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**“Let’s go study this in depth, #1.” Where do we begin to understand?**

For two thousand years, they've been preaching that Jesus is the Messiah. Many have believed, and many haven’t. A lot of you have been hearing this forever. Right now, I'm living in one of the biggest cities in America in summer 2023, and it seems like everyone's saying it's almost time for Jesus to come back.

People are dreaming about the rapture but don't know what it is until they tell someone who gets it. Then there are those who have heard of His return, but since it hasn’t happened, they say I am tired of it.

You're right; this has been preached since Jesus said it to His disciples when He left Earth after being crucified and resurrected. To clear up this doubt, there's a great verse. 2 Peter 3:3 "First of all, you must understand that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires. They will say, "Where is the ‘coming’ he promised?"

One day in heaven is equal to 1,000 days on earth. God created the world in 6 days and rested on the 7th, then the church will be raptured after 6,000 years on earth or 6 days in heaven, followed by a 7-year tribulation, and then there'll be rest on earth for a millennium. It's called the millennial reign.

How is there going to be peace for 1,000 years? Satan's will be locked up for 1000 years, then let out to tempt people born during the millennium.

Why does he get to test people? We can choose to follow God or the devil. God gave us free will. By not choosing God and Jesus the Messiah, we by default choose Satan, and that is who you will spend eternity with. No matter their religion, a lot of people believe Satan was thrown out of heaven for trying to dethrone God, and he took a third of the angels along with him.

Since then, Satan has been trying to sway people into his camp. We can choose to go back home with God and Jesus or stay with Satan. The day when everyone stands in front of God and He has to say goodbye to those who chose Satan—that'll be the toughest day in God's life. His creation followed in the steps of the 1/3 of the angels that Satan tricked.

Back to the synopsis of life after the Rapture

In 1948, when Israel became a nation, Christians around the world could feel a surge of joy and anticipation as one of the last prophecies before the return of Christ was fulfilled.

In 2018, Trump shocked the world by naming Jerusalem the capital of Israel, a move that won't soon be forgotten. A country is not complete without a capital. In short, yeah, you’ve probably all heard this for a long time, but nothing like what has happened in the last year has been exposed as much as it has in the last few months.

Everywhere you look, people are discussing it. Even people who have no clue about the rapture know something's up. COVID-19 seems to have been the wake-up call that many needed. Could be the talk of the town: the government backing a whole country, contact tracing, AI, the Ukraine-Russia war, food shortages, sky-high inflation, plus more stuff going' on.

If you get left behind, you have two choices. Get through 7 years without taking the mark/chip/666. Put your faith in Jesus, turn away from bad things, seek other Christians to support you, and spread the message. Option two: Be a martyr for Jesus. If you choose the mark of the beast, you will not make it to heaven.

You could get the mark and follow the government's rules. You would be accepting the Antichrist as your ruler. This means you will be without God for eternity. That thought alone shatters me, but many people will go that route.

No one will escape standing before the Lord, as stated in 2 Corinthians 5:10. "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that everyone may receive the things done in his body according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad."

The tribulations will be horrific trials and suffering. Zephaniah describes it as a "day of wrath," "a day of trouble and distress," and "a day of destruction and desolation."

Men will stumble around like they are blind, and "their blood will be poured out like dust" (Zephaniah 1:15, 17). Isaiah describes similar details, saying that it will be a day of "the terror of the Lord" when "the pride of men will be abased" (Isaiah 2:10, 17, 19).

Jesus describes it as a time of tribulation "such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever shall." In fact, Jesus said it would be so terrible that if it were not stopped at the end of seven years, it would result in the destruction of all life in Matthew 24:21–22.

The Apostle John states that the chaos will be so great that the leaders of the world will crawl into caves and cry out for the rocks of the mountains to fall upon them (Revelation 6:15–16).

**“Let’s go study this in depth, #2.” What to expect after people disappear?**

When the rapture happens, people will be wondering what do we do now and where did everyone go?

It is their hope that they will live in mansions in the heavens, and that you may join them as stated in John 14:1-3 Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

Jesus Christ will return and rapture the church, this in not a physical building but a body of people.

They will trade their earthly bodies for bodies that are perfect and immortal, as stated in 1 Corinthians 15:42-44 & 50-55.

Jesus Christ left 2000 years ago and will return. Jesus stated, “I will receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also” (John 14:1-4). The Apostle Paul put it this way: “Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.” 1 Corinthians 15:51-52.

Another verse to assure us Christ will return was a promise made long ago in First Thessalonians. “But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words.” 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18.

He will take them off the earth before the tribulation to protect them from the extreme wrath. Romans 5:9 states “Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.” 1 Thessalonians 1:10 states “And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, even Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come.” And 1 Thessalonians 5:9 states “For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,”.

There are countless other examples of escaping from the wrath of God, but the point is that God has provided us with warnings, prophets, the gospel being preached, and even after the rapture, another chance of making it to heaven. If you don’t make it, you must be eager to go to hell.

You will encounter things you have never seen before, and your life will drastically transform overnight, with the pace of the changes going at a rate you will struggle to keep up with. It will prove to be a disorderly, overwhelming, and extremely difficult struggle to survive. Visualizing the economic impact of millions of people suddenly disappearing is daunting; however, let us consider those who endured economic hardship during the COVID-19 crisis.

The government provided unemployment compensation and stimulus payments, with more than 45 million people becoming unemployed and the rate of unemployment exceeding that of the Great Depression of the 1930s.

If the existing issue of financial instability and foreclosures within the United States is concerning, one can only imagine the implications of the sudden disappearance of millions of homeowners who are no longer making mortgage or rent payments.

What will be the result when numerous business owners can no longer make payments and their employees cannot continue providing necessary goods and services? The federal government is already teetering on the edge of bankruptcy.

What will happen when millions of taxpayers no longer pay taxes? What will be the outcome when humanitarian relief organizations and charitable institutions that are largely supported by Christian non-profits

The United States has the largest Christian population in the world at 230 million, making it hard to comprehend how the U.S. could continue to be a superpower. It is easy to envision a scenario in which a chip is necessary to purchase and sell goods, as well as the establishment of a single world government and religion.

This will give the antichrist notoriety, and many people from all over the world will follow them. Here is an interesting point: Were you aware that America was not referred to in the Bible in the last days?

**“Let’s go study this in depth, #3 To understand IS the “last trump” at the Feast of Trumpets?**

Rosh Hashanah is the term used to refer to the start of the Jewish year. It is known in the Bible as the Feast of Trumpets.

The Lord commanded the Jewish people to observe the Feast of Trumpets, the Day of Atonement, and the Feast of Tabernacles as three holy convocations.

All of them occur during the seventh month of the Jewish calendar, designated as Tishrei. The commencement of the seventh month was marked by the Feast of Trumpets and the Ten Days of Awe. There are 10 days of repentance between the Feast of Trumpets and the Day of Atonement.

The Ten Days of Penitence

The 10-day period of repentance, otherwise known as the Days of Awe, is between the Feast of Trumpets and Yom Kippur, also referred to as the Day of Atonement.

During this period of 10 days, repentance is especially important for the 7 days in the middle, as the first two days are the Feast of Trumpets and the 10th day is the Day of Atonement.

Days of atonement usually transpire between the third and ninth days when an individual is seeking absolution. The priest will proceed into the temple to hear the Holy of Holies recite special prayers for forgiveness. The Sabbath that occurs during this time period is referred to as the Sabbath of Repentance.

The temple had five morning rituals that symbolized the events of the first half of the Tribulation. Cleaning of the Menorah in Revelation 2-3, Opening of the Gate in Revelation 4:1-2, Offering the Lamb in Revelation 5:6, Offering the Incense in Revelation 5:8, Worshipping God in Revelation 5:9 and 5:14

Israel blew trumpets during the Feast of Israel and Jubilee cycles in Leviticus 25:9. Also for the new moons in Psalm 81:3, times of war in Joshua 6:5, and during Israel’s journey in the wilderness in Numbers 10:4.

There are five places in the Old Testament where feasts are mentioned. There is no actual reference in the New Testament, but two references in the New Testament refer to the trumpets, which can be related to Christ fulfilling the feast. # 1 to # 5 are Old Testament, # 6 and # 7 are New Testament.

1. Leviticus 23:23-25 This phrase is found in Leviticus 23:24, and the literal meaning is "a remembrance of blowing."
2. Numbers 29:1-6
3. Psalm 81:3-4
4. Ezra 3:1-6
5. Nehemiah 8:1-12
6. 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 This passage speaks of the rapture of the church and the trump of God. It gives seven points as to the rapture itself.
7. 1 Corinthians 15:50–58 This second passage deals with the details of the Rapture and also mentions the purpose of the trumpet. The trumpet mentioned in verse 52 is "the last trump." Here Paul draws from Isaiah 27:13 as well as from rabbinic tradition in the use of the Tekiah Gedolah, the last trump, to signal the Rapture of the Church. This last truth in 1 Corinthians 15:52 confuses many people and leads them to a mid-trib or post-trib rapture belief.

I believe Paul didn’t go into much detail because his audience would have been the Jewish people at that time, and they were very familiar with the Rabbinical teachings and the meaning of the last trump.

But I like to say that the previous verse, 1 Corinthians 15:51, is a sign to the gentiles during our time frame today that would be confused. It would be up to us to search for the meaning of the last trump. It says,I'll show you a mystery. This is why I am going into such detail about the Feast of Trumpets.

The seven feasts in Leviticus 23 that are linked to the events in Revelation and fulfilled or will be fulfilled by the Messiah Some events were fulfilled at the first coming of the Messiah that lined up with the spring feasts, but it was the fall feasts that fulfilled His second coming.

The spring feast is already fulfilled.

1. The Feast of Passover was fulfilled by the crucifixion of the Messiah.
2. The Feast of Unleavened Bread was fulfilled by the righteousness of His sinless blood offering on the cross and the sinless Christ in the tomb.
3. The Feast of First Fruits was fulfilled by the Resurrection of the Messiah.
4. The Feast of Unleavened Bread was fulfilled by the birth of the Church in Acts.

Coming fulfillment of the Fall Feast.

1. The Feast of Trumpets will be fulfilled by the Rapture of the Church.
2. The Day of Atonement will be fulfilled by the Great Tribulation with Israel’s recognition of the Messiah as Jesus Christ.
3. The Feast of Tabernacles will be fulfilled by the establishment of the Messianic Kingdom in 1,000 years.

In John 1:29, Jesus was the son of Joseph, the Lamb of God, but in Revelation 5:5, He is the Son of David, the Lion of Judah.

There is an Old Testament prophecy that lines up with a New Testament prophecy of the trumpets. Isaiah 27:13 lines up with Matthew 24:31.

Isaiah 27:13 "And it shall come to pass in that day, that the great trumpet shall be blown, and they shall come, which were ready to perish in the land of Assyria, and the outcasts in the land of Egypt, and shall worship the Lord in the holy mount at Jerusalem."

Matthew 24:31 “And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.”

These verses are the regathering of Israel, and in this regathering, a great trumpet shall be blown.

Trumpets were also used in announcing judgment (see Revelation 8–9).

Other names for the Feast of Trumpets:

Yom Hadin: This is another rabbinic name and tradition that means "the day of judgment."

Yom Teruah means the sounding of the shofar.

Zicharon Teruah means "memorial of triumph."

Yom Hazicharon: This is a rabbinic name that means "the day of remembrance."

Jewish people refer to it as the Feast of Trumpets, but it is mainly called Rosh Hashanah, which means "the head of the year." As mentioned earlier, there is the blowing of the trumpet to introduce the ten days of penitence that come between the Feast of Trumpets and the Day of Atonement. The Three Meanings of the Blowing of the Trumpets According to the Jewish People:

(1) First, it will be a symbol of the final regathering of Israel when the Messiah comes. Although Christians and Jews differ on the belief that Christ is the Messiah, we are both waiting for the trumpet to sound. I Corinthians 15:52 "In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet, the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed."

(2) Second, it was a symbol of the resurrection from the dead. Christians believe this will come to pass as well; as seen in the above verse, the dead shall be raised incorruptible.

(3) Third, on this day, the Feast of Trumpets, the Jewish belief is that there are three different books that will be opened in heaven. One is called the Book of Righteousness. Those who were perfectly righteous would have their names inscribed in the Book of Life, so they would live another year. The second book is called the Book of the Dead; this contains the names of those who died during the year. Knowing most people are not righteous or wicked, they will be in the third book called the Book of the In-Between. Those people were given ten days to repent. This is the ten-day period between the Feast of Trumpets and the Day of Atonement. Do you see how this ties into the rapture and the tribulation? The trumpet will sound, the priest will enter the temple for 7 days, and on the Day of Atonement, a person will be saved for that year. At the rapture, Christians believe the trumpet will sound, saints will go to heaven during the 7-year tribulation, and the books will be opened to see if their names are written in the Lamb's book of life. You will either live in heaven or be cast into hell. It's patterned after this festival, and that is why many people think the rapture could happen on this day.

Types of Trumpets

They used a silver trumpet in Numbers 10:1–10, a gold trumpet used every seventh year, the longhorn of an antelope, and a ram’s horn called a shofar.

At the Feast of Trumpets, it's important to understand the sounds that took place to understand the significance of the last trumpet in 1 Corinthians 15:52.

The Tekla is a long, single blast. It was a straight, plain, smooth, continuous note, and it would symbolize joy and contentment.

The Shevarim is three short blasts. A combination of three broken notes to symbolize weeping.

The Teruah (9 Extremely short blasts. This symbolizes sorrow and weeping.

The Tekiah Ha Gedolah, which means "the last trump," This one symbolizes the hope of redemption. It is a very long, final blast; the person would blow until he ran out of breath.

There are a total of one hundred blasts; the first of three styles is repeated until there are a total of 99 sounds. Then comes the 100th, the Tekiah Gedolah, a very long-sustained note known as "the last trump." So, this last trump is most likely the trump Paul is referring to in 1 Corinthians 15:52 when he writes, "In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed."

To conclude this section, I like to say, "I am no longer looking for the signs of the times; I am not listening for the sound of the trumpet!"

***If you want to go deeper into the trumpets mentioned in Revelation, just know that these are not the same as the trumpets of the feast.***

**The Seven Trumpets in Revelation 8 and 9**

After all this time of the seals being opened and the wrath that has happened, it's really just beginning. It will be followed by the trumpets.

The First Trumpet in Revelation 8:7 states that 1/3 of vegetation burned up: "The first angel sounded, and there followed hail and fire mingled with blood, and they were cast upon the earth; and the third part of trees was burnt up, and all green grass was burnt up."

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

Third Trumpet Revelation 8:10–11 explains that 1/3 of fresh water is contaminated, and a great star, named "Wormwood," fell from heaven, poisoning the water from rivers and water springs. "And the third angel sounded, and there fell a great star from heaven, burning as it were a lamp, and it fell upon the third part of the rivers and upon the fountains of waters; and the name of the star is called Wormwood; and the third part of the waters became wormwood; and many men died of the waters, because they were made bitter."

The Fourth Trumpet of Revelation 8:12–13 explains that the sun, moon, and stars are struck, so that a third of their light diminishes to the point of complete darkness for a third of a day, even during the night. Another angel appears to declare three "woes" for the next three trumpet blasts. "And the fourth angel sounded, and the third part of the sun was smitten, and the third part of the moon, and the third part of the stars; so the third part of them was darkened, and the day shone not for a third part of it, and the night likewise. And I beheld and heard an angel flying through the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, Woe, woe, woe, to the inhabiters of the earth by reason of the other voices of the trumpet of the three angels, which are yet to sound!"

The Fifth Trumpet of Revelation 9:1–11 signals the "First Woe." Read Revelation 9:1–11 for all the details.

The Sixth Trumpet of Revelation 9:13–21's "Second Woe" Army of 200 million destroys 1/3 of mankind. The seventh angel's sound in Revelation 10:7 declares, "But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets."

There is mention of the seven thunders that are coming, but the Apostle John is told to seal them up. This is a mystery of God that will be released. He is told not to write about what he saw.

The seventh trumpet in Revelation 11:15–19 introduces the bowl judgments.

The seven bowls are also referred to as "vial judgments." This wrath of God is meant to target those who take the Mark (666). This is covered in Revelation 15–16.

First Bowl Revelation 16:1–2 speaks of terrible sores on all followers of the Antichrist.

Second Bowl: Revelation 16:3 is the second time the wrath turns all of the sea to blood, killing everything in it.

Third Bowl, Revelation 16:4–7Turns all the fresh water into blood.

Fourth Bowl, Revelation 16:8–9. The people will be scorched by intense sunshine, and the people will curse God.

The Fifth Bowl (Revelation 16:10–11) is complete darkness over the kingdom of the Antichrist.

Sixth Bowl Revelation 16:12–15: The Euphrates River Dries Up The Battle of Armageddon is set to commence.

Seventh Bowl, Revelation 16:17–21 The greatest earthquake in history has destroyed Babylon, and the Earth is being pounded by hailstones.

Battle of Armageddon will be the final conflict between God and unrighteous. Revelation 16:16 reads The kings loyal to the Antichrist gather for a final assault on Israel. At Armageddon “the cup filled with the wine of the fury of God’s wrath” in Revelation 16:19 will be delivered, and the Antichrist and his followers will be overthrown and defeated.

**“Let’s go study this in depth, #4.” How Israel was rebirthed in a day.**

The term Israel is derived from the name given to Abraham's grandson, Jacob, by God. David Ben Gurion proclaimed the reestablishment of the Jewish State on May 14, 1948. Israel, in one day, came forth just as prophesied by Isaiah. Isaiah 66:8 "Who hath heard such a thing? who hath seen such things? Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day? or shall a nation be born at once? for as soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her children."

Just as it was prophesied, Israel was reborn in a day. We shall not explore the entirety of history, but let us analyze what has occurred since the Balfour Declaration. From 1517 to 1917, the Ottoman Empire had dominion over Israel and much of the Middle East. World War I had a profound effect on the Middle East. During the height of WWI, Arthur James Balfour, the British Foreign Secretary, issued a letter advocating the foundation of a Jewish homeland in Palestine in 1917.

Upon the conclusion of World War I in 1918, the Ottoman Empire's four-century reign ended. Great Britain assumed authority over the region, which is now referred to as Palestine. This is the modern-day area of Israel, Palestine, and Jordan. Britain had control of Palestine until the establishment of Israel as an independent nation in 1947, shortly after World War II ended. An agreement to cease hostilities was reached in 1949 as part of the provisional truce. Jordan acquired control over the West Bank, and Egypt was given jurisdiction over the Gaza Strip. Another attack was carried out by Israel in 1967, resulting in victory.

Let’s go to the word: "prophecy fulfilled: Jerusalem was restored into Jewish hands.

The Lord declared in Luke 21:24, "And they shall fall by the edge of the sword and shall be led away captive into all nations; and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled." In June 1967, Israel emerged victorious against the more powerful Arab forces in the Six-Day War. After a gap of almost two thousand years, the Jewish people regained the city of Jerusalem, thus fulfilling the important prophecy. There is a long history of clashes between Israelis and Palestinians. Significant territories have been divided amongst the two sides, with both asserting Jerusalem as their respective capitals. Until 2017, President Donald Trump proclaimed Jerusalem the capital of Israel. The United States moved its embassy to Jerusalem in 2018, and several other countries followed. This would be one of the last major prophecies to come to fruition.

Prophecy fulfilled that the desert would bloom and blossom.

The prophet Isaiah again prophesied in Isaiah 35:1–2. "The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them, and the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose. It shall blossom abundantly and rejoice even with joy and singing; the glory of Lebanon shall be given unto it; the excellency of Carmel and Sharon; they shall see the glory of the Lord and the excellency of our God." This area is a land of rock and desert, and it is now flourishing just as was prophesied.

The Hebrew Language Revived

According to the prophet Zephaniah, the speech would be restored as one. In Zephaniah 3:9 "For then will I turn to the people a pure language, that they may all call upon the name of the Lord, to serve him with one consent". In the closing years of the 19th century, Eliezer Ben-Yehudah, a Russian-born Jewish immigrant to Israel, revitalized the ancient Hebrew language to ensure the Israeli population had a unified language.

Jews who have been dispersed are coming back to Israel and Jerusalem, which is now back under Jewish control. Fulfillment of prophecies has demonstrated how the Jewish people are the core of God’s adoration.

**"Let’s go study this in depth, #5." When the rapture will happen—not the exact date, of course!**

In the event of the rapture, often referred to as the catching away, a massive number of people will suddenly be absent. Should you find yourself one of the few who remain, you will have two choices. It is imperative that you last for seven years without being given the mark or chip (666). Acknowledge your sins, embrace Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, seek the fellowship of other Christians to help you during this time, and be a witness to others. I can’t emphasize enough that if you take the mark of the beast by receiving his mark on either your right hand or forehead, you will not enter heaven. You will be cast into the lake of fire or hell at the time of judgment, and the wrath of God will be unbearable during the next 7 years.

No one will escape standing before the Lord, as stated in 2 Corinthians 5:10. "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that every one may receive the things done in his body according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad."

The tribulations will be horrific trials and suffering. In the Old Testament, the Prophet Zephaniah describes it as a "day of wrath," "a day of trouble and distress," and "a day of destruction and desolation."

Men will stumble around like they are blind, and "their blood will be poured out like dust," as described in Zephaniah 1:15, 17.

Isaiah describes similar details, saying that it will be a day of "the terror of the Lord" when "the pride of men will be abased" (Isaiah 2:10, 17, 19). Jesus describes it as a time of tribulation "such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever shall." Jesus said it would be so terrible that if it were not stopped at the end of seven years, it would result in the destruction of all life in Matthew 24:21–22.

The Apostle John declared that the turmoil would be so extreme that the rulers of the world would hide in caves and plead for the stones of the mountains to collapse on them (Revelation 6:15–16).

When the rapture occurs, individuals will be wondering what to do next and where everyone has gone. Believers will dwell in heaven, and you still have the opportunity to join them. As stated in John 14:1–3, "Let not your heart be troubled; ye who believe in God, believe also in me. In my father’s house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I went to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto myself, that where I am, there ye may be also." Jesus Christ will return and rapture the church. This is not a physical building, but a body of people. They will trade their earthly bodies for bodies that are perfect and immortal, as stated in 1 Corinthians 15:42–44 and 50–55.

Jesus Christ left 2000 years ago and will return. Jesus stated, "I will receive you to myself; that where I am, there you may be also" (John 14:1-4).

The Apostle Paul put it this way: “Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.” 1 Corinthians 15:51-52.

Another verse to assure us Christ will return was a promise made long ago in First Thessalonians. “But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this, we say unto you by the Word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord, himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words.” 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18.

The reason He will take His people off the earth before the tribulation is to spare them from the great wrath. Romans 5:9 states, "Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him." 1 Thessalonians 1:10 states, "And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, even Jesus, who delivered us from the wrath to come." And 1 Thessalonians 5:9 states "For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ.".

**To go even deeper on the events during the rapture:**

This book reiterates numerous times that one must not accept the mark of the beast—the chip or number necessary to buy or sell. To accept the Antichrist as your savior and god and to reject Christ would render your entrance to heaven impossible.

Besides not taking the mark, you could face martyrdom. This may be an unpleasant idea to consider; however, it could be the path to freedom from this life and direct access to heaven. The other choice is to survive the seven-year period in concealment without taking the mark.

The book of Revelation contains multiple references to martyrs. It states in Revelation 6:9-11, “And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held: And they cried with a loud voice, saying, how long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth? And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellow servants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled.”

144,000 Jews will be chosen and protected to serve as witnesses. Twelve thousand individuals will be taken from each of the twelve tribes of Israel.

It states in Revelation 7:3-4 “Do not harm the land or the sea or the trees until we put a seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God. Then I heard the number of those who were sealed: 144,000 from all the tribes of Israel.”

The anger will be released and mentioned in the book of Revelation as seals, trumpets, bowls, or vials, and then thunder, which is not elaborated upon in the book. The seven seals are described in the sixth chapter of Revelation.

Verse 1 and 2 are the First Seal, the White Horse—Antichrist comes to conquer. He wears a crown and will deceive many with talks of peace, but he will bring war against the saints.

Second Seal, verses 3 and 4, Red Horse: Warfare breaks out.

Third Seal verses 5 and 6 Black Horse: "World famine will spread throughout the earth. After the war and the damage, whatever people are left will have to survive with barely any food.

Fourth Seal verses 7 and 8: Pale Horse: Death to 1/4 of the Earth

Fifth Seal verses 9-11 Martyred Believers call for justice; they are in heaven under the throne, given white robes, and told to rest.

Sixth Seal verses 12–17 Earthly destructions: the sun turning black, the moon turning blood-red, mountains and islands disappearing, and great earthquakes Seventh Seal Chapter 8:1 reads: Silence fills heaven for a brief time, and then this last seal initiates the trumpet judgments.

**The Middle of the Tribulation Begins. This is the second 3 12 years.**

A great multitude of people wearing white robes will be seen in heaven. It will occur just after the 144,000 have been sealed.

It is noteworthy to observe several important words in these verses of Revelation 7:9–17. This gathering was wearing white garments that had been cleansed in blood, demonstrating they were not given white robes as the raptured church was given.

They were cleansed. To make soiled clothes pristine, washing them is necessary. They have palms in their hands, a sign of victory. Subsequently, it states explicitly that they emerged from the great tribulation, not the church that was taken away. It even says they will not thirst or hunger any more or have to deal with the heat. These are people who suffered during the time of the tribulation.

Here is how Revelation 7:9-17 reads: “After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb. And all the angels stood round about the throne, and about the elders and the four beasts, and fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God, Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honor, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen. And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, what are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they? And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, these are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat. For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters; and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.”

This chapter is of great importance; it can give you encouragement if you are not part of the rapture. These people did not go IN the rapture. They lived through part of the tribulation, accepted Christ, and did not take the mark.

They have remained faithful, and they are victorious in Christ. There is another group mentioned later in the book of Revelation. It is one quick sentence, but it alludes to people who are still on earth during the tribulation and have not taken the mark and believe in Christ. It says, "Who’s names are not written in the book of life". This implies that there are people remaining whose names are written in the book of life.

These people will not worship the Antichrist, as stated in Revelation 13:4. “And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?” Revelation 13:8 reads, "And they worshipped the dragon, which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?” The Antichrist will do his best to battle the saints, as it states in Revelation 13:7-9. “And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations. And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. If any man have an ear, let him hear.”

We will discuss certain keywords at a later time. If any man has an ear, let him hear. This phrase is repeated multiple times within the Bible, and it is a moment to be alert and pay heed to the words spoken. An occurrence of one of the antichrist's heads being wounded and then healed.

Revelation 13:3 reads: “And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast.” Some believe he is killed and comes back to life; others interpret this as one of the nations he controls was once dead and now revived. Could be both!

Revelation 11 features the two witnesses; they are prophesying for three and a half years, then will be killed and resurrected before returning to heaven. The study guide will cover two of the three men from the Old Testament at a later point.

God has designated two prophets for the world who will bear witness and prophesy. They will be the most unpopular individuals during the tribulation. When someone is killed, the people commemorate by leaving the body on the roads for three and a half days and giving presents to each other. Their deaths and resurrections will be observed across the entire planet at the same time.

The only possible way to achieve this outcome is with the technology we have right now. Here is another piece of evidence as to why the Lord has not come back. Many small components must be in place for the prophecy of Revelation to be fulfilled.

Could one envision John composing this in the book while on the island of Patmos two thousand years ago? It is possible to envision him stating that people all over the globe will observe these two concurrently. I am sure most of what John saw and wrote was mind-boggling to him. Read Revelation 11 for more details.

You may have encountered the references 666, the chip, and The Mark of the Beast. This is what will come into effect during the tribulation. Certain nations are using this technology to track children, military personnel, and pets, and some are experimenting with using it as a way of accessing credit cards or bank accounts.

Until this is necessary for purchases and sales, it is not regarded as the mark of the beast. How can one explain an event that John observed two millennia ago, recorded the details in the Book of Revelation, and is now coming to fruition?

People have asked, "Could I just take the mark and then ask for forgiveness? Absolutely not; taking the mark/666 is pledging your allegiance to the Antichrist and Satan. At that point, you are accepting him as your Lord and Savior.

Revelation 13:16-18 "And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads; and that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man, and his number is Six hundred threescore and six.”

Let us examine what is to come. The Antichrist ascends, an agreement for peace with Israel is established, a false prophet is persuading numerous individuals to worship and accept the beast/antichrist, and the judgments are unfolding. Subsequently, the Seven-Year Covenant of Peace with Israel will be broken, as it had been foretold many years prior to the birth of Christ.

It reads in Isaiah 28:18, "And your covenant with death shall be disannulled, and your agreement with hell shall not stand; when the overflowing scourge shall pass through, then ye shall be trodden down by it." There will be great persecution of the Jews as seen in Revelation 12:1-6, which is the Abomination of Desolation as seen in Daniel 9:27. "And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week; and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate."

The Antichrist will stop the Jews from offering sacrifices in the temple, and he will go in and desecrate the temple. Matthew 24:15–16: "When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:) Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains.". Another example is given where the Antichrist sets himself up as God in the temple and declares that he is God and should be worshipped. This is in 2 Thessalonians 2:4: "Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God."

**Synopsis of the End of Tribulation**

This is to give a timeline of what is still to come, with reference verses if you wish to study them in more detail.

Jesus Christ will return to the Mount of Olives to establish the Messianic Kingdom here on earth, as stated in Zechariah 14:4. Revelation 19:7–9, 14; 1 Thessalonians 3:13; Zechariah 14:9; Revelation 19:15, 16.

The Kingdom of Christ will last for a thousand years, as stated in Revelation 20:2, 4–6.This kingdom was referred to in 1 Thessalonians 3:13, Revelation 19:7-9, and 14–16.

At the Second Coming, the Antichrist will be cast into the Lake of Fire, and Satan will be bound for a thousand years. Revelation 19:20; 20:1–3.

Then Satan will be thrown into the lake of fire. And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever. Revelation 20:10

The nations will be judged as described in Joel 3 and Matthew 25.

Israel will be restored. Amos 9:15 "And I will plant them upon their land, and they shall no more be pulled up out of their land which I have given them, saith the Lord thy God." Ezekiel 34:28: "And they shall no more be a prey to the heathen, nor shall the beast of the land devour them; but they shall dwell safely, and none shall make them afraid."

Christ will reign as described in Psalm 2:9 and Isaiah 11:4.

Rewards for the saints are described in Revelation 11:18.

The Marriage Supper of the Lamb takes place in Revelation 19:9.

Jesus has the coronation as the King of Kings (Revelation 19:12–16).

The Messianic kingdom will face another battle from Satan, & he is loosed (Revelation 20:7–9) There will be those who survived the seven-year tribulation and those who do not. They will be gathered near Jerusalem and separated into "sheep" (Christians), who will go on as mortals into the millennial kingdom, and "goats" (sinners), who will be sent to hell.

Believers that supported Israel during the Tribulation Joel 3:1-2; Matthew 25:31–46The martyrs reigned with the saints during the 1000 years. Revelation 20:4.

Satan will be released from the abyss after the 1000-year reign and gather a great many people to rebel against God. Revelation 20:7-9

Satan will be thrown into the lake of fire and his human army killed. 2 Peter 2:4; Jude 1:6-7.

The resurrected will live forever with glorified bodies, while the survivors of the tribulation will be mortal and live long lives, marry, and have children during the millennial reign. Isaiah 33:24; 35:5-6; 61:1-2; Ezekiel 34:16

**“Let’s go study this in depth, #6 The parable of the 10 virgins: 10 virgins**

Luke 21:36, “Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.”

Mathew 25:1-13, “Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom. And five of them were wise, and five were foolish. They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them: But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept. And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him. Then all those virgins arose and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said unto the wise, Give us of your oil; for our lamps are gone out. But the wise answered, saying, Not so; lest there be not enough for us and you: but go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves. And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut. Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us. But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, I know you not. Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh. (To hear the Lord say I knew you not is a terrifying thought.)

In Matthew 7:22-23, “Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

The Parable of the Unprofitable Servant: Two of the servants were wise, and the third was judged, and his blessing was taken away.

Mathew 24:14-30, (Same parable as described in Luke 19) “For the kingdom of heaven is as a man traveling into a far country, who called his servants, and delivered unto them his goods. And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several abilities; and straightway took his journey. Then he that had received the five talents went and traded with the same, and made them other five talents. And likewise, he that had received two, he also gained other two. But he that had received one went and dug in the earth, and hid his Lord's money. After a long time the Lord of those servants cometh, and reckoneth with them. And so he that had received five talents came and brought other five talents, saying, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me five talents: behold, I have gained beside them five talents more. His Lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy Lord. He also that had received two talents came and said, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me two talents: behold, I have gained two other talents beside them. His Lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy Lord. Then he which had received the one talent came and said, Lord, I knew thee that thou art a hard man, reaping where thou hast not sown, and gathering where thou hast not strawed: And I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth: lo, there thou hast that is thine. His Lord answered and said unto him, Thou wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where I have not strawed: Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers and then at my coming I should have received mine own with usury. Take therefore the talent from him, and give it unto him which hath ten talents. For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him, that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath. And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. (I believe weeping and gnashing of teeth is the tribulation, not hell.)

The Parable of the Faithful and Unfaithful Steward: This steward thought, like many today, that we have plenty of time and can repent later on. Matthew 24:42 Watch therefore, for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come.

Luke 12:42-48 And the Lord said, Who then is that faithful and wise steward, whom his Lord shall make ruler over his household, to give them their portion of meat in due season? Blessed is that servant, whom his Lord when he cometh shall find so doing. Of a truth, I say unto you, that he will make him ruler over all that he hath. But and if that servant says in his heart, My Lord delayeth his coming; and shall begin to beat the menservants and maidens, and to eat and drink, and to be drunken; The Lord of that servant will come in a day when he looketh not for him, and at an hour when he is not aware, and will cut him in sunder, and will appoint him his portion with the unbelievers. And that servant, which knew his Lord's will, and prepared not himself, neither did according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes. But he that knew not, and did commit things worthy of stripes, shall be beaten with few stripes. For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more.

Parable of the King’s Son's Wedding: He should have had a garment of righteousness. Revelation 3:4 Thou hast a few names even in Sardis that have not defiled their garments, and they shall walk with me in white, for they are worthy.

Mathew 22:2-14, “The kingdom of heaven is like unto a certain king, which made a marriage for his son, And sent forth his servants to call them that were bidden to the wedding: and they would not come. Again, he sent forth other servants, saying, Tell them which are bidden, Behold, I have prepared my dinner: my oxen and my fatlings are killed, and all things are ready: come unto the marriage. But they made light of it, and went their ways, one to his farm, another to his merchandise: And the remnant took his servants, and entreated them spitefully, and slew them. But when the king heard thereof, he was wroth: and he sent forth his armies, and destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city. Then saith he to his servants, The wedding is ready, but they which were bidden were not worthy. Go ye therefore into the highways, and as many as ye shall find, bid to the marriage. So those servants went out into the highways, and gathered together all as many as they found, both bad and good: and the wedding was furnished with guests. And when the king came in to see the guests, he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment: And he saith unto him, Friend, how camest thou in hither not having a wedding garment? And he was speechless. Then said the king to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness, there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. For many are called, but few are chosen.

Parable of the farmer in Matthew In this parable, Jesus represents the sower who will come to gather the good seed, which are the children of righteousness, at the end of time.

Matthew 13:24-30 Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field: But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way. But when the blade was sprung up and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also. So the servants of the householder came and said unto him, Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? from whence then hath it tares? He said unto them, An enemy hath done this. The servants said unto him, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up? But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest, I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.

**“Let’s go study this in depth, #7.” Synopsis of the 7 years.**

No man will know the day or the hour, as stated in Matthew 24:36. After the Rapture, there will be a Tribulation for 7 years, or as it is called, 42 months and 42 months. Revelation 11:2 and 13:5. The absolute first thing to begin the tribulation is that the church is caught up or raptured. Revelation 4:1. For the saints and the dead in Christ that will be raised and be in heaven, the Bible says we will be there forever. 1 Corinthians 15:51; 1 Thessalonians 4:14.

We will have bodies like Christ's, as stated in 1 John 3:2.They will go before the judgment seat of Christ and receive their rewards based on works, not salvation, as explained in 2 Corinthians 5:10, 1 Corinthians 3:9–15, and Romans 14:10.

These 7 years are referred to in the Bible as "the time of Jacob’s trouble",  Jerimiah 30:7; "the great day of His wrath", Revelation 6:17; and the great tribulation, Revelation 7:14. Christ told His disciples just before His crucifixion the details of things to come. Gospels in Matthew 24 and 25, Mark 13, and Luke 21 where Jesus warns his followers that they will suffer tribulation and persecution before the Kingdom of God In the book of Matthew, Jesus states that after the time of tribulation, the sun, moon, and stars will go dark, and this is the sign that the Son of Man will be seen arriving in the clouds with power and great glory. He will be accompanied by the angels, and at the trumpet call, the angels will "gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other", Matthew 24:31. This will conclude the judgments. To read more about what is called the Olivet discourse, refer to Matthew chapters 24 and 25, Luke 21, and Mark 13. This time frame will prepare Israel for their Messiah, whom they did not receive the first time He came. Zechariah 12:2–3, and Zechariah 14:1–3.

Antichrist and false prophet. Pretty immediately after the rapture, when the world is in chaos, it will seem that there will be a need for a world leader, and the Antichrist will arise. 2 Thessalonians 2:6–8 states, "And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time. For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let until he is taken out of the way. And then shall that wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming." Antichrist is the white horse or the first seal in Revelation 6. The Antichrist will rule the world and demand to be worshiped as God. Revelation 13:5-7

The Antichrist will have a sidekick called the false prophet, who, among many others, will be at his beck and call and will pave the way for the world to worship the Antichrist. Revelation 13:12–15 states that the false prophet will have the same power as the Antichrist, and he'll perform miracles, convince people the Antichrist is the Messiah, and worship the Antichrist in the Temple. It reads, "And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them that dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. And he doeth great wonders so that he makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had the power to do in the sight of the beast, saying to them that dwell on the earth that they should make an image of the beast, which had been wounded by a sword and did live. And he had the power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed."

**“Let’s go study this in depth, #8.” Martyrs, 144,000, and Great Multitude.**

Remember, you must not take the mark of the beast—the chip or number that is required to buy or sell. This will be your accepting the Antichrist as your Savior and God, and it will be your rejection of Christ, and you will not enter heaven. In addition to not accepting the mark, you may be killed as a martyr.

There is plenty of evidence of martyrs in the book of Revelation. Its states are in Revelation 6:9–11. "And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the Word of God and for the testimony that they held. And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth? And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellow-servants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled."

There will also be 144,000 Jews sealed and protected to be witnesses. There will be 12,000 from each of the 12 tribes of Israel. It states in Revelation 7:3–4, "Do not harm the land, the sea, or the trees until we put a seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God. Then I heard the number of those who were sealed: 144,000 from all the tribes of Israel."

The wrath will be poured out and referred to in the book of Revelation as seals, trumpets, bowls, or vials, and then thunders, which are not described in the book.

Revelation, chapter 6, contains the seven seals. Verse 1 and 2 are the First Seal. White Horse: Antichrist Comes to Conquer He wears a crown and will deceive many with talks of peace, but he will bring war against the saints. Second Seal, verses 3 and 4, Red Horse: Warfare breaks out. Third Seal verses 5 and 6 Black Horse: "World famine will spread throughout the earth. After the war and the damage, whatever people are left will have to survive with barely any food. Fourth Seal verses 7 and 8: Pale Horse: Death to 1/4 of the Earth Fifth Seal, verses 9–11 Martyred believers call for justice; they are in heaven under the throne, given white robes, and told to rest. Sixth Seal verses 12–17 Earthly destructions: the sun turning black, the moon turning blood-red, mountains and islands disappearing, and great earthquakes Seventh Seal Chapter 8:1 reads: Silence fills heaven for a brief time, and then this last seal initiates the trumpet judgments.

For more detail on this, continue reading in "Let’s go study this in depth #9 further down, where we talk about the explanation of the seals, trumpets, and vials or bowls that will be poured out during the Tribulation.

The middle of the Tribulation begins. This is the second 3 1/2-year time frame.

There will be a great multitude of white robes appearing in heaven. It will take place just after the 144,000 are sealed. It’s important to notice in these verses in Revelation 7:9–17 several key words. This group is in white robes that have been washed in the blood; this means they were not given white robes as the raptured church was given; they were washed. If you have dirty clothes, you wash them to make them white.

Then they have palms in their hands, a sign of victory. Then it specifically says they came out of the great tribulation; this is not the church that was raptured. These are the people who believed in Christ after the rapture; they died and are standing before the throne in heaven. It even says they will not thirst or hunger any more or have to deal with the heat. These are people who suffered during the time of the tribulation.

Here is how Revelation 7:9-17 reads. “After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb. And all the angels stood round about the throne, and about the elders and the four beasts, and fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God, Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honor, and power, and might be unto our God forever and ever. Amen. And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they? And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sunlight on them, nor any heat. For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.”

This is a significant chapter; it gives you hope if you miss the rapture. These people did not go to the rapture, but they accepted Christ and did not take the mark! They have remained faithful, and they are victorious in Christ. There is another group mentioned later in the book of Revelation; it’s one quick sentence but eludes to people that are still on earth during the tribulation and have not taken the mark and believe in Christ. It says, whose names are NOT written in the book of life". This implies that people are remaining whose names ARE written in the book of life.

These people will not worship the Antichrist as stated in Revelation 13:4. “And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who can make war with him?” Revelation 13: 8 reads “And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who can make war with him?”

The Antichrist will do his best to battle the saints, as it states in Revelation 13:7-9. “And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations. And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. If any man has an ear, let him hear.” There are also a few key words that we will cover later on. If any man has an ear, let him hear. This is used many times throughout the Bible, and it’s certainly a time to perk up your ears and pay attention to what is said.

Another incident is that one of the heads of the Antichrist was wounded and healed. Revelation 13:3 states "And I saw one of his heads as it was wounded to death, and his deadly wound was healed, and all the world wondered after the beast." Some believe he is killed and comes back to life; others interpret this as one of the nations he controls being once dead and now revived. Could be both!

In Revelation 11, you will see the two witnesses; they will prophesy for 3 12 years, be killed and raised, and then return to heaven.

They will be two of three men from the Old Testament; we will cover this later in the book. God sends these two prophets to earth to witness and prophesy; they will be the most hated two people during the tribulation. When they are killed, people celebrate, leave them lying in the streets for three and a half days, and even give gifts to each other in celebration.

When they are killed, it will be seen over all the earth as well as their dead bodies lying in the street, and when they are resurrected, it will be seen over the entire world. There is only one way this can happen: with the technology we have today.

This is another clue as to why the Lord has not returned. There are many little things behind the scenes that must line up for the book of Revelation to play out. Can you imagine John on the island of Patmos 2,000 years ago writing this in the book? I can just see him saying that people all over the world will see these two at the same time. I am sure most of what John saw and wrote was mind-boggling to him. Read Revelation 11 for more details.

You may have heard the terms 666, the chip, and "the mark of the beast." This is what will come into play during the tribulation. It’s being used in some countries now for things like tracking children, the military, and pets, and some countries are even testing it to use in place of credit cards and to access bank accounts. Until this is required for buying and selling, it's not considered the mark of the beast.

How do you explain something that John saw 2,000 years ago, wrote the details about in the Book of Revelation, and is now coming to pass? Revelation 13:16–18: "And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or their foreheads; and that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast; for it is the number of a man, and his number is six hundred threescore and six."

Once again, the Antichrist rises, signs the peace treaty with Israel, the false prophet is convincing many to worship the beast/Antichrist, and the wraths are being poured out.

Then the Seven-Year Covenant of Peace with Israel was broken, as prophesied many years before Christ was born. It is in Isaiah 28:18. "And your covenant with death shall be disannulled, and your agreement with hell shall not stand; when the overflowing scourge shall pass through, then you shall be trodden down by it."

There will be great persecution of the Jews as seen in Revelation 12:1-6, which is the Abomination of Desolation as seen in Daniel 9:27, "And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week; and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate."

The Antichrist will stop the Jews from offering sacrifices in the temple, and he will go in and desecrate the temple. Matthew 24:15-16: "When ye, therefore, shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:) Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains.".

Another example is given where the Antichrist sets himself up as God in the temple and declares that he is God and should be worshipped. This is in 2 Thessalonians 2:4. “Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.”

**“Let’s go study this in depth, #9.” Explanation of the Seals, Trumpets and Vials/Bowls that will be poured out during the Tribulation.**

The wrath will be poured out and referred to in the book of Revelation as seals, trumpets, bowls or vials, and then thunders, which are not described in the book. Revelation, chapter 6, contains the seven seals. Verse 1 and 2 are the First Seal, the White Horse—Antichrist comes to conquer. He wears a crown and will deceive many with talks of peace, but he will bring war against the saints. Second Seal, verses 3 and 4, Red Horse: Warfare breaks out. Third Seal verses 5 and 6 (Black Horse): "World famine will spread throughout the earth. After the war and the damage, whatever people are left will have to survive with barely any food. Fourth Seal verses 7 and 8: Pale Horse: Death to 1/4 of the Earth Fifth Seal, verses 9–11: Martyred believers call for justice; they are in heaven under the throne, given white robes, and told to rest. Sixth Seal verses 12–17 describe earthly destructions: the sun turning black, the moon turning blood-red, mountains and islands disappearing, and great earthquakes. Seventh Seal Chapter 8:1 reads, Silence fills heaven for a brief time, and then this last seal initiates the trumpet judgments.

Jesus taught in His "Olivet Discourse" on the Mt. of Olives of a "Great Tribulation" that is coming on the earth. Matthew 24:21–23: "For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened. Then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here is Christ, or there; believe it not."

It was not just Christ who spoke of this tribulation; it was spoken of by many prophets both in the Old and New Testaments. In the Old Testament is Jeremiah 30:4-7 "And these are the words that the Lord spake concerning Israel and concerning Judah. For thus saith the Lord; We have heard a voice of trembling, of fear, and not of peace. Ask ye now, and see whether a man doth travail with child? wherefore do I see every man with his hands on his loins, as a woman in travail, and all faces are turned into paleness? Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob's trouble, but he shall be saved out of it." And in Daniel 12:1 "And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book."

In Ezekiel 22:19–22, it tells how God is going to cast Israel into His melting pot, where they are to be refined as gold is refined.

Malachi speaks of the same thing in Malachi 3:1-3: "Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the Lord of hosts. But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap: and he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness." "And I will bring the third part through the fire, and I will refine them as silver is refined, and I will try them as gold is tried; they shall call on my name, and I will hear them; I will say, It is my people; and they shall say, The Lord is my God."

To read what these prophets wrote, it seems the tribulation is not just for those who have rejected Christ as the Messiah; it’s a judgment through which the Jewish people must pass through a refining process.

The Book of Revelation, from Revelation 6:1 through 19:21, gives specific details about what will happen during the Tribulation. Chapters 6 to 11 give details of the first half, the first 3 1/2 years, and chapters 13 to 19 cover the second 3 1/2 years.

The 7-year tribulation begins with the breaking of the seals.

First Seal of Revelation 6:1-2

The "White Horse" comes on the scene with Antichrist, and he is given a crown. He has a bow in his hand and goes forth, conquering. This rider is not Christ in this verse, as He is in heaven opening the seals. Christ does not appear riding a white horse until chapter 19. The antichrist is the leader of the ten kingdoms of the revived Roman Empire. He is the "Prince who is to come" and who shall confirm the Covenant with the Jews for peace and the rebuilding of the temple. If you read Daniel 9:2, this will prove the Antichrist comes at the beginning of the tribulation. It reads, "And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week; and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate."

Second Seal of Revelation 6:3–4

The "Red Horse" has the power to take peace from the earth. The symbolism is clear. The red horse is symbolic of blood, and the sword represents war.

Third Seal of Revelation 6:5–6

The "Black Horse" rider holds a pair of scales in his hand, and a voice says, A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny; and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine. Christ prophesied.

Fourth Seal of Revelation 6:7-8

The "Pale Horse" is Death. Verse 8 reads: "And I looked, and behold a pale horse; and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed with him. And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth." Satan is ready and eager to see people killed so he can take them straight to hell.

Fifth Seal of Revelation 6:9–11

The Fifth Seal was broken, and John saw the souls of martyrs under the altar. The martyrs who will be killed during the tribulation They will rest a little while under the altar and given white robes. They are referred to in Revelation 12:11: "And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death." They are referred to again in Revelation 20:4: "And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them; and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and that had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, nor had received his mark upon their foreheads, nor in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years."

Sixth Seal of Revelation 6:12–17

When the Sixth Seal is broken, many catastrophes occur. Matthew chapter 24:29 relates to what happens in Revelation 6:12-17 "And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood; And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind. And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb:  For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?" This is the same Old Testament reference in Isaiah 13:9-11. “Behold, the day of the Lord cometh, cruel both with wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate: and he shall destroy the sinners thereof out of it. For the stars of heaven and the constellations thereof shall not give their light: the sun shall be darkened in his going forth, and the moon shall not cause her light to shine. And I will punish the world for their evil, and the wicked for their iniquity; and I will cause the arrogancy of the proud to cease, and will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible. Also the same description given in Joel 2:30-31 “And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and terrible day of the Lord come.”

There is a gap between the Sixth and Seventh Seals where the angels can seal 144,000 Jews to witness, as well as the multitude washed in the blood in Revelation 7:9–17.

Seventh Seal of Revelation 8:1

When the Seventh Seal is broken, there will be silence in heaven for a limited period, followed by the Seven Trumpets.

First Trumpet of Revelation 8:7

When the First Trumpet sounded, hail and fire mingled with blood, and they were cast upon the earth, and the third part of the trees was burnt up, and all the green grass was burnt up.

Second Trumpet of Revelation 8:8–9

When the Second Trumpet sounded and a great mountain burning with fire was cast into the sea, the third part of the sea became blood, and the third part of the creatures that were in the sea and had life died, and the third part of the ships were destroyed.

Third Trumpet of Revelation 8:10–11

When the Third Trumpet sounded and there fell a great star from heaven, burning as it were a lamp, and it fell upon the third part of the rivers and upon the fountains of waters, the name of the star was Wormwood, and the third part of the waters became wormwood, and many men died of the waters because they were made bitter. The prophet Jeremiah refers to this time. Jeremiah 9:1.5: "Therefore thus saith the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Behold, I will feed them, even this people, with wormwood, and give them water of gall to drink."

Fourth Trumpet of Revelation 8:12

The Fourth Trumpet sounded, and the third part of the sun was smitten, as was the third part of the moon, and the third part of the stars; so the third part of them was darkened, and the day shone not for a third part of it, and the night likewise. This was the same as stated in Luke 21:25–26: "And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth; for the powers of heaven shall be shaken."

Fifth Trumpet of Revelation 9:1–12

The Fifth Trumpet sounded, and a star fell from heaven to earth with the key to the bottomless pit. There will be a large locust that will torment men for five months.

Sixth Trumpet of Revelation 9:13–21

The sixth trumpet shall sound and will release four angels bound in the great river Euphrates. This second woe is the Plague of Horsemen. These angels are bound, which means they are Satan's leaders of his 200,000,000 army.

The Two Witnesses in chapter 11:1–14 are to prophesy during the greater part of the last half of the week.

Seventh Trumpet of Revelation 11:15–19: This is the Third Woe

The seventh trumpet sounds, and the time has come for destroying those who destroy the earth. God is about to wrap things up once and for all. At the sound of the seventh trumpet, the temple of God is opened in heaven, and "within his temple was seen the ark of his covenant. And there came flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder, an earthquake, and a severe hailstorm."

There is symbolism in the book of Revelation that can be confusing. This is a bit of explanation to help you as you read and study this book.

The Sun-Clothed Woman in Revelation 12:1–17

The verse describes a woman, a child, and a dragon, symbolizing three major spiritual forces that have been at work for several thousand years.

This woman is from Israel. Not the Virgin Mary or the Church. Refer to Joseph's dream of the sun, moon, and eleven stars in Genesis 37:9. This will help to explain the Sun Clothed Woman being a Jewish in character. In the Old Testament, God referred to His people as a woman whom He had dressed in honor and splendor in Ezekiel 16. The garland with 12 stars would be symbolic of the 12 tribes of Israel in Genesis 37:9–10. Israel is often compared to a married woman in the Old Testament, while the Church is a virgin in the New Testament (see Matthew 25:1–13; Revelation 14:4; and Revelation 19:7). It calls the church espoused virgin in 2 Corinthians 11:2: "For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ." The New Testament Church is called "the Israel of God" in Galatians 6:16 and referred to as "Jerusalem above", which is called "the mother of us all" in Galatians 4:26 and also in Hebrews 12:22–23. The church is chosen and well described in 1 Peter 2:9: "But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light." Also called Kings and Priests in Revelation 1:6: "And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen." Interesting enough, on a side note, there is the imagery of a disgraceful woman called the great harlot in Revelation 17:1 to depict a false church that deceives many called Babylon the Great."

The woman/Israel gives birth to a male child, the second symbol, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron in Revelation 12:5. No doubt, this is Jesus Christ Himself. The verse continues, "And her child was caught up to God and His throne." It was prophesied that Jesus Christ would strike the nations, and He Himself would rule them with a rod of iron in Revelation 19:15. After His resurrection, Jesus was taken to heaven in Acts 1:9–11.

The next symbol is a fiery red dragon in Revelation 12:3, and it’s described as having drawn "a third of the stars of heaven" and standing "before the woman who was ready to give birth, to devour her child as soon as it was born" in verse 4. This dragon is clearly Satan, as described later in verse 9, "So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world". Stars are also called angels in Revelation 1:20.

Revelation 12:4-5: "The dragon is ready to devour the child as soon as he is born". This was fulfilled so many times with Satan trying to kill Jesus. Every time Satan failed, he still did not give up.

Chapter 13 speaks more of the antichrist. In Revelation 14:3, the 144,000 are brought up to heaven. "And they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and before the elders; and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth."

**Vials are poured out, also called bowls.**

First Vial of Revelation 16:1-2

This first vial will be a noisome and grievous sore that will fall upon the men who have taken the Mark of the Beast and who worship his image.

The Second Vial of Revelation 16:3

When the second vial pours out, the sea will become the blood of a dead man, and every living soul in the sea will die. This is like the second trumpet in Revelation 8:8–9, although this vial is much worse than the second trumpet.

The Third Vial of Revelation 16:4–7

The third vial poured out makes the rivers and fountains of water turn to blood. This is a repetition of the first Egyptian plague in Exodus 7:19–24.

Fourth Vial of Revelation 16:8–9

When the Fourth Vial is poured out, men will be "scorched with great heat." This is the only plague for which there is no Egyptian parallel, and as the others are literal, so must it be. The Old Testament prophet Malachi refers to it. Malachi 4:1. "For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble; and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the Lord of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch."

Fifth Vial of Revelation 16:10–11

When the Fifth Vial is poured out, there will be darkness over the whole kingdom of the Beast, and men will gnaw their tongues for pain. This is the same as the ninth Egyptian plague in Exodus 10:21–23.

Sixth Vial of Revelation 16:12

When the Sixth Vial is poured out, the river Euphrates will be dried up, giving the kings of the East and their armies access to cross over and gather for the great Battle of Armageddon. This will be a repetition of the opening of the Red Sea at the Exodus and of the river Jordan for Elijah and Elisha, although these times were for good. It’s an example of it happening in history.

Seventh Vial. Rev. 16:17-21. When the "Seventh Vial" is poured out, a voice cries out, "It is Finished," and there will be a great earthquake. This cry and the earthquake resemble John 19:30, when Jesus said it was finished. This earthquake is foretold by the Prophet Zechariah when Jesus returns to the Mount of Olives and the mount splits in half, as prophesied in Zechariah 14:4-5. The Tribulation Period ends with the Battle of Armageddon in Revelation 19:11–21. As we have seen, the armies of the East and the West come together with the Antichrist to take the city of Jerusalem, but Christ appears and takes them by storm.

Extra information from Revelation on important events to take place

1. Revelation 6:9–11: When he opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain because of the Word of God and the testimony they had maintained. They called out in a loud voice, "How long, Sovereign Lord, holy and true, until you judge the inhabitants of the earth and avenge our blood?" Then each of them was given a white robe, and they were told to wait a little longer until the full number of their fellow servants, their brothers and sisters, were killed just as they had been. I am going to jump ahead to the end to emphasize why it is critical to not take the mark.
2. Revelation 20:4: "And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and the Word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. "
3. 144,000 will include 12,000 from each of the 12 tribes of Israel. They are protected to witness to the Jews. Revelation 7:3–4: "Do not harm the land, the sea, or the trees until we put a seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God." Then I heard the number of those who were sealed: 144,000 from all the tribes of Israel.
4. Great multitude in white robes. Revelation 7:9–17, v. 9: After this, I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people, and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. v. 13: "These in white robes—who are they, and where did they come from?" I answered, "Sir, you know." And he said, "These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. (These people did not go in the rapture, but they accepted Christ and did not take the mark!).
5. Marriage Supper of the Lamb Revelation 19:7-9 explains this celebration: "Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honor to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white; for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they that are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God." Fine linen is significant in separating the righteous saints from just the saints that receive robes. Revelation 19:14 identifies the Church in their "fine linen, white, and clean," which was given to them during the first event, the Judgment.
6. The event that follows the Marriage Supper of the Lamb: The Church will follow the King of Kings into the Battle of Armageddon at the end of the Tribulation. This event is the Second Coming of Jesus Christ (Zechariah 14:1–21; Matthew 24:29–31; Mark 13:24–27; Luke 21:25–27; Revelation 19:11–21). The Church follows the King of Kings, but only Jesus will engage in battle and use words to defeat the nations in a siege against Jerusalem.

**“Let’s go study this in depth, #10.” Who are the 2 witnesses?**

The holy city will be trampled by the nations for 42 months. During the 1,260 days (or 42 months, or 3½ years), two witnesses will prophesy and witness and do great signs. They are described as two olive trees and two lampstands who stand before the Lord of the earth. Both will be able to destroy their enemies with fire from their mouths. They will have power over the sky and waters and will be able to set plagues on the earth. After their testimony, the Antichrist kills them, the people celebrate the two witnesses' death for three and a half days. At that time, God resurrects the two and everyone watching is struck with fear as they watch the two witnesses ascend into heaven. Right after they ascend to heaven, a great earthquake destroys 1/10 of the city.

People debate and wonder who the two witnesses would be. Some say Enoch and Elijah, the two prophets who did not die because God "took" them. Elijah had and will again have the power to stop the rain (1 Kings 17:1) and kill anyone who tries to harm them (2 Kings 1:9-12).

Others have proposed Moses as one of the witnesses because he will have the power to turn water to blood (Exodus 7:17) and strike the earth with plagues (Exodus 7:14 through 12:30).

Elijah and Moses appeared to Jesus once on Mount of Transfiguration as recorded in Matthew 17:1–8, Mark 9:2–8, and Luke 9:28–36.

Moses died and was buried by God in Deuteronomy 34:5-6. This is the reason there is an interesting debate if Moses is one of the two witnesses because the bible says in Hebrews 9:27 And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment. So, if Moses died once, can he be one of the two witnesses that are killed and resurrected?

Or will it be Enoch and Elijah who were both raptured and did not see death. I guess we will one day see! Technically, if you are raptured, you will not see, you will hear about it.

If you are left behind, you will see the two witnesses. Interesting enough, the bible says in Revelation 11:8-9- And their dead bodies shall lie in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified. And they of the people and kindreds and tongues and nations shall see their dead bodies three days and an half, and shall not suffer their dead bodies to be put in graves.

If the deceased from all countries, languages, and ethnicities are visible for three and a half days, then this shows that we have arrived at the stage where this is now a possibility. The progress of satellite, Internet, mobile phones, and even watch phones has been significant. Please refer to the Signs of the Times and Prophesies fulfilled section for more information on this.

You have heard of 666 being referred to as the "Devil's Number," the chip, and the Mark of the Beast. This will be the driving force behind the tribulation. This technology is now being used to monitor children, the military, and pets in some countries, and a few are even experimenting with it as a replacement for credit cards and for accessing banking information. Until it is necessary to buy and sell, this will not be recognized as the mark of the beast. How can one explain something that John predicted two thousand years ago, recorded in the Book of Revelation, and is now occurring before our very eyes?

Revelation 13:16-18 "And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or their foreheads; and that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast; for it is the number of a man, and his number is Six hundred threescore and six.

The Antichrist reappears and seals the peace treaty with Israel. The false prophet is manipulating people to worship the beast, and the Lord is enacting his wrath. Then the Seven-Year Covenant of Peace with Israel will be broken, just as it was prophesied years before Jesus was born.

Isaiah 28:18 "And your covenant with death shall be disannulled, and your agreement with hell shall not stand; when the overflowing scourge shall pass through, then you shall be trodden down by it."

There will be great persecution of the Jews as seen in Revelation 12:1-6, which is the Abomination of Desolation as seen in Daniel 9:27, "And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week; and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate."

The Antichrist will stop the Jews from offering sacrifices in the temple and he will go in and desecrate the temple. Matthew 24:15-16 “When ye, therefore, shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:) Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains:”.

Another example is given where the Antichrist sets himself up as God in the temple and declares that he is God and should be worshipped. This is in 2 Thessalonians 2:4. "Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped, so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God."

**“Let’s go study this in depth, #11.” Judgements: Great White Throne and Eternity:**

Judgements: Great White Throne: Everybody who hasn't been saved will have to face the Great White Throne judgment. The Book of Life and the Book of Works will be examined as evidence of their guilt. The guilty will get thrown into the Lake of Fire—the second death.

"And I saw a great white throne and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened; and another book was opened, which is the book of life; and the dead were judged out of those things that were written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and hell delivered up the dead that were in them, and they judged every man according to his works. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire." Revelation 20:11-15. Also see John 5:22–29.

Eternity:

New Heaven and Earth—God will create a new heaven and a new earth for believers to live in for eternity. Revelation 21:1–5; 1 Corinthians 15:35–58

New Jerusalem, New Home Revelation 21:10-27. There will be no sin or death, just eternal, unhindered fellowship with God. Revelation 21:4, 27

All those who rejected the Word of God will be resurrected. Revelation 20:11–13. They will be judged by Christ and cast into the lake of fire, where they will suffer everlasting punishment. Revelation 20:14, 15; Mark 9:48

After this judgment, there will be a new heaven and a new earth. 2 Peter 3:13 There will be a new Jerusalem and the everlasting presence of God among all the redeemed. Revelation 21:2, 3; 2:3–5

People who survive the Tribulation will be mortal and live long lives. They will marry and have children. Those who have been resurrected will live forever with glorified bodies. Isaiah 33:24; 35:5-6; 61:1-2; Ezekiel 34:16

**“Let’s go study this in depth, #12.” The Wrath**

The Bible shows God protects the righteous from His rage. The Bible mentions plenty of people who were spared from punishment. This part talks about those who get saved and escape the wrath during the tribulation. Later on, we'll go over the people God spared from wrath.

Being a Christian means having to endure suffering and trials at the hand of man, as described in John 16:33, Philippians 1:27, 1 Thessalonians 3:3, and 1 Peter 4:12-13.

The 144,000 Jews that are sealed to witness, as stated in Revelations 7 and 14, will be divinely protected.

The people who accept Christ during the tribulation time do not seem to have special protection, but they will make it to heaven! Revelation 7:9–17; 20:4.

Here is how Revelation 7:9-17 reads. “After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb. And all the angels stood round about the throne, and about the elders and the four beasts, and fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God, Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honor, and power, and might be unto our God forever and ever. Amen. And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they? And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sunlight on them, nor any heat. For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.”

You will find more information about the wrath in #14 pertaining to the seals, trumpets, and bowls.

**"Let’s go study this in depth, #13." *How did Satan get the power to give it to the Antichrist?***

When God created man and placed him upon the earth, He said, "Let us make man and give him dominion over the earth" (Genesis 1:26). God gave man (Adam) dominion, or rule, over the earth. But Adam surrendered that dominion to Satan in his act of disobedience when he and Eve ate the forbidden fruit in Genesis chapter 3. When Adam disobeyed God’s authority and the commandments of God, he became a servant of Satan and a servant of sin unto death, and Satan gained dominion of the earth.

Paul stated in Romans 6:16 Know ye not that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey, whether of sin unto death or obedience unto righteousness?

God sent His Son to redeem the world. When Jesus came, there was a point after his water baptism when he went to fast and pray for 40 days. He was tempted by Satan, and he took Jesus up to the high mountain and showed him the kingdoms of the world and the glory of them. And Satan offered them to Jesus if he would just bow and worship him, for Satan boasted, "They are mine, and I can give them to whomever I will" (Luke 4:6).

In Revelation 13:2, Satan gives to the Antichrist his power, his throne, and his authority. Satan said, "It is mine. I can give it to whomever I will." Jesus did not dispute that in Luke 4. He knew that Satan had become the prince of this world. His death on the cross paid the price for our redemption.

Jesus, through His death upon the cross, paid the price for the redemption of this world. Hebrews 2:8 states Thou hast put all things in subjection under Jesus' feet. For in that he put all things in subjection under him, he left nothing that was not put under him. But now we see that not all things have been put under Him.

In Revelation chapter 5, Jesus takes the scroll out of the right hand of Him who sits upon the throne, as His worthiness is declared. Read the end of the book: "We win, Satan loses.

I can’t emphasize enough the mark of the beast. Once a person takes this, it is not possible to go to heaven. And he causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand or on their foreheads. And that no man might buy or sell save that he had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. (Revelation 13:16-17)

More details about the Antichrist

Revelation 13:2, John said, And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard; his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion; and the dragon [or Satan] gave him his power, his seat, and great authority.

The antichrist is also called the man of sin, the son of perdition, and the beast. He'll rise up after the rapture and be an amazing politician with loads of charm. In the midst of the world's confusion, he'll pretend to bring stability to the economy and peace, but really he's just trying to deceive people.

The Anti-Christ Will Control the World’s Economy "forced all people, great and small, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hands or on their foreheads, so that they could not buy or sell unless they had the mark, which is the name of the beast or the number of its name" (Rev 13:16–17).

Satan endows him with his power. He gives him his throne. And he also gives him great authority. He will convince the Jewish and Arab nations to sign a peace treaty that will bring about the rebuilding of the third temple. His accomplishments will be so spectacular that many will believe he is the actual Messiah.

He will claim to be God, and many will worship him. 2 Thessalonians 2:3–4 states: Don’t let anyone deceive you in any way, for that day will not come until the rebellion occurs and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the man doomed to destruction.

He will oppose and exalt himself over everything that is called God or is worshiped, so that he sets himself up in God’s temple, proclaiming himself to be God. And in Revelation 13:13, it is stated, "He will display miraculous power, performing great signs, even causing fire to come down from heaven to the earth in full view of the people."

He Will Blaspheme God: Revelation 13:6 states, And he opened his mouth in blasphemies against God, to blaspheme His name and His tabernacle, that is, those who dwell in heaven. For those that don’t have foreknowledge of the antichrist, he will be quite convincing, and I can see how many will believe in him and follow him even to the point of taking the mark, but that is again the purpose of this paper—to give you instructions.

In Matthew 24:24, Jesus declared, For there shall arise false Christs and false prophets, and they shall shew great signs and wonders, insomuch that if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.

**“Let’s go study this in depth, #14.” The Seals being opened.**

You may have read similar material in other parts of the study guide, but taking the time to review it a second time is invaluable, especially if you are reading this after the rapture has taken place.

First Seal of Revelation 6:1-2

The "White Horse" comes on the scene with Antichrist, and he is given a crown. He has a bow in his hand and goes forth, conquering. This rider is not Christ in this verse, as He is in heaven opening the seals. Christ does not appear riding a white horse until chapter 19. The Antichrist is the leader of the ten kingdoms of the revived Roman Empire. He is the "Prince who is to come" and who shall confirm the Covenant with the Jews for peace and the rebuilding of the temple. If you read Daniel 9:2, this will prove the Antichrist comes at the beginning of the tribulation. It reads, "And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week; and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation and that which is determined shall be poured upon the desolate."

Second Seal of Revelation 6:3–4

The "Red Horse" has the power to take peace from the earth. The symbolism is clear. The red horse is symbolic of blood, and the sword represents war.

Third Seal of Revelation 6:5–6

The "Black Horse" rider holds a pair of scales in his hand, and a voice says, A measure of wheat for a penny and three measures of barley for a penny; and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine. Christ prophesied.

Fourth Seal of Revelation 6:7-8

The "Pale Horse" is Death. Verse 8 reads: "And I looked, and behold a pale horse; and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed with him. And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth." Satan is ready and eager to see people killed so he can take them straight to hell.

Fifth Seal of Revelation 6:9–11

The Fifth Seal was broken John saw the souls of martyrs under the Altar. The Martyrs who will be killed during the tribulation. They will rest a little while under the altar and given white robes, they are referred to in Revelation 12:11 “And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the Word of their testimony, and they loved not their lives unto the death." They are referred to again in Revelation 20:4 "And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them; and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus and the Word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, nor his mark upon their foreheads or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years."

Sixth Seal of Revelation 6:12–17

When the Sixth Seal is broken, many catastrophes occur. Matthew 24:29 relates to what happens in Revelation 6:12–17. "And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood; and the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs when she is shaken by a mighty wind. And the heavens departed as a scroll when it was rolled together, and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid in the dens and the rocks of the mountains; And he said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: for the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?" This is the same Old Testament reference in Isaiah 13:9–11: "Behold, the day of the Lord cometh, cruel both with wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate, and he shall destroy the sinners thereof out of it. For the stars of heaven and the constellations thereof shall not give their light; the sun shall be darkened in his going forth, and the moon shall not cause her light to shine. And I will punish the world for their evil and the wicked for their iniquity; and I will cause the arrogancy of the proud to cease and lay low the haughtiness of the terrible. Also, the same description is given in Joel 2:30–31. "And I will shew wonders in the heavens and the earth: blood, fire, and pillars of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness and the moon into blood before the great and terrible day of the Lord comes."

There is a gap between the Sixth and Seventh Seals where the angels seal 144,000 Jews to witness, as well as the multitude washed in the blood in Revelation 7:9–17.

Seventh Seal of Revelation 8:1 When the Seventh Seal is broken, there will be silence in heaven for a limited period, followed by the Seven Trumpets.

The Seven Trumpets in Revelation 8 and 9: After all this time of the seals being opened and the wrath that has happened, it’s just beginning. It will be followed by the trumpets. The First Trumpet in Revelation 8:7 states that 1/3 of vegetation burned up: "The first angel sounded, and there followed hail and fire mingled with blood, and they were cast upon the earth; and the third part of trees was burnt up, and all green grass was burnt up.". Second Trumpet Revelation 8:8–9 reads, "And the second angel sounded, and as it were, a great mountain burning with fire was cast into the sea; and the third part of the sea became blood; and the third part of the creatures which were in the sea and had life, died; and the third part of the ships were destroyed." Third Trumpet Revelation 8:10–11 explains that 1/3 of freshwater is contaminated, And a great star, named "Wormwood", fell from heaven, poisoning the water from rivers and water springs. " And the third angel sounded, and there fell a great star from heaven, burning as it were a lamp, and it fell upon the third part of the rivers and upon the fountains of waters; and the name of the star is called Wormwood; and the third part of the waters became wormwood, and many men died of the waters because they were made bitter." The Fourth Trumpet of Revelation 8:12–13 explains that the sun, moon, and stars are struck, so that a third of their light diminishes to the point of complete darkness for a third of a day, even during the night. Another angel appears to declare three "woes" for the next three trumpet blasts. " And the fourth angel sounded, and the third part of the sun was smitten, and the third part of the moon, and the third part of the stars; so the third part of them was darkened, and the day shone not for a third part of it, and the night likewise. And I beheld and heard an angel flying through the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, Woe, woe, woe, to the inhabiters of the earth because of the other voices of the trumpet of the three angels, which are yet to sound!" The Fifth Trumpet of Revelation 9:1–11 signals the "First Woe." Read Revelation 9:1–11 for all the details. The Sixth Trumpet of Revelation 9:13–21's "Second Woe" Army of 200 million destroys 1/3 of mankind. The seventh angel's sound in Revelation 10:7 declares, "But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets." There is mention of the seven thunders that are coming, but the Apostle John is told to seal them up. This is a mystery of God that will be released. He is told not to write about what he saw. In Revelation 11:15–19, the seventh trumpet introduces the bowl judgments.

The seven bowls are also referred to as "vial judgments." This wrath of God is meant to target those who take the Mark (666). This is covered in Revelation 15–16.

First Bowl Revelation 16:1–2 speaks of terrible sores on all followers of the Antichrist. Second Bowl: Revelation 16:3 is the second time the wrath turns all the sea to blood, killing everything in it. The Third Bowl (Revelation 16:4–7) turns all the freshwater to blood. Fourth Bowl, Revelation 16:8–9. The people will be scorched by intense sunshine, and the people will curse God. The Fifth Bowl (Revelation 16:10–11) is complete darkness over the kingdom of the Antichrist. Sixth Bowl Revelation 16:12–15: The Euphrates River has dried up and the Battle of Armageddon is set to commence. Seventh Bowl Revelation 16:17–21: Greatest earthquake ever; Babylon destroyed; Earth pounded by hailstones.

The Battle of Armageddon will be the final conflict between God and the unrighteous. Revelation 16:16 reads, The kings loyal to the Antichrist gather for a final assault on Israel. At Armageddon, "the cup filled with the wine of the fury of God’s wrath" in Revelation 16:19 will be delivered, and the Antichrist and his followers will be overthrown and defeated.

Synopsis of the End of Tribulation

Jesus Christ will return to the Mount of Olives to establish the Messianic Kingdom. Zechariah 14:4; Revelation 19:7–9, 14; 1 Thessalonians 3:13; Zechariah 14:9; Revelation 19:15, 16.

The Kingdom of Christ will last for a thousand years, as stated in Revelation 20:2, 4–6.

This kingdom was referred to in 1 Thessalonians 3:13, Revelation 19:7-9, and 14–16.

At the Second Coming, the Antichrist will be cast into the Lake of Fire, and Satan will be bound for a thousand years. Revelation 19:20; 20:1–3.

Then Satan will be thrown into the lake of fire. And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night forever and ever. Revelation 20:10

The nations will be judged as described in Joel chapter 3 and Matthew chapter 25.

Israel will be restored. Amos 9:15 "And I will plant them upon their land, and they shall no more be pulled up out of their land which I have given them, saith the Lord thy God." Ezekiel 34:28: "And they shall no more be a prey to the heathen, nor shall the beast of the land devour them; but they shall dwell safely, and none shall make them afraid."

Christ will reign as described in Psalm 2:9 and Isaiah 11:4.

Rewards for the saints are described in Revelation 11:18.

The Marriage Supper of the Lamb takes place in Revelation 19:9.

Jesus has the coronation as the King of Kings (Revelation 19:12–16).

The Messianic kingdom will face another battle from Satan when he is loosed (Revelation 20:7–9).

It was not just Christ who spoke of this time of tribulation; it was spoken of by many prophets both in the Old and New Testaments.

In the Old Testament, Jeremiah 30:4–7 "And these are the words that the Lord spake concerning Israel and Judah. For thus saith the Lord: We have heard a voice of trembling, of fear, and not of peace. Ask ye now, and see whether a man doth travail with child? Wherefore do I see every man with his hands on his loins as a woman in travail, and all faces are turned into paleness? Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it; it is even the time of Jacob's trouble, but he shall be saved out of it."

And in Daniel 12:1, "And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince that standeth for the children of thy people; and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time; and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book."

In Ezekiel 22:19–22, it tells how God is going to cast Israel into His melting pot, where they are to be refined as gold is refined.

Again in Zechariah 13:9. "And I will bring the third part through the fire, and I will refine them as silver is refined, and I will try them as gold is tried; they shall call on my name, and I will hear them; I will say, It is my people; and they shall say, The Lord is my God."

The Book of Revelation, from Revelation 6:1 through 19:21, gives specific details about what will happen during the Tribulation. Chapters 6 to 11 give details of the first half, the First 3 ½ years, and chapters 13 to 19 cover the Second 3 ½ years. The 7-year tribulation begins with the breaking of the seals.

Being a Christian during the 7-year tribulation means having to endure suffering and trials at the hand of man, as described in John 16:33, Philippians 1:27, 1 Thessalonians 3:3, and 1 Peter 4:12-13.

The 144,000 Jews that are sealed to witness, as stated in Revelations 7 and 14, will be divinely protected. The people who accept Christ during the tribulation time do not seem to have special protection, but they will make it to heaven! Revelation 7:9–17; 20:4.

**“Let’s go study this in depth, #15.”** **To those that have an ear, let them hear.**

These verses point to something beyond the physical sense of hearing. We must listen carefully to what the Lord is communicating to us. We need to use our spiritual ears.The great command from God through Moses began with the words, Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord." Deuteronomy 6:4. Proverbs 8:34 says, "Blessed is the man that heareth me." Scripture has always emphasized hearing God’s voice.

Jesus urges us to listen like sheep in John 10:3-5. "To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice: and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out. And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice. And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the voice of strangers." Matthew 13:9: "Whoever has ears to hear, let him hear.

Matthew 13:43: "Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Whoever has ears to hear, let him hear.

Mark 4:23: "If any man has ears to hear, let him hear.

Luke 8:8: "And others fell on good ground, and sprang up, and bare fruit an hundredfold. And when he had said these things, he cried, He that has ears to hear, let him hear.

Mark 4:9: And he said unto them, He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.

Luke 14:35: "It is neither fit for the land nor yet for the dunghill; but men cast it out. He who has ears to hear, let him hear. Additional verses to read over: Luke 23:43, Matthew 11:15, Mark 4:9. Revelation 22:2 and Revelation 13:9

**7 churches in Revelation are addressed the same. Expressing the importance of hearing.**

Revelation 2:7: "He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; to him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.

Revelation 2:11 - He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death.

Revelation 2:17 - He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it.

Revelation 2:29 - He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

Revelation 3:5-6 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

Revelation 3:12-13 - He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches

Revelation 3:21-22 - He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

**“Let’s go study this in depth, #16.” Eternal rewards for the overcomers.**

It only makes sense that if we are told in the previous section "To him that hath an ear, let him hear", it must be important. It is important, and a special reward is given for those who discipline their body, soul, and spirit. A special reward was given to those who were faithful to the word of God, were good stewards of their finances, were obedient to the church body, and witnessed to others. In the book of Revelation, John writes of many rewards for those who overcome.

Will I give to eat from the tree of life Revelation (2:7)

To receive the crown of life Revelation (2:10)

To not be hurt by the second death Revelation (2:11)

To eat hidden manna. Receive a white stone with a new name written on it Revelation (2:17)

Have power over the nations Revelation (2:26)

To receive the morning star Revelation (2:28)

Receive white garments; Their name will not be blotted out of the Book of Life and Jesus will confess their name before the Father Revelation (3:5)

Their persecutors will worship before their feet and Their persecutors to know that Jesus loves them Revelation (3:9)

Will be made a pillar in God’s temple, God’s name, the New Jerusalem name, and Jesus new name written on them Revelation (3:12)

Will receive gold to make one rich. Will receive white garments. Will have anointed eyes to see more Revelation (3:18)

To eat with Jesus Revelation (3:20) and to sit on His throne Revelation (3:21).

**We should strive to over come and Hold fast as stated in:**

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

Hebrews 10:23 “Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)”

Luke 13:24 “Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able.”

Philippians 3:14 I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 3:12 Not that I have already obtained it or have already become perfect, but I press on so that I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus.

Colossians 1:29 For this purpose also I labor, striving according to His power, which mightily works within me.

2 Timothy 2:5 And if a man also strive for masteries, yet is he not crowned, except he strive lawfully.

Luke 13:24 “Strive to enter through the narrow door; for many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able.

There are Rewards of the Overcomers for the 7 churches in Revelation.

We will cover this in more detail later in the study guide. Jesus was speaking to believers who had already received salvation. He was calling them to live a life worthy of receiving heavenly rewards. Salvation, or justification, is a free gift given to all of us. It is based on Jesus’ worthiness, not our works. (Eph. 2:8-9).

Heavenly rewards are given to us according to our works.

Ears to Hear: We are told to have ears to hear what the Spirit is saying.

This is written 16 times (8 times in the gospels and 8 times in Revelation) and in Matthew 11:15; 13:9, 43; Mark 4:9 & 23; 7:16; Luke 8:8; 14:35; Revelation 2:7, 11, 17, 29; 3:6, 13, 22; 13:9.

**“Study this in depth #17 The 7 Church warnings in Revelation chapter 2-3**

Ephesus to repent from the ways of the Nicolaitans. "I will remove the candlestick from its place except thou repent. Revelation 2:5

Smyrna to warn them of ten days of tribulation that may cost them their lives or imprisonment. Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days; be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life. Revelation 2:10

Pergamum to repent of the doctrines of Balaam and the Nicolaitans. Repent, or else I will come to you quickly and fight against them with the sword of my mouth. Revelation 2:16

Thyatira to repent of the teachings of Jezebel. Behold, I will cast her into a bed, and those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation, except they repent of their deeds. Revelation 2:22

Sardis for being "dead" or unaware of things to come, whose works are not perfect before God. Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast and repent. If, therefore, thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know at what hour I will come upon thee. Revelation 3:3

Philadelphia to persevere with what little strength they have and to hold fast so that no one takes their crown. This is the church doing what it should! Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep you from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth. Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown. Revelation 2:10-11

Laodicea should repent of investing in material riches and rather invest in the refined gold of Him who has overcome. "So then, because thou art lukewarm and neither cold nor hot, I will spew thee out of my mouth." Revelation 3:16

Why you should overcome: These church letters are found in chapters 2 and 3 of Revelation.

An overcomer is one who matures in the areas of faithfulness and lives above the call of just receiving salvation. During the time of the Apostle John, he and the other disciples had much influence in growing the church in different towns. Based on the lives they lived in each town, Jesus sent letters to each of the churches through the Apostle John, giving them hope if they overcame. Today we can gain insight into the letters to each church.

To the church of Ephesus, overcoming meant returning to their first love for Jesus until the end.

To the church in Smyrna, it meant to be faithful in persecution, even to death.

To the church in Pergamos and Thyatira, overcoming meant resisting immorality and idolatry for the remainder of their lives.

To the church in Sardis, it was to be watchful, to develop a prayer life, and to hold fast the things that God entrusted to them from their earlier years.

To the church in Philadelphia, overcoming meant persevering in mature obedience for the remaining years of their lives.

To the church of the Laodiceans, overcoming meant resisting lukewarmness.

**"Let’s go study this in depth, #18 Books in Heaven—one of my personal favorite sections!**

There are different books in heaven, and it is important to have your name written in them. It's discussed in the Old and New Testaments. In Daniel 7:10, it reads, "A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him; a thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him; the judgment was set, and the books were opened."

The book of life is mentioned in Revelation 13:8. "And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world." Just as your name is written in the book of life and you go to heaven, if it's not written in it, then you go to hell. Revelation 20:15 explains, "And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire."

Let’s review the books mentioned in the Bible.

1. Book of the Living (born in earthly time) Let them be blotted out of the book of the living and not be written with the righteous. Psalms 69:28 and 139:16

Or Book of Destiny (Jews call it this). Number of days you will live, eyes, color, etc.

1. Book of life (born again, eternity), registry of heaven Philippians 4:3 and Revelations 3:5

Luke 10:20: Jesus mentioned it.

Even Moses said, "If you destroy Israel, then block my name out of the book of life." Yet now, if thou wilt forgive their sin—and if not, blot me, I pray thee, out of thy book which thou hast written." Exodus 32:32

1. Book of Tears, Psalms 56:8 "Thou tellest my wanderings; put thou my tears into thy bottle; are they not in thy book?"
2. Book of works Revelation 20:12 says, "And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened; and another book was opened, which is the book of life; and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works."
3. The Book of Remembrance is only found once in the Bible. The book of Remembrance and the parables are highly recommended reading to form your own opinion about whether only the righteous or everyone who ever said the salvation prayer will go in the rapture.

Malachi 3:16–18 "Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another; and the LORD hearkened and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the LORD and that thought upon his name. And they shall be mine, saith the LORD of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels, and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serves him. Then shall ye return and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serves God and him that does not.

Ask yourself, Who, What, When, and Why is God remembering?"

Who: Those who fear him, testify one to another, love him, and meditate on his name.

and a book of remembrance was written. Just as God remembered His covenant with His people in Exodus 6:5, He remembered Hannah and gave her a son in 1 Samuel 1:19, and then He heard His people Israel in Exodus 2:24. God remembered Noah. Genesis 8:1, God remembered Abraham and sent Lot out of the midst; Genesis 19:29,

Then God remembered Rachel in Genesis 30:22.

When: And they shall be mine, saith the LORD of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels. Deuteronomy 7:6, Exodus 19:5, Palms 135:4, 2 Corinthians 4:7, 1 Peter 2:9

Why: and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serves him.

What kind of danger is he protecting them from? Are they being spared from the time of tribulation, as Malachi 4 suggests? Ask yourself this: Are you living a righteous life? Chapter 3 suggests that God is gathering His jewels, which could represent everyone who has said 'yes' to Christ or simply those living righteously. We can only speculate on the truth, and only time will tell. Are you living a life that brings glory to God so that when He returns, He will find a spotless church? Ephesians 5:27 That he might present it to himself as a glorious church, not having a spot, a wrinkle, or any such thing, but that it should be holy and without blemish.

The book of Malachi is a letter from the Lord to Israel about their disobedience. He charges them with offering substandard sacrifices (v. 1:8), errors in teaching (v. 2:8), being unfaithful to their wives (v. 2:13–14), and complaining that it was useless to serve the Lord (v. 3:13–14). God puts judgment on those who commit offenses. Malachi 2:2, 9. He makes it clear that He hears and knows the hearts of those who honor Him. Other times in the Old Testament, he "heard" those who did not complain against him. Numbers 14:27, 36; Deuteronomy 1:27; Psalm 106:25 It is eluded to in other verses, but it can’t be confirmed that it’s the Book of Remembrance. Exodus 32:32–33, Psalm 69:28, Psalms 87:6, Daniel 12:1.

Further Explanation of the Book of Malachi

The book of Malachi is a letter from the Lord to Israel about their disobedience. He charges them with offering substandard sacrifices (1:8), errors in teaching (2:8), being unfaithful to their wives (2:13–14), and complaining that it was useless to serve the Lord (3:13–14). God puts judgment upon those who commit offenses (Malachi 2:2, 9). He makes it clear that He hears and knows the intent of the hearts of the people who desire to honor Him. Other times in the Old Testament, he heard those who did not complain against him. (Numbers 14:27, 36; Deuteronomy 1:27; Psalm 106:25).

Malachi was one of the 12 minor prophets. When Malachi presented God’s words to the people, they would have understood what a book of remembrance represented. In Esther chapter 6, the kings of Persia (now Iran) kept a record of those who had rendered service to the king so those servants would be rewarded. The book of Esther contains an example of when King Ahasuerus called for his book and found that Mordecai was in it, saving the King's life by reporting a plot. He was about to be killed for not bowing to the King, but instead, he was rewarded handsomely, and Haman, who was evil, was killed. Rewards were often delayed. That’s why books were needed, so that no worthy deed for the king went unrewarded. In Malachi 3:17, the Lord says, "On the day when I act." He is stating that while we may feel our faithful service may go on for years with no recognition, He is up there writing in His book.

Malachi 3:1 states: Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me; and the LORD, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts. This is based on the same messenger as the prophet states in Isaiah 40:3. The voice of him that cried in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. John the Baptist made the way for Christ. For this is he, of whom it is written, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee." Matthew 11:10 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John, in John 1:6.

This would be confusing to them, as Malachi was speaking 400 years before either prophecy came to pass and the messenger had not even been sent.

One reason the Israelites had become disobedient and jealous of evildoers was that they thought the Lord did not see or care. Psalm 94:7–14 states: "Yet they say, The LORD shall not see, nor shall the God of Jacob regard it. Understand, ye brutish among the people; and ye fools, when will ye be wise? He who planted the ear, shall he not hear? He who formed the eye, shall he not see? He that chastiseth the heathen, shall not he correct? He that teacheth man knowledge, shall not he know? The LORD knows the thoughts of man, that they are vanity. Blessed is the man whom thou chastenest, O LORD, and teachest him out of thy law, that thou mayest give him rest from the days of adversity, until the pit be dug for the wicked. For the LORD will not cast off his people, nor will he forsake his inheritance."

Then in Ezekiel 8:12, they thought: "Then said he unto me, Son of man, hast thou seen what the ancients of the house of Israel do in the dark, every man in the chambers of his imagery? for they say, The LORD seeth us not; the LORD hath forsaken the earth."  
So this is an example of why, by the time Malachi spoke to them in Malachi 3:14–15, "Your words have been stout against me, saith the LORD. Yet you say, "What have we spoken so much against you?" Ye have said, "It is vain to serve God; and what profit is it that we have kept his ordinance and that we have walked mournfully before the LORD of hosts? And now we call the proud happy; yea, they that work wickedness are set up; yea, they that tempt God are even delivered."

So, it seems that after 1000 or so years of hearing the Lord was coming, they were living a rebellious life, which brings us to today, where so many people say they have been hearing of the Lord returning for years.

Make no mistake, with God, loyalty does not go unnoticed or unrewarded. What we do on earth is recorded in heaven. 2 Corinthians 5:10. Jesus spoke of this many times (Matthew 10:42; Mark 9:41; Luke 6:23; Revelation 22:12).

We store up treasure in heaven. Matthew 6:20. The Book of Remembrance is a record of the righteous. It could be His treasured people that go in the rapture, or it could be simply the people that He is keeping a record of in order to reward in heaven.

The story of Noah is a good illustration of God preserving those who honor Him in Genesis 6:9. "These are the generations of Noah: Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations, and Noah walked with God."

Jesus encouraged His followers: "Rejoice that your names are written in heaven." Luke 10:20.

Jesus knew that their earthly faithfulness to Him would cause hardship and even death. Matthew 24:9; Acts 9:16; 12:2.

They knew their names were written in God’s books, and it gave them assurance that they would make it through. Matthew 10:22; Mark 13:13

"Let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap if we do not give up." Galatians 6:9. So you can have confidence that God has not forgotten the righteous.

**“Let’s go study this in depth #19 Watch and Pray!**

We should all be watching and praying and looking for His return. Live a Godly life. Here are lots of verses to encourage you.

Titus 2:12-14 It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, while we wait for the blessed hope - the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

Hebrews 9:28 So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.

Acts 1:11 "Men of Galilee," they said. "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."

Luke 21:36 Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.

Acts 3:19-21 Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord, and that he may send the Christ, who has been appointed for you - even Jesus. He must remain in heaven until the time comes for God to restore everything, as he promised long ago through his holy prophets.

Acts 17:31 For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead.”

Philippians 3:20 But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, 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.

Colossians 3:4 When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

2 Timothy 4:1-2 In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage- with great patience and careful instruction.

2 Timothy 4:8 Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day - and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

1 Peter 1:13 Therefore, prepare your minds for action; be self-controlled; set your hope fully on the grace to be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed.

1 John 2:28 And now, dear children, continue in him, so that when he appears we may be confident and unashamed before him at his coming.

1 John 3:2-3 Dear friends, now we are like children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when he appears, We shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. Everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself, just as he is pure.

Revelation 3:11 I am coming soon. Hold on to what you have, so that no one will take your crown. Him who overcomes I will make a pillar in the temple of my God. Never again will he leave it.

Revelation 16:15 "Behold, I come like a thief! Blessed is he who stays awake and keeps his clothes with him, so that he may not go naked and be shamefully exposed."

Revelation 22:12-13 Behold, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.

Revelation 22:20-21 He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I am coming soon." Amen, Come, Lord Jesus. The grace of the Lord Jesus be with God's people. Amen.

**As it was in the day of Noah!**

“But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be” Matthew 24:37.

It's a stark reminder of how similar our world is to Noah's; Christ was comparing their wickedness to the rebellion and evil of our generation. Hebrews 11, the Faith Chapter, mentions Noah's unwavering faith in God even when he was faced with the unknown.

“By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.” Hebrews 11:7.

Noah had faith and finished building the ark, then loaded his family and animals in. It might feel like that right now; you may not sense the Spirit of God speaking to you or urging you to do something major, yet Christians are still standing in faith, recognizing the signs, living in a world we do not fit into and a place we don't mesh with, and all the while, asking, "When will He come back? Noah is a visible example of salvation. Noah and his family went through the door to be saved from the flood. We need to go through a "door" to be saved.

John 10:9 states, I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture.

It feels like our society is changing daily, just like in Genesis 6:5. "Then the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually."

The Lord still waits. 2 Peter 3:9 states The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness, but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

**“Let’s go study this in depth #20** **Old Testament picture of the rapture. Enoch, Elijah and Moses**

Enoch was the first person to be raptured to heaven. It's recorded in Genesis 5:24, "And all the days of Enoch were 365 years; and Enoch walked with God, and he was not; for God took him."

Enoch went directly to heaven without dying; there is no record of his body, nor is there any dispute mentioned in the Bible about his body. It seems quite clear in the Bible that his ancestors reported that he simply walked with God and was taken.

This incident is recorded again in the New Testament in Hebrews 11:4, "By faith, Enoch was translated that he should not see death, and was not found, because God had translated him; for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God."

Elijah was next to be raptured in 2 Kings 2:11. "And it came to pass, as they still went on and talked, that, behold, there appeared a chariot of fire and horses of fire, and parted them both asunder, and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven."

Jesus Christ ascends to heaven after his crucifixion and resurrection. Acts 1:9-11, "And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up, and a cloud received him out of their sight. And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? "This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven."

The most recognized rapture is the coming rapture of the church. During the 7 years, the 144,000 and the 2 witnesses will be raptured.

There are examples of what can be called a rapture but is more likely referred to as being transported. Philip, who was caught away by the Spirit of the Lord after witnessing to the Ethiopian eunuch, found himself at Azotus. Acts 8:39–40, "And when they were coming up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, so that the eunuch saw him no more, and he went on his way rejoicing. But Philip was found at Azotus; and passing through, he preached in all the cities, till he came to Caesarea."

Isaiah, John, and Paul had visitations to the throne room of heaven for messages to God’s people. Twice Paul mentions that he was "caught up to the third heaven" and received visions and revelations of the Lord. (2 Corinthians 12:1–4). Paul’s vision is similar to Isaiah’s throne room commission (Isaiah 6:1–13). John, on the island of Patmos, was caught up to heaven and wrote the book of Revelation.

1. Enoch represents the righteous saint who will go in the rapture. Enoch was a righteous man who walked with God and did not have to go through death. Genesis 5:23-24. And all the days of Enoch were three hundred sixty and five years. And Enoch walked with God, but he was not, for God took him.
2. Elijah represents the 144,000 Jewish remnant. Revelation 12:6, Revelation 14:1, and Revelation 7:3–8 Elijah was raptured in 2 Kings 2:11–12 and will absolutely be one of the two witnesses.
3. Moses: Moses is a representation of the dead bodies in Christ that will be missing at the rapture. Interesting enough, there was a dispute over Moses body because God himself buried him. In Jude 1:9, yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil about the body of Moses, did not bring against him a railing accusation but said, The Lord rebuke thee. In Deuteronomy 34:5–6, it states Moses did die, and God buried him. Verse 5-6 So Moses, the servant of the LORD, died there in the land of Moab, according to the word of the LORD. And he buried him in a valley in the land of Moab, over against Bethpeor; but no man knows of his sepulchre unto this day. The Seven Feasts of Israel

Old Testament saints that were delivered from the wrath

There were numerous times in the Bible that God intervened and protected His people. Many were not even living when He put a hedge of protection around their lives. This will all go to prove that He will protect those who are called now and after the rapture if you accept and put your trust in Him. Although there will be many martyrs and great persecution, there will be the two witnesses sent to testify as well as the 144,000 Jews during the tribulation. If you have been left behind, any suffering, persecution, or even death will be minimal compared to what you will suffer if you continue to reject Jesus Christ as the Messiah.

Here are a few interesting times, events, and people that God put under His supernatural protection.

2 Peter 2:9 "The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust for the day of judgment to be punished."

Elijah was a prophet in a land where most people rejected God, and he was persecuted to the point that he had to flee from Jezebel and go to Mt. Horeb by the brook Cherith, and God protected him. He gained strength and courage and stood alone against the prophets of Baal on Mount Carmel.

Jonah had a trial that was also his protection. For three days and three nights, he was just waiting in the belly of a whale. Jonah went to Nineveh and preached repentance to the people he was originally sent to before he rebelled.

Daniel was in captivity in Babylon for seventy years. It was a very short time before God used the King to raise Daniel up to be a very prominent man before the King. He was in captivity but lived a protected and sheltered life. God gave him some of the most important prophecies in the Bible, and he wrote his Old Testament book foretelling the future of God’s people.

Esther lived two lives, one as a Jew pretending not to be one while in the palace of Persia’s king. But when it was necessary, she confessed who she was, called in a favor from the King at the risk of losing her own life, and saved her people from destruction. God protected Esther and put her in a position to do His will at the right time.

God watched over Jesus his entire life, from birth to the crucifixion and His resurrection. Satan was at His heels, trying to kill him.

Paul had his revelation on the road to Damascus and then went to the Arabian desert for three years to seek God and to be taught. He was alone, and God protected him and dramatically changed him. When he returned, he became one of the most powerful disciples. At a later date, Paul was in a Roman prison, and not only did God protect him there, but God must have truly abided with him. When Paul was released from prison, he had written several books. The epistles included Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, and Philemon.

Let’s not forget John, the man they hated so much and couldn’t kill, so they exiled him to the Isle of Patmos, where he was given visions and wrote the book of Revelation.

Noah was the father of all the nations, and God sheltered Noah and his family for one year in the ark until the flood waters subsided. Hebrews 11:7

Jacob was protected when he ran to his uncle Laban to escape the wrath of his brother Esau. Jacob brought a great blessing to Laban, but for himself, he left with a family, great wealth, and a new name. His name was changed to Israel, which, as you know, is the name of God’s chosen people.

Joseph was also chosen, but his brothers had other plans for his life and sold him as a slave when he was just 13 years old. He was in prison and served as a slave, but God never left him; he protected him and restored him to honor in the midst of his imprisonment. He became the second in command in Egypt.

Then there was Moses, who should have been killed as a baby, but God protected him and even allowed him to grow up in the palace as the child of the King. Later, he delivered the Israelites out of the bondage of Egypt during the Exodus and was in the desert for forty years with rebellious Israelites that wouldn’t acknowledge the hand of God working in their lives.

David was a man after God’s own heart; he received a word from the Prophet Samuel that he would be king, and God protected David for fifteen years after he’d been anointed king of Israel. Then he committed adultery and had a man murdered, which should have cost him his life. King Saul chased him for years and tried to kill him, but God protected him and put a hedge of protection around his life.

Naomi and her daughter-in-law Ruth were in the land of Moab when her husband died. They returned to Bethlehem, and the rest of the story is one that women today still talk about. It’s a story of redemption and love.

Lot was living in Sodom and Gomorah, and God was about to destroy the entire city, but Abraham asked God to preserve Lot. Genesis 18:25 "That be far from thee to do after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked, and that the righteous should be as the wicked, that be far from thee: Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?"

Rahab: Hebrews 11:31 “By faith the harlot Rahab perished not with them that believed not, when she had received the spies with peace.”

**What happens if you don’t go to heaven?**

Matthew 25:41 says, "Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels." On the other hand, Matthew 25:33–34 points out that those who choose Christ will "inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world."

The original purpose of hell was for the destruction of Satan, sin, and his angels. God did not create hell for people; he created heaven for us. But if you do not choose Him and reject Christ as your savior, then by default you are accepting to believe in Satan, so by choice you go with Satan to hell.

You are condemned to loneliness, separation, never-ending regret, and fire. I could line up 100 verses about hell, but I think everyone simply knows why they don’t want to go there. The point is to emphasize why you want to go to heaven and why you need to get off the fence and make the choice.

Deuteronomy 30:19 I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore, choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live. It’s our own choice; God gave us free will so we could choose.

He created us; He could have forced us to choose Him, but He created people to love, and they would love Him by their own choice. Ephesians 2:8 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves; it is the gift of God. Jesus already suffered judgment and punishment for your sins. God sees you as cleansed by His Son’s blood. You’re forgiven. It’s God’s gift of grace.

**"Let’s go study this in depth, #21." Will the Holy Spirit leave the earth at the Rapture?**

It’s debated if the Holy Spirit will leave the earth during the tribulation.

This belief is based on a verse that says, "For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work. Only he who now restrains it will do so until he is out of the way." 2 Thessalonians 2:7

This passage is referring to the Antichrist, who will appear during the tribulation. The power he will have over the world is going to be partly due to the fact that the Holy Spirit will not be restraining evil and the church will have left the earth during that time. This does not prove that the Holy Spirit will not be present during the tribulation. The revealing of the Antichrist does coincide with the beginning of the 7-year Tribulation and his peace treaty with Israel (Dan. 9:27). Since the Holy Spirit works in salvation (John 16:8–11; 1 John 5:7), it would make sense that the Holy Spirit would be present during the Tribulation. It’s possible the verse is referring to the church as the restrainer. But like I said, it's debated, but it’s something to consider.

Can salvation, regeneration, and sanctification happen without the power of the Holy Spirit? The believer is born of the Spirit, and without that birth, he cannot enter the kingdom of God (John 3:5). The Spirit regenerates the soul of man by the Spirit to prepare that soul for salvation (Titus 3:5). Sanctification also happens "by the Spirit" (2 Thessalonians 2:13).

Man is drawn to God by the Holy Spirit and born of the Spirit until salvation through faith in Christ, and it is also by the Spirit that we grow and mature in Christ. We know that people will be saved during that time. So will the Holy Spirit be present during the tribulation, even if in the background and residing with those that come to accept Christ.

The left-behind people who come to the truth and accept Christ would logically have the same Holy Spirit to reveal God’s thoughts. All along, we have had the Holy Spirit with us, who teaches and guides us into all truth and gives us knowledge of things to come.

When Jesus was going away, He said in John 14:26: But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

John 14:26, John 16:7-8, John 15:26,

The Holy Spirit will dwell in us. 1 Corinthians 3:16

He guides us in all truth and knowledge to what is to come: John 16:13-15

He is a legal signature in our lives. The Holy Spirit is a deposit in our lives, confirming we belong to Christ. Just like the earnest money you put down when you buy a house, Christ gave us the Holy Spirit. Ephesians 1:13, 2 Corinthians 5:5

The Holy Spirit works in us as an on-going process of sanctification (Galatians 5:16–21; Galatians 5:22–25; Romans 8:14–16; Acts 4:31; 2 Thessalonians 2:13; Titus 3:4-6; Romans 8:10–11).

He intercedes for us. Romans 8:26–27 gives us spiritual gifts. 1 Corinthians 12:7–11

The Holy Spirit gives us power, wisdom, and revelation. 1 Corinthians 2:10–11, Acts 1:8, Ephesians 1:17–20

God also convicts the world of sin. John 16:7

An attorney gives you counsel, speaks up for you in court, and requests grace and mercy. The Holy Spirit can show evidence to make a sinner repent.

We will go to the Bema seat to get our rewards, and the sinners will stand at the great white throne to answer for what they did. Christ will separate the goats and the sheep. The Bema is the judge's seat in today's court. Satan's the prosecutor; the Holy Spirit and Christ are the defenders, telling God they have rejected me or they have been saved by the blood. Mercy is a factor in our courts, like grace. Grace means you get the reward you do not deserve, while mercy means you do not get the punishment you deserve.

At the time of salvation, you have the Holy Spirit living in you.

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

Mark 1:8 I indeed have baptized you with water: but he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost.

Mathew 3:11 I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance. but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire:,

1 Corinthians 6:19 What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?

1 Corinthians 3:16-17 Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defiles the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.

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

Romans 8:11 But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

Ephesians 4:30 And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.

Ephesians 1:13 In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise.

2 Corinthians 5:5 Now he that hath wrought us for the selfsame thing is God, who also hath given unto us the earnest of the Spirit.

**"Let’s go study this in depth: #22 Prophesy of Joel and the Pouring Out of the Holy Spirit."**

To be honest up front, this may be a little hard to follow, but I urge you to read it a couple of times and study the Bible with this one concerning the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in Joes, as Peter quoted the prophecy from the Old Testament.

Peter says in Acts 2:16, "It was spoken by the prophet Joel", (quoted from Joel 2:28–32). Peter was stating that this prophecy of Joel has started. The Holy Spirit poured out His spirit on the disciples on the day of Pentecost, 50 days after the resurrection of Christ. The outpouring that took place in Acts 2:16 was the outpouring referred to by Christ in Acts 1:8: But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you; and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Zechariah describes the tribulation time in Zechariah 12:1–14 but describes the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at the battle of Armageddon in Zechariah 12:10–14. Zechariah 14:1–7 then describes Christ’s second coming. In comparing Joel 2:28–3:21. It contains the return of Jesus Christ and the battle of Armageddon in Joel 3:1–17, and then describes the 1,000-year reign in Joel 3:18–21.

Interesting comparisons: Joel uses the words I will pour out. While Peter in Acts uses words in the last days but specifically says they were spoken of Joel, it’s the same prophecy. So Joel and Zechariah are both referring to terms used during the tribulation. Joel 2:11 uses the term used in Revelation 6:17, "Who can endure or stand it? Revelation 6:17 The great day of his wrath is come, and who shall be able to stand? In Revelation 6:16, it states:And he said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb.

The Day of the Lord

The day of the Lord is not the Sabbath day in these references. It is what the Old Testament prophets refer to when God will bring punishment to mankind on earth for disobedience to His laws. It’s the theme of Joel and Revelation.

The day of the Lord begins at the opening of the 7th seal. Revelation 6:12-16 And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood; And the stars of heaven fell to the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs when she is shaken by a mighty wind. And the heavens departed as a scroll when it was rolled together, and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains. And he said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb."

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

And in Joel 2:30-31 And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and terrible day of the LORD come. This is a lot but its also a very interesting study, especially if you are living after the rapture has taken place.

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**"Let’s go study this in depth, #23." The Righteous in Christ and the 5 Crowns awarded in Heaven**

Do you ever wonder, "Am I the righteous in Christ, or am I living a righteous life"?

For our sake, he made him a sinner who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. 2 Corinthians 5:21 The key here is might; it's not a guarantee, and it's up to us to act on this.

"Awake to righteousness, and do not sin; for some do not have the knowledge of God. I speak this to your shame." 1 Corinthians 15:34

"If you know that He is righteous, you know that everyone who practices righteousness is born of Him." 1 John 2:29

Do you practice righteousness? As in this next verse?

Flee also youthful lusts, but follow righteousness, faith, charity, and peace with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

2 Timothy 2:22 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled.

Matthew 5:6. And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God. Romans 6:13.

Righteousness is by faith!

Romans 3:24: Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.

Galatians 5:5: For we, through the Spirit, wait for the hope of righteousness by faith.

Philippians 3:9: And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith.

Habakkuk 2:4 Behold, his soul, which is lifted up, is not upright in him; but the just shall live by his faith.

Romans 1:17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith, as it is written, as it is written, "BUT THE RIGHTEOUS man SHALL LIVE BY FAITH."

Galatians 3:11 But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, it is evident: for, THE RIGHTEOUS MAN SHALL LIVE BY FAITH."

Hebrews 10:38 Now the just shall live by faith; but if any man draws back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.

Romans 4:5 But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.

Romans 3:22 Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:

Romans 5:21 That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.

If you are not living a righteous life, I pray you consider changing your life because, as I keep stating, this paper is designed to instruct those left after the rapture because the righteous will be in heaven. Consider this verse:

"‘Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready.’ And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints." Revelation 19:7-8.

The righteous were considered the true believers in Christ during the Church Age, represented by the Church of Philadelphia. Revelation 3:10, "Since you have kept my command to endure patiently, I will also keep you from the hour of trial that is going to come upon the whole world to test those who live on the earth."

Ephesians 5:6 states, "Let no man deceive you with vain words; for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience."

Colossians 3:4 When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.

Paul states in 1 Thessalonians 1:10, "and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath."

1 Thessalonians 5:9 says, "For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ."

Romans 5:9 states, "Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God’s wrath through him?". Scriptures prove the righteous church will not endure God’s wrath.

5 Crowns awarded in Heaven: Reasons to Live a Righteous Life!

1. Crown of Righteousness: This is a crown for every person ready and waiting who is longing for the appearing of Jesus Christ. Righteousness is by faith.

2 Tim 4:8: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day, and not to me only, but to all those also that love his appearing.

1. Victor’s Crown: Awarded to people who brought their bodies into subjection, were disciplined, and had self-control. Narrow your focus to those things with high eternal value. Don’t take your focus off the Lord and Heaven.

1 Cor 9:25: And every man that strives for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown, but we are incorruptible.

1 Cor 9:24–25: Know ye not that those who run in a race run all, but one receives the prize? So run, that ye may obtain. And every man who strives for mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown, but we are incorruptible.

1 Cor 9:26–27: I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beats the air. But I keep it under my body and bring it into subjection, lest, by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.

1. Crown of Life: For people who have patiently endured trials, testing, and persecution for Jesus Christ, even to the point of death.

James 1:12: Blessed is the man that endureth temptation; for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.

Rev 2:10: Fear none of those things which thou shall suffer; behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days; be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.

1. Crown of Glory: A crown of glory is a crown for every person who feeds the flock: the pastors, apostles, prophets, evangelists, teachers, and ministers. All those carrying out the great commission and answering the call of leadership

1 Pet 5:2–4: Feed the flock of God that is among you, taking the oversight thereof not by constraint but willingly; not for filthy lucre but of a ready mind. Neither as lords over God’s heritage, but as ensamples to the flock. And when the chief shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fades not away.

Colossians 3:23  And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; Luke 2:49 And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?

Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature (Mk 16:15).

1. Crown of Rejoicing: It is a crown for every saint that led others to Christ, sometimes called the Soul Winner’s Crown.

1 Th 2:19: For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are not even you in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at his coming?

The crown of rejoicing will be our crown, where ‘God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, nor shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away." Rev 21:4.

Did you know there are different crowns? Stephanos and Diadema Crowns

These two crowns represent something a bit different from the five crowns awarded in heaven. To make it simple, Diadema is the name of a crown when referring to royalty or authority. Stephanos is a victors crown—something that is won.

In the Bible, the word crown is translated from the Greek words Diadema or "Stephanos.

Revelation 19:21 Christ wears a diadema.

In Revelation 6:2, the antichrist is given a stephanos, or victors crown.

In Revelation 13:1, the beast with ten horns and seven heads has a diadema crown. In Mark 15:17, this is a Stephanos crown, a victors crown.

Diadema is mentioned three times in Revelation: The right to wear this crown is given because of relationship.  by the dragon in 12.3, the beast in 13.1, and the rider of the white horse in 19.12. All three instances are associated with royal authority in some way: the dragon is said to have 'power', a 'throne', and 'authority." Revelation 13.2: The beast receives the dragon's throne and authority and is further said to have 'kings." Revelation 17.10; and the rider of the white horse is called 'King of kings and Lord of lords'. Revelation 19:15-17

Stephanos is mentioned eight times in Revelation: as a reward for martyrs in 2:10, a reward for perseverance in 3:11, worn by heaven's elders in 4:4 and 4:10, the rider of the white horse in 6:2, the woman in 12:1, and the son of man in 14:14 and 9:7.

Three of these seven instances are to be conquered (2:10–11; 3:11–12; 6.2). This 'conquest' is mentioned again similarly in 14:14 and is worn by the son of man, who is identified as Jesus in 1:7, 12–18, and who is said to have 'conquered' in 3:21 and 5:5.

How the Diadema crowns exchanged hands To explain the importance of the diadema crowns, let's go back to Genesis and Adam and Eve. This crown gives one the right to rule because of a relationship. Adam and Eve were God’s family, His children. They were made by God in His image; therefore, they were His children and given authority to rule over this earth. Satan took their diademas, the right to rule as it was originally designed in the beginning.

Genesis 1:26-28.

Verse 26 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

Verse 27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

Verse 28 And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

Since Adam and Eve were human beings who lost it, this would require another human being to win it back. True humanity will once again rule this earth in righteousness under the authority of the medieval reign.

Before Jesus was crucified, Matthew 27:29 states: And when they had platted a crown of thorns, they put it upon his head, and a reed in his right hand; and they bowed the knee before him and mocked him, saying, Hail, King of the Jews! Matthew 27:29. Also mentioned in Mark 15:17. They did not believe Jesus was the Messiah or King of the Jews, or they would not have crucified Him.

Satan brought the curse into this world, but, ironically, without realizing it, Satan crowned Jesus with a victor’s crown or a stephanos, declaring that Jesus had victory over the curse.

Galatians 3:13 The thorns represent the curse, and Jesus took our curse. Jesus won the victors crown, and He would then gain back the "diadema" royalty for Himself and His people! Only God’s saints, through Adam and Eve, were ever intended to wear these crowns.

Jesus will restore this right to His people according to Revelation 5:10. "And hast made us unto our God kings and priests, and we shall reign on the earth."

His people will also reign according to Revelation 20:4, 6, and 22:5.

Satan tempted Jesus by offering him all the kingdoms of the earth if only he would bow down to the prince of darkness.

Again, the devil takes him up into an exceedingly high mountain and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world and the glory of them, and saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me. Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan; for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve. Matthew 4:8-10

Jesus did not argue with Satan about this evil one offering Him the kingdoms of the world. The title deed to reign was passed from Adam to Satan. Jesus became human to win it back for His people to be rightfully restored to rule and reign.

One could ask, "If saints are rewarded with crowns, does Satan reward his people with crowns?" The Apostle Paul makes mention of the corruptible crowns of the world.

1 Corinthians 9:25 "And every man that striveth for mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown, but we are incorruptible."

Worldly people make the "corruptible crown" the object of their ambitions.

A worldly crown will not last. 1 John 2:16-17 For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof; but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

Seeking fame and wealth will not get you rewards in heaven. But they are rewards that Satan uses many times to deceive his people into keeping their eyes focused on earthly treasures so they have a false sense of security and feel they have no need for the Lord.

Jesus said in Matthew 6:20–21: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust do corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: for where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. As believers in Jesus Christ, we have His promise.

John 6:47 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth in me hath everlasting life.

Are you seeking after the 5 crowns, which are "incorruptible" and will never pass away, or are you earning corruptible crowns on earth, as stated in Matthew 6:19? "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust corrupt and where thieves break through and steal."

I am not stating that we, as Christians, are not meant to have money. I could go on and on about how many examples there are in the Bible about being blessed and financially healthy. But I do believe we are blessed to be a blessing. We should have money, but money should not have us!

2 Corinthians 9:6-12 6 But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work: (As it is written, He hath dispersed abroad; he hath given to the poor: his righteousness remaineth for ever. Now he that ministereth seed to the sower both minister bread for your food, and multiply your seed sown, and increase the fruits of your righteousness;) Being enriched in every thing to all bountifulness, which causeth through us thanksgiving to God. For the administration of this service not only supplieth the want of the saints, but is abundant also by many thanksgivings unto God.

Do not confuse salvation and rewards, as these are two distinct things.

Forgiveness of sins, salvation, and eternal life cannot be earned by works.

They are an unmerited and undeserved gift of God. As stated in Ephesians 2:8–9 For by grace are ye saved through faith, and that is not of yourselves; it is the gift of God; not of works, lest any man should boast.

Titus 3:5 Not by works of righteousness, which we have done, but according to his mercy, he saved us by the washing of regeneration and the renewing of the Holy Ghost.

And Romans 4:5. But to him that worketh not but believes on him that justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.

We are expected to live a changed life, and our faith should produce results.

James 2:17-18  Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. But someone will say, "You have faith, and I have works." Show me your faith without [a]your works, and I will show you my faith by [b]my works.

 James 2:26 For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is also dead.

**We are, by the new birth, in His kingdom, and we will rule.**

The new birth is salvation. New birth is improving on your old human nature but receiving the creation of a new human nature. It’s a nature that is forgiven and cleansed and will be formed by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. It is not a religion, but you are truly getting a new life. It is not just affirming the supernatural in Jesus but also experiencing the supernatural in your own life.

 John 3:3 Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. To receive salvation, we must first recognize that we are sinners who have sinned against God and that the wages of sin is death. God is asking that you have a truly repentant heart and faith in Christ for the forgiveness of sin.

It doesn’t mean to ask forgiveness and go on living in sin; that is not a heart that is truly repentant before the Lord. You need to have faith, believe in Jesus, and trust in Him for the forgiveness of sin.

Luke 9:60 Jesus said, “Leave the dead to bury their own dead.” That means there are physically dead people who need burying. In his parable about the prodigal son, the Father says, “This my son was dead, and is alive again” (Luke 15:24).

**“Let’s go study this in depth #24 Significance of the Mount of Olives**

Jesus will return to the Mount of Olives, but there were other times during the time Jesus was on earth that it was a significant place.

Jesus gave the Great Commission to His disciples and then ascended to heaven from the Mount of Olives, according to Acts 1:9–12.

Jesus presented Himself as the Messiah when He rode into Jerusalem on the back of a donkey on the very day prophecy predicted. (Ps. 118:22, 25–26; Dan. 9:25; Zech. 9:9, 16; Matt. 21).

Jesus sat on the Mount of Olives with His disciples and explained prophecies of His Second Coming as well as the judgment on Israel in the Olivet Discourse. Matthew 24-25.

Jesus was betrayed and abandoned on the Mount of Olives, where His disciples had glorified Jesus as Messiah four days earlier. But then Judas betrayed him, and all the disciples abandoned him (Ps. 41:9; Zech. 13:7; Matt. 26:31; John 17:12).

Second Coming: The place of His going will be the place of His coming. Just as Zechariah predicted the first coming of the Messiah—who appeared on the Mount of Olives—so the prophet foresaw the Second Coming of Christ, whose "feet will stand on the Mount of Olives" as described in Zechariah 14:1-4, 9.

In King David’s day, the Mount of Olives was a place "where God was worshiped" (2 Samuel 15:32).

The Kidron Valley is the future Valley of Jehoshaphat. This is the area in which God will judge (Joel 3:2). I will also gather all nations and bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat, and I will enter into judgment with them there on account of My people, My heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations. "Let the nations be wakened, and come up to the Valley of Jehoshaphat; for there I will sit to judge all the surrounding nations.

**Significant similarities and differences exist in the three main religions.**

The importance of the Golden Gate and Eastern Gate

Christians believe that Jesus of Nazareth is the Messiah. He has already entered through the Golden Gate once and will return again to the Mount of Olives at the second coming. The city of Jerusalem is surrounded by a large wall that has eight major gates. The Eastern Gate, facing the Mount of Olives, is sealed shut. The Eastern Gate is also known as the Golden Gate or, in Hebrew, the Gate of Mercy. It is the only eastern gate of the Temple Mount and one of only two that can access the city from that side, giving the closest access to the area of the Jewish temple. The gate was sealed by the Ottoman Sultan Suleiman in 1541.

Jewish significance: At Yom Kippor (the Day of Atonement), a sacrificial lamb would be sent through this gate to the desert. It is believed their Messiah will arrive and come through this gate. Jews would pray near this gate to be as close as possible to the holiest site, where the temple once stood.

Muslims call the gate Bab al-Dhahabi or Bab al-Zahabi means Golden Gate or Gate of Eternal Life. Many Muslims believe that this is the site of Allah’s final judgment and their resurrection. This site remains one of the most controversial sites in Jerusalem because all three religions reference messianic occurrences past and future.

Although this is where the three religions differ, Christians believe He has come, died on the cross, and will return again. Jews believe He is still to come. Muslims believe, as Christians, that He did come through the virgin Mary and was the Messiah for the Jews. They believe he went straight to heaven without dying; Christians believe he was crucified, rose in three days, and went to heaven 40 days later, as stated in Acts 1:3. To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:

Thousands of Jews have been buried on the adjacent slopes. The world’s largest Jewish cemetery spreads across the Mount of Olives, facing the Temple Mount. Since this is the place of the return of the Messiah, Jews want to be buried and raised to meet their Messiah on this site. Interesting enough, Muslim graves are on slopes across the Kidron Valley. Just below the Temple Mount at the Golden Gate.

Suleiman the Magnificent sealed off the Golden Gate to prevent the Messiah from coming through the entrance, where they believe they will be raised and will block the Messiah from entering. Muslims believe this was the gate through which Jesus entered Jerusalem. Jewish tradition believes this is the gate through which their Messiah will enter Jerusalem.

Muslims also believe that Jesus, when He comes, will not walk on burial sites to enter the city, therefore giving them reason to be buried in front of the gate. Do the research further, and you will see that all three religions—Jews, Christians, and Muslims—believe the Messiah will appear here at this site. Jews believe their Messiah is coming; Christians believe He has come and will return again at the Second Coming.

Muslims have a significant belief in who Jesus is; they just don’t see him as their Messiah. Refer to Wikipedea! Jesus is the penultimate prophet and messenger of God (Allah) and the Messiah, sent to guide the children of Israel with a new revelation.

As in the Christian New Testament, the Quran describes Jesus as the Messiah, born of a virgin, performing miracles, accompanied by disciples, rejected by the Jewish establishment, and raised to heaven. (The Quran differs in denying that Jesus was crucified or died on the cross, and especially in rejecting the divinity of Jesus as God incarnate, or the Son of God.)

Jesus is mentioned in the Quran in 93 verses with titles such as Son of Mary. He is mentioned directly and indirectly around 187 times. This makes Jesus the most mentioned person in the Quran. He is mentioned 25 times by the name Isa, in first-person 35 times, in third-person 48 times, and the rest as titles or other types of references.

The Quran states that Jesus was born a "pure boy" and never sinned. It mentioned that he was born to Mary as the result of virgin conception, as Christians believe. The Quran denies Jesus is the son of God, even quoting Jesus as denying he is the son of God (Q.5:116).

They do not believe he was crucified or  raised from the dead. They believe he was taken straight to heaven by God. In Islam, it is believed that Jesus was the precursor to the Islamic prophet Muhammad. Islamic eschatology teaches Jesus returns in a Second Coming to fight the Al-Masih ad-Dajjal, or "False Messiah".

It’s also been referred to that Muslims believe He will return to apologize for calling himself the Son of God. It is interesting that Christians and Muslims both believe He will return but differ on the reason. Will He return as the King of Kings, or will he return to simply fight the Antichrist and apologize for saying He is the Son of God? I vote that He returns as the Messiah who has come and will come again, and this time the Jews will receive Him as their Messiah.

“Let’s go study this in depth #25 Differences in Gog and Magog and the battle of Armageddon

The Battle of Gog and Magog in Ezekiel 38–39 is not the same as the Battle of Armageddon.

Battle of Gog and Magog (Ezek. 38–39) Battle of Armageddon (Rev. 16, 19)

• Gog leads the invasion The Antichrist leads invasion

• Armies drawn by God Armies gathered by demons

• Israel initially at peace Israel in the midst of the Tribulation

• Armies gather to plunder Israel Armies gather to fight Christ & His army

• Takes place on the mountains of Israel Takes place between Megiddo and Bozrah

• Attackers destroyed by beasts, fire by God Attackers destroyed by Christ's "sword"

Land of Magog—Nations Then and Now that are described in Ezekiel 38:5–6

Then Now

Land of Magog Russia

Meshech & Tubal areas in Russia

Persia Iran

Ethiopia-Kush Sudan

Libya North Africa

Ashkenaz Austira and Germany

Gomer Germany & parts of Europe

Togarmah Turkey

The Jews will be expecting a Messiah after the Ezekiel Gog/Magog battle because of the prophecy that was written. They will easily be deceived when the Antichrist rises up. The Jewish nation waiting for their Messiah has most likely read Ezekiel 38–39, but there are other prophecies about a chastisement period for Israel before the kingdom is restored. In John 5:43, Jesus said, I came in my name, and you received me not, but if another comes in my name, you will receive him.

Jerimiah 30:7 states "Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it; it is even the time of Jacob's trouble, but he shall be saved out of it." The time of Jacob’s trouble is 7 years after Israel signs the peace treaty. The Jewish nation will be confused, still waiting for their Messiah, so God sends His two prophets. The rebirth of Israel is described in Ezekiel 37, and this has happened. At the time of writing this book, Jerusalem was declared the capital of Israel by President Trump. The next chapter of Ezekiel is the Gog/Magog war. Then chapters 40–48 describe the Millennial reign. It's easy to assume by reading the last part of Ezekiel chapter 39, which talks about events after the tribulation, that the Millennium must immediately follow the Gog/Magog war of chapter 39. Many think that the battle in Ezekiel Gog/Magog must be Armageddon. It's logical to think Armageddon would be described in Ezekiel before the millennial events that are described in chapters 40–48.

In the Book of Ezekiel, all prophecies are divided up. The first 24 chapters deal with Israel's captivity and why it had to happen. Chapters 25–32 are judgments on nations that have been enemies of Israel. Chapters 33–39 are the last days of Israel before the return of Christ. Chapters 40–48 describe the millennium and the reign of the Messiah.

prophecy of "The Valley of Dry Bones".

This refers to the Jews who survived the Holocaust. Ezekiel 37:3–9: The Jewish people return to their land and become a great army, as stated in Ezekiel 37:10: " After the Holocaust, they wondered how they would ever survive, thrive, and grow into a great nation again. Ezekiel 37:12 declares it. The Jewish people were once divided and identified by their tribe, but now they are all one and just call themselves Jews and Israelites, as declared in Ezekiel 37:19.

There is much fighting between Palestine and Israel that would take a book in itself to cover. Israel took the West Bank from Jordan after the 1967 war. There has always been fighting over the land, and there always will be until the second coming of Christ. I urge you to consider the prophecy that declared this and do your own research. Ezekiel 35:10; Ezekiel 36:1-2. The conflict between Israel and Palestine is what will cause the war of Gog and Magog. Ezekiel 38:8, 11, 14,

More on Gog as a spirit

**Specific differences of Gog and Armageddon.**

1. Ezekiel 38–39: The leader of the battle is Gog.

Armageddon: The leader of this war is the Antichrist.

1. Ezekiel 38:4 states "And I will turn thee back and put hooks into thy jaws, and I will bring thee forth, and all thine army, horses and horsemen, all of them clothed with all sorts of armor, even a great company with bucklers and shields, all of them handling swords.

Armageddon: Demons will come out of the mouth of the dragon. The Beast and the False Prophet deceive the kings of the earth and lead armies of all nations to come against Jerusalem to kill Jews and fight Jesus at his coming". Revelation 16:14, Joel 3:1, and Zechariah 12–14

1. Ezekiel 39:9 And they that dwell in the cities of Israel shall go forth and shall set on fire and burn the weapons, both the shields and the bucklers, the bows and the arrows, the handstaves, and the spears, and they shall burn them with fire for seven years. They burned weapons for 7 years!

Ezekiel 39:11 And it shall come to pass in that day that I will give unto Gog a place there of graves in Israel, the valley of the passengers on the east of the sea; and it shall stop the noses of the passengers; and there shall they bury Gog and all his multitude; and they shall call it the valley of Hamongog. The bodies of Gog rot in Israel so much that it can be smelled from the seas.

Ezekiel 39:12 "And seven months shall the house of Israel be burying them, that they may cleanse the land." There are so many bodies that it takes seven months to bury them!

Armageddon The armies that come against Israel are slain by the sword of the mouth of Jesus. There is no mention of any burial of people or weapons.

1. Ezekiel 38:14 Thus saith the Lord God: In that day when my people of Israel dwell safely, shalt thou not know it?

Armageddon will take place at the end of the tribulation when Israel has fled to the mountains of Jordan, most likely Petra, to escape the wrath of the Antichrist.

1. In Ezekiel, the battle of God, The army falls on the northern mountains of Israel; they never reach Jerusalem.

Armageddon: The army is killed in the valley of Jehoshaphat (Joel 3:2). Blood came out of the winepress, even to the horse bridles in Revelation 14:20.

1. Battle of Gog: The purpose is to bring Israel to repentance so that they acknowledge their Messiah.

Armageddon: The purpose is to deliver Israel from the Antichrist.

1. Ezekiel 39:27–28: "The world will know that God destroyed Gog." When I have brought them again from the people, gathered them out of their enemies' lands, and am sanctified in them in the sight of many nations, then shall they know that I am the Lord their God."

Armageddon: The world is so misled as to think the Antichrist is God and has the nerve to fight against the God of Israel and His oncoming King, despite being informed of His arrival.

Focus on Armageddon

This word Armageddon is only used once in the Bible, in the Book of Revelation. But many references are made; see the verses below. The Hebrew root word is Har Megiddo. It’s the prophesied location of the battle during the end times, at the "hill of Megiddo". In Islamic theology, Armageddon is also mentioned in Hadith as the Greatest Armageddon or Al-Malhama Al-Kubra (the great battle). The nearby modern city of Megiddo is in the Kishon River area.

Armageddon is not an isolated event transpiring just before the second coming of Christ but a work in progress that builds during the entire 7-year tribulation time frame.

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

Revelation 19:11–21, Revelation 16:16, Revelation 16:14 Revelation 19:19-21 Daniel 11:40

Here are a few verses where the prophets referred to the day of the Lord. Daniel 2:35 "Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and they became like the chaff of the summer threshing floors, and the wind carried them away, so that no place was found for them; and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth."

Micah 4:12-13 "Now also many nations are gathered against thee that say, Let her be defiled, and let our eye look upon Zion. But they know not the thoughts of the Lord, nor understand his counsel; for he shall gather them as the sheaves into the floor. Arise and thresh, O daughter of Zion, for I will make thine horn iron, and I will make thy hoofs brass; and thou shalt beat in pieces many people, and I will consecrate their gain unto the Lord, and their substance unto the Lord of the whole earth."

Joel 3:13-14 "Put ye in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe; come, get you down; for the press is full, the fats overflow; for their wickedness is great. Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision; for the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision."

They all use the same references: "the harvest being ripe" "a time of threshing" or the "gathering of nations as sheaves". You will also see these descriptions in Habbakuk chapter 3 and Isaiah chapter 63. Isaiah 41 describes how Israel will be used as a sharp threshing instrument. These verses all come together when John uses the same symbology in Revelation 14:14–16. In these verses, John is speaking of the Son of Man bringing about God's judgments on his enemies.

"And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud one sat like unto the Son of man, having on his head a golden crown and in his hand a sharp sickle. And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in thy sickle, and reap; for the time is come for thee to reap, for the harvest of the earth is ripe. And he that sat on the cloud thrust in his sickle on the earth; and the earth was reaped."

Armageddon in the bible

Revelation 16:13-16 And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty. Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame. And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon.”

This will begin when the King of the South gets into battle with the North King. Daniel 11:40 "And at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him; and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries and shall overflow and pass over."

Jerusalem is destroyed as a result of this attack, as are the armies of the North. Zechariah 12:2-4 "Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling unto all the people round about, when they shall be in the siege both against Judah and against Jerusalem. And in that day will I make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all people; all that burden themselves with it shall be cut in pieces, though all the people of the earth be gathered together against it. In that day, saith the Lord, I will smite every horse with astonishment and his rider with madness; and I will open mine eyes upon the house of Judah, and I will smite every horse of the people with blindness." Also refer to the book of Ezekiel, chapter 39.

The armies of the Antichrist move into Israel and conquer all the territory, while only Edom, Moab, and Ammon escape. Daniel 11:41–42. "He shall also enter into the glorious land, and many countries shall be overthrown; but these shall escape out of his hand, even Edom, Moab, and the chief of the children of Ammon. He shall stretch forth his hand also upon the countries, and the land of Egypt shall not escape."

The antichrist then moves his headquarters and palace into the land of Israel and assembles his armies there just before his destruction. Daniel 11:45 "And he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas on the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him."

After the destruction and the Second Coming of Jesus, there will be a thousand-year reign, and then Satan is then loosed "for a season" and goes out to deceive the nations, specifically Gog and Magog. Revelation 20:8 says, "And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle, the number of whom is as the sand of the sea."

Islamic eschatology

They refer to the battle of Armageddon as Al-Malhama Al-Kubra, and they believe it will take place in Syria. Muslims believe that they will fight with the Russians against a common enemy and be victorious. This will be a bloody battle, followed by the coming of Masih ad-Dajjal (the Antichrist in Islam) and the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. The righteous are rewarded by going to Jannah (Paradise), while the unrighteous are punished in Jahannam (Hell). The Great Tribulation is described in the hadith. The Day of Judgment is also known as the Day of Reckoning, the Last Day, and the Hour / al-sā'ah.

Islam teaches that there will be a resurrection of the dead that will be followed by a final tribulation, judgment, and division of the righteous and unrighteous. The Quran is not the same as the hadith. The Quran was written by Mohamed, and the Hadith was a collection of writings from many generations after the death of Mohamed.

The Hadith contains events that occurred before the Day of Judgment. It describes several minor and twelve major signs. There will be violence and chaos ruling the earth by the Masih ad-Dajjal (the Antichrist in Islam), and then Isa (Jesus) will appear, defeating the Dajjal. These events will be followed by a time of peace, what we as Christians call the 1000-year reign.

**"Let’s go study this in depth, #26." The difference between the Rapture and the Second Coming**

The Rapture and the Second Coming are separate events because, when the verses are compared, they describe two very different scenarios. Christ said He goes to prepare a place for us and will return for us in John 14:1-4. "Let not your heart be troubled; ye who believe in God, believe also in me. In my father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I went to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto myself, that where I am, there you may also be. And where I go, you know, and the way, you know.

The Rapture is spoken of in the following two verses: I Corinthians 15:51–53 "Behold, I shew you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality."

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

"But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words."

Let’s go to the word:

The Rapture will occur at any time without warning. Jesus stated in Matthew 24:42–44, "Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come... So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him."

Not only do believers in Christ not know when to expect Him, but the Father Himself seems to have left Jesus out on the exact time His Son is to return. As Jesus stated in Matthew 24:36, "No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father." These and other verses: Matthew 24:36, 42, 44, 50; 25:13; 1 Thes. 4:18; Tit. 2:13; 1 Jn. 2:28; 3:2–3.

The Second Coming will be much more identifiable because it is preceded by many events. Mainly with a 7-year countdown beginning with the rise of the Antichrist (Rev. 12:13–17; Zech. 13:7-9), a treaty with Israel (Dan. 9:27), the rebuilding of the Jewish Temple (Mat. 24:15; 2 Thess. 2:3–4; Rev. 11:1-2), followed by the plagues, judgments, and persecutions destroying most of the world’s population (Rev. 6–18).

The Second Coming is described in Zechariah 14:1-21; Matthew 24:29–31; Mark 13:24–27; Luke 21:25–27; and Revelation chapter 19.

**Let’s compare what the bible says about the Rapture and Second Coming.**

• Rapture —The believers meet Christ in the air

Second Coming — Christ returns to the Mount of Olives to meet remaining believers on earth

• Rapture — Mount of Olives is not physically affected

Second Coming — Mount of Olives is divided when Christ steps foot on it.

• Rapture — living believers are changed to glorified bodies

Second Coming — living believers keep their same bodies in the millennium

• Rapture — believers are raptured to heaven

Second Coming — raptured believers return to earth from heaven, earthly believers remain

• Rapture — people not saved remain on earth and live in sin while others left receive Christ

Second Coming — people of the world will be judged

• Rapture — the church is protected from the wrath of God

Second Coming — believers who endured wrath of God receive deliverance from tribulation

• Rapture — other than signs of the times, His return is as a thief in the night

Second Coming — 7 years countdown with many signs

• Rapture — hidden from old Testament and mentioned only in New Testament

Second Coming — discussed in both Old and New Testaments

• Rapture — reward for the righteous that are saved

Second Coming — consequences and rewards for both the saved and unsaved

• Rapture — Satan has free reign and his wrath and control is powerful

Second Coming — Satan is bound and thrown into hell

Since the Rapture and Second Coming clearly are different events that do not occur at the same time, those who believe and teach a Post-Tribulation Rapture are truly off base. But those who are left behind, do have the hope and promise that their time frame will only be 7 years, less if they are martyred. There is not way to make that thought a happy thought, but its simply a promise that the tribulation will end.

**"Let’s go study this in depth: #27: Why the Tribulation is considered Israel’s redemption and the 70 Sevens.**

There is a time called "the time of Jacob’s trouble" Jeremiah 30:7 states, "How awful that day will be! None will be like it. It will be a time of trouble for Jacob, but he will be saved out of it." Satan hates the Jewish people for being the chosen people and because they birthed the Messiah as well as the word of God. As funny as it may seem, Satan still tries to derail God’s final promise to the Jews. This will be a time when the Jewish people will believe in and accept Jesus as Messiah. Matthew 23:39 "For I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord." And "Behold, your house is left unto you desolate; and verily, I say unto you, Ye shall not see me until the time come when ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord." Luke 13:35

Jesus explains to his disciples in the book of Matthew what life will be like during the Tribulation. Also, Revelation 12 describes a woman who gives birth and has to flee due to persecution during the Tribulation; this "woman" is Israel. The Battle of Armageddon is the enemy coming against Israel, where two-thirds of the Jewish people will be killed. This time will be the redemption of the Jews, but the focus of the Tribulation will be God’s wrath on the earth and His enemies, the wicked and evil. This was seen in the days of Noah during the Flood (Isa. 24:22; Zeph. 3:8; 1 Thes. 5:3; 2 Thes. 2:12). The Jews will go through this final time of trials and will call upon their Messiah: "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord" (Matt. 23:39; Lk. 13:35). The Tribulation, then, is used for Israel’s redemption.

Daniel and the timing of the Messiah

More than any other book of the Hebrew Scriptures, the writings of the prophet Daniel give us more evidence of the time of the Messiah's coming, past and present. The Babylonian Empire was at its height when Daniel prophesied the rise of the Greek and Roman empires and the Medo-Persian empire.

We will review the three main parts of Daniel’s prophecy about the Messiah, specifically Daniel 9:24–27, starting at the beginning of chapter 9. As a reminder of abbreviations, C.E. is the abbreviation for Common Era. Which is the same as A.D., B.C. means before Christ, and B.C.E. stands for Before the Common Era. We will use A.D. and B.C.

The timeline for Daniel's prophecy is the first year of Darius, as stated in Daniel 9:1. Let's begin in Daniel 9:2. "In the first year of his reign, I understood by books the number of the years, whereof the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah the prophet, that he would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem."

Daniel stated he was studying books; we see it was the book Jerimiah where he learned that the duration was to be 70 years for the completion of the desolations of Jerusalem. It was in the year 539 B.C., about 66 or 67 years into the Babylonian exile of the Jews. This meant there were only 3 to 4 years left in their captivity. Two times (Jeremiah 25:10–14, 29:10), Jeremiah predicted that the captivity of Jerusalem would last 70 years. It says Daniel was studying books, plural, so although not stated, it’s possible that he also studied the book of Isaiah. Isaiah named Cyrus as the one who would permit the Jews to return (Isaiah 44:28–45:1). Moses, as well as other prophets, describe specific conditions for the coming of the messianic kingdom. Let’s refer to Leviticus 26:40–43, 1 Kings 8:46–53, Jeremiah 3:12–18, and Hosea 5:15–6:3. These passages emphasize that Israel as a nation must repent and confess sin prior to the establishment of any kingdom of the Messiah.

Daniel looked for the end of captivity as well as the coming of the messianic kingdom. He prayed and repented, as we see in Daniel's prayer in Daniel 9:3–19.

Daniel's prayer is very detailed and divided into two portions. The first (verses 3–14) is the confession of sin. Daniel confessed both sin and guilt—their iniquity and rebellion by disobedience to the Law of Moses and to the prophets who came after Moses, declaring to turn back to their God. Daniel never denied the sin of his people or his own sin. Daniel saw the sin as something so ingrained in his people that they had brought on their own judgment of God. In Daniel 9:8, "O Lord, to us belongeth confusion of face, to our kings, to our princes, and to our fathers, because we have sinned against thee." Daniel uses the term "confusion of face," which means a sense of shame, and he truly knew that forgiveness was needed. The first part of the prayer acknowledges punishment for sin and guilt, which was their captivity in Babylon, just as prophets had predicted as the judgment for the Jewish people as a result of disobedience.

The second part of the prayer is the plea for mercy (Daniel 9:15–19). Daniel made his plea on the basis of God's righteousness and mercy. Daniel declared that God keeps His covenant and shows mercy, and he asked God to turn His judgment from Jerusalem and make His face shine upon the desolate sanctuary in Jerusalem (9:16–17). The end of Daniel's prayer is verse 19. "O Lord, hear; O Lord, forgive; O Lord, hearken and do; defer not, for thine own sake, O my God; for thy city and thy people are called by thy name." Daniel appealed to God to restore the city because His name was there. Daniel 9:19.

The arrival of Gabriel in Daniel 9:20–23

Near the end of Daniel's prayers and repentance, Gabriel appeared to inform Daniel that the purpose of his was not quite what Daniel was expecting. It was an important message from God concerning when the messianic kingdom was to take place as well as God’s revelation of the timeline for the return of the Messiah.

The 70 sevens begin in Daniel 9:24.

To understand the 70 weeks, you must know what the Hebrew word for weeks is. This is not a 7-day week totaling 490 days, but rather a week over a 7-year period, totaling 490 years. The Hebrew word for "weeks" is shabuwa’. A week of years is explained in Genesis 29:20–21. "And Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days, for the love he had for her. And Jacob said unto Laban, "Give me my wife, for my days are fulfilled, that I may go in unto her." Later in the chapter, it is mentioned again in Genesis 29:27. "Fulfill her week, and we will give thee this also for the service which thou shalt serve with me yet seven other years." As you see here, a week is 7 years. There are other references in the Bible where a day is a year, meaning a week would be 7 years. See Numbers 14:34. "After the number of the days in which ye searched the land, even forty days, each day for a year, shall ye bear your iniquities, even forty years, and ye shall know my breach of promise." After the Exodus, the children of Israel wandered in the wilderness for 40 years. This was because 12 spies were sent to scout out the Promised Land, and 10 of the 12 returned in unbelief after scouting for 40 days. Therefore, they would be in the wilderness for a year for each day. Also in Ezekiel 4:4-6, you will see the story of Ezekiel, where a day is assigned for each year for the 390 years of sin for Israel and 40 years for Judah. I won’t explain this here; I would have to go through a long list of Kings and time frames when some Kings were evil and some were not as evil as the prior Kings. Take an account of the years the Kings repented and then add up the years of the good Kings, and by the time you read all that, you might quit reading this book. So now that you understand that a week in Hebrew is shabuwa, it will be much easier to follow Daniel's vision.

The purposes of the 70 sevens in Daniel 9:24

Daniel was told by Gabriel that the 70 sevens are to accomplish six purposes. First, finish the transgression. The second purpose is to put an end to sin. The third purpose is to make reconciliation for iniquity. The fourth purpose of the 70 sevens is to bring in everlasting righteousness. The fifth purpose is to seal up vision and prophecy. The sixth purpose is to anoint the most holy. A better translation here would be "to anoint a most holy place." This is a reference to the Jewish temple, which is to be rebuilt when the Messiah comes. It refers to the same temple that Daniel's contemporary, Ezekiel, described in great detail (Ezekiel 40–48).

The start of the 70 sevens and how it's divided up:

The angel Gabriel told Daniel when the 70 sevens would begin the countdown. Gabriel said, "Know therefore and discern, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem... The 70 sevens would begin with a decree to rebuild the city of Jerusalem.

The 70 sevens are divided into three separate time frames. 7 sevens, 62 sevens and 1 seven. During the first time period of 49 years, Jerusalem would be "built again, with street and moat, even in troublous times." The second time frame was 62 sevens, a total of 434 years. There would be no time gap between the first and second time frames. They run together for a total of 69 sevens, or 483 years.

The first division of seven weeks, or 49 years

Daniel 9:25 “Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times.”

This can be a bit of a complicated verse. The Jews returned after 70 years of captivity in Babylon. They would begin cleaning up their city of Jerusalem and were given the decree to begin building the temple, followed by rebuilding the walls during severe opposition, as stated in the books of Ezra and Nehemiah.

Daniel predicted the city and walls would be rebuilt in troublesome times. To understand verse 25: The time frame once the decree was issued would be 49 years before they would rebuild, or 7 weeks, as stated in verse 25. Once the city was complete after the 49 years,

it would begin a new countdown of threescore and two weeks, meaning 62 weeks or 434 years from the time the temple was rebuilt to the Messiah, the Prince.

The next verse, Daniel 9:26, states, "And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself; and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined." The Hebrew word translated "cut off" is the common word, which simply means "to be killed." The part "but not for himself" means he died for others rather than for himself.

This is consistent with what the prophets had to say about the reason for the Messiah's death in Isaiah 53:1–12. The first three purposes of the 70 Sevens were to finish transgression, make an end of sins, and make reconciliation for iniquity. These three would have to be accomplished by atonement. This is what Jesus Christ did when he was crucified on the cross. He made an atonement by blood as required and stated in Leviticus 17:11. He made an atonement for us and fulfilled many prophecies. The Messiah's death "not for himself" but for others would be for Israel's transgressions, sins, and iniquity. Israel is now atoned for. The point of this phrase is that between the end of the second subdivision (the 69th seven) and before the start of the 70th seven, Messiah would be killed and would die a penal, substitutionary death.

There is a gap in time between the Messiah and the last seven years, or the 70th Seven. It’s a time frame interrupted by wars and a time when the Jewish people reject Christ as their Messiah and the Gentiles acknowledge and receive Him as their Messiah. Also known as "the times of the Gentiles," which must be accomplished before the return of the Messiah. Luke 21:24 and Romans 11:25 state the conclusion of the fulness of the Gentiles. The Gentiles must hear the gospel in all nations. According to Luke 21:24, this time frame is complete once the Jews take back control of the city of Jerusalem and it goes back under the authority of the Jewish people; this was what happened in 1967 during the Six-Day War.

What may have been the last remaining event that lines up with prophecy took place on December 6, 2017, when President Donald Trump declared Jerusalem the capital of Israel. This announcement was made on the Hebrew date of the 17th of Kislev, the same date on which the UN General Assembly adopted the Partition Plan for Palestine, creating the state of Israel in 1947. At that time, President Truman "recognized" the state of Israel after Prime Minister David Ben Gurion declared Israel a state exactly 70 years ago.

This is significant because, for 70 years, no president of the United States has ever been willing to sign and acknowledge Jerusalem as the capital. The Jerusalem Embassy Act, passed in Congress in 1995, allowed for a presidential waiver to be renewed every six months. Since this law was passed, every president has signed a veto preventing the move.

Trump did sign the waiver in June after missing the initial deadline to do so. If he had left it unsigned and the State Department did not immediately enact the law by establishing an embassy in Jerusalem, it would lose 50 percent of its budget for "Acquisition and Maintenance of Buildings Abroad". President Donald Trump did make good, and the Embassy officially opened in Jerusalem on May 14, 2018, previously located in Tel Aviv. The president’s decision to recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital was rejected by a majority of world leaders. The UN Security Council held an emergency meeting on December 7, and 14 out of 15 members condemned Trump's decision, but the motion was vetoed by the United States!

For anyone who doesn’t see the work of God’s hand in this, let’s review and go to the Bible. The Jews were in Babylonian captivity for 70 years, as we are reviewing in Daniel's prophecy, then they returned to rebuild the temple. The Messiah came, and the Jews rejected Him. Christ was crucified, and 70 years later, the temple was destroyed by the Romans. In 1947, the Jews finally took control, and 70 years later, also known as a Jubilee year, President Trump declared Jerusalem the capital of Israel, and the Embassy was moved back there.

Think how incredible it is that prophecies spoken thousands of years ago have lined up the way they have. Even down to the detail of a president of the U.S. being in office at the right time and being willing to make this daring move. No president in history has been this hated and attacked to the extent that President Trump has been attacked not just by his own citizens but all over the world. This is spiritual.

Jerimiah 25:11-2 And this whole land shall be a desolation, and an astonishment; and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years. And it shall come to pass, when seventy years are accomplished, that I will punish the king of Babylon, and that nation, saith the Lord, for their iniquity, and the land of the Chaldeans, and will make it perpetual desolations.

Jerimiah 29:10 For thus saith the Lord, that after seventy years be accomplished at Babylon I will visit you, and perform my good word toward you, in causing you to return to this place.

The prophesied 70-year timeline is an account of the Jews return to Jerusalem, beginning with the destruction of Solomon’s Temple and ending when the Jews dedicated the Second Temple. It’s the same; the Jewish exile to Babylonia did not end until the return to Jerusalem was established. The current return to Israel may not be complete until the establishment of its capital is in place; this took place on May 14, 2018. Everything that needs to take place is complete for the 70th Seven, the final week, and the complete restoration of the natural Jewish people at the return of the Messiah. How exciting for so many and terrifying for so many others! Let’s continue to the 70th Seven.

Revelation 11:1-2 “And there was given me a reed like unto a rod: and the angel stood, saying, Rise, and measure the temple of God, and the altar, and them that worship therein. But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under foot forty and two months.”

Division Three: One week or 7 years as the 70th Seven

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

As of today, the last seven years of Daniel's prophecy are considered a prophecy; they have not taken place like the first 69 weeks have. It is with their conclusion that all six purposes of Daniel 9:24 will be fulfilled. Verse 27 above states the 70th seven will begin  will begin with the signing of a seven-year peace treaty. As a child, I always heard, "When there is peace in the Middle East," and now so much has come to pass to allow this to be on the horizon. Secondly, after 3 1/2 years, the Anti-Christ will break his treaty with Israel and cause all sacrifices to cease. Thirdly, inside the temple will occur an abomination, referring to an image or an idol. Fourthly, the abomination will be followed by wrath, persecution, and war for the remaining 3 1/2 years. Once these things have taken place, the last three things predicted in Daniel 9:24 "Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sins, to make reconciliation for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy."

To give an easier-to-read synopsis of the 70 weeks.

First, the Messiah was to be on earth 483 years after the decree to rebuild Jerusalem.

Secondly, Christ will be killed for the sins of others by the death penalty of the law. The death of the Messiah had to come sometime before Jerusalem and the temple were destroyed again, which occurred in the year 70 A.D.

Thirdly, after this destruction that took place in 70 A.D. with the destruction of Jerusalem and the temple, there would be a long period of warfare. The apocalypse is the 7-year time frame from Daniel’s prophecy; this is the 70th week. Next will be the Messiah’s kingdom, and the age of righteousness will be established.

**Trumpets, Feast of Trumpets, and the last trump. "Let’s go study this in depth, #28.**

Feast of Trumpets and the last trump in 1 Corinthians 15:52

There are a few verses that are the basis of the dispute over when the rapture will take place, before the 7 years, in the middle, or at the end. This verse: 1 Corinthians 15:52 "In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed." There are at least two considerations as to when the last trump could take place. Mid-tribulation after the 7 seals and the first 6 trumpets, which I do not think is plausible. At the last trump beginning the Feast of Trumpets.

This verse clearly says that at the last trump, the trumpet will sound. To make this verse more interesting, let's visit the verse before it, 1 Corinthians 15:52 "Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,". This verse ends in a comma, which means verse 52 is an extension of verse 51, the same thought process. It states, "Let me show you a mystery." If it were as simple as being the last trumpet that comes after the 7 seals in Revelation, then why would it be a mystery and why would it say that at the last trump, the trumpet would sound? Why would it not just say the last trumpet will sound? Along with the fact that the rapture would not take place this late in the tribulation, Paul, when writing this, would have known that the Jewish people would know quite well what the last trump would be. The point of it being a mystery is that it may very well be tied to the last trumpet that sounds at the feast of Trumpets. The mystery would be for the gentiles to understand this! To understand what the "last trump" is at the Feast of Trumpets let's review the details of this festival.

Rosh Hashanah means, "the head of the year," or the Jewish New Year. In the Bible, it is known as the Feast of Trumpets.

The Feast of Trumpets, the Day of Atonement, and the Feast of Tabernacles are three holy convocations or "festivals that the Lord commanded the Jewish people to observe. They each fall in the seventh month of the Jewish calendar, called Tishrei. The Feast of Trumpets began the seventh month as well as the Ten Days of Awe. This is the 10-day period of repentance between the Feast of Trumpets and the Day of Atonement.

The Ten Days of Penitence

There are 10 days of penitence, or Days of Awe, that fall between the Feast of Trumpets and the Day of Atonement, also called Yom Kippur. During these 10 days, one must repent, particularly the 7 days in the middle, because the first two of these 10 days are the Feast of Trumpets and the 10th day is the Day of Atonement. The days of penitence mainly take place on days 3–9, when a person will seek forgiveness. The priest will go into the temple to the Holy of Holies to pray special forgiveness prayers. The Sabbath that falls within these days is known as the Sabbath of Repentance.

There are five morning rituals that were done at the temple that are symbolic of what occurs during the first half of the Tribulation.

Cleaning of the Menorah in Revelation 2-3, Opening of the Gate in Revelation 4:1-2, Offering the Lamb in Revelation 5:6, Offering the Incense in Revelation 5:8, Worshipping God in Revelation 5:9 and 5:14

Israel blew trumpets during the Feast of Israel and during Jubilee cycles (Leviticus 25:9). Also for the new moons in Psalm 81:3, times of war in Joshua 6:5, and during Israel’s journey in the wilderness in Numbers 10:4.

There are five places where the Old Testament mentions feasting. There is no actual reference in the New Testament, but two references in the New Testament refer to the trumpets, which can be related to Christ fulfilling the feast. Numbers 1 to 5 Below is the old testament, followed by the new testament (verses 6 and 7).

1. Leviticus 23:23-25 This phrase is found in Leviticus 23:24 and the literal meaning is “a remembrance of blowing.”

2. Numbers 29:1-6

3. Psalm 81:3-4

4. Ezra 3:1-6

5. Nehemiah 8:1-12

6. 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 This passage speaks of the rapture of the Church and the trump of God. It gives seven points as to the Rapture itself.

7. 1 Corinthians 15:50-58 This second passage deals with the details of the Rapture and also mentions the purpose of the trumpet. The trumpet mentioned in verse 52 is the last trump. Here Paul draws from Isaiah 27:13 as well as from rabbinic tradition in the use of the Tekiah Gedolah, the last trump, to signal the Rapture of the Church. This last truth in 1 Corinthians 15:52 confuses many people and leads them to a mid-trib or post-trib rapture belief. I believe Paul didn’t go into much detail because his audience would have been the Jewish people at that time, and they were very familiar with the Rabbinical teachings and the meaning of the last trump. But I like to say that the previous verse, 1 Corinthians 15:51, is a sign to the gentiles during our time. It would be up to us to search for the meaning of the last trump. It says, "I show you a mystery." This is why I am going into such detail on the Feast of Trumpets to show how the rapture could possibly take place on this day.

The seven feasts in Leviticus 23 that are linked to the events in Revelation and fulfilled or will be fulfilled by the Messiah. Some events were fulfilled at the first coming of the Messiah that lined up with the spring feasts, but it was the fall feasts that fulfilled His second coming.

**Spring feast already fulfilled.**

1. The Feast of Passover was fulfilled by the crucifixion of the Messiah.

2. The Feast of Unleavened Bread was fulfilled by the righteousness of His sinlessness blood-offering on the cross and the sinless Christ in the tomb.

3. The Feast of First-Fruits was fulfilled by the Resurrection of the Messiah.

4. The Feast of Weeks was fulfilled by the birth of the Church in Acts.

**Coming fulfillment of the Fall Feast.**

5. The Feast of Trumpets will be fulfilled by the Rapture of the Church.

6. The Day of Atonement will be fulfilled by the Great Tribulation with Israel’s recognizing the Messiah as Jesus Christ.

7. The Feast of Tabernacles will be fulfilled by the establishment of the Messianic Kingdom, the 1,000 years.

In John 1:29 Jesus was the son of Joseph, the Lamb of God but in Revealation 5:5 He is the Son of David, the Lion of Judah.

There is an Old Testament prophecy that lines up with a New Testament prophecy pertaining to the trumpets. Isaiah 27:13 lines up with Matthew 24:31.

Isaiah 27:13 "And it shall come to pass in that day, that the great trumpet shall be blown, and they shall come, which were ready to perish in the land of Assyria, and the outcasts in the land of Egypt, and shall worship the Lord in the holy mount at Jerusalem."

Matthew 24:31 "And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other."

These verses are the regathering of Israel, and in this regathering, a great trumpet shall be blown.

Trumpets were also used in announcing judgment (see Revelation 8–9).

Other names for feast of Trumpets:

Yom Hadin: This is another rabbinic name and tradition which means “the day of judgment.”

Yom Teruah: literally means sounding of the shofar.

Zicharon Teruah: Means “memorial of triumph”

Yom Hazicharon: This is a rabbinic name which means “the day of remembrance.”

Jewish people refer to it as the Feast of Trumpets, but it is mainly called Rosh Hashanah, which means "the head of the year.". As mentioned earlier, there is the blowing of the trumpet to introduce the ten days of penitence that come between the Feast of Trumpets and the Day of Atonement. The Three Meanings of the Blowing of the Trumpets According to the Jewish People

(1) First, it will be a symbol of the final regathering of Israel when the Messiah comes. Although Christians and Jews differ on the belief that Christ is the Messiah, we are both waiting for the trumpet to sound. I Corinthians 15:52 "In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump, the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed."

(2) Second, it was a symbol of the resurrection from the dead. Christians believe this will come to pass as well; as seen in the above verse, the dead shall be raised incorruptible.

(3) Third, on this day, the Feast of Trumpets, the Jewish belief is that there are three different books that will be opened in heaven. One is called the Book of Righteousness. Those who were perfectly righteous would have their names inscribed in the Book of Life, so they would live another year. The second book is called the Book of the Dead; it contains the names of those who would die during the year. Knowing most people are not totally righteous or wicked, they will be in the third book, called the Book of the In Between. Those people were given ten days to repent. This is the ten-day period between the Feast of Trumpets and the Day of Atonement. Do you see how this ties into the rapture and the tribulation? The trumpet will sound, the priest will enter the temple for 7 days, and on the day of atonement, a person will be saved for that year. At the rapture, Christians believe the trumpet will sound, saints will go to heaven during the 7-year tribulation, and the books will be opened to see if their names are written in the Lamb's book of life. You will either live in heaven or go to hell. It's patterned after this festival, and that is why many people think the rapture could happen on this day.

Types of Trumpets

They used a silver trumpet in Numbers 10:1–10, a gold trumpet used every seventh year, the long horn of an antelope, and a ram’s horn called a shofar.

At the Feast of Trumpets, it's important to understand the sounds that took place to understand the significance of the last trump in 1 Corinthians 15:52.

The Tekia is a long, single blast. It was a straight, plain, smooth, continuous note, and it would symbolize joy and contentment.

The Shevarim is three short blasts. A combination of three broken notes to symbolize weeping.

The Teruah (9 Extremely short blasts. This symbolizes sorrow and weeping.

The Tekiah Ha Gedolah, which means "the last trump," This one symbolizes the hope of redemption. It is a very long, final blast; the person would blow until he ran out of breath.

There are a total of one hundred blasts; the first of three styles is repeated until there are a total of 99 sounds. Then comes the 100th, the Tekiah Gedolah, a very long-sustained note known as "the last trump." So, this last trump is most likely the trump Paul is referring to in 1 Corinthians 15:52 when he writes, "In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed."

To conclude this chapter, I like to say, "I am no longer looking for the signs of the times; I am now listening for the sound!"

**“Let’s go study this in depth #29 The Restoration of Israel and Jerusalem**

Jerusalem is critical for the return of Christ, and one of the main prophetic signs that we are nearing the end is the re-establishment of Israel and Jerusalem returning to Jewish sovereignty. The Bible is specific that the Messiah is returning to Israel, specifically to Jerusalem, and even more specifically to the Mount of Olives, but certain things must take place first. Israel’s origins can be traced back to Abraham, the father of both Judaism through his son Isaac and Islam through his son Ishmael. Abraham’s descendants were enslaved by the Egyptians for hundreds of years before settling in Canaan, which is now approximately the size of the region of Israel.

The word Israel comes from Abraham’s grandson, Jacob, who was renamed Israel by God.

Israel Rebirthed... in a Day

The Jewish people have been in and out of bondage most of their existence; other kingdoms have come and gone, and many other kingdoms have been determined to wipe Israel off the face of this earth, but no matter the circumstances, God prevails and the Jews come back strong. Finally, on May 14, 1948, David Ben Gurion declared the restoration of the Jewish State. Israel, in one day, came forth just as prophesied by Isaiah. Isaiah 66:8 "Who has heard such a thing? Who has seen such things? Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day? Or shall a nation be born at once? "For as soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her children." Just as it was prophesied, Israel was reborn in a day. We won’t review the entire history, but let's go back to the Balfour Declaration. From 1517 to 1917, Israel, along with much of the Middle East, was ruled by the Ottoman Empire. Then World War I dramatically altered the area in the Middle East. In 1917, at the height of the war, British Foreign Secretary Arthur James Balfour submitted a letter of intent supporting the establishment of a Jewish homeland in Palestine.

When World War I ended in 1918, the 400-year Ottoman Empire's rule ended. Great Britain took control of what became known as Palestine. This is modern-day Israel, Palestine, and Jordan.

Britain controlled Palestine until Israel became an independent state in 1947, the year following the end of World War II. Right after the announcement of the independence of Israel, five Arab countries—including Egypt, Jordan, Iraq, Syria, and Lebanon—immediately invaded the Jews, known as the 1948 Arab-Israeli War. A cease-fire agreement was reached in 1949 as part of the temporary armistice agreement. The West Bank became part of Jordan, and the Gaza Strip became Egyptian territory. Another attack would take place in 1967 that would give Israel victory.

Prophecy fulfilled: Jerusalem was restored into Jewish hands.

The Lord declared in Luke 21:24, "And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations; and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled." Then, in June 1967, Israel miraculously defeated the superior Arab armies during the Six-Day War. The Jewish people took back the city of Jerusalem after almost 2,000 years, fulfilling this important prophecy. There have been many other incidents of fighting between Israelis and Palestinians. Important areas of the land have been divided, and others have been claimed by both sides, such as Jerusalem, as their capital. Until 2017, when President Donald Trump declared Jerusalem the capital of Israel, The U.S. embassy was then moved to Jerusalem in 2018, and many other countries followed suit. This would be one of the last significant prophecies to be fulfilled. Others relate to the land blossoming, the language being one, and other things considered signs of the times.

Prophecy fulfilled that the desert would bloom and blossom.

The prophet Isaiah again prophesied in Isaiah 35:1-2 “The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose. It shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice even with joy and singing: the glory of Lebanon shall be given unto it, the excellency of Carmel and Sharon, they shall see the glory of the Lord, and the excellency of our God.” This area is a land of rock and desert and it is now flourishing just as was prophesied.

The Hebrew Language Revived

According to the prophet Zephaniah the speech would be restored as one. In Zephaniah 3:9 “For then will I turn to the people a pure language, that they may all call upon the name of the Lord, to serve him with one consent”. In the late 1800s, Russian immigrant to Israel, Eliezer Ben-Yehudah, revived the ancient Hebrew language so the the returning exiles of Israel would all have a common language.

Israel and Jerusalem have returned to Jewish hands, and the Jewish people that have been scattered are returning to their homeland. These prophecies that have been fulfilled show how the Jewish people are the center of God's heart.

Recap of Seal, Trumpets and Bowls that will be poured out during the 7 year Tribulation

FIrst Seal of Revelation 6:1-2.

The "White Horse" comes on the scene with Antichrist, and he is given a crown. He has a bow in his hand and goes forth, conquering. This rider is not Christ in this verse, as He is in heaven opening the seals. Christ does not appear riding a white horse until chapter 19. The Antichrist is the leader of the ten kingdoms of the revived Roman Empire. He is the "Prince who is to come" and who shall confirm the Covenant with the Jews for peace and the rebuilding of the temple. If you read Daniel 9:2, this will prove the Antichrist comes at the beginning of the tribulation. It reads, "And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week; and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation and that which is determined shall be poured upon the desolate."

Second Seal of Revelation 6:3-4.

The "Red Horse" has the power to take peace from the earth. The symbolism is clear. The red horse is symbolic of blood, and the sword represents war.

Third Seal of Revelation 6:5–6

The "Black Horse" rider holds a pair of scales in his hand, and a voice says, A measure of wheat for a penny and three measures of barley for a penny; and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine. Christ prophesied.

Fourth Seal of Revelation 6:7-8.

The "Pale Horse" is Death. Verse 8 reads: "And I looked, and behold a pale horse; and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed with him. And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth." Satan is ready and eager to see people killed so he can take them straight to hell.

Fifth Seal of Revelation 6:9–11

The Fifth Seal was broken. John saw the souls of martyrs under the altar. The martyrs who will be killed during the tribulation They will rest a little while under the altar and be given white robes; they are referred to in Revelation 12:11: "And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the Word of their testimony, and they loved not their lives unto the death." They are referred to again in Revelation 20:4. "And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them; and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus and the Word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years."

Sixth Seal of Revelation 6:12–17

When the Sixth Seal is broken, many catastrophes will occur. Matthew 24:29 relates to what happens in Revelation 6:12–17. "And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood; and the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs when she is shaken by a mighty wind. And the heavens departed as a scroll when it was rolled together, and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid in the dens and the rocks of the mountains; and he said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: for the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?" This is the same Old Testament reference in Isaiah 13:9–11. "Behold, the day of the Lord cometh, cruel both with wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate, and he shall destroy the sinners thereof out of it. For the stars of heaven and the constellations thereof shall not give their light; the sun shall be darkened in his going forth, and the moon shall not cause her light to shine. And I will punish the world for their evil and the wicked for their iniquity; and I will cause the arrogancy of the proud to cease and lay low the haughtiness of the terrible. Also, the same description is given in Joel 2:30–31. "And I will shew wonders in the heavens and the earth: blood, fire, and pillars of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness and the moon into blood before the great and terrible day of the Lord comes."

There is a gap between the Sixth and Seventh Seals where the angels seal 144,000 Jews to witness, as well as the multitude washed in the blood in Revelation 7:9–17.

Seventh Seal of Revelation 8:1

When the Seventh Seal is broken, there will be silence in heaven for a limited period, followed by the Seven Trumpets.

First Trumpet of Revelation 8:7

When the First Trumpet sounded, hail and fire mingled with blood, and they were cast upon the earth, and the third part of the trees was burnt up, and all the green grass was burnt up.

Second Trumpet of Revelation 8:8–9

When the Second Trumpet sounded and a great mountain burning with fire was cast into the sea, the third part of the sea became blood, and the third part of the creatures that were in the sea and had life died, and the third part of the ships was destroyed.

Third Trumpet of Revelation 8:10–11

When the Third Trumpet sounded and there fell a great star from heaven, burning as it were a lamp, and it fell upon the third part of the rivers and upon the fountains of waters, the name of the star was Wormwood, and the third part of the waters became wormwood, and many men died of the waters because they were made bitter. The prophet Jeremiah refers to this time. Jeremiah 9:1.5 "Therefore thus saith the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Behold, I will feed them, even this people, with wormwood, and give them water of gall to drink."

Fourth Trumpet of Revelation 8:12

The Fourth Trumpet sounded, and the third part of the sun was smitten, as was the third part of the moon, and the third part of the stars; so the third part of them was darkened, and the day shone not for a third part of it, and the night likewise. This was the same as stated in Luke 21:25–26. "And there shall be signs in the sun, and the moon, and the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth; for the powers of heaven shall be shaken."

Fifth Trumpet of Revelation 9:1–12

The Fifth Trumpet sounded, and a star fell from heaven to earth with the key to the bottomless pit. There will be a large locust that will torment men for five months.

Sixth Trumpet of Revelation 9:13–21

The sixth trumpet shall sound and will release four angels who are bound in the great river Euphrates. This second Woe is the Plague of Horsemen. These angels are bound, which means they are the leaders of Satan's 200,000,000 armies.

Revelation 9:14–16: "Saying to the sixth angel, which had the trumpet, loose the four angels, which are bound in the great river Euphrates. And the four angels were loosed, which were prepared for an hour, a day, a month, and a year, to slay the third part of men. And the number of the army of the horsemen was two hundred thousand thousand, and I heard the number of them." Revelation 16:12: "And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared."

The Two Witnesses in chapter 11:1–14 are to prophesy during the greater part of the last half of the week.

Seventh Trumpet of Revelation 11:15–19: This is the Third Woe

The seventh trumpet sounds, and the time has come to destroy those who destroy the earth. God is about to wrap things up once and for all. At the sound of the seventh trumpet, the temple of God is opened in heaven, and "within his temple was seen the ark of his covenant. And there came flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder, an earthquake, and a severe hailstorm."

The Sun-Clothed Woman in Revelation 12:1–17

The verse describes a woman, a child, and a dragon, symbolizing three major spiritual forces that have been at work for several thousand years.

This woman is from Israel. Not the Virgin Mary or the Church. Refer to Joseph's dream of the sun, moon, and eleven stars in Genesis 37:9. This will help to explain the sun-dressed woman's Jewish character. In the Old Testament, God referred to His people as a woman whom He had dressed in honor and splendor in Ezekiel 16. The garland with 12 stars would be symbolic of the 12 tribes of Israel in Genesis 37:9–10. Israel is often compared to a married woman in the Old Testament, while the Church is a virgin. In the New Testament, see Matthew 25:1–13; Revelation 14:4; and Revelation 19:7. It calls the church espoused virgins in 2 Corinthians 11:2. "For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy; for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ." The New Testament Church is called "the Israel of God" in Galatians 6:16 and referred to as "Jerusalem above", which is called "the mother of us all." Galatians 4:26, and also in Hebrews 12:22–23. The church is chosen and well described in 1 Peter 2:9: "But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light." Also called Kings and Priests in Revelation 1:6: "And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen." Interesting enough, on a side note, there is the imagery of a disgraceful woman called the great harlot in Revelation 17:1 to depict a false church that deceives many called Babylon the Great."

The woman/Israel gives birth to a male child, the second symbol, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron in Revelation 12:5. No doubt this is Jesus Christ Himself. The verse continues, "And her child was caught up to God and His throne." In Revelation 19:15, it was prophesied that Jesus Christ would strike the nations and rule them with a rod of iron. After His resurrection, Jesus was taken to heaven in Acts 1:9–11.

The next symbol is a fiery red dragon in Revelation 12:3, and it’s described as having drawn "a third of the stars of heaven" and standing "before the woman who was ready to give birth, to devour her child as soon as it was born" in verse 4. This dragon is Satan, as described later in verse 9, "So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world". Stars are also called angels in Revelation 1:20.

Revelation 12:4-5: "The dragon is ready to devour the child as soon as he is born". This was fulfilled so many times with Satan trying to kill Jesus. Every time Satan failed, he still did not give up.

Chapter 13 speaks more of the Antichrist. In Revelation 14:3, the 144,000 are brought up to heaven. "And they sang as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and before the elders; and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth."

Vials are poured out, also called bowls.

First Vial of Revelation 16:1-2

This first vial will be a noisome and grievous sore that will fall upon the men who have taken the Mark of the Beast and who worship his image.

The Second Vial of Revelation 16:3

When the second vial pours out, the sea will become the blood of a dead man, and every living soul in the sea will die. This is like the second trumpet in Revelation 8:8–9, although this vial is much worse than the second trumpet.

The Third Vial of Revelation 16:4–7

The third vial poured out makes the rivers and fountains of water turn to blood. This is a repetition of the first Egyptian plague in Exodus 7:19–24.

Fourth Vial of Revelation 16:8–9

When the Fourth Vial is poured out, men will be "scorched with great heat." This is the only plague for which there is no Egyptian parallel, and as the others are literal, so must it be. The Old Testament prophet Malachi refers to it. Malachi 4:1. "For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble; and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the Lord of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch."

Fifth Vial of Revelation 16:10–11

When the Fifth Vial is poured out, there will be darkness over the whole kingdom of the Beast, and men will gnaw their tongues for pain. This is the same as the ninth Egyptian plague in Exodus 10:21–23.

Sixth Vial of Revelation 16:12

When the Sixth Vial is poured out, the river Euphrates will be dried up, giving the kings of the East and their armies access to cross over and gather for the great Battle of Armageddon. This will be a repetition of the opening of the Red Sea at the Exodus and the river Jordan for Elijah and Elisha; although these times were for good, it’s an example of it happening in history.

Seventh Vial. Rev. 16:17–21

When the "Seventh Vial" is poured out, a voice cries out, "It is Finished," and there will be a great earthquake. This cry and the earthquake resemble John 19:30, when Jesus said it was finished. This earthquake is foretold by the Prophet Zechariah when Jesus returns to the Mount of Olives and the mount splits in half, as prophesied in Zechariah 14:4-5. The Tribulation Period ends with the Battle of Armageddon in Revelation 19:11–21. As we have seen, the armies of the East and the West come together with the Antichrist to take the city of Jerusalem, but Christ appears and takes them by storm.

Glossary: words you may have heard but are not sure what they mean.

**Abomination of Desolation**

Three and a half years into the tribulation, the Antichrist will enter the rebuilt Jewish Temple and declare himself to be God. The Jews will flee into the wilderness, and the great tribulation will begin, being the last 3 12 years and also much more severe than the first half. Prophesied by the Old Testament prophet in Daniel 9:27 "And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week; and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate."

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

**Antichrist**

Antichrist is referred to as the son of Satan, the son of perdition, and the ultimate man of lawlessness. He is given his power by Satan, and he rises upon the world scene, claiming to be the world’s Savior. He brokers a peace treaty with Israel and their enemies.

He is described in Revelation 13:1–8. "And I stood upon the sand of the sea and saw a beast rise out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy. And the beast that I saw was like a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion; and the dragon gave him his power, his seat, and great authority. And I saw one of his heads as it was wounded to death, and his deadly wound was healed, and all the world wondered after the beast. And they worshiped the dragon, which gave power to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, Who is like the beast? Who can make war with him? And there was given to him a mouth to speak great things and blasphemies, and power was given to him to continue forty and two months. And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven. And it was given to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them; and power was given him over all kindreds, tongues, and nations. And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

**Armageddon**

Armageddon is derived from the Hebrew root word meaning "the Mount of Megiddo." Armageddon will be the gathering place for the final battle. The term has been coined even as a secular term to refer to any end-of-the-world scenario. Even in Islamic theology, Armageddon is also mentioned in Hadith as the Greatest Armageddon, or Al-Malhama Al-Kubra.

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

**Bema Seat**

The judgment seat is also known as the "bema." The word is also translated to court or "tribune." The bema was not a judicial bench where someone was condemned; it was a reward seat like the Judgment Seat of Christ.

**Book of Life**

Those who overcome will have their names written in the Book of Life, also called the Lamb's Book of Life. These believers will be clothed in white garments and have their names written in the Book of Life. Revelation 3:4-5: "Thou hast a few names even in Sardis that have not defiled their garments, and they shall walk with me in white, for they are worthy. He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment, and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father and before his angels.

**Church Age**

The church age began at the birth of the church on the day of Pentecost; see Acts 2.

The church is made up of people who believe in Jesus Christ as their Messiah. Jesus identified it when He declared He would build the church. Matthew 16:18 "And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

**Crowns**

The rewards believers will receive at the Bemma, or judgment seat, are called crowns. The Crown of Life is referred to in James 1:12, "Blessed is the man that endureth temptation; for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him. And in Revelation 2:10, "Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer; behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days; be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life."

**Damascus**

Damascus is one of the oldest cities and has never been unoccupied or destroyed. Syria is not one of the Russia-Iran allies that will attack and invade Israel in Ezekiel 38. It may be because of the prophecy that Damascus will be in ruins before the Russia-Iran invasion, or it could be the catalyst for the invasion of Israel.

You can read the entire chapter of Isaiah, but it starts at Isaiah 17:1. "The burden of Damascus. Behold, Damascus is taken away from being a city, and it shall be a ruinous heap."

**Dispensations**

The Old Testament was the age of law, and the New Testament represents the age of grace or the dispensation of grace. The time frame we are in is the dispensation of grace, also known as the church age. It is also known as the period between the 69th and 70th weeks of Daniel. See Daniel 9:24–27.

**Dragon in the Book of Revelation**

The dragon is the symbolic name given to Satan. Revelation 20:2:" And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil and Satan, and bound him a thousand years."

**Eastern Gate**

The Eastern Gate, also known as the Golden Gate, has a very important religious meaning for Christians, Jews, and Muslims. All three religions believe this is where the Messiah will enter or has entered. It is currently sealed, and there are thousands of graves in front of it and on the Mount of Olives facing it.

**Eschatology**

Eschatology is the study of the end times.

**False Prophet**

A false prophet will be a religious leader who denounces Christ as the Messiah, and his purpose is to deceive the people into worshiping the Antichrist.

Revelation 13:11-14 "And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth, and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spoke as a dragon. And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him and causes the earth and those who dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. And he doeth great wonders so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, and deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had the power to do in the sight of the beast, saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword and did live."

**Gog and Magog**

Gog and Magog refer to the enemies of God with whom He will wage war at the end of the Messianic age. The wars of Gog and Magog are also important to the Jewish eschatological vision of the end of days, a final battle that will begin a period of eternal peace. This is found in the prophecy of Ezekiel, where he identifies Gog as a prince and his land as Magog. Magog is also mentioned in Genesis. Magog is a descendant of Japheth, a son of Noah. If you read Ezekiel chapters 38 and 39, it states that when the Jewish people are living safe and secure in Israel, Gog will invade Israel and God will wage war against them.

**Golden Gate**

The Golden Gate, also known as the Eastern Gate, has a very important religious meaning for Christians, Jews, and Muslims. All three religions believe this is where the Messiah will enter or has entered. It is currently sealed, and there are thousands of graves in front of it and on the Mount of Olives facing it.

**Jacob’s Trouble**

Jerimiah calls the 3 12 years of the Antichrist's reign the time of Jacob’s trouble. Also in Daniel 12:1 "And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince that standeth for the children of thy people; and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time; and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book."

It will be a time of great suffering as the wrath of God is poured out on the sinful people who worship the Antichrist. Jeremiah 30:7 "Alas! "For that day is great, so that none is like it; it is even the time of Jacob's trouble, but he shall be saved out of it."

**Great White Throne Judgment**

This judgment is primarily for the unsaved. It is also believed to be a more stern judgment than the judgment seat of Christ. It is here that all those who are not found written in the book of life are cast into the lake of fire. (Rev 20:11-15)

**Judgment Seat of Christ**

This is also called the Bemma, where God will judge and reward the actions of believers, as stated in 2 Corinthians 5:10, "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad." And in Matthew 16:27, "For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and then he shall reward every man according to his works."

This is not a judgment for sin, as the church will already have been forgiven and their sins removed, as stated in Romans 14:10. "But why dost thou judge thy brother? Or why dost thou set at naught thy brother? "For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ."

There is also no condemnation, as stated in Romans 8:1. "There is therefore now no condemnation to them that are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh but after the Spirit."

**Lake of Fire**

The lake of fire is where Satan, all those who take the mark of the beast, and all those who never accepted Christ will dwell. Revelation 20:15: "And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire."

**Mark of the Beast/666**

This will be the mark that one must take to buy or sell; it will most likely be a chip placed in the right hand or forehead.

Revelation 13:16-18 "And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or their foreheads; and that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man, and his number is Six hundred threescore and six.

**Millennial Reign**

At the end of the 7 years, Jesus will set up the New Jerusalem, where we will rule with Him for 1000 years.

Revelation 20:3-4 "And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled; and after that, he must be loosed a little season. And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them; and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus and the Word of God, and which had not worshiped the beast, neither his image, nor his mark upon their foreheads or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.

**Rapture**

The subject of this entire paper is, When the Lord takes His church off this earth.

**Restrainer**

The Holy Spirit restrains evil powers on earth. Once the rapture happens, the church is removed, and the restraining power of the Holy Spirit will be removed as well. It is debated if the Holy Spirit completely leaves the earth or just pulls back and abides with those that come to Christ during the tribulation.

2 Thessalonians 2:7 "For the mystery of iniquity doth already work; only he who now letteth will let until he is taken out of the way."

**Rosh Hashanah**

Rosh Hashanah begins with two days followed by 10 Days of Repentance, also known as the Days of Awe, and ends on the day of Yom Kippur, also called the Day of Atonement. Rosh Hashanah itself is also known as Yom Hadin, or the Day of Judgment. This is the day God opens the Books of Life and Death and determines if you are then sealed on Yom Kippur. Numbers 10:1-10 "And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying: Make two silver trumpets for yourself; you shall make them of hammered work; you shall use them for calling the congregation and for directing the movement of the camps. When they blow both of them, all the congregation shall gather before you at the door of the tabernacle of meeting. But if they blow only one, then the leaders, the heads of the divisions of Israel, shall gather before you. When you sound the advance, the camps that lie on the east side will then begin their journey. When you sound the advance the second time, then the camps that lie on the south side shall begin their journey; they shall sound the call for them to begin their journeys. And when the assembly is to be gathered together, you shall blow, but not sound the advance. The sons of Aaron, the priests, shall blow the trumpets, and these shall be to you as an arrangement forever throughout your generations. When you go to war in your land against the enemy who oppresses you, then you shall sound an alarm with the trumpets, and you will be remembered before the Lord your God, and you will be saved from your enemies. Also in the day of your gladness, in your appointed feasts, and at the beginning of your months, you shall blow the trumpets over your burnt offerings and the sacrifices of your peace offerings, and they shall be a memorial for you before your God: I am the Lord your God."

**Second Coming**

This is the time when Jesus Christ will return and set his feet on the Mount of Olives. The second coming is not the rapture. Unless you believe in post-tribulation, at that point, we have missed the rewards, the marriage supper of the Lamb, and have lived through the wrath of God that He said He would spare us from. It’s not possible that the post-tribulation belief has validity! Hebrews 9:28 refers to the rapture. "So Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for Him, He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation." But Matthew 16:27 is the Second Coming. "For the Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and then He will reward each according to his works."

Revelation 19:7–9, 14; 1 Thessalonians 3:13; Zechariah 14:9; Revelation 19:15, 16

**Time of Jacob’s trouble**

Another name for the tribulation and the wrath of God Revelation 6:17, 7:14, and Jeremiah 30:7

**Tribulation**

The 7 years beginning when the rapture takes place for those that believe in pre-tribulation Meaning that the Lord will take His church off the earth before the trouble begins. Others believe in mid-tribulation, which means the Lord takes His church after the first 3 1/2 years. This time frame will be extremely hard, but nothing like the second half of the tribulation, the last 312 years.

**Wrath of God**

The wrath of God is poured out on man through 27 judgments plus the seven thunders that are not written of in Revelation. These seven thunders are sealed. The people endured God’s wrath because they did not repent and continued in their sin. But there is an escape for the righteous. 1 Thessalonians 5:9 "For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ."

There is a lot spoken of the wrath of God, such as in Revelation 14:9–11 for those who took the mark. "And the third Angie followed them, saying with a loud voice If any man worship the beast and his image and receive his mark in his forehead or his hand, the same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb; and the smoke of their torment ascendeth up forever and ever; and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name."

**2 Witnesses**

The two witnesses will be Elijah and Enoch or Moses. It is debated for many reasons why it could be Enoch or Moses, but Elijah will for sure be one of them. They will prophesy in Jerusalem and have the power to stop the rain, turn water into blood, and call fire down from heaven. They will witness for 42 months before the Antichrist kills them. 3 1/2 days later, God will bring them back to life and raise them to heaven. A bit more detail is included in Revelation 11:3–13. "And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth. These are the two olive trees and the two candlesticks standing before the God of the earth. And if any man will hurt them, fire proceedeth out of their mouth and devoureth their enemies; and if any man will hurt them, he must in this manner be killed. These have the power to shut heaven so that it does not rain in the days of their prophecy, and they have power over waters to turn them to blood and to smite the earth with all plagues as often as they will. And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, overcome them, and kill them. And their dead bodies shall lie in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified. And they of the people and kindreds and tongues and nations shall see their dead bodies for three days and a half and shall not suffer their dead bodies to be put in graves. And they that dwell upon the earth shall rejoice over them, make merry, and send gifts one to another, because these two prophets tormented them that dwelt on the earth. And after three and a half days, the spirit of life from God entered into them, and they stood upon their feet, and great fear fell upon those who saw them. And they heard a great voice from heaven saying to them, Come up hither. And they ascended to heaven in a cloud, and their enemies beheld them."

**10 Nations of the European Union**

The 10-nation military alliance will rise out of a revived Roman Empire and fall under the control of the Antichrist. They will hand over their power in one hour to the Antichrist. Revelation 17:12 "And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet, but receive power as kings one hour with the beast."

The 10-nation military alliance appeared in Europe in 1995, called the Western European Union or the Brussels Treaty Powers; these 10 nations are the original members of both NATO and the European Union. As of today, 27 countries are members of the EU. At the time the 10 nations hand over power, it’s not known what the state of the other 17 will be or what involvement they will have.

Daniel 2:41-44 "And whereas thou sawest the feet and toes, part of potters' clay and part of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; but there shall be in it the strength of the iron, forasmuch as thou sawest the iron mixed with miry clay. And as the toes of the feet were part iron and part clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly broken. And whereas thou sawest iron mixed with miry clay, they shall mingle themselves with the seed of men, but they shall not cleave one to another, even as iron is not mixed with clay. And in the days of these kings, shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever."

Daniel 7:20 "And of the ten horns that were in his head, and of the others that came up, and before whom three fell; even of that horn that had eyes and a mouth that spoke very great things, whose look was more stout than his fellows."

**70th Week of Daniel**

Daniel speaks in the last week of the seventy weeks of years, which equals 490 years.

Daniel 9:24-27 Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sins, to make reconciliation for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most holy. Know therefore and understand that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the  Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times. And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary, and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined. And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week, and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations, he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that which is determined shall be poured upon the desolate.

**144,000 Jews**

God will send an angel to seal and protect 144,000 Jews, 12,000 from each of the 12 tribes of Israel. Revelation 7:2-4 "And I saw another Angie 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 given to hurt the earth and the sea, saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads. And I heard the number of them that were sealed, and there were sealed a hundred and forty-four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel." They will, at a later time, be taken to heaven.

**200,000,000 men in the Army**

200 million men will cross the Euphrates River that will have dried up, led by four of Satan's angels, and will kill 1/3 of the population.