

Revelation InDepth Teaching: Begins with Rev 5 on Jan 12, 2022

5 main messages in Rev. 5:

1. THE MAGNIFICATION AND EXALTATION OF THE WORTH OF YESHUA AT THE END OF THIS AGE. Right before the great tribulation begins, there's worship as Yeshua is recognized as the only One worthy to bring judgment. The response in heaven:
Rev 5:12-14 They all said with a loud voice, "Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing." And every created thing which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all things in them, I heard saying, "To Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, *be* blessing and honor and glory and dominion forever and ever." And the four living creatures kept saying, "Amen." And the elders fell down and worshiped.
2. THE DIVERSITY OF YESHUA'S PERSON AND WORTH. Not just that He's worthy. But He is diverse and complex. Those in heaven say, "Behold the Lion," but John sees a Lamb. He's a fierce Lion, and yes, He's as gentle as a Lamb. He is the Creator and Sustainer of all life, but He is also a Man who was born and died. He is the Judge and He's also the Redeemer and the Advocate. He loves infinitely, yet His wrath is terrifying. His mercy knows no end, yet His justice is furious and right.
3. THE GOOD NEWS OF THE JUDGMENT OF GOD. Justice only comes when judgement is executed.
4. THE DYNAMIC RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE PRAYERS OF THE SAINTS AND THE END OF THE AGE. John sees people holding harps in one hand and bowls of incense in the other hand, which represent worship and intercession. In chapters 5, 8, and 19, we see prayers trigger events/judgments on the earth. The saints pray and Yeshua executes judgment on the earth. Rev. 6:9,11 "How long until You avenge our blood and release judgment on the earth?" Prayer is happening before, during and after the tribulation. Not "make my life better" prayers, but heavenly ground prayers—prayers that are focused on the throne room and the will of Yahweh. I believe future of prayer mtgs will include us crying out for the Lamb to "take the scroll and break the seal".
5. THE IMPORTANCE OF RELATIONSHIP AND CONSUMMATION. So many of us grew up on a gospel of forgiveness—He came to forgive us for our sins. That's true, but that's not the whole truth. Rev 5:9-10 "You are worthy to take the scroll and to release the end times judgments on the earth because You were slain and have redeemed us to Yahweh by Your blood from every tribe and nation. You have made us kings and priests and we will reign with You on the earth." You are worthy to loose end-times judgements because You bled and redeemed people so we can reign on the earth with You.

If you die before or during the tribulation and you are in the presence of Yahweh, you won't stay there forever. You will return to the earth with Yeshua to reign for 1,000 years. This is one of the main reasons Yeshua died and why He redeemed you and me. He bought us from the kingdom of Satan so we could reign on the earth with Him! The earth won't be destroyed at the end. But it will be purified with fire and redeemed. Yahweh didn't destroy us. He cleansed us and made us new.

2 Cor 5:17 "If any man is in Christ, he is a new creation." (This is from Isa 65 & 66). Yeshua said, "I long to cast fire on the earth." John said Yeshua will baptize with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

Luk 3:16-17 John answered and said to them all, "As for me, I baptize you with water; but One is coming who is mightier than I, and I am not fit to untie the thong of His sandals; He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in His hand to thoroughly clear His threshing floor, and to gather the wheat into His barn; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

He won't destroy the earth. He will restore it. The Messiah will rule and reign in an earthy kingdom on the earth with us! The kingdom of God is the government of God that will come in fullness at the end of the age.

Rev 11:15 Then the seventh angel sounded; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdom of the world has become *the kingdom* of our Lord and of His Christ; and He will reign forever and ever."

Rev 12:10 Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation, and the power, and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren has been thrown down, he who accuses them before our God day and night.

The kingdom is the government of Yahweh on the earth.

Acts 3:21 says Yeshua will return and when He comes, He will restore all things—not by destroying, but by restoring.

Heb 12:27 He's going to shake everything that can be shaken. The kingdom isn't here until the King comes.

Joel 3 says that at the end of age, He will roar like a Lion from Mt Zion. He will rule and reign. The judge of the living and the dead is also the Savior of the world. He's fierce, but He's also the most gentle.

REVELATION 6 The Apostle John looked for a Lion, but he sees a slain Lamb. He was looking for One who is worthy, One who had overcome, but instead, he sees One who appeared to have been slain. He was looking for One who had the majesty of a King, but instead, he saw One who was stripped of His majesty and wrapped in humility. John sees a slain Lamb with 7 horns that represent perfect strength and power; with 7 eyes that represent perfect wisdom and all-seeing vision, and 7 Spirits representing perfect power and presence—a Lamb who covers the earth and denotes omnipresence.

Isa 26:16-18 O LORD, they sought You in distress; They could only whisper a prayer, Your chastening was upon them. As the pregnant woman approaches *the time* to give birth, She writhes *and* cries out in her labor pains, Thus were we before You, O Yahweh. We were pregnant, we writhed *in labor*, We gave birth, as it seems, *only* to wind. We could not accomplish deliverance for the earth, Nor were inhabitants of the world born.

Isa. 26, describes a woman in labor but after going through all of the pain and trauma, but she only passes gas. There is no baby. And the people realize they cannot accomplish deliverance for the earth. Only Yahweh can do that. Time is coming when the birth pains will bring about the tribulation which will lead to the resurrection of the world.

Isa 26:19 Your dead will live; Their corpses will rise. You who lie in the dust, awake and shout for joy, For your dew is *as* the dew of the dawn, And the earth will give birth to the departed spirits.

Isa 66:7-9 "Before she (Israel) travailed, she brought forth; Before her pain came, she gave birth to a boy.

Isa 66:8 "Who has heard such a thing? Who has seen such things? Can a land be born in one day? Can a nation be brought forth all at once? As soon as Zion travailed, she also brought forth her sons.

Isa 66:9 "Shall I bring to the point of birth and not give delivery?" says Yahweh. "Or shall I who gives delivery shut *the womb*?" says your Elohim.

This is amazing...it says that before Israel had labor pains, she had a baby. When does redemption come? After Yeshua returns. Birth pains lead to birth, which is redemption. Yeshua was the baby boy who was born before redemption. Isaiah is touching on the mystery of the 2 comings of Yeshua. Isa 66 is saying that the Baby will come before the tribulation (birth pains). When does redemption come? ~~After He~~ returns. The final tribulation will lead to redemption. Isaiah prophecies this.

Israel expectation was that when the Messiah comes that's when redemption would come. But Isa 66 says before labor, before redemption comes to the earth, the Messiah will come—twice. His birth and His return! Vs 10-13 says the pain is real, but the time will come and I will care for you like a mother cares for her baby! Vs 14- says He will come in fire and with anger, and those slain by Yahweh will be many.

When you get to Daniel 9 and you read about the 70 weeks and the final 7 years. It's clear that the final 7 years begins with a covenant...for one week (7 years). The antichrist makes a covenant with many for 7 years. In the middle of those 7 years, the antichrist puts an end to sacrifices and offerings, which is called the abomination of desolation. That period will be filled with suffering and tribulation, but will end with Yeshua coming in fire to bring justice to the earth.

As Yeshua is leaving the temple, He elaborates on what Isaiah and Daniel said:

Mat 24:1-14 Yeshua came out from the temple and was going away when His disciples came up to point out the temple buildings to Him. And He said to them, "Do you not see all these things? Truly I say to you, not one stone here will be left upon another, which will not be torn down." As He was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things happen, and what *will be* the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?" And Yeshua answered and said to them, "See to it that no one misleads you. For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will mislead many. You will be hearing of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not frightened, for *those things* must take place, but *that* is not yet the end. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and in various places there will be famines and earthquakes. But all these things are *merely* the beginning of birth pangs. Then they will deliver you to tribulation, and will kill you, and you will be hated by all nations because of My name. At that time many will fall away and will betray one another and hate one another. Many false prophets will arise and will mislead many. Because lawlessness is increased, most people's love will grow cold. But the one who endures to the end, he will be saved. This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come." Any Jew hearing this would think of Isa 26, Isa. 66 and Dan 9. What are the real birth pains? Yeshua said, "They will deliver you to tribulation and will kill you and you will be hated by all nations because of My name."

3 POSSIBLE TIMELINES

POST TRIBULATION RETURN OF CHRIST

First 3.5 years:

1st seal

2nd

3rd

Second 3.5 years:

4th seal

5th seal

6th seal

Yeshua returns and raptures His church—the church goes with Him and remains in heaven for a period of time

7th seal

Followed by 7 Trumpets

Followed by bowls of wrath at the end

Judgment Day

7 SEALS AND 7 TRUMPETS OCCUR DURING THE LAST 3.5 YEARS OF TRIBULATION

First 3.5 years:

Beginning of birth pains

Second 3.5 years:

1st seal

2nd seal

3rd seal

4th seal

5th seal

6th seal

7th seal

Followed by the 7 Trumpets

At the End of 7 years:

Yeshua returns and raptures the church. They go with Him and remain in heaven for a period of time (possibly during the time the bowls of wrath are poured out on the earth). The bowls of wrath are poured out followed by the Day of Judgment

PRE-WRATH and POST-TRIBULATION return of Yeshua:

First 3.5 years:

1st seal

2nd seal

3rd seal

Second 3.5 years:

4th seal

5th seal (possibly the beginning of the trumpets)

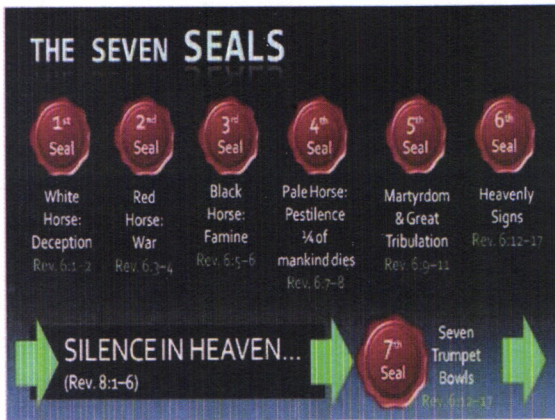
6th seal (6th trumpet)

YESHUA returns for His bride possibly between the 6th and 7th seal. He takes His bride to heaven for a period of time (probably while the wrath of Yahweh is poured out). The wrath of God is clearly a distinct time separate from the tribulation.

7th bowl and 7th trumpet

Judgment Day

We don't know how long each of the seals and trumpet judgments last. It's important to realize the return of Yeshua is a complex series of events that unfolds over a period of time. Rev 19 sounds like His return and the rapture happen instantly, but we know that there is a conquering of His enemies that must happen. He will march from the south making His way up to Jerusalem, in the same way Moses led the Jews out of Egypt from the south. His wrath will be poured out as He marches through the land as the Divine Warrior King.



The SEVEN SEALS are 7 wax seals on a scroll. (the scroll can't be opened and read until the final seal is removed)

1st seal: Rev 6:1-2 to conquer

Mat 24:4 And Jesus answered and said to them, "See to it that no one misleads you.

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

2nd & 3rd seals (Rev 6:4, 6, 8), the sword & famines are also found in:

Mat 24:6-8 "You will be hearing of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not frightened, for *those things* must take place, but *that* is not yet the end. 7 "For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and in various places there will be famines and earthquakes. 8 "But all these things are *merely* the beginning of birth pangs.

4th Seal: pestilence

5th seal: Rev 6: 9,10, martyrs (under the altar), are also found in Mt 24:9, 10

Mat 24:9-10 "Then they will deliver you to tribulation, and will kill you, and you will be hated by all nations because of My name. At that time, many will fall away and will betray one another and hate one another."

The 6th seal cosmic signs & great earthquake, (possibly takes place during 7th seal, which is silence in heaven for about half an hour Rev 8).

Rev 6:12-17 I looked when He broke the sixth seal, and there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth *made* of hair, and the whole moon became like blood; 13 and the stars of the sky fell to the earth, as a fig tree casts its unripe figs when shaken by a great wind. 14 The sky was split apart like a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. 15 Then the kings of the earth and the great men and the commanders and the rich and the strong and every slave and free man hid themselves in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains; 16 and they **said* to the mountains and to the rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the presence of Him who sits on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb; 17 for the great day of their wrath has come, and who is able to stand?"

Matthew 24:29-31: "Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun 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 then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And He will send forth His angels with A GREAT TRUMPET and THEY WILL GATHER TOGETHER His elect from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other.

Luk 21:25-27 "There will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth dismay among nations, in perplexity at the roaring of the sea and the waves, men fainting from fear and the expectation of the things which are coming upon the world; for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see THE SON OF MAN COMING IN A CLOUD with power and great glory.

Isa 2:19 Men will go into **caves** of the **rocks** and into holes of the ground before the terror of the LORD and the splendor of His majesty, when He arises to make the earth tremble.

7th Seal is silence in heaven followed by an earthquake

7 Trumpets & 1/3rd

1/3rd Destruction Occurs 11 x's in Trumpets 1-6

- 1/3 - Earth Burned**, 1st Trumpet, Rev 8:7
- 1/3 - Trees Burned**, 1st Trumpet, Rev 8:7
- 1/3 - Sea Blood**, 2nd Trumpet, Rev 8:8
- 1/3 - Sea Creatures Die**, 2nd Trumpet, Rev 8:9
- 1/3 - Ships Destroyed**, 3rd Trumpet, Rev 8:9
- 1/3 - Rivers Wormwood**, 3rd Trumpet, Rev 8:10
- 1/3 - Springs Wormwood**, 3rd Trumpet, Rev 8:10
- 1/3 - Sun Dark**, 4th Trumpet, Rev 8:12
- 1/3 - Moon Dark**, 4th Trumpet, Rev 8:12
- 1/3 - Stars Dark**, 4th Trumpet, Rev 8:12
- 1/3 - Killed**, 6th Trumpet, Rev 9:14

**In 7th Trumpet Wrath,
1/3rd Destruction INCREASES to 100%!**

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7 TRUMPETS signal that war is about to happen. Who's coming to make war? The righteous just Judge, the divine Warrior, Yeshua, the Lion of Judah coming in blazing fire to make war on His enemies.

The first 4 include the devastation of natural objects. Nature, animals and even the earth itself, suffering because of our sin.

1st 1/3 of earth scorched earth & 1/3 of trees & all green grass

2nd Polluted earth

3rd Contaminated water

4th Reduced sunlight...(due to an event that clouds the sun)

3 **WOES** are attached to the last 3 trumpets: (Rev. 8:13—1st woe to 5th trumpet, 2nd woe to 6th and 3rd woe to 7th trumpet).

5th Locusts...(demonic perhaps) and 1st WOE

6th 2 million man army from beyond the Euphrates and 2nd WOE

7th His kingdom comes and 3rd WOE

THE BOWLS OF YAHWEH'S WRATH (7 plagues): Revelation 16:1-9

1st loathsome, malignant sores on those with the mark of the beast 16:2

2nd Blood in sea & every living thing in the sea died 16:3

3rd Blood in the rivers & springs of water 16:4-5

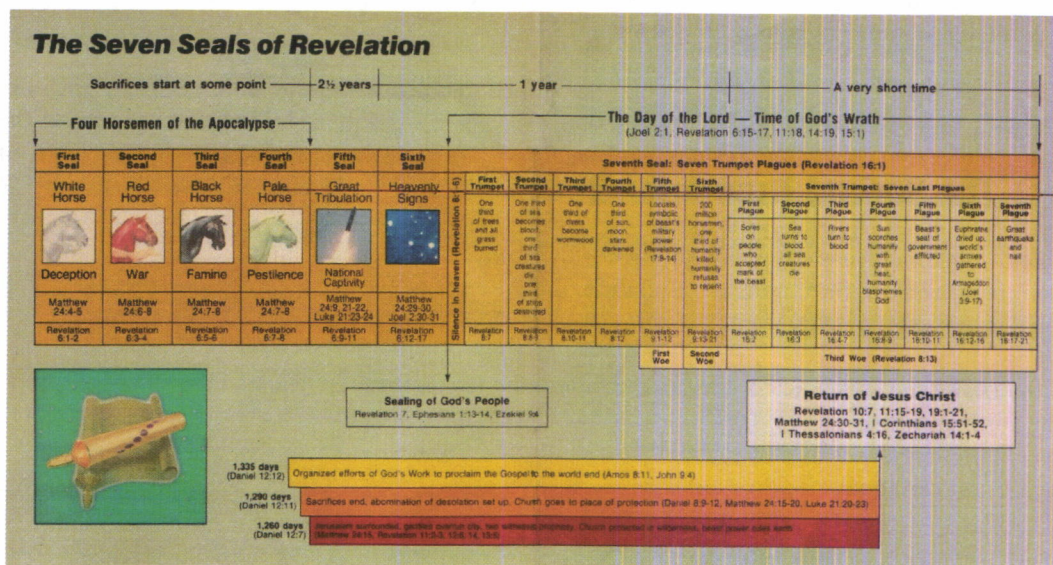
4th The sun scorches men with fire—they do not repent 16:8-9

5th Bowl of wrath poured out on throne of the beast—his kingdom is darkened; they gnawed their tongues because of pain 16:10

6th Euphrates river dries up to make way for the kings and for Armageddon (when Yeshua defeats the anti-christ) 16:12

7th Massive earthquake, 100 lb. hailstones, cities destroyed...His kingdom comes 16:17

The message of Rev. is: **BE PREPARED!**



In Rev 15, we see saints who have overcome the tribulation on the sea of glass and we see 7 angels are given 7 bowls of wrath to pour out on the earth. From this chapter, it appears the Christians are spending time there (*the rapture has already happened*). Col 3:4 When Christ, who is our life, is revealed (*lit: made visible, appears*) then you also will be revealed with Him in glory.

When Yeshua comes back, we will also be revealed (*lit: made visible, appears*) with Him in glory. Is this when we return with Him after His wrath is poured out or does this happen when we are raptured? I can see both. It seems to me that maybe the wrath (*at least a portion of it*) is poured out when He returns.

Isa 40:5 Then the glory of the LORD will be revealed, And all flesh will see *it* together; For the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

Isa 40:10 Behold, the Lord GOD will come with might, With His arm ruling for Him. Behold, His reward is with Him And His recompense before Him.

Hab 3 describes the return of Yeshua: *Royal Procession*

Pestilence goes before Him and plagues come after Him...this is Exodus language. This describes Yeshua marching and destroying.

Hab 3:12 In indignation You marched through the earth; in anger You trampled the nations.

Jude 14&15 says Yeshua will come to do what? Jud 1:14 *It was* also about these men *that* Enoch, *in* the 7th generation from Adam, prophesied, saying, "Behold, the Lord came with many thousands of His holy ones, 15 to execute judgment upon all, and to convict all the ungodly of all their ungodly deeds which they have done in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him."

Yeshua is coming to execute judgement on all and to convict the ungodly. Because of these passages I lean toward the idea that Yeshua Himself will execute much of the judgment wrath, much like Yahweh did in the Exodus story. He's coming to judge the evil one and the evil! He's coming to deliver His people from evil! To set the captives free. To heal and redeem and restore and bring freedom to prisoners! Let that be our anchor.

THE EARTHQUAKES (during the 7 years of tribulation)

THE SIXTH SEAL Rev 6:12 -17

THE SEVENTH SEAL AND THE GOLDEN CENSER Rev 8:1 -5

WHEN THE TWO WITNESSES DIE Rev 11:12 -14

THE SEVENTH TRUMPET Rev 11:15 -19

THE SEVENTH BOWL: Rev 16:17 -21

THE SEVEN ANGELS WITH SEVEN PLAGUES (trumpets) Rev 15:1 -8

THE WRATH OF YAHWEH

REV 14:19 So the angel swung his sickle to the earth and gathered the clusters from the vine of the earth, and threw them into the great wine press of the wrath of God.

Rev 15:1 Then I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvelous, seven angels who had seven plagues, which are the last, because in them the wrath of God is finished.

Rev 15:7 Then one of the four living creatures gave to the seven angels seven golden bowls full of the wrath of God, who lives forever and ever.

Rev 16:1 Then I heard a loud voice from the temple, saying to the seven angels, "Go and pour out on the earth the seven bowls of the wrath of God."

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

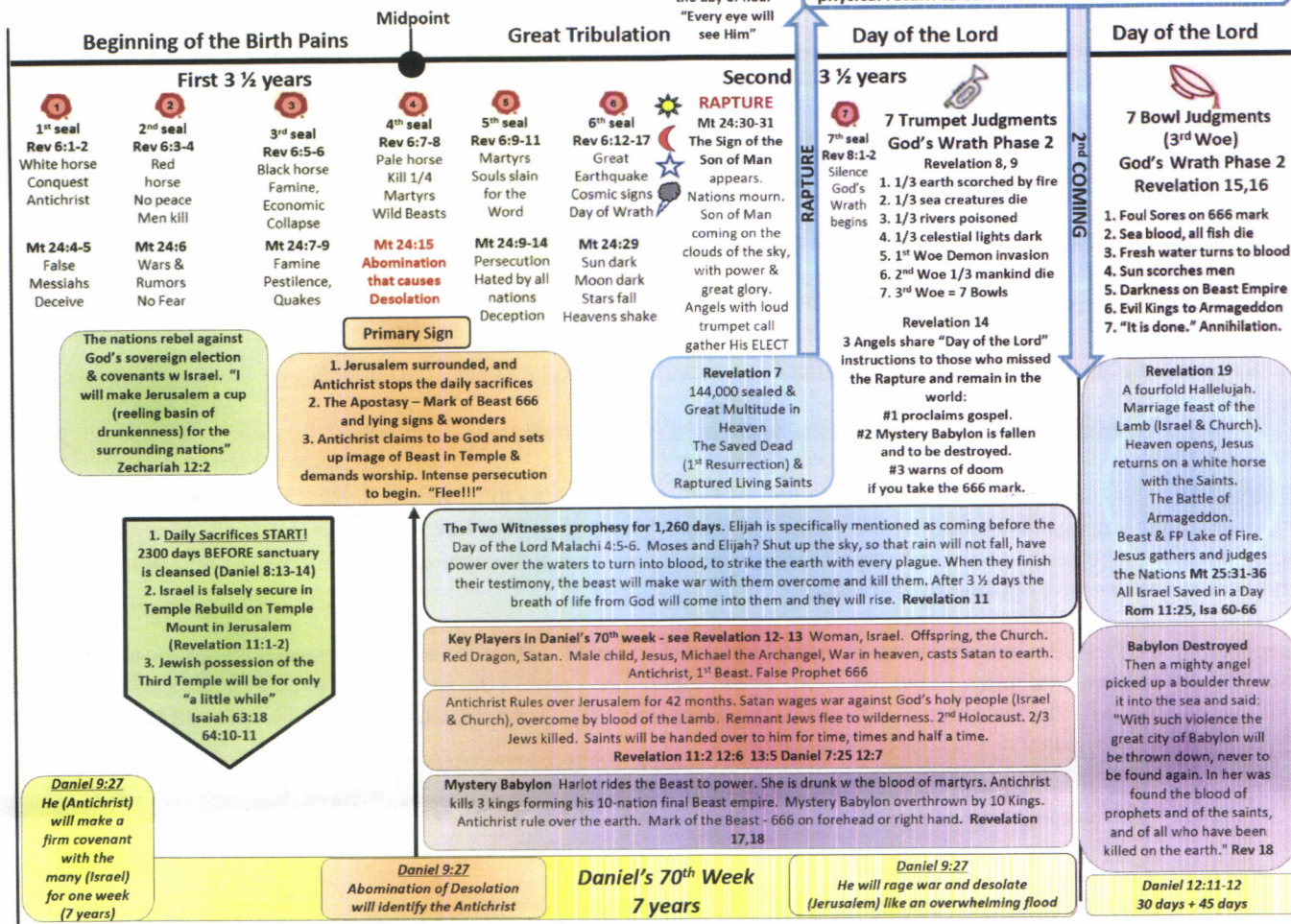
Rev 19:15 From His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He may strike down the nations, and He will rule them with a rod of iron; and He treads the wine press of the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty.

7 Seals, 7 Trumpets, 7 Bowls

Consecutive & Sequential

"G.T. cut short"
"No man knows
the day of hour"
"Every eye will
see Him"

Second Coming (Parousia) means Jesus' arrival (in the air) and ongoing presence. Rapture sets off a complex series of events; Judgment Seat of Christ, Day of the Lord, Jesus physical return to earth...etc.



SEALS

1st 4 seals are very significant and describe a new world order that emerges and the future world war. New world order...there is an order, a structure, an authority structure that's coming and will be a new global order. It will completely change the face of the earth leading up to world War III.

Nature of the seals:

- Released by Yeshua. Not accidents. Not men deciding to do something. This is Yeshua opening the seals. When the scroll is unrolled, the end of all things happens. Yeshua, you are worthy to open the scroll. The Lamb is opening the seal.
- The seals are end time events.
- These are all future.
- They are all sequential. How do you know? the literal Greek word for first seal means the first. Greek word for 2nd means 2nd. They are put in sequential order for a reason. For ex: plagues in Egypt were numbered and happened in order.
- The seals intensify with each open seal. Seals, trumpets & bowls are all sequential and intensifying in judgment. The 6th & 7th seal end with incredible finality. 7th trumpet: mystery of Yahweh is complete and the kingdoms of this world become the kingdom of our Yahweh and his Christ. 7th bowl it is done, it is complete.
- The judgments events in Rev 6 are intentional. Yeshua is the one doing them and the Father is the one holding the scroll. There will be a temptation for people to say oh no, the Father is not on his throne...He's not sovereign. The 1st seal is the rise of the final antichrist. As he rises, the next event that happens is Yeshua allows peace to be taken from the earth. After that, famine and economic collapse. Then war. Then pandemics and pestilence. Death. Yahweh is intentionally backing the nations in a corner—He's uncovering what's true and what's not. Isa 26 says When the judgments of Yahweh are on the earth, the people will learn righteousness. As the judgments are poured out, the knowledge of Yahweh becomes the most important thing. The message won't be this is just a bunch of humans sinning, but the message will be that Yahweh is doing this. Yes, the rulers of the world will bear responsibility for these things, but Yahweh allows it.

7. The seals are multipurposed. like one stone that kills 500 birds. It's not as though Yahweh is doing just one thing. By raising up the antichrist and giving him authority, Dan 7, 11, & Rev 13 describe the antichrist arising as a sovereign event...because of the will of Yahweh. The antichrist will be raised up by Yahweh. There's a purpose for this. The church will face the antichrist—Dan 7 & 11 are clear about this so are the apostles. Yahweh will produce His very own nature and character in the body of Christ through the antichrist and his evil deeds. It will be Multi-purposed. His plans and judgments will effect satan, demons, angels and political systems and rulers, financial, religions, economic systems. Everything will be effected by these events. Heb 12 He will shake everything that can be shaken...but there is a kingdom that can't be shaken! Wheat and chaff will fall and be separated. And we will find out how much is wheat and how much chaff in us.
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Rev 6:1 And I watched when the Lamb opened one of the seven seals, and I heard one of the four living creatures saying like the sound of thunder, "Come!"

Rev 6:2 And I looked, and behold, a white horse, and the one seated on it had a bow, and a crown was given to him, and he went out conquering and in order that he might conquer (*the final conquest is Jerusalem*).

Who is the rider? John says, "I saw Yeshua open a seal...and I saw a rider with a bow seated on a white horse and a crown was given to him...The white horse speaks of victory in war. Yeshua returns at the end of Revelation riding on a white horse. He doesn't march across the earth in the beginning, but at the end. The rider is given a crown (authority is given to him...Yeshua already has all authority in heaven and on earth.)

Deut 13 says that if a false prophet rises up among you to draw you away to worship a false elohim, and he does a sign or wonder and that sign or wonder comes true, Moses says, "Know this, Yahweh raised him up to test you, to see if you love the Yahweh, your Elohim with all your heart and soul."

The antichrist will be raised up by Yahweh to test the hearts of all mankind. And he will do signs and wonders. He has a bow—no arrows, no real weapon. This is not the diadem (crown of a king). This rider is wearing a laurel wreath of vegetation. "Stephanos" in Greek. This is Not a king's crown, but a victors crown.

When is this 1st seal opened? In my opinion, there can be only 2 options: either at the beginning of Daniel's 70 weeks, which begins the final 7 years or in the middle with the abomination of desolation. I know the rider is the antichrist and I know he sets in motion the events of the tribulation.

But I don't know if the 1st seal is describing his initial rise or when he establishes the abomination of desolation and attacks Israel and is revealed for who he truly is. I don't know. When the events unfold, we will know what's happening. (Jer. 30, Dan 8, 9, 11, 12, Rev 12 & 13 II Thess. 2 describes abomination of desolation, which is the final 3.5 years)

Dan. 9:27 talking about the antichrist/prince to come. Either he strengthens a preexisting covenant or he makes a new one for one week. (read chapters Dan 8-12). Desolated means Satan/antichrist. The 7 years end with the one (the antichrist) who brought desolation to the earth and to mankind being desolated by Yeshua who pierces him with his own spear. **The key to understanding the antichrist is Dan 11 & 12—it's the best description in whole bible.*

Dan 11:21 describes the rise of the antichrist at the beginning of the final 7 years. In vs 21, he rises and in vs 31, he invades Jerusalem. Within those 10 verses, (Dan 11:21-31), the first 4 seals are possibly taking place.

SEALS: The nature of the 1st 4 seals: humans doing things to human. 1st seal: the Antichrist, a human with a vision to conquer land and people. 2nd men slaying each other. 3rd men creating financial crisis. 4th is the pestilence, sickness, plagues, war—because of what men did to each other.

After the 4th seal, everything changes. Now, it's Yahweh bringing judgment directly, not through allowing men to bring destruction. That's why I believe the opening of first 4 seals probably take place during the first half of the 7 years. It's mankind attacking mankind.

On the other hand, the first seal could be the abomination of desolation—when the antichrist conquers Jerusalem and he also burns Babylon because of her relationship with Jerusalem and he goes to war with Egypt, Africa and the middle east. First seal could set in motion WW3 and sets in motion 2nd seal etc. This could all happen in 3.5 years. Does the first seal happen in first 3.5 years? Or the last 3.5 years? We will find out—in time.

4 LIVING CREATURES are talked about in Ezek 1 & 10. The throne of Yahweh is sometimes described as a chariot with wheels that move in different directions and the living creatures are connected to those wheels.

Ezek 1:5-11 describes the living creatures—they have a human form to some degree: 4 faces & 4 wings.....under wings were 4 hands....faces did not turn....bull, ox, human and lion. These are so much more than just angels. In Ezek 10, they are called cherubim. They call forth the rider on the white horse.

1st seal: the rider is given a bow (he didn't have it before). There was given to him...you can say the Father gives things...this phrase "is given" is used in Rev 9:1, 3-5. Is given to the beast out of the sea. Rev. 13:5-7 and the false prophet is also given...this is pointing out that this is Yahweh's doing, his will. He is the Giver...of authority.

Dan 9:24 is clear: there is a period of 7 years which begins with the antichrist making a false peace agreement... Some type of covenant is made, which kicks off the tribulation.

7 weeks (7 years) are decreed...who are the primary recipients? Daniel's people—the Jews and Jerusalem. Israel. Daniel lists 6 things that this 7 year period will accomplish:

1. bring rebellion to an end
2. bring an end to sin
3. to atone for iniquity
4. To bring in everlasting righteousness
5. To seal up vision & prophecy
6. And to anoint the most holy place

The Rider on the white horse...lines up with the descriptions of the antichrist in Dan 8:23-24 he is a ruler, a king. Ruthless. Skilled in intrigue. Empowered by Satan. Outrageous destruction. Destroys the powerful and the common people. Yahweh will allow us to be broken. Deceit will prosper. A false sense of peace will deceive people, especially in the beginning. Perhaps because of the security alliance. The antichrist is so arrogant and he sets himself up in the temple.

On the other hand, the first seal could be the abomination of desolation—when the antichrist conquers Jerusalem and he also burns Babylon because of her relationship with Jerusalem and he goes to war with Egypt, Africa and the middle east. First seal could set in motion WW3 and sets in motion 2nd seal etc. This could all happen in 3.5 years. Does the first seal happen in first 3.5 years? Or the last 3.5 years? We will find out—in time.

6:3 out came a bright red horse... Maybe this is the great tribulation because the impact of this red horse is men butchering each other. Immediate war. But Dan. 11:31 describes a series of preliminary wars before the World War. Paul said to the Thess... in the last days people will say Peace and safety but then sudden destruction will come upon them. When the antichrist rises, he establishes a new world order, peace from and in the middle east that requires all the nations to recognize that authority structure. Will peace be taken from the earth before or after the peace is taken from the earth? Not sure.

Dan 11 describes the Arabian peninsula, N Africa, Mediterranean, Asia, parts of Europe being involved in final massive World war because of the new world order that arises in chapter 21. When we're looking at these events and watching for the rise of the final antichrist, what are the things we're to look for? Daniel says when the antichrist shows up, he comes conquering immediately, which establishes a new world order and a kind of peace. Summary: first seal establishes a new world order. That effects the nations of the earth. When the antichrist rises, he sets in motion a World War, which is most likely the second seal.

4 LIVING CREATURES are talked about in Ezek 1 & 10. The throne of Yahweh is sometimes described as a chariot with wheels that move in different directions and the living creatures are connected to those wheels.

Ezek 1:5-11 describes the living creatures—they have a human form to some degree: 4 faces & 4 wings.....under wings were 4 hands....faces did not turn....bull, ox, human and lion. These are so much more than just angels. In Ezek 10, they are called cherubim. They call forth the rider on the white horse.

1st seal: the rider is given a bow (he didn't have it before). There was given to him...you can say the Father gives things...this phrase "is given" is used in Rev 9:1, 3-5. Is given to the beast out of the sea. Rev. 13:5-7 and the false prophet is also given...this is pointing out that this is Yahweh's doing, his will. He is the Giver...of authority.

Dan 9:24 is clear: there is a period of 7 years which begins with the antichrist making a false peace agreement... Some type of covenant is made, which kicks off the tribulation.

7 weeks (7 years) are decreed...who are the primary recipients? Daniel's people—the Jews and Jerusalem. Israel.

Daniel lists 6 things that this 7 year period will accomplish:

1. bring rebellion to an end
2. bring an end to sin
3. to atone for iniquity
4. To bring in everlasting righteousness
5. To seal up vision & prophecy
6. And to anoint the most holy place

The Rider on the white horse...lines up with the descriptions of the antichrist in Dan 8:23-24 he is a ruler, a king. Ruthless. Skilled in intrigue. Empowered by Satan. Outrageous destruction. Destroys the powerful and the common people. Yahweh will allow us to be broken. Deceit will prosper. A false sense of peace will deceive people, especially in the beginning.

These are Age-ending conclusive events that wrap up this age in order to kick things off in the eternal age. The final false covenant is established first in Isa. Assyrians...Isa 28:14-15 he's talking to the rulers...you made a covenant with Sheol/death/grave. They believe the covenant would protect them from the Overwhelming scourge. They believe that a tsunami of whips can't touch them because they entered into a false covenant. Part of the Sinai betrothal covenant was Yahweh forbid the people not to enter into covenants with the people of the land. Yahweh gave a clear command, don't trust the pagans, don't place your security with anyone other than Me.

Isa 28:16 Therefore thus says the Lord GOD, "Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a tested stone, A costly cornerstone for the foundation, firmly placed. He who believes in it will not be disturbed.

Israel had entered into a trust agreement with their neighbors, a covenant. They believed they would escape invasion. Yahweh, says, "If you will put your trust in Me, I will protect you!" Yeshua, the cornerstone! If you do, then I will...You will not be disturbed.

Isa 28:18 "Your covenant with death will be canceled, And your pact with Sheol will not stand; When the overwhelming scourge passes through, then you become its trampling place.

Isa 28:19 "As often as it passes through, it will seize you (lit:it will cause terror);

He's rebuking His people. "You've put your trust in the things I told you not to put your trust in."

Isa 10: Woe to Assyria. Assyria is the rod of My anger—Yahweh's using a pagan nation to discipline his people. The antichrist is the ultimate latter day Assyrian. This passage in Isa. is end-times prophecy. After Yahweh uses Assyria to discipline the Jews, what does He do? He zeroes in on the king of Assyria and punishes those He used to chastise His people. The antichrist is Yahweh's antichrist...He will use the antichrist as the ultimate Assyrian army to punish the earth. Isa 10:20-26 this is end-times language. Those who survive will never again rely on the one who struck them (the anti-christ).

In the beginning, Israel will rely on antichrist partially and will enter into some kind of peace covenant with him. Destruction...thus says the Lord...don't fear the Assyrians...the way Egypt did...my anger will be directed at the antichrist.

Isa 10:26 The LORD of hosts will arouse a scourge against him like the slaughter of Midian at the rock of Oreb; and His staff will be over the sea and He will lift it up the way He did in Egypt.

Yahweh arouse a scourge against the antichrist like He did for Gideon at Midian...and his staff will be over the sea And He will lift the sea up the way He did in Egypt! What? His staff will be over the sea. He compares this to Egypt. He's describing a procession when Yeshua returns like Moses did...possibly splitting the Red Sea again. The first seal is not vague conquering. Rather he aligns with the descriptions of the antichrist. The Rider on white horse...lines up with the descriptions of the antichrist in Dan 8:23-24 he is a ruler, a king. Ruthless. Skilled in intrigue. Empowered by Satan. Outrageous destruction. Destroys the powerful and the common people.

Yahweh will allow this. There will be a false sense of peace when the antichrist comes on the scene. Yahweh will allow us to be broken. Deception will prosper. A false sense of peace will deceive people, especially in the beginning. Perhaps because of the security alliance/peace treaty. The antichrist is so arrogant and sets himself up in the temple.

Dan 11:21 the antichrist will come during a time of peace. Dan 11:40-41 he will invade countries. He will be like an overflowing scourge. He engages in deception. Many will fall. He has a crown. Goes out to conquer and to conquer. Ends with his destruction. Isa and Dan align perfectly with the breaking of the first seal and the rider on the white horse.

Throughout Revelation, we see something being granted and something being taken. This implies sovereign administration. Vs 2 a crown was given to the rider on the white horse. In Vs 4, the rider is permitted to take peace from the earth and a great sword is given to him.

Taking and giving. Dan 7, 8 9 we see Rev 12 & 13 that Yahweh is the one giving the antichrist authority. But Rev 13:2 says...the dragon, Satan, gave the beast, the antichrist his power, throne and authority. In Rev 6, Yahweh gives a crown to the rider on white horse. In Rev 13 power, throne and authority is given to him by Satan. On one hand, Yahweh is giving things and Satan is giving him his authority.

Yahweh is allowing and administrating the antichrist because of His sovereignty. Dan. 7 says the saints will be given into his hand. Yahweh will give us into the hand of the beast. The antichrist will be given authority by Yahweh to spill the blood of the saints! Yahweh will give his cherished bride to suffer and be brutalized? Yes. We follow a slain Lamb and a crucified Savior who kept His mouth shut as He suffered.

Yeshua didn't go to the cross so we wouldn't ever have to bear a cross. He bore a cross to show us how to carry one. His cross bearing took care of our sins and paid our sin debt in full. We are to carry our cross daily. Our cross does not add anything to His cross, but exalts His cross. At the end of the age, when Satan empowers the antichrist and Yeshua grants the antichrist authority we will go the way of the cross!

Matt. 28:18, Yeshua said that all authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Him. We will live the gospel by carrying our cross like Yeshua carried His.

6:3 the second seal. He sees a bright red horse. It's rider was permitted to take peace from the earth so people would slay one another. He was given a great sword. This is the beginning of the final World war. It will be a series of wars. This final war is going to be shocking in terms of its magnitude and scope and in terms of the depths of human depravity. The first 4 seals are Yahweh allowing men to express all that is in their hearts.

Yahweh has been restraining mankind from doing what we are capable of. Yahweh is actively restraining bloodshed now. The final war will be Yahweh taking his hand off. He gives mankind what they want. He will allow a messianic figure to arise in our midst that does what's in our heart. He will test the hearts of all men. The end begins with the emergence of a political leader bent on conquering and stirs up the most brutal war in history.

Vs 3 The great sword: speaks of a kind of depraved violence. Like the days of Noah. Violence covered the earth.

1st seal: has a crown/political authority. has a bow which means he has military authority but isn't willing to use it in its fullness. When the antichrist comes out, he comes with manipulation, deception etc. Not great military violence. We do know that when the seal is opened, peace will be taken from the earth. Antichrist will have a bow without arrows but the impact of it will be a great sword. Rumors of war is very real in the earth. the world is not at peace right now. Peace will be taken from the earth. The eye of the storm will be Jerusalem and the middle east. The world will be involved but not the center. The antichrist will establish a form of peace.

I believe the counterfeit peace will be shattered in Dan. 8: 12-14 the antichrist goes forth in great violence attempting to annihilate the Jewish people and anyone who opposes him. (1st seal is most likely the beginning of the 7 years.) Counterfeit peace is described in Dan 9 & I Thess 5. I believe it will end with the establishment of the setting up of the abomination of desolation. Dan 11:21-31 & Matt 24 describe a series of wars that take place before abomination of desolation.

Yeshua said before the abomination of desolation there will be wars and rumors of war. That means peace is being taken from the earth. Dan 11 & Matt 24. Famines, pestilence, death. Paul in I Thess 5 "For when they say peace and safety then sudden destruction comes upon them as labor pains on a pregnant woman. They shall not escape."

Who are "they"? Those who don't escape and those who say peace & safety. The people who establish the antichrist and his rulership will declare a kind of peace. It will come with force. The final world leadership will take place because of his force. Not because he's a nice guy. He will be a military leader. Dan 11 says he will have clashes with nations. There will be a sense of peace as a result of the war.

Exek 38 & 39 describe that Israel will dwell in peace and safety when suddenly the antichrist invades. In order to establish the abomination of desolation, you have to have military control over Jerusalem. The antichrist will have the authority to walk into Jerusalem and violate the sacrifices.

This sudden destruction that breaks out on the earth...Israel, antichrist & the harlot Babylon will be saying peace & safety. The only people not saying peace & safety are the believers who understand what's happening and are under the heel of Babylon. That means there's already been clashing. Rev 17 & 18 we see the saints suffering predominately at the hands of the harlot of Babylon, which the antichrist attacks and burns at the beginning of the 7 years.

6:4 its rider was permitted to take peace from the earth. Great sword. Great destruction. They say peace and they get sudden destruction.

Dan 9:27 the antichrist will confirm or strengthen or affirm a covenant with many for 1 week (7 years) but in the middle of the 7 years he will bring an end to sacrifice and offerings.

Dan 11 states the antichrist emerges and he's bent with hatred towards the holy covenant but he comes in with deception in Dan 9:27 and confirms the holy covenant. It's the only way that particular Hebrew word for covenant has ever been used is the covenant that Yahweh made with the Jewish people. I think the antichrist will acknowledge Israel's right to the land on the basis of covenant which is why there's a form of peace and security before the sudden destruction. He is the rider on the white horse...with a bow...he knows he needs to confirm and recognize the holy covenant. Israel's right to the land and the city of Jerusalem.

Dan 9:27 says in the middle of the final 7 years, the abomination of desolation happens. But I believe there will be a series of wars before the abomination of desolation.

1/9/22

THIRD SEAL: Rev 6:5 -6 When He broke the third seal, I heard the third living creature saying, "Come." I looked, and behold, a black horse; and he who sat on it had a pair of scales in his hand. And I heard *something* like a voice in the center of the four living creatures saying, "A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius; and do not damage the oil and the wine."

3RD SEAL judgment is an economic collapse which causes food shortages, starvation and a massive catastrophe globally that results in famine.

1st Seal is the rise of antichrist in false peace—white horse

2nd seal is the war that breaks out after he arises—red horse

3rd is what we're looking at now—an economic collapse—a black horse

A black horse with a rider who holds a pair of scales. A pair of scales—this symbol is about economics. They are weighing wheat and barley. This 3rd judgment event is about a massive food shortage and massive famine. A denarius was equal to wages for one day. 1 qt. of wheat is the least amount one person can survive on in a day. Our good Father is going to execute a global famine on the earth. His Son will be executing this. This isn't Satan, it isn't inflation or a depression, but an economic collapse.

4TH SEAL is largest death toll of any event in human history. It will end with more deaths than the flood.

Rev 6:7 -8 When the Lamb broke the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature saying, "Come." I looked, and behold, an ashen horse; and he who sat on it had the name Death; and Hades was following with him. Authority was given to them over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword and with famine and with pestilence and by the wild beasts of the earth.

A pale green or like ash (basically the color of a dead body) horse. The rider's name was Death and hell followed. Authority is given to the rider named Death over ¼ of the earth. Hades is a temporary location. The time will come when its thrown into lake of fire at the end of the 1000 year reign. It's a prison that will be thrown into the lake of fire. 25% of the earth's population is given to death and to hades in this judgment because of war, hunger, starvation, pestilence, wild animals.

Eze 14:21 -23 For thus says the LORD (*a proper name used for Yahweh only*) Yahweh, "How much more when I send My four severe judgments against Jerusalem: sword, famine, wild beasts and plague to cut off man and beast from it! Yet, behold, survivors will be left in it who will be brought out, *both* sons and daughters. Behold, they are going to come forth to you and you will see their conduct and actions; then you will be comforted for the calamity which I have brought against Jerusalem for everything which I have brought upon it. Then they will comfort you when you see their conduct and actions, for you will know that I have not done in vain whatever I did to it," declares the LORD Yahweh.

Yahweh could have done nothing other than what He did. We will see and understand that we reaped blessings that came out of events and difficulties and suffering that we had misunderstood or feared.

Rev 9:13 6th Trumpet judgment says 1/3 of the population is killed. In the 4th Seal, ¼ population dies. That means 50% of earth's population will die. There are approx.. 10 billion people alive. That means 2.5 billion people die. Zach 13 says that 2/3 of Israel's population will die during this final judgment time.

Rev 17 The Great Harlot/Babylon sitting on a scarlet beast with 7 heads and 10 horns. She was drunk with the blood of the saints. Vs 7 an angel explains the harlot and the beast that carries her. This is a global economic system. Vs 15 says the waters upon which the Harlot sits are multitudes of people and nations and languages. Vs 16: the 10 horns are 10 nations (vs 12). The 10 nations and the antichrist (beast) will hate the harlot Babylon.

Rev 17-18 is the longest prophecy in bible. We see the incredible wealth of Babylon. We also see that the antichrist hates the harlot. He will attack her and burn her with fire. The Antichrist will destroy the Babylonian system.

Isa 26:7 -9 The way of the righteous is smooth; O Upright One, make the path of the righteous level. Indeed, *while following* the way of Your judgments, O LORD, We have waited for You eagerly; Your name, even Your memory, is the desire of *our* souls. At night my soul longs for You, Indeed, my spirit within me seeks You diligently; For when the earth experiences Your judgments the inhabitants of the world learn righteousness.

This is the posture of the human heart as Yahweh intends it to be: That we wait, and eagerly long for Him and we desire His name. That we long for Him in the night, in the times of darkness where we don't understand...times when He's testing us...times when His judgments are in the earth...we learn from it—we learn righteousness. Yahweh is going to establish righteousness in the earth. He's going to war and open conflict against all rebellion, all sin, all wickedness, all evil, all pride. And He's going to openly confront the rage of Satan and put his authority to an end.

Amos 5:18-24

Amo 5:18 Alas, you who are longing for the day of the LORD, For what purpose *will* the day of the LORD *be* to you? It *will be* darkness and not light;

Amo 5:19 As when a man flees from a lion And a bear meets him, Or goes home, leans his hand against the wall And a snake bites him.

Amo 5:20 *Will* not the day of the LORD *be* darkness instead of light, Even gloom with no brightness in it?

Amo 5:21 "I hate, I reject your festivals, Nor do I delight in your solemn assemblies.

Amo 5:22 "Even though you offer up to Me burnt offerings and your grain offerings, I will not accept *them*; And I will not *even* look at the peace offerings of your fatlings.

Amo 5:23 "Take away from Me the noise of your songs; I will not even listen to the sound of your harps.

Amo 5:24 "But let justice roll down like waters And righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

vs 18 What He's saying is: Israel, don't you think this is a day when Yahweh will only judge and destroy your enemies. Judgment is coming for you too. We can't afford to be like that—Yahweh is coming to purge everything in all of us. The fear of Yahweh is a holy thing. We will ALL be judged—unbelievers will be called a goat and separated! Believer's deeds will go through the fire. My only hope, on that day, had better be the mercy and blood of Yeshua! Anything else is pride and self-righteousness! It will be a day of darkness for the earth, but out of that, those who submit themselves to the fire, it will be good for the rest of their existence—eternal life.

Joel 2:28-32

The Lord Will Pour Out His Spirit

Joe 2:28 "It will come about after this That I will pour out My Spirit on all mankind; And your sons and daughters will prophesy, Your old men will dream dreams, Your young men will see visions.

Joe 2:29 "Even on the male and female servants I will pour out My Spirit in those days.

Joe 2:30 "I will display wonders in the sky and on the earth, Blood, fire and columns of smoke.

Joe 2:31 "The sun will be turned into darkness And the moon into blood Before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes.

Joe 2:32 "And it will come about that whoever calls on the name of the LORD Will be delivered; For on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem There will be those who escape, As the LORD has said, Even among the survivors whom the LORD calls.

Yahweh pouring out His spirit and prophesying in context of the day of Yahweh. He will pour out his Spirit during this time and it will be the greatest outpouring of his Spirit the earth has ever seen. There will be signs, wonders and miracles—a revival while the antichrist is persecuting the saints!

Yes, there will be a great falling away, but there will also be a great outpouring of His Spirit.

(Joel 2:32) There will be an escape (he's talking about Israel). He pours out His Spirit before He returns (Acts 2, Peter pointed to Joel 2, but Peter wasn't saying it was the final fulfillment. It was a glimpse of what was coming in fullness.).

Acts 15:17 these people aren't drunk as you speculate—it's only 9 in the morning. This is what was spoken by...Joel. He wasn't saying the prophesy in Joel was fulfilled. Joel 2 clearly describes the fullness will come at the day of Yahweh.

Matt 24:29-31 The Coming of the Son of Man

Mat 24:29 "But immediately after the tribulation of those days THE SUN WILL BE DARKENED, AND THE MOON WILL NOT GIVE ITS LIGHT, AND THE STARS WILL FALL from the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken.

Mat 24:30 "And then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the SON OF MAN COMING ON THE CLOUDS OF THE SKY with power and great glory.

Mat 24:31 "And He will send forth His angels with A GREAT TRUMPET and THEY WILL GATHER TOGETHER His elect from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other.

Immediately, after the tribulation...at the end of the tribulation. The sign of the Son of Man will appear...all the tribes of the earth. he's actually quoting Zachariah that says all 12 tribes of Israel, all inhabitant of Israel will mourn.

Notice what Yeshua doesn't say: nowhere does He even hint that His church would be departing before all of this happens. Instead, He states that (vs 29) immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will grow dark, moon grows dark, stars will fall and Yeshua will come as the Cloud Rider and will gather His church to Himself!

I am so against the idea that the church is not in the book of Rev. It's not true. That belief will keep people from being prepared.

Unless a seed falls into the ground, it cannot bring forth fruit. We are called to follow Him even unto death. The call to martyrdom is the call to love Yeshua more than you love your own life. Which is exactly what Yeshua did for you. He isn't asking anyone to do anything that He didn't do first! Are you clinging to this life?

2Th 2:1 Now we ask you, brothers, concerning the coming of our Yahweh Jesus Christ and our assembling to him,

2Th 2:2 that you not be easily shaken from your composure, nor be troubled either by a spirit or by a message or by a letter alleged to be from us, to the effect that the day of Yahweh has arrived.

2Th 2:3 Do not let anyone deceive you in any way, for *that day (what day?) will not come* unless the rebellion comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction,

And we will be a witness to the lost. He designed the tribulation so we would testify to others and then they will slay us.

Rev 7:9 After these *things* I looked, and behold, a great crowd that no one was able to number, from every nation and tribe and people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, dressed *in* white robes and *with* palm branches in their hands.

Rev 7:10 And they were crying out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

Rev 7:11 And all the angels stood around the throne and the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God,

Rev 7:12 saying, "Amen! Praise and glory, and wisdom and thanksgiving, and honor and power and strength *be* to our God forever and ever. Amen!"

Rev 7:13 And one of the elders answered, saying to me, "These who are dressed *in* the white robes—who are *they*, and from where have they come?"

Rev 7:14 And I said to him, "My Yahweh, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones who have come out of the great tribulation, and have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

Rev 7:15 Because of this, they are before the throne of God, and they *serve* him day and night in his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

Tab of Moses class: serve (latreuo: *to minister to Yahweh, to worship. A bondservant, priest*).

John sees a massive gathering who are worshipping before the throne. Where did they come from? These are the ones who come up out of the great tribulation. It doesn't say these are the one who died before the tribulation, but in the midst of it. Revival has hit planet earth through intense suffering. People will be searching for an answer, for help! Before the end, the gospel will take root in every tribe, tongue, nation. Rev 7 tells us that every nation, tribe & tongue will hear the gospel before and during the tribulation. Matt 24...says they will deliver you up to tribulation and you will be hated by every nation. That means every nation will have believers and many will be martyred.

Rev 14 we see a great harvest takes place and there's a great harvest of souls for judgment and for redemption. In Rev 7, we see that the church will not just declare the gospel, but will demonstrate the gospel through the laying down of their lives.

I believe the tribulation is the grand finale of Yahweh's plan to save His people out of the world. The tribulation will set in motion the great harvest at the end of the age. There will be mass salvations and mass amounts of blood being shed.

Rev 12:10: Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation, and the power, and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren has been thrown down, he who accuses them before our God day and night.

The Accuser of our brethren has been thrown down... That didn't happen in the garden of Eden...that happens in the tribulation.

Satan is kicked out of his place before the throne where he spent his time accusing you and me....this happens at the beginning of the tribulation. The war begins! The saints conquer Satan by Yeshua's blood and the word of their testimony and by not loving their lives! The tribulation will sift us like wheat. We will have to choose. We won't be able to play Christianity. It will be life or death. And the only way to eternal life for many will be by physical death.

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

The beast and Satan are overcoming the saints. We overcome Satan by the word of our testimony, by His blood. But now it says the beast and Satan are overcoming the saints. Which is it? Both. Here's how we overcome Satan: By Satan overcoming us and we remain true even unto death!

Dan 8 says the antichrist goes forth in great fury devoting many to destruction.

Dan 7 says the saints will be given into his hands for a period of time to be shattered and broken by him.

Dan 11 says many will fall in that day by the sword, but they will turn many to righteousness. In other words, because we refuse to bend our knee to the antichrist and are martyred, others will see this and turn to Him!

The tribulation is a chosen, sovereign event in Yahweh's plan at the end of the age for martyrdom to dominate the world stage.

Rev 17 & 18 says the harlot Babylon will be beheading the saints, too.

The primary message of the gospel is that Yeshua was slain to buy you back from your sinful choice to follow Satan. As a result, if you choose to accept His gift and follow Him, your life may end in the same way. He saved us so we would be transformed into His image—that means we must walk like him, love like him by allowing Him to live his life through us.

Php 2:3 Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves;

Php 2:4 do not *merely* look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others.

Php 2:5 Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in the Anointed One, Yeshua,

Php 2:6 who, although He existed in the form of Yahweh, did not regard equality with Yahweh a thing to be grasped,

Php 2:7 but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, *and* being made in the likeness of men.

Php 2:8 Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

In other words...vs 5 Have this attitude in yourself to be a martyr. Nowhere does the bible say Yahweh will spare you from suffering on this earth. Yahweh does a million little miracles through our suffering.

There's a difference sometimes between what Yahweh wants & what Yahweh wills. So many examples in scripture where Yahweh doesn't want to do something, and He takes no pleasure in it, but He wills it, He decrees it, administers it. For ex: in Ezekiel, Yahweh says, "I don't take any pleasure in the death of the wicked." In the same chapter, Yahweh talks about giving the decree that will bring about the death of the wicked. On one hand, His emotional will doesn't represent necessarily His decreed will. He is constantly decreeing things, willing things that He doesn't emotionally want to happen. The cross, for an example. He didn't will the cross to happen on an emotional level. He willed it, decreed it because of its significance, importance. Because He ordained it.

Yahweh willed the flood and He willed the protection of Noah and his family. He willed that every living thing would die. Yahweh decreed it. yet He didn't emotionally want that to happen. It's very important for us to see this.

THE 6th SEAL

Rev 6:12 I looked when He broke the sixth seal, and there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth *made* of hair, and the whole moon became like blood;

Rev 6:13 and the stars of the sky fell to the earth, as a fig tree casts its unripe figs when shaken by a great wind.

Rev 6:14 The sky was split apart like a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.

6th seal: Yeshua breaks the 6th seal. A great earthquake: this is a time marker. This earthquake accompanies Yeshua's return. Here's my theory: when you look at story of resurrection of Yeshua. 2 earthquakes—one is when He dies on cross and one is when He is resurrected and dead people come out of their graves.

We can't understand the physics of this. Heaven and earth are both physical and spiritual. There's a physical reality to the spiritual realm. When the power of Yahweh left Yeshua's physical body there was an earthquake. 3 days later, when the power of Yahweh was released into Yeshua's body to resurrect Him, the earth quaked. When Yeshua returns, millions will be raised from the dead and there will be a great earthquake! I believe the opening of the 6th seal that causes a great earthquake is actually the physical result of the power of Yahweh in the earth to resurrect millions from death. A mighty earthquake. Sun becomes black like sackcloth—this is black goat hair. Sackcloth is what people would wear when they were grieving or mourning.

It's as if the sun is grieving. It goes black. Not just clouds covering it. The moon, on the other hand, looks like it's covered with blood. Sun represents Yeshua. The moon represents the bride. Yeshua is grieving/mourning. The bride is covered in His blood!

The stars of the sky fall to the earth as a fig tree drops its unripe figs...Stars are actually distant suns. I believe the suns represent spiritual beings...they will bow, they will fall before Him! The sky is rolled up like a scroll. Every mt and island are moved out of their places. These are literal events that will usher in Yeshua's return.

Rev 6:15 Then the kings of the earth and the great men and the commanders and the rich and the strong and every slave and free man hid themselves in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains;

Rev 6:16 and they *said to the mountains and to the rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the presence of Him who sits on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb;

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

With the opening of the first 4 seals, there were a series of wars, the antichrist, famines, economic disasters. Satan is given authority to persecute the saints for 42 months, but Yeshua is the one who opened the seal and allowed this. The kings of the earth, great men, commanders, the rich and the strong, every slave and free man...they all hid themselves in caves. Because the light of the sun turned black and the moon turned blood red and the stars fell. They cry out for the mountains to fall on them and hide them from the One who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb.

In this passage, when we get to this point, unbelievers, the ones the wrath of the Lamb is coming to punish, from greatest to smallest, they know that this is the One who sits on the throne. They know it is the wrath of the One who was slain. How do they know that? First of all, because what's unfolding here is far more miraculous than what has already happened—famines, earthquakes, plagues. Even unbelievers know who is punishing them. Yahweh will reveal Himself as the One true Elohim who overcomes all the false gods they serve—like He did to Pharaoh in Egypt.

This 6th seal points to the imminent day of Yeshua's return. The return of Yeshua is a complex series of events that unfold over time. There are events that take place after He returns. For ex: the wrath of the Lamb will be personally executed by Yeshua Himself. It won't be instantaneous. When you look at all the passages, the antichrist will be given authority for 3.5 years (42 mos) to persecute saints, to wear down the saints. That's 3.5 years. Yeshua's return happens after this. It must be near the end of the 7 years.

The day of the LORD (Yahweh's return).

Isa. 13:9-13; 24:19-23; 34:4; Ezek. 32:6-8; Obadiah, Joel 2:30-31

The Context is Yahweh is declaring that He is going to Judge on Babylon.

Isa 13:6 Wail, for the day of Yahweh is near! It will come as destruction from the Almighty.

Isa 13:7 Therefore all hands will fall limp, and every man's heart will melt.

Isa 13:8 They will be terrified, pains and anguish will take hold of *them*; They will writhe like a woman in labor, They will look at one another in astonishment, Their faces aflame.

Isa. 13:9 Behold, the day of Yahweh (Yahweh) is coming, Cruel, with fury and burning anger, To make the land a desolation; And He will exterminate its sinners from it.

The day of Yahweh is coming...That phrase is meant to express that He is coming and it's urgent. This phrase isn't about length of time, not that it's any day now. Yeshua, John the Baptist, Isaiah, Joel, and Zephaniah all talked about the Day of Yahweh is near, but the emphasis and urgency was on repenting. Repent because the day of Yahweh is coming when everyone will stand before Yeshua and sinners will be judged and the believers' deeds will be judged.

Wail for the day of Yahweh is near....it's a negative thing to the lost. All hands will fall limp. Every man's heart will melt. Don't think this is just unbelievers. ALL hands will fall limp in that day. We will overcome in weakness, in Yahweh's strength and grace. Not our own. This is serious. Pain and anguish will take hold of them....It's cruel. But, the emphasis is two-fold: exterminating evil and purifying believers.

Isa 13:10 For the stars of heaven and their constellations Will not flash forth their light; The sun will be dark when it rises and the moon will not shed its light.

Isa 13:11 Thus I will punish the world for its evil And the wicked for their iniquity; I will also put an end to the arrogance of the proud And abase the haughtiness of the ruthless.

Isa 13:12 I will make mortal man scarcer than pure gold And mankind than the gold of Ophir.

Isa 13:13 Therefore I will make the heavens tremble, And the earth will be shaken from its place At the fury of Yahweh of hosts In the day of His burning anger.

Why am I connecting Isa 13 to Rev 6? The description in both are so very precise: the Stars fall, sun turns black, moon turns dark. They are talking about the same thing: the Day of the LORD's return.

Vs 11 I will punish the world for its evil. I will put an end to the arrogance of the proud...I will make mortal men scarcer than gold....rare gems and precious metals. I will make the heavens tremble....and the earth will be shaken from its place...at the fury of the day of Yahweh!

Isa 24:19 The earth is broken asunder, The earth is split through, The earth is shaken violently.

Isa 24:20 The earth reels to and fro like a drunkard and it totters like a shack, for its transgression is heavy upon it, and it will fall, never to rise again.

Isa 24:21 So it will happen in that day, That Yahweh will punish the host of heaven on high, And the kings of the earth on earth.

Isa 24:22 They will be gathered together *Like* prisoners in the dungeon, And will be confined in prison; And after many days they *will be* punished.

Isa 24:23 Then the moon will be abashed and the sun ashamed, For Yahweh of hosts will reign on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem, And *His* glory will be before His elders.

In that day...a specific day. He will purify both heaven and earth. The gods/principalities and rulers on the earth will be punished. There is torment for the wicked. Moon and the sun will be abashed (*to blush, to be ashamed*)....Because Yahweh will reign on mt Zion and in Jerusalem! This is about the Return of Yeshua. He is present in Jerusalem. His Feet are on the ground. In that day, He will rule from Mt Zion and Jerusalem. He will punish the fallen elohim and the wicked on the earth.

Isa 34:4 And all the host of heaven will wear away, And the sky will be rolled up like a scroll; All their hosts will also wither away as a leaf withers from the vine, Or as *one* withers from the fig tree.

Isa 34:5 For My sword is satiated in heaven, Behold it shall descend for judgment upon Edom and upon the people whom I have devoted to destruction.

Isa 34:6 The sword of YAHWEH is filled with blood, It is sated (*it is fully satisfied*) with fat, with the blood of lambs and goats, with the fat of the kidneys of rams. For YAHWEH has a sacrifice in Bozrah and a great slaughter in the land of Edom.

Isa 34:7 Wild oxen will also fall with them and young bulls with strong ones; Thus their land will be soaked with blood, And their dust become greasy with fat.

Isa 34:8 For YAHWEH has a day of vengeance, A year of recompense for the cause of Zion.

Rev 6. Matt 24

His sword will judge His enemy, Edom. Bozrah is the region of Edom (*He actually names the names of His enemies*). "The people I've devoted to destruction" His judgment will fall on the people who live in Edom, those who hate His people, Israel. Yahweh is describing a day of vengeance. The day of Yahweh. One of the primary reason Yeshua returns in judgment on His enemies is because of the controversy concerning Israel. This gospel will be preached in all the world then the end will come. That's true. But rarely do you ever hear about His return not happening until the full number of martyrs arrives in heaven. Rev 6:11

Yeshua returns when the number of martyrs have been reached and the gospel has been preached in all the world and the bride has made herself ready. And when He returns Israel will have her back to the wall and He will come back to save her. Israel is His people and all of His followers are His people. All 3 of those things must happen before He returns. And when He returns, all of those left in Israel will come to know Him. All who are left—those still alive in their bodies. That's amazing grace!

Obadiah 1:15 "For the day of Yahweh draws near on all the nations. As you have done, it will be done to you. Your dealings will return on your own head."

Obadiah is about the Mt of Edom and the kingdom of Israel/Mt Zion. Obadiah describes how Yahweh will deal with the Jews and their enemies. Yahweh is going to come back and judge them. Isaiah and Obadiah says same thing. As you have done to My people, I will do to you!

Eze 30:1 The word of Yahweh came again to me saying,

Eze 30:2 "Son of man, prophesy and say, 'Thus says Yahweh, "Wail, 'Alas for the day!"

Eze 30:3 "For the day is near, Even the day of Yahweh is near; It will be a day of clouds, A time of *doom* for the nations.

"Ezekiel, prophesy...same thing Isaiah said, Wail! All saying the same thing. Day of Yahweh is near. A time of doom for the nations. The day of Yahweh is primarily described as the day when Yeshua comes down from heaven in wrath to render justice. Isa 34 is a clear sister passage with Isa 63 which describes Yeshua, in the flesh, marching on the ground physically through the land of Edom soaking His robes with the blood of His enemies. At the end, the day of vengeance has come.

Amo 5:18 Alas, you who are longing for the day of the LORD, For what purpose *will* the day of the LORD *be* to you? It *will be* darkness and not light;

Amo 5:19 As when a man flees from a lion And a bear meets him, Or goes home, leans his hand against the wall And a snake bites him.

Amo 5:20 *Will* not the day of the LORD *be* darkness instead of light, Even gloom with no brightness in it?

Amo 5:21 "I hate, I reject your festivals, Nor do I delight in your solemn assemblies.

Amo 5:22 "Even though you offer up to Me burnt offerings and your grain offerings, I will not accept *them*; And I will not *even* look at the peace offerings of your fatlings.

Amo 5:23 "Take away from Me the noise of your songs; I will not even listen to the sound of your harps.

Amo 5:24 "But let justice roll down like waters And righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

vs 18 alas, you who are longing for the day of Yahweh, all of you who think you can't wait for that day. Yahweh says that day will be darkness and not light. What He's saying is: Israel, don't you think this is a day when Yahweh will only judge and destroy your enemies. Judgment is coming for you too.

Yahweh is coming to purge everything in all of us. The fear of Yahweh is a holy thing. For everyone who isn't perfect, it's going to be terrifying and painful. We will all be judged! My only hope, on that day, had better be the mercy and blood of Yeshua! Anything else is pride and self-righteousness! It will be a day of darkness for the earth, but out of that, those who submit themselves to the fire, it will be good for the rest of their existence—eternal life.

Session 8

Joe 2:28 "It will come about after this That I will pour out My Spirit on all mankind; And your sons and daughters will prophesy, Your old men will dream dreams, Your young men will see visions.

Joe 2:29 "Even on the male and female servants I will pour out My Spirit in those days.

Joe 2:30 "I will display wonders in the sky and on the earth, Blood, fire and columns of smoke.

Joe 2:31 "The sun will be turned into darkness And the moon into blood Before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes.

Joe 2:32 "And it will come about that whoever calls on the name of the LORD Will be delivered; For on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem There will be those who escape, As the LORD has said, Even among the survivors whom the LORD calls.

Sun to darkness, moon to blood....He will pour out his Spirit during this time and it will be the greatest outpouring of His Spirit the earth has ever seen. There will be signs, wonders and miracles—a revival while the antichrist is persecuting the saints!

2:32 says that there will be an escape (he's talking about Israel). He poured out His Spirit before His return (Acts 2, Peter pointed to Joel 2, but Peter wasn't saying it was the final fulfillment. How do I know that? because the sun didn't turn black and the moon didn't turn to blood. It was a glimpse of what was coming in fullness). Acts 15:17 these people aren't drunk as you speculate—it's only 9 in the morning. This is what was spoken by Joel.

Matt 24:29-31 The Coming of the Son of Man

Mat 24:29 "But immediately after the tribulation of those days THE SUN WILL BE DARKENED, AND THE MOON WILL NOT GIVE ITS LIGHT, AND THE STARS WILL FALL from the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken.

Mat 24:30 "And then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the SON OF MAN COMING ON THE CLOUDS OF THE SKY with power and great glory.

Mat 24:31 "And He will send forth His angels with A GREAT TRUMPET and THEY WILL GATHER TOGETHER His elect from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other.

Immediately, after the tribulation...at the end of the tribulation. The sign of the Son of Man will appear...all the tribes of the earth. he's actually quoting Zachariah that says all 12 tribes of Israel, all inhabitant of Israel will mourn. Matt 24, Yeshua says first you will see those things then you will see the sign of the coming of the Son of Man appear in the sky with power and great glory! What exactly is the sign of the coming of the Son of Man? The way Yeshua states this it's clear that it's something more than just regular signs...

Mat 24:29 THE SUN WILL BE DARKENED, AND THE MOON WILL NOT GIVE ITS LIGHT, AND THE STARS WILL FALL from the sky, and the POWERS OF THE HEAVENS WILL BE SHAKEN.

Yahweh is called the cloud rider. Any OT literate Jew would have called Him the One who rides on the clouds. Deut 33:26 There is none like unto the GOD (El of might and power) of Jeshurun (Israel's pet name), Who rides upon the heavens to your help, and in His majesty, upon the clouds. Moses says...there's no one like the El of Israel...who rides across the heavens on clouds to help you, Israel! Yahweh is defined as the One who rides on the clouds.

The Canaanites, who lived in the land, worshipped Baal, who was known as the cloud rider. The Israelites declare that Yahweh is the only One who rides on the clouds—why? Because they saw Him with their own eyes and followed Him. The Canaanites had never seen Baal. This is the battle over who is the one true Elohim! This battle points to Yeshua coming back riding on the clouds—even as He left the earth—He left in the clouds. Every Jew who saw Yeshua leave the earth would be thinking about the cloud Rider in Deut. 33! This song of Moses was known by every Jew.

NT uses the language from Deut 33 when describing Yeshua's return. Psa 68:4 Sing to Elohim, sing praises to His name. Lift up a song to the rider on the clouds—His name is Yah—and rejoice before Him.

Dan 7:13 "I continued watching in the visions of the night, and look, with the clouds of heaven one like a **son of man** was coming, and he came to the Ancient of Days, and was presented before him.

Dan 7:14 And to him was given dominion and glory and kingship that all the peoples, the nations, and languages would serve him; his dominion is a dominion without end that will not cease, and his kingdom is one that will not be destroyed.

Daniel is having a vision/dream. Suddenly, someone who looks LIKE a human man, He's not a human, but he looks like one. He

is coming on the clouds of heaven. Daniel would've immediately known that the One who comes on the clouds is Yahweh. That means whoever the Son of man is, He's the cloud rider. The cloud rider approached the ancient of Days and was given dominion that will never cease, glory, a kingdom that will never be destroyed, every nation will serve Him. The Cloud Rider is the promised One, He's the seed of Eve, Gen 3:15, seed of Abraham, seed of David Human, but so much more than just a human.

In Ezekiel, the term son of man is also used in Ezek...son of man, prophesy—that simply means human. In Heb, son of man is the term is Ben-Adam (means son of Adam)—but in Dan 7:13, it's Aramaic. In Aramaic, son of man is bar-annash. We know that Yeshua referred to himself as bar-annash (Aramaic) more than any other term. When He was before the high priest at His trial...He said, "I am bar-annash." That's why the high priest tore his robe, because Yeshua was claiming to be the cloud rider in Dan 7:13—He was claiming to be Yahweh Himself.

Mat 16:27 For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and at that time He will reward each one according to what he has done.

Yeshua was referring to Dan 7...I'm the one who will come like I came in the clouds. The exodus was an enactment of what is to come, it's a foreshadow of future events of even greater intensity and destruction. Christians say Yeshua is coming back in the clouds. And the Jews say Yahweh is coming back. Yahweh came the first time at Mt Sinai and was seen by approximately 1-3 million people. And they heard with their ears Yahweh speak to them. They saw Him come down in a furnace of blazing fire, accompanied by smoke, trumpets blasting, lightening, thunder and an earthquake.

They begged Moses to tell Yahweh to stop talking—we can't bear it! The Jews believe that Yahweh came once and they believe He's going to come back once more to save Israel.

There are multiple OT prophecies that describe this. For ex: Deut 33, Hab 3, Judges 5, Ps 68, Multiple places in Isa., Zachariah say that Yahweh is coming again. The Jews agree that Yahweh is coming again. Christians say Yeshua is coming back. Both are correct. The Jews don't know that Yahweh is coming back as Yeshua.

What is the sign of the Son of man? We have to look at the pillar of fire and the cloud. They were both the tangible evidence that Yahweh was present with them. The shape: it was a cylinder shape but probably mushroom-shaped because Exodus says the cloud gave them shade, so it had to be like a mushroom or umbrella. But it was also a pillar. The pillar was a cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. The pillar is referred to as Yahweh Himself. Yahweh was in the pillar...day and night.

Exo 14:19 And the angel of Yahweh who was going before the camp of Israel set out and went behind them. And the column of cloud set out ahead of them, and it stood still behind them,

Exo 14:20 *so that* it came between the camp of Egypt and the camp of Israel. And it was a dark cloud, but it gave light *to* the night, *so that* neither approached the other all night.

From a Jewish perspective, they say the angel of Yahweh is a messenger. They say it's Yahweh, but distinct from the Father who is on the throne. The Elohim who sits in heaven has always been a self-revealing Father. He's always assumed a form to reveal Himself to us weak, unbelieving humans. He is and always has been the Self-Revealing One. He's always wanted us to know Him. For that to happen, He had to come down and reveal Himself to us. This is Yeshua in the cloud. The angel of Yahweh.

Exo 14:24 And during the morning watch, Yahweh looked down to the Egyptian camp *from* in the column of fire and cloud, and he threw the Egyptian camp into a panic.

Ex 19:16-17 they are now at Mt. Sinai.

Exo 19:16 And on the third day, when it was morning, there was thunder and lightning, and a heavy cloud over the mountain and a very loud ram's horn sound, and all the people who *were* in the camp trembled.

Exo 19:17 And Moses brought the people out from the camp to meet Yahweh, and they took their stand at the foot of the mountain.

They are terrified. Moses brings the people out to meet Yahweh. They stood under the mt. (literally). The mt was covered by the cloud, by Yahweh Himself, which was the Huppah (covering) for their betrothal ceremony. Yahweh is in the cloud and He rests on the mt.

How do we know God was present?

Exo 19:18 Mount Sinai was all wrapped in smoke because Yahweh went down on it in the fire, and its smoke went up like the smoke of a smelting furnace, and the whole mountain trembled greatly.

Exo 19:19 And the sound of the ram's horn became louder and louder, and Moses would speak, and God would answer him with a voice.

Exo 19:20 And Yahweh went down on Mount Sinai, to the top of the mountain, and Yahweh called Moses to the top of the mountain, and Moses went up.

When the cloud, the pillar was present it was evidence that Yahweh was present in their midst. We, as Christians, have a back story we can point to—Yahweh dwelt among us as Yeshua, the Son of man, the Son of David. But the Jews also have a backstory—Yahweh dwelt among them in the cloud. As Christians, we often base our belief in the incarnation, which is the fact that Yeshua was born of a woman. That's true and important, but there is so much more to our foundation than that. More true to scripture, our foundation was built before Yeshua was born. Our foundation began when Yahweh appeared to mankind at Mt. Sinai and entered into a brothel covenant with Abraham's children.

Gal 3:13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law *by* becoming a curse for us, because it is written, "Cursed *is* everyone who hangs on a tree,"

Gal 3:14 in order that the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, so that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

Gal 3:28 There is neither Jew or Gentile, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Gal 3:29 And if you *are* Christ's, then you are descendants of Abraham, heirs according to the promise.

The cross isn't the main point of our Christian faith and neither is it the foundation. It's wonderful. But the pinnacle of redemption is His return! What happened at Mt Sinai when Yahweh came down, as life changing as that was, as majestic and terrifying, it's to be understood as a faint foreshadow of the glory that's coming when He returns riding on the clouds.

CHAPTER 7 consists of 2 primary parts.

First part is John's vision of 144,000—12,000 from each tribe who are sealed before the angels are allowed to open the 7th seal. Second part: John has a vision of a great multitude in heaven.

Part 1

Rev 7:1 After this I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding back the four winds of the earth, so that no wind would blow on the earth or on the sea or on any tree.

4 angels standing at the 4 corners: because of this verse some people say the earth is flat. It's not.

Isa 40:22 It is He who sits above the circle of the earth, And its inhabitants are like grasshoppers, Who stretches out the heavens like a curtain and spreads them out like a tent to dwell in.

Rev 7:2 And I saw another angel ascending from the rising of the sun, having the seal of the living God; and he cried out with a loud voice to the four angels to whom it was granted to harm the earth and the sea,

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

These 4 angels holding back the wind are the same angels who sound the first 4 trumpets in Rev 9. The angel tells the 4 angels to wait until the 144,000 are sealed.

The final beast, little horn, antichrist, Gog, Magog scenario focus on destroying the Jewish people in Israel. As this is happening, Yahweh's judgments are being poured out on those who are trying to kill the Jews. The anti-christ is a pharaoh-like leader who is persecuting Jewish people. Yahweh, in order to confront the leader, pours out His judgments on the earth while protecting His people. Jews were being protected in Goshen while Yahweh poured out the plagues. There will be believers living in & around the territory that's controlled by the antichrist. Yahweh's judgments will be poured out and they will affect us.

Rev 7:4 And I heard the number of those who were sealed, one hundred and forty-four thousand sealed from every tribe of the sons of Israel:

Rev 7:5 from the tribe of Judah, twelve thousand *were* sealed, from the tribe of Reuben twelve thousand, from the tribe of Gad twelve thousand,

Rev 7:6 from the tribe of Asher twelve thousand, from the tribe of Naphtali twelve thousand, from the tribe of Manasseh twelve thousand,

Rev 7:7 from the tribe of Simeon twelve thousand, from the tribe of Levi twelve thousand, from the tribe of Issachar twelve thousand,

Rev 7:8 from the tribe of Zebulun twelve thousand, from the tribe of Joseph twelve thousand, from the tribe of Benjamin, twelve thousand *were* sealed.

(John hears an angel tell the 4 angels holding back the 4 winds of the earth say that 144,000 Jews (12,000 from each of the 12 tribes) are to be sealed)

The 12 tribes:

The sons of Leah: Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Zebulun

The sons of Rachel: Joseph, Benjamin

The sons of Zilpah: Gad, Asher

The sons of Bilhah: Dan, Naphtali

There are 2 differences between the 12 tribes and the list here in 7:5-8.

1. Judah, not Reuben is listed as first in vs 5. Reuben was the first born and is almost always listed first in scriptures. Perhaps, Judah is listed first to honor that tribe because Yeshua descended through the tribe of Judah.
2. Mannasseh (Joseph's son) replaces Dan, probably because Dan fell into idolatry (Judges 18; I Kgs 12). Remember the warning in Rev.2 to not follow the way of the Nicolaitans and to not worship other gods! Dan was guilty of doing exactly that.

This verse says 144,000 are sealed. There's no indication that it's symbolic. I believe these are literally Messianic Jews. That means all 12 tribes are in the land of Israel. But we've been told that the 10 tribes are lost.

One of the popular ideas in the Hebrew Roots movement (not all believe it) is called the 2 house doctrine. They teach that after Syria invaded northern Israel that the 10 tribes in north were lost because they intermarried and became like Gentiles. There were 2 tribes in southern Israel, Judah and Benjamin.

The 2 house doctrines teaches that Yahweh is reuniting the whole house of Israel—meaning the north and south—and that born again Christians are actually the 10 lost tribes of Israel. Another groups teaches that the British are the 10 lost tribes. They teach that the 10 tribes were just watered down—mixed with Gentiles. This is important because of Rev 7—all 12 tribes will be present and sealed.

Another teaching that's growing is a cult called the black Hebrew Israelites. They use the scriptures and teach if you're black then you're one of the lost tribes. If you're white, salvation is impossible for you. They teach that the USA is Israel and the Jews living in Israel are fake Jews. This cult is growing in US. It's so ridiculous—read Joel 3:1-3 the context is the last days and the armies of the antichrist....where does this happen? It's not USA, it's Jerusalem/Israel.

The best interpretation of the 144,000 is that they are who the scriptures says they are—Jews from the 12 tribes of Israel. The angel says they are bondservants of Yahweh. The 144,000 are the first fruits as we see in Rev 14:1-5.

Rev 14:1-5 Then I looked, and behold, the Lamb *was* standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, having His name and the name of His Father written on their foreheads. And I heard a voice from heaven, like the sound of many waters and like the sound of loud thunder, and the voice which I heard *was* like *the sound* of harpists playing on their harps. And they *sang a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and the elders; and no one could learn the song except the one hundred and forty-four thousand who had been purchased from the earth. These are the ones who have not been defiled with women, for they have kept themselves chaste. These *are* the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes. These have been purchased from among men as first fruits to God and to the Lamb. Rev 14:5 And no lie was found in their mouth; they are blameless.

We are told here that the seal is Yeshua's name and the name of His Father—YESHUA & YAHWEH.

They are Jews, but they aren't just any Jew:

Vs 4 These are the ones who have not been defiled with women—I believe it means they have kept themselves pure and are wholly devoted to the Lamb.

IT DOESN'T MEAN THEY NEVER MARRIED.

Heb 13:4 Marriage *is to be held* in honor among all, and the *marriage* bed *is to be* undefiled; for fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

I believe the 144,000 are men and women who follow the Lamb wherever He goes—while they were alive on earth. They speak only the truth—they were blameless. Refused to lie...even if it means their deaths.

There are only about 20,000 messianic Jews in Israel today. This means that there's a great harvest coming in the future...144,000 from all 12 tribes which will be followed by many more—both from Israel and the nations!

Rom 11:25-27 For I do not want you, brethren, to be uninformed of this mystery—so that you will not be wise in your own estimation—that a partial hardening has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in; and so all Israel will be saved; just as it is written, "THE DELIVERER WILL COME FROM ZION, HE WILL REMOVE UNGODLINESS FROM JACOB. THIS IS MY COVENANT WITH THEM, WHEN I TAKE AWAY THEIR SINS."

PART 2 A GREAT MULTITUDE FROM EVERY NATION

Rev 7:9 After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could count, from every nation and *all* tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, and palm branches *were* in their hands;

A great multitude that can't be counted from every nation are seen standing in a place of honor before the throne. They're given white robes in 6:11, which represent purity and victory. They are given palm branches, which is a sign of joy and used during the Feast of Tabernacles.

Rev 7:10 and they cry out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation to our God (divine Theos) who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb."

They praise Yahweh for His victory over the powers of evil and the deliverance of His sealed followers. It is His sovereign power, emphasized in the phrase "who sits on the throne" that delivers His people. And the Lamb stands beside Yahweh.

Rev 7:11 And all the angels were standing around the throne and *around* the elders and the four living creatures; and they fell on their faces before the throne and "worshiped" Yahweh,

"worshiped" is "proskuneō" (meaning to *kiss*, like a dog *licking* his master's hand); that is, (literally or figuratively) *prostrate* oneself in homage (*do reverence* to, *adore*): - worship.

Rev 7:12 they worshipped saying, "Amen, blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might, *be* to our God (divine Theos) forever and ever. Amen."

Two sets of praise:
Praise, glory, wisdom
Thanks, honor, power, strength

They praise Yahweh for his wisdom and for his might in delivering his people and for making them overcomers. They declare that this will be eternal praise—forever and ever. Amen means: so be it.

Rev 7:13 Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, "These who are clothed in the white robes, who are they, and where have they come from?"

Rev 7:14 I said to him, "My lord, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

Rev 13:7 Yahweh allows the dragon for this short period to conquer the saints. Yeshua said this will result in terrible days of distress unequalled from the beginning, when Yahweh created the world, until now—and never again (Mk 13:19).

Rev 7:15 -17 "For this reason, they are before the throne of God (divine Theos); and they serve Him day and night in His temple; and He who sits on the throne will spread His tabernacle over them. They will hunger no longer, nor thirst anymore; nor will the sun beat down on them, nor any heat; for the Lamb in the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and will guide them to springs of the water of life; and God (divine Theos) will wipe every tear from their eyes."

At this time, the overcomers begin their heavenly priestly duties to serve Him day and night in His temple. The verb "serve" is the word *latreuo*, which means to serve and worship—bondservant.

Rev 1:6 and 5:10, Christ has made His followers a royal priesthood, fulfilling Ex 19:5-6. The redemptive acts of Yeshua in vs 14 and the faithful response of the overcomers in vs 9-14 there is a joyful celebration at the throne where rewards given to those who suffered. They will never suffer hunger or thirst nor be burned by the sun because the Lamb in the center of the throne will be their shepherd. He will guide them to spring of living water. And Yahweh will spread his tent over them or tabernacle over them. He not only covers his people, but He also covers them with his glory.

As a result, they will never again feel fear or experience any kind of harm or pain or suffering. And Yahweh will comfort them! He will wipe away all tears. That means every hurt and all sorrow will be gone. Forever. These are tears of suffering for both persecution and life's afflictions, drawn from Isa 25:8

Isa 25:8 He will swallow up death for all time, And the LORD Yahweh will wipe tears away from all faces, And He will remove the reproach of His people from all the earth; For YAHWEH has spoken.

Rev 7 & 14: are the same. In Chapter 7, we see the Preservation of 144,000, a Gentile harvest and martyrdom. In Rev 14, we see the same thing—the harvest and martyrdom.

Jer 30-33 describes a time of great trouble, tribulation when the nations will target and persecute the Jews, which will bring about a global catastrophic crisis.

Zach 14 says all nations will gather around Jerusalem in order to destroy it.

Isa 4 says all who are left will be made holy in that day.

Zach 12 says that all 12 tribes will mourn at the end of Jacob's trouble (tribulation) when they look upon the Messiah.

The 144,000 isn't limited to just that number because chapter 14 says they are the first fruits.

Dan 7-9, & 11- 12 describe the rising up of the little horn (anti-christ) who targets and seeks to destroy Israel. This is why Yahweh seals them, to preserve them on an ethnic, tribal, national, territorial level. Because there is a target on them from the antichrist.

Rom 11:25 For I do not want you, brethren, to be uninformed of this mystery—so that you will not be wise in your own estimation—that a partial hardening has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in;

The Jews and Gentiles will rise together. Once the fullness of the Gentiles comes in, then the fullness of the Jews will come in. Yeshua says in Luke 21:24 that Jerusalem will be trampled underfoot by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled. Rev 7 Vs 9 says there will be a great multitude of souls that no one could number.

One of the elders addressed John saying, "Who are these and where have they come from?" They came up out of the great tribulation...they've washed robes in Yeshua's blood. This is a multitude of people who are willing to give their lives to stand with Yeshua and Israel. They counted the cost and they were willing to pay with their lives...people from every tribe, tongue, nation.

Rev 7 gives us confidence that, in the midst of the tribulation, all things will work together for good and there will be a massive harvest Matt 24:14.

Jer 30-33 & Dan 7, 11 and Isa. all describe that many will turn to righteousness. This is during the final persecution during the tribulation.

Rev 12:17 describes that the dragon is thrown down...vs 11 says they've conquered Satan, the dragon and the antichrist. They conquer him by giving their lives. The woman is Israel/Gentile/church? (look at that more later) The dragon makes war on the rest of her offspring—that's the one new man—us!

Dan 8 the dragon/antichrist will go out with great fury to destroy many. Who is he trying to destroy? The woman and her offspring. The one new man, the church, is the offspring of the Jewish people. At the end of the age, the Jewish people will be hated by all nations. When the nations attack Israel, the true church will rise up and say this is wrong and will take a stand against it. What Rev 7 teaches us is that every tongue and tribe and nation will be represented before Yahweh's throne at the end of the age.

This is the fulfillment of the prophecy given to Abraham that his descendants would be as numerous as the stars in the sky and the sand of the sea (Gen 15:5, 32:12) One reason the nations will come to believe Yeshua is truly Yahweh is because they will see Christians give their lives on behalf of the Jews and because of their faith in the Son of Yahweh.

We are to stand with the nation of Israel when they are being attacked. Before the end, Israel will be the target of trouble, called Jacob's trouble. The nations of the earth already hate Israel.

8:1-5 describe what happens before the first 4 trumpets are blown. 8:6-13 The first 4 trumpets are blown. Chapter 9 describes the 5 & 6th trumpets. Chapter 10 & 11 describe 7th trumpet as a stand-alone event and one of the most significant events in all history. I believe it's important to realize that these events aren't random. These events are a thought out, preplanned series of judgments—much like what happened in Egypt. They are targeting the modern day, Pharaoh, also known as the antichrist.

In the original Exodus story, the judgments were poured out not only to get Pharaoh's attention so that he would let the Jews go, but they were also poured to protect and give legitimacy to what Moses and Aaron were saying. I believe this will be true today—Yahweh will pour out his judgments while protecting his people and validating His word.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.

This is the beginning of the next round of judgment events which are significant, but it's also the lead up to the judgment events that's going to be important for us to understand because the implications of this will be seen and felt by all.

9. These judgment events are released by or through the global church. For ex: Moses takes his staff and says today the Nile will turn to blood. He strikes the water and it turns to blood. Yahweh is the one doing it, but it's Moses' intercession and participation that releases the judgment events. They are released through Moses and Aaron's leadership. It's the prayers of the saints that initiate the trumpets after the seals are torn.
10. These judgments are released directly at the antichrist & his followers. Plagues in Egypt were targeted at Pharaoh and his house—not randomly. At the end of the age, antichrist will target the Jews and he will be met with resistance. Yahweh will give him some time to wear down the saints. You can't say that the saints are just going to suffer and won't be protected. They will be. But you can't say they will be protected and no harm will come to them either. It's both. Dan 11 says there will be incredible miracles and a profound display of the power of Yahweh, but there will also be suffering, martyrdom, etc. Micah 7 says that, in the last days, I will show you the same wonders I showed in Egypt. We will see a global exodus of people coming out of the world and into the kingdom, their promised land. There was a profound, supernatural protection for the Jews in Exodus. We will be a martyred church at the end of the age. Protection, power and wonders in midst of great pain, suffering.
11. The first 6 judgments events against the antichrist empire will be limited in their scope. It's clear that there is more to come. And the more will be released when the bowls of wrath are poured out. That's one reason I tend to wonder if the judgment events are not overlapping, but chronological. Because All the judgments events are numbered. It sounds like 1, 2, 3 4, 5, 6, 7...the 7th seal releases the 7 trumpets and 7th trumpet releases the bowls of wrath. The chronology is easy to get bogged down in...it may be overlapping, it might be chronological because it's numbered. But it could be both. Another reason I tend to think they will be released chronologically is because they escalate in intensity. The bowls of wrath are the ultimate judgments.

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

This is the first and only time this has ever happened, or at least the only time it's been recorded. There has always been and always will be unceasing, unending worship and praise happening around the throne. We have to remember that the 7 seals are what kept the scroll closed. With the final seal being broken by the Lamb, that scroll is now open. The goal was to open the scroll. With the opening of the scroll comes the final judgments that will end human history as we know it. The final judgments can now be released on the earth, which will bring in the fullness of the kingdom of Yahweh and His Lamb! Mal 4:5

There may be another reason for the silence—the priests performed their service in silence. Perhaps, this is also a reflection of the Lamb being the Great High Priest performing his service to Yahweh. And the onlookers, as priests, observing that silence.

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

Rev 8:3 Another angel came and stood at the altar, holding a golden censer; and much incense was given to him, so that he might add it to the prayers of all the saints on the golden altar which was before the throne.

Rev 8:4 And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, went up before Yahweh out of the angel's hand.

Rev 8:5 Then the angel took the censer and filled it with the fire of the altar, and threw it to the earth; and there followed peals of thunder and sounds and flashes of lightning and an earthquake.

This angel is putting together the prayers of ALL the saints on the golden altar with the fire from the altar. Remember, in Rev 5:7-8, the saints were filling up the golden bowls of incense with their prayers. Rev 6:9-10,

Here, in 8:5, fire is added to ALL the prayers, the fire comes from Yahweh. The prayers come from human saints/people. The prayers are combined with the power of Yahweh and thrown back to the earth. I want to point out that throughout the book of Revelation, worship accompanies the divine judgments. The removal of evil from this world is a holy event, and all of Yahweh's followers, angel and human alike, are filled with praise at the thought destruction of evil forces.

THE SEVEN TRUMPETS

The first 4 trumpets: These trumpet judgments reproduce the Egyptian plagues and like them are directed against the gods and those who worship them on the earth. The purpose of the trumpet judgments is to prove the absolute sovereignty of Yahweh and to provide a final chance for people to repent. With each trumpet blast, a further part of the One World Order experiences partial destruction. We see the escalation of the intensity of judgments. With the 7 seals, 1/4 of the earth was destroyed. With the trumpets, 1/3 of the earth will be destroyed.

As we go through this, the first 4 trumpets are mostly environmental impacts. By targeting the environment, Yahweh's impacting the resources, the supply and demand chain, while creating obstacles for the antichrist and his empires. The first trumpet is about destroying food supplies and the earth's vegetation. Hail and fire mixed with blood—is this literal or figurative? Literal. 1/3 of the earth is impacted and catches on fire! The 2 witnesses had shut the heaven for 3.5 years so there's no rain. 1/3 of the trees on earth will burn. The smoke will be unreal. This is the first trumpet judgment.

Rev 8:6 And the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared themselves

Rev 8:7 The FIRST sounded, and there came hail and fire, mixed with blood, and they were thrown to the earth; and a third of the earth was burned up, and a third of the trees were burned up, and all the green grass was burned up.

With the first trumpet blast, hail and fire mixed with blood appear in heaven and are thrown to the earth, which repeats the action the angel in 8:5 did when he hurled the censer to the earth. As a result, 1/3 of the earth and trees and all the grass are burned up. This description would certainly fit with a volcanic explosion. This is a repeat of the Egyptian plague in Ex 9:13-35 where Yahweh sent hail mixed with lightning and thunder, the worst storm in Egypt's history, which destroyed all vegetation. Hail is a common form of judgment in OT. The fire mixed with blood is described in Joel 2:30-31. This could be volcanic eruptions.

Rev 8:8 The SECOND angel sounded, and *something* like a great mountain burning with fire was thrown into the sea; and a third of the sea became blood,

Rev 8:9 and a third of the creatures which were in the sea and had life, died; and a third of the ships were destroyed.

2nd trumpet deals with food supplies and economic trade—ships. 1/3 of the ocean's resources will die. 1/3 of the ships are destroyed. A huge mt burning with fire was thrown into the sea—possibly a meteor or another volcano. This judgment corresponds with the first plague in Egypt—the Nile turn to blood Ex 7:14-21. It happened before and it will happen again. Civilization, as we know it, would cease due to such a catastrophic event. Still, it is partial (1/3), which allows for repentance.

Rev 8:10 The third angel sounded, and a great star fell from heaven, burning like a torch, and it fell on a third of the rivers and on the springs of waters.

Rev 8:11 The name of the star is called Wormwood; and a third of the waters became wormwood, and many men died from the waters, because they were made bitter.

The 2nd trumpet judgment is aimed at fresh water, rivers, drinking water, springs. This clearly sounds like a meteor hits 1/3 of the fresh water around the world. How could this happen? I have no idea. If Yahweh says 1/3 of the fresh water will

become bitter, it will happen. This star falling from the sky has a name, Wormwood, which is a bitter tasting shrub that was a symbol of bitter sorrow in Prov 5:4 and a symbol of judgment and death in Jer. 9:15. This star poisons 1/3 of the earth's fresh water.

Rev 8:12 The fourth angel sounded, and a third of the sun and a third of the moon and a third of the stars were struck, so that a third of them would be darkened and the day would not shine for a third of it, and the night in the same way.

1/3 of sun, moon and stars are struck. Our light sources are impacted, which will mess up so much...agriculture, to mental health and GPS. Isa 24:27 says earth will be knocked off its axis, which means Time will be altered. And both night and day will be diminished by 1/3. Which means the darkness lasts 1/3 of the day and 1/3 of the night. And the darkness is complete—there is NO light. This replicates the 9th Egyptian plague in Ex 10:21-23, when Yahweh sent darkness over Egypt for 3 days. There was NO light!

The 4th trumpet judgment says that 1/3 of the sun, moon and 1/3 of the stars were struck. In the Greek, it says He plagues them. Again, mirroring the Exodus plague. Zeph 1:15 & Joel 2:2 describes the Day of Yahweh as “a day of darkness and gloom”. This judgment prepares for the 5th bowl of wrath judgment when the kingdom of the beast is ‘darkened’ and his followers ‘gnaw their tongues in agony (Rev 16:10)

As in the first 4 bowls of wrath, one of the purposes of these 4 trumpet judgments is to reenact the Egyptian plagues by disproving the earthly gods and proving that Yahweh alone is on the throne. We'll see that Yahweh is indeed the only true Elohim.

Notice that each judgment affects a different part of this earthly life:

- First, the material world,
- Second & third, the food supply, trade and commerce
- Fourth, heat and light

3 main purposes of these trumpet events. Why are they happening?

1. PURPOSE #1: To cripple the antichrist's advance. When the judgments are poured out, it will be a massive hindrance to the Antichrist's military, political and economic advances. All the nations of the earth don't join the antichrist. The nations of the earth fight with him at the end. These judgments weaken his ability to destroy and rule over the world, which sets the stage for nations to come for the final war.
2. PURPOSE #2: To confirm the witness of the church at the end of the age. The physical earth will be on fire with the first trumpet. People will be asking questions. Christians will respond with clarity and boldness and tell them what's happening and here's what's coming next. Those who know Yahweh will stand firm and will take action Daniel 11:32. It's important for us to know that we will be able to explain to those around you what's happening, why it's happening and how we should respond.
3. PURPOSE #3 To set the stage for the coming escalation of the bowls of wrath in hopes that they will turn and repent. In His kindness, He's setting the stage for escalation. That is mercy.

Rev 8:13-9:21 actually need to be viewed together. (Remember, there are no chapter breaks in the original vision.)

The 5th & 6th trumpet judgments are unique because they are the only 2 judgments that come with prophetic warnings of woe. The first 4 trumpets centered on the dismantling of creation, but these now center on the demonic powers that turn on their own followers. The first 4 were directed at nature; these are directed at people. Again, notice that Yahweh doesn't need to send these judgments Himself; He simply turns the evil forces loose to do His will. The theme once more is the self-destructive power of evil. Also, notice that each of the 2 judgments in this chapter is twice as long as the first 4 trumpets put together. These two judgments prove to the sinners that their gods are not their friends. In fact, they experience that their gods only want to torture and kill them.

Rev 8:13 Then I looked, and I heard an eagle flying in midheaven, saying with a loud voice, "Woe, woe, woe to those who dwell on the earth, because of the remaining blasts of the trumpet of the three angels who are about to sound!"

The next 3 judgments escalate into something much more intense, crippling and almost final. Not as intense as the 7 bowls of wrath. These judgments are given to us in a certain order. The 3-fold woe is parallel the 3 holy, holy, holy. It is announcing disaster is coming.

THE FIRST WOE ACCOMPANIES THE 5TH TRUMPET

This first woe judgment tells of a terrifying invasion of supernatural locust-scorpions from the pit of hell that torture those on earth without the seal for 5 months.

2 MAIN POINTS:

1. First, the demons turn on their followers and show utter contempt and extreme cruelty by torturing their worshippers.
2. Second, Yahweh is in complete control and is orchestrating the whole event.

Rev 9:1 Then the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star from heaven which had fallen to the earth; and the key of the bottomless pit was given to him.

It's difficult to decide whether or not this star (angel) is good or fallen. Perhaps, this is Satan himself since he's described as fallen from heaven in 12:5-7. Isa 14:12-14 describes the king of Babylon as the morning star...cast down to the earth, which is also a description of Satan. So, it's possible. But, having said that, nowhere else in Rev. does Yahweh use a fallen angel to execute His plan, with the possible exception of 17:16-17. This angel is given a key. This verb which designates Yahweh's sovereign control. The key is to the bottomless pit.

Rev 9:2 He opened the bottomless pit, and smoke went up out of the pit, like the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by the smoke of the pit.

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

Rev 9:4 They were told not to hurt the grass of the earth, nor any green thing, nor any tree, but only the men who do not have the seal of Yahweh on their foreheads.

Rev 9:5 And they were not permitted to kill anyone, but to torment for five months; and their torment was like the torment of a scorpion when it stings a man.

Rev 9:6 And in those days men will seek death and will not find it; they will long to die, and death flees from them.

When the angel opens the pit, a huge column of smoke rises like a gigantic furnace. This same image is seen in Ex 19:18, Psa 144:5 where Yahweh descends on Mt Sinai. Other scriptures describe this image as divine wrath—2 Sam 22:9, Ps 18:8. Also in describing Sodom and Gomorrah Gen 19:28. And also the Day of Yahweh in Joel 2:30. The smoke is so thick that it darkens the sun and the air, which reminds us of the 4th trumpet and Joel 2:10 where the sun and moon are darkened a the day of Yahweh. Out of the thick smoke, locusts fall to the earth Rev 9:3. Again, we are reminded of the Egyptian plagues Ex 10:14. Locusts are a clear sign of judgment in the OT. Normal locusts eat only vegetation. This is like the Egyptian plague Ex 8:22-23; 9:4; 10:23. Yahweh's people are protected from the outpouring of divine judgment Rev 3:10; 7:1-8. Only those who have rejected His offer of repentance 9:20-21 are subjected to this demonic torment. They are demonic. Yahweh is the One who is giving them the power and permission to torment the sinners. Satan cannot do whatever he wishes! These creatures aren't allowed to kill anyone; only torment them for 5 months. The pain will be so severe that the sufferers will long to die and seek death, but will not die. They took the lives of the martyrs in 6:9-11, and now they want to take their own lives. Yahweh will not allow them to die until the right time, in the 2nd demonic invasion of the next judgment. They have tortured and killed Yahweh's people, and now He sends the demonic torturers to return the favor on their own followers.

Rev 9:7 The appearance of the locusts was like horses prepared for battle; and on their heads appeared to be crowns like gold, and their faces were like the faces of men.

Rev 9:8 They had hair like the hair of women, and their teeth were like *the teeth* of lions.

Rev 9:9 They had breastplates like breastplates of iron; and the sound of their wings was like the sound of chariots, of many horses rushing to battle.

Rev 9:10 They have tails like scorpions, and stings; and in their tails is their power to hurt men for five months.

These creatures are supernaturally large and incredibly frightening. Joel 1:6-7 and 2:4-5 describe these beasts. They are prepared for war—against their own followers! The word 'crown' here is the Greek word *stephanos*, which is the wreath won by the victor in an athletic contest or a military fight. In Rev, it's worn by the angelic elders in 4:4, by Yeshua when He returns for His bride in 14:14, and by the victorious saints in 2:10, 3:11, 12:1.

9:5 they have tails like scorpions and stings...stings is the Greek word *Kentron*. It's used in I Cor 15:55 of 'the sting of death' and is the word used to describe the whip used to tear a back apart—we see it in Matt 27:26 when they whipped Yeshua. What they did to Him and to His followers, is now being done to them. Combining the imagery of the locust, the scorpion and the warhorse the image is complete—displaying the torture caused by the war the demonic forces brought against the very one who worshiped them.

Rev 9:11 They have as king over them, the angel of the abyss; his name in Hebrew is Abaddon, and in the Greek he has the name Apollyon.

Prov 30:27 says that locusts have no king. But these demonic locust-scorpions do have a king. Abaddon may be Satan himself. Abaddon and Apollyon are the same names and mean Destroyer. This title becomes the title for the 5 & 6th trumpet judgments where 1/3 of the population will be destroyed.

Rev 9:12 The first woe is past; behold, two woes are still coming after these things.

Rev 9:13 Then the sixth angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns (horns are a symbol of the power of Yahweh) of the golden altar (this is the golden altar of incense in 8:3-5) which is before Yahweh,

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

A voice from the golden altar (possibly the priestly angel in chp 8), tells the 6th angel to release the 4 angels who are bound at the Euphrates river. The fact that they are bound tells us that they most likely fallen angels. Satan is described as being bound by Yeshua in Mark 3:27. The Euphrates is the eastern boundary of the Roman empire. The Euphrates is a symbol of foreign invasion in the bible. In Rev. 16:12, the Euphrates is dried up so the kings of the east can invade.

Rev 9:15 And the four angels, who had been prepared for the hour and day and month and year, were released, so that they would kill a third of mankind.

Again, we see Yahweh's sovereignty at play here. The 4 angels had been prepared for this hour and for Yahweh's purposes to be accomplished, which will result in 1/3 of mankind, 2 billion people dead.

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

Rev 9:17 And this is how I saw in the vision the horses and those who sat on them: *the riders* had breastplates *the color* of fire and of hyacinth and of brimstone; and the heads of the horses are like the heads of lions; and out of their mouths proceed fire and smoke and brimstone.

Rev 9:18 A third of mankind was killed by these three plagues, by the fire and the smoke and the brimstone which proceeded out of their mouths.

Rev 9:19 For the power of the horses is in their mouths and in their tails; for their tails are like serpents and have heads, and with them they do harm.

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

This judgment is meant to provide a warning to the rest of mankind not killed—showing very clearly that they must get right with Yahweh or else. Yahweh is restraining the death toll in order to give mankind a chance to repent!

Rev 9:21 and they did not repent of their murders nor of their sorceries nor of their immorality nor of their thefts.

Mankind had just been given absolute proof of the true intentions of their gods and what happens when you worship the idols that represent them, yet they not only refuse to embrace Yahweh's offer of eternal life, but they prefer the evil works of their hands—murders, sorceries, immorality and thievery.

Mankind had just been given absolute proof of the true intentions of their gods and what happens when you worship the idols that represent them, yet they not only refuse to embrace Yahweh's offer of eternal life, but they prefer the evil works of their hands—murders, sorceries, immorality and thievery.

April 6, 2022

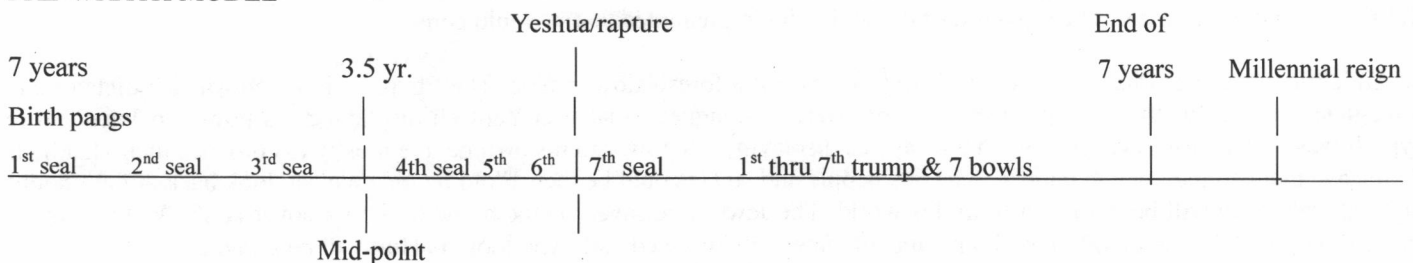
Pre-wrath model believes the seals, trumpets & bowls unfold in a consecutive manner and Yeshua returns between 6th & 7th seal.

Mid trib view—Yeshua returns after the first 3.5 years

Pre-wrath view— He returns after the tribulation, but before the bowls of wrath).

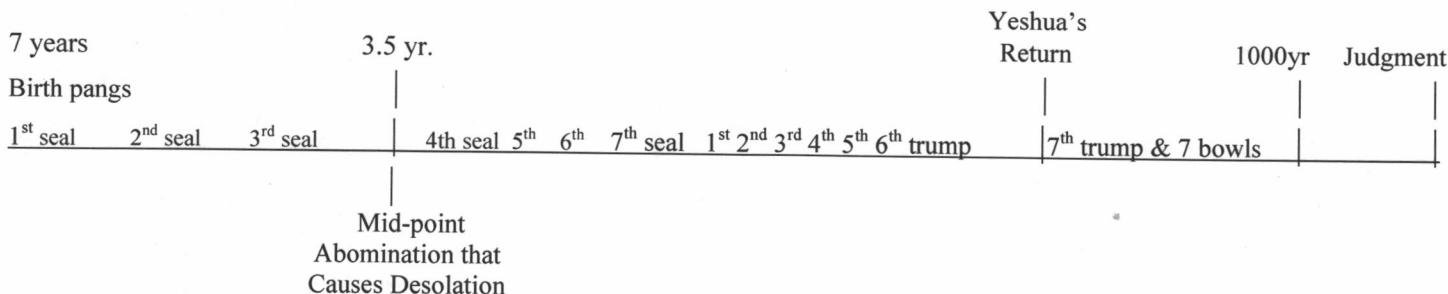
Post trib view (Yeshua returns for His bride at end of trib) believes the seals, trumpets and bowls as concurrent to some degree, there are variations of this. For some people the first seal, 1st trumpet and 1st bowl and 1st bowl are the same. Some have the trumpets mixed in with the seals. Most usually see the 7th seal, trumpet as the same.

PRE-WRATH MODEL

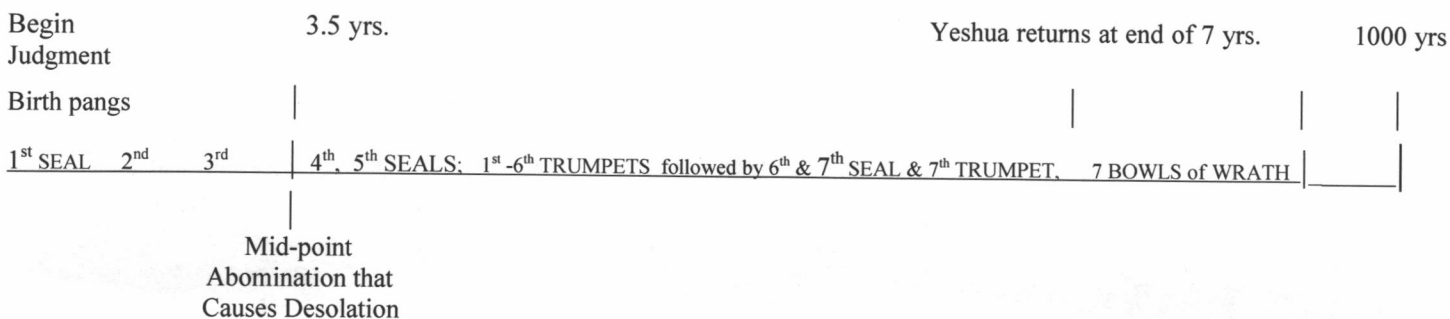


Abomination that
Causes Desolation

POST-TRIBULATION



PRE-WRATH & POST-TRIBULATION COMBINATION POSSIBILITY



TRUMPETS APPEAR TO BE SANDWICHED BETWEEN 6th and 7th seal. It is difficult to see trumpets occurring within or before 7th seal.

How we lived and how faithful we were, how we laid down our lives, denied ourselves, carried the cross—that's what will matter on judgment day. It's faithfulness that will be judged. Not whether we believed in post tribulation or pretribulation rapture. We are to be prepared to meet Him whenever He comes!

Israel is a modern day miracle. Israel has been regathered in the land. The bible prophecies describe the Jews as being regathered to Israel in complete belief. The majority of Jews living in Israel today are not believers. They are not fulfilling the prophecies.

Those will be fulfilled when Yeshua returns. They will turn to the Messiah and He will be their King.

Here's the point. Even though they are in the land today they are still in exile, spiritually speaking. Similar to Christians. I Peter 2:11 says we are strangers and exiles. We aren't home. Where is home? It's ultimately when heaven and earth become one and Yeshua is on the throne in Jerusalem. Israelis are exiles. Rev 12, Luke 21 describes the anti-christ in Jerusalem and many being taken as prisoners of war. During the tribulation many will be in exile.

The exodus story begins with Israel in exile and ends with them in the promised land. The book of Revelation begins with us in exile and ends with us entering the eternal promised land with Yeshua on the throne in Jerusalem. The fullness of redemption will bring an end to our exile. The cross didn't end it, but it did guarantee that it would come.

The Antichrist is the last Pharaoh. The first Pharaoh was just a foreshadow, a type. The Egyptian Pharaoh was the dictator and his magicians served as the false prophets. There were 10 plagues—that was Yahweh displaying his power to Jews and to Egypt. It wasn't primarily evangelistic. Yahweh was displaying his power to his own people mostly to convince them that he is able to save them so they would choose to be His people and so He could be their Elohim/God. We can look back at the Exodus story and realize we will be delivered from this world. The Jews were saved by the blood of the Passover lamb. And ultimately Israel will be saved by the blood of the Lamb and all Israel will be saved...all who look on Him will be saved!

Chapter 9 is one of the first places where there's a breaking in of a new pattern. The message in chapter 9 is very clear—we see the consequence of human rebellion is global sin against the sovereignty and leadership of Yahweh. There is global economic collapse and wars and martyrdom. The judgments increase as humanity continues to harden its hearts.

The 5th and 6th trumpets lead up to the 7th trumpet. The 5th & 6th trumpets are directed at unbelievers. Yahweh will use these locust-like demons to torment people, but they are told they can't touch those who are sealed by Yahweh. Some people say that this isn't the church because it has been raptured, but it's people who got saved during the tribulation. But there isn't a scripture anywhere in the bible that says that. This is a season of war, economic collapse, depravity, rebellion, torment, and evil deeds while demons torment those who aren't sealed by Yahweh. And Yahweh protects his people from those locust demons.

Remember, in chapter 8, the prayers of the saints were hurled to the earth and, as a result, judgments were released in the form of the first 4 trumpets.

2 major points in chapter 9

1. The demons turn on their own people and show utter contempt and cruelty by torturing their very worshippers.
2. Yahweh is in complete control and is orchestrating the whole event. In doing so, He proves once more his justice and the necessity of destruction of evil.

The angel is given the key to the bottomless pit, which is called the bottomless depths of the ocean, it is also called the place of the dead in Pa 63:9, 71:20. 2 Peter 2:4, Jude 6 says that it is a pit or prison house for the fallen angels.

Rev 9: 2-6 and 11:7 says that when the angel opens the pit, a huge column of smoke rises like a giant furnace. This image is described like the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah in Gen 19:28 and the Day of Yahweh in Joel 2:30. Locusts come out of the smoke and fall to the earth Rev 9:3. This reminds us of the plagues in Egypt. Locusts were common in the OT and were a sign of divine judgment Deut 28:38-42, Jer 46:23; 51:14. In Joel 1-2, a locust plague is a sign of the Day of Yahweh.

The locusts are given power to torment people who are not sealed. That is what happened in Egypt—the Jews were protected. The Egyptians were tormented (Ex 8-10). For 5 months, they will torment sinners, but they are forbidden to kill them. Only those who rejected his offer for repentance (9:20-21), are tormented because of what they have done to Yahweh's people. They have the mark of the beast (13:16), not the seal of Yahweh.

This judgment is different from what we will see in the 6th trumpet. 5th trumpet harms them, but they can't kill them. 6th trumpet is kill them, but don't harm them and don't kill all of them, just some of them. Remember, Yahweh is the one giving them the authority to do what they do (Rev 6:1-8, 13:5-8). Satan cannot operate outside of Yahweh and he cannot do whatever he wants.

Yahweh is giving evil doers an opportunity to soften their hearts and return or to harden their hearts and endure the wrath to come.

The impact of these scorpion-locust creatures is that man wants to die because the pain is so extreme. They took the lives of the martyrs in 6:9-11, and now they want to take their own lives. But Yahweh will not allow it. This is called the law of retribution. They have tortured and killed Yahweh's people, and now Yahweh will allow the demons to do the same thing to them.

9:13 The 6th angel blew the 6th trumpet. 4 angels are bound at the Euphrates river. They have been prepared for the hour, day month and year to be released. They are presently hanging out and waiting and watching at the Euphrates river.

Those 4 angels will be released to kill 1/3 of mankind. In chapter 6, 1/4 of population is killed. Then 1/3 of the people are killed. That means that 1/2 of population is killed. That's about 4-5 billion people killed in 3.5 year period.

A 200 million "man" army will come across Euphrates river. This isn't actually a human army, but a demonic army. This is a judgment event against those who are choosing evil. These 3 plagues: fire, smoke and sulfur came out of their mouths. Tails are like serpents with heads and they wound. People are delivered from demons and delivered to demons. Yahweh is doing that in 5th and 6th trumpets. Vs 20 says they did not repent. This is a sin issue and a worship issue. This is open worship of demons and their hearts grow harder. Like Pharaoh.

We see the fruit of the final rage of man against Yahweh: Murder, thefts, work of their hands, worshipping demons, sorcery (pharmacy/drugs), sexual immorality. These things are more than simple murder or stealing, this is more than what we call everyday sins. This is demonically empowered sin because of the hardness of their hearts.

Worship is more than singing songs to Satan. What it means to worship a demon is to be its slave, to be addicted to that thing, to be chained to it, possessed by it. When we worship Yahweh, we give Him everything. We are possessed by Him. To be a bondservant. To be obsessed with Him. If you worship demons, they will turn on you and torment you and kill you. If you worship Yahweh, He protects, advocates for you, defends you, saves you, adopts you redeems you, restores you and will give you a place in eternity and will pour out the Father's affection that he poured out on His Son onto you! If you worship demons, you get wrath and destruction. The demons will destroy you.

Daniel 8 says until the transgression has reached its fullness...even before the Jews came into Canaan...it says not until the fulness of sin of the people of the land has reached. 430 years passed between when the promise was given and when Yahweh leads the Jews into Canaan. Yahweh said I won't judge the Canaanites until they come to the fullness of sin. Jews want to take the land. But Yahweh says no. Why not? Because of the people in the land of Canaan...once their sin has reached the point of fullness, then I will judge them. He does the same today. He waits and waits for us to turn...He waits to send judgment...until we either turn or our sins increase then judgment. **THE POINT OF CHAPTER 9: Don't ever worship demons!**

CHAPTER 10

Rev 10:1 I saw another strong angel coming down out of heaven, clothed with a cloud; and the rainbow was upon his head, and his face was like the sun, and his feet like pillars of fire;

Rev 10:2 and he had in his hand a little book which was open. He placed his right foot on the sea and his left on the land;

Rev 10:3 and he cried out with a loud voice, as when a lion roars; and when he had cried out, the seven peals of thunder uttered their voices.

Rev 10:4 When the seven peals of thunder had spoken, I was about to write; and I heard a voice from heaven saying, "Seal up the things which the seven peals of thunder have spoken and do not write them."

Rev 10:5 Then the angel whom I saw standing on the sea and on the land lifted up his right hand to heaven,

Rev 10:6 and swore by Him who lives forever and ever, WHO CREATED HEAVEN AND THE THINGS IN IT, AND THE EARTH AND THE THINGS IN IT, AND THE SEA AND THE THINGS IN IT, that there will be delay no longer,

Rev 10:7 but in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he is about to sound, then the mystery of God is finished, as He preached to His servants the prophets.

Rev 10:8 Then the voice which I heard from heaven, *I heard* again speaking with me, and saying, "Go, take the book which is open in the hand of the angel who stands on the sea and on the land."

Rev 10:9 So I went to the angel, telling him to give me the little book. And he *said to me, "Take it and eat it; it will make your stomach bitter, but in your mouth it will be sweet as honey."

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

Rev 10:11 And they *said to me, "You must prophesy again concerning many peoples and nations and tongues and kings."

OVERVIEW: This is our second 'pause' in Rev.10-11:13. The first was 7:1-17.

In this section, we see the role of the church in the last days in 3 ways:

1. John's commissioning as a prophet 10:1-11
2. The reintroduction of Yahweh's protection of the saints 11:1-2
3. The description of the ministry of the 2 witnesses 11:3-13

John is asked to join Yahweh's mission to the world as a prophet, which will involve the 2 witnesses as well. Yahweh reveals the church is to have a bold witness in times of intense tribulation and suffering. They are sealed and protected (7:3-4; 9:4) and are called Yahweh's special possession (11:1-2). At the same time, they are pursued and persecuted by the dragon/beast and their followers (11:7-10), but that suffering will be their victory (11:11-12).

10:1-3 We see a powerful "angel" coming down from heaven, which is Yeshua.

Jud 1:14 *It was* also about these men *that* Enoch, *in* the seventh *generation* from Adam, prophesied, saying, "Behold, the Lord came with many thousands of His holy ones,

Jud 1:15 to execute judgment upon all, and to convict all the ungodly of all their ungodly deeds which they have done in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him."

Vs 1 He is Clothed with a cloud like Yahweh in Ex 16:10, Lev 6:2, Ezek 10:4.

His face shining like the sun like Christ in. Rev 1:16, Matt 17:2.

His feet are like pillars of fire like Christ in Rev 1:15.

He has a Rainbow around his head like Yahweh in Rev 4:3 and Ezek 1:28.

His voice sounds like a lion like Yahweh in Joel 3:16, Amos 1:2.

Vs 2 He has an open scroll in his hand. It's open. The 7 peals of thunder utter their voices! Rev. begins with a sealed scroll. Here it's open. Some people say it's a different scroll from the first scroll in Rev 5. Some say this may be Daniel 11, where Daniel is told to seal up what he was told. But the context of Dan 11 doesn't seem to support that idea. I believe it's most likely the same scroll from chapter 5.

This powerful mighty angel is Yahweh, the Son. He's still holding the open scroll. In comparison to Yeshua, the scroll appears little. I believe the contents of the scroll are the seals, the trumpets and what is yet to happen.

Rev 5:1-7 John says I saw the Lamb who had 7 horns, 7 eyes: (number of perfection). 7 spirits of Yahweh are different facets of Yahweh.

In Rev 10. Yeshua, the Lamb, has the open scroll.

Vs 2 His Left foot is on the land of Israel. Right foot is on the sea. He's looking south...maybe to Egypt or Mt Sinai. Perhaps, this could be Isa. 19, which is one of the great end-time prophecies concerning Egypt—Isa 19 describes an end time scenario of a mighty revival, economic disasters, the Nile river dries up, which would destroy their economy. Or perhaps Yeshua is looking at Mt. Sinai and hinting at the beginning of the final exodus.

There are 4 primary so called "mountain peaks" or highlights in bible history.

- 1st is creation. Yahweh is hovering over the deep, the chaos. He separates waters above from waters below. He brings order. The language of ocean, in the mind of ancient Hebrew, this would've brought thoughts of Yeshua exerting order. He is demonstrating his sovereignty over the realm of the deep.
- The 2nd great event is the Exodus which culminates at Mt Sinai when Yahweh comes down. Yahweh splits the sea/separates the waters again which is a foreshadow when Yeshua will return.
- 3rd is the coming of Yahweh from heaven as a Man, defeating Leviathan/Satan and saving his people.
- 4th is when the ultimate exodus happens, which is when Yeshua returns for His bride. Will He split the sea again? A few passages seem to indicate this.

Isa 10:20 Now in that day the remnant of Israel, and those of the house of Jacob who have escaped, will never again rely on the one who struck them, but will truly rely on the LORD, the Holy One of Israel.

Isa 10:21 A remnant will return, the remnant of Jacob, to the mighty EL.

Isa 10:22 For though your people, O Israel, may be like the sand of the sea, *Only* a remnant within them will return; A destruction is determined, overflowing with righteousness.

Isa 10:23 For a complete destruction, one that is decreed, the Lord Yahweh of hosts will execute in the midst of the whole land.

Isa 10:24 Therefore thus says the Lord Yahweh of hosts, "O My people who dwell in Zion, do not fear the Assyrian who strikes you with the rod and lifts up his staff against you, the way Egypt *did*." *Anti christ*

Isa 10:25 "For in a very little while My indignation *against you* will be spent and My anger *will be directed* to their destruction."

Isa 10:26 The Yahweh of hosts will arouse a scourge against him like the slaughter of Midian at the rock of Oreb; and **His staff will be over the sea and He will lift it up the way He did in Egypt.**

The Assyrians were an enemy and threat to Jews. Yahweh tells the Jews not to fear them. Because Yahweh will use a scourge/whip against the Assyrians, which are a type of the antichrist and his army. Yahweh's staff will be over the sea and He will lift it up the way He did in Egypt, which will bring destruction on them. *Anti christ*

YAHWEH says to Isaiah that the day is coming when I will punish the Assyrians. This passage In Isa. is about the antichrist and the final exodus.

Isa 11:1 Then a shoot will spring from the stem of Jesse, And a branch from his roots will bear fruit.

Isa 11:2 The Spirit of the LORD will rest on Him, The spirit of wisdom and understanding, The spirit of counsel and strength, The spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

Isa 11:3 And He will delight in the fear of the LORD, And He will not judge by what His eyes see, Nor make a decision by what His ears hear;

Isa 11:4 But with righteousness He will judge the poor, And decide with fairness for the afflicted of the earth; And He will strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, And with the breath of His lips He will slay the wicked.

Isa 11:5 Also righteousness will be the belt about His loins, And faithfulness the belt about His waist.

Isa 11:6 And the wolf will dwell with the lamb, And the leopard will lie down with the young goat, And the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; And a little boy will lead them.

Isa 11:7 Also the cow and the bear will graze, Their young will lie down together, And the lion will eat straw like the ox.

Isa 11:8 The nursing child will play by the hole of the cobra, And the weaned child will put his hand on the viper's den.

Isa 11:9 They will not hurt or destroy in all My holy mountain, For the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD As the waters cover the sea.

Isa 11:10 Then in that day The nations will resort to the root of Jesse, Who will stand as a signal for the peoples; And His resting place will be glorious.

Isa 11:11 Then it will happen on that day that the Lord Will again recover the second time with His hand The remnant of His people, who will remain, From Assyria, Egypt, Pathros, Cush, Elam, Shinar, Hamath, And from the islands of the sea.

Isa 11:12 And He will lift up a standard for the nations And assemble the banished ones of Israel, And will gather the dispersed of Judah From the four corners of the earth.

Isa 11:13 Then the jealousy of Ephraim will depart, And those who harass Judah will be cut off; Ephraim will not be jealous of Judah, And Judah will not harass Ephraim.

Isa 11:14 They will swoop down on the slopes of the Philistines on the west; Together they will plunder the sons of the east; They will possess Edom and Moab, And the sons of Ammon will be subject to them.

Isa 11:15 And Yahweh will utterly destroy The tongue of the Sea of Egypt; And He will wave His hand over the River With His scorching wind; And He will strike it into seven streams and make *men* walk over dry-shod.

Isa 11:16 And there will be a highway from Assyria for the remnant of His people who will be left, Just as there was for Israel In the day that they came up out of the land of Egypt.

After Yahweh/Yeshua returns, He will lift up a standard for the nations, He will gather all the exiles of Judah; He will utterly destroy the sea of Egypt. There it is again. 7 streams are dry...just like the first Exodus. We see here that Yeshua will do so much than just rapture His church when He returns.

Hab 3 is one of the most detailed descriptions of Yeshua's return.

Hab 3:8 Did the LORD rage against the rivers, Or *was* Your anger against the rivers, Or *was* Your wrath against the sea, That You rode on Your horses, On Your chariots of salvation?

On your chariots of salvation...In Rev 19, Yeshua returns on a horse an army following on horses. Hab 3 describes Yeshua riding on horses, but then it brings in chariots. Ezekiel 1 describes the throne of Yahweh and it's a chariot throne. It's not just a seat. It's not only a throne that's described like a chariot, but when Yahweh returns we read that He's riding a horse. Ps 68 talks about Him coming with chariots. On the first day of Pentecost, the Jews required daily scripture reading is Ezek 1 (describes the chariot throne) and on day 2, it's Hab 3 which describes Him riding on horses and on chariots of salvation.

Hab 3:8 Did the LORD rage against the rivers, Or *was* Your anger against the rivers, Or *was* Your wrath against the sea, That You rode on Your horses, On Your chariots of salvation?

I believe He's coming back on His horse drawn chariot throne to reestablish His throne in Jerusalem.

Hab 3:2 Yahweh, I have heard the report about You *and* I fear. O Yahweh, revive Your work in the midst of the years, in the midst of the years make it known; In wrath remember mercy.

Hab 3:3 EL comes from Teman, And the Holy One from Mount Paran. Selah. His splendor covers the heavens, and the earth is full of His praise.

Hab 3:4 His radiance is like the sunlight; He has rays *flashing* from His hand, and there is the hiding of His power.

Hab 3:5 Before Him goes pestilence, and plague comes after Him.

Hab 3:6 He stood and surveyed the earth; He looked and startled the nations. Yes, the perpetual mountains were shattered, the ancient hills collapsed. His ways are everlasting.

Hab 3:7 I saw the tents of Cushan under distress, the tent curtains of the land of Midian were trembling.

Hab 3:8 Did Yahweh rage against the rivers, or *was* Your anger against the rivers, or *was* Your wrath against the sea, that You rode on Your horses, on Your chariots of salvation?

Hab 3:9 Your bow was made bare, the rods of chastisement were sworn. Selah. You cleaved the earth with rivers.

Hab 3:10 The mountains saw You *and* quaked; The downpour of waters swept by. The deep uttered forth its voice, it lifted high its hands.

Hab 3:11 Sun *and* moon stood in their places; they went away at the light of Your arrows, at the radiance of Your gleaming spear.

Hab 3:12 In indignation, You marched through the earth; in anger You trampled the nations.

Hab 3:13 You went forth for the salvation of Your people, for the salvation of Your anointed. You struck the head of the house of the evil to lay him open from thigh to neck. Selah.

Hab 3:14 You pierced with his own spears the head of his throngs. They stormed in to scatter us; their exultation *was* like those who devour the oppressed in secret.

Hab 3:15 You trampled on the sea with Your horses, on the surge of many waters.

Hab 3:16 I heard and my inward parts trembled, at the sound, my lips quivered. Decay enters my bones, and in my place I tremble. Because I must wait quietly for the day of distress, for the people to arise *who* will invade us.

HABAKKUK REJOICES IN THE LORD

Hab 3:17 Though the fig tree should not blossom and there be no fruit on the vines, *though* the yield of the olive should fail and the fields produce no food, though the flock should be cut off from the fold and there be no cattle in the stalls,

Hab 3:18 Yet, I will exult in Yahweh, I will rejoice in the EL of my salvation.

Hab 3:19 The Lord Yahweh is my strength, and He has made my feet like hinds' *feet*, and makes me walk on my high places.

Yeshua marches through the earth for the salvation of His people. Habakkuk says that Yahweh will strike the head of the house of evil...that's the antichrist and Satan. The armies of the antichrist stormed in to scatter us....but Yahweh trampled on the sea....He will trample the head of Satan. I believe when Yeshua returns, He may retrace the steps of the Jews leaving Egypt. Habakkuk says that plagues will go before him. He will deliver His people through the desert... Isaiah 35 talks about the highway of holiness in the desert.

Rev 5:5 Lion from the tribe of Judah.

Rev 10 a voice roaring Lion. He's holding the same scroll. When He cried out, the 7 thunders raised their voices. In Job 37:2, Ps 29:3, John 12, Yahweh voice sounds like thunder. In front of the throne are 7 lampstands. 7 pointing to Yeshua himself. 7 spirits. 7 horns. Yahweh's voice thundered.

John is told to Seal up the things he heard...don't write them.

Rev 10:5 Then the angel whom I saw standing on the sea and on the land lifted up his right hand to heaven,

Rev 10:6 and swore by Him who lives forever and ever, WHO CREATED HEAVEN AND THE THINGS IN IT, AND THE EARTH AND THE THINGS IN IT, AND THE SEA AND THE THINGS IN IT, that there will be delay no longer,

Rev 10:7 but in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he is about to sound, then the mystery of Yahweh is finished

Vs 5-7 The time has come—there will no longer be any delay...when the 7th angels sounds then the mystery of Yahweh is finished. It will be the culmination of human history, the salvation of the Jews, the restoration of all things, the end of this wicked age and the establishment of Yahweh's kingdom on earth!

Vs 8-11 the focus now turns to the little scroll.

Similar to the commissioning of Ezekiel in Ezek 3:1-3. Ezekiel is told to eat a scroll and to go prophesy to Israel. He does and the scroll is sweet as honey. This was Ezekiel's commissioning as a prophet. And now, John is about to experience the same thing. Except for the fact that the scroll is sweet in his mouth and bitter in his stomach. In other words, your message will be sweet because the church will be victorious, but it will be bitter because it involves much suffering.

John is told to do what the Lamb was told in chapter 5: 7-8—to take the scroll from the Father's hand. John is to take the scroll from this mighty Angel's (Yeshua's) hand. For the 3rd time we are told the Angel is standing on sea and land (10:2, 5, 8), which signifies Yahweh's dominion over this world. John is to prophesy to the rebellious nations of the world that that Yahweh is reclaiming His world.

10:9 John takes the scroll. The angel repeats the command for him to eat it. They tell John to prophesy.

In chapter 11, someone tells John to measure the temple...11:3-4 the same voice tells John that I will grant authority to my 2 witnesses...It seems to me that John is talking with the Angel who says eat the scroll and John takes it and a voice says keep prophesying. That same voice says measure the city in chapter 11. That same voice says I will grant authority to my 2 witnesses...again, these are more reasons why I believe the mighty angel is Yeshua. John is to take the revelation that he is being shown and prophesy to the nations.

Two themes are obvious in chapter 10.

1. Yahweh's complete sovereignty over his creation.
2. The prophetic witness of the church. John reenacts Ezekiel's commissioning as a prophet, and the sweetness and bitterness of both Ezekiel's and John's difficult ministry is to be given to the church. There is sweetness in the knowledge that Yahweh will bring his people victory. There is bitterness that the world is rejecting Yahweh's offer and turning against His people.

CHAPTER 11 The Two Witnesses

Rev 11:1 And a measuring rod similar in appearance to a staff was given to me, saying, "Get up and measure the temple of God and the altar and those who worship in it.

Rev 11:2 And leave out the courtyard outside of the temple, and do not measure it, because it has been given to the Gentiles, and they will trample the holy city *for* forty two months.

Rev 11:3 And I will grant *authority* to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy *for one* thousand two hundred sixty days, dressed in sackcloth."

Rev 11:4 These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands that stand before the Lord of the earth.

Rev 11:5 And if anyone wants to harm them, fire comes out of their mouth and consumes their enemies. And if anyone wants to harm them, in this way he must be killed.

Rev 11:6 These have the authority to shut the sky, so that it does not rain during the days of their prophecy. And they have authority over the waters, to turn them to blood, and to strike the earth with every plague as often as they wish.

Rev 11:7 And when they have completed their testimony, the beast that comes up from the abyss will make war with them and will conquer them and will kill them.

Rev 11:8 And their dead bodies *will lie* in the street of the great city which is called symbolically Sodom and Egypt, where also their Lord was crucified.

Rev 11:9 And *those* from peoples and tribes and languages and nations will see their dead bodies three and a half days, and they will not allow their dead bodies to be placed in a tomb.

Rev 11:10 And those who live on the earth will rejoice over them, and will celebrate and will send gifts to one another, because these two prophets tormented those who live on the earth.

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

Rev 11:12 And they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, "Come up here," and they went up into heaven in a cloud, and their enemies watched them.

Rev 11:13 And at that hour a great earthquake took place, and a tenth of the city collapsed, and seven thousand people were killed by the earthquake, and the rest became terrified and gave glory to the God of heaven.

Rev 11:14 The second woe has passed. Behold, the third woe is coming quickly!

The Seventh Trumpet

Rev 11:15 And the seventh angel blew the trumpet, and there was a loud voice in heaven saying, "The kingdom of the world has become *the kingdom* of our Lord and of his Christ, and he will reign forever and ever."

Rev 11:16 And the twenty-four elders *who are* seated on their thrones before God fell down on their faces and worshiped God, Rev 11:17 saying, "We give thanks to you, Lord God All-Powerful, the one who is and the one who was, because you have taken your great power and have begun to reign.

Rev 11:18 And the nations were angry, and your wrath has come, and the time for the dead to be judged, and to give their reward to your slaves the prophets and to the saints and to the ones who fear your name, the small and the great, and to destroy those who destroy the earth."

Rev 11:19 And the temple of God in heaven was opened, and the ark of his covenant appeared in his temple, and there were lightnings and sounds and thunders and an earthquake and large hail.

Chapters 10:1-11:13 is a pause in the judgment events. It is a pause and it's also part of the 7 trumpet judgments that began in 8. There are 3 parts:

1. The measuring of the altar 11:1-2
2. Centering on divine protection and opposition to the saints; the ministry of the two witnesses (11:3-13), describing the church's bold witness to their persecutors
3. The 7th trumpet 11:14-19, picturing the arrival of the kingdom of Yahweh 11:15.

2 threads hold all 3 of these parts together:

1. Yahweh's presence with His people
2. and the church triumphing over their enemies.

We see both the sweetness and the bitterness of the judgment events in this chapter: Sweetness is seen in 11:1-2 in Yahweh's possessive presence with His people and in 11:14-19 we see the triumph of Yahweh on behalf of His people. Bitterness is seen in 11:2 where the Jews are trampled by the gentiles and in 11:7-10 with the death of the 2 witnesses.

Vs 1. Yeshua gives John a measuring rod, a straight hollow reed 10 ft 4 inches long, which was used to survey land. This represents Yahweh's ownership of the land. John is asked to measure 3 things: the temple, its altar and its worshippers. Temple is the Greek word, "naos", and it's the term for the holy place and the holy of holies. This is the heavenly temple, not a reconstructed temple in the last days. The body of Christ, the church is the temple: Matt 16:18, 1 Cor 3:16-17, 2 Cor 6:16.

3 things are measured:

1. a temple—corporate entity
2. an altar—corporate entity
3. the worshippers—individual members

When the members are measured, they are identified as belonging to Yahweh and protected by Him. Their true home is in the temple/church, and they have no part in the world. Instead, they conquer it by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony Rev 12:11.

The measuring is a prophetic act that announces Yahweh's ownership and protection over his people. This doesn't protect them from persecution and martyrdom. In 13:7, Yahweh gives or permits the beast to conquer the saints. But, in that very area the saints actually conquer the beast by giving up their lives 12:11. So they are protected spiritually but not physically.

Suffering is the path to glory.

1Pe 4:12 Dear friends, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, *when it takes place to test you, as if something strange* were happening to you.

1Pe 4:13 But to the degree that you share in the sufferings of Christ, rejoice, so that also at the revelation of his glory you may rejoice *and* be glad.

1Pe 4:14 If you are reviled on account of the name of Christ, *you are* blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you.

That suffering, as in Rev 10:8-11, is their bitterness, but it will produce the sweetness of their final victory over the powers of evil and their vindication by Yahweh.

11:2 EXCLUDING THE OUTER COURT

There is a double meaning in "outer", for it both describes the court of the Gentiles in the outer court and also that it is outside Yahweh's protective presence.

It has been given to the Gentiles, meaning Yahweh has handed over the church to the Gentiles for a period of time. For a short time, Yahweh will allow the enemies of his people to persecute them severely, but they will reemerge triumphant. Dan 8:9-14 says that Yahweh allows the little horn to trample the host of the heavens, Yahweh's followers for a time. (Also Zech 12:3). The time He allows this is 42 months.

The 3.5 year great tribulation time frame is presented to us in 3 different formats:

1. Rev 7:14, 11:3, 12:6, Dan 12:11, we see 1260 days
2. Rev 12:14, Dan 7:25; 12:7, we see "Time, times, and half a time"
3. In Rev 13:5 we see "42 months"

11:3-6 Yahweh gave the outer court to the gentiles (nations). Here, Yahweh gives power/authority to the 2 witnesses. The church overcomes by taking the war to the nations but with a twist—their weapons are not military but spiritual. The people of Yahweh fight back with a bold witness. Yahweh chooses 2 witnesses that He calls, "My two witnesses" signifying His special possession of them. He gives them both power and authority—authority to prophesy and power to perform great miracles.

These 2 men remind me of Elijah and Moses. Like John the Baptist, in Lk 1:17, they will come in the spirit and power of Moses and Elijah. They will prophesy for 1260 days. This must mean that they will minister during the last 3.5 years, which will be dominated by the antichrist and the beast. Like Elijah, they will wear sackcloth to signify sorrow and mourning over the sins of the nations (Joel 1:8, Amos 8:10). Sackcloth was often worn to signify repentance for sin. The Spirit of Yahweh stands over the 2 witnesses and will overcome any opposition on their behalf.

The 2 witnesses have a 2-fold mission: to witness to the nations and to warn of imminent judgment. The sinners attempt to kill the 2 witnesses as they did the martyrs of Rev 6. But in response, the Elijah miracle of fire falling from heaven happens again (2 Kgs 1). Those who tried to kill them are killed by Yahweh when He cause fire to come out of their mouths and it devours their enemies. The power they were given allows them to shut up the heavens so that it will not rain during this 3.5 year time. This reminds us of Elijah's time of drought in I Kgs 17-18.

The last 3 miracles they perform are parallel to the trumpet and bowl judgments which involved the heavens, the waters, and the earth. They have power to turn water into blood, like the Egyptian plague and the 2nd trumpet Rev 8:8 and the 2nd and 3rd bowls in 16:3-4. The last miracle is general, referring to Moses' authority from Yahweh to strike the earth with every kind of plague whenever they wished. This sums up all of the Egyptian plagues and describes the trumpets and the bowls.

11:7-10 DEATH AND DEFEAT

The close of the last 3.5 years when the 2 witnesses have finished their testimony. Yahweh will not allow the false trinity (the dragon, beast and false prophet Rev. 16:13), to have their temporary triumph until the prophetic witness by these 2 men are complete. While the believers are hunted down during this great tribulation (7:14), the forces of evil will not be able to stop their testimony. As we saw in 11:5-6, their witness has brought judgment on the nations.

Yahweh allows the beast to attack and kill the 2 witnesses (11:7). This is also the important point of 13:5-8, when the beast in all its evil actions can only do what Yahweh permits, and that for only a short time. He ascends from the Abyss, proving his demonic origin. The powers of evil ascend from the sea or the Abyss—smoke in 8:4 and 9:2 (the locusts descend in 9:3, the beast here and in 17:8, the beast from the sea in 13:1, the beast from the earth in 13:11. Yahweh allows this beast to make war and to conquer and kill them. In the final war in 19:17-19 there is no battle; the sword comes out of Yeshua's mouth and every member of the army of the beast is beheaded instantly.

The people show no respect, compassion or honor of the 2 witnesses. Their bodies lie in the public square of the great city (11:8).

The great city is Jerusalem. After their deaths, a religious celebration breaks out as the whole world takes a holiday, looking on their dead bodies and rejoicing (11:9).

Rev. 13:11-18 He has established a one world religion centered around the worship of the dragon and the beast/antichrist. He causes the world to view the dead bodies while refusing to bury them. They are dead for 3.5 days. They celebrate and send each other gifts like the religious holiday of Christmas, which was originally called Saturnalia, a time of worshipping a false god.

RESURRECTION Rev. 11:11-12 The world celebration is cut short when Yahweh's sovereignty takes over and ends the celebration. At this time, the breath of life from Yahweh enters them and they stand to their feet! Much like the valley of dry bones in Ezek. 37:10, "Breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet." Ezekiel's vision is prophesying Israel's return from exile as a valley of dry bones come to life. It also speaks of Gen 2:7, where Yahweh breathes life into Adam's nostrils. As the two are resurrected and stand up, the earth feels great fear and terror. This reminds me of Psa. 105:38 "Egypt was glad when they left, because dread of Israel had fallen on them (Ex 15:16). This terror will lead either to repentance Rev 11:13; 15:4, or to judgment Rev 18:10,15, depending on their response.

The 2 witnesses are immediately taken up to heaven 11:11. Those standing around hear a loud voice—we aren't told who is speaking. The voice commands, "Come up here." They ascend in a cloud, which points to Yeshua ascending in a cloud after his resurrection. The cloud represents the presence of Yahweh in all his glory and majesty, especially at Yeshua's return, which may be happening at the 2 witnesses "rapture". The context here is definitely about resurrection.

This takes place at the end of the second 3.5 years. It happens when the 2 witnesses finish their "mission" to prophesy and testify to the world 11:7, which may be a sign of the church finishing her mission. In Rev., the only event following Yeshua's return is the battle of Armageddon, so there doesn't seem to be room for the earthquake, the deaths, and the repentance of many. It seems that the resurrection here is the "first-fruit" of the church's soon coming rapture.

The order of events here seem to be:

1. The resurrection and ascension of the 2 witnesses
2. The earthquake
3. The conversion of the onlookers,
4. The return of Yeshua to gather His church
5. The events of Rev 20-21 (the 1,000 yr reign, the throne judgment, the new heaven & new earth, the new Jerusalem)

(for more on this—I Cor 15, I Thess 4:13-18)

JUDGMENT AND REPENTANCE Rev 11:13

After the witnesses are caught up to heaven, another terrible earthquake happens (6:12, 8:5, 11:13 & 19, 16:18) and 1/10th of the city is destroyed. We see this described in the OT in Ezek 38:19-20 with Gog and Magog, Zech 14:4 with Yahweh descending on the Mt of Olives at the Day of Yahweh.

7,000 people die—1/10th of the population of Jerusalem. They perish because of their idolatry and rebellion.

This is partial judgment like the 1/4th killed in the seal judgments 6:8 and the 1/3rd killed in the trumpet judgments 9:18. These judgments are a call to repentance.

CHAPTER 12: THE SOUNDING OF the 7th trumpet is the most significant event in history. There's actually a number of events that will happen like book of Exodus. The Antichrist dictator oppresses the Jews. Plagues are poured out. The deliverance and salvation of the Jews and those who partner with them. The exodus didn't take place in a day. There will be some significant dynamics that take place when he returns.

- Chapters 10-16 give a bunch of info on what happens before the 7th trumpet sounds.
- 10-15 sets in motion the 7th trumpet.
- Chapter 16 is the bowls of wrath.
- 19 return of Yeshua in detail
- 20 establishment of millennial reign
- 21-22 eternal reality and restoration of all things

CHAPTER 12

The Woman and the Dragon

Rev 12:1 A great sign appeared in heaven:

Picture John—he's looking at the sky and a great sign appears and it's a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars;

Rev 12:2 and she was with child; and she *cried out, being in labor and in pain to give birth.

Rev 12:3 Then another sign appeared in heaven:

Rev 12:4 And his tail *swept away a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she gave birth he might devour her child.

Rev 12:5 And she gave birth to a son, a male *child*, who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron; and her child was caught up to God and to His throne.

Rev 12:6 Then the woman fled into the wilderness where she *had a place prepared by God, so that there she would be nourished for one thousand two hundred and sixty days.

Satan is Thrown Down to Earth

Rev 12:7 And there was war in heaven, Michael and his angels waging war with the dragon (Satan). The dragon and his angels waged war,

Rev 12:8 and they were not strong enough, and there was no longer a place found for them in heaven.

Rev 12:9 And the great dragon was thrown down, the serpent of old who is called the devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.

Rev 12:10 Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation, and the power, and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren has been thrown down, he who accuses them before our God day and night.

Rev 12:11 "And they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony, and they did not love their life even when faced with death.

Rev 12:12 "For this reason, rejoice, O heavens and you who dwell in them. Woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, knowing that he has *only* a short time." ...here's the good news—his time is short!

Rev 12:13 And when the dragon saw that he was thrown down to the earth, he persecuted the woman who gave birth to the male *child*.

Rev 12:14 But the two wings of the great eagle were given to the woman, so that she could fly into the wilderness to her place, where she was nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent.

Rev 12:15 And the serpent poured water like a river out of his mouth after the woman, so that he might cause her to be swept away with the flood.

Rev 12:16 But the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and drank up the river which the dragon poured out of his mouth.

Rev 12:17 So the dragon was enraged with the woman, and went off to make war with the rest of her children, who keep the commandments of Yahweh and hold to the testimony of Yeshua.

Gen 3:15 And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise you on the head, and you shall bruise him on the heel."

We see here the beginning of the conflict of the seed of the woman and the seed of the serpent. In Gen 12, Yahweh calls Abram out of his land and idolatry in order to bring forth the Messiah. He turns a man who is unable to have children into a family and changes his name to Abraham, the father of many. And through this man, the messiah will come. Yahweh's plan has always been to bless the Jews through which He will bless the entire earth. We see this here in Rev 12. Through the woman, a male child is born, the Messiah. This woman is Israel and all her descendants who are those who follow the Messiah.

Rev 12:1 A great sign appeared in heaven:

Rev 12:2 and she was with child; and she *cried out, being in labor and in pain to give birth.

Who is the woman? There are a number of ideas out there.

1. Virgo (astrology)
2. Mary (Yeshua's mother)
3. The church
4. Israel

I believe she represents Israel.

1. Virgo: we have to be so careful when using the alignment of the stars to predict His coming. (2017 the sun passed through Virgo, the moon passed by her feet and above her head were 12 stars and then Jupiter was in Virgo for 9 mos.)

Holiness means to be separate, to be different. The opposite of holiness is to have mixture—don't mix different threads when you make your clothes: wool & cotton. That's so true when we are communicating the gospel—don't mix the gospels with the worldly living/doctrine/beliefs. When Jews entered Canaan, the Canaanites followed Baal, who was known as the god who rides on the clouds. But the Jews knew better—Yahweh is the One who rides on the clouds! Yeshua is the one who rode on the clouds when he ascended. The people saw Him riding on the clouds!

2. Mary: we have a picture of a woman having a male child. However, the exalted manner this woman is clothed, a majestic figure. The exaltation of Mary isn't seen anywhere in the NT or in early Christian writings. You see it much later—catholic teachings. Lk 1:26 Gabriel shows up to Mary...Greetings, highly favored one! Yahweh is with you! The point is Yahweh was waiting for the Messiah...he didn't just randomly choose a woman. Mary was one who captured Yahweh's attention—this is the one I'm choosing to be the mother of My Son. She is highly favored by Uahweh. But that doesn't mean we are to worship or exalt her. This woman is not Mary.
3. The church: Christ birthed the church. The church did not birth Christ. Gen 12, from the beginning Yahweh clearly called the Jews to be his treasured possession. The nations are mine, but Israel was chosen in a special way. Yahweh has a special calling for Israel but his love is for everyone. To this day, Yahweh stays true to his covenant with Israel while called the world into in kingdom. His primary call is to Israel while throwing the door open to all people! It's not just to Israel.
4. Israel: gave birth to the Messiah. This woman is clearly Israel.

Rev 12:1 A great sign appeared in heaven:

Rev 12:2 and she was with child; and she *cried out, being in labor and in pain to give birth.

Rev 12:3 Then another sign appeared in heaven: and behold, a great red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads were seven diadems.

Rev 12:4 And his tail *swept away a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she gave birth he might devour her child. (*You will bruise His heel, but when it's all said and done—He will crush your head!*)

Rev 12:5 And she gave birth to a son, a male *child*, who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron; and her child was caught up to God and to His throne.

Rev 12:6 Then the woman fled into the wilderness where she had a place prepared by God, so that there she would be nourished for one thousand two hundred and sixty days.

At the front end of the great tribulation, the primary target of the serpent is Israel, the woman. He's going to go after Christians, it says so in the text, but Israel is still front and center. Yahweh is going to accomplish redemption with his people as he promised. At the end of vs 17, the dragon is furious with the woman and goes after her offspring—those who are Gentile believers.

We see these symbols described in Gen 37 where Joseph had a dream—the sun, the moon and stars were bowing down to him. We see Israel is described as stars. Sun and moon are Abraham and Sarah.

Joe 3:1 "For behold, in those days and at that time, when I restore the fortunes of Judah and Jerusalem, (*after Israel has been regathered, Yahweh will restore their fortune*)

Joe 3:2 I will gather all the nations And bring them down to the valley of Jehoshaphat. (he's talking about the surrounding nations gathering together to invade, occupy Israel under the leadership of the antichrist, the dragon and his puppet, the beast, the antichrist and his armies invade Israel). Then I will enter into judgment with them there on behalf of My people and My inheritance, Israel, Whom they have scattered among the nations; and they have divided up My land.

Yahweh remains true to his covenant even when we aren't.

Zec 12:2 "Behold, I am going to make Jerusalem a cup that causes reeling to all the peoples around; and when the siege is against Jerusalem, it will also be against Judah.

This verse is prophesying the invasion of the armies of the antichrist in Jerusalem. In that day I will set about to destroy all of the nations who come against Jerusalem and Judah.

Zec 12:7 "The LORD also will save the tents of Judah first, so that the glory of the house of David and the glory of the inhabitants of Jerusalem will not be magnified above Judah.

Zec 12:8 "In that day the LORD will defend the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and the one who is feeble among them in that day will be like David, and the house of David *will be* like God, like the angel of the LORD before them.

Zec 12:9 "And in that day I will set about to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem.

Zec 12:10 "I will pour out on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the Spirit of grace and of supplication, so that they will look on Me whom they have pierced; and they will mourn for Him, as one mourns for an only son, and they will weep bitterly over Him like the bitter weeping over a firstborn.

Yeshua returns and all of the Jews who are alive and look at the One they pierced are saved. His grace is poured out on them. Every covenant He has made, He will fulfill.

Rom 11:25 For I do not want you, brethren, to be uninformed of this mystery—so that you will not be wise in your own estimation—that a partial hardening has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in;

Rom 11:26 and so all Israel will be saved; just as it is written, "THE DELIVERER WILL COME FROM ZION, HE WILL REMOVE UNGODLINESS FROM JACOB."

Rom 11:27 "THIS IS MY COVENANT WITH THEM, WHEN I TAKE AWAY THEIR SINS."

Rom 11:28 From the standpoint of the gospel they are enemies for your sake, but from the standpoint of *God's* choice they are beloved for the sake of the fathers;

When the fullness of the Gentiles have come in, then all of Israel will be saved. (Ezek. 39 and Isa. 59, Jer. 30-33). Paul says, from the standpoint of the gospel, they are enemies. The majority of Israel are not following Yahweh. In that sense, they are enemies, but from the standpoint of *Yahweh's* choice they are beloved for the sake of the fathers;

Exo 6:6 "Say, therefore, to the sons of Israel, 'I am the LORD, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and I will deliver you from their bondage. I will also redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great judgments.

Exo 6:7 'Then I will take you for My people, and I will be your God; and you shall know that I am the LORD your God, who brought you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians.

Exo 6:8 'I will bring you to the land which I swore to give to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and I will give it to you *for* a possession; I am the LORD.'"

Jer 31:1 -2 "At that time," declares the LORD, "I will be the Elohim of all the families of Israel, and they shall be My people." Thus says the LORD, "The people who survived the sword Found grace in the wilderness—Israel, when it went to find its rest."

Jer 31:31 "Behold, days are coming," declares the LORD, "when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah.

Jer 31:32 not like the covenant which I made with their fathers in the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, although I was a husband to them," declares the LORD.

Jer 31:33 "But this is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel after those days," declares the LORD, "I will put My law within them and on their heart I will write it; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.

A new covenant is to come at the return of Yeshua.

Eze 36:24 "For I will take you from the nations, gather you from all the lands and bring you into your own land.

Eze 36:25 "Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols.

Eze 36:26 "Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

Eze 36:27 "I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will be careful to observe My ordinances.

Eze 36:28 "You will live in the land that I gave to your forefathers; so you will be My people, and I will be your God.

printing

Rev. 6	Chronological Section #1	<u>SEALS</u>
Rev 7	Angelic Explanation #1	Protection
Rev. 8-9	Chronological Section #2	<u>TRUMPETS</u>
Rev 10-11	Angelic Explanation #2	Direction
Rev 11	Chronological Section #3	<u>2nd COMING</u>
Rev 12-14	Angelic Explanation #3	Confrontation
Rev 15-16	Chronological Section #4	<u>BOWLS</u>
Rev 17-18	Angelic Explanation #4	Seduction
Rev 19-20	Chronological Section #5	<u>TRIUMPHAL ENTRY</u>
Rev 21-22	Angelic Explanation #5	Restoration

REV 12

The Woman and the Dragon

Rev 12:1 A great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars;

Rev 12:2 and she was with child; and she *cried out, being in labor and in pain to give birth.

Rev 12:3 Then another sign appeared in heaven: and behold, a great red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads were seven diadems.

Rev 12:4 And his tail swept away a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth.

The woman is Israel. The child is Yeshua. The dragon is Satan. These are the main players. And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she gave birth he might devour her child. This is a picture of the birth of Yeshua.

Rev 12:5 And she gave birth to a son, a male *child*, who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron;

What would a first century Jew think of when they heard that? Ps 2 would come to mind.

Psa 2:1 Why are the nations in an uproar And the peoples devising a vain thing?

Psa 2:2 The kings of the earth take their stand And the rulers take counsel together Against the LORD and against His Anointed, saying,

Psa 2:3 "Let us tear their fetters apart And cast away their cords from us!"

Psa 2:4 He who sits in the heavens laughs, The Lord scoffs at them.

Psa 2:5 Then He will speak to them in His anger And terrify them in His fury, saying,

Psa 2:6 "But as for Me, I have installed My King Upon Zion, My holy mountain."

Psa 2:7 "I will surely tell of the decree of the LORD: He said to Me, 'You are My Son, Today I have begotten You.

Psa 2:8 'Ask of Me, and I will surely give the nations as Your inheritance, And the very ends of the earth as Your possession.

Psa 2:9 'You shall break them with a rod of iron, You shall shatter them like earthenware.'"

Rev 12:5 And she gave birth to a son, a male *child*, who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron; and her child was caught up to God and to His throne.

Heb 10:12-13 What is Yeshua, the male Child, doing? sitting at the right hand of Yahweh until the time comes for Him to return and save His people and crush His enemies.

Rev 12:6 Then the woman fled into the wilderness (literally, the desert—a desolate place). Some Jews will flee into the desert for 3.5 years) where she had a place prepared by Yahweh, so that they would be nourished for 1,260 days.

Deu 32:36 "For the LORD will vindicate His people, And will have compassion on His servants, when He sees that *their* strength is gone, and there is none *remaining*, bond or free.

Deu 32:37 "He will say, 'Where are their gods, The rock in which they sought refuge?'"

Deu 32:38 'Who ate the fat of their sacrifices, And drank the wine of their drink offering? Let them rise up and help you, Let them be your hiding place!

Deu 32:39 'See now that I, I am He, And there is no god besides Me; It is I who put to death and give life. I have wounded and it is I who heal, And there is no one who can deliver from My hand.

SATAN THROWN DOWN TO EARTH

- the angel assigned to Israel

Rev 12:7 And there was war in heaven, Michael and his angels waging war with the dragon. The dragon and his angels waged war,

Rev 12:8 and they were not strong enough, and there was no longer a place found for them in heaven.

Rev 12:9 And the great dragon was thrown down, the serpent of old who is called the devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.

Rev 12 is an event that happens in the middle of the 7 years, at the 3.5 year mark. Satan accuses us before the throne. No more accusations. No more legal grounds. No more freedom sessions needed.

Dan 8:3 Then I lifted my eyes and looked, and behold, a ram which had two horns was standing in front of the canal. Now the two horns *were* long, but one *was* longer than the other, with the longer one coming up last.

Dan 8:4 I saw the ram butting westward, northward, and southward, and no *other* beasts could stand before him nor was there anyone to rescue from his power, but he did as he pleased and magnified *himself*.

Dan 8:5 While I was observing, behold, a male goat was coming from the west over the surface of the whole earth without touching the ground; and the goat *had* a conspicuous horn between his eyes.

Dan 8:6 He came up to the ram that had the two horns, which I had seen standing in front of the canal, and rushed at him in his mighty wrath.

Dan 8:7 I saw him come beside the ram, and he was enraged at him; and he struck the ram and shattered his two horns, and the ram had no strength to withstand him. So he hurled him to the ground and trampled on him, and there was none to rescue the ram from his power.

Dan 8:8 Then the male goat magnified *himself* exceedingly. But as soon as he was mighty, the large horn was broken; and in its place there came up four conspicuous *horns* toward the four winds of heaven.

Now, let's look at Dan 8:9-12

Dan 8:9 Out of one of them came forth a rather small horn which grew exceedingly great toward the south, toward the east, and toward the Beautiful Land (*Jerusalem*).

Dan 8:10 It (*anti-Christ*) grew up to the host of heaven and caused some of the host and some of the stars to fall to the earth, and it (*anti-Christ*) trampled them down.

Dan 8:11 It (*anti-Christ*) even magnified *itself* to be equal with the Commander of the host (*Yahweh*); and it (*anti-Christ*) removed the regular sacrifice from Him (*abomination of desolation*), and the place of His sanctuary (*Jerusalem*) was thrown down.

Dan 8:12 And, on account of transgression, the host (*the people*) will be given over to the horn (*anti-Christ*) along with the regular sacrifice; and it (*the anti-Christ*) will fling truth to the ground and perform *its will* and will prosper.

This is describing Rev 12:9 where we see angels are cast to the earth. 2 Thess 2:4 says that the antichrist will exalt himself over every so-called god or object of worship and will take his seat in Yahweh's temple, displaying himself as God (Theos—divinely Supreme—Yahweh).

Daniel makes it very clear that the antichrist will prosper for a short time in order to bring Israel to the end of her self-focus and self-absorption and strength so they will turn to Him for help. The antichrist's reign isn't just for the Jews, but also so that the Christians will be purified through fire/suffering. Yahweh is working to present to Himself a bride (both Jew and Gentile) without spot or wrinkle or blemish.

Dan 8:13 And I heard a certain holy one speaking, and a certain other holy one said to the specific one who was speaking, "For how long is the vision *concerning* the regular burnt offering, and the transgression *that* makes desolate, and *the* giving over of *the* sanctuary and *the* host to trampling?"

Dan 8:14 And he said to me, "For 2,300 evenings and mornings, then *the* sanctuary will be restored."

THE INTERPRETATION OF THE VISION

Dan 8:15 And then when I, Daniel, saw the vision, and I was seeking understanding, there was *one* standing before me with *the* appearance of a man.

Vs 15-16 Daniel seeks to understand the vision and he sees someone who looked like a man (Yeshua/Yahweh?) and had the voice of a man. He called out and said, "Gabriel, *make this man* understand the vision."

Vs 17-19 Gabriel came to him and Daniel fell on his face. Gabriel said, "Understand, son of man, that the vision *is* for *the* time of *the* end." Daniel faints. Gabriel raise him up and says, vs 19 "Look, I am making known to you what will happen in the period of wrath, for *it* refers to *the* appointed time of *the* end."

THE RAM WITH TWO HORNS

Dan 8:20 "The ram that you saw who had two horns *represents* the kings of Media and Persia.

Dan 8:21 "And the hairy he-goat *is* the kingdom of Greece, and the great horn that *is* between his eyes—he *is* the first king.

Dan 8:22 And the *horn* was broken, and *then* there arose four *horns* in place of it—*these are* four kingdoms *that will arise* from *his* nation, but not with his power.

Dan 8:23 And at the end of their kingdom, when the transgressions are completed, a king will arise (*the antichrist*), fierce in countenance (literally: *strong, mighty, fierce*) and skilled in riddles (literally: *intrigue, puzzles, insolent*).

Dan 8:24 And his power will grow, but not by his *own* power, and he will cause fearful destruction, and he will succeed and he will act, and he will destroy *the* mighty and *the* people of *the* holy ones.

Dan 8:25 And by his planning he will make a success of deceit by his hand, and in his mind he will boast, and in *their* ease he will destroy many, and *even* against *the* prince of princes (*Prince of Peace? Prince of the power of the air—Satan? Satan won't be the one to destroy him*) he will rise up (who will rise up? the Prince of Peace), and he (*the anti-christ*) will be broken, *but* not by human hands.

The main fulfillment of this vision is the time of the end. Any first century Jew, when reading Rev 12:9 where Satan and his angels are thrown out of heaven to the earth, would immediately would think of Daniel 8. Dan 8 is clearly speaking of events that will happen in the final period of indignation, when Yahweh pours out His wrath!

Rev 12:10 Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation, and the power, and the kingdom of our Yahweh and the authority of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren has been thrown down, he who accuses them before our Yahweh day and night.

Rev 12:11 "And they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony, and they did not love their life even when faced with death.

Rev 12:12 "For this reason, rejoice, O heavens (*the heavens have been purged—Satan has been cast out*) and you who dwell in them. Woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, knowing that he has *only* a short time." Satan is raging.

Rev 12:13 And when the dragon (*Satan*) saw that he was thrown down to the earth, he persecuted the woman who gave birth to the male *child*.

~ at yr 3.5

~ look out Israel!

Rev 12:14 But the two wings of the great eagle were given to the woman, so that she could fly into the wilderness to her place, where she **was* nourished for a time and times and half a time (*3.5 years*), from the presence of the serpent.

I believe this represents a remnant of Jews that will be supernaturally protected in the wilderness. This passage would remind every first century Jew of Exodus 19:3-6

Exo 19:3 Moses went up to God, and the LORD called to him from the mountain, saying, "Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob and tell the sons of Israel:

Exo 19:4 'You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and *how* I bore you on eagles' wings, and brought you to Myself.

Exo 19:5 'Now then, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be My own possession among all the peoples, for all the earth is Mine;

Exo 19:6 and you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words that you shall speak to the sons of Israel."

Yahweh said that if you will keep my covenant, you will be My treasured possession. This happened before the betrothal meal.

Rev 12:15 And the serpent poured water like a river out of his mouth (*a reference to the antichrist*) after the woman, so that he might cause her to be swept away with the flood.

Rev 12:16 But the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and drank up the river (Jews understand this to be Yahweh) which the dragon poured out of his mouth.

Isa 28:18 "Your covenant with death will be canceled, And your pact with Sheol will not stand; When the overwhelming scourge (the antichrist) passes through, then you become its trampling *place*.

Isa 28:19 "As often as it passes through, it will seize you; for morning after morning it will pass through, *anytime* during the day or night, and it will be sheer terror to understand what it means."

This describes the abomination of desolation. When the antichrist (it) comes, he's described as a flood with whips and scourges. On one hand, the antichrist will be allowed to succeed, but we also see Israel being protected. It's both. Many will be protected,

many taken as prisoners, many killed, and many will flee. Jews understand Isa 28 refers to the final assault of Israel when they will flee to the desert, but the messiah comes and helps them, delivers them like He did in Egypt.

^{-Yeshua}
Rev 12:10 And I heard a loud voice in heaven saying, "Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our Yahweh and the authority of His Christ have come, because the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, the one who accuses them before our Yahweh day and night.

Rev 12:11 And they conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives until death.

The one who accuses them before our Yahweh day and night—who is that? He is thrown down to the earth. Who is speaking? A loud voice. Whose voice? Who calls us brothers?

They conquered Satan by overcoming him—not by their own strength or because they are super soldiers or because they somehow became perfect Christians. How did they overcome him?

1. By the blood of the Lamb.
2. By the word of their testimony. (*My testimony is not my life story only, but the story of what Yeshua has done in my life*). He showed me mercy when I was lost in my sins! And He continues to show me mercy! That will stop Satan in his tracks.)
3. By not loving their lives even when faced with death. (*If we want to be His disciple: Yeshua said we must deny ourselves, pick up our cross daily and follow Him.*)

We are to live this way today. We can overcome Satan today by, first and foremost, putting our trust/faith in the blood of the Lamb! Secondly, by our lives being a testimony of what that blood has done and will do. Thirdly, by not loving my life. Even if it means my death. It's easy to think of this in terms of martyrdom. But this isn't just martyrdom. This is something that is required of us daily. To deny ourselves. Deny: to *deny* utterly, that is, *disown, abstain*.

The Pharisee and the Tax Collector

Luk 18:9 Yeshua also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and looked down on everyone else:

2 men went to the temple to pray. One was a religious man, a Pharisee who is considered to be the most righteous of all humans.

The other man was a tax collector, who was considered to be the most vile of all humans—a traitor and a thief—stealing from his own people. The Pharisee stood *and* prayed these *things* with reference to himself: 'God, I give thanks to you that I am not like other people—swindlers, unrighteous *people*, adulterers, or even like that tax collector over there! I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all that I get. But the tax collector, who was standing far away, did not want even to raise his eyes to heaven, but was beating his chest, saying, 'Yahweh, be merciful to me, a sinner!'

Luk 18:14 I tell you, the tax collector went to his house justified rather than the self-righteous one! For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted."

In other words, Yeshua said that everyone who exalts himself by looking down at others and judging them to be less than, or not as good as, or doesn't do life the way I do life because the way I do life is the "right way", or the best way, or the Christian way. The tax collector saw himself as a sinner, someone who deserves nothing, someone who will be lost unless Yahweh extends him mercy.

That is what overcomes Satan. When you stand before Him, your focus must be on the fact that He is your only hope! His blood covers you and your life—your thoughts, your words, your actions, your non-action. His blood. His life flowing through your defiled life. Focus on that! Keep your eyes on what He has done, not on what you've done or haven't done. Practice trusting in the faithfulness of Yahweh—not in your own strength or ability to be good. That doesn't mean I'm going to sit back and do nothing. Salvation is a dance, it's a relationship.

We aren't going to overcome the dragon and the serpent in the last days because we are more holy or faithful or more devout than someone else, but because we've accepted and understood the power of the blood of the Lamb. And because we've learned to crucify ourselves now. Nothing testifies more clearly than someone who lays his life down for another.

We have one life to live—Paul said, I consider my life to be manure.

Php 3:3 For we are the circumcision, the ones who worship by the Spirit of God and boast in Christ Jesus and do not *put* confidence in the flesh,

Php 3:4 although I *could* have confidence even in the flesh. If anyone else thinks to put confidence in the flesh, I *can do so* more:

Php 3:5 circumcised on the eighth day, from the nation of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew *born* from Hebrews, according to the law a Pharisee,

Php 3:6 according to zeal persecuting the church, according to the righteousness in the law being blameless.

Php 3:7 But whatever *things* were gain to me, these *things* I have considered loss because of Christ.

Php 3:8 More than that, I even consider all *things* to be loss because of the surpassing greatness of the knowledge of Christ Yeshua my Lord, for the sake of whom I have suffered the loss of all *things*, and consider *them* dung, in order that I may gain Christ

Php 3:9 and may be found in him, not having my righteousness *which is* from the law, but *which is* through faith in Christ, the righteousness from Yahweh on the basis of faith,

Php 3:10 so that I may know him and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of his sufferings, being conformed to his death,

Php 3:11 if somehow I may attain to the resurrection from the dead. (*hear the humility in this...*)

We are all called to testify of the power of the death, burial and resurrection of Yeshua, to be his witnesses. Witnesses—that word, in Greek, is martyr. Day by day we practice dying to self. When a demon or a person or your own mind reminds you of your sinful past or your sinful heart/actions—thank him for reminding you of the truth—I’m not perfect. I will never be good enough! Then turn to Yahweh and cry out, “Be merciful to me, a sinner!”

Matt 16:21-23 Peter takes Yeshua aside and rebukes Him. “Yahweh forbid that You die! There’s no way you are going to die! Not on my watch!” Peter didn’t understand the wisdom of the cross.

Mat 16:23 But Yeshua turned around *and* said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a cause for stumbling to me, because you are not intent on the things of God, but the things of people!”

This is harsh! He loves Peter and Peter loves Him. Peter is his disciple, student, friend. Those kinds of words hurt more when someone you love says them to you. When Yeshua called the Pharisees a brood of snakes, the Pharisees were angry because they were humiliated in front of the people. Not because there was any relationship or love for Yeshua. He says to one of his closest friends...”Peter, you are a stumbling block to Me. You are not setting your mind on Yahweh’s interests, but on the things concerning people!” Yeshua never withheld the truth from others because He was afraid He’d hurt their feelings or that they would get mad or be triggered or reject Him. He loved them too much to leave them in their soulish condition.

We are a stumbling block to Yahweh if we put the concerns of this life before the Yahweh’s plans and purposes for my life and the lives of others.

Our mission is the same today.

1. We are to live a life of martyrdom.
2. We are also called to stand with Israel.
3. And we’re called to be purified, to be tested.

People often ask how can Yahweh allow his bride to suffer and be martyred. The truth is Christians have been martyred throughout history. They are being martyred today. They have suffered greatly for the sake of the gospel. Look at the suffering and martyrdom of the 11 apostles. Look at Yahweh’s own Son and how He suffered greatly! People say Yahweh won’t allow his bride to go through the tribulation because He won’t allow her to suffer. He allowed the Jews to suffer in the wilderness. The truth is this is happening on the earth right now...Christians are suffering greatly and dying for their faith right now.

REVELATION CHAPTER 12

The church and Israel become the object of satan's wrath. Do we have a martyr mentality in the sense that you follow a persecuted, slain lamb? The real defining question is: Do you rejoice when you suffer pain for the cause of Christ?

1Pe 4:12 Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you;

1Pe 4:13 but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ, keep on *rejoicing*, so that also at the revelation of His glory you may rejoice with exultation.

Rejoicing: to be full of cheer, to be calm, happy and well off, to be glad. Does that describe and define you?

Luk 16:10 "He who is faithful in a very little thing is faithful also in much; and he who is unrighteous in a very little thing is unrighteous also in much.

Paul describes normal Christian life:

2Co 4:7-11 But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, so that the surpassing greatness of the power will be of God and not from ourselves; *we are* afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not despairing; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying about in the body the dying of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. For we who live are constantly being delivered over to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh.

If we are Christ followers, it is only to be expected that we will be afflicted, we will be perplexed, persecuted, struck down...we are dying to self, according to our human existence.

At the end of the age, the Lord will give the people up to the wrath of satan so that we will become like Christ, that we will rejoice when we suffer for Him. Yahweh will allow intense suffering, which will make us like Him. There's nowhere in the bible that says to stand up so people don't get persecuted.

Rev 12 A great war breaks out and conflict. Vs 4- Satan stands before the woman which is Israel...the child which is Yeshua...this is Gen 49 (Jacob calls his 12 sons to his dying bed and reviews their lives and proclaims their future—a foreshadowing of the final judgment and it's Ps 2)

The woman/Israel is taken into the wilderness. Satan hates Israel and the Messiah. Israel flees...this is all over scriptures Jer. 31, Hosea 2, Matt 24. Many in Israel will flee into the wilderness and others will go into exile when this satanic invasion begins. Vs 7...Satan is thrown down...to the earth...his angels with him...

Rev 12:10 Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation, and the power, and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren has been thrown down, he who accuses them before our God day and night.

Rev 12:11 "And they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony, and they did not love their life even when faced with death.

Rev 12:12 "For this reason, rejoice, O heavens and you who dwell in them. Woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, knowing that he has *only* a short time."

Rev 12:13 And when the dragon saw that he was thrown down to the earth, he persecuted the woman who gave birth to the male *child*.

For 3.5 years, Satan will persecute Israel. But Yahweh will help her supernaturally.

Rev 12:17 So the dragon was enraged with the woman, and went off to make war with the rest of her children, who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Yeshua.

Who is the offspring of Israel? Vs 17: Those who keep the commandments and who hold to the testimony of Yeshua. Vs 11 tells us: They overcome by the word of their testimony. Satan hates them because they are sharing the testimony of Yeshua. Rev 19:10 tells us that the spirit of prophecy is the testimony of Yeshua.

Rev 13, the beast is granted authority to overcome the saints. The church/Israel will be overcome by him, but Satan will also be overcome by our testimony. Rev. 12 is clear—we will be overcome and we will also overcome by the testimony of Yeshua.

The testimony of Yeshua is the spirit of prophecy and His testimony about the end of the age revolve around Israel and Jerusalem. Matt 24 says they will hate us because of His name. The central conflict at the end of the age will be around Jerusalem/Israel.

Who does Satan go after in the beginning of chapter 12? The Woman and the child. Look at the end vs 13...Satan goes after the rest of her offspring. Who are her offspring? Those who follow the testimony of Yeshua. The main point won't be because you are a Christian.. They might not like Christians, but they will kill you because of your stand with Israel.

HISTORY: Nero put Christians on stakes and lighted his roads with burning Christians. The emperor before Nero exiled all the Jews out of Rome. Nero said the Christians can come back. In 64 AD, there was a great fire. Nero blamed it on the Christians. Most of the Christians were Jews. AD 64 was the beginnings of the Jewish revolt. In 64-67, Paul and Peter were killed. The great fire erupted in 64AD. Almost half of Rome burned down. In 45 a revolt was put down. But Nero came home and blamed the Christians. In 66 AD, the protest that started in AD 45 started bubbling up again in Israel. Rome ruled Israel and they started provoking the wrath of the Jewish population. It turned into riots in the streets. The emperor said to go shut it down. The governor in Syria got Arab legions and marched on the Galilee and put it down in Tiberias. But eruptions broke out in Jerusalem among the Jews to take back their rights and their land and to get rid of the Roman occupation. The expression cloak and dagger came from this: the Jewish rebels would hide swords under their cloaks and walked among the crowd and they would stab Roman soldiers and then hide among the crowd. The Romans marched on Jerusalem and marched on the walls, but they weren't able to occupy the city. The rebels were too strong. Sept 66 AD they drew back and traveled through a city outside Jerusalem through a valley. The rebels followed and 6000 Roman soldiers were killed. (The War of the Jews by Josephus 66-68 AD) Jews for the first time leveled a devastating blow to the Roman empire so the Romans retaliated and it ended up with the destruction of Jerusalem and the temple and the expulsion of the Jews from Israel for 2,000 years. Because of the persecution that broke out in AD 60's, it's probably likely that Paul and Peter were executed at the same time the Jews were standing up for Jerusalem. The Christians were turning the world upside down through sharing the good news (Acts 17). But the rebels fought with swords etc....which may have been one of the reasons Peter and Paul were executed. The Romans wanted to stop this rebellion.

At the end of the age, we will see the same thing happen—a rage against Israel, Jewish occupation. Christians will stand with them. Satan is mad now, but he will become furious then. And he will seek to devour her and those who keep the testimony of Yeshua....

There will be a lot of people who lose their lives, but there will be no eternal rewards because of what motivates them. Paul said in 1Co 13:3 And if I give all my possessions to feed *the poor*, and if I surrender my body to be burned, but do not have love, it profits me nothing. You can give it all, but make sure when you take a stand, it's for love, the testimony of Yeshua, Christ in us the hope of glory, us being transformed and us being a broken vessel where Christ can be seen and manifested by those who persecute us.

Zion and Babylon

Rev 12:14 The woman is carried into the wilderness on the wings of an eagle...Someone living in the US might view this as America because of the bald eagle. But that isn't how first century Jews would view this. Their mind would go to Exodus when Yahweh said, Remember how I led you on eagles wings out of Egypt. The Lord is the eagle who will give them protection.

The story of 2 different women. The harlot Babylon and the woman gives birth to the male child. She is Israel/the church/one new man. The stars are clearly used to refer to children of Israel. Yahweh told Abraham Your descendants will be like the stars. Chapter 21 The woman who gave birth reappears. First, she flees into wilderness and she is still in unbelief. Many will flee into wilderness. Some will be taken prisoner; many will be killed. But there has to be a remnant to look on the One they pierced.

Rev 21:9-10 The wife of the lamb...the church says we're the bride. To ignore the story that's been told, that Yahweh made covenant with Israel at Mt Sinai, and He betrothed himself to the Jews as a husband and Israel is his bride. The 70 elders, Moses, Nadab, Abihu are invited halfway up Mt Sinai where they eat the betrothal meal on a sapphire sea and see Yahweh (Ex. 24:10). That event is the historic foreshadow of the marriage supper of the Lamb when Yeshua will consummate the covenant he made with Israel at Mt Sinai and they will forever be his.

Isa 25:6 declares that Yahweh will destroy Babylon. Isaiah then says that Yahweh will prepare a feast on Mt. Zion for *all peoples*—not just Israel.

The plan that Gentiles would be part of this and will be brought into the kingdom of Yahweh along with the Jews is throughout the OT. There's one bride (Jew and Gentile as one new man) and one bridegroom. There's not 2 weddings or 2 brides.

Now let's look at the harlot.

Rev 17:1 Come I will show the judgment of the great harlot. Same language in Rev 21:9: Come, I will show you the bride.

In chptr 17, it's the harlot. On one hand, she's a queen, clothed as royalty, rich. But she's the opposite of clean. She's filthy. The harlot in Revelation wants to be a prostitute. She's chosen it. She's a murderer. She has a cup in her hand that's filled with the filth of her fornication mixed with the blood of the saints and she's drinking it and gives it to others to drink....

Let's look at Israel's story. There are reasons why some Christians says Israel is the harlot. In OT there are places the Lord calls her a harlot—Hosea etc.. But not just Israel. Ninevah is called a harlot. Tyre is called a harlot city. The majority of times, Yahweh refers to Israel as a harlot, but that doesn't mean Israel is the harlot in Rev.

Isa 1:1 Isaiah has a vision of Judah and Jerusalem.

Isa 1:21 How the faithful city has become a harlot, She *who* was full of justice! Righteousness once lodged in her, But now murderers.

Jerusalem and Judah is a harlot and murderous. Vs 25 I will turn my hand against her...he is disciplining her as his children...that's different from judgment. I will purify her as gold. Even though you've been a harlot, I will restore her and you will be called the city of righteousness...with justice and righteousness. Isaiah says to rejoice for her, be glad for Jerusalem... the glory of the nations will stream to Jerusalem. In the age of the Messiah, the nations will go to Jerusalem.

Isa 1:27 Zion will be redeemed with justice And her repentant ones with righteousness.

Isa 1:28 But transgressors and sinners will be crushed together, And those who forsake the LORD will come to an end.

Ezek. 16: begins with the word of the Lord...tell Jerusalem how unfaithful she's been. Yahweh found Israel abandoned, an orphan. He took her in and loved her and adorned her. Lavished her with His extravagant love.

Eze 16:14 "Then your fame went forth among the nations on account of your beauty, for it was perfect because of My splendor which I bestowed on you," declares the Lord GOD.

Eze 16:15 "But you trusted in your beauty and played the harlot because of your fame, and you poured out your harlotries on every passer-by who might be *willing*.

Vs 60-63 Yahweh says: despite all of your unfaithfulness, I will remember your youth...I will remember that I betrothed myself to you at Mt Sinai. You will remember and be ashamed. I will forgive Israel and make a new everlasting covenant with her.

Hosea is the story of the Lord's unceasing persistence and grace. Yahweh will redeem Israel. Hosea is a picture of the Lord.

Hos 2:14 "Therefore, behold, I will allure her, Bring her into the wilderness And speak kindly to her.

Hos 2:15 "Then I will give her her vineyards from there, And the valley of Achor as a door of hope. And she will sing there as in the days of her youth, As in the day when she came up from the land of Egypt.

Hos 2:16 "It will come about in that day," declares the LORD, "That you will call Me Ishi (Husband) And will no longer call Me Baali (Master).

Hos 2:17 "For I will remove the names of the Baals from her mouth, So that they will be mentioned by their names no more.

Hos 2:18 "In that day I will also make a covenant for them With the beasts of the field, The birds of the sky And the creeping things of the ground. And I will abolish the bow, the sword and war from the land, And will make them lie down in safety.

Hos 2:19 "I will betroth you to Me forever; Yes, I will betroth you to Me in righteousness and in justice, In lovingkindness and in compassion,

Hos 2:20 And I will betroth you to Me in faithfulness. Then you will know the LORD.

Hos 2:21 "It will come about in that day that I will respond," declares the LORD. "I will respond to the heavens, and they will respond to the earth,

Hos 2:22 And the earth will respond to the grain, to the new wine and to the oil, And they will respond to Jezreel.

Hos 2:23 "I will sow her for Myself in the land. I will also have compassion on her who had not obtained compassion, And I will say to those who were not My people, 'You are My people!' And they will say, '*You are my God!*'"

Hosea, I want you to marry a harlot and I want you to love her and have children with her. But she will be unfaithful and will return to harlotry. Vs 14-17 Therefore, I will lead her into wilderness. In the last days, because of Israel's unfaithful, I will allure her and lead her into the wilderness.

That's what Rev 12:14 says...that 2 wings of an eagle were given to the woman (Israel) so she could fly into the wilderness. Joel 2:32 "And it will come about that whoever calls on the name of the LORD will be delivered; For on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there will be those who escape, as the LORD has said, even among the survivors whom the LORD calls.

What are the days of her youth? When the Lord betrothed himself to her as her husband. The Jews responded at Mt Sinai: "All He says, we will do." In the last days, after I lead you into the desert, in that day you will call me My husband...and I will remove the names of the gods from your mouth...Yahweh will show her mercy just as Hosea showed Gomer mercy and loved her and took her back after her harlotry. When Yeshua returns, we see one new man: Israel and the church together on Mt Zion ruling with the King.

Eph 2:14 For He Himself is our peace, who made both *groups into* one and broke down the barrier of the dividing wall, Eph 2:15 by abolishing in His flesh the enmity, *which is* the Law of commandments *contained* in ordinances, so that in Himself He might make the two into one new man, *thus* establishing peace,

We see the same story repeated in Rev. Israel was the former harlot who is redeemed from idolatry and saved. But there's a very different end for the Babylonian harlot. Israel will be restored. But the Babylonian system will be destroyed. (Rev 18). This evil system will cease to exist and will be a place of desolation forever (19:3).

Rev 13 The Antichrist

Moses introduces the antichrist and the scriptures progressively reveal him.

1. The antichrist is a very significant subject in scripture
2. Based on that, we need to understand why he's being raised up and why he's a central figure in end
3. So we know how to respond to his appearance that we might remain faithful and obedient.

Hitler was an antichrist. He wasn't the final antichrist. The one who is to come will far surpass Hitler. And when he comes on the scene, Matt 24, Yeshua said he will be the sign that tells us we are living in the last days.

Rev 13:1-10: The 2 main things the antichrist will target to be destroyed is your perseverance (*patience, persistence in doing something that is difficult or painful*), and faith.

The Second Beast Rev 13:11-18

The beast is granted authority. Satan isn't raising him up, Yahweh is. This is because of Yahweh's will, not against it. If He's granting authority to this beast to make war, to kill the saints, to do signs and wonders, to deceive the nations, to impose his own legislation...why is Yahweh enabling him, granting him authority? Deut. 13 helps answer those questions.

Deu 12:32 "Whatever I command you, you shall be careful to do; you shall not add to nor take away from it.

Deu 13:1 "If a prophet or a dreamer of dreams arises among you and gives you a sign or a wonder,

Deu 13:2 and the sign or the wonder comes true, concerning which he spoke to you, saying, 'Let us go after other gods (whom you have not known) and let us serve them,'

The false prophet will use signs and wonders to put pressure on the nations so they will worship the beast. Because Yahweh is testing them...

Deu 13:3 you shall not listen to the words of that prophet or that dreamer of dreams; for the LORD your God is testing you to find out if you love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

Deu 13:4 "You shall follow the LORD your God and fear Him; and you shall keep His commandments, listen to His voice, serve Him, and cling to Him.

Deu 13:5 "But that prophet or that dreamer of dreams shall be put to death, because he has counseled rebellion against the LORD your God who brought you from the land of Egypt and redeemed you from the house of slavery, to seduce you from the way in which the LORD your God commanded you to walk. So you shall purge the evil from among you.

Yahweh commands them to purge the evil from their midst. Vs 4 commands the Jews to follow Yahweh and keep his commandments, listen to His voice, serve Him and cling to Him. Yahweh did this to test His people, to make us into one who will obey Him, disregard the false signs and wonders and lay down our lives even unto death.

Pharaoh's magicians did signs and wonders and so did Moses. They will cause people to wonder and bow down. Like they did with Hitler. There was a deep allegiance and worship of Hitler. He didn't perform a sign or wonder. Imagine what will happen when a man arises on the world stage and operates in demonic lying signs and wonders.

2 Thess 2. Paul is writing to the church in Thessalonica. This is a new community of believers. They had asked Paul questions about the last days. He responds that he already told them all about it when he was with them. Heb. 9 says Yeshua came once for sin, but He's coming again for revenge, to bring all things together unto Him.

2Th 2:1 -2 Now we request you, brethren, with regard to the coming of our Lord Yeshua, the Christ and our gathering together to Him, that you not be quickly shaken from your composure or be disturbed either by a spirit or a message or a letter as if from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord has come.

2Th 2:3 Let no one in any way deceive you, for it will not come (*that day*) unless the apostasy (*turning away*) comes first, and the man of lawlessness (*antichrist*) is revealed, the son of destruction,

2Th 2:4 who opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of Yahweh, displaying himself as being Deity (*theos*).

2Th 2:5 Do you not remember that while I was still with you, I was telling you these things?

Yeshua will not come back until the rebellion comes first (the falling away) and the antichrist is revealed. Paul is referring to Deut 13 that says the false prophet will arise to lead the people into rebellion. If you had any question about pretribulation rapture, Paul and Deut 13 are clear that it will not happen until the Deut 13, 2 Thess. rebellion comes.

2 Thess 2:4 We are Yahweh's temple. The antichrist will be worshipped by most of the world. The Old and New testament states that the day of the Lord won't come until the temple in Jerusalem is rebuilt and a sacrificial system is operating. In Daniel chapters 9-12 says the sacrifices will cease. Moses says Yahweh raises up the antichrist to test his people. Paul says the day of the Lord won't come until Yahweh raises up a man who will come to Jerusalem and takes a seat in the temple and he will cause sacrifices to cease and the people of the nations will worship him.

2Th 2:6 And you know what restrains him now, so that in his time he will be revealed.

2Th 2:7 For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only he who now restrains *will do so* until he is taken out of the way.

Someone is restraining the antichrist from being revealed. Who doesn't want the revealing of the antichrist the most? Revelation says in several places there will be a war that breaks out in heaven and the dragon is kicked out along with his angels. Daniel 12 says there will be an angelic conflict that breaks out in the unseen realms and when it happens there will be a great war on the earth.

What we see here in Rev 12 is Satan being forcibly evicted from his place of authority and influence in heaven and cast to the earth. Who is restraining the revealing of the antichrist? Satan. Some churches teach that the church is restraining the antichrist. They teach that once the church is raptured then the antichrist is revealed. But this contradicts 2 Thess 2. The church will face the antichrist. If you don't die first, you will see the antichrist, which happens clearly at the 3.5 year mark.

Satan comes down in wrath because right now he enjoys a measure of freedom under Yahweh's sovereign rulership, but that all changes when he is cast out of heaven. Yahweh will force the demonic powers out of their positions of influence and authority and He will force them onto a global stage that will accomplish:

1. the ultimate destruction of the gods/powers of the air
2. the testing of the saints to purify us and make us ready for his coming
3. the testing of the nations of the earth and the separation of the sheep and goats. Goats will follow antichrist and the sheep will follow Yahweh

2Th 2:8 Then that lawless one will be revealed whom the Lord will slay with the breath of His mouth and bring to an end by the appearance of His coming; (*The coming of the antichrist is by the activity of satan with all power and signs and false wonders...*)

2Th 2:9 that is, the one whose coming is in accord with the activity of Satan, with all power and signs and false wonders,

2Th 2:10 and with all the deception of wickedness for those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth so as to be saved.

Same language of Deut 13 and Rev 13.

2Th 2:11 For this reason God will send upon them a deluding influence so that they will believe what is false,

2Th 2:12 in order that they all may be judged who did not believe the truth, but took pleasure in wickedness.

Yahweh raised the antichrist up to test the nations in order to separate them like wheat and chaff. Not just those who bowed their knee to Yeshua, but those who have not yet bowed to the Messiah. Yahweh raised the antichrist up and grants him

authority to operate with lying signs and wonders to deceive the nations. Preterism teaches that all of these events have already happened. That the antichrist was Nero or Hitler. The problem with this is Paul says Yeshua will kill the son of perdition, the antichrist.

Yahweh will raise him up and use him to test the nations and the church. And the redeemed will come out radiant, shining, pure, resolute, ready for his appearing. The testing is a prerequisite for the final testing of church and of Israel before the return of the Lord himself:

Begin.....

THE BEAST

Read Rev. 13

What does scripture say the Messiah will do when he returns?

Why would Yeshua come back to defend one group of people?

He made promises to Israel, His chosen people who are called to be a blessing to all nations of the earth. Ultimately, Yeshua's mission is for everyone, but there's an undeniable, unique promise that remains toward Israel.

(Homework: read Dan. 2, 7, 8 & 11) How do they relate to Rev 13? They form a more complete story when all put together.

Daniel 2:31-35 King Nebuchadnezzar has a dream of a massive metal statue. The majority of scholars interpret the statue as the head of gold is Babylon—(Nebuchadnezzar is the king of Babylon). But the bible says Nebuchadnezzar is the head of gold, not Babylon. You have the king and his kingdom and the bible describes them as one and the same. The statue describes a series of kingdoms that will replace/follow King Nebuchadnezzar. *- represents the kingdoms till the end of time*

The majority of Scholars teach that:

1. Head—Nebuchadnezzar/Babylon *- Cyrus*
2. Chest and arms of silver—Medo-Persia and Greece *Belly/Thigh-Brone Alexander the Great*
3. Legs—Rome
4. Feet—are made of a mixture of iron and clay—a last days Roman empire? *(I'm not convinced that it's the roman empire...maybe it is. But I'm not sure.) - a symbol of the antichrist's kingdom*

Another possibility as to the feet, which represent the antichrist—perhaps, it's the Islamic kingdom of Syria—a combining of Muslim nations. In the 3rd century, the church leaders declared the antichrist would emerge from Syria. Not from the Roman empire.

Which matches bible prophecy the most—The Roman empire or the middle eastern Islamic kingdom of Syria? When Yeshua returns, He will destroy the feet—the antichrist and his kingdom. So, we can ask ourselves—What nations get destroyed when Yeshua returns? It's clear in scriptures—Yeshua will destroy Babylon, Medo-Persia and Greece all at the same time, which I believe is the feet of clay.

Dan 2:40 "Then there will be a fourth kingdom as strong as iron; inasmuch as iron crushes and shatters all things, so, like iron that breaks in pieces, it will crush and break all these in pieces.

Dan 2:41 "In that you saw the feet and toes, partly of potter's clay and partly of iron, it will be a divided kingdom; but it will have in it the toughness of iron, inasmuch as you saw the iron mixed with common clay.

2 Clear Statements in that passage:

1. When the 4th kingdom rises, it will crush all the other kingdoms
2. It will be a divided kingdom

We can use this criteria and ask ourselves:

Did the Roman empire crush Babylon, medo-Persia and Greece? *No*

Did Islamic kingdom crush Babylon, Medo Persia and Greece? *Yes (Cyrus)*

If the Roman empire was fully revived and Yeshua returned and destroyed it, would Babylon, Medo-Persia and Greece be destroyed all at the same time?

Nebuchadnezzar was the ruler of Babylon/Mesopotamia/Middle east. What kingdom came and replaced his? The Medo-Persian empire—it conquered the whole Middle east. Then, Alexandria the Great conquered it, which is the Greek empire. The next was the Roman empire and everything shifted to the west and into Europe. But the Roman empire wasn't able to completely conquer Babylon. Rome isn't a middle eastern empire that reached into the Middle east. The Roman empire extended down into Babylon and reached the ruins of Babylon. When Alexandria died, the Romans withdrew and it returned to the Persians. For a very brief time, the Romans came into Babylon, but pulled back. The Roman empire could never go

further than the Euphrates—it was too much. So, who conquered and crushed this region? The Roman empire or the Islamic empire?

Islam crushed and conquered all the others. The final kingdom, the 4th kingdom (the feet) is described as being a kingdom that will be revived. Rome wasn't successful in conquering the middle east. Rome would come and when they crushed people they built roads and structures etc. They spoke Greek. Islam enforced Arabic culture. The crushing force of Islam spread throughout the Middle east and today they speak Arabic. During Yeshua's day, Rome ruled Israel and they allowed the Jews to worship in the temple. But Islam, when it spread out, it didn't build roads. It destroyed the cities and took men and women as slaves. It matches this description of crushing and destroying.

Dan 7:1 -7

Daniel 7 is a vision with 4 Beasts or 4 Kingdoms:

1. Babylon is the lion with wings of an eagle
2. Medo Persia is the bear
3. Greece is the 4 headed leopard with 4 bird wings
4. A dreadful, terrifying and extremely strong beast with large iron teeth arises. It devoured, crushed and trampled down the remainder with its feet. It was different from all the other beasts and out of him comes 10 horns.

Those horns are the feet of iron and clay in Dan 2. The 4 kingdoms correlate to the 4 segments of the metallic statue.

Dan 7:8 "While I was contemplating the horns, behold, another horn, a little one, came up among them, and three of the first horns were pulled out by the roots before it; and behold, this horn possessed eyes like the eyes of a man and a mouth uttering great *boasts*.

This little horn is the antichrist. Out of the beast's kingdom will come 10 kings.

Dan 7:23 -28

Dan 8:9-12 (This is the same beast/antichrist in Dan 7.)

2Th 2:1 -4 Paul is almost quoting Dan 11. The antichrist is saying that he's superior to the God of Israel. He mocks Yahweh,

John 16:2 the day is coming when people will kill you because they do not know the Father or the Son. Because they don't know the Father and the Son, they deny them (*deny: refuse to admit the truth or existence of the truth*).

If you deny the Son, you don't have the Father. Israel is in that predicament now. They've denied Yeshua. In Dan. 11, the antichrist shows no regard for Yahweh. He denies Him.

THE KINDNESS OF YAHWEH:

Luk 22:61 -62

Mar 16:7

Joh 21:11-17

Daniel 11 the antichrist shows no regard for Yahweh.

Rev 12 a great red dragon...it's a serpent. Has 7 heads and 10 horns and 7 crowns. That's describing Satan.

Rev 13:1-3 the dragon...the beast came out of the sea (a sea of people/the nations).

The Beast is a mirror image of Satan. In Rev 17, it calls the beast a scarlet beast just like his father, Satan. He is described to be like a leopard, have the feet of a bear and the mouth of lion.

The key to understanding this beast is to recognize the same thing we saw in Dan 2 & 7—and that is that this is the final kingdom of the antichrist who has the feet of iron and clay. He has 10 horns and comes up out of the 4th beast, which is a combination of a leopard, bear and lion.

If we want to understand the beast, we must read Dan 7, Rev 13 & 17. The beast is a combination of a bear, leopard and lion and is scarlet (Rev 17:3).

Rev 13: 5-8

The antichrist was given a mouth, a voice, a platform (saw this in Dan 7, 8 and 11). There are 2 ways to blaspheme Yahweh:

1. proclaiming yourself to be god.
2. to speak out against God.

The Antichrist doesn't claim to be Yahweh but He speaks against him, against his tabernacle and against those living in heaven. The antichrist has his own god.

Vs 7 It was given to him to make war...repeating what was said in Daniel 7 & 11. The antichrist will have a massive domain.

The beast in Rev 17:7-11 Kings and kingdoms go together. We saw that with king Nebuchadnezzar and Babylon. The Beast which was and is not is going to come is also the 8th king. For a short time...Yahweh will give the beast permission/power to rule on the earth.

So let's look at the traditional view:

The 7 heads/kingdoms:

1. Egypt tried destroyed Israel
2. Syria tried to destroy the northern kingdom of Israel
3. Babylonian kingdom tried to destroy the southern kingdom of Israel
4. Medo persian kingdom/Hamon Tried to Destroy Israel by killing all the Jews.
5. Greece tried to destroy Israel

5 kingdoms had tried to destroy the Jews by the time the book of Revelation was written.

6. Rome tried to destroy Israel.
7. has not yet come—I believe that's the Islamic kingdom. The focus will be on the antichrist. Daniel 2 describes legs of iron—it's one kingdom with 2 different segments. I believe it will be a revived kingdom of Islam. The nations around Israel. There will be other nations involved, possibly. But the prophets describe the nations around Israel and Islam at the end of the age conquering Israel...Dan 2, 7, 8 and 11 and Rev 12 & 13 are telling the same story.

Review of Rev 12-14

(Rev 12: woman gives birth to a male child)

(Rev 13: 2 beasts arrive—one is a political figure and the other a religious leader)

Rev 14

trumpets

If we were to follow the ~~timeline~~, chapters 12-14 would come between the 6th & 7th bowls. I believe 12-14 occur before the 7 bowls of wrath are poured out. I believe the 6 seals and 6 trumpets are over at this point. Evil powers will gain a tighter grip on society than they ever had before...yet, their hold will be broken soon.

In this section, we see 3 people who form an alliance to rule the world. One is Satan—the great dragon, the ancient serpent (12:9). The other 2 are human in origin and nature, but are also beasts. One is the antichrist (1 John 2:18; 2 Thess 2:3). The other is the false prophet (Rev 16:13; 19:20; 20:10). Together, they form a kind of unholy trinity and mock the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Satan is introduced into the story for the first time since he was mentioned in the letters to the 7 churches in Rev 2 and 3. Seals and trumpets have already been released onto the earth, while Satan has been in heaven (Eph 6:12; Job 1:6-7), Eph 6:12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual *forces* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*.

Job 1:6-7 Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them. The LORD said to Satan, "From where do you come?" Then Satan answered the LORD and said, "From roaming about on the earth and walking around on it."

Satan will be hurled down to the earth.

Rev 12:7-9 And there was war in heaven, Michael and his angels waging war with the dragon. The dragon and his angels waged war, and they were not strong enough, and there was no longer a place found for them in heaven. And the great dragon was thrown down, the serpent of old who is called the devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.

Later, Satan will again be defeated and locked up for 1,000 years. then released for the final battle. Yeshua will defeat him and he will be thrown in the abyss (20:9-10).

The other major figure in chapter 12 is the pregnant woman. She gives birth to a male child who is snatched up to heaven. This child will rule the nations with an iron scepter.

Rev 19:15 (in fulfillment of Ps 2:9) says Yeshua will rule the nations with an iron scepter. But it is also promised to his faithful followers in Rev 2:27.

The woman is then preserved alive in the desert for 1,260 day (12:6). I see this woman as the end-times church/the remnant...in the wilderness. I believe her child represents those who are martyred. They will return to the earth to rule one day with Christ (20:4). They obey Yahweh's commandments and hold to the testimony of Yeshua (12:17; 1:9; 14:12).

The 2 beasts arrive on the scene in chapter 13. The first is a political leader. He is the antichrist. He will be a counterfeit. He is called a man of lawlessness in 2 Thess 2:3-4. He will refuse to acknowledge any law greater than his own and will claim that he is god and demand to be worshipped.

The first beast is promoted by the second beast, a religious colleague with supernatural power who focuses the world to worship the antichrist. His miracles will deceive the nations as he commands fire to fall down from the sky and images of the dictator to speak. His appearance will be like a lamb, a young sheep with only 2 horns.

The antichrist's area of domination will be in the economic markets. Everyone will be offered a mark on their hand or forehead in order to buy or sell. And the only way to get this mark is to worship the beast. As a result, many Jews and Christians will be excluded from being able to buy or sell.

THE FATAL HEAD WOUND OF THE BEAST

Rev 13 The First Beast

Rev 13:1 And the dragon stood on the sand of the seashore. Then I saw a beast coming up out of the sea, having ten horns and seven heads, and on his horns *were* ten diadems, and on his heads *were* blasphemous names.

Rev 13:2 And the beast which I saw was like a leopard, and his feet were like *those* of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. And the dragon gave him his power and his throne and great authority.

Rev 13:3 *I saw* one of his heads as if it had been slain, and his fatal wound was healed. And the whole earth was amazed *and followed* after the beast;

Rev 13:4 they worshiped the dragon because he gave his authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who is like the beast, and who is able to wage war with him?"

The primary interpretation is the view that the antichrist, the man, Satan's human puppet will be killed. And he will be resurrected from the dead. He will imitate Christ. The whole earth will be amazed and worship him. Other interpretations: One of the heads of the beast...the head isn't literal, but symbolic of the empire that the antichrist is ruling. The empire will die and will be revived. Or it could be both.

To understand: Rev 17:8 "The beast that you saw was, and is not, (*it existed but it no longer exists*) and is about to come up out of the abyss and go to destruction (*he was and he's not, but he's coming back. John is seeing this in the first century. Is it in John's day or is he looking into the future?*) And those who dwell on the earth, whose name has not been written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, will wonder when they see the beast, that he was and is not and will come. (*Rev 13 says all the earth will worship Satan and the beast. The word worship here can mean to bow down before*).

Rev 17:9 "Here is the mind which has wisdom. (*Pay attention and use wisdom here*) The seven heads are seven mountains (*mts often refer to kingdoms in bible*) on which the woman sits,

Rev 17:10 and they are seven kings (*kings/kingdoms go together*); five have fallen in the past.

What were the 5 kingdoms that tried to wipe out Israel and had fallen?

1. Egypt
2. Assyria carried away the northern kingdom,
3. Babylon conquered the southern kingdom,
4. Medo-Persia
5. Greece.

Vs 10 and they are seven kings (*kings/kingdoms go together*); five have fallen in the past (*this had already happened*). One is, (*which kingdom during the time of John sought to destroy Israel? The Roman empire*), the other has not yet come (*there's one more that is to come*); and when he comes (*now it's 'he' and not 'it'*), he must remain a little while.

Vs 10 focuses on the person ruling the kingdom, the antichrist. Another indicator of what John is talking about is found in Isa 26 says, "Come, my people, hide yourself in inner rooms for a little while. The serpent is cast down in wrath because his time is short..."

This is the final 3.5 years. It's just a short time. In the big picture, it's nothing.

Rev 17:11 "The beast which was and is not, is himself also an eighth (*after Rome there is something to come that has 2 segments or 2 parts and it's one of the 7*) and is one of the seven, and he goes to destruction. (*He comes out of the abyss and will go back to the abyss*)

Rev 17:12 "The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have not yet received a kingdom, but they receive authority as kings with the beast for one hour.

Daniel Interprets the Dream

Dan 2:31 "You, O king, were looking and behold, there was a single great statue; that statue, which was large and of extraordinary splendor, was standing in front of you, and its appearance was awesome.

Dan 2:32 "The head of that statue *was made* of fine gold, its breast and its arms of silver, its belly and its thighs of bronze,

Dan 2:33 its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay.

Dan 2:34 "You continued looking until a stone was cut out without hands, and it struck the statue on its feet of iron and clay and crushed them.

Dan 2:35 "Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver and the gold were crushed **all at the same time** and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them away so that not a trace of them was found. But the stone that struck the statue became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.

Head is Nebuchadnezzar/Babylon

Next is Medo-Persia,

Greece...they ruled Babylon

Last—the Islamic kingdom—it's Syria—Muslim nations.

Dan 2:36 "This *was* the dream; now we will tell its interpretation before the king.

Dan 2:37 "You, O king, are the king of kings, to whom the God of heaven has given the kingdom, the power, the strength and the glory;

Dan 2:38 and wherever the sons of men dwell, or the beasts of the field, or the birds of the sky, He has given them into your hand and has caused you to rule over them all. You are the head of gold (*Daniel didn't say the kingdom is the head...but Nebuchadnezzar is.*)

Dan 7:22 until the Ancient of Days came and judgment was passed in favor of the saints of the Highest One, and the time arrived when the saints took possession of the kingdom.

Dan 7:23 "Thus he said: 'The fourth beast will be a fourth kingdom on the earth, which will be different from all the *other* kingdoms and will devour the whole earth and tread it down and crush it.

The 4th beast will be the 4th kingdom on the earth. The 4th beast, the antichrist, will devour the whole earth...tread it down and crush it. That could be the whole middle east or beyond or every nation on the earth. In the same way, in Dan 2, the legs and feet of iron and clay are seen as the 4th kingdom. Dan 2:33 its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay.

One is made of just iron, but the other is iron and clay. 4th and 5th go together. The feet aren't called the 5th kingdom. They are clearly separate...yes a 5th but not. One kingdom with 2 segments. This is exactly the same as Dan 2. The statue is portrayed as one image, but there is a separation between each kingdom.

Dan 7:24 'As for the ten horns, out of this kingdom ten kings will arise (*the empire of the antichrist*); and another will arise after them, and he (*the antichrist*) will be different from the previous ones and will subdue three kings.

In Dan 7, you have the beast itself, which is the 4th kingdom, but the 10 horns that come up out of the beast represent the last days kingdom of the antichrist.

Dan 7:25 'He will speak out against the Most High and wear down the saints of the Highest One, and he will intend to make alterations in times and in law; and they will be given into his hand for a time, times, and half a time.

Daniel's Vision of the Four Beasts

Dan 7:1 -8

2Th 2:8 -10 Then that lawless one will be revealed whom the Lord will slay with the breath of His mouth and bring to an end by the appearance of His coming; *that is*, the one whose coming is in accord with the activity of Satan, with all power and signs and false wonders, and with all the deception of wickedness for those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth so as to be saved.

Satan can't do real miracles. That's why I don't believe the antichrist will die and then be resurrected.. Only Yahweh can raise the dead. This is a symbol of Pharaoh and his magicians. The protection from deception is to love the truth...

2Th 2:11 For this reason God will send upon them a deluding influence so that they will believe what is false, (Yahweh will send delusion to those who allow themselves to be deluded. It may appear that he dies, but it may simply just appear that way. Paul or Yeshua neither mention that there will be a fake resurrection...we don't know)

2Th 2:12 in order that they all may be judged who did not believe the truth, but took pleasure in wickedness.

Now back to Rev 13:1-4

One of its heads appeared as though slaughtered to death...this empire appears to be slain and comes back to life...Dan 2 & Dan 7 and its legs of iron and a later revived empire of iron and clay.

Rev 13 describes Dan 2 & 7. A revival of this empire---multiple nations coming together. Turkey has a massive military. Iran too. Pakistan has nuclear warheads. If they were to come together...

This mortal head wound and resurrection may be referring to the last days revival of the empire. But it could be a literal, fake resurrection. It's possible that it may be both.

Same thing in Rev 17 those who dwell on the earth...they will be amazed and wonder when they see this mighty army revived...some will be in fear and trembling. Rev 17:8 The beast that you saw was, and is not, and is going to come up from the abyss, and he is going to destruction. And those who live on the earth, whose names are not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, will be astonished *when they* see the beast that was, and is not, and will be present.

I believe there will be a revival of the Islamic empire. In 1923, the Islamic leader felt like Islam was holding the nation back so, after 1300 years, he "beheaded/cut-off/ended" the office of the Ottoman empire and created the Republic of Turkey. The president of Turkey has been in power a long time, but presently there's a cry for the revival of Turkish nationalism and of Islam. I suspect this is the kingdom that will be revived....the final kingdom that will be ruled by the antichrist. 10 kings will come under the authority of the antichrist.

Rev 13:9 If anyone has an ear, let him hear.

Rev 13:10 If anyone *is destined* for captivity, to captivity he goes; if anyone kills with the sword, with the sword he must be killed. Here is the perseverance and the faith of the saints.

What John is telling us that there is a design for an end time suffering, devastation, and testing that's required for Yahweh's purpose at the end of the age.

The Second Beast

Rev 13:11 Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb and he spoke as a dragon.

Rev 13:12 He exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence. And he makes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose fatal wound was healed.

Rev 13:13 He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down out of heaven to the earth in the presence of men.

Rev 13:14 And he deceives those who dwell on the earth because of the signs which it was given him to perform in the presence of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who **had* the wound of the sword and has come to life.

Rev 13:15 And it was given to him to give breath to the image of the beast, so that the image of the beast would even speak and cause as many as do not worship the image of the beast to be killed.

Rev 13:16 And he causes all, the small and the great, and the rich and the poor, and the free men and the slaves, to be given a mark on their right hand or on their forehead,

Rev 13:17 and *he provides* that no one will be able to buy or to sell, except the one who has the mark, *either* the name of the beast or the number of his name.

Rev 13:18 Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for the number is that of a man; and his number is six hundred and sixty-six.

Dan 11 describes the antichrist attacking Egypt, Jerusalem, Saudi Arabia and other countries. They are at war with him. Everyone else loves him and even worships him. People will join him to save their lives while others will fight against him. We will face the global dynamics that are a result of his rulership.

Yahweh's priorities never change. His priority has always been and always will be this one thing: love him with all your heart, mind and heart....1st commandment. The tribulation is designed by Yahweh to prepare and make us a covenant partner for the Son and his Father. It will prepare a bride for the Son. The kingdom of heaven is this—Yahweh's preparing a bride and a kingdom.

What's the priority of your life today? The First commandment...How does that look in your everyday life? How should we live every day in light of the possibility that the antichrist could rule in your lifetime?

1Pe 4:7 Now the end of all *things* draws near. Therefore (in light of that), **be** (not do) self-controlled and sober-minded for *your* prayers.

1Pe 4:8 Above all, keep your love for one another constant, because love covers a large number of sins.

1Pe 4:9 *Be* hospitable to one another without complaining.

1Pe 4:10 Just as each one has received a gift, *use* it for serving one another, as good stewards of the varied grace of God.

1Pe 4:11 If anyone speaks, *let it be* as the oracles of God; if anyone serves, *let it be* as by the strength that God provides, so that in all *things* God will be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom is the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen.

Be sober minded....if you are drunk or high on a substance...your mind is disconnected with reality. Peter tells us to be sober-minded. Be aware of reality, aware of what is truth and what is fiction. Peter says be self-controlled and sober minded—the point is are you living in reality or have you embraced a distorted reality? True prayers are relational in nature. They are based on your relationship between you and your Maker. Fight for a tender heart. Don't let your love grow cold. Get to know Yahweh...face to face. That's the point of prayer.

1 Thess 5:17, Paul said pray without ceasing... In other words, your life is to be prayer.

1 Peter 4:8 Keep loving. Love covers a multitude of sins. Keep loving Yahweh and keep loving others. Keep the flame of love burning. Cover a multitude of sins with your love. You can endure suffering, rejection, slander, loss, betrayal, if you have love ruling and reigning in your heart. Is the flame of love burning so brightly in you that you love those who hurt you?

Vs 9 show hospitality without grumbling. The end is at hand...what do we do? Peter says open up your home. Peter says when the antichrist comes on the scene, we are to open our homes and be hospitable. And do it without grumbling. You will lose your reward if you complain.

All good gifts come from the Father. Peter goes on to say that we are to use the gifts we've been given to serve one another. We are to be good stewards of Yahweh's grace. We serve by the strength that Yahweh supplies so that he will be glorified.

We are to: I Peter 4 tells us what it looks like to live in light of the antichrist:

Self-controlled

Sober minded (live in reality)

Make prayer my life

Love one another constantly

Cover sins with love

Be hospitable without complaining

Use your Yahweh-given gifts to serve one another

Speak the words of Yahweh

Serve not in your own strength but in the strength Yahweh gives so that He is glorified!

The Second Beast

Rev 13:11 Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth; *(first we saw the dragon sitting on the seashore chapter 12. Then out of the sea comes a 10 horned beast. The beast reflects the dragon. Then we have another beast that comes up out of the earth. Dan 7 beasts are empires, but in Rev, yes it's an empire but it zeroes in on the leader of the empire. So this beast is sometimes the empire and sometimes the leader. Another beast...is this another empire? No. This is a person)* and he had two horns like a lamb (ram) and he spoke as a dragon (Satan, the serpent).

Rev 19:19 And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies assembled to make war with the one who is seated on the horse and with his army. *(Yeshua and his army. Somehow the beast believes he can make war against Yeshua and win.)*

Rev 19:20 And the beast was seized, and with him the false prophet who performed the signs before him, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who had worshiped his image. *(the beast and false prophet are taken captive. The false prophet is a person).* The two were thrown alive into the lake of fire that burns with sulphur.

Rev 19:21 And the rest were killed by the sword of the one who is seated on the horse—the sword that comes out of his mouth—and all the birds gorged themselves on their flesh.

John sees this individual and he appears as a ram *(Yeshua is the ram that was slain)*. In 5:6, how does it describe Yeshua? John sees someone who looks like a slaughtered ram, yet he's standing and alive before the throne. He was slaughtered, but he's alive. He had 7 horns, 7 eyes....Yeshua is portrayed as a ram with horns. The false prophet is also disguised as a ram with 2 horns. Inwardly, he has the mouth of the dragon. He's speaking on behalf of Satan.

Yeshua warned in Matt 7:15...

Mat 7:15 "Beware of false prophets who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inside are ravenous wolves.

Yeshua warns all Christians to be on guard against false prophets. Outwardly, the antichrist and false prophet appear to be a lamb, but that's not what they are. Inwardly, they are wolves.

There are 3 figures in Rev 12 & 13:

Dragon—Satan who is filled with jealousy. He wants to sit on Yahweh's throne. He wants to be worshiped.

Beast—parallels the Son

False prophet—represents the H Sp.

A false Trinity. His deceptions are candy coated. Here's something that will make you sick and kill you, but he covers it with sugar.

Now vs 12 describes the false prophet's ministry at the end of the age:

Rev 13:12 He exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence. *(he functions on behalf of the first beast. He compels the earth to worship the first beast. In the Greek, the word worship means in a broad sense to bow down before, to serve. All who live in the earth will serve, bow down to the beast).* And he makes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose fatal wound was healed.

Rev 13:13 He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down out of heaven to the earth in the presence of men. (*pretty significant signs... great deceptive signs*)

Rev 13:14 And he deceives those who dwell on the earth because of the signs which it was given him to perform in the presence of the beast, (*Yahweh allows him to perform the false signs/miracles*) telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who *had the wound of the sword and has come to life.

The fatal head wound—is this the antichrist or is it the empire or both? This term seems to be saying the individual will suffer a fatal head wound. Imitating Christ's death and resurrection. As we compare the first and second beast, the antichrist beast is more of political military leader while the false prophet seems to be the religious leader. It's possible that the antichrist will also be religious too. The false prophet will force the people to take the mark and bow down before antichrist.

The antichrist may outwardly embrace Islam or he could be a combination of many religions. Possibly the antichrist is a mid-eastern Muslim leader. The false prophet may be a Jewish leader or Christian leader. Or Both may be Muslim. We need to be open to different possibilities so we aren't taken by surprise. Islam has the belief that Yeshua (Jesus) will come back in the last days and will point to the real Messiah who is to come.

Mat 24:11 and many false prophets will appear and will deceive many,

Mat 24:24 For false messiahs and false prophets will appear, and will produce great signs and wonders in order to deceive, if possible, even the elect.

2Pe 2:1 But there were also false prophets among the people, as there will be false teachers among you also, who will bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, *thus* bringing on themselves swift destruction.

1Jn 4:1 Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits *to determine* if they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world.

The false prophet could be Jewish. In the first century, there were Jews who believed that in the last days there will be a leader who rises up within Israel who would assist the antichrist. This was commonly taught and believed in Israel in the early church. Scriptures really emphasize the false prophet as doing signs and wonders, setting up the mark of the beast and the image of the beast and deceiving the world.

2 Thess 2:1-12

Joh 7:16 -17 So Yeshua answered them and said, "My teaching is not mine, but *is* from the one who sent me. If anyone wants to do his will, he will know about my teaching, whether it is from Yahweh or I am speaking from myself.

Yeshua says a person's ability to identify with truth is contingent on whether he/she is willing to do His will. What are we called to say yes to?

Joh 16:33 "These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world."

We are called to suffer. The question is: will we follow Yeshua until the end? That's what matters. Not about being perfect. We are to be like little children, if we are to enter into the kingdom of heaven. It's more like being a baby. Dirty diapers. Take care of me, feed me, hug me, entertain me. Meet all my needs on demand! Then we grow up and we learn to go to the bathroom by ourselves, we learn to feed ourselves, etc. We keep learning and growing and becoming more responsible. All along that journey, we make a lot of messes—at every age. The messes aren't the problem. Not really. The problem is we expect ourselves to be perfect and likeable and our own hero.

Being a Christian is so much better than being a drug addict or thief or famous—your life will be much better, but that's not what following Yeshua is really about. It's about embracing the cross every day, laying down your life and following Yeshua day after day, year after year. Following Yeshua is really hard because it's meant to be to the end. A lot of people can make a quick run, but not a lot of people can run a marathon. Following Yeshua is a marathon. It means being able to suffer and follow Yeshua for a very long time even when it's difficult and you want to quit and you want to stop and rest.

What does it mean to follow Yeshua? How do we avoid being deceived? How do we know the will of the Father?

Luk 14:25 Now large crowds were going along with him, and he turned around *and* said to them,

Luk 14:26 "If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, and furthermore, even his own life, he cannot be my disciple.

Luk 14:27 Whoever does not carry his own cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.