

The 7 Seals, 7 Trumpets, 7 Vials,

and

our Eternity!

Michel Danis

The True End Times Revelation Unveiled

The 7 Seals, 7 Trumpets, 7 Vials, and our Eternity!

by Michel Danis

Introduction

From the Author

Chapter 1

Setting the stage

Chapter 2

Book Continuity and Inset chapters

Chapter 3

How to interpret the Symbols

Chapter 4

Intro to the 7 Seals

Chapter 5

The 7 Seals explained

Chapter 6

The 7 Trumpets judgement, the 7 Vials punishment, and the Spectacular Return of Jesus Christ

Chapter 7

The 1000 years, the White Throne Judgement, the final destruction of the wicked, and our Glorious Eternity!

Introduction

For more than 38 years prophecy has always fascinated me. The Church (WCG) which I began to attend in 1983 had a big focus on prophecy which brought me throughout the years to read and study deeply about it.

When my Church started to collapse in 1993, I began to become more and more independent in my understandings and doctrines and began to see more truths on different topics and prophecies as God was revealing them to me more and more. I also understood that objectivity when studying the Bible is the fundamental key to understand the *Truth* as revelation comes in.

Around the year 2014, God began to expand and reshape my understanding about the book of Revelation. From a 3 ½ years of great tribulation belief, I understood that in fact there will be 7 years of tribulation with the final 3 ½ years being the time of the Great tribulation.

Since then, I came to understand more specifically what will happen during the final 7 years of tribulation. In fact, I understood that this period refers to the last week of Daniel 9:27, and that the timeline of the seals, trumpets, and vials refer only to this 7 years period including the great tribulation (the last 3 ½ years).

So, God told me to write a booklet about *His* revelation and to share it publicly in order for God's people to prepare themselves for the events that will soon take place on this planet.

In this booklet I will prove from the Bible, as the only way to understand prophecies is to let the bible interprets itself, what will occur during the final stage of this World, the final 7 years.

Always remember God's words to Daniel at the end of his book; "The wise shall understand... I offer to you this honest attempt to bring you a deeper understanding of prophecy and a renewed zeal to seek the way of God.

May God bless you in your understanding.

Michel Danis

Mdanis7@outlook.com

Chapter 1

Setting the Stage

In the Bible, what does the Creator tell us about Himself and the future? "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 counsel, 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." (Isaiah 46:9-11).

God not only claims to reveal the future, but He also has the power to bring to pass what He has foretold!

The Prophet of prophets

A prophet is one through whom God speaks—one appointed to reveal the will of God to His people. One of the greatest of these prophets was God's own Son, Jesus Christ: "God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds;" (Hebrews 1:1-2).

Why is Prophecy Written?

God inspired his prophet Amos to tell us, "The Lord Eternal never does anything without telling his servants the prophets" (Amos 3:7, Moffatt translation).

Before God intervenes in the affairs of nations, or the world, He first sends His servants to warn those who will be directly affected by what He intends to do. Why does He do this? To give them a chance to CHANGE their ways — to REPENT of their sins — so that the prophesied calamities need not come to pass. God is fair, just, and righteous. He sends WARNINGS and gives people a chance to repent. The purpose of prophecy, therefore, is threefold. First, it is given in love to encourage people to repent of their sins so they can escape punishment. Second, it is given for those who don't repent at first, so that when their punishment comes, they will then acknowledge their sins and repent toward the God who will then deliver and rescue them! (Deut. 4:25-31.) Third, it announces in advance the coming Kingdom of God, the wonderful world tomorrow — a time of the restoration of this Earth to a condition of prosperity, peace and abundant well-being.

A right perspective

Many people regard prophecy as mystical, strange, unreal, with no relevance to their lives. They have almost no understanding of what prophecy is all about. Others, having encountered grossly distorted interpretations of Bible prophecy, have grown skeptical and disillusioned.

However, when properly understood, the Bible speaks with a clear, consistent, reliable language and message that is appropriate for us to understand the future.

Whether you are unsure of the value of the Bible's prophecies or regard them with deep respect, this booklet is meant to help you *accurately understand* what is about to unfold on the Earth very soon. I want you to see the true scope of prophecy—how it links mankind's past, present and future. Knowledge of prophecy can provide you with a balanced perspective revealed by the Creator.

Bible prophecy is also exciting to many, but some Bible prophecies may seem hard to understand. The books of Daniel and Revelation, for example, feature various symbols and imagery. The famous Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse symbolize devastation and deception (Revelation 6:1–8). The Beast of Revelation 13 rising out of the sea has seven heads and ten horns refers to the coming Empire that will rule the world for a short time.

The Beast of Revelation 17, which rises out of a bottomless pit, also has seven heads and ten horns, but that Beast is ridden by a harlot, a false dominant church. The Apostle John writes what he sees in vision: "And on her forehead a name was written: MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH" (Revelation 17:5).

What other puzzling prophetic symbols do we see in the Bible? How can we understand Scripture's mysterious symbols, and the many intricacies of Bible prophecy? In this document we will briefly consider some vital principles and keys to understanding the Bible and prophecies in your Bible correctly.

How and when will God's people will understand Prophecy?

The Bible tells us that only a certain category of people will understand Prophecy and the mysteries of God's word.

Fear or having a profound respect for the Lord is the beginning of wisdom and understanding. Prov. 1, 2. Also, we must search God's Word as we search for a treasure.

Prov. 1:7 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, But fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Prov. 2:1 My son, if you receive my words, And treasure my commands within you,

- 2 So that you incline your ear to wisdom, And apply your heart to understanding;
- 3 Yes, if you cry out for discernment, And lift up your voice for understanding,
- 4 If you seek her as silver, And search for her as for hidden treasures;
- 5 <u>Then</u> you will understand the fear of the Lord, <u>And find the knowledge of God</u>.
- 6 For the Lord gives wisdom; From His mouth come knowledge and understanding;
- 7 He stores up sound wisdom for the upright; He is a shield to those who walk uprightly;

So, understanding the Bible <u>correctly</u> doesn't come by magic. It needs work, obedience, and prayers. It needs the application of the seven vital Keys of understanding. Without them, it's impossible to have the right understanding.

You can email me to get a copy of my booklet: 7 Vital Keys to understand the Bible and Prophecy at Mdanis7@outlook.com

We also need to understand that Prophecy was hidden until the End times

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

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

6 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?"

7 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; and when the power of the holy people has been completely shattered, all these things shall be finished.

8 Although I heard, I did not understand. Then I said, "My lord, what shall be the end of these things?"

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

10 Many shall be purified, made white, and refined, but the wicked shall do wickedly; and <u>none of the wicked shall</u> understand, **but the wise shall understand**.

Who are the wise?

- Pro 3:1 My son, do not forget my law, But let your heart keep my commands;
- Pro 3:3 Let not mercy and truth forsake you; Bind them around your neck, Write them on the tablet of your heart,
- Pro 3:5 Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding;
- Pro 3:6 In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.
- Pro 3:7 Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the LORD and depart from evil.

Prophecy would then be hidden until the end-times, and only the wise and faithful servants of God would understand.

Signs of the End times

Since Israel returned to their land in 1948, with all the changes, growths in technology, all the increase of natural disasters and the decadence of immorality, we have certainly entered the last days described by Jesus and Paul.

Chapter 2

Book Continuity and Inset Chapters

Too many people today think that we cannot understand the book of Revelation.

Why? This may come from either ignorance of how to study prophecy or from the fear of the content of the book and its prophesied calamities.

Others think it's worthless to read or get interested in it because they think they are going to be raptured and not be here on earth when the prophesied catastrophes will happen. So, they think the book is a book of doom and does not apply to us, God's servants.

But, in fact, these are just misconceptions because the Bible clearly says that it is a blessing for God's faithful servants to know what is coming and certainly going to happen very soon.

Let's read, Rev. 1: A Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave to Him to declare to His servant's things which must shortly come to pass. And He signified [it] by sending His angel to His servant John, 2 who bore record of the Word of God and of the testimony of Jesus Christ and of all the things that he saw. 3 Blessed [is] the [one] who reads and hears the words of this prophecy, and the ones keeping the things written in it, for the time [is] near.

God must have had at least a few purposes for us by including so many end times prophesies throughout the whole Bible. Its commonly said that 1/3 of the Bible is prophecy. So, it is certainly especially important for us to pay attention to what God is saying to us through prophecy.

One of them is to encourage us and let us know that He is sovereign overall, and that at the end of the book, we are the winners.

Another purpose is certainly to keep our minds sharp and also to warn people of the consequences that disobedience to God brings on us. God wants us to get out of the world and follow His laws. That's why He says in Rev 18:4 ... Come out of her, My people, that you may not be partakers of her sins, and that you may not receive of her plagues

God also gives us a clear picture of the end, when He is going to chain Satan and his demons for eternity. He also gives us a glimpse of the eternity when we will be with Him and ruling over the entire Universe. God is also showing His mercy by allowing people who were not called during their first existence, have an opportunity for salvation.

So, clearly the book of Revelation is a must-read book for true servants of God. It is not optional, but mandatory. We must then <u>read</u>, <u>understand</u>, and <u>keep</u> the words.

Fortunately, God has provided some of His servants with good understanding of His prophecies, so that they may share and explain them with His people.

To understand end times prophecy, we also need to understand that the books of Daniel and Revelation complement each other. Daniel sets the stage for the larger and more detailed book of Revelation. The book of Revelation describes the last phase of the 4th beast of Daniel, the time when the final 10 kings will rule the World.

Matthew 24, Mark 13, and Luke 21 will also provide significant clues to understanding what will occur during the Great tribulation which begins to be revealed in Rev. 6.

Revelation outlines a long series of events that relate to one another in a continuous flow—comprising an entire story. These occur in order of time sequence (see the outline and story flow below). Nevertheless, Christ periodically puts insets of certain events into the course of the Revelation. This is the first key to unlock the book! Grasp this central, all-important point. While there are keys to understand the book of Revelation, understanding the book itself is the single greatest key to understanding almost all other prophecies in the Bible!

See the Chapter outline of Revelation below:

21-22 - The new heaven and the new Earth

20 -

Chapters Story flow		Inset Chapters*
1 -	Introduction	
4-5 -	Prelude	2-3 - Message to the 7 churches
4-3 - 6 -	The first 7 seals – (introduction to the 7 Trumpets)	
7 -	The 144 000 and the Great multitude	
•	The 7 th Seal – Pause – Announcement / execution	
	first 6 trumpets.	
		10 - The Little book
11 -	The 2 witnesses – Introduction to the 7 th trumpet	
		12 - The True Church
		(From Physical Israel to Church age)
		13 - The 2 Beasts
		14 - The Lamb and the 144 000 –
		The 3 angels' messages
15-16	- Announcement of the 7 last Bowls - The Wrath of God	
		17 - The False Church
		18 - The Fall of Babylon
19 -	The Return of Jesus Christ	

The Millennium, the White throne judgment, the destruction of the wicked.

^{*}Many chapters are inset chapters. Even though many chapters are chronological, these insets describe events and conditions « backstage » independent of the chronology of the other chapters which may extend to many centuries.

-The Big Picture First

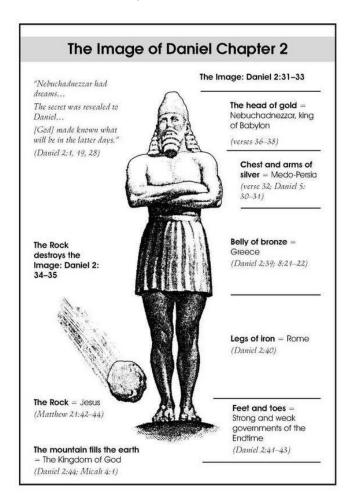
Another vital key to understanding the book of Revelation is to understand the methodology that God uses throughout the Bible, is also used in the book of Revelation. Without applying this <u>essential key</u>, you will fail in understanding the timing of the 7 Seals, the 7 Trumpets and the 7 Vials.

Throughout the Bible, God generally uses the same pattern. The number of steps in God's revelation may vary, but usually there is first a big picture or an introduction, and afterwards an explanation in more detail of what was already revealed in the big picture.

So, let's now see how this works. To demonstrate this methodology in action, let's look at the book of Daniel.

God chose Daniel to show us all the subsequent governments that will exist on Earth from the time of the first Babylonian Empire up to the last human empire, the Holy-Roman Empire, which would lead to the establishment of the last Empire to rule the Earth, the Kingdom of God.

Let us illustrate how this works. The big picture or an introduction is presented in Daniel 2. God outlines the 4 major human kingdoms (or governments) that will exist on Earth until Jesus (the Rock) comes and breaks the statue in pieces.



Let us notice that God also used different metals to describe the strength of these 4 kingdoms. From gold, to silver, to bronze to iron. Followed by the 10 toes made of iron and clay, describing a strong kingdom(iron), but also a fragile kingdom at the same time(clay).

In Matthew 24 the same pattern of presenting the big picture is also used where Jesus first described the major events of the end times. He starts by laying out the *big picture* and afterwards describes those same events in more details by adding more elements to the big picture. We will look at these in more detail later.

How do we do this?

Mark 4:10-12 and Matthew 13:10-15 hold another key to understand the way Christ teaches. In both places, He explained that He spoke in parables so that only His true servants would understand Him, but others would not! Carefully read these verses: "But when He was alone, those around Him with the twelve asked Him about the parable. And He said to them, "To you it has been given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God; but to those who are outside, all things come in parables, so that 'SEEING THEY MAY SEE AND NOT PERCEIVE, AND HEARING THEY MAY HEAR AND NOT UNDERSTAND; LEST THEY SHOULD TURN, AND THEIR SINS BE FORGIVEN THEM." (Mark 4:10-12). Note exactly what Christ said! Only His servants could understand the real meaning of his parables. Others might think they understand—but they cannot!

Christ never leaves His servants in the dark about matters He wants them to understand. But He does record them in ways that keep them hidden from the view of all outsiders. Those who have God's Spirit (Acts 5:32; John 16:13) will understand. Only through God's Spirit leading those who are obeying Him can understand the truth.

The context of Matthew 24: The Great Tribulation

We must also examine the critical chapter 24 of Matthew for vital clues, which explain some of the symbols that we will study in Revelation.

To begin with, it's worth mentioning that Christ gave a list of six different events that are going to happen before His Second Coming. They precisely parallel the 6 introductory Seals of Revelation 6.

First: False prophets and false Christs (vs. 5).

Second: Wars (vs. 6-7).
Third: Famines (vs. 7).
Fourth: Pestilences (vs. 7).

Fifth: The persecution of the saints (vs.9-10).

Sixth: The Heavenly Signs (vs. 29) – when the stars fall, and the sun and moon are darkened.

The sign of Christ's coming (vs. 30) occurs at this same time.

Those 6 different events, which are described by the first 6 Seals, will occur in the last 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ years of Daniel's 70th week. They are in fact the interpretations of the first 6 seals. We will cover that in more detail in the next chapter.

So, in Matthew, like in many other places in the Bible, especially with Prophecy, the Scriptures lay first a template or resume of the prophecies and then explain them in subsequent passages, chapters, or books, with further details.

God has the same approach in Revelation. He introduces (*describes*) some events (*the 6 Seals*) as an introduction, of what will take place during the Great Tribulation, and then gets more specific with the Trumpets and Bowls.

It is important to understand that the 7 Trumpets cover the last 7 years. It is also important to understand that the Great Tribulation itself, which will be triggered by the Abomination of Desolation, is covered from the 4th Trumpet up to the last Bowl of the 7th Trumpet (Christ's Return).

The best example of this revelation principle is found in the book of Daniel chapter 2.

Nebuchadnezzar's Big Question:

Daniel 2:6 However, if you tell the dream and its interpretation, you shall receive from me gifts, rewards, and great honor. **Therefore, tell me the dream and its interpretation**."

Daniel's Main interpretation: Dan. 2:36-45

God starts by giving <u>the big picture</u> of all the governments that would come upon the Earth for the whole 7000-year plan. God gave mankind 6000 years to experiment its own ways followed by a thousand years of peace under the rulership of Jesus Christ. Then will follow the White Throne Judgment and the destruction of the wicked.

He then described each Kingdom or Government that would rule the Earth, each with a special characteristic depicted by a different kind of metal. At the end a Rock, the Christ, would detach itself from the big mountain (God's Government) and comes to destroy all the governments of this world and rule on Earth forever.

In the subsequent chapters of the book of Daniel, God will describe <u>in more detail</u> those 4 different kingdoms or governments, which are pictured by different beasts. The last government or beast with 10 horns will also later be described in the Book of Revelation.

Let's look at the image of the statue (below) representing the timeline of those 4 governments and their specific description.

Dan 2:36 "This is the dream. Now we will tell the interpretation of it before the king.

Dan 2:37 You, O king, *are* a king of kings. For the God of heaven has given you a kingdom, power, strength, and glory;

Dan 2:38 and wherever the children of men dwell, or the beasts of the field and the birds of the heaven, He has given *them* into your hand, and has made you ruler over them all—you *are* this head of gold.

Dan 2:39 But after you shall arise another kingdom inferior to yours; then another, a third kingdom of bronze, which shall rule over all the earth.

Dan 2:40 And the fourth kingdom shall be as strong as iron, inasmuch as iron breaks in pieces and shatters everything; and like iron that crushes, that kingdom will break in pieces and crush all the others.

Dan 2:41 Whereas you saw the feet and toes, partly of potter's clay and partly of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; yet the strength of the iron shall be in it, just as you saw the iron mixed with ceramic clay.

Dan 2:42 And as the toes of the feet were partly of iron and partly of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly fragile.

Dan 2:43 As you saw iron mixed with ceramic clay, they will mingle with the seed of men; but they will not adhere to one another, just as iron does not mix with clay.

Dan 2:44 And in the days of these kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever.

Dan 2:45 Inasmuch as you saw that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold—the great God has made known to the king what will come to pass after this. The dream is certain, and its interpretation is sure."

	Daniel 2		Daniel 7	Daniel 8	Daniel 9
Gold Babylonian 626 b.c.		Head of fine gold: The Chaldean (Babylonian) Empire	LION		
Silver Medo-Persian 539 b.c.		Breast and arms of silver: The Medo-Persian Empire	BEAR	RAM, GOAT	70 WEEKS prophecy 539 b.c. to end-times
Bronze Greco- Macedonian 331 b.c.		Belly and thighs of brass: The Greco- Macedonian Empire	LEOPARD		
Iron Roman 63 b.c.		Legs of iron; feet partly iron, part- ly clay: The Roman Empire	BEAST 10 TOES = 10 kings		
Iron/clay Resurrected Roman Empire 10 toes	x	,	10 TOES = 10 kings		70 th week, The last 3 ½ years
Rock Christ (2030?)	^		Jesus Christ's Return		

In conclusion, the statue of Daniel represents the 4 major governments that will rule the Earth for a period of 6000 years, which were themselves represented by the 6 days of creation, one day equaling 1000 years. (II Pet. 2:8)

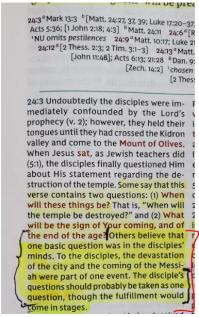
As for Matthew 24, we find the same principle in action

First, the disciple's question:

Matt. 24:3 ... "Tell us, when will these things be (the coming destruction of the temple)? And what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?"

Some people think that there are 2 questions in the text while others think the question should be taken as one question. From what is in the text to follow, we can mostly assume that the question should be interpreted as *one question*.

Their question assumed that the temple's destruction would signal the end of the present age and the inauguration of the Messiah's reign. This is to say that for the disciples, the devastation of the city and the coming of the Messiah were part of one and same event. So, they wondered how near that event was.



Screenshot taken from NKJV Scofield's commentaries.

Jesus lays the Big Picture:

Matthew 24:4-8 parallel to the 4 Horsemen (the 4 Seals) of Revelation 6:1-8.

Jesus starts by giving the big picture of what would happen at the time of the destruction of Jerusalem. He mentioned Spiritual deceptions, Wars, Famines, and Pestilences. This was laid as the main template, the big picture, as 4 major events that would take place at the time of the temple's destruction.

Daniel mentioned this event taking place in the middle of the week of Daniel 9:27 Then he shall confirm a covenant with many for one week (7 years); But in the middle of the week (after 3 ½ years) He shall bring an end to sacrifice 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 event is called the Abomination of desolation.

Jesus talks about the 5th Seal:

Next, from verses 9-14, Jesus describes what is taking place at the time of the Temple's destruction, <u>the persecution of the saints</u>, which is depicted by the Fifth Seal. <u>This event and the change of the Law</u> is also described in Daniel 7:25 He shall speak *pompous* words against the Most High, Shall <u>persecute the saints of the Most High, And shall intend to change times and law</u>. Then <u>the saints</u> shall be given into his hand for a time and times and half a time. (<u>the last 3 ½ years</u>). See also Dan. 11:31, 12:11...

Jesus also mentions in verse 14 that the Gospel of the Kingdom will be preached to all the world. This is also in reference to Revelation 14:6; Then I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to those who dwell on the earth to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people—This Gospel will be preached by the 2 Witnesses during the last 3 ½ years. They will preach entrance into the Kingdom of God by repentance of sins and command the people of the Earth to worship the Creator of the Universe, *The Father*, and to give Him glory forever.

Jesus then describes the Great Tribulation with more details: Matthew 24:15-28.

Jesus starts first by giving the sign to watch for, and He gives more details of what will happen during the Great Tribulation.

He states that those living in Judea need to flee in the mountains and that they need to get out as fast as possible, without taking anything with them. Luke 21:20 adds another detail, He mentioned that the armies will first surround Jerusalem. This means that when you see Jerusalem surrounded, it is the time to get out of there a.s.a.p., because the city will be taken over and the Temple will be profaned.

Jesus continues saying that due to the circumstances, it will be difficult for women with babies. He also said to pray for these things not happening in winter or on the Sabbath day. Why? Because in Jerusalem, the Jews, still observe the Sabbath day, and the most legalistic Jews will not leave on the Sabbath. They will then be caught and be killed or taken captive.

And Jesus concludes that part by saying that if those days, of Great Tribulation, would not be shortened, no life would remain alive on the Earth.

Then, He comes back in verses 23-26 with even more details about the great deception he mentioned in verses 4 and 11. Those deceivers and the false prophets will show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. There will even be those who will try to deceive God's people by claiming that Jesus has already returned. But Jesus clarified that His return will be visible by all inhabitants of the World.

Then, Jesus talks about the 6th Seal and the 7th trumpet:

Next, from verses 29-31 Jesus gives a rough resume of the events, which will occur **AFTER the Great Tribulation**, and preceding His second coming. He explains that we will see signs in heavens like we have never seen before and that the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then, we will see the sign of the Son of Man coming on the clouds. He will then send His angels with the great sound of the trumpet, but which trumpet? Paul mentions in 1 Cor. 15:52 that at the last trumpet (the 7th) the dead in Christ will resurrect and the living will be changed. They will gather all the saints to meet Jesus in the air. We will then come down to the Earth and lay our feet in the middle of the Mount of Olives. Zach. 14.

The fact that those signs will occur <u>after the Tribulation</u> proves that the 6th seal does come at the 7th trumpet and not before.

Conclusion:

When we put all the pieces together, and understand the methodology of God's writings, we can then conclude that the context and timing of Matthew 24 is the time just preceding Jesus' second coming.

We can see that even since before the time of Jesus, there were Deceivers, Wars, Earthquakes, and Pestilences. These things have always existed to a certain extent. But as for the events just preceding Jesus' return, they will be unprecedented, and they will reach levels never experienced before. Jesus said that without His intervention, no life would remain alive on the Earth. (Mat. 24:22)

So, in Matt. 24, Christ explains all the events of the final 3 ½ years, **the 6 Seals** (which are also summarized in Rev. 6), which will take place <u>from the time of the Abomination of the Desolation</u> until Jesus' return.

Though, at a certain point, we may know the season - the year and month - of His return, Jesus mentioned that no one knows the day or the hour. It is worth mentioning that if Jesus comes on the day of the Feast of Trumpets, when the 7th month of the final year begins, at the sighting of the new crescent, we will know, that's *the day!* We can then speculate if He will come at the time of the morning or evening sacrifice or at midnight or in the middle of the night.

Nonetheless, we were admonished to stay vigilant, and pray that we may be counted worthy to escape all the things that will happen during the Great Tribulation, and to stand before the Son of Man.

In the table below, I have laid out the 6 Seals of Revelation described by Jesus in 3 of the 4 gospels. You'll see the layout and the development of Jesus describing the 6 seal events of the last 3 ½ years.

It's worthy to note that the 3 different gospel authors complement each other in their writings of Jesus' description.

Revelation 6 Seals revealed in the 3 Gospels

Matthew 24	Mark 13	Luke 21	Timeline/Comments
Jesus Foretells Destruction of the Temple	Jesus Foretells Destruction of the Temple	Jesus Foretells Destruction of the Temple	Jesus's statement about the Temple
Mat 24:1 Then Jesus went out and departed from the temple, and His disciples came up to show Him the buildings of the temple.	Mar 13:1 Then as He went out of the temple, one of His disciples said to Him, "Teacher, see what manner of stones and what buildings are here!"	Luk 21:5 Then, as some spoke of the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and donations, He said,	
Mat 24:2 And Jesus said to them, "Do you not see all these things? Assuredly, I say to you, not <i>one</i> stone shall be left here upon another, that shall not be thrown down."	Mar 13:2 And Jesus answered and said to him, "Do you see these great buildings? Not <i>one</i> stone shall be left upon another, that shall not be thrown down."	Luk 21:6 "These things which you see—the days will come in which not <i>one</i> stone shall be left upon another that shall not be thrown down."	
Signs of the End of the Age	Signs of the Close of the Age		The Disciples question
Mat 24:3 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?"	Mar 13:3 Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked Him privately, Mar 13:4 "Tell us, when will these things be? And what will be the sign when all these things will be fulfilled?"	Luk 21:7 So they asked Him, saying, "Teacher, but when will these things be? And what sign will there be when these things are about to take place?"	
Mat 24:4 And Jesus answered and said to them: "Take heed that no one deceives you. Mat 24:5 For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many.	Mar 13:5 And Jesus, answering them, began to say: "Take heed that no one deceives you. Mar 13:6 For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am He,' and will deceive many.	Luk 21:8 And He said: "Take heed that you not be deceived. For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am He,' and, 'The time has drawn near.' Therefore do not go after them.	Revelation 1 st Seal Introduction (False Prophets)
Mat 24:6 And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all <i>these things</i> must come to pass, but the end is not yet.	Mar 13:7 But when you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be troubled; for <i>such things</i> must happen, but the end <i>is</i> not yet.	Luk 21:9 But when you hear of wars and commotions, do not be terrified; for these things must come to pass first, but the end will not come immediately."	2 nd Seal Introduction (Wars/rumors of wars)
Mat 24:7 For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom.	Mar 13:8 For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom.	Luk 21:10 Then He said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom.	
And there will be famines ,	And there will be earthquakes in various places, and there will be famines	Luk 21:11 And there will be great earthquakes in various places, and famines	3 rd Seal introduction (Famines)

pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. Mat 24:8 All these are the beginning of sorrows.	and troubles . These <i>are</i> the beginnings of sorrows.	and pestilences;	4 th Seal Introduction (Pestilences)
Mat 24:9 "Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name's sake. Mat 24:10 And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another. Mat 24:11 Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. Mat 24:12 And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. Mat 24:13 But he who endures to the end shall be saved. Mat 24:14 And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.	Mar 13:9 "But watch out for yourselves, for they will deliver you up to councils, and you will be beaten in the synagogues. You will be brought before rulers and kings for My sake, for a testimony to them. Mar 13:10 And the gospel must first be preached to all the nations. Mar 13:11 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, but the Holy Spirit. Mar 13:12 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. Mar 13:13 And you will be hated by all for My name's sake. But he who endures to the end shall be saved.		5 th Seal Introduction (Saint's Persecution)
		and there will be fearful sights and great signs from heaven.	6 th Seal Introduction (Heavenly Signs)
		Sth Seal Introduction Luk 21:12 But before all these things, they will lay their hands on you and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons. You will be brought before kings and rulers for My name's sake. Luk 21:13 But it will turn out for you as an occasion for testimony. Luk 21:14 Therefore settle it in your hearts not to meditate beforehand on what you will answer; Luk 21:15 for I will give you a mouth and wisdom which all your adversaries will not be able to contradict or resist. Luk 21:16 You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. Luk 21:17 And you will be hated by all for My name's	

		1	
		sake.	our bood shall ballat
		Luk 21:18 But not a hair of your head shall be lost.	
		Luk 21:19 By your patience possess your souls.	
The Abomination of Desolation	The Abomination of Desolation	Jesus Foretells Destruction of Jerusalem	The last 3 ½ years description in details
Mat 24:15 "Therefore when you see the 'ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION,' spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place" (whoever reads, let him understand), Mat 24:16 "then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. Mat 24:17 Let him who is on the housetop not go down to take anything out of his house. Mat 24:18 And let him who is in the field not go back to get his clothes. Mat 24:19 But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! Mat 24:20 And pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath. Mat 24:21 For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. Mat 24:22 And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened.	Mar 13:14 "So when you see the 'ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION,' 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. Mar 13:15 Let him who is on the housetop not go down into the house, nor enter to take anything out of his house. Mar 13:16 And let him who is in the field not go back to get his clothes. Mar 13:17 But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! Mar 13:18 And pray that your flight may not be in winter. Mar 13:19 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. Mar 13:20 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.	Luk 21:20 "But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation is near. Luk 21:21 Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, let those who are in the midst of her depart, and let not those who are in the country enter her. Luk 21:22 For these are the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled. Luk 21:23 But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! For there will be great distress in the land and wrath upon this people. Luk 21:24 And they will fall by the edge of the sword, and be led away captive into all nations. And Jerusalem will be trampled by Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.	1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd , 4 th , 5 th , 5 th , 6 th Seal Description
Mat 24:23 "Then if anyone says to you, 'Look, here <i>is</i> the Christ!' or 'There!' do not believe <i>it</i> . Mat 24:24 For false christs and	Mar 13:21 "Then if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or, 'Look, He is there!' do not believe it.		(Warning)
false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. Mat 24:25 See, I have told you	Mar 13:22 For false christs and false prophets will rise and show signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect.		
beforehand. Mat 24:26 "Therefore if they say to you, 'Look, He is in the desert!' do	Mar 13:23 But take heed; see, I have told you all things beforehand.		

	T		T
not go out; or 'Look, He is in the inner rooms!' do not believe it.			
Mat 24:27 For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes to the west, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. Mat 24:28 For wherever the carcass is, there the eagles will be gathered together.			6 th Seal Description (More Details)
The Coming of the Son of Man	The Coming of the Son of Man	The Son of Man's coming	
Mat 24:29 "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.	Mar 13:24 "But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; Mar 13:25 the stars of heaven will fall, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.	Luk 21:25 "And there will be signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars; and on the earth distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring; Luk 21:26 men's hearts	
		failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken.	
Mat 24:30 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. Mat 24:31 And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.	Mar 13:26 Then they will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory. Mar 13:27 And then He will send His angels, and gather together His elect from the four winds, from the farthest part of earth to the farthest part of heaven.	Luk 21:27 Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. Luk 21:28 Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near."	
The Lesson of the Fig Tree	The Lesson of the Fig Tree	The Lesson of the Fig Tree	The Fig Tree represents Israel which appears
Mat 24:32 "Now learn this parable from the fig tree: When its branch has already become tender and puts forth leaves, you know that summer is near. Mat 24:33 So you also, when you see all these things, know that it is near—at the doors! Mat 24:34 Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means	Mar 13:28 "Now learn this parable from the fig tree: When its branch has already become tender, and puts forth leaves, you know that summer is near. Mar 13:29 So you also, when you see these things happening, know that it is near—at the doors! Mar 13:30 Assuredly, I say to	Luk 21:29 Then He spoke to them a parable: "Look at the fig tree, and all the trees. Luk 21:30 When they are already budding , you see and know for yourselves that summer is now near. Luk 21:31 So you also, when you see these things	starting to bloom in 1950/51

		I	
place. Mat 24:35 Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away.	means pass away till all these things take place. Mar 13:31 Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away.	kingdom of God is near. Luk 21:32 Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all things take place. Luk 21:33 Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away.	
No One Knows That Day and Hour Mat 24:36 "But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only. Mat 24:37 But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. Mat 24:38 For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, Mat 24:39 and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. Mat 24:40 Then two men will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left. Mat 24:41 Two women will be grinding at the mill: one will be	No One Knows That Day / Hour Mar 13:32 "But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Mar 13:33 Take heed, watch and pray; for you do not know when the time is. Mar 13:34 It is like a man going to a far country, who left his house and gave authority to his servants, and to each his work, and commanded the doorkeeper to watch.	Watch Yourselves Mar 13:32 "But take heed to yourselves, lest your hearts be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness, and cares of this life, and that Day come on you unexpectedly. Luk 21:35 For it will come as a snare on all those who dwell on the face of the whole earth.	Though we cannot know the day or hours, we may know the season, which may be related to knowing the year and the month
taken and the other left. Mat 24:42 Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming. Mat 24:43 But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into. Mat 24:44 Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.	Mar 13:35 Watch therefore, for you do not know when the master of the house is coming— in the evening, at midnight, at the crowing of the rooster, or in the morning— Mar 13:36 lest, coming suddenly, he find you sleeping. Mar 13:37 And what I say to you, I say to all: Watch!"	Luk 21:36 Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man." Luk 21:37 And in the daytime He was teaching in the temple, but at night He went out and stayed on the mountain called Olivet. Luk 21:38 Then early in the morning all the people came to Him in the temple to hear Him.	Watch Warning

Chapter 3

How to interpret the Symbols

Another important and basic rule of studying the bible is to <u>always</u> to <u>let the bible interpret itself</u> and this is even more primordial in the book of Revelation. This will be put into action as we progress through the opening of the seven seals. Since John sees many symbols, we need to be able to identify and understand the actual events that they represent, otherwise, we will not know what is being described.

So, now we come to the most interesting part of understanding the Bible, and that is the fact that one third of the bible is prophecy. Additionally, though many prophecies have been fulfilled, most of them are for the end times and are revealed in the book of Revelation and Daniel.

-The Bible's symbols self-interpretation

Many of the prophetic truths of the Bible have been expressed by God using symbols. The book of Daniel, for instance, is full of various symbols—images and animals, some real, some fantastic, some explained, and some unexplained. Some symbols were used, <u>not to make the meaning clearer, but to hide the messages until God would reveal their meaning at or near the time of the end</u> (Daniel 12:8-9).

For centuries men have tried to interpret these symbols according to their *own ideas*, resulting mostly in chaos and confusion. An important key to understanding biblical prophecy <u>is that these symbols must be plainly interpreted by the Bible itself</u>, in their immediate context or elsewhere. Strictly human interpretations are of no value. <u>We must seek out and rely on God's interpretation</u>, not our own.

The book of *Revelation,* for example, contains symbolic language giving a description of the glorified Messiah, the Son of Man, standing in the midst of seven lampstands. We read:

"He had in His right hand seven stars, out of His mouth went a sharp two-edged sword, and His countenance was like the sun shining in its strength" (Revelation 1:16).

What do these stars and lampstands symbolize?

We do not need to guess; the Bible itself tells us their meanings! Let's read;

"The mystery of the seven stars which you saw in My right hand, and the seven golden lampstands: The <u>seven stars</u> are the angels of the seven churches, and the <u>seven lampstands which you saw are the seven churches</u>" (v. 20).

In Biblical symbolisms, <u>stars are angels</u> and <u>lampstands are churches</u>. The writer of the book of Revelation continues in the next two chapters writing God's message and admonition to the seven churches in Asia Minor which is modern-day Turkey. The Apostle John wrote his book near the end of the 1st century ad.

Coming back to Daniel, you are probably familiar with the account of King Nebuchadnezzar's dream. The prophet Daniel was called before King Nebuchadnezzar and proceeded to describe the great image found in the king's dream.

"You, O king, were watching; and behold, a great image! This great image, whose splendor was excellent, stood before you; and its form was awesome. This image's head was of fine gold, its chest and arms of silver, its belly and thighs of bronze, its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay. You watched while a stone was cut out

without hands, which struck the image on its feet of iron and clay, and broke them in pieces" (Daniel 2:31-34).

What did this statue symbolize?

Daniel said to King Nebuchadnezzar: "you are this head of gold" (v. 38).

Daniel's prophecy then revealed four historical world-ruling empires. Nebuchadnezzar's <u>Babylonian Empire</u> would be replaced by the <u>Medo-Persian Empire</u> (558–330BC), represented by the chest and arms of silver. The belly and thighs of bronze represented the <u>Greco-Macedonian Empire</u> of Alexander the Great (333–31BC). The two legs of iron represented the <u>Roman Empire</u> (31BC–476AD). Finally, the ten toes on two feet of iron mixed with ceramic clay represent a <u>future revival of the Roman Empire</u>. History confirms that the predictions of these four empires did come to pass.

So, often the Bible uses symbols to express thoughts and ideas. As an example, the Holy Spirit is likened unto some of the physical manifestations of power.

Examples include;

Water (John 3:5; Ephesians 5:26; 1 John 5:6; Revelation 22:1, 17),

Fire (Acts 2:3; 1 Peter 1:7; Revelation 3:18),

Wind (John 3:8; Acts 2:2).

Water, the life-giving substance which is essential to life; wind, or air, which is also essential to life; and fire, which both purges and cleanses (in the case of metals, etc.), or is capable of destroying, are thus used typically of the powerful Spirit of God! Also, "light" from the sun and the stars is likewise used.

Notice a few more biblical symbols:

"Isa 2:2 Now it shall come to pass in the latter days *That* the *mountain* of the LORD's house Shall be established on the top of the mountains, And shall be exalted above the hills; And all nations shall flow to it.

Isa 2:3 Many people shall come and say, "Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, To the house of the God of Jacob; He will teach us His ways, And we shall walk in His paths." For out of Zion shall go forth the law, And the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

Isa 2:4 He shall judge between the nations, And rebuke many people; They shall beat their swords into plowshares, And their spears into pruning hooks; Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, Neither shall they learn war anymore. " (Isaiah 2:2–4).

When it says the Lord's house will be established "in the top of the mountains" it means above all of the so-called "great powers" or great nations, and "exalted above the hill's means exalted above all the lesser powers of nations!

As we saw earlier, stars are used as symbols for angels (Revelation 9:1). In the vision of Jesus Christ which John saw (Rev. 1), there were "in His right hand seven stars" (Revelation 1:16). Here again is an example of how the Bible interprets the Bible. By merely reading on through the description of all that John saw, you come to verse 20, which says,

"20 The mystery of the seven stars which you saw in My right hand, and the seven golden lampstands: *The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches*, and *the seven lampstands which you saw are the seven churches*." (Revelation 1:20). Jesus Christ is also referred to as "the bright and morning star" (Revelation 22:16; 2:28).

Stars are then often referred to angelic beings, good or bad.

Also, a beast or wild ravenous creature, is usually used to indicate a *Gentile* government, or kingdom. In Daniel's seventh chapter, four great beasts are pictured. Let's look at their descriptions:

"Dan 7:4 <u>The first was like a lion</u>, and had eagle's wings. I watched till its wings were plucked off; and it was lifted up from the earth and made to stand on two feet like a man, and a man's heart was given to it.

Dan 7:5 And suddenly another beast, <u>a second, like a bear</u>. It was raised up on one side, and had three ribs in its mouth between its teeth. And they said thus to it: 'Arise, devour much flesh!'

Dan 7:6 After this I looked, and there was another, like a leopard, which had on its back four wings of a bird. The beast also had four heads, and dominion was given to it.

Dan 7:7 After this I saw in the night visions, and behold, <u>a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible</u>, <u>exceedingly strong</u>. It had huge iron teeth; it was devouring, breaking in pieces, and trampling the residue with its feet. It was different from all the beasts that were before it, and it had ten horns.

Dan 7:8 I was considering the horns, and there was another horn, a little one, coming up among them, before whom three of the first horns were plucked out by the roots. And there, in this horn, were eyes like the eyes of a man, and a mouth speaking pompous words.

Dan 7:9 I watched till thrones were put in place, And the Ancient of Days was seated; His garment was white as snow, And the hair of His head was like pure wool. His throne was a fiery flame, Its wheels a burning fire; (Daniel 7:4–9).

Now, notice how the Bible interprets itself in revealing the meaning of these different creatures. Continuing reading through chapter 7, we come to verse 17:

"Those great beasts, which are four, are four kings who arise out of the earth."

That a king stands for his kingdom is conclusive by reading the second chapter of Daniel. Here, we see the vision of Nebuchadnezzar, and the great image described in Daniel 2:32–35.

Daniel, through a vision, was given the interpretation of the dream and shared it with Nebuchadnezzar. He said;

Dan 2:37 You, O king, are a king of kings. For the God of heaven has given you a kingdom, power, strength, and glory;

Dan 2:38 and wherever the children of men dwell, or the beasts of the field and the birds of the heaven, He has given them into your hand, and has made you ruler over them all—you are this head of gold.

Dan 2:39 But after you shall arise <u>another kingdom inferior to yours</u>; then <u>another</u>, a third kingdom of bronze, which shall rule over all the earth.

Dan 2:40 And the fourth kingdom shall be as strong as iron, inasmuch as iron breaks in pieces and shatters everything; and like iron that crushes, that kingdom will break in pieces and crush all the others.

Dan 2:41 Whereas you saw the feet and toes, partly of potter's clay and partly of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; yet the strength of the iron shall be in it, just as you saw the iron mixed with ceramic clay.

Dan 2:42 And as the toes of the feet were partly of iron and partly of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly fragile.

Dan 2:43 As you saw iron mixed with ceramic clay, they will mingle with the seed of men; but they will not adhere to one another, just as iron does not mix with clay.

Dan 2:44 And in the days of these kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever." (Daniel 2:37–44).

Can anything be plainer? The head of the image stood for Nebuchadnezzar, and it is also obvious that king and kingdom are completely interchangeable and mean the same thing.

It says, "But after you shall arise another kingdom inferior to yours; then another, a third kingdom of bronze, which shall rule over all the earth." (Daniel 2:39).

Biblical scholars and historians are universal in their acceptance of the obvious succession of the four world-ruling Gentile kingdoms of the Babylonian, Medo/Persian, Greco/Macedonian, and Roman Empires. These prophecies showing both the great image of Daniel's second chapter and the fourth beast of Daniel's seventh chapter culminate in the Second Coming of Christ. Therefore, it is obvious that the fourth beast, which represents the Roman Empire with its many revivals and resurrections down through history, will be extant at the final moments before the Second Coming of Christ!

It is "in the days of these 10 kings", represented by the ten toes, (Daniel 2:44) that Jesus Christ will return! In this case "these kings" refer to the ten toes of the great image of Daniel 2.

Notice now the biblical corroboration:

Rev 17:12 The <u>ten horns which you saw are ten kings</u> who have received no kingdom as yet, but they receive authority for one hour as kings with the beast.

Rev 17:13 These are of one mind, and they will give their power and authority to the beast.

Rev 17:14 These will make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, **for He is** Lord of lords and King of kings; and those *who are* with Him *are* called, chosen, and faithful." (Revelation 17:12–14).

There can be no doubt that there will be ten nations united together in a super-dictatorship in Central Europe by the time of the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. They will battle Jesus and His armies, but they will be destroyed.

The "Horns" on the creatures are then symbols of the leaders of the state, either civil or religious. It is obvious that the "little horn" of Daniel 7 refers to the papacy (the harlot on the Beast) which overthrew various governments during the Middle Ages.

Physical Israel (including both the House of Israel and the House of Judah) is often pictured as a woman. Almighty God pictured Israel as the bride and Himself as the suitor in proposing the Old Covenant. God "proposed" by giving Israel His laws and promising to become Israel's protector, sustainer, and provider. When Israel accepted the terms and conditions of God's law, it constituted a covenant, or an agreement, between them. God used the analogy of a "marriage agreement" and said, "I was a husband to them" (Jeremiah 31:31–32).

Another important representation is that the church in the Bible is depicted as a woman. **God in the bible uses a woman, a virgin, who is the bride of Jesus, as a symbolism for the Church** or the Nation of Israel. Rev 12:17 And the dragon was enraged with the **woman** (church), and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

<u>Eph 5:23</u> For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the <u>church</u>; and He is the Savior of the body. <u>Rev 21:9</u> Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls filled with the seven last plagues came to me and talked with me, saying, "Come, I will show you the **bride**, the **Lamb's wife**."

God also uses the symbol of a harlot, or a fallen woman, to depict the great false, universal church! Notice it:

"Isa 47:5 "Sit in silence, and go into darkness, O daughter of the Chaldeans; For you shall no longer be called The Lady of Kingdoms.

Isa 47:6 I was angry with My people; I have profaned My inheritance, And given them into your hand. You showed them no mercy; On the elderly you laid your yoke very heavily.

Isa 47:7 And you said, 'I shall be a lady forever,' *So* that you did not take these *things* to heart, Nor remember the latter end of them.

Isa 47:8 "Therefore hear this now, *you who are* given to pleasures, Who dwell securely, Who say in your heart, 'I am, and there is no one else besides me; I shall not sit as a widow, Nor shall I know the loss of children';

Isa 47:9 But these two *things* shall come to you In a moment, in one day: The loss of children, and widowhood. They shall come upon you in their fullness Because of the multitude of your sorceries, For the great abundance of your enchantments.

Isa 47:10 "For you have trusted in your wickedness; You have said, 'No one sees me'; Your wisdom and your knowledge have warped you; And you have said in your heart, 'I *am*, and *there is* no one else besides me." (Isaiah 47:5–10).

See also Revelation, the great harlot in 17:3-18.

Rev 17:3 So he carried me away in the Spirit into the wilderness. And I saw a **woman** sitting on a scarlet beast *which* was full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.

Rev 17:4 The woman 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.

Rev 17:5 And on her forehead a name was written: MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.

Rev 17:6 I saw the woman, 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.

Rev 17:7 But the angel said to me, "Why did you marvel? I will tell you the mystery of the woman and of the beast that carries her, which has the seven heads and the ten horns.

Rev 17:9 "Here is the mind which has wisdom: The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits.

Rev 17:10 There are also seven kings. Five have fallen, one is, and the other has not yet come. And when he comes, he must continue a short time.

Rev 17:12 "The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have received no kingdom as yet, but they receive authority for one hour as kings with the beast.

Rev 17:13 These are of one mind, and they will give their power and authority to the beast.

Rev 17:14 These will make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, for He is Lord of lords and King of kings; and those who are with Him are called, chosen, and faithful."

Rev 17:15 Then he said to me, "The waters which you saw, where the harlot sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues.

Rev 17:18 And the woman whom you saw is that great city which reigns over the kings of the earth."

We then see the importance of letting the Bible interpreting itself. If we do not follow this important principle, we will fall into the pit of false doctrines. It is then imperative to search the Bible to find out and understand the meaning of the different symbols the Bible uses.

For a more detailed approach of how to understand the Bible and Prophecy, you can refer to my booklet on the **7** *Vital Keys to understand the Bible and Prophecy.*

Just email me at *Mdanis7@outlook.com* and I will send it to you for free.

Chapter 4

Intro to the 7 Seals

Now that we have a basic knowledge about how to read the Bible and the book of Revelation, let us start by summarizing the first chapters of Revelation which will bring us to the description of the seven seals.

In the first chapter, verse 1, we see the pattern of how the Revelation is passed on or unveiled. First the Almighty God, who is the Father alone, is the only one who possesses the Revelation. He, the Father or the Almighty, then passed on the authority to reveal the content of the book to Jesus, who then passed on the content to an angel who then would pass it on to John. This is known as the <u>principle of delegation</u>.

Rev 1:1 The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show His servants—things which must shortly take place. And He sent and signified *it* by His angel to His servant John,

So, why was the book of Revelation was written? The book's very name means to reveal —to unveil, to open to understanding what otherwise could not be comprehended. Revelation puts many of the earlier prophecies of the Bible into an understandable context and reveals a much-needed framework for prophecies relating to the end of the age. It accomplishes this partly using symbols and figurative language that relate directly to some of the Bible's other prophetic writings.

For example, the prophetic book of Daniel uses similar language and symbols. Many of its visions and figures of speech are clearly explained. But God revealed to Daniel that the meanings of other visions were to remain mysteriously obscured until the time of the end. Thereafter, they would be understood.

Revelation contains many fundamental keys to that understanding, and the book of Daniel contains keys that help us understand the book of Revelation.

Notice the prophet Daniel's explanation of one of his visions: "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" (Daniel 12:8-9).

Contrast this with God's purpose for the book of Revelation. God the Father gave the prophecies contained in the book of Revelation to His Son, Jesus Christ. He passed it to Jesus Christ in the form of a scroll sealed with seven seals (Revelation 5:1). But, as John—who wrote the book under God's inspiration—tells us in his concluding chapter, an angel specifically commanded him: "Do not seal the words of the prophecy of this book..." (Revelation 22:10).

John explains that God the Father gave the book of Revelation to Christ in the form of a scroll sealed with seven seals. Jesus then *broke* those seals and *opened* the scroll.

"And I saw in the right hand of Him who sat on the throne [God the Father] a scroll written inside and on the back, sealed with seven seals. Then I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, 'Who is worthy to open the scroll and to loose its seals?' And no one in heaven or on the earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll, or to look at it... But one of the elders said to me, 'Do not weep. Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has prevailed to open the scroll and to loose its seven seals'" (Revelation 5:1-5).

Here is the main key to understanding the book. Jesus alone can unlock the meaning of its symbols, visions, and descriptions. The first verse of this book announces that it is "the Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him..." (Revelation 1:1). Christ reveals its meaning, He unlocks its seals.

But how does He do it? Two factors are crucial. First, the keys to unlocking the content of the seven seals must be explained by Jesus Himself in His own words.

Second, the Bible tells us that "all Scripture is given by inspiration of God" (2 Timothy 3:16). Therefore, we can expect to find clarification of some symbols in the book of Revelation and in other parts of God's inspired Word.

By relying on the Bible's own consistent interpretations of its symbols and figurative language, <u>we can have confidence that our understanding is based on God's inspired Word rather than on our own opinions</u> (2 Peter 1:20). After all, revealed knowledge is what the book of Revelation is all about.

Remember, God told Daniel that some of the things revealed to him in visions were sealed, hidden until the time of the end. But then He added: "Many shall be purified, made white, and refined, but the wicked shall do wickedly; and none of the wicked shall understand, but the wise shall understand" (Daniel 12:10). At the time of the end God intends that those who He calls "the wise" will understand these prophecies.

Who are the wise in God's sight?

Those who scorn the concept that the Bible is divinely inspired choose to see its symbols as contradictory and confusing. They choose to be ignorant of what God reveals about the future (2 Peter 3:3-7). On the other hand, God tells us those obey Him are the truly wise. As the Scriptures explain:

"The fear [respectful awe] of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; a good understanding have all those who do His commandments" (Psalm 111:10).

Scripture also tells us that "the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple" (Psalm 19:7). The book of Revelation gives us many of the keys that unlock prophetic understanding because it faithfully follows the principle that the Bible interprets itself. Therefore, only those who believe that the Bible is inspired by God and trust what it says will be able to understand the significance of what is revealed in the book of Revelation.

Some of the understanding began in the days of the apostles. One of the stated purposes for Revelation was to reveal to the servants of God "things which must shortly take place" (Revelation 1:1). So, most of Revelation apply directly to Christians of the times of the end.

Christ instructed John to record (verse 19): (1) "the things which you have seen"—his visions and their puzzling symbols; (2) "the things which are"—information concerning the Church at that time; and (3) "the things which will take place after this"—prophecies extending far into the future.

Chapters 2 and 3:

After chapter one's introduction, we then come to the messages to the seven churches which cover chapters two and three.

The Seven Churches Messages

Chapters 2 and 3 contain Christ's messages to seven different churches in Asia Minor—today's western Turkey. Combined, these messages represent the first overall message of the book. They are directed first to the existing 7 churches in the first century, then to the 7 successive eras, or stages, of the church that span the entire New Testament period—from the time Christ built His true church (Matt. 16:18) in A.D. 30, until Christ's second coming. And all the 7 churches' messages also apply to each one of the them as well.

In other words, in each church or era, we find the seven categories of Christians which are described in each church or church's era. Each message contains Christ's brief *description* of the spiritual condition of these seven consecutive church eras.

All are described as having their own unique set of doctrinal and spiritual problems (Smyrna and Philadelphia are exceptions). These eras are known as *Ephesus* (2:1), *Smyrna* (2:8), *Pergamos* (2:12), *Thyatira* (2:18), *Sardis* (3:1), *Philadelphia* (3:7) and *Laodicea* (3:14).

These were seven cities lying close together (in this order) on a mail route in Asia Minor. God knew that each city would reflect a corresponding attitude existing in the era it represents. Christ was able to use them to show a *pattern* that would span the 2,000-year history of His Church.

While the church has now progressed into the deplorable, seventh (or last) era, known as Laodicea, the most faithful brethren in the Church of God today are a remnant of the sixth, the Philadelphian era. They remain separate from the lukewarm seventh era, which is represented by the parabola of the 10 virgins. Half of them will fail and lose their salvation!

Chapter 4: Before God's Throne and the Twenty-four Elders

The 4th and 5th chapters represent the setting for the central part of the Revelation, which is to follow. They set the stage for unveiling the great prophecies explaining the theme of the book.

In verse 1, John describes a door opening in heaven and an invitation from a great voice to "come up" to be shown "things which must be hereafter."

In verse 2, John saw the Father on His throne, introducing Him and presenting a magnificent picture of the setting in which God exists. Surrounding Him are 24 additional "seats" (lesser thrones), occupied by "twenty-four elders." It is important to understand that these beings are real, they are not symbolic. They constitute the council of God.

Verse 5 mentions "seven lamps" before the throne, defined as the *seven spirits* of God, whom we are told in Revelation 5:6 are sent forth into all the earth. The ancient prophet Zechariah alluded to the same in Zechariah 4:10, referring to the seven "eyes" that God sends to run to and fro throughout the entire earth. God uses these spirit creatures to gather information from all over the earth.

It is important to study this chapter with chapter 5, because they present a descriptive picture of four living creatures, as well as the twenty-four elders—and Jesus Christ, as the Lamb of God (vs. 6), standing before God's throne.

Chapter 5: Christ Unseals the Prophecy

Verse 1 pictures the Father, the Almighty God, holding the entire book of Revelation (with seven seals upon it) in His right hand. At this point, the book (a scroll or parchment) is still unopened—sealed—LOCKED!

Now notice: "And I saw in the right hand of Him who sat on the throne a scroll written <u>inside</u> and <u>on the back</u>, sealed with seven seals." Seven is God's number of completeness—and, of course, the book was also completely sealed. This means that the meaning of the prophecy has remained hidden from view—unavailable to mankind!

Here is the description: Then I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and to loose its seals?" And no one in heaven or on the earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll, or to look at it. And no one in heaven or on the earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll, or to look at it." (vs. 2-4).

Next, John describes Jesus Christ standing before the throne in the midst of this great assembly (Revelation 5:5–6). Here, Christ is described by two symbols: a Lamb who was slain, and the Lion of Judah. The Lamb of God describes Jesus Christ in His sacrificial role, taking our place and dying in our stead. The Lion of Judah describes Him in His kingly role, as the One who will conquer rebellious mankind and sit on the throne of David, ruling over the earth. So, Christ alone is deemed to be "worthy" to UNSEAL THE BOOK!

Remember, Daniel's book is a counterpart detailing much that will happen prior to Revelation, and his book was "SEALED till the time of the end" (12:9). Christ then reveals the meaning of these prophecies by having the authority to open the book: "and He came and took the book out of the right hand of Him (The Father) who sat upon the throne" (Rev. 5:7).

The Twenty-four Elders Explained

Let's read chapter five to get a better picture: 8 When He had taken the book, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each one holding a harp and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the [b]saints. 9 And they *sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are You to take the book and to break its seals; for You were slain, and purchased for God with Your blood men from every tribe and tongue and people and nation.10 "You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to our God; and they will reign upon the earth."

These 24 elders are spirit beings created by God to be His counselors. They were created before the physical creation, along with the seraphim (with 6 wings), the four living creatures which are cherubim (with 4 wings - including Lucifer who himself became Satan) and the billions of other angels (vs. 11) that serve God.

So, the twenty-four Elders rule with God in heaven as advisors to Him, they are the Council of God. The resurrected saints under the rulership of Jesus will rule on Earth (Rev. 20:4; Matt. 5:5; Dan. 7:27). Though the vision that John saw is unsealed in heaven, it reflects events that will occur "on the earth."

Chapter 5

The 7 Seals explained

Chapter 6: The opening of the 7 Seals

We are now coming to the critically important chapter 6—when Jesus will open one-by-one each of the first sixth SEALS and show us what they represent.

First, let's understand this, unsealing the seven seals spans the rest of the Revelation. But since chapter 6 explains six of the seven seals, obviously they do not individually receive a large amount of space. The seventh seal itself is a kind of special seal as *it depicts a solemn scene in heaven* before the real troubles, the Tribulation, start to happen.

Second, as there are many interpretations about the timeline of the 7 seals, it's crucial to understand exactly when these events will take place.

Revelation 5:2 and 6:1 indicate that the seals related to the horsemen had not been opened prior to John's vision in Revelation (circa 95 A.D.)

To properly understand the timeline of the seals, we need to go back to our first discussion, God's Revelation methodology, which first relates to the big picture followed by the details.

Let's mention again that the scroll of Revelation is written on the outside and inside of the scroll (Rev. 5:1), and that the scroll is protected by 7 seals.

As each seal is opened, one by one, we are introduced with a brief description of the events that will happen during the great tribulation. These events as we will see are also described by Jesus in Matthew 24, Mark 13, and Luke 21.

The events of the first 6 seals on the outside of the scroll describe events from a different perspective than the ones inside of the scroll. They will occur during the period of the last 4 trumpets, during the last 3 ½ years of the last week of Daniel, which is called the great tribulation.

The six seals must be linked to Jesus's description of the events that will take place at the Abomination of the Desolation. All of the context as we saw earlier in chapter 2, is the period from the great tribulation, the last 3 ½ years, up to the second coming of Jesus Christ. In other words, the seals are events that will be triggered by the last 4 trumpets.

Third, the horsemen of Revelation 6 are related to the horses of the four chariots which are of the same color (which are the same horses) as the ones in Zechariah 6:1-7.

Let's just remember that the Seals are an introduction or the big picture of what will happens during the period which is called the Great Tribulation.

Let now read the description of each seal. Remember, God wants His servants — "the wise"—to understand!

The first 4 Seals explained!

The First Horseman: The White Horse of the deceptive False Religion

Notice the following:

Rev 6:1 Now I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals; and I heard one of the four living creatures saying with a voice like thunder, "Come and see."

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

Somewhat paralleling the ride of the first horseman of Revelation 6:2, Jesus warned about false religion:

Mat 24:4 And Jesus answered and said to them: "Take heed that no one deceives you.

Mat 24:5 For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many.

"Another Christ"

The word Christ means Messiah. The Bible refers to a false Messiah coming and proclaiming himself to be God or God's messiah, as God in the flesh.

Though it is true that the white horse represents a christ, in fact it represents a false christ. It is also true, at the same time, that the first horseman carries a gospel and leads a church, but it is a false gospel and a false church—all in the name of Jesus Christ, but in truth- a deception and a counterfeit.

Jesus Christ says so Himself in Matthew 24, and the Apostle Paul amplified Christ's words very plainly in II Corinthians 11.

II Cor. 11:4, 13-15 For if he that cometh preaches another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted" they might be deceived. "For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works".

The Antichrist and the False Prophet will bring the final deception

2Th 2:3 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 is revealed, the son of perdition,

2Th 2:4 who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.

When the abomination of the Desolation will take place, the antichrist will setup the mark of the Beast. Anyone who won't comply will be put to death.

Dan 7:25 He shall speak pompous words against the Most High, Shall persecute the saints of the Most High, And shall intend to change times and law. Then the saints shall be given into his hand For a time and times and half a time (3 ½ years).

He and his false prophets will launch a deception like never happened before. The leader and false prophets will perform supernatural miracles up to the point of making fire come down from heaven.

Rev 13:13 He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men.

Mat 24:24 For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect.

Yes, be ready and take heed!

Mar 13:23 But take heed; see, I have told you all things beforehand.

The Second Horsemen: The Red Horse of War

Notice the following:

Rev 6:3 When He opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature saying, "Come and see."

Rev 6:4 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.

Mat 24:6 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.

No, the End, the coming of Jesus Christ, will not occur yet.

Jesus also gave another Sign, the Sign that will trigger the real beginning of sorrows.

He said in Mat 24:15 Therefore when you see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place (whoever reads, let him understand).

Mat 24:7 For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom...

This Beast's entrance in Jerusalem will bring concerns to many nations, which will lead into biological and nuclear wars. We'll cover this in the 4th and 5th trumpet.

The World will be in real chaos, like never before, reaping the terrible consequences of wars. The Anti-Christ or King of the North will establish his Beast's system and enforce the mark of the Beast.

There after 3 ½ years, and at the verge of self-destruction, Jesus will come back to Earth, He will then make war will the armies gathered in the Valley of Josaphat near Jerusalem and establish the Kingdom of God on Earth.

The Third Horsemen: The Black Horse of Famines

Notice the following:

Rev 6:5 When He opened the third 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.

Rev 6:6 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."

Mat 24:7 For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. **And there will be famines**, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places.

A Famine of Biblical Proportion

In his discussion with his disciples, Jesus Christ was not merely guessing about future famines, He was describing an age of human existence that would be unique from all others before. In the 24th chapter of Matthew, He made this clear when He said: "For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been from the beginning of the world until now, no, and never will be" (verse 21).

The prophet Jeremiah describes this tumultuous age as follows: "Alas! that day is so great there is none like it; it is a time of distress for Jacob ..." (Jer. 30:7).

Daniel likewise wrote: "And there shall be a time of trouble, such as never has been since there was a nation till that time" (Dan. 12:1).

Other passages warn of famine-producing upsets in weather (Amos 4:7, Deut. 28:24); ruined harvests (Ezek. 5:16, Deut. 28:17); blighted crops (Amos 4:9); harmful insect pests (Deut. 28:39, 42); and nonproductive soil (Deut. 28:23).

And as men continue to flagrantly disobey the laws of their Creator, such conditions will continue to be aggravated. In the book of Revelation, Jesus Christ depicts an earth whose entire food producing ecosystem will be destroyed. And He went on to show that unless He personally intervened during this tumultuous time period, all life would be erased from off the face of the earth (Matt. 24:22).

The Fourth Horsemen: The Pale Horse of Death (from War, Famines, and Pestilences)

Notice the following:

Rev 6:7 When He opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature saying, "Come and see." Rev 6:8 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.

Ezekiel 5 gives us a deeper picture of this terrible time, let's read;

Eze 5:11 'Therefore, as I live,' says the Lord GOD, 'surely, because you have defiled My sanctuary with all your detestable things and with all your abominations, therefore I will also diminish you; My eye will not spare, nor will I have any pity.

Eze 5:12 One-third of you shall die of the pestilence, and be consumed with famine in your midst; and one-third shall fall by the sword all around you; and I will scatter another third to all the winds, and I will draw out a sword after them.

Eze 5:13 'Thus shall My anger be spent, and I will cause My fury to rest upon them, and I will be avenged; and they shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken it in My zeal, when I have spent My fury upon them.

Eze 5:14 Moreover I will make you a waste and a reproach among the nations that are all around you, in the sight of all who pass by.

Eze 5:15 'So it shall be a reproach, a taunt, a lesson, and an astonishment to the nations that are all around you, when I execute judgments among you in anger and in fury and in furious rebukes. I, the LORD, have spoken.

Eze 5:16 When I send against them the terrible arrows of famine which shall be for destruction, which I will send to destroy you, I will increase the famine upon you and cut off your supply of bread.

Eze 5:17 So I will send against you famine and wild beasts, and they will bereave you. Pestilence and blood shall pass through you, and I will bring the sword against you. I, the LORD, have spoken.'

Mat 24:7 For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, **pestilences**, and earthquakes in various places.

Mat 24:8 All these are the beginning of sorrows.

The fourth Horseman will bring Death, which means like Ezekiel tells us, that the results of war, famines, pestilences, and death from wild beasts will be terrible. All together they will bring death, directly and indirectly.

The last 3 Seals explained

The Fifth Seal: Persecution of the saints

Notice the following:

Rev 6:9 When He opened the fifth 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.

Rev 6:10 And they cried with a loud voice, saying, "How long, O Lord, holy and true, until You judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?"

Rev 6:11 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.

Rev 13:7 It was granted to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them. And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation.

Rev 13:15 He was granted power to give breath to the image of the beast, 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.

Luk 21:12 But before all these things, they will lay their hands on you and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons. You will be brought before kings and rulers for My name's sake.

Luk 21:13 But it will turn out for you as an occasion for testimony.

Luk 21:14 Therefore settle it in your hearts not to meditate beforehand on what you will answer;

Luk 21:15 for I will give you a mouth and wisdom which all your adversaries will not be able to contradict or resist.

Luk 21:16 You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death.

Luk 21:17 And you will be hated by all for My name's sake.

Let's notice here that we have a clear timeline as Daniel described this event with more clarity.

Dan 7:25 He shall speak pompous words against the Most High, Shall persecute the saints of the Most High, And shall intend to change times and law. Then the saints shall be given into his hand <u>For a time and times and half a time</u>. (Which means the last 3 ½ years)

Daniel also mentioned that many saints will be purified, as they are lukewarm.

Dan 12:10 Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried. But the wicked shall do wickedly. And none of the wicked shall understand, but the wise shall understand.

Rev 3:16 So because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth.

The bible clearly mentions that many saints will be purified. Jesus will vomit them out of his mouth as they are naked and are in need to of buying new garments because the ones they have are filthy. They are in fact naked.

It's also mentioned that prior to Christ's return, 50% of the lukewarm saints will fail to enter the Kingdom of God. (Read the parable of the virgins in Matt. 25)

The Sixth Seal: The Heavenly Signs

Notice the following: (I have bolded and underlined areas for emphasis)

Rev 6:12 I looked when He opened the sixth seal, and behold, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became

black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became like blood.

Rev 6:13 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.

Rev 6:14 Then the sky receded as a scroll when it is rolled up, <u>and every mountain and island was moved out of its</u> place.

Rev 6:15 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,

Rev 6:16 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!

Rev 6:17 For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand?"

Also notice that the same related events are described in Rev. 16 and Zach. 14.

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

Rev 16:18 And there were noises and thunderings and lightnings; and there was <u>a great earthquake</u>, such a mighty and great earthquake as had not occurred since men were on the earth.

Rev 16:19 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.

Rev 16:20 Then every island fled away, and the mountains were not found.

Rev 16:21 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.

Zec 14:2 For I will gather all the nations to battle against Jerusalem; The city shall be taken, The houses rifled, And the women ravished. Half of the city shall go into captivity, But the remnant of the people shall not be cut off from the city.

Zec 14:3 Then the LORD will go forth And fight against those nations, As He fights in the day of battle.

Zec 14:4 And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, Which faces Jerusalem on the east. And the Mount of Olives shall be split in two, From east to west, Making a very large valley; Half of the mountain shall move toward the north And half of it toward the south. (The Great Earthquake will trigger the opening of the Mount of Olives)

Zec 14:12 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.

Zec 14:13 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;

Jesus also mentioned this period in his statements.

Luk_21:11 And there will be **great earthquakes** in various places, and famines and pestilences; and there will be **fearful sights and great signs from heaven**.

Luk_21:25 "And there will be <u>signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars</u>; and on the earth distress of nations, <u>with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring</u>;

As we can now see, these signs are all related to each other, they are in fact the same events described from different perspectives.

So, clearly the 6th seal will take place during the great tribulation, just prior to Christ's return, with the culmination of the major signs in the Sun and the Moon and in the Seas.

Conclusion of the first 6 Seals:

The first 6 seals described in Rev. 6 are then the same events described by Jesus in Matthew 24, Mark 13, and Luke 21. They describe, as mentioned earlier, the big picture of the events that will take place during the last 3 ½ years, the period called the great tribulation.

The Seventh Seal: The Silence...

We are now coming to the most important and most misunderstood seal of all, the 7th Seal!

The 7th Seal of Rev. 8:1-5 is described as a pause, a silence, before the sound of the first Trumpet.

The 7th seal is like a pause before the events of the end times will take place. We had the introduction through the first 6 seals describing events that will take place during the last 3 ½ years and now we come to this solemn moment where there will be a complete silence in heavens for 30 minutes.

Rev 8:1 And when He opened the seventh seal, there was silence in Heaven for about half an hour.

But before the 7th Seal, there is what we call an inset chapter, the 7th chapter, which discusses about 2 special groups of people.

At the end of Revelation 6, following the first 6 Seals, a question is being asked, let's read; Rev 6:17 For the great day of His wrath has come, <u>and who is able to stand?</u>"

Yes, who is able to stand what will happen during the Great Tribulation, the last 3 ½ years?

Rev. 7 gives the answer:

Rev 7:1 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.

Rev 7:2 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,

Rev 7:3 saying, "Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees till we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads."

Rev 7:4 And I heard the number of those who were sealed. One hundred and forty-four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel were sealed:

Yes, 4 Angels of God will hold the 4 Horsemen, the 4 evil spirits, until God marks, through his angel, the 144,000. Those 144,000 will then be protected from the wrath of Satan and from God's wrath which will take place during the final 3 ½ years. In the bible we find 2 groups who will be protected, the Church of Philadelphia and the 2 witnesses.

The second part of Rev. 7 describes a great multitude of people coming out of the Great Tribulation having repented from their sins. Though they were not protected against Satan's wrath in the first 2 ½ years of the Great Tribulation, they should be protected against God's wrath which will take place during the last year (the 7th trumpet) of the Great Tribulation. But these are not the 144000, they are a separate group.

Let's now come back to the 7th Seal. There is then a solemn event going on in heaven, let's read;

Rev 8:1 When He opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour.

Rev 8:2 And I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and to them were given seven trumpets.

We now see 7 angels to whom each of them is given a trumpet. The angels are now waiting for the next step.

Rev 8:3 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.

Rev 8:4 And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, ascended before God from the angel's hand.

This is the time that God will listen to the prayers of the saints. Half of an hour or 30 minutes translated in biblical prophetic time equals 7½ days, meaning that God would listen to the prayers of the saints for a whole week. This time should occur between the time of when the Peace Deal of Daniel 9:27 will be made and the time that it will take effect. The saints who are obeying Jesus's warning and are watching will

know when this prophecy will be unveiled before their eyes. They will then go before God and pray fervently about what is taking place and what is about to come in a very short while.

As those prayers are presented before the Almighty God, He will pay a special attention to them. And God will be moved and will declare that it's enough! Time has come to an end and that is the time that God will indicate to the angels to sound their trumpets. The Angel who presented the prayers will then be instructed to throw the censor full of fire to the Earth. What will happen next will be terrible...

Rev 8:5 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.

Rev 8:6 So the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound.

1290 -1260 days before J.C. Return: Armies circle / invade Jerusalem - Dan. 12:7, Matt.24:15 - Abomination of Desolation Dan. 12:11, Math. 24:15,

Return	Scroll with 7 Seals: Introduction – Prelude to the Great Tribulation (the last 3 ½ years) Rev 5:1 Book written inside and on the back, sealed up with seven seals. The 4 Winds = 4 Spirits = 4 horsemen = 4 chariots. Zec 6:1-5 These are 4 spirits (or Winds) of heaven Rev 7:1-2-3 The 4 Winds (4 angels or demons) are restrained until the servants are marked. Ezech.9:4								
J. C.	1260 – 0 days before J.C. Return: Women (Church) protection for a time, times and half a time 3 ½ years = 1260 days, Rev. 12:14, 3:10								
fore	1st Seal	White Horse: False Christ's - anti-Christ deceptions. Mat. 24:4-5. Rev. 6:1-2. Zach.6:3. 2 Tess. 2:1-8							
s be	2 nd Seal	Red Horse: Wars. Mat. 24:6-8, Rev. 6:3-4, Zach.6:2 (v.6 The End refers to the End of the age at Jesus's Return)							
day	3 rd Seal	Black Horse: Famines. Mat. 24:7-8. Rev. 6:5-6. Zach.6:2							
0-0	4th Seal	Pale Horse : Death by war, hunger, death, beasts. Mat 24:7-8, Rev. 6:7-8, Zach.6:3							
1260	5th Seal	Saints's Persecution: Mat. 24:9. 21-22. Luke 21:23-24. Dan. 7:25. Rev. 6:9-11							
	6th Seal	Heavenly Signs: Great Earthquake, Sun, Moon, Stars affected - Mountains / islands moved out of their places God's Wrath / the Lamb's Wrath. Matt. 24:29-30, Joel 2:30-31, Esa. 24:13,19-23 (Rev. 6:12-17 and 16:17-21 are the same events)							

The <u>Great Tribulation</u>: Mat. 24:3-21-51 - Days of Vengeance: Luke 21:22. Saints: (many) persecuted for time, times, half a time = 3 years ½ = 42 months = 1260 days. Dan. 7:25, 12:10. The 2 Witnesses: Mat. 24:14, Rev. 11:1-13, 14:6-11 - God's Witnesses marked: Apoc. 7:1-8, Eze. 9:4 - Beast: Rev. 13:1-5, - Jacob's Troubles: Jer. 30:7

Chapter 6

The SEVEN Trumpets judgement, the SEVEN Vials punishment, and the Return of Jesus Christ

We saw in the precedent chapter that after Jesus opened the 6th seal, the prayers of the saints were presented to God.

God is not happy with the peace deal of Dan. 9:27 because they divided the land, so God has decided that time has run out. Remember that verse in 1 Thessalonians 5:3 when men will say peace and safety, then a sudden ruin will take place. Yes this time has now come. People will rejoice that the Peace Deal finally brought peace between Israel and the Palestinians. But at the same time the 1st trumpet will blow and terrible catrastrophes will happen on this earth for a period of seven years. Assuming that Jesus would come back on a Feast of Trumpets, this peace deal should come in either the months of September or October depending of the beginning of that specific year.

1Th_5:3 For when they say, "Peace and safety!" then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape.

The Timeline of the 7 trumpets

We have now come to the time portrayed by the Jericho battle (one day = one year) when the seven trumpets will sound one after the other at the pace of one trumpet per year.

It's worth to mention that the first four trumpets will particularly affect the earth and not directly human beings. Though they will be orchestrated by God, these will be natural catastrophes. Each of the first four trumpets will affect one third of the trees, grass, seas, rivers, and the sun, the moon and the stars will lose one third of their light.

As for the last three trumpets, they are called "Woes". They will directly target human beings, though nature itself will continue to intensify catastrophes on the earth.

Chart of the events taking place in the first six trumpets:

	Jericho Parallel - (promised land) Conquest = 6 prophetic days										
	(1 prophetic day = 1 year) - Jos. 6:14)										
1 st 2 nd		3 rd	4 th	5th	6 th						
Trumpet	Trumpet	Trumpet	Trumpet	Trumpet	Trumpet						
1/3	1/3	1/3 1/3		Satan's Wrath 2 ½ years							
of trees and	of sea becomes	of rivers become	of sun, moon,	1 st Woe /	2 nd Woe / 2 nd Angel's						
all grass	blood,	wormwood	stars darkened	1 st Angel's message	message						
burned Hail and fire, mixed with blood thrown to the earth	1/3 sea creatures died, 1/3 ships destroyed Great mountain burning with fire thrown in the sea	Great star falls from heaven, burning like a torch Satan thrown down on Earth (Rev. 12:7-17)	A third of the sun, moon and stars darkened. Day and night not shining for	Men tormented five months Locust, symbolic of beast's military power. Star (Satan) fallen to the earth	1/3 of humanity killed 4 angels released, 200 million horsemen Humanity refuses to repent						
Rev. 8 :7	Rev. 8 :8	Rev. 8:10-11	a third of it Rev. 8 :12	Rev. 8:10-11, 17:8-14) Rev. 9:1-12	Rev. 9:13-21						

The First Trumpet: The Vegetation struck

Rev 8:7 The first angel sounded: 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.

This is when the major volcanic / super volcanic eruptions will occur. Meteorite showers should also take place at the same time, and fault lines like Cascadia, San Andreas and New Madrid should be triggered and bring disastrous consequences. These events will emerge one after the other and will also certainly trigger major tsunamis which also will bring disastrous consequences. You can imagine all the side effects that will take place. Power grids going down, internet and satellite interruption and diverse telecommunication will be affected to a certain extent. This will certainly trigger panic and unrest among the inhabitants of the world as food production and distribution will be severely impacted. This will be the beginning of the final week of Daniel 9:27, the period called the 7-year tribulation, and this will be just the beginning of troubles.

Just a note to remember: the events of this first trumpet won't happen all on the same day or the same week but will <u>unfold during a period of one year.</u>

The Second Trumpet: The Sea struck

Rev 8:8 Then the second angel sounded: And something like a great mountain burning with fire was thrown into the sea, and a third of the sea became blood.

Rev 8:9 And a third of the living creatures in the sea died, and a third of the ships were destroyed.

This is a major event now taking place which is different from the first trumpet. The sea is now being hit and impacted severely. One third of the sea creatures die and one third of ships are destroyed. This will affect much of the supplies coming from overseas (China/Japan, etc...). Food and goods of all sorts will be at the bottom of the ocean, and the impact of future shipments of goods will be jeopardized.

Something worth mentioning, some think that the mountain is being thrown from space into the ocean, meaning that an asteroid will strike the ocean, which is not necessarily the case. Let us be careful here and pay attention to the wording of the verse.

To discern the nuance here, the third trumpet mentions a star falling from *heaven* while the second trumpet mentions "*like*" a great mountain *being thrown* into the sea. The vision that John experienced showed him just a snapshot of the event, the mountain was not necessary being thrown from the space, it could have just exploded and gave the impression that it was thrown into the sea. In the note section of my bible, it says that; "it suggests that a massive island volcano erupting explosively over a far-flung section of ocean waters". I personally believe that it will be the case, or that a major underwater volcano eruption will take place.

Only one island hosts the biggest volcano of the world, and this island is the island of Hawaii (known as the "Big Island"). The name of this biggest volcano of the world is *Mauna Loa*. Since there are at least two volcanos already active on this island, and with the biggest one waking up right now, it makes sense that this is the one that will be triggered by the second trumpet.

The impacts of this explosion/eruption will be like never seen before. One third of the fish in the region will die. Ships will be destroyed by major tsunamis which will result from this explosion.

The waves may go in every direction, from Big Island to the west coast of USA and toward Japan.

I cannot fantom what will happen to the other Hawaiian Islands. Economies will be destroyed and supply shipments to and from mainland will be stopped. I suspect electricity will be out and people will become barbaric. This will happen during the second year of the final seven-year tribulation.

The Third Trumpet: The Rivers struck

Rev 8:10 Then the third angel sounded: 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.

Rev 8:11 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.

Note that the star has a name—it is called Wormwood. It makes one third of the waters become like wormwood, or bitter. The Wormwood's waters cause men to die.

Look also at the progression of the first three trumpet judgments: first there was a great burning of the grass and trees, then sea creatures and boats were destroyed, and now we see many men dying. The trumpet judgments are building in their intensity, and this is just during the first half of the last 7 years.

So, what exactly is that star falling from heaven? Here is an extract from my Thomas Nelson's NKJV Bible's-Scofield's commentaries; 'Star here translates the same term used for angelic star in Rev. 9:1 and for Christ as the Bright and "Morning Star" in Rev. 22:16. But the precise meaning of each word must be carefully interpreted in its context. Here the start seems to be a huge asteroid that falls from heavens to Earth burning like a torch as it enters the atmosphere. The star could fall on the third of the rivers and...springs by disintegrating as it passes through the Earth's atmosphere".

Here the star is first to be interpreted literally. This asteroid will be disintegrated and the remaining pieces will fall in the rivers of the Earth. In my opinion, this could be Apophis, the huge asteroid that is heading toward Earth and is supposed to pass nearby April 13, 2029. But this timeline could change as things in the space could change as well. The scenario could easily be; oops-we miscalculated, and Apophis can get here earlier than 2029. Nonetheless, if it is Apophis or another asteroid, I will throw out probable year here for the sake of a possible timeline-2025/2026.

Coming back to our star, Wormwood, which means bitter. Men will die from drinking the waters which will inherit the debris of this asteroid. There are two possibilities for this that come to mind. First, the asteroid itself contains poison that will kill humans, or the star will be destroyed by nuclear weapons, and will be broken in thousands of little rocks that will fall on the rivers making them radioactive (poisonous) for human beings. I believe that this is what will happen. Many countries are now working together to defend the planet against incoming asteroids. There is already a project to send a spaceship to deviate any incoming space rock.

But wait! There is more! The word star could also mean an angelic being. Often, God refers to physical and spiritual happening at the same time, the physical portraying the spiritual side.

In Rev. 9:1, John sees a *Star* fallen (*meaning previously fallen*) from heavens to Earth. A key is given to *HIM* (*the Star*) to open the bottomless pit. This Being or Star must be Satan that fell from heaven in his previous attempt to attack the throne of God in the war that is described in Rev. 12:7-17.

Let's read the story.

The timing will be perfect, as Apophis, or another asteroid approaches the Earth, Satan will make war against Michael and His angels.

Satan thrown down to Earth

Rev 12:7 And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought,

Rev 12:8 but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer.

Rev 12:9 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.

Rev 12:13 Now when the dragon saw that he had been cast to the earth, he persecuted the woman who gave birth to the male Child.

While Satan will be cast down to Earth, he will direct or redirect Apophis, or another asteroid, to head directly to Earth. Remember, he is enraged! This will trigger a nuclear response to destroy this asteroid from the military. The result will be, as mentioned earlier, that thousands of little rocks will fall on the rivers and poison the drinkable waters. Many human beings will then die after drinking of these waters. Many will start to realize that this is not just an accident, but that the hour of trial is coming, as there will be no water available to drink and this will bring people to fight each other to survive. I will let you imagine the rest of the consequences that this trumpet will bring during and after the third year of the final 7 years.

The Fourth Trumpet: The Heavens struck

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

Rev 8:13 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!"

We are now coming to the fourth trumpet, in the fourth year of the final seven years. On the physical side, we see the effect of the first three trumpets. No new event is added as a new disaster striking the Earth. Now, it is time to ponder and realize what has happened in the past 3 years with *natural* destruction.

This is the year, which in the middle of it, the armies of the beast will gather around Jerusalem, invade it, and establish the Abomination of the Desolation. At this point, the Anti-Christ will then be officially revealed and will proclaim himself to be God, or God's Messiah (as God in the flesh). He will then enforce the mark of the beast.

At the same time, at the beginning of this fourth year, it will be time for the people of God to make plans to seek refuge and hide. This is also the time when God will mark His servants, the 144,000, before Satan releases his fellow demons from the bottomless pit.

In the spiritual realm, Satan, who has been thrown down to Earth is enraged and wants to destroy the Church, the Saints, Israel, and the Jews, but he is restrained till the 144,000 are marked. After that, Satan will launch his war against those who will be witnessing for God, those who keep God's commandments and have the testimony of Jesus, meaning against those who have the spirit of prophecy.

Rev_19:10 And I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, "See 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."

As for the Philadelphian Christians, God promised to protect them from the Great Tribulation. But where? This is not clear, but there seems to be part of God's people that will be protected in the desert under the wings of the Great Eagle (God's supernatural protection).

Rev 12:14 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.

Rev 12:15 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.

Rev 12:16 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.

Rev 12:17 And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

They, those who have the testimony of Jesus, will prophecy and perform supernatural miracles. They will oppose the false prophets and bring many to God and Jesus. These are the ones who know their God.

<u>Dan 11:32</u> Those who do wickedly against the covenant he shall corrupt with flattery; but the people who know their God shall be strong, and carry out great exploits.

All this will be done during the Great Tribulation, the final three and a half years. As one third of the light will be dimmed, so also it will be the same in the spiritual dimension. The antichrist and the false prophets will perform miracles to the point of deceiving, if possible, the elect.

Many believers, true Christians, and others of the <u>false</u> doctrine of the rapture (being left behind will turn their back on God and surrender to the antichrist and will worship him. What will follow will be the greatest disappointment that ever happened because they will have not been raptured, the rapture being a <u>false</u> doctrine. Therefore, we must stay away from this false doctrine. God will protect his faithful and dedicated servants here on Earth Rev. (3:10), but many lukewarm Christians will need to be purified and die (Rev. 3:16-17, Dan. 7:21,25).

As for the two witnesses, they will witness performing supernatural miracles and will pour out the <u>wrath</u> of God during the seventh trumpet. They will then be killed 3 days before the return of Jesus Christ and then be resurrected with all the dead in Christ at His second return. The livings saints will also be changed and meet the angels in the air first, and Jesus afterward in the clouds.

Mat 24:31 And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

Their testimonies (the two witnesses) will have brought many to repent and accept the Lord Jesus as payment for their sins. This is the Great multitude of Rev. 7:9-17, who have washed their robes by going through the great tribulation.

The 3 Angels' message

The Fifth Trumpet: The First WOE - The Biological War

Woe 1: Locust plague, Apollyon

1st (of 3) Message/announcement:

"Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgement has come, and worship **him** who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water" (referring to the first four trumpet judgements). Revelation 14:7.

Rev 9:1 Then the fifth angel sounded: And I saw a star fallen from heaven to the earth. To him was given the key to the bottomless pit.

Rev 9:2 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.

Rev 9:3 Then out of the smoke locusts came upon the earth. And to them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power.

Rev 9:4 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.

Rev 9:5 And they were not given authority to kill them, but to torment them for five months. Their torment was like the torment of a scorpion when it strikes a man.

Rev 9:6 In those days men will seek death and will not find it; they will desire to die, and death will flee from them.

Rev 9:7 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.

Rev 9:8 They had hair like women's hair, and their teeth were like lions' teeth.

Rev 9:9 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.

Rev 9:10 They had tails like scorpions, and there were stings in their tails. Their power was to hurt men five months.

Rev 9:11 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.

Rev 9:12 One woe is past. Behold, still two more woes are coming after these things.

From now on you will notice the change of tone on as the following trumpets are called woes. If you think covid was bad, wait to see what a real disaster a bioweapon will be. In fact, there are two points that need to be described about this trumpet.

First, in verse one, we see a *Star* that has fallen from heaven. This is definitely referring to an angelic being because it refers to a "him" and not an "it". It says to <u>him</u> was given the key to the bottomless pit. This must be the event that occurred at the third trumpet, when the star fell from heaven.

Up until to the fifth trumpet, God's judgment was not focused on causing direct physical injuries upon human beings but rather on the Earth itself. Identified as a woe, the fifth trumpet heralds the start of God's judgment by allowing Satan to pour out his wrath directly and physically upon human beings.

When, after his fall, the fifth trumpet sounds, Satan opens the "bottomless pit" with the key he was given. From the abyss comes "the smoke of a great furnace" which darkens the sun (Rev 9:1-2). After opening the abyss, three things occur (Rev 9:3-5):

- 1. The locusts are given the power like a scorpion, such as a tail that stings, to hurt people for five months (Rev 9:10).
- 2. The locusts are restricted from hurting the grass, any vegetation, or any tree.
- 3. The locusts are restricted from stinging any of the 144,000 sealed bond servants and causing any death of those they afflict.

We see elsewhere in the Bible that the abyss is presented as a place of confinement and punishment for fallen angels who indulged in some form of gross immoral behavior (Luke 8:26-31; Matt 8:28-32; Jude 1:6-7). Thus, the opening of the abyss marks the time that God is using demonic instruments to dispense His judgment upon humankind.

The apostle John introduces the fallen angel and king over the abyss by his Hebrew and Greek names with the intention that all would have no doubt of who he is and what he does. Abaddon (Hebrew): Used in several instances in the Old Testament, this Hebrew name means "destruction" or "the place ruin."

Apollyon (Greek): Found only once in the Bible, this Greek name means "exterminator" or "destroyer." The abyss is featured prominently as a place for fallen angels. From this abyss comes demonic angelic beings that will kill the two Witnesses.

Note that this being is distinctive from the human individual known as the beast from the Earth (Rev 13:11-17).

Now when they have finished their testimony, the beast that comes up from the Abyss will attack them, and overpower and kill them. (Rev 11:7)

The abyss is also the location where Satan will be confined to for one thousand years and then be released for a short time until he is thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone (Rev 20:7-10). The fifth trumpet is then the first woe, from which God intends to torment human beings with pain such that they would seek death but not find it. And if death is unobtainable, it will force one to consider God.

So, let us continue, Satan having fallen from heaven will be furious, he will then use the antichrist to invade Jerusalem and cause the Abomination of the Desolation. Next, he will trigger a biological war through Abaddon who will use his hordes of demons to trigger it.

Notice the intensity here, men will search death and will not find it. Undergoing such a strange and painful experience, it is natural that men would seek to die. The prophecy indicates, however, that though they will seek death, death shall flee from them. Even the hope of death to deliver them from their present troubles is taken away from them in that dark hour. They will then be left to face the trial and affliction without any way of escape.

So, to figure out who or what these locusts are, we need to refer to the Bible itself and find out what they represent. Their symbolism should be interpreted in the light of other scriptures and events. Let us examine some verses to see what the locusts and their attributes represent.

Jdg 6:5 For they would come up with their livestock and their tents, coming in as numerous as locusts; both they and their camels were without number; and they would enter the land to destroy it.

2Ch 7:13 When I shut up heaven and there is no rain, or command the locusts to devour the land, or send pestilence among My people,

Joe 2:25 And I will restore to you the years which the swarming locust has eaten, the locust larvae, and the stripping locust, and the cutting locust, My great army which I sent among you.

Nah 3:15 There the fire will devour you, The sword will cut you off; It will eat you up like a locust. Make yourself many—like the locust! Make yourself many—like the swarming locusts!

Nah 3:16 You have multiplied your merchants more than the stars of heaven. The locust plunders and flies away.

Nah 3:17 Your commanders are like swarming locusts, And your generals like great grasshoppers, Which camp in the hedges on a cold day; When the sun rises they flee away, And the place where they are is not known.

Nah 3:18 Your shepherds slumber, O king of Assyria; Your nobles rest in the dust. Your people are scattered on the mountains, And no one gathers them.

In the context of the end times, it looks like that the locusts are part of the army of the king of Assyria, who is the king of the north, who is the king of the beast or the antichrist. In other words, Satan will himself possess a human being, who will be the antichrist. Below Satan, will be Apollyon, the king of the Abyss, who will rule over the locusts, all the demons under him, who will influence the army of the beast (the antichrist).

We basically have dual symbolism, the locusts are demonic beings who control the army of the beast, and all of that is under the authority of Apollyon and Satan.

It is also believed that those locusts or demons will possess human beings and torture them as it was the case in Jesus's time. But as the context is military, I believe that this army will enforce the mark of the beast, which may be done through some kind of poison or biological weapon to force people to surrender to the beast. The consequences will be that humans who don't have the seal of God will be tormented for five months.

Something interesting is that the description of the locust includes, among others, some of the characteristics of the beasts of Daniel. They have lion's teeth like the kingdom of Babylon.

Jer_4:7 The lion has come up from his thicket, And the destroyer of nations is on his way. He has gone forth from his place To make your land desolate. Your cities will be laid waste, Without inhabitant.

They have wings to move rapidly, like the kingdom of Greece ruled by Alexander the Great. They have breastplates of iron like the Roman Empire, which is the breastplate of judgment.

Exo_28:15 "You shall make the breastplate of judgment...

They have long hair like a woman which may represent false churches and false prophets (Jezebel and the prophets of Baal). They had tails like scorpions to torment humans with their physical and spiritual poisons.

In conclusion, Jesus warned of wars and rumors of wars. The fifth trumpet must be interpreted in the light of other passages that describe the same timeline. So, there will be wars, and I believe that the fifth trumpet refers to a biological war which will be triggered by these demonic beings who will be released from the bottomless pit.

Rev 9:12 One woe is past. Behold, still two more woes are coming after these things

The sixth Trumpet: The Second WOE - The Nuclear War

<u>Woe 2</u>: Release of the four angels bound at the Euphrates River who bring judgement by a great army of 200 million men, and the fall of the current world system.

2nd (of 3) Message/announcement:

"Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great, she who made all nations drink the wine of the passion of her sexual immorality." Revelation 14:8

Rev 9:13 Then the sixth angel sounded: And I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God,

Rev 9:14 saying to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, "Release the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates."

Rev 9:15 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.

Rev 9:16 Now the number of the army of the horsemen was two hundred million; I heard the number of them.

Rev 9:17 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.

Rev 9:18 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.

Rev 9:19 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.

Rev 9:20 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.

Rev 9:21 And they did not repent of their murders or their sorceries or their sexual immorality or their thefts.

As we have seen, the fith trumpet was indeed directed not to kill men, but to only torment them for five months. You would think that this plague alone would bring people to repentance, but it looks like the majority will not repent.

Now, since we have recalcitrant people, the next phase would be to kill them. Yes the purpose of the sixth trumpet is to kill one third of the remaining population, which we can roughly be estimate to be about two billion people. God will use evil demonic instruments to carry out His judgment. Here the four bound fallen evil angels serve a divine purpose. God has scheduled their release at the exact hour of a precise day of a certain month and of a specific year.

Those beings were probably bound since the time of Noah, with the other bad angels who defiled themselves with women. They also came out of the bottomless pit but just took position at the *Euphrates* river. The army that will be gathered is of 200 million men. They will be lead by those demonic forces that were released at the fifth trumpet. They will have now the power to kill men. *Apollyon* will lead those four bad angels (*commanders*) to go to the chiefs of this world in order to trigger a nuclear WWIII.

This will be like Jesus described. That the tribulation will be like never before seen. This is the time that the destroyer (*Apollyon*) will destroy many cities.

Jer_4:7 The lion has come up from his thicket, And the destroyer of nations is on his way. He has gone forth from his place To make your land desolate. Your cities will be laid waste, Without inhabitant.

The question is, how those cities will be destroyed to the point of having no inhabitants left. Let's read; Rev 9:16 Now the number of the army of the horsemen was two hundred million; I heard the number of them.

An army of 200 million men will be used to kill one third of mankind. Obviously, one third of human beings cannot be literally be killed by 200 million men, but this army will certainly use modern warfare like nuclear weapons. Let's read;

Rev 9:17 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.

No human being can portray the description of having fire, smoke, and brimstone coming out of their mouths. So, this must be figurative of these modern weaponries.

Rev 9:18 **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.

Rev 9:19 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.

Rev 9:20 But the rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues,

So, to summorize what we just read, the plagues that kill one third of humans beings are <u>fire, smoke, and brimstone</u>. These three plagues comes from the mouths of the weaponries used which seems to be nuclear weapons. They will burn cities and kill many in these cities. "<u>Your cities will be laid waste, Without inhabitant</u>"

Nonetheless, there is another third that will die from the consequences of these nuclear wars which will bring famines and pestilences.

Eze_5:12 One-third of you shall die of the pestilence, and be consumed with famine in your midst; and one-third shall fall by the sword all around you; and I will scatter another third to all the winds, and I will draw out a sword after them.

As for the other third, they will be brought captive.

Luk 21:24 And they shall fall by the sword's edge. And shall be led away captive into all nations. And Jerusalem shall be trodden down by the nations until the times of the nations is fulfilled.

In conclusion, these times will be like never before. Jesus said that if He would not intervine, no flesh shall remain alive.

Mat 24:21 for then shall be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world to this time; no, nor ever shall be.

Mat 24:22 And unless those days should be shortened, no flesh would be saved. But for the elect's sake, those days shall be shortened.

But the story is not over yet. We just experienced the wrath of Satan. People of this world just met their king, Satan, who lauched the most destructive attempt in order to erase humanity. So, this is far to be over! For all the humans left that received the mark of the Beast, they will now taste the <u>Wrath of God!</u>...

Rev 11:14 The second woe passed away. Behold, the third woe comes quickly.

The seventh Trumpet: The Third WOE - The Last SEVEN Vials

<u>Woe 3</u>: Great persecution, tribulation, mark of the beast, antichrist, arrival of Christ's kingdom to destroy the Beast.

3rd Message/announcement:

"If anyone worships the beast and its image and receives a mark on his forehead or on his hand, he also will drink the wine of God's wrath, poured out full strength into the cup of his anger, and he will be tormented with fire and sulphur in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. And the smoke of their torment goes up for ever and ever, and they have no rest, day or night, these worshippers of the beast and its image, and whoever receives the mark of its name." Revelation 14:9-11

The 15th chapter is an introduction or a summary, a ceremony of what is about to take place during the next year. Remember God's pattern, introduction / execution. Revelation 11 from verse 15-19 and chapter 15 are the 7th trumpet introduction, as chapter 16 brings the execution of God's wrath, the pouring of the seven bowls (vials / plagues).

Let's read the flow:

Rev 11:15 Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!"

Rev 11:16 And the twenty-four elders who sat before God on their thrones fell on their faces and worshiped God,

Rev 11:17 saying: "We give You thanks, O Lord God Almighty, The One who is and who was and who is to come, Because You have taken Your great power and reigned.

Rev 11:18 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."

Rev 11:19 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.

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

Rev 15:2 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.

Rev 15:3 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!

Rev 15:4 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."

Rev 15:5 After these things I looked, and behold, the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven was opened.

Rev 15:6 And out of the temple came the seven angels having the seven plagues, clothed in pure bright linen, and having their chests girded with golden bands.

Rev 15:7 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.

Rev 15:8 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.

Jericho *Parallel* - Conquest on the 7th prophetic day – 7 times around the city (=7 plagues) Jos. 6:15-20 – Lev. 26:18, 24. ...18 then *I will punish you seven times more for your sins*. City conquered.

7th Trumpet: <u>PRELUDE</u> of the Kingdom, and the 7 last Plagues Rev. 11:15-19

3rd Woe / 3rd Angel's message = 1 year - <u>God's Wrath</u> / The Day of the Lord (Bestowed on whoever has received the mark of the Beast, Rev. 14:9-10)

The 7 Thunders (Rev. 6:17, 14:19, 15:1,7, 16:1)

1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th	7 th Bowl
Bowl	Bowl	Bowl	Bowl	Bowl	Bowl	Jesus-Christ's Return,
						RESURRECTION,
						Wrath of the Lamb
Sores on	Sea turns	Rivers	Sun	Beast's seat	Euphrates	The Great Earthquake
people who	into	turn to	scorches	of	dried up,	The voice of the seventh angel ,
accepted	blood; all	blood	humanity	government	world's	then the mystery of God is
the mark of	sea		with great	became	armies	finished. (Rev. 10:7)
the Beast	creatures	Rev. 11:6	heat	darkened	gathered to	Mat. 24:31, 1 Thess. 4:16, 1 Cor. 15:51-
	die			(Rev. 6:12)	Armageddon	52, Rev. 11:13, 19, 19:15, Zach. 14:1-4.
					(Joel 3:9-17)	
Rev. 16 :2	Rev. 16 :3	Rev. 16 :4-7	Rev. 16 :8-9	Rev. 16 :10-11	Rev. 16 :12-16	Rev. 16 :17-21, 6:13-17

Rev 16:1 And I heard a great voice out of the temple saying to the seven angels, Go and pour out the vials of the anger of God on the earth.

Rev 16:2 And the first went and poured out his vial on the earth. And a bad and grievous sore fell on the men who had the mark of the beast, and on those who worshiped his image.

Rev 16:3 And the second angel poured out his vial on the sea. And it became like the blood of a dead one, and every living soul died in the sea.

Rev 16:4 And the third angel poured out his vial on the rivers and fountains of waters, and they became blood.

Rev 16:5 And I heard the angel of the waters say, Righteous is the Lord, who is, and was, and who will be, because You have judged these things,

Rev 16:6 since they have poured out the blood of the saints and prophets; and You gave them blood to drink, for they were deserving.

Rev 16:7 And I heard another out of the altar saying, Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous are Your judgments.

Rev 16:8 And the fourth angel poured out his vial onto the sun. And it was given to him to burn men with fire.

Rev 16:9 And men were burned with great heat. And they blasphemed the name of God, He having authority over these plagues. And they did not repent in order to give Him glory.

Rev 16:10 And the fifth angel poured out his vial on the throne of the beast, and its kingdom became darkened. And they gnawed their tongues from the pain.

Rev 16:11 And they blasphemed the God of Heaven because of their pains and their sores. And they did not repent of their deeds.

Rev 16:12 And the sixth angel poured out his vial on the great river Euphrates. And its water was dried up, so that the way of the kings from the rising of the sun might be prepared.

Rev 16:13 And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet.

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

Rev 16:15 Behold, I am coming as a thief. Blessed is the one who watches and keeps his garments, lest he walk naked and they see his shame.

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

The first six bowls (vials): The Wrath of God

Here again, it is important to realize that the events that happened previously were not part of the wrath of God.

The first four trumpets were natural catastrophes *programmed* by God. The fourth and fifth trumpets were the wrath of Satan.

As we come now to the 7th trumpet, it is God's time now. This time is the time also called the 'Day of the Lord' (the Almighty / the Father) in the Old testament. The expression 'in that day' refers also to the 7th trumpet called the 'Day of the Lord'.

The Seventh Bowl

Rev 16:17 And the seventh angel poured out his vial into the air. And a great voice came out of the temple of Heaven, from the throne, saying, **It is done!**

Rev 16:18 And voices and thunders and lightnings occurred. And there was a great earthquake, such as has not been since men were on the earth, so mighty and so great an earthquake.

Rev 16:19 And the great city came to be into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. And great Babylon was remembered before God, to give to her the cup of the wine of the anger of His wrath.

Rev 16:20 And every island fled away, and mountains were not found.

Rev 16:21 And a great hail, as the size of a talent, came down out of the heaven on men. And men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail; for the plague of it was exceedingly great.

As previously discussed, each trumpet will last one year. As for the 7th trumpet, it's the same, this trumpet will last a full year, except that men will drink, one bowl after the other, of the wine of the wrath of God during an entire year.

The pouring of these bowls represent the time that God will punish men 7 times more than the previous plagues.

Lev 26:18 And if you will not yet listen to Me for all this, then I will punish you seven times more for your sins.

Lev 26:19 And I will break the pride of your power, and I will make your heaven like iron and your earth like bronze.

Lev 26:20 And your strength shall be spent in vain. For your land shall not yield its increase, neither shall the trees of the field yield their fruits.

Lev 26:21 And if you walk contrary to Me, and will not listen to Me, <u>I will bring seven times more plagues</u> on you <u>according to your sins</u>.

Lev 26:22 I will also send wild beasts among you, who shall bereave you. And I will destroy your cattle, and make you few. And your highways shall be deserted.

Lev 26:23 And if you will not be reformed by Me by these things, but will still walk contrary to Me,

Lev 26:24 then I will walk contrary to you and will punish you seven times more for your sins.

Yes, prophesied a long time ago, God knew that he would have to punish men severely for their sins. He will pour out his wrath without measure, He will have no compassion as He will unleash His wrath and punish men seven times more for their sins.

If you remember, the first 6 trumpets are forshadowed by the first 6 days of the battle of Jericho. We now come to the point where the 7 vials (or bowls) are also forshadowed by the 7th day of the march around the city of Jericho 7 times.

Jos_6:4 And seven priests shall bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark. But the seventh day you shall march around the city seven times, and the priests shall blow the trumpets.

But before the last 7 plagues are poured out, we again see an introduction, a summary of what is about to take place. This is the time when God makes His great annoucement, and describes the main coming events.

Rev 11:15 And the seventh angel sounded. And there were great voices in Heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of His Christ. And He will reign forever and ever.

Rev 11:16 And the twenty-four elders sitting before God on their thrones, fell on their faces and worshiped God, Rev 11:17 saying, We thank You, O Lord God Almighty, who are, and who was, and who is coming, because You took Your great power and reigned.

Rev 11:18 And the nations were full of wrath, and Your wrath came, and the time of the judging of the dead, and to give the reward to Your servants the prophets, and to the saints, and to the ones fearing Your name, to the small and to the great, and to destroy those destroying the earth.

Rev 11:19 And the temple of God was opened in Heaven, and there was seen in His temple the ark of His covenant, and there occurred lightnings and voices, and thunders and an earthquake, and a great hail.

Something interesting and worthy to be mentionned is that the 7th vial of the wrath of God will be administrated and poured out by Jesus himself at his second coming. This event is called the <u>Wrath of the</u> Lamb.

Rev 6:17 for the great day of His wrath has come, and who will be able to stand?

Jesus, being called the faithful Witness, will be used by God to poor out the last part of His own wrath.

Rev 1:5 even from Jesus Christ the faithful Witness, ...

If God will use Jesus to pour out the 7th vial, will God also use somebody else to pour out the first six vials of His wrath?

The answer is yes! God will not personally and directly demonstrate His power to humans, rather he will use other faithful *witnesses*, <u>His 2 witnesses</u>. These 2 Witnesses are the sons of the oil (*Holy Spirit*), so God will then pour out His wrath *through* His 2 witnesses.

Zec 4:14 So he said, "These are the two anointed ones, who stand beside the Lord of the whole earth."

Notice that these plagues will target humans, waters, the sun and light, moon, and stars. Let's look at what kind of power the 2 Witnesses will possess.

Rev 11:6 These have authority to shut up the heaven, that it may not rain in the days of their prophecy. And they have authority over waters to turn them to blood, and to strike the earth with every plague, as often as they desire.

These are basically the plagues that humans will experience through the first 6 vials being punished by sores, extreme heat from the sun that will scorch humans, by darkness, and by waters becoming blood. And if somebody trys to hurt them, they have the power to kill their enemies.

Rev 11:5 And if anyone will hurt them, fire proceeds out of their mouth and devours their enemies. And if anyone will hurt them, so it is right for him to be killed.

It then makes sense that God will now use His 2 witnesses to strike the Earth, targeting human beings, to punish them for their sins. It is clearly written that they have power to strike the earth with every plague, as often as they desire.

I also believe that the 7 thunders are in fact the 7 last plagues which will be poured out by His faithful witnesses. These are the final judgments of God that will be thundered through His witnesses. In other words, God will thunder His voice <u>through</u> His 2 witnesses. At the end of their mission, the Beast that came from the Abyss will make war with them and kill them. They will be beheaded. Finally, God will thunder the final part of His wrath through His son, Jesus Christ (His final Witness) at his second return.

Another important question remains: Who are the 2 witnesses?

Like any other riddle in the Bible, we need to use the Bible and the correct methodology (7 keys) to properly understand who they are.

Let's examine the text of Rev. 11:

Rev 11:3 And I will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy one thousand two hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth."

Rev 11:4 These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands standing before the God of the earth.

We then have three keywords in the text: witnesses, olive trees and lampstands, these are three symbols. Even the word witnesses, in addition of representing a task or mission, has a specific representation.

Let's start first by the two olive trees.

In Jeremiah, God refers to Israel as an Olive tree.

Jer. 11:16 The LORD called thy name, <u>a green olive tree</u>, fair, and of goodly fruit: with the noise of a great tumult he hath kindled fire upon it, and the branches of it are broken. 17 For the LORD of hosts, that planted thee, hath pronounced evil against thee, for the evil of the house of Israel and of the house of Judah, which they have done against themselves to provoke me to anger in offering incense unto Baal.

Here we see God calling all of Israel by the name, His olive tree. So, God clearly identifies that this olive tree refers to the houses of Israel and the house of Judah, identifying themselves later as the two olive trees of God. Paul refers to the two houses of Israel and Judah as two Olive trees, the wild one and natural one

Rom. 11:24 For if you were cut out of the olive tree which is wild by nature, and were grafted contrary to nature into a good olive tree: how much more shall these, which be the natural branches, be grafted into their own olive tree?

As we can see, God refers to his two witnesses as being two olive trees or two groups of individuals.

What about the two candlesticks?

We do not need to go very far to find what they represent; a candlestick refers to a group of individuals.

Rev. 1:20 The mystery of the seven stars which you saw in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and **the seven candlesticks which you saw are the seven churches**.

What about the word, witnesses?

Could they also refer to groups of people?

Isa.43:1 But now thus says the LORD that created you, O Jacob, and he that formed you, O Israel,...

10 All of you are my witnesses, says the LORD, and my servant whom I have chosen: that all of you may know and believe me, and understand that I am he: before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me.

12 I have declared, and have saved, and I have showed, when there was no strange god among you: therefore, all of you are my witnesses, says the LORD, that I am God.

Here again the Lord calls Israel His witnesses and His servant. As they became two when Israel splits apart, they are then referred to as God's two witnesses, the House of Israel, and the House of Judah.

This is where the Elijah's ministry comes into the picture.

Elijah was a man sent by God to Ahab and Jezebel. Later, John the Baptist came on the scene. He was a type of the future Elijah that will face the beast and the false prophet pictured by Jezebel and her false prophets. In the Old Testament, God used to work through a single person like Elijah, Moses, and Jesus. But now, in the New Covenant, God works through His churches represented by candlesticks, and they bring light to the world. These two groups of witnesses will have the power of Elijah and Moses altogether. The two witnesses will then be two groups of people. They will indeed perform the miracles of Elijah and Moses to bring back God's people back to Him and bring new converts to salvation.

Mal. 4:5 Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet Before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD. ...

As proven by the Bible's own symbolism, the two witnesses will then be two groups of people. Their ultimate mission will be to make known the True God, who is the Father alone, and His true son Jesus-Christ, His servant.

Rev.14: 6 And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, ...,

7 Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; ...: and worship HIM that made heaven,...

So, the day is at hand when the two witnesses of God (Ezech. 9:4) will team together to do what is going to be one the most fantastic works that has ever been done by God.

The Spectacular Return of Jesus Christ!

Rev 11:18 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."

We now come to the most extraordinary event in human history, the return of Jesus Christ!

Only ONE "Second Coming"!

But first, we must understand something important here; **there is only ONE Second Coming**, and like Jesus mentioned, it occurs **after** the tribulation.

Mat 24:29 "Immediately <u>after the tribulation</u> 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.

Mat 24:30 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.

Mat 24:31 And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

The resurrection of the dead in Christ clearly takes place at His return. <u>I Thes. 4:15-16.</u> It occurs at the exact moment when the trumpet mentioned in <u>verse 16</u> blows. <u>I Cor. 15:51-52.</u> The trumpets mentioned in <u>I Thessalonians 4:16</u> and <u>I Corinthians 15:52</u> are the same as the ones blown in <u>Revelation 11:15.</u>

Some will claim that the last trumpet mentioned in <u>I Corinthians 15:52</u> is different from the seventh or last trump mentioned in <u>Revelation 11:15</u>. But notice <u>Revelation 11:18</u> where John was inspired to write that the seventh trump is the time of the resurrection!

So, John is describing the same momentous event Paul did in <u>I Thess. 4</u> and <u>I Cor. 15</u>. Thus, we can see that Christ will return and the saints will be resurrected at the mighty blast of the seventh trumpet. This is called the first resurrection. <u>There is only one first resurrection</u> and it occurs at the 7th trumpet, at the pouring of the last bowl.

Rev 20:5 But the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished. **This is the first resurrection.**

Who will return with Jesus Christ?

The bible mentions that all the "saints" (true Christians) will be with Jesus Christ when He returns to the Mount of Olives (Zech. 14:4, 5). Notice the last few words of verse 5.

Both the resurrected dead in Christ and the living Christians (then made immortal) will not only rise to meet the returning Christ in the air, but will thereafter come down immediately with Him to Earth. They will be with Christ forever. I Thess. 4:17.

Where will He be? Turn to <u>Zechariah 14:4</u> and <u>Revelation 5:10; 20:4</u> once again. Yes, they will reign with Jesus on Earth for a thousand years.

Notice who else will come with Christ at this time. Mark 8:38; Rev.19:14. His angels!

When Jesus Christ came to the earth the first time he was scourged, mocked and abused (John 19:1-3). But when he will return, it will be as King of kings to set up the Kingdom of his God on Earth. He will return with GREAT POWER AND GLORY (Matt. 24:30), and a great army of angels will accompany Him!

What will Christ DO When We Returns?

Jesus Christ came over 1900 years ago as a meek lamb to be slain for the sins of the world. But when He comes again, He will be wrathful – ANGRY - against all evil! He will use His mighty power to change the ways which have caused all the sorrow and suffering on the earth.

As Revelation 6:16-17 foretells the time of God's wrath on this world, Zephaniah foretells this same time. Zeph. 1:14-15; 2:2-3. Turn also to Isaiah 13:6-7,13 and Ezekiel 7:19.

Most people have heard little or nothing about the "day of the Lord"—and yet the day of the Lord is described in more than thirty different prophecies scattered throughout both the Old and New Testaments.

The wrath of the "day of the Lord" manifests itself in the seventh trumpet through the plagues which are unleashed consecutively over a period of one year (Rev.11:15-19) and culminates in the second coming of Christ and the administering of the seventh last plague.

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

Rev 16:13 And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs coming out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. Rev 16:14 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.

Rev 16:15 "Behold, I am coming as a thief. Blessed is he who watches, and keeps his garments, lest he walk naked and they see his shame."

Rev 16:16 And they gathered them together to the place called in Hebrew, Armageddon.

What Is "Armageddon"?

"Armageddon" is a term associated with the wrath of God. "Armageddon" is not an English word. Rather it comes from the Greek rendering of the Hebrew name Har Megiddo. (The Hebrew prefix "Har" means hill or mountain.) Megiddo is situated approximately fifty-five miles north of Jerusalem. The mount that remains is a few miles southeast of Haifa—a natural port and industrial center providing ideal facilities for landing troops.

Notice that in Rev. 16:12-15 these three spirits directly influence the leaders of nations—deceiving them with miracles. Satan's demons cause the armies of the nations to be GATHERED TOGETHER in preparation for the great battle against Christ, except that they ignore it yet. Then, the seventh bowl is poured out!

The Seventh Bowl Judgement - The Wrath of Christ!

Rev 16:17 And the seventh angel poured out his vial into the air. And a great voice came out of the temple of Heaven, from the throne, saying, It is done!

Rev 16:18 And voices and thunders and lightnings occurred. And there was a great earthquake, such as has not been since men were on the earth, so mighty and so great an earthquake.

Rev 16:19 And the great city came to be into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. And great Babylon was remembered before God, to give to her the cup of the wine of the anger of His wrath.

Rev 16:20 And every island fled away, and mountains were not found.

Rev 16:21 And a great hail, as the size of a talent, came down out of the heaven on men. And men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail; for the plague of it was exceedingly great.

The Great "Battle of God Almighty"

The battle that ensues will reveal whether man or God shall rule the earth for the next thousand years. It is called the "Battle of the Great Day of God Almighty"—often incorrectly called the "Battle of Armageddon." This battle is also described in Rev. 19:11-21.

The nations will be angry and furious when they see a heavenly "invader" has come to intervene in human affairs. These nations will prepare to do battle with and attempt to annihilate Christ and His armies!

The Bible says this battle will take place in the valley of Jehoshaphat <u>Joel. 3:1-2, 9-14.</u> Compare <u>verse 13</u> with <u>Revelation 14:18-20; 19:15.</u> Jehoshaphat" means "Judgment of Jehovah". The focal point of the battle will be in the Valley of Jehoshaphat, also called the "valley of decision" in the Bible. This valley is a deep ravine having very steep sides. It borders the city of Jerusalem on the east. According to Unger's Dictionary of the Bible, the Valley of Jehoshaphat, which is situated between Jerusalem and the Mount of Olives, is now known as the "Kidron" Valley (page 564).

<u>Zechariah 14:1-4</u> plainly says that Christ will fight Earth's hate-filled armies when He returns and stands upon the Mount of Olives. And notice that <u>Revelation 14:20</u> specifically states that the blood of these enemies—symbolically represented by the juice of grapes being pressed out in a winepress—will flow outside the city." There will be so much bloodshed that the blood will rise as high as horses' bridles!

Zec 14:1 Behold, the day of the LORD is coming, And your spoil will be divided in your midst.

Zec 14:2 For I will gather all the nations to battle against Jerusalem; The city shall be taken, The houses rifled, And the women ravished. Half of the city shall go into captivity, But the remnant of the people shall not be cut off from the city.

Zec 14:3 Then the LORD will go forth And fight against those nations, As He fights in the day of battle.

Zec 14:4 And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, Which faces Jerusalem on the east. And the Mount of Olives shall be split in two, From east to west, Making a very large valley; Half of the mountain shall move toward the north And half of it toward the south.

Zec 14:5 Then you shall flee through My mountain valley, For the mountain valley shall reach to Azal. Yes, you shall flee As you fled from the earthquake In the days of Uzziah king of Judah. Thus the LORD my God will come, And all the saints with You.

Zec 14:12 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.

Zec 14:13 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;

This day will be like never before, the heavens will be shaken, and the Earth will be moved out of its place.

Isa 13:13 Therefore I will shake the heavens, And the earth will move out of her place, In the wrath of the LORD of hosts And in the day of His fierce anger.

This will be the greatest earthquake in Earth's history, accompanied with a major meteorite shower that will hit and punish men severely. All this will happen when Jesus Christ shouts his voice on his way back. His voice will trigger this extraordinary earthquake and will wake up all the dead in Christ. Then the living will be changed into immortal beings and will start to ascend in the air. They will be greeted by the angels from the 4 corners of the Earth and will meet Jesus Christ in the air. Then, we will all descend with Him on the mount of Olives. Jesus Christ will then strike the armies gathered in the valley of Jehoshaphat and will set his throne in Jerusalem.

After this terrible war, Jesus will take care of those criminals, the kings and leaders who destroyed the Earth and He will put them in prison for a long time before they are judged.

Rev 6:15 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,

Rev 6:16 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!

Rev 6:17 For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand?"

Yes, He will take care of the Kings and leaders of this world who are still alive and hidden in the Mountains

Isa 24:21 It shall come to pass in that day That the LORD will punish on high the host of exalted ones, And on the earth the kings of the earth.

Isa 24:22 They will be gathered together, As prisoners are gathered in the pit, And will be shut up in the prison; After many days they will be punished.

Yes, these criminals will pay their dues for a long time. Amen!

Table of the scroll of Revelation

70th week of Daniel: 7 years = 7 trumpets. *Each trumpet = 1 year*

First week half 3 ½ years: Natural Cataclysms

Second week Half: Great Tribulation = First 6 Seals

TI	ne 70 th week = 1	7 Prophetic v	ears = 2520 (davs: Peace tr	eaty confir	ned Dan. 9:27 - T	The Tribu	lation - Pl	agues of the	e 7 Trumpet	s - Rev. 8:2 - 1	16:21 – Jacob's	Troubles Jer. 30:7
The 70th week = 7 Prophetic years = 2520 days: Peace treaty confirmed Dan. 9:27 - The Tribulation - Plagues of the 7 Trumpets - Rev. 8:2 - 16:21 - Jacob's Troubles Jer. 30:7 2520 days - 1335 days before J.C. Return: Blessing - (Church possibly going to the Place of Safety) Dan. 12:12, Rev. 12:14													
2520 days - 1290 days 1290 - 1260 days before J.C. Return: Armies circle and invade Jerusalem - Dan. 12:7, Matt. 24:15 - Abomination of Desolation. Dan. 12:11, Math. 24:15													
Scroll with 7 Seals: Introduction — Prelude to the Great Tribulation (the last 3 ½ vears) Rev 5:1 Book written inside and on the back, sealed up with seven seals. The 4 Winds = 4 Spirits = 4 horsemen = 4 chariots. Zec 6:1-5 These are 4 spirits for Winds) of heaven Rev 7:1-2-3 The 4 Winds (4 angels or demons) are restrained until the servants are marked. Ezech.9:4 1260 - 0 days before J.C. Return: Women (Church) protection for a time, times and half a time 3 ½ years = 1260 days, Rev. 12:14, 3:10 14 Seal White Horse: False Christ's - anti-Christ deceptions. Mat. 24:4-5, Rev. 6:1-2, Zach.6:3, 2 Tess. 2:1-8 The Peace Treaty (will ends after 3½ years) Dan. 9:27 - 4 Seal Black Horse: Famines. Mat. 24:6-8, Rev. 6:3-4, Zach.6:2 (v.6 The End refers to the End of the age at Jesus's Return) 4 Seal Pale Horse: Pestilences, Earthquakes, Death by war, hunger, death, beasts. Mat 24:7-8, Rev. 6:7-8, Zach.6:3 5 th Seal Saints's Persecution: Mat. 24:9, 21-22, Luke 21:23-24, Dan. 7:25, Rev. 6:9-11 6 th Seal Heavenly Signs: Great Earthquake, Sun, Moon, Stars affected - Mountains / islands moved out of their places The Wrath of the Lamb's. 7 th Seal - Silence in Heaven for ½ hour = 7½ days (2527-2520 days before J.C.'s return) - 7 Trumpets given to 7 Angels - Prayers presented to God. = Thunders, Lightnings, and Earthquake Rev. 8:1-6 4 Natural Cataclysms'													
	2520 days - 12	260 days	Dan.	7:25, 12:10. The	2 Witnesses: N		1-13, 14:6-1	l - God's W	itnesses mark	ed: Apoc. 7:1-	8, Eze. 9:4 – Be	ast: Rev. 13:1-5,	- Jacob's Troubles: Jer. 30:7 plagues) around the city
		prophetic day =		6:14)	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	7 th Angel's							or your sins. City given
1 st Trumpet	2 nd Trumpet	3rd Trumpet	4 th Trumpet	5 th Trumpet	6 th Trumpet	Introduction / Annouce	7th Trumpet: <u>PRELUDE</u> of the Kingdom and the 7 last Plagues Rev. 11 :15-19						
1/3 of trees and all grass	1/3 of sea becomes blood, 1/3 of sea	1/3 of rivers become wormwood	1/3 of sun, moon, stars <u>darkened</u>	Satan's Wrat 1 st Woe / 1 st Angel's message	th (2 years) 2 nd Woe / 2 nd Angel's message	Jesus-Christ (Michael) The strong angel coming down out	3rd Woe / 3rd Angel's message = 1 year - God's Wrath / The Day of the Lord Gestowed on whoever received the mark of the Beast, Rev. 14:9-10)						
burned Hail and fire, mixed	1/3 of ships destroyed Great mountain	creatures dies, 1/3 of ships destroyed from heaven, burning like a moon and Country to the sun, burning like	of heaven, clothed with a cloud; and the rainbow was upon his head.	l st Bowl	2 nd Bowl	3rd Bowl	4 th Bowl	5 th Bowl	6 th Bowl	7th Bowl Jesus-Christ's Return, RESURRECTION, Wrath of the Lamb			
with blood were thrown to the earth	burning with fire thrown in the sea	Satan is thrown down to the Earth (Rev. 12:7-17)	Darkened. Day and night not shining for a third of it	symbolic of beast's military power. A star from heaven fallen to the earth (Rev. 17:8-14)	4 angels released, 200 million horsemen. Humanity refuses to repent	upon his head, and his face was like the sun, and his feet like pillars of <u>fire</u> (Rev. 1:14) The 7 Thunders	Scores on people who accepted the mark of the Beast	Sea turns into blood, all sea creatures die	Rivers turn to blood	Sun scorches humanity with great heat	Beast's seat of government became darkened	Euphrates dried up, world's armies gathered to Armageddon (Joel 3:9-17)	The Great Earthquake The voice of the seventh angel,then the mystery of God is finished. (Rev. 10:7) Mat. 24:31, 1 Thess. 4:16, 1 Cor. 15:51-52, Rev. 11:13, 19, 19:15, Zach. 14:1-4.
Rev. 8 :7	Rev. 10:1-11	Rev. 8:10-11	Rev. 8 :12	Rev. 9:1-12	Rev. 9:13-21	Rev. 10:1-11	Rev. 16:2	Rev. 16:3	Rev. 16 :4-7	Rev. 16 :8-9	Rev. 16:10-11	Rev. 16 :12-16	Rev. 16:17-21, 6:12-17

Chapter 7

The 1000 years, the White Throne Judgement, the final destruction of the wicked, and our Glorious Eternity!

Satan and his demons defeated and chained

Now after that great battle, Satan and his demons will be chained in the bottomless pit for a thousand years.

Rev 20:1 Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand

Rev 20:2 He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years;

Rev 20:3 and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, so that he should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished. But after these things he must be released for a little while.

Yes, for a thousand years, Satan and his demons will be prevented from deceiving the nations. The inhabitants of the Earth will benefit from a great period of peace and prosperity. The Lamb will lead them to eternal life.

Rev 7:17 for 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."

Even the nature of animals will be changed, they will not be wild anymore.

Isa 11:6 "The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, The leopard shall lie down with the young goat, The calf and the young lion and the fatling together; And a little child shall lead them.

The Judgement of the Saints

Those who are judged are the saints who are resurrected, or changed, through the voice of Jesus when He comes down.

Rev 20:4 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 or his image, and had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.

Mass amounts of people will come to Jerusalem to worship God and to be taught by Jesus Christ and his resurrected saints.

Isa 2:2 Now it shall come to pass in the latter days That the mountain of the LORD's house Shall be established on the top of the mountains, And shall be exalted above the hills; And all nations shall flow to it.

Isa 2:3 Many people shall come and say, "Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, To the house of the God of Jacob; He will teach us His ways, And we shall walk in His paths." For out of Zion shall go forth the law, And the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

Isa 2:4 He shall judge between the nations, And rebuke many people; They shall beat their swords into plowshares, And their spears into pruning hooks; Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, Neither shall they learn war anymore.

Isa 2:5 O house of Jacob, come and let us walk In the light of the LORD.

The Saints will reign with Christ for a thousand years

This is finally the time when the saints will assist Jesus Christ in his reign on the planet. Each saint will receive his reward, which will be determined according to their deeds while they were humans. Jesus mentioned some of these rewards while he was on the earth and in John's vision in Rev. 2-3.

The parable of the Talents

The first reward that Jesus mentioned is in Matt. 25, where the servants must give account of the talents each received, according to their own ability. The reward is then based on the talents that were brought back. For each servant, the *initial* reward is the same, the *entry* in the kingdom in the *joy* of his master. This is the entrance to the wedding of the Lamb.

Mat 25:20 "So he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, 'Lord, you delivered to me five talents; look, I have gained five more talents besides them.'

Mat 25:21 His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. **Enter into the joy of your lord**.'

The parable of the Minas

Though we may think the two parables are the same, they are not. The parable of the talents gives the pass to enter the wedding of the Lamb, while the second determines the reward that we will receive. It determines the position and responsibilities that we will have in the kingdom while Jesus reigns on Earth and beyong.

Notice the difference:

Luk 19:16 Then came the first, saying, 'Master, your mina has earned ten minas.'

Luk 19:17 And he said to him, 'Well done, good servant; because you were faithful in a very little, have authority over ten cities.'

Luk 19:18 And the second came, saying, 'Master, your mina has earned five minas.'

Luk 19:19 Likewise he said to him, 'You also be over five cities.'

So, the minas represent the equivalent of the talents we received. The more talents we bring back to Jesus, the more cities we will govern. This can be expanded to the number of galaxies and stars we will govern when the Kingdom will be extended to the universe.

For those who bring nothing back to the Lord, they will not enter the wedding (Kingdom) and will be thrown into the lake of fire (the second death).

Mat 25:30 And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

The occupancy of the twelve thrones

As for the twelve disciples, Jesus already reserved his 12 apostles the privilege to sit on 12 thrones and judge the 12 tribes of Israel.

Luk_22:30 that you may eat and drink at My table in My kingdom, and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel."

Other important top positions previsions

There are a few statements that the Bible mentions concerning the reward of some prophets of the Old Testament and important figures from the new testament.

We can see Elijah and Moses having a discussion with Jesus. This was merely a snapshot of the future that God showed to the disciples that were with Jesus on the mountain that day.

Mar_9:4 And Elijah appeared to them with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus.

The Kingdom government organization model

<u>God has not told us in detail</u> about the organization of His super world-government. However, He has revealed the main characteristics to us. God reveals where many in high positions (including Christ) will stand, and given this, we can guess a good deal of the remaining government structures.

We know that **The Almighty - the Father of Jesus Christ - is the supreme King**. He is the Head of Christ, and He is above all. We know that Christ will hold the title of King of kings and Lord of lords under the Almighty God, the Father, and that He will be at the head of the church and of the state, which will be unified under Him.

We know that David, who was once king over ancient Israel, will be king over the twelve nations formed by the descendants of these same tribes. We know that the twelve apostles, sitting each on a throne, will be kings over each one of these nations descended from the tribes of Israel.

It will be a government that works from the top to the bottom. There will be a well-defined chain of authority or command. There will be no elections. All those who will perform any functions will be appointed by Jesus. All those who will occupy positions of authority in God's Government will be immortal beings, the resurrected saints.

If we keep these details in mind - knowing that Abraham is the father of all who belong to Christ and are heirs of the promises – we can easily conclude that Abraham will receive an elevated position of leadership in the Kingdom of God. His authority will be greater than David's, and he will be positioned under Christ over Israel and the Gentiles. Abraham is the "father" of all converts - Israelites as well as Gentiles.

In addition, the Bible frequently uses the expression: "Abraham, Isaac and Jacob", thus grouping these three patriarchs as a team, and calling them "the fathers". The promises, in fact, were also made to Isaac, then to Jacob whose name was changed to Israel. "The fathers" will surely work as a team with each other.

Church and State

Under Christ, church and state will be like one entity. There will be one World government over all nations. There will be only one church, one God, one religion, one educational system, and one social system. Like the original model that God used for ancient Israel, these various elements will form a whole system.

Peter, James, and John - had the privilege of seeing, in a vision, the Kingdom of God (Matt. 17: 9). In this vision, Jesus, who was with them, was transfigured - appearing as the glorified Christ. In this vision - this preview at the Kingdom of God - Moses and Elijah, fulfilled the functions of church and state. It was a

foreshadowing of the tasks that await them in the Kingdom, under Christ's command. Both qualified, during their physical lifetimes, for positions of authority in the Kingdom of God.

Moses was the one to whom Christ delivered the laws and statutes to the nation of Israel. He was also trained as a son of Pharaoh. His training and experience were among the Gentiles as well as among the children of Israel. Elijah, above all others, is portrayed in the Scriptures as the prophet who restores worship of the true God, and obedience to His commandments.

The vision of the transfiguration (Matt. 16: 27-17: 9) gave the three apostles mentioned above a taste of Christ's reign in His Kingdom - when He will come. The indication given is therefore that Moses and Elijah represented the heads, under Christ, respectively of the state or of the world government of nations, and of the church or of religious activities. Moses will be responsible for the government, nationally and internationally. Elijah, for his part, will be responsible for the church, and for religious and educational system.

Nationally

We can assume that king David will be under Moses as king of the twelve nations of Israel (Jeremiah 30: 9; Ezekiel 34: 23-24; 37: 24-25). Each of the original twelve apostles will be kings under David of one of these nations (Matthew 19:28).

Under the apostles, each ruler (the resurrected saints) who becomes king of a great nation will rule regions, provinces, counties, cities, and departments.

Like mentioned before, the parable of the talents (Matthew 25: 14-30) makes this very clear. The servant who increased his spiritual abilities tenfold received the government of ten cities. He who has developed his abilities and the character of God fivefold received five cities

Who will receive the power of the heathen nations?

There are strong indications that the prophet Daniel, directly under Moses, will be their king. Daniel was sent by God to the very first world empire, to undergo training in the highest levels of government. He acquired knowledge and wisdom in the ability of governing the nations.

When God, through the mouth of the prophet Ezekiel, mentioned three of the most upright individuals who ever lived, He mentioned Daniel. Job and Noah were the other two (Ezekiel 14:14, 20). We can also be assured that God will also give high positions to Job and Noah.

By the way, it makes sense to think that the three companions of Daniel, serving in this Chaldean empire - Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-Nego - will work as a team directly under Daniel, similar like the three "fathers" will probably form a team directly under the orders of Christ.

But what about the apostle Paul? While the twelve apostles were sent to the "lost" tribes of the house of Israel, Paul was the apostle to the gentiles. It therefore appears that Paul will receive a position over the heathen nations, while being under the leadership of Daniel.

Of course, Christ will designate kings over each of the pagan nations; under these kings, rulers over the provinces and over the cities. But the Bible does not specify who these latter will be, except for the

apostles and evangelists who worked with Paul: Barnabas, Silas, Timothy, Titus, Philemon, etc. who, for sure, will receive important positions.

On an international scale

In addition to the responsibilities and government positions at the national level, there will also be important positions at the international level. There are a few clues that allow us to know more about some of these positions.

During his lifetime, Noah only preached. But at the resurrection, becoming immortal, he will have the authority to lead the relocating of races and nations within the boundaries that God has determined.

As for Joseph, being the steward of the largest nation in the world, Egypt, Joseph was synonymous with "prosperity". "The Lord was with him, and prosperity was with him. All that he did the Lord made to prosper in his hand" (Genesis 39: 2-3). He was ordained, by the pharaoh, ruler of the greatest nation in the world managing prosperity. What he did was according to divine methods.

Joseph is highly likely, therefore, to run the world economy - agriculture, industry, technology, and commerce - and the international monetary system. These systems will work globally and will be the same for all countries.

Without a doubt, Joseph will eradicate famine, malnutrition, and poverty. There will be prosperity everywhere!

Job, meanwhile, was the richest and most important man in all the East (Job 1: 3) - and he was a well renowned architect. As an architect, he seems the perfect fit to lead infrastructures renovations on a global scale, the reconstruction of destroyed cities under divine direction. This is what is in store for the new and wonderful world civilization, both nationally and internationally.

The education and religion in the World to come

We now come to the World of Tomorrow, on an individual level - church, religion, and the educational system.

When Jesus Christ returns with the authority of God Almighty, it will be at this time, to save the world - spiritually.

When He takes His place on the throne of His glory in Jerusalem, all nations will be before Him. He will begin to separate the sheep from the goats: "Then the king will say to those who are at his right hand, Come, you who are blessed of my Father; take possession of the kingdom which was prepared for you from the foundation of the world" (Matthew 25:34).

It is after His return that Christ will separate the sheep (those who repent, who believe on Him, and who receive His Holy Spirit) from the goats (those who rebel). This separation - this spiritual education of people to enable them to enter the Kingdom of God - will continue throughout Christ's millennial reign on earth.

Christ will give a new and pure tongue to all nations. "Then I will give the peoples clean lips, that they may all call on the name of the LORD, to serve him with one accord" (Zephaniah 3: 9).

Divine truth will be taught to all people, no one will be seduced anymore. Instead, "the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the Lord, as the bottom of the sea with the waters which cover it" (Isaiah 11: 9).

A Headquarters Government

We have seen that the earth, after this thousand-year period begins, will be as full of the true knowledge of God as the oceans are full of water (Isaiah 11:9). How will this be brought about?

The prophet Micah provides an answer: "But in the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it" (Micah 4:1).

Prophecy uses "mountain" as a symbol of a major nation, and "hills" as a symbol of smaller nations. In other words, the kingdom of God, the kingdom of resurrected immortals—the ruling kingdom—will be established in complete authority over the major nations (of mortals) and exalted above the small nations—and people will flow to God's kingdom.

Let's continue: "And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion [the Church], and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. And he [Christ] shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore" (verses 2-3). This knowledge and even the knowledge of God's law—shall go forth from the headquarter, from Jerusalem, the new world capital.

Christ, himself, will be ruling from Jerusalem. Stationed there with Christ, under immediate authority of Elijah, should be John the Baptist. He came "in the spirit and power of [Elijah]" (Luke 1:17). He was the Elijah prophesied to come (Matthew 11:7-11).

Jesus mentioned that no man who ever lived was greater than John the Baptist. Yet even the least in the resurrected kingdom will be greater (Matthew 11:11). It is logical that John the Baptist will be placed in a very high position. He should then be placed with, or immediately under, Elijah.

Next, in this all-important headquarters government, it appears that those working with and directly under Elijah, John the Baptist and probably Elisha, will be those who composed the 2 witnesses.

Education in the World Tomorrow

This headquarter government, at Christ's own world capital of Jerusalem, then, undoubtedly will be given the administration of the world's new system of education.

Also, the indication is that the teaching of spiritual truth—of the true gospel, the spiritual conversion of all people—will be directed, worldwide, from this headquarters government, under Elijah and the overall direct leadership of Jesus Christ.

The principal purpose for which Christ is returning to earth is to spiritually develop in humanity godly character, and to save the world from extinction. The real-world evangelism will be administered by this headquarters church, composed of resurrected immortals, the saints.

One other tremendous organizational responsibility will be directed from this headquarters church—that of supervision of all the local churches over the world. These churches will be composed of those who will become converted—born again of God by receiving his Holy Spirit—though still mortal.

Millennial growth in knowledge, overcoming

Just as the real Christians in this present age must continue to live a life of overcoming, and of spiritual growth and development (2 Peter 3:18), so will they in the millennium. Though they will not have to overcome Satan, they still shall have to overcome all evil included in their human nature.

With only one church—one religion—one faith—there will be many church congregations in every city, others scattered through rural areas. There will be district overseers over areas, and pastors, elders, deacons, and deaconesses in every local church.

The very purpose of the church today is to provide God's training school or teachers' college to train in spiritual knowledge, education, and godly character, to supply all the leadership positions at the beginning of this the 1,000-year reign of Christ on Earth.

After the end of the millennial rule of Christ on Earth, will come the final judgment.

The apostle Peter mentioned (1 Peter 4:17) that the JUDGMENT had begun with the church. Those God has called to come to him through Jesus Christ during this church era are now judged, during this life. <u>But judgment has not yet come to the entire world</u>.

After the Millennium - The White Throne Judgment

Following the millennial reign of Christ and the church on earth shall come the time of God's judgment on this world. In this final judgment, with Christ on the judgment seat, every human who has lived shall be brought back to life (Revelation 20:11-12). They will then be judged.

The 37th chapter of Ezekiel, which is called the prophecy of the "dry bones", shows the resurrection at the time of the judgment. The Bible itself interprets these dry bones in verse 11 where it says these dry bones are the whole House of Israel (the 12 tribes). This prophecy mentioned of the Great White Throne Judgment when this whole house of Israel will be resurrected.

Ezekiel says: "So I prophesied as I was commanded: and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and behold a shaking, and the bones came together, bone to his bone. And when I beheld, lo, the sinews and the flesh came up upon them, and the skin covered them above: but there was no breath in them. Then said he unto me, Prophesy unto the wind, prophesy, son of man, and say to the wind, thus saith the Lord God; Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.

"So, I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood up upon their feet, an exceeding great army" (verses 7-10). This shows human beings brought back to mortal life, sustained by breathing of air, just as in their original life. That is, mortal life—still unconverted.

Then God says, "Behold, O my people, I will open your graves, and cause you to come up out of your graves and bring you into the land of Israel." This is the resurrection in the Great White Throne Judgment. All the ancient Israelites are resurrected mortal, precisely as in their first life. Then what? "And ye shall know that I am the Lord, when I have opened your graves, O my people, and brought you up out of your

graves, and shall put my Spirit in you, and ye shall live, and I shall place you in your own land: then shall ye know that I the Lord have spoken it, and performed it, saith the Lord" (verses 13, 14).

In other words, in the Great White Throne Judgment after the millennium, Old Testament Israel will be resurrected; then they shall come to "know the Lord." God's knowledge will come to them. Then upon their repentance, notice again in Ezekiel 37:14: "I will put My Spirit in you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken it and performed it," says the LORD. "

So, in the Great White Throne Judgment period, they will come to know that Jesus Christ had come and died for them. And <u>upon repentance they shall receive the Holy Spirit, be born again</u> and if they bear fruits, they will receive eternal life. All who had lived, previously unjudged, not only Israel, but of all nations, will be resurrected to a mortal and physical life, as they were in their first life up to the time of death. They will then give account and be judged upon for a certain period of time of 100 years. (Isa_65:20).

They will be given an opportunity yet at that time to choose life and be made immortal.

Nevertheless, for those who choose not to repent and follow God, or who have already rejected God after receiving the Holy Spirit, they will die in the lake of fire, the second death.

Rev 20:13 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.

Rev 20:14 Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

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

This a merciful fate, they will die forever, as if they never existed.

Mal 4:1 For behold, the day is coming, burning like a fire pot; and all the proud, and every doer of wickedness, shall be chaff. And the coming day will set them ablaze, says Jehovah of Hosts, which will not leave root or branches to them.

Mal 4:2 But to you who fear My name, the Sun of Righteousness shall arise, and healing will be on His wings. And you shall go out and frisk like calves of the stall.

Mal 4:3 And you shall trample the wicked, for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day which I am preparing, says Jehovah of Hosts.

But there is more! Much more!

Incredible Human Potential Revealed

In the book of Hebrews we read: "For He has not put in subjection to the angels the world to come, of which we speak" (Hebrews 2:5). The theme of the context here is "the world to come."

There is but one Earth, but the Bible speaks of three worlds, ages or civilizations on the Earth—the "world that then was" (the antediluvian world from Adam to Noah); this "present evil world" (from the flood until Christ's return); and "the world to come" (which will start when Jesus comes and establishes the kingdom of God).

This verse speaks of angels as if the world had been put in subjection to angels; in fact, in the very beginning of this book of Hebrews, the first chapter, it is speaking of Christ and angels and the relation of angels to humans.

But bear in mind the general theme here, or context, is "the world to come, whereof we speak"—not this present age, now coming to its *end!* Continue in verse 6: "But one testified in a certain place, saying, "What is man, that You are mindful of him; or the son of man, that You visit him?" Then follows a quotation from the first six verses *only* of the eighth Psalm.

In this psalm, David continued showing specifically that God has now placed in subjection under man the whole Earth, atmosphere or air, and the sea. But now the writer of Hebrews is inspired to expand David's prophecy to add something different—something that will happen in the world or age to come!

This knowledge of God's purpose for mankind stupefies the imagination. It is what God says he has prepared for those who love him (1 Corinthians 2:9-10).

Now let's examine what is said in this passage in Hebrews, beginning where the author leaves off quoting the eighth Psalm: "You subjected all things under his feet." For in subjecting all things to Him, He did not leave anything not subjected to Him. But now we do not see all things having been subjected to him" (Hebrews 2:8).

Is it possible God could really mean what he says ("all things")? Nothing excluded?

In verse 8, the Moffatt translation of the Bible renders the Greek word translated "all things" as "the universe". In the ESV, the word is translated as "everything". In other words, God says that he has decreed the entire universe—with all its galaxies, its countless suns, and planets—everything—will be put under man's authority.

But wait! Before to doubt, read the next words in the same verse 8: "But now we do not see all things [the endless universe] having been subjected to him [man].". Remember (verse 5), this is speaking of the "world or age to come. But what do we see now, today? "But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honor, that He by the grace of God should taste death for all." (verse 9)

But see how Christ is already crowned with glory and honor. Continue: "For it became Him, for whom are all things and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons into glory, to perfect the Captain of their salvation through sufferings. For both He who sanctifies and they who are sanctified are all of One, for which cause He is not ashamed to call them brothers," (verses 10-11).

In other words, Christians having God's Spirit are joint heirs with Christ to inherit all that Christ already inherited. He is now in glory! He has already inherited the entire universe.

Begin with Hebrews, chapter 1:

"God ... hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he has appointed heir <u>of all things</u> [the entire universe], by whom also he made the worlds; who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding [sustaining] all things [the entire universe] by the word of his power ..." (Hebrews 1:1-3).

The living Christ already sustains the entire universe by his power. The passage continues to show his superiority over the angels. Angels are ministering to us who are now in a lower status than angels, but who are *heirs* of salvation, when we, like Christ, shall become transformed sons of God (Hebrews 1:4-14).

Outer Space—dead planets

Now, put this together with what is revealed in the of Romans 8.

Here it speaks of Christ as God's Son: "... that he might be the firstborn among many brethren" (verse 29).

Humans, having God's Holy Spirit, are *heirs* of God and joint heirs with Christ—who, alone of all humans, has already been resurrected as God's Son from the dead (Romans 1:4). He is the FIRST of the human family to be resurrected into the family of God—the kingdom of God. He is our pioneer who has gone before us. We shall follow at the resurrection of the just at Christ's return to earth in supreme power and glory.

Romans 8, verse 9, says if we have within us the Holy Spirit of God, we are his sons, but if we do not have his Spirit we are none of his—not Christians at all. But verse 11 says that if we have God's Spirit growing within and leading us, we shall be raised from the dead or if we are living at Christ's return, by his Spirit to immortal life).

Rom. 8:9 For whom He foreknew, He also predestinated *to be* conformed to the image of His Son, for Him to be *the* First-born among many brothers.

Let's continue: "For as many as are led by *the* Spirit of God, they are the sons of God..... The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are the children of God,: and if we are children, then we are heirs; heirs of God and joint-heirs with Christ; so that if we suffer with *Him*, we may also be glorified together" (Romans 8:14-17).

Let's continue,

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

Rom 8:19 For the earnest expectation of the creation waits for the manifestation of the sons of God.

Rom 8:20 For the creation was not willingly subjected to vanity, but because of Him who subjected it on hope

Rom 8:21 that the creation itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.

Rom 8:22 And we know that the whole creation groans and travails in pain together until now.

Rom 8:23 And not only so, but ourselves also, who have the firstfruit of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, awaiting adoption, the redemption of our body.

Our Glorious Eternity!

Astonishing — The entire Universe will be renewed

Why should the whole universe be waiting with eager longing for the actual birth and appearing of all the sons of God, to be resurrected into the kingdom of God? The following verses portray a universe filled with planets in a state of destruction, degeneration —yet as if subjected now to this dead state in hope! "Because the creation itself [the universe not now capable of sustaining life] will be set free from its bondage and obtain the glorious liberty of the children of God."

How did all the planets fall into the bondage of degeneration or decay? Surely God did not create them in this state!

Decay signifies a state or condition caused by degeneration and decomposition from a previous undecayed state. But something *caused* deterioration to set in. What could have caused all this "bondage to decay"?

It cannot be the state in which God created them! Everything we read in God's Word about God's creation shows it to have been a perfect creation. The Earth was first created as a perfect creation of beauty.

We see that angels inhabited the earth prior to the creation of man. Angels who became demons, who were perfect from the creation until iniquity or lawlessness was found in them, caused in a rebellion, the whole surface of the earth to turn into a state of destruction, decay, and emptiness.

Could the whole universe with its myriad of galaxies and other planets have been created for the eventual purpose of sustaining life? We are not told specifically by revelation in God's Word whether it was or not, but what we are told provides additional clues on why God decided to create man!

Nonetheless, the whole point of these passages is that we are going to do as God did when this earth had been laid "waste and empty" Hebrew, tohu and bohu (Genesis 1:2).

What this passage implies and indicate goes far beyond what is revealed. This passage indicates precisely what all astronomers and scientific evidence indicate—the suns are as balls of fire, giving out light and heat; but the planets, except for this earth, are in a state of destruction, decay, they are *waiting* the time of the resurrected sons of God.

Jesus' gospel was the kingdom of God. What I am showing you here is that Christ's gospel of the kingdom actually includes all this knowledge here revealed—even the whole universe is to be ruled by us, who, with God the Father and Christ, will administrate the kingdom of God.

God is a creator, but God is also a ruler. And he is an educator, who reveals knowledge above and beyond what the scope of the human mind can comprehend on its own!

If you put together all these scriptures quoted in this chapter, you will begin to grasp the extraordinary future that is reserved to human beings. Our potential is to be resurrected into God's family, receiving total power and jurisdiction over the entire universe!

What are we going to do then? These scriptures indicate we shall create, as God directs and instructs. We shall rule through all eternity!

Revelation 21 and 22 show there will then be no pain, no suffering, no evil, because we shall have learned to choose God's way of love. It will be an eternal life of accomplishment, constantly looking forward in joyous anticipation of new creative wonderful projects and delighting with happiness and joy over what will have already been accomplished. We will never be tired, always be alive and full of energy, vitality, strength, and power!

Earth to become the UNIVERSE Headquarters

Finally, even God the Father will come to this earth. His throne ruling the whole universe will be established on this Earth.

Notice in 1 Corinthians 15:24, after speaking of the various resurrections, it is written: "then is the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God, even the Father; when He makes to cease all rule and all authority and power."

In Revelation 21:3: "And I heard a great voice out of Heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God *is* with men, and He will dwell with them, and they will be His people, and God Himself will be with them and be their God."

And further in Revelation 22:3: "And every curse will no longer be; but the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and His servants will serve Him."

When it speaks of God and the LAMB, the LAMB represents Christ and God refers to the FATHER. Finally, the plan of God, which is called the "mystery of God" shall be completed. We will be united with them to form one great supreme family. God will be our Father and we will be His sons.

With this God's great master plan of seven thousand years finally achieved and the mystery of the ages finally fulfilled and with the re-creation of the vast universe with the eternity lying ahead, we come finally to the **REAL BEGINNING**...(the 8th Millennium).

Praise, honor, and glory be to God and to Jesus Christ forever and forever!

Speculative positions in the Kingdom of God

