and conceal them. "Fall on us and hide us" is typical Hebrew parallelism, as can be seen from an Old Testament parallel in which Israelites "shall say to the mountains, 'Cover us!' and to the hills, 'Fall on us!'" (Hosea 10:8).

It is somewhat startling that earth's sinners correctly identify these catastrophic events as evidences of God's wrath. We are used to them being termed "natural disasters" and in no way a result of God's intervention in humanity's affairs. Yet, this time, these cataclysmic signs are indeed "acts of God," and men know it. Such a succession of disturbances can be nothing other than divine anger.

"Who Is Able To Stand?": The sixth seal announces in unmistakable fashion that "the great day of the Lord is near; it is near and hastens quickly" (Zephaniah 1:14).

The prophet Joel describes it:

Joel 2:1-2, 10-11, ¹Blow the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in My holy mountain! Let all of the inhabitants of the land tremble; for the day of the Lord is coming, for it is at hand: ²A day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness, like the morning clouds spread over the mountains. . . . ¹⁰The earth quakes before them, the heavens tremble; the sun and moon grow dark, and the stars diminish their brightness. ¹¹The Lord gives voice before His army, for His camp is very great; for strong is the One who executes His word. For the day of the Lord is great and very terrible; who can endure it?

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation

This is the question: Who will survive it? Who will pass God's judgment? The answer seems to be, "No one." But there is hope, as Joel 2:12-14 instructs:

¹²"Now, therefore," says the Lord, "turn to Me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning." ¹³So rend your heart, and not your garments; return to the Lord your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness; and He relents from doing harm. ¹⁴Who knows if He will turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind Him . . .?

Jesus gives us His answer in the book of Luke:

Luke 21:36: "Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man."

We must be alert and prepared for what may come, and the most important part of our preparation is the strengthening of our relationships with the Father and the Son through prayer, study, meditation, and obedience to His instructions. This is the only means to escape God's wrath.



The Olivet discourse corresponding prophecy:

Matthew 24:29 "Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken."

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation



Silence in Heaven

Revelation 8:1 "And when He had opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour"

The "Silence" that follows the breaking of the seventh seal, is in anticipation for what is to follow in the sounding of the "Trumpets" and the pouring out of the "Bowl Judgments." This silence is through out all of Heaven, for the Twenty-Four Elders stop their harp playing; the angels hushed their voices, the Cherubim and Seraphim and all the host of Heaven are silent. So great was the silence that all of Heaven was awed by it. Why the period of half an hour? It is the period of silent preparation for the awful judgments that were to burst forth onto the earth under the "Trumpet" and "Bowl" judgments.

Since there are no judgments described with the opening of the seventh seal as with the previous six, and since the seven trumpet judgments follow immediately (8:1-6), it seems evident that the seventh seal consists of the coming seven trumpet judgments.



(Revelation 8:7-9:21;11:15-19)

The Judgment of Thirds



21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation



1/3 of the Trees burned up

Joel 2:30-32, "And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and terrible day of the Lord come."

Fulfillment:

Revelation 8:6-7 "And the seven angels which had the seven trumpets prepared themselves. The first angel sounded, and there followed Hail and Fire mingled with Blood, and they were cast upon the earth: and the **third** part of the trees was burnt up, and all green grass was burnt up."

Here is the literal fulfillment of the prophet Joel, (Joel 2:30-31) that the Lord says, He will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth before the "great and terrible day of the Lord comes." This is the time when the Lord will take vengeance on His enemies.

I believe that God will literally bring about a worldwide hailstorm or possibly volcanic hot fiery debris from the eruption of many volcanos around the world. This debris will be unlike any that man has encountered. These will be hailstones, or volcanic rocks of fire and will bombard the earth unmercifully destroying one third of the trees and cover the ground like freshly fallen snow burning up all. The loss of the green grass will cause a mammoth food shortage and many animals and livestock (not to mention people) will die of starvation. Trees act as a giant air filter for the world, continuously cleaning and recleaning the air. With one third less trees the air will barely be consumable.

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation

The Lord is going to repeat no less than 5 of the 9 plagues of Egypt. The plagues of Egypt were literal and so the trumpet and bowl judgments will be literal. This first trumpet judgment is the same as the seventh Egyptian plague (Exodus 9:22-26).



The difference in the plague of Egypt and the first trumpet plague is that the situation will be reversed. Then the children of Israel escaped the plague this time they are included in the plague. Another difference is that in Egypt both man and beast suffered with the vegetation, while only the trees and the green grass will suffer when the first trumpet sounds and that the hail and fire will be mingled with blood. In Egypt the hail ruined every herb in the field and broke every tree, but in the first trumpet plague only one-third of the trees will be burnt up.



The Second Trumpet The Burning Mountain





1/3 of the Sea turns to blood, 1/3 of the Creatures in the sea die and 1/3 of the Ships are destroyed.

Revelation 8:8-9 "And the second angel sounded, and as it were a great mountain burning with fire was cast into the sea: and the **third** part of the sea became blood; and the **third** part of the creatures which were in the sea, and had life, died; and the **third** part of the ships were destroyed."

In this passage John describes what looked like to him as what looked like a mountain burning with fire falling into the sea. John did not say it was a mountain or a volcano simply that it looked like a mountain. This would certainly fit into the category of an asteroid or meteor. Certainly a meteor the size of a mountain would cause the type of destruction John tells about. One-third of the creatures in the sea are killed causing one-third of the sea to turn to blood and destroying one-third of the ships that are at sea, possible by the resulting tidal wave or by the direct impact of the meteor.

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation



Some believe that this judgment will be a local judgment as opposed to a global one because only one-third of the fish, sea and shipping is affected. A meteor this size would cause more destruction had in hit and open body of water such as the Pacific or Atlantic Oceans. Some believe this meteor will strike the Mediterranean Sea, therefore limiting it's destruction to that area.



A portion of this judgment is a return to the plagues of ancient Egypt, look at Ex. 7:19-21. The differences being, that in the judgment of Egypt all the fish died in all the rivers, enough that it caused such a smell that the Egyptians could not drink the water. In this repeat judgment one-third of the fish die and one-third of the oceans are affected.



10

The Third Trumpet The Star called Wormwood



1/3 of the Rivers become bitter (Wormwood)

Revelation 8:10-11 "And the third angel sounded, and there fell a great star from heaven, burning as it were a lamp, and it fell upon the **third** part of the rivers, and upon the fountains of waters; And the name of the star is called Wormwood: and the **third** part of the waters became wormwood; and many men died of the waters, because they were made bitter."



The name of the star is called Wormwood, this is a unique phrase. There is no historical evidence that a star by this name existed in the ancient world. *Wormwood* is a medicinal herb of antiquity used to dispel worms from the intestines. It is very bitter. The fact that many men will die from the water is the natural result of fresh water made bitter. Wormwood is known for its bitterness; however, death is not normally associated with this herb but because they were made bitter indicates the reason for the death of many people. Dehydration is not the cause of death, it is drinking the water that kills people.

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation

The world's worst ever nuclear meltdown occurred in 1986 at Chernobyl in Ukraine, at that time one of the states of the Soviet Union. Incredibly, Chernobyl is the Russian word for wormwood! There are some who want to see this event as the fulfillment of this third Trumpet judgment. However this judgment happens well into the tribulation week and though similar, can not be a fulfillment of the prophecy but rather a prelude to what is coming.

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation



11

The Fourth Trumpet
The Sun, Moon and Stars



1/3 of the Sun, Moon and Stars are Stricken

Revelation 8:12, "Then the fourth angel sounded: And a **third** of the sun was struck, a **third** of the moon, and a **third** of the stars, so that a **third** of them were darkened. A **third** of the day did not shine, and likewise the night."

These signs are very similar to the events of the sixth seal judgment, and are spoken of by Jesus in Luke 21:25-28. "There shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars, and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity."

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation



12

The Fifth Trumpet The First Woe







A Plague of Locusts

(Rev. 9:1-12)



Revelation 9:1-12, "Then the fifth angel sounded: And I saw a star fallen from heaven to the earth. To him was given the key to the bottomless pit. 2 And he opened the bottomless pit, and smoke arose out of the pit like the smoke of a great furnace. So the sun and the air were darkened because of the smoke of the pit. 3 Then out of the smoke locusts came upon the earth. And to them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power. 4 They were commanded not to harm the grass of the earth, or any green thing, or any tree, but only those men who do not have the seal of God on their foreheads. 5 And they were not given authority to kill them, but to torment them for five months. Their torment was like the torment of a scorpion when it strikes a man. 6 In those days men will seek death and will not find it; they will desire to die, and death will flee from them. 7 The shape of the locusts was like horses prepared for battle. On their heads were crowns of something like gold, and their faces [were] like the faces of men. 8 They had hair like women's hair, and their teeth were like lions' teeth. 9 And they had breastplates like breastplates of iron, and the sound of their wings was like the sound of chariots with many horses running into battle. 10 They had tails like scorpions, and there were stings in their tails. Their power was to hurt men five months. 11 And they had as king over them the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in Hebrew is



21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation

Abaddon, but in Greek he has the name Apollyon. 12 One woe is past. Behold, still two more woes are coming after these things."





John said he saw a star fall from heaven to the earth. This is not a literal star because in the next chapter a star is spoken of as being a person. Also in the Old Testament angels were called "stars" (Job 38:7). This does not imply that the angel was a fallen angel or Satan. John simply meant that he saw the descent of this "star" or "angel" was so rapid that it appeared to be falling. And it was given to this angel a key to the bottomless pit.

The Bottomless Pit

The Bottomless Pit is not Hell or Hades, or the Lake of Fire. It is the place of confinement for the Demons who are wicked, unclean, vicious and have power to derange both mind and body. Matt. 12:22, 15:22, Luke 4:35, 8:26-36, 9:42. They are the "Familiar Spirits" of the Old Testament and the "Seducing Spirits" of which Paul warned Timothy about in I Timothy 4:1.



Similar to the eighth Egyptian plaque (Ex. 10:3-20) the angel opens the Bottomless Pit and a plague of locust is unleashed upon the earth. Unlike the locus of the ancient Egypt these locus are described as a combination of horse, man, woman, lion and the scorpion. The sound of their wings was like the sound of many chariots and horses running into battle. Unlike a normal locust that eats vegetation, these were forbidden to harm the grass or the trees or any green thing.

Their mission is to torment men for a period of five months. With a tail of a scorpion and the sting of a scorpion they with inflict great pain upon all those who do not carry God's seal in their foreheads. The pain will be so great and excruciating that men will seek death but will be unable to die. This plague will last for a period of five months. These events seem to be foretold by the prophet Joel in Joel 2:3-10.



13

The Sixth Trumpet

The Second Woe

1/3 of Mankind Killed







A Plague of Horsemen (Rev.9:13-21)

Revelation 9:13-21, "Then the sixth angel sounded: And I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God, 14 saying to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, "Release the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates." ¹⁵ So the four angels, who had been prepared for the hour and day and month and year, were released to kill a third of mankind. ¹⁶ Now the number of the army of the horsemen was two hundred million; I heard the number of them. ¹⁷ And thus I saw the horses in the vision: those who sat on them had breastplates of fiery red, hyacinth blue, and sulfur yellow; and the heads of the horses were like the heads of lions; and out of their mouths came fire, smoke, and brimstone. ¹⁸ By these three plagues a third of mankind was killed -- by the fire and the smoke and the brimstone which came out of their mouths. ¹⁹ For their power is in their mouth and in their tails; for their tails are like serpents, having heads; and with them they do harm. ²⁰ But the rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands, that they should not worship demons, and idols of gold, silver, brass, stone, and wood, which can neither see nor hear nor walk. ²¹ And they did not repent of their murders or their sorceries or their sexual immorality or their thefts."



In ancient times the seat of Satan's power was in the area of the Euphrates River close to where Babylon is located. Now four of Satan's angels that were once bound, are now standing in that same spot at the Euphrates River. They are the commanders of an army numbering 200,000,000 horsemen in a supernatural army. We know this army is supernatural because of the shear number of the army it's self. Next the horses are part horse with the head of a lion. The tails of the creatures were like a serpent, and at the end of the tail was the head of a serpent, the sting of the tail would kill anyone it touched. The horse also had sulphurous smoke and fire coming out of its mouth. The riders of these creatures had "breastplates of fire, jacinth and brimstone."

These "Infernal Cavalrymen" are unleashed on the earth and kill one third of all mankind. Currently the estimated population of the world is around the 7 billion plus mark, and the estimated Christian population is conservatively put at 866,244,000. If you subtract the Christians that are taken out at the rapture it would still leave at least 6,133,756,000 people. This supernatural army will then kill an estimated 2,044,585,333 people, one third of the projected population of the earth at that time.

We are also told of the two fold reason for this destruction, to punish the idolatry and demon worship of men, and their sins of murder, sorcery, fornication, and theft. However from verse 20 and 21 there seems to be still some who were not killed, but still refuse to heed the message and turn from their sins. These will be left for later judgments.



Revelation 9:20-21 NASB), ²⁰ But the rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands, that they should not worship demons, and idols of gold, silver, brass, stone, and wood, which can neither see nor hear nor walk. ²¹ And they did not repent of their murders or their sorceries or their sexual immorality or their thefts."

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation

The passage we just reviewed, Revelation 9:20-21, lists the top seven sins of the Tribulation:

- 1. Rebellion against God ("they did not repent")
- 2. Worship of demons
- 3. Idolatry
- 4. Murders
- 5. Sorceries (drugs)
- 6. Sexual immorality
- 7. Thefts

It is interesting to compare this list with the one given by the apostle Paul in Colossians 3:5-6, which mentions sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. Paul then reminds his readers, because of these, the wrath of God is coming. All of these sins are currently being practiced in the world today.

We contend that even though these seven sins of the Tribulation will become rampant after the church has been raptured, already they are among the most dominant sins of our society.

REBELLION AGAINST GOD:

Rebellion is a way of life today, both nationally and individually. Government, media, and education policy is relentlessly removing every vestige of our nation's heritage that relates to God, prayer, the Bible, and Christian values.

WORSHIP OF DEMONS:

Twenty years ago Satan worship was scarcely heard of; today it is rampant. Satan worshipers are frequently on the evening news because of some satanic ritual that killed or maimed someone. Witchcraft, too, is becoming rampant, even respectable.

IDOLATRY:

Unredeemed man always resists worshiping God by faith but demands aids to worshipthings made with human hands, from pictures to images to relics and icons. No wonder Vladimir Lenin concluded that man is incurably religious.

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation

MURDERS:

One of the major social problems of our day is the rise in the murder rate. Many of the younger generation have no respect for human life; witness the increasing number of murders aged ten to eleven years old. The current violent crime rate-almost twenty-five thousand murders each year in America-is making this once Christian nation the murder capital of the world.

DRUGS:

From the Greek word translated sorceries in the King James Bible we get the word pharmacy. Unfettered drug use will be common during the Tribulation. But even today, drug and alcohol use is skyrocketing out of control.

SEXUAL IMMORALITY:

From the White House to the movie theater, it is accepted policy today to disregard sexual purity before marriage and sexual fidelity afterward. Many educators have all but abandoned teaching virtue; instead they have made a virtue out of homosexuality and lesbianism, which for centuries were called perversions and in the Bible are called an abomination and unnatural.

THEFTS:

Gated communities and security systems are becoming a way of life today. The main reason is because of the rise in theft. I can remember the day when I never locked my doors and could leave my keys in my car.

The book of Revelation tells us of God's "End-time" dealing with mankind in an effort to bring man back to God through repentance. With each sounding of each trumpet (Chapter 8-9) another judgment is unleashed upon the world in an effort to cause all men to repent. Finally in chapter 8 verse 18 one third of all mankind dies and we are told in verse 20 that they who are alive still did not repent of their sin.

What does it take for a man to see his own sin and to stop it? A lie is whispered into your thoughts, a choice is made and like Lucifer of old you suddenly choose yourself over God. In your thought life is where all sin begins, which brings us to a reality of truth. As it has been said,

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation

"Sow a thought, you reap ant act. Sow and act, you reap a habit. Sow a habit, you reap a character. Sow a character, you reap a destiny." ¹⁶

Colossians 3:5-6 (NASB) ⁵ Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry. ⁶ For it is because of these things that the wrath of God will come upon the sons of disobedience,"

 16 "The Quest for Character" by Chuck Swindoll, pg.48 $\,$

Quest for Character" by Chuck Swindoll, pg.48

Page 64



The Seventh Trumpet The Third Woe

(Covers the rest of the Week)



Revelation 11: 15-19, "Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!" 16 And the twenty-four elders who sat before God on their thrones fell on their faces and worshiped God, 17 saying: "We give You thanks, O Lord God Almighty, The One who is and who was and who is to come, Because You have taken Your great power and reigned. 18 The nations were angry, and Your wrath has come, And the time of the dead, that they should be judged, And that You should reward Your servants the prophets and the saints, And those who fear Your name, small and great, And should destroy those who destroy the earth." 19 Then the temple of God was opened in heaven, and the ark of His covenant was seen in His temple. And there were lightning's, noises, thundering, an earthquake, and great hail."

The seventh and final trumpet judgment seems to be describing events that will take place at the end of the tribulation period causing great anger and rebellion on the part of the unbelieving world. Only the results of the seventh trumpet are being described, the event to which it refers is called the "judgment of the nations" which comes at the end of the tribulation as Christ sets up His Millennial kingdom.

The seventh trumpet sounding includes all that happens down to chapter 20:3, including the seven bowl judgments. The voices in heaven proclaim "The kingdoms of this world has become the kingdom of our Lord, and of His Christ; and He shall reign for ever and forever." It is at this point in scripture that many believe we are reading of the end of the tribulation period. There are to different interpretations of this passage.

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation

1. Forward Looking

The more common thought is that this announcement (11:15-19) is more anticipative because Christ will not take the kingdom for another 3 ½ years. The whole passage is looking forward to the resurrections and judgments of chapter 20. It is assumed that chapter 11 ends at the middle of the week because the imagery of chapter 12 signifies the mid-point of the tribulation.

2. End of the Tribulation

Because of the wording of these passages it is believed that we are reading of the events that signify the end of the tribulation. The reason is in the wording of the text, "The kingdoms of this world **have become** the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!" Notice the voices say "the kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord." This event does not happen until the Millennial rule of Christ, until then the kingdoms of this world are ruled by the antichrist.

Next the twenty-four elders in their praise to the Lord say "You have taken Your great power and reigned" again, a reference to the millennial reign of Christ. They are not talking future tense, but present tense. What they are alluding to is that Christ HAS TAKEN the kingdoms of this world and is now ruling. "The nations were angry, and Your wrath has come," This text is clearly speaking about the judgment of the nations at the beginning of the Millennium when Christ will judge the nations as to their treatment of His "kinsmen brethren" the Jews. They will be separated into the "sheep" and "goat" nations. The rest of the passage is speaking to this same time period.

There are no contradictions in scripture, if Rev.11:15-19 has taken us the end of the tribulation period, then what about chapters 12 thru 19. Chapters 6-11 the Apostle John tells us of the Seal and Trumpet judgments which mostly run throughout the tribulation week. He then comes back to the middle of the week, which is chapter 12 and reminds us of the age old battle between God and Satan which was the very first prophecy given back in Genesis.

Genesis 3:15, "And I will put enmity between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel."

The imagery given in chapter twelve (the woman, dragon, man-child) speaks to this ancient prophecy. Satan has tried to ruin God's plan throughout the ages, first in the Garden (Gen.3:4-6), second in the days of Noah (Gen.6:1-8), third the birth of Jesus Christ (Mt.2:13-18). The imagery of chapter twelve depicts this struggle.

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation

Chapter thirteen adds greater detail to the last 3 ½ yrs which is called "The Great Tribulation" and includes the two witnesses and the seven bowl judgments.

We are told when the first and second woe's end (9:12, 11:14), but not the "Third Woe" (or seventh trumpet judgment) which begins in chapter 11:15. We can therefore conclude that the "Bowl" judgments and all others down to chapter 20:3 are included in the third woe. Look at chapter 10:7, here we are given a hint as to the length of the seventh trumpet judgment. "The days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound." This would imply that the blast or blasts of the seventh trumpet shall be extended over the whole of the last half of the week.



Seven Bowl Judgments

(Revelation 16:1-21)

Also called "Vial" Judgments

The pouring out of the accumulated "Wrath of God"



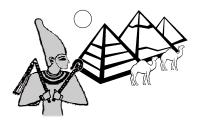
Revelation 15:1, "Then I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvelous: seven angels having the seven **last** plagues, for in them the wrath of God is complete."

There is a great deal of similarity in the judgments of the **trumpets** and **bowls**. In both, the **first** series deals with the earth (cf. 8:7 with 16:2), the **second** series deals with the sea (cf. 8:8-9 with 16:3), the **third** series deals with the rivers and fountains of water (cf. 8:10-11 with 16:4), the **fourth** series deals with the sun (cf. 8:12 with 16:8), the **fifth** series deals with darkness (cf. 8:12 with 16:10), the **sixth** series deals with the Euphrates (cf. 9:13-14 with 16:12), and the **seventh** series deals with lightning's, thunders, and earthquakes (cf. 11:19b with 16:17-21)

However, a careful study of these two sections will reveal some striking differences:

- 1. The first four Seal judgments deal with only one-fourth of the earth while the bowl judgments are universal in scope. (Rev.6:9)
- 2. The bowls are also much greater in intensity as well as in degree of coverage and effect.
- 3. They fall quickly as a liquid poured out of a bowl and in rapid succession—like trip hammer blows. It is best, therefore, to see the bowl judgments as different from the trumpet judgments.

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation



The Egyptian Plagues re-visited

We know that in the days of Moses, God brought His people out of the land of Egypt by means of ten plagues. These plagues are historical, factual and documented and some of them are going to be repeated. This then becomes our key to the literalness of this coming event in that many of the Bowl judgments have happened before and therefore are not figurative but literial.

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation



15

The First Bowl Judgment



Rev 16:1-2, "Then I heard a loud voice from the temple saying to the seven angels, "Go and pour out the bowls of the wrath of God on the earth." So the first went and poured out his bowl upon the earth, and a **foul and loathsome sore** came upon the men who had the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image."



This plague is a "Noisome and Grievous sore" that shall fall on all men who have taken the mark of the beast and who worship his image. This is a fulfillment of Rev. 14:9-11.



Egyptian Plague #6:

Exodus.9:9, "And it will become fine dust in all the land of Egypt, and it will cause boils that break out in sores on man and beast throughout all the land of Egypt."

This judgment is a repetition of the sixth plague God brought upon Egypt. The effect of it caused the Egyptians to harden their hearts against the Hebrews and so the scriptures tell us in Rev.16:9 & Rev.9:20-21 that men will also blaspheme God and refuse to repent. From this we can see that suffering alone does not cause repentance.

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation



16

The Second Bowl Judgment

(Blood on the Sea)





Revelation 16:3, "Then the second angel poured out his bowl on the sea, and it became blood as of a dead man; and every living creature in the sea died."

In Rev. 8:8-9 it tells us that 1/3 of the sea became blood and 1/3 of the creatures in the sea died and 1/3 of the ships were destroyed (judgment of thirds). However here we find that the whole of the sea is affected. This is not clear as to the oceans of the world or only the Sea of Galilee, or the Mediterranean Sea. It is unlikely that the creatures in the waters die due to their own blood or the blood of men but because the water became AS BLOOD of a dead man.

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation



The Third Bowl Judgment

(Blood on the Rivers)



Revelation 16:4-7, "Then the third angel poured out his bowl on the rivers and springs of water, and they became blood. 5 And I heard the angel of the waters saying: "You are righteous, O Lord, The One who is and who was and who is to be, Because You have judged these things. 6 For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, And You have given them blood to drink. For it is their just due." 7 And I heard another from the altar saying, "Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous are Your judgments."



Here nothing is said of the inhabitants except that they have shed the blood of the saints and the prophets and that God has given them blood to drink because they deserve it. Confirmation of God's righteous judgment can be heard from the alter in heaven, "true and righteous are Your judgments."



Egyptian Plague #1

Exodus 7:17, "Thus says the LORD: "By this you shall know that I am the LORD. Behold, I will strike the waters which are in the river with the rod that is in my hand, and they shall be turned to blood."

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation



The Fourth Bowl Judgment

(Great Heat)





Revelation 16:8-9, "Then the fourth angel poured out his bowl on the sun, and power was given to him to scorch men with fire. And men were scorched with great heat, and they blasphemed the name of God who has power over these plagues; and they did not repent* and give Him glory."

* Also Rev.9:20-21

Here the heat of the sun is intensified and so much so that men are scorched by it. This is the time spoken of by Malachi the prophet,

Prophecy:

Malachi 4:1-2, "For behold, the day is coming, Burning like an oven, And all the proud, yes, all who do wickedly will be stubble. And the day which is coming shall burn them up," Says the LORD of hosts, that will leave them neither root nor branch But to you who fear My name The Sun of Righteousness shall arise With healing in His wings; And you shall go out And grow fat like stall-fed calves."

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation



19

The Fifth Bowl Judgment

(Darkness)





Revelation 16:10-11, "Then the fifth angel poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and his kingdom became full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues because of the pain. They blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and did not repent of their deeds."

Since this plague immediately follows the "Scourging Heart" plagues it would seem as though God is having some mercy on man would find the great heat too much to bear on the boils that he has received. The effect of the darkness was to make men "gnaw their tongues in pain and for their sores." This tells us that at least the last few plagues overlap by some time or followed in such rapped order that they did not have time to recover from one before the next one came. This would suggest a time period of about a few months and not years. Another feature to notice is that their sufferings brought no repentance, but caused them to blaspheme God still future.

Prophecy:

Joel 2:1-2, ¹"This is that which was spoken of by the prophet Joel, "Blow 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 is coming, for it is at hand: ²A day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness, like the morning clouds spread over the mountains. A people come, great and strong, the like of whom has never been; Nor will there ever be any such after them, even for many successive generations."

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation

This is the same plague as the ninth plague in Egypt and like the Egyptians, they also will not repent.



Egyptian Plague #9:

Exodus 10:22, "So Moses stretched out his hand toward heaven, and there was thick darkness in all the land of Egypt three days. They did not see one another; nor did anyone rise from his place for three days. But all the children of Israel had light in their dwellings."

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation



20

The Sixth Bowl Judgment (The Euphrates River Dries Up)





Revelation 16:12, "Then the sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up, so that the way of the kings from the east might be prepared."

This literally means what it says, the great river Euphrates which runs through Iraq today will be dried up so that the armies of the Kings of the East can pass over on dry ground. There is only one guess where this army from the East is headed; they have an appointment in the valley of Armageddon.

Prophecy:

Isaiah 11:15-16, "The LORD will utterly destroy the tongue of the Sea of Egypt; With His mighty wind He will shake His fist over the River, And strike it in the seven streams, And make men cross over dry-shod. There will be a highway for the remnant of His people who will be left from Assyria, As it was for Israel In the day that he came up from the land of Egypt."

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation



21

The Seventh Bowl Judgment

(Great Hail)



Revelation 16:17-21, ¹⁷"Then the seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air, and a loud voice came out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, "It is done!" ¹⁸ And there were noises and thundering's and lightning's; and there was a great earthquake, such a mighty and great earthquake as had not occurred since men were on the earth. ¹⁹ Now the great city* was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. And great Babylon was remembered before God, to give her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of His wrath. ²⁰ Then every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. ²¹And great hail from heaven fell upon men, each hailstone about the weight of a talent.** Men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail, since that plague was exceedingly great."



- * That great city Jerusalem
- ** A talent = about 100lbs



Egyptian Plague #7:

Exodus 9:18, "Behold, tomorrow about this time I will cause very heavy hail to rain down, such as has not been in Egypt since its founding until now."

As we approch the end of the Tribulation week we come to the last of the judgments, the seventh Bowl. With this last judgment is accociated with it hail and a mighty earthquake greater then what has ever been seen in the history of the world. We are told that Jerusalem will be split into three parts and many of the cities of the world were destroyed, this tells us that the earthquake is world wide, even many Islands will disapear

21 Judgments of the Book of Revelation

under the sea and mountian ranges will collapes. This earthquake will suddenly alter the earth's terrine unlike anything that has been seen since the flood of Noah.

This judgment seems to align its self with Christ second return when He actually puts His feet on the mount of Olives and causes a great earthquake.

Prophecy:

Zechariah 14:4-5, "And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, Which faces Jerusalem on the east. And the Mount of Olives shall be split in two, from east to west, making a very large valley; half of the mountain shall move toward the north and half of it toward the south. Then you shall flee through My mountain valley, For the mountain valley shall reach to Azal. Yes, you shall flee as you fled from the earthquake in the days of Uzziah King of Judah. Thus the LORD my God will come, and *all the saints with You.""

*Ref. Rev. 19:14

The speculation here is that the hail spoken about in all probably will not come unto Christ and His armies come to do battle with the antichrist (Rev.19:14) many believe that the armies that is spoken of is made up of the saints of all the ages, Old Testament, New Testament Bride, and Tribulation Saint. At that time the hailstones all weighing about one talent (about 100 lbs.), more then likely will be the missles used by the Armies of Heaven.

At this point it sould be mentioned that in the sounding of the seventh Trumpet judgment and with the pouring out of the seventh Bowl judgment, both are occuring at the same time. All the thundering, voices, great lightings and great earthquakes all are discriptions of the same event and they occur at the end of the Tribulation week. Therefore many of the judgments overlap each other and are occuring simultaneously yet culminating at the same time.

With the outpouring of the seventh Bowl Judgment it is heard from the throne of God the words "IT IS DONE." Remember just before Christ died on the cross He cried out "IT IS FINISHED," (Jn.19:30) that is the plan of salvation was finished with His death. This voice out of the throne of God may be announceing the end of the "wrath of God." When Christ finished His work on the cross there was a huge earthquake so is it here, the earthquake that follows will be the greatest the world has ever seen.

As the pouring out of the "Seventh Bowl Judgment" finishes the wrath of God, it is in harmony with the purpose of the Book of Revelation, to foretell what happens to the enemies of God. What happens to the followers of the antichrist can be summerized in what is called the "Seven Dooms."

What's Next?

We have just covered the Twenty-one Judgments of God. We have read the few judgments that speak of their fulfillment at the end of the tribulation and at a time when Jesus is sitting on his thrown. As a quick and short review these would be;

The **Sixth Seal** judgment, Rev. 6:12-17 - Physical Changes on the earth.



Revelation 6:12-17 "And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood; And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casts her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind. And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sits 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?

The **Seventh Trumpet** judgment, Rev. 11:15-19 - The Third Woe



Revelation 11: 15-19, "Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!" 16 And the twenty-four elders who sat before God on their thrones fell on their faces and worshiped God, 17 saying: "We give You thanks, O Lord God Almighty, The One who is and who was and who is to come, Because You have taken Your great power and reigned. 18 The nations were angry, and Your wrath has come, And the time of the dead, that they should be judged, And that You should reward Your servants the prophets and the saints, And those who fear Your name, small and great, And should destroy those who destroy the earth." 19 Then the temple of God was opened in heaven, and the ark of His covenant was seen in His temple. And there were lightning's, noises, thundering, an earthquake, and great hail."

The content of these scriptures actually tell us that Christ is already sitting on the thrown. So, the second coming of the Messiah has occurred at the time of this

seventh trumpet judgment being poured out. We are being given a glimpse of what is coming.

The **Seventh Bowl** Judgment, Revelation 16:17-21 – Great Hail



Revelation 16:17-21, ¹⁷"Then the seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air, and a loud voice came out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, "It is done!" ¹⁸ And there were noises and thunderings and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such a mighty and great earthquake as had not occurred since men were on the earth. ¹⁹ Now the great city* was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. And great Babylon was remembered before God, to give her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of His wrath. ²⁰ Then every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. ²¹And great hail from heaven fell upon men, each hailstone about the weight of a talent.** Men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail, since that plague was exceedingly great."

Characteristics these judgments have in common

- 1. Mountain's and Islands moved out of their places, fled away, not found (6th Seal & 7th Bowl judgments)
- 2. Great earthquake that ie: greatest earthquake that has ever happened to this earth. Jerusalem is divided into 3 parts and the Mount of Olives is split in two halves. (6th Seal & 7th Bowl judgment)
- 3. Sun becomes dark and Moon as blood, and stars of heaven fall to earth. (6th Seal)
- 4. Thundering's and Lightning's (7th Trumpet & 7th Bowl)
- 5. The Throne room of God, the Temple of heaven, Jesus on His throne, the kingdoms of this world becoming the kingdoms of the Lord, He who sits on the throne. (6th Seal & 7th Trumpet & 7th Bowl)

These three judgments are referencing and/or eye witness to the events surrounding the Second Coming of Jesus Christ as told to us beginning in Revelation 19:11-21. All the talk of the earthquakes are speaking of the same earthquake which is caused when Jesus gets off and stands of the Mount of Olives.

Luke 21:25-27, "And there will be signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars; and on the earth distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring; men's hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. ²⁷ Then they will see THE SON OF MAN COMING IN A CLOUD with power and great glory. ²⁸ But when these things begin to take place, straighten up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

The Son of Man coming in a cloud with great glory and with power and behind him are the armies of heaven (Rev.19:14). This army is none other than His bride, the Church for which He died.

So let's back up for a moment and look at this wedding.



The King of Kings Takes a Bride

he long awaited hope and dreams of two thousand years of the Church of Jesus Christ are now finally happening. The Son of God is about to fulfill His promise to the Church. She will make a glorious bride for she has made herself ready and been washed in the blood of the Lamb and declared righteous before God. For the first time in all of eternity past and present there is going to be a wedding, and all of heaven is looking forward to it. Jesus is about to take a bride.

Revelation 19:7-10 (NASB), ⁷ Let us rejoice and be glad and give the glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come and His bride has made herself ready." ⁸ It was given to her to clothe herself in fine linen, bright *and* clean; for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints. ⁹ Then he *said to me, "Write, 'Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb." And he *said to me, "These are true words of God." ¹⁰ Then I fell at his feet to worship him. But he *said to me, "Do not do that; I am a fellow servant of yours and your brethren who hold the testimony of Jesus; worship God. For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."



While Jesus was on earth He made His future bride a promise:

John 14:1-3 (KJV), "Let not your heart be troubled: you believe in God, believe also in me. ² In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there you may be also."

Jesus has been gone now approximately 2000 years preparing that place for His bride it is called the New Jerusalem. One of the angels who poured out one of the bowl judgments onto the earth came to John to show him the bride, the Lamb's wife. John was taken to a high mountain so that he could look down inside of the glorious city of gold shinning brighter than the sun.

Revelation 21:9-10 (NASB), 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 you the bride, the Lamb's wife. ¹⁰ And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God,"

Here is the church of Jesus, now called the Lamb's wife. She is home in that place Jesus said He would prepare just for her.





The size of the New Jerusalem is found in Revelation 21:15-16. In todays measuments it would measure 1500 miles wide by 1500 miles long and 1500 miles tall. Basically that would be the entire length of the eastern seaboad of the United States and as far in land as Texas, not to mention standing taller and reaching well outside of earth's atmosphere.

The Church of Jesus Christ, the Lamb's wife is alive and well and eternally blessed in her new home.

With the church now gone from the earth the stage is set for the prophet Daniel's final week prophecy of the seventy weeks (Daniel 9) to be fulfilled.

With the return of Jesus Christ to this earth and the setting up of His Kingdom, the world shall enter into a new AGE, the Kingdom Age. This will last for one thousand years and men will never know war ever again.



he Judgments of God do not last forever, actually only seven years and the worst of them are reserved for the last three and a half years. Jesus Christ comes back with His saint as He and the disciples and the prophets of old said He would. Jesus reigns on the earth for one thousand years.

The One Thousand Year Reign of Jesus

The Coming Peace and Prosperity of Zion

Zechariah 8:1-8 (NASB), Then the word of the LORD of hosts came, saying, ² "Thus says the LORD of hosts, 'I am exceedingly jealous for Zion, yes, with great wrath I am jealous for her.' ³ Thus says the LORD, 'I will return to Zion and will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem. Then Jerusalem will be called the City of Truth, and the mountain of the LORD of hosts will be called the Holy Mountain. ⁴ Thus says the LORD of hosts, 'Old men and old women will again sit in the streets of Jerusalem, each man with his staff in his hand because of age. 5 And the streets of the city will be filled with boys and girls playing in its streets.' Thus says the LORD of hosts, 'If it is too difficult in the sight of the remnant of this people in those days, will it also be too difficult in My sight?' declares the LORD of hosts. ⁷ Thus says the LORD of hosts, 'Behold, I am going to save My people from the land of the east and from the land of the west; 8 and I will bring them back and they will live in the midst of Jerusalem; and they shall be My people, and I will be their God in truth and righteousness.'

Here in Zechariah 8 we find the Lord reveals to the prophet that He will return to Zion (Second Coming of Christ). He then gives us a small glimpse as to its

character v4-5. The city of the King has another name then as He tells us "it shall be called the City of Truth. This city sits on the "Holy Mountain," because Jesus is there, it is Holy.

¹⁷The Millennium is a time of peace and harmony on the earth when Jesus and the saints will rule in righteousness. It is a time when all wrongs will be put right and all evils will be cleansed from the earth. Isaiah 65:20-25 contains a fuller description of the wonder and harmony that will characterize this time.

Isaiah 65:20-25 (NASB), ²⁰ "No longer will there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not live out his days; For the youth will die at the age of one hundred And the one who does not reach the age of one hundred Will be thought cursed. ²¹ "They will build houses and inhabit them; they will also plant vineyards and eat their fruit. ²² "They will not build and another inhabit, They will not plant and another eat; For as the lifetime of a tree, so will be the days of My people, And My chosen ones will wear out the work of their hands. ²³ "They will not labor in vain, or bear children for calamity; For they are the offspring of those blessed by the LORD, And their descendants with them.

Nobody will exploit another, nobody will steal or murder. The entire earth will be ruled by Christ, His bride and the martyrs (Revelation 20:4).

Revelation 20:4 (NASB), Then I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was given to them. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony of Jesus and because of the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received the mark on their forehead and on their hand; and they came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.

And their governance will be fair and exactly according to God's laws. It will be how God always intended the earth to be. A haven of peace and righteousness and joy. A creation in complete harmony with its Creator.

People will live much longer lives than they do now Isaiah 65:20 (see above). Even the animals will stop from killing one another for food and all of them will turn to eating grass and plants Isaiah 65:25 (see above).

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¹⁷ http://activechristianity.org/what-does-the-bible-say-about-the-millennium?

Will there be sin during the Millennium?

In spite of all of this the sinful nature that is inherent in all of mankind will not have changed. People will still be born with a flesh in which dwells no good thing. (Romans 7:18) The possibility for people to choose to sin will still be there.

But because Satan is bound during this time (Revelation 20:2) he will not be able to exert his outer influence on people. It will be much easier for people to choose to serve God and live a righteous life when they are surrounded by that same righteousness on all fronts. When there is equality and justice and mercy and patience and humility all around instead of war and famine and tyranny and injustice.

Those who nevertheless choose to live a sinful life and give in to their own pride and selfishness during this time will die early. (Isaiah 65:20) God's laws still apply and nobody will be able to get away with sinning unnoticed.

Jesus, the bride, and the martyrs

Jesus and His bride, along with the martyrs killed during the Great Tribulation will be ruling the earth. These are God's most trusted servants. Jesus, who was tried in all points yet without sin, has absolute authority over all sin and unrighteousness. He is one hundred percent united with God's will.

Those who are in the bride of Christ have also conquered sin in their lives. They too have authority to judge and rule in righteousness because they have let God teach them this righteousness throughout their time on earth. God has tested them and they have been purified by fire, in the same way as Jesus. Jesus and His bride will dry away the tears and bring joy and peace to people. But they have no tears of their own to dry away because they are already filled with God's goodness and joy.

The martyrs of the Great Tribulation have also been tested and will also be along in ruling during the Millennium for they have also given their lives to God, albeit in a different way than the bride. (Revelation 20:4-6) The glory and the responsibility of the bride of Christ will be much greater than that of the martyrs, because their sacrifice was also greater.

All of these will work together to ensure that the world grows in peace, harmony, righteousness, and godliness during the Millennium.

At the end of the Millennial reign of Christ all people dead and alive will be called up to the Great White Thrown Judgment of God, where the wicked (not the righteous) shall give an account of their lives and the works of their hands. While this is happening the earth and the heaves shall all be made new (Rev.21-22).

And so those who loved God shall forever be with God in His Glorious Future.



Part 3

The Glorious Future



A King shall Reign in Righteousness

For those who have trusted in Jesus as their Savior they will see a truly glorious future. In the twenty-first chapter of Revelation we are told of seven things God makes new. For those who come through the millennial reign of Jesus on the earth will be wondering "Can it ever be any better than this." Well it does … Welcome to the Glorious Future.

The Glorious Future

The Seven New Things

Revelation 21:1 "Now I saw a new^{[A]18} heaven and a new^[A] earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away^[B]. Also there was no more sea."

At the conclusion of the Great White Throne Judgment, the heavens and the earth pass away. After reconsidering the meaning of this phrase, "pass away" and the reference to "new" found in Rev. 21:1, I now believe the Heaven (earths atmosphere) and the earth will either be completely destroyed, or so "renovated" as to be considered new.

It has even been suggested that God will enlarge this earth many times over for all the saints of all time (past, present, future) shall be here, even God will change His address and His temple will be here on earth (Rev.21:3). This is a fulfillment of the words of Jesus:

Matthew 24:35 "Heaven and earth will pass away^[B], but My words will by no means pass away."

2 Peter 3:7, 10-13 "7 But the heavens and the earth which are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. ... 10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. 11 Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved,

¹⁸ [New - #G2537- meaning never used, recently made, fresh]. [B] [Pass Away - #G3928 – meaning to perish, cease to be]. The "G" indicates this Strong's definition number is according to the Greek. An "H" indicates the Hebrew concordance.

The Glorious Future

what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, 12 looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire,

and the elements will melt with fervent heat? 13 Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells." (Fulfilled in Rev.21-22)

It is directly after the Great White Throne Judgment that the old heaven and earth pass away (renovated by fire) and we enter a new age, the ...

Perfect Age

in the Dispensation of Righteousness

Revelation 21:3 (NASB), "And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is among men, and He will dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself will be among them,"

Revelation 21:4 (NASB), ⁴ and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be *any* death; there will no longer be *any* mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away."

Isaiah 11:6-9 (NASB), ⁶ "And the wolf will dwell with the lamb, and the leopard will lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little boy will lead them. ⁷ Also the cow and the bear will graze, their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox. ⁸ The nursing child will play by the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child will put his hand on the viper's den. ⁹ They will not hurt or destroy in all My holy mountain, For the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD As the waters cover the sea."

The Perfect Age comes after the Great White Throne Judgment of God. Heaven and Earth pass away, and all things become new. Revelation 21 gives us a list of seven things God makes new. This is the age of Dispensation of Righteousness and it will see the fullness of time. It ushers in the Age of the Ages (Ages to come

The Glorious Future

Eph.2:7) and Eternity to Come, called the Omega Age (Reference chart Ages, Dispensations and Covenants of Blood).

The Seven New Things

- 1. The New Heaven Rev. 21:1, "Now I saw a new heaven ..." In this verse John uses the word heaven as opposed to heavens. In the Greek this is "Ouranos" {oo-ran-os'}(Strongs #G3772). This is used in the singular form meaning the sky, air or heavenly things above us. The new heaven could very well be as it was in the beginning (Gen.1:1). God will restore the heaven back to its original condition before the fall of Lucifer and ultimately the sin of Adam.
- 2. The New Earth Rev. 21:1, "Now I saw... a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. This clearly limits this creative act to our own planet rather than the whole of heaven and the stars (2 Peter 3:7-13). This also is a fulfillment of Isaiah 66.

Isaiah 66:22, "For as the new heavens and the new earth which I will make shall remain before Me," says the LORD, "So shall your descendants and your name remain."

The "New Earth" shall be restored to its Edenic beauty and glory. There shall no longer be thorns and thistles, no parasites or destructive insects and any labor that you would do shall be a delight. No savage beasts to lie in ambush to destroy and devour. The curse (Gen.3:16-19) will be removed finally.

The meek shall inherit the earth, and from the North to the South and from the East to the West the earth shall blossom like the rose and be clothed with the glory of Paradise Restored.

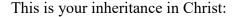
The Glorious Future

3. The New City

Revelation 21:2, "Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband"

A fulfillment of the words of Jesus:

John 14:1, "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. 2 "In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 3 "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.



Colossians 3:24, "knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ."



1 Peter 1:4, "to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,"

God Changes His Address

Ezekiel 37:27 (NASB), "My dwelling place also will be with them; and I will be their God, and they will be My people.



The Tabernacle of God has always been the place where God dwelt among His people. The first one was built by Moses in the desert wilderness. It was eventually replaced by a more permanent structure. By the end of the tribulation period, there will have been three Jewish Temples built and destroyed (Moses, Solomon, Herod).

At this point in time all sin has been done away with, there is no more unrighteousness, no pain, no sorrow, no tears, for Jesus Christ will wipe away every tear from every eye. There will be no more death, for the former things are passed away and behold all things have been made new.

The Glorious Future

It will be a time of eternal righteousness. It is at this time that God will move His heavenly Tabernacle from heaven to earth.

Revelation 21:3, "And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God."

What a glorious time this will be when the glory of heaven comes down to earth. There will be no difference between Jew or Gentile, for we all will be "His People" and He will dwell among us and be our God. At this point the New City, called the New Jerusalem, also comes down from heaven and comes to rest somewhere above the actual city of Jerusalem. This is the abode of the saints of God, and they will go back and forth from it to earth as they have need or the desire to do. This is a final fulfillment of Jacob's Dream.

Genesis 28:12, "Then he dreamed, and behold, a ladder was set up on the earth, and its top reached to heaven; and there the angels of God were ascending and descending on it.

With the Kingdom of God in perfect order and all restored to its original perfect condition, He who sits on the throne finally declares, "It is done!" He then identifies Himself as the Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End. He is Jesus Christ, the Finisher of all things.

Revelation 21:5-6, ⁵"Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And He said to me, "Write, for these words are true and faithful." ⁶And He said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts."

This is the third time we find in Scripture where Jesus Christ has said "It is done" or" finished".

John 19:30, "So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit."

Revelation 16:17-21, ¹⁷ Then the seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air, and a loud voice came out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, "It is done!"

Jesus had finished His redemptive work on the cross when He said "it is finished." Now God's will for the ages has been accomplished through His Son and again He says, "It is done." In these verses we find the fulfillment of another Scripture. Jesus is at the well of Jacob when a woman of Samaria comes to the well to get water. They have a short conversation. Then Jesus tells her:

John 4:13-14, Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, ¹⁴"but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life."



We find the fulfillment of that statement in Rev.21:6 (above). Jesus Himself will give the water of life freely as He has told the woman at the well so many years ago.

The New Jerusalem

Rev.21:9-27



Then John says one of the angels that had one of the seven bowls of judgment of the tribulation period came to him. He carried John away in the spirit to a high mountain overlooking that great city. John called the Holy Jerusalem. The angel told John he would show him the "Bride" (of Rev.19:7-9), the Lamb's wife.

This would certainly indicate that the church, the "Bride of Christ," has been in heaven and has already received her reward, her inheritance. John tells us that the city descended out of heaven and had the glory of God as her light. John goes on to describe three main characteristics of this magnificent city which are:

3.1 The brilliance of the city, verses 9-14

- Its light was bright from the glory of God and likened unto a jasper stone that is clear as crystal.
- Twelve gates it has, three on each of its four walls, with the names of the twelve tribes of Israel on them.
- Each wall had twelve foundations, and in them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. Each foundation layer was garnished with all types of precious stones.

The Glorious Future

- There was no sun for light, for the glory of God and the Lamb gave the city its light. (ref. John 1:4-5)
- The nations of the earth and the kings of the earth will bring their glory and honor into the city.

3.2 The size of the city, verses 15-17

• The angel measures the city and finds it to be 12,000 furlongs deep, wide and tall, a perfect cube. When converted into miles, we find the city is 1500 miles long by 1500 miles wide by 1500 miles tall. If it were laid alongside the United States, it would stretch from Maine to Florida and from the Eastern seaboard to six hundred miles west of the Mississippi River, covering more then half of the United States. It would then rise up 1500 miles out into space.

3.3 The beauty of the city, verses 18-21

- The walls themselves were of Jasper and the city of pure gold and as clear as glass.
- Each of the twelve gates are made of one solid pearl
- The streets were made of pure gold like transparent glass
- There is no temple in the city, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb were the temple of it.

4. The New Nations

Rev.21:24-27, ²⁴"And the nations of those who are saved shall walk in its light, and the kings of the earth bring their glory and honor into it. ²⁵Its gates shall not be shut at all by day (there shall be no night there). ²⁶And they shall bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it. ²⁷But there shall by no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life."

Notice in the above verses the references to the nations and the kings of the earth. Even when speaking of Lucifer there were mentions of kingdoms (in the dateless past), in the world today we still have kingdoms and kings. It is the order of things and it will continue for eternity. It is amazing that in God's great scheme of things there is always order never chaos.

The Glorious Future

Who will be these Kings be, who will rule over the Kingdom's in that time? I have a suggestion from a parable Jesus told.

The Parable of the Talents: Matthew 25:14-25;30; Luke 19:12-19:27

A quick look at the parable, Jesus likened the Kingdom of Heaven to a man who was of traveling, but before he goes he calls in three of his servants and gives each different amounts of money to invest for him while he was gone. While he was gone two of the servants invested the money and made handsome returns on the money, but the third servant took the little amount of money he was given and buried it until his master returned, then he would give it back safe and sound.

When the Master returned the two servants who had done what their Master had asked of them were given their reward for their obedience.

In the Gospel of Luke the disciple tells the parable, but with added detail "Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord." Luke is telling us that the Master (Jesus) gave them ruler ship over cities. This then would be that time that those who have done what God has laid before them will reap the reward for their faith in Him.

This will also be the time that this world and the Kingdom of Heaven will enter into the "Ages of Ages", in the "Ages to come" (Eph.2:7) known as the Omega Age, eternity future.

Ephesians 2:7 (NASB), "So that in the ages to come He might show the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus."

One of the key components of this time is that RIGHTEOUSNESS will reign. The Lord will take from our memories all remembrance of the old life, of old pain and sorrow and of loved one lost. There shall be no more sickness or death for we are eternal beings and we shall be perfect as He is perfect. The earth and the entire Kingdom of Heaven will be perfect and righteousness is all we will know. Consider this verse:

Isaiah 32:1, "Behold, a king will reign righteously And princes will rule justly."

If you have ever read the 1st and 2nd Book of Adam and Eve (a third party historical account of the events of Adam and Eve, author unknown) there is a

The Glorious Future

place in the story where the Word promises Adam that after seven thousand years he could back into the garden that he and Eve were kicked out of.

Is it possible that God will restore this earth to that condition again of perfect completeness as He created it in Genesis 1:1? It was Eden, the Garden of God (Ezekiel 28:13). I believe God will restore this earth to the state it was in before sin entered into the world. This time there will be no evil, no Satan and man will know what God had planned for him from the beginning, eternity with his maker in the fruitful place.

Paradise Restored

The River and the Tree of Life

5. The New River

Revelation 22:1 "And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb."

At one time the rivers of the earth may have been clear, and perhaps there may be still some mountaintop stream that is unpolluted, but for the most part the rivers of the earth are not clear but contain pollutants. One of the fastest growing industries in the world is now clear, healthy (hopefully) bottled water.

Here John tells us of a new river that flows from the Throne of God, its water as clear as crystal and life giving. It is called the "Water of Life" because of its life-giving properties. Earthly rivers have their source from a mountain spring, but the "River of Life" has its source from the "Throne of God."

This is the water that Jesus referred to when He encountered the Samarian woman at the well. Jesus told her what He tells us today, John 4: 10, ... "If you had asked Him He would have given you living water. ... v14, whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall never thirst; but the water that I will give him will become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life."

6. The New Tree of Life

The Glorious Future

Revelation 22:2 "In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, was the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits, each tree yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations."

The streets are to be lined with trees, as are also the banks of a wonderful river. These trees are not mere shade trees, but beautiful fruit trees, called the "Tree of Life," that bear twelve kinds of fruit, a different kind each month. The fruit of these trees is for "Overcomers Only."

Revelation 2:7 "... To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God."

The leaves of the trees are for the healing of the nations that shall occupy the new earth. Not that there will be any sickness, but to preserve them in health, as Adam would have been preserved in health if he had eaten of the Tree of Life in the Garden of Eden (Gen.3:22-24).

7. The New Throne

Revelation 22:3-5 "³And 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. ⁴ They shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads. There shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever."

• The Curse, Reference Genesis 3:17-19, 1000 yr. reign also referenced in Zech. 14:11

The Jewish people have always sought after a temple, a place to go to and worship God. By this time in history there will have been three temples (Solomon, Herold, and from the treaty with the antichrist). The thing about the New Jerusalem is that there is no temple. Why need a temple when the object of worship is present, for "The Lord God Almighty and the Lamb Are the Temple of it." In fact the whole city itself will be a temple.

The Glorious Future

HEAVEN (Temple which will be in the New Jerusalem) shall come down to EARTH, and this earth will become the **RESIDENCE OF GOD**. Therefore God will dwell among His people, which have always been His desire since Mt. Sini (Exodus 45:45-46)

John's Final Testimony and Warnings

Revelation 22:6-15 "⁶ Then he said to me, "These words are faithful and true." And the Lord God of the holy prophets sent His angel to show His servants the things which must shortly take place. ⁷ "Behold, I am coming quickly! Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book." ⁸ Now I, John, saw and heard these things. And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel who showed me these things. ⁹ Then he said to me, "See that you do not do that. For I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren the prophets, and of those who keep the words of this book. Worship God."

Verse seven reminds me of something the Lord said to John at the opening of the book:

Revelation 1:3 "Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is near."

Now, he is being told again

Revelation 22:7 "Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book."

This message is repeated in verse twelve.

Revelation 22:12 "I come quickly and my reward is with me to give to every man according to his works".

It seems the Lord wanted the message to be clear and understood, that He is coming quickly and His reward (the blessings of verse 1:3; 22:7) is with Him. We should live our lives knowing that His return is imminent. Once you see the prophecies begin to happen, then look up, for our redemption draws nigh. This means that once the prophecies begin, their fulfillment will come faster and more frequent until His return happens. He likened this scenario of events to a woman who is about to give birth. We know the event is near by her labor pains when

The Glorious Future

they become more intense and closer together. So it will be just before the return of the Messiah. This then is for us the number one sign we should be looking for.

Once you have heard and know the prophecies, you must decide what you shall do. Blessed are you if you keep God's Word and the sayings that are in this book. Time and time again throughout the Book, the reader is told, "Blessed are you who keep the words, or do the things which are written in the Book." Once a believer has accepted Christ as Savior, it is not enough to simply "do nothing." You will be known by your "works" and by what kind they are. Keeping the Word and doing the Word are words of action and of good works.

Revelation 22:8, "Now I, John, saw and heard these things. And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel who showed me these things."

For the second time in the Book of Revelation, John makes the same mistake: He falls down and worships the angel. In chapter 19:10 John worships the angel, but is quickly rebuked. Now John is rebuked again. The angel reminds him that he is also a fellow servant of the Lord and that he ought to worship God. A good word of advice for us all: we do not worship angels, or objects, or anything made with hands, or other people. As the angel told John "we ought to worship God."

In the book of Daniel the Lord tells Daniel:

Daniel 12:4, "But you, Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book until the time of the end; many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase."

The prophetic word was to be "shut up" or hidden from men until the "time of the end." This was not the end of the world (for the world will never end), but rather the "end of the age," a "time" (or the season) when "knowledge shall increase" and men shall "run to and fro" over the earth.

Revelation 22:10 "And he said to me, "Do not seal the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is at hand."

Unlike the angel told Daniel in Daniel 12:4 (above), to seal up the book until the time of the end; John is being told not to seal these words of prophecy of the book. "The time is at hand," its message is for the churches and today as we are now in the "Time of the End" according to Daniel.

The Glorious Future

In Rev.22:10 above the prophetic word is now to be revealed as Jesus told John "not to seal the words of the prophecy." This means that with study (2 Tim.2:15) the prophecies of this book can and will be revealed to you. We can know and understand the book of Revelation. It will be revealed to those who seek its knowledge and earnestly desire its correct interpretation.

In this verse the word "time" is the Greek word "kairos" meaning "season, opportunity, in due time." The Lord is telling us that NOW is the season for the revealing of Himself through this last book of the Bible. The opportunity to understand is upon us; the prophecies of this book are to be made known and not sealed up. Now is the time to make ourselves ready and strengthen ourselves for "such a time as this," the time of the "end of the age." God has revealed His plan through His Word and it will be revealed to those who earnestly seek it. Surely the time is at hand.

Revelation 22:11, "He who is unjust, let him be unjust still; he who is filthy, let him be filthy still; he who is righteous, let him be righteous still; he who is holy, let him be holy still."

After hearing the Word preached and the prophecies revealed, there will be those who still choose to reject Christ, mocking His message of love. Hence verse eleven states, "Let him be unjust still, he who is filthy, let him be filthy still." For the hardness of their hearts God will let them have their own way.

Psalms 81:12, "So I gave them over to their own stubborn heart, to walk in their own counsels."

"Let him who is righteous let him be righteous still," a statement to believers, "do not be weary in well doing" (Gal.6:9; 2 Thess.3:13). Keep the faith even through troublesome times. For those who are righteous and holy ... "be righteous and holy still."

In Rev.22:13 the speaker identifies himself as the same speaker from Rev.1:10 and 21:6. He declares:

Revelation 22:13 "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last."

Jesus Christ the Messiah (Yehovah Yeshua Ha Machiyach), the same Jesus that we found in the fourth word of the Bible. He is the "Alpha Tav," or in the English, "Alpha and Omega," the First and the Last. He identifies Himself as the

The Glorious Future

beginning of all things (creator) and the last, or ending of all things (judge). This is the constant theme that permeates Scripture.

Hebrews 12:2, "looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God."

In verse 14 Jesus reminds us that:

Revelation 22:14, "Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city."

Note, in many translations this phrase is rendered

"Blessed are they that wash their robes (in the blood of the Lamb), that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city."

One translation suggests that the way to the tree of life is through keeping His commandments, while the second rendition speaks towards the work of Jesus on the cross and faith in the blood of Christ shed for them. Our works are a product of our faith. Keeping His commandments is a sign of our love for Him, for Jesus Himself said, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments" Jn.14:15.

Revelation 22:16, "I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star."

Jesus is now talking to John in the present tense, telling him that these things are to be told to the Churches (His Bride). In Rev.1:19 Jesus tells John to write down the things he sees and the things that are, then the things which must be hereafter. Now, John is told that these things are to be testified of in the churches. It is a clear mandate to teach the book of Revelation to the church, the Bride of Christ so that we may not be caught unaware.

Revelation 22:17, "And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely."

The Glorious Future

A last passionate plea from a God that so loves the world, "the Spirit and the bride say, Come!" The Spirit of God is how man is drawn to God; the bride (church) proclaims the message. The message is, "Come," come to Christ, come to God for He loves you so much. For those who thirst and desire God, knowledge, faith, and salvation, let him come. Let him take of the water of life freely, for it is "the gift of God" (Jn.4:10; Ro.6:23; Eph 2:8)

As He did with His messages to the seven churches, Jesus gives one last reminder or warning.



Revelation 22:18-19, "For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book."

Exodus 32: 32-33 (NASB), ³²But now, if You will, forgive their sin—and if not, please blot me out from Your book which You have written!" ³³The LORD said to Moses, "Whoever has sinned against Me, I will blot him out of My book.

Psalm 69:28 (NASB), May they be blotted out of the book of life And may they not be recorded with the righteous.

Revelation 3:5 (NASB), ⁵ He who overcomes will thus be clothed in white garments; and I will not erase his name from the book of life, and I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.

The strongest warning given in Scripture is this one. Jesus Christ makes it perfectly clear that this Book is not to be added to or taken away from.

Proverbs 30:6 (NASB), "Do not add to His words, Or He will reprove you, and you will be proved a liar.

The Glorious Future

It is HIS message and not to be taken lightly. For those who do not heed the warning the message is clear. God will take away his part from the Book of Life, from the Holy City (New Jerusalem) and from the things that are written in the book. Let me remind you of Rev. 20:15:

Revelation 20:15, "And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire."

God can and will remove your name from the book of life. If God did not withhold His judgment on His own people (the Jews), then how can we expect God to excuse us, who have been given so much light? We have no excuse and can expect the same judgment. (Ex.32:32-33; Ps.69:28; Rev.3:5)

Revelation 22:20, He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming quickly." Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus! The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

In His closing remarks Jesus identifies Himself as "He who testifies to these things" and His message is "Surely I am coming quickly." When we see the signs begin to happen, then "look up for our redemption draws near" (Lu.21:28) and Jesus will come quickly and all His people said "Amen" meaning "so be it" (Jer.11:5). It is a message of hope for those who have trusted in Him and long for His return, and a message of doom for those who have rejected Him and His love. The saints of all the ages cry out, "Even so, come, Lord Jesus! This is the last and final message to His church that He is coming back again. What a wonderful message and hope that Yeshua Jesus, our Messiah, has left for us, that He is coming back and that there shall be peace at last.

The Benediction

Revelation 22:21, "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen."

John closes the book with a reminder to us of God's grace. From Genesis to Revelation the Bible is a picture of the grace of God. It started in the Garden of Eden and will last for eternity. God's love will never end.

John reminds us of grace and therefore of love, for love is the greatest thing. To know love is to know the Father, for He is love. The Holy Scriptures were given to reveal the Creator to His creation. In the Old Testament God revealed to man

The Glorious Future

His law through the covenants. In the New Testament God the Son came as a servant, to seal the New Covenant (Jer.31:31-34) on the cross and to show man how to live in it. The Creator came into the world, but the world knew Him not. The Book of Revelation is the revealing of God the Son, this time as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. The book reveals to man God's ultimate plan, the end of sin and a time of eternal righteousness.

Yes, as John reminds us, may we never forget God's grace. It is by His grace we are saved, by His grace He will carry us through and by His grace we will see Him one day.

John 3:16 (NASB), ¹⁶ "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.

Grace to You my friend, and remember who you are in Christ Jesus.

Number 6:24-26 (NASB)

"May the Lord (Jehovah) bless you and keep you May the Lord (Jehovah) make His face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you. May the Lord (Jehovah) lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace." 1 Thess. 4:16-18, "¹⁶For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. ¹⁸Therefore comfort one another with these words."



A Closing Comment

The Blessing of the Book of Revelation, I believe, is the knowledge of the plan of God, to reward those who serve Him and to punish those who reject His Son. That good will ultimately triumph over evil, that there is a greater purpose in the universe other than ourselves and that Jesus Christ is the head of it and in control of it. The book tells us that there is a day coming when we shall be like Him, for we will be transformed into His image and we shall see Him as He is. Then face to face we will know, for our hearts will declare what our eyes are seeing, that we have come home at last. WELCOME HOME!



Welcome Home