

Understanding The Book of Revelation

What does the Bible say?

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Table of Contents

1	God Wants Us to Understand	1
2	Jesus Wants Us to Understand	15
3	The Holy Spirit Wants Us to Understand	31
4	Understanding the "Final 7 Years" Part 1	57
5	Understanding the "Final 7 Years" Part 2	75
6	Understanding the 7 th Trumpet and the Summary of Revelation 12:1 through Revelation 14:20	97
7	Understanding the 7 Bowls of the Wrath of God	115
8	Understanding the Biblical Sequence of Events	131

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Chapter 1

God Wants Us to Understand

The Book of Revelation has been a mystery to many people for many years.

One of the basic roadblocks to understanding the Book of Revelation has been the fact that there is no "Temple". The Temple in Jerusalem had been destroyed in 70 A.D. — just as Jesus had prophesied 37 years earlier — as recorded in Matthew 24:1-2:

Then Jesus went out of the Temple, and His disciples came up to show Him the buildings of the Temple. And 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."

When the armies of the Roman Empire — under the leadership of Titus — destroyed the Temple in 70 A.D. — the Temple was set on fire and the soldiers literally tore the Temple apart — stone by stone — to get to the melted gold. Both the Temple and Jerusalem were destroyed and "Not one stone was left upon another" — exactly as Jesus had prophesied.

For the next 2,000+ years — and for almost 2,000 years since the Book of Revelation was written — there has been NO TEMPLE in Jerusalem! Nevertheless, when John (the author of Revelation) was shown these coming end-time events, he was instructed to "Measure the Temple and those who worship there" — as recorded in Revelation 11:1-8:

Then I was given a reed like a measuring rod. And the angel stood, saying, "Rise and measure the Temple of God, the altar, and those who worship there. But leave out the court which is outside the Temple, and do not measure it, for it has been given to the gentiles. And they will tread the holy city underfoot for forty-two months (3 ½ years).

And I will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy one thousand two hundred and sixty days (the same 3 ½ years), clothed in sackcloth. These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands standing before the God of the earth.

And if anyone wants to harm them, fire proceeds from their mouth and devours their enemies. And if anyone wants to harm them, he must be killed in this manner. These have the power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their prophecy; and they have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to strike the earth with all plagues, as often as they desire.

When they finish their testimony, the beast that ascends out of the bottomless pit (Satan) will make war against them, overcome them, and kill them. And their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified (Jerusalem).

The ðTempleö was also mentioned in the prophecies of Jesus ó as He spoke with His disciples concerning these end-time events ó as recorded in Matthew 24:15-22:

ðTherefore when you see the ÷Abomination of Desolationø spoken of by Daniel the Prophet, standing in the holy place (the Holy of Holies in the Temple) ó **whoever reads let him understand** ó then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains.

ðLet him who is on the housetop not go down to take anything out of his house. And let him who is in the field not go back to get his clothes. But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! And pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath.

ðFor then there will be great **Tribulation**, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor never shall be. And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the electø sake those days will be shortened.ö (**Rapture**)

This is an amazing scripture, because the disciple Matthew (the author of ðThe Gospel According to Matthewö) interrupts a prophetic message by Jesus and inserts ó in parenthesis ó the phrase **whoever reads let him understand**ö and then completes the prophecy. It is as if Matthew is saying ðThis is IMPORTANT! You need to get this!ö

When Mark wrote ðThe Gospel According to Markö, he did the same thing! See Mark 13:14-20:

ðSo when you see the ÷Abomination of Desolationø spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing where it ought not (**let the reader understand**), then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains.

ðLet him who is on the housetop not go down into the house, nor enter to take anything out of his house. And let him who is in the field not go back to get his clothes. But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! And pray that your flight may not be in winter.

ðFor in those days there will be **Tribulation**, such as has not been since the beginning of the creation which God created until this time, nor ever shall be. And unless the Lord had shortened those days, no flesh would be saved; but for the electø sake, whom He chose, He shortened the days.ö (**Rapture**)

So Matthew (an original Disciple of Jesus) and Mark ó both understood what Jesus was teaching in regard to these end-time events. It is as if both of them are waving their arms to get our attention and saying, ðThis is IMPORTANT! You need to get this!ö

Of course, if Matthew and Mark were both simply recording what Jesus actually said ó in other words ó if Jesus actually said **whoever reads let him understand**ö, then it

becomes an even more significant statement! In that case, it would be as if Jesus Himself were making the point: "This is IMPORTANT! You need to get this!"

Therefore in any case it is very important for us to understand the definition of the **Abomination of Desolation**. Here is the Biblical definition:

The **Abomination of Desolation** is when the **Anti-Christ** goes into the **Temple in Jerusalem** and into the **Holy of Holies** and sits as God in the Temple of God and proclaims that he is God.

It is also important to notice that Jesus mentions a time (coming in the future) which He refers to as the **Tribulation**. In Matthew 24:21-22 Jesus says:

"For then there will be great **Tribulation**, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor never shall be. And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened." (**Rapture**)

In Mark 13:19-20 Jesus says it this way:

"For in those days there will be **Tribulation**, such as has not been since the beginning of the creation which God created until this time, nor ever shall be. And unless the Lord had shortened those days, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake, whom He chose, He shortened the days." (**Rapture**)

In other words That particular time of the **Tribulation** is going to be so BAD that Jesus is saying that ALL of His Disciples would be killed if He did not implement the **Rapture** and "Shorten the Days".

In other words, the **Rapture** is what ends the **Tribulation**.

You can see that very easily in Matthew 24:29-31:

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. **Then** the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and **they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of Heaven** with power and great glory. And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will **gather His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.**" (**Rapture**)

Here is the way Mark records this in Mark 13:24-27:

"But in those days, **after that Tribulation**, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars of heaven will fall, and the powers of heaven will be shaken. **Then** they will see the **Son of Man coming in the clouds** with

great power and glory. And **then** He will send His angels, and gather together His elect from the four winds, from the farthest part of the earth to the farthest part of heaven.ö (**Rapture**)

NOTE: Many Christians have been taught (and many believe) that öChristians do **NOT** go through Tribulationö. Nevertheless, in these passages of Scripture, Jesus is clearly saying that öChristians **DO** go through Tribulationö. In fact, in John 16:33 Jesus says:

öThese things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have Peace. In the world you will have **Tribulation**; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.ö

The Bible Truth is that öChristians do **NOT** go through **WRATH**.ö

In the Book of Revelation ó when Jesus takes the Scroll from the hand of God ó there are ö7 Sealsö, ö7 Thundersö, ö7 Trumpetsö, and ö7 **Bowls of Wrath**ö.

It is important to understand that there is a difference between the ö**TRIBULATION**” and the ö**WRATH of GOD**ö.

The **Rapture** occurs at the **Last Trumpet** (the 7th Trumpet) and while (as Jesus said) Christians **DO** go through **Tribulation** ó Christians certainly do **NOT** go through the ö**WRATH of GOD**ö.

The Bible teaches that the ö7 **Bowls of Wrath**ö ó which occur **AFTER** the **Rapture** ó are poured out **onto an unsaved world**.

The Bible Truth is that öChristians do **NOT** go through **WRATH**.ö

When people are taught that öChristians do NOT go through Tribulationö ó most of the Bible verses that they are shown ó actually have the word ö**WRATH**ö in them. In other words, the Bible teaches that **Christians do NOT go through WRATH** ó but many have used those exact verses to teach/believe that öChristians do NOT go through Tribulation.ö

For example, in First Thessalonians 5:9-10, Paul teaches:

For God did not appoint us to **wrath**, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, that whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with Him.

Furthermore, in the öLetters to the Angels of the Seven Churchesö in the Book of Revelation ó Jesus instructs His Disciples to ö**OVERCOME**ö ó to be ö**FAITHFUL unto DEATH**ö.

Throughout the Bible, **TRIBULATION** and **PERSECUTION** come from our **STAND** on the ö**WORD of GOD**ö and our ö**TESTIMONY of JESUS**ö.

Notice what John says in Revelation 1:9:

I, John, both your brother and companion in the Tribulation and Kingdom and Patience of Jesus Christ, was on the Island that is called Patmos for the **Word of God** and for the **Testimony of Jesus Christ**.

Jesus spoke of these things to His disciples near the close of His ministry in John 16:1-4:

ōThese things I have spoken to you, that you should not be made to stumble. They will put you out of the synagogues; **Yes, the time is coming that whoever kills you will think that he offers God service.** And these things they will do to you because they have not known the Father nor Me. But these things I have told you, that when the time comes, you may remember that I told you of them. And these things I did not say to you at the beginning, because I was with you.ö

Just prior to saying that, Jesus said this in John 15:12-27:

ōThis is My commandment ó that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends.

ōYou are My friends ó if you do whatever I command you. No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you.

ōYou did not choose Me ó but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you.

ōThese things I command you ó that you love one another.

ōIf the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.

ōRemember the word that I said to you, ÷A servant is not greater than his master.ø **If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you.** If they kept My word, they will keep yours also.

ōBut all these things they will do to you for **My Name's Sake** ó because they do not know Him who sent Me. If I had not come and spoken to them, they would have no sin, but now they have no excuse for their sin.

ōHe who hates Me ó hates My Father also. If I had not done among them the works which no one else did, they would have no sin; but now they have seen and also hated both Me and My Father.

“But this happened that the word might be fulfilled which is written in their law,
 “They hated Me without a cause”

“But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of Truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me. And you will also bear witness, because you have been with Me from the beginning.”

TRIBULATION and PERSECUTION

come from our **STAND**

on the **WORD of GOD** and our **TESTIMONY of JESUS.**

In Second Thessalonians, Paul also mentions the “**Temple**” in conjunction with these end-time events of the “**Rapture**” and the “**Abomination of Desolation**” and the coming “**Anti-Christ**”. Look at 2nd Thessalonians 2:1-5:

Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him (**Rapture**), we ask you, not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of Christ had come.

Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will **NOT** come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin (the **Anti-Christ**) is revealed, the son of perdition, who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshipped, so that he sits as God in the Temple of God, showing himself that he is God (**Abomination of Desolation**).

Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you these things?

In other words, Paul is saying that the **Rapture** can **NOT** occur until the **Abomination of Desolation** comes first.

Furthermore, the **Abomination of Desolation** can **NOT** occur until there is a **Temple** in Jerusalem ó since the Anti-Christ will go into the Holy of Holies in the Temple.

It follows then ó that the **Rapture** can **NOT** occur until there is a **Temple**.

NOTE: Many Christians have been taught (and many believe) that the “Rapture” could occur at any time. Nevertheless, in this passage of Scripture, Paul is clearly saying that “The **Rapture** can **NOT** occur until the **Abomination of Desolation** (and thus the **Temple** being re-built) occurs first.”

In fact, in 2nd Thessalonians 2:3-4 we are warned about the possibility of being **deceived**:

Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day (the **Rapture**) will **NOT come unless** the falling away comes first, and the man of sin (the **Anti-Christ**) is revealed, the son of perdition, who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshipped, so that he sits as God in the Temple of God, showing himself that he is God (the **Abomination of Desolation**).

To understand the Book of Revelation it is important to understand the Biblical Sequence of Events given by Jesus and by Paul and by all other Biblical Scriptures.

The Sequence here in 2nd Thessalonians 2:1-5 is:

- Temple is re-built
- Abomination of Desolation
- Rapture

Let's compare this sequence with the sequences we saw in other Scriptures:

The Sequence in Matthew 24:15-22 is:

- Temple is re-built
- Abomination of Desolation
- Tribulation (such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be) This is toward the end of the Tribulation Just before the Rapture
- Rapture

The Sequence in Mark 13:14-20 is:

- Temple is re-built
- Abomination of Desolation
- Tribulation (such as has not been since the beginning of the creation which God created until this time, nor ever shall be) This is toward the end of the Tribulation Just before the Rapture.
- Rapture

The Sequence in Matthew 24:29-31 is:

- Tribulation This is toward the end of the Tribulation Just before the Rapture.
- Sun and Moon are darkened
- Son of Man coming on the Clouds
- Rapture

The Sequence in Mark 13:24-27 is:

- Tribulation This is toward the end of the Tribulation Just before the Rapture.
- Sun and Moon are darkened
- Son of Man coming on the Clouds
- Rapture

Paul's Sequence in 2nd Thessalonians 2:1-5 is the same Sequence given by Jesus:

- Temple is re-built
- Abomination of Desolation
- Rapture

If we put together a Sequence of what we have so far – it would look like this:

- Temple is re-built ó Matthew 24:15-22
- Temple is re-built ó Mark 13:14-20
- Temple is re-built ó 2nd Thessalonians 2:1-5
- Abomination of Desolation ó Matthew 24:15-22
- Abomination of Desolation ó Mark 13:14-20
- Abomination of Desolation ó 2nd Thessalonians 2:1-5
- Tribulation (such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be) ó This is toward the end of the Tribulation ó Just before the Rapture ó Matthew 24:15-22
- Tribulation (such as has not been since the beginning of the creation which God created until this time, nor ever shall be) ó This is toward the end of the Tribulation ó Just before the Rapture ó Mark 13:14-20
- Tribulation ó This is toward the end of the Tribulation ó Just before the Rapture ó Matthew 24:29-31
- Tribulation ó This is toward the end of the Tribulation ó Just before the Rapture ó Mark 13:24-27
- Sun and Moon are darkened ó Matthew 24:29-31
- Sun and Moon are darkened ó Mark 13:24-27
- Son of Man coming on the Clouds ó Matthew 24:29-31
- Son of Man coming on the Clouds ó Mark 13:24-27
- Rapture ó Matthew 24:15-22
- Rapture ó Mark 13:14-20

- Rapture ó Matthew 24:29-31
- Rapture ó Mark 13:24-27
- Rapture ó 2nd Thessalonians 2:1-5

In the above Sequences we see what happens **AFTER** the **“Abomination of Desolation”** ó towards the **END** of the **“Tribulation”** ó Just before the **“Rapture”**.

If we look at another scripture from Matthew 24 ó we can see a picture of what happens at the **BEGINNING** of the **Tribulation**. Let’s look at Matthew 24:3-13:

Now 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?”

And Jesus answered and said to them: “Take heed that no one deceives you. For many will come in My name, saying, ‘I am the Christ’ and will deceive many.

“And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places.

“All these are the **Beginnings of Sorrows**.

“**Then** they will deliver you up to **Tribulation** and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My Name’s Sake. And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another. Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold.

“But he who endures to the end shall be saved.” (**Faithful unto Death**)

The Sequence here in Matthew 24:3-13 is:

- Beginnings of Sorrows ó This could have begun as early as when Jesus ascended to heaven ó because there certainly have been wars and rumors of wars and earthquakes and pestilences and famines since that time.
- Tribulation Begins and Continues ó This is the beginning of the Tribulation.

Putting all of these “Sequence of Events” together – would look like this:

- **Beginnings of Sorrows** ó This could have begun as early as when Jesus ascended to heaven ó because there certainly have been wars and rumors of wars and earthquakes and pestilences and famines since that time ó Matthew 24:3-13
- **Tribulation Begins and Continues** ó This is the beginning of the Tribulation ó Matthew 24:3-13
- **Temple is re-built** ó The Bible does not tell us whether or not the Temple is re-built before the Tribulation begins ó but the Temple is definitely re-built before the Anti-Christ commits the Abomination of Desolation ó Matthew 24:15-22, Mark 13:14-20, 2nd Thessalonians 2:1-5
- **Abomination of Desolation** ó Matthew 24:15-22, Mark 13:14-20, 2nd Thessalonians 2:1-5
- **Great Tribulation** ó In the öGospel According to Matthewö ó Jesus refers to this time toward the end of the Tribulation as the öGreat Tribulationö ó **This is the time immediately after the Abomination of Desolation and just before the Rapture** ó Matthew 24:15-22, Mark 13:14-20, Matthew 24:29-31, Mark 13:24-27
- **Sun and Moon are darkened** ó Matthew 24:29-31, Mark 13:24-27
- **Son of Man coming on the Clouds** ó Matthew 24:29-31, Mark 13:24-27
- **Rapture** ó Matthew 24:15-22, Mark 13:14-20, Matthew 24:29-31, Mark 13:24-27, 2nd Thessalonians 2:1-5

There are several other verses in the Bible that describe the öRaptureö ó so let’s look at those verses before we go any further:

First Corinthians 15:51-52

Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed ó in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the **Last Trumpet**. For the **Trumpet** will sound, and the dead in Christ will be raised incorruptible, and we shall all be changed (**Rapture**).

Sequence:

- Last Trumpet
- Rapture

In the above passage of Scripture, Paul tells us that the Rapture occurs at the ðLast Trumpetö. In the next passage of Scripture, Paul will tell us that this ðLast Trumpetö is actually ðThe Trumpet of Godö.

In the Book of Revelation, we will see Jesus take the Scroll from the hand of God and open the Scroll in the following order:

- [1] The 7 ðSealsö
- [2] The first 4 ðTrumpetsö
- [3] The ð5th Trumpetö (which the Bible calls the ð1st Woeö)
- [4] The ð6th Trumpetö (which the Bible calls the ð2nd Woeö)
- [5] The ð7 Thundersö and the ð1,260 day (3 ½ year) Ministry of the 2 Prophetsö
Both occur during the period of the ð6th Trumpetö
- [6] The ð7th Trumpetö (which the Bible calls the ð3rd Woeö)
Some amazing things happen at the 7th Trumpet ó including an Angel actually Preaching the Gospel to those on the earth ó Prior to the Rapture.
Then ó after the Rapture occurs ó God's ð7 Bowls of Wrathö are poured out onto an unsaved world.
- [7] The ð7 Bowls of the Wrath of Godö

Therefore this ðLast Trumpetö is actually the ð7th Trumpetö. In other words, the ðRAPTUREö occurs at the ð7th TRUMPETö ó PRIOR to the WRATH OF GOD.

1st Thessalonians 4:15-18

For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. For 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.

Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air (Rapture). And thus we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words.

Sequence:

- Jesus descends from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the Trumpet of God
- Rapture

Here is the way that the Rapture is described in the Book of Revelation:

Revelation 14:14-20

Then I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and **on the cloud sat One like the Son of Man**, having on His head a golden crown, and in His hand a sharp sickle. And another angel came out of the Temple, crying with a loud voice to Him who sat on the cloud, "Thrust in Your sickle and reap, for the time has come for You to reap, for the harvest of the earth is ripe."

So He who sat on the cloud thrust in His sickle on the earth, and the earth was reaped (**Rapture**).

Then another angel came out of the Temple which is in heaven, he also having a sharp sickle. And another angel came out from the altar, who had power over fire, and he cried out with a loud cry to him who had the sharp sickle, saying, "Thrust in your sharp sickle and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth, for her grapes are fully ripe."

So the angel thrust his sickle into the earth and gathered the vine of the earth, and threw it into the great winepress of the **WRATH of GOD**.

And the winepress was trampled outside the city, and blood came out of the winepress, up to the horses' bridles, for one thousand six hundred furlongs (160+ miles).

Sequence:

- Son of Man on a Cloud
- Rapture
- Wrath of God

The Sequence of these last 3 passages of Scripture can be seen as follows:

- Last Trumpet ó 1st Corinthians 15:51-52
- Jesus descends from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the Trumpet of God ó 1st Thessalonians 4:15-18
- Son of Man on a Cloud ó Revelation 14:14-20
- Rapture ó 1st Corinthians 15:51-52

- Rapture ó 1st Thessalonians 4:15-18
- Rapture ó Revelation 14:14-20
- Wrath of God ó Revelation 14:14-20

Putting the entire Sequence together – we get a clear picture of what the Bible says:

- **Beginnings of Sorrows** ó This could have begun as early as when Jesus ascended to heaven ó because there certainly have been wars and rumors of wars and earthquakes and pestilences and famines since that time ó Matthew 24:3-13
- **Tribulation Begins and Continues** ó This is the beginning of the Tribulation ó Matthew 24:3-13
- **Temple is re-built** ó The Bible does not tell us whether or not the Temple is re-built before the Tribulation begins ó but the Temple is definitely re-built before the Anti-Christ commits the Abomination of Desolation ó Matthew 24:15-22, Mark 13:14-20, 2nd Thessalonians 2:1-5
- **Abomination of Desolation** ó Matthew 24:15-22, Mark 13:14-20, 2nd Thessalonians 2:1-5
- **Great Tribulation** ó In the ðGospel According to Matthewö ó Jesus refers to this time toward the end of the Tribulation as the ðGreat Tribulationö ó **This is the time immediately after the Abomination of Desolation and just before the Rapture** ó Matthew 24:15-22, Mark 13:14-20, Matthew 24:29-31, Mark 13:24-27
- **Sun and Moon are darkened** ó Matthew 24:29-31, Mark 13:24-27
- **Last Trumpet** ó 1st Corinthians 15:51-52
- **Jesus descends from heaven** with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the Trumpet of God ó 1st Thessalonians 4:15-18
- **Son of Man coming on the Clouds** ó Matthew 24:29-31, Mark 13:24-27, Revelation 14:14-20
- **Rapture** ó Matthew 24:15-22, Mark 13:14-20, Matthew 24:29-31, Mark 13:24-27, 2nd Thessalonians 2:1-5, 1st Corinthians 15:51-52, 1st Thessalonians 4:15-18, Revelation 14:14-20
- **Wrath of God** ó Revelation 14:14-20

TRIBULATION and PERSECUTION
come from our **STAND**
on the **WORD of GOD** and our **TESTIMONY of JESUS.**

Chapter 2

Jesus Wants Us to Understand

When the disciples of Jesus came to Him and asked Him to tell them about the end-time events ó the first words that Jesus spoke to them ó in answer to their question ó was a clear warning: **õTake heed that no one deceives you.ö**

Jesus was **NOT** giving this warning to the nation of Israel (as some have been encouraged to believe) ó but Jesus was giving this warning to **His Disciples**.

Here is the Bible Truth: If your name is written in the Lamb's **õBook of Lifeö** ó Then Jesus sees you as a **õDiscipleö**. If you are **õBorn Againö** ó Then you are a **õDiscipleö**.

When a **Disciple** of **Jesus** comes under **Persecution and Tribulation** ó it will be because of that person's **STAND** on the **WORD of GOD** and his/her **TESTIMONY of JESUS**.

With that Bible Truth in mind, let's take another look at Matthew 24:3-13:

Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, **õTell us, when will these things be? And what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?ö**

And Jesus answered and said to them: **õTake heed that no one deceives you**. For many will come in My name, saying, **õI am the Christ,ö** and will deceive many. And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.

õFor nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places.

õAll these are the Beginnings of Sorrows. (This could have begun as early as when Jesus ascended to heaven ó because there certainly have been wars and rumors of wars and earthquakes and pestilences and famines since that time.)

õThen they will deliver you up to **Tribulation** and **kill you**, and **you will be hated by all nations** for **My Name's sake** (because of the **Name of Jesus**).

õAnd then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another. Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold.

õBut he who endures to the end shall be savedö. (**Faithful unto Death**)

TRIBULATION and **PERSECUTION**
 come from our **STAND**
 on the **WORD of GOD** and our **TESTIMONY of JESUS**.

When Mark records this same event ó Mark gives us the additional information that the disciples in question were actually Peter, James, John, and Andrew ó who had come to Jesus in private ó to ask Him to tell them about these end-time events. Nevertheless, Mark also records that the first words that Jesus spoke to them ó in answer to their question ó was a clear warning: **Take heed that no one deceives you.**

Again ó this is **NOT** a warning to the nation of Israel ó this is a warning to the **Disciples of Jesus!** Picture yourself as being there ó listening to Jesus ó when Jesus answers this question for Peter, James, John, and Andrew ó as recorded in Mark 13:3-13:

Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives opposite the Temple ó Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked Him privately, **Tells us, when will these things be? And what will be the sign when all these things will be fulfilled?**

And Jesus answering them, began to say, **Take heed that no one deceives you.** For many will come in My name, saying, **I am He,** and deceive many.

But when you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be troubled; for such things must happen, but the end is not yet. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be earthquakes in various places, and there will be famines and troubles.

These are the **Beginnings of Sorrows.** (This could have begun as early as when Jesus ascended to heaven ó because there certainly have been wars and rumors of wars and earthquakes and pestilences and famines since that time.)

But watch out for yourselves, for they will deliver you up to the councils, and you will be beaten in the synagogues. You will be brought before rulers and kings for **My sake** (because of the **Name of Jesus**), for a Testimony to them.

And the gospel must first be preached to all the nations.

But when they arrest you and deliver you up, do not worry beforehand, or premeditate what you will speak. But whatever is given you in that hour, speak that; for it is not you who speak ó but the Holy Spirit.

Now brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child; and children will rise up against parents and cause them to be put to death. And you will be hated by all for **My Name's sake** (because of the **Name of Jesus**)

But he who endures to the end will be saved. (**Faithful unto Death**)

<p><u>TRIBULATION</u> and <u>PERSECUTION</u> come from our <u>STAND</u> on the <u>WORD of GOD</u> and our <u>TESTIMONY of JESUS.</u></p>

When Jesus first spoke of the Abomination of Desolation ó Matthew and Mark emphasized the importance of that end-time event by adding “Whoever reads let him understand” (Matthew 24:15) and “Let the reader understand” (Mark 13:14). In both accounts, Jesus referred to this event as “The Abomination of Desolation – Spoken of by Daniel the Prophet”. Therefore, let’s look at the Book of Daniel and see if the Temple is mentioned in any of Daniel’s end-time prophetic visions.

The first place we should look is Daniel 9:20-27:

Now while I was speaking, praying, and confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel and presenting my supplication before the LORD my God for the Holy Mountain of my God ó yes ó while I was speaking in prayer, the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly, reached me about the time of the evening offering.

And he informed me, and talked with me, and said, òO Daniel, I have now come forth to give you skill to understand. At the beginning of your supplications the command went out, and I have come to tell you, for you are greatly beloved; therefore consider the matter, and understand the vision:

Seventy weeks (70 sevens) are determined for your people (Israel) and for your holy city (Jerusalem), to finish the transgression, to make an end of sins, to make reconciliation for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the Most Holy.

Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the command to restore and build Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince (Jesus), there shall be seven weeks (7 sevens) and sixty-two weeks (62 sevens); the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublesome times.

And after the sixty-two weeks (62 sevens) Messiah shall be cut off, but not for Himself; and the people of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end of it shall be with a flood, and till the end of the war desolations are determined.

Then he shall confirm a covenant (Treaty) with many for one week (1 seven); but in the middle of the week (in the middle of the seven) he (the Anti-Christ) shall bring an end to sacrifice (STOP the Daily Sacrifices at the Temple) and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate, even until the consummation, which is determined, is poured out on the desolate.ö

This is an amazing passage of Scripture and it is definitely important in our understanding of the Book of Revelation, because this prophecy shows that God has determined a certain period of time ó 70 Sevens (69 Sevens plus 1 Final Seven) ó in which to complete ALL of His promises to Israel.

First of all, let's understand who Daniel was, where Daniel was and why he was there.

Giving a complete background of all the events leading up to Daniel is not within the scope of this book, but here is a quick summary just giving the highlights:

- God created the earth and placed Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden
- The Serpent (Satan) used deception to get Adam to turn over the authority that God had given him over the entire earth and Satan gained control over the earth and sin and death and disease entered the earth and God removed Adam and Eve from the Garden of Eden to prevent them from eating of the Tree of Life and living forever in that fallen state.
- Years later mankind was so corrupt and sinful that God handpicked Noah and his family and basically started over by causing the Flood which wiped out everyone except Noah and his family.
- After the Flood, some of Noah's descendants began to build the tower of Babel and God confused their languages and stopped that building project (which was in direct disobedience to the Word of God) and God scattered the people.
- This town later became Babylon (mentioned in the Book of Revelation) and Abram was born near that area in Ur of the Chaldeans.
- God handpicked Abram and said this to him in Genesis 12:1-3:

Now the LORD had said to Abram, "Get out of your country, from your family and from your father's house, to a land that I will show you. I will make you a great nation (Israel); I will Bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a Blessing. I will Bless those who Bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be Blessed."
- God continued to make promises to Abram and changed his name to Abraham and gave him a son Isaac.
- God gave Isaac a son Jacob and God later changed his name to Israel.
- Jacob (Israel) had 12 sons who became the 12 Tribes of Israel (Mentioned in the Book of Revelation)
- For the first 2,000 years after Adam, God dealt with man according to Grace.

- Then ó after God used Moses to bring the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt ó God gave the Law through Moses ó and dealt with Israel according to the öLawö for the next 2,000 years.
- When Israel broke the Law ó there were consequences ó and one of those consequences came because the Nation of Israel was not obeying the öSabbath Restö instructions. The result was Babylon conquered Israel ó destroyed the Temple (which David's son Solomon had built) ó and took Israel into captivity.
- Granted ó there were people and kings who were committed to God ó but basically God's experience with Israel was one of **Persistent Unfaithfulness**ö.
- God's punishment for Israel was the captivity in Babylon for 70 years ó and that is where we find Daniel ó praying that God would return Israel to the land God had given them and cause the Temple and the City of Jerusalem to be re-built.
- God showed Daniel ó in the prophecy that we read in Daniel 9:20-27 ó that not only would the Temple be re-built ó and not only would Jerusalem be re-built ó but God also showed Daniel **when** the promised Messiah (Jesus) would come.
- God showed Daniel that the Second Temple would be destroyed ó after the Messiah was öcut offö (after the Messiah ó Jesus ó brought in the New Covenant ó which is available to both you and me ó through His work on the Cross).
- God showed Daniel that the ö70 Sevensö was actually ö69 Sevensö plus ö1 Final Sevenö. We will understand later that this öFinal Sevenö is actually the öFinal 7 Yearsö (which John would later write about in the Book of Revelation).
- God showed Daniel that the Anti-Christ would come and STOP the öDaily Sacrificesö in the middle of a 7-year Peace Treaty ó during these öFinal 7 Yearsö.
- By showing Daniel that the Anti-Christ would STOP the Daily Sacrifices ó God was also showing Daniel that a Third Temple would definitely be re-built.
- The Book of Revelation is all about God keeping His Promises to the Nation of Israel ó and to do that ó **the Temple must be re-built**. God will keep His Word to öSave Israelö ó not because of anything that Israel has done ó but because God always keeps His Word. God is Faithful and God always keeps His Word.
- The Book of Revelation will show us that once God has kept all of His Promises to Israel ó God will then cause the earth to have a period of öSabbath Restö ó with Jesus ruling and reigning from Jerusalem for 1,000 years ó while Satan is locked up in a bottomless pit ó so that Satan can not deceive the nations during that time.
- Then after the Judgment ó there will be a öNew Heavenö and a öNew Earthö.

Before we leave this summary and get back to the prophecy in Daniel ó there is another amazing prophecy that God gave to Ezekiel ó who was in captivity in Babylon during the same time as Daniel. Listen as God speaks to Ezekiel (His Prophet) ó in Ezekiel 4:1-6:

“You also, son of man, take a clay tablet and lay it before you, and portray on it a city, Jerusalem. Lay siege against it, build a siege wall against it, and heap up a mound against it; set camps against it also, and place battering rams against it all around. Moreover take for yourself an iron plate, and set it as an iron wall between you and the city. Set your face against it, and it shall be besieged, and you shall lay siege against it. **This will be a sign to the house of Israel.**

“Lie also on your left side, and lay the iniquity of the house of Israel upon it. According to the number of the days that you lie on it, you shall bear their iniquity.

“For I have laid on you the years of their iniquity, according to the number of the days, three hundred and ninety days (390 days); so you shall bear the iniquity of the house of Israel.

“And when you have completed them, lie again on your right side; then you shall bear the iniquity of the house of Judah forty days (40 days). **I have laid on you a day for each year.**”

This passage clearly shows 1 day = 1 year.

So 390 days = 390 years (for Israel) added to 40 days = 40 years (for Judah) ó give an added together total of 430 years (of punishment) for the Nation of Israel.

The first decree to release Israel from their captivity in Babylon was by the Persian King “Cyrus” ó exactly 70 years to the day ó from when Israel went into captivity.

So according to Ezekiel’s prophecy:

430 years of punishment for the iniquity of the Nation of Israel

- 70 years captivity in Babylon

360 years remaining of punishment for the iniquity of the Nation of Israel

Israel had been under the rule of the Babylonians. Then even after Israel returned to Jerusalem and re-built the Temple ó they were still under the rule of the Persians. Then Israel was conquered by the Greeks. Then later Israel was conquered by the Roman Empire and they were under the rule of the Romans ó even until the time of Jesus ó and then when the Romans destroyed the Temple and destroyed Jerusalem in 70 A.D. ó the people of Israel were scattered throughout the world and the Nation of Israel simply ceased to exist as a nation ó for almost 2,000 years.

So what of the remaining 360 years of punishment for the iniquity of the Nation of Israel?

Look at what the LORD spoke to Moses on Mount Sinai ó as recorded below in Leviticus Chapter 26 ó Instructing him to speak these words to the children of Israel:

Leviticus 26:18

öAnd after all this, if you do not obey Me, then **I will punish you seven times more for your sins.**ö

This is repeated three more times ó for emphasis!

Leviticus 26:21

öThen, if you walk contrary to Me, and are not willing to obey Me, **I will bring on you seven times more plagues, according to your sins.**ö

Leviticus 26:23-24

öAnd if by these things you are not reformed by Me, but walk contrary to Me, then I also will walk contrary to you, and **I will punish you yet seven times for your sins.**ö

Leviticus 26:27-28

öAnd after all this, if you do not obey Me, but walk contrary to Me, then I also will walk contrary to you in fury; and **I, even I, will chastise you seven times for your sins.**ö

360 years remaining for the punishment of the Nation of Israel (times 7) = 2,520 years.

God had given Israel a very sophisticated calendar ó being both Lunar and Solar. The people of Israel have a calendar that uses a 360 day Lunar (and Prophetic) year and then adds in öLeap Monthsö on occasion ó so that it matches up with the Solar calendar.

If we convert the ö2,520 yearsö (of punishment) in this prophecy into the actual number of ödaysö ó we can then convert the actual number of ödaysö back into our öSolar yearsö ó by dividing by 365.25 days per year ó which would also adjust for our öLeap Yearsö.

2,520 years (of punishment) times 360 days per year = 907,200 days (of punishment)

907,200 (days of punishment) divided by 365.25 days per year = 2,483.778 years (of punishment for the iniquity of the Nation of Israel).

I hate to bore you with the math ó but the decree of Cyrus went forth in the year 536 B.C.

Let's treat '536 B.C.' as a negative number: - 536 B.C. plus 2,483 = 1947 (plus we add 1 since there is no '0 A.D.') and 1947 plus 1 = 1948.

Israel became a Nation in 1948!

Israel became a Nation (again) in 1948 ó after enduring 2,500 years of God's punishment for their '**Persistent Unfaithfulness**' ó as a Nation. The Nation of Israel literally ceased to exist as a Nation for almost 2,000 years. No other nation in the history of the world has ever returned as a Nation ó once they have been destroyed as a Nation.

You may be getting the point that God takes his prophecies seriously ó I hope so ó because the prophecies in the Book of Revelation are also very serious indeed!

It is important for each of us to **UNDERSTAND** the **BOOK of REVELATION**.

It is important for each of us to **UNDERSTAND** exactly **WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS** about these future ó but soon coming end-time events ó hence the purpose of this book.

Before we leave this incredible prophecy that God gave Ezekiel ó let's take a quick look at a passage of Scripture that was written hundreds of years before 'Cyrus' was even born ó and God called him by name ó 'CYRUS' ó the one who in 536 B.C. would issue the decree to rebuild the Temple and return over 50,000 of the children of Israel back to their homeland ó thus ending their captivity. Look at what God says in Isaiah 44:28:

Who says of **Cyrus**, 'He is My shepherd, and he shall perform all My pleasure, **saying to Jerusalem, 'You shall be built'** and **to the Temple, 'Your foundation shall be laid.'**'

Again ó I hope you are beginning to **UNDERSTAND** that God takes His Prophecies very seriously ó God always keeps His WORD!

Look at what God says in Isaiah 46:9-13:

'Remember the former things of old, for I am God, and there is no other: I am God, and there is none like Me, **declaring the end from the beginning**, and from ancient times things that are not yet done, saying, 'My counsel shall stand, and I will do all My pleasure, calling a bird of prey from the east, the man who executes My council, from a far country.

Indeed I have spoken it; I will also bring it to pass.

'I have purposed it; I will also do it. Listen to Me you stubborn-hearted, who are far from righteousness: I bring My Righteousness near, it shall not be far off; My Salvation shall not linger. And I will place Salvation in Zion, for Israel My glory.'

What the world will endure during the **7 Years of Tribulation** ó includes what God calls His **“Four Severe Judgments – The Sword, Famine, Wild Beasts, and Pestilence”**.

In the Book of Revelation ó John is shown by Jesus ó that literally one-half (1/2) of the total World’s Population is killed (or dies) by one of these 4 Judgments ó the Sword, Famine, Wild Beasts, or Pestilence.

One-fourth (1/4) of the World’s Population is killed (or dies) in the First 3 ½ Years of the **7 Year Tribulation** and one-third (1/3) of the World’s Remaining Population is killed (or dies) in the Second 3 ½ Years of the **7 Year Tribulation**.

The Scripture tells us that this is God’s Judgment on the **7 Persistent Unfaithfulness of the World**.

For seven years, God will cause the people of the World to endure 7 Years of Tribulation ó 7 Years of His **7 Four Severe Judgments** ó 7 Years of the **7 Sword, Famine, Wild Beasts, and Pestilence** ó all because of the **“Persistent Unfaithfulness of the World.”**

Before you deem this **7 Judgment** as **7 too harsh** ó please understand that God has already caused the people of Israel to endure 2,500 Years of Tribulation ó 2,500 Years of His **7 Four Severe Judgments** ó 2,500 years of the **7 Sword, Famine, Wild Beasts, and Pestilence** ó all because of the **“Persistent Unfaithfulness of Israel.”**

God will use these **7 Final 7 Years** to bring about His Purpose for Israel.

During the first 3 ½ years of the **7 Year Tribulation** ó **God will handpick 144,000** ó 12,000 of each of the 12 Tribes of Israel. These are **7 selected** and **7 set apart** and **7 Sealed** ó but they are not yet **7 Saved**. Then God will use the 5th Trumpet (the 5 Month Torment ó on all but the 144,000) to make a distinction between the 144,000 and all others ó just like He did with the children of Israel and the Egyptians ó when He sent Moses to deliver Israel from their bondage in Egypt. All of this will happen during the first 3 ½ years of the **7 Year Tribulation**.

During the second 3 ½ years of the **7 Year Tribulation** ó God will use the 2 Witnesses ó the 2 Prophets that we read about in Revelation 11:1-8 ó and they will actually teach **7 Jesus is the Messiah** to the 144,000 ó from the Temple ó in Jerusalem. During their 1,260 day (3 ½ year) ministry ó every single one of the 144,000 ó 12,000 from each of the 12 Tribes of Israel ó will be saved. All of this will happen during the last 3 ½ years of the **7 Year Tribulation** ó so **all of Israel will be “Saved”** ó prior to the Rapture.

Since Christians are **7 in the world** ó Christians will also experience what the World experiences and Christians will also endure what the World endures ó during these **7 Final 7 Years** ó during the **7 Year Tribulation**.

During these 7 Years of God’s **7 Four Severe Judgments** ó the World (and Christians in the World) will experience 7 Years of the **7 Sword, Famine, Wild Beasts, and Pestilence** ó all because of the **“Persistent Unfaithfulness of the World.”**

Those 7 years will be tough ó but those who have their name written in the Lamb's BOOK of LIFE ó will have the opportunity to take a STAND for the WORD of GOD and for the TESTIMONY of JESUS.

In the first 3 chapters of Revelation, Jesus uses the "Letters to the Angels of the Seven Churches" to instruct His Disciples to Overcome ó to be Faithful unto Death.

In each of the "Letters to the Angels of the Seven Churches" ó Jesus ends His message to His Disciples in each of the Churches with two Identical Statements:

[1] Jesus makes certain Promises "To Him who Overcomes" (Faithful unto Death)

[2] Jesus encourages His Disciples to UNDERSTAND ó and He continues to repeat the phrase: "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches"

In Revelation 12:11 ó the Bible gives instructions on exactly how to Overcome:

And they overcame him (Satan) by the Blood of the Lamb and by the Word of their Testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death (Faithful unto Death).

Ask the LORD to help you UNDERSTAND what HE is saying to His Disciples in the following 4 passages of Scripture ó Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John:

Matthew 16:25

"For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it." (Faithful unto Death)

Mark 8:35

"For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel will save it." (Faithful unto Death)

Luke 9:24

"For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will save it." (Faithful unto Death)

John 12:25

"He who loves his life will lose it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life." (Faithful unto Death)

TRIBULATION and PERSECUTION

come from our STAND

on the WORD of GOD and our TESTIMONY of JESUS.

Now let's return to Daniel's 70 Week Vision (the vision of Daniel's Seventy Sevens) and apply the same mathematical analysis that we used earlier in Ezekiel's Prophecy.

There were actually 4 separate decrees to rebuild Jerusalem (the first one being the decree of Cyrus in 536 B.C. and the fourth one being the one spoken of in the Book of Nehemiah (the decree of King Artaxerxes in 445 B.C. where the wall of the city was actually re-built) which is what the entire Book of Nehemiah is all about.

A man by the name of Sir Robert Anderson published a book in 1895 which is still in print today with the title "The Coming Prince". His best estimate of the date of the decree of King Artaxerxes was March 14, 445 B.C.

Daniel is told that there will be 70 Sevens or 70 Seven-year periods or 70 times 7 years or **490 years** for God to complete **ALL** of His Promises to the Nation of Israel. Daniel is told that there will be 7 Sevens and 62 Sevens or a total of 69 Sevens or a total of 69 7-year periods or 69 times 7 years or **483 years** from the time of the command to restore and build Jerusalem until the Messiah the Prince (Jesus).

Daniel is told there will also be one more Seven (in other words the Final 7 Years). The 483 years plus the Final 7 years = 490 Years or 70 7-year periods (70 Sevens).

If we take the 483 years and convert that into the equivalent number of days (by multiplying by 360 days per year) and then divide that total number of days by 365.25 days per year (converting it back from Lunar years to years in our Solar calendar which would also adjust for our Leap Years) then it would look like this:

483 times 360 days per year = 173,880 days

173,880 days divided by 365.25 days per year = 476.057 years.

Let's look at 445 B.C. as a negative number: - 445 B.C. plus 476 years = 31 (plus we add 1 since there is no 0 A.D.) and 31 A.D. + 1 = 32 A.D.

In the book "The Coming Prince" Sir Robert Anderson figures the exact days and reports that it comes to exactly April 6, 32 A.D. which was his best approximation of the date when Jesus entered Jerusalem just before the Passover when He was crucified.

We looked at the Scripture in Daniel 9:20-27 where God told Daniel that there are 70 Sevens (490 years) determined for Israel and Jerusalem to accomplish these 6 things:

- To finish the transgression
- To make an end of sins
- To make reconciliation for iniquity
- To bring in everlasting righteousness
- To seal up vision and prophecy
- To anoint the Most Holy

Again ó I hate to bore you with the math ó but it was 483 years òfrom the command to restore and build Jerusalemö ó until ó òMessiahö (from 445 B.C. until 32 A.D.) and the total (70 Sevens) prophecy of 490 Years minus these 483 Years = **7 years remaining.**

In the list of the above 6 items ó you could make the case that Jesus accomplished some ó but not all ó of the 6 things on the list. So some ó but not all ó were accomplished in that initial 483-year period.

Remember when Jesus was on the Cross and He said, òIT IS FINISHED!ö (John 19:30)?

It is as if God somehow hit a òStop Watchö ó **Reserving that Final 7 Years** ó Reserving that òFinal 7-Year Periodö ó 7 years that God will use to complete His Promises to Israel.

In other words, for the past 2,000+ years – God has reserved the “Final 7 Years”!

Here is wisdom:

When God takes the Scroll in His Right Hand (in Revelation 5:1) ó God is then ready to start those òFinal 7 Yearsö ó God is then ready to Fulfill **ALL** His Promises to Israel!

Then ó in Revelation 6:1 ó **When Jesus opens the First Seal**

- That will start the òFinal 7 Yearsö of Daniel’s ò70 Sevens Visionö
- That will start the beginning of the ò7 Year Tribulationö
- That will start the òFinal 7 Yearsö that God has determined ó in order to keep ALL of His Promises to Israel.
- And ó according to what we saw in Daniel 9:20-27 ó That will also start a period of 3 ½ years of òPeaceö for the Nation of Israel ó giving Israel an opportunity to re-build the Temple (if the Temple has not already been re-built by that time). So Israel will have Peace for the first 3 ½ years ó while the world is in òTribulationö.
- Then ó Israel will START the òDaily Sacrificesö at the Temple in Jerusalem.
- Then ó 3 ½ years later ó half way through the ò7 Year Peace Treatyö ó the òprince who is to comeö (the Anti-Christ) will enter Jerusalem with an army and STOP the òDaily Sacrificesö.

So far – our “Sequence of Events” looks like this:

- **Jesus – the Messiah – accomplishes what He was sent to the earth to accomplish – during His “First Coming”** ó ðFor God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.ö ó John 3:16
- **You and I now have the opportunity to become “Disciples of Jesus”** ó ðBut what does it (the Scripture) say? ðThe WORD is near you, in your Mouth and in your Heartó ó that is the Word of Faith which we preach ó that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead ó you will be Saved. For with the heart one believes unto Righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto Salvation.ö ó Romans 10:8-10
- **Jesus Commands His Disciples to be “Faithful unto Death”** ó Matthew 16:25, Mark 8:35, Luke 9:24, John 12:25
- **Beginnings of Sorrows** ó This could have begun as early as when Jesus ascended to heaven ó because there certainly have been wars and rumors of wars and earthquakes and pestilences and famines since that time ó Matthew 24:3-13, Mark 13:3-13
- **Disciples of Jesus began to be persecuted and were “Faithful unto Death”** ó ðAnd they stoned Stephen as he was calling on God and saying, ðLord Jesus, receive my spirit.ø Then he knelt down and cried out with a loud voice, ðLord, do not charge them with this sin.ø And when he had said this, he fell asleep. Now Saul (who later became the great ðApostle Paulö) was consenting to his death. At that time a great persecution arose against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles. And devout men carried Stephen to his burial, and made great lamentation over him. As for Saul, he made havoc of the church, entering every house, and dragging off men and women, committing them to prison. Therefore those who were scattered went everywhere preaching the WORD.ö ó Acts 7:59-8:4
- **The Temple and Jerusalem are both destroyed in 70 A.D. by the Roman Empire** ó Over 1 million are killed and the children of Israel are scattered throughout the earth ó in exile and without a homeland. The Nation of Israel ceases to exist as a Nation ó for almost 2,000 years.

- **The children of Israel continue to endure God’s “Four Severe Judgments – the Sword, Famine, Wild Beasts, and Pestilence.”** Israel endures 2,500 years of God’s punishment for the iniquity of Israel ó beginning with their 70-year captivity in Babylon (during the time of Daniel) and continuing through the years of the World War II Holocaust ó which ended in 1945. Israel endures over 2,500 years of God’s punishment for the **“Persistent Unfaithfulness of Israel”** ó Ezekiel 4:1-6, Leviticus 26:18-28
- **Israel becomes a Nation (again) in 1948** ó This ends the 2,500 years of God’s punishment for the iniquity of Israel. This ends the 2,500 years of punishment for the **“Persistent Unfaithfulness of Israel”**. No other nation in the history of the world has ever returned as a Nation ó once they have been destroyed as a Nation. Nevertheless, God honors His promise to return Israel to her homeland in 1948.
- ----- at some point in the future -----
- **God takes the Scroll in His Right hand** ó He is ready to start the **“Final 7 Years”**. God will use these **“Final 7 Years”** to fulfill ALL of His Promises to Israel ó Revelation 5:1
- **Israel signs a covenant (7-year Peace Treaty) with many** ó Daniel 9:20-27
- **Jesus opens the First Seal** ó This starts the **“7 Year Tribulation”** ó Revelation 6:1
- **Tribulation Begins and Continues** ó This is the beginning of the Tribulation ó Matthew 24:3-13
- **The “7 Year Tribulation” is God’s punishment on the “Persistent Unfaithfulness of the World”** ó This is 7 years of what God calls His **“Four Severe Judgments ó The Sword, Famine, Wild Beasts, and Pestilence”**. This is 7 years of God’s punishment on the **“Persistent Unfaithfulness of the World”**. Since Christians are **“in the World”** ó Christians will experience what the World experiences and Christians will endure what the World endures ó during these **“Final 7 Years”** ó during the **“7 Year Tribulation”**.
- **God will use these “Final 7 Years” to fulfill ALL of His Promises to Israel** ó Daniel 9:20-27
- **Israel will have “Peace” during the first 3 ½ years – while the rest of the world is in Tribulation** ó This will give Israel an opportunity to re-build the Temple (if the Temple has not already been re-built by that time). Daniel 9:20-27

- **Temple is re-built** ó The Bible does not tell us whether or not the Temple is re-built before the Tribulation begins ó but the Temple is definitely re-built before the Anti-Christ commits the Abomination of Desolation ó Matthew 24:15-22, Mark 13:14-20, 2nd Thessalonians 2:1-5
- **Israel STARTS the “Daily Sacrifices”** ó Daniel 9:20-27
- **Anti-Christ enters Jerusalem with an army and STOPS the “Daily Sacrifices”** ó Daniel 9:20-27
- **Abomination of Desolation** ó Matthew 24:15-22, Mark 13:14-20, 2nd Thessalonians 2:1-5
- **Great Tribulation** ó In the ðGospel According to Matthewö ó Jesus refers to this time toward the end of the Tribulation as the ðGreat Tribulationö ó **This is the time immediately after the Abomination of Desolation and just before the Rapture** ó Matthew 24:15-22, Mark 13:14-20, Matthew 24:29-31, Mark 13:24-27
- **Sun and Moon are darkened** ó Matthew 24:29-31, Mark 13:24-27
- **Last Trumpet** ó 1st Corinthians 15:51-52
- **Jesus descends from heaven** with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the Trumpet of God ó 1st Thessalonians 4:15-18
- **Son of Man coming on the Clouds** ó Matthew 24:29-31, Mark 13:24-27, Revelation 14:14-20
- **Rapture** ó Matthew 24:15-22, Mark 13:14-20, Matthew 24:29-31, Mark 13:24-27, 2nd Thessalonians 2:1-5, 1st Corinthians 15:51-52, 1st Thessalonians 4:15-18, Revelation 14:14-20
- **Wrath of God** ó Revelation 14:14-20

TRIBULATION and PERSECUTION
come from our **STAND**
on the **WORD of GOD** and our **TESTIMONY of JESUS.**

Chapter 3

The Holy Spirit Wants Us to Understand

Let's take a closer look at this concept of what of God calls öPersistent Unfaithfulnessö and see if we can understand how ó and why ó God dealt with the öPersistent Unfaithfulness of Israelö.

If we can understand that ó then perhaps we will be able to understand exactly how ó and why ó God has chosen to use the ö7 Year Tribulationö to deal with the öPersistent Unfaithfulness of the Worldö.

Then ó if we can understand that ó perhaps we will be able to understand exactly how ó and why ó Jesus is able to count on His Disciples ó who are born again with His Righteousness ó to Stand ó in the midst of Tribulation and Persecution ó to STAND ó on the WORD of GOD and on our TESTIMONY of JESUS and to be öFAITHFUL unto DEATHö.

Ask the Holy Spirit to help you UNDERSTAND.

What follows is an interesting öparableö in the Book of Ezekiel which shows how God chose to deal with the öPersistent Unfaithfulness of Israelö ó Ezekiel 15:1-8:

Then the Word of the LORD came to me, saying: öSon of man, how is the wood of the vine better than any other wood, the vine branch which is among the trees of the forest?

öIs wood taken from it to make any object? Or can men make a peg from it to hang any vessel on?

öInstead, it is thrown into the fire for fuel; the fire devours both ends of it, and its middle is burned. Is it useful for any work?

öIndeed, when it was whole, no object could be made from it. How much less will it be useful for any work when the fire has devoured it, and it is burned?ö

Therefore thus says the LORD GOD: öLike the wood of the vine among the trees of the forest, which I have given to the fire for fuel, so will I give up the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and I will set My face against them.

öThey will go out from one fire, but another fire shall devour them. Then you shall know that I am the LORD, when I set My face against them.

öThus I will make the land desolate, because they have Persisted in Unfaithfulness,ö says the LORD GOD.

God also speaks about **Persistent Unfaithfulness** in Chapter 14 of Ezekiel.

Ask the Holy Spirit to help you **UNDERSTAND** God's thoughts on **Persistent Unfaithfulness**. In this passage of Scripture, God also discusses His **“Four Severe Judgments – The Sword, Famine, Wild Beasts, and Pestilence”**.

God starts out by saying ó basically ó ðIf I sent just one judgment ó that would be enough to determine who will be **Faithful**. As you read this ó Ask the Holy Spirit to help you understand what God is saying in this Scripture ó in Ezekiel 14:12-23:

The word of the LORD came again to me, saying: ðSon of man, when a land sins against Me by **persistent unfaithfulness**, I will stretch out My hand against it;

ðI will cut off its supply of bread, send **famine** on it, and cut off man and beast from it. Even *if* these three men, Noah, Daniel, and Job, were in it, they would deliver *only* themselves by their righteousness,ö says the Lord GOD.

ðIf I cause **wild beasts** to pass through the land, and they empty it, and make it so desolate that no man may pass through because of the beasts, *even though* these three men *were* in it, *as* I live,ö says the Lord GOD, ðthey would deliver neither sons nor daughters; only they would be delivered, and the land would be desolate.

ðOr *if* I bring a **sword** on that land, and say, -Sword, go through the land,ø and I cut off man and beast from it, *even though* these three men *were* in it, *as* I live,ö says the Lord GOD, ðthey would deliver neither sons nor daughters, but only they themselves would be delivered.

ðOr *if* I send a **pestilence** into that land and pour out My fury on it in blood, and cut off from it man and beast, *even though* Noah, Daniel, and Job *were* in it, *as* I live,ö says the Lord GOD, ðthey would deliver neither son nor daughter; they would deliver *only* themselves by their righteousness.ö

For thus says the Lord GOD: ð**How much more** it shall be when I send **My four severe judgments on Jerusalem – the sword and famine and wild beasts and pestilence** ó to cut off man and beast from it?

ðYet behold, there shall be left in it a remnant who will be brought out, *both* sons and daughters; surely they will come out to you, and you will see their ways and their doings.

ð**Then you will be comforted** concerning the disaster that I have brought upon Jerusalem, all that I have brought upon it.

ð**And they will comfort you**, when you see their ways and their doings; and you shall know that I have done nothing **without cause** that I have done in it,ö says the Lord GOD.

God caused Israel to endure 2,500 Years of Tribulation ó 2,500 years of His öFour Severe Judgmentsö ó 2,500 Years of the öSword, Famine, Wild Beasts, and Pestilenceö ó as punishment for the ö**Persistent Unfaithfulness of Israel.**ö

In the öFinal 7 Yearsö ó God will cause the World to endure 7 Years of Tribulation ó 7 Years of His öFour Severe Judgmentsö ó 7 Years of the öSword, Famine, Wild Beasts, and Pestilenceö ó as punishment for the ö**Persistent Unfaithfulness of the World.**ö”

God will use **those same 7 years** to fulfill His Promises to Israel.

We will see in the Book of Revelation ó that God will handpick 12,000 from each of the 12 Tribes of Israel and öSealö them on their foreheads. These 144,000 are öselectedö and öset apartö and öSealedö ó but they are not yet öSavedö.

God has promised ó throughout the Scripture ó to ö**Save Israel.**ö. Nevertheless, Israel must be öSavedö the same way that an individual is öSavedö.

Paul tells us that an individual is öSavedö ó by Grace ó through **Faith.**
Look at Ephesians 2:8-9:

öFor by Grace you have been Saved **through Faith,** and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.ö

In Romans, Paul not only tells us exactly how an individual is öSavedö ó but he even shows us how we get öFaithö. öSo then Faith comes by hearing and hearing ó by the Word of Godö. Letö look at this very important passage of Scripture in Romans 10:8-17:

⁸ But what does it say? öThe word is near you, in your mouth and in your heartö (that is, the word of faith which we preach): ⁹ that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

¹⁰ For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

¹¹ For the Scripture says, öWhoever believes on Him will not be put to shame.ö

¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him.

¹³ For ö**whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be Saved.**ö

¹⁴ How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed?

And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard?

And how shall they hear without a preacher?

¹⁵ And how shall they preach unless they are sent?

As it is written:

“How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace,
Who bring glad tidings of good things!”

¹⁶ But they have not all obeyed the gospel.

For Isaiah says, “LORD, who has believed our report?”

¹⁷ **So then Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.**

We will see in the Book of Revelation ó that God will use the 5th Trumpet (**the 5 Month Torment – on all but the 144,000**) ó to make a distinction between the 144,000 and all others ó just like He made a distinction between Israel and Egypt ó when God sent Moses to deliver the children of Israel from their bondage in Egypt.

Then we will see ó in the Book of Revelation ó that God will have the **7 Thunders** utter their voices. It is my understanding that this will be God speaking directly to the 144,000 (and to all others who are privileged to be able to hear). John was not allowed to tell us the Words of the **7 Thunders** ó but it is my understanding that God will use the **7 Thunders** to speak His Word to the 144,000 (and to all others who are privileged to be able to hear.)

Faith comes by hearing and hearing – by the Word of God.

Then we will see ó in the Book of Revelation ó that God will then send His 2 Witnesses (His 2 Prophets) to Jerusalem for 1,260 days (3 ½ years). God will give His 2 Prophets incredible power ó including the ability to strike the earth with all plagues as often as they desire ó and it is my understanding that they appear immediately after the Anti-Christ STOPS the “Daily Sacrifices” and therefore prevent the Anti-Christ from entering the Holy of Holies at that time ó or any other time ó during their 1,260 day ministry.

We will see later ó in the Book of Daniel ó that there are actually 1,290 days from the time that the Anti-Christ STOPS the “Daily Sacrifices” ó until ó the day the Anti-Christ actually commits the “Abomination of Desolation” (on the 1,290th day). So it is my understanding that these 2 Prophets will teach **Jesus is the Messiah** to the 144,000 (and to all others who will come to hear the Word of God) ó at the Temple ó in Jerusalem ó for 3 ½ years (1,260 days). Then ó after Satan kills the 2 Prophets ó the Anti-Christ will enter the Holy of Holies and commit the “Abomination of Desolation”.

Faith comes by hearing and hearing – by the Word of God.

Look at how Jesus ministered (at His ðFirst Coming) to His Disciples during the time ó after His Crucifixion and after He rose from the dead ó but before He ascended to heaven and while He was still on the earth ó as recorded in Luke 24:25-27:

²⁵ Then He said to them, ðO foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken!

²⁶ Ought not the Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into His glory?ö

²⁷ And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets (**the entire Old Testament**), He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself (**JESUS**).

It is my understanding that these 2 Prophets will do exactly what Jesus did. They will begin with Moses and all the Prophets (the entire Old Testament) and expound to them ó in all the Scripture ó the things concerning JESUS.

In other words ó the 2 Prophets will teach ð**Jesus is the Messiah**ö to the 144,000 (and to all others who will come to hear the Word of God) ó at the Temple ó in Jerusalem ó for 1,260 days (3 ½ years).

Faith comes by hearing and hearing – by the Word of God.

Look at another time that Jesus ministered to His Disciples during the time ó after His Crucifixion and after He rose from the dead ó but before He ascended to heaven and while He was still on the earth ó as recorded in Luke 24:44-49:

⁴⁴ Then He said to them, ðThese *are* the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and *the* Prophets and *the* Psalms (**the entire Old Testament**) concerning Me.ö (**ALL of the Old Testament Scriptures that prophesied concerning JESUS**)

⁴⁵ And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures.

⁴⁶ Then He said to them, ðThus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, ⁴⁷ and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. (**This was necessary so that an individual could be “Saved”.**)

⁴⁸ And you are witnesses of these things.

⁴⁹ Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high.ö

It is my understanding that these 2 Prophets will do exactly what Jesus did ó begin with Moses and all the Prophets and the Psalms (the entire Old Testament) and expound to them ó in all the Scripture ó the things concerning JESUS.

In other words ó the 2 Prophets will teach **“Jesus is the Messiah”** to the 144,000 (and to all others who will come to hear the Word of God) ó at the Temple ó in Jerusalem ó for 1,260 days (3 ½ years).

Faith comes by hearing and hearing – by the Word of God.

We will see in the Book of Revelation ó that **every single one of these 144,000** will be **“Saved”**. In other words ó 12,000 of each of the 12 Tribes of Israel will be **“Saved”**.

We will see in the Book of Revelation that once these 144,000 are **“Saved”** ó These same 144,000 will individually take a **STAND** for the **WORD of GOD** and for the **TESTIMONY of JESUS** ó and we will see them Saved, Martyred, and in Heaven with Jesus ó before the Throne of God. (**Faithful unto Death**)

Faith comes by hearing and hearing – by the Word of God.

We will see in the Book of Revelation ó that God will keep ALL of His promises to the Nation of Israel.

Israel will be “Saved” ó as prophesied throughout so many of the Old Testament Prophetic Scriptures in the Bible.

In fact ó several of the New Testament Scriptures also prophecy that Israel will be **“Saved”**. For example, the Apostle Paul writes:

Romans 9:27

²⁷ Isaiah also cries out concerning Israel: **“Though the number of the children of Israel be as the sand of the sea, the remnant will be saved.”**

Romans 11:26-27

²⁶ And so **all Israel will be saved**, as it is written: **“The Deliverer will come out of Zion, and He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob;”** ²⁷ For this *is* My covenant with them, when I take away their sins.

And ó as God prophesied through Ezekiel in the passage that we read earlier ó once we see the final result ó we will not only **UNDERSTAND** ó but once we understand ó we will also **BE COMFORTED**. Look again at part of what we read in Ezekiel 14:12-23:

“Then you will be comforted concerning the disaster that I have brought upon Jerusalem, all that I have brought on it.

“And they will comfort you, when you see their ways and their doings; and you shall know that I have done nothing **without cause** that I have done it,ö says the LORD GOD.

TRIBULATION and PERSECUTION

come from our **STAND**

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There is one more passage of Scripture that we should look at before we leave the Book of Ezekiel ó one that truly shows the öHeart of Godö ó towards Israel whom He loves. God has been speaking through Ezekiel to the Elders of Israel and we will pick up His conversation with them near the end ó where God tells them that öHe knows what they are thinkingö ó and that öHis Will ó NOT their will ó will be done.ö This is recorded in Ezekiel 20:32-44:

What you have in your mind shall never be, when you say, ö**We will be like the Gentiles,** like the families in other countries, serving wood and stone.ö

öAs I live,ö says the Lord GOD, ösurely with a mighty hand, with an outstretched arm, and with fury poured out, **I will rule over you.**

öI will bring you out from the peoples and gather you out of the countries where you are scattered, with a mighty hand, with an outstretched arm, and with fury poured out. And I will bring you into the wilderness of the peoples, and there I will plead My case with you face to face. Just as I pleaded My case with your fathers in the wilderness of the land of Egypt, so I will plead My case with you,ö says the Lord GOD.

öI will make you pass under the rod, and I will bring you into the bond of the covenant; I will purge the rebels from among you, and those who transgress against Me; I will bring them out of the country where they dwell, but they shall not enter the land of Israel.

öThen you will know that I *am* the LORD.

“As for you, O house of Israel,” thus says the Lord GOD: “Go, serve every one of you his idols and hereafter if you will not obey Me; but profane My holy name no more with your gifts and your idols.

“For on My holy mountain, on the mountain height of Israel,” says the Lord GOD, **“there all the house of Israel,”** all of them in the land, **“shall serve Me”**; there I will accept them, and there I will require your offerings and the firstfruits of your sacrifices, together with all your holy things.

“I will accept you as a sweet aroma when I bring you out from the peoples and gather you out of the countries where you have been scattered; and I will be hallowed in you before the Gentiles.

“Then you shall know that I *am* the LORD, **“when I bring you into the land of Israel,”** into the country *for* which I raised My hand in an oath to give to your fathers.

“And there you shall remember your ways and all your doings with which you were defiled; and you shall loathe yourselves in your own sight because of all the evils that you have committed.

“Then you shall know that I *am* the LORD, **“when I have dealt with you for My Name’s Sake,”** not according to your wicked ways nor according to your corrupt doings, O house of Israel,” says the Lord GOD.

God will “Save” Israel not because of what Israel has done but because of what God has said. God is Faithful. God has given His Word to “**Save Israel**” and He will do it.

Nevertheless, Israel must be “Saved” the same way that any other person is “Saved”.

Romans 10:8-13

But what does it (the Scripture) say? “The WORD is near you, in your Mouth and in your Heart” that is the Word of Faith which we preach that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto Righteousness and with the mouth confession is made unto Salvation.

For the Scripture says, “Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame.” For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him.

For “Whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be Saved.”

We will see in the Book of Revelation exactly how God uses these "Final 7 Years" to fulfill His Promises to Israel – but before we do that – let's go back to the Book of Daniel and take a closer look at the last verse in Daniel 9:20-27:

Then he shall confirm a covenant (Treaty) with many for one week (1 seven); but in the middle of the week (in the middle of the seven) he (the Anti-Christ) shall bring an end to sacrifice **(STOP the Daily Sacrifices at the Temple)** and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate, even until the consummation, which is determined, is poured out on the desolate.

This one passage of Scripture is actually not enough to justify the conclusion that in the middle of those "Final 7 Years" – the Anti-Christ "STOPS the Daily Sacrifices at the Temple". Nevertheless, that is exactly what this Scripture is saying. Fortunately there are several other Prophetic Scriptures in Daniel that make it clear to us that – in fact – the Anti-Christ enters Jerusalem with an army and "**STOPS the Daily Sacrifices**".

In fact – when the Anti-Christ "**STOPS the Daily Sacrifices**" – this actually marks a "starting point" for the countdown of four separate (but important) end-time events. Consider this event as "Day # 0":

- After Day # 0 – The 2 Witnesses (the 2 Prophets) will minister to the 144,000 (and to all others who will come to the Temple in Jerusalem to hear the Word of God) – for 1,260 days (3 ½ years). They will teach "**Jesus is the Messiah**" from the Temple in Jerusalem for 1,260 days. During the ministry of these 2 Prophets – all 144,000 (12,000 from each of the 12 Tribes of Israel) – will be "**Saved**".
- On Day # 1,290 – the Anti-Christ will enter the Holy of Holies in the Temple and sit as God in the Temple of God and proclaim that he is God – in other words – the Anti-Christ will commit the "**Abomination of Desolation**".
- On Day # 1,335 – those Disciples of Jesus who are still alive and remain on the earth will be "Blessed" – in other words – they will be the ones in the "**Rapture**".
- On Day # 2,300 – the Sanctuary will be "cleansed". This would certainly happen when Jesus rules on earth – for 1,000 years – from Jerusalem. This will occur after the Battle of Armageddon (after the last Bowl of the "**Wrath of God**").

Let's look at each of these Prophetic Scriptures in Daniel that refer to the time in the future when the Anti-Christ "**STOPS the Daily Sacrifices**".

In this first passage of Scripture – an angel is explaining one of the visions that Daniel has seen that refers to the "**time of the end**". This is recorded in Daniel 12:4-13:

"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."

Then I, Daniel, looked; and there stood two others, one on this riverbank and the other on that riverbank.

And one said to the man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, **“How long shall the fulfillment of these wonders be?”**

Then I heard the man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand to heaven, and swore by Him who lives forever, that **it shall be for a time, times, and half a time** (3 ½ years); and when the power of the holy people has been completely shattered, all these things shall be finished.

Although I heard, I did not understand.

Then I said, **“My lord, what shall be the end of these things?”**

And he said, “Go your way, Daniel, for **the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end.**

“Many shall be purified, made white, and refined, but the wicked shall do wickedly; none of the wicked shall understand, but the wise shall understand.

“And from the time that the **“Daily Sacrifice”** is taken away,

and

“the **“Abomination of Desolation”** is set up,

“There shall be one thousand two hundred and ninety days (**1,290 days**).

“**Blessed** is he who waits, and comes to the one thousand three hundred and thirty-five days (**1,335 days**).

“But you, go your way till the end; for you shall rest, and will arise to your inheritance at the end of the days.”

The Bible uses several ways to refer to a period of “3 ½ years”:

- “1,260 days” = “3 ½ years”
- “42 months” = “3 ½ years”
- “a time, times, and half a time” = “3 ½ years”

All of these “to the best of our understanding” refer to a “3 ½ year period”.

In the above passage of Scripture, the “time, times, and half a time” (3 ½ years) mentioned in Daniel 12:4-13 (for the “fulfillment of these wonders” for the Nation of Israel) refers to the exact same 3 ½ year period mentioned in Revelation 11:1-2 (called in this Scripture “42 months”). John is told, “Rise and measure the Temple of God, the

altar, and those who worship there. But leave out the court which is outside the Temple, and do not measure it, for it has been given to the Gentiles. And they will tread the holy city (Jerusalem) underfoot for 42 months (3 ½ years). All of this occurs during the second 3 ½ years of the 7 Year Tribulation.

This same 3 ½ year period is mentioned both in Daniel 12:4-13 for the fulfillment of these wonders for the Nation of Israel and also in Revelation 11:1-2 for the Gentiles to tread the holy city (Jerusalem) underfoot for 42 months. It is also the exact same 3 ½ year period mentioned in Revelation 11:3-14 (called in this Scripture one thousand two hundred and sixty days) which is the 1,260 day ministry of the 2 Witnesses.

These 2 Witnesses (these 2 Prophets) will teach **“Jesus is the Messiah”** to the 144,000 from the Temple in Jerusalem. These 144,000 are the 12,000 from each of the 12 Tribes of Israel who have been handpicked by God and sealed on their forehead. They are selected and set apart and sealed but they are not yet saved. They were actually set apart and sealed during the first 3 ½ years of the 7 Year Tribulation.

Then during the second 3 ½ years of the 7 Year Tribulation the Anti-Christ will STOP the Daily Sacrifices and the 2 Prophets will appear and prevent the Anti-Christ from entering the Holy of Holies and committing the Abomination of Desolation during their 1,260 day ministry. These 2 Prophets will minister from the Temple in Jerusalem. They will teach **“Jesus is the Messiah”** to the 144,000 (and to all others who will come to the Temple to hear the Word of God) for 3 ½ years (1,260 days). Then prior to the 2 Prophets being killed every single one of the 144,000 will be saved. Then after the 2 Prophets are killed, the Anti-Christ will enter the Holy of Holies in the Temple and commit the Abomination of Desolation. He will do this exactly 1,290 days after he originally STOPPED the Daily Sacrifices. All of this will take place during the second 3 ½ years of the 7 Year Tribulation during the time of the 6th Trumpet (which the Bible calls the 2nd Woe).

This period of the 6th Trumpet (2nd Woe) is very important. It includes the 3 ½ year period that we are looking at in Daniel 12:4-13 which is the same 3 ½ year period as the one mentioned in Revelation 11:1-2 and Revelation 11:3-14 all of which takes place during the second 3 ½ years of the 7 Year Tribulation.

Here is a quick overview of the 6th Trumpet (2nd Woe):

When the 6th Trumpet sounds (in Revelation 9:13) which begins the second 3 ½ years of the 7 Year Tribulation the following 3 things will already be in place:

[1] The Temple will have already been re-built.

[2] The Daily Sacrifices will have already been STARTED.

[3] The 144,000 will have already been sealed. The 144,000 are selected and set apart and sealed but they are not yet saved.

When the 6th Trumpet sounds (in Revelation 9:13) ó The following happen in this order:

[1] Four demonic angels are released to kill 1/3 of mankind ó and are given an army of 200 million

[2] The 7 Thunders utter their voices (This is the Word of God being spoken to the 144,000 and to all others who are privileged to hear)

[3] Anti-Christ enters Jerusalem with an army and STOPS the öDaily Sacrificesö

[4] The 2 Prophets appear and minister from the Temple ó and the 2 Prophets prevent and prohibit the Anti-Christ from entering the Holy of Holies ó and thus prevent the Anti-Christ from committing the öAbomination of Desolationö during their 1,260 day ministry. The Anti-Christ will actually commit the öAbomination of Desolationö on the 1,290th day ó from the time he originally STOPPED the öDaily Sacrificesö.

[5] The 2 Prophets will teach öJesus is the Messiahö from the Temple in Jerusalem ó to the 144,000 (and to all others who will come to the Temple in Jerusalem to hear the Word of God)

[6] At the end of their 1,260 day ministry ó Satan will kill them. Nevertheless, before their 1,260 day ministry is over ó **ALL of the 144,000 will be "Saved"**.

[7] Then the Anti-Christ will enter the Holy of Holies ó in the Temple in Jerusalem ó and commit the öAbomination of Desolationö. This will begin what Jesus referred to as the öGreat Tribulationö ó the time immediately after the öAbomination of Desolationö and the time immediately before the öRaptureö. All of this happens right at the end of the ö7 Year Tribulationö. Jesus said this in Matthew 24:15-22: öFor then there will be **great tribulation**, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor never shall be. And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened.ö (**Rapture**)

The time of the 6th Trumpet (2nd Woe) ends (in Revelation 11:14).

The 6th Trumpet includes the same 3 ½ year period that we read about in Daniel 12:4-13.

The Sequence mentioned here (in Daniel 12:4-13) is as follows:

- Temple is re-built
- Israel STARTS the öDaily Sacrificesö

- "Daily Sacrifices" are taken away
- A "time, times, and half a time" (3 ½ years) from the time the "Daily Sacrifices" are taken away "until" the "Fulfillment of the wonders for Israel"
- This "time, times, and half a time" (mentioned in the Book of Daniel) is actually the same 3 ½ year period as the 3 ½ year period mentioned in the Book of Revelation (1,260 days) when the 2 Witnesses (the 2 Prophets) will minister to the 144,000 "12,000 from each of the 12 tribes of Israel (and to all others who will come to the Temple in Jerusalem to hear the Word of God).
- For 1,260 days (3 ½ years) "the 2 Prophets will teach **"Jesus is the Messiah"** to the 144,000 (and to all others who will come to the Temple in Jerusalem to hear the Word of God).
- For 42 months (3 ½ years) "the Gentiles will tread the holy city of Jerusalem underfoot "to hear the Word of God "as taught by the 2 Witnesses (the 2 Prophets) "one of which is definitely the Prophet Elijah "who is mentioned in Malachi 4:4-6: "Remember the Law of Moses, My servant, which I commanded him in Horeb for all Israel, with the statutes and judgments. Behold, I will send you **Elijah the prophet** before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD. And he will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the earth with a curse."
- Because of the power given to these 2 Prophets "and because these 2 Prophets will be ministering at the Temple in Jerusalem "the **Anti-Christ will be unable to commit the "Abomination of Desolation" during the 1,260 day period of their ministry.** These 2 Prophets (and their power) are described in Revelation 11:4-6, "These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands standing before the God of the earth. And if anyone wants to harm them, fire proceeds from their mouth and devours their enemies. And if anyone wants to harm them, he must be killed in this manner. These have power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their prophecy; and they have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to strike the earth with all plagues, as often as they desire". Therefore "these 2 Prophets definitely have the **power to prevent and prohibit the Anti-Christ from entering the Holy of Holies and committing the "Abomination of Desolation"** during their 1,260 day ministry at the Temple in Jerusalem.
- It is "1,290 days" "from the time the "Daily Sacrifices are taken away" until the Anti-Christ commits the "Abomination of Desolation"
- After the 2 Prophets are killed "the Anti-Christ will then enter the Temple in Jerusalem and commit the "Abomination of Desolation". This will happen 1,290 days after the Anti-Christ originally STOPPED the "Daily Sacrifices".

- Abomination of Desolation (Also mentioned by both Jesus and Paul)
- It is "1,335 days" from the time the "Daily Sacrifices are taken away" until those "Blessed" or in other words "those Disciples of Jesus" who are still alive and remain on the earth will be "Blessed" or they will be the ones in the **Rapture**.

Now look at Daniel 8:9-11

And out of one of them came a little horn (the Anti-Christ) which grew exceedingly great toward the south, toward the east, and toward the Glorious *Land*. And it grew up to the host of heaven; and it cast down *some* of the host and *some* of the stars to the ground, and trampled them. He even exalted *himself* as high as the Prince of the host; and by him (the Anti-Christ) the **daily sacrifices were taken away**, and the place of His sanctuary was cast down.

The Sequence mentioned in this passage of Scripture is as follows:

- Temple is re-built
- Israel STARTS the "Daily Sacrifices"
- Anti-Christ STOPS the "Daily Sacrifices"

Now look at the verse which immediately follows – in Daniel 8:12:

Because of transgression, an army was given over *to the horn* (the Anti-Christ) **to oppose the daily sacrifices**; and he cast truth down to the ground. He did *all this* and prospered.

The Sequence mentioned in this passage of Scripture is as follows:

- Temple is re-built
- Israel STARTS the "Daily Sacrifices"
- Anti-Christ enters Jerusalem with an army and STOPS the "Daily Sacrifices"

Now look at the four verses which immediately follow – in Daniel 8:13-17:

Then I heard a holy one speaking; and *another* holy one said to that certain *one* who was speaking, **How long will the vision be, concerning the daily sacrifices** and the transgression of desolation, the giving of both the sanctuary and the host to be trampled underfoot?"

And he said to me, **For two thousand three hundred days** (2,300 days or literally 2,300 evenings and mornings); **then the sanctuary shall be cleansed.**"

Then it happened, when I, Daniel, had seen the vision and was seeking the meaning, that suddenly there stood before me one having the appearance of a man. And I heard a man's voice between *the banks of the Ulai*, who called, and said, "Gabriel, make this *man* understand the vision." So he came near where I stood, and when he came I was afraid and fell on my face; but he (**Gabriel**) said to me, "Understand, son of man, that **the vision refers to the time of the end.**"

The Sequence mentioned in this passage of Scripture is as follows:

- Temple is re-built
- Israel STARTS the "Daily Sacrifices"
- Anti-Christ enters Jerusalem with an army and STOPS the "Daily Sacrifices"
- It is "2,300 days" ó from the time the "Daily Sacrifices are STOPPED" until the "sanctuary is cleansed"
- Sanctuary will be "cleansed" ó This would certainly happen when Jesus rules on earth ó for 1,000 years ó from Jerusalem. This will occur after the Battle of Armageddon (after the last Bowl of the **Wrath of God**).

Now let's look at the remaining verses in this same chapter – Daniel 8:18-27:

Now, as he (**Gabriel**) was speaking with me, I was in a deep sleep with my face to the ground; but he (**Gabriel**) touched me, and stood me upright. And he (**Gabriel**) said, "Look, I am making known to you what shall happen in the latter time of the indignation; for at the appointed time the end *shall be*."

"The ram which you saw, having the two horns ó *they are* the kings of Media and Persia. And the male goat *is* the kingdom of Greece. The large horn that *is* between its eyes *is* the first king. As for the broken *horn* and the four that stood up in its place, four kingdoms shall arise out of that nation, but not with its power."

"And in the latter time of their kingdom,

When the transgressors have reached their fullness,

A king shall arise (the Anti-Christ),

Having fierce features,

Who understands sinister schemes.

"His power shall be mighty, but not by his own power;

He shall destroy fearfully,

And shall prosper and thrive;

He (the Anti-Christ) shall destroy the mighty, and *also* the holy people.

Through his cunning
 He (the Anti-Christ) shall cause deceit to prosper under his rule;
 And he shall exalt *himself* in his heart.
 He shall destroy many in *their* prosperity.
 He shall even rise against the Prince of princes;
 But he (the Anti-Christ) shall be broken without *human* means.

And the vision of **the evenings and mornings**
 Which was told is true;
 Therefore seal up the vision,
For it refers to many days in the future.

And I, Daniel, fainted and was sick for days; afterward I arose and went about the king's business. I was astonished by the vision, but no one understood it.

When Daniel had asked the question, **How long will the vision be, concerning the daily sacrifices** the answer given to him was:

For two thousand three hundred days (2,300 days ó literally 2,300 evenings and mornings); **then the sanctuary shall be cleansed.**

The word "days" in this verse is literally translated "evenings and mornings" ó so Gabriel is simply emphasizing that this prophecy (concerning the 2,300 days) is TRUE!

In other words ó from the time that the Anti-Christ STOPS the "Daily Sacrifices" ó until the Sanctuary is "cleansed" ó will be 2,300 days ó and Gabriel is making the point that this is definitely a true prophecy!

The Sequence mentioned in this passage of Scripture is as follows:

- o Temple is re-built
- o Israel STARTS the "Daily Sacrifices"
- o Anti-Christ enters Jerusalem with an army and STOPS the "Daily Sacrifices"
- o It is "2,300 days" ó from the time the "Daily Sacrifices are STOPPED" until the "Sanctuary is cleansed"
- o Sanctuary will be "cleansed" ó This would certainly happen when Jesus rules on earth ó for 1,000 years ó from Jerusalem. This will occur after the Battle of Armageddon (after the last Bowl of the **Wrath of God**).

The “Sequence of Events” mentioned in the passages of Scripture we have read from the Book of Daniel are as follows:

- Temple is re-built ó Daniel 12:4-13
- Temple is re-built ó Daniel 8:9-11
- Temple is re-built ó Daniel 8:12
- Temple is re-built ó Daniel 8:13-17
- Temple is re-built ó Daniel 8:18-27
- Israel STARTS the “Daily Sacrifices” ó Daniel 12:4-13
- Israel STARTS the “Daily Sacrifices” ó Daniel 8:9-11
- Israel STARTS the “Daily Sacrifices” ó Daniel 8:12
- Israel STARTS the “Daily Sacrifices” ó Daniel 8:13-17
- Israel STARTS the “Daily Sacrifices” ó Daniel 8:18-27
- Daily Sacrifices are taken away ó Daniel 12:4-13
- Anti-Christ STOPS the “Daily Sacrifices” ó Daniel 8:9-11
- Anti-Christ enters Jerusalem with an army and STOPS the “Daily Sacrifices” ó Daniel 8:12
- Anti-Christ enters Jerusalem with an army and STOPS the “Daily Sacrifices” ó Daniel 8:13-17
- Anti-Christ enters Jerusalem with an army and STOPS the “Daily Sacrifices” ó Daniel 8:18-27
- A time, times, and half a time (from the time the “Daily Sacrifices are taken away” until the “Fulfillment of the wonders for Israel” ó Daniel 12:4-13
- This “time, times, and half a time” (mentioned in the Book of Daniel) is actually the same 3 ½ year period as the 3 ½ year period mentioned in the Book of Revelation (1,260 days) when the 2 Witnesses (the 2 Prophets) will minister to the 144,000 ó 12,000 from each of the 12 tribes of Israel (and to all others who will come to the Temple in Jerusalem to hear the Word of God) ó Daniel 12:4-13, Revelation 11:1-14

- For 1,260 days (3 ½ years) ó the 2 Prophets will teach **“Jesus is the Messiah”** to the 144,000 ó from the Temple in Jerusalem. These 144,000 are the 12,000 from each of the 12 Tribes of Israel who have been handpicked by God and **“Sealed”** on their foreheads. They are **“selected”** and **“set apart”** and **“Sealed”** ó but they are not yet **“Saved”**. These 144,000 are actually **“set apart”** and **“Sealed”** during the first 3 ½ years of the **“7 Year Tribulation”** ó Daniel 12:4-13, Revelation 11:1-14, Luke 24:25-27, Luke 24:44-49
- For 42 months (3 ½ years) ó the Gentiles will tread the holy city of Jerusalem underfoot ó to hear the Word of God ó as taught by the 2 Witnesses (the 2 Prophets) ó one of which is definitely the Prophet Elijah ó who is mentioned in Malachi 4:4-6: **“Remember the Law of Moses, My servant, which I commanded him in Horeb for all Israel, with the statutes and judgments. Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD. And he will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the earth with a curse.”** ó Daniel 12:4-13, Revelation 11:1-14, Malachi 4:4-6
- Because of the power given to these 2 Prophets ó and because these 2 Prophets will be ministering at the Temple in Jerusalem ó the **Anti-Christ will be unable to commit the “Abomination of Desolation” during the 3 ½ year period of their ministry.** These 2 Prophets (and their power) are described in Revelation 11:4-6, **“These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands standing before the God of the earth. And if anyone wants to harm them, fire proceeds from their mouth and devours their enemies. And if anyone wants to harm them, he must be killed in this manner. These have the power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their prophecy; and they have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to strike the earth with all plagues, as often as they desire.”** Therefore ó these 2 Prophets definitely have the **power to prevent and prohibit the Anti-Christ from entering the Holy of Holies and committing the “Abomination of Desolation”** during their 1,260 day ministry at the Temple in Jerusalem ó Daniel 12:4-13, Revelation 11:1-14
- It is **“1,290 days”** ó from the time the **“Daily Sacrifices are STOPPED”** until the Anti-Christ commits the **“Abomination of Desolation”** ó Daniel 12:4-13
- After the 2 Prophets are killed ó the Anti-Christ will then enter the Temple in Jerusalem and commit the **“Abomination of Desolation”**. This will happen 1,290 days after the Anti-Christ originally STOPPED the **“Daily Sacrifices”** ó Daniel 12:4-13
- Abomination of Desolation (Also mentioned by both Jesus and Paul) ó Daniel 12:4-13

- It is 1,335 days ó from the time the Daily Sacrifices are taken away until those Blessed ó in other words ó those Disciples of Jesus who are still alive and remain on the earth will be Blessed ó they will be the ones in the **Rapture** ó Daniel 12:4-13
- It is 2,300 days ó from the time the Daily Sacrifices are STOPPED until the Sanctuary is cleansed ó Daniel 8:13-17
- It is 2,300 days ó from the time the Daily Sacrifices are STOPPED until the Sanctuary is cleansed ó Daniel 8:18-27
- Sanctuary will be cleansed ó This would certainly happen when Jesus rules on earth ó for 1,000 years ó from Jerusalem. This will occur after the Battle of Armageddon (after the last Bowl of the **Wrath of God**) ó Daniel 8:13-17
- Sanctuary will be cleansed ó This would certainly happen when Jesus rules on earth ó for 1,000 years ó from Jerusalem. This will occur after the Battle of Armageddon (after the last Bowl of the **Wrath of God**) ó Daniel 8:18-27

With everything we have so far – our “Sequence of Events” now looks like this:

- **Jesus – the Messiah – accomplishes what He was sent to the earth to accomplish – during His “First Coming”** ó “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” ó John 3:16
- **You and I now have the opportunity to become “Disciples of Jesus”** ó “But what does it (the Scripture) say? –The WORD is near you, in your Mouth and in your Heart ó that is the Word of Faith which we preach ó that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead ó you will be Saved. For with the heart one believes unto Righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto Salvation.” ó Romans 10:8-10
- **Jesus Commands His Disciples to be “Faithful unto Death”** ó Matthew 16:25, Mark 8:35, Luke 9:24, John 12:25
- **Beginnings of Sorrows** ó This could have begun as early as when Jesus ascended to heaven ó because there certainly have been wars and rumors of wars and earthquakes and pestilences and famines since that time ó Matthew 24:3-13, Mark 13:3-13

- **Disciples of Jesus began to be persecuted and were “Faithful unto Death”** ó
 ðAnd they stoned Stephen as he was calling on God and saying, ðLord Jesus, receive my spirit.ø Then he knelt down and cried out with a loud voice, ðLord, do not charge them with this sin.ø And when he had said this, he fell asleep. Now Saul (who later became the great ðApostle Paulö) was consenting to his death. At that time a great persecution arose against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles. And devout men carried Stephen to his burial, and made great lamentation over him. As for Saul, he made havoc of the church, entering every house, and dragging off men and women, committing them to prison. Therefore those who were scattered went everywhere preaching the WORD.ö ó Acts 7:59-8:4
- **The Temple and Jerusalem are both destroyed in 70 A.D. by the Roman Empire** ó Over 1 million are killed and the children of Israel are scattered throughout the earth ó in exile and without a homeland. The Nation of Israel ceases to exist as a Nation ó for almost 2,000 years.
- **The children of Israel continue to endure God’s “Four Severe Judgments – the Sword, Famine, Wild Beasts, and Pestilence.”** Israel endures 2,500 years of Godø punishment for the iniquity of Israel ó beginning with their 70-year captivity in Babylon (during the time of Daniel) and continuing through the years of the World War II Holocaust ó which ended in 1945. Israel endures over 2,500 years of Godø punishment for the ðPersistent Unfaithfulness of Israel” ó Ezekiel 4:1-6, Leviticus 26:18-28, Ezekiel 15:1-8, Ezekiel 14:12-23
- **Israel becomes a Nation (again) in 1948** ó This ends the 2,500 years of Godø punishment for the iniquity of Israel. This ends the 2,500 years of punishment for the ðPersistent Unfaithfulness of Israelö. No other nation in the history of the world has ever returned as a Nation ó once they have been destroyed as a Nation. Nevertheless, God honors His promise to return Israel to her homeland in 1948.
- ----- at some point in the future -----
- **God takes the Scroll in His Right hand** ó He is ready to start the ðFinal 7 Yearsö. God will use these ðFinal 7 Yearsö to fulfill ALL of His Promises to Israel ó Revelation 5:1
- **Israel signs a covenant (7-year Peace Treaty) with many** ó Daniel 9:20-27
- **Jesus opens the First Seal** ó This starts the ð7 Year Tribulationö ó Revelation 6:1
- **Tribulation Begins and Continues** ó This is the beginning of the Tribulation ó Matthew 24:3-13

- **The “7 Year Tribulation” is God’s punishment on the “Persistent Unfaithfulness of the World”** ó This is 7 years of what God calls His “Four Severe Judgments” ó The Sword, Famine, Wild Beasts, and Pestilence. This is 7 years of God’s punishment on the **“Persistent Unfaithfulness of the World.”** Ezekiel 15:1-8, Ezekiel 14:12-23
- **Since Christians are “in the World” – Christians will experience what the World experiences and Christians will endure what the World endures** ó during these “Final 7 Years” ó during the **“7 Year Tribulation”** ó John 16:1-4, John 15:12-27, John 16:33, Matthew 16:25, Mark 8:35, Luke 9:24, John 12:25
- **God will use these “Final 7 Years” to fulfill ALL of His Promises to Israel** ó Daniel 9:20-27, Romans 9:27, Romans 11:26-27
- **Israel will have “Peace” during the first 3 ½ years – while the rest of the world endures the “7 Year Tribulation”** ó This will give Israel an opportunity to re-build the Temple (if the Temple has not already been re-built by that time) ó Daniel 9:20-27
- **Temple is re-built** ó The Bible does not tell us exactly when the Temple is built. Nevertheless, the Temple must be re-built before Israel can START the “Daily Sacrifices”. Once the Temple is re-built ó **Israel will START the “Daily Sacrifices”**. Nevertheless ó whether the Temple is re-built before the “7 Year Tribulation” begins ó or ó whether the Temple is re-built during the first 3 ½ years of the “7 Year Tribulation” ó The Bible tells us that halfway through the “7 Year Peace Treaty” ó in other words ó half way through the “7 Year Tribulation” ó the Anti-Christ will enter Jerusalem with an army and STOP the “Daily Sacrifices”. Therefore, **Israel will be observing the “Daily Sacrifices” – at the Temple** ó at some point ó **during the first 3 ½ years of the “7 Year Tribulation”** ó Daniel 9:20-27, Daniel 12:4-13, Daniel 8:9-11, Daniel 8:12, Daniel 8:13-17, Daniel 8:18-27
- **Prior to when the 6th Trumpet sounds** ó in Revelation 9:13 ó which begins the second 3 ½ years of the “7 Year Tribulation” ó the following 3 things will have already taken place:

[1] The Temple will have already been re-built.

[2] The “Daily Sacrifices” will have already been STARTED.

[3] The 144,000 will have already been “Sealed”. The 144,000 are “selected” and “set apart” and “Sealed” ó but they are not yet “Saved”.

- All 3 of these important end-time events take place **during the first 3 ½ years** of the 7 Year Tribulation ó in other words ó prior to Revelation 9:12 ó which ends the first 3 ½ years of the 7 Year Tribulation ó Revelation 6:1-9:12
- **Temple is re-built** ó The Bible does not tell us whether or not the Temple is re-built before the Tribulation begins ó but the Temple is definitely re-built before the Anti-Christ commits the Abomination of Desolation ó Matthew 24:15-22, Mark 13:14-20, 2nd Thessalonians 2:1-5, Daniel 12:4-13, Daniel 8:9-11, Daniel 8:12, Daniel 8:13-17, Daniel 8:18-27
 - **Israel STARTS the “Daily Sacrifices”** ó Daniel 9:20-27, Daniel 12:4-13, Daniel 8:9-11, Daniel 8:12, Daniel 8:13-17, Daniel 8:18-27
 - **Revelation 9:12** ó Ends the first 3 ½ years of the 7 Year Tribulation.
 - **Revelation 9:13** ó Begins the second 3 ½ years of the 7 Year Tribulation.
 - **Anti-Christ enters Jerusalem with an army and STOPS the “Daily Sacrifices”** ó Daniel 9:20-27, Daniel 12:4-13, Daniel 8:9-11, Daniel 8:12, Daniel 8:13-17, Daniel 8:18-27
 - **NOTE:** The Anti-Christ is unable to enter into the Holy of Holies ó at this point ó and commit the Abomination of Desolation ó because the 2 Prophets will appear at this time and begin to minister from the Temple in Jerusalem. The 2 Prophets will teach **Jesus is the Messiah** to the 144,000 and to all others who will come to the Temple to hear the Word of God. Once their 1,260 day ministry is over and they are killed (by Satan) ó then the Anti-Christ will enter the Holy of Holies and commit the Abomination of Desolation. The Anti-Christ will commit the Abomination of Desolation exactly 1,290 days after he originally STOPPED the Daily Sacrifices ó Daniel 12:4-13, Revelation 11:1-14, Luke 24:25-27, Luke 24:44-49
 - **A time, times, and half a time – from the time the “Daily Sacrifices are taken away” until the “Fulfillment of the wonders for Israel”** ó Daniel 12:4-13
 - **This “time, times, and half a time” (mentioned in the Book of Daniel)** is actually the same 3 ½ year period as the 3 ½ year period mentioned in the Book of Revelation (1,260 days) when the 2 Witnesses (the 2 Prophets) will minister to the 144,000 ó 12,000 from each of the 12 tribes of Israel (and to all others who will come to the Temple in Jerusalem to hear the Word of God) ó Daniel 12:4-13, Revelation 11:1-14

- **For 1,260 days (3 ½ years)** ó the 2 Prophets will teach **“Jesus is the Messiah”** to the 144,000 ó from the Temple in Jerusalem. These 144,000 are the 12,000 from each of the 12 Tribes of Israel who have been handpicked by God and **“Sealed”** on their foreheads. They are **“selected”** and **“set apart”** and **“Sealed”** ó but they are not yet **“Saved”**. These 144,000 are actually **“Sealed”** during the first 3 ½ years of the **“7 Year Tribulation”** ó but they will be taught **“Jesus is the Messiah”** ó by the 2 Prophets ó from the Temple in Jerusalem ó during the second 3 ½ years of the **“7 Year Tribulation”**. Before the end of the 1,260 day ministry of these 2 Prophets ó every single one of the 144,000 will be **“Saved”** ó Daniel 12:4-13, Revelation 11:1-14, Revelation 14:1-5, Luke 24:25-27, Luke 24:44-49
- **For 42 months (3 ½ years)** ó the Gentiles will tread the holy city of Jerusalem underfoot ó to hear the Word of God ó as taught by the 2 Witnesses (the 2 Prophets) ó one of which is definitely the Prophet Elijah ó who is mentioned in Malachi 4:4-6: **“Remember the Law of Moses, My servant, which I commanded him in Horeb for all Israel, with the statutes and judgments. Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD. And he will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the earth with a curse.”** ó Daniel 12:4-13, Revelation 11:1-14, Malachi 4:4-6
- **Because of the power given to these 2 Prophets** ó and because these 2 Prophets will be ministering at the Temple in Jerusalem ó the **Anti-Christ will be unable to commit the “Abomination of Desolation” during the 3 ½ year period (the 1,260 day period) of their ministry.** These 2 Prophets (and their power) are described in Revelation 11:4-6: **“These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands standing before the God of the earth. And if anyone wants to harm them, fire proceeds from their mouth and devours their enemies. And if anyone wants to harm them, he must be killed in this manner. These have power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their prophecy; and they have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to strike the earth with all plagues, as often as they desire.”** Therefore ó these 2 Prophets definitely have the **power to prevent and prohibit the Anti-Christ from entering the Holy of Holies and committing the “Abomination of Desolation”** during their 1,260 day ministry at the Temple in Jerusalem ó Daniel 12:4-13, Revelation 11:1-14
- **It is “1,290 days” – from the time the “Daily Sacrifices” are STOPPED until the Anti-Christ commits the “Abomination of Desolation”** ó Daniel 12:4-13
- **After the 2 Prophets are killed** ó the Anti-Christ will then enter the Temple in Jerusalem and commit the **“Abomination of Desolation”**. This will happen 1,290 days after the Anti-Christ originally STOPPED the **“Daily Sacrifices”** ó Daniel 12:4-13, Revelation 11:1-14
- **Abomination of Desolation** ó Matthew 24:15-22, Mark 13:14-20, 2nd Thessalonians 2:1-5, Daniel 12:4-13

- **Great Tribulation** ó In the ðGospel According to Matthewö ó Jesus refers to this time toward the end of the Tribulation as the ðGreat Tribulationö ó **This is the time immediately after the Abomination of Desolation and just before the Rapture** ó Matthew 24:15-22, Mark 13:14-20, Matthew 24:29-31, Mark 13:24-27
- **Sun and Moon are darkened** ó Matthew 24:29-31, Mark 13:24-27
- **Last Trumpet** ó 1st Corinthians 15:51-52
- **Jesus descends from heaven** with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the Trumpet of God ó 1st Thessalonians 4:15-18
- **Son of Man coming on the Clouds** ó Matthew 24:29-31, Mark 13:24-27, Revelation 14:14-20
- **It is “1,335 days”** ó from the time ðDaily Sacrifices are taken awayö until those ðBlessedö ó in other words ó those ðDisciples of Jesusö who are still alive and remain on the earth will be ðBlessedö ó they will be the ones in the ð**Rapture**ö ó Daniel 12:4-13
- **Rapture** ó Matthew 24:15-22, Mark 13:14-20, Matthew 24:29-31, Mark 13:24-27, 2nd Thessalonians 2:1-5, 1st Corinthians 15:51-52, 1st Thessalonians 4:15-18, Revelation 14:14-20, Daniel 12:4-13
- **Wrath of God** ó Revelation 14:14-20
- **It is “2,300 days” – from the time the “Daily Sacrifices are STOPPED” until the “Sanctuary is cleansed”** ó Daniel 8:13-17, Daniel 8:18-27
- **Sanctuary will be “cleansed” – This would certainly happen when Jesus rules on earth – for 1,000 years – from Jerusalem.** This will occur after the Battle of Armageddon (after the last Bowl of the **Wrath of God**) ó Daniel 8:13-17, Daniel 8:18-27

TRIBULATION and PERSECUTION
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Chapter 4

Understanding the ðFinal 7 Yearsö ó Part 1

The Book of Revelation tells us that ó at some point in the future ó there will come a time when God will sit on His throne ó in heaven ó and take a certain Scroll in His right hand. Then a strong angel will proclaim with a loud voice, ðWho is worthy to open the Scroll and to loose its Seals?ö

This will be God's way of saying that He is ready to fulfill **All** of His Promises to Israel.

This will be God's way of saying that He is now ready to start the **ðFinal 7 Yearsö**.

Before we look at what the Book of Revelation says about the ðFinal 7 Yearsö ó let's look at what Jesus says to His Disciples ó in the first 3 chapters of the Book of Revelation.

Jesus instructs His Disciples as follows:

Revelation 2:7

ðHe who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes (**Faithful unto Death**) I will give to eat from the **Tree of Life**, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God.ö

This is repeated six more times ó for emphasis!

Revelation 2:11

ðHe who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. He who overcomes (**Faithful unto Death**) shall not be hurt by the second death.ö

Revelation 2:17

ðHe who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes (**Faithful unto Death**) I will give some of the hidden manna to eat. And I will give him a white stone, and on the stone a new name written which no one knows except him who receives it.ö

Revelation 2:26-29

öAnd he who overcomes (**Faithful unto Death**), and keeps My works until the end, to him I will give power over the nations ó He shall rule them with a rod of iron; they shall be dashed to pieces like the potter's vesselsó as I also received from My Father; and I will give him the morning star. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.ö

Revelation 3:5-6

öHe who overcomes (**Faithful unto Death**) shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the **Book of Life**; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.ö

Revelation 3:12-13

öHe who overcomes (**Faithful unto Death**), I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God. And I will write on him My new name. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.ö

Revelation 3:21-22

öTo him who overcomes (**Faithful unto Death**) I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame (**Jesus – as our example – was Faithful unto Death**) and sat down with My Father on His throne. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.ö

In Revelation 12:11 ó the Bible gives us instructions on exactly how to ö**Overcome**ö:

And they overcame him (Satan) by the Blood of the Lamb and by the Word of their Testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death (Faithful unto Death).

This concept of being ö**Faithful unto Death**ö ó that Jesus teaches His Disciples in the Book of Revelation ó is definitely consistent with what Jesus taught His Disciples while He was on the earth during His öFirst Comingö. Notice what is recorded in the four Gospels:

Matthew 16:25

öFor whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.ö (**Faithful unto Death**)

Mark 8:35

“For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel will save it.” (**Faithful unto Death**)

Luke 9:24

“For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will save it.” (**Faithful unto Death**)

John 12:25

“He who loves his life will lose it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life.” (**Faithful unto Death**)

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In these first 3 chapters of Revelation, there is a passage of Scripture that is often misunderstood.

Revelation 3:10-11

“Because you have kept My command to persevere, I also will keep you from the **hour of trial** which shall come upon the whole earth, to test those who dwell on the earth. Behold, I am coming quickly! Hold fast what you have, that no one may take your crown.”

This “hour of trial” is often taught as being the “Tribulation” ó inferring that Jesus will keep these disciples from having to go through the “Tribulation”.

Nevertheless, we have seen ó from Scripture ó that the Sequence is as follows:

- Tribulation
- Abomination of Desolation
- Great Tribulation ó In the “Gospel According to Matthew” ó Jesus refers to this time toward the end of the Tribulation as the “Great Tribulation” ó **This is the time immediately after the Abomination of Desolation and just before the Rapture**
- Rapture
- Wrath of God

The hour of trial in this verse is actually referring to the 7 Bowls of God's Wrath (which are poured out onto an unsaved world) and which occur after the Rapture.

Jesus is saying, Hold fast what you have, that no one may take your crown ó in other words ó Overcome – Be Faithful unto Death.

Jesus is saying, Behold, I am coming quickly (Rapture)

In other words ó The Rapture is coming quickly ó so:

- ó Be Faithful unto Death (and overcome that way)
- OR
- ó Be Faithful until the Rapture (and overcome that way).

But ó either way ó Jesus is saying, If you keep My command to persevere (in other words ó if you keep My command to be Faithful unto Death), then I will keep you from the hour of trial (in other words ó then I will keep you from the Wrath of God).

The Bible Truth is that Christians do NOT go through WRATH.

Revelation 3:10-11

Because you have kept My command to persevere (In other words ó Because you have kept My Command to be Faithful unto Death), I also will keep you from the hour of trial (In other words ó I also will keep you from the Wrath of God) which shall come upon the whole earth, to test those who dwell on the earth. Behold, I am coming quickly (In other words ó Behold, the Rapture is coming quickly)! Hold fast what you have (Be Faithful unto Death), that no one may take your crown.

Paul taught the following in 1st Thessalonians 5:9-10:

For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain Salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, that whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with Him.

The Bible Truth is that Christians do NOT go through WRATH.

TRIBULATION and PERSECUTION

come from our STAND

on the WORD of GOD and our TESTIMONY of JESUS.

Now let's look at what the Book of Revelation says about the "Final 7 Years". This Chapter will focus on the first 3 ½ years of the "7 Year Tribulation" (Understanding the "Final 7 Years" Part 1) and Chapter 5 will focus on the second 3 ½ years of the "7 Year Tribulation" (Understanding the "Final 7 Years" Part 2).

In Revelation 5:1, God takes the Scroll in His right hand:

And I saw in the right hand of Him who sat on the throne a Scroll written inside and on the back, sealed with seven Seals.

In Revelation 5:7, Jesus takes the Scroll:

Then He (Jesus) came and took the Scroll out of the right hand of Him (God) who sat on the throne.

In Revelation 6:1-8, Jesus opens the first 4 Seals:

6 Now I saw when the Lamb (Jesus) opened one of the seals (**1st Seal**); and I heard one of the four living creatures saying with a voice like thunder, "Come and see." 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.

³ When He (Jesus) opened the second seal (**2nd Seal**), I heard the second living creature saying, "Come and see." ⁴ Another horse, fiery red, went out. And it was granted to the one who sat on it to take peace from the earth, and that *people* should kill one another; and there was given to him a great sword.

⁵ When He (Jesus) opened the third seal (**3rd Seal**), I heard the third living creature say, "Come and see." So I looked, and behold, a black horse, and he who sat on it had a pair of scales in his hand. ⁶ And I heard a voice in the midst of the four living creatures saying, "A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius; and do not harm the oil and the wine."

⁷ When He (Jesus) opened the fourth seal (**4th Seal**), I heard the voice of the fourth living creature saying, "Come and see." ⁸ So I looked, and behold, a pale horse. And the name of him who sat on it was Death, and Hades followed with him. And **power was given to them over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword, with hunger, with death, and by the beasts of the earth** (God's 4 Severe Judgments of the Sword, Famine, Wild Beasts, and Pestilence).

Sequence:

- 1st Seal of One on a White horse of went out conquering and to conquer

- 2nd Seal ó One on a Red horse ó to take peace from the earth ó that people should kill one another
- 3rd Seal ó One on a Black horse ó pair of scales (balances) in his hand ó a quart of wheat for a denarius (a day's wage) and 3 quarts of barley for a denarius ó economic hard times
- 4th Seal ó One on a Pale horse (whose name is ðDeathö) and ðHadesö followed with him ó power was given to them over a fourth of the earth ó to kill with the sword, with hunger, with death, and by the beast of the earth.
- The ð7 Year Tribulationö is God's Punishment on the **ðPersistent Unfaithfulness of the Worldö** ó 7 years of God's ðFour Severe Judgments ó the Sword, Famine, Wild Beasts, and Pestilence.ö Approximately one fourth (1/4) of the earth's population is killed during the first 3 ½ years of the ð7 Year Tribulationö.
- **NOTE:** The current population of the earth is over 7.5 Billion people. If there are 8 Billion people on the earth during this time ó then one fourth (1/4) of the earth's population would be 2 Billion people. In other words ó the Book of Revelation is telling us that approximately 2 Billion people will be killed during the first 3 ½ years of the ð7 Year Tribulationö.
- The Bible does not tell us how many Christians are killed (or martyred) during the ð7 Year Tribulationö. Nevertheless, since Christians are ðin the Worldö ó Christians will also experience what the World experiences ó and Christians will also endure what the World endures ó during these ðFinal 7 Yearsö ó during the ð7 Year Tribulationö.

In Revelation 6:9-11, Jesus opens the 5th Seal:

⁹ When He (Jesus) opened the fifth seal (**5th Seal**), I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the Word of God and for the Testimony which they held (**Tribulation** and **Persecution** come from our **Stand** on the **Word of God** and our **Testimony of Jesus**). ¹⁰ And they cried with a loud voice, saying, ðHow long, O Lord, holy and true, until You judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?ö

¹¹ Then a white robe was given to each of them; and it was said to them that they should rest a little while longer, until both *the number of* their fellow servants and their brethren, who would be killed as they *were*, was completed.

Sequence:

- 5th Seal ó John sees under the altar (in heaven) the souls of those who had been slain for the Word of God and for their Testimony (**Tribulation** and **Persecution** come from our **Stand** on the **Word of God** and our **Testimony of Jesus**).
- The Bible does not tell us how many Christians are killed (or martyred) during the 7 Year Tribulation. Nevertheless, since Christians are in the World ó Christians will also experience what the World experiences ó and Christians will also endure what the World endures ó during these 7 Final Years ó during the 7 Year Tribulation.

In Revelation 6:12-17, Jesus opens the 6th Seal:

¹² I looked when He (Jesus) opened the sixth seal (**6th Seal**), and behold, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became like blood. ¹³ And the stars of heaven fell to the earth, as a fig tree drops its late figs when it is shaken by a mighty wind. ¹⁴ Then the sky receded as a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island was moved out of its place. ¹⁵ And the kings of the earth, the great men, the rich men, the commanders, the mighty men, every slave and every free man, hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains, ¹⁶ and said to the mountains and rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb!" ¹⁷ For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand?"

Sequence:

- 6th Seal ó Great earthquake ó the sun became black as sackcloth of hair and the moon became like blood ó stars of heaven fell to the earth ó sky receded like a scroll when it is rolled up ó every mountain and island was moved out of its place.
- Men think that this 6th Seal is the "Wrath of the Lamb" ó but this is NOT the "Wrath of God" ó this is still during the first 3 ½ years of the 7 Year Tribulation.
- God will use the 6th Seal to get Israel's attention ó to encourage them to turn to God.

In Revelation 7:1-17, John is allowed to see what happens ó just prior to the 7th Seal being opened:

7 After these things I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, on

the sea, or on any tree. ² Then I saw another angel ascending from the east, **having the seal of the living God**. And he cried with a loud voice to the four angels to whom it was granted to harm the earth and the sea, ³ saying, "Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees **till we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads**."ö

⁴ And I heard the number of those who were sealed. One hundred *and* forty-four thousand (**144,000 – 12,000 from each of the 12 Tribes of Israel**) of all the tribes of the children of Israel *were* sealed:

⁵ of the tribe of Judah twelve thousand *were* sealed;
of the tribe of Reuben twelve thousand *were* sealed;
of the tribe of Gad twelve thousand *were* sealed;

⁶ of the tribe of Asher twelve thousand *were* sealed;
of the tribe of Naphtali twelve thousand *were* sealed;
of the tribe of Manasseh twelve thousand *were* sealed;

⁷ of the tribe of Simeon twelve thousand *were* sealed;
of the tribe of Levi twelve thousand *were* sealed;
of the tribe of Issachar twelve thousand *were* sealed;

⁸ of the tribe of Zebulun twelve thousand *were* sealed;
of the tribe of Joseph twelve thousand *were* sealed;
of the tribe of Benjamin twelve thousand *were* sealed.

⁹ After these things I looked, and behold, **a great multitude** which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, **clothed with white robes**, with palm branches in their hands, ¹⁰ and crying out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation *belongs* to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"ö

¹¹ All the angels stood around the throne and the elders and the four living creatures, and fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² saying: "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom, Thanksgiving and honor and power and might, *Be* to our God forever and ever. Amen."ö

¹³ Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, "**Who are these arrayed in white robes, and where did they come from?**"ö

¹⁴ And I said to him, "Sir, you know."ö

So he said to me, "These are the ones who come out of the great **Tribulation**, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵ Therefore

they are before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple. And He who sits on the throne will dwell among them.

¹⁶They shall neither hunger anymore nor thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any heat; ¹⁷for the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.ö

Sequence:

- Prior to the 7th Seal ó 144,000 are öSealedö ó 12,000 from each of the 12 Tribes of Israel are öSealedö. These are öselectedö and öset apartö and öSealedö ó but they are not yet öSavedö.
- The Book of Revelation does not tell us the actual number of Christians who are killed (or martyred) during the ö7 Year Tribulationö. Nevertheless, Revelation 7:1-17 describes those who have come out of the **Tribulation** as öa great multitude which no one could number ó of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues.ö These are the ones who obeyed the Commandment of Jesus to be ö**Faithfull unto Death**ö.
- Since Christians are öin the Worldö ó Christians will also experience what the World experiences ó and Christians will also endure what the World endures ó during the ö7 Year Tribulationö. **Tribulation** and **Persecution** come from our **Stand** on the **Word of God** and our **Testimony of Jesus**.

In Revelation 8:1-6, Jesus opens the 7th Seal:

8 When He (Jesus) opened the seventh seal (**7th Seal**), there was silence in heaven for about half an hour. ² And I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and to them were given seven trumpets (**7 Trumpets**). ³ Then another angel, having a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. He was given much incense, that he should offer *it* with the prayers of all the saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne.

⁴ And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, ascended before God from the angel's hand. ⁵ Then the angel took the censer, filled it with fire from the altar, and threw *it* to the earth. And there were noises, thunderings, lightnings, and an earthquake.

⁶ So the seven angels who had the seven trumpets (**7 Trumpets**) prepared themselves to sound.

Sequence:

- 7th Seal ó Silence in Heaven for about half an hour.
- Seven angels who stand before God are given 7 Trumpets
- An angel with a golden censer is given much incense ó offers it with the prayers of the saints upon the altar ó which is before the throne in heaven
- The angel then took the censer ó filled it with fire from the altar and threw it to the earth. There were noises, thunderings, lightnings, and an earthquake.
- The 7 angels who have the 7 Trumpets prepare to sound.

In Revelation 8:7-13, the first 4 Trumpets sound:

⁷ The first angel sounded (**1st Trumpet**): And hail and fire followed, mingled with blood, and they were thrown to the earth. And a third of the trees were burned up, and all green grass was burned up.

⁸ Then the second angel sounded (**2nd Trumpet**): And *something* like a great mountain burning with fire was thrown into the sea, and a third of the sea became blood. ⁹ And a third of the living creatures in the sea died, and a third of the ships were destroyed.

¹⁰ Then the third angel sounded (**3rd Trumpet**): And a great star fell from heaven, burning like a torch, and it fell on a third of the rivers and on the springs of water.

¹¹ The name of the star is Wormwood. A third of the waters became wormwood, and many men died from the water, because it was made bitter.

¹² Then the fourth angel sounded (**4th Trumpet**): 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.

¹³ And I looked, and I heard an angel flying through the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, **Woe, Woe, Woe** to the inhabitants of the earth, because of the remaining blasts of the trumpet of the three angels who are about to sound!ö

Sequence:

- 1st Trumpet ó Hail and fire mingled with blood are thrown to the earth ó 1/3 of the trees are burned up and all of the grass is burned up.

- 2nd Trumpet ó Something like a great mountain burning with fire is thrown into the sea ó 1/3 of sea becomes blood ó 1/3 of all the living creatures in the sea die ó 1/3 of all ships are destroyed.
- 3rd Trumpet ó Great star (named Wormwood) fell from heaven burning like a torch. It fell on 1/3 of rivers and on the springs of waters. One third (1/3) of the waters became wormwood and many died ó because the water was made bitter.
- 4th Trumpet ó One third (1/3) of the sun was darkened ó 1/3 of the moon was darkened ó 1/3 of the stars were darkened ó 1/3 of the day did not shine and likewise the night.
- God will use the first 4 Trumpets to get Israel's attention ó to encourage them to turn to God.
- The remaining 3 Trumpets are given the names ðWoeö, Woeö, Woeö.
- The 5th Trumpet is given the name ð1st Woeö ó The 5th Trumpet (1st Woe) is still during the first 3 ½ years of the ð7 Year Tribulationö. Revelation 9:12 ends the first 3 ½ years of the ð7 Year Tribulationö.
- The 6th Trumpet is given the name ð2nd Woeö ó The 6th Trumpet (2nd Woe) begins the second 3 ½ years of the ð7 Year Tribulationö. Revelation 9:13 begins the second 3 ½ years of the ð7 Year Tribulationö.
- The 7th Trumpet is given the name ð3rd Woeö.

In Revelation 9:1-12, the 5th Trumpet (1st Woe) sounds:

9 Then the fifth angel sounded (**5th Trumpet**): 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 (**5 Month Torment – on all but the 144,000**). 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 (**5 Month Torment – on all but the 144,000**).

¹¹ And they had as king over them the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in Hebrew is Abaddon, but in Greek he has the name Apollyon.

¹² One woe is past (**the 5th Trumpet is past**).

Behold, still two more woes (**the 2nd Woe and the 3rd Woe – in other words – the 6th Trumpet and the 7th Trumpet**) are coming after these things.

Sequence:

- 5th Trumpet ó The bottomless pit is opened and demonic beings called ölocustsö are given authority to harm all but the 144,000. They are given power to **Torment for 5 months** ó but they are not given authority to kill. Men will seek death (because of this 5 month Torment), but death will flee from them. These demonic beings are commanded not to harm the grass or any green thing ó and they are **commanded not to harm the 144,000**. In other words ó they are commanded not to harm the 12,000 from each of the 12 Tribes of Israel ó who have God's seal on their forehead. These 144,000 are öselectedö and öset apartö and öSealedö ó but they are not yet öSavedö.
- **NOTE:** The end of the 5th Trumpet is also the end of the first 3 ½ years of the ö7 Year Tribulationö. We know that because the 6th Trumpet ó which starts on Revelation 9:13 ó is a full 3 ½ year period which includes the öReleasing of the 4 demonic angelsö who are given authority to kill another 1/3 of the remaining world population, the ö7 Thundersö, the Anti-Christ who enters Jerusalem with an army and STOPS the öDaily Sacrificesö, the entire 1,260 day (3 ½ year) ministry of the 2 Witnesses ó who appear immediately after the Anti-Christ STOPS the öDaily Sacrificesö ó and the öAbomination of Desolationö ó which occurs 1,290 days after the Anti-Christ STOPS the öDaily Sacrificesö.

- God will use the 5th Trumpet (**the 5 Month Torment – on all but the 144,000**) to make a distinction between the 144,000 and everyone else ó just like He did with the children of Israel and the Egyptians ó when Moses was sent by God to deliver Israel from their bondage in Egypt.
- Because of this **5 Month Torment – on all but the 144,000**, many in Israel may be reminded of the Word of God ó which God spoke to Israel and Judah ó as recorded by the Prophet Jeremiah in Jeremiah 30:6-7:
 “Ask now and see, whether a man is ever in labor with child? So why do I see every man with his hands on his loins like a woman in labor, and all faces turned pale? Alas! For that day is great, so that none is like it: and it is the time of **Jacob’s Trouble**, but he shall be saved out of it.”
- The **5 Month Torment – on all but the 144,000** will be a very severe time on the children of Israel ó both Israel and Judah ó but the 144,000 (12,000 from each of the 12 Tribes of Israel) will be protected and “shall be saved out of it.”
- In regard to the **5 Month Torment – on all but the 144,000**, the Bible says, “In those days men will seek death and will not find it; they will desire to die, and death will flee from them.” ó Revelation 9:1-12

<p>Revelation 9:12 is the end of the first 3 ½ years of the 7 Year Tribulation.</p>

The “Sequence of Events” mentioned in the Book of Revelation that we have read concerning the First 3 ½ years of the “7 Year Tribulation” is as follows:

- God takes the Scroll in His right hand ó He is ready to start the “Final 7 Years” ó God is ready to fulfill **ALL** of His Promises to Israel ó Revelation 5:1
- Jesus takes the Scroll from the hand of God ó Revelation 5:7
- Jesus opens the First Seal of the Scroll ó Revelation 6:1-8
- 1st Seal ó One on a White horse ó went out conquering and to conquer ó Revelation 6:1-8
- 2nd Seal ó One on a Red horse ó to take peace from the earth ó that people should kill one another ó Revelation 6:1-8
- 3rd Seal ó One on a Black horse ó pair of scales (balances) in his hand ó a quart of wheat for a denarius (a day’s wage) and 3 quarts of barley for a denarius ó economic hard times ó Revelation 6:1-8
- 4th Seal ó One on a Pale horse (whose name is “Death”) and “Hades” followed with him ó power was given to them over a fourth of the earth ó to kill with the sword, with hunger, with death, and by the beast of the earth ó Revelation 6:1-8
- The “7 Year Tribulation” is God’s Punishment on the “**Persistent Unfaithfulness of the World**” ó 7 years of God’s “Four Severe Judgments of the Sword, Famine, Wild Beasts, and Pestilence.” Approximately one fourth (1/4) of the earth’s population is killed during the first 3 ½ years of the “7 Year Tribulation” ó Revelation 6:1-8
- **NOTE:** The current population of the earth is over 7.5 Billion people. If there are 8 Billion people on the earth during this time ó then one fourth (1/4) of the earth’s population would be 2 Billion people. In other words ó the Book of Revelation is telling us that approximately 2 Billion people will be killed during the first 3 ½ years of the “7 Year Tribulation” ó Revelation 6:1-8
- The Bible does not tell us how many Christians are killed (or martyred) during the “7 Year Tribulation”. Nevertheless, since Christians are “in the World” ó Christians will also experience what the World experiences ó and Christians will also endure what the World endures ó during these “Final 7 Years” ó during the “7 Year Tribulation” ó Revelation 6:1-8

- 5th Seal ó John sees under the altar (in heaven) the souls of those who had been slain for the Word of God and for their Testimony (**Tribulation** and **Persecution** come from our **Stand** on the **Word of God** and our **Testimony of Jesus**) ó Revelation 6:9-11
- The Bible does not tell us how many Christians are killed (or martyred) during the 5th Year Tribulationö. Nevertheless, since Christians are öin the Worldö ó Christians will also experience what the World experiences ó and Christians will also endure what the World endures ó during these öFinal 7 Yearsö ó during the 5th Year Tribulationö ó Revelation 6:9-11
- 6th Seal ó Great earthquake ó the sun became black as sackcloth of hair and the moon became like blood ó stars of heaven fell to the earth ó sky receded like a scroll when it is rolled up ó every mountain and island was moved out of its place ó Revelation 6:12-17
- Men think that the 6th Seal is the öWrath of the Lambö ó but this is NOT the öWrath of Godö ó this is still during the first 3 ½ years of the 5th Year Tribulationö ó Revelation 6:12-17
- God will use the 6th Seal to get Israel's attention ó to encourage them to turn to God ó Revelation 6:12-17
- Prior to the 7th Seal ó 144,000 are öSealedö ó 12,000 from each of the 12 Tribes of Israel are öSealedö. These are öselectedö and öset apartö and öSealedö ó but they are not yet öSavedö ó Revelation 7:1-17
- The Book of Revelation does not tell us the actual number of Christians who are killed (or martyred) during the 5th Year Tribulationö. Nevertheless, Revelation 7:1-17 describes those who have come out of the **Tribulation** as öa great multitude which no one could number ó of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tonguesö. These are the ones who obeyed the Commandment of Jesus to be ö**Faithful unto Death**ö ó Revelation 7:1-17
- Since Christians are öin the Worldö ó Christians will also experience what the World experiences ó and Christians will also endure what the World endures ó during the 5th Year Tribulationö. **Tribulation** and **Persecution** come from our **Stand** on the **Word of God** and our **Testimony of Jesus** ó Revelation 7:1-17
- 7th Seal ó Silence in Heaven for about half an hour ó Revelation 8:1-6
- Seven angels who stand before God are given 7 Trumpets ó Revelation 8:1-6
- An angel with a golden censer is given much incense ó offers it with the prayers of the saints upon the altar ó which is before the throne in heaven ó Revelation 8:1-6

- The angel then took the censer ó filled it with fire from the altar and threw it to the earth. There were noises, thunderings, lightnings, and an earthquake ó Revelation 8:1-6
- The 7 angels who had the 7 Trumpets prepare to sound ó Revelation 8:1-6
- 1st Trumpet ó Hail and fire mingled with blood are thrown to the earth ó 1/3 of the trees are burned up and all of the grass is burned up ó Revelation 8:7-13
- 2nd Trumpet ó Something like a great mountain burning with fire is thrown into the sea ó 1/3 of sea becomes blood ó 1/3 of all the living creatures in the sea die ó 1/3 of all ships are destroyed ó Revelation 8:7-13
- 3rd Trumpet ó Great star (named Wormwood) fell from heaven burning like a torch. It fell on 1/3 of rivers and on the springs of waters. One third (1/3) of the waters became wormwood and many died ó because the water was made bitter ó Revelation 8:7-13
- 4th Trumpet ó One third (1/3) of the sun was darkened ó 1/3 of the moon was darkened ó 1/3 of the stars were darkened ó 1/3 of the day did not shine and likewise the night ó Revelation 8:7-13
- God will use the first 4 Trumpets to get Israel's attention ó to encourage them to turn to God ó Revelation 8:7-13
- The remaining 3 Trumpets are given the names ðWoeö, Woeö, Woeö ó Revelation 8:7-13
- The 5th Trumpet is given the name ö1st Woeö ó The 5th Trumpet (1st Woe) is still during the first 3 ½ years of the ö7 Year Tribulationö. Revelation 9:12 ends the first 3 ½ years of the ö7 Year Tribulationö ó Revelation 8:7-13, Revelation 9:12
- The 6th Trumpet is given the name ö2nd Woeö ó The 6th Trumpet (2nd Woe) begins the second 3 ½ years of the ö7 Year Tribulationö. Revelation 9:13 begins the second 3 ½ years of the ö7 Year Tribulationö ó Revelation 8:7-13, Revelation 9:13
- The 7th Trumpet is given the name ö3rd Woeö ó Revelation 8:7-13
- 5th Trumpet (1st Woe) ó The bottomless pit is opened and demonic beings called ölocustsö are given authority to harm all but the 144,000. They are given power to **Torment for 5 months** ó but they are not given authority to kill. Men will seek death (because of this 5 month Torment), but death will flee from them. These demonic beings are commanded not to harm the grass

or any green thing ó and they are **commanded not to harm the 144,000**. In other words ó they are commanded not to harm the 12,000 from each of the 12 Tribes of Israel ó who have God's seal on their forehead. These 144,000 are óselectedö and óset apartö and óSealedö ó but they are not yet óSavedö ó Revelation 9:1-12, Revelation 7:1-17

- **NOTE:** The end of the 5th Trumpet is also the end of the first 3 ½ years of the ó7 Year Tribulationö. We know that because the 6th Trumpet ó which starts on Revelation 9:13 ó is a full 3 ½ year period which includes the óReleasing of the 4 demonic angelsö who are given authority to kill another 1/3 of the remaining world population, the ó7 Thundersö, the Anti-Christ who enters Jerusalem with an army and STOPS the óDaily Sacrificesö, the entire 1,260 day (3 ½ year) ministry of the 2 Witnesses (who appear immediately after the Anti-Christ STOPS the óDaily Sacrificesö) and the óAbomination of Desolationö ó which occurs 1,290 days after the Anti-Christ STOPS the óDaily Sacrificesö ó Revelation 9:1-12, Daniel 12:4-13
- God will use the 5th Trumpet (**the 5 Month Torment – on all but the 144,000**) to make a distinction between the 144,000 and everyone else ó just like He did with the children of Israel and the Egyptians ó when Moses was sent by God to deliver Israel from their bondage in Egypt ó Revelation 9:1-12, Revelation 7:1-17
- Because of this ó**5 Month Torment – on all but the 144,000**ö, many in Israel may be reminded of the Word of God ó which God spoke to Israel and Judah ó as recorded by the Prophet Jeremiah in Jeremiah 30:6-7: óAsk now and see, whether a man is ever in labor with child? So why do I see every man with his hands on his loins like a woman in labor, and all faces turned pale? Alas! For that day is great, so that none is like it: and it is the time of ó**Jacob's Trouble**ö, but he shall be saved out of it.ö ó Revelation 9:1-12, Jeremiah 30:6-7, Revelation 7:1-17
- The ó**5 Month Torment – on all but the 144,000**ö will be a very severe time on the children of Israel ó both Israel and Judah ó but the 144,000 (12,000 from each of the 12 Tribes of Israel) will be protected and óshall be saved out of itö ó Revelation 9:1-12, Jeremiah 30:6-7, Revelation 7:1-17
- In regard to the ó**5 Month Torment – on all but the 144,000**ö, the Bible says, óIn those days men will seek death and will not find it; they will desire to die, and death will flee from them.ö ó Revelation 9:1-12, Revelation 7:1-17
- Revelation 9:12 is the end of the first 3 ½ years of the ó7 Year Tribulationö ó Revelation 9:12

TRIBULATION and PERSECUTION
come from our **STAND**
on the **WORD of GOD** and our **TESTIMONY of JESUS.**

Chapter 5

Understanding the "Final 7 Years" Part 2

Before we look at what happens during the second 3 ½ years of the "7 Year Tribulation" let's look at the condition of the world as the second 3 ½ year period begins:

[1] The Anti-Christ is now firmly in power and is operating as a World Leader.

[2] Many Christians have been martyred for their **STAND** on the **WORD of GOD** and for their **TESTIMONY of JESUS**.

[3] The Temple in Israel has now been re-built and the Nation of Israel has begun observing the "Daily Sacrifices" at the Temple in Jerusalem.

[4] Israel has enjoyed 3 ½ years of Peace as while the rest of the world has been at war.

[5] Over 2 Billion people as one fourth of the World's Population as have been killed (or died) during this war and the Anti-Christ has gained power as the reigning World Leader.

[6] Events in the earth and in the sky as things that are definitely NOT under the control of any man as are happening:

- o 6th Seal as Great earthquake as the sun became black as sackcloth of hair and the moon became like blood as stars of heaven fell to the earth as sky receded like a scroll when it is rolled up as every mountain and island was moved out of its place.
- o 1st Trumpet as Hail and fire mingled with blood are thrown to the earth as 1/3 of the trees are burned up and all of the grass is burned up.
- o 2nd Trumpet as Something like a great mountain burning with fire is thrown into the sea as 1/3 of sea becomes blood as 1/3 of all the living creatures in the sea die as 1/3 of all ships are destroyed.
- o 3rd Trumpet as Great star (named Wormwood) fell from heaven burning like a torch. It fell on 1/3 of rivers and on the springs of waters. One third (1/3) of the waters became wormwood and many died as because the water was made bitter.
- o 4th Trumpet as One third (1/3) of the sun was darkened as 1/3 of the moon was darkened as 1/3 of the stars were darkened as 1/3 of the day did not shine and likewise the night.

[7] God is making progress toward His Plan to keep His Word to "**Save Israel**". God has handpicked 144,000 (12,000 from each of the 12 Tribes of Israel) and has placed His Seal of their foreheads. These 144,000 are "selected" and "set apart" and "Sealed" as but they are not yet "Saved". In addition as God has used the "**5 Month Torment – on all but the**

144,000 to make a distinction between the 144,000 and all others ó just like He did with the children of Israel and the Egyptians ó when Moses was sent by God to deliver Israel from their bondage in Egypt.

God definitely intends to keep His Word to **Save Israel** ó but it is important to understand that Israel must be **Saved** the same way that any other person is **Saved**.

So how is a person **Saved**?

Here Paul discusses **what the Bible says** about how a person is **Saved**:

But what does it say?

The WORD is near you, in your Mouth and in your Heart

(that is the Word of Faith which we preach)

ó that if you Confess with your Mouth the Lord Jesus and Believe in your Heart that God has raised Him from the dead ó you will be Saved.

For with the Heart one Believes unto Righteousness,
and with the Mouth Confession is made unto Salvation. ó Romans 10:8-10

Keep in mind that these Final 7 Years are God's punishment on the **Persistent Unfaithfulness of the World**. God will punish the world with His Four Severe Judgments ó the Sword, Famine, Wild Beasts, and Pestilence.

Nevertheless, God's real purpose for these Final 7 Years is to **Save Israel**.

Jesus has already done the work necessary for an individual to be **Saved**. Now God will keep His Promise that Israel is **Saved**. In other words ó God will make sure that 144,000 individuals (12,000 from each of the 12 Tribes of Israel) ó have the opportunity to hear the Word of God ó as His 2 Prophets teach **Jesus is the Messiah** ó from the Temple in Jerusalem. Faith comes by hearing and hearing ó by the Word of God.

Remember when we looked at the Scripture in Daniel 9:20-27? God told Daniel that there are 70 Sevens (490 years) determined for Israel and Jerusalem ó to accomplish six certain things. Jesus accomplished some of these during His **First Coming**. Now God will use these **Final 7 Years** to accomplish the remaining items on this list:

- o To finish the transgression
- o To make an end of sins
- o To make reconciliation for iniquity
- o To bring in everlasting righteousness
- o To seal up vision and prophecy
- o To anoint the Most Holy

Revelation 9:13 is the beginning of the second 3 ½ years of the 7 Year Tribulation.

In Revelation 9:13-21, the 6th Trumpet (2nd Woe) sounds:

¹³ Then the sixth angel sounded (**6th Trumpet**): 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.

Sequence:

- 6th Trumpet (2nd Woe) ó 4 demonic angels who had been prepared for the hour and day and month and year were released to kill a third of Mankind (1/3 of the remaining world population) ó with an army of 200 million ó by these 3 plagues: fire, smoke, and brimstone which came out of their mouths.
- The rest of mankind ó who were not killed by these plagues ó did not repent of the works of their hands (their idol worship) and they did not repent of their murders or their sorceries (some texts say "drugs") or their sexual immorality or their thefts.

- Now that the first 3 ½ year period of the 7 Year Tribulation is over ó Israel will definitely come under the Tribulation and Persecution of these 4 demonic angels ó and their army of 200 million ó who have set out to kill 1/3 of the remaining world population. Israel will continue to suffer Tribulation and Persecution until the 2 Witnesses (the 2 Prophets) appear. Once the Anti-Christ STOPS the Daily Sacrifices ó the 2 Prophets will appear and they will protect and provide for Israel for 3 ½ years (1,260 days). Since the 2 Prophets will be ministering from the Temple in Jerusalem ó the Anti-Christ will be unable to commit the "Abomination of Desolation" until their 1,260 day ministry is over. The Anti-Christ will actually commit the "Abomination of Desolation" on the 1,290th day.
- NOTE: If the World Population was 8 Billion people (when the Tribulation first began) ó and 2 Billion (1/4) were killed during the period of the first 3 ½ years ó then there are 6 Billion people left. These 4 demonic angels (and their army) will kill another one-third (1/3) of the remaining population ó or another 2 Billion people. Regardless of the actual number of people on the earth ó John is basically being told that one-half (1/2) of the world's population will be killed during the "Final 7 years" ó during the 7 Year Tribulation.

In Revelation 10:1-11, the 7 Thunders are discussed:

10 I saw still another mighty angel coming down from heaven, clothed with a cloud. And a rainbow *was* on his head, his face *was* like the sun, and his feet like pillars of fire.² He had a little book open in his hand. And he set his right foot on the sea and *his* left *foot* on the land,³ and cried with a loud voice, as *when* a lion roars.

When he cried out, seven thunders (**7 Thunders**) uttered their voices.

⁴ Now when the seven thunders (**7 Thunders**) uttered their voices, I was about to write; but I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, "**Seal up the things which the seven thunders uttered, and do not write them.**"

⁵ The angel whom I saw standing on the sea and on the land raised up his hand to heaven⁶ and swore by Him who lives forever and ever, who created heaven and the things that are in it, the earth and the things that are in it, and the sea and the things that are in it, that there should be delay no longer,⁷ but in the days of the sounding of the seventh angel (**7th Trumpet**), when he is about to sound, the mystery of God would be finished, as He declared to His servants the prophets.

⁸ Then the voice which I heard from heaven spoke to me again and said, "Go, take the little book which is open in the hand of the angel who stands on the sea and on the earth."

⁹ So I went to the angel and said to him, "Give me the little book."

And he said to me, "Take and eat it; and it will make your stomach bitter, but it will be as sweet as honey in your mouth."

¹⁰ Then I took the little book out of the angel's hand and ate it, and it was as sweet as honey in my mouth. But when I had eaten it, my stomach became bitter.

¹¹ And he said to me, "You must prophesy again about many peoples, nations, tongues, and kings."

Sequence:

- The 7 Thunders
- God will use the 7 Thunders to speak directly to the 144,000 (and to all others who are privileged to hear). This will prepare them for the 3 ½ year ministry of the 2 Prophets when the 144,000 (and all others who will come to hear the Word of God) will be taught **Jesus is the Messiah** from the Temple in Jerusalem.
- After the 7 Thunders uttered John is told, "Seal up the things which the seven thunders uttered, and do not write them."
- After the 7 Thunders uttered John is told to "Prophesy again about many peoples, nations, tongues, and kings."

In Revelation 11:1-14, the Temple and the 1,260 day Ministry of the 2 Witnesses are discussed:

¹ Then I was given a reed like a measuring rod. And the angel stood, saying, "Rise and measure the temple of God, the altar, and those who worship there.

² But leave out the court which is outside the temple, and do not measure it, for it has been given to the Gentiles. And they will tread the holy city (Jerusalem) underfoot for forty-two months (3 ½ years).

³ And I will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy one thousand two hundred and sixty days (the same 3 ½ years), clothed in sackcloth."

⁴ These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands standing before the God of the earth.

⁵ And if anyone wants to harm them, fire proceeds from their mouth and devours their enemies. And if anyone wants to harm them, he must be killed in this manner.

⁶ These have power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their prophecy; and they have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to strike the earth with all plagues, as often as they desire.

⁷ When they finish their testimony, the beast that ascends out of the bottomless pit (Satan) will make war against them, overcome them, and kill them.

⁸ And their dead bodies *will lie* in the street of the great city which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified (Jerusalem).

⁹ Then *those* from the peoples, tribes, tongues, and nations will see their dead bodies three-and-a-half days, and not allow their dead bodies to be put into graves. ¹⁰ And those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them, make merry, and send gifts to one another, because these two prophets tormented those who dwell on the earth.

¹¹ Now after the three-and-a-half days the breath of life from God entered them, and they stood on their feet, and great fear fell on those who saw them.

¹² And they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, "Come up here." And they ascended to heaven in a cloud, and their enemies saw them.

¹³ In the same hour there was a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city (Jerusalem) fell. In the earthquake seven thousand people were killed, and the rest were afraid and gave glory to the God of heaven.

¹⁴ The second woe (**the 6th Trumpet**) is past. Behold, the third woe (**the 7th Trumpet**) is coming quickly.

Sequence:

- John is told to "Rise and measure the Temple of God, the altar, and those who worship there. But leave out the court which is outside the Temple and do not measure it, for it has been given to the Gentiles. And they will tread the Holy City (Jerusalem) underfoot for 42 months (3 ½ years).
- The 2 Witnesses (the 2 Prophets) are given power to prophecy for 1,260 days (the same 3 ½ years) at the Temple in Jerusalem ó where they will teach "Jesus is the Messiah" to the 144,000 (the 12,000 who have been

handpicked by God from each of the 12 Tribes of Israel) and to all others who will come to the Temple in Jerusalem to hear the Word of God.

- These 144,000 are "selected", "set apart", and "sealed" but they are not yet "saved". They will be taught "Jesus is the Messiah" by the 2 Prophets for 3 ½ years at the Temple in Jerusalem.
- If anyone wants to harm the 2 Witnesses (the 2 Prophets) fire proceeds from their mouth and devours their enemies. And if anyone wants to harm them he must be killed in this manner.
- The 2 Witnesses (the 2 Prophets) have the power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their ministry and they have power over waters to turn them to blood and power to strike the earth with all plagues as often as they desire.
- The 2 Witnesses (the 2 Prophets) definitely have the power to prevent and prohibit the Anti-Christ from entering the Holy of Holies at the Temple in Jerusalem during their 3 ½ year (1,260 day) ministry.
- At the end of their ministry Satan will kill them and leave their dead bodies in the street of Jerusalem for 3 ½ days.
- After 3 ½ days, the breath of life from God will enter them and they will stand on their feet. A voice from heaven will speak to them and they will ascend to heaven in a cloud and their enemies will see them.
- In the same hour, there will be a great earthquake and a tenth of the city (Jerusalem) will fall and 7,000 people will be killed.

Revelation 11:14 is the end of the 6 th Trumpet.

The “Sequence of Events” mentioned during the time of 6th Trumpet – during the second 3 ½ years of the “7 Year Tribulation” – is as follows:

- 6th Trumpet (2nd Woe) ó 4 demonic angels who had been prepared for the hour and day and month and year were released to kill a third of Mankind (1/3 of the remaining world population) ó with an army of 200 million ó by these 3 plagues: fire, smoke, and brimstone which came out of their mouths ó Revelation 9:13-21
- The rest of mankind ó who were not killed by these plagues ó did not repent of the works of their hands (their idol worship) and they did not repent of their murders or their sorceries (some texts say õdrugsö) or their sexual immorality or their thefts ó Revelation 9:13-21
- Israel will definitely come under the Tribulation and Persecution of these 4 demonic angels ó and their army of 200 million ó who have set out to kill 1/3 of the remaining world population. Israel will continue to suffer Tribulation and Persecution until the 2 Witnesses (the 2 Prophets) appear. Once the Anti-Christ STOPS the Daily Sacrifices ó the 2 Prophets will appear and they will protect and provide for Israel for 3 ½ years (1,260 days). Since the 2 Prophets will be ministering from the Temple in Jerusalem ó the Anti-Christ will be unable to commit the õAbomination of Desolationö until their 1,260 day ministry is over. The Anti-Christ will actually commit the õAbomination of Desolationö on the 1,290th day ó Revelation 9:13-21, Daniel 12:4-13
- NOTE: If the World Population was 8 Billion people (when the Tribulation first began) ó and 2 Billion (1/4) were killed during the period of the first 3 ½ years ó then there are 6 Billion people left. These 4 demonic angels (and their army) will kill another one-third (1/3) of the remaining population ó or another 2 Billion people. Regardless of the actual number of people on the earth ó John is basically being told that one-half (1/2) of the world's population will be killed during the õFinal 7 yearsö ó during the õ7 Year Tribulationö ó Revelation 9:13-21
- The õ7 Thundersö ó Revelation 10:1-11
- God will use the õ7 Thundersö to speak directly to the 144,000 (and to all others who are privileged to hear). This will prepare them for the 3 ½ year ministry of the 2 Prophets ó when the 144,000 (and all others who will come to hear the Word of God) will be taught õJesus is the Messiahö from the Temple in Jerusalem ó Revelation 10:1-11
- After the õ7 Thundersö uttered ó John is told, õSeal up the things which the seven thunders uttered, and do not write them.ö ó Revelation 10:1-11
- After the õ7 Thundersö uttered ó John is told to õProphecy again about many peoples, nations, tongues, and kings.ö ó Revelation 10:1-11

- John is told to “Rise and measure the Temple of God, the altar, and those who worship there. But leave out the court which is outside the Temple and do not measure it, for it has been given to the Gentiles. And they will tread the Holy City (Jerusalem) underfoot for 42 months (3 ½ years)” ó Revelation 11:1-14
- The 2 Witnesses (the 2 Prophets) are given power to prophecy for 1,260 days (the same 3 ½ years) at the Temple in Jerusalem ó where they will teach “**Jesus is the Messiah**” to the 144,000 (the 12,000 who have been handpicked by God from each of the 12 Tribes of Israel) and to all others who will come to the Temple in Jerusalem to hear the Word of God ó Revelation 11:1-14
- These 144,000 are “selected”, “set apart”, and “Sealed” ó but they are not yet “Saved”. They will be taught “**Jesus is the Messiah**” ó by the 2 Prophets ó for 3 ½ years ó at the Temple in Jerusalem ó Revelation 11:1-14
- If anyone wants to harm the 2 Witnesses (the 2 Prophets) ó fire proceeds from their mouth and devours their enemies. And if anyone wants to harm them ó he must be killed in this manner ó Revelation 11:1-14
- The 2 Witnesses (the 2 Prophets) have the power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their ministry ó and they have power over waters to turn them to blood ó and power to strike the earth with all plagues ó as often as they desire ó Revelation 11:1-14
- The 2 Witnesses (the 2 Prophets) definitely have the power to prevent and prohibit the Anti-Christ from entering the Holy of Holies ó at the Temple in Jerusalem ó during their 3 ½ year (1,260 day) ministry ó Revelation 11:1-14
- At the end of their ministry ó Satan will kill them and leave their dead bodies in the street of Jerusalem for 3 ½ days ó Revelation 11:1-14
- After 3 ½ days, the breath of life from God will enter them ó and they will stand on their feet. A voice from heaven will speak to them and they will ascend to heaven in a cloud and their enemies will see them ó Revelation 11:1-14
- In the same hour, there will be a great earthquake and a tenth of the city (Jerusalem) will fall and 7,000 people will be killed ó Revelation 11:1-14

With everything we have so far – our “Sequence of Events” now looks like this:

- **Jesus – the Messiah – accomplishes what He was sent to the earth to accomplish – during His “First Coming”** ó ðFor God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.ö ó John 3:16
- **You and I now have the opportunity to become “Disciples of Jesus”** ó ðBut what does it say? ðThe WORD is near you, in your Mouth and in your Heartø (that is the Word of Faith which we preach) ó that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead ó you will be Saved. For with the heart one believes unto Righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto Salvation.ö ó Romans 10:8-10
- **Jesus Commands His Disciples to be “Faithful unto Death”** ó Matthew 16:25, Mark 8:35, Luke 9:24, John 12:25, Revelation 2:7, Revelation 2:11, Revelation 2:17, Revelation 2:26-29, Revelation 3:5-6, Revelation 3:12-13, Revelation 3:21-22, Revelation 12:11
- **Beginnings of Sorrows** ó This could have begun as early as when Jesus ascended to heaven ó because there certainly have been wars and rumors of wars and earthquakes and pestilences and famines since that time ó Matthew 24:3-13, Mark 13:3-13
- **Disciples of Jesus began to be persecuted and were “Faithful unto Death”** ó ðAnd they stoned Stephen as he was calling on God and saying, ðLord Jesus, receive my spirit.ø Then he knelt down and cried out with a loud voice, ðLord, do not charge them with this sin.ø And when he had said this, he fell asleep. Now Saul (who later became the great ðApostle Paulö) was consenting to his death. At that time a great persecution arose against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles. And devout men carried Stephen to his burial, and made great lamentation over him. As for Saul, he made havoc of the church, entering every house, and dragging off men and women, committing them to prison. Therefore those who were scattered went everywhere preaching the WORD.ö ó Acts 7:59-8:4
- **The Temple and Jerusalem are both destroyed in 70 A.D. by the Roman Empire** ó Over 1 million are killed and the children of Israel are scattered throughout the earth ó in exile and without a homeland. The Nation of Israel ceases to exist as a Nation ó for almost 2,000 years.

- **The children of Israel continue to endure God’s “Four Severe Judgments – the Sword, Famine, Wild Beasts, and Pestilence.”** Israel endures 2,500 years of God’s punishment for the iniquity of Israel ó beginning with their 70-year captivity in Babylon (during the time of Daniel) and continuing through the years of the World War II Holocaust ó which ended in 1945. Israel endures over 2,500 years of God’s punishment for the **“Persistent Unfaithfulness of Israel”** ó Ezekiel 4:1-6, Leviticus 26:18-28, Ezekiel 15:1-8, Ezekiel 14:12-23
- **Israel becomes a Nation (again) in 1948** ó This ends the 2,500 years of God’s punishment for the iniquity of Israel. This ends the 2,500 years of punishment for the **“Persistent Unfaithfulness of Israel”**. No other nation in the history of the world has ever returned as a Nation ó once they have been destroyed as a Nation. Nevertheless, God honors His promise to return Israel to her homeland in 1948.
- ----- at some point in the future -----
- **God takes the Scroll in His Right hand** ó He is ready to start the **“Final 7 Years”**. God will use these **“Final 7 Years”** to fulfill ALL of His Promises to Israel ó Revelation 5:1
- **Jesus takes the Scroll from the hand of God** ó Revelation 5:7
- **Israel signs a covenant (7-year Peace Treaty) with many** ó Daniel 9:20-27
- **Jesus opens the First Seal** ó This starts the **“7 Year Tribulation”** ó Revelation 6:1
- **Tribulation Begins and Continues** ó This is the beginning of the Tribulation ó Matthew 24:3-13
- **The “7 Year Tribulation” is God’s punishment on the “Persistent Unfaithfulness of the World”** ó This is 7 years of what God calls His **“Four Severe Judgments ó The Sword, Famine, Wild Beasts, and Pestilence”**. This is 7 years of God’s punishment on the **“Persistent Unfaithfulness of the World”**. ó Ezekiel 15:1-8, Ezekiel 14:12-23
- **Since Christians are “in the World” – Christians will experience what the World experiences and Christians will endure what the World endures** ó during these **“Final 7 Years”** ó during the **“7 Year Tribulation”** ó John 16:1-4, John 15:12-27, John 16:33, Matthew 16:25, Mark 8:35, Luke 9:24, John 12:25
- **God will use these “Final 7 Years” to fulfill ALL of His Promises to Israel** ó Daniel 9:20-27, Romans 9:27, Romans 11:26-27

- **Israel will have “Peace” during the first 3 ½ years – while the rest of the world endures a “7 Year Tribulation”** ó This will give Israel an opportunity to re-build the Temple (if the Temple has not already been re-built by that time) ó Daniel 9:20-27
- **NOTE:** Israel has öPeaceö during the first 3 ½ years of the ö7 Year Tribulationö ó so Israel is NOT affected by the first 5 Seals.
- **1st Seal** ó One on a White horse ó went out conquering and to conquer ó Revelation 6:1-8
- **2nd Seal** ó One on a Red horse ó to take peace from the earth ó that people should kill one another ó Revelation 6:1-8
- **3rd Seal** ó One on a Black horse ó pair of scales (balances) in his hand ó a quart of wheat for a denarius (a day’s wage) and 3 quarts of barley for a denarius ó economic hard times ó Revelation 6:1-8
- **4th Seal** ó One on a Pale horse (whose name is öDeathö) and öHadesö followed with him ó power was given to them over a fourth of the earth ó to kill with the sword, with hunger, with death, and by the beast of the earth ó Revelation 6:1-8
- **NOTE:** The current population of the earth is over 7.5 Billion people. If there are 8 Billion people on the earth during this time ó then one fourth (1/4) of the earth’s population would be 2 Billion people. In other words ó the Book of Revelation is telling us that approximately 2 Billion people will be killed during the first 3 ½ years of the ö7 Year Tribulationö ó Revelation 6:1-8
- **5th Seal** ó John sees under the altar (in heaven) the souls of those who had been slain for the Word of God and for their Testimony (**Tribulation** and **Persecution** come from our **Stand** on the **Word of God** and our **Testimony of Jesus**) ó Revelation 6:9-11
- **The “7 Year Tribulation” is God’s punishment on the “Persistent Unfaithfulness of the World”** ó This is 7 years of what God calls His öFour Severe Judgments ó The Sword, Famine, Wild Beasts, and Pestilenceö. This is 7 years of God’s punishment on the ö**Persistent Unfaithfulness of the World**ö. One-fourth (1/4) of the world’s population ó **approximately 2 Billion people are killed (or die) – during the first 3 ½ years** ó of the ö7 Year Tribulationö ó Ezekiel 15:1-8, Ezekiel 14:12-23, Revelation 6:1-8, Revelation 6:9-11
- **Since Christians are “in the World” – Christians will experience what the World experiences and Christians will endure what the World endures** ó during these öFinal 7 Yearsö ó during the ö**7 Year Tribulation**ö ó John 16:1-4, John 15:12-27, John 16:33, Matthew 16:25, Mark 8:35, Luke 9:24, John 12:25

- **God will use these “Final 7 Years” to fulfill ALL of His Promises to Israel** ó Daniel 9:20-27, Romans 9:27, Romans 11:26-27
- **Israel will have “Peace” during the first 3 ½ years – while the rest of the world endures the “7 Year Tribulation”** ó This will give Israel an opportunity to re-build the Temple (if the Temple has not already been re-built by that time) ó Daniel 9:20-27
- **Temple is re-built** ó The Bible does not tell us exactly when the Temple is built. Nevertheless, the Temple must be re-built before Israel can START the öDaily Sacrificesö. Once the Temple is re-built ó **Israel will START the “Daily Sacrifices”**. Nevertheless ó whether the Temple is re-built before the ö7 Year Tribulationö begins ó or ó whether the Temple is re-built during the first 3 ½ years of the ö7 Year Tribulationö ó The Bible tells us that halfway through the ö7 Year Peace Treatyö ó in other words ó half way through the ö7 Year Tribulationö ó the Anti-Christ will enter Jerusalem with an army and STOP the öDaily Sacrificesö. Therefore, **Israel will be observing the “Daily Sacrifices” – at the Temple** ó at some point ó **during the first 3 ½ years of the “7 Year Tribulation”** ó Daniel 9:20-27, Daniel 12:4-13, Daniel 8:9-11, Daniel 8:12, Daniel 8:13-17, Daniel 8:18-27
- **Prior to when the 6th Trumpet sounds** ó in Revelation 9:13 ó which begins the second 3 ½ years of the ö7 Year Tribulationö ó the following 3 things will have already taken place:
 - [1] The Temple will have already been re-built.
 - [2] The öDaily Sacrificesö will have already been STARTED.
 - [3] The 144,000 will have already been öSealedö. The 144,000 are öselectedö and öset apartö and öSealedö ó but they are not yet öSavedö.

All 3 of these important end-time events take place **during the first 3 ½ years** of the ö7 Year Tribulationö ó in other words ó prior to Revelation 9:12 ó which ends the first 3 ½ years of the ö7 Year Tribulationö ó Revelation 6:1-9:12
- **Temple is re-built** ó The Bible does not tell us whether or not the Temple is re-built before the Tribulation begins ó but the Temple is definitely re-built before the Anti-Christ commits the Abomination of Desolation ó Matthew 24:15-22, Mark 13:14-20, 2nd Thessalonians 2:1-5, Daniel 12:4-13, Daniel 8:9-11, Daniel 8:12, Daniel 8:13-17, Daniel 8:18-27
- **Israel STARTS the “Daily Sacrifices”** ó Daniel 9:20-27, Daniel 12:4-13, Daniel 8:9-11, Daniel 8:12, Daniel 8:13-17, Daniel 8:18-27

- **The Bible does not tell us how many Christians are killed (or martyred) during the “7 Year Tribulation”.** Nevertheless, since Christians are in the World and Christians will also experience what the World experiences and Christians will also endure what the World endures during these Final 7 Years during the 7 Year Tribulation and Revelation 6:1-8, Revelation 6:9-11
- **NOTE:** Israel had Peace during the first 3 ½ years of the 7 Year Tribulation so Israel was NOT affected by the first 5 Seals. Nevertheless, Israel will be affected by the remaining Seals, the 7 Thunders, and the 7 Trumpets.
- **6th Seal** and Great earthquake and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair and the moon became like blood and stars of heaven fell to the earth and sky receded like a scroll when it is rolled up and every mountain and island was moved out of its place and Revelation 6:12-17
- **Men think that the 6th Seal is the “Wrath of the Lamb” – but this is NOT the “Wrath of God”** and this is still during the first 3 ½ years of the 7 Year Tribulation and Revelation 6:12-17
- **God will use the 6th Seal to get Israel’s attention** and to encourage them to turn to God and Revelation 6:12-17
- **Prior to the 7th Seal – 144,000 are “Sealed”** and 12,000 from each of the 12 Tribes of Israel are Sealed. These are selected and set apart and Sealed and but they are not yet Saved and Revelation 7:1-17
- **The Book of Revelation does not tell us the actual number of Christians who are killed (or martyred) during the 7 Year Tribulation.** Nevertheless, Revelation 7:1-17 describes those who have come out of the Tribulation as a **great multitude which no one could number – of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues**. These are the ones who obeyed the Commandment of Jesus to be Faithful unto Death and Revelation 7:1-17
- **Since Christians are “in the World” – Christians will also experience what the World experiences** and Christians will also endure what the World endures during the 7 Year Tribulation. Tribulation and Persecution come from our Stand on the Word of God and our Testimony of Jesus and Revelation 7:1-17
- **7th Seal** and Silence in Heaven for about half an hour and Revelation 8:1-6
- **Seven angels who stand before God are given 7 Trumpets** and Revelation 8:1-6
- **An angel with a golden censer is given much incense** and offers it with the prayers of the saints upon the altar and which is before the throne in heaven and Revelation 8:1-6

- **The angel then took the censer – filled it with fire from the altar and threw it to the earth.** There were noises, thunderings, lightnings, and an earthquake ó Revelation 8:1-6
- **The 7 angels who had the 7 Trumpets prepare to sound** ó Revelation 8:1-6
- **1st Trumpet** ó Hail and fire mingled with blood are thrown to the earth ó 1/3 of the trees are burned up and all of the grass is burned up ó Revelation 8:7-13
- **2nd Trumpet** ó Something like a great mountain burning with fire is thrown into the sea ó 1/3 of sea becomes blood ó 1/3 of all the living creatures in the sea die ó 1/3 of all ships are destroyed ó Revelation 8:7-13
- **3rd Trumpet** ó Great star (named Wormwood) fell from heaven burning like a torch. It fell on 1/3 of rivers and on the springs of waters. One third (1/3) of the waters became wormwood and many died ó because the water was made bitter ó Revelation 8:7-13
- **4th Trumpet** ó One third (1/3) of the sun was darkened ó 1/3 of the moon was darkened ó 1/3 of the stars were darkened ó 1/3 of the day did not shine and likewise the night ó Revelation 8:7-13
- **God will use the first 4 Trumpets to get Israel's attention** ó to encourage them to turn to God ó Revelation 8:7-13
- **The remaining 3 Trumpets are given the names “Woe”, “Woe”, “Woe”** ó Revelation 8:7-13
- **The 5th Trumpet is given the name “1st Woe”** ó The 5th Trumpet (1st Woe) is still during the first 3 ½ years of the 7 Year Tribulation. Revelation 9:12 ends the first 3 ½ years of the 7 Year Tribulation ó Revelation 8:7-13, Revelation 9:12
- **The 6th Trumpet is given the name “2nd Woe”** ó The 6th Trumpet (2nd Woe) begins the second 3 ½ years of the 7 Year Tribulation. Revelation 9:13 begins the second 3 ½ years of the 7 Year Tribulation ó Revelation 8:7-13, Revelation 9:13
- **The 7th Trumpet is given the name “3rd Woe”** ó Revelation 8:7-13
- **5th Trumpet (1st Woe)** ó The bottomless pit is opened and demonic beings called ölocustsö are given authority to harm all but the 144,000. They are given power to **Torment for 5 months** ó but they are not given authority to kill. Men will seek death (because of this 5 month Torment), but death will flee from them. These demonic beings are commanded not to harm the grass or any green thing ó and they are **commanded not to harm the 144,000**. In other words ó they are

- commanded not to harm the 12,000 from each of the 12 Tribes of Israel ó who have God's seal on their forehead. These 144,000 are "selected" and "set apart" and "Sealed", but they are not yet "Saved" ó Revelation 9:1-12, Revelation 7:1-17
- **NOTE:** The end of the 5th Trumpet is also the end of the first 3 ½ years of the "7 Year Tribulation". We know that because the 6th Trumpet ó which starts on Revelation 9:13 ó is a full 3 ½ year period which includes the "Releasing of the 4 demonic angels" who are given authority to kill another 1/3 of the remaining world population, the "7 Thunders", the Anti-Christ who enters Jerusalem with an army and STOPS the "Daily Sacrifices", the entire 1,260 day (3 ½ year) ministry of the 2 Witnesses (who appear immediately after the Anti-Christ STOPS the "Daily Sacrifices") and the "Abomination of Desolation" ó which occurs 1,290 days after the Anti-Christ STOPS the "Daily Sacrifices" ó Revelation 9:1-12, Daniel 12:4-13
 - **God will use the 5th Trumpet (the 5 Month Torment – on all but the 144,000)** to make a distinction between the 144,000 and everyone else ó just like He did with the children of Israel and the Egyptians ó when Moses was sent by God to deliver Israel from their bondage in Egypt ó Revelation 9:1-12, Revelation 7:1-17
 - **Because of this “5 Month Torment – on all but the 144,000”**, many in Israel may be reminded of the Word of God ó which God spoke to Israel and Judah ó as recorded by the Prophet Jeremiah in Jeremiah 30:6-7: "Ask now and see, whether a man is ever in labor with child? So why do I see every man with his hands on his loins like a woman in labor, and all faces turned pale? Alas! For that day is great, so that none is like it: and it is the time of "**Jacob's Trouble**", but he shall be saved out of it." ó Revelation 9:1-12, Jeremiah 30:6-7, Revelation 7:1-17
 - **The “5 Month Torment – on all but the 144,000”** will be a very severe time on the children of Israel ó both Israel and Judah ó but the 144,000 (12,000 from each of the 12 Tribes of Israel) will be protected and "shall be saved out of it" ó Revelation 9:1-12, Jeremiah 30:6-7, Revelation 7:1-17
 - **In regard to the “5 Month Torment – on all but the 144,000”**, the Bible says, "In those days men will seek death and will not find it; they will desire to die, and death will flee from them." ó Revelation 9:1-12, Revelation 7:1-17
 - **Revelation 9:12** ó Ends the first 3 ½ years of the "7 Year Tribulation".
 - **Revelation 9:13** ó Begins the second 3 ½ years of the "7 Year Tribulation".
 - **6th Trumpet (2nd Woe)** ó 4 demonic angels who had been prepared for the hour and day and month and year were released to kill a third of Mankind (1/3 of the remaining world population) ó with an army of 200 million ó by these 3 plagues: fire, smoke, and brimstone which came out of their mouths ó Revelation 9:13-21

- **The rest of mankind** ó who were not killed by these plagues ó did not repent of the works of their hands (their idol worship) and they did not repent of their murders or their sorceries (some texts say ödrugsö) or their sexual immorality or their thefts ó Revelation 9:13-21
- **Israel will definitely come under the Tribulation and Persecution of these 4 demonic angels** ó and their army of 200 million ó who have set out to kill 1/3 of the remaining world population. Israel will continue to suffer Tribulation and Persecution until the 2 Witnesses (the 2 Prophets) appear. Once the Anti-Christ STOPS the Daily Sacrifices ó the 2 Prophets will appear and they will protect and provide for Israel for 3 ½ years (1,260 days). Since the 2 Prophets will be ministering from the Temple in Jerusalem ó the Anti-Christ will be unable to commit the öAbomination of Desolationö until their 1,260 day ministry is over. The Anti-Christ will actually commit the öAbomination of Desolationö on the 1,290th day ó Revelation 9:13-21, Daniel 12:4-13, Revelation 11:1-14
- **NOTE:** If the World Population was 8 Billion people (when the Tribulation first began) ó and 2 Billion (1/4) were killed during the period of the first 3 ½ years ó then there are 6 Billion people left. These 4 demonic angels (and their army) will kill another one-third (1/3) of the remaining population ó or another 2 Billion people. Regardless of the actual number of people on the earth ó John is basically being told that one-half (1/2) of the world's population will be killed during the öFinal 7 yearsö ó during the ö7 Year Tribulationö ó Revelation 9:13-21
- **The “7 Thunders”** ó Revelation 10:1-11
- **God will use the “7 Thunders” to speak directly to the 144,000** (and to all others who are privileged to hear). This will prepare them for the 3 ½ year ministry of the 2 Prophets ó when the 144,000 (and all others who will come to hear the Word of God) will be taught öJesus is the Messiahö from the Temple in Jerusalem ó Revelation 10:1-11, Revelation 11:1-14, Luke 24:25-27, Luke 24:44-49
- **Anti-Christ enters Jerusalem with an army and STOPS the “Daily Sacrifices** ó Daniel 9:20-27, Daniel 12:4-13, Daniel 8:9-11, Daniel 8:12, Daniel 8:13-17, Daniel 8:18-27
- **The Anti-Christ is unable to enter into the Holy of Holies – at this point – and commit the “Abomination of Desolation” – because the 2 Prophets will appear at this time and begin to minister from the Temple in Jerusalem.** The 2 Prophets will teach öJesus is the Messiahö to the 144,000 and to all others who will come to the Temple to hear the Word of God. Once their 1,260 day ministry is over and they are killed (by Satan) ó then the Anti-Christ will enter the Holy of Holies and commit the öAbomination of Desolationö. The Anti-Christ will commit the öAbomination of Desolationö exactly 1,290 days after he originally

STOPPED the "Daily Sacrifices" ó Daniel 12:4-13, Revelation 11:1-14, Luke 24:25-27, Luke 24:44-49, Revelation 7:1-17

- **The 2 Witnesses (the 2 Prophets) are given power to prophecy for 1,260 days at the Temple in Jerusalem** ó where they will teach "Jesus is the Messiah" to the 144,000 (the 12,000 who have been handpicked by God from each of the 12 Tribes of Israel) and to all others who will come to the Temple in Jerusalem to hear the Word of God ó Revelation 11:1-14, Luke 24:25-27, Luke 24:44-49, Revelation 7:1-17
- **These 144,000** are "selected", "set apart", and "Sealed" ó but they are not yet "Saved". They will be taught "Jesus is the Messiah" ó by the 2 Prophets ó for 3 ½ years ó at the Temple in Jerusalem ó Revelation 11:1-14, Luke 24:25-27, Luke 24:44-49, Revelation 7:1-17
- **If anyone wants to harm the 2 Witnesses (the 2 Prophets) – fire proceeds from their mouth and devours their enemies.** And if anyone wants to harm them ó he must be killed in this manner ó Revelation 11:1-14
- **The 2 Witnesses (the 2 Prophets) have the power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their ministry** ó and they have power over waters to turn them to blood ó and power to strike the earth with all plagues ó as often as they desire ó Revelation 11:1-14
- **The 2 Witnesses (the 2 Prophets) definitely have the power to prevent and prohibit the Anti-Christ from entering the Holy of Holies** ó at the Temple in Jerusalem ó during their 3 ½ year (1,260 day) ministry ó Revelation 11:1-14
- **A time, times, and half a time – from the time the "Daily Sacrifices are taken away" until the "Fulfillment of the wonders for Israel"** ó Daniel 12:4-13
- **This "time, times, and half a time" (mentioned in the Book of Daniel)** is actually the same 3 ½ year period as the 3 ½ year period mentioned in the Book of Revelation (1,260 days) when the 2 Witnesses (the 2 Prophets) will minister to the 144,000 ó 12,000 from each of the 12 tribes of Israel (and to all others who will come to the Temple in Jerusalem to hear the Word of God) ó Daniel 12:4-13, Revelation 11:1-14
- **For 1,260 days (3 ½ years)** ó the 2 Prophets will teach "Jesus is the Messiah" to the 144,000 ó from the Temple in Jerusalem. These 144,000 are the 12,000 from each of the 12 Tribes of Israel who have been handpicked by God and "Sealed" on their foreheads. They are "selected" and "set apart" and "Sealed" ó but they are not yet "Saved". These 144,000 are actually "Sealed" during the first 3 ½ years of the "7 Year Tribulation" ó but they will be taught "Jesus is the Messiah" ó by the 2 Prophets ó from the Temple in Jerusalem ó during the second 3 ½ years of the "7 Year Tribulation". Before the end of the 1,260 day ministry of these 2

- Prophets ó **every single one of the 144,000 will be “Saved”** ó Daniel 12:4-13, Revelation 11:1-14, Revelation 14:1-5, Romans 10:8-13, Luke 24:25-27, Luke 24:44-49, Revelation 7:1-17
- **For 42 months (3 ½ years)** ó the Gentiles will tread the holy city of Jerusalem underfoot ó to hear the Word of God ó as taught by the 2 Witnesses (the 2 Prophets) ó one of which is definitely the Prophet Elijah ó who is mentioned in Malachi 4:4-6: öRemember the Law of Moses, My servant, which I commanded him in Horeb for all Israel, with the statutes and judgments. Behold, I will send you **Elijah the prophet** before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD. And he will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the earth with a curse.ö ó Daniel 12:4-13, Revelation 11:1-14, Malachi 4:4-6
 - **Because of the power given to these 2 Prophets** ó and because these 2 Prophets will be ministering at the Temple in Jerusalem ó the **Anti-Christ will be unable to commit the “Abomination of Desolation” during the 3 ½ year period (the 1,260 day period) of their ministry.** These 2 Prophets (and their power) are described in Revelation 11:4-6: öThese are the two olive trees and the two lampstands standing before the God of the earth. And if anyone wants to harm them, fire proceeds from their mouth and devours their enemies. And if anyone wants to harm them, he must be killed in this manner. These have power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their prophecy; and they have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to strike the earth with all plagues, as often as they desireö. Therefore ó these 2 Prophets definitely have the **power to prevent and prohibit the Anti-Christ from entering the Holy of Holies and committing the “Abomination of Desolation”** during their 1,260 day ministry at the Temple in Jerusalem ó Daniel 12:4-13, Revelation 11:1-14
 - **At the end of their ministry** ó Satan will kill them and leave their dead bodies in the street of Jerusalem for 3 ½ days ó Revelation 11:1-14
 - **After 3 ½ days, the breath of life from God will enter them** ó and they will stand on their feet. A voice from heaven will speak to them and they will ascend to heaven in a cloud and their enemies will see them ó Revelation 11:1-14
 - **In the same hour,** there will be a great earthquake and a tenth of the city (Jerusalem) will fall and 7,000 people will be killed ó Revelation 11:1-14
 - **It is “1,290 days” – from the time the “Daily Sacrifices” are STOPPED until the Anti-Christ commits the “Abomination of Desolation”** ó Daniel 12:4-13
 - **After the 2 Prophets are killed** ó the Anti-Christ will then enter the Temple in Jerusalem and commit the ö**Abomination of Desolation**ö. This will happen 1,290 days after the Anti-Christ originally STOPPED the öDaily Sacrificesö ó Daniel 12:4-13, Revelation 11:1-14

- **Abomination of Desolation** ó Matthew 24:15-22, Mark 13:14-20, 2nd Thessalonians 2:1-5, Daniel 12:4-13
- **Great Tribulation** ó In the öGospel According to Matthewö ó Jesus refers to this time toward the end of the Tribulation as the öGreat Tribulationö ó **This is the time immediately after the Abomination of Desolation and just before the Rapture** ó Matthew 24:15-22, Mark 13:14-20, Matthew 24:29-31, Mark 13:24-27
- **Sun and Moon are darkened** ó Matthew 24:29-31, Mark 13:24-27
- **Last Trumpet** ó 1st Corinthians 15:51-52
- **Jesus descends from heaven** with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the Trumpet of God ó 1st Thessalonians 4:15-18
- **Son of Man coming on the Clouds** ó Matthew 24:29-31, Mark 13:24-27, Revelation 14:14-20
- **It is “1,335 days”** ó from the time öDaily Sacrifices are taken awayö until those öBlessedö ó in other words ó those öDisciples of Jesusö who are still alive and remain on the earth will be öBlessedö ó they will be the ones in the öRaptureö ó Daniel 12:4-13
- **Rapture** ó Matthew 24:15-22, Mark 13:14-20, Matthew 24:29-31, Mark 13:24-27, 2nd Thessalonians 2:1-5, 1st Corinthians 15:51-52, 1st Thessalonians 4:15-18, Revelation 14:14-20, Daniel 12:4-13
- **Wrath of God** ó Revelation 14:14-20
- **It is “2,300 days” – from the time the “Daily Sacrifices are STOPPED” until the “Sanctuary is cleansed”** ó Daniel 8:13-17, Daniel 8:18-27
- **Sanctuary will be “cleansed” – This would certainly happen when Jesus rules on earth – for 1,000 years – from Jerusalem.** This will occur after the Battle of Armageddon (after the last Bowl of the **Wrath of God**) ó Daniel 8:13-17, Daniel 8:18-27

TRIBULATION and PERSECUTION
come from our **STAND**
on the **WORD of GOD** and our **TESTIMONY of JESUS.**

Chapter 6

Understanding the 7th Trumpet and the Summary of Revelation 12:1 through Revelation 14:20

The sounding of the 7th Trumpet is found in the passage of Scripture beginning at Revelation 11:15 and ending at Revelation 11:19. The Summary that is found at the 7th Trumpet includes all three of the Chapters that immediately follow beginning at Revelation 12:1 and continuing through Revelation 14:20.

Revelation 12:1 through Revelation 14:20 is a Summary of events and this Summary occurs at the time of the 7th Trumpet after the 3 ½ year ministry of the 2 Prophets is over after the 144,000 have been Saved after the 2 Prophets have been killed and after the Anti-Christ has committed the Abomination of Desolation. Nevertheless, this Summary also occurs **before the Rapture** and during the time of the **Great Tribulation**.

Remember the Rapture is what ends the Tribulation.

Then following the Rapture the seven angels with the **7 Bowls of Wrath** are shown to John starting in the very next verse beginning in Revelation 15:1:

15 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.

So the Sequence (as we have seen all along) is:

- Tribulation
- Rapture
- Wrath of God

We will take a close look at the 7 Bowls of Wrath in the very next Chapter (Understanding the 7 Bowls of the Wrath of God) but right now let's look at this time of the 7th Trumpet.

The description of the 7 Trumpet is recorded in Revelation 11:15-19:

¹⁵ Then the seventh angel (**7th Trumpet**) 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:

õWe 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.ö

¹⁹ Then the temple of God was opened in heaven, and the ark of His covenant was seen in His temple.

And there were lightnings, noises, thunderings, an earthquake, and great hail.

Sequence:

- o 7th Trumpet ó Temple of God was opened in heaven and the Ark of His Covenant was seen in His Temple.
- o There were lightnings, noises, thunderings, an earthquake, and great hail.

The õSummaryö of events ó which Jesus showed to John ó so that John could write them down in a book ó and so that we could read them and understand ó are recorded in Revelation 12:1 through Revelation 14:20.

For many years, I did not understand the significance ó or the importance ó of this õSummaryö of events. In addition, I also did not understand exactly why this õSummaryö of events was located specifically during the time of the õ7th Trumpetö.

Now that I have a better understanding ó I want to share with you several potential õpurposesö for Jesus giving us this õSummaryö of events and several potential reasons for why they are located here at the õ7th Trumpetö.

First of all ó it is important to understand that the events given in this õSummaryö occur in the correct order ó past, present, and even future events ó so it helps us understand the proper placement ó the proper order ó of each of these events.

This could be a major purpose for this õSummaryö because it tells us ó without question ó that the õSequence of Eventsö is as follows:

- o Tribulation
- o Rapture
- o Wrath of God

The Sequence of the õSummaryö ó [1] Tribulation [2] Rapture [3] Wrath of God ó is consistent with what we have seen in the teachings of Jesus and in the writings of Paul.

Secondly ó it is important to understand that the events given in this öSummaryö introduce us to several pieces of öNew Informationö.

Each of the following is öNew Informationö:

- Prior to the Rapture ó an Angel preaches the Gospel to those who dwell on the earth ó to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people.
- Prior to the Rapture ó another Angel follows saying, öBabylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she has made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.ö
- Prior to the Rapture ó a third Angel follows them saying, öIf anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand, he himself shall also drink of the wine of the Wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name.ö

These three pieces of öNew Informationö could also be a major purpose for this öSummaryö because it tells us ó without question ó that Prior to the Rapture ó all three of these events must happen ó FIRST.

NOTE: Many Christians have been taught (and many believe) that the öRaptureö could occur at any time. Nevertheless, in this passage of Scripture, Jesus is showing us ó via this öSummaryö ó that an Angel must FIRST preach the Gospel to the entire world and then 2 other Angels will follow ó speaking their messages ó to the entire world ó all of which happens PRIOR to the Rapture.

In Chapter 1 ó we saw where Jesus told His Disciples (in Matthew and Mark) that the öAbomination of Desolationö and the öGreat Tribulationö must happen FIRST ó PRIOR to the Rapture. We also saw where Paul told us (in 2nd Thessalonians) that the öAbomination of Desolationö (and thus the Temple being re-built) must happen FIRST ó PRIOR to the Rapture.

So a major purpose for this öSummaryö could be to simply nail down the öSequence of Eventsö ó by giving them ó one more time ó in the correct order:

- Tribulation
- An Angel Preaches the Gospel to the entire world ó Just before the Rapture
- Two other Angels ó speak to the entire world ó Just before the Rapture
- Rapture
- Wrath of God

John was "seeing" this "Summary" or this "Vision" which included many future events. Nevertheless, since he "saw" it like watching a "Movie" he reported things in the "past tense" even though many of them were clearly "future events".

Jesus did the same thing when He spoke of "seeing Satan fall like lightning from heaven". Many have thought and have heard preaching that convinced them that when Jesus said He "saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven" that this implied that this event had already actually occurred prior to the time when Jesus spoke it.

You may be thinking the same thing: "Yes that's what my Bible says -Jesus saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven- Jesus always tells the Truth so when Jesus said that then that means that the "War in Heaven" has already happened."

Nevertheless, just because we may have believed something for a long time does not necessarily make it true. Notice what is recorded in Luke 10:17-20:

¹⁷ Then the seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name." ¹⁸ And He said to them, "**I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.**" ¹⁹ Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you. ²⁰ Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven."

So Jesus definitely "saw" it, but as many people have believed all their lives did this "War in Heaven" occur **before** Jesus came to the earth in His "First Coming"?

OR

Did He "see" it in a "Vision" like watching a "Movie"? Because as we will understand from reading the "Summary" of this "War in Heaven" appears to have occurred **after** Jesus ascended to heaven.

Which is correct?

According to the "Summary" beginning at Revelation 12:1 and continuing through Revelation 14:20 this "War in Heaven" has to occur **AFTER** the crucifixion NOT prior to Jesus coming to the earth in His "First Coming".

Look at the explanation of "HOW" Satan was kicked out of Heaven as recorded in Revelation 12:11:

¹¹ And they overcame him by the **blood of the Lamb** and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.

There was no "Blood of the Lamb" until **AFTER** the crucifixion so Jesus must have "seen" this event in a "Vision" the same way John did just like watching a "Movie".

Jesus had *seen* the *Vision* of the *War in Heaven*, so He accurately reported what He *saw* *ó* but while He was speaking about what He *saw* to His Disciples *ó* explaining to His Disciples their *Authority as Believers* (as is recorded in the Gospel According to Luke) *ó* this *War in Heaven* was actually still a **future event**.

So, perhaps another purpose of this *Summary* could simply be to help us focus on understanding *What the Bible Says* *ó* as opposed to understanding what we may have been taught (or told) that the Bible says *ó* or what we have simply *always believed*.

Jesus commands us to *abide* in His Word *ó* and *abiding* in His Word is very different from believing something *ó* simply because someone else told us that it was in the Bible.

John 8:28-32

²⁸ Then Jesus said to them, *When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am He, and that I do nothing of Myself; but as My Father taught Me, I speak these things.*

²⁹ And He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do those things that please Him.

³⁰ As He spoke these words, many believed in Him.

³¹ Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him,

If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed.

³² And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

Ask God to give you a hunger for His Word.

Look at 1st John 5:14-15:

¹⁴ Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. ¹⁵ And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.

Ask God to give you a hunger for His Word.

This is definitely *according to His will* *ó* and so *ó* according to this Scripture *ó* God will hear *ó* and if you know God hears *ó* then you will have what you have asked.

In other words ó Ask God to give you a hunger for His Word ó and God will give you a hunger for His Word.

Ask God to give you a hunger for His Word.

Another purpose for the öSummaryö ó beginning at Revelation 12:1 and continuing through Revelation 14:20 ó could simply be to show us ó for sure ó that every single one of the 144,000 is definitely öSavedö ó Prior to the Rapture.

The öSummaryö shows us ó for sure and without question ó that God has kept His promise to öSave Israelö ó and He does that ó Prior to the Rapture.

The understanding that the 144,000 are definitely öSavedö is öNew Informationö ó since we only find that information in the öSummaryö. We see the 144,000 ó in Heaven ó before the throne of God ó and we are told that they öfollow the Lamb wherever He goesö ó so there is no question that God has kept His promise to öSave Israelö.

Revelation 14:1-5

14 Then I looked, and behold, a Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred *and* forty-four thousand, having His Father's name written on their foreheads.

² And I heard a voice from heaven, like the voice of many waters, and like the voice of loud thunder. And I heard the sound of harpists playing their harps.

³ They sang as it were a new song **before the throne**, before the four living creatures, and the elders; and no one could learn that song except the hundred *and* forty-four thousand who were redeemed from the earth.

⁴ These are the ones who were not defiled with women, for they are virgins.

These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes.

These were redeemed from *among* men, *being* firstfruits to God and to the Lamb.

⁵ And in their mouth was found no deceit, for they are without fault **before the throne of God.**

So this Scripture tells us ó for sure ó that the 144,000 are öSavedö ó and that God has kept His promise to öSave Israelö ó thus fulfilling many Old Testament Prophetic Scriptures. God has used these öFinal 7 Yearsö to keep ALL of His promises to Israel.

A final purpose for the "Summary" beginning at Revelation 12:1 and continuing through Revelation 14:20 may be the most amazing purpose of all. Because God may choose to show this exact same "Summary" or this exact same "Movie" to those dwelling on the earth during the time of the 7th Trumpet enabling them to "see" this "Summary" or just like watching a "Drive-in Movie" in the Sky.

We will look at the exact Scriptures in a moment but the "Vision" (or the "Movie") that John "saw" began with Israel and His 12 sons (the 12 Tribes of Israel) and then progresses in order all the way through the coming of the Messiah, through the time when Jesus ascended to Heaven, on through the Tribulation, then shows a picture of the Rapture, and then finishes with a picture of the Wrath of God.

Here is a condensed version of the "Summary" or the "Vision" (or the "Movie") that John "saw" (Revelation 12:1 to Revelation 14:20)

- o The "Summary" or the "Vision" that John "saw" begins at Revelation 12:1
- o Israel and his 12 sons (the 12 Tribes of Israel)
- o The Nation of Israel is ready to give birth to the Messiah (Jesus)
- o Satan and his demonic angels attempt to devour the Child (the Messiah) as soon as He is born
- o The birth of the Messiah (Jesus)
- o The ascension of Jesus into Heaven to God and to His Throne
- o ----- All of these prior events are "History" or "Past Events" -----
- o ----- All of the events which follow are "Future Events" -----
- o Israel flees to a place prepared by God where the 2 Prophets will feed her (both physically and spiritually) for 1,260 days (3 ½ years)
- o There is a "War in Heaven" where Satan (and his demonic angels) are defeated
- o Satan and his demonic angels are cast out of Heaven and are cast to the earth and are no longer given access to Heaven
- o Satan persecutes Israel during the second 3 ½ years of the Tribulation
- o Israel is protected from Satan (by the 2 Prophets)
- o Satan is enraged with Israel (because she was protected by the 2 Prophets)

- Satan goes to make war with the rest of her offspring (Christians ó Disciple of Jesus), who keep the Commandments of God and have the Testimony of Jesus
- Satan and the Anti-Christ are given authority to continue for 42 months (this is the second 3 ½ years of the Tribulation)
- Satan and the Anti-Christ are given authority to make war with the saints and overcome them (make war with Christians and overcome them ó Tribulation)
- The False Prophet is given Satanic power to deceive all who dwell on the earth (whose names have not been written in the Lamb's Book of Life)
- The False Prophet uses that Satanic power to force people to either take the ðMark of the Beastö ó on their forehead or on their right hand ó or be killed
- No one can buy or sell except the one who has the ðMark of the Beastö or the number of his name
- The 144,000 are seen in Heaven ó ðSavedö
- An Angel Preaches the Gospel to those who dwell on the earth ó to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people
- Another Angel follows saying, ðBabylon is fallen, is fallenö
- A Third Angel follows warning, ðIf anyone worships the Beast and his image, and receives the ðMark of the Beastö on his forehead or on his hand, that person will experience the Wrath of God poured out full strength.ö
- The Rapture
- The Wrath of God
- The ðSummaryö ó or the ðVisionö ó that John ðsawö ends at Revelation 14:20

I can not ðproveö to you ó from Scripture ó that God will choose to show this ðMovieö ó this ðSummaryö ó to the people of the world during that time.

It is my understanding that God will show this entire ðSummaryö ó as a ðMovieö ó to all of the people on earth ó during the time of the ð7th Trumpetö ó because of His Grace and His Love and His Mercy ó just like He was showing a ðDrive-in Movieö in the Sky.

Nevertheless ó if you simply want to understand all of this as a ðSummaryö ó then that's not a problem ó because it is a ðSummaryö.

The ðGreat Tribulationö is still going on ó and the Rapture (followed by the Wrath of God) will occur ó basically ó as soon as this ðSummaryö (or this ðMovieö) is over.

If there is no ðvisual Summaryö for the people of the world to watch ó then there will still be an Angel preaching the Gospel to the entire world (followed by a second Angel and a third Angel speaking their messages of warning) and all of this will happen during the ð**Great Tribulation**ö. Then the ð**Rapture**ö (followed by the ð**Wrath of God**ö) will occur ó basically ó as soon as the three Angels complete their work.

So in either case ó whether God chooses to show this entire ðSummaryö to the people of the world as a ðDrive-in Movie in the Skyö ó or whether God simply has an Angel preach the Gospel to the entire world and then has 2 other Angels follow and give their strong messages of warning ó God (in all of His Grace and Love and Mercy) is giving the people who are still on the earth during the time of the ð7th Trumpetö ó one last chance ó one last opportunity ó to choose JESUS ó to believe in their heart and to confess with their mouth ó to do the things necessary to become a Disciple of JESUS.

First Chronicles 16:34

Oh, give thanks to the LORD for He is good! For His mercy endures forever.

The ðSummaryö of Revelation 12:1 through Revelation 14:20

Revelation 12:1-17

12 Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman (**Israel**) clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a garland of twelve stars (**12 sons of Israel – the 12 Tribes of Israel**).

² Then being with child, she cried out in labor and in pain to give birth (**the Nation of Israel ready to give birth to the Messiah – Jesus**).

³ And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great, fiery red dragon (**Satan**) having seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads.

⁴ His tail drew a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth (**This is NOT the “War in Heaven”. This is where one third of the angels are drawn to the earth – by Satan – to kill, steal, and destroy on the earth. These demonic angels choose to follow Satan – and they turn their backs on God**).

And the dragon (**Satan**) stood before the woman (**Israel**) who was ready to give birth (**ready to give birth to the Messiah – Jesus**), to devour her Child (**the Messiah – Jesus**) as soon as it was born.

⁵ She bore a male Child (**the Messiah – Jesus**) who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron (**Jesus will rule the world – from Jerusalem – for 1,000 years**).

And her Child was caught up to God and His throne (**The Messiah – Jesus – ascended to Heaven – after He had done the work necessary to bring in the New Covenant – which is available to both you and me – through His work on the Cross. Jesus now sits at the right hand of the Throne of God**).

⁶ Then the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there one thousand two hundred and sixty days (**The 2 Prophets will feed Israel – both physically and spiritually – from the Temple – in Jerusalem – for 1,260 days (3 ½ years). The 2 Prophets will teach “Jesus is the Messiah” to the 144,000 – and to all others who will come to the Temple to hear the Word of God**).

⁷ And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, ⁸ but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer (**Michael and the holy angels fight in this “War in Heaven” with Satan and the demonic angels. Satan loses that fight. Satan and the demonic angels are kicked out of Heaven and are no longer given access to Heaven**).

⁹ So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him (**Satan and the demonic angels are kicked out of Heaven and are no longer given access to Heaven. They are cast to the earth**).

¹⁰ Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, òNow salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down.

¹¹ And they overcame him by the Blood of the Lamb and by the Word of their Testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death (**Faithful unto Death**).

¹² Therefore rejoice, O heavens, and you who dwell in them!
Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and the sea! For the devil (**Satan**) has come down to you, having great wrath, because he knows that he has a short time (**This reference to “Satan having a Short Time” is actually a reference to Satan and the Anti-Christ having a little over 3 ½ years – so this “War in Heaven” will take place approximately around the time of the 6th Seal**).ö

¹³ Now when the dragon saw that he had been cast to the earth, he persecuted the woman who gave birth to the male *Child* (**Satan persecutes Israel (who gave birth to the Messiah – Jesus) during the second 3 ½ years of the Tribulation**).

¹⁴ But the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent (**The 2 Prophets will protect Israel from Satan and his demonic angels – and they will feed Israel – both physically and spiritually – from the Temple – in Jerusalem – for 1,260 days (3 ½ years). The 2 Prophets will teach “Jesus is the Messiah” to the 144,000 – and to all others who will come to the Temple to hear the Word of God**).

¹⁵ So the serpent spewed water out of his mouth like a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away by the flood (**Satan attempts to destroy Israel (with a flood) during the second 3 ½ years of the Tribulation**).

¹⁶ But the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed up the flood which the dragon had spewed out of his mouth (**Israel is protected from the destruction that Satan intended to bring upon Israel**).

¹⁷ And the dragon (**Satan**) was enraged with the woman (**Israel**), and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring (**Christians – Disciples of Jesus**), who keep the Commandments of God and have the Testimony of Jesus Christ.

Revelation 13:1-18

13 Then I stood on the sand of the sea. And I saw a beast (**the Anti-Christ**) rising up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and on his horns ten crowns, and on his heads a blasphemous name.

² Now the beast (**the Anti-Christ**) which I saw was like a leopard, his feet were like *the feet of a bear*, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. The dragon (**Satan**) gave him (**the Anti-Christ**) his power, his throne, and great authority. ³ And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast (**All the world followed the Anti-Christ**).

⁴ So they worshiped the dragon (**Satan**) who gave authority to the beast (**the Anti-Christ**); and they worshiped the beast (**the Anti-Christ**), saying, “Who *is* like the beast (**the Anti-Christ**)? Who is able to make war with him?”

⁵ And he (**the Anti-Christ**) was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for forty-two months (**3 ½ years – the second 3 ½ years of the Tribulation**).

⁶ Then he (**the Anti-Christ**) opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven.

⁷ It was granted to him (**the Anti-Christ**) to make war with the saints (**Christians**) and to overcome them (**Tribulation**).

And authority was given him (**the Anti-Christ**) over every tribe, tongue, and nation (**This is the second 3 ½ years of the “7 Year Tribulation”**).

⁸ All who dwell on the earth will worship him (**the Anti-Christ**), whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

⁹ If anyone has an ear, let him hear.

¹⁰ He who leads into captivity shall go into captivity; he who kills with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints.

¹¹ Then I saw another beast (**the False Prophet**) coming up out of the earth, and he had two horns like a lamb and spoke like a dragon.

¹² And he (**the False Prophet**) exercises all the authority of the first beast (**the Anti-Christ**) in his presence, and causes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed (**the False Prophet causes those on earth to worship the Anti-Christ – who apparently had been killed and then was raised from the dead**).

¹³ He (**the False Prophet**) performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men.

¹⁴ And he (**the False Prophet**) deceives those who dwell on the earth by those signs which he was granted to do in the sight of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who was wounded by the sword and lived (**the False Prophet is given Satanic power to deceive those who dwell on the earth – convincing (deceiving) them to follow the Anti-Christ – who apparently was killed with a sword and then was raised from the dead**).

¹⁵ He (**the False Prophet**) was granted *power* to give breath to the image of the beast (**an image of the Anti-Christ**), that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed (**The False Prophet uses his Satanic power to give breath to the “Image of the Beast” and causes the “Image of the Anti-Christ” to speak – in an effort to convince (deceive) the world to choose to follow the Anti-Christ. Those people who would not worship the “Image of the Anti-Christ” are killed**).

¹⁶ He (**the False Prophet**) causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads,

¹⁷ and that no one may buy or sell

except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

¹⁸ Here is wisdom.

Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast (**the number of the Anti-Christ**), for it is the number of a man:

His number *is* 666.

Question:

If God chooses to show this öSummaryö as a öMovieö
ó During the time of the 7th Trumpet ó Just before the Rapture ó

Do you think that any of the people watching this öMovieö will be able
to understand the meaning of the number ö666ö?

Revelation 14:1-20

14 Then I looked, and behold, a Lamb (**Jesus**) standing on Mount Zion (**this is the Mount Zion in Heaven – as described in Hebrews 12:22-24**), and with Him (**Jesus**) one hundred *and* forty-four thousand, having His Fatherø name written on their foreheads (**These are the 144,000 who were “selected” and “set apart” and “Sealed” – but who were not yet “Saved”. Now – after the 3 ½ year ministry of the 2 Prophets – we see that they are all “Saved” and in Heaven.**)

NOTE:

Most Bible references to öMount Zionö refer to the öMount Zionö in Israel. Nevertheless, Hebrews 12:22-24 tells us about the öMount Zionö that is discussed here ó the öMount Zionö in Heaven:

²² But you have come to **Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem**, to an innumerable company of angels, ²³ to the general assembly and church of the firstborn *who are* registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect, ²⁴ to Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling that speaks better things than *that of* Abel.

² And I heard a voice from heaven, like the voice of many waters, and like the voice of loud thunder. And I heard the sound of harpists playing their harps.

³ They (**the 144,000 – who are now “Saved” and in Heaven**) sang as it were a new song before the throne, before the four living creatures, and the elders; and no one could learn that song except the hundred *and* forty-four thousand who were redeemed from the earth (**This is clearly the Throne of God – in Heaven**).

⁴ These (**the 144,000 – who are now “Saved” and in Heaven**) are the ones who were not defiled with women, for they are virgins.

These (**the 144,000 – who are now “Saved” and in Heaven**) are the ones who follow the Lamb (**Jesus**) wherever He goes (**The 144,000 are Disciples of Jesus**).

These (**the 144,000 – who are now “Saved” and in Heaven**) were redeemed from *among* men, *being* firstfruits to God and to the Lamb (**Jesus**).

⁵ And in their mouth was found no deceit, for they (**the 144,000 – who are now “Saved” and in Heaven**) are without fault before the Throne of God.

⁶ Then I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to those who dwell on the earth ó to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people ó ⁷ saying with a loud voice, ðFear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water (**An Angel Preaches the Gospel – to those who dwell on the earth – to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people. This takes place during the “Great Tribulation” – Just prior to the Rapture. The strong implication here is that a person can still be “Saved”**).ö

⁸ And another angel followed, saying, ðBabylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she has made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication (**A second Angel proclaims, “Babylon is fallen, is fallen” – to those who dwell on the earth – to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people. This takes place during the “Great Tribulation” – Just prior to the Rapture. The strong implication here is that a person can still be “Saved”**).ö

Question:

If God chooses to show this ðSummaryö as a ðMovie ó
During the time of the 7th Trumpet ó Just before the Rapture ó

Do you think that any of the people watching this ðMovieö will be able
to understand who ðBabylonö is?

⁹ Then a third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the beast (**the Anti-Christ**) and his image, and receives *his* mark (**the "Mark of the Anti-Christ"**) on his forehead or on his hand,

¹⁰ he himself shall also drink of the wine of the Wrath of God (**the 7 Bowls of the Wrath of God – which will be poured out onto an unsaved world – immediately after the Rapture**),

which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation.

He (**the person who takes the "Mark of the Anti-Christ"**) shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb (**Jesus**).

¹¹ And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever (**the smoke of the torment of those who take the "Mark of the Anti-Christ"**);

and they (**those people who take the "Mark of the Anti-Christ"**) have no rest day or night, who worship the beast (**the Anti-Christ**) and his image (**the image of the Anti-Christ**), and whoever receives the mark of his name (**the Mark of the Anti-Christ**).ö

Question:

If God chooses to show this öSummaryö as a öMovieö ó
During the time of the 7th Trumpet ó Just before the Rapture ó

Do you think that any of the people watching this öMovieö will be able to understand the warning of the reference to the öMark of the Beastö?

¹² Here is the patience of the saints (**Christians**); here *are* those who keep the Commandments of God and the Faith of Jesus (**Christians – Disciples of Jesus**).

¹³ Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, "Write: "Blessed *are* the dead who die in the Lord from now on (**Blessed are those Disciples of Jesus – who are Faithful unto Death**).ö

öYes,ö says the Spirit, öthat they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them.ö

¹⁴ Then I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and on the cloud sat *One* like the Son of Man (**Jesus**), having on His head a golden crown, and in His hand a sharp sickle.

¹⁵ And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to Him (**Jesus**) who sat on the cloud, “Thrust in Your sickle and reap, for the time has come for You (**Jesus**) to reap, for the harvest of the earth is ripe.”

¹⁶ So He (**Jesus**) who sat on the cloud thrust in His sickle on the earth, and the earth was reaped (**This is a “picture” of the “Rapture”. If God chooses to show this “Summary” as a “Movie” – Then immediately after this “Movie” is over – The Rapture will occur.**

¹⁷ Then another angel came out of the temple which is in heaven, he also having a sharp sickle (**What follows is a “picture” of the “Wrath of God”. If God chooses to show this “Summary” as a “Movie” – Then immediately after this “Movie” is over – The Rapture will occur. Then – after the Rapture occurs – the “7 Bowls of the Wrath of God” will be poured out onto an unsaved world.**

¹⁸ And another angel came out from the altar, who had power over fire, and he cried with a loud cry to him who had the sharp sickle, saying, “Thrust in your sharp sickle and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth, for her grapes are fully ripe.”

¹⁹ So the angel thrust his sickle into the earth and gathered the vine of the earth, and threw *it* into the great winepress of the Wrath of God (**This is a “picture” of the “Wrath of God”. If God chooses to show this “Summary” as a “Movie” – Then immediately after this “Movie” is over – The Rapture will occur. Then – after the Rapture occurs – the “7 Bowls of the Wrath of God” will be poured out onto an unsaved world.**

²⁰ And the winepress was trampled outside the city, and blood came out of the winepress, up to the horses’ bridles, for one thousand six hundred furlongs (**This is a reference to the Battle of Armageddon – which occurs at the Last Bowl of the “7 Bowls of the Wrath of God”. This is a massive Battle with the result being blood up to the horses’ bridles for approximately 160+ miles.**

Question:

If God chooses to show this “Summary” as a “Movie”
During the time of the 7th Trumpet ó Just before the Rapture ó

Do you think that any of the people watching this “Movie” will be able to understand the warning of the references to the “Rapture” and to the “Wrath of God”?

The Summary of Revelation 12:1 through Revelation 14:20

We have just seen a picture of this Summary.

If God chooses to show this Summary as a Movie then immediately after this Summary is over or in other words immediately after the Movie is over the Rapture will occur.

Then immediately after the Rapture occurs the 7 Bowls of the Wrath of God will be poured out onto an unsaved world.

On the other hand if the Summary is just for our benefit (Just for the benefit of those who read and understand the Book of Revelation) and if God does NOT choose to show this Summary as a Movie to those who dwell on the earth during the time of the 7th Trumpet then the sequence of the 7th Trumpet will look like this:

Sequence:

- The time of the 7th Trumpet occurs during the Great Tribulation or after the 3 ½ year ministry of the 2 Prophets is over (which occurred during the 6th Trumpet) or after the 144,000 have been Saved or after the 2 Prophets have been killed or after the Anti-Christ has committed the Abomination of Desolation or **Prior to the Rapture** or and while the **Great Tribulation** is still going on.
- Just before the Rapture an Angel preaches the Gospel to those who dwell on the earth or to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people.
- Just before the Rapture a second Angel follows saying, "Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she has made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication."
- Just before the Rapture a third Angel follows them saying, "If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand, he himself shall also drink of the wine of the Wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name."
- Rapture
- Wrath of God

TRIBULATION and PERSECUTION
come from our **STAND**
on the **WORD of GOD** and our **TESTIMONY of JESUS.**

Chapter 7

Understanding the 7 Bowls of the Wrath of God

As we begin this chapter the Rapture has just occurred and all Christians are now in Heaven with Jesus and God is ready to pour out the 7 Bowls of the Wrath of God onto an unsaved world a world completely inhabited by demons and unsaved people.

Throughout the time of the pouring out of these 7 Bowls of the Wrath of God the unspoken implication is that people can still be Saved. Nevertheless in Scripture we never see anyone get Saved after the Rapture.

After the Rapture the Scripture never shows us anyone being Saved. Instead, we are repeatedly told: They would not repent and They blasphemed God.

Revelation 15:1-8

15 Then I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvelous: seven angels having the seven last plagues (**the “7 Bowls of the Wrath of God”**), for in them the Wrath of God is complete.

² And I saw *something* like a sea of glass mingled with fire, and those who have the victory over the beast, over his image and over his mark *and* over the number of his name, standing on the sea of glass, having harps of God. ³ They sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying:

Great and marvelous *are* Your works,
Lord God Almighty!
Just and true *are* Your ways,
O King of the saints!

⁴ Who shall not fear You, O Lord, and glorify Your name?
For *You* alone *are* holy.
For all nations shall come and worship before You,
For Your judgments have been manifested.

⁵ After these things I looked, and behold, the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven was opened. ⁶ And out of the temple came the seven angels having the seven plagues (**7 angels with the “7 Bowls of the Wrath of God”**), clothed in pure bright linen, and having their chests girded with golden bands.

⁷ Then one of the four living creatures gave to the seven angels seven golden bowls full of the Wrath of God who lives forever and ever (**the 7 Angels receive the “7 Bowls of the Wrath of God”**).

⁸ The temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God and from His power, and no one was able to enter the temple till the seven plagues of the seven angels were completed (**No one was able to enter the Temple in Heaven until the “7 Bowls of the Wrath of God” had been poured out onto an unsaved world**).

Revelation 16:1-21

16 Then I heard a loud voice from the temple saying to the seven angels, ðGo and pour out the bowls of the Wrath of God on the earth (**the ‘7 Bowls of the Wrath of God’**).ö

² 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 (**Bowl # 1 – Foul and loathsome sore came upon men who had the “Mark of the Beast” and upon those who worshipped his image**).

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 (**Bowl # 2 – The sea became blood as of a dead man and every living creature in the sea died**).

⁴ Then the third angel poured out his bowl on the rivers and springs of water, and they became blood (**Bowl # 3 – Rivers and springs of water became Blood**).

⁵ And I heard the angel of the waters saying:

ðYou 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.ö

⁷ And I heard another from the altar saying, ðEven so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous *are* Your judgments.ö

⁸ Then the fourth angel poured out his bowl on the sun, and power was given to him to scorch men with fire. ⁹ 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 (**Bowl # 4 – Men were scorched with great heat and with fire – They did not repent and they blasphemed the name of God**).

¹⁰ 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. ¹¹ They blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and did not repent of their deeds (**Bowl # 5 – The kingdom of the Anti-Christ became full of darkness and they gnawed their tongues because of the pain – They did not repent and they blasphemed God because of their pains and their sores**).

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 (**Bowl # 6 – The Euphrates River was dried up to make it easy for the kings of the east to come to Jerusalem – to fight Jesus – at the Battle of Armageddon**).

¹³ And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs *coming* out of the mouth of the dragon (**Satan**), out of the mouth of the beast (**the Anti-Christ**), and out of the mouth of the false prophet (**the False Prophet**). ¹⁴ For they are spirits of demons, performing signs, *which* go out to the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty (**demonic spirits convince (deceive) the kings of the earth and of the whole world to gather their armies to fight Jesus – at the Battle of Armageddon**).

¹⁵ ðBehold, I am coming as a thief. Blessed *is* he who watches, and keeps his garments, lest he walk naked and they see his shame.ö

¹⁶ And they gathered them together to the place called in Hebrew, Armageddon (**The kings of the earth and of the whole world are gathered together – with their armies – to fight Jesus – at the Battle of Armageddon**).

¹⁷ Then the seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air (**Bowl # 7**), and a loud voice came out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, ðIt is done!ö

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.

²¹ And 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 (**Bowl # 7 – Noises, thunderings, lightnings, and a great earthquake – as had not occurred since men were on the earth – every island fled away and the mountains were not found – and great Babylon was remembered before God to give her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of His Wrath – and great hail – which weighed about 70 pounds each. Men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail – since it was exceedingly great**).

Revelation 17:1-18

17 Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls (**the “7 Bowls of the Wrath of God”**) came and talked with me, saying to me, “Come, I will show you the judgment of the great harlot (**Babylon**) who sits on many waters, ² with whom the kings of the earth committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth were made drunk with the wine of her fornication.”

³ So he carried me away in the Spirit into the wilderness. And I saw a woman (**Babylon**) sitting on a scarlet beast (**Satan**) *which was* full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns. (**In Revelation 12:3 – Satan was described as “a great, fiery red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his head”. Then we are told in Revelation 12:9 that “the great dragon” – described in Revelation 12:3 – was “that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan”.**)

⁴ The woman (**Babylon**) was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, having in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the filthiness of her fornication. ⁵ And on her forehead a name *was* written:

MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT,
THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS
AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS
OF THE EARTH.

⁶ I saw the woman (**Babylon**), drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. And when I saw her, I marveled with great amazement.

⁷ But the angel said to me, “Why did you marvel? I will tell you the mystery of the woman (**Babylon**) and of the beast (**Satan**) that carries her, which has the seven heads and the ten horns. ⁸ The beast (**Satan**) that you saw was, and is not, and will ascend out of the bottomless pit (**Satan will be bound and thrown into a “Bottomless Pit” for 1,000 years. At the end of the 1,000 years, Satan will be “released” and will ascend out of that “Bottomless Pit”**) and go to perdition (**the “Lake of Fire”**). And those who dwell on the earth will marvel, whose names are not written in the Book of Life from the foundation of the world, when they see the beast (**Satan**) that was, and is not, and yet is.

⁹ ðHere *is* the mind which has wisdom: The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits. ¹⁰ There are also seven kings. Five have fallen (**Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Medes/Persians, Greece**), one is (**Roman Empire**), and the other has not yet come (**the Anti-Christ**). And when he (**the Anti-Christ**) comes, he must continue a short time. ¹¹ The beast (**Satan**) that was, and is not, is himself also the eighth, and is of the seven, and is going to perdition (**the “Lake of Fire”**). **(NOTE: Satan is “of the seven” – since he was the one inspiring these seven kingdoms as they came against God and the people of God. Satan is “himself also the eighth” – since when he is “released” from his 1,000 years imprisonment in the “Bottomless Pit”, he will go out to deceive the nations and will gather a massive number of people who choose to follow him (Satan) instead of Jesus. Satan himself will personally lead this massive group to battle – to fight Jesus and His disciples at Jerusalem – at the end of the 1,000 years.)**

¹² ðThe ten horns which you saw are ten kings (**the Anti-Christ will rise to power from this group of 10 Kings and they will all follow Satan**) who have received no kingdom as yet, but they receive authority for one hour as kings with the beast (**Satan**). ¹³ These are of one mind, and they (**the 10 Kings**) will give their power and authority to the beast (**Satan**). ¹⁴ These will make war with the Lamb (**Jesus**), and the Lamb (**Jesus**) will overcome them, for He (**Jesus**) is Lord of lords and King of kings; and those *who are* with Him (**those with Jesus**) are called, chosen, and faithful.ö

¹⁵ Then he said to me, ðThe waters which you saw, where the harlot (**Babylon**) sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues. ¹⁶ And the ten horns (**the 10 Kings**) which you saw on the beast (**Satan**), these (**the 10 Kings**) will hate the harlot (**Babylon**), make her desolate and naked, eat her flesh and burn her (**Babylon**) with fire. ¹⁷ For God has put it into their hearts (**the hearts of the 10 kings**) to fulfill His (**God’s**) purpose, to be of one mind, and to give their kingdom (**the kingdom of the 10 Kings**) to the beast (**Satan**), until the words of God are fulfilled. ¹⁸ And the woman (**Babylon**) whom you saw is that great city (**Babylon**) which reigns over the kings of the earth.ö

Revelation 18:1-24

18 After these things I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was illuminated with his glory. ² And he cried mightily with a loud voice, saying, ðBabylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and has become a dwelling place of demons, a prison for every foul spirit, and a cage for every unclean and hated bird! ³ For all the nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her (**Babylon**), and the merchants of the earth have become rich through the abundance of her luxury (**Babylon’s luxury**).ö

⁴ And I heard another voice from heaven saying, ðCome out of her (**Come out of Babylon**), my people, lest you share in her sins, and lest you receive of her plagues (**Babylon’s plagues**). ⁵ For her sins have reached to heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities (**Babylon’s iniquities**). ⁶ Render to her (**Babylon**) just as she rendered to you, and repay her double according to her works; in the cup which she has mixed, mix

double for her. ⁷ In the measure that she (**Babylon**) glorified herself and lived luxuriously, in the same measure give her torment and sorrow; for she (**Babylon**) says in her heart, "I sit as queen, and am no widow, and will not see sorrow." ⁸ Therefore her plagues (**Babylon's plagues**) will come in one day of death and mourning and famine. And she will be utterly burned with fire (**Babylon will be burned with fire**), for strong is the Lord God who judges her (**Strong is the Lord God who judges Babylon**).

⁹ "The kings of the earth who committed fornication and lived luxuriously with her (**Babylon**) will weep and lament for her, when they see the smoke of her burning, ¹⁰ standing at a distance for fear of her torment, saying, "Alas, alas, that great city Babylon, that mighty city! For in one hour your judgment has come."

¹¹ "And the merchants of the earth will weep and mourn over her (**Babylon**), for no one buys their merchandise anymore: ¹² merchandise of gold and silver, precious stones and pearls, fine linen and purple, silk and scarlet, every kind of citron wood, every kind of object of ivory, every kind of object of most precious wood, bronze, iron, and marble; ¹³ and cinnamon and incense, fragrant oil and frankincense, wine and oil, fine flour and wheat, cattle and sheep, horses and chariots, and bodies and souls of men. ¹⁴ The fruit that your soul longed for has gone from you, and all the things which are rich and splendid have gone from you, and you shall find them no more at all. ¹⁵ The merchants of these things, who became rich by her (**Babylon**), will stand at a distance for fear of her torment (**Babylon will receive the fierceness of the Wrath of God**), weeping and wailing, ¹⁶ and saying, "Alas, alas, that great city (**Babylon**) that was clothed in fine linen, purple, and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls! ¹⁷ For in one hour such great riches came to nothing." Every shipmaster, all who travel by ship, sailors, and as many as trade on the sea, stood at a distance ¹⁸ and cried out when they saw the smoke of her burning (**the smoke of Babylon's burning**), saying, "What is like this great city (**Babylon**)?"

¹⁹ "They threw dust on their heads and cried out, weeping and wailing, and saying, "Alas, alas, that great city (**Babylon**), in which all who had ships on the sea became rich by her wealth! For in one hour she is made desolate (**Babylon is made desolate**)."

²⁰ "Rejoice over her, O heaven, and you holy apostles and prophets, for God has avenged you on her (**Babylon**)!"

²¹ Then a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone and threw it into the sea, saying, "Thus with violence the great city Babylon shall be thrown down, and shall not be found anymore. ²² The sound of harpists, musicians, flutists, and trumpeters shall not be heard in you (**Babylon**) anymore. No craftsman of any craft shall be found in you (**Babylon**) anymore, and the sound of a millstone shall not be heard in you anymore. ²³ The light of a lamp shall not shine in you (**Babylon**) anymore, and the voice of bridegroom and bride shall not be heard in you anymore. For your merchants (**the merchants of Babylon**) were the great men of the earth, for by your sorcery (**the sorcery of Babylon**) all the nations were deceived. ²⁴ And in her (**in Babylon**) was found the

blood of prophets and saints, and of all who were slain on the earth (**This destruction of Babylon will fulfill many Old Testament Prophetic Scriptures**).ö

Revelation 19:1-21

19 After these things I heard a loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying, öAlleluia! Salvation and glory and honor and power *belong* to the Lord our God! ² For true and righteous *are* His judgments, because He has judged the great harlot (**Babylon**) who corrupted the earth with her fornication; and He has avenged on her (**Babylon**) the blood of His servants *shed* by her (**Babylon**).ö ³ Again they said, öAlleluia! Her smoke (**the smoke of Babylon**) rises up forever and ever!ö ⁴ And the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God who sat on the throne, saying, öAmen! Alleluia!ö ⁵ Then a voice came from the throne, saying, öPraise our God, all you His servants and those who fear Him, both small and great!ö

⁶ And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunderings, saying, öAlleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns! ⁷ Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb (**Jesus**) has come, and His wife has made herself ready.ö ⁸ And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.

⁹ Then he said to me, öWrite: ðBlessed *are* those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb (**Jesus**)!ö And he said to me, öThese are the true sayings of God.ö ¹⁰ And I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, öSee *that you do not do that!* I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren who have the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.ö

¹¹ Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He (**Jesus**) who sat on him *was* called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He (**Jesus**) judges and makes war.

¹² His eyes *were* like a flame of fire, and on His head *were* many crowns. He (**Jesus**) had a name written that no one knew except Himself. ¹³ He (**Jesus**) *was* clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. ¹⁴ And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him (**Jesus**) on white horses. ¹⁵ Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He (**Jesus**) should strike the nations. And He Himself (**Jesus Himself**) will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself (**Jesus Himself**) treads the winepress of the fierceness and Wrath of Almighty God. ¹⁶ And He (**Jesus**) has on *His* robe and on His thigh a name written:

KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

¹⁷ Then I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the birds that fly in the midst of heaven, öCome and gather together for the supper of the great God, ¹⁸ that you may eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of captains, the flesh of mighty men, the flesh of horses and of those who sit on them, and the flesh of all *people*, free and slave, both small and great (**This is in preparation for the Battle of Armageddon**).ö

¹⁹ And I saw the beast (**the Anti-Christ**), the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him (**Jesus**) who sat on the horse and against His army (**the army of Jesus**). ²⁰ Then the beast (**the Anti-Christ**) was captured, and with him the false prophet (**the False Prophet**) who worked signs in his presence, by which he (**the False Prophet**) deceived those who received the mark of the beast (**the “Mark of the Anti-Christ”**) and those who worshiped his image. These two (**the Anti-Christ and the False Prophet**) were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone. ²¹ And the rest were killed with the sword which proceeded from the mouth of Him (**Jesus**) who sat on the horse. And all the birds were filled with their flesh.

Revelation 20:1-15

20 Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. ² He laid hold of the dragon (**Satan**), that serpent of old, who is *the* Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years (**Satan is bound for 1,000 years**); ³ and he cast him (**Satan**) into the bottomless pit, and shut him (**Satan**) up, and set a seal on him, so that he (**Satan**) should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished (**Satan is unable to deceive the world during the time that Jesus rules on earth for 1,000 years**).

But after these things he must be released for a little while (**After Jesus rules on earth for 1,000 years, then Satan is released and Satan tries to deceive those on the earth**).

⁴ And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then *I saw* the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast (**the Anti-Christ**) or his image (**the Image of the Anti-Christ**), and had not received *his* mark (**the “Mark of the Anti-Christ”**) on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years (**Christians will live and reign with Jesus for 1,000 years – as He rules the earth from Jerusalem**). ⁵ But the rest of the dead (**the “unsaved” dead**) did not live again until the thousand years were finished (**After the 1,000 years is over – there will be a Judgment Day and all of the “unsaved” dead will be judged**). This *is* the first resurrection. ⁶ Blessed and holy *is* he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years (**The second death is the “Lake of Fire”**).

⁷ Now when the thousand years have expired, Satan will be released from his prison ⁸ and will go out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle, whose number *is* as the sand of the sea (**Satan is able to gather a massive number of people who choose to follow him – instead of Jesus**). ⁹ They went up on the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city (**This massive number of people who chose to follow Satan – go with Satan to attack Jesus at Jerusalem**). And fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them (**This time Jesus does not even come out of the house – God sends fire from Heaven and devours Satan and those who follow Satan**).

¹⁰ The devil (**Satan**), who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet *are* (**Satan is thrown into the “Lake of Fire” – where the Anti-Christ and the False Prophet are**). And they (**Satan and the Anti-Christ and the False Prophet**) will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

¹¹ Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. ¹² And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is **the Book of Life**. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books. ¹³ The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. ¹⁴ Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death (**The “Lake of Fire” is the “Second Death”**).

¹⁵ And anyone not found written in **the Book of Life** was cast into the lake of fire (**Anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the “Lake of Fire”**).

Revelation 21:1-27

21 Now I saw a **new heaven** and a **new earth**, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. 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. ³ And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, ðBehold, 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. ⁴ And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.ö

⁵ Then He who sat on the throne said, ðBehold, I make all things new.ö And He said to me, ðWrite, for these words are true and faithful.ö

⁶ And He said to me, ðIt 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. ⁷ He who overcomes (**he who is “Faithful unto Death”**) shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son. ⁸ But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone (**the “Lake of Fire”**), which is the second death (**the “Lake of Fire” is the “Second Death”**).ö

⁹ Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls filled with the seven last plagues (**one of the Angels who had one of the “7 Bowls of the Wrath of God”**) came to me and talked with me, saying, ðCome, I will show you the bride, the Lamb’s wife.ö ¹⁰ And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, ¹¹ having the glory of God. Her light *was* like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, clear as crystal. ¹² Also she

had a great and high wall with twelve gates, and twelve angels at the gates, and names written on them, which are **the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel:**
¹³ three gates on the east, three gates on the north, three gates on the south, and three gates on the west.

¹⁴ Now the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were **the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.** ¹⁵ And he who talked with me had a gold reed to measure the city, its gates, and its wall. ¹⁶ The city is laid out as a square; its length is as great as its breadth. And he measured the city with the reed: twelve thousand furlongs. Its length, breadth, and height are equal. ¹⁷ Then he measured its wall: one hundred *and* forty-four cubits, *according* to the measure of a man, that is, of an angel. ¹⁸ The construction of its wall was *of* jasper; and the city *was* pure gold, like clear glass. ¹⁹ The foundations of the wall of the city *were* adorned with all kinds of precious stones: the first foundation *was* jasper, the second sapphire, the third chalcedony, the fourth emerald, ²⁰ the fifth sardonyx, the sixth sardius, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth chrysoprase, the eleventh jacinth, and the twelfth amethyst. ²¹ The twelve gates *were* twelve pearls: each individual gate was of one pearl. And the street of the city *was* pure gold, like transparent glass.

²² But I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb (**Jesus**) are its temple. ²³ The city (**ōNew Jerusalemö**) had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb (**Jesus**) *is* its light. ²⁴ And the nations of those who are saved (**Christians – Disciples of Jesus**) shall walk in its light, and the kings of the earth bring their glory and honor into it. ²⁵ Its gates shall not be shut at all by day (there shall be no night there). ²⁶ And they shall bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it.

²⁷ But 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 (**Only those whose names are written in the Lamb's "Book of Life" are allowed to enter "New Jerusalem". Those whose names were NOT found written in the Lamb's "Book of Life" were cast into the "Lake of Fire"**).

Revelation 22:1-21

22 And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb (**Jesus**). ² In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, *was* the tree of life (**This "Tree of Life" was also in the Garden of Eden**), which bore twelve fruits, each *tree* yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree *were* for the healing of the nations. ³ And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb (**Jesus**) shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him. ⁴ They shall see His face, and His name *shall be* on their foreheads. ⁵ 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.

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 **(God has given us the Book of Revelation – so that we might read and understand)**.

⁷ “Behold, I am coming quickly (**Rapture**)! Blessed *is* he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book (**Blessed is he who is ‘Faithful unto Death’**).”

⁸ Now I, John, saw and heard these things (**As John stated in the very first verse of the Book of Revelation, the Book of Revelation is “The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show to His servants – things which must shortly take place”**). 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.”

¹⁰ And he said to me, “Do not seal the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is at hand. 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.”

¹² “And behold, I (**Jesus**) am coming quickly (**Rapture**), and My reward *is* with Me, to give to every one according to his work. ¹³ I (**Jesus**) am the Alpha and the Omega, *the* Beginning and *the* End, the First and the Last.”

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 (**“New Jerusalem”**).

¹⁵ But outside *are* dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie (**“Those who are in the ‘Lake of Fire’”**).

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.”

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.

¹⁸ 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; ¹⁹ 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.

²⁰ He who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming quickly.”

Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!

²¹ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with you all. Amen.

The "Sequence of Events" that we have seen starting with Revelation 15:1 and continuing through the end of the Book of Revelation is as follows:

- The time of the "7 Bowls of the Wrath of God" occurs after an Angel has Preached the Gospel to the entire world and after a second Angel has followed, saying "Babylon is fallen, is fallen" and after a third Angel has followed saying, "If anyone worships the Beast and his image, and receives the 'Mark of the Beast' on his forehead or on his hand, that person will experience the Wrath of God poured out 'full strength' and after the "7th Trumpet" **after the Rapture**.
- The Rapture has just occurred so all Christians are now in Heaven with Jesus and the world is completely inhabited by demons and "unsaved" people.
- Throughout the time of the pouring out of the "7 Bowls of the Wrath of God" the unspoken implication is that people can still be "Saved". Nevertheless in Scripture we never see anyone being "Saved" after the Rapture.
- After the Rapture the Scripture never shows us anyone being "Saved". Instead we are repeatedly told: "They would not repent" and "They blasphemed God".
- Seven Angels are given the "7 Bowls of the Wrath of God".
- Bowl # 1 and A foul and loathsome sore came upon men who had the "Mark of the Beast" and upon those who worshipped his image.
- Bowl # 2 and The sea became blood as of a dead man and every living creature in the sea died.
- Bowl # 3 and Rivers and springs of water became Blood.
- John heard one from the altar saying, "Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous are Your judgments."
- Bowl # 4 and Men were scorched with great heat and with fire and They did not repent and they blasphemed the name of God.
- Bowl # 5 and The kingdom of the Anti-Christ became full of darkness and they gnawed their tongues because of the pain and They did not repent and they blasphemed God because of their pains and their sores.
- Bowl # 6 and The Euphrates River was dried up to make it easy for the kings of the east to come to Jerusalem and to fight Jesus and at the Battle of Armageddon.

- John sees three unclean spirits coming out of the mouth of Satan and the mouth of the Anti-Christ and mouth of the False Prophet. These are spirits of demons ó performing signs ó which go out to convince (deceive) the kings of the earth and of the whole world to gather together with their armies to fight Jesus ó at Jerusalem ó at the Battle of Armageddon.
- Bowl # 7 ó Noises, thunderings, lightnings, and a great earthquake ó as had not occurred since men were on the earth. As a result of the earthquake, every island fled away and the mountains were not found. There was great hail ó which weighed about 70 pounds each. Men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail ó since it was exceedingly great. Great Babylon was remembered before God to give her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of His Wrath.
- John is shown ó in detail ó exactly how Babylon receives the ðfierceness of the Wrath of Godö. In Babylon was found the Blood of the prophets and saints and of all who were slain on the earth ó and God repays Babylon double. Babylon is made desolate and shall not be found anymore. This destruction of Babylon will fulfill many Old Testament Prophetic Scriptures. Babylon is fallen, is fallen! Strong is the Lord God who judges Babylon!
- The Anti-Christ and the kings of the earth and their armies gather together to fight Jesus and His army ó at Jerusalem ó at the Battle of Armageddon.
- The Battle of Armageddon ó Jesus is victorious.
- The Anti-Christ and the False Prophet are both thrown into the ðLake of Fireö.
- The rest are killed with the Sword which proceeds from the mouth of Jesus (the Word of God).
- Satan is bound and is thrown into a ðBottomless Pitö for 1,000 years. This is the same 1,000 years that Jesus will rule the world from Jerusalem. Satan is unable to deceive the nations during this 1,000 year period.
- Jesus rules the world with a ðrod of ironö ó from Jerusalem.
- Christians live and reign with Jesus ó as Kings and Priests ó for 1,000 years ó as Jesus rules the world from Jerusalem.
- When the 1,000 years have expired ó Satan is released from the ðBottomless Pitö.
- Satan goes out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth.
- Satan is able to deceive many people ó who choose to follow Satan instead of Jesus.

- Satan gathers an army together for battle ó whose number is as the sand of the sea ó and they surround Jerusalem.
- Fire comes down from God out of Heaven and devours Satan and his army.
- Satan is cast into the öLake of Fireö ó where the Anti-Christ and the False Prophet are ó and they are tormented day and night ó forever and ever.
- The Great White Throne Judgment ó where all of the öunsavedö dead are judged ó each one ó according to their works.
- Anyone whose name is NOT found written in the öBook of Lifeö ó is cast into the öLake of Fireö.
- All of the unsaved dead are cast into the öLake of Fireö.
- Death and Hades are cast into the öLake of Fireö.
- The öLake of Fireö is the öSecond Deathö.
- Anyone NOT found written in the öBook of Lifeö is cast into the öLake of Fireö.
- Only those whose names are written in the öBook of Lifeö are allowed to enter the öNew Jerusalemö.
- There is a öNew Heavenö and a öNew Earthö
- In Revelation 21:1-5, John writes the following: **Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth**, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. 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. ³ And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, öBehold, 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. ⁴ And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.ö ⁵ Then He who sat on the throne said, öBehold, I make all things new.ö And He said to me, **öWrite, for these words are true and faithful.ö**

<p>The Book of Revelation is TRUE and FAITHFUL.</p>
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TRIBULATION and PERSECUTION

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Chapter 8

Understanding the Biblical Sequence of Events

With everything we have so far – our “Sequence of Events” now looks like this:

- **Jesus – the Messiah – accomplishes what He was sent to the earth to accomplish – during His “First Coming”** ó ðFor God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.ö ó John 3:16
- **You and I now have the opportunity to become “Disciples of Jesus”** ó ðBut what does it say? ðThe WORD is near you, in your Mouth and in your Heartø (that is the Word of Faith which we preach) ó that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead ó you will be Saved. For with the heart one believes unto Righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto Salvation.ö ó Romans 10:8-10
- **Jesus Commands His Disciples to be “Faithful unto Death”** ó Matthew 16:25, Mark 8:35, Luke 9:24, John 12:25, Revelation 2:7, Revelation 2:11, Revelation 2:17, Revelation 2:26-29, Revelation 3:5-6, Revelation 3:12-13, Revelation 3:21-22, Revelation 12:11
- **Beginnings of Sorrows** ó This could have begun as early as when Jesus ascended to heaven ó because there certainly have been wars and rumors of wars and earthquakes and pestilences and famines since that time ó Matthew 24:3-13, Mark 13:3-13
- **Disciples of Jesus began to be persecuted and were “Faithful unto Death”** ó ðAnd they stoned Stephen as he was calling on God and saying, ðLord Jesus, receive my spirit.ø Then he knelt down and cried out with a loud voice, ðLord, do not charge them with this sin.ø And when he had said this, he fell asleep. Now Saul (who later became the great ðApostle Paulö) was consenting to his death. At that time a great persecution arose against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles. And devout men carried Stephen to his burial, and made great lamentation over him. As for Saul, he made havoc of the church, entering every house, and dragging off men and women, committing them to prison. Therefore those who were scattered went everywhere preaching the WORD.ö ó Acts 7:59-8:4

- **The Temple and Jerusalem are both destroyed in 70 A.D. by the Roman Empire** ó Over 1 million are killed and the children of Israel are scattered throughout the earth ó in exile and without a homeland. The Nation of Israel ceases to exist as a Nation ó for almost 2,000 years.
- **The children of Israel continue to endure God’s “Four Severe Judgments – the Sword, Famine, Wild Beasts, and Pestilence.”** Israel endures 2,500 years of God’s punishment for the iniquity of Israel ó beginning with their 70-year captivity in Babylon (during the time of Daniel) and continuing through the years of the World War II Holocaust ó which ended in 1945. Israel endures over 2,500 years of God’s punishment for the **“Persistent Unfaithfulness of Israel”** ó Ezekiel 4:1-6, Leviticus 26:18-28, Ezekiel 15:1-8, Ezekiel 14:12-23
- **Israel becomes a Nation (again) in 1948** ó This ends the 2,500 years of God’s punishment for the iniquity of Israel. This ends the 2,500 years of punishment for the **“Persistent Unfaithfulness of Israel”**. No other nation in the history of the world has ever returned as a Nation ó once they have been destroyed as a Nation. Nevertheless, God honors His promise to return Israel to her homeland in 1948.
- ----- at some point in the future -----
- **God takes the Scroll in His Right hand** ó He is ready to start the **“Final 7 Years”**. God will use these **“Final 7 Years”** to fulfill ALL of His Promises to Israel ó Revelation 5:1
- **Jesus takes the Scroll from the hand of God** ó Revelation 5:7
- **Israel signs a covenant (7-year Peace Treaty) with many** ó Daniel 9:20-27
- **Jesus opens the First Seal** ó This starts the **“7 Year Tribulation”** ó Revelation 6:1
- **Tribulation Begins and Continues** ó This is the beginning of the Tribulation ó Matthew 24:3-13
- **The “7 Year Tribulation” is God’s punishment on the “Persistent Unfaithfulness of the World”** ó This is 7 years of what God calls His **“Four Severe Judgments ó The Sword, Famine, Wild Beasts, and Pestilence”**. This is 7 years of God’s punishment on the **“Persistent Unfaithfulness of the World”**. ó Ezekiel 15:1-8, Ezekiel 14:12-23
- **Since Christians are “in the World” – Christians will experience what the World experiences and Christians will endure what the World endures** ó during these **“Final 7 Years”** ó during the **“7 Year Tribulation”** ó John 16:1-4, John 15:12-27, John 16:33, Matthew 16:25, Mark 8:35, Luke 9:24, John 12:25

- **God will use these “Final 7 Years” to fulfill ALL of His Promises to Israel** ó Daniel 9:20-27, Romans 9:27, Romans 11:26-27
- **Israel will have “Peace” during the first 3 ½ years – while the rest of the world endures a “7 Year Tribulation”** ó This will give Israel an opportunity to re-build the Temple (if the Temple has not already been re-built by that time) ó Daniel 9:20-27
- **NOTE:** Israel has “Peace” during the first 3 ½ years of the “7 Year Tribulation” ó so Israel is NOT affected by the first 5 Seals.
- **1st Seal** ó One on a White horse ó went out conquering and to conquer ó Revelation 6:1-8
- **2nd Seal** ó One on a Red horse ó to take peace from the earth ó that people should kill one another ó Revelation 6:1-8
- **3rd Seal** ó One on a Black horse ó pair of scales (balances) in his hand ó a quart of wheat for a denarius (a day’s wage) and 3 quarts of barley for a denarius ó economic hard times ó Revelation 6:1-8
- **4th Seal** ó One on a Pale horse (whose name is “Death”) and “Hades” followed with him ó power was given to them over a fourth of the earth ó to kill with the sword, with hunger, with death, and by the beast of the earth ó Revelation 6:1-8
- **NOTE:** The current population of the earth is over 7.5 Billion people. If there are 8 Billion people on the earth during this time ó then one fourth (1/4) of the earth’s population would be 2 Billion people. In other words ó the Book of Revelation is telling us that approximately 2 Billion people will be killed (or die) during the first 3 ½ years of the “7 Year Tribulation” ó Revelation 6:1-8
- **5th Seal** ó John sees under the altar (in heaven) the souls of those who had been slain for the **Word of God** and for their **Testimony**. These are the ones who obeyed the Commandment of Jesus to be **“Faithful unto Death”** ó Revelation 6:9-11, Matthew 16:25, Mark 8:35, Luke 9:24, John 12:25, Revelation 2:7, Revelation 2:11, Revelation 2:17, Revelation 2:26-29, Revelation 3:5-6, Revelation 3:12-13, Revelation 3:21-22, Revelation 12:11

TRIBULATION and PERSECUTION

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- **The “7 Year Tribulation” is God’s punishment on the “Persistent Unfaithfulness of the World”** ó This is 7 years of what God calls His “Four Severe Judgments ó The Sword, Famine, Wild Beasts, and Pestilence”. This is 7 years of God’s punishment on the **“Persistent Unfaithfulness of the World”**. One-fourth (1/4) of the world’s population ó **approximately 2 Billion people – are killed (or die) – during the first 3 ½ years** ó of the “7 Year Tribulation” ó Ezekiel 15:1-8, Ezekiel 14:12-23, Revelation 6:1-8, Revelation 6:9-11
- **Since Christians are “in the World” – Christians will experience what the World experiences and Christians will endure what the World endures** ó during these “Final 7 Years” ó during the “7 Year Tribulation” ó John 16:1-4, John 15:12-27, John 16:33, Matthew 16:25, Mark 8:35, Luke 9:24, John 12:25, Revelation 2:7, Revelation 2:11, Revelation 2:17, Revelation 2:26-29, Revelation 3:5-6, Revelation 3:12-13, Revelation 3:21-22, Revelation 12:11
- **God will use these “Final 7 Years” to fulfill ALL of His Promises to Israel** ó Daniel 9:20-27, Romans 9:27, Romans 11:26-27
- **Israel will have “Peace” during the first 3 ½ years – while the rest of the world endures the “7 Year Tribulation”** ó This will give Israel an opportunity to re-build the Temple (if the Temple has not already been re-built by that time) ó Daniel 9:20-27
- **Temple is re-built** ó The Bible does not tell us exactly when the Temple is built. Nevertheless, the Temple must be re-built before Israel can START the “Daily Sacrifices”. Once the Temple is re-built ó **Israel will START the “Daily Sacrifices”**. Nevertheless ó whether the Temple is re-built before the “7 Year Tribulation” begins ó or ó whether the Temple is re-built during the first 3 ½ years of the “7 Year Tribulation” ó The Bible tells us that halfway through the “7 Year Peace Treaty” ó in other words ó half way through the “7 Year Tribulation” ó the Anti-Christ will enter Jerusalem with an army and STOP the “Daily Sacrifices”. Therefore, **Israel will be observing the “Daily Sacrifices” – at the Temple** ó at some point ó **during the first 3 ½ years of the “7 Year Tribulation”** ó Daniel 9:20-27, Daniel 12:4-13, Daniel 8:9-11, Daniel 8:12, Daniel 8:13-17, Daniel 8:18-27
- **Prior to when the 6th Trumpet sounds** ó in Revelation 9:13 ó which begins the second 3 ½ years of the “7 Year Tribulation” ó the following 3 things will have already taken place:
 - [1] The Temple will have already been re-built.
 - [2] The “Daily Sacrifices” will have already been STARTED.
 - [3] The 144,000 will have already been “Sealed”. The 144,000 are “selected” and “set apart” and “Sealed” ó but they are not yet “Saved”.

- All 3 of these important end-time events take place **during the first 3 ½ years** of the 7 Year Tribulation ó in other words ó prior to Revelation 9:12 ó which ends the first 3 ½ years of the 7 Year Tribulation ó Revelation 6:1-9:12
- **Temple is re-built** ó The Bible does not tell us whether or not the Temple is re-built before the Tribulation begins ó but the Temple is definitely re-built before the Anti-Christ commits the Abomination of Desolation ó Matthew 24:15-22, Mark 13:14-20, 2nd Thessalonians 2:1-5, Daniel 12:4-13, Daniel 8:9-11, Daniel 8:12, Daniel 8:13-17, Daniel 8:18-27
 - **Israel STARTS the “Daily Sacrifices”** ó Daniel 9:20-27, Daniel 12:4-13, Daniel 8:9-11, Daniel 8:12, Daniel 8:13-17, Daniel 8:18-27
 - **The Bible does not tell us how many Christians are killed (or martyred) during the “7 Year Tribulation”.** Nevertheless, since Christians are in the World ó Christians will also experience what the World experiences ó and Christians will also endure what the World endures ó during these 7 Final 7 Years ó during the 7 Year Tribulation ó Revelation 6:1-8, Revelation 6:9-11, John 16:1-4, John 15:12-27, John 16:33, Matthew 16:25, Mark 8:35, Luke 9:24, John 12:25, Revelation 2:7, Revelation 2:11, Revelation 2:17, Revelation 2:26-29, Revelation 3:5-6, Revelation 3:12-13, Revelation 3:21-22, Revelation 12:11
 - **NOTE:** Israel had Peace ó during the first 3 ½ years of the 7 Year Tribulation ó so Israel was NOT affected by the first 5 Seals. Nevertheless, Israel will be affected by the remaining Seals, the 7 Thunders, and the 7 Trumpets.
 - **6th Seal** ó Great earthquake ó the sun became black as sackcloth of hair and the moon became like blood ó stars of heaven fell to the earth ó sky receded like a scroll when it is rolled up ó every mountain and island was moved out of its place ó Revelation 6:12-17
 - **Men think that the 6th Seal is the “Wrath of the Lamb” – but this is NOT the “Wrath of God”** ó this is still during the first 3 ½ years of the 7 Year Tribulation ó Revelation 6:12-17
 - **God will use the 6th Seal to get Israel’s attention** ó to encourage them to turn to God ó Revelation 6:12-17
 - **Prior to the 7th Seal – 144,000 are “Sealed”** ó 12,000 from each of the 12 Tribes of Israel are Sealed. These are selected and set apart and Sealed ó but they are not yet Saved ó Revelation 7:1-17

- **The Book of Revelation does not tell us the actual number of Christians who are killed (or martyred)** during the 7 Year Tribulation. Nevertheless, Revelation 7:1-17 describes those who have come out of the **Tribulation** as **ã great multitude which no one could number – of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues**. These are the ones who obeyed the Commandment of Jesus to be **Faithful unto Death** ó Revelation 7:1-17, John 16:1-4, John 15:12-27, John 16:33, Matthew 16:25, Mark 8:35, Luke 9:24, John 12:25, Revelation 2:7, Revelation 2:11, Revelation 2:17, Revelation 2:26-29, Revelation 3:5-6, Revelation 3:12-13, Revelation 3:21-22, Revelation 12:11

TRIBULATION and PERSECUTION

come from our **STAND**

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- **Since Christians are “in the World” – Christians will also experience what the World experiences** ó and Christians will also endure what the World endures ó during the 7 Year Tribulation. **Tribulation** and **Persecution** come from our **Stand** on the **Word of God** and our **Testimony of Jesus** ó Revelation 7:1-17, John 16:1-4, John 15:12-27, John 16:33, Matthew 16:25, Mark 8:35, Luke 9:24, John 12:25, Revelation 2:7, Revelation 2:11, Revelation 2:17, Revelation 2:26-29, Revelation 3:5-6, Revelation 3:12-13, Revelation 3:21-22, Revelation 12:11
- **7th Seal** ó Silence in Heaven for about half an hour ó Revelation 8:1-6
- **Seven angels who stand before God are given 7 Trumpets** ó Revelation 8:1-6
- **An angel with a golden censer is given much incense** ó offers it with the prayers of the saints upon the altar ó which is before the throne in heaven ó Revelation 8:1-6
- **The angel then took the censer – filled it with fire from the altar and threw it to the earth.** There were noises, thunderings, lightnings, and an earthquake ó Revelation 8:1-6
- **The 7 angels who had the 7 Trumpets prepare to sound** ó Revelation 8:1-6

- **1st Trumpet** ó Hail and fire mingled with blood are thrown to the earth ó 1/3 of the trees are burned up and all of the grass is burned up ó Revelation 8:7-13
- **2nd Trumpet** ó Something like a great mountain burning with fire is thrown into the sea ó 1/3 of sea becomes blood ó 1/3 of all the living creatures in the sea die ó 1/3 of all ships are destroyed ó Revelation 8:7-13
- **3rd Trumpet** ó Great star (named Wormwood) fell from heaven burning like a torch. It fell on 1/3 of rivers and on the springs of waters. One third (1/3) of the waters became wormwood and many died ó because the water was made bitter ó Revelation 8:7-13
- **4th Trumpet** ó One third (1/3) of the sun was darkened ó 1/3 of the moon was darkened ó 1/3 of the stars were darkened ó 1/3 of the day did not shine and likewise the night ó Revelation 8:7-13
- **God will use the first 4 Trumpets to get Israel's attention** ó to encourage them to turn to God ó Revelation 8:7-13
- **The remaining 3 Trumpets are given the names "Woe", "Woe", "Woe"** ó Revelation 8:7-13
- **The 5th Trumpet is given the name "1st Woe"** ó The 5th Trumpet (1st Woe) is still during the first 3 ½ years of the 7 Year Tribulation. Revelation 9:12 ends the first 3 ½ years of the 7 Year Tribulation ó Revelation 8:7-13, Revelation 9:12
- **The 6th Trumpet is given the name "2nd Woe"** ó The 6th Trumpet (2nd Woe) begins the second 3 ½ years of the 7 Year Tribulation. Revelation 9:13 begins the second 3 ½ years of the 7 Year Tribulation ó Revelation 8:7-13, Revelation 9:13
- **The 7th Trumpet is given the name "3rd Woe"** ó Revelation 8:7-13
- **5th Trumpet (1st Woe)** ó The bottomless pit is opened and demonic beings called ölocustsö are given authority to harm all but the 144,000. They are given power to **Torment for 5 months** ó but they are not given authority to kill. Men will seek death (because of this 5 month Torment), but death will flee from them. These demonic beings are commanded not to harm the grass or any green thing ó and they are **commanded not to harm the 144,000**. In other words ó they are commanded not to harm the 12,000 from each of the 12 Tribes of Israel ó who have God's seal on their forehead. These 144,000 are öselectedö and öset apartö and öSealedö, but they are not yet öSavedö ó Revelation 9:1-12, Revelation 7:1-17

- **NOTE:** The end of the 5th Trumpet is also the end of the first 3 ½ years of the 7 Year Tribulation. We know that because the 6th Trumpet ó which starts on Revelation 9:13 ó is a full 3 ½ year period which includes the 7 Releasing of the 4 demonic angels who are given authority to kill another 1/3 of the remaining world population, the 7 Thunders, the Anti-Christ who enters Jerusalem with an army and STOPS the 7 Daily Sacrifices, the entire 1,260 day (3 ½ year) ministry of the 2 Witnesses (who appear immediately after the Anti-Christ STOPS the 7 Daily Sacrifices) and the Abomination of Desolation ó which occurs 1,290 days after the Anti-Christ STOPS the 7 Daily Sacrifices ó Revelation 9:1-12, Daniel 12:4-13
- **God will use the 5th Trumpet (the 5 Month Torment – on all but the 144,000)** to make a distinction between the 144,000 and everyone else ó just like He did with the children of Israel and the Egyptians ó when Moses was sent by God to deliver Israel from their bondage in Egypt ó Revelation 9:1-12, Revelation 7:1-17
- **Because of this “5 Month Torment – on all but the 144,000”**, many in Israel may be reminded of the Word of God ó which God spoke to Israel and Judah ó as recorded by the Prophet Jeremiah in Jeremiah 30:6-7: 7Ask now and see, whether a man is ever in labor with child? So why do I see every man with his hands on his loins like a woman in labor, and all faces turned pale? Alas! For that day is great, so that none is like it: and it is the time of 7Jacob’s Trouble8, but he shall be saved out of it.8 ó Revelation 9:1-12, Jeremiah 30:6-7, Revelation 7:1-17
- **The “5 Month Torment – on all but the 144,000”** will be a very severe time on the children of Israel ó both Israel and Judah ó but the 144,000 (12,000 from each of the 12 Tribes of Israel) will be protected and 7shall be saved out of it8 ó Revelation 9:1-12, Jeremiah 30:6-7, Revelation 7:1-17
- **In regard to the “5 Month Torment – on all but the 144,000”**, the Bible says, 7In those days men will seek death and will not find it; they will desire to die, and death will flee from them.8 ó Revelation 9:1-12, Revelation 7:1-17
- **Revelation 9:12** ó Ends the first 3 ½ years of the 7 Year Tribulation.
- **Revelation 9:13** ó Begins the second 3 ½ years of the 7 Year Tribulation.
- **6th Trumpet (2nd Woe)** ó 4 demonic angels who had been prepared for the hour and day and month and year were released to kill a third of Mankind (1/3 of the remaining world population) ó with an army of 200 million ó by these 3 plagues: fire, smoke, and brimstone which came out of their mouths ó Revelation 9:13-21
- **The rest of mankind** ó who were not killed by these plagues ó did not repent of the works of their hands (their idol worship) and they did not repent of their murders or their sorceries (some texts say 7drugs8) or their sexual immorality or their thefts ó Revelation 9:13-21

- **Israel will definitely come under the Tribulation and Persecution of these 4 demonic angels** ó and their army of 200 million ó who have set out to kill 1/3 of the remaining world population. Israel will continue to suffer Tribulation and Persecution until the 2 Witnesses (the 2 Prophets) appear. Once the Anti-Christ STOPS the Daily Sacrifices ó the 2 Prophets will appear and they will protect and provide for Israel for 3 ½ years (1,260 days). Since the 2 Prophets will be ministering from the Temple in Jerusalem ó the Anti-Christ will be unable to commit the “Abomination of Desolation” until their 1,260 day ministry is over. The Anti-Christ will actually commit the “Abomination of Desolation” on the 1,290th day ó Revelation 9:13-21, Daniel 12:4-13, Revelation 11:1-14
- **NOTE:** If the World Population was 8 Billion people (when the Tribulation first began) ó and 2 Billion (1/4) were killed during the period of the first 3 ½ years ó then there are 6 Billion people left. These 4 demonic angels (and their army) will kill another one-third (1/3) of the remaining population ó or another 2 Billion people. Regardless of the actual number of people on the earth ó John is basically being told that one-half (1/2) of the world’s population will be killed (or die) during the “Final 7 years” ó during the “7 Year Tribulation” ó Revelation 9:13-21
- **The “7 Thunders”** ó Revelation 10:1-11
- **God will use the “7 Thunders” to speak directly to the 144,000** (and to all others who are privileged to hear). This will prepare them for the 3 ½ year ministry of the 2 Prophets ó when the 144,000 (and all others who will come to hear the Word of God) will be taught “**Jesus is the Messiah**” from the Temple in Jerusalem ó Revelation 10:1-11, Revelation 11:1-14, Luke 24:25-27, Luke 24:44-49, Revelation 7:1-17
- **Anti-Christ enters Jerusalem with an army and STOPS the “Daily Sacrifices** ó Daniel 9:20-27, Daniel 12:4-13, Daniel 8:9-11, Daniel 8:12, Daniel 8:13-17, Daniel 8:18-27
- **The Anti-Christ is unable to enter into the Holy of Holies – at this point – and commit the “Abomination of Desolation” – because the 2 Prophets will appear at this time and begin to minister from the Temple in Jerusalem.** The 2 Prophets will teach “**Jesus is the Messiah**” to the 144,000 and to all others who will come to the Temple to hear the Word of God. Once their 1,260 day ministry is over and they are killed (by Satan) ó then the Anti-Christ will enter the Holy of Holies and commit the “Abomination of Desolation”. The Anti-Christ will commit the “Abomination of Desolation” exactly 1,290 days after he originally STOPPED the “Daily Sacrifices” ó Daniel 12:4-13, Revelation 11:1-14, Luke 24:25-27, Luke 24:44-49, Revelation 7:1-17

- **The 2 Witnesses (the 2 Prophets) are given power to prophecy for 1,260 days at the Temple in Jerusalem** ó where they will teach **“Jesus is the Messiah”** to the 144,000 (the 12,000 who have been handpicked by God from each of the 12 Tribes of Israel) and to all others who will come to the Temple in Jerusalem to hear the Word of God ó Revelation 11:1-14, Luke 24:25-27, Luke 24:44-49, Revelation 7:1-17
- **These 144,000** are **“selected”**, **“set apart”**, and **“Sealed”** ó but they are not yet **“Saved”**. They will be taught **“Jesus is the Messiah”** ó by the 2 Prophets ó for 1,260 days (3 ½ years) ó at the Temple in Jerusalem ó Revelation 11:1-14, Luke 24:25-27, Luke 24:44-49, Revelation 7:1-17
- **If anyone wants to harm the 2 Witnesses (the 2 Prophets) – fire proceeds from their mouth and devours their enemies.** And if anyone wants to harm them ó he must be killed in this manner ó Revelation 11:1-14
- **The 2 Witnesses (the 2 Prophets) have the power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their ministry** ó and they have power over waters to turn them to blood ó and power to strike the earth with all plagues ó as often as they desire ó Revelation 11:1-14
- **The 2 Witnesses (the 2 Prophets) definitely have the power to prevent and prohibit the Anti-Christ from entering the Holy of Holies** ó at the Temple in Jerusalem ó during their 1,260 day (3 ½ year) ministry ó Revelation 11:1-14
- **A time, times, and half a time – from the time the “Daily Sacrifices are taken away” until the “Fulfillment of the wonders for Israel”** ó Daniel 12:4-13
- **This “time, times, and half a time” (mentioned in the Book of Daniel)** is actually the same 3 ½ year period as the 3 ½ year period mentioned in the Book of Revelation (1,260 days) when the 2 Witnesses (the 2 Prophets) will minister to the 144,000 ó 12,000 from each of the 12 tribes of Israel (and to all others who will come to the Temple in Jerusalem to hear the Word of God) ó Daniel 12:4-13, Revelation 11:1-14
- **For 1,260 days (3 ½ years)** ó the 2 Prophets will teach **“Jesus is the Messiah”** to the 144,000 ó from the Temple in Jerusalem. These 144,000 are the 12,000 from each of the 12 Tribes of Israel who have been handpicked by God and **“Sealed”** on their foreheads. They are **“selected”** and **“set apart”** and **“Sealed”** ó but they are not yet **“Saved”**. These 144,000 are actually **“Sealed”** during the first 3 ½ years of the **“7 Year Tribulation”** ó but they will be taught **“Jesus is the Messiah”** ó by the 2 Prophets ó from the Temple in Jerusalem ó during the second 3 ½ years of the **“7 Year Tribulation”**. Before the end of the 1,260 day ministry of these 2 Prophets ó **every single one of the 144,000 will be “Saved”** ó Daniel 12:4-13, Revelation 11:1-14, Revelation 14:1-5, Romans 10:8-13, Luke 24:25-27, Luke 24:44-49, Revelation 7:1-17

- **For 42 months (3 ½ years)** ó the Gentiles will tread the holy city of Jerusalem underfoot ó to hear the Word of God ó as taught by the 2 Witnesses (the 2 Prophets) ó one of which is definitely the Prophet Elijah ó who is mentioned in Malachi 4:4-6: “Remember the Law of Moses, My servant, which I commanded him in Horeb for all Israel, with the statutes and judgments. Behold, I will send you **Elijah the prophet** before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD. And he will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the earth with a curse.” ó Daniel 12:4-13, Revelation 11:1-14, Malachi 4:4-6
- **Because of the power given to these 2 Prophets** ó and because these 2 Prophets will be ministering at the Temple in Jerusalem ó the **Anti-Christ will be unable to commit the “Abomination of Desolation” during the 3 ½ year period (the 1,260 day period) of their ministry.** These 2 Prophets (and their power) are described in Revelation 11:4-6: “These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands standing before the God of the earth. And if anyone wants to harm them, fire proceeds from their mouth and devours their enemies. And if anyone wants to harm them, he must be killed in this manner. These have power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their prophecy; and they have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to strike the earth with all plagues, as often as they desire.” Therefore ó these 2 Prophets definitely have the **power to prevent and prohibit the Anti-Christ from entering the Holy of Holies and committing the “Abomination of Desolation”** during their 1,260 day ministry at the Temple in Jerusalem ó Daniel 12:4-13, Revelation 11:1-14
- **At the end of their ministry** ó Satan will kill them and leave their dead bodies in the street of Jerusalem for 3 ½ days ó Revelation 11:1-14
- **After 3 ½ days, the breath of life from God will enter them** ó and they will stand on their feet. A voice from heaven will speak to them and they will ascend to heaven in a cloud and their enemies will see them ó Revelation 11:1-14
- **In the same hour**, there will be a great earthquake and a tenth of the city (Jerusalem) will fall and 7,000 people will be killed ó Revelation 11:1-14
- **It is “1,290 days” – from the time the “Daily Sacrifices” are STOPPED until the Anti-Christ commits the “Abomination of Desolation”** ó Daniel 12:4-13
- **After the 2 Prophets are killed** ó the Anti-Christ will then enter the Temple in Jerusalem and commit the “**Abomination of Desolation**”. This will happen 1,290 days after the Anti-Christ originally STOPPED the “Daily Sacrifices” ó Daniel 12:4-13, Revelation 11:1-14
- **Abomination of Desolation** ó Matthew 24:15-22, Mark 13:14-20, 2nd Thessalonians 2:1-5, Daniel 12:4-13

- **Great Tribulation** ó In the ðGospel According to Matthewö ó Jesus refers to this time toward the end of the Tribulation as the ðGreat Tribulationö ó **This is the time immediately after the Abomination of Desolation and just before the Rapture** ó Matthew 24:15-22, Mark 13:14-20, Matthew 24:29-31, Mark 13:24-27
- **During the Great Tribulation and just before the Rapture – an Angel preaches the everlasting Gospel to those who dwell on the earth** ó to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people ó saying with a loud voice, ðFear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water.ö ó Revelation 14:1-20
- **During the Great Tribulation and just before the Rapture – a second Angel follows saying, “Babylon is fallen,** is fallen, that great city, because she has made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.ö ó Revelation 14:1-20
- **During the Great Tribulation and just before the Rapture – a third Angel follows them saying with a loud voice, “If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand,** he himself shall also drink of the wine of the Wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name.ö ó Revelation 14:1-20
- **Sun and Moon are darkened** ó Matthew 24:29-31, Mark 13:24-27
- **7th Trumpet (3rd Woe)** ó The Temple of God was opened in Heaven, and the Ark of His Covenant was seen in His Temple. And there were lightnings, noises, thunderings, an earthquake, and great hail ó Revelation 11:15-19
- **Last Trumpet** ó 1st Corinthians 15:51-52
- **Jesus descends from heaven** with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the Trumpet of God ó 1st Thessalonians 4:15-18
- **Son of Man coming on the Clouds** ó Matthew 24:29-31, Mark 13:24-27, Revelation 14:14-20
- **It is “1,335 days”** ó from the time ðDaily Sacrifices are taken awayö until those ðBlessedö ó in other words ó those ðDisciples of Jesusö who are still alive and remain on the earth will be ðBlessedö ó they will be the ones in the ð**Rapture**ö ó Daniel 12:4-13

- **Rapture** ó Matthew 24:15-22, Mark 13:14-20, Matthew 24:29-31, Mark 13:24-27, 2nd Thessalonians 2:1-5, 1st Corinthians 15:51-52, 1st Thessalonians 4:15-18, Revelation 14:14-20, Daniel 12:4-13
- **The time of the “7 Bowls of the Wrath of God”** occurs after an Angel has Preached the Gospel to the entire world ó after a second Angel has followed, saying “Babylon is fallen, is fallen” ó after a third Angel has followed saying, “If anyone worships the Beast and his image, and receives the “Mark of the Beast” on his forehead or on his hand, that person will experience the **Wrath of God** poured out “full strength” ó after the 7th Trumpet ó **after the Rapture** ó Revelation 15:1-8, Revelation 16:1-21
- **The Rapture has just occurred – so all Christians are now in Heaven with Jesus** ó and the world is completely inhabited by demons and “unsaved” people ó Revelation 15:1-8, Revelation 16:1-21
- **Throughout the time of the pouring out of the “7 Bowls of the Wrath of God”** ó the unspoken implication is that people can still be “Saved”. Nevertheless ó in Scripture ó we never see anyone being “Saved” during the 7 Bowls of the Wrath of God ó after the Rapture ó Revelation 15:1-8, Revelation 16:1-21, Revelation 17:1-18, Revelation 18:1-24, Revelation 19:1-21
- **After the Rapture – during the “7 Bowls of the Wrath of God”** ó the Scripture never shows us anyone being “Saved”. Instead we are repeatedly told: “They would not repent” and “They blasphemed God” ó Revelation 15:1-8, Revelation 16:1-21, Revelation 17:1-18, Revelation 18:1-24, Revelation 19:1-21
- **Seven Angels are given the “7 Bowls of the Wrath of God”** ó Revelation 15:1-8
- **Wrath of God** ó Revelation 14:14-20, Revelation 15:1-8, Revelation 16:1-21
- **Bowl # 1** ó A foul and loathsome sore came upon men who had the “Mark of the Beast” and upon those who worshipped his image ó Revelation 16:1-21
- **Bowl # 2** ó The sea became blood as of a dead man and every living creature in the sea died ó Revelation 16:1-21
- **Bowl # 3** ó Rivers and springs of water became Blood ó Revelation 16:1-21
- **John heard one from the altar saying, “Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous are Your judgments.”** ó Revelation 16:1-21
- **Bowl # 4** ó Men were scorched with great heat and with fire ó They did not repent and they blasphemed the name of God ó Revelation 16:1-21

- **Bowl # 5** ó The kingdom of the Anti-Christ became full of darkness and they gnawed their tongues because of the pain ó They did not repent ó and they blasphemed God because of their pains and their sores ó Revelation 16:1-21
- **Bowl # 6** ó The Euphrates River was dried up to make it easy for the kings of the east to come to Jerusalem ó to fight Jesus ó at the Battle of Armageddon ó Revelation 16:1-21
- **John saw three unclean spirits coming out of the mouth of Satan and the mouth of the Anti-Christ and mouth of the False Prophet.** These are spirits of demons ó performing signs ó which go out to convince (deceive) the kings of the earth and of the whole world to gather together with their armies to fight Jesus ó at Jerusalem ó at the Battle of Armageddon ó Revelation 16:1-21
- **Bowl # 7** ó Noises, thunderings, lightnings, and a great earthquake ó as had not occurred since men were on the earth. As a result of the earthquake, every island fled away and the mountains were not found. There was great hail ó which weighed about 70 pounds each. Men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail ó since it was exceedingly great. **Great Babylon was remembered before God to give her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of His Wrath** ó Revelation 16:1-21, Revelation 17:1-18, Revelation 18:1-24, Revelation 19:1-21, Revelation 20:1-15
- **John is shown – in detail – exactly how Babylon receives the “fierceness of the Wrath of God”.** In Babylon was found the Blood of the prophets and saints and of all who were slain on the earth ó and God repays Babylon double. Babylon is made desolate and shall not be found anymore. This destruction of Babylon will fulfill many Old Testament Prophetic Scriptures. Babylon is fallen, is fallen! Strong is the Lord God who judges Babylon! ó Revelation 16:1-21, Revelation 17:1-18, Revelation 18:1-24, Revelation 19:1-21, Revelation 20:1-15
- **The Anti-Christ and the kings of the earth and their armies gather together to fight Jesus and His army – at Jerusalem – at the Battle of Armageddon** ó Revelation 16:1-21, Revelation 17:1-18, Revelation 18:1-24, Revelation 19:1-21, Revelation 20:1-15
- **Psalm 2:1-12 speaks of a time just prior to the Battle of Armageddon:**

2 Why do the nations rage,
And the people plot a vain thing?

²The kings of the earth set themselves,
And the rulers take counsel together,

Against the LORD and against His Anointed, *saying,*

³ ðLet us break Their bonds in pieces
And cast away Their cords from us.ð

⁴ He who sits in the heavens shall laugh;
The Lord shall hold them in derision.

⁵ Then He shall speak to them in His wrath,
And distress them in His deep displeasure:

⁶ ðYet I have set My King
On My holy hill of Zion.ð

⁷ ðI will declare the decree:

The LORD has said to Me,
-You *are* My Son,
Today I have begotten You.

⁸ Ask of Me, and I will give *You*
The nations *for* Your inheritance,
And the ends of the earth *for* Your possession.

⁹ You shall break them with a rod of iron;
You shall dash them to pieces like a potter's vessel.ð

¹⁰ Now therefore, be wise, O kings;
Be instructed, you judges of the earth.

¹¹ Serve the LORD with fear,
And rejoice with trembling.

¹² Kiss the Son, lest He be angry,
And you perish *in* the way,
When His wrath is kindled but a little.

Blessed *are* all those who put their trust in Him.

- **The Battle of Armageddon** ó Jesus is victorious ó Revelation 16:1-21, Revelation 17:1-18, Revelation 18:1-24, Revelation 19:1-21, Revelation 20:1-15
- **Zachariah 14:12-15 speaks of a time towards the end of the Battle of Armageddon:**

¹² And this shall be the plague with which the LORD will strike all the people who fought against Jerusalem:

Their flesh shall dissolve while they stand on their feet,

Their eyes shall dissolve in their sockets,

And their tongues shall dissolve in their mouths.

¹³ It shall come to pass in that day
That a great panic from the LORD will be among them.

Everyone will seize the hand of his neighbor,
 And raise his hand against his neighbor's hand;

¹⁴ Judah also will fight at Jerusalem.

And the wealth of all the surrounding nations
 Shall be gathered together:
 Gold, silver, and apparel in great abundance.

¹⁵ Such also shall be the plague

On the horse *and* the mule,

On the camel and the donkey,

And on all the cattle that will be in those camps.

So *shall* this plague *be*.

- **The Battle of Armageddon** ó Jesus is victorious ó Revelation 16:1-21, Revelation 17:1-18, Revelation 18:1-24, Revelation 19:1-21, Revelation 20:1-15
- **The Anti-Christ and the False Prophet are both thrown into the “Lake of Fire”** ó Revelation 19:1-21
- **The rest are killed with the Sword which proceeds from the mouth of Jesus (the Word of God)** ó Revelation 19:1-21
- **Satan is bound and is thrown into a “Bottomless Pit” for 1,000 years.** This is the same 1,000 years that Jesus will rule the world from Jerusalem. Satan is unable to deceive the nations during this 1,000 year period ó Revelation 20:1-15
- **Jesus rules the world with a “rod of iron” – from Jerusalem** ó Revelation 20:1-15
- **Christians live and reign with Jesus** ó as Kings and Priests ó for 1,000 years ó as Jesus rules the world from Jerusalem ó Revelation 20:1-15

- **It is “2,300 days” – from the time the “Daily Sacrifices are STOPPED” until the “Sanctuary is cleansed”** ó Daniel 8:13-17, Daniel 8:18-27, Revelation 20:1-15
- **Sanctuary will be “cleansed” – This would certainly happen when Jesus rules on earth – for 1,000 years – from Jerusalem.** This will occur after the Battle of Armageddon (after the last Bowl of the **Wrath of God**) ó Daniel 8:13-17, Daniel 8:18-27, Revelation 20:1-15
- **Zachariah 14:16-21 speaks of a time – after the Sanctuary has been cleansed** ó during the 1,000 year Sabbath Rest ó during the 1,000 years when Jesus rules and reigns from Jerusalem ó with His Disciples as His Kings and Priests:
 - ¹⁶ And it shall come to pass *that* everyone who is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the **Feast of Tabernacles**. ¹⁷ And it shall be *that* whichever of the families of the earth do not come up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, on them there will be no rain.
 - ¹⁸ If the family of Egypt will not come up and enter in, they *shall have no rain*; they shall receive the plague with which the LORD strikes the nations who do not come up to keep the **Feast of Tabernacles**.
 - ¹⁹ This shall be the punishment of Egypt and the punishment of all the nations that do not come up to keep the **Feast of Tabernacles**.
 - ²⁰ In that day **“HOLINESS TO THE LORD”** shall be *engraved* on the bells of the horses. The pots in the LORD’s house shall be like the bowls before the altar.
 - ²¹ Yes, every pot in Jerusalem and Judah shall be holiness to the LORD of hosts. Everyone who sacrifices shall come and take them and cook in them. In that day there shall no longer be a Canaanite in the house of the LORD of hosts.
- **Jesus rules the world with a “rod of iron”** from Jerusalem ó Revelation 20:1-15
- **Christians live and reign with Jesus** ó as Kings and Priests ó for 1,000 years ó as Jesus rules the world from Jerusalem ó Revelation 20:1-15
- **When the 1,000 years have expired** ó Satan is released from the “Bottomless Pit” ó Revelation 20:1-15

- **Satan goes out to deceive the nations** ó which are in the four corners of the earth ó Revelation 20:1-15
- **Satan is able to deceive many people** ó who choose to follow Satan instead of Jesus ó Revelation 20:1-15
- **Satan gathers an army together for battle** ó whose number is as the sand of the sea ó and they surround Jerusalem to fight Jesus ó Revelation 20:1-15
- **Fire comes down from God out of Heaven and devours Satan and his army** ó Revelation 20:1-15
- **Satan is cast into the “Lake of Fire”** ó where the Anti-Christ and the False Prophet are ó and they are tormented day and night ó forever and ever ó Revelation 20:1-15
- **The Great White Throne Judgment** ó where all of the ðunsavedö dead are judged ó each one ó according to their works ó Revelation 20:1-15
- **Anyone whose name is NOT found written in the “Book of Life” – is cast into the “Lake of Fire”** ó Revelation 20:1-15
- **All of the “unsaved” dead are cast into the “Lake of Fire”** ó Revelation 20:1-15
- **Death and Hades are cast into the “Lake of Fire”** ó Revelation 20:1-15
- **The “Lake of Fire” is the “Second Death”** ó Revelation 20:1-15
- **Anyone NOT found written in the “Book of Life” is cast into the “Lake of Fire”** ó Revelation 20:1-15
- **Only those whose names are written in the “Book of Life” are allowed to enter the holy city “New Jerusalem”** ó Revelation 21:1-27, Revelation 22:1-21
- **There is a “New Heaven” and a “New Earth”** ó Revelation 21:1-27, Revelation 22:1-21

TRIBULATION and PERSECUTION

come from our **STAND**

on the **WORD of GOD** and our **TESTIMONY of JESUS.**

Revelation 21:1-5

Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away.

Also there was no more sea.

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.

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.

⁴ And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.ö

⁵ Then He who sat on the throne said, öBehold, I make all things new.ö

And He said to me,

öWrite, for these words are true and faithful.ö

<p>The Book of Revelation is TRUE and FAITHFUL.</p>
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Revelation 22:20-21

²⁰ He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming quickly."

Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!

²¹ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with you all. Amen.

Even so – Come, Lord Jesus!

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Even so – Come, Lord Jesus!