

Revelation and the End Times

Unraveling the Prophetic Timeline
in the Book of the Revelation

By Norman B. Willis

By Norman B. Willis
Copyright © Nazarene Israel, 6012 (2012)
Good use permitted.
First Edition 6012 (2012 CE)

**Nazarene Israel
P.O. Box 787
Anderson, CA 96007
USA**

Email: servants@nazareneisrael.org.

May YHWH's name be glorified in all the earth.

In Yeshua's name,

Amein.

Table of Contents:	
Preface	7
A Big Picture Overview of Revelation	9
The Timeline and the Assemblies	22
The First Five Seals	43
Seal 6 and the Tribulation	53
About the Rapture	65
The 144,000 and the Great Multitude	81
Seal 7 and the Tribulation Period	91
The First 6 Trumpets	104
The 2 Witnesses	117
Trumpet 7: The Kingdom Declared	128
Chapter 12: The Woman and Child	138
The Five Beasts of Daniel	11
The Three Beasts of Revelation	24
The Mark and the Number of the Beast	36
A Restored Turkish-Islamic Caliphate	47
The Anti-Messiah's Temple	55

The Second Resurrection	71
The First Resurrection	81
The Two Sticks	89
The Millennial Land	103
New Heavens, New Earth	130
Zechariah 12-14 Explained	151
The Catholic Mark of the Beast	174
Islamic Babylon America: Daughter of Babylon	206
The Abomination of Desolation	246
Building the Stick Cut Your Taxes in Half About Selling His Word	274

Preface:

No two people alive agree on everything, particularly when it comes to end time prophecy. Prophecy is also not given to us so that we can look ahead and know the future, but so that when events come to pass, we can have a confirmation of our faith.

We hope you enjoy our study, and we encourage you to examine this study carefully, and test everything carefully according to your own copy of the Scriptures. We do not ask that you believe anything because we say it, but we ask that you please join us in learning and growing more of His word together. We would like to think of this as a “living study,” which will change and grow as our Creator Yahweh (sometimes called “Jehovah”) shows us more.

Our goal in this study was to learn how the end times play out. Once we meet the cast of characters, we will try to explain the timeline in the Book of the Revelation, and show how various end-time prophecies relate to it. We will also break out other topics into their own separate chapters.

Yahweh revealed some new information that builds on what we had learned in *The Post-Millennial Return* study, but since we are approaching the subject from a completely different angle, it seemed that it merited a new title as well.

Sometimes people ask what version of the Scriptures I use. Normally I start with the New King James Version (NKJV) as a base, and then correct the names and terms to the Hebraic forms. My reason for this is simply

that the NKJV is easy to read, and I can copy and paste electronically (which reduces error, and saves time). Whenever the NKJV does not give the needed information, I refer to the source languages.

Studies such as this one often refer to the source texts (i.e., Hebrew, Aramaic, or Greek). For the Hebrew I normally use the Masoretic Text (MT). We know it was altered by the Masoretes (Karaite scribes) in the Middle Ages, but it is the best thing that presently exists. For the Renewed Covenant (“New” Testament) I like to use the Peshitta Aramaic, but this is not always practicable. As we show elsewhere, the Peshitta is most likely a backward translation from the Greek, and since the Greek is older, it is often better for textual analysis. Text is copied electronically from PC Study Bible 5, BibleWorks 8, and from the Hebrew Masoretic Text.

I am always looking to improve my studies. If you have constructive suggestions or spot any errors, please write me at servants@nazareneisrael.org. May Yahweh bless you for proving all things.

Shalom.

Assembly	Ephesus	Smyrna	Pergamos	Thyatira
Seals Seals take time to play out.	1 Seal White horse (Papacy, UN/URI) NWO	2 Seal Red horse (Marxism Socialism)	3 Seal Black Horse (Capitalism Bilderberg, Fed)	4 Seal Green/Grey Dappled Horse (Islam, and Islamic terror)
Trumpets Trumpets take time to play out. Destruction by 1/3. (7 years?)	1 Trump Hail, fire and blood. 1/3 trees all green grass burned up	2 Trump Mountain cast into sea 1/3 sea becomes blood, 1/3 ships, living	3 Trump Wormwood Great star falls from heaven, 1/3 of the waters become wormwood. Many men die	4 Trump 1/3 sun struck, 1/3 moon, 1/3 day not shine
Insets (adds information) Describes Israel, two beasts, Lamb, 144,000, Babylon.	Chapter 12 (inset) Woman (Israel) flees 3.5 years	Chapter 13 (inset) Describes the beasts from sea (same as four/five beasts of Daniel)	Chapter 13 (inset) describes the beast from the land (UN/URI)	Chapter 14 (inset) Lamb and 144,000 on Mount Tzion, and also before the throne
Cups/Bowl Happen all at once. Destruction nearly total. "Day of Yahweh?"	1 Cup Sores on men who worship the beast	2 Cup Sea becomes blood. All sea creatures die	3 Cup Rivers and fountains of water become blood.	4 Cup Men burned with great heat from sun.
(Ch. 17, 18 inset) Wedding Feast, Satan bound, Millennium	Chapter 17 (inset) Describes Babylon (RCC and her daughters)	Chapter 18 (inset) Babylon is fallen in one hour	19.11 Yeshua's return. Armageddon (= Wedding Feast?) Same time frame as Seventh Trumpet?	19.17 Armageddon = Gog 1 = Wedding Feast. Ephraim is married Hosea 2:20
Millennium (1,000 years). Tanach prophecies play out.				
End of Millennium and the New Earth	20.7 Satan Released. Gog 2. Devil cast into Lake of Fire	20.11 White Throne Judgment	21 New Earth Renewed Jerusalem as a bride	

Non-shaded areas belong to the timeline.
Shaded areas give details "inset" into the timeline.

Sardis	Philadelphia	(not used)	Laodicea
5 Seal More have to die before the blood of the martyrs will be avenged.	6 Seal Quake, stars fall, sun black, moon blood, heaven departs	Sealing of 144,000 protected against trumpets	7 Seal Silence in heaven ½ hour Introduces trumpets
5 Trump Figurative star (Satan?) falls to earth, opens pit, plague all but the sealed 5 months. WOE 1	6 Trump 200 million man army kills 1/3 men. (Seven thunders take place, are sealed up) WOE 2	Chapter 11: Outer Court trodden underfoot 42 months. Two Witnesses end 3.5 year testimony, are resurrected.	7 Trump Yeshua seen at "Last trump"? Earth quake. Heaven departs (nuke?) Reign of YHWH begins. WOE 3
14.7 (inset) Hour of Judgment	14.8 (inset) Bavel fallen (in heaven? Plays out in 18)	14.13 (inset) Blessed are those who die in YHWH from now on.	14.14 (inset) Son of Man on cloud, with sickle. Earth reaped (at the end of the age)
5 Cup poured on the beast's throne.	6 Cup Euphrates dried up. 3 unclean spirits like frogs are seen.	16.16 Men gather for Armageddon	7 Cup Big quake. Jerusalem divided. Islands flee, mountains not found.
19.20 Beast (UN/Pope) and False Prophet (Mohammed) into Lake of Fire (false religions)	20.1 Satan Bound 1,000 years. Millennium begins.	20.4-6 First Resurrection. (Spiritual resurrection.)	Millennium Tanach prophecies play out. (Second Exodus?)
Millennium (1,000 years). Tanach Prophecies play out			

A Big Picture Overview of Revelation

Revelation is a complex and highly symbolic book. For many, it can seem “closed.” Our job here is to help it seem just a little more “open.”

This study is organized in three sections. In this first chapter we will try to give a “big picture overview” of Revelation. Along the way we will suggest a framework for understanding Scripture that hopefully will seem intuitive. If it does not seem intuitive to you, please read along with us. In the second section we will try to go through the Revelation timeline in more detail, which hopefully will make things clearer. Finally, in the third section, wherever more detail is needed we will break out special topics by chapters.

Revelation is both frightening and exciting. It speaks of events that will not be pleasant to bear in the flesh. However, if we understand the timeline Revelation describes it can really help build our faith, because it helps us make sense of what is going on in the world around us.

All of us are born as babes. As babies, our focus is on ourselves. Whenever we want something, we cry, and we keep crying until someone takes care of our needs. Slowly we grow to adulthood; and over time, hopefully we learn the importance of caring for (and taking care of) others. This is often referred to as “maturity,” and in the *Nazarene Israel* study we talk about how Yahweh has helped lead and grow Israel to spiritual maturity over the years.

Yet even as mature as we might become, and as much as we might seek to put others before ourselves, as long as we inhabit fleshly bodies we still have fleshly needs to be met. If we don’t get enough food, we starve. If we don’t have enough clothing, we can die of exposure. And if someone cuts our head off, or burns us at the stake, we die.

It is not fun to think about, but just as Yahweh asks us to grow in our maturity as human beings, He also asks us to grow in our level of trust. We are told that there will come a day when many of us will be asked to give the proof of our faith, by electing to die rather than renounce our faith in Yeshua.

Luqa (Luke) 12:4-9

4 "And I say to you, My friends, do not be afraid of those who kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do.

5 But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear Him who, after He has killed, has power to cast into hell; yes, I say to you, fear Him!

6 "Are not five sparrows sold for two copper coins? And not one of them is forgotten before Elohim.

7 But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Do not fear therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.

8 "Also I say to you, whoever confesses Me before men, him the Son of Man also will confess before the messengers of Elohim.

9 But he who denies Me before men will be denied before the messengers of Elohim."

At the time of this writing (2011 CE) we can already see the beginnings of a day like this. While we do not know the specifics, some things are logically inevitable.

As the world grows closer together and more nations develop nuclear weapons, there is ever-increasing pressure to form a one world government, with one single currency, and a united world religion. The hope is that by forging one single “official” faith, the kinds of religious wars that have historically torn continents apart can be averted in a nuclear age.

Yet it will not be an easy thing to overcome national and ethnic boundaries. The irony is that it will likely take a nuclear exchange of some kind, before a one world government can be formed. Yet if there is such a nuclear exchange, it would likely call the masses of earth to demand the formation of such a one world government and a one world religion at any price, including the death of anyone who stands in the way of the formation of this new world order.

Because Islam teaches that their Mahdi (Islam’s messiah) will arrive as a result of an apocalypse, the more fundamentalist Muslims look forward to a nuclear conflagration. Thus as nuclear technology spreads it is almost a given that the kind of nuclear exchange that will lead the people of earth to demand a one world government (along with a one world religion) will sooner or later take place.

While we cannot know the details in advance, neither the Catholic Church nor Islam are strangers to forced conversions. If the new united religion was to be a blend of Catholicism and Islam, this would satisfy a great many prophecies (which we will detail later in this book). And if the world sees belief in Yeshua as being a major stumbling block to the establishment of this new united religion (which they believe will give them “peace and safety”), this could easily lead to a scenario in which we are forced to convert, or die.

In Revelation 13, imagine the beast that comes up out of the earth is a manifestation of Satan with two facets: The United Nations (UN) and its United Religions Initiative (URI). As we will see, the “first beast” refers to a succession of Babylonian-style empires, the most recent of which is a combination of Roman Catholicism and Islam. If the URI is also based on Catholicism and Islam, this could serve as the “image of the beast,” to which all must either “bow down,” or die.

Hitgalut (Revelation) 13:11-18

11 Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth, and he had two horns like a lamb (UN and URI) and spoke like a dragon (Satan).

12 And he exercises all the authority of the first beast (Rome/Islam) in his presence, and causes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast (Rome/Islam), whose deadly wound was healed (Ottoman Empire).

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

14 And he deceives those who dwell on the earth by those signs which he was granted to do in the sight of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who was wounded by the sword and lived (Ottoman Empire).

15 He was granted power to give breath to the image of the beast (possibly URI), that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed.

16 He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads,

17 and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

18 Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man: His number is 666 (chi xi stigma).

But why would Yahweh create a world in which we have to prove our faith, by being willing to lay down our lives here on earth? What does He get out of that? In *Nazarene Israel* we explain how many scholars believe Yahweh originally chose Satan as His bride, but that Satan rose up in rebellion against Yahweh, trying to take over in heaven.

Yeshayahu (Isaiah) 14:12-15

**12 "How you are fallen from heaven,
O Lucifer, son of the morning!
How you are cut down to the ground,
You who weakened the nations!**

**13 For you have said in your heart:
'I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my
throne above the stars of Elohim; I will also sit
on the mount of the congregation on the
farthest sides of the north;**

**14 I will ascend above the heights of the
clouds; I will be like the Most High.'**

**15 Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol
(i.e., "Hell"), to the lowest depths of the Pit."**

Many scholars also believe that Satan led a third of the messengers (angels) away from Yahweh in his rebellion. They believe these fallen messengers are called "demons," and they are likely what the "stars" in this passage represent.

Hitgalut (Revelation) 12:3-5

**3 And another sign appeared in heaven:
behold, a great, fiery red dragon having seven
heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on
his heads.**

**4 His tail drew a third of the stars of heaven
and threw them to the earth. And the dragon
stood before the woman who was ready to
give birth, to devour her Child as soon as it
was born.**

If this theory is true, then it would seem perfectly logical for Yahweh not to give immortality to anyone who has not first been greatly tempted in the flesh, but who has proven his loyalty in the face of temptation by doing good works borne of His Spirit.

Mattityahu (Matthew) 16:24-27

**24 Then Yeshua said to His disciples, "If
anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny
himself, and take up his cross (or stake), and
follow Me.**

**25 For whoever desires to save his life will
lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake
will find it.**

**26 For what profit is it to a man if he gains the
whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what
will a man give in exchange for his soul?**

**27 For the Son of Man will come in the glory of
His Father with His angels, and then He will
reward each according to his works."**

Another way a man can show his devotion is to make a conscious decision to forfeit his life rather than serve a false elohim (false g-d), such as the Image of the Beast. Then it should be clear that his devotion to Yahweh exceeds his devotion to himself.

It does not promise to be an easy time, but Yeshua tells us that even if we lose our lives, on the far side eternal life awaits for His faithful ones.

Luqa (Luke) 21:10-19

10 Then He said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

18 But not a hair of your head shall be lost.

19 By your patience possess your souls."

As we will see, there are at least two resurrections in Scripture. The first resurrection comes at or just after the great tribulation (while the second resurrection comes a thousand years later, after what is known as the *millennium*). In verse 18, Yeshua tells us that even

if we are put to death, not a hair of our heads will be lost. This is because those who are faithful unto the death will be judged as being faithful, and in the first resurrection they will be given immortal spiritual bodies, and will sit on thrones in the heavenly realm.

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.

The apostles will sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. Because they sacrificed, and laid down their lives for Him, and did not love their lives to the death, they have proven themselves worthy of eternal spiritual life. They are part of His bride.

Mattityahu (Matthew) 19:28-30

28 So Yeshua said to them, "Assuredly I say to you, that in the regeneration, when the Son of Man sits on the throne of His glory, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

29 And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My name's sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life.
30 But many who are first will be last, and the last first."

Although Scripture tells us that some people have been physically resurrected, the key to understanding the end times is to understand that the first and second resurrections are not natural, but spiritual. That is, those who are raised are given immortal, incorruptible spiritual bodies, but they do not reside here on earth. Yeshua tells us that when He comes He plans to take His bride back to His Father's house, in which there are many mansions. That is where He resides.

Yochanan (John) 14:2-3

2 "In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also."

As we will see, a major change happens at the time of the seventh trumpet. While Yeshua or His *sign* will appear in the clouds at the sixth seal, the time of Yeshua's physical return is at the seventh trumpet. This is also when the wedding takes place (and as we will see, Armageddon/1 Gog serves as the wedding feast). Because the wedding is now past, those saints who sleep in Messiah will be given immortal spiritual bodies, and will be caught up to be with Him, and will always be with Him, from then on. However, those who are still alive do not get to go be with Him until such time as they die (and are "released from duty").

Thessaloniqim Aleph (1 Thess.) 4:13-17

13 But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep (died), lest you sorrow as others who have no hope.

14 For if we believe that Yeshua died and rose again, even so Elohim will bring with Him those who sleep in Yeshua.

15 For this we say to you by the word of Yahweh, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of Yahweh (i.e., Yeshua) will by no means precede those who are asleep.

16 For Yahweh Himself (i.e., Yeshua) will descend from heaven with a shout (trumpet blast), with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of Elohim. And the dead in Messiah will rise first.

17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet Yahweh (Yeshua) in the air. And thus we shall always be with Yahweh (Yeshua).

The seventh trumpet opens the cup (bowl) judgments, which are essentially poured out all at once. The cup judgments essentially "break" the harlot Babylon and her Babylonian system, and this is one more reason why they lose to Yeshua and His forces at the Battle of Armageddon (Revelation 19:11). This ends the time of the great tribulation.

One might easily conclude that those saints who have been caught up to be with Yeshua at His return are the "elect," but Yeshua tells us that the tribulation will be shortened for the elect's sake. This tells us that the elect will continue on, on earth.

Mattityahu (Matthew) 24:21-22

21 For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be.

22 And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened."

We know that those who are raised with immortal spiritual bodies will neither marry, nor give in marriage; nor can they die anymore, for they will become like the messengers in the heavens.

Luqa (Luke) 20:34-38

34 Yeshua answered and said to them, "The sons of this age marry and are given in marriage.

35 But those who are counted worthy to attain that age, and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry nor are given in marriage;

36 nor can they die anymore, for they are equal to the messengers and are sons of Elohim, being sons of the resurrection.

Yet we know that those who are not classified as "saints," and who are not taken out at Yeshua's coming will continue to marry and give in marriage. We know this because the *nasi* (prince or prime minister) of Ezekiel's temple will marry, and have earthly sons. That is incompatible with Yeshua's description of the sons of the resurrection.

Yehezqel (Ezekiel) 46:16-17

16 'Thus says Yahweh Elohim: "If the nasi 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."

We also know that there will be marrying and giving in marriage in the new earth, because Isaiah speaks of infants dying young, and offspring.

Yeshayahu (Isaiah) 65:17-23

17 "For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; and the former shall not be remembered or come to mind.

18 But be glad and rejoice forever in what I create; for behold, I create Jerusalem as a rejoicing, and her people a joy.

19 I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in My people; the voice of weeping shall no longer be heard in her, nor the voice of crying.

20 "No more shall an infant from there live but a few days, nor an old man who has not fulfilled his days; for the child shall die one hundred years old, but the sinner being one hundred years old shall be accursed.

21 They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

22 They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat; for as the days of a tree, so shall be the days of My people, and My elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands.

23 They shall not labor in vain, nor bring forth children for trouble; for they shall be the descendants of the blessed of Yahweh, and their offspring with them."

If there are sons on earth during the millennium, and there also offspring in the new earth, then where will those with immortal spiritual bodies live? They will live in the spiritual realm, as they always have.

There is also the “dry bones” resurrection of Ezekiel 37, which we will explain later. It may also be that certain individuals (such as King David) are raised up in bodily form. We will discuss these in later chapters.

If these things are not intuitive, or if they leave issues in your mind, please bear with us. We will now attempt to discuss the seven assemblies of Revelation, and then we will go through the timeline in detail, to explain how everything fits together.

The Timeline and the Assemblies

Before Revelation discusses the timeline, first it talks about the seven assemblies. While there are various interpretations of what each of these assemblies are, the members of each assembly have various strengths and weaknesses. Many scholars believe they may be seven basic “personality types” that Yahweh’s people fall into. Some of them suffer tribulation, and even die. Scholars theorize that this may be either because they need to be refined by various trials (to become more pleasing to Him), or because He plans to give them a better reward in the resurrection. At the other end of the spectrum, some of the assemblies do not suffer tribulation (perhaps because they do not need it).

Hitgalut (Revelation) 1-22 (all)

1:1 The Revelation of Yeshua Messiah, which Elohim gave Him to show His servants — things which must shortly take place. And He sent and signified it by His messenger to His servant Yochanan (John),

2 who bore witness to the word of Elohim, and to the testimony of Yeshua Messiah, to all things that he saw.

3 Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is near.

4 Yochanan (John), to the seven assemblies which are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from Him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven Spirits who are before His throne,

5 and from Yeshua Messiah, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth.

To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood,

6 and has made us kings and priests to His Elohim and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amein.

7 Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him.

And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him. Even so, Amein.

Scholars debate whether the “tribes of the earth” refer to non-Israelites around the world, or whether it refers to the tribes of Israel (which are dispersed around the world). If it is the latter, then this may also refer to Zechariah 12:10, where the tribes of Judah mourn on account of Him whom they have pierced.

Zechariah 12:10-11

10 "And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn.

In verse 9, Yochanan tells us he is our companion in tribulation, which may indicate that there has been tribulation since the time Revelation was first written, even going all the way back to the first century.

Hitgalut (Revelation) 1:8-11

8 "I am the Aleph and the Tav, the Beginning and the End," says Yahweh, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."

9 I, Yochanan, both your brother and companion in the tribulation and kingdom and patience of Yeshua Messiah, was on the island that is called Patmos for the word of Elohim and for the testimony of Yeshua Messiah.

10 I was in the Spirit on Yahweh's Day, and I heard behind me a loud voice, as of a trumpet,

11 saying, "I am the Aleph and the Tav, the First and the Last," and, "What you see, write in a book and send it to the seven assemblies which are in Asia: to Ephesus, to Smyrna, to Pergamos, to Thyatira, to Sardis, to Philadelphia, and to Laodicea."

The seven assemblies are all located in modern-day Turkey, where the (Islamic) Turkish Ottoman Empire is prophesied to be re-established. (We give more details in later chapters.)

12 Then I turned to see the voice that spoke with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands,

13 and in the midst of the seven lampstands One like the Son of Man, clothed with a garment down to the feet and girded about the chest with a golden band.

14 His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and His eyes like a flame of fire;

15 His feet were like fine brass, as if refined in a furnace, and His voice as the sound of many waters;

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

17 And when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as dead. But He laid His right hand on me, saying to me, "Do not be afraid; I am the First and the Last.

18 I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen. And I have the keys of Hades and of Death.

19 Write the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which will take place after this.

20 The mystery of the seven stars which you saw in My right hand, and the seven golden lampstands: The seven stars are the messengers of the seven assemblies, and the seven lampstands which you saw are the seven assemblies.

Those in Ephesus test all things. They are patient, and work for Him. They have not become weary. They hate evil, and they hate the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which Yahweh also hates. The word "Nicolaitan" translates to "Victory over the laity." Some scholars believe this represents an episcopal or "hierarchical" church, in which follow the leadership blindly. Yahweh says they have left their first love, which may be to say that they no longer really follow Yahweh/Yeshua.

2:1 "To the messenger of the assembly of Ephesus write, 'These things says He who holds the seven stars in His right hand, who walks in the midst of the seven golden lampstands:

2 "I know your works, your labor, your patience, and that you cannot bear those who are evil. And you have tested those who say they are apostles and are not, and have found them liars;

3 and you have persevered and have patience, and have labored for My name's sake and have not become weary.

4 Nevertheless I have this against you, that you have left your first love (Yahweh/Yeshua).

5 Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent and do the first works, or else I will come to you quickly and remove your lampstand from its place — unless you repent.

6 But this you have, that you hate the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.

7 "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the assemblies. To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of Elohim."

Other scholars identify the Nicolaitans as the followers of Nicolas, a proselyte from Antioch who advocated Gnosticism and syncretism (mixing pagan elements into the faith). He is mentioned in Acts 6:5.

Ma'asei (Acts) 6:5-6

5 And the saying pleased the whole multitude.

And they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Set-apart Spirit, and Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas, a proselyte from Antioch,

6 whom they set before the apostles; and when they had prayed, they laid hands on them.

More information on Nicolas can be found in Irenaeus, *Against Heresies*, iii, 11. However, it is ironic that traditional scholarship should condemn Gnosticism and syncretism, since that is essentially what mainstream Christianity is. Gnosticism teaches that "belief (without

obedience) is all that really matters, and Christianity has a great deal of sun worship mixed in with it.

Those in Smyrna work. They are in physical poverty, but in fact they have great spiritual riches. They suffer tribulation, and some of them even die in tribulation, and yet Yeshua tells them that if they will be faithful unto the death, He will give them the crown of life. The assemblies in predominantly Muslim nations come to mind.

8 "And to the messenger of the assembly in Smyrna write,

'These things says the First and the Last, who was dead, and came to life:

9 "I know your works, tribulation, and poverty (but you are rich); and I know the blasphemy of those who say they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan.

10 Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.

11 "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the assemblies. He who overcomes shall not be hurt by the second death."

Traditional scholarship tells us this may be a reference to Polycarp, who was the bishop at Smyrna. He was martyred in 166 CE. Traditional scholarship also attributes the ten days of persecution to the ten years of affliction that all of the assemblies in Asia suffered under the Roman Emperor Diocletian.

Pergamos calls to mind any number of the mainstream churches. Those in Pergamos do well, holding fast to His name, and not denying the faith even in the face of death. However, they hold to the doctrine of Balaam, who altered Yahweh's message on account of money. They also allow those who practice sexually immoral behavior into their assemblies, and they eat things that have been sacrificed to idols (e.g., communion given to honor IHS [Isis, Horus, and Seb]). Some also hold to the doctrine of the Nicolaitans ("victory over the laity", or the Gnosticism/syncretism).

12 "And to the messenger of the assembly in Pergamos write,

'These things says He who has the sharp two-edged sword:

13 "I know your works, and where you dwell, where Satan's throne is. And you hold fast to My name, and did not deny My faith even in the days in which Antipas was My faithful martyr, who was killed among you, where Satan dwells.

14 But I have a few things against you, because you have there those who hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balak to put a stumbling block before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed to idols, and to commit sexual immorality.

15 Thus you also have those who hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitans, which thing I hate.

16 Repent, or else I will come to you quickly and will fight against them with the sword of My mouth.

17 "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the assemblies. To him who overcomes I will give some of the hidden manna to eat. And I will give him a white

stone, and on the stone a new name written which no one knows except him who receives it."

In a later chapter we will see more information on Satan's throne, and how it may be set up either in Turkey, or on the Temple Mount (in Jerusalem).

Thyatira also calls to mind a number of mainstream Christian churches (and perhaps even some Messianic assemblies). They have works, love, service, faith, and patience. Their works also get better over time. Nonetheless, they allow the woman Jezebel (who calls herself a prophetess) to teach His people to commit sexual immorality, and to eat things sacrificed to idols (crosses, hexagrams, etc.). (In *Covenant Relationships* we explain that sexual immorality also includes many types of divorce, especially wrongful divorce.)

18 "And to the messenger of the assembly in Thyatira write, 'These things says the Son of Elohim, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and His feet like fine brass:

19 "I know your works, love, service, faith, and your patience; and as for your works, the last are more than the first.

20 Nevertheless I have a few things against you, because you allow that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, to teach and seduce My servants to commit sexual immorality and eat things sacrificed to idols.

21 And I gave her time to repent of her sexual immorality, and she did not repent.

22 Indeed I will cast her into a sickbed, and those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation, unless they repent of their deeds.

23 I will kill her children with death, and all the assemblies shall know that I am He who searches the minds and hearts. And I will give to each one of you according to your works.

24 "Now to you I say, and to the rest in Thyatira, as many as do not have this doctrine, who have not known the depths of Satan, as they say, I will put on you no other burden.

25 But hold fast what you have till I come.

The name Israel (ישראל) is often interpreted to mean, the "upright ones of Elohim," or "the overcomers of Elohim." Yeshua tells us "he who overcomes" (Israel) will be given power over the nations, and they will rule them with the rod Yeshua receives from His father.

26 And he who overcomes, 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;

28 and I will give him the morning star.

29 "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the assemblies."

In Psalms 2, Yahweh tells Yeshua that He will dash the nations to pieces, like potter's vessels.

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."***

If Yahweh gives Yeshua a rod, and Yeshua then gives this same rod to His body (verses 26-27, above), then Yeshua does not need to be physically present in order to dash the nations to pieces (as His body can do it for Him). We will discuss this later in more detail.

The assembly in Sardis reminds one of an assembly in which the people have no personal relationship with Yeshua, or the Spirit. Those in Sardis claim to be alive, but they are dead (they are not filled with His Spirit). Nonetheless, some in Sardis will yet walk with Him in white, because they are worthy.

***3:1 "And to the messenger of the assembly in
Sardis write,***

***'These things says He who has the seven
Spirits of Elohim and the seven stars: "I know
your works, that you have a name that you are
alive, but you are dead.***

***2 Be watchful, and strengthen the things
which remain, that are ready to die, for I have
not found your works perfect before Elohim.***

***3 Remember therefore how you have received
and heard; hold fast and repent. Therefore if
you will not watch, I will come upon you as a
thief, and you will not know what hour I will
come upon you.***

***4 You have a few names even in Sardis who
have not defiled their garments; and they shall
walk with Me in white, for they are worthy.***

***5 He who overcomes shall be clothed in white
garments, and I will not blot out his name from
the Book of Life; but I will confess his name
before My Father and before His messengers.***

***6 "He who has an ear, let him hear what the
Spirit says to the assemblies."***

Those in Philadelphia are dedicated. They have works, they have kept His word, and they have not denied His name. Yeshua promises to keep them from the hour of trial that shall come on the whole world, because they have persevered in doing what is right.

***7 "And to the messenger of the assembly in
Philadelphia write, 'These things says He who
is set apart, He who is true, "He who has the
key of David, He who opens and no one shuts,
and shuts and no one opens":***

***8 "I know your works. See, I have set before
you an open door, and no one can shut it; for
you have a little strength, have kept My word,
and have not denied My name.***

***9 Indeed I will make those of the synagogue of
Satan, who say they are Jews and are not, but
lie — indeed I will make them come and
worship before your feet, and to know that I
have loved you.***

***10 Because you have kept My command to
persevere, I also will keep you from the hour
of trial which shall come upon the whole
world, to test those who dwell on the earth.***

Why does Yeshua keep those in Philadelphia from the hour of trial, which tests those who dwell on the earth? Is it that Yahweh does not need to prove them through trials, because they have already proven themselves?

Later we will see that although Revelation tells us “all” men must either take the mark of the beast or be killed, some men do not take it, and yet they live. Could those who escape taking the mark of the beast belong to the “congregation of Philadelphia”?

11 Behold, I am coming quickly! Hold fast what you have, that no one may take your crown.

12 He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My Elohim, and he shall go out no more. I will write on him the name of My Elohim and the name of the city of My Elohim, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My Elohim. And I will write on him My new name.

13 "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the assemblies."

Scholars differ as to whether the promise in verse 12 is to be taken literally, or figuratively. They also differ as to whether verses 11 thru 13 pertain to all of His people or just Philadelphia.

Physical Laodicea lies near Philadelphia. In ancient times it was a rich town, having a strong trade in fine wool. The town was destroyed by an earthquake in 62 DC, and the citizens were able to rebuild it without any help from the state. However, their wealth led them to be very self-satisfied, and thinking that they had need of nothing. This may be why Yeshua says that they are lukewarm, without true zeal for Yahweh and His word.

Laodicea means, “The people rule.” This may be the opposite of the Nicolaitan spirit (“victory over the laity”). (It is not clear if Yeshua is referring to congregational or Presbyterian styles here.)

14 "And to the messenger of the assembly of the Laodiceans write, 'These things says the Amein, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the creation of Elohim:

15 "I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot.

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

17 Because you say, 'I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing' — and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked —

18 I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments, that you may be clothed, that the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see.

19 As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent.

20 Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.

21 To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.

22 "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the assemblies.""

In verse 20, the reference to hearing His voice, opening the door and inviting Him in to dine is the same concept as the indwelling of the Spirit mentioned in John 15.

Yochanan (John) 15:4

4 "Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me."

In Revelation 4:1, Yochanan tells us of a "door standing open in heaven." This is a remez (hint) that what we are seeing is a vision. In 4:2 we are also told that Yochanan is "in the Spirit." We should not expect that the fulfillment of visions will look exactly like the vision is depicted.

4:1 After these things I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven. And the first voice which I heard was like a trumpet speaking with me, saying, "Come up here, and I will show you things which must take place after this."

2 Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, a throne set in heaven, and One sat on the throne.

3 And He who sat there was like a jasper and a sardius stone in appearance; and there was a rainbow around the throne, in appearance like an emerald.

4 Around the throne were twenty-four thrones, and on the thrones I saw twenty-four elders sitting, clothed in white robes; and they had crowns of gold on their heads.

5 And from the throne proceeded lightnings, thunderings, and voices. Seven lamps of fire were burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of Elohim.

6 Before the throne there was a sea of glass, like crystal. And in the midst of the throne,

and around the throne, were four living creatures full of eyes in front and in back.

7 The first living creature was like a lion, the second living creature like a calf, the third living creature had a face like a man, and the fourth living creature was like a flying eagle.

The four living creatures parallel those in Ezekiel 10:14.

8 The four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying: "Qodesh, Qodesh, Qodesh, Yahweh Elohim Almighty, who was and is and is to come!"

9 Whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever,

10 the twenty-four elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne and worship Him who lives forever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying:

11 "You are worthy, O Yahweh, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and by Your will they exist and were created."

The scroll is now opened, which begins the timeline. We know that the events here are highly symbolic, as Yeshua is depicted as a Lion in verse 5, and then as a Lamb with seven horns and seven eyes in verse 6. It would be ridiculous to expect these verses to play out on earth as they read. However, some suggest these events will play out literally in heaven.

5:1 And I saw in the right hand of Him who sat on the throne a scroll written inside and on the back, sealed with seven seals.

2 Then I saw a strong messenger proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and to loose its seals?"

3 And no one in heaven or on the earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll, or to look at it.

4 So I wept much, because no one was found worthy to open and read the scroll, or to look at it.

5 But one of the elders said to me, "Do not weep. Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has prevailed to open the scroll and to loose its seven seals."

6 And I looked, and behold, in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as though it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of Elohim sent out into all the earth.

7 Then He came and took the scroll out of the right hand of Him who sat on the throne.

8 Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.

9 And they sang a new song, saying:

"You are worthy to take the scroll, and to open its seals; for You were slain, and have redeemed us to Elohim by Your blood out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation,

10 And have made us kings and priests to our Elohim; and we shall reign on the earth."

It is important to note that verse 10 tells us we shall reign on the earth (rather than in heaven). This agrees

with Yeshua, who says the tribulation will be shortened for the sake of the elect (who remain on earth).

Mattityahu (Matthew) 24:21-22

22 "And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened."

Also, verse 9 tells us that those who will reign on the earth will be chosen from every tribe and tongue and people and nation. These verses are reminiscent of the second exodus of Deuteronomy 30:1-6, which tells us that the believers will be called back to the land of Israel from the farthest corners of the earth.

Devarim (Deuteronomy) 30:4-6

4 If any of you are driven out to the farthest parts under heaven, from there Yahweh your Elohim will gather you, and from there He will bring you.

5 Then Yahweh your Elohim will bring you to the land which your fathers possessed, and you shall possess it. He will prosper you and multiply you more than your fathers.

6 And Yahweh your Elohim will circumcise your heart and the heart of your descendants, to love Yahweh your Elohim with all your heart and with all your soul, that you may live.

Later we will see evidence that the ingathering may take place after the Battle of Armageddon, which takes place after the tribulation is complete, during what is popularly called "the Millennium" (the final 1,000 years of earth's history).

11 Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many messengers around the throne, the

living creatures, and the elders; and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands,

12 saying with a loud voice:

*"Worthy is the Lamb who was slain,
To receive power and riches and wisdom,
And strength and honor and glory and blessing!"*

13 And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, I heard saying:

*"Blessing and honor and glory and power
Be to Him who sits on the throne,
And to the Lamb, forever and ever!"*

14 Then the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the twenty-four elders fell down and worshiped Him who lives forever and ever.

As we will see, Revelation progresses first through the seals, then through the trumpets, and then finally the cups (bowls) are poured out in judgment. After this is the battle of Har Megiddo (Armageddon), also known as the first war of Gog and Magog. This war serves as the wedding feast, after which the Ephraimites will be married to Yeshua, and will be brought back home to the land of Israel.

But in order for us to grasp all that Revelation speaks of, we need to take it in small pieces. Therefore, in the next chapter, let us focus on the first five of the seals.

Assembly	Ephesus	Smyrna	Pergamos	Thyatira
Seals Seals take time to play out.	1 Seal White horse (Papacy, UN/URI) NWO	2 Seal Red horse (Marxism Socialism)	3 Seal Black Horse (Capitalism Bilderberg, Fed)	4 Seal Green/Grey Dappled Horse (Islam, and Islamic terror)
Trumpets Trumpets take time to play out. Destruction by 1/3. (7 years?)	1 Trump Hail, fire and blood. 1/3 trees all green grass burned up	2 Trump Mountain cast into sea 1/3 sea becomes blood, 1/3 ships, living	3 Trump Wormwood Great star falls from heaven, 1/3 of the waters become wormwood. Many men die	4 Trump 1/3 sun struck, 1/3 moon, 1/3 day not shine
Insets (adds information) Describes Israel, two beasts, Lamb, 144,000, Babylon.	Chapter 12 (inset) Woman (Israel) flees 3.5 years	Chapter 13 (inset) Describes the beasts from sea (same as four/five beasts of Daniel)	Chapter 13 (inset) describes the beast from the land (UN/URI)	Chapter 14 (inset) Lamb and 144,000 on Mount Tzion, and also before the throne
Cups/Bowl Happen all at once. Destruction nearly total. "Day of Yahweh?"	1 Cup Sores on men who worship the beast	2 Cup Sea becomes blood. All sea creatures die	3 Cup Rivers and fountains of water become blood.	4 Cup Men burned with great heat from sun.
(Ch. 17, 18 inset) Wedding Feast, Satan bound, Millennium	Chapter 17 (inset) Describes Babylon (RCC and her daughters)	Chapter 18 (inset) Babylon is fallen in one hour	19.11 Yeshua's return. Armageddon (= Wedding Feast?) Same time frame as Seventh Trumpet?	19.17 Armageddon = Gog 1 = Wedding Feast. Ephraim is married Hosea 2:20
Millennium (1,000 years). Tanach prophecies play out.				
End of Millennium and the New Earth	20.7 Satan Released. Gog 2. Devil cast into Lake of Fire	20.11 White Throne Judgment	21 New Earth Renewed Jerusalem as a bride	

Non-shaded areas belong to the timeline.
Shaded areas give details "inset" into the timeline.

Sardis	Philadelphia	(not used)	Laodicea
5 Seal More have to die before the blood of the martyrs will be avenged.	6 Seal Quake, stars fall, sun black, moon blood, heaven departs	Sealing of 144,000 protected against trumpets	7 Seal Silence in heaven ½ hour Introduces trumpets
5 Trump Figurative star (Satan?) falls to earth, opens pit, plague all but the sealed 5 months. WOE 1	6 Trump 200 million man army kills 1/3 men. (Seven thunders take place, are sealed up) WOE 2	Chapter 11: Outer Court trodden underfoot 42 months. Two Witnesses end 3.5 year testimony, are resurrected.	7 Trump Yeshua seen at "Last trump"? Earth quake. Heaven departs (nuke?) Reign of YHWH begins. WOE 3
14.7 (inset) Hour of Judgment	14.8 (inset) Bavel fallen (in heaven? Plays out in 18)	14.13 (inset) Blessed are those who die in YHWH from now on.	14.14 (inset) Son of Man on cloud, with sickle. Earth reaped (at the end of the age)
5 Cup poured on the beast's throne.	6 Cup Euphrates dried up. 3 unclean spirits like frogs are seen.	16.16 Men gather for Armageddon	7 Cup Big quake. Jerusalem divided. Islands flee, mountains not found.
19.20 Beast (UN/Pope) and False Prophet (Mohammed) into Lake of Fire (false religions)	20.1 Satan Bound 1,000 years. Millennium begins.	20.4-6 First Resurrection. (Spiritual resurrection.)	Millennium Tanach prophecies play out. (Second Exodus?)
Millennium (1,000 years). Tanach Prophecies play out			

The First Five Seals

The timeline chronology progresses this way:

1. Seals 1 thru 7
2. Trumpets 1 thru 7
3. Cups (Bowls) 1 thru 7
4. Armageddon (Gog 1, the Wedding Feast)

In this chapter we are only going to discuss the first five seals. This is because a lot happens at the sixth seal, and we need to spend several chapters on it.

When the first four seals open we will see four horses, each of a different color. What is interesting about these horses is that they seem to be the same as the horses in Zechariah. Zechariah 6:5 tells us that these horses are four spirits of heaven, which have gone out from their station before Yahweh.

Zechariah 6:1-8

1 Then I turned and raised my eyes and looked, and behold, four chariots were coming from between two mountains, and the mountains were mountains of bronze.

2 With the first chariot were red horses, with the second chariot black horses,

3 with the third chariot white horses, and with the fourth chariot dappled horses — strong steeds.

4 Then I answered and said to the messenger who talked with me, "What are these, my adon?"

5 And the messenger answered and said to me, "These are four spirits of heaven, who go out from their station before the Adon of all the earth.

6 The one with the black horses is going to the north country, the white are going after them, and the dappled are going toward the south country."

7 Then the strong steeds went out, eager to go, that they might walk to and fro throughout the earth. And He said, "Go, walk to and fro throughout the earth." So they walked to and fro throughout the earth.

8 And He called to me, and spoke to me, saying, "See, those who go toward the north country have given rest to My Spirit in the north country."

The translation of verse 3 is debated, so let us look at it in Hebrew.

<p>Zechariah 6:3 3 with the third chariot white horses, and with the fourth chariot dappled, strong (steeds).</p>	<p>(3) וּבַמִּרְכָּבָה הַשְּׁלִישִׁית סוּסִים לְבָנִים וּבַמִּרְכָּבָה הָרְבִיעִית סוּסִים בְּרָדִים אַמְצִים :</p>
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

The horses of the fourth chariot are “b’rudim” (בְּרָדִים), which is translated in various ways. The King James Version renders this as “grizzled,” but *Strong’s Hebrew Concordance* renders it as “spotted,” as if by hail (i.e., dappled).

OT:1261 barod (baw-rode'); from OT:1258; spotted (as if with hail): KJV - grisled.

When we look up the reference at OT:1258, we see that it is also a reference to hail, which makes “spotted” or “dappled” seem accurate.

OT:1258 barad (baw-rad'); a primitive root, to hail:

The other word that is translated in different ways is “amutzim” (אַמְצִים). Technically the word means simply “strong,” but the King James Version renders this as “bay” (a strong reddish-brown color).

OT:554 'amots (aw-mohts'); probably from OT:553; of a strong color, i.e. red (others fleet): (KJV – bay)

Scholars do not argue that “amutzim” means strong. Rather, the question is whether this word refers to the horses or not. Literally, אַמְצִים בְּרִדִים translates to “horses dappled strong.” We will talk more about this when we talk about the fourth horse of the Revelation, because while the first three horses are the same colors as Zechariah (just presented in a different order) the fourth horse in Revelation is either “pale” (rather than “strong”), or else it is “green.”

Verse Five tells us the horses represent “spirits of heaven” that have gone out from their stations before Yahweh. Sometimes people have a difficult time with the idea that all of these spirits have a rightful place before Yahweh, because at least in western thought these spirits are considered to be the antithesis of each other. And yet, since they have gone out from before

Yahweh, Yahweh has a place and a use for all of them. As we will see, these spirits are:

1. **Red:** communism and (democratic) socialism.
2. **Black:** capitalism and free market economics.
3. **White:** Catholicism, Protestantism and ‘the church.’
4. **Dappled/Strong/Pale/Green:** associated with Islam (or “submission” to the will of the Spirit).

In another place we will show that while the dispersed Ephraimites went every which way, into every nation on earth, the majority of them migrated slowly northward and westward over time, ultimately settling in what later became Protestant northwestern Europe. Therefore, when Yahweh calls “to the north,” this is the direction the lost ten tribes of the house of Ephraim have gone. This is significant in that Zechariah tells us that first the black horses (capitalism) went to the “north country,” and then the white horses (representing the church) followed after, much as missions followed the settlers of the new world. No matter what one might think of “the church,” Yahweh says these spirits (i.e., capitalism and the church) “gave rest to His Spirit in the north country.” While this does not exclude any believer in any country on earth, we might also note that this is the general direction Yahweh calls to, when He decides to bring the Ephraimites home.

Yirmeyahu (Jeremiah) 3:11-12

11 Then Yahweh said to me, "Backsliding Israel has shown herself more righteous than treacherous Judah. 12 Go and proclaim these words toward the north, and say:

'Return, backsliding Israel,' says Yahweh;

'I will not cause My anger to fall on you.

For I am merciful,' says Yahweh;

'I will not remain angry forever.'"

In verse 6, we also see the dappled horses (which represent Islam) go toward the south country. We might note that Islam originally spread southward into the Arabian Peninsula, and then into Africa. It was only later that Islam spread to the east, and up into Europe. (In general, Islam's spread has been southerly).

Verse 7 describes the dappled horses of Islam as "strong steeds," which walk to and fro throughout the earth (rather than staying in one place). We are not told that these horses gave Yahweh's Spirit rest, and considering all of the destruction associated with Islam, some might find it difficult to believe that Islam can be a spirit of heaven. To this we can only comment that the Muslims do not receive Yahweh's blessings because they worship a false elohim (All-h'). Their concept of justice is also incorrect because they do not have His Spirit. However, the Muslims do seem to understand that genuine faith dictates that the faithful observe a certain style of life (even if they have the wrong idea of what that ought to be). Muslims also seem to observe several of the commandments Yahweh spells out with regards to congregational discipline, which sadly are neglected in most Jewish and Christian societies. Most predominantly Muslim nations have the color green in their flag, and green is used as a symbol for Islam.

The red horses represent communism, socialism, and perhaps also democracy. In Communist China (and in the former Soviet Union) the color red represents the workers, or the collective. This concept is very much alive in America as well (with the "red, white and blue.")

First Seal: White Horse. In Revelation 19:11, Yeshua rides a white horse. However, the destructive horse here is not Yeshua's horse. It likely represents the

papacy, which seeks world domination through the United Nations (UN) and its United Religions Initiative (URI). If so, this seal is undoubtedly already open.

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

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

Second Seal: Red Horse: In *Torah Government* we discuss the place of believing communalism in the Levitical priesthood. However, the red horse in Revelation represents secular Marxism/socialism (and the destruction it causes). Most communist/socialist nations have red in their flags (as do many democratic ones as well). Red is a symbol for Marxism, socialism and democracy all around the world. This horse has probably been released.

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

4 Another horse, fiery red, went out. And it was granted to the one who sat on it to take peace from the earth, and that people should kill one another; and there was given to him a great sword.

Third Seal: Black Horse: In *Torah Government* we show why the priesthood is forbidden to sell the word of Yahweh, or to operate on capitalist principles. The rest of the tribes, however, need to operate on free market principles, as this provides for the strongest economy.

However, the black horse of Revelation is not a healthy type of capitalism. It may represent the “Yahweh-less capitalism” of the Rothschilds, the Bilderbergers, the World Bank, the Federal Reserve and the International Monetary Fund, which control Ephraimite governments through central banking. Those who adhere to this kind of capitalism are sometimes described as having “hearts as black as coal.” This seal is open.

5 When He opened the third seal, I heard the third living creature say, "Come and see." So I looked, and behold, a black horse, and he who sat on it had a pair of scales in his hand.

6 And I heard a voice in the midst of the four living creatures saying, "A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius; and do not harm the oil and the wine."

Some commentators also believe the black horse may represent the stock exchanges, which buy, sell and trade without regard for anything but profit.

Fourth Seal: Green/Gray/Pale/Dappled Horse: While in Zechariah the horses are described as being “strong” or “dappled” in color, the Greek word here is “chloros.” Chloros has been rendered as “pale” or “grey” in the past, but it refers to the color green (as in chlorophyll). This is most likely a reference to Islam, as green is generally used as a symbol for Islam, and most Islamic nations have green in their flags. Muslims also occupy about one fourth of the earth, and they cause death by the sword and hunger wherever they are. This seal is likely already open, but as we will see, there will be much more Islamic devastation ahead.

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

8 So I looked, and behold, a green horse. And the name of him who sat on it was Death, and Hades followed with him. And power was given to them over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword, with hunger, with death, and by the beasts of the earth.

Fifth Seal: The Martyrs Cry Out: At the fifth seal, the martyrs cry out for justice. They are told to wait, as more believers must die before their blood is avenged. Since this event is basically “invisible” from earth, we do not know if the fifth seal is open or not.

9 When He opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of Elohim and for the testimony which they held.

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

11 Then a white robe was given to each of them; and it was said to them that they should rest a little while longer, until both the number of their fellow servants and their brethren, who would be killed as they were, was completed.

Next we will talk about the sixth seal (and the time of tribulation and the rapture that come with it). Since these are in-depth topics, we are breaking them out into their own separate chapter.

Assembly	Ephesus	Smyrna	Pergamos	Thyatira
Seals Seals take time to play out.	1 Seal White horse (Papacy, UN/URI) NWO	2 Seal Red horse (Marxism Socialism)	3 Seal Black Horse (Capitalism Bilderberg, Fed)	4 Seal Green/Grey Dappled Horse (Islam, and Islamic terror)
Trumpets Trumpets take time to play out. Destruction by 1/3. (7 years?)	1 Trump Hail, fire and blood. 1/3 trees all green grass burned up	2 Trump Mountain cast into sea 1/3 sea becomes blood, 1/3 ships, living	3 Trump Wormwood Great star falls from heaven, 1/3 of the waters become wormwood. Many men die	4 Trump 1/3 sun struck, 1/3 moon, 1/3 day not shine
Insets (adds information) Describes Israel, two beasts, Lamb, 144,000, Babylon.	Chapter 12 (inset) Woman (Israel) flees 3.5 years	Chapter 13 (inset) Describes the beasts from sea (same as four/five beasts of Daniel)	Chapter 13 (inset) describes the beast from the land (UN/URI)	Chapter 14 (inset) Lamb and 144,000 on Mount Tzion, and also before the throne
Cups/Bowl Happen all at once. Destruction nearly total. "Day of Yahweh?"	1 Cup Sores on men who worship the beast	2 Cup Sea becomes blood. All sea creatures die	3 Cup Rivers and fountains of water become blood.	4 Cup Men burned with great heat from sun.
(Ch. 17, 18 inset) Wedding Feast, Satan bound, Millennium	Chapter 17 (inset) Describes Babylon (RCC and her daughters)	Chapter 18 (inset) Babylon is fallen in one hour	19.11 Yeshua's return. Armageddon (= Wedding Feast?) Same time frame as Seventh Trumpet?	19.17 Armageddon = Gog 1 = Wedding Feast. Ephraim is married Hosea 2:20
Millennium (1,000 years). Tanach prophecies play out.				
End of Millennium and the New Earth	20.7 Satan Released. Gog 2. Devil cast into Lake of Fire	20.11 White Throne Judgment	21 New Earth Renewed Jerusalem as a bride	

Non-shaded areas belong to the timeline.
Shaded areas give details "inset" into the timeline.

Sardis	Philadelphia	(not used)	Laodicea
5 Seal More have to die before the blood of the martyrs will be avenged.	6 Seal Quake, stars fall, sun black, moon blood, heaven departs	Sealing of 144,000 protected against trumpets	7 Seal Silence in heaven ½ hour Introduces trumpets
5 Trump Figurative star (Satan?) falls to earth, opens pit, plague all but the sealed 5 months. WOE 1	6 Trump 200 million man army kills 1/3 men. (Seven thunders take place, are sealed up) WOE 2	Chapter 11: Outer Court trodden underfoot 42 months. Two Witnesses end 3.5 year testimony, are resurrected.	7 Trump Yeshua seen at "Last trump"? Earth quake. Heaven departs (nuke?) Reign of YHWH begins. WOE 3
14.7 (inset) Hour of Judgment	14.8 (inset) Bavel fallen (in heaven? Plays out in 18)	14.13 (inset) Blessed are those who die in YHWH from now on.	14.14 (inset) Son of Man on cloud, with sickle. Earth reaped (at the end of the age)
5 Cup poured on the beast's throne.	6 Cup Euphrates dried up. 3 unclean spirits like frogs are seen.	16.16 Men gather for Armageddon	7 Cup Big quake. Jerusalem divided. Islands flee, mountains not found.
19.20 Beast (UN/Pope) and False Prophet (Mohammed) into Lake of Fire (false religions)	20.1 Satan Bound 1,000 years. Millennium begins.	20.4-6 First Resurrection. (Spiritual resurrection.)	Millennium Tanach prophecies play out. (Second Exodus?)
Millennium (1,000 years). Tanach Prophecies play out			

Seal 6 and the Tribulation

When seal 6 is opened, many things begin to happen. We don't have time to go into all of the details here, but since Revelation is a vision, these may depict literal events, or they may depict figurative ones.

Hitgalut (Revelation) 6:12

12 I looked when He opened the sixth seal, and behold, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became like blood.

13 And the stars of heaven fell to the earth, as a fig tree drops its late figs when it is shaken by a mighty wind.

14 Then the sky receded as a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island was moved out of its place.

15 And the kings of the earth, the great men, the rich men, the commanders, the mighty men, every slave and every free man, hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains,

16 and said to the mountains and rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb!

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

The earthquake in verse 12 may be literal, or it may represent "ground shaking" political changes, such as a one world government coming to power. (It might also represent all of the above.)

Many scholars have remarked on the parallels between verse 12 and Joel 2, which speaks of events that will take place before the Day of Yahweh (which is likely the Cup/Bowl judgments).

<p><i>Revelation 6:12</i> <i>12 I looked when He opened the sixth seal, and behold, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became like blood.</i></p>	<p><i>Joel 2:30-31</i> <i>30 "And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth: Blood and fire and pillars of smoke.</i> <i>31 The sun shall be turned into darkness, And the moon into blood, Before the coming of the great and awesome day of Yahweh.</i></p>
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

The sun becoming darkened and the moon becoming “like blood” may be a reference to the effects of a nuclear blast, which throws large amounts of debris into the air. This makes for a “red moon” and a “nuclear winter,” in which the sun is obscured. Alternately, in a spiritual sense, the sun might represent the light of the spirit, and the moon might represent the light of the Torah (for reasons we will explain later). With all due respect to our Christian and Jewish brothers, their leadership is deeply involved in all manner of plots and conspiracies worldwide. Later we will see how all the governments of the world essentially report to Rome, whereas all of the monetary powers of the world are essentially controlled by Jewish families that also have deep involvement in the occult, spawning wars.

A nuclear blast might also explain the “sky departing like a scroll,” as many scholars have remarked how mushroom clouds “scroll” up into the air (and also have the effect of “tearing” the atmosphere). The “mountains and islands” which are “moved out of their places” may be a reference to governments and national leadership structures, which would be altered if there was a nuclear exchange in the Middle East, and the people demanded that a one world government rise to power, in an effort to prevent any more nuclear exchanges. This scenario would also explain why the rich men would hide in caves/shelters.

Many scholars believe Seal 6 marks the beginning of what is popularly called the “great tribulation.” Yeshua mentions this time of great tribulation in Matthew 24. In verse 9, Yeshua tells us the believers will be hated by all nations for His name’s sake. However, Yeshua was addressing this to His Jewish followers, and as we will see, this might apply primarily to those who are living in the land of Israel when it take place (although there will certainly be persecution on His followers everywhere).

Mattityahu (Matthew) 24:4-31

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

5 For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Messiah,' and will deceive many.

6 And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.

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

8 All these are the beginning of sorrows.

9 "Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name's sake.

10 And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another.

11 Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many.

12 And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold.

13 But he who endures to the end shall be saved.

14 And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.

The idea that Yeshua is addressing those who live in the land finds support in verse 15, where Yeshua tells us that when we see the "abomination of desolation" standing in the set-apart place (i.e., the temple mount), those in Judea should flee to the mountains, because this will begin a time of great tribulation, such as the earth has never seen, or will see again. Obviously, this might not apply to those who live outside of the land.

15 "Therefore when you see the 'abomination of desolation,' spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the set apart place" (whoever reads, let him understand),

16 "then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains.

17 Let him who is on the housetop not go down to take anything out of his house.

18 And let him who is in the field not go back to get his clothes.

19 But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days!

20 And pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath.

21 For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be.

22 And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened.

In verse 22, Yeshua says the tribulation will be so bad that unless Yahweh shortens those days, no flesh will survive. However, Yahweh will shorten those days for the sake of the elect. What this says is that the elect will remain here on earth (rather than being "raptured out").

We can also expect to see many false messiahs and false prophets, who will show great signs and wonders, in an attempt to deceive the elect.

23 "Then if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Messiah!' or 'There!' do not believe it.

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

25 See, I have told you beforehand.

26 "Therefore if they say to you, 'Look, He is in the desert!' do not go out; or 'Look, He is in the inner rooms!' do not believe it.

27 For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes to the west, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.

28 For wherever the carcass is, there the eagles (αετοι) will be gathered together.

As we will see in a later chapter, the coming of the Son of Man in verse 27 refers to Yeshua's triumphal return

on His white horse at Revelation 19:11, where He will slay the enemies of Israel at the Battle of Har Megiddo (Armageddon). This Battle of Har Megiddo is also the first war of Gog and Magog, which is described in Ezekiel 39. (Ezekiel 38 is the second war of Gog.)

We will also see that the gathering of the eagles in verse 28 refers to the Wedding Feast, where the birds of the heavens will come to feast upon the slain of the enemies of Israel. The word in Greek is "aetoi" (αετοι). This word is usually translated as "eagles," but it can also be translated as "vultures," as the New American Standard Updated (NASU) renders it.

Matthew 24:28, NASU: 28 "Wherever the corpse is, there the vultures will gather."

In verse 30, Matthew tells us that immediately after the tribulation, the sun will be darkened, the moon will not give its light, and the stars will fall from the heavens, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. As we will see later, this probably refers to a second nuclear exchange that takes place at the time of 7th trumpet, and/or the cup/bowl judgments (which take place after the 7th trumpet). Then we are told that the "sign" of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and that all of the tribes of the earth will mourn.

29 "Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken.

30 Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man

coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

The "tribes of the earth" that mourn may be a reference to all gentile nations, but it may also be a reference to the Israelite tribes which are scattered all around the world. This might also be the time when Judah repents, and accepts Yeshua.

Zecharyah (Zechariah) 12:10-14

10 "And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn.

11 In that day there shall be a great mourning in Jerusalem, like the mourning at Hadad Rimmon in the plain of Megiddo.

12 And the land shall mourn, every family by itself: the family of the house of David by itself, and their wives by themselves; the family of the house of Nathan by itself, and their wives by themselves;

13 the family of the house of Levi by itself, and their wives by themselves; the family of Shimei by itself, and their wives by themselves;

14 all the families that remain, every family by itself, and their wives by themselves."

As we have pointed out in other places, the only people who are in the Land of Israel at this time, who can fulfill this passage, are the (unsaved) Jewish people.

Next, Matthew 24:31 tells us that Yahweh will send His messengers (angels) with the sound of a trumpet, and

they will gather His elect from the four winds. This cannot be a reference to the rapture, since we have already seen that the elect will remain on earth during the millennium, (verse 22, above, and Revelation 5:10).

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

As we will see in a later chapter, what Yeshua is saying is that at His return at Revelation 19:11 (after the 7th trumpet and the cup judgments), His people will begin making their way back to the land of Israel, in what is called “the Ingathering.” This will likely be the second exodus, mentioned in Deuteronomy 30, in Jeremiah 16, and elsewhere.

Devarim (Deuteronomy) 30:4-5

4 If any of you are driven out to the farthest parts under heaven, from there Yahweh your Elohim will gather you, and from there He will bring you.

5 Then Yahweh your Elohim will bring you to the land which your fathers possessed, and you shall possess it. He will prosper you and multiply you more than your fathers.

The parallel account in Luke 21 tells us that the time to flee Judea is when one sees Jerusalem surrounded by armies.

Luqa (Luke) 21:20-24

20 "But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation is near.

21 Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, let those who are in the midst of her depart, and let not those who are in the country enter her.

22 For these are the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled.

23 But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! For there will be great distress in the land and wrath upon this people.

24 And they will fall by the edge of the sword, and be led away captive into all nations. And Jerusalem will be trampled by Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.”

At some point Jerusalem will be surrounded by armies, overrun, and an abomination of desolation will be set up on the temple mount. As we will see later, a “man of sin” will also offer sacrifices. This will last until the “times of the gentiles” are fulfilled, which Revelation 11 tells us spans some 42 months (3-1/2 years).

Hitgalut (Revelation) 11:1-3

11 Then I was given a reed like a measuring rod. And the messenger stood, saying, "Rise and measure the temple of Elohim, the altar, and those who worship there.

2 But leave out the court which is outside the temple, and do not measure it, for it has been given to the Gentiles. And they will tread the holy city underfoot for forty-two months.”

There is presently an abomination of desolation on the temple mount, called the “Dome of the Rock.” This is a Muslim mosque that stands where the temple used to stand. As we will see, it would fulfill all of the legal requirements over the abomination of desolation,

except for the fact that no one is presently offering sacrifices there. We will discuss this in more detail as this study progresses.

Next we need to discuss the “rapture,” or the “great catching away.”

Assembly	Ephesus	Smyrna	Pergamos	Thyatira
Seals Seals take time to play out.	1 Seal White horse (Papacy, UN/URI) NWO	2 Seal Red horse (Marxism Socialism)	3 Seal Black Horse (Capitalism Bilderberg, Fed)	4 Seal Green/Grey Dappled Horse (Islam, and Islamic terror)
Trumpets Trumpets take time to play out. Destruction by 1/3. (7 years?)	1 Trump Hail, fire and blood. 1/3 trees all green grass burned up	2 Trump Mountain cast into sea 1/3 sea becomes blood, 1/3 ships, living	3 Trump Wormwood Great star falls from heaven, 1/3 of the waters become wormwood. Many men die	4 Trump 1/3 sun struck, 1/3 moon, 1/3 day not shine
Insets (adds information) Describes Israel, two beasts, Lamb, 144,000, Babylon.	Chapter 12 (inset) Woman (Israel) flees 3.5 years	Chapter 13 (inset) Describes the beasts from sea (same as four/five beasts of Daniel)	Chapter 13 (inset) describes the beast from the land (UN/URI)	Chapter 14 (inset) Lamb and 144,000 on Mount Tzion, and also before the throne
Cups/Bowl Happen all at once. Destruction nearly total. “Day of Yahweh?”	1 Cup Sores on men who worship the beast	2 Cup Sea becomes blood. All sea creatures die	3 Cup Rivers and fountains of water become blood.	4 Cup Men burned with great heat from sun.
(Ch. 17, 18 inset) Wedding Feast, Satan bound, Millennium	Chapter 17 (inset) Describes Babylon (RCC and her daughters)	Chapter 18 (inset) Babylon is fallen in one hour	19.11 Yeshua’s return. Armageddon (= Wedding Feast?) Same time frame as Seventh Trumpet?	19.17 Armageddon = Gog 1 = Wedding Feast. Ephraim is married Hosea 2:20
Millennium (1,000 years). Tanach prophecies play out.				
End of Millennium and the New Earth	20.7 Satan Released. Gog 2. Devil cast into Lake of Fire	20.11 White Throne Judgment	21 New Earth Renewed Jerusalem as a bride	

Non-shaded areas belong to the timeline.
Shaded areas give details “inset” into the timeline.

Sardis	Philadelphia	(not used)	Laodicea
5 Seal More have to die before the blood of the martyrs will be avenged.	6 Seal Quake, stars fall, sun black, moon blood, heaven departs	Sealing of 144,000 protected against trumpets	7 Seal Silence in heaven ½ hour Introduces trumpets
5 Trump Figurative star (Satan?) falls to earth, opens pit, plague all but the sealed 5 months. WOE 1	6 Trump 200 million man army kills 1/3 men. (Seven thunders take place, are sealed up) WOE 2	Chapter 11: Outer Court trodden underfoot 42 months. Two Witnesses end 3.5 year testimony, are resurrected.	7 Trump Yeshua seen at "Last trump"? Earth quake. Heaven departs (nuke?) Reign of YHWH begins. WOE 3
14.7 (inset) Hour of Judgment	14.8 (inset) Bavel fallen (in heaven? Plays out in 18)	14.13 (inset) Blessed are those who die in YHWH from now on.	14.14 (inset) Son of Man on cloud, with sickle. Earth reaped (at the end of the age)
5 Cup poured on the beast's throne.	6 Cup Euphrates dried up. 3 unclean spirits like frogs are seen.	16.16 Men gather for Armageddon	7 Cup Big quake. Jerusalem divided. Islands flee, mountains not found.
19.20 Beast (UN/Pope) and False Prophet (Mohammed) into Lake of Fire (false religions)	20.1 Satan Bound 1,000 years. Millennium begins.	20.4-6 First Resurrection. (Spiritual resurrection.)	Millennium Tanach prophecies play out. (Second Exodus?)
Millennium (1,000 years). Tanach Prophecies play out			

About the Rapture

While the word "rapture" does not appear in Scripture, Shaul does say there will be a "great catching away." In Greek the word is *harpazo* (ἁρπάζω), which refers to a plucking, or a "catching away."

NT:726 (ἁρπάζω) *harpazo* (har-pad'-zo); from a derivative of NT:138; to seize (in various applications):
KJV – catch (away, up), pluck, pull, take (by force).

The Aramaic is "n't'khatef" (נתחטף), based on the root word "khatef" (חטף), which means to "snatch" or to "pluck" away, which is the same basic idea as *harpazo*. In this chapter we will see several interesting things about the *harpazo*.

1. There will be more than one *harpazo*
2. The first *harpazo* will probably take place at or after trumpet 7, but perhaps also at seal 6
3. The bodies that are raised in the *harpazo* are immortal spiritual bodies (not natural ones)
4. Those who are raised will go to be with Yeshua
5. They will return with Yeshua to the Wedding Feast (Revelation 19), which is Armageddon
6. Yeshua will not remain on earth, but will return to His Father's house
7. Another *harpazo* will take place at or near the end of earth's history (around +/- 3000 CE).
8. At the second *harpazo*, all those who are raised go to the White Throne Judgment
9. None of the *harpazos* will likely be visible

Much of what we know about the harpazo comes from Shaul. In 1 Thessalonians 4, Shaul says, “For this we say to you by the word of Yahweh...” Some scholars believe this means Shaul learned these things by direct revelation, while others believe he may have learned of them second hand, from one of the other apostles (who heard Yeshua speak them). Still others believe he may have derived them from his knowledge of Scripture. Whatever the case, many believe Shaul expected to see the harpazo in his lifetime, since he used the plural inclusive “we” in verses 15 and 17 (below).

[In this passage, it helps to remember at least at one level, Yeshua is Yahweh, in that He is His Son. For more details, please see, “Yeshua: Manifestation of Yahweh,” in *Nazarene Scripture Studies, Volume 1*.]

Thessaloniqim Aleph (1 Thess.) 4:13-17

13 But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope.

14 For if we believe that Yeshua died and rose again, even so Elohim [Yeshua?] will bring with Him those who sleep in Yeshua.

15 For this we say to you by the word of Yahweh, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of Yahweh will by no means precede those who are asleep.

16 For Yahweh Himself [Yeshua?] will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of Elohim. And the dead in Messiah will rise first.

17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up [harpageesometha (ἁρπαγησόμεθα)] together with them in the clouds to meet

Yahweh in the air. And thus we shall always be with Yahweh.

In verse 17, “shall be caught up” is the Greek word *harpageesometha* (ἁρπαγησόμεθα), which is based on the root word harpazo (ἁρπάζω).

In verse 16, Shaul says that Yahweh Himself (i.e., Yeshua) will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of Elohim. Since the term “shout” is also used for trumpet (or shofar) blasts, this may refer to the 7th trumpet. Verse 16 also tells us that we who are alive and remain will be caught up to be with Yeshua, and so will be with Him forever. However, this raises some issues.

We are told that Yeshua returns at the last trumpet.

Qorintim Aleph (1 Corinthians) 15:52-53

52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.

In context this is likely trumpet 7. However, as we will see later, there may be a 45 day lag time in between trumpet 7 and Yeshua’s triumphal return at Revelation 19:11 (Armageddon/Gog 1/Wedding Feast). If we think about it, this 45 day lag time explains why Shaul tells us that the dead in Messiah will rise first (verse 16), while verse 14 tells us that when Elohim (i.e., Yeshua) comes, He will bring with Him those who sleep. Those who sleep in Messiah shall rise when Yeshua (or His “sign”) is first seen in the clouds (likely at trumpet 7).

Then they go to be with Him for the 45 days, and return with Him when He comes triumphant, to smite Israel's enemies at Armageddon (verse 16).

However, if we think about this, the 45 day gap also explains why the bodies which are raised cannot be natural, for they will go to the heavens for 45 days, where there is no oxygen or food; and natural bodies need both oxygen and food to survive. This explains why Shaul says the bodies that are resurrected will not be natural, but spiritual (in verse 44, below).

Qorintim Aleph (1 Corinthians) 15:35-55

35 But someone will say, "How are the dead raised up? And with what body do they come?"

36 Foolish one, what you sow (natural body) is not made alive unless it dies.

37 And what you sow (natural body), you do not sow that body that shall be (spiritual body), but mere grain — perhaps wheat or some other grain.

38 But Elohim gives it a body as He pleases, and to each seed its own body.

39 All flesh is not the same flesh, but there is one kind of flesh of men, another flesh of animals, another of fish, and another of birds.

40 There are also celestial bodies and terrestrial bodies; but the glory of the celestial is one, and the glory of the terrestrial is another.

41 There is one glory of the sun, another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for one star differs from another star in glory.

42 So also is the resurrection of the dead. The body is sown in corruption, it is raised in incorruption.

43 It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power.

44 It is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body.

45 And so it is written, "The first man Adam became a living being." The last Adam became a life-giving spirit.

46 However, the spiritual is not first, but the natural, and afterward the spiritual.

47 The first man was of the earth, made of dust; the second Man is Yahweh from heaven.

48 As was the man of dust, so also are those who are made of dust; and as is the heavenly Man, so also are those who are heavenly.

49 And as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly Man.

50 Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of Elohim; nor does corruption (natural body) inherit incorruption (eternal life).

51 Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed —

52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.

54 So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory."

55 "O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?"

That the dead in Messiah are raised with incorruptible spiritual bodies does not rule out the possibility that there will also be a physical resurrection here on earth: it simply says that those who plan to go be with Yeshua will not have natural bodies, for those who go to be with Yeshua will leave the earth, and natural bodies cannot survive without oxygen or food. As we will also see later, they will not live here on earth (with the "elect"), but will probably live in the heavens during the millennium. This means that they cannot have natural bodies, for no flesh can stand before Him.

We will see many other reasons why the dead who are given incorruptible spiritual bodies will not reside here on earth (with the elect) during the millennium.

Proponents of a physical harpazo tell us that because of the examples of Enoch, Eliyahu (Elijah), and others, that the harpazo must be physical in nature. However, in 2 Corinthians 12:2-4, Shaul writes about a man in Messiah who was caught up to the "third heaven." As we will show in some other place, the first heaven is the physical sky, the second heaven is outer space, and the third heaven is the throne room. Many scholars believe Shaul is talking about his own experiences here; but mostly what we need to see is that in verse 2, "caught up" is the Greek word "harpagenta" (ἄρπαγέντα), which is based on the same root word harpazo (ἄρπάζω). It describes a "spiritual catching up."

<p>2 Corinthians 12:1-4 1 It is doubtless not profitable for me to boast.</p>	<p>^{BGT} 2 Corinthians 12:1 Καυχᾶσθαι δεῖ, οὐ συμφέρον μὲν, ἐλεύσομαι δὲ εἰς</p>
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

<p>I will come to visions and revelations of Yahweh: 2 I know a man in Messiah who fourteen years ago — whether in the body I do not know, or whether out of the body I do not know, Elohim knows — such a one was caught up (harpagenta) to the third heaven. 3 And I know such a man — whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, Elohim knows — 4 how he was caught up (herpagee) into Paradise and heard inexpressible words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter.</p>	<p>ὄπτασίας καὶ ἀποκαλύψεις κυρίου. ^{BGT} 2 Corinthians 12:2 οἶδα ἄνθρωπον ἐν Χριστῷ πρὸ ἐτῶν δεκατεσσάρων, εἴτε ἐν σώματι οὐκ οἶδα, εἴτε ἐκτὸς τοῦ σώματος οὐκ οἶδα, ὃ θεὸς οἶδεν, ἄρπαγέντα τὸν τοιοῦτον ἕως τρίτου οὐρανοῦ. ^{BGT} 2 Corinthians 12:3 καὶ οἶδα τὸν τοιοῦτον ἄνθρωπον, εἴτε ἐν σώματι εἴτε χωρὶς τοῦ σώματος οὐκ οἶδα, ὃ θεὸς οἶδεν, ^{BGT} 2 Corinthians 12:4 ὅτι ἠρπάγη εἰς τὸν παράδεισον καὶ ἤκουσεν ἄρρητα ῥήματα ἃ οὐκ ἐξὸν ἀνθρώπῳ λαλῆσαι.</p>
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

[The word for "caught up" in verse 4 is heerpagee (ἠρπάγη), which is again based on harpazo (ἄρπάζω).]

It does not make sense that Shaul is describing the experiences of a man who was given an immortal body and was caught up to be with Yeshua forever after. Rather, it seems more like Shaul is describing what is called an *epiphany*, an ecstatic state in which spiritual clarity and revelation is given. Such a spiritual ecstatic state is probably also what is described in Acts 8:39, where the Spirit of Yahweh caught Philip away. In Greek, "caught away" is *heerpasen* (ἤρπασεν), which is based on the root word harpazo (ἄρπάζω).

--	--

<p>Ma'asei (Acts) 8:39-40 39 Now when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of Yahweh caught Philip away (heerpasen), so that the eunuch saw him no more; and he went on his way rejoicing. 40 But Philip was found at Azotus. And passing through, he preached in all the cities till he came to Caesarea.</p>	<p>^{BGT} Acts 8:39 ὅτε δὲ ἀνέβησαν ἐκ τοῦ ὕδατος, πνεῦμα κυρίου ἤρπασεν τὸν Φίλιππον καὶ οὐκ εἶδεν αὐτὸν οὐκέτι ὁ εὐνοῦχος, ἐπορεύετο γὰρ τὴν ὁδὸν αὐτοῦ χαίρων. ^{BGT} Acts 8:40 Φίλιππος δὲ εὐρέθη εἰς Ἄζωτον· καὶ διερχόμενος εὐηγγελίζετο τὰς πόλεις πάσας ἕως τοῦ ἔλθειν αὐτὸν εἰς Καισάρειαν.</p>
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Philip cannot have been given an immortal body and a “one-way ticket” to heaven, because verse 40 tells us he was later found Azotus. Therefore, his harpazo was more likely a spiritual epiphany, although it is possible (however unlikely) that he was physically caught up to the first or second heaven (the sky, or outer space), only to be re-deposited on earth.

Proponents of a physical rapture point to the example of Eliyahu (Elijah), and how he was caught up to heaven in a whirlwind.

Melachim Bet (2 Kings) 2:11

11 Then it happened, as they continued on and talked, that suddenly a chariot of fire appeared with horses of fire, and separated the two of them; and Eliyahu went up by a whirlwind into heaven.

These say Eliyahu went to the throne room in heaven, because his body was searched for, but not found.

Melachim Bet (2 Kings) 2:17

17 But when they urged him till he was ashamed, he said, "Send them!" Therefore they sent fifty men, and they searched for three days but did not find him.

However, Eliyahu cannot have gone to the throne room in heaven, because seven years later he wrote a letter to Yehoram, King of Judah.

Divre HaYamim Bet (2 Chronicles) 21:12-15

12 And a letter came to him from Eliyahu the prophet, saying, "Thus says Yahweh Elohim of your father David: Because you have not walked in the ways of Jehoshaphat your father, or in the ways of Asa king of Judah...."

We also know that Eliyahu did not go to the throne room in heaven, because Yeshua tells us that He is the only one who has ever ascended to heaven.

Yochanan (John) 3:13

13 "No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, that is, the Son of Man who is in heaven."

Remembering that there are three “heavens” in Hebraic thought (the sky, outer space, and the throne room), it may be that Eliyahu was caught up to the sky (the first heaven), or perhaps even to outer space (however unlikely), before being safely re-deposited on earth.

Proponents of physical rapture theory tell us Hanok (Enoch) was also an early “type” of physical rapture.

Genesis 5:24	וַיִּתְהַלֵּךְ חֲנוֹךְ אֶת
--------------	----------------------------

24 And Hanok walked with Elohim; and he was not, for Elohim took him.

הַאֱלֹהִים | וְאִינְנוּ כִּי
לָקַח אֶתּוֹ אֱלֹהִים

The interpretation here is somewhat more difficult. We know Hanok did not go to the throne room in heaven, because Yeshua no one has gone to heaven. We might conclude that Yahweh “took” Hanok’s life, except that this contradicts Hebrews 11:5.

Ivrim (Hebrews) 11:5

5 By faith Enoch was taken away so that he did not see death, "and was not found, because Elohim had taken him"; for before he was taken he had this testimony, that he pleased Elohim.

Some writers suggest that Yeshua meant no man had gone to heaven and *returned*, so as to be able to speak of heaven with authority. The present author does not know. However, we do know that the Tanach (“Old” Covenant) never speaks of a mass physical harpazo. This is a problem for rapture theory, because Yahweh tells us that surely He does nothing unless first He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets.

Amos 3:7

7 “Surely Yahweh Elohim does nothing unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets.”

Shaul was a prophet, but not necessarily in the same sense that Yahweh speaks about in Amos. Shaul never says “Thus sayeth Yahweh” with regards to the rapture. Instead, he says he is revealing “mysteries;” but he never gives us the references, so we don’t know if he is

writing by direct revelation, recording Yeshua’s words (which he may have learned from the other apostles), or whether he learned them from Scripture analysis (or by some other method). However, the parable of the wheat and the tares tells us that those who are taken out of the earth will be taken away and burned; and therefore, being physically “caught away” is not good.

Mattityahu (Matthew) 13:24-30

24 Another parable He put forth to them, saying: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field;

25 but while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat and went his way.

26 But when the grain had sprouted and produced a crop, then the tares also appeared.

27 So the servants of the owner came and said to him, 'Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have tares?'

28 He said to them, 'An enemy has done this.' The servants said to him, 'Do you want us then to go and gather them up?'

29 But he said, 'No, lest while you gather up the tares you also uproot the wheat with them.

30 Let both grow together until the harvest, and at the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, "First gather together the tares and bind them in bundles to burn them, but gather the wheat into my barn.""

There are perhaps other workable theories, but these things seem to fit with the following scenario:

1. Yeshua’s elect will reign on the earth (Matthew 24:22, Revelation 5:10)

2. During the tribulation, many of the righteous will suffer. However, it will also happen that those who are “not elect” will be “taken out” of the earth, and burned (Matthew 13:30, above)
3. When Yeshua (or His “sign”) appears in the clouds (probably at trumpet 7, but perhaps at seal 6) the dead in Messiah will be given immortal spiritual bodies, and will be caught up to be with Him, and so will be with Him forever. However, Yeshua and the saints do not touch down on earth at that time
4. When Yeshua returns on His white horse at the Battle of Armageddon (Gog 1), all of the saints come with Him (Revelation 19:11), and this is when He touches down on earth (Zechariah 14)
5. However, as we will see, Yeshua and his saints do not stay on earth during the millennium, but go to His Father’s house in heaven. This allows a multitude of other prophecies to play out

This scenario also works with Daniel 12.

Daniel 12:1-2

**12 "At that time Michael shall stand up,
The great prince who stands watch over the
sons of your people;
And there shall be a time of trouble,
Such as never was since there was a nation,
Even to that time.
And at that time your people shall be
delivered,
Every one who is found written in the book.
2 And many of those who sleep in the dust of
the earth shall awake,
Some to everlasting life,
Some to shame and everlasting contempt.**

However, since we already know the elect stay on earth during the millennium, then there must be yet another “harpazo” of sorts, for the sake of the elect (who remained on earth during the millennium, and who went through the Second Exodus, the Ingathering, etc.). This is reflected in Revelation 20:11-15.

Hitgalut (Revelation) 20:11-15

11 Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them.

12 And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before Elohim, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books.

13 The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works.

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

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

We will talk more about these passages when we get to the corresponding section of the timeline. However, now we need to talk about the 144,000, who have the seal of Yahweh on their foreheads.

Assembly	Ephesus	Smyrna	Pergamos	Thyatira
Seals Seals take time to play out.	1 Seal White horse (Papacy, UN/URI) NWO	2 Seal Red horse (Marxism Socialism)	3 Seal Black Horse (Capitalism Bilderberg, Fed)	4 Seal Green/Grey Dappled Horse (Islam, and Islamic terror)
Trumpets Trumpets take time to play out. Destruction by 1/3. (7 years?)	1 Trump Hail, fire and blood. 1/3 trees all green grass burned up	2 Trump Mountain cast into sea 1/3 sea becomes blood, 1/3 ships, living	3 Trump Wormwood Great star falls from heaven, 1/3 of the waters become wormwood. Many men die	4 Trump 1/3 sun struck, 1/3 moon, 1/3 day not shine
Insets (adds information) Describes Israel, two beasts, Lamb, 144,000, Babylon.	Chapter 12 (inset) Woman (Israel) flees 3.5 years	Chapter 13 (inset) Describes the beasts from sea (same as four/five beasts of Daniel)	Chapter 13 (inset) describes the beast from the land (UN/URI)	Chapter 14 (inset) Lamb and 144,000 on Mount Tzion, and also before the throne
Cups/Bowl Happen all at once. Destruction nearly total. "Day of Yahweh?"	1 Cup Sores on men who worship the beast	2 Cup Sea becomes blood. All sea creatures die	3 Cup Rivers and fountains of water become blood.	4 Cup Men burned with great heat from sun.
(Ch. 17, 18 inset) Wedding Feast, Satan bound, Millennium	Chapter 17 (inset) Describes Babylon (RCC and her daughters)	Chapter 18 (inset) Babylon is fallen in one hour	19.11 Yeshua's return. Armageddon (= Wedding Feast?) Same time frame as Seventh Trumpet?	19.17 Armageddon = Gog 1 = Wedding Feast. Ephraim is married Hosea 2:20
Millennium (1,000 years). Tanach prophecies play out.				
End of Millennium and the New Earth	20.7 Satan Released. Gog 2. Devil cast into Lake of Fire	20.11 White Throne Judgment	21 New Earth Renewed Jerusalem as a bride	

Non-shaded areas belong to the timeline.
Shaded areas give details "inset" into the timeline.

The 144,000 and the Great Multitude

Sardis	Philadelphia	(not used)	Laodicea
5 Seal More have to die before the blood of the martyrs will be avenged.	6 Seal Quake, stars fall, sun black, moon blood, heaven departs	Sealing of 144,000 protected against trumpets	7 Seal Silence in heaven ½ hour Introduces trumpets
5 Trump Figurative star (Satan?) falls to earth, opens pit, plague all but the sealed 5 months. WOE 1	6 Trump 200 million man army kills 1/3 men. (Seven thunders take place, are sealed up) WOE 2	Chapter 11: Outer Court trodden underfoot 42 months. Two Witnesses end 3.5 year testimony, are resurrected.	7 Trump Yeshua seen at "Last trump"? Earth quake. Heaven departs (nuke?) Reign of YHWH begins. WOE 3
14.7 (inset) Hour of Judgment	14.8 (inset) Bavel fallen (in heaven? Plays out in 18)	14.13 (inset) Blessed are those who die in YHWH from now on.	14.14 (inset) Son of Man on cloud, with sickle. Earth reaped (at the end of the age)
5 Cup poured on the beast's throne.	6 Cup Euphrates dried up. 3 unclean spirits like frogs are seen.	16.16 Men gather for Armageddon	7 Cup Big quake. Jerusalem divided. Islands flee, mountains not found.
19.20 Beast (UN/Pope) and False Prophet (Mohammed) into Lake of Fire (false religions)	20.1 Satan Bound 1,000 years. Millennium begins.	20.4-6 First Resurrection. (Spiritual resurrection.)	Millennium Tanach prophecies play out. (Second Exodus?)
Millennium (1,000 years). Tanach Prophecies play out			

In Revelation 7 we read about the 144,000. These are 12,000 Israelites from each of the 12 tribes. Verse 3 tells us that they are sealed (i.e., protected) from harm during the trumpet judgments, and they may well be protected during the cup judgments as well.

Hitgalut (Revelation) 7

1 After these things I saw four messengers standing at the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, on the sea, or on any tree.

2 Then I saw another messenger ascending from the east, having the seal of the living Elohim. And he cried with a loud voice to the four messengers to whom it was granted to harm the earth and the sea,

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

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

5 of the tribe of Judah twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Reuben twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Gad twelve thousand were sealed;

6 of the tribe of Asher twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Naphtali twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Manasseh twelve thousand were sealed;

**7 of the tribe of Simeon twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Levi twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Issachar twelve thousand were sealed;
8 of the tribe of Zebulun twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Joseph twelve thousand were sealed; of the tribe of Benjamin twelve thousand were sealed.**

The text does not mention Dan, or Ephraim. Rather, it mentions only Manasseh and Joseph. This is strange, as Joseph contains both Manasseh and Ephraim; and so Manasseh is basically mentioned twice, while Ephraim is not mentioned at all. Scholars speculate as to why Dan and Ephraim are not included in the list (as well as why Manasseh is included twice), but we are never really told why. [In *Nazarene Israel* we identify America with Ephraim, England with Manasseh, and Dan with Germany.]

We also read about a great multitude which no one can number, coming from all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues. Verse 14 tells us these “come out of the great tribulation.” This may mean they die in the tribulation, which would be in keeping with what we learned at the fifth seal, which is that more of us have to die before the blood of the martyrs can be avenged.

Hitgalut (Revelation) 6:9-11

9 When He opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of Elohim and for the testimony which they held.

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

11 Then a white robe was given to each of them; and it was said to them that they should rest a little while longer, until both the number of their fellow servants and their brethren, who would be killed as they were, was completed.

Verse 15 tells us the multitude will be before Elohim's throne, and verses 16 and 17 seem to speak of life either in the throne room, or in the new earth. Both of these things seem to indicate that they have died.

9 After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands,

10 and crying out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our Elohim who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

11 All the messengers stood around the throne and the elders and the four living creatures, and fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped Elohim,

12 saying: "Amein! Blessing and glory and wisdom, Thanksgiving and honor and power and might, Be to our Elohim forever and ever. Amein."

13 Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, "Who are these arrayed in white robes, and where did they come from?"

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

15 Therefore they are before the throne of Elohim, and serve Him day and night in His temple. And He who sits on the throne will dwell among them.

16 They shall neither hunger anymore nor thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any heat;

17 for the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters. And Elohim will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

That many die in the great tribulation is consistent with Matthew 24, where Yeshua tells us that unless Yahweh shortens the tribulation, no flesh will be saved.

Mattityahu (Matthew) 24:21-22

21 "For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be.

22 And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened."

That a great many die seems consistent with passages such as Isaiah 13, which prophecy near-complete destruction His land.

Yeshayahu (Isaiah) 13:9-14

9 Behold, the day of Yahweh comes, cruel, with both wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate; and He will destroy its sinners from it.

10 For the stars of heaven and their constellations will not give their light; the sun will be darkened in its going forth, and the moon will not cause its light to shine.

11 "I will punish the world for its evil, and the wicked for their iniquity; I will halt the arrogance of the proud, and will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible.

12 I will make a mortal more rare than fine gold, a man more than the golden wedge of Ophir.

13 Therefore I will shake the heavens, and the earth will move out of her place, in the wrath of Yahweh of hosts and in the day of His fierce anger.

14 It shall be as the hunted gazelle, and as a sheep that no man takes up; every man will turn to his own people, and everyone will flee to his own land.

In other studies we show that prophecy focuses mainly on Israel (and the land of Israel), and later we will see that the tribulation may be far more intense in the land of Israel, than in other parts of the world. This also makes sense from a geopolitical perspective, as Israel is surrounded by hostile armies. While we will see that America will also "be punished," she may not be "wiped out" until after the second exodus is complete.

If Yeshua tells us that the tribulation will be shortened for "the elect's sake," then it seems likely that the 144,000 represent at least part of the "elect." We are not told why Yahweh chooses them, but they may be selected to provide "spiritual leadership" through the second exodus (and into the millennium).

The 144,000 show up again in Revelation 14, where we are told they are "virgins." This may mean they have not committed idolatry (which is spiritual adultery). This might refer to our next generation, which has always believed in Yeshua, and kept Torah.

Hitgalut (Revelation) 14:1-5

1 Then I looked, and behold, a Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, having His Father's name written on their foreheads.

2 And I heard a voice from heaven, like the voice of many waters, and like the voice of loud thunder. And I heard the sound of harpists playing their harps.

3 They sang as it were a new song before the throne, before the four living creatures, and the elders; and no one could learn that song except the hundred and forty-four thousand who were redeemed from the earth.

4 These are the ones who were not defiled with women, for they are virgins. These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes. These were redeemed from among men, being firstfruits to Elohim and to the Lamb.

5 And in their mouth was found no deceit, for they are without fault before the throne of Elohim.

It is often said that prophecies are not given to us so we can know exactly how things will go ahead of time; rather, they are given to us only so that when the things that have been prophesied come to pass it will serve as a confirmation of our faith. The same applies to visions, except that while the interpretation of prophecies can be a little difficult, visions can be downright mysterious. For example, verse 1 tells us a “Lamb” will stand on Mount Zion, with the 144,000. If Yeshua is the “Lamb,” then if He stands on Mount Zion on earth, then how do we explain that in verse 3 we are told that the 144,000 sing a new song before the throne?

There are many different ways we can interpret this passage. One is that Yeshua and the 144,000 are standing on Mount Zion here on earth, and they are simply being given credit for “singing a new song” before the throne (in heaven). Another interpretation is that the earth is simply a shadow of heaven, and so we are looking at what might be called (for lack of a better term) a “parallel reality.” There are many other ways we could interpret this passage, and traditional scholarship does not agree on how to interpret it.

It is exciting, however, to see the next generation of our children growing up, never having known anything other than Yeshua and Torah. If they follow Yeshua wherever He leads them, they could be part of this 144,000.

Next we will talk about the seal 7, which introduces the trumpet judgments.

Assembly	Ephesus	Smyrna	Pergamos	Thyatira
Seals Seals take time to play out.	1 Seal White horse (Papacy, UN/URI) NWO	2 Seal Red horse (Marxism Socialism)	3 Seal Black Horse (Capitalism Bilderberg, Fed)	4 Seal Green/Grey Dappled Horse (Islam, and Islamic terror)
Trumpets Trumpets take time to play out. Destruction by 1/3. (7 years?)	1 Trump Hail, fire and blood. 1/3 trees all green grass burned up	2 Trump Mountain cast into sea 1/3 sea becomes blood, 1/3 ships, living	3 Trump Wormwood Great star falls from heaven, 1/3 of the waters become wormwood. Many men die	4 Trump 1/3 sun struck, 1/3 moon, 1/3 day not shine
Insets (adds information) Describes Israel, two beasts, Lamb, 144,000, Babylon.	Chapter 12 (inset) Woman (Israel) flees 3.5 years	Chapter 13 (inset) Describes the beasts from sea (same as four/five beasts of Daniel)	Chapter 13 (inset) describes the beast from the land (UN/URI)	Chapter 14 (inset) Lamb and 144,000 on Mount Tzion, and also before the throne
Cups/Bowl Happen all at once. Destruction nearly total. "Day of Yahweh?"	1 Cup Sores on men who worship the beast	2 Cup Sea becomes blood. All sea creatures die	3 Cup Rivers and fountains of water become blood.	4 Cup Men burned with great heat from sun.
(Ch. 17, 18 inset) Wedding Feast, Satan bound, Millennium	Chapter 17 (inset) Describes Babylon (RCC and her daughters)	Chapter 18 (inset) Babylon is fallen in one hour	19.11 Yeshua's return. Armageddon (= Wedding Feast?) Same time frame as Seventh Trumpet?	19.17 Armageddon = Gog 1 = Wedding Feast. Ephraim is married Hosea 2:20
Millennium (1,000 years). Tanach prophecies play out.				
End of Millennium and the New Earth	20.7 Satan Released. Gog 2. Devil cast into Lake of Fire	20.11 White Throne Judgment	21 New Earth Renewed Jerusalem as a bride	

Non-shaded areas belong to the timeline.
Shaded areas give details "inset" into the timeline.

Seal 7 and the Tribulation Period

Sardis	Philadelphia	(not used)	Laodicea
5 Seal More have to die before the blood of the martyrs will be avenged.	6 Seal Quake, stars fall, sun black, moon blood, heaven departs	Sealing of 144,000 protected against trumpets	7 Seal Silence in heaven ½ hour Introduces trumpets
5 Trump Figurative star (Satan?) falls to earth, opens pit, plague all but the sealed 5 months. WOE 1	6 Trump 200 million man army kills 1/3 men. (Seven thunders take place, are sealed up) WOE 2	Chapter 11: Outer Court trodden underfoot 42 months. Two Witnesses end 3.5 year testimony, are resurrected.	7 Trump Yeshua seen at "Last trump"? Earth quake. Heaven departs (nuke?) Reign of YHWH begins. WOE 3
14.7 (inset) Hour of Judgment	14.8 (inset) Bavel fallen (in heaven? Plays out in 18)	14.13 (inset) Blessed are those who die in YHWH from now on.	14.14 (inset) Son of Man on cloud, with sickle. Earth reaped (at the end of the age)
5 Cup poured on the beast's throne.	6 Cup Euphrates dried up. 3 unclean spirits like frogs are seen.	16.16 Men gather for Armageddon	7 Cup Big quake. Jerusalem divided. Islands flee, mountains not found.
19.20 Beast (UN/Pope) and False Prophet (Mohammed) into Lake of Fire (false religions)	20.1 Satan Bound 1,000 years. Millennium begins.	20.4-6 First Resurrection. (Spiritual resurrection.)	Millennium Tanach prophecies play out. (Second Exodus?)
Millennium (1,000 years). Tanach Prophecies play out			

Daniel 9 tells us that 70 "weeks" (or "sevens," שָׁבָעִים) have been determined for Daniel's people, and for Jerusalem. If these "sevens" represent prophetic 7 year periods, then Yahweh is prophesying of a period of 490 years (70 x 7 = 490).

Verse 25 tells us there would be 7 "sevens" and 62 "sevens" from the time the command to restore and rebuild Jerusalem went forth, until Messiah the Prince. 7 "sevens" plus 62 "sevens" makes 69 "sevens." 69 x 7 = 483. Thus Messiah would come 483 years after the command to restore and rebuild Jerusalem went forth.

History records that Artaxerxes, King of Babylon, sent forth the command to restore and rebuild Jerusalem in 457 BCE; so if we add the 483 years to 457 BCE we arrive at 26 CE, which is when many scholars believe Yeshua began His ministry. [Further, since Yeshua is the only person ever to fulfill this prophecy, the Tanach ("Old Testament") shows that Yeshua is the Messiah.]

Verse 26 tells us that after the 69 "sevens" (i.e., after 483 years), the Messiah would be cut off, but not for Himself. This took place at Golgotha, yet this only accounts for 69 of the 70 "sevens." One "seven" is still unaccounted for, and this is where many scholars get the idea of a "seven year tribulation 'week'."

Verse 26 also speaks of a "prince who is to come," who would destroy both the city and the sanctuary. Rome destroyed both the city and the sanctuary in 70 CE, and this might fulfill the prophecy, except that the

destruction in 70 CE did not “come with a flood” (either literally or figuratively); and therefore this part of the prophecy has to pertain to a coming temple. It may yet be Rome (i.e., the papacy) who fulfills this prophecy, or it may be Rome’s spiritual progeny (Islam); but either way, many scholars believe this passage speaks of a coming “anti-Messiah’s temple.” In later chapters we will see how Rome, Islam, and even Judaism are all conspiring to build this temple together on the Temple Mount, but for now we need to stay focused on the coming seven year tribulation “week.”

<p>Daniel 9:24-27 24 "Seventy weeks are determined for your people and for your set-apart city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sins, to make reconciliation for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the Most Set-apart. 25 "Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the command to restore and build Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince, there shall be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; the street shall be built again, and the wall, Even in troublesome times.</p>	<p>(24) שְׁבַעִים שָׁבָעִים נְחַתֵּדָּ עַל עֲמֻדָּ וְעַל עִיר קִדְשָׁדָּ לְכֹלֵא הַפֶּשַׁע וְלַחֲתָם [וְלִהְיֵתָם קָרִי] חֲטָאוֹת [חֲטָאתָ קָרִי] וְלִכְפֹּר עֲוֹן וְלִהְבִּיא צְדָקָה עֲלֵמִים וְלִחֲתָם חֲזוֹן וְנִבִּיא וְלִמְשַׁח קִדְשָׁ קִדְשִׁים : (25) וְתִדְעַ וְתִשְׁכַּל מִן מִצְאָ דָבָר לְהָשִׁיב וְלִבְנוֹת יְרוּשָׁלַם עַד מְשִׁיחַ נָגִיד שְׁבַעִים שְׁבַעִים וְשְׁבַעִים שָׁשִׁים וְשָׁנִים תְּשׁוּב וְנִבְנֶתָה רְחוֹב וְחָרוֹץ וּבְצוֹק הָעֵתִים :</p>
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

<p>26 "And after the sixty-two weeks Messiah shall be cut off, but not for Himself; and the people of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end of it shall be with a flood, and till the end of the war desolations are determined. 27 Then he (prince who is to come) shall confirm a covenant with many for one week; but in the middle of the week he (prince who is to come) shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate, even until the consummation, which is determined, is poured out on the desolate."</p>	<p>(26) וְאַחֲרֵי הַשְּׁבַעִים שָׁשִׁים וְשָׁנִים יִכָּרֵת מְשִׁיחַ וְאִין לוֹ וְהָעִיר וְהַקִּדְשׁ יִשְׁחִית עִם נָגִיד הַבָּא וְקִצּוֹ בְּשֶׁטֶף וְעַד קֶץ מְלַחְמָה נִחְרָצֶת שְׁמָמוֹת : (27) וְהַגִּבּוֹר בְּרִית לְרַבִּים שְׁבוּעַ אֶחָד וְחָצִי הַשְּׁבוּעַ יִשְׁבִּית זָבַח וּמִנְחָה וְעַל כִּנּוֹף שְׁקוּצִים מְשָׁמֵם וְעַד כָּלָה וְנִחְרָצָה תִּתֵּדָּ עַל שָׁמֵם</p>
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

In verse 27 we read of a “prince who is to come,” whom many believe refers to an anti-Messiah. He will confirm a covenant with many for one “seven” (i.e., 7 earth years); but in the middle of the week (i.e., after 3-1/2 years) he will bring an end to sacrifice and offering. This seems to imply that an “anti-Messiah’s temple” will be built on the Temple Mount, and that sacrifice and offering will be re-instated for the first 3.5 years.

But if there will be a papal/anti-Messiah's temple built during the tribulation week, then when will this temple be built? Scripture does not say, but it might be built between the 6th and 7th seals.

Many secular people believe the only way to avert nuclear war is to establish a one-world government. A nuclear blast in the Middle East would lead many of them to demand a world government; yet bringing a world government to full power is not easily achieved. We know it will never become a reality, because as we will see later, during the trumpet judgments there will still be warfare between the nations. That means the UN will never truly rule over all nations.

What can happen, however, is that following any kind of nuclear exchange in the Middle East, the public can demand that the UN intervene. Jerusalem can be made an "international city," and the Temple Mount can be given to the pope. A "joint temple" can be built, so that all three of the world's main monotheistic religions (Xtianity, Judaism and Islam) can worship in "peace and safety." (Sacrifices and offerings could also be made there.) This is a realistic and believable scenario, and as we will see later, preparations for this joint temple are already underway. All that is needed to "get the ball rolling" is for a planned nuclear exchange to take place, like the kind prophesied at the 6th seal.

Hitgalut (Revelation) 6:12-17

12 I looked when He opened the sixth seal, and behold, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became like blood.

13 And the stars of heaven fell to the earth, as a fig tree drops its late figs when it is shaken by a mighty wind.

14 Then the sky receded as a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island was moved out of its place.

15 And the kings of the earth (land), the great men, the rich men, the commanders, the mighty men, every slave and every free man, hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains,

16 and said to the mountains and rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb!

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

It could be that the anti-Messiah's temple is built during the "half hour of silence" that takes place when the 7th seal is opened (before the trumpet judgments begin).

Hitgalut (Revelation) 8:1

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

2 And I saw the seven messengers who stand before Elohim, and to them were given seven trumpets.

3 Then another messenger, having a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. He was given much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all the saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne.

4 And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, ascended before Elohim from the messenger's hand.

5 Then the messenger took the censer, filled it with fire from the altar, and threw it to the earth. And there were noises, thunderings, lightnings, and an earthquake.

6 So the seven messengers who had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound.

In general, the seals play out over long periods of time, while the trumpets play out over a much shorter period of time, and the cups/bowls seem to take place within days or weeks. If this “accelerating” pattern holds true, then there should be plenty of time between the 6th and the 7th seals for the temple to be built, and for sacrifice and oblation to be reinstated. While there are several different variations of this scenario, it seems plausible that the newly-reinstated sacrifices and oblations could be halted when the trumpet judgments begin.

[Alternately, it has been suggested that perhaps the tribulation “week” begins before the 6th seal (and that the anti-Messiah’s temple is also built before the 6th seal). According to this theory, it is the blast at the 6th seal that causes sacrifice and offering to cease.] In any case, we can surmise that the anti-Messiah’s temple is standing during the time of the trumpet judgments, because as we will see, the 2 witnesses give their testimony for 3.5 years, and their testimony ends between the 6th and 7th trumpets. We also know that this cannot be a temple of Yahweh, because the outer court is “trodden underfoot” by the gentiles.

Hitgalut (Revelation) 11:1-13

1 Then I was given a reed like a measuring rod. And the angel stood, saying, "Rise and measure the temple of Elohim, the altar, and those who worship there.

2 But leave out the court which is outside the temple, and do not measure it, for it has been given to the Gentiles. And they will tread the set apart city underfoot for forty-two months.

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

4 These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands standing before the Elohim of the earth.

5 And if anyone wants to harm them, fire proceeds from their mouth and devours their enemies. And if anyone wants to harm them, he must be killed in this manner.

6 These have power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their prophecy; and they have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to strike the earth with all plagues, as often as they desire.

7 When they finish their testimony, the beast that ascends out of the bottomless pit will make war against them, overcome them, and kill them.

8 And their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Adon was crucified.

9 Then those from the peoples, tribes, tongues, and nations will see their dead bodies three-and-a-half days, and not allow their dead bodies to be put into graves.

10 And those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them, make merry, and send gifts to one another, because these two prophets tormented those who dwell on the earth.

11 Now after the three-and-a-half days the breath of life from Elohim entered them, and they stood on their feet, and great fear fell on those who saw them.

12 And they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, "Come up here." And they

ascended to heaven in a cloud, and their enemies saw them.

13 In the same hour there was a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city fell. In the earthquake seven thousand people were killed, and the rest were afraid and gave glory to the Elohim of heaven.

We will discuss the 2 witnesses more in a later chapter; however, because Revelation is a vision, the things we read are typically symbolic of something else. Therefore, the “great earthquake” in verse 13 may be a reference to societal and governmental change (which may yet be accompanied by a physical earthquake). If a “tenth of the city” falls in the vision, this might refer to a weakening of the anti-Messiah’s power, since those who are not killed give glory to Elohim (rather than the anti-Messiah).

We also need to look at our perspective. Scripture tends to focus on the land of Israel, and the Middle East. It also tends to refer to the Middle East as “the whole world.” One example of this is how Alexander the Great’s Empire was to control “all the earth,” which in Hebrew would be “b’kol ha-aretz” (בכל הארץ), but in the Aramaic of Daniel is “b’kal ha-arah” (כָּל אַרְעָא).

<p>Daniel 2:39 39 “But after you shall arise another kingdom inferior to yours; then another, a third kingdom of bronze, which shall rule over all the earth.”</p>	<p>(39) וּבְתַרְדּוֹ תִּקּוּם מַלְכוּת אַחֲרֵי אֶרְעָא [אַרְע קרין] מִנְדָּא וּמַלְכוּ תְּלִיתִיא [תְּלִיתִיא קרין] אַחֲרֵי דִּי נְחָשָׂא דִּי תִשְׁלֵט בְּכָל אֶרְעָא</p>
------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

If the prophecies over “the whole world” really pertain only to the Middle East, this also has a huge impact on how we interpret the prophecies over the trumpet judgments. For example, the trumpet judgments call for death and destruction by 1/3rds. If these destructions only pertain to the Middle East (which seems likely), then that is a very different picture than if the death and destruction affects the entire surface of the globe. [In other places we are told that Yahweh will not leave Ephraim “completely unpunished,” so we can also expect damage to take place in America and elsewhere; but again that is still a different picture.]

In this chapter we have learned that the UN never will control the whole planet, because there will still be warfare between the various nations during the trumpet judgments. This cannot occur if the UN is truly in full control of all governments. We also learned that while the trumpet judgments will affect the entire planet, they are likely more intensely focused in the Middle East. This makes sense with the scenario of a large regional war in the Middle East, in which Israel and Jerusalem are overrun.

In the next chapter we will read about the “destruction by 1/3rds” that takes place with the trumpet judgments. Let us remember that because Revelation is a vision, the things we are reading likely refer to events that take place in the heavens, or are symbolic of other things. For example, when we get to Trumpet 5, we will see that a “star” falls to earth, and is given the key to the “bottomless pit.” We know this is not talking about a physical star, because there is no bottomless pit here on earth; and even if there was, it would not have a “key.” Therefore, this “star” is not likely a star, or even a missile, but a demon.

Hitgalut (Revelation) 9:1

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

2 And he opened the bottomless pit, and smoke arose out of the pit like the smoke of a great furnace. So the sun and the air were darkened because of the smoke of the pit.

Assembly	Ephesus	Smyrna	Pergamos	Thyatira
Seals Seals take time to play out.	1 Seal White horse (Papacy, UN/URI) NWO	2 Seal Red horse (Marxism Socialism)	3 Seal Black Horse (Capitalism Bilderberg, Fed)	4 Seal Green/Grey Dappled Horse (Islam, and Islamic terror)
Trumpets Trumpets take time to play out. Destruction by 1/3. (7 years?)	1 Trump Hail, fire and blood. 1/3 trees all green grass burned up	2 Trump Mountain cast into sea 1/3 sea becomes blood, 1/3 ships, living	3 Trump Wormwood Great star falls from heaven, 1/3 of the waters become wormwood. Many men die	4 Trump 1/3 sun struck, 1/3 moon, 1/3 day not shine
Insets (adds information) Describes Israel, two beasts, Lamb, 144,000, Babylon.	Chapter 12 (inset) Woman (Israel) flees 3.5 years	Chapter 13 (inset) Describes the beasts from sea (same as four/five beasts of Daniel)	Chapter 13 (inset) describes the beast from the land (UN/URI)	Chapter 14 (inset) Lamb and 144,000 on Mount Tzion, and also before the throne
Cups/Bowl Happen all at once. Destruction nearly total. "Day of Yahweh?"	1 Cup Sores on men who worship the beast	2 Cup Sea becomes blood. All sea creatures die	3 Cup Rivers and fountains of water become blood.	4 Cup Men burned with great heat from sun.
(Ch. 17, 18 inset) Wedding Feast, Satan bound, Millennium	Chapter 17 (inset) Describes Babylon (RCC and her daughters)	Chapter 18 (inset) Babylon is fallen in one hour	19.11 Yeshua's return. Armageddon (= Wedding Feast?) Same time frame as Seventh Trumpet?	19.17 Armageddon = Gog 1 = Wedding Feast. Ephraim is married Hosea 2:20
Millennium (1,000 years). Tanach prophecies play out.				
End of Millennium and the New Earth	20.7 Satan Released. Gog 2. Devil cast into Lake of Fire	20.11 White Throne Judgment	21 New Earth Renewed Jerusalem as a bride	

Non-shaded areas belong to the timeline.
Shaded areas give details "inset" into the timeline.

Sardis	Philadelphia	(not used)	Laodicea
5 Seal More have to die before the blood of the martyrs will be avenged.	6 Seal Quake, stars fall, sun black, moon blood, heaven departs	Sealing of 144,000 protected against trumpets	7 Seal Silence in heaven ½ hour Introduces trumpets
5 Trump Figurative star (Satan?) falls to earth, opens pit, plague all but the sealed 5 months. WOE 1	6 Trump 200 million man army kills 1/3 men. (Seven thunders take place, are sealed up) WOE 2	Chapter 11: Outer Court trodden underfoot 42 months. Two Witnesses end 3.5 year testimony, are resurrected.	7 Trump Yeshua seen at "Last trump"? Earth quake. Heaven departs (nuke?) Reign of YHWH begins. WOE 3
14.7 (inset) Hour of Judgment	14.8 (inset) Bavel fallen (in heaven? Plays out in 18)	14.13 (inset) Blessed are those who die in YHWH from now on.	14.14 (inset) Son of Man on cloud, with sickle. Earth reaped (at the end of the age)
5 Cup poured on the beast's throne.	6 Cup Euphrates dried up. 3 unclean spirits like frogs are seen.	16.16 Men gather for Armageddon	7 Cup Big quake. Jerusalem divided. Islands flee, mountains not found.
19.20 Beast (UN/Pope) and False Prophet (Mohammed) into Lake of Fire (false religions)	20.1 Satan Bound 1,000 years. Millennium begins.	20.4-6 First Resurrection. (Spiritual resurrection.)	Millennium Tanach prophecies play out. (Second Exodus?)
Millennium (1,000 years). Tanach Prophecies play out			

The First Six Trumpets

In the last chapter we saw that while the whole earth will probably be affected by the trumpet judgments, the destruction probably centers on the Middle East. While there are exceptions, the destruction is generally described as being by 1/3rds. Instead of referring exactly to 1/3rd (i.e., exactly 33%), this term may simply mean, "about a third" (i.e., a large percentage).

At trumpet 1, 1/3rd of all trees are struck, and "all" green grass is burned up.

Hitgalut (Revelation) 8:7

7 The first messenger sounded: And hail and fire followed, mingled with blood, and they were thrown to the earth. And a third of the trees were burned up, and all green grass was burned up.

The Aramaic Peshitta says "hail and fire mingled with water," which some speculate could refer to a comet, or some other kind of celestial body hitting the earth.

MRD Revelation 8:7 And the first sounded; and there was hail, and fire, which were mingled with water: and these were thrown upon the earth; and a third part of the earth was burned up, and a third part of the trees were burned, and all green grass was burned.	והו ^{PEH} Revelation 8:7 קדמיה אזעק והוא ברדא ונורא דפתיכין במיה ואתרמיו על ארעא ותולתה דארעא יקד ותולתה דאילנא יקד וכל עסבא דארעא יקד :
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

If the references are literal, then it is probably simply destruction as the result of fire. However, some have suggested that the “trees” in this passage symbolically refer to men (based on Mark 8:24). This seems unlikely, as just four verses later (in verse 11), men are referred to simply as “men.”

At trumpet 2, 1/3rd of the seas are struck. Something like a great mountain burning with fire is thrown into the sea, and 1/3rd of the sea becomes blood. 1/3rd of the living creatures in the sea die, and 1/3rd of the ships are destroyed.

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

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

If this is to be taken literally, it may refer to a volcano exploding, and throwing debris into the Mediterranean (like Pompeii). If it is symbolic, it may refer to societal disorder. Mountains can refer to governments (e.g., Jeremiah 51:25), while kingdoms being moved can be depicted as mountains being thrown into the sea.

Tehillim (Psalms) 46:2, 6

***2 Therefore we will not fear,
Even though the earth be removed,
And though the mountains be carried into the
midst of the sea....***

***6 The nations raged, the kingdoms were
moved;***

He uttered His voice, the earth melted.

As we will see later, water is symbolic of populations of people, nations, and tongues.

Hitgalut (Revelation) 17:15

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

In the future, society will “transition” from the Beast system of government we currently have, to Yahweh’s system. The changeover promises to be a time of great change, and upheaval. While this might explain how a “mountain is thrown into the sea,” it does not explain how 1/3rd of the ships are destroyed, as well as 1/3rd of the sea creatures.

At trumpet 3, a great star named Wormwood falls from heaven, striking 1/3rd of the rivers and springs of water. Wormwood is a bitter herb that is associated with grief or sorrow. It is not toxic.

Hitgalut (Revelation) 8:10-11

10 Then the third messenger sounded: And a great star fell from heaven, burning like a torch, and it fell on a third of the rivers and on the springs of water.

11 The name of the star is Wormwood. A third of the waters became wormwood, and many men died from the water, because it was made bitter.

Some commentators theorize Wormwood could be a physical comet. The only issue is that the narrative does not describe a physical impact.

Others suggest Wormwood is a spirit that falls to earth, which makes men bitter unto spiritual or literal death. In

the Garden of Eden, when Havvah (Eve) ate of the fruit of the Tree of the Knowledge, she died spiritually in that she fell from Yahweh's favor. And although it was not immediate, there was also a physical curse of death. Indeed men who feel there is no Spirit can be very bitter; and if Wormwood is a spirit that leads men to turn away from Yahweh and His commandments, it can lead to spiritual and/or physical death.

Many commentators note how the trumpet judgments seem to echo the plagues that take place just prior to the exodus. They also note that at the waters of Marah (Exodus 15), they could not drink the waters, because they were bitter (Hebrew: marah). Yet when Moshe cast wood into the waters they became sweet.

Shemote (Exodus) 15:22-25

22 So Moshe brought Israel from the Red Sea; then they went out into the Wilderness of Shur. And they went three days in the wilderness and found no water.

23 Now when they came to Marah, they could not drink the waters of Marah, for they were bitter. Therefore the name of it was called Marah.

24 And the people complained against Moshe, saying, "What shall we drink?"

25 So he cried out to Yahweh, and Yahweh showed him a tree. When he cast it into the waters, the waters were made sweet.

Because the Spirit can be symbolized by water, some commentators suggest that Yeshua's sacrifice on a piece of wood took a bitter situation, and made the Spirit (i.e., waters) sweet. So the reverse should also be true: turning away from Yeshua's sacrifice would make the waters go back to being bitter.

Other commentators point to Elisha's miracle of making the waters palatable with salt, at 2 Kings 2:22.

Melachim Bet (2 Kings) 2:19-22

19 Then the men of the city said to Elisha, "Please notice, the situation of this city is pleasant, as my lord sees; but the water is bad, and the ground barren."

20 And he said, "Bring me a new bowl, and put salt in it." So they brought it to him.

21 Then he went out to the source of the water, and cast in the salt there, and said, "Thus says Yahweh: 'I have healed this water; from it there shall be no more death or barrenness.'"

22 So the water remains healed to this day, according to the word of Elisha which he spoke.

Some liken the Torah to salt; so symbolically speaking the "waters" (i.e., the spirit of the place) was made good by adding salt (i.e., Torah); yet it took a prophet of Yahweh to do so.

At trumpet 4, 1/3rd of the sun, moon, and stars are struck, such that 1/3rd of them do not shine, either day or night. Some interpret this as a literal blackening of the skies due to a "nuclear winter."

Other commentators suggest that the sun is symbolic of Yeshua, while the moon is symbolic of the Torah. The stars might represent Avraham's descendants, who were supposed to number as the stars of the heavens (Genesis 15:5, 22:17, 26:4). If so, this might speak to a portion of Avraham's physical descendants either falling away, or dying.

Hitgalut (Revelation) 8:12-13

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

13 And I looked, and I heard an messenger flying through the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, "Woe, woe, woe to the inhabitants of the earth, because of the remaining blasts of the trumpet of the three messengers who are about to sound!"

The first four trumpets, while bad, did not qualify as woes. Trumpets 5, 6, and 7 are all much worse (and so they qualify). It may be that Yahweh, like any loving parent, is slowly stepping up the severity of His punishments, in order to turn His children back to Him.

At trumpet 5, a falling star represents a demon. We know that this is a demon because he is given a key to open the bottomless pit (abyss), so that "locusts" can torture those who do not have the seal of Yahweh on their foreheads (i.e., the 144,000).

Some suggest a literal interpretation of these scorpions as helicopters, but helicopters do not come from a bottomless pit. There are other literalist interpretations (such as genetically modified animals), but since a demon opens this abyss, some see it as the unleashing of demonic spirits.

Hitgalut (Revelation) 9:1-12

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

2 And he opened the bottomless pit, and smoke arose out of the pit like the smoke of a great furnace. So the sun and the air were darkened because of the smoke of the pit.

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

4 They were commanded not to harm the grass of the earth, or any green thing, or any tree, but only those men who do not have the seal of Elohim on their foreheads.

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

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

7 The shape of the locusts was like horses prepared for battle. On their heads were crowns of something like gold, and their faces were like the faces of men.

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

9 And they had breastplates like breastplates of iron, and the sound of their wings was like the sound of chariots with many horses running into battle.

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

11 And they had as king over them the messenger of the bottomless pit, whose name in Hebrew is Abaddon, but in Greek he has the name Apollyon.

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

Some suggest that the descriptions of the “locusts” would not be so detailed if they were not literal beings. Therefore they suggest this passage is both literal and symbolic, such that demonic beings of some kind (perhaps genetically modified animals) will be released in the Middle East, either as a war weapon, or as the result of a laboratory “accident.”

[Some suggest this passage was fulfilled by the Islamic Saracens; but this does not work, as this passage comes well after the sixth trumpet, which has not yet taken place (2012).]

At trumpet 6, four messengers (“angels”) are released from the river Euphrates, and they kill 1/3rd (i.e., many) of mankind that is left. Interestingly, the messengers are released to do the killing, but then we read about a 200 million man army (which is used as the agent of the destruction). This seems to support the idea that the text here is speaking both literally and symbolically.

Some suggest that the 200 million man army may be a reference to China, which literally has a 200 million man army. Of course, this is not the only possibility, but China is gearing up for war at the time of this writing. Other commentators see this as an army of 200 million demons (which may or may not coincide with a literal 200 million man army).

Hitgalut (Revelation) 9:13-21

13 Then the sixth messenger sounded: And I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before Elohim,

14 saying to the sixth messenger who had the trumpet, "Release the four messengers who are bound at the great river Euphrates."

15 So the four messengers, who had been prepared for the hour and day and month and year, were released to kill a third of mankind.

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

17 And thus I saw the horses in the vision: those who sat on them had breastplates of fiery red, hyacinth blue, and sulfur yellow; and the heads of the horses were like the heads of lions; and out of their mouths came fire, smoke, and brimstone.

18 By these three plagues a third of mankind was killed — by the fire and the smoke and the brimstone which came out of their mouths.

19 For their power is in their mouth and in their tails; for their tails are like serpents, having heads; and with them they do harm.

20 But the rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands, that they should not worship demons, and idols of gold, silver, brass, stone, and wood, which can neither see nor hear nor walk.

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

One might think that after five months of demon-locusts and the death of another 1/3rd of mankind, men would repent, and seek Yahweh. However, apparently they will not. (Repentance unto life only comes as a result of Yahweh’s election.)

Next, in chapter 9, a “mighty messenger” comes down from heaven with a little open book.

Hitgalut (Revelation) 10:1

1 I saw still another mighty messenger coming down from heaven, clothed with a cloud. And a rainbow was on his head, his face was like the sun, and his feet like pillars of fire.

Many commentators believe this is Yeshua, based on similarities in appearance. For example, Revelation 1:15-16 also describes Yeshua's face like the sun, and Revelation 4:3 tells us the rainbow in Revelation pertains to Elohim.

Hitgalut (Revelation) 1:15-16

15 His feet were like fine brass, as if refined in a furnace, and His voice as the sound of many waters;

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

Hitgalut (Revelation) 4:3

3 And He who sat there was like a jasper and a sardius stone in appearance; and there was a rainbow around the throne, in appearance like an emerald.

There are also many places in Scripture where clouds are associated with Elohim (e.g., Exodus 16:10, 19:9, 24:15, Psalms 104:3, and Acts 1:9). Further, we are told that when Yeshua returns, it will be in a cloud.

Hitgalut (Revelation) 1:7

7 Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him. Even so, amen.

Beyond this, his posture is one of controlling both the sea and the land, as only a conquering king would do. His voice is that of a lion when it roars (reminiscent of a "Lion of Judah"). It also seems reasonable that since Yeshua was the only one who had been found worthy to open the scrolls (at Revelation 5:5, earlier), that He would be the only one worthy to deliver the book to John (verse 9).

Hitgalut (Revelation) 10:2-11

2 He had a little book open in his hand. And he set his right foot on the sea and his left foot on the land,

3 and cried with a loud voice, as when a lion roars. When he cried out, seven thunders uttered their voices.

4 Now when the seven thunders uttered their voices, I was about to write; but I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, "Seal up the things which the seven thunders uttered, and do not write them."

5 The messenger whom I saw standing on the sea and on the land raised up his hand to heaven

6 and swore by Him who lives forever and ever, who created heaven and the things that are in it, the earth and the things that are in it, and the sea and the things that are in it, that there should be delay no longer,

7 but in the days of the sounding of the seventh messenger, when he is about to sound, the mystery of Elohim would be finished, as He declared to His servants the prophets.

8 Then the voice which I heard from heaven spoke to me again and said, "Go, take the little

book which is open in the hand of the messenger who stands on the sea and on the earth."

9 So I went to the messenger and said to him, "Give me the little book."

And he said to me, "Take and eat it; and it will make your stomach bitter, but it will be as sweet as honey in your mouth."

10 Then I took the little book out of the messenger's hand and ate it, and it was as sweet as honey in my mouth. But when I had eaten it, my stomach became bitter.

11 And he said to me, "You must prophesy again about many peoples, nations, tongues, and kings."

It was not enough for John to receive the book. Rather, he had to "eat" it. When we digest something, it becomes part of us. There is no longer any separation between us and it. This speaks to the greater overall work Yahweh is doing in us, which is to eliminate the 6,000 year old separation between us and Him.

As we shall see in later chapters, this earth may be like unto a "virtual environment." Computer programmers create "virtual environments" on their machines so they can run programs (and even open viruses) on their machines, without affecting the host. It may be that this earth is such a virtual environment, where our "reality" is a limited part of a much greater one; and that when Yahweh removes the scales from our eyes at the wedding feast (and we no longer see through a glass darkly), that we will see Him as He is. Yet as we will see, we will still continue to live here on this earth for a while after that (before proceeding to the new one).

Next we will discuss the 2 witnesses.

Assembly	Ephesus	Smyrna	Pergamos	Thyatira
Seals Seals take time to play out.	1 Seal White horse (Papacy, UN/URI) NWO	2 Seal Red horse (Marxism Socialism)	3 Seal Black Horse (Capitalism Bilderberg, Fed)	4 Seal Green/Grey Dappled Horse (Islam, and Islamic terror)
Trumpets Trumpets take time to play out. Destruction by 1/3. (7 years?)	1 Trump Hail, fire and blood. 1/3 trees all green grass burned up	2 Trump Mountain cast into sea 1/3 sea becomes blood, 1/3 ships, living	3 Trump Wormwood Great star falls from heaven, 1/3 of the waters become wormwood. Many men die	4 Trump 1/3 sun struck, 1/3 moon, 1/3 day not shine
Insets (adds information) Describes Israel, two beasts, Lamb, 144,000, Babylon.	Chapter 12 (inset) Woman (Israel) flees 3.5 years	Chapter 13 (inset) Describes the beasts from sea (same as four/five beasts of Daniel)	Chapter 13 (inset) describes the beast from the land (UN/URI)	Chapter 14 (inset) Lamb and 144,000 on Mount Tzion, and also before the throne
Cups/Bowl Happen all at once. Destruction nearly total. "Day of Yahweh?"	1 Cup Sores on men who worship the beast	2 Cup Sea becomes blood. All sea creatures die	3 Cup Rivers and fountains of water become blood.	4 Cup Men burned with great heat from sun.
(Ch. 17, 18 inset) Wedding Feast, Satan bound, Millennium	Chapter 17 (inset) Describes Babylon (RCC and her daughters)	Chapter 18 (inset) Babylon is fallen in one hour	19.11 Yeshua's return. Armageddon (= Wedding Feast?) Same time frame as Seventh Trumpet?	19.17 Armageddon = Gog 1 = Wedding Feast. Ephraim is married Hosea 2:20
Millennium (1,000 years). Tanach prophecies play out.				
End of Millennium and the New Earth	20.7 Satan Released. Gog 2. Devil cast into Lake of Fire	20.11 White Throne Judgment	21 New Earth Renewed Jerusalem as a bride	

Non-shaded areas belong to the timeline.

Shaded areas give details "inset" into the timeline.

Sardis	Philadelphia	(not used)	Laodicea
5 Seal More have to die before the blood of the martyrs will be avenged.	6 Seal Quake, stars fall, sun black, moon blood, heaven departs	Sealing of 144,000 protected against trumpets	7 Seal Silence in heaven ½ hour Introduces trumpets
5 Trump Figurative star (Satan?) falls to earth, opens pit, plague all but the sealed 5 months. WOE 1	6 Trump 200 million man army kills 1/3 men. (Seven thunders take place, are sealed up) WOE 2	Chapter 11: Outer Court trodden underfoot 42 months. Two Witnesses end 3.5 year testimony, are resurrected.	7 Trump Yeshua seen at "Last trump"? Earth quake. Heaven departs (nuke?) Reign of YHWH begins. WOE 3
14.7 (inset) Hour of Judgment	14.8 (inset) Bavel fallen (in heaven? Plays out in 18)	14.13 (inset) Blessed are those who die in YHWH from now on.	14.14 (inset) Son of Man on cloud, with sickle. Earth reaped (at the end of the age)
5 Cup poured on the beast's throne.	6 Cup Euphrates dried up. 3 unclean spirits like frogs are seen.	16.16 Men gather for Armageddon	7 Cup Big quake. Jerusalem divided. Islands flee, mountains not found.
19.20 Beast (UN/Pope) and False Prophet (Mohammed) into Lake of Fire (false religions)	20.1 Satan Bound 1,000 years. Millennium begins.	20.4-6 First Resurrection. (Spiritual resurrection.)	Millennium Tanach prophecies play out. (Second Exodus?)
Millennium (1,000 years). Tanach Prophecies play out			

The 2 Witnesses

Chapter 11 talks about the 2 witnesses, who appear in the same context as the anti-messiah's temple. We can surmise that this is a physical temple in that Yochanan (John) is given a reed, and is told to "measure the temple of Elohim." (One only measures a physical temple.) We describe the anti-messiah's temple in more detail in later chapters, but the narrative tells us the outer court will be trod underfoot by the gentiles for 42 months (3-1/2 years). During this time the 2 witnesses will have the authority to withhold rain, and to smite whomever they please with plagues. At the end of the 42 months, the beast that ascends out of the bottomless pit (i.e., Satan, Revelation 20:1, 3, 7) will kill them. Then, after 3-1/2 days the 2 witnesses are resurrected, and are called up to heaven.

Hitgalut (Revelation) 11:1-14

1 Then I was given a reed like a measuring rod. And the messenger stood, saying, "Rise and measure the temple of Elohim, the altar, and those who worship there.

2 But leave out the court which is outside the temple, and do not measure it, for it has been given to the Gentiles. And they will tread the Set-apart city underfoot for forty-two months (3-1/2 years).

3 And I will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy one thousand two hundred and sixty days (42 months, 3-1/2 years), clothed in sackcloth."

4 These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands standing before the Elohim of the earth.

5 And if anyone wants to harm them, fire proceeds from their mouth and devours their enemies. And if anyone wants to harm them, he must be killed in this manner.

6 These have power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their prophecy; and they have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to strike the earth with all plagues, as often as they desire.

7 When they finish their testimony, the beast that ascends out of the bottomless pit (i.e., Satan) will make war against them, overcome them, and kill them.

8 And their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Adon was crucified (i.e., Jerusalem).

9 Then those from the peoples, tribes, tongues, and nations will see their dead bodies three-and-a-half days, and not allow their dead bodies to be put into graves.

10 And those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them, make merry, and send gifts to one another, because these two prophets tormented those who dwell on the earth.

11 Now after the three-and-a-half days the breath of life from Elohim entered them, and they stood on their feet, and great fear fell on those who saw them.

12 And they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, "Come up here." And they ascended to heaven in a cloud, and their enemies saw them.

13 In the same hour there was a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city fell. In the earthquake seven thousand people were

killed, and the rest were afraid and gave glory to the Elohim of heaven.

14 The second woe is past. Behold, the third woe is coming quickly.

Some say the 2 witnesses are the 2 houses, but that cannot be, because the 2 witnesses die and are taken up to heaven before the 7th trumpet. Later we will see that the 2 houses will still be here on earth long after the 7th trumpet (and indeed, all during the millennium).

Further, for the 2 witnesses to be the 2 houses, the Ingathering would have to take place before the 7th trumpet, because the 2 witnesses will be in Jerusalem when they are killed. However, later we will see that the Ingathering does not take place until well after the 7th trumpet (and indeed, not until after the cup judgments).

It is clear Satan wants a one-world government, with a one-world religion. If there is a nuclear exchange in the Middle East (perhaps at the sixth seal), Jerusalem would likely be designated as an international city, and the temple mount would likely be given to the papacy, so they can build an anti-messiah's temple (in which Christians, Jews, and Muslims can all worship). This is a highly realistic scenario, and preparations for such a temple are well underway. However, the outer court of such a temple will likely be limited in size, and it is highly doubtful that all of the 2 houses would fit inside of it. Jerusalem itself only holds 700,000 people, and the anti-messiah's outer court will assuredly be smaller than Jerusalem is today.

Many scholars believe Luke 21:24 refers to this same general timeframe. Yeshua tells us that Jerusalem will be trampled by the gentiles "until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled." (Some scholars point out that

Yeshua gives the details in a slightly different sequence than they appear in Revelation, but Yeshua's purpose was not to explain the exact sequence of events, but rather, He was only trying to relate the general events that would occur around the tribulation.)

Luqa (Luke) 21:20-28

20 "But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation is near.

21 Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, let those who are in the midst of her depart, and let not those who are in the country enter her.

22 For these are the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled.

23 But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! For there will be great distress in the land and wrath upon this people.

24 And they will fall by the edge of the sword, and be led away captive into all nations. And Jerusalem will be trampled by Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.

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

26 men's hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken.

27 Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.

28 Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near."

In verses 20-26, Yeshua describes a great vengeance that will take place (such that those who live in the land will be carried off into all nations). In other places we explain why the destruction is likely to be worse in the Middle East than in the rest of the world. Verse 27 indicates that Yeshua will only appear after the destruction, which likely comes after the 2 witnesses have already been taken up to heaven.

Those who believe in a physical harpazo (rapture) tend to believe that when Yeshua says, "Look up and lift your heads, because your redemption draws near," that this means they will be caught up to be with Yeshua in physical form. However, in other places we show that while Yeshua will appear and touch down on earth before the millennium begins, He will not be on earth in physical form during the millennium. Therefore, what seems more likely is that it is the spirits of those who are killed in the tribulation that are caught up to be with Yeshua. This might not seem like a cheery scenario, except when we realize that those who die get to go be with Yeshua just that much sooner (and that is a good thing).

Philippim (Philippians) 1:21-24

21 For to me, to live is Messiah, and to die is gain.

22 But if I live on in the flesh, this will mean fruit from my labor; yet what I shall choose I cannot tell.

23 For I am hard-pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Messiah, which is far better.

Earlier we saw that the 2 witnesses have a 42 month (3.5 year) ministry, which ends prior to the 7th trumpet

(when Yeshua returns). The 7th trumpet also opens the cup/bowl judgments, in which the earth is depopulated. The picture this gives is that Yahweh will encourage men to repent all the way through the 2 witnesses' ministry; but that after the 2 witnesses are killed, then it is time for the 7th trumpet, which leads to the cup/bowl judgments (and the de-population of earth).

Scripture does not say who the 2 witnesses are, but Eliyahu (Elijah) and Moshe (Moses) were seen with Yeshua at the transfiguration on the mount.

Mattityahu (Matthew) 17:1-8

17 Now after six days Yeshua took Kepha (Peter), Ya'akov (James), and Yochanan (John) his brother, led them up on a high mountain by themselves;

2 and He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light.

3 And behold, Moshe and Eliyahu appeared to them, talking with Him.

4 Then Kepha answered and said to Yeshua, "Adon, it is good for us to be here; if You wish, let us make here three tabernacles: one for You, one for Moshe, and one for Eliyahu."

5 While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and suddenly a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!"

6 And when the disciples heard it, they fell on their faces and were greatly afraid.

7 But Yeshua came and touched them and said, "Arise, and do not be afraid."

8 When they had lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Yeshua only.

Those who believe the 2 witnesses will be Eliyahu and Moshe also point out that the spirit of Eliyahu rested on Elisha.

Melachim Bet (2 Kings) 2:15

15 Now when the sons of the prophets who were from Jericho saw him, they said, "The spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha." And they came to meet him, and bowed to the ground before him.

Yochanan HaMatbil (John the Baptist) also came in the spirit of Eliyahu.

Mattityahu (Matthew) 11:14-15

14 "And if you are willing to receive it, he is Eliyahu who is to come."

Because of this, many theorize that an Ephraimite will come in the spirit of Eliyahu, while a believing Jew will come with the spirit of Moshe. This seems to make sense, but we should not close our minds to other possibilities, because we just simply do not know, and Scripture does not say.

As we mention in previous chapters, since Revelation is a vision, the "earthquake" mentioned in Revelation 11:13 may be symbolic of societal upheaval. There is sure to be societal change when the 2 witnesses are resurrected, and called up to heaven, and their enemies see them. However, as we will see in the next chapter, it will not be enough of a change to convince Yahweh to stop the judgment that begins at trumpet 7.

Assembly	Ephesus	Smyrna	Pergamos	Thyatira
Seals Seals take time to play out.	1 Seal White horse (Papacy, UN/URI) NWO	2 Seal Red horse (Marxism Socialism)	3 Seal Black Horse (Capitalism Bilderberg, Fed)	4 Seal Green/Grey Dappled Horse (Islam, and Islamic terror)
Trumpets Trumpets take time to play out. Destruction by 1/3. (7 years?)	1 Trump Hail, fire and blood. 1/3 trees all green grass burned up	2 Trump Mountain cast into sea 1/3 sea becomes blood, 1/3 ships, living	3 Trump Wormwood Great star falls from heaven, 1/3 of the waters become wormwood. Many men die	4 Trump 1/3 sun struck, 1/3 moon, 1/3 day not shine
Insets (adds information) Describes Israel, two beasts, Lamb, 144,000, Babylon.	Chapter 12 (inset) Woman (Israel) flees 3.5 years	Chapter 13 (inset) Describes the beasts from sea (same as four/five beasts of Daniel)	Chapter 13 (inset) describes the beast from the land (UN/URI)	Chapter 14 (inset) Lamb and 144,000 on Mount Tzion, and also before the throne
Cups/Bowl Happen all at once. Destruction nearly total. "Day of Yahweh?"	1 Cup Sores on men who worship the beast	2 Cup Sea becomes blood. All sea creatures die	3 Cup Rivers and fountains of water become blood.	4 Cup Men burned with great heat from sun.
(Ch. 17, 18 inset) Wedding Feast, Satan bound, Millennium	Chapter 17 (inset) Describes Babylon (RCC and her daughters)	Chapter 18 (inset) Babylon is fallen in one hour	19.11 Yeshua's return. Armageddon (= Wedding Feast?) Same time frame as Seventh Trumpet?	19.17 Armageddon = Gog 1 = Wedding Feast. Ephraim is married Hosea 2:20
Millennium (1,000 years). Tanach prophecies play out.				
End of Millennium and the New Earth	20.7 Satan Released. Gog 2. Devil cast into Lake of Fire	20.11 White Throne Judgment	21 New Earth Renewed Jerusalem as a bride	

Non-shaded areas belong to the timeline.
Shaded areas give details "inset" into the timeline.

Sardis	Philadelphia	(not used)	Laodicea
5 Seal More have to die before the blood of the martyrs will be avenged.	6 Seal Quake, stars fall, sun black, moon blood, heaven departs	Sealing of 144,000 protected against trumpets	7 Seal Silence in heaven ½ hour Introduces trumpets
5 Trump Figurative star (Satan?) falls to earth, opens pit, plague all but the sealed 5 months. WOE 1	6 Trump 200 million man army kills 1/3 men. (Seven thunders take place, are sealed up) WOE 2	Chapter 11: Outer Court trodden underfoot 42 months. Two Witnesses end 3.5 year testimony, are resurrected.	7 Trump Yeshua seen at "Last trump"? Earth quake. Heaven departs (nuke?) Reign of YHWH begins. WOE 3
14.7 (inset) Hour of Judgment	14.8 (inset) Bavel fallen (in heaven? Plays out in 18)	14.13 (inset) Blessed are those who die in YHWH from now on.	14.14 (inset) Son of Man on cloud, with sickle. Earth reaped (at the end of the age)
5 Cup poured on the beast's throne.	6 Cup Euphrates dried up. 3 unclean spirits like frogs are seen.	16.16 Men gather for Armageddon	7 Cup Big quake. Jerusalem divided. Islands flee, mountains not found.
19.20 Beast (UN/Pope) and False Prophet (Mohammed) into Lake of Fire (false religions)	20.1 Satan Bound 1,000 years. Millennium begins.	20.4-6 First Resurrection. (Spiritual resurrection.)	Millennium Tanach prophecies play out. (Second Exodus?)
Millennium (1,000 years). Tanach Prophecies play out			

Trumpet 7: The Kingdom Declared

Revelation 11:15 tells us that the kingdoms of the world become the kingdoms of Yahweh at trumpet 7.

Hitgalut (Revelation) 11:15-19

15 Then the seventh messenger sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of Yahweh and of His Messiah, and He shall reign forever and ever!"

16 And the twenty-four elders who sat before Elohim on their thrones fell on their faces and worshiped Elohim,

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

18 The nations were angry, and Your wrath has come, And the time of the dead, that they should be judged, And that You should reward Your servants the prophets and the saints, And those who fear Your name, small and great, And should destroy those who destroy the earth."

19 Then the temple of Elohim was opened in heaven, and the ark of His covenant was seen in His temple. And there were lightnings, noises, thunderings, an earthquake, and great hail.

As we discuss elsewhere, we are basically members of His kingdom right now. Yeshua tells us that the kingdom of Elohim was offered ("at hand").

Mark 1:14-15

14 Now after Yochanan was put in prison, Yeshua came to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of Elohim, 15 and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of Elohim is at hand. Repent, and believe in the good news."

Yeshua also tells us that the kingdom of Elohim cannot be seen with the eyes, in that it "does not come with observation;" but rather, that the kingdom of Elohim is within us.

Luqa (Luke) 17:20-21

20 Now when He was asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of Elohim would come, He answered them and said, "The kingdom of Elohim does not come with observation; 21 nor will they say, 'See here!' or 'See there!' For indeed, the kingdom of Elohim is within you."

While the kingdom is spiritual, Yeshua also spoke in parables (riddles) at times, so that those who were not chosen would not understand (e.g., Matthew 13:15). It is also clear the apostles knew that there would be a literal kingdom restored, which is why they asked Him if He had come to restore the kingdom to Israel (i.e., Ephraim) "at this time."

Ma'asei (Acts) 1:6-8

6 Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, "Adon, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" 7 And He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority."

8 But you shall receive power when the Set-apart Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Notice Yeshua did not say the literal kingdom would never be restored, but only said it was not for them to know when it would take place (but that they should just simply focus on following the Spirit). Nonetheless, Revelation 11:15 (above) tells us that the kingdom will literally begin to be restored at trumpet 7. Verse 18 also tells us that this is the time when the dead will be judged, and Yahweh will reward His servants (the prophets and the saints). It is also the time when those who destroy the earth are destroyed. This will lead to a spiritual "earthquake" (Revelation 11:19), which in this context is a re-ordering of the social/government structure. This is probably also the fulfillment of Daniel 2:44-45, which tells us that when Yahweh Elohim sets up His kingdom, it shall break all of the other kingdoms of the earth apart, and consume them.

Daniel 2:44-45

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

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

This is probably also when the heavenly court of Daniel 7:26 shall be seated, and take away Satan's dominion, giving it to the saints of the Most High.

Daniel 7:24-28

24 The ten horns are ten kings who shall arise from this kingdom. And another shall rise after them; He shall be different from the first ones, and shall subdue three kings.

25 He shall speak pompous words against the Most High, shall persecute the saints of the Most High, and shall intend to change times and law. Then the saints shall be given into his hand for a time and times and half a time.

26 'But the court shall be seated, and they shall take away his dominion, to consume and destroy it forever.

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.'

As we show elsewhere in our studies, the saints shall rule and reign with Yeshua's rod of iron, in his absence. He will rule over the earth through His body/kingdom.

Hitgalut (Revelation) 2:26-27

26 "And he who overcomes, 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...."

Since trumpet 7 is the last of the trumpets, this may be the "last trump" Shaul writes about in 1 Corinthians.

Qorintim Aleph (1 Corinthians) 15:52-53

52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.

If Revelation 11:18 (above) tells us that Yahweh will judge the dead at trumpet 7, then it makes sense that those who are caught up to be with Yeshua will be raised in a harpazo (rapture) at that time. This would explain why those who are already dead in Messiah will rise first (verse 16).

Thessaloniqim Aleph (1 Thess.) 4:13-17

13 But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep (died), lest you sorrow as others who have no hope.

14 For if we believe that Yeshua died and rose again, even so Elohim will bring with Him those who sleep in Yeshua.

15 For this we say to you by the word of Yahweh, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of Yahweh (i.e., Yeshua) will by no means precede those who are asleep.

16 For Yahweh Himself (i.e., Yeshua) will descend from heaven with a shout (trumpet blast), with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of Elohim. And the dead in Messiah will rise first (perhaps at trumpet 7).

17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet Yahweh (Yeshua) in the air. And thus we shall always be with Yahweh (Yeshua).

So if those of us who are alive and remain shall be caught up to be with Yeshua at trumpet 7, then those who are caught up may go to heaven for the judging, and then return with Him later at Revelation 19:11-14, when He destroys the enemy armies at the Battle of Har Megiddo (Armageddon).

Hitgalut (Revelation) 19:11-14

11 Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war.

12 His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself.

13 He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of Elohim.

14 And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses.

If correct, this also explains why the saints would return with Yeshua (here called Yahweh) at Zechariah 14:5, after the tribulation.

Zechariah (Zechariah) 14:1-5

1 Behold, the day of Yahweh is coming, and your spoil will be divided in your midst.

2 For I will gather all the nations to battle against Jerusalem; the city shall be taken, the houses rifled, and the women ravished. Half of

the city shall go into captivity, but the remnant of the people shall not be cut off from the city.

3 Then Yahweh will go forth and fight against those nations, as He fights in the day of battle.

4 And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which faces Jerusalem on the east. And the Mount of Olives shall be split in two, from east to west, making a very large valley; Half of the mountain shall move toward the north and half of it toward the south.

5 Then you shall flee through My mountain valley, for the mountain valley shall reach to Azal. Yes, you shall flee as you fled from the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah. Thus Yahweh my Elohim will come, and all the saints with You.

While there may be future physical resurrections, in the chapter on the harpazo (rapture) we saw that the harpazo is a raising of spiritual bodies, rather than physical ones. It cannot be a snatching away of those who remain alive, because the tribulation is shortened for the elect's sake (and if the elect are all physically "raptured out," then there is no reason for the tribulation to be shortened).

Mattityahu (Matthew) 24:21-22

21 For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be.

22 And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened."

We can also surmise that trumpet 7 is when Yahweh begins the sudden destruction that is mentioned in 1 Thessalonians 5:1-3.

Thessaloniqim Aleph (1 Thessalonians) 5:1-3
1 But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you.
2 For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of Yahweh so comes as a thief in the night.
3 For when they say, "Peace and safety!" then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape.

If we are His bride, the analogy of the pregnant woman is perfect. When a woman is pregnant, she bears an ever-growing burden, which corresponds to the seals. Then she is gripped by labor pains, which correspond to the trumpets. Finally her water breaks, which is seen in the cups being poured out. When the cups are poured out, she will be gripped by excruciating, even blinding pain as she gives birth to her child, which in this case is redeemed Israel, those who do the right thing in Yeshua, for the right reasons, and with the right heart.

Just as seal 7 opens the trumpets, trumpet 7 opens the cups. Yet, before Revelation will tell us about the cups, first it will "take us on a bird walk" through chapters 12, 13, and the first half of 14, giving us much more insight into the world of the end times.

Assembly	Ephesus	Smyrna	Pergamos	Thyatira
Seals Seals take time to play out.	1 Seal White horse (Papacy, UN/URI) NWO	2 Seal Red horse (Marxism Socialism)	3 Seal Black Horse (Capitalism Bilderberg, Fed)	4 Seal Green/Grey Dappled Horse (Islam, and Islamic terror)
Trumpets Trumpets take time to play out. Destruction by 1/3. (7 years?)	1 Trump Hail, fire and blood. 1/3 trees all green grass burned up	2 Trump Mountain cast into sea 1/3 sea becomes blood, 1/3 ships, living	3 Trump Wormwood Great star falls from heaven, 1/3 of the waters become wormwood. Many men die	4 Trump 1/3 sun struck, 1/3 moon, 1/3 day not shine
Insets (adds information) Describes Israel, two beasts, Lamb, 144,000, Babylon.	Chapter 12 (inset) Woman (Israel) flees 3.5 years	Chapter 13 (inset) Describes the beasts from sea (same as four/five beasts of Daniel)	Chapter 13 (inset) describes the beast from the land (UN/URI)	Chapter 14 (inset) Lamb and 144,000 on Mount Tzion, and also before the throne
Cups/Bowl Happen all at once. Destruction nearly total. "Day of Yahweh?"	1 Cup Sores on men who worship the beast	2 Cup Sea becomes blood. All sea creatures die	3 Cup Rivers and fountains of water become blood.	4 Cup Men burned with great heat from sun.
(Ch. 17, 18 inset) Wedding Feast, Satan bound, Millennium	Chapter 17 (inset) Describes Babylon (RCC and her daughters)	Chapter 18 (inset) Babylon is fallen in one hour	19.11 Yeshua's return. Armageddon (= Wedding Feast?) Same time frame as Seventh Trumpet?	19.17 Armageddon = Gog 1 = Wedding Feast. Ephraim is married Hosea 2:20
Millennium (1,000 years). Tanach prophecies play out.				
End of Millennium and the New Earth	20.7 Satan Released. Gog 2. Devil cast into Lake of Fire	20.11 White Throne Judgment	21 New Earth Renewed Jerusalem as a bride	

Non-shaded areas belong to the timeline.
 Shaded areas give details "inset" into the timeline.

Sardis	Philadelphia	(not used)	Laodicea
5 Seal More have to die before the blood of the martyrs will be avenged.	6 Seal Quake, stars fall, sun black, moon blood, heaven departs	Sealing of 144,000 protected against trumpets	7 Seal Silence in heaven ½ hour Introduces trumpets
5 Trump Figurative star (Satan?) falls to earth, opens pit, plague all but the sealed 5 months. WOE 1	6 Trump 200 million man army kills 1/3 men. (Seven thunders take place, are sealed up) WOE 2	Chapter 11: Outer Court trodden underfoot 42 months. Two Witnesses end 3.5 year testimony, are resurrected.	7 Trump Yeshua seen at "Last trump"? Earth quake. Heaven departs (nuke?) Reign of YHWH begins. WOE 3
14.7 (inset) Hour of Judgment	14.8 (inset) Bavel fallen (in heaven? Plays out in 18)	14.13 (inset) Blessed are those who die in YHWH from now on.	14.14 (inset) Son of Man on cloud, with sickle. Earth reaped (at the end of the age)
5 Cup poured on the beast's throne.	6 Cup Euphrates dried up. 3 unclean spirits like frogs are seen.	16.16 Men gather for Armageddon	7 Cup Big quake. Jerusalem divided. Islands flee, mountains not found.
19.20 Beast (UN/Pope) and False Prophet (Mohammed) into Lake of Fire (false religions)	20.1 Satan Bound 1,000 years. Millennium begins.	20.4-6 First Resurrection. (Spiritual resurrection.)	Millennium Tanach prophecies play out. (Second Exodus?)
Millennium (1,000 years). Tanach Prophecies play out			

Chapter 12: The Woman and Child

Revelation is a vision, which is the most difficult kind of Scripture to interpret. There are many perspectives on Revelation, and especially on chapter 12. In this chapter we will seek to explain a few different theories about chapter 12, and show why we believe the past-tense perspective explains this chapter the best.

Chapter 12 speaks of a great drama that takes place between a woman, her child, and a dragon (which verse 9 says is Satan). Most scholars agree the woman represents Israel, her "son" is Yeshua, and the garland of twelve stars on her head represents the 12 tribes.

Hitgalut (Revelation) 12:1

1 Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a garland of twelve stars.

But what does it mean? Psalms tells us that Yahweh's word is a lamp for our feet, and a light for our path.

Tehillim (Psalms) 119:105

105 Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Proverbs also tells us that the commandment is a lamp, and the Torah is a light (for our path).

Mishle (Proverbs) 6:23

***23 For the commandment is a lamp,
And the Torah a light;
Reproofs of instruction are the way of life....***

Malachi also tells us that Yeshua is described as the “Sun of Righteousness,” perhaps because His Spirit sheds so much light on our path.

Malachi 4:2a
“2a But to you who fear My name
The Sun of Righteousness shall arise
With healing in His wings....”

If all of these things are true, then the woman Israel, who walks the pathway of Torah, is clothed with the light of the Sun of Righteousness (and His Spirit). Her 12 children (the 12 tribes) are a garland to her head.

(Others say the woman is symbolic of Yeshua’s mother Miriam. This might also work, so long as we remember that Miriam sought to keep the Torah.)

Hitgalut (Revelation) 12:2
2 Then being with child, she cried out in labor
and in pain to give birth.

Others cite Revelation 1:1, which seems to say that the events described in Revelation could only take place after Revelation was written.

Hitgalut (Revelation) 1:1
1 The Revelation of Yeshua Messiah, which
Elohim gave Him to show His servants —
things which must shortly take place. And He
sent and signified it by His angel to His
servant Yochanan....

The author and date of Revelations writing are the subject of much dispute, but most scholars place it at either 68 or 95 CE (long after Yeshua’s birth). This

might seem to be conclusive, except that events both in this chapter and in chapter 13 clearly took place before Yeshua was born. Therefore, what makes the most sense to us is that rather than describing future events, chapters 12, 13, and the first half of 14 are “inset” into (or overlaid onto) the timeline. These chapters describe other themes that have been playing out for thousands of years now, but which climax in the end times.

Next, verse 3 tells us of a fiery red dragon.

Hitgalut (Revelation) 12:3-4
3 And another sign appeared in heaven:
behold, a great, fiery red dragon having seven
heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on
his heads.
4 His tail drew a third of the stars of heaven
and threw them to the earth. And the dragon
stood before the woman who was ready to
give birth, to devour her Child as soon as it
was born.

Prophecies and visions can have both major and minor fulfillments. Later, verse 9 will tell us that the red dragon is Satan, but many scholars also believe the red dragon symbolizes Rome (and especially her armies). The Roman legions often carried standards with red or purple dragons, and dragons were popular symbols in ancient Roman art.

Some also suggest different interpretations for the third of the stars that were thrown to earth. These range from a third of the tribes to a third of the ministers, to the third of the messengers who joined Satan in his rebellion. (As mentioned before, Revelation uses the term “a third part” to refer to any large minority.)

Those who believe chapter 12 belongs to the timeline tell us the “Child” in verse 5 is not Yeshua, but that it speaks of the future “birthing” of redeemed Israel, whom they believe will be taken up to heaven in the Rapture, while the woman (who apparently represents the rest of Israel, apart from the elect) will be taken to a “place of safety” in the wilderness for 1,260 days (3-1/2 years).

Hitgalut (Revelation) 12:5-6

5 She bore a male Child who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron. And her Child was caught up to Elohim and His throne.

6 Then the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by Elohim, that they should feed her there one thousand two hundred and sixty days.

This interpretation is highly problematic. We saw that the trumpets sound one at a time, and the events which take place sometimes play out over months (if not years). While the trumpets likely play out over many years, the cups/bowls get poured out all at once.

Hitgalut (Revelation) 16:1

16 Then I heard a loud voice from the temple saying to the seven messengers, "Go and pour out the cups (bowls) of the wrath of Elohim on the earth."

If there is a nuclear exchange at seal 6, it makes sense that this is when Jerusalem will be made into an international city, the temple mount will be given to the papacy, and an “interfaith” (anti-messiah’s) temple will be built, with the outer courtyard being open to all manner of gentiles.

Hitgalut (Revelation) 11:2

2 "But leave out the court which is outside the temple, and do not measure it, for it has been given to the Gentiles. And they will tread the set-apart city underfoot for forty-two months."

It seems likely the tribulation will last 7 years, because this is what is mentioned in Daniel 9. Verses 25 and the first part of verse 26 speak of the Messiah Yeshua in the 1st century. The rest of verse 25 probably speaks of General Titus of Rome, although some believe it also speaks of a coming anti-messiah (and it is possible that there is more than one fulfillment). There is also much speculation that verses 26 and (especially) 27 speak of an anti-messiah confirming a covenant with “many” for one week (i.e., a 7 year period).

Daniel 9:25-27

25 "Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the command to restore and build Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince, there shall be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; The street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublesome times.

26 "And after the sixty-two weeks Messiah shall be cut off, but not for Himself; and the people of the prince who is to come (Titus) shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end of it shall be with a flood, and till the end of the war desolations are determined.

27 Then he (anti-messiah) shall confirm a covenant with many for one week; but in the middle of the week he shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate, even until the consummation, which is determined, is poured out on the desolate."

Some say Yeshua fulfilled verse 26. However, while He was cut off in the middle of the week, it is not clear how He confirmed a covenant with “many” for one week. Therefore, this seems more like a more complete fit for the coming anti-messiah’s temple of Revelation.

Daniel 12 tells us there are 1,290 days from the time the daily sacrifice is taken away (and the abomination of desolation is set up), until some unspecified event. Logically, a temple has to be built and a daily sacrifice has to be established before the daily can be taken away, and an abomination of desolation set up. Only once this happens does the 1,290 day count begin.

Daniel 12:11-12

11 "And from the time that the daily [sacrifice] is taken away, and the abomination of desolation is set up, [there shall be] one thousand two hundred and ninety days.

12 Blessed is he who waits, and comes to the one thousand three hundred and thirty-five days."

We will discuss the anti-messiah’s temple in a later chapter, but while an anti-messiah’s temple might be established relatively quickly, it might also take years. This is true even if all that is done is to convert the existing Al-Aqsa Mosque. Since 1,290 days is 30 days more than the 1,260 days of the 2 witnesses’ ministry, this countdown might well pertain to trumpet 7 and the beginning of the cups.

Note also how Daniel also tells us that he who comes to the 1,335 days is blessed. This may be when the wedding feast (Armageddon) takes place.

Whether the trumpets last 7 years, or some shorter length of time (such as 3-1/2 years), chapter 12 comes after trumpet 7 in the narrative. There are not 1,260 days in between trumpet 7 and the wedding feast (at Armageddon). Rather, there are likely only 75 days, counting 30 days from trumpet 7 to the completion of the cups, plus 45 days from the completion of the cups to the wedding feast (Armageddon). [30 + 45 = 75.] Surely the bride will want to be at the wedding feast, but this cannot happen if she is away at a “place of safety” for 1,260 days, starting after trumpet 7.

Additionally, we saw earlier that the elect cannot be “raptured out” during the tribulation, because they must remain here on earth during the tribulation, since the tribulation is shortened for their sake. This alone destroys the idea that chapter 12 is a future fulfillment.

Mattityahu (Matthew) 24:22-23

22 "And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened."

We also saw that the great multitude dressed in white dies during the tribulation, and their spirits are “caught up” to heaven (Revelation 7:14). This is very different than their being transported to a “place of safety” for 1,260 days.

All of these things taken together tell us that chapter 12 cannot be part of the regular timeline, but that it must be “set into” the timeline. Thus, the purpose of chapters 12, 13, 14 (and other chapters that are “inset into” the timeline) is simply to bring in more information, and tie in other longstanding themes that run throughout Israel’s history.

What, then, is the historical meaning of verse 6? In the *Nazarene Israel* study we talk about how Daniel 7 tells us of an identical “time, times, and half a time” in which the saints were given into the little horn’s hand.

Daniel 7:25

25 He shall speak pompous words against the Most High, shall persecute the saints of the Most High, and shall intend to change times and Torah. Then the saints shall be given into his hand for a time and times and half a time.

In *Nazarene Israel* we explain how the bishopric of Rome rose slowly to power over the course of three centuries, asserting ever-greater power and influence over the assemblies worldwide; and how this authority was backed by Roman military might after Emperor Constantine’s conversion to Christianity in 311 CE, and the Council of Nicea in 325. At that time, Rome began persecuting all who chose to obey Scripture instead of obeying their doctrines. There are various end-points for this, but one is Martin Luther’s famous protest in 1519, when he nailed his 95 theses to the door of the church in Wittenberg. Another is the victory of the English navy over the Spanish Armada in 1588.

1,588 – 1,260 = 328 CE ≈ 325 CE

The dates and durations do not need to be exact, as the purpose is not to pinpoint exact dates, but rather to explain what is happening in spiritual terms. (The dates and duration of the Babylonian exile are similarly non-exact.) So we believe Revelation 12:6 is speaking of the period of time in between when Roman domination over Yahweh’s people began, and when the Protestant people came out from under Roman military dominion.

Pagan Rome used both red and purple dragons on their banners, while the military units often placed eagles on their flags, or on their flagstuffs. The eagle is still used on the flags and flagstuffs of many nations in modern times (compare with Nazi Germany), and the eagle is also generally used as a symbol for America. These symbols are not innocent. Ironically, it may be that the woman was “carried by eagle’s wings” as the Roman military went forth and conquered the known world for the church, and yet believers were able to maintain some elements of freedom outside of Rome.

Next we read about a war in heaven, in which the dragon is identified as Satan, and he is cast to earth.

Hitgalut (Revelation) 12:7

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

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

9 So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his messengers were cast out with him.

10 Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, "Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our Elohim, and the power of His Messiah have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our Elohim day and night, has been cast down.

11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.

12 Therefore rejoice, O heavens, and you who dwell in them! Woe to the inhabitants of the

earth and the sea! For the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, because he knows that he has a short time."

Those who advocate chapter 12 being part of the timeline can support their position with any of a great many passages. However, while we have already seen many reasons why chapter 12 does not work as a future fulfillment, it does work well as a past fulfillment. In fact, it might even pertain to Luke 10:18, where Yeshua saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.

Luqa (Luke) 10:18

18 And He said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven."

Those who teach a future fulfillment of this passage give various interpretations of verse 14. Some say it is a parallel accounting of verse 6, while others say it is the same accounting. We do not see how any of these can be correct, as there are not 1,260 days in between trumpet 7 and Armageddon (and therefore, this chapter cannot pertain to the timeline).

Hitgalut (Revelation) 12:13-17

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

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

15 So the serpent spewed water out of his mouth like a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away by the flood.

16 But the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed up the flood which the dragon had spewed out of his mouth.

17 And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of Elohim and have the testimony of Yeshua Messiah.

What makes more sense is to assume this is a past fulfillment, explaining how Rome began to drive those who believed both in Yeshua and in keeping Torah into the outer reaches of its empire. The dragon spewed forth false doctrines (bad water), but the woman was helped by the earth, due to her distance from Rome.

In the next chapters we will see more information that is inset into (or overlaid onto) the timeline, providing even more information about events that have been taking place throughout Israel's history for thousands of years, only to culminate in the end times.

Assembly	Ephesus	Smyrna	Pergamos	Thyatira
Seals Seals take time to play out.	1 Seal White horse (Papacy, UN/URI) NWO	2 Seal Red horse (Marxism Socialism)	3 Seal Black Horse (Capitalism Bilderberg, Fed)	4 Seal Green/Grey Dappled Horse (Islam, and Islamic terror)
Trumpets Trumpets take time to play out. Destruction by 1/3. (7 years?)	1 Trump Hail, fire and blood. 1/3 trees all green grass burned up	2 Trump Mountain cast into sea 1/3 sea becomes blood, 1/3 ships, living	3 Trump Wormwood Great star falls from heaven, 1/3 of the waters become wormwood. Many men die	4 Trump 1/3 sun struck, 1/3 moon, 1/3 day not shine
Insets (adds information) Describes Israel, two beasts, Lamb, 144,000, Babylon.	Chapter 12 (inset) Woman (Israel) flees 3.5 years	Chapter 13 (inset) Describes the beasts from sea (same as four/five beasts of Daniel)	Chapter 13 (inset) describes the beast from the land (UN/URI)	Chapter 14 (inset) Lamb and 144,000 on Mount Tzion, and also before the throne
Cups/Bowl Happen all at once. Destruction nearly total. "Day of Yahweh?"	1 Cup Sores on men who worship the beast	2 Cup Sea becomes blood. All sea creatures die	3 Cup Rivers and fountains of water become blood.	4 Cup Men burned with great heat from sun.
(Ch. 17, 18 inset) Wedding Feast, Satan bound, Millennium	Chapter 17 (inset) Describes Babylon (RCC and her daughters)	Chapter 18 (inset) Babylon is fallen in one hour	19.11 Yeshua's return. Armageddon (= Wedding Feast?) Same time frame as Seventh Trumpet?	19.17 Armageddon = Gog 1 = Wedding Feast. Ephraim is married Hosea 2:20
Millennium (1,000 years). Tanach prophecies play out.				
End of Millennium and the New Earth	20.7 Satan Released. Gog 2. Devil cast into Lake of Fire	20.11 White Throne Judgment	21 New Earth Renewed Jerusalem as a bride	

Non-shaded areas belong to the timeline.
Shaded areas give details "inset" into the timeline.

Sardis	Philadelphia	(not used)	Laodicea
5 Seal More have to die before the blood of the martyrs will be avenged.	6 Seal Quake, stars fall, sun black, moon blood, heaven departs	Sealing of 144,000 protected against trumpets	7 Seal Silence in heaven ½ hour Introduces trumpets
5 Trump Figurative star (Satan?) falls to earth, opens pit, plague all but the sealed 5 months. WOE 1	6 Trump 200 million man army kills 1/3 men. (Seven thunders take place, are sealed up) WOE 2	Chapter 11: Outer Court trodden underfoot 42 months. Two Witnesses end 3.5 year testimony, are resurrected.	7 Trump Yeshua seen at "Last trump"? Earth quake. Heaven departs (nuke?) Reign of YHWH begins. WOE 3
14.7 (inset) Hour of Judgment	14.8 (inset) Bavel fallen (in heaven? Plays out in 18)	14.13 (inset) Blessed are those who die in YHWH from now on.	14.14 (inset) Son of Man on cloud, with sickle. Earth reaped (at the end of the age)
5 Cup poured on the beast's throne.	6 Cup Euphrates dried up. 3 unclean spirits like frogs are seen.	16.16 Men gather for Armageddon	7 Cup Big quake. Jerusalem divided. Islands flee, mountains not found.
19.20 Beast (UN/Pope) and False Prophet (Mohammed) into Lake of Fire (false religions)	20.1 Satan Bound 1,000 years. Millennium begins.	20.4-6 First Resurrection. (Spiritual resurrection.)	Millennium Tanach prophecies play out. (Second Exodus?)
Millennium (1,000 years). Tanach Prophecies play out			