

A Big Picture Overview of Revelation

I had always been taught that Yeshua (“J-sus”) would be on earth in bodily form during the final thousand years of earth’s history (also called the *millennium*). However, in 2002, Yahweh began showing me some passages that seem to indicate that in the millennium, Israel’s leaders will be human (and cannot be Yeshua). For example, the “prince” of Ezekiel’s temple will prepare a bull for all the people of the land, and for himself.

Yehezqel (Ezekiel) 45:22

22 And on that day the prince shall prepare for himself and for all the people of the land a bull for a sin offering.

Yeshua was without sin, so this cannot be Yeshua. It also seems impossible that Yeshua can be physically present during that time, because at one level, Yeshua is Yahweh, and Yahweh will not share His glory with any mortal man.

Yeshayahu (Isaiah) 42:8-9

8 I am Yahweh, that is My name; And My glory I will not give to another, Nor My praise to carved images.

Also, the prince of Ezekiel’s temple will have sons.

Yehezqel (Ezekiel) 46:16

16 'Thus says Yahweh Elohim: "If the prince gives a gift of some of his inheritance to any of his sons, it shall belong to his sons; it is their possession by inheritance.

Does it make sense that a sinless, immortal Yeshua will take an earthly wife, bear earthly sons, and offer sin sacrifices for Himself? And if not, then who is the prince mentioned in Ezekiel?

Another issue was that Yeshua ascended to heaven in the clouds, and Scripture tells us that He will return in the same manner as He left.

Ma’asei (Acts) 1:9-11

9 Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight.

10 And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel,

11 who also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Yeshua, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven."

So if Yeshua comes back down in the clouds, then who is this “David their king,” whom Yahweh will raise up?

Yirmeyahu (Jeremiah) 30:7-10

7 "Alas! For that day is great, So that none is like it; And it is the time of Jacob's trouble, But he shall be saved out of it.

8 'For it shall come to pass in that day,' Says Yahweh of hosts, 'That I will break his yoke from your neck, And will burst your bonds; Foreigners shall no more enslave them.

9 But they shall serve Yahweh their Elohim, And David their king, whom I will raise up for them."

Further, if Yeshua comes back down in the clouds, then who is Israel's "leader" who comes "from among them"? And who is Israel's "governor" who comes "from their midst"?

Yirmeyahu (Jeremiah) 30:21-22

21 "Their leader shall be from among them, And their governor shall come from their midst; Then I will cause him to draw near, And he shall approach Me; For who is this who pledged his heart to approach Me?" says Yahweh.

These cannot be Yeshua, because Yeshua will return in the clouds.

Also, who is it that Hoshea 1:11 tells us the two houses will "appoint" as their leader?

Hoshea (Hosea) 1:11-2:1

11 Then the children of Judah and the children of Israel Shall be gathered together, and appoint for themselves one head; And they shall come up out of the land, for great will be the day of Jezre'el!

The Hebrew term for "appoint" is "sim" (put). So when the two houses "put" a single leader for themselves, it speaks of an election. However, they cannot appoint the Conquering King, because when He returns in the clouds, He will not care about man's election.

Now let us consider how Psalms 2 tells us that Yahweh will give Yeshua a rod of iron, with which to rule over the nations, and dash them to pieces.

Tehillim (Psalms) 2:7-9

7 "I will declare the decree: Yahweh has said to Me, 'You are My Son, Today I have begotten You.

8 Ask of Me, and I will give You The nations for Your inheritance, And the ends of the earth for Your possession.

9 You shall break them with a rod of iron; You shall dash them to pieces like a potter's vessel."

However, in Revelation 2:26-27, Yeshua tells us that He will give this same rod of iron to His body (Israel) here on earth, so that Israel can dash the nations to pieces for Him, in His stead (as His body).

Hitgalut (Revelation) 2:26-27

26 And he who overcomes (i.e., Israel), and keeps My works until the end, to him I will give power over the nations —

27 'He shall rule them with a rod of iron; They shall be dashed to pieces like the potter's vessels' — as I also have received from My Father;

It should not surprise us that Yeshua will have His body rule and reign for Him. It is common practice for kings to have others do the work, and yet the glory goes to them. For example, Yahweh said He would destroy Amalek.

Shemote (Exodus) 17:14-15

14 Then Yahweh said to Moshe, "Write this for a memorial in the book and recount it in the hearing of Joshua, that I will utterly blot out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven."

However, Yahweh then commanded His body/army (Israel) to go and blot out Amalek.

Devarim (Deuteronomy) 25:19

19 "Therefore it shall be, when Yahweh your Elohim has given you rest from your enemies all around, in the land which Yahweh your Elohim is giving you to possess as an inheritance, that you will blot out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven. You shall not forget."

So who smote Amalek? Yahweh did, but He used His army Israel to do it. This is just the same way as how Daniel tells us that when Babylon falls, the kingdom and dominion will be given to the people, the saints of the Most High (i.e., Yeshua's body). Yet though the kingdom shall be given to the saints, all dominions shall serve and obey Him (i.e., the Most High).

Daniel 7:27

27 Then the kingdom and dominion, And the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven, Shall be given to the people, the saints of the Most High. His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, And all dominions shall serve and obey Him.'

One common question is how the saints will rule and reign for a thousand years, with Yeshua.

Hitgalut (Revelation) 20:4-6

4 And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Yeshua and for

the word of Elohim, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Messiah for a thousand years.

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

6 Blessed and set-apart is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of Elohim and of Messiah, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.

As we will show later, this ruling and reigning takes place in the throne room in heaven, while those who are left on earth go through the ingathering, and live out their lives in the millennium.

There is a timeline in Revelation, which is depicted in the charts above. The general sequence of events progresses from the seals, to the trumpets, to the cups (bowls), to Armageddon, to the Ingathering, to the millennium, to the second war of Gog and Magog. This can be difficult to see by reading Revelation, as there are also events that are inset into (or overlaid on) the timeline. These *insets* do not pertain to the chronology, but give us more information about background events (such as what happened in the first century), as well as giving us more detail on the cast of characters (i.e., the beasts, Mystery Babylon, et al).

We will deal with the insets/overlays in the pages of this study. However, just to give a general overview, the timeline sequence (i.e., the "storyline") progresses in the following sequence:

1. **Seals 1-4.** Seals 1-4 release forces that interact with each other, “setting the stage” for the rest of the story. A different colored “horse” is released at each of the seals. In our understanding, these “horses” represent:
 White horse: Christianity
 Red horse: Marxism/Communism/Democracy
 Black horse: Banking and central bank control
 Green horse: Islam and Islamic terror.
2. **Seal 5** is where we are today (2012). The saints who have died in the past sit under Yahweh’s throne, and ask for vindication. They are told to wait until the “great multitude in white” will be killed, as they were. We are presently seeing the groundwork get laid for the nuclear incident in the Middle East that will be seal 6.
3. **Seal 6** seems to be a nuclear crisis in the Middle East. This serves as the catalyst for the New World Order to come together. At seal 6 we expect the UN to give Jerusalem to the papacy, such that the pope builds an “interfaith temple” in which Christians, Muslims and Jews can all worship together, and the “outer court” is given to the gentiles. The hope will be that by creating such an “interfaith temple,” future nuclear wars can be avoided.
4. **Sealing of the 144,000.** There are 144,000 who will be protected from the time of trial that comes upon the whole earth. Some draw parallels to the assembly of Philadelphia, which is also protected, because of its brotherly love.
5. **Seal 7** will usher in a “1/2 hour of silence” in heaven. Using the principle of 1 day for 1,000 years, this equates to 20.6 years. This would allow a new generation of children to grow up with the idea that having the pope on the temple mount is “normal,” and leads to world peace.

6. **The trumpets** are the great tribulation (per se). This time is expected to last for 7 years.
7. **Jacob’s trouble** is the last 3.5 years of the tribulation period. As we will see, this is when the daily sacrifice in the interfaith temple is taken away, and the abomination of desolation is set up. At this point, the persecution of the faithful begins in earnest, and those who do not accept the mark of the beast (i.e., the new UN religion) will be killed. As we will see, the tribulation and the time of Jacob’s trouble will be global, but we expect the tribulation to be even more intense inside the land of Israel. If there has been an “early ingathering,” or if there are any believers living in the land, they should leave the land at this point (e.g., Matthew 24:15).
8. **Trumpet 7** comes at the end of the tribulation. This is when Babylon falls in the heavenly realm, and the saints begin to establish Yahweh’s kingdom. This will take some time to walk out.
9. **The cup/bowl judgments** last perhaps 30 days. Because these are judgments, this is a time of intense devastation affecting the whole world. However, we expect the devastation to be worse inside the land of Israel, than outside of it.
10. **Armageddon** takes place perhaps 45 days after the cup judgments (and 75 days after trumpet 7). As we will see, this is also the first war of Gog and Magog (Gog 1, Ezekiel 39). While it might sound un-intuitive, we will see that this is also wedding feast (Hosea 2:14-23). This is when Yeshua returns in the clouds (Rev 19:11).
11. **The Harpazo/Rapture.** As we will see, there has already been one harpazo/rapture (back in the first century), and there will be at least three more. These are not visible events, because only those who sleep are raptured.

Here are the harpazo/rapture events that we know of at this point:

Rapture #1, first century, Matthew 27:52.

Rapture #2, Armageddon (Har Megiddo)

Rapture #3, Gog 2 (Revelation 20:7-8)

Rapture #4, Yeshua's final return (when the earth is destroyed).

In raptures #1-3, it is only those who already sleep in Yeshua that are taken up to be with Him. However, at Yeshua's final return, the earth is destroyed. It is then that those who are alive will be transformed, in the twinkling of an eye, and will be caught up to be with Him.

12. **The Elect/Chosen** cannot be "raptured out," because the tribulation is cut short for their sake (e.g., Mark 13:20). (If they are not on earth, there is no point in cutting the tribulation short for their sake.) The elect/chosen will not go straight back to the land of Israel, but will first come from all four directions to the "wilderness of the nations," where Yahweh Himself says He will set things in order (see reference to Ezekiel 20:33-38, below).
13. **The Millennium** is a thousand year period of relative prosperity and peace. Although Satan will be locked in the pit, his minions (i.e., the fallen angels/messengers) may still be on the loose, so there may still be wars to fight. This is when the saints will rule over the nations with Yeshua's rod of iron. Those who are raptured out will be with Yeshua (in the throne room, in heaven).
14. **Gog 2** takes place after the millennium. Satan is released from his pit, and marshals all of the

armies of the world to battle against Israel. Yeshua returns at this time, bringing His saints with Him, and defeats the armies of Gog. The earth is not destroyed at this time.

15. **"The Tarry."** The Feast of Shemini Atzeret (Day 8 of Sukkot/Tabernacles) speaks of our being "held over" for a while, after the seven days of Sukkot are complete. As explained in *The Torah Calendar*, the seven days of Sukkot symbolize seven thousand years of earth's existence, so we will be "held over" for some time beyond that.
16. **Yeshua's final return.** Yeshua will return once more, and the earth will be destroyed. Those who are alive will be transformed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye. This will be the final rapture / harpazo.
17. **White Throne Judgment.** Once the earth is destroyed, we go to the white throne judgment.
18. **New Earth.** Those of the "first resurrection" (i.e., anyone who is found worthy, in whichever harpazo) goes on to the new earth. The new earth is beyond the scope of this study.

Revelation is a vision, and the language is highly symbolic. "Earthquakes" are symbolic of changes in society. "Mountains" represent government systems, and "islands" represent national boundaries. At trumpet 7, when Babylon falls and Yahweh's government is declared, every "island" (national border) will flee away, and no "mountain" (government) will be found.

Hitgalut (Revelation) 16:20

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

What this speaks of is a time of tremendous upheaval, such that the world has never seen before. We know

that Yahweh will provide for His people, but if you have the ability, you might want to pray about preparing for a time when there will be no government to provide for order in society.

When Yahweh calls us home, we will come from all four directions to a place Yahweh calls "the wilderness of the nations." Yahweh says He will speak with us there, face to face, just as He spoke with our forefathers in the wilderness of Sinai; and He will re-establish His order at that time.

Yehezqel (Ezekiel) 20:33-38

33 "As I live," says Yahweh Elohim, "surely with a mighty hand, with an outstretched arm, and with fury poured out, I will rule over you.

34 I will bring you out from the peoples and gather you out of the countries where you are scattered, with a mighty hand, with an outstretched arm, and with fury poured out.

35 And I will bring you into the wilderness of the peoples, and there I will plead My case with you face to face.

36 Just as I pleaded My case with your fathers in the wilderness of the land of Egypt, so I will plead My case with you," says Yahweh Elohim.

37 "I will make you pass under the rod, and I will bring you into the bond of the covenant;

38 I will purge the rebels from among you, and those who transgress against Me; I will bring them out of the country where they dwell, but they shall not enter the land of Israel. Then you will know that I am Yahweh."

Some also draw parallels with Hoshea 2:14-20

Hoshea (Hosea) 2:14-23

14 'Therefore, behold, I will allure her, Will bring her into the wilderness, And speak comfort to her.

15 I will give her her vineyards from there, And the Valley of Achor as a door of hope; She shall sing there, As in the days of her youth, As in the day when she came up from the land of Egypt.

16 "And it shall be, in that day," Says Yahweh, "That you will call Me 'My Man' ('Ishi'),' And no longer call Me "My Lord" ('My Ba'al),'

17 For I will take from her mouth the names of the Ba'als, And they shall be remembered by their name no more.

18 In that day I will make a covenant for them With the beasts of the field, With the birds of the air, And with the creeping things of the ground. Bow and sword of battle I will shatter from the earth, To make them lie down safely.

19 "I will betroth you to Me forever; Yes, I will betroth you to Me In righteousness and justice, In loving kindness and mercy;

20 I will betroth you to Me in faithfulness, And you shall know Yahweh.

21 "It shall come to pass in that day That I will answer," says Yahweh; "I will answer the heavens, And they shall answer the earth.

22 The earth shall answer With grain, With new wine, And with oil; They shall answer Jezre'el.

23 Then I will sow her for Myself in the earth, And I will have mercy on her who had not obtained mercy; Then I will say to those who were not My people, 'You are My people!' And they shall say, 'You are my Elohim!'"

Again, it might be wise to pray about the ability to provide for oneself and one's family and fellows in the face of a societal collapse, while relocating to (literally) "Yahweh only knows where."

There are many reasons Yahweh allows His people to undergo trials and hardships. One reason is so He can see who really cares enough to follow Him, even when the going gets rough. Another reason is to strengthen us, and to get us to pull together as a nation.

No one likes trials, but trials are here for our spiritual refinement. We are to take joy in our trials.

Ya'akov (James) 1:2-4

2 My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials,

3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience.

4 But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

If we are truly dead to our flesh, let us set our eyes on the heavenly things above, rather than the earthly things below.

Qolossim (Colossians) 3:2-3

2 Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.

3 For you died, and your life is hidden with Messiah in Elohim.

I pray this study will help you. We all see through a glass darkly, and our level of knowledge and insight hopefully improves as we go. So for that reason, test all things by His word, and hold fast to that which is good.

Thessaloniqim Aleph (1 Thessalonians) 5:21
21 Test all things; hold fast what is good.