



# Nations that are greatly involved...

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- Indonesia, Bangladesh, Nazi Germany, Turkey, India, Nigeria, East Timor, Cuba, many of the former Soviet Republics, Saudi Arabia and other Muslim countries have contributed significantly to the quantity of these terrible murders
- Virtual genocidal martyrdom in Rwanda and Burundi in the 1990s produced more martyrs than at any other time period in history.
- An average of 160,000 Christians are martyred yearly since 1990 according to Antonio Soggi, an Italian journalist

# As the end-times approach

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- Socci also noted that Communism and Muslim Fundamentalism are the greatest fuels for this persecution of Christians in the modern world. Lately, this has been most severe in the Sudan.
- Although this persecution is already very bad, it will get even worse after the Rapture for anyone who chooses to follow Jesus Christ. However, God forbid if any other decision is made by those who are left behind.






# The love of most people will grow cold

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- **Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold.** Matt. 24:12
- This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. **2** For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, **3** Without natural affection, trucebreakers, falseaccusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good...
- Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; **5** Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away. **6** For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts, **7** Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. 2 Tim 3:1-7



# Take a moment to reflect on the times in which we live

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- If one just thinks about these statements by Jesus and Paul and then takes a moment to reflect on the times in which we live, I believe that it will not be hard to recognize that wickedness is increasing around our nation and world...
- **Abortions**
- **Murder**
- **Homosexuality**
- **Sexual immorality**

# A Very Wicked World

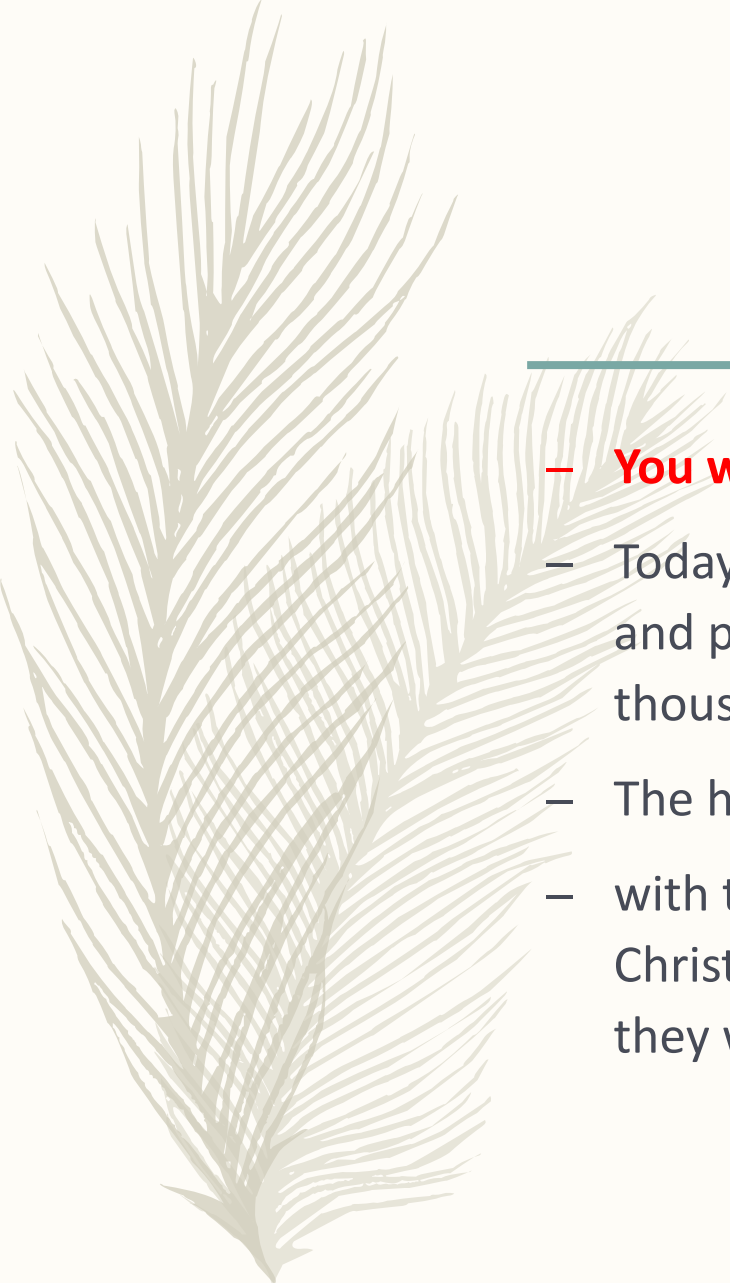
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- Angry, brutal people
- Childhood Pornography and Prostitution
- Many of the people in our world today have become hardened to sin and immoral activities. They have become “**lovers of pleasure, rather than lovers of God.**” That is why very little is being done to rectify most of these terrible problems. This is what we would expect if we are living in the latter days. Jesus will be coming to correct this situation soon.

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# Rise of Anti-Semitism

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- **You will be hated by all nations because of me.** Matt. 24:9
  - Today, Israel and the Jewish people face unparalleled hatred from other nations and people of the world. This hatred of God’s “chosen people” was predicted thousands of years ago in the Scriptures.
  - The history of the Jews and anti-semitism
  - with the naming of Christianity as the state religion of Rome, some early Christian fathers came out against the Jewish people. St. Augustine wrote that they were a “wicked sect” and should be banished because of their evil.

# Anti-Semitism through the Ages

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- The Crusades
- The Muslims
- Spanish Inquisition
- *Of Jews and Their Lies* – Luther
- *The Victory of Judaism over Germanism* by Wilhelm Marr, postulated that Jews were genetically different than Germans and therefore could never be assimilated into the German race
- Hitler

# Modern Day Anti-Semitism

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- Consider the reaction to the world community to the situation between Israel and the Palestinians.
- The view of the world
- The view of the “Palestinians”
- The simple fact is that the Jews are hated by many people in the world today. God said that they would be and they are. They are His “chosen people”, but God has obviously allowed them time to see how they do without His guidance and help

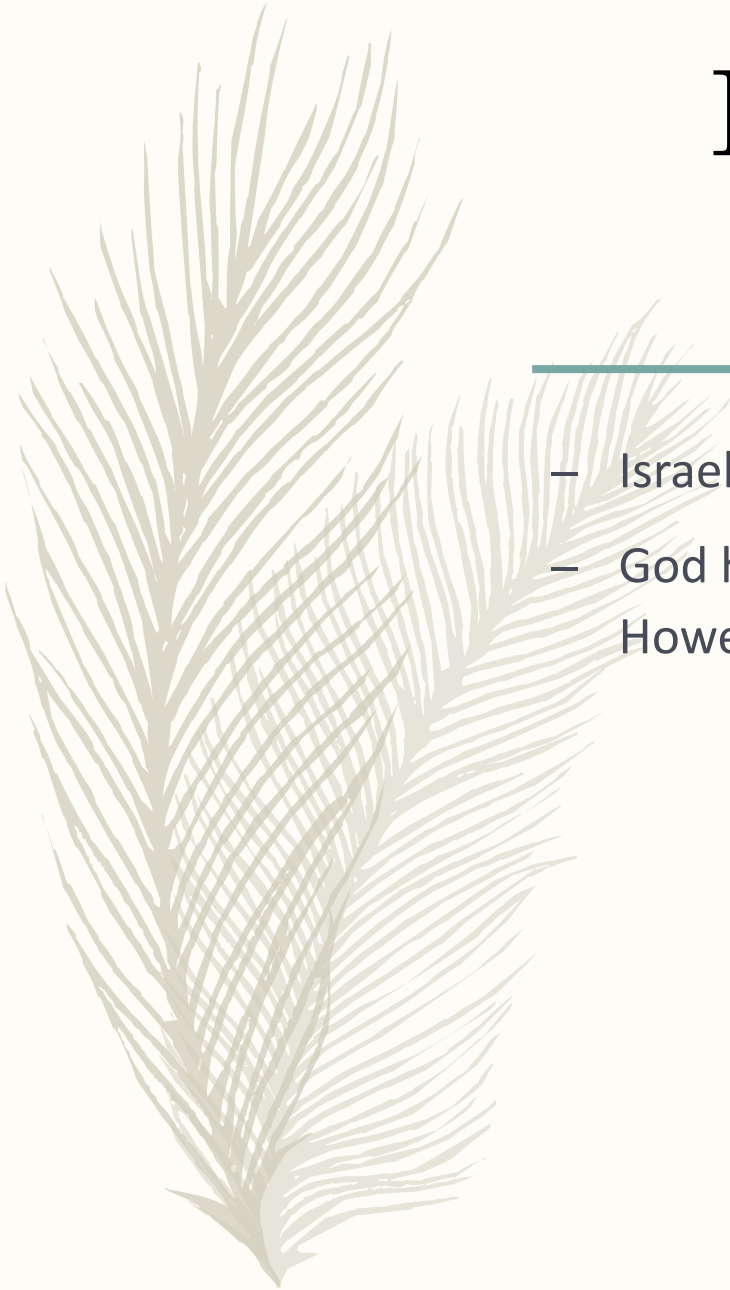




# Israel, the Messiah and the World

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- Israel will turn to the Messiah one day...
- God has always said that those that bless Israel will be, in turn, blessed. However, those who curse Israel..... they will be cursed!





# The Kingdom Will be preached to entire World

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- **And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.** Matt 24:14
- "Turn to me and be saved, all you ends of the earth." Isaiah 45:22
- A brief history of the gospel...
- Missionary Age

# The Gospel to the World

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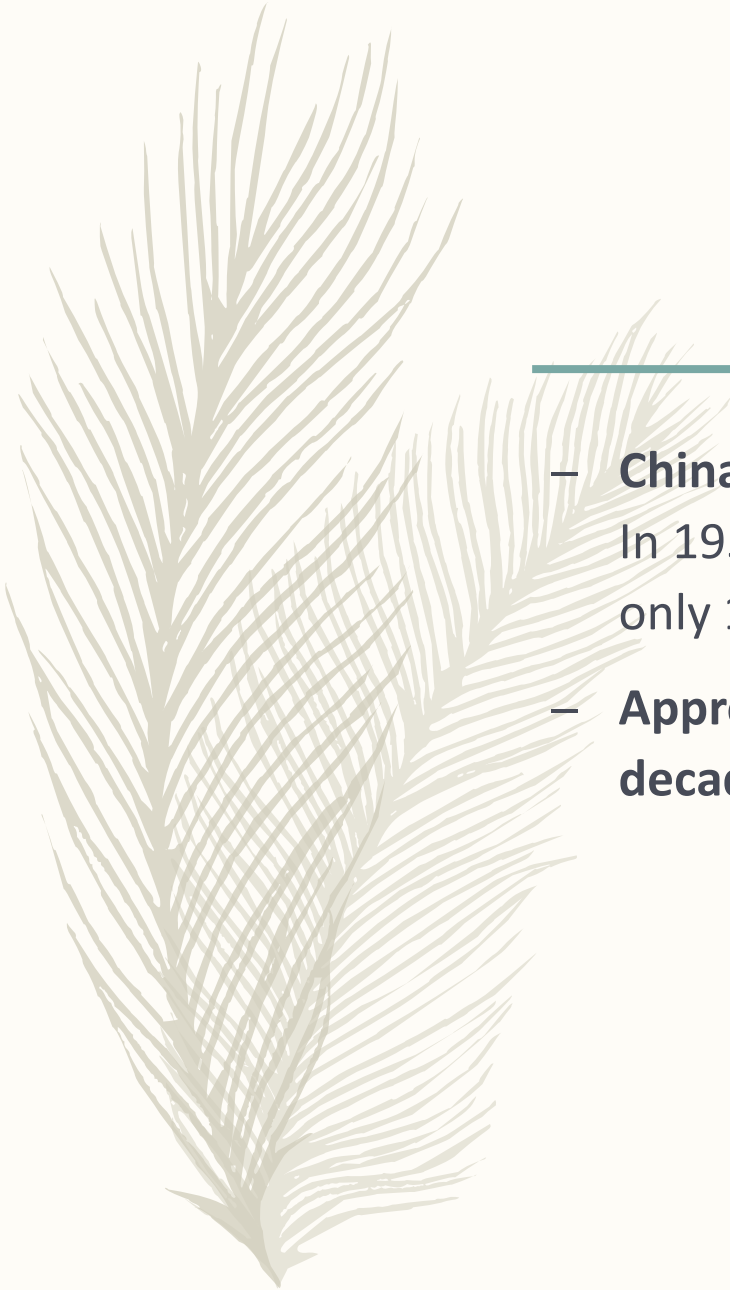
- Almost **fifty percent of Africans** have become born-again Christians within the last century.
- Indonesia
- **Russia now has over one hundred million Christians. Koreans** had rejected Christ almost without exception as World War II began. Now **fifty percent are believers**. As has been pointed out in an earlier *sign*, **Muslims are turning to Christ** in surprisingly vast numbers in the past couple of decades.



# China

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- **China may be the greatest example of this end-time coming to faith in Christ.** In 1950, after over 100 years of continuous missionary intervention, there were only 1 million Christians in all of China.
- **Approximately 125,000,000 have turned their lives over to Jesus in recent decades.**






# Lausanne Statistics Task Force on Evangelism

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- In 1430, one percent of the world was Christian
- In 1790, two percent called themselves Christians
- In 1940, three percent of people were Christian
- In 1997, ten percent were Christian – and it has risen even faster over the last decade

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- In other words, it took 510 years to increase from one to three percent, but only 57 years to go from three to ten percent! In total numbers, this may be even more impressive. In 1934 there were 40 million evangelical Christians. Today there are approximately 650 million!
  - Wycliffe translators have translated the Bible into 3,850 languages reaching over 98% of the world's population. The gospel of John has been translated into virtually every human dialect in the world.

# The Amazing Growth of Christianity

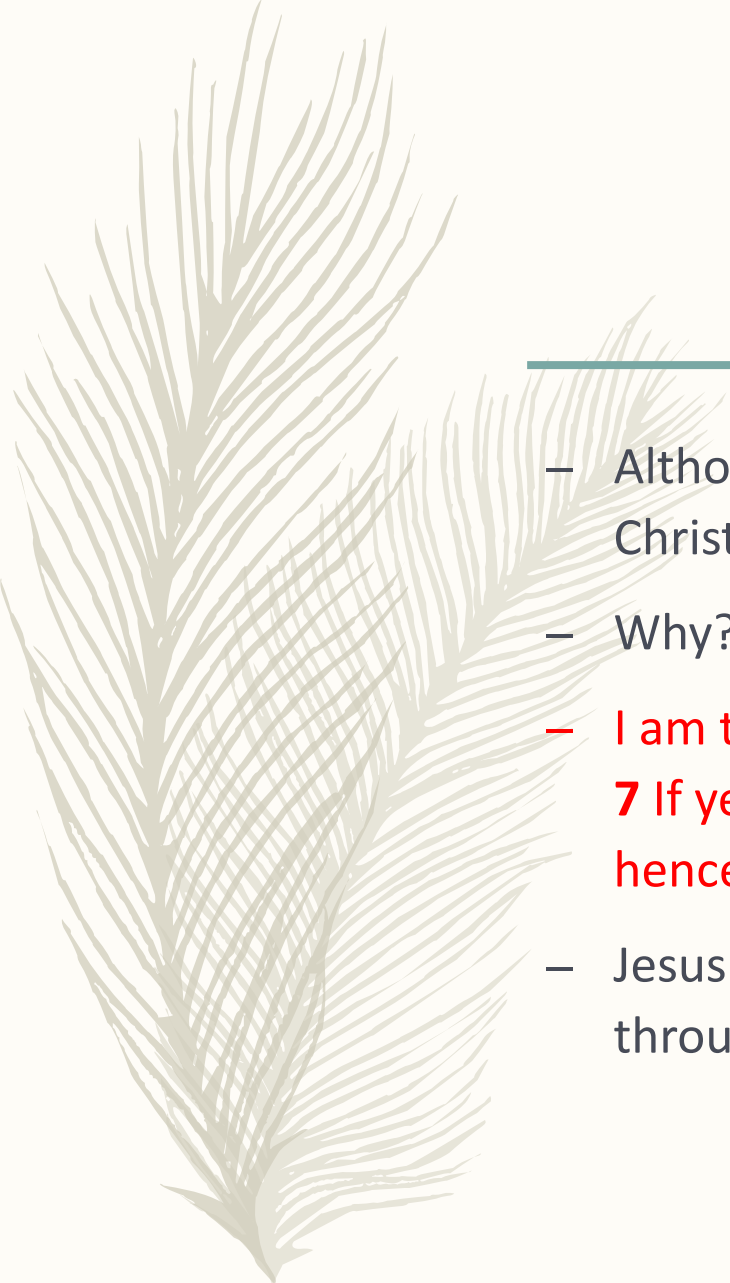
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- The number of people becoming new Christians each day is estimated (in a detailed study by researchers from *World Christian Encyclopedia*) to be 125,000!!! In this past decade, there is a net gain of approximately 42,000,000 Christians every year on this earth. With the ever increasing rate of evangelization, **estimates are that one billion more people will become Christians in the next decade. Evangelical Christianity is growing at the fastest rate of all.**



# The Church vs. Islam

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- Although Islam is increasing rapidly in the world today, studies show that Christianity is increasing at almost twice their rate!
  - Why?
  - I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. **7** If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also: and from henceforth ye know him, and have seen him. John 14:6-7
  - Jesus said that the end would come when His gospel message was preached throughout the world... that time is certainly at hand.






# Doomsday Weapons and the melting of the elements

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- **Blow the trumpet in Zion, And sound an alarm in My holy mountain!** Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble; For the day of the LORD is coming, For it is at hand: <sup>2</sup> A day of darkness and gloominess, A **day of clouds and thick darkness**, Like the morning clouds spread over the mountains..... A **fire devours before them, and behind them a flame burns; The land is like the Garden of Eden before them, And behind them a desolate wilderness; Surely nothing shall escape them.** Joel 2:1-3

# A Description of the Devastation

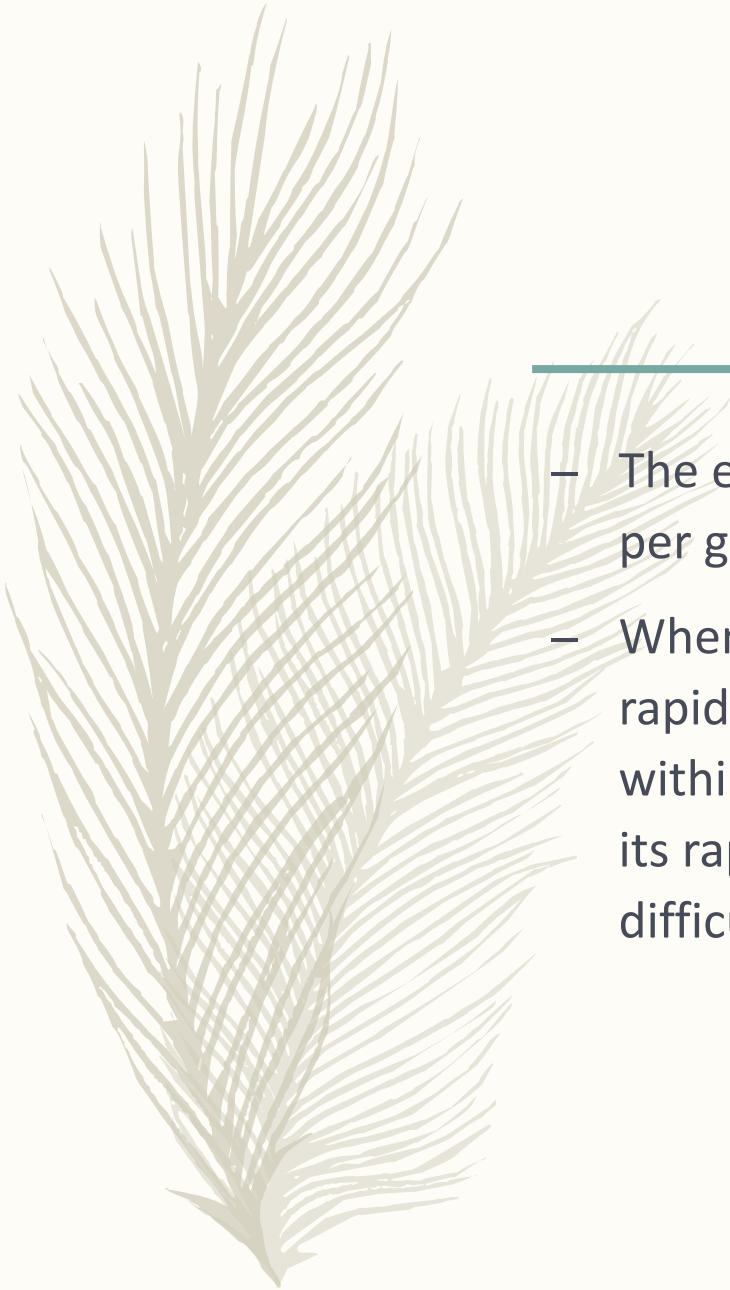
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- For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. <sup>22</sup> And **unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved.** Matt 24:21-22
  - But the **day of the Lord** will come as a thief in the night, in which **the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat**; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. <sup>11</sup> Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, <sup>12</sup> looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which **the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat?** 2 Peter 3:10-12

# Nuclear Bombs

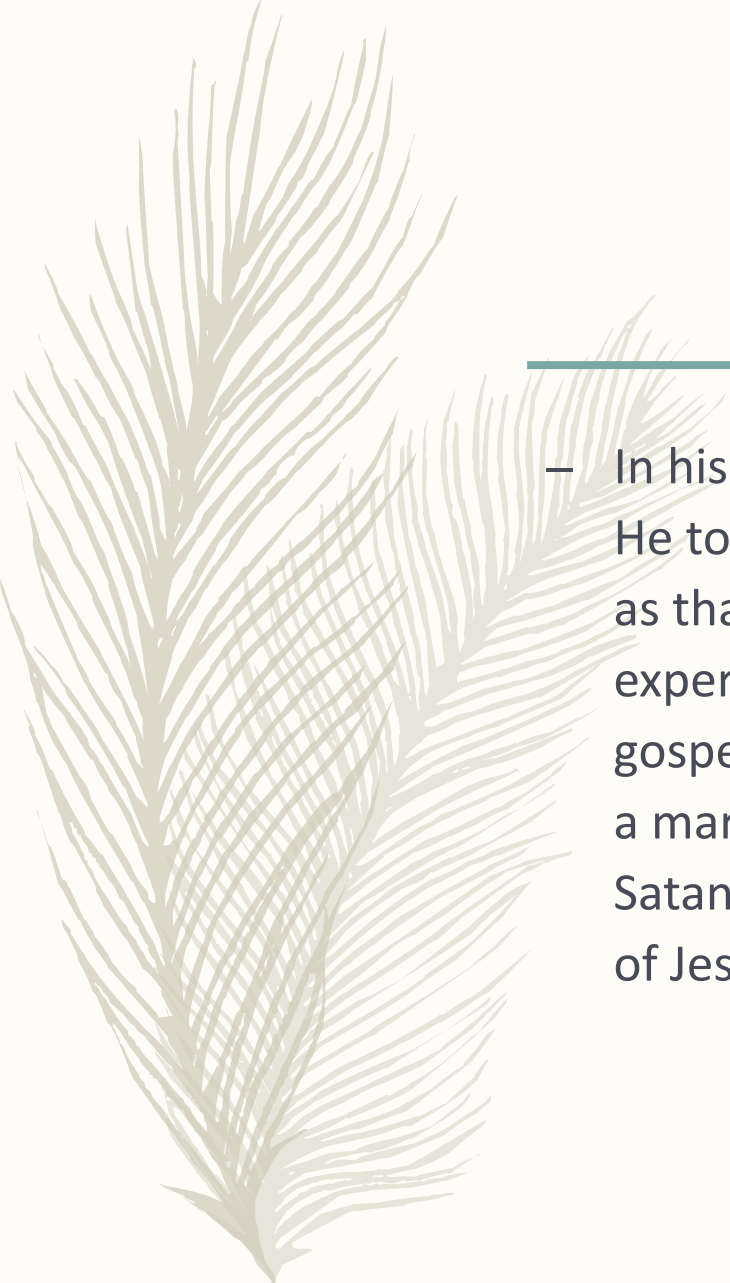
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- The energy produced by a nuclear explosion is millions of times more powerful per gram than conventional explosives.
- When there is a surrounding material such as air, rock, or water, the radiation rapidly heats it to an equilibrium temperature (i.e. the same temperature as within the bomb). This causes vaporization of surrounding material resulting in its rapid expansion and a massive shockwave. The effects are devastating and difficult to imagine. Indeed, **“the elements actually will melt with fervent heat!”**



# Conclusion

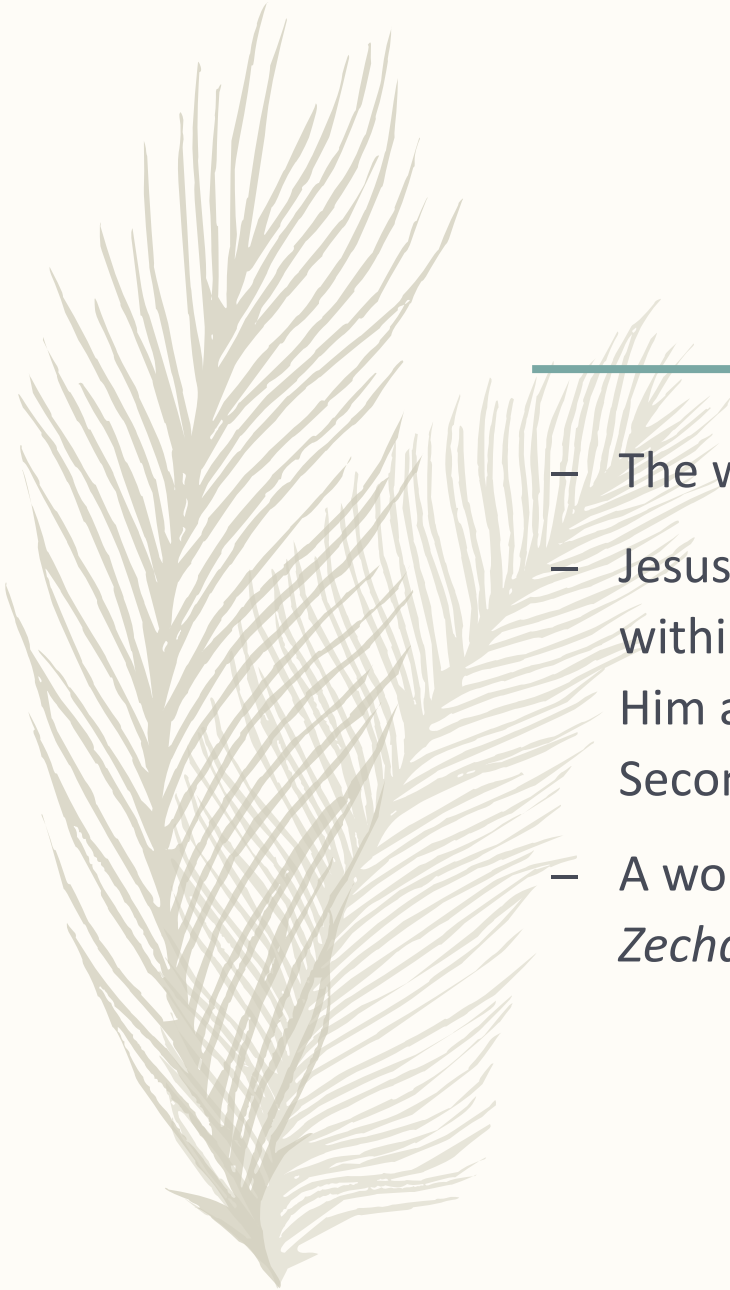
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- In his address on Mount Olivet, Jesus spoke on the topic of His Second Coming. He told His listeners that the world would deteriorate into very perilous times as that day approached. Jesus noted that many alive in those days would experience terrible famine, pestilence, earthquakes, and wars. Although the gospel would finally be spread throughout the entire world, there would also be a marked increase in apostasy. False Messiahs and False Prophets would spread Satan's lies to all those who would listen. Yet, millions would die for their love of Jesus. All of these signs are here in the world today.

# Will the World End?

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- The world will be on the precipice of destruction... then..
- Jesus will literally come on His white horse to save the world and His saints within it. Those who have accepted Him as their Savior will be riding along with Him as He returns to the Mount of Olives on that glorious day known as His Second Coming!
- A word picture of the end-times follows in the next section... a commentary on *Zechariah* and *The Revelation of Jesus Christ*.



# Biblical Eschatology

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- Prophecy of the end-times
- This section will mainly concentrate on *The Revelation of Jesus Christ*
- However, we shall begin with a short commentary on the Old Testament book, *Zechariah*.
- Ezekiel, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Daniel, Joel, Micah, and more... including those given by Jesus

# Zechariah

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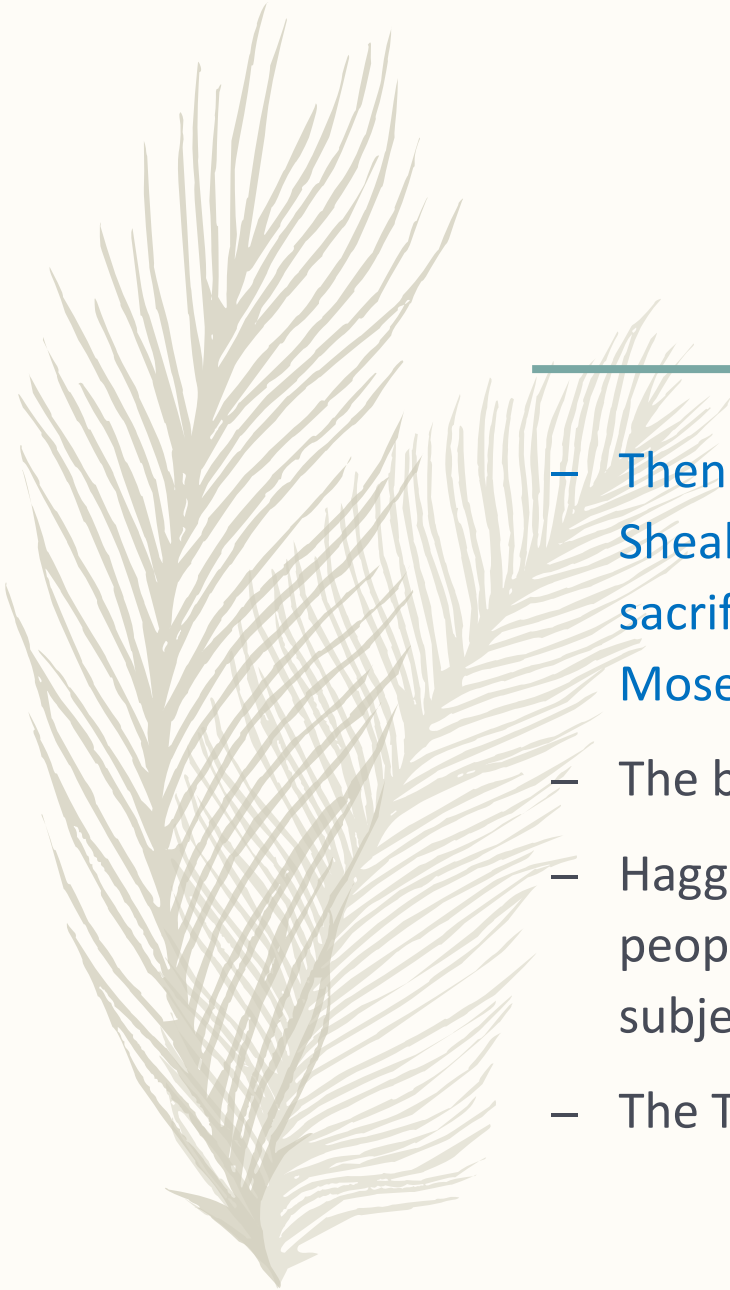
- The prophet Zechariah lived approximately 500 years before Christ – born in Babylonia
- In the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, in order to fulfill the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah, **the LORD moved the heart of Cyrus king of Persia to make a proclamation throughout his realm and to put it in writing:** "This is what Cyrus king of Persia says: **"The LORD, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth and he has appointed me to build a temple for him at Jerusalem in Judah. 3 Anyone of his people among you--may his God be with him, and let him go up to Jerusalem in Judah and build the temple of the LORD, the God of Israel, the God who is in Jerusalem** Ezra 1:1-3



# Rebuilding The Temple

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- Then Jeshua son of Jozadak and his fellow priests and Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel and his associates began to build the altar of the God of Israel to sacrifice burnt offerings on it, in accordance with what is written in the Law of Moses the man of God. Ezra 3:2
- The building of the Temple stops
- Haggai and Zechariah were the two prophets instrumental in exhorting the people to build the second Temple. Haggai preached his first sermon on this subject on Aug. 29, 520 B.C.
- The Temple was completed in 516 B.C.





# *Zechariah*

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- Zechariah had much to say and write concerning the future plans of God for Israel.
- Zechariah's eight visions
- A question concerning fasting
- Two Burdens of Zechariah
- One reason for this commentary is to show just how much was shown to the Old Testament prophets concerning the future plans that God had for Israel
- God will not abandon Israel





# The Eight Visions: (Chapter 1-6)

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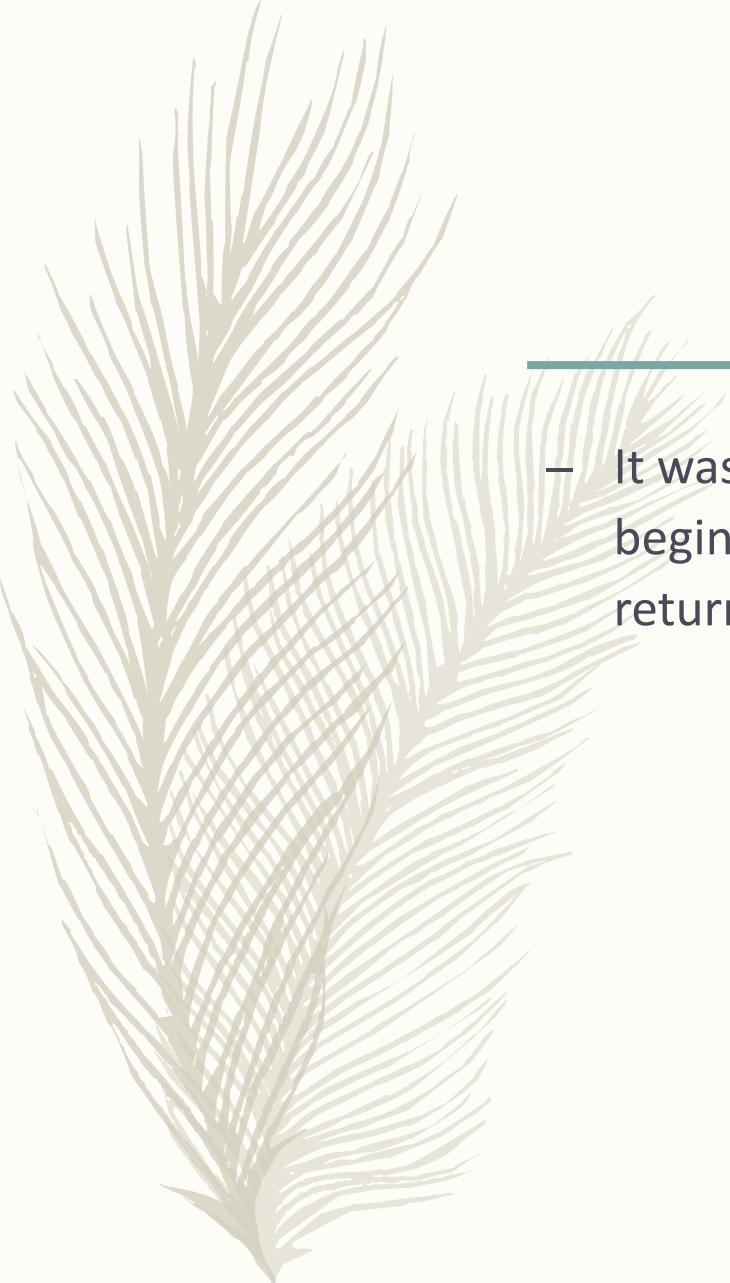
- God came to Zechariah...
- "The LORD was very angry with your forefathers. **3** Therefore tell the people: This is what the LORD Almighty says: '**Return to me,**' declares the LORD Almighty, '**and I will return to you,**' says the LORD Almighty Zech 1:2-3
- February 15, 519 B.C.
- The eight visions...



# First Vision

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- **The First Vision - The Rider on the Red Horse**
- During the night I had a vision--and there before me was a man riding a red horse! He was standing among the myrtle trees in a ravine. Behind him were red, brown and white horses. Zech 1:8
- they reported to the angel of the Lord (a theophany of Jesus) who was standing among the myrtle trees, "We have gone throughout the earth and found the whole world at rest and in peace." Zech 1:11
- 'I will return to Jerusalem with mercy, and there my house will be rebuilt. Zech. 1:16

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- It was time for God to begin His restoration of Israel. This restoration would begin at the time of Zechariah's writing but find its ultimate fulfillment upon the return of the Messiah.



# The Second Vision - Four Horns and Four Craftsmen

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- The Second Vision – Four Horns and Four Craftsmen
- Then I raised my eyes and looked, and there were **four horns**. <sup>19</sup> And I said to the angel who talked with me, "What are these?" So he answered me, "These are the horns that have scattered Judah, Israel, and Jerusalem." Zech. 1:18-19
- Then the LORD showed me four craftsmen. <sup>21</sup> And I said, "What are these coming to do?" So he said, "These are the horns that scattered Judah... but the **craftsmen** have come to terrify them and throw down these horns of the nations who lifted up their horns against the land of Judah to scatter its people." Zech 1:18-21




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- The four horns – the nations responsible for scattering Israel throughout the world
  - The four craftsmen represent the judgment God has planned for the four horsemen



# A Man to Measure Jerusalem

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- The Third Vision - A Man to Measure Jerusalem
- Then I raised my eyes and looked, and behold, a man with a measuring line in his hand. <sup>2</sup> So I said, "Where are you going?" And he said to me, "To measure Jerusalem, to see what is its width and what is its length." ..... **'Jerusalem shall be inhabited as towns without walls,** because of the multitude of men and livestock in it. <sup>5</sup> For I,' says the LORD, 'will be a wall of fire all around her, and I **will be the glory in her midst.'** " Zech 2:1-2,4-5

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- Jerusalem will be rebuilt
  - It will be a city without walls
  - God will be the glory within the city's midst
  - **Many nations shall be joined to the LORD *in that day*, and they shall become My people. And I will dwell in your midst.** Then you will know that the LORD of hosts has sent Me to you. Zech 2:10-11



# The High Priest, Joshua

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- The fourth vision – The High Priest, Joshua
- Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the Angel of the LORD, (a theophany of Jesus) and Satan standing at his right hand to oppose him. Now Joshua was dressed in filthy clothes as he stood before the angel. **4** The angel said to those who were standing before him, "Take off his filthy clothes." Then he said to Joshua, "See, I have taken away your sin, and I will put rich garments on you." Zech 3:1,3-4






# Israel's Sins Will Be Forgiven

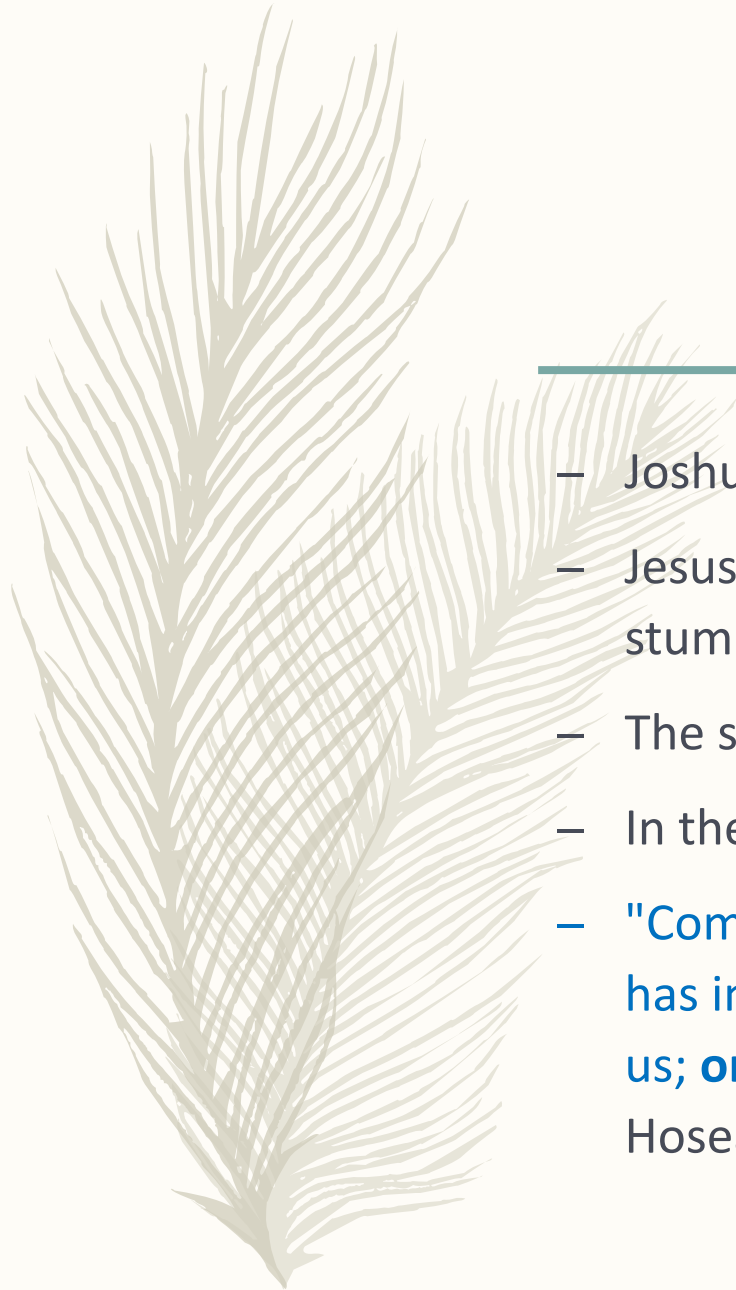
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- Israel was a nation that wore filthy clothes at that time.
- God tells them that He will not forsake them and that some day they will wear clean clothes again.
- Jesus will forgive them their sins in the day of the Lord... in the end-times.
- "This is what the LORD Almighty says: **'If you will walk in my ways and keep my requirements, then you will govern my house and have charge of my courts, and I will give you a place among these standing here.'**

# The Branch is Coming

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- "'Listen, O **high priest Joshua** and your associates seated before you, who are men symbolic of things to come: ***I am going to bring my servant, the Branch.*** **9** See, the stone I have set in front of Joshua! There are **seven eyes on that one stone**, and I will engrave an inscription on it,' says the LORD Almighty, 'and **I will remove the sin of this land in a single day.** **10** "'In that day each of you will invite his neighbor to sit under his vine and fig tree,' declares the LORD Almighty.'" Zech 3:7-10



- Joshua is a symbol of unrepentant Israel
- Jesus is coming and He will be the Chief Cornerstone of the Church... but, a stumbling stone to many of Israel as well.
- The seven eyes are a symbol of the omniscience of Jesus
- In the last days, Jesus will remove the sin of Israel.
- "Come, let us return to the LORD. He has torn us to pieces but he will heal us; he has injured us but he will bind up our wounds. **2** After two days he will revive us; **on the third day he will restore us, that we may live in his presence.**

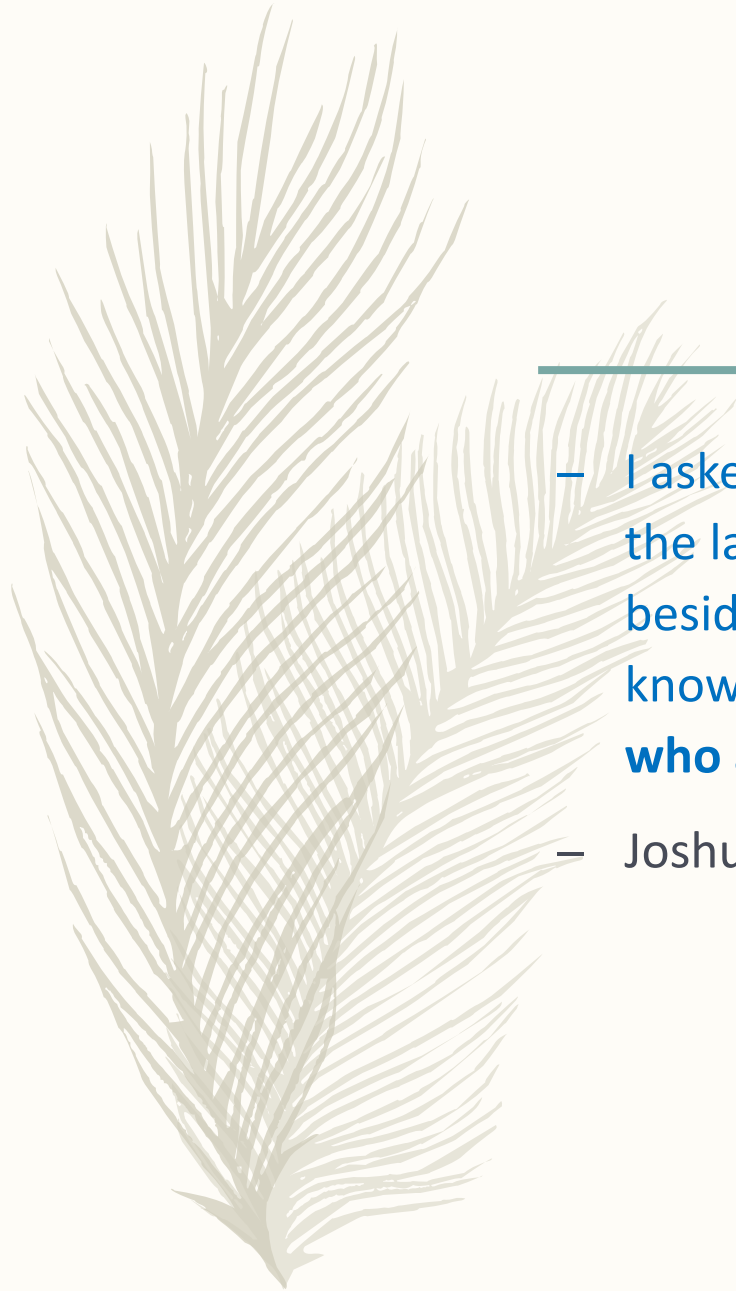
Hosea 6:1-2



# The Gold Lampstand and the Two Olive Trees

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- The Fifth Vision - The Gold Lampstand and the Two Olive Trees
- "I see a solid gold lampstand with a bowl at the top and seven lights on it, with seven channels to the lights. **3** Also there are two olive trees by it, one on the right of the bowl and the other on its left." Zech 4:2-3

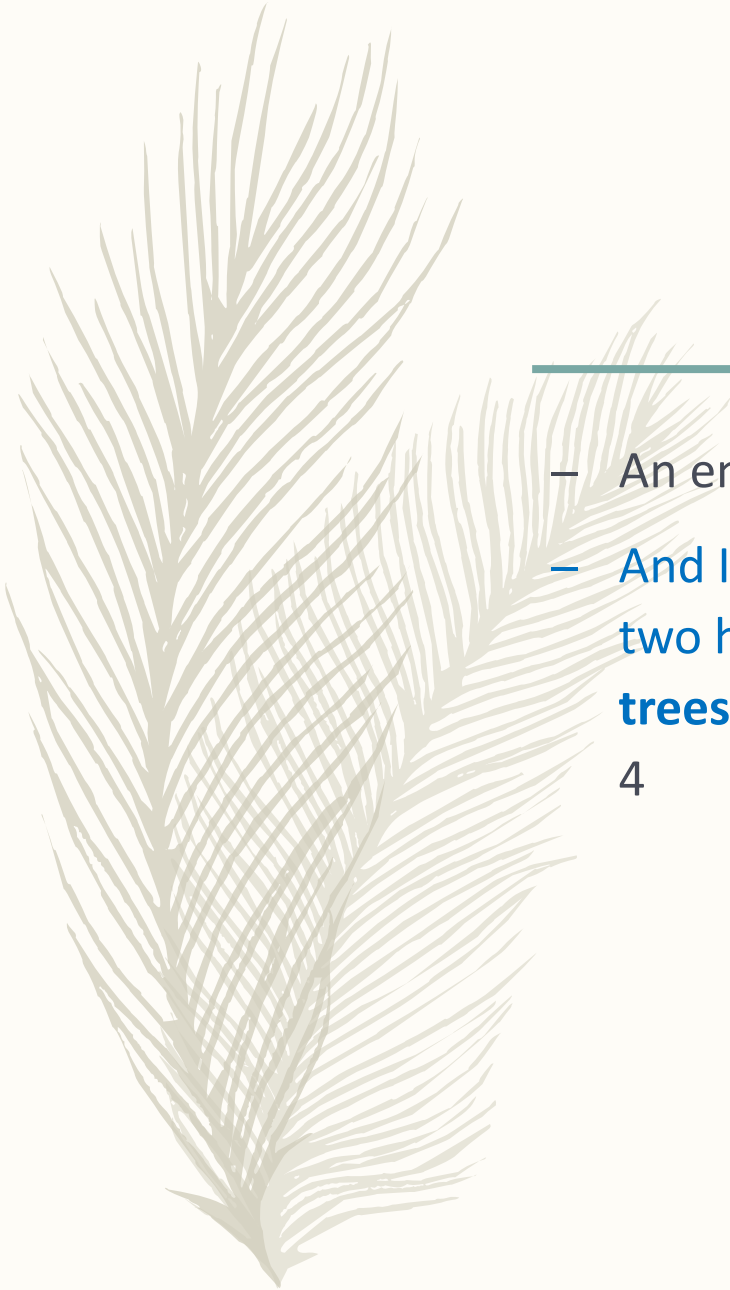


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- I asked the angel, "What are these two olive trees on the right and the left of the lampstand?" **12** Again I asked him, "What are these **two olive branches** beside the two gold pipes that pour out golden oil?" **13** He replied, "Do you not know what these are?" "No, my lord," I said. **14** So he said, "**These are the two who are anointed to serve the Lord of all the earth.**"
  - Joshua and Zerubbabel

# Two Witnesses

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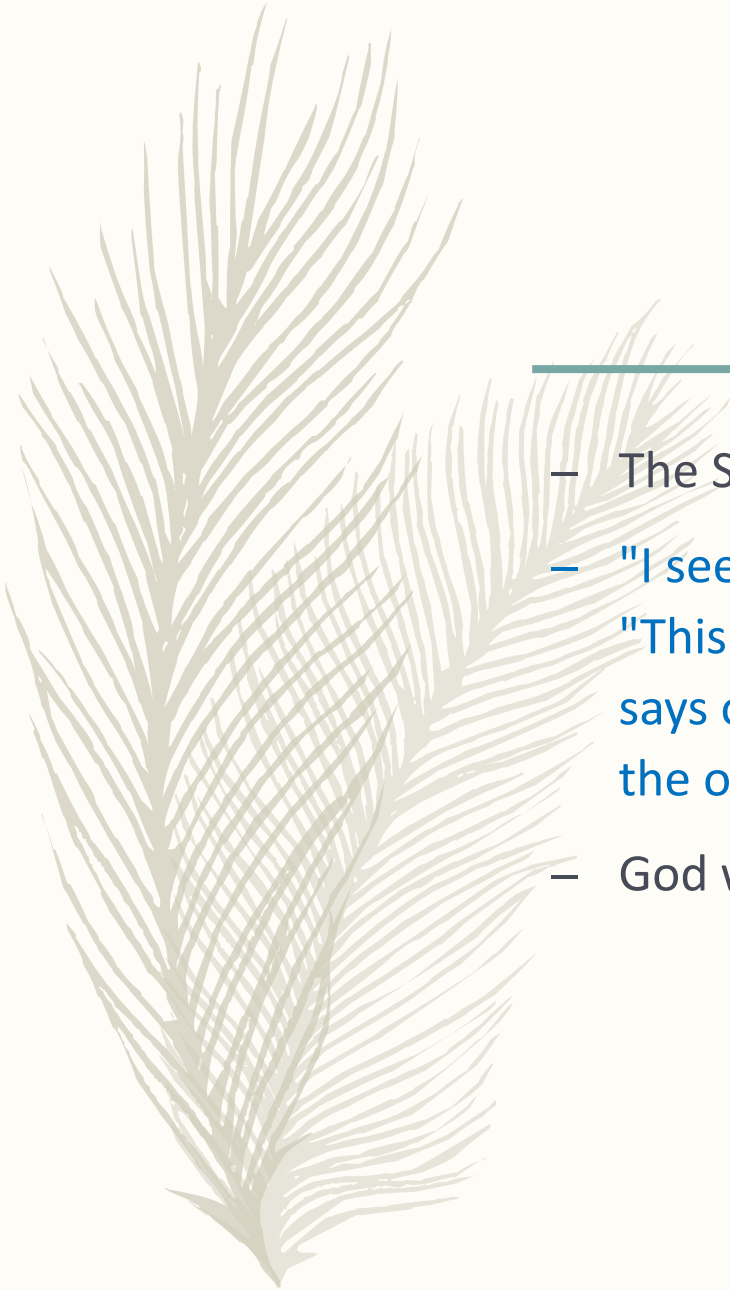
- An end-times fulfillment as well...
- And I will give power to my *two witnesses*, and they will prophesy one thousand two hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth." <sup>4</sup> **These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands** standing before the God of the earth. Rev 11:3-4



# The Flying Scroll

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- The Sixth Vision – The Flying Scroll
- "I see a flying scroll, thirty feet long and fifteen feet wide. " **3** And he said to me, "This is the curse that is going out over the whole land; for according to what it says on one side, every thief will be banished, and according to what it says on the other, everyone who swears falsely will be banished. Zech 5:2-3
- God will definitely judge all people one day in the future.

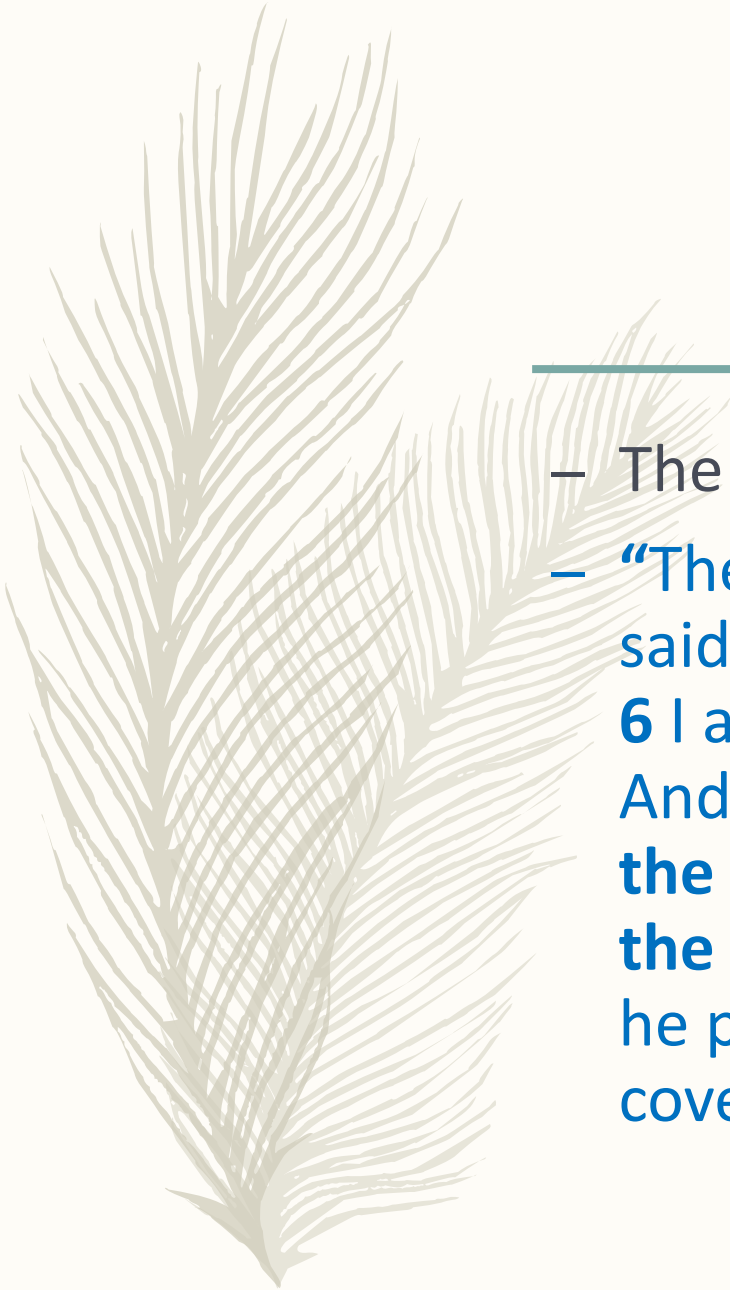


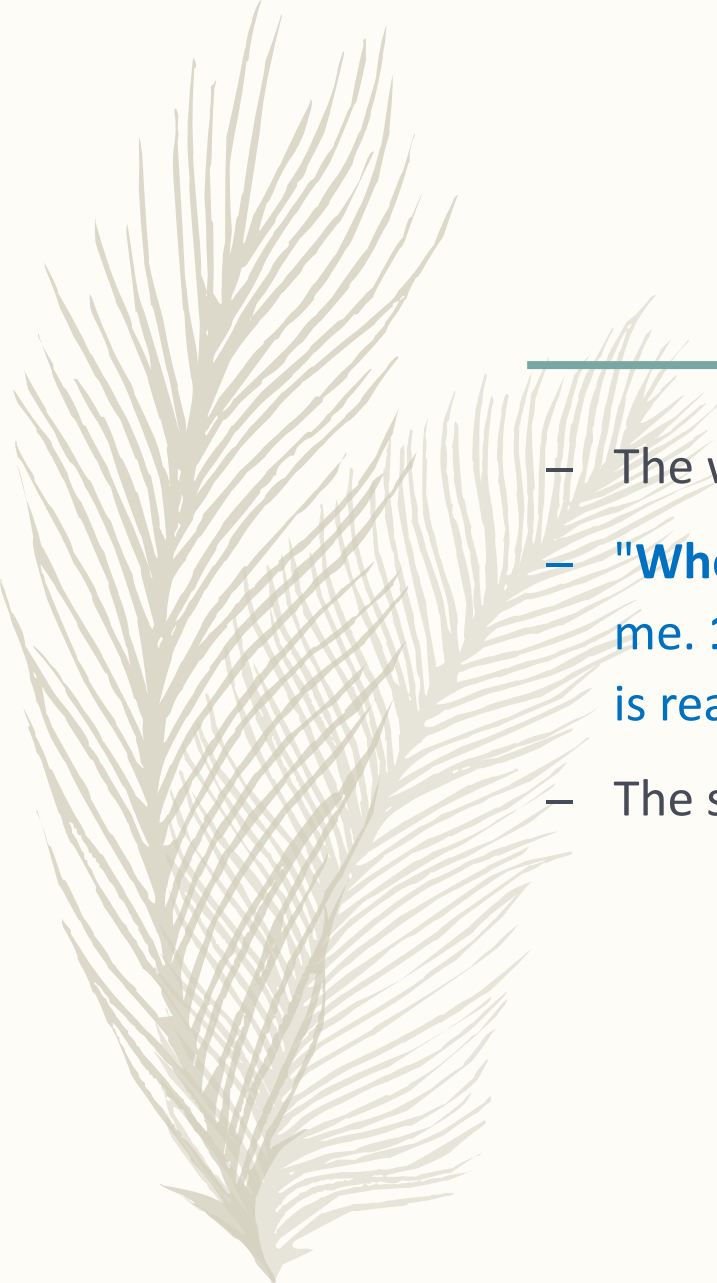


# The Measuring Basket

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- The Seventh Vision - The Measuring Basket
- “Then the angel who was speaking to me came forward and said to me, "Look up and see what this is that is appearing." **6** I asked, "What is it?" He replied, "It is a measuring basket. " And he added, "**This is the iniquity of the people throughout the land.**" **7** Then the cover of lead was raised, and **there in the basket sat a woman!** **8** He said, "**This is wickedness,**" and he pushed her back into the basket and pushed the lead cover down over its mouth. Zech 5:5-8




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- The woman represents the evil of the land.
  - "**Where are they taking the basket?**" I asked the angel who was speaking to me. **11** He replied, "To the country of **Babylonia** to build a house for it. When it is ready, the basket will be set there in its place." Zech 5:10-11
  - The sin of the world was taken to Babylon and left there.

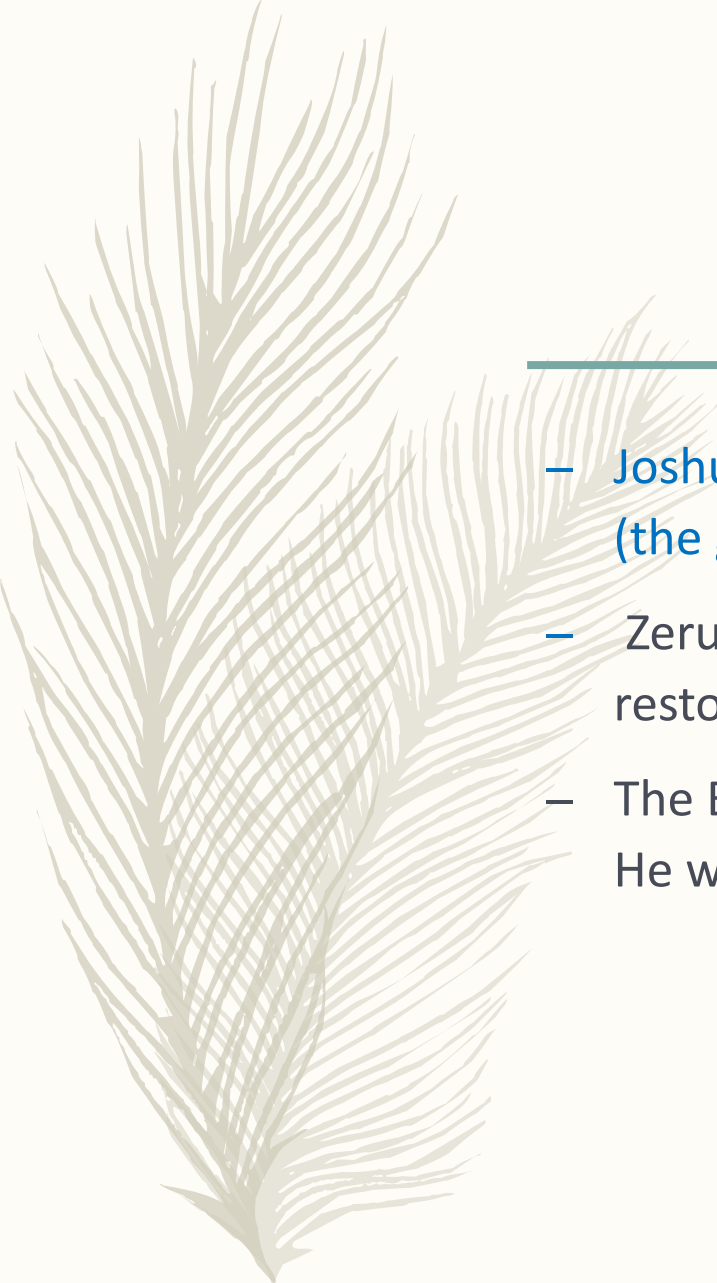
# The Four Chariots

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- The Eighth Vision – The Four Chariots
- Then I turned and raised my eyes and looked, and behold, **four chariots were coming from between two mountains**, and the mountains were **mountains of bronze**.<sup>2</sup> With the first chariot were red horses, with the second chariot black horses,<sup>3</sup> with the third chariot white horses, and with the fourth chariot dappled horses--strong steeds. Zech 6:1-3
- These chariots are sent out to carry out God's judgment on the Gentile nations.
- "These are four spirits of heaven, who go out from their station before the Lord of all the earth." Zech 6:5



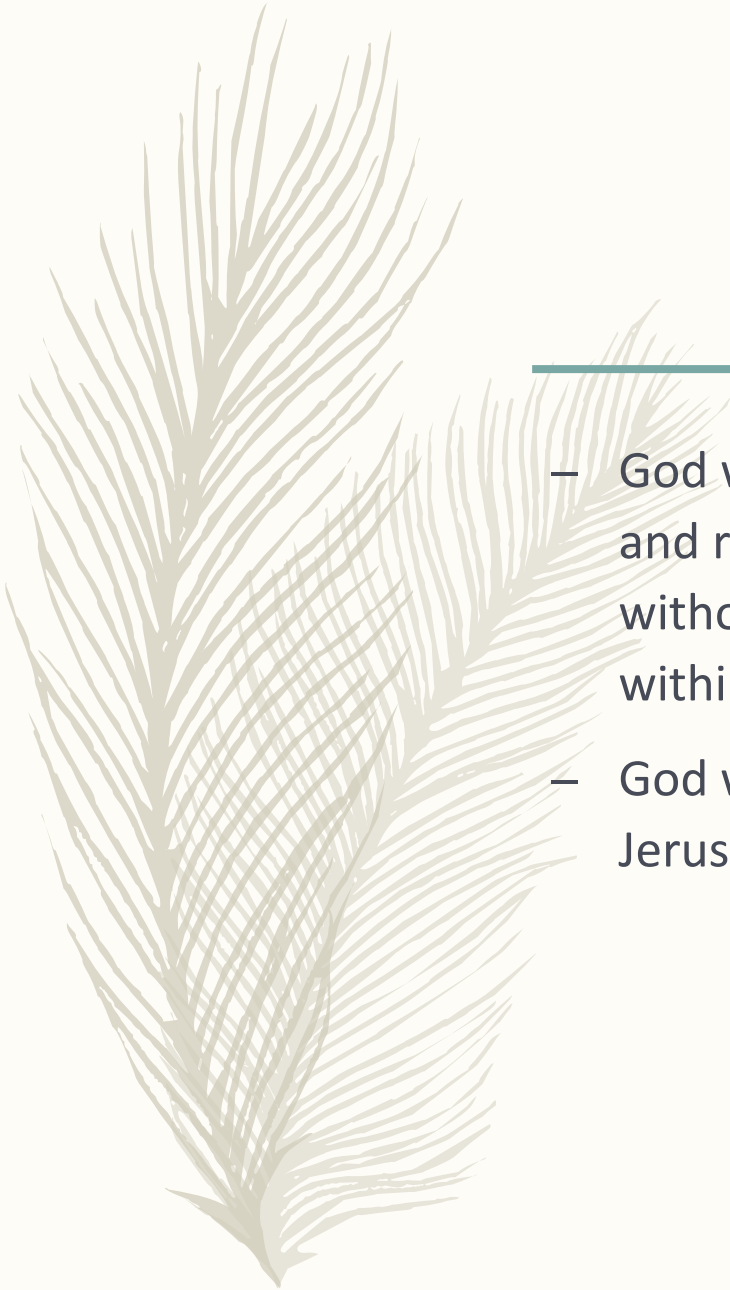
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- Take the silver and gold, make an elaborate crown, and set it on the head of Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest. <sup>12</sup> Then speak to him, saying, Thus says the LORD of hosts, saying: "**Behold, the Man whose name is the BRANCH!** From His place He shall branch out, And **He shall build the temple of the LORD;** <sup>13</sup> Yes, He shall build the temple of the LORD. **He shall bear the glory, And shall *sit and rule on His throne*; So He shall be a *priest on His throne*, And the counsel of peace shall be between them both."** ' Zech 6:11-13

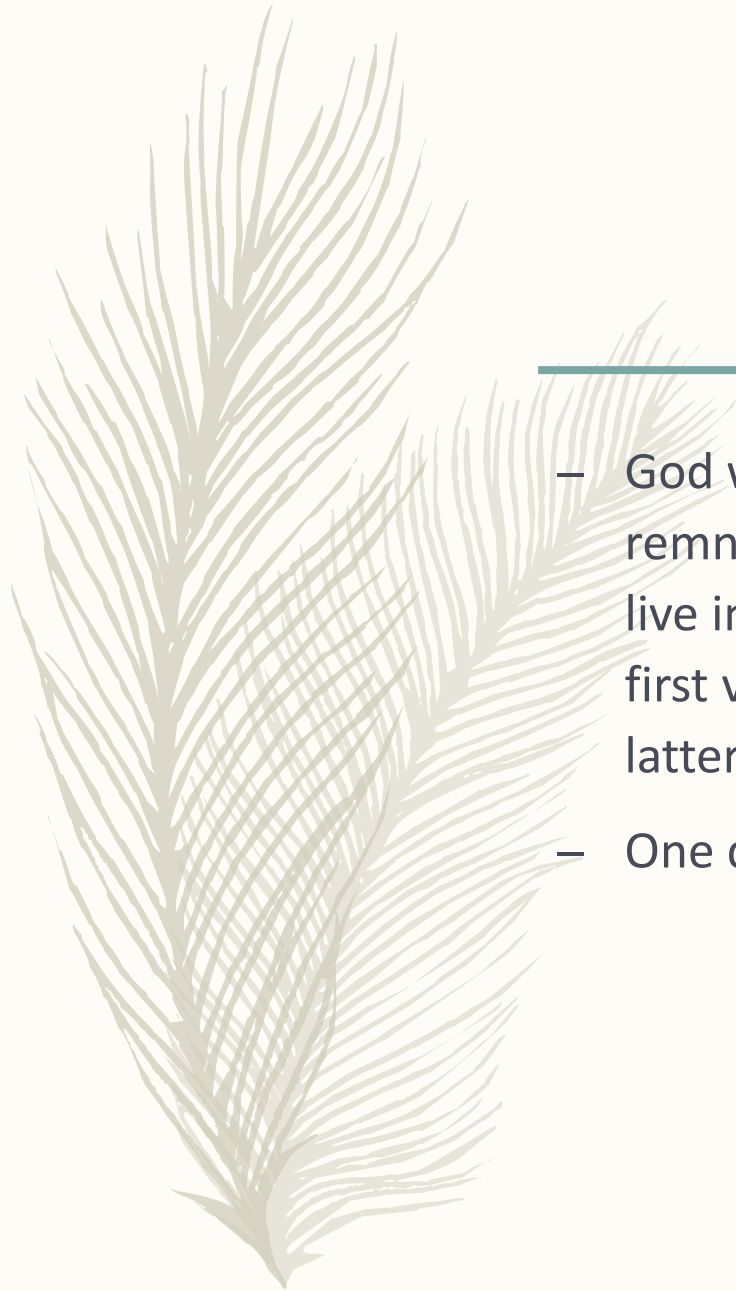
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- Joshua (a priest) was crowned with an “elaborate crown”, and not Zerubbabel (the governor of Judea).
  - Zerubbabel was actually in the line of David. God apparently had no plans to restore anyone from the line of David on the throne *at that time*...
  - The Branch, (who is, of course, Jesus) will build the Millennial Kingdom Temple. He will be both the King and the High Priest.

# Summary of Eight Visions

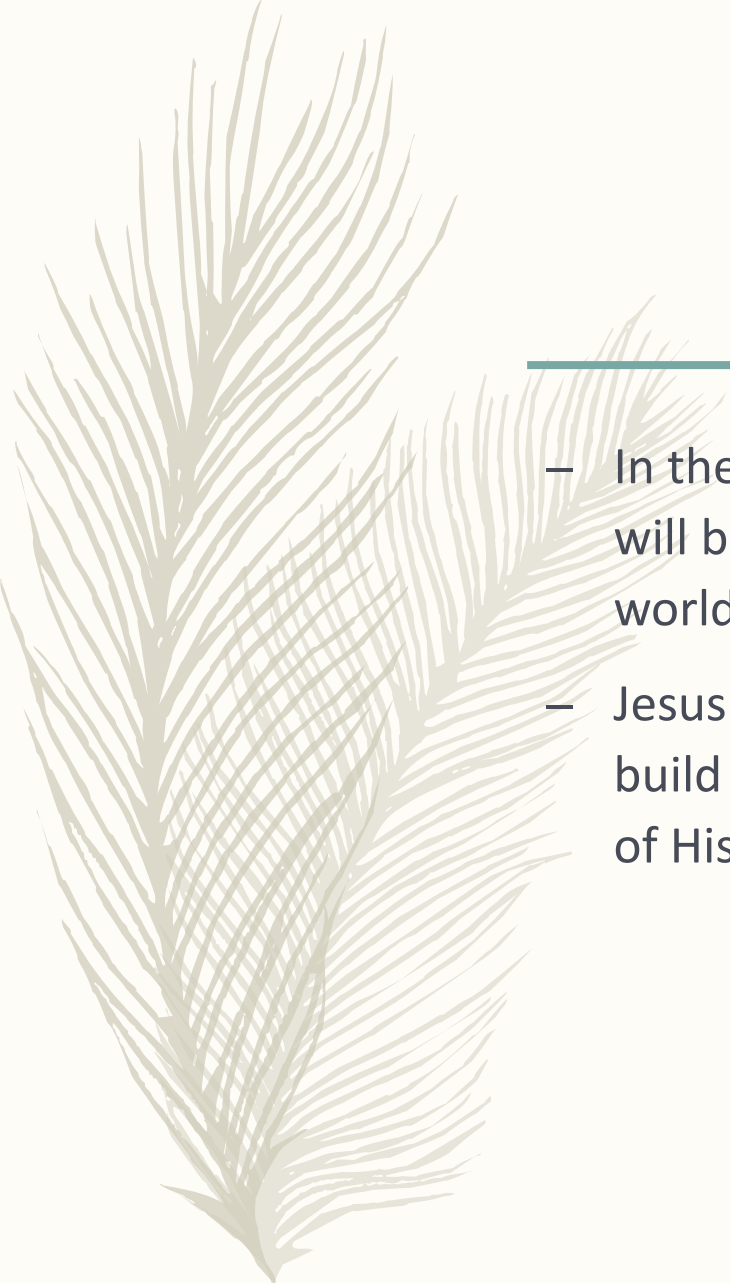
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- God was now quite ready for the people of Israel, His chosen people, to return and rebuild their city and the Temple. One day in the future, it would be a city without walls; it would overflow with prosperity and God, Himself would live within its midst.
- God was angry at all those who had gone overboard in their attacks upon Jerusalem and He would bring judgment upon them.





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- God would send His servant Jesus, the Branch, to save the people. If the remnant of Israel would only follow Him, He would save them and they would live in His presence... in the Holy City of Jerusalem. Although on the Messiah's first visit to the earth He would prove to be a *stumbling block* for Israel, in the latter days (*in that day*), the Messiah would come and be their Savior.
  - One day in the future, God will judge all sin and all sinners

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- In the end-times, Babylon will be the center of the Antichrist's earthly reign. It will be the center of immorality and all other types of sinful activity in the world.
  - Jesus Christ, the Branch of David, will return to bring in His Kingdom. He will build the Temple and rule in His dual role as High Priest and King of Kings in all of His glory. This will come to pass during the Millennial Kingdom.





# A Question Concerning Fasting

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- Zechariah - Chapters 7-8
- The people ask a question concerning fasts that had been instituted while in Babylon
- Zechariah's answer from God
- Then God changes His tone and tells of a future time...
- This is what the LORD says: "I will return to Zion and dwell in Jerusalem Zech 8:3

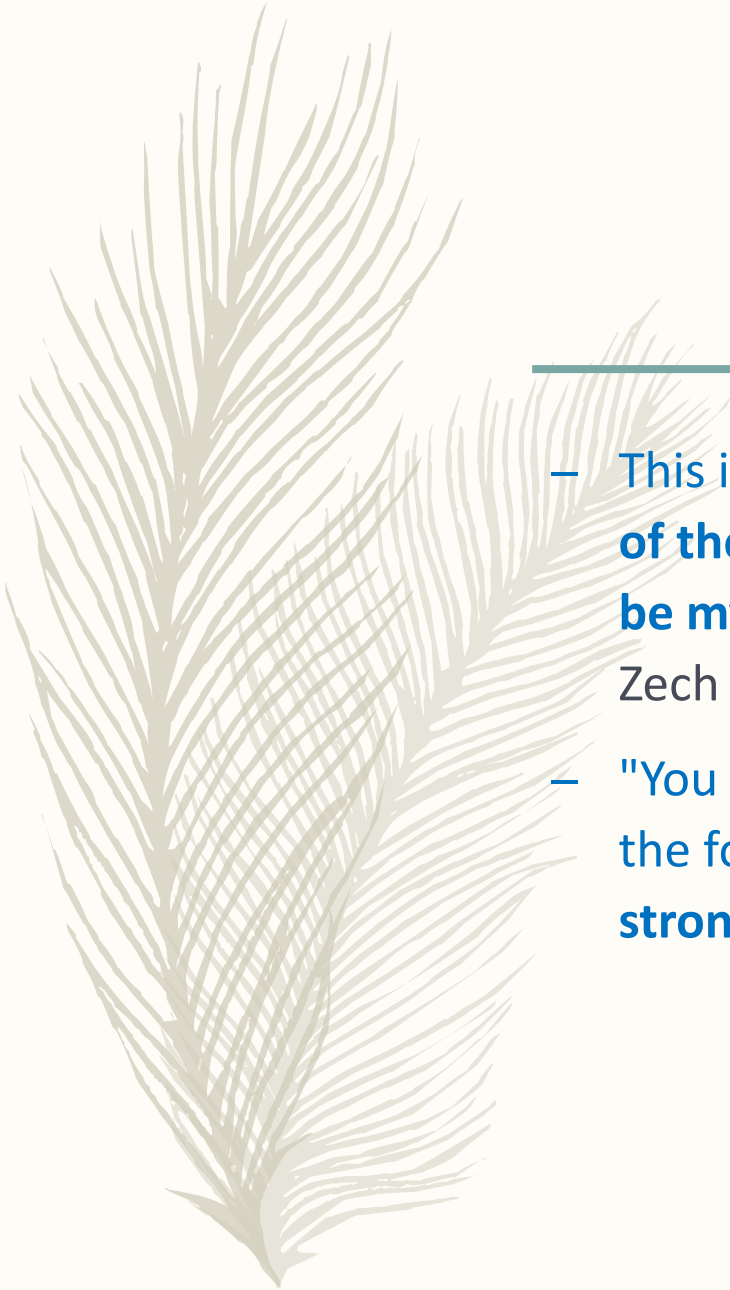
# God's Promise to Israel

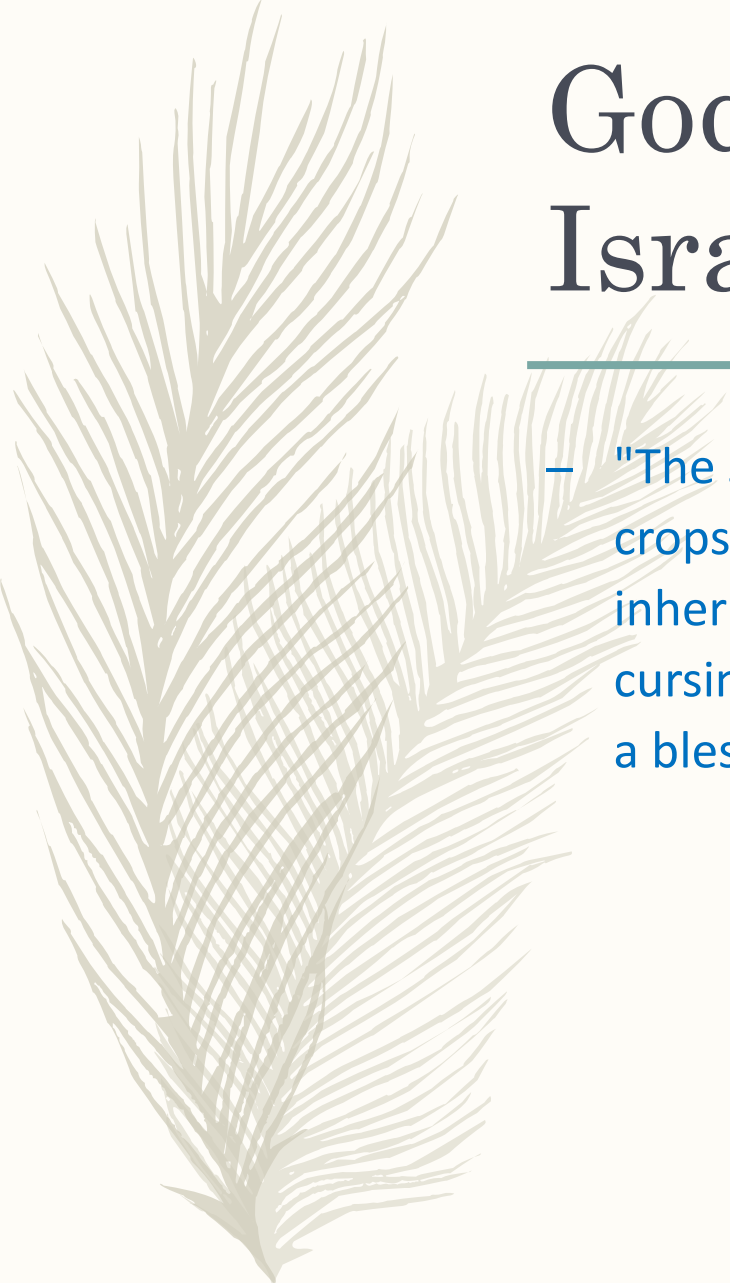
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- This is what the LORD Almighty says: **"I will save my people from the countries of the east and the west. 8 I will bring them back to live in Jerusalem; they will be my people, and I will be faithful and righteous to them as their God."**

Zech 8:7-8

- "You who now hear these words spoken by the prophets who were there when the foundation was laid for the house of the LORD Almighty, **let your hands be strong so that the temple may be built.**" Zech 8:9





# God will bless a remnant of Israel

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- "The seed will grow well, the vine will yield its fruit, the ground will produce its crops, and the heavens will drop their dew. I will give all these things as an inheritance to the remnant of this people. **13** As you have been an object of cursing among the nations, O Judah and Israel, so will I save you, and you will be a blessing. Do not be afraid, but let your hands be strong." Zech 8:12-13

# “Put Aside Mournful Fasts”

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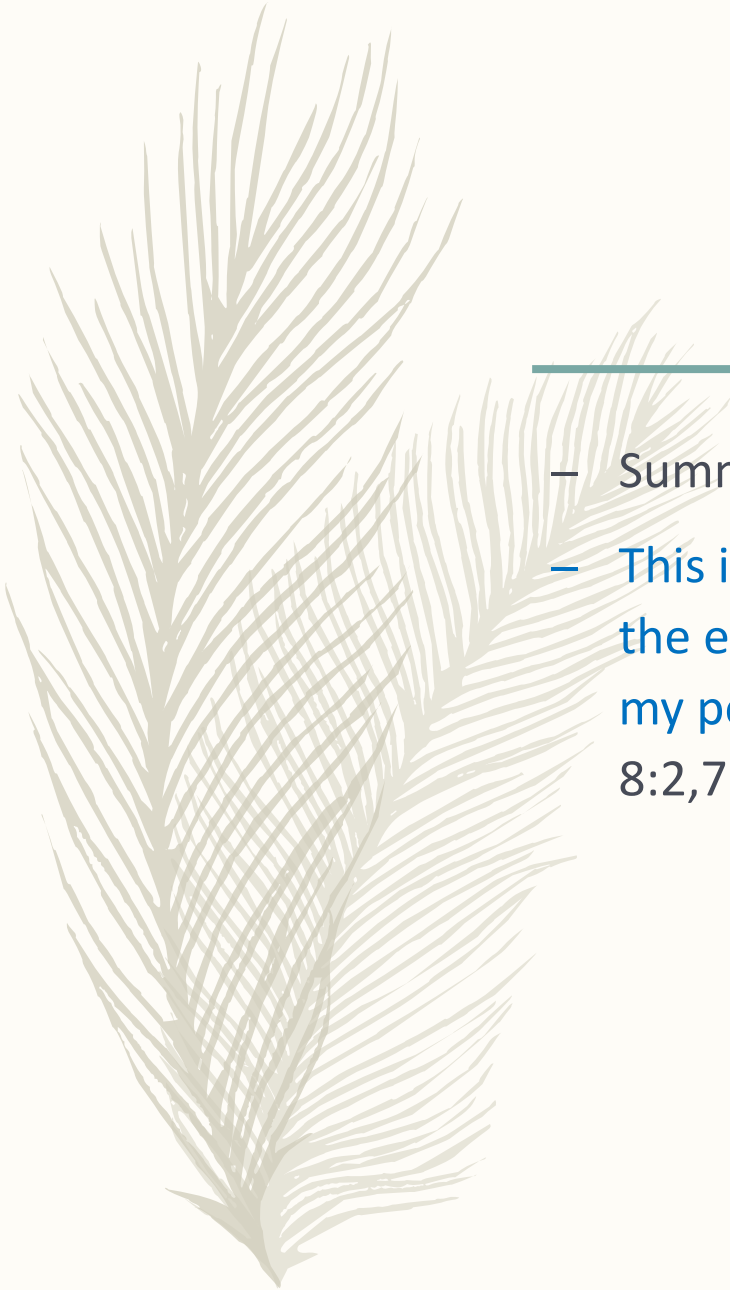
- This is what the LORD Almighty says: "The fasts of the fourth, fifth, seventh and tenth months will become joyful and glad occasions and happy festivals for Judah. Zech 8:18
- And many peoples and powerful nations will come to Jerusalem to seek the LORD Almighty and to entreat him." Zech 8:20-22



# Zechariah 7-8 - conclusion

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- Summary of Chapters 7 & 8
- This is what the LORD Almighty says: "I will save my people from the countries of the east and the west. I will bring them back to live in Jerusalem; they will be my people, and I will be faithful and righteous to them as their God." Zech 8:2,7



# Two Oracles

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- Zechariah 9-14
- This second portion of Zechariah may have been written many years later
- It speaks to the coming Messiah and continues to tell of God's future plans for Israel





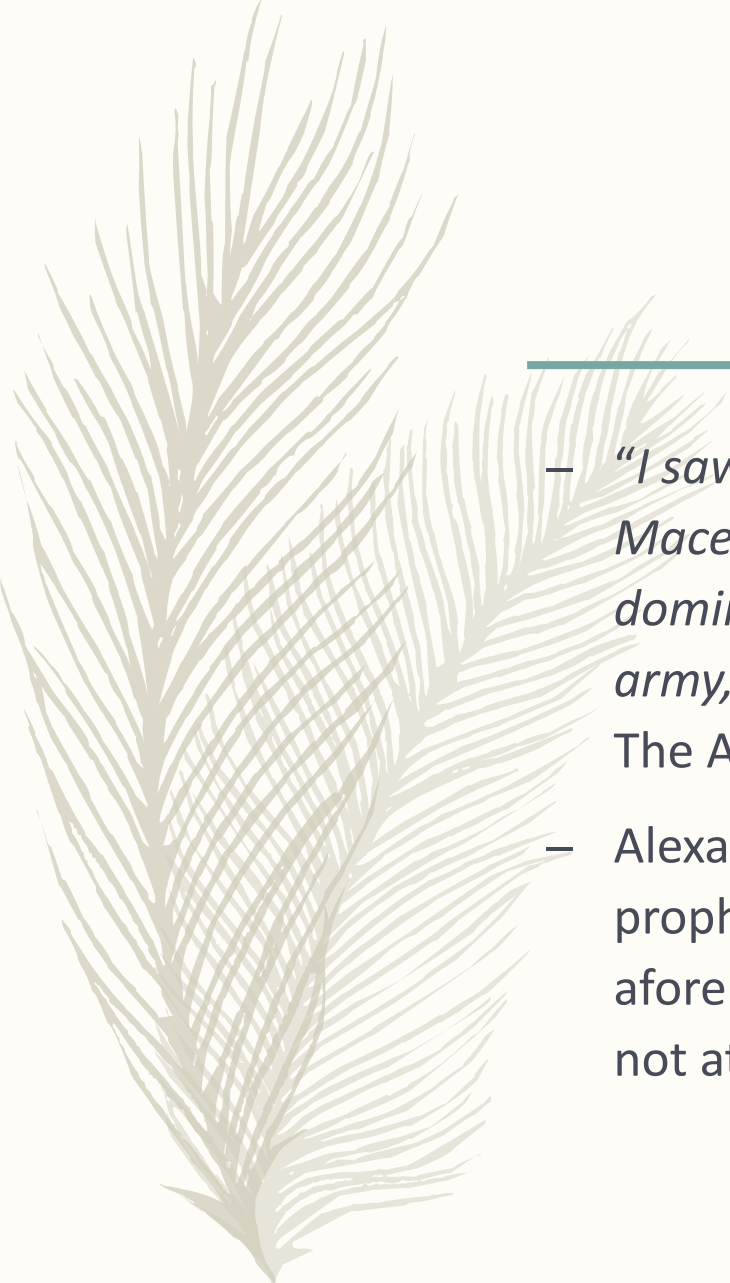
# Judgment on the Enemies of Israel

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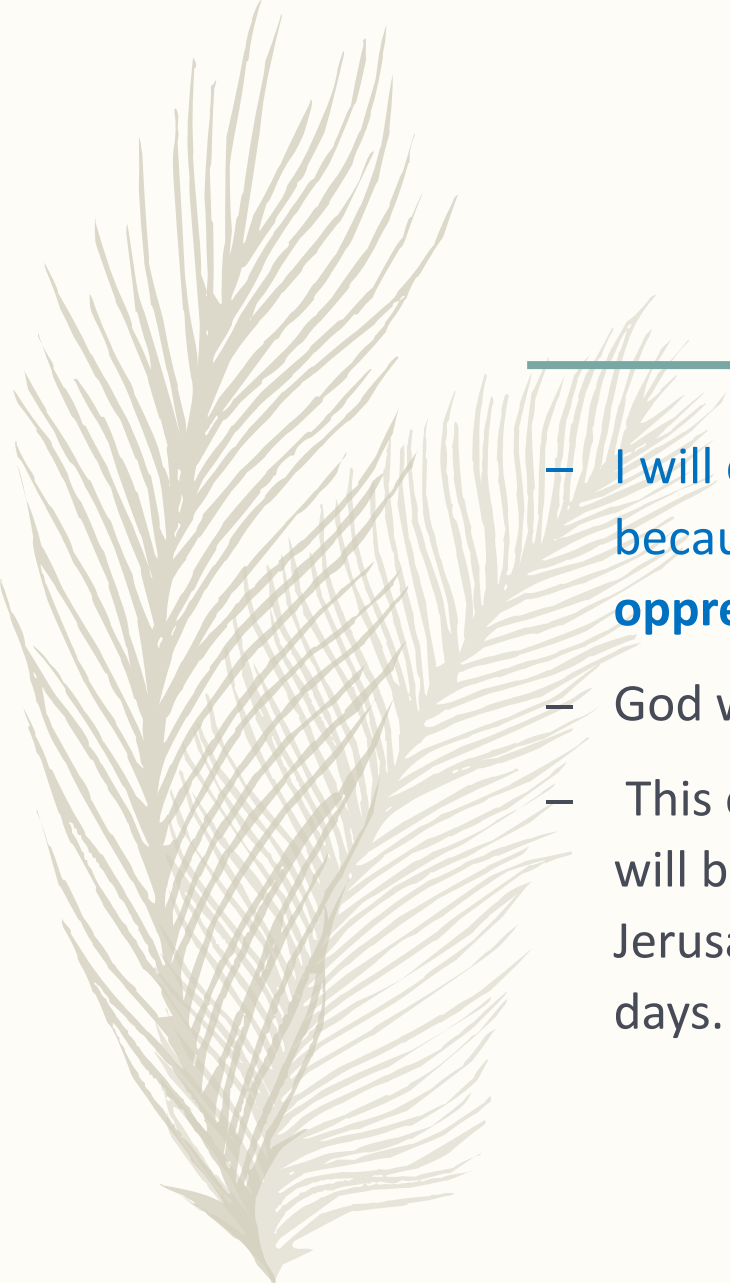
- God pronounces judgment against Syria, Tyre, Sidon, and Philistia.
- Approximately 175 years after this oracle was written down by Zechariah, Alexander the Great defeated each one of the above mentioned nations as he progressively added to his impressive empire.
- Alexander and his trip to Jerusalem – Josephus tells the tale...

# Alexander the Great

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- 
- *“I saw this very person in a dream, in this very habit, when I was at Dios in Macedonia, who, when I was considering with myself, how I might obtain the dominion of Asia, exhorted me to make no delay.....that he would conduct my army, and would give me the dominion over the Persians.”* (Flavius Josephus, The Antiquities of the Jews, Book XI, p. 350)
  - Alexander did not attack Jerusalem... this is an historical fact. Zechariah prophesied this when he wrote how the king who had just conquered all of the aforementioned nations would only goes so far as to camp around Jerusalem... not attack that city...

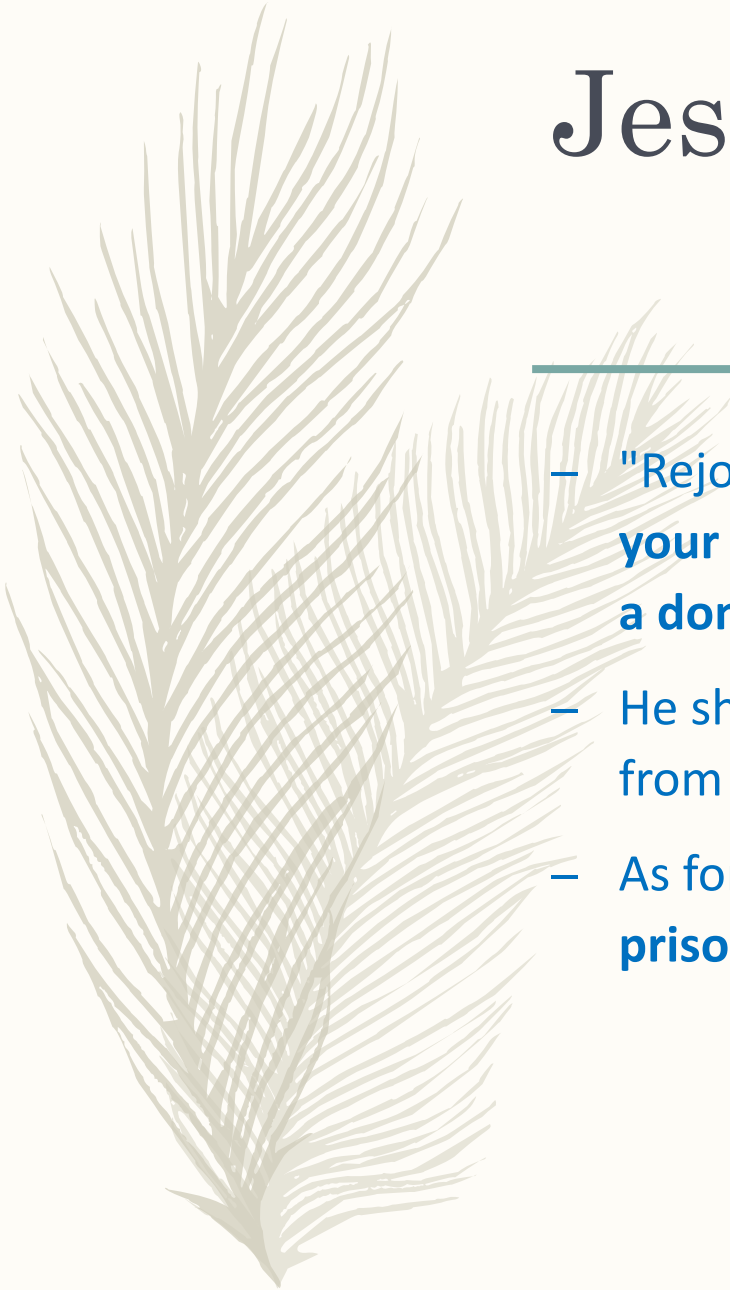


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- I will camp around My house (God's Temple in Jerusalem) because of the army, because of him who passes by and him who returns. **No more shall an oppressor pass through them**, for now I have seen with My eyes. Zech 9:8
  - God would protect Jerusalem and His Temple from the enemy armies.
  - This entire campaign by Alexander foreshadows the last days when Jerusalem will be given protection from God from foreign invasion. It is definitely true that Jerusalem will be supernaturally protected from foreign invasion in the last days.

# Jesus - King of Kings will come

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- "Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! **Behold, your King is coming to you; He is just and having salvation, Lowly and riding on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey.** Zech 9:9
- He shall speak peace to the nations; His dominion shall be 'from sea to sea, And from the River to the ends of the earth.' Zech 9:10
- As for you, ***because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will free your prisoners from the waterless pit.*** Zech 9:11



# The Day of the Lord

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- The **LORD their God will save them on that day as the flock of his people.** They will sparkle in his land like jewels in a crown. **17** How attractive and beautiful they will be!      Zech 9:16-17
- God will bring Israel back to Him (*save them*) during the Tribulation. Then, of course, after the Great Tribulation concludes with the return of Jesus, the Millennial Kingdom will commence.




# The Final Re-Gathering of Israel

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- Chapter 10
- Ask the LORD for rain in the springtime; it is the LORD who makes the storm clouds. He gives showers of rain to men, and plants of the field to everyone. Zech 10:1
- **The LORD Almighty will care for his flock, the house of Judah, and make them like a proud horse in battle. 4 From Judah will come the cornerstone.** Zech 10:2-4



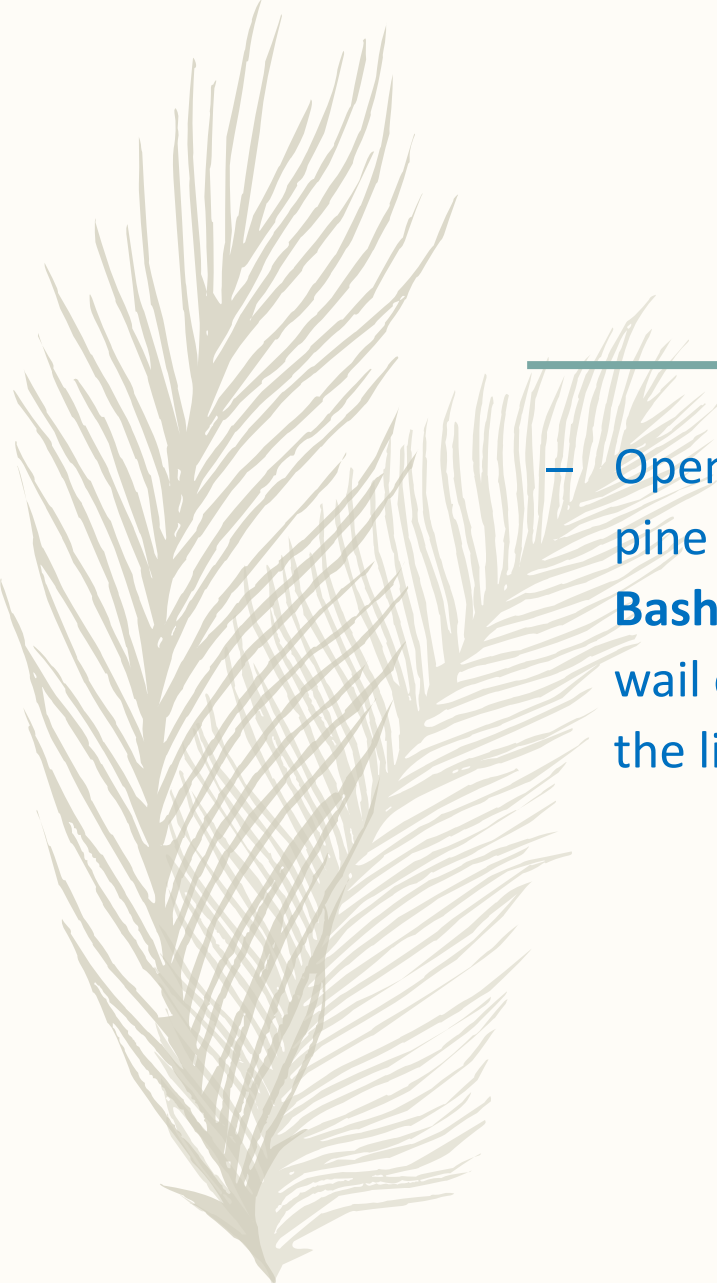
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- "I will strengthen the **house of Judah** and save the **house of Joseph**. **I will restore them because I have compassion on them.**
  - The **Ephraimites** will become like mighty men, and their hearts will be glad as with wine. Zech 10:6-7
  - God has already accomplished this. The people from the twelve tribes of Israel have come from all over the world to unite once again in their homeland of Israel
  - **Though I scatter them among the peoples, yet in distant lands they will remember me. They and their children will survive, and they will return.** Zech 10:9

# The Two Shepherds

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- The previous prophecies in Zechariah have been pointing to a final restoration of Israel as has been clearly demonstrated.
- This chapter is primarily concerned with presenting two different types of messiahs that will be coming in the future... one that is wonderful and one that is terrible.
- Israel will face severe judgment in the future because of their continued rebellion against God. Israel will therefore be devastated all throughout the land...

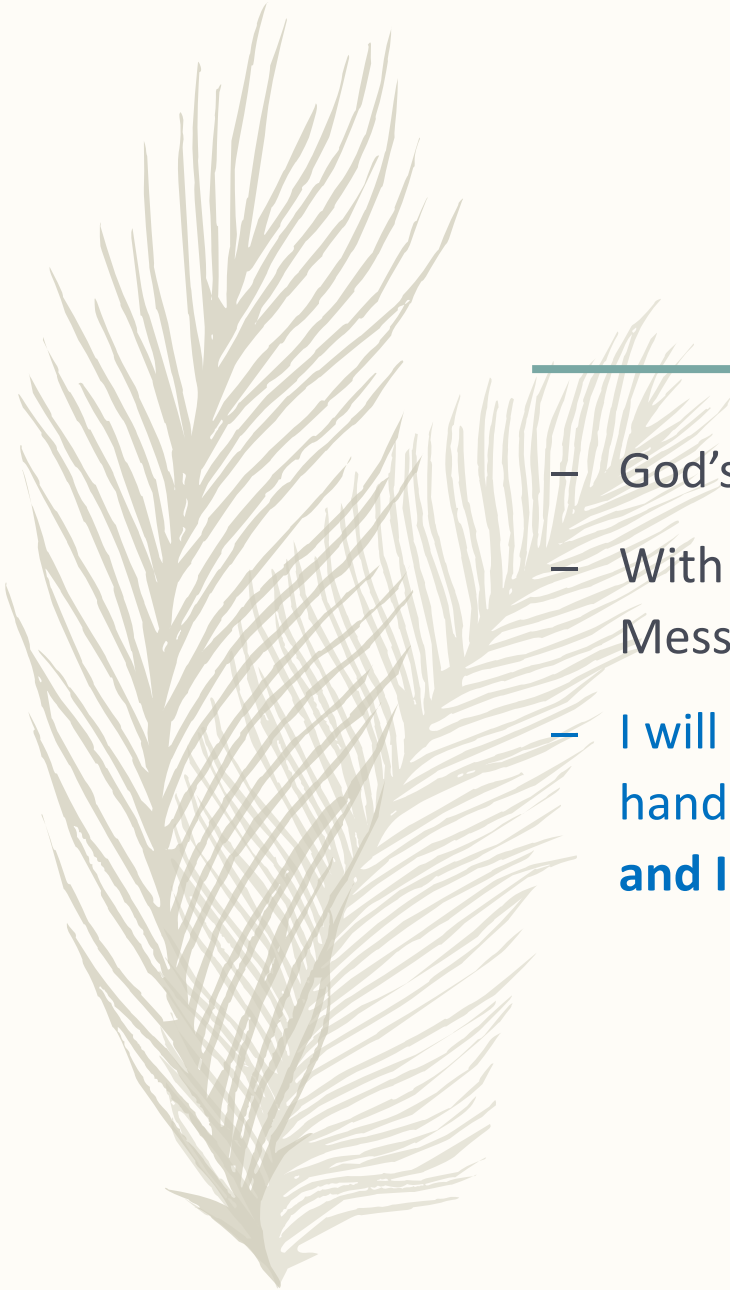


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- Open your doors, O **Lebanon**, so that fire may devour your cedars! **2** Wail, O pine tree, for the cedar has fallen; the stately trees are ruined! Wail, oaks of **Bashan** (in northern Israel); the dense forest has been cut down! **3** Listen to the wail of the shepherds; their rich pastures are destroyed! Listen to the roar of the lions; the lush thicket of the **Jordan** is ruined! Zech 11:1-3

# Judgment Comes to Israel

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- God's patience will finally run out...
- With the coming of Christ, and the major portion of the Jews rejecting their Messiah, God would allow for the destruction of Jerusalem
- I will no longer have pity on the people of the land," declares the LORD. "I will hand everyone over to his neighbor and his king. **They will oppress the land, and I will not rescue them from their hands.**" Zech 11:6

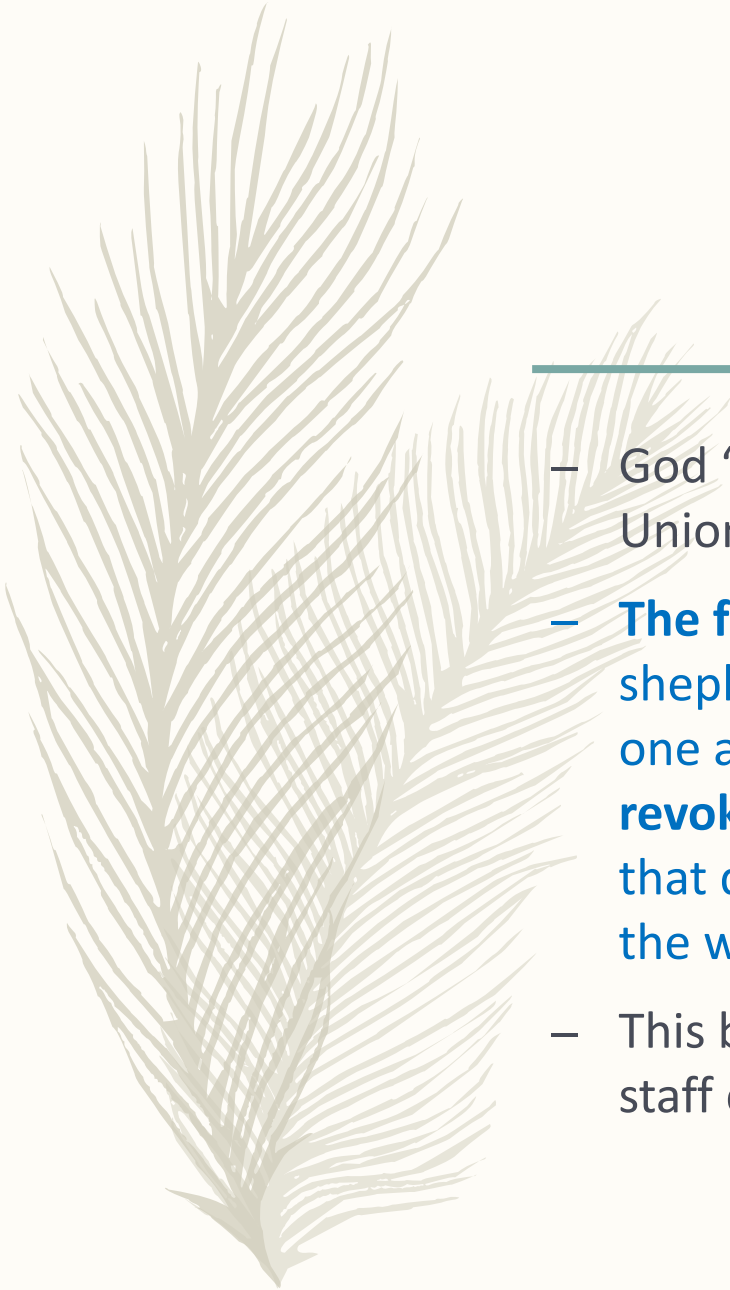





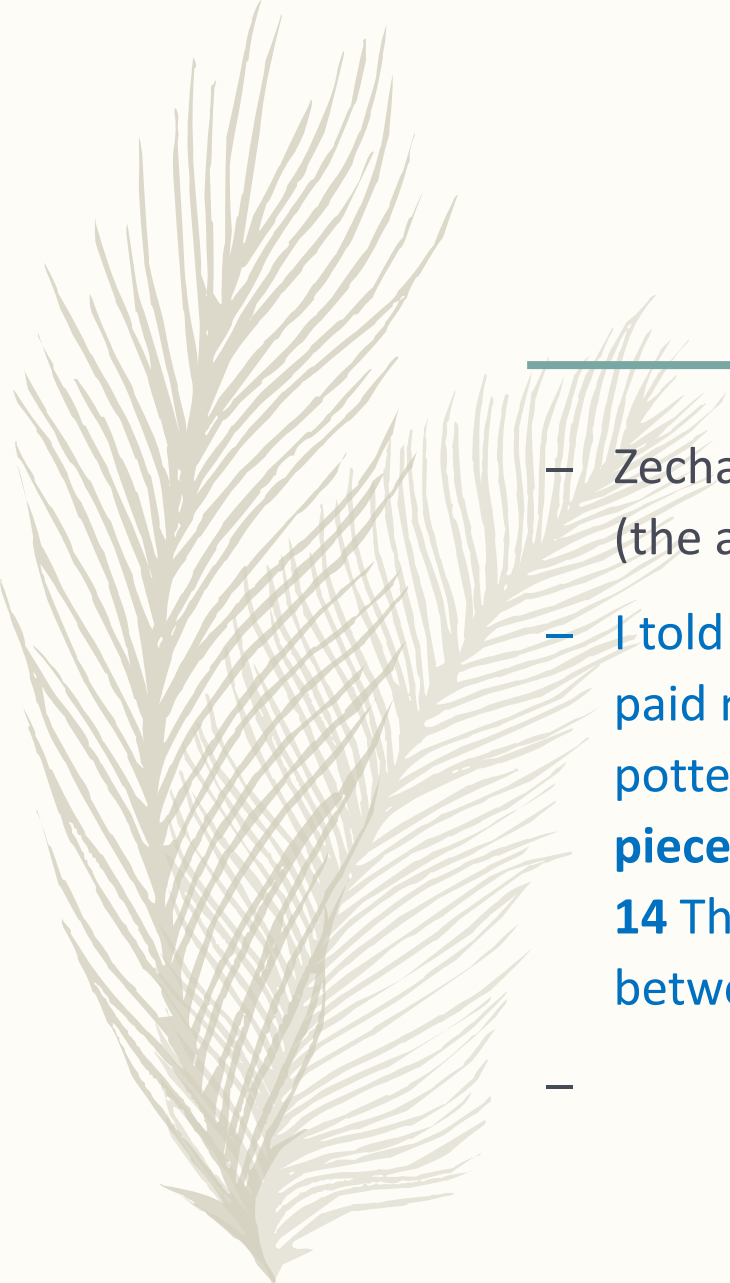
# Favor and Union

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- God “paints a picture” using two staffs, one names Favor (Beauty), the other Union (Bonds).
- **The flock detested me, and I grew weary of them 9** and said, "I will not be your shepherd. Let the dying die, and the perishing perish. Let those who are left eat one another's flesh." **10 Then I took my staff called Beauty and broke it, revoking the covenant I had made with all the nations. 11** It was revoked on that day, and so the afflicted of the flock who were watching me knew it was the word of the LORD. Zech 11:8-11
- This breaking of God’s conditional covenant is symbolized by the breaking of the staff called Beauty.



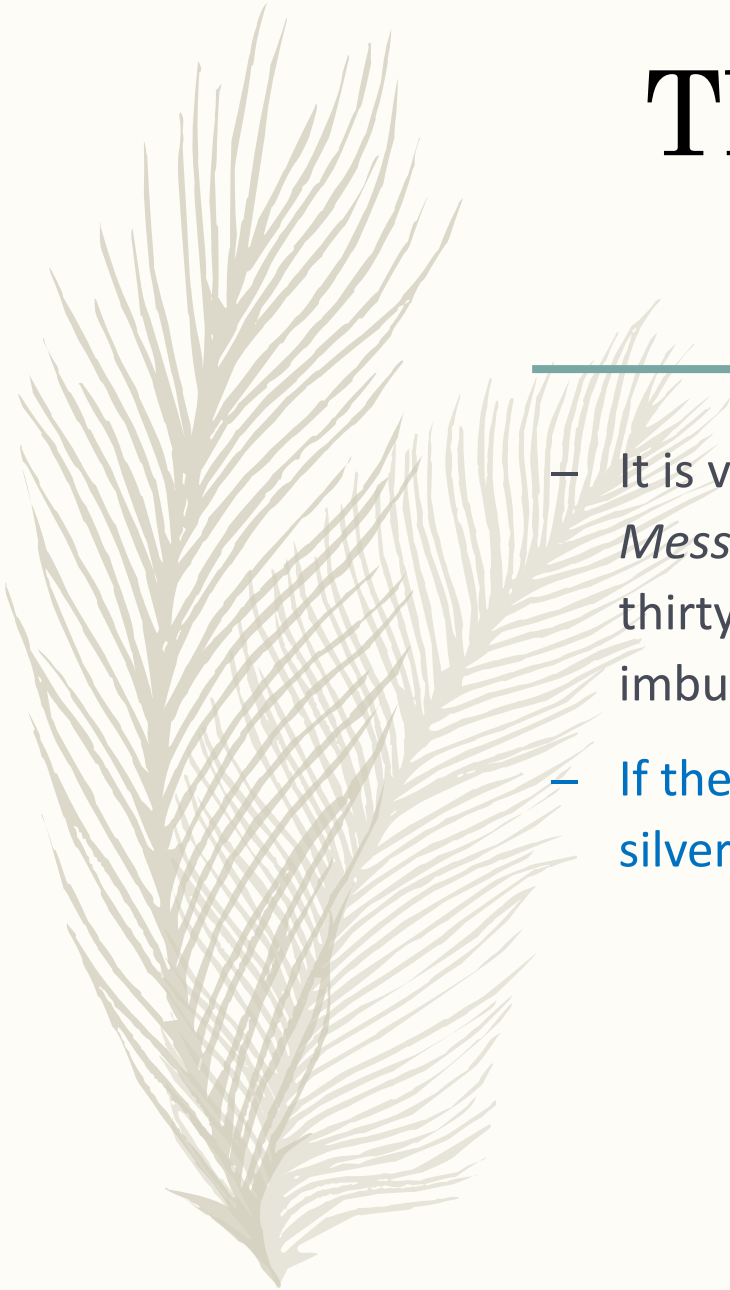
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- **Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant,** then out of all nations **you will be my treasured possession.** Ex 19:5 (the conditional *Mosaic Covenant* – details found in Deut. 28)
  - **If you fully obey the LORD** your God and carefully follow all his commands I give you today, the LORD your **God will set you high above all the nations on earth. 2** All these blessings will come upon you and accompany you if you obey the LORD your God. Deut 28:1-2
  - **However, if you do not obey the LORD your God** and do not carefully follow all his commands and decrees I am giving you today, **all these curses will come upon you and overtake you:** Deut 28:15 (then the Lord lists the many ways that Israel will suffer for their lack of obedience)

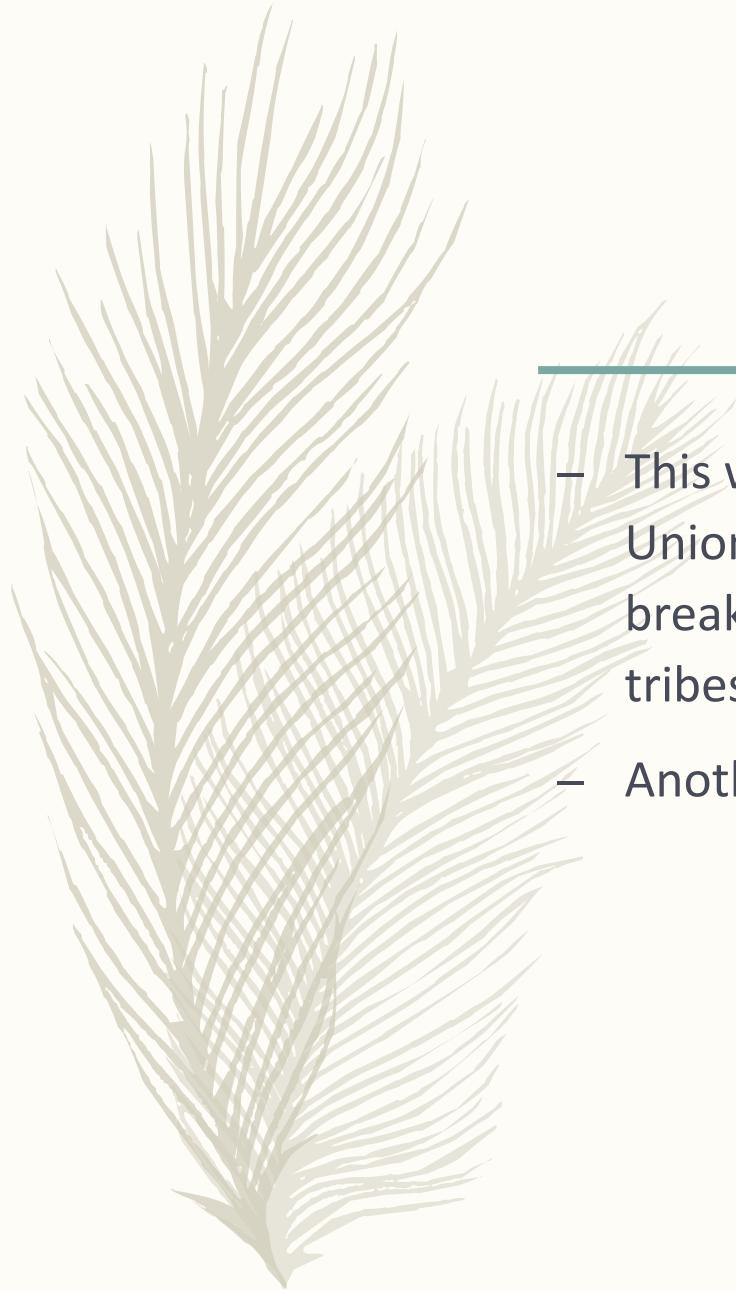
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- Zechariah then goes on to speak of the proper payment for this true shepherd (the actual Messiah)...
  - I told them, "If you think it best, give me my pay; but if not, keep it." So they paid me thirty pieces of silver. **13** And the LORD said to me, "Throw it to the potter"--the handsome price at which they priced me! So I took the **thirty pieces of silver** and **threw them into the house of the LORD to the potter.** **14** Then I broke my second staff called Union, breaking the brotherhood between Judah and Israel. Zech 11:12-14
  -

# The “Worth” of the Messiah...

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- It is very intriguing that Zechariah, still playing the role of the *true, but rejected, Messiah*, asks the people to pay him what they think he is worth. They pay him thirty pieces of silver! In Old Testament times, this was the cost of reimbursement to the owner if his slave was gored by someone else’s bull.
- If the bull **gores** a male or female slave, the owner must pay **thirty shekels** of silver to the master of the slave. Ex 21:32



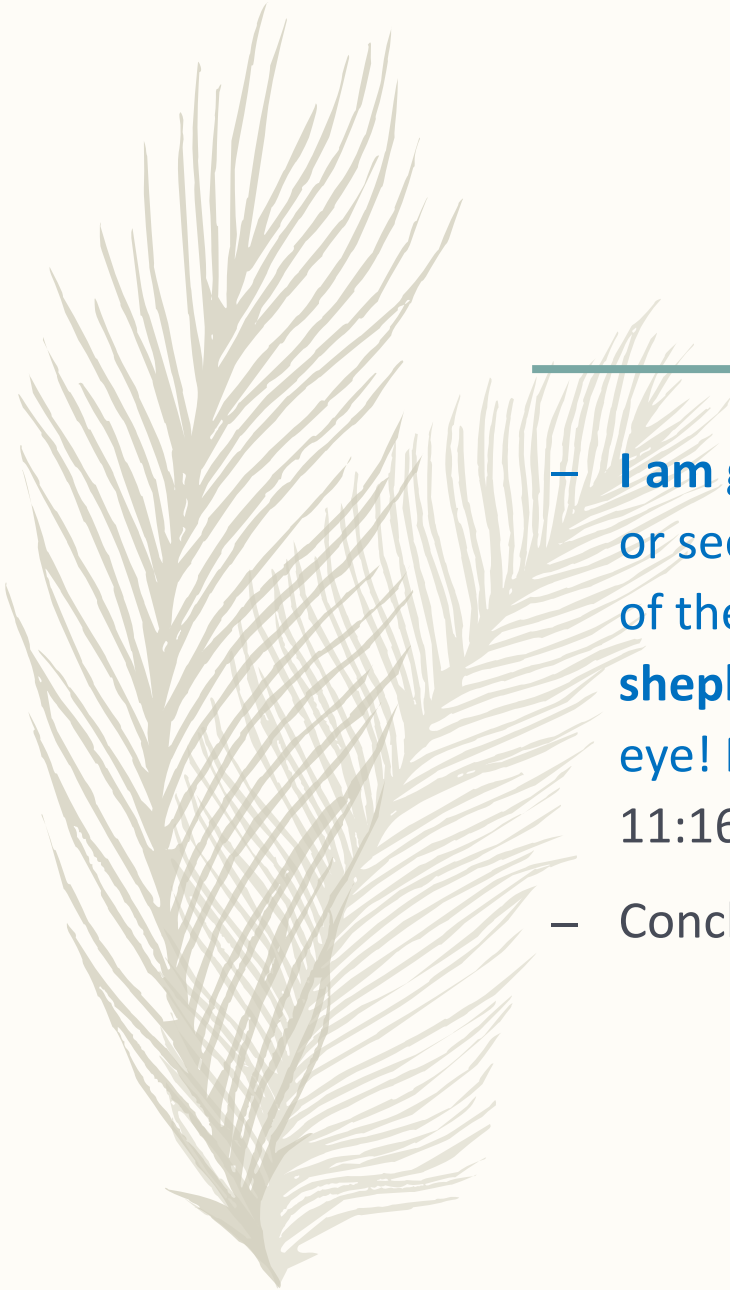


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- This whole dramatic reenactment ended with Zechariah taking his second staff, Union, and breaking it in two. This was stated as being indicative of the breaking of the bonds of brotherhood between the Northern and Southern tribes of Israel.
  - Another shepherd will come one day

# The Worthless Shepherd

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- I am going to raise up a shepherd over the land who will not care for the lost, or seek the young, or heal the injured, or feed the healthy, but will eat the meat of the choice sheep, tearing off their hoofs. **17 "Woe to the worthless shepherd, who deserts the flock! May the sword strike his arm and his right eye! May his arm be completely withered, his right eye totally blinded!"** Zech 11:16-17
- Conclusion





# The “Little Apocalypse of Zechariah”

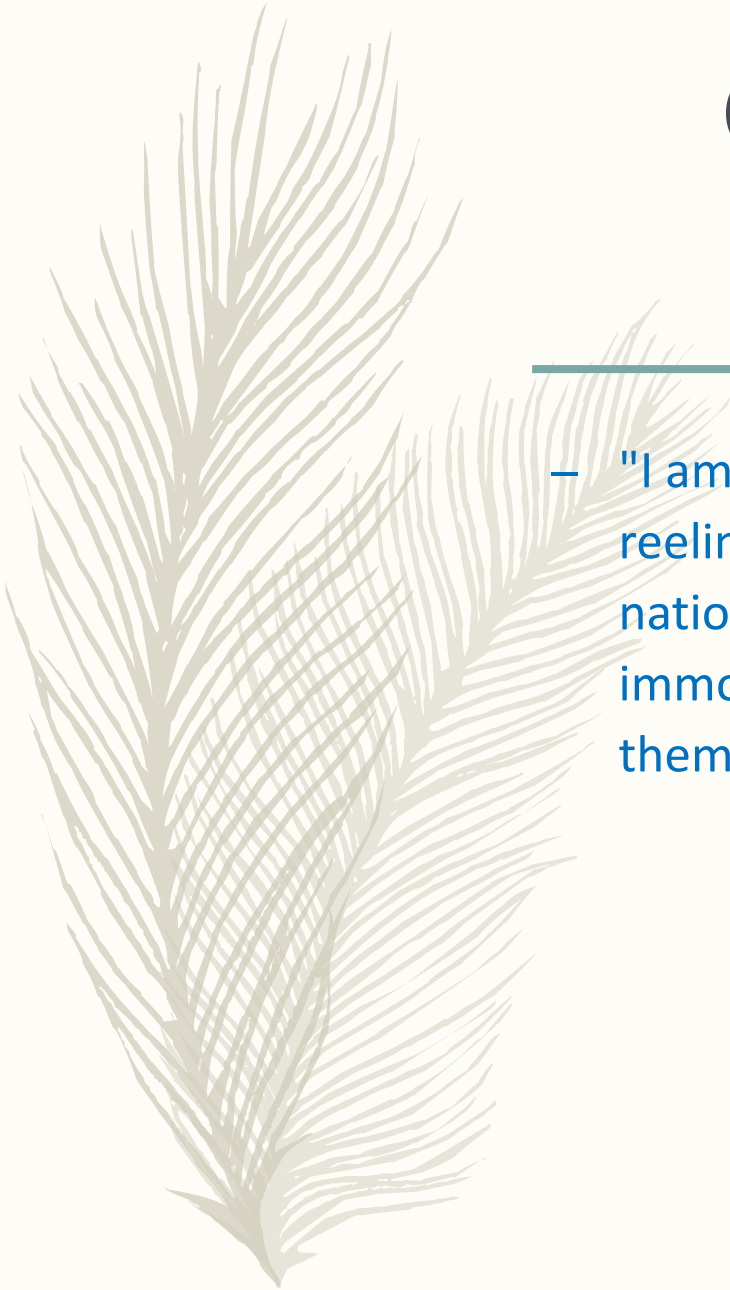
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- **The Oracle of the Lord against Israel**
- The last three chapters of Zechariah (Zech. 12-14) are extremely impressive. They have been referred to as the “Little Apocalypse of Zechariah”. These chapters got this name as they deal with the same material and events as those covered in *The Revelation of Jesus Christ*.
- **The oracle** (i.e. “burden”) **of the word of the LORD against Israel.** Zech 12:1

# God will protect Jerusalem

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- "I am going to make Jerusalem a cup that sends all the surrounding peoples reeling. Judah will be besieged as well as Jerusalem. 3 *On that day*, when all the nations of the earth are gathered against her, I will make Jerusalem an immovable rock for all the nations. All who try to move it will injure themselves." Zech 12:1-3

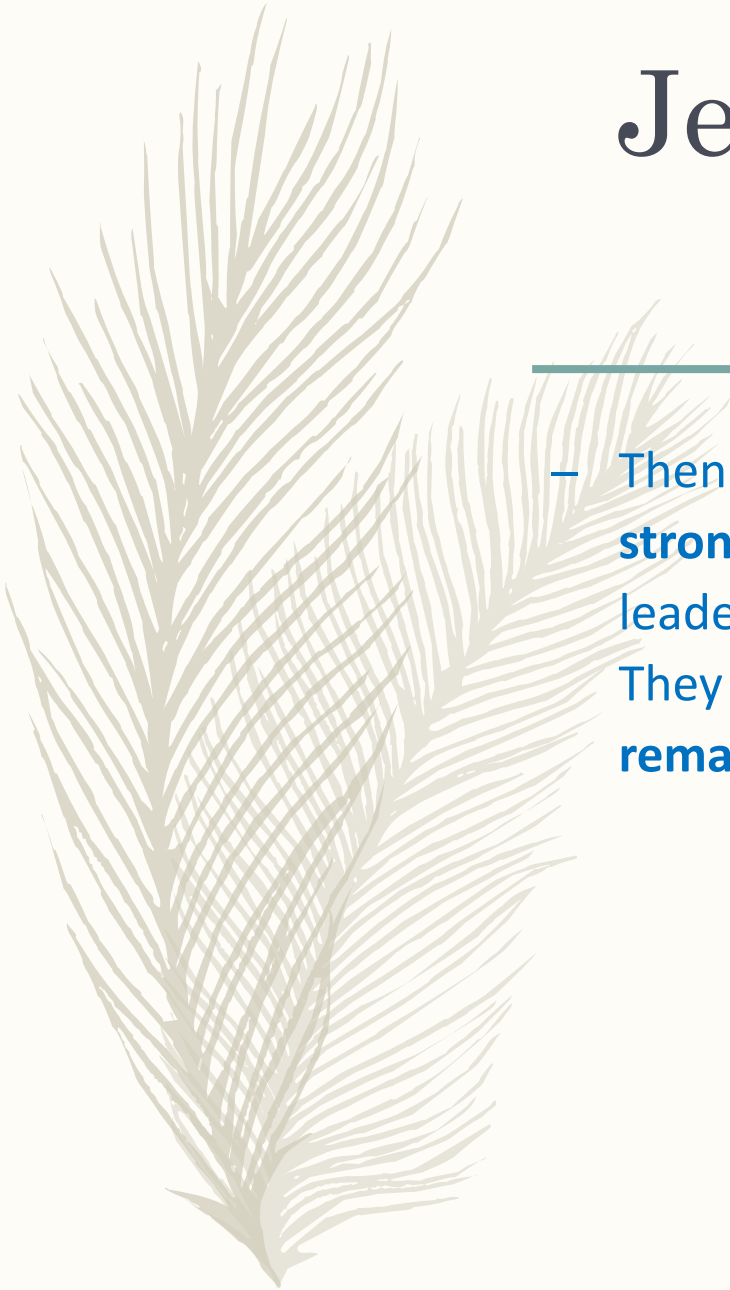




# Jerusalem cannot be defeated

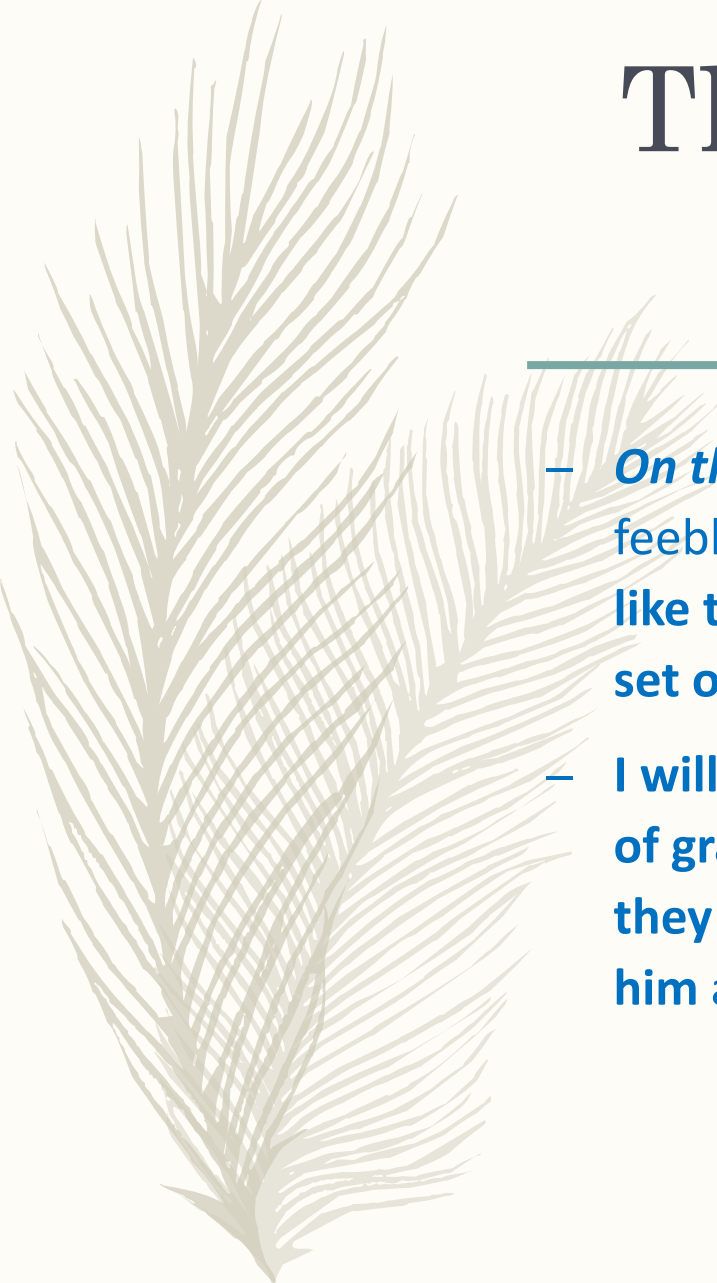
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- Then the leaders of Judah will say in their hearts, 'The people of Jerusalem are strong, because the LORD Almighty is their God.' 6 "*On that day* I will make the leaders of Judah like a firepot in a woodpile, like a flaming torch among sheaves. They will consume right and left all the surrounding peoples, but **Jerusalem will remain intact in her place.** Zech 12:5-6



# The Jews will mourn for Jesus

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- ***On that day* the LORD will shield those who live in Jerusalem, so that the feeblest among them will be like David, and the house of David will be like God, like the Angel of the LORD (Jesus Christ) going before them. 9 *On that day* I will set out to destroy all the nations that attack Jerusalem. Zech 12:8-9**
  - **I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and supplication. They will look on me, the one they have pierced, and they will mourn for him as one mourns for an only child, and grieve bitterly for him as one grieves for a firstborn son. Zech 12:10**



# Ezekiel tells of the regathering

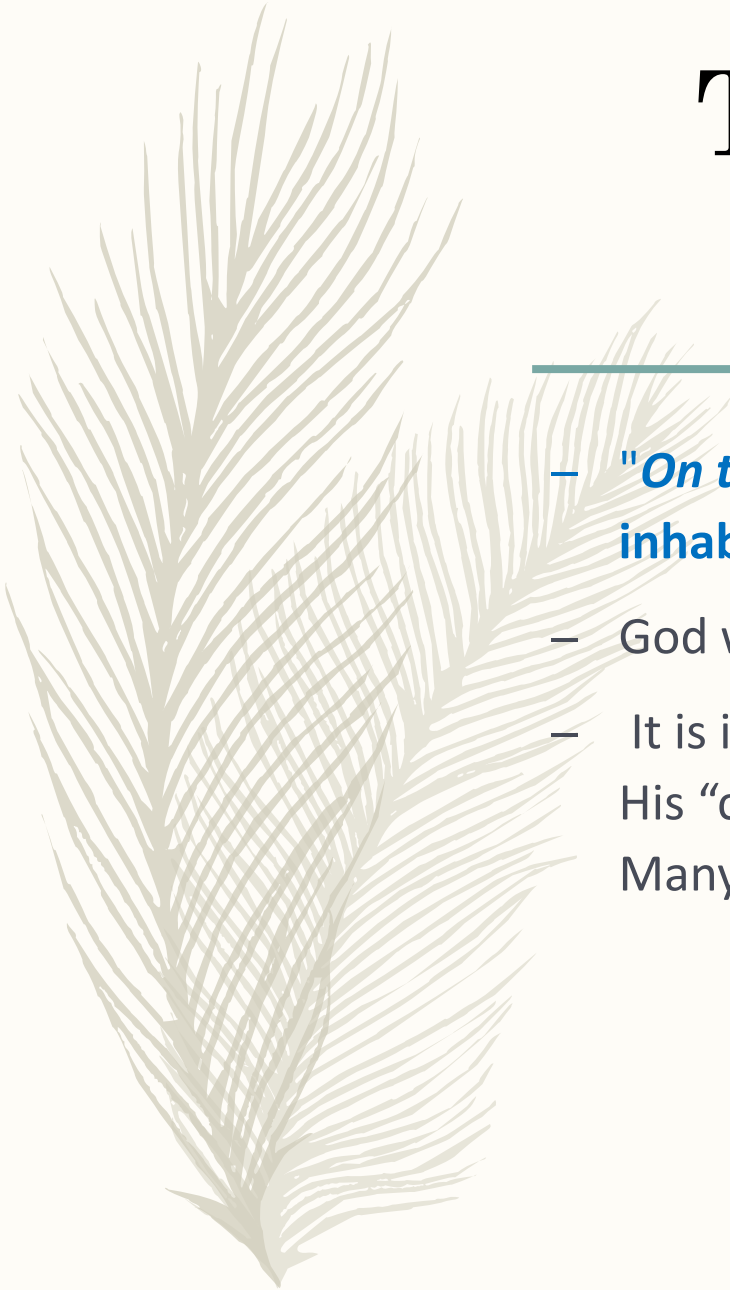
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- "I will display my glory among the nations, and all the nations will see the punishment I inflict and the hand I lay upon them. 22 From that day forward the house of Israel will know that I am the LORD their God. 23 And the nations will know that the people of Israel went into exile for their sin, because they were unfaithful to me
- They will know that I am the LORD their God, for though I sent them into exile among the nations, I will gather them to their own land, not leaving any behind. 29 I will no longer hide my face from them, for I will pour out my Spirit on the house of Israel, declares the Sovereign LORD." Ezek 39:21-23,28-29

# The Cleansing of Jerusalem

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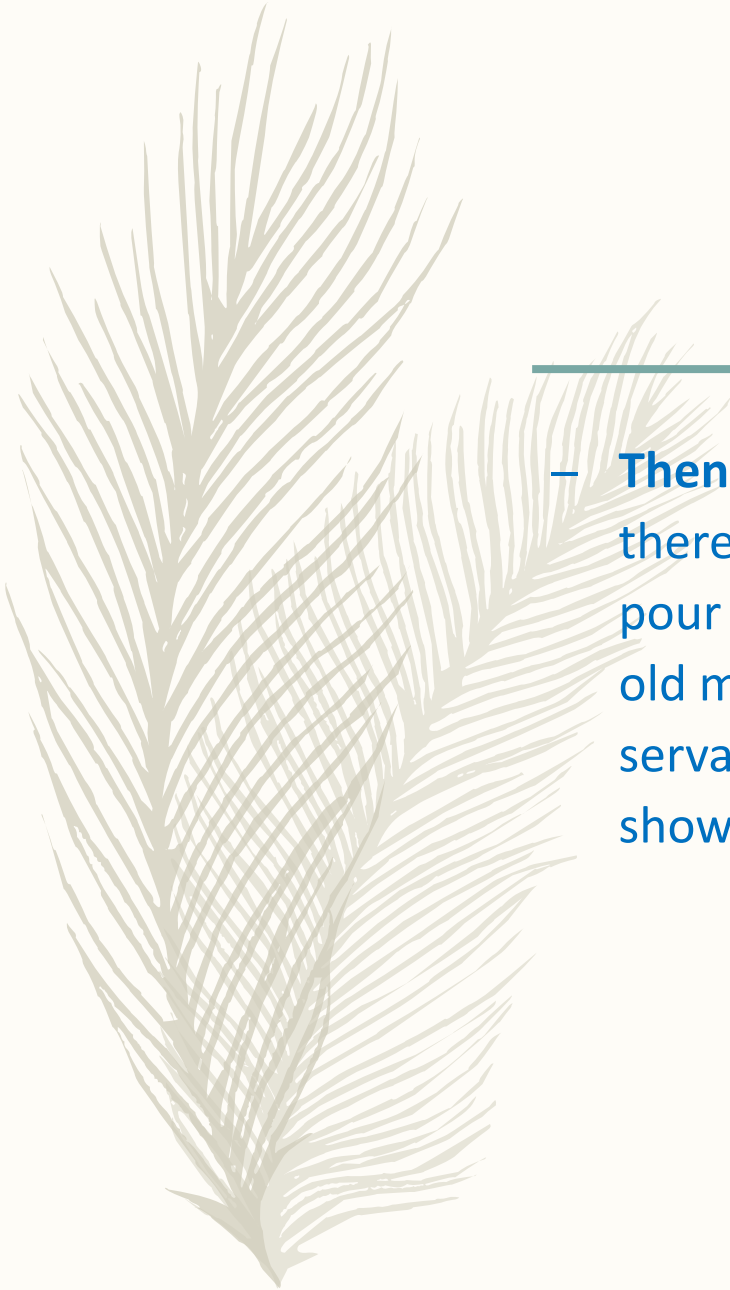
- "***On that day a fountain will be opened to the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, to cleanse them from sin and impurity.*** Zech 13:1
- God will cleanse those of royal blood and any commoner who will come to Him.
- It is important to remember that God will pour out His Holy Spirit upon these His "chosen people" to help them open their eyes and recognize their Messiah. Many will realize that Jesus is actually the Messiah.



# Joel speaks of those “days”

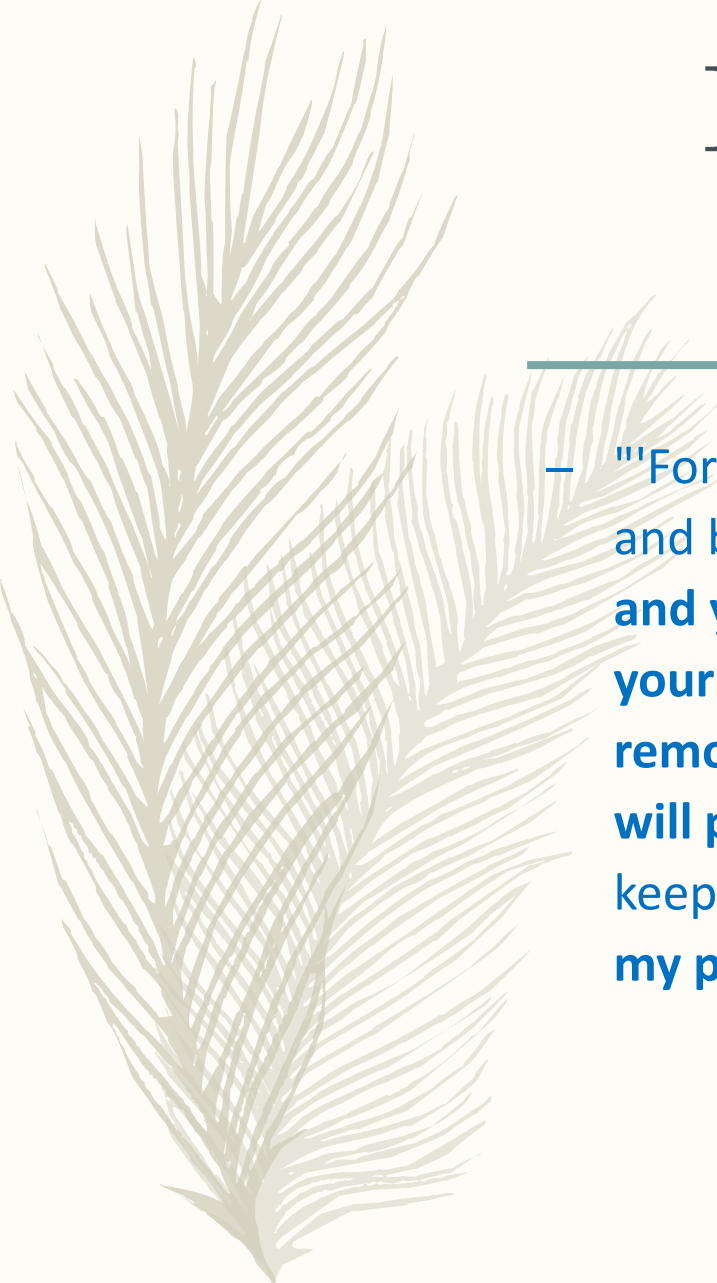
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- **Then you will know that I am in Israel, that I am the LORD your God, and that there is no other; never again will my people be shamed. And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions. 29 Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days. 30 I will show wonders in the heavens and on the earth. Joel 2:27-30**



# Israel will Believe in Jesus!

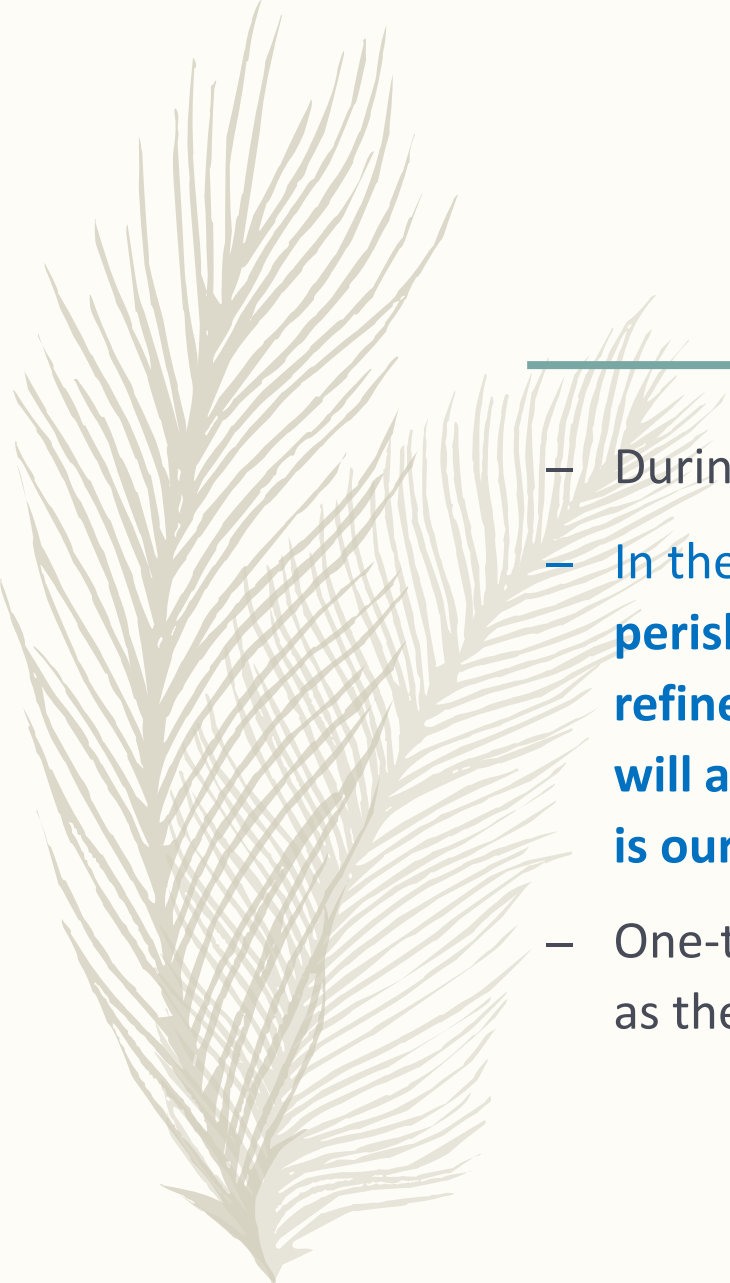
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- **"For I will take you out of the nations; I will gather you from all the countries and bring you back into your own land. 25 I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols. 26 I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. 27 And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws. 28 You will live in the land I gave your forefathers; you will be my people, and I will be your God. Ezek 36:24-28**

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- God does take a moment to foretell of the terrible sin that the Jews will commit on the Messiah's first incarnation...
  - "Awake, O sword, against my shepherd, against the man who is My Companion!" declares the LORD Almighty. "Strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered, and I will turn my hand against the little ones." Zech. 13:7
  - This rejection of the Messiah resulted in two thousand years of misery... still continuing today.

# Judgment during the Tribulation

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- During the Tribulation...
  - In the whole land," declares the LORD, "**two-thirds will be struck down and perish; yet one-third will be left in it. 9 This third I will bring into the fire; I will refine them like silver and test them like gold. They will call on my name and I will answer them; I will say, 'They are my people,' and they will say, 'The LORD is our God.'**" Zech 13:8-9
  - One-third of the Jews will survive the “fire”. They will be sanctified by the “fire” as they turn to follow and worship the Lord.





# One Day, “all Israel” will be saved

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- **Israel has experienced a hardening in part until the full number of the Gentiles has come in. And so *all Israel* will be saved, as it is written: "The deliverer will come from Zion; he will turn godlessness away from Jacob. **27** And **this is my covenant with them when I take away their sins.**"** Romans 11:25-27



# Jesus Returns to be the Lord of Lords and King of Kings

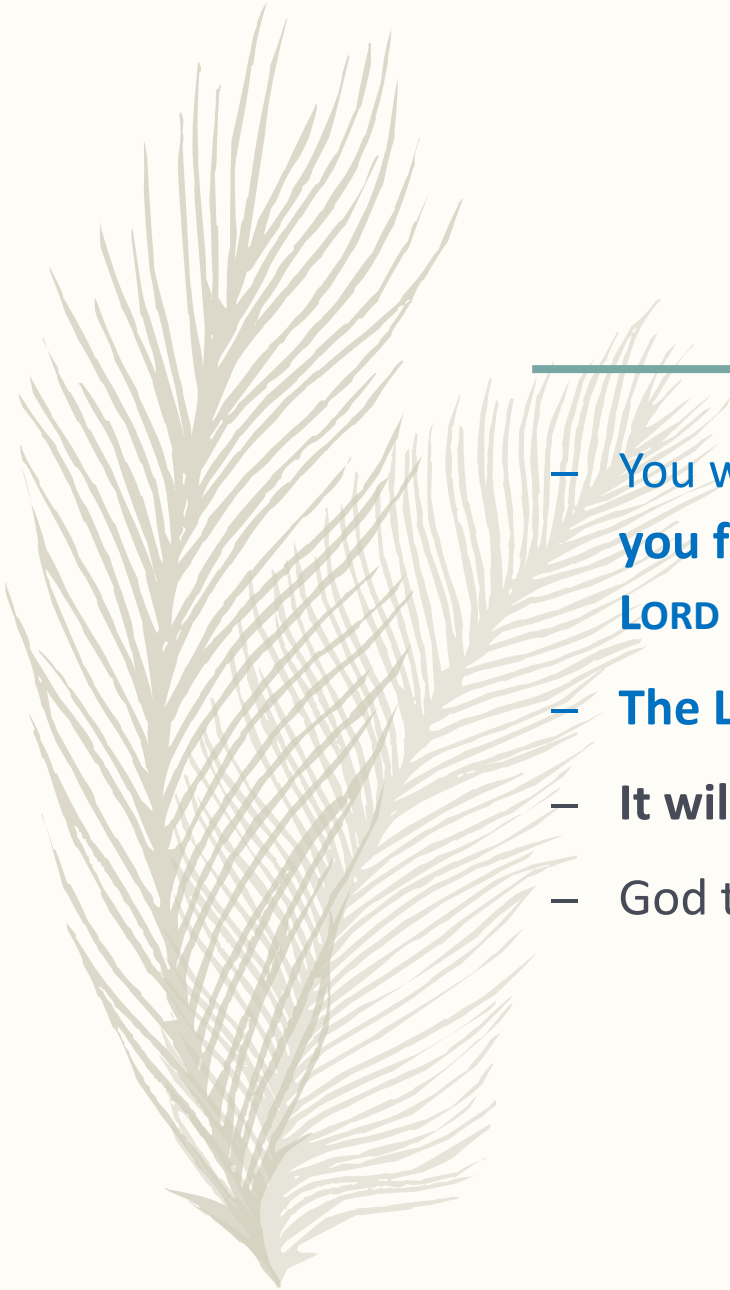
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- A ***day of the LORD*** is coming when your plunder will be divided among you. **2** I will gather all the nations to Jerusalem to fight against it; the city will be captured, the houses ransacked, and the women raped. Half of the city will go into exile, but the rest of the people will not be taken from the city.
- Then the LORD will go out and fight against those nations, as he fights in the day of battle. **4 On that day his feet will stand on the Mount of Olives**, east of Jerusalem, and the **Mount of Olives will be split in two from east to west, forming a great valley, with half of the mountain moving north and half moving south.** Zech. 14:1-4

# The Second Coming

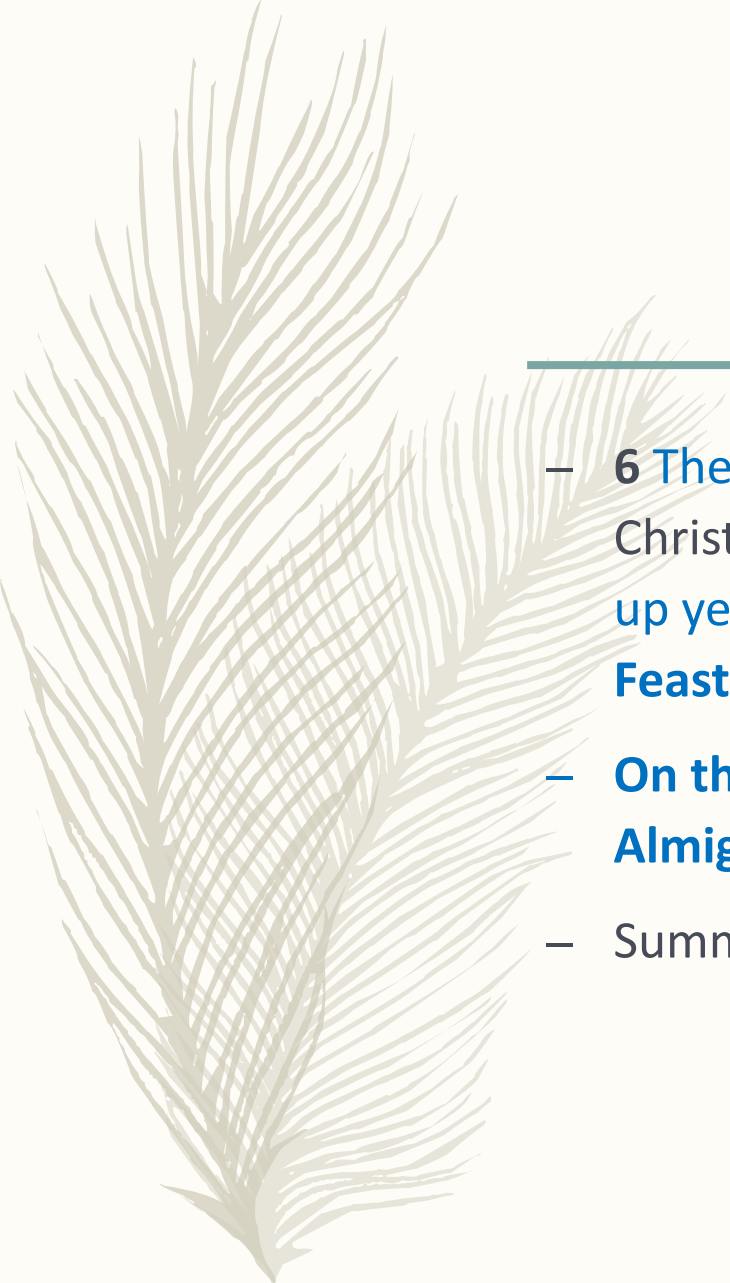
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- You will flee by my mountain valley, for it will extend to Azel. **You will flee as you fled from the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah. Then the LORD my God will come, and all the holy ones with him.** Zech. 14:5
- **The LORD will be king over the whole earth.** Zech. 14:9
- **It will be inhabited; never again will it be destroyed.** Jerusalem will be secure.
- God then mentions the plague placed on the nations that fought against Israel.



# The Millennial Kingdom

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- **6** Then the survivors from all the nations that have attacked Jerusalem (the Christians that will come out of these nations and enter the Millennium) **will go up year after year to worship the King, the LORD Almighty, and to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles.** Zech. 14:6
  - **On that day there will no longer be a Canaanite in the house of the LORD Almighty.** Zech 14:1-21
  - Summary of Zechariah's prophecies

# *The Revelation of Jesus Christ*

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- The apostle John was banished to the Isle of Patmos, off the south-west coast of Asia-Minor, because of his leadership position in the Christian Church.
- While there, Jesus presented John with a tremendous vision of the end-times
- Overview of this coming commentary



# Overview of Events

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- The Rapture of the Church will occur
- A war will occur that involves Israel, Russia Iran and many other Middle Eastern nations (just before or just after the Rapture). Actually, there may well be a series of wars in a short period of time in that region of the world.
- The Antichrist will come onto the scene and sign a peace treaty with Israel – peace will finally come to Israel, it would appear...

# Overview cont.

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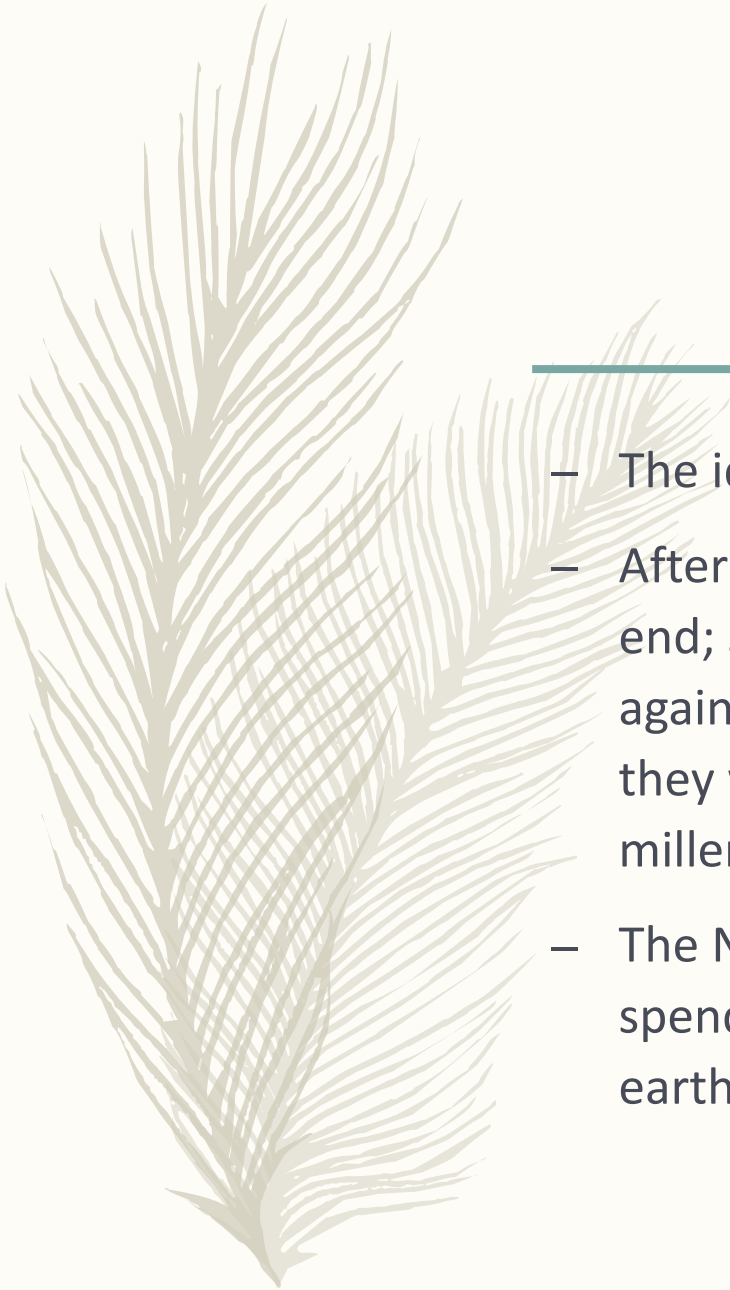
- In the middle of the seven year Tribulation, the Antichrist will show his true colors and come against Israel and desecrate the re-built Temple.
- The final 3 ½ years of the seven year Tribulation comes... sometimes called the Great Tribulation. Terrible events will transpire as God delivers His judgment onto the unrepentant sinners in the world while the Antichrist strikes out against those who refuse to worship him.
- The end result of this battle of good vs. evil will be the Battle of Armageddon.
- Jesus comes with His saints (Christians that are already in heaven) to defeat Satan and his minions in the valley of Megiddo.



# Overview cont.

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- The idyllic Millennial Kingdom begins.
- After this thousand year reign of Jesus on earth, the Millennium comes to an end; Satan is loosed for a short period of time and leads an unsuccessful revolt against Jesus. Satan and his demons are thrown into the “lake of fire” where they will spend eternity. All those people who have rejected Jesus over the millennia will also face an eternity in hell.
- The New Heaven and New Earth will be fashioned by God and all Christians will spend eternity with the Holy Trinity living in this newly created heaven and earth.







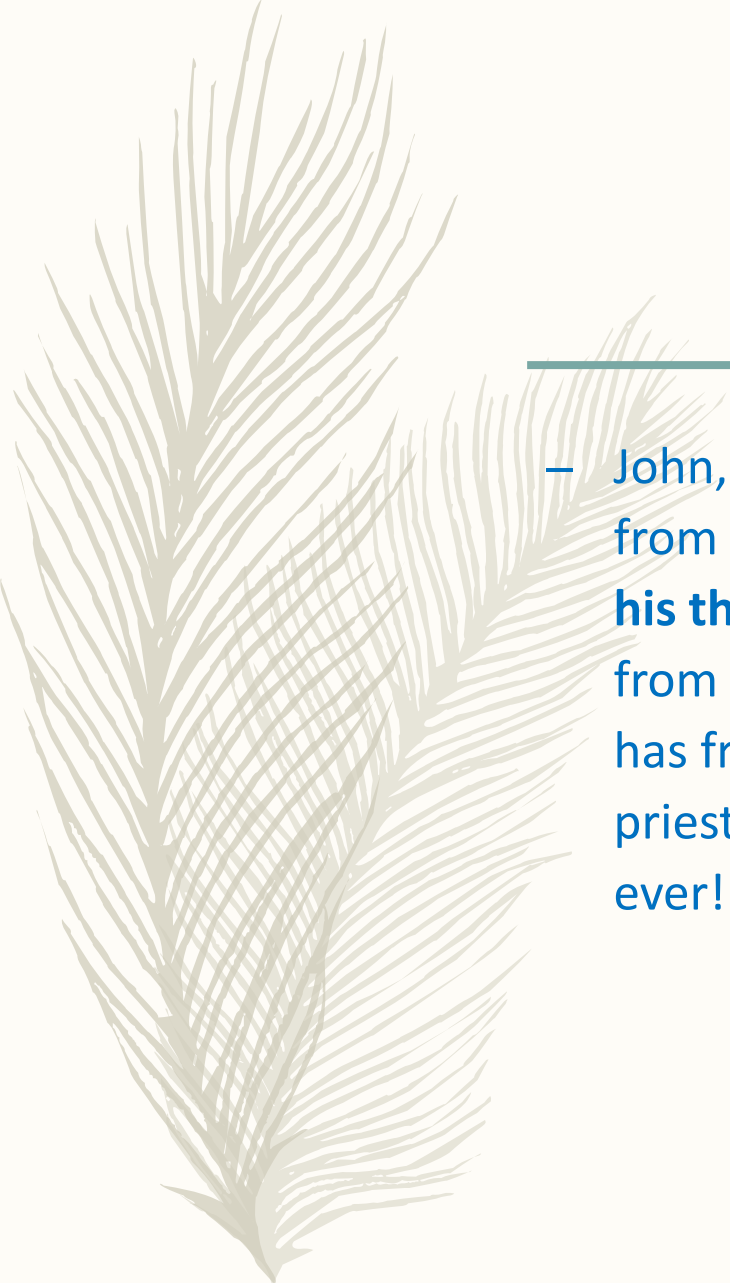
# *The Revelation of Jesus Christ*


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- Chapter 1: Jesus appears to the apostle John on the Isle of Patmos
- The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants what must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, **2** who testifies to everything he saw--that is, the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ. **3** Blessed is the one who reads the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it, because the time is near. Rev 1:1-3

# Introduction

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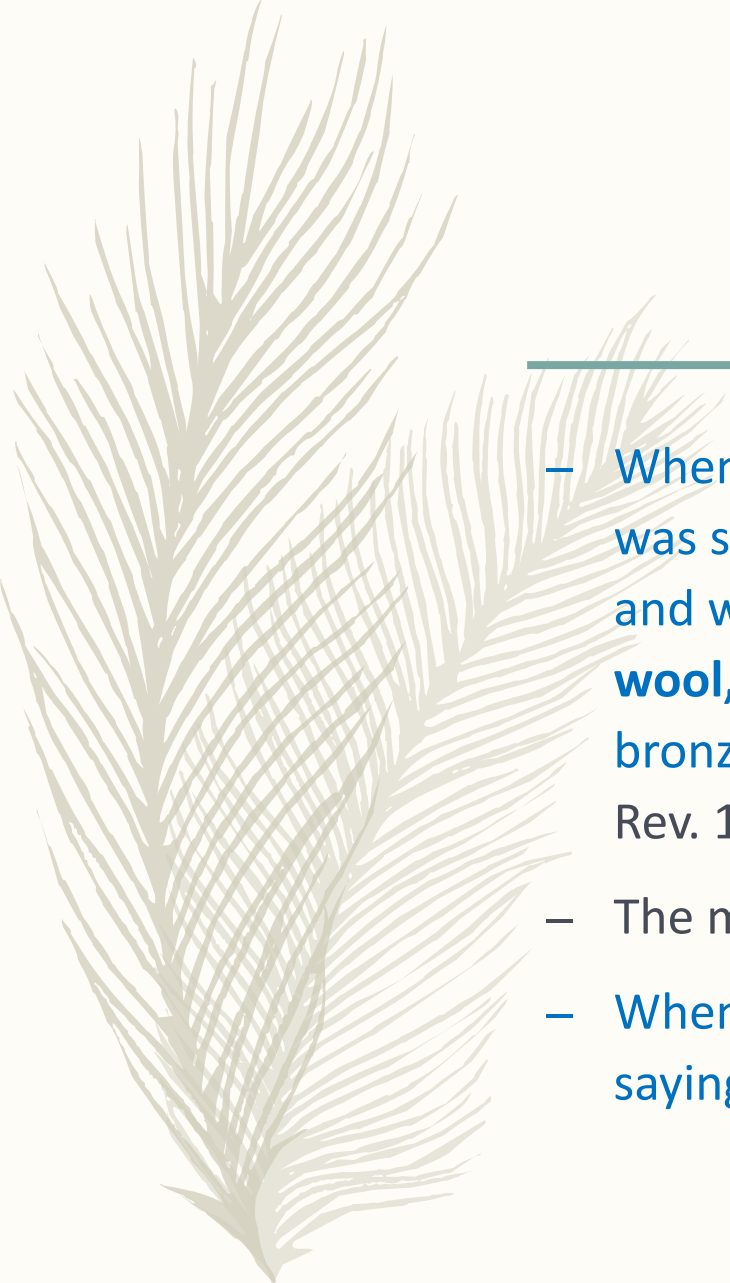
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- John, **to the seven churches in the province of Asia**: Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to, and **from the seven spirits before his throne, 5** and **from Jesus Christ**, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, **6** and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father--to him be glory and power for ever and ever!

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- Look, **he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him** and all the peoples of the earth will mourn because of him. So shall it be! Amen. Rev 1:7 (most probably a reference to the Jews as seen in the prophecy by Zechariah)...
  - Recall from Zechariah... And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and supplication. They will look on me, **the one they have pierced,** and they will mourn for him as one mourns for an only child, and grieve bitterly for him as one grieves for a firstborn son. (Zech 12:10); [Note the marked similarity between this vision to John and the vision to Zechariah, six hundred years earlier].
  - **I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending,** saith the Lord, **which is, and which was, and which is to come,** the Almighty. Rev 1:8

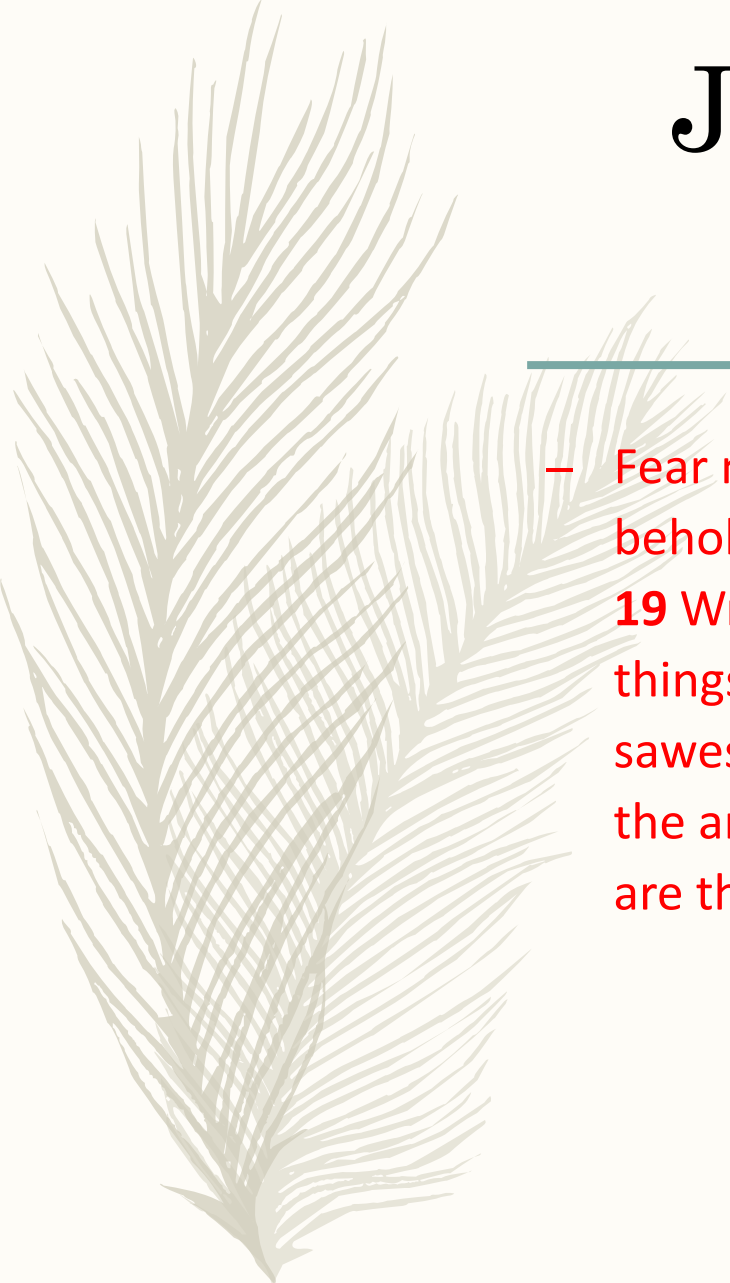
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- *I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day*, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet, **11** Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send *it* unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto **Ephesus**, and unto **Smyrna**, and unto **Pergamos**, and unto **Thyatira**, and unto **Sardis**, and unto **Philadelphia**, and unto **Laodicea**. Rev 1:10-11
  - What is meant here by the “Lord’s Day?”

# John sees Jesus

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- When I turned I saw **seven golden lampstands, 13** and among the lampstands was someone "**like a son of man,**" dressed in a robe reaching down to his feet and with a golden sash around his chest. **14 His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and his eyes were like blazing fire. 15** His feet were like bronze glowing in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound of rushing waters. Rev. 1:12-15
  - The meaning of the symbols...
  - When I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Rev 1:17

# Jesus tells John to “fear not”

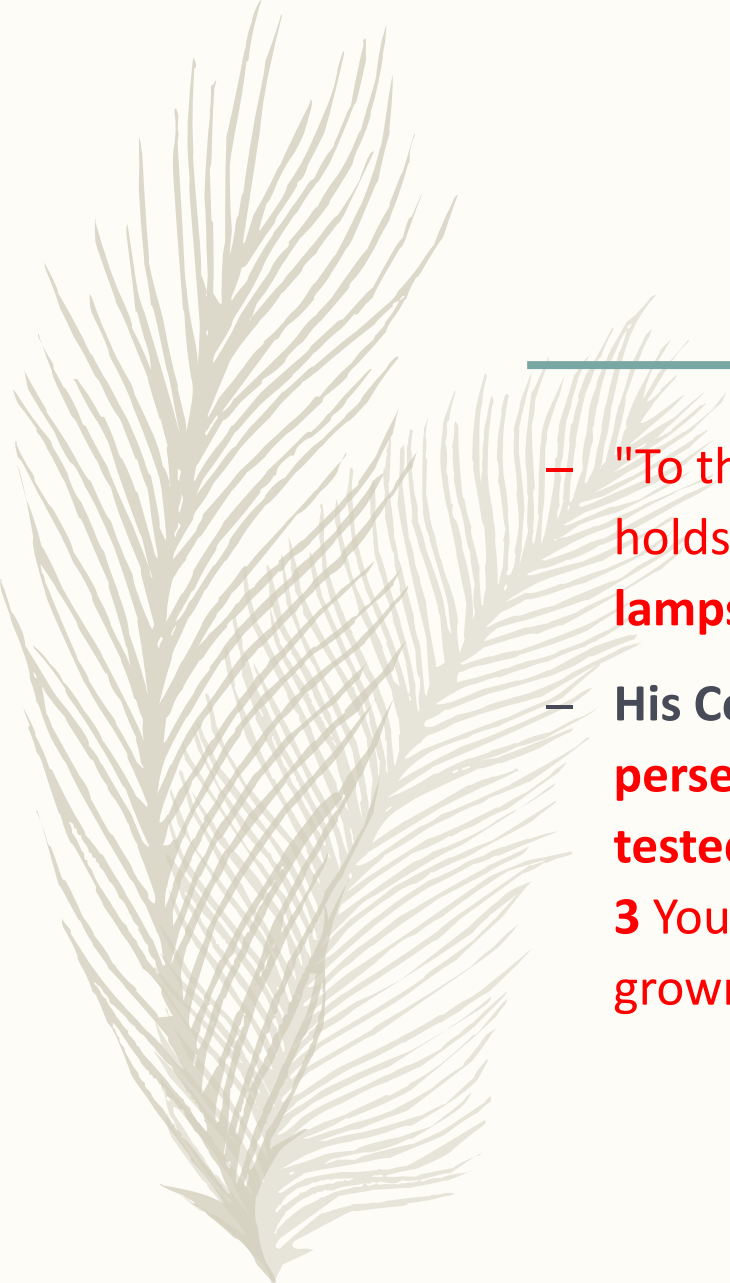
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- Fear not; I am the first and the last: **18** I *am* he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death. **19** Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter; **20** The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches. Rev 1:17-20



# The Divisions of The Revelation

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- *The Revelation* can be divided into these three time periods fairly easily; chapter one tells of things in the past, chapters 2&3 will tell of things happening at that time in Church history, and chapters 4-22 will reveal the future to John and all of mankind
- Messages to seven churches in Asia-Minor
- It is very likely that Jesus has something to teach each of these actual churches, every individual Christian, and every Church Age.

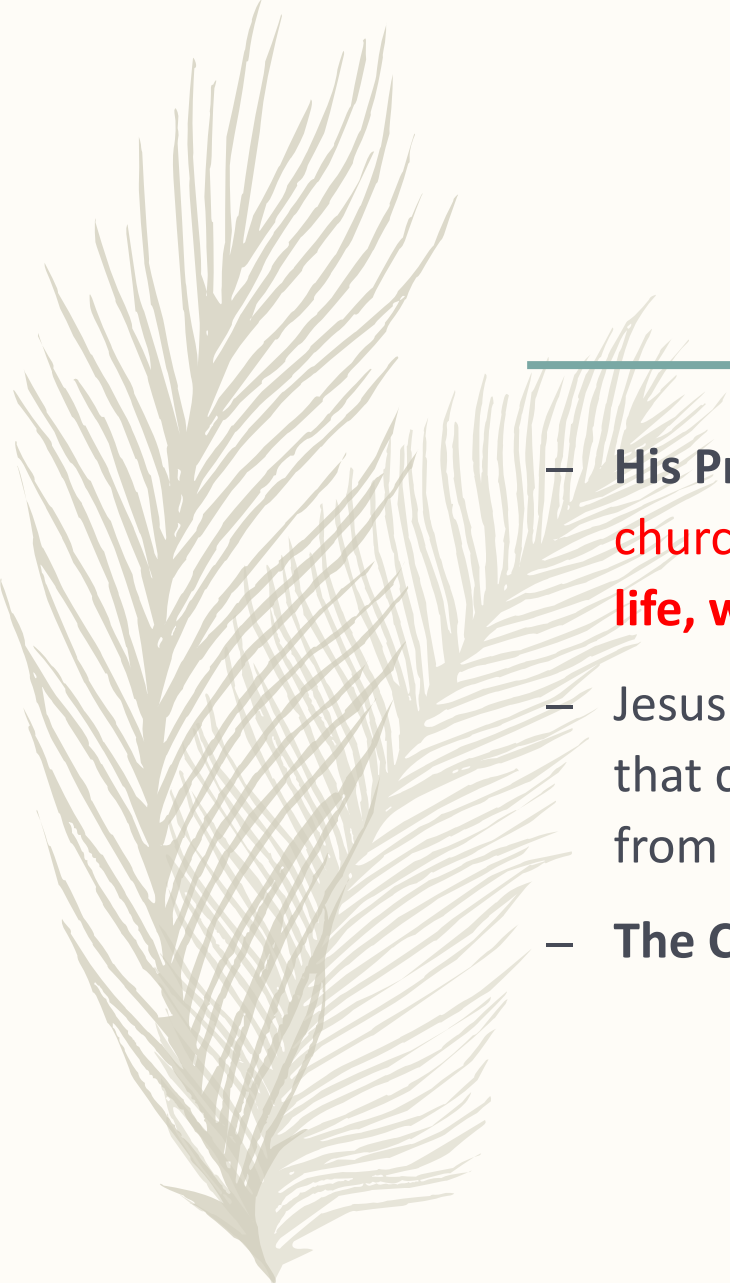
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- "To the angel of the church in **Ephesus** write: These are the words of him who holds the **seven stars in his right hand** and walks among the **seven golden lampstands**:      Rev. 2:1
  - **His Commendation: I know your deeds, your hard work and your perseverance. I know that you cannot tolerate wicked men, that you have tested those who claim to be apostles but are not, and have found them false. 3 You have persevered and have endured hardships for my name, and have not grown weary.**      Rev. 2:2-3



# Ephesus Church cont.

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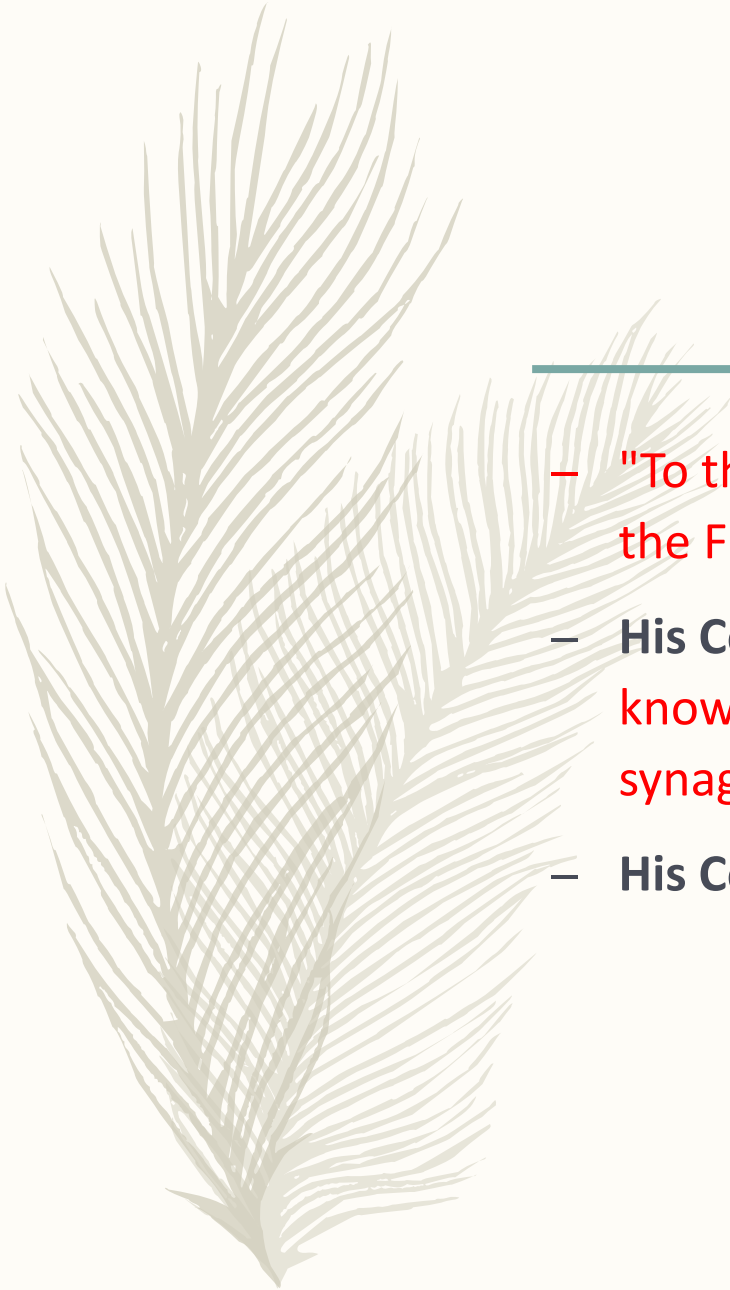
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- **His Condemnation:** Yet I hold this against you: **You have forsaken your first love.** Rev. 2:4
  - **His Recommendation:** Remember the height from which you have fallen! **Repent** and do the things you did at first. If you do not repent, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place. **6** But you have this in your favor: **You hate the practices of the Nicolaitans,** which I also hate. Rev. 2:5-6

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- 
- **His Promise:** He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. **To him who overcomes, I will give the right to eat from the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.** Rev 2:7
  - Jesus concluded His words to this church by reminding them that everyone in that church, or any church, who stayed true to His gospel would one day eat from the tree of life. That is, they would one day live forever in heaven!
  - **The Church Age (Ephesus)** – first century Church

# The Church at Smyrna

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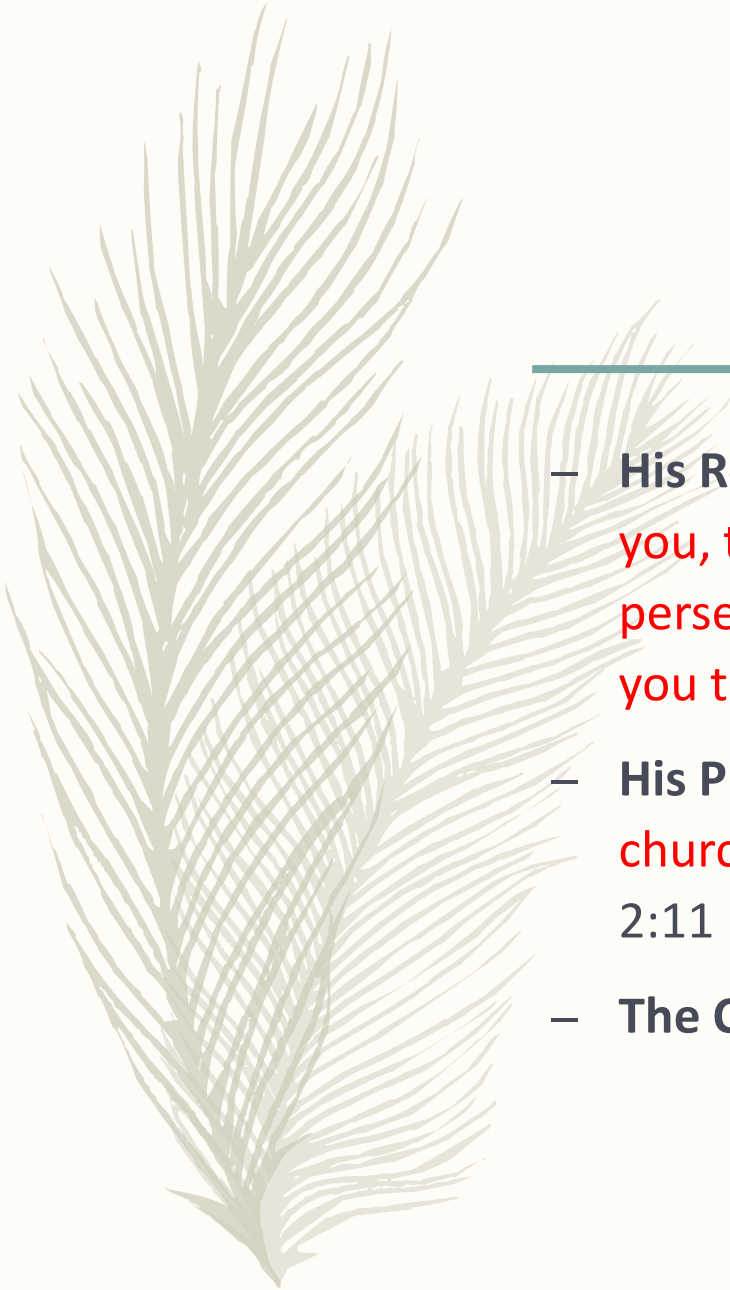
- "To the angel of the church in **Smyrna** write: These are the words of him who is the First and the Last, who died and came to life again. Rev. 2:8
- **His Commendation:** I know your afflictions and your poverty--yet you are rich! I know the slander of those who say they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan. Rev. 2:9
- **His Condemnation:** Jesus has no words of condemnation for this church!



# Smyrna

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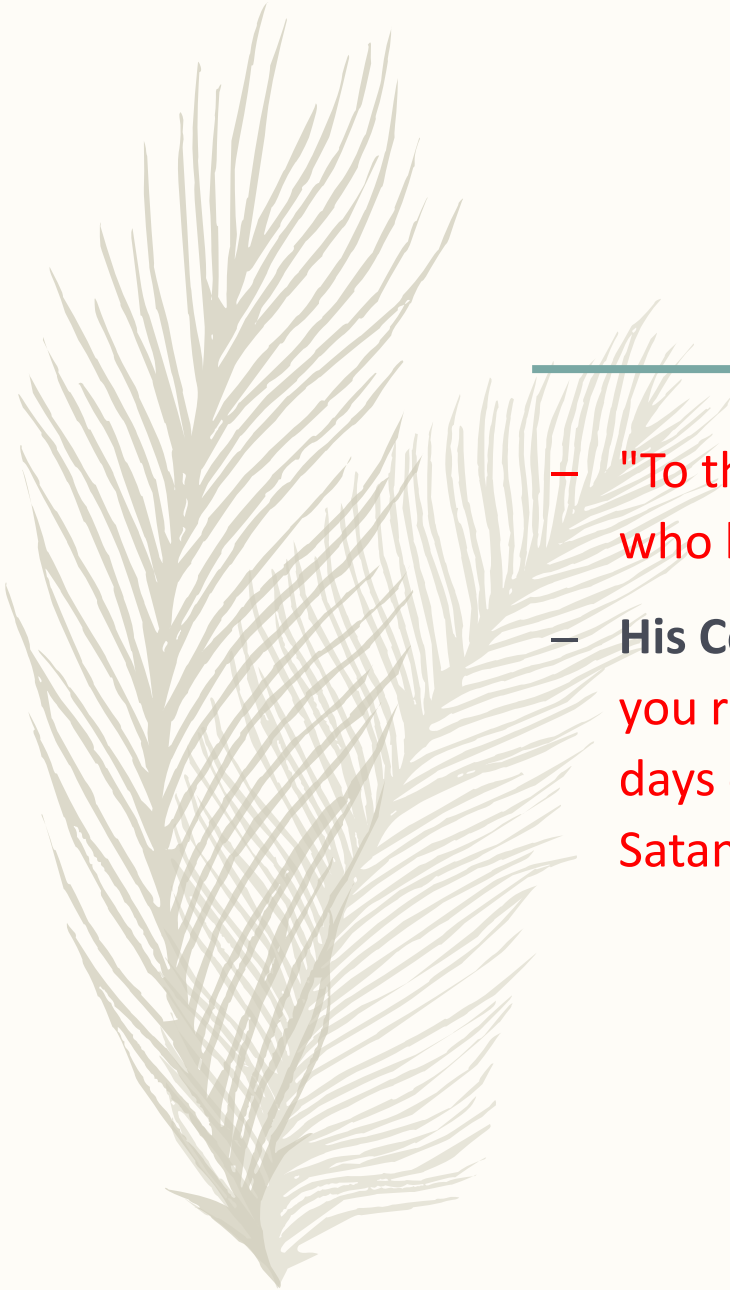
- **His Recommendation:** Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you the crown of life. Rev 2:10
- **His Promise:** He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. He who overcomes will not be hurt at all by the second death. Rev. 2:11
- **The Church Age (Smyrna):** The Persecuted Church – A.D. 100-313



# The Church at Pergamum

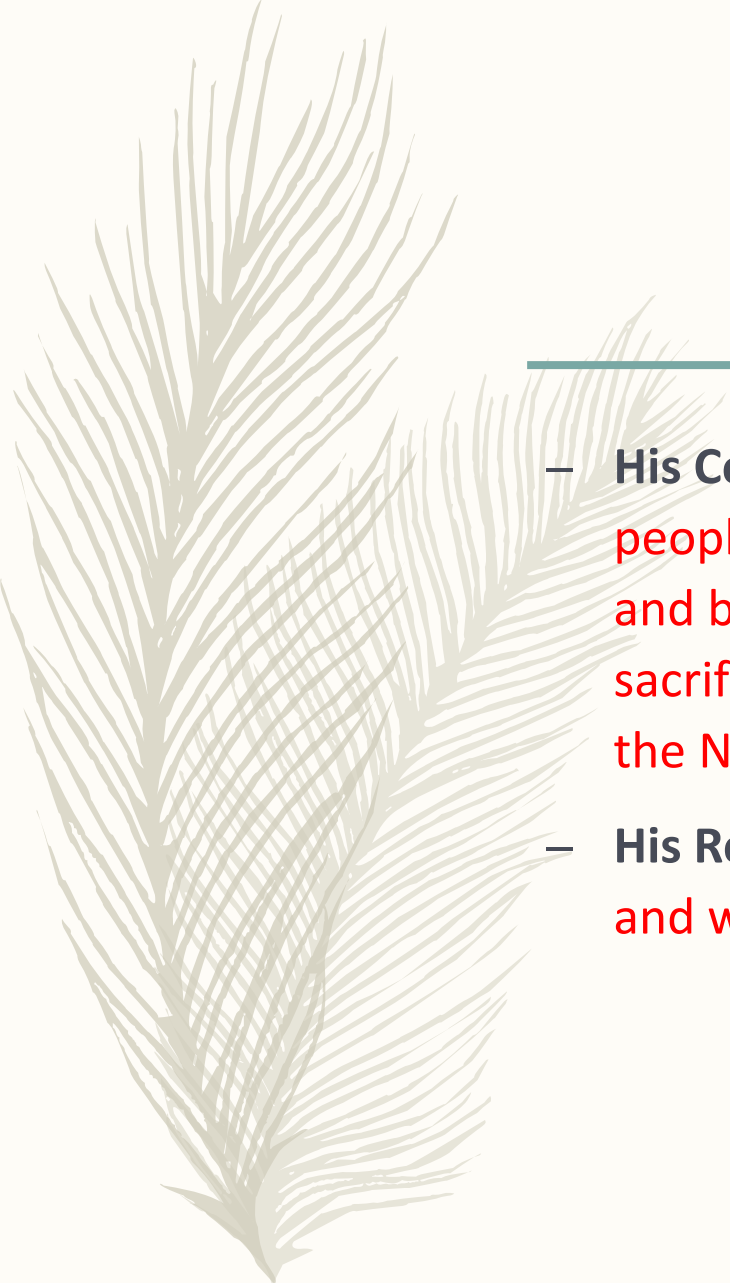
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- "To the angel of the church in **Pergamum** write: These are the words of him who has the sharp, double-edged sword. Rev. 2:12
- **His Commendation:** I know where you live--where Satan has his throne. Yet you remain true to my name. You did not renounce your faith in me, even in the days of Antipas, my faithful witness, who was put to death in your city--where Satan lives. Rev. 2:13



# Pergamum

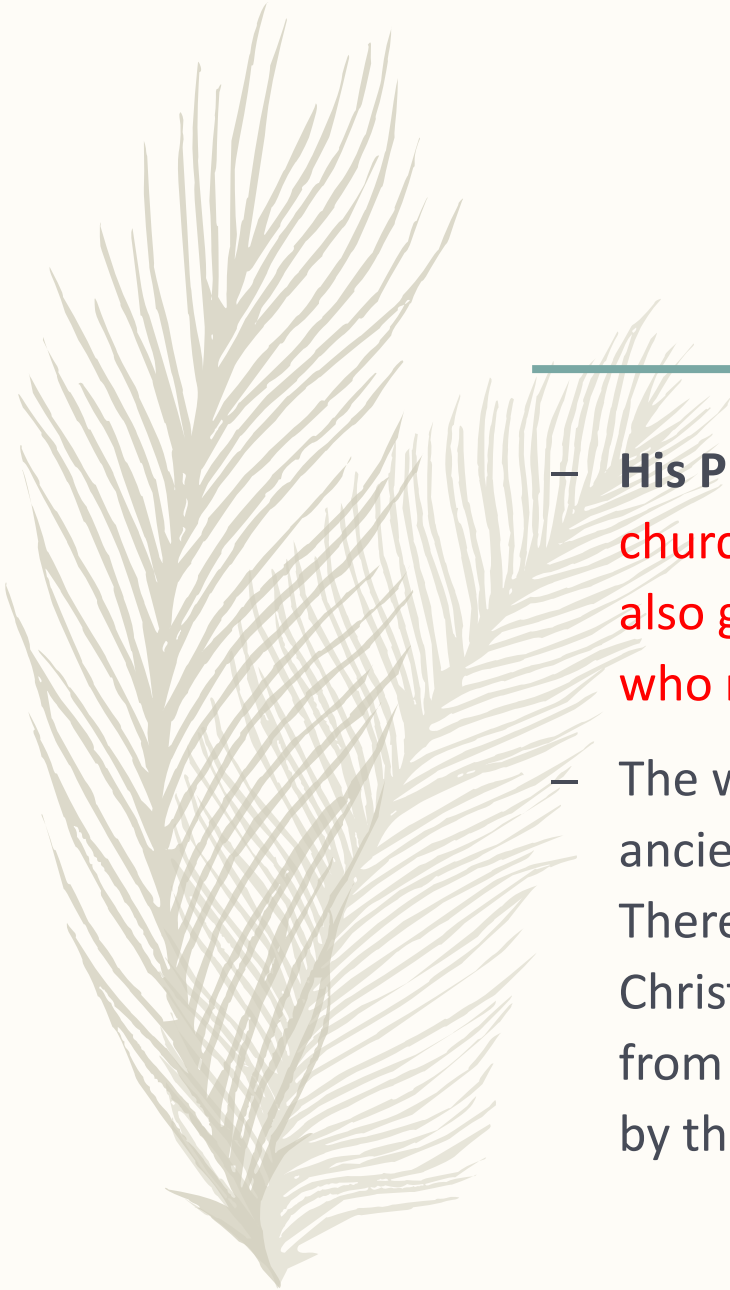
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- **His Condemnation:** Nevertheless, I have a few things against you: You have people there who hold to the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to to idols and by committing sexual immentice the Israelites to sin by eating food sacrificed orality. **15** Likewise you also have those who hold to the teaching of the Nicolaitans. Rev. 2:14-15
  - **His Recommendation:** Repent therefore! Otherwise, I will soon come to you and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth. Rev. 2:16

# Pergamum

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- **His Promise:** He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, I will give some of the hidden manna. I will also give him a white stone with a *new* name written on it, known only to him who receives it. **Rev. 2:17**
- The white stone with a new name written on it is more difficult to interpret. In ancient times, the laying down of a white stone meant an acquittal in a trial. Therefore, most theologians think that this white stone, with a particular Christian's "new name" (bestowed by God) written on it, represents an acquittal from the death sentence that should be due as a result of the sins committed by that person.



# Pergamum

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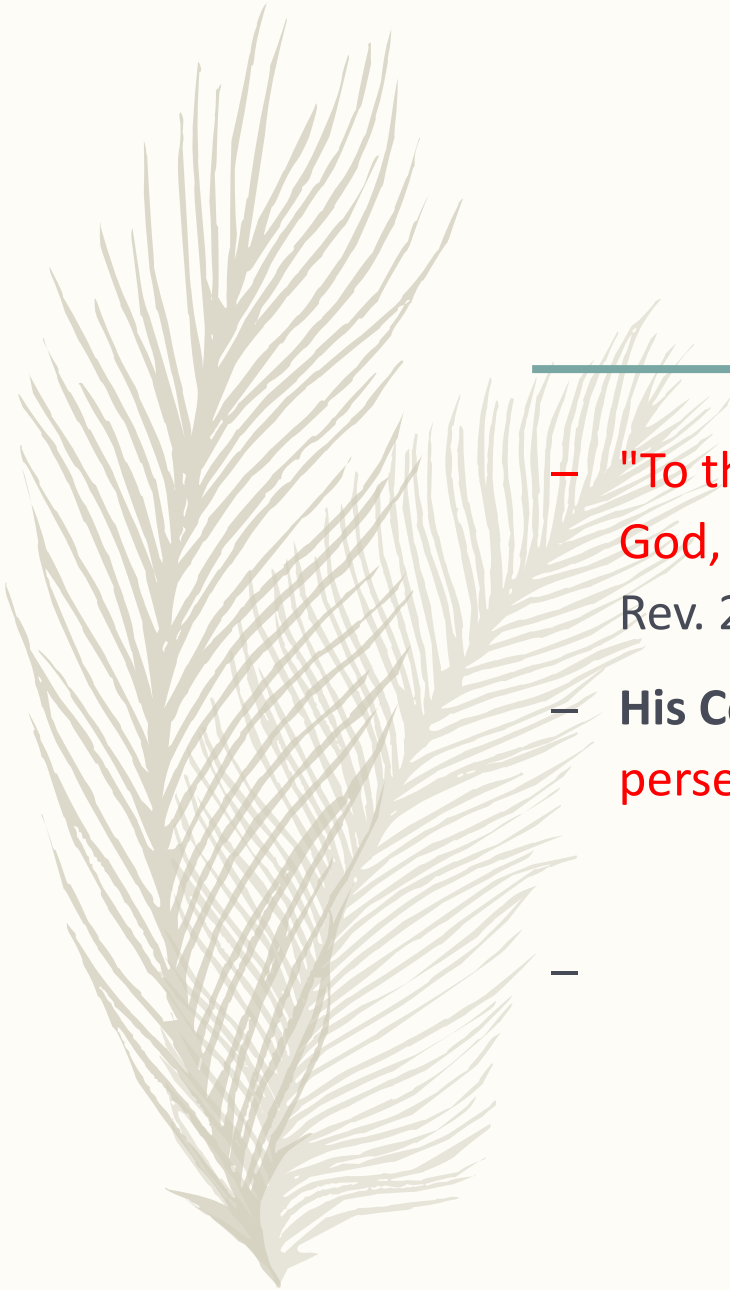
- **The Church Age (Pergamum):** The “State Church” - A.D. 313-590
- A.D. 300 – prayers for the dead began
- A.D. 300 – making the sign of the cross introduced
- A.D. 375 – onset of worship of saints and angels
- A.D. 593 – doctrine of purgatory introduced
- A.D. 600 – prayers directed to Mary, not Jesus
- A.D. 600 – worship services conducted in Latin
- It is interesting to note that Pergamum means *marriage* as the Church appeared to become *married*, so to speak, to Rome during this time period.

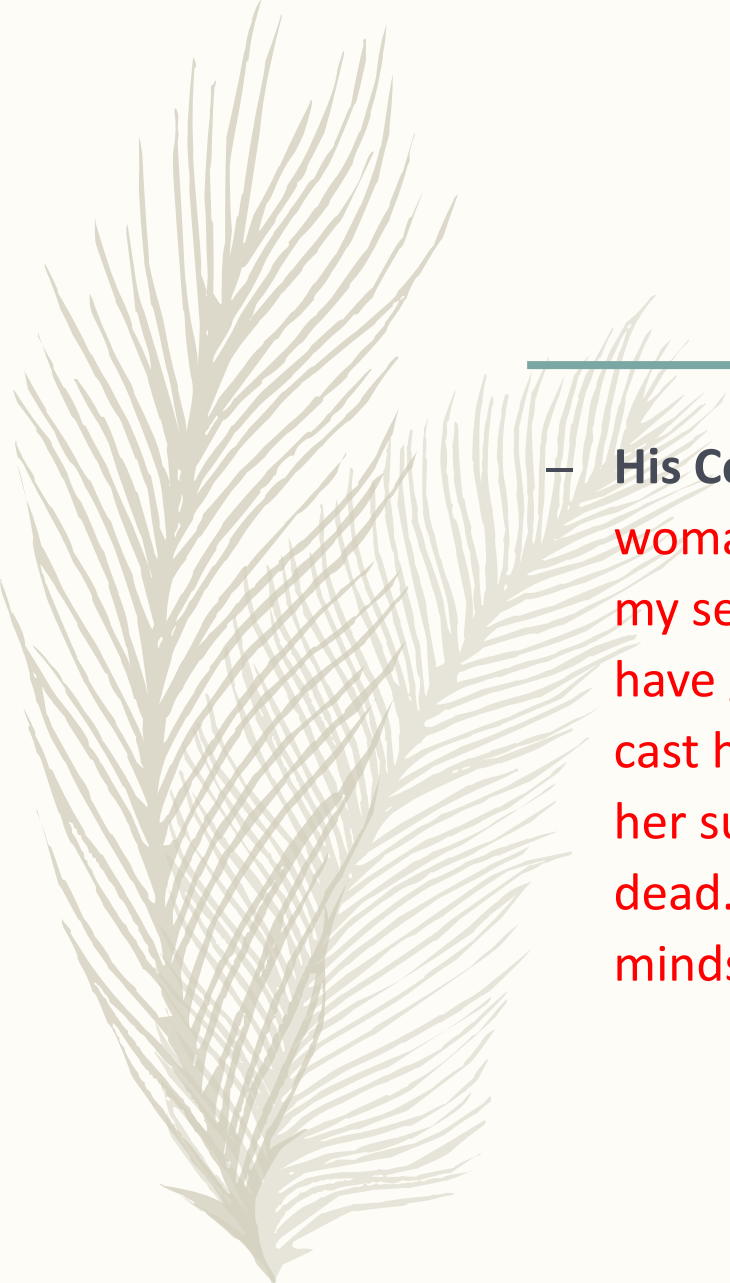


# The Church at Thyatira

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- "To the angel of the church in **Thyatira** write: These are the words of the Son of God, whose eyes are like blazing fire and whose feet are like burnished bronze. Rev. 2:18
- **His Commendation:** know your deeds, your love and faith, your service and perseverance, and that you are now doing more than you did at first. Rev. 2:19
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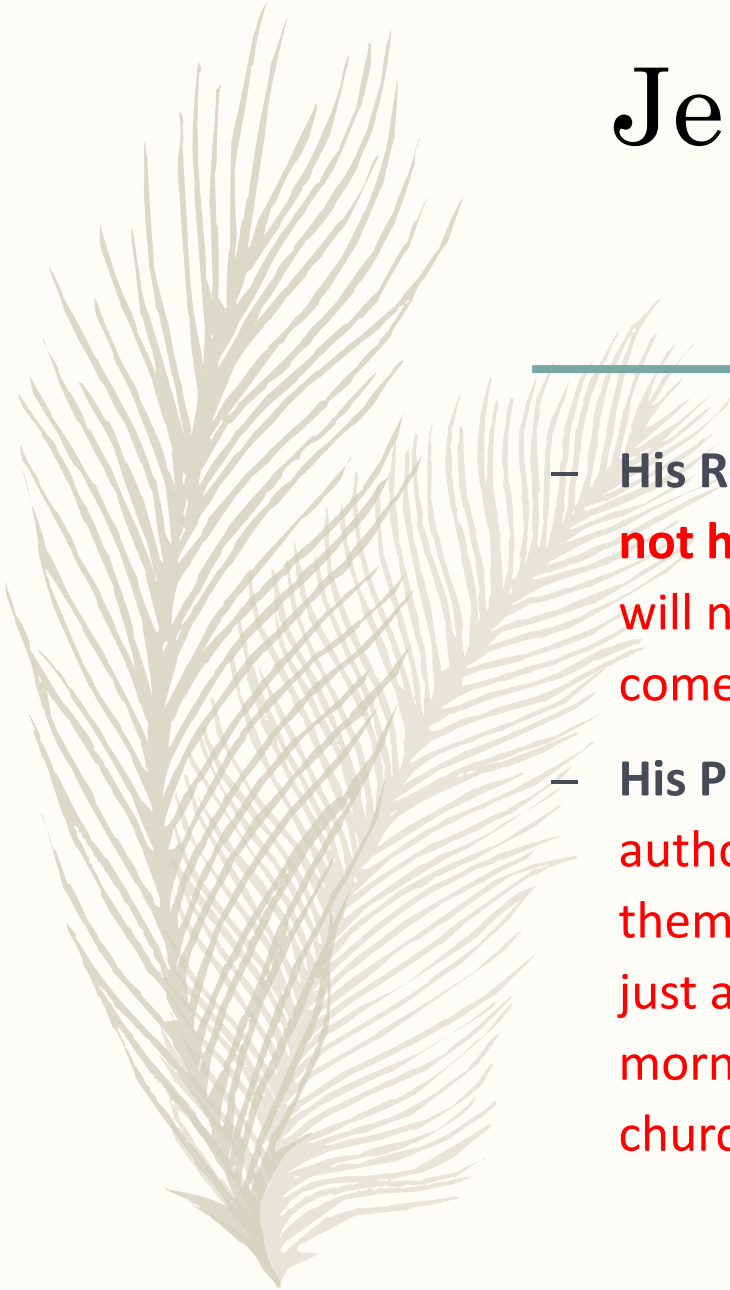


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- **His Condemnation:** Nevertheless, I have this against you: You tolerate that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess. By her teaching she misleads my servants into sexual immorality and the eating of food sacrificed to idols. I have given her time to repent of her immorality, but she is unwilling. So I will cast her on a bed of suffering, and I will make those who commit adultery with her suffer intensely, unless they repent of her ways. I will strike her children dead. Then all the churches will know that I am he who searches hearts and minds, and I will repay each of you according to your deeds. Rev. 2:20-23

# Jesus makes His recommendation and gives His Promise

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- **His Recommendation:** Now I say to the rest of you in Thyatira, to you who **do not hold to her teaching** and have not learned Satan's so-called deep secrets (I will not impose any other burden on you): Only hold on to what you have until I come. Rev. 2:24-25
- **His Promise:** To him who overcomes and does my will to the end, I will give authority over the nations-- 'He will rule them with an iron scepter; he will dash them to pieces like pottery' -- just as I have received authority from my Father. I will also give him the morning star. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. Rev 2:26-29



# Thyatira

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- **The Church Age (Thyatira):** The Pagan Church - A.D. 590-1517
- A.D. 709 – kissing the Pope’s foot
- A.D. 786 – the worshipping of relics and images
- A.D. 850 – the use of “holy water” began
- A.D. 995 – canonization of dead saints
- A.D. 1074 – priests forbidden to marry
- A.D. 1090 – rosary invented by Peter the Hermit
- A.D. 1123 – celibacy for priests
- A.D. 1232 – the Inquisition begins
- A.D. 1190 – the system of indulgences was initiated

# The Catholic Church “Tradition”

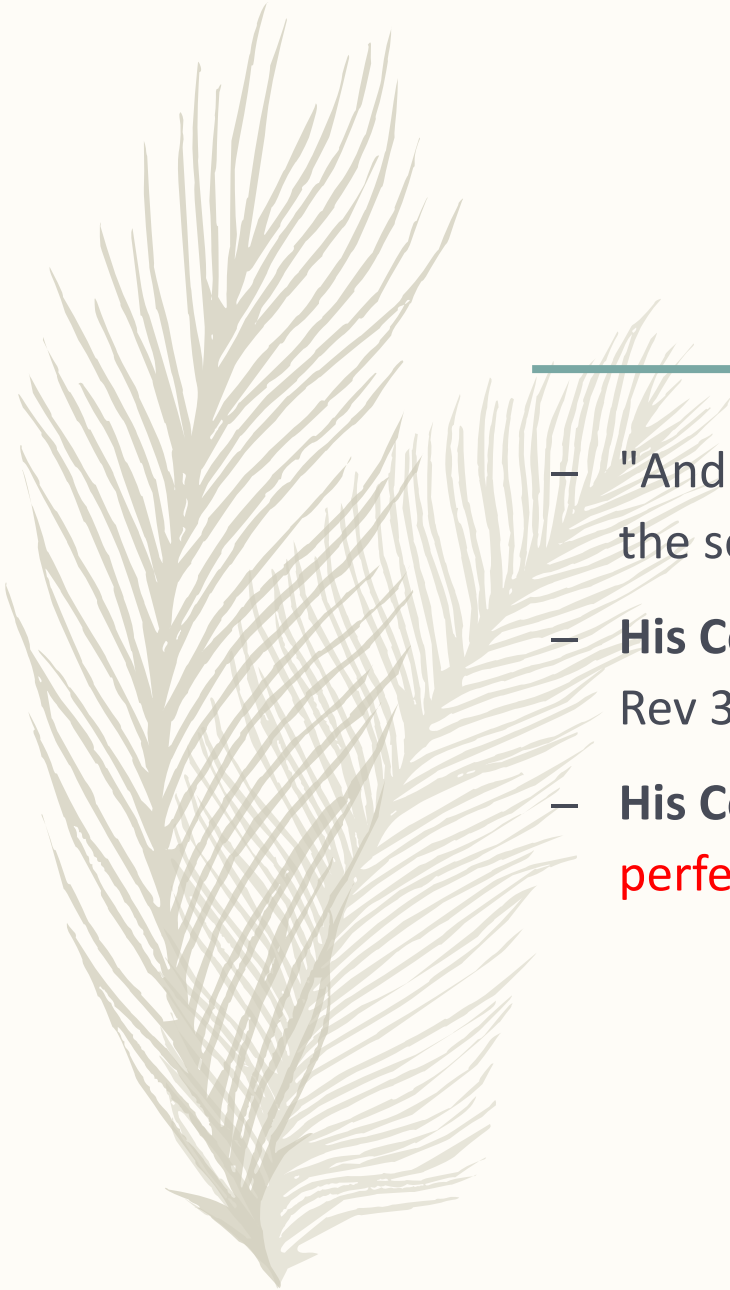
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- A.D. 1215 – transubstantiation
- A.D. 1229 – Bible forbidden to laypeople
- A.D. 1414 – Cup (wine turned to blood of Christ) forbidden to laypeople
- A.D. 1439 – Purgatory becomes official Church dogma
- A.D. 1546 – Tradition granted equal authority with the Bible
- A.D. 1546 - Apocrypha added to the Bible
- A.D. 1854 - Immaculate conception of Mary
- A.D. 1870 – Pope declared infallible on certain matters
- A.D. 1950 – Assumption of Virgin Mary
- A.D. 1965 – Mary proclaimed Mother of the Church

# The church at Sardis

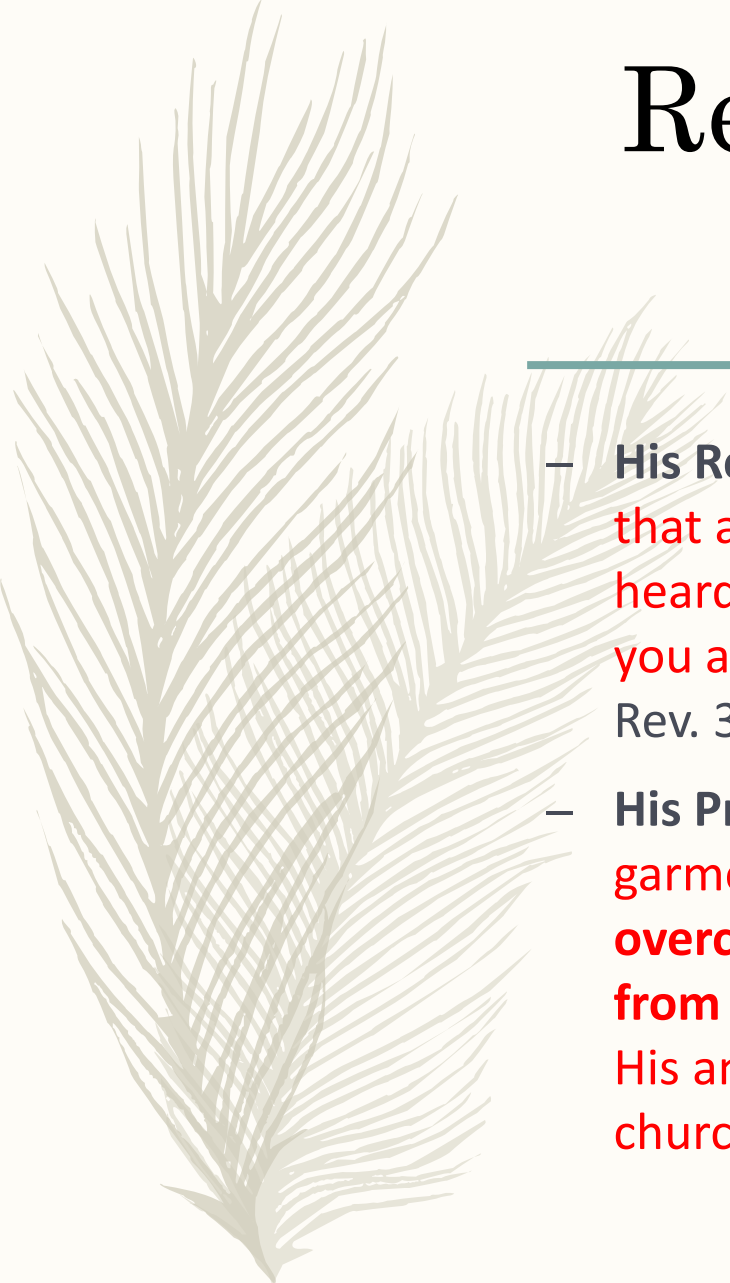
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- "And to the angel of the church in **Sardis** write, 'These things says He who has the seven Spirits of God and the seven stars
- **His Commendation:** "I know your deeds; you have a reputation of being alive."  
Rev 3:1
- **His Condemnation:** but **you are dead**..... for I have not found your works perfect (i.e. complete) before God. Rev. 3:1-2



# Recommendation and Promise

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- **His Recommendation:** Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die..... Remember therefore how you have received and heard; hold fast and repent. Therefore if you will not watch, I will come upon you as a thief, and you will not know what hour I will come upon you.  
Rev. 3:2,3
  - **His Promise:** You have a few names even in Sardis who have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with Me in white, for they are worthy. <sup>5</sup> **He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life;** but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels. <sup>6</sup> He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches." Rev 3:4-6

# Church Age - Sardis

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- **The Church Age (Sardis):** The “Reformed” Church – (A.D. 1517-1750)
- Problems developed after the Reformation... this led to a “dead” Church in the opinion of many
- Things were about to change for the better!

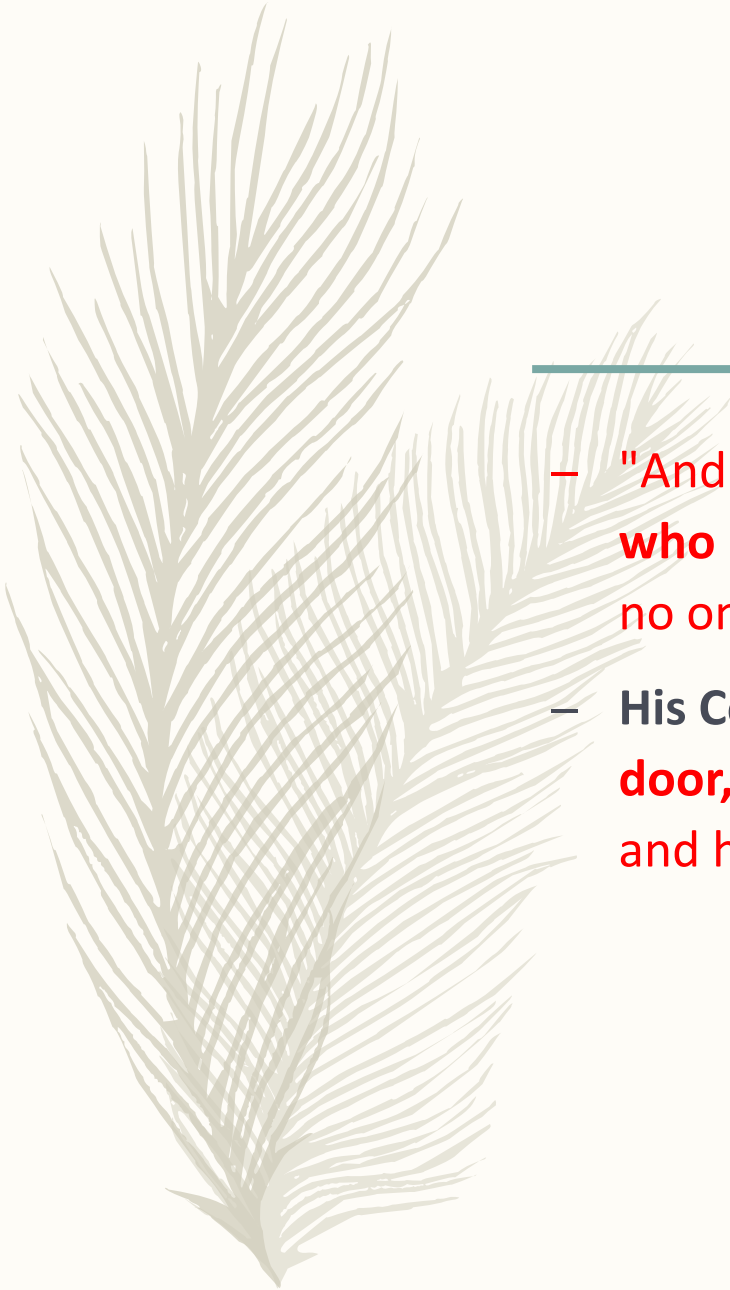




# A Church on fire for God!

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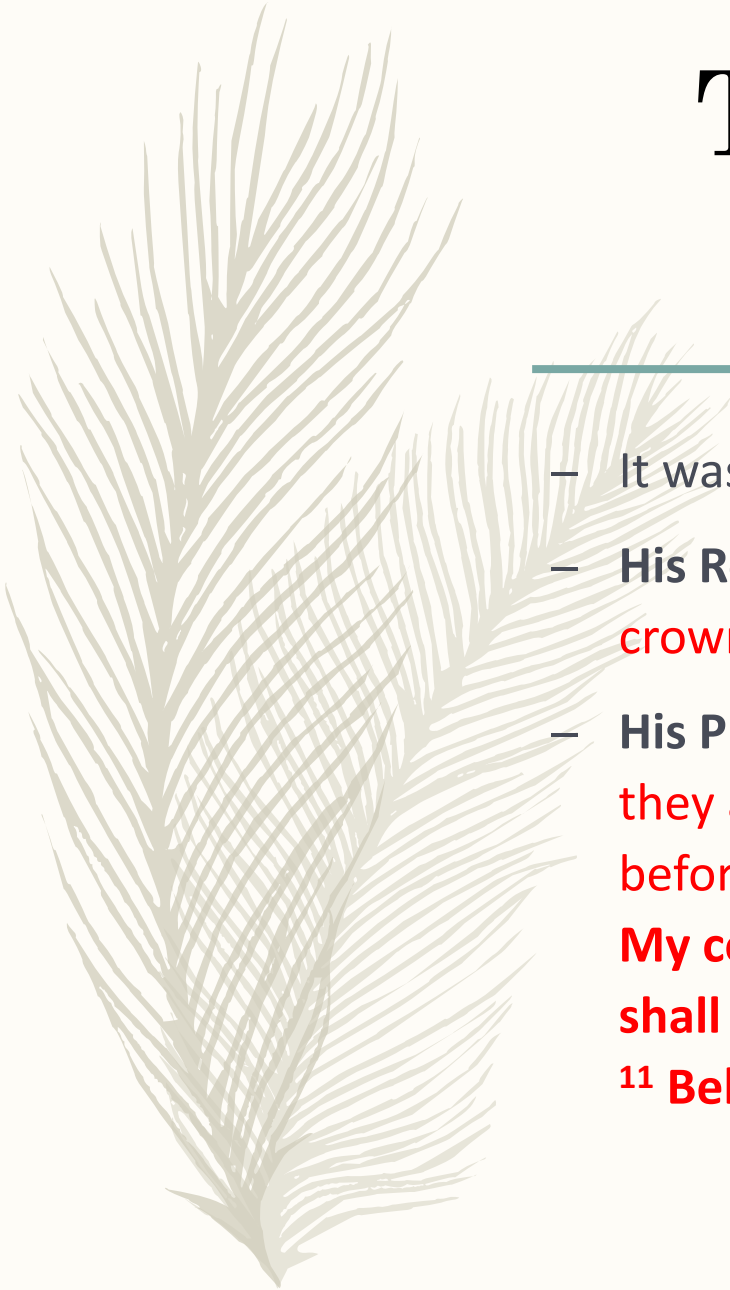
- "And to the angel of the church in **Philadelphia** write, 'These things says **He who is holy, He who is true, "He who has the key of David, He who opens and no one shuts, and shuts and no one opens"**: Rev 3:7
- **His Commendation:** I know your works. See, **I have set before you an open door, and no one can shut it;** for you have a little strength, have kept My word, and have not denied My name. Rev 3:8

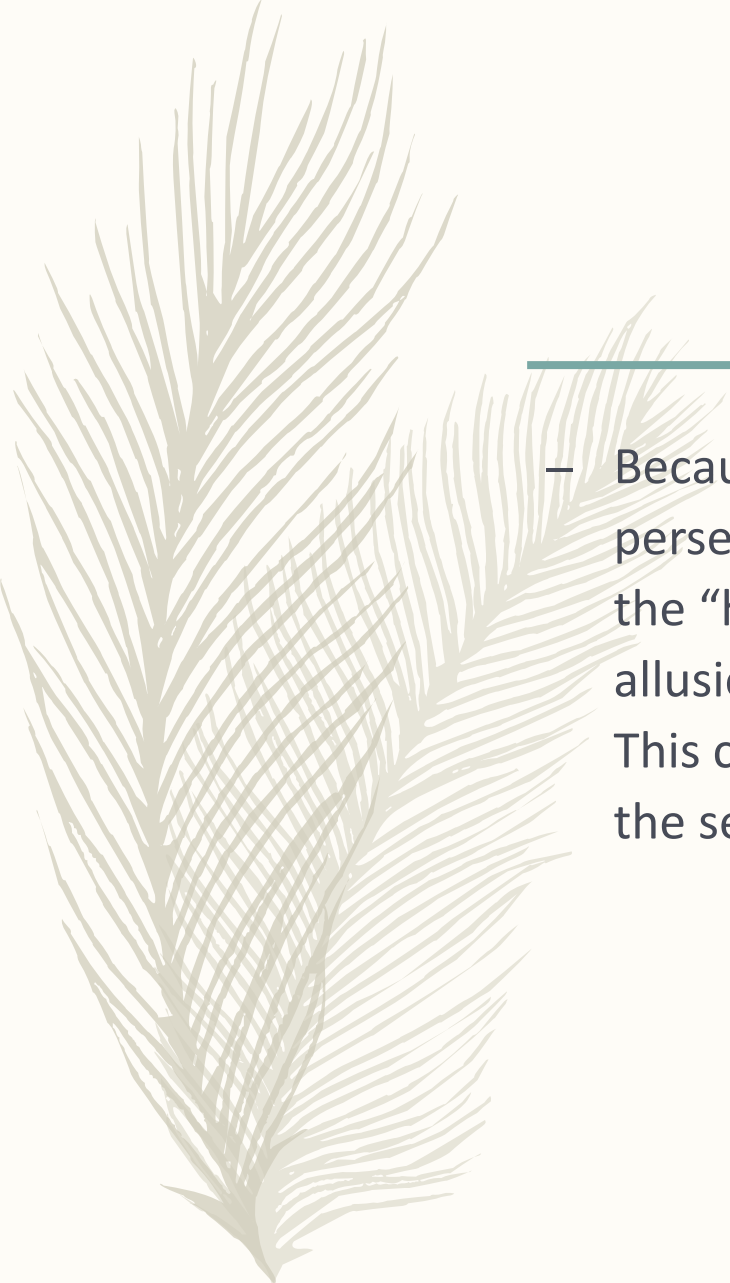


# The Church at Philadelphia

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- It was excellent that Jesus did not have any **condemnation** for this church.
- **His Recommendation:** Hold fast what you have, that no one may take your crown. Rev 3:11
- **His Promise:** <sup>9</sup> Indeed I will make those of the synagogue of Satan, who say they are Jews and are not, but lie--indeed I will make them come and worship before your feet, and to know that I have loved you. <sup>10</sup> **Because you have kept My command to persevere, I also will keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth.** <sup>11</sup> **Behold, I am coming quickly!** Rev 3:8-11

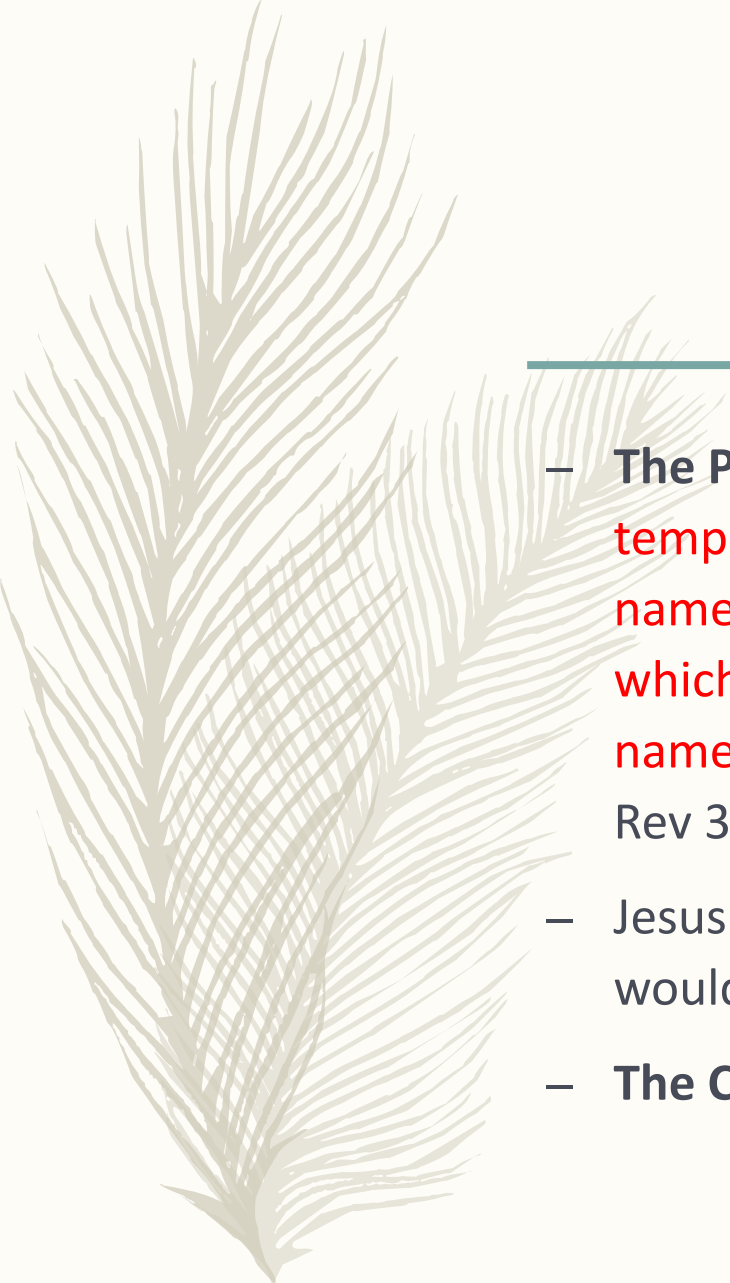




# This Church will be kept from the Trial

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- Because this church had been so faithful in their obedience to Jesus... always persevering regardless the cost, Jesus promised that He would keep them from the “hour of trial” that shall come upon the whole earth. This must be an allusion to the Tribulation. There is no other trial that matches His description. This church of Philadelphia is one of the better examples of how these letters to the seven churches may well also refer to certain Church Ages

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- **The Promise Continued:** He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. And I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God. And I will write on him My new name. <sup>13</sup> He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches." ' Rev 3:12-13
  - Jesus told the Philadelphia Church that all who persevered (i.e. overcome) would one day enter heaven as Jesus, Himself, will claim them for His own.
  - **The Church Age: (Philadelphia):** Missionary Church (A.D. 1750-present day)

# Laodiceans

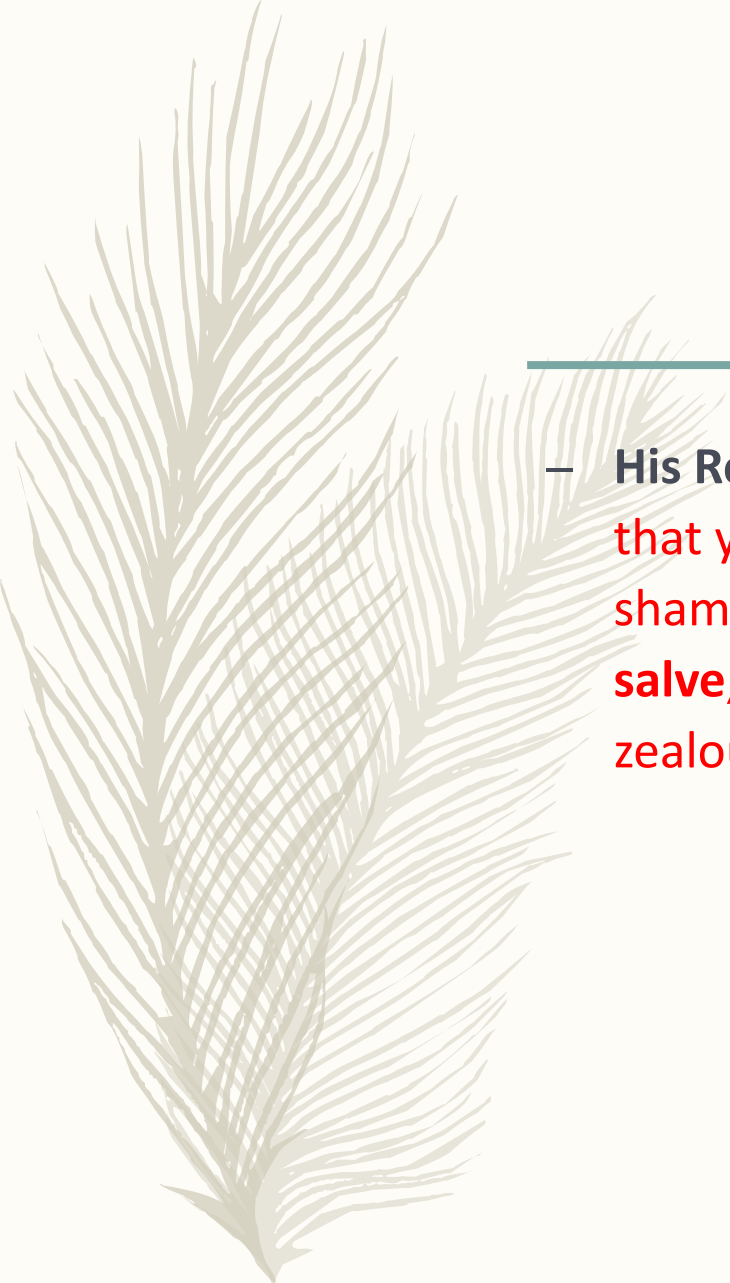
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- "And to the angel of the church of the **Laodiceans** write, 'These things says the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God... Rev 3:14
- Jesus did not have any **commendation** for this church.
- **His Condemnation:** I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. <sup>16</sup> So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth. <sup>17</sup> Because **you say, 'I am rich,** have become wealthy, and have need of nothing'--and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked— Rev 3:15-17

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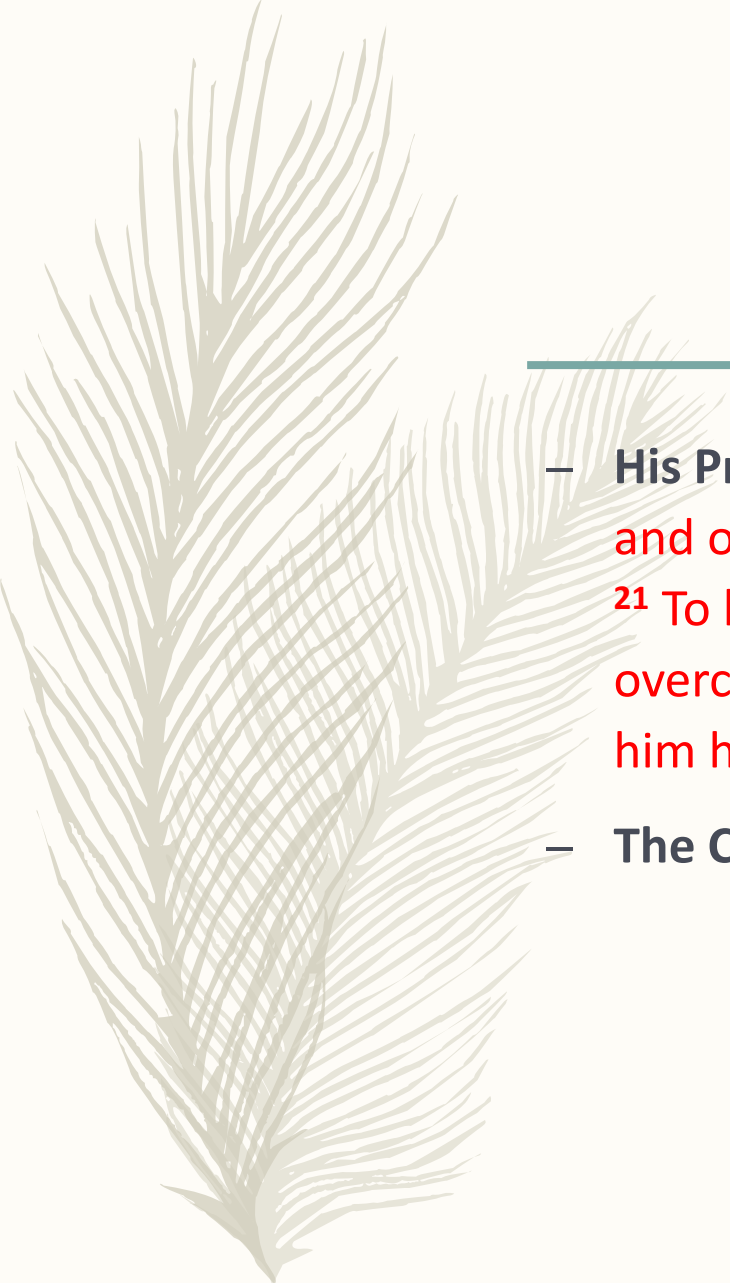
# The Recommendation


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- **His Recommendation:** I counsel you to buy from Me **gold refined in the fire**, that you may be rich; and **white garments**, that you may be clothed, that the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and **anoint your eyes with eye salve**, that you may see. <sup>19</sup> As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent. Rev 3:18-19

# Hope for Laodicea

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- **His Promise:** Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me. <sup>21</sup> To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne. <sup>22</sup> He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. Rev 3:20-22
  - **The Church Age: (Laodicea):** Apostate Church (A.D. 1900-Present)

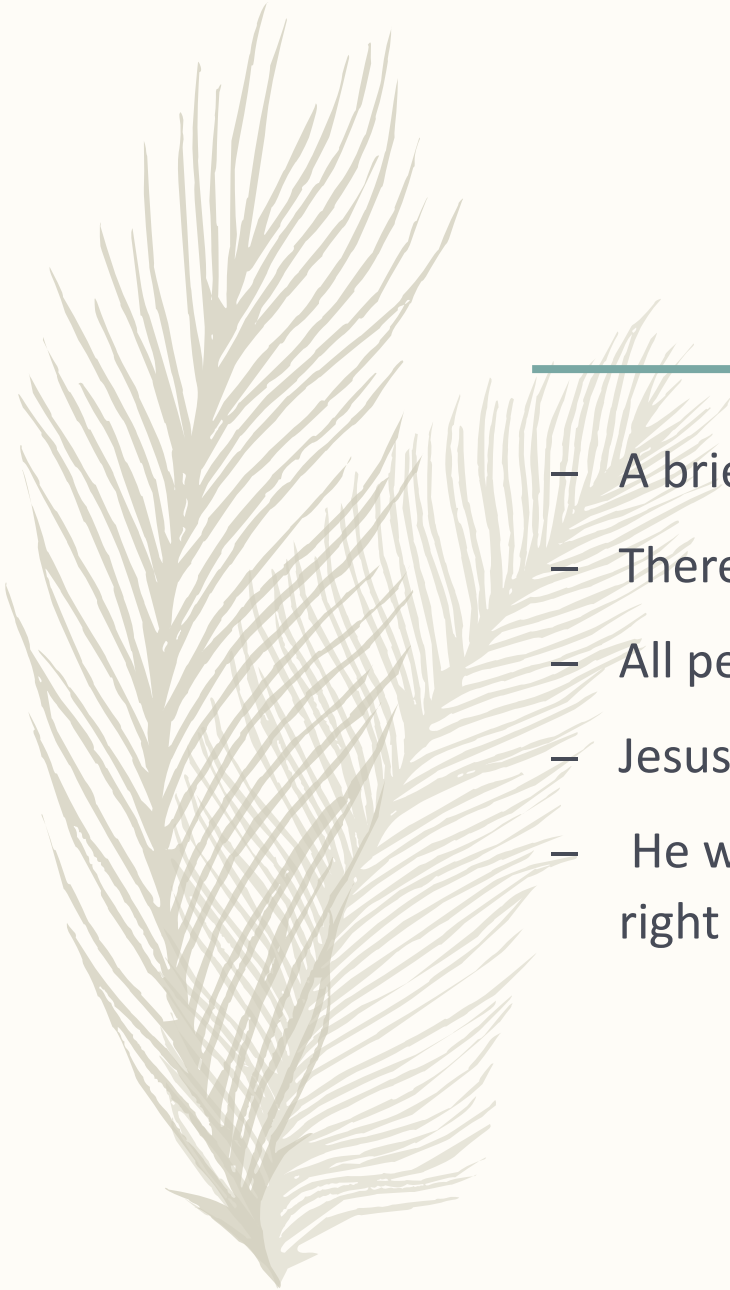
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- **Ephesus:** The First Century Church A.D. 33-100
  - **Smyrna:** The Persecuted Church – A.D. 100-313
  - **Pergamus:** The “State Church” - A.D. 313-590
  - **Thyatira:** The Pagan Church - A.D. 590-1517
  - **Sardis:** The “Reformed” Church – (A.D. 1517-1750)
  - **Philadelphia:** Missionary Church (A.D. 1750-present day)
  - **Laodicea:** Apostate Church (A.D. 1900-Present)
  - Summary and Conclusion



# The Tribulation

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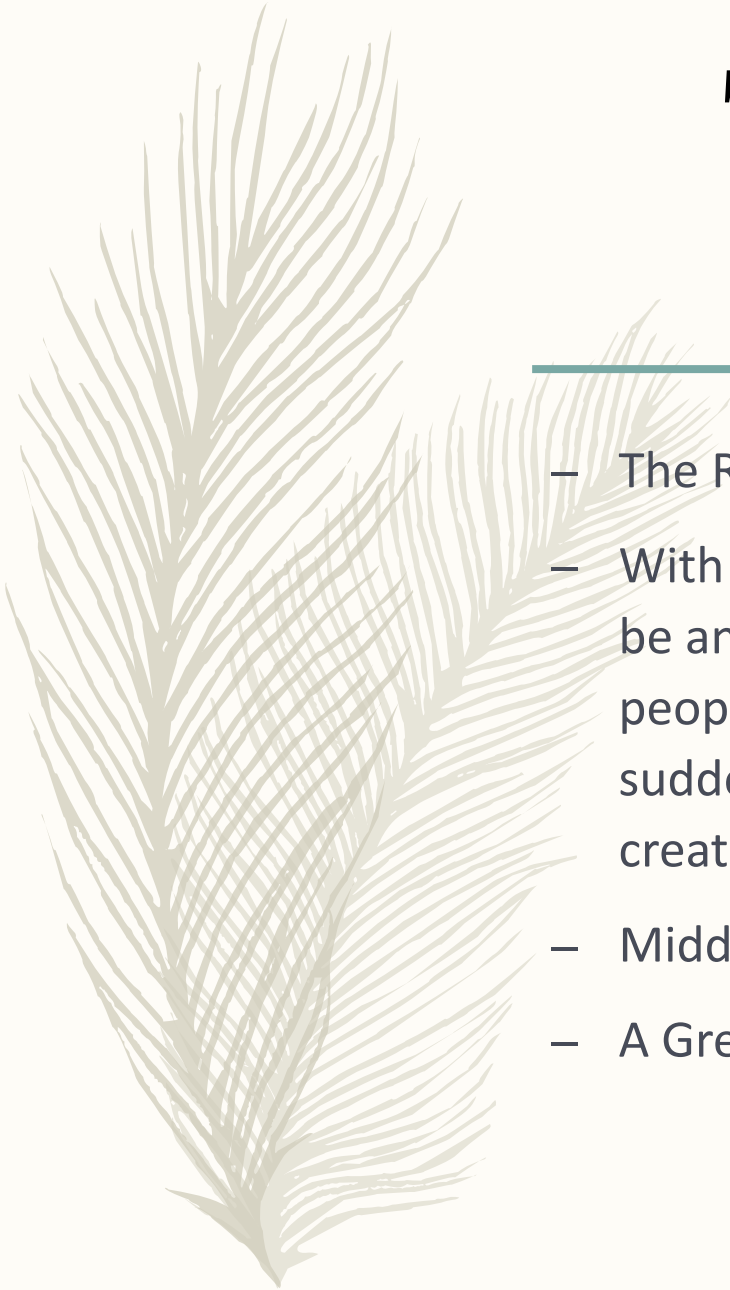
- A brief review of this time in future history
- There can be no compromise on:
- All people are saved by faith in Jesus Christ,
- Jesus is coming again someday,
- He will set up His Kingdom when He comes (be it the New Heaven and Earth right away or the Millennial Kingdom followed by the New Heaven and Earth).



# The Rapture of the Church

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- The Rapture vs. The Second Coming – a brief review
- With the Church suddenly disappearing from planet earth, there obviously will be an incredible upheaval of certain societies on the earth... especially, the people of the United States (as there are so many Christians in this nation). The sudden loss of millions of productive people from many nations of the earth will create a terrible worldwide panic.
- Middle East Wars
- A Great Leader is needed...



# The Tribulation begins

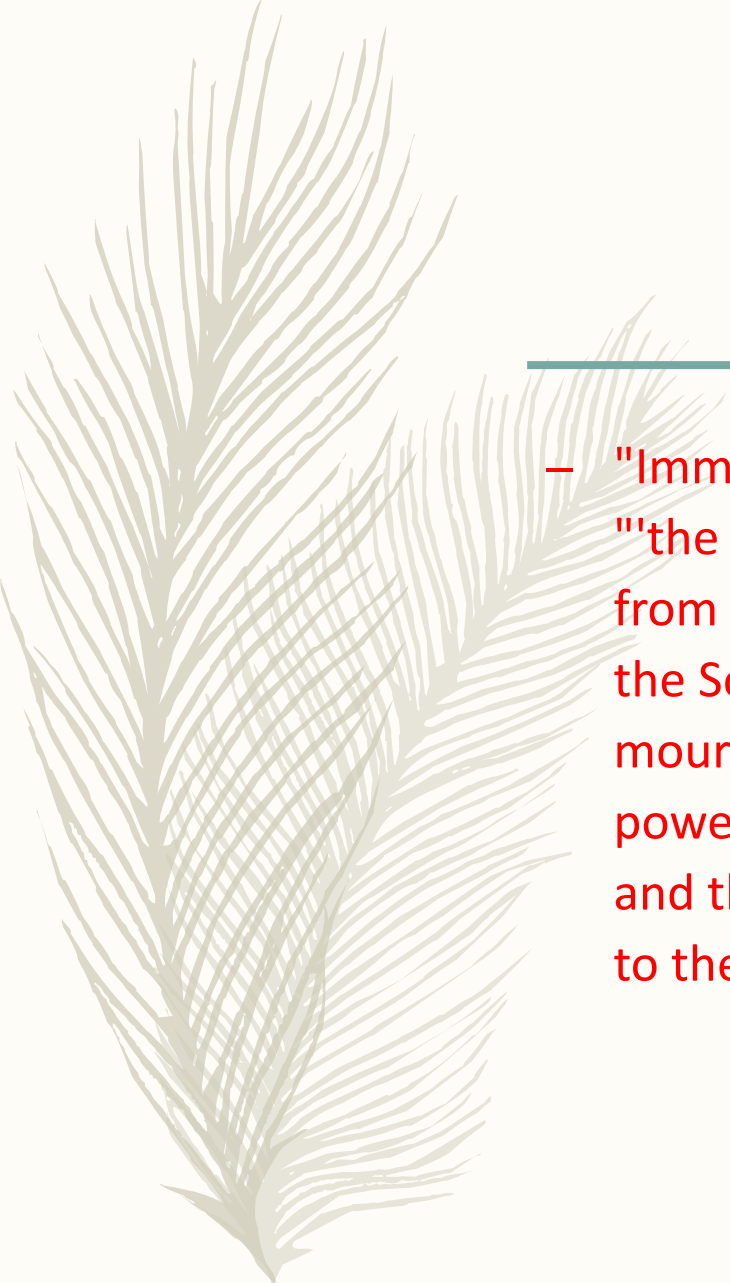
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- The Antichrist will come onto the world scene
- A peace treaty will be brokered between Israel and their arch-enemies.
- **The Tribulation:** Sixteen of the final nineteen chapters (i.e. chapt 4-19) are related to the final seven year Tribulation that God will bring to pass onto the earth. Jesus spoke of this time when He gave His Olivet Discourse.



# Olivet Discourse

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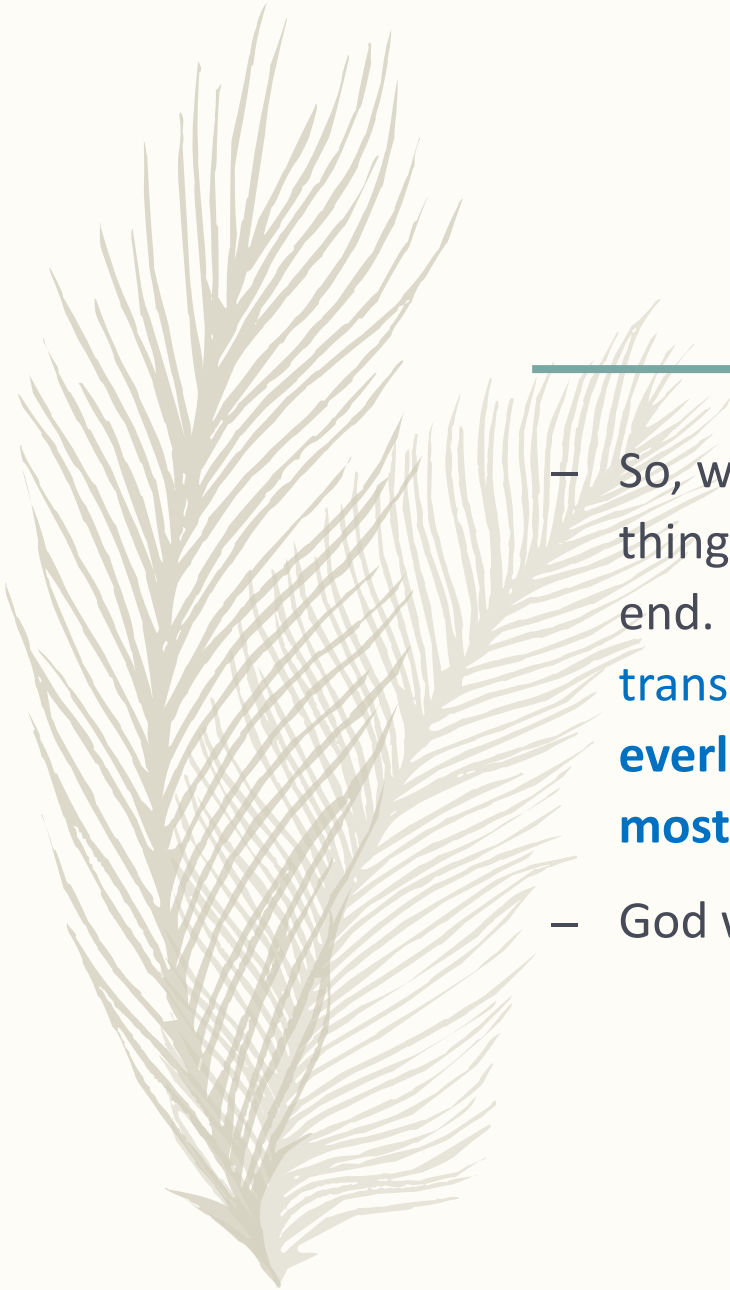
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- "Immediately after the distress of those days  
"the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from the sky, and the heavenly bodies will be shaken.' "At that time the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and all the nations of the earth will mourn. They will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky, with power and great glory. **31** And he will send his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other.      Matt 24:29-31

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- A great deal of the Bible speaks to this Tribulation. In fact, Tim LaHaye noted that it is mentioned at least 49 times by Old Testament prophets and at least 15 times in the New Testament. As we shall be seeing, God devoted virtually an entire book of His Bible to this subject matter... *The Revelation*. In other words, it certainly would appear that God wants everyone of His saints to understand what this period is all about. That will be the goal of the remainder of this treatise.

# Purpose of the Tribulation

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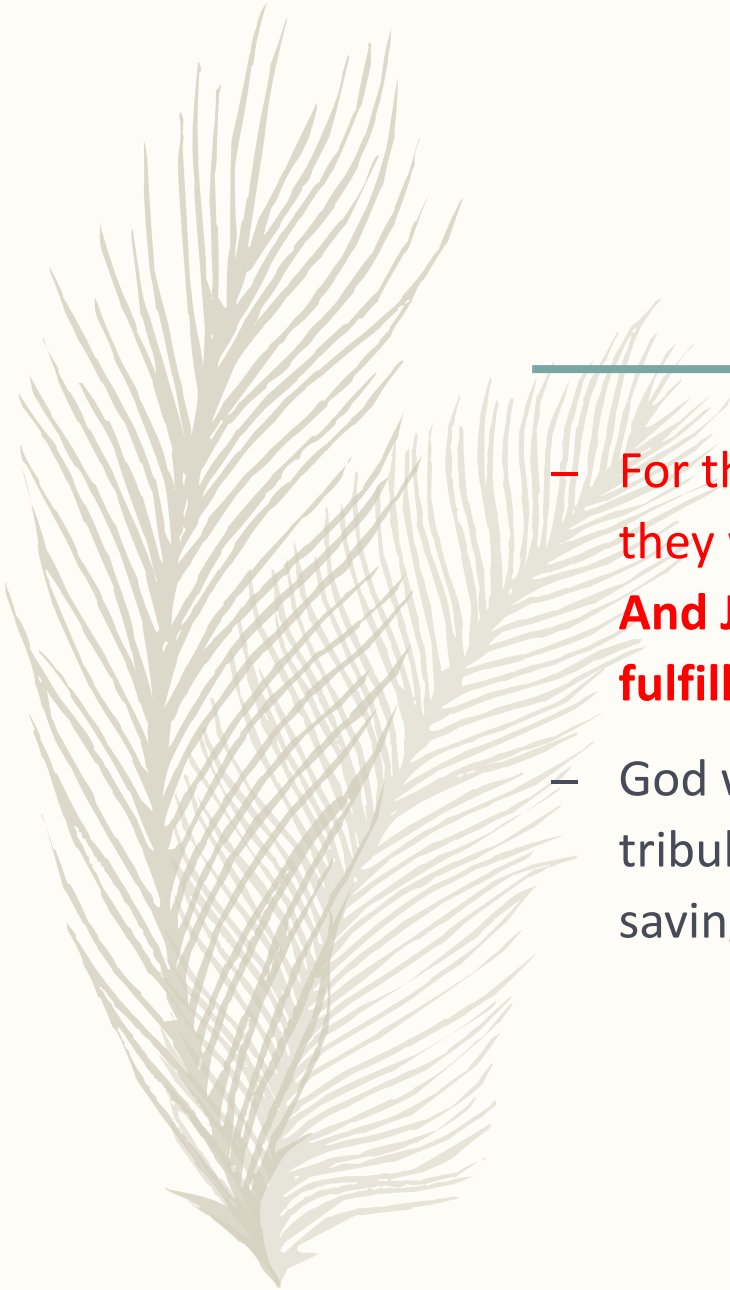
- So, what is the purpose of the Tribulation? Actually, there are several. For one thing, it is the time that God will use to bring the current order of things to an end. **"Seventy 'sevens' are decreed for your people and your holy city to finish transgression, to put an end to sin, to atone for wickedness, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy and to anoint the most holy."** Dan 9:24
- God will also bring an end to the "time of the Gentiles."



# More from Luke on the Tribulation

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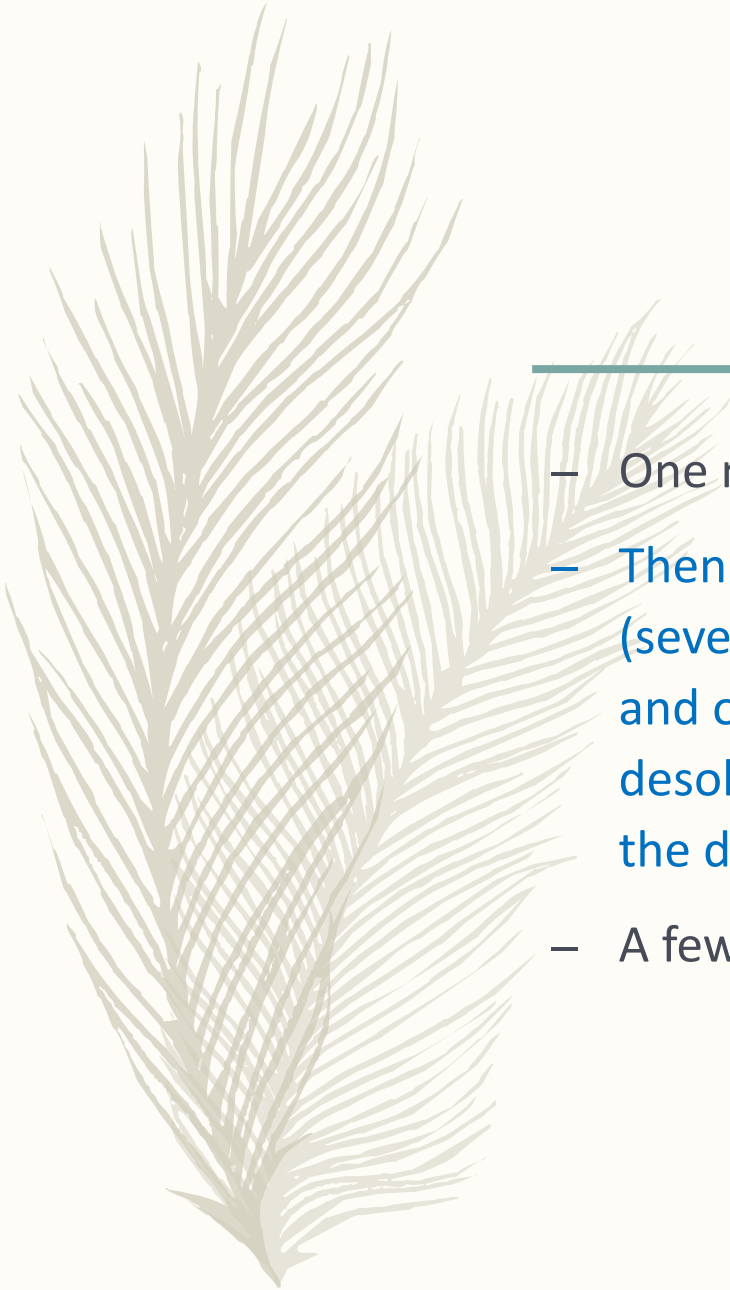
- For there will be great distress in the land and wrath upon this people. <sup>24</sup> And they will fall by the edge of the sword, and be led away captive into all nations. **And Jerusalem will be trampled by Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.** Luke 21:23-24
- God will once again turn His attention specifically to Israel. He will use this tribulation period to bring a large remnant of the nation of Israel back into a saving relationship with Him, through His Son, Jesus.



# More from Daniel...

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- One may ask where does the Bible say this period will last for seven years...
- Then he (the Antichrist) shall confirm a covenant with many for one week (seven years); But in the middle of the week 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." Dan 9:27
- A few additional prophets speak of this time.





# Final Comment

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- We see that there will be a period of seven years of Tribulation that will follow right after the Antichrist has brokered a treaty with Israel. God will use this to accomplish His purposes... as He providentially uses all events of mankind. This time of Tribulation will come soon after the Rapture although the exact amount of time between the Rapture and the treaty signing is not given. The actual events of this Tribulation will be given in detail as we comment on the remaining chapters in *The Revelation*.





# Various Wars during the end-times

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- **Ezekiel 38-39** --- Russia and Iran will lead the enemy contingent of nations against Israel
- **Psalms 83** --- Joel Rosenberg and Hal Lindsey are both fairly convinced that the nations mentioned in this book of the Old Testament will come against Israel as a prelude to the larger Ezekiel war (above) that will follow it within a few years.

# End-Time Wars

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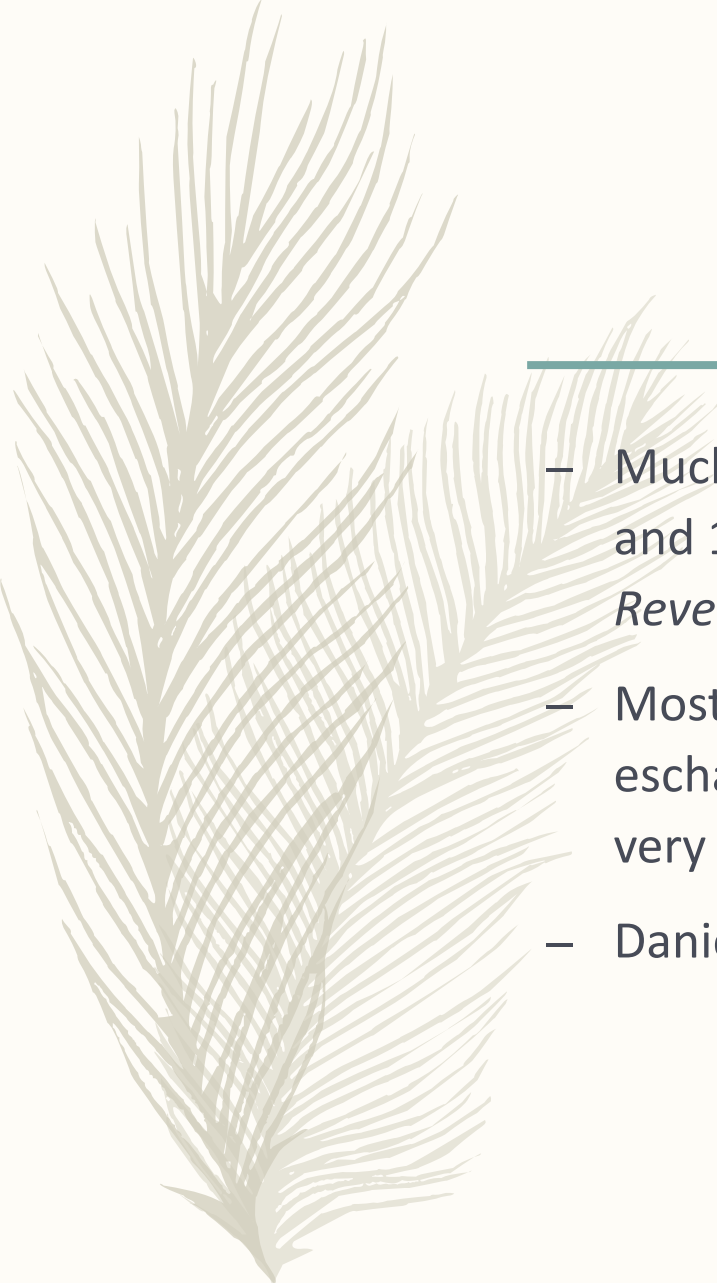
- Hal Lindsey and Perry Stone suggest that Syria may be a participant in this war... joining with those nations listed in this Psalm. They get this idea from Isaiah 17 (which speaks of the destruction of Damascus) and the known fact that Syria is certainly an enemy of Israel, one that likely has nuclear capabilities.
- **Babylon**
- **Armageddon**
- **Final War**

# Antichrist

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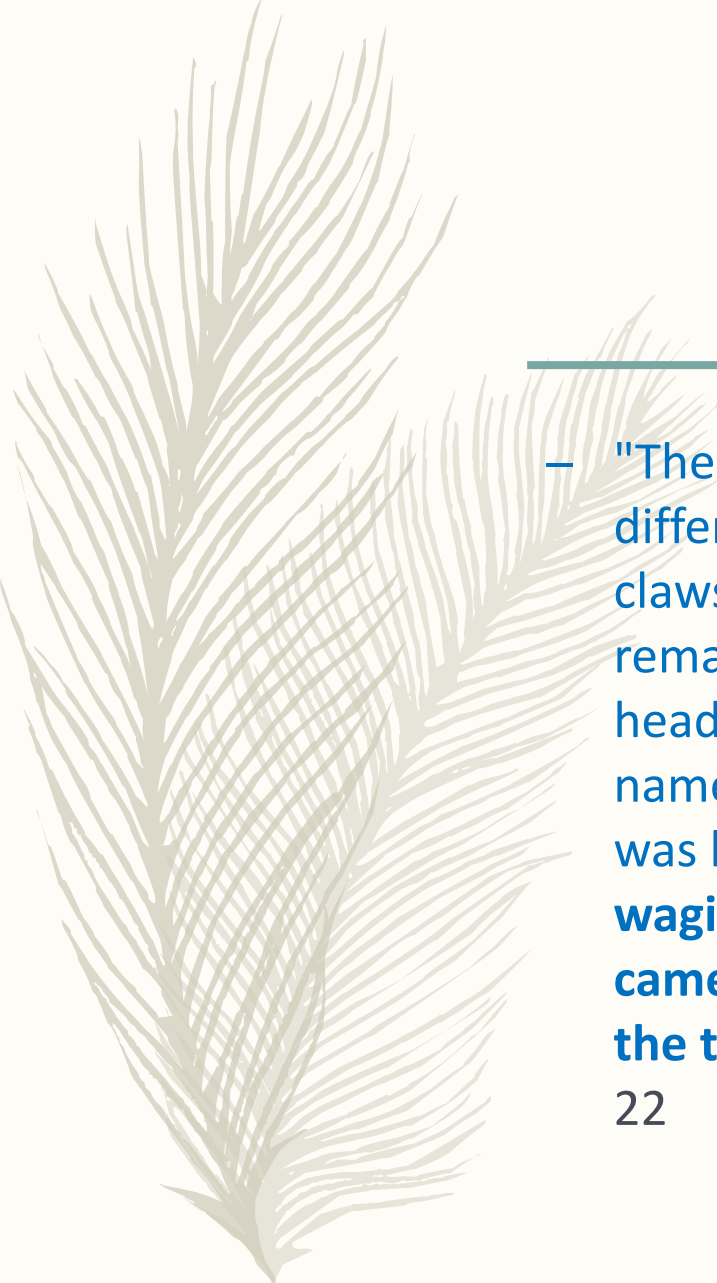
- **The Antichrist** - The Antichrist will come onto the scene only when the world is about to enter into the tribulation period of time. Of course, as he most certainly will be an erudite, charismatic individual with great powers of persuasion, it is safe to assume that he will be an adult. It is also safe to deduce from the biblical text that this Antichrist will be a man.




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- Much of what is known about this evil person is gained from reading *Daniel 7, 9, and 11*. Of course, his end-time actions and ultimate fate are revealed in *Revelation*.
  - Most prophecy scholars who take a pre-millennial, pretribulation view of eschatology, as is taken here, believe that this man will make himself known very soon after the Rapture of the Church.
  - Daniel gives a brief synopsis of this time and individual...

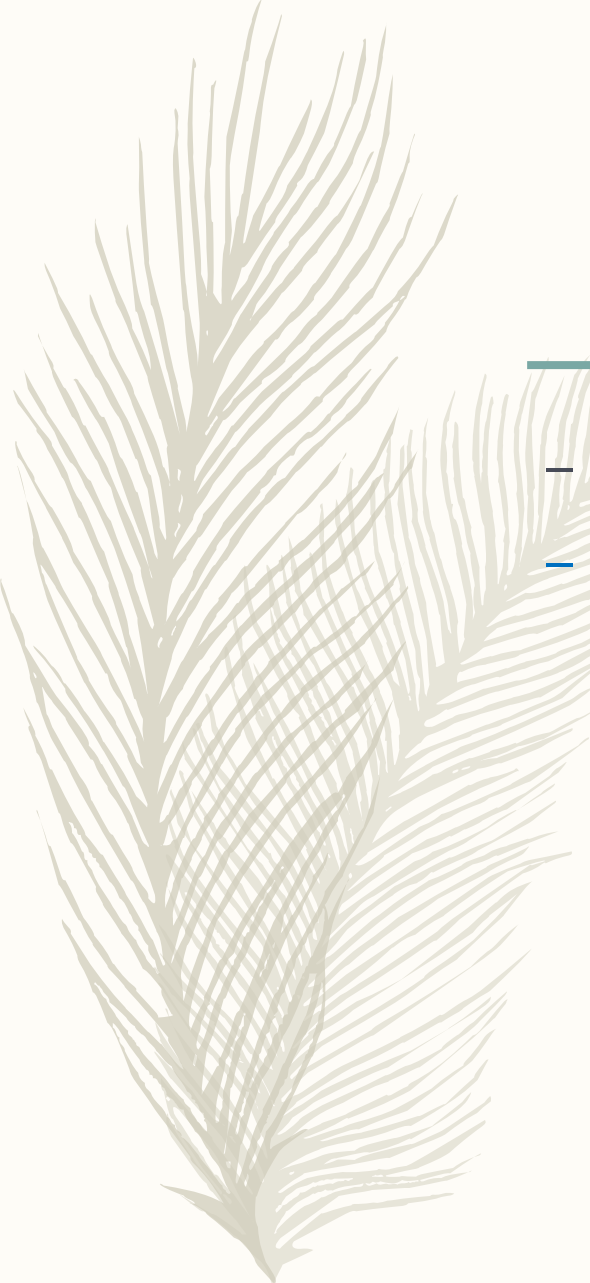
# The Fourth Beast and the Antichrist

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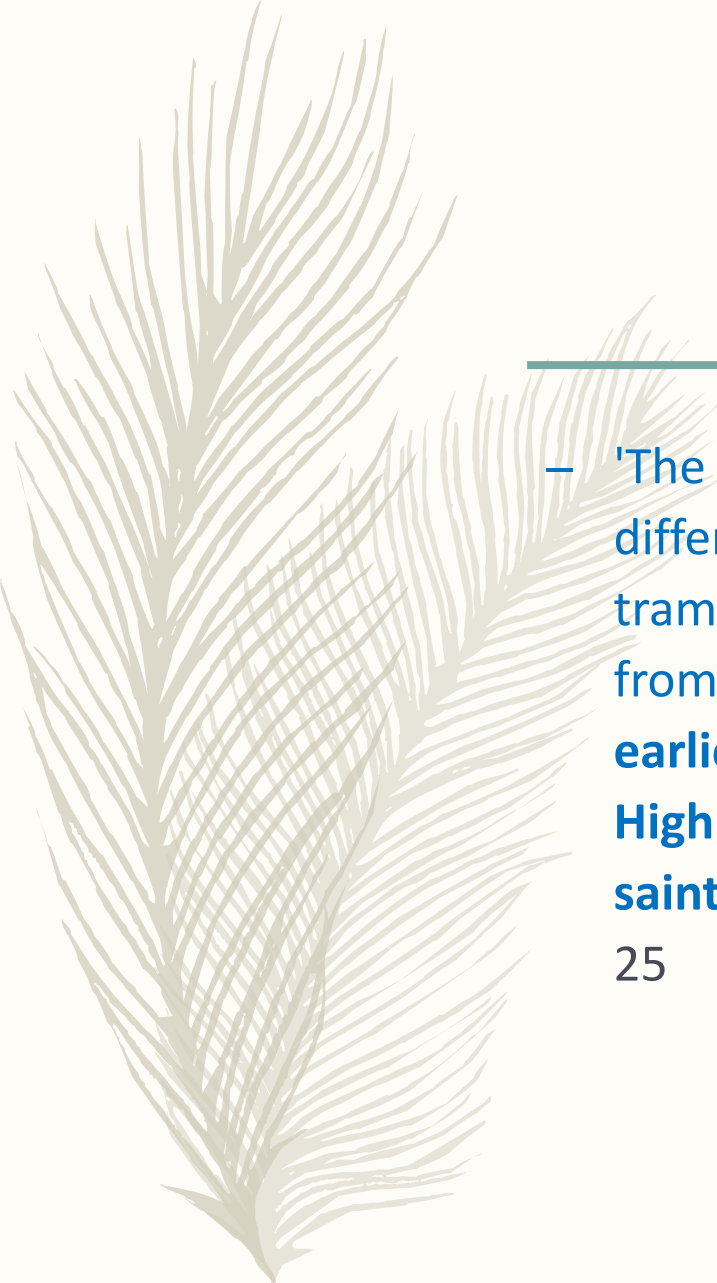
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- "Then I desired to know the exact meaning of the fourth beast, which was different from all the others, exceedingly dreadful, with its teeth of iron and its claws of bronze, and which devoured, crushed, and trampled down the remainder with its feet, and the meaning of the ten horns that were on its head, and **the other horn which came up, and before which three of them fell**, namely, that horn which had eyes and a mouth uttering great boasts, and which was larger in appearance than its associates. "I kept looking, **and that horn was waging war with the saints and overpowering them until the Ancient of Days came, and judgment was passed in favor of the saints of the Highest One, and the time arrived when the saints took possession of the kingdom.** Dan. 7:19-22

# The Antichrist arrives...

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- Daniel then interprets this portion of his dream..."Thus he said: 'The fourth beast will be a fourth kingdom on the earth, which will be different from all the other kingdoms, and it will devour the whole earth and tread it down and crush it.\_'As for the ten horns, out of this kingdom ten kings will arise; and another will arise after them, and he will be different from the previous ones and will subdue three kings.\_'And **he will speak out against the Most High and wear down the saints of the Highest One**, and he will intend to make alterations in times and in law; **and they will be given into his hand for a time, times, and half a time (3 ½ years)**. 'But the court will sit for judgment, and **his dominion will be taken away, annihilated and destroyed forever**. 'Then the sovereignty, the dominion, and the greatness of all **the kingdoms** under the whole heaven **will be given to the people of the saints of the Highest One**; His kingdom will be an everlasting kingdom, and all the dominions will serve and obey Him.' Dan. 7:23-28

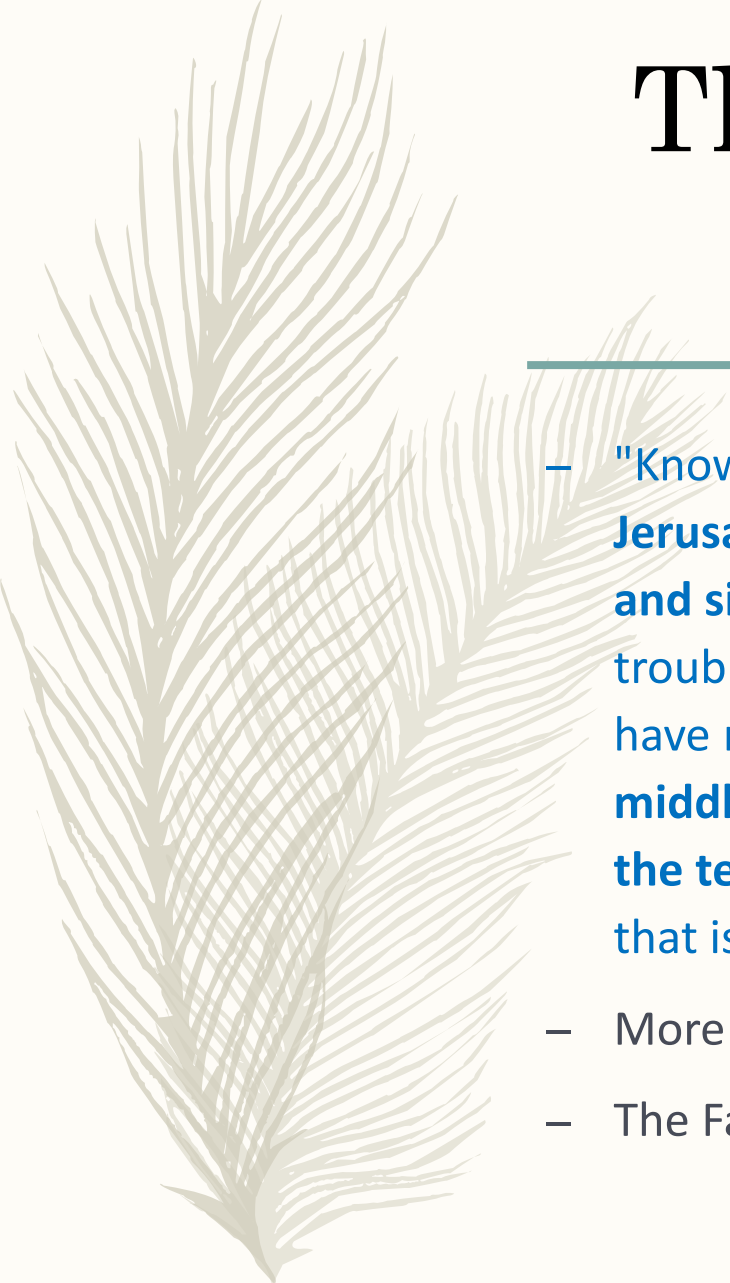
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- The same story is told later, in chapter 8, by the prophet Daniel...
  - "In the latter part of their reign, when rebels have become completely wicked, a stern-faced king, a master of intrigue, will arise. **24 He will become very strong, but not by his own power** (it will be power given to him from Satan). He will cause astounding devastation and will succeed in whatever he does. He will destroy the mighty men and the holy people. **25** He will cause deceit to prosper, and he will consider himself superior. When they feel secure, **he will destroy many and take his stand against the Prince of princes. Yet he will be destroyed, but not by human power** (Jesus will come and defeat the Antichrist and Satan at the end of the seven years). Dan 8:23-25



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- 'The fourth beast is a **fourth kingdom** that will appear on earth. It will be different from all the other kingdoms and will devour the whole earth, trampling it down and crushing it. **24** The ten horns are ten kings who will come from this kingdom. After them **another king will arise, different from the earlier ones; he will subdue three kings. 25 He will speak against the Most High and oppress his saints and try to change the set times and the laws. The saints will be handed over to him for a time, times and half a time.** Dan 7:23-25

# The Seventy “Weeks of Years”

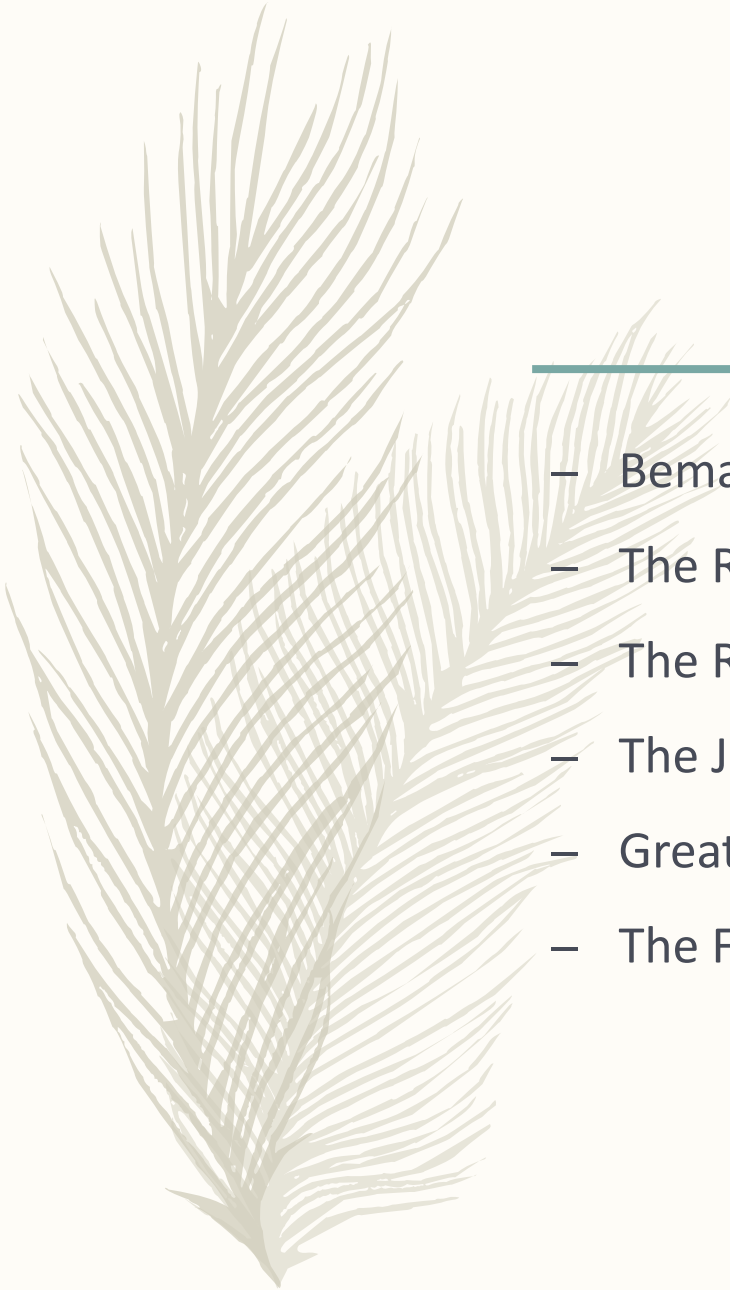
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- 
- "Know and understand this: **From the issuing of the decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until the Anointed One, the ruler, comes, there will be seven 'sevens,' and sixty-two 'sevens.'** It will be rebuilt with streets and a trench, but in times of trouble. **26** After the sixty-two 'sevens,' the Anointed One will be cut off and will have nothing. **27** He will confirm a covenant with many for one 'seven.' **In the middle of the 'seven' he will put an end to sacrifice and offering. And on a wing [of the temple] he will set up an abomination that causes desolation, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him".** Dan 9:25-27
  - More on the activities of the Antichrist
  - The False Prophet

# Judgments of God

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- Bema Judgment
- The Resurrection and Judgment of the Tribulation Saints
- The Resurrection and Judgment of the Old Testament Saints
- The Judgment of the Sheep and Goats
- Great White Throne Judgment
- The Final Judgment of Satan and His Demons



# The Bridegroom and the Church

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- The Marriage of the Lamb and the Marriage Supper of the Lamb
- The “ceremony” will take place in heaven
- The marriage supper will be a wonderful event for all the saints of God



# The Temples of God

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- The Tabernacle in the Wilderness (aka The Tent of Meeting)
- Solomon's Temple
- Zerubbabel's (aka Herod's) Temple
- Jesus also is the Temple of God
- The Christian
- The Tribulation Temple
- The Millennial Temple

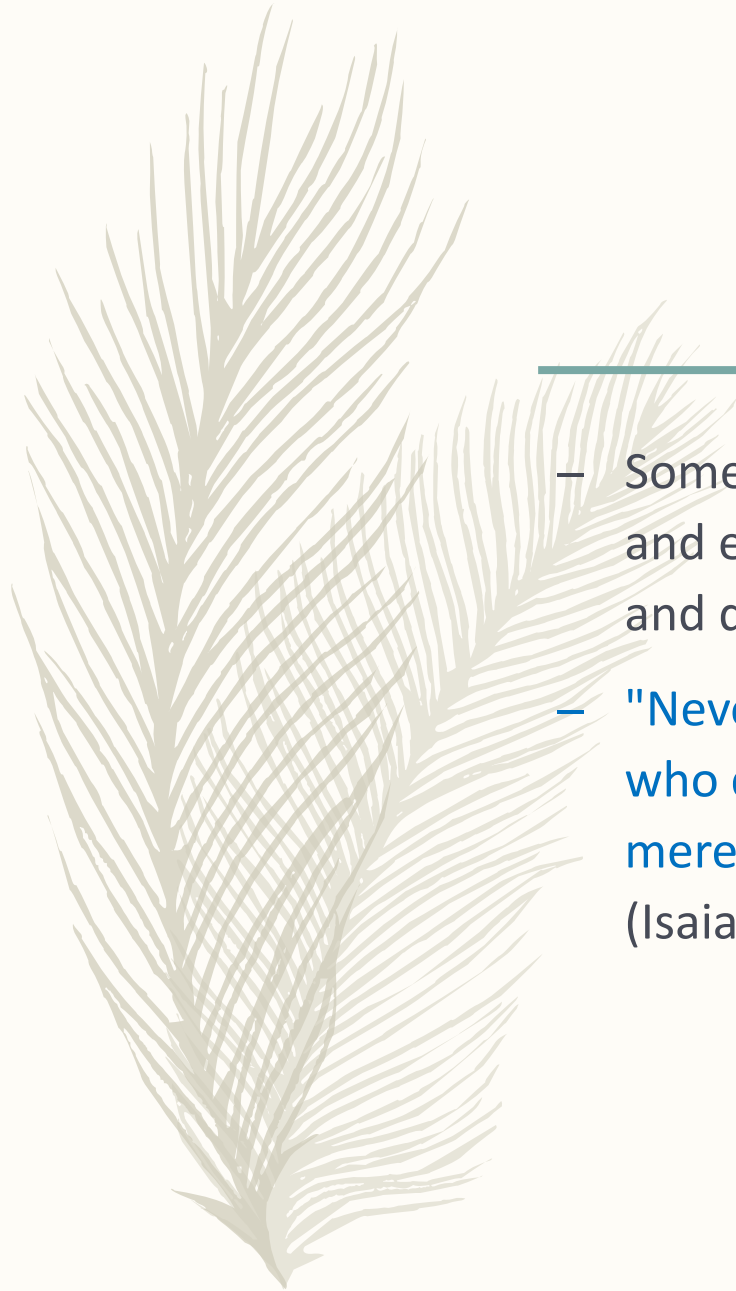


# The Millennial Kingdom

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- The Millennial Kingdom is alluded to all throughout the Bible (e.g. Ezek 34, 37, 40-46, Psalms 2, 24, 72, Isaiah 2, 11:3-5, 12, 29, 33, 65:20, Dan 7:13-14, Amos 9:13-14, Zech 2:10-11; Zech 14:3-4, Matt 24, Rev 20 and other chapters).
- Recall the differences in opinion on this topic.
- The view here is that there will literally be a Millennial Kingdom on earth after a seven year Tribulation.



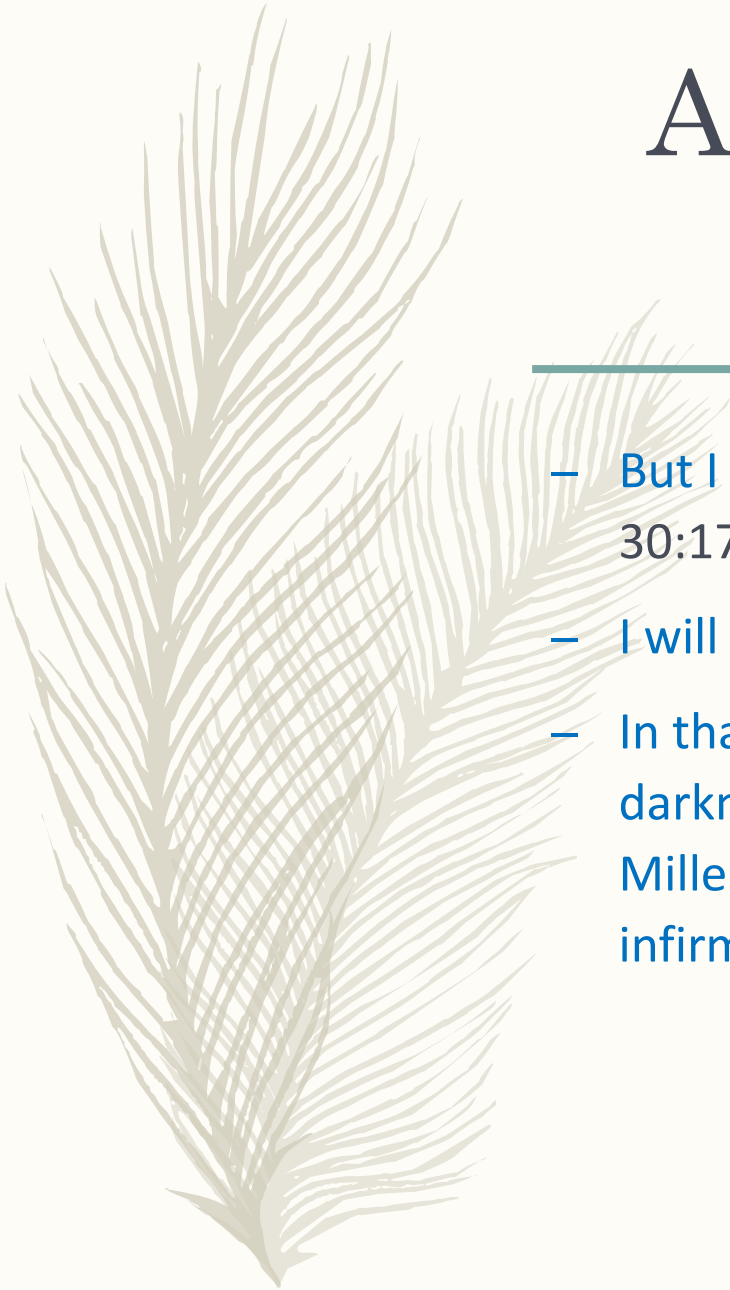


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- Some do not see this as anything other than a description of the final heaven and earth. But, it will not be a perfect place and there will be some sickness and death. Therefore, it cannot be the final heaven and earth.
  - "Never again will there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not live out his years; he who dies at a hundred will be thought a mere youth; he who fails to reach a hundred will be considered accursed."  
(Isaiah 65:20)

# A wonderful time and place... but, not heaven

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- 'But I will restore you to health and heal your wounds,' declares the LORD, Jer 30:17
- I will bind up the injured and strengthen the weak, Ezek 34:16
- In that day the deaf will hear the words of the scroll, and out of gloom and darkness the eyes of the blind will see. (apparently, those who enter the Millennial Kingdom at its onset can look forward to Jesus healing their infirmities) Isaiah 29:18

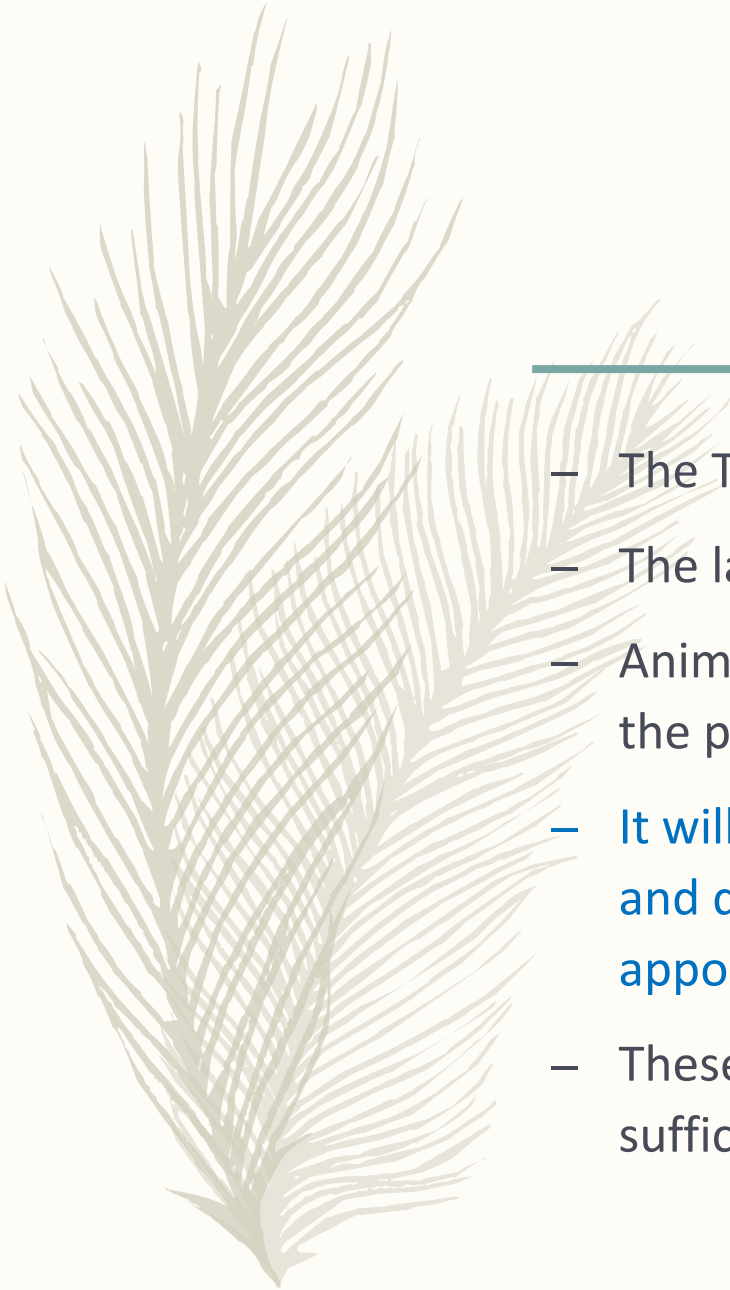




# The Millennial Temple

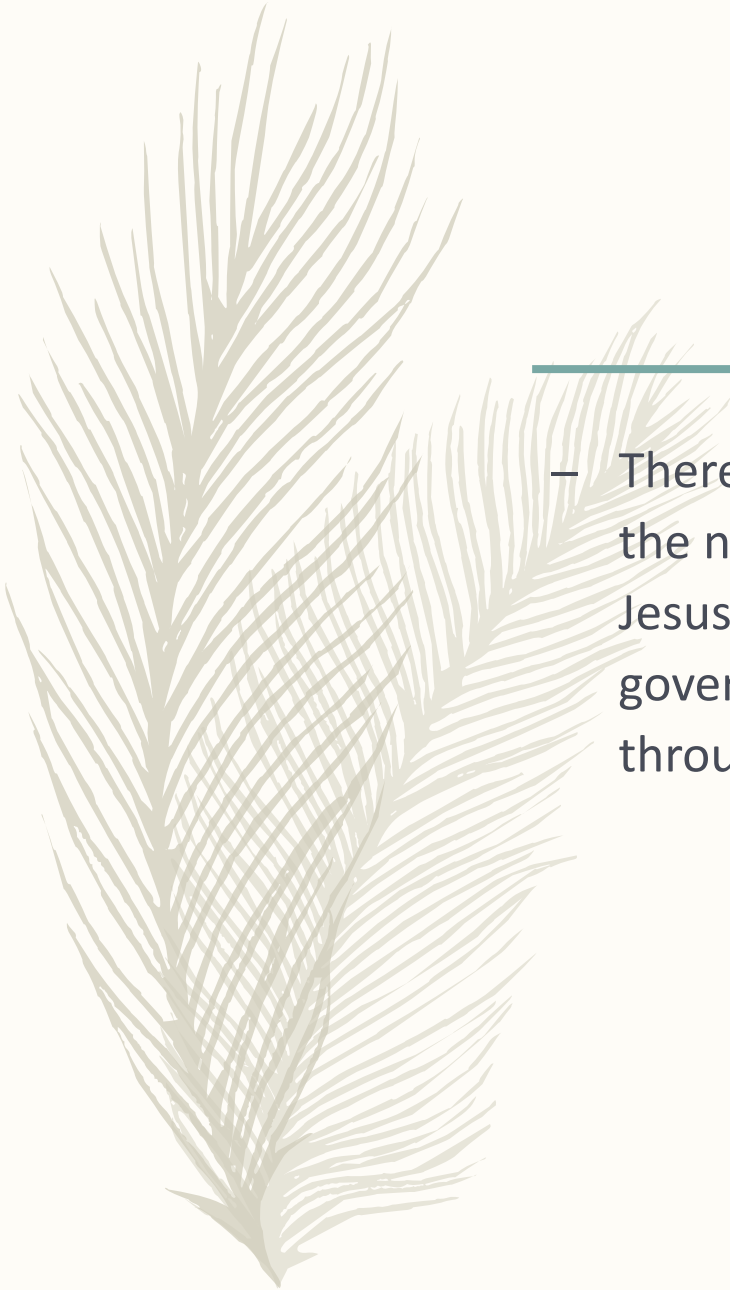
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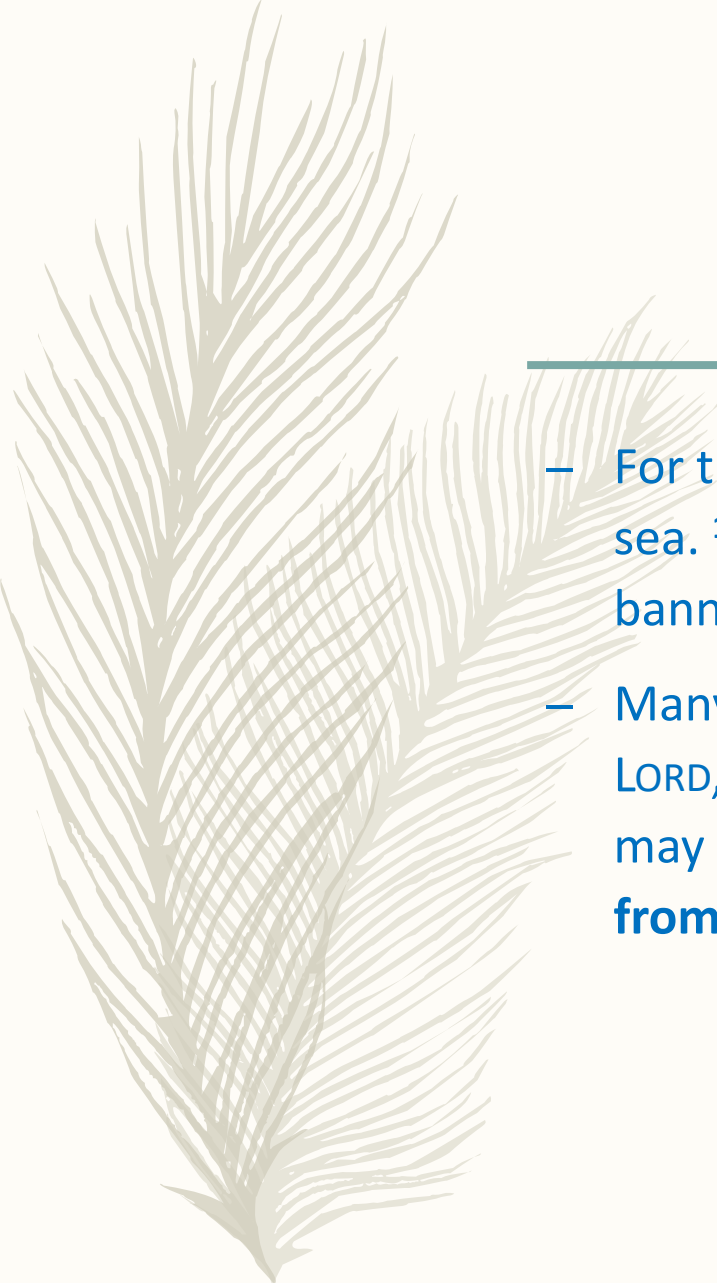
- The Temple itself
- The land where the Temple will stand
- Animal sacrifices will be observed as an important part of worship. Note what the prophet Ezekiel wrote...
- It will be the duty of the prince to provide the burnt offerings, grain offerings and drink offerings at the festivals, the New Moons and the Sabbaths--at all the appointed feasts of the house of Israel. Ezek 45:17
- These sacrifices will be analogous to our Lord's Supper – to remember His all-sufficient sacrifice

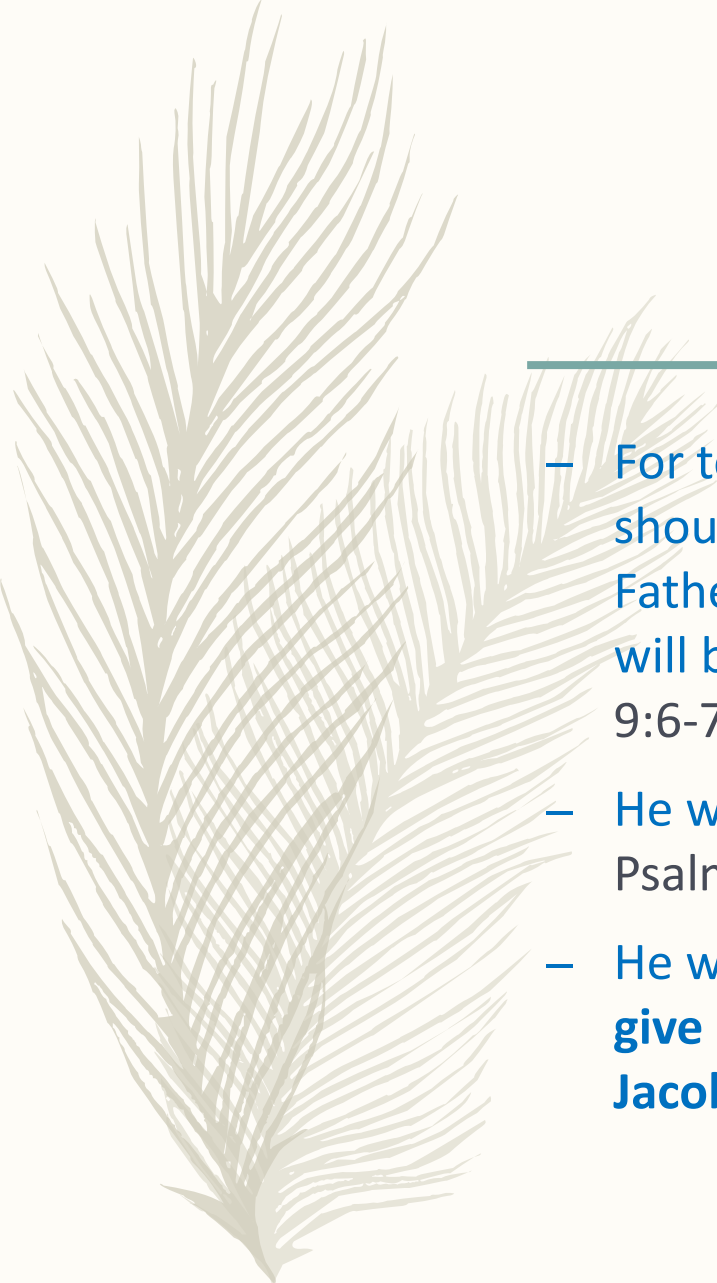


# The Temple continued...

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- There are no allusions to the ark, the mercy seat, the high priest, or the Law as the need for these will have ended in the Millennial Temple. The presence of Jesus will supersede any need for these. This Temple will also be the center of government where Jesus will reign over all the nations in the earth all the way through the Millennial Kingdom and beyond into eternity...



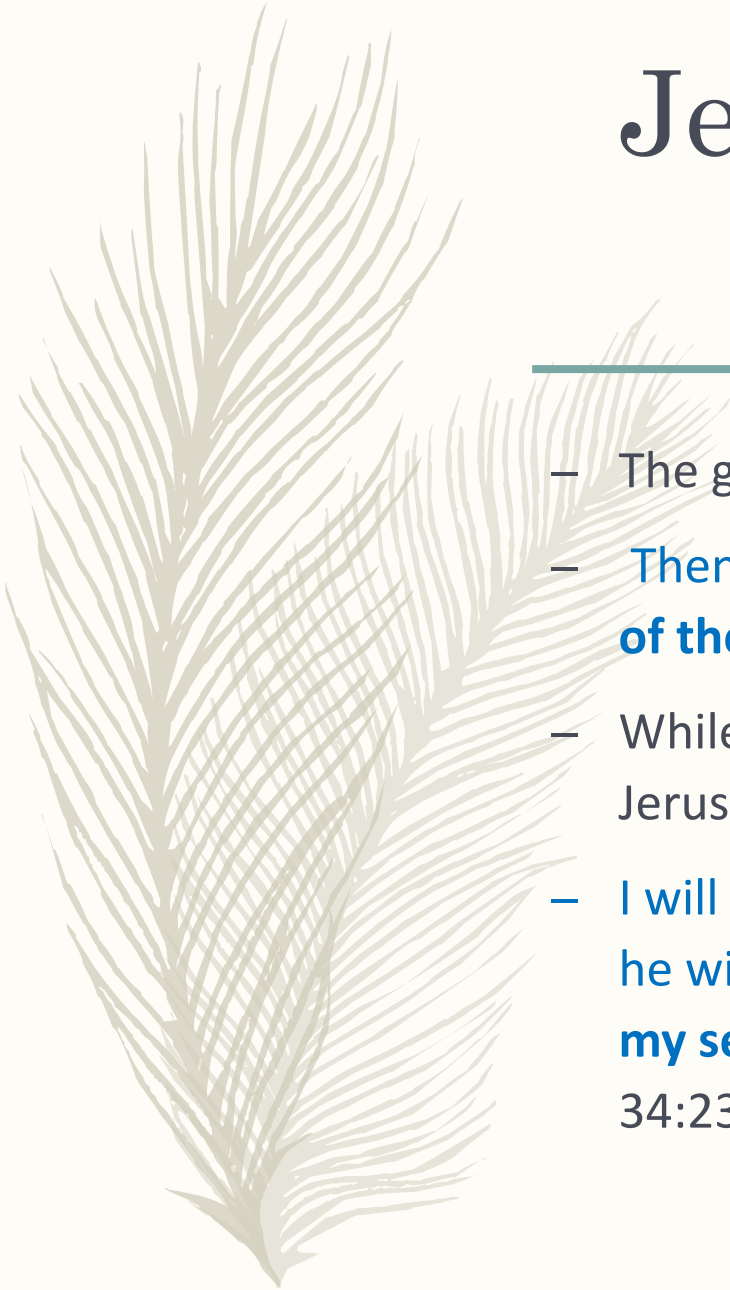
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- For the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD As the waters cover the sea. <sup>10</sup> "And in that day there shall be a Root of Jesse, Who shall stand as a banner to the people.                      Isaiah 11:9-110
  - Many peoples will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths." **The law will go out from Zion, the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.**    Isaiah 2:3

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- 
- For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. **7** Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. **He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom,** Isaiah 9:6-7
  - He will rule from sea to sea and from the River to the ends of the earth. Psalms 72:8
  - He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. **The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, 33 and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever;** his kingdom will never end." Luke 1:32-33

# Jesus will reign over the world

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- The glory of the Lord will fill the Temple once again...
- Then the Spirit lifted me up and brought me into the inner court, **and the glory of the LORD filled the temple.** Ezek 43:5
- While Jesus will be the King over the entire earth, David will be His co-regent in Jerusalem. The twelve apostles will also have a special place in the Kingdom...
- I will place over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he will tend them; he will tend them and be their shepherd. **24 I the LORD will be their God, and my servant David will be prince** among them. I the LORD have spoken. Ezek 34:23-24





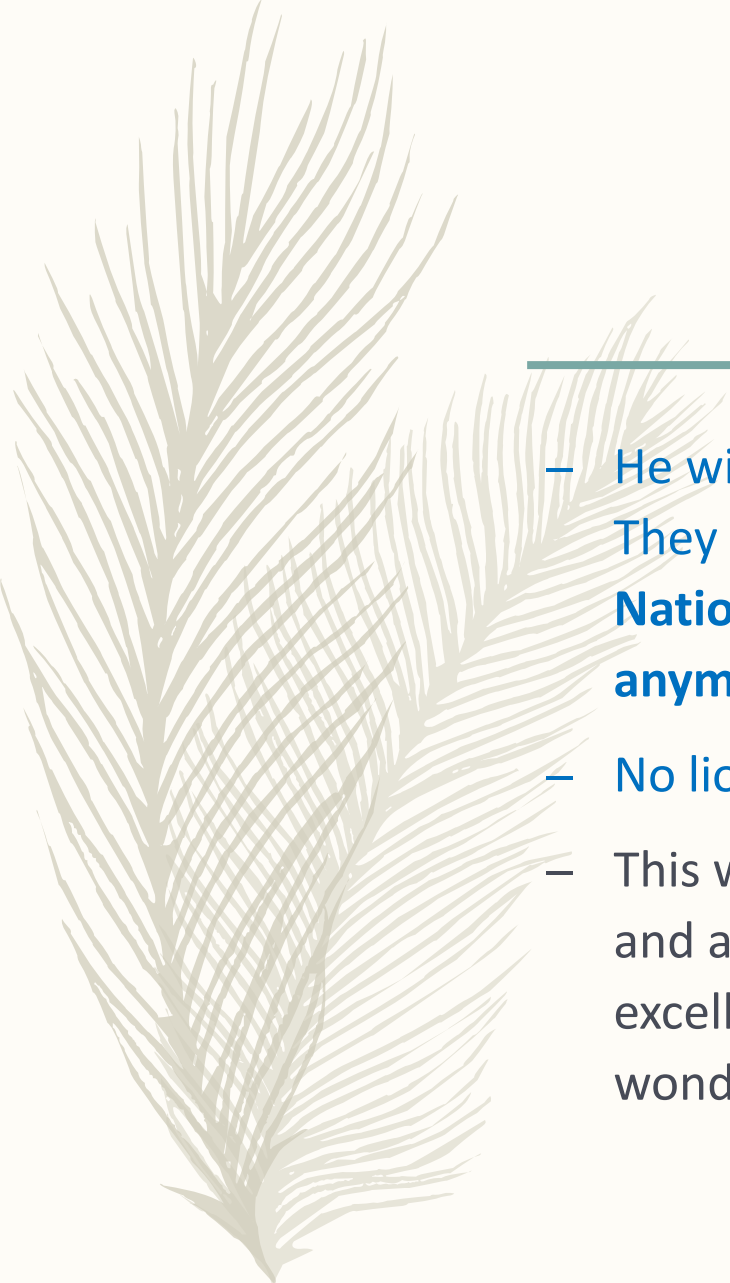
# The Earth during the Millennium

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- "I tell you the truth, at the renewal of all things, when the Son of Man sits on his glorious throne, you who have followed me (the twelve apostles) will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel." Matt 19:28
- There will still be many humans on this earth, with their free will to do right... or wrong. Certainly, there will be much more stimulus to do good at that time than there is today, but sin will still exist. Jesus will rule with perfect justice and expediency. Therefore, those that do sin will be quickly judged and punished.

# The Millennial Kingdom

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- He will judge between the nations and will settle disputes for many peoples. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. **Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore.** Isaiah 2:4
  - No lion will be there, nor will any ferocious beast get up on it. Isaiah 35:9
  - This will be a time of great prosperity. There will be no poverty, no lack of food, and a great feeling of security among the people. The land will produce an excellent quality and quantity of crops and beautiful flowers. It will be a wonderful place to live.

# A Beautiful Place to Live



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- I will rejoice over Jerusalem and take delight in my people; the sound of weeping and of crying will be heard in it no more. **21** They will build houses and dwell in them; they will plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

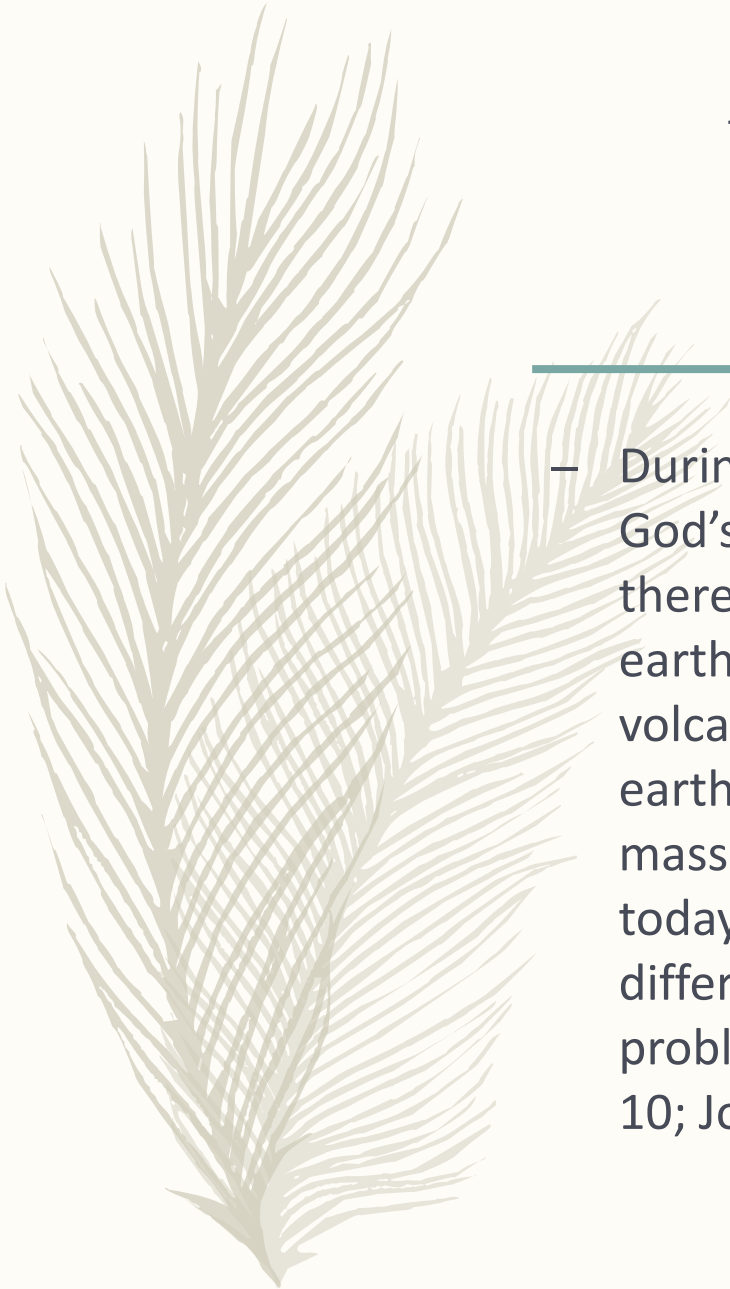
Isaiah 65:19,21



# A Change in the Earth's Topography

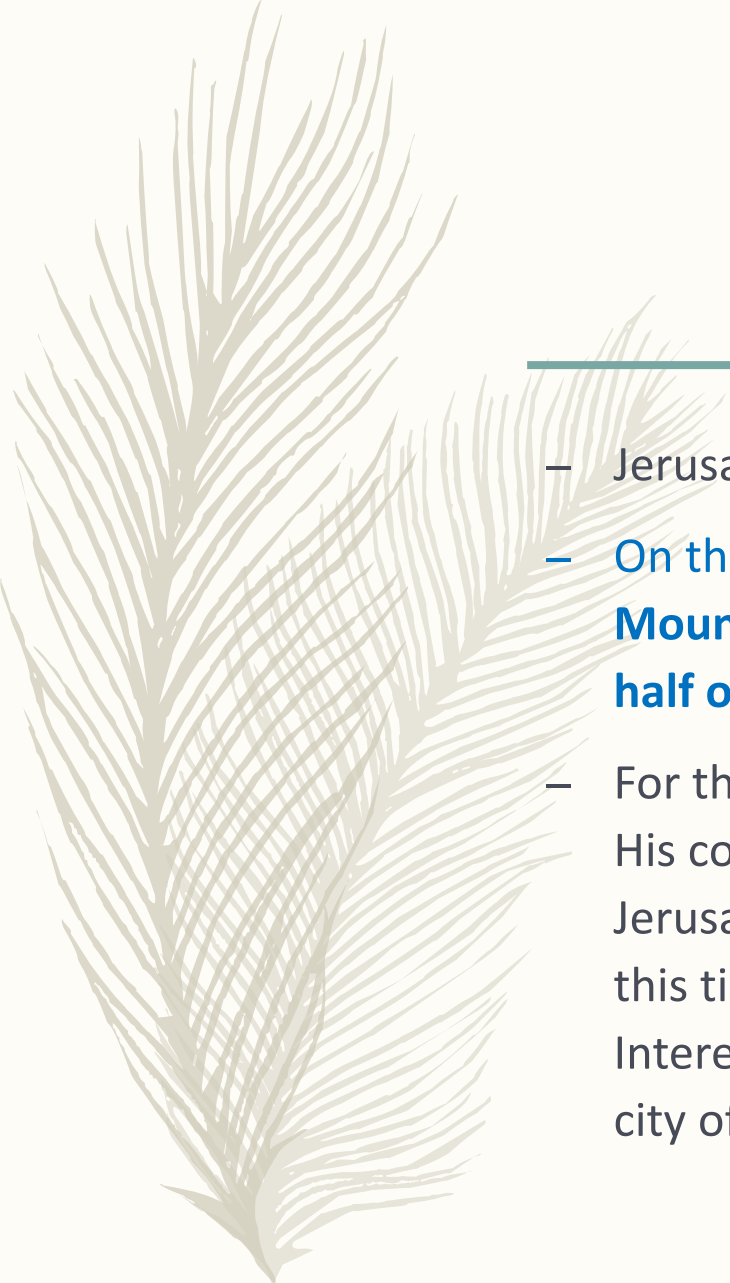
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- During the Tribulation, there will be much upheaval taking place on the earth. God's judgments will certainly cause major changes in the earth. In particular, there will massive earthquakes, on a scale not ever seen before. Due to these earthquakes and other traumatic events, such as nuclear war, tidal waves, volcanoes, possible meteor and/or asteroid impacts, etc. the topography of the earth will have changed greatly. There will have been a lessening of the island masses. There also will be a change in the mountain ranges as we know them today. Certainly there will still be mountains and valleys, but some will be in different configurations than they are currently. This will not present a problem, just something that one can expect to see at that time. (Ezek. 47:1-10; Joel 3:17-18; Zech 14; Rev. 16:17-20)



# Israel and their Land

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- Jerusalem will be altered as well...
  - On that day his feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, east of Jerusalem, and **the Mount of Olives will be split in two from east to west, forming a great valley, with half of the mountain moving north and half moving south.** Zech 14:4
  - For the first time ever, Israel will possess the land that God had promised them in His covenants with them. This land will be divided up among the twelve tribes. Jerusalem will be about forty miles in circumference... much larger than its size at this time. A certain choice section of the land will be set aside for the Messiah. Interestingly, the Millennial Temple will be several miles north of the current walled city of Jerusalem.

# Jerusalem and the Temple

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- The boundaries and size of Jerusalem and the surrounding land of the Millennial Israel are detailed by the prophets Zechariah (Zech. 14) and Ezekiel (48-49). The land of Israel will be divided into three portions.
- In the last days the mountain of the LORD's temple will be established as chief among the mountains; **it will be raised above the hills, and all nations will stream to it.** Isaiah 2:2
- Then he measured the temple; it was a hundred cubits long, and the temple courtyard and the building with its walls were also a hundred cubits long. Ezek 41:13






# The Millennium comes to a close

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- Satan will be bound during the Millennium
- Satan will be released as this time draws to a close
- He will attempt one last coup... and, of course, get clobbered
- The Great White Throne Judgment
- God will set up the New Heaven and New Earth

# One End Time Scenario

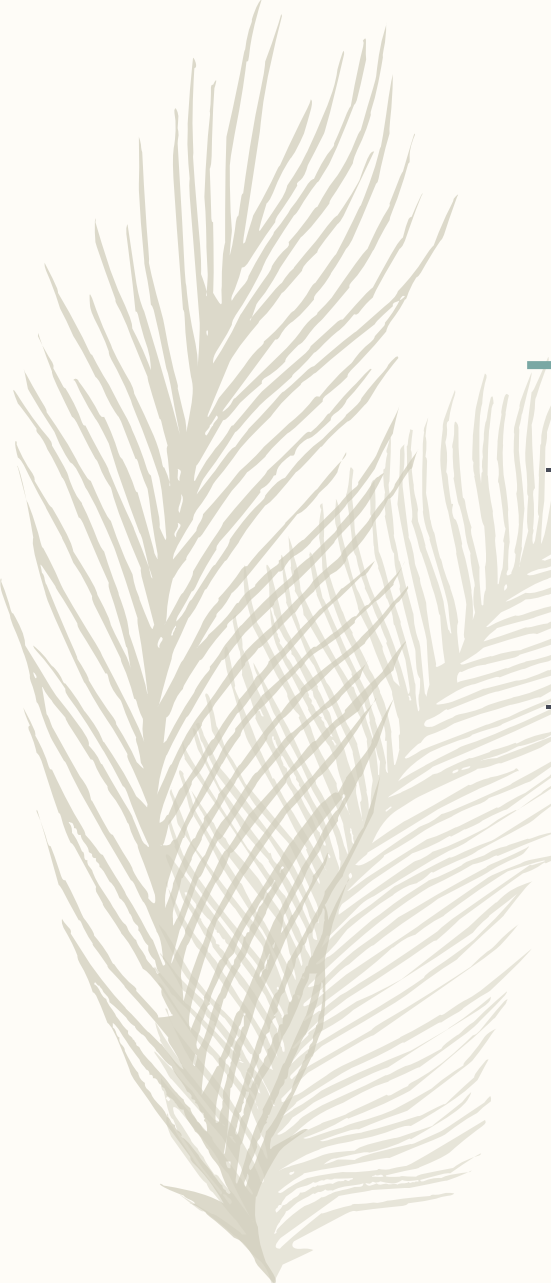
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- A short review of current events..
  - The European Union has already become a major economic player in the world
  - There is a major move in the world today toward a global government and world banking system.
  - Trend toward an ecumenical religious system
  - World-wide economic distress; famine; disease; sin
  - The Middle East is ripe for war

# Possible War Scenarios


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- There are a few possible end-time war scenarios that are very reasonable
- A discussion of Ezekiel 38/39, Psalm 83
- Hal Lindsey and Perry Stone also suggest that Isaiah 17 and Isaiah 19 may be relevant as well
- Damascus will no longer be a city but will become a heap of ruins... In the evening, sudden terror! Before the morning, they are gone! Isaiah 17:1&14
- "I will stir up Egyptian against Egyptian-- brother will fight against brother, neighbor against neighbor, city against city." Isaiah 19:2

- 
- 
- The prophecy continues with, “I will hand the Egyptians over to the power of a cruel master, and a fierce king will rule over them,” declares the Lord, the LORD Almighty.           Isaiah 19:4
  - Will Egypt be eventually taken over by the caliphate and ruled by Islamic Law? God only knows. Several other nations in the region have also recently experienced these civil wars (e.g. Libya, Tunisia and **over a dozen** other nations or territories in North Africa)! These are all cause for concern, especially for Israel.

# Israel cannot lose

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- 
- Israel will be protected by God
  - “Then you will know that I am in Israel, that I am the LORD your God, and that there is no other; never again will my people be shamed. 'And afterward, **I will pour out my Spirit on all people.**” Joel 2:27-28
  - One more possible scenario of the coming war.
  - After their amazing victory, Israel will begin to turn back to God
  - The Antichrist makes his move



# Tribulation Seven Years

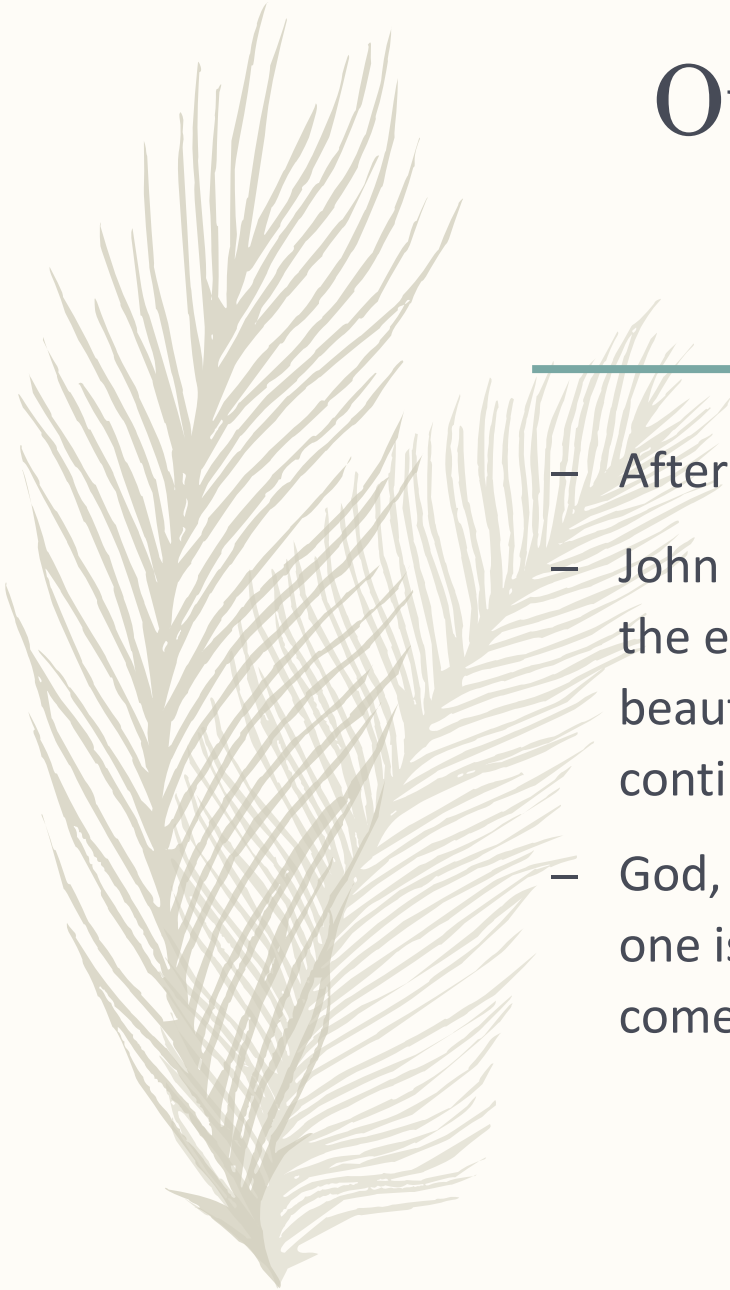
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- The First 3 ½ years
- "So when you see standing in the holy place 'the abomination that causes desolation,' spoken of through the prophet Daniel--let the reader understand--  
**16 then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains.** Matt 24:15-16
- The Great Tribulation
- Armageddon and the Second Coming

# Overview of Revelation (Chap. 4-22)

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- After the word given to the seven churches, Jesus continues His vision to John...
- John is about to be given an incredible vision of the events that will come upon the earth in the end-times. He will first be given a brief visual tour of this beautiful heavenly abode of the Godhead. He also will get a glimpse of the continuous worship of God that takes place in heaven.
- God, the Father, is holding a very important sealed scroll in His right hand. No one is found that is worthy to take this scroll from God and open it. Jesus finally comes forward to open the scroll – the title deed to the earth.





# Seal, Trumpet, Bowl Judgments

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- Jesus then begins to open the seal judgments and God begins to deliver these judgments onto the earth and its inhabitants.
- There are interludes in the progression of the opening of the seals, trumpet and bowl judgments that allow John to learn about certain important events taking place during this seven year period.
- John also learns what will happen to the Antichrist, Satan, Israel, Michael, and the False Prophet as the vision continues.

# The Final Chapters

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- The last few chapters of *The Revelation* reveal just will happen as the seven year Tribulation draws to a close.
- The Battle of Armageddon
- The Millennial Kingdom
- New Heaven and New Earth

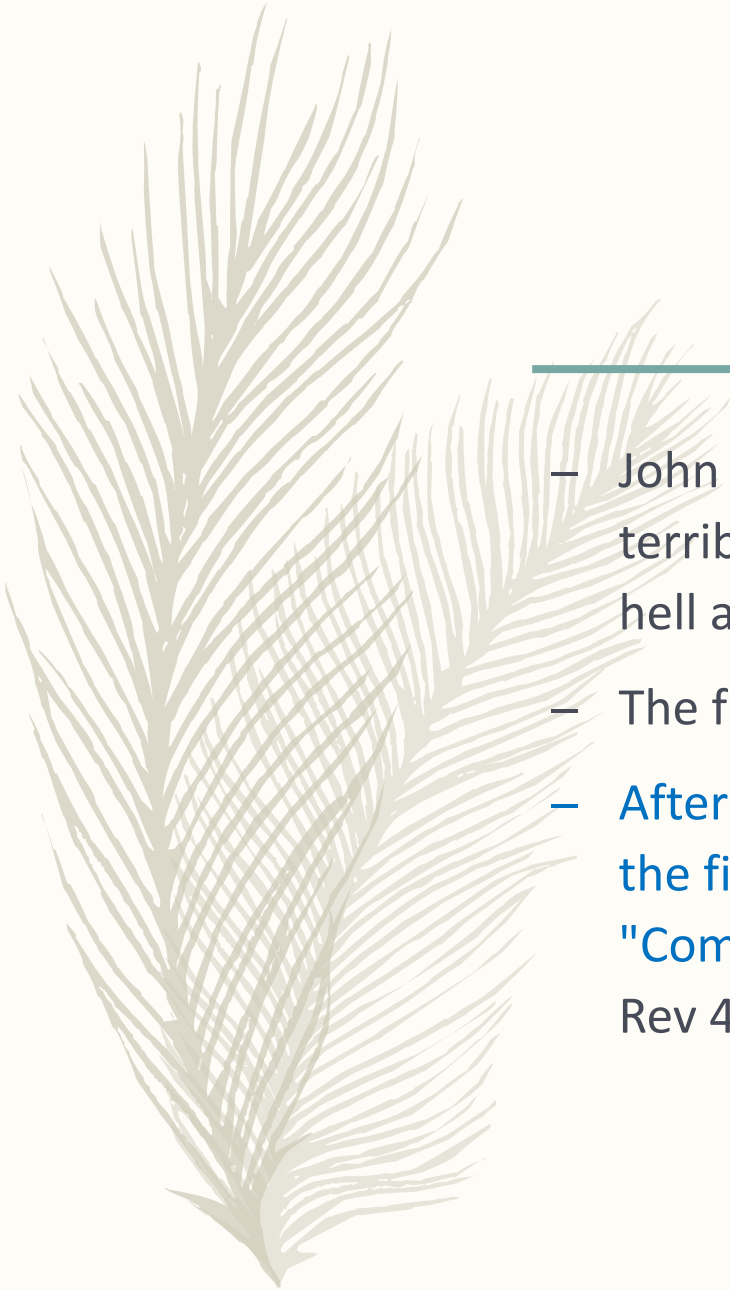


# The Heavenly Throne

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- John is going to be told about future events exclusively... amazing events of terrible world-wide tribulation, war, famine, death, Jesus and Satan, heaven and hell and so much more.
- The first scene takes place in heaven...
- After these things I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven. And the first voice which I heard was like a trumpet speaking with me, saying, "Come up here, and I will show you things which must take place after this."

Rev 4:1



# The Throne Room of Heaven

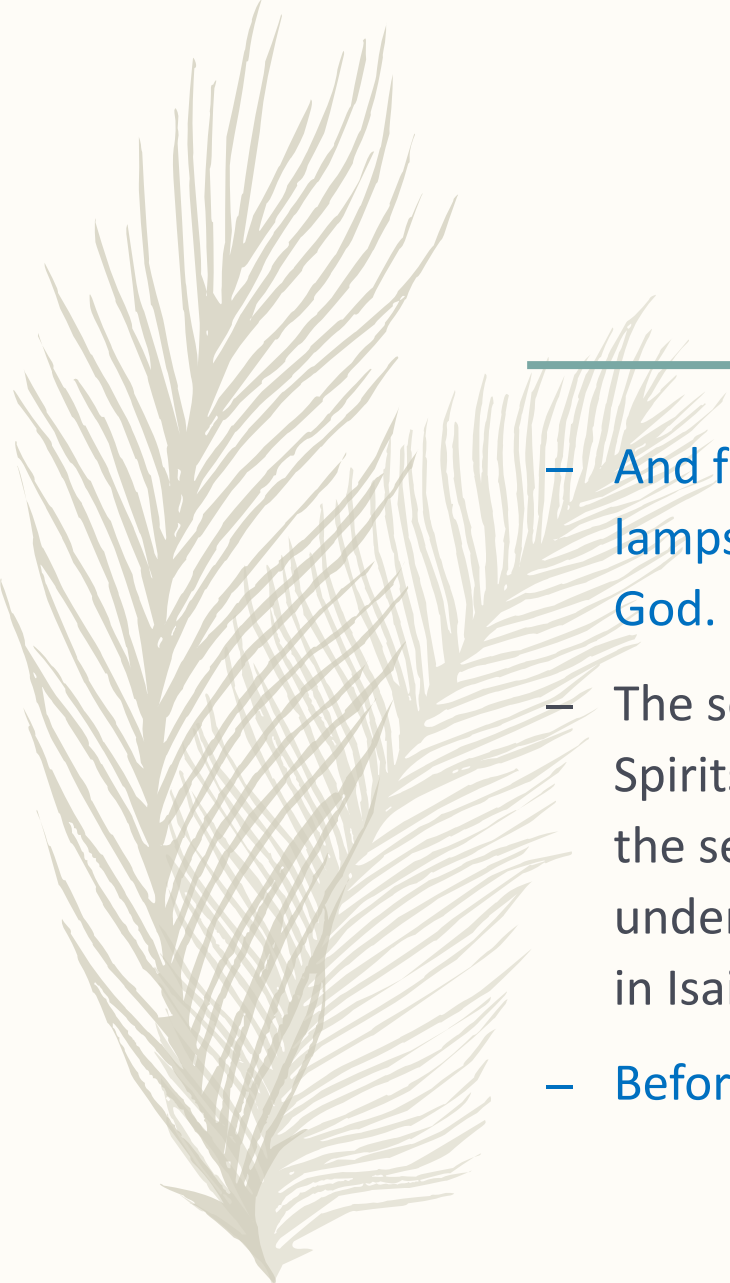
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- Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, **a throne set in heaven**, and **One sat on the throne.** <sup>3</sup> And He who sat there was like a jasper and a sardius stone in appearance; and there was a rainbow around the throne, in appearance like an emerald. Rev 4:2-3
- Around the throne were twenty-four thrones, and on the thrones I saw twenty-four elders sitting, clothed in white robes; and they had crowns of gold on their heads. Rev 4:4
- Who are these people?



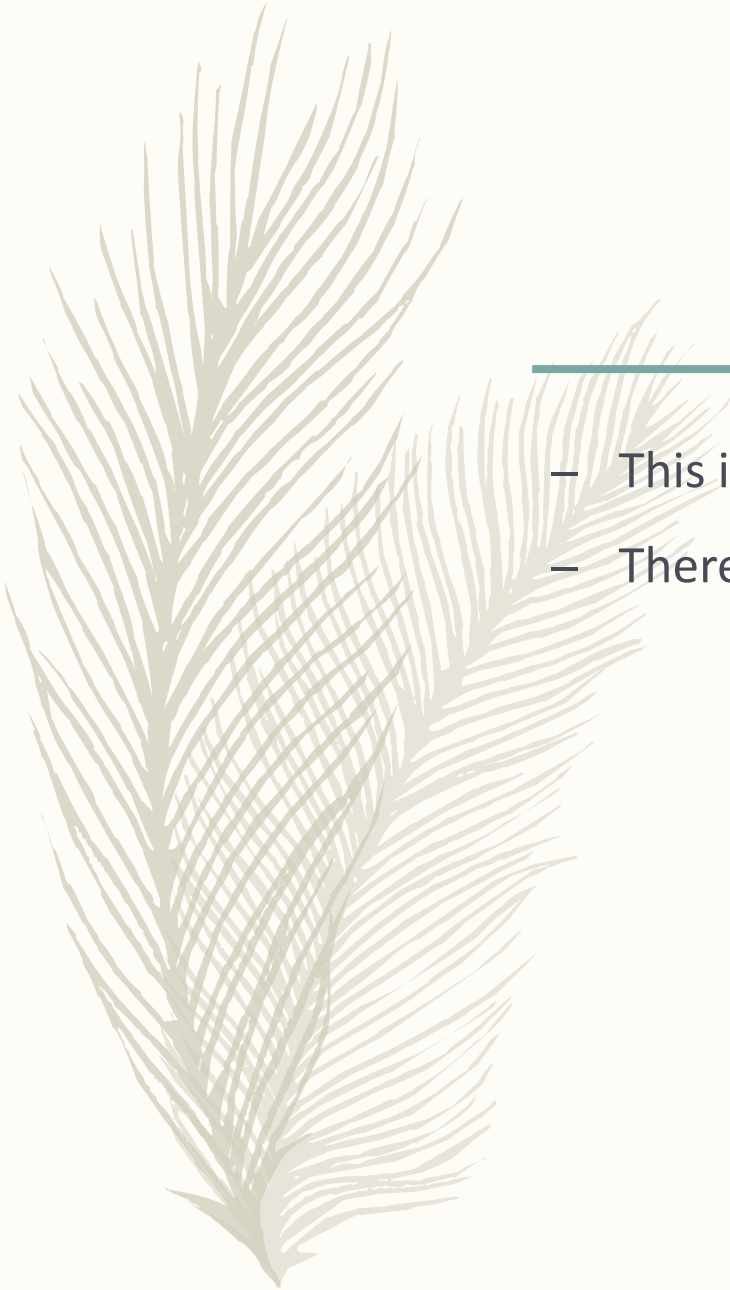
# Spirits of God

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- And from the throne proceeded lightnings, thunderings, and voices. Seven lamps of fire were burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God. Rev 4:5
  - The seven lamps of fire are also noted in the verse above; they are the seven Spirits of God. This is simply a beautiful representation of the Holy Spirit and the seven-fold characteristics of its nature: the Spirit of the Lord, wisdom, understanding, counsel, power, knowledge, **and the fear of the Lord** (as noted in Isaiah 11:2).
  - Before the throne there was a sea of glass, like crystal. Rev 4:6

# Sea of Glass

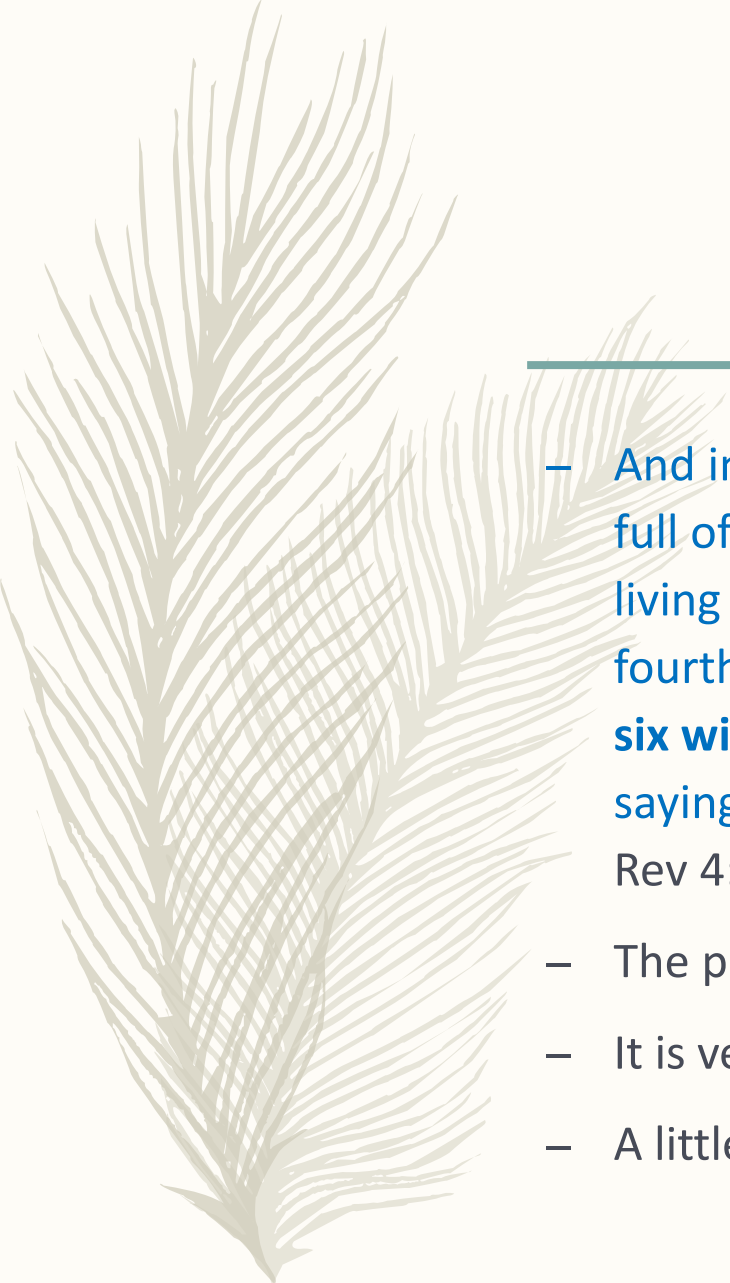
- 
- This is an interesting picture of the heavenly scene in front of God's throne.
  - There are many suggestions as to what this "sea of glass" represents.





# Four Living Creatures

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- 
- And in the midst of the throne, and around the throne, were four living creatures full of eyes in front and in back. <sup>7</sup> The first living creature was like a **lion**, the second living creature like a **calf**, the third living creature had a face like a **man**, and the fourth living creature was like a flying **eagle**. <sup>8</sup> The four living creatures, each having **six wings**, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying: "**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come!**"

Rev 4:7-11

- The prophet Isaiah was given a vision of a similar being in heaven.
- It is very likely that these beings are seraphims, a powerful order of angelic beings.
- A little more on these angels.

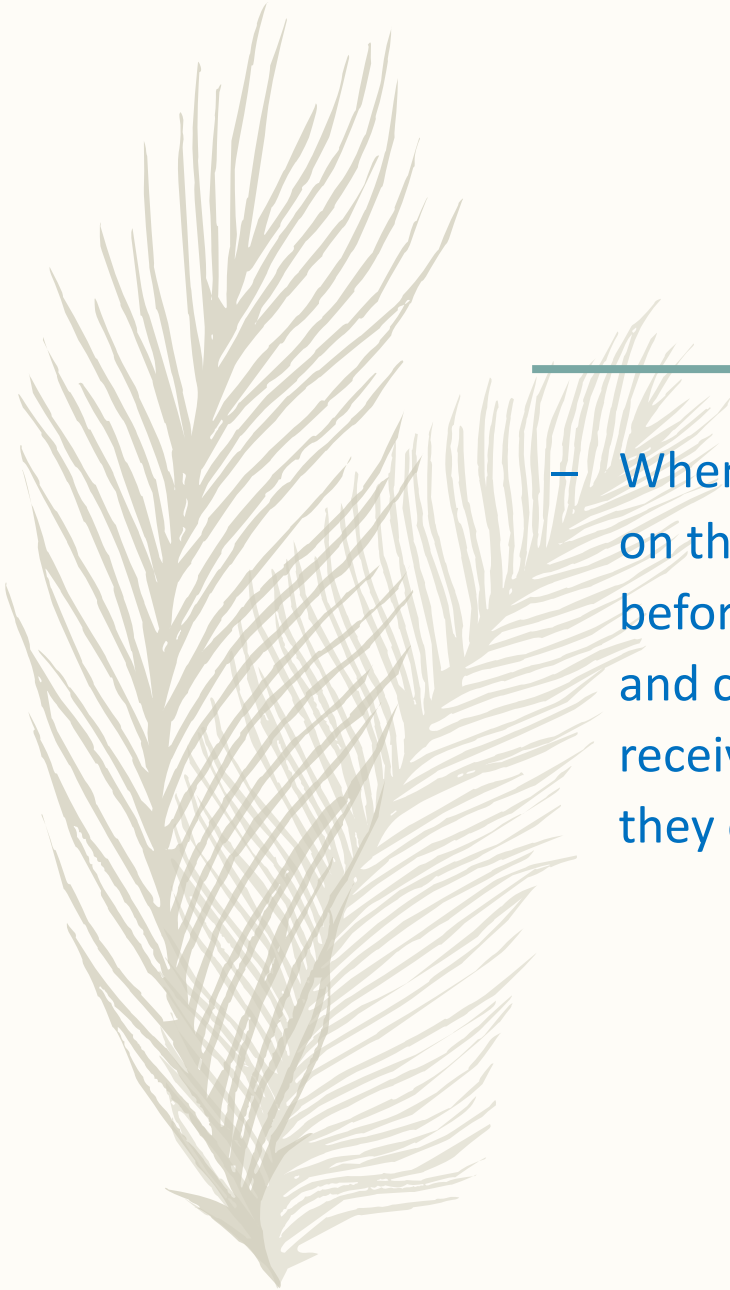


- 
- Lion – Jesus is the lion of the tribe of Judah (picturing the Lord's strength)
  - Calf or Ox – Mark paints Jesus as a lowly ox, the servant of Jehovah
  - Man – Luke shows Jesus as the perfect man
  - Eagle – John describes Jesus as the lofty eagle, the divine Son of God

# Worship in Heaven

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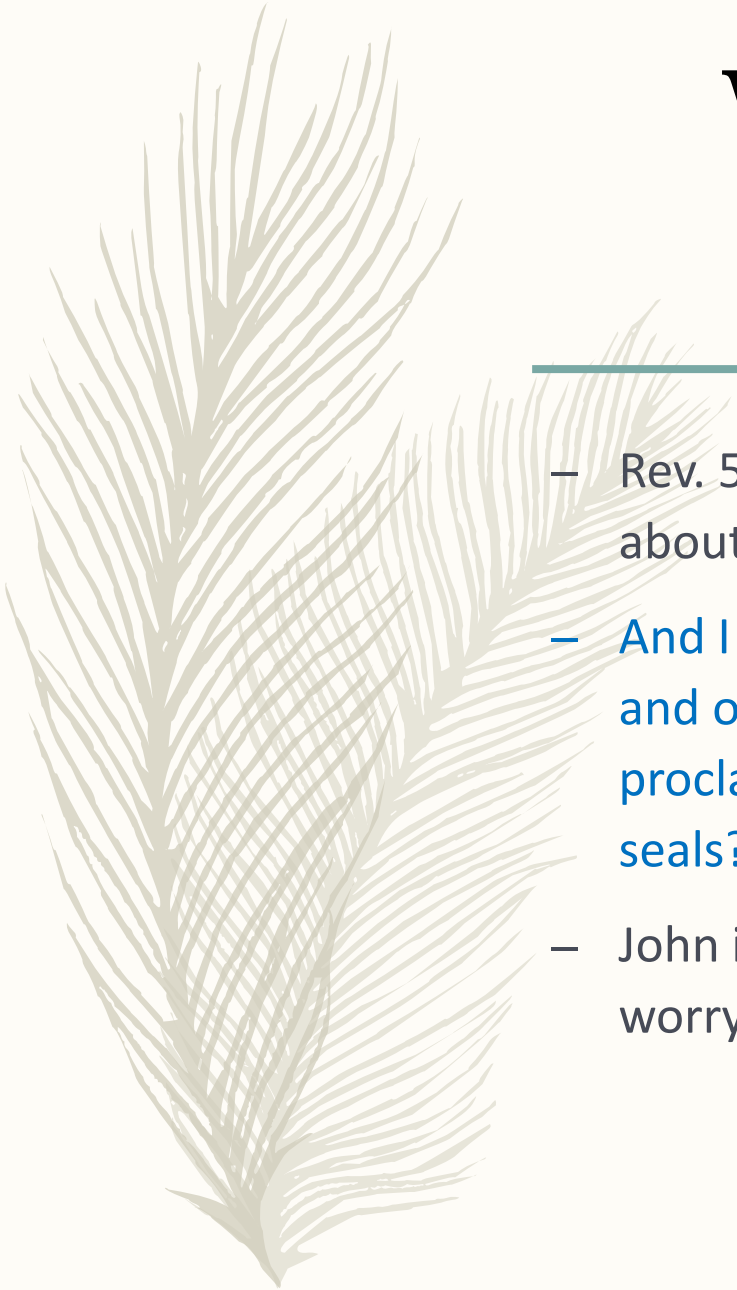
- Whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever, <sup>10</sup> the twenty-four elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne and worship Him who lives forever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying: <sup>11</sup> "You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were created." Rev 4:9-11



# Worthy is the Lamb of God

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- Rev. 5 - A beautiful picture of Jesus and His role as the redeemer of mankind is about to unfold in this next chapter.
- And I saw in the right hand of Him who sat on the throne a scroll written inside and on the back, sealed with seven seals. <sup>2</sup> Then I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and to loose its seals?" Rev. 5:1-2
- John is upset that no one can be found to open the scroll. He is told not to worry.



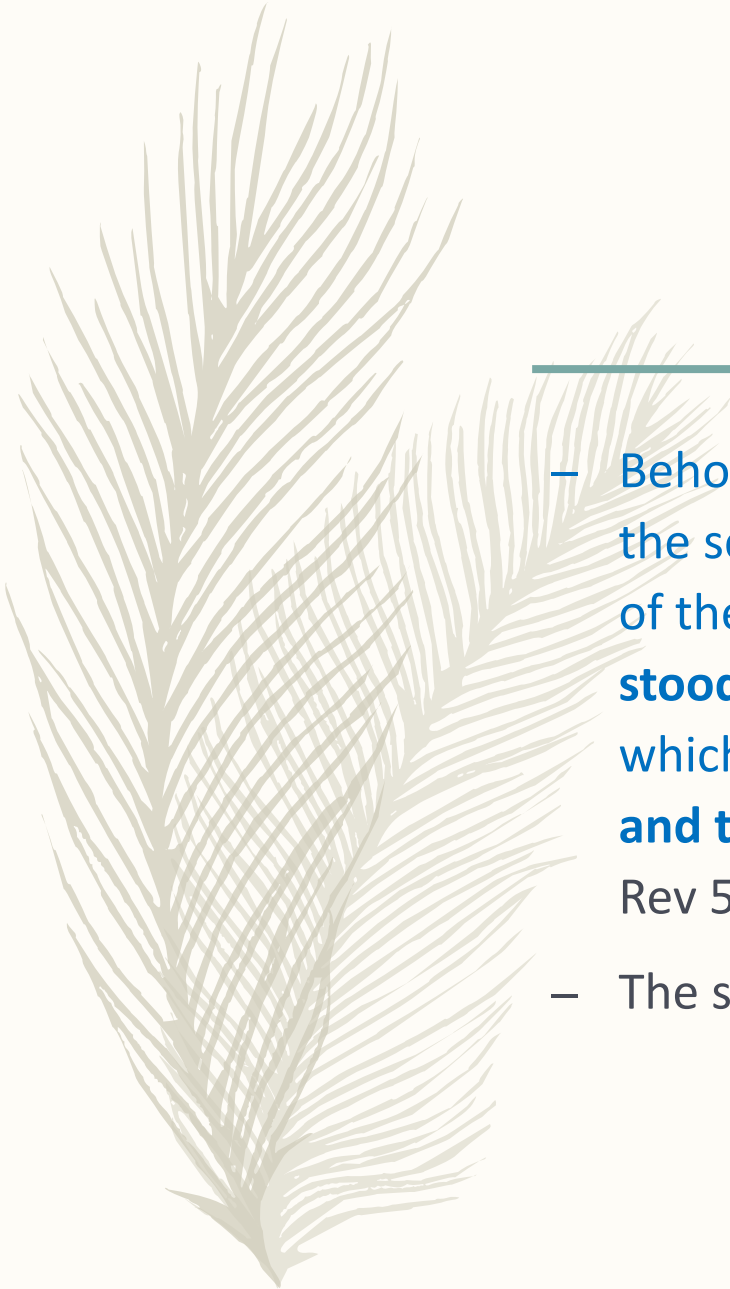
# Jesus steps forward...

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- Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has prevailed to open the scroll and to loose its seven seals." <sup>6</sup> And I looked, and behold, in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, **stood a Lamb as though it had been slain**, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are **the seven Spirits of God** sent out into all the earth. <sup>7</sup> Then **He came and took the scroll out of the right hand of Him who sat on the throne.**

Rev 5:3-7

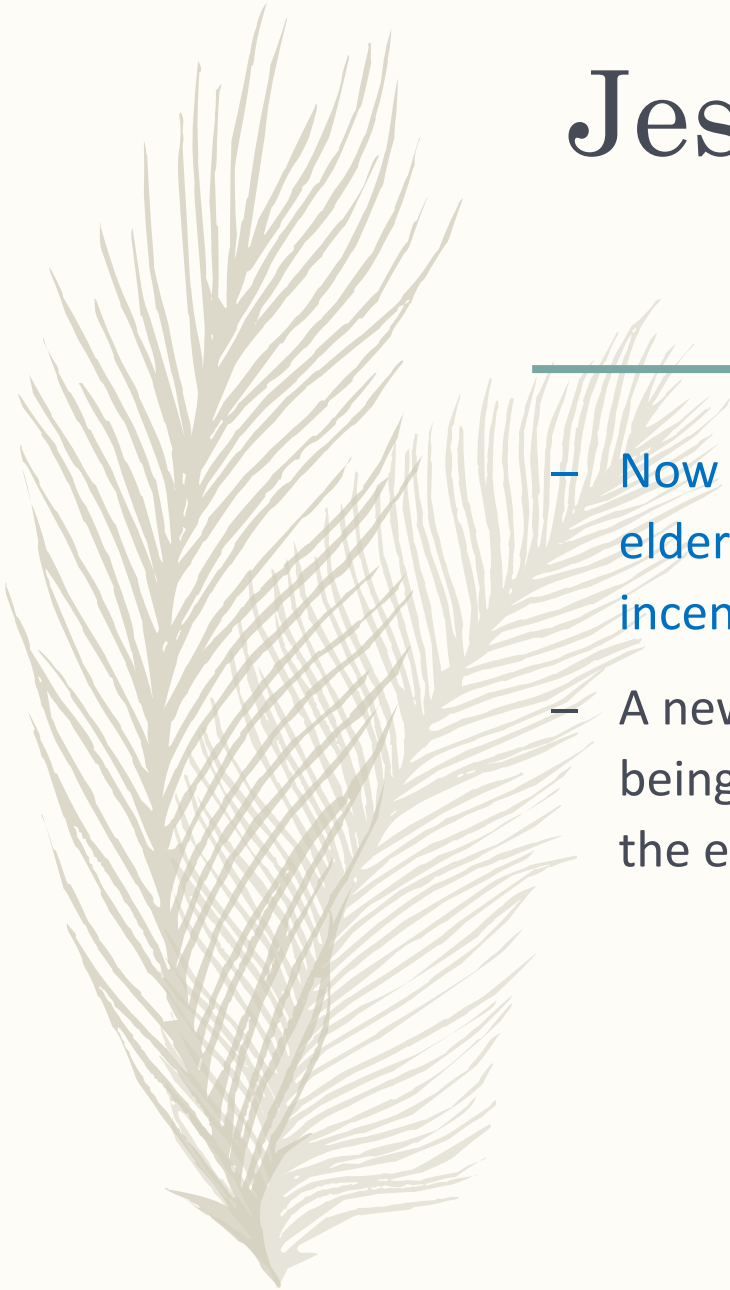
- The seven horns, seven eyes, and seven Spirits



# Jesus prepares to open the scroll

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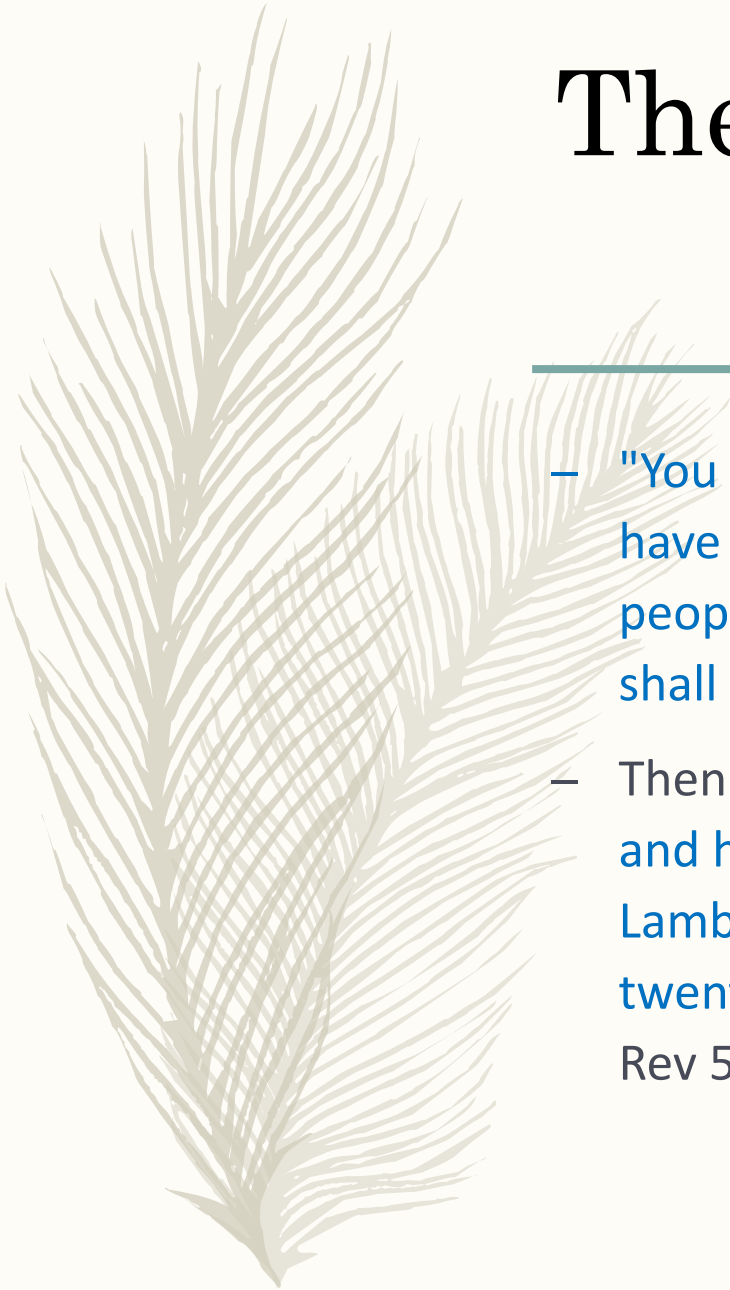
- Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. Rev 5:8
- A new song of worship is then sung to the Lord Jesus. He is worshipped as being the only one who is worthy of opening the scrolls... necessary to reclaim the earth from the grasp of Satan. Here is the song...



# The Reason that Jesus is Worthy

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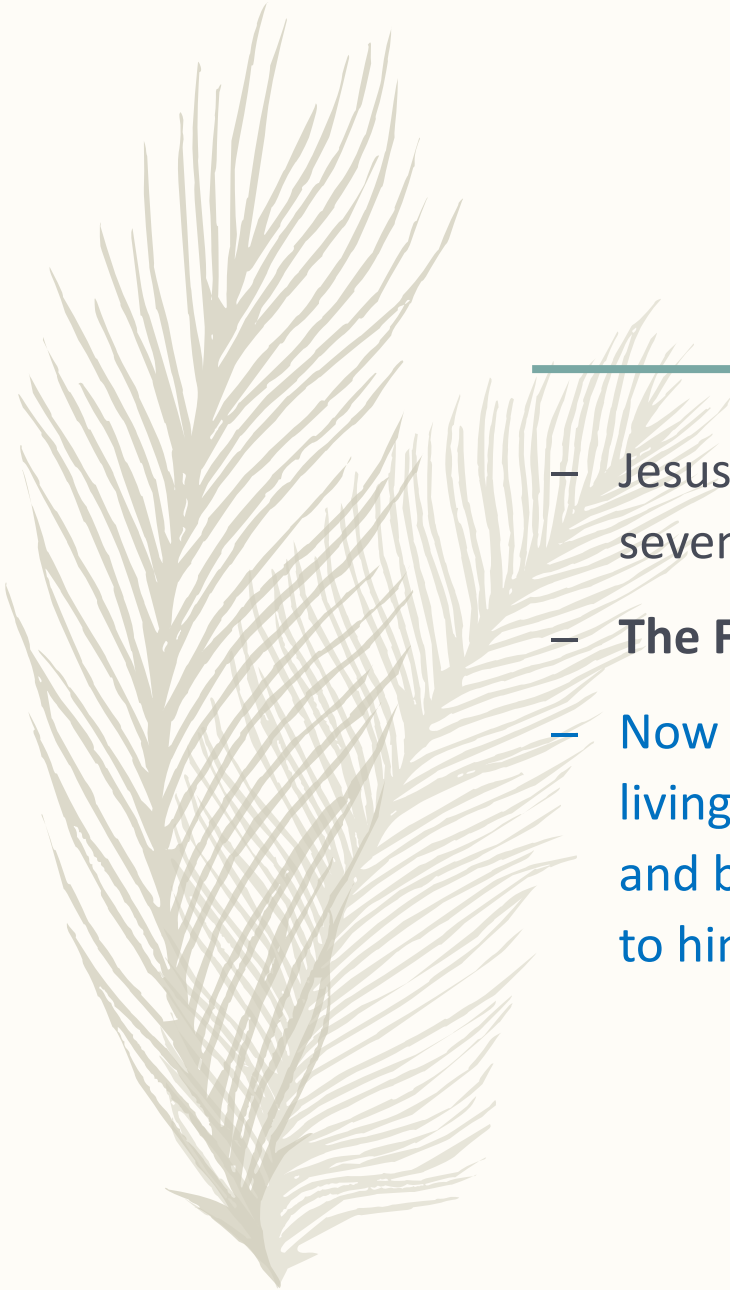
- "You are worthy to take the scroll, And to open its seals; For You were slain, And have redeemed us to God by Your blood Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation, <sup>10</sup> And have made us kings and priests to our God; And we shall reign on the earth." Rev 5:9-10
- Then John was astounded to hear every creature in heaven singing... "Blessing and honor and glory and power Be to Him who sits on the throne, And to the Lamb, forever and ever!" <sup>14</sup> Then the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the twenty-four elders fell down and worshiped Him who lives forever and ever.  
Rev 5:13-14



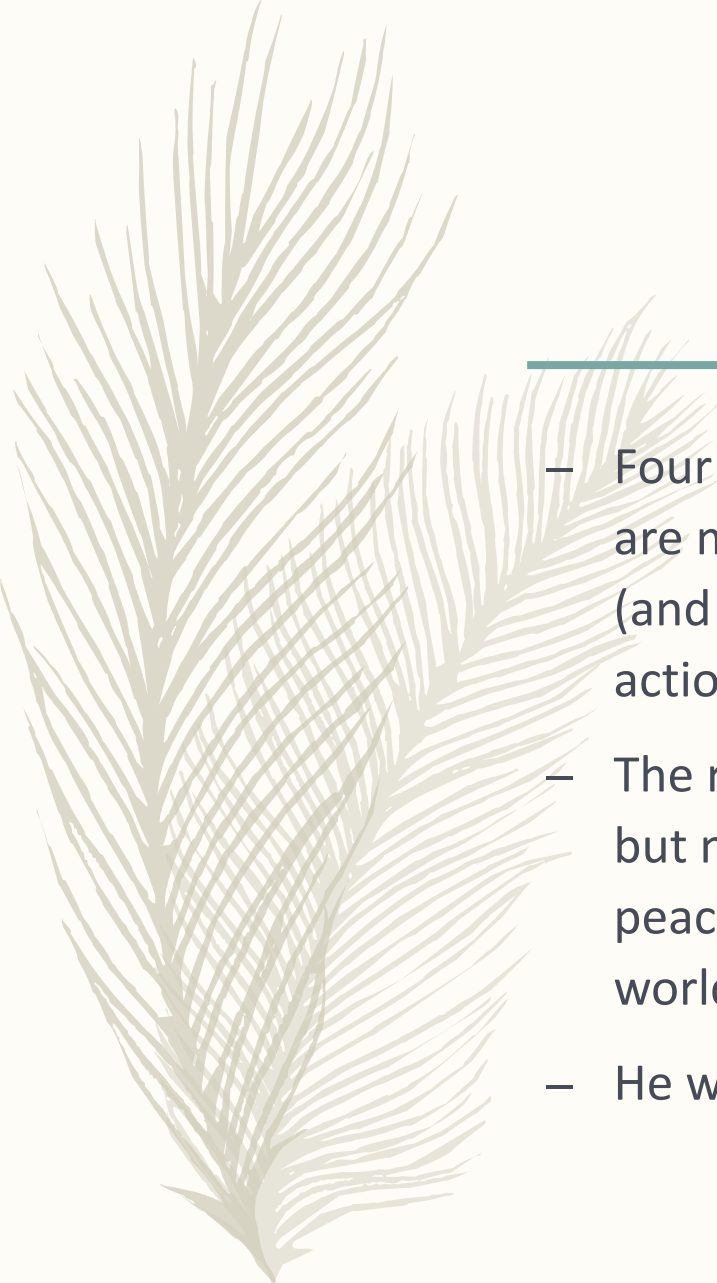
# The Seals are Open

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- Jesus will loose His judgment on the earth through three different mechanisms: seven seals, seven trumpets, and seven bowls.
- **The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse** – the first four seals
- 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." <sup>2</sup> 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. Rev 6:1-2



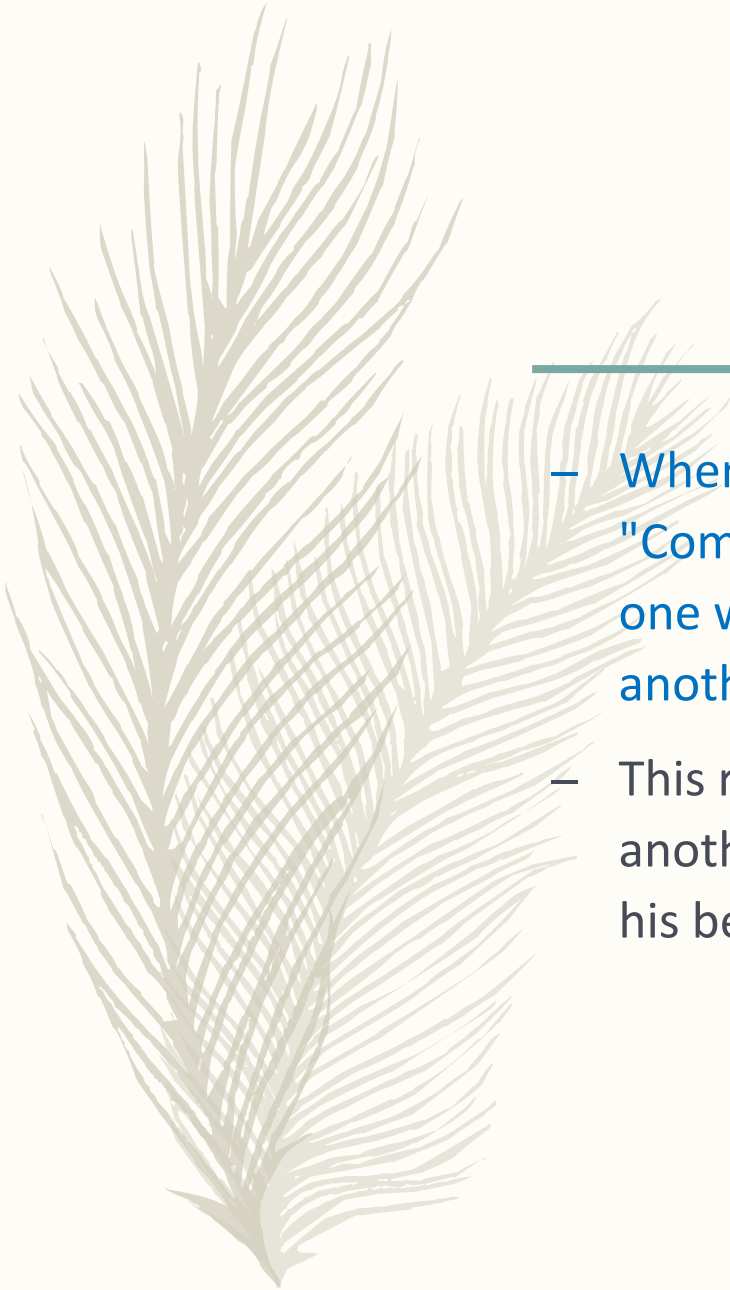


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- Four horses and horsemen of the apocalypse are about to be introduced. They are metaphors for various types of inhumanity that the world has experienced (and will experience again in the future) as the result of the sinful nature and actions of fallen mankind.
  - The rider on the white horse is none other than the Antichrist. He has a bow, but no arrow. He will carry no ammunition. He will be crowned as a man of peace, yet have every intention of carrying out his plan to conquer the entire world.
  - He will convince much of the world to follow him.

# The Fiery, Red Horse

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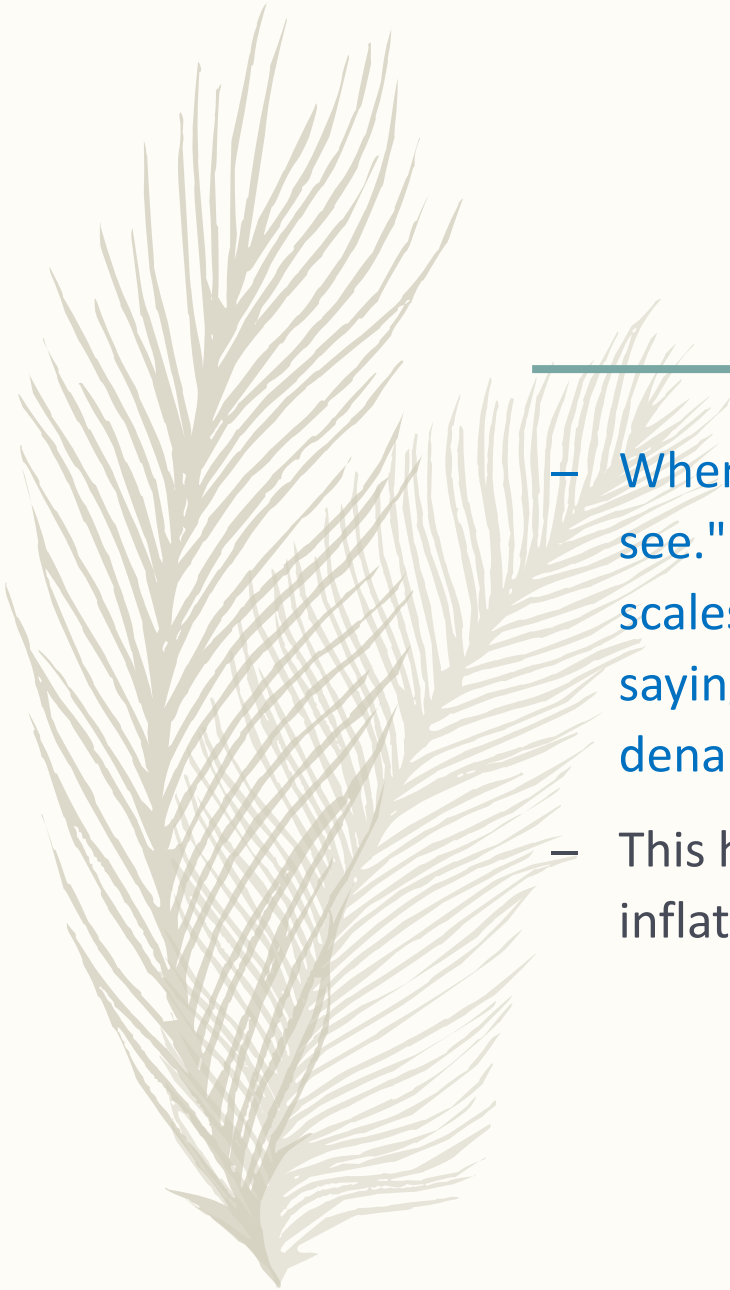
- When He opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature saying, "Come and see." Another **horse, fiery red**, went out. And it was granted to the one who sat on it to take peace from the earth, and that people should kill one another; and there was given to him a great sword. Rev 6:3-4
- This rider's interest was to make *war*. His goal was to turn one nation against another, one people against another. He was equipped with a sword to show his bellicose nature.



# The Black Horse

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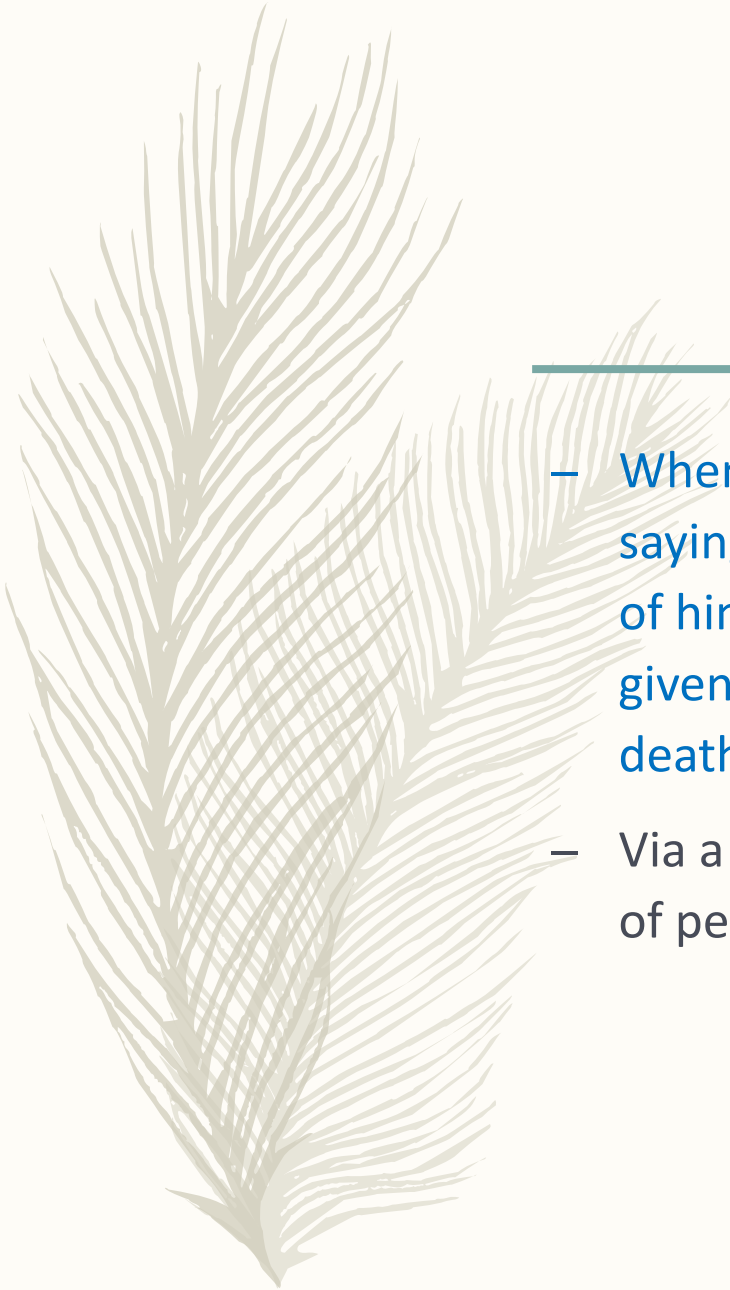
- When He opened the third seal, I heard the third living creature say, "Come and see." So I looked, and behold, a **black horse**, and he who sat on it had a pair of scales in his hand. <sup>6</sup> And I heard a voice in the midst of the four living creatures saying, "A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius; and do not harm the oil and the wine." Rev 6:5-6
- This horse represents famine and will be associated with severe worldwide inflation



# The Infamous Pale Horse

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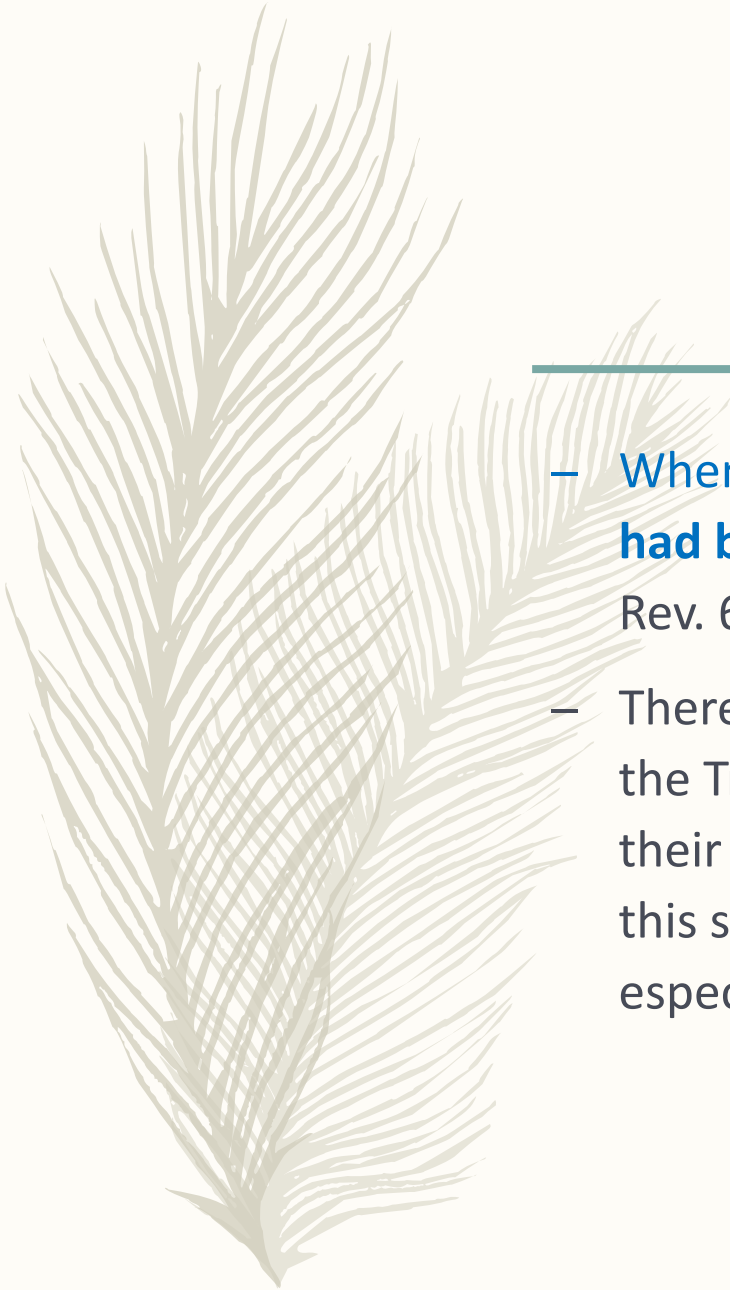
- When He opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature saying, "Come and see." <sup>8</sup> So I looked, and behold, a **pale horse**. And the name of him who sat on it was **Death**, and **Hades followed with him**. And power was given to them over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword, with hunger, with death, and by the beasts of the earth. Rev 6:7-8
- Via a variety of means, the opening of this fourth seal will result in the death ¼ of people living on the earth at that time.

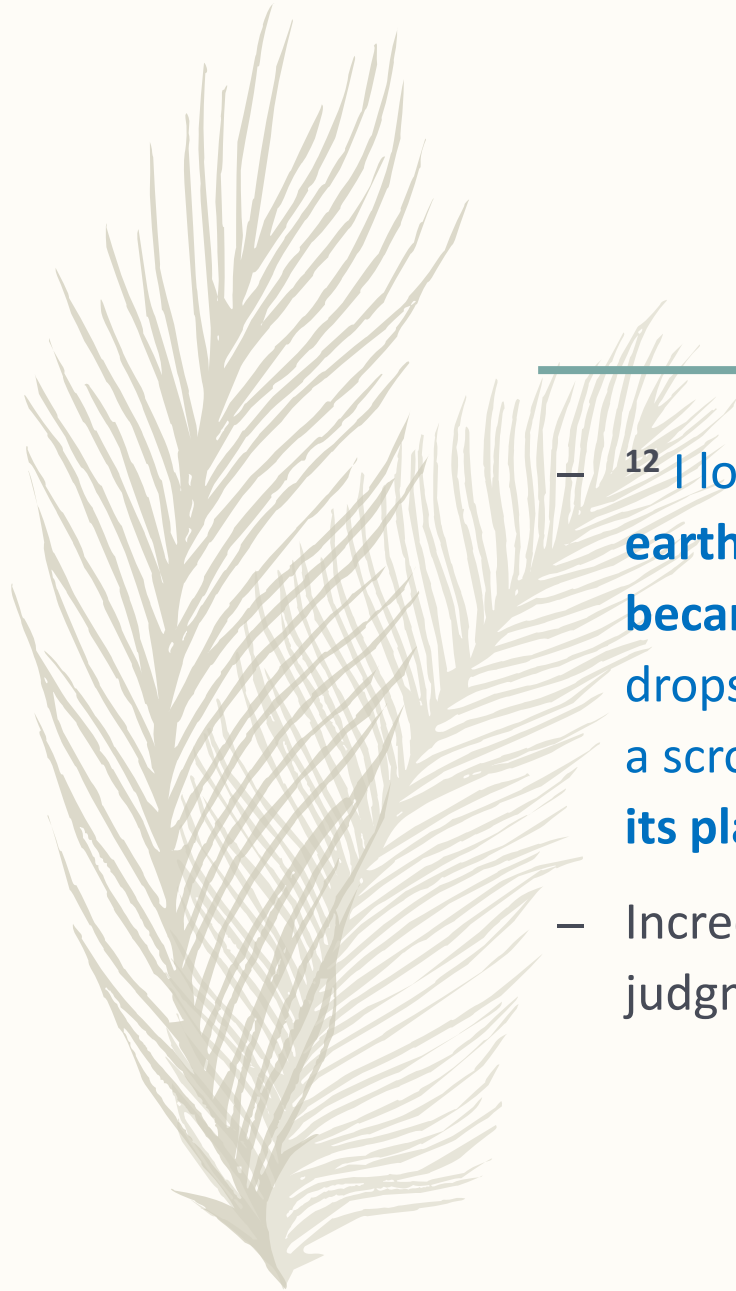


# The Tribulation Saints

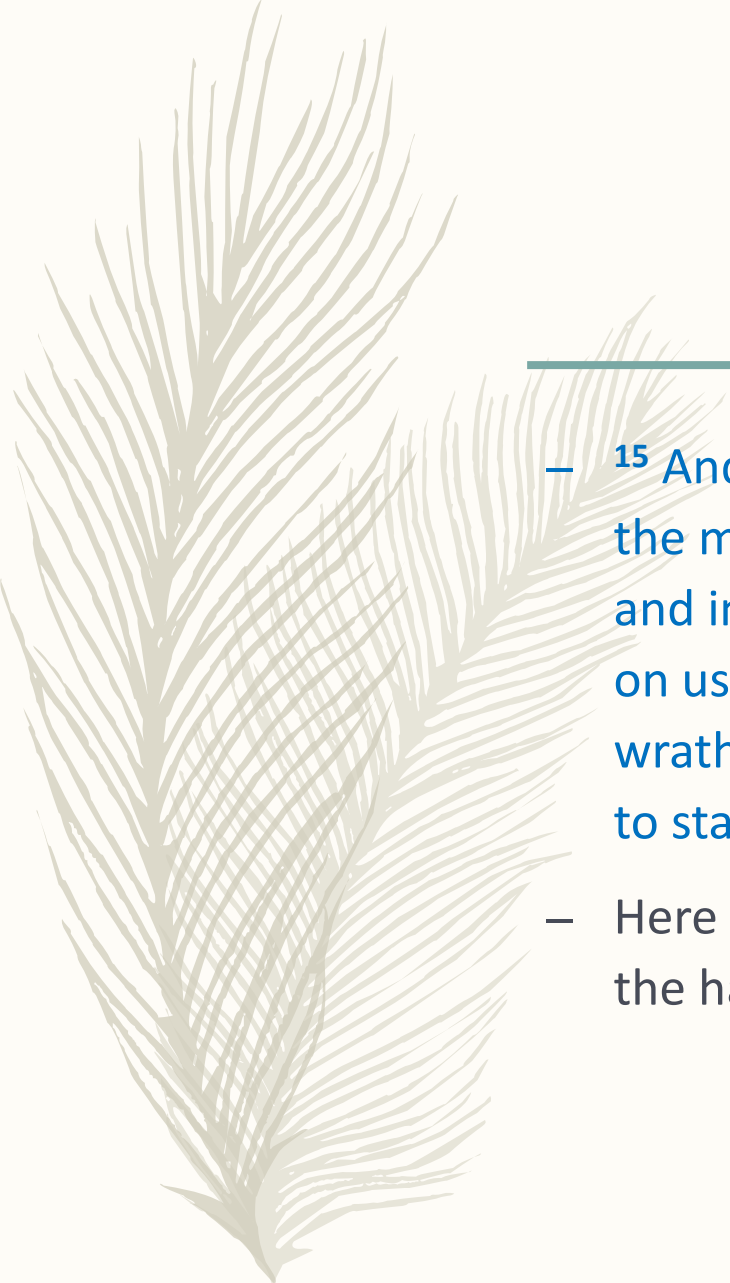
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- When He opened the fifth seal, **I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the testimony which they held.**  
Rev. 6:9
- There will no believers on the earth after the Rapture. If this occurs just before the Tribulation as we believe will be the case, all those who are martyred for their faith in Jesus will have come to this saving knowledge sometime during this seven year period. Indeed, many will repent and turn to the Messiah... especially the Jews.





- 
- **<sup>12</sup> 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. <sup>13</sup> 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. <sup>14</sup> Then the sky receded as a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island was moved out of its place. Rev. 6:12-14**
  - Incredible signs from the heavens are released by Jesus in this 6<sup>th</sup> seal judgment.

- 
- 
- <sup>15</sup> 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, <sup>16</sup> 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! <sup>17</sup> For the **great day of His wrath** has come, and who is able to stand?" Rev 6:15-17
  - Here we see that this 6<sup>th</sup> seal is referred to as the wrath of the Lamb... early in the handing down of the 36 judgments.



# Increasing Judgments as the Tribulation proceeds

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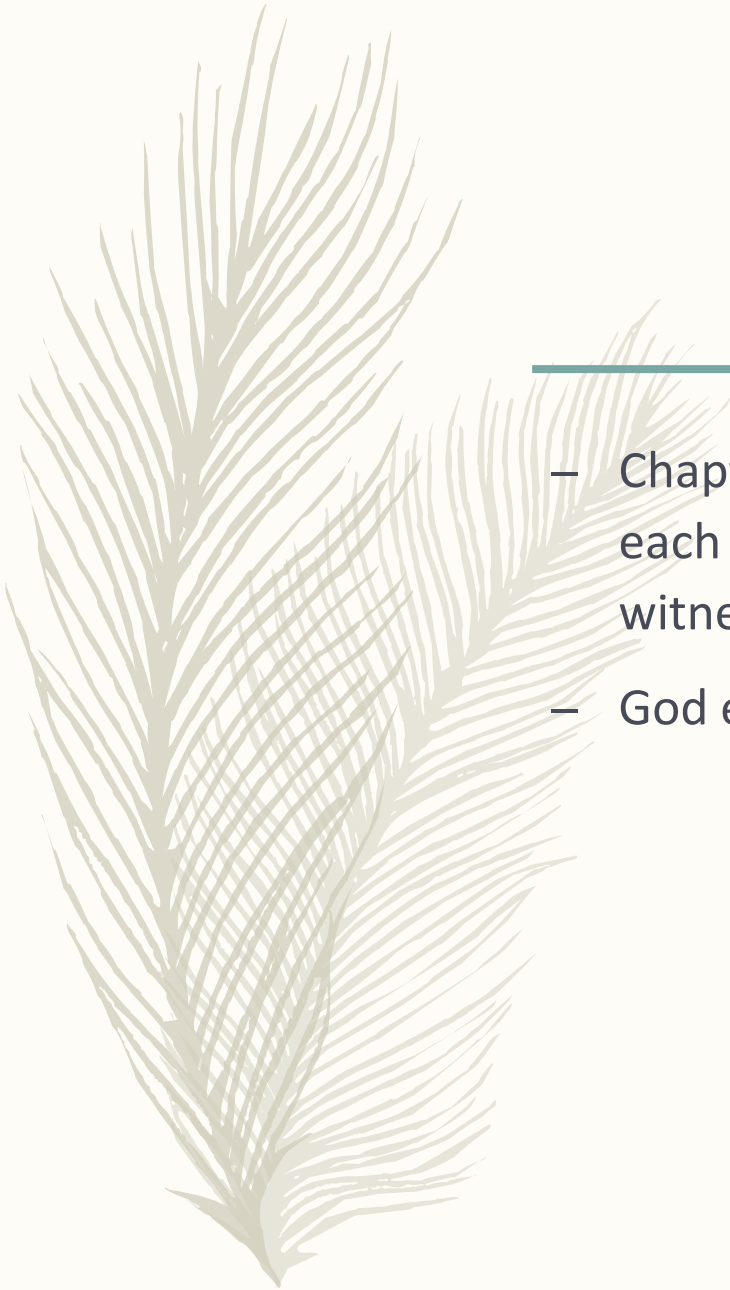
- From the early years of the seven year Tribulation, it should be apparent to all that the severity of the judgments increase as they go on.
- Let us take a closer look at the judgments brought on by the opening of this 6<sup>th</sup> seal.
- Earthquakes
- Possibility of asteroid collisions, nuclear bombs, etc.
- Men and women will try to hide from God's wrath..... this tactic will not work.



# Jesus Seals 144,000 Jews


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- Chapter 7 – an interlude to explain the fact that there will be 12,000 Jews from each of the twelve tribes who will be sealed by God. They will be great witnesses for Jesus during this Tribulation period.
- God even holds up some of His judgments until these Jews are in the fold...



# God seals the 144,000

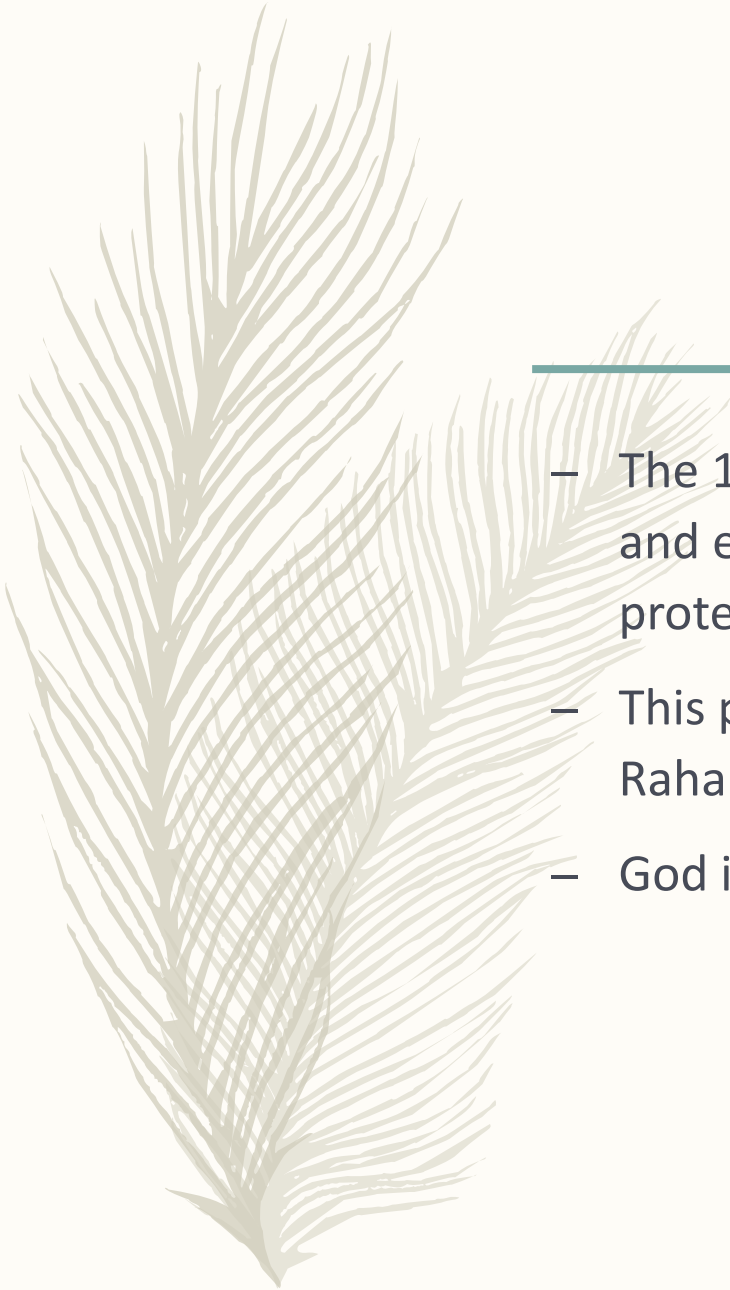
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- 
- After these things I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, on the sea, or on any tree. <sup>2</sup> Then I saw another angel ascending from the 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, <sup>3</sup> saying, "Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees till we have **sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads.**" Rev 7:1-3
  - 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:** Rev. 7:4

# The 144,000

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- The 144,000 will be sealed for their protection, to serve God as His ministers and evangelists. This will not be that unusual. Throughout history God has protected those that belong to Him.
- This protection from the wrath to come is analogous to that given to Noah, Rahab, and Lot.
- God is not finished with His “chosen people”



# God brings Israel “home”

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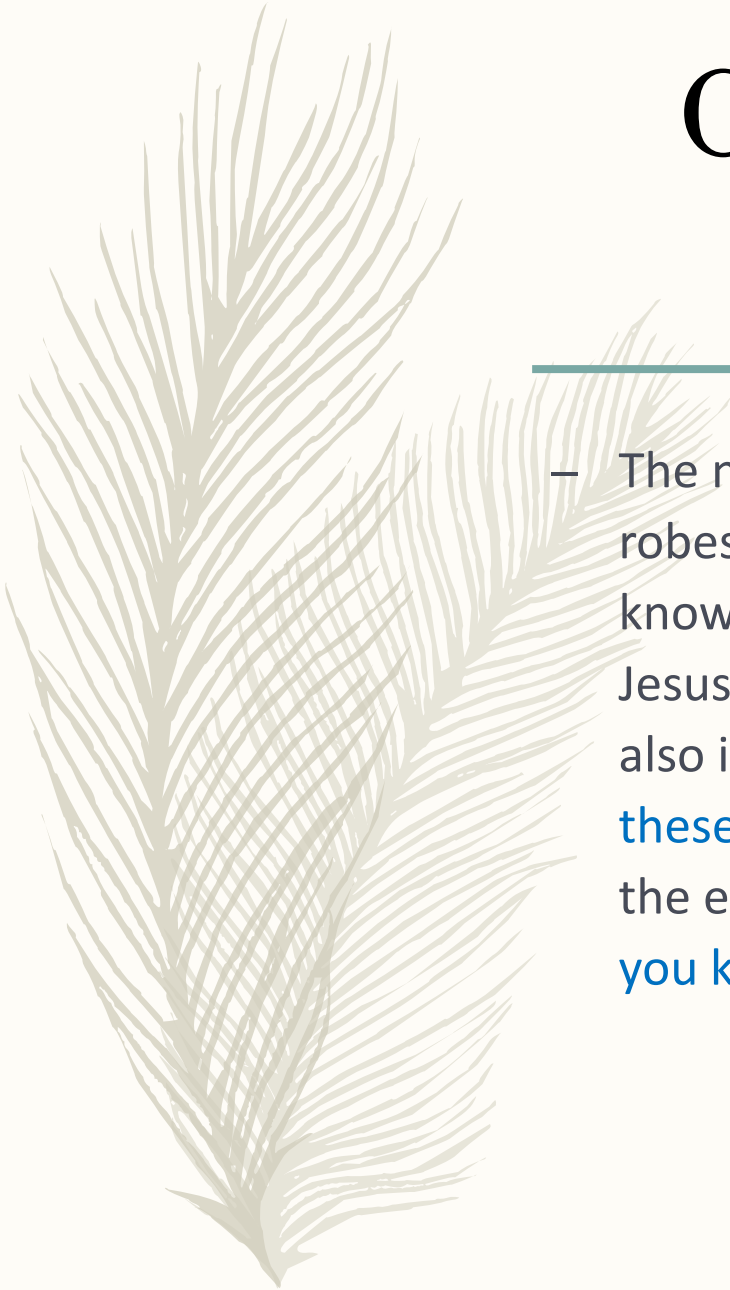
- Recall the following...
- Israel has experienced a hardening in part until the full number of the Gentiles has come in. **26** And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written: "**The deliverer will come from Zion; he will turn godlessness away from Jacob. 27 And this is my covenant with them when I take away their sins.**" Romans 11:25-27
- In the whole land," declares the LORD, "two-thirds will be struck down and perish; **yet one-third will be left in it. 9** This third I will bring into the fire; I will refine them like silver and test them like gold. They will call on my name and I will answer them; I will say, '**They are my people,**' and they will say, '**The LORD is our God.**'" Zech 13:8-9




# One other scene in heaven...

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- The next scene shows a great mass of people in heaven, adorned in white robes, from all nations and races of people. These folks have come to a saving knowledge of Jesus and subsequently died. They were all praising God and Jesus who were on their thrones. One of the elders who was there and was also involved in the worship turned to John and asked the apostle, “Who are these arrayed in white robes, and where did they come from?” John knew that the elder already was fully aware of the correct answer, so he just replied, “Sir, you know.”

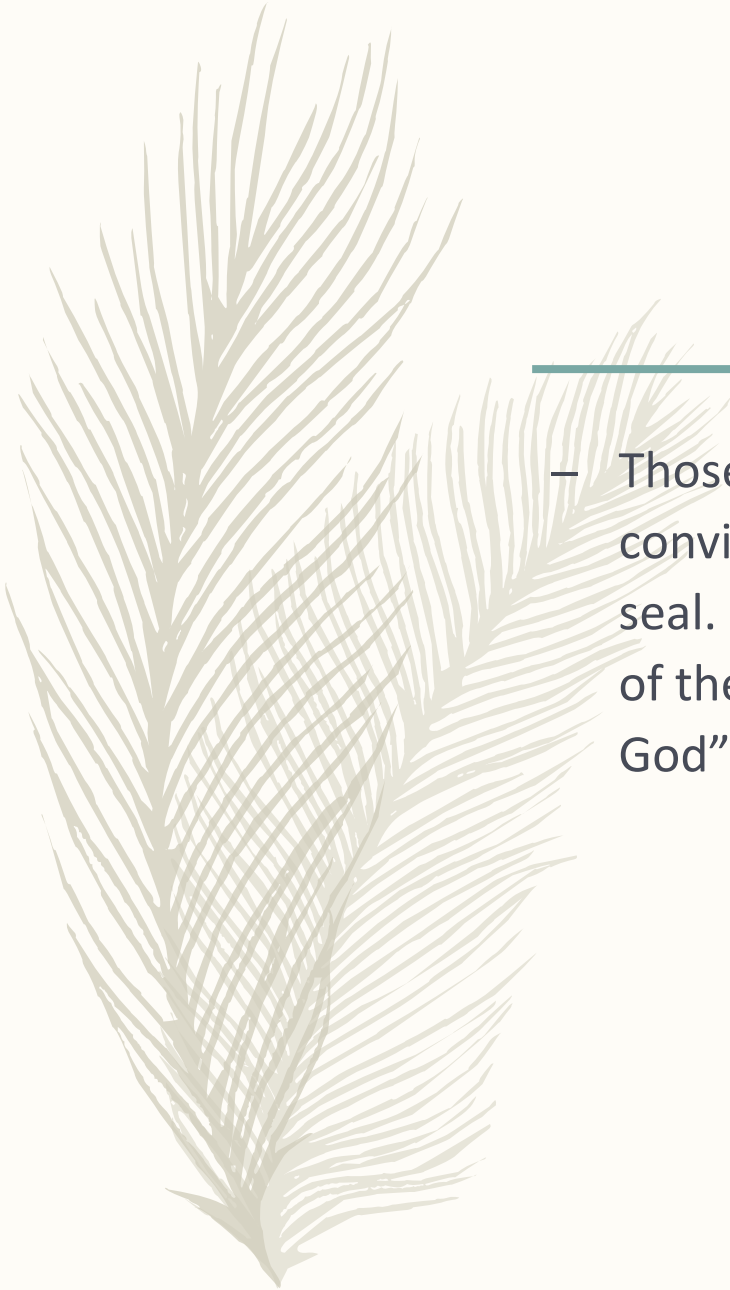


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- God comforts the saints in heaven...
  - The Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes." Rev 7:17
  - **Summary of Chapters 4-7**
  - John is shown a beautiful heavenly scene
  - The four horsemen of the apocalypse
  - The 5<sup>th</sup> seal – the martyrs
  - The 6<sup>th</sup> seal – the cosmic disturbance
  - The 144,000 Jews that are sealed

# Pre-wrath opinion

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- Those prophecy teachers who hold to the **pre-wrath view** of the Rapture are convinced that the Rapture will occur just prior to the opening of the seventh seal. This will occur *after* the Great Tribulation (which begins with the opening of the fifth seal) which they say is “cut short” just before the actual “wrath of God” is reigned down upon the earth and unrepentant mankind.



# Post-tribulation Rapture

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- The noted **posttribulation Rapture** proponent, Robert Gundry, says, the seventh seal and the seventh trumpet bring us to the *end* of the Tribulation and that the seven bowls are clustered at the end. The sixth seal leads us to the final catastrophe of judgment.” (Gundry)

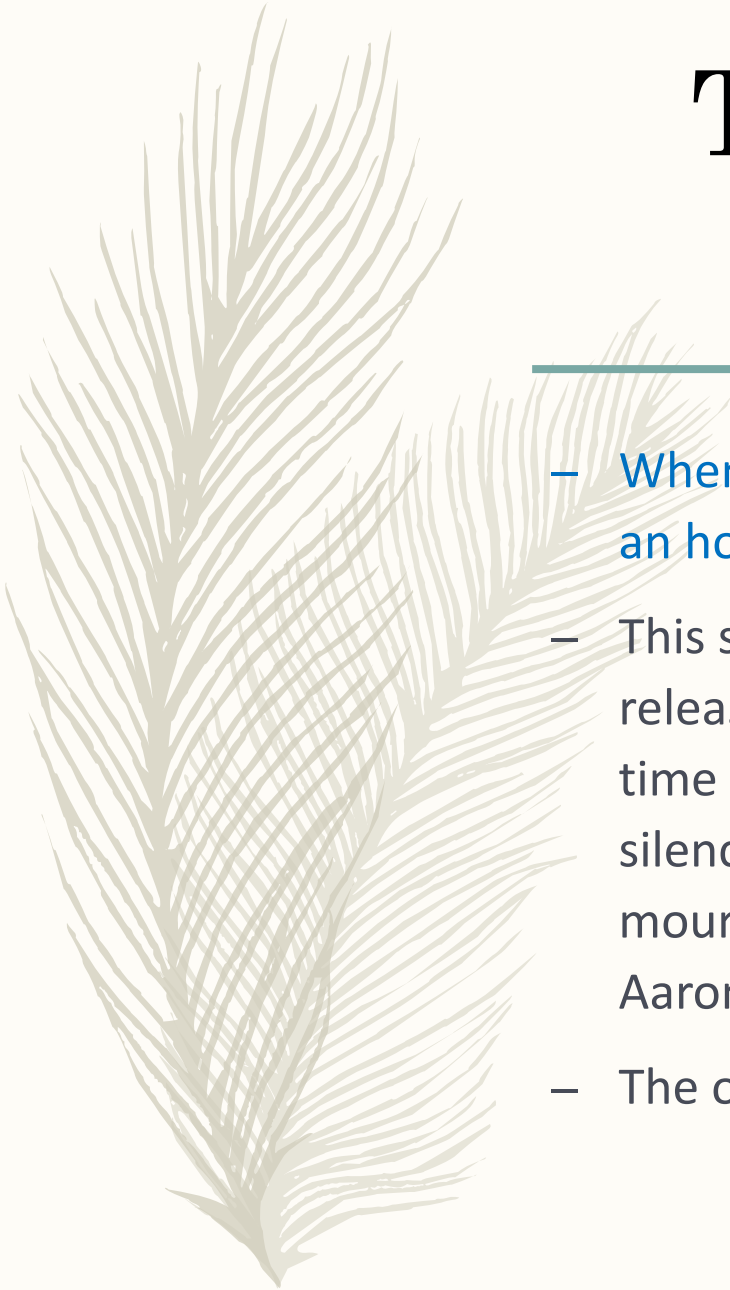




# The Seventh Seal is Opened

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- When He opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour.
- This seventh seal releases the seven trumpet judgments which, in turn, will release the seven bowl judgments. The opening of this last seal is followed by a time of silence in heaven as the significance of this event is contemplated. This silence will last for thirty minutes. Thirty is the number in the Bible for mourning (e.g. Israel mourned for thirty days over the deaths of Moses and Aaron).
- The opening of the seventh seal results in the opening of *all* seven trumpets.



# The Seven Trumpets

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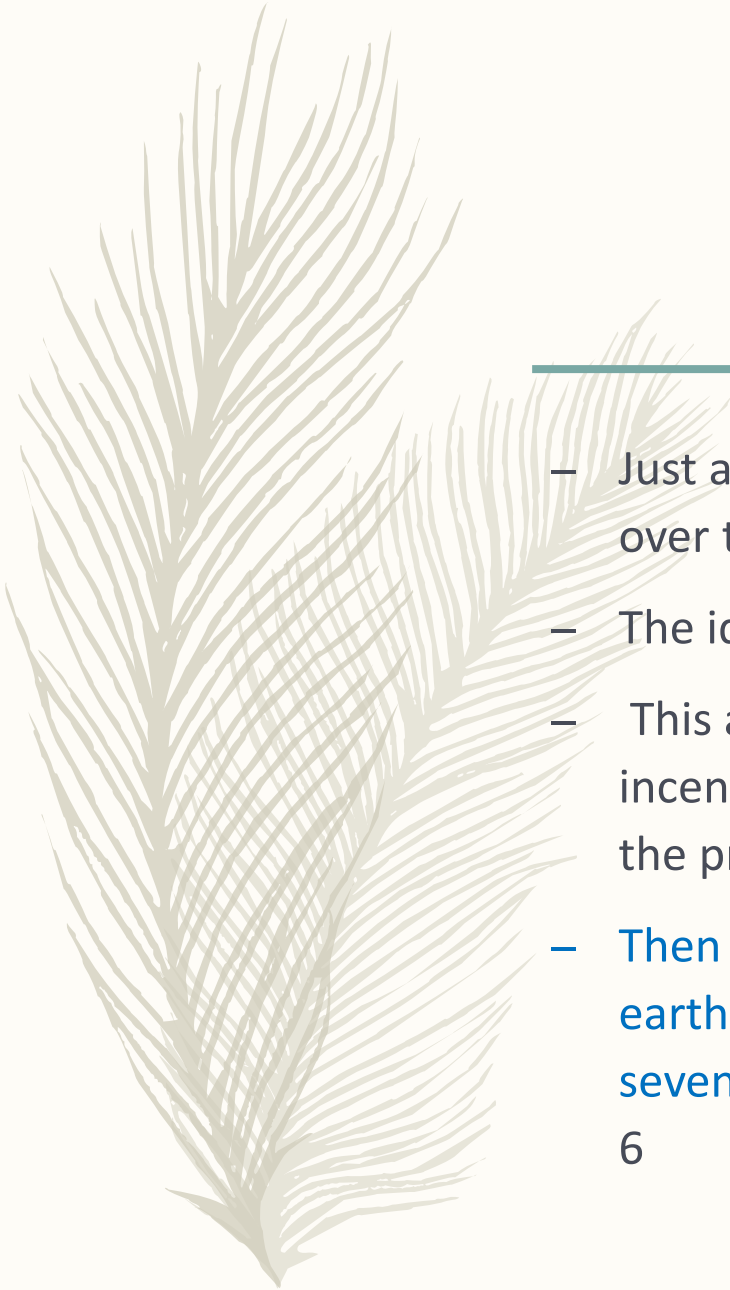
- The first four trumpets will release judgments that will destroy the ecology of the earth;
- The next two bring on demons to terrify and destroy humanity.
- The last trumpet will result in the bowl judgments being released.
- The seven angels prepared to sound their trumpets.



# One More Angel

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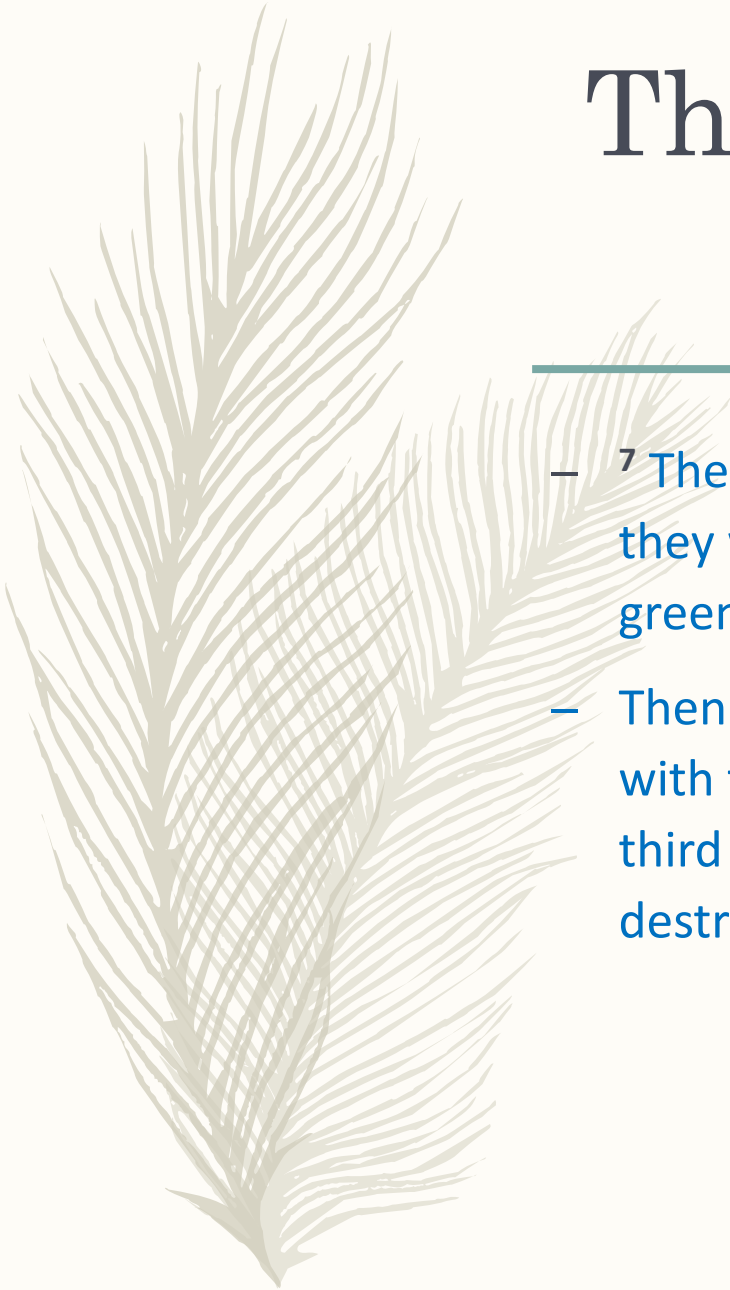
- Just after that happens, one additional angel will come onto the scene, and walk over to stand before the golden altar which stands in front of the throne of God.
- The identity of this angel?
- This angel will carry a golden censer. When that time comes, he will be given incense to offer up to God along with the prayers of all of the saints. He will place the prayers of the saints and sweet incense onto the heavenly altar of incense.
- 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.** <sup>6</sup> So the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound. Rev 8:2-6



# The Trumpet Judgments Begin

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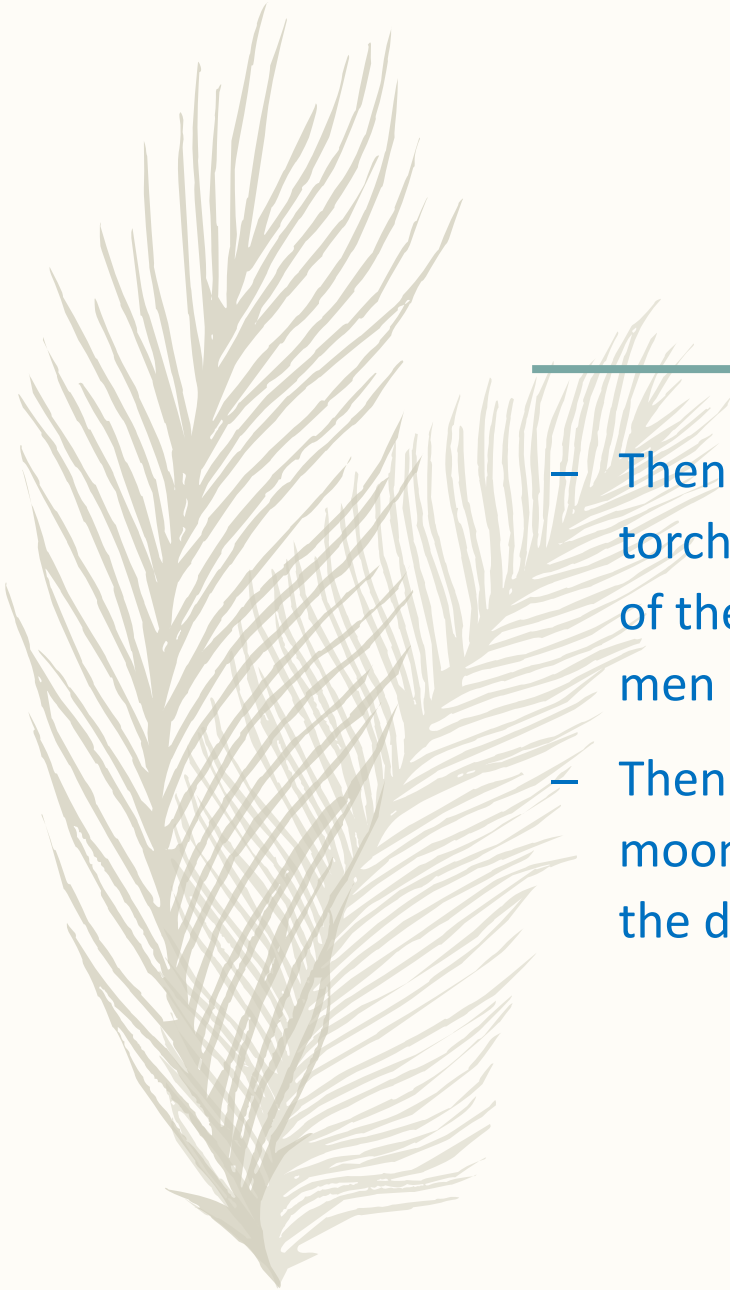
- <sup>7</sup> The first angel sounded: And hail and fire followed, mingled with blood, and they were thrown to the earth. And a third of the trees were burned up, and all green grass was burned up. Rev 8:7
- Then the second angel sounded: And something like a great mountain burning with fire was thrown into the sea, and a third of the sea became blood. <sup>9</sup> And a third of the living creatures in the sea died, and a third of the ships were destroyed. Rev. 8:8-9



# Trumpets #3 and #4

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- 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. <sup>11</sup> 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. Rev. 8:10-11
- 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 8:12





# Woe, Woe, Woe to the inhabitants of the world

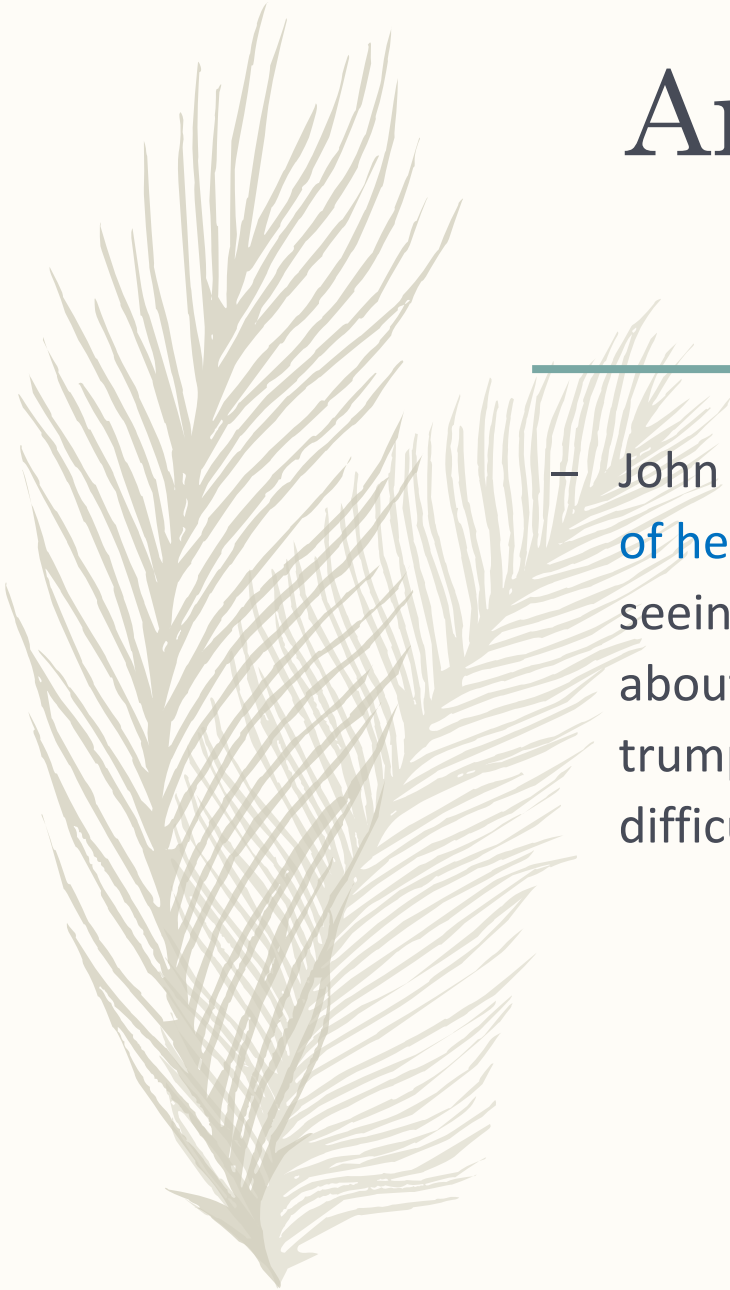
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- Jesus spoke of these days...
- "Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken." Matt 24:29
- And I looked, 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!" Rev 8:13

# An Eagle Announces the Woes

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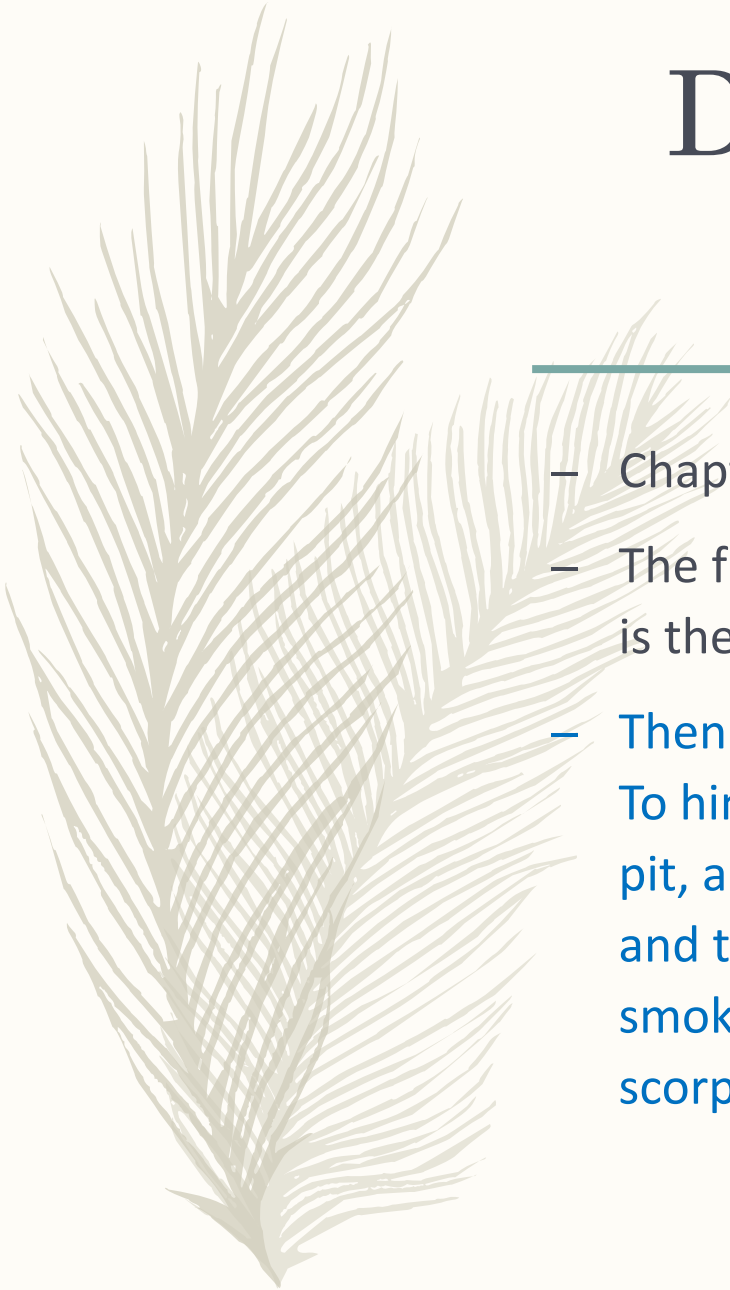
- John actually said, “And I looked, and I heard an eagle flying through the midst of heaven...”. In fact, at that time, the people on earth can anticipate actually seeing and hearing an eagle fly throughout the heavens announcing what was about to happen down on earth. “Woes” were attached to these last three trumpets because these next three judgments were going to be increasing difficult, if not impossible, to bear.



# Demonic locusts are released from the “abyss”

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- Chapter 9
- The fifth angel now blows his trumpet to release the first woe (which, of course, is the same as the fifth trumpet judgment).
- 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. <sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup> 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. 9:1-3





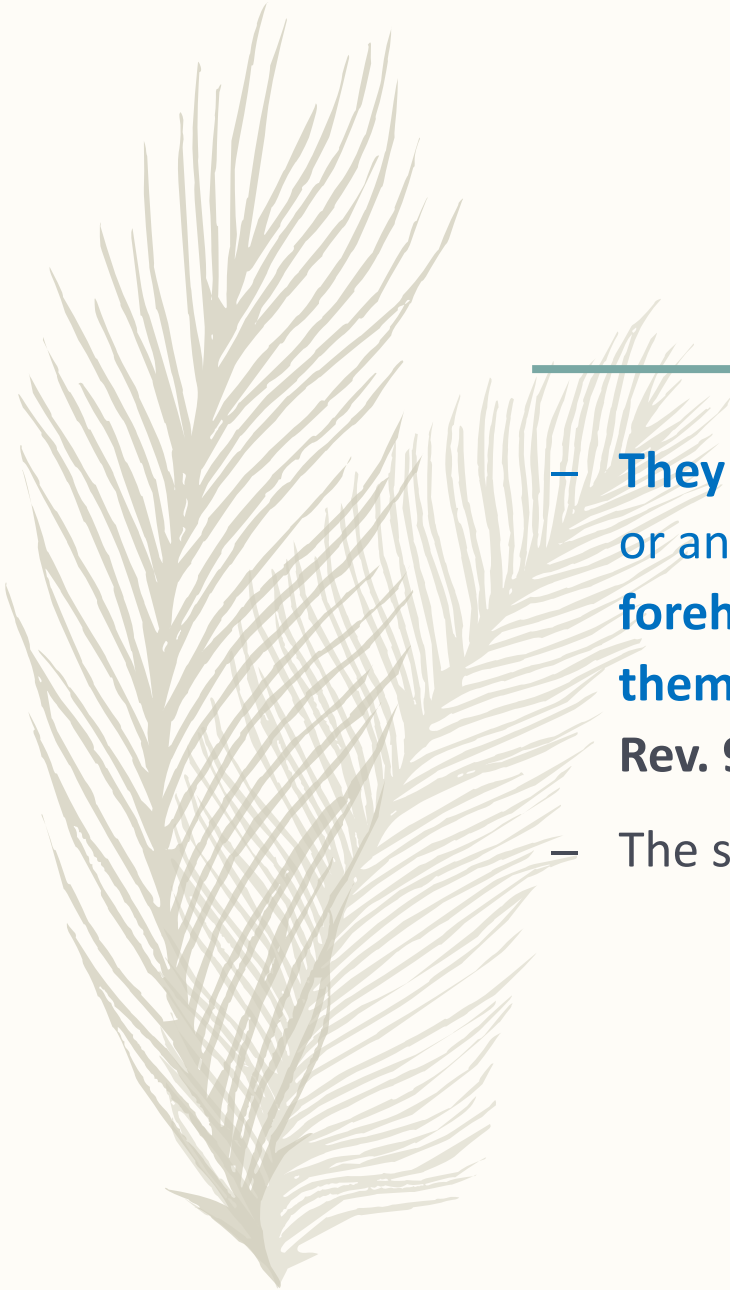
# The Demonic Torment


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- **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.** <sup>5</sup> **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.**

**Rev. 9:4-5**

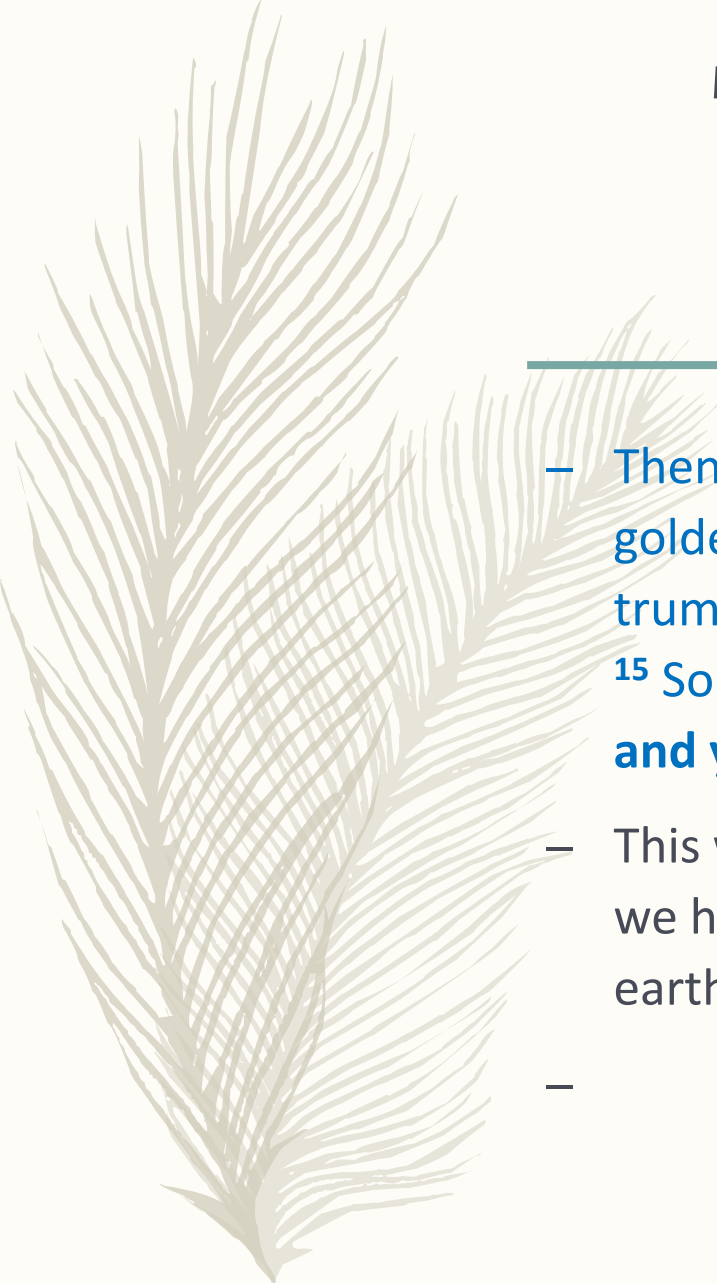
- The shape of the locusts was like horses prepared for battle.



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- 
- John was shown that these creatures were led by a demon with the name of Apollyon (aka Abaddon). This demon would very likely be considered one of the leaders of Satan's army... one of his chief officers
  - 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**.<sup>12</sup> One woe is past.  
Rev. 9:11-12

# The Sixth Trumpet Sounds

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- 
- Then the **sixth angel sounded**: And I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God, <sup>14</sup> saying to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, "Release the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates."  
<sup>15</sup> 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 9:13-15
  - This was done at the command of Jesus. In this case, and in a few others that we have already seen, Jesus was using demons to work out His will on this earth.
  -

# Massive Numbers to Die

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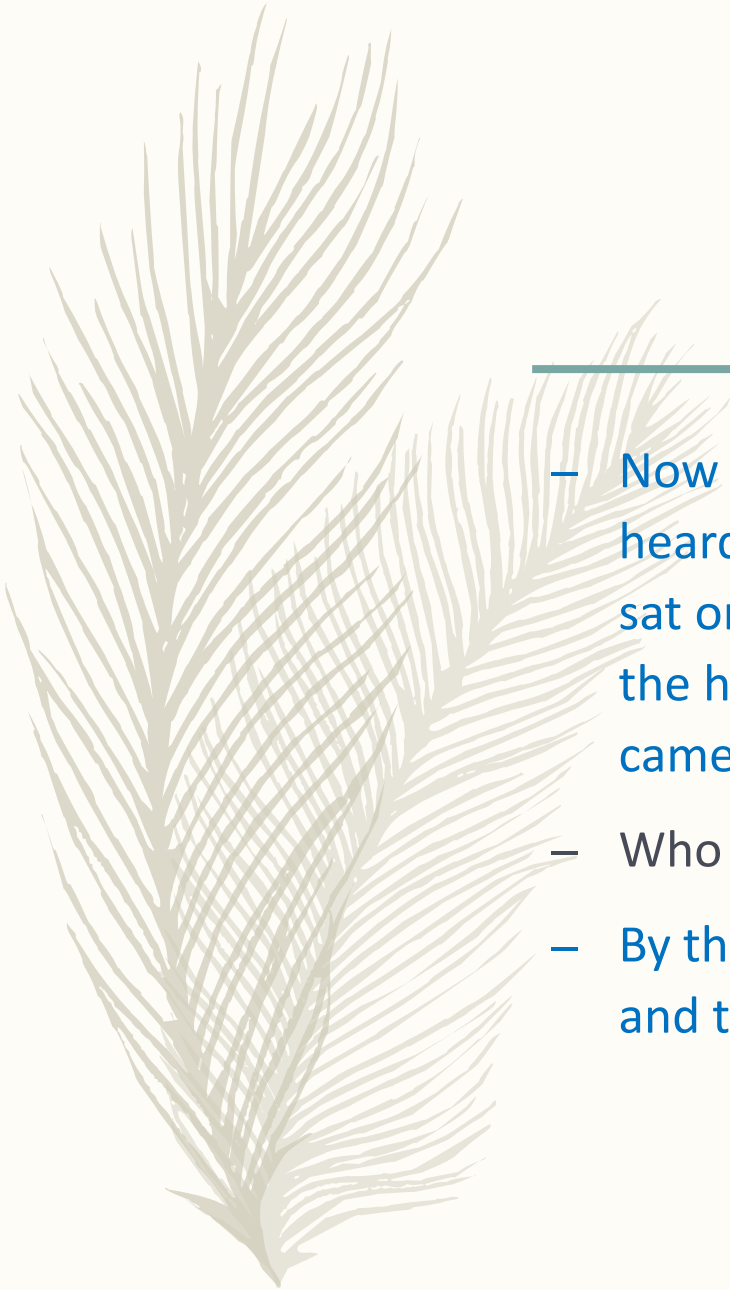
- Fully one third of the remaining men and women on earth would now die. Recall that during the seal judgment, one fourth had already died secondary to the wars, famine, and plagues mentioned concerning the four horsemen of the apocalypse. This now amounts to 50% of the world's population that entered into the seven year Tribulation that will have died due to the judgments handed down by Jesus. Many more will have been martyred because of their faith in Jesus. The number of deaths during these few years will total in the multiple billions!



# The 200 Million Army

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- Now the number of **the army of the horsemen was two hundred million**; I heard the number of them. <sup>17</sup> 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. 9:16-17
- Who are these horsemen?
- 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. 9:18

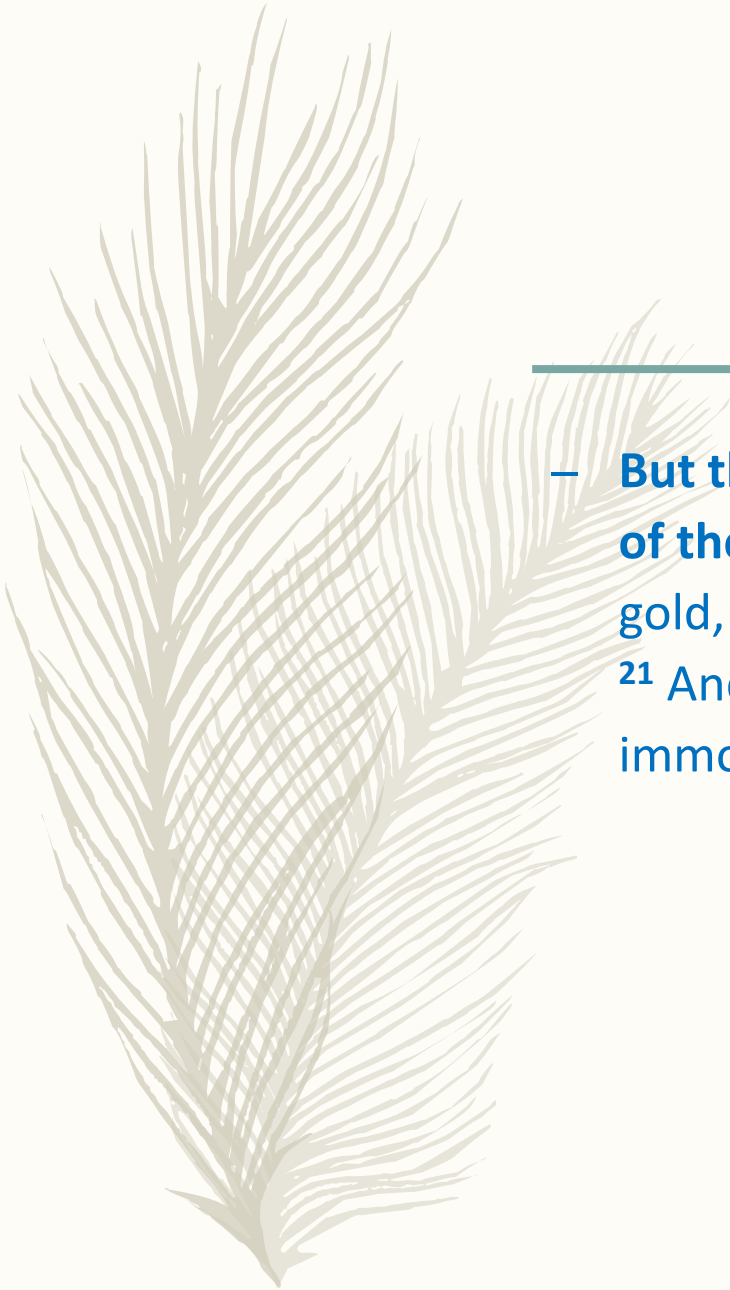


# Unrepentant Mankind

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- **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.**  
**<sup>21</sup> And they did not repent** of their murders or their sorceries or their sexual immorality or their thefts.

Rev 9:13-21





# The Mighty Angel and the Little Scroll

---

- Chapter 10 speaks of the time period between the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> trumpets.
- This longest of the interludes is given as comfort to the assaulted believers alive during this time as they endure previously unimaginable demonic terror and a sin-mad world.



# A Mighty Angel

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- I saw still another mighty angel (the term for angel used here means an angel “of the same kind”) coming down from heaven, clothed with a cloud. And a rainbow was on his head, his face was like the sun, and his feet like pillars of fire. <sup>2</sup> He had a little book open in his hand. And he set his right foot on the sea and his left foot on the land, <sup>3</sup> and cried with a loud voice, as when a lion roars.  
Rev 10:1-3
- Who is this angel?

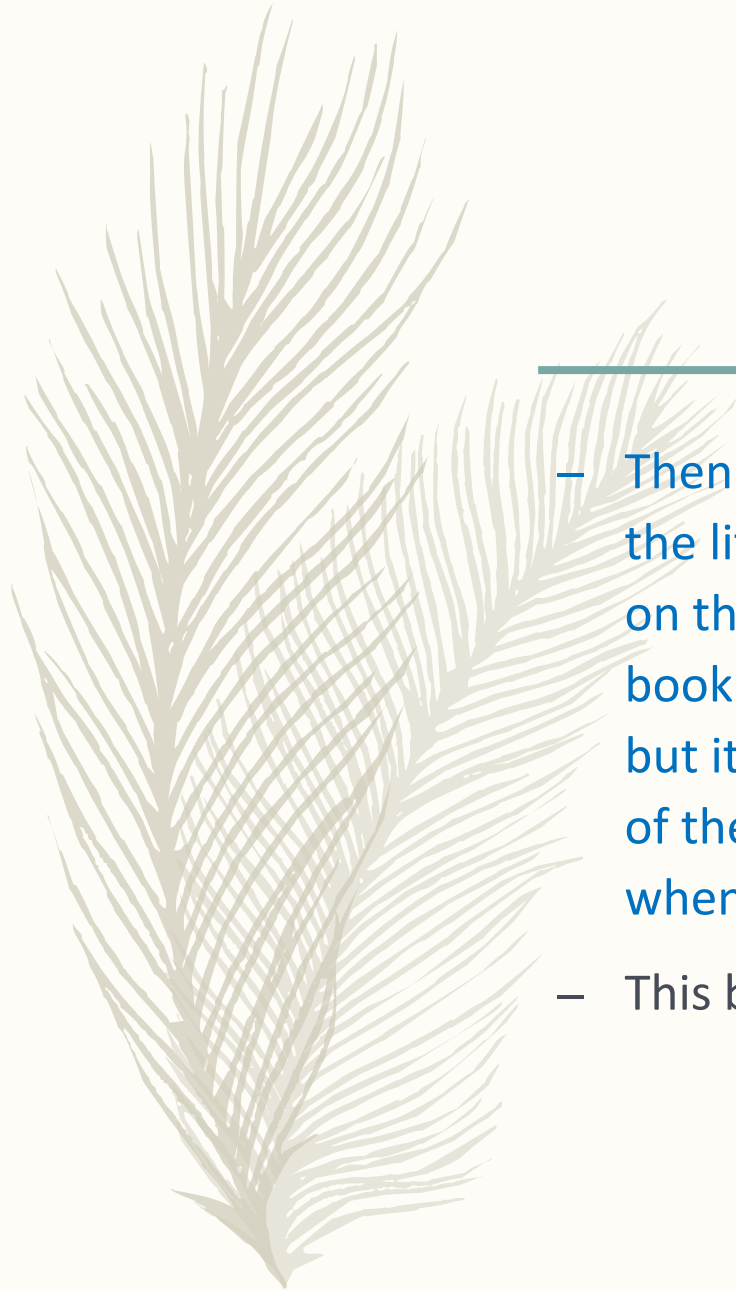


# Time to blow the 7<sup>th</sup> Trumpet

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- When he cried out, seven thunders uttered their voices. <sup>4</sup> Now when the seven thunders uttered their voices, I was about to write; but I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, "Seal up the things which the seven thunders uttered, and do not write them." Rev 10:3-4
- This angel noted that there was no reason for any further delay in the judgments that Jesus planned to mete out on the world. It was time for the seventh angel to blow his trumpet and let the mystery of God for these end-times continue to unfold.





- 
- Then the voice which I heard from heaven spoke to me again and said, "Go, take the little book which is open in the hand of the angel who stands on the sea and on the earth." <sup>9</sup> So I went to the angel and said to him, "Give me the little book." And he said to me, "Take and eat it; and it will make your stomach bitter, but it will be as sweet as honey in your mouth." <sup>10</sup> Then I took the little book out of the angel's hand and ate it, and it was as sweet as honey in my mouth. But when I had eaten it, my stomach became bitter. Rev 10:8-10
  - This book contained the "title deed to the earth."



# The Two Witnesses

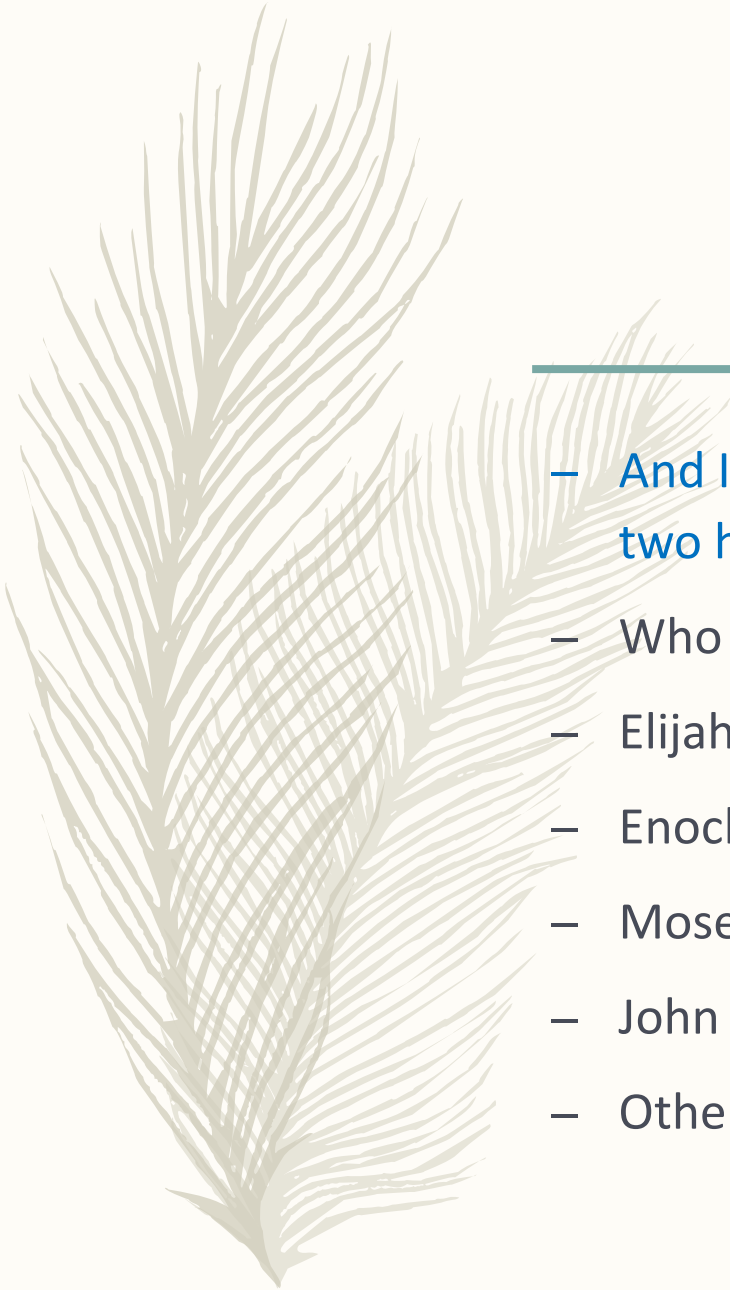
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- Chapter 12 - The first fourteen verses of this chapter continue to deal with the interlude between the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> trumpets.
- Then I was given a reed like a measuring rod. And the angel stood, saying, "Rise and measure the temple of God, the altar, and those who worship there. <sup>2</sup> But leave out the court which is outside the temple, and do not measure it, for it has been given to the Gentiles. And they will tread the holy city underfoot for forty-two months. Rev 11:1-2

# Two Witnesses

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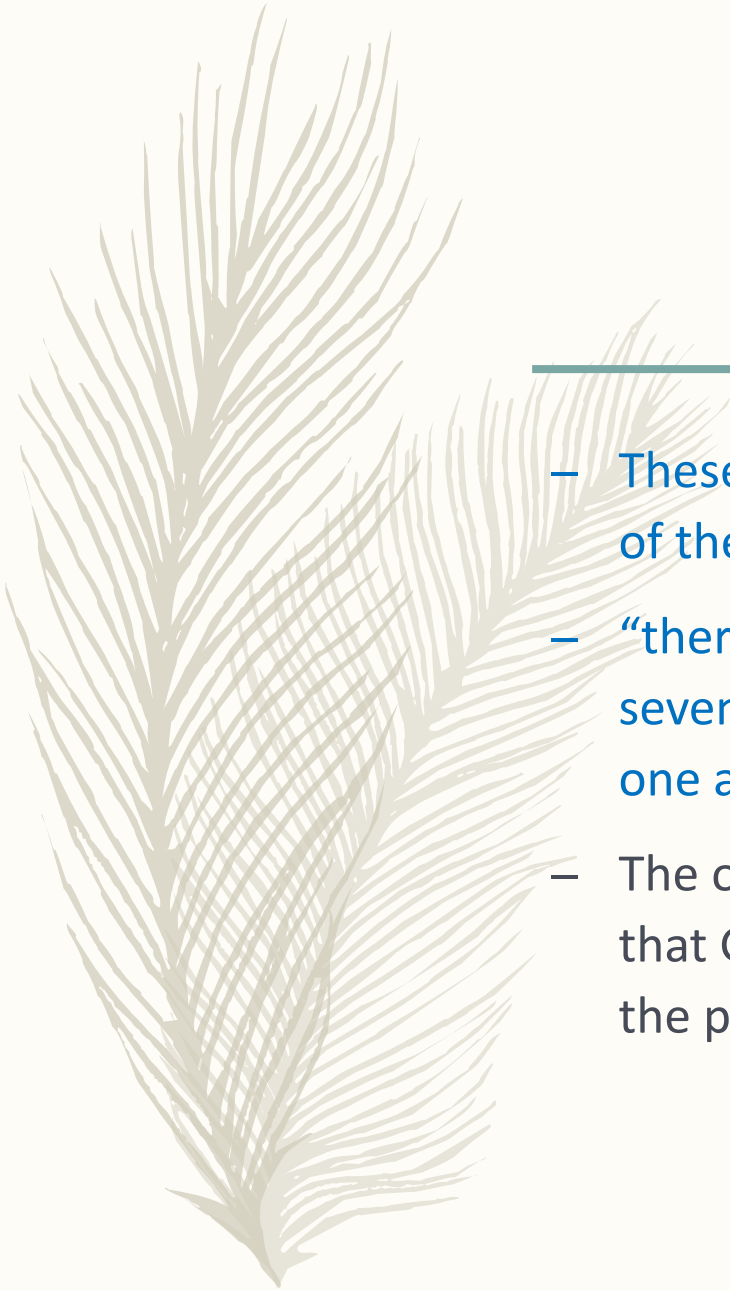
- "And I will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy one thousand two hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth." Rev 11:3
- Who are these two witnesses?
- Elijah?
- Enoch?
- Moses?
- John the Baptist?
- Others?



# Two Witnesses

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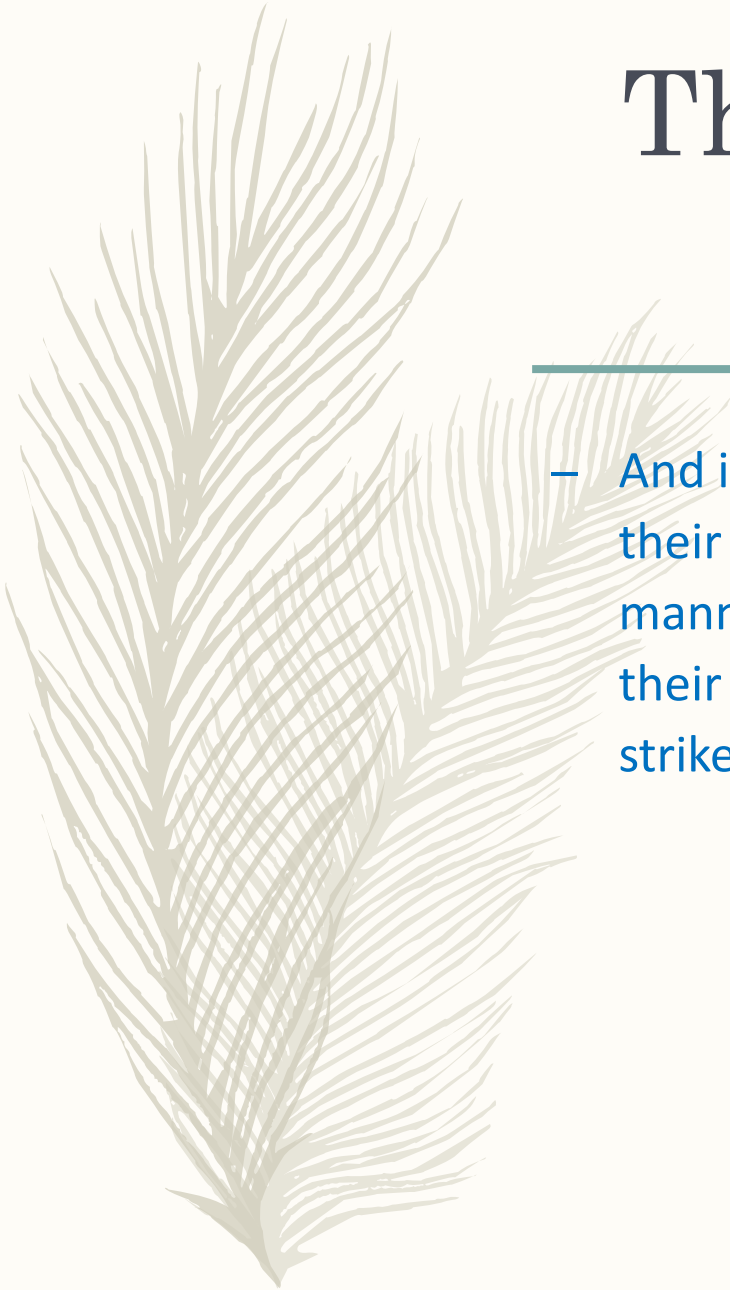
- These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands standing before the God of the earth. Rev 11:4
- “there is a **lampstand** of solid gold with a bowl on top of it, and on the stand seven lamps with seven pipes to the seven lamps. <sup>3</sup> Two **olive trees** are by it, one at the right of the bowl and the other at its left.” Zech 4:2-3
- The olive trees and the lampstands are symbolic of the fact that the message that God will have for the world during the Tribulation will be delivered through the power of the Holy Spirit working through these two divinely protected men.



# The witnesses are given power

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- And if anyone wants to harm them, fire proceeds from their mouth and devours their enemies. And if anyone wants to harm them, he must be killed in this manner. <sup>6</sup> These have power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their prophecy; and they have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to strike the earth with all plagues, as often as they desire. Rev 11:5-6



# Divine Protection

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- These witnesses will be supernaturally protected by God. Although the Antichrist and his minions will want very much to shut them up (actually to kill them), God will not allow this to happen, at least until they have accomplished their work for God on this earth.
- God will place great trust in these men. He will give them the ability to affect nature. They will use their powers to effect certain godly judgments onto the fallen world.



# The witnesses will be killed

A decorative graphic of a feather, rendered in a light beige color, is positioned on the left side of the slide. It has a central rachis with numerous barbs extending outwards, creating a fan-like shape. The feather is oriented vertically, with the base at the bottom and the tip at the top.

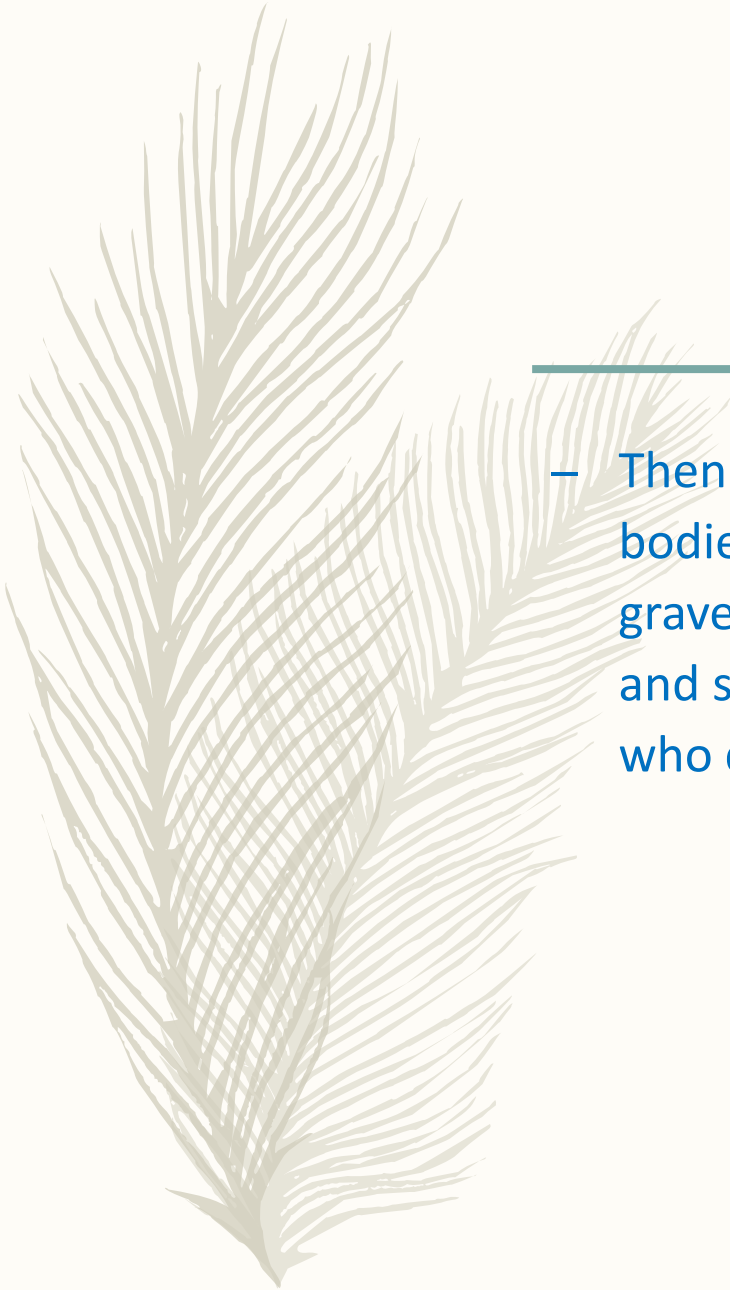
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- **When they finish their testimony, the beast that ascends out of the bottomless pit will make war against them, overcome them, and kill them.**  
<sup>8</sup> And their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified. Rev. 11:7-8



# The World Will Rejoice

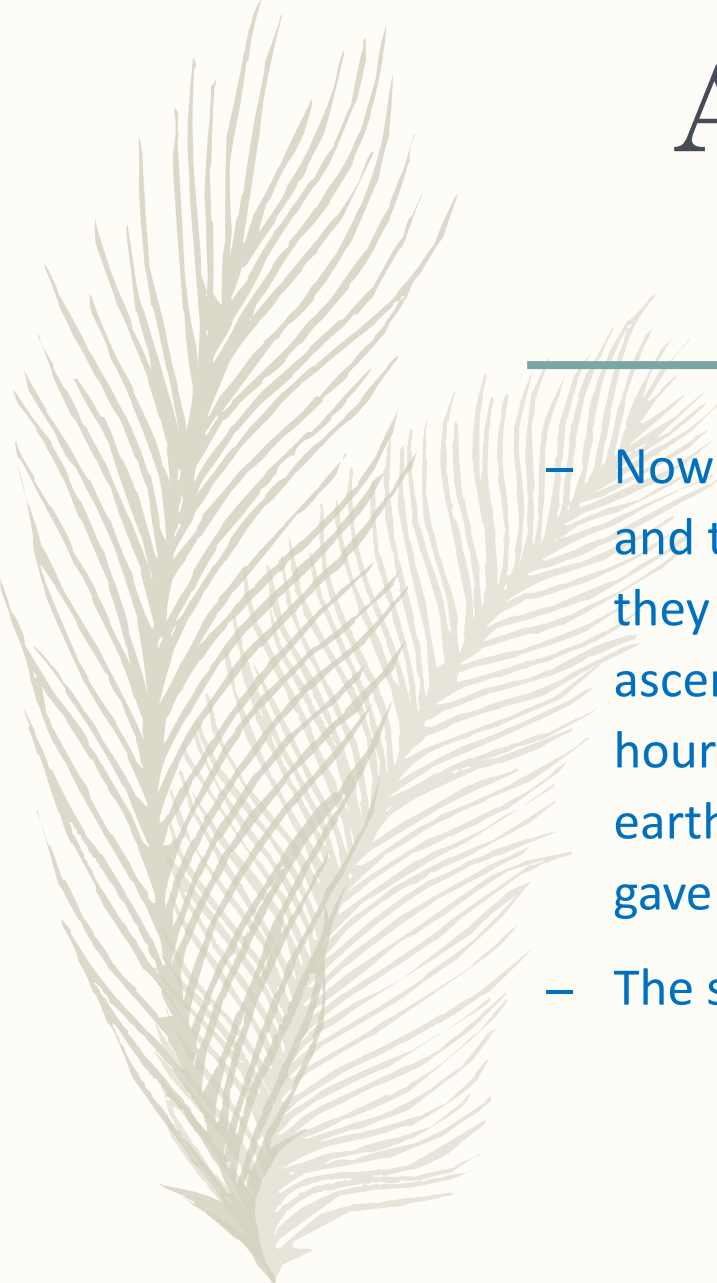
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- Then those from the peoples, tribes, tongues, and nations will see their dead bodies three-and-a-half days, and not allow their dead bodies to be put into graves. <sup>10</sup> And those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them, make merry, and send gifts to one another, because these two prophets tormented those who dwell on the earth. Rev 11:7-10



# An Astounding Resurrection

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- 
- **Now after the three-and-a-half days the breath of life from God entered them,** and they stood on their feet, and great fear fell on those who saw them. <sup>12</sup> And they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, "Come up here." And they ascended to heaven in a cloud, and their enemies saw them. <sup>13</sup> In the same hour there was a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city fell. In the earthquake seven thousand people were killed, and the rest were afraid and gave glory to the God of heaven.      Rev 11:11-13
  - The second woe is past. Behold, the third woe is coming quickly.      Rev 11:14



# Mid-Tribulation View of Rapture

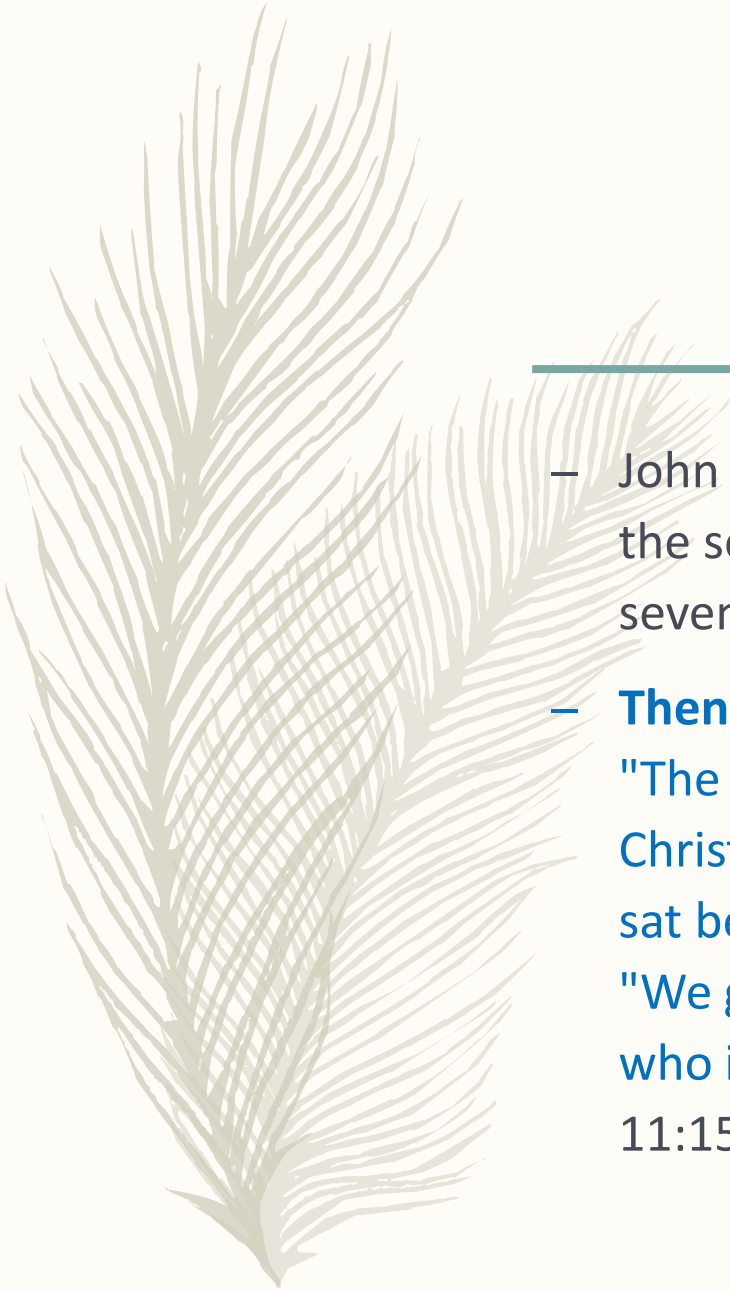
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- Those who hold to the **mid-tribulation Rapture view** believe that Jesus will come for His Church at the mid-point of the seven year Tribulation. In the view of Norman Harrison, this will come just before the sounding of the *seventh trumpet judgment* spoken of in Rev. 11. The fact that Rosenthal (pre-wrath view) believes the *seventh seal judgment* comes approximately five years into the Tribulation, yet Harrison says that the mid-point (3 ½ year mark) comes only at the seventh trumpet judgment – which has to be at a later time – simply shows how no one really knows exactly when during *these seven years these judgments will be meted out*.

# The Seventh Trumpet

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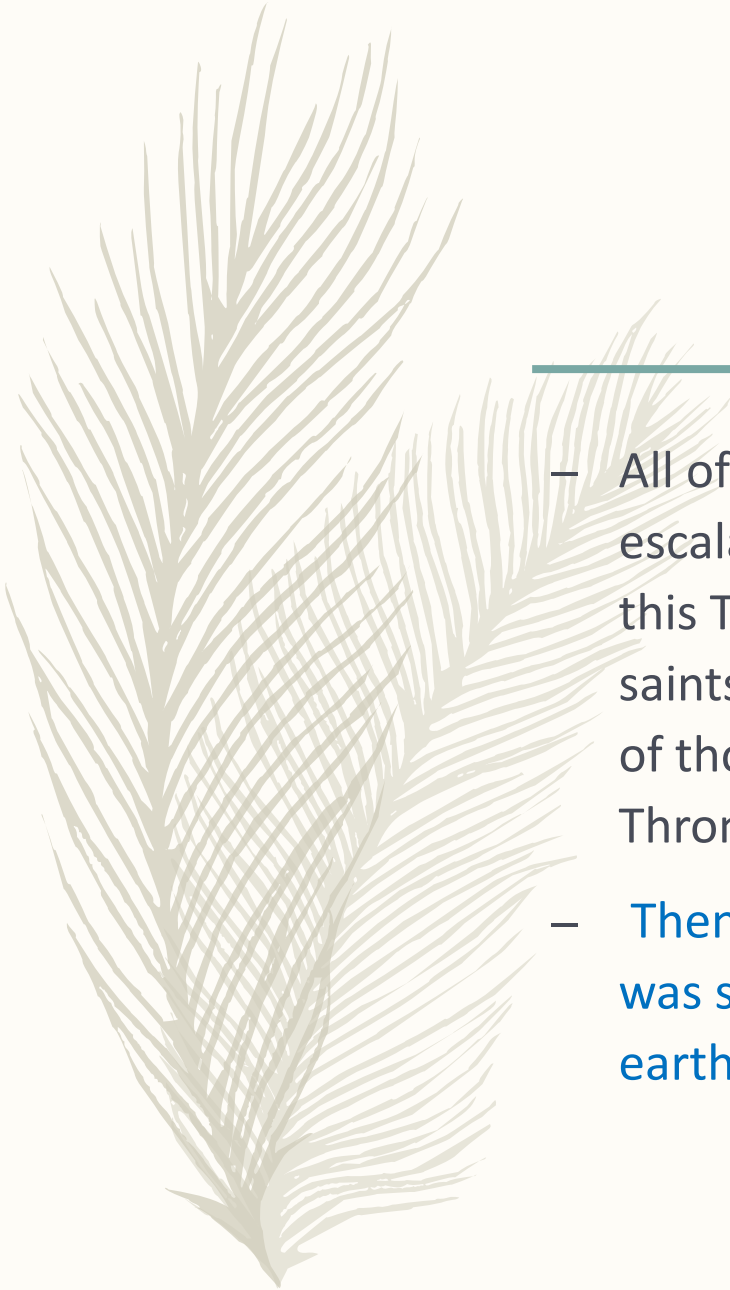
- John Walvoord and Tim LaHaye suggest that the third woe is synonymous with the seventh angel sounding his trumpet. This introduces the next series of seven judgments, the seven bowls.
- **Then the seventh angel sounded:** And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!" <sup>16</sup> And the twenty-four elders who sat before God on their thrones fell on their faces and worshiped God, <sup>17</sup> 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 11:15-17



# The conclusion draws near

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- All of the nations of earth were terribly upset as God's judgment continued to escalate upon the unrepentant sinners that remained after the Rapture. During this Tribulation time period, God was conducting the Bema Judgment of the saints in heaven. At some point in the future (after the Millennial Kingdom), all of those people who had died without Christ would face the Great White Throne Judgment.
- 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 11:19





# Summary: (Chapter 8-11)

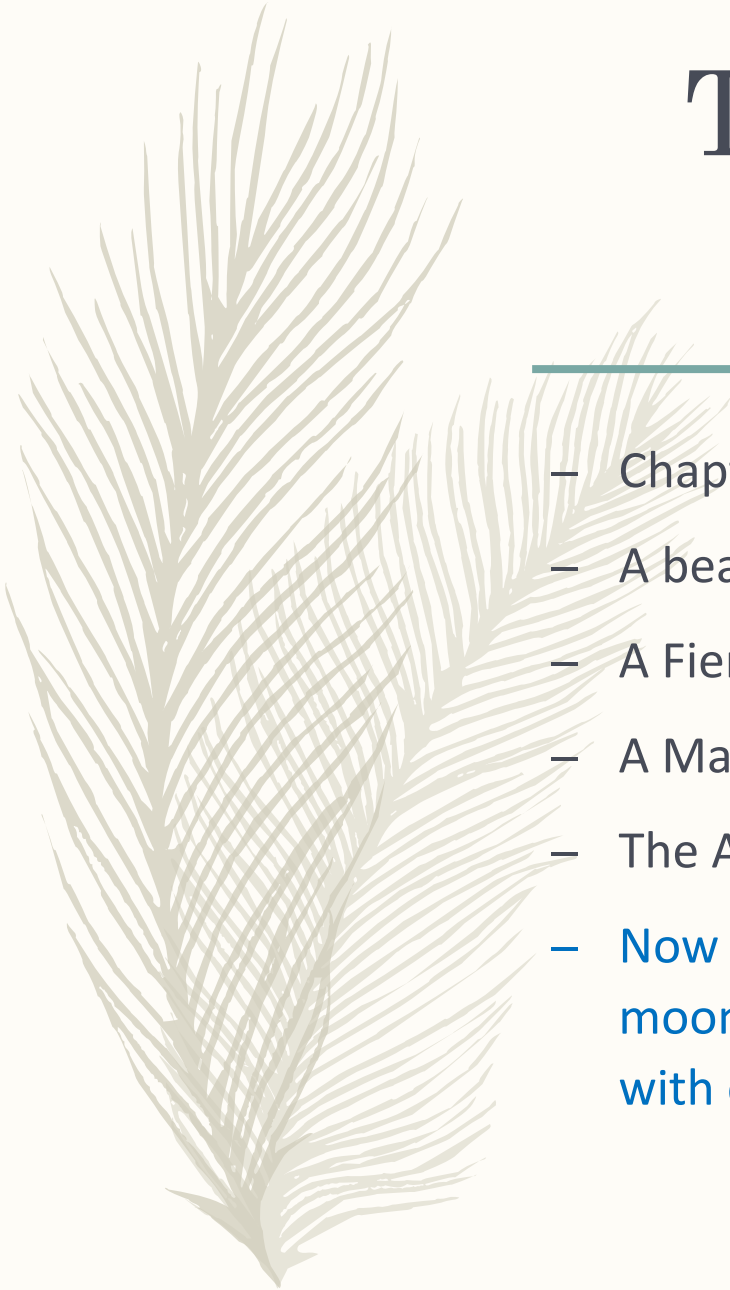
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- 144,000 sealed
- The unsealing of the 7<sup>th</sup> seal
- The first four trumpets
- Demonic locusts released
- Mighty angel with the “little scroll”
- John measures the Temple
- The two witnesses
- The seventh trumpet

# The Woman and the Dragon

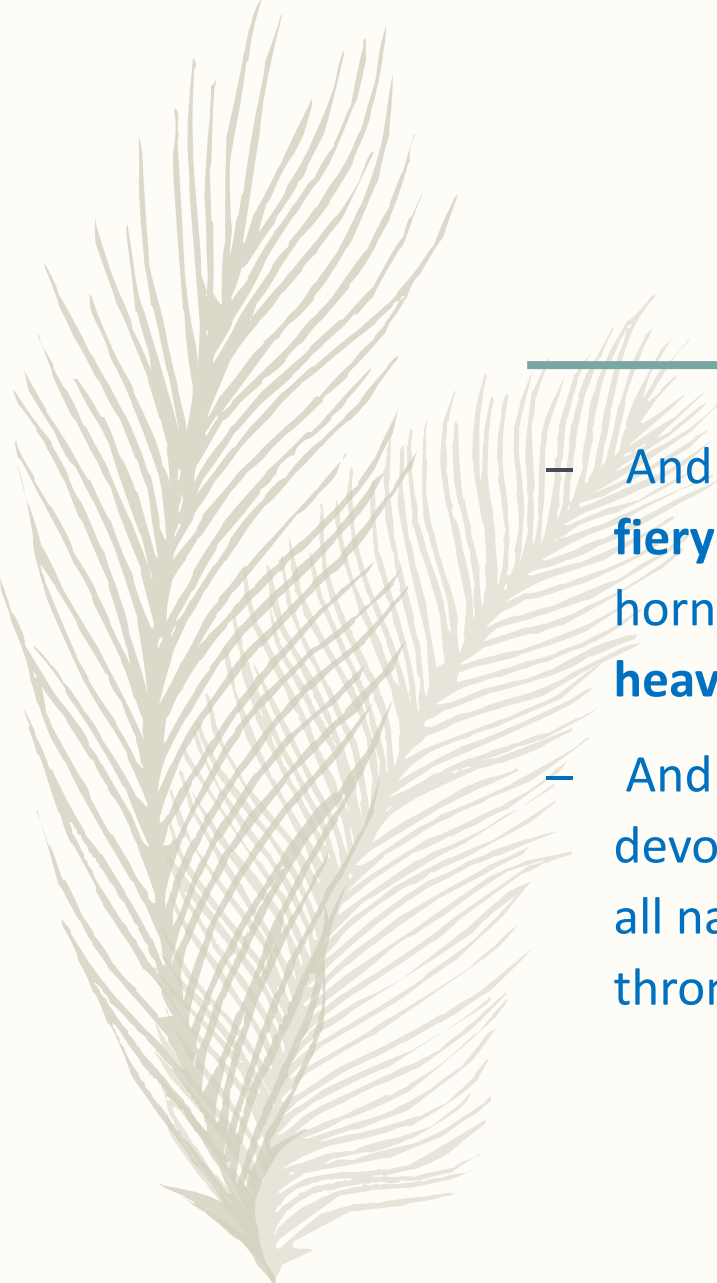
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- Chapter 12 – four individuals to present
- A beautifully adorned woman - Israel
- A Fiery Red Dragon - Satan
- A Male Child - Jesus
- The Archangel Michael
- **Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman** clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a garland of twelve stars. <sup>2</sup> Then being with child, she cried out in labor and in pain to give birth. Rev 12:1-2



# Satan and Jesus

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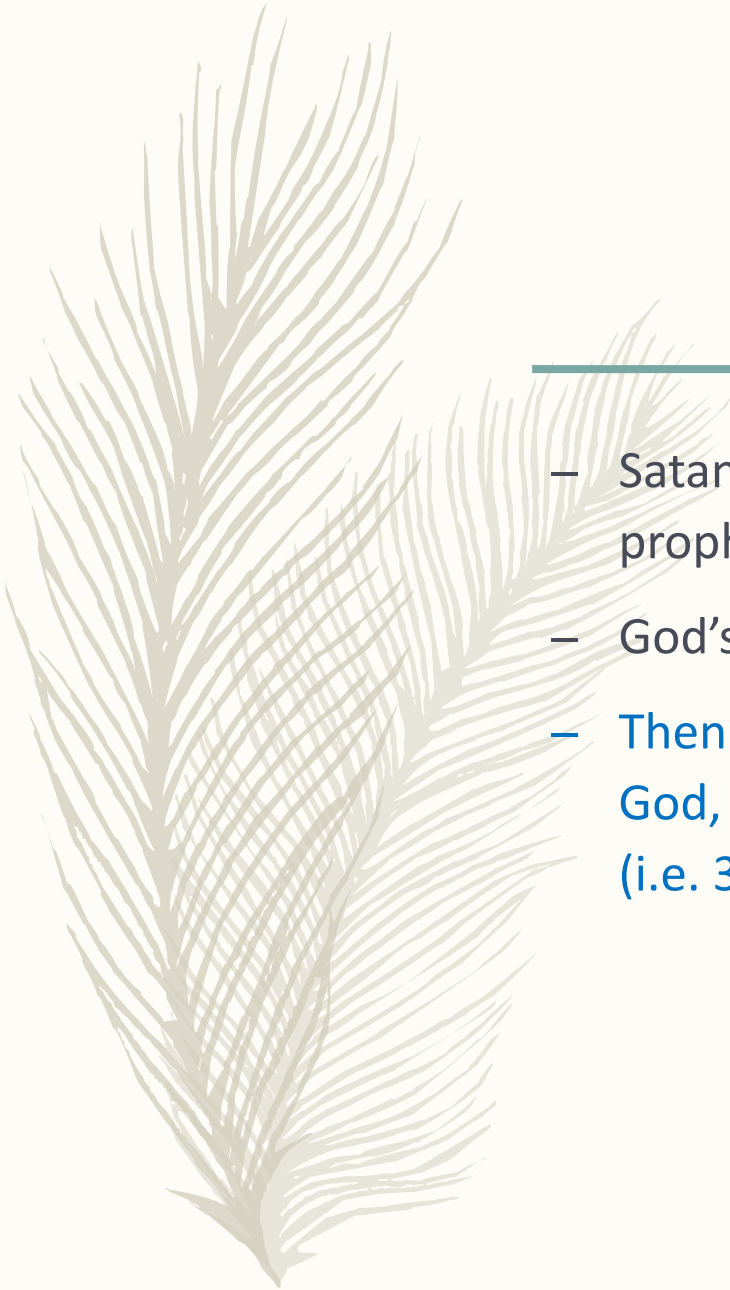
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- And **another sign appeared in heaven**: behold, a great (because of his power), **fiery red dragon** (because of his murderous ways) having seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads. <sup>4</sup> His tail drew **a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth.**
  - And the dragon stood before the woman who was ready to give birth, to devour her Child as soon as it was born. <sup>5</sup> She bore a male Child who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron. And her Child was caught up to God and His throne.      Rev 12:2-5




# Satan vs. Jesus

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- Satan also tried in the Old Testament days to cut off the line that was prophesied to bring forth the Messiah.
- God's plans cannot be thwarted.
- Then the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there one thousand two hundred and sixty days (i.e. 3 ½ yrs.).      Rev 12:6



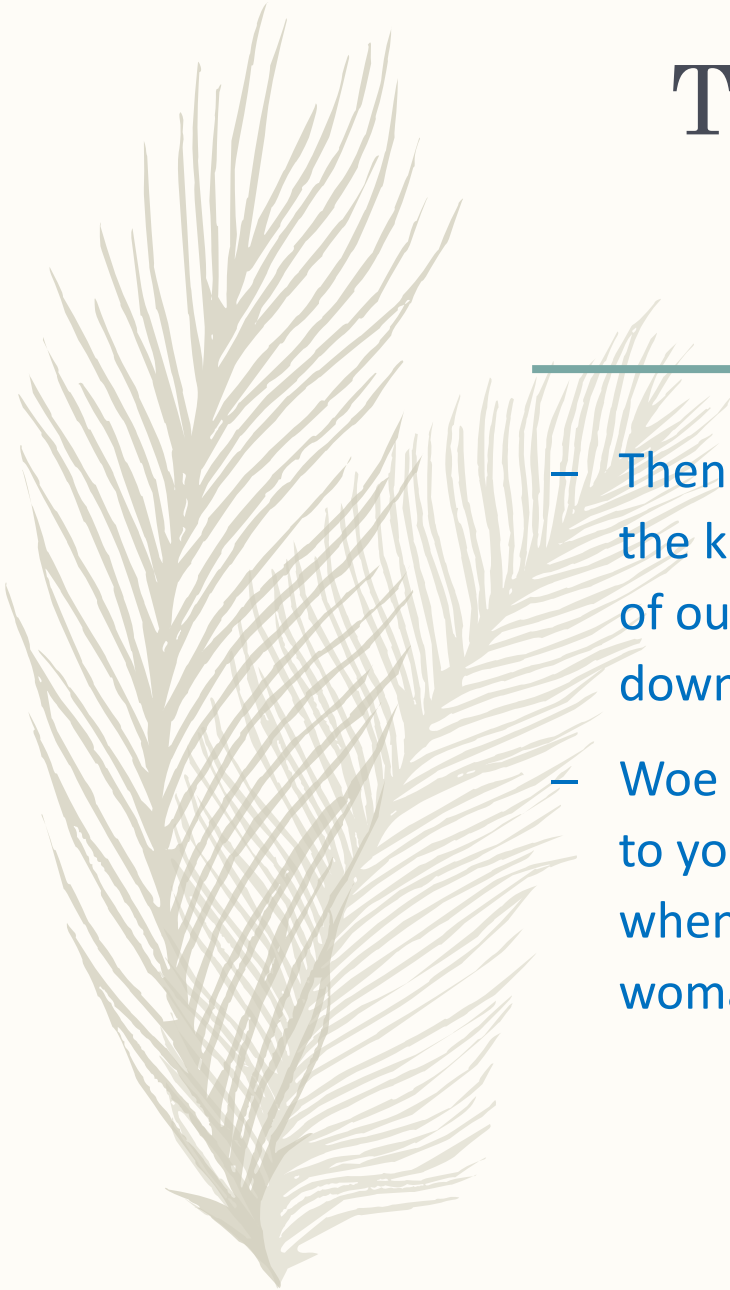
# Michael defeats Satan

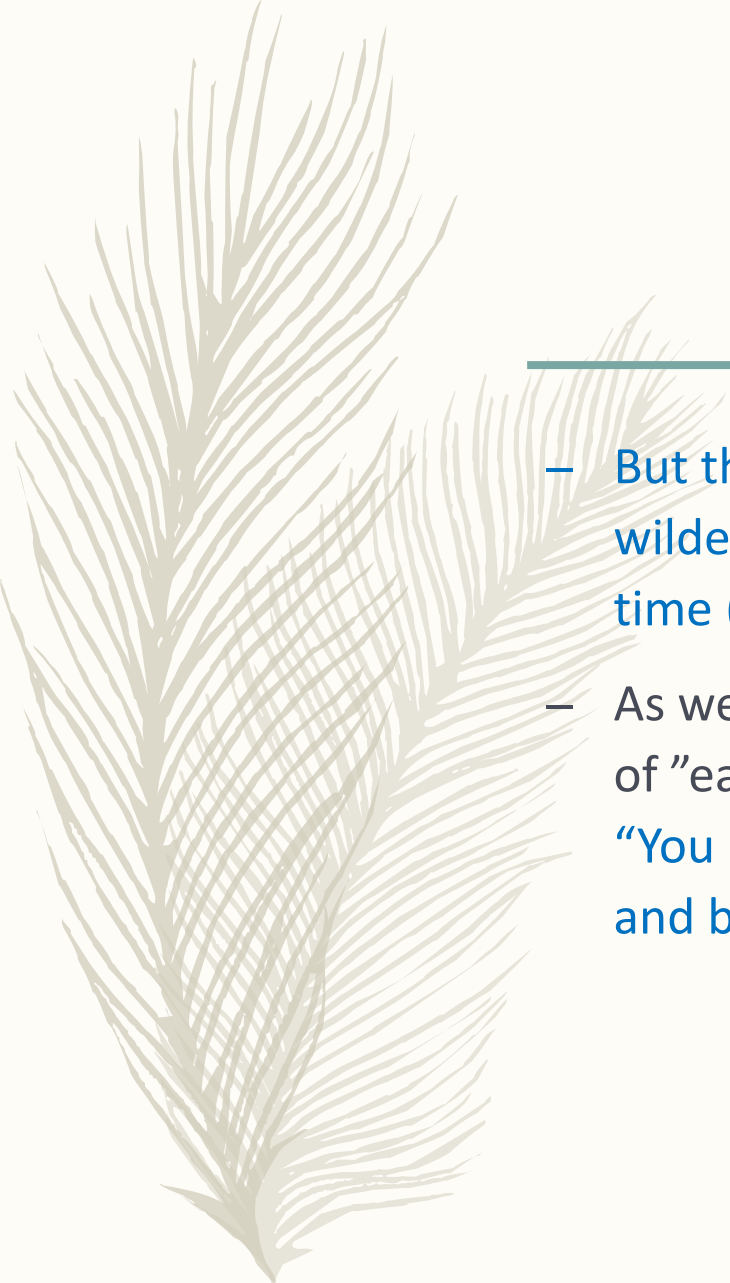
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- And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, <sup>8</sup> but they did not prevail, **nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer.** <sup>9</sup> So the great dragon was 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 12:7-9

# The Second Coming is “at the door”

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- Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, "Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down. Rev 12:10
- Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and the sea! For the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, because he knows that he has a short time." <sup>13</sup> Now when the dragon saw that he had been cast to the earth, he persecuted the woman who gave birth to the male Child. Rev 12:12-13

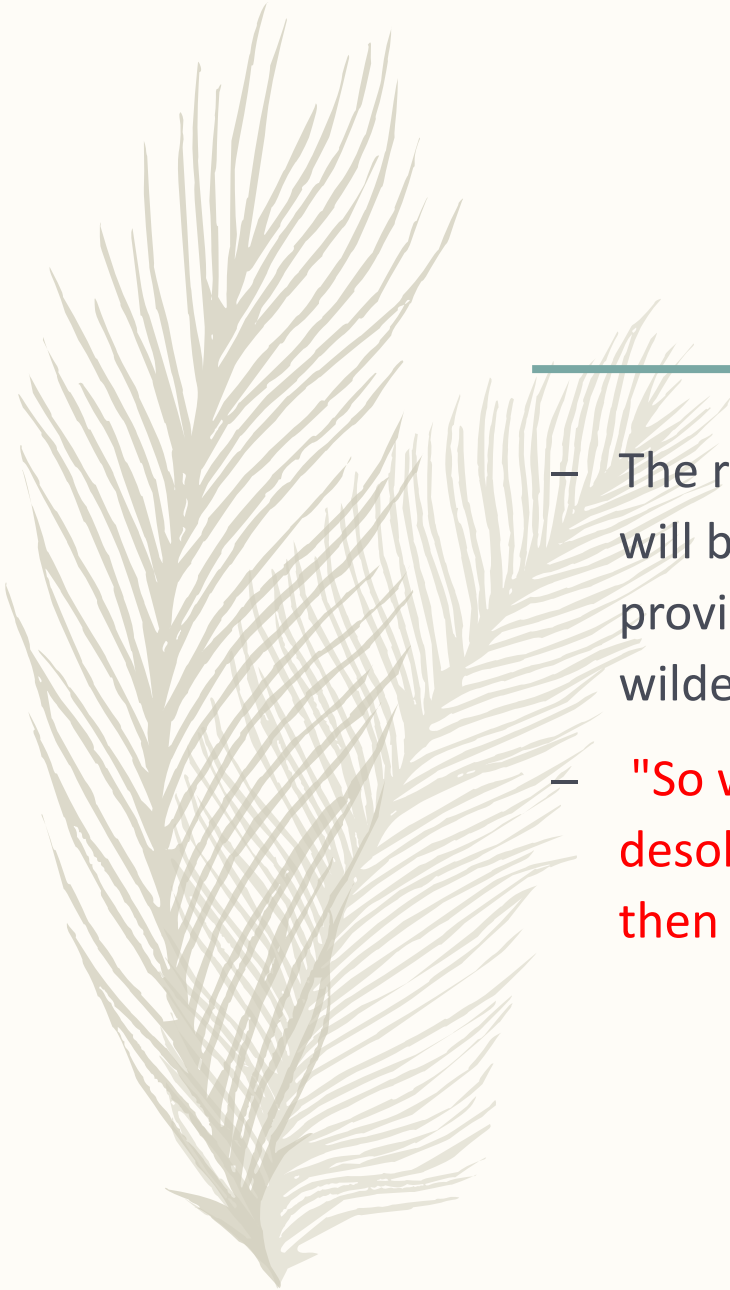


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- But the woman was given two **wings of a great eagle**, that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time (3 ½ years), from the presence of the serpent. Rev 12:14
  - As we can see by referring to the book of Exodus, God has used the expression of "eagles' wings" to point to His supernatural deliverance of Israel in the past...  
"You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on **eagles' wings** and brought you to Myself." Ex 19:4

# Satan wages war on Israel

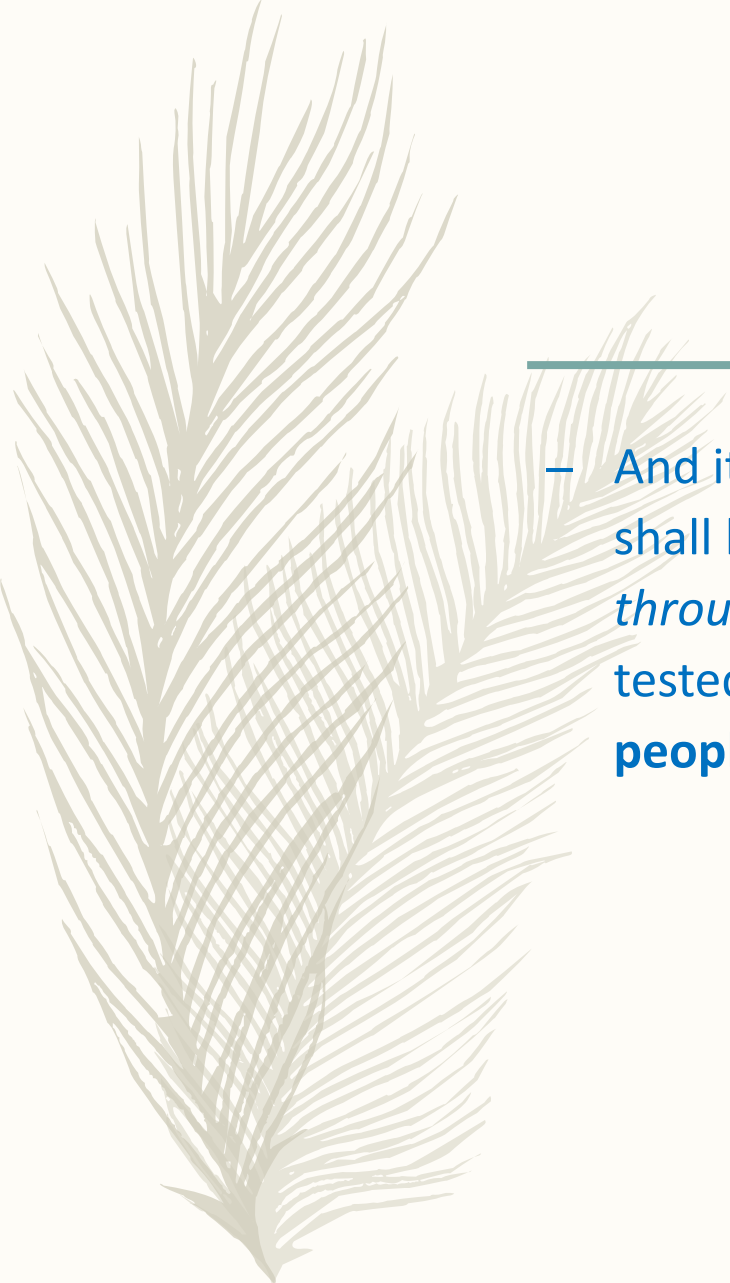
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- The remaining verses of this chapter continue to concentrate on the battle that will be waged upon Israel by Satan in the last half of the Tribulation. God will provide help to Israel via “two wings of a great eagle” as she will escape into the wilderness.
- "So when you see standing in the holy place 'the abomination that causes desolation,' spoken of through the prophet Daniel--let the reader understand--then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. Matt 24:15-16



# Comments by Zechariah

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- 
- And it shall come to pass in all the land," Says the LORD, "That two-thirds in it shall be cut off and die, But *one-third shall be left in it:* <sup>9</sup> *I will bring the one-third through the fire,* Will refine them as silver is refined, And test them as gold is tested. They will call on My name, And I will answer them. **I will say, 'This is My people'; and each one will say, 'The LORD is my God.'** " Zech 13:8-9



# Satan continues to bludgeon Israel

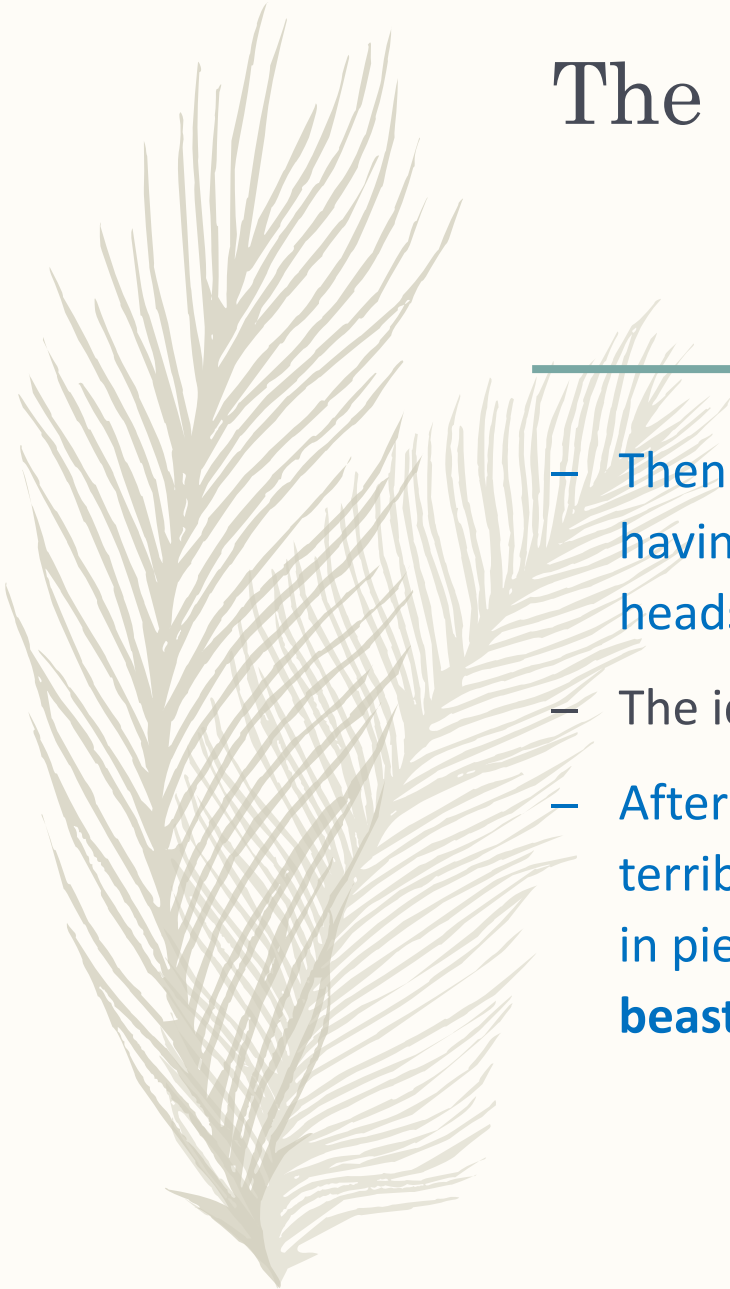
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- So the serpent spewed water out of his mouth like a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away by the flood. <sup>16</sup> But **the earth helped the woman**, and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed up the flood which the dragon had spewed out of his mouth. <sup>17</sup> And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and **he went to war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.** Rev 12:15-17

# The Beasts from the Sea and the Earth

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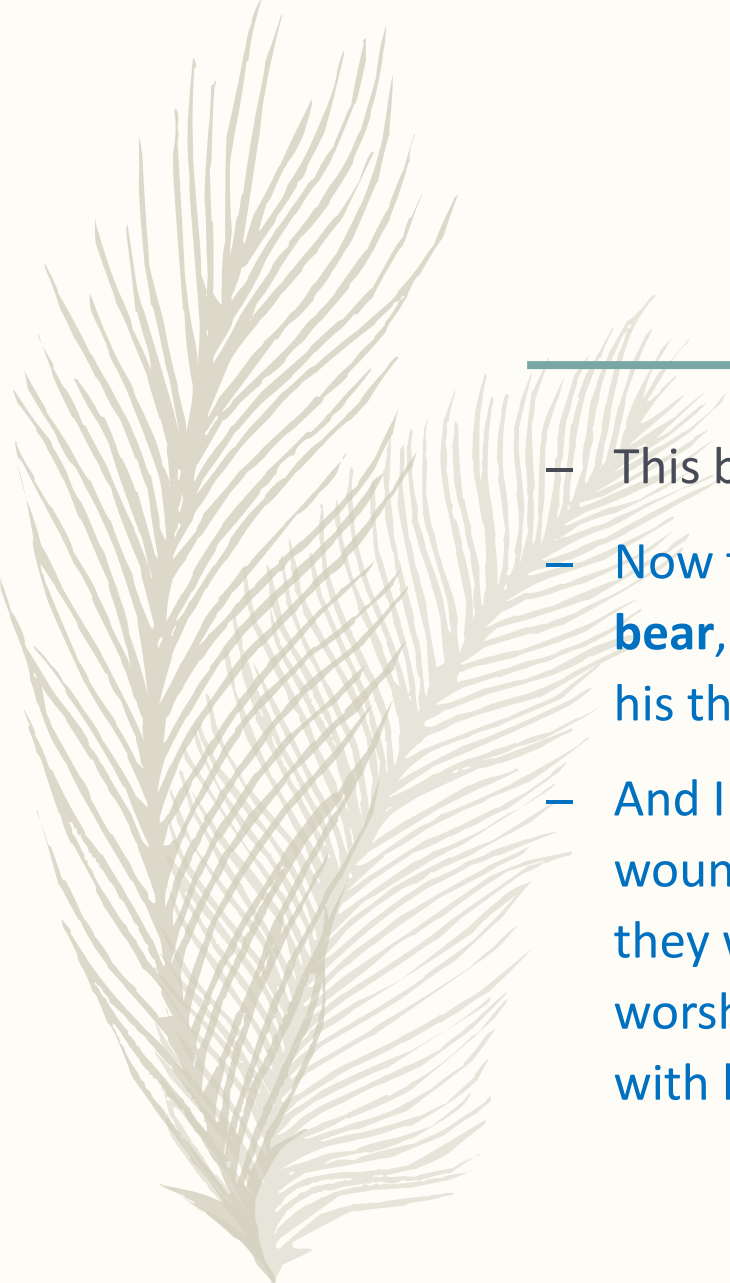
- Then I stood on the sand of the sea. And I saw a beast rising up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and on his horns ten crowns, and on his heads a blasphemous name. Rev. 13:1
- The identity of this beast?
- After this I saw in the night visions, and behold, a **fourth beast**, dreadful and terrible, **exceedingly strong**. 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 7:7





# Antichrist

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- 
- This beast is distinct from the dragon
  - Now the beast which I saw was like a **leopard**, his feet were like the feet of a **bear**, and his mouth like the mouth of a **lion**. The dragon gave him his power, his throne, and great authority.
  - And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast. <sup>4</sup> So they worshiped the dragon who gave authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?" Rev 13:2-4



- Leopard – the Antichrist will be swift like the leopard as was Alexander the Great as he conquered much of the civilized world of his time
- Bear – the symbol of the Medo-Persian Empire that existed prior to the Greek Empire. Symbolic of great power and strength
- Lion – ferocious just like the ancient Babylonians (that was their symbol)



# The Antichrist recovers from a deadly wound

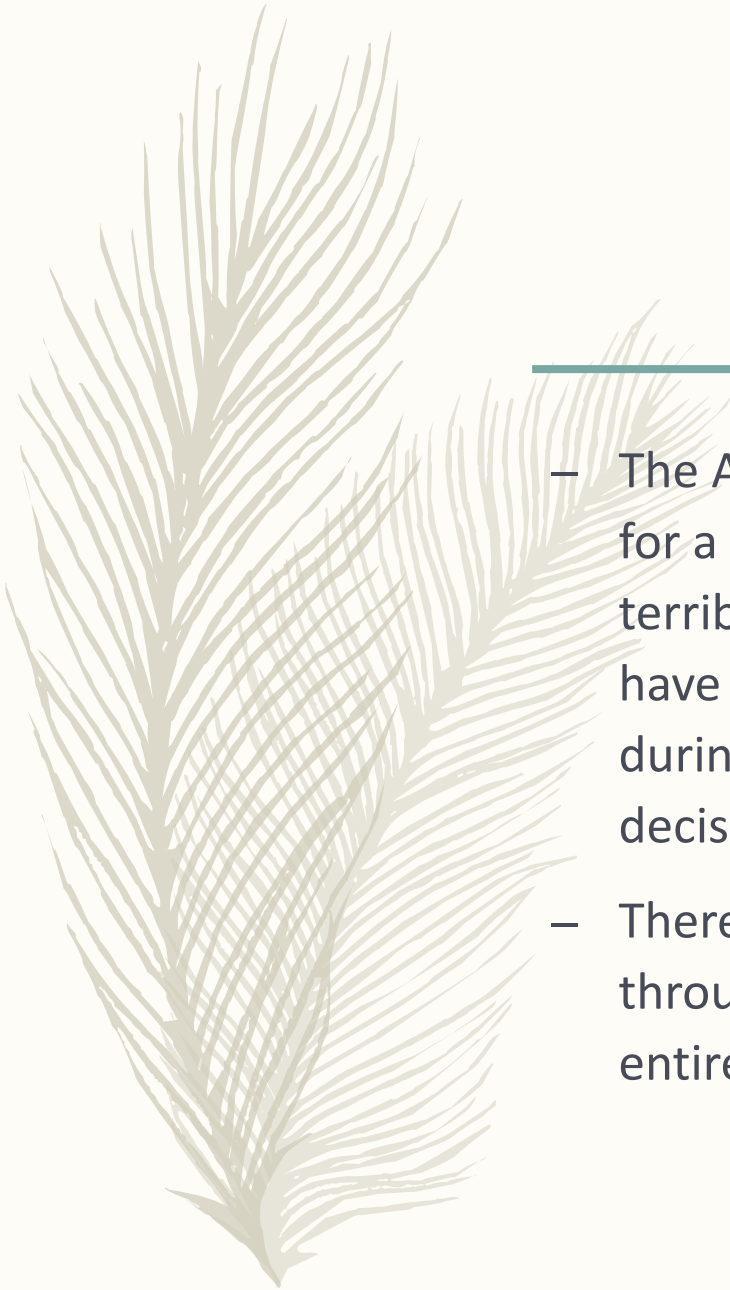
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- Only God has the power over life and death, and since this creature is apparently subsequently raised from the dead, one of two things must be true:
- The wound only appeared to be deadly
- Satan somehow indwelt him and this took the appearance of a resurrection
- God resurrected him
- And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for forty-two months. Rev 13:5

# A Powerful Antichrist

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- The Antichrist will be a very powerful figure and be able to dominate the world for a period of time. He will have the power of Satan behind him. There will be terrible blasphemy going on in the world. The Temple will be desecrated as we have seen and those brave souls who make the correct decision to turn to Christ during these incredibly perilous years will most likely be martyred for that decision.
- There still will be many individuals who accept Christ into their hearts all throughout the seven year Tribulation. Even when the Antichrist controls the entire world, he will not control each and every individual.



# Difficult Days

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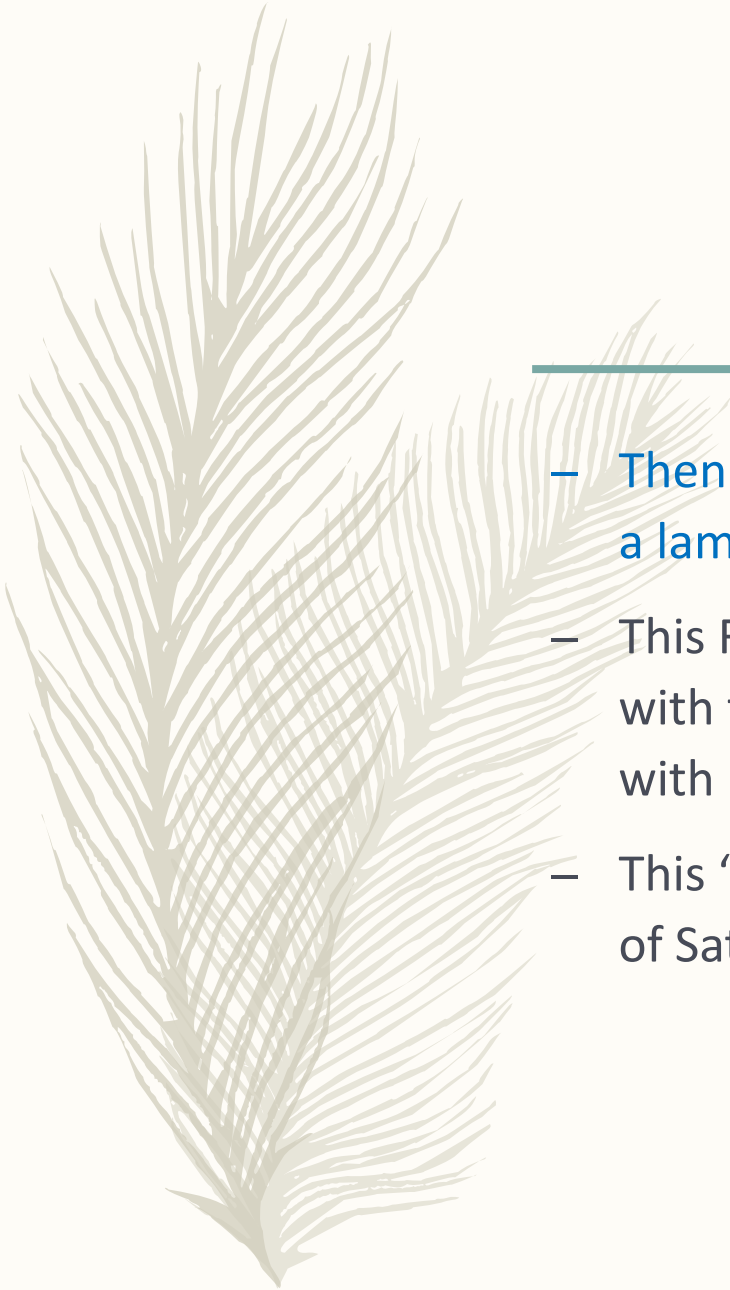
- If anyone has an ear, let him hear. <sup>10</sup> He who leads into captivity shall go into captivity; he who kills with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints. Rev 13:9-10
- It will be a time of great difficulty... but, Satan and the Antichrist will soon get their due!



# The False Prophet

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- Then I saw **another beast** coming up out of the earth, and he had two horns like a lamb and spoke like a dragon. Rev 13:11
- This False Prophet will come out of Palestine. He will be a Jew who will work with the Antichrist during the first half of the Tribulation to forge a peace treaty with Israel
- This “coming up out of the earth” simply may mean that he will be the product of Satan, his power coming from down in the *abyss*.



# The False Prophet

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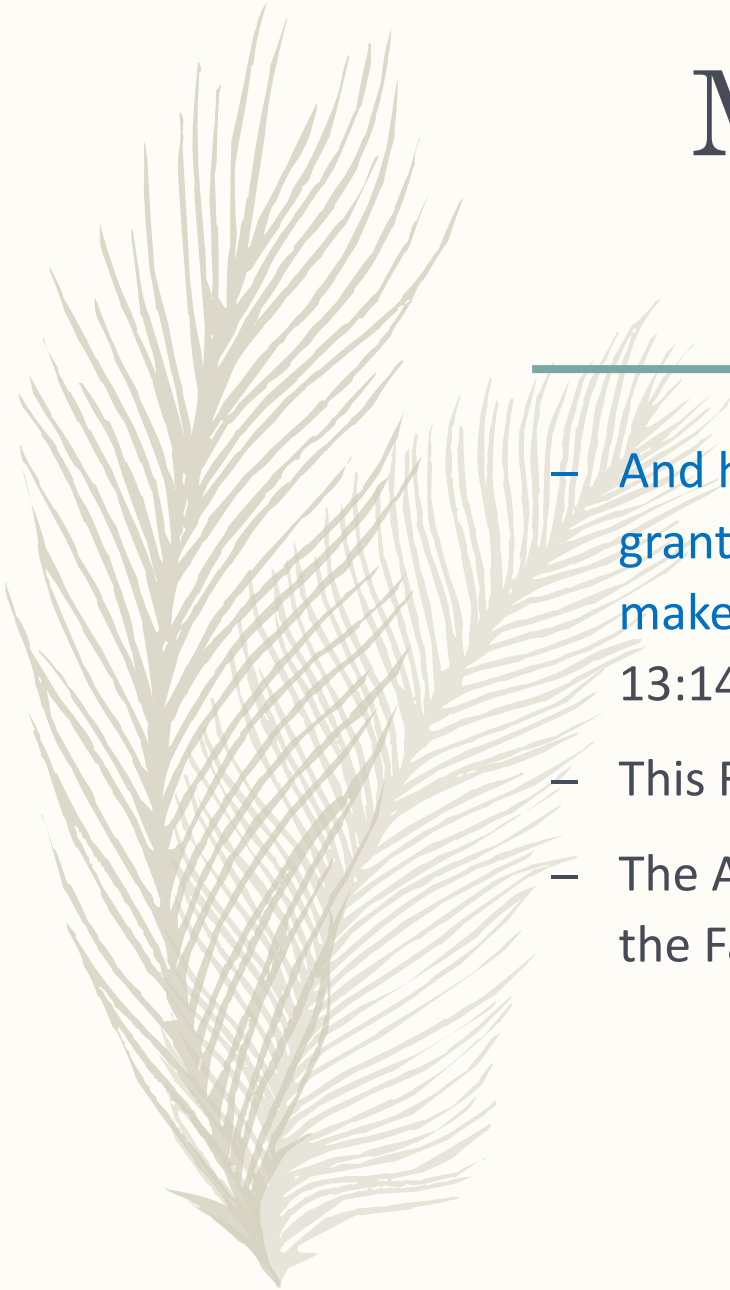
- This False Prophet will be given his power by Satan and although he may speak at times as if he were a “lamb”.
- **And he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence, and causes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. <sup>13</sup> He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men. Rev. 13:12-13**



# Make an image to the Beast

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- And he deceives those who dwell on the earth by those signs which he was granted to do in the sight of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who was wounded by the sword and lived. Rev 13:14
- This False Prophet will be somewhat like a “right-hand” man for the Antichrist.
- The Antichrist will be the world political leader. His religious counterpart will be the False Prophet.

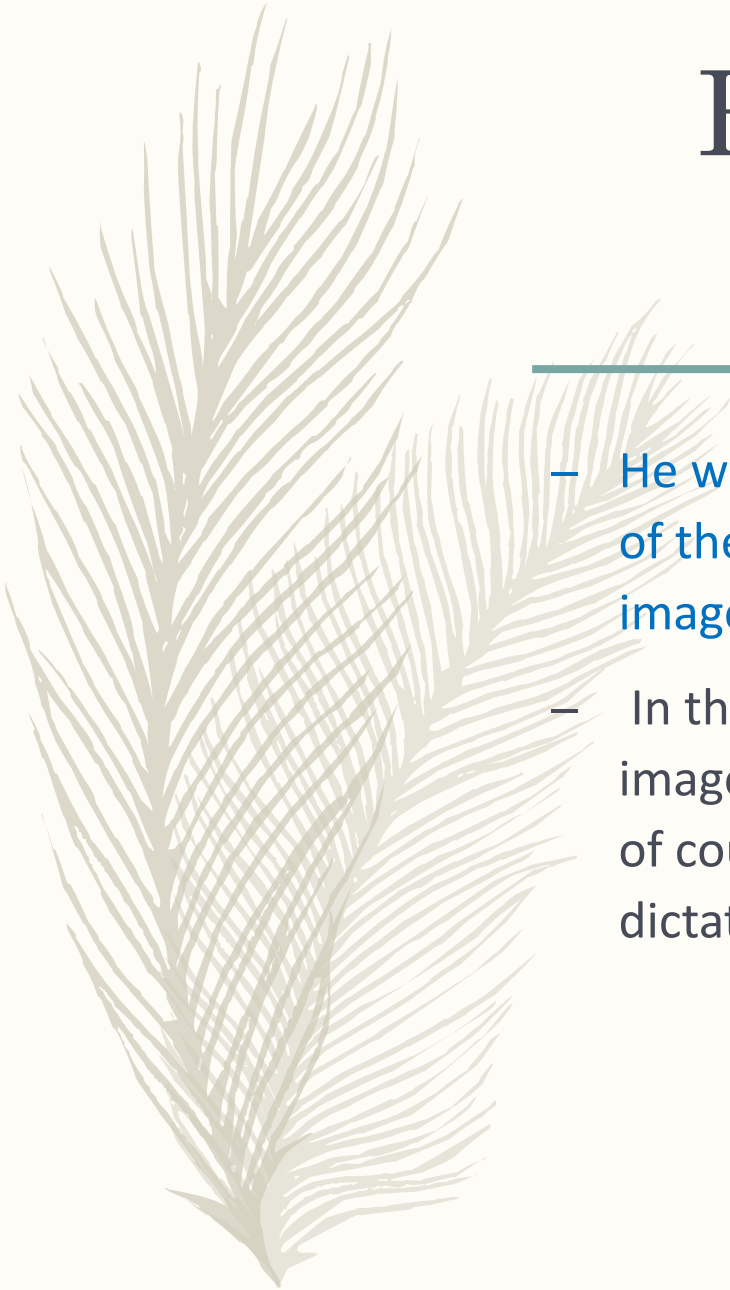


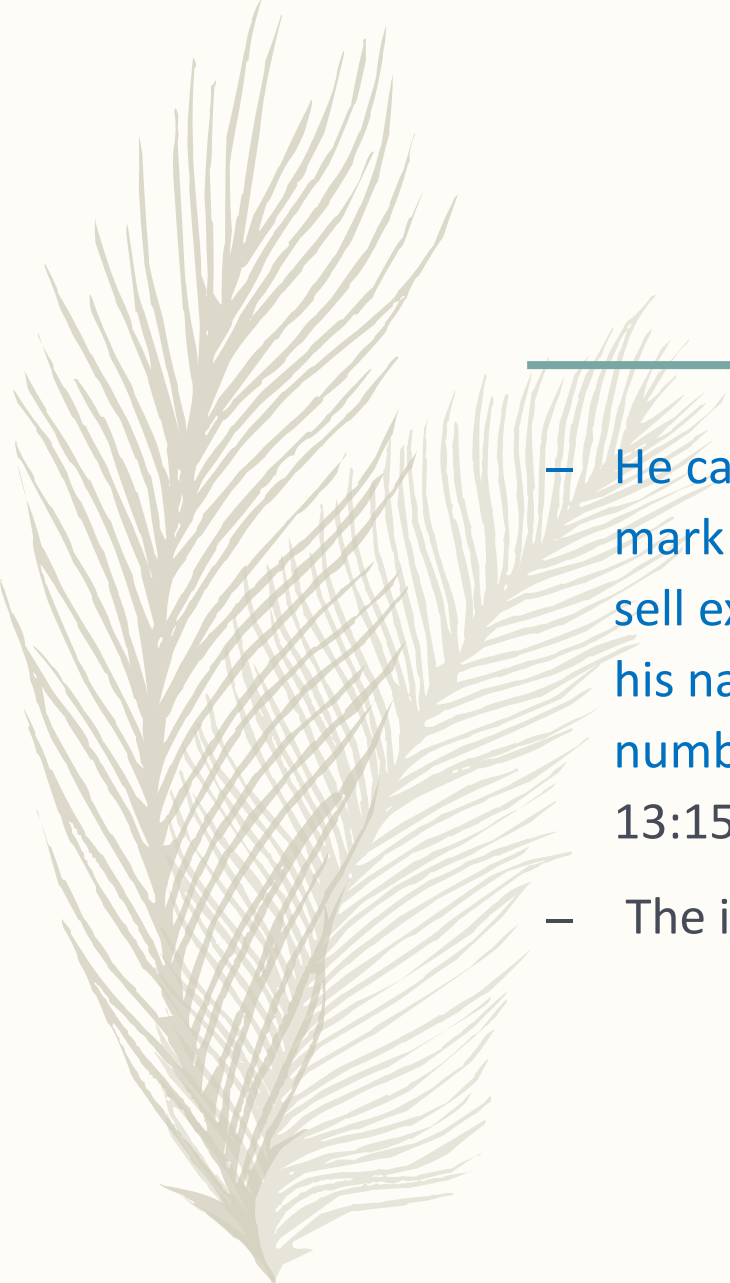


# Breath to the Beast's Image

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- 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. Rev. 13:15
- In this verse, the False Prophet uses the power granted to him to make an image of the first beast (Antichrist) that will actually be able to speak. This will of course impress the populace and make it easier for some to follow this evil dictator.



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- He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads, <sup>17</sup> and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. <sup>18</sup> Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man: His number is 666. Rev 13:15-18
  - The infamous “666”!

# Summary – Chapters 12-13

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- The twelfth chapter centers around four characters: Israel, Satan, Jesus, and the Archangel Michael.
- Israel will produce the Messiah
- Satan will try everything to destroy the Messiah
- The Messiah will prevail
- Michael, the Archangel, will battle Satan and throw him out of heaven
- Antichrist, the False Prophet and 666

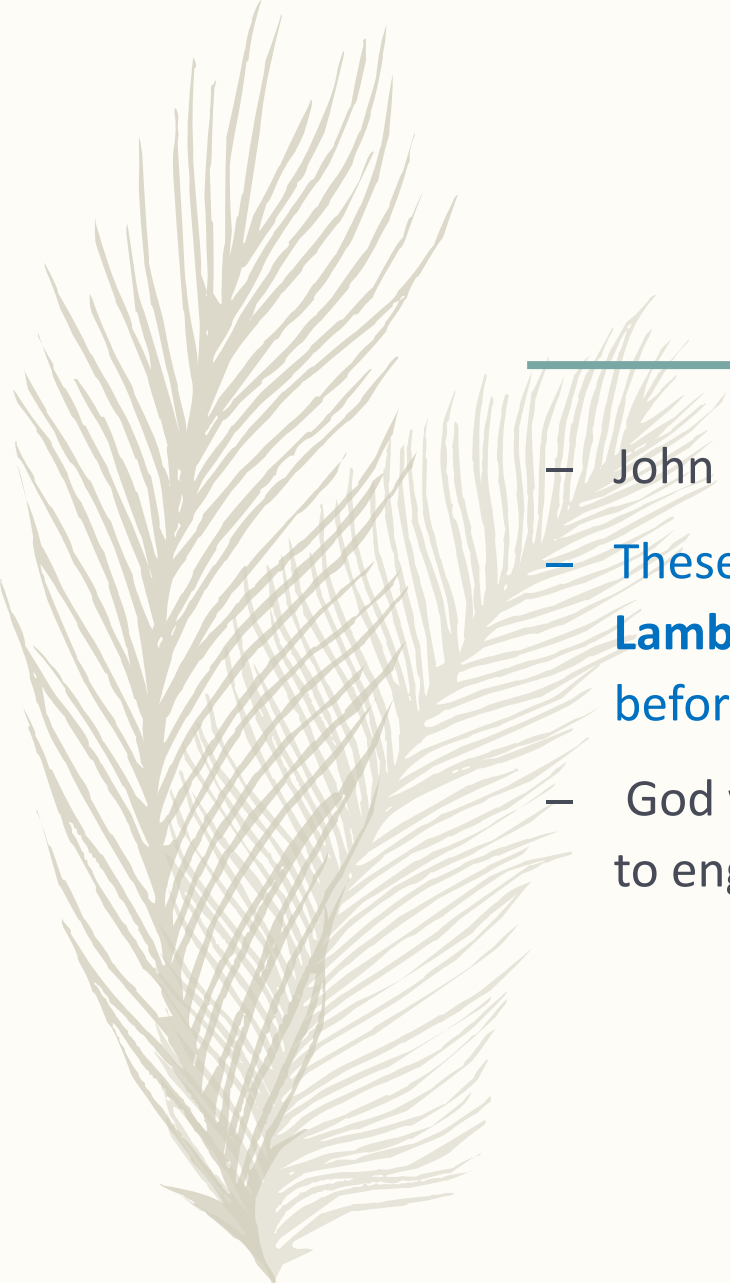




# The Lamb and the 144,000

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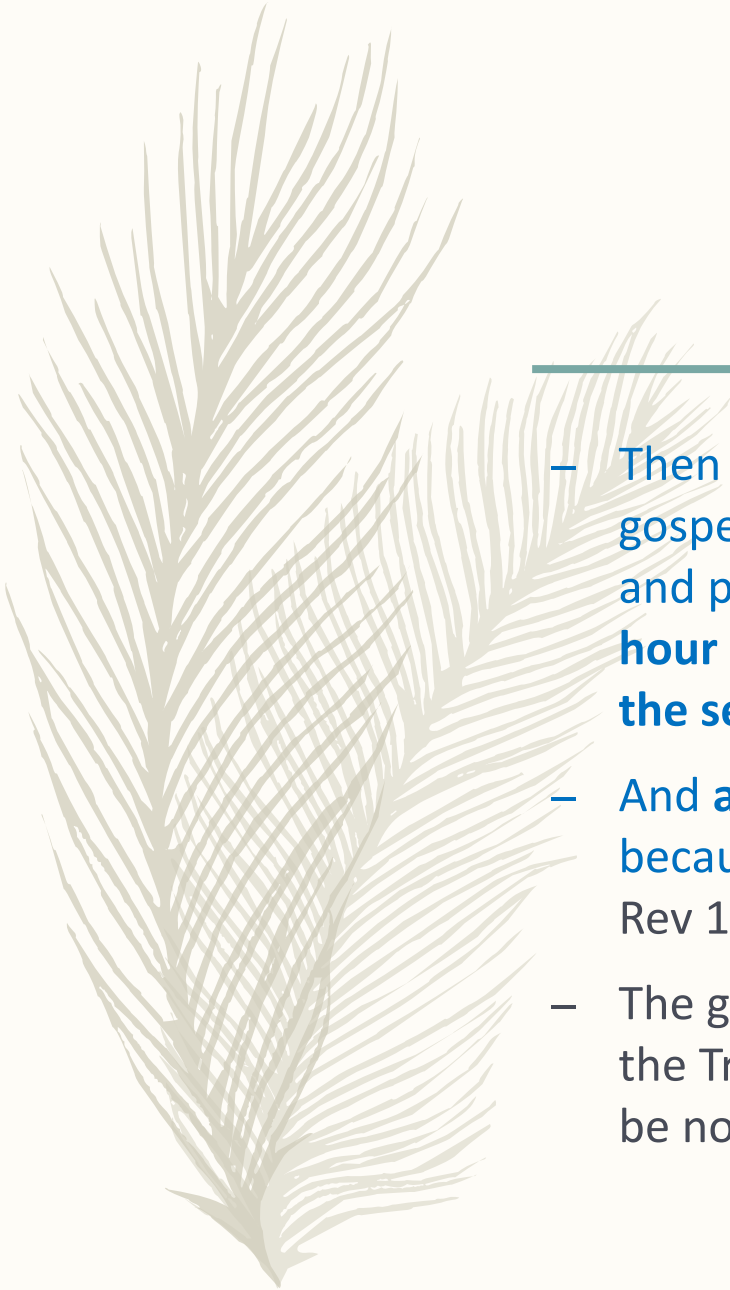
- Chapter 14 - Chapters 14 & 15 record certain events before the vial judgments are meted out by God.
- Then I looked, and behold, a Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, having His Father's name written on their foreheads. Rev 14:1
- Chapter 14 begins with John seeing “a Lamb” standing on Mount Zion with 144,000 saints there with Him. Of course, this Lamb is Jesus Christ. The saints are obviously those who have placed their faith in Jesus for their eternal salvation.
- Who are these 144,000 and where is this Mt. Zion?
- **Only God knows the answer at this time.**

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- 
- John hears the 144,000 sing a song of worship.
  - These were redeemed from among men, being **firstfruits to God and to the Lamb.** <sup>5</sup> And in their mouth was found no deceit, for they are without fault before the throne of God. Rev 14:2-5
  - God will bless an incredibly impressive group of believers with the opportunity to engage in a unique and wonderful worship experience at this time in history.

# Two More Angels

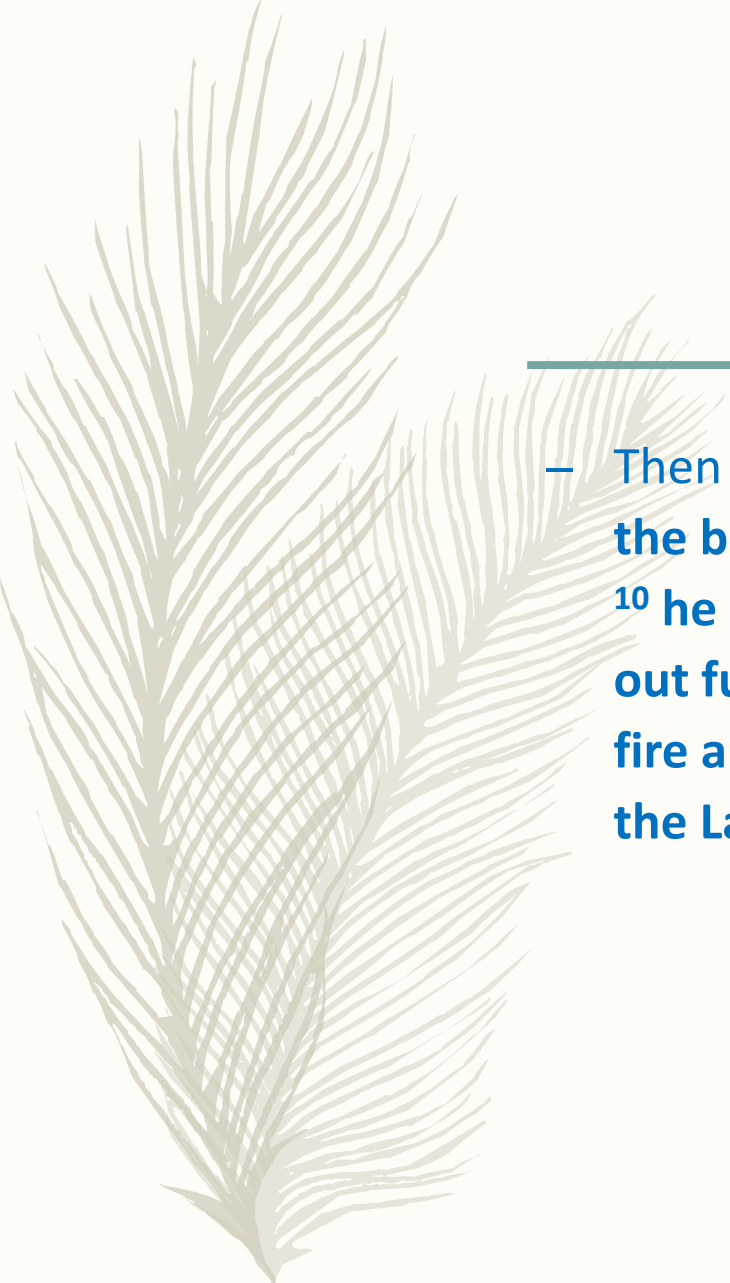
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- Then I saw **another angel flying in the midst of heaven**, having the everlasting gospel to preach to those who dwell on the earth--to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people-- <sup>7</sup> saying with a loud voice, "**Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water.**" Rev 14:6-7
- And **another angel** followed, saying, "Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she has made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication." Rev 14:8
- The great Babylon will fall from its lofty perch sometime during the second half of the Tribulation. Much more of the future judgment that will come to Babylon will be noted in chapters 17 and 18.



# The Mark of the Beast

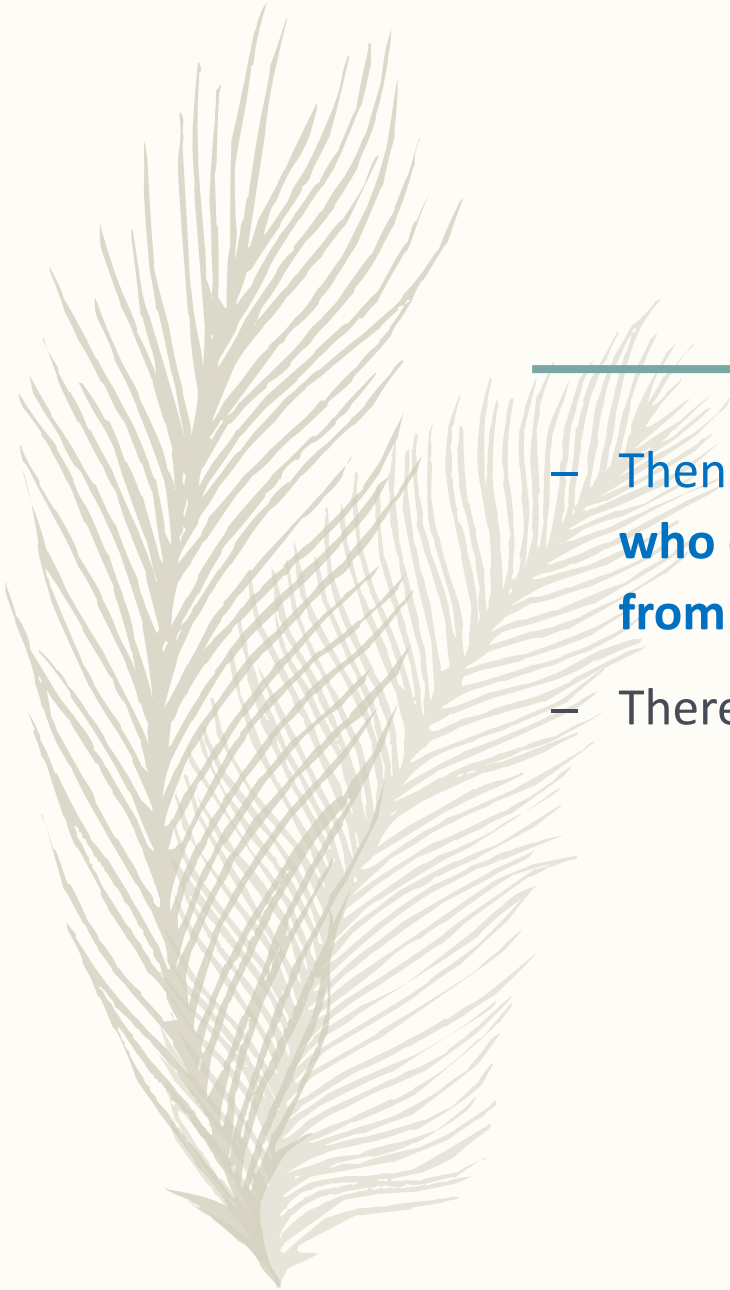
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- Then a **third angel** followed them, saying with a loud voice, "**If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand,**<sup>10</sup> **he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. Rev. 14:9-10**

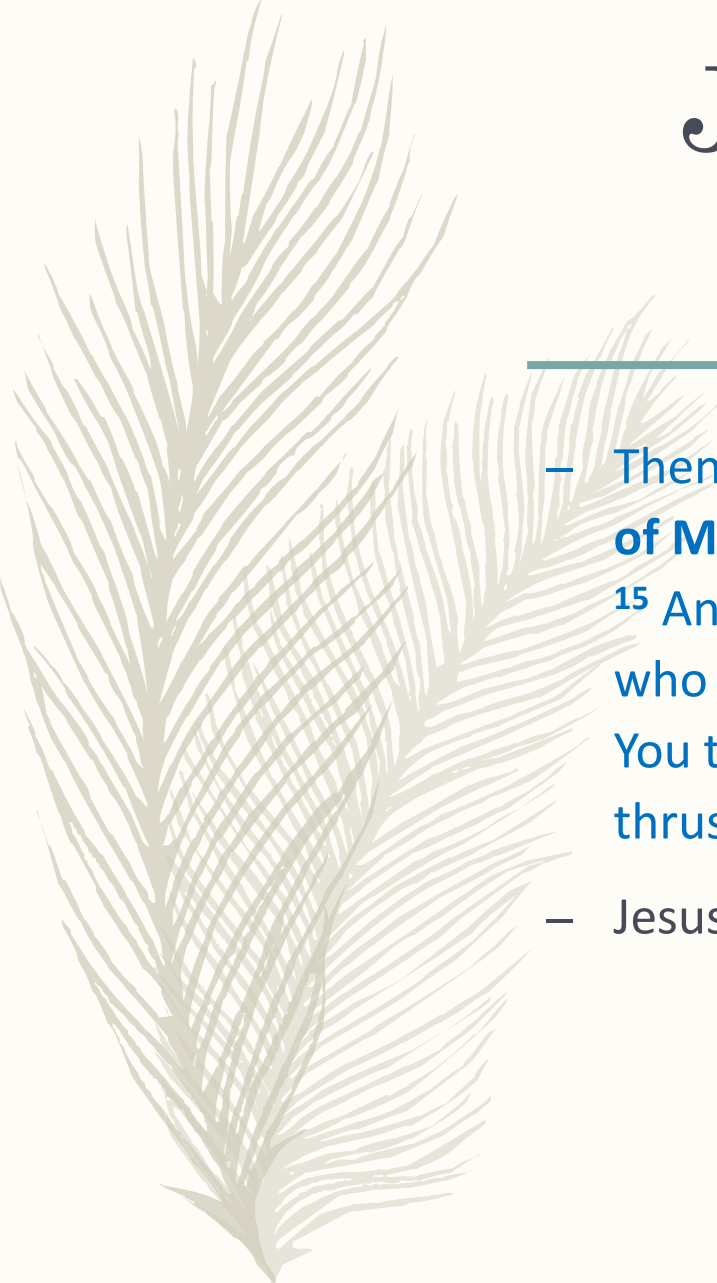
# Tribulation Saints

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- Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, "Write: '**Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.**'" "Yes," says the Spirit, "that **they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them.**" Rev 14:13
- There will be many who come to Christ during this seven year Tribulation.







# Jesus begins to separate the saved from the lost

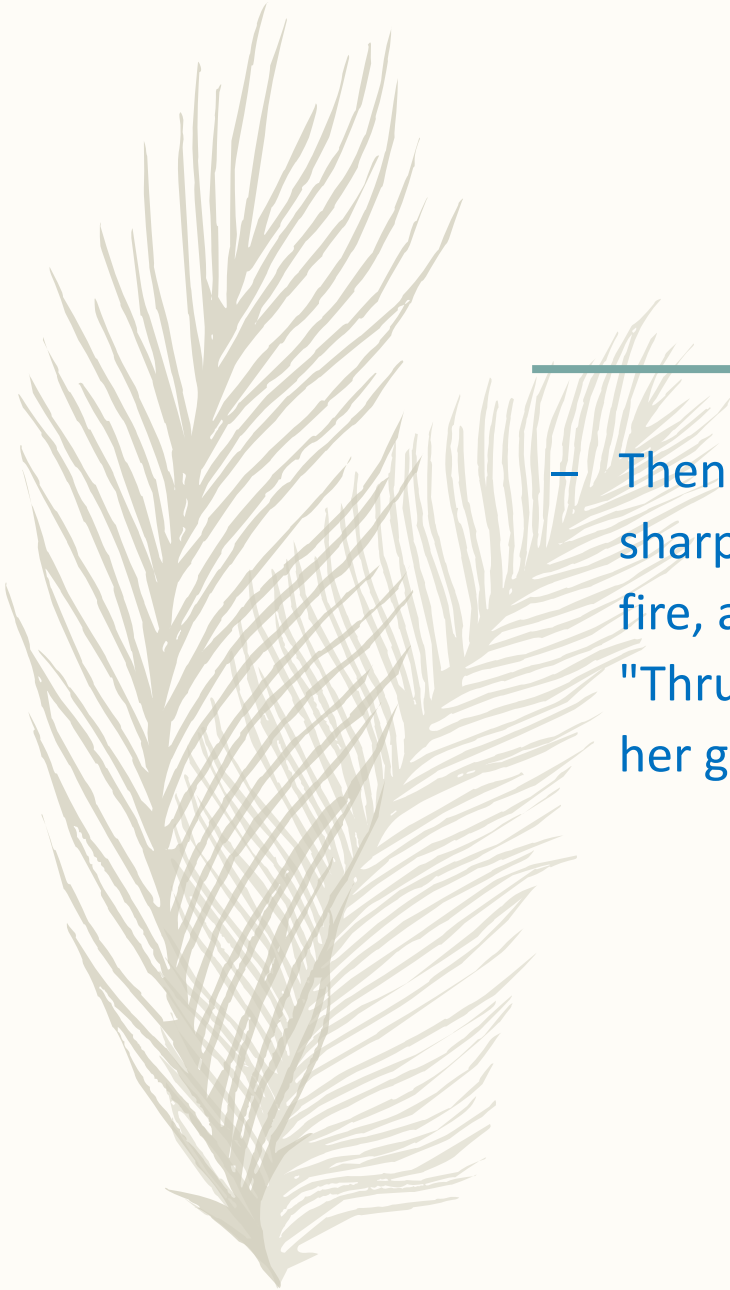
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- Then I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and on the cloud sat **One like the Son of Man, having on His head a golden crown, and in His hand a sharp sickle.**  
<sup>15</sup> And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to Him who sat on the cloud, "Thrust in Your sickle and reap, for the time has come for You to reap, for the harvest of the earth is ripe." <sup>16</sup> So He who sat on the cloud thrust in His sickle on the earth, and the earth was reaped. Rev. 14:14-16
- Jesus begins to separate the saved from the lost... the “grain harvest.”

# Grape Harvest

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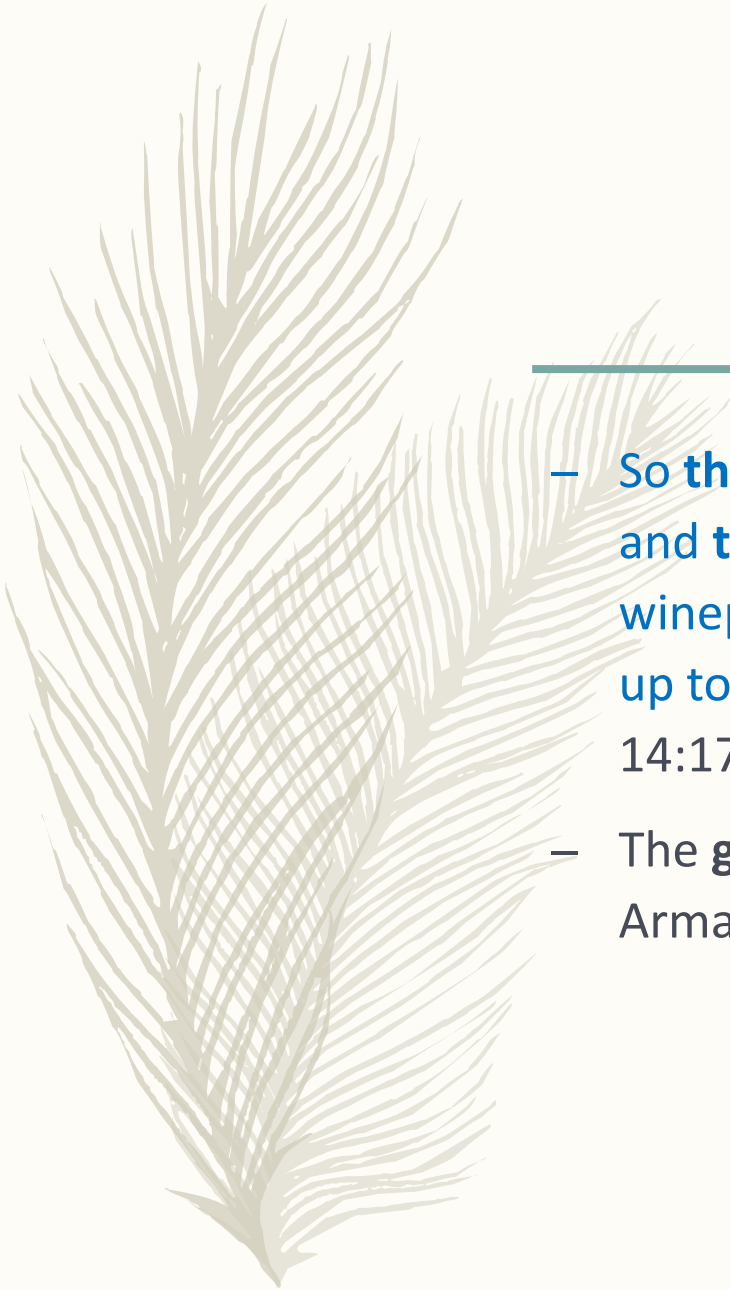
- Then **another angel** came out of the temple which is in heaven, he also having a sharp sickle. <sup>18</sup> And **another angel** came out from the altar, who had power over fire, and he cried with a loud cry to him who had the sharp sickle, saying, "Thrust in your sharp sickle and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth, for her grapes are fully ripe."



# Grape Harvest cont.

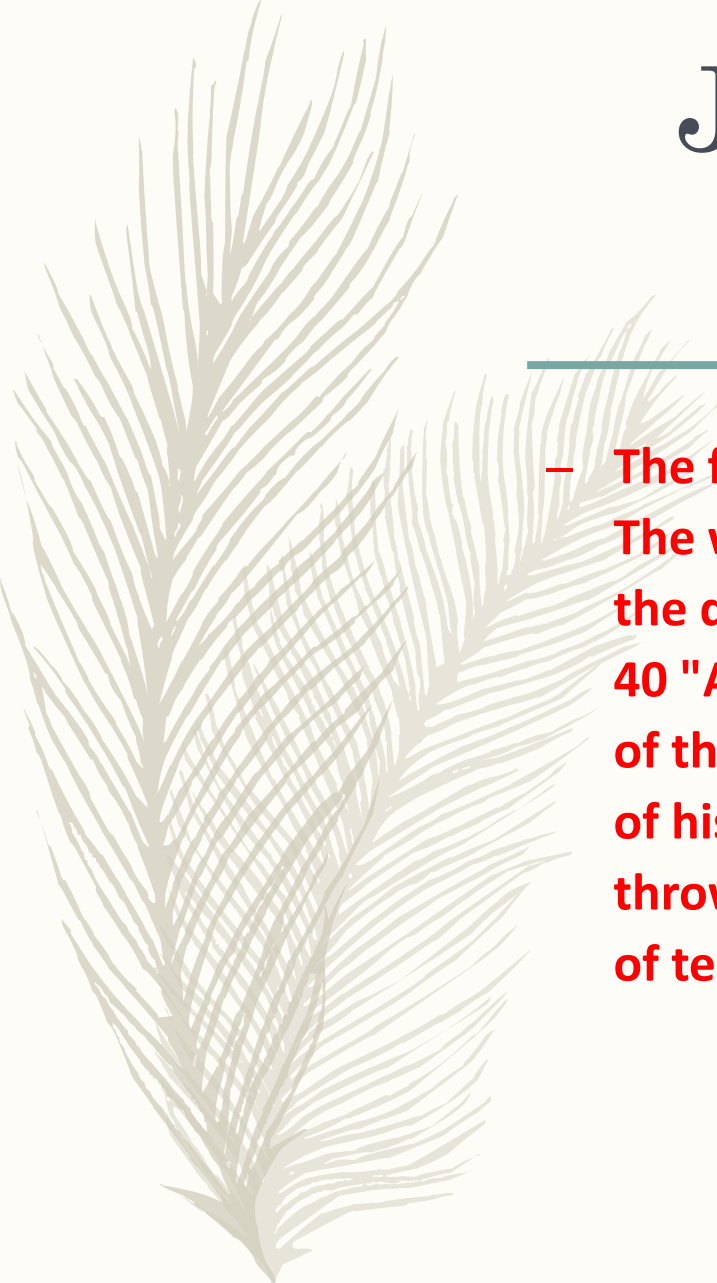
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- So the angel thrust his sickle into the earth and gathered the vine of the earth, and threw it into the great winepress of the wrath of God. <sup>20</sup> And the winepress was trampled outside the city, and blood came out of the winepress, up to the horses' bridles, for one thousand six hundred furlongs. Rev 14:17-20
- The **grape harvest** follows the grain harvest. This speaks of the battle of Armageddon.



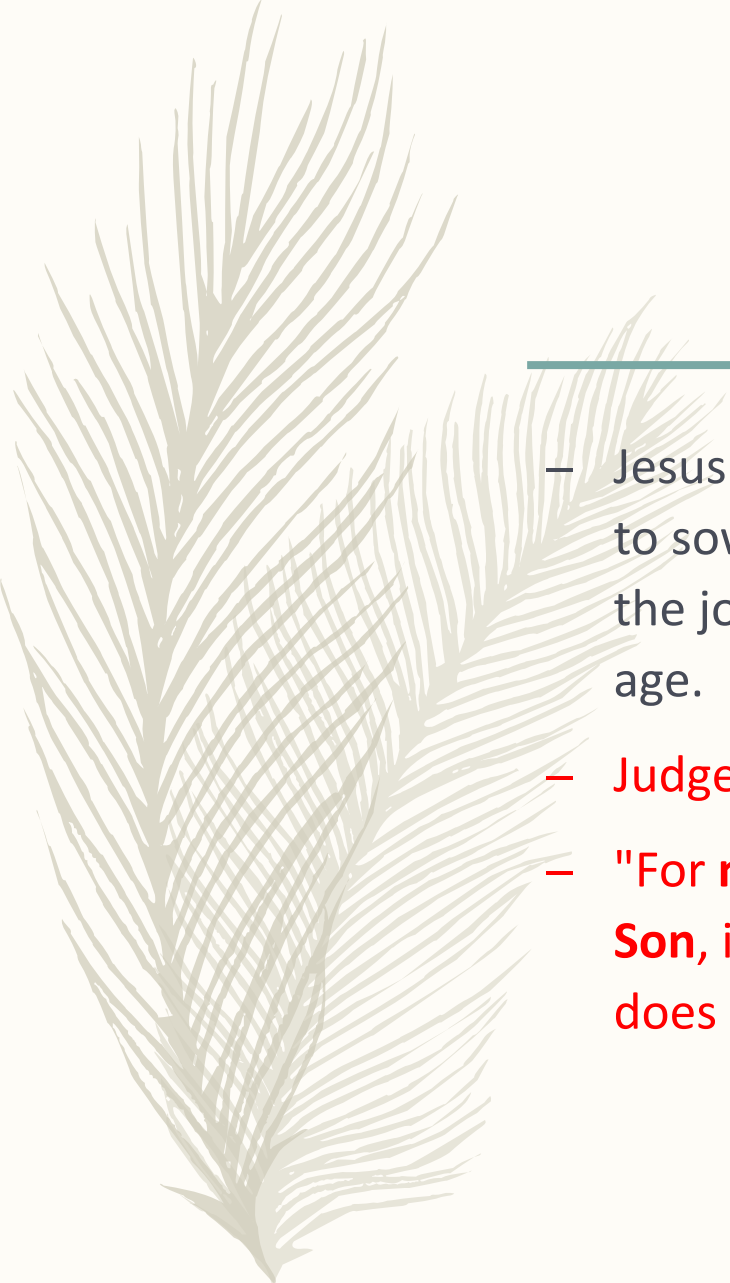
# Jesus Speaks of this harvest

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- **The field is the world, and the good seed stands for the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, 39 and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels. 40 "As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age. 41 The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil. 42 They will throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Matt 13:38-42**

# A Lesson from Jesus

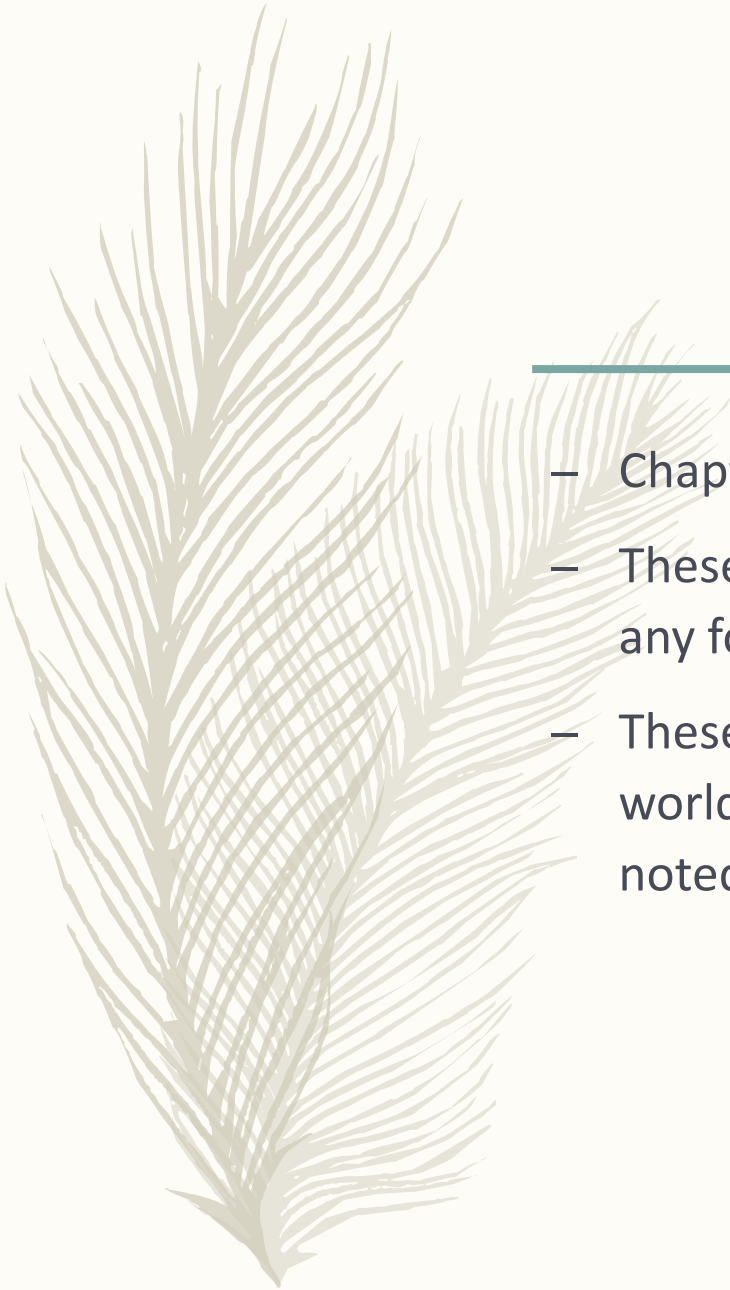
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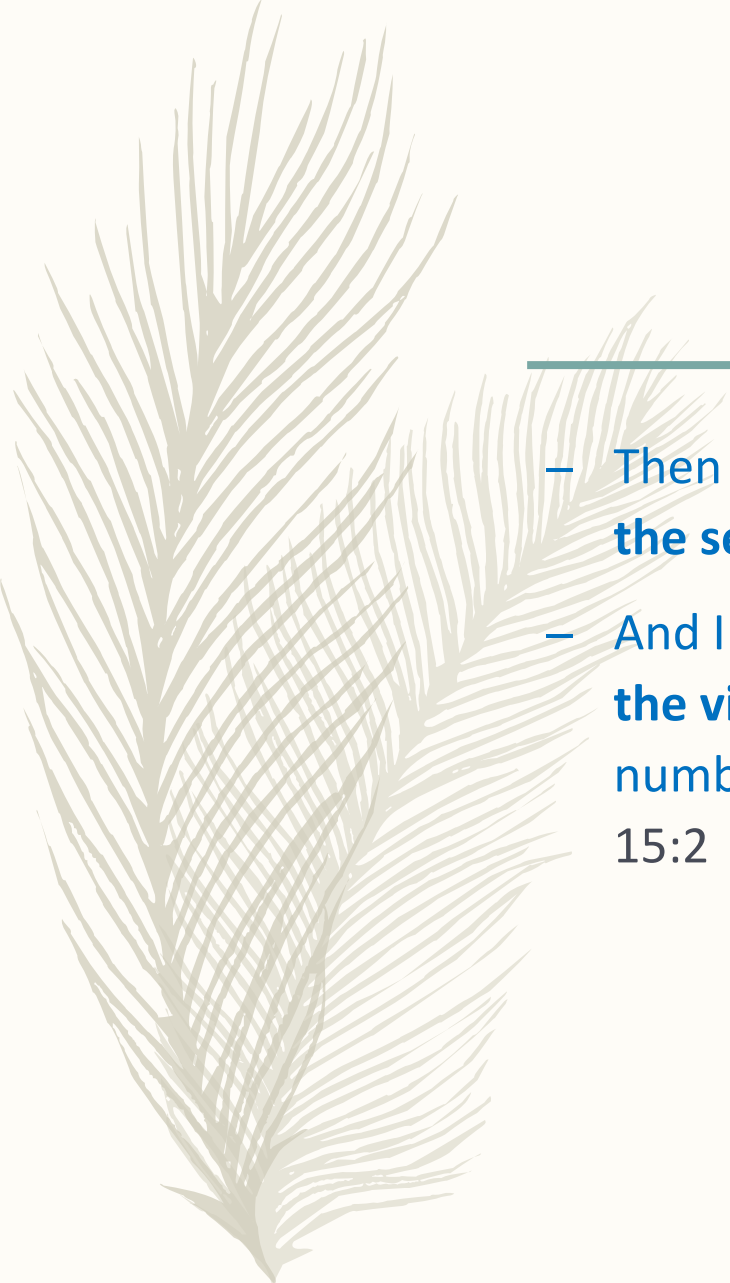
- 
- Jesus told his disciples while He was here on the earth that it would be their job to sow the seeds among the nations and peoples of the world, but it would be the job of His angels and Jesus, Himself to do the harvesting at the end of the age.
  - **Judge not, that ye be not judged.** Matt 7:1
  - **"For not even the Father judges anyone, but He has given all judgment to the Son, in order that all may honor the Son, even as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him.** John 5:22-23

# Seven Angels with Seven Plagues

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- Chapter 15
- These angels are going to be the last of God’s messengers... ever... to usher in any form of judgment onto the earth! The wrath of God will soon be complete.
- These angels carry with them seven plagues that will be unleashed onto the world. This is referred to as another sign in heaven. The first two “signs” were noted in Chapter 12, the woman (Israel) and the great red dragon (Satan).



- 
- 
- 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 15:1
  - 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 15:2

# Sea of Glass

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- What about the sea of glass?
- Since God chose not to interpret this expression for us, we really do not know what it means. It probably is simply the beautiful appearance of the setting in front of God's throne.
- These saints were heard by John to break out in song as they worshipped God...
- They sing the **song of Moses**, the servant of God, and the **song of the Lamb**





# The Temple in heaven is seen

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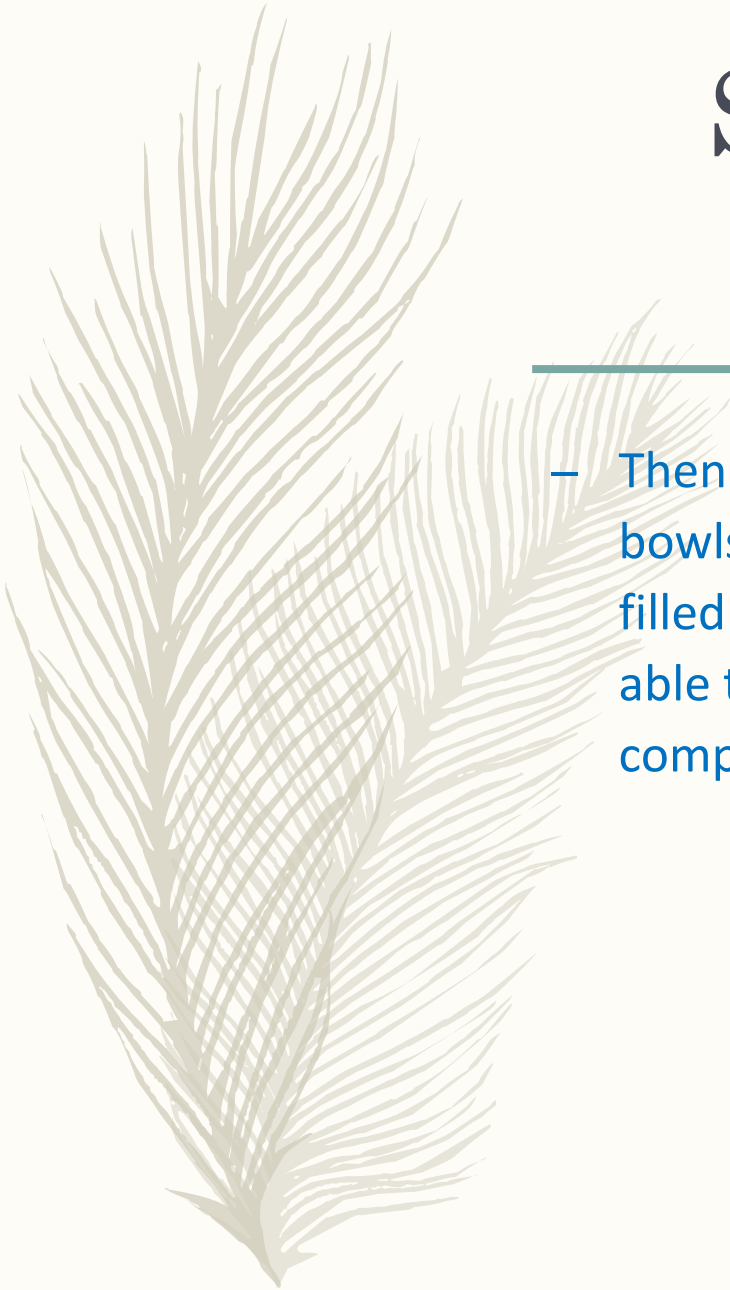
- After these things I looked, and behold, the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven was opened. <sup>6</sup> And out of the temple came the seven angels having the seven plagues, clothed in pure bright linen, and having their chests girded with golden bands. Rev 15:5-6
- The final judgment is set to begin...

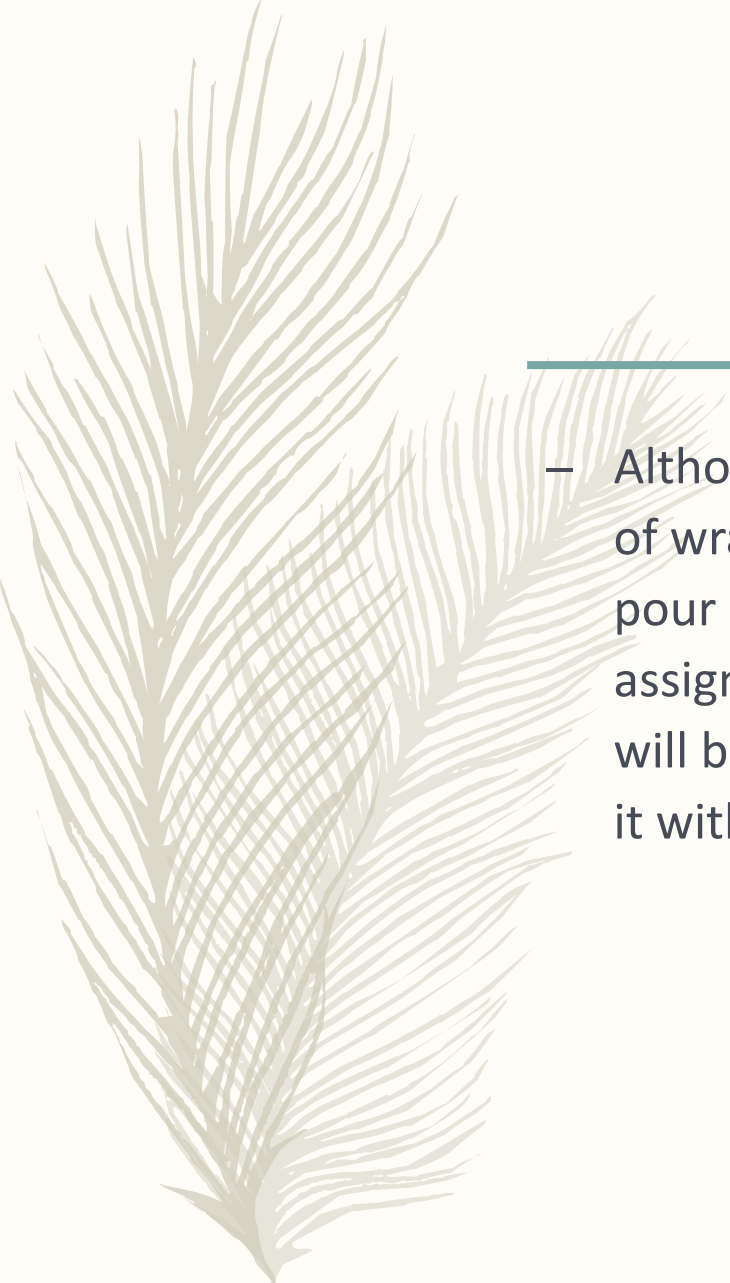


# Seven Golden Bowls (Vials)

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- 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. <sup>8</sup> 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. Rev 15:7-8

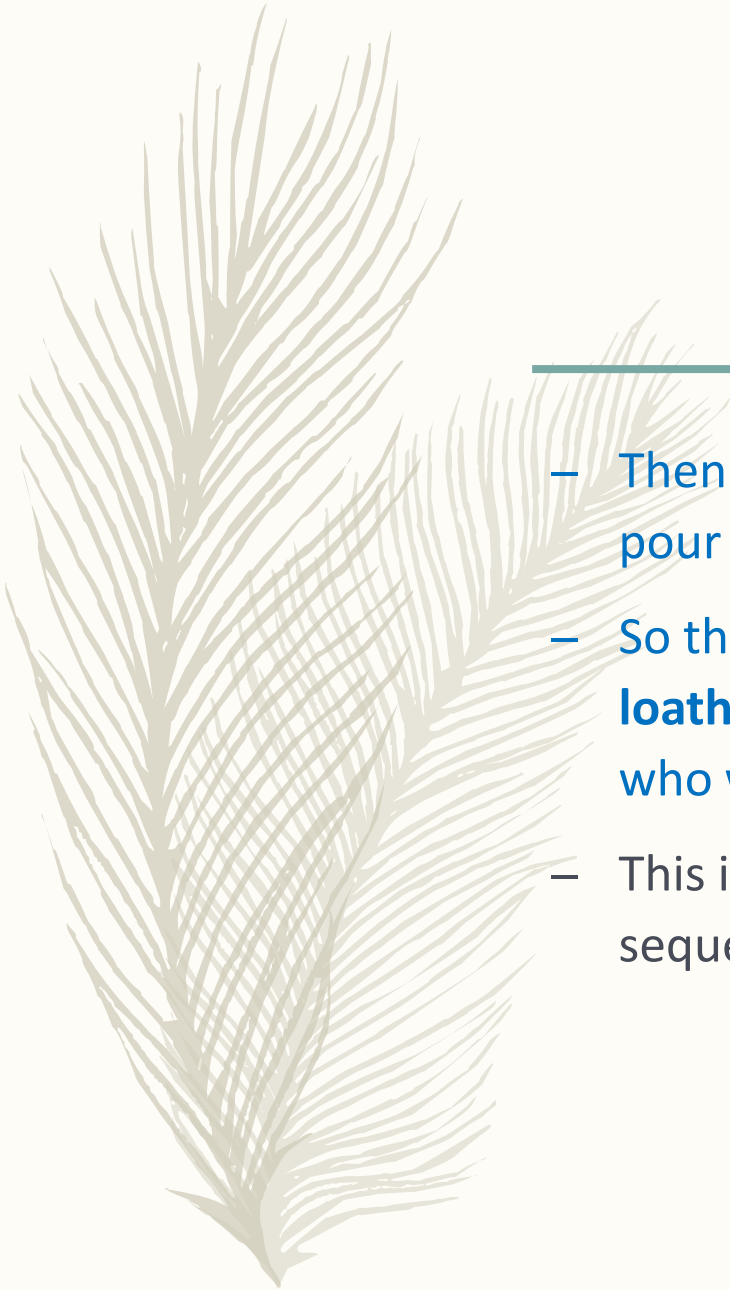


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- Although it is uncertain exactly how the seven plagues and the seven bowls full of wrath combine, in some way these seven angels who just left the Temple will pour out the final wrath of God as described in the next chapter. Until that assignment is completed during the last portion of the Great Tribulation, no one will be able to enter into the Holy of Holies as God's glory and power had filled it with smoke.

# The Bowl Judgments

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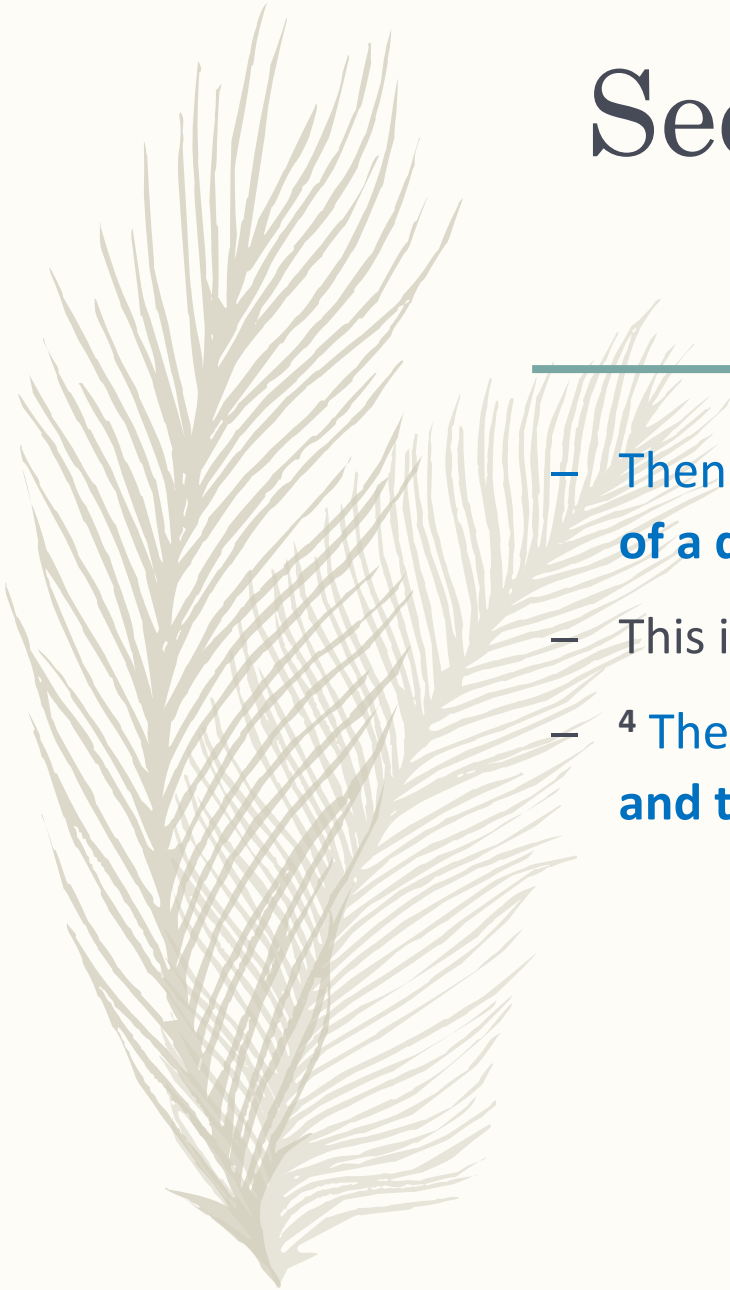
- Then I heard a loud voice from the temple saying to the seven angels, "Go and pour out the bowls of the wrath of God on the earth." Rev 16:1
- So the first went and poured out his bowl upon the earth, and **a foul and loathsome sore came upon the men who had the mark of the beast** and those who worshiped his image. Rev 16:2
- This is further confirmation that the seals, the trumpets and the bowls are sequentially delivered onto the world by God... not concurrently.



# Second & Third Bowl Judgment

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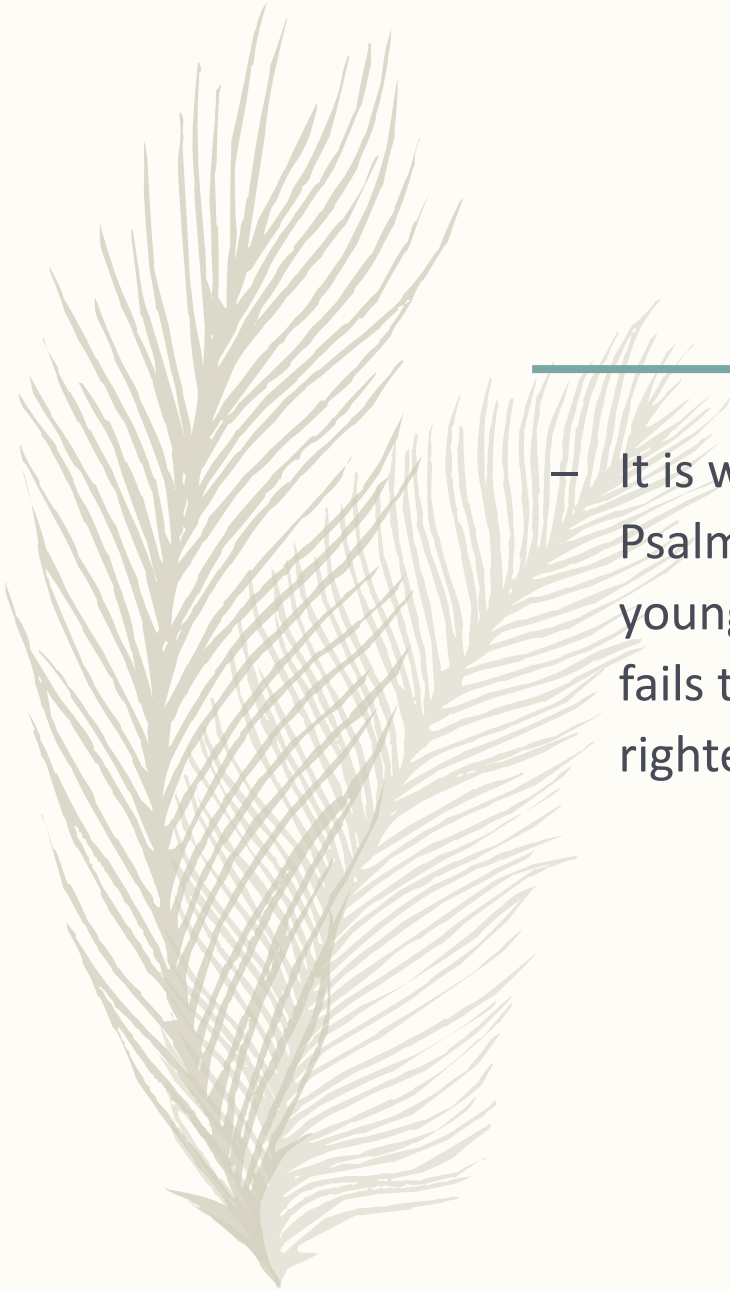
- Then the second angel poured out his bowl on **the sea, and it became blood as of a dead man; and every living creature in the sea died.** Rev 16:3
- This is an extension of the judgment that began with the second trumpet.
- <sup>4</sup> Then the third angel poured out his bowl on **the rivers and springs of water, and they became blood.** Rev. 16:4



# God will not be mocked

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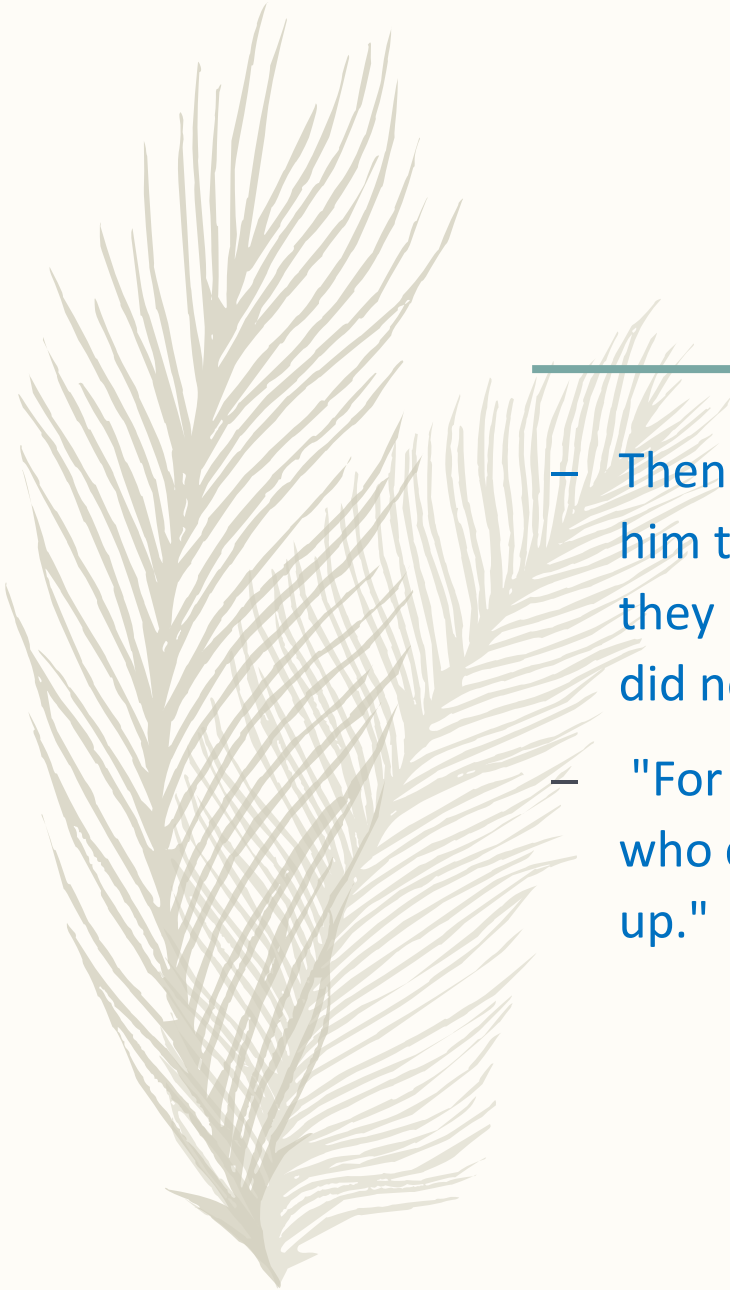
- It is worthwhile to recall the numerous times David cried out to God in the Psalms for His righteous judgment against those who had been pursuing the young future king of Israel. God's timing is often not our timing... but, He never fails to deliver what He promises. In this Tribulation time, He will deliver His righteous judgment upon all those deserving, unrepentant sinners.



# The Fourth Angel

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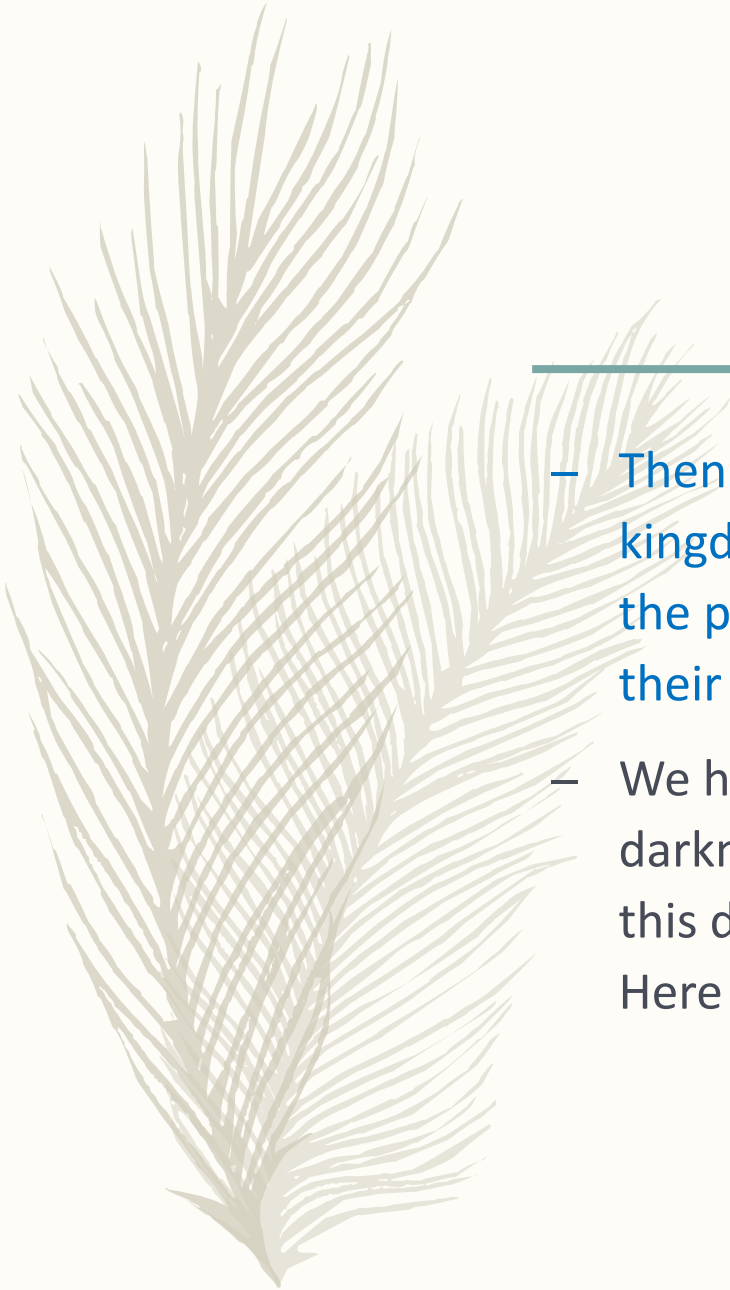
- Then the **fourth angel** poured out his bowl on the **sun**, and power was given to him to **scorch men with fire.** <sup>9</sup> And men were scorched with great heat, and they blasphemed the name of God who has power over these plagues; and they did not repent and give Him glory. Rev 16:8-9
- "For behold, the day is coming, Burning like an oven, and all the proud, yes, all who do wickedly will be stubble. And the day which is coming shall burn them up." Mal 4:1



# The Fifth Angel

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- Then the **fifth angel** poured out his bowl **on the throne of the beast**, and his kingdom became full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues because of the pain. <sup>11</sup> They blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and did not repent of their deeds. Rev 16:10-11
- We have just seen how the sun will have scorched the earth. Now, however, darkness will be brought to bear on the world. There are several references to this darkness during the “Day of the Lord” in both the Old and New Testament. Here are just two of them:

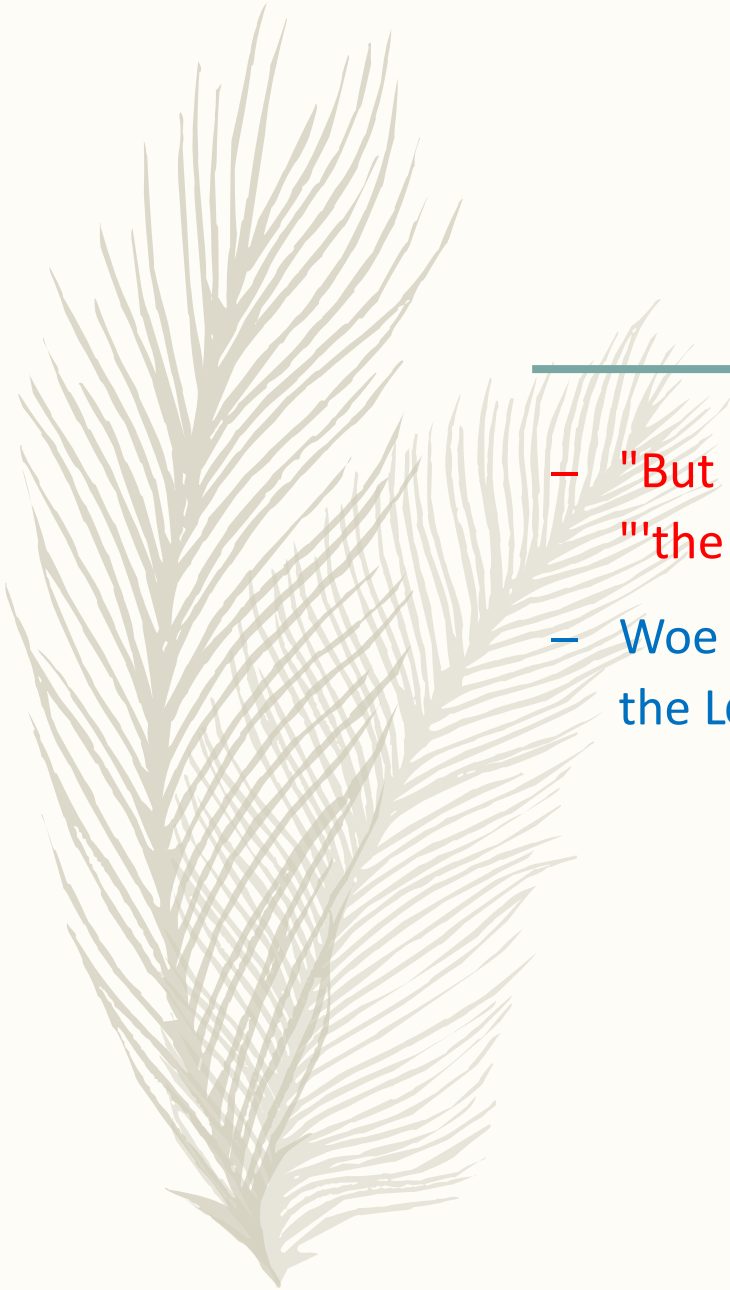




# Darkness on the Earth

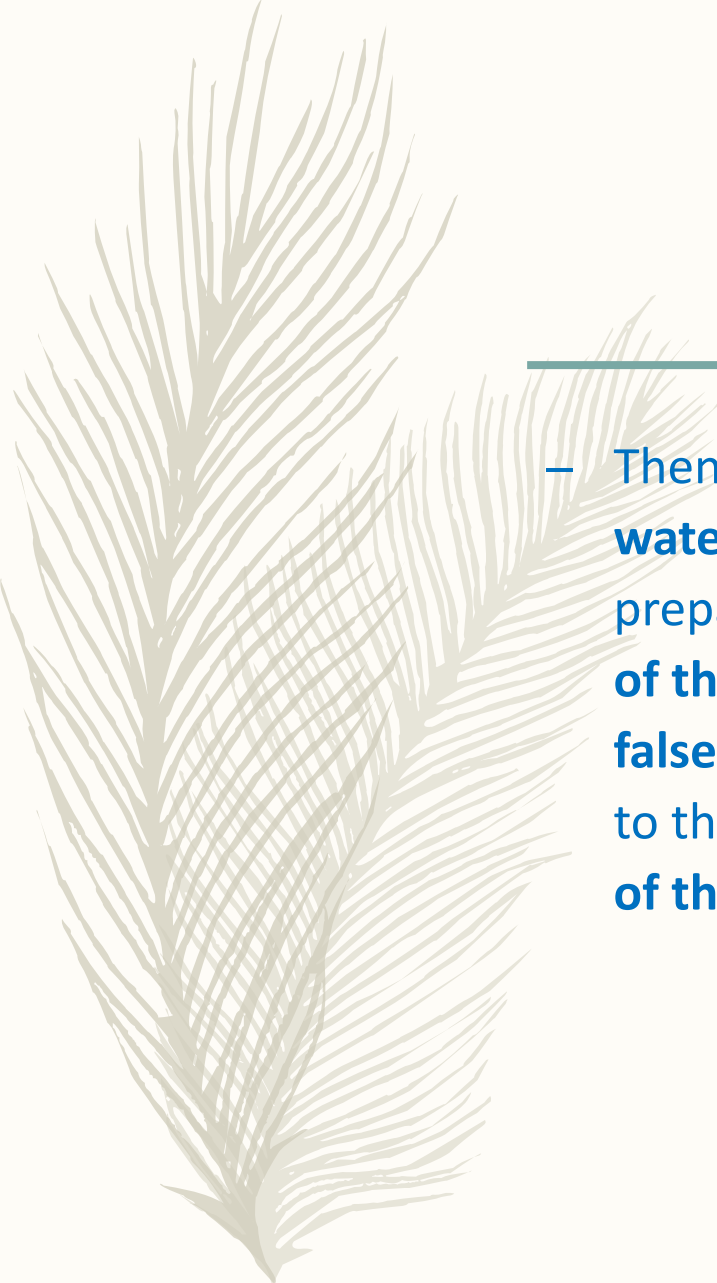
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- "But in those days, following that distress,  
"the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; Mark 13:24
- Woe to you who long for the day of the LORD! Why do you long for the day of the LORD? That day will be darkness, not light. Amos 5:18



# The Sixth Bowl Judgment

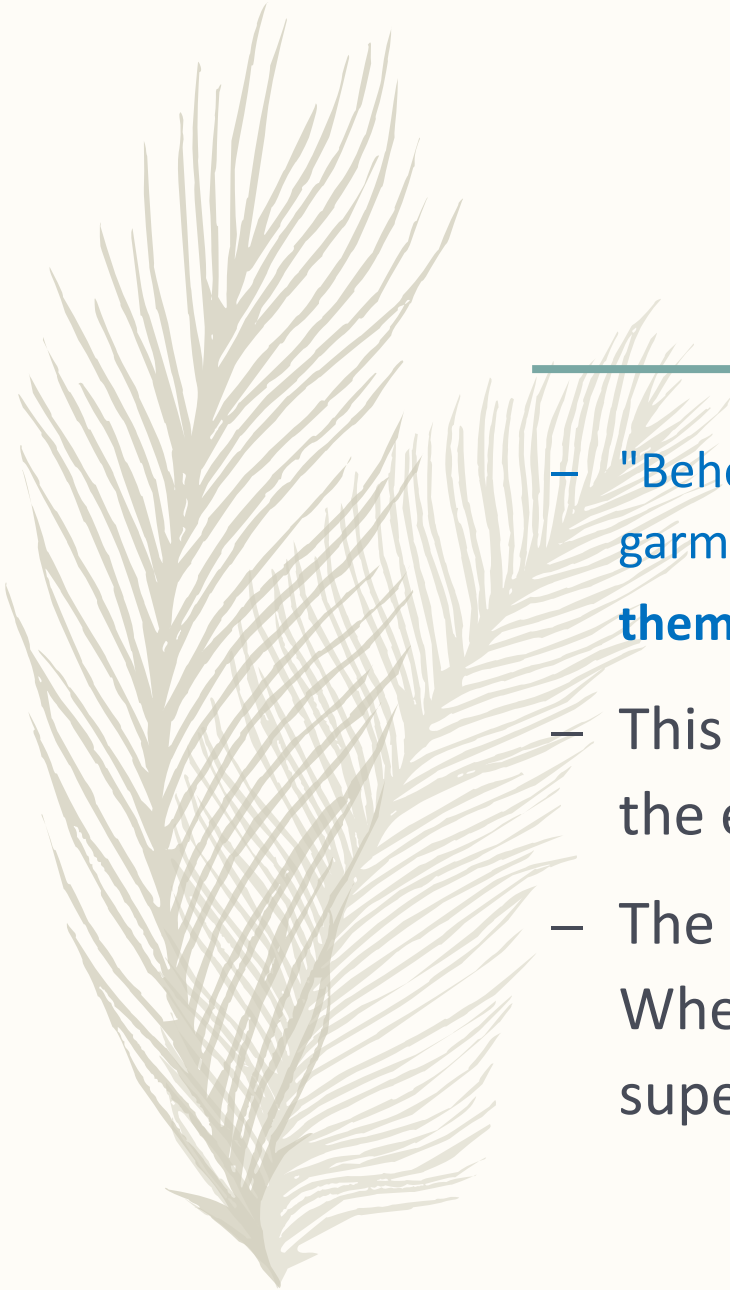
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- Then the **sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up**, so that the way of the kings from the east might be prepared. <sup>13</sup> And I saw **three unclean spirits like frogs coming out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet.** <sup>14</sup> 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. 16:12-14

# The Coming Armageddon

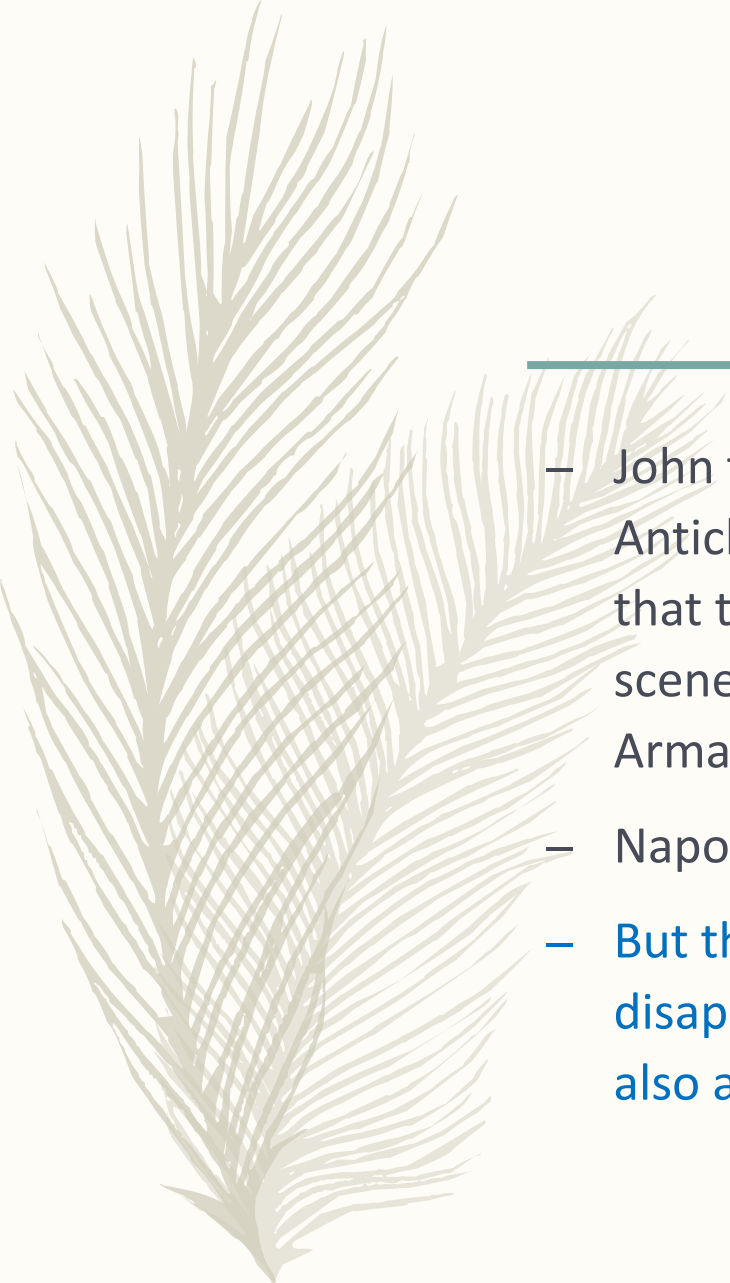
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- "Behold, I am coming as a thief. Blessed is he who watches, and keeps his garments, lest he walk naked and they see his shame." <sup>16</sup> **And they gathered them together to the place called in Hebrew, Armageddon.** Rev 16:15-16
- This sixth bowl judgment will prepare the way for the armies from the east.
- The Euphrates River will dry up at this time as prophesied above. Whether this is all done via seemingly natural or blatantly supernatural means is immaterial.



# Demon Spirits

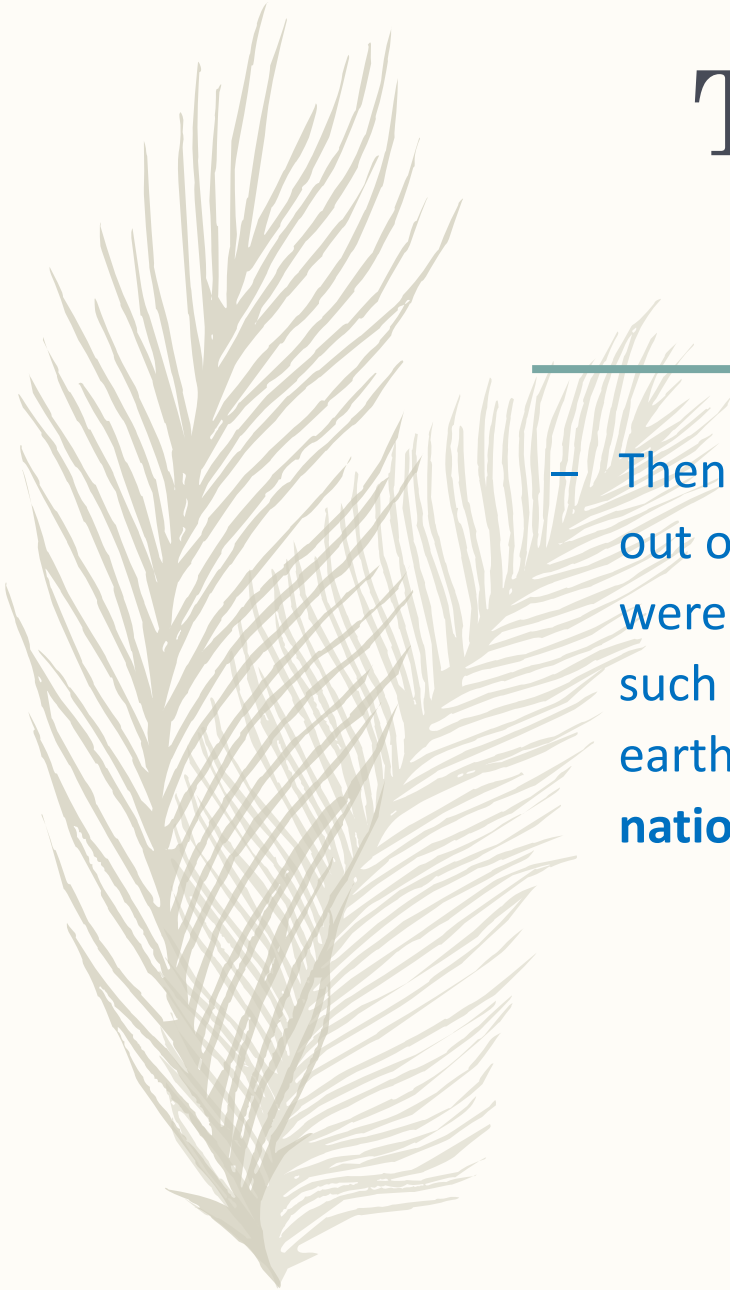
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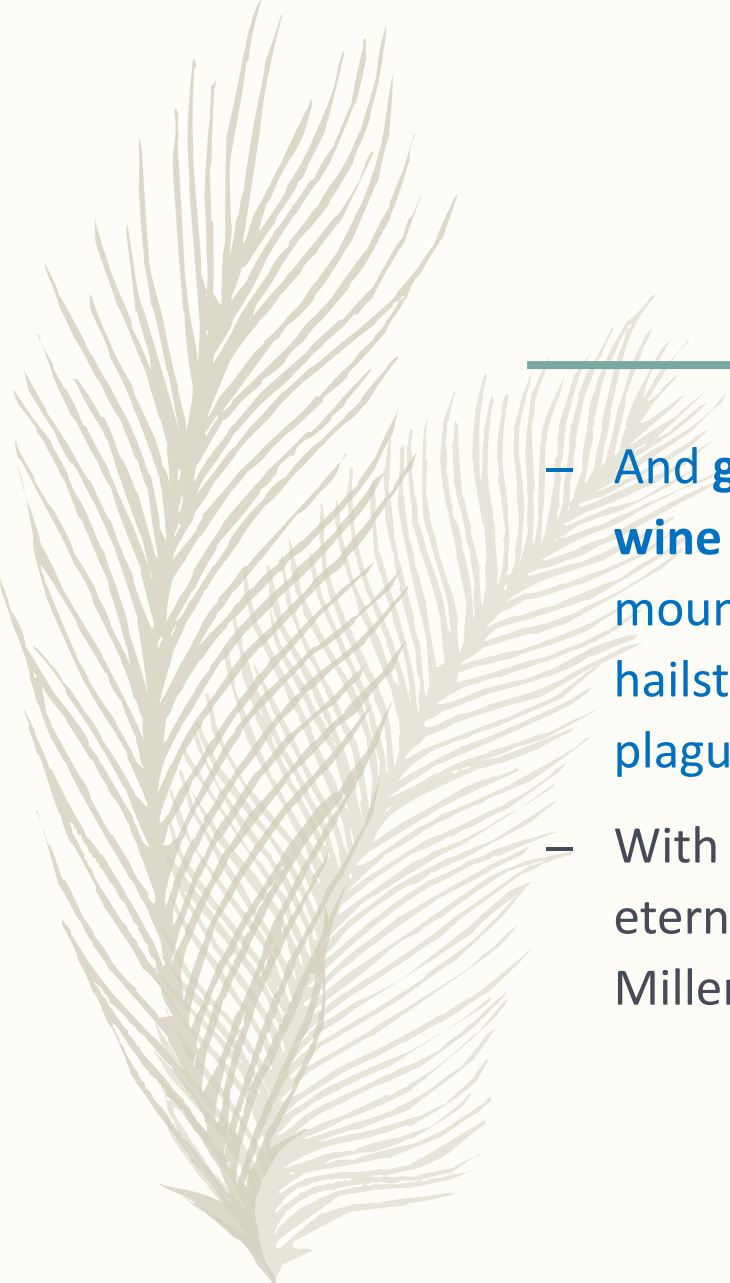
- 
- John then speaks of seeing frog-like spirits coming out of the mouth of Satan, Antichrist, and the False Prophet – for a total of three. John is then made aware that these odd creatures represent demons that are coming onto the world scene to gather the world forces against Israel in what will be the war of Armageddon.
  - Napoleon's comment
  - But the day of the Lord will come as a **thief in the night**; the heavens will disappear with a roar, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. 2 Peter 3:10

# The Seventh Vial Judgment

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- 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!**" <sup>18</sup> And there were noises and thunderings and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such a mighty and great earthquake as had not occurred since men were on the earth. <sup>19</sup> Now **the great city was divided into three parts**, and the **cities of the nations fell**. Rev. 16:17-19



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- 
- And **great Babylon was remembered before God, to give her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of His wrath.** <sup>20</sup> Then every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. <sup>21</sup> 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. Rev 16:20-21
  - With the pouring out of the seventh bowl judgment, God will conclude His eternal plan for this dispensation as His creation will then move into the Millennial Kingdom Age.



# The Wrap-Up of the Judgments

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- Babylon, always representative of the worst of the world, will be hit very hard. Islands will disappear under the oceans, mountains will tumble down to the ground and be no more. Hail, many upwards of seventy-five pounds, will fall from the heavens on all mankind. Obviously, many will be killed instantly by these “stones” from the sky. As will be the case with all of these bowl plagues, they will only serve to incense the recipients even more against God... this last judgment will cause none to repent.

# Summary of Chapters 14-16

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- The fourteenth chapter opens with a scene on Mt. Zion. Jesus is there with 144,000 outstanding Christians singing songs of praise to their Savior. Three angels are noted to be preaching to people here on earth: one explains the gospel message, another tells of the soon downfall of Babylon, and the last tells of the absolute importance of refusing to worship the Antichrist.
- The last trumpet will sound and the seven vial (or bowl) judgments will be loosed onto the earth. While preparations for this event are underway, victorious heavenly saints sang two songs to God... the *Song of Moses* and the *Song of the Lamb*.







- Seven angels are told to pour out each of their vials as the sixteenth chapter begins. In each of these vials are the worst judgments that God will ever hand down. Vials one through six were handed down one right after the other in quick succession. The land, the sea, the rivers and lakes were all devastated. Painful sores broke out on the people.
- The Seventh Vial Judgment prepares the way for the Second Coming of Jesus.



# The Woman on the Scarlet Beast

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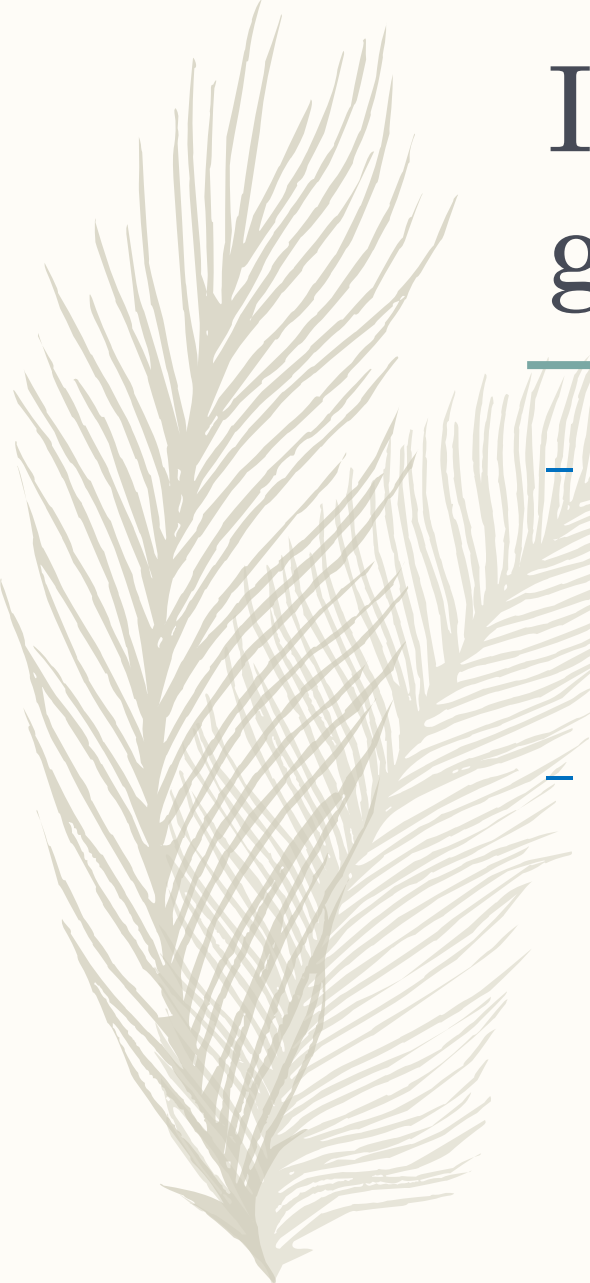
- Chapter 17 - Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and talked with me, saying to me, "Come, I will show you the judgment of the **great harlot who sits on many waters, <sup>2</sup> with whom the kings of the earth committed fornication**, and the inhabitants of the earth were made drunk with the wine of her fornication." Rev 17:1-2
- This harlot sits on “many waters” - the waters symbolize the many nations of the world. One of the seven angels who had a role in the pouring out of the seven bowl judgments, will speak to John at this time. He will tell John that *God is going to judge the harlot who has been an evil partner with the kings of the earth in the first half of the Tribulation.*

# The Apostate Church

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- Just who is this harlot?
- The harlot is the apostate religious system that came into great prominence in the early years of the Tribulation.
- A brief history of the apostate church.
- "Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower whose top is in the heavens; let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth." Gen 11:4
- The great historian Josephus went even further to describe the prideful attitude and actions of Nimrod and the Babylonian peoples:
- Nimrod, Semiramis and Tammuz





# Israel worshipped these false gods

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- Do you not see what they are doing in the towns of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem? **18** The children gather wood, the fathers light the fire, and the women knead the dough and **make cakes of bread for the Queen of Heaven.**  
Jer 7:17-18
- "You will see them doing things that are even more detestable." **14** Then he brought me to the entrance to the north gate of the house of the LORD, and I saw women sitting there, mourning for **Tammuz.** Ezek 8:13-14



# Union of Apostate Church with the Antichrist

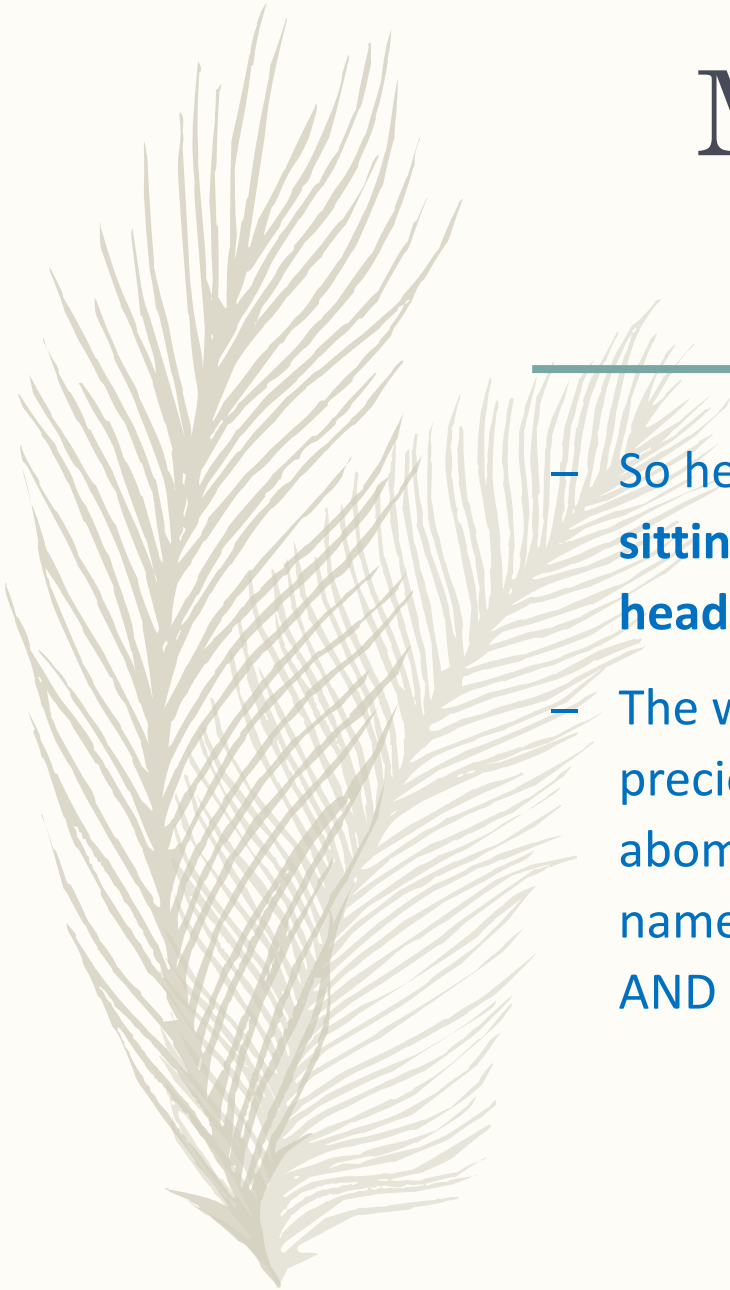
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- The church of the end-times will not worship Jesus Christ. This harlot church will become much more evil and destructive after the Rapture. This chapter of *The Revelation* shows what will happen to her during the Tribulation. In an effort to gain more power and prestige, she (i.e. the harlot church) will join forces with the Antichrist's world system.
- Before very long, the Antichrist will turn on this false church. A little more on this later.

# Mystery, Babylon the Great

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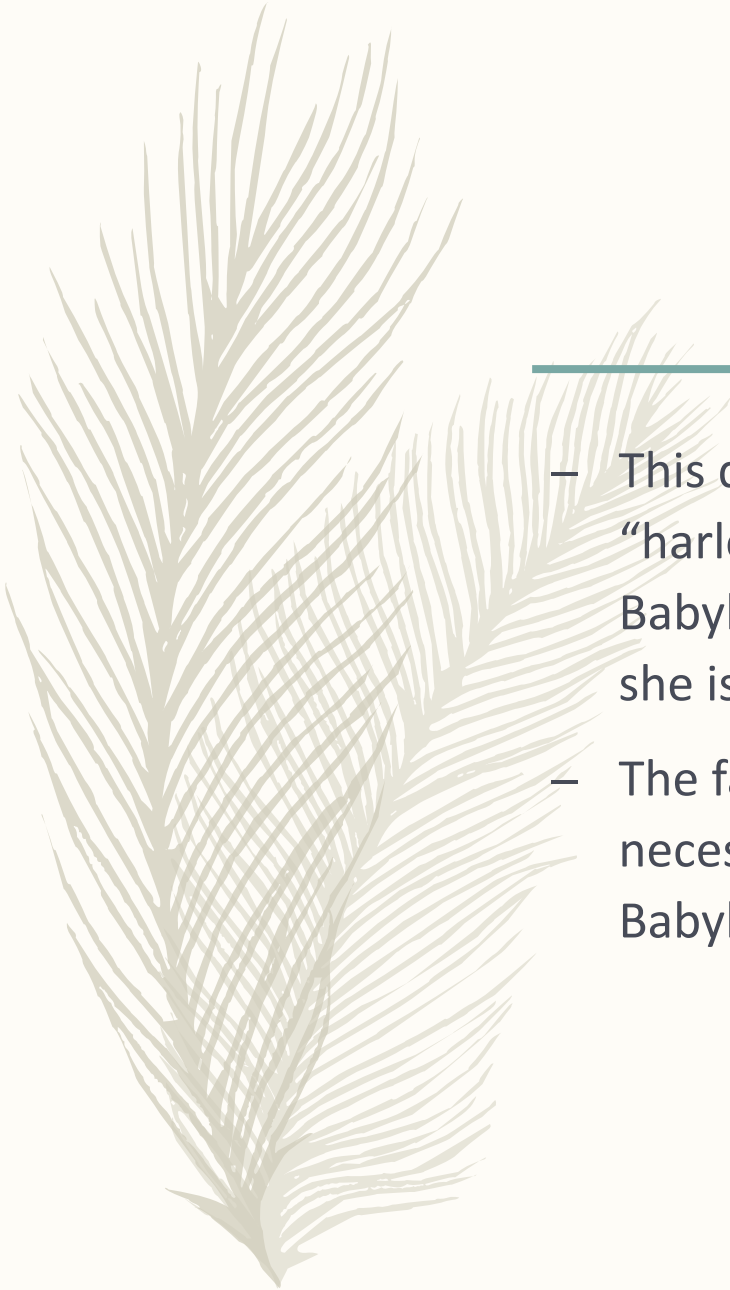
- So he carried me away in the Spirit into the wilderness. And I saw a **woman sitting on a scarlet beast which was full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.** Rev 17:3
- The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, having in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the filthiness of her fornication. <sup>5</sup> And on her forehead a name was written: **MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.** Rev 17:4-5



# Apostate Church cont.

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- This description of the apostate church shows just how evil and filthy this “harlot” has become in God’s view. The fact that her name is linked with Babylon shows that she leads the false, apostate religious system of the world; she is definitely not a follower of Christ.
- The fact that this harlot religion has Babylon associated with her name does not necessarily mean that the headquarters of that ecumenical church will be in Babylon.



# What is this Apostate Church?

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- This church will be an amalgam of current day protestant, Catholic, Mormons, New Age, Hindu, Buddhist and many other of the world's religions all melted into one big "apostate pot".
- Certain liberal segments of all religions seem bent on compromising their fundamental biblical tenants in the name of harmony.
- John MacArthur says that she is "portrayed as a prostitute who has plied her trade successfully and become extremely wealthy."







# John sees the results of following this Apostate Church

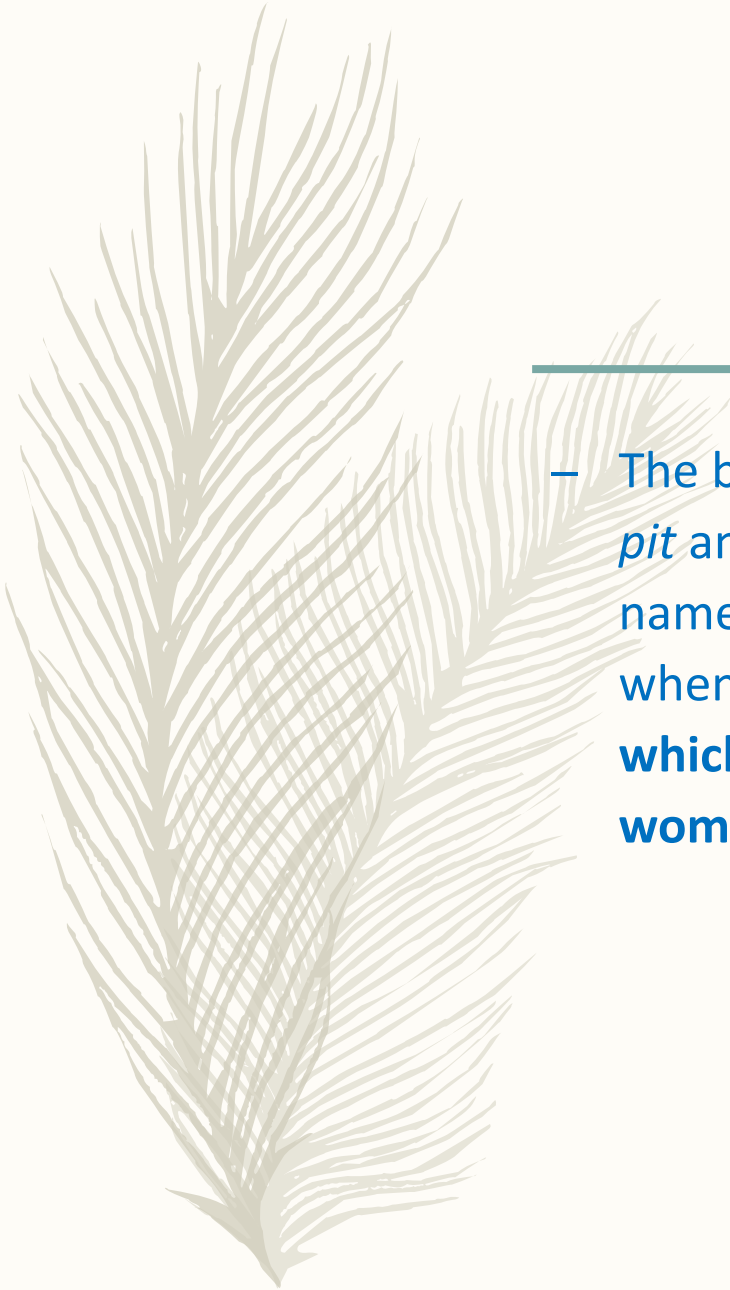
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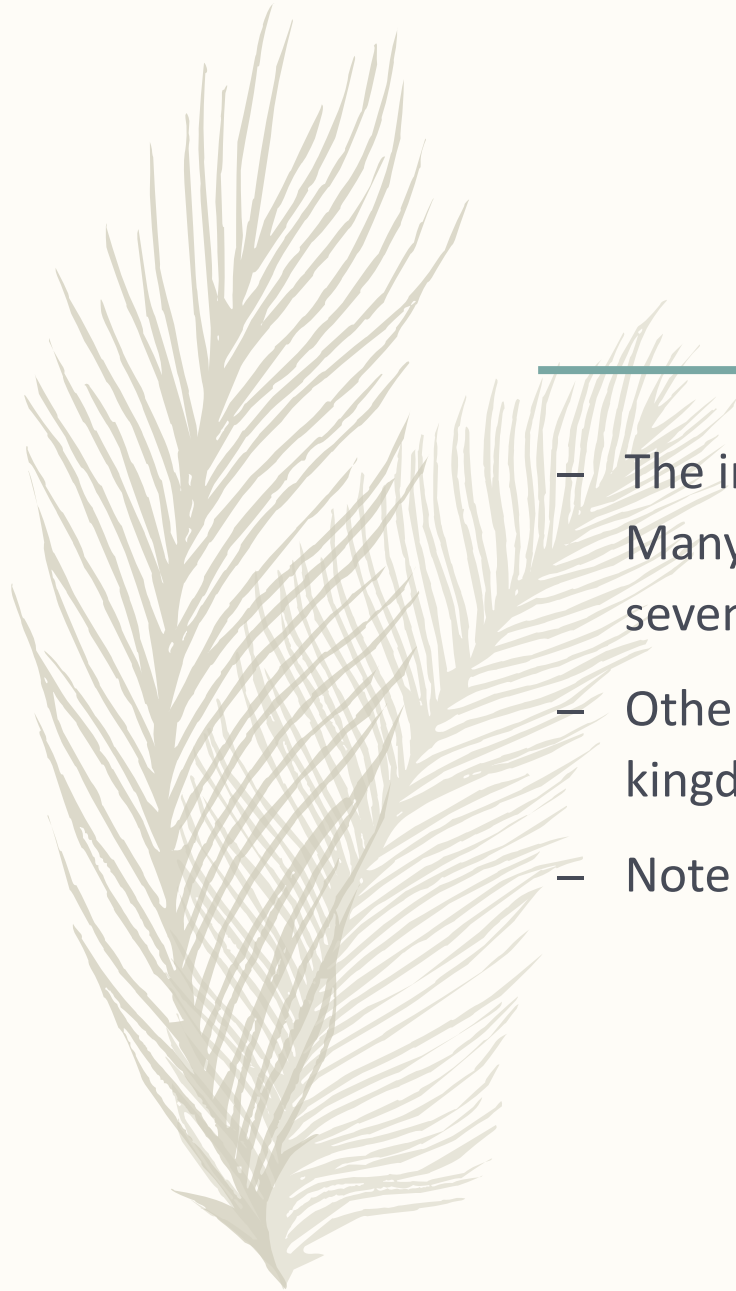
- I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. And when I saw her, I marveled with great amazement.<sup>7</sup> But the angel said to me, "Why did you marvel? I will tell you the mystery of the woman and of the beast that carries her, which has the **seven heads and the ten horns.**      Rev 17:6-7
- Just think about the only religion that is typically put down by the leaders of countries, the press and the general ecumenical church groups... the answer is easy; it is those who believe the Bible and the words written there by Jesus and the Holy Spirit.

# More on the “Beast”

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- The beast that you saw **was, and is not, and will ascend** out of the *bottomless pit* and go to *perdition*. And those who dwell on the earth will marvel, whose names are not written in the Book of Life from the foundation of the world, when they see the beast that was, and is not, and yet is. <sup>9</sup> **Here is the mind which has wisdom: The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits.** Rev 17:8-9



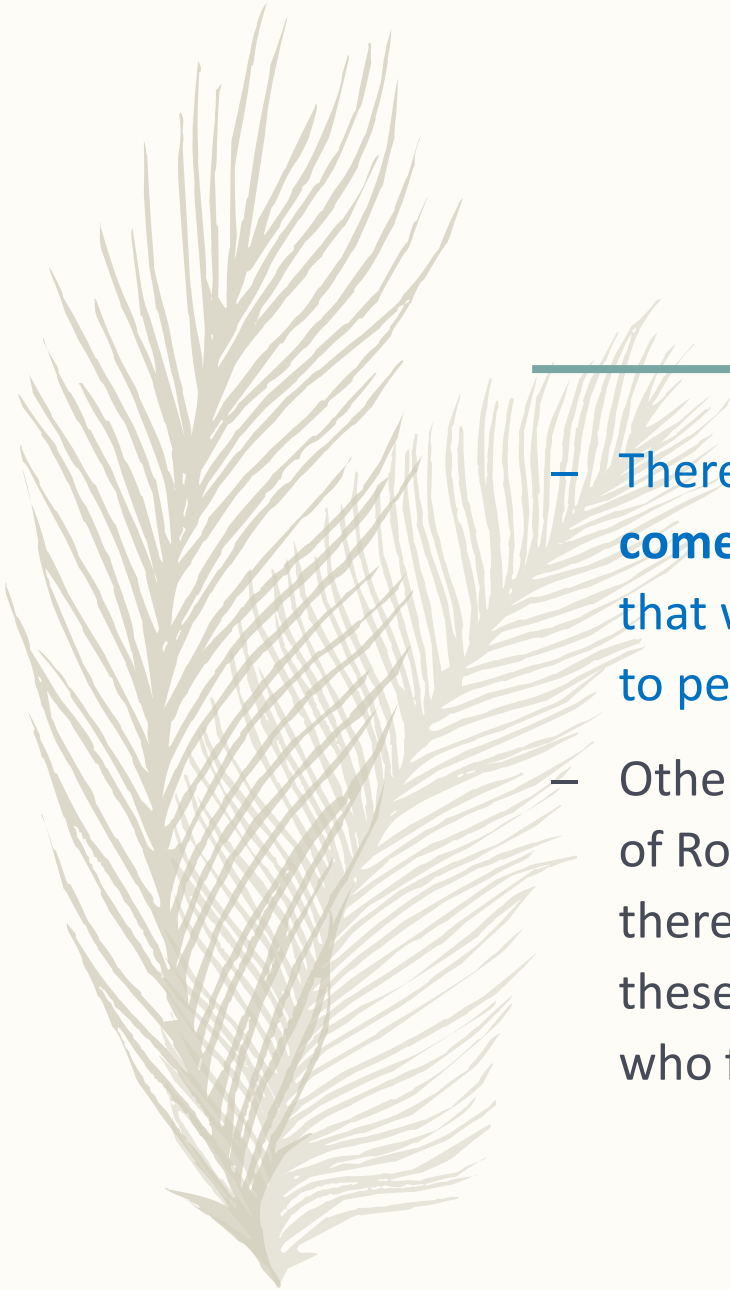


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- The interpretation of the seven heads and seven mountains is also debatable. Many believe the seven mountains stand for Rome (often called the city on seven hills). The seven heads are said to be seven kings of Rome.
  - Others, like John MacArthur, suggest that John may have been alluding to kingdoms instead of kings.
  - Note the next verse...

# Seven Kings

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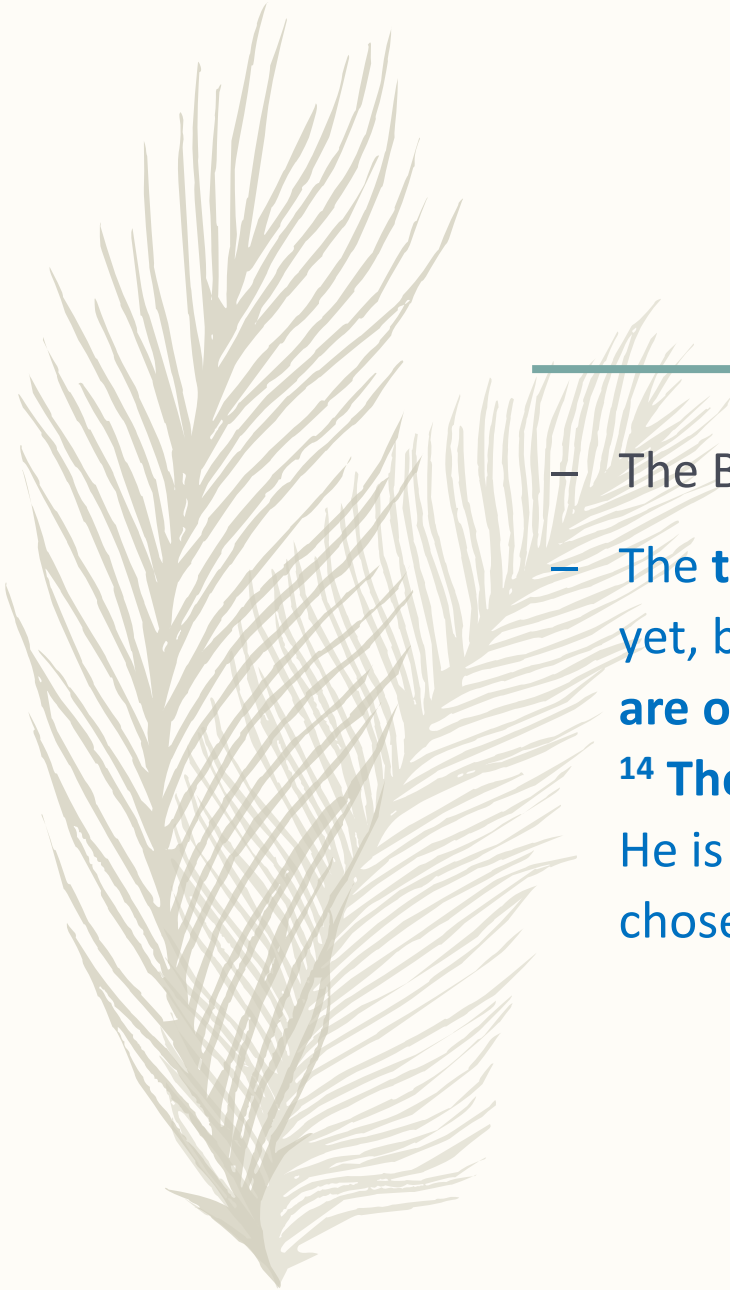
- There are also seven kings. **Five have fallen, one is, and the other has not yet come.** And when he comes, he must continue a short time. <sup>11</sup> And the beast that was, and is not, is himself also the eighth, and is of the seven, and is going to perdition. Rev 17:10-11
- Others who have wrestled with the verse above have come up with another set of Roman kings. Regardless of how one specifically views the first six kings, there is no doubt that the last *king* is the Antichrist. Whether one looks at these verses as pointing to nations or kings in the end times, the only **individual** who fits the prophecy is the coming Antichrist.



# Ten Horns – Ten Kings

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- The Bible helps with the interpretation...
- 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. <sup>13</sup> **These are of one mind, and they will give their power and authority to the beast.** <sup>14</sup> **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 17:12-14



# Future Kingdoms

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- The ten kings referred to in the verses above must be future kings because they have yet to receive kingdoms. In fact, they are the leaders of the ten nations that will join together to make up the Antichrist's confederacy during the Tribulation.
- These are the same kings that Daniel wrote about and were noted in Chapter 13. Although they will give all of their important power to their leader, the Antichrist, apparently they will receive some token power for a short period ("one hour") of time from that same evil, Satanic leader.



# The Antichrist turns on the Harlot

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- Then he said to me, "The waters which you saw, where the harlot sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues. <sup>16</sup> **And the ten horns which you saw on the beast, these will hate the harlot, make her desolate and naked, eat her flesh and burn her with fire.** <sup>17</sup> For God has put it into their hearts to fulfill His purpose, to be of one mind, and to give their kingdom to the beast, until the words of God are fulfilled. <sup>18</sup> **And the woman whom you saw is that great city which reigns over the kings of the earth."** Rev 17:15-18



# The Fall of Babylon the Great

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- Chapter 18 - After these things I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was illuminated with his glory. <sup>2</sup> And he cried mightily with a loud voice, saying, "**Babylon the great** is fallen, is fallen, and has become a dwelling place of demons, a prison for every foul spirit, and a cage for every unclean and hated bird! Rev. 18:1-2
- This is a different Babylon than “Mystery Babylon, Mother of Harlots.”

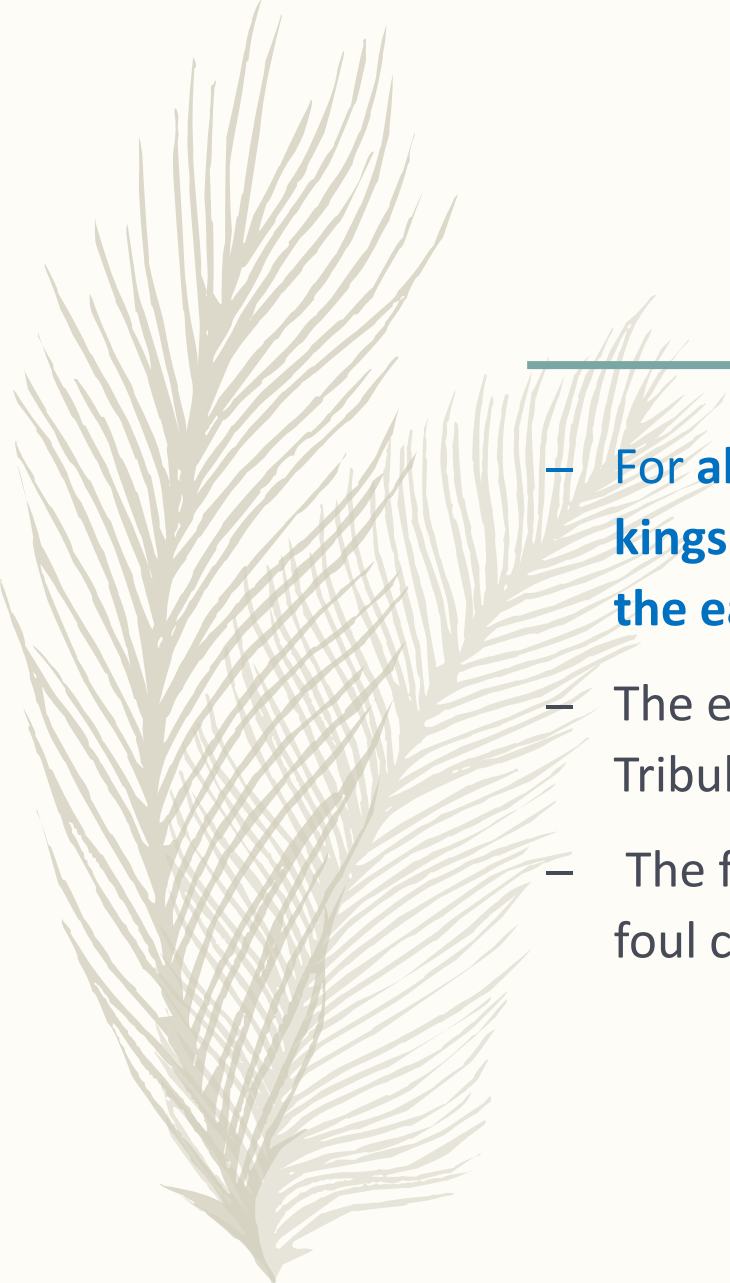





# The Fall of Babylon the Great cont.

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- Chapter 17 describes the destruction of the apostate religion that had dominated the world up until when the Antichrist was ready to assume control. Chapter 18, as we shall see, tells the story of how the economic, political and governmental system, known as Babylon the Great, will be taken down by Christ.

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- For **all the nations** have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, the **kings of the earth** have committed fornication with her, and **the merchants of the earth** have become rich through the abundance of her luxury." Rev 18:3
  - The events described in this chapter take place in the final days of the Great Tribulation (the last portion of the second 3 ½ years).
  - The final result will be that Babylon will become a haven for demons and other foul creatures... with no end of this situation in sight.

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- What will be the location of this end-times center of world commerce?
  - Many prophecy scholars believe it will be in Rome.
  - Others do believe that it will be in the re-built city of Babylon.
  - God warns His saints...
  - **And I heard another voice from heaven saying, "Come out of her, my people, lest you share in her sins, and lest you receive of her plagues. <sup>5</sup> For her sins have reached to heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities. Rev 18:4**



# The Angel then asks God to judge Babylon

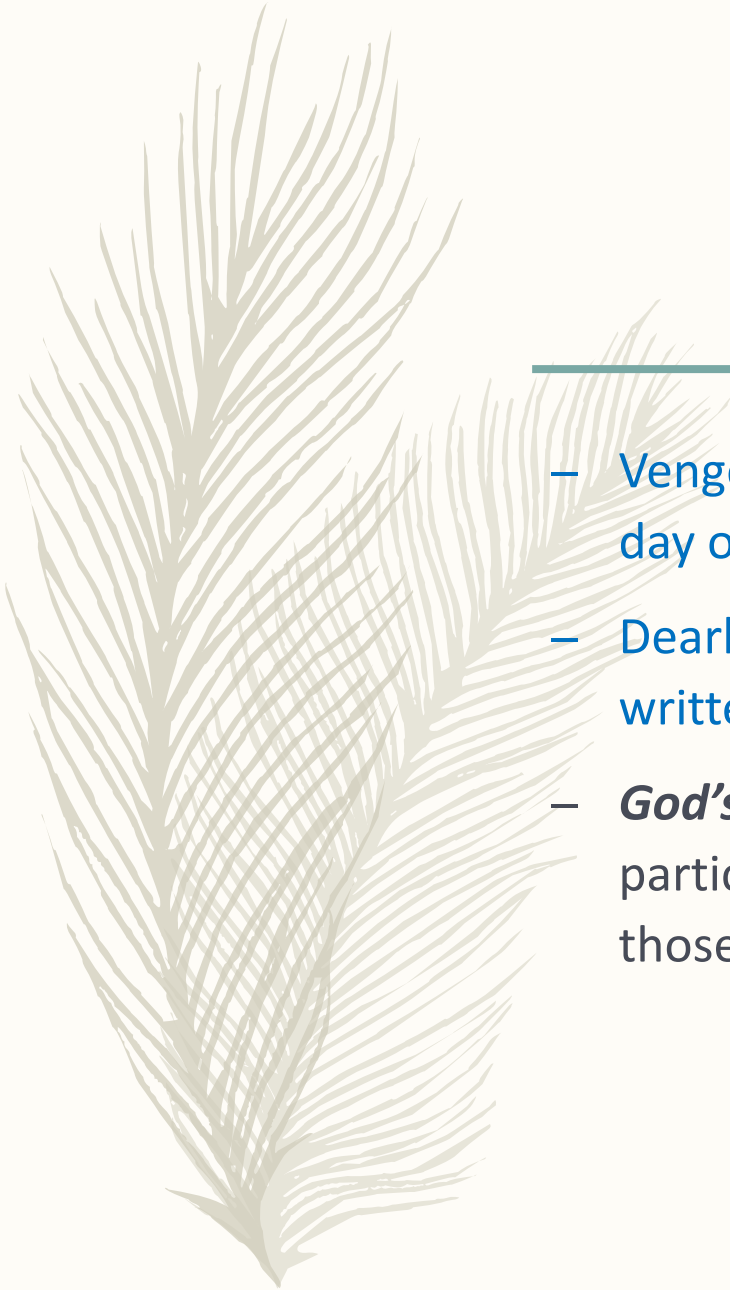
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- Then John hears what the angel is asking God to do to Babylon...
- Render to her just as she rendered to you, and repay her double according to her works; in the cup which she has mixed, mix double for her. <sup>7</sup> In the measure that she glorified herself and lived luxuriously, in the same measure give her torment and sorrow; for she says in her heart, 'I sit as queen, and am no widow, and will not see sorrow.' Rev 18:4-7

# God/Jesus is the Judge

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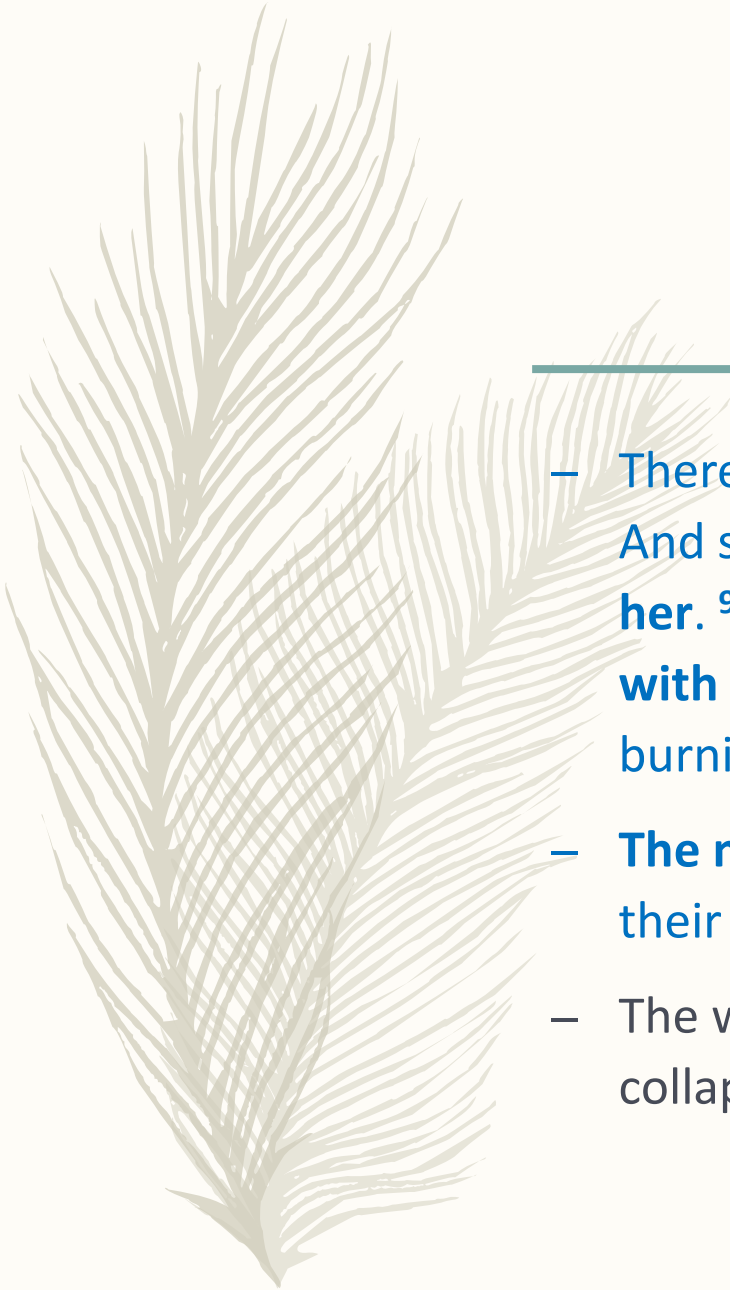
- Vengeance is Mine, and recompense; their foot shall slip in due time; for the day of their calamity is at hand. Deut 32:35
- Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord. Romans 12:19
- ***God's timing is not our timing. He does things with eternity in mind.*** In this particular case, with time really running down, God will punish with great fury those who have rejected Him.



# Babylon is Judged

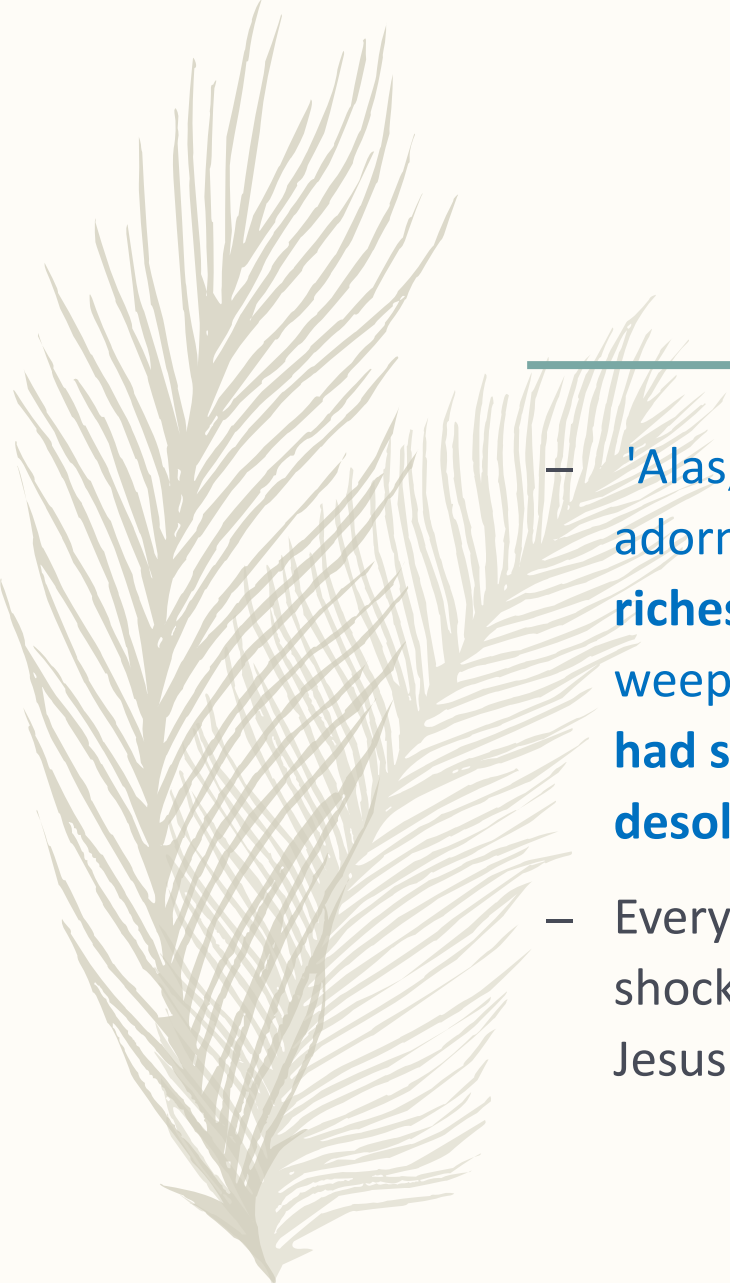
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- Therefore her **plagues will come in *one day*--death and mourning and famine. And she will be utterly burned with fire, for strong is the Lord God who judges her.** <sup>9</sup> "The kings of the earth who committed fornication and lived luxuriously with her will weep and lament for her, when they see the smoke of her burning... Rev. 18:8-9
- **The merchants of the earth will weep and mourn over her,** for no one buys their merchandise anymore: Rev 18:11
- The world's merchants will be devastated as they will see their economic system collapse completely!



# Sudden Devastation

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- 'Alas, alas, that great city that was clothed in fine linen, purple, and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls! <sup>17</sup> For **in one hour such great riches came to nothing.** <sup>19</sup> They threw dust on their heads and cried out, weeping and wailing, and saying, '**Alas, alas, that great city, in which all who had ships on the sea became rich by her wealth! For in one hour she is made desolate.**' Rev 18:16-17,19
  - Everyone who is around to witness the incredible destruction of Babylon will be shocked. The followers of the Antichrist will be devastated. The followers of Jesus Christ will be avenged.

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- 
- Rejoice over her, O heaven, and you holy apostles and prophets, for God has avenged you on her!" <sup>21</sup> Then a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone and threw it into the sea, saying, "Thus **with violence the great city Babylon shall be thrown down, and shall not be found anymore.** Rev. 18:20-21
  - For your merchants were the great men of the earth, for by your sorcery all the nations were deceived. <sup>24</sup> And in her was found the blood of prophets and saints, and of all who were slain on the earth." Rev 18:23-24
  - Both “Babylons” now have been destroyed!



# The King of Kings and Lord of Lords

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- After these things I heard a loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying, "Alleluia! Salvation and glory and honor and power belong to the Lord our God!"<sup>2</sup> For true and righteous are His judgments, because He has judged the great harlot who corrupted the earth with her fornication; and He has avenged on her the blood of His servants shed by her."<sup>3</sup> Again they said, "Alleluia! Her smoke rises up forever and ever!"<sup>4</sup> And the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God who sat on the throne, saying, "Amen! Alleluia!"

Rev 19:1-4

# Jesus is praised in Heaven

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- In the introductory paragraph, John is being shown a great praise service once again in heaven. Jesus is being praised for His righteous judgment of the earth and those within it.
- This choir will sing out by noting four of the great attributes of Jesus; His omnipotence, His perfect honor, His heavenly glory, and the fact that He has provided salvation because of His incredible sacrificial love for humanity.



# Marriage of the Lamb

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- The very next event after the total victory over Babylon the Great and the harlot will be the **Marriage of the Lamb**. Jesus will be the Bridegroom and the Church will be the Bride.
- Let us take a look at a typical Jewish wedding in some detail.
- Marriage contract
- Betrothal
- The bridegroom comes for his bride
- The marriage itself
- The marriage supper





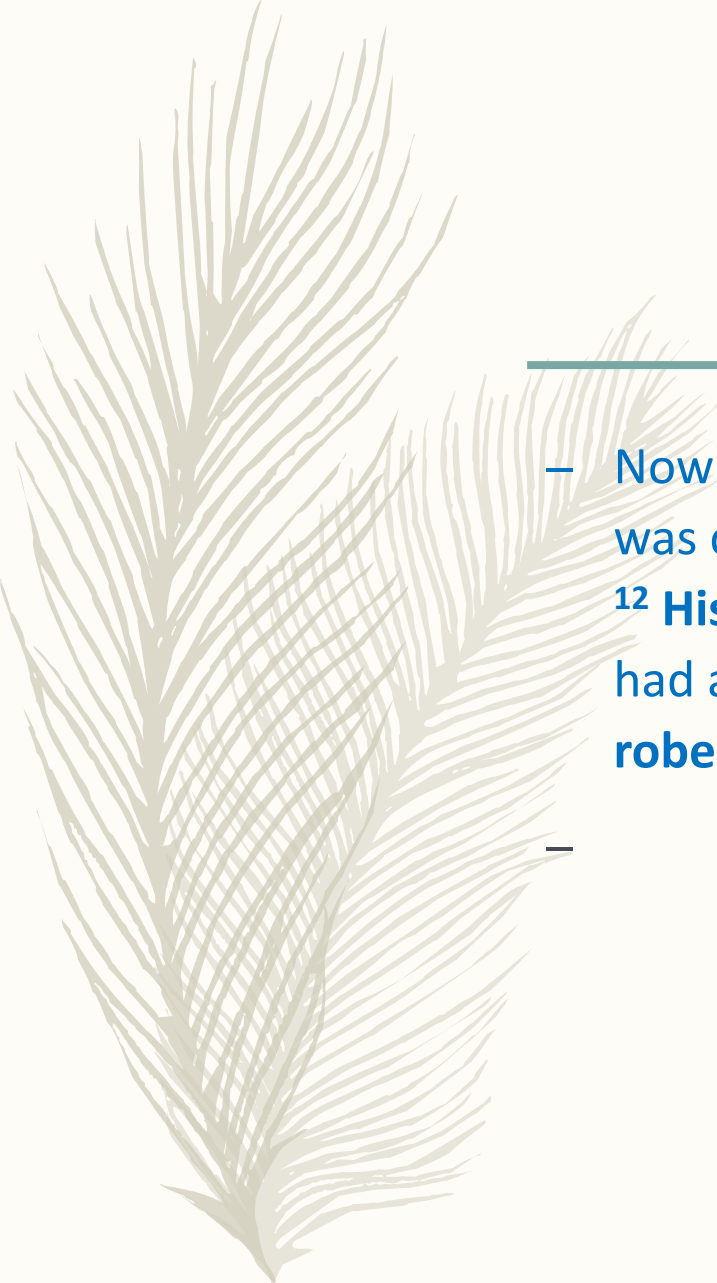
# Jesus and His Bride, the Church

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- Jesus will be the Bridegroom.
- The Church will be the Bride.
- The Bride's adornments
- The guests at the supper
- The scene then changes to Jesus coming from heaven with His saints

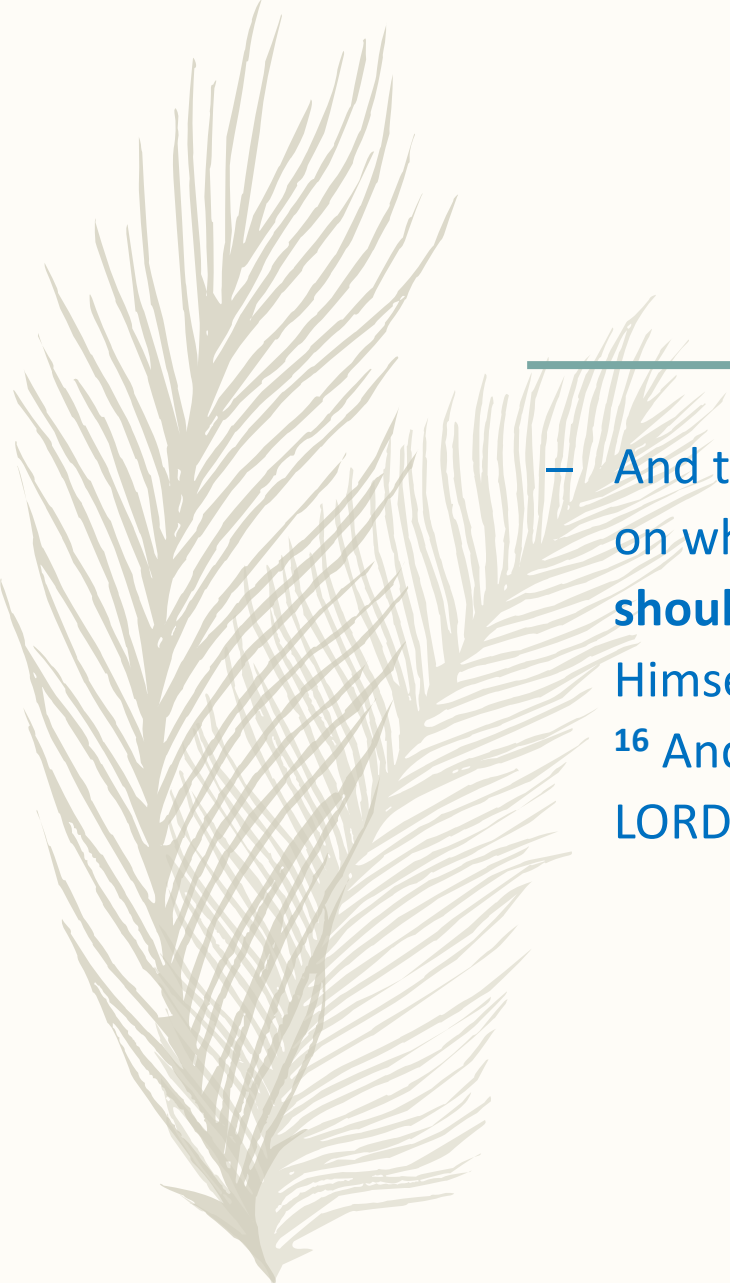
# Jesus Comes to Set up His Kingdom

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- Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called **Faithful and True**, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. <sup>12</sup> **His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns.** He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. <sup>13</sup> **He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God.** Rev 19:11-13
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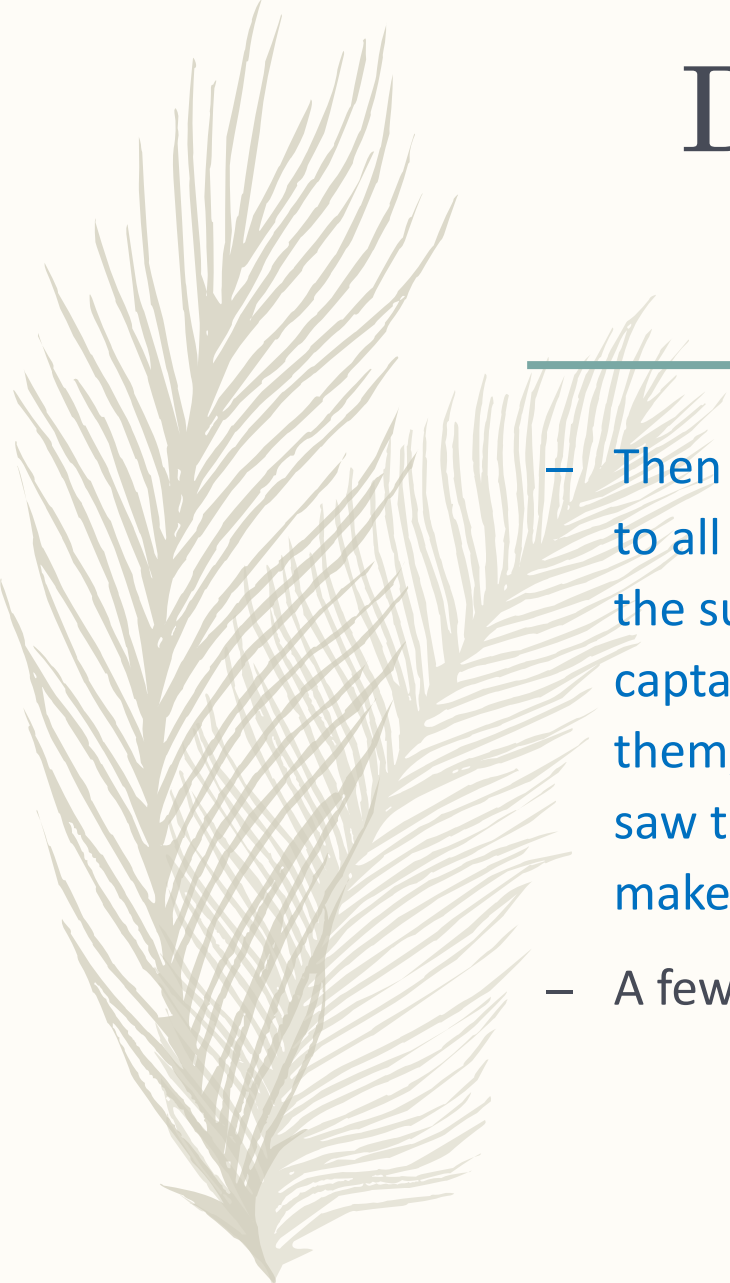
# King of Kings

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- And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. <sup>15</sup> **Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations.** And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. <sup>16</sup> And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS. Rev 19:14-16

# Devastation as Armageddon

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- Then I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the birds that fly in the midst of heaven, "Come and gather together for the supper of the great God, <sup>18</sup> that you may eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of captains, the flesh of mighty men, the flesh of horses and of those who sit on them, and the flesh of all people, free and slave, both small and great." <sup>19</sup> And I saw the beast, the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army. Rev 19:17-19
  - A few details on the "Battle of Armageddon."

# Map of Megiddo





# The Valley of Megiddo

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# The Fate of the Antichrist and the False Prophet

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- The conclusion...
- Then the **beast** was captured, and with him the **false prophet** who worked signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. **These two were cast alive into the lake of fire** burning with brimstone. <sup>21</sup> And **the rest were killed with the sword which proceeded from the mouth of Him who sat on the horse.** And all the birds were filled with their flesh. Rev 19:20-21



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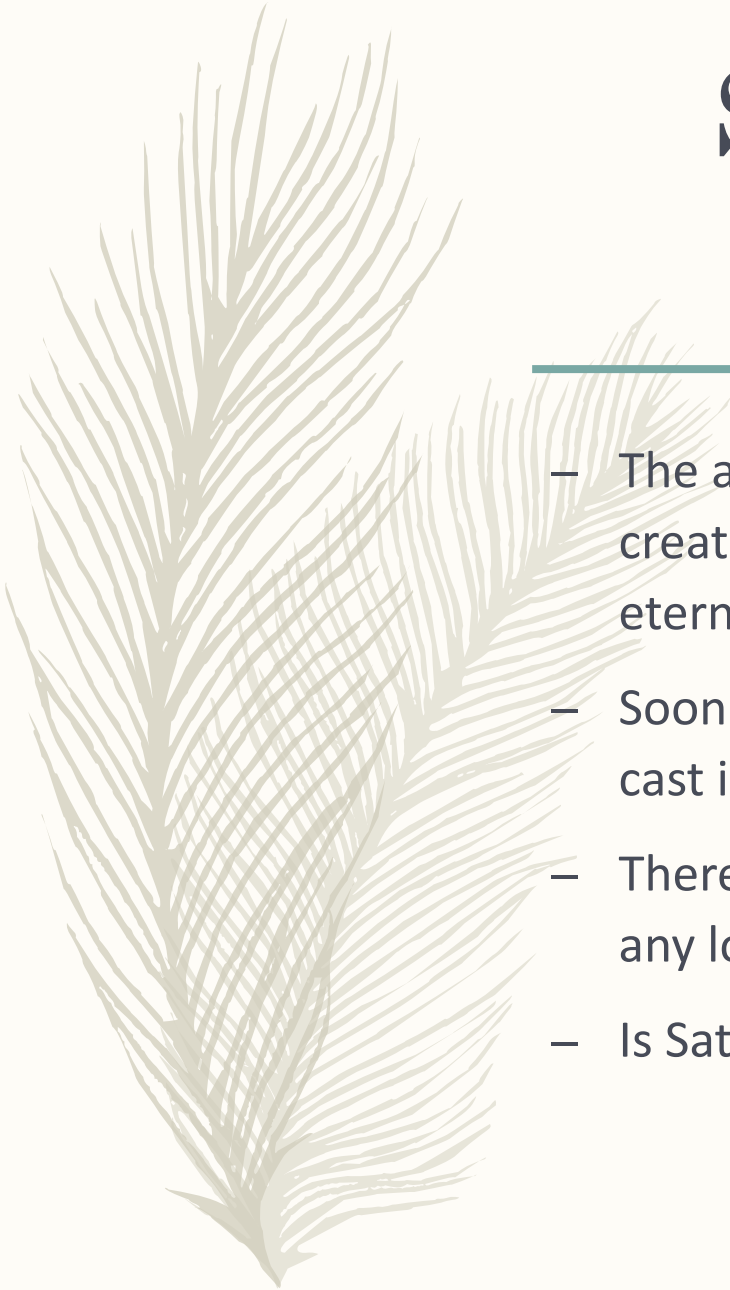
## The Millennial Kingdom and the Great White Throne Judgment

- Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. <sup>2</sup> He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; <sup>3</sup> 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. Rev 20:1-

# Satan's Future Destination

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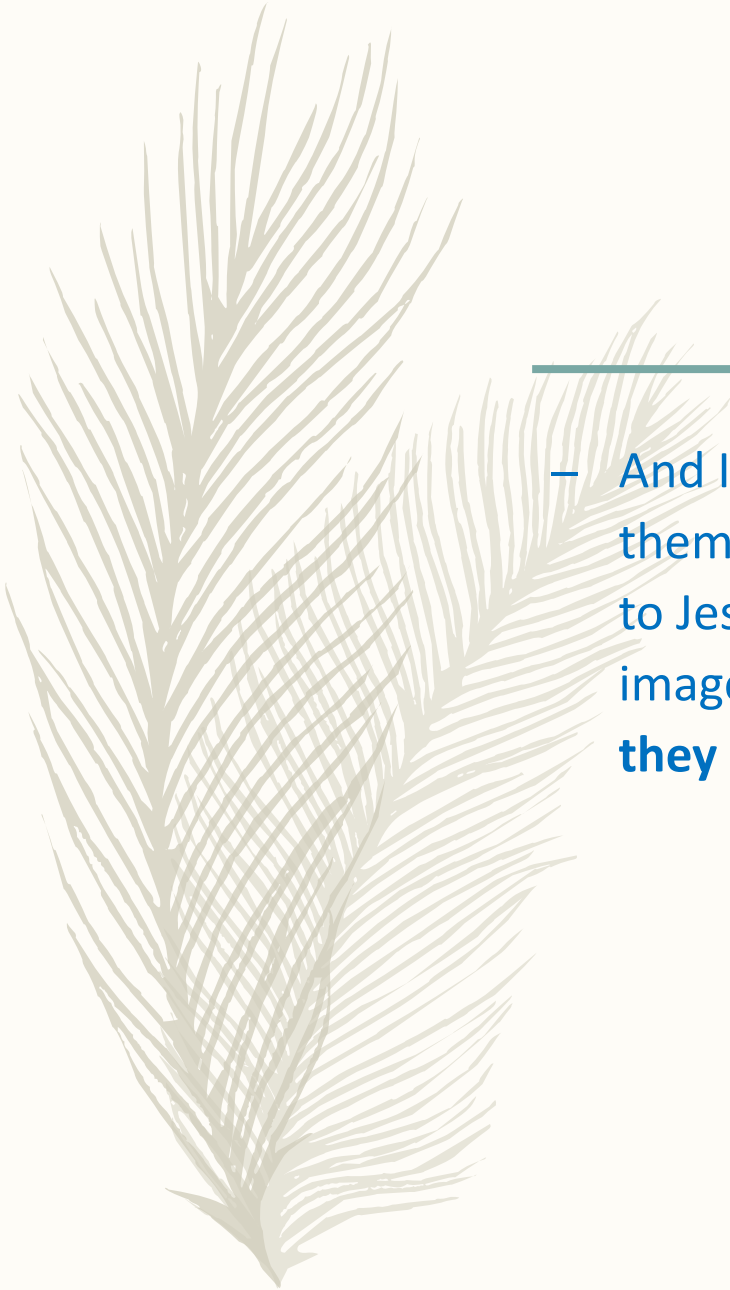
- The abyss or “bottomless pit” was a place where demons and other evil creatures were imprisoned by God until they would be banished into their final eternal place of punishment... a fiery hell.
- Soon after Jesus defeats Satan in the battle of Armageddon, the devil will be cast into the abyss, a temporary place of punishment.
- There Satan will sit for almost the entire Millennium, unable to torment anyone any longer.
- Is Satan bound today?



# Tribulation Saints

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- 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.** Rev 20:4



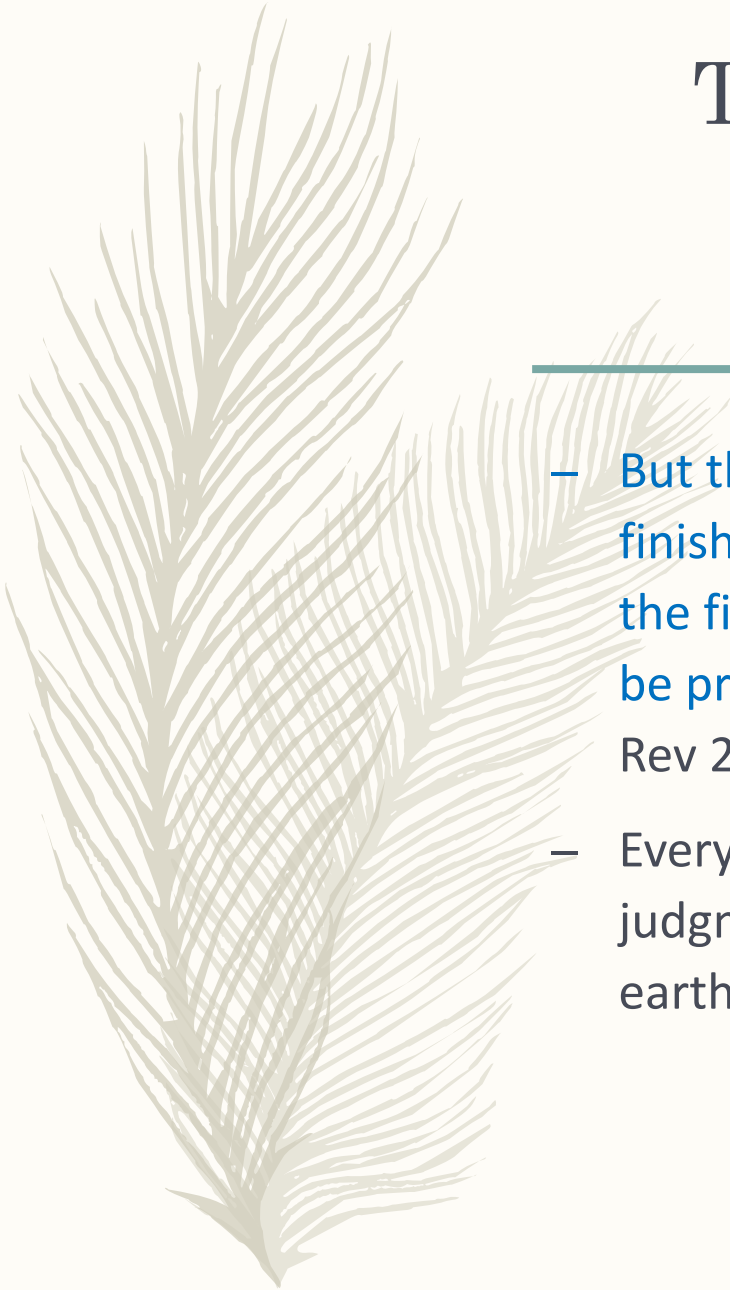
# The Future for those who reject Christ

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- But the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished. This is the **first resurrection**.<sup>6</sup> Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the **second death** has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.

Rev 20:5-6

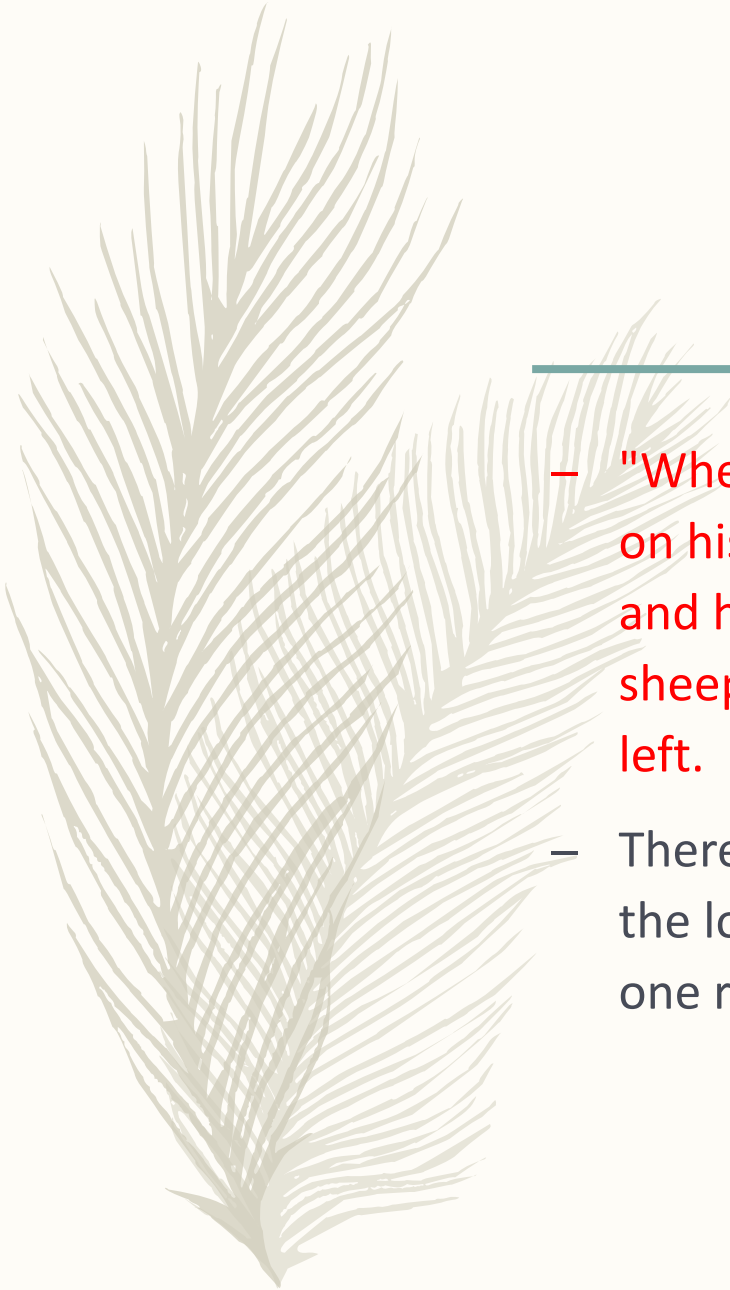
- Every unrepentant sinner of the Tribulation will be slain and await their final judgment. Jesus will separate the saved from the unsaved upon His return to earth. This is often referred to as the sheep and goat judgment:



# Sheep and Goat Judgment

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- "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his throne in heavenly glory. **32** All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. **33** He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. Matt. 25:31-32
- There will be a thousand years between the first resurrection of the saints and the lost. Those that have been saved by their faith in Jesus will only experience one resurrection – that will be enough.





# The Second Death



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- For those who have not accepted God’s plan for their life, they will be resurrected at the conclusion of the Millennium. Then, after a second judgment to be discussed a little later, **these people will face a second death...** for which there will be no return.

# A summary of the first resurrection

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- The Rapture of the Church
- Old Testament Saints
- Tribulation Saints
- God will allow Satan one more opportunity to use his evil influence on humanity as the Millennium draws to a close.
- Then, the end will come...





# The Conclusion of the Millennium

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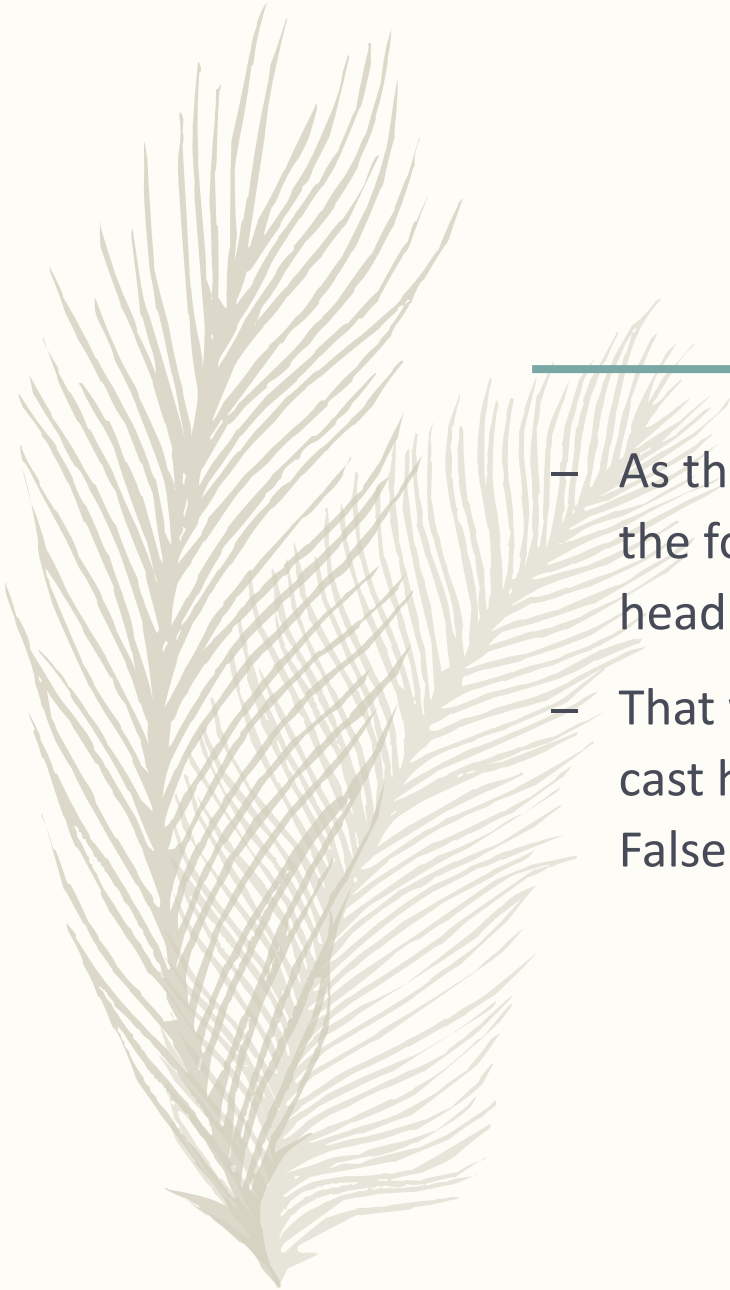
- **Now when the thousand years have expired, Satan will be released from his prison<sup>8</sup> and will go out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle, whose number is as the sand of the sea.<sup>9</sup> They went up on the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city. And fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them.<sup>10</sup> The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.**

Rev 20:7-10

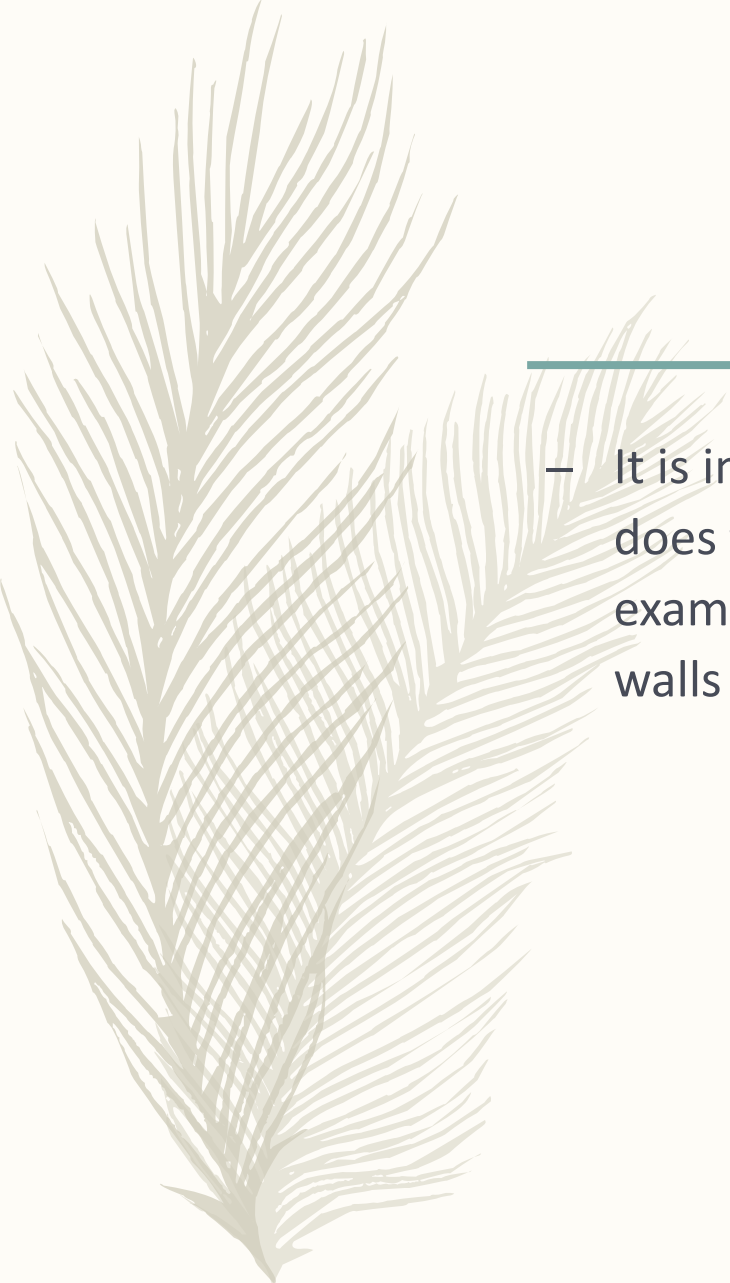
# The Final Revolt

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- As the thousand years draws to a close, Satan will gather up his followers from the four corners of the earth (and it will be a large number, unfortunately), and head on over to the capital city of Jerusalem.
- That will be the end of every evil action ever perpetrated by the devil. God will cast him in the lake of fire to be with his evil underlings, the Antichrist and the False Prophet.



# Hell

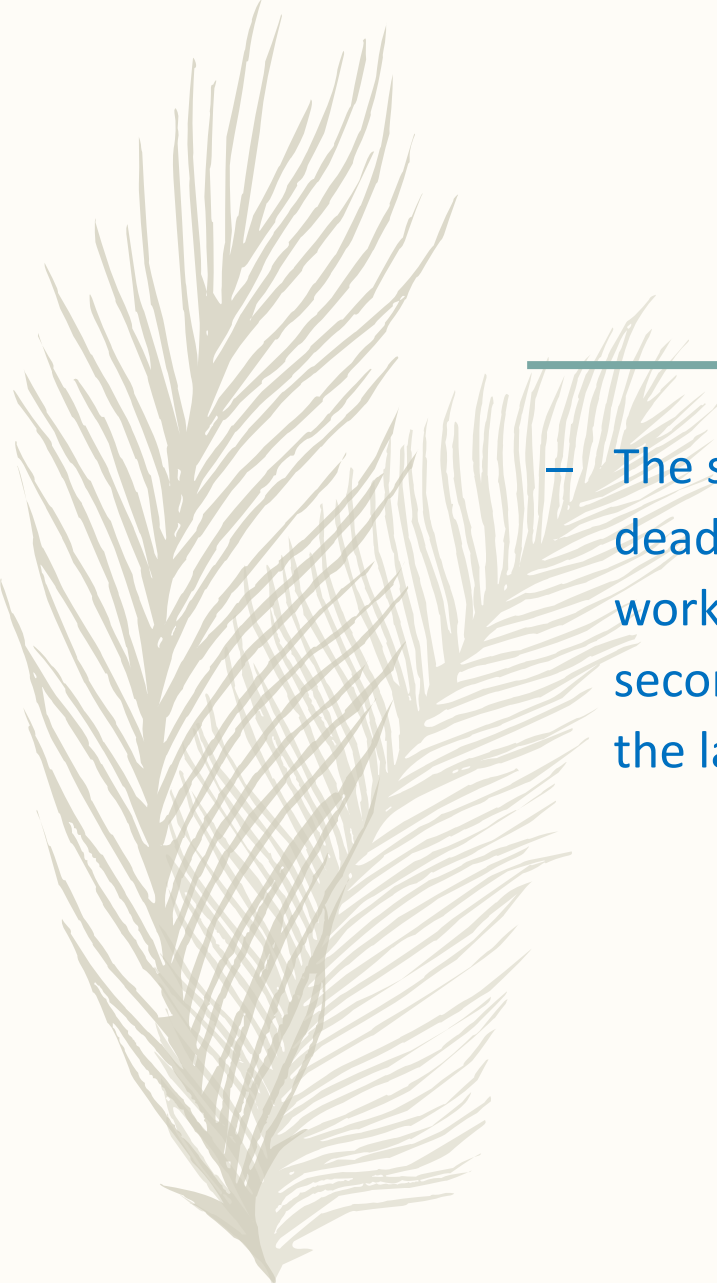
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- It is important to understand that their punishment will last for an eternity... as does the punishment of all human beings who reject Jesus. Jesus used the example of a perpetually burning, rotten smelling, city dump just outside the walls of the city. The place was called Gehenna (Place of Torment).



# The Great White Throne Judgment


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- Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. <sup>12</sup> And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books.

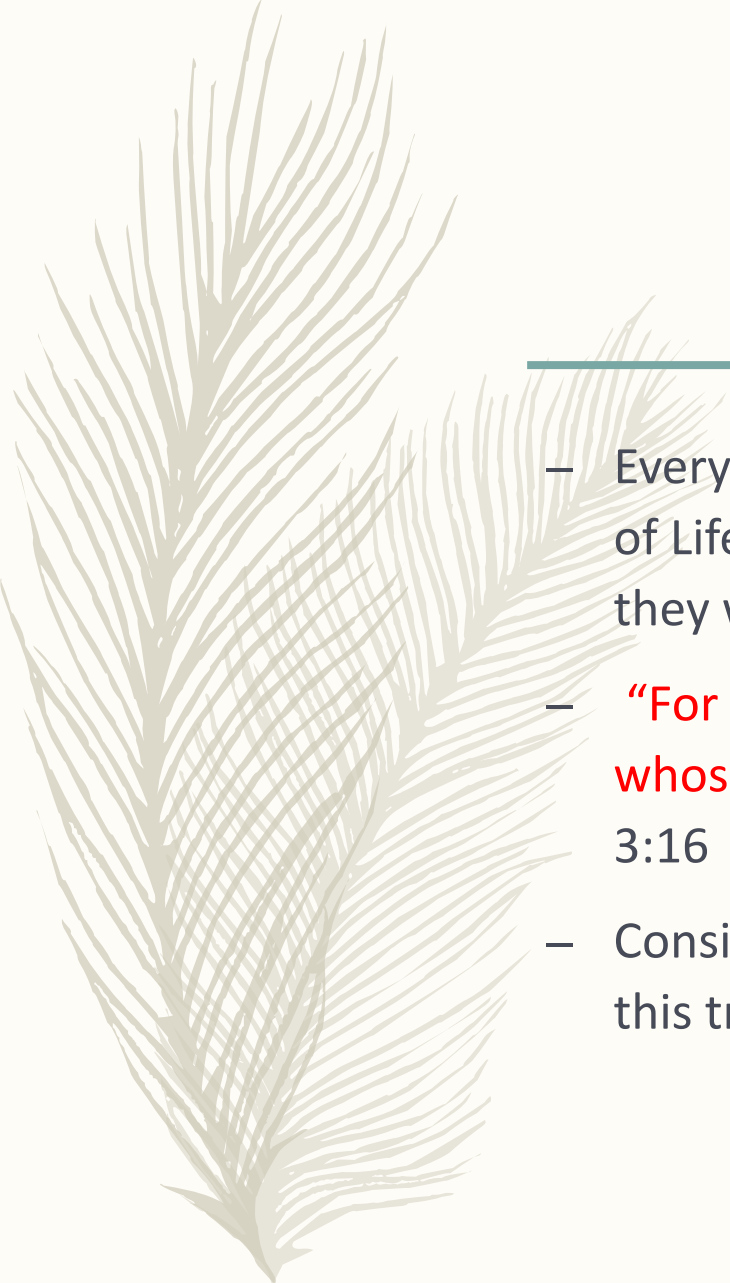
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- The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. <sup>14</sup> Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. <sup>15</sup> And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire. Rev 20:11-15

# Levels of Punishment

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- We must remember that if an individual does not have their sins forgiven by trusting in Jesus' sacrificial death on the cross, he/she will have to be judged by his/her "works". It is extremely likely that God will bring out some form of documentation of each person's life – likely found in these books. Everyone who appears before this *Great White Throne* judgment is doomed to eternal torment. However, there will be degrees of punishment as suggested by the phrase... "they were judged, each one according to his works."
  - Matt. 23:14; James 3:1; Luke 12:47-48;                      Matt 11:21-22

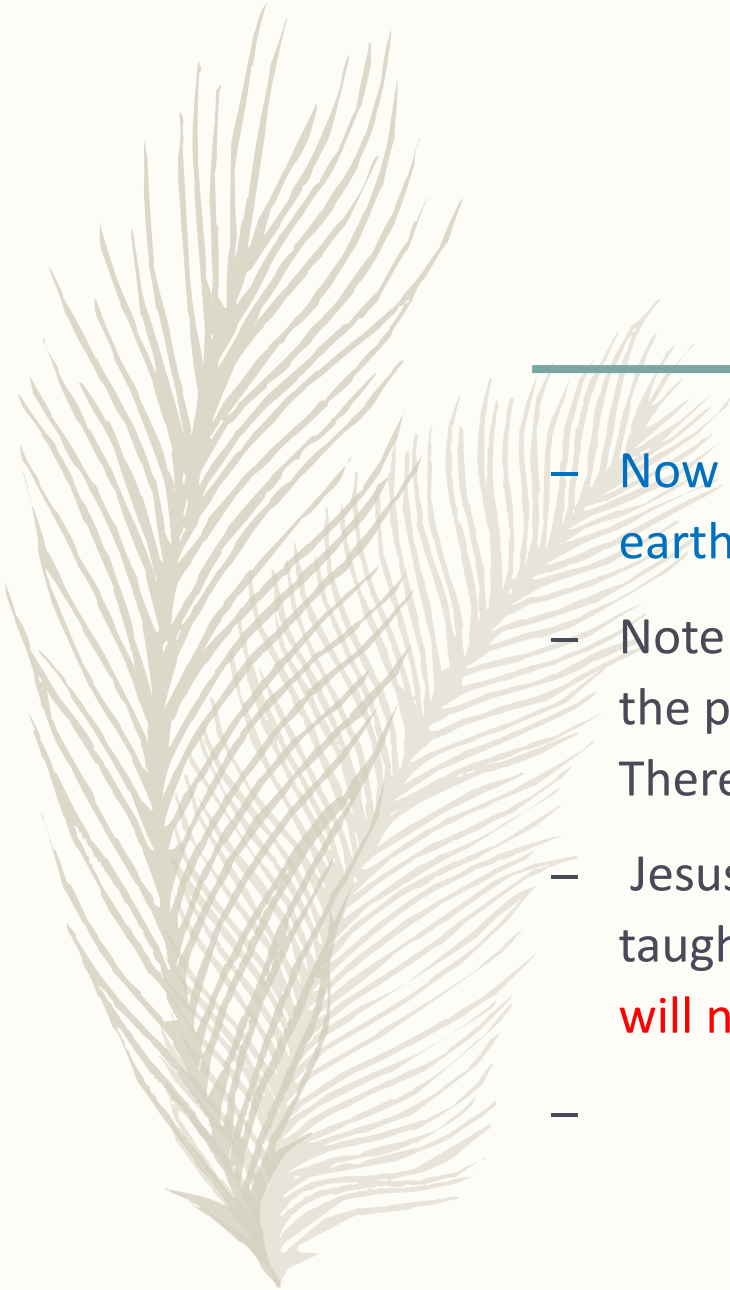


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- Everyone who will be present at this last judgment will not be found in the Book of Life. Therefore, at the conclusion of each person's appearance before God, they will be cast into the lake of fire.
  - **“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”** John 3:16
  - Consider accepting this belief as true by faith. Remember the first section of this treatise. The evidence for the truth of the Bible is overwhelming!

# The New Jerusalem

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- Now I saw a **new heaven and a new earth**, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also **there was no more sea.** Rev 21:1
- Note just how different the earth and its surrounding area will be compared to the present order of things. Even in this first verse we see a major change. There will be no more sea on this newly fashioned earth.
- Jesus spoke of this change from the old earth and heaven to the new when He taught about these end-times... **Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.** Matt 24:35
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# Peter writes of the New Heaven and New Earth

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- The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare. **11** Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives **12** as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. **13** But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness.  
2 Peter 3:10-13
- The time when the believer will enter into eternity in the New Heaven and New Earth will come right after the conclusion of the Millennial Kingdom on earth...



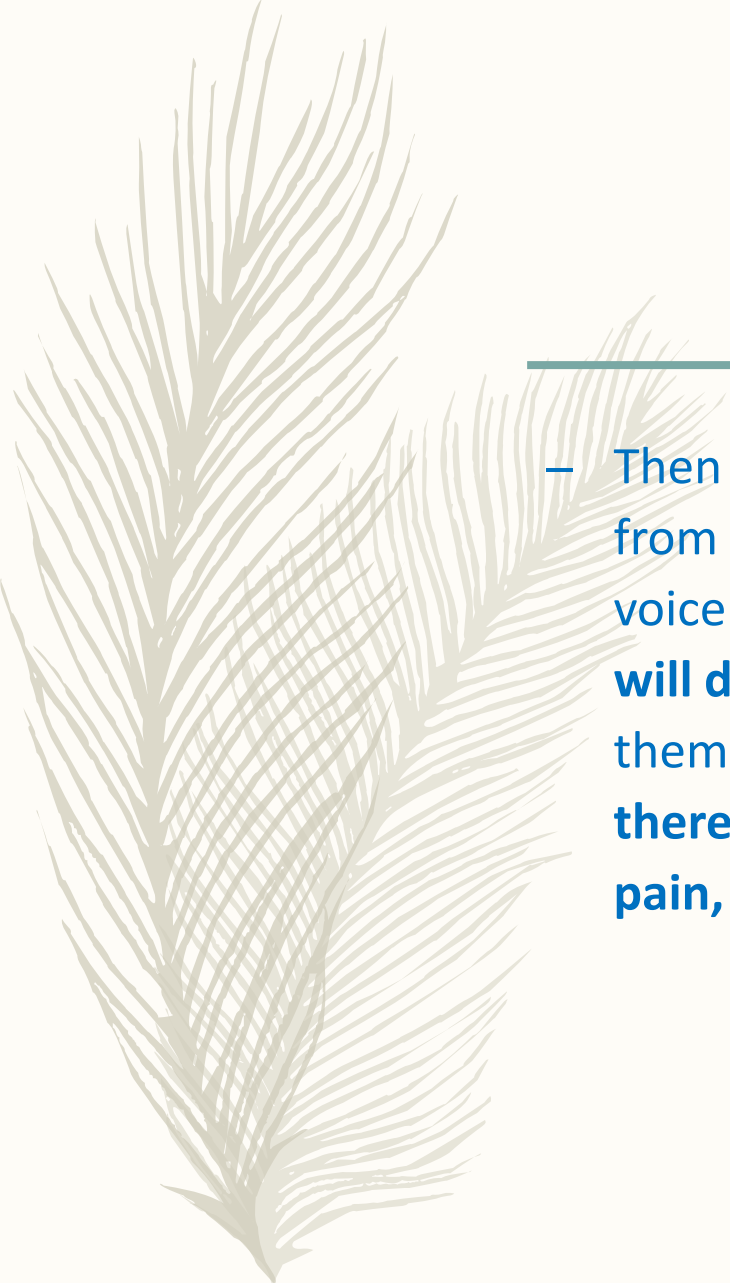
# Heaven, the home of the Christian

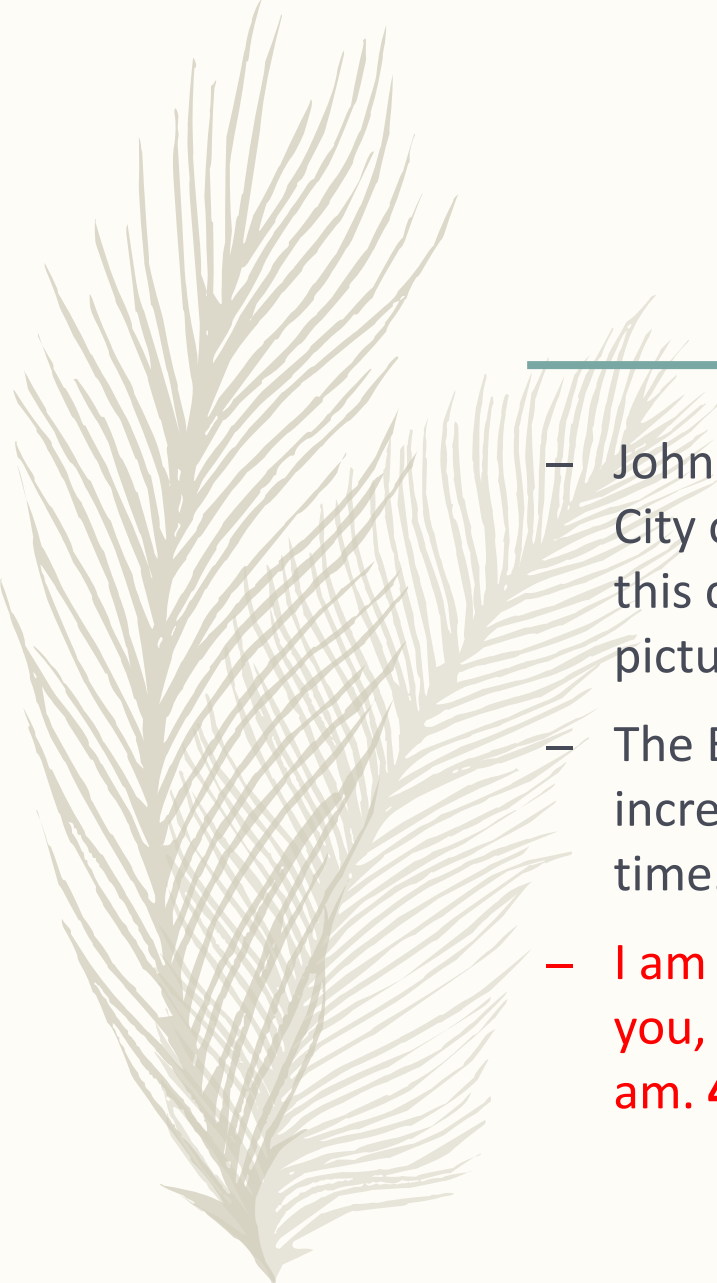
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- **But our citizenship is in heaven.** And we eagerly await a Savior from there, **the Lord Jesus Christ, 21 who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.** Phil 3:20-21
- Remember, all those in heaven will have glorified bodies... like the body of Jesus after His resurrection.

# New Jerusalem

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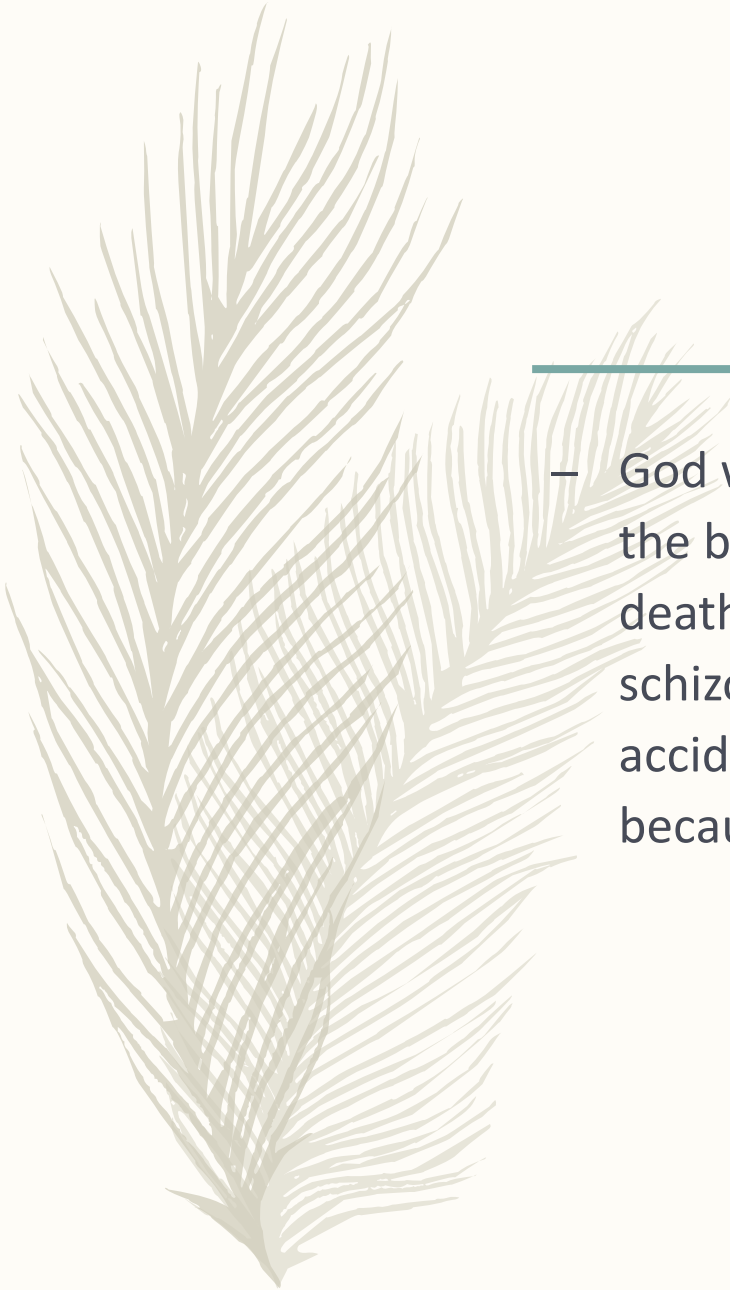
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- Then I, John, saw **the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven** from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, **the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them**, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. <sup>4</sup> **And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.**" Rev 21:2-4

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- John next witnesses the incredible sight. He sees God lowering down the Holy City of New Jerusalem that Jesus has prepared for His Bride. The verse says that this city looks like a bride prepared for her husband... and that is a beautiful picture of beauty.
  - The Bridegroom has spent the time and energy preparing the eternal and incredibly beautiful home for His Bride and He will proudly present it at this time.
  - I am going there to prepare a place for you. **3** And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. **4** You know the way to the place where I am going." John 14:2-4

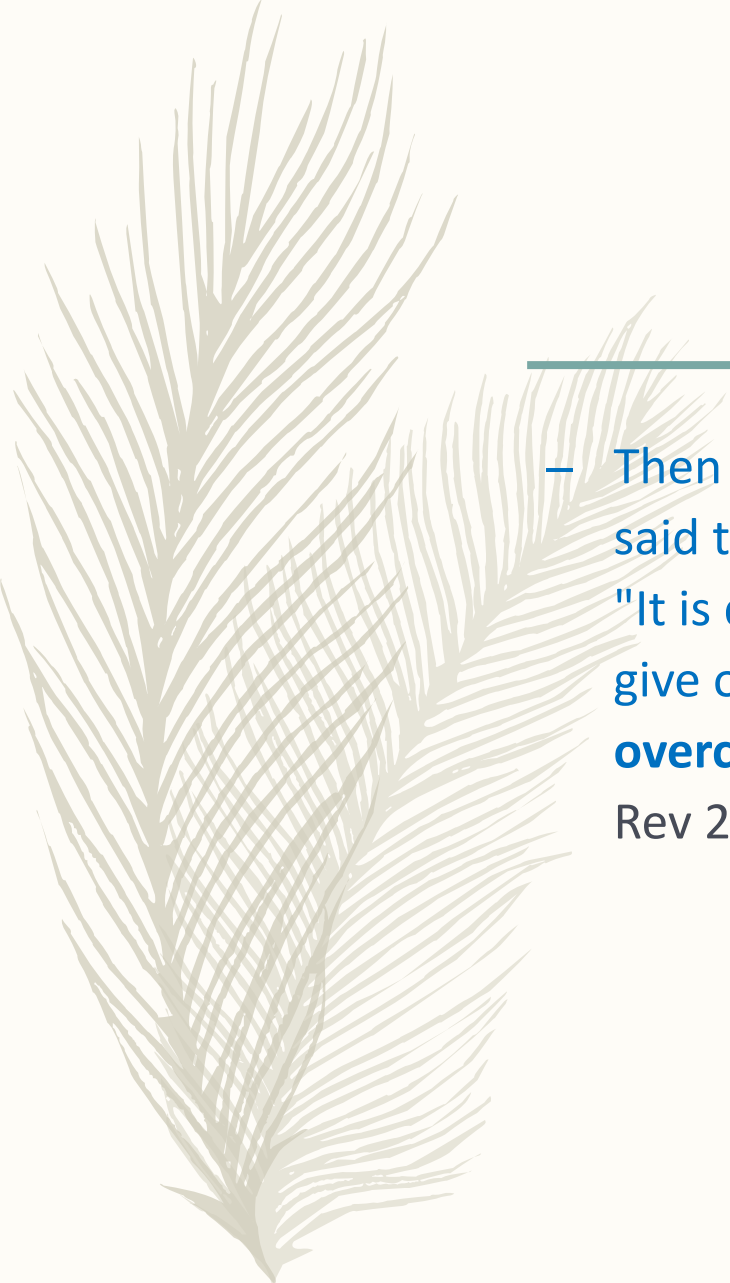
# Perfection!

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- God will now live in his holy city, the New Jerusalem. God will bring with Him the blessed hope of this eternal city. There will be no more sorrow, crying, death, tears..... and, we could add, the terrible emotional problems of anxiety, schizophrenia, manic-depression, etc. There will be no more sickness, accidental tragedies, pain, etc. Everything will be beautiful forevermore because of our glorified bodies and God's supernatural care.



# Alpha and Omega

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- Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And He said to me, "Write, for these words are true and faithful." <sup>6</sup> And He said to me, "It is done! **I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End.** I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts. <sup>7</sup> **He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son.**

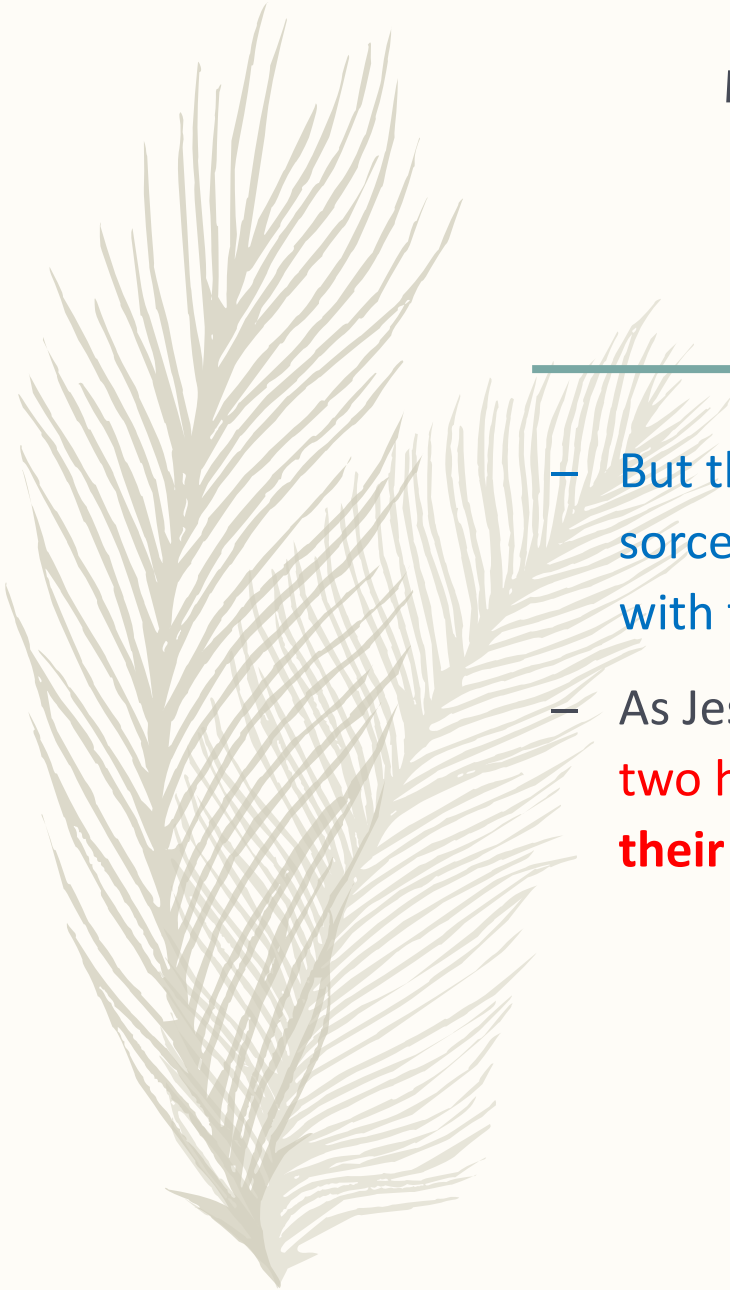
Rev 21:5-7



# The Fate of the Unbeliever

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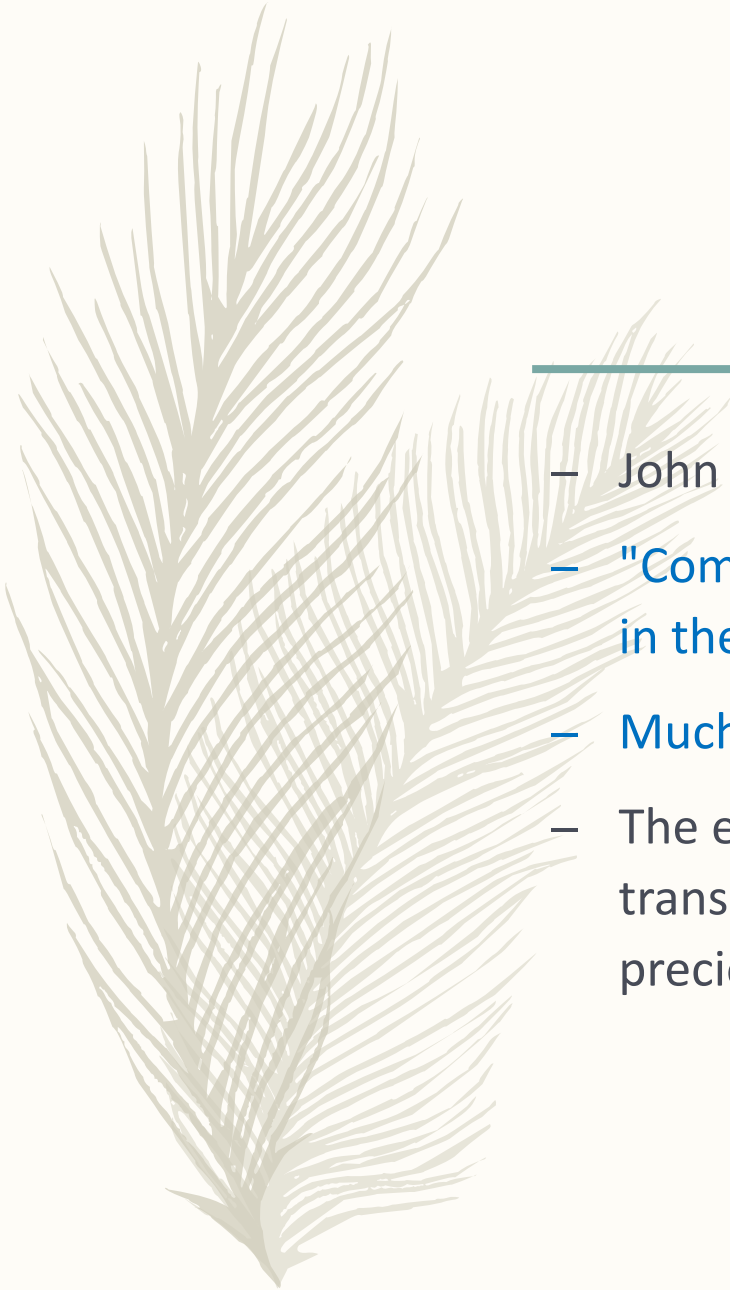
- But the cowardly, **unbelieving**, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death." Rev 21:8
- As Jesus stated that "it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into **the fire that never shall be quenched: Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.**" Mark 9:43-44



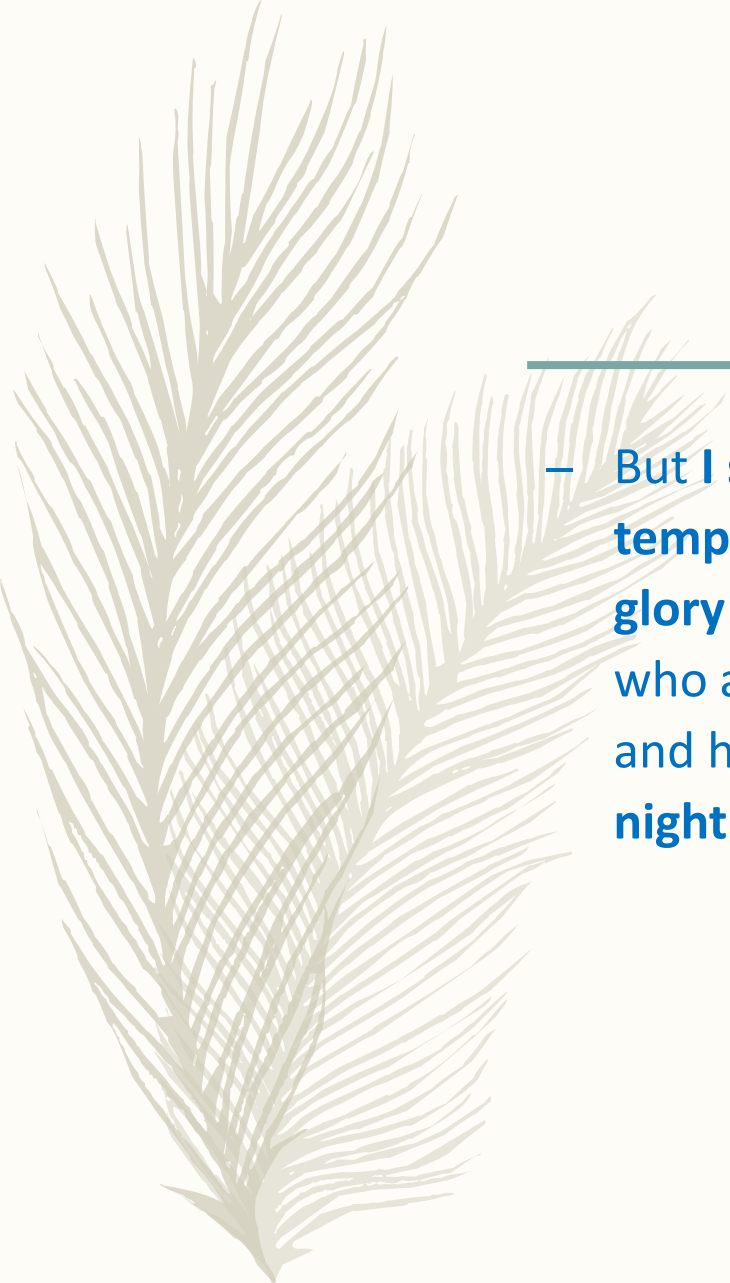
# The Heavenly City

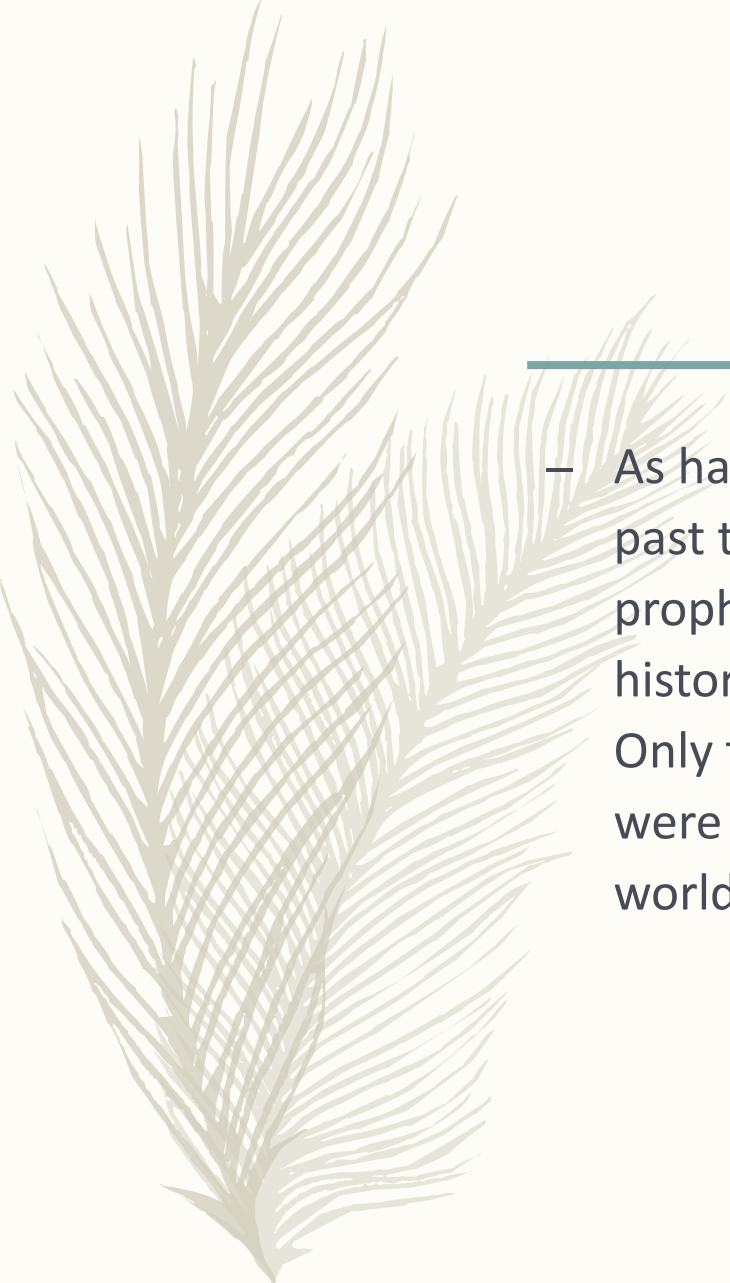
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- John is given a vision of the New Jerusalem with some detail.
- "Come, I will show you the bride, the Lamb's wife." <sup>10</sup> And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me **the great city.**
- Much of the city architecture is described by John. It is simply glorious.
- The entire city was fit for God Himself! The streets were pure gold... like transparent glass!!! The walls of the city were constructed out of beautiful precious stones.

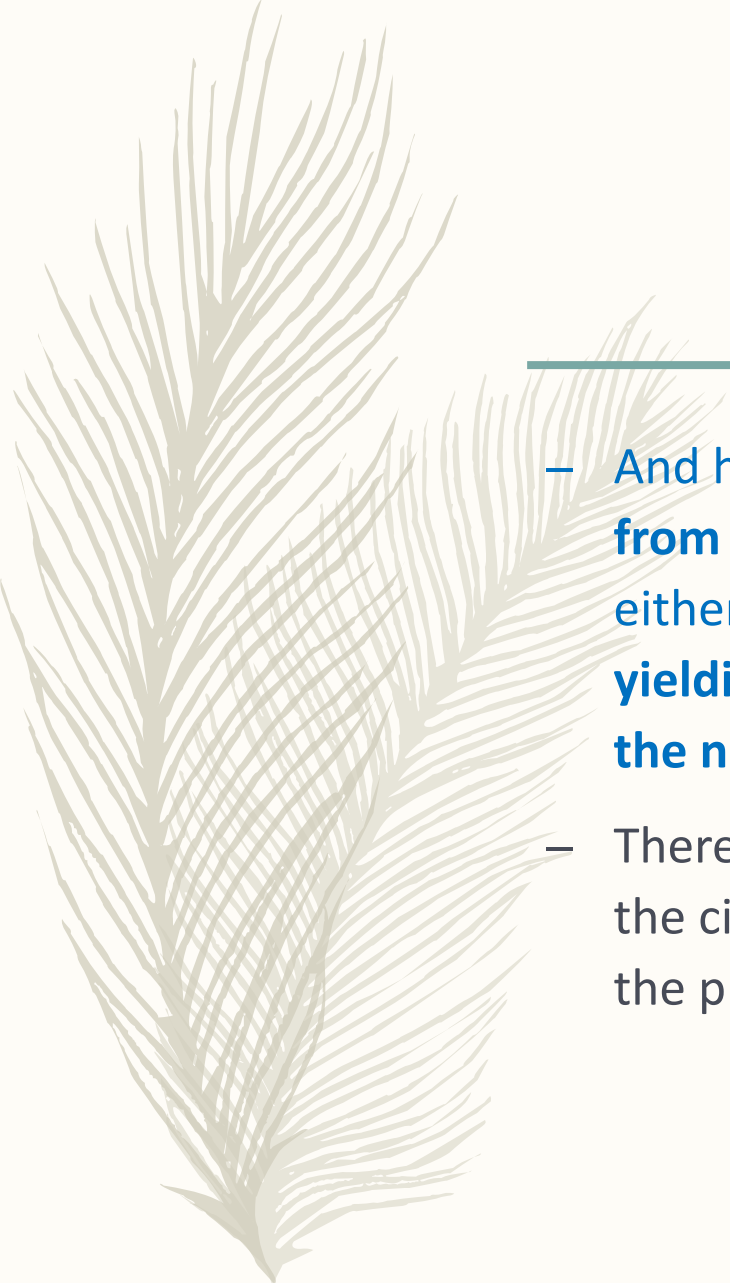


# No Sun; No Temple

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- **But I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple.** <sup>23</sup> The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for **the glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb is its light.** <sup>24</sup> And the nations of those who are saved shall walk in its light, and the kings of the earth bring their glory and honor into it. <sup>25</sup> Its gates shall not be shut at all by day (**there shall be no night there**). Rev. 22:21-25

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- As has already been noted, there will be nothing tainted by sin that will persist past the conclusion of the Millennial Kingdom. Satan, the Antichrist, the False prophet, all of the demons, and all of the unrepentant people of the entire history of the world will be confined to hell at this time... and forevermore. Only those written in the Lamb's Book of Life will be there... and those names were written in that gloriously important book from before the beginning of the world!

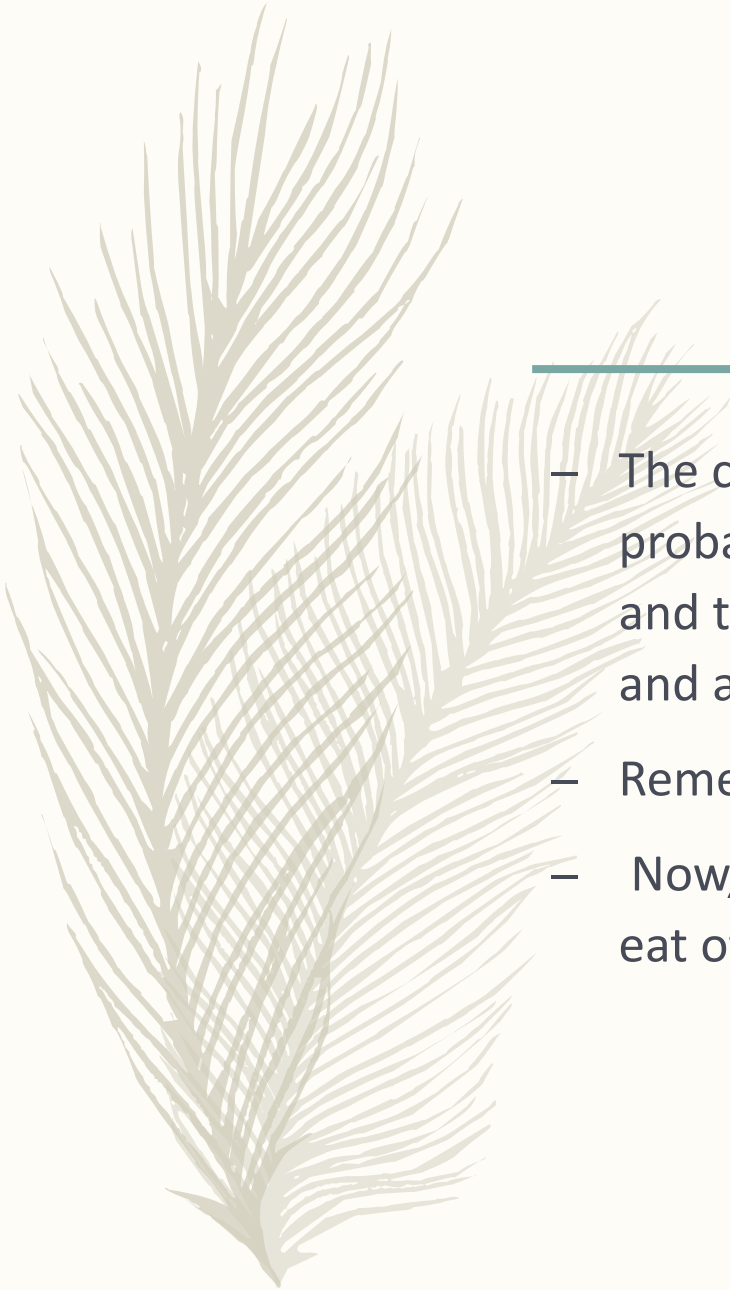
# River of Life & Tree of Life

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- And he showed me a **pure river of water of life**, clear as crystal, **proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb.** <sup>2</sup> In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, was **the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits, each tree yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.** Rev 22:1-2
  - There will be a beautiful, crystal pure river of life coursing through the center of the city. Its origin will be the **throne** of God! Certainly, this river reminds us of the provider of our eternal life... the source will always be God and the Lamb.

# Tree of Life

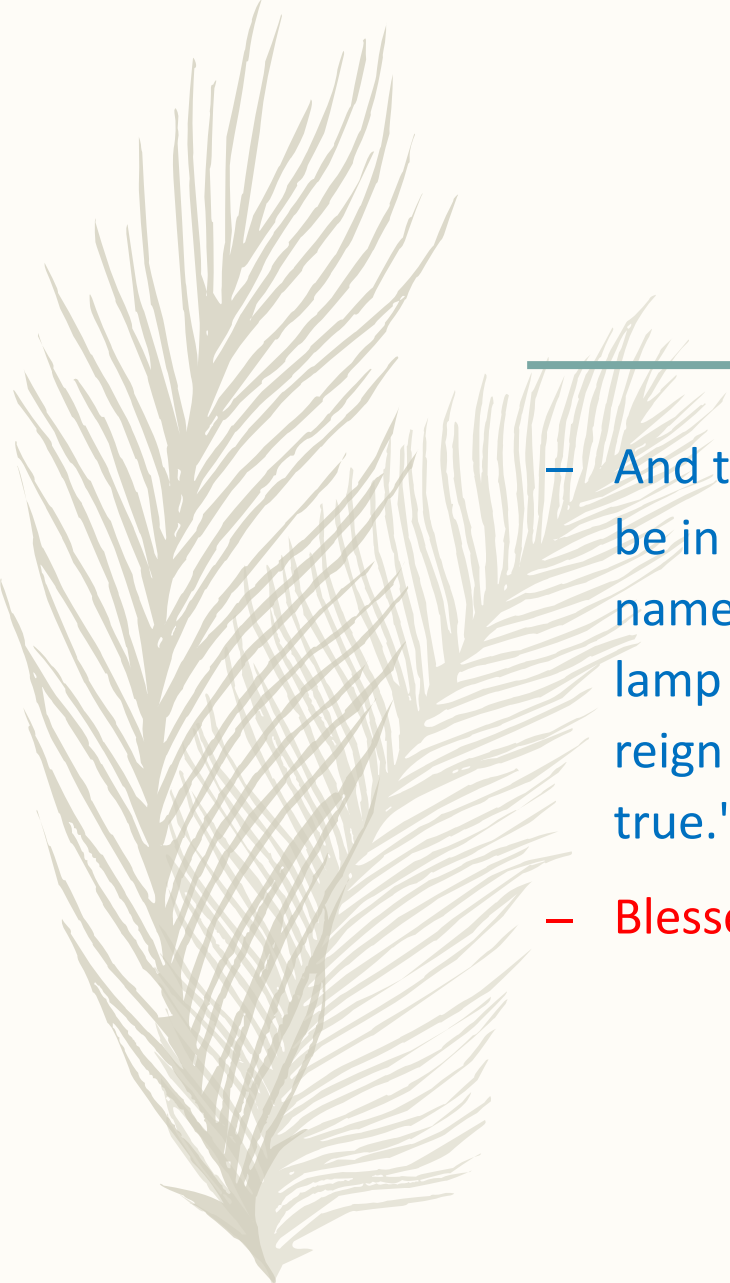
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- The comment that the leaves of the tree were for the healing on the nations is probably better translated health of the nations. In other words, both the fruit and the leaves will somehow be used by God for the enrichment of the saints and angels eternal existence.
- Remember the Tree of Life in the Garden of Eden.
- Now, however, in the New Jerusalem, it will be time for all men and women to eat of the fruit of the tree of life. There will be no more curse, ever...



# We Shall See His Face

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- And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him. <sup>4</sup> **They shall see His face**, and His name shall be on their foreheads. <sup>5</sup> There shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for **the Lord God gives them light**. And they shall reign forever and ever. <sup>6</sup> Then he said to me, "These words are faithful and true." Rev 22:3-6
  - **Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.** Matt 5:8

# Christians will be co-heirs with Jesus

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- The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. **17** Now if we are children, then we are heirs--heirs of God and **co-heirs with Christ**, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.  
Romans 8:16-17
- If we died with him, we will also live with him; if we endure, **we will also reign with him.**      2 Tim 2:11-12

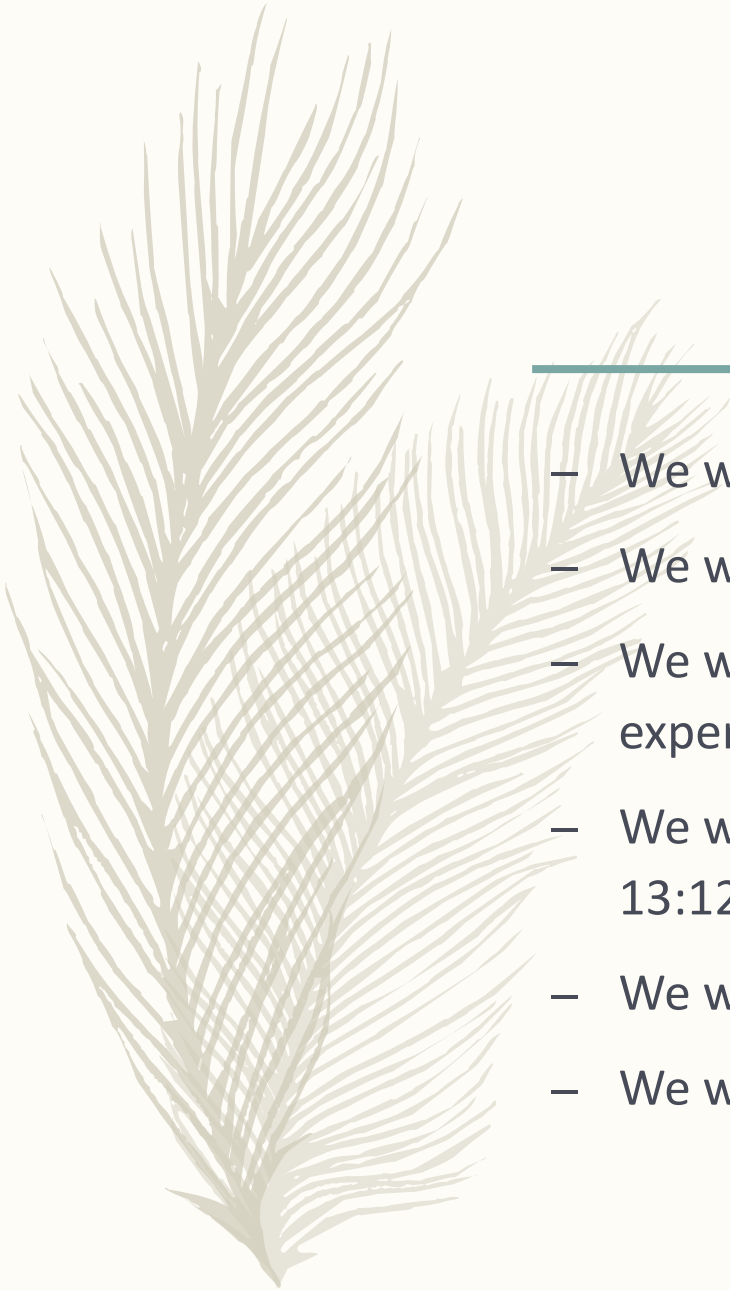





# The Life of a Saint

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- We will have fellowship with the Lord Jesus John 14:3
- We will sing praises of worship Rev 19:1
- We will have rest from our toil and worry and pain – never again will we experience things of this nature
- We will have increased knowledge (and probably higher intelligence) 1 Cor 13:12
- We will live in a world that is perfect in every way
- We will want for nothing Rev. 21:6

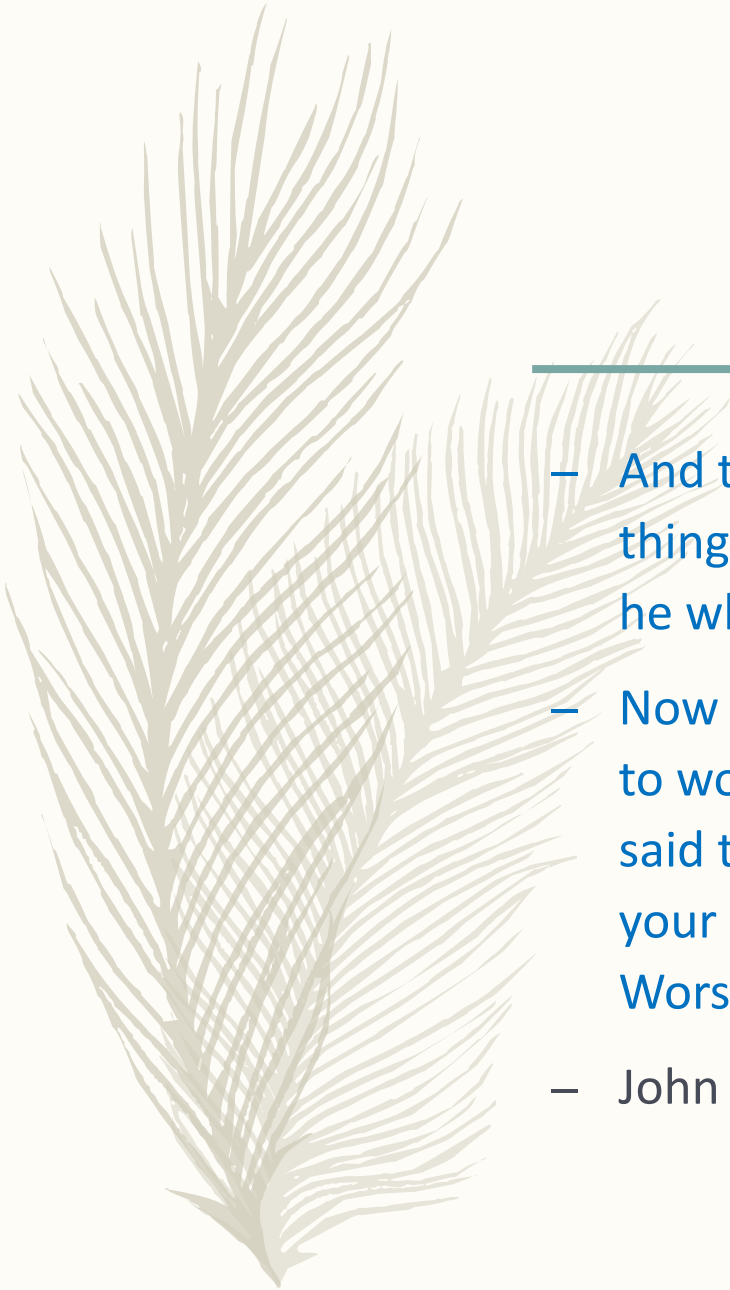


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- We will experience a life of glory Col 3:4
  - We will work with and for Jesus to accomplish His eternal plans – this will be very intriguing, indeed
  - We will have immortal, glorified bodies that will be able to do amazing things. Some of these things were seen while Jesus walked the earth after His resurrection. Other dimensions may well be experienced.

# Jesus will come quickly

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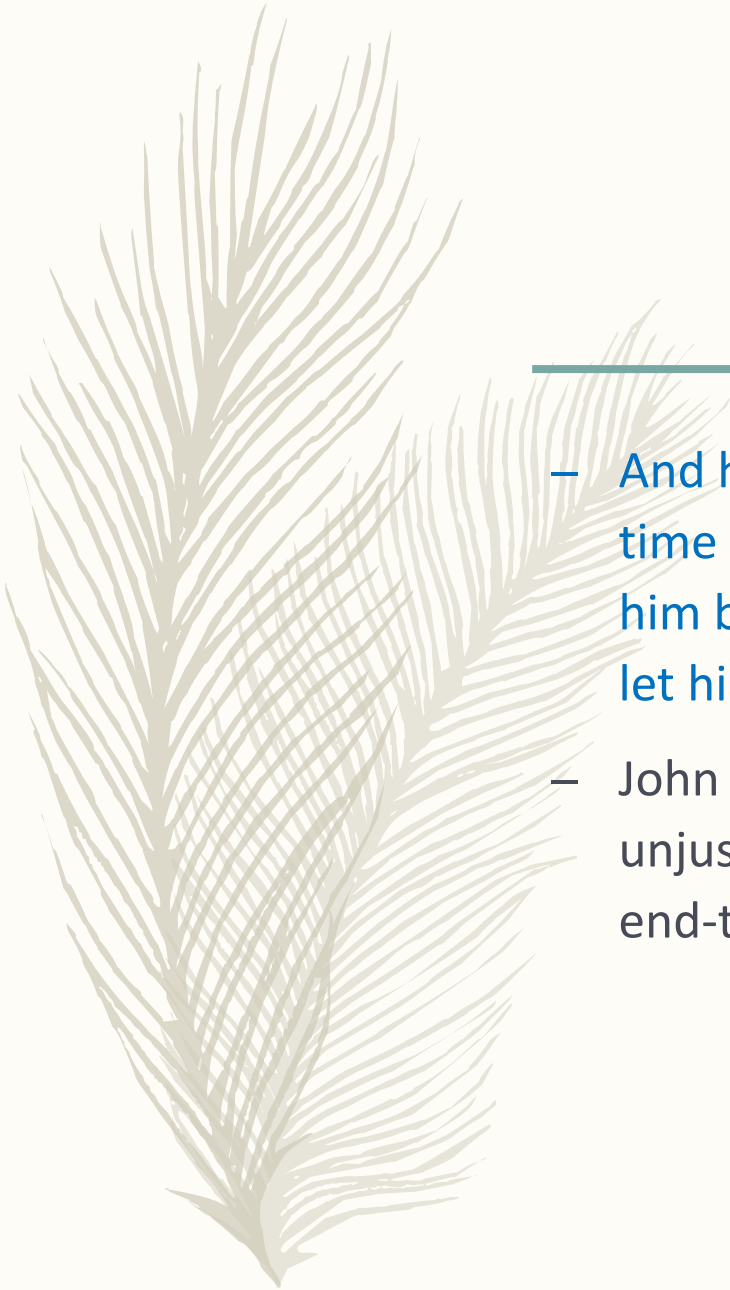
- And the Lord God of the holy prophets sent His angel to show His servants the things which must shortly take place. <sup>7</sup> "Behold, I am coming quickly! Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book." Rev 22:6-7
- Now I, John, saw and heard these things. And when I heard and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



# Instructions to John

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- And he said to me, "Do not seal the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is at hand. <sup>11</sup> He who is unjust, let him be unjust still; he who is filthy, let him be filthy still; he who is righteous, let him be righteous still; he who is holy, let him be holy still." Rev. 22:10-11
- John was instructed to write all of these prophecies down so that all people, unjust and righteous would be able to see what was in store for the world in the end-times.

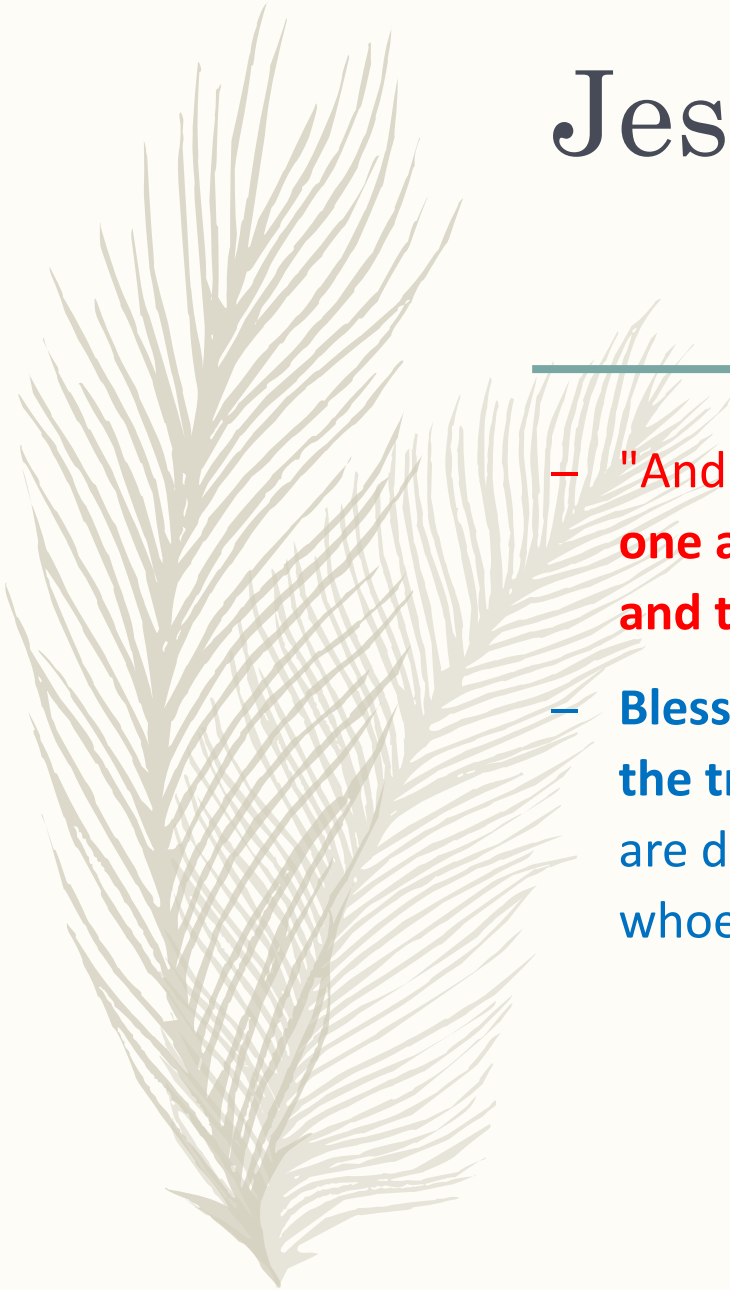


# Jesus says He is coming quickly

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- **"And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work. <sup>13</sup> I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last."**
- **Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city. <sup>15</sup> But outside are dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie.**

Rev 22:8-15





# Jesus, the Bright and Morning Star

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- All those, and only those, who trust in Jesus will be rewarded with eternal life in heaven. Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." John 14:6
- "I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. **I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star.**" <sup>17</sup> And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" And let him who thirsts come. Rev. 22:16-17

# Do not tamper with this book



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- **Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely.** <sup>18</sup> For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: **If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book;** <sup>19</sup> **and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life,** from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book. <sup>20</sup> He who testifies to these things says, **"Surely I am coming quickly." Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!** <sup>21</sup> **The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.** Rev 22:17-21



# Summary of Chapters 19-22

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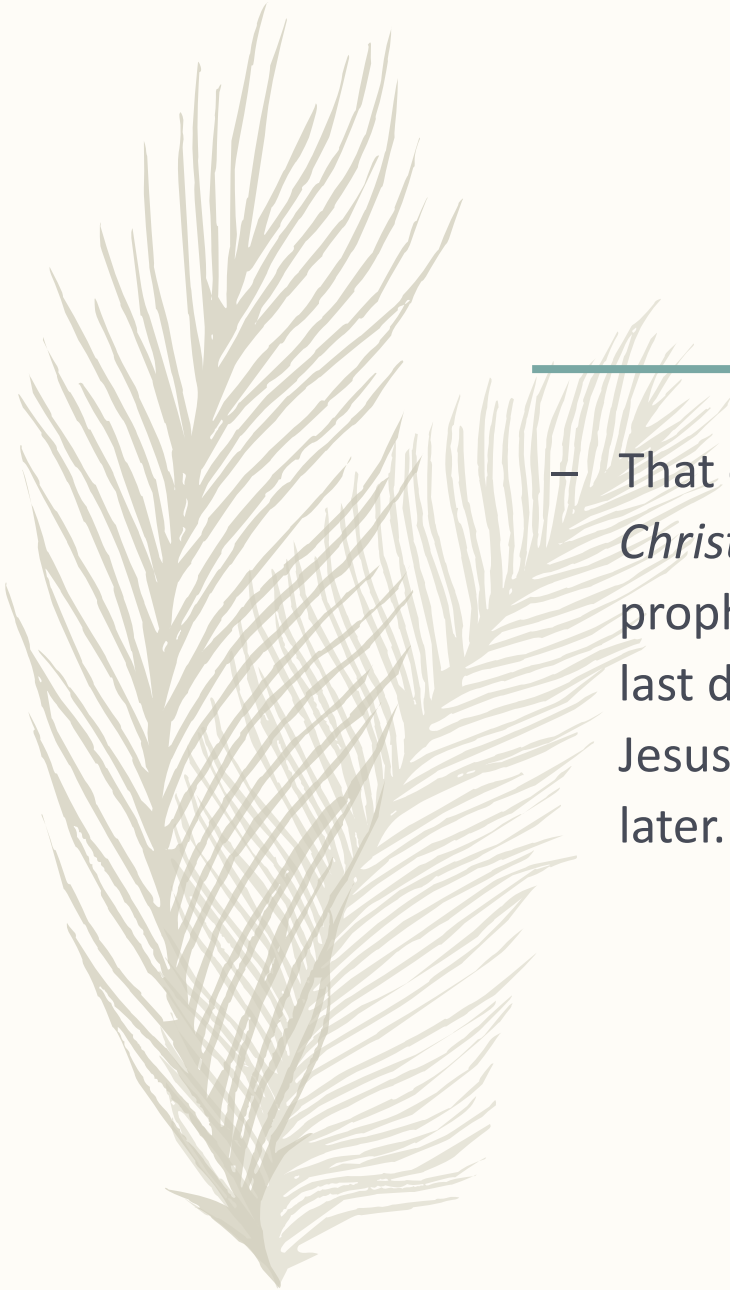
- The last four chapters of *The Revelation* take the reader from the victory of Jesus and His saints at Armageddon all the way through to the New Heavens and New Earth.
- Chapter 19 tells of the marriage of the Lamb to His Church and Christ's victory at the Battle of Armageddon.
- Chapter 20 tells of the chaining of Satan for 1,000 years and the glories of the Millennium
- The final two chapters are concerned primarily with the eternal heaven and earth.

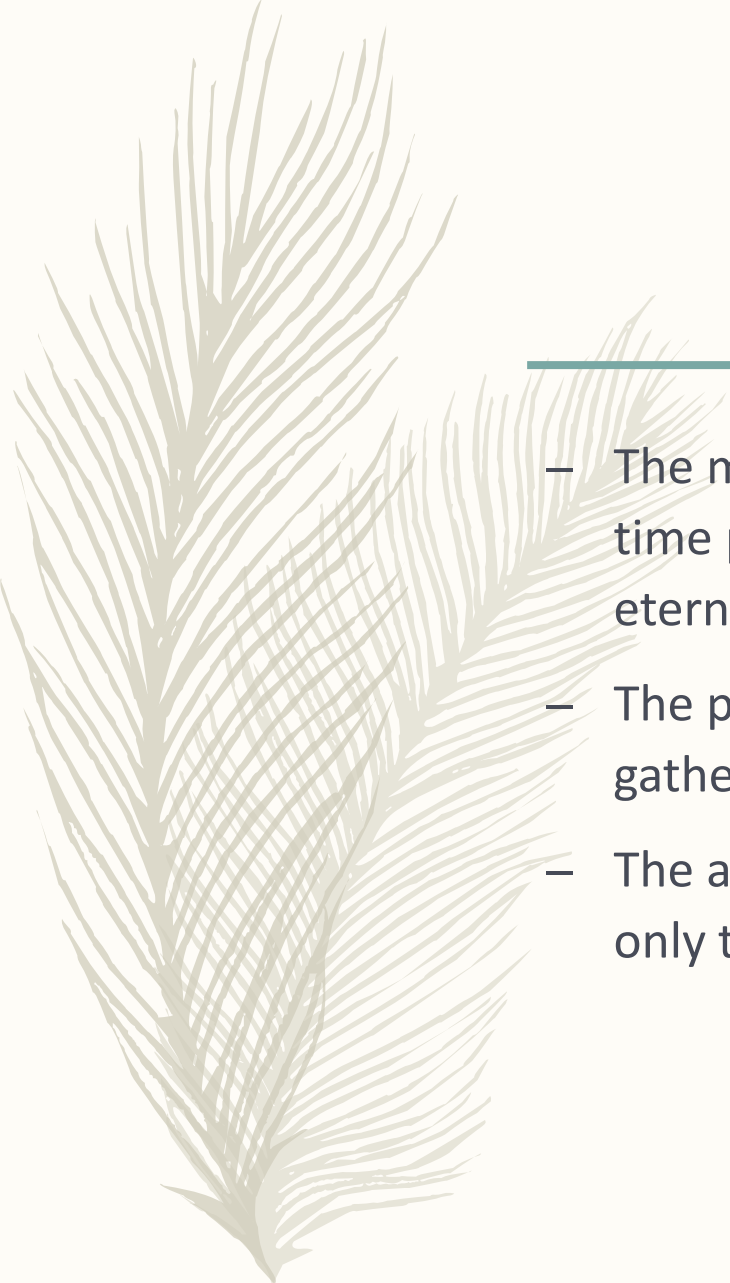


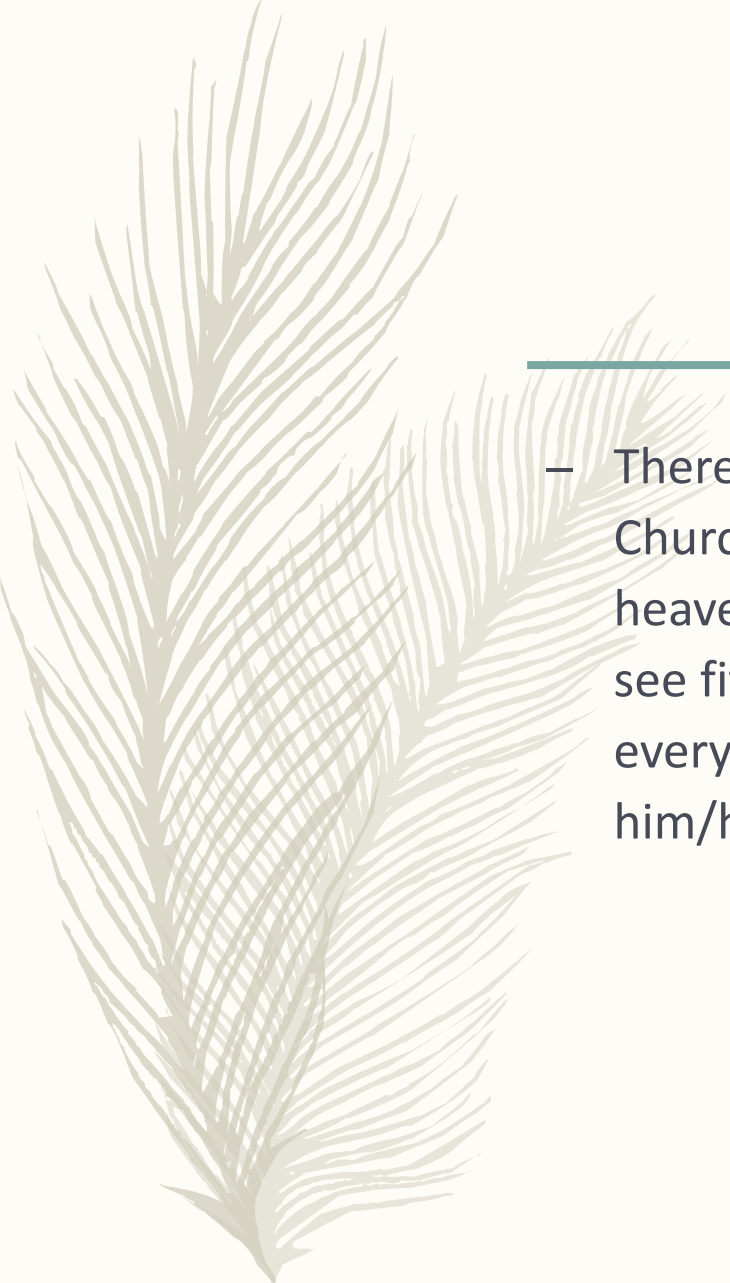
# Conclusion

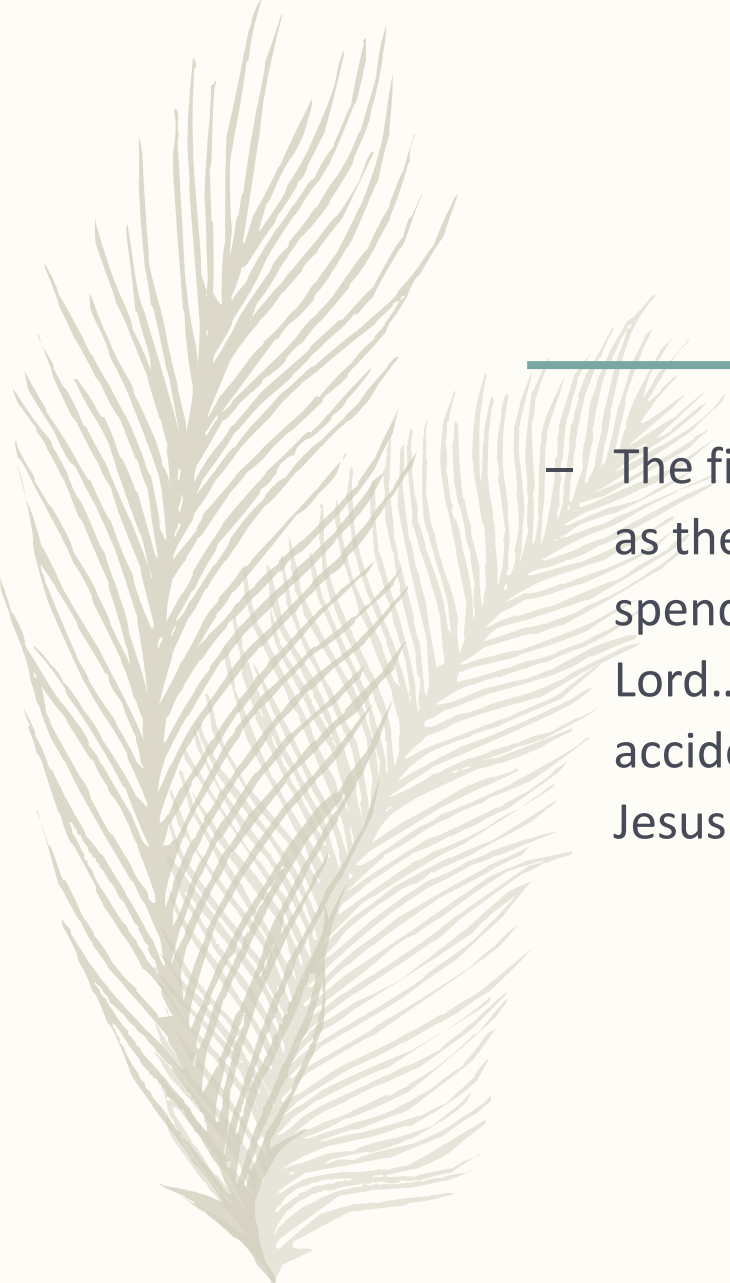
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- That concludes the commentary on *Zechariah* and *The Revelation of Jesus Christ*. The Old Testament prophet, Zechariah, certainly was given much prophetic insight on what was in store for Israel and the Jewish people as the last days approached. Of course, much more specific detail was added when Jesus gave His revelation to His good friend, John the Apostle, some 600 years later.



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- The main point of including both of these commentaries in this section on end-time prophecy was to show that God has always had a unique plan from eternity past regarding how He was going to bring in the Kingdom.
  - The prophet Zechariah was given knowledge concerning the eventually re-gathering of Israel.
  - The apostle John was shown very important aspects of the future Kingdom. Not only that but he was given a vision of the ultimate fate of mankind.

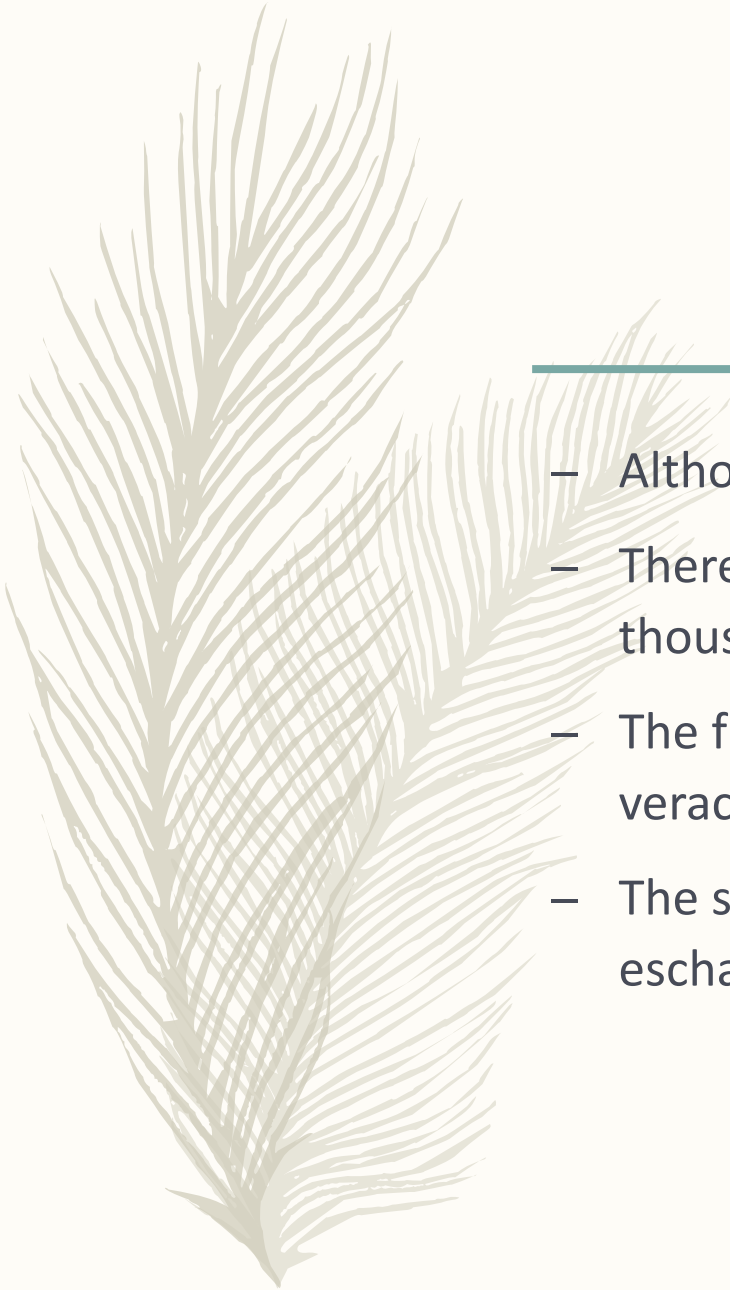
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- There is coming a time of Great Tribulation. If those who believe that the Church will be raptured out of this Tribulation are correct, Christians will be in heaven during that terrible time of judgment. On the other hand, if God does see fit to allow His Church to go through some or all of this time of Tribulation, every Christian alive during that time must be ready to depend on Jesus to help him/her through.


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- The final important point to be emphasized is that all people who choose Christ as their Savior will one day enter heaven. From that day forward, they will spend an eternity of bliss in the glorious New Heaven and New Earth with the Lord... there will be no pain, no worry, no sickness, no tears, no anger, no accidents, no boredom... only a perfect existence provided by our wonderful Jesus... nothing but eternal joy and peace! Praise God!

# Final Thoughts

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- Although we cannot know the day or the our, we should know the “season.”
- There are literally dozens of end-time signs that were foretold in the Bible thousands of years ago that have come to fruition in the past sixty years.
- The first section of this book was written to show the amazing accuracy and veracity of the Holy Bible.
- The second section pointed out the varying methods of interpreting eschatology... there really is no one consensus of opinion.



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- However, I did give the reasons why the last two sections of this book looked at end-time events with a dispensational, premillennial, and pretribulational Rapture approach.
  - Fifty signs of the end times were then presented in section three. There never were so very many of these signs coming together at one particular point in history... not even close.
  - *Zechariah* and *The Revelation* were then commented on in fairly significant detail.

# The Goal for this study...

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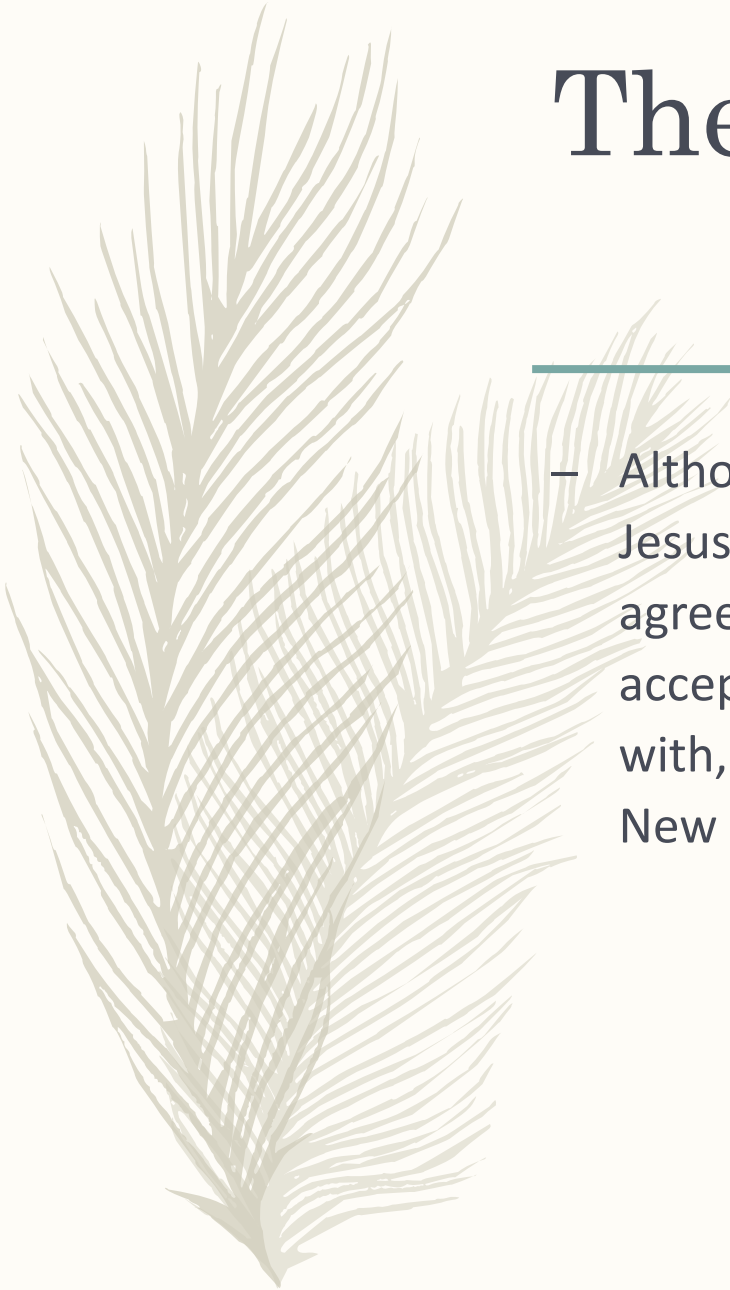
- An increased faith in God and His Holy Word
- A greater and more personal *blessed hope* for the future Rapture of the Church
- More understanding of recent world events relating to the prophecies of the end-times
- A greater ability to appreciate the many end-time prophecies in the Bible as current events unfold
- A closer walk with Jesus



# The Blessed Hope of the Future

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- Although there are several differing views of exactly how the Second Coming of Jesus will actually be manifest, all conservative, Bible believing theologians agree that in the future Jesus will come again and adorn all those who have accepted Him as Savior and Lord with their glorified bodies. He will then live with, as He reigns over, these saints for an eternity in the New Heaven and the New Earth. That is definitely the *blessed hope* of the future!





# The Millennial Kingdom

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- The Millennial Kingdom – a future glorious kingdom ruled by the Messiah.
- Mentioned all throughout the Bible
- Just what is the nature of this kingdom? Three main concepts will be presented...
- A listing of the basic concepts of each kingdom idea will be presented
- The reasons why the idea has been adopted
- A few of the main objections that others have to that particular conception of the kingdom

